



Metro

Regional Congestion Pricing Study

RUFTF June 17, 2020

Regional Congestion Pricing Study

- Project scope and outcomes
- Coordination with other projects
- Why now?
- Questions

What is Congestion Pricing?

Congestion pricing is the use of a price mechanism (i.e. tolls, parking fees) to alert drivers to external costs of their trip

Tool to:

- Reduce traffic congestion and greenhouse gas emissions
- Change traveler behavior (shifting trip times, traveling less often, changing travel modes, carpooling, routes, etc.)

Why now?

Congestion is bad and getting worse

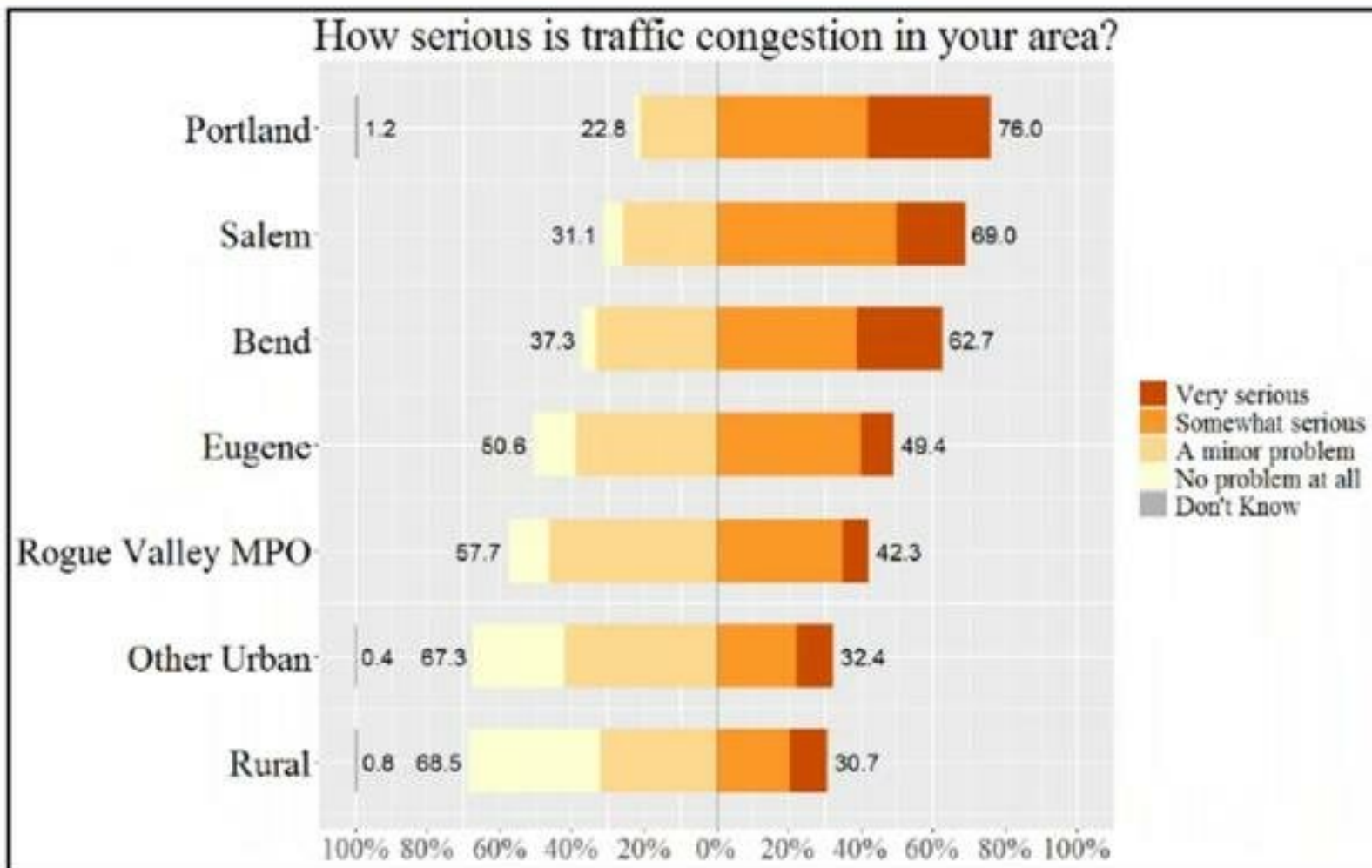
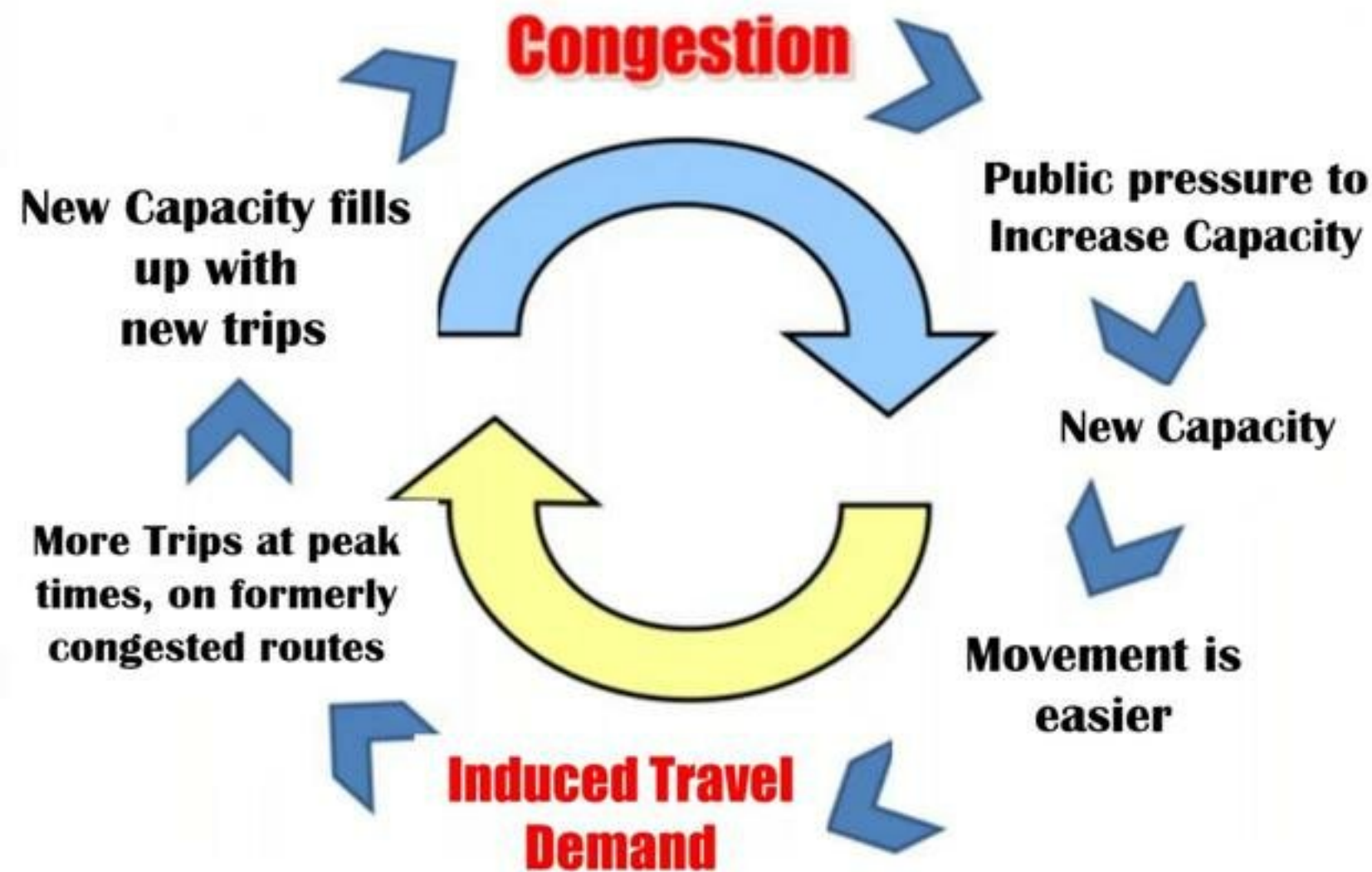


Figure 2.15: Seriousness of traffic congestion by area

- 76% of our region thinks it is a serious problem
- 500,000 new residents in our region by 2040
- Vehicle hours of delay projected to increase by 120% from 2015 to 2027

Why now?



Vicious Loop of Traffic Congestion

- **Climate**--Transportation creates greenhouse gas emissions (40% in Oregon)
- We can't build our way out of congestion
- Congestion pricing supports efficient use of infrastructure
- Our current transportation system is inequitable

Our transportation system is inequitable

Annual HH Transportation Expenditures (2018)

HH Income Quintile	Avg Expenditure	% of Income (median)
All Quintiles	\$9,700	Not Available
Lowest Quintile	\$3,500	35%
2 nd Quintile	\$6,600	22%
3 rd Quintile	\$8,500	16%
4 th Quintile	\$11,100	13%
Highest Quintile	\$18,200	Not Available

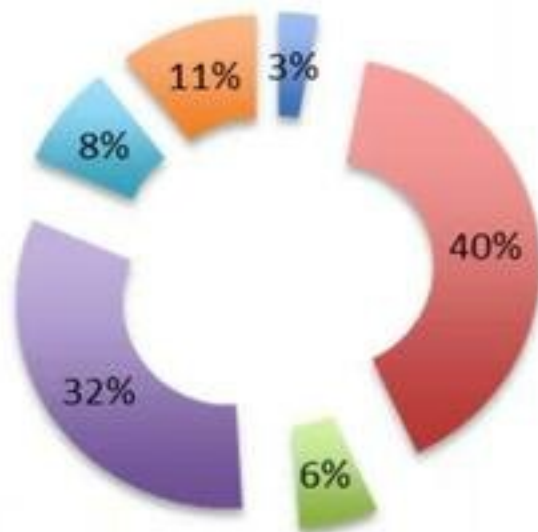
Source: US Bureau of Transportation Statistics. Percentage based on median of income range
<https://www.bts.gov/browse-statistical-products-and-data/transportation-economic-trends/tet-2018-chapter-6-household>

Our transportation system is inequitable

- Communities of color use alternatives to driving alone more
- Travel times are usually longer for people who ride transit-- *more likely low income and people of color*- as transit gets stuck in traffic.

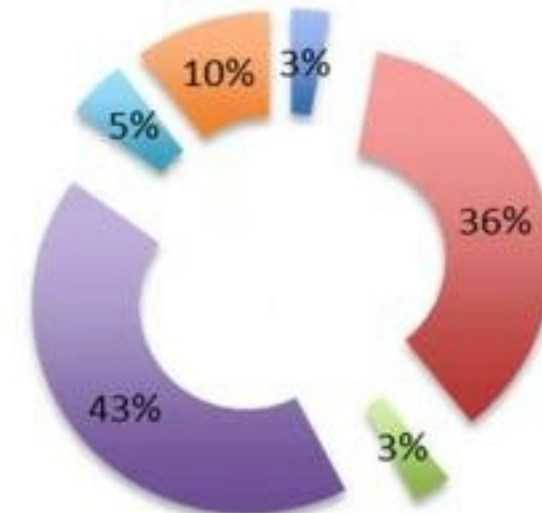
How We Travel - People of Color

■ Bike ■ Carpool ■ School Bus ■ Drive Alone ■ Transit ■ Walk



How We Travel - White

■ Bike ■ Carpool ■ School Bus ■ Drive Alone ■ Transit ■ Walk



Oregon Household Activity Survey, 2011

Planning Context

Multiple plans identify the need

- *2010 RTP, TSMO Strategic Plan– 2010, Climate Smart Strategy – 2014 & Federal congestion management process*

2018 RTP & Metro Council prioritized a near-term comprehensive review of congestion pricing

- *Over \$15 billion in transportation investments need to be paired with travel demand efforts*
- *RTP had years of in depth community input*



Coordination with Other Pricing Efforts

Portland's Pricing Options for Equitable Mobility

- City of Portland focus-- improving equity

ODOT's I-5 and I-205 Tolling Project

- Focused on specific highways

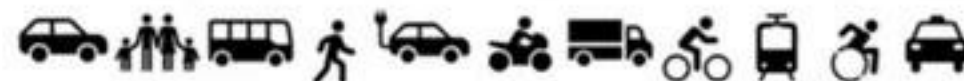
Metro's RCPS

- Regional analysis, testing system



Moving to Our Future:

*Pricing Options for **Equitable Mobility***



PBOT
PORTLAND BUREAU OF TRANSPORTATION



Regional Congestion Pricing Study

RCPS Goal:

To understand how our region could use congestion pricing to manage traffic demand to meet climate goals without adversely impacting safety or equity.

Regional Congestion Pricing Study

Assess performance of congestion pricing tools from a wider/regional perspective.

Technical analysis to answer big picture questions regarding:

- Most effective pricing tools
- Effects of different pricing tools
- How these tools perform in our region

Evaluate technical feasibility and performance of 4 different pricing tools

Cordon: vehicles pay to enter/travel in a congested area

Vehicle Miles Traveled/Road User Charge: a charge based on how many miles are traveled

Roadway: a direct charge to use a specific roadway or specific roadways

Parking: charges to park in specific areas

Congestion Pricing scenarios will be measured against the Region's 4 Priorities (RTP 2018)



Equity-
Reduce disparity



Climate Smart –
Reducing GHG
emissions



Safety-
Getting to
Vision Zero



Congestion

Evaluation

1. Test for reducing congestion and GHG emissions
2. Review for potential impacts to equity and safety
3. Explore strategies to maximize benefits
 - Increasing transit service in key areas
 - Adding pedestrian, bike, and transit infrastructure (2040 RTP Strategic investments)
 - Better access to opportunities
 - Fee structures



Strategic Advice

- Experts in congestion pricing programs and modeling have been hired to help us shape our study and evaluate results
- Findings and draft results will be reviewed by an expert panel
- Targeted stakeholder engagement

Expected Outcomes

RCPS findings will:

- Inform future discussions on implementing congestion pricing and policy recommendations
 - *Informing ODOT and PBOT efforts*
- Outline next steps for evaluation and further study

Project Schedule

ACTIVITY	Timeframe
Kick off RCPS - TPAC, JPACT, and Metro Council	Summer 2019 ✓
Develop Work Plan & Hire Consultant	Fall-Winter 19/20 ✓
Document Existing Conditions	Winter- Spring 2020
Establish Methods, Identify Performance Measures & Define Scenarios	Winter- Summer 2020
Conduct Analysis, Review Results, & Prepare Findings	Summer-Winter 2020
Report and Recommended Next Steps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pricing Expert Panel Review of Findings, Draft and Final Report Metro Council and JPACT presentations and feedback 	Late 2020- Early 2021

*TPAC, JPACT, and Metro Council and partners will be engaged throughout the project

Questions?

oregonmetro.gov/regional-congestion-pricing-study

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