

## OWU ENVS & CITIZENS' CLIMATE LOBBY

### Green Stimulus: Talking Points and Calling Guide

BACKGROUND: In order to protect the economy during the Covid-19 shutdown, the US Congress plans to pass multiple stimulus packages to help businesses and consumers continue their usual spending habits and minimize unemployment and recession. **This is a unique opportunity for Congress to create green jobs, support sustainable agricultural practices, and start the transition away from fossil fuels towards public transport and greener infrastructure.**

Taking a couple minutes to call your representative CAN make a difference: **For every 1 person who calls about an issue, politicians assume several more voters care about the issue who didn't call.** Your call may be answered by a staffer or you may be sent to voicemail: either way, your message will eventually be noted and listened to!

Try to keep your call under 60 seconds to be respectful of the staffer's time. **Writing out a draft** of what you want to say beforehand can help.

**STEP 1:** Go to [the CCL calling tool](#) to find your elected legislators and their phone numbers. (CCL's tool is specifically geared towards the Energy and Innovation Act, but for these times, we recommend focusing on a Green Stimulus Package as a response to Covid-19.)

**STEP 2:** Introduce yourself and tell the person on the other end your address. Spell your name and zip code.

**STEP 3:** Be courteous: playing the blame game or complaining will not help your cause, but thanking the legislator for the work that they do might.

**STEP 4:** Be specific and have a strong "ask". [This article](#) is a good overview of some of the Green Stimulus ideas, but **make this personal!** Tell your representative what you want the package to support, and why that matters to you.

#### **EXAMPLE:**

*Hello, my name is Bob Bishop and I am a voter in Delaware County, zip code 43015. I am calling in support of an initiative to pass a green stimulus, which will protect the economy while laying the groundwork for a greener future.*

*When voting on the next stimulus package, please encourage your colleagues to invest in nation-wide clean public transportation. Constructing and managing better transit will create thousands of jobs and help Americans get to work safely, while greatly reducing traffic and air-polluting emissions from automobiles.*

*Thank you for working to protect Americans in this crisis, and please make green infrastructure a priority in the next stimulus package.*