



# Growing Cooler: Why Sidewalks are as Sexy as Hybrids

**Steve Winkelman**  
**Center for Clean Air Policy**

**Climate 2050**

Montreal, Canada  
26 October, 2007

# Overview

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## **Steve Winkelman**

- Context: Transportation and climate
- Problem: Death by 1,000 Strip Malls
- Solution: Location, Location, Location
- The Evidence:
  - » Savings: 20 to 40% VMT per capita
  - » Punch line: Smart growth can save as much as hybrids
- Real-world results:
  - » Portland, OR; Arlington, VA

## **Don Chen**

- Market Demand: Build it and they will come
- Policy Opportunities

# Center for Clean Air Policy

## Highlights

- CCAP works on climate change policy at the local, state, national and international levels with governments, industry and NGOs
  - » Climate plans: CA, CT, MA, ME, NJ, NY
  - » GHG policy projects in China, Mexico, Brazil, India
  - » CCAP Transportation Emissions Guidebook
  - » Linking **Green-TEA** and Climate Policy dialogue
  - » Urban Leaders Adaptation Initiative
  - » US and European Climate Policy Dialogues

# *Growing Cooler: The Evidence on Urban Development and Climate Change*

- Publisher: Urban Land Institute
- Authors
  - » **Reid Ewing**, University of Maryland
  - » **Keith Bartholomew**, University of Utah
  - » **Steve Winkelman**, Center for Clean Air Policy
  - » **Jerry Walters**, Fehr & Peers Associates
  - » **Don Chen**, Smart Growth America
- Funding
  - » US EPA, Hewlett Foundation, Surdna Foundation
- Download: [www.smartgrowthamerica.org](http://www.smartgrowthamerica.org)

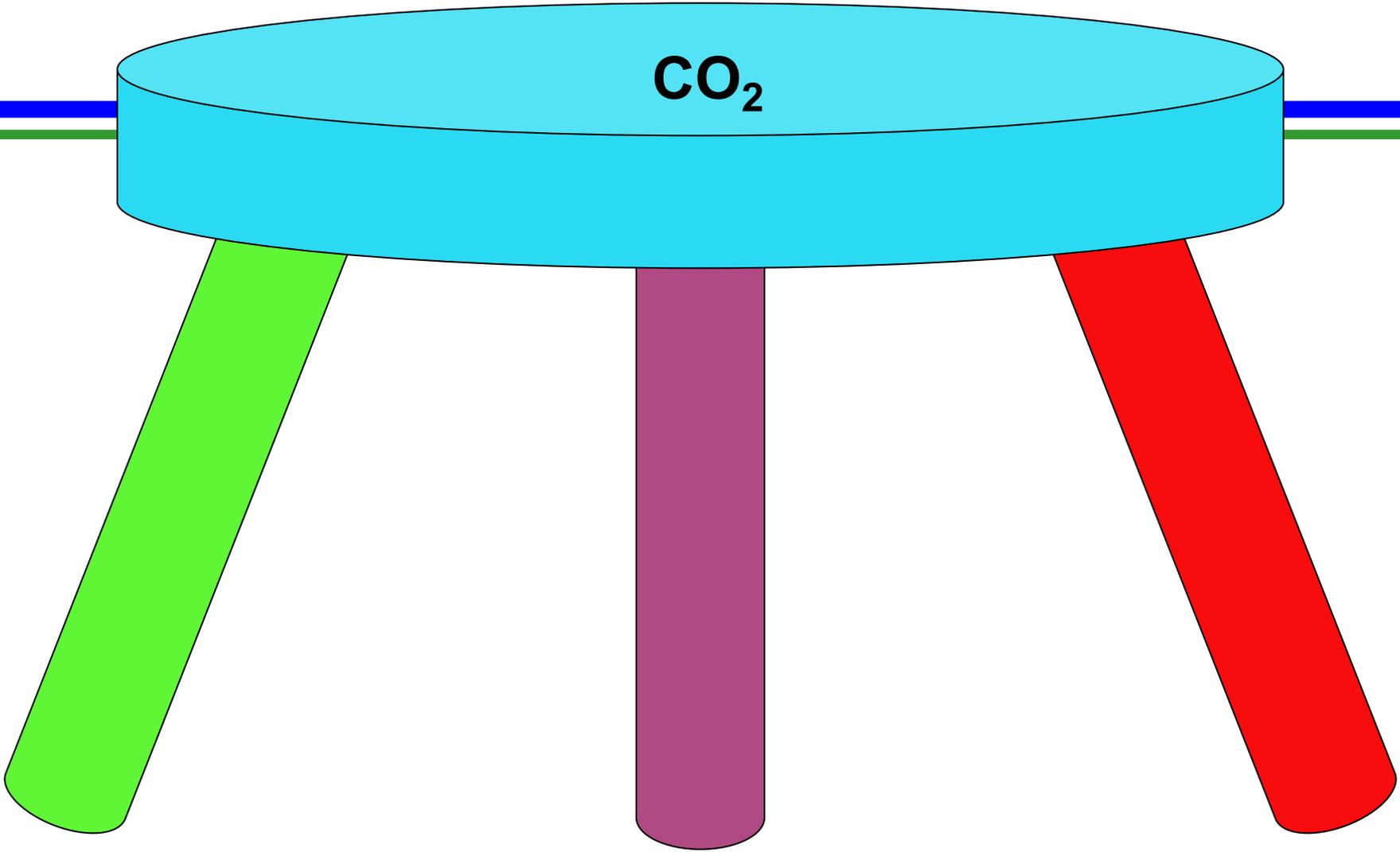


# US must cut GHGs 60-80% below 1990 levels by 2050 to keep 2-3°C in play

- **15-30% below 1990 by 2020 to keep on track**
  - » US GHGs now 20% above 1990 levels
  - » Delayed action means higher risks and costs
- Transportation about 1/3 of US CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, and growing fastest
- **Major reductions will be needed in all sectors**
  - » Other sectors (electricity, industry) unable to compensate for transportation

# The Three Legged Stool

$\text{CO}_2$

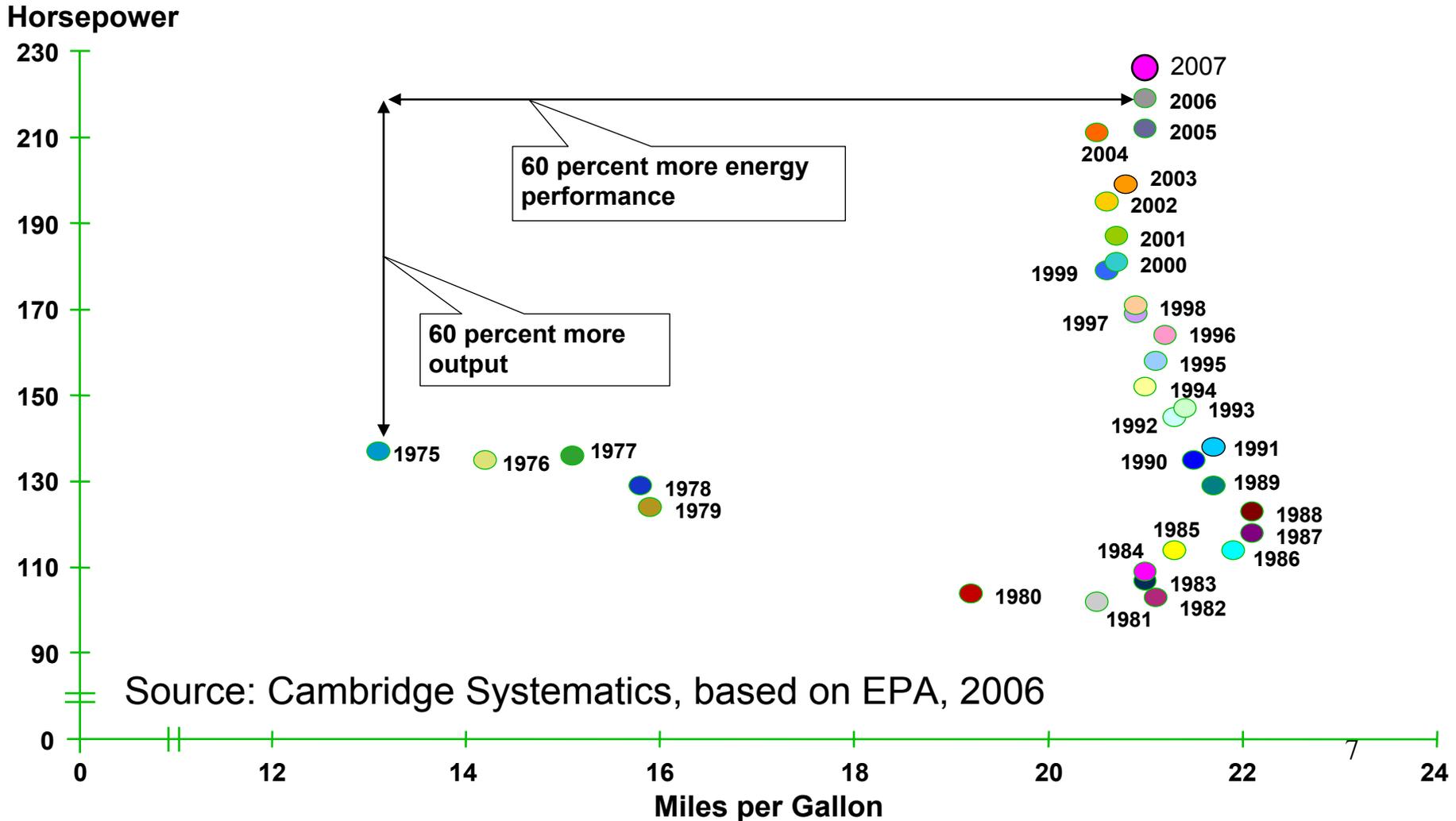


**Vehicles**

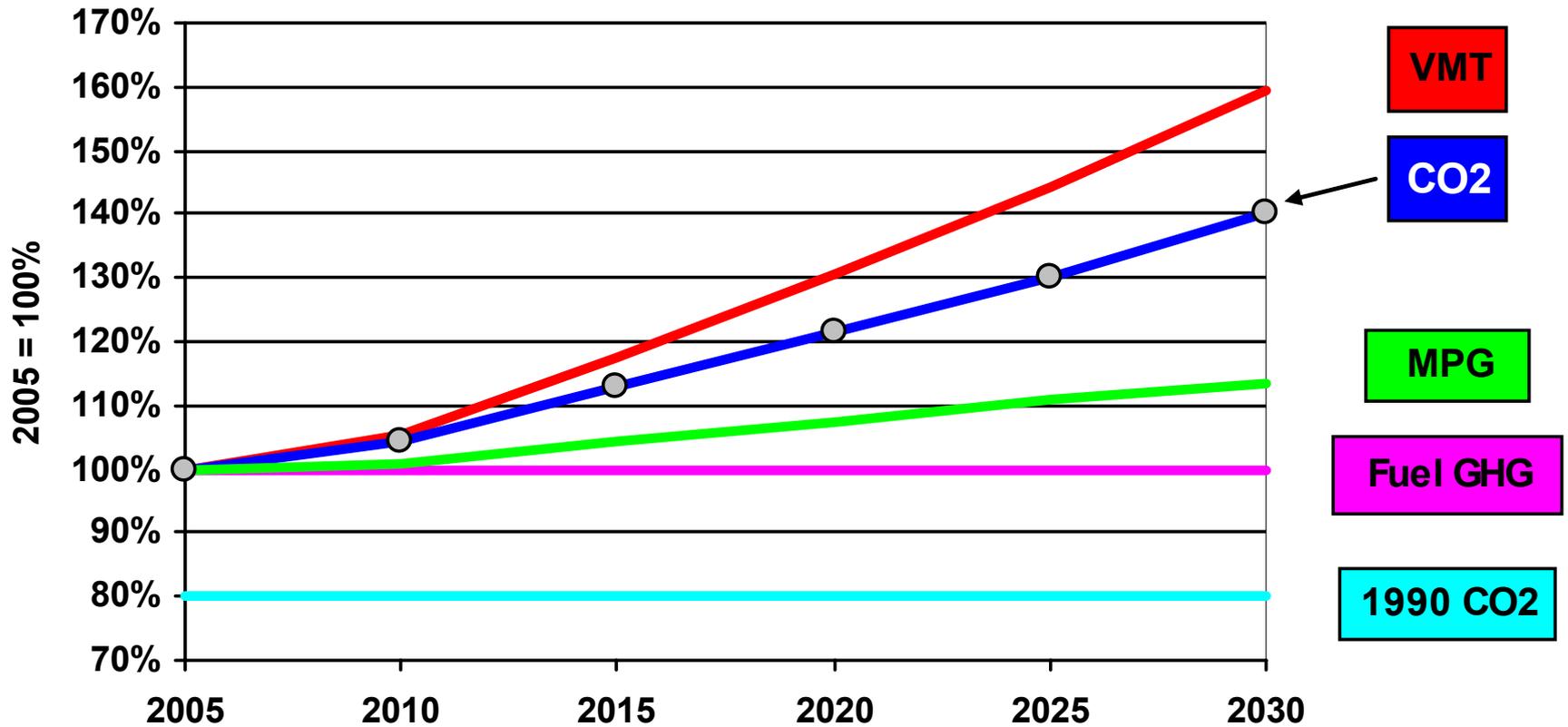
**Fuels**

**Travel  
Demand**

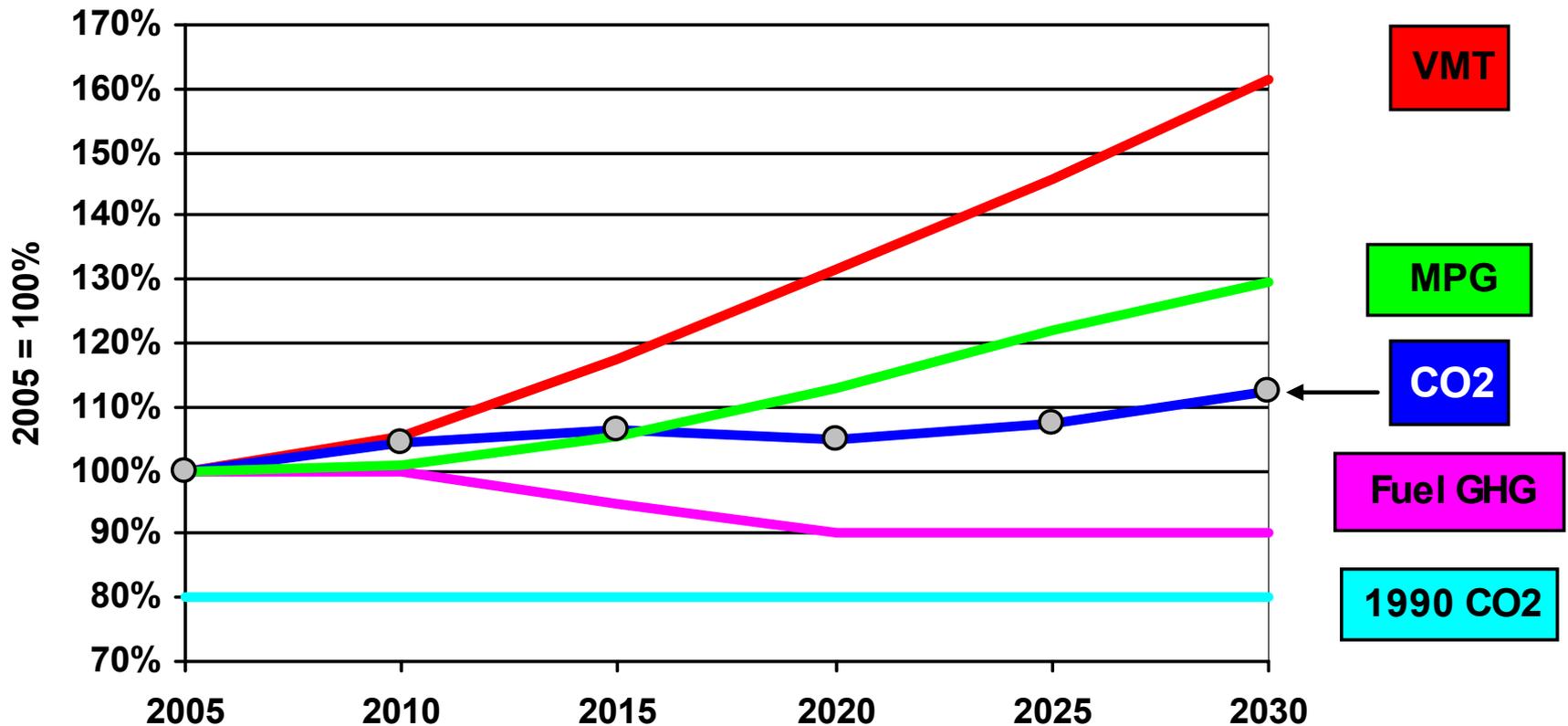
# Where has all the technology gone? Gone to power everyone...



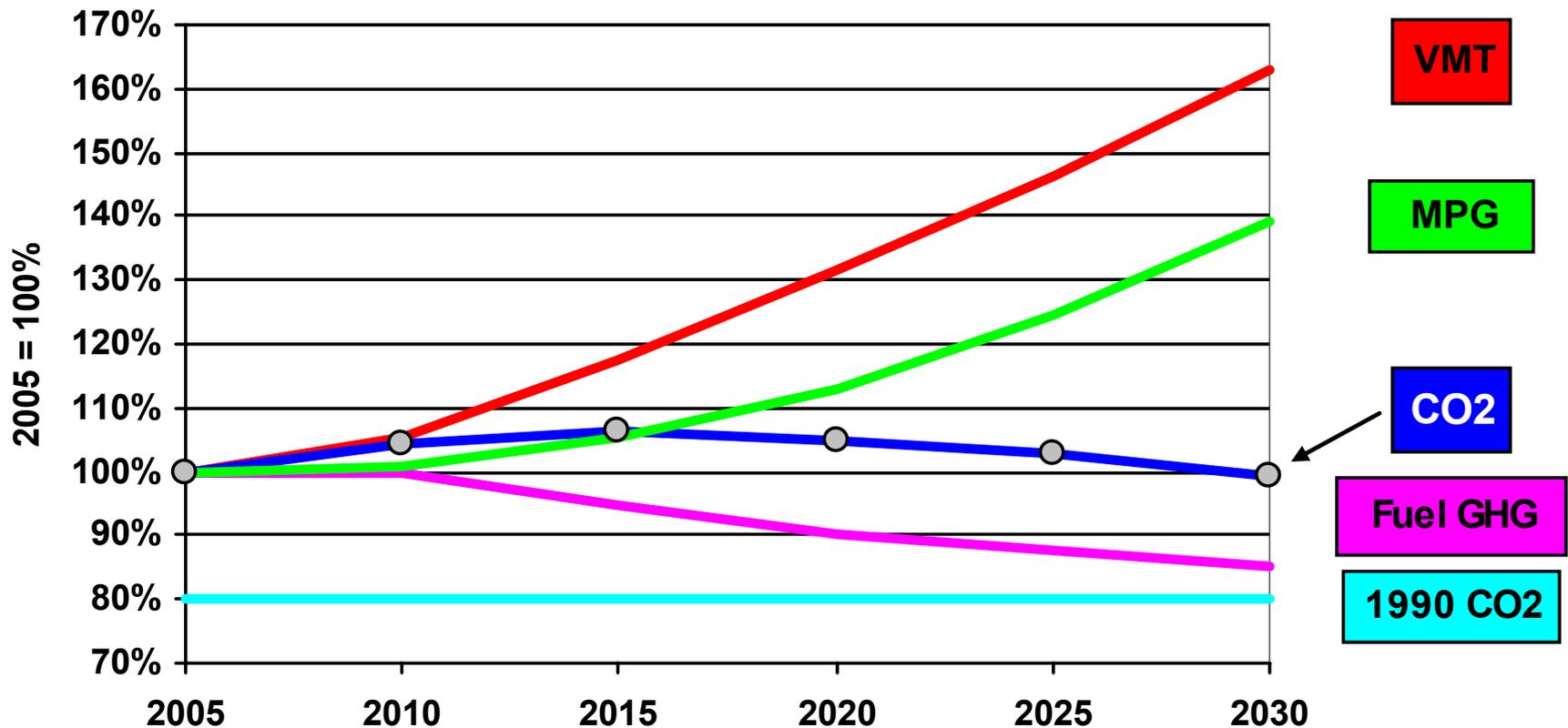
# US VMT Growth Projected to Outpace Vehicle & Fuel Improvements



# Senate CAFE (35 mpg or 6.7 l/100km) + CA Fuel stds (-10%): 40% above 1990 levels in 2030



# 45 mpg (5.2 l/100km) CAFE in 2030 & -15% Fuel GHGs: 24% above 1990 in 2030



Sources: VMT: EIA with 10%rebound, MPG & Fuel: Trend Extrapolation

What to we know about  
Land Use and Driving?

# History and Policies Matter

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## Daily VMT per Capita by Region (2005)

New York - Newark	17
Portland, OR	20
Seattle	23
Atlanta	31
Houston	39

## Int'l Estimates:

Hong Kong	5
Typical Europe	12

# Perspective Matters

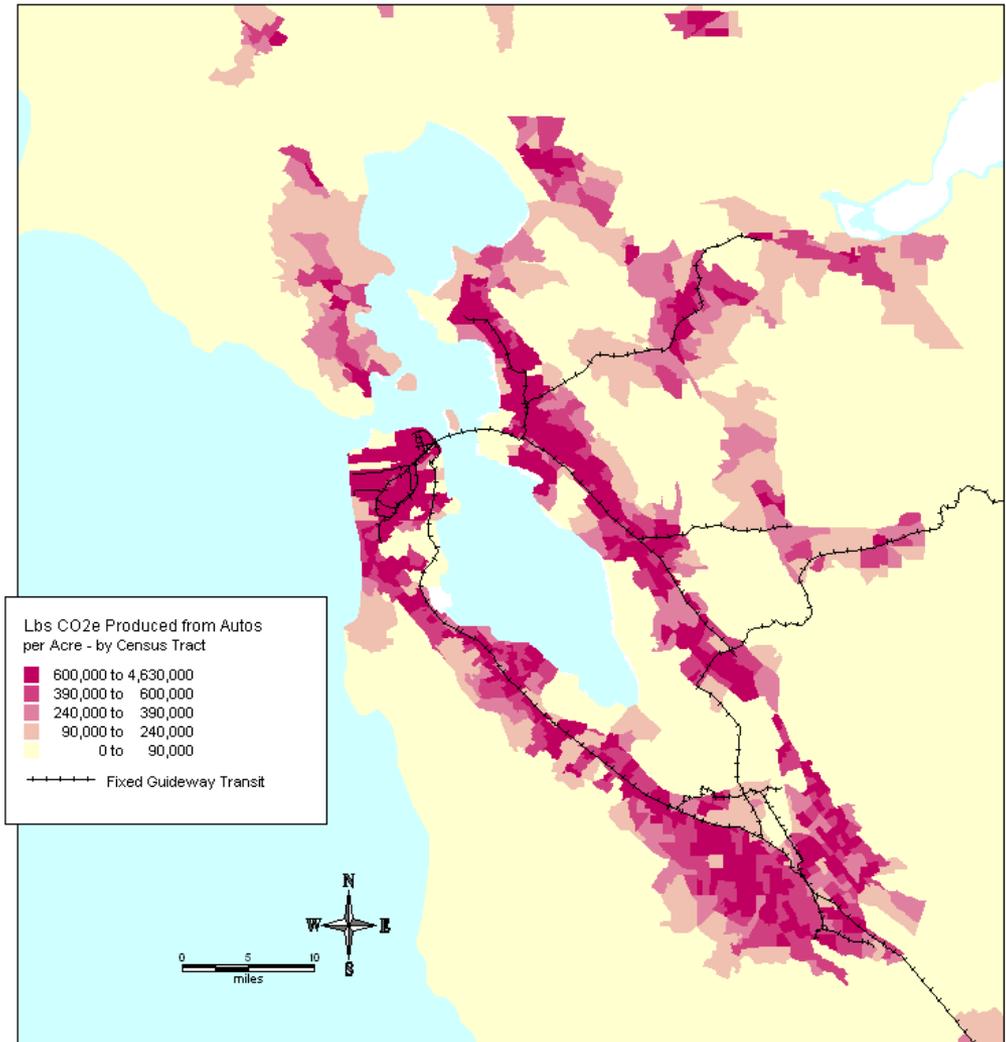
CO<sub>2</sub> per Acre

Source :

**Center for  
Neighborhood  
Technology**

prepared for and peer reviewed by Transportation Research Board of the National Academy of Sciences

CO<sub>2</sub> Generated by Automobiles  
in the San Francisco Region per Year  
Two Views of Cities and CO<sub>2</sub>



Traditional View:  
Cities produce large amounts of GHGs.

# Compact is more efficient

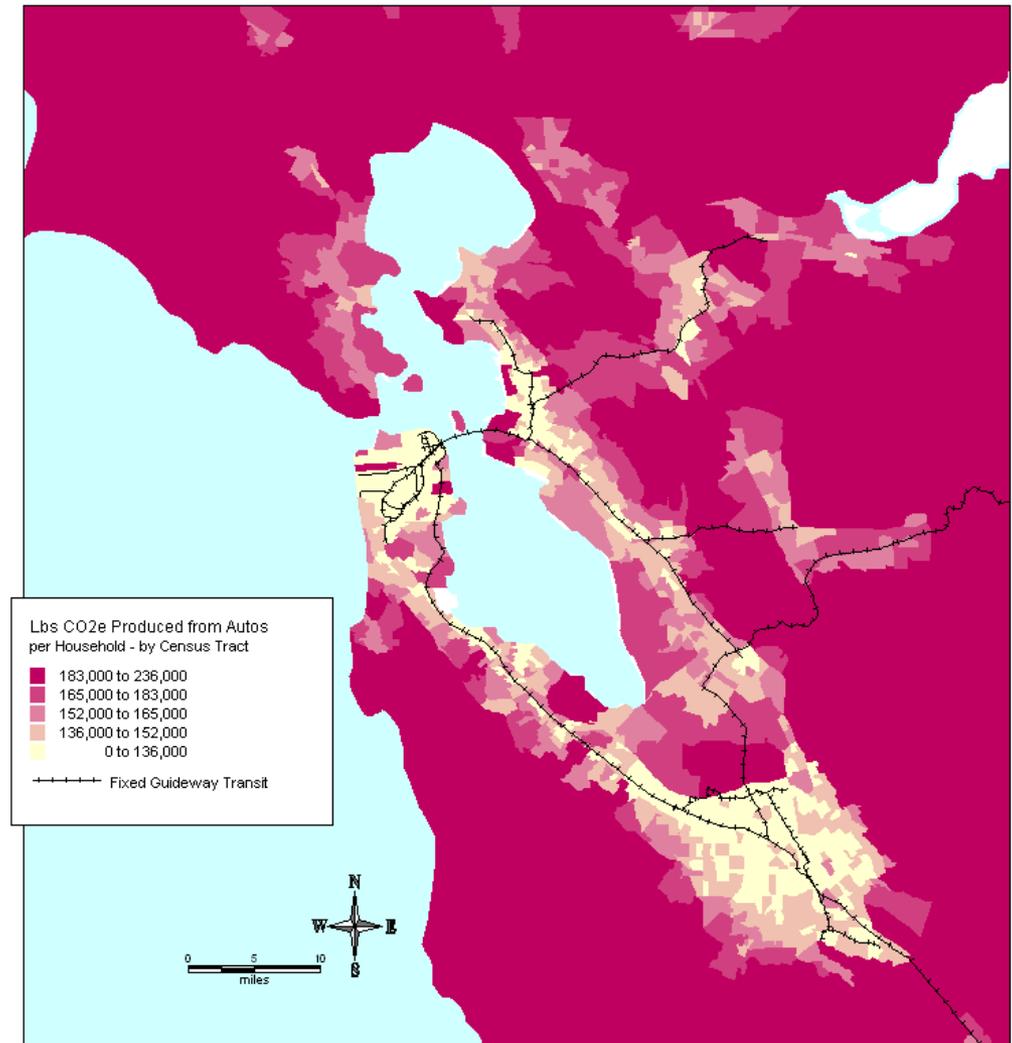
## CO<sub>2</sub> per Household

Source :

**Center for  
Neighborhood  
Technology**

prepared for and peer  
reviewed by Transportation  
Research Board of the National  
Academy of Sciences

CO<sub>2</sub> Generated by Automobiles  
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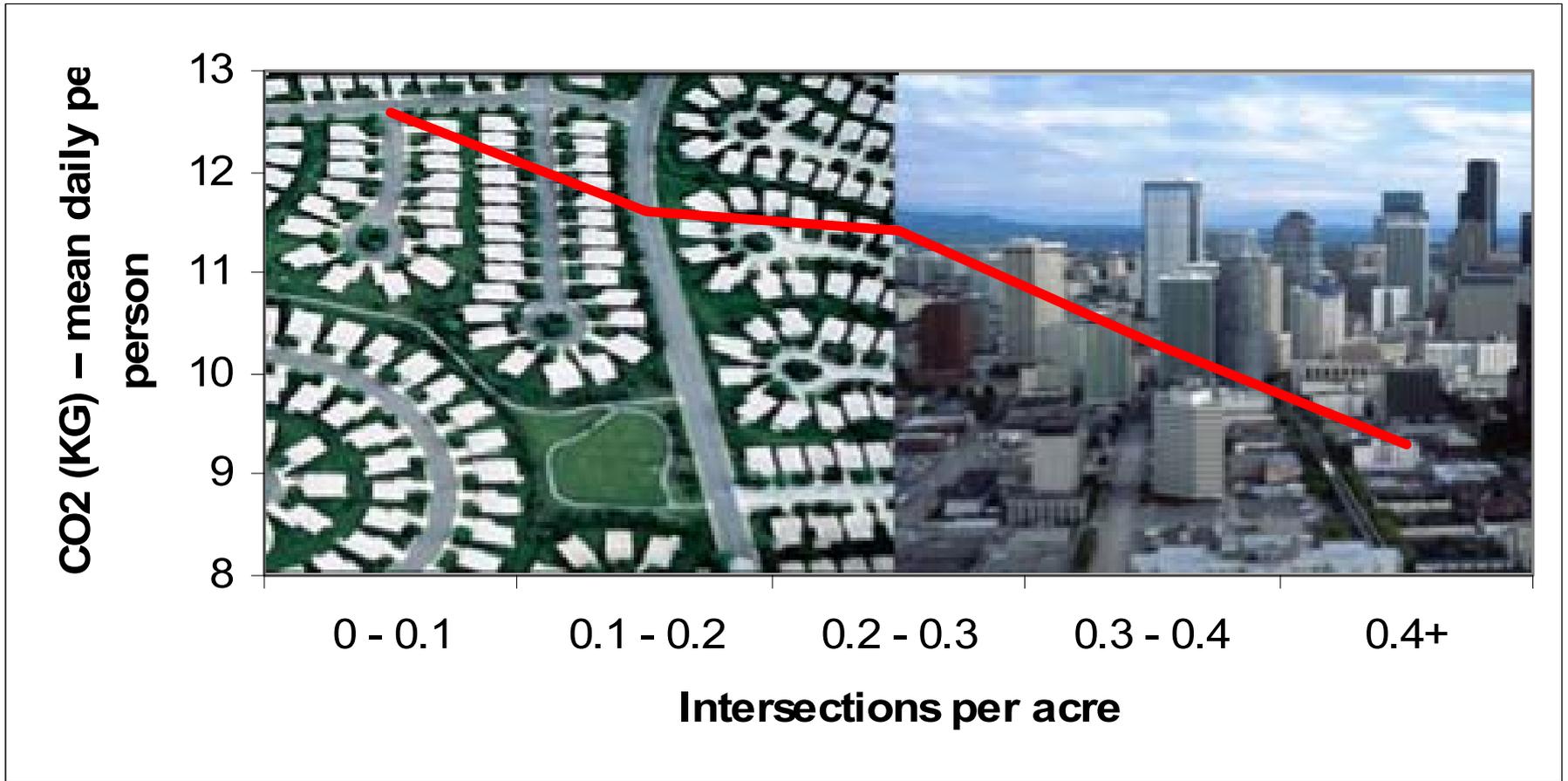


Emerging View:

City dwellers produce relatively low amounts of GHGs.

# Regional Location Matters

(King County 2005, provided by Larry Frank)



(Frank, Winkelman, Chapman, Cavage, & Leinberger. Brookings., forthcoming)

# Design Matters

2 km drive

vs.

1 km walk



# The 3 Questions Answered in *Growing Cooler*

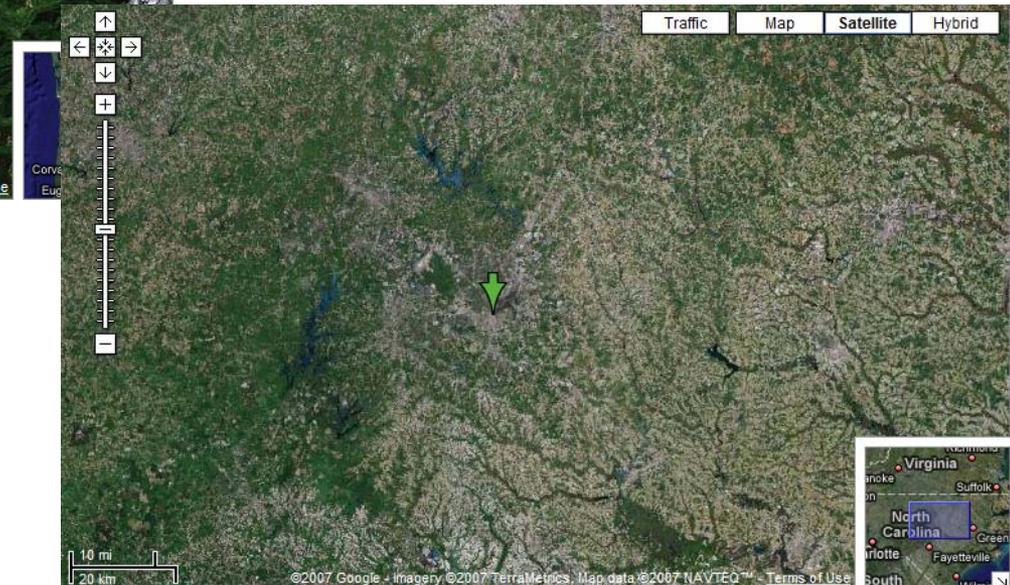
1. How much can smart growth reduce driving?
  - 20-40% VMT reduction per increment of dvpt
  - 12-18% reduction in Metropolitan VMT by 2050
  - Just from land use -- excludes pricing, other policies
2. How much CO<sub>2</sub> would that save?
  - 85 MMTCO<sub>2</sub> in 2030
3. What policy changes will be required?
  - Don Chen will address today

# 4 Literatures Reviewed in *Growing Cooler*

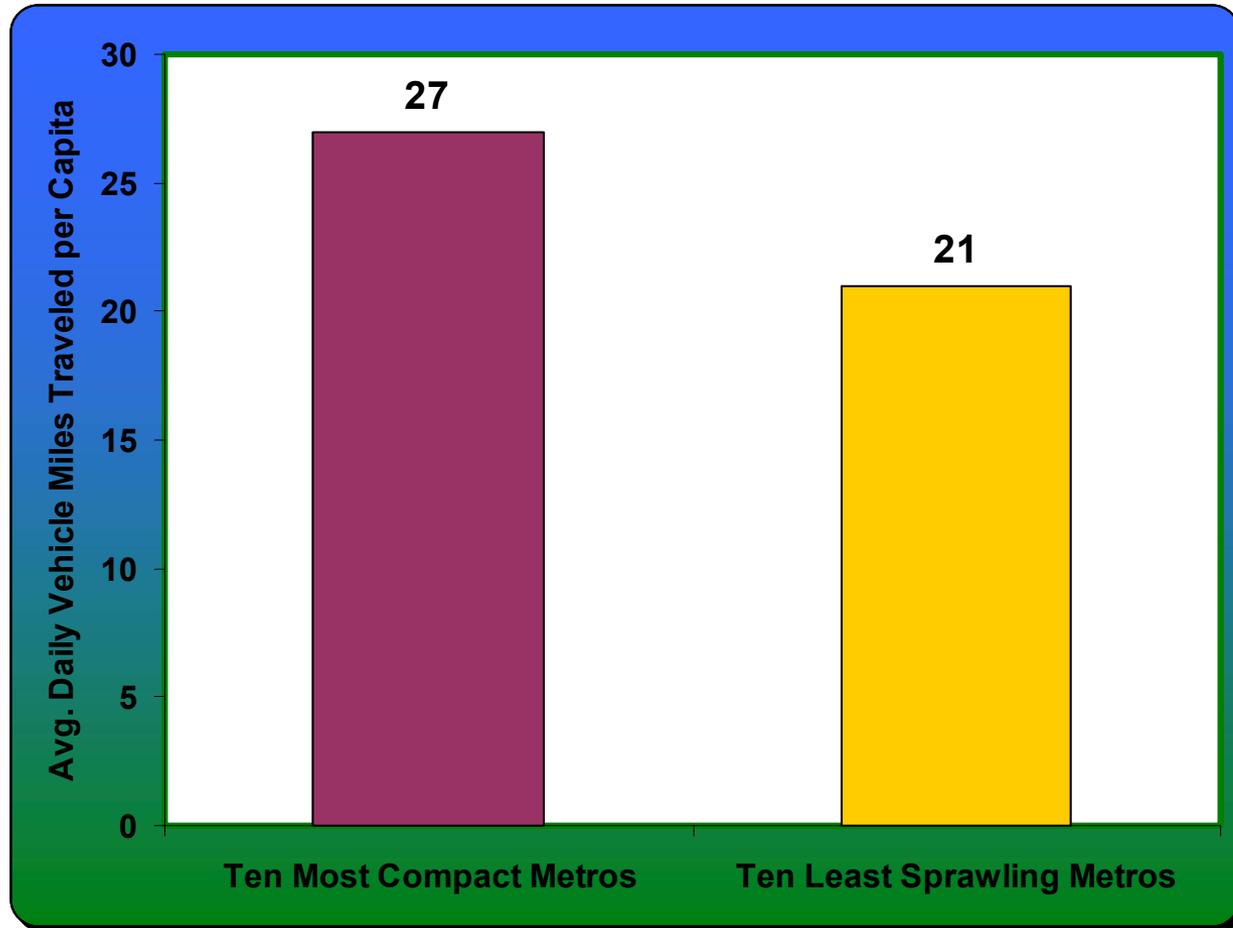
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1. Aggregate travel studies
2. Disaggregate travel studies
3. Regional simulation studies
4. Project simulation studies

# Metropolitan Regional Views: Portland, OR vs. Raleigh, NC



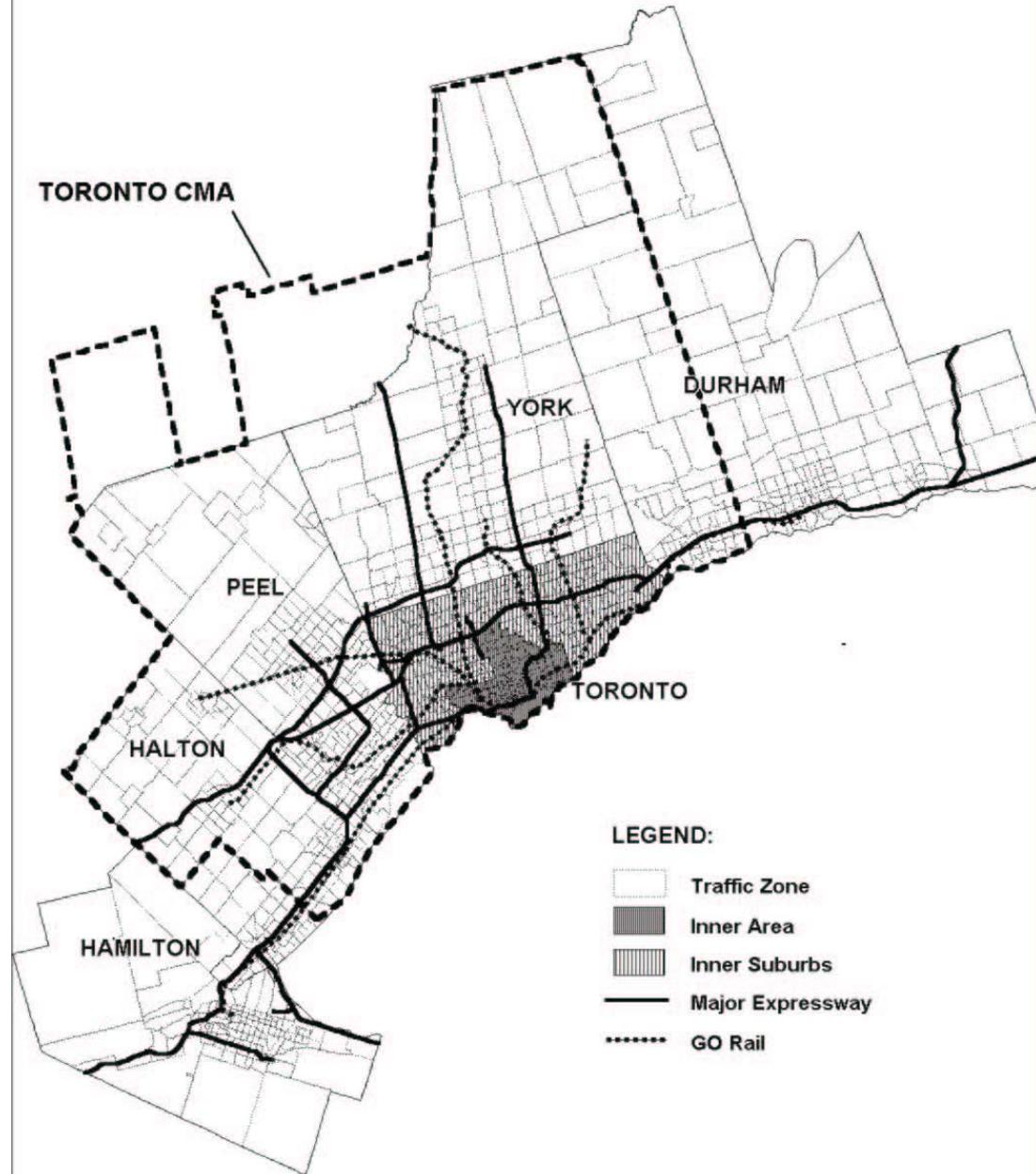
# Metro Comparisons: - 25% VMT with Compact Development



# Canadian Mortgage Housing Corporation: GHGs and Urban Travel

## Study Area: Toronto

Source: C. Zegras MIT ,  
from IBI Group, 2000.



# Conventional Suburban Subdivision



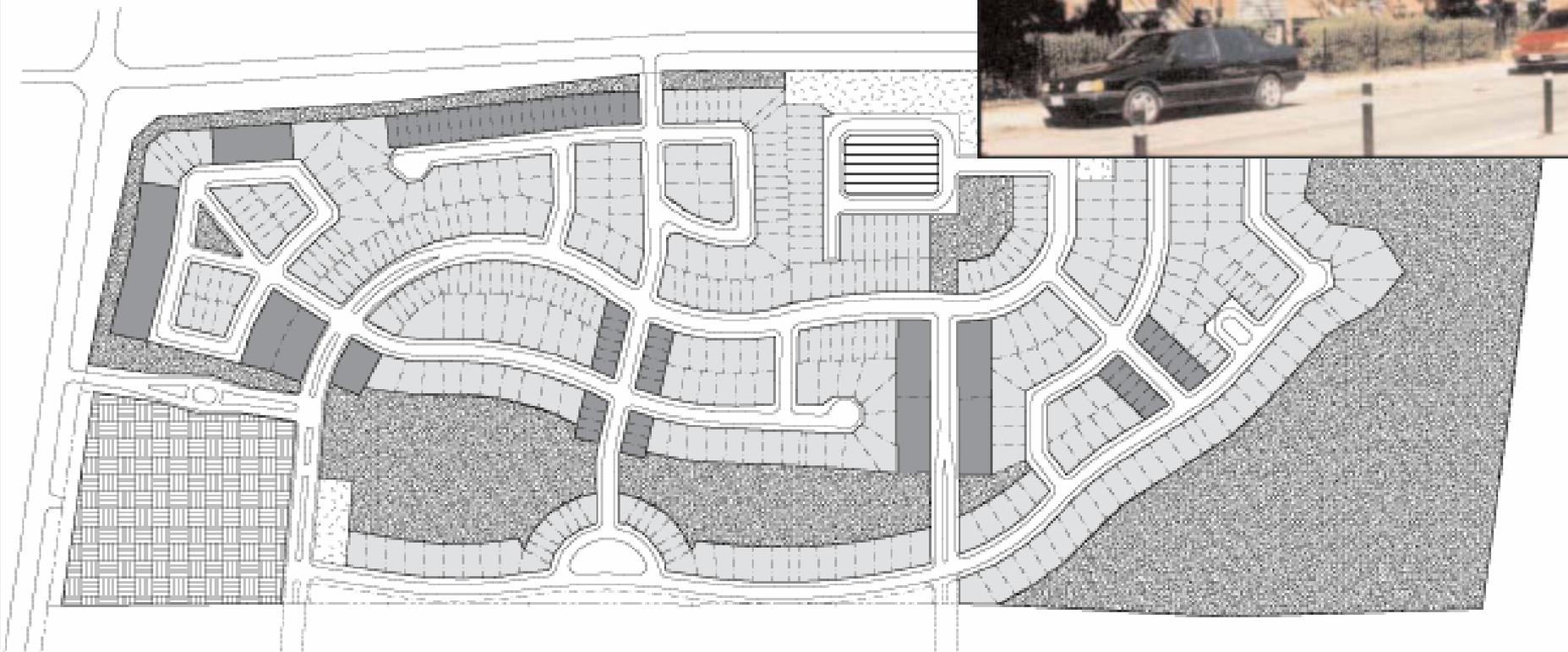
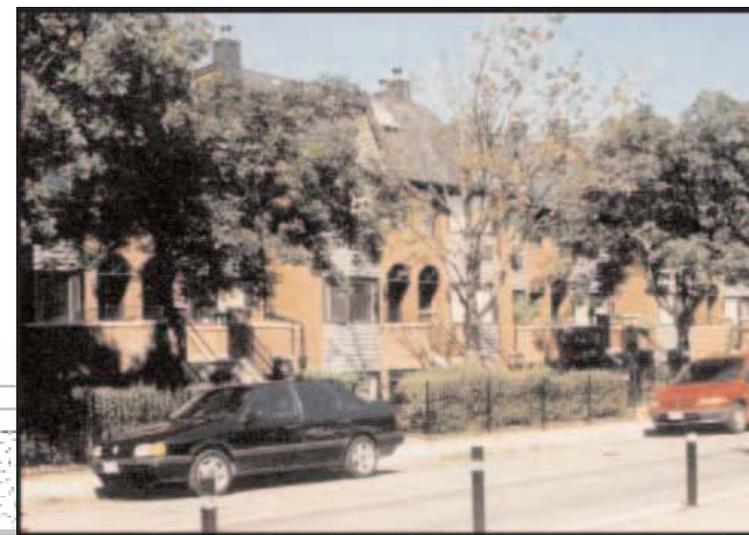
LEGEND - LAND USES

LOW RISE  
RESIDENTIAL  
SINGLES AND  
DETACHED

PARK  
AREAS

SCALE  
0 10 20 30 40 50 60 70 80 90 100  
FEET

# Medium Density Development

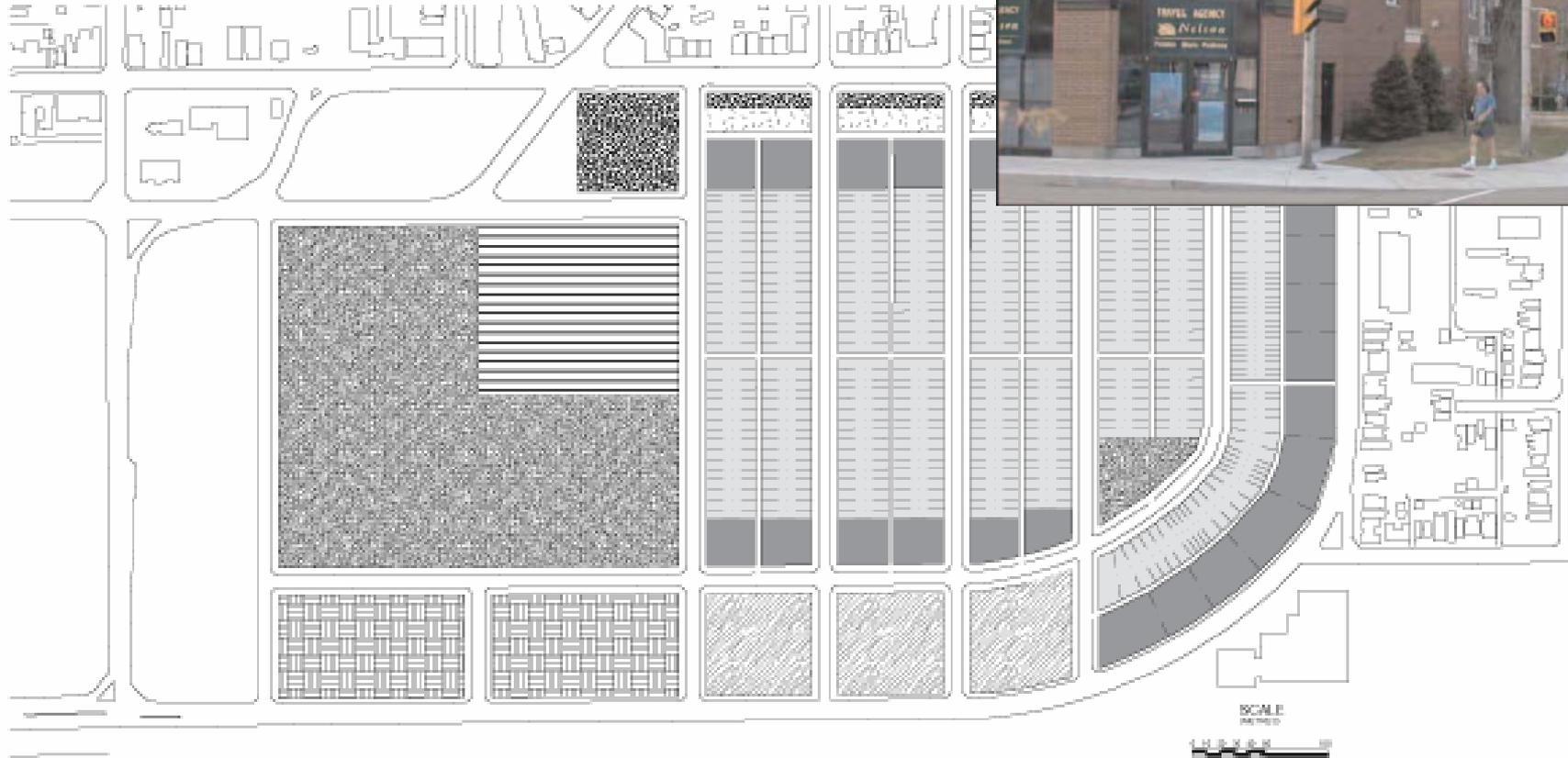


## LEGEND - LAND USES

							
LOW RISE RESIDENTIAL SINGLES AND DETACHED	LOW RISE RESIDENTIAL TOWNHOUSES	MID RISE RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT BUILDINGS	HIGH RISE RESIDENTIAL APARTMENT BUILDINGS	COMMERCIAL AREAS	EMPLOYMENT AREAS	COMMUNITY FACILITIES	PARK AREAS

SCALE  
0 10 20 30 40 50

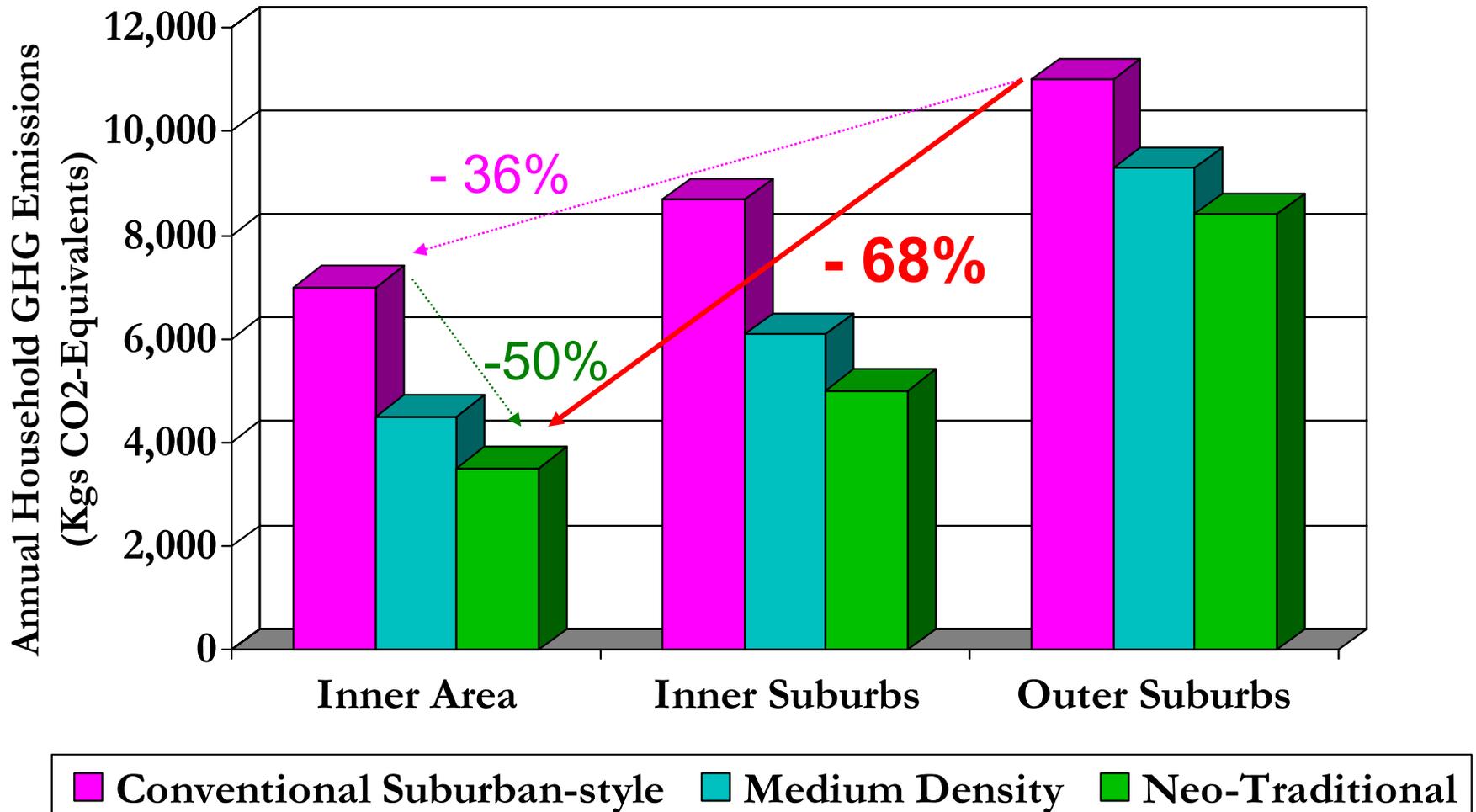
# “Neo-Traditional” Development



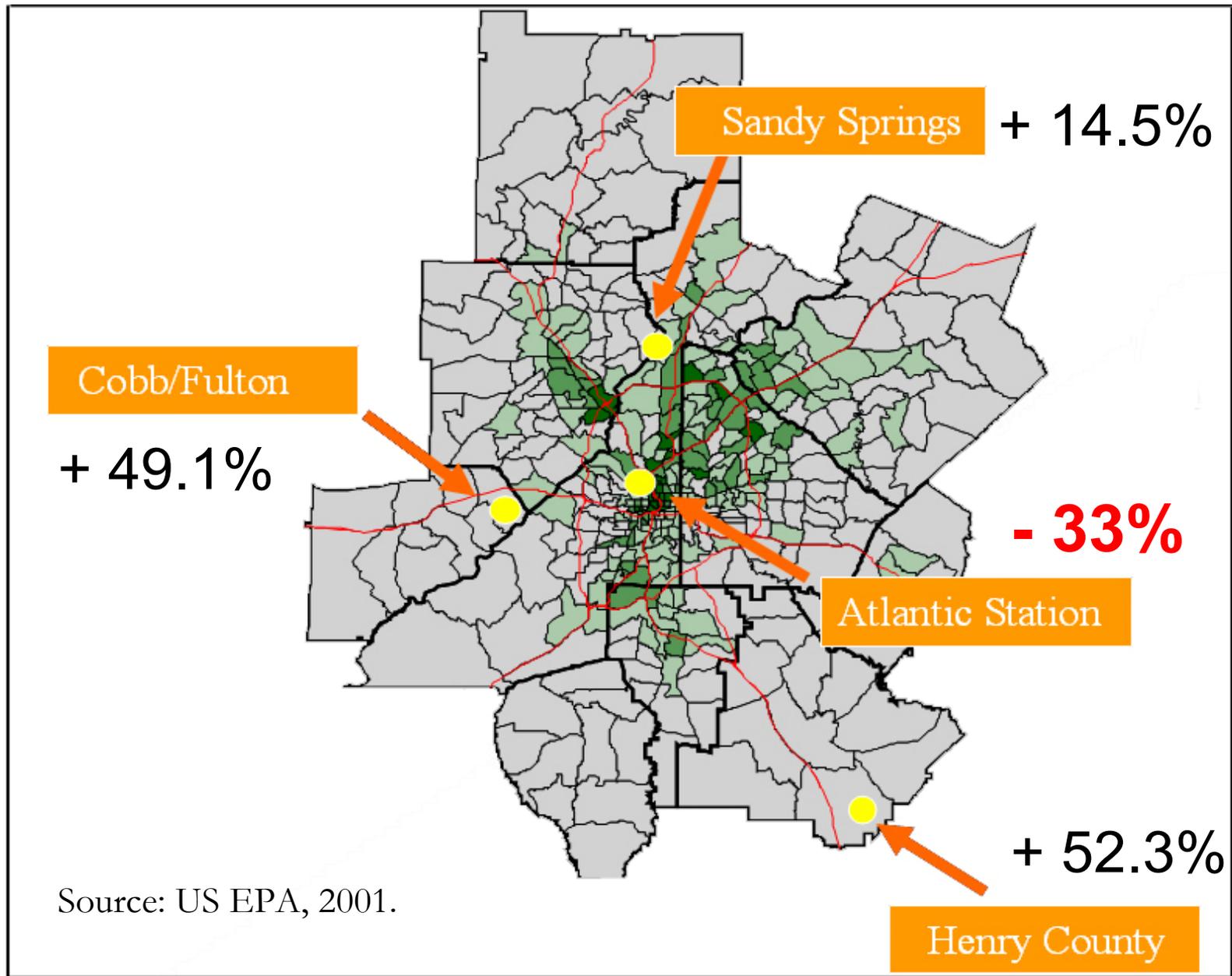
## LEGEND - LAND USES

							
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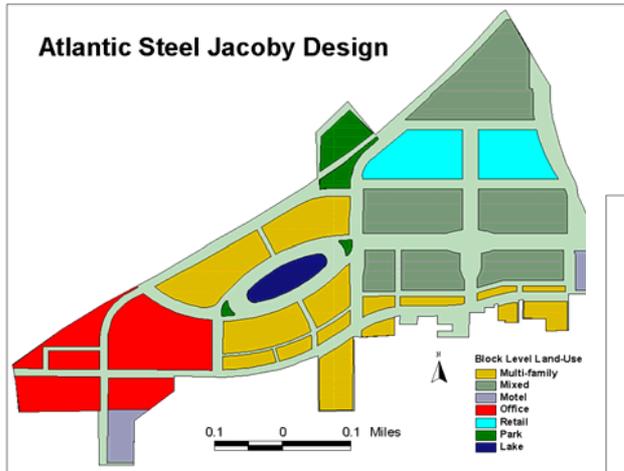
# CMHC Results: Transport GHGs



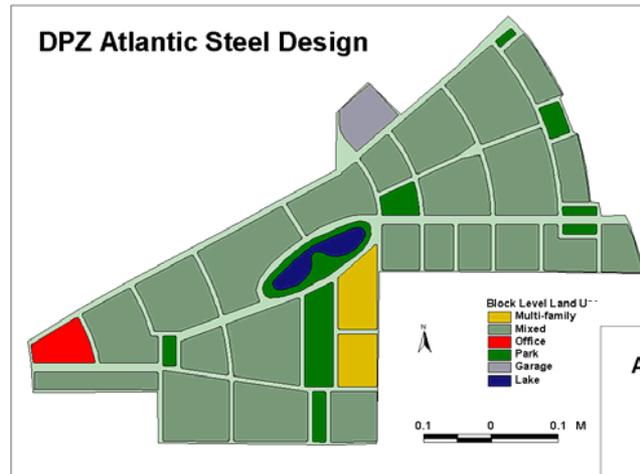
# Atlantic Station: Location Alternatives



# Atlantic Station: Site Design Alternatives

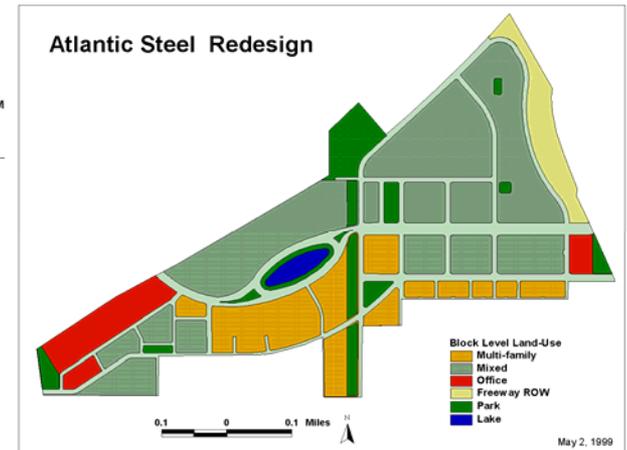


- 3.8%



- 5.8%

- 5.1%



# Atlantic Station: Thriving Community



# Sacramento Area Council of Governments

## Sacramento Metropolitan Planning Area



URBAN AREAS IN  
*2000*



How would  
the region  
change  
if current  
trends  
continue?

URBAN AREAS IN  
*2050.?*



Sacramento  
becomes  
Atlanta!

# Vehicle Miles of Travel per Household

#1

#2

#3

Regional Preferences

Target Area Preferences

-50

-25

2005

25

50

*reduction*

*increase*

-11.6%

-11.4%

-11%

-11.6%

-11.4%

# The Future Ain't Here Yet

**“Nearly half of what will be the built environment in 2030 doesn’t even exist yet, giving the current generation a vital opportunity to reshape future development.”**

Arthur C. Nelson, “Planning for a New Era,” *Journal of the American Planning Association*, Fall 2006.

**Can we Build it?**

**Yes we can!**



Photo Source: Arthur C. Nelson

# Can we retrofit suburbia?



Source: Urban Advantage

Sure.



Source: Urban Advantage

# Ugh

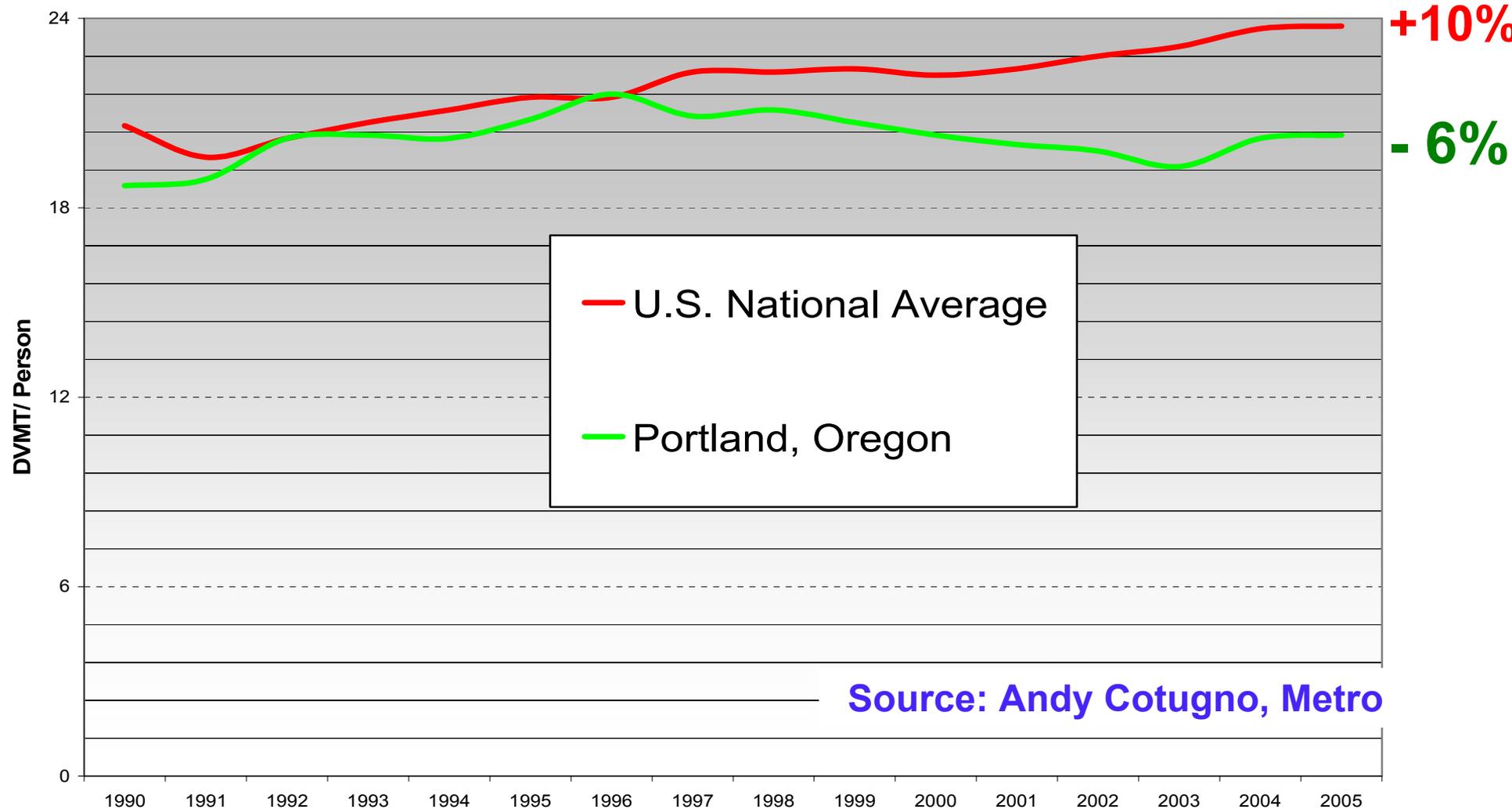


# Ahhh



# Has it ever been done?

## Portland OR: VMT/capita 1990 to 2005



# Arlington-Ballston Corridor

VMT steady since 1980 despite 2X growth

**38% take transit to work, 73% walk to transit**

Source: Center for Transit  
Oriented Development

**12% of HH don't own cars (vs. 4% for region)**



# Growing Cooler: The Bottom Line

## Projected 2030 Savings from Smart Growth

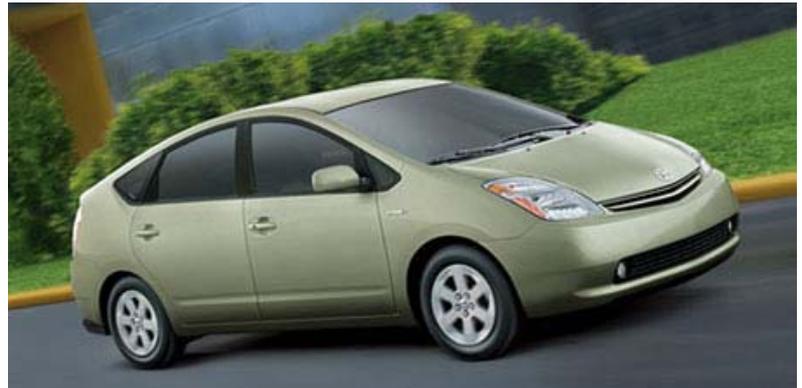
- Shifting 60% of new growth to compact patterns
  - » 85 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> in 2030
- Equal to a 28% increase in CAFE standards to 32 mpg in 2020
  - » Half the savings of the Senate's 35 mpg CAFE bill
- Fuel cost savings in 2030: \$24 billion (USD)
  - » Cumulative: \$250 billion



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# Questions? Comments?

# Thank You!

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For more information:

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[www.ccap.org/transp.htm](http://www.ccap.org/transp.htm)

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# **Supplemental Material**

# Transit, Pricing, Smart Growth, etc. could cut VMT 23% by 2030 (NRDC/Cowart)

Widespread implementation of best practices:

- |   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>1. Pay-as-you-drive</b>                    | 368 B VMT |
| <b>2. Smart Growth, NMT</b>                   | 298 B VMT |
| <b>3. Speed limits &amp; Drivers Training</b> | 73 B VMT  |
| <b>4. Road pricing</b>                        | 65 B VMT  |
| <b>5. Parking measures</b>                    | 58 B VMT  |
| <b>6. Other TDM (HOV, telecommute)</b>        | 58 B VMT  |
| <b>7. Transit</b>                             | 49 B VMT  |