

New Jersey voters want policies to improve transportation, survey shows

80% support New Jersey joining Transportation and Climate Initiative Program

March 1, 2020 (Trenton, New Jersey) - Transportation funding is a non-partisan issue for New Jersey voters, with 84% of Democrats, 75% of independents and 73% of Republicans agreeing there must be more state investment in public transportation. The figures come from recent polling conducted by Global Strategy Group on behalf of the Tri-State Transportation Campaign ("TSTC.")

Voters are dissatisfied with New Jersey's transit options, and 79% of voters agree, "New Jersey needs to invest more in expanding and updating public transit like buses and commuter trains, to make it easier for people to get around without cars."

The poll, which surveyed 600 registered New Jersey voters, shows strong support for bold policies, including joining the Transportation and Climate Initiative Program (TCI-P), a multi-state program that cuts hazardous carbon pollution while investing \$300 million per year in cleaner transportation choices and healthier communities. After reading a brief description of TCI-P, 80% of voters support joining the initiative, including 47% who strongly support it. Most notably, support held across regions and party lines:

- Strong support across regions
 - o 83% in North Jersey
 - o 81% in Central Jersey
 - o 75% in South Jersey
- Strong support across party lines
 - o 93% among Democrats
 - o 80% among independents
 - o 61% among Republicans
- People of color are particularly positive toward TCI-P with 83% supporting, including 53% strongly supporting.

"A thriving New Jersey economy depends on a modern transportation system — available to everyone. And our health depends on reducing dangerous pollution from millions of cars, trucks and buses in our state," said Lauren Bailey, Director of Climate Policy, TSTC. "TCI-P offers a bold solution to rebuild New Jersey's economy *and* improve health. This common-sense approach employs market forces to reduce pollution and improve transportation for everyone, in all parts of New Jersey, but particularly for those in heavily burdened communities."

Voters want strong guardrails to focus TCI-P investments on overburdened communities. Two-thirds (68%) support establishing these guardrails to target investment in low-income communities and communities of color, including broad support from people of color (81% support, including 45% strongly). This backing held for bold requirements on funding: 70%

support requiring at least 35% of funds focused on overburdened communities, and 74% supported requiring at least 50% of funds be spent on overburdened communities.

“Like a straight shot down the Garden State Parkway; going to the NJ shore, or eating at a local 24-hour diner, New Jerseyans also love the idea of working with other states in the region on transportation and climate initiatives to reduce carbon pollution and improve transportation choices,” said Jeff Plaut, Founding Partner, Global Strategy Group LLC.

For more information please visit: <http://www.tstc.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/TSTC-TCI-P-Public-Release-Memo-D2.24.21.pdf>

METHODOLOGY

Global Strategy Group conducted an online survey of 600 registered voters in New Jersey, December 9-16, 2020. The survey has a confidence interval of +/- 4.0%. Care was taken to ensure the geographic and demographic divisions of the population properly represent registered voters.

BACKGROUND

The Transportation and Climate Initiative (TCI) is a long-standing collaboration among states and the District of Columbia to cut pollution from the transportation sector. New Jersey is a participating state of TCI along with 13 other jurisdictions. TCI jurisdictions developed TCI-P and launched in December 2020 with participation from Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, and the District of Columbia. The TCI states released a model rule for TCI-P on March 1.