

# Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program



## THE BASICS

Established by U.S. Congress in 2005, the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program (NTPP) dedicated \$25 million to each of four communities across the country (\$100 million total) to accurately demonstrate whether such investments equate to significantly higher levels of walking and bicycling, and a reduction in vehicle miles traveled. RTC is one of three managing partners, and was involved in the program's design and inception.

### The four pilot communities |

Columbia, Missouri: Pop. 108,500. College town, large institutional employers.

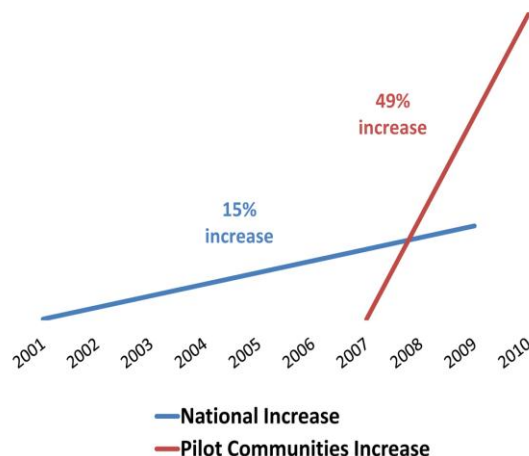
Marin County, California: Pop. 252,409. Topography a challenge – steep hills and valleys. 11 cities and towns.

Minneapolis, Minnesota: Pop. 382,578. Large and diverse city. Relatively flat, extreme winter weather.

Sheboygan County, Wisconsin: Pop. 115,507. Large land area, low density. Limited experienced with nonmotorized transportation. 15 townships, 10 villages, 3 cities.

## KEY FINDINGS

### Average Increase in Number of Bicyclists



**In just three years the pilot communities were able to achieve triple the expansion in biking activity the rest of America took eight years to achieve.**

### 32 million vehicle miles averted |

An estimated 32 million miles were walked or biked in these communities between 2007 and 2010 that would otherwise have been driven. 16 million vehicle miles were averted in 2010 alone.

### 49 percent increase in biking |

Counts reveal average increase of 49% in the number of bicyclists between 2007 and 2010. This compares to national increase of 15% between 2001 and 2009.

### 22 percent increase in walking |

Counts revealed average increase of 22% in the number of pedestrians 2007 to 2010. This compares to national increase of 20% 2001 to 2009. That is, in just three years these communities surpassed the growth of walking activity the rest of America took eight years to achieve.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy | [www.railstotrails.org](http://www.railstotrails.org)

**For more information about the NTPP report to Congress:** Marianne Wesley Fowler, Sr. Vice President of Federal Relations | [marianne@railstotrails.org](mailto:marianne@railstotrails.org) | 202.974.5104

**Download the full report:** [www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle\\_pedestrian/ntpp](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/environment/bicycle_pedestrian/ntpp)

### Mode Shift – moving people from cars to biking and walking |

Across the four communities, bicycling mode share increased 36%, walking mode share increased 14%, and driving mode share decreased 3%.

### Improved safety |

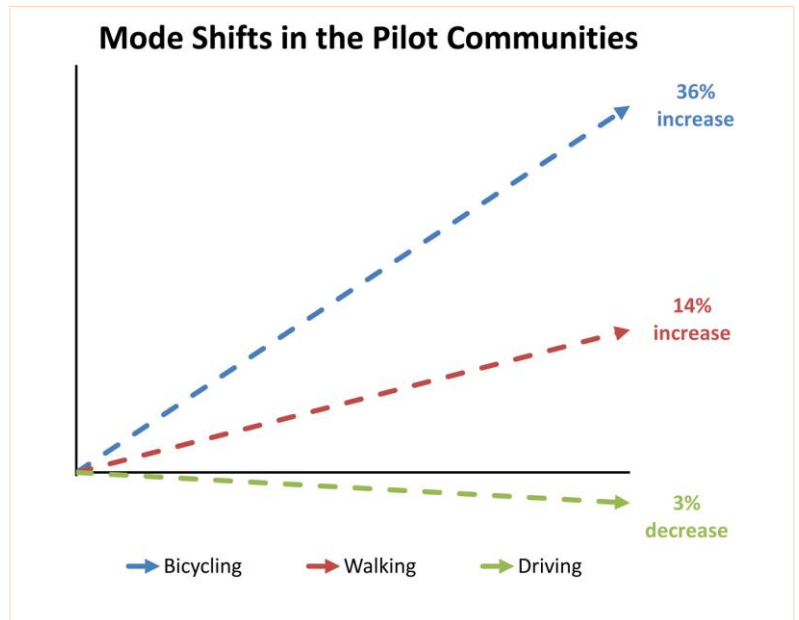
While each community experienced substantial increases in bicycling and walking, fatal bicycle and pedestrian crashes held steady or decreased in all of the communities.

### Reducing the cost of health care |

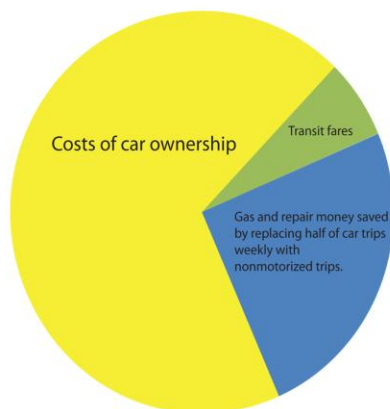
The additional nonmotorized trips in the four communities in 2010 reduced the economic cost of mortality by an estimated \$6.9 million.

Physical activity is statistically significantly

better than medication in preventing progression to diabetes. Diabetes and prediabetes alone cost Americans \$218 billion in 2007. Physical activity as prevention will save these communities many millions of dollars in unnecessary reactive health care.



### Transportation is the 2nd biggest expense for the average American household...



Car dependency is **taking a bite** out of household budgets.

...the Nonmotorized Transportation Pilot Program showed that walking and bicycling **save** households thousands of dollars a year.

Data from the 2010 Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Expenditure Survey.

### Reduced pollution, reduced expenditure on gasoline and foreign oil imports |

The pilot communities saved an estimated 22 pounds of Carbon Dioxide emissions per person in 2010, for a total of 7,701 tons. These communities saved more than 1.7 million gallons of gas between 2007 and 2010.

Transportation is the biggest expense for American families after housing. Giving Americans more choices to walk and bike provides economic relief.

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