# Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission



2024 REVIEW & UPDATE OF VISION 2050

Environmental Justice Task Force

December 12, 2023

#### **2024 Review & Update Process**



## **2024 Review & Update Elements**

- Review of VISION 2050 Recommendations and Implementation to Date
- Review of VISION 2050 Forecasts
- Review of Transportation System Performance
- Updated VISION 2050 Recommendations
- Updated Financial Analysis
- Updated Equity Analysis
- Review of Targets for National Performance Measures
- Updated Milwaukee Metro Area Peer Comparison



## **Public Involvement**

- Public input welcome throughout process
- Initial public notice and outreach began in September
  - Dedicated webpage for the 2024 Update
  - Newsletter, social media, community partner outreach
  - Virtual presentations
  - Environmental Justice Task Force meeting
- Formal comment period on draft 2024 Update in early 2024
  - Additional outreach
  - Web-based engagement plus public and partner meetings



## **Proposed Plan Updates**

- Staff reviewed current plan recommendations in relation to:
  - Plan implementation to date
  - Long-term impacts associated with recent events and trends
  - Input received to date
- > Updates do not represent a major overhaul of the plan
  - Most recommendations have been reaffirmed and believed to be valid for long-range land use and transportation planning efforts



## **Land Use Updates**

#### The plan will continue to recommend:

- Focusing on development in urban centers
- Reversing trend in declining density and providing a mix of housing types and uses
- Preserving primary environmental corridors and productive agricultural land

#### **Proposed changes:**

 Minor changes to emphasize encouraging cluster subdivisions outside urban areas and to note that sustainability recommendations are most closely associated with environmental sustainability



 New recommendation (1.19) to preserve significant historic and cultural heritage sites



#### The plan will continue to recommend:

- Significant improvement and expansion of public transit, including commuter rail, rapid transit, improved fixed and flexible transit services
- Programs to improve access to suburban employment
- "Transit first" designs on urban streets
- Other initiatives to promote transit use and improve quality of service

#### **Proposed changes:**

- Recommend considering real-time paratransit service
- Highlight microtransit as way to improve access to suburban employment centers
- Recognize future updates to recommended transit system may be needed as studies progress and needs evolve



## **Streets & Highways Updates**

#### The plan will continue to recommend:

- Keeping arterial street and highway system in state of good repair
- Incorporating complete streets concepts
- Strategically expanding arterial capacity to accommodate all roadway users and address residual congestion
- Minimizing total traffic crashes, along with crashes involving fatalities and serious injuries

#### **Proposed changes:**

- Acknowledge need to ensure resiliency of stormwater infrastructure to prevent roadway washout and collapse
- Recommend expanding electric vehicle charging network and accommodating other energy choices





## **Bicycle & Pedestrian Updates**

#### The plan will continue to recommend:

- Expanding the on-street bicycle network, including enhanced bicycle facilities in key regional corridors
- Expanding off-street paths to provide a well-connected network
- Providing sidewalks in areas of existing or planned urban development
- Expanding bike share and dockless scooter programs

#### **Proposed changes:**

- Incorporate bicycle network changes associated with recently completed efforts
- Note the potential impact on implementing sidewalks due to Sojenhomer LLC v. Village of Egg Harbor court decision
- Emphasize accessible facilities for people with disabilities per new ADA Public Right-of-Way-Accessibility Guidelines





## TDM, TSM, and Freight Updates

- Travel Demand Management (TDM)
  - Recommend continuing and expanding CommuteWISE program to promote alternatives to drive-alone travel
  - Update to reflect FlexRide Milwaukee in the recommendation that encourages government entities to partner with private-sector shared mobility service providers
  - Recognize the role of e-bikes in supporting ability to commute by bike
- No major changes to the Transportation Systems
   Management (TSM) and Freight Transportation elements

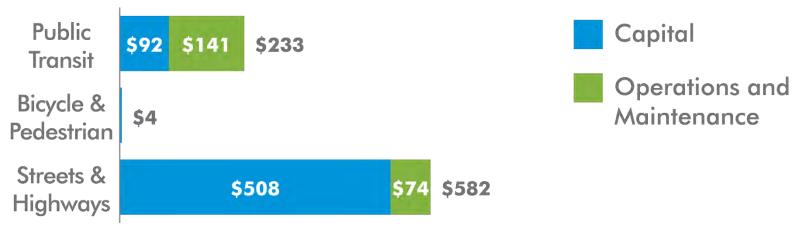


## **Funding Gap for Transportation System**

#### Investment Required for VISION 2050 (as Updated) Average Annual in Millions of 2022\$



#### Funding Available for VISION 2050 (as Updated) Average Annual in Millions of 2022\$

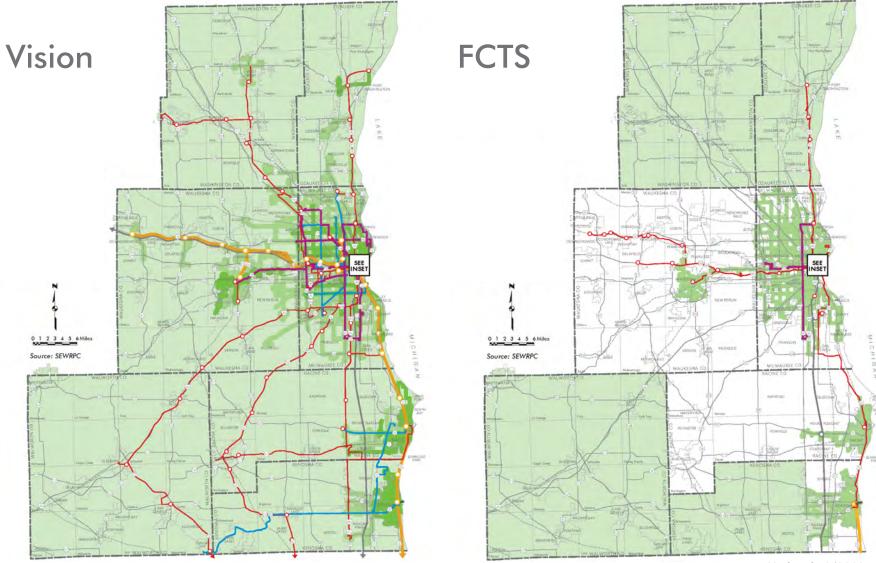


Negative impacts from not improving transit:

- Reduced access to jobs, healthcare, education, and other daily needs, particularly for households without access to a car, which is more likely to affect people of color and low-income residents
- Smaller labor force available to employers
- Reduced traffic carrying capacity in the Region's heavily traveled corridors
- Limited transit-oriented development and redevelopment
- > Reduced ability to develop compact, walkable neighborhoods

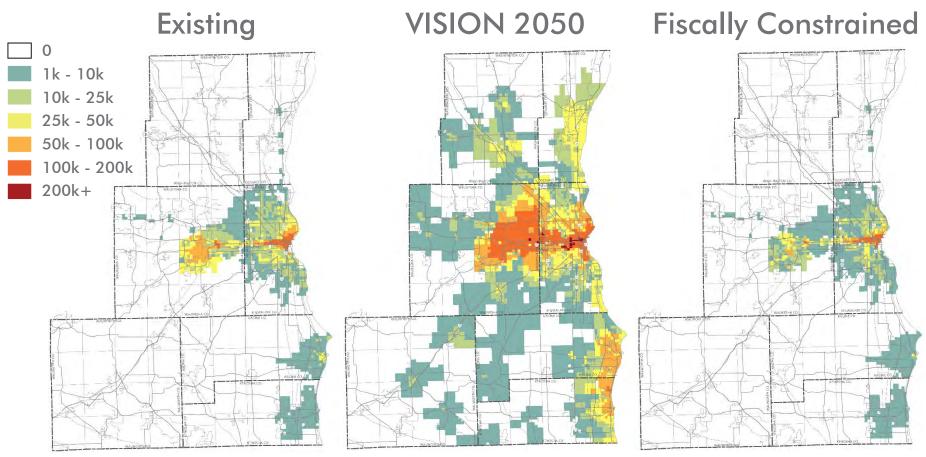


## **Fiscally Constrained Transit**



Updated 12/2023

## Jobs Accessible in 30 Minutes Via Transit

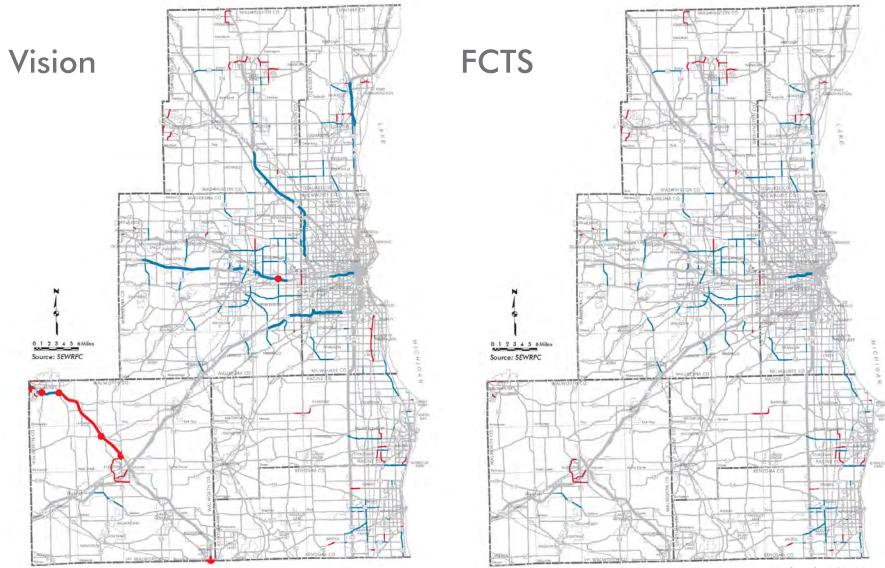


Updated 12/2023

Negative impacts from postponing freeway reconstruction and not adding capacity on highly congested segments:

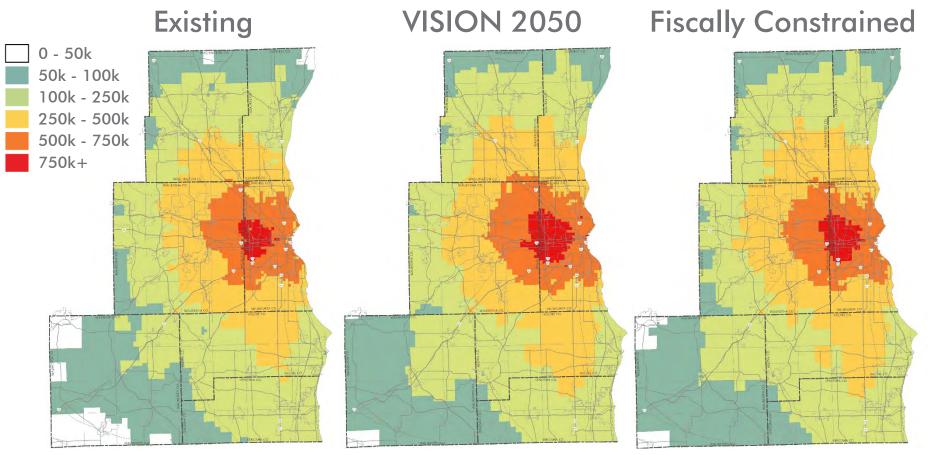
- Costly emergency repairs and inefficient pavement maintenance due to unnecessary (and increasingly ineffective) repaving projects
- Increased traffic congestion and travel delays, along with decreased travel reliability
- Increased crashes due to traffic congestion, outdated roadway design, and deteriorating roadway condition

## **Fiscally Constrained Highways**



Updated 12/2023

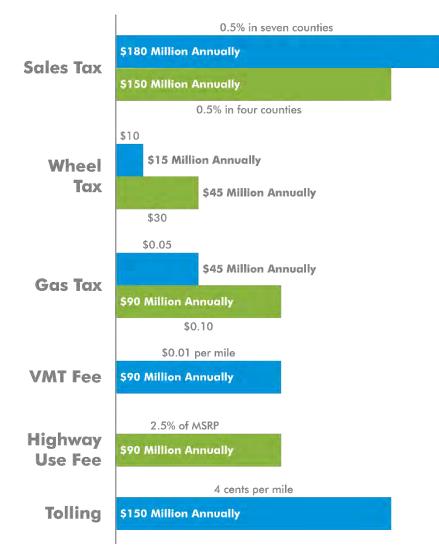
## Jobs Accessible in 30 Minutes Via Auto



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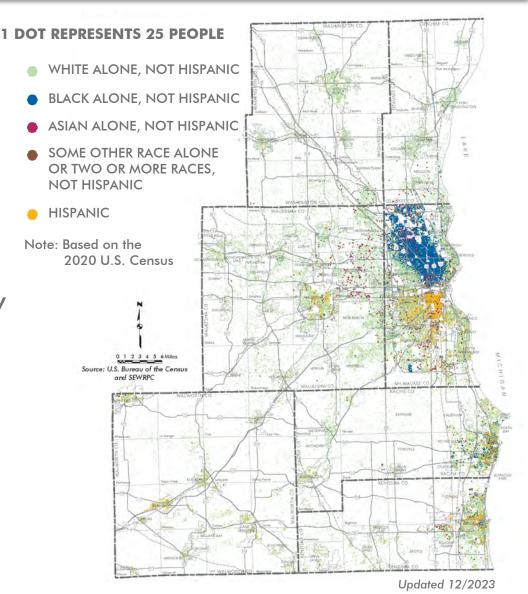
#### **Potential Revenue Sources to Address Funding Gap**

#### Potential Revenue Sources to Address Transportation Funding Gap (2022 Dollars)



## **Updated Equity Analysis**

- > Purpose:
  - Evaluate whether the benefits and impacts of the recommended land use component and transportation system are shared fairly and equitably
  - Do they serve to reduce the significant, longstanding disparities between whites and people of color?





## **Updated Equity Analysis**

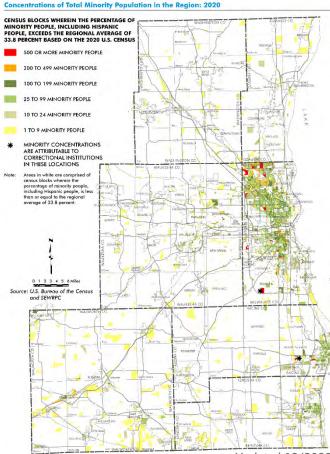
- Key land use findings
  - All recommendations would have a positive impact
  - None would have an adverse impact on people of color, low-income populations, and people with disabilities
- Key transportation findings
  - No area of the Region would disproportionately bear the impact of the planned freeway and surface arterial capacity improvements
  - VISION 2050 would significantly improve transit access for people of color, low-income populations, and people with disabilities to jobs, healthcare, education, and other activities
  - A disparate impact to these population groups is likely unless additional funding is provided for public transit



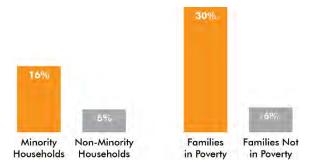
#### **Location and Travel Patterns**

- Identify the location of people of color and low-income populations and their travel patterns
- Updated to year 2020 census and 2017-2021 ACS Data, as appropriate
- Travel patterns and need for transit essentially remained the same
- COVID increased the percentages of people working from home





#### Percent of Population with No Vehicle Available



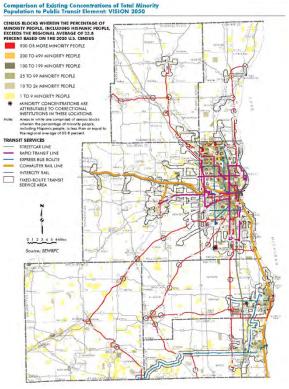
Percent increase working from home in Milwaukee County:

+5.9% White, Non-Hispanic Population

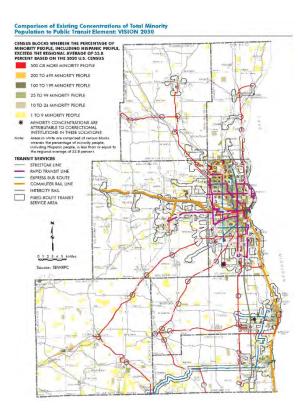
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+3.5%- People of Color
+5.8%
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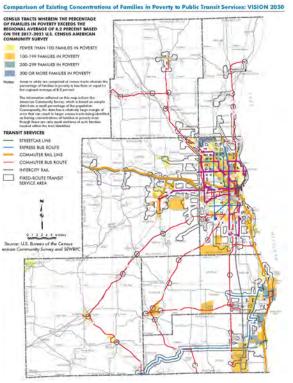
#### **Evaluate Benefits and Impacts**

- Identify the benefits and impacts of alternative/planned highway and transit improvements on people of color and low-income populations
  - Transit Service Extents
  - Transit Service Quality
  - Level of Accessibility
  - Benefits/Impacts of Arterial Improvements
  - Air Pollution Impacts



- Determine whether areas with concentrations of people of color and low-income populations are benefitting from being located within the planned transit service areas
- Year 2023 transit service includes CONNECT 1 BRT, recent reductions in commuter bus, and other recent service cuts
- FCTS transit system reflects 27th Street BRT, L-Line of the Hop Streetcar, and reductions
- No changes to VISION 2050 system

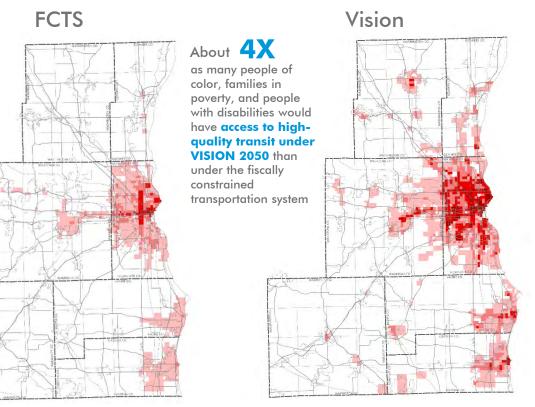




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#### **Transit Service Quality**

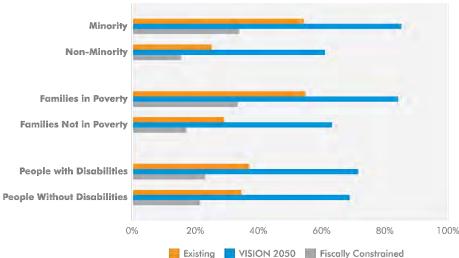
- Determine whether people of color and low-income populations would benefit from planned transit service improvement and expansion
- Existing transit service quality less than reported in 2020
- Addition of 27th Street Corridor BRT to FCTS improves transit quality
- Transit quality for FCTS remains far less than VISION 2050 system

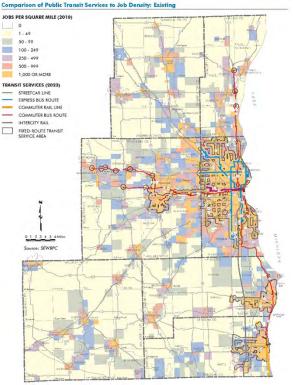


#### **Level of Accessibility**

- Determine whether people of color and low-income populations would benefit from improved accessibility from planned highway/transit recommendations
  - While addition of 27<sup>th</sup> Street BRT corridor provides increased accessibility, overall FCTS accessibility remains far less than VISION 2050
  - Highway accessibility remains essentially unchanged under FCTS and VISION 2050

#### Percent of Populations with Access to 10,000 or More Jobs Within 30 Minutes by Transit

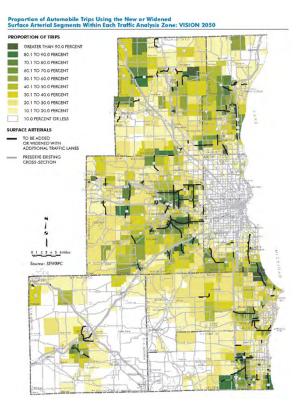


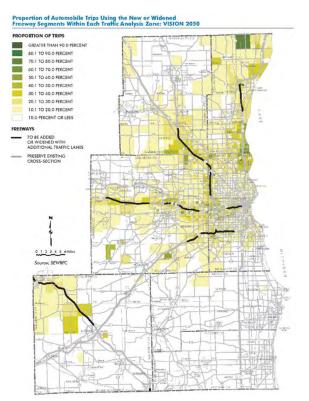


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#### **Benefits of Arterial Improvements**

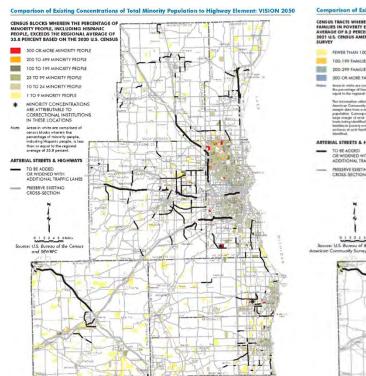
- Identify the benefits of planned highway improvements/expansion to people of color and lowincome populations
- Despite increased transit usage among people of color and low-income populations, auto is predominant mode by these groups
- Improving accessibility to jobs by auto benefits all groups
- Reducing freeway congestion improves safety

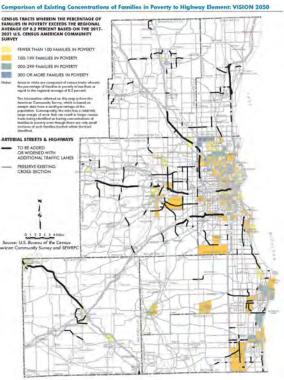




#### **Impacts of Arterial Improvements**

- Identify the impacts of planned highway improvements/expansion on people of color and lowincome populations
- Most recommended surface arterials are located outside areas with concentrations of people of color and lowincome populations
- No group bears a disproportionate share of impacts from planned freeway widenings

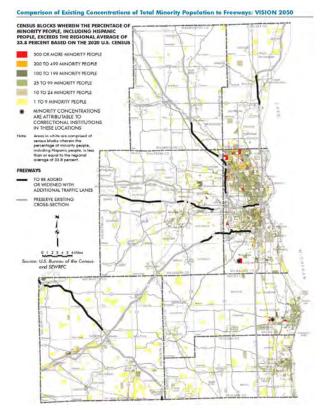


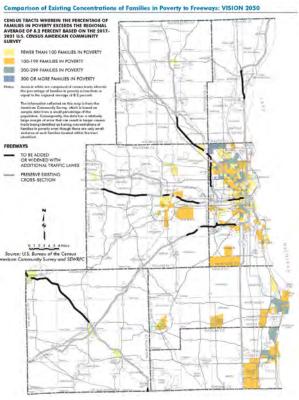


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#### **Air Pollution Impacts**

- Determine whether there may be disproportionate impact on minority and low-income populations with respect to transportation-related air pollution
- Air pollutant emissions in the Region have been declining and are expected to continue to decline
- Percentages of people of color and lowincome populations residing in proximity to freeways are generally the same or within a few percentage points of other population groups





#### **Review of Federal Performance Targets**

- MAP-21, enacted in 2012, created a National performance management framework consisting of monitoring and target-setting for various transit and highway measures
  - Transit asset management and safety
  - Highway safety
  - NHS condition, reliability, and reduction in tail-pipe GHG emissions (recently created)
  - Freight reliability
  - CMAQ
- With exception of newly created NHS GHG-related measure, targets were established for the National performance measures
- 2024 Update includes monitoring of progress towards achieving targets, updates to long-term targets (due to corrections or better data), and identifying new short-term targets

#### **Next Steps**

- January-March: Public & Stakeholder Input
  - Gather input on draft 2024 Update and updated financial analysis, equity analysis, and performance targets
  - Public meetings, community partner meetings, web-based engagement, and formal comment period
- March/April: Final Meeting of Advisory Committees
  - Review public comments and consider 2024 Update approval
- June: Commission Quarterly Meeting
  - Consider 2024 Update approval

# Learn More:

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