



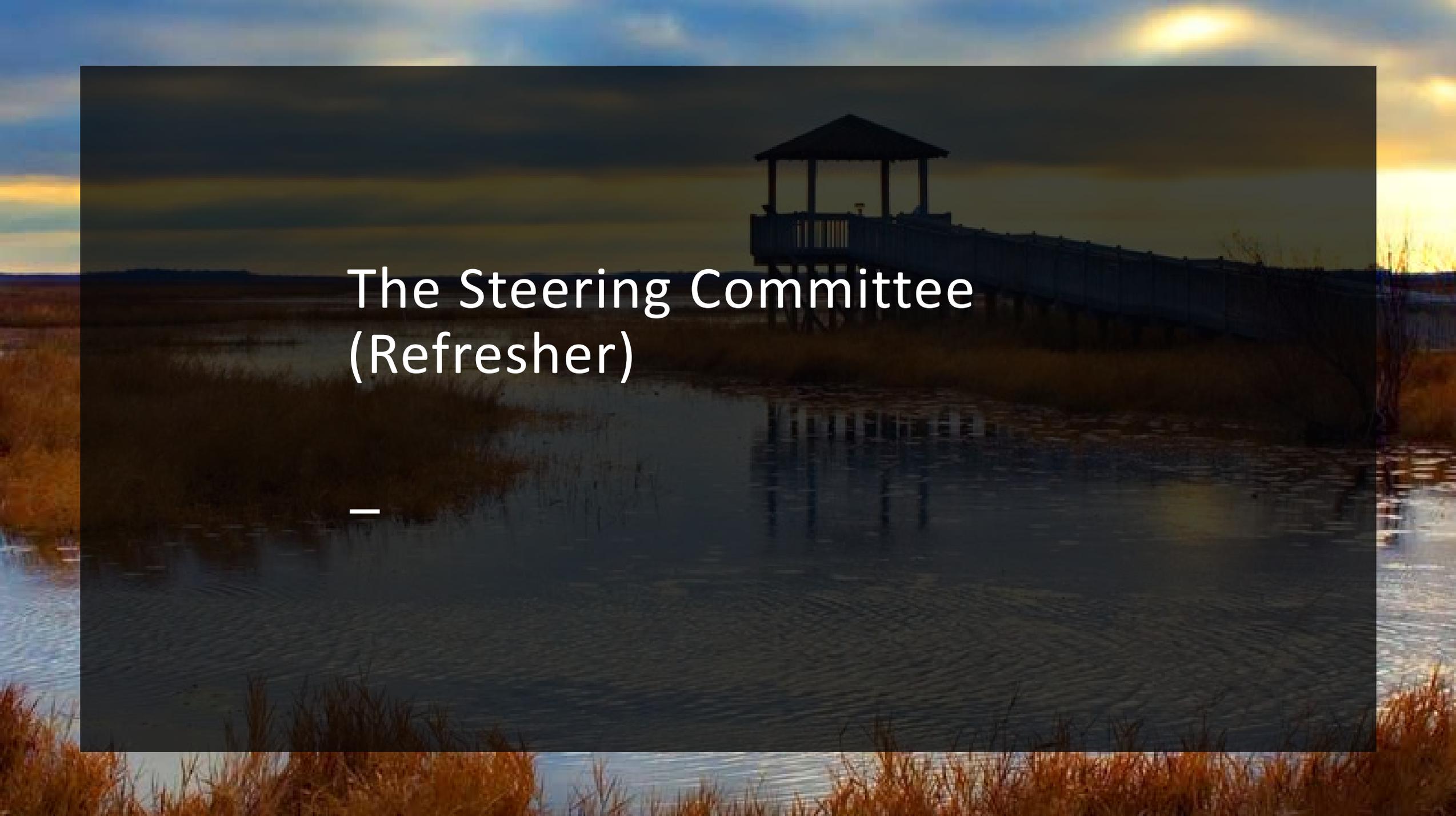
The Sallier Oak
credit: Sandra Scott

Welcome!

Our Agenda (7.23.18)

Thank you for being here – this is what we'll cover this morning:

1. Roundtable Introductions
2. Summary of Engagement Results
3. The Existing Conditions + Directions
4. Concept Design Locations
5. Next Steps



The Steering Committee (Refresher)

—

Steering Committee

Roles and Objectives



Attend!

**Our Meetings are
Better**



Talk!

Tell People about this



Steer!

Make Decisions with
Us



Inform!

You Know this Place

An aerial photograph of a waterfront city, likely Tallahassee, Florida. The foreground is dominated by a large, calm body of water with several white boats and yachts. In the middle ground, a long, modern, multi-story building with a grid-like facade sits along the water's edge. Behind it, a dense urban area with various buildings and green spaces is visible. The sky is clear and blue. The text "Summary of Engagement Results" is overlaid in white on a dark semi-transparent background.

Summary of Engagement Results

—



Achievements

getting the band back together

25

SYMPOSIUM
PARTICIPANTS

642

ROBOCALL
SURVEYS

40

FOCUS GROUP
PARTICIPANTS

642

SURVEY
RESPONDENTS

— Engagement Efforts



PROJECT SYMPOSIUM

[04.12.18]

01. Symposium

Conducted in mid-April, and consisted of back-to-back work sessions. Approximately 25 attendees.

03. Focus Groups

Six focus groups conducted in two sessions (June and April, 2018). Approximately 40 attendees participate in detailed discussions.

02. Robocall Survey

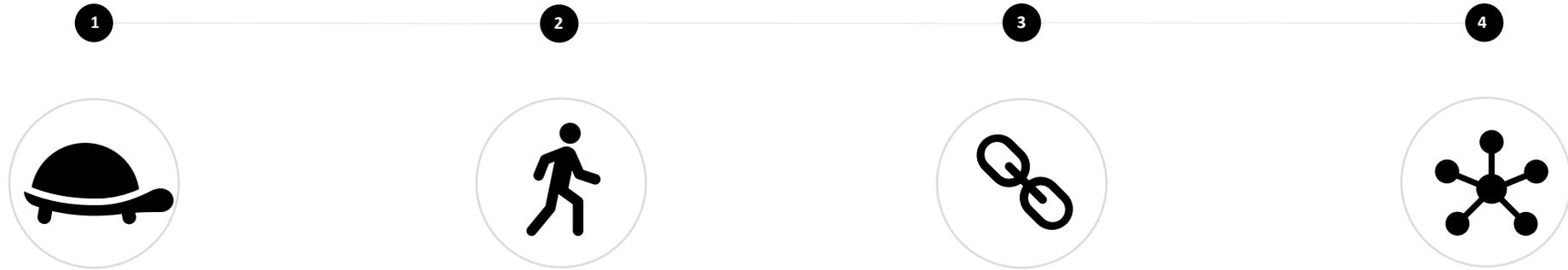
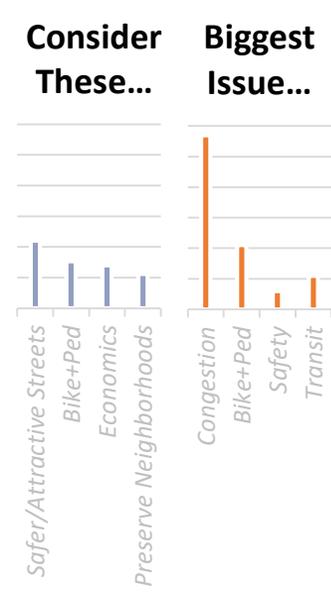
Conducted in late February, consisting of 11 questions. Exactly 642 respondents completed the survey.

04. On-Line

Both the website and an on-line survey accessed through it were used to generate 642 completed surveys.

Engagement Results

...and what we will use the engagement to do in the plans



Congestion is King

We'll use inputs to help identify concept designs and locations for other types of recommendations

Multi-Modal Transportation

Separate bike facilities, more sidewalks, and expansion of transit coverage (long-term) should influence the project recommendations

Policies

Connecting land development to transportation impacts and needs; aesthetics, safety, and neighborhood preservation are important, too

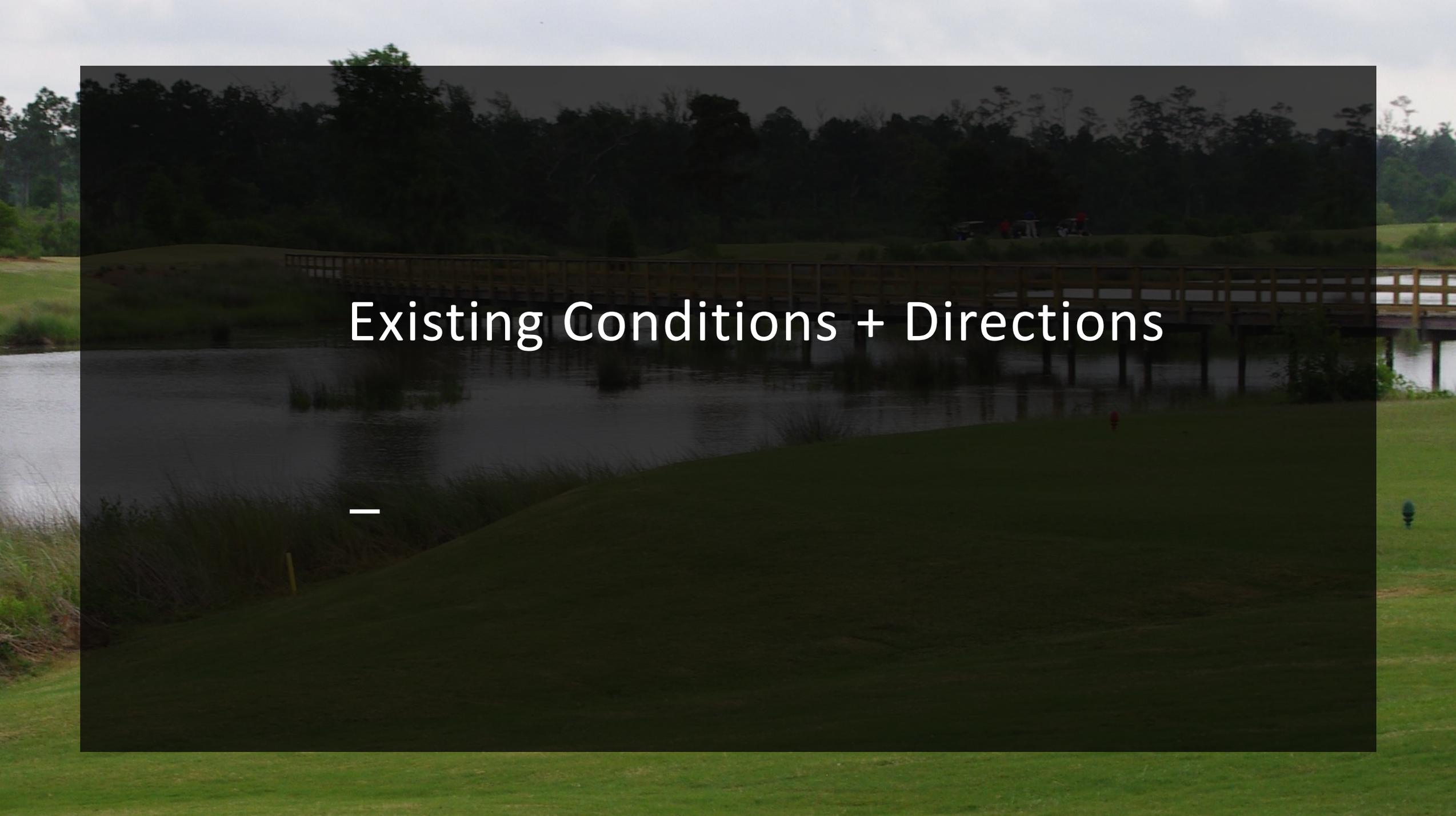
Connections

Technology, existing and ongoing plans, and changing conditions here (and elsewhere) need to be considered



Going Forward...

- Continue to reference back to this information, and create a “feedback” piece in the plans to let people know we listened.
- Second round of engagement will focus on feedback for draft recommendations.
- Re-think the formula for the next symposium / workshop.

A photograph of a golf course landscape. In the foreground, there is a green grassy slope. A body of water, possibly a pond or lake, is in the middle ground. A wooden bridge with railings spans across the water. In the background, there is a clubhouse building and a dense line of trees under a cloudy sky.

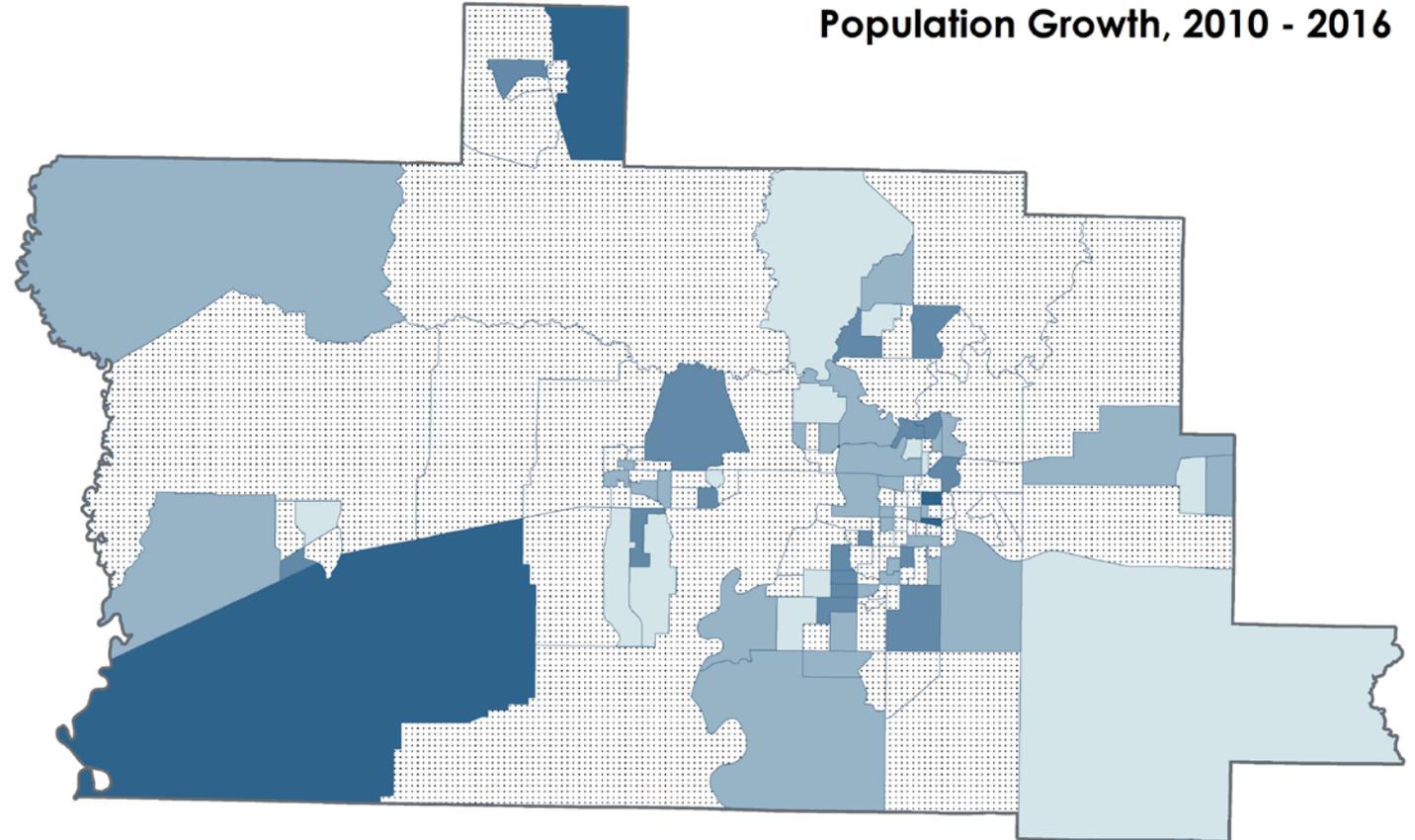
Existing Conditions + Directions

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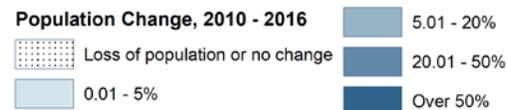
Existing Conditions: Demographics

Who lives in Calcasieu Parish?

- The Parish is growing
 - Currently around 200,000 people
 - Grew faster than the state since 2010
 - Iowa has the smallest population share, but grew the most in recent years
 - Population change is not consistent across Calcasieu →
- Like many places nationwide, the population is aging, translating to frequencies of crashes, types of service, and design considerations
- Housing is increasing too
 - And vacancy is low
 - Homeownership is high...except in Lake Charles, where nearly half of households are rented



Legend



Existing Conditions: Roadways

What is the road system like?

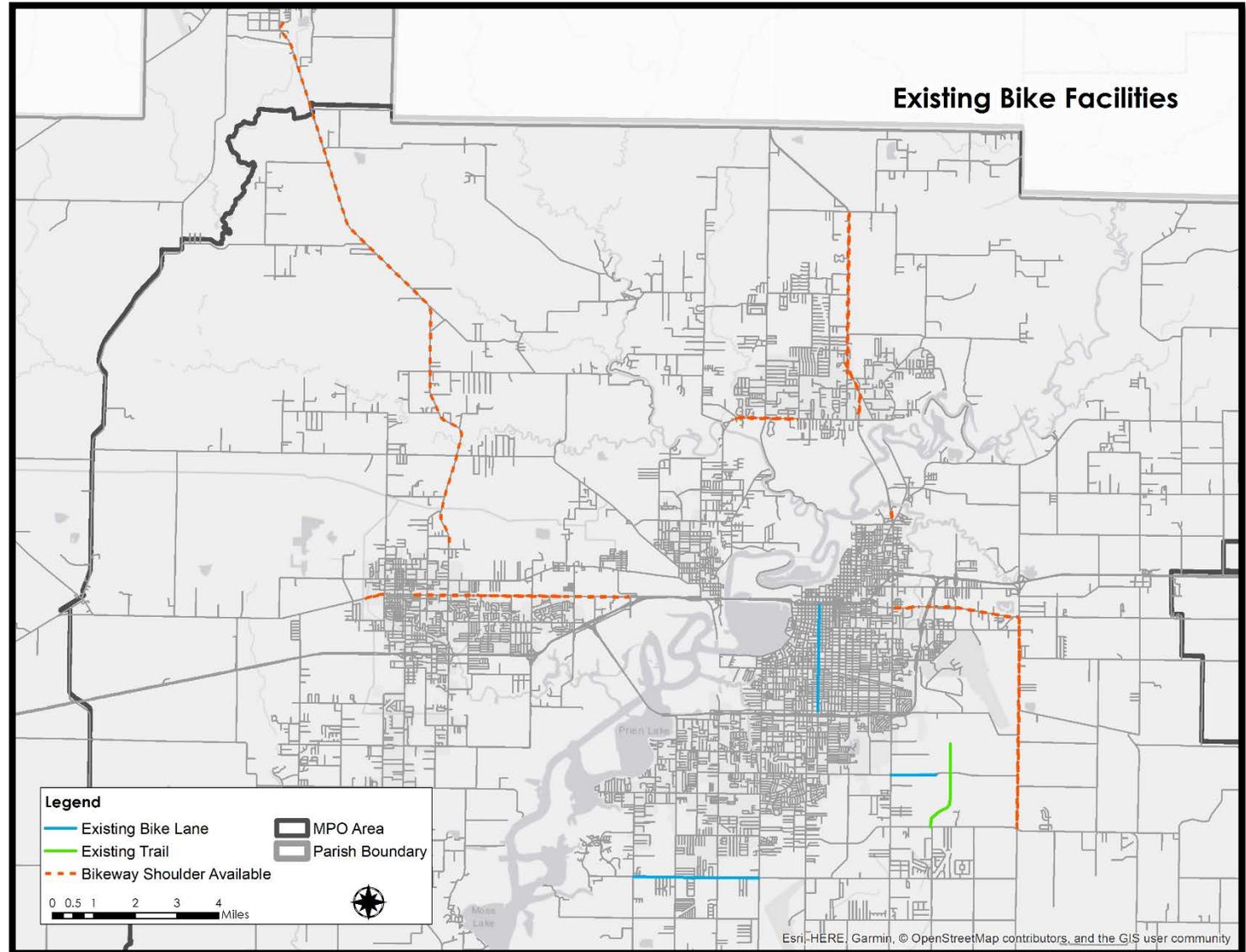
- Congestion is a concern on major routes, and may continue to increase
 - Portions of I-10, I-210, 27, 90, and other major routes show high and/or increasing levels of congestion
- Accidents are also increasing
 - The majority of accidents occur within Lake Charles
 - Segments and intersections along Lake Street, Prien Lake Road, Ryan Street, McNeese Street, and Nelson Street are accident-heavy
- Freight has a big impact
 - Average annual daily truck traffic (AADTT) is higher in Calcasieu than in the state
 - Freight routes on I-10, LA 27, I-210, US 90, LA 12, and Nelson Rd are projected to increase significantly by 2045



Existing Conditions: Other Modes

Is there sufficient infrastructure for safe walking and biking, and for using transit?

- Bike lanes are somewhat limited, but shoulder may be available for more
 - Currently: Gauthier Rd., E McNeese St., and Kirkman St.
- Sidewalks are plentiful within Lake Charles...but limited elsewhere
- The transit network only serves Lake Charles
 - Ridership was up slightly over the past 5 years, but so were operating expenses
- Safety is a concern
 - Calcasieu is ranked 6th in the state in terms of total bike and pedestrian crashes
 - Pedestrian crashes in particular increased substantially over the past 10 years

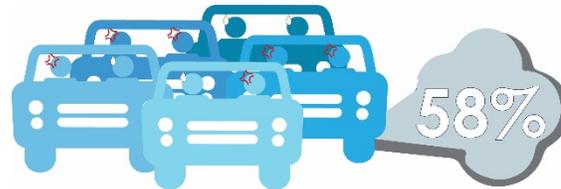


Existing Conditions: Public Feedback

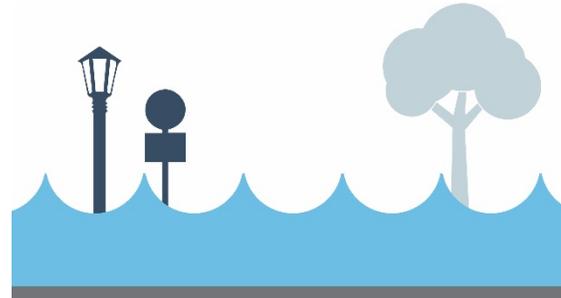
What did Calcasieu citizens and stakeholders tell us about transportation in their community?

- Some overall trends
 - Congestion was the largest concern
 - Transit in general is not used
 - Coordination of development and transportation is important
 - Connectivity (of all modes) is desired
 - More bike lanes and sidewalks are needed
 - Plants generate a ton of traffic and safety issues
- Over 1,200 total people reached
 - 600+ online and paper surveys →
 - 600+ Robocall surveys
 - Plus small focus groups (40+)

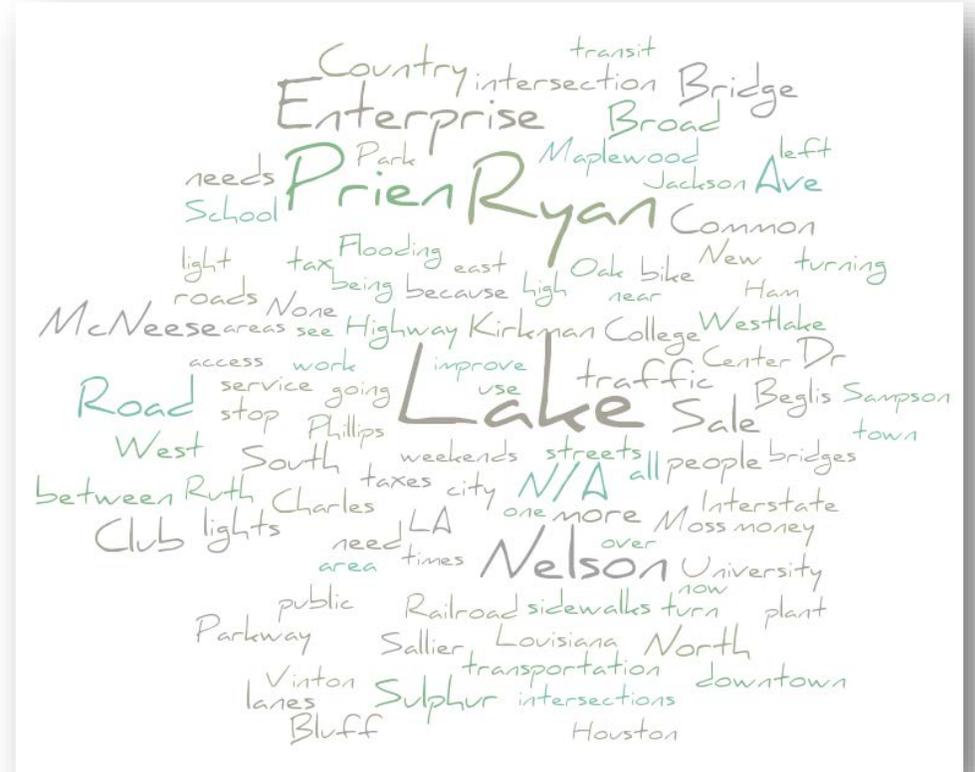
53% of respondents think the transportation system in the region is **worse** now than 5 years ago



of respondents find **congestion** to be the biggest problem with the current system



69% of respondents were unsatisfied with the amount of street flooding in the area



A photograph of a golf course landscape. In the foreground, there is a green grassy slope. A body of water, possibly a pond or lake, is in the middle ground. A wooden bridge with railings spans across the water. In the background, there is a clubhouse building and a dense line of trees under a cloudy sky.

Concept Design Locations (8)

—

Directions: **Concept** Designs

What constitutes a good location for one of our eight concept designs?

It can be fixed

The solution shouldn't hurt more than the problem



It's not already being addressed

If there's a study in play we shouldn't duplicate efforts



Might be multi-modal

Biking, walking, public transit should all be considered



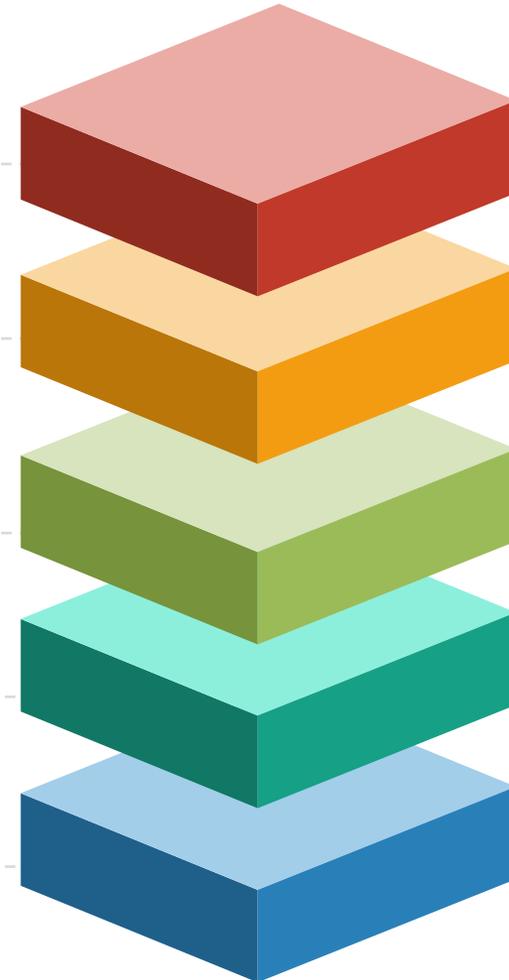
It doesn't require a wizard

This is CONCEPT design – no surveying, etc. is going to happen (yet)



A new problem

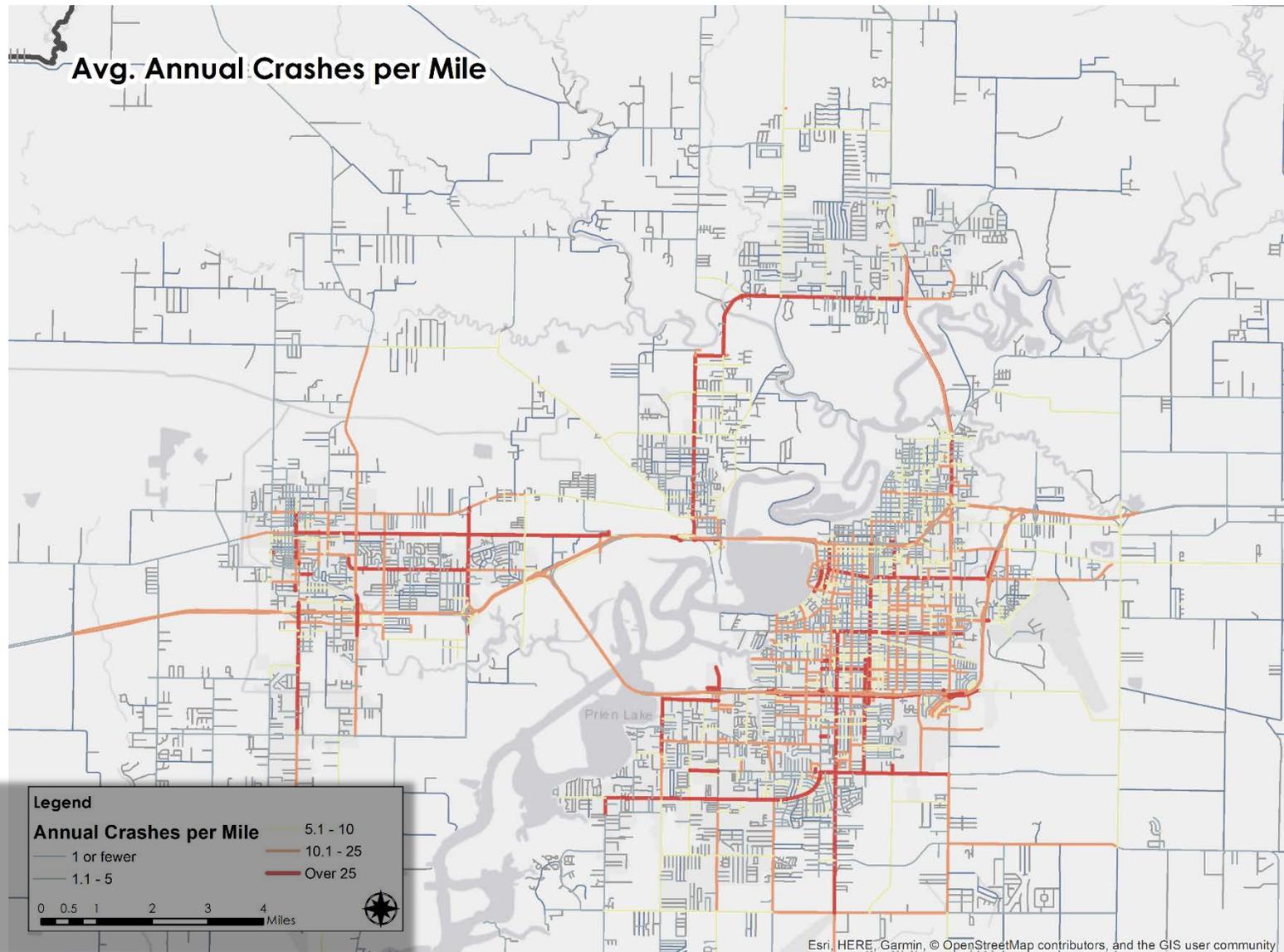
If something has been done recently to address the same location then we may want to spread the love around a bit



Hot-Spot Factor: Crashes

Crashes per Mile

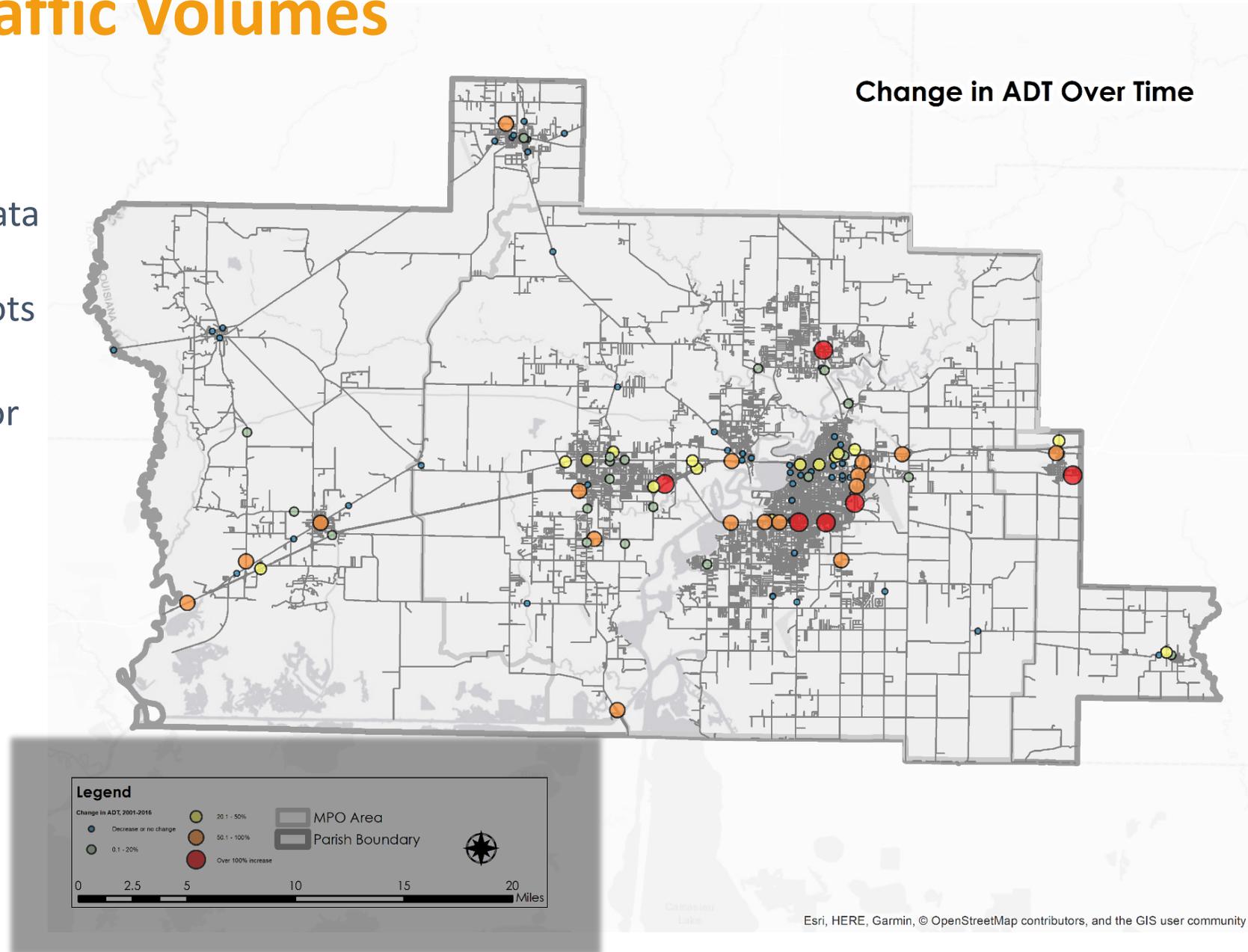
- Crashes per mile controls for the length (“amount”) of roadway, but doesn’t control for the traffic volume using the roadway. In other words, more traffic = more crashes, all else being equal.



Hot-Spot Factor: Traffic Volumes

Change in Traffic Volume, 2001 to 2016

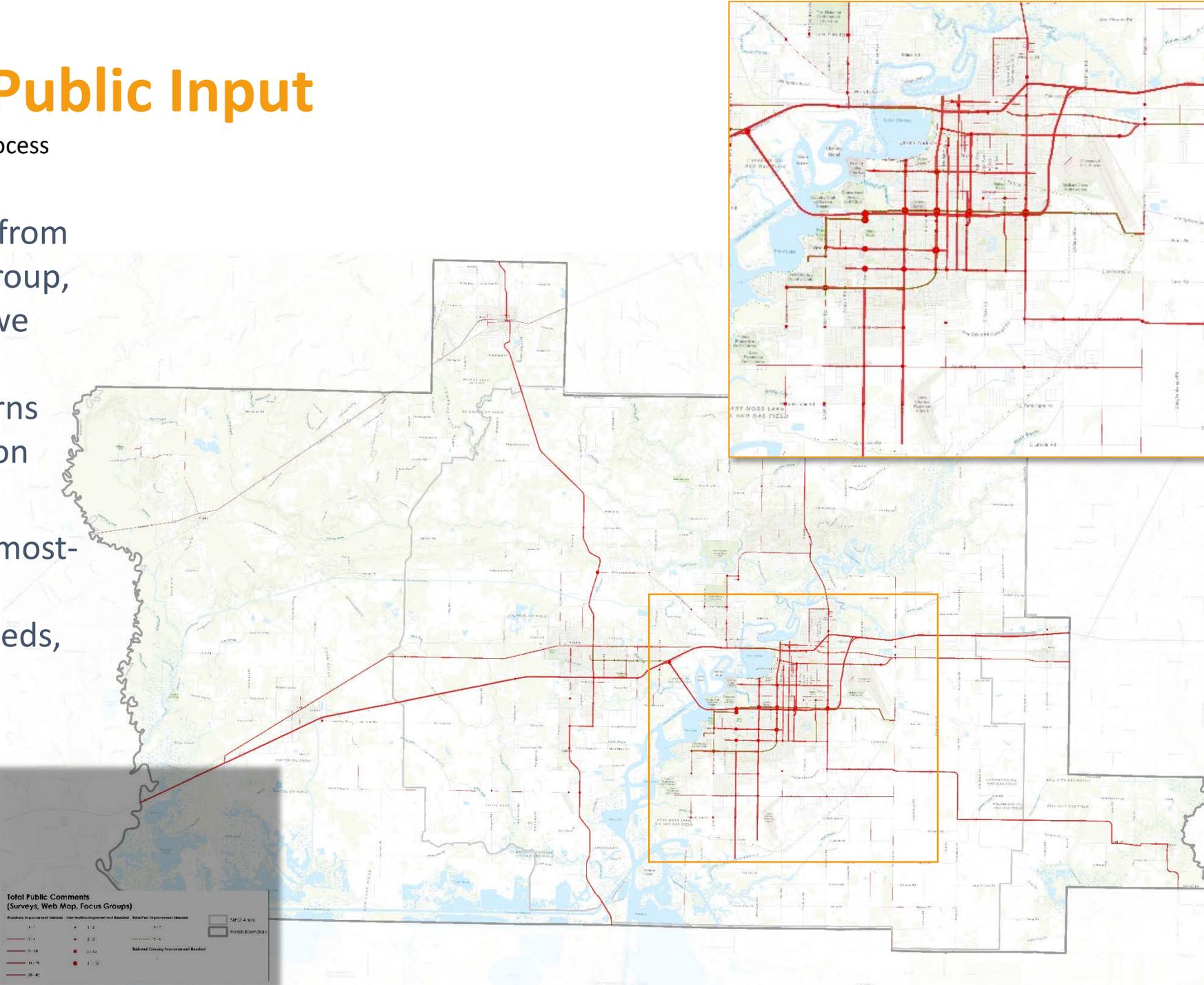
- Traffic counts don't always hit every road, every year, so the data may not be the same for every count "station" shown by the dots on the map.
- Areas that are largely built out or are otherwise not increasing in population or employment are less likely to experience – but aren't totally immune from – increases in traffic levels.



Hot-Spot Factor: Public Input

Comments Received through this Planning Process

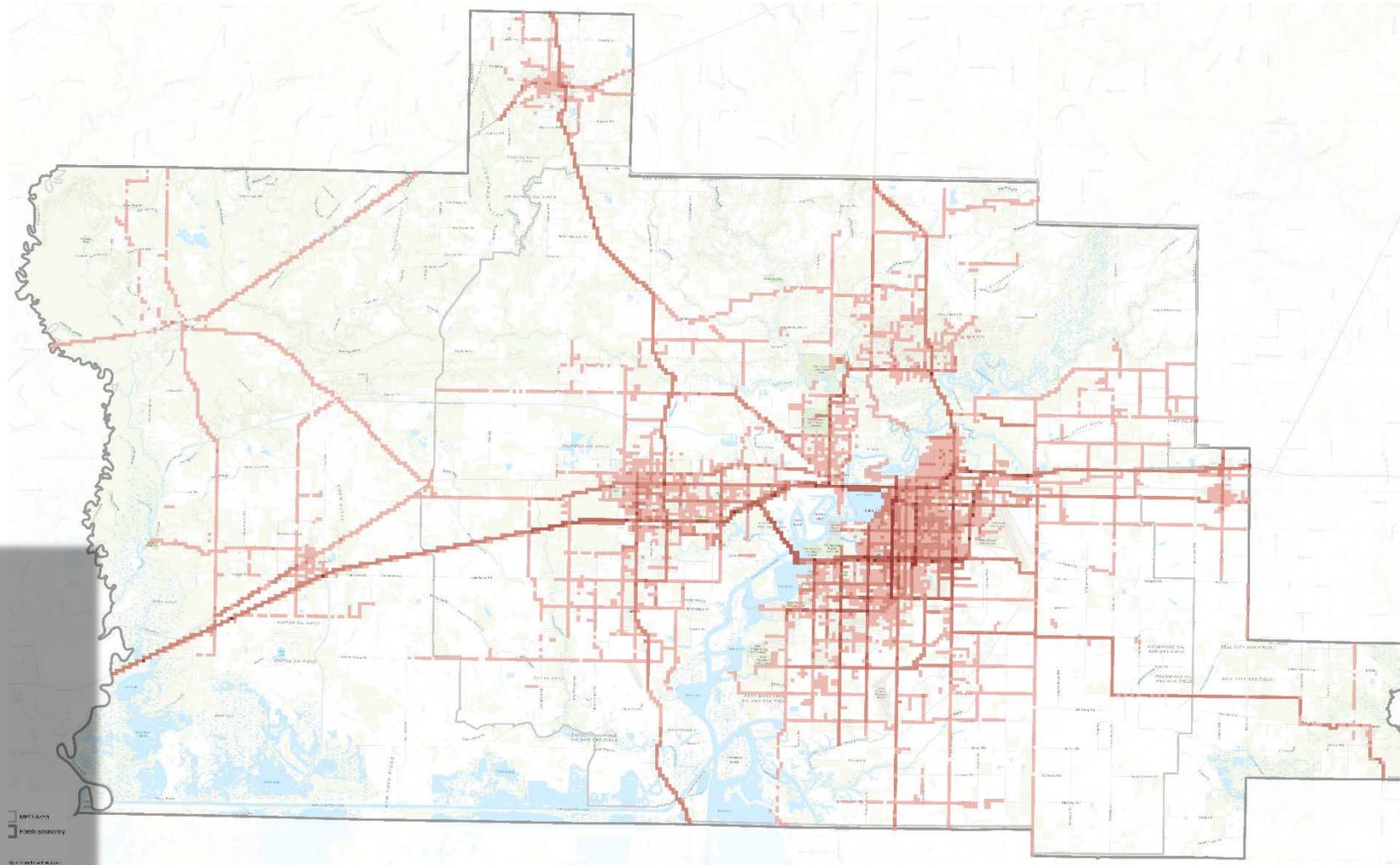
- By counting every comment from every venue (survey, focus group, public meeting participant) we can spatially indicate where people have the most concerns with the existing conditions on the transportation system.
- Congestion and safety were most-often cited, followed by bicycle/pedestrian facility needs, then railroad crossing



Hot-Spot Factors: Mash-Up

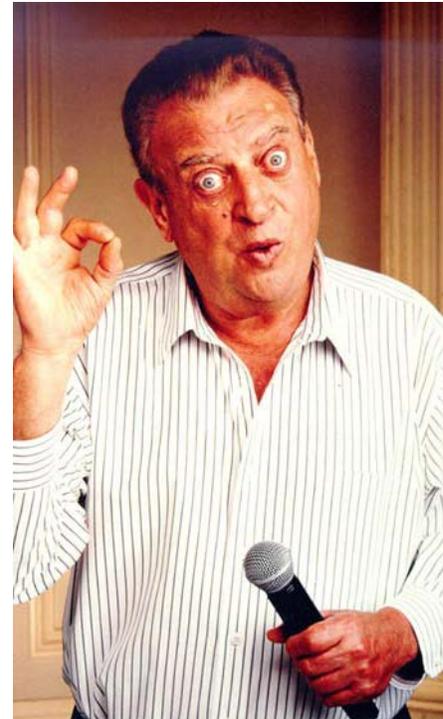
What happens when crash data, traffic volumes, and public input are put together....

- Taking all three factors and giving them an equal “weight” produces this map, showing where both the data and the public comments are suggesting we focus our attention.
- Recommendations should reflect these areas and issues.



**“Needs
improvements
but I cannot
begin to tell
you where.
Good luck!”**

- Survey Respondent





Hot-Spots: Candidates

A few ideas to validate to short-list to eight...why or why not...others?

- a) West Prien Lake Road
- b) Ryan Lake Road
- c) **Nelson Road**
- d) Beglis Pkwy (Sulphur)
- e) East 4th (DeQuincy)
- f) I-10 / N. Thompson (Iowa)
- g) Sulphur Ave / Sampson St (Westlake)
- h) N. MLK / Hwy 378 (Moss Bluff)
- i) Hwy 378 / Hwy 27
- j) Hwy 90/Horridge St/Center St (Vinton)
- k) **Hwy 14 (access management/bike-ped)**

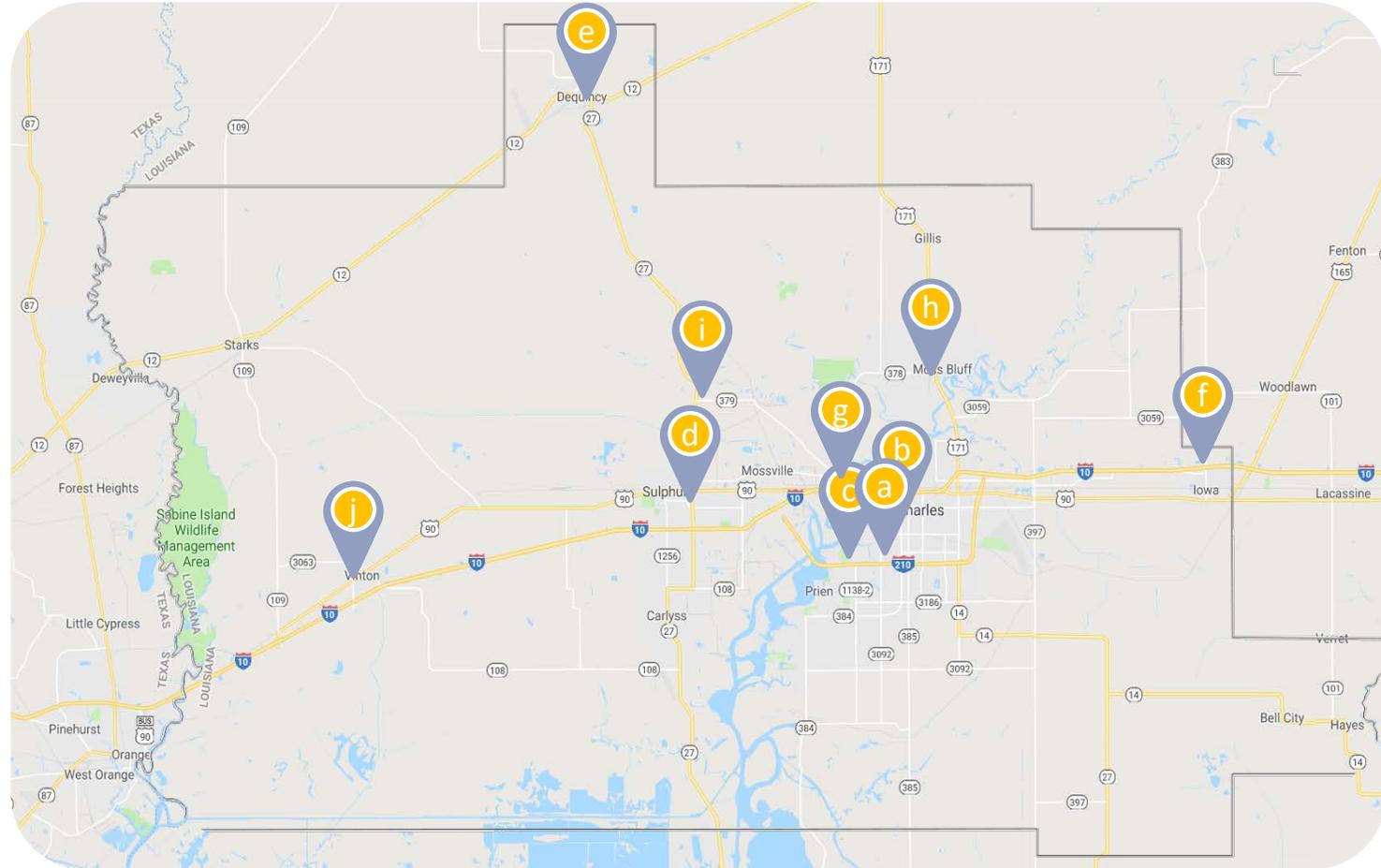




photo credit: James Welch

Standouts



photo credit: Lake Charles Transit

↑
increase connectivity between private development and transportation →



↑
expand transit services and options; more and better bike and pedestrian facilities →



photo credit: Google (W. Prien Lake Road)

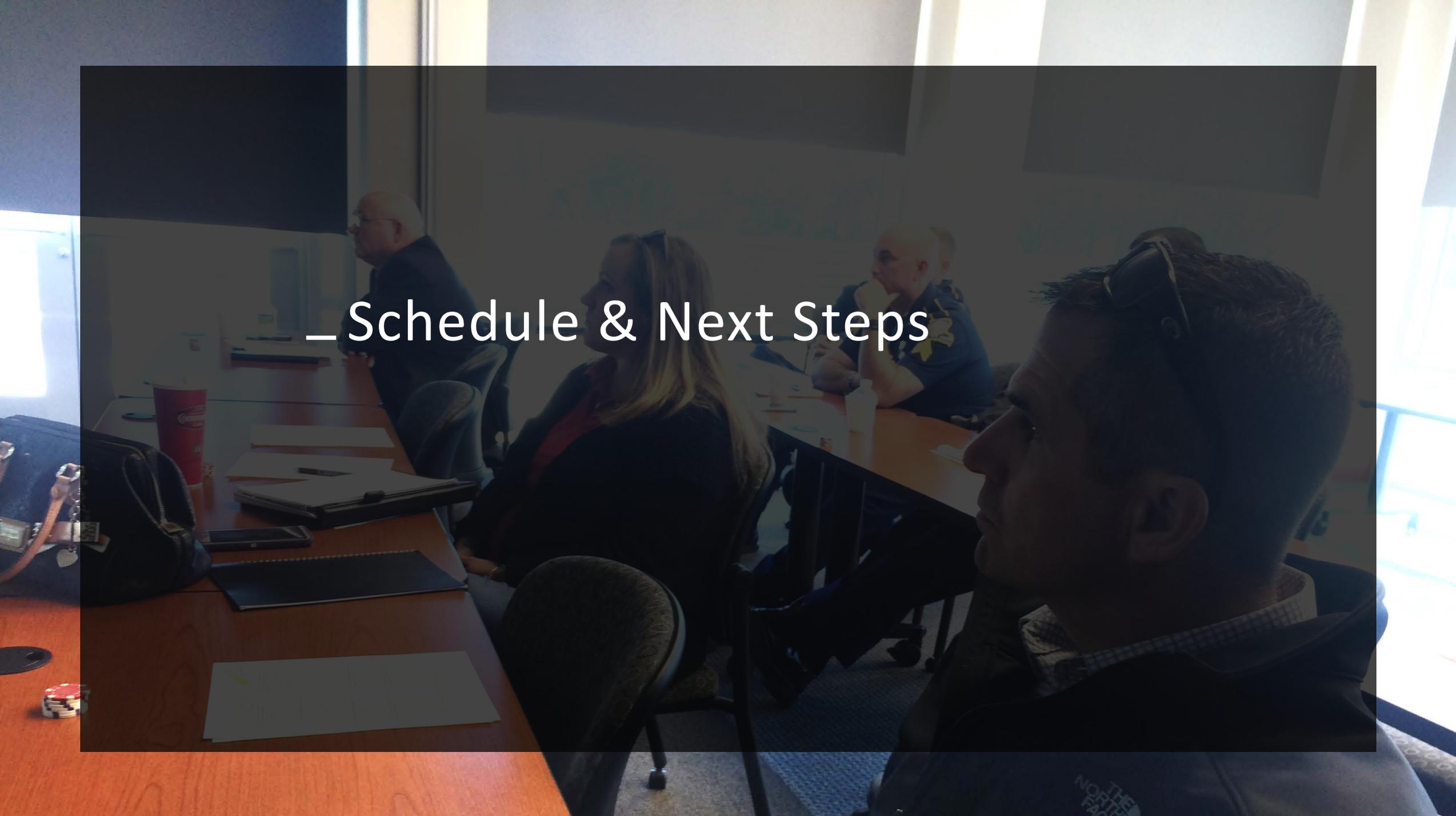


photo credit: Rick Hickman

← make the best possible use of technology for stop-gap and long-term congestion relief

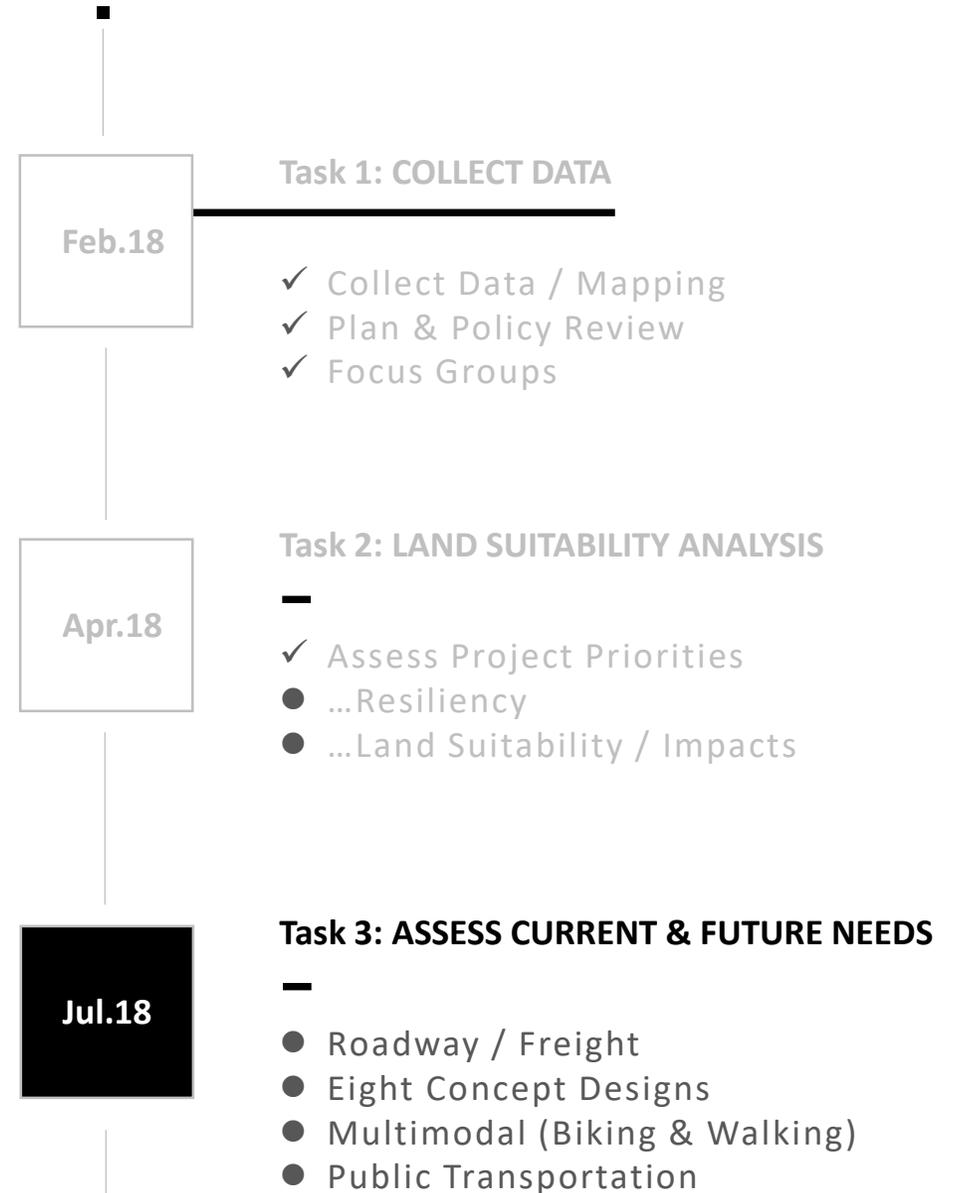


← make cell phone use while driving a moving violation (raising insurance rates for violators)

A dimly lit meeting room with several people seated around a long wooden table. In the foreground, a man with sunglasses on his head is looking towards the left. Behind him, a woman with long blonde hair is also looking left. Further back, another man is visible. The room has large windows on the right side, and a whiteboard is mounted on the wall in the background. The overall atmosphere is professional and focused.

_Schedule & Next Steps

__ Schedule



— Schedule, Part II



Aug.18

Task 4: EXISTING CONDITIONS & DIRECTIONS

- ✓ Plan & Policy Review
- ✓ Focus Groups

Sep.18

Task 5: RECOMMENDATIONS

- Assess Project Priorities
- ...Resiliency
- ...Land Suitability / Impacts

Dec.18

Tasks 6 & 7: IMPLEMENTATION GUIDE & REPORT

- Roadway / Freight
- Eight Concept Designs
- Multimodal (Biking & Walking)
- Public Transportation

— Next Steps...



Hot-Spot Concept Design Development



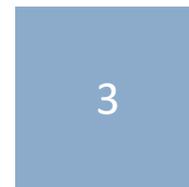
- Issues + Recommendations per location
- Concept Design



Full List of Recommendations



- Basic List, Source, Detail, Mode
- Generate Mapping



Policy



- Land Use & Development
- Transportation Design, Resiliency



Thank You.

We shall not cease from
exploration, and the end of all
our exploring will be to arrive
where we started and know
the place for the first time.

- T. S. Eliot, *Little Gidding V*, *Four Quartets* (1943)