# Taking the Car out of Carbon:

New Tools and Practices for Measuring the Sustainability Impacts of Land Use and Transportation Policies

Presentation to the New Partners for Smart Growth Conference, San Diego

**February 3, 2012** 

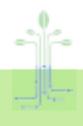
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Energy Consumption & Sustainability: Microview



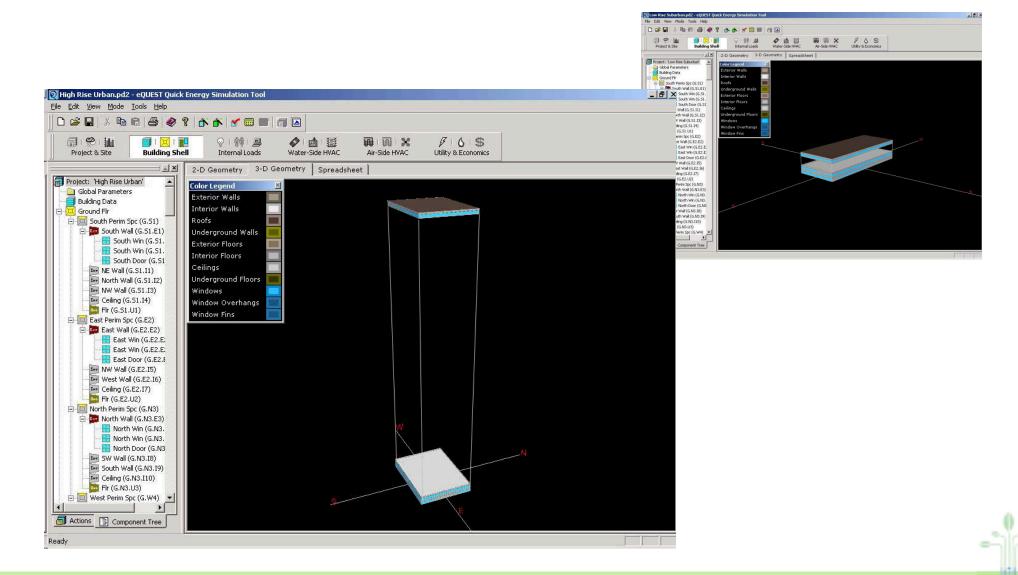
# Energy Use: High-Rise vs. Low-Rise Development



	High-Rise	Low-Rise
Number of buildings	I	10
Average floor size	30,612 sf	36,000 sf
Area of roof	88,000 sf	375,000 sf
Area of ext wall	343,000 sf	385,000 sf
Area of parking	0 sf	1,837,500 sf



# Energy Consumption: Low-Rise Office Park vs. Tall Urban Building



## Energy Use: High-Rise vs. Low-Rise Development

# 41,000 BTU/sqft-yr • 30 mi. round trip

- Diesel Bus, 4 mpg, 20 passengers
- 300 sq.ft. per person, 252 days per year

#### Commute: 210,000 BTU/sqft-yr

- 30 mi. round trip
- Private Car, 15 mpg, 1 passenger
- 300 sq.ft. per person, 252 days per year

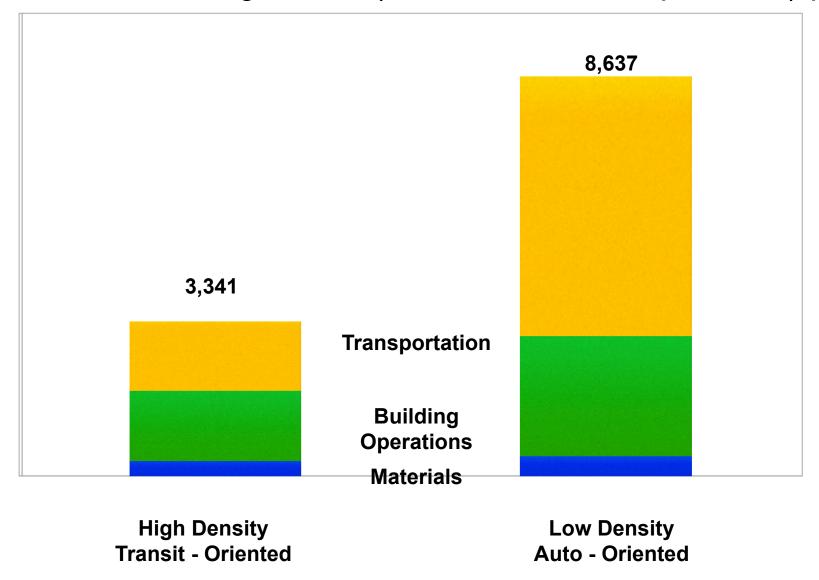
High-rise Urban

Low-rise Suburban

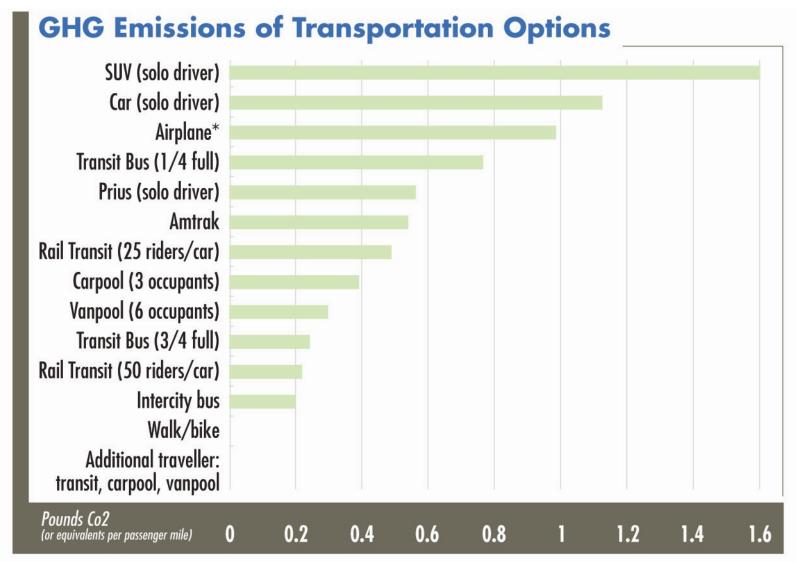


BTUs (1,000,000)

## GHG Per Person: Kg CO2E (Carbon dioxide equivalent) pa.



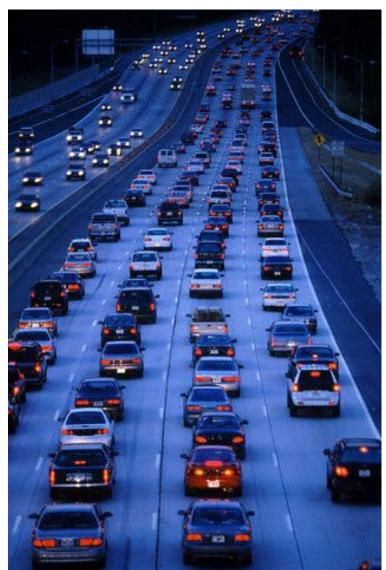




Sightline Institute (http://www.sightline.org/maps/charts/climate-CO2byMode)

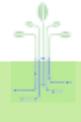
### The Choice



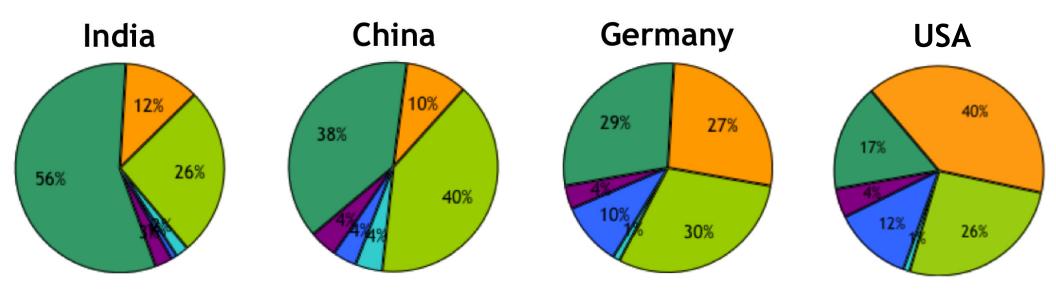




Energy Consumption & Sustainability: Macroview



## Energy Consumption by Sector, 2005



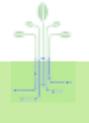


Transportation

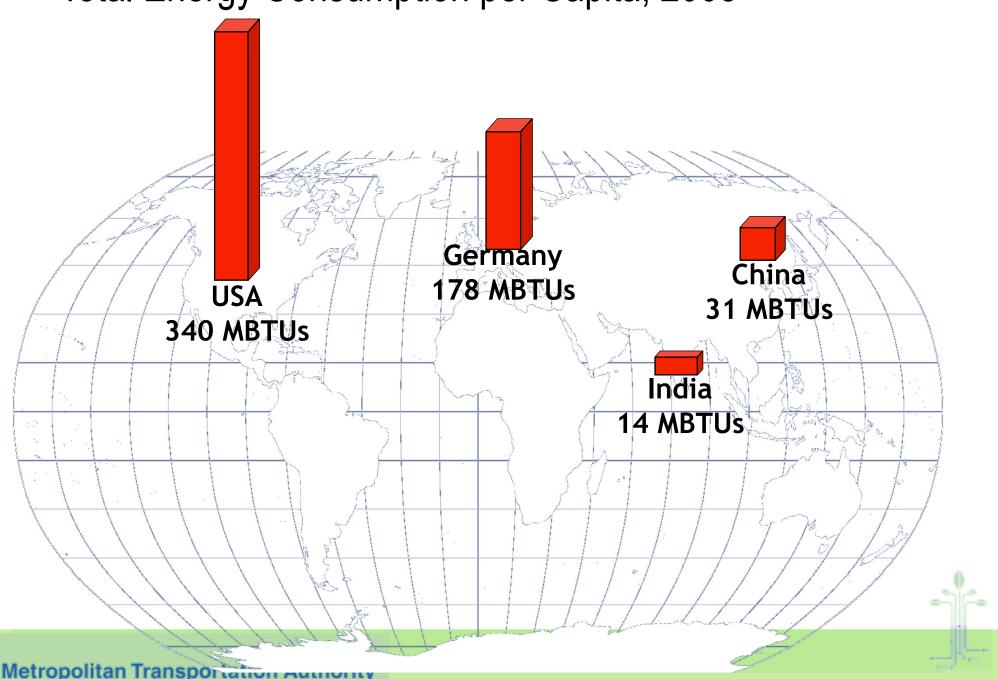
Commercial

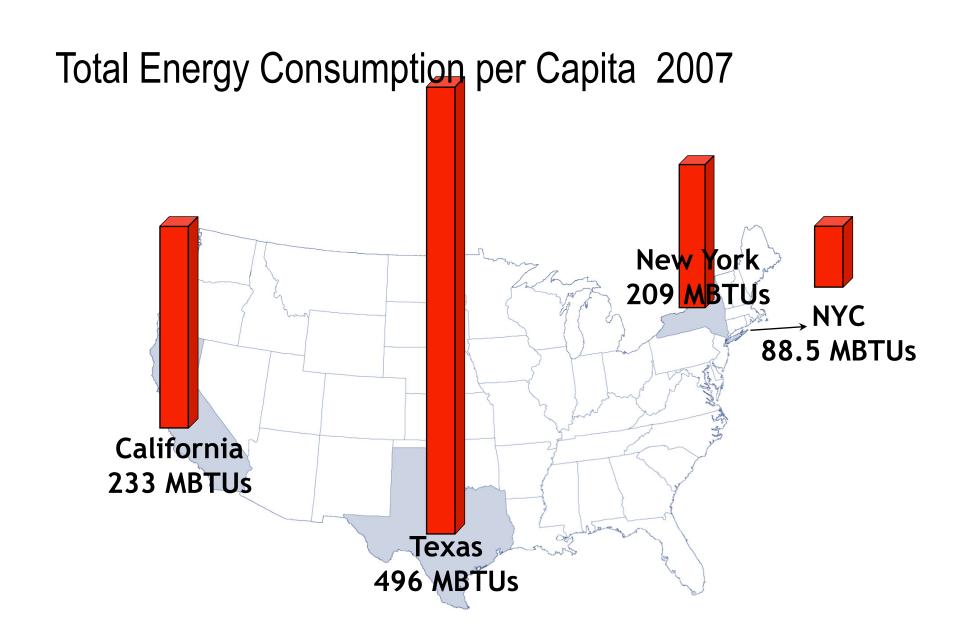
Industry Other



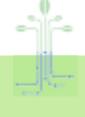


#### Total Energy Consumption per Capita, 2005

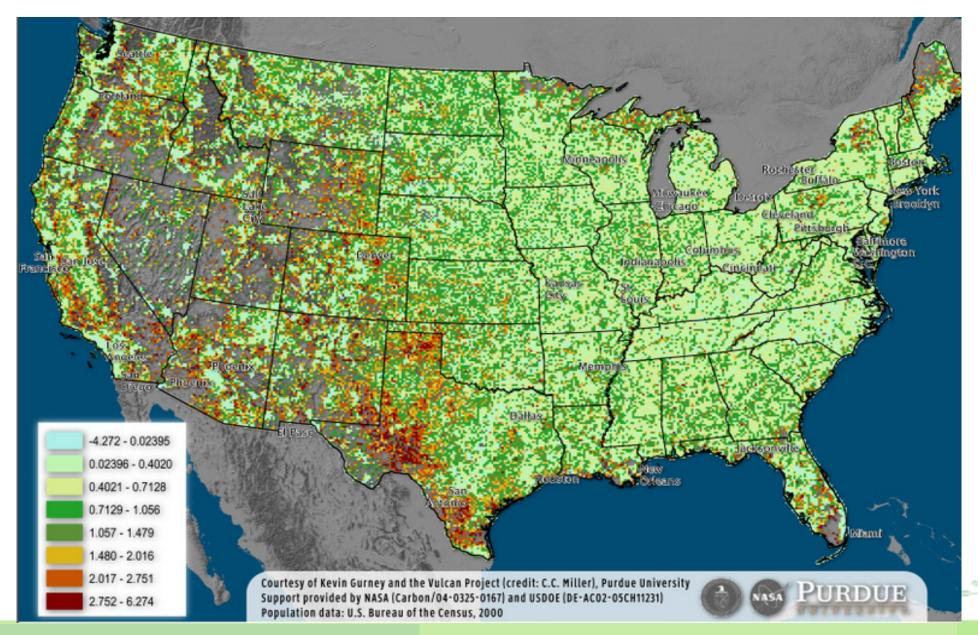








## Total Carbon Dioxide Emissions per Capita, 2002



#### The Varying Impact of Gas Prices

Gas prices are high throughout the country, but how hard they hit individual families depends on income levels, which vary widely.

PERCENT OF INCOME ON GAS GAS PRICES MEDIAN INCOME LOWEST: Hunterdon County, N.J. 2.0% 16% Percent of income spent on gasoline 10 8 Where gasoline prices hit hardest The counties where motorists spend the HIGHEST: highest percentage of their income on 5 Holmes Wilcox gasoline tend to be in poor, rural areas. While County, Miss. County, Ala. California has some of the highest gas prices, 15.6% 16.0% its residents spend a smaller fraction of their 3 income for gasoline.

#### The Varying Impact of Gas Prices

Gas prices are high throughout the country, but how hard they hit individual families depends on income levels, which vary widely.

GAS PRICES PERCENT OF INCOME ON GAS MEDIAN INCOME LOWEST: Campbell, Wyo. \$3.67 \$4.79 Average gasoline price per gallon 4.40 HIGHEST: Mono County, Calif. - 4.20 \$4.79 Where gasoline is least expensive \_\_ 4.00 Due in part to higher state taxes, California has some of the most expensive gasoline in Holmes -3.90 the country. Missouri, by comparison, has County, Miss. 3.85 some of the least expensive gasoline. \$3.82 3.80

3.67





# Who Framed Roger Rabbit?

**Judge Doom (JD):** Toontown will be erased in a matter of minutes.

**Jessica Rabbit (JR):** I suppose you think no-one will notice that Toontown has disappeared.

**JD**: Who's got time to wonder what happened to some ridiculous talking mice when you are driving by at 75 miles an hour.

**JR**: What are you talking about? There is no road past Toontown.

**JD**: Not Yet. Several months ago I had the good providence to stumble upon the plan of the City Council - a construction plan of epic proportions. They are calling it a Freeway.

**Eddie Valiant (EV):** Freeway? What the hell is a Freeway?

JD: Eight lanes of shimmering cement running from here to Pasadena. Smooth, safe, fast. Traffic jams will be a thing of the past.

EV: So that's why you killed Acme Maroon? For this Freeway? I don't get it!

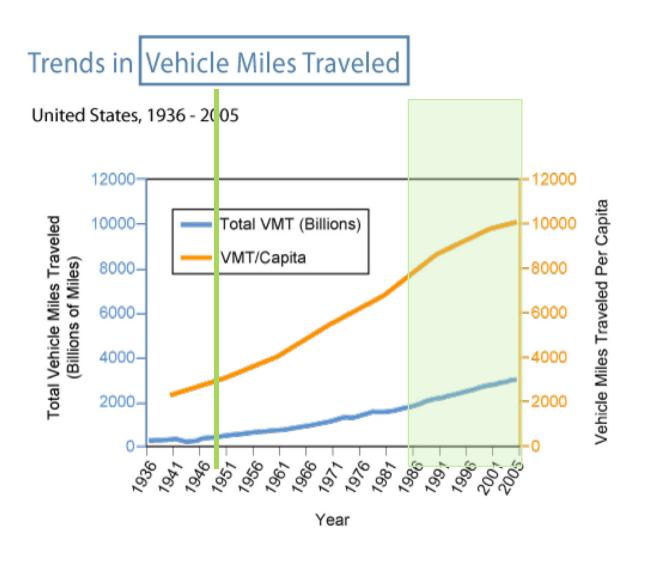
JD: Of course not, you lack vision. I see a place where people get on and off the freeway. On and off, off and on, all day, all night. (EV and JR look at each other incredulously). Soon, where Toontown once stood, will be a string of gas-stations, inexpensive motels, restaurants that serve rapidly prepared food, tire salons, automobile dealerships and wonderful, wonderful billboards reaching as far as the eye can see. My god, it'll be beautiful!

EV: C'mon. Nobody is gonna drive on this lousy freeway, when they can take the Redcar for a nickel.

JD: They'll drive, they'll have to. You see, I bought the Redcar, so that I could dismantle it.

• From "Who Framed Roger Rabbit". Robert Zemeckis, Director, 1988

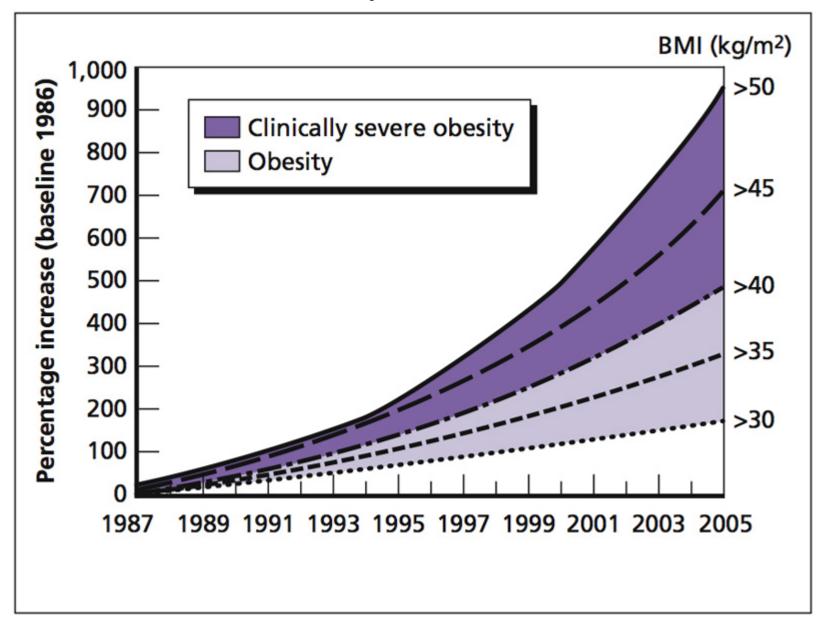
#### Vehicle Miles Traveled Trend-lines

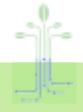


Sources: US DOT, Federal Highway Administration US Census Bureau

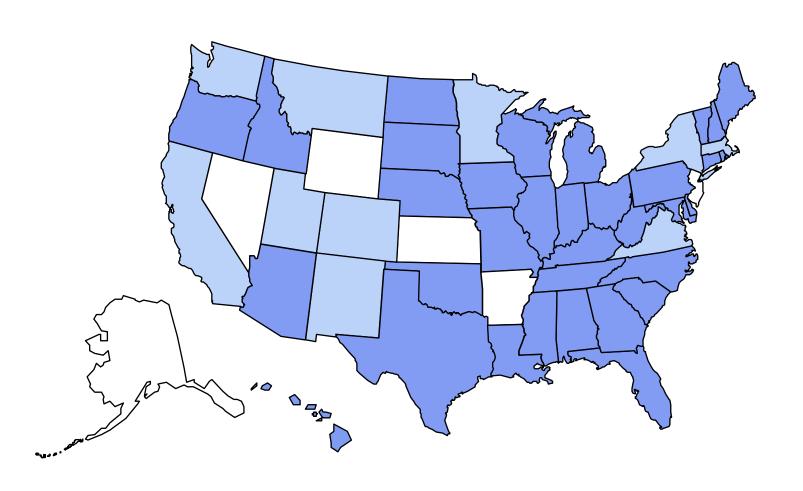


## **Obesity Trendlines**





### Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 1990

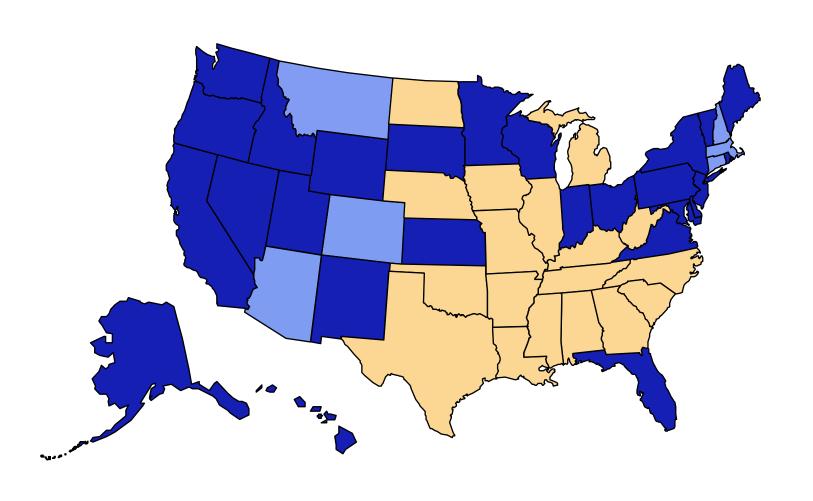


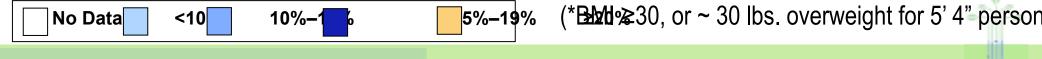


(\*BMI ≥30, or ~ 30 lbs. overweight for 5' 4" person)



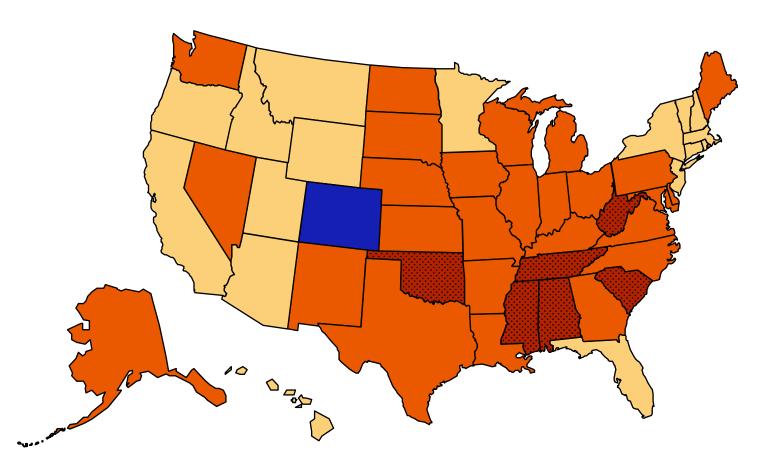
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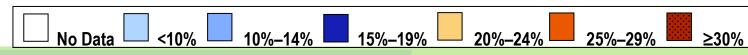




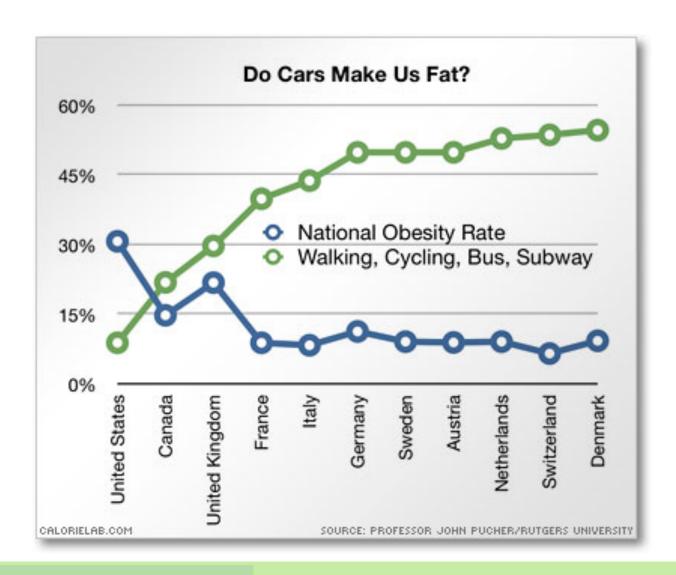
#### Obesity Trends\* Among U.S. Adults BRFSS, 2008

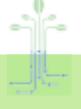


(\*BMI ≥30, or ~ 30 lbs. overweight for 5'

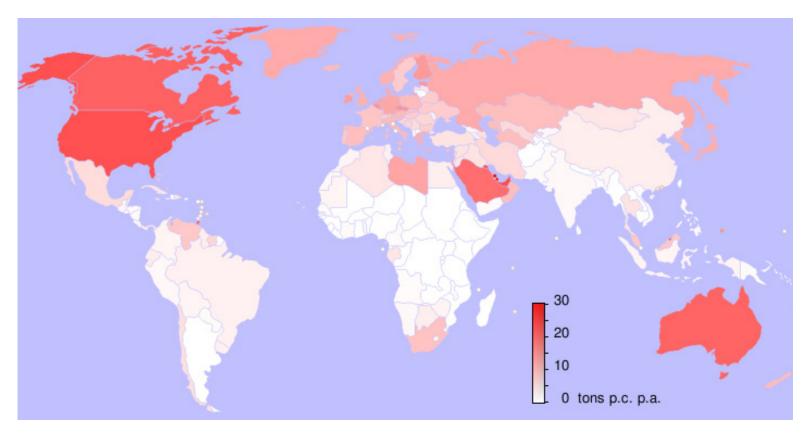


#### **Inverse Correlation**

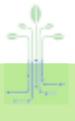




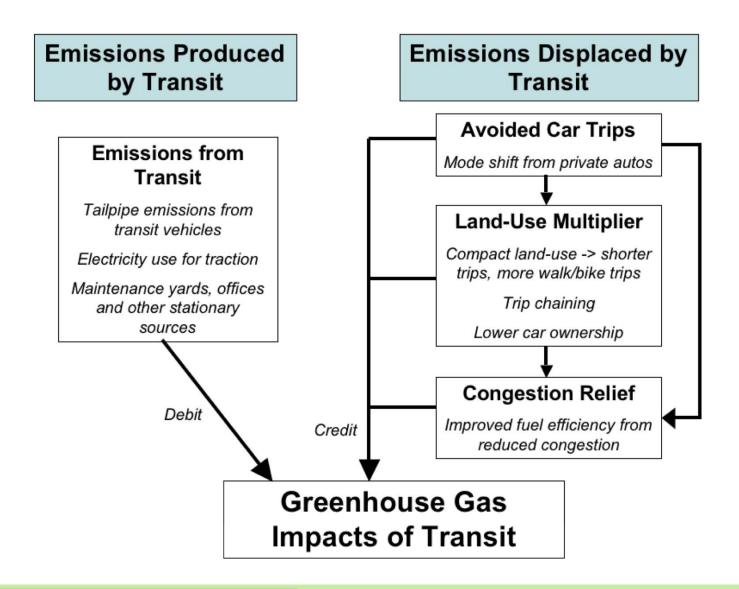
# Global Carbon Dioxide Emissions per Capita, 1990–2004



Source: US Department of Energy Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC)



## Transit GHG Emissions Typology



Total: 2.4 million metric tons

Non-Revenue Fleet -Traction

Electricity - Non-traction

**Electricity-Traction** 

**Transit Effect Multiplier = 8.24** 

For every unit of GHG that the MTA emits

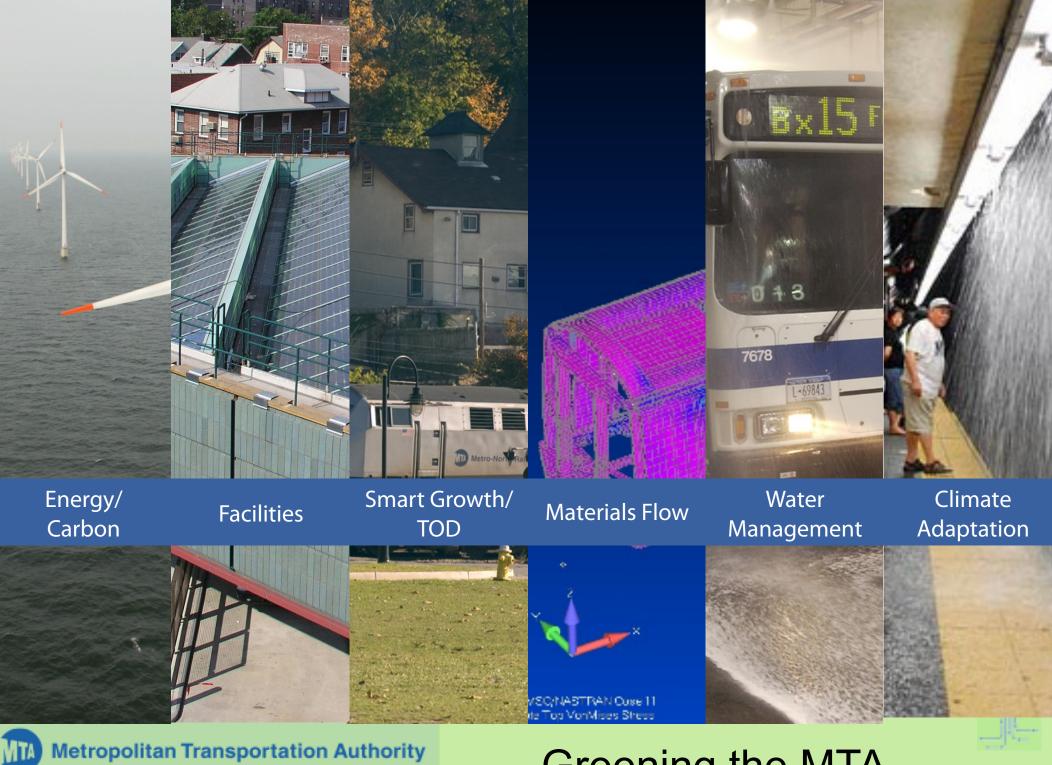
Heating - Non-traction

It helps avoid 8.24 units

In the net it helps avoid about 17 million metric tonnes

@ \$30 / ton ~ 500 million

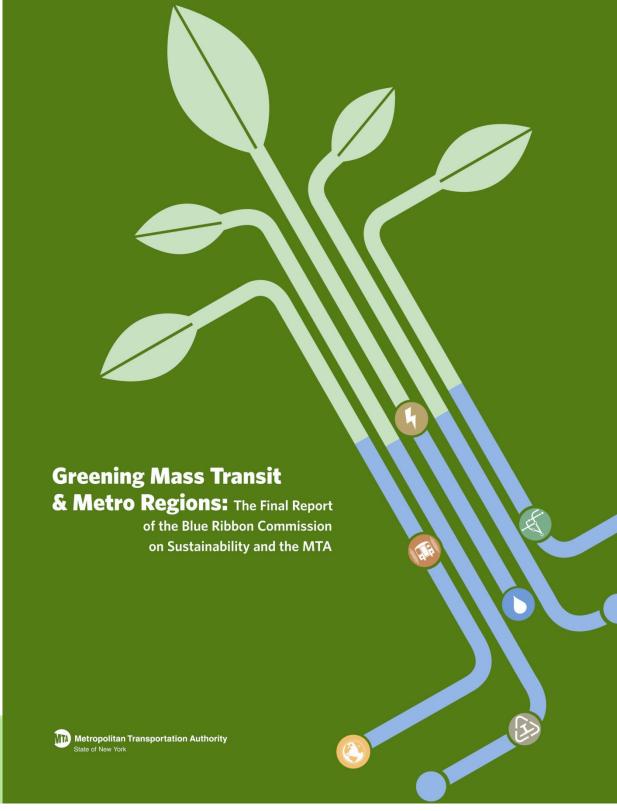
Currently un-recognized and un-compensated Fleet Fuel -Traction



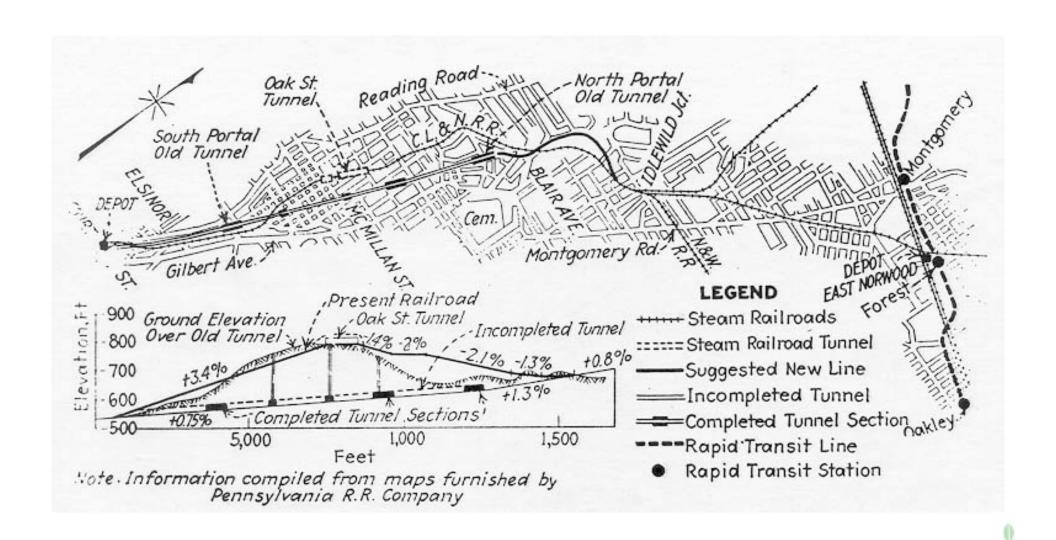
State of New York

# www.mta.info/ sustainability





## Is Transit for Everywhere? Cincinnati's Close Brush





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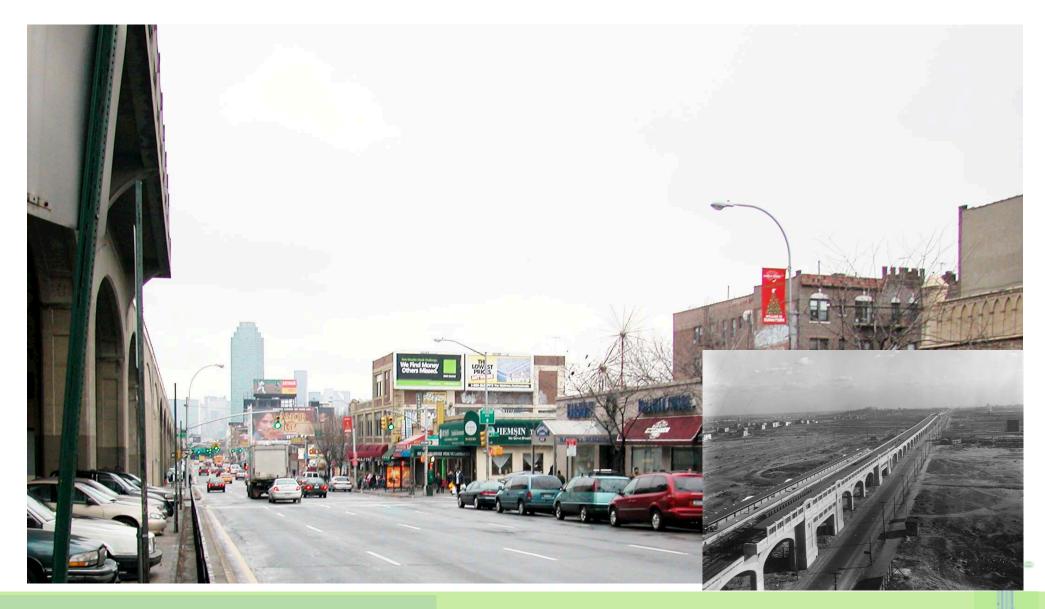




# Is Transit for Everywhere? What happened in NYC



# Is Transit for Everywhere? What happened in NYC



# Is Transit for Everywhere? Can LA become a Transit City?



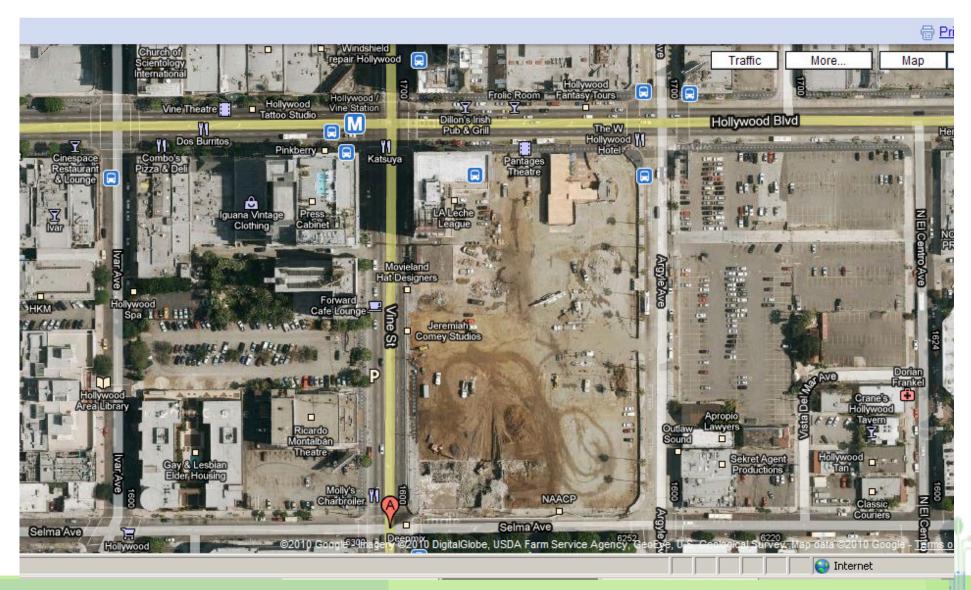


#### Is Transit for Everywhere? Can LA become a Transit City?

hollywood blvd, vine street, la

Search Maps

Show search options







#### Conclusions



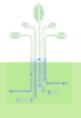












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