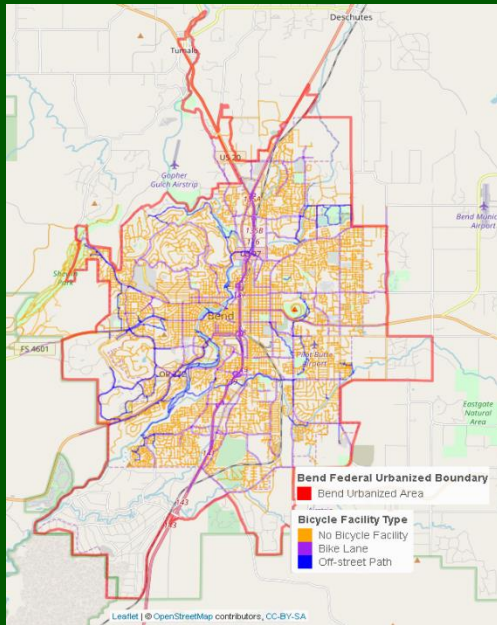




Oregon Department of Transportation



# 2019 SORA Summer Networking Mixer

# Oregon Department of Transportation Research Program



# My Background



## Experience

Montana Native

Masters in Urban Studies  
(PSU)

Planner, Modeler, Data  
Scientist, Child Wrangler

“Let Knowledge Serve the  
City”



# Agenda



## Agenda

ODOT Research Program

Bicycle & Pedestrian  
Activity Research

Other Recent Publications

Discussion & Questions



# Oregon DOT Research Program Overview



## Research Program

- 11 staff (8 coordinators)
- 8 topic areas
- Technology Transfer Program

## Funding Sources

- Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) Statewide Planning & Research (SPR)
- University Transportation Centers (TREC, PacTrans)
- Federal Sources (NHTSA, STIC, DOE)

## FHWA SPR Program

- Primary Resource
- Around \$1.5 million per year in projects
- Most states focus on pavement and structures research

**Research is novel**

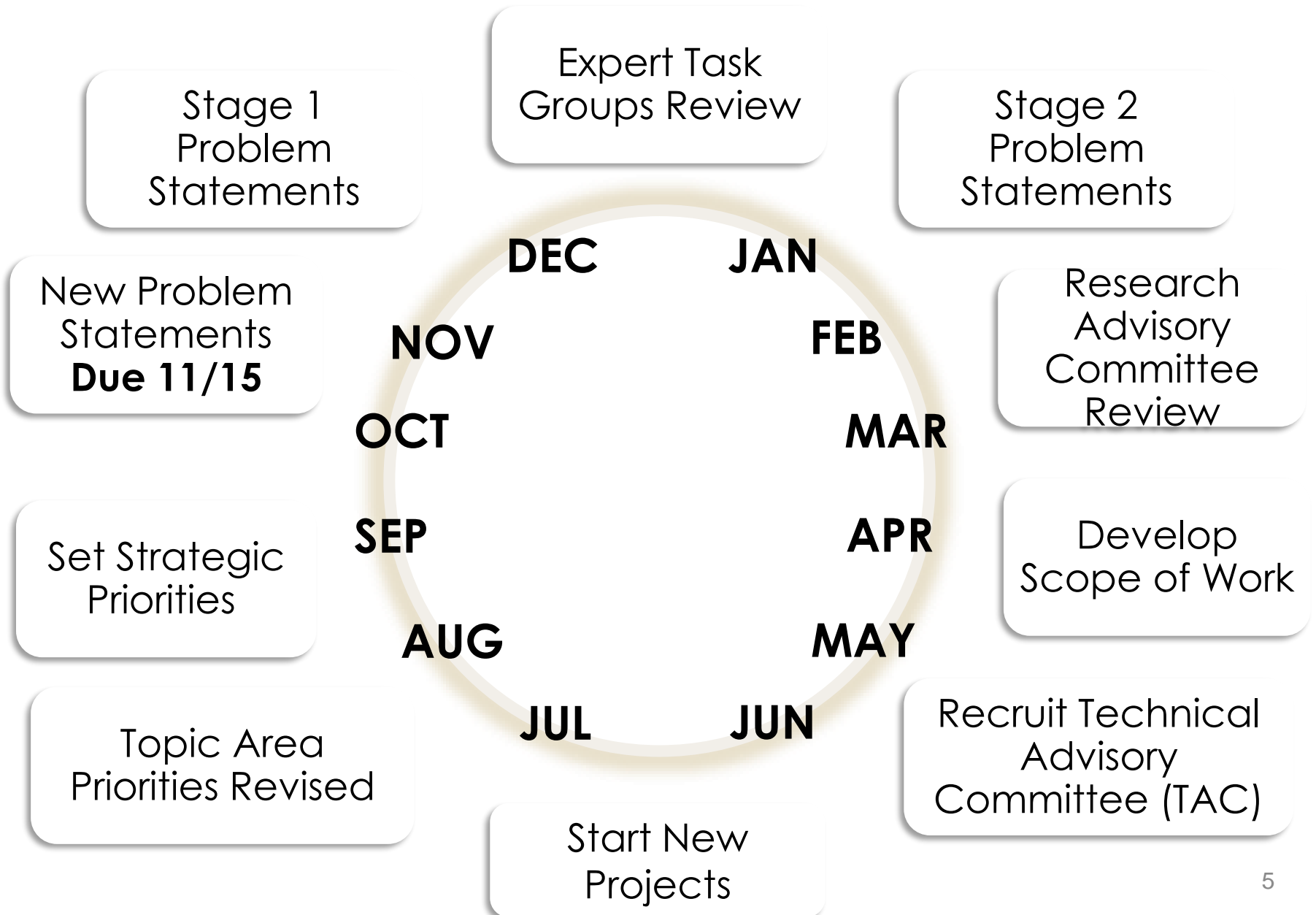
**Research is uncertain**

**Research is structured**

**Research creates solutions**



# ODOT Research Project Selection Timetable



# Oregon DOT Research Program

## Submitting Ideas

### Expert Task Groups for Research Ideas



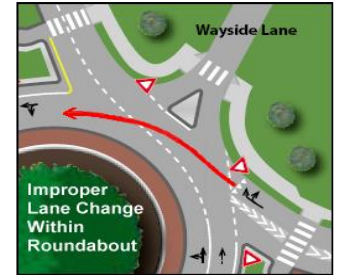
GHE –  
Geo/Hydro/Enviro



PEA – Policy,  
Economic  
Analysis



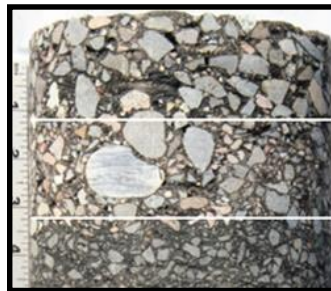
ST – Structures



TraSHFac –  
Traffic Safety &  
Human Factors



AST – Active and  
Sustainable,  
Transportation



CPM –  
Construction,  
Pavement &  
Materials



MO – Maintenance &  
Ops



EI – Emerging Issues



# Sample of Recent Publications

- Driving Distraction due to Drones
- Improved Safety and Efficiency of Protected/Permitted Right-Turns in Oregon
- A Method to Estimate Annual Average Daily Traffic for Minor Facilities for MAP-21 Reporting and Statewide Safety Analysis
- Bicycle Count Data: What is it Good for? A Study of Bicycle Travel Activity in Central Lane Metropolitan Planning Organization
- Enhancing Landslide Inventorying, Lidar Hazard Assessment and Asset Management
- Statewide Data Standards to Support Current and Future Strategic Public Transit Investment



# Bicycle & Pedestrian Activity Research Background

## Problems

No traffic count data for people walking & biking

Lack of exposure data limits safety analysis

Absence of bicycle activity measures limits our ability to quantify health benefits

## Objectives

Develop data collection program

Quantify bike/ped activity

Estimate crash risk to help prioritize investments

Develop measures of public health benefits





# Publication:

## Bicycle Count Data: What is it Good for?

Deliverable	Description	Intended Audience
Data Collection	Describes the equipment and data collection strategy employed in this research	Data Program Managers; Data Collection Staff and Contractors
Annual Traffic Estimation	Develops and applies a new method for creating annual estimates of bicycle counts from daily counts	Data Program Managers; Safety Analysts
Total Bicycle Activity Estimation	Application of statistical models using annual bicycle counts and various infrastructure, accessibility and connectivity variables to estimate total Bicycle miles traveled (BMT)	Transportation Analysts; Modelers; Planners
Crash Analysis	Employs bicycle miles traveled in crash analysis to assess risk and develop safety performance functions and (SPF)crash modification factors (CMF)	Safety Analysts; Engineers; Planners
Health Analysis	Utilizes the Integrated Transport and Health Impact Model (ITHIM) to assess the health benefits and health care cost savings from bicycle activity using the BMT estimate	Planners; Health Analysts; Economic Development



# Data Collection Traffic Counting Equipment



**SLAB detector at Colorado Avenue in Bend MPO**



**On-street Inductive Loop Detector at Galveston Ave. in Bend MPO**



**Multiple detectors at Butler Market in Bend MPO**



**Separated Inductive Loop Detector at Franklin Avenue in Bend MPO**

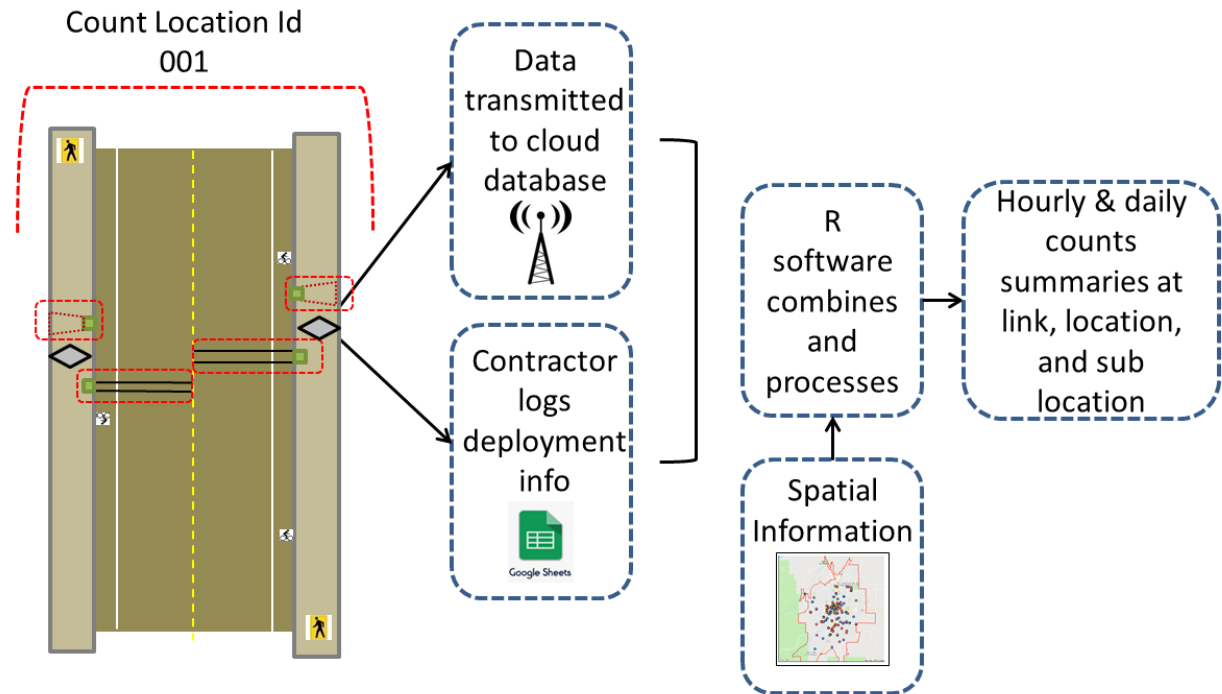


# Data Collection Processing and Compilation & Compilation

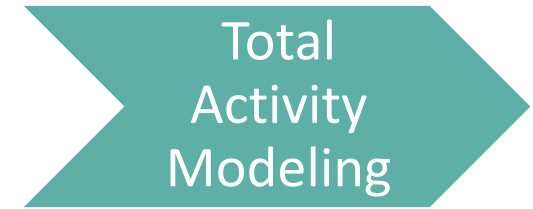


Automated data flow and processing

- Devices all transmit data through cell phone connection
- Portable device information maintained in Google Sheets
- Custom R software written to combine, process, clean and summarize



# Modeling total bicycle activity



$$Y_i \sim \text{NegBinom}(\mu_i)$$
$$\log(\mu_i) = \beta_i X_i$$

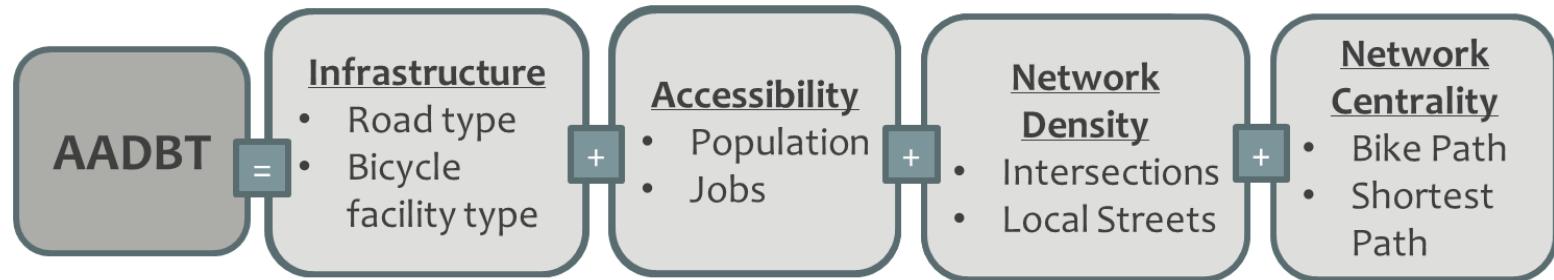
Where:

$Y_i$  = AADBT bicycle traffic volume at site  $i$

$\beta_i$  = Vector of parameters for count site  $i$  including *street* and *bicycle facility*, *accessibility*, *network density*, and *network centrality*

$X_i$  = Vector of observed covariates for count site  $i$

## Negative Binomial Regression Specification

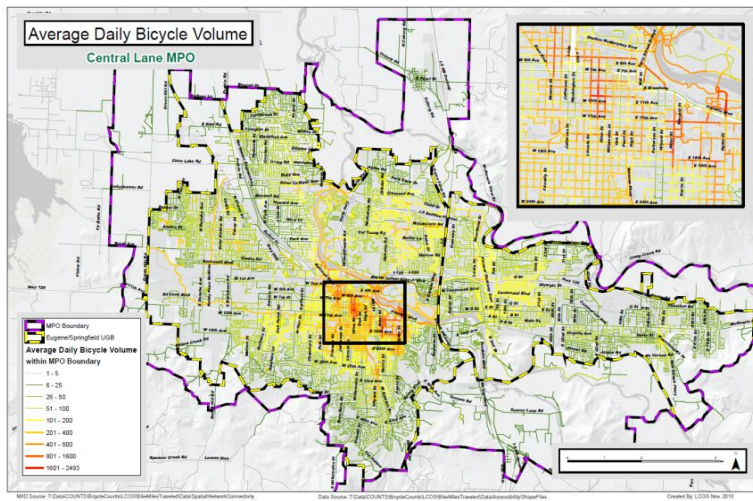
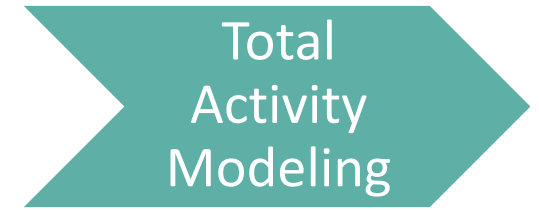


## Simplified Description

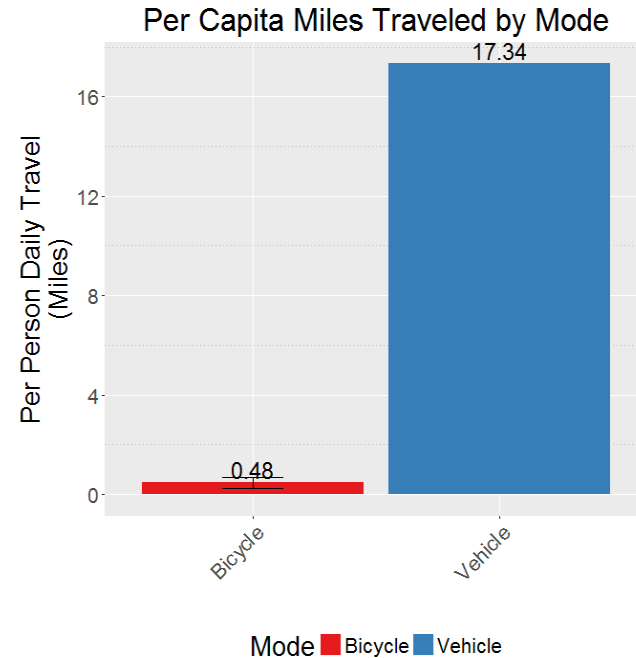


# Modeling total bicycle activity

What does 44 million Bike Miles of Travel?



Bicycle volume assigned to network



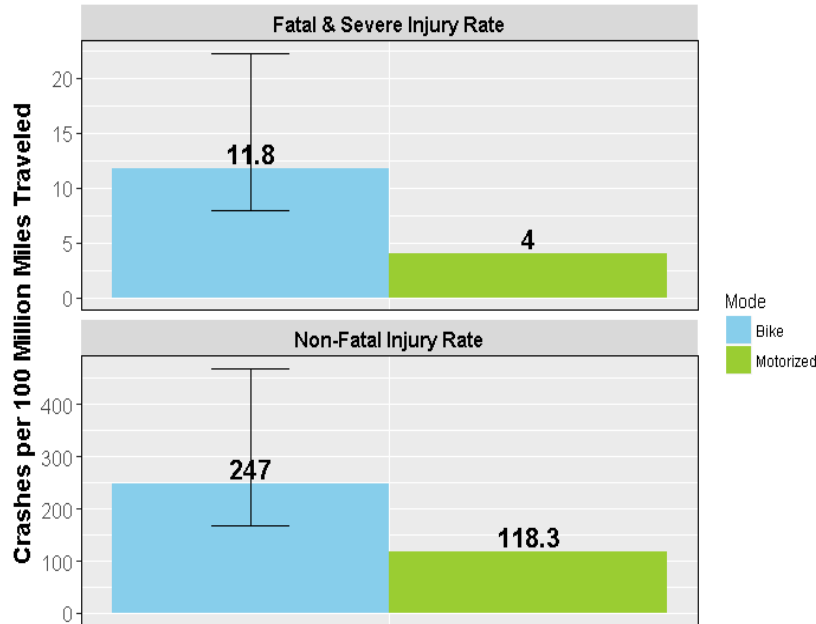
Per capita travel by mode



# Crash Analysis

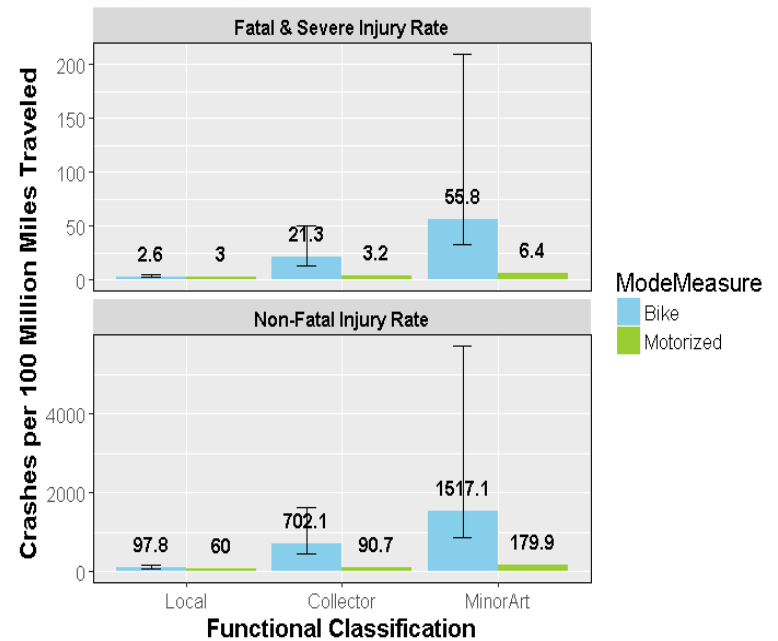


MPO/FAUB Crash Rate Comparison by Injury Severity



Aggregate crash rate comparison

Crash Rate Comparison by Injury Severity and Functional Classification



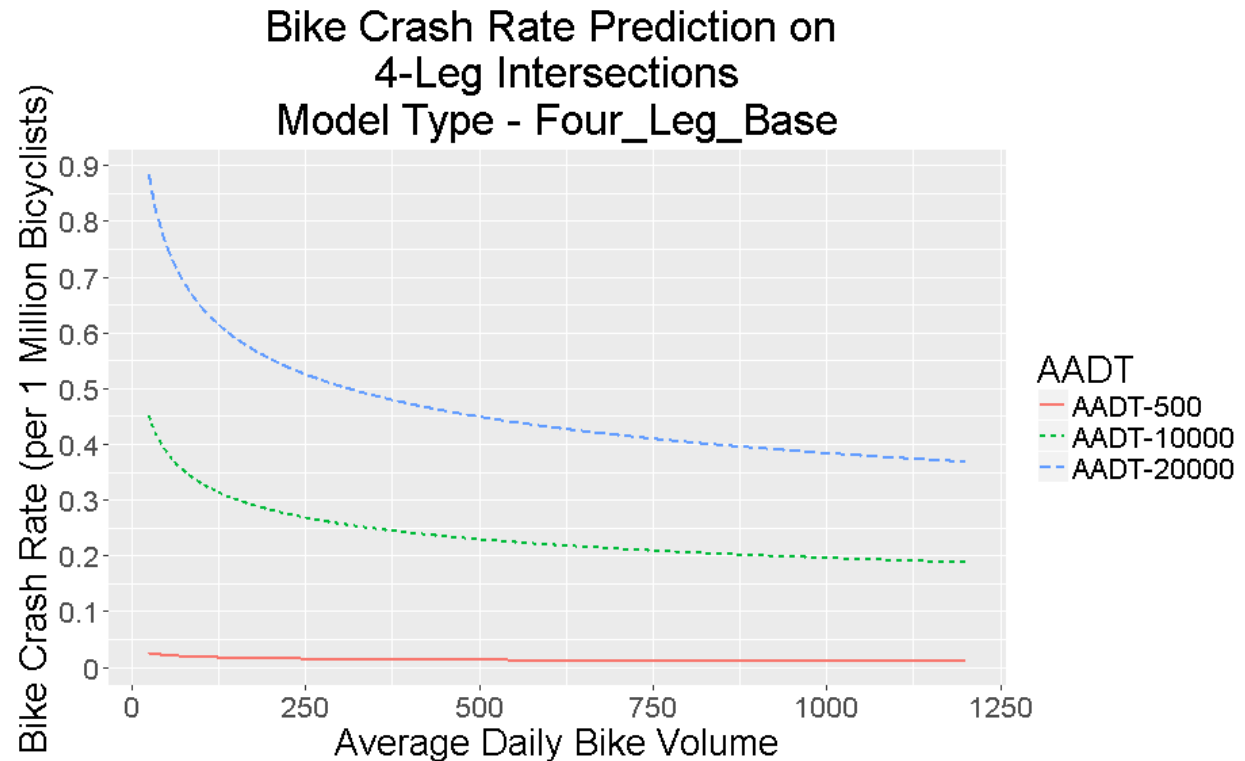
Crash rate by functional classification



# Crash Analysis

Crash  
Analysis

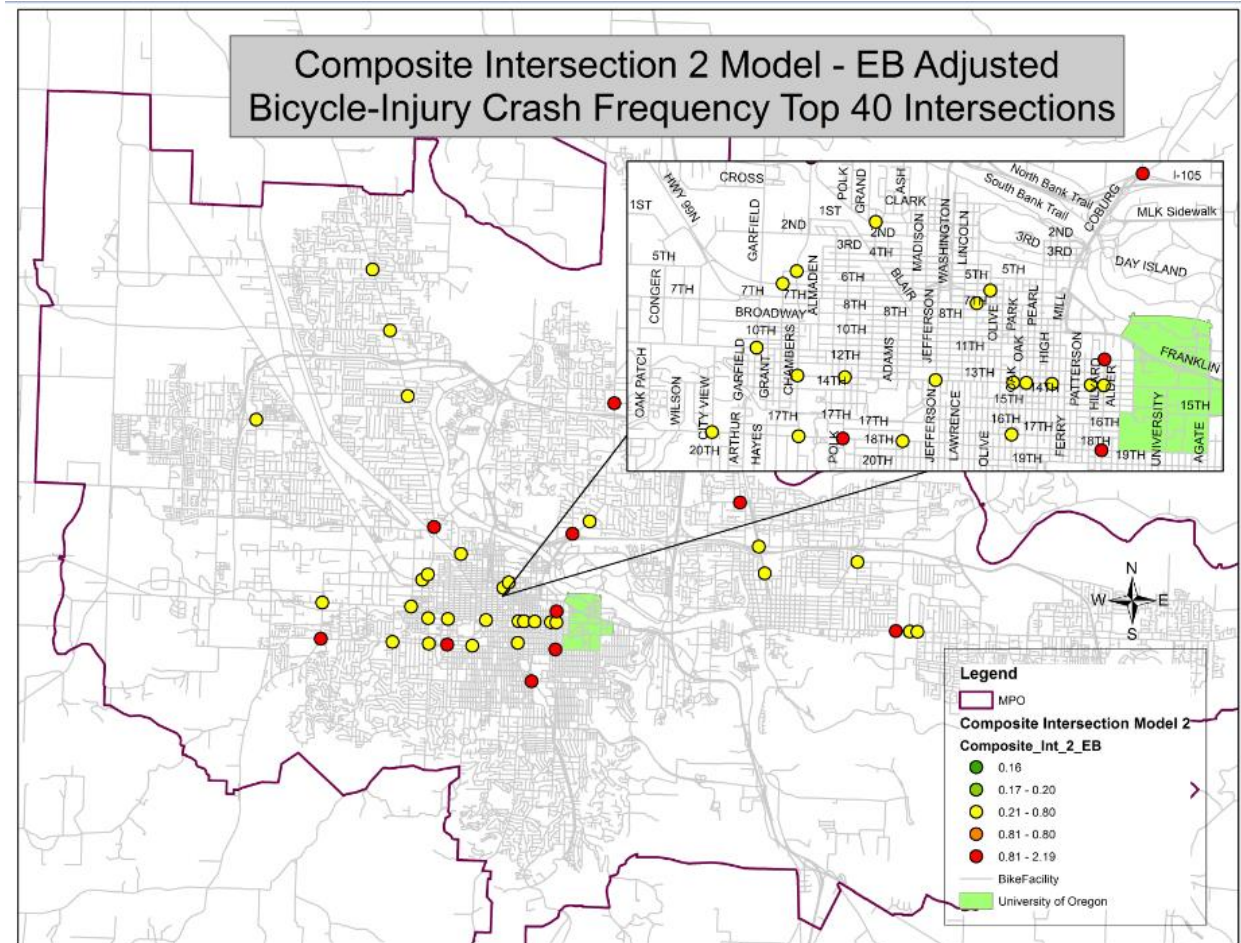
- Safety performance functions needed for truly understanding safety
- Risk increases as motorized vehicle increases
- Bicycle risk decreases as number of users increases
- Increasing bicycle volume from 25 to 100 per day reduces crash rate by more than 30%



# Crash Analysis

## Crash Analysis

- Novel application of state of the art method
- Proactive safety project planning
- Helpful in ODOT funded safety program and ATNI prioritization
- Other considerations when picking projects

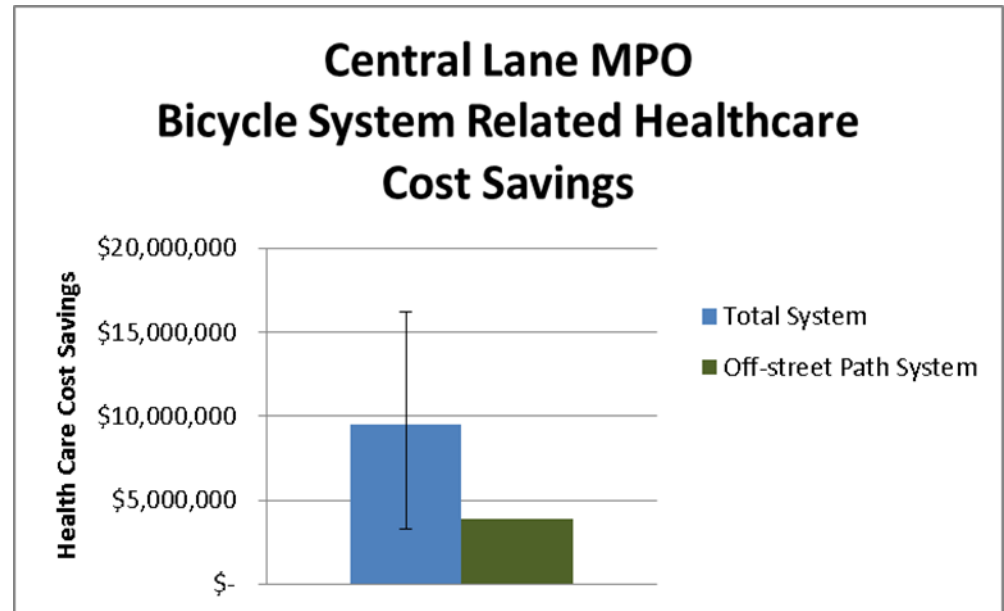




# Health Analysis

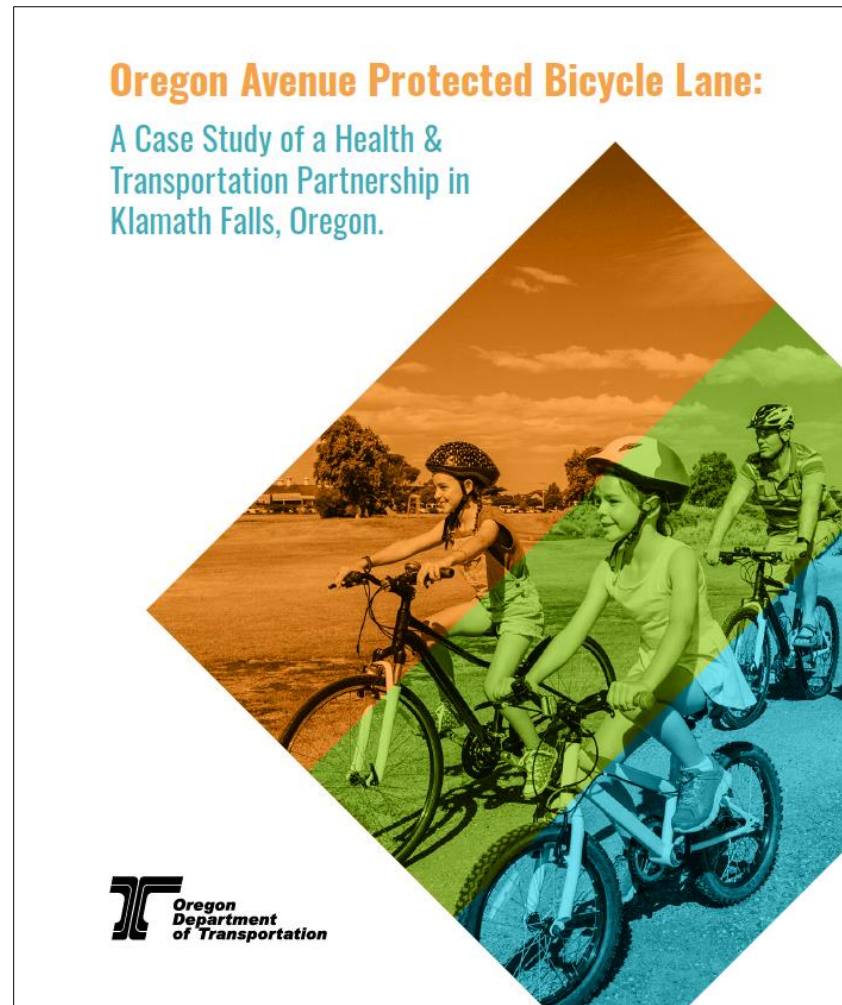
Health  
Analysis

- Integrated Transport and Health Impact Model (ITHIIM)
- Uses Relative Risk Method
- Calibrated for local burden of disease
- Between \$3.3 and \$16.2 million in annual health care cost savings



# Other Recent Publications: Klamath Falls Protected Bicycle Lane

- Case study of planning process
- Highlighted local partnerships in health and transportation
- Summary of evidence linking active travel and health



# Other Recent Publications: Evaluating Streetlight Estimated of Vehicle Traffic in Oregon

- Explosion of data sources from data firms
- ODOT needs to understand data quality
- Test a data quality framework



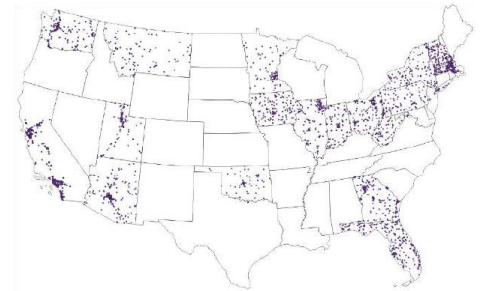
# Other Recent Publications: Evaluating Streetlight Estimated of Vehicle Traffic in Oregon

## Data

- Location-based service (apps)
- GPS navigation data
- Census population
- Vehicle counts data

## Methods

- Machine learning using Random Forest



# Questions



Oregon Department of Transportation



## Questions?

Josh Roll Active and Sustainable Transportation Research Coordinator

[Josh.F.Roll@ODOT.state.or.us](mailto:Josh.F.Roll@ODOT.state.or.us)

### Publications Page

<https://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/Programs/Pages/Research-Publications.aspx>