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Shifting Gears: Policies for a More Sustainable Highway System

The Next Era of Transportation and Infrastructure

Friday, June 13, 2025

About EESI



Nonpartisan Educational Resources for Policymakers

A bipartisan Congressional caucus founded EESI in 1984 to provide nonpartisan information on environmental, energy, and climate policies



Direct Assistance for Equitable and Inclusive Financing Program

In addition to a full portfolio of federal policy work, EESI provides direct assistance to utilities to develop “on-bill financing” programs



Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice

We recognize that systemic barriers impede fair environmental, energy, and climate policies and limit the full participation of Black, Indigenous, people of color, and legacy and frontline communities in decision-making



Sustainable Solutions

Our mission is to advance science-based solutions for climate change, energy, and environmental challenges in order to achieve our vision of a sustainable, resilient, and equitable world

Polymaker Education



Briefings and Webcasts

Live, in-person and online public briefings, archived recordings, and written summaries



Climate Change Solutions

Bi-weekly newsletter with everything policymakers and concerned citizens need to know, including a legislation and hearings tracker



Fact Sheets and Issue Briefs

Timely, objective coverage of environmental, clean energy, and climate change topics



Social Media (@EESlonline)

Active engagement on Bluesky, Facebook, LinkedIn, X, and YouTube

3



The Next Era of Transportation and Infrastructure

4

Available Online

**The Process and Path Forward for a Bipartisan Surface Transportation Bill
Towards Healthier Outcomes in Surface Transportation
Next Stop: Sustainable Public Transit and Mobility
Like Trains? Then Choo-Choose to Learn About Federal Rail Policy**

Rapid Readout: The Latest on Budget Reconciliation
Recording Available Online

**Shifting Gears: Policies for a More Sustainable Highway System
Today!**

Beating the Heat: A 2025 Heat Policy Agenda
Tuesday, June 17, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm

2025 Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency EXPO and Policy Forum
Thursday, July 24, 9:00 am - 7:00 pm

Sign up for our *Climate Change Solutions* newsletter here: eesi.org/signup



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What did you think of the briefing?

Please take 2 minutes to let us know at:
www.eesi.org/survey

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Friday, June 13, 2025



MOVE MINNESOTA
ACTION

Minnesota's 2023–24 Legislative Wins for Transit & What's Ahead

EESI Online Briefing



Agenda

- Who We Are
- Regional Transportation Sales and Use Tax – Active Transportation
- Driving Down Emissions – Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact Assessment
- Redefining Highway Purposes & Shifting Funding



Move Minnesota

Move Minnesota leads the movement for an equitable and sustainable transportation system that puts people first.

We are passionate about connecting communities, ending the climate crisis, expanding access to jobs and resources, and improving daily life for Minnesotans of all ages, races, incomes, and abilities.



Move Minnesota Action

Move Minnesota Action is committed to building the grassroots and political power necessary to transform transit.

Launched in 2021 by Move Minnesota, we are growing our movement through **effective organizing, issue education, and electoral advocacy** in Minnesota.

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OUR WINS: Transformative Transit Funding



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**Long-term,
dedicated
transit funding
to improve
transit across
the Twin Cities
metro**

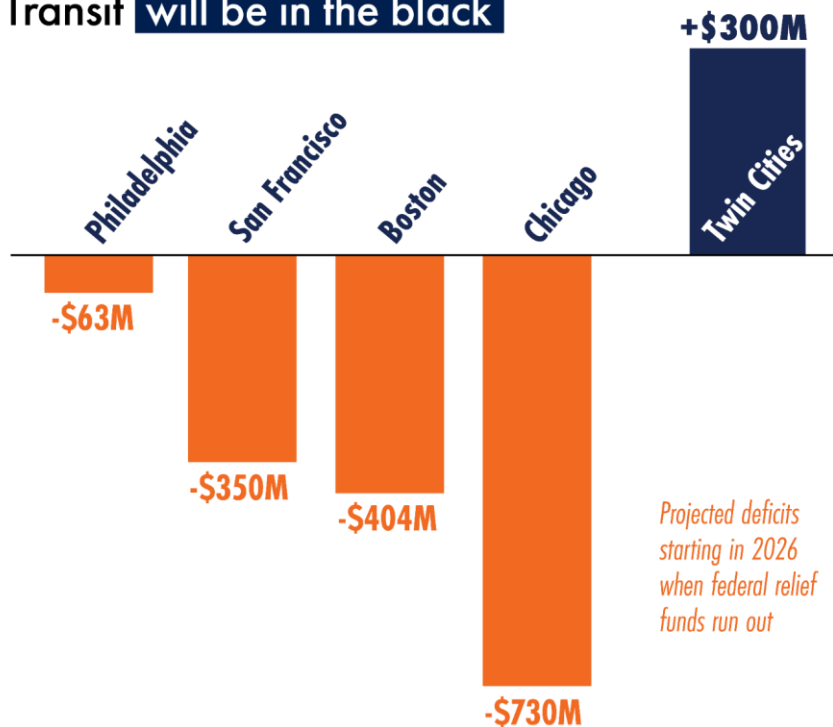
**A new 0.75-cent metro sales
tax will provide over \$440
million for public transit and
\$24 million for active
transportation per year.**

IMPACT

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Other cities are facing massive deficits in coming years, but Metro Transit **will be in the black**



\$450M

in new, ongoing funding can close the budget gap and provide...



5-minute headways:

\$43 million annually for 5-minute headways at peak, 10 minutes off-peak, on 20 lines



50 miles of red bus lanes:

\$30 million annually to maintain dedicated bus lanes



Fully electric fleet:

\$93 million annually to electrify the full Metro Transit bus fleet in 12 years



Green lights for buses:

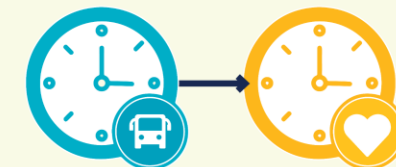
\$4 million in one time costs, \$750,000 annually to provide signal priority for core-route buses



Complete BRT network:

\$130 million to build out 2 bus rapid transit lines to serve core & suburban communities per year

Great transit can lead to quality of life benefits like...



781,000 hours saved

per year across all rides and riders, replacing time spent on the bus with time on chosen activities

move

ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

Initial fund distribution: 2024 Regional Solicitation

The Met Council directed the first allocation of these funds to those who applied for the 2024 Regional Solicitation in the following categories:

- Multiuse Trail & Bicycle Facilities
- Pedestrian Facilities
- Safe Routes to School



OUR WINS: Nation-leading Climate Policy



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**Cutting-edge policy
to curb climate
pollution from new
transportation
projects.**

Move Minnesota and our partners successfully pushed for new state policies that require MnDOT and the Metropolitan Council to turn climate goals into action.

Setting the course

STATEWIDE MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN



Minnesota's highest level policy plan for transportation

- **Work with transportation partners to identify and advance statewide strategies for reducing per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT) 20% by 2050.** Opportunities to reduce vehicle miles traveled vary by geography, community and context. Work with partners to determine

216H.02 Greenhouse gas emissions control

Subdivision 1. Greenhouse gas emissions-reduction goal

(a) It is the goal of the state to reduce statewide greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors producing greenhouse gas emissions by at least the following amounts, compared with the level of emissions in 2005:

- (1) 15 percent by 2015;
- (2) 30 percent by 2025;
- (3) 50 percent by 2030; and
- (4) to net zero by 2050.

Setting the course

Minnesotans — and people across the nation⁵ — are ready for a different approach. For instance, community engagement around the Minnesota Department of Transportation's draft Statewide Multi-modal Transportation Plan found that **"60% [of Minnesotans] support some type of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) reduction target."**⁶



Setting the course

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HEADWAY

Colorado's Bold New Approach to Highways — Not Building Them

The state has made it harder to widen highways, and transportation officials are turning their eyes to transit.

Because RMI was able to leverage the lessons they had learned, one year later Move Minnesota was able to put our state on the map as a national leader in the movement for transportation justice.

RMI
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HIGHWAYS

PROJECTS MUST MEET 2050 TARGETS TO
reduce per capita vehicle miles traveled (VMT) by 20%
reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) by 100%



If it doesn't meet
VMT and GHG
targets, MnDOT
must cancel or
adjust the project...



GHG VMT



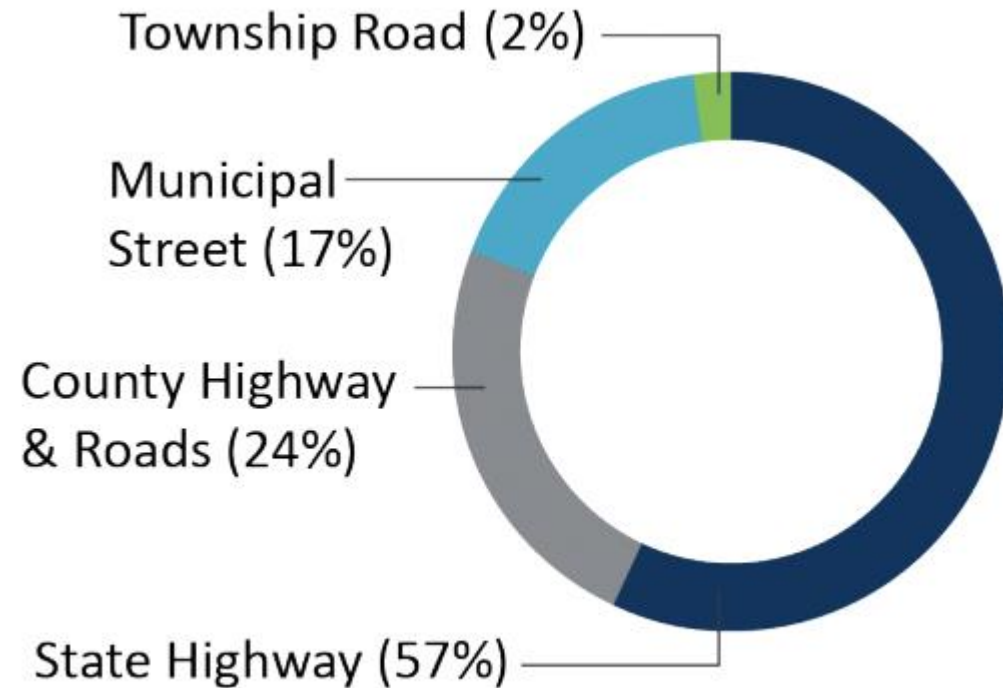
or offset the increased
GHG and VMT by
adding sustainable
options, like bike lanes
and/or new transit lines



GHG VMT

HIGHWAYS

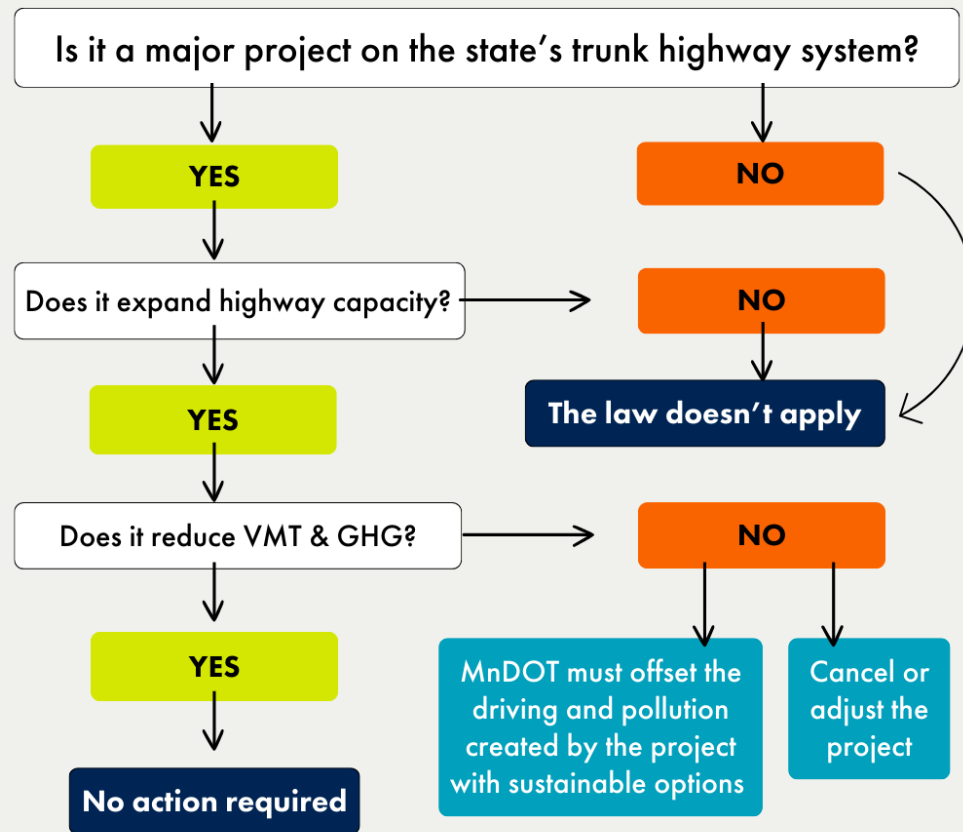
Percent of VMT by roadway system



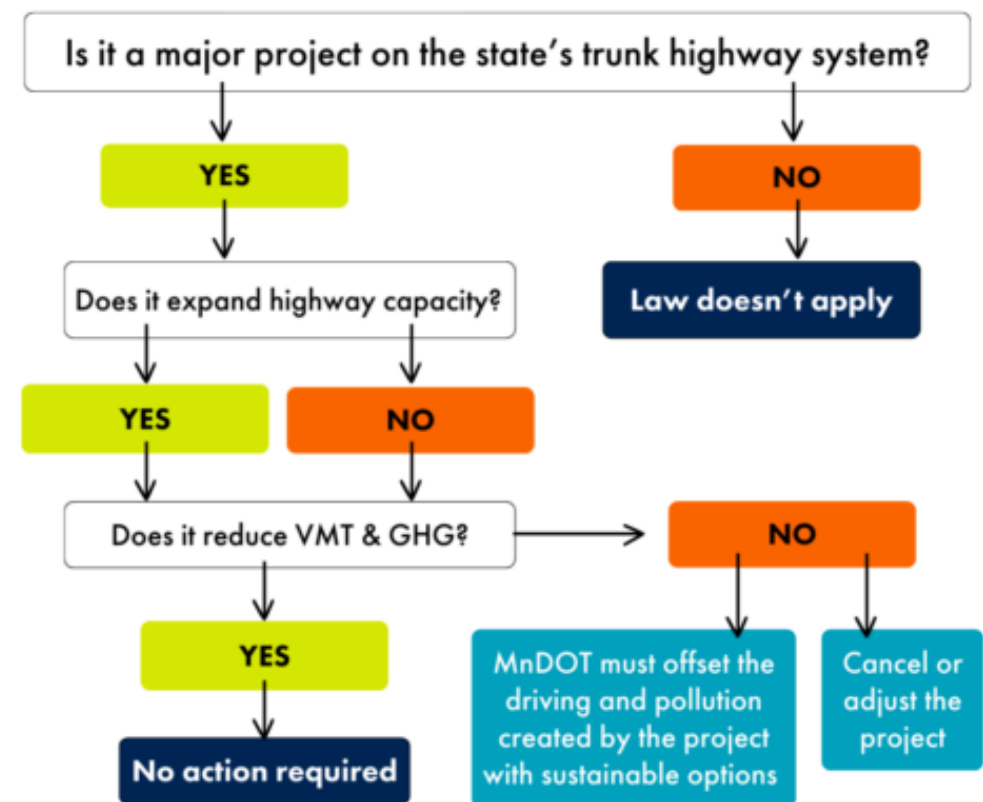
12,000 miles of highways
8% of all roadways but...
57% of VMT

HIGHWAYS

2023 LAW



2024 LAW



2023-2024 Report on

Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions Impact Mitigation Working Group

February 2024



Working Group

- Assessing impact of single project on VMT is challenging with existing models
- Assessing projects together in portfolio approach would allow more accurate analyses
- Local and regional governance bodies need technical assistance implementing this law
- Technical advisory committee would provide accountability and flexibility as implemented



Rethinking I-94

2023 Law would impact...

Expanded Freeway – A
Expanded Freeway – B
General Maintenance
Maintenance A
Maintenance B
At-Grade A
At-Grade B
Local/Regional Roadways
Reduced Freeway – A
Reconfigure Freeway – A

2024 Law will impact...

Expanded Freeway – A
Expanded Freeway – B
General Maintenance
Maintenance A
Maintenance B
At-Grade A
At-Grade B
Local/Regional Roadways
Reduced Freeway – A
Reconfigure Freeway – A

Project Example

- Expansion option would add 40,000 car trips per day
- At its pre-pandemic peak in 2019, the METRO Green Line light rail train carried 44,000 trips each day
- Expansion might require an offset on the scale of a new urban train line

2024 law also



Allows the Minnesota Department of Transportation to collect greenhouse gas and vehicle miles traveled **data from cities and counties across the state**—a major first that will enable Minnesota to expand this law to *all roads in the state* in the future

MEETING VMT GOALS =

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**\$91
BILLION**

in cumulative state
savings by 2050 from
reduced driving

move

**3.8 BILLION
fewer miles driven**

every year in the
7-county metro



Reducing climate
pollution by

675,412
metric tons
per year



TIMELINE

Now until 2027:

MnDOT will **develop a model** to measure and predict vehicle miles traveled impacts of new highway projects—this model will be able to measure the ripple effects of highway projects on road systems throughout the state

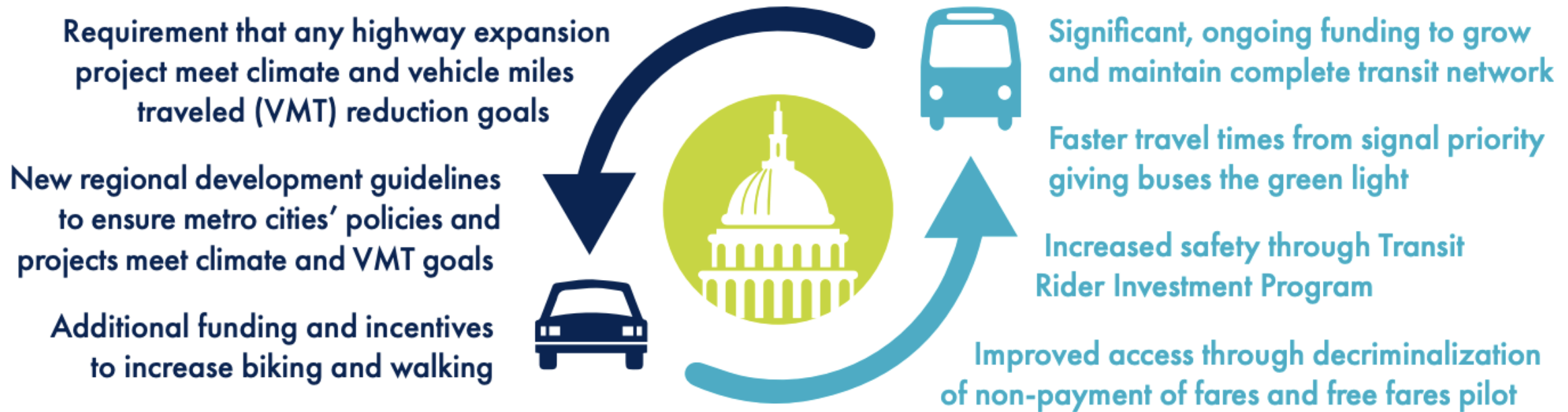
February 1, 2025:

Assessment and mitigation requirements for trunk highway capacity **expansion** projects take effect

August 1, 2027:

Assessment and mitigation requirements for the full **portfolio** of Minnesota trunk highway projects take effect

How it all works together



REDEFINING HIGHWAY PURPOSES & SHIFTING FUNDING



66% of respondents would support a bill to “improve transportation options in Minnesota using funding from the state and federal government which would otherwise go to highway expansion,” illustrating public will to make different choices about how current funding is allocated.



Statutorily define “Highway Purposes” as inclusive of transit, biking, and walking investments in highway rights of way.



SHIFT STATE FUNDING from highway expansion to statewide transit investments by splitting the motor vehicle sales tax evenly between transit and highway projects.

Thank you!



Contact:

MJ Carpio

mjc@movemn.org

Learn more at:

www.movemn.org



BRIDGING I-95: CONNECTING THE COMMUNITY

CAP FEASIBILITY STUDY | Final Report | June 2025

Feasibility Study Goals

Reconnect the neighborhoods divided by the construction of I-95 within the Jackson-Adams Corridor between the Delaware Avenue Bridge and the 6th Street Bridge.

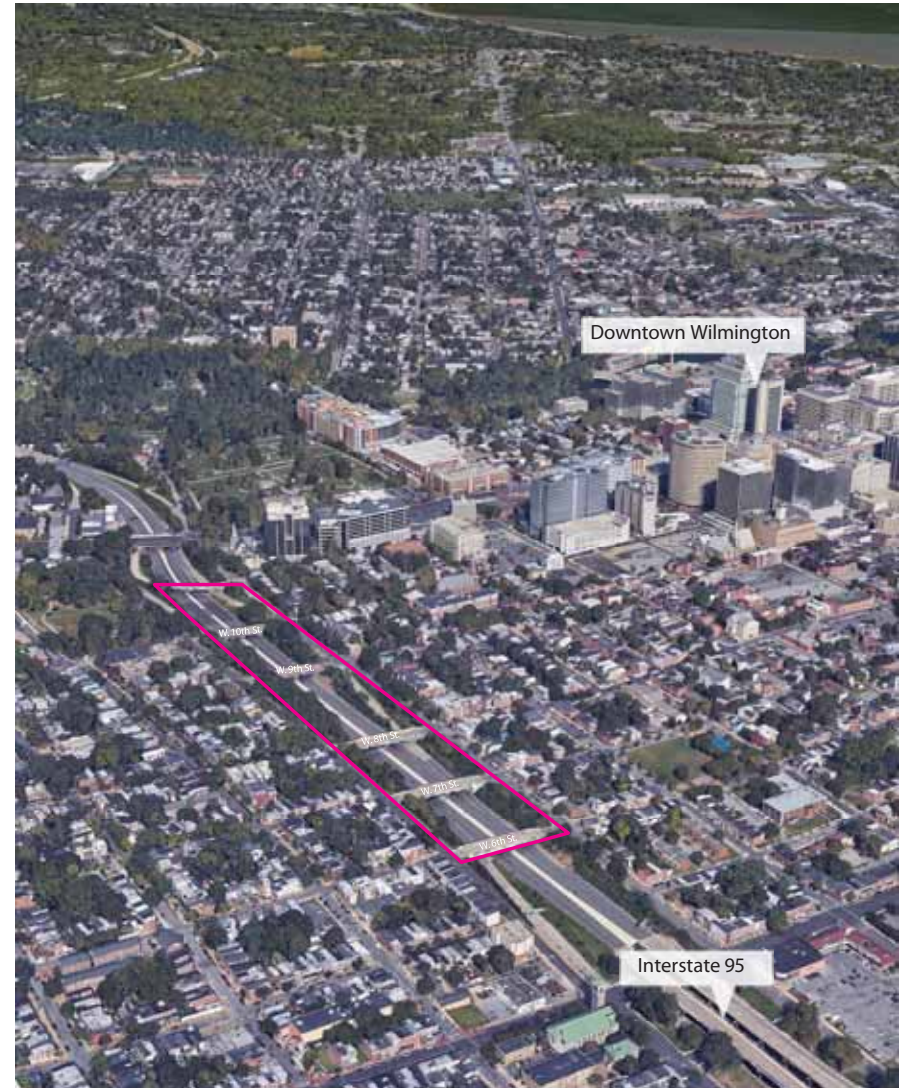
Support neighborhood character, cohesion, and pride.

Provide equitable, safe, and connected access for pedestrians and people riding bicycles and using all modes of transportation.

Create inclusive, welcoming, vibrant public urban outdoor experiences through public realm & landscape amenities for residents of the adjacent neighborhoods.

Givens

- No commercial or residential relocations.
- Maintain an acceptable level of traffic flow through the project area balanced with a safe pedestrian oriented environment.
- No significant reconfiguration of I-95.



ADVISORY COMMITTEE

- Includes community leaders, civic organizations, churches, agency partners and local, state and national elected officials
- 2 Virtual meetings
- 3 In-person meetings, all held in the project area

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- 1 Virtual workshop
- 4 In-person workshops, all held in the project area
- Presented at: United Neighbors, West Center City Civic group, Hedgeville Neighborhood Group, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Wilmington Rotary Club
- Attended community events: William “Hicks” Anderson CC, United Neighbors Bridge Mural Painting events



Public Process

The vision for the future cap was drafted in collaboration with the community



Let's make a vision for the future of I-95

*When picturing the future of this place, the community envisions **a place for everyone** that is **safe, walkable, and colorful**. This includes **well-lit, well-maintained programmed areas** that prioritize **sustainability, native plantings**, places for families and community members to **play** and **exercise** comfortably, and that **celebrates the history of the neighborhoods**.*

A vision for the future, collaboratively drafted at Workshop 01 and 01B

Community-Selected Programs in the Draft Final Concept



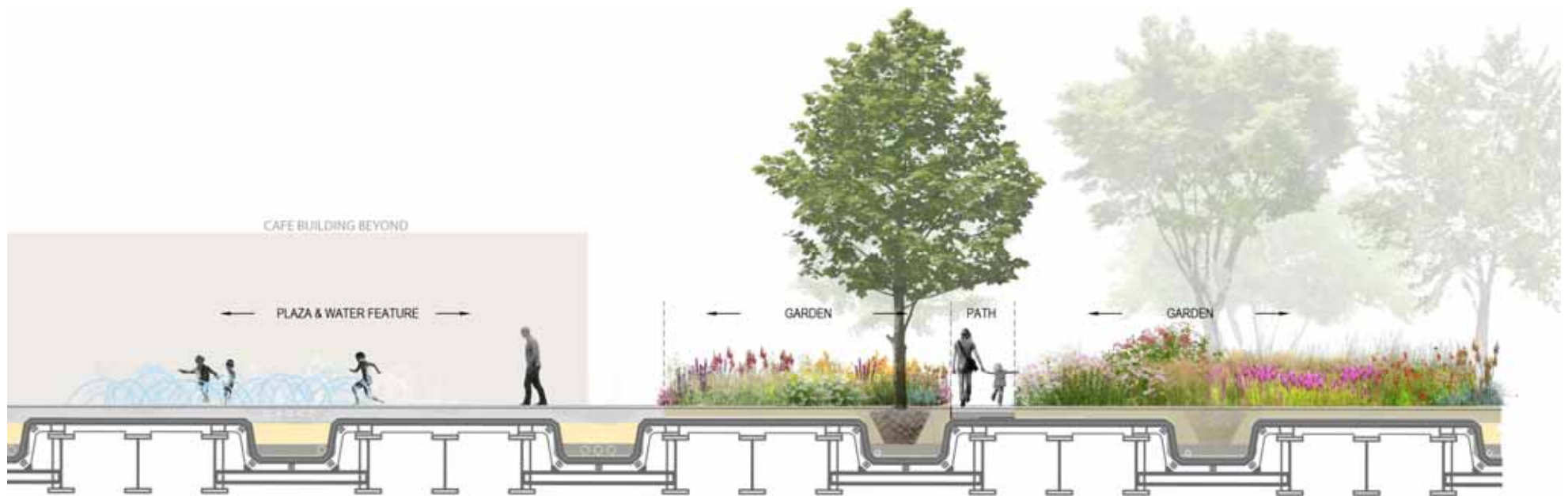
Programs selected by the community in the proposed plan

Design Concept: Phase 1



The southern-most portion of the proposed cap park features meandering, accessible public paths through a loose woodland tree canopy. Views to downtown can be seen from both the public green and the community amphitheater, which is suitable for small group gatherings and afternoon performances. The nature play is situated near the stage and restroom of the amphitheater, while enhanced traffic calming measures and street parking on Adams slows traffic and makes safer pedestrian connection between the neighborhoods and the park.

Cap Structural Considerations

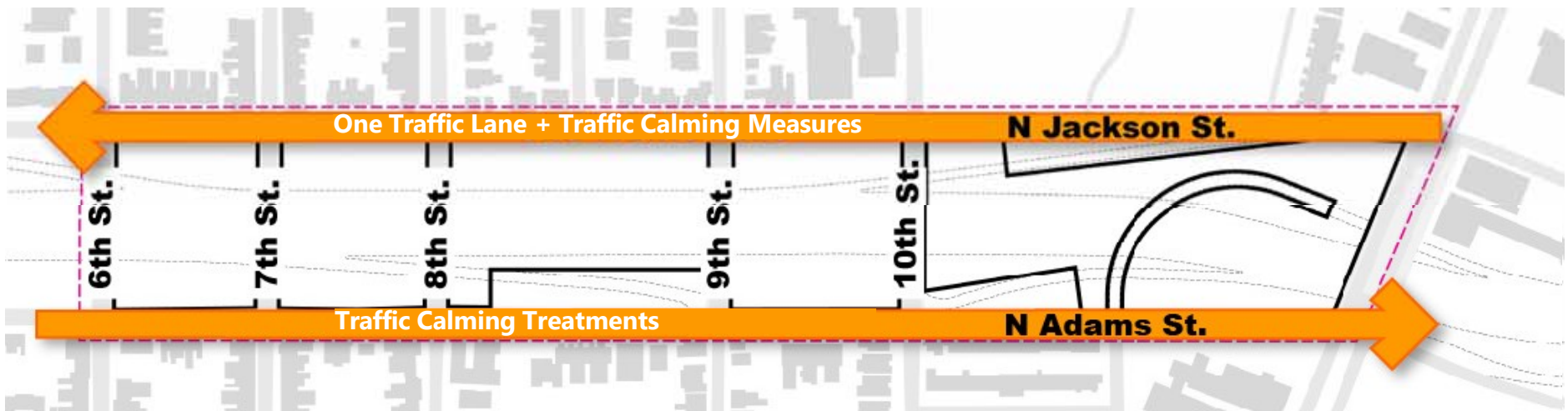


Conceptual cap structure design. Deeper trenches allow for larger plantings, such as trees, over the structure.

September 2022 Traffic Analysis: Street Closure Feasibility

Closing two bridges over I-95 within the project site and adding traffic calming measures will not have adverse impacts on traffic flow

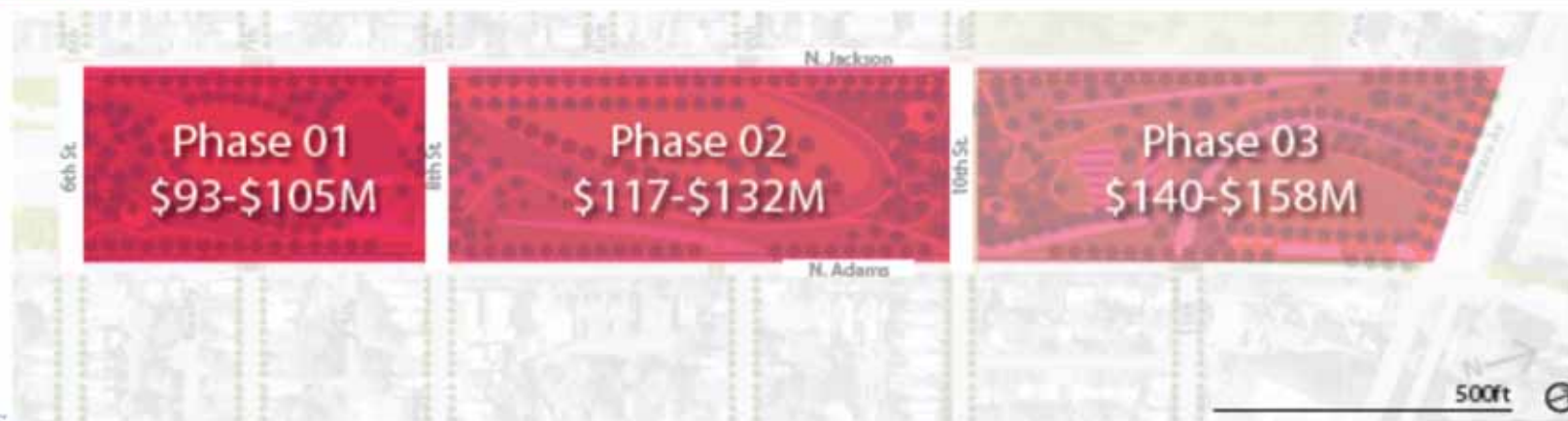
Traffic analysis found minimal impact to Level of Service if N. Jackson Street were reduced to one drive lane. Reducing N Jackson to one lane and adding traffic calming measures reduces speed of south-bound traffic near Cool Spring Park, William Lewis Elementary, adjacent residences, and the proposed cap. The study proposes similar traffic calming treatments on N Adams St. Based on preliminary analysis, with minimal impacts to Level of Service with the addition of traffic calming measures, however a more detailed analysis is still necessary. Traffic analysis confirmed that minor signal timing modifications would mitigate any impact to level of service if any two bridges were closed (W 7th St. and W 9th St. shown below). Wilmington emergency response services participated in this planning and does not anticipate a negative impact on response times if two bridges in the project area are closed to vehicular traffic.



Magnitude of Cost

This feasibility study is the first in a series of increasingly detailed technical studies and design documentation phases to bring greater clarity, features, and implementation into focus. Referencing similar deck parks over federal and state highways points the way toward identifying a likely range for projecting a magnitude of cost.

PROJECT NAME	CITY, STATE	HIGHWAY	ACREAGE	COST (Design and Construction) (2022 Dollars)	COST/ACREAGE	YEAR	NOTES
Klyde Warren Park	Dallas, TX	TX 366	5.2	\$182M	\$35M/ac	2012	One of the best known deck parks, includes an 11,000sf restaurant and upscale bar
Klyde Warren Park Phase 2.0	Dallas, TX	TX 366	1.7	\$57M	\$33M/ac	2024	Second phase includes a 24,000sf reception and event space on two levels, and an additional 37,000sf lawn, all on two adjacent blocks west of the phase 1.
Southern Gateway Park	Dallas, TX	I-35	5	\$172M	\$34M/ac	2024	First phase well under construction; Aimed at community healing of an underserved community
Park at Penn's Landing	Philadelphia, PA	I-95	12	\$350M	\$29M/ac	2025	A phased project with 5.2-acres over the interstate and the balance over substantial waterfront fill, including a skating rink, cafe, and restaurant
Wilmington, DE I-95 Park Phase 01	Wilmington, DE	I-95	4.6	\$93M-\$105M	+\$21.9 to 24.7M/ac	2027	Phase 01: between W. 6th Street and W. 8th Street
Wilmington, DE I-95 Park Phase 02	Wilmington, DE	I-95	5.7	\$117M-\$132M	+\$20.5 to 23.1M/ac		Phase 02: between W. 8th Street and W. 10th Street
Wilmington, DE I-95 Park Phase 03	Wilmington, DE	I-95	5.2	\$140M-\$158M	+\$26.8 to 30.3M/ac		Phase 03: between W. 10th Street and Delaware Ave



Conclusion

Guided by the community's vision, the proposed cap park unites the neighborhoods divided by the construction of I-95. The future park is a place to celebrate history, while looking to Wilmington's future

The cap over I-95 will become a world class, civic park while establishing a community-oriented space for life in the surrounding neighborhoods. The park, spanning approximately 15 acre, provides a wide range of programs from festival and small performance space, to small group gathering, cafe amenities, play, gardens, and pop up market space.

Guided by the public's vision, the park will stitch together the communities divided by the construction of I-95 and provide new life to an area that is dominated by cars. The cap park will utilize the existing elevation change between North Jackson and North Adams streets to showcase views of Downtown Wilmington while forming distinct destinations within the park.

A vision for the future that creates an amenity for the neighborhoods. A place to gather, to celebrate, and to connect in an active, year-round hub that will serve generations of residents and visitors



Learn more about this work to date:

<http://www.wilmapco.org/i95cap/>

Questions or Comments? Dave Gula dgula@wilmapco.org





Electric Mobility

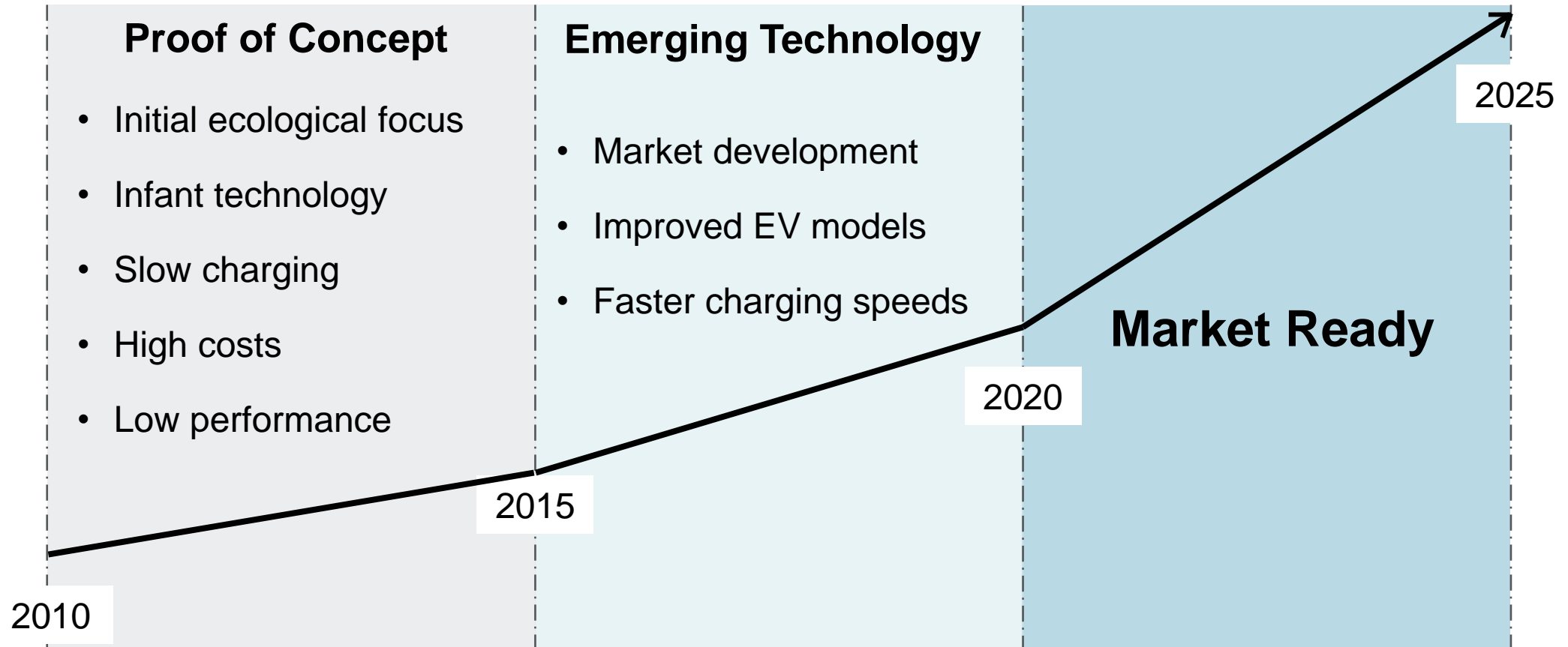


June 13, 2025

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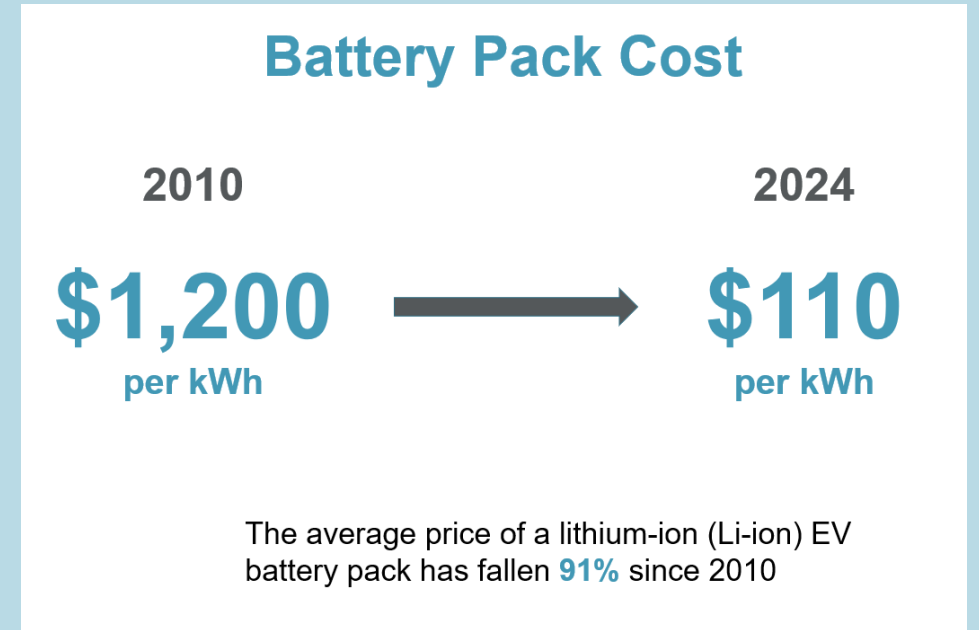
EV Evolution



Takeaway: EVs begin to fit more diversified use cases

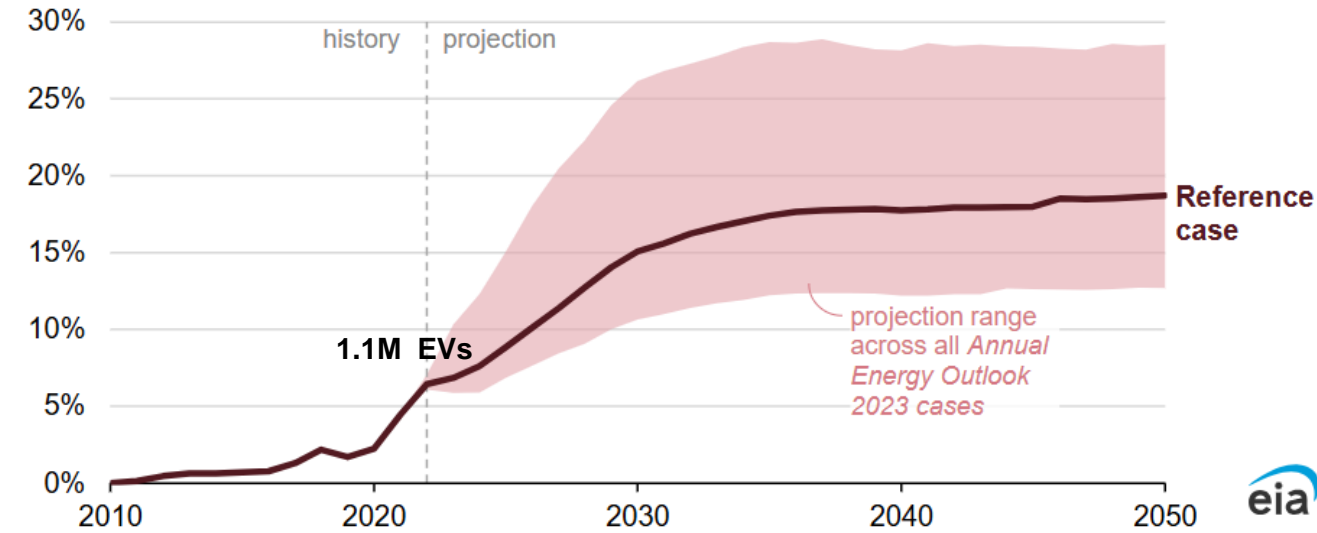
Market Ready Technology

- Increase in vehicle make and models
- Improved reliability
- Lower battery costs
- Reduced energy costs
- Higher range
- Improved charging times

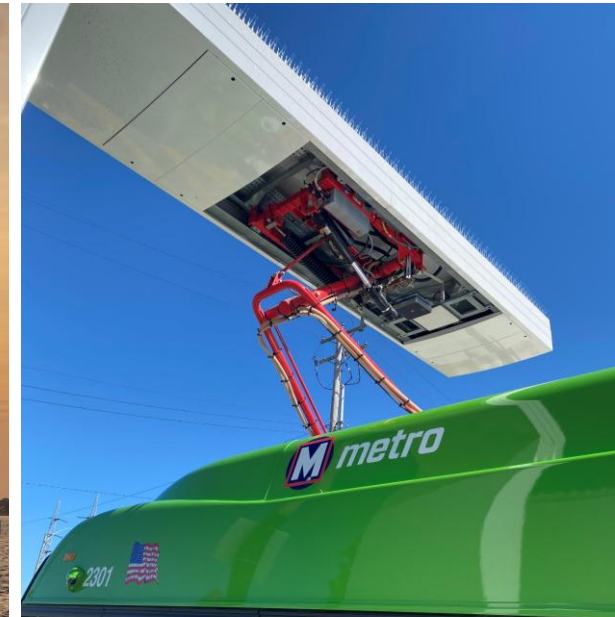
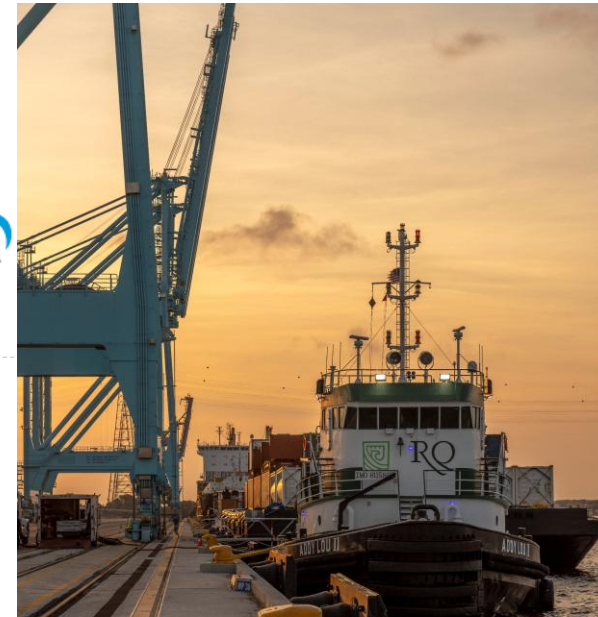


US EV Adoption

Market share of electric light-duty vehicles, United States (2010–2050)
percentage of sales



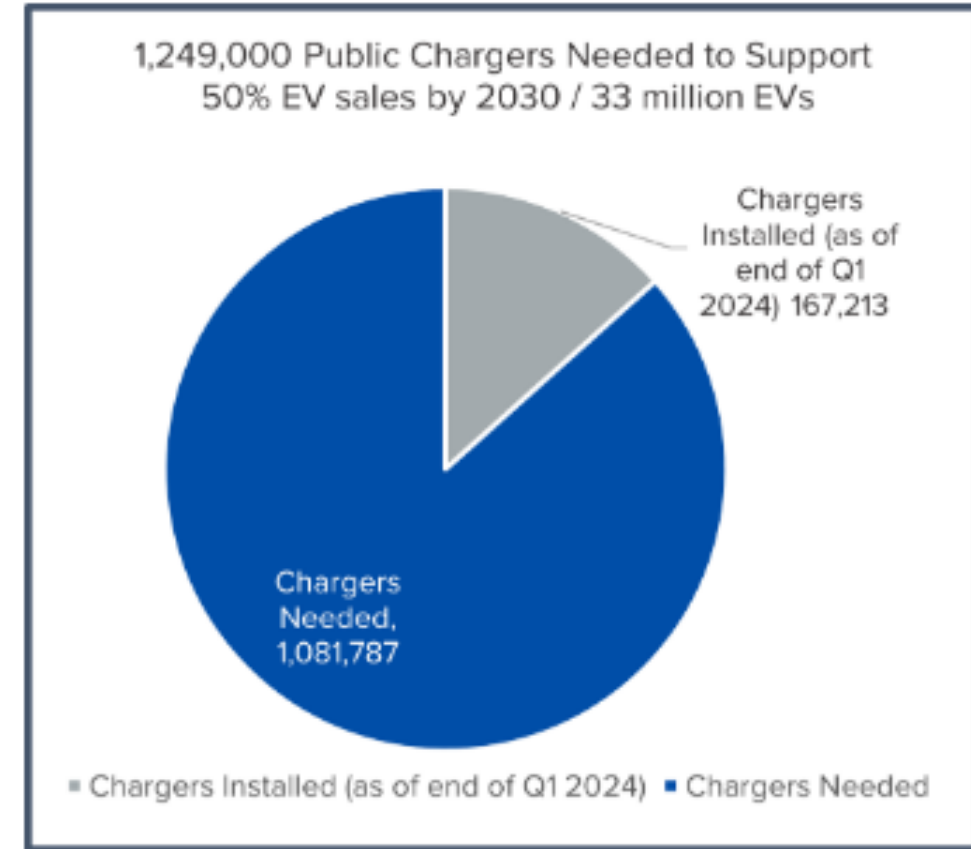
Data source: U.S. Energy Information Administration, *Annual Energy Outlook 2023* (AEO2023)



Takeaway: Personal and industrial EV adoption continues to move forward

Charging Infrastructure

- Nationwide, 344,533 EVs were registered in Q1 2024 but only 7,247 new public chargers were added – **a ratio of 48 new EVs for every new public port**
- More than 1 million more public chargers required to meet the NREL's necessary infrastructure estimate for 2030
- 438 chargers will need to be installed every day – **or nearly 3 chargers every 10 minutes** – through the end of 2030

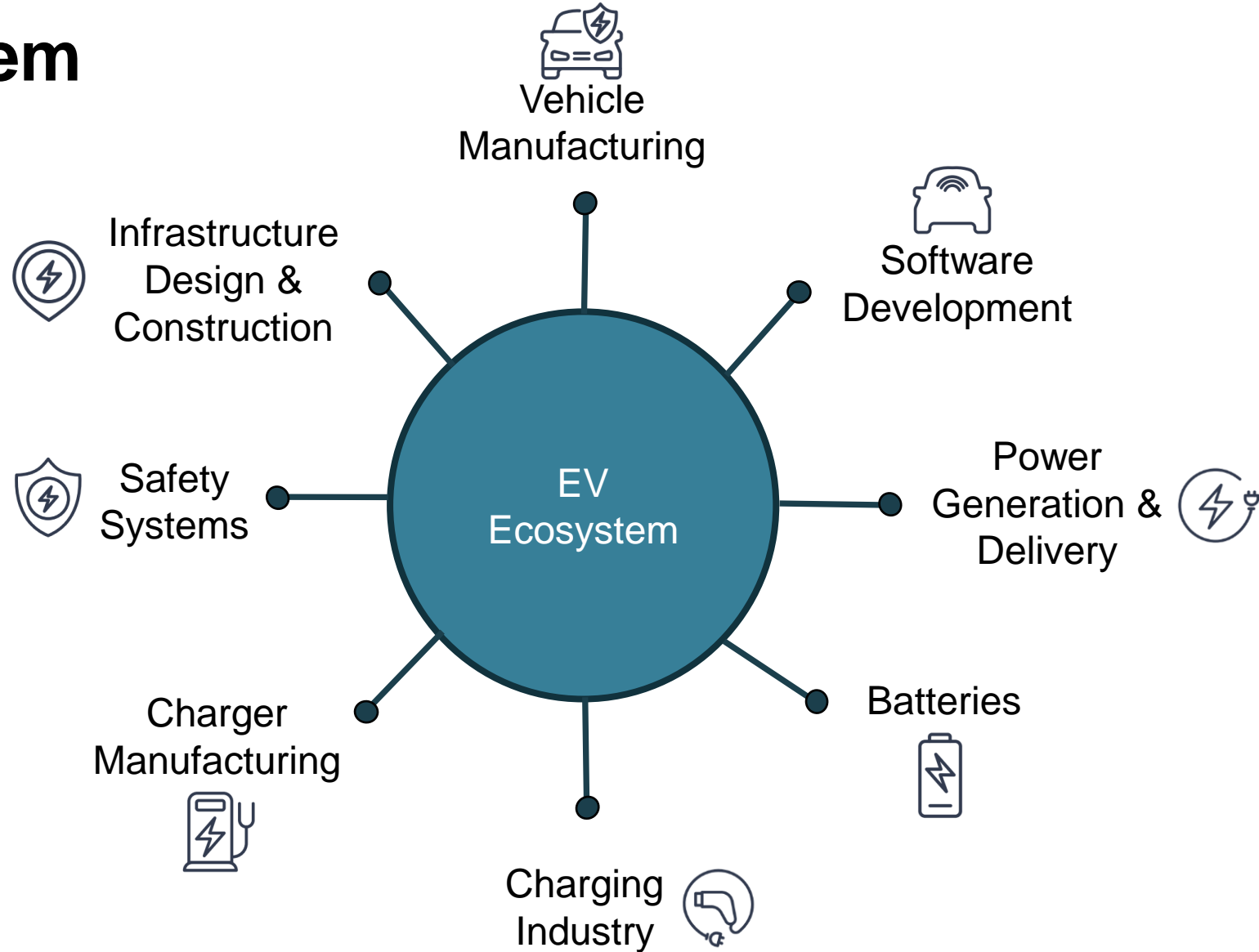


Source: Alliance for Automotive Innovation



Takeaway: Vehicle sales are outpacing public charging infrastructure

EV Ecosystem



Takeaway: The economic reach is far greater than the sale of a single vehicle or charger

Global Economy

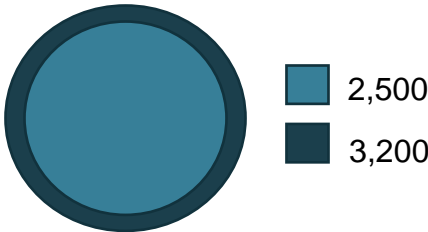
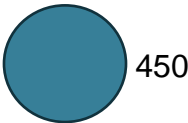
Potential arenas of tomorrow, by 2040 revenue estimate, \$ billion

Revenue 2022

CAGR, 2022-40

Profit 2040 estimate,\$ billion (profit margin, %)

Electric Vehicles



Shared autonomous vehicles

n/a



Batteries



Future Air Mobility

n/a



Source: Company Annual Reports; McKinsey Value Intelligence; McKinsey Global Institute analysis

Takeaway: EV technology forecasted to be a major global growth market

History of Technology Investment

Investing to put America in a leading position

- Aviation
- Rail
- Interstates/Corridors
- Transit
- Safety Technology
- Access



Takeaway: Policy of leading technology development and production

US Investment

- Federal Investments
- State Investments
- Private investments
 - Vehicle manufacturing
 - Charging manufacturing
 - Charging networks
 - Battery manufacturing
 - Freight charging



Takeaway: Public investment sparks larger private investment



Ford F-150 Lightning, Dearborn MI.



Blue Oval SK's EV Battery Manufacturing Facility. Stanton, TN



Charger Manufacturing Facility, Arlington TX

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA)

National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI)

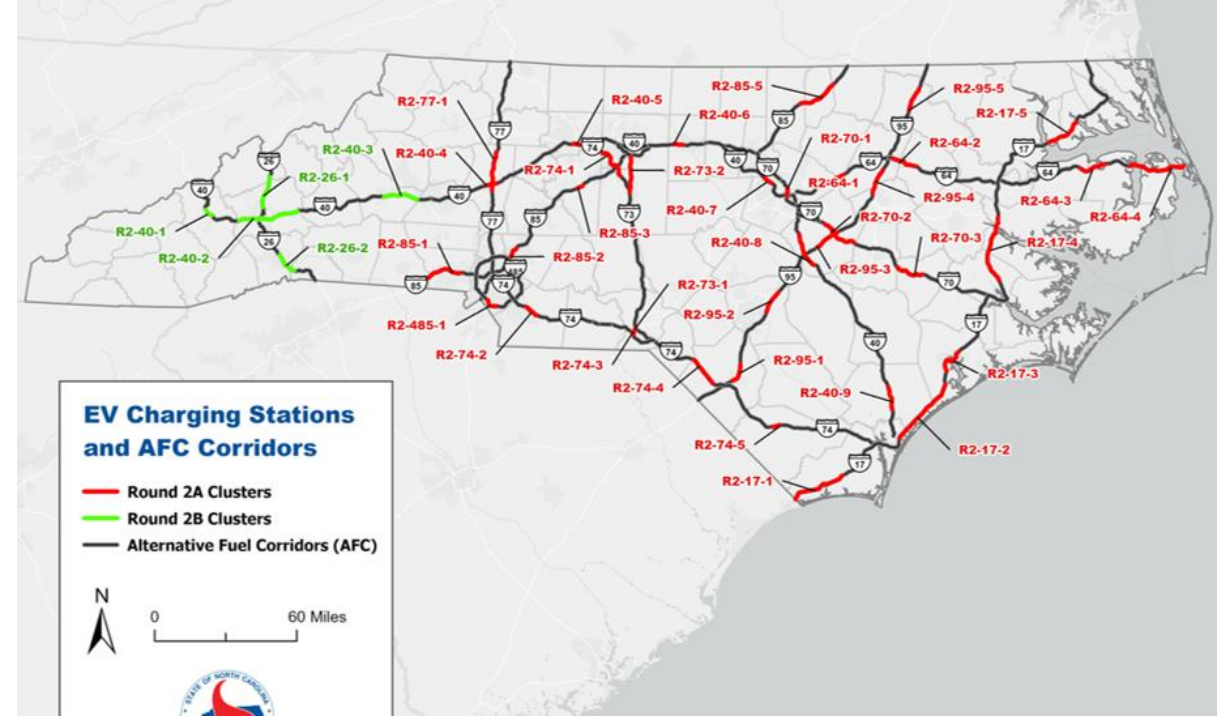
- Formula based program
- Build out a charging spine to support corridor/AFCs light duty travel

Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI)

- Discretionary grant program
- Support community-based charging

Program Conditions

- Highly Regulated/Limited Flexibility
- Exposed technical & delivery challenges



Takeaway: Historic level EV infrastructure investment on the edge of implementation

Freight Challenge

- Public/Private/Energy coordination
- Higher charging power requirements
- More charging utilization
- Power impact on electrical grid
- Increased vehicle, charger and power delivery spatial demands



Takeaway: EV trucking infrastructure barriers are significant vs. light duty vehicles

Today's MHD Electric Vehicle Technology Works

- The Rocky Mountain Institute analyzed a year's worth of trucking telematics data across 15 states
- **Finding:** 60% of medium duty and 43% of heavy duty trucks are electrifiable with today's technology*



**RMI Analysis: With Smart Policy, Truck Electrification Is Within Reach - RMI*



Takeaway: Advancements will continue to make EV adoptions operationally and financially viable

Infrastructure Provides Choice

- Personal – residence charging
- Community – shared destination charging
- Freight (local) – dedicated/shared public charging
- Corridors – shared public enterprise charging
 - Freight
 - Personal
- Transit – dedicated charging
- Maritime – dedicated charging
- Rail – dedicated charging



Takeaway: EV technology investment provides the US with personal and industrial choices

Value of Investment

- Producer vs. Consumer
- Foster US EV ecosystems
- Lead technology development globally
- Capture economic opportunities
- Access global markets
- Future proof infrastructure designs
- Provide US choices



Takeaway: EV ecosystem is moving - lead or follow?



One Energy's 30MW Station, Findlay, OH



Coalition to develop I-10 LA to Texas EV Corridor



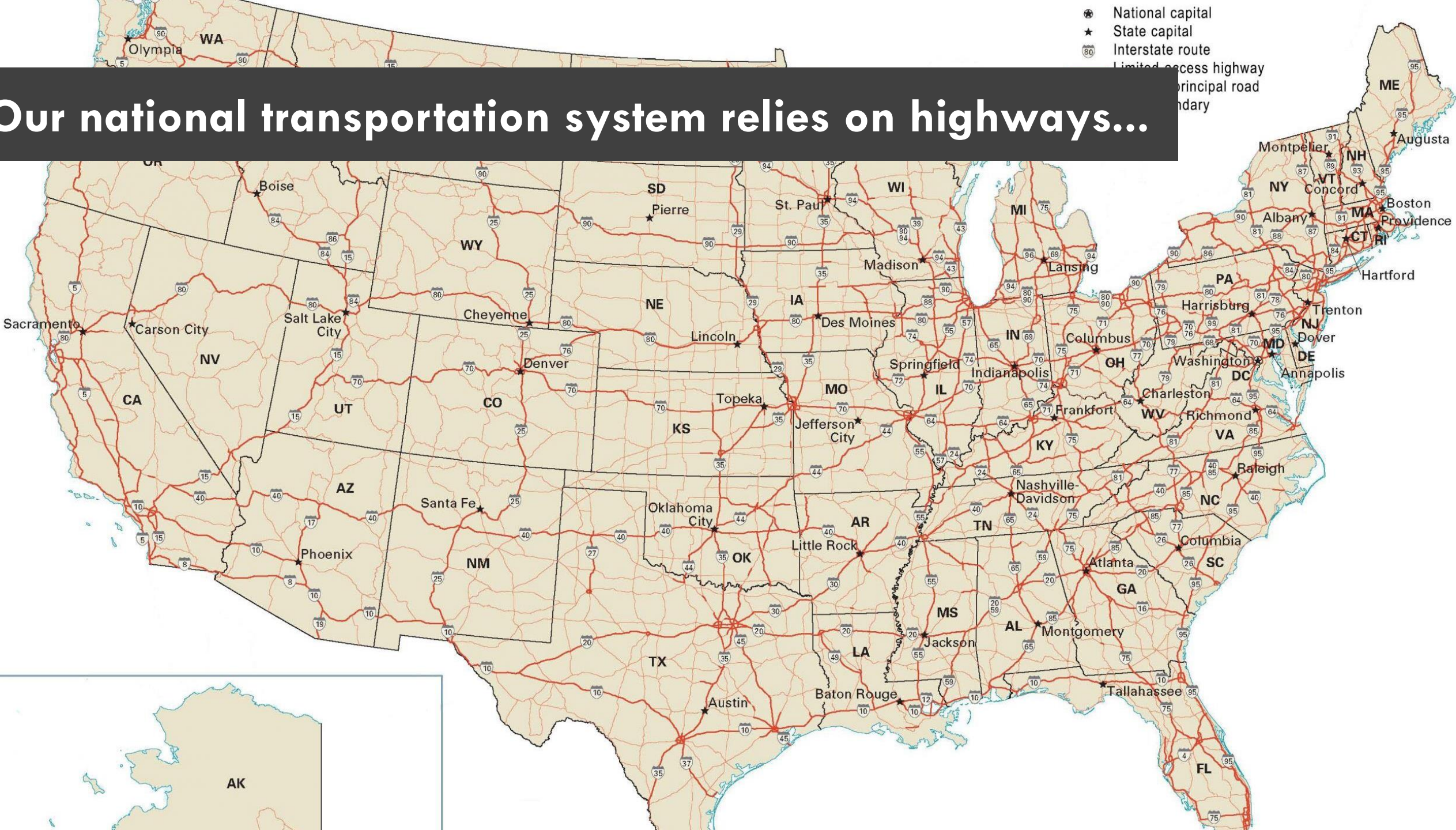
Stormwater, Tires, and Protecting our Nation's Fish



Chelsea Mitchell, PhD

King County, WA, Department of Natural Resources and Parks

Our national transportation system relies on highways...



..and over 3 trillion vehicle miles are driven on US highways annually

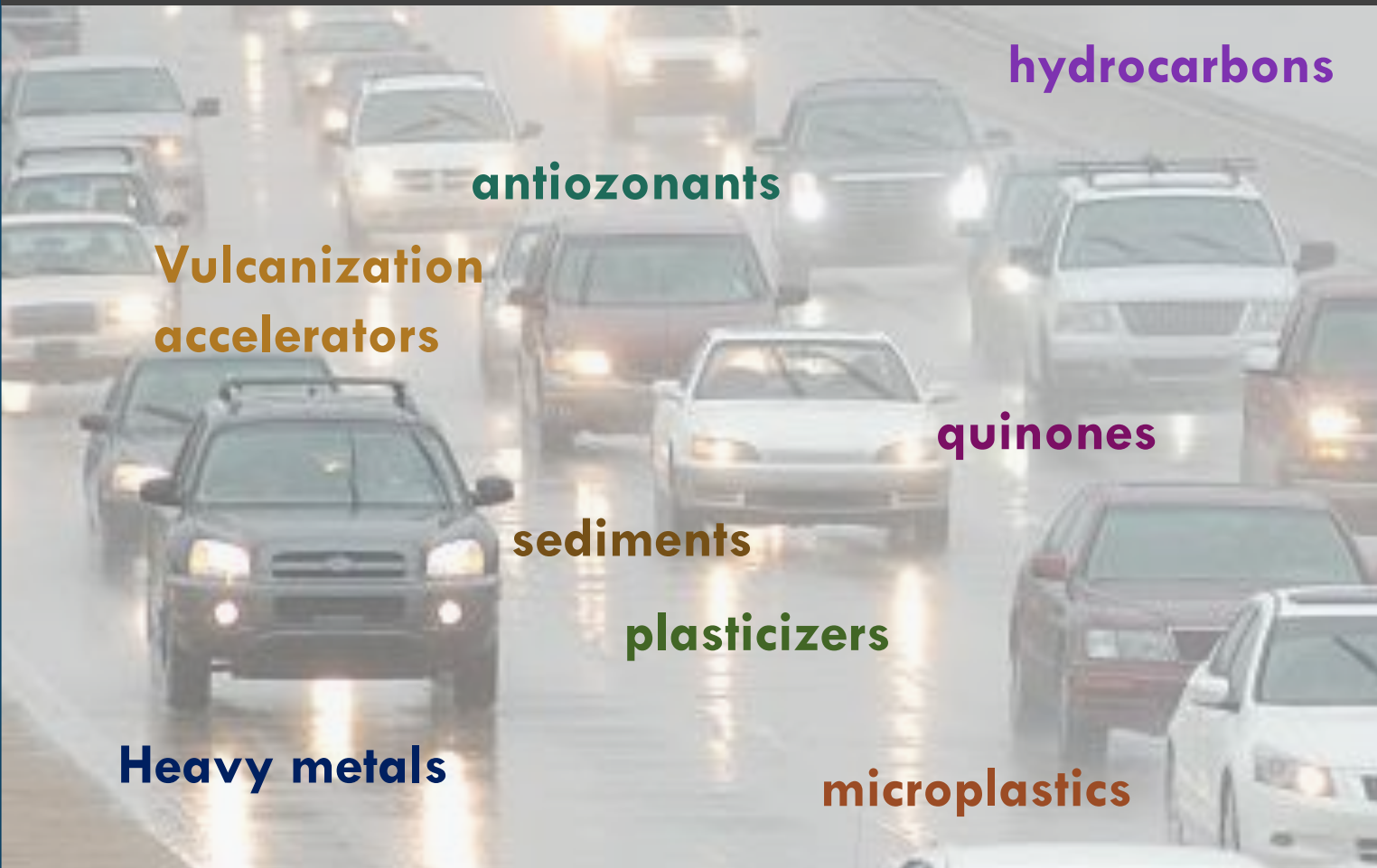




But highways generate toxic stormwater runoff...

Which pollutes our waterways with thousands of toxic chemicals

But highways generate toxic stormwater runoff...

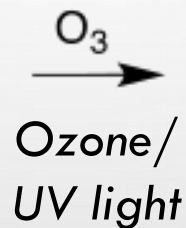
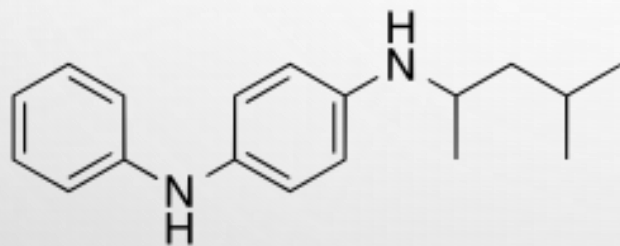


Which pollutes our waterways with thousands of toxic chemicals

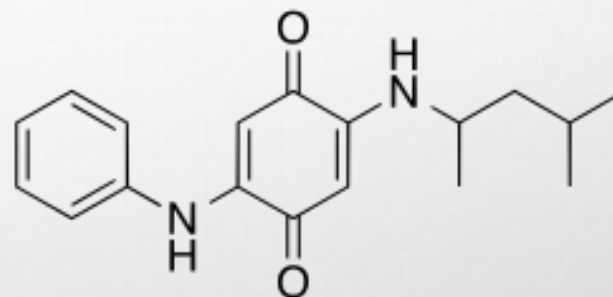
6PPD-quinone is a toxic chemical that comes from tires



6PPD



6PPDQ

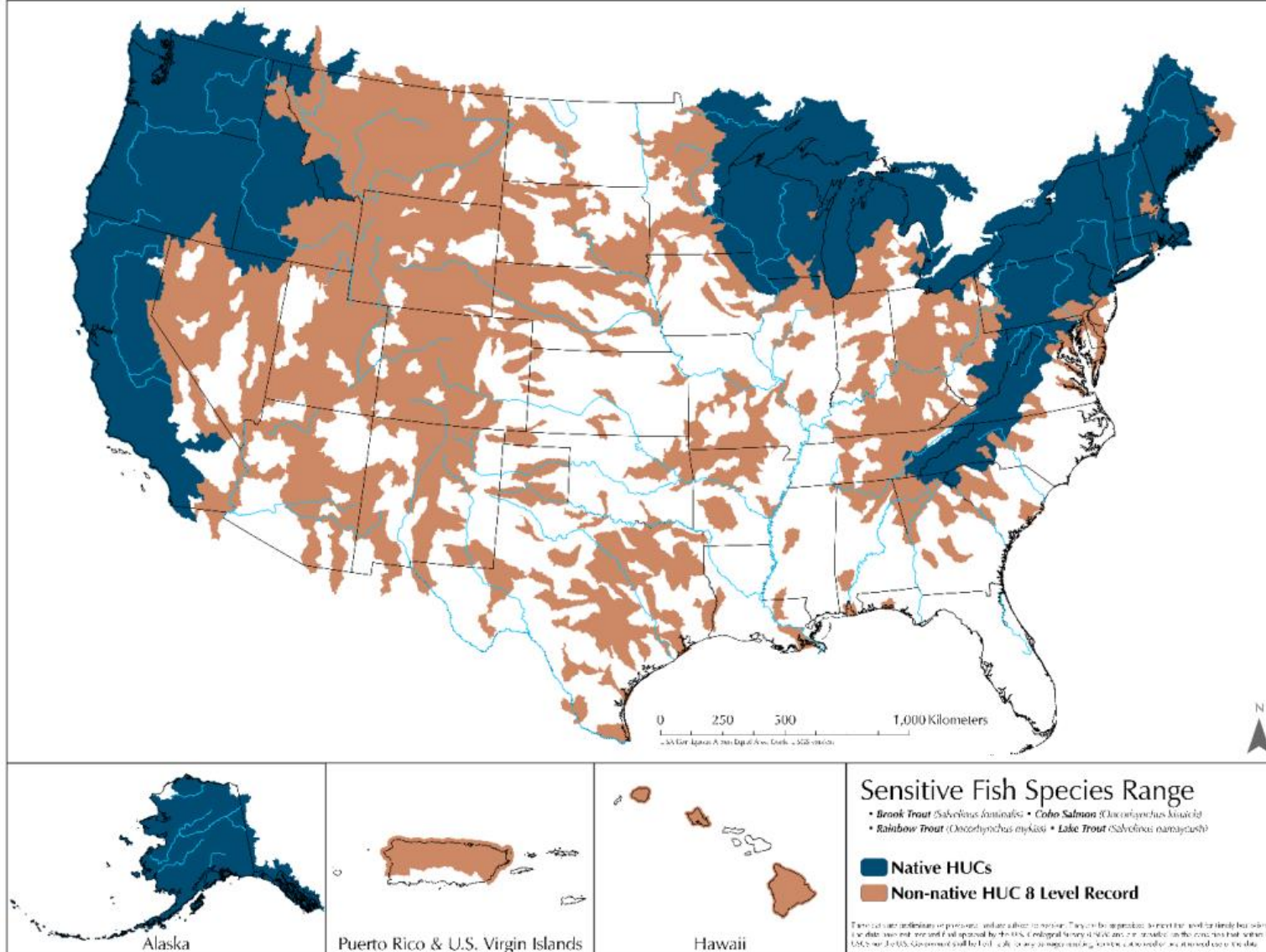


6PPDQ is one of the most toxic chemicals in water...



...it kills coho salmon, even at very low levels

6PPDQ is toxic to fish species across the US



Coho salmon



Coastal cutthroat trout



Brook trout



Rainbow trout



Steelhead



Lake Trout

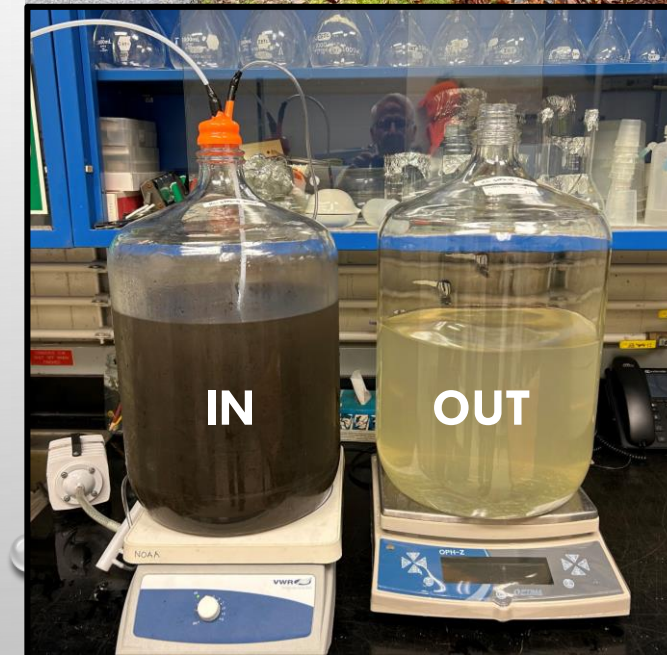
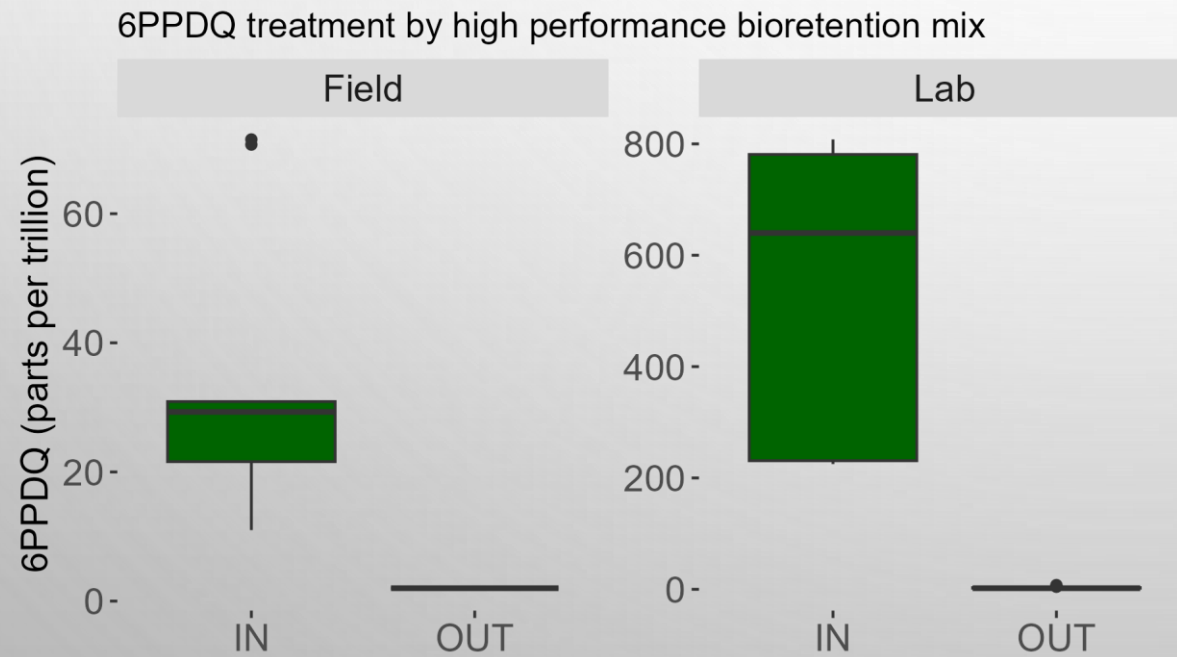
Green stormwater infrastructure can improve water quality...



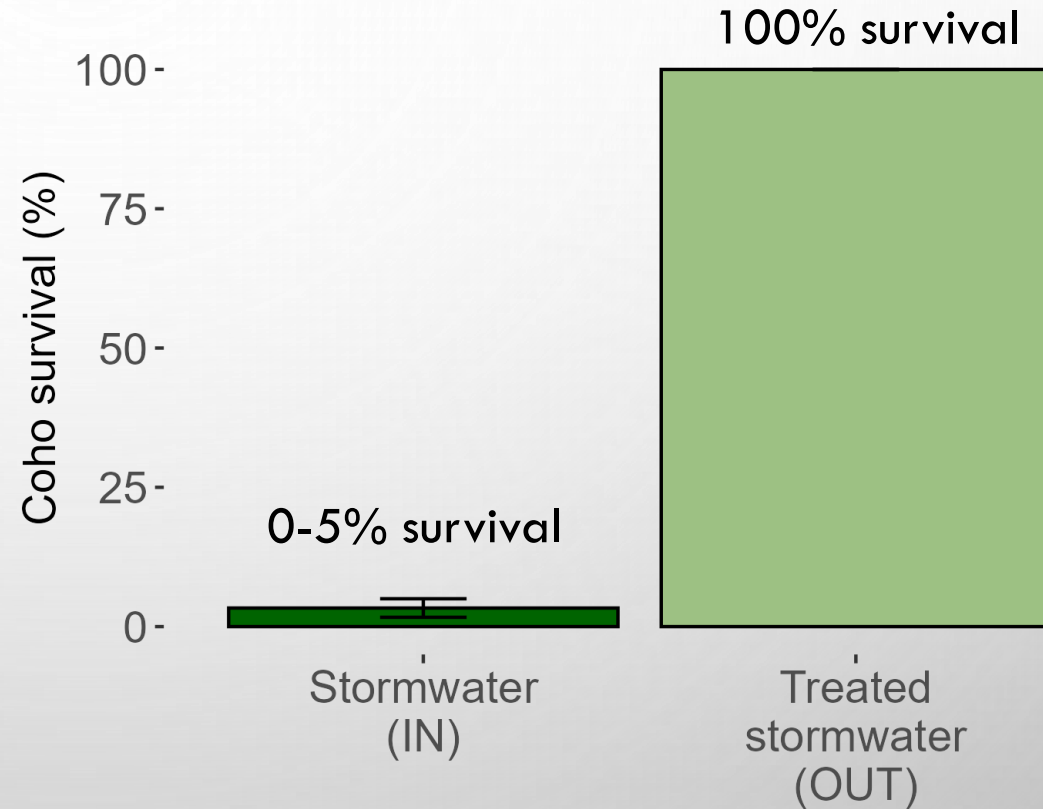
...and protect fish and water resources

Bioretention soils can remove 6PPDQ from stormwater...

- Sand, biochar, and coconut coir
- Doesn't release nutrients, treats 6PPDQ, and many more contaminants

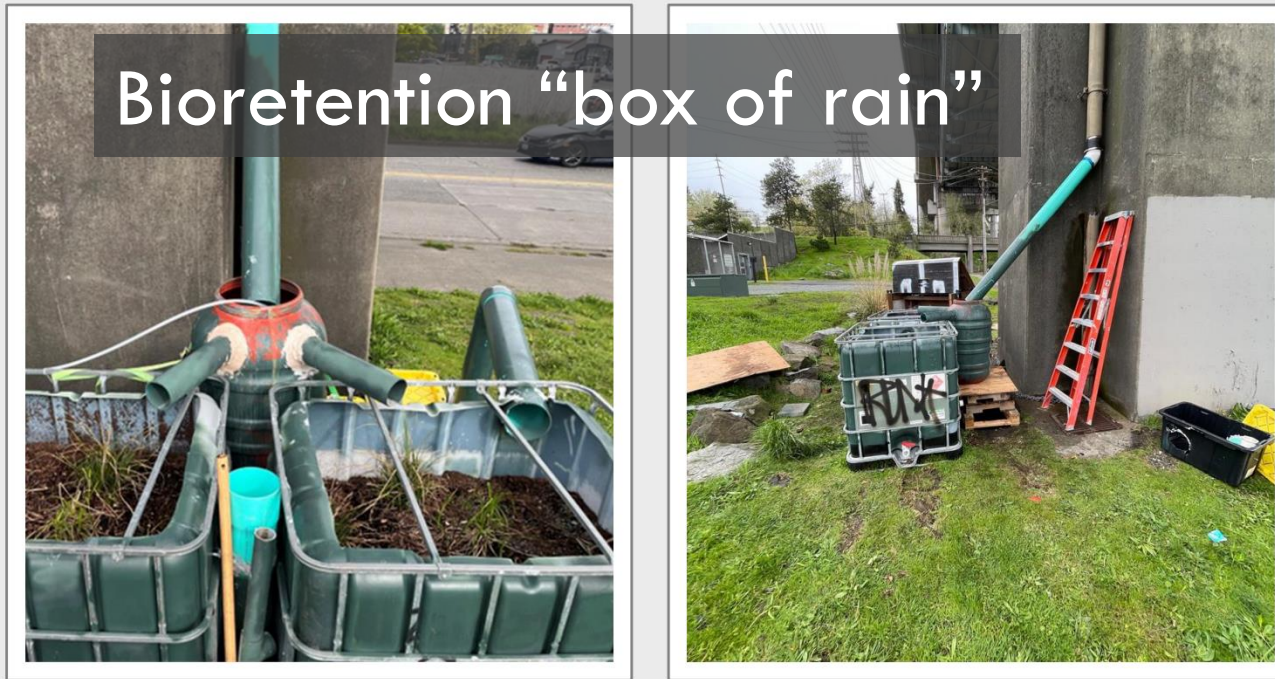


...and protect salmon from its toxic effects



Other ways to treat 6PPDQ on highways

Low cost, simple retrofit

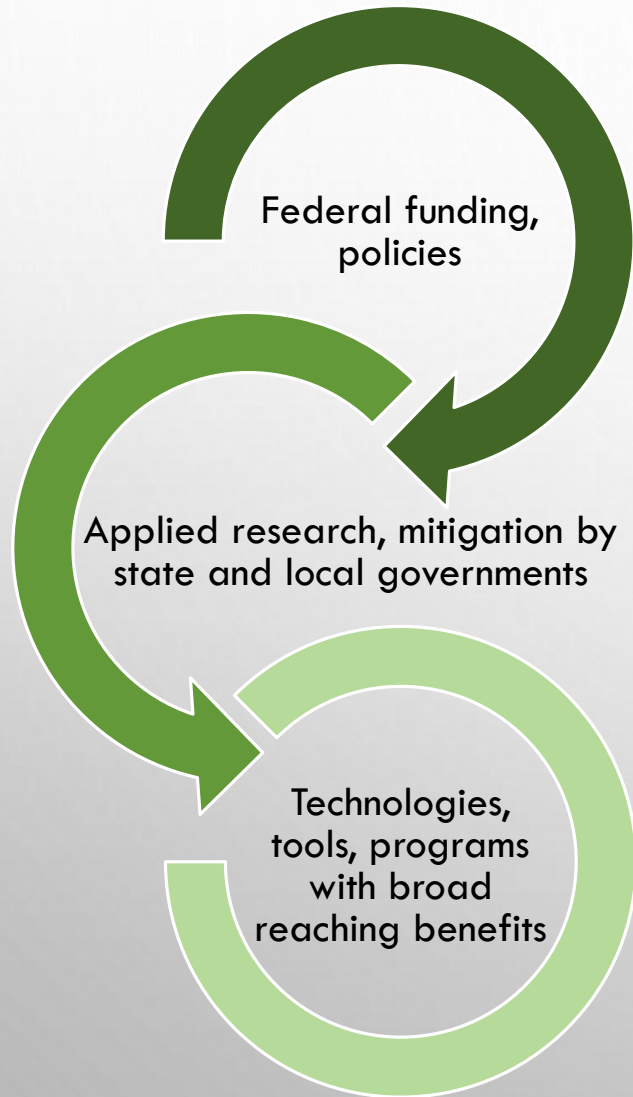


Improve road safety



<https://www.stewardshippartners.org/adopt-a-downspout/>

Federal support is critical for water quality research and stormwater retrofit projects





QUESTIONS?

My contact info

chemitchell@kingcounty.gov



EXTRA SLIDES

SCREENING MODEL

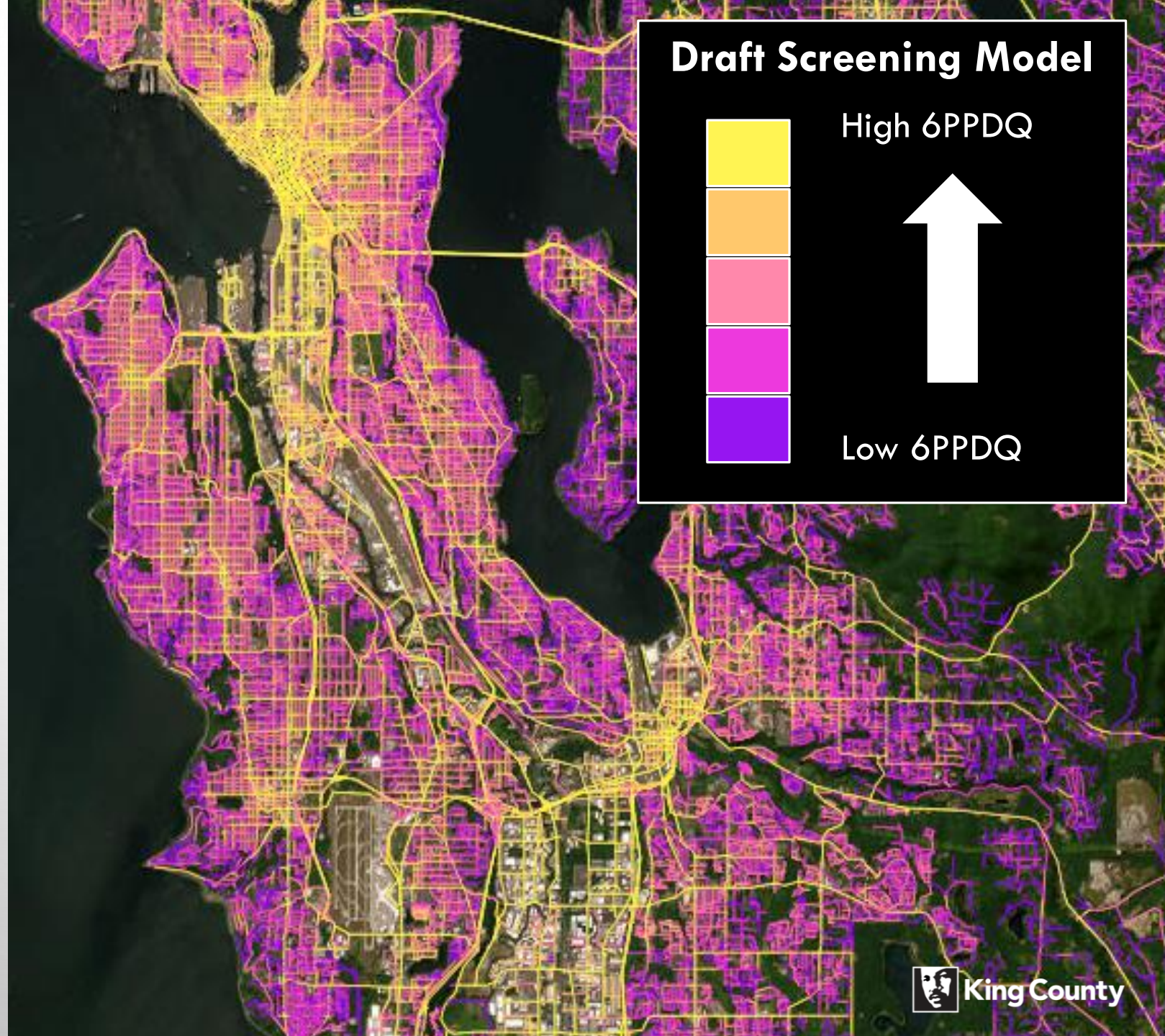
1. Roadway
characteristics

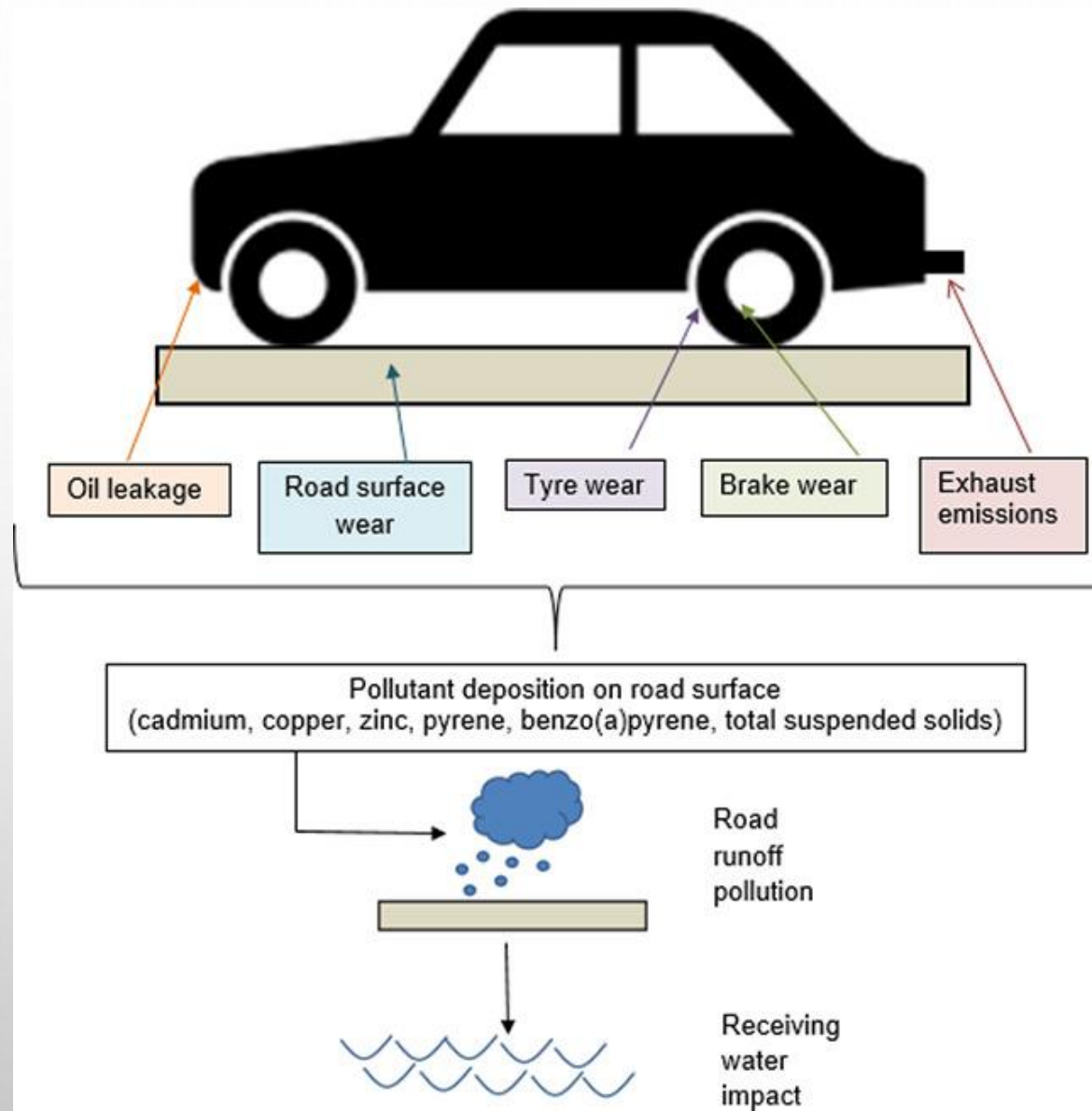


2. GIS data



3. Score





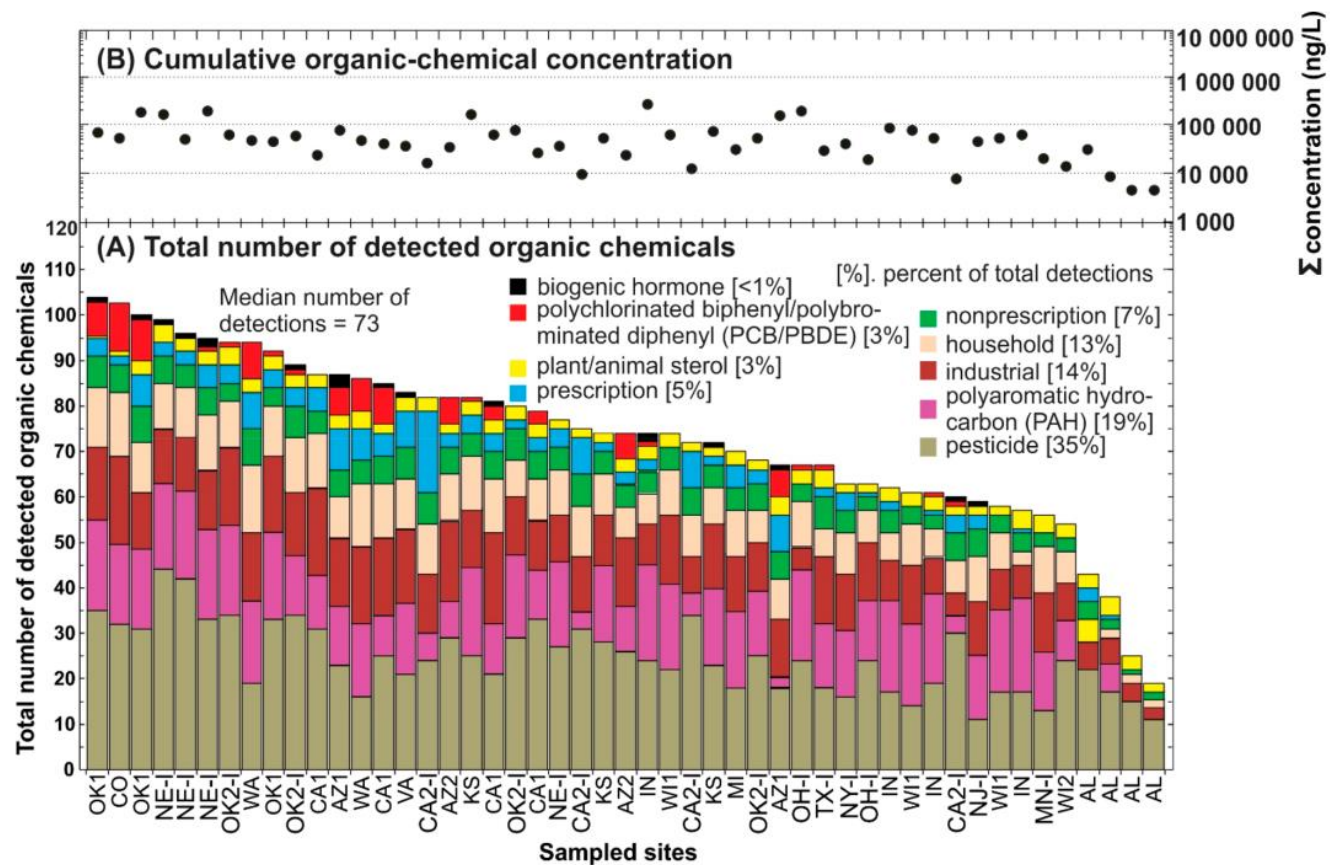
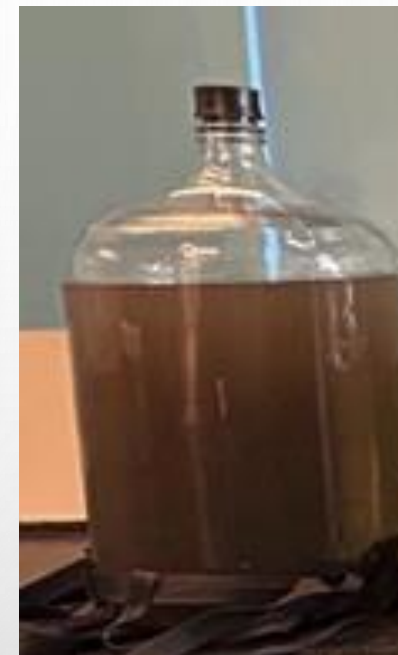


Figure 1. Total number of detected organic chemicals for sampled sites, sorted from left to right by decreasing number of detections (A) and total measured organic-chemical concentration for sampled sites (B).



Masoner et al. 2019. Urban Stormwater: An Overlooked Pathway of Extensive Mixed Contaminants to Surface and Groundwaters in the United States. Environmental Science and Technology.