Vermont Climate Council

Building the Climate Action Plan
Initial Suite of Sectoral Pathways and Strategies
July 26th, 2021
Issue: Coordination Between Sectors

Residential and Commercial Electrical Upgrades to Support Fuel Switching
- Many home and businesses will require basic electrical upgrades to support electrification of heating and transportation
- This will be an especially important issue in addressing equitable access to more efficient technology

Support for Beneficial Electrification
- Ensure grid infrastructure - needed transmission and distribution systems improvements, increased renewable generation, vehicle-to-grid (V2X - load/building/grid) advancements that can be implemented in a cost-effective manner at homes (single, MF, rental+), businesses, public places.
- Put regulations and rate structures in place that maximize economic/grid/cost-reduction benefits, make fast charging more affordable, and support heavy duty fleets
Issue: Fundamental Considerations

Funding:
- Strategically leverage one-time federal dollars (like ARPA) to support & expand programs
- Seek and secure sustainable public and private sector sources needed to achieve the mandated goals, including sustained investment in over-burdened and underserved communities.

Environmental Justice
- Implement an Environmental Justice policy to foster sustained, engaged processes and track and ensure equitable programs & outcomes

Government Leadership & Implementation
- Consider creating a Climate Cabinet led by a cabinet-level position aimed at coordinating state agencies and working in concert with a state Equity Board and State Land Use Planning Office
- Increase capacity across agencies to undertake expanded state agency work, including the capacity to engage and leverage the private sector, track progress and measure benefits and outcomes of existing and new programs related to mitigation, resilience and equity

Multi-state Partnerships
- Greenhouse gas emissions and energy networks cross state boundaries and are greatly influenced by federal policies and economic forces outside the state. The State should continue to engage in multi-state partnerships and other efforts to address emissions in all sectors.

Telecommunications
- Measure the emissions benefits of the recent upswing in telecommuting, tele-health and use of remote platforms. These remote access programs can have significant transportation emissions reductions