

Research Needs for Mobility and Freight Modes Technical Advisory Group

Effective / Updated: 9/1/2023

1. Issue Identified:

Identify emissions impacts of existing state transit operations and potential for utilizing transit as a tool to reduce emissions from the entire transportation network.

2. Summary of Problem:

A statewide assessment of the impacts of transit operations does not exist. A common methodology and estimation across state transit operators for future impacts of zero-emission transit fleets and mode-shift would aid in understanding transit benefits on regional and state climate goals and strategies.

3. Desired Results / Outcome:

The research would develop a methodology for quantifying the net greenhouse gas emissions of the existing transit operations across the State of Illinois. The research would also develop estimators for greenhouse gas benefits of converting existing transit vehicles to low- or zero-emission technologies and for mode-shift from auto to transit.

The research results would provide a common understanding and method useful for local planning and project development, which would aid agencies applying for federal discretionary grant opportunities to advance clean energy and climate impact projects.