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# Road to a Fossil Free Washington

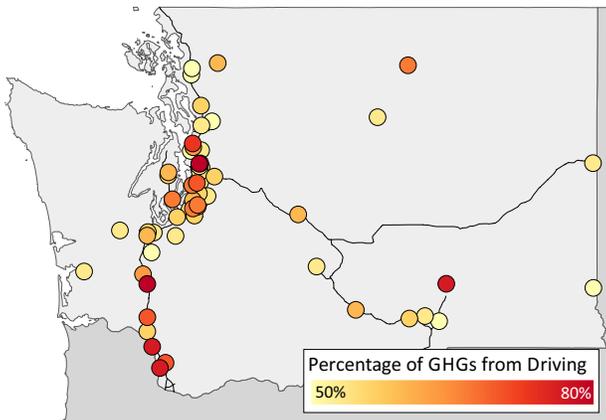
## Electric Vehicles and Renewable Energy Can Repower Washington State

### The Costs of Fossil Fuel-Powered Transportation

Across Washington, reliance on fossil fuels for transportation contributes to some of our biggest environmental and public health challenges. The driving that occurs within our state is responsible for:

- 39 billion gallons of fuel burned each year,
- 43 percent of global warming emissions,
- 45 million tons of annual global warming emissions.

Driving emits more global warming pollution than any other part of Washington's economy. And every year, Washingtonians spend nearly \$10 billion on gasoline and diesel products imported from out of the state and country.



### A Better Way: Electric Vehicles and Renewable Energy

Washington can repower its transportation system with clean, renewable energy. Washington has the clean energy resources to do so, and the benefits of EVs and clean energy are amplified when they go together.

- Just 5.5 percent of Washington's wind and solar energy potential could power all current state electricity demand, plus the estimated demand from a fully electrified vehicle fleet.
- In more than half of Washington towns and cities, small buildings alone could host enough rooftop solar to power an electrified transportation system.
- EVs and clean energy go great together. EVs powered by renewable energy are essentially emission-free, and the smart use of EV batteries can help improve the stability of a renewable electric grid.

In 55 Washington cities and towns, largely those along major highways, driving accounts for the majority of global warming emissions.

# Local Policy Solutions for Washington Cities and Town

Washington cities and towns have a variety of policy solutions at their disposal to rapidly advance adoption of electric vehicles and clean energy. Local governments can take steps like the following:

**Cutting red tape.** Cities can reduce barriers standing in the way of clean energy adoption, including by streamlining or putting online the solar permitting process.

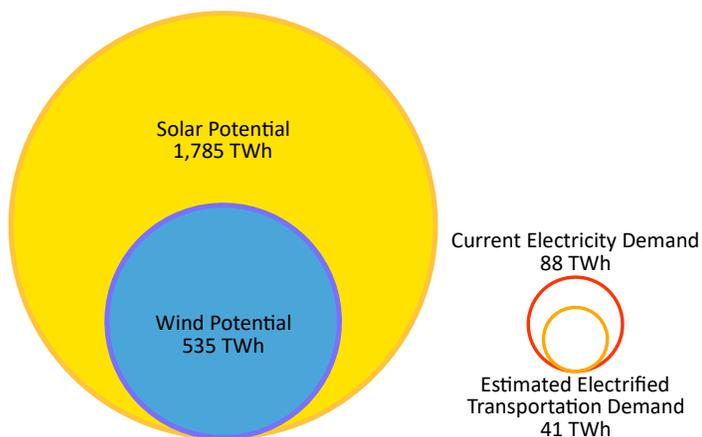
**Installing charging infrastructure.** Cities can take a leading role in building public charging infrastructure and encouraging owners of homes, apartments, shopping centers and garages to add electric vehicle chargers.

**Creating clean energy building codes.** Cities can require that new construction includes clean energy.

**Using clean energy for public buildings and fleets.** Cities can install solar panels on municipal rooftops and municipal property, and use EVs for public fleets.

**Incentivizing clean energy and EVs.** Cities can offer rebates or tax refunds for EV purchases. Riverside, California, offers its residents a \$500 rebate for EVs purchased in the city limits.

**Setting clean energy goals.** Dozens of cities across the country have made commitments to obtain the bulk or the entirety of their energy from clean, renewable sources.



Just 5.5 percent of Washington's wind and solar resources could power all existing electricity demand, plus additional estimated demand for a fully electrified vehicle fleet.

# Clean Energy Brings Economic Benefits



Rooftop solar installation on the IKEA in Renton, Washington.

A transition to clean energy means investment in new electric vehicles, charging infrastructure, solar panels, wind turbines and grid upgrades, not to mention investment in the energy efficiency improvements that will most likely be part of a clean energy transition.

Clean energy has already brought big economic benefits to Washington state:

- Solar energy in Washington has already led to \$375 million in investments, and Washington is home to 157 solar companies.
- The wind industry in Washington has led to more than \$6 billion in investment, more than 3,000 jobs, and 10 manufacturing facilities in the state.

Photo credits:  
Front and Rear – Courtesy of A&R Solar

*For more information and the full report,  
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