
Benefit-Cost Analysis for the OMSI Water Avenue South Segment – Technical Memo

Executive Summary

This Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) includes the benefits and costs of the proposed South Segment improvements on SE Water Avenue. The improvements include the construction of a new section of Water Avenue with 12 foot wide sidewalks and a sidewalk level protected bike lane on both sides of the street. The analysis period was 24 years (four years of design, engineering and construction and 20 years of operation) and assumes a useful service life of 30 years for the project. All costs and benefits are presented in 2022 base year dollars.

The following categories of benefits were considered in the BCA:

- **Safety:** The expected reduction in collisions and associated costs.
- **Environmental Sustainability:** Includes reductions in the following pollutants that impact air quality, CO₂, NO_x, SO₂, and PM_{2.5}.
- **Quality of Life:** Includes the health benefits of increased physical activity and reduced mortality costs from new users of the project.
- **Economic Competitiveness:** Includes savings in household transportation costs and traffic congestion costs.
- **State of Good Repair:** Includes reductions in roadway maintenance costs.
- **Maintenance costs (dis-benefit):** Covers the ongoing costs of upkeep to the proposed project.

Result Summary

Table 1 displays the total benefits by category included in the BCA. The capital costs included in the BCA are \$24.7 million. This BCA estimates that the proposed project compared to the no-build scenario over a 24-year evaluation period and at a 3.1 percent real discount rate has a net present value of **\$6.3 million** and a benefit-cost ratio of **1.3: 1.0**.

Table 1. Total Benefits over 20 years of Operation (Undiscounted)

CATEGORY	MONETARY VALUE (in 2022 dollars)
Safety Benefits	\$6,700,000
Environmental Sustainability	\$530,000
Quality of Life	\$33,288,000
Economic Competitiveness	\$1,962,000
State of Good Repair	\$283,000
Maintenance Costs	\$(200,000)
Residual Value	\$9,225,000
TOTAL BENEFITS	\$51,784,000

Table 2. Benefit-Cost Analysis Summary

CATEGORY	DISCOUNTED ¹ VALUE (in 2022 dollars)
Net Discounted Benefits	\$31,048,000
Net Discounted Capital Costs	\$24,719,000
Net Present Value	\$6,327,000
Benefit - Cost Ratio	1.26

Background

The benefit-cost analysis (BCA) for this project follows the principles documented in the USDOT Benefit-Cost Analysis Guidance for Discretionary Grant Programs (2023) and uses the recommended parameter values where applicable. The BCA includes the benefits and costs for the proposed project area if construction were to proceed. The analysis period was 24 years (four years of design, engineering, and construction and 20 years of operation) and assumes a useful service life of 30 years. All costs and benefits are presented in 2022 base year dollars. Benefits and cost streams were discounted using a 3.1% per year discount rate, except for carbon benefits, which were discounted at 2% per year. This memo contains a detailed explanation of the BCA methodology and the parameter values that were used.

¹ A 3.1% discount rate was used for all benefits and costs with the exception of carbon benefits which were discounted at 2% per year.

Approach to Benefits and Study Area

This BCA approach expands on the methods suggested by the National Cooperative Highway Research Program (NCHRP) Report 552: Guidelines for Analysis of Investments in Bicycle Facilities by incorporating detailed local demographic information and using new data and research that has become available since Guidelines for Analysis was published in 2006.

While construction of the project will benefit all residents of and visitors to the region, those living within three miles (about a 15-minute bike ride) and one-half mile (about a 10-minute walk) of the project will have the most convenient access and will gain the most from its completion. Accordingly, this BCA focuses on the bicycling benefits attributed to residents living within three miles of the project and on the walking benefits attributed to residents living within one-half mile of the project. There are several benefit categories that benefit the region more widely (reduced roadway maintenance, healthcare costs), but these ranges are used to constrain this analysis to the main beneficiaries.

Benefits were primarily calculated by comparing walking and biking activity (including collisions) under the baseline to a Build scenario in which the proposed project area has been implemented. The baseline and build scenarios encompass an identical geography (Census Block Groups within 3 miles of the project). **The benefits included in the Net Present Value and Benefit-Cost Ratio calculations are the net difference between the two scenarios.**

Table 3: Summary Matrix

Baseline	Build Scenario	Type of Impacts
Walking and biking activity within 3 miles of the study area.	Construction of new street segment with sidewalks and protected bike lanes and the estimated impacts on walking and biking activity within 3 miles of the study area.	Reduced pollution, reduced mortality due to increased physical activity, reduced bicycle and pedestrian collisions, reduced roadway maintenance, reduced traffic congestion, and reduced household transportation costs.

Costs

The capital cost schedule is shown in **Table 4**. This schedule includes design, engineering, right-of-way acquisition, construction management, and installation. Costs were adjusted to 2022 dollars based on an assumed inflation rate of 7% per year.

Table 4. Project Construction Schedule and Cost (Undiscounted)

Construction Year	Cost Estimate (2022 dollars)
2024	\$4,176,193
2025	\$7,463,878
2026	\$8,017,675
2027	\$8,017,675
Total Capital Costs	\$27,675,422

The estimated maintenance costs are \$10,000 per year. The total maintenance costs included in the BCA were \$200,000 (undiscounted) and they were included as a disbenefit in the benefit-cost ratio. Maintenance costs were estimated based on the costs to maintain similar facilities in Oregon.

Useful Life

The expected useful service life of 30 years for the proposed project area. The window of analysis used was 20 years. A residual value of \$9,225,141 (undiscounted) was claimed, assuming linear depreciation.

Demand

To understand the benefits of the proposed project area, a demand analysis was conducted to estimate the expected number of biking and walking trips that would occur after the project is implemented. The primary input to the demand analysis were bicycle and pedestrian counts at the location in the project area. **Table 5** displays the location and count data that was used in the analysis.

Table 5: Bike Count at Project Area

Counter Location in Portland, OR	Average Daily Pedestrian Users	Average Daily Bicycle Users	Average Daily Users	Source
SE Clay & Water	NA	680	680	Portland Bicycle Counts. Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) (2023).

Creating pedestrian estimates of demand based on existing bike counts often requires extrapolating based on other datasets to understand what the mode share is on a corridor. Powerful proxy metrics for demand and mode shift potential include looking at the rates of Active Trip Potential (ATP) or mode share on a network link. In the analysis, Replica Places’ activity-based model outputs for a typical Thursday in 2023 were used to collect information on ATP trips. Details of Replica’s modeling approach are articulated in **Appendix A**. ATP trips evaluated included those that terminate within a 3-mile buffer (bicycle) of mile-long segments of the proposed project area the existing counts were taken on.

Using average daily volume, bicycle counts on the intersection of SE Clay and Water Avenue in Portland, Oregon, was then used to estimate pedestrian activity. The pedestrian estimates were calculated using Replica Places mode share on the segments of Water Avenue at the intersection with Clay Street, account for 24% of active trips.

As the project aims to convert an existing Class II bike lane to a Class IV separated bikeway, the project team employed the use of percent inflation factors associated with creating active transportation infrastructure, to estimate future demand along the project area. These percent inflation factors were derived from the Caltrans Active Transportation Benefit Cost Tool², in combination with recent literature³⁴⁵⁶⁷ on the subject. The percent inflation factors consider the relative change in bicycle level of traffic stress (LTS) that would occur based off the construction of the new facility as well as the quality of the facility that would be installed. In the analysis it was concluded that the project would not induce a route shift from the nearby bike facilities. To calculate estimated bicycle demand on the project area, the bicycle baseline count estimates at the Clay and Water Avenue intersection was multiplied by the percent inflation factors.

It is estimated that there will be 1,169 daily users on opening day, including **278 pedestrian trips and 891 bicycle trips daily**. The demand estimate is expected to grow by 1% annually. This is consistent with population growth trends and projects in Portland, OR.⁸

Benefits

Walking and Biking Activity

The CBA estimated current levels of walking and biking within the project area using American Community Survey (ACS) data. **Table 6** displays the existing commute to work mode share for people within walking and biking distance of the proposed project.

Table 6. Means of Transportation to Work of People Living in the Study Area (2021 American Community Survey)

Proposed Project Area	Employment Population	Drove Alone	Carpool	Public Transit	Bicycled	Walked	Other	Work From Home
Walkshed (within half-mile)	8,159	41.2%	3.8%	11.8%	7.0%	10.7%	0.9%	23.3%
Bikeshed (within 3 miles)	155,628	45.8%	4.7%	11.3%	6.6%	8.7%	1.2%	21.2%

The means of transportation to work data was converted to daily estimates and extrapolated to annual trip volumes and broken into different trip types (i.e. commute, school, college, and utilitarian) using the existing travel patterns (**Table 6**) and data from the National Household Transportation Survey (**Table 7**). The annual extrapolations account for the expected number of trips per week by trip type (i.e., commute, school, and college trips are expected five out of seven days a week, and other trip types are expected to occur seven days a week).

² Caltrans Active Transportation Benefit Cost Tool. <https://activetravelbenefits.ucdavis.edu/>

³ Broach et al., 2012 - revealed preference (RP) bicyclist route choice model

⁴ Broach and Dill, 2016 - RP mode choice model, including walking and biking

⁵ McNeil et al., 2015 - stated preference (SP) study of bike lane treatments

⁶ Broach and Dill, 2015 - RP pedestrian route choice model

⁷ Sevtsuk et al., 2021 - RP pedestrian route choice model

⁸ Oregon Metro. 2045 Regional Population Housing Forecast

Table 7: Trip Purpose Multiplier⁹

	Bike	Walk
Utilitarian Trip Multiplier	5.33	8.77

Increase in Walking and Biking Activity

The Baseline assumes that the walking and biking mode share will remain constant and that trips will increase annually with expected population growth. In the Build scenario, the demand estimates for the project area were added to the existing walking and biking activity starting in 2028 (the expected opening year). The demand estimates were escalated by the expected population growth factor each year. The estimated annual benefit of increased walking and biking trips is listed in **Table 14**.

Decrease in Motor Vehicle Trips

Some of the estimated annual bicycle trips are expected to replace motor vehicle trips. Calibrated to modal shift factors reported in literature¹⁰, a univariate regression model estimates the motor vehicle trip replacement factor based on the percentage of trips that terminate in census block groups within ¼-mile of the proposed facility that are less than 4 miles. Trip distance data is provided by Replica for a typical travel Thursday in Portland in Spring 2023¹¹. The motor vehicle trip replacement factor for all active mode trips is **20.9%**. The details of this model are documented in **Appendix B**.

To estimate the number of vehicle-miles that might be replaced by bicycling and walking trips, **Table 8** shows the average trip distance of bicycling and walking trips by trip purpose. The number of vehicle miles reduced due to bicycle and pedestrian trips was calculated by multiplying the number of biking or walking trips by the trip replacement and trip distance factors. The estimated annual benefit of vehicle miles reduced is listed in **Table 15**.

⁹ Travel Day Person Trips (in millions), NHTSA 2017 <https://nhts.ornl.gov/>

¹⁰ Volker et al (2019). Quantifying Reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled from New Bike Paths, Lanes, and Cycle Tracks

¹¹ Replica Places (2019). <https://replicahq.com/>

Table 8: Trip Distance (miles)

	Bike	Walk
Commuter Trips ¹²	2.47	0.72
College Trips ¹³	1.31	0.43
K-12 School Trips ¹⁴	1.36	0.69
Utilitarian Trips ¹⁵	2.28	0.83
Social/Recreational Trips ¹⁶	2.73	1.12

Environmental Sustainability Benefits

For every vehicle-mile of travel (VMT) reduced, there is an assumed decrease in greenhouse gases and criteria pollutants. **Table 9** lists the reduction in greenhouse gases and criteria pollutants by vehicle-mile traveled. The cost to mitigate or clean-up those pollutants was calculated using the monetary values provided by the 2023 USDOT BCA Guidance Table A-6 for the corresponding year. Emission types not listed in that table were not included in the analysis. Estimated annual environmental sustainability benefits are listed in **Table 16**.

¹² NHTS (2017). http://nhts.ornl.gov/tables09/fatcat/2009/aptl_TRPTRANS_WHYTRP1S.html

¹³ Ibid.

¹⁴ Safe Routes National Center for Safe Routes to School, Trends in Walking and Bicycling to School from 2007 to 2013 (2015). http://www.saferoutesinfo.org/sites/default/files/SurveyTrends_2007-13_final1.pdf

¹⁵ NHTS (2017). http://nhts.ornl.gov/tables09/fatcat/2009/aptl_TRPTRANS_WHYTRP1S.html

¹⁶ Ibid

Table 9: Environmental Sustainability Multipliers

	Value (metric tons/VMT)
Particulate Matter 2.5 (PM _{2.5}) ¹⁷	0.000000044
Nitrous Oxides (NOx) ¹⁸	0.0000008
Sulfur Oxides (SO ₂) ¹⁹	0.00000001
Carbon Dioxide ²⁰	0.00044

A reduction in VMT is more like to come from increased utilitarian trips (commuting, shopping, etc.) that might often be taken by a car, than recreational trips that are not substituting driving. VMT reduction would occur on parallel routes and in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project area. The sphere of influence will be as large as the distance between the origins or destinations of trips taking place on the new facility.

Quality of Life Benefits

More people bicycling and walking can help encourage an increase in physical activity levels, increased cardiovascular health, and other positive outcomes for users. The benefits from reduced mortality were calculated using the recommended values provided in the 2023 USDOT BCA Guidance (Table A-13) and the national distribution of age ranges and travel patterns. These benefits were applied to the estimated number of walking and biking trips along the proposed project area. **Table 10** displays the multipliers that were used. Estimated annual quality of life benefits are listed in **Table 17**.

¹⁷ The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule for MY2021-MY2026 Passenger Cars, BUILD Guidance 2020, Table A-7 and Light Trucks Preliminary Regulatory Impact Analysis (October 2018)

https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/ld_cafe_co2_nhtsa_2127-al76_epa_pria_181016.pdf

¹⁸ The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule for MY2021-MY2026 Passenger Cars, BUILD Guidance 2020, Table A-7 and Light Trucks Preliminary Regulatory Impact Analysis (October 2018)

https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/ld_cafe_co2_nhtsa_2127-al76_epa_pria_181016.pdf

¹⁹ The Safer Affordable Fuel-Efficient Vehicles Rule for MY2021-MY2026 Passenger Cars, BUILD Guidance 2020, Table A-7 and Light Trucks Preliminary Regulatory Impact Analysis (October 2018)

https://www.nhtsa.gov/sites/nhtsa.dot.gov/files/documents/ld_cafe_co2_nhtsa_2127-al76_epa_pria_181016.pdf

²⁰ Technical Support Document: Technical Update of the Social Cost of Carbon for Regulatory Impact Analysis Under Executive Order 12866. <https://www.whitehouse.gov/sites/default/files/omb/inforeg/scc-tsd-final-july-2015.pdf>

Table 10: Mortality Reduction Multipliers

Mortality Reduction Benefits of Induced Active Transportation	Value
Walking Value per Induced Trip	\$ 7.63
Cycling Value per Induced Trips	\$ 6.80
Walking Age Proportion (20-74 years old)	68%
Cycling Age Proportion (20-64 years old)	59%
Trips induced from non-active modes	89%

Economic Competitiveness Benefits

For every vehicle-mile reduced, there is a reduction in household transportation costs and congestion costs. **Table 11** displays the multipliers use to calculate economic competitiveness benefit. The estimated annual economic competitiveness benefits are shown in **Table 18**.

Table 11: Economic Competitiveness Multipliers

	Value
Household Transportation Cost Savings	\$0.43 per VMT ²¹
Congestion Cost Savings	\$0.06 per VMT ^{22,23}

Safety Benefits

The proposed project would decrease conflicts between biking with motor vehicles. The analysis used collision data covering a five-year period between 2017 and 2021 from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT)²⁴. The project is expected to serve as a key north-south bike route in the area, and attract people biking from other less safe alternative routes. As a result, collisions included in the analysis involved a bicycle and were located on facilities, west to 7th Avenue, and north to the Hawthorne Boulevard either parallel, or in the immediate vicinity of the proposed project (**Table 12**). The Crash Reduction Factor (CRF): Convert Traditional or Flush Buffered Bike Lane to SBL with a Blend of Flexi-Post and Other Vertical Elements (CM ID: 11303) was applied to their appropriate crashes within the immediate vicinity of the project. Benefits were monetized using

²¹ Our Driving Costs, AAA (2016). http://exchange.aaa.com/automobiles-travel/automobiles/driving-costs/#.Vw_xCPkrKUK

²² Crashes vs. Congestion: What's the Cost to Society? AAA (2011).

http://www.camsys.com/pubs/2011_AAA_CrashvCongUpd.pdf

²³ Crashes vs. Congestion: What's the Cost to Society? AAA (2011).

http://www.camsys.com/pubs/2011_AAA_CrashvCongUpd.pdf

²⁴ ODOT Crash Data Viewer. <https://www.oregon.gov/odot/Data/Pages/Crash-Data-Viewer.aspx>

the values provided in the 2023 USDOT BCA Guidance Table A-1 and converted²⁵ to KABCO Level data. The estimated annual safety benefits are shown in **Table 19**.

Table 12. Summary of Collisions matched to CRFs

Annual Crashes							
KABCO:	O - NO INJURY	C - POSSIBLE INJURY	B - NON- INCAPACITATING	A - INCAPACITATING	K - KILLED	U - INJURED (SEVERITY UNKOWN)	CRF
CRF: Convert Traditional or Flush Buffered Bike Lane to SBL with a Blend of Flexi-Post and Other Vertical Elements							
Annual Bicycle Crashes:	0.00	1.60	0.80	0.40	0.00	0.00	0.398

State of Good Repair Benefits

Table 13 shows the estimated roadway maintenance cost savings associated with a reduction in vehicle-miles traveled. The estimated state of good repair benefits are shown in **Table 20**.

Table 13: State of Good Repair Multiplier

Value (metric tons/VMT)	
Roadway Maintenance Cost Savings	\$0.08 per VMT ²⁶

Results

Table 14 through Table 23 display the results of the benefit-cost analysis for each year of the analysis period. This BCA estimates that the proposed project compared to the no-build scenario over a 24-year evaluation (2024-2047) and at a 3.1 percent real discount rate has a net present value of **\$6.3 million** and a benefit-cost ratio of **1.3: 1.0**.

²⁵ USDOT Departmental Guidance. Treatment of the Value of Preventing Fatalities and Injuries in Preparing Economic Analyses (March 2021)

<https://www.transportation.gov/sites/dot.gov/files/2021-03/DOT%20VSL%20Guidance%20-%202021%20Update.pdf>

²⁶ Kitamura, R., Zhao, H., and Gubby, A. R. Development of a Pavement Maintenance Cost Allocation Model. Institute of Transportation Studies, University of California, Davis. <https://trid.trb.org/view.aspx?id=261768>



Table 14: Estimated Annual Bicycle and Pedestrian Trips

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Additional Trips
2024	54,707,100	54,707,100	-
2025	55,060,800	55,060,800	-
2026	55,414,600	55,414,600	-
2027	55,768,400	55,768,400	-
2028	56,122,100	56,517,500	395,400
2029	56,475,900	56,875,200	399,300
2030	56,829,700	57,233,000	403,300
2031	57,183,400	57,590,800	407,400
2032	57,537,200	57,948,600	411,400
2033	57,891,000	58,306,500	415,500
2034	58,244,700	58,664,400	419,700
2035	58,598,500	59,022,400	423,900
2036	58,952,300	59,380,400	428,100
2037	59,306,000	59,738,400	432,400
2038	59,659,800	60,096,500	436,700
2039	60,013,500	60,454,600	441,100
2040	60,367,300	60,812,800	445,500
2041	60,721,100	61,171,000	449,900
2042	61,074,800	61,529,300	454,500
2043	61,428,600	61,887,600	459,000
2044	61,782,400	62,245,900	463,500
2045	62,136,100	62,604,300	468,200
2046	62,489,900	62,962,800	472,900
2047	62,843,700	63,321,300	477,600
Total Additional Trips:			8,705,300



Table 15: Estimated Annual Vehicle Miles Reduced

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Additional Vehicle Miles Reduced
2024	23,944,300	23,944,300	-
2025	24,099,100	24,099,100	-
2026	24,253,900	24,253,900	-
2027	24,408,800	24,408,800	-
2028	24,563,600	24,721,700	158,100
2029	24,718,500	24,878,100	159,600
2030	24,873,300	25,034,500	161,200
2031	25,028,100	25,191,000	162,900
2032	25,183,000	25,347,400	164,400
2033	25,337,800	25,503,900	166,100
2034	25,492,600	25,660,400	167,800
2035	25,647,500	25,816,900	169,400
2036	25,802,300	25,973,500	171,200
2037	25,957,100	26,130,000	172,900
2038	26,112,000	26,286,600	174,600
2039	26,266,800	26,443,200	176,400
2040	26,421,600	26,599,800	178,200
2041	26,576,500	26,756,400	179,900
2042	26,731,300	26,913,000	181,700
2043	26,886,200	27,069,700	183,500
2044	27,041,000	27,226,300	185,300
2045	27,195,800	27,383,000	187,200
2046	27,350,700	27,539,700	189,000
2047	27,505,500	27,696,500	191,000
Total Additional Vehicle Miles Reduced:			3,480,400



Table 16: Estimated Annual Environmental Sustainability Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ 3,289,100	\$ 3,310,300	\$ 21,200
2029	\$ 3,353,400	\$ 3,375,000	\$ 21,600
2030	\$ 3,427,200	\$ 3,449,500	\$ 22,300
2031	\$ 3,504,200	\$ 3,527,000	\$ 22,800
2032	\$ 3,559,500	\$ 3,582,800	\$ 23,300
2033	\$ 3,637,800	\$ 3,661,600	\$ 23,800
2034	\$ 3,705,400	\$ 3,729,800	\$ 24,400
2035	\$ 3,773,500	\$ 3,798,500	\$ 25,000
2036	\$ 3,842,200	\$ 3,867,700	\$ 25,500
2037	\$ 3,923,000	\$ 3,949,100	\$ 26,100
2038	\$ 3,981,300	\$ 4,007,900	\$ 26,600
2039	\$ 4,051,600	\$ 4,078,800	\$ 27,200
2040	\$ 4,134,300	\$ 4,162,100	\$ 27,800
2041	\$ 4,205,800	\$ 4,234,300	\$ 28,500
2042	\$ 4,289,800	\$ 4,318,900	\$ 29,100
2043	\$ 4,362,400	\$ 4,392,200	\$ 29,800
2044	\$ 4,447,700	\$ 4,478,200	\$ 30,500
2045	\$ 4,521,600	\$ 4,552,700	\$ 31,100
2046	\$ 4,608,200	\$ 4,640,000	\$ 31,800
2047	\$ 4,695,400	\$ 4,728,000	\$ 32,600
Total Benefits:			\$ 531,000



Table 17: Estimated Annual Quality of Life Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ 207,258,000	\$ 208,770,000	\$ 1,512,000
2029	\$ 208,564,000	\$ 210,091,000	\$ 1,527,000
2030	\$ 209,871,000	\$ 211,413,000	\$ 1,542,000
2031	\$ 211,177,000	\$ 212,735,000	\$ 1,558,000
2032	\$ 212,484,000	\$ 214,057,000	\$ 1,573,000
2033	\$ 213,790,000	\$ 215,379,000	\$ 1,589,000
2034	\$ 215,097,000	\$ 216,701,000	\$ 1,604,000
2035	\$ 216,403,000	\$ 218,024,000	\$ 1,621,000
2036	\$ 217,709,000	\$ 219,346,000	\$ 1,637,000
2037	\$ 219,016,000	\$ 220,669,000	\$ 1,653,000
2038	\$ 220,322,000	\$ 221,992,000	\$ 1,670,000
2039	\$ 221,629,000	\$ 223,315,000	\$ 1,686,000
2040	\$ 222,935,000	\$ 224,639,000	\$ 1,704,000
2041	\$ 224,242,000	\$ 225,962,000	\$ 1,720,000
2042	\$ 225,548,000	\$ 227,286,000	\$ 1,738,000
2043	\$ 226,855,000	\$ 228,610,000	\$ 1,755,000
2044	\$ 228,161,000	\$ 229,934,000	\$ 1,773,000
2045	\$ 229,467,000	\$ 231,258,000	\$ 1,791,000
2046	\$ 230,774,000	\$ 232,582,000	\$ 1,808,000
2047	\$ 232,080,000	\$ 233,907,000	\$ 1,827,000
Total Benefits:			\$ 33,288,000



Table 18: Estimated Annual Economic Competitiveness Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ 13,846,400	\$ 13,935,500	\$ 89,100
2029	\$ 13,933,700	\$ 14,023,700	\$ 90,000
2030	\$ 14,021,000	\$ 14,111,900	\$ 90,900
2031	\$ 14,108,300	\$ 14,200,100	\$ 91,800
2032	\$ 14,195,500	\$ 14,288,300	\$ 92,800
2033	\$ 14,282,800	\$ 14,376,500	\$ 93,700
2034	\$ 14,370,100	\$ 14,464,700	\$ 94,600
2035	\$ 14,457,400	\$ 14,552,900	\$ 95,500
2036	\$ 14,544,700	\$ 14,641,100	\$ 96,400
2037	\$ 14,631,900	\$ 14,729,400	\$ 97,500
2038	\$ 14,719,200	\$ 14,817,600	\$ 98,400
2039	\$ 14,806,500	\$ 14,905,900	\$ 99,400
2040	\$ 14,893,800	\$ 14,994,200	\$ 100,400
2041	\$ 14,981,100	\$ 15,082,500	\$ 101,400
2042	\$ 15,068,300	\$ 15,170,800	\$ 102,500
2043	\$ 15,155,600	\$ 15,259,100	\$ 103,500
2044	\$ 15,242,900	\$ 15,347,400	\$ 104,500
2045	\$ 15,330,200	\$ 15,435,700	\$ 105,500
2046	\$ 15,417,500	\$ 15,524,000	\$ 106,500
2047	\$ 15,504,800	\$ 15,612,400	\$ 107,600
Total Benefits:			\$ 1,962,000



Table 19: Estimated Annual Safety Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2029	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2030	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2031	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2032	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2033	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2034	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2035	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2036	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2037	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2038	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2039	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2040	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2041	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2042	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2043	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2044	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2045	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2046	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
2047	\$ -	\$ 335,000	\$ 335,000
Total Benefits:			\$ 6,700,000



Table 20: Estimated Annual State of Good Repair Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ 2,009,800	\$ 2,022,700	\$ 12,900
2029	\$ 2,022,400	\$ 2,035,500	\$ 13,100
2030	\$ 2,035,100	\$ 2,048,300	\$ 13,200
2031	\$ 2,047,800	\$ 2,061,100	\$ 13,300
2032	\$ 2,060,400	\$ 2,073,900	\$ 13,500
2033	\$ 2,073,100	\$ 2,086,700	\$ 13,600
2034	\$ 2,085,800	\$ 2,099,500	\$ 13,700
2035	\$ 2,098,400	\$ 2,112,300	\$ 13,900
2036	\$ 2,111,100	\$ 2,125,100	\$ 14,000
2037	\$ 2,123,800	\$ 2,137,900	\$ 14,100
2038	\$ 2,136,400	\$ 2,150,700	\$ 14,300
2039	\$ 2,149,100	\$ 2,163,500	\$ 14,400
2040	\$ 2,161,800	\$ 2,176,300	\$ 14,500
2041	\$ 2,174,400	\$ 2,189,200	\$ 14,800
2042	\$ 2,187,100	\$ 2,202,000	\$ 14,900
2043	\$ 2,199,800	\$ 2,214,800	\$ 15,000
2044	\$ 2,212,400	\$ 2,227,600	\$ 15,200
2045	\$ 2,225,100	\$ 2,240,400	\$ 15,300
2046	\$ 2,237,800	\$ 2,253,300	\$ 15,500
2047	\$ 2,250,400	\$ 2,266,100	\$ 15,700
Total Benefits:			\$ 284,900



Table 21: Estimated Annual Maintenance Disbenefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024			
2025			
2026			
2027			
2028	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2029	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2030	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2031	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2032	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2033	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2034	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2035	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2036	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2037	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2038	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2039	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2040	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2041	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2042	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2043	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2044	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2045	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2046	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
2047	\$ -	\$ (10,000)	\$ (10,000)
Total Benefits:			\$ (200,000)



Table 22: Estimated Annual Benefits (Undiscounted)

Year	Baseline	Build Scenario	Benefits
2024	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2025	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2026	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
2028	\$ 226,403,000	\$ 228,363,000	\$ 1,960,000
2029	\$ 227,874,000	\$ 229,850,000	\$ 1,976,000
2030	\$ 229,354,000	\$ 231,347,000	\$ 1,993,000
2031	\$ 230,838,000	\$ 232,848,000	\$ 2,010,000
2032	\$ 232,299,000	\$ 234,326,000	\$ 2,027,000
2033	\$ 233,784,000	\$ 235,829,000	\$ 2,045,000
2034	\$ 235,258,000	\$ 237,320,000	\$ 2,062,000
2035	\$ 236,732,000	\$ 238,812,000	\$ 2,080,000
2036	\$ 238,207,000	\$ 240,305,000	\$ 2,098,000
2037	\$ 239,695,000	\$ 241,811,000	\$ 2,116,000
2038	\$ 241,159,000	\$ 243,293,000	\$ 2,134,000
2039	\$ 242,636,000	\$ 244,788,000	\$ 2,152,000
2040	\$ 244,125,000	\$ 246,296,000	\$ 2,171,000
2041	\$ 245,603,000	\$ 247,793,000	\$ 2,190,000
2042	\$ 247,093,000	\$ 249,302,000	\$ 2,209,000
2043	\$ 248,572,000	\$ 250,800,000	\$ 2,228,000
2044	\$ 250,064,000	\$ 252,311,000	\$ 2,247,000
2045	\$ 251,544,000	\$ 253,811,000	\$ 2,267,000
2046	\$ 253,037,000	\$ 255,324,000	\$ 2,287,000
2047	\$ 254,531,000	\$ 266,063,000	\$ 11,532,000
Total Benefits:			\$ 51,784,000



Table 23: Estimated Discounted Net Costs and Benefits (discounted at 3.1%)²⁷

Year	Net Costs	Net Benefits	Net Cumulative Costs and Benefits
2024	\$ (3,929,000)	\$ -	\$ (3,929,000)
2025	\$ (6,811,000)	\$ -	\$ (10,739,000)
2026	\$ (7,096,000)	\$ -	\$ (17,835,000)
2027	\$ (6,883,000)	\$ -	\$ (24,718,000)
2028	\$ -	\$ 1,633,000	\$ (23,086,000)
2029	\$ -	\$ 1,597,000	\$ (21,488,000)
2030	\$ -	\$ 1,563,000	\$ (19,926,000)
2031	\$ -	\$ 1,529,000	\$ (18,397,000)
2032	\$ -	\$ 1,496,000	\$ (16,902,000)
2033	\$ -	\$ 1,463,000	\$ (15,438,000)
2034	\$ -	\$ 1,432,000	\$ (14,007,000)
2035	\$ -	\$ 1,401,000	\$ (12,606,000)
2036	\$ -	\$ 1,370,000	\$ (11,236,000)
2037	\$ -	\$ 1,341,000	\$ (9,895,000)
2038	\$ -	\$ 1,312,000	\$ (8,583,000)
2039	\$ -	\$ 1,284,000	\$ (7,300,000)
2040	\$ -	\$ 1,256,000	\$ (6,044,000)
2041	\$ -	\$ 1,229,000	\$ (4,814,000)
2042	\$ -	\$ 1,203,000	\$ (3,612,000)
2043	\$ -	\$ 1,177,000	\$ (2,435,000)
2044	\$ -	\$ 1,152,000	\$ (1,283,000)
2045	\$ -	\$ 1,127,000	\$ (156,000)
2046	\$ -	\$ 1,103,000	\$ 947,000
2047	\$ -	\$ 5,380,000	\$ 6,327,000
Total Net Discounted Costs: \$(24,719,000)		Total Discounted Net Benefits: \$31,048,000	Net Present Value: \$6,327,000
			Benefit-Cost Ratio: 1.26

²⁷ Carbon reduction benefits were discounted at 2%



Appendix A: Technical Documentation. Replica Methodology

technical documentation.

replica methodology

0. Executive Summary

Replica produces high-fidelity activity-based mobility models, at “megaregion” scale (~30 million people), with disaggregate data outputs down to the network-link level.

Activity-based models are transportation models in which travel demand is derived from people's daily activity patterns. Activity-based models predict which activities are conducted when, where, for how long, for and with whom, and the travel choices they will make to complete them.

Replica generates its data by running large scale, computational-intensive simulations. Rather than simply cleansing, normalizing, and scaling individual data sources, Replica:

- (1) Creates a synthetic population that matches the characteristics of a given region
- (2) Trains a number of behavior models specific to that region
- (3) Runs simulations of those behavior models applied to the synthetic population in order to create a “replica” of transportation and economic patterns
- (4) Calibrates the outputs of the model against observed “ground-truth” to improve quality

This methodology is how Replica delivers granular data outputs that match behavior in aggregate but don't surface the actual movements (or compromise the privacy) of any one individual.

Origin-destination pairs are consistent with human activities. Population demographics are accurate and correlate with appropriate movement. Recurring activities are coherent over time and capture a pattern of life. Routing between locations is consistent with local road networks and transportation options. And the scale of population and number of trips is appropriate for a given geographic extent.

Replica has served over 60 clients throughout the U.S., including Caltrans (the California DOT), the Metropolitan Transportation Authority in NYC, the NY State Division of the Budget, the Illinois DOT, New Jersey Transit, and the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO) in Washington, D.C.

In the following document, we outline our sources, methodology, and outputs, as well as detail regarding our uncompromising approach to protecting individual privacy.

I. Overview

Replica simulations are delivered as megaregions, each covering between 20 and 50 million residents and multiple states, enabling the entire contiguous United States to be produced in 14 megaregions. The output of each simulation is a complete, disaggregate trip and population table for an average weekday and average weekend day in the subject season (e.g., Fall 2021). The model represents a 24-hour period with second-by-second temporal resolution, and point-of-interest-level spatial resolution. In essence, each row of data in the simulation output reflects a single trip, with characteristics about both the trip (e.g, origin, destination, mode, purpose, routing, duration) and trip taker (e.g., age, race/ethnicity, income, home location, work location). In aggregate, the output dataset reflects the complete activities and movements of residents, visitors, and commercial vehicle fleets in the target region and season on a typical day.

Each year, Replica produces a spring simulation and a fall simulation for each megaregion. Each completed model also includes an associated quality report, which compares the outputs of the simulation to ground truth data, enabling comparisons between modeled outputs and observed counts.

II. Source Data

Replica utilizes a diverse set of public and private third-party source data to inform its simulations. These sources include five categories of data:

Mobile location data: Multiple types (currently five unique sources) of de-identified location data collected from personal mobile devices and in-dashboard telematics are used to create a representative sample of daily movement patterns within a place.

Consumer resident data: Demographic data from public and private sources provides the basis for determining where people live and work, and the characteristics of the population, such as age, race, income, and employment status.

Land use / real estate data: Land use data, building data, and transportation network data are used to paint a complete picture of the built environment, and where people live, work, and shop.

Credit transaction data: Credit transactions from financial companies are used to model consumer spending. With this input, Replica depicts the level and types of spending that occurred at a particular time and place.

Ground truth data: Ground truth data is used to calibrate and improve the overall accuracy of Replica outputs. The types of ground truth collected by Replica include auto and freight volumes, transit ridership, and bike and pedestrian counts.

By building a composite of these diverse sets of data, Replica minimizes the risk of sampling bias that exists in any single source on its own. For example, a product that relies more heavily on data from personal mobile devices risks failing to adequately simulate the portions of the population that do not have mobile devices or those who opt out of device tracking

technologies. Our composite approach also creates resiliency against data quality issues and protects against disruptions of individual data sources.

III. Methodology & Approach to Privacy

At a high level, Replica's approach to generating its simulations is best described in four steps:

Step 1: Population Synthesis A nationwide synthetic population, statistically equivalent to the actual population, is generated for the entirety of the United States each year. Replica creates a synthetic population because census data is limited to aggregate geographies, which limits the ability to assign attributes to individuals or households. Synthetic populations also help protect privacy without compromising spatial fidelity.

The synthetic population is generated using census and consumer marketing data. Replica applies data science techniques to this data that allow for: (1) modeling the dependencies in socio-demographic parameters and structure of the households, and (2) synthesis of the population at the level of individual households so that it matches aggregate census information at the required level of aggregation such as block groups or tracts.

Each synthetic household consists of people with an assigned set of attributes: age, sex, race, ethnicity, employment status, household income, vehicle ownership status, and resident or visitor status. Workplace locations for all employed individuals are assigned based on the combination of mobile location data aggregates and census information. These assignments are static in each seasonal model, but can and do change across seasons.

The population relevant for each specific megaregion is extracted from the nationwide population to begin each simulation.

Step 2: Mobility Model Creation Modern machine learning techniques are then leveraged to develop travel personas from the composite of mobile location data for the subject megaregion and season. Personas are an extraction of behavioral patterns from individual devices that live in, work in, travel to, travel from, or pass through a specific region during the subject season.

Each persona is composed of three underlying behavioral-choice models: activity planning and sequencing (e.g., at home -> drive to work -> at work -> drive to shop -> drive to home), destination location choice (i.e., the exact location people are traveling to and from), and travel mode (i.e., the chosen mode).

Replica's composite of mobile-location data represents anywhere from 5% to 20% of a local population. Replica intentionally only acquires the necessary data required to build statistically representative models, another tenet of balancing model fidelity with user privacy.

Step 3: Activity Generation To simulate activity, the outputs from Step 1 and Step 2 are joined. Each synthetic household is assigned one or more personas using home and work locations as a primary input, enhanced with matching by available socio-demographic attributes and by the role of the person in a household. In effect, with travel behavior models assigned, each synthetic person can now make choices about when, where, and how to travel.

Individuals in the synthetic population are then set into motion via three models. The **activity sequence model** determines the activities of a simulated person’s day, including both recurring activities (e.g., travel to work, school drop off), as well as one-time activities (e.g., shopping, visiting a restaurant, social visit to a friend’s residence). The **location choice model** determines the specific location of each discretionary activity (e.g., what restaurant is chosen for lunch, where grocery shopping gets done), assigning a location at the point-of-interest level. And the **mode choice model** determines how the trip will be made based on the state of the transportation network, accounting for available transit options and multiple driving routes.

Movement is then simulated with an agent-based approach that accounts for congestion and other interactions between individual travel itineraries.

Step 4: Calibration After each individual simulation run, the modeled outputs are compared to aggregate control group data (i.e., observed counts, or “ground truth”) for quality and reporting purposes. This calibration process involves solving a set of large-scale optimization problems with an objective function defined as “fit to observed ground truth.” A careful balance is struck to ensure that the calibration algorithms do not overfit the modeled outputs to the calibration data, as both outliers and a certain level of noise is often present in every dataset.

To complete this iterative calibration process, Replica always holds out some of its own ground-truth data from the initial mobility simulation. Replica can also incorporate additional ground-truth provided by its customers for additional quality enhancement.

Each completed model includes an associated quality report, which transparently displays a comparison of modeled outputs to ground truth data, enabling users to compare model outputs to observed counts.

Approach to Privacy: The approach outlined here reflects Replica’s uncompromising belief that better insights should not come at the expense of personal privacy. Our methodological approach enables us to provide highly granular output data while remaining faithful to a series of privacy-first technical commitments. At Replica, we:

- Only procure de-identified data from our source vendors. The data we receive is never associated with an individual’s personally identifiable information.
- Never share raw locational data with our customers — or any other third-parties
- Build models from different data sources independently so that we abstract out potentially identifying details of any individual before combining these models into our aggregate outputs
- Never join data sources on keys containing sensitive data
- Incorporate proven techniques, like statistical noise injection, into our algorithms to ensure that (1) it is impossible to ascertain if an individual’s information is part of our source data by inspecting our modeled outputs; (2) it is impossible to learn which specific locations were visited by an individual whose information was part of our source data by inspecting our modeled outputs

Simply put, Replica's methodology results in outputs that make it impossible to track or identify the movements of any individual.

IV. Data Outputs

Each simulation results in a complete trip, population, and routing table.

Population Attributes: Each trip is associated with a specific person in the simulation, for whom the following characteristics are available:

- Age
- Sex
- Race
- Ethnicity
- Employment status
- Household income
- Vehicle ownership status
- Resident or visitor status

Trip Attributes: Each trip is assigned the following attributes:

- Origin and destination points
- Trip distance
- Trip duration
- Start and end time
- Complete routing information for each trip
- Trip mode, including private auto driver, private auto passenger, public transit, walking, biking, freight, and transportation network companies (TNCs)
- Trips purpose, including home, work, errands, eat, social, shop, recreation, commercial, school

Location Detail: Replica models to specific real-world locations and points of interest (e.g., a specific office building, the Starbucks at a certain address) — trips are modeled from individual building footprint to individual building footprint, rather than zone to zone. We update our nationwide catalogue of points of interest monthly, and we use the applicable set of locations for each simulation.

V. Geographic and Temporal Coverage

Replica is currently focused on covering the United States. Each year, Replica produces a spring simulation and a fall simulation for each of our megaregions. We can also run simulations for specific time periods or locations for our customers as needed; for instance, we could produce a model for December 2019 that would be distinct from our regular fall 2019 model for a given location.



Appendix B: Modal Substitution Rate Methodology



To: BCA Reviewers

From: Grace Young, Rohan Oprisko, Mike Sellinger, and David Wasserman, Alta Planning + Design

Date: April 1, 2022

Re: Modal Shift Model Notes

Modal Substitution Rates: Introduction

Modal substitution rates refer to the percentage of users of a facility who substituted one mode for another (Volker et al. 2019). These rates are often determined from survey instruments asking about alternative modes. When users substitute a carbon-free mode like biking for a carbon-intensive mode like driving, there is an associated emissions savings, proportional to the length of the trip. The following model provides a means for estimating the percentage of future facility users that will substitute a carbon-free mode in place of driving. This serves as a crucial step in identifying reductions in vehicle miles traveled and the emissions-saving benefits of the proposed facility.

Methodology

A series of univariate regression models were tested on peer-reviewed auto-to-bike substitution rates for projects in 10 cities around the United States. Six variables were collected at the city level and tested as inputs in a univariate regression model predicting the modal shift factor using an ordinary least squares regression from the [statsmodels](#) Python library. The variables are described in Table 1. The same variables were also tested in predicting the natural log of the modal shift percentage.

Data Review

Table 1. Peer-reviewed auto-to-bike modal shift factor and six demographic variables reported for the respective project cities¹

City	Modal Shift (ratio)	Population Density (people per sq. mi.)	Median Income (\$)	Travel Time to Work (min.)	% of Trips <4 Miles (ratio)	Active Mode Split (ratio)	Bike Mode Split (ratio)	Source
Los Angeles, CA	0.109	8,092	62,142	32	0.471	0.147	0.030	Matute et al. (2016)
Denver, CO	0.237	3,923	68,592	26	0.531	0.251	0.015	Piatkowski et al. (2015)
Boulder, CO	0.571	3,948	69,520	20	0.652	0.283	0.045	Piatkowski et al. (2015)
Littleton, CO ²	0.724	3,215	76,105	26	0.512	0.254	0.060	Piatkowski et al. (2015)
Sacramento, CA	0.273	4,764	62,335	26	0.437	0.195	0.090	Piatkowski et al. (2015)



City	Modal Shift (ratio)	Population Density (people per sq. mi.)	Median Income (\$)	Travel Time to Work (min.)	% of Trips <4 Miles (ratio)	Active Mode Split (ratio)	Bike Mode Split (ratio)	Source
Davis, CA	0.250	6,637	69,3709	23	0.636	0.220	0.095	Piatkowski et al. (2015)
Austin, TX	0.146	2,653	71,576	25	0.502	0.179	0.016	Monsere et al. (2014)
Chicago, IL	0.374	11,841	58,247	35	0.598	0.377	0.070	Monsere et al. (2014)
Portland, OR	0.202	4,375	71,005	27	0.538	0.267	0.027	Monsere et al. (2014)
San Francisco, CA	0.263	17,179	112,449	34	0.547	0.245	0.060	Monsere et al. (2014)
Washington, DC	0.202	9,856	86,420	31	0.564	0.311	0.018	Monsere et al. (2014)

Notes:

min. : minute

sq. mi. : square mile

1. Adapted from Volker et al. 2019.
2. Littleton, CO, was removed as an outlier in this modeling exercise for both final models.
3. All sources can be found in the Volker, J et. al (2019) paper specified in the references section.

Results

We found two acceptable models for contextual estimation of modal substitution rates given the available data: the examination of short trips (under 4 miles) and the active mode split model. Alta’s preferred model is the examination of short trips due to its theoretical consistency with the idea that short trips are indicators that a higher proportion of vehicle trips can be converted to active modes given improved infrastructure and support. Alta uses the active mode split model depending on the available data sources on a given project or for sensitivity analysis to generate a conservative estimate.

Correlation and R-Squared

Table 2. Variable performance in correlation test and ordinary least squares univariate regression

Variable	Source	Correlation with Modal Shift	Correlation with In (Modal Shift)	Adjusted R-Squared Predicting Modal Shift		Adjusted R-Squared Predicting In (Modal Shift)	
				No Constant	With Constant	No Constant	With Constant
Population Density	Census	-0.21	-0.11	0.411	-0.063	0.663	-0.098



Variable	Source	Correlation with Modal Shift	Correlation with ln (Modal Shift)	Adjusted R-Squared Predicting Modal Shift		Adjusted R-Squared Predicting ln (Modal Shift)	
				No Constant	With Constant	No Constant	With Constant
Median Income	Census	-0.01	0.03	0.689	-0.111	0.813	-0.110
Travel Time to Work	Census	-0.32	-0.30	0.653	0.001	0.864	-0.014
Percent of Trips Under 4 Miles	Replica Places (2022)	0.31	0.41	0.744	-0.005	0.805	0.076
Active Mode Split (all trips)	Replica Places (2022)	0.39	0.53	0.763	0.057	0.709	0.200
Bike Mode Split	Replica Places (2022)	0.32	0.43	0.654	0.003	0.479	0.090

Note:

All values reported in this table are for models without the Littleton, CO outlier removed.

Linear Relationship Plots

Figure 1 and Figure 2 show the linear relationship between the log of modal shift and the percentage of trips less than 4 miles or active mode share, respectively. Littleton, CO, is identified as an outlier in both cases and thus removed for the final model development.

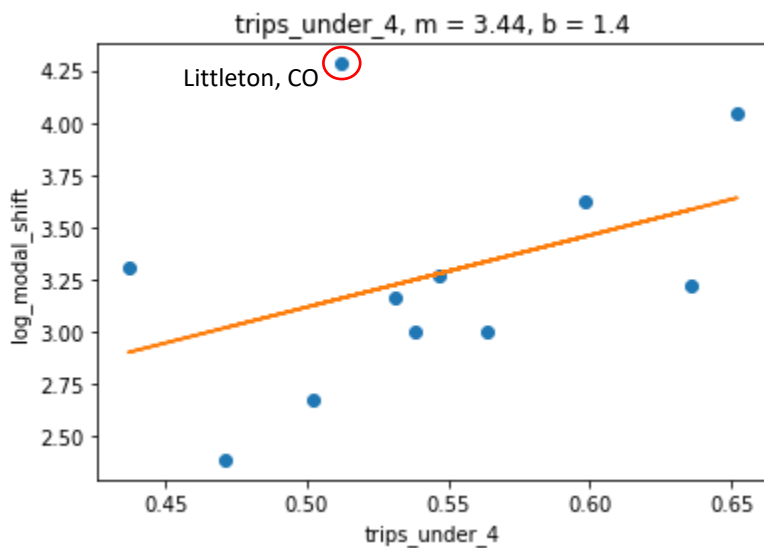


Figure 1. Modeled Relationships Between the Percentage of Short Trips and the Log of Modal Shift

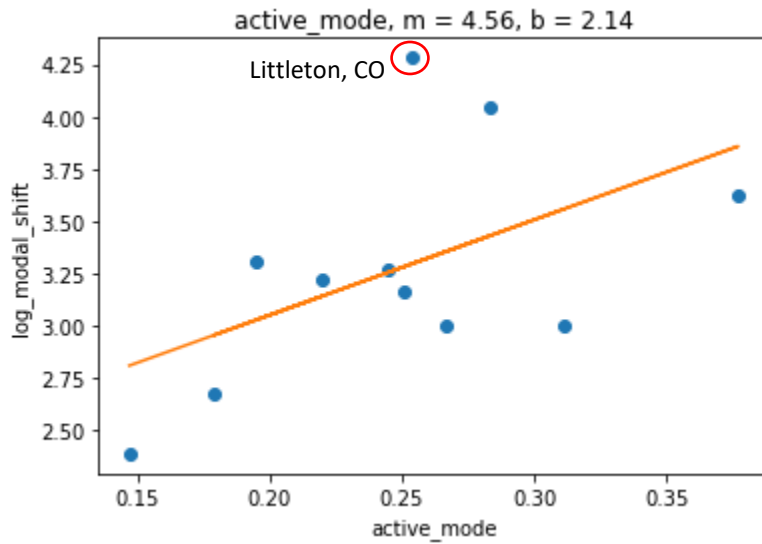


Figure 2. Modeled Relationships Between Active Mode Share and the Log of Modal Shift

Final Model Summaries

The two acceptable models are summarized in Table 3, along with the derived equations for applying each to a project-specific context.

Table 3. Model summaries for acceptable final models

Dependent Variable	Log modal shift percentage		Dependent Variable	Log modal shift percentage	
R-squared	0.424		R-squared	0.414	
Independent Variable	Coefficient	P-Value	Independent Variable	Coefficient	P-Value
Percent of trips under 4 miles	4.39	0.041	Active mode share	1.85	0.045
Constant	0.77	0.462	Constant	2.08	0.002
Equation			Equation		
ln(modal shift %) = 0.77 + 4.39*(% trips under 4 miles)			ln(modal shift %) = 2.08 + 1.85*(% active mode share)		



Discussion

These models enable a flexible and actionable approach to provide context-sensitive estimates of potential modal substitution rates given investments in multimodal infrastructure that are suitable for transportation planning practice. This approach aligns well with the understanding that compact, mixed-use locations with small urban footprints and high destination access encourage shorter trips and active travel (NASEM 2014). These models provide a decision-support tool to make informed and context-sensitive assessments of potential modal substitution rates given a project study boundary. Understanding how much reduction in vehicle miles traveled is possible given investments in active transportation is relevant to choosing a quick and responsive model.

However, there are limitations to this approach worth considering:

- While significant relationships were identified between these variables and modal substitution rates from literature, they are based on small sample sizes and depend on the removal of outliers.
- These models are not using any control variables. These univariate linear regression models are intended to enable quick determinations of possible modal substitution given a specific built context. While other variables such as population density or travel time to work were evaluated, they were not used as controls within the same model.
- Many other factors can influence rates of modal substitution beyond those identified here, and they warrant further study. It is highly complex result of localized intercept surveys, but their ranges from literature benefit from a context sensitive approach for analysis.

References

- NASEM (National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine). (2014). *Estimating Bicycling and Walking for Planning and Project Development: A Guidebook*. Washington, DC: The National Academies Press.
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- Volker, J., S. Handy, A. Kendall, and E. Barbour. (2019). *Quantifying Reductions in Vehicle Miles Traveled from New Bike Paths, Lanes, and Cycle Tracks: Summary Report*. California Air Resources Board (CARB). March 25, 2019.
- Replica Places (2022). Replica Platform. Retrieved from <https://replicahq.com/>



CBI Rationale

These regression equations are the result of internal R&D at Alta and represent a data-driven approach to identifying realistic modal substitution rates given contextual information about a project area. Disclosure of these models before they can be further published in peer review research represents a disincentive for firms to advance research and development to advance context sensitive practice. This research was based on Alta Planning + Designs proprietary know-how and understanding of active transportation research and available data resources to inform them.