



Workforce Development Course

First Mile and Last Mile Safety

Thursday, July 9, 2026

1-2 pm

Upcoming Workforce Development Courses



August 6,
2026
1pm-2pm

Transit Ridership

Discern ridership trends and identify strategies to grow and sustain transit use.



September 3,
2026
1pm-2pm

Micromobility

Promote effective integration of micromobility like bicycles, e-bikes, and electric scooters, into transportation systems.

Register for **free** at
<https://www.commuterservices.com/courses/>

Thank you to our sponsor, FDOT Transit Office

Today's Presenters

- Kyle Simpson, AICP, Senior Principal Planner
- Forward Pinellas
- ksimpson@forwardpinellas.org
- Jacob Labutka, AICP, Planning Manager
- Pinellas Suncoast Transit Authority
- jlabutka@psta.net
- Sara J. Hendricks, AICP, Deputy Program Director
- Center for Urban Transportation Research
- University of South Florida
- hendrick@usf.edu



Course Objectives



FIRST MILE/LAST MILE
SAFETY CONCEPTS



FLORIDA COMMUNITY
DESIGN USE CASES



LEARN IMPLEMENTATION
STRATEGIES

- Identify common first/last mile benefits
- Apply Safe System concepts to transit access
 - Evaluate design solutions
- Describe community engagement approaches

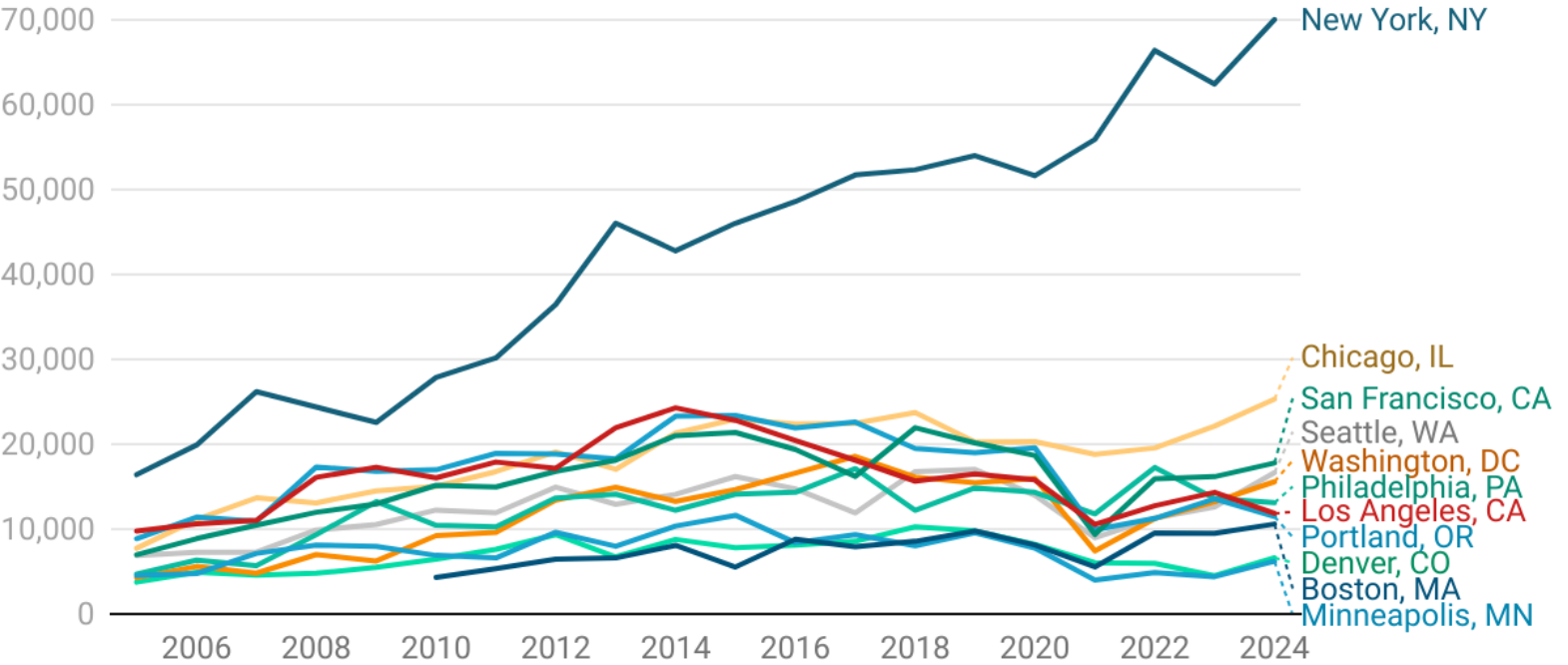
Bicycle Activity

Bike Commuting Mode Share

City	% Bike Mode
Davis, CA	11.2
Key West, FL	10.6
Boulder, CO	8.0
Eugene, OR	4.3
Ft. Collins, CO	4.0
Missoula, MT	3.8
Portland, OR	3.4
Washington, D.C.	3.3
San Francisco, CA	3.3
Madison, WI	2.9
St. Petersburg, FL	1.0

Cities with the Most Bicycle Commuters

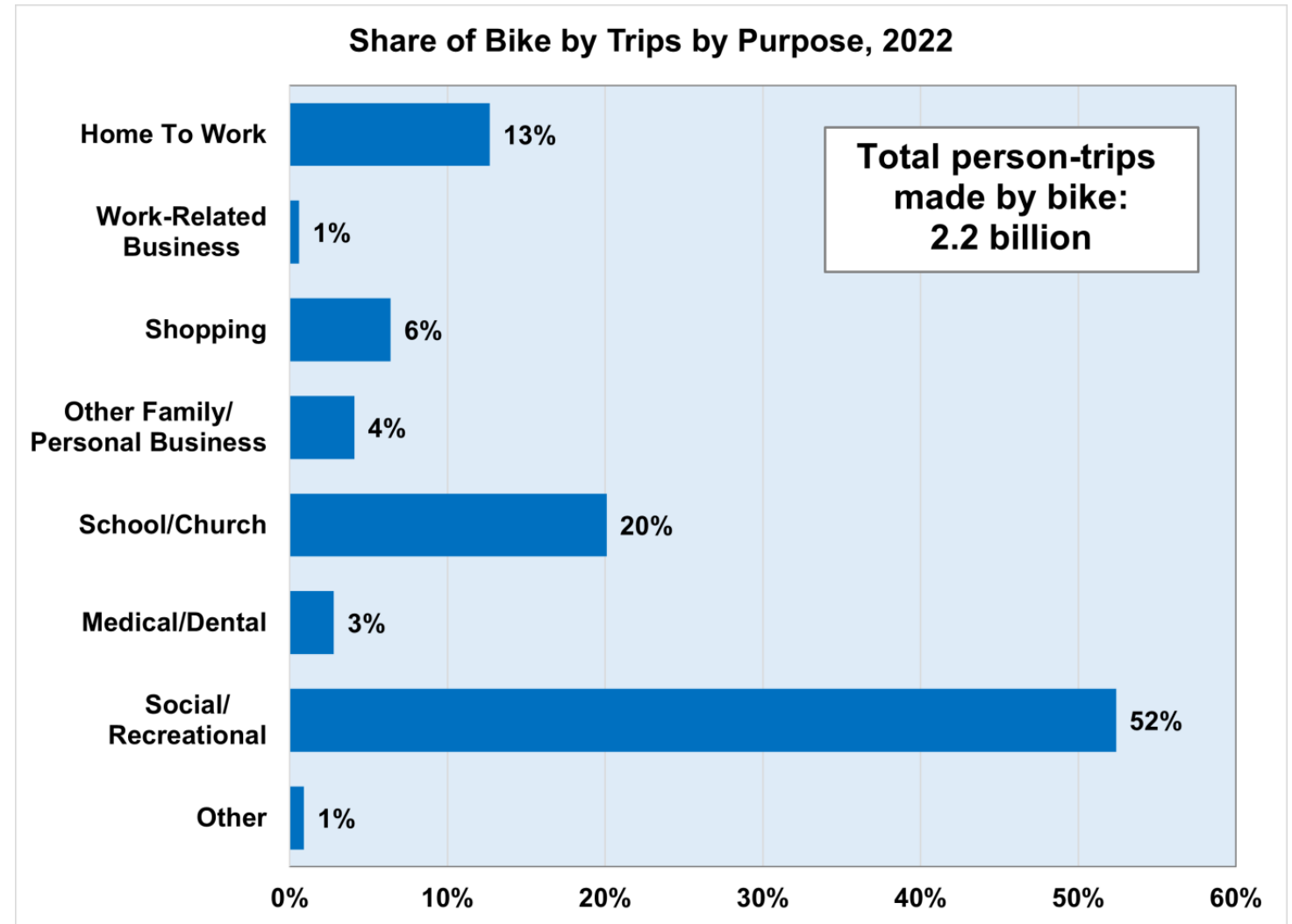
Since data was initially reported, the number of people biking to work in large cities has increased significantly. The Covid-19 pandemic caused sharp declines in 2021, but most of these cities recovered significantly in recent years.



2020 data uses a 5-year estimate while all other years are one-year estimates. When Boston was added the Census site no longer allowed downloads of pre-2010 data.

Chart: The League of American Bicyclists • Source: US Census Bureau B08006 Data Table • Created with Datawrapper

Bike Trip Purposes



Source: NHTS 2022

Pedestrian Activity



Entrée Station Overvecht (Transfer Accelerator), HIK Ontwerpers, 2014.



Photos source: *Pop Up City*, publication, Amsterdam.



“Elephant Paths” at Michigan State University



“Säg hej” campaign, led by Åsa Koski, City of Luleå, Sweden

Enter your answers in the Chat

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS OF WALKING AND BICYCLING?

Safe System Approach

One death on the transportation system is too many. Zero fatalities is possible. Some communities have achieved this.

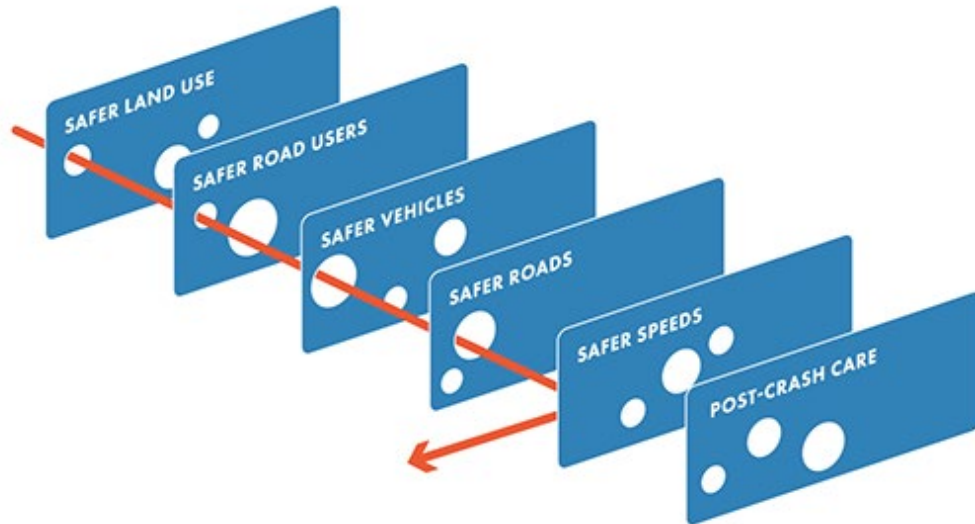
Six principles:

1. Deaths and life-changing injuries are unacceptable
2. Humans make mistakes, we cannot achieve perfect behavior, so the system must anticipate mistakes and protect against worst outcomes.
3. The human body is vulnerable
4. Design for safety before a crash ever occurs
5. Achieving safety requires shared responsibility and collaboration across many stakeholders and disciplines
6. System redundancy protects against any weakness in the system

Safe System Approach => Safer System

The Swiss Cheese Model

More Safety Layers on our Roads = Fewer Chances for Things to Go Wrong



Source: Washington State Strategic Highway Safety Plan 2024



Source: King County, WA

Safety Action Plan

Four Characteristics

Systemic

Data driven

Focus on reducing roadway fatalities and serious injuries

Based upon the community's priorities, values and needs

Seven Key Components

- Leadership, commitment, goal setting
- Planning structure
- Safety analysis
- Engagement and collaboration
- Policy and process changes
- Strategy and project selections
- Progress and transparency

<https://www.ss4aclearinghouse.org/ActionPlans>



**FORWARD
PINELLAS**
Integrating Land Use & Transportation

First/Last Mile Connections

Kyle Simpson, AICP
Senior Principal Planner



Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs)

- Established under the Federal-Aid Highway Act of 1962
 - Era of mass construction of the Interstate System
 - Required for urbanized areas with >50,000 residents
 - Continuing, cooperative, and comprehensive planning process
- Manage the transportation planning processes to ensure a shared vision for a region's future
- Establish priorities for federal and state funding
- Florida has 27 of the roughly 410 MPOs nationwide

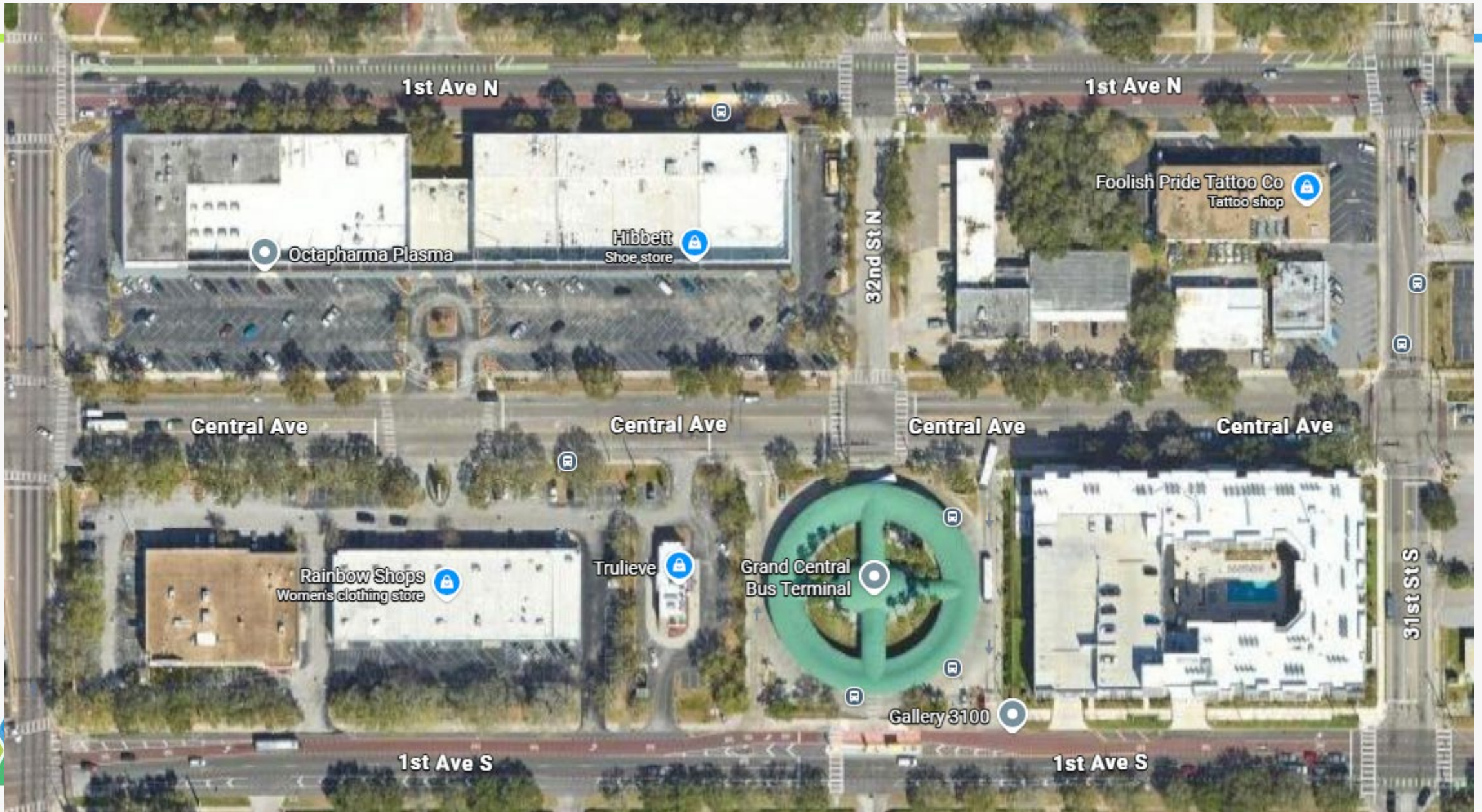


Major MPO Functions

- Long Range Transportation Plan (Advantage 2050)
 - Active Transportation Plan
- Priority Project Lists
 - \$1.5M annual set-aside for PSTA Capital
 - Prioritized the SunRunner BRT Project
 - Transportation Alternatives (TA) Program
- Transportation Improvement Program (FDOT Work Program)



32nd Street Station Areas



SunRunner Bus Rapid Transit – 1st Ave N at 32nd St



SunRunner Bus Rapid Transit – 1st Ave S at 32nd Street



Environmental and Operational Considerations

- Street lighting
- Sidewalk obstructions / landscaping encroachment
- Curb ramp ponding
- Shade
- Different perceptions of “safe”
- Pedestrian delay at road crossings



Ulmerton Road (SR 688) at 49th Street



Ulmerton Road (SR 688) at 49th Street



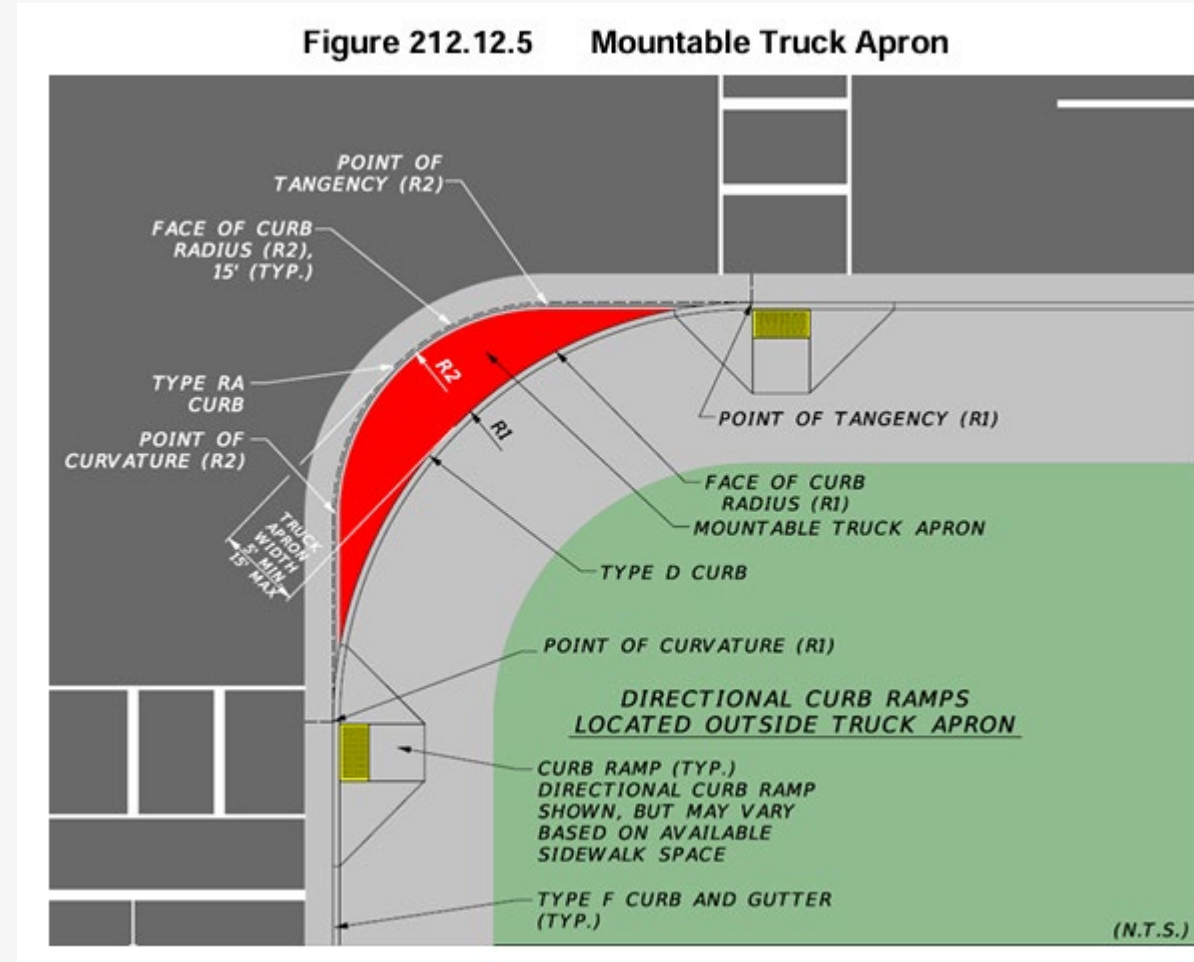
Context

- Posted speed limits – 45mph
- AADT
 - Ulmerton Road – 53,000
 - 49th Street – 70,000
- 160' crossing – 53 sec minimum
 - 7 WALK, 46 PED CLEARANCE
- Potential conflicts
 - Right-on-Red
 - Permissive lefts
 - Right slip lane
 - No median refuge

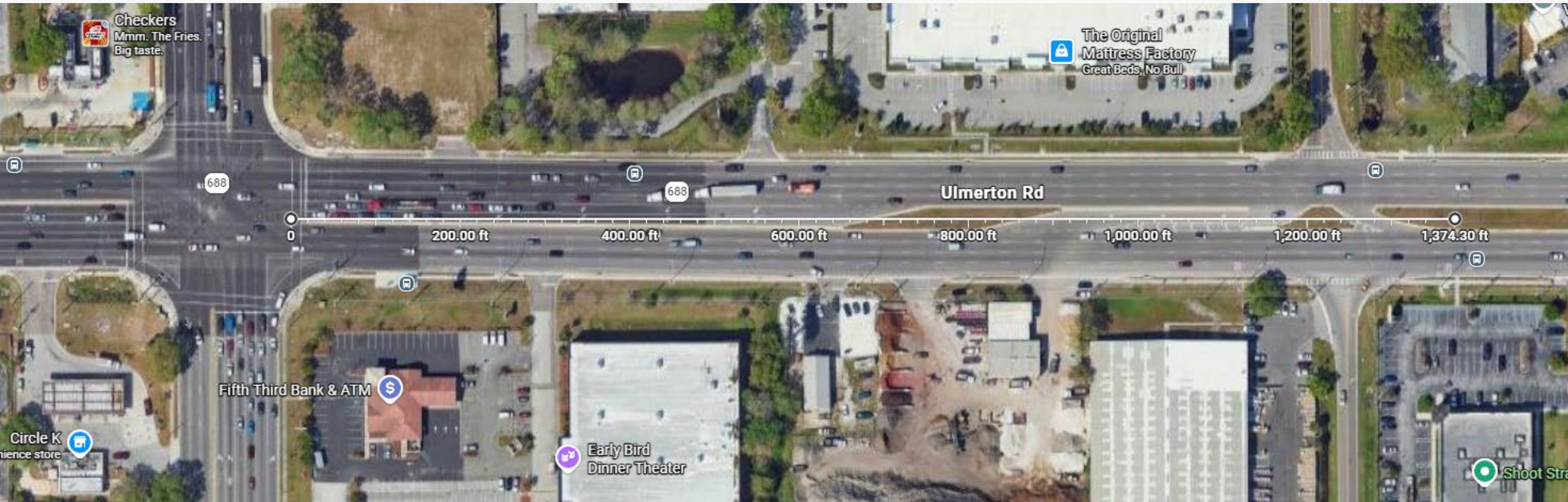


Potential Countermeasures

- Blank out NO TURN ON RED
- Flashing Yellow Arrow Omit
- FDM 202 – Speed Management
 - 202.3.10 Posted Speed Pavement Marking
 - 202.3.11 Islands at Crosswalks
- FDM 210 – Arterials and Collectors
- FDM 212 – Intersections
 - 212.12.2 Actual Vs Effective Curb Radius
 - 212.12.4 Near Perpendicular Right-Turn Lane
 - 212.12.5 Mountable Truck Apron
- FDM 222 – Pedestrian Facilities



Mid-block Bus Stop on Ulmerton Road



Pedestrian Delay

- 3,000 feet at 3.5 feet/second: ~14 minutes



Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon (PHB) on Park Blvd (SR 694)



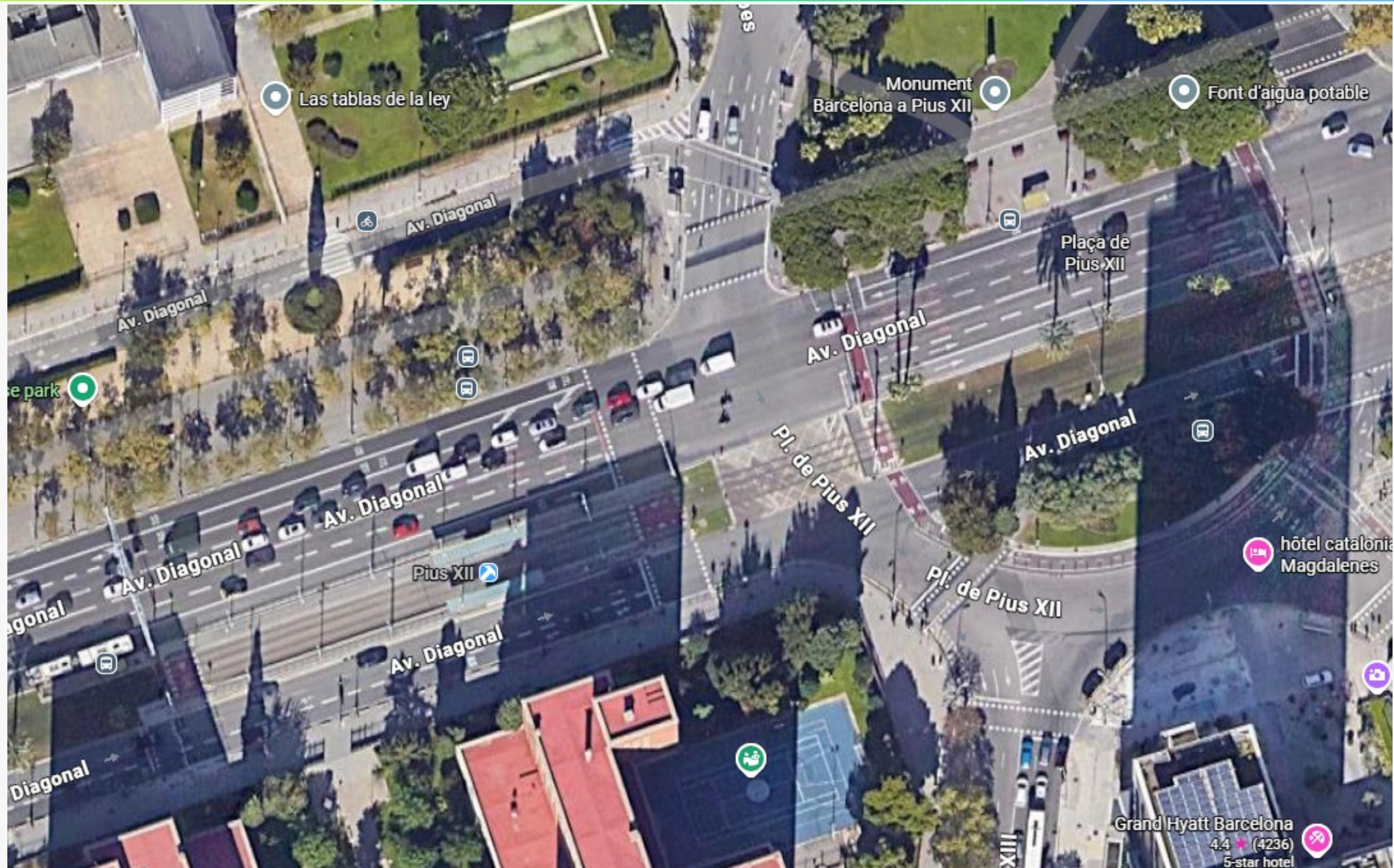
Ulmerton Road (SR 688) at 49th Street



Fowler Ave (SR 582) at Bruce B Downs Blvd

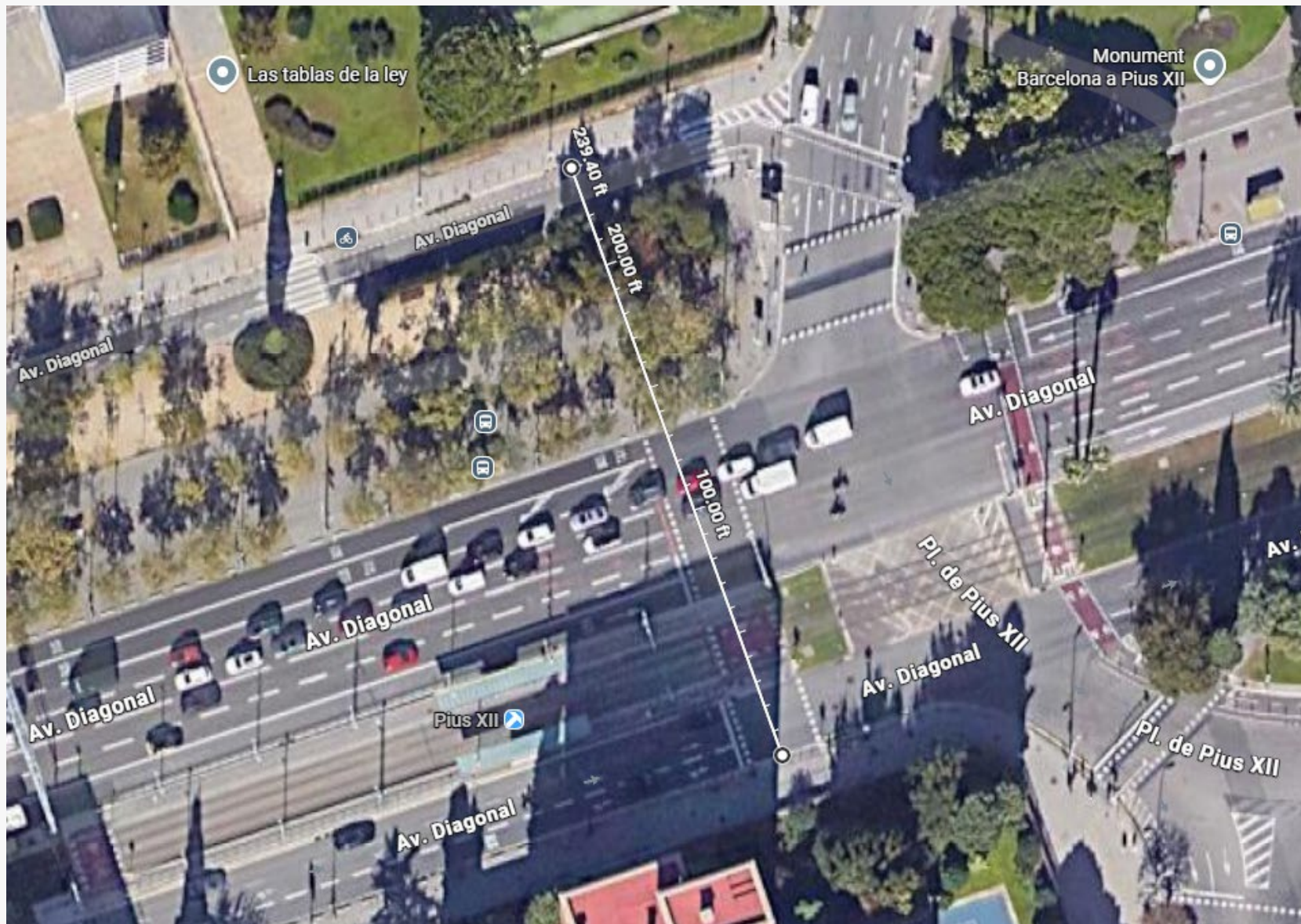


Av. Diagonal in Barcelona, Spain



Av. Diagonal in Barcelona, Spain

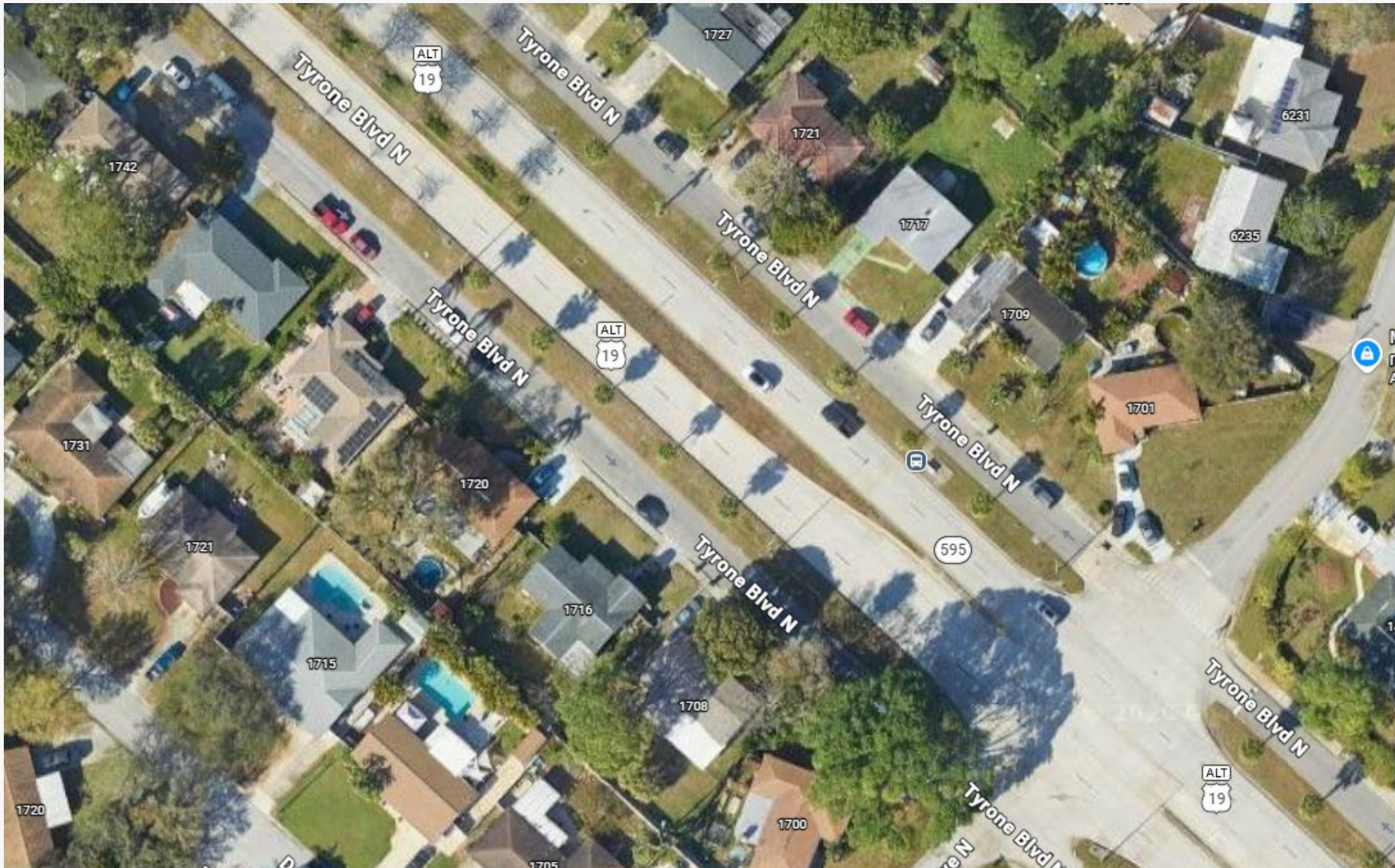
Av. Diagonal in Barcelona, Spain



Av. Diagonal in Barcelona, Spain



Tyrone Blvd (Alt. US 19) in St. Petersburg



Tyrone Blvd (Alt. US 19) in St. Petersburg



In closing

- Design for how people behave, not how they should behave
- Consider environmental context of crash reports
- Prohibit conflicting vehicular movements over crosswalks at signalized intersections
- Ensure adequate ongoing operations and maintenance
- Partnerships at all levels help everyone succeed





**FORWARD
PINELLAS**

Integrating Land Use & Transportation

Kyle Simpson, AICP
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Access and Egress to PSTA

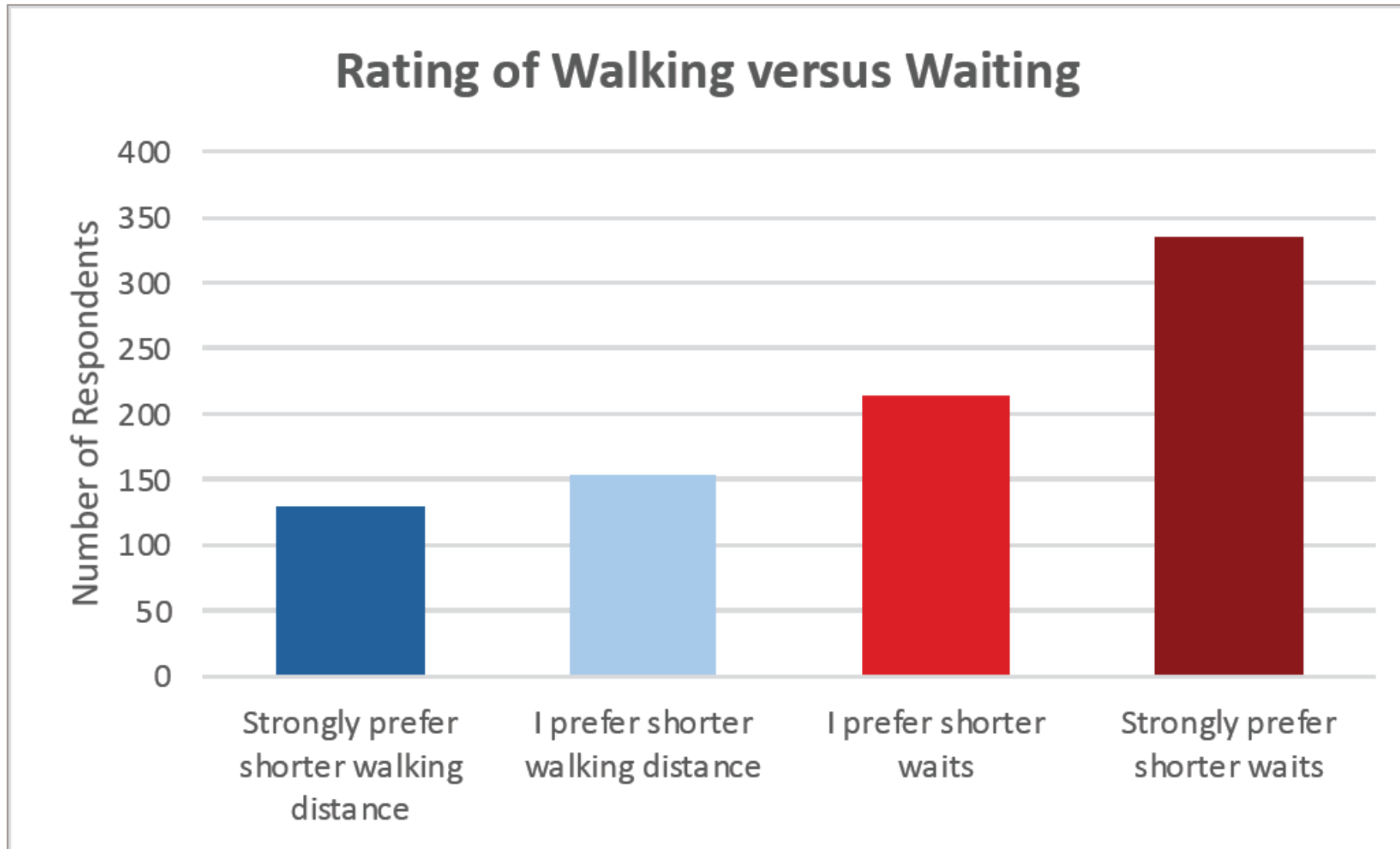


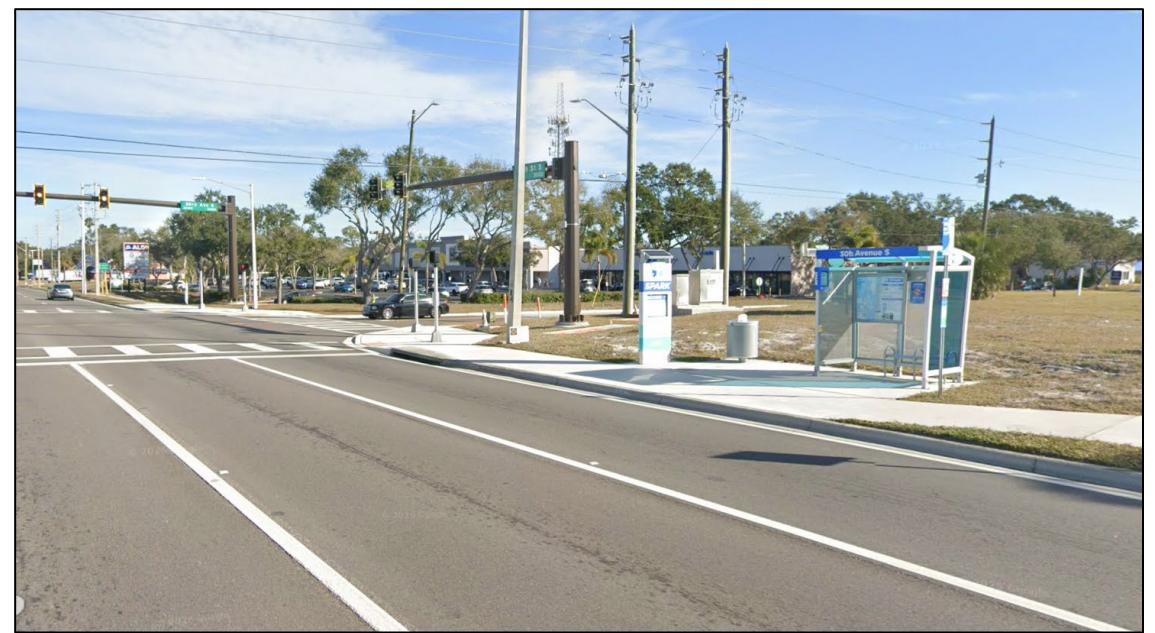
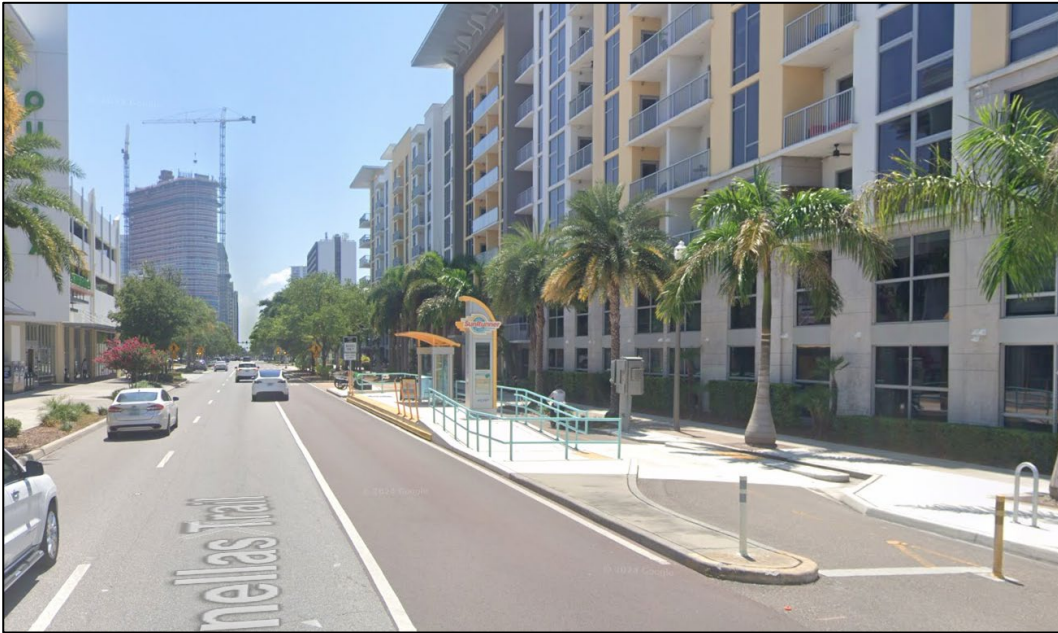
Q3. How did you GET FROM your origin to the very FIRST bus or train you used for this one-way trip?	System (A) (n=6,344)	Bus (B) (n=4,818)	Trolley (C) (n=709)	SunRunner (D) (n=817)
Walk/Wheelchair	91%	91%	93%	89%
Personal bike or scooter	4%	4%	3%	5%
Dropped off by someone who drove	2%	2% ^C	1%	2%
Bike share or scooter share	<1%	<1%	-	1%
Direct connect (\$5 PSTA discount with Uber, Lyft, etc.)	1%	1%	1%	1%
Uber, Lyft, etc. (not with Direct Connect)	1%	1%	1%	<1%
Drove alone and parked	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%
Drove or rode with others and parked	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%
Taxi	<1%	<1%	<1%	1%
Car share (e.g., Zip Car, etc.)	<1%	<1%	<1%	<1%
Some other means	<1%	<1%	-	<1%

Base=Those answering

Superscript letters (e.g., A, B, C, or D) indicate that the labeled percentage is significantly higher than the percentage in the corresponding segment (i.e., B for Bus, C for Trolley, etc.)

Walking vs Waiting: Community Perspective





The Direct Connect Program

- Launched in 2016
- Riders can take Uber, Lyft, United Taxi, or Wheelchair Transport to/from 26 locations to connect to transit
- 90% of users use Uber and Lyft to book Direct Connect trips

DIRECT CONNECT

Pick-Up and Drop-Off Locations

All Direct Connect trips must start or end at one of these locations to receive the discount.*

*Locations must be entered into Uber, Lyft or describe to United Taxi or Wheelchair Transport exactly as shown on the map.



How It Works

Catch a ride to and from PSTA bus routes.
5:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. 7 days a week

Taking a Direct Connect ride from your location to a Direct Connect marked location is not only safer and quicker, but also more comfortable than walking!

**\$5
OFF**

Begin or end your trip at any Direct Connect location to receive the \$5 discount on Uber, Lyft, or United Taxi from PSTA.*

Wheelchair Transport riders receive a \$25 discount. TD-eligible riders can receive \$9 off by calling 727-540-1888 to register for TD Direct Connect.

*Pick-up and drop-off must be within 800 feet of the location shown on the map.

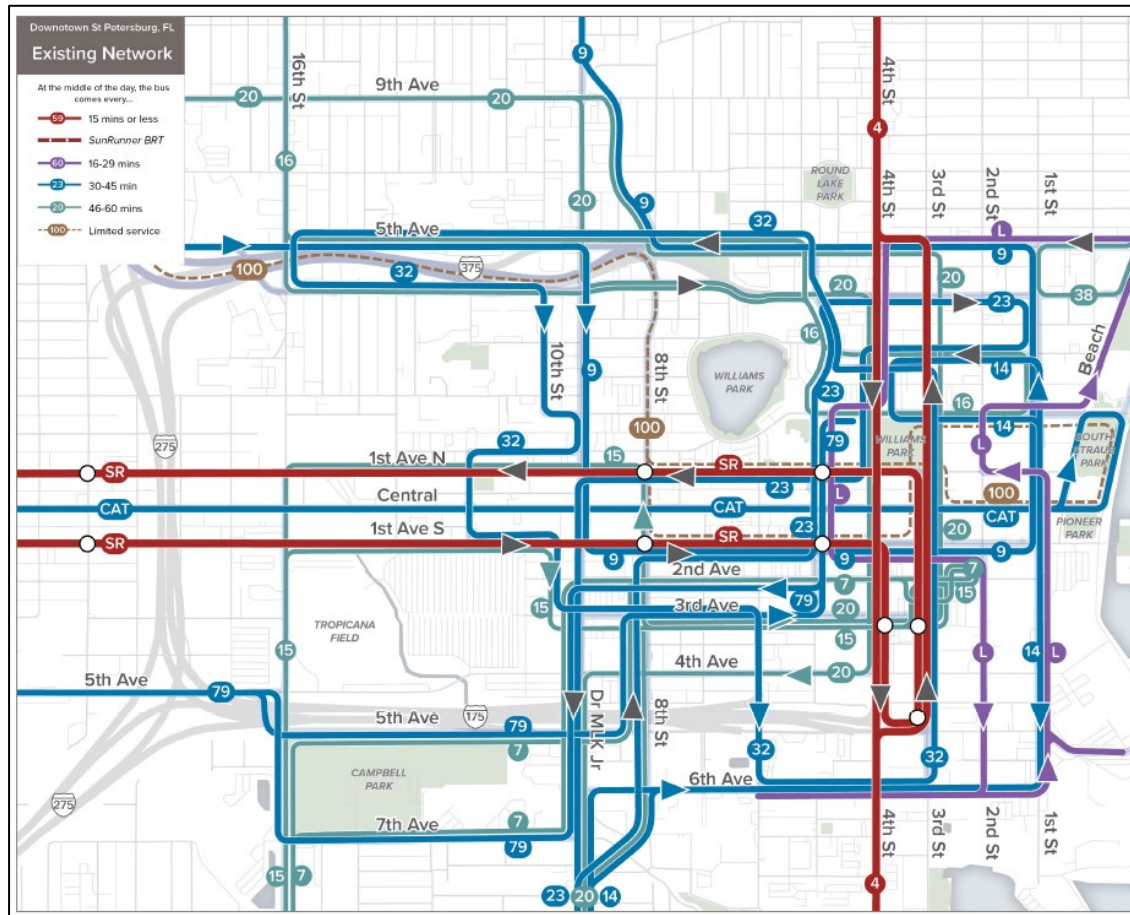
TO LEARN MORE, VISIT PSTA.NET
OR CALL THE INFOLINE
727-540-1900



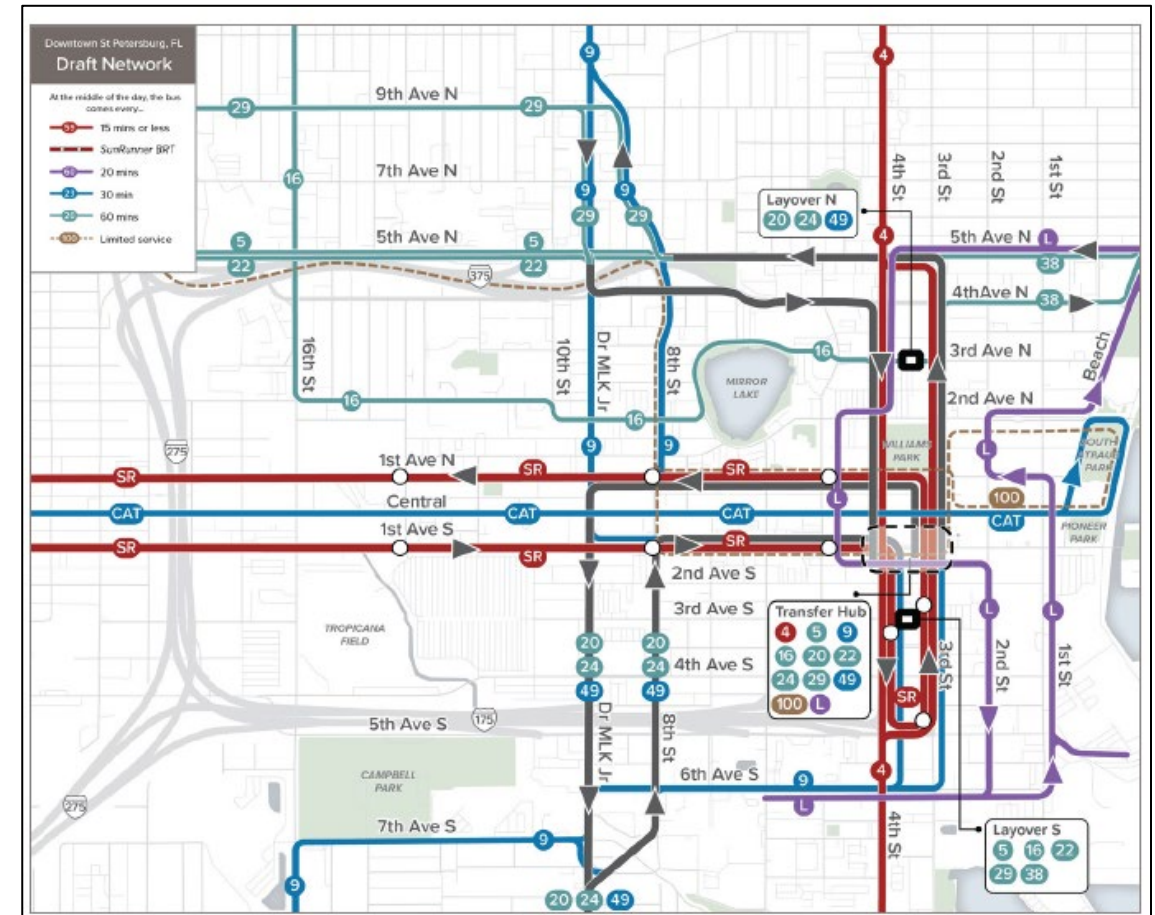
Downtown St Pete Transit Network



Network before redesign



Network after redesign



Questions and Discussion



First Mile and Last Mile Safety

Resources

- Advantage Pinellas: Active Transportation Plan, [Advantage Pinellas: Active Transportation Plan - Forward Pinellas](#)
- Forward Pinellas Local Government Grant Program, [Call for Projects - Forward Pinellas](#)
- NACTO, [Traffic Calming](#)
- NACTO, [City Limits: Setting Safe Speed Limits on Urban Streets](#)
- PeopleForBikes, [The Great Bike Infrastructure Project: Supplemental Guide for Reducing Traffic Speeds](#)
- Safe Streets Pinellas, [Safe Streets Pinellas – Transportation system safe for everyone](#)
- US Department of Transportation, [National Roadway Safety Strategy](#)

Sign up for next month's webinar!
<https://www.commuterservices.com/courses/>



Thursday

August 6, 2026

1pm-2pm

Transit Ridership

Discern ridership trends and identify strategies to grow and sustain transit use.

Please take the short evaluation



<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FMLM-2026>

Thank You!

