



T-MAP: From Niche to Norm

A Practitioner-Rooted Research Project

Keith Laughlin
President, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy
Active Living Research Conference
March 8, 2014

A decorative green wave graphic at the bottom of the slide, starting from the left and curving upwards towards the right.

My Role on the Panel

To create advocacy context for the
research to follow



RTC 101

- Founded in 1986
- 150,000 Members and supporters
- HQ in DC with 4 Regional Offices
- 40+ Staff



rails-to-trails
conservancy

Our Mission

“To create a nationwide network of trails from former rail lines and connecting corridors...


...to build healthier places for healthier people.”

- Adopted Oct 2004

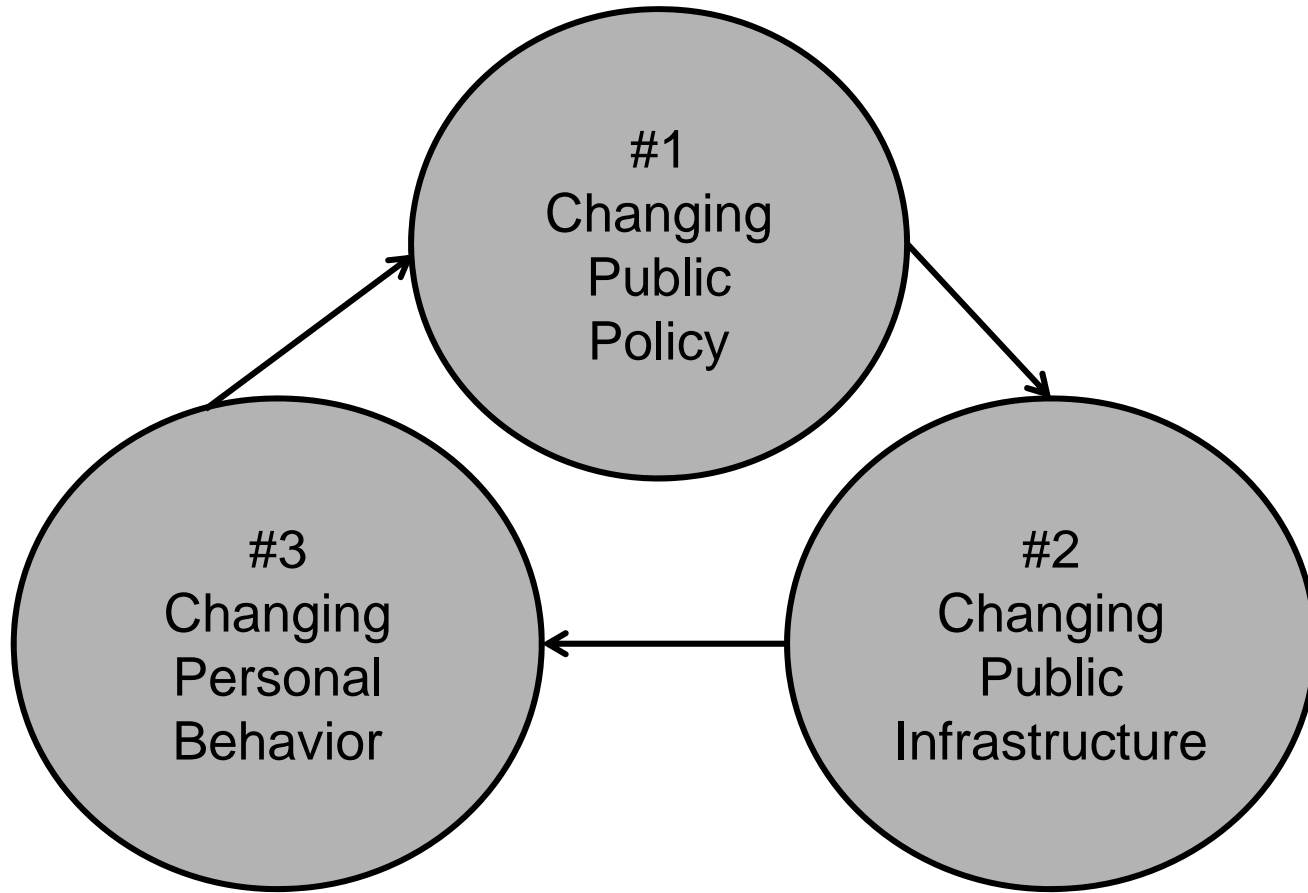


“Health” in Multiple Dimensions

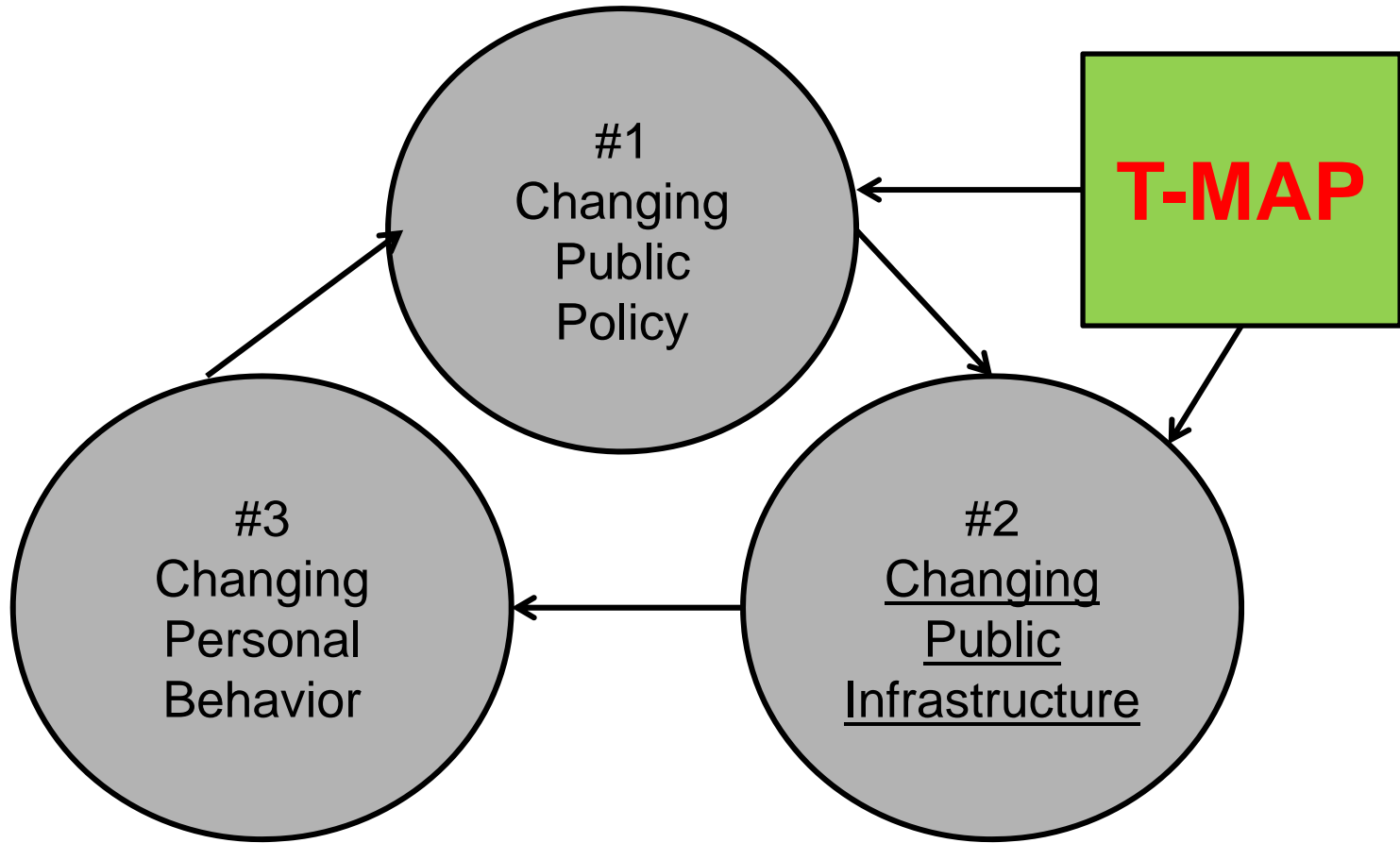
Improving the...

- ...***economic and environmental health*** of a place
 - ...***personal health*** of its people
 - ...***social health*** of a community
- 

Our Methods: Catalyzing Change in 3 Spheres



Our Methods: Catalyzing Change in 3 Spheres



Shameless Plug: Sphere #1: Changing Policy

Safe Routes Everywhere_FINAL_low res_011514.pdf - Adobe Reader

Edit View Window Help



Partnership for
Active Transportation

Safe Routes to Everywhere

Building Healthy Places for Healthy People
Through Active Transportation Networks



Looking Back

Past success:

- 1986: 250 miles
- 2014: >21,000 miles



Looking Ahead: Our BHAG



Our Big, Hairy,
Audacious Goal:
By 2020, 90 percent
of Americans will live
within three miles of
a local trail system.

Measuring the BHAG: Creating Geospatial Data Base

- Since 2006 we have mapped 25,500 miles of multi-purpose trail in the US
- Overlay with Census data to measure proximity




National Progress on BHAG

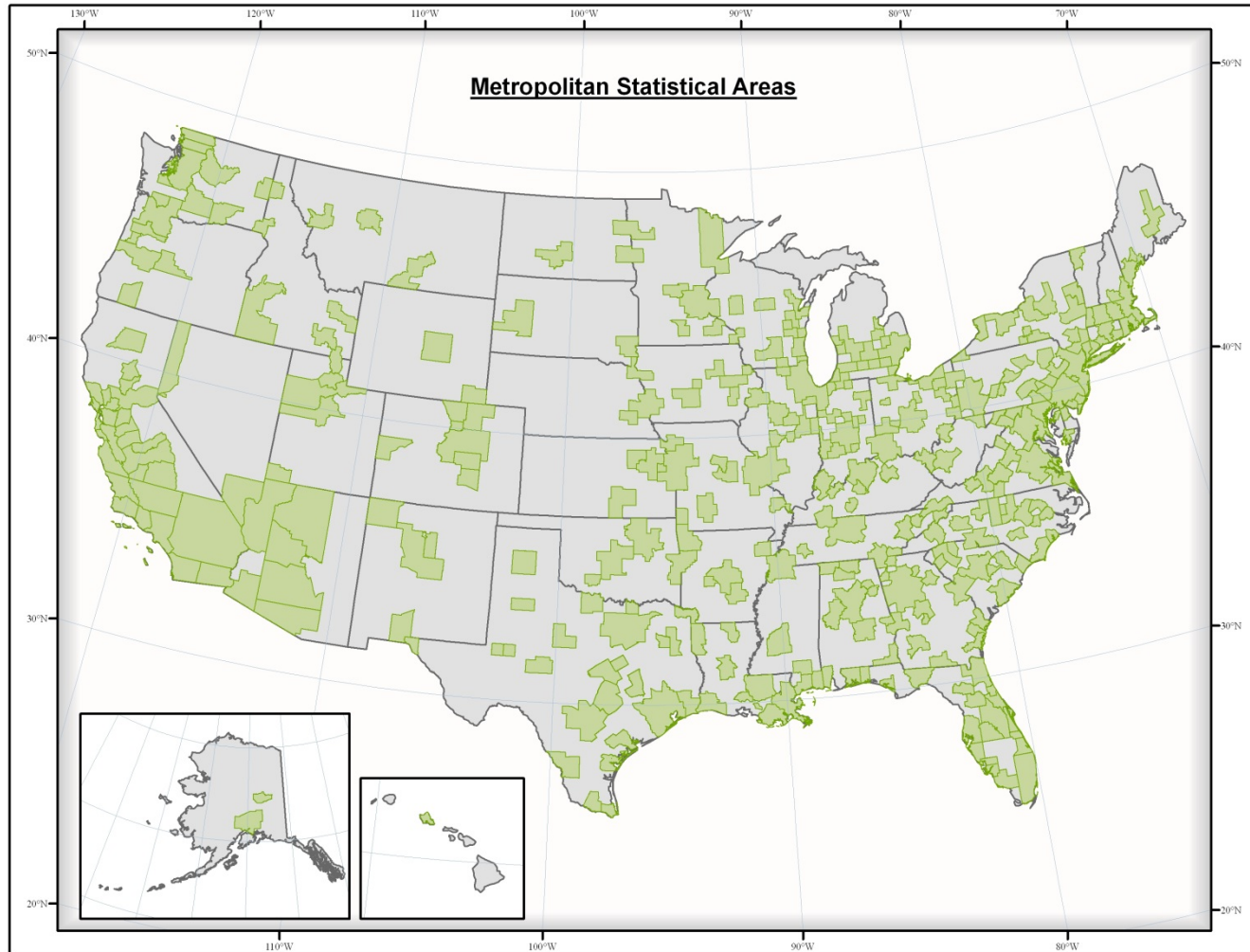
- Dec. 2009: 25.5%
 - 14,700 miles of trail
- Dec. 2010: 32.5%
 - 17,500 miles of trail
- Dec. 2011: 39.8%
 - 21,700 miles of trail
- Dec. 2012: 42.2%
 - 23,500 miles of trail
- Dec. 2013: 44.0%
 - 25,200 miles of trail



State-Level Analysis: 2013

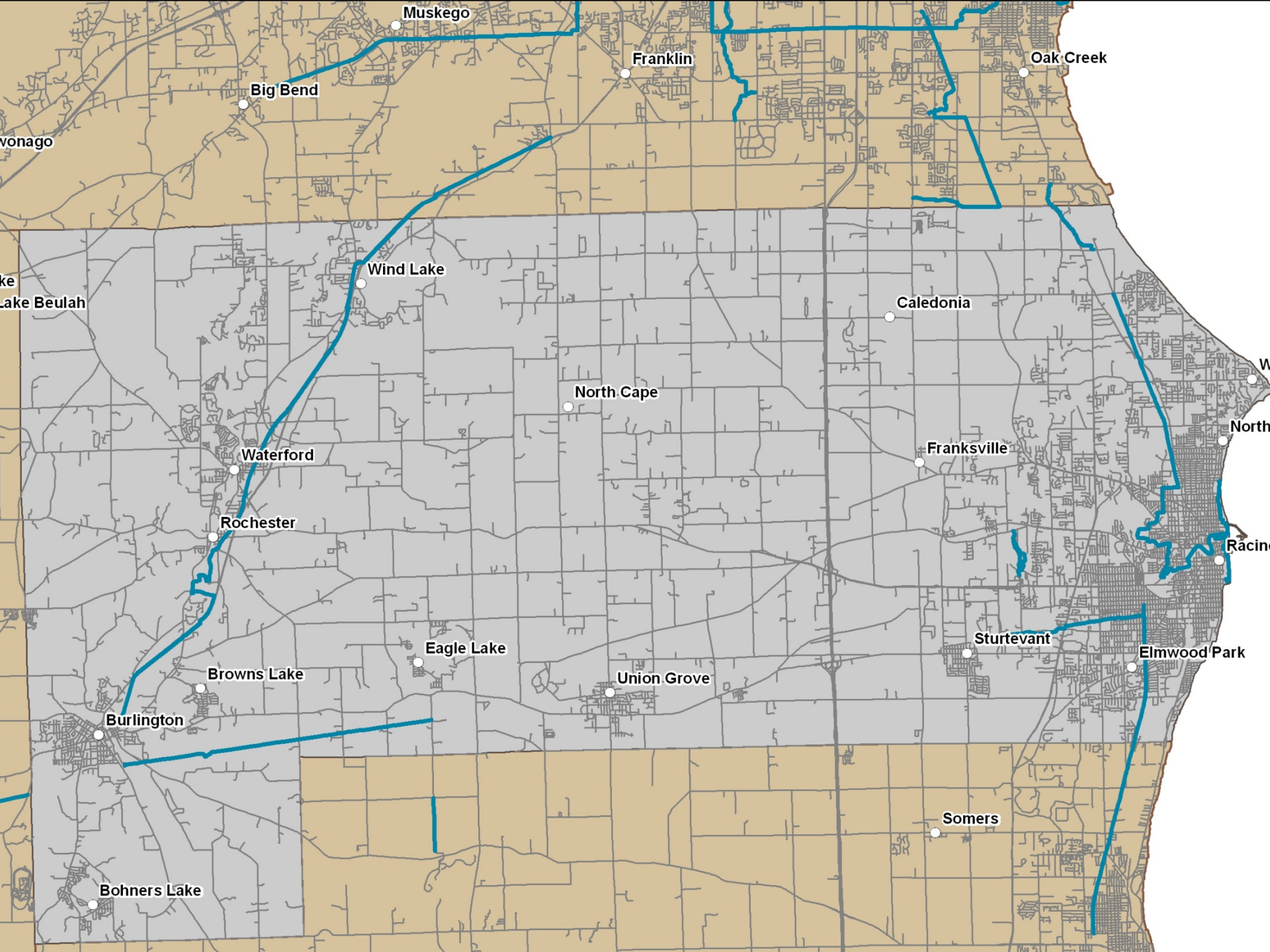
1. District of Columbia (100%)
 2. Rhode Island (75%)
 3. Colorado (70%)
 4. Washington (68%)
 5. Illinois (66%)
 6. California (62%)
 7. New York (58%)
 8. Nebraska (58%)
 9. Oregon (58%)
 10. Wisconsin (56%)
- 

MSA-Level Analysis




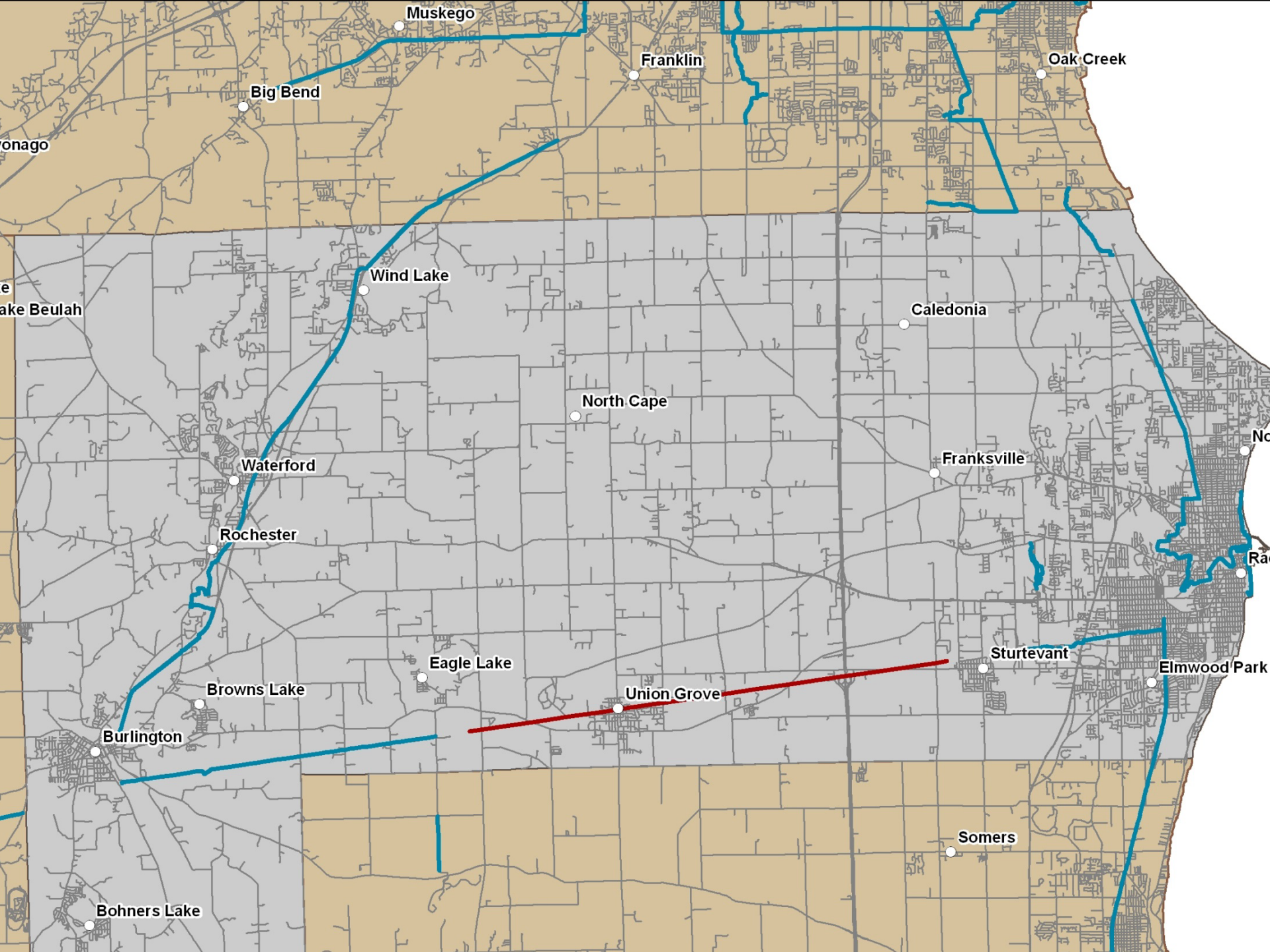
MSA-Level Analysis

1. Rockford, IL (93%)
 2. San Francisco-Oakland-Fremont, CA (92%)
 3. San Jose-Sunnyvale-Santa Clara, CA (92%)
 4. Boulder, CO (91%)
 5. Lincoln, NE (90%)
 - 6. Racine, WI (90%)**
 - 7. Milwaukee-Waukesha-West Allis, WI (90%)**
 8. Denver-Aurora-Broomfield, CO (88%)
 9. Des Moines-West Des Moines, IA (85%)
 10. Fort Collins-Loveland, CO (85%)
- 




RTC's Early Warning System


- On January 28, 2014, the Soo Line filed a notice to abandon 10.6 miles of active line between Sturtevant and Kansasville, WI.
 - We notified all potentially interested parties in Wisconsin
 - Wisconsin state DNR intends to rail bank this segment
 - The map now looks like this...
- 




Inescapable Conclusion

- Measuring proximity is useful, but limited
 - It does not address equity
 - It does not ensure usage
 - Accessibility and connectivity are crucial factors in determining if infrastructure change supports behavior change
 - **Key Question:** Does infrastructure effectively connect people and places?
- 

The Genesis of T-MAP

- Was NOT created to develop “evidence”
 - Emerged last summer from a dialogue with Tracy about creating “TrailScore” to measure trail system connectivity
 - I want practical tools to change the world
 - Tracy, Greg & Michael want to do rigorous cutting edge peer reviewed research that will change the world
- 

Conclusion: The Opportunity

- \$7 billion in federal investment since 1991 has built 25,000 miles of multi-purpose trails across the American landscape
 - Approaching a tipping point: relatively small investments to make connections to create networks will cause usage to soar
 - T-MAP will ensure and demonstrate that future investment delivers a high ROI
- 

Questions?



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conservancy



T-MAP

Research Design

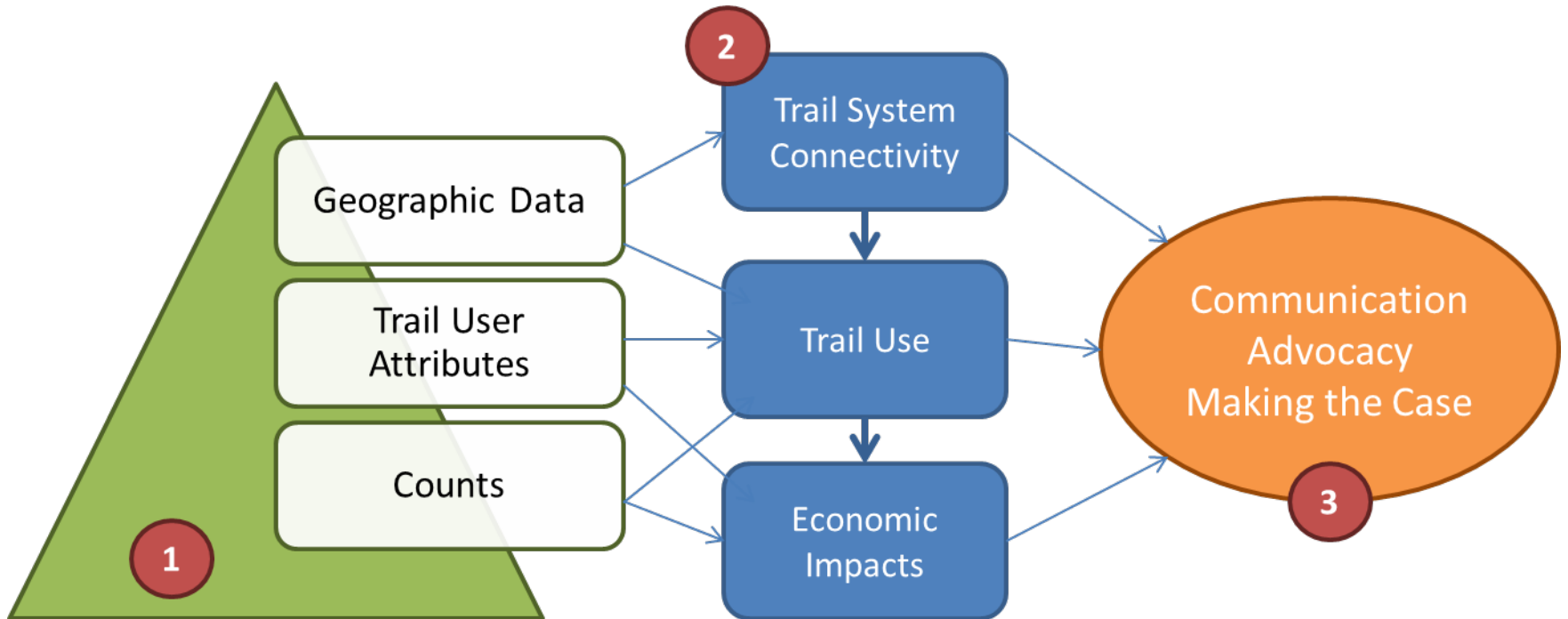
Tracy Hadden Loh, Ph.D.

Active Living Research

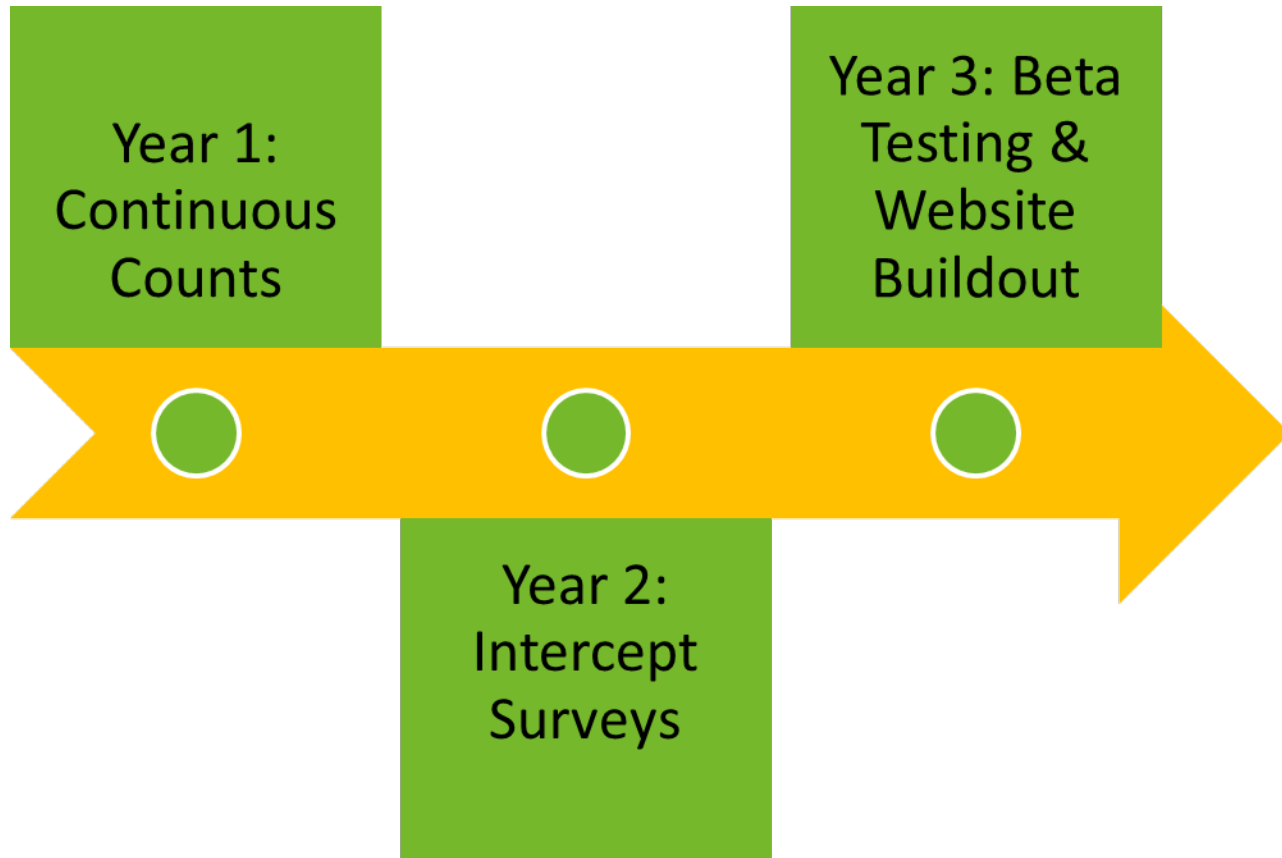
3/9/14

A solid green wave-like shape at the bottom of the slide, curving upwards from left to right.

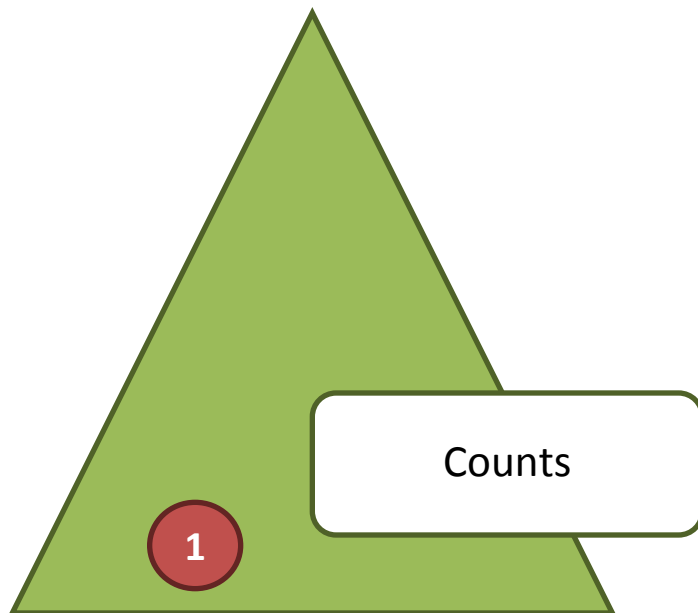
T-MAP by Component



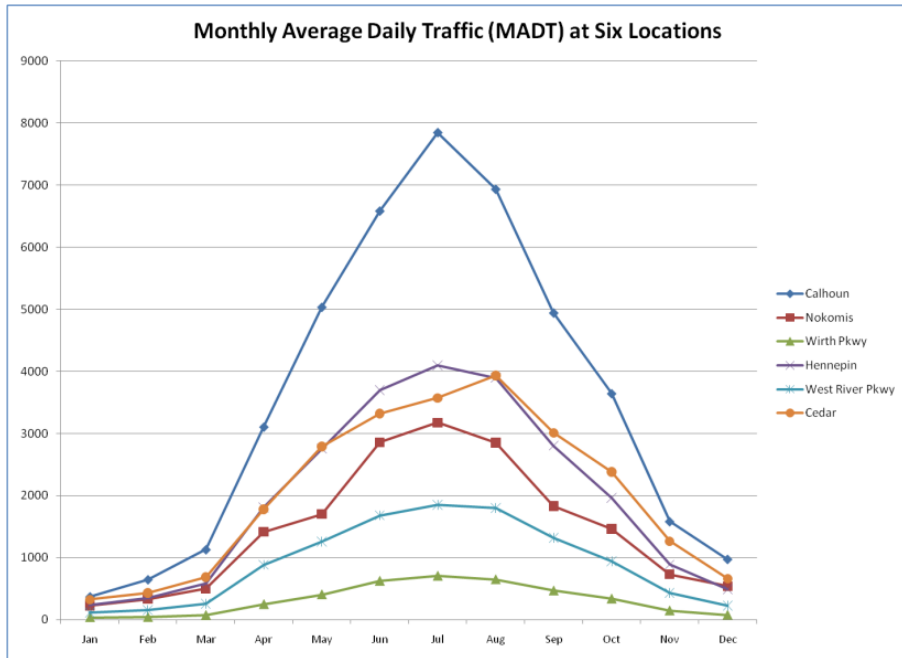
Timeline



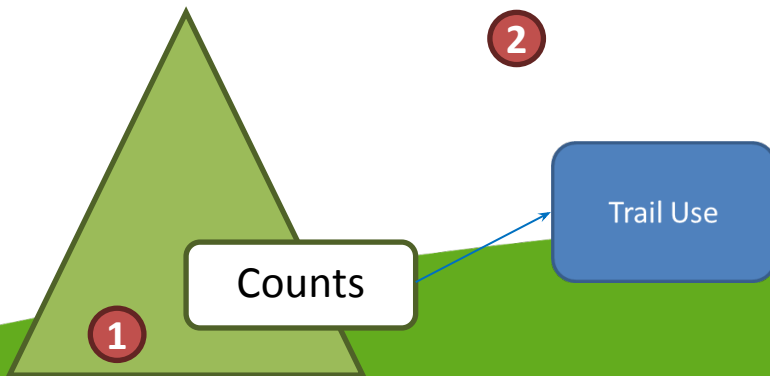
Year One Data Collection: Counts



Trail Use Research Questions

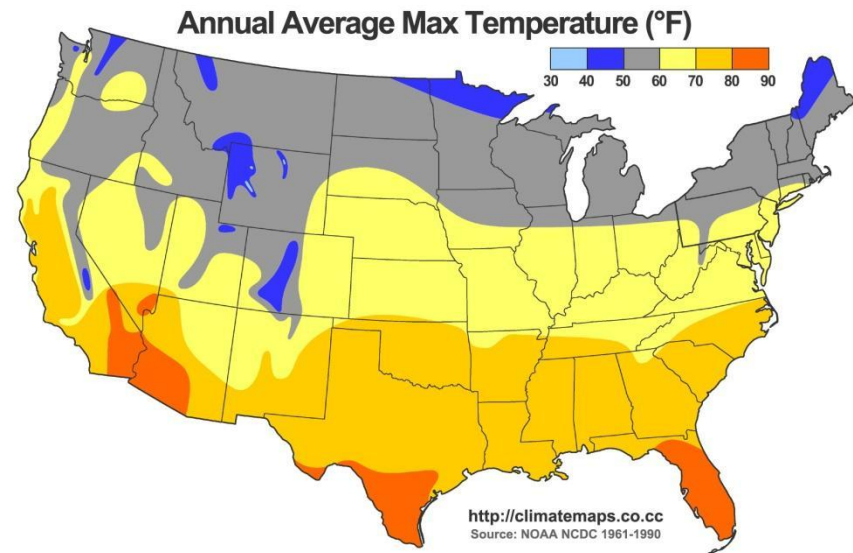


- How many visits does my trail get per year?
- What is the peak trail use on my facility?
- What is the modal distribution of my users?

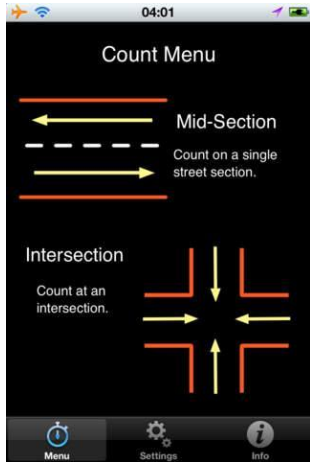


Year One Deliverables: Factors

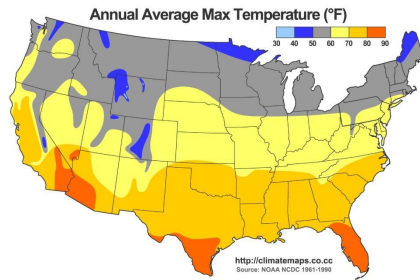
- Separate for bicyclists and pedestrians
- For all weather zones of the US
- Large sample



Year One Deliverables: Calculator



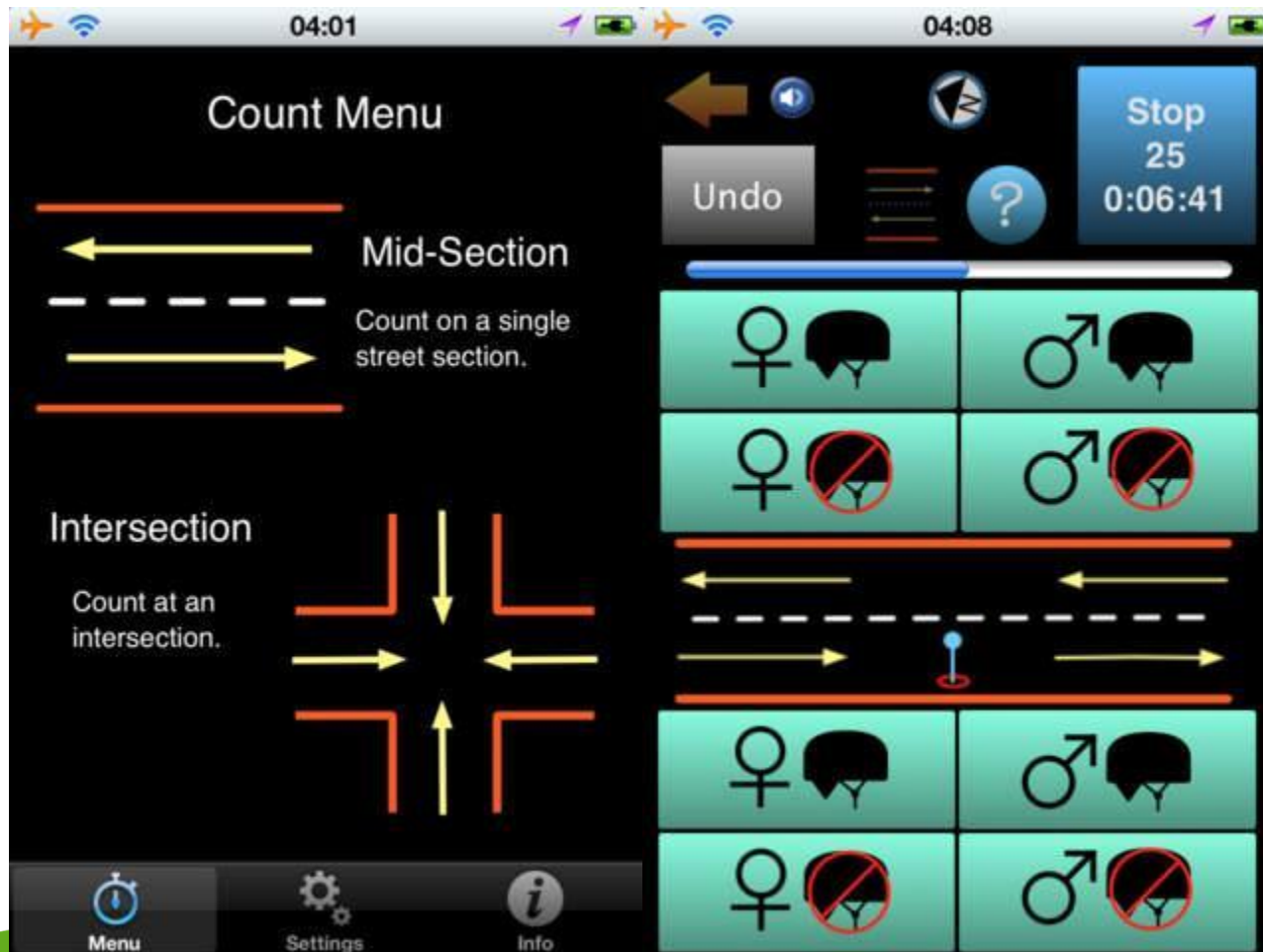
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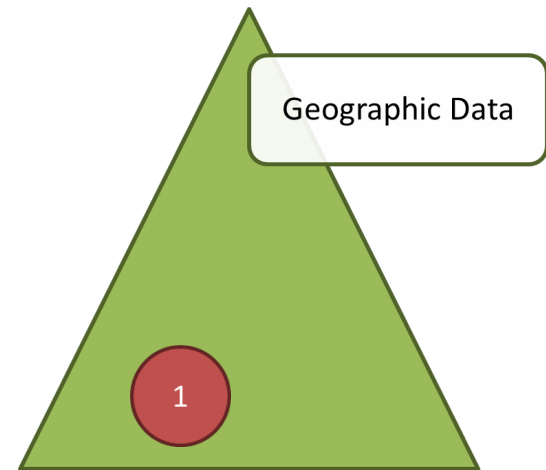


Year One Deliverables: RTCounts!




Year One Data Collection: Trail GIS

- Time of year (season)
- Weather
- How many people live nearby
- Nearby destinations
- Trail width
- Trail surface
- Trail cleanliness
- Etc



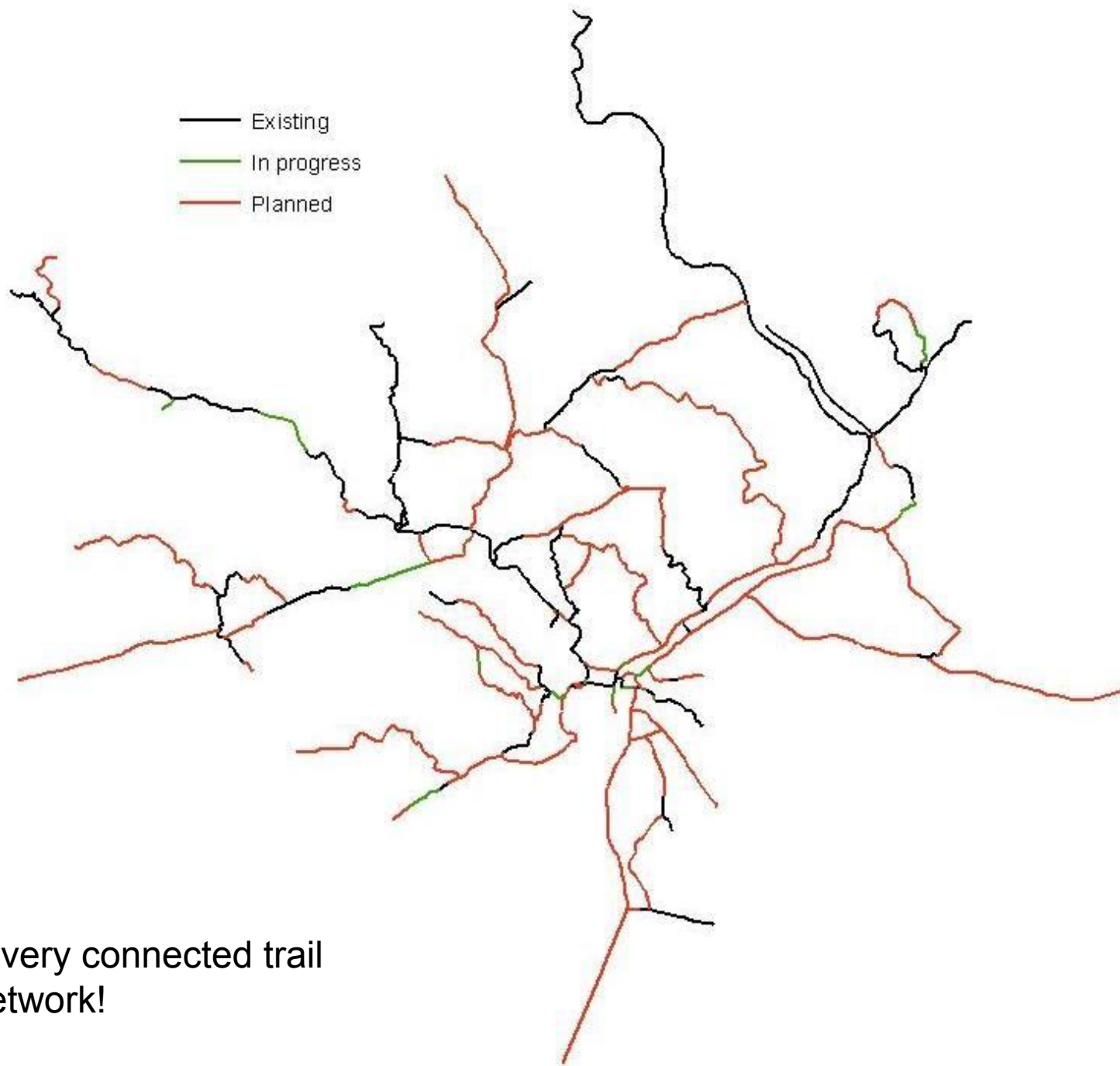
Trail GIS Research Questions

- Which trail segment should we build next?
 - What are our goals for the trail system – who and what do we want to connect?
 - How can we compare potential segments as apples?
 - How good a job does the trail network do of connecting origins and destinations?
- 

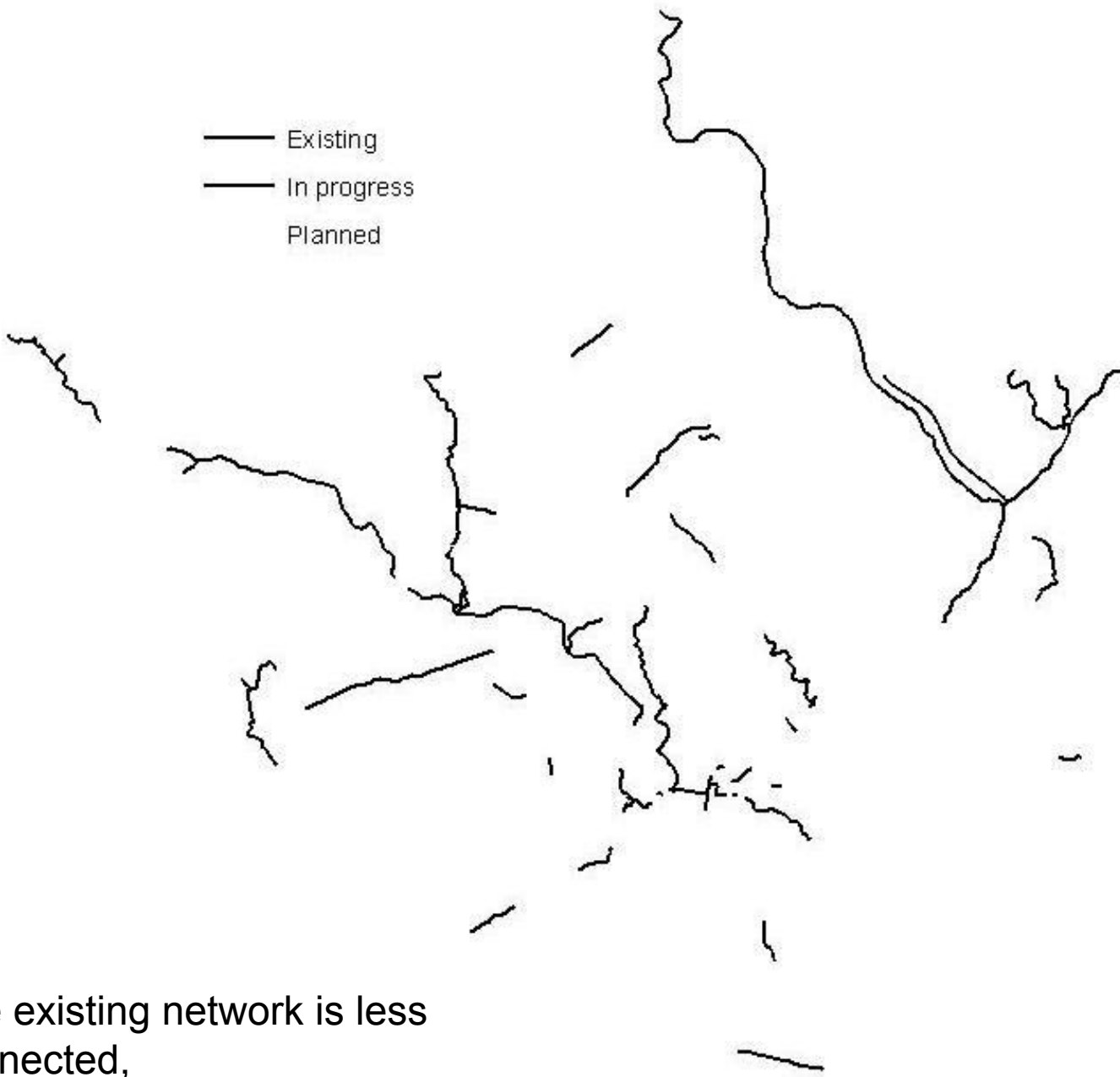
Year One Deliverables: Trail System Connectivity

- Unit of analysis is the community level
- Same method, multiple possible applications
 - Developing the method is pure research work
 - Incorporating the tool into practice is a bigger task



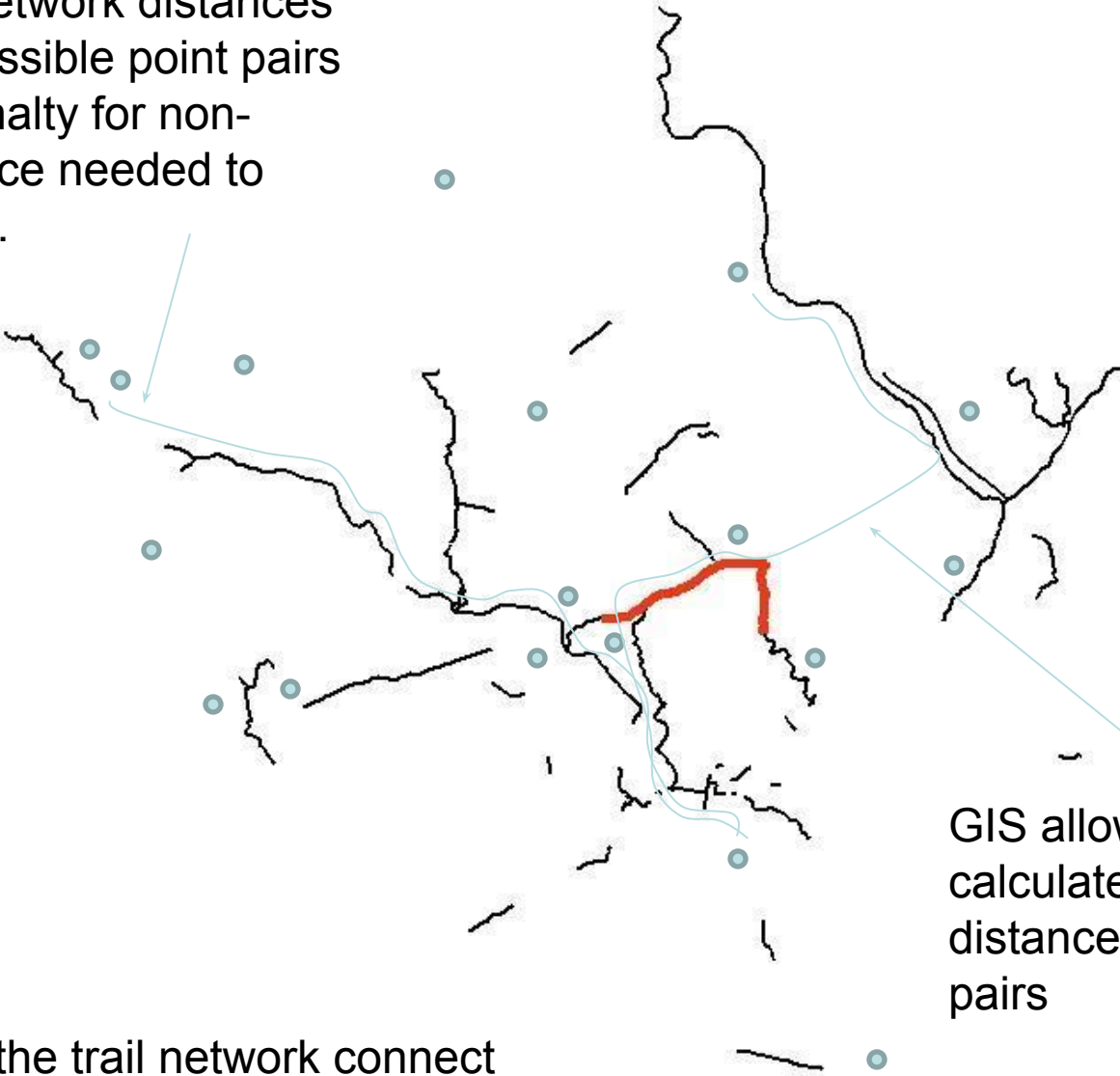


A very connected trail network!



The existing network is less connected, naturally

Measure with a statistic that is a function of network distances between all possible point pairs – an add a penalty for non-network distance needed to connect points.

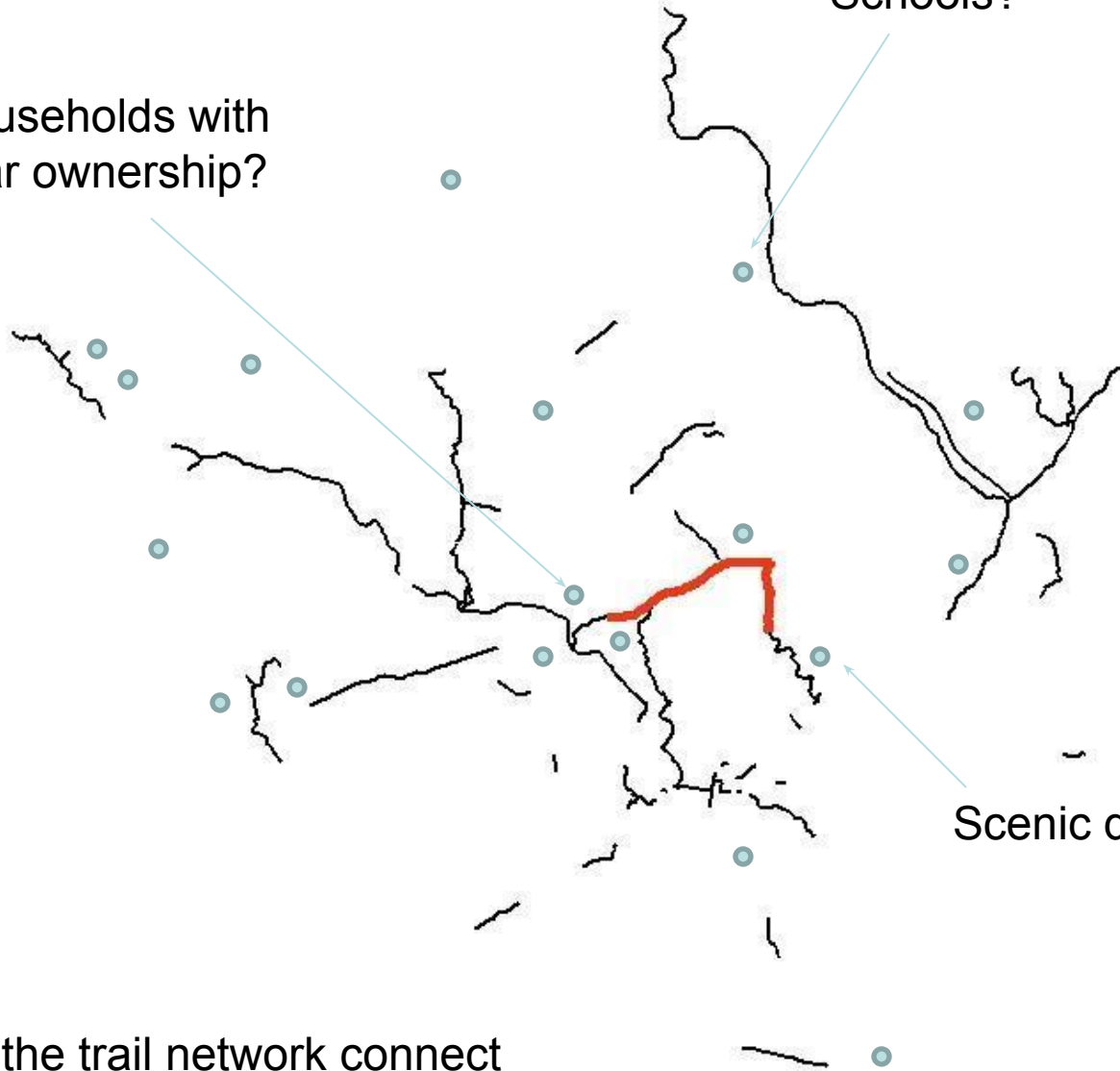


GIS allows us to calculate thousands of distances for hundreds of pairs

How well does the trail network connect these origins and destinations?

Clusters of households with low rates of car ownership?

Schools?

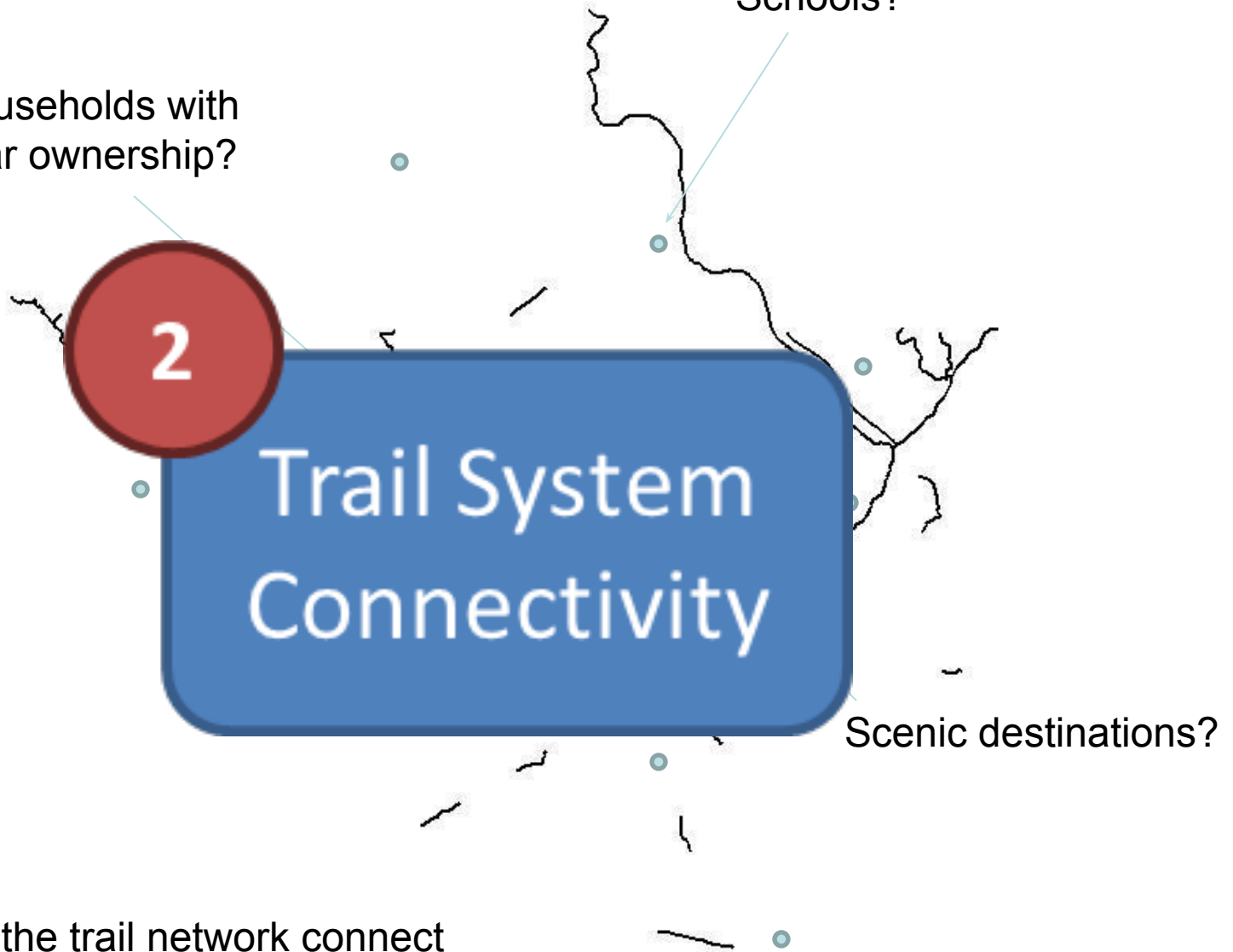


Scenic destinations?

How well does the trail network connect particular origins and destinations?

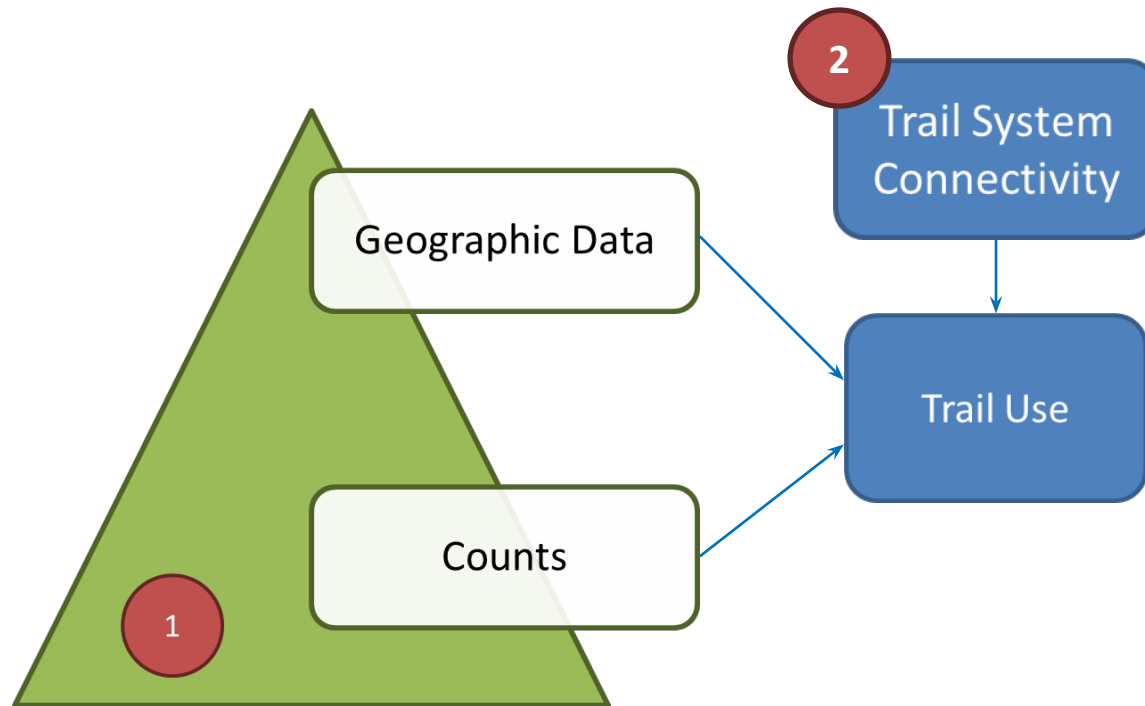
Clusters of households with low rates of car ownership?

Schools?

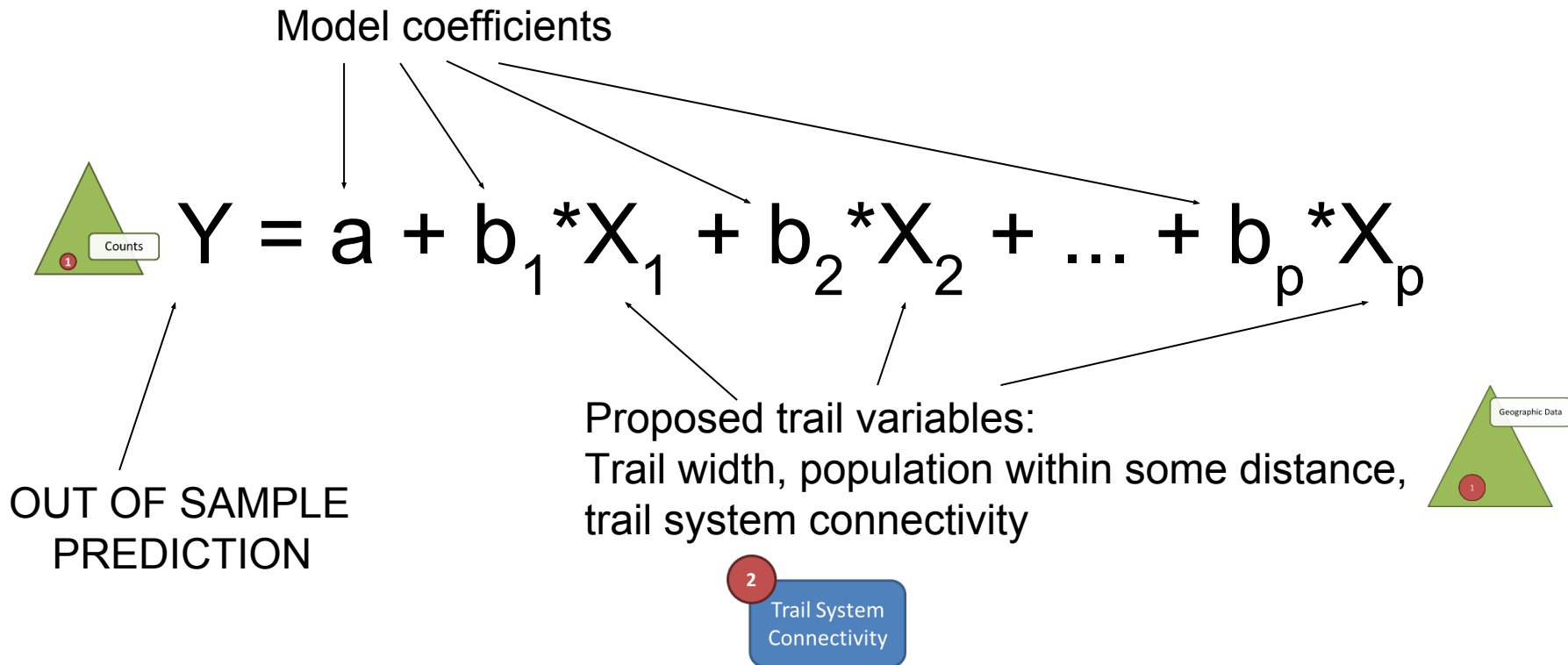


How well does the trail network connect particular origins and destinations?

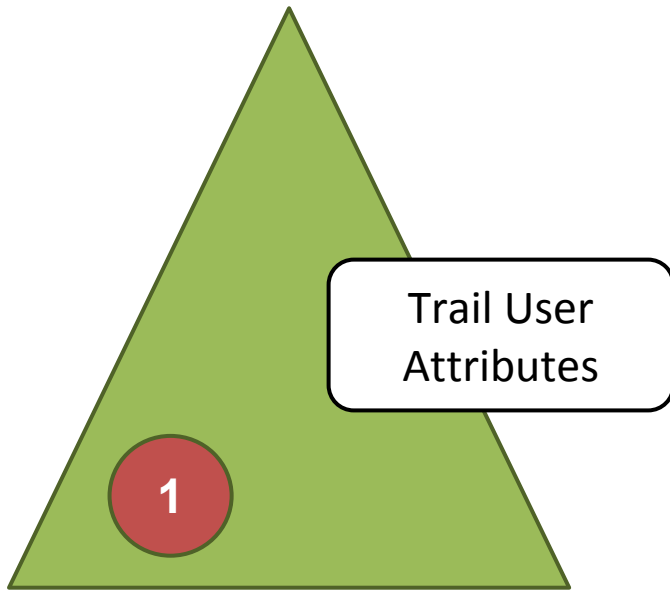
Year One Deliverables: Forecasting




Year One Deliverables: Forecasting



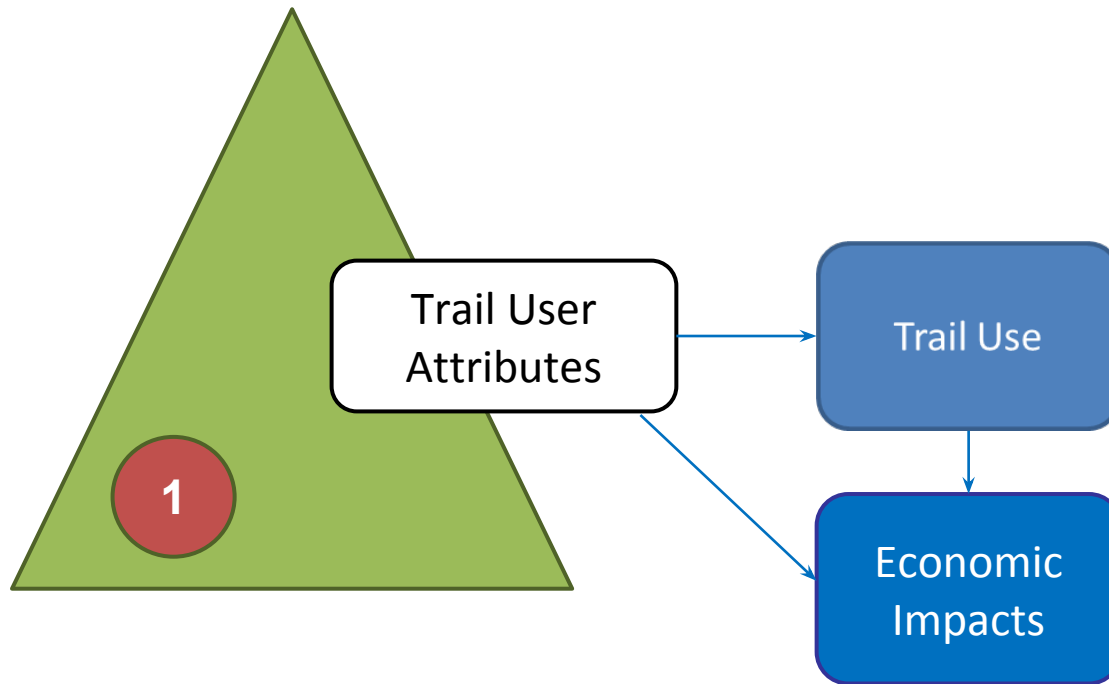
Year Two Data Collection: Survey



Trail User Research Questions

- Why do people use trails?
 - What percentage of trail use replaces trips that would have taken place by other modes?
 - How long is the average trail trip?
 - Are the different “functional classifications” of trails that we need to know about to answer these questions?
- 

Year Two Deliverables: EIA



Our Co-Investigators

Dr. Greg Lindsey



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

Dr. Thomas Gotschi



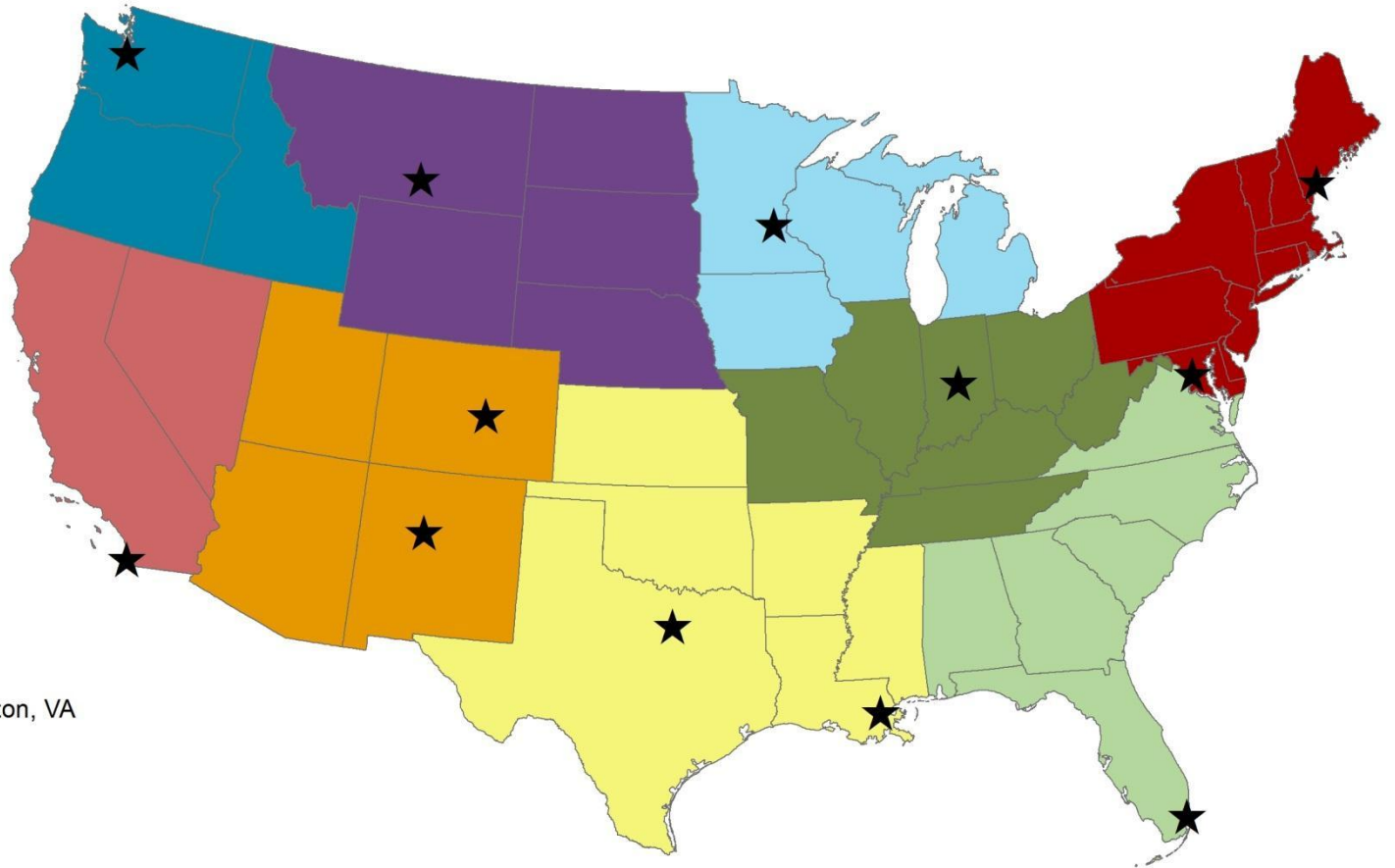
University of
Zurich^{UZH}

Dr. Mike Lowry



University
of Idaho

- ★ Albuquerque, NM
- ★ Billings, MT
- ★ Colorado Springs, CO
- ★ Fort Worth, TX
- ★ Indianapolis, IN
- ★ Miami, FL
- ★ Minneapolis, MN
- ★ New Orleans, LA
- ★ Portland, ME
- ★ San Diego, CA
- ★ Seattle, WA
- ★ Washington, DC & Arlington, VA



TMAP

Monitoring and Modeling Urban Trail Traffic

9 March 2014

HUMPHREY SCHOOL
OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to DiscoverSM

Our Workshop Today

- Thinking about trail traffic ... an exercise
- *FHWA Traffic Monitoring Guide* (framework)
 - Some decisions to make
- Trail Traffic in Minnesota
 - Some monitoring results
 - Some factoring results
 - Some modeling results
- TMAP – trail monitoring and modeling

Motivation

- *How many people are on our trails?*
 - » Ray Irvin, Indy Parks Greenways, 1996
- No examples of continuous monitoring of bicyclists and pedestrians
 - » Hunter and Huang, 1995
- Quality of data about “*number of bicyclists and pedestrian by facility ... is “poor”* and the “*priority for better data is “high”*”
 - » Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 2000

Key Questions

- **Advocacy question**
 - How do we equip trail advocates and allies with evidence and tools?
- **Policy and management question**
 - How do we optimize investment in infrastructure for non-motorized transportation – biking and walking?
- **Research question**
 - How do we monitor, measure, and model urban trail traffic?

Federal Highway Administration Traffic Monitoring Guide: April 2013

- First edition of the TMG with information on monitoring non-motorized traffic (Ch 4)
- “Basic guidance ... to improve the state-of-the-practice”
- “Systematic monitoring...still an emerging area”
- “Limited information ... about best and most cost-effective way to automatically collect non-motorized traffic data”

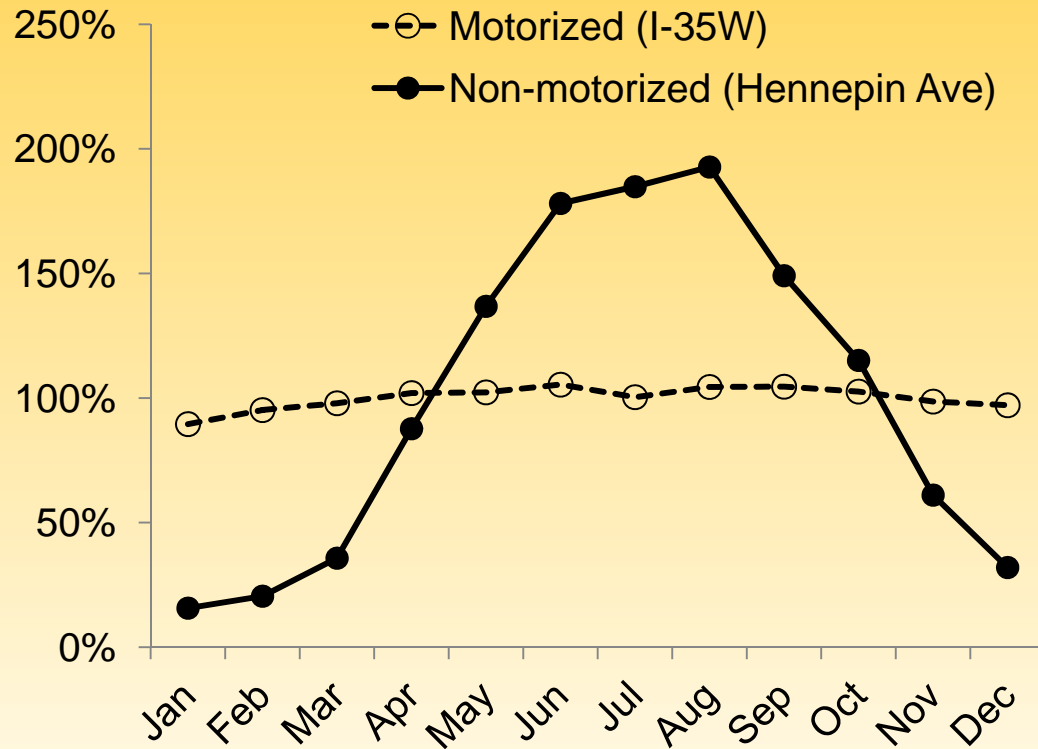
FHWA Traffic Monitoring Guide

Permanent Continuous Monitoring	Short Duration Monitoring
1. Review existing continuous count program	1. Select count locations
2. Develop inventory of available continuous count locations and equipment	2. Select type of count (segment vs intersection)
3. Determine the traffic patterns to be monitored	3. Determine duration of counts
4. Establish seasonal pattern groups	4. Determine method of counting (automated vs. manual)
5. Determine number of continuous count locations	5. Determine number of counts
6. Select specific count locations	6. Evaluate counts (QA/QC)
7. Compute adjustment factors	7. Apply factors (occlusion, time of day, day of week, monthly, seasonal)

TMG: Important Differences between Motorized and Non-Motorized Monitoring

- Scale of non-motorized data collection more limited
- More experience with manual (very) short-duration counts (e.g., 2 hours) than automated counts
- Technologies for automated non-motorized counting still evolving; error rates unknown
- Standard procedures for analyzing data not developed

Motorized and Non-motorized Monitoring



What are implications of differences in traffic patterns for monitoring and modeling?

Practical Decisions in Monitoring and Modeling

1. Purpose, goal for monitoring
2. Monitoring locations (system/network, trails, segments, reference and short-duration sites)
3. Monitoring technologies
4. Quality assurance/quality control procedures
5. Analytics methods (factor groups, correction factors, factoring method)
6. Modeling procedures (land use regressions)
7. Resources to sustain and improve

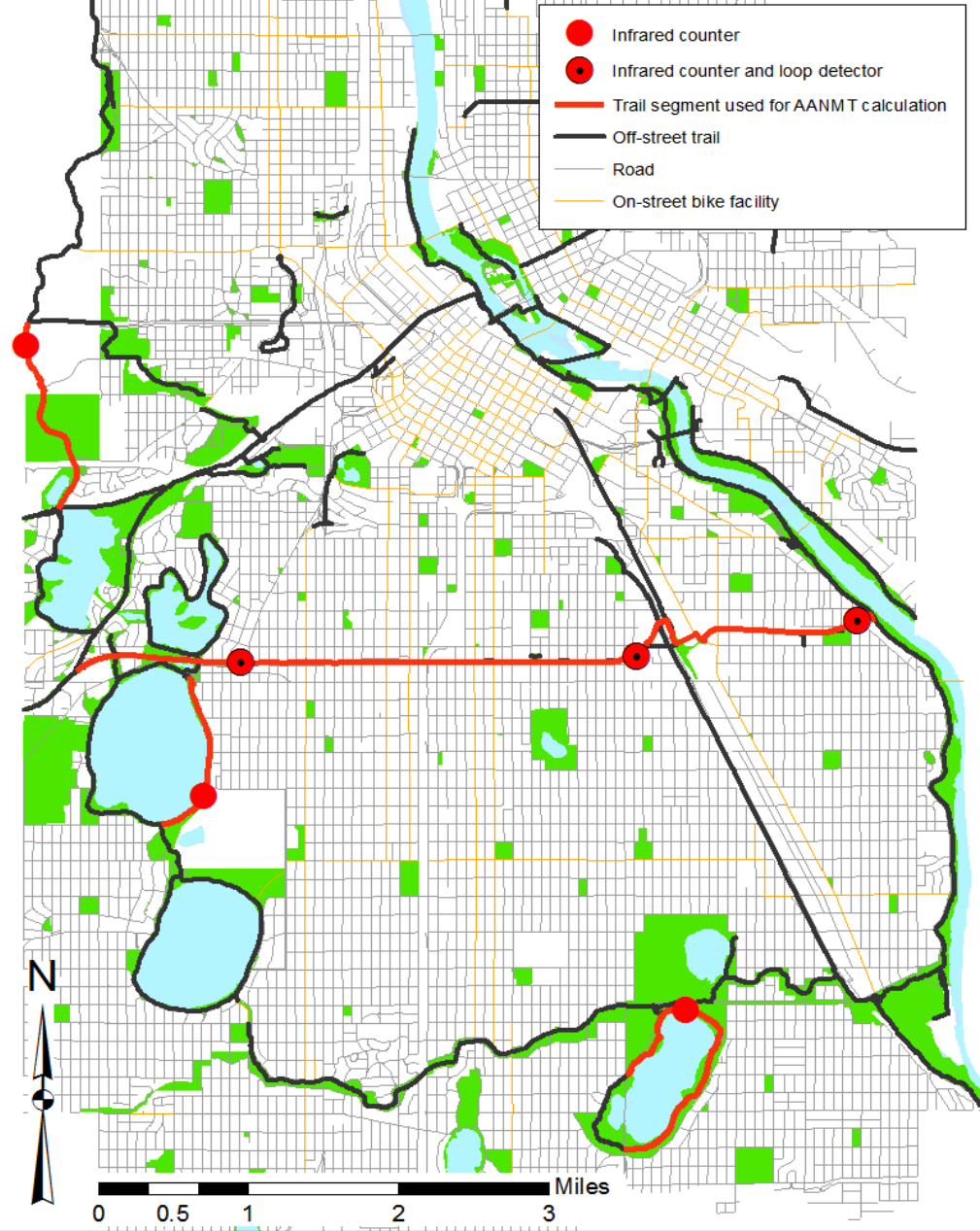
Trail Monitoring in Minneapolis

1. Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Estimates of average annual daily trail traffic, miles traveled (mixed mode = bikes & peds)
2. Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 reference sites, 76 short-duration locations
3. Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Trail Master Active Infrared Counters (& inductive loops)
4. QA/QC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-site calibration, outliers, correction for occlusion, systematic error
5. Analytics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two-step factoring, day-of-year factors
6. Modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Negative binomial land use regression, weather controls
7. Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaboration, scrambling

Automated Traffic Monitoring on Multiuse Trails in Minneapolis

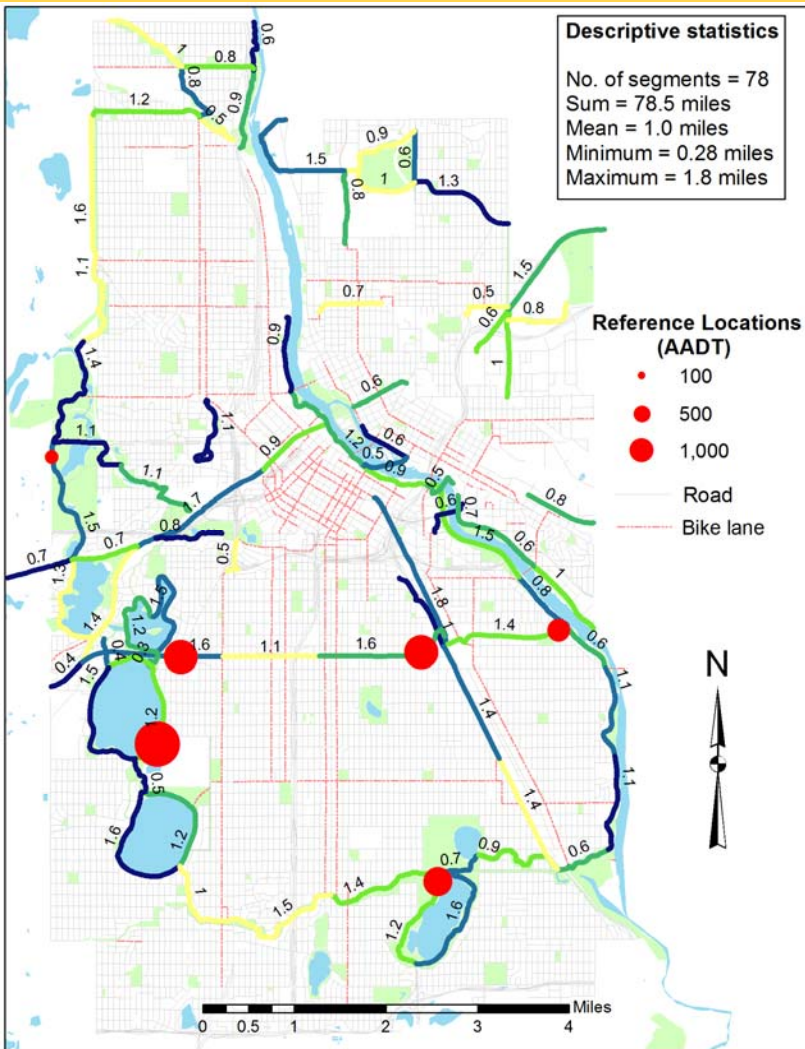
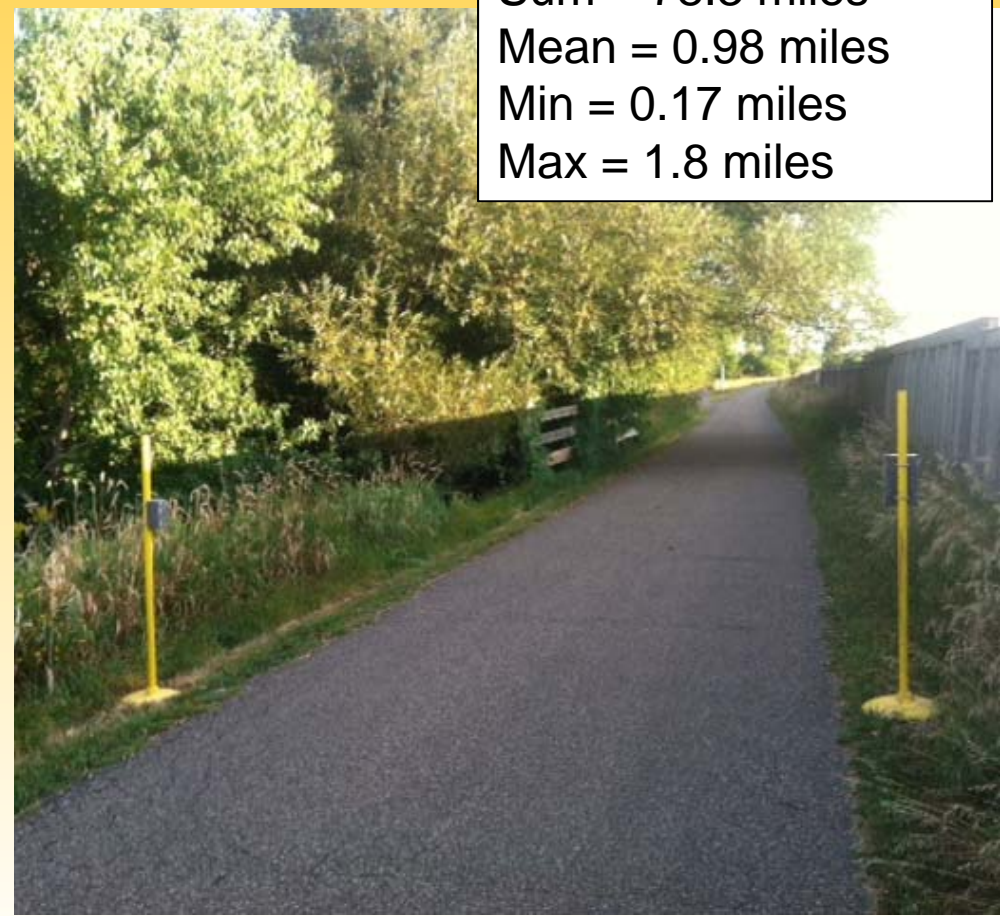


Typical Monitoring Site:
Midtown Greenway



Trail Segments for Short-Duration Counts

No. of segments = 80
Sum = 78.3 miles
Mean = 0.98 miles
Min = 0.17 miles
Max = 1.8 miles



Infrared Technology

- Trail Master (TMI) active infrared counters
 - “Counts” when user breaks beam
 - Does not distinguish bikes and peds
 - Systematic undercount (occlusion – users passing simultaneously)



- Labor intensive
- Old technology

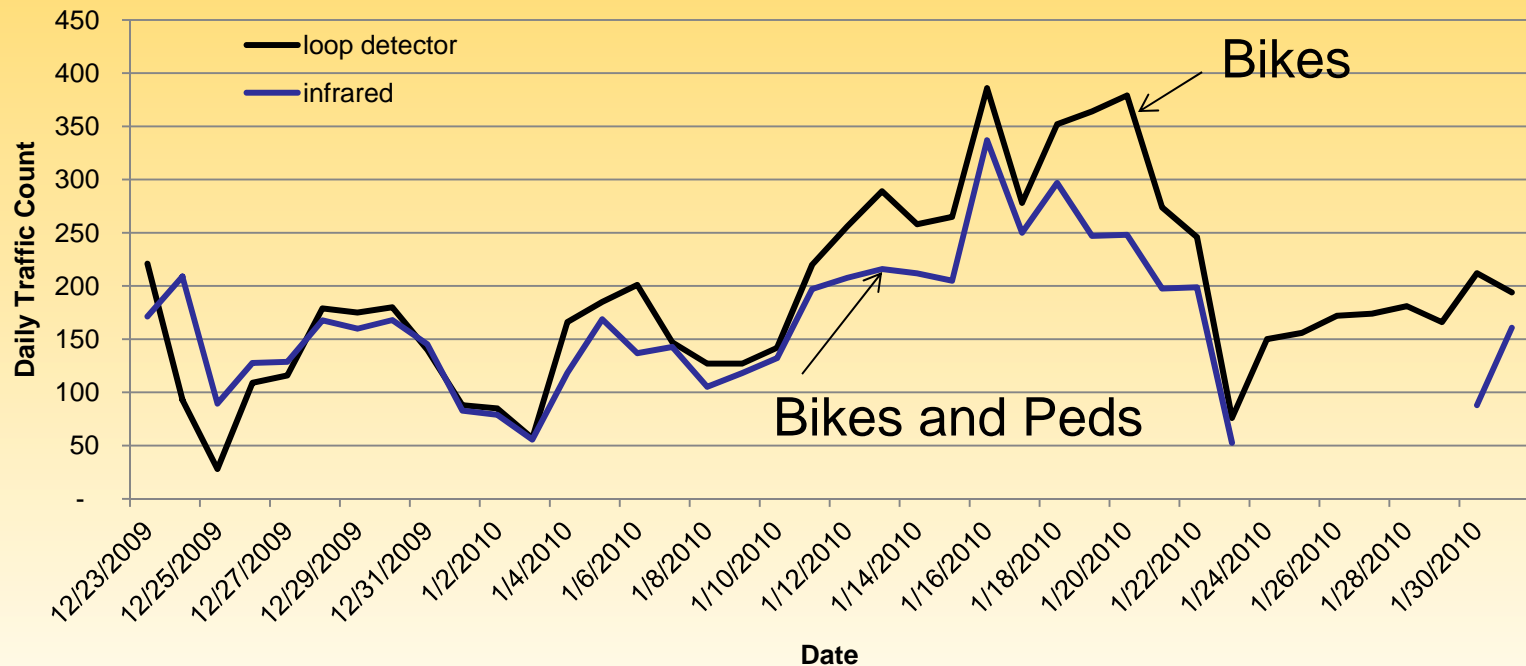
Inductive Loop Technology

- Inductive loop counters (3 locations)
 - Counts when bicycles ride over loop in pavement
 - Only counts bicycles
 - Installed by Dept. of Public Works in 2007
 - Counts not validated by city

QA/QC: A Calibration Problem

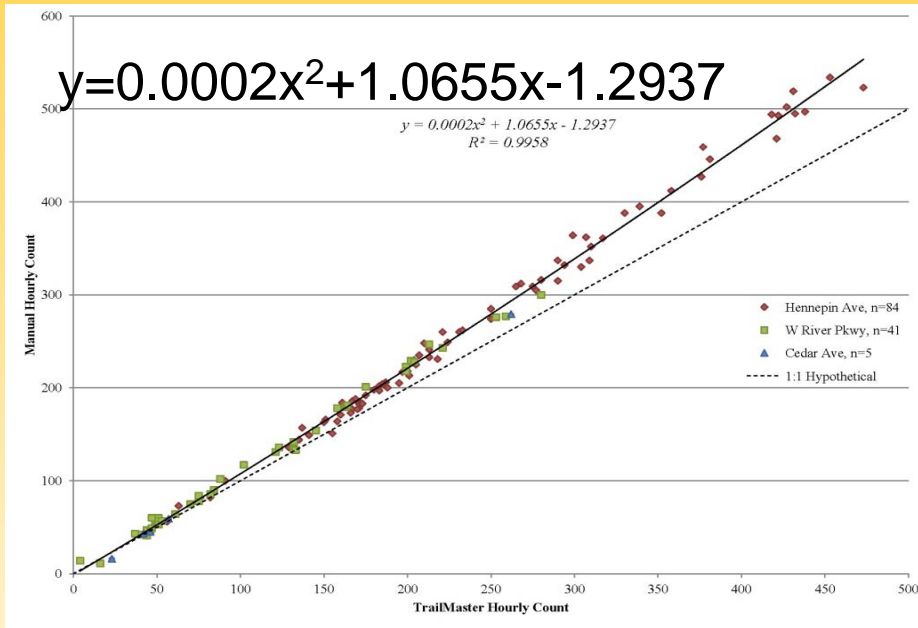
Counts (bikes) > Infrared Counts (bikes & peds)

Hennepin Ave. Counter Site (Dec 2009 & Jan 2010)



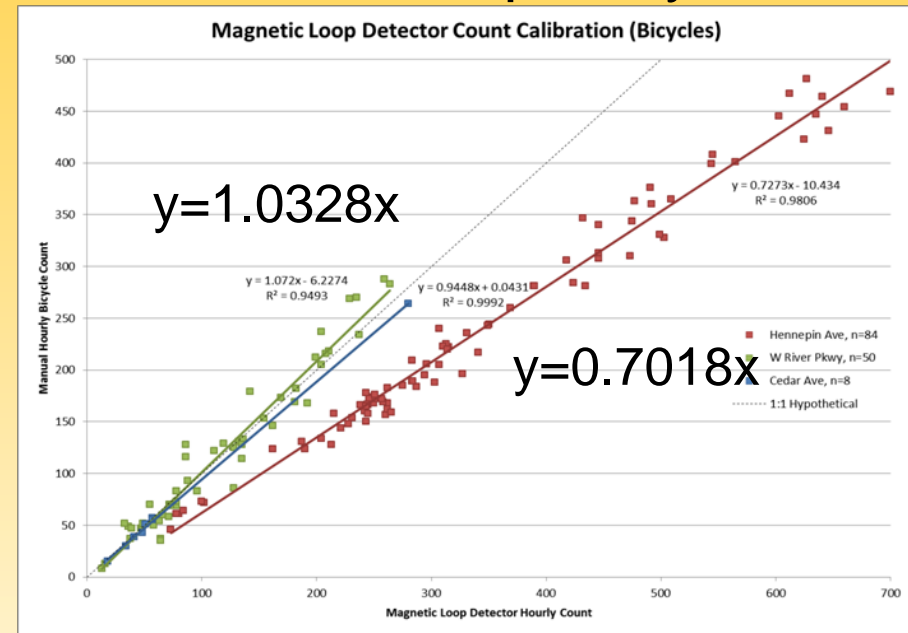
Quality Assurance / Quality Control

Active Infrared: Mixed Mode



- Systematic undercounts due to occlusion
- Hourly adjustment equations same across locations

Inductive Loop: Bicycles



- Over and undercount due to installation, maintenance
- Hourly adjustment equations vary by location

Correction Equations for Automated Counters by Mode

Monitoring Location(s)	Type of Monitor	Mode	Hours of Validation	Hourly Traffic
				Adjustment Equations*
All six locations	Active infrared	Mixed	130	$y=0.0002x^2+1.0655x-1.2937$
Lakes Calhoun and Nokomis	Active infrared	Peds	20	$y=1.2920x$
Lakes Calhoun and Nokomis	Active infrared	Bikes	19	$y=1.078x$
Midtown Greenway: Hennepin	Inductive Loop	Bikes	86	$y=0.7018x$
Midtown Greenway: Cedar	Inductive Loop	Bikes	8	$y=0.9451x$
Midtown Greenway: W. River Parkway	Inductive Loop	Bikes	51	$y=1.0328x$

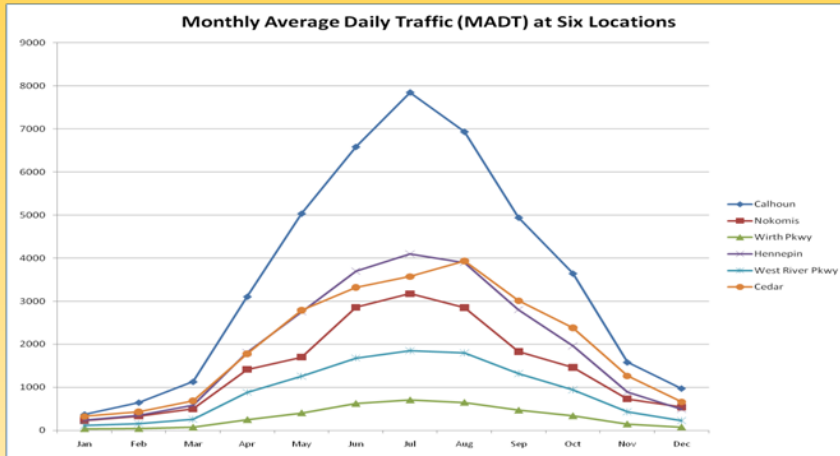
y = estimated hourly traffic; x = hourly count from monitor

Average Annual Daily Bicycle & Pedestrian Traffic

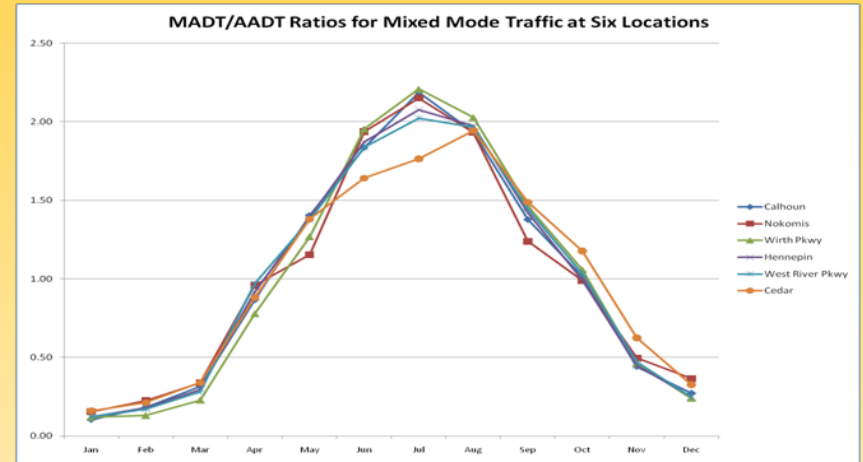
Location / Mode	Estimated Total Annual Traffic	Estimated AADT	Percent of Traffic at Site
(1) Hennepin Ave. & Midtown Greenway (MGW)			
a. Bicycle	629,262	1,724	87%
b. Pedestrian	91,451	251	13%
c. Total – mixed-mode	720,714	1,975	100%
(2) West River Pkwy & MGW			
a. Bicycle	320,198	877	96%
b. Pedestrian	13,196	36	4%
c. Total – mixed-mode	333,395	913	100%
(3) Cedar Ave. & MGW			
a. Total – mixed-mode	738,336	2,023	100%
(4) Lake Calhoun Parkway*			
a. Bicycle (outer)	494,209	1,354	38%
b. Pedestrian (inner)	814,434	2,231	62%
c. Total – mixed-mode	1,308,643	3,613	100%
(5) Lake Nokomis Parkway*			
a. Bicycle (outer)	193,843	531	36%
b. Pedestrian (inner)	344,604	944	64%
c. Total – mixed-mode	538,448	1,475	100%
(6) Wirth Parkway – mixed-mode	116,765	320	100%
Six Location Mixed-Mode Total	3,756,301	10,291	100%

Monthly Mixed Mode Traffic Patterns

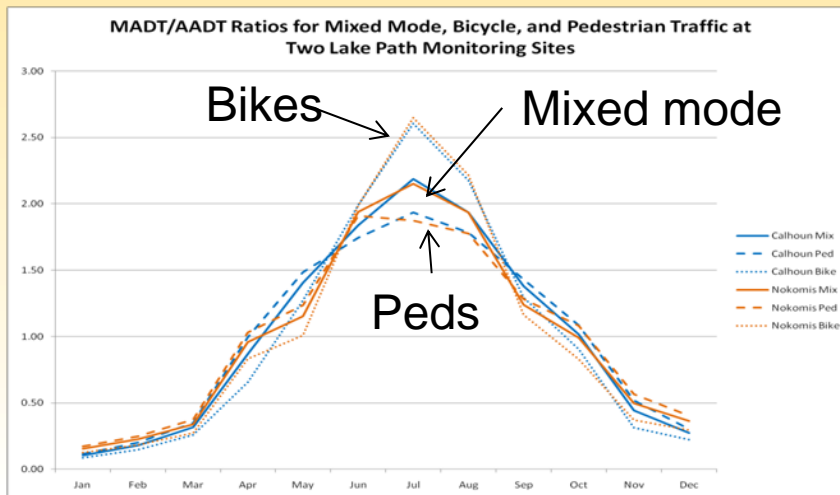
Monthly mean daily traffic



Monthly/annual mean daily traffic



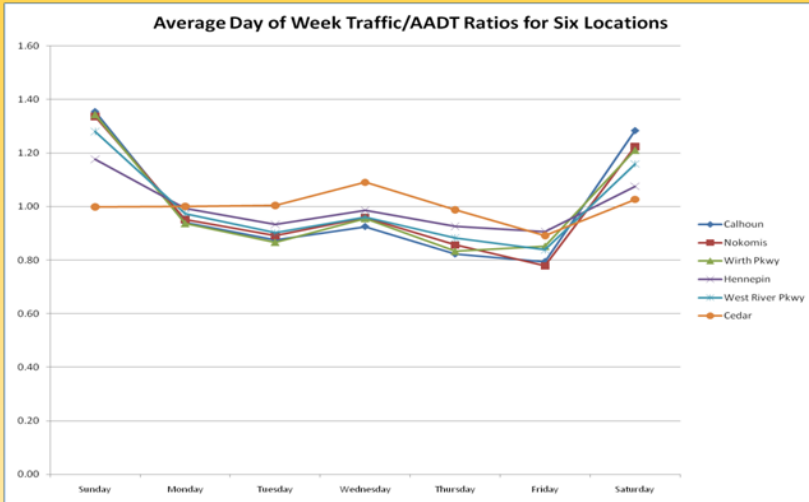
Monthly/annual mean daily traffic by mode



- Mixed mode traffic varied by an order of magnitude across sites
- Monthly to annual mean daily traffic ratios generally were consistent across sites.
- Bicycle traffic is characterized by greater seasonality than pedestrian traffic.

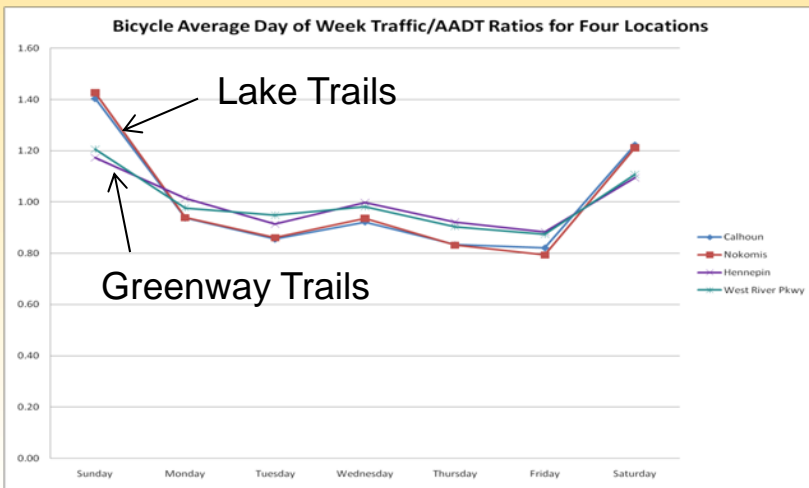
Mean Day of Week Traffic / Annual Mean Daily Traffic

Mixed mode: six monitoring sites

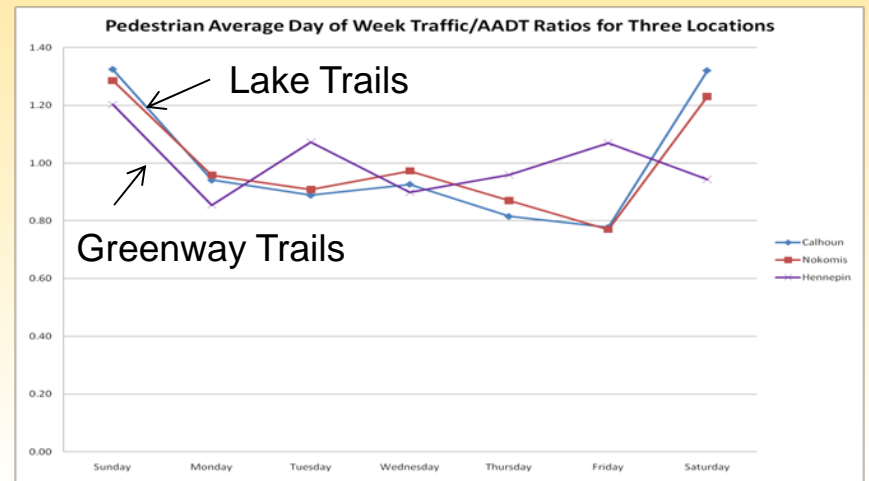


- Mixed-mode day of week scaling factors generally are consistent across locations with higher traffic on weekend days.
- Bicycle day of week factors vary by location, with greater weekend traffic ratios at recreational sites around lakes.
- Pedestrian do not appear to vary as much as bicycle factors but reflect greater day-of-week variability.

Bikes: recreational and “utilitarian” trail sites

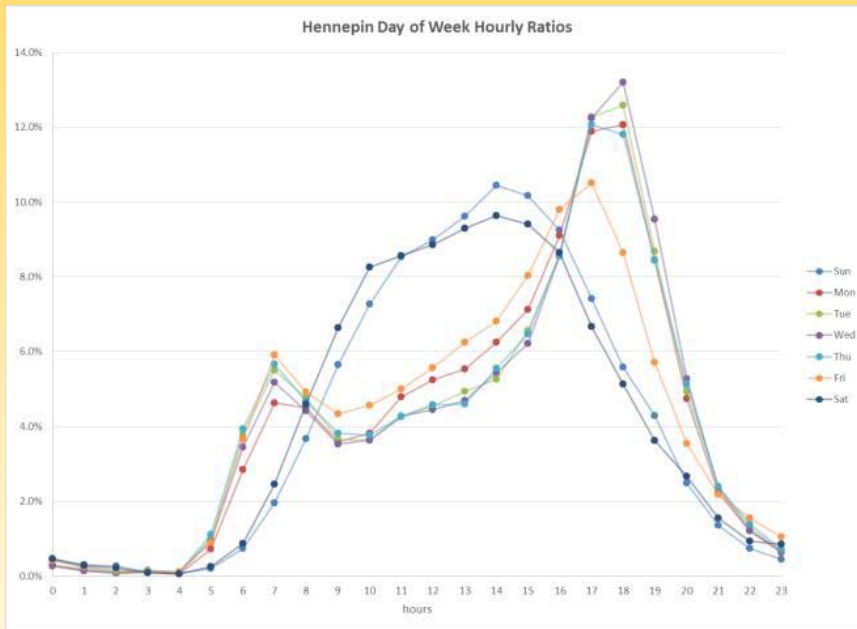


Peds: recreational and “utilitarian” trail sites

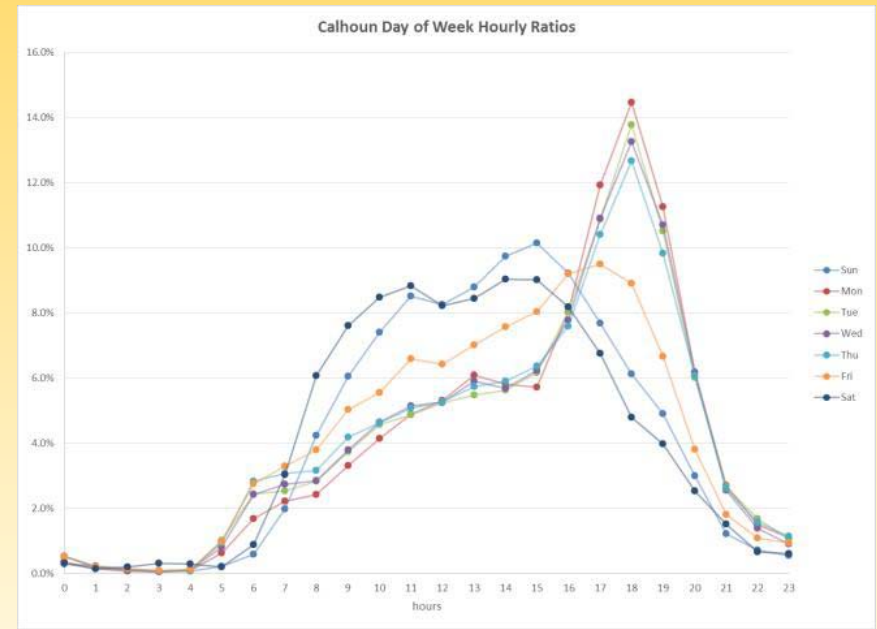


Weekday and Weekend Hourly Traffic (%)

Midtown Greenway Hennepin

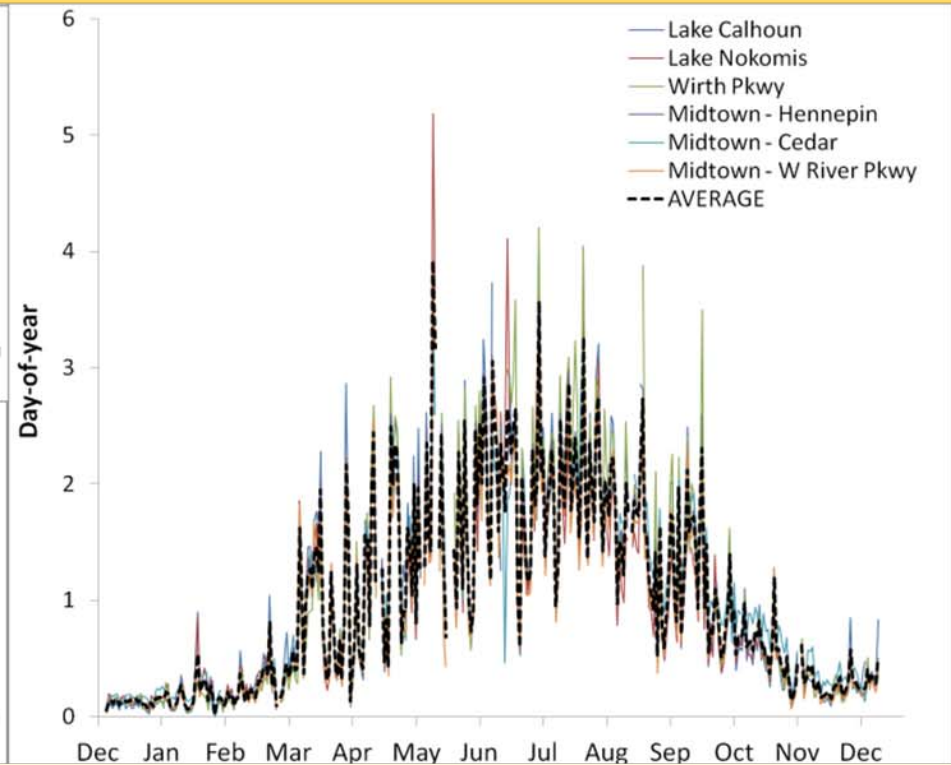
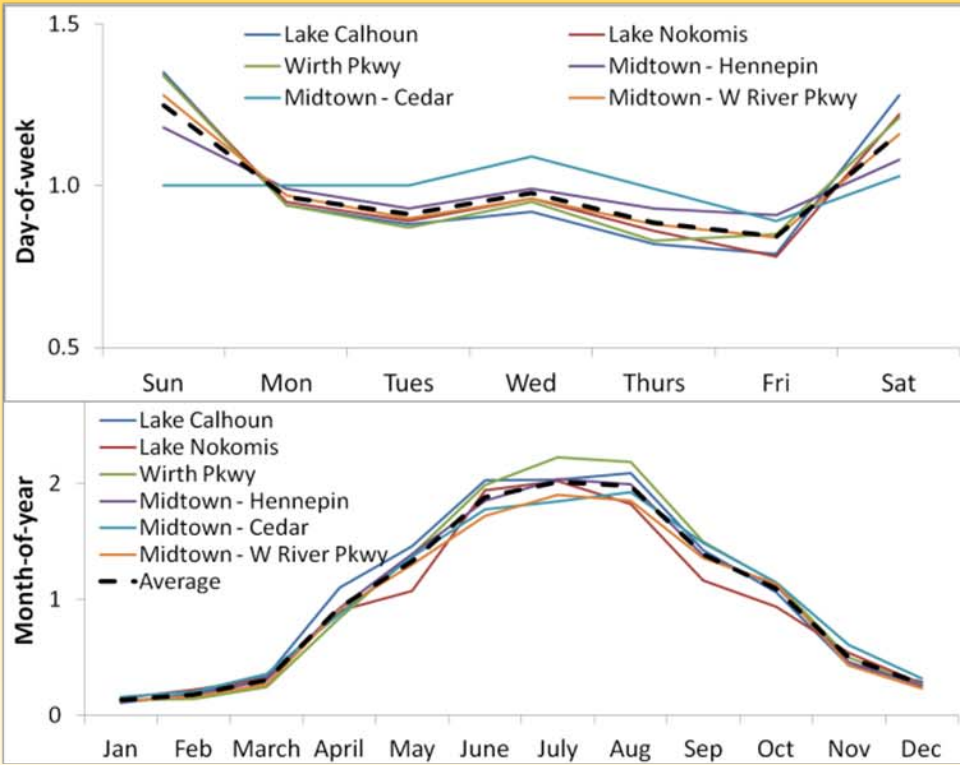


Lake Calhoun Trail

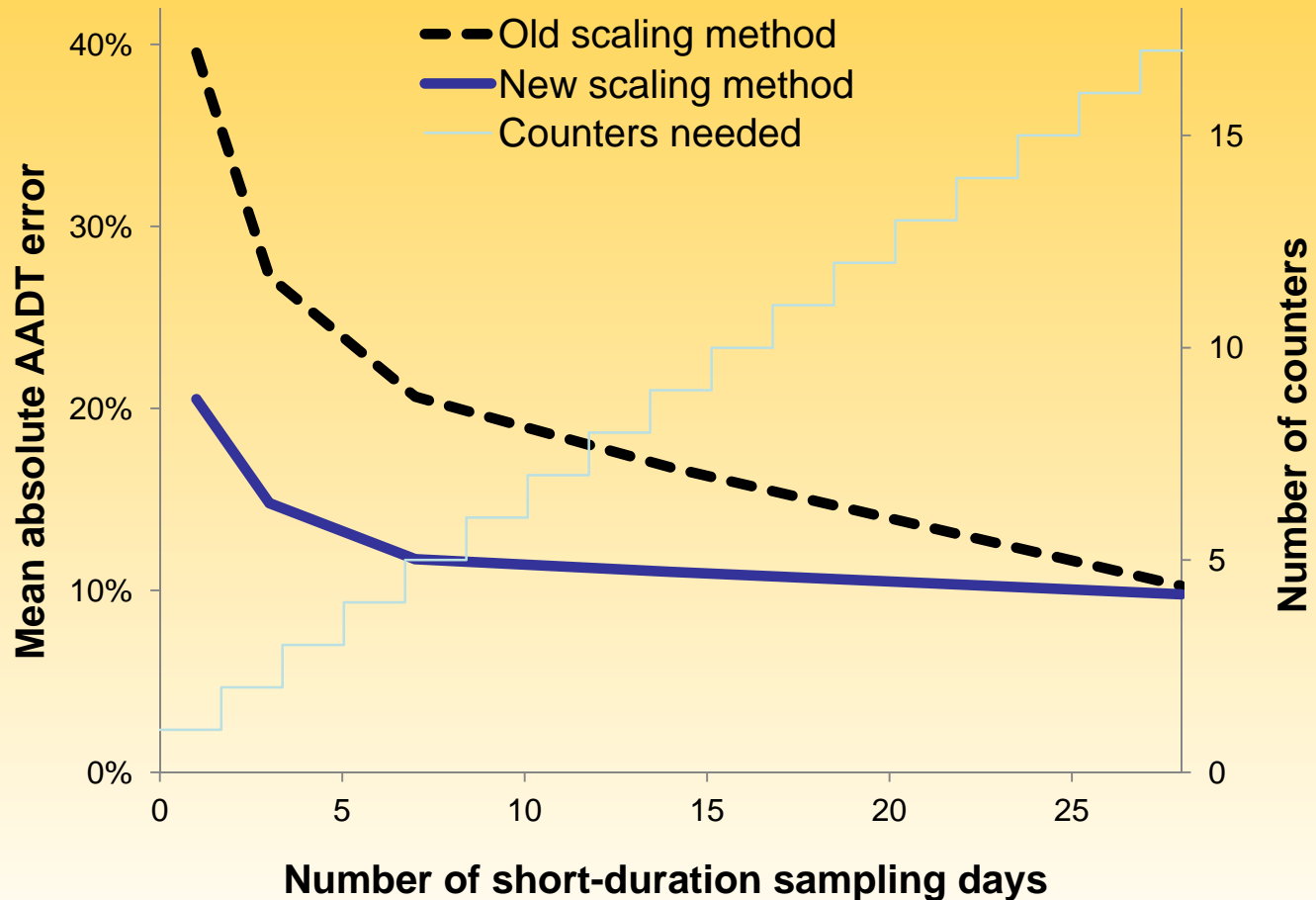


Note: Friday similarities to weekend at lake trail

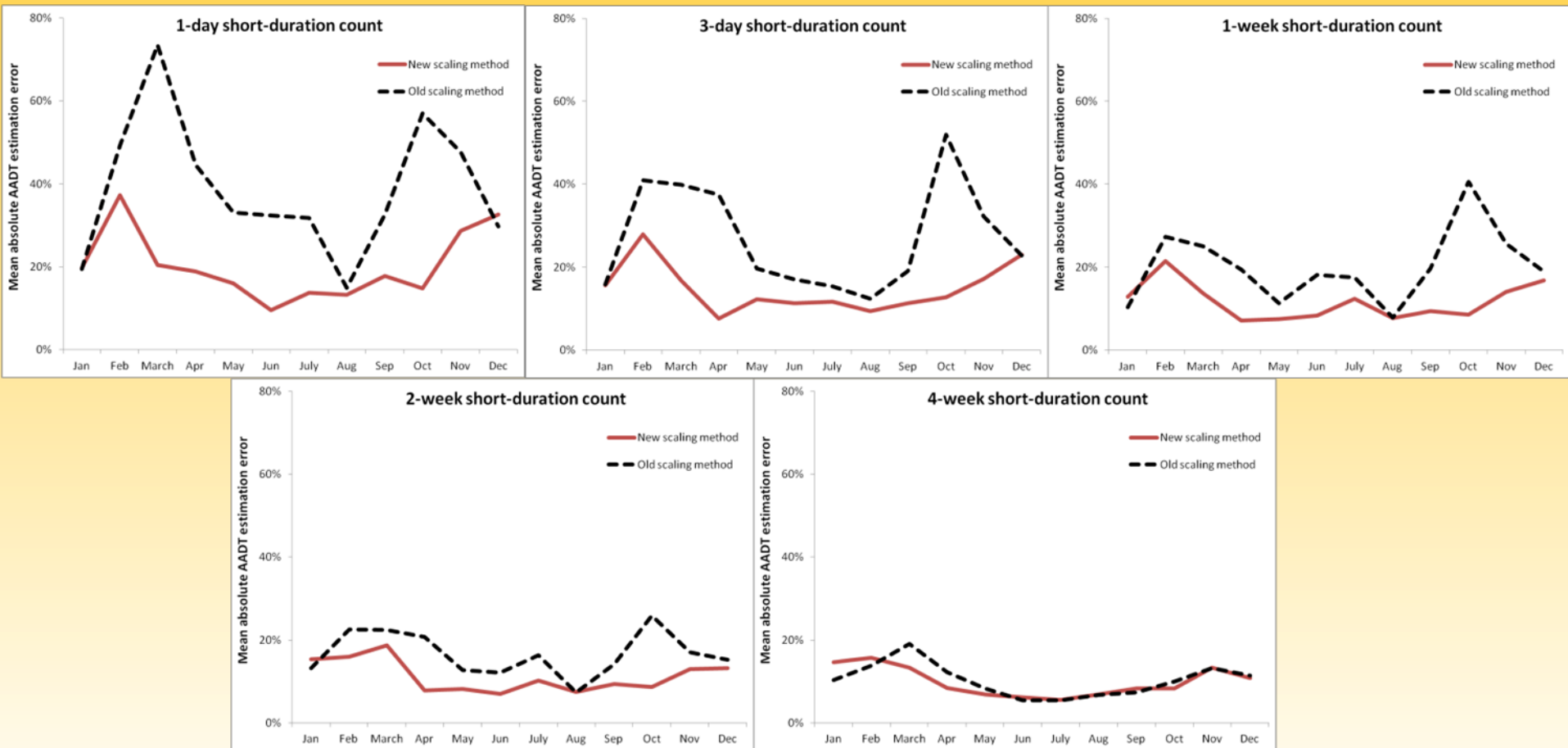
Adjustment Factors for Short-duration Counts: Day-of-Week, Month-of-Year vs. Day-of-Year



Day-of-Year Factors Reduce Extrapolation Error

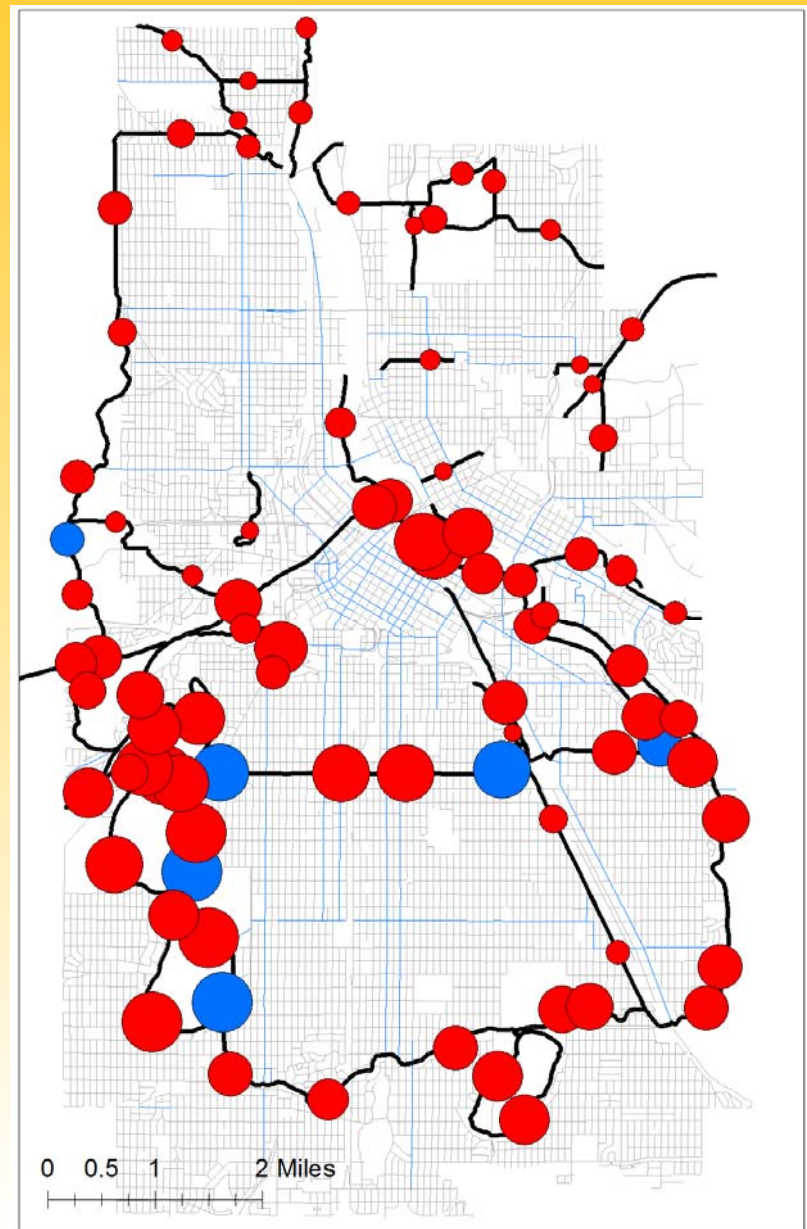


Sampling from April to October Minimizes Extrapolation Error



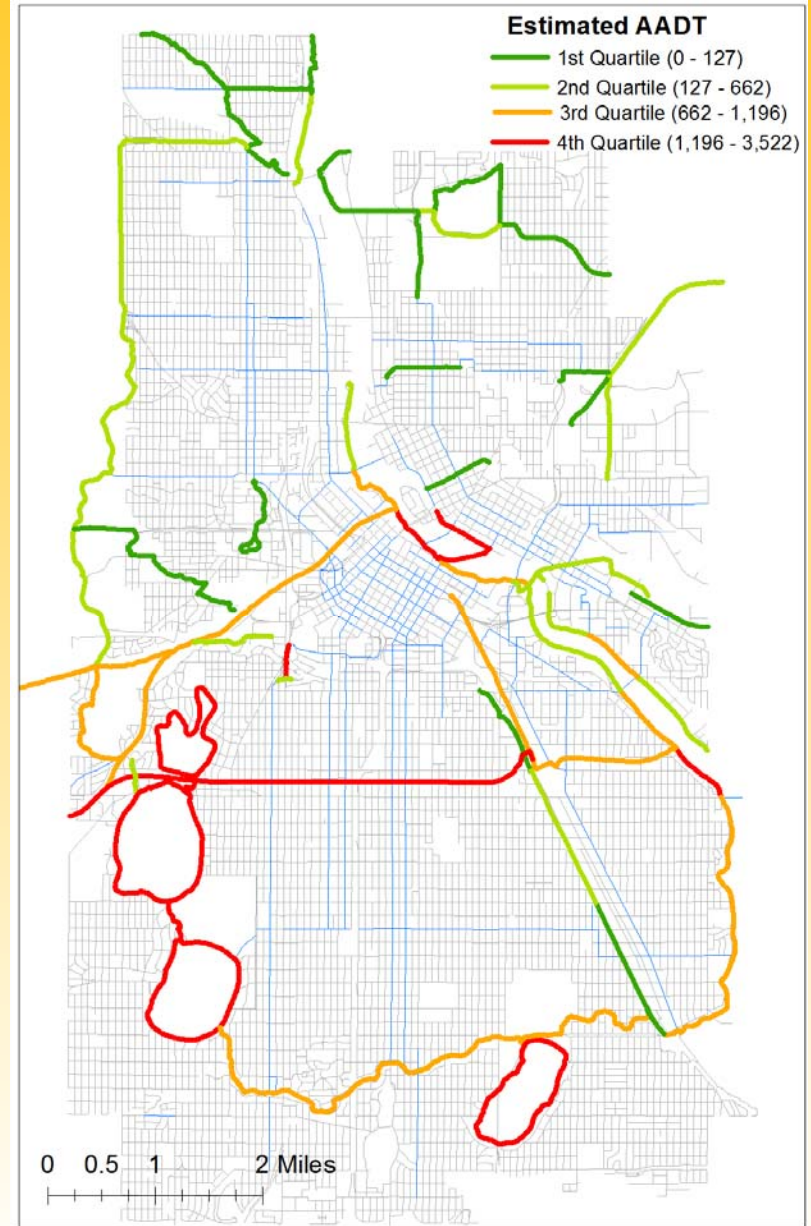
Average Annual Daily Trail Traffic

Segment AADT	
Mean	954
Median	750
Max	3,728
P90	2,321
P75	1,264
P25	142
P10	81
Min	39

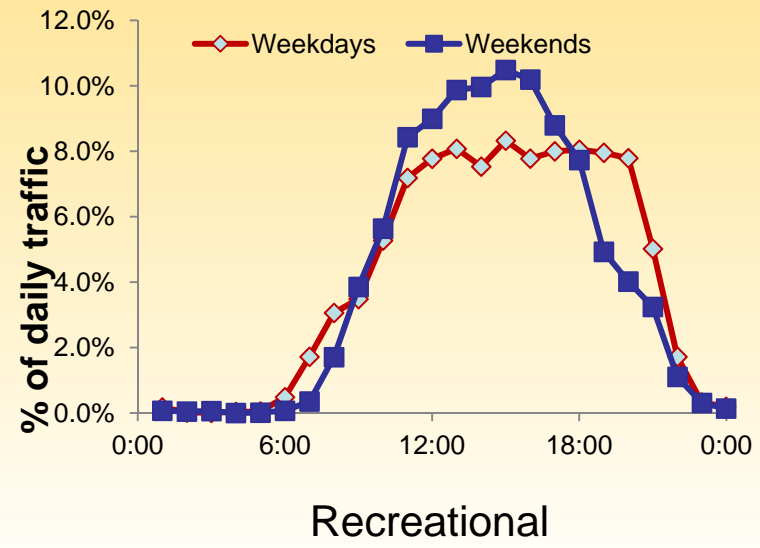
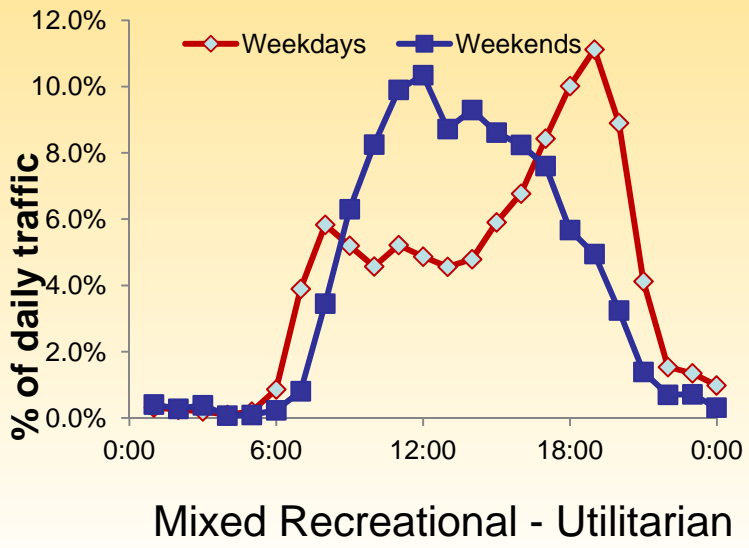
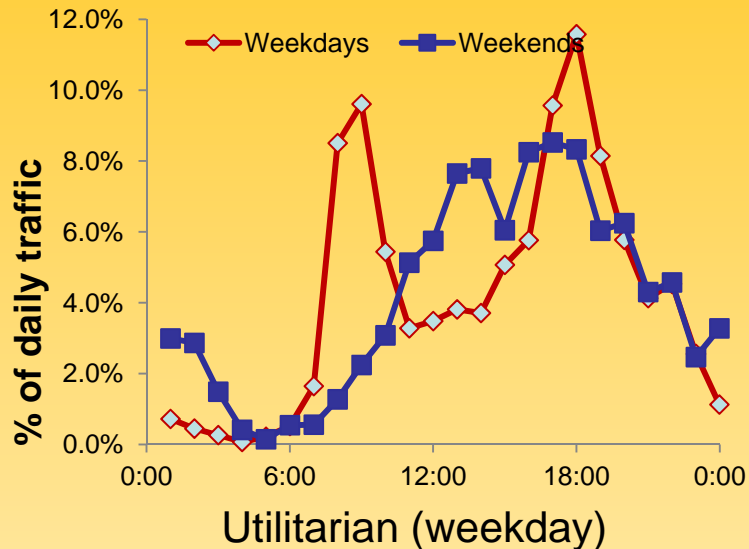


AADT by Trail Segment

- Estimate: ~28 million user-miles traveled
- Lake, Mississippi River, Midtown Greenway Trails most heavily used
- Patterns reflect flows to central business district, university
- Trails in north Minneapolis (low income, minority populations used least)



Short-duration monitoring identified three factor groups. Need new reference monitoring sites.

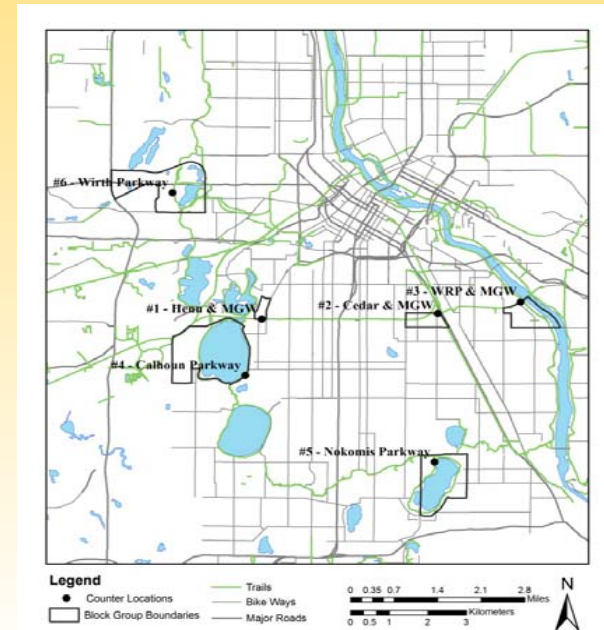


Some Observations

- Traffic volumes on shared-use paths significant
- Systematic error in existing counts (occlusion)
- Volumes vary substantially across locations
- Mode-mix varies substantially across locations
- Traffic follows hourly, daily, monthly patterns
- Patterns vary across locations
- Adjustment factors enable extrapolation of short duration counts (day-of-year better)
- Can estimate miles traveled on trail network
- Need to reconfigure reference sites

Estimating Modeling from Counts

- Objective
 - Estimate daily mixed-mode traffic on multiuse trails
- Approach
 - Daily traffic volume =
 - Weather
 - Neighborhood socio-demographics
 - Urban form and built environment
 - Transportation infrastructure

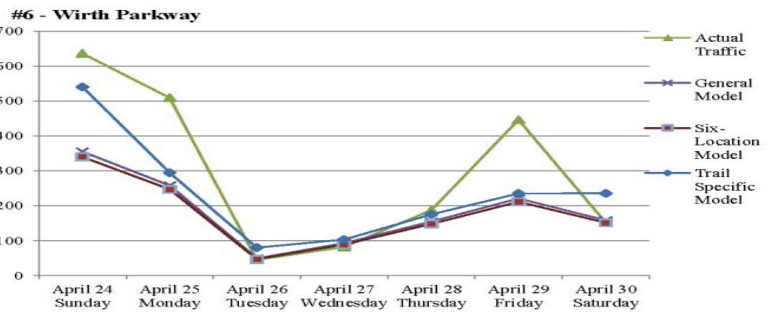
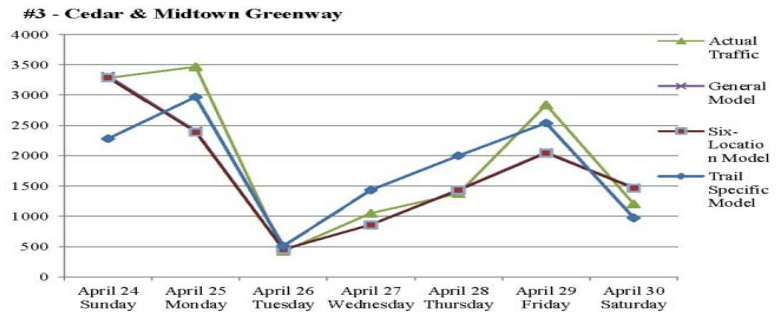
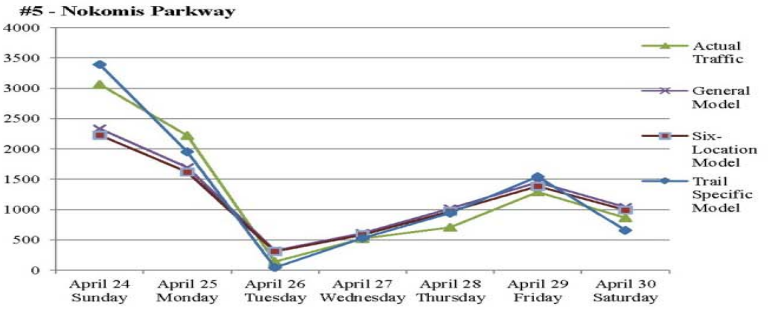
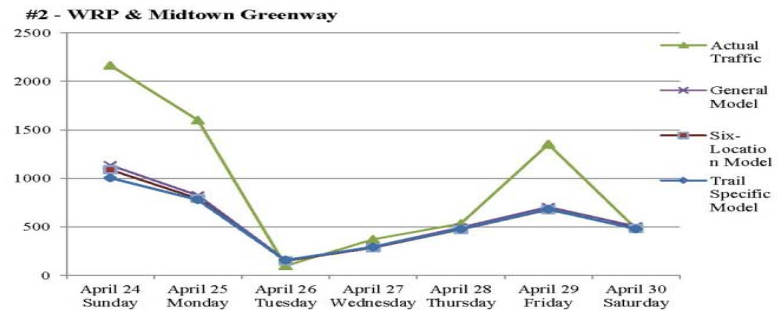
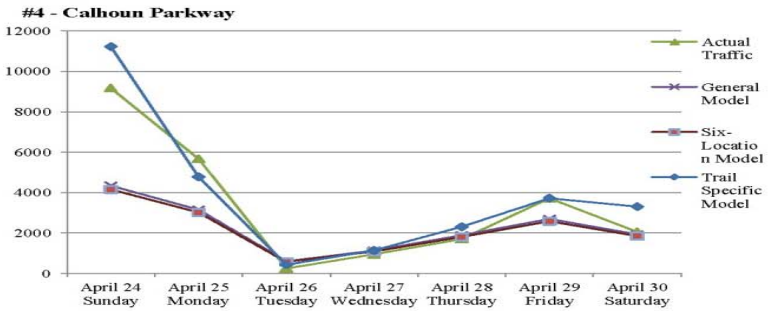
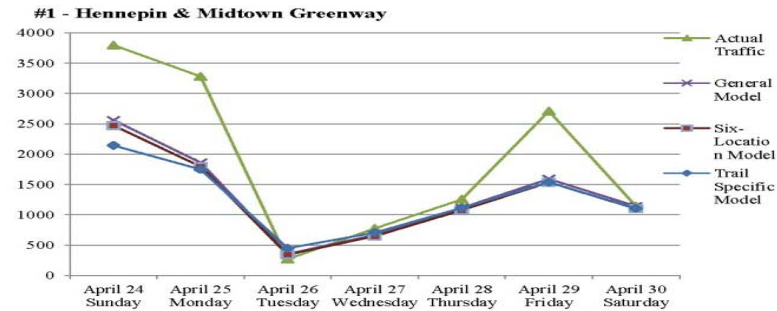


Modeling Mixed Mode Daily Trail Traffic

Variables	Expected Sign
Neighborhood Socio-demographic Characteristics	
African American residents (%)	-
Residents with college degrees (%)	+
Population over 64 or below 6 (%)	-
Median household income. (1,000 dollars)	+
Neighborhood Built Environment	
Population density (per square kilometer).	+
Weather Conditions	
Recorded high temperature.(in Celsius)	+
Deviation from the 30-year normal temperature	+/-
Precipitation.(centimeters)	-
Average wind speed. (kph)	-
Temporal Dummies	
Saturday or Sunday (equals 1, otherwise 0)	+

Modeling Mixed-mode Trail Traffic

(Wang et al. 2013)



Modeling Choices Affect Accuracy of Estimates

Site	Model Type	Mean Daily Traffic	Land Use Model General		Six Location Model		Trail Specific Models	
			Predict	Error	Predict	Error	Predict	Error
Hennepin	NB2	2496	2393	8.3	2271	10.5	2229	11.4
	OLS		2703	19.4	2670	18.3	2760	19.4
WRP	NB2	1188	1014	17.2	1017	17.0	1022	16.5
	OLS		1454	27.3	1458	27.7	1277	20.6
Cedar	NB2	2871	2606	13.8	2610	13.7	2351	17.3
	OLS		2730	10.1	2732	10.2	2843	9.9
Calhoun	NB2	4103	3649	20.7	3679	20.7	3982	14.3
	OLS		4033	44.1	4037	44.2	4704	38.0
Nokomis	NB2	1430	1689	22.5	1703	23.5	1657	19.4
	OLS		2082	55.9	2085	56.2	1975	47.1
Wirth	NB2	419	338	17.4	342	17.1	368	12.1
	OLS		1048	151.5	1051	152.6	471	32.6
Grand Mean Error NB (%)			16.6		17.1		15.2	
Grand Mean Error OLS (%)			51.4		51.5		27.9	

Observations from Modeling

- Possible to identify factors associated with higher non-motorized trail volumes
- Trail models do reasonable job estimating volumes (\pm 15-20%)
- Modeling choices affect accuracy
- Models can be improved with better specification and additional data

TMAP Trail Monitoring: Building on Experience

1. Purpose	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Develop national trail model, factors for all climatic regions• Estimates of average annual daily trail traffic, miles traveled
2. Locations	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 9 regions, 10-12 cities, 25-30 locations
3. Technologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Eco-multi counters (inductive loop and passive infrared, separate bike and ped counts)
4. QA/QC	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• On-site calibration, outliers, correction for occlusion, systematic error
5. Analytics	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Two-step factoring, day-of-year factors
6. Modeling	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Negative binomial land use regression, weather controls
7. Sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Collaboration, local partners

Questions?

For more information contact:

Greg Lindsey (linds301@umn.edu)

An aerial photograph of a city and university campus. In the foreground, there are green hills and a large, white, dome-shaped building. The middle ground shows a dense urban area with many buildings and trees. In the background, there are rolling green hills and a range of blue mountains under a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

Bicycle Network Analysis

Active Living Research Conference 2014

Mike Lowry, University of Idaho

Outline

- 1. Conducting citizen-volunteer count programs.**
- 2. Estimating network-wide bicycle volumes.**
- 3. Prioritizing projects based on connectivity.**

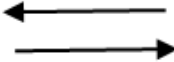




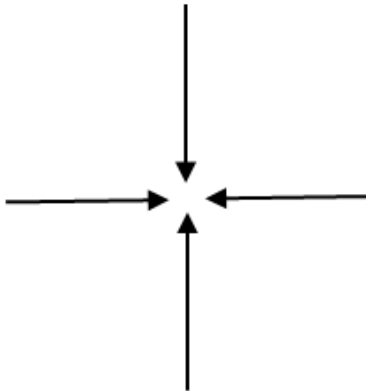
CONDUCTING CITIZEN-VOLUNTEER COUNT PROGRAMS



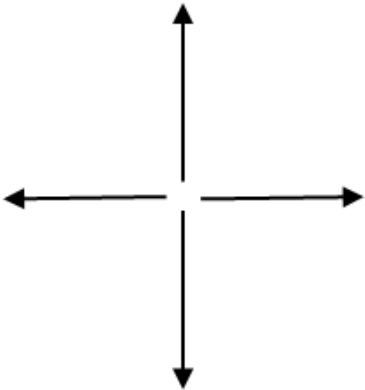
2 Movement
Screenline



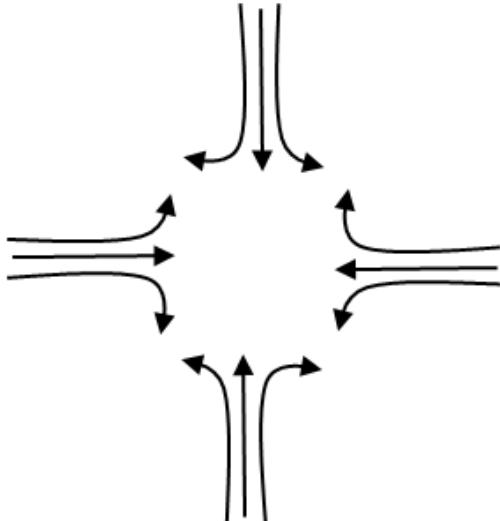
4 Movement
Toward Intersection



4 Movement
Leaving Intersection



12 Movement



October 13, 2011

Screenline Location: 5th on Washington

7:00 to 7:15

Recorder's Name: _____



Street: _____ Street: _____

(screenline)

	Bike	Ped	Assist	Other
No Helmet				
Helmet				

(left to right, either side of street)

Bike	Ped	Assist	Other	No Helmet

(right to left, either side of street)

Screenline Additional

-Helmet/No Helmet

-Male/Female

-Adult/Child

-Street/Sidewalk

Citizen Volunteer Counts

2012 WASHINGTON STATE BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN DOCUMENTATION PROJECT



Table 2: Count cities and locations by year

City	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Bainbridge Island	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1	5	4
Bellevue	4	3	13	13	13	13	5	7	7	8
Bellingham	6	6	12	12	17	17	18	18	18	18
Bothell	5	6	6	4	6	3	6	5	6	5
Bremerton	6	6	6	4	6	5	1	3	6	5
Burien	0	0	4	9	9	9	9	9	10	10
Ellensburg	6	4	5	4	2	3	3	5	4	4
Everett	6	6	9	9	8	5	10	9	11	11
Federal Way	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Ferndale	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Gig Harbor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Issaquah	0	0	6	4	7	3	6	3	6	6
Kelso	0	0	5	7	8	8	0	1	2	0

Table 2: Count cities and locations by year

City	2008		2009		2010		2011		2012	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
Bainbridge Island	0	0	0	0	0	5	1	1	5	4
Bellevue	4	3	13	13	13	13	5	7	7	8
Bellingham	6	6	12	12	17	17	18	18	18	18
Bothell	5	6	6	4	6	3	6	5	6	5
Bremerton	6	6	6	4	6	5	1	3	6	5
Burien	0	0	4	9	9	9	9	9	10	10
Ellensburg	6	4	5	4	2	3	3	5	4	4
Everett	6	6	9	9	8	5	10	9	11	11
Federal Way	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	5
Ferndale	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Gig Harbor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Issaquah	0	0	6	4	7	3	6	3	6	6
Kelso	0	0	5	7	8	8	0	1	2	0
Yakima	3	3	1	1	1	2	2	3	1	1
Total	91	92	152	149	184	182	191	176	202	207
	183		301		366		367		409	

www.bikepeddocumentation.org

[Home](#) [Participate](#) [Downloads](#)

Count Dates:

The next count/survey days are **May 6-8, 2014**.
Upcoming days through 2014 are:

- May 6-8, 2014
- July 4-6, 2014
- Sept 9-14, 2014

Stay tuned for the next round of count days!

About

One of the greatest challenges facing the bicycle and pedestrian field is the lack of documentation on usage and demand. Without accurate and consistent demand and usage figures, it is difficult to measure the positive benefits of investments in these modes, especially when compared to the other transportation modes such as the private automobile. An answer to this need for data is the National Bicycle & Pedestrian Documentation Project, co-sponsored by and Alta Planning and Design and the Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE) Pedestrian and Bicycle Council. This nationwide effort provides consistent model of data collection and ongoing data for use by planners, governments, and bicycle and pedestrian professionals.

Methodology

The basic assumptions of the methodology are that, in order to estimate existing and future bicycle and pedestrian demand and activity, agencies nationwide need to start conducting counts and surveys in a consistent manner similar to those being used by ITE and other groups for motor vehicle models.

NBPD to Provide Free Summary Reports!

The National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project has developed a summary report that highlights the valuable information that can be gained from year-long automatic bicycle and pedestrian counts. If your community uses Eco-Counter automatic count technology, the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project will provide a free summary report of the data in exchange for submission of the annual automatic count data to the project. This report puts valuable information regarding usage and trends at your fingertips which can be used in grant applications, press releases, annual count reports, etc. Sample reports are available [here](#) and [here](#). Email your Eco-Counter data in excel format to data@bikepeddocumentation.org. Please indicate the exact location of the automatic counter and tell us a bit about the bicycle or pedestrian facility.

News

- Adjustment Factors Available: Adjustment factors are now available in an [Excel format!](#) While more year-long automatic count data is needed from different parts of the country, and especially from pedestrians and on street bicyclists, enough data now

Instructions

The other dates were selected to provide a representative sampling of activity during a typical spring (May) and winter (January) period. The 4th of July period was selected because it will afford both a typical summer weekday and what is typically the busiest holiday period and activity period for recreational facilities and activities.

Having an official count week is also important for generating enthusiasm around the date. Much like nationwide Bike to Work Weeks, we hope that the National Documentation Project Week in September will become a much-anticipated annual event in localities around the nation.

Times

Based on our research, we are recommending (see below). However, if you have been doing using these same time periods for all fut

RECOMMENDED

Weekday, 5:00-7:00
Saturday, 12:00-2:00

SECONDARY

Weekday, 7:00-9:00
Saturday, 7:00-9:00

Rationale for Time Periods

Time periods are more important for counts than locations were chosen since the afternoon period were chosen since the afternoon travelers, with commuters, school children, and recreational bicyclists will be bicycling during these periods will provide the peak periods of the peak period. Actual local peak periods may vary from the national count time periods but that the national count time periods be used if it is determined that this period

Automatic Machines

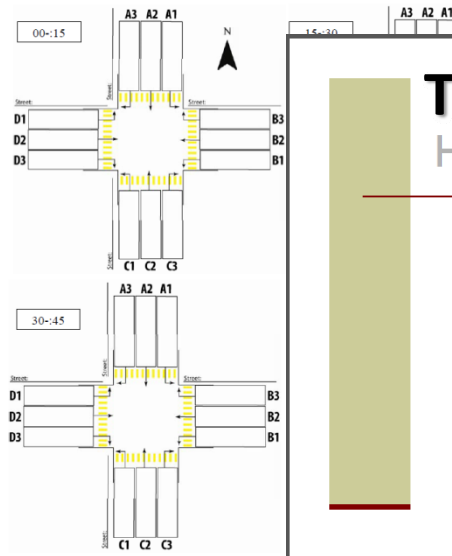
While the NBPD is based on manual counts, we encourage you to consider conducting counts to consider conducting counts in your community. These machines will give you information on bicycle usage, benefits and other information.

Weather

Weather may be a determinant in selecting count locations and surveys, but a particular location or unusual during the count period

Forms

- Please fill in your name, count location, date, time period, and weather conditions (fair, rainy, very cold).
Count all bicyclists crossing through the intersection under the appropriate categories.
- Count for two hours in 15-minute increments.
 - Count bicyclists who ride on the sidewalk.
 - Count the number of people on the bicycle, not the number of bicycles.
 - Use one intersection graphic per 15-minute interval.



Pedestrian Documentation Project

Home Participate Downloads

Materials

Training Presentation

How do you count this?



The National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project
and the Institute of Transportation Engineers


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Recommendations

- Create your own forms
- Enhance the training
- Customize the experience
- Define the purpose and stay focused

Date: _____
Location: _____
Recorder's Name: _____



7:00am to 7:15am


Street: _____

Bike	Ped	Other

Bike	Ped	Other

Bike	Ped	Other

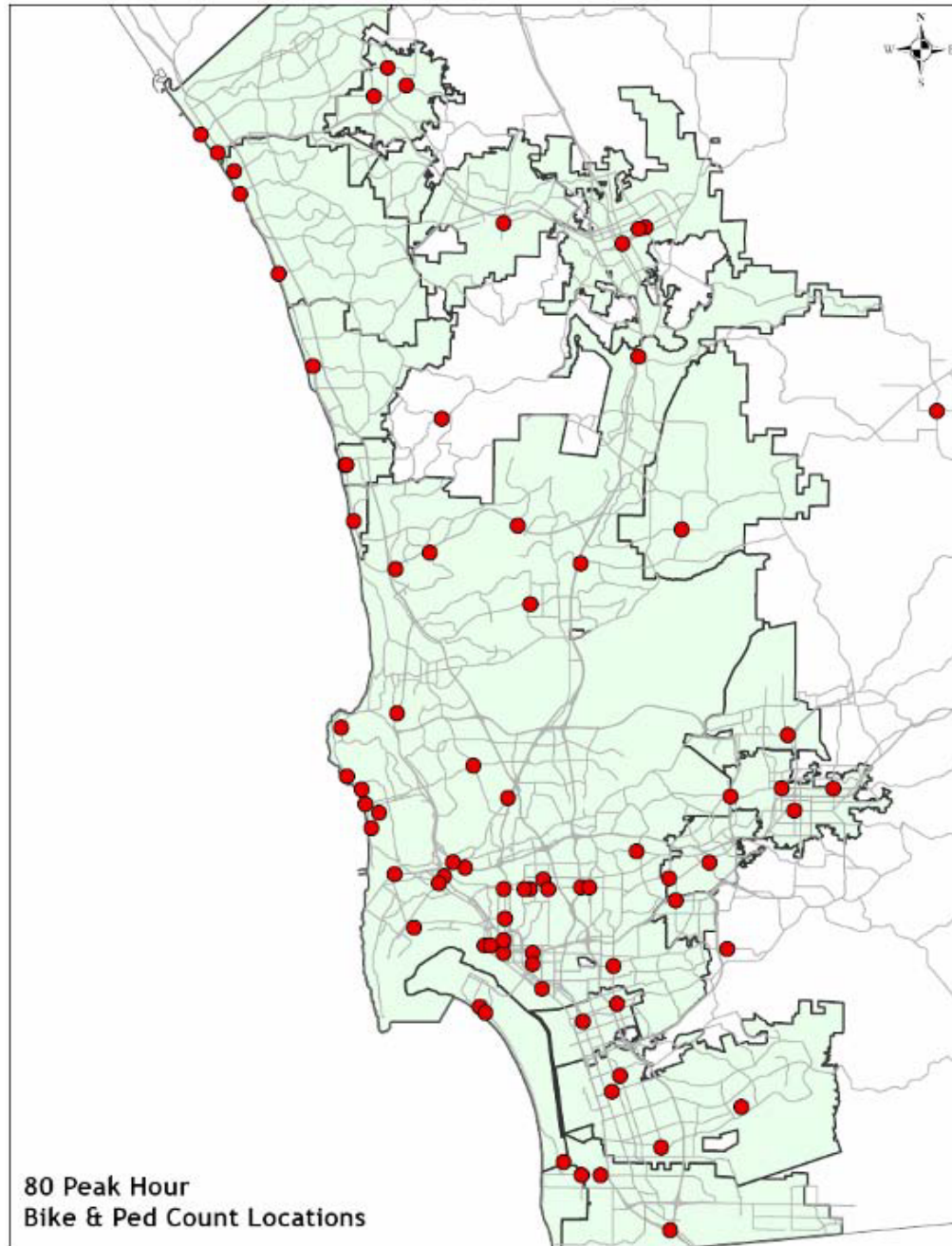
Bike	Ped	Other

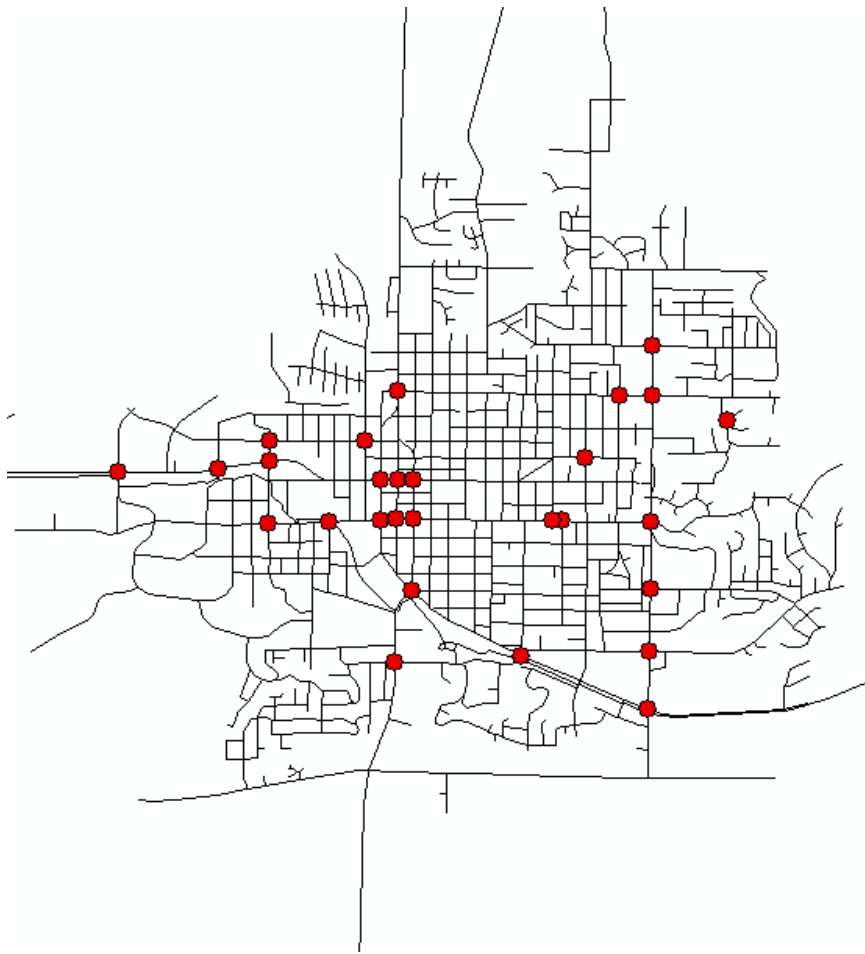


Purpose?

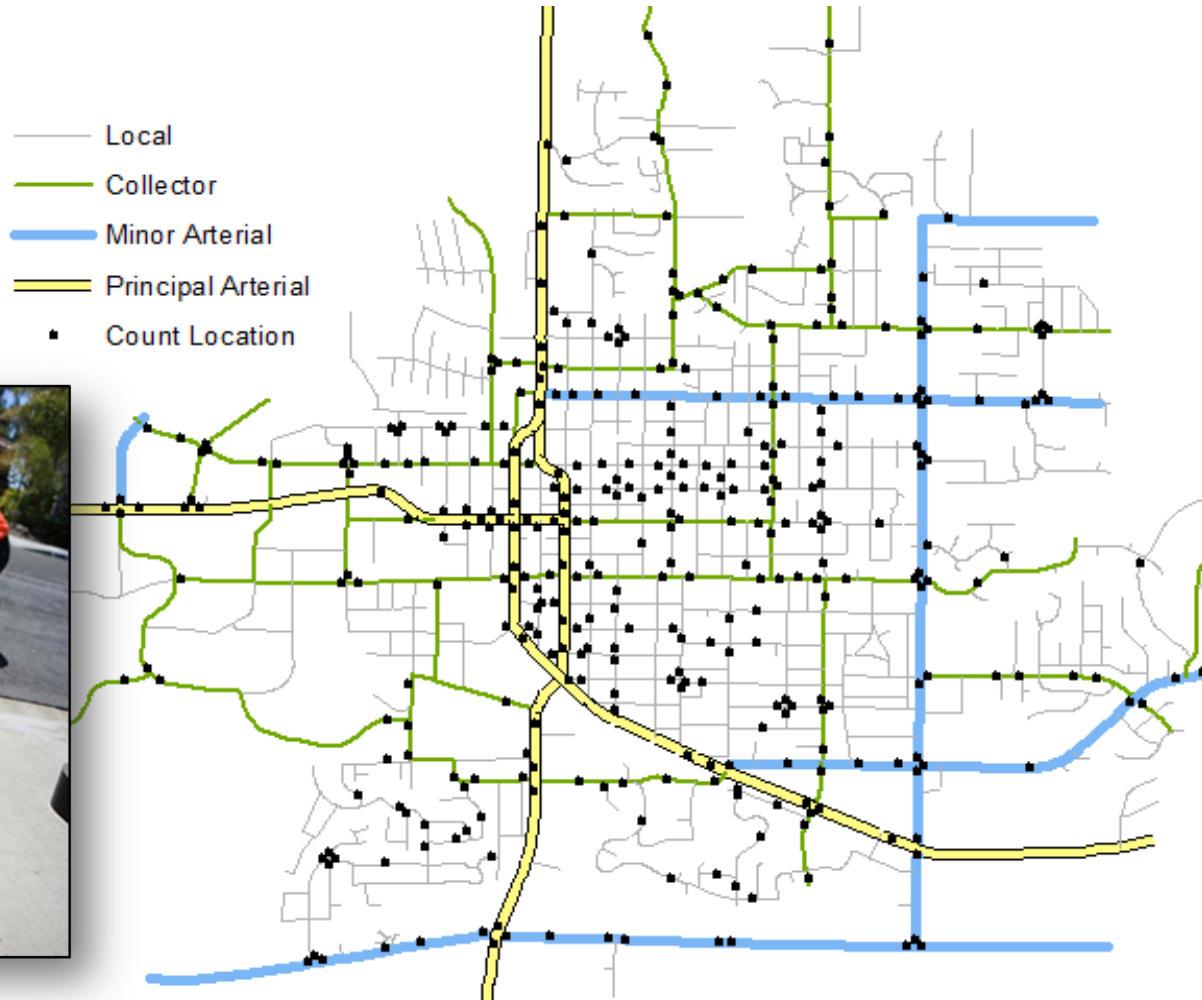
Purpose	Yes/No/Maybe
Raising awareness about bicycle and pedestrian activity	
Providing public engagement and outreach	
Getting a snap shot of community-wide biking/walking	
Applying for grants	
Analyzing trends year-to-year	
Making comparisons with other communities	
Determining percentage of bicycle and pedestrian travel	
Making adjustments to traffic signal timing	
Improving signage	
Making infrastructure improvements	
Improving paint markings	
Safety analysis	
Project selection	
Project evaluation (before and after studies)	
Identifying bike/ped characteristics (Helmet/No Helmet etc.)	

80 locations!





- **26 Locations**
- **2011, 2012, 2013**
- **7:00 – 9:00 AM**
- **4:00 – 6:00 PM**



341 locations

Three day tube counters for cars



1	Date	TimePeriod	Movement	Mode	Count
812	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBL	Pedestrian	0
813	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBT	Pedestrian	0
814	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBR	Pedestrian	0
815	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBL	Pedestrian	0
816	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBT	Pedestrian	1
817	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBR	Pedestrian	0
818	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	SBR	Bicycle	0
819	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	SBT	Bicycle	0
820	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	SBL	Bicycle	0
821	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	EBL	Bicycle	0
822	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	EBT	Bicycle	0
823	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	EBR	Bicycle	0
824	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBL	Bicycle	0
825	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBT	Bicycle	0
826	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	NBR	Bicycle	0
827	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBL	Bicycle	0
828	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBT	Bicycle	1
829	10/10/2013	5:30-5:45 PM	WBR	Bicycle	0
830	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBR	Other	0
831	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBT	Other	0
832	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBL	Other	0
833	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBL	Other	0
834	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBT	Other	0
835	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBR	Other	0
836	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	NBL	Other	0
837	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	NBT	Other	0
838	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	NBR	Other	0
839	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	WBL	Other	0
840	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	WBT	Other	0
841	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	WBR	Other	0
842	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBR	Pedestrian	0
843	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBT	Pedestrian	0
844	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	SBL	Pedestrian	0
845	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBL	Pedestrian	0
846	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBT	Pedestrian	0
847	10/10/2013	5:45-6:00 PM	EBR	Pedestrian	0

iCount Data Entry Form

Numerical Date 01/01/2011: Other:

Date:

Pedestrian:

Select 15 Minute Increment: Bicyclist:

Morning Shift:

7:00 - 7:15 AM

7:15 - 7:30 AM Bike: Ped: Other:

7:30 - 7:45 AM

7:45 - 8:00 AM

8:00 - 8:15 AM

8:15 - 8:30 AM

8:30 - 8:45 AM

8:45 - 9:00 AM

Evening Shift:

4:00 - 4:15 PM

4:15 - 4:30 PM

4:30 - 4:45 PM


4:45 - 5:00 PM

5:00 - 5:15 PM

5:15 - 5:30 PM

5:30 - 5:45 PM

5:45 - 6:00 PM



Other:

Ped:

Bike:

Table of Contents

- Layers
 - 2013PM_Points_Screenline
 - Tot_All
 - 87
 - 88 - 422
 - 2013PM_Points_Intersections
 - Tot_All
 - 26 - 43
 - 44 - 67
 - 68 - 114
 - 115 - 180
 - 181 - 405
 - 2013AM_Points
 - Tot_All
 - 66 - 68
 - 69 - 77
 - 78 - 113
 - 114 - 158
 - 159 - 176
 - 2013PM_Movements
 - 2013PM_Movement_Screenline
 - Basemap
 - World_Imagery



[Data Entry and Mapping Demonstration video]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nx2BtHDaRbE>



The image is a screenshot of a web browser displaying a YouTube video. The browser's address bar shows the URL www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nx2BtHDaRbE. The YouTube search bar contains the text "lowry transportation". The video player shows a thumbnail for a video titled "Data Entry and Data Mapping". The thumbnail features a watercolor-style illustration of a city street with people walking and cycling. A small inset photo of a man is in the bottom left of the thumbnail. Text on the thumbnail includes "Mike Lowry, Phd, PE", "Transportation Engineering and Planning", and "Training Video July 2013". The video player interface shows a progress bar at 0:01 / 17:30. Below the video player, the video title "Ped Bike Data Entry and Mapping" is displayed. The channel name is "Dr. Mike Lowry" with a subscriber count of 7. The video has 30 views. The video description states: "Published on Aug 1, 2013. This tutorial covers two tools: (1) Data Entry Excel Form and (2) Data Mapping GIS Tool." The video player controls include play, volume, and full screen buttons.

Ped Bike Data Entry

www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nx2BtHDaRbE

YouTube

lowry transportation

Data Entry and Data Mapping

Mike Lowry, Phd, PE
Transportation Engineering and Planning

Training Video
July 2013

0:01 / 17:30

Ped Bike Data Entry and Mapping

Dr. Mike Lowry · 10 videos

Subscribe 7

30 views

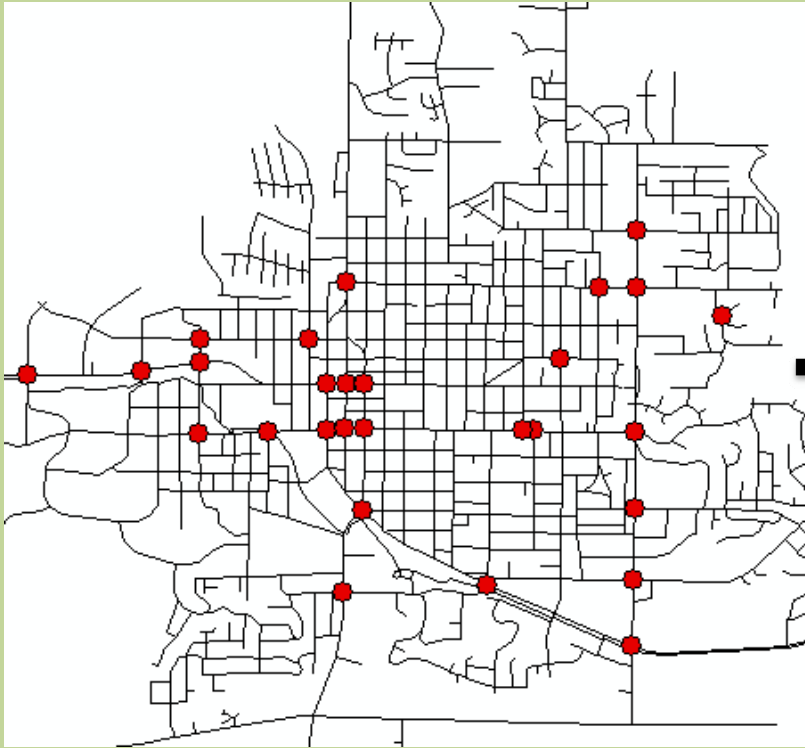
Like About Share Add to

Published on Aug 1, 2013
This tutorial covers two tools: (1) Data Entry Excel Form and (2) Data Mapping GIS Tool.

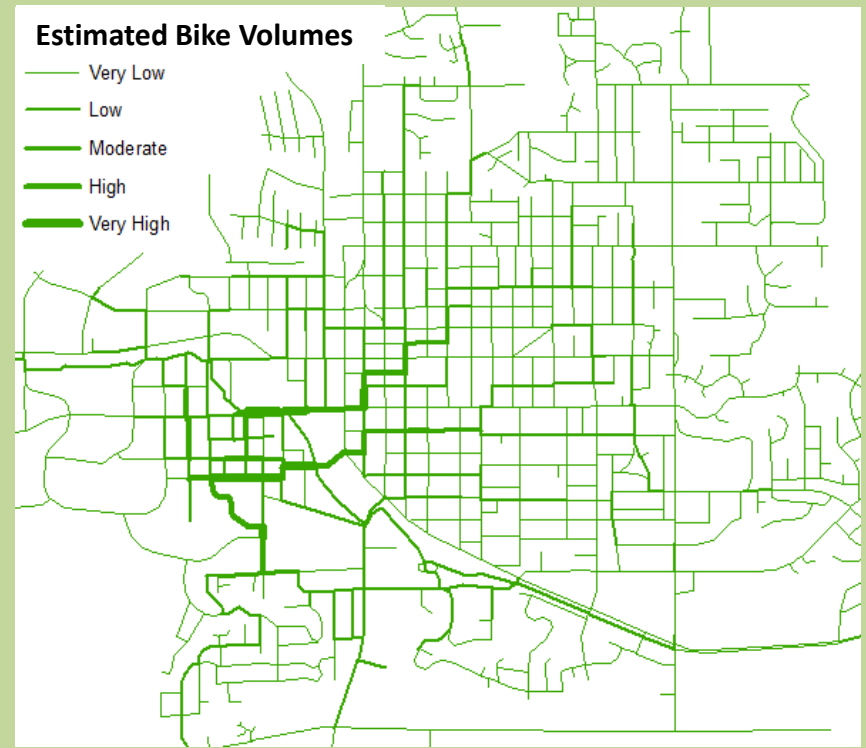
Show more



ESTIMATING NETWORK-WIDE BICYCLE VOLUMES



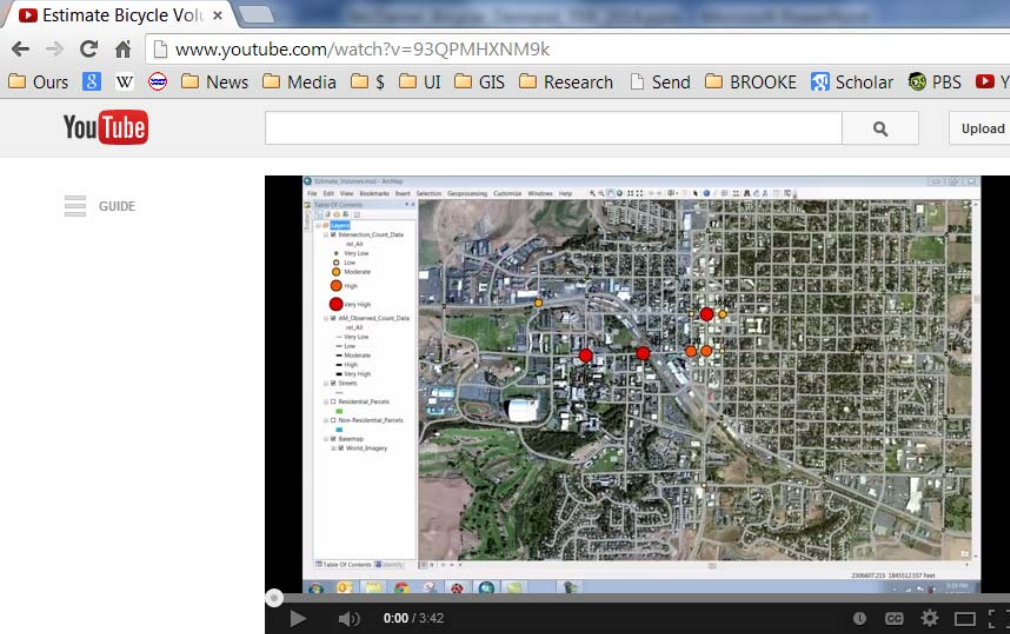
Observed Count Points



**Network-wide
2 Hour Volume**

[Volume Estimation Demonstration video]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dMp2XIQaykw>



The screenshot shows a YouTube video player with the title "Estimate Bicycle Volume". The video content is a screen recording of a GIS application. The GIS interface includes a legend on the left with five categories: "Very Low" (lightest), "Low", "Moderate", "High", and "Very High" (darkest). The main map area displays a city street grid with several red and orange circular markers indicating high and moderate bicycle volume. The video player interface shows a progress bar at 0:00 / 3:42, a channel name "Dr. Mike Lowry" with 9 videos, and 3 views. The video was published on Jan 9, 2014.

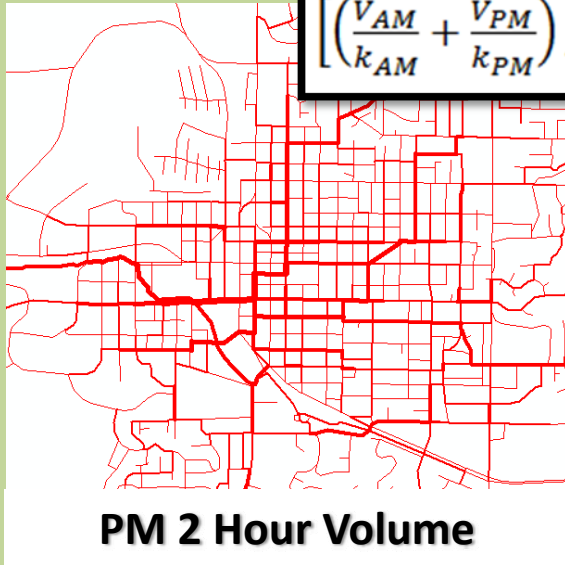
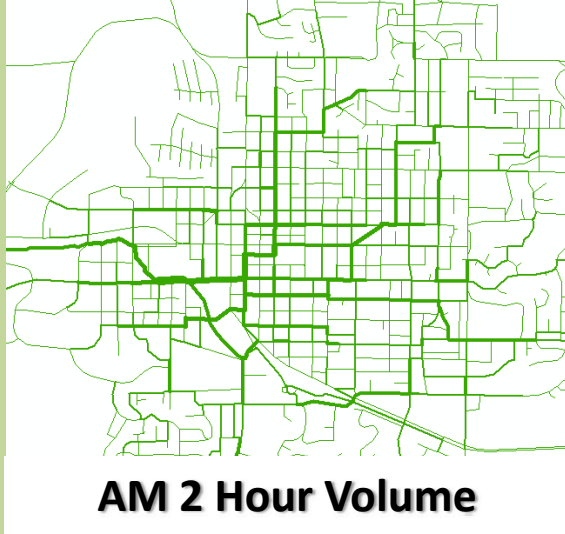
Estimate Bicycle Volume

Dr. Mike Lowry · 9 videos · 3 views

Like · About · Share · Add to

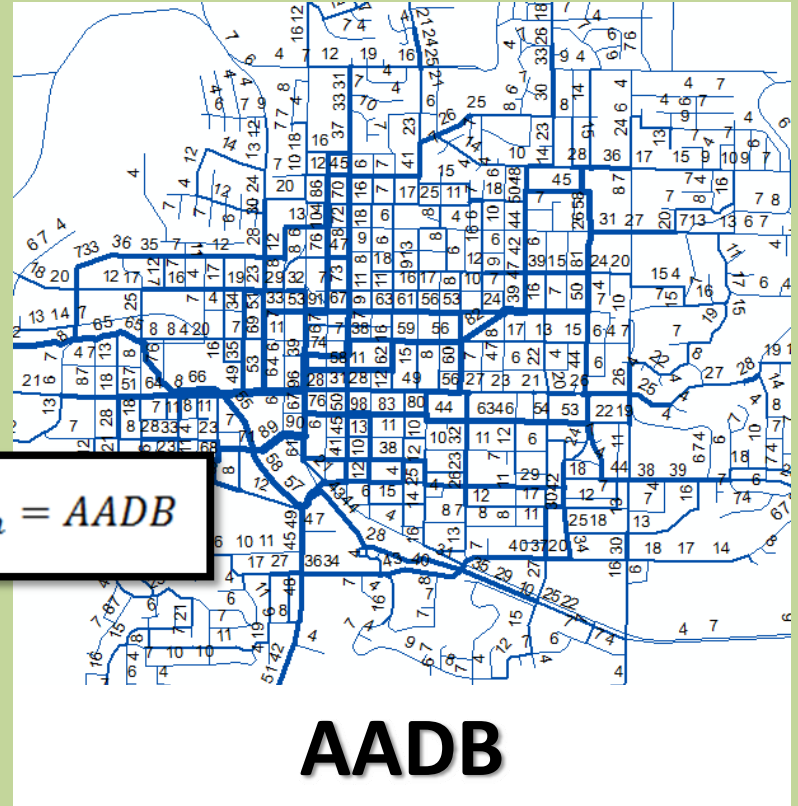
Published on Jan 9, 2014
GIS tool to estimate bicycle volumes. More information:
McDaniel, S., Lowry, M., and Dixon, M. (2014). "Using Origin-Destination Centrality to Estimate Directional Bicycle

Step 1. Spatially Extrapolate



$$\left[\left(\frac{V_{AM}}{k_{AM}} + \frac{V_{PM}}{k_{PM}} \right) / 2 \right] * F_{day} * F_{month} = AADB$$

Step 2. Temporally Extrapolate



Scenario Planning



Scenario Planning

Third Street Bicycle Volumes Existing and Forecasted

Intersection Cross Street	Existing Conditions (AADB)	Proposed Scenario (AADB)
Van Buren Street	24	226
Harrison Street	28	230
Tyler Street	32	230
Polk Street	44	253
Taylor Street	89	239
Fillmore Street	127	255
Pierce Street	146	255

**Increase of about
200 bicyclists per day.**

**Increase of about
150 bicyclists per day.**



PRIORITIZING PROJECTS BASED ON CONNECTIVITY

- **Bicycle Suitability**

Perceived comfort and safety of a segment of street or pathway

- **Bikeability**

Perceived comfort and safety of network connectivity for accessing important destinations

- **Bicycle Friendliness**

Perceived comfort and safety of all aspects of bicycle travel, including bikeability, laws and policies to promote bicycling, education efforts to encourage bicycling, and general acceptance of bicycling throughout the community

Name of Method	Acronym	Author	Date
Bicycle Safety Index Rating	BSIR	Davis	1987
Bicycle Stress Level	BSL	Sorton and Walsh	1994
Road Condition Index	RCI	Epperson	1994
Interaction Hazard Score	HIS	Landis	1994
Bicycle Suitability Rating	BSR	Davis	1995
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	Botma	1995
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	Dixon	1996
Bicycle Suitability Score	BSS	Turner et al	1997
Bicycle Compatibility Index	BCI	Harkey et al	1998
Bicycle Suitability Assessment	BSA	Emery and Crump	2003
Rural Bicycle Compatibility Index	RBCI	Jones	2003
Compatibility of Roads for Cyclists	CRC	Noel et al	2003
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	Zolnik	2007
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	Jensen	2007
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	Petritsch et al	2007
Bicycle Environmental Quality Index	BEQI	SFDPH	2009
Bicycle Quality Index	BQI	Birk et al	2010
Bicycle Level of Service	BLOS	HCM	2011
Bicycle Levels of Traffic Stress	LTS	Mekuria and Furth	2012

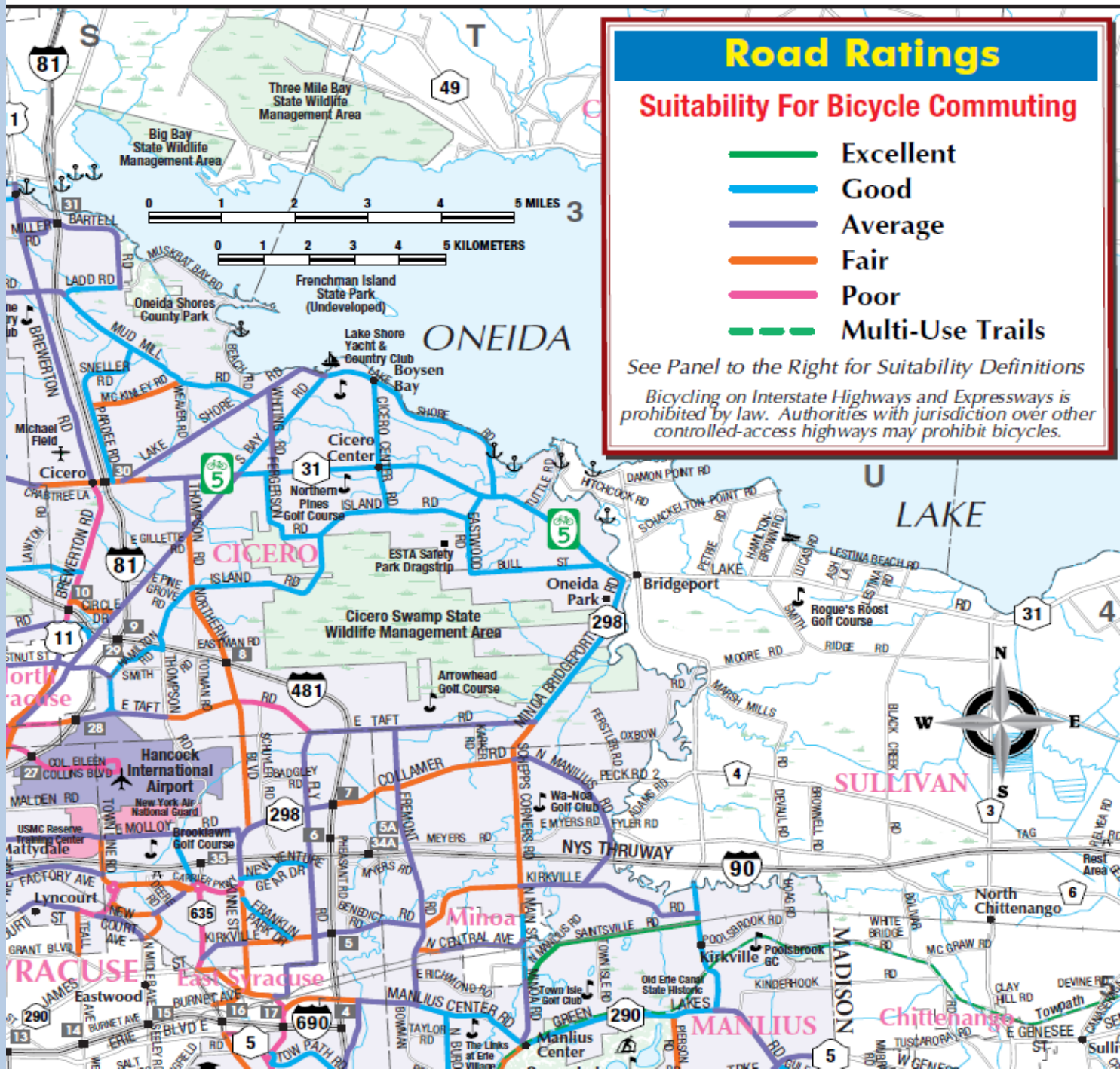
Road Ratings

Suitability For Bicycle Commuting

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Fair
- Poor
- Multi-Use Trails

See Panel to the Right for Suitability Definitions

Bicycling on Interstate Highways and Expressways is prohibited by law. Authorities with jurisdiction over other controlled-access highways may prohibit bicycles.



Equation

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Bicycle Level of Service} = & 0.76 + [-0.005((w_{ol} + w_{bl} + w_{os})(2 - 0.005v) + (w_{bl} + w_{os} - 20p_{pk}) - 1.5c)^2] \\
 & + 0.507 \ln\left(\frac{v}{4N_{th}}\right) \\
 & + 0.199[1.119 \ln(S - 20) + 0.8103](1 + 0.1038P_{HV})^2 + 7.066\left(\frac{1}{P_c}\right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Input

Attribute	Description
wol	width of outside lane (ft)
wbl	width of bike lane (ft)
wos	width of outside shoulder including parking and gutter (ft)
ppk	estimated proportion of on-street parking that would be occupied during analysis period (decimal)
c	curb present (yes = 1, no = 0)
v	directional analysis period vehicle volume (vph)
Nth	number of through lanes (#)
S	average vehicle speed (mph)
PHV	percent heavy vehicles (decimal)
Pc	pavement condition (poor-excellent) (0-5)

Output

BLOS	Letter Grade
≤ 2.00	A
2.00-2.75	B
2.75-3.50	C
3.50-4.25	D
4.25-5.00	E
>5.00	F



[BLOS Demonstration video]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k3ch1J9ugmM>

The screenshot shows a web browser window with a YouTube video player. The browser tabs include 'transweb.sjsu.edu/PL' and 'Bicycle Level of Servi'. The address bar shows the YouTube video URL. The video player displays a GIS application window with a map and a 'Calculate BLOS (s)' dialog box. The dialog box contains the following text:

```
Calculate BLOS (s) - Overview
Completed
Clear the dialog when completed successfully
[Progress Bar]
WARNING: Calculated BLOS for a set will NOT be set
on the 10th June 2014
START TIME: 10:45:10 2014
WARNING: Output CalculatedBLOS...
Checking if Status reset...
Reading input attributes...
Processing output...
COMPLETED OUTPUT: CalculatedBLOS...
Completed on 10th May 10 20:44:10 2014 (Elapsed Time: 0:00)
Completed
```

The video player interface shows the video is at 0:59 / 1:26. The title is 'Bicycle Level of Service GIS Tool'. The channel is 'Dr. Mike Lowry' with 15 views. The video is published on Jan 24, 2014. The description includes the following text:

Published on Jan 24, 2014
Purchase tools: <https://marketplace.uidaho.edu/C20272...>
Full video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eba_h9...
These tools are based the 2010 Highway Capacity Manual (HCM)



BLOS	Current Conditions	Proposed Improvement Scenario 1	Proposed Improvement Scenario 2
A	70	78	84
B	7	8	5
C	10	8	5
D	7	3	3
E	3	1	1
F	3	2	2

Great Bicycle Suitability...

...But does it go anywhere?

- **Bicycle Suitability**

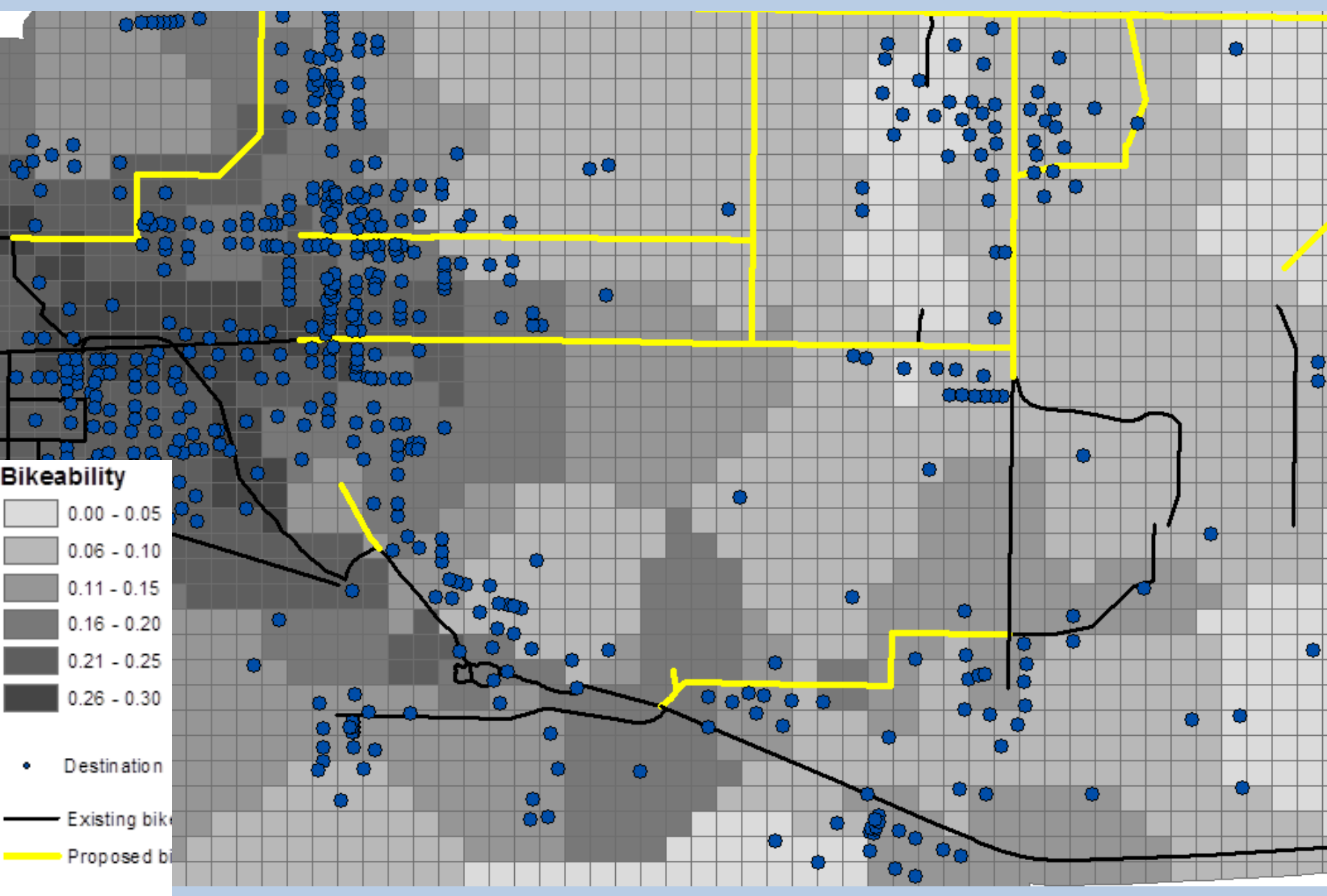
Perceived comfort and safety of a segment of street or pathway

- **Bikeability**

Perceived comfort and safety of network connectivity for accessing important destinations

- **Bicycle Friendliness**

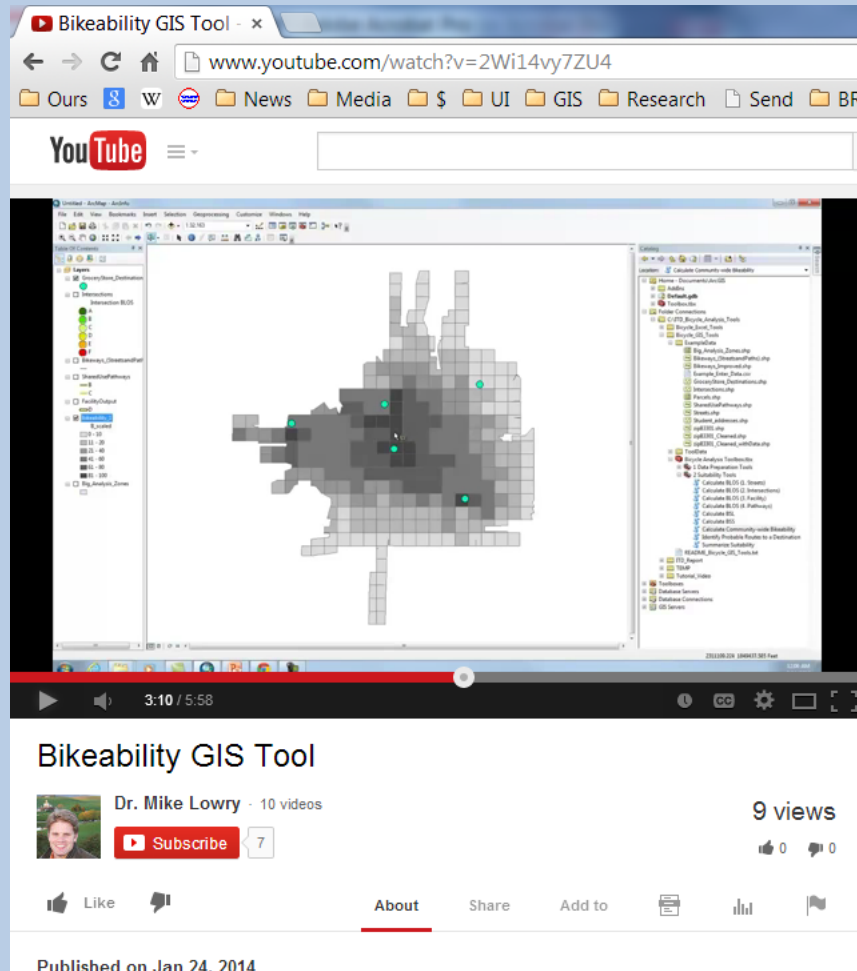
Perceived comfort and safety of all aspects of bicycle travel, including bikeability, laws and policies to promote bicycling, education efforts to encourage bicycling, and general acceptance of bicycling throughout the community



- Bikeability**
- 0.00 - 0.05
 - 0.06 - 0.10
 - 0.11 - 0.15
 - 0.16 - 0.20
 - 0.21 - 0.25
 - 0.26 - 0.30
- Destination
- Existing bike
- Proposed bike

[Bikeability Demonstration video]

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2Wi14vy7ZU4>



The screenshot shows a YouTube video player displaying a GIS application. The video title is "Bikeability GIS Tool" by Dr. Mike Lowry. The video player shows a progress bar at 3:10 / 5:58. The GIS interface displays a map of a city area with a grid overlay, and several layers are visible in the Layers and Contents panels.

Bikeability GIS Tool

Dr. Mike Lowry - 10 videos

9 views

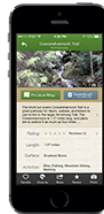
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Published on Jan 24, 2014

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As seen on the Today Show



RTC MAGAZINE

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Check out the latest issue of *Rails to Trails*, the quarterly magazine of Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, for exciting trail destinations, features and other news.



Check out the magazine

NEW TRAIL REVIEWS

Heritage Rail-Trail

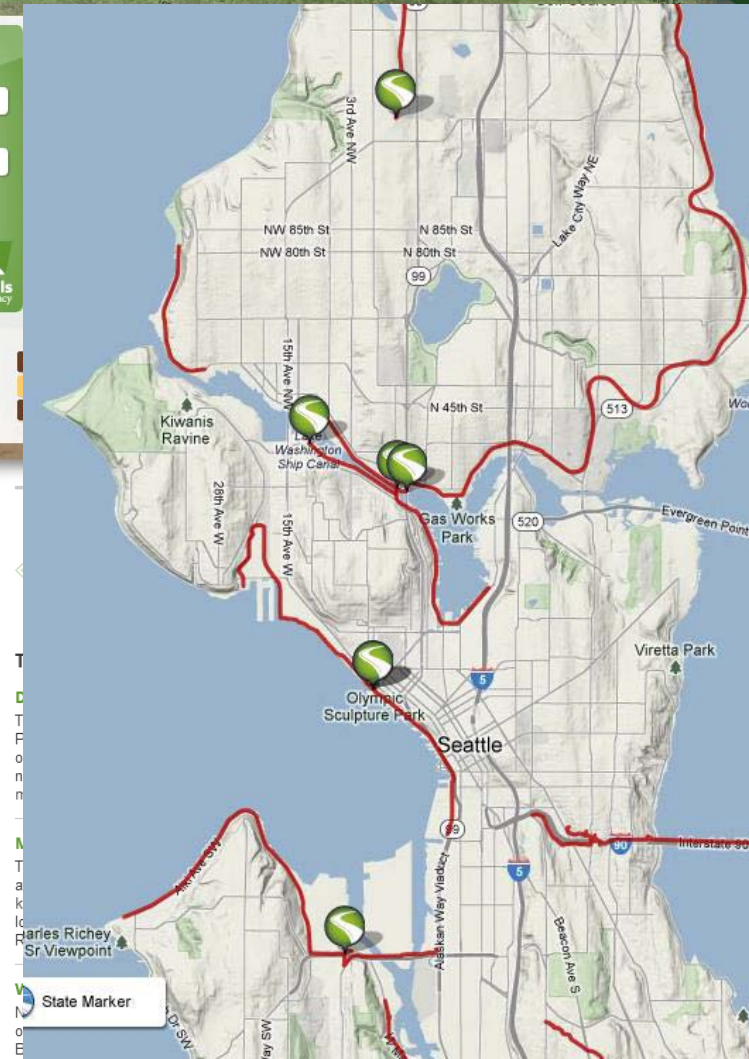
Ohio

Fort Fraser Trail

Florida

Allegheny River Trail

Pennsylvania



replaces bridges at Loop I-610 North and East T.C. Jester. There ...

Three Rivers Heritage Trail System

The Three Rivers Heritage Trail system evolved from five separate trails and today comprises nine

Our Mission

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy is a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., whose mission it is to create a nationwide network of trails



rails-to-trails
conservancy

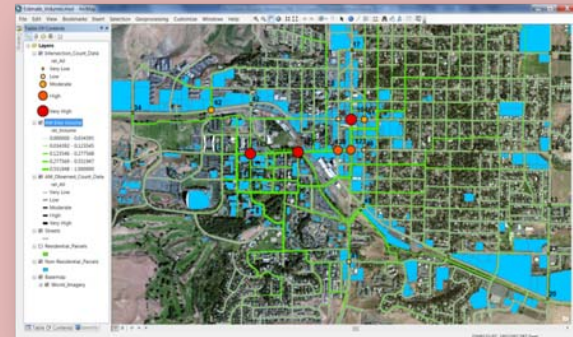


CONCLUSION

Exciting progress...



- Explosion of citizen-volunteer programs...
- Promising new GIS tools...
- Rails-to-Trails is working on connectivity!



Thank you...

...Questions??



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