

TRANSPORTATION CHOICES COALITION 2021 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

For an equitable COVID recovery and beyond



Center racial equity to address disparities and build a fair transportation system

- **Fund JTC Transportation Equity Study.** Fund a new study on Transportation Equity in Washington State that creates a baseline understanding of current impacts to marginalized demographics and greatest transportation needs, and recommendations to remove disparities.
- **Develop Transportation Equity Cabinet.** Apply best practices from the State Environmental Justice Task Force recommendations and create an equity advisory board of paid community members to represent and liaise with marginalized communities.
- **Use Racial Equity Tool.** Create and develop a process for using a Racial Equity Tool on transportation policy and investment decisions.
- **Support Equity Research.** Support any further research and implementation of the low-income toll study and RUC equity proviso findings.
- **Reduce Harm from Policing and Enforcement.** Improve safety, comfort, and financial outcomes for people of color and low-income people by eliminating laws that criminalize pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit riders and produce racially discriminatory outcomes, removing law enforcement from routine traffic stops, creating incentives rather than relying on enforcement, reducing reliance on regressive and punitive measures and the court system, and creating accountability and transparency.

Fill the funding holes due to COVID & other needs with sustainable, progressive revenue

- **Clean & Just Transportation Revenue.** The Clean & Just coalition advocates for revenue sources that reduce GHG emissions and air pollution, improve multimodal choices, and ensure equitable outcomes. We support exploring the following sources, provided they are developed to be progressive, equitable, flexible, and sustainable:
 - Air Quality Surcharge
 - Luxury Transportation Tax
 - Road Usage Charge
 - Carbon Fee

- **Improve local sources.** Authorize flexible and progressive options to local jurisdictions to provide and maintain safe and equitable transportation networks by:
 - Removing time limits and adding new options for local TBD authority
 - Authorize new sources such as Employer Tax for Transit, Parking Stall Tax, Transit Assessment District, Air Quality Surcharge
 - Remove restrictions prohibiting more than one type of local public transportation taxing authority to be used at any given time
 - Raising the Rental Car Tax
 - Lifting the debt capacity limit

Support economic recovery through sustainable, affordable and healthy transportation

- **Clean & Just Transportation Investments.** The Clean & Just coalition advocates for transportation spending that reduces greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, creates great jobs, improves safe multimodal transportation choices, and ensures fair and equitable outcomes. Any transportation package should include:
 - Transit operations, capital, electrification, and affordability programs
 - Walking and biking infrastructure and transportation demand management support
 - Focus on road safety, maintenance, operations and preservation over new capacity
 - Equitable TOD, fleet electrification, and stormwater investments
- **Align investments with performance.** Support bills that align investment decisions with improved policy goals.
- **Encourage Transit-Oriented Development.** Use lessons learned from Kingsgate Park-and-Ride Transit Oriented Development Pilot to remove barriers to WSDOT in creating affordable housing and commercial space on underused property.



Mission: TCC is working to bring Washingtonians more and better transportation choices - real opportunities to take a bus, catch a train, ride a bike, or walk.

Our legislative agenda supports our strategic goals:

- 1. Connect people to opportunity.** We will prioritize equity and access to transit so that everyone can connect more easily to activities, services, and opportunities.
- 2. Implement essential transit improvements.** We will ensure that policies and voter-approved transit expansions are effectively implemented to support access and foster equitable, healthy communities connected by great transit.
- 3. Lead the way toward progressive solutions.** Great transit choices must be part of the answer to address pressing statewide challenges like population growth, affordable housing, and environmental stewardship.
- 4. Strengthen support for transit.** Through our proven leadership, coalition building, and advocacy, we will leverage, amplify, and expand statewide support for thriving transit communities.

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