VT State Highway On-Road Bicycle Facilities Plan

Public Meeting – 30 April 2015

Today's Agenda

- Welcome and Introductions
- Logistics of Tonight's Meeting
  - Check in with sites
- Formal Presentations
  - Jon Kaplan (VTrans Bicycle & Pedestrian Program Manager)
  - Erica Wygonik (RSG Consultant Team Project Manager)
- Receive Public Comments on Methodology
- Review Draft Map Results
  - Breakout Sessions to Review the Map
  - Receive Public Comments on the Draft Map Results
- 7:50 P.M. Wrap Up & Next Steps

Steering Committee

This project relies on input from a diverse group of stakeholders. To ensure we are planning around the needs of ALL cyclists, our steering committee represents many interests and has reviewed the work we are about to share.

EXTERNAL

- Rutland Regional Planning Commission
- Northeastern Vermont Development Association
- Tourism & Marketing
- Agency of Commerce & Community Development
- VT Bike & Ped Coalition / Local Motion
- VBT Bicycling & Walking Vacations
- Green Mountain Bicycle Club
- American Council of Engineering Consultants

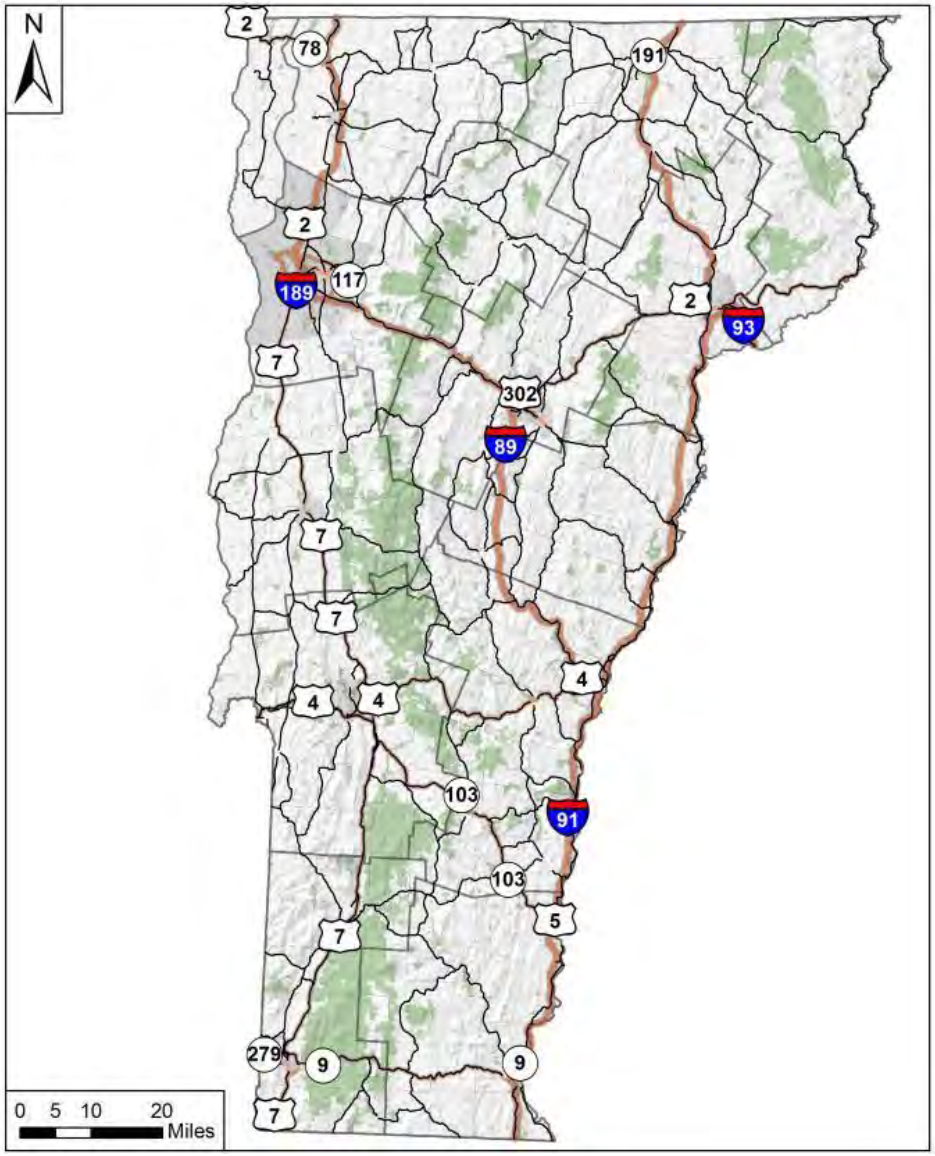
VTrans

- Planning & Policy
- Bicycle and Pedestrian
- Operations & Maintenance
- Paving & Roadway
- Asset Management

Project Purpose

<u>Overall Project Goal:</u>

Develop a comprehensive improvement plan that identifies opportunities to enhance bicycle accommodations on the highest-ranked bicycle corridors on the State highway system.



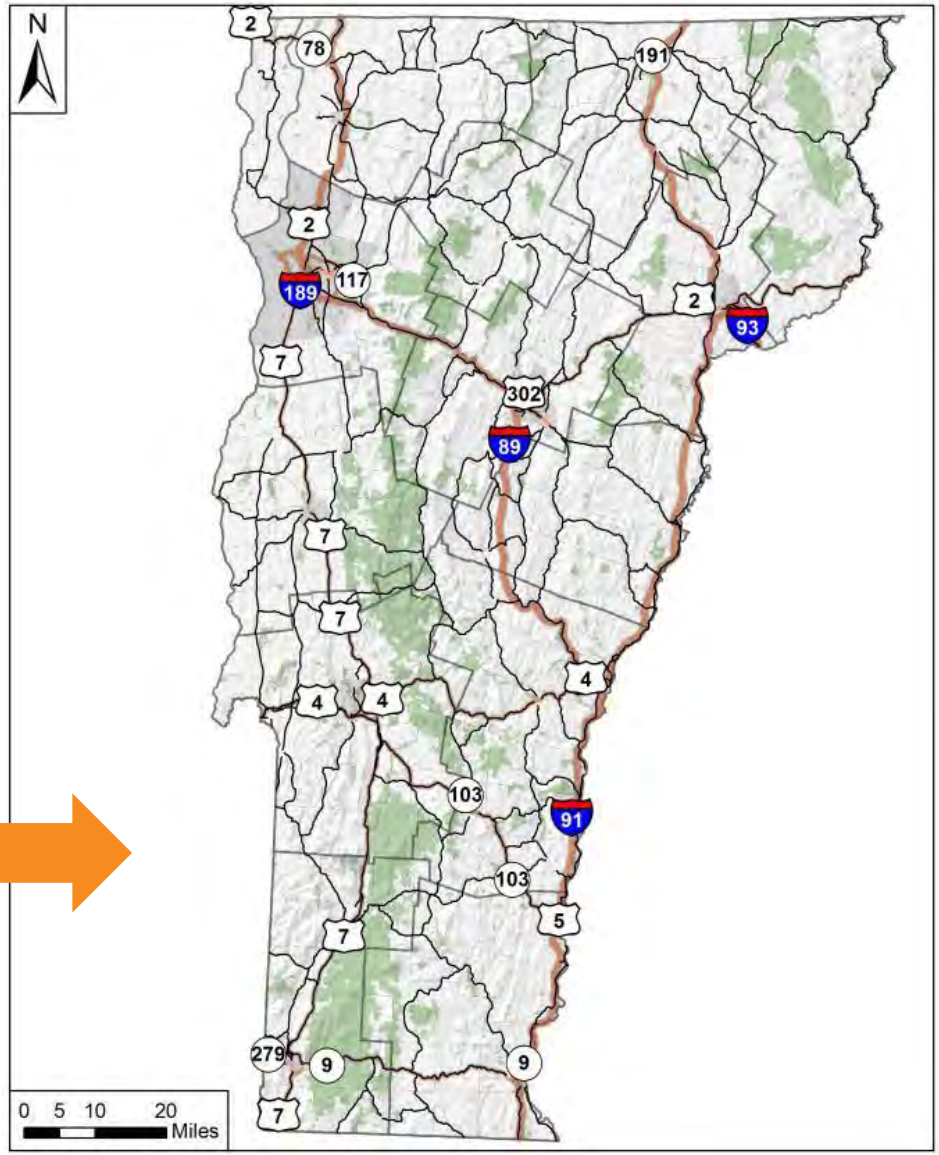
Project Purpose

- **Phase I (current phase):** Classify the state highway system into three bicycle route tiers based on their location, connectivity, and desirability.

Most Desirable

Moderately Desirable

Least Desirable



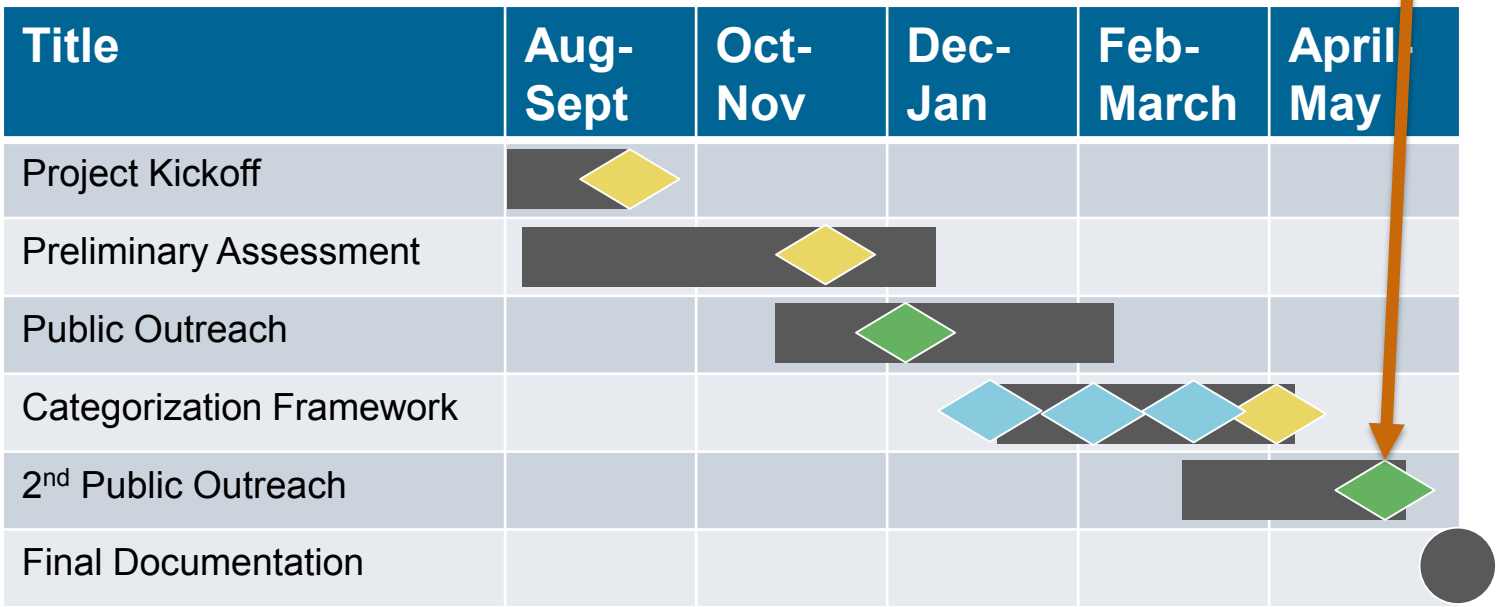
Project Purpose

THREE KEY OUTCOMES

- This project helps prioritize investment decisions
- It identified important state roadways for bicycling
- Public input was a big part of how these are chosen

Phase 1 Project Schedule

We are here



Public Meeting

Steering Committee Meeting

Internal Working Group

Where do Vermonters want to Ride?

- Potential Travel Demand
  - Access to Bikeable Land Uses
    - Work, Leisure, Errands, School
- Public Opinion
  - WikiMap
- Recreational Demand
  - Strava
  - Bicycle Tourists

Desirability Equation

$$(Access\ Score)\ \times Public\ Input + (Recreation\ Score)$$

Desirability Equation

$$\boxed{(Access\ Score)} \times Public\ Input + (Recreation\ Score)$$

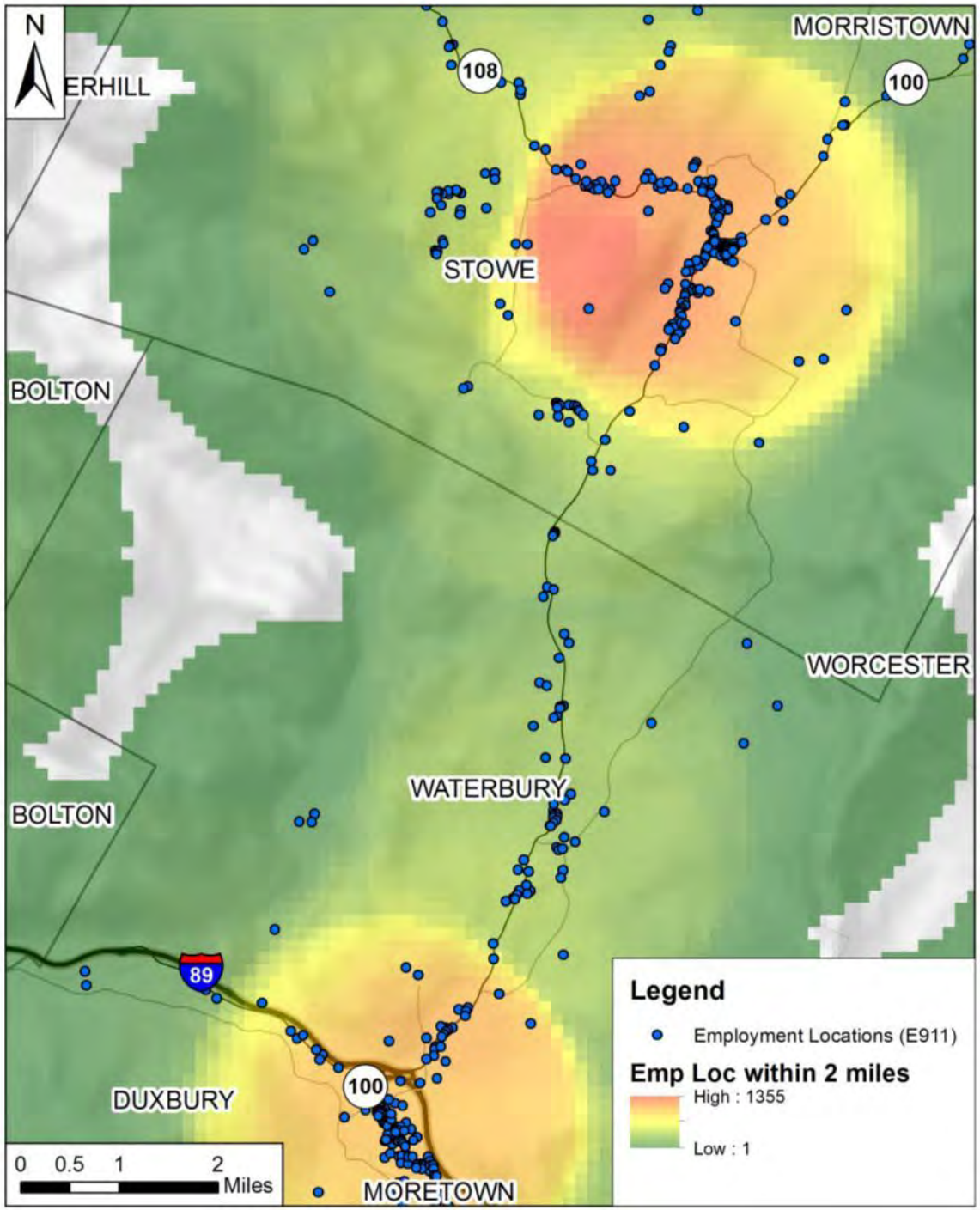
- Using bicycles to access destinations
  - Work, Leisure, Errands, School

Where do Vermonters want to ride?

Consider destinations within typical trip length
(VT 100 Example)

DESTINATION TYPES

- Homes
- Employment
- Shopping
- Schools
- Transit
- Libraries
- Trails



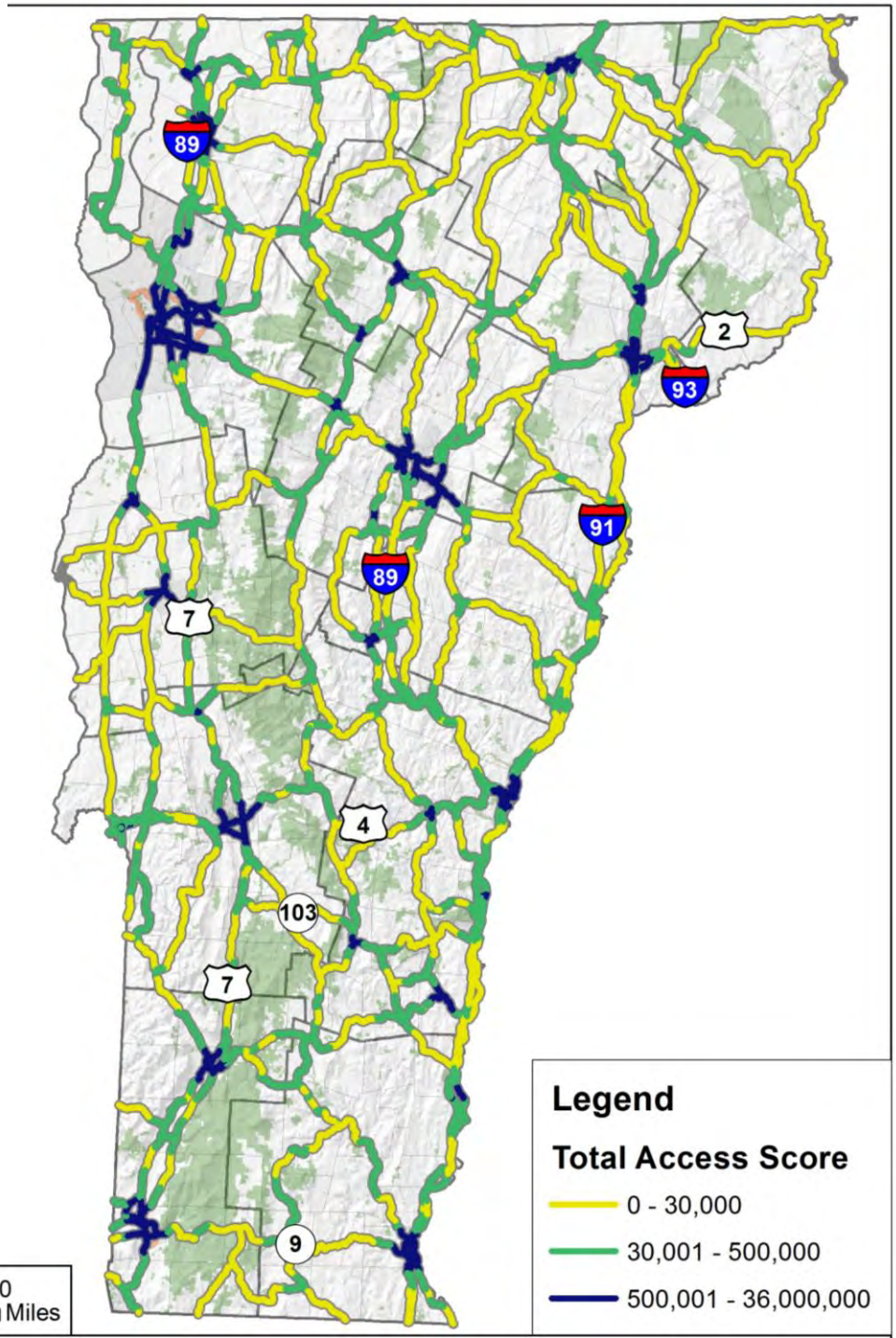
Destination Category Threshold Distances

From the literature and the National Household Travel Survey data, we developed the following threshold distances for the analysis.

	Errands	Leisure	Work	School
Threshold (miles)	1	1	2.5	1.5

Total Access Score

- Based on destination locations and weights
- Larger scores in urban areas/town centers



Desirability Equation

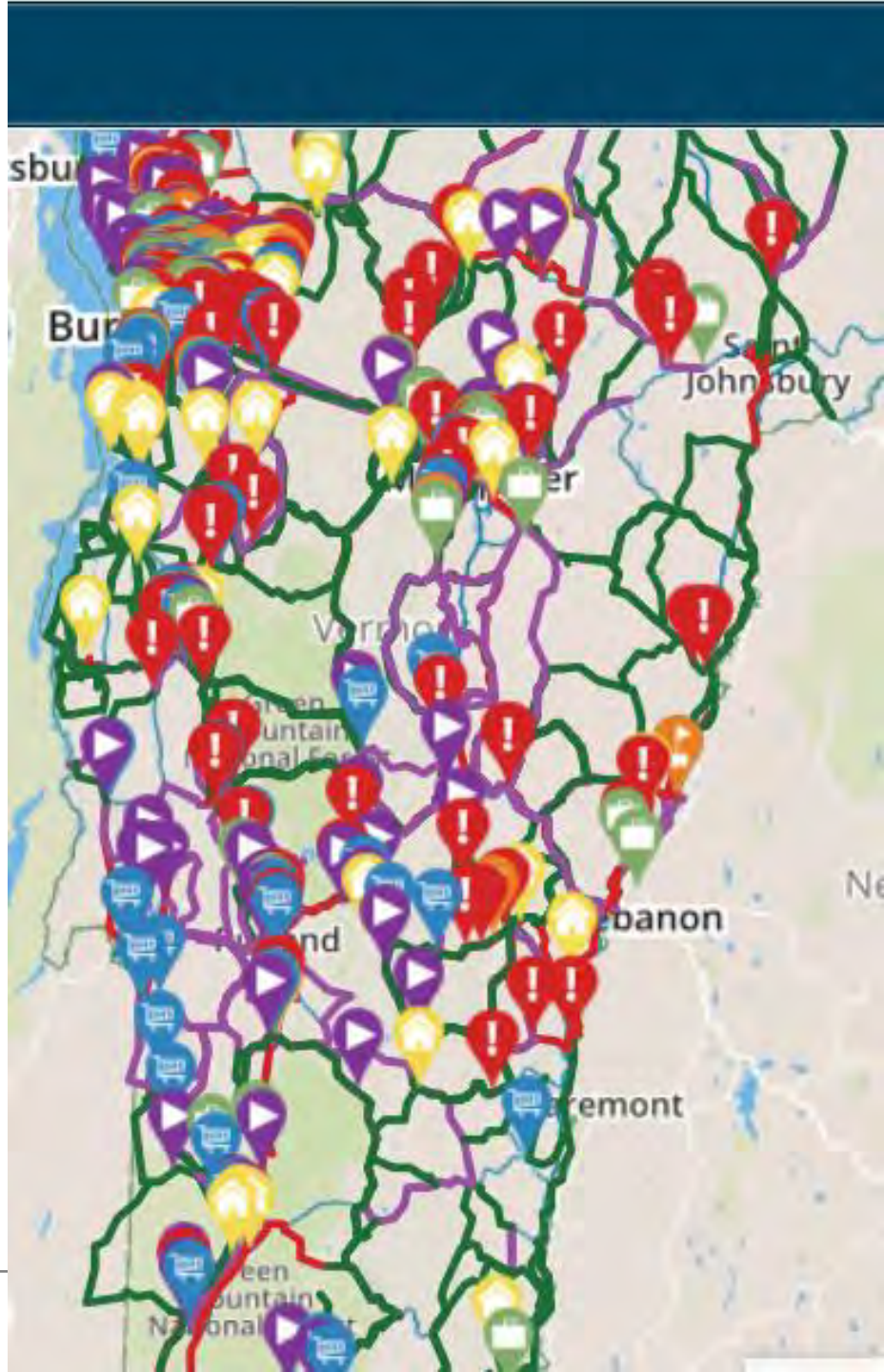
$$\boxed{(Access\ Score)\ \times Public\ Input} + (Recreation\ Score)$$

- Weight Access Score by up to 30% based on Public Input

Public Input: Wikimap

- Users could draw points or lines
- Users could add comments
- Others could LIKE or DISLIKE

- Excellent participation – THANK YOU!

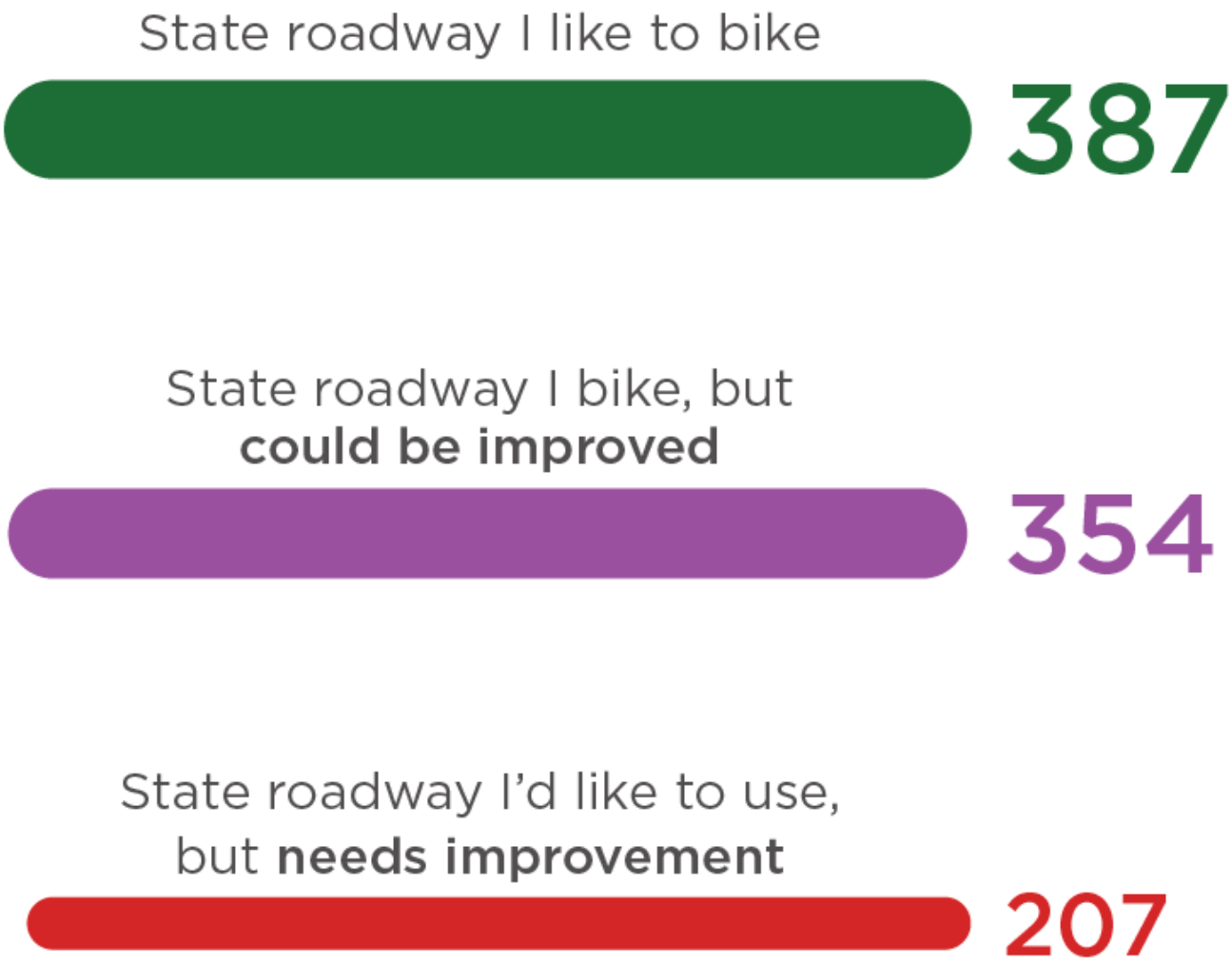


TOTAL NUMBER OF UNIQUE USERS*

2123

*Unique IP Addresses: If the same computer was used more than once to interactwith the map, it would count as 1 user.

TOTAL NUMBER OF LINES DRAWN



Public Input: Wikimap

- Users could draw points or lines
- Users could add comments
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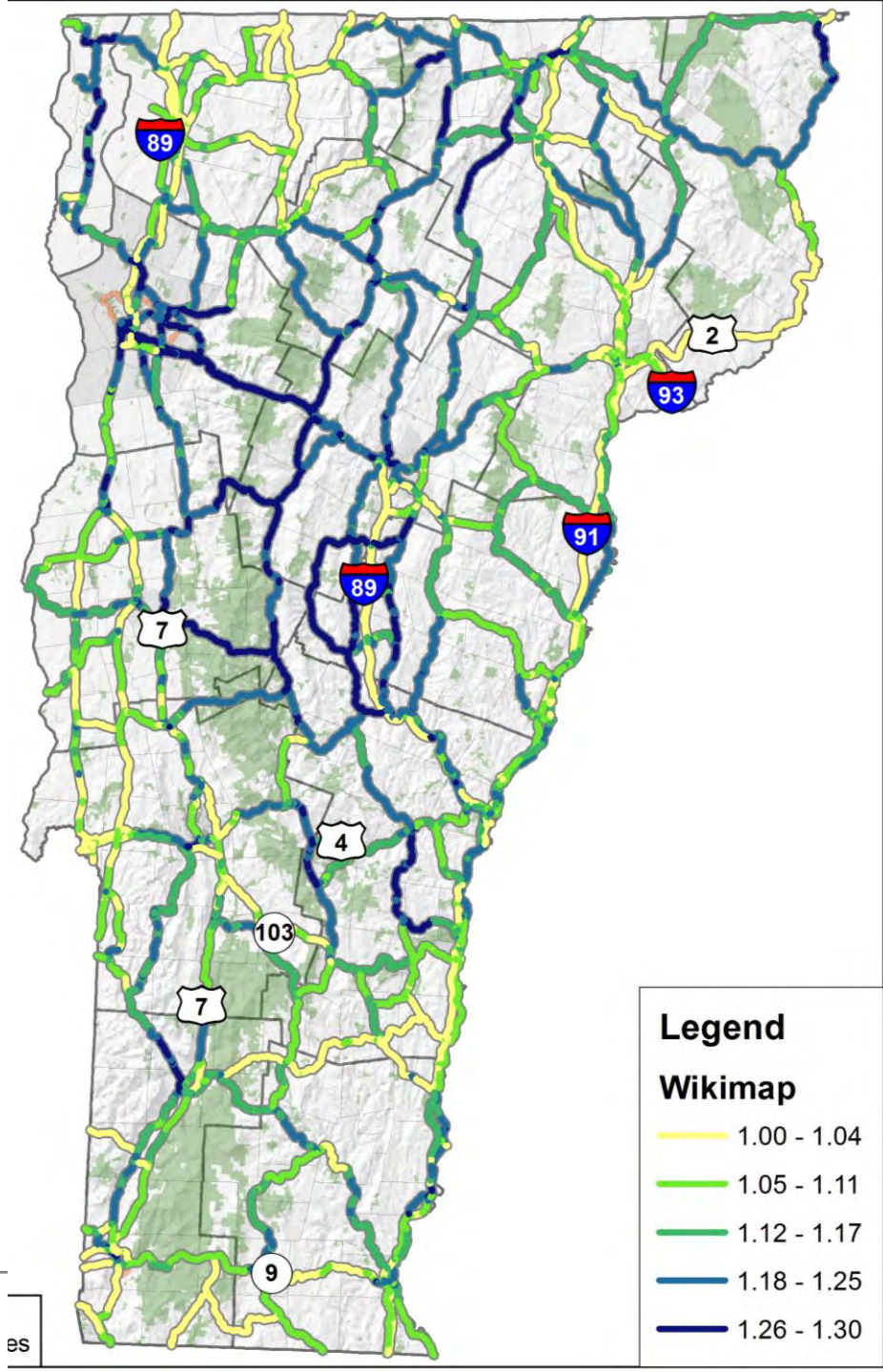
- **Increase Access Score based on public input up to 30%**



Desirability Equation

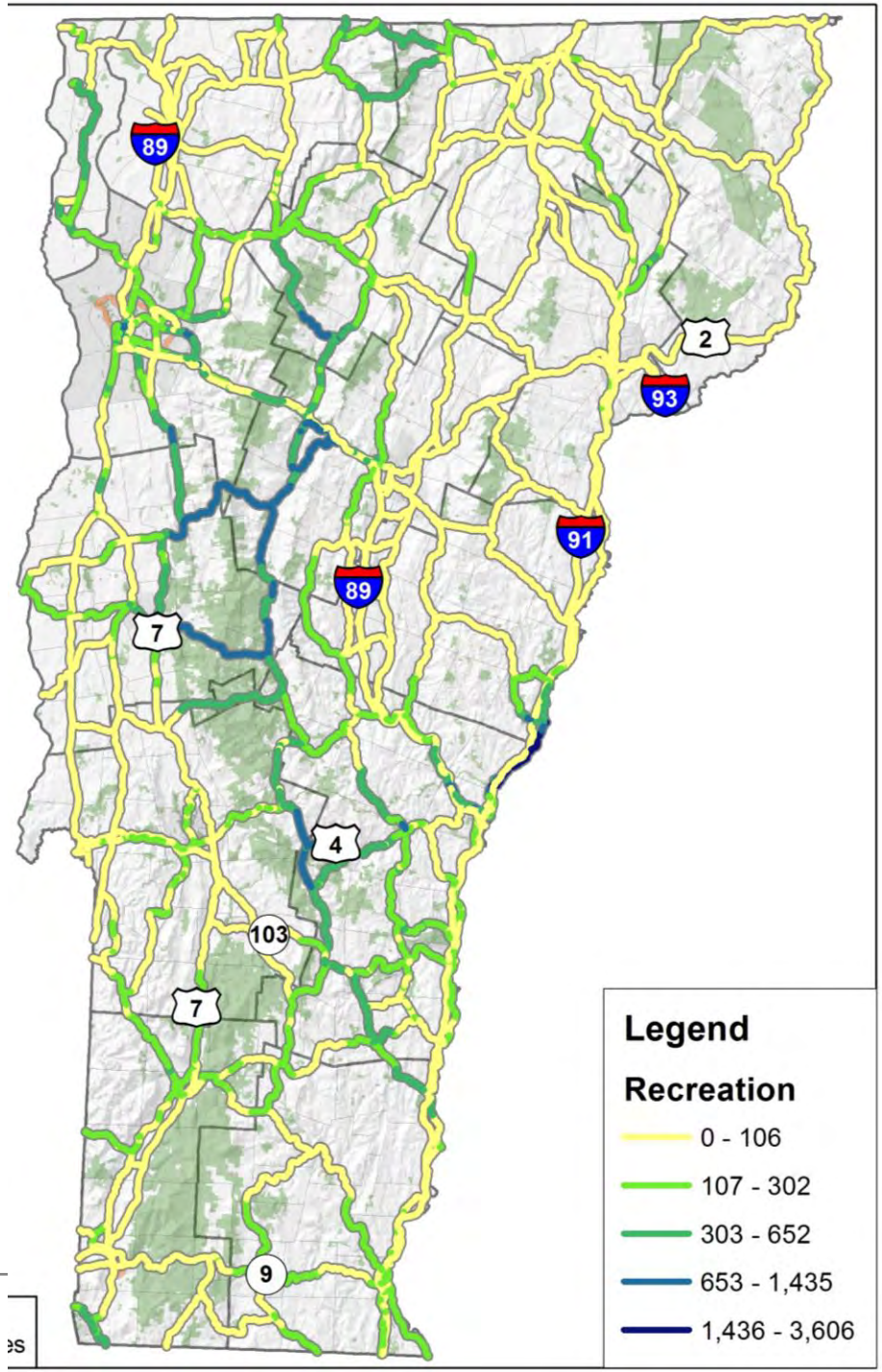
$$(Access\ Score) \times Public\ Input + \boxed{(Recreation\ Score)}$$

Recreational Demand

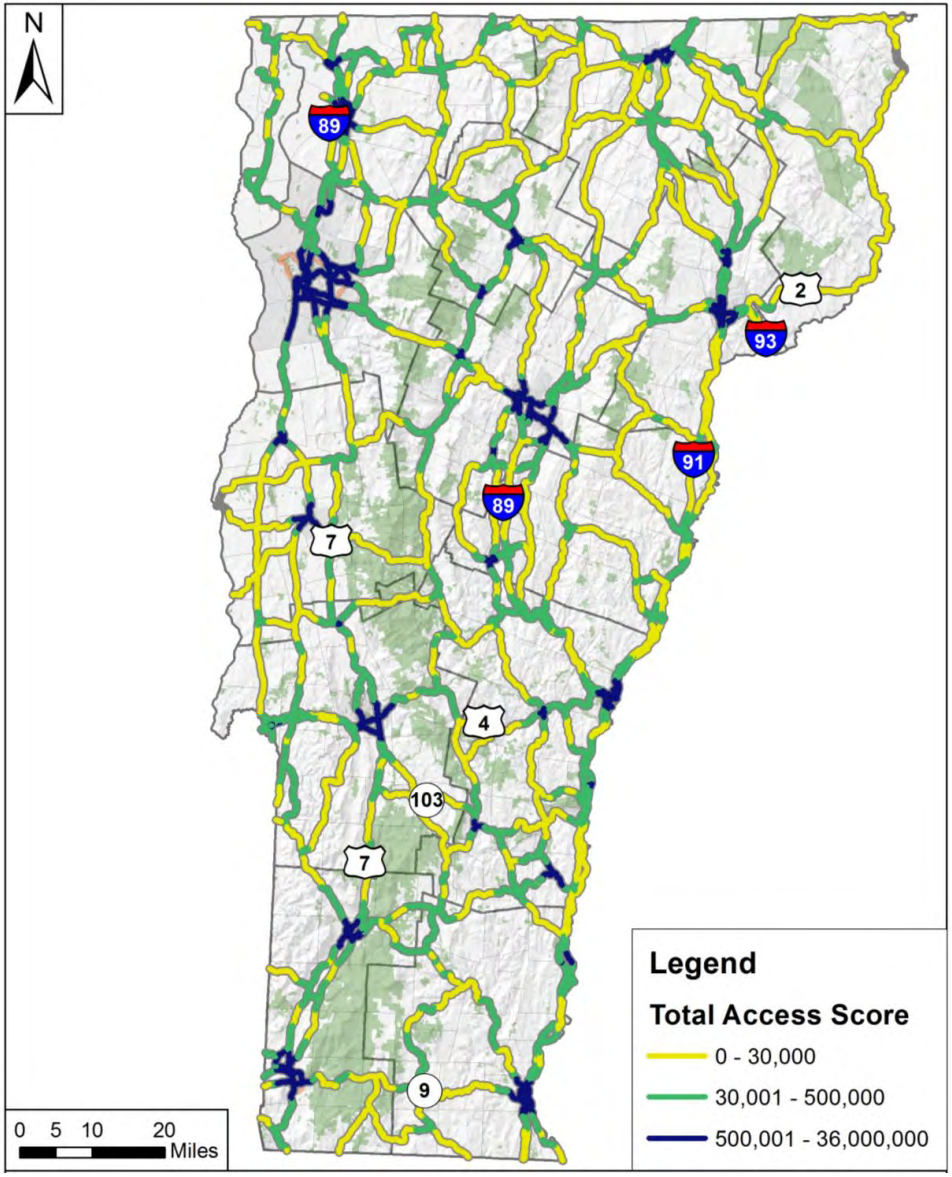
- Strava
  - Total Trips: September 2013 – August 2014
  - Based on Strava App
    - Some bias towards recreational/training rides
    - Capturing these rides valuable to this project
- Bicycle Tourism
  - interviews

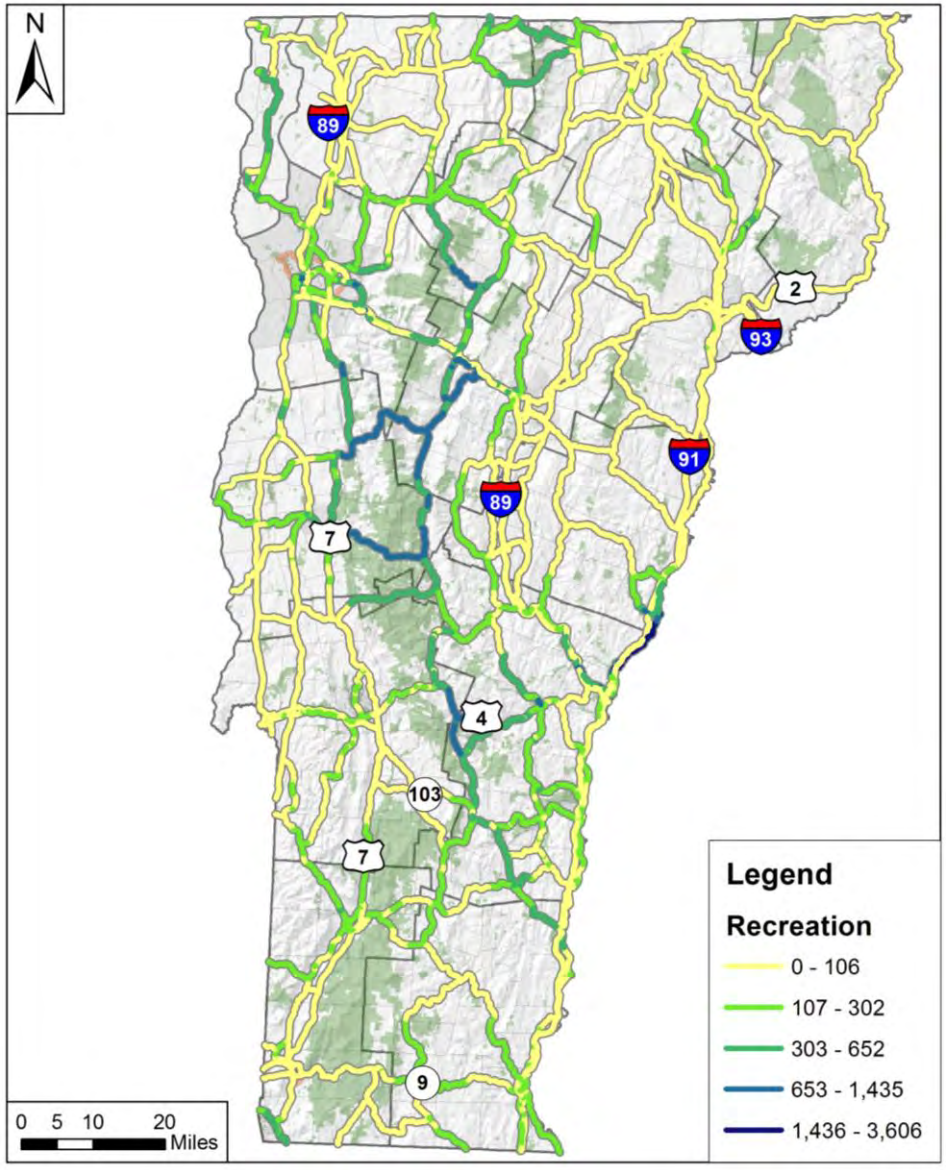
Total Recreation Trips

- Includes Strava data and bicycle tourism data
- More trips recorded on rural or mountain roads in the middle of the state



Combining Access and Recreation



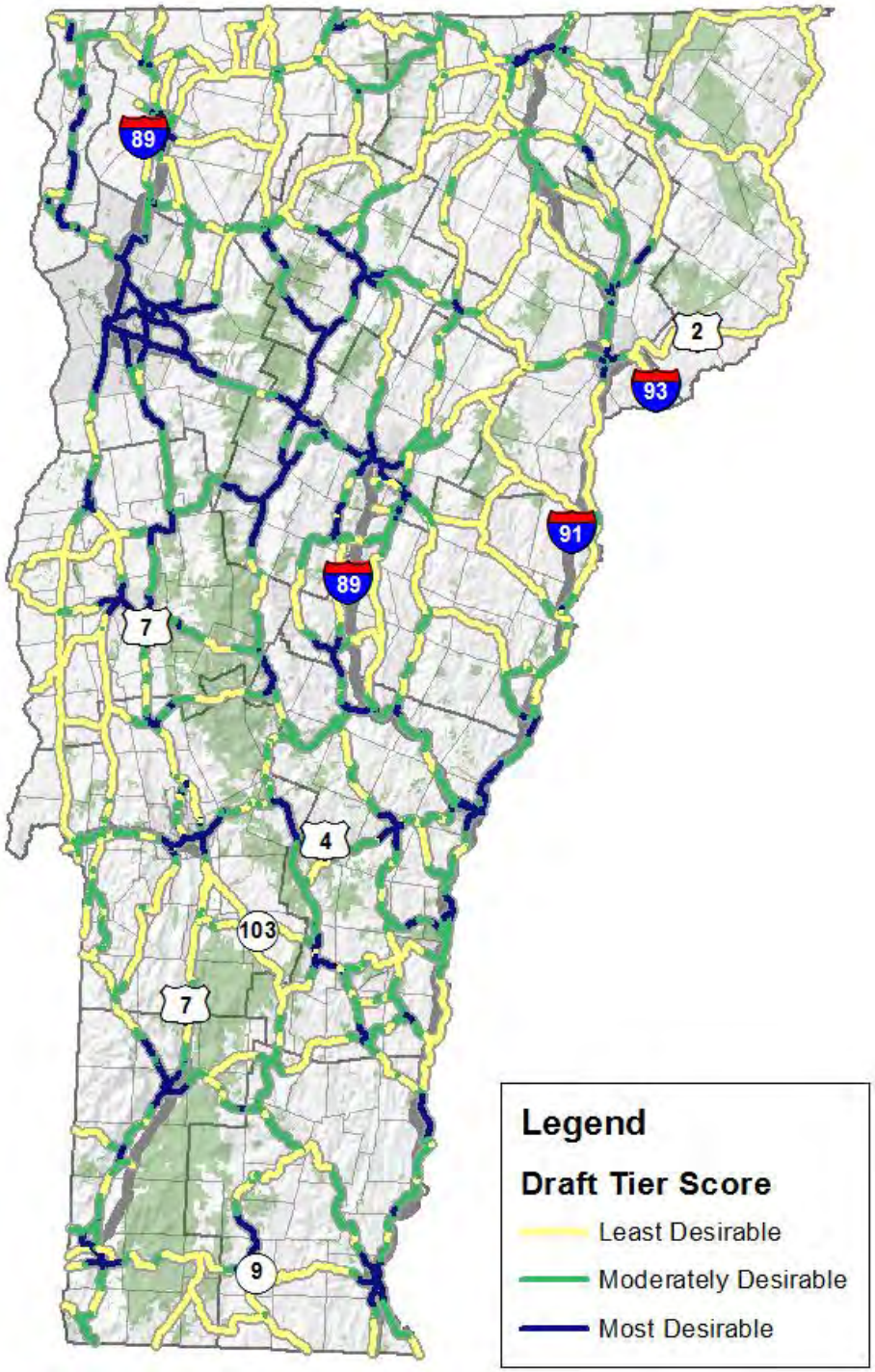


Desirability Equation

$$(Access\ Score)\ \times Public\ Input + (Recreation\ Score)$$

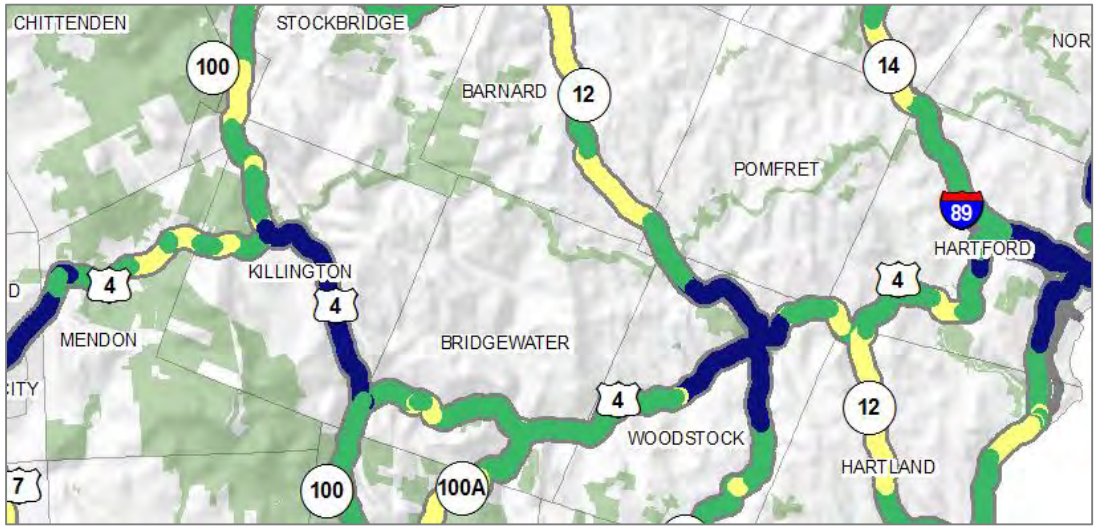
Desirability Scores

	Mileage	Percentage
Most Desirable	457	19%
Moderately Desirable	783	32%
Least Desirable	1186	49%



Questions about Methodology?

Desirability Scores



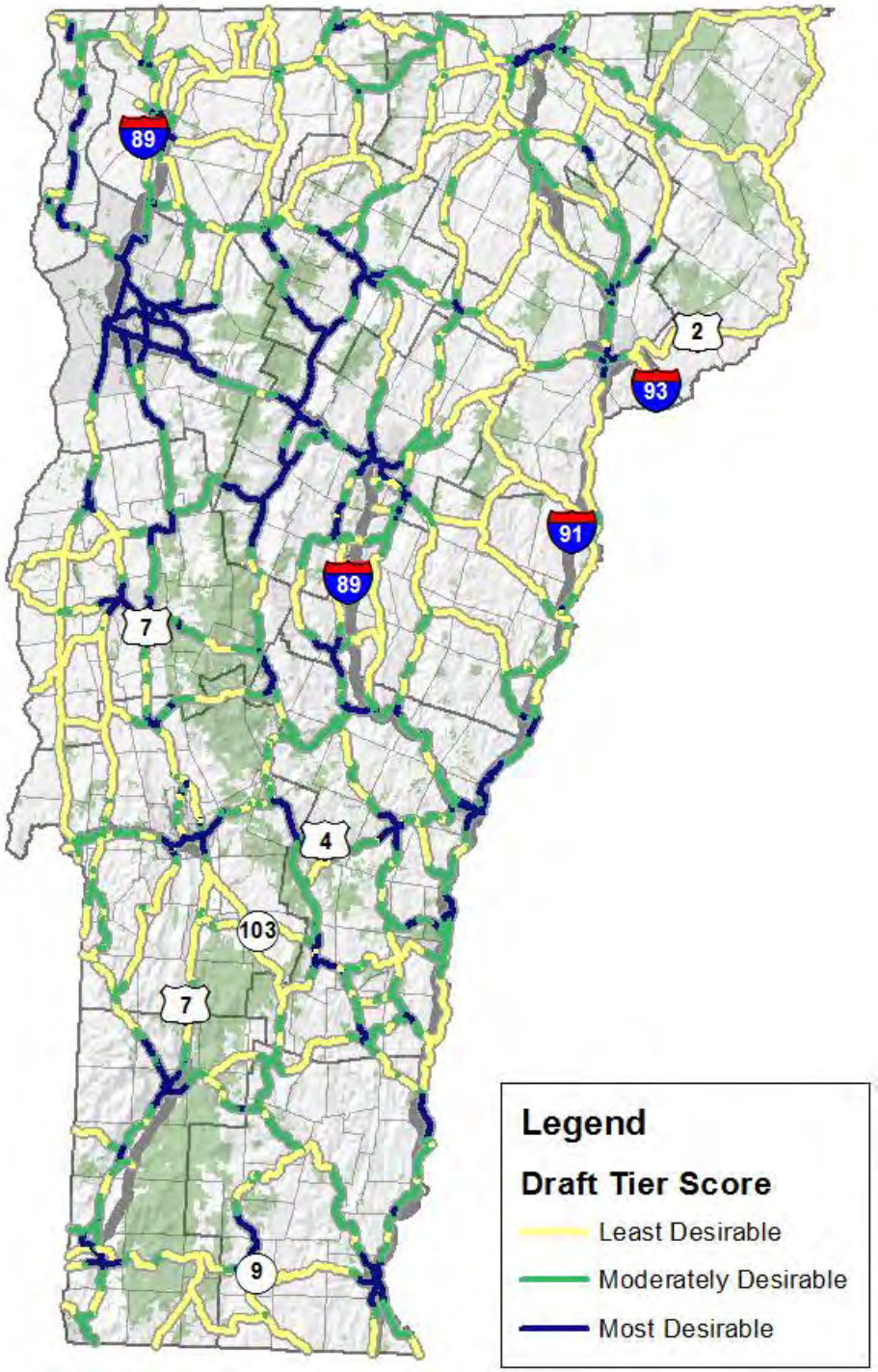
Draft Tier Score

- Least Desirable
- Moderately Desirable
- Most Desirable

- Some areas have variation across small segments
- Locations where scores are similar
- Segments will be treated consistently within a corridor

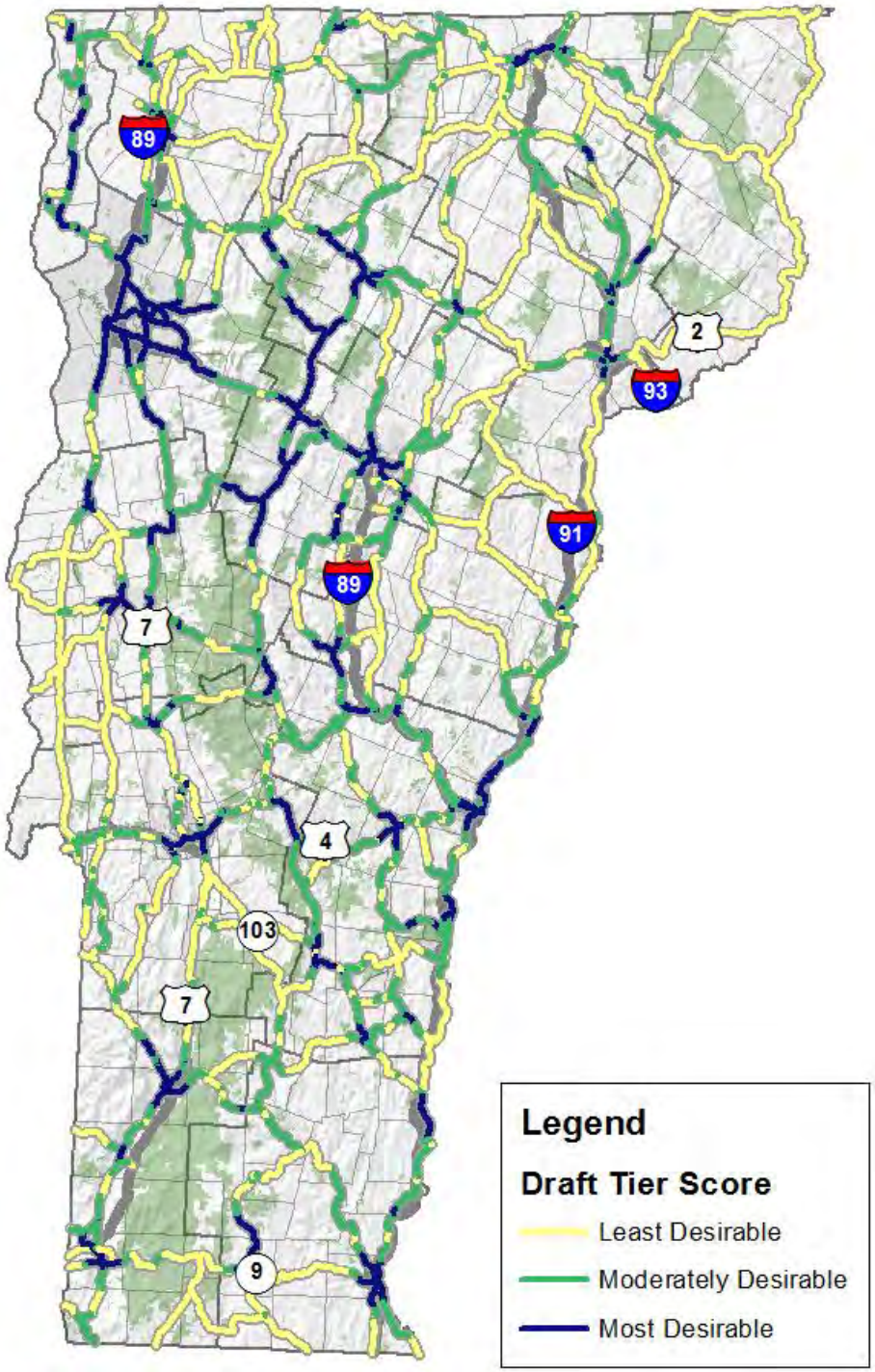
Prioritization

- Use to help prioritize bicycle-sensitivity in projects
- Prioritize maintenance and operations
- Use it to set performance targets
  - BLOS scores for different categories



Desirability Scores

→ Does this look reasonable to you?



Accessing the Map at Home

- Go to the project website:

http://vtransplanning.vermont.gov/bikeplan

- Download the Draft map:

http://www.aot.state.vt.us/resources/bikeplan/DraftTierScores34x44Final.pdf

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On-Road Bicycle Plan

The Vermont Agency of Transportation (VTrans) is developing an On-Road Bicycle Plan in support of enhancing on-road bicycle improvements on the State highways. The VTrans On-Road Bicycle Plan is a planning effort using public input and roadway characteristics to categorize state highway corridors into several tiers. The tier system will rank the state highway corridors for on-road bicycling based on where bicyclists ride now and where bicyclists want to ride. The Plan will assist VTrans in understanding where to focus limited resources towards bicycle improvements and allow better integration into Agency projects.

Click here PDF to download a project summary flyer.

Click here PDF to download information on the project's Statewide Meeting April 30th, 2015.

Project Status

In the Fall of 2014 we began the Vermont On-Road Bicycle Plan, since then we have developed a draft map of priority bicycle corridors. At the Statewide meeting on April 30, 2015 we will discuss how we determined where there is the greatest demand for bicycling on Vermont State roads and present the resulting draft map of the priority bicycle corridors. The draft map groups bicycle corridors on Vermont state highways based on their desirability. Desirability refers to where Vermonters and visitors currently ride and want to ride bicycles. Quantifying desirability relied upon an analysis of land use patterns, access and proximity to destinations, data collected on recreational bicycling, and over 2100 Vermonters providing public input through the project's wikiMap.

Draft Results Map

Accessing the Map at Home

http://www.aot.state.vt.us/resources/bikeplan/DraftTierScores34x44Final.pdf

- Comment in chat window
- Or email: vermontbike@gmail.com

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Draft Results Map

Review Draft Results Map

Anticipated Next Steps

- Documentation for Phase 1

- Phase 2: Identify critical gaps in the most desirable bicycle corridors.

- Phase 3: Identify specific areas to be considered for improvements (e.g. signage, striping, widening, etc.) to address the identified gaps in the most-desirable bicycle corridors.

VT State Highway On-Road Bicycle Facilities Plan

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