Transportation Task Group Meeting – 5.2.22

Task Group and State Staff Present: Jane Lazorchak, Jared Duval (EAN), Andrea Wright (AOT), Megan O'Toole (DEC), Karen Blakelock (AOT), Johanna Miller (VNRC), Collin Smythe (DEC), Gina Campoli

Notes by: Greta Hasler (VNRC)

Agenda

Public Engagement:

Webinars:

- Jared reached out to Quebec office, Marie Claude has a conflict for 5.13 but Michael is available to join, going to speak about WCI re: transportation and climate action broadly
- Promo of event:
 - o Peggy at UVM is committed, can promote with more info, has draft language
 - o James Bradbury from Georgetown re: TCI-P
 - o Michael Pizziferri re: WCI and climate action more broadly
- Format:
 - o Context setting and overview of goals is important for every one of these
 - Joey is happy to frame it up, pass to Megan for technical stuff
 - Feedback from last webinar to provide high-level overview of policy approach (i.e. cap & invest) before getting into specific examples from guest speakers
 - o More work to frame agenda via email, including facilitation & context setting
- Input on engaging attendees for feedback:
 - o Breakouts, depending on number of attendees (60<)?
 - o Need to work with presenters to anticipate questions and prep for answering them
 - o Active use of the chat for questions as well
- What we want speakers to address:
 - o Framing pros and cons and key considerations for each policy
 - How does it work in a rural context re: transportation?
 - How does it work from an equity design perspective?
 - o How have some states started the process to go further, and what is the cost?
 - o Confidence in the policy and equitable transition efforts
 - o Economics at micro level (i.e. cost at the pump, jobs, benefits, etc.)
- Title suggestion: Regional Strategies for Reducing Transportation Emissions and Investing in Communities
- Finalize the summary and info on event, send to Jane for full council by tomorrow (4/3)
- Also share with and invite legislators, given session ending timing and their role in these policies

Update on rule-making ACCII and ACT:

- Focus of Council meeting on 5.16, Megan and Dierdre working on cover letter and memo for next Monday to share with Council
- Rule is finalized but technical complimentary document forthcoming
- Need for framing up public engagement around rulemaking this summer, as required by GWSA
- Options are either do it as CA has or don't do it nothing further for Council to do

Other public engagement:

- Reminder for VCCC webinar on EV infrastructure in VT
- Comments on transportation theme from two public forums of Council on work planning coming in the next week or so from CBI

Technical analysis update, next steps:

- Depends on state-directed choices, framing that up for administration to see if there is appetite/leeway within funds to do that
- No funding coming from Climate Alliance, Jane let them know IIJA for this is unreasonable, still a need for funding for this space, especially given timeline
- Megan and Jane had productive, candid conversations with Governor's climate office counterparts in ME, MA, and CT
 - o Governor of ME not interested in TCI-P at all
- No clear path for a technical analysis yet
- VTrans urgency in understanding where programs now to start informing next round of budgets, how it relates to emissions reductions
 - o Working with consultant with a climate background, making an assessment of funding
 - Don't know whether funds will go towards broader policy re: transportation memo from DOT
- Jane: Plan B if there is no funding for technical analysis?
 - o Jared: real value to VT-specific policy analysis but if not possible by Nov., lots of valuable data to make preliminary recommendation without it
 - o Joey: helpful to invite folks to weigh in on pros/cons of different approaches?
 - Jane: worthy of conversation with Cross-Sector Mitigation Subcommittee meeting on Thursday (5/4)
- Joey: will work on webinar, write up for Peggy, two different agenda scenarios, and will ideally join meeting with Michael and James