Bicycle Infrastructure in DC

Build It and They Will Ride

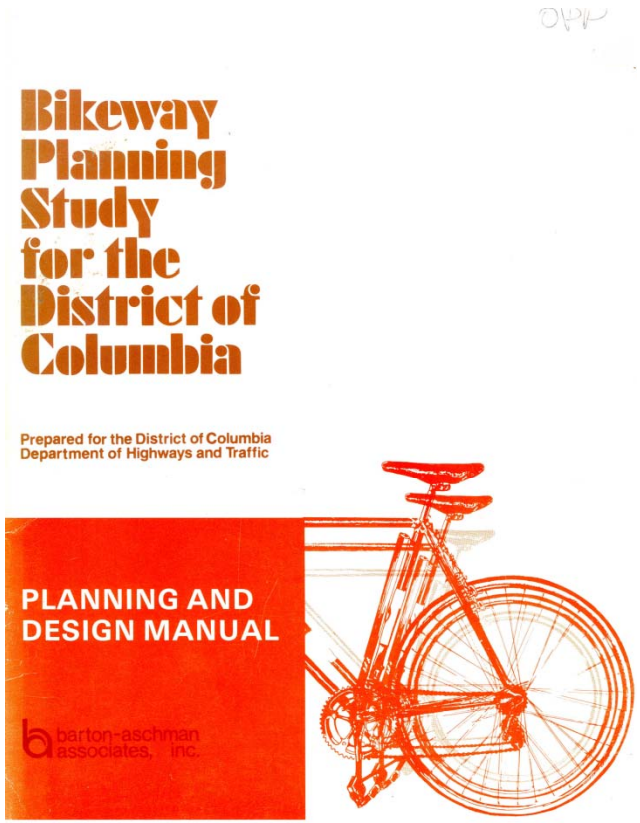
National Building Museum

May 2011

DC History

Year 2000:

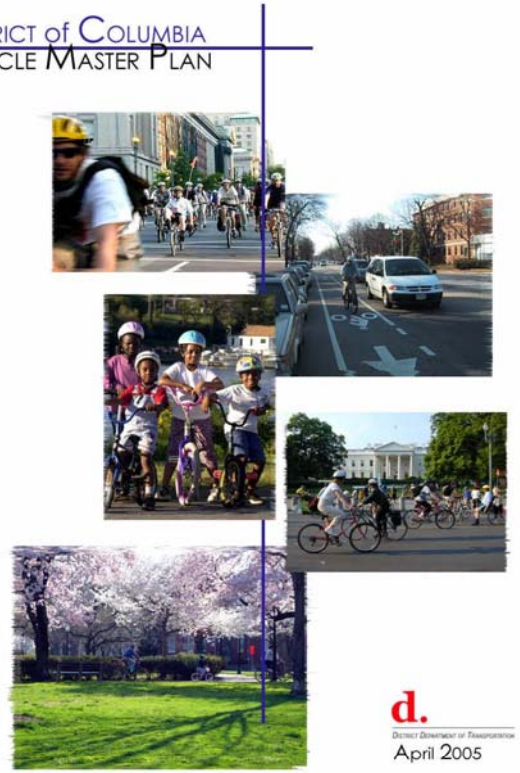
- No Bike/Ped coordinator for 10 years
- Old (1978) Bike Plan
- 3 miles of bike lanes



First Steps

- “Call To Action” report (WABA)
- Summit at the National Building Museum (fall 2000) with Mayor Anthony Williams (five promises)
- Bike coordinator hired in 2001

- New Bicycle Master Plan in 2005



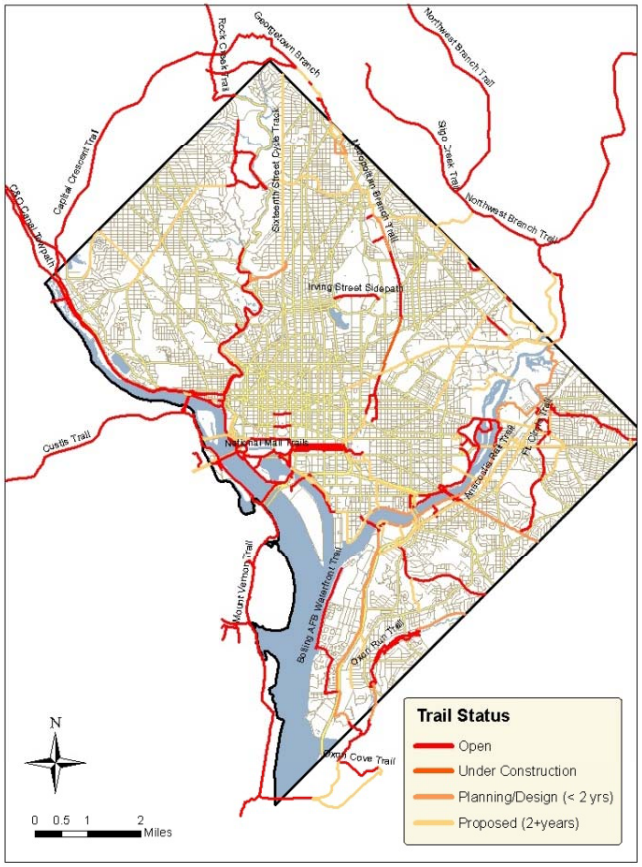
Bike Lanes

- 50 miles

Trails

- About 50 miles in place
- 10 miles constructed since 2001
- 15 more in planning, design, or construction

District Trail Status Map (April 2009)



Parking

- 100+ racks/year
- Union Station Bike Station
- BikeBrand your Biz
- Artistic Racks
- Requiring racks in zoning code
- Assistance

Bike Sharing

Launched first US program in 2008

Launched largest US system in September 2010

Innovative Lanes: Pennsylvania Avenue, 15th Street

Integrating with larger projects

Connection with Transit

- Bicycling to metro stations ("mode of access") increased **60%** between 2002 and 2007
- 67% said they would you consider biking to metro instead of driving if certain changes were made

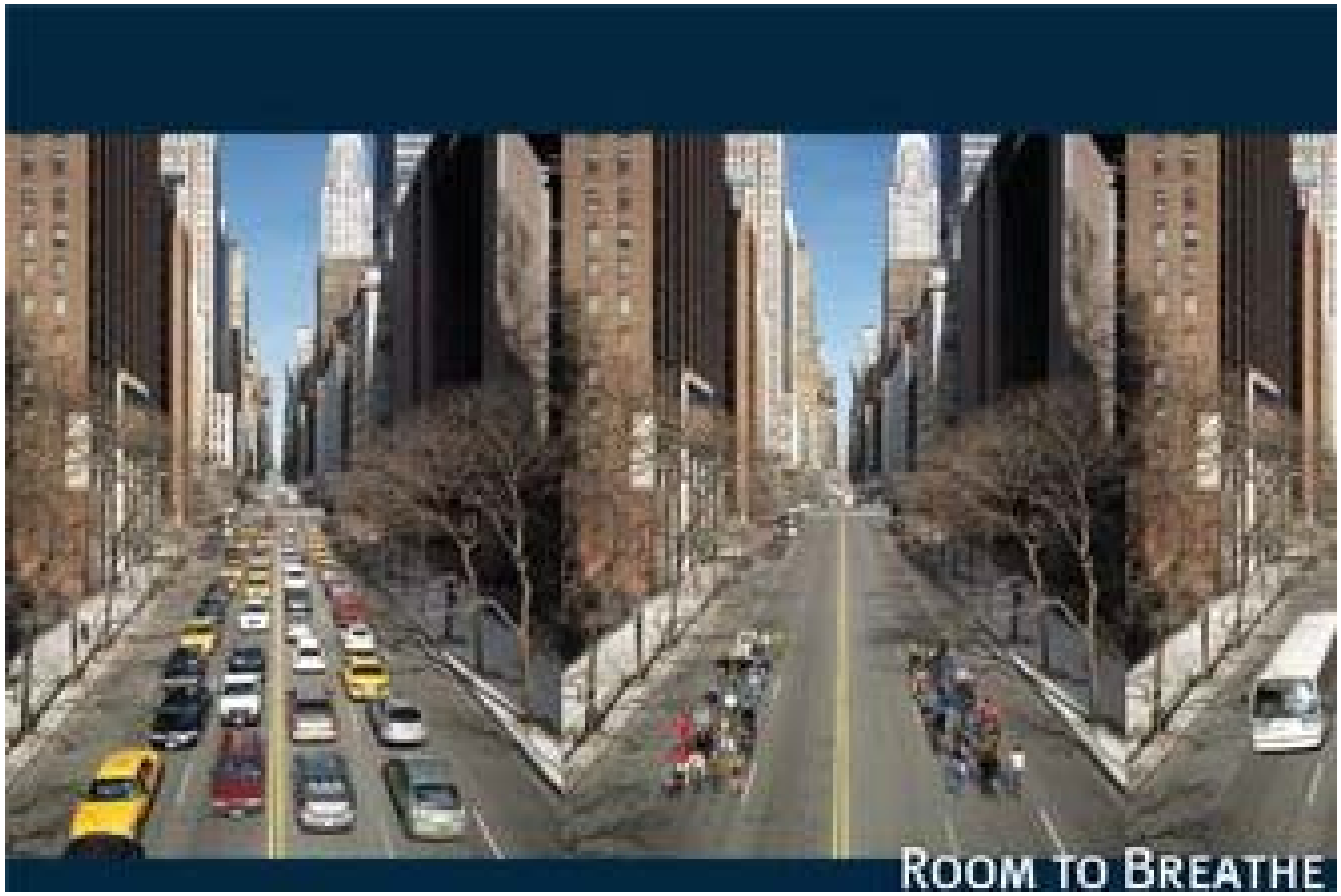
BENEFITS
of building bicycle infrastructure

- Environmental
- Economic
- Health

Emissions

- Cycling 8 miles rather than driving prevents 15 pounds of air pollutants

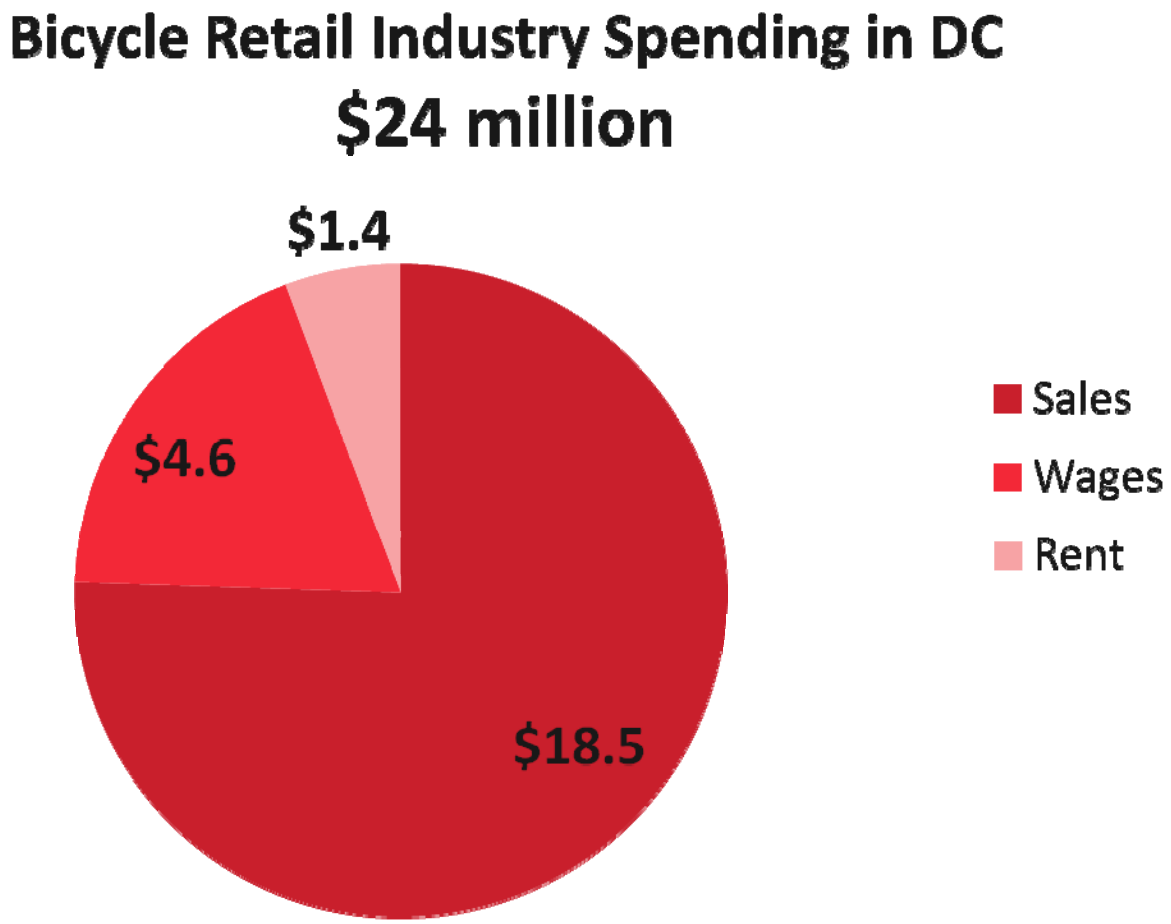
Congestion



Economic

- **Jobs** created by per $1 million spent:
  - Bike/Ped projects: 11-14 jobs
  - (Road projects: 7 jobs)

Economic


Bicycle Retail Industry Spending in DC
$24 million
$1.4
$4.6
$18.5
Sales
Wages
Rent

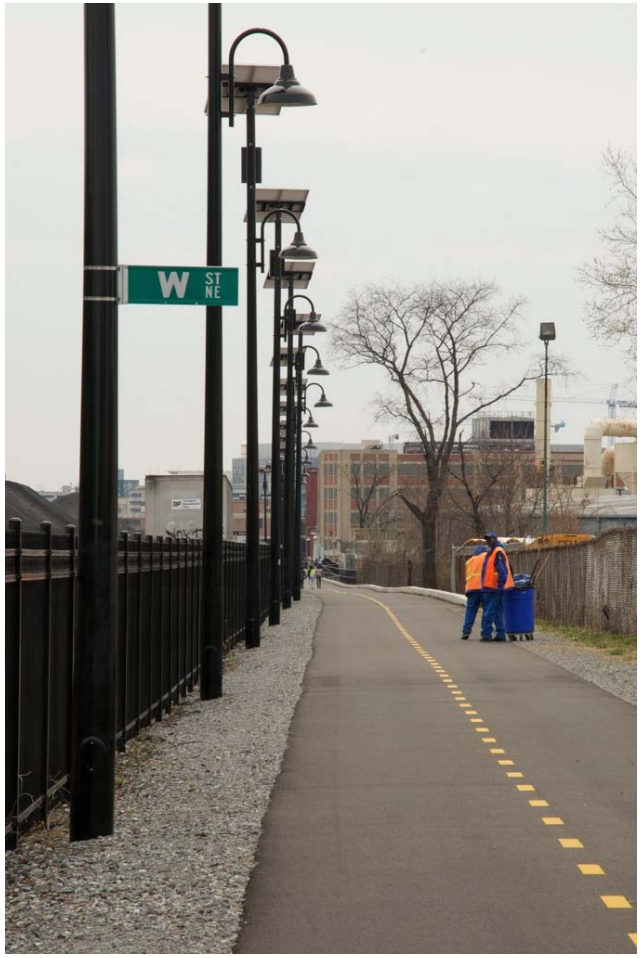
Economic

- 10+ bicycles (customers) fit in the space of one car

Economic

- New businesses
- Increased property values

- Met Branch
- 14th Street



Community Building

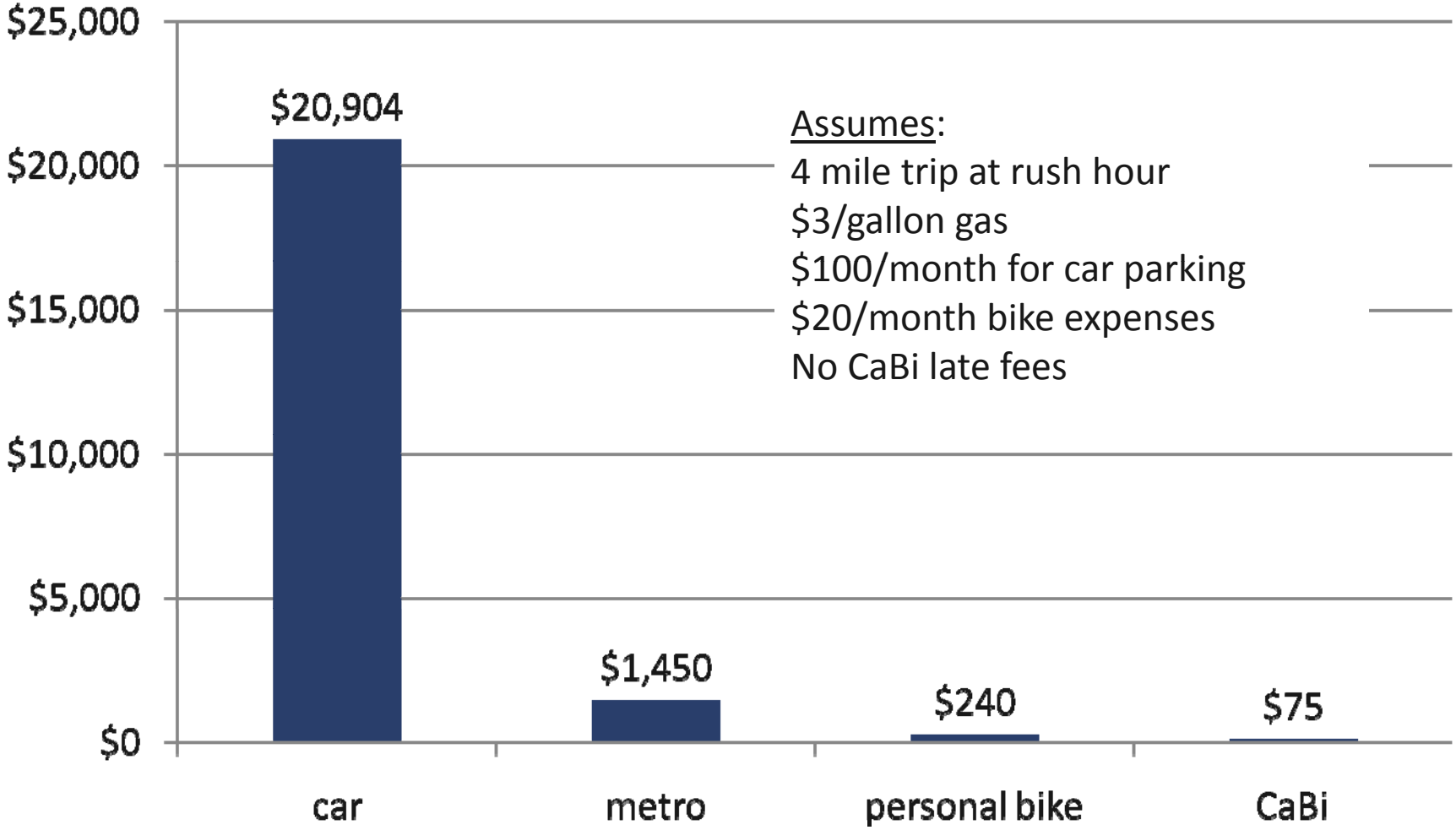
mbt 5k
METROPOLITAN BRANCH TRAIL

Health

- 55% of DC residents are overweight or obese.
- Bicycling (*leisurely*) burns over 300 calories/hour

Personal Finance

Cost for one year of commuting:

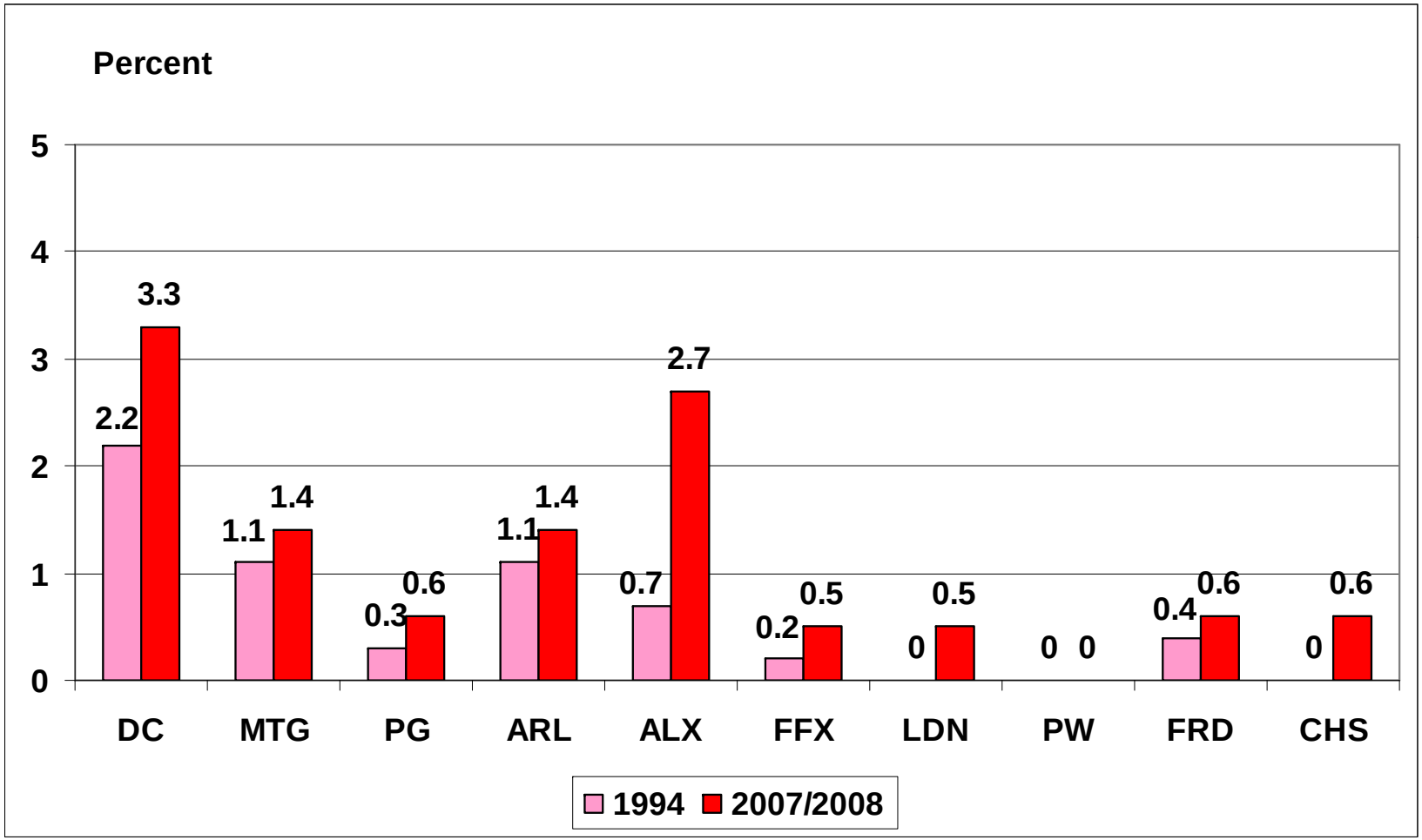


Safety

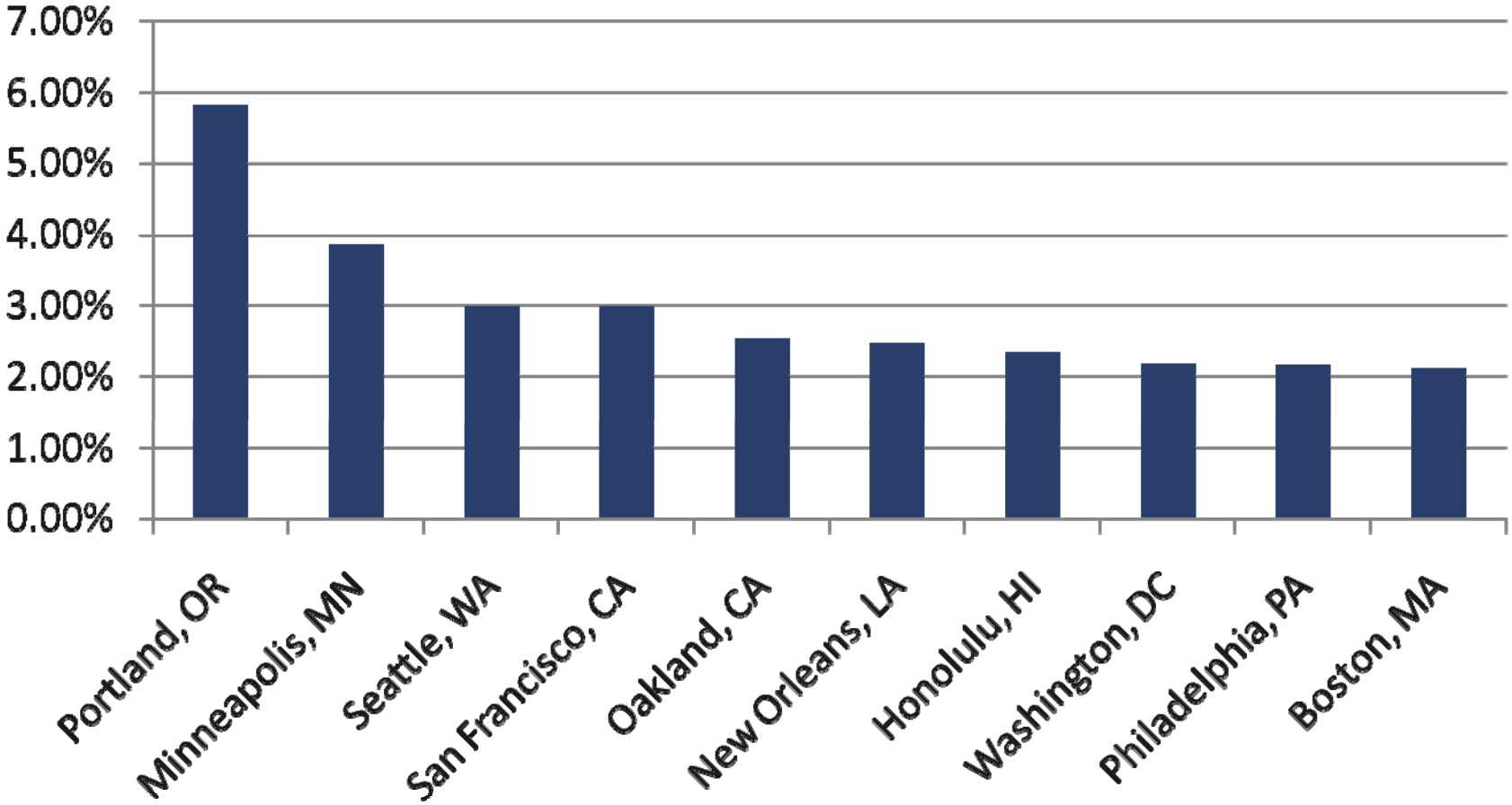
- Bike facilities can reduce crashes of all types
- On New York City cycletracks:
  - Injuries to all street users down 56%
  - Reported crashes down 48%
  - Injuries to pedestrians down 29%
  - Injuries to cyclists down 57%

Results

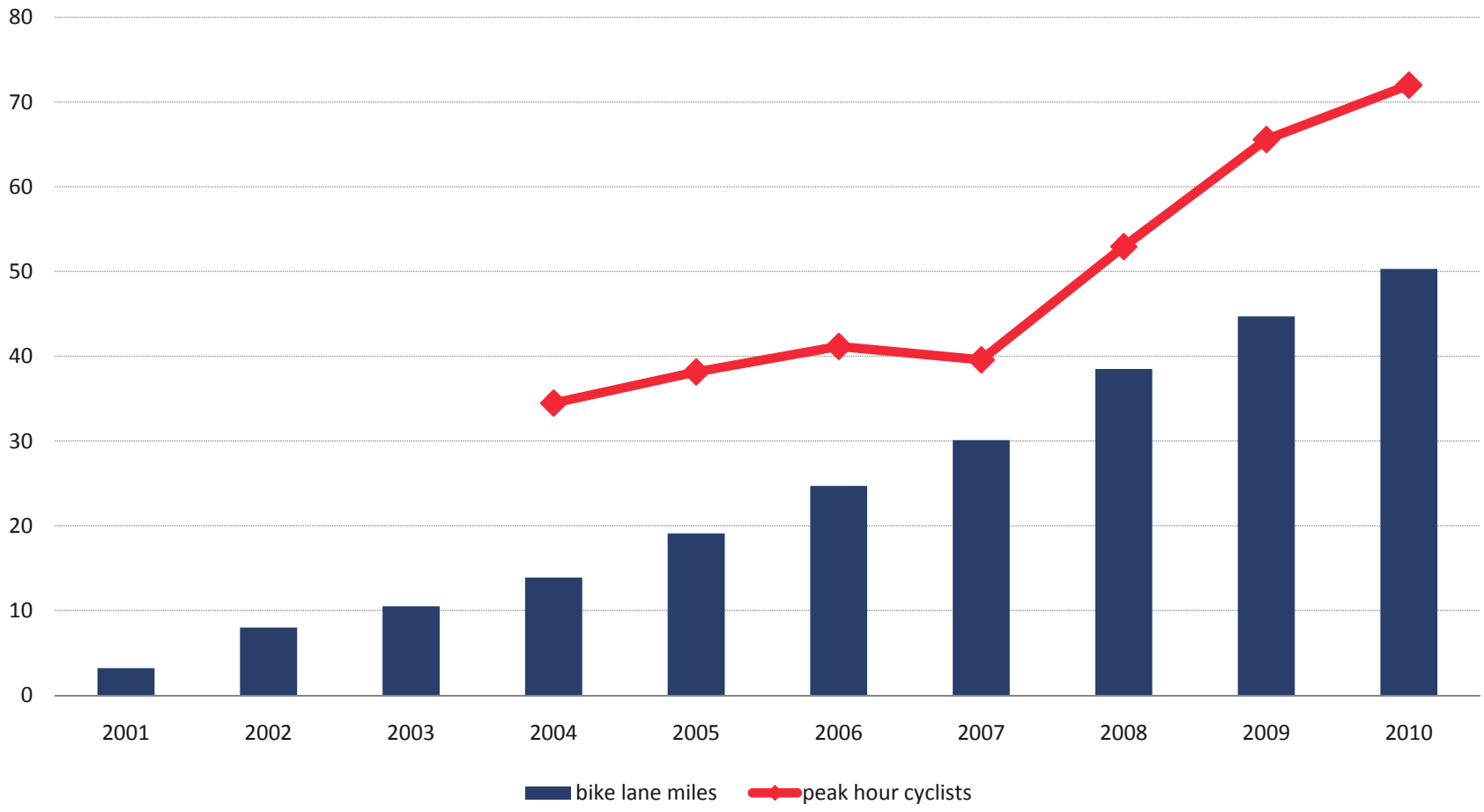
Bike Commuting Share by Jurisdiction of Residence (1994 – 2007/2008, MWCOG)

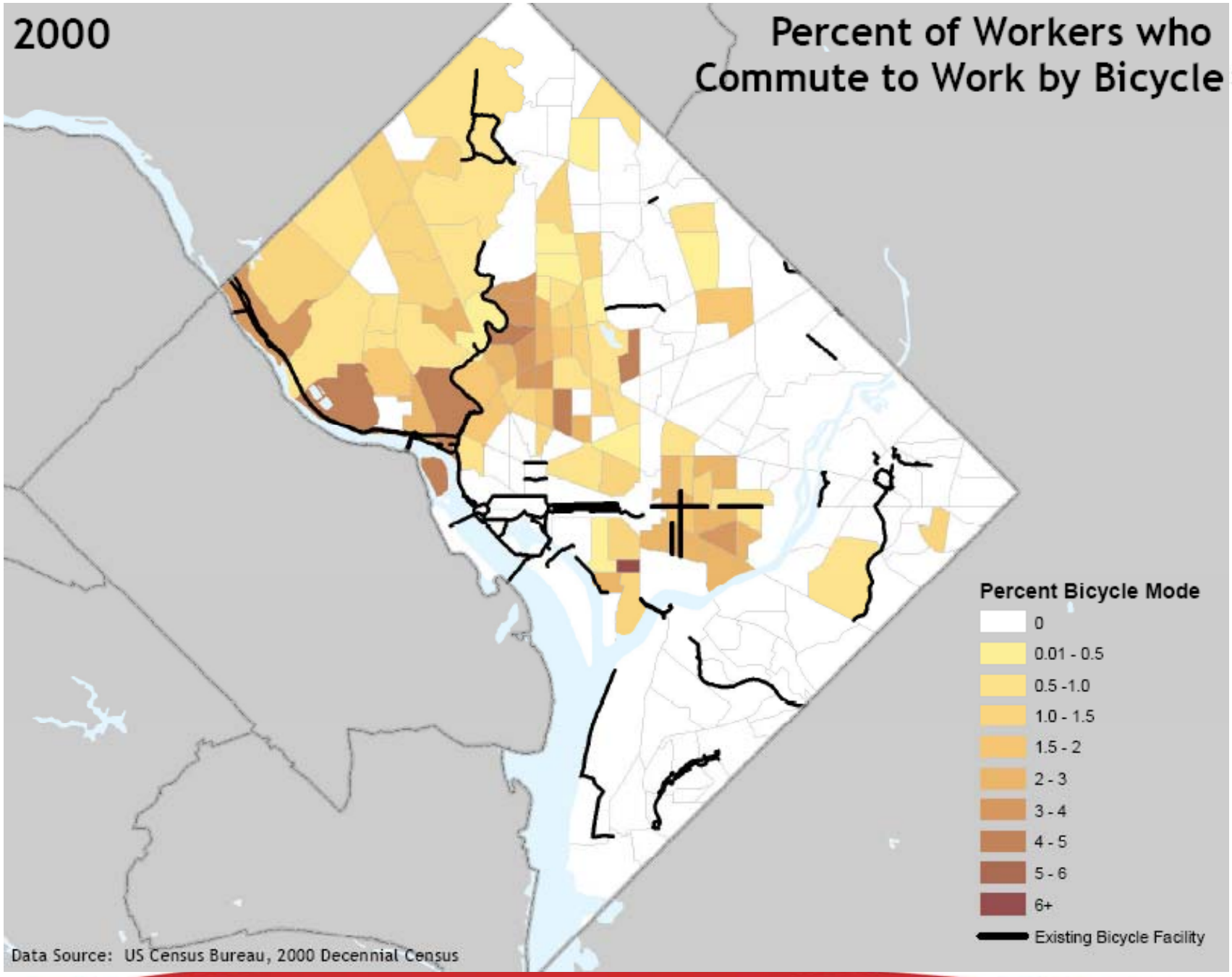


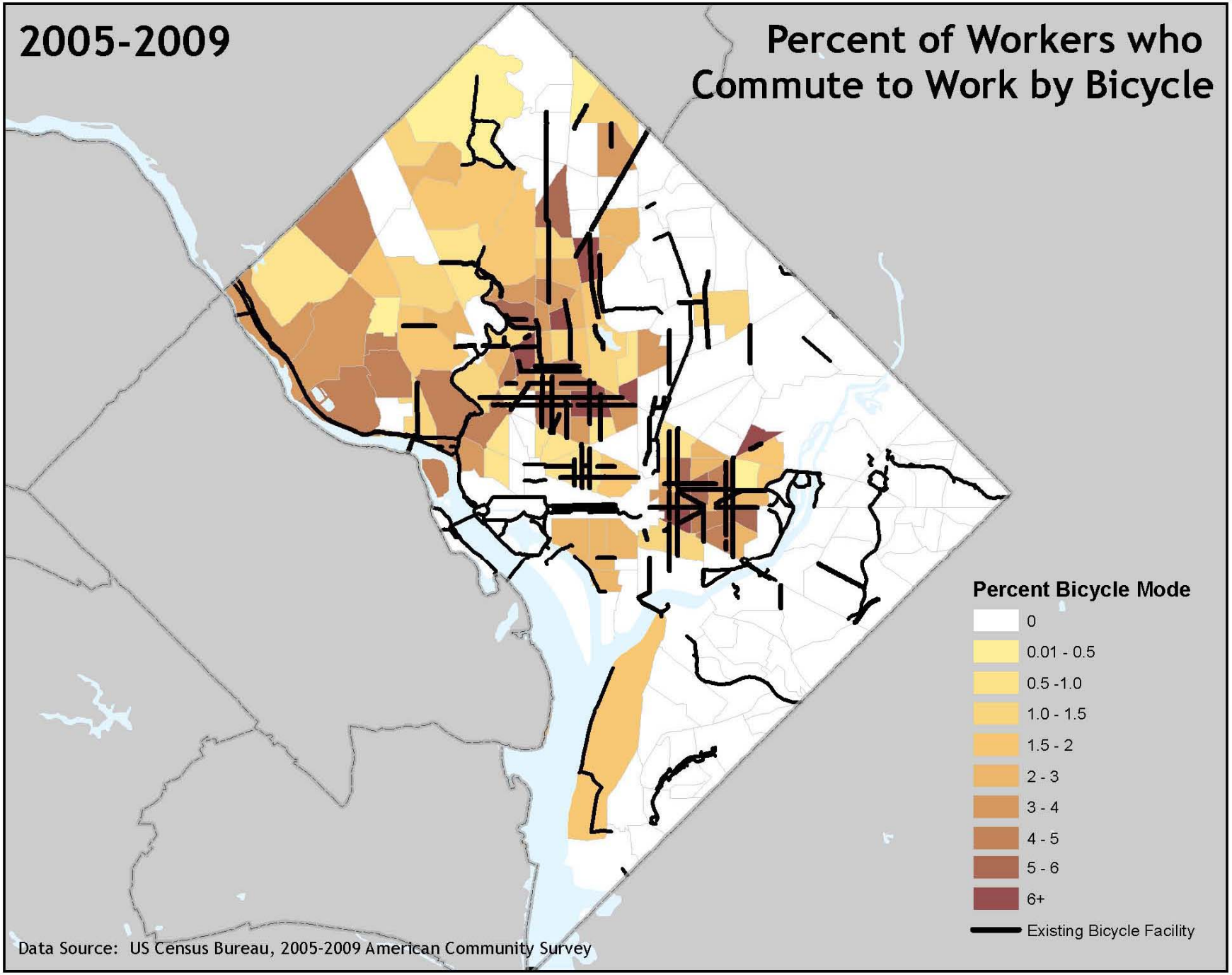
Bike Commuting Rates 2009
(American Community Survey)



Build it and they will come




2000
Percent of Workers who Commute to Work by Bicycle
Percent Bicycle Mode
0
0.01 - 0.5
0.5 -1.0
1.0 - 1.5
1.5 - 2
2 - 3
3 - 4
4 - 5
5 - 6
6+
Existing Bicycle Facility
Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2000 Decennial Census


2005-2009
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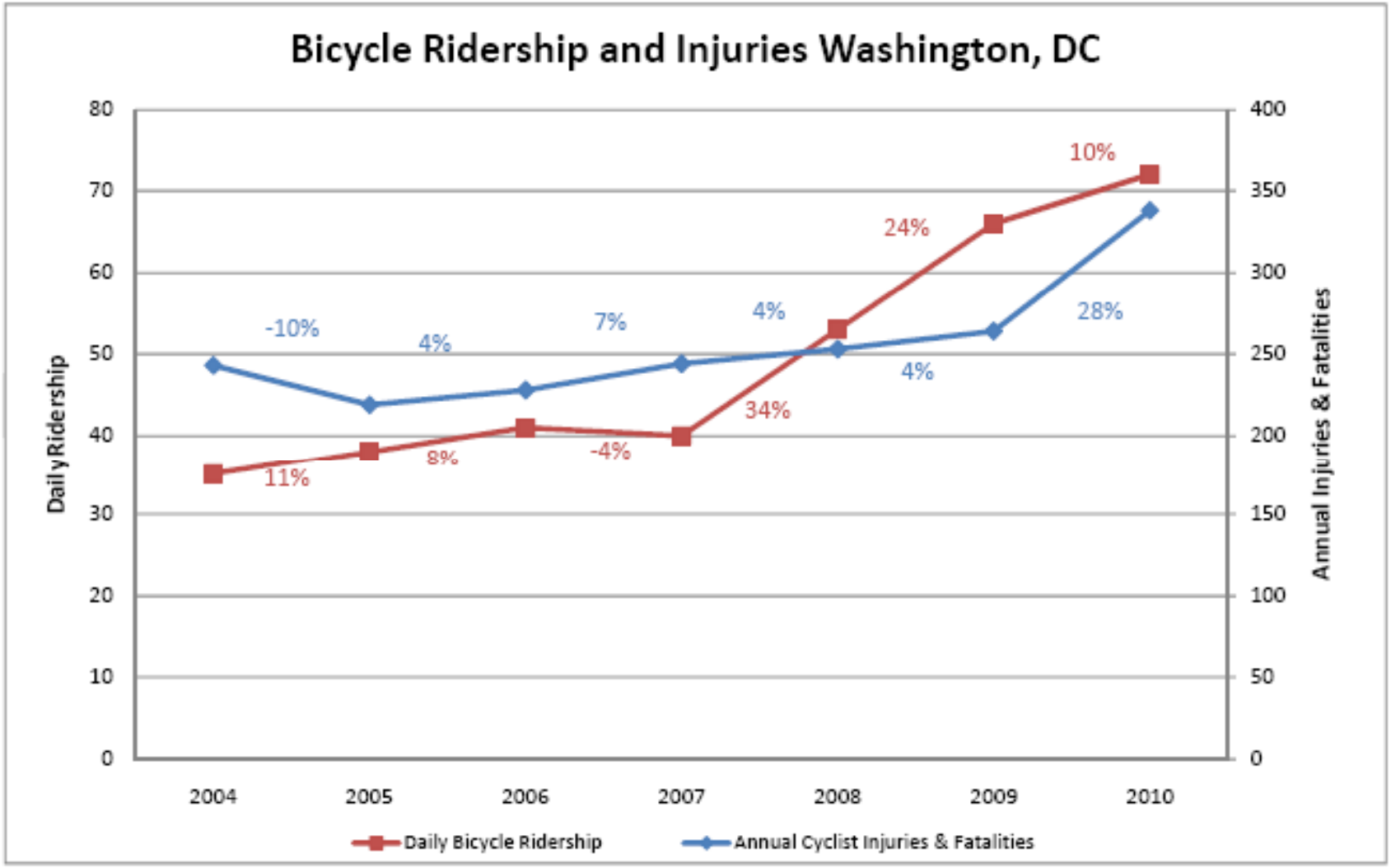
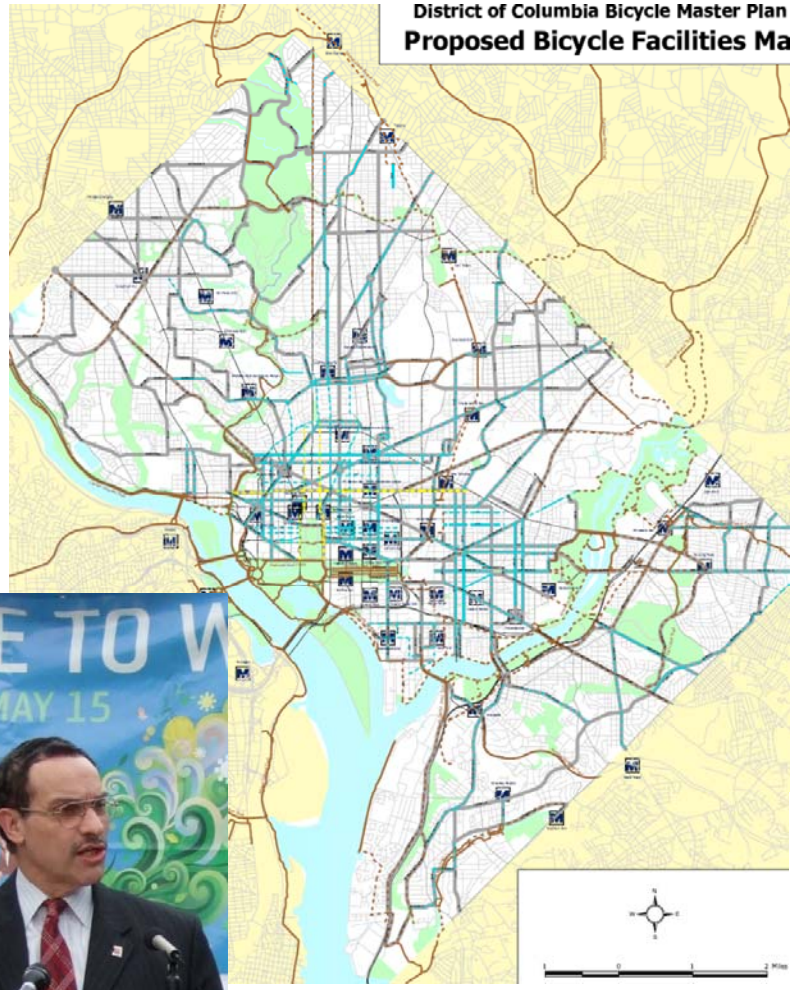
6+
Existing Bicycle Facility
Data Source: US Census Bureau, 2005-2009 American Community Survey

Safety

Bicycle ridership data is the average peak hour count of cyclists at 19 locations.



Infrastructure
for the Next 10 years

- Cycletracks
- Bicycle Boulevards
- Bike Lanes
- Trails
  - Anacostia
  - Met Branch
  - Oxon Run
  - South Capital Street
  - Rock Creek
- Bike Parking
- Bikestations
- Bikesharing
- Bike Plan Update