

We Need Transit to Stop the Climate Crisis

Sam Rockwell

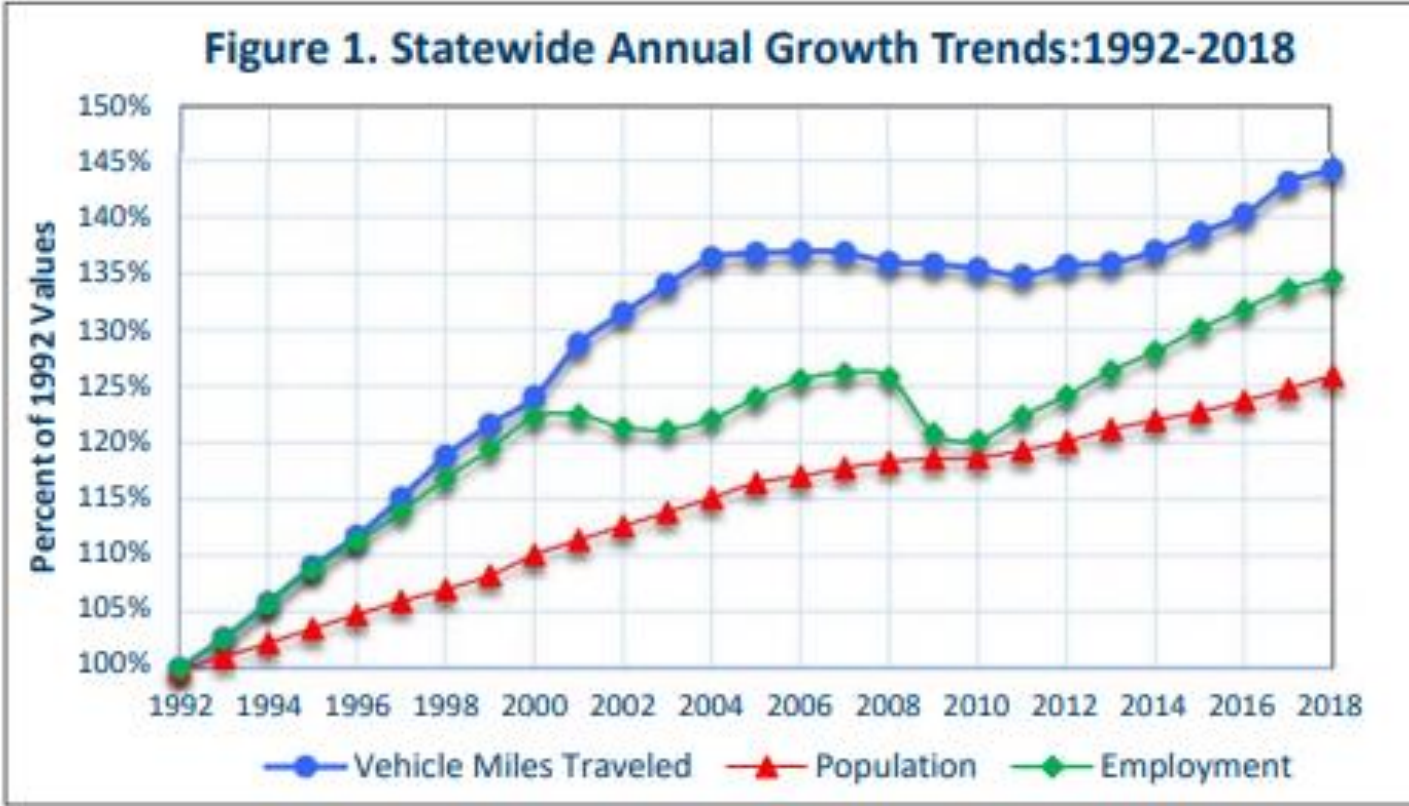
Executive Director, Move Minnesota

samr@movemn.org

Testimony: Feb. 9, 2021, 1:00 PM
Minnesota House Transportation Finance and Policy Committee



Total VMT has continues to climb...



Source: Minnesota State Demographic Center;
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development;
MnDOT, Office of Transportation System Management

How Fast Must We Act? At What Scale?

- As fast as possible:
 - **MN House Climate Action Plan:** “Build out bus-rapid transit and passenger rail systems in both the metro area and greater Minnesota to connect more people with mass transit options [and] Change transportation and land use planning to reduce the need to drive.”
 - **MnDOT STAC:** “Adopt a statewide goal of reducing VMT [Vehicle Miles Traveled] by 20% by 2050.”
 - Minneapolis: analysis shows 38% VMT reduction needed to achieve 80% emissions reduction by 2050.
 - St. Paul: 50% VMT reduction by 2050 needed.
 - CA analysis: Statewide VMT reduction of 15-25% needed to meet climate goals, but VMT reduction cannot happen in every corner of the state.
 - DE analysis: 20% reduction across the state
 - WA analysis: 50% per capita reduction
 - Rocky Mountain Inst.: 30% VMT reduction by 2030 across U.S.

NOTE: All analyses take aggressive vehicle electrification into account   

The Challenge We Face: Race, Economic, and Class Inequality

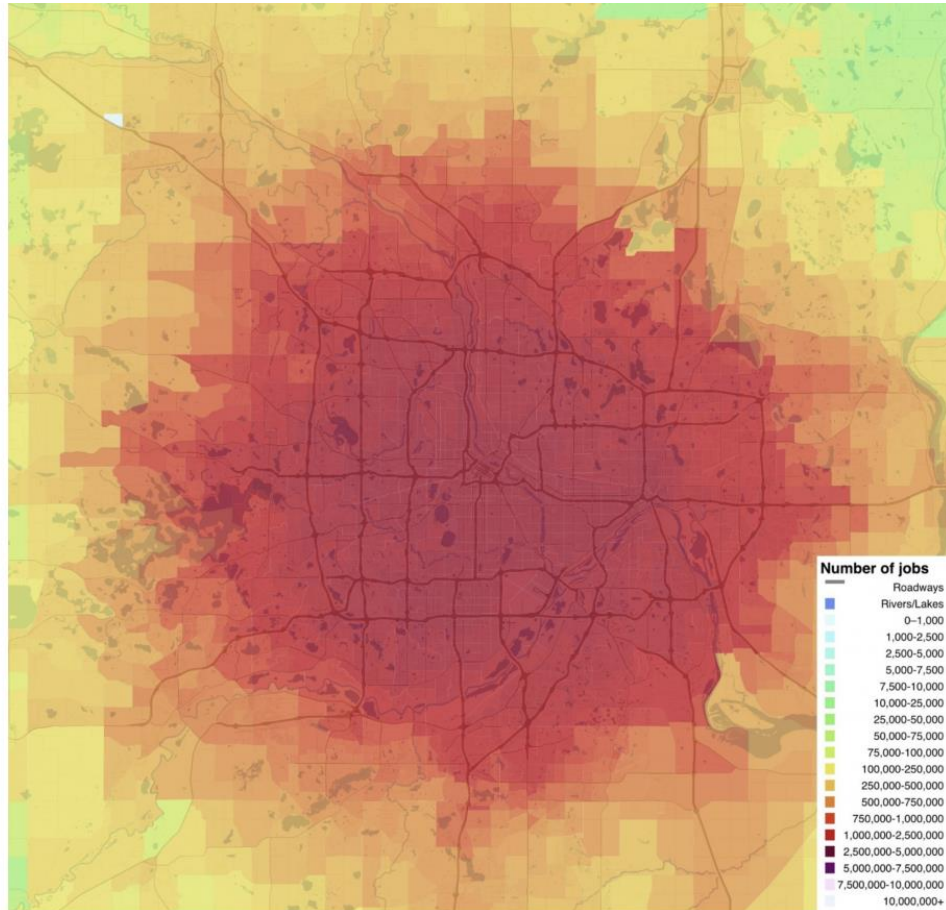


Figure 21 Automobile job accessibility within 30-minutes of travel in the Minneapolis–Saint Paul metropolitan area.

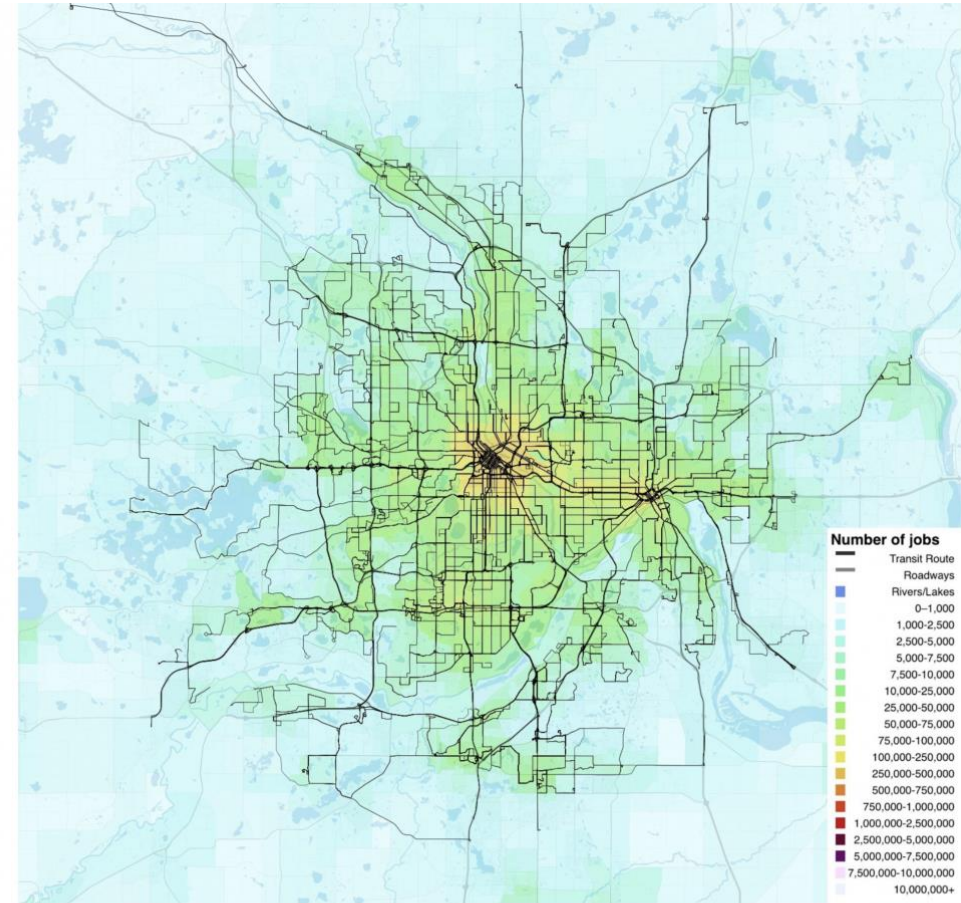


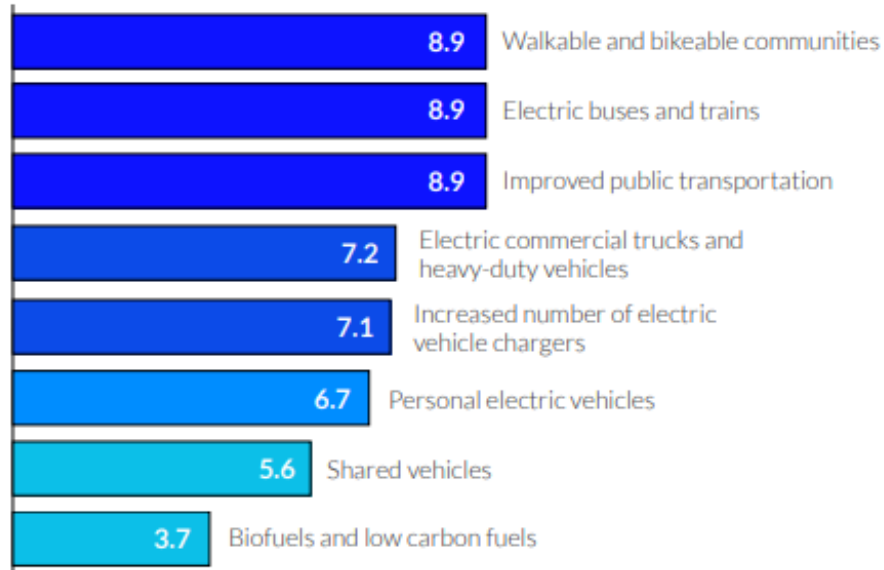
Figure 22 Walk-up transit job accessibility within 30-minutes of travel in the Minneapolis–Saint Paul metropolitan area.



Will Minnesotans Support This?



Public scoring results for transportation decarbonization strategies (10 = support)



Survey results from MnDOT Pathways report



All of Minnesota's Communities Benefit from Significant Biking, Walking, and Transit Investments



Hopkins, MN; population 18K;
community type: suburb

image: Wikipedia



Tower, MN; population 420; community
type: rural town

Image: TEDA



Minneapolis, MN; population 420K;
community type: city

image: MPR



Greater Minnesota
Transit Investment
Plan