## Five Lessons for Sustainable Transportation

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#### UCDAVIS UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

INSTITUTE OF TRANSPORTATION STUDIES



#### Thank You to Asahi Glass Foundation





"....supporting advanced research ... and recognizing efforts to solve environmental issues that call for global solutions"

## Thank You to ITS-Davis

- Founded: 1991
- 50 (brilliant and passionate) Professors and Researchers
- 130 (brilliant and passionate) Graduate Students
- Recently designated "National Center of Sustainable Transportation" by US Department of Transportation
- Centers within ITS-Davis:
  - Plug-in & Hybrid Vehicle Center
  - Energy Efficiency Center (1<sup>st</sup> in US)
  - Urban Land Use and Transportation Research Center
  - China Center on Energy and Transportation
  - Sustainable Transportation Energy Pathways Program



#### ITS-Davis Team of Faculty, Staff, and Students



## Thank You to California Air Resources Board

- World leaders in air quality and climate policy
- Pioneered Zero Emission Vehicle mandate, Low Carbon Fuel Standards, low emission vehicles, and much more
- Superb staff: technically sophisticated, engaged with stakeholders, passionate
- Visionary leadership with Mary Nichols and Richard Corey, with strong support from Governor Jerry Brown

#### World Population Is Expected to Increase by 3 Billion



#### More People + More Wealth = Many More Vehicles



#### Problem Is NOT Lack of Oil!

Real Problem is Environmental Impact of High-Carbon Unconventional Oil



IEA, 2005

#### Energy Revolution Underway ... More (Unconventional) Oil and Gas Available Globally



#### Oil is Being *Re-Carbonized* ... Heavy Oil, Oil Sands, Coal-to-Liquids



Photo of Canadian Oil Sands

## **Climate Change Is Arguably Greatest Threat**



<sup>11</sup> Stern, Nicholas, *The Stern Review on the Economics of Climate Change*, a report to the British government, 2006

#### 2006!



#### We Will Use Up Our Global Carbon Budget in 30-50 Years—and Then Zero (at current rates)



## **Transportation Plays Large Role**



Transportation accounts for 1/4 of global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and 1/2 of oil in world.

## **Five Lessons and Conclusions**

- 1. No single solution: Need to pursue many solutions
- 2. Focus on next steps (desirable pathways), not simplistic end-state visions
- 3. One size does not fit all.
- 4. Scientific community needs to engage in nearterm decision-making—locally, nationally, globally
- 5. ???

## **Transforming Transportation**



- Transforming mobility (hardest)
- Transforming fuels
- Transforming vehicles (easiest)

## First Leg: Transforming Mobility and Land Use

Starting in California, car-centric cities and lifestyles increasingly dominate cities around the world.

Public transport <20% of passenger kilometers traveled in all rich countries and shrinking almost everywhere.





#### Population Densities: Lowest in US, Highest in Asia



#### Motor vehicles per 1,000 people, 2009



Sources: World Bank 2011. Motor vehicles include cars, buses, and freight vehicles, but do not include two-wheelers.

## Travel Peaking in Rich (OECD) Countries



Many Reasons to Reduce Vehicle Use (and Restrain Growth in Emerging Countries)

#### .... for Economy, Environment, and Health

- Reduced road and other infrastructure costs (water, waste water, electricity)
- Reduced air pollution, GHG emissions and oil use
- Greater social equity and "livability" benefits

#### Not all vehicle trips are "high value"!



#### Key Strategy: Expand Traveler Choice







## Second Leg: Transforming Fuels



#### The Stone Age did not end for lack of stone, and the Oil Age will end long before the world runs out of oil.

Sheikh Zaki Yamani, Saudi Arabian oil minister for 3 decades

- Today: Transport is 96% dependent on oil
- Future: Wide mix of fuels to power mobility

- Big challenges:
  - 1. How to keep most fossil energy below ground?

2. How to stimulate innovation and support acceptance of low-carbon alternatives?

#### Many Promising Replacements

Some better than others...



Fuel *du jour* Phenomenon Disruptive and wasteful

- 30 years ago Synfuels (oil shale, coal)
- 25 years ago Methanol
- 20 years ago Electricity (Battery EVs)
- 10 years ago Hydrogen (Fuel cells)
- 5 years ago Ethanol
- Today Electricity (Plug-in hybrid vehicles)
- What's next?

## California Leadership on Fuels Policy

- Low Carbon Fuel Standard (adopted 2009)
  - Requires 10% reduction in carbon intensity of transport fuels by 2020
  - Utilizes lifecycle analysis
  - Harnesses market forces (via credit trading)
  - Similar policy adopted by EU

## Third Leg: Transforming Vehicles

Cars of future will be far more efficient and will be powered mostly by electric-drive

#### Success story for technology and policy!





#### Huge Success Story! Vehicle Efficiency Improving Worldwide





Disruptive process ... will it continue?

#### Japan is Global Leader on Vehicle Electrification

- Highest sales of hybrid vehicles (19%)
- Most fast chargers for electric vehicles
- Strongest public-private partnerships with battery electric and fuel cell vehicles (and leading automotive companies)

#### Truck Efficiency and Technology Are Advancing Also, But More Slowly







## California (CARB) Plan for Light Duty Vehicles: 87% Plug-in and Fuel Cell Vehicles in 2050



#### Many Challenges--Clashing Interests and Priorities



#### **Policy Strategies to Transform Transportation**

- Performance standards for fuels/GHGs Low carbon fuel standard, tighten vehicle standards
- Market instruments to align regulations with market Fuel and carbon taxes Feebates
- Accelerate commercialization of advanced vehicles Require and reward electric and fuel cell vehicles

#### Restrain vehicle use

Improve public transportation, expand mobility choices, increase the cost of driving, manage urban land use

Increased R&D investments (and training of next generation of scientists and engineers)

Biofuels, batteries, fuel cells, lightweight materials, innovative mobility technologies





## **Five Lessons and Conclusions**

- 1. No single solution: Need to pursue many solutions (which mostly exist already)
- 2. Focus on change (desirable pathways), not simplistic end-state visions
- 3. One size does not fit all. Tailor solutions to each situation (fuels, vehicles, mobility, infrastructure)
- 4. Scientific community needs to engage in nearterm decision-making—locally, nationally, globally

#### 5. Take Action Now!

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