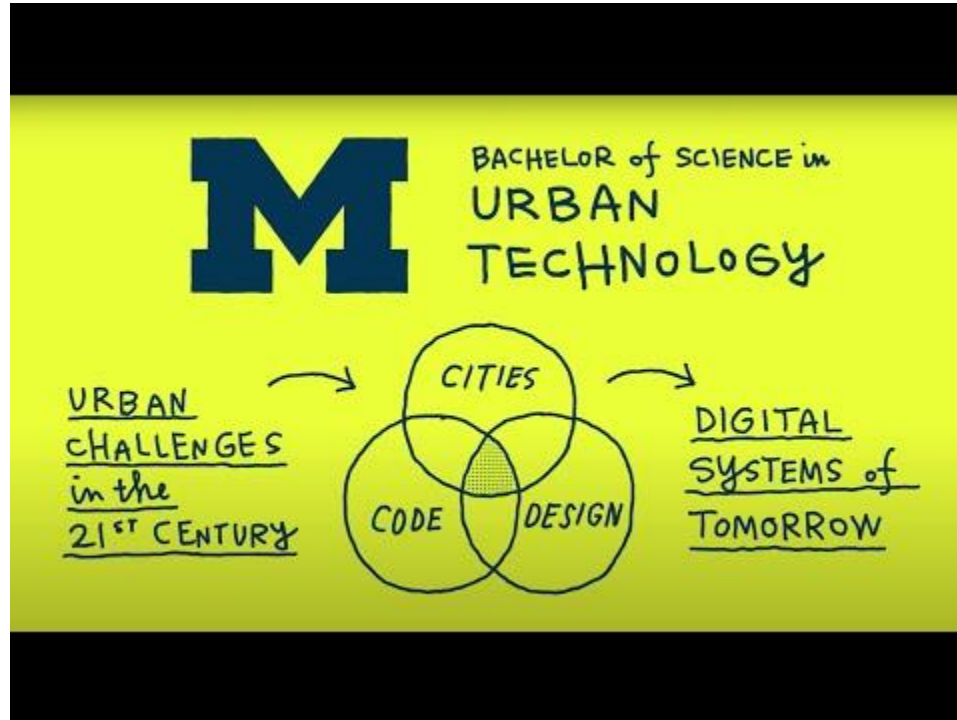


Urban Tech in Transportation

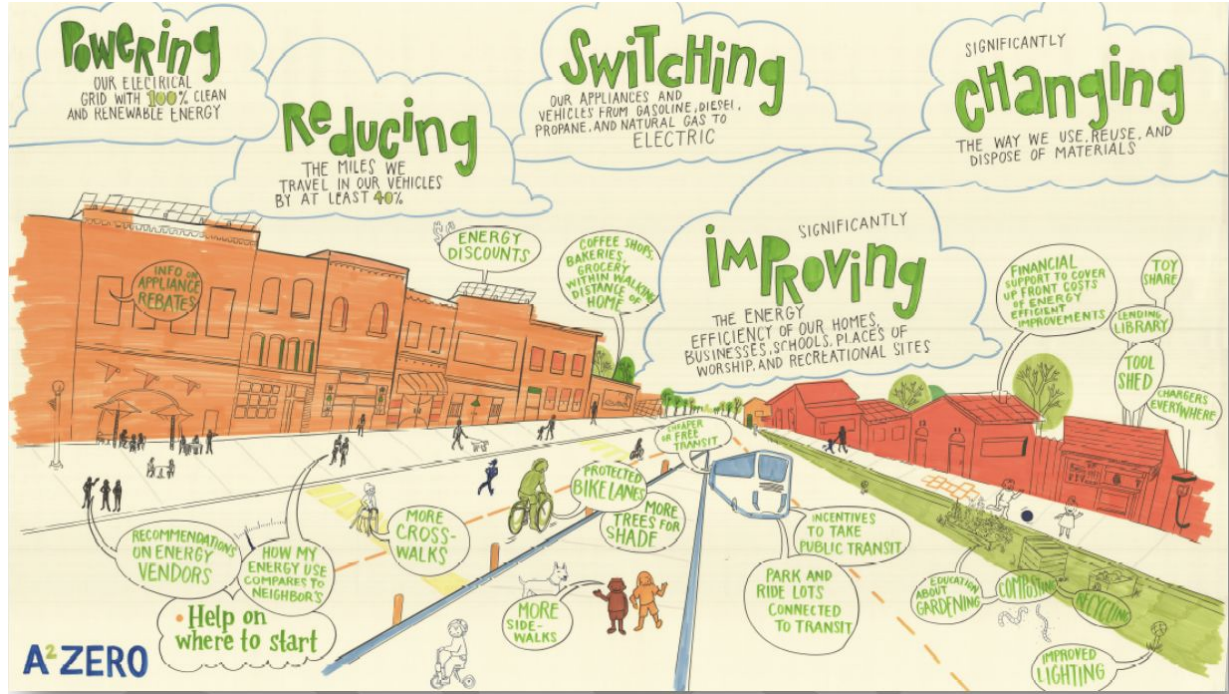
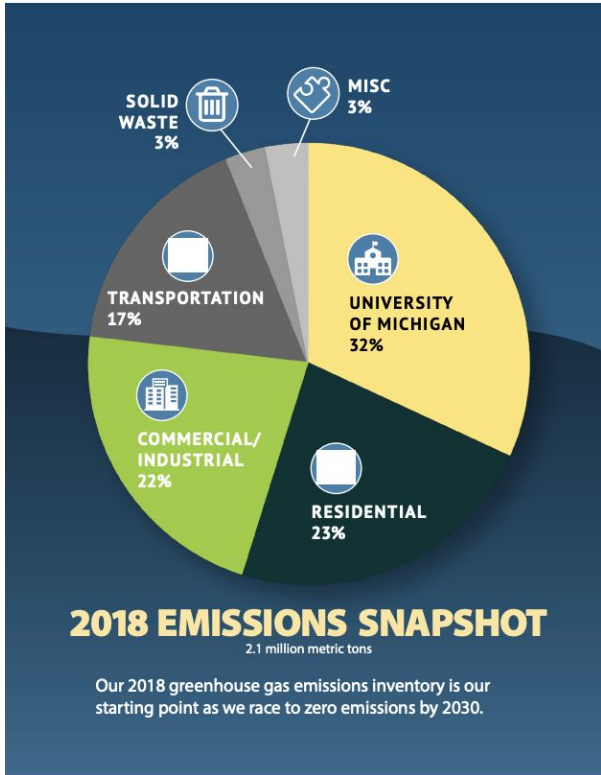
By: Ting Fong Chen



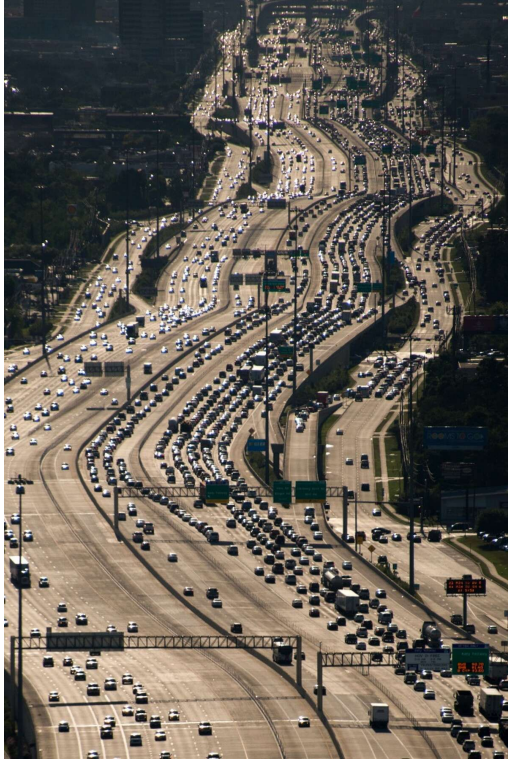
What is Urban Tech?



Why Transportation?



Mobility vs Accessibility

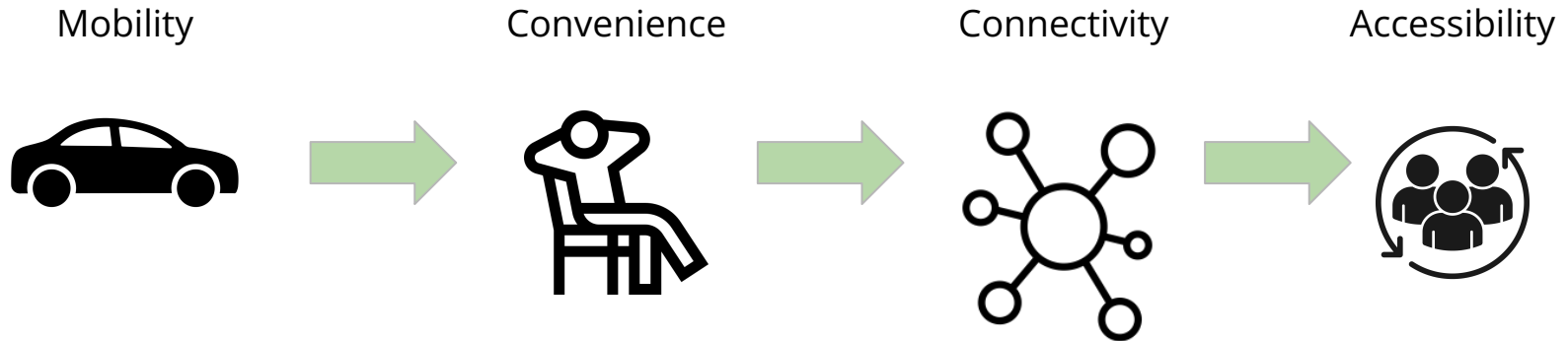


OR



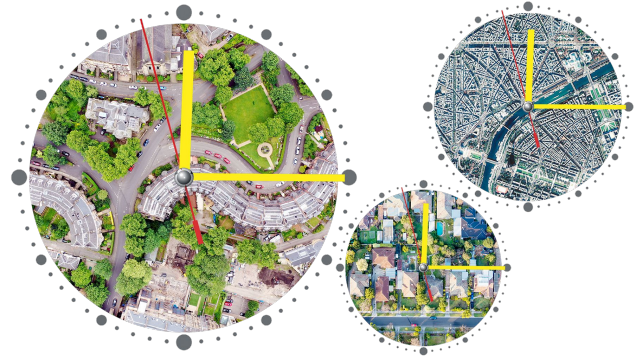
Implications of maximizing efficiency

- What does efficiency mean in a transportation context?
 - Is the term “mobility” outdated?
 - Convenience is great, but it’s still vague and at what cost?
 - Connectivity is better, but is it done at a rapid or incremental rate?
 - Accessibility is the true goal, everyone should get to where they want with a number of options and with similar travelling distances



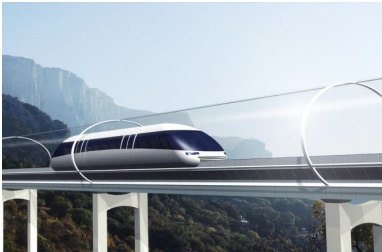
Accessibility in Transportation

- Meeting the needs of different user groups
 - Those without cars should still be able to reach their destination in similar time & with similar levels of comfort
 - Different public transit modes serve different population sizes
 - Providing the necessary infrastructure to accommodate those transport modes
- Moving away from car-centric infrastructure & tech
 - Autonomous vehicles have great potential, but they shouldn't be the only solution
 - Integrated transit networks are crucial



The hype around autonomous vehicles

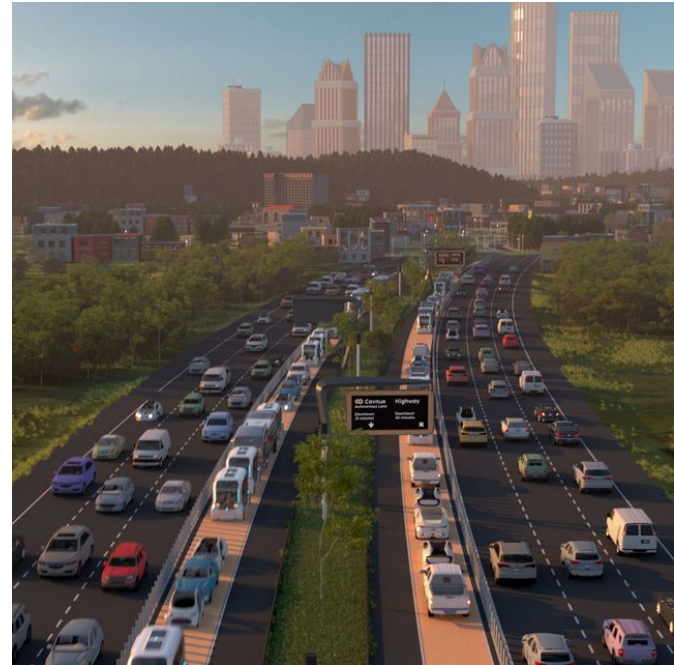
- Why so popular?
 - Increases efficiency
 - Less time spent on driving → higher productivity
 - Apparently safer because it can predict human movements
- Implications
 - Widens the digital divide?
 - What about people who don't have a car or have Internet access?
 - Monotonous/homogenous lifestyle? Higher autonomy → no motivation or agenda?
 - Perpetuating car-centric development?



VS

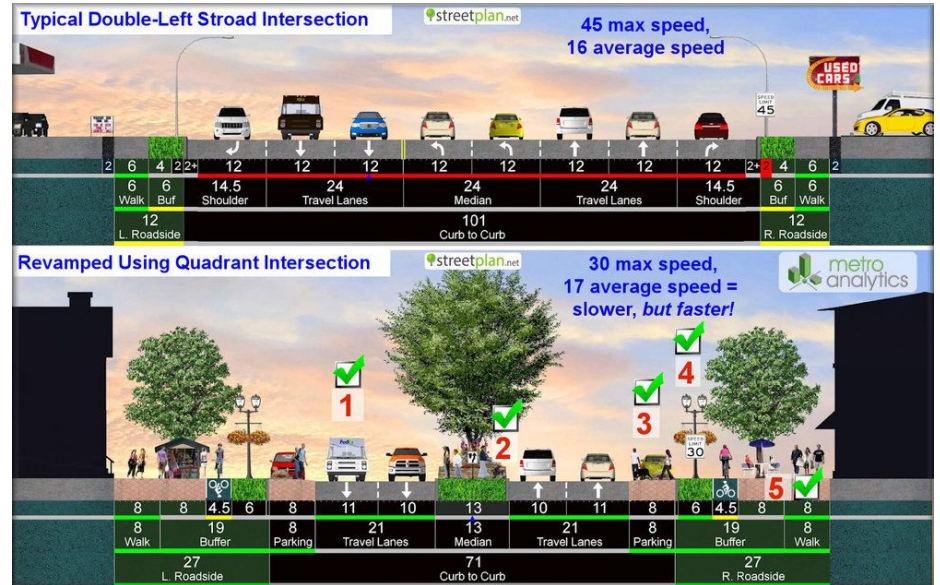


Safety



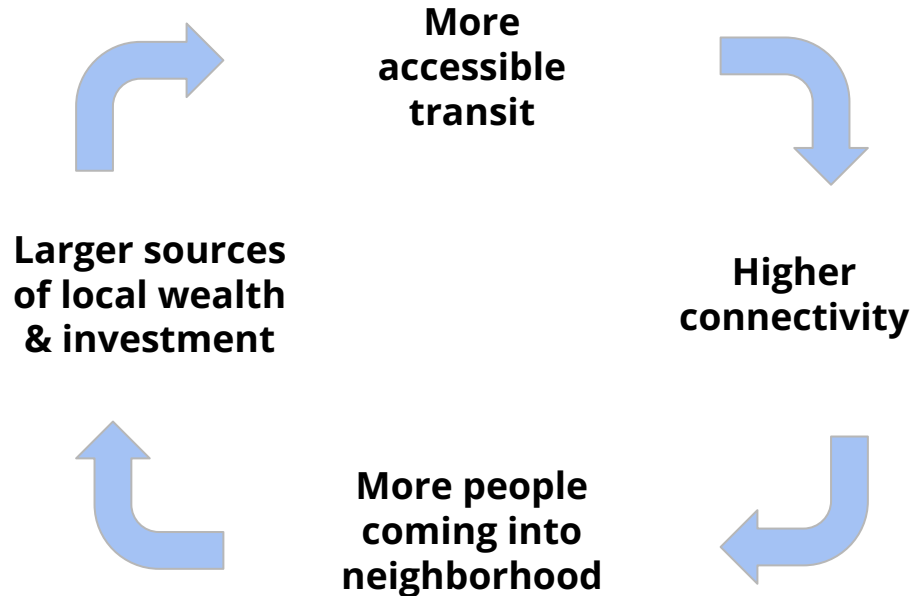
Connections to Land Use, Street Design & Wealth

- The ubiquitous “stroard”
 - Mix of “street” & “road” that emphasizes both mobility & access



Connections to Land Use, Street Design & Wealth

- Transit is a means, not an end



Connections to Land Use, Street Design & Wealth

- Walkability & mixed-use development with higher density
 - Integrated transit networks within & across cities & communities
 - Eliminating parking minimums
 - Building more middle housing



Conceptual Shift in Thinking & Politics

- Public transit is for the public good, not for private investment (ahem Cali HSR)
- Autonomous vehicles in isolation won't solve every urban issue, but should be managed in tandem with other transportation networks
- The actual cost of building outwards & sprawl (and the savings that come with densification & robust transit)
- Option is key

Potential Readings & Resources

- Books

- *Ghost Road: Beyond the Driverless Car* - Anthony Townsend
- *Smart Cities: Big Data, Civic Hackers, and the Quest for a New Utopia* - Anthony Townsend
- *Confessions of a Recovering Engineer: Transportation for a Strong Town* - Charles Marohn
- *Walkable City: How Downtown Can Save America, One Step at a Time* - Jeff Speck

- Youtube Channels

- City Beautiful
- Not Just Bikes
- Strong Towns

- Podcasts

- War on Cars
- Strong Towns

Thank you!