

Materials will be available at: www.eesi.org/111920transportation

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# **CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFING**

The State of Play for Public Transit

Briefing Series: By Air, Land, and Sea: Navigating the Climate Future

Thursday, November 19, 2020

### **About EESI...**



**NON-PROFIT** 

Founded in 1984 by a bipartisan Congressional caucus as an independent (i.e., not federally-funded) non-profit organization

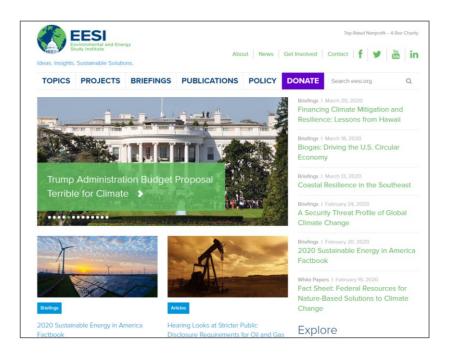
- NON-PARTISAN

  Source of non-partisan information on environmental, energy, and climate policies
- DIRECT ASSISTANCE
  In addition to a full portfolio of federal policy work, EESI provides direct assistance to utilities to develop "on-bill financing" programs
- **SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES**

Focused on win-win solutions to make our energy, buildings, and transportation sectors sustainable, resilient, and more equitable

## ...About EESI





- Wideo recordings and written summaries of Congressional briefings
- CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS

  Bi-weekly newsletter with all you need to know including a legislation tracker
- SOCIAL MEDIA (@EESIONLINE)
  Follow us on Twitter, Facebook,
  LinkedIn, Instagram, and YouTube
  - FACT SHEETS

    Timely, science-based coverage of climate and clean energy topics





Paradigm Shifts and Opportunities

November 19, 2020

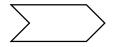
Presented by:

Dr. Cris B. Liban, P.E., ENV SP

Chief Sustainability Officer
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority



### LA Metro is Los Angeles County's...



**Regional Transit Planner/Funder** 



**Regional Transit System Builder** 



**Regional Transit Operator** 











Financial analysis done to implement these programs in next 10 years



## Post COVID-19 Lock-Down:

- Everything has changed
  - **Assumptions**
  - Baseline conditions
- **❖ What happens to the things that we are already doing?**
- **❖** Are we using adequate and correct tools?
- **❖LA Metro Recovery Task Force**





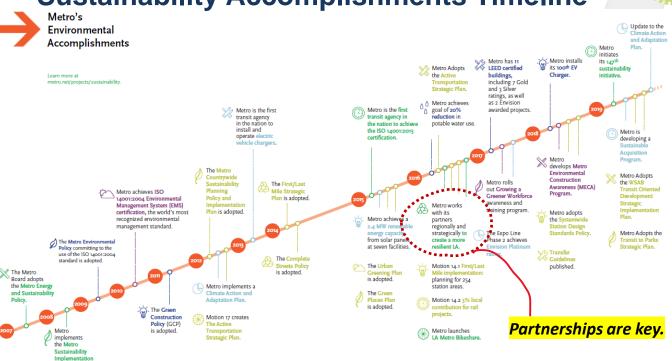
# **Sustainability Accomplishments Timeline**





Plan (MSIP)-

# **Sustainability Accomplishments Timeline**





# **Sustainability Accomplishments Timeline**





## **Infrastructure Considerations**

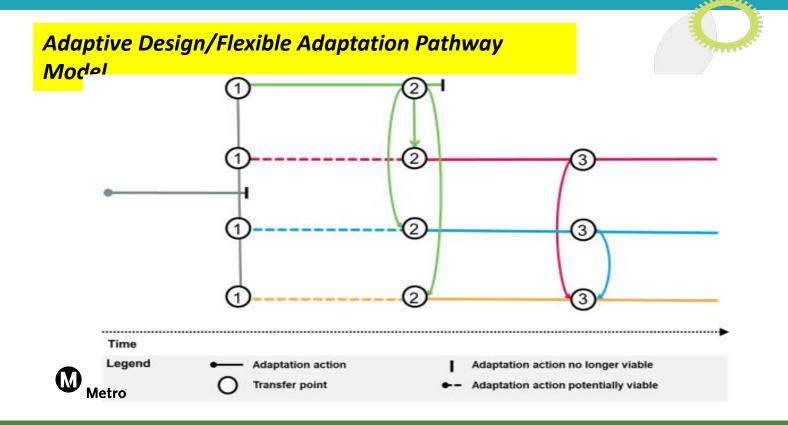
- **❖** Effects of Infrastructures to Environment
  - **❖**Project Development/Planning
  - **❖** Design/Construction
  - Operations and Maintenance
- **❖** Effects of Environment to Infrastructure
  - **❖All Hazards Assessment**
  - **❖** Mitigation/Adaptation
  - \*Resiliency





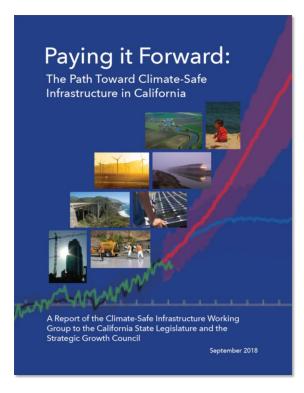


## Building on What We Know vs. Doing Nothing





# Climate Safe Infrastructure, AB2800



- Climate Safe Infrastructure as Policy
- Permanent Funding for Science & Infrastructure
- Reinvent Engineering Process
- Training: All Phases of Infrastructure
- Development of Standards/MOPs
- Changes in Procurement
- Climate Safe Commission
- AB2800 (Quirk/Gonzales): Making the provisions of the original bill extended indefinitely.



# Transforming The Profession



- **❖Standards**
- **❖** Incorporating Climate Data into Practice
- **❖ Developing Procurement Documents**
- Certification
- ❖International Coalition on Sustainable Infrastructure
  - **❖** Guidance, Tools and Standards
  - **❖** Finance and Funding
  - **❖**Innovation
  - **❖** Leadership and Life-Cycle









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DRAFT 15



Environmental and Energy Study Institute November 19, 2020

Kammy Horne, AICP, Senior VP of Planning and Development



# **VIA** BY THE NUMBERS

**MILLION PASSENGER**  **TRANSIT CENTERS** PARK & **FACILITIES** 

**MEMBER** CITIES **BUSES**  132 VIAtrans VANS

MOD

1,213 SQUARE MILES

2,000 EMPLOYEES

6,896 BUS STOPS





We're Making Your Safety Our Priority



A **VIA bus** typically carries 35-40 seated passengers. The 16-person **limit** would represent less than half of the seating **capacity**. Passengers will not be allowed to stand. Riders **using** walkers or wheelchairs can continue to ask for assistance when boarding. Apr 7, 2020



www.viainfo.net > 2020/04/07 > covid news 040720

VIA Sets 'Safe Capacity' Limits on Buses Starting Wednesday ...







# VIA's Commitment to Sustainability

- New Renewable Natural Gas Partnership
- Compressed Natural Gas
- Solar Powered Shelter Lighting
- Electric Buses
- Permanent Pollution Prevention Plan
- Water
- Waste
- Recycling





Compressed Natural Gas

# CPS Energy and VIA Announce Renewable Natural Gas Partnership



"This is a natural next step in our continued partnership with CPS Energy to provide a cleaner, 'greener' future through the use of renewable energy," VIA President/CEO Jeffrey C. Arndt said. "Incorporating RNG fuel technology is part of VIA's ongoing commitment to offer sustainable transit options that keep San Antonio moving."



EPA Green
Power
Partnership



# And More...



# Questions?





# **SEPTA's Budget Neutral Approach to Sustainability**

Erik Johanson, Chief Innovation Officer

November 19, 2020

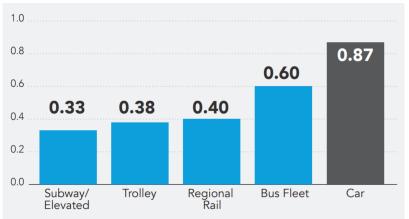


## **SEPTA's Value Proposition**

### **Transit Is Inherently Sustainable**



#### LOWER PER PASSENGER MILE GHG EMISSIONS







Award-Winning SEP-TAINABLE





### **COMMONWEALTH AWARD**





## **SEPTA's Sustainability Program**



### **Triple Bottom Line Approach**



# "BUDGET NEUTRAL" APPROACH

(I.E., NO SET BUDGET FOR SUSTAINBILITY)

- Off-Budget Financing (Power Purchase Agreements, Energy Performance Contracts, Public-Private Partnerships)
- Grant Funding (FTA LoNo, CMAQ/DERA, PEDA)
- Core Business (Embedding Sustainability into Capital + Operations)





## Comprehensive Budget-Neutral Plan to Reduce Energy & GHG

WAYSIDE STORAGE (GRANTS, P3)



#### The New York Times

In Philadelphia, Batteries on Transit System Power More Than Just the Trains

January 22, 2016





### **BATTERY-ELECTRIC BUSES (FTA LONO GRANTS)**







# Power Purchase Agreements ON-SITE, ROOFTOP SOLAR (PPA)



**OFF-SITE, UTILITY SCALE SOLAR (VIRTUAL PPA)** 



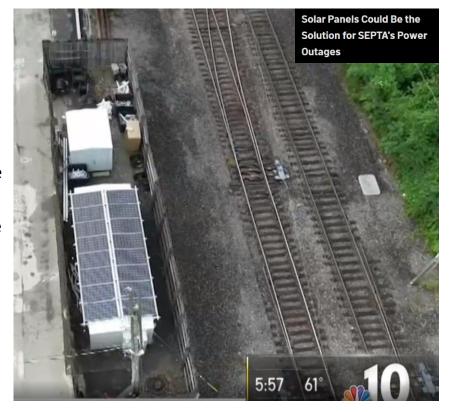




### **Grants & Embedded in Core Operations**

# **SOLAR + BATTERY-POWERED SIGNAL SYSTEM (FTA GRANT)**

- Partially Funded Through Federal Climate Resilience Initiative
- ➤ 48 Hours of Back-Up Power In the Event of Signal Power Failure
- Avoids Rippling 12-MinuteAverage Delay from Each Outage
- Zero Signal Power Failures Since Pilot Installation in 2018
- Now Under Construction: Three More Lines (Ultimate Goal: Full Regional Rail Buildout)
- Potential to Become Primary Power in the Future





# What did you think of the briefing?

Please take 2 minutes to let us know at: www.eesi.org/survey

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