Understanding Land Use and Walk Behavior in Utah

15th TRB National Transportation Planning Applications Conference Callie New | GIS Analyst + Planner



WASATCH FRONT REGIONAL COUNCIL







11 statistical areas (2010 census)

55,000 square miles federal land; 65% of total land area:

5 National Parks6 National Monuments3 National Historic Trails

URBANIZED AREAS











Wasatch Front Regional Council Planning Area:

6 counties 4 statistical areas

multi-modal planning
+ growth management

WFRC Planning Area URBANIZED AREAS



QUICK FACTS: URBANIZED AREA Population: 1.7 million Median household income: ~\$60,000 Median age: 30.5 Educational attainment | HS diploma: 89% Unemployment rate: ~3.4%

Major industries:

-Aerospace + defense

-IT+ software

- -Finance
- -Life Sciences
- -Natural resources + energy

-Outdoor recreation

U.S. Census, 2009 – 2013 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates. S1501, S2301; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2014; Utah Governor's Office of Economic Development







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UTAN TRANSIT

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PLANNING CHALLENGES

Regional Population Growth

Air Quality

Supporting Active Transportation

Land Use and Transportation Nexus



PLANNING CHALLENGES Utah population to double by 2050



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PLANNING CHALLENGES Regional focus on improving air quality.





PLANNING CHALLENGES Growing enthusiasm for walk and bike travel in region.

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200 West Protected Intersection at 300 South

Source: CITYLAB, "Why Salt Lake City Chose to Build the First Protected Intersection for Bicycling in the U.S."



PLANNING CHALLENGES Current travel patterns highly auto-centric.

Travel behavior in Wasatch Front



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6.8%

Walk

2012 Household Travel Survey, WFRC

Bike

1.4%

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PLANNING CHALLENGESthere are pockets of high walkability.



2012 Household Travel Survey, WFRC

PLANNING CHALLENGES WFRC aims to focus growth in centers; provide multi-modal infrastructure planning.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

• What factors influence non-motorized trip making decisions?

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- What factors influence non-motorized trip making decisions?
- What factors influence the length of nonmotorized trips?
- What factors influence the frequency of nonmotorized trips?

1 BUILT ENVIRONMENT

2 NATURAL FEATURES

3 HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

4 PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES

BUILT ENVIRONMENT

1 BUILT ENVIRONMENT: 3 D'S

DESIGN

DIVERSITY

DENSITY

1 BUILT ENVIRONMENT: 3 D'S street connectivity and block size side walk and bike lane infrastructure

DESIGN

DIVERSITY

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DENSITY

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Ewing & Cervero, 2010; Dill & Voros, 2006

1 BUILT ENVIRONMENT: 3 D'S multi-modal access to opportunities land use mix jobs/household mix

DESIGN

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DENSITY

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Federal Highways Administration, 2014

1 BUILT ENVIRONMENT: 3 D'S population and employment density

DESIGN

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DENSITY

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Kockelman, 1991; Dill & Voros, 2006

2 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Image source: https://newd7000user.wordpress.com/tag/wide-angle-hdr/

2 NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

topography (slope) weather patterns (number of rainy/snowy days) climate (extended hot and/or humid summers)

TRB 2015 | examining non-motorized travel behavior Dill & Voros, 2006; Kockelman, 1991; ; Federal Highways Administration, 2014

3 HOUSEHOLD CHARACTERISTICS

- race/ethnicity
- number of non-working adults
- number of school-aged children
- income
- age
- immigration status
- sex
- vehicle / bike ownership

4 PERCEPTIONS AND ATTITUDES

- rating or perception of the bicycling environment; safety
- exercise valuation
- cost
- convenience
- time valuation

Dill & Voros, 2006;

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Dill & Voros, 2006; Boarnet, et al., 2015

METHODOLOGY

Data collection

Unit of analysis

Regression analysis

DATA COLLECTION

2012 Utah Travel Survey

Utah Statewide Travel Study - Survey Approach

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

UNIT OF ANALYSIS

REGRESSION MODEL

ordinary least squares model

zero inflation model

RESULTS

What factors influence non-motorized trip making decisions? zero-inflation model

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FINDINGS

RESULTS

FINDINGS

FINDINGS

What factors influence the frequency of non-motorized trips? The expected change is a decrease in daily walk trips for one unit increase in retail (employment) density.

Downtown City Center retail, SLC

RESULTS

What factors influence the length of non-motorized trips? Ordinary least squares model

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NEXT STEPS

1 Incorporate results into travel model.

2 Increase sample size of bicycle trips.

3 Examine areas of high and low accessibility for planning strategies.

THANK YOU!

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LITERATURE REVIEW

Boarnet, Marlon G., Kristen Day, Craig Anderson, Tracy McMillan, and Mariela Alfonzo. "California's Safe Routes to School Program: Impacts on Walking, Bicycling and Pedestrian Safety." *Journal of American Planning Association* 71.3 (2005): 301-17. Web. 2 Feb. 2015.

Dill, Jennifer, and Kim Voros. *Factors Affecting Bicycling Demand: Initial Survey Findings from the Portland Region*. Proc. of 86th Annual Meeting of the Transportation Research Board. Portland: Nohad A. Toulan School of Urban Studies and Planning, 2006. Print.

Ewing, Reid, and Robert Cervero. "Travel and the Built Environment." *Journal of the American Planning Association* 76.3 (2010): 265-94. Web. 2 Feb. 2015.

Kockelman, Kara M. "Travel Behavior as a Function of Accessibility, Land Use Mixing and Land Use Balance: Evidence from the San Francisco Bar Area." Thesis. Graduate School of City and Regional Planning / University of Berkeley, 1991. Print.

National Cooperative Highway Research Program. *Estimating Bicycling and Walking for Planning and Project Development: A Guidebook*. Rep. no. 770. National Cooperative Highway Research Program, 2014. Print. Transportation Research Board.

Survey and observations; measured changes in behavior associated with traffic improvement projects.

Survey; chi-squared test; spatial analysis (GIS) of distance between proximity to attractive biking locations and varying levels of self-identified utilitarian cyclist categories.

Meta-analysis using summary statistics from previous studies as new observations; elasticities computed.

simple ordinary least-squares model; binary dependent variables; logit model; step-wise variable deletion and addition.

Review and guidebook for planners / policy-makers.

RESULTS

What factors influence non-motorized trip making decisions? (zero-inflation model)

Household size10968	
Family life cycle 1: households37327without children and no retirees	-4.01
Vehicle ownership .18838	4.081
Bike ownership14179	-5.126
Number of jobs accessible within 523348 minute auto travel distance	-6.532
Jobs/Household per 2 mile radius23348	-6.532
Intersection density (street -2.077 connectivity)	-3.892

examining non-motorized travel behavior | Wasatch Front Regional Council

examining non-motorized travel behavior | results

What factors influence the length of nonmotorized trips? (ordinary least squares model)

VARIABLES Jobs / Household per TAZ	ESTIMATE 00009	F VALUE 8.34
Population within 1 mile radius	00003598	3.21
Population within 2 mile radius	.00000764	2.38
Land Use Mix	17201	7.39
Number of retail jobs per TAZ	00039317	4.01
Number of government / educational jobs per 1 mile radius	.0000444	6.1
Number of healthcare jobs per 1 mile radius	.0001781	19.44

examining non-motorized travel behavior | results

What factors influence the frequency of nonmotorized trips? (zero-inflated model)

VARIABLES Household size	ESTIMATE .172	Z VALUE 7
Life cycle 2: Households with children no retirees	,.3354	4.3
Number of workers per household	0723	-2.08
Vehicle ownership	08	-2.375
Number of manufacturing jobs per 5 minute auto travel distance	0006	-3.11
Number of retail jobs per TAZ	.0004	-3.4
Number of food jobs per TAZ	.00022	2.22
Number of healthcare jobs per TAZ	.0001	2.16