

City of Cambridge Net Zero Transportation Plan Fact Sheet (Fall 2024)

What is the Plan?

Cambridge is creating a Net Zero Transportation Plan.¹ This plan will:

- Eliminate greenhouse gas emissions from transportation in Cambridge
- Create a better, more equitable transportation system

Why do we care about greenhouse gas emissions?

Greenhouse gases are a type of pollution. They come from burning fossil fuels, like gas and diesel, which power most cars. This pollution goes into the air and traps heat from the sun, which **causes climate change**.

- Climate change will make everyone's lives harder. It causes **extreme heat, worse air quality, flooding, and dangerous storms**, which negatively affects people's health and budgets.

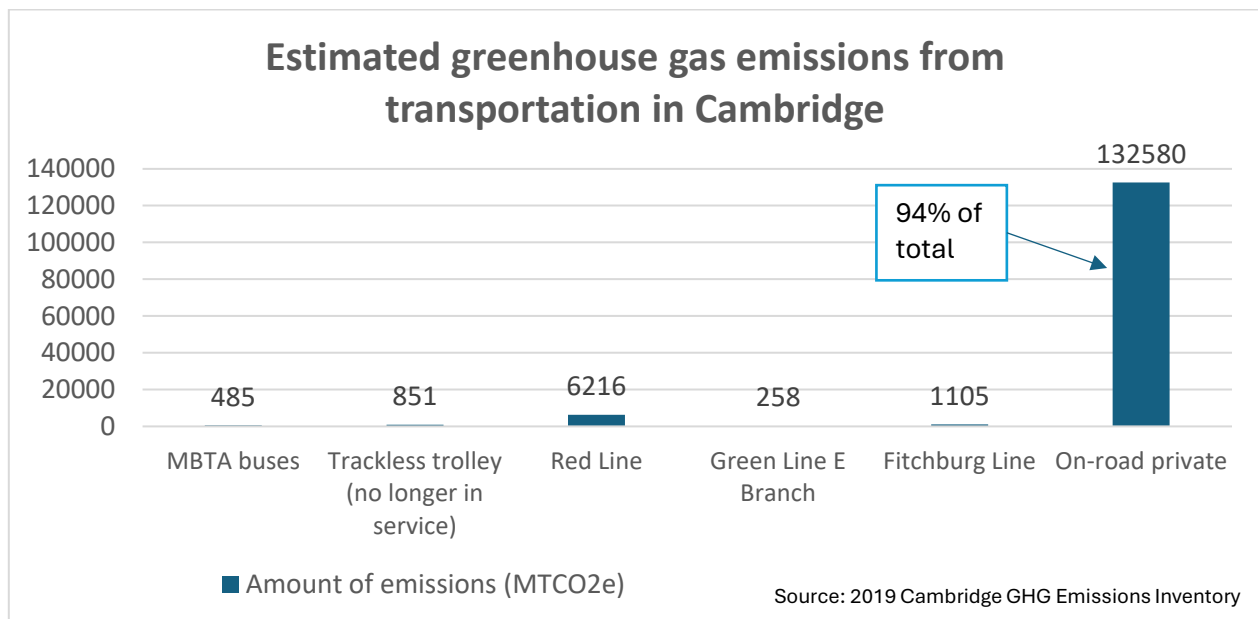
What are the goals of the Net Zero Transportation Plan?

1. Remove climate pollution from transportation
2. Make moving around Cambridge more convenient, safe, and enjoyable
3. Improve economic opportunity and address historic injustices
4. Create a stronger and more connected community

Where do Cambridge's transportation emissions come from?

Most transportation emissions in Cambridge come from private cars and trucks.

In 2019, **private cars and trucks created 94%** of greenhouse gas emissions from transportation.



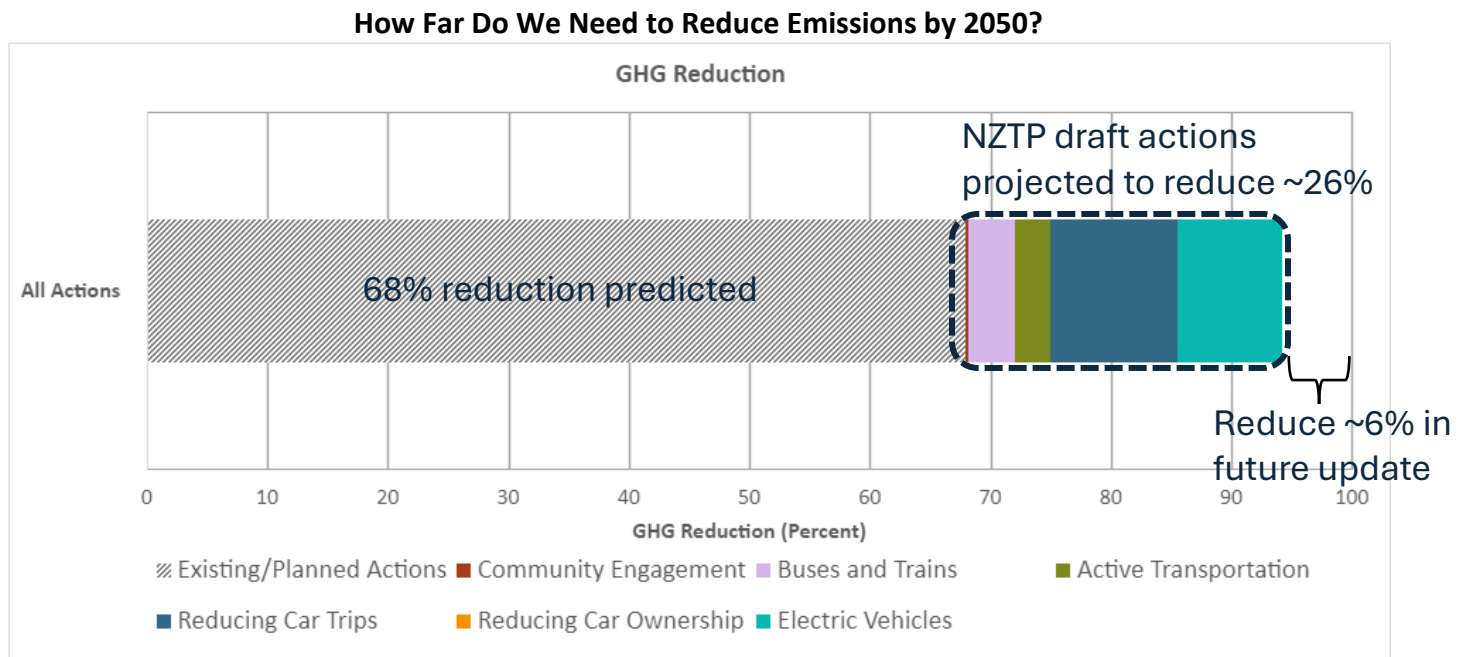
¹ For this plan, "Net Zero" means there will be no greenhouse gases emissions from transportation.

How far do we have to go?

Existing policies and trends will reduce emissions part way to our 2050 goal. Gas cars are becoming more fuel efficient, more people are driving electric cars, and the MBTA is electrifying buses and trains. These changes will help Cambridge reduce emissions by 68% between 2019 and 2050.

The Net Zero Transportation Plan will help Cambridge get the rest of the way to **zero emissions from transportation by 2050**. These actions will:

- Encourage sustainable modes of transportation, such as walking, biking, and transit
- Increase a shift from gas-powered to electric vehicles
- Reduce the number of trips taken or distance of trips



What are some possible actions for the Net Zero Transportation Plan?

We are currently looking at 6 categories of possible actions.

1. **Community engagement:** Engaging people equitably to improve their transportation experience.
2. **Buses and shuttles:** Improving bus and shuttle options.
3. **Active transportation:** Making it easier for people to walk, bike, and/or use scooters.
4. **Reducing car trips:** Giving people more travel choices to reduce car trips.
5. **Reducing car ownership:** Making it easier to not own a car.
6. **Electric vehicles:** Promoting the shift to electric vehicles.

How can I find out more?

To learn more, visit the Net Zero Transportation Plan website at www.cambridgema.gov/NZTransportation.

We need help figuring out the actions in these categories. We are working with Advisory Group and community members to pick actions. Share ideas and feedback at: <https://bit.ly/CambridgeNZTPFeedback>

If you want to share more thoughts, email Stephanie Groll at sgroll@cambridgema.gov or call Stephanie on the multilingual helpline: 617-865-2273 for free interpretation

