

# FREIGHT



July 11, 2023

**SMART Webinar Series**  
Webinar #6

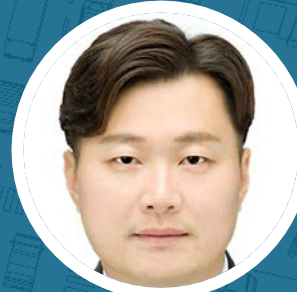
# TODAY'S SPEAKERS



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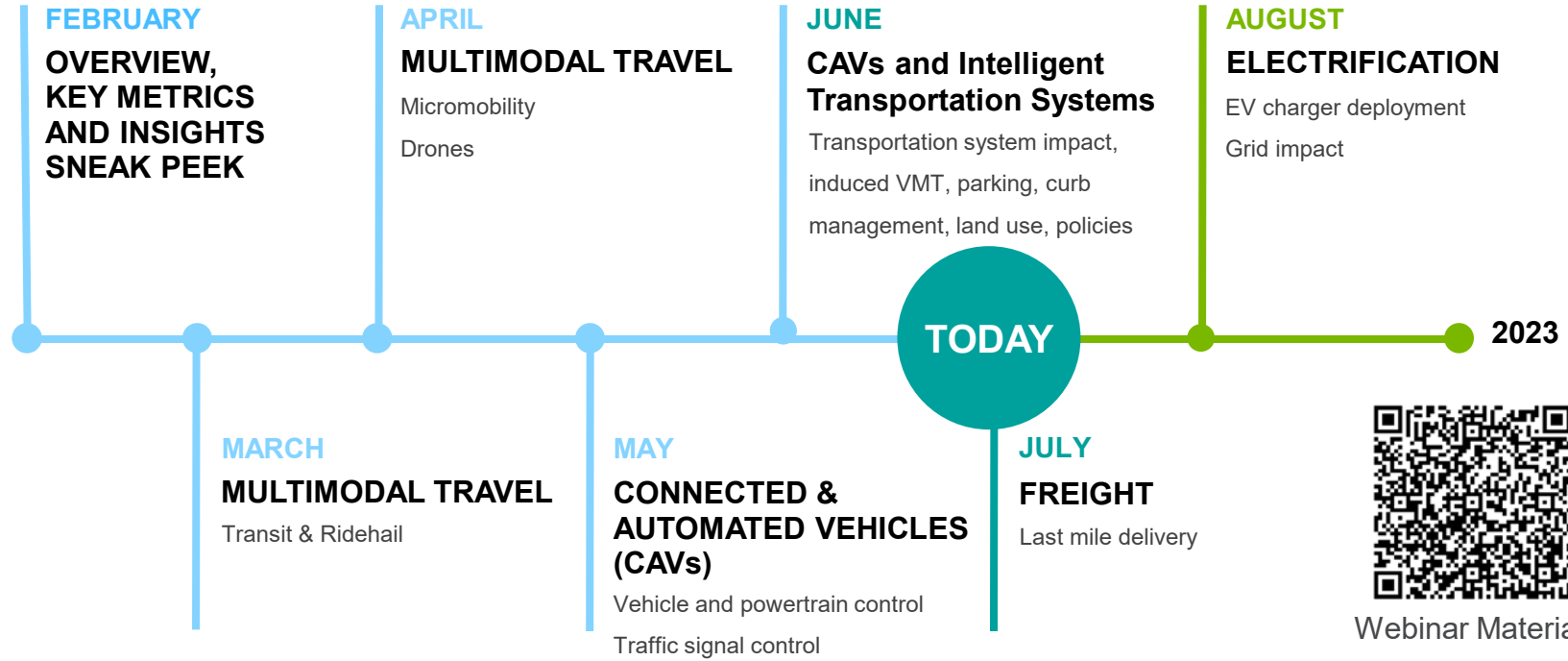


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# PREVIOUS & UPCOMING WEBINARS



Webinar Materials

# IMPACT OF FREIGHT

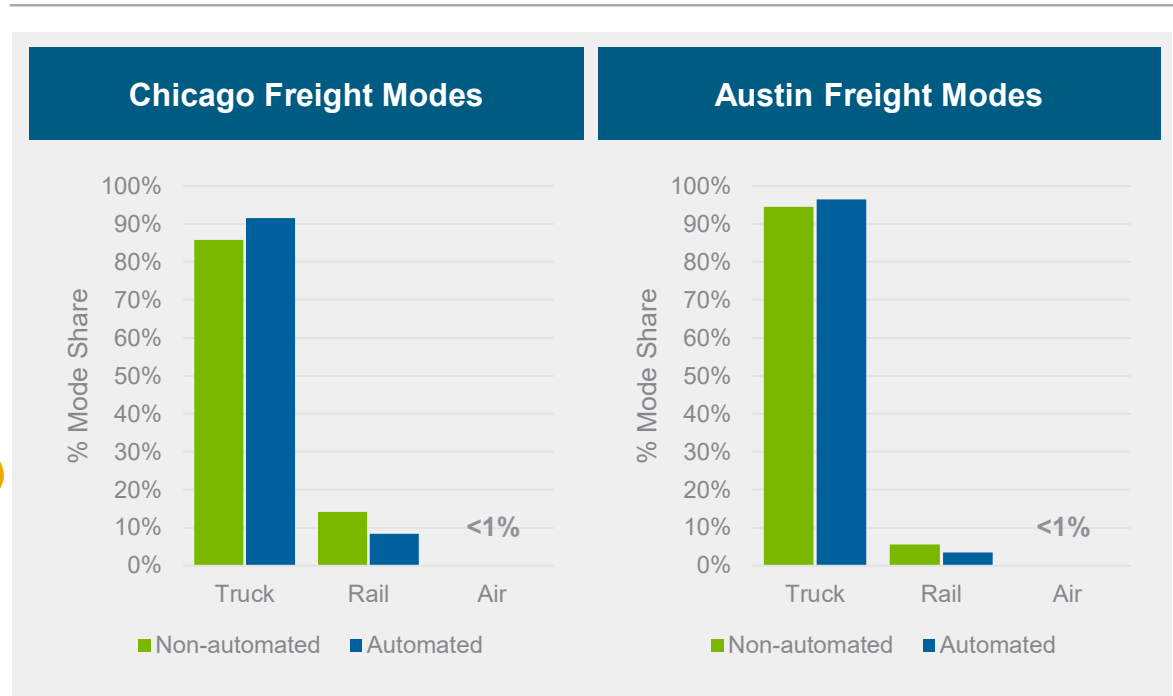
- **What mode share and operational impacts may result from truck connectivity and automation?**
  - **What are the potential influencing factors and outcomes from increasing penetration of electrified and alternative fuel vehicles into the freight fleet?**
  - **What are the differing impacts of business-to-business versus business-to-consumer freight operations on the transportation system along with energy and greenhouse gas emissions?**
- **What are the potential impacts of and strategies to deal with further growth of E-commerce?**
  - **What roles might strategies such as off-hour delivery, drone delivery, and delivery lockers play?**
- **What are the potential noise and pollutant exposure impacts on low-income communities?**

# AUTOMATION INCREASES TRUCK MODE SHARE 5% OVER RAIL MODE

Automation could help solve the driver shortage in long-haul operations

- Removed driving time restriction and driver cost from Freight mode-choice model
- Cost of truck decreased 0.6%
- Fully automated trucks preferred due to their flexibility on driving time and availability

- Land use policies could regulate the expected impact on the network, e.g., by relocating warehouse-distribution center to suburban areas.



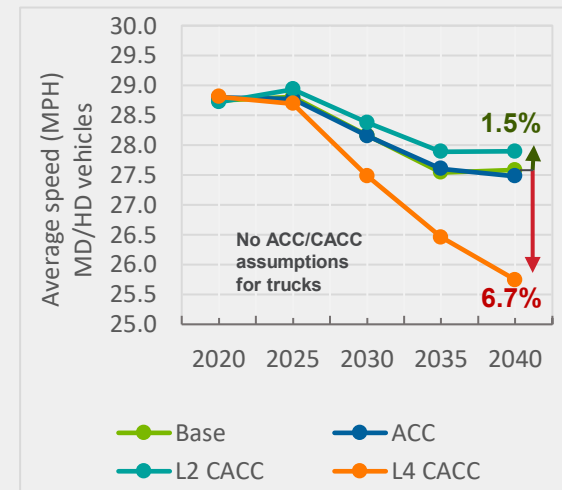
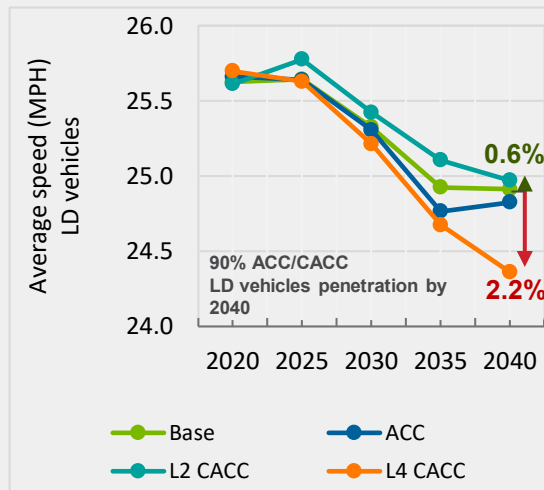
# HIGHLY AUTOMATED LD VEHICLES COULD REDUCE TRUCK SPEED BY 7% IN 2040

But low automation could improve highway throughput and trucks speed

- Expected land use changes over years included
- 4 scenarios evaluated for LD vehicles: base vs. adaptive cruise control (ACC), and cooperative adaptive cruise control (CACC) with automation level 2 (L2) and level 4 (L4)
- Significant network speed reductions for MD/HD trucks

- Freight changes and highway operation improvements could help reduce the impact of passenger CAVs on trucks.

Population growth increases baseline congestion and reduces speed over time



Austin

# HIGH E-COMMERCE PENETRATION INCREASE ITS VMT UP TO 40%

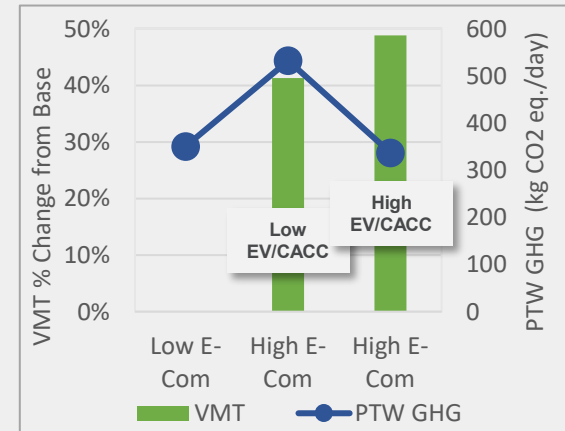
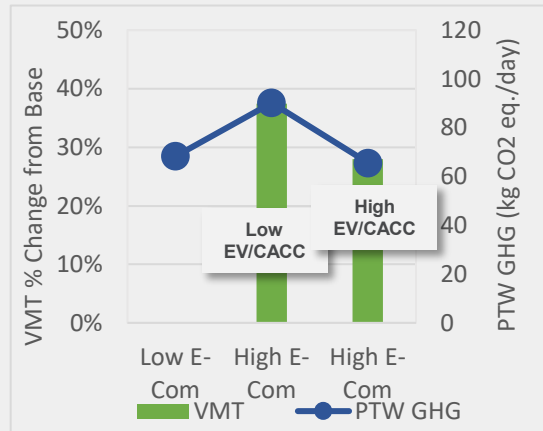
Greenhouse gases increase up to 50% but mitigated by vehicle technology

- Expected E-Commerce growth estimated from transportation behavior survey
- Scenarios in year 2035:
  - Low- vs high- e-commerce (2 vs 6 orders per week)
  - Low- vs high- vehicle technology
- Advanced vehicle technology helps to mitigate e-commerce growth impact

- City planners and fleet operators could work together to implement decarbonization measures to mitigate the effect of e-commerce growth.



## Analysis of medium duty vehicles serving e-commerce operations



# ON-DEMAND DELIVERIES ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MORE VMT THAN E-COMMERCE

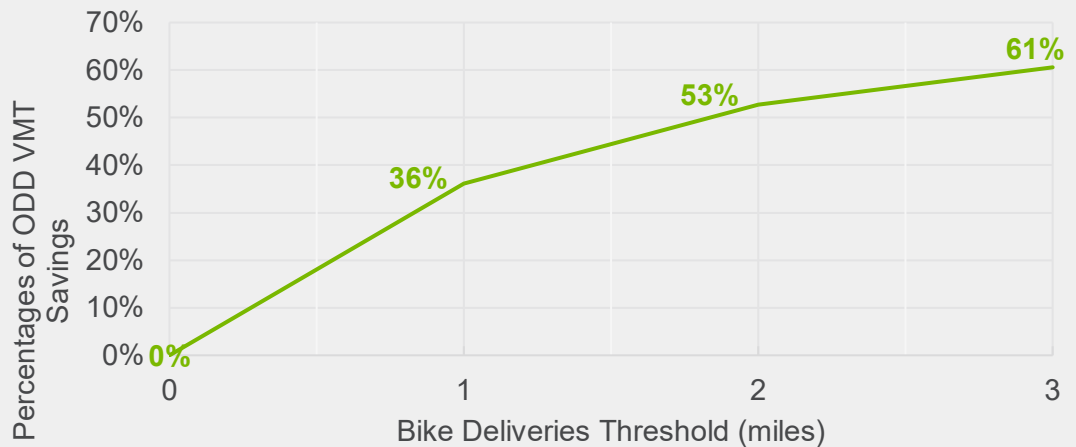
## Fostering bike deliveries could reduce VMTs by up to 60%

- Meals and groceries ODD generate high VMT due to lack of consolidation and their urgent nature
- More than 60% of the ODD VMTs in Austin, TX are generated by meal deliveries with <3 mi range
- Geo-fencing short-distance deliveries to use bikes only could significantly reduce VMTs



- City planners, restaurants, and fleet operators could coordinate to foster a shift toward bike deliveries under specific ranges.

VMT savings by shifting to bike deliveries under different mile ranges



Austin



# B2C OFF-HOUR E-COMMERCE DELIVERIES COULD HELP REDUCE TRUCK VMT UP TO 35%

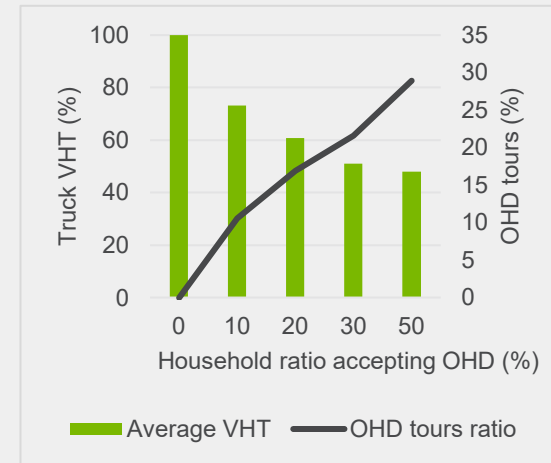
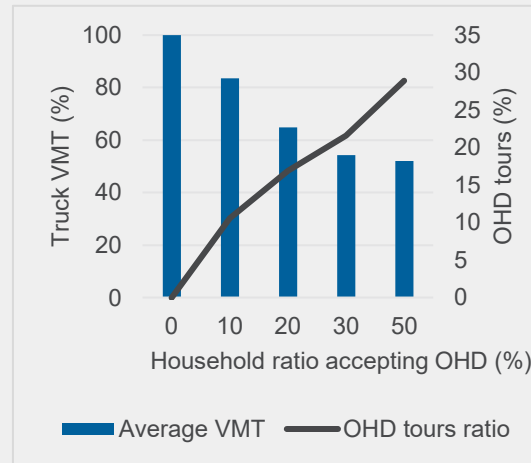
## When 20% or more households participate

- OHD for e-commerce modeled based on municipality policies
- Different ratios of households accepting OHD were considered
- Effective nighttime delivery requires low household penetration ratio of about 20%

- Fleet owners could reduce energy cost by shifting tours into nighttime with legal and technological supports.



### Shifting delivery tours into nighttime reduces average VMTs and VHTs



Austin

# B2B OFF-HOUR DELIVERY INCREASES SYSTEM SPEED BY OVER 3%

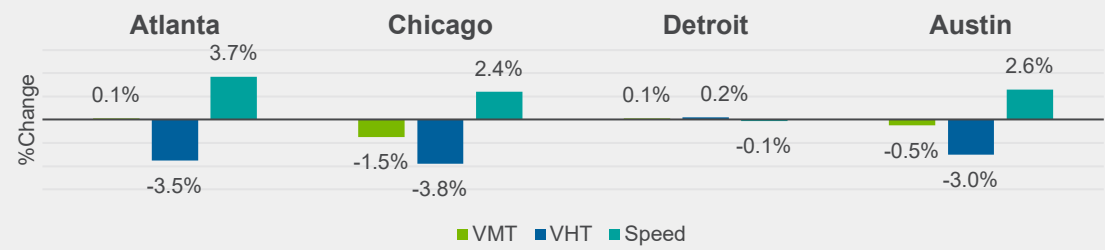
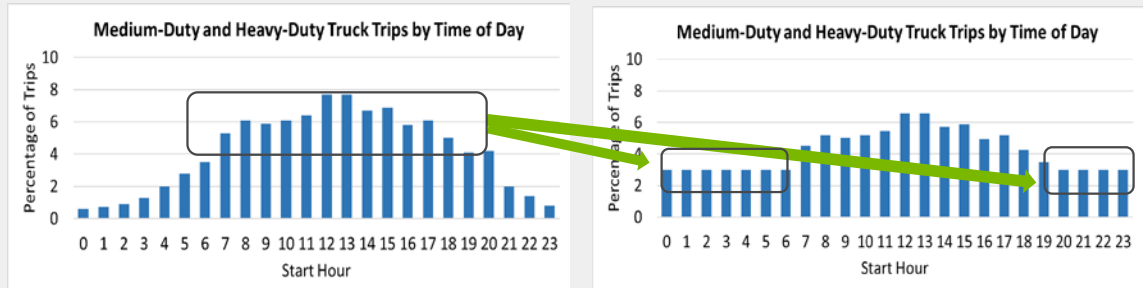
## Reduces system VMT, fleet energy use, and delivery cost

- Commercial locations identified based on their NAICS code and willingness to accept OHD estimated using a behavioral model
- 5% of B2B trips' delivery times shifted from daytime to overnight (7 PM–6 AM)
- OHD improved VMT, network speeds and energy savings

- Municipalities could relax OHD restrictions to reduce network-wide congestion, energy use, and emissions.



### Shifting delivery tours into nighttime reduces average VMTs and VHTs



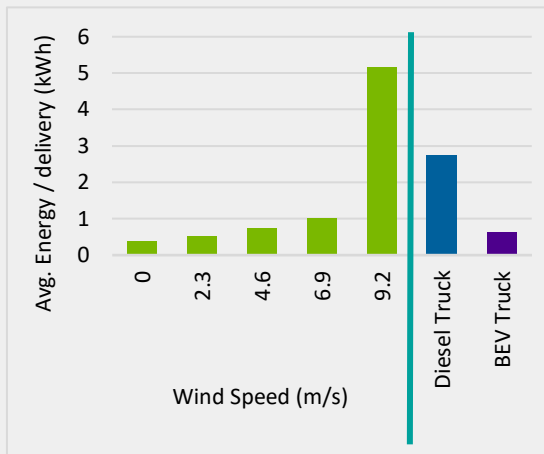
# DRONE DELIVERY ENERGY IMPACT HIGHLY DEPENDS ON WIND SPEED

- Analyzed optimal number of fulfillment centers and drones required to complete deliveries for packages < 5 lb
- Wind speed above 10 mph significantly increases drone energy consumption
- In a 20-mph wind, a drone will use twice the energy per customer than a diesel truck

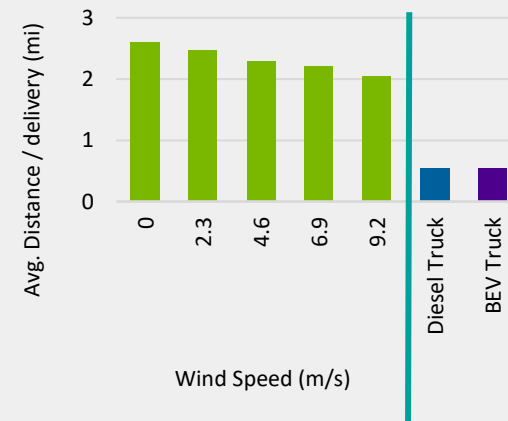
- A mix of delivery approaches—drones and trucks—could be considered to optimize efficiency depending on prevailing wind patterns.



## Per Delivery Average Energy Drone vs. Ground Vehicles



## Per Delivery Average VMT Drone vs. Ground Vehicles



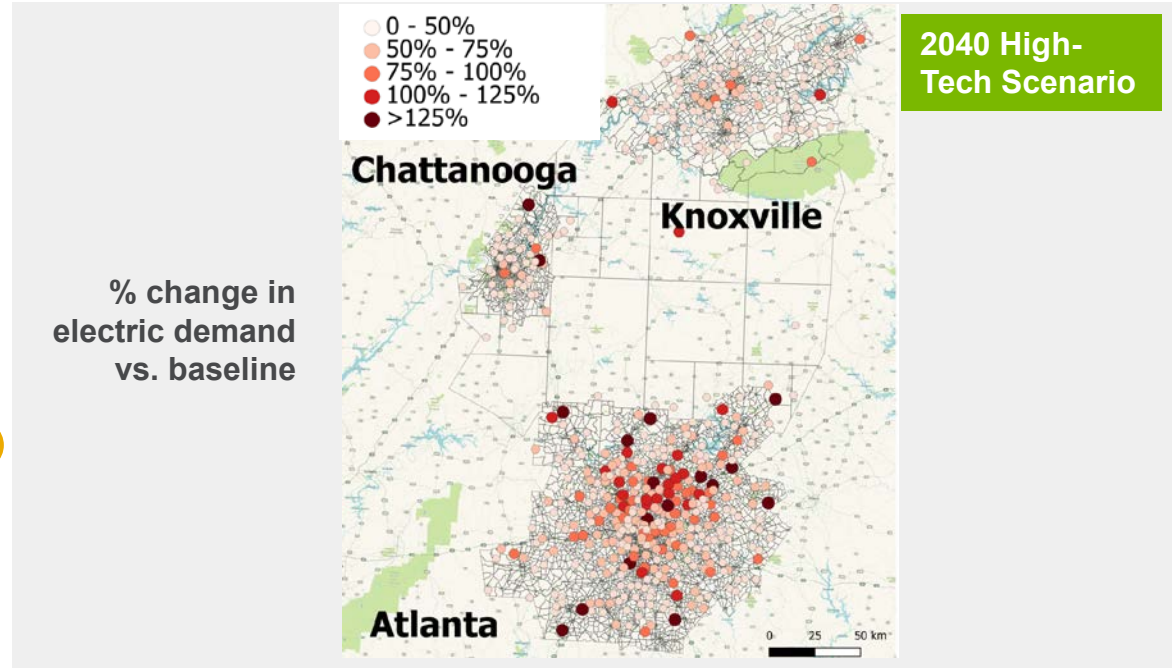
Chicago

# ELECTRIFYING FREIGHT HAVE HIGH IMPACT ON ELECTRIC GRID LOAD

## Effect in Atlanta mitigated through efficient powertrain technology

- Freight operations <200 mi/day considered
- 2040 BEV penetrations rates:
  - LDV 57%
  - MDT 25%
  - HDT 7%
- >40% of the grid nodes will need to provide >50% of the current demand

- Utilities and freight fleet managers could work together to assess the electric grid demand impact.

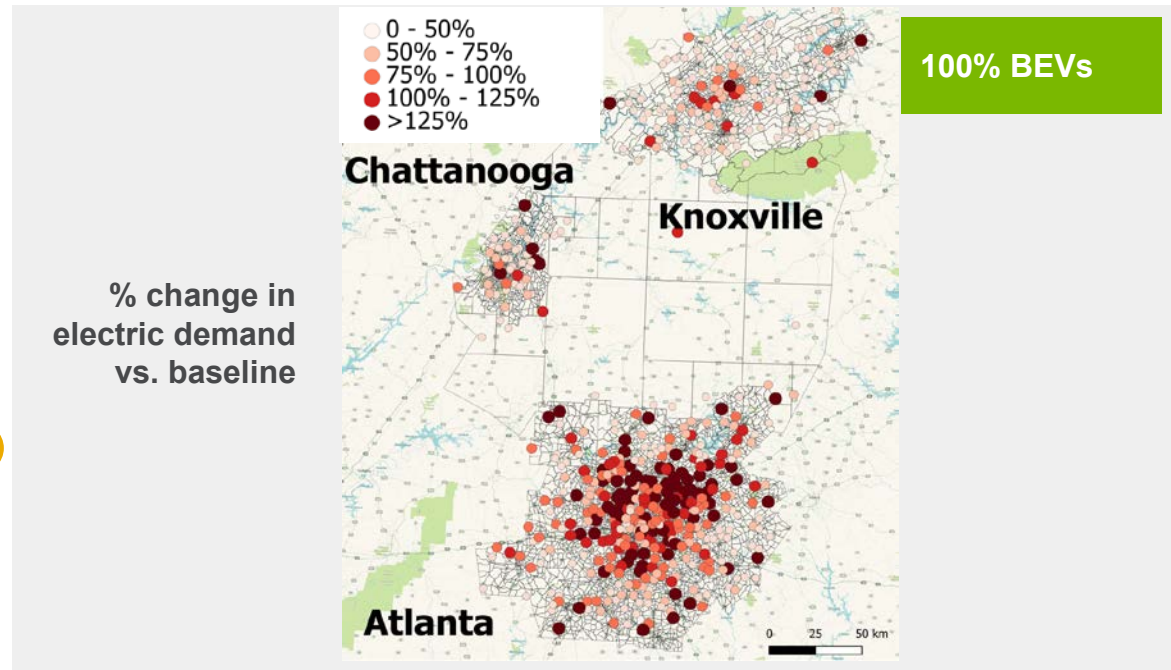


# EXTREME BEV PENETRATION RATE HAS A SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE GRID

## Electricity demand reduced by 30% using high vehicle technology

- Entire transportation system electrified: 100% BEV share for LDV, MD/HDT
- In 2040,
  - >70% of the grid nodes will need to provide >50% of the current demand
  - MD/HD electric demand is 43% of LD vehicles with only 12% of VMT

- Higher participation of utility providers and planners could help to coordinate future electrification plans to adapt grid changes according to BEV penetration goals.



# LONG-HAUL TRUCKS ELECTRIFICATION CURRENTLY CHALLENGING

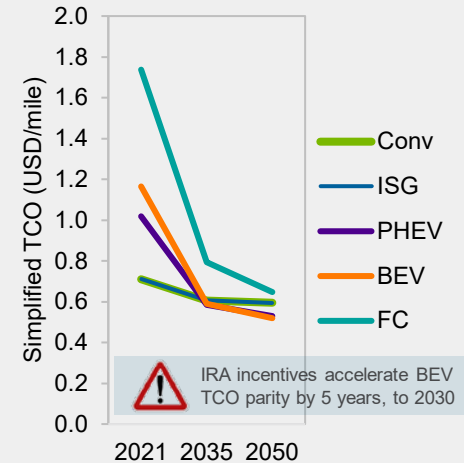
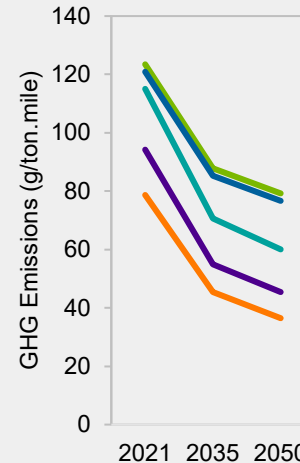
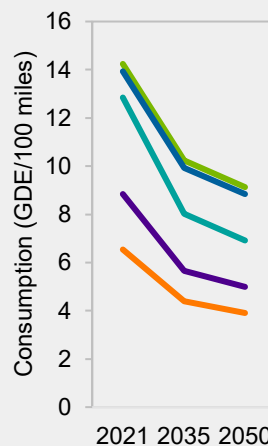
But become more competitive by 2035 and 2040

- Compared energy consumption, emissions and cost of long-haul trucks to diesel
- Current : BEV trucks reduce emissions by 36% but have higher TCO and payload
- Long-Term (2050): BEV trucks offer a 13% TCO and 54% WTW emissions reduction

- Technology improvement of electric long-haul trucks and incentives through policy support are essential for the transition to cleaner trucks



BEV reach TCO parity by 2035 and offer 13% TCO, 54% WTW emissions reduction in 2050



IRA incentives accelerate BEV TCO parity by 5 years, to 2030

California

Conv: conventional internal combustion engine

ISG: integrated starter generator

PHEV: plug-in hybrid vehicle

BEV: battery electric vehicle

FC: fuel cell

TCO: total cost of ownership

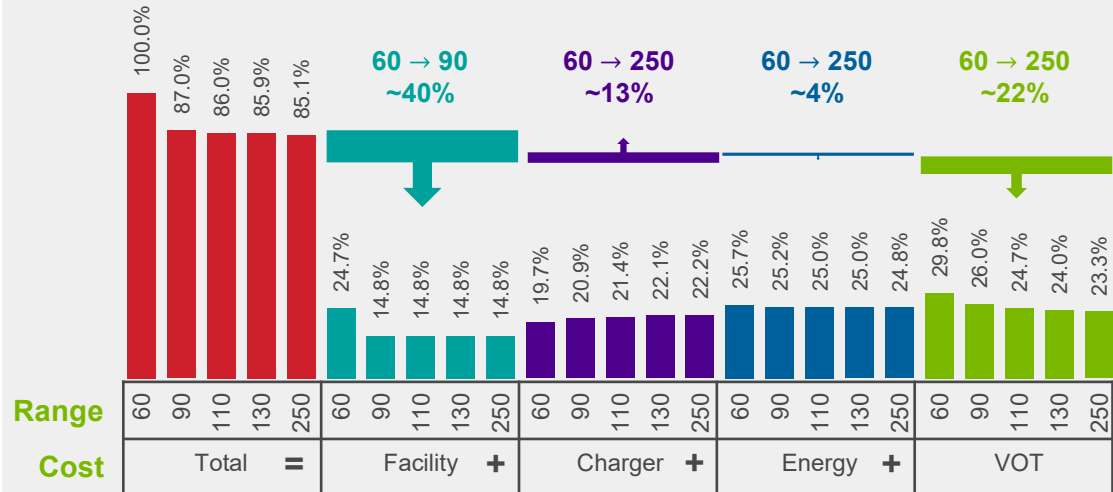
WTW: well-to-wheel

# LONGER ELECTRIC TRUCK RANGE REDUCES TOTAL COSTS

Networks may need fewer facilities but additional and faster chargers

- Optimized delivery truck charger location and numbers for 50, 180, 360 kW
  - Facility cost reduced by 40% for short range from 60 to 90 miles
  - 250 miles EV range leads to an optimum of more and faster chargers with 13% higher total costs
  - Longer EV range → reduction in total non-vehicle cost of 15%
- Stakeholders could consider range when planning urban electric delivery truck infrastructure

Normalized total cost relative to 60-mile range w/ cost components



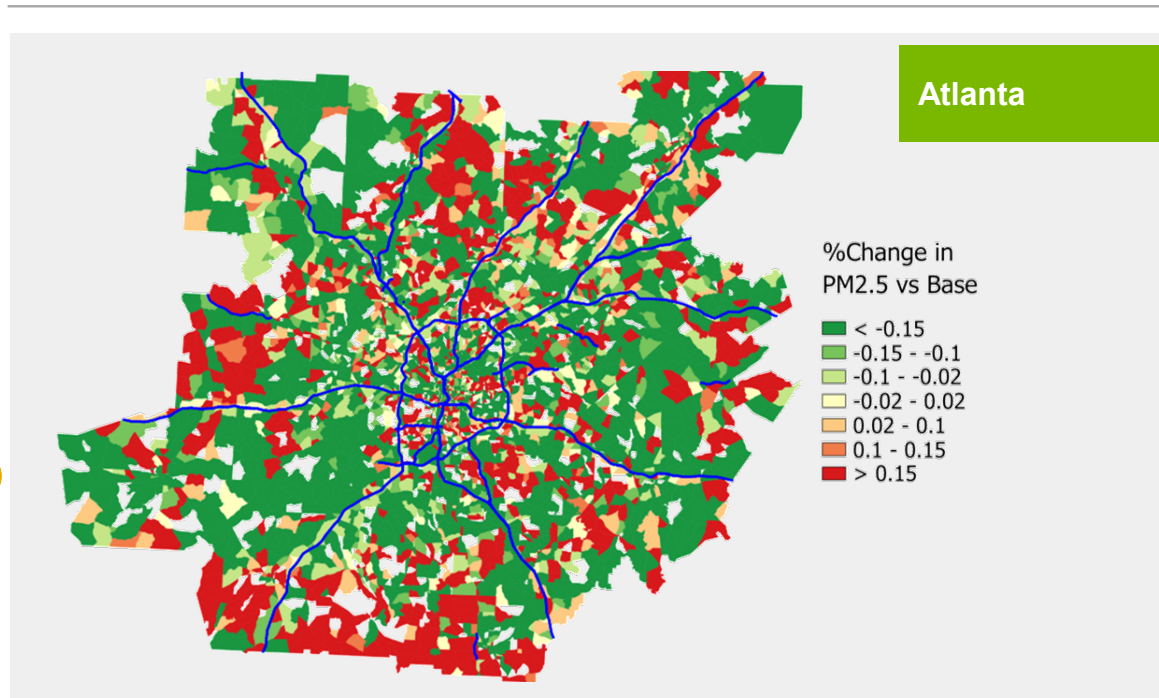
Chicago

# INCREASED BEV TRUCKS LEAD TO SIGNIFICANT PM EMISSION REDUCTION

**PM<sub>2.5</sub> reduced up to 15% in high BEV vs. base**

- Business as usual vs. high R&D on vehicle technology  
~8% - 20% electrification
- Highest reductions concentrated in downtown and along radial highways

- BEV trucks adoption could help reduce emissions and increase quality of life in the truck centric areas such as warehouse/distribution centers



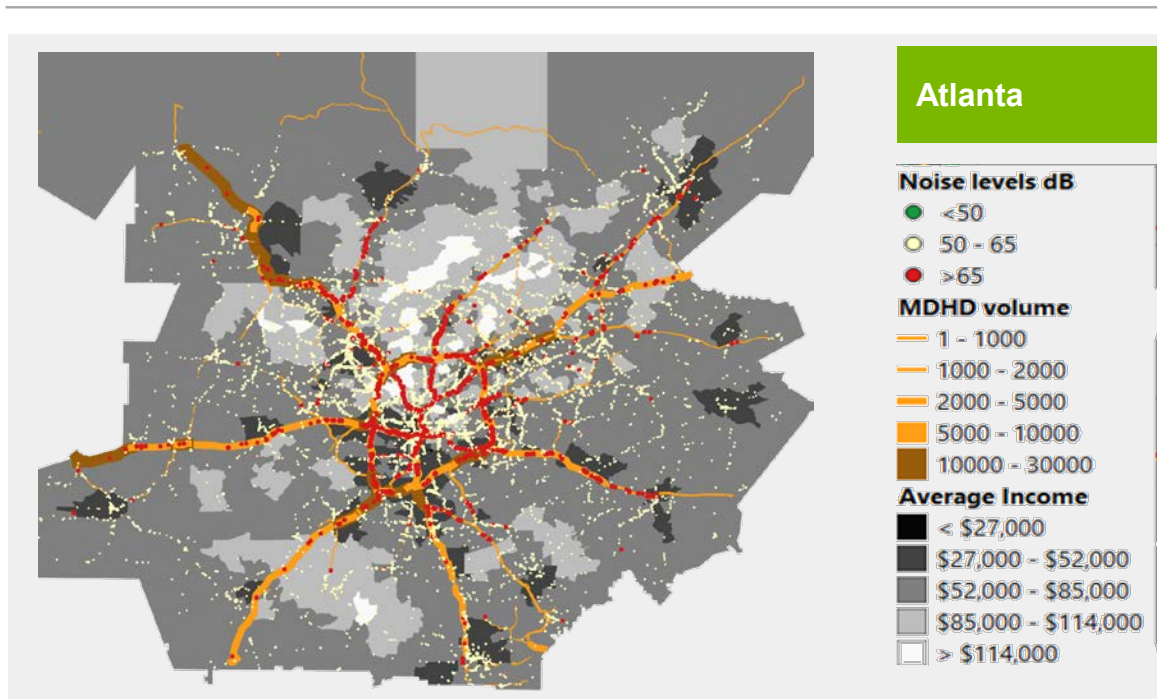


# BEV TRUCKS CAN HELP REDUCE NOISE IMPACTS ON LOW-INCOME POPULATIONS

High-income population has lesser exposure to noise

- Atlanta-Chattanooga-Knoxville region transportation system
- Free-field noise level computed for each location in a 125-m radius buffer from roadways
- Noise exposure at five income levels suggest higher exposure for lower quantiles

- Planners and policymakers could consider ways to mitigate negative impacts of freight transport on low-income neighborhoods.



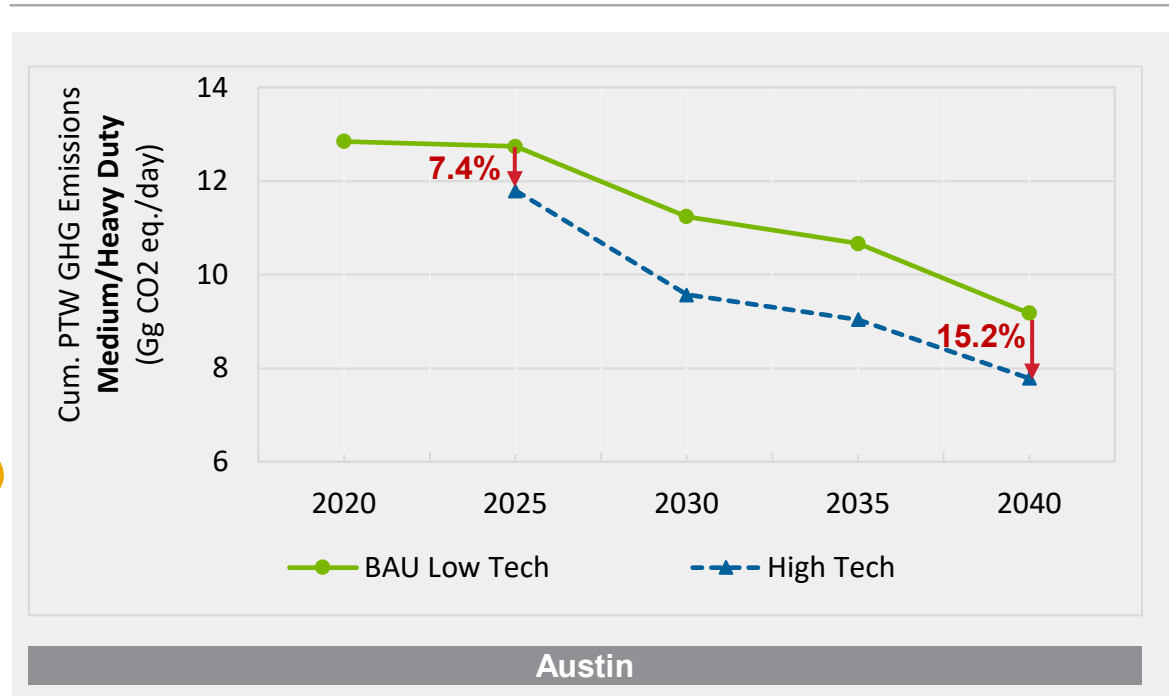
# ADVANCED VEHICLE TECH COULD HELP REDUCE TRUCK EMISSIONS BY 15%

## Vehicle technologies R&D crucial to reducing trucks' impact

- Impact assessed under real-world driving conditions using transportation systems simulation for a 20-year period
- Two scenarios:
  - Business as usual
  - DOE vehicle technology targets (high tech)
- Substantial emissions reduction observed for high-tech scenarios

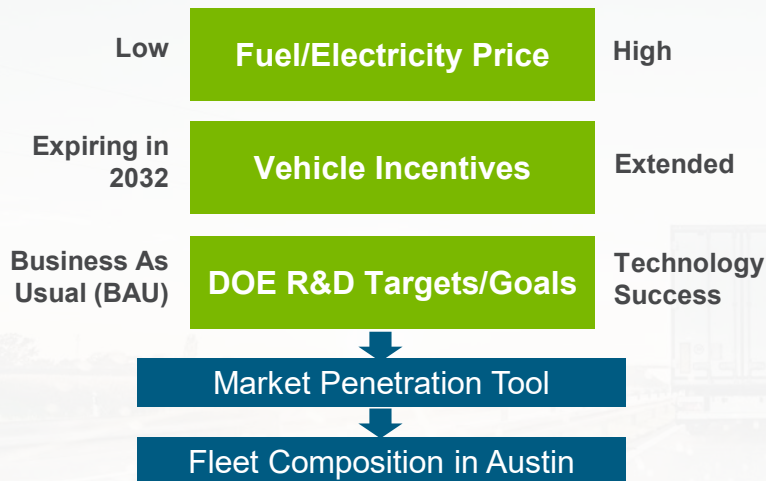


- Advanced automotive and infrastructure technology R&D is crucial in decarbonizing the freight industry.



# VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY, FUEL PRICE CHANGES IMPACT ON FLEET COMPOSITION, OPERATIONS, AND ENERGY CONSUMPTION

## KEY LEVERS

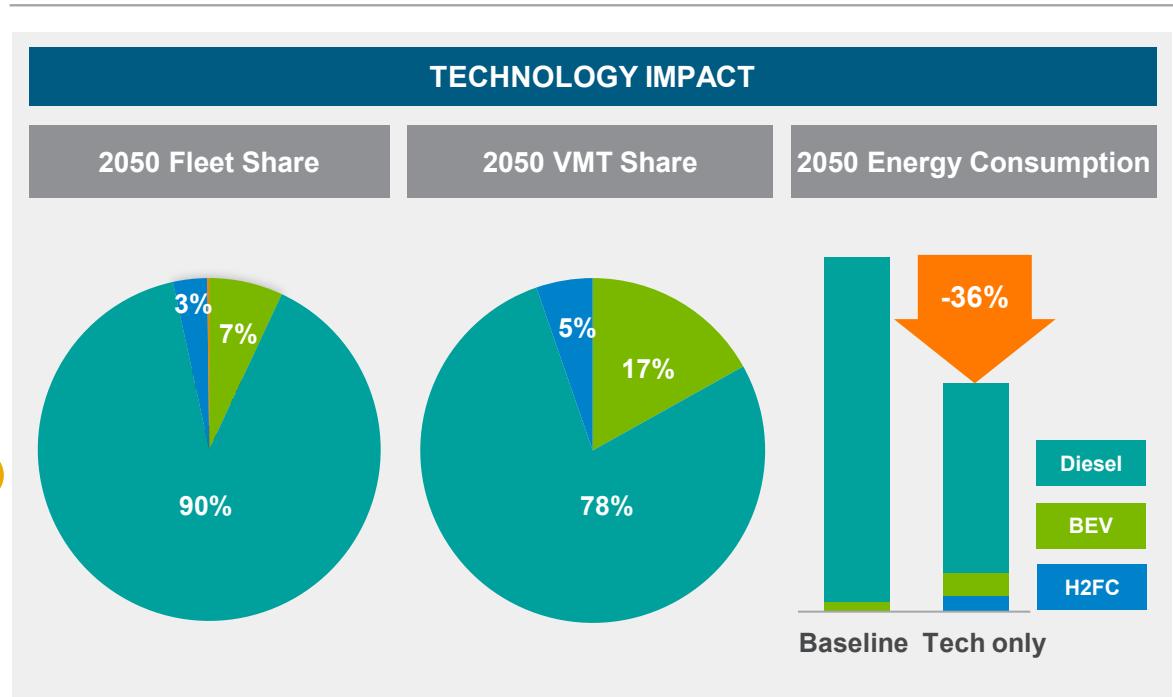


How much do accompanying financial factors complement technology-driven outcomes for freight vehicle operations in the Austin region case study?

# DOE R&D TARGETS RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN FREIGHT ENERGY USE

- Technology progress with relatively low oil price and high electricity price results in 90% of MD/HD fleet stock remaining diesel and 78% of VMT share
- Increase in diesel vehicle fuel efficiency, including hybridization, can contribute to substantial energy reduction

- Continued public and private investment in technology advancements stands to significantly reduce freight vehicle energy consumption

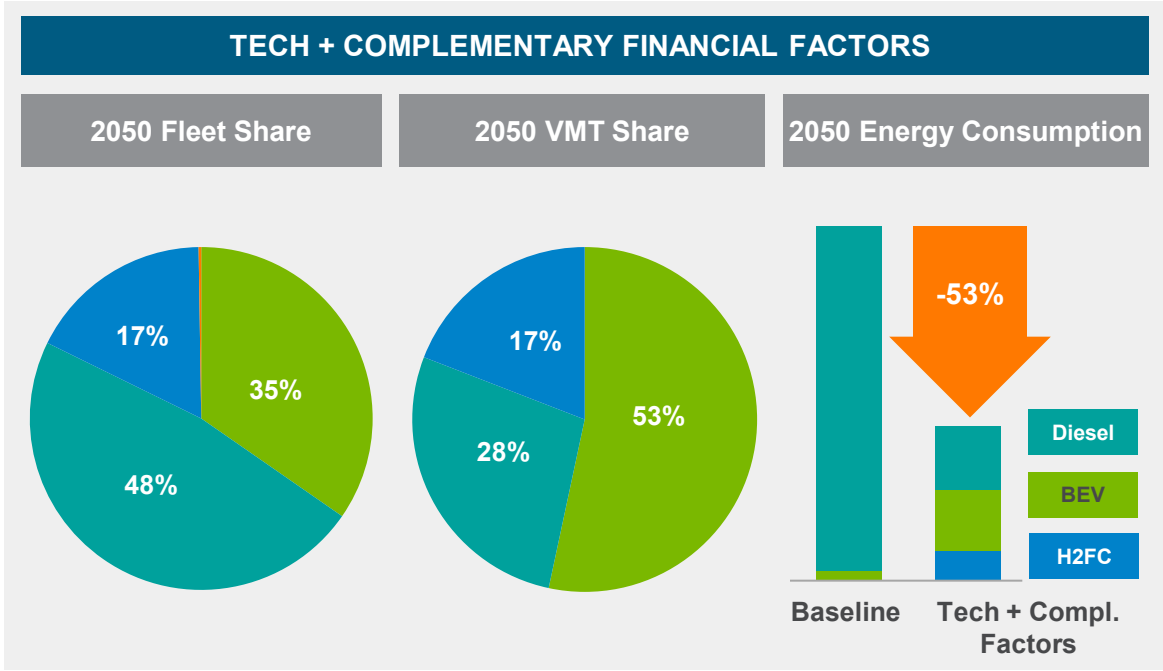


Austin Results

# COMPLEMENTARY FINANCIAL FACTORS CAN INCREASE TRANSITION TO ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES AND ENERGY SAVINGS


- Combining high technology progress with complementary financial incentives and alt-fuel favorable pricing:
  - Reduces diesel truck fleet share by more than half
  - Cuts freight energy consumption by more than half

▪ Policymakers could consider complementary financial incentives and fuel pricing policy to gain more freight sector energy benefits

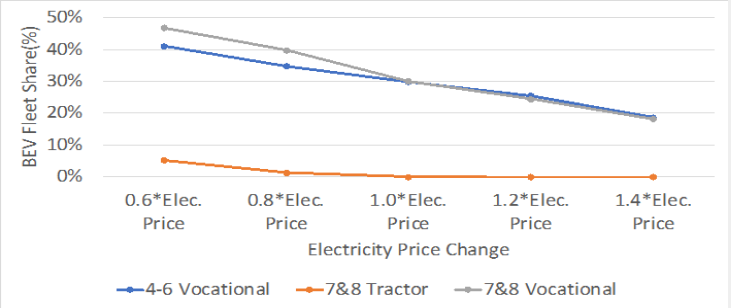


Austin Results

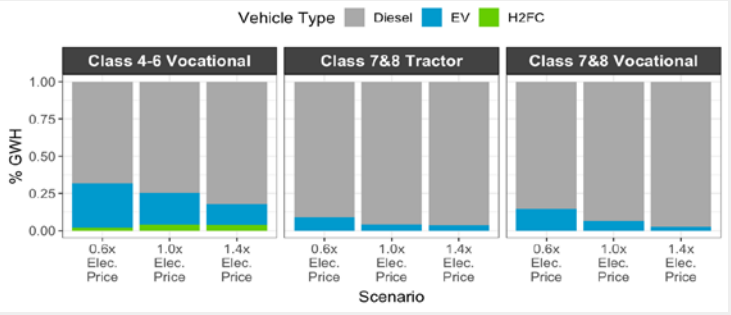
# LOWER ELECTRICITY PRICES HAVE SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON VOCATIONAL TRUCKS, BUT MARGINAL IMPACT ON TRACTOR TRUCKS

- Reducing electricity prices can increase BEV share for vocational trucks, but has little impact for long-haul class 7&8 tractor trucks
  - Energy consumption is higher under higher electricity price scenarios as more carriers stay with diesel based trucks
  - Incentives, cost reductions, and megawatt-level charging infrastructure investments may be needed to accelerate class 7&8 tractor decarbonization
- 
- Policymakers could consider incentives to counteract potential high electricity costs

2050 BEV Share



2050 % Energy Consumption



Austin Results

# SHIPMENT DEMAND CHANGES HAVE IMPACT ON VMT AND ENERGY CONSUMPTION

## KEY LEVERS

### B2B

Short-term economic disruption due to COVID-19

Long-term stable economic growth and technology advancement

Long-term growth of e-commerce

### B2C

Short-term economic disruption due to COVID-19

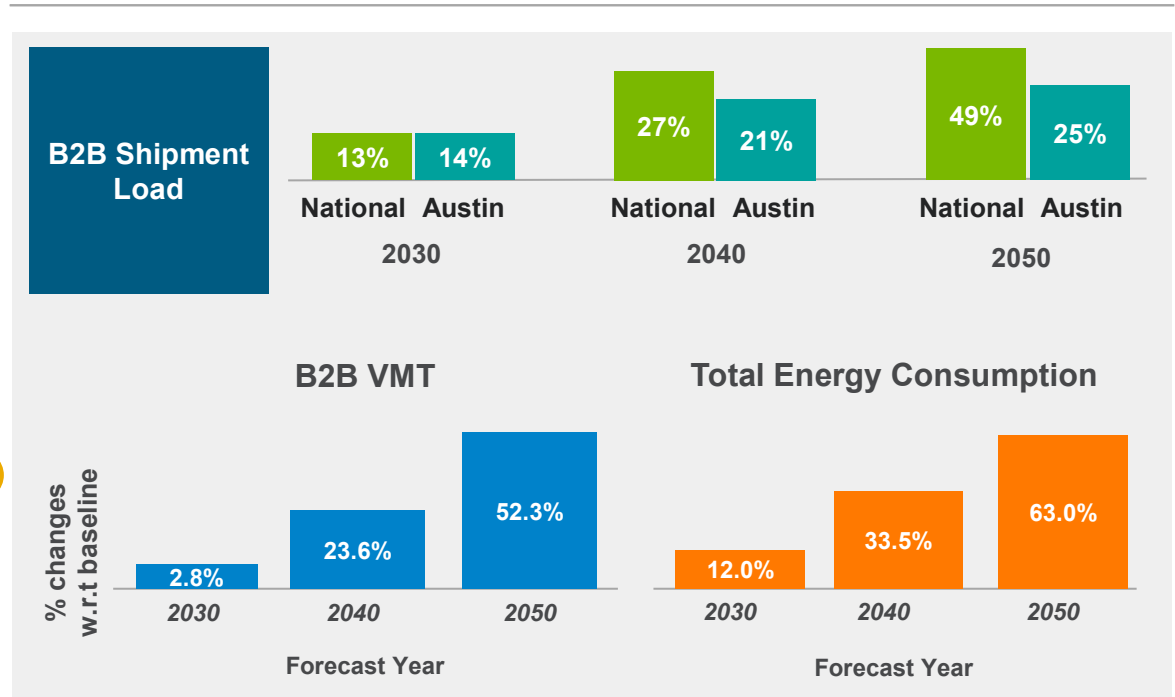
Potential for increased penetration of online shopping

**How does B2B and B2C demand growth impact the Austin region case study?**

# LOCALIZED FACTORS RESULT IN DISPROPORTIONAL TRADE AND TRUCK OPERATION

- Total shipment load in Austin increases 25% by 2050 compared to 2017 baseline, which is lower than national freight demand growth
- Different trade patterns can lead to different levels of demand growth impacts on freight traffic and energy consumption
- More efficient logistics are needed to reduce one-to-one delivery

- Agencies should consider transition to more energy efficient modes to reduce the impact of B2B growth



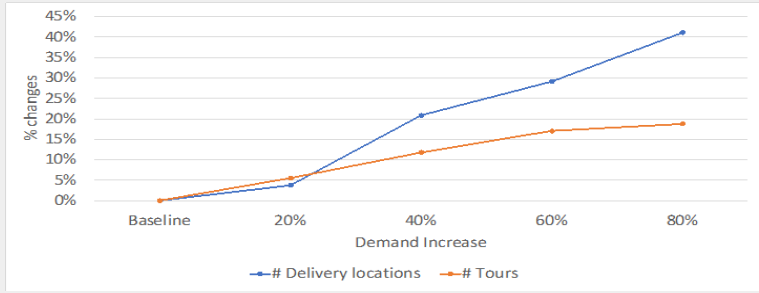
Austin Results



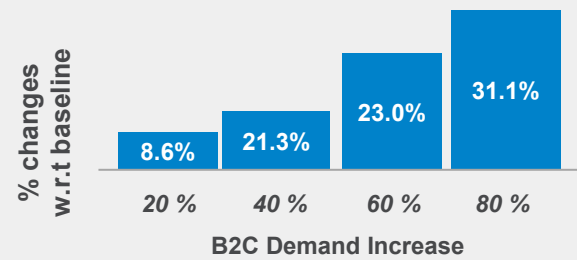
# MORE ONLINE SHOPPING INCREASES VMT, BUT ONE-TO-MANY DELIVERY MAY HAVE AN OFFSETTING EFFECT

- An offset effect is observed due to the nature of tour formation of last mile delivery
- 80% more online shopping demand increases delivery tours by 19%, B2C last mile delivery VMT by 31%, and energy consumption in the overall freight system by 1.6%

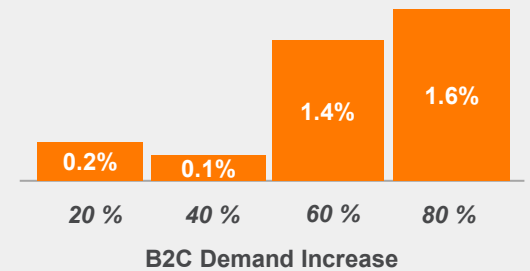
**% changes in # delivery locations and # tours along with demand increase**



**B2C Last Mile VMT**



**Total Energy Consumption**



- Agencies and logistics companies could consider policies encouraging one-to-many logistics efficiencies to minimize VMT and energy under increasing online shopping demand



# CONSOLIDATED DELIVERY HAS POTENTIAL TO FURTHER INCREASE LAST MILE DELIVERY EFFICIENCY

## KEY LEVERS

Locker delivery impact area

Household participation rate

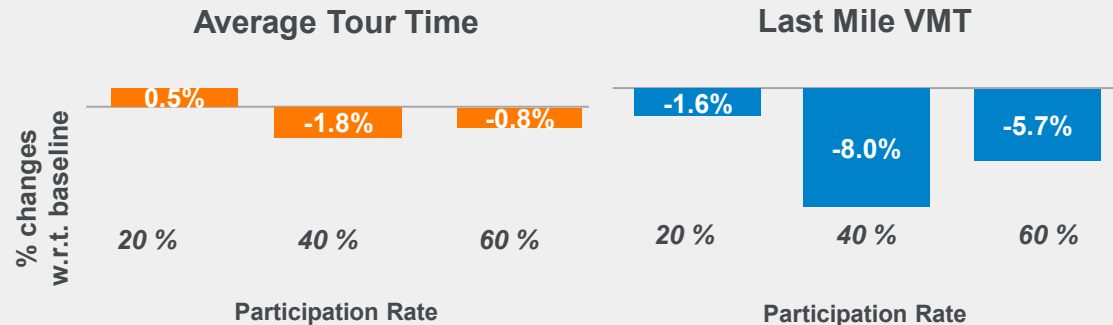
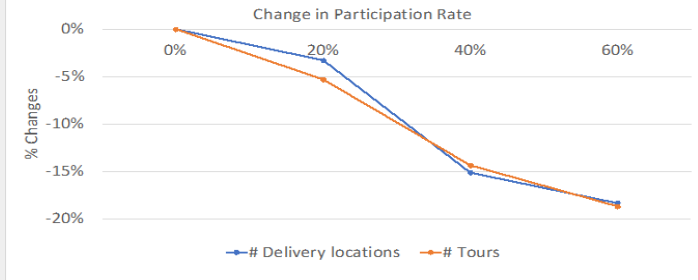
Existing locker locations

How much do locker utilization change last mile delivery in the Austin region case study?

# LEVEL OF PARTICIPATION IN LOCKER DELIVERY IMPACTS LAST MILE DELIVERY EFFICIENCIES

- 60% participation of households who can access existing lockers reduces # tours up to 19%
  - 40% participation rate leads to higher last-mile VMT reduction than 60% due to locker capacity constraint and non-collaborate operations across carriers
  - The small decrease in last-mile VMT had minimal impact on congestion and tour duration
- Agencies and logistics companies could consider incentives that encourage locker delivery participation and align locker capacity with growing demand

% changes in # delivery locations and # tours along with participation rate



Austin Results

# SUMMARY OF KEY INSIGHTS

**Freight could be positively and negatively impacted by automation (e.g., driving time restriction vs increased VMT from passenger cars)**

**Advanced vehicle technologies (xEVs) critical to mitigate/lower energy and emission impact of freight growth**

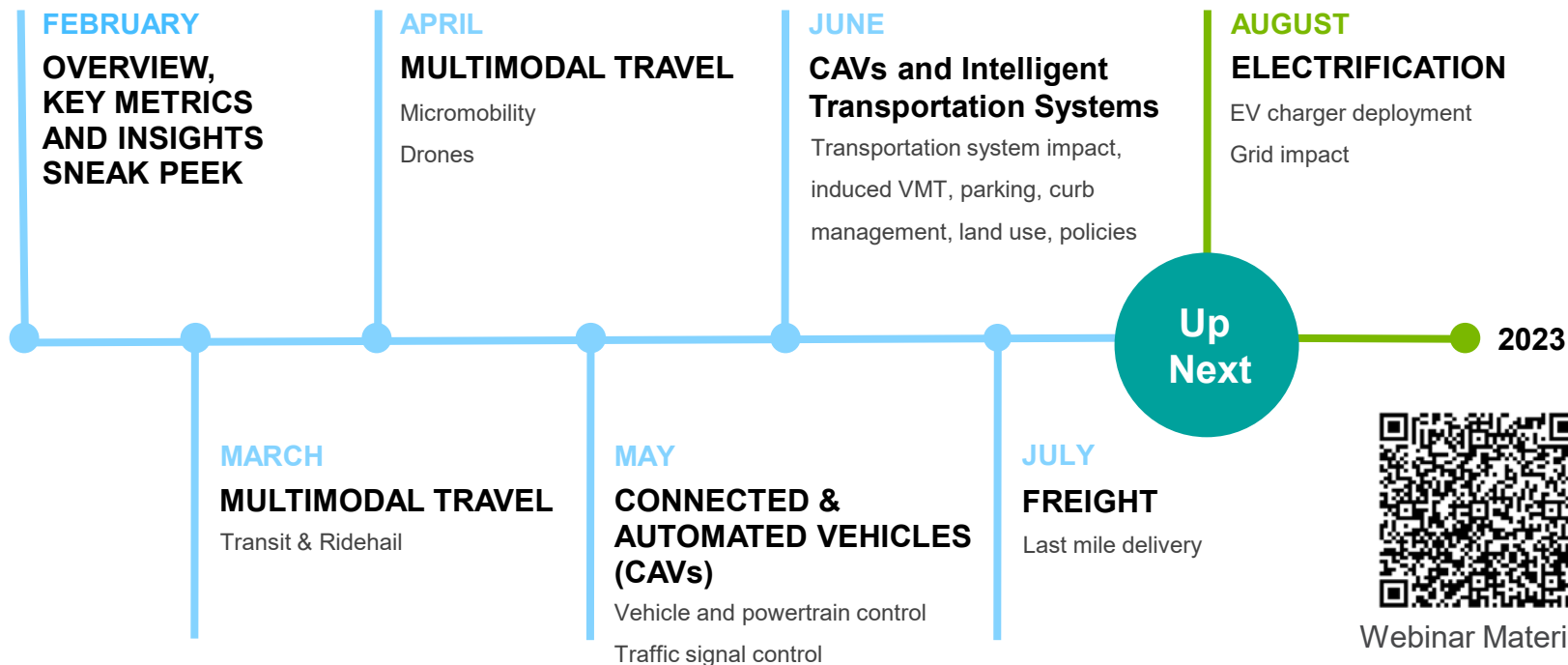
**New modes and services have a critical role to play: bikes for on-demand deliveries, drones for last-mile deliveries, locker deliveries**

**xEVs provide a unique opportunity to enhance equity for energy and environmental justice**

**Policies (e.g., IRA) and continuous R&D critical to accelerate truck electrification market penetration**

**Collaboration across stakeholders to simultaneously support xEV adoption along with EVSE deployment and electric grid upgrades is vital**

# PREVIOUS & UPCOMING WEBINARS





U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

# SMARTMOBILITY

Systems and Modeling for Accelerated Research in Transportation

General questions, comments, please contact  
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