

Springfield Climate Justice Initiative

SPRINGFIELD CLIMATE ACTION AND RESILIENCE PLAN
POLICY FACT SHEET NO. 3

FREE PUBLIC TRANSIT

HIGH
reduction in
GHG
emissions



PVTA
Pioneer Valley
Transit Authority

WORK WITH LOCAL TRANSIT

to cover the cost of ridership, making public
transportation free

IMPROVE EQUITY AND ACCESS TO PUBLIC
TRANSPORTATION WITHIN SPRINGFIELD



THIS PLAN HAS BEEN IMPLEMENTED IN
LAWRENCE MASSACHUSETTS TO IMPROVE AIR
QUALITY AND QUALITY OF LIFE.



LEARN MORE!
WWW.KRESGE.ORG
WWW.PVPC.ORG

WWW.LIVEWELLSPRINGFIELD.ORG



<https://livewellspringfield.org/springfield-climate-justice-initiative/>

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Free and Safe Public Buses

What is the Policy?

Free bus usage for all residents of Springfield for a set period of time or forever

Why support this policy?

We support free buses because it will increase the likelihood that people will take a free bus versus driving their personal vehicle.

- **Equity**
 - Low income people and people of color are more likely to not have a car and to be dependent on riding the bus. Many people rely on PVRTA as their primary mode of transportation to go grocery shopping, work, and doctor's appointment. Roads are subsidized more than public transit. It's not fair.
- **GHG emissions**
 - Buses are more efficient and produce less greenhouse gas emissions, especially electric buses.
- **Health**
 - Springfield area is the Asthma Capital of the US for the second year running. Fewer cars and more buses mean better air quality and improved health for people with respiratory disease like asthma and cardiovascular disease.

Where will the funding come from?

The City Budget, the Federal Government, Grants.

How do we advocate to make this happen?

We advocate to the City Council, PVRTA and the Mayor to make this change. We can also advocate to the Governor, Legislators and the President.

What momentum is there?

Lawrence did it and Springfield piloted this project before during COVID, with the MGM Shuttle and the Fare-Free Senior Ride Tuesday.



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