

The logo for the Metropolitan Planning Council, featuring two orange curved lines above the text.

Metropolitan**Planning**Council

# **Implementing CAP Transportation Strategies: Transit**

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# Importance of Transit to Communities

- Climate
- Public Health
- Economic Development
- Equity
- Aging in Place
- More efficient land uses (walkable/transit-oriented areas) improve municipal finances

# Electrification is Not Enough

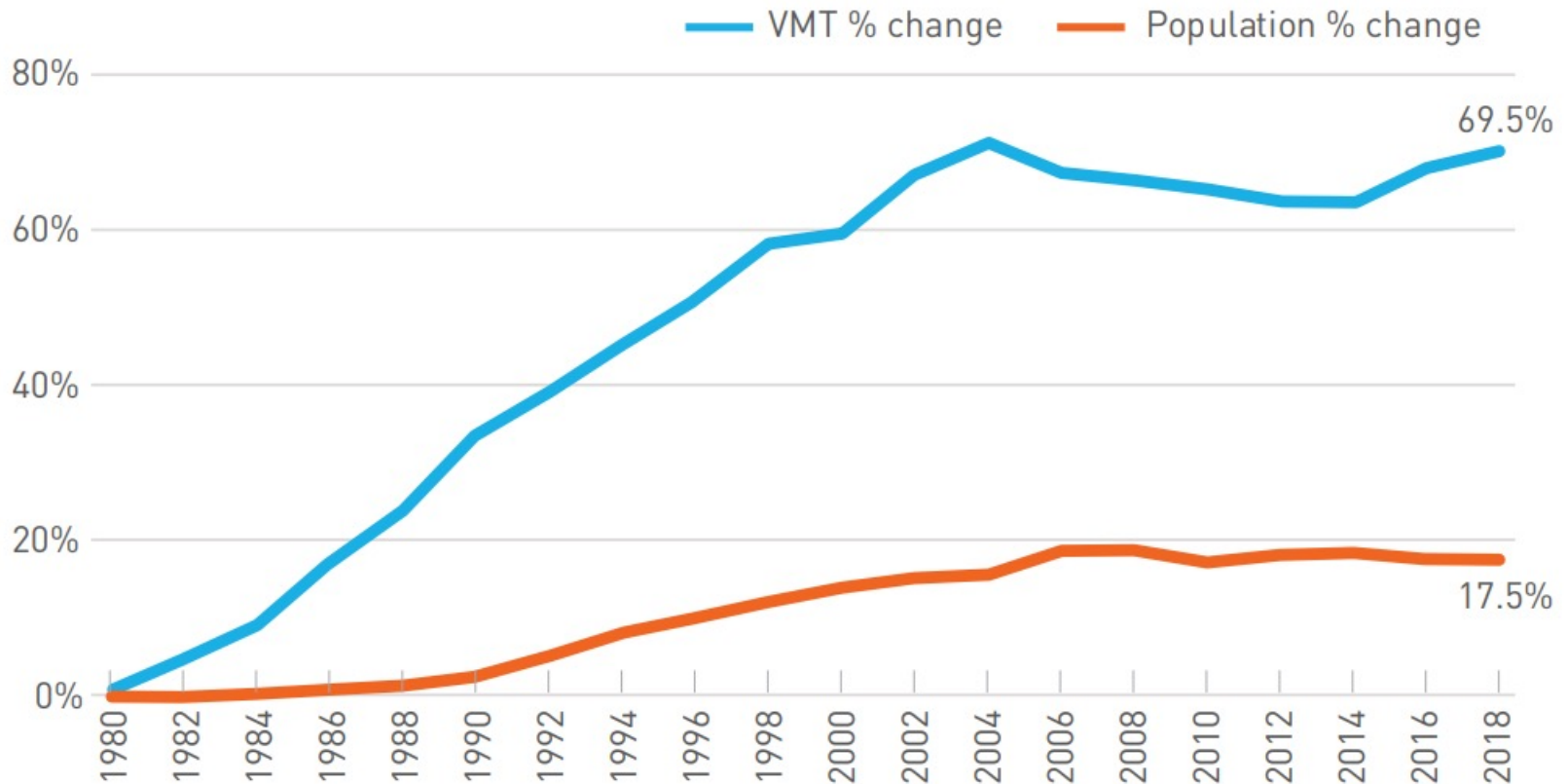
“We’ll never achieve ambitious climate targets or create more livable and equitable communities if we don’t find ways to allow people to get around outside of a car.”

—*Driving Down Emissions,*  
Transportation for America



# Vehicle Miles Traveled Trends vs Population

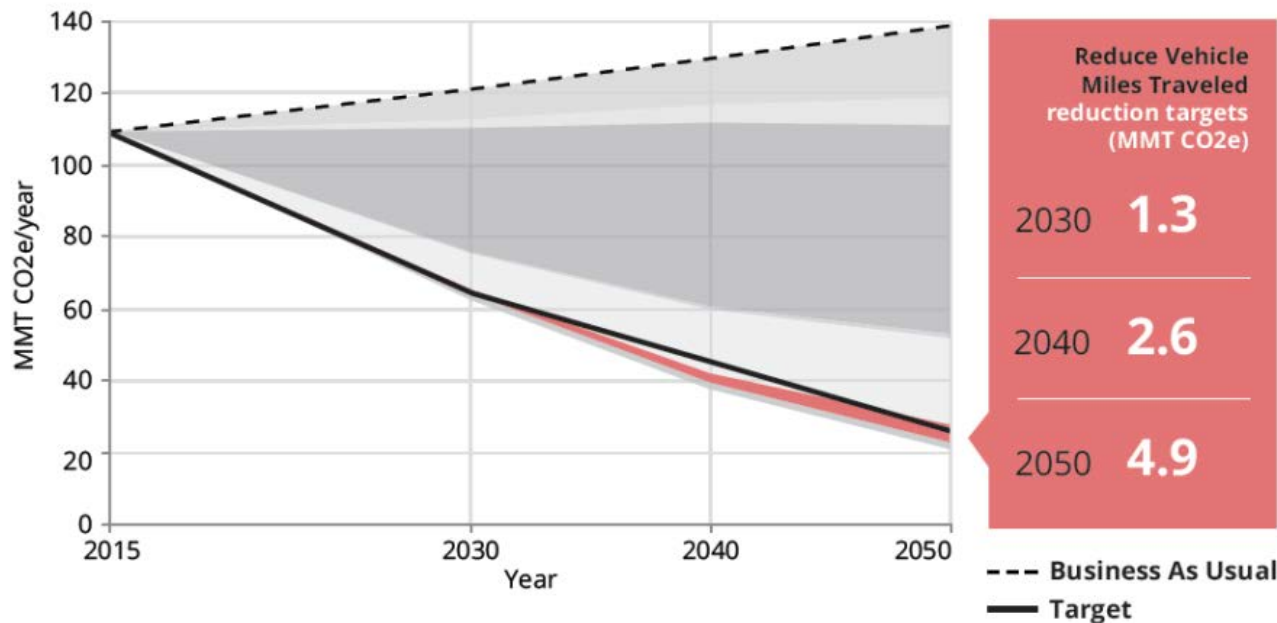
Percent change in VMT and population relative to 1980 for the Chicago region



Source: Active Transportation Alliance 2020 Regional Mode Share Report

Data: US Census, IDOT

# Climate Action Plan Target: Reduce VMT



*Maintaining, or even doubling, the rate of reduction observed between 2010 and 2015 would be insufficient for achieving the climate stabilization target.*

# Climate Action Plan: Strategies to Reduce VMT



## LEAD

- Build and maintain safe, resilient, and accessible active transportation infrastructure (also *Encourage* others to do so)



## ENCOURAGE

- Collaborate to enhance regional transit and expand capacity
- Encourage walking, biking and transit use through education, incentives, and collaboration



## ENACT

- Prioritize transit-oriented and transit-supportive development and curtail sprawl
- Plan and design roadways and corridors to benefit all road users and promote active transportation
- Strategically manage parking policies to promote active and public transportation
- Promote multi-family housing development near transit stations and along transit routes








## EQUITY CONSIDERATIONS

- Focus on safe and accessible transportation for vulnerable communities
- Reduce burden of owning and maintaining personal vehicles
- Better health outcomes
- Greater mobility to improve access to opportunity

## OUTCOMES & CO-BENEFITS

- Development of more compact, accessible neighborhoods
- More walking and biking strengthens community cohesion
- Improve health and wellness
- Reduce infrastructure needed to support SOVs
- Reduce traffic congestion
- Improve air quality

Source: Climate Action Plan, p. 33

	Strategy	Municipal Role	Solution Status	GHG Reduction Potential	Cost	Effort Required	Lead Partners & Resources	Achieve Equity	Outcomes (Co-benefits)
a	Prioritize transit-oriented development and transit-supportive development.	 ENACT	Evolving	High	\$\$	High	RTA, CMAP, developers, property owners, economic development organizations	Focus on safe and accessible transportation for vulnerable communities.	Development of more compact, accessible neighborhoods; community cohesion strengthened; burden of owning and maintaining personal vehicle lessened
b	Promote multi-family housing development near transit stations and along transit routes.	 ENACT	Proven		\$	Med			
c	Collaborate to enhance regional transit and expand capacity.	 ENCOURAGE	Proven	Combined High	\$\$\$	High	CTA, RTA, pace, Metra		Reduced traffic congestion; improved air quality; improved access to economic opportunity through greater mobility
d	Plan and design roadways and corridors to benefit all road users and promote active transportation.	 ENACT	Proven		\$\$	High	IDOT, RTA, counties	Provide safe and accessible transportation for all.	Safe active transportation; connected communities; reduced tailpipe emissions; improved health and wellness; reduced infrastructure demands for personal vehicles
e	Build and maintain safe, resilient, and accessible active transportation infrastructure.	 LEAD ENCOURAGE	Proven		\$\$	High	IDOT, counties, forest preserve districts, park districts, non profits, COGs	Target disadvantaged communities for investment and education.	
f	Encourage walking, biking and transit use through education, incentives, and collaboration.	 ENCOURAGE	Proven		\$	Low	School districts, non profits, employers, local businesses, institutions, CTA, RTA, Metra, pace		
g	Strategically manage parking policies to promote active and public transportation.	 ENACT	Evolving		\$	Med	Local businesses, economic development organizations, CTA, RTA, Metra, pace	Provide safe and accessible transportation for all.	Reduced use of personal vehicles, increased active transportation

# Transit and Public Health

- New or expanded public transportation options can improve health and health equity by reducing traffic crashes and air pollution, increasing physical activity, and improving access to medical care, healthy food, vital services, employment, and social connection.
  - Centers for Disease Control



**Increasing access to safer and healthier modes of transport**





## Connecting Activity-Friendly Routes to Everyday Destinations

An activity-friendly route is one that is a direct and convenient connection with everyday destinations, offering protection from cars, or making it easy to cross the street. Everyday destinations are places people can get to from where they live by walking, bicycling, or public transit. These destinations can include grocery stores, schools, libraries, parks, restaurants, cultural and natural landmarks, or healthcare facilities. Below are six examples of connecting activity-friendly routes to everyday destinations.



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
National Center for Chronic Disease Prevention and Health Promotion

For more information about the Community Preventive Services Task Force recommendation, visit [www.thecommunityguide.org/findings/physical-activity-built-environment-approaches](http://www.thecommunityguide.org/findings/physical-activity-built-environment-approaches) and [www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/community-strategies](http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/community-strategies)

<http://www.cdc.gov/physicalactivity/community-strategies/physicalactivity/community-strategies/besctive/visual-guide.html>

CS 2011-48-A March 2016

### Activity-Friendly Routes

Pedestrian, Bicycle, and Transit Transportation Systems

### Everyday Destinations

Land Use and Environmental Design



# Transit Means Business

- Businesses are choosing to locate near transit to access larger labor pools;
- Locations near transit offer businesses increased resiliency;
- Transit-accessible locations outperform the regional average on job growth, especially near rail.



# Pace Pulse – Enhanced Bus



# Equity

## There are more carless people than you might think

**13 percent of households in the region have no vehicle**

**2.6 million adults “unmatched” to a personal vehicle**

**-40%** of the adult population



# Universal Mobility

- Nearly everyone will face disability impacting mobility - either themselves or as a caregiver - at some point
- Our system must work for people of all ages and abilities



## TOWARD UNIVERSAL MOBILITY:

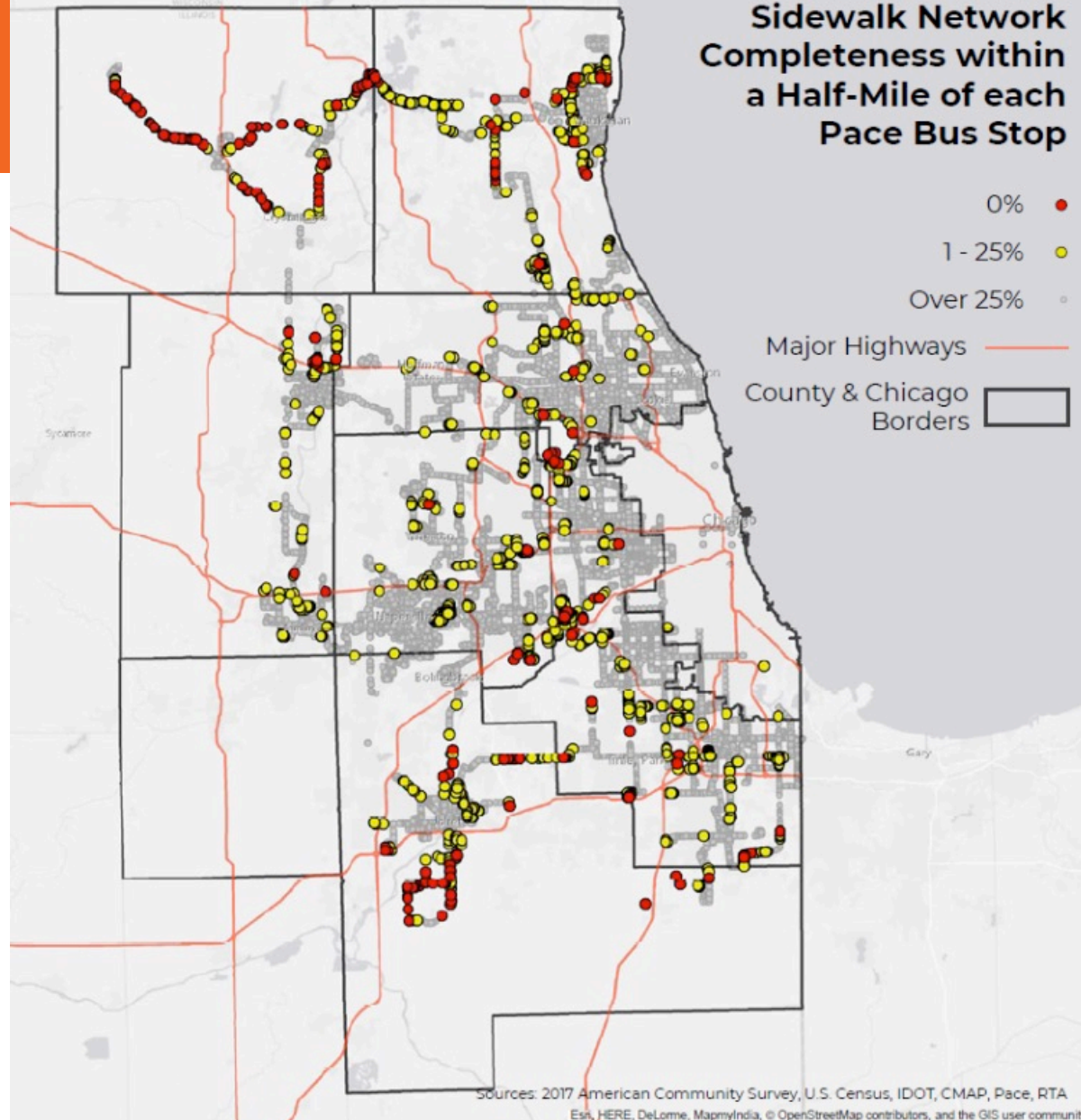
Charting a Path to Improve Transportation Accessibility

December 2019

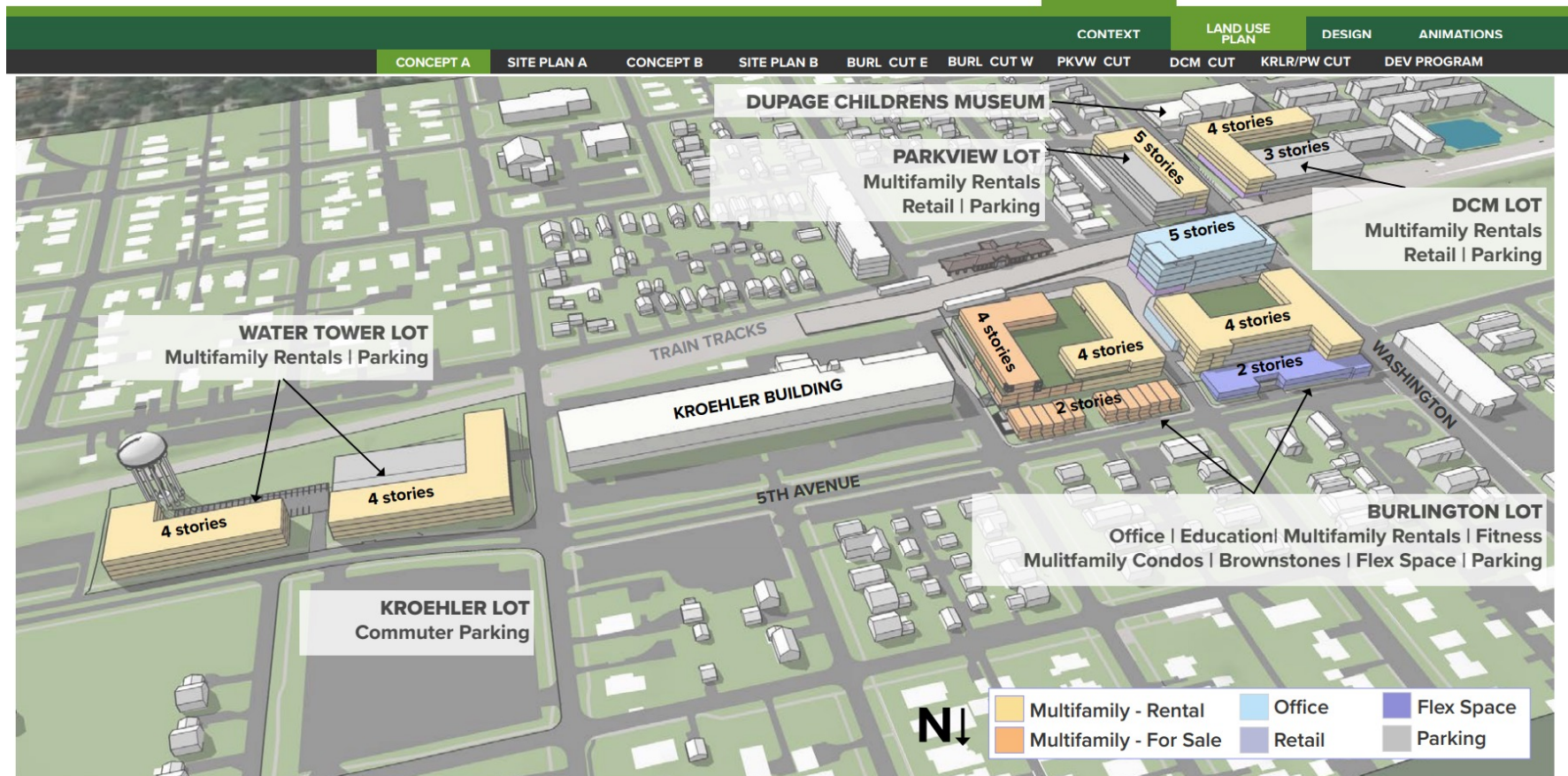
# Transit and Walkability – A Critical Community Partnership



## Sidewalk Network Completeness within a Half-Mile of each Pace Bus Stop



# Equitable Transit-Oriented Development



# How can we make transit work better for communities?

- What do your residents need?
- What would make transit more attractive?
- What are barriers we need to address?