

Regional Recognition of Clean and Sustainable Transportation

In September 2017, Massachusetts Governor Charlie Baker announced a series of listening sessions to focus on the challenges and opportunities of reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector. While those sessions begin on October 31, policy makers across the Northeast and Eastern Canada have been engaging, state-to-state, province-to-province, state-to-province, about the transportation sector's role in greenhouse gas emissions for a lot longer.

Most recently at the 41st Conference of New England Governors & Eastern Canadian Premiers (NEG/ECP) this past August, the NEG/ECP signed Resolution 41-4, Concerning Transportation.

Both a recognition of transportation's consequential role in the economic and environmental health of the region, the resolution emphasized the importance of electric vehicle and charging infrastructure to achieve region-wide greenhouse gas reductions:

"Whereas the transportation sector is the region's dominant source of greenhouse gas emissions;" and "the states and provinces agreed to explore opportunities to advance the clean energy economy through investments in clean, efficient, and sustainable transportation."

"NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT governors and premiers acknowledge the importance of cross-border collaboration and coordination in identifying electric vehicle travel corridors and in supporting the development of an interoperable electric vehicle charging network along those corridors that will enable travel throughout the region."

The resolution confirms that progress toward electric vehicles will be summarized in a report at upcoming conferences of New England Governors and Eastern Canadian Premiers.