

# TRANSIT AND TRANSIT ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT: TO SHAPE OR TO SERVE?

**ULI Triangle** 



Dena Belzer June 3, 2015

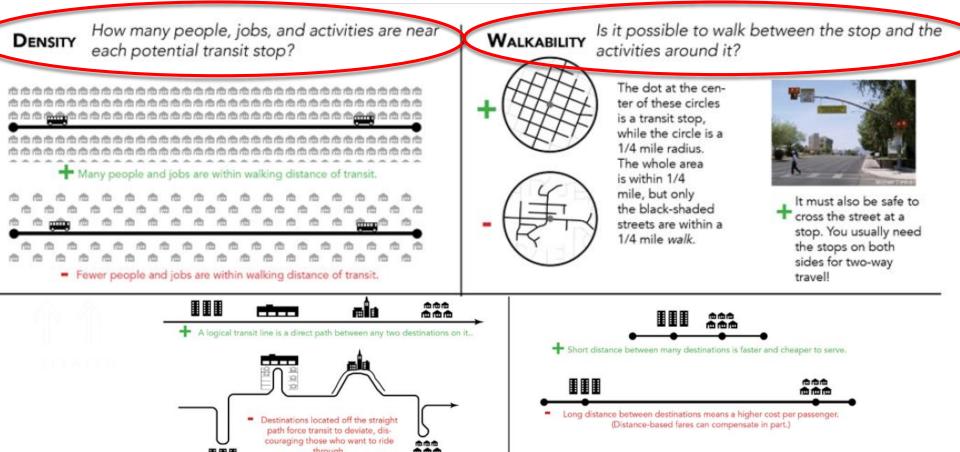
#### Presentation Overview

- 1. Linking Transit and Development
- 2. The Value Transit and TOD Create
- Emerging Lessons Learned From Transit and TOD
- 4. Concluding Thoughts

#### Linking Transit and Development



## Transit Ridership is Highly Dependent on Land Use Patterns



Kimley » Horn



Figure 39: Geographic Indicators of High Ridership Potential

## Development Near Transit – Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

- Development located within ¼ to ½ mile of a frequent transit station/stop (really a district)
- Located in an area where it is also easy to bike/walk
- Serves as an "origin", a "destination," or both for the transit system





## There Is No Single Transit or Building Type in TOD



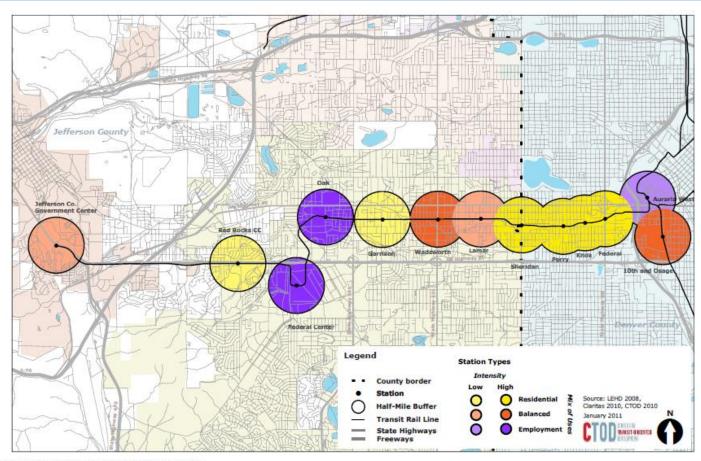






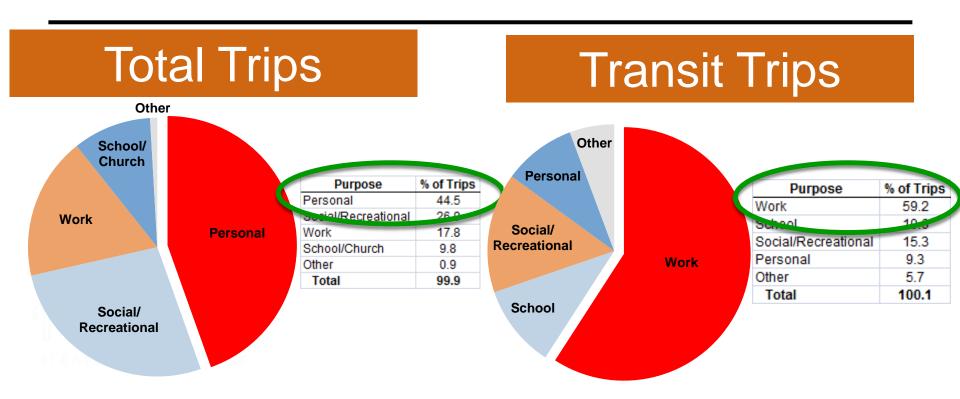


#### Transit Corridors Reflect the Range of Land uses and Densities – It's the Connections that Count!



SOURCE: Center for Transit-Oriented Development, 2010

#### Employment Destinations Are Essential to Transit Because Commuters Ride Transit



- By a wide margin, the largest group of transit trips are commute trips
- Commuters are key to transit's productivity

Source: Pisarski, Commuting in America

### Any Transit That Supports Successful TOD is:

- 1. High quality
  - Frequent
  - Clean and Comfortable
  - Fast
- Stops/stations that are easily accessible by biking or walking
- Connected to employment centers/activity centers and major institutions



#### The Value Transit and TOD Create



## Location and Access to Transit Save Households Money

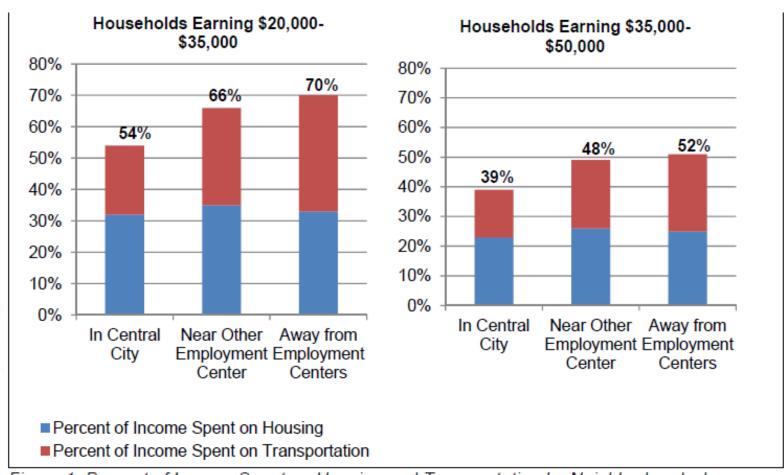
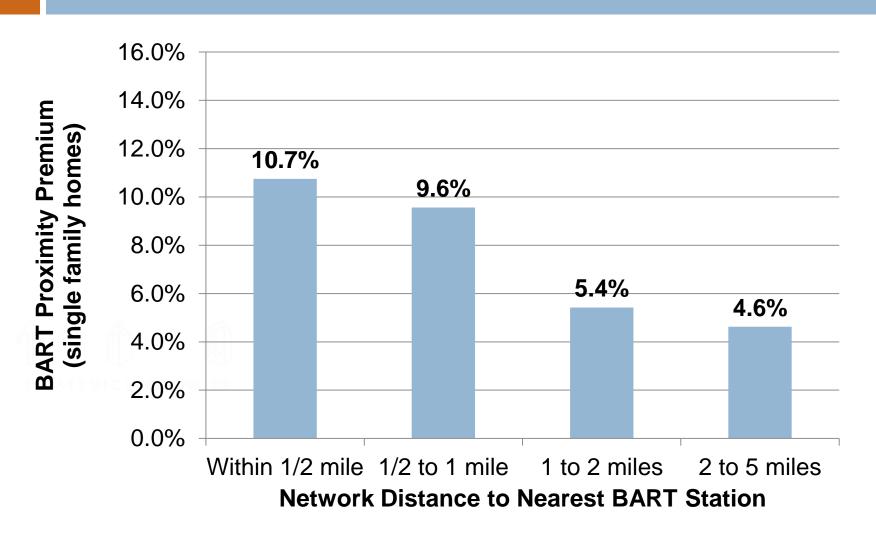


Figure 1. Percent of Income Spent on Housing and Transportation by Neighborhood where Households Live

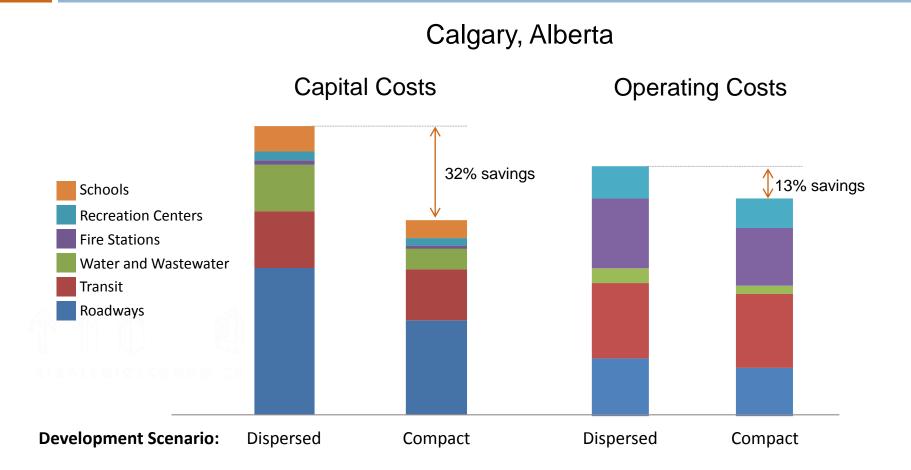
Source: Center for Neighborhood Technology and Virginia Tech, 2006.

### Proximity to Transit Increases Property Values



Source: Strategic Economics

#### Compact Development, Like TOD, Lowers Capital and Operating Costs for Municipalities



Source: IBI – Implications Of Alternative Growth Patterns On Infrastructure Costs, Plan-It Calgary, City of Calgary, 2008

### Emerging Lessons Learned from Transit and TOD



### Lesson 1: BRT Generates Economic Benefits Similar to LRT

Healthline Cleveland, OH	\$4-\$5 billion worth of investment has occurred in the corridor since the Healthline began operations; associated with hospitals, universities, other institutions
Franklin EmX Eugene, OR	\$100 million worth of construction projects are under way downtown near the Franklin EmX line, including a boutique hotel, office space renovations, and expansions to a community college
Troost MAX, Kansas City, MO	The city received a \$25-million federal grant for urban reinvestment; area was chosen for federal investment in part due to its proximity to the BRT

Source: U.S. Government Accountability Office, "Bus Rapid Transit: Projects Improve Transit Service and Can Contribute to Economic Development," July 2012, GAO analysis of interviews with local officials.

## Lesson 2: Transit is a Market Accelerator, Not a Market Maker

Development Context	Share of Total Land Area (2005)	Share of Opportunity Sites* (2005)	Share of New Development (2005-2009)		
Existing Downtowns/Urban Business Districts	10%	13%	68%		
Major Suburban Employment Areas	0%	0%	9%		
Legacy Industrial Areas	3%	4%	3%		
Mixed-Use Neighborhoods/Main Streets	2%	1%	5%		
Auto-Oriented Commercial Corridors	23%	35%	9%		
Industrial/Distribution Areas	28%	30%	7%		
Low Density Residential Neighborhoods	34%	18%	8%		
Major Greenfield/Infill Sites	0%	0%	0%		
Other	0%	0%	0%		
Total Corridor	100%	100%	100%		



#### Lesson 3: Changing Demographics is Driving Demand For Transit Oriented Locations



76 Million Baby Boomers many of whom are downsizing

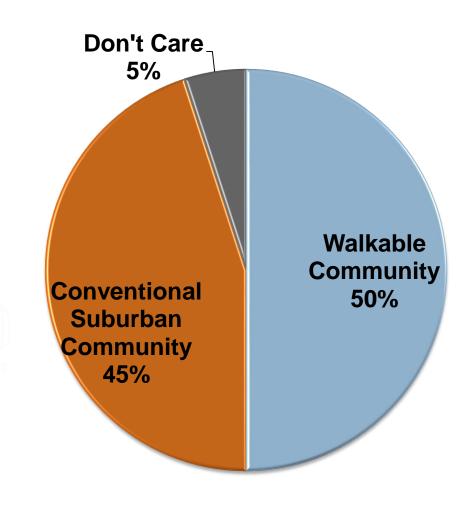


Almost ½ of All Households are Single People



75-80 Million Millennials – The newest members of the work force

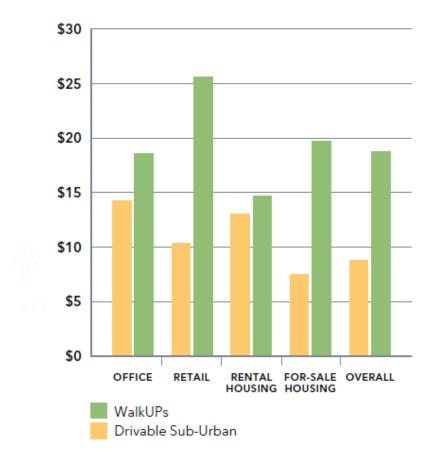
### Many Consumers Want to Live In Walkable Communities



Source: National Association of Realtors/ American Strategies. "National Community Preference Survey" 2013

### This Demand is Generating Price Premiums for Both Residential and Commercial Properties

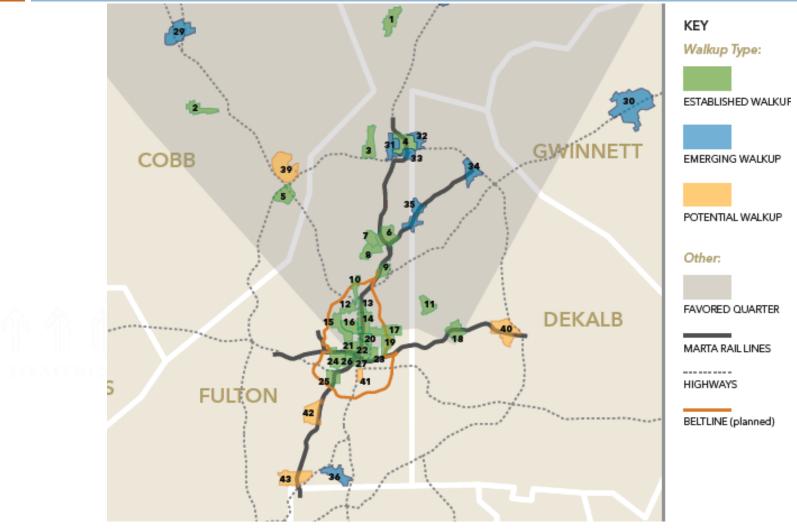
Average Rents per Square Foot Walkable vs Suburban Neighborhoods in Atlanta



	Suburban	"WalkUp"	% Difference
Office	\$14.23	\$18.55	30%
Retail	\$10.42	\$25.71	144%
Rental Housing	\$13.07	\$14.67	12%
For-Sale Housing	\$60.06	\$156.46	161%

Source: Leinberger, GWU School of Business – The WalkUP Wake-Up Call: Atlanta 2013

## And, This is Not Just about "Downtown" Locations



Source: Leinberger, GWU School of Business - The WalkUP Wake-Up Call: Atlanta 2013

#### Lesson 5: These Other Transportation Systems Also have Economic Benefits



Bike Share = Additional \$150,000 in rider expenditures (Minneapolis)



Urban Bike "Trails" =
As much as \$846 million in
economic impact
(Indianapolis Cultural Arts Trail)



#### Lesson 6: TOD Must Be Equitable

"MARTA will apply a policy goal of 20% affordability, on average, to joint development projects undertaken subsequent to the adoption of the TOD Guidelines"

- Polices for Implementing MARTA's TOD Guidelines, 2010

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MARTA – Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid Transit Authority

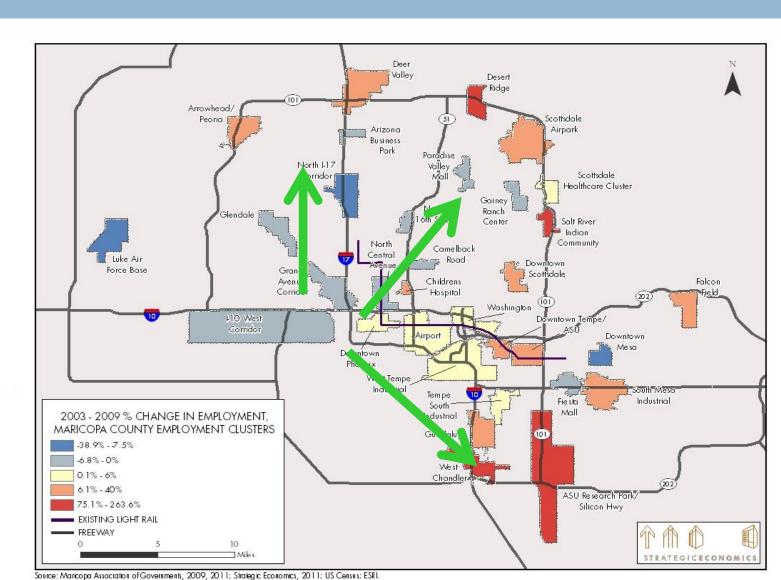


#### Concluding Thoughts



#### Planning for Transit is a Regional Proposition, Planning for Job Growth Should Also be a Regional Concern

Job sprawl in the Phoenix region



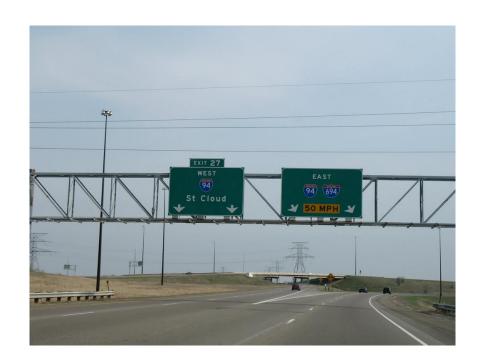
Local Governments Need to "Set the Table" For TOD With Clear Land Use Policy to Reflect Community Values and Guide the Market

- Good Zoning
- Good street connectivity policies



## Steer The Market Rather Than letting the Market Steer Itself

Once places become "transit accessible" they may serve different market niches than these same place did in the past.





### Be Realistic About the Market, but Don't "Settle" Either

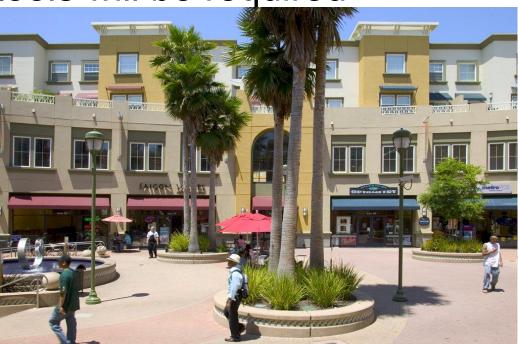
- This is a long term proposition
- Not every developer has the right skill set to do TOD, look for the right partners



### Create a Strategy To Ensure Housing Affordability Early in the Transit Planning Process

- One entity or organization should take the lead on developing and implementing the strategy
- This should be a regional effort

Many tools will be required



## Transit Can Both Shape and Serve But Only By:

- Working with the right market segments
- Having the right policies in place
- Making the supporting public investments
- Being patient!



