



How Transportation Shapes Health Equity & Racial Justice

Presenter:

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Racial Ethnic Approaches for Community Health (R.E.A.C.H.)



Works towards health equity by grounding culturally tailored strategies in community-based participatory and evidence-based approaches that mesh public health, multi-sectoral partners, and community voice and resiliency.

- **Build awareness of how transportation can measure progress toward equity in transportation safety.**
- **Provides tools to model accomplice behavior compared to a ally.**



Bridging Public Health & Transportation

Leading Causes of Death among the Non-Hispanic Black population in the United States

- 1 Heart Disease**
- 2 Cancer**
- 3 Accidents***
- 4 Cerebrovascular Diseases**
- 5 Diabetes**

*unintentional injuries



Physical Activity & The Build Environment

Transportation

Walkability

Safety

Housing

Parks

Access to healthy foods

Safe Routes to School, Park,
Church etc.

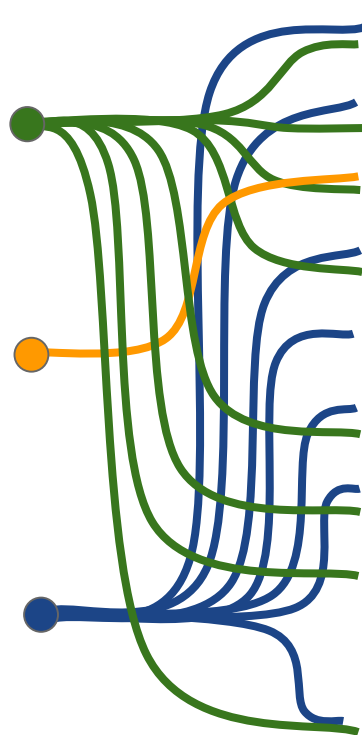


Leading causes of death in Multnomah County 2014-2018

Physical inactivity

Traffic injury

Air pollution



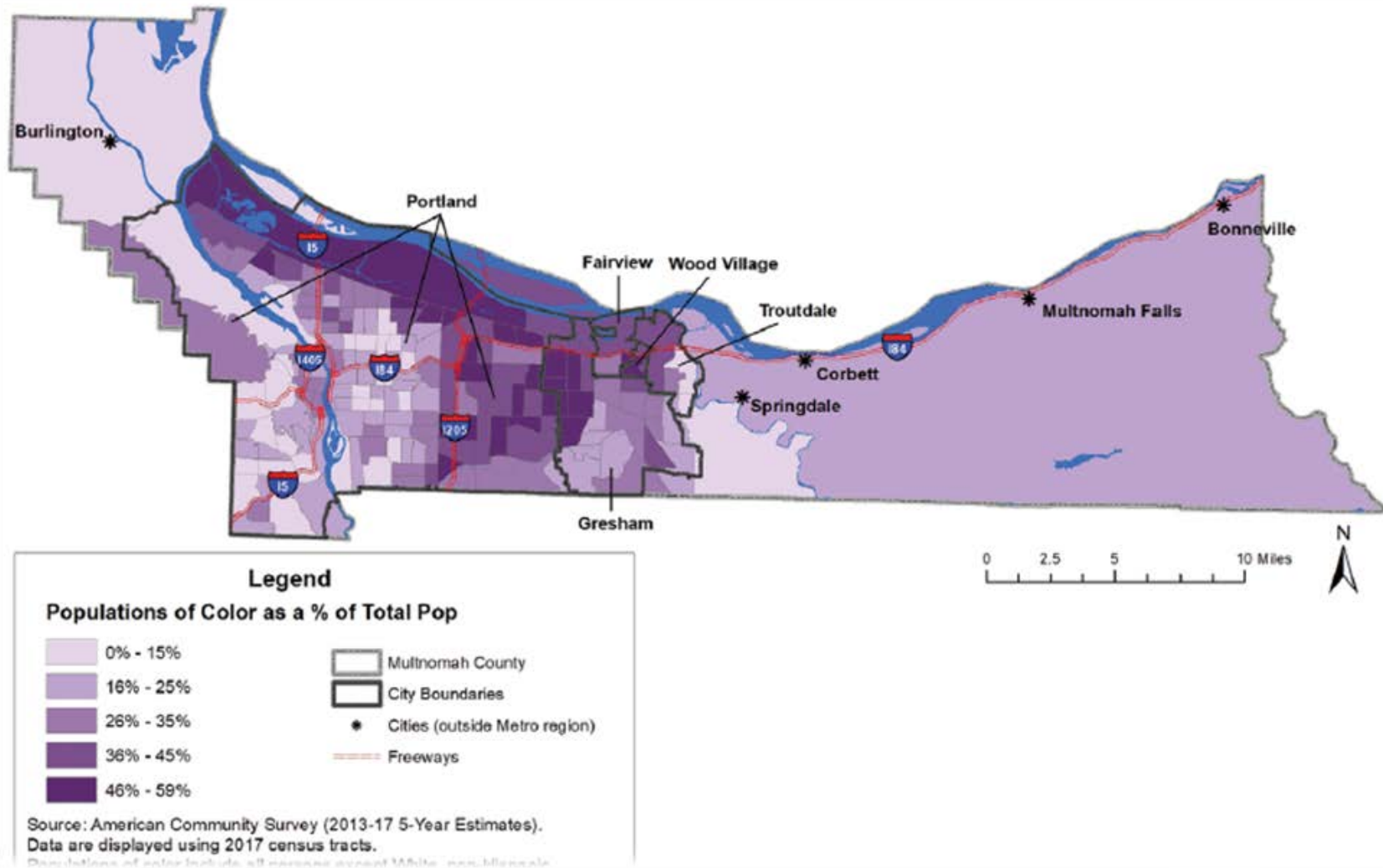
1. Cancer
2. Heart disease
3. Unintentional injury
4. Stroke
5. Chronic lower respiratory disease
6. Alzheimer's
7. Diabetes
8. Suicide
9. Chronic liver disease
10. Hypertension

Data source: CDC WONDER



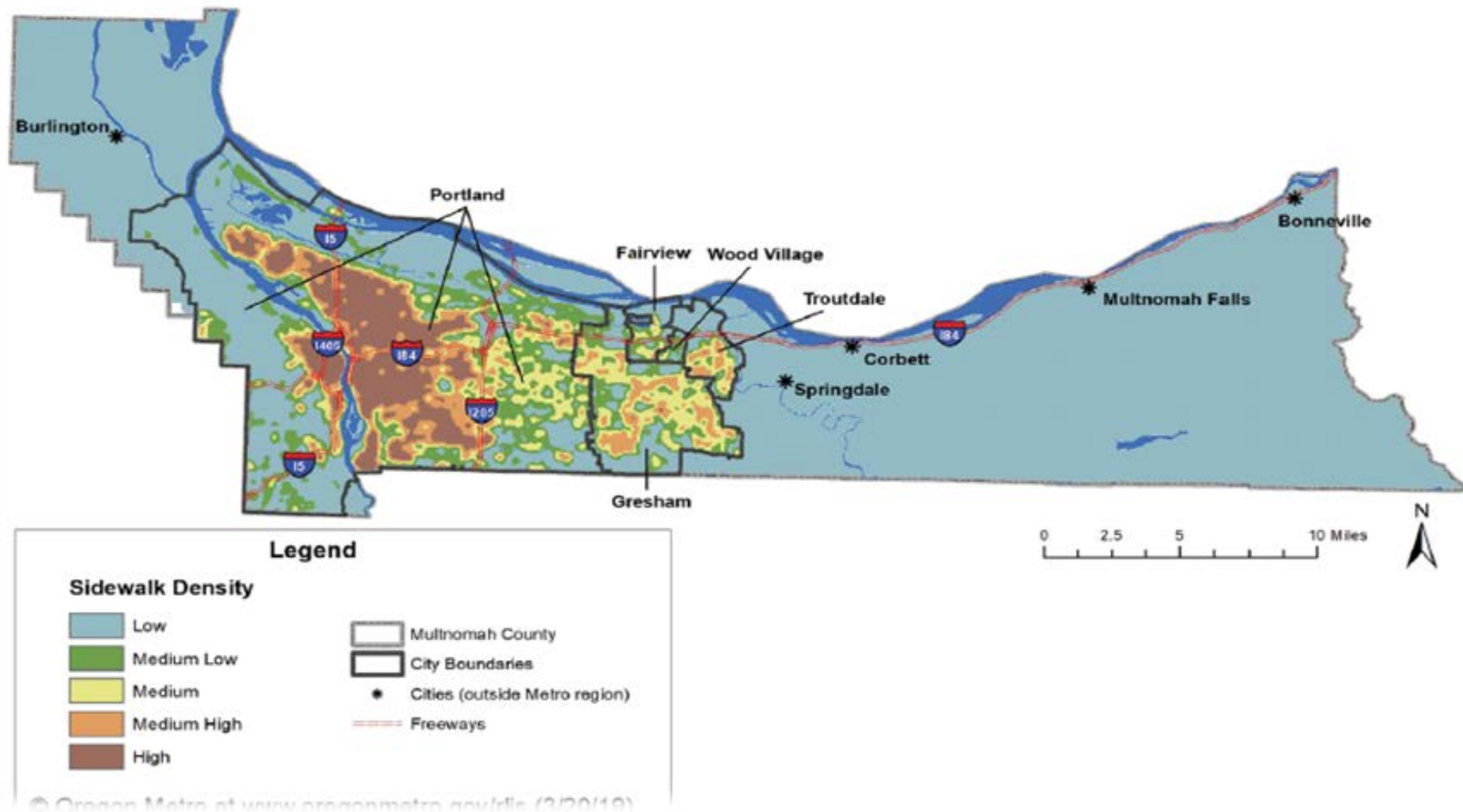
Multnomah County

Populations of Color (Percent of Total Population)



<https://multco.us/dchs/2019-poverty-multnomah-county-report>

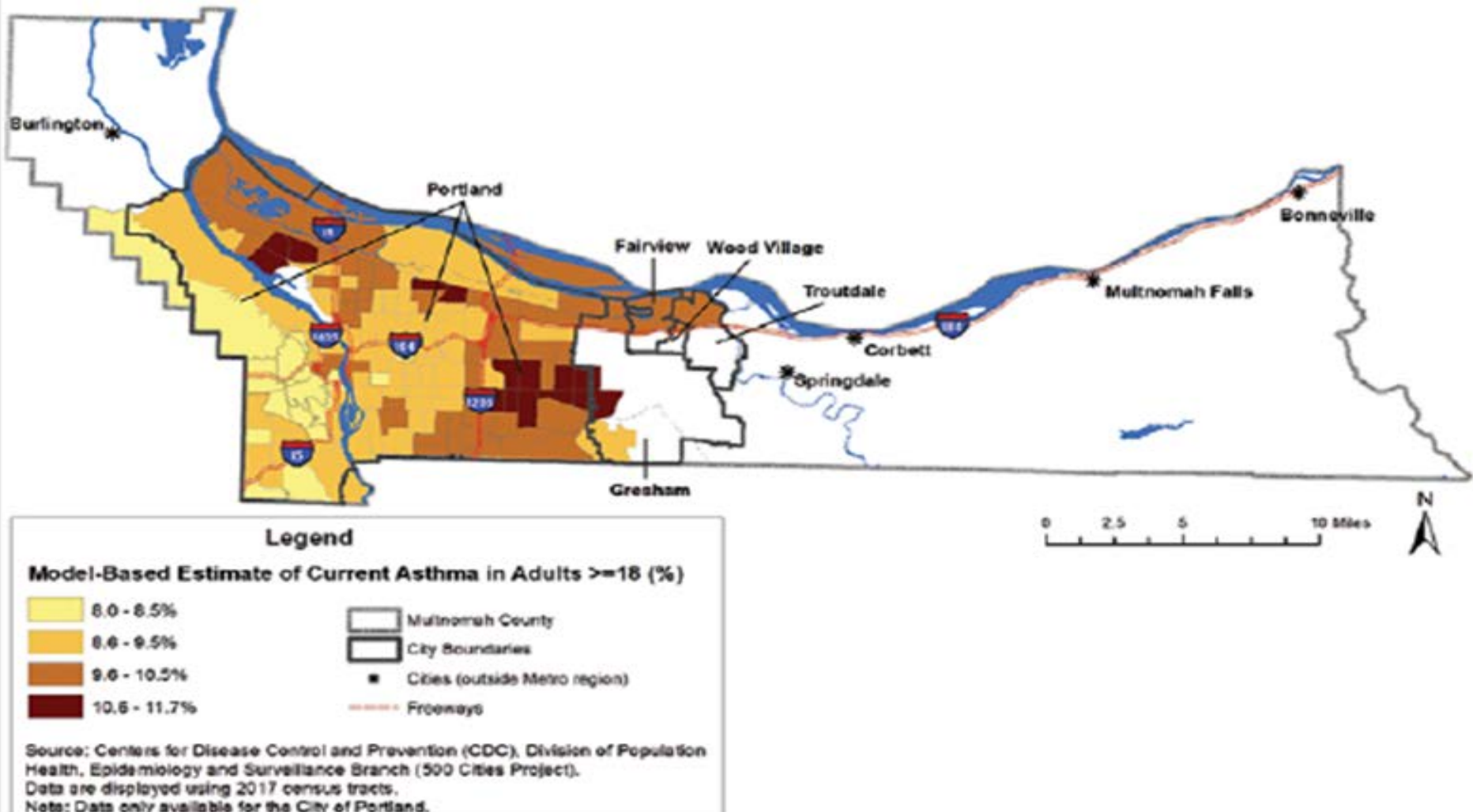
Multnomah County Sidewalk Density



<https://multco.us/dchs/2019-poverty-multnomah-county-report>



Multnomah County Prevalence of Asthma in Adults



<https://multco.us/dchs/2019-poverty-multnomah-county-report>



Traffic Crashes & REACH Tracts

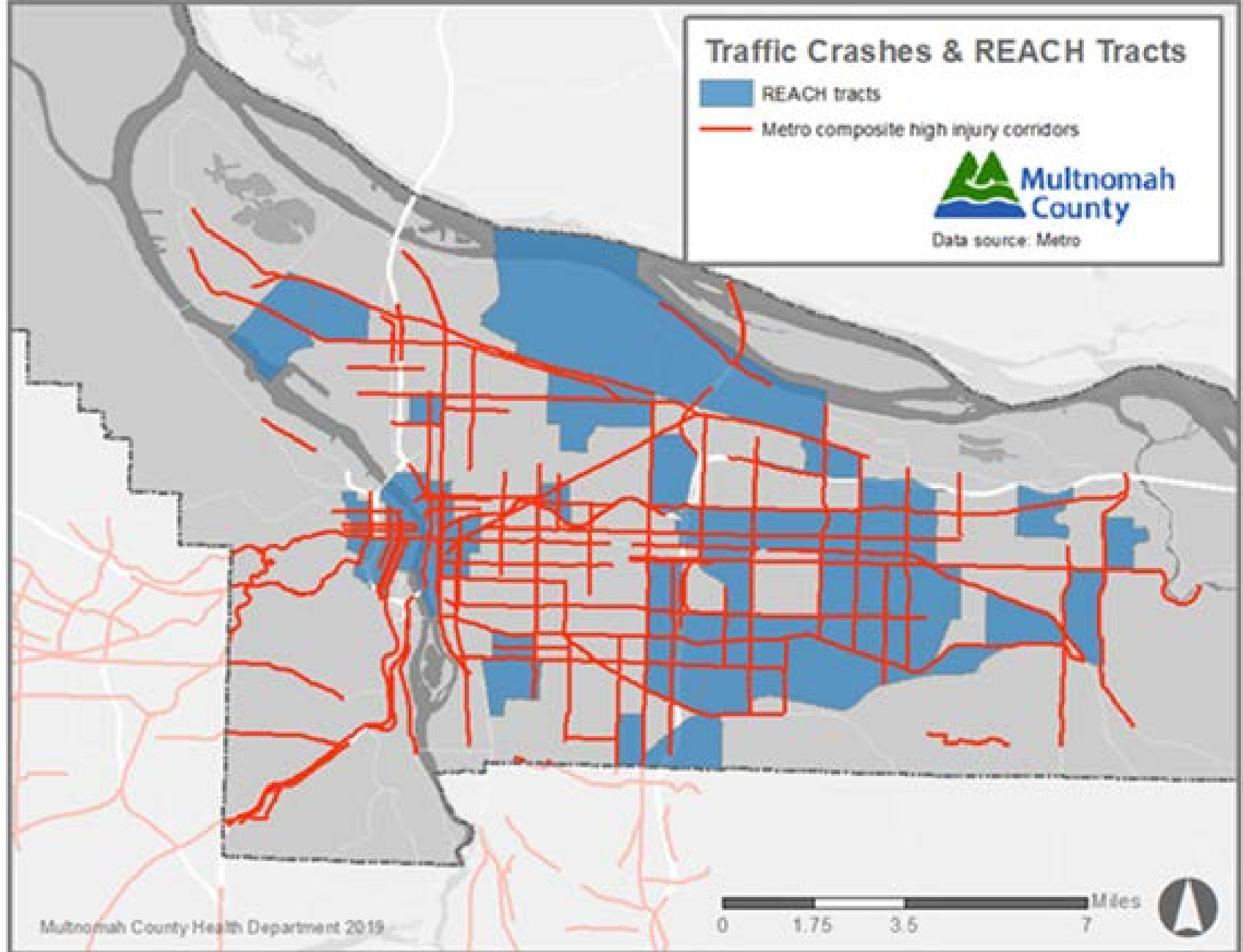
REACH tracts

Metro composite high injury corridors



Multnomah
County

Data source: Metro



Multnomah County Health Department 2019



Annexation Video of East Portland

<https://vimeo.com/182800895>

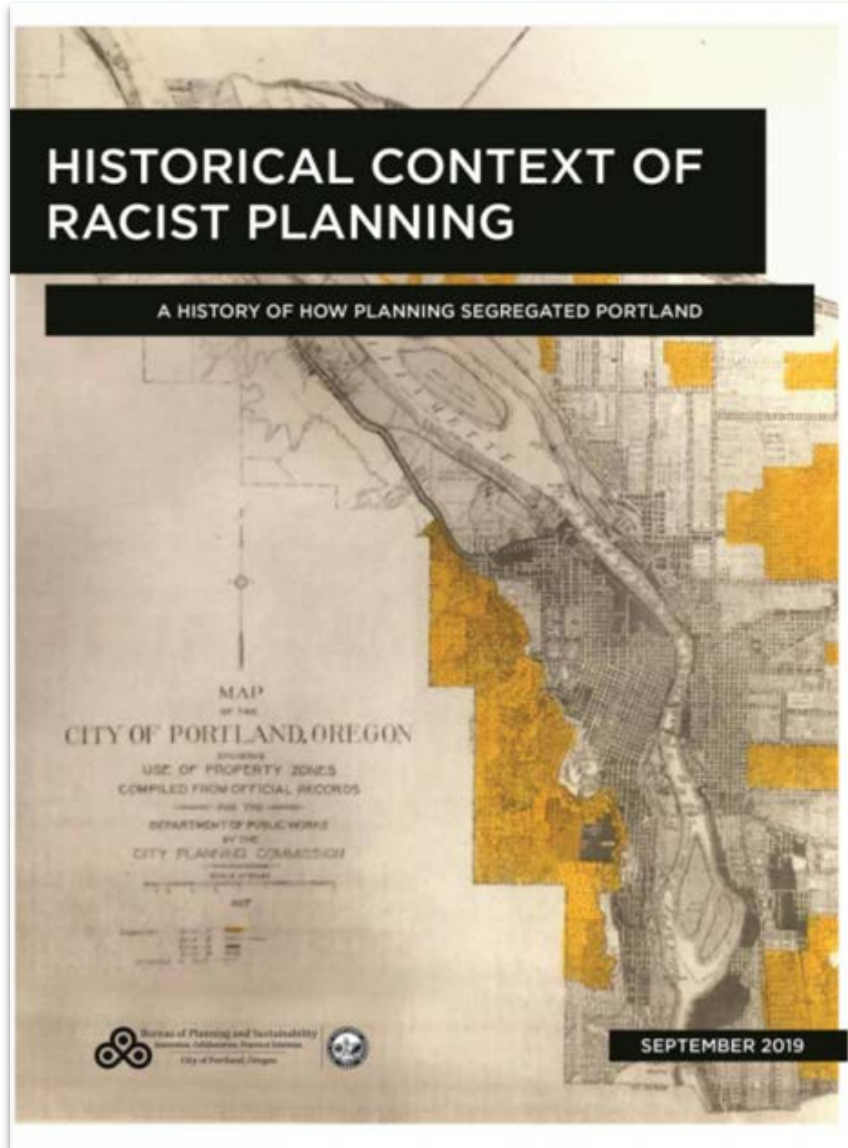


East-county, an area as large as city of Eugene, takes over a decade to annex.



Video Reflections

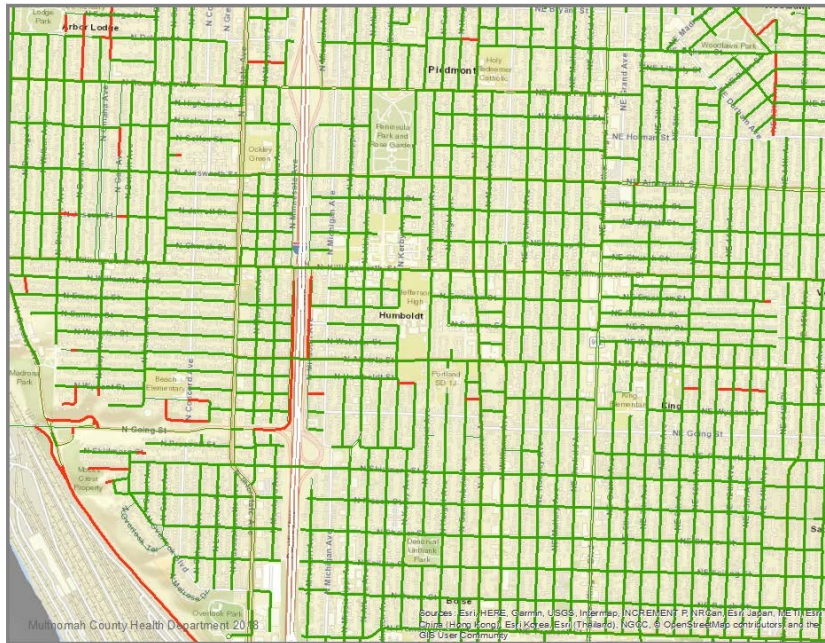




- Exclusion laws
- Redlining
- Urban renewal
- Unfair lending
- Restrictive zoning
- Displacement

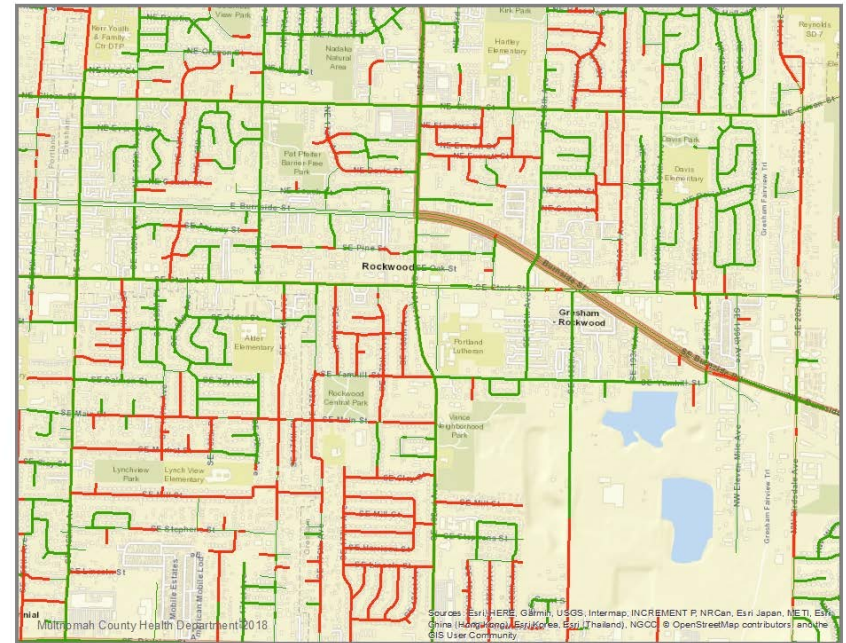


Humboldt



~233 intersections per square mile

Rockwood



~80 intersections per square mile

Safety outcomes // Six domains

Fatal injury

Non-fatal injury

Biased
behavior
among road
users

Biased policing

Harassment

Violent crime



“White people not sharing the sidewalk, expecting Black people to step out of their way instead of moving right to make space mutually, respectfully.”

“Crosswalk White girl magic - where cars stop for White women, not for Black people.”

“When you’re Black [anywhere in Portland], you have to make sure that you are extra careful when crossing the street or using the crosswalk.”





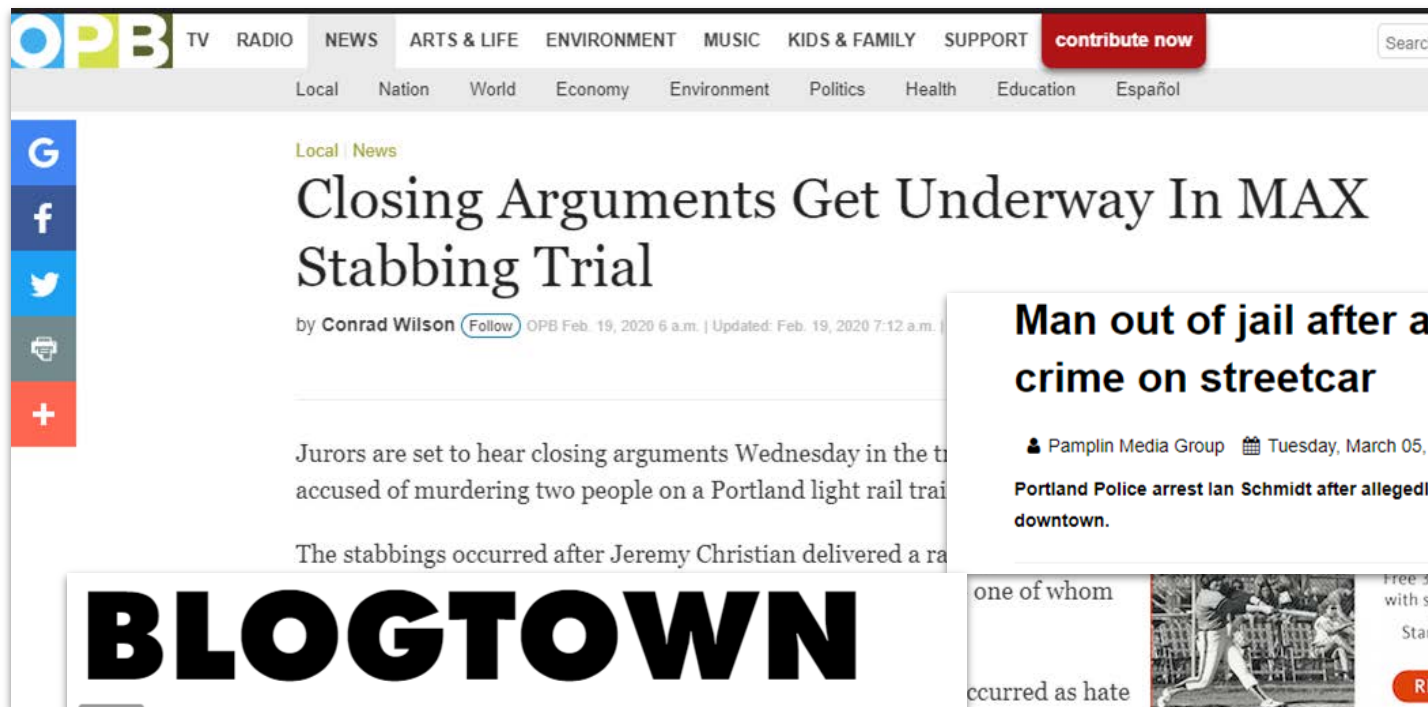
Safety outcomes // Harassment

Incident count by location



Data source: Portland Police Bureau





BLOGTOWN

NEWS

Man Sentenced to Life in Prison for Racially-Motivated Murder of Larnell Bruce

by [Alex Zielinski](#) · Apr 16, 2019 at 11:05 am

Man out of jail after alleged hate crime on streetcar

Pamplin Media Group Tuesday, March 05, 2019

Portland Police arrest Ian Schmidt after allegedly hearing him yell 'racial slurs' downtown.

one of whom

occurred as hate



Free 30
with sp
Start

RE

Policy, system and environmental changes are actions steps that will have sustainable influences that public and private sectors can implement.

Policy Changes
That correct historic injustices

Systems Changes
That reinforce accountability

Environmental Changes
That alter physical spaces



Policy Changes
That correct historic injustices

Policy Changes

- Establish a policy and practice of authentic community engagement with communities of color.
- Adopt policy of establishing measurable equity goals and routine evaluation.
- Institutionalize evaluation to measure impact of decisions on communities most burdened by inequities.



Systems Changes
That reinforce accountability

System Changes

- Collaborate regularly with public health partner to analyze safety data disaggregated by race and access progress on racial equity goals
- Sufficiently resource equity managers to evaluate process
- Authentic community engagement includes:
 - Engage with culturally specific organizations and community organizations representing groups experiencing health disparities.
 - Compensate community members and organizations for their expertise





Environmental Changes
That alter physical spaces

Environmental

- Reduce injuries through investment in scientifically supported infrastructure changes such as, traffic calming, speed control and mode separation to reduce injuries.
- Prioritize improvements in neighborhoods with high proportion of Black residents
- Enhance feeling of safety and belonging by investing artwork, street name changes, and cultural events in right-of-way.





- [Multnomah County's Community Health Improvement Plan](#)
- [The THRIVE Toolkit](#)
- [The State of Transportation Health and Equity](#)
- [Healthy, Equitable Transportation Policy: Recommendations and Research](#)
- [2019 Poverty Report in Multnomah County](#)
- [PAALF People Plan](#)
- [History of Racist Planning In Portland](#)



Ally vs Accomplice

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=axPZuZ8Zsv8>





Takeaways

- Neighborhoods are designed intentionally. Urban development can be an example of systemic racism (ex: redlining)
- Explore other neighborhoods compare to reading data about them.
 - Go on new bike routes or walks
- Act as an accomplice compare to an ally.
 - Research independently about racial equity
 - Have conversation with your family and peers





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