

Put Equity on the Map: Tools for Measuring Access to Opportunity

New Partners for Smart Growth Conference

February 13, 2014

Denver, CO

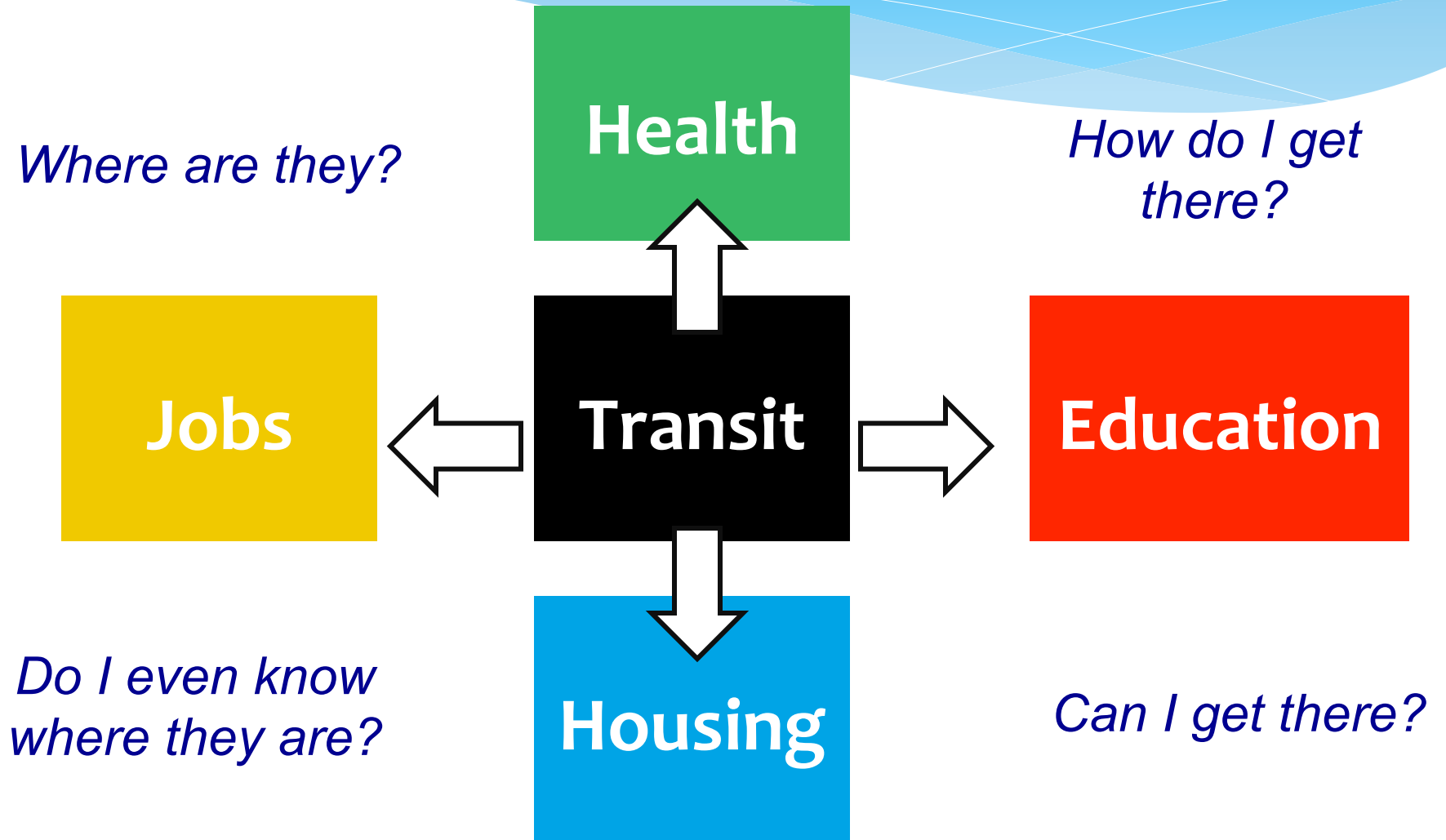


Agenda

- * **Purpose:** Highlight several innovative tools that practitioners are using to understand the spatial disparities in access to opportunity and social equity
- * **Speakers:**
 - * **Bill Sadler**, Natural Resources Defense Council (moderator)
 - * **Mara Gross**, Coalition for a Livable Future
 - * **Sam Tepperman-Gelfant**, Public Advocates
 - * **Alex Karner**, Arizona State University
- * **Q&A and Interactive Session**

Making Connections...

How are the persons, places & things we care about connected?



Where are they?

Health

How do I get there?

Jobs

Transit

Education

Do I even know where they are?

Housing

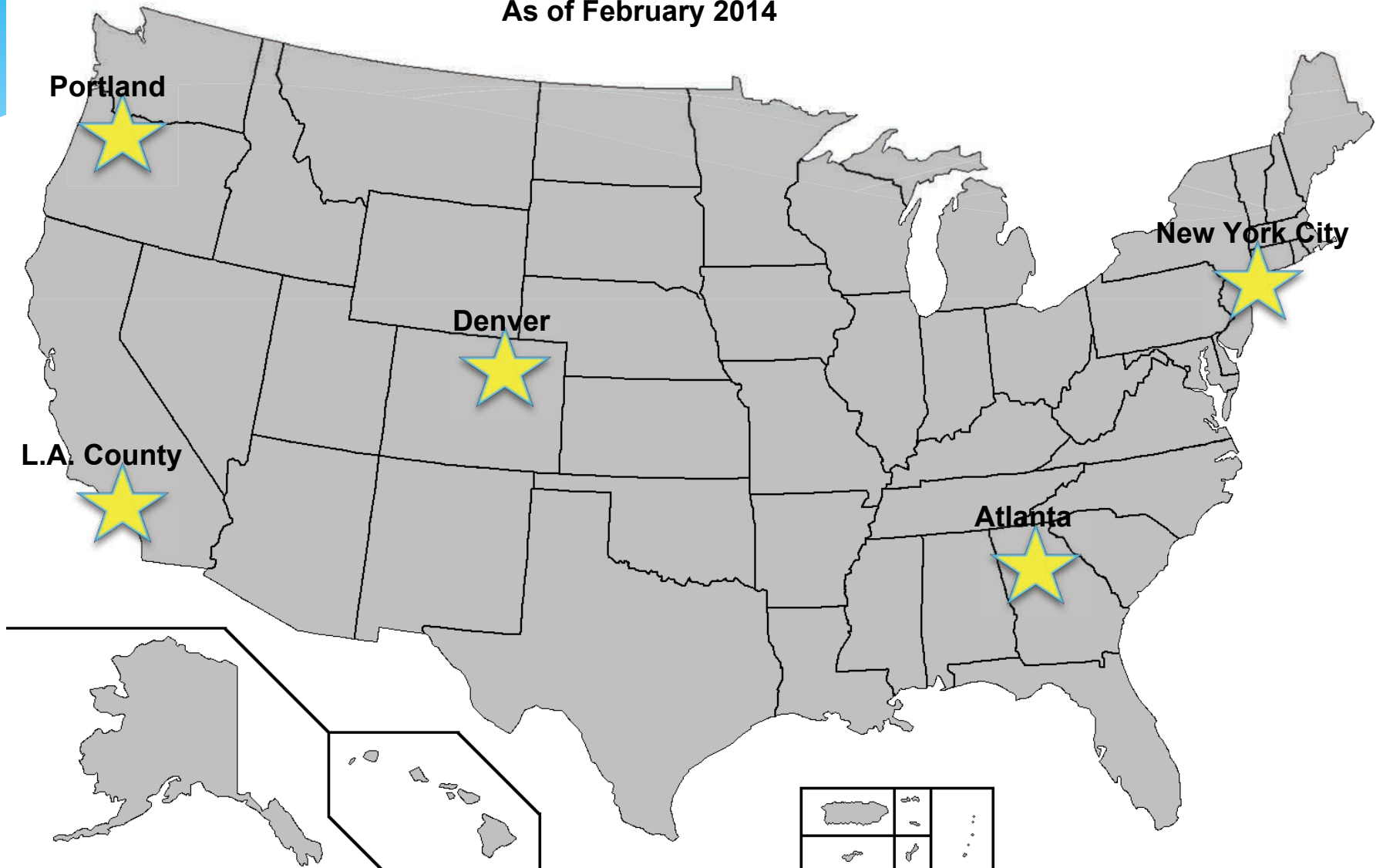
Can I get there?

The Value of Mapping

- Bring data-driven perspective to issues we already care about
- Maps help highlight areas of opportunity and need
- Fosters conversation across stakeholders: housing, economic development, education, health, etc.
- Develop shared solutions to common community challenges
- Process > Product

Places with Equity Atlases

As of February 2014



The Denver Regional Equity Atlas 1.0

Available at milehighconnects.org



THE DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

Mapping Access to Opportunity at a Regional Scale



MileHighConnects

Launched April 2012

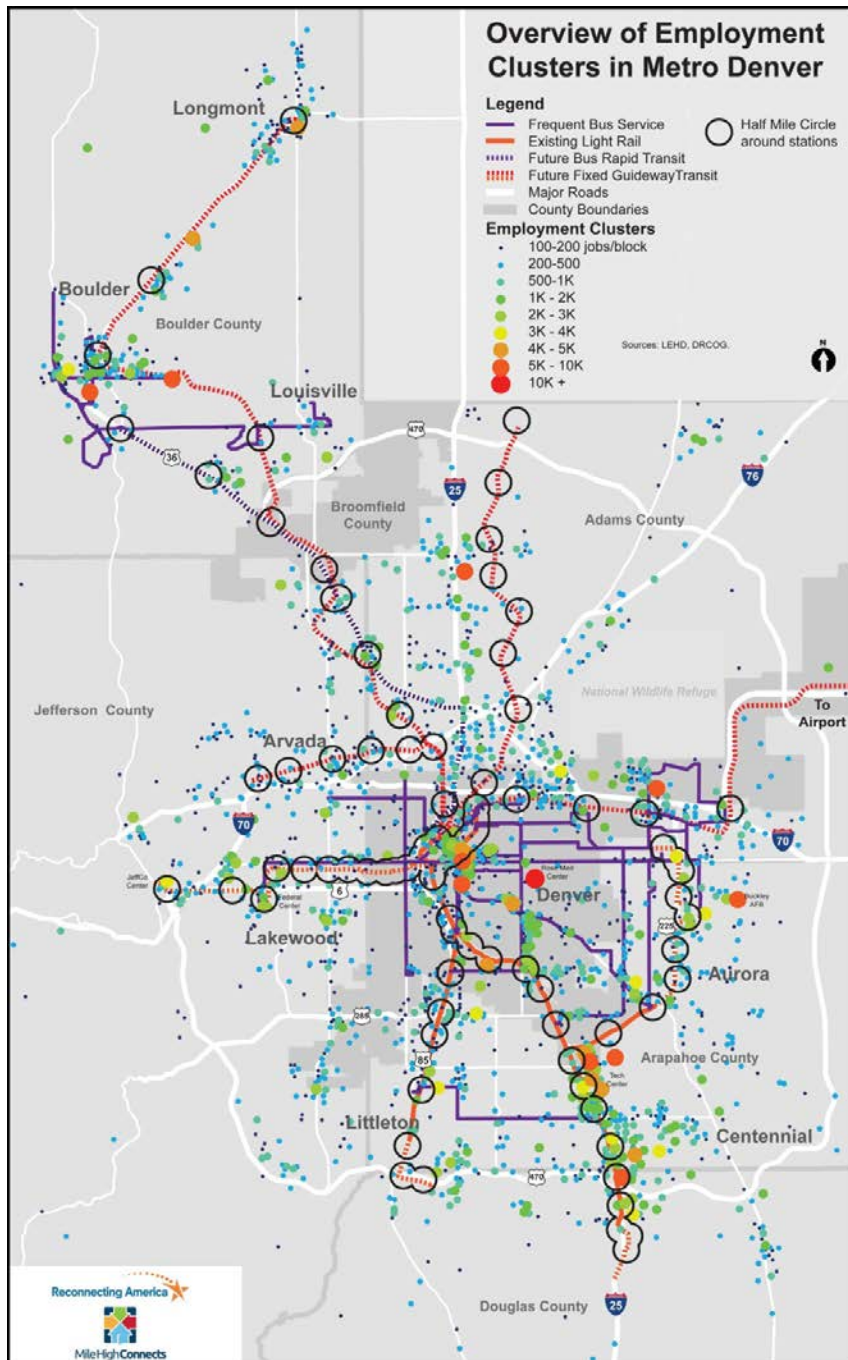
Showcase geographic interrelationship between:

- Housing
- Jobs
- Education
- Health
- Transportation Access

Highlight social equity disparities

Tell the story

Denver's FasTracks the Opportunity & Challenge



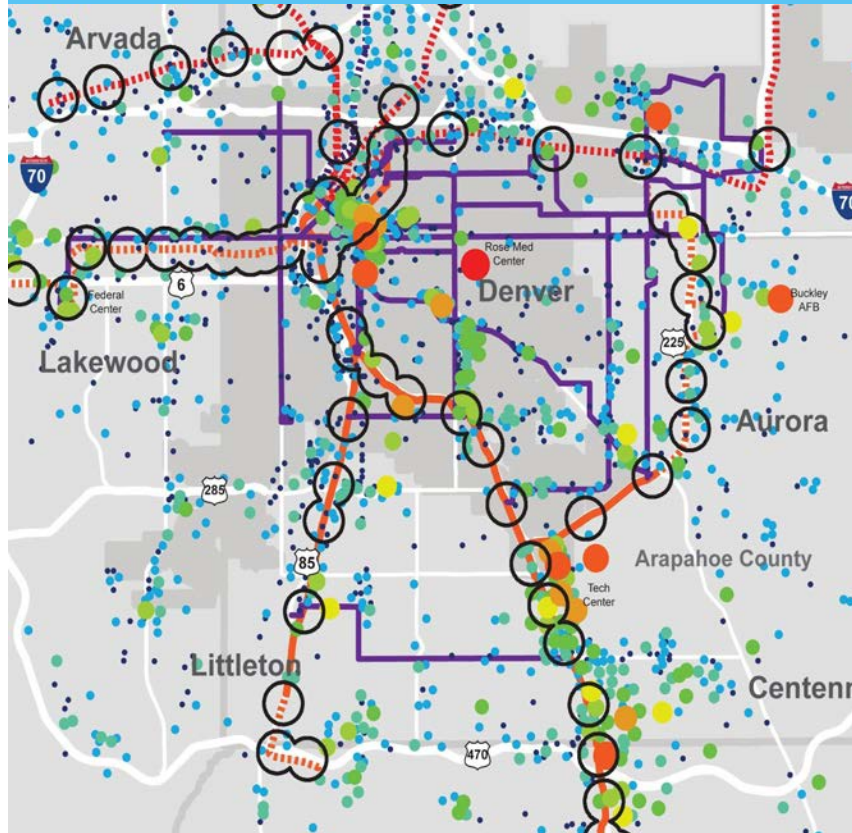
- \$7.8 billion investment
- 70 new stations
- 45,000 HHs
- 58.1% have less than a bachelors degree
- 40% will earn under 60% AMI

Who Will Benefit?

Key Findings

1. The region is interdependent.
2. Poverty is a regional issue.
3. New transit service will improve access to opportunity, but gaps will remain.
4. We need affordable housing strategies.
5. This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for the region.

Atlas 1.0 Limitations

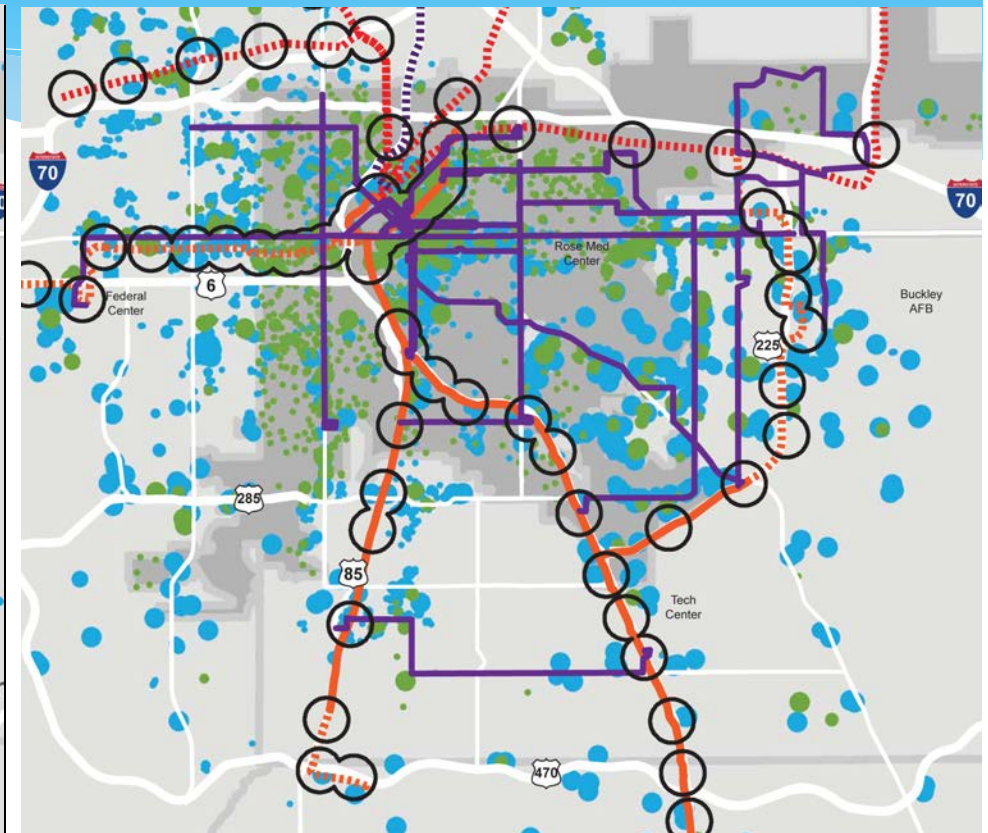


Employment Clusters

- 100-200 jobs/block
- 200-500
- 500-1K
- 1K - 2K
- 2K - 3K
- 3K - 4K
- 4K - 5K
- 5K - 10K
- 10K +

Sources: LEHD, DRCOG.

Jobs



Restricted Units

- 1 - 25 housing units
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101 - 150
- 151 +

Market Rate Units

- 1 - 25 housing units
- 26 - 50
- 51 - 100
- 101 - 150
- 151 +

Sources: City and County of Denver & Community Strategies Institute, DRCOG.



Affordable Housing

The Denver Regional Equity Atlas 2.0

denverregionalequityatlas.org



DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS

BETA

Register or Log In



MAP BACKGROUND TOPIC AREAS FUNDING AUDIENCE CONTRIBUTORS CONTACT



Background

The Denver Regional Equity Atlas is a tool to help raise awareness among a wide range of stakeholders about the benefits and opportunities that a robust public transportation network can create. This interactive tool provides users with the ability to create maps that depict the region's major origins and destinations in relation to the current and future transit network, and also generate reports on demographic, economic and other data of the region or particular communities. The Atlas emphasizes the need to ensure access to opportunity for everyone in the region, especially improving connections for the region's most economically disadvantaged residents. The future transit network will better connect people to jobs, healthcare providers, schools, grocery stores, parks and other essential destinations, but there are challenges in ensuring that the people who use and need access to public transportation the most have the opportunity to live, work, learn and play in transit-oriented communities.

The first phase of the Equity Atlas was completed in April 2012 and is available on the [Mile High Connects](http://MileHighConnects.org) website. This static document captures a snapshot of the region at one point in time (2011). The Equity Atlas is being used by practitioners and community members alike as a tool to explore the relationship between different issue areas (housing, education, jobs and health), guiding investment decisions, grant making and community outreach. The Atlas has received national attention for its innovative approach to visually representing the region's opportunities and challenges in relation to transit, and several other regions are now considering developing their own equity atlases.

[Registered users](#) can view, create, save, and share [maps here](#).

Partners



DENVER REGIONAL EQUITY ATLAS



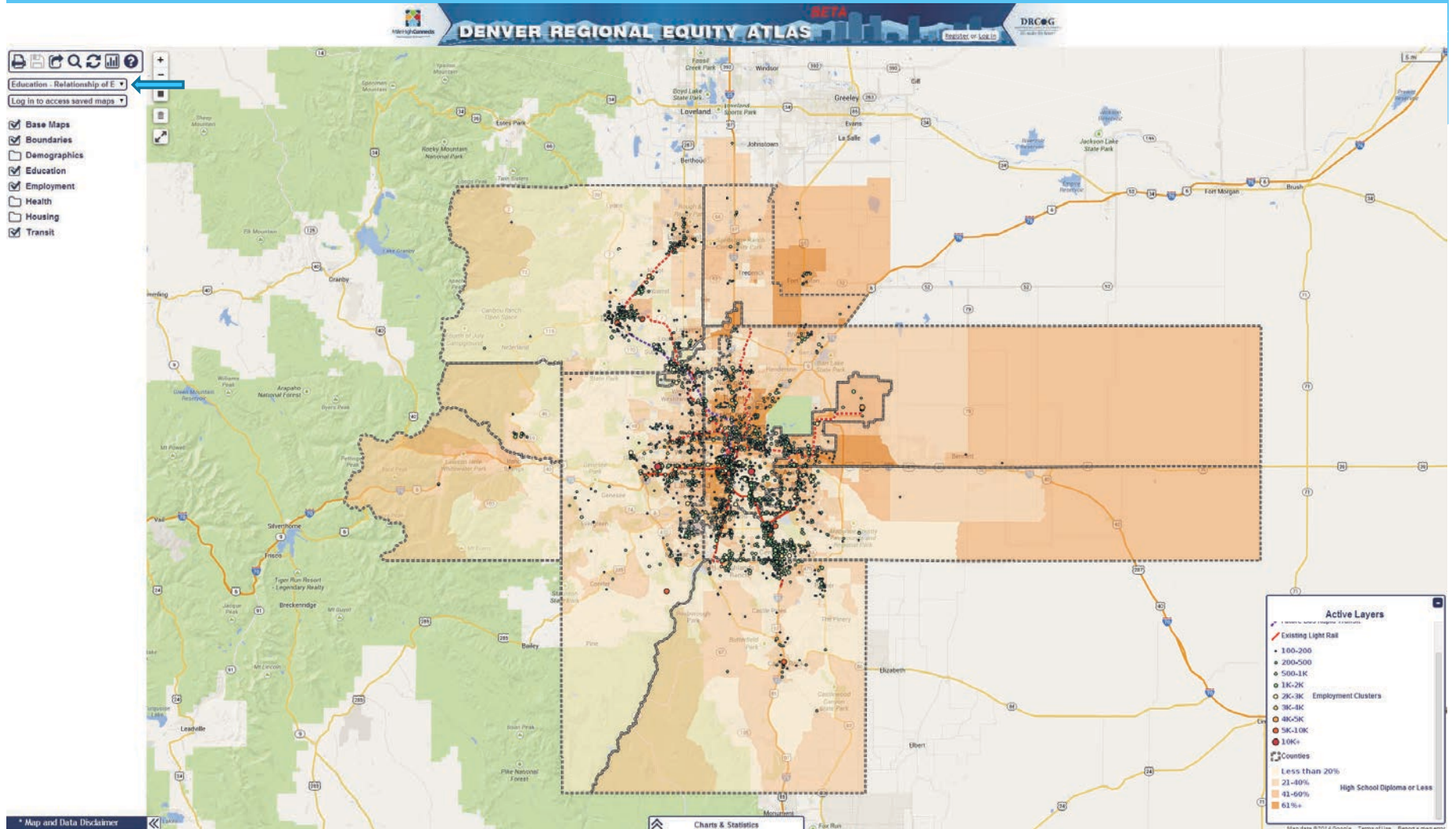
THE PITON FOUNDATION



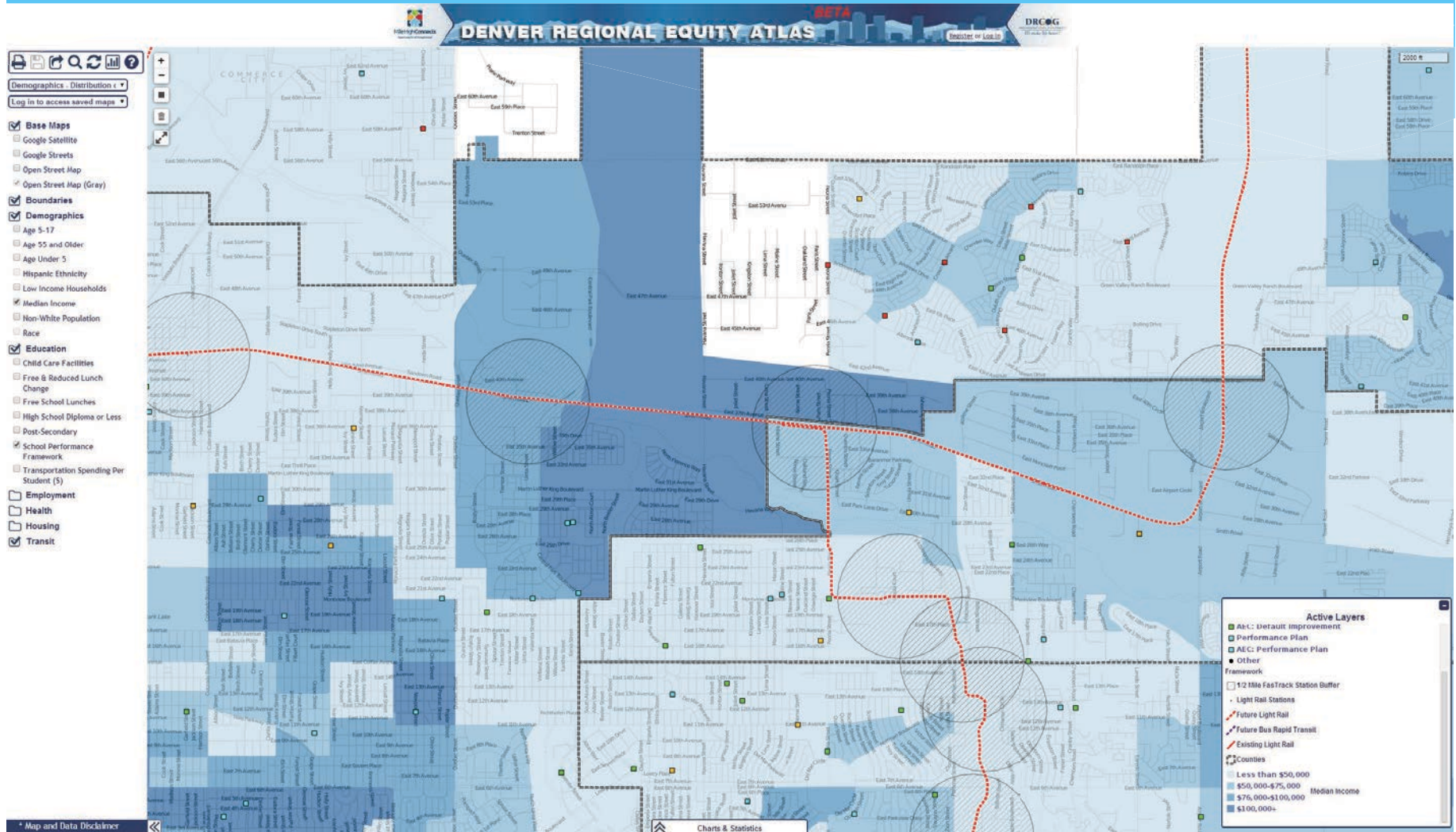
Key Features

1. Recreate original maps
2. Select specific map layers to display
3. Ability to zoom to a neighborhood scale
4. Select Census tracts or counties for additional statistics
5. Share, embed or print maps

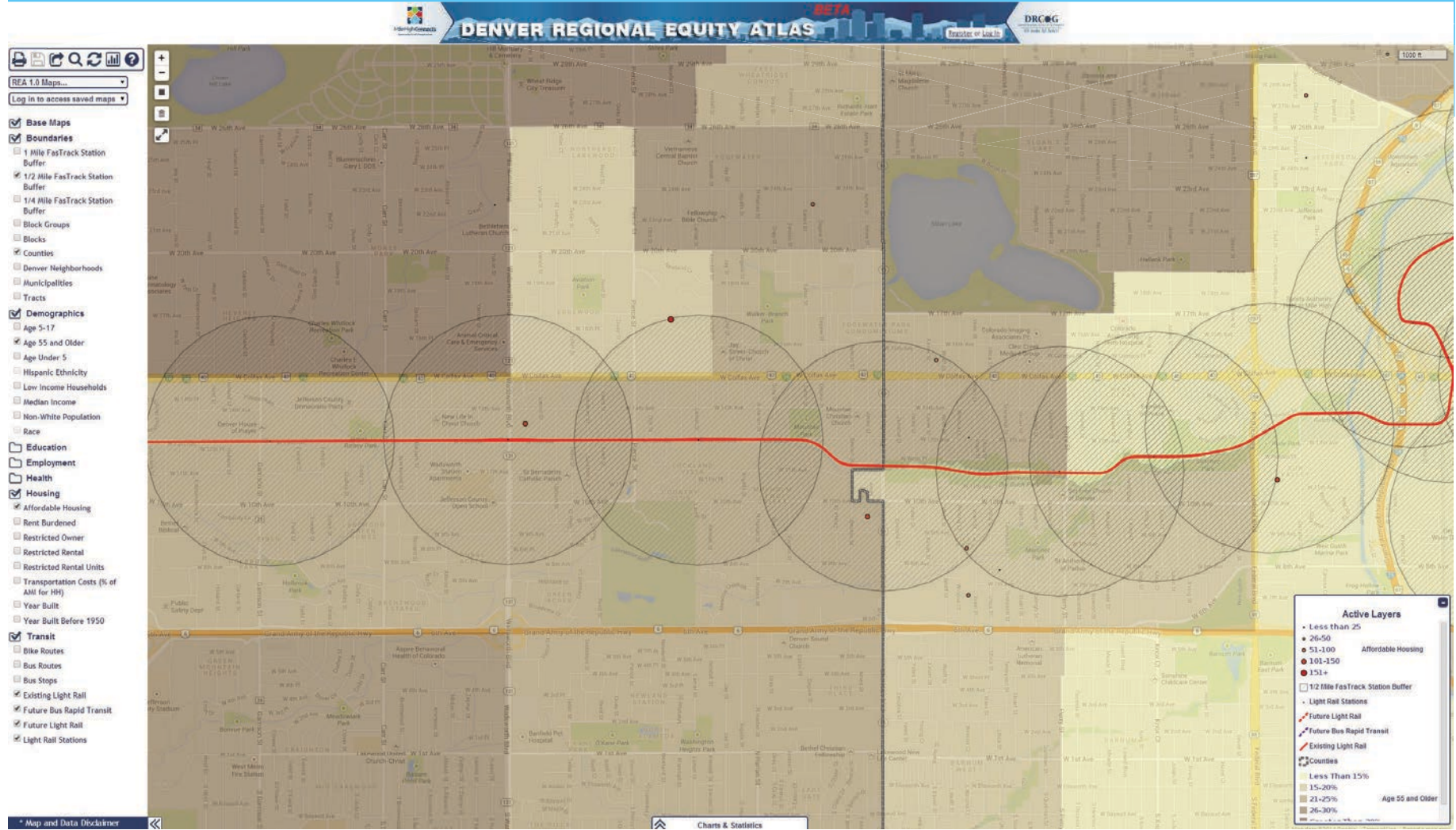
Recreate original maps



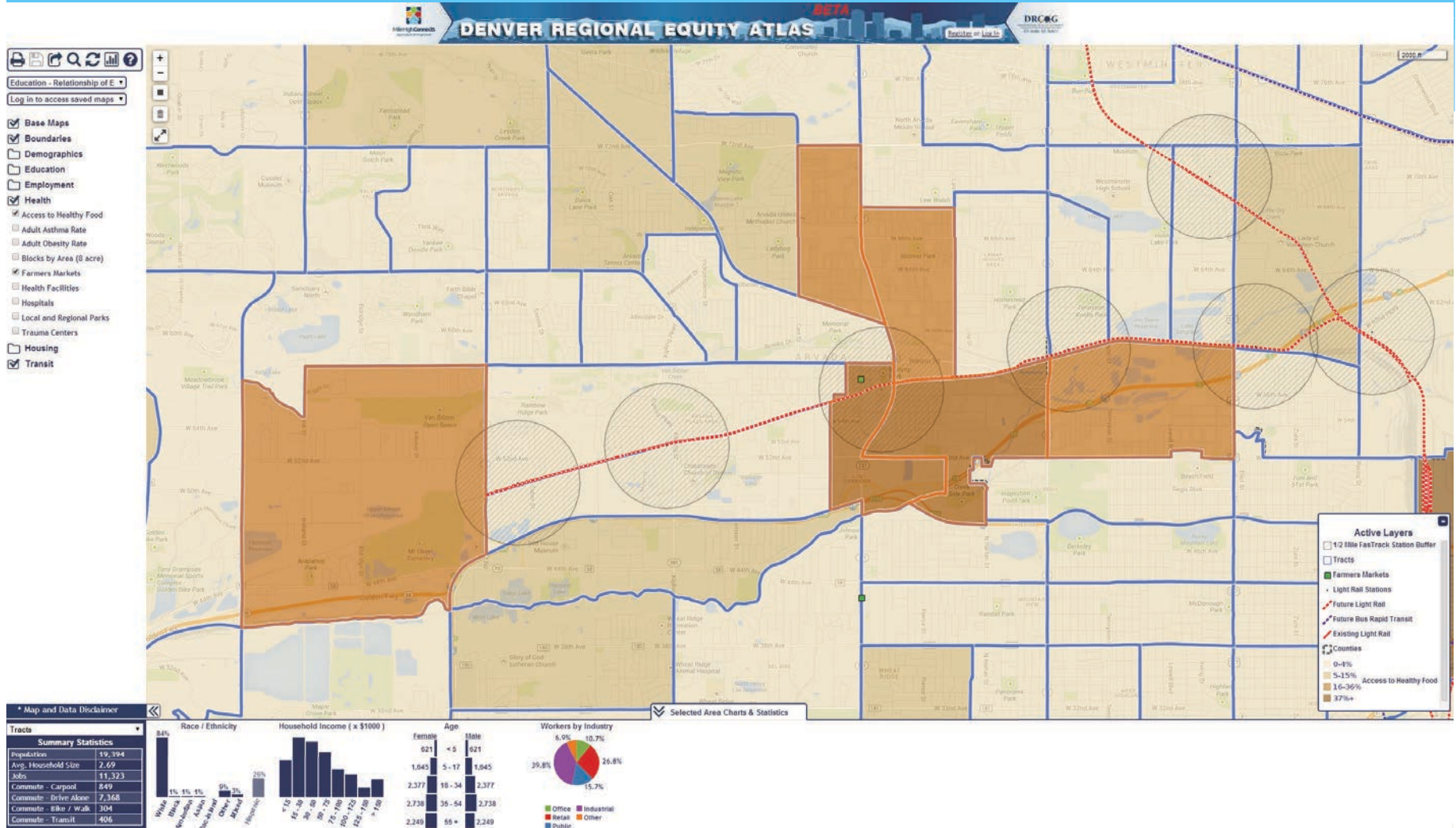
Select specific map layers to display



Zoom to a neighborhood scale



Select Census tracts for additional statistics



Share, embed or print maps

The image displays two screenshots of the Denver Regional Equity Atlas web application. The top screenshot shows the map interface with a green circle highlighting the 'Share' and 'Embed' options in the top-left corner. The bottom screenshot shows the same map interface with a green circle highlighting the 'Print Title & Description Options' dialog box, which includes a 'Map Notes (optional):' text area and 'Print' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Map and Data Dashboard

Summary Statistics

Category	Value
Population	1,573,383
Pop. Household Size	2.83
Pop. Density	15,503
Commute - Carpool	649
Commute - Drive Alone	2,368
Commute - Walk / Bike	509
Commute - Transit	406

Household Income (x \$1000)

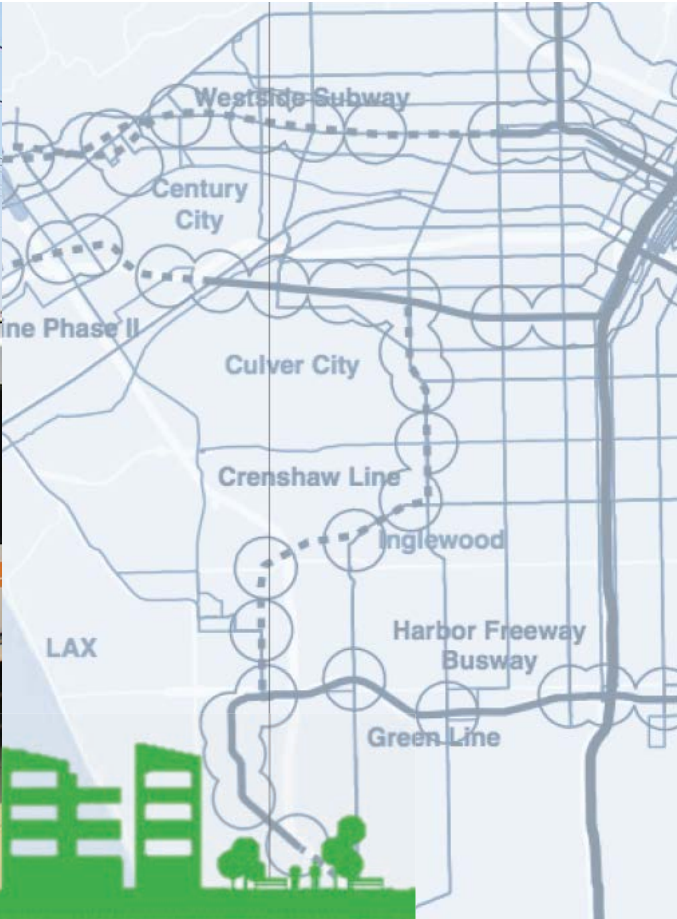
Income Range	Count
0-10	1,000
10-15	1,500
15-20	2,000
20-25	2,500
25-30	3,000
30-35	3,500
35-40	4,000
40-45	4,500
45-50	5,000
50-55	5,500
55-60	6,000
60-65	6,500
65-70	7,000
70-75	7,500
75-80	8,000
80-85	8,500
85-90	9,000
90-95	9,500
95-100	10,000

Workforce by Industry

Industry	Count	Percentage
Other	4,000	4.0%
Professional	18,000	18.0%
Other	1,000	1.0%

What Policy Recommendations Can This Influence?

1. Creating & Preserving Affordable Housing Near Transit
2. Provide incentives for employers to locate near transit
3. Improving access to healthy food in low-income communities
4. Invest in last-mile connections to and from transit stations and bus stops
5. Encourage schools and education providers to consider transit-oriented locations
6. Create more affordable transit pass programs



 CALIFORNIA
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION

 **Reconnecting America**
People • Places • Possibility

THE LOS ANGELES EQUITY ATLAS OPPORTUNITY. MAPPED.

WHAT IS THE OPPORTUNITY?

- * 2014: Five new transit lines will be under construction
- * 102 new miles of track, almost 100 new stations are planned
- * Low income workers make up 71% of transit commutes
- * Median income near transit is lower on average
- * How do we make an inclusive system?

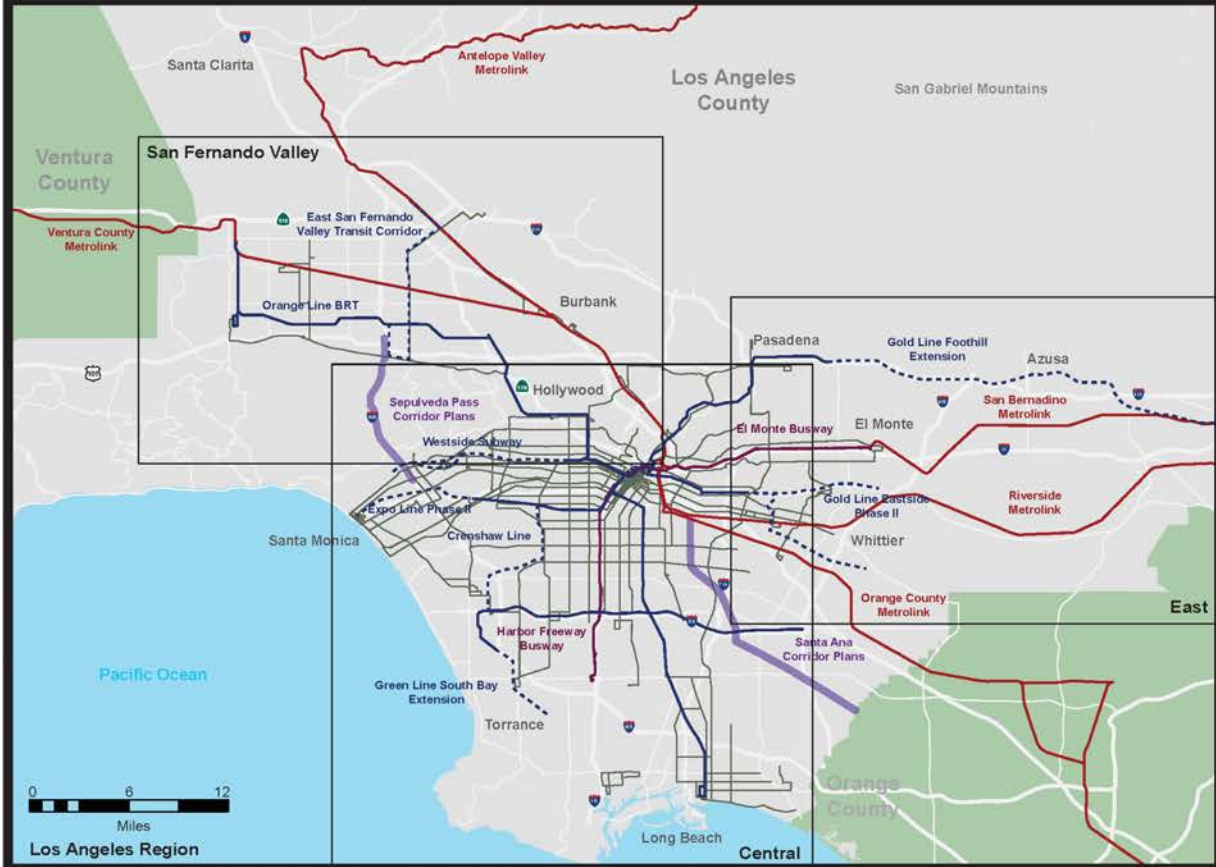
Los Angeles County (Map A1-1) Regional Expansion Plans

- Frequent Bus Lines (15 Minutes or Less)
- Existing Fixed Guideway Transit (BRT, Light Rail, Heavy Rail)
- Existing Commuter Rail
- Planned Fixed Guideway Transit Lines
- Planning Corridors
- Major Roads
- Highways
- Los Angeles County

Reconnecting America
People · Places · Possibility

Map Created June 2013

Data Sources: LACMTA 2013, Census 2010 Tiger Files, ESRI 2012, Reconnecting America 2012



WORKING GROUPS AND THEMES

Four Working Groups

- * Increasing Mobility, Access, and Connectivity
- * Preserving & Creating Affordable Housing, and Managing Neighborhood Change
- * Supporting Workforce and Economic Development
- * Investing in Healthy Communities

WHAT'S IN THE EQUITY ATLAS?

- * **Outcomes** describing an inclusive transportation/land use approach
- * **Data and talking points** supporting these outcomes, highlighting current performance
- * **Countywide maps** showing performance near frequent transit (bus or rail running 15 minutes apart or better)
- * **Recommendations** for future actions to achieve outcomes, and identification of parties responsible for these actions

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?

Outcome Title

Vision Statement: The future the outcome could achieve

Why Is This Outcome Important?

This section describes why each outcome should matter to decision makers

Fast Facts

The fast facts are information tidbits that give important stats and information about each the issues related to the outcome. They support the explanation of why the outcome is important and can offer quick talking points for the Equity Atlas user.

Three Recommendations to Achieve this Outcome:

Three recommendations are possible changes and activities for activists and agencies to push for when trying to change policy. The list is not necessarily complete; each outcome is limited to three recommendations.

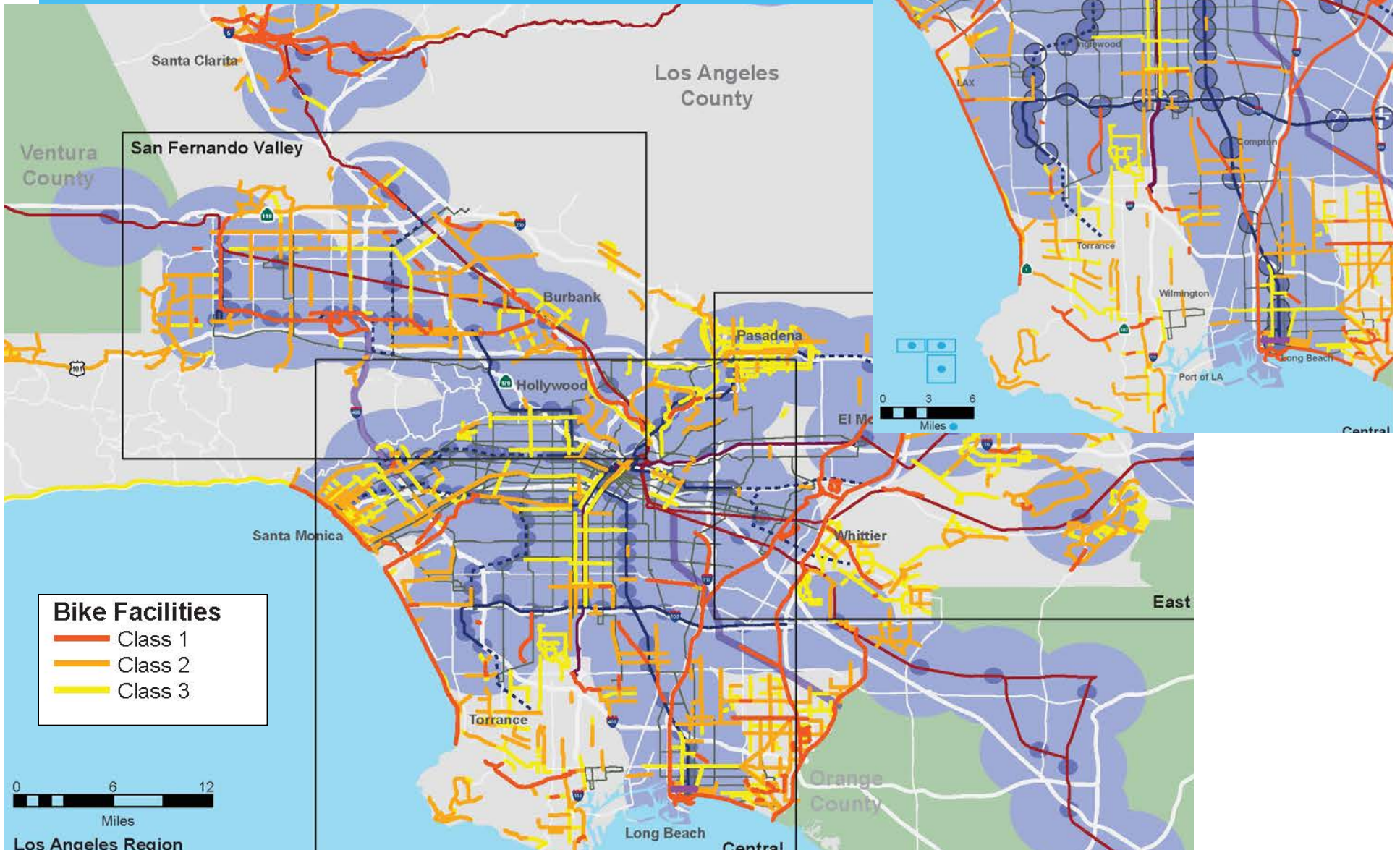
Where Are We Today? Atlas Maps – [Online Here](#)

The maps and any key findings from our evaluation of the maps (e.g. where concentrations of various populations are located, where infrastructure or services are lacking) is included here. To keep the Atlas brief, the maps are available online and are hyperlinked (under “Online Here”). The maps provided are high resolution and can be zoomed in on a very small scale, enabling Atlas users to either look for countywide trends, or hone in on one community. Some outcome descriptions show small subsets of the maps, offering a way that the maps can be used in presentations by Atlas users.

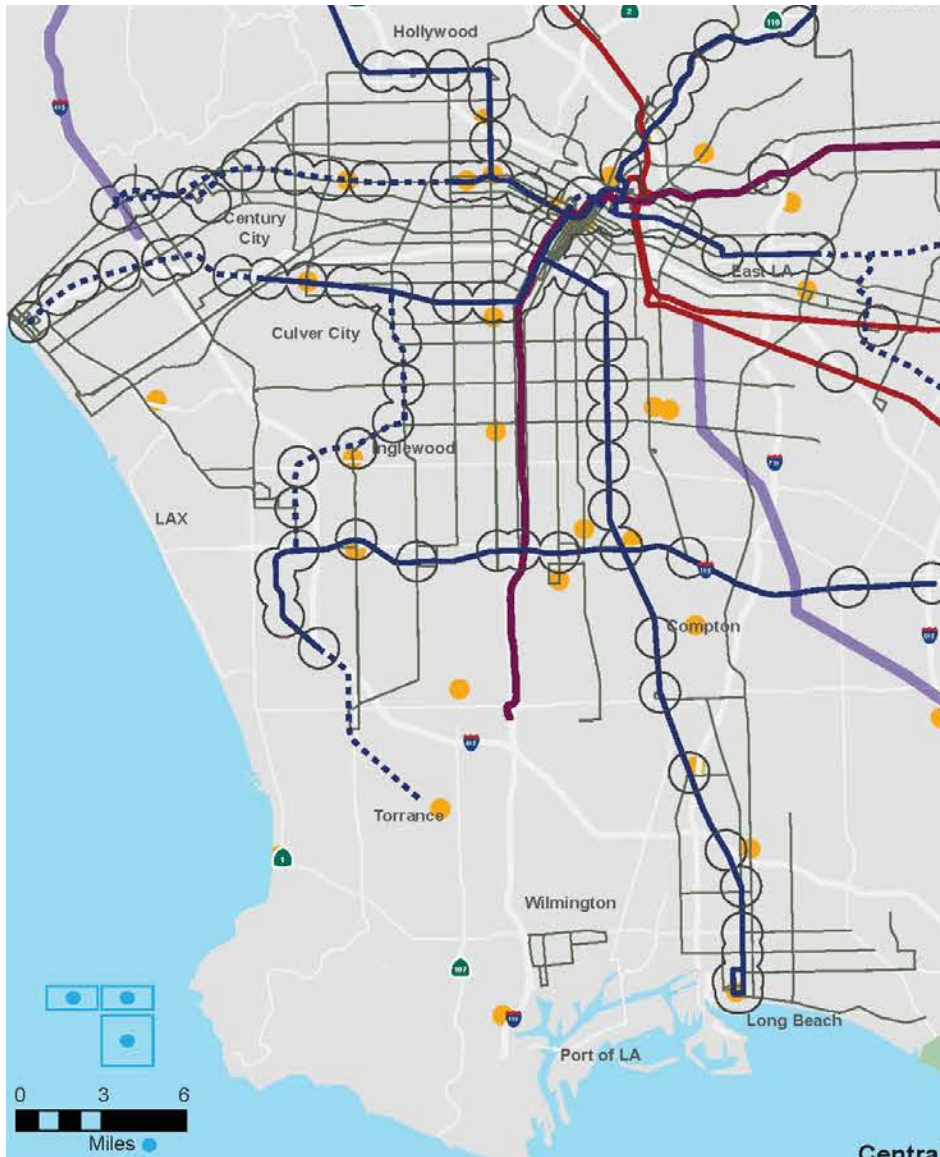
Sources and References

The first set of sources offer references for the fast facts and other sections. The second set of references in larger type are additional papers and organizations that are pertinent to the outcome.

HOW BIKE COMMUTERS CONNECT TO TRANSIT



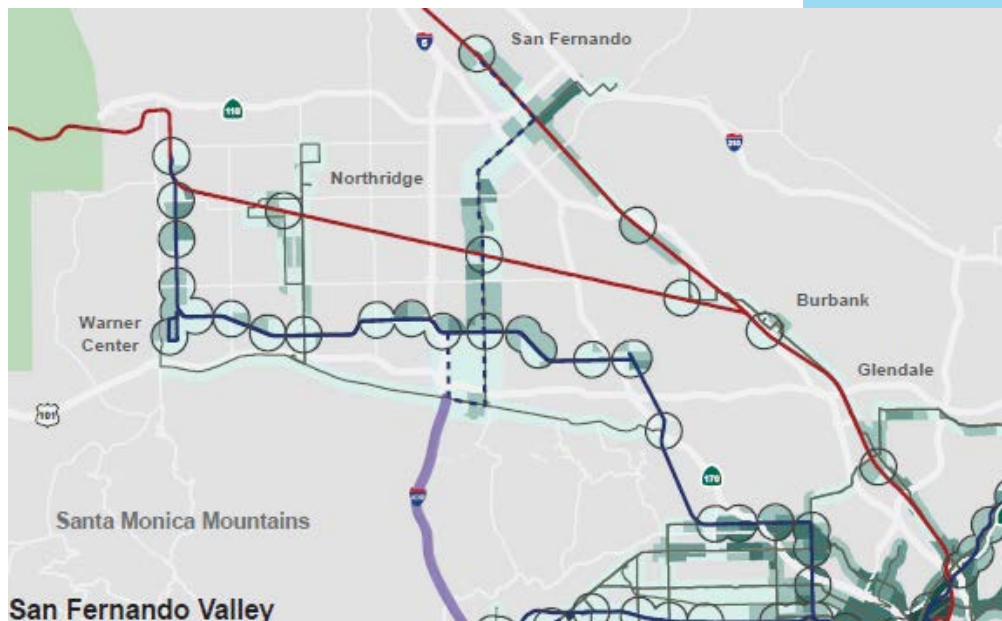
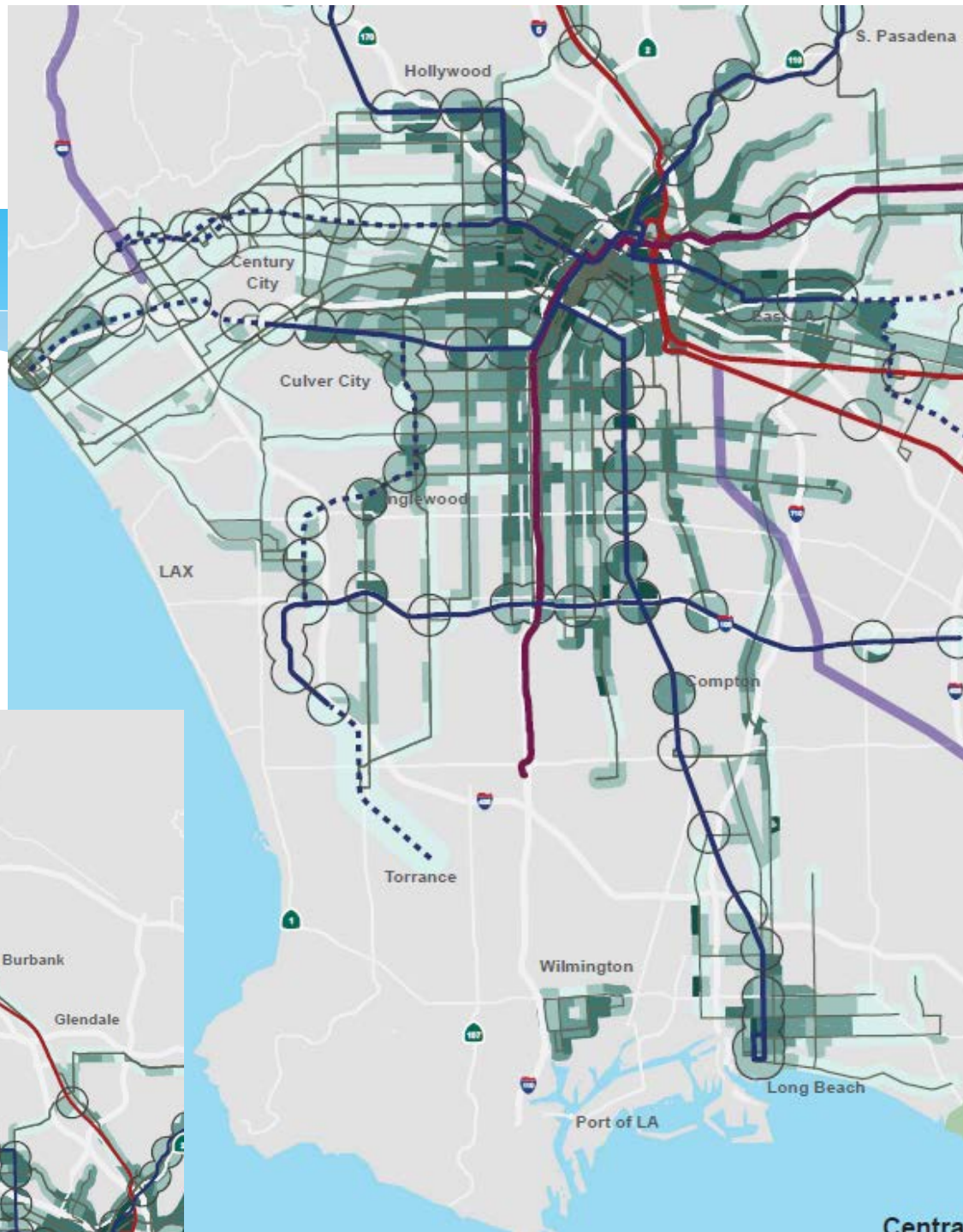
CONNECTING JOB TRAINING TO TRANSIT



WHERE LOW INCOME RESIDENTS LIVE



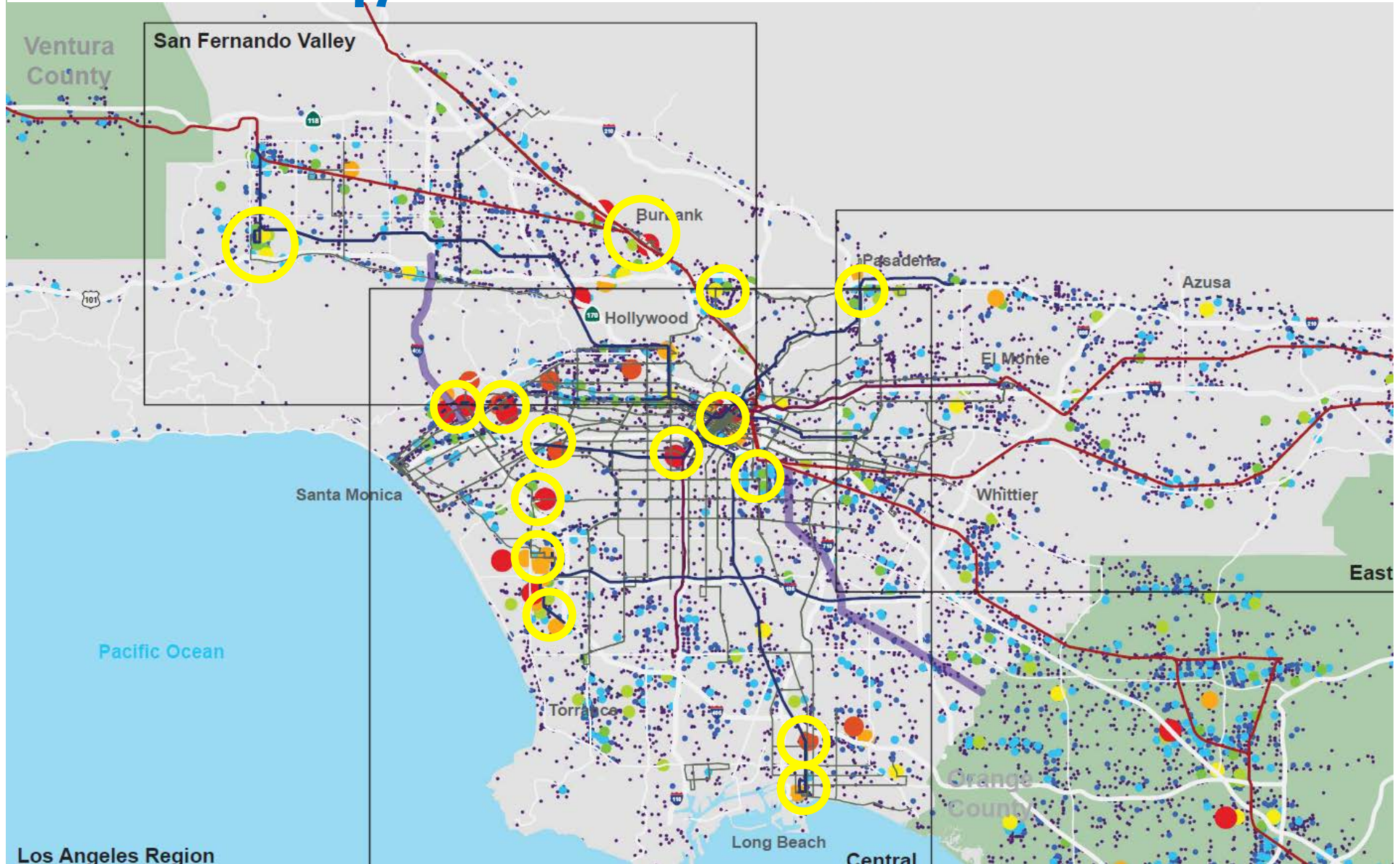
RENTAL HOUSING AFFORDABLE TO LOW INCOME RESIDENTS



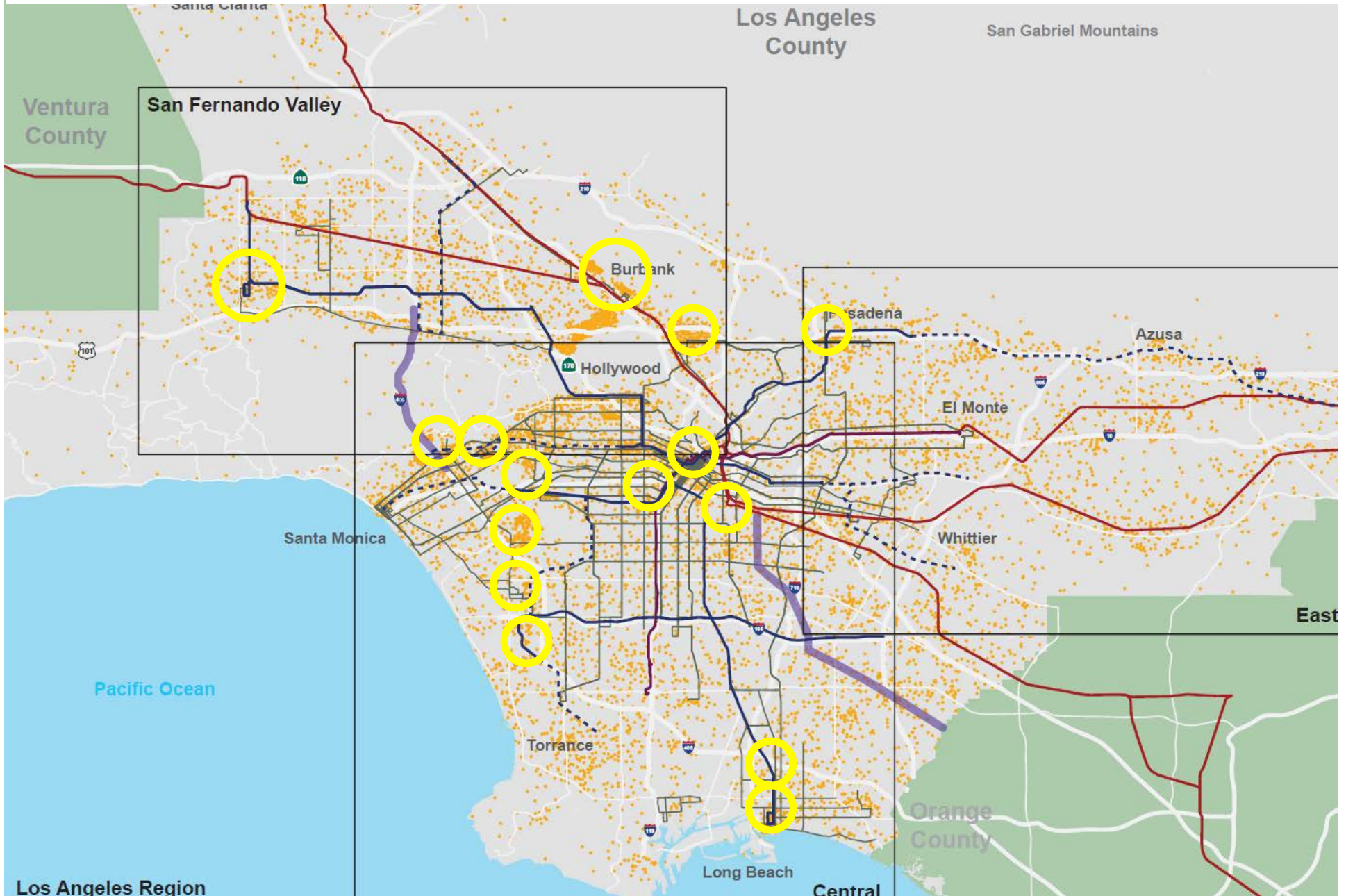
San Fernando Valley

Central

EMPLOYMENT CLUSTERS: 47% JOBS NEAR TRANSIT



LOW INCOME EMPLOYMENT



Questions?

Bill Sadler

Natural Resources Defense Council

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Website Resources:

Denver: www.denverregionalequityatlas.org

Los Angeles: www.losangelesequityatlas.org

Portland: www.equityatlas.org

Atlanta: www.atlantaequityatlas.org