



#### **NC FIRST COMMISSION**

July 31, 2020

### UNDERSTANDING DIFFERENCES

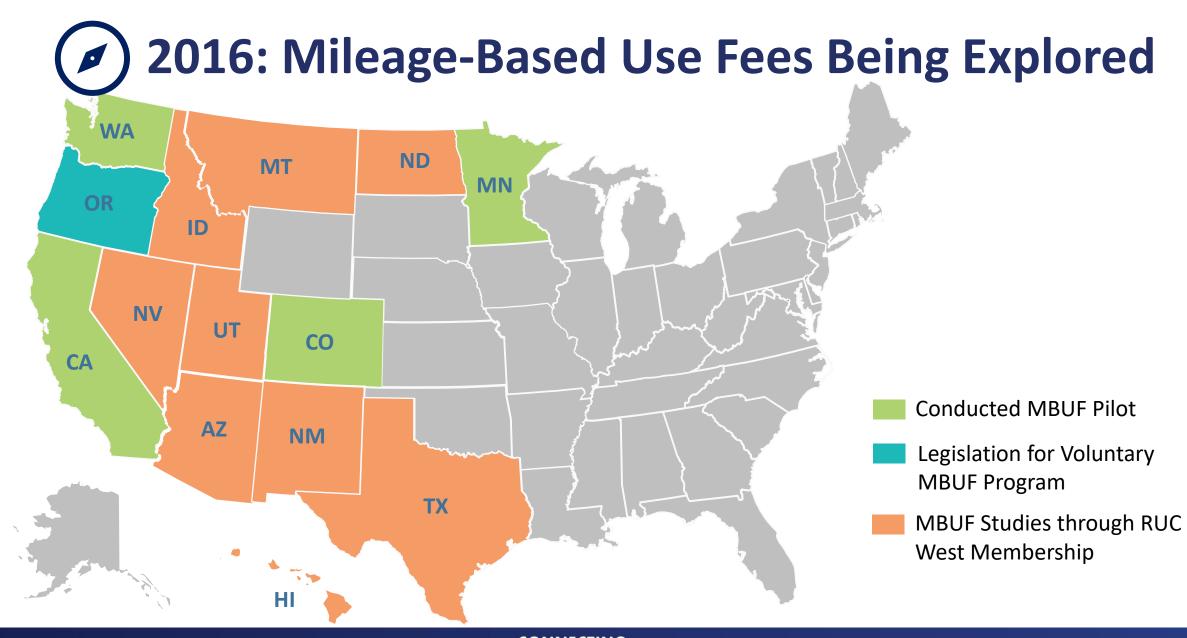
### FINDING COMMON GROUND





We need a new & more sustainable way to fund our transportation system.

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31 July 2020

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### Surface Transportation System Funding Alternatives (STSFA) Grants

<u>Purpose</u>: Explore the feasibility of replacing the gas tax with a mileage-based user fee program in a multistate environment

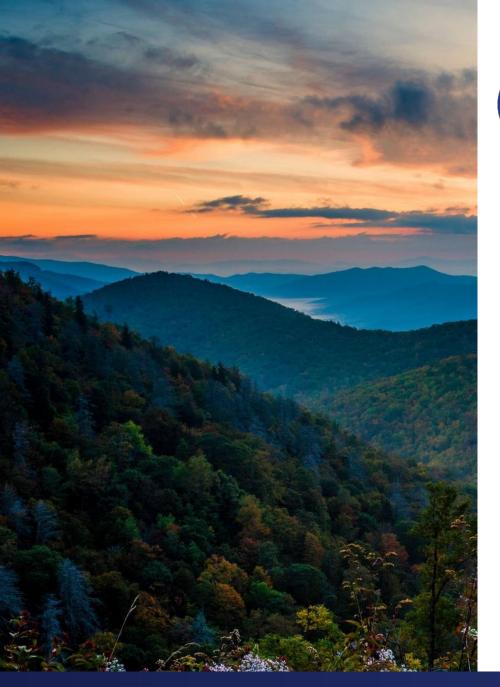
- Out-of-State Mileage How will travel across boundaries be handled?
- **Tolling** What is the relationship between tolling and MBUF?
- Amenities

Will value-added amenities help with public acceptance?

• Trucking

How does a user-fee fit into current requirements?







### A PATH FORWARD

Understanding what makes sense in NC



WE'VE ASK NC RESIDENTS ABOUT THEIR CONCERNS AND SEE POTENTIAL TO ADDRESS THEM.



HOUSEHOLD LEVEL ANALYSIS CONDUCTED THAT ANSWERS: WHAT WOULD MBUF MEAN FOR ME?



PILOT GETTING UNDERWAY TO BRING REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE TO NORTH CAROLINIANS



BY LEVERAGING LESSONS LEARNED FROM OTHER MBUF WORK, LAY OUT OPTIONS FOR A PATH TOWARDS SUSTINABLE TRANSPORTATION FUNDING

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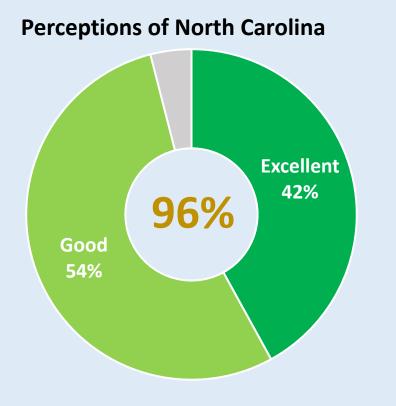
### WHAT DO NORTH CAROLINA **RESIDENTS** THINK ABOUT MBUF.





North Carolinians connect transportation to quality of life

#### Most residents believe North Carolina is an excellent or good place to live and highways are well-maintained.









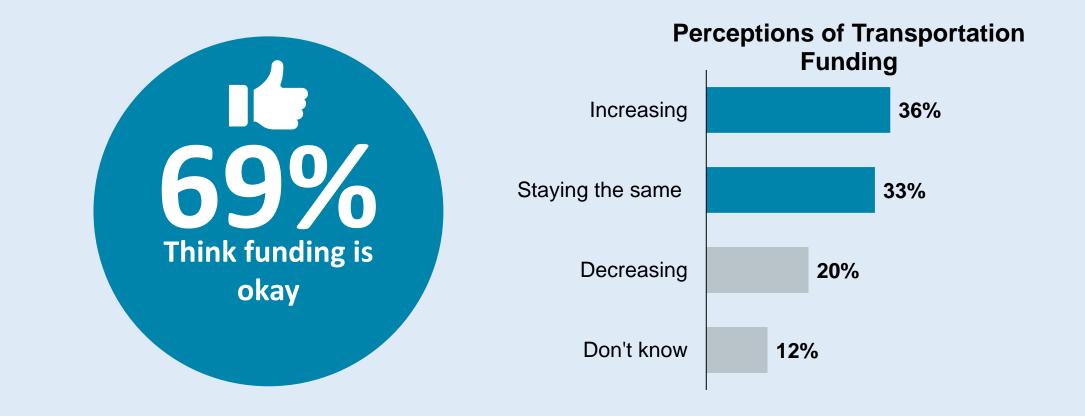
### Transportation is a top-tier issue that North Carolina residents want their leaders to address.

#### 12% Education (general)

11% Jobs, economy

- 10% Roads, infrastructure
  - **10% Healthcare** 
    - 6% Politics / politicians
    - 6% Corona virus / COVID-19
    - 5% Education funding
    - 5% Taxes

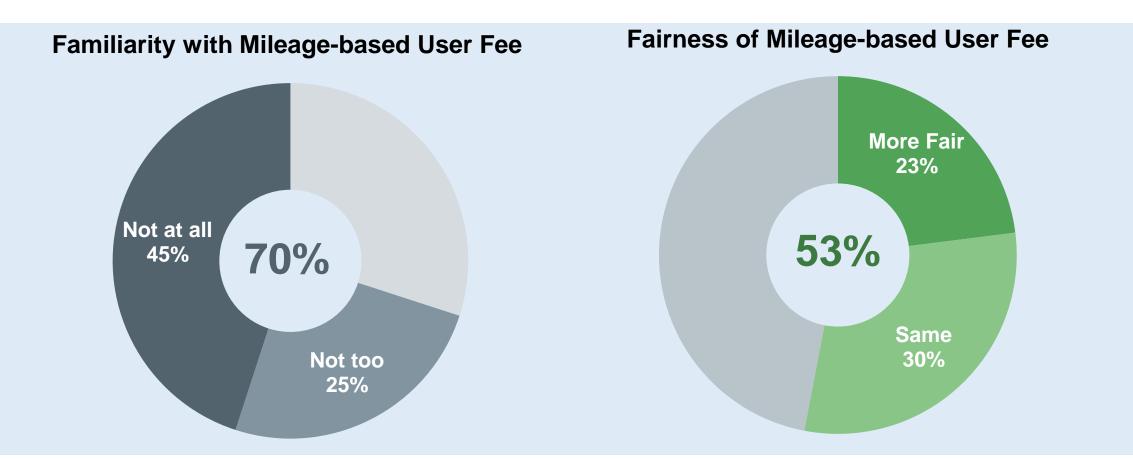
# North Carolina residents believe transportation funding is either increasing or staying the same.



DHM RESEARCH

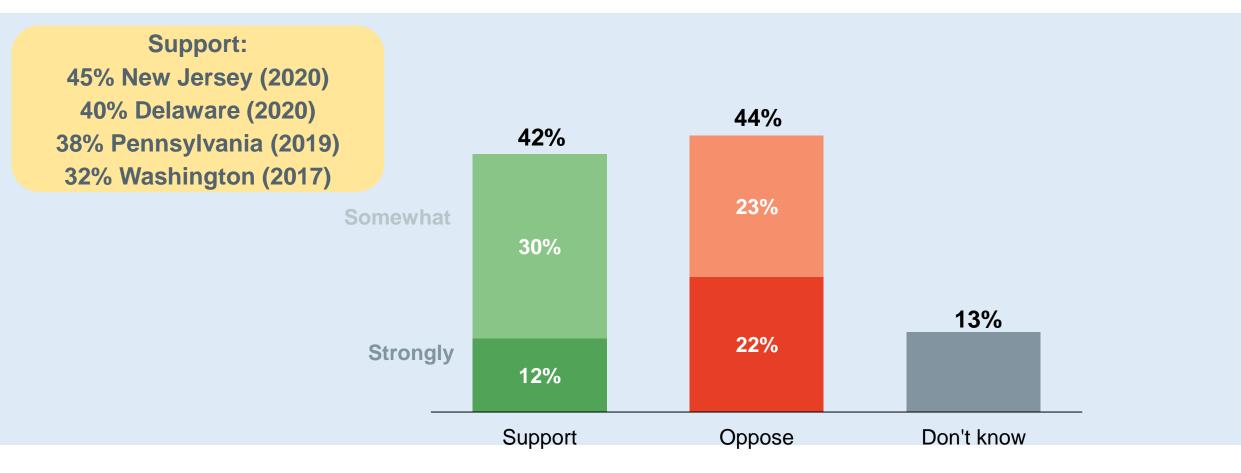
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# Although residents are unfamiliar with MBUF, after a brief explanation they view it as fair.



DHN	/ RE	SEA	RCH

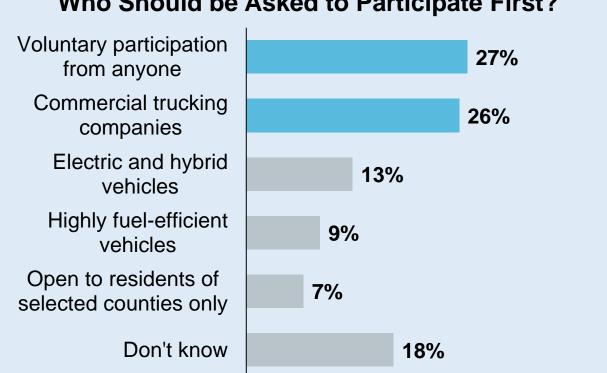
#### NC residents are split when it comes to whether a mileage-based user fee should be implemented as an alternative way to fund transportation.



## Most top reasons in support of a mileage-based user fee are shared by residents across the state

Rural		Suburban	Urban
	<ul> <li>61% Efficient vehicles pay less in gas tax</li> <li>60% Sustainable model</li> <li>60% Gas tax is out of date</li> </ul>	57% Gas tax is out of date 55% Sustainable model 55% Gas tax is unfair	69% Gas tax is out of date 68% Everyone pays fair share 63% Gas tax is unfair

#### If the state rolls out an MBUF program, residents think participation should first be voluntary or consist of commercial truckers; interest in an initial pilot is strong.



#### Who Should be Asked to Participate First?

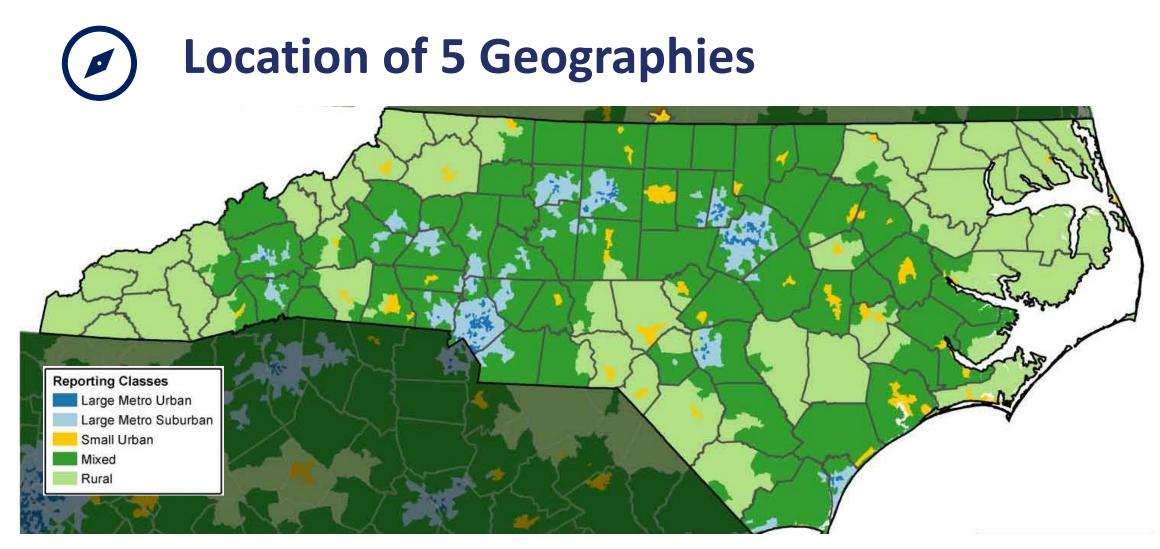


## Residents across NC have similar concerns about a mileage-based user fee

		Urban	
81% Unfair to rural 65% Out of state 62% Personal information	73% Unfair to rural 66% Hassle 62% Gas tax more fair	<ul> <li>74% Hassle</li> <li>65% Out of state</li> <li>59% Unfair to rural</li> </ul>	

### Explore the Myth: Rural residents will pay more under MBUF

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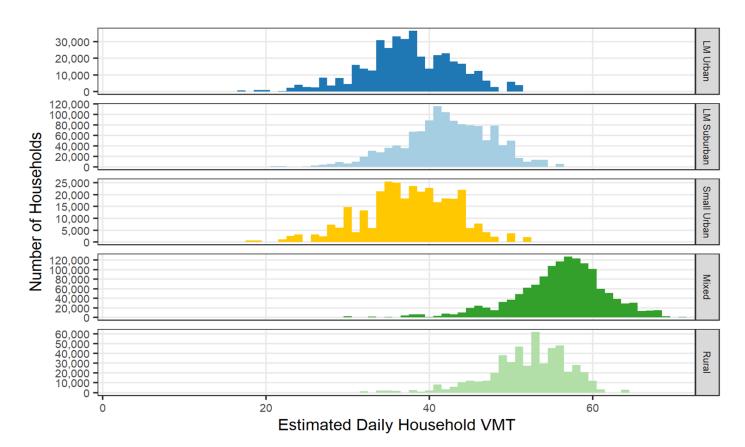
LM Urban	LM Suburban	Small Urban	Mixed	Rural	
1,026,000	3,297,000	834,000	3,670,000	1,299,000	
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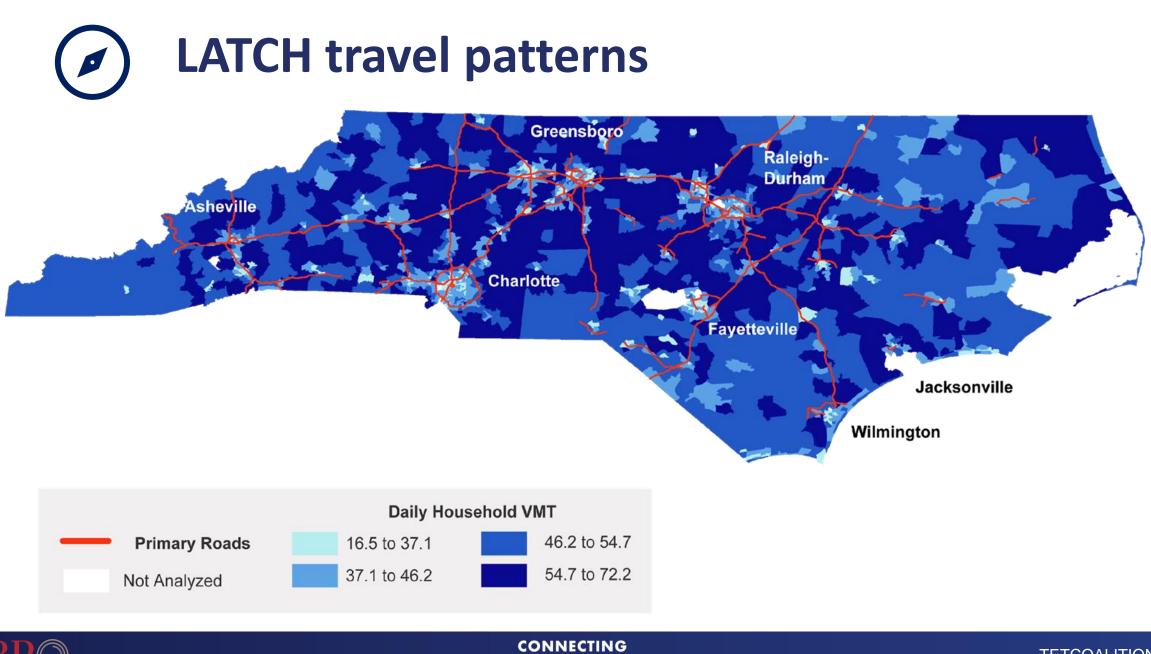
# Estimating different travel behavior based on geography

Geography	% of HHs	Avg VMT
LM Urban	10%	36.6
LM Suburban	33%	41.7
Small Urban	8%	36.9
Mixed	36%	55.6
Rural	13%	52.0
All Urban	51%	39.8
Statewide		46.9

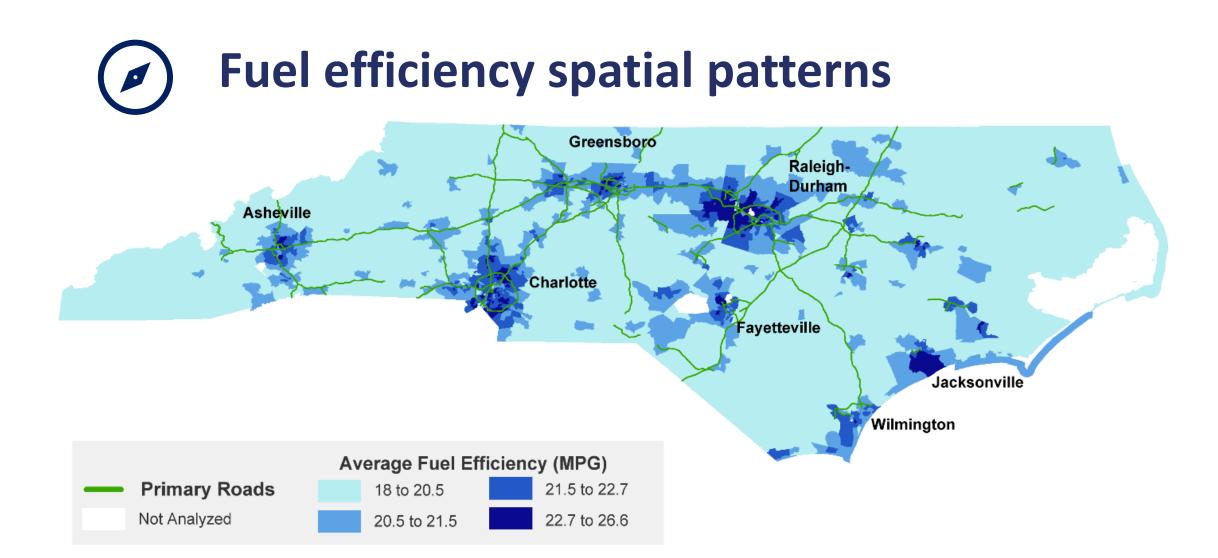
Estimates are based on the Bureau of Transportation Statistics LATCH (Local Area Travel Characteristics of Households) research.







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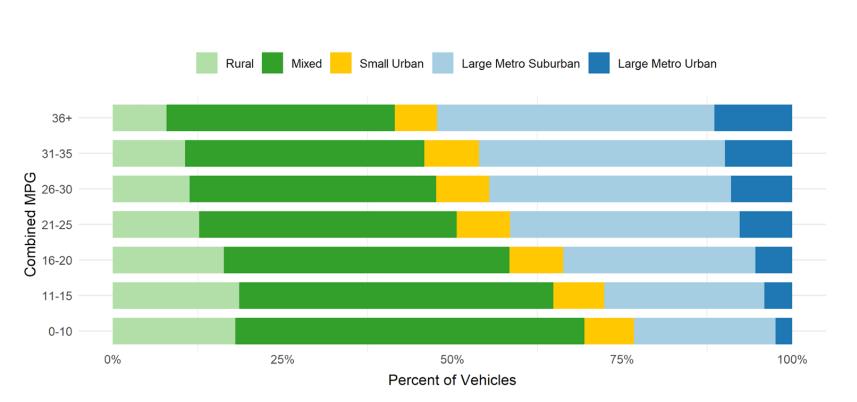




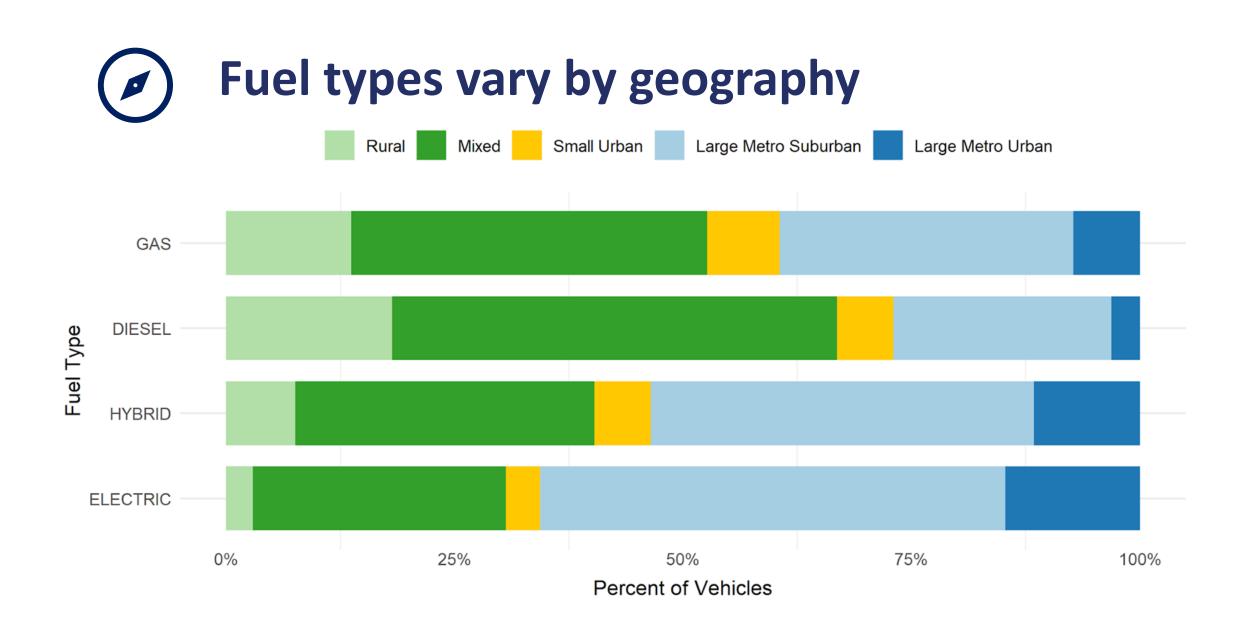
### Fuel efficiency differences are noticeable

Geography	Average Fuel Efficiency		
LM Urban	22.7		
LM Suburban	21.9		
Small Urban	21.1		
Mixed	20.6		
Rural	20.0		
All Urban	21.8		
Statewide	21.1		

13.5% higher fuel efficiency in large metro urban areas









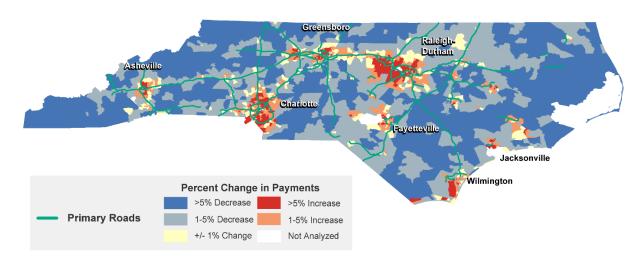
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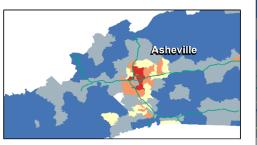


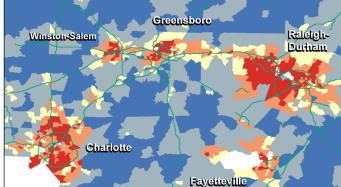
### SO.... WHAT WOULD A **SHIFT** TO MBUF MEAN FOR NORTH CAROLINA HOUSEHOLDS?



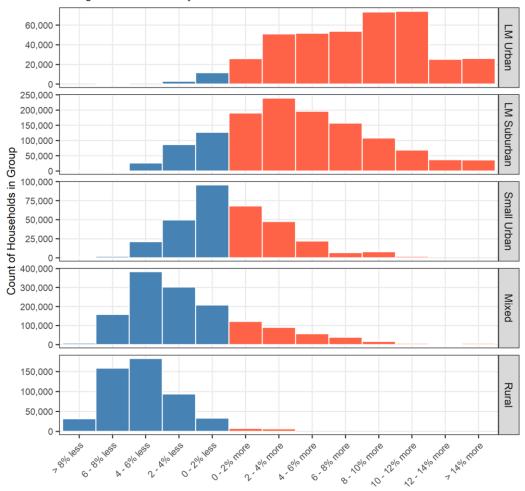
### Minimal changes under MBUF







Changes in Household Payments in North Carolina



Estimated Percent Change in Household Payments



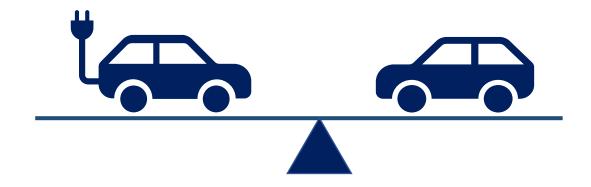
## Minimal changes under MBUF

Geography Change in Revenue Origin		% Shift	Geography	Average Fuel Tax	Annual Change Per Household under MBUF
LM Urban	\$6,680,000	+0.6%	LM Urban	\$217	\$17
LM Suburban	\$12,870,000	+1.1%	LM Suburban	\$253	\$10
Small Urban	\$190,000	0.0%	Small Urban	\$234	\$1
Mixed	-\$10,780,000	-0.9%	Mixed	\$358	-\$8
Rural	-\$8,950,000	-0.8%	Rural	\$343	-\$17
All Urban	19,740,000	+1.7%	All Urban	\$243	\$10
Statewide	\$0	0.0%	Statewide	\$297	\$0



## **Drivers pay for what they use**

Policy	Gasoline	Diesel	Hybrid	PHEV	Electric	Sum of Fuels
Gas Tax	95.2%	4.0%	0.7%	0.1%	0.0%	100%
MBUF	94.8%	3.4%	1.2%	0.5%	0.1%	100%
Difference	-0.4%	-0.6%	0.5%	0.4%	0.1%	0%







### UPDATE ON MBUF PILOT HAPPENING IN NORTH CAROLINA



## Pilots are a key for understanding MBUF

## 13% to 20% of MBUF might be paid by out-of-state drivers



~65% learned how much they paid at the pump (31% thought is was more)



Privacy concern dropped (57% to 30% and 46% to 20%)



67% - 80% would support MBUF implementation

# Pilot participants find it to be a positive experience



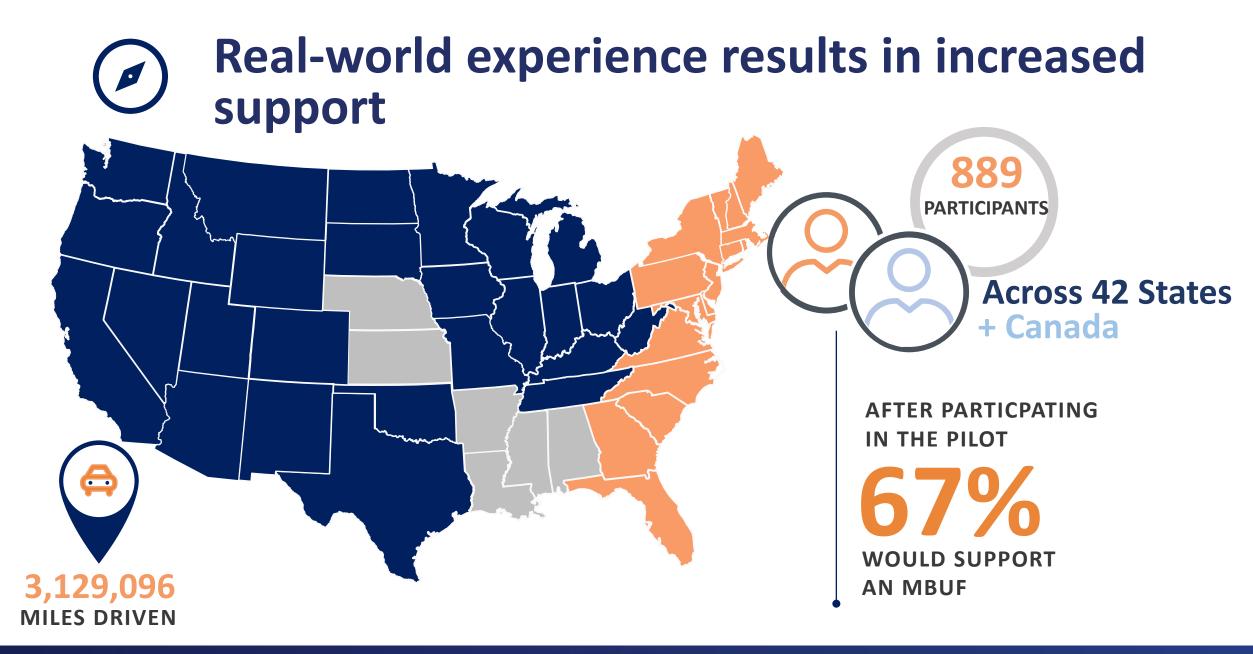
*Of participants support doing more research on MBUF.* 



*Of participants would be willing to participate in another pilot.* 

Participants were satisfied with the Pilot, with an average ranking of **4.5** on a scale of 1 - 5 (with 5 being Very Satisfied)





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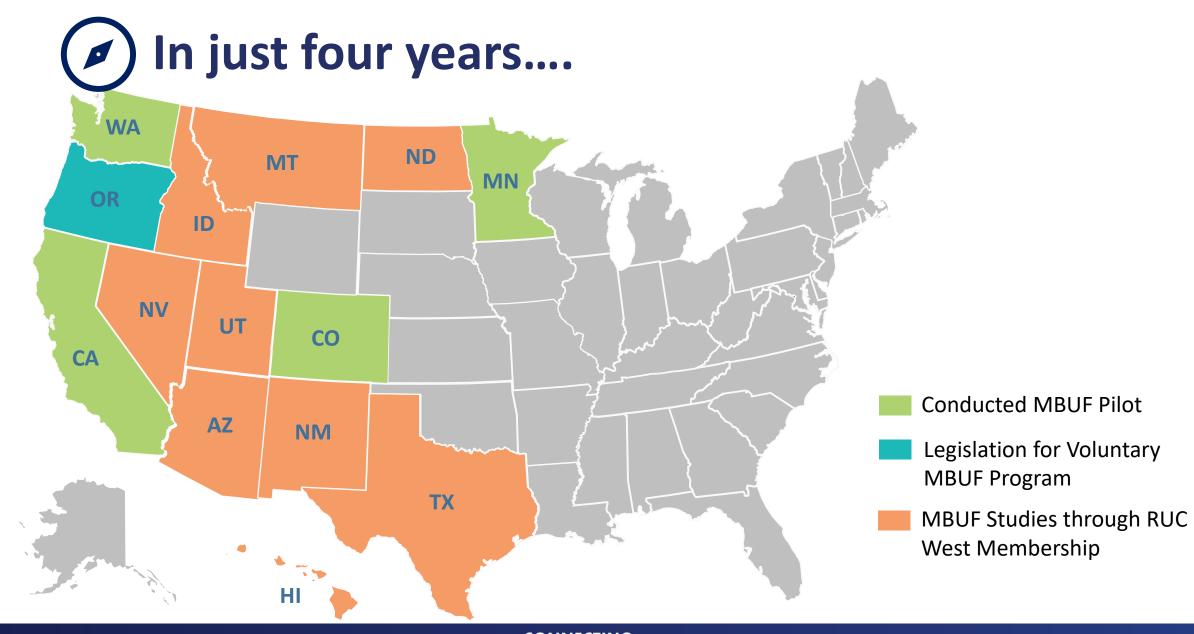
### NC MBUF Pilot

- Who? Key Stakeholders– YOU!
- When? August 1<sup>st</sup> December 31<sup>st</sup>
- What? Plug-in devices (with and without location) Private vendor (Azuga) Value-added amenities Monthly statement (simulated)
- Why? Gain real-world experience
   Share your opinions
   Help identify future options
- Status? 135 out of 150 recruited

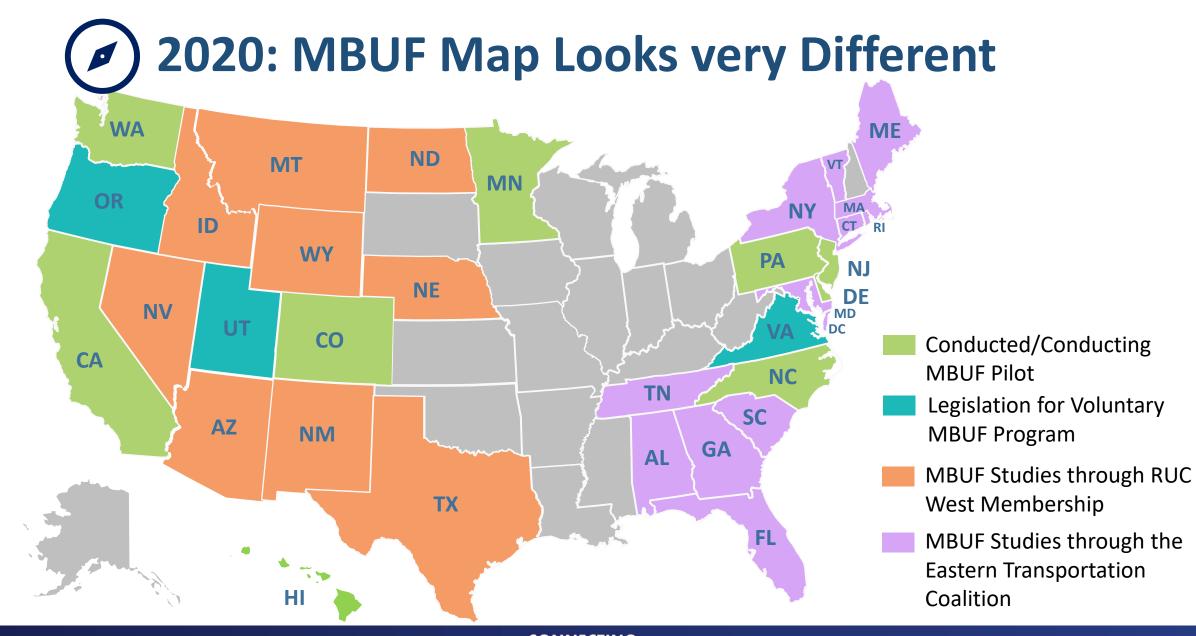


### WHICH PATH FORWARD WILL **NORTH CAROLINA** CHOOSE?





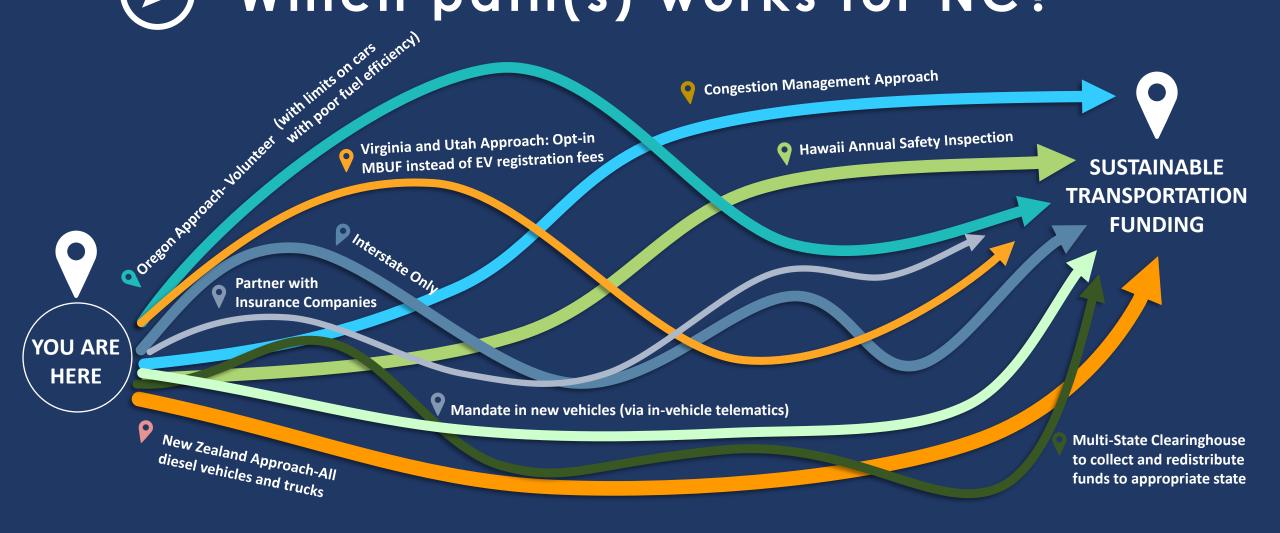
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## Which path(s) works for NC?



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### **THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?**

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