

# Joint Policy & Technical Advisory Committee Workshop

May 27, 2021

**AECOM** 



## Agenda

- 1. Key Findings
  - Technical Evaluation
  - Public Survey
  - Online Mapping
  - Stakeholder Engagement
- 2. Five Key LRTP Themes
  - Discussion / Brainstorming
- 3. LRTP Planning and Evaluation Framework
- 4. Next Steps



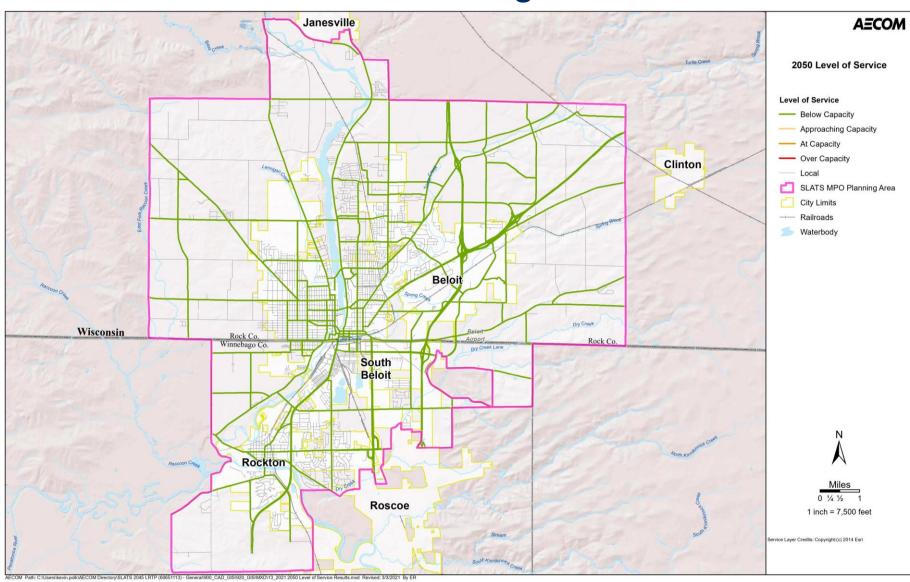
# **Key Findings**

Technical Evaluation
Public Survey
Online Mapping
Stakeholder Engagement



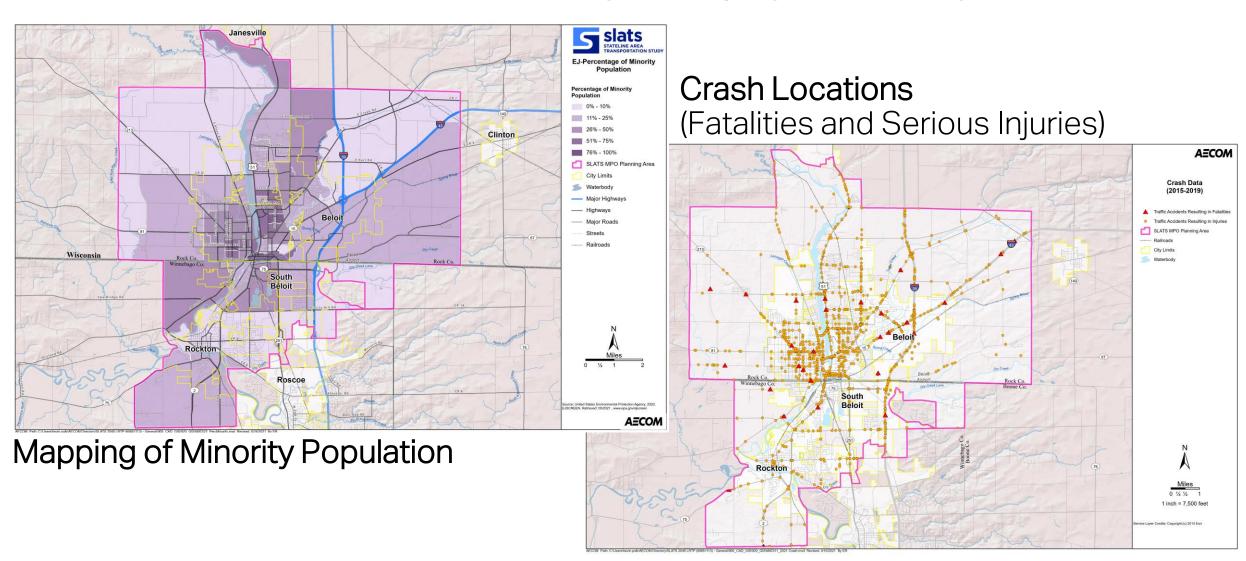
#### Technical Evaluation (Travel Demand Modeling)

2050 E+C Model Results

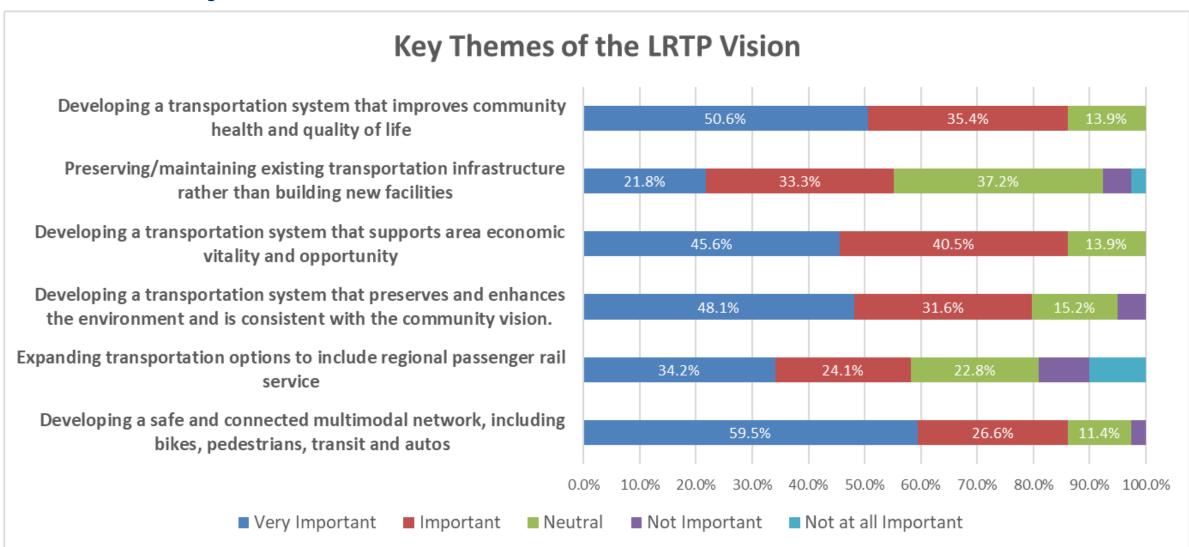




#### Technical Evaluation and Data Analysis (Equity and Safety)





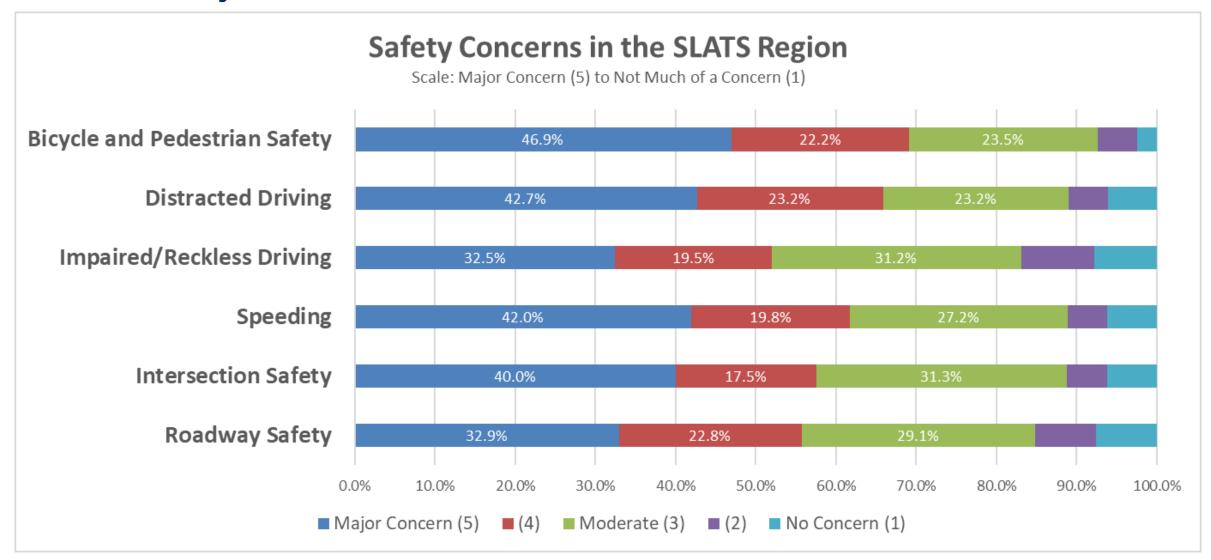




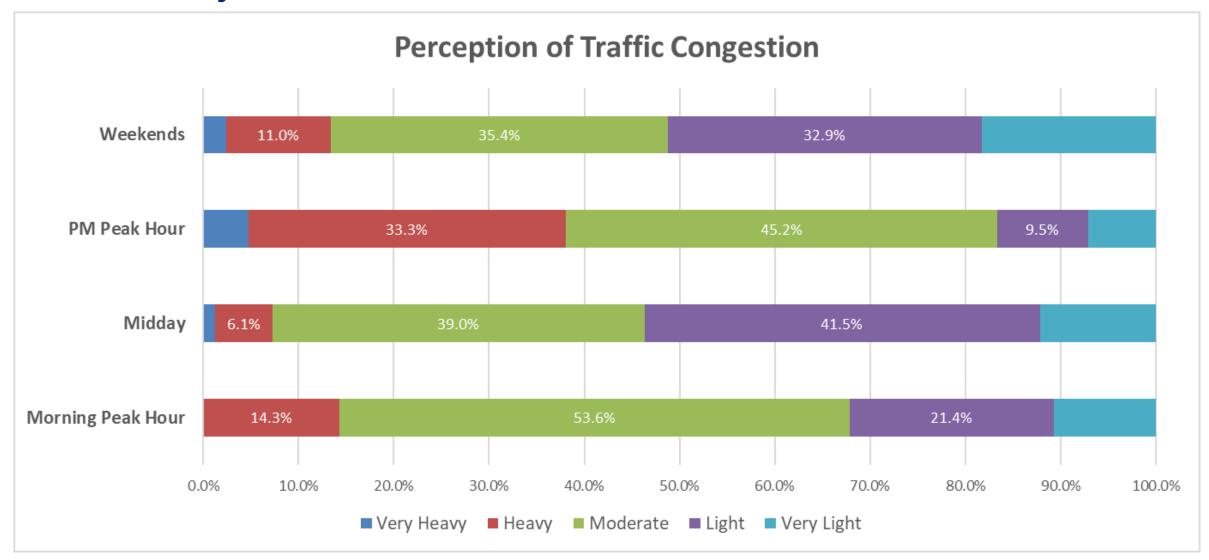
Words used to describe a High-Quality Transportation System













#### Online Mapping Results

#### • 205 Markers



**→ → •** Driving (39)



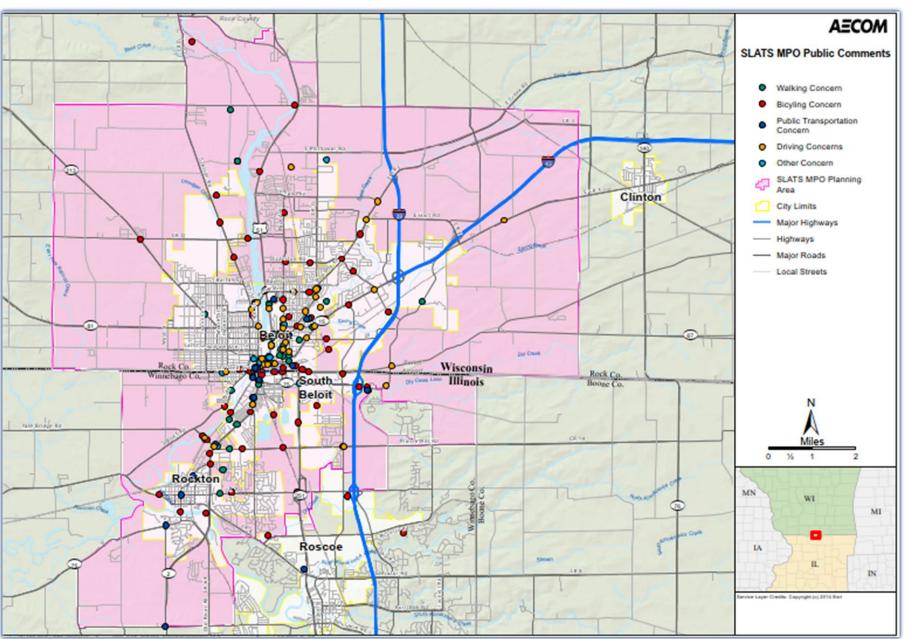
Public

Transportation (27)



★ Walking (44)

**-©**- Other (19)





#### Stakeholder Engagement Findings

- Safety issues mirror data analysis
- Private automobile travel will remain the backbone of the region's transportation system, but crave options:
  - Safer and more connected biking and walking
  - Transit that serves jobs and schools with higher levels of service
  - Active transportation devised for healthier neighborhoods and family activities
- It's time to prepare for future mobility initiatives
- Regional transit links are critical for some people, particularly those with limited access to a private vehicle to Janesville (county services), the Gateway (employment) and Rockford (employment)
- Slower streets mean safer streets in many cases, with room for other activities
- Bike, transit, and walking connections to Big Hill Park are highly desired
- More locations for crossing the river are highly desired



# Five Key LRTP Themes (Discussion / Brainstorming)



## Putting the Pieces Together

- Five Themes have emerged, correlated to the LRTP goals
  - Advance Complete Streets (CS), and CS principles
  - Anticipate/Accommodate New Mobility
  - Implement Regional Transit (*make it happen*)
  - Meaningful Investments to Advance Transportation Equity
  - Support Economic Development
- Assemble a LRTP framework that includes policy recommendations as well as projects



#### Theme 1: Advance Complete Streets (CS), and CS principles

- Little to no congestion presents an opportunity to modify some streets
- Improve facilities for walking, biking, streetscaping without sacrificing operations
- Enhance safety for all transportation users
- Create economic development appeal by improving public realm
- Prepare for future mobility/technology initiatives
- Not a one-size-fits-all system, but a commitment to appropriately accommodating all travelers
- Develop local Complete Streets policies (comp planning)

Q: What is the first step to make "more complete" streets in the SLATS planning area?



## Theme 2: Anticipate/Accommodate New Mobility

- Transportation technologies are rapidly evolving, and developing a vision for accommodating them may reduce future conflicts
- Small investments and policy decisions now may have large impacts in the future
- Can learn from experience of other cities
- Items to consider:
  - Electric vehicle infrastructure
  - Providing safe infrastructure for micromobility initiatives such as motorized scooters and bikeshare
  - Managing curbspace with increased rideshare and truck deliveries
  - Alleviating conflicts at the urban edge between ATVs on town roads and city traffic

Q: What technologies have the greatest potential to be implemented in the SLATS planning area? How should we prepare?



## Theme 3: Implement Regional Transit (make it happen)

- The Stateline Region identified coordinating regional transit systems years ago; stakeholders
  are very concerned with the complexity of using transit in the bistate context
- The region functions as a single economic unit, but variation in funding, fare structures, system continuity, and state restrictions create a complex set of issues to be resolved
- Travel demands from investments in the new casino and ballpark can in part be addressed through coordinated transit investments
- Future passenger rail service may create opportunities in the long term for the SLATS region to be better connected to Madison and Rockford, with connections to Milwaukee and Chicago
- Demand for good connections to Janesville to access county services is strong
- Recovery Act funding may provide an opportunity to explore a framework for cooperation
- A regional transit app is a priority for riders

Q: What is the greatest barrier to developing a regional transit presence in the SLATS planning area? What is the first step to overcoming that barrier?



## Theme 4: Meaningful Investments to Advance Transportation Equity

- The cost burdens of transportation inefficiencies fall more heavily on minority and low-income households: for example, many households – both rural and urban – must own and operate numerous vehicles or be shut out of reaching some locations
- Elderly and disabled residents can be homebound due to lack of transportation facilities
- Lack of options exacerbates economic and linguistic isolation
- Without a car, it can be difficult to access parks and open space, leading to health disparities
- Access to social services is difficult for many low income and minority residents
- Coming Federal transportation funding will focus on Environmental Justice and alleviating historical discrepancies in project development

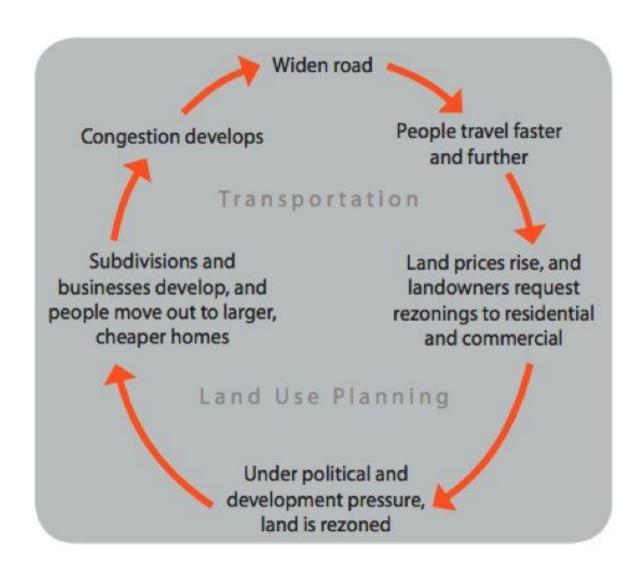
Q: How should we prioritize projects and policies that have the greatest positive impact on the region's minority and low-income populations? Think both urban and rural.



#### Theme 5: Support Economic Development

- Land use decision making supported by transportation decision making
- Job sprawl shuts out some potential workers – especially late shift job opportunities
- Integrating long-term planning for efficient transit
- Building public-private partnerships to support access
  - Guaranteed ride home
  - Transit extension subsidies
  - Private circulators

Q: How do we best incorporate sound economic development principles into transportation project evaluation?





# LRTP Planning and Evaluation Framework



## Relating Key Themes to Goals

Themes Goals	Complete Streets	New Mobility	Regional Transit	Transportation Equity	Economic Development
Economic Vitality		Ø	Ø	Ø	<b>Ø</b>
System Preservation	<b>Ø</b>	Ø			<b>©</b>
Mobility and Access	<b>Ø</b>		Ø	<b>©</b>	
Safety and Security	<b>©</b>		<b>©</b>		
Environment	<b>Ø</b>	Ø	Ø		
Healthy Neighborhoods	<b>6</b>		<b>Ø</b>	<b>©</b>	
Land Use Integration	<b>6</b>				<b>Ø</b>
Equity	<b>6</b>		<b>©</b>	<b>Ø</b>	



**Next Steps** 



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