

Inclusive, Green, and Car-Lite: Some Aspirations for Austin



Chris Riley
Austin Regional Group
of the Sierra Club
Nov. 12, 2019

I. Inclusive

**WELCOME TO
AUSTIN**











Chicago: Affordable housing co-located with public libraries

2. Green





Winner of Two Pulitzer Prizes

Biophilia

EDWARD O. WILSON



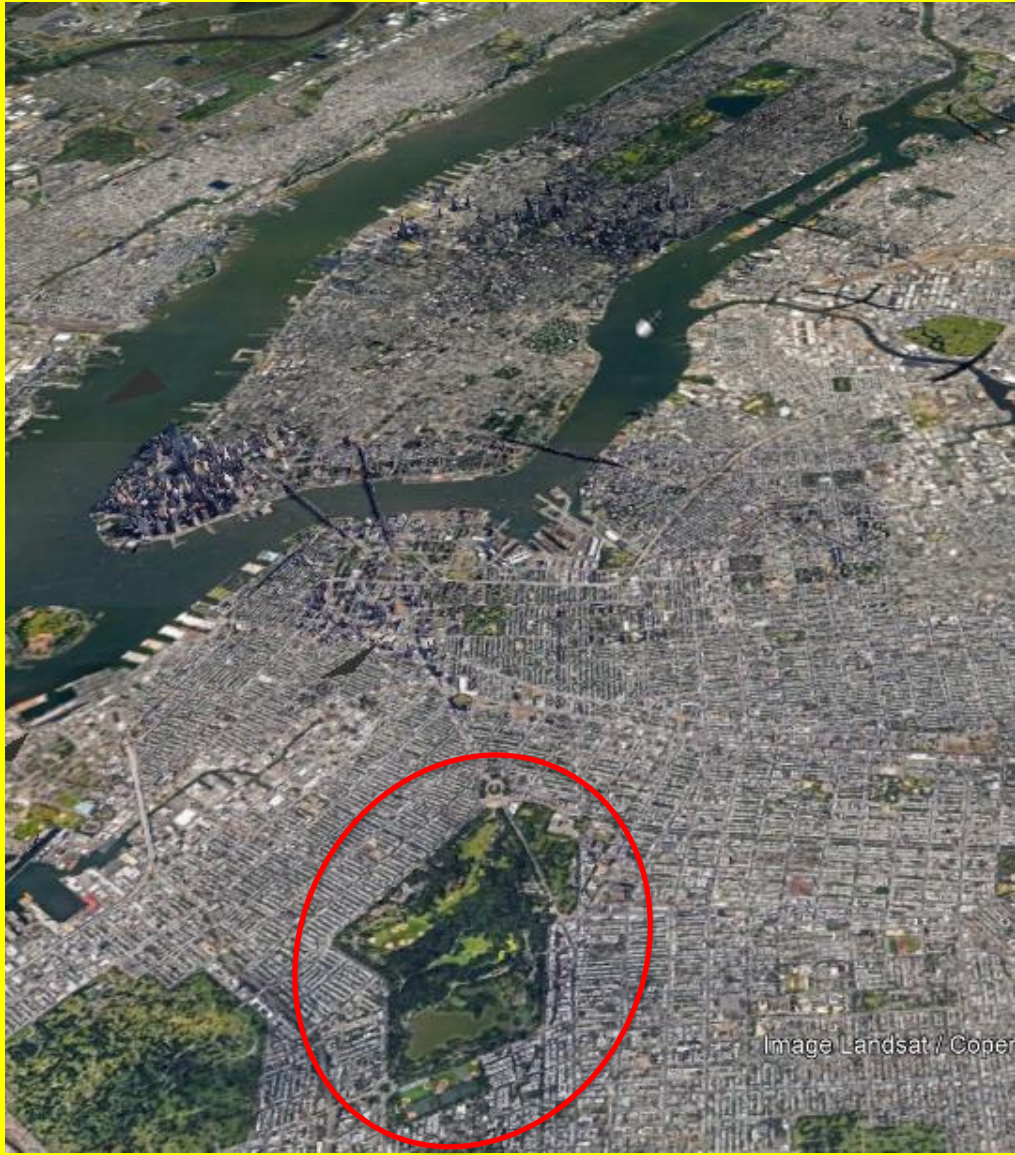
The human bond with other species

“Nature holds the key to our aesthetic, intellectual, cognitive and even spiritual satisfaction.”

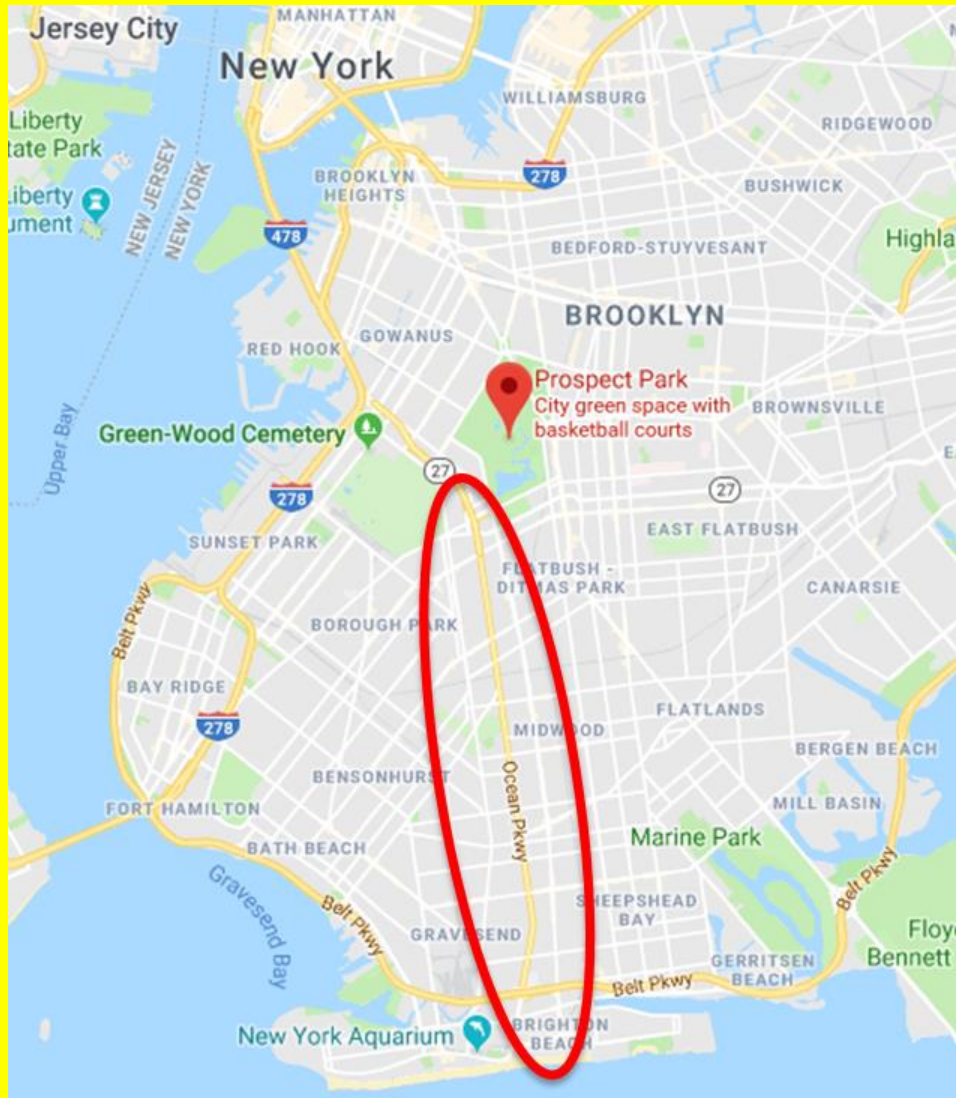
-- *E.O. Wilson*



Frederick Law Olmsted (1822 – 1903)



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Frederick Law Olmsted (1822 – 1903)



The Bicycle Path from Prospect Park, Brooklyn, to Coney Island.

Drawn by J. M. Gleason.



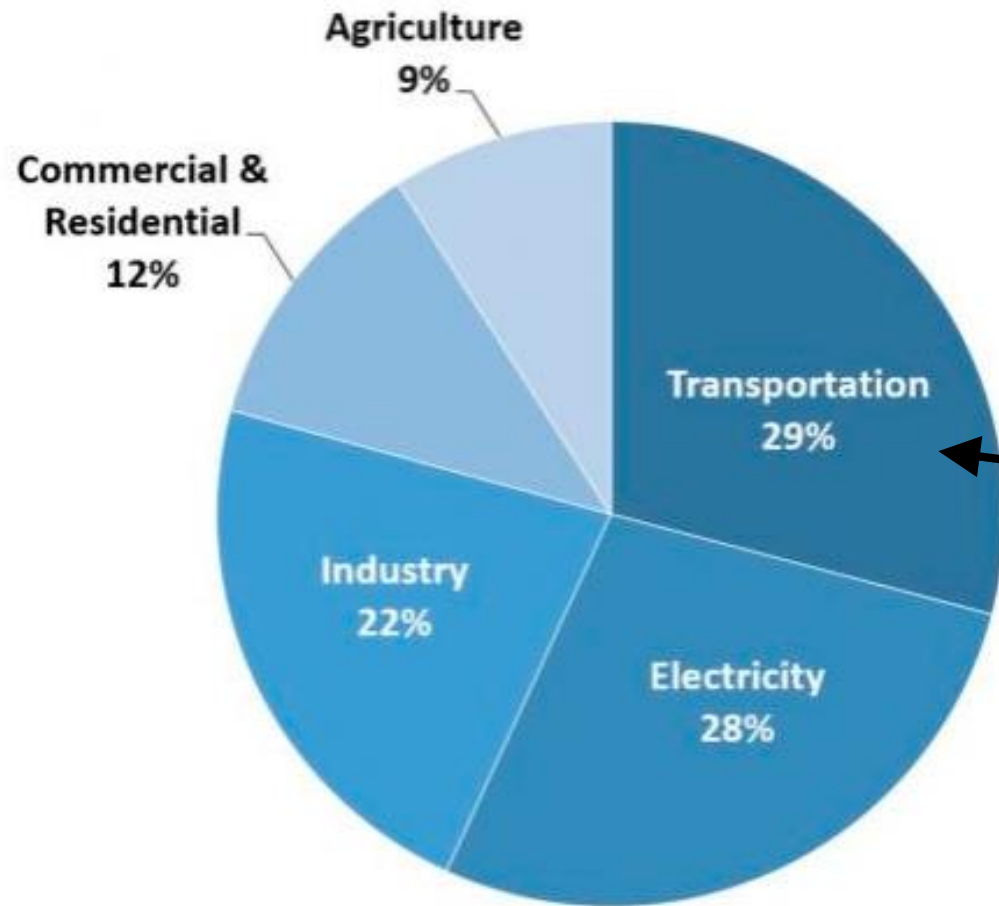
Frederick Law Olmsted (1822 – 1903)



Frederick Law Olmsted (1822 – 1903)

3. Car-Lite

Total U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions by Economic Sector in 2017



Largest sources of transportation-related greenhouse gas emissions:

Passenger cars and light-duty trucks

40,000

people killed in car crashes in the US every year.



-- about the same as losing all passengers on a 737 every single weekday.



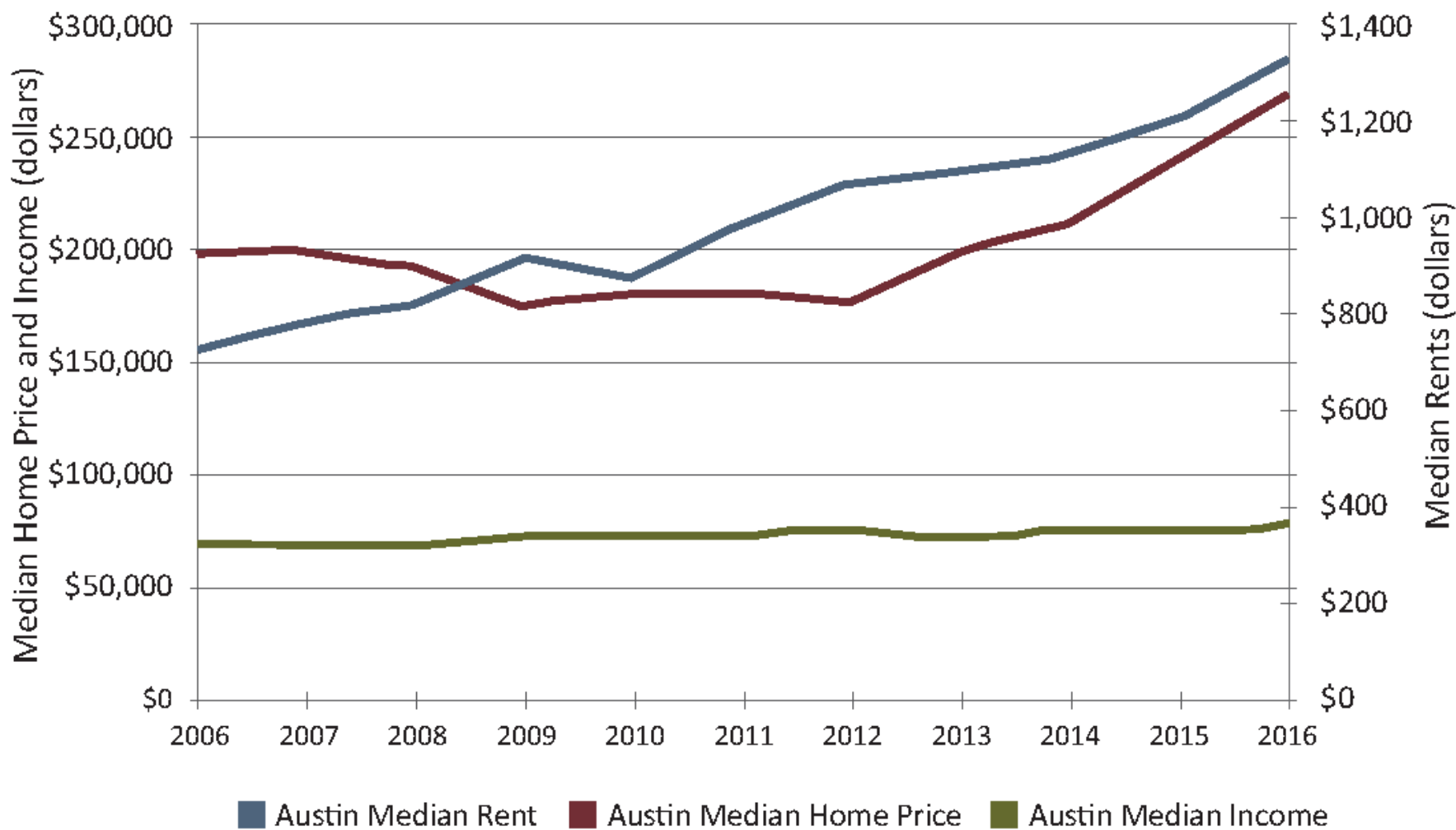






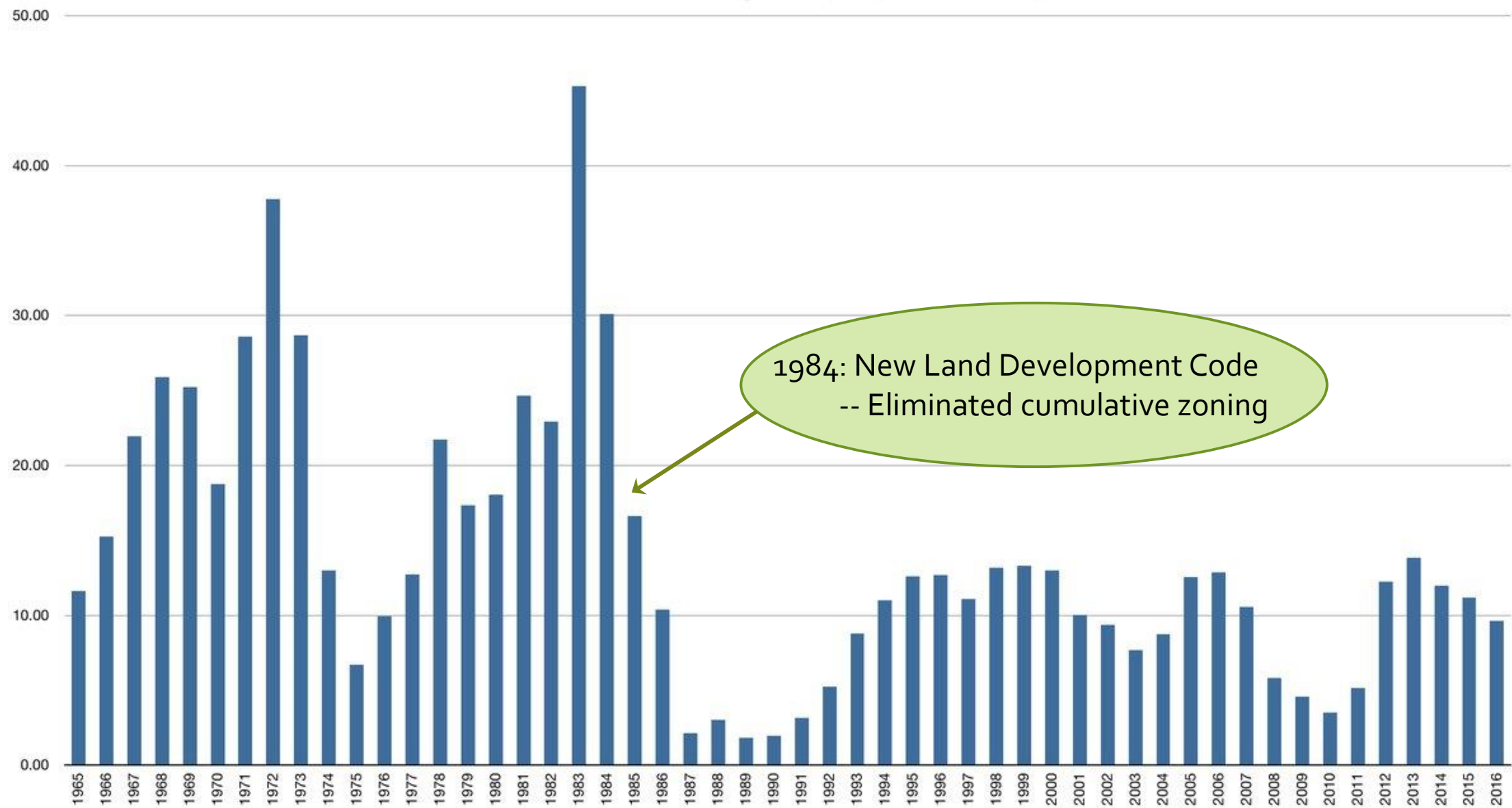
Are we on track toward being
inclusive ?

AUSTIN MEDIAN HOME PRICES AND RENTS VERSUS MEDIAN INCOME



SOURCE: National Association of Homebuilders (NAHB), Austin Opportunity Index, and Austin Investor Interests Data (2006-2016)

Austin, TX Annual Housing Permits (Units per 1000 Residents)




Population growth expected in the Austin region in the next 10 years:

758,466

Additional housing units expected in Austin in the next 10 years under current zoning:

91,914

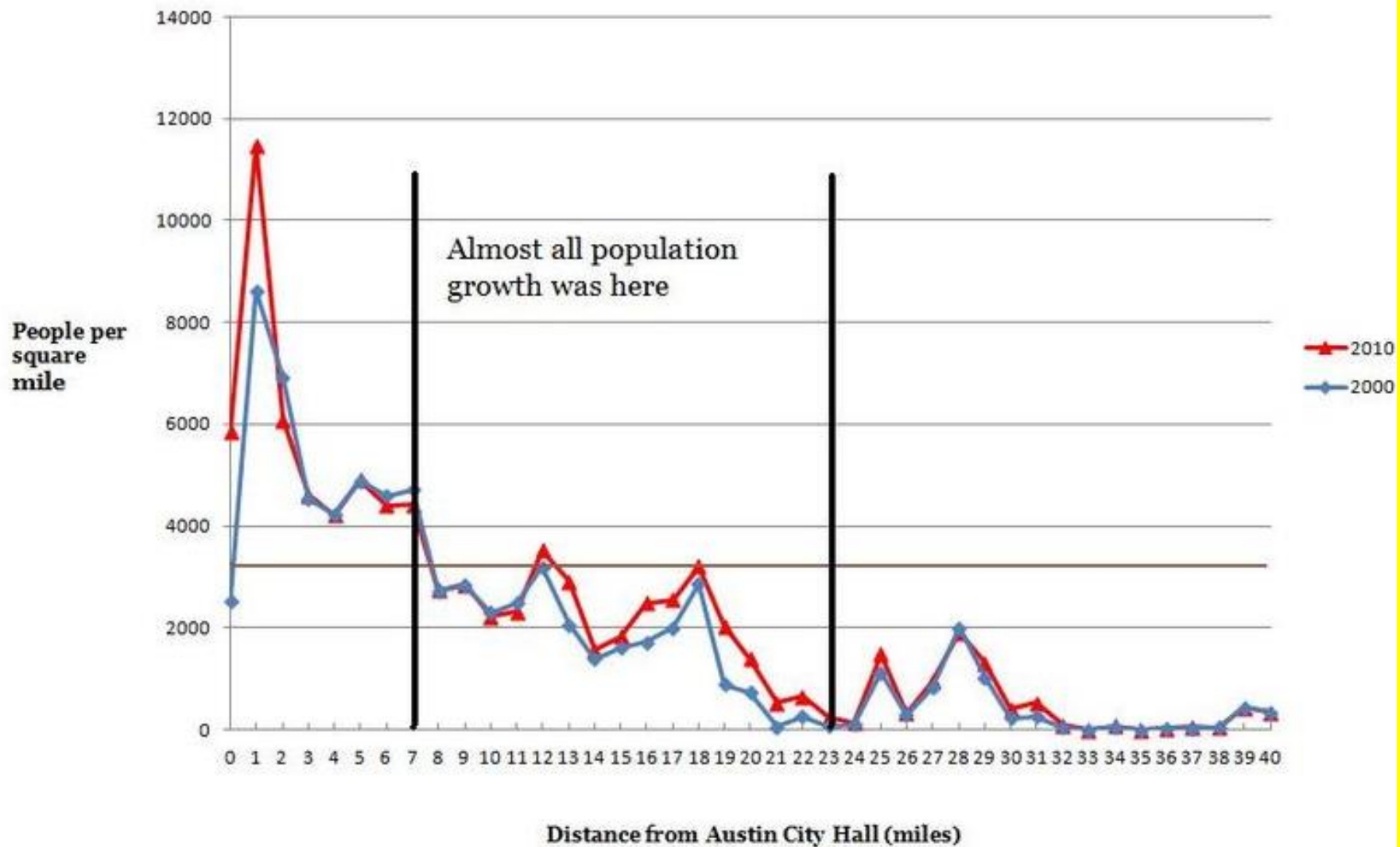
 192,099 people

So with current zoning, over the next 10 years, we can expect to accommodate about **25%** of the Austin region's growth within the city of Austin.

MSA	2000 Weighted Density	2010 Weighted Density	Change (%)
Austin	3,133	3,131	-0.06%
Dallas	4,062	3,909	-3.77%
Houston	3,999	3,623	-9.40%
San Antonio	3,405	3,475	2.06%

Source: Austin Contrarian.com, Sept. 10, 2012

Weighted Density by Distance from Austin City Hall



Source: Austin Contrarian.com, Sept. 27, 2012

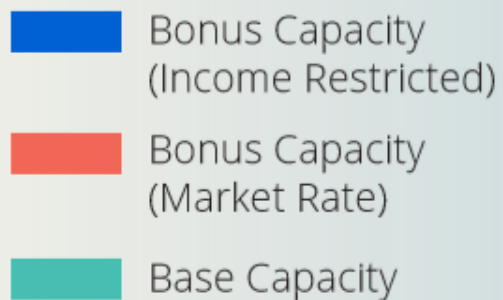
Austin City Council Direction on Code Rewrite

May 2, 2019

New code should allow for:

- Housing capacity = 135,000 new units x 3
- 60,000 affordable housing units
- Preservation of 10,000 affordable housing units
- Enough Permanent Supportive Housing to address needs
- 30% Missing Middle Housing

Total housing capacity¹



Nearest Equivalency Land Development Code

145,000 units

BONUS

1,500 units
3,500 units
140,000 units

Revised Land Development Code

397,000 units

BONUS

9,000 units
187,000 units
201,000 units

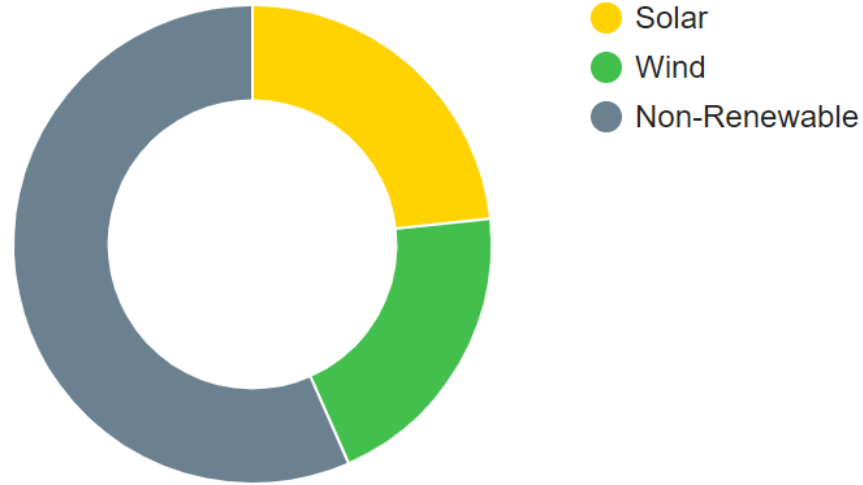
Council Direction Goal

405,000 units

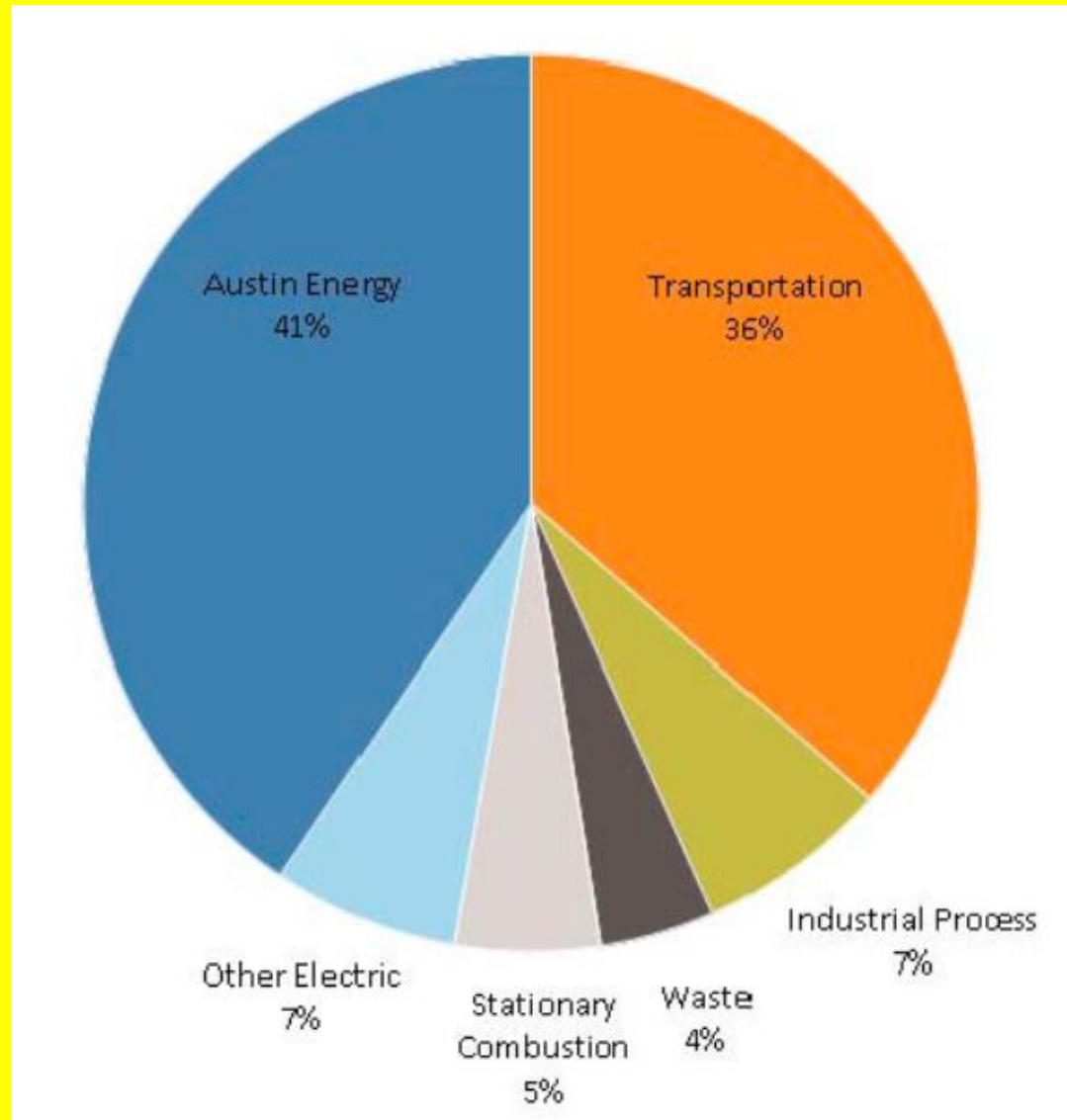
Austin Strategic Housing
Blueprint Goal
(135,000 units) x 3

Are we on track toward being
green?

Total Austin Energy Load/Demand - Nov 12, 2019, 12:04:00 PM CST



- Current goal: 65% renewable energy by 2027
- Studying more ambitious goals:
 - 80% renewable by 2027
 - 100% renewable by 2035

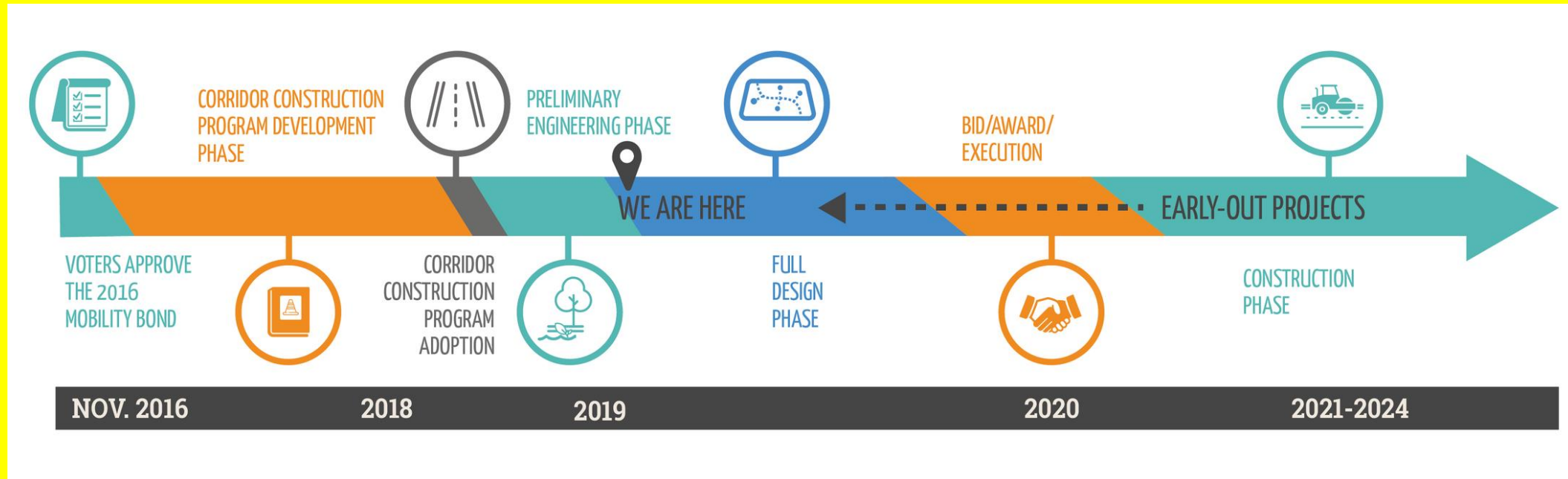


13.5 million metric tons
of greenhouse gas emissions in
Austin –Travis County, 2016





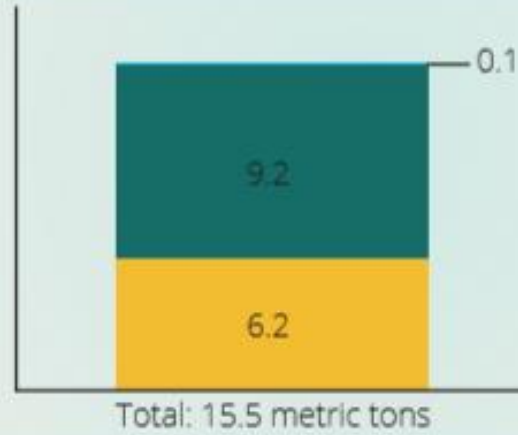
City of Austin Corridor Mobility Program



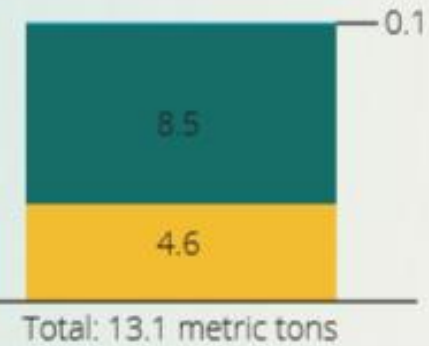
Per household **annual
greenhouse gas emissions by
source**
(metric tons CO₂ equivalents)¹⁸

- Water energy emissions
- Building energy emissions
- Vehicle emissions

Nearest Equivalency Land Development Code



Revised Land Development Code



Maximum allowable
**impervious cover
allowed per unit**¹⁹



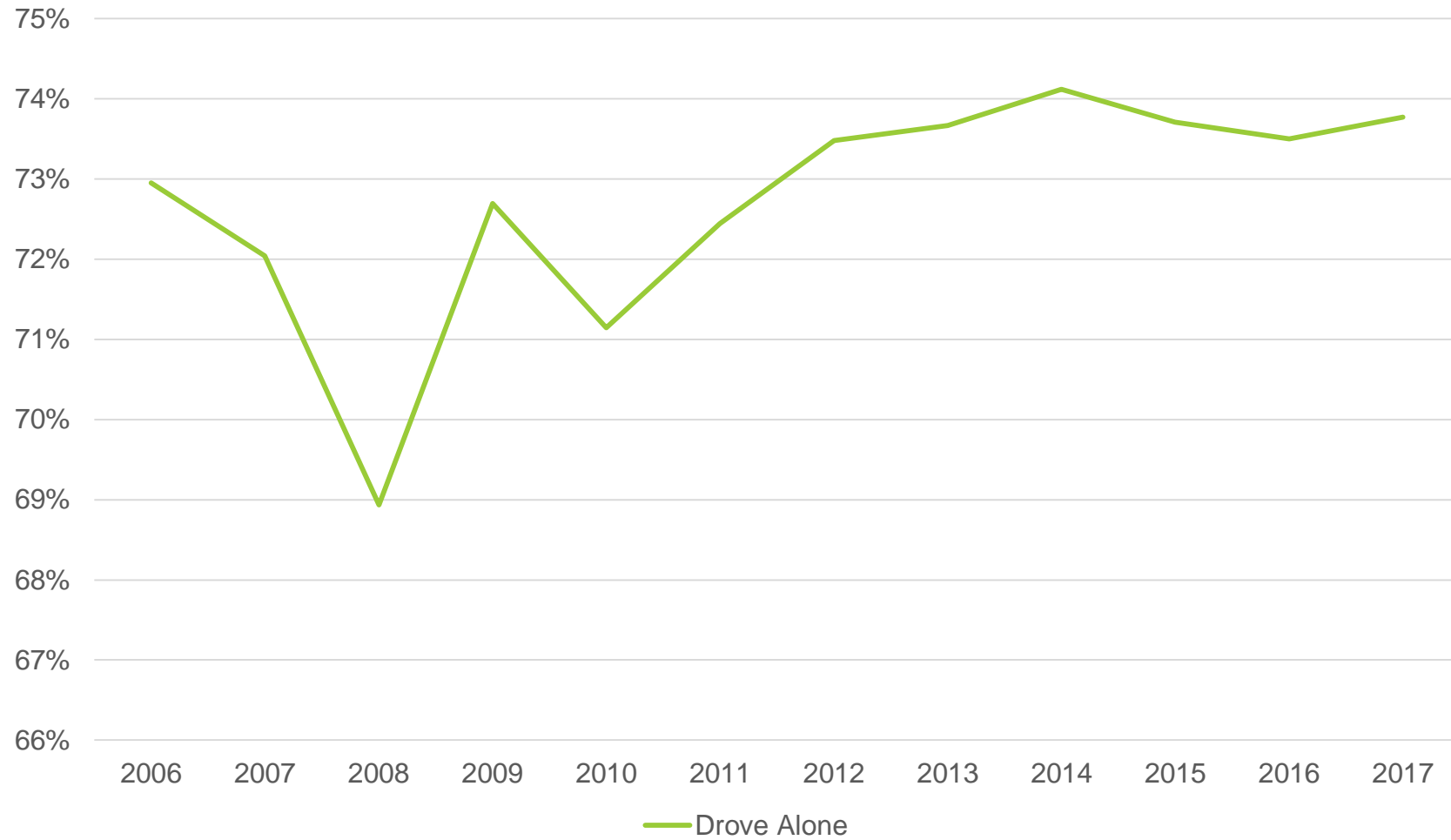
Average daily **residential water
use per household**²⁰

- Residential indoor
- Residential outdoor



Are we on track toward being
car-lite?

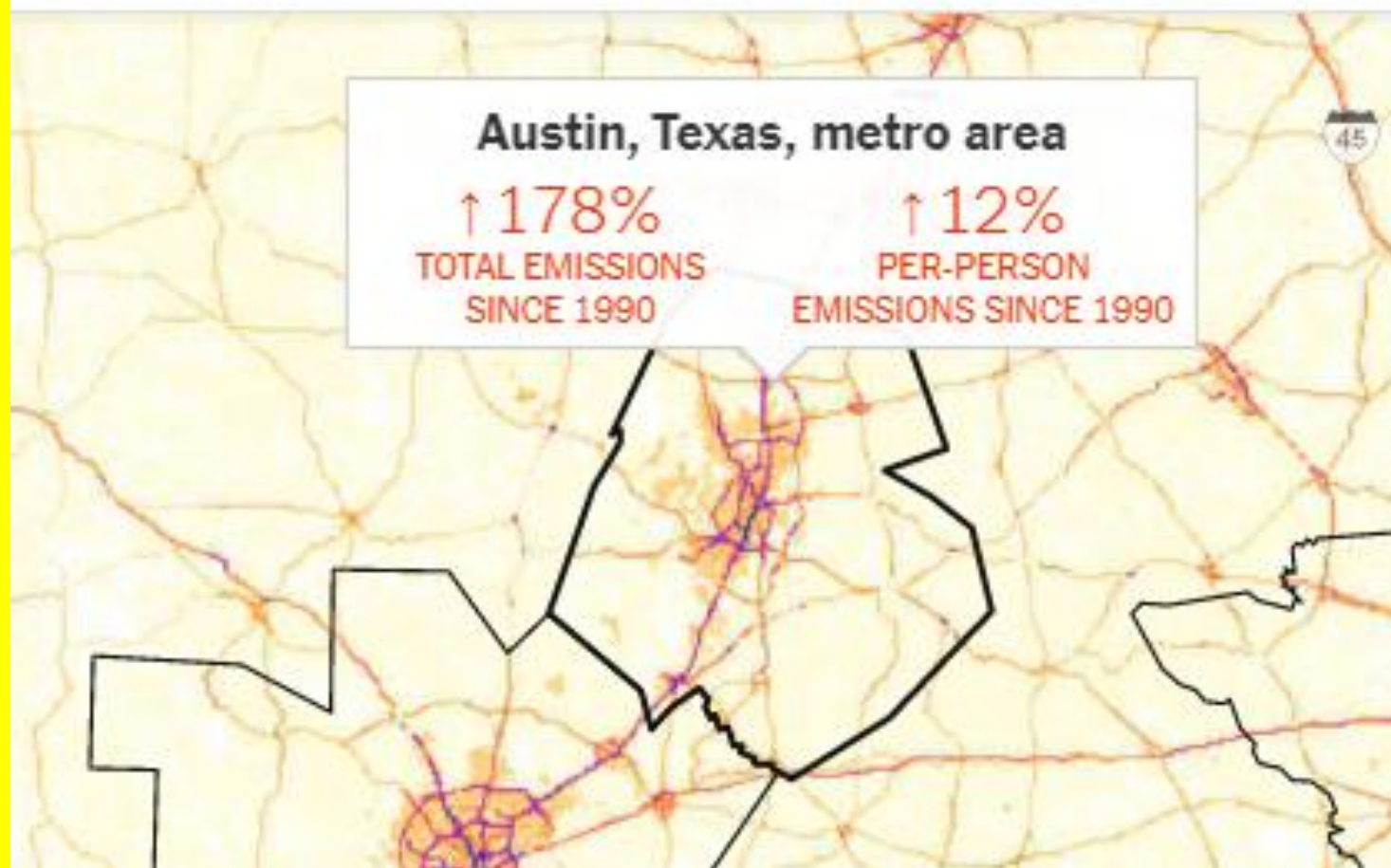
Share of Austin Commuters Driving to Work Alone, 2006-2017

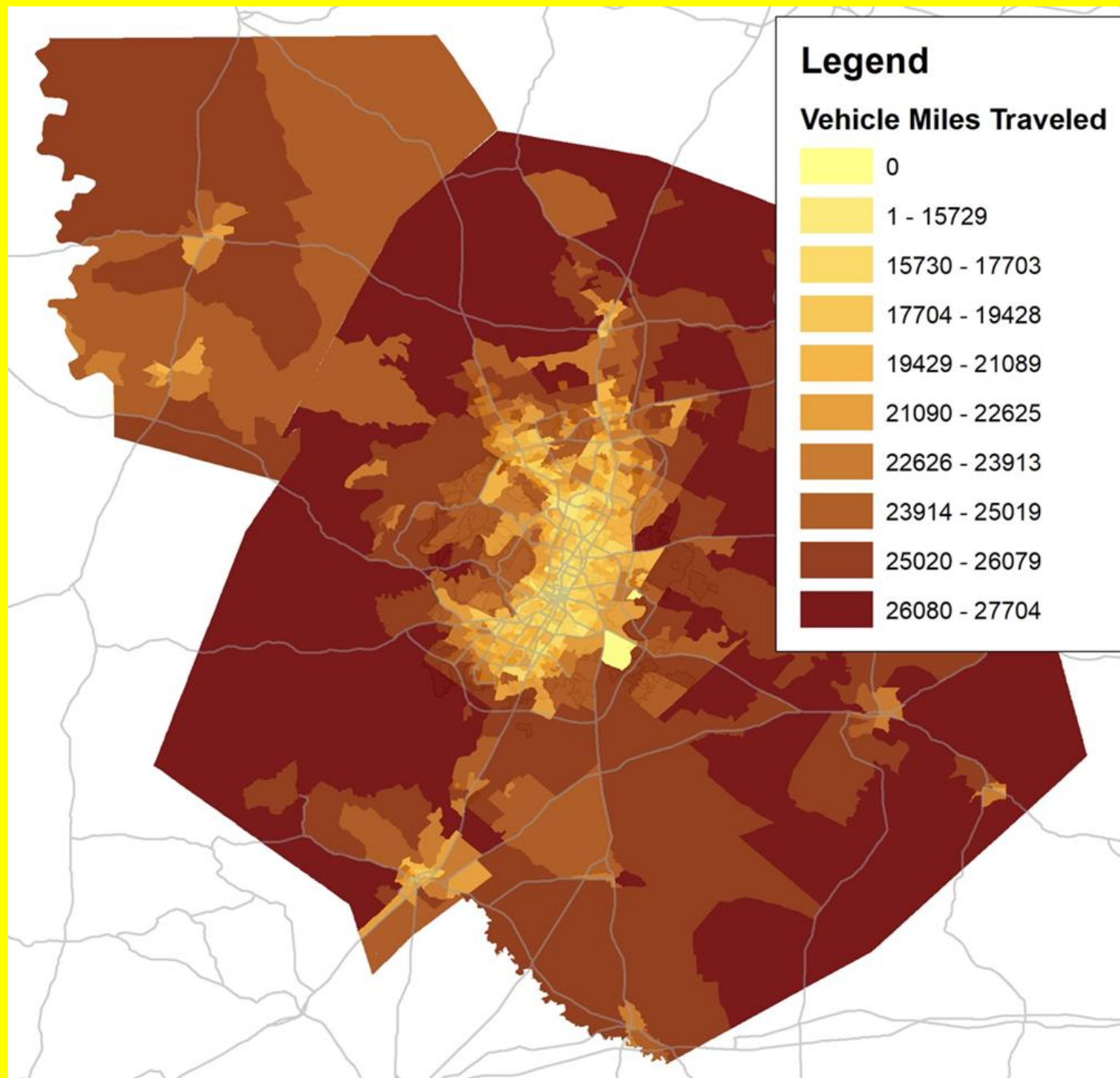


The New York Times

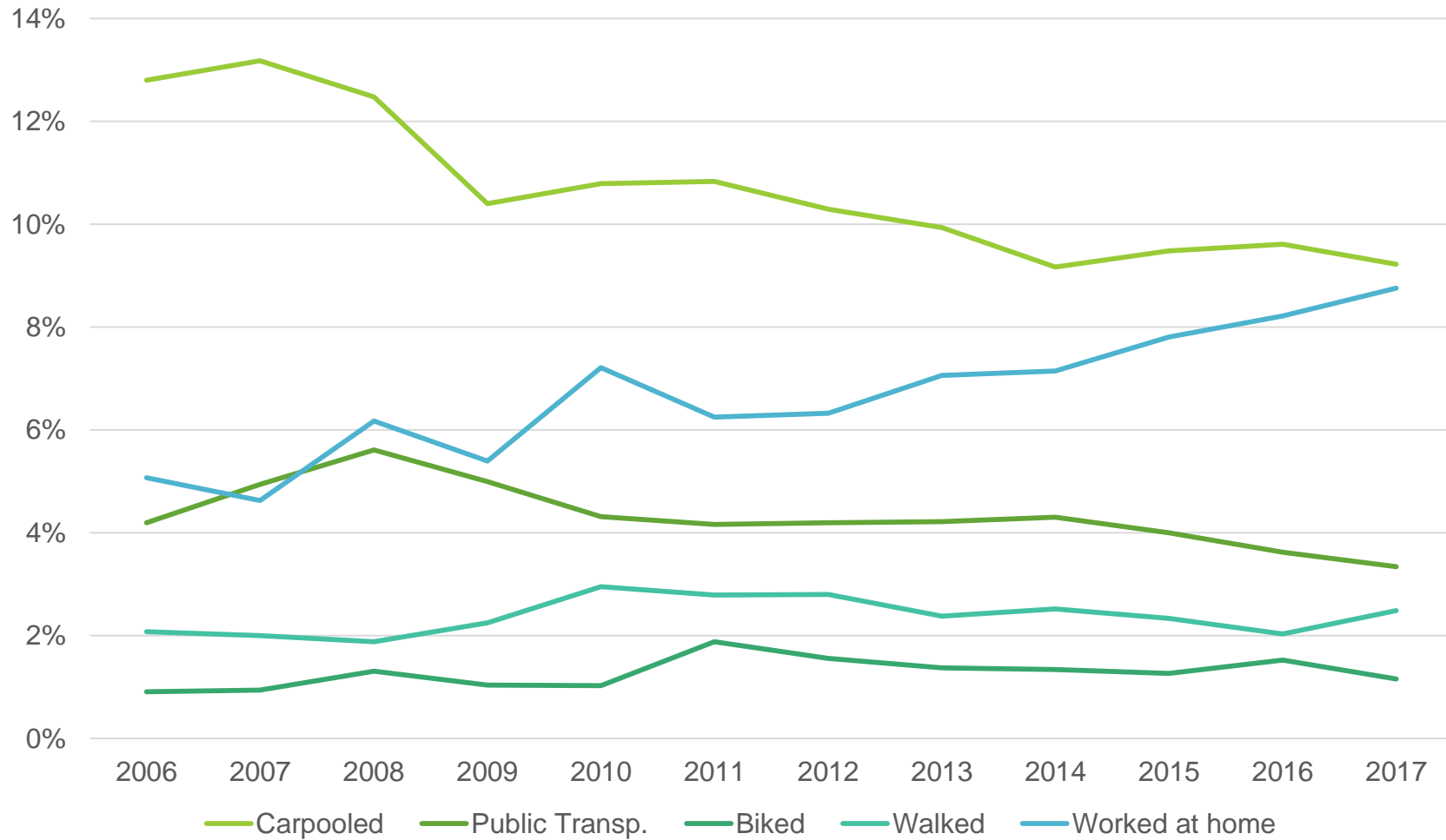
Oct. 10, 2019

CLIMATE | The Most Detailed Map of Auto Emissions in America



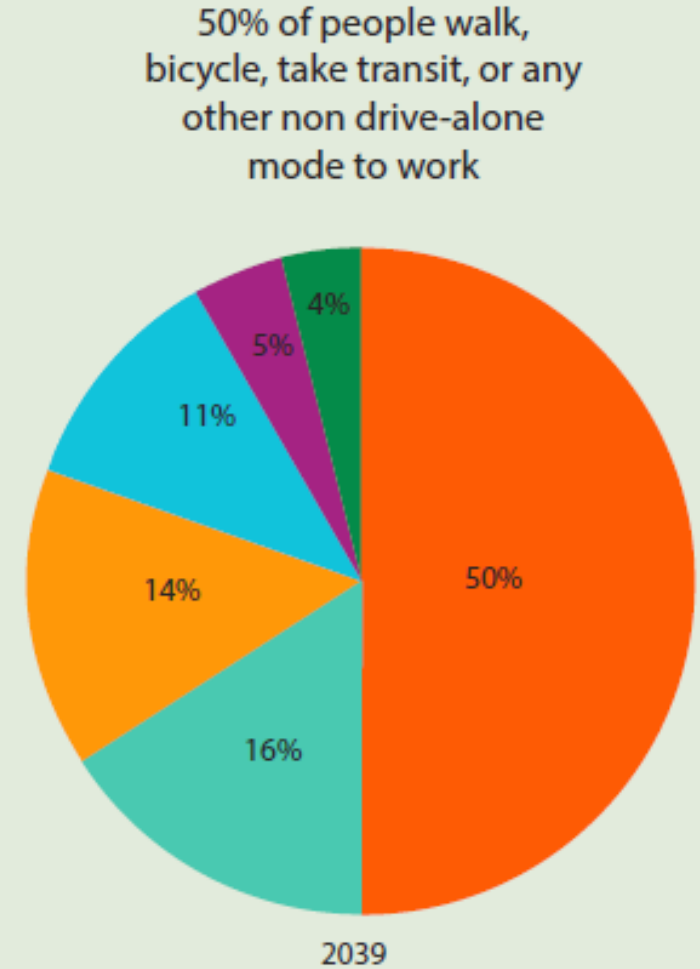
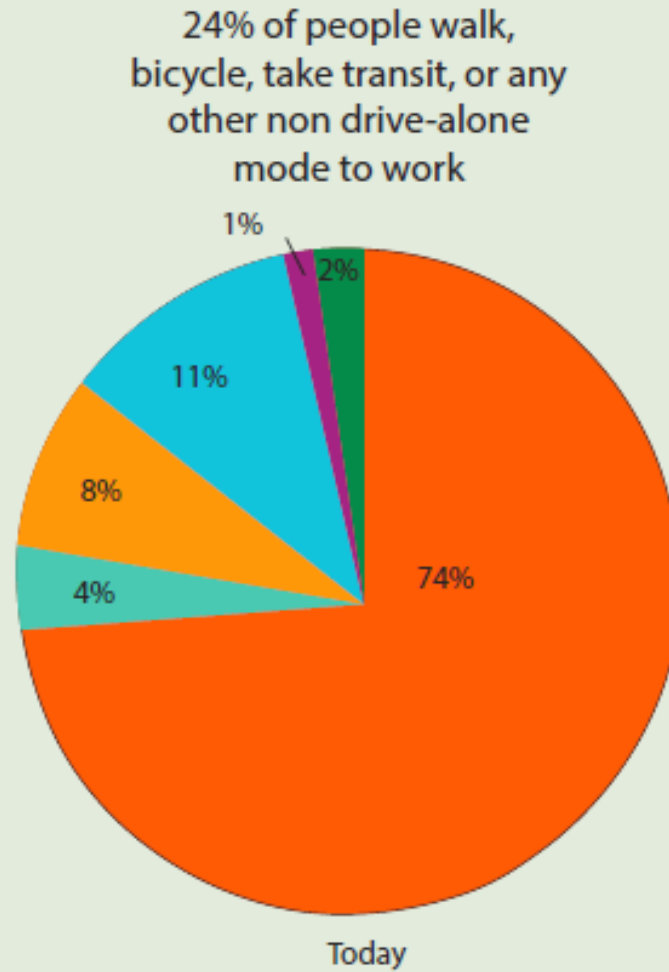


Journeys to Work in Austin Other than Driving Alone, 2006-17



Austin Strategic Mobility Plan

adopted April 11, 2019



Drive Alone

Telework

Bicycle

Transit

Walk

Carpool/Taxicab/Other

Nearest Equivalency

Land Development Code

Percent of residents that
can reach **25% or more of
Austin's jobs within a 30
minute transit trip**¹¹



2%

Total housing capacity
within **1/2 mile of 2016
Mobility Bond corridors**¹²



53,000 units
(36% of total capacity)

Revised

Land Development Code



20%



172,500 units
(43% of total capacity)

Nearest Equivalency

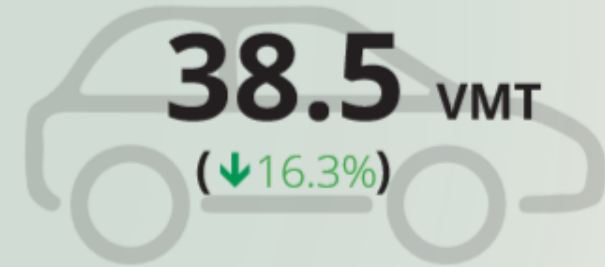
Land Development Code

Per household **daily residential vehicle miles traveled⁵**
(percent change relative to today)⁶



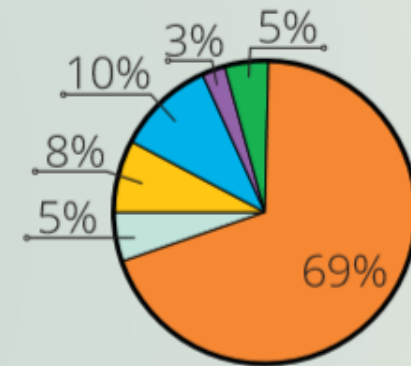
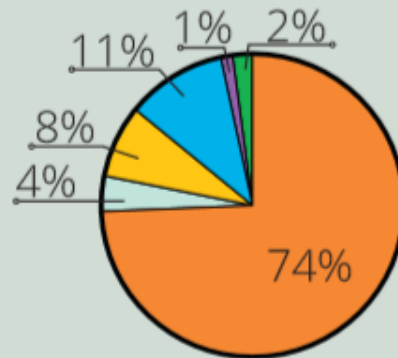
Revised

Land Development Code



Percent of commute trips by **drive-alone, transit, and other modes⁷**

- Drive-Alone
- Carpool / Taxicab
- Transit
- Bicycle
- Telework
- Walk



**WELCOME TO
AUSTIN**

