

Bellevue City Council

Public Hearing

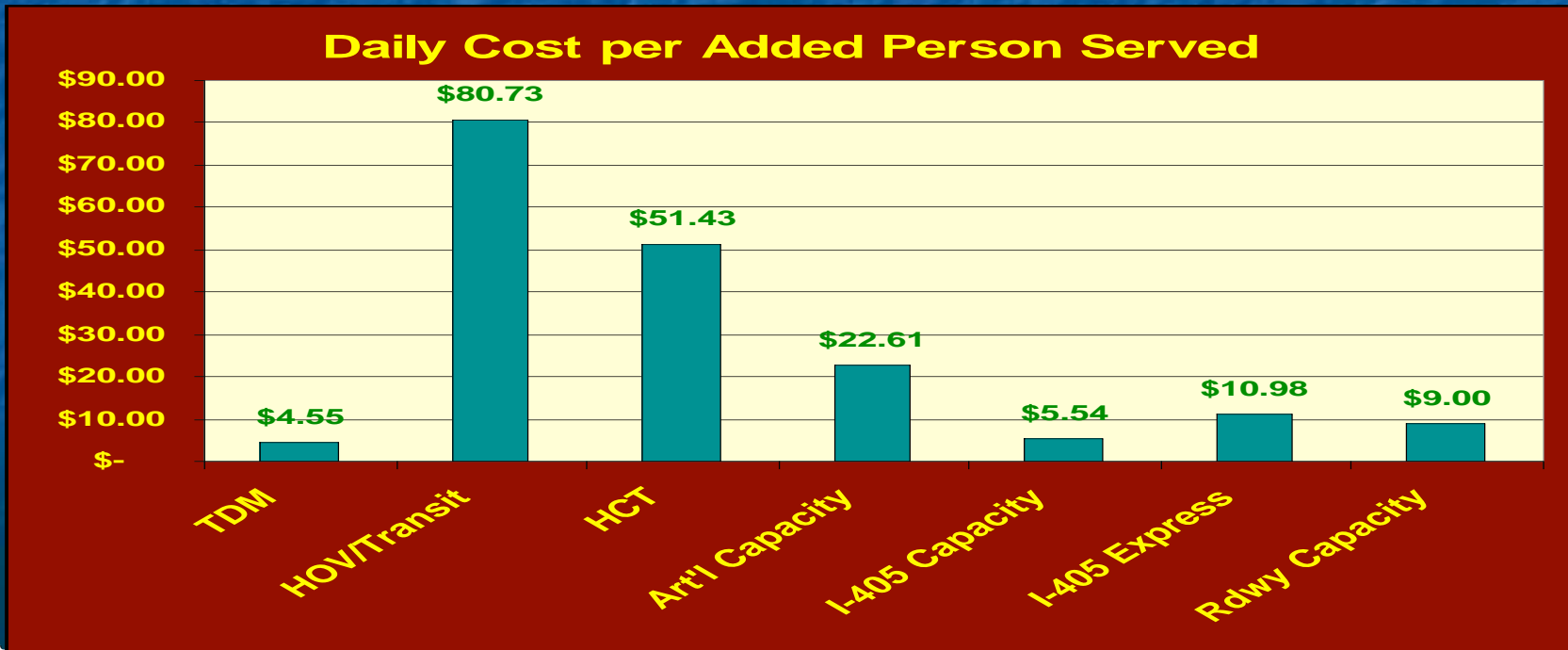
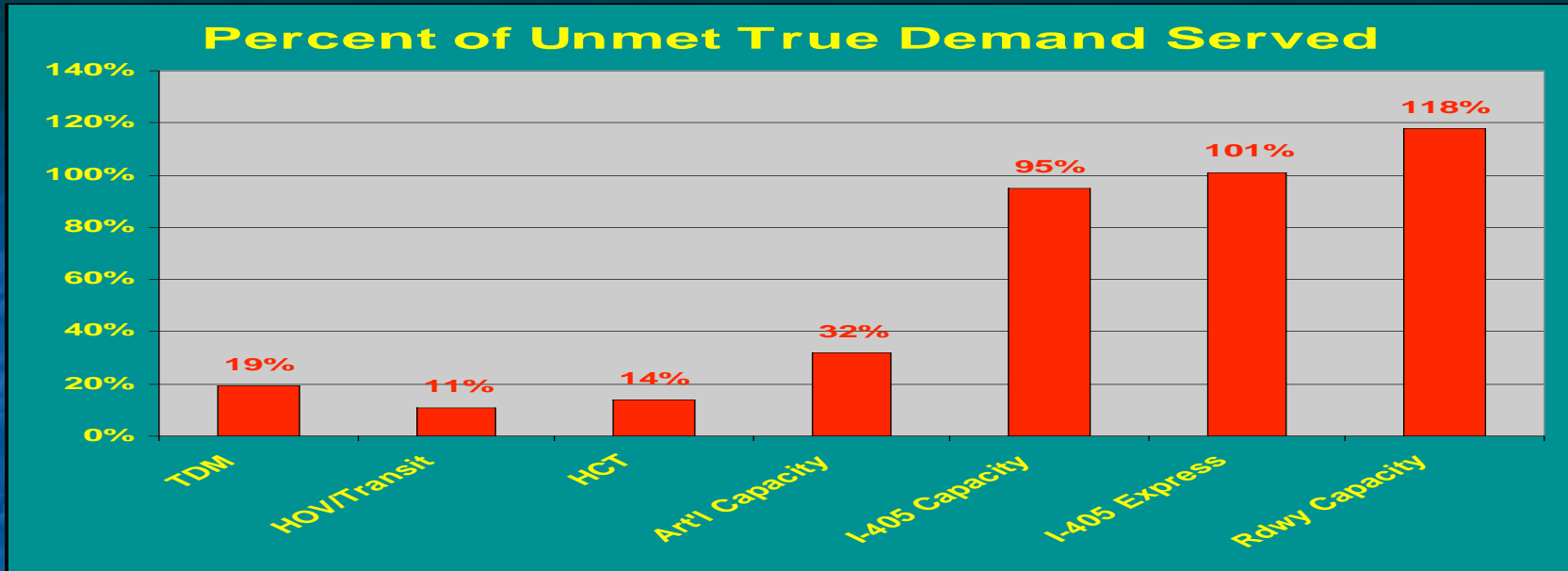
Sound Transit proposal for Light Rail across I-90

by

Jim Horn

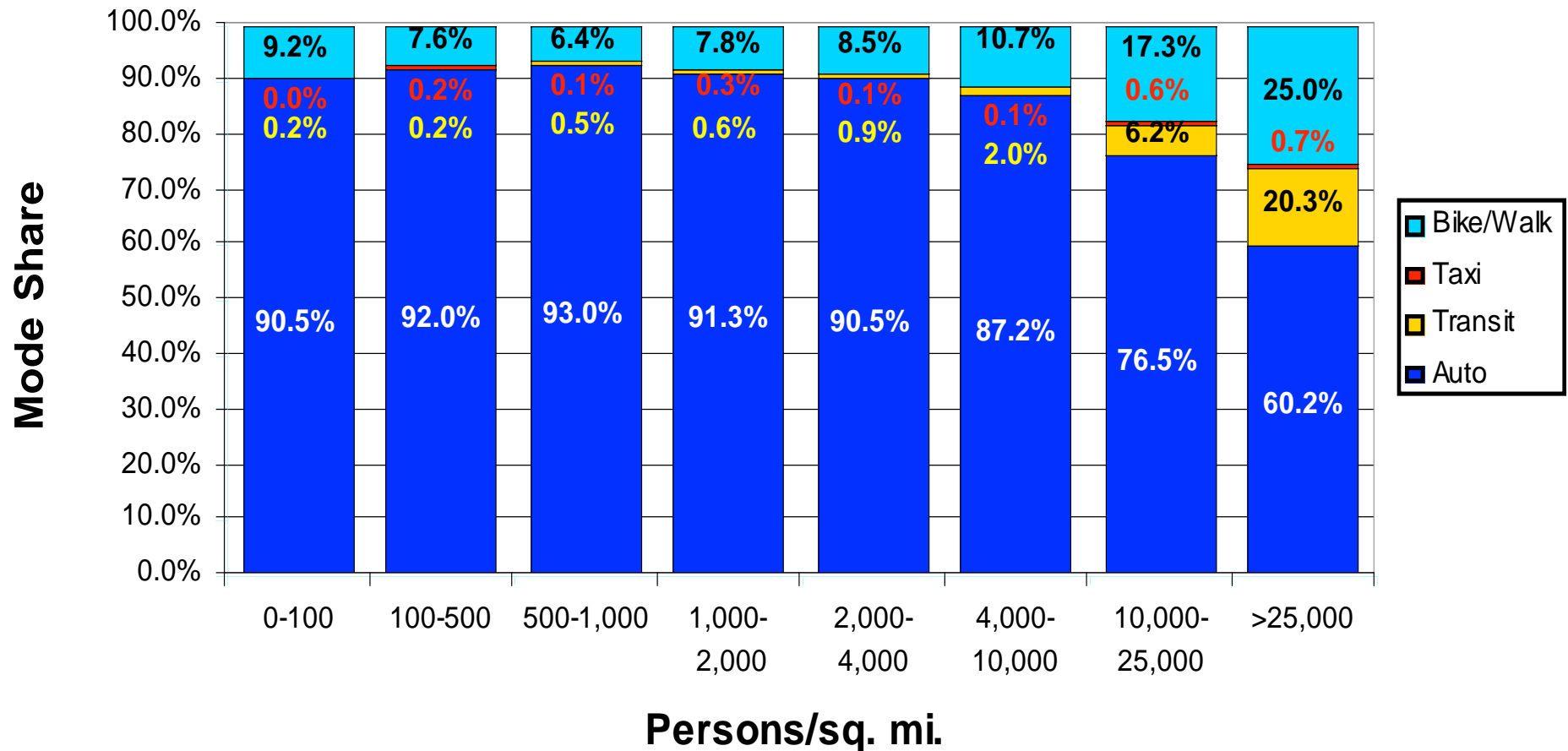
Chairman, Eastside Transportation Association

June 26, 2006



Mode Share vs. Density

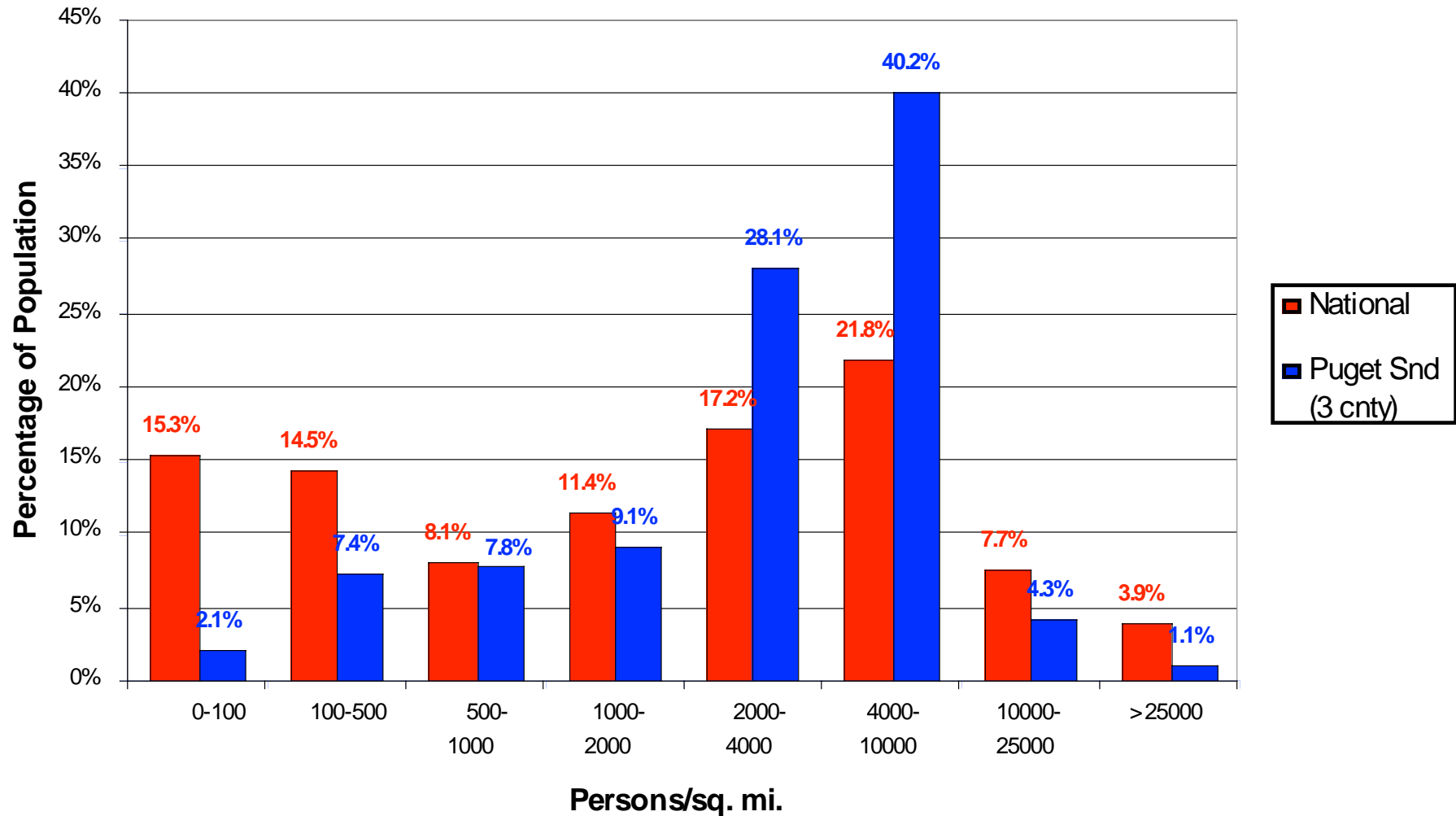
(National, Urban, without New York area)



#2103 05 Aug 04 H/2103/Data/National/Mode Share by Density.xls - National Urban w o NY

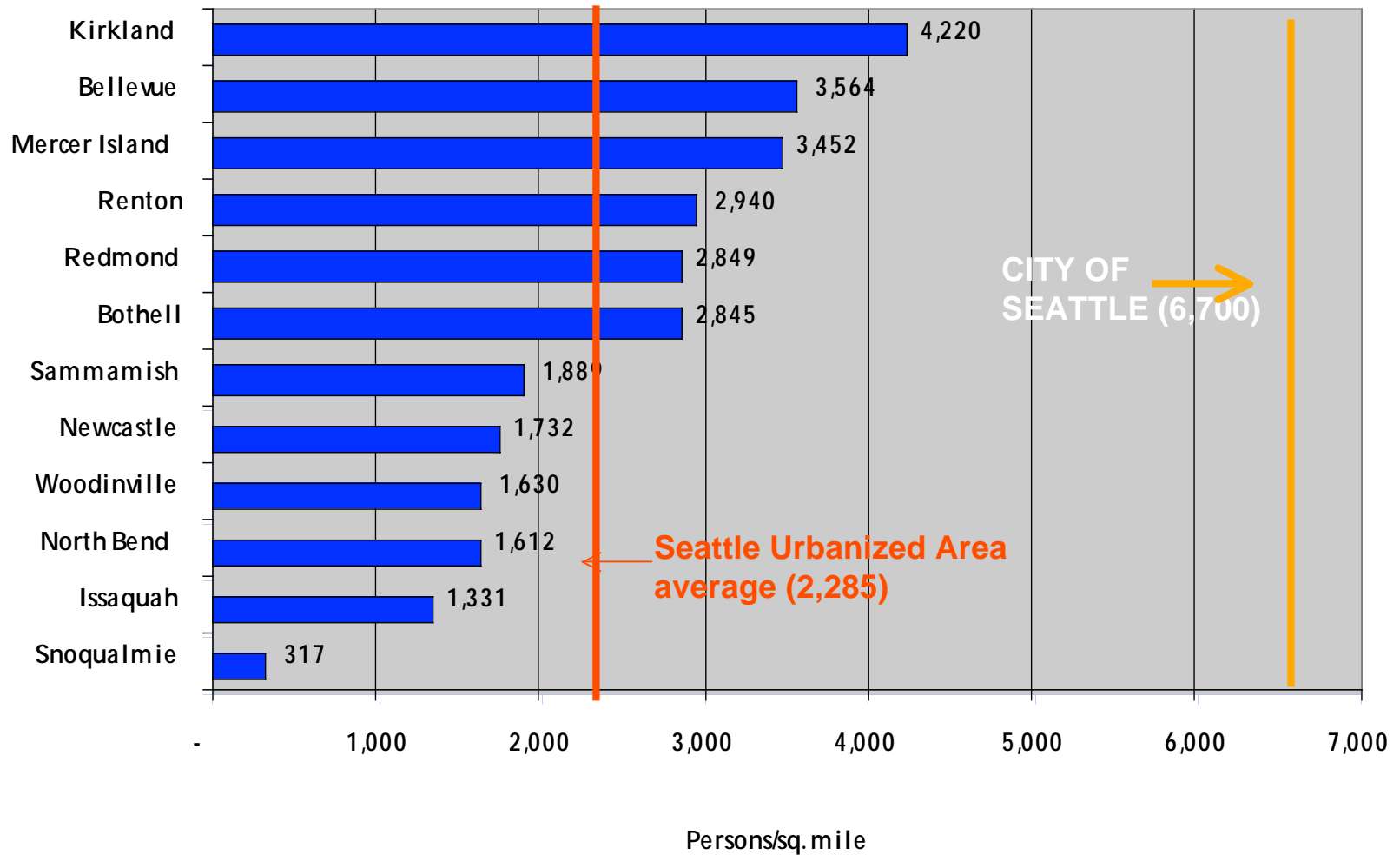
Population by Density Groups for US & Puget Sound

(2000, by Census Tract, King/Pierce/Snohomish)



H:/21103/Data/Census/3 Cnty Census Tr 2000.xls - US-3 County Comparison tab

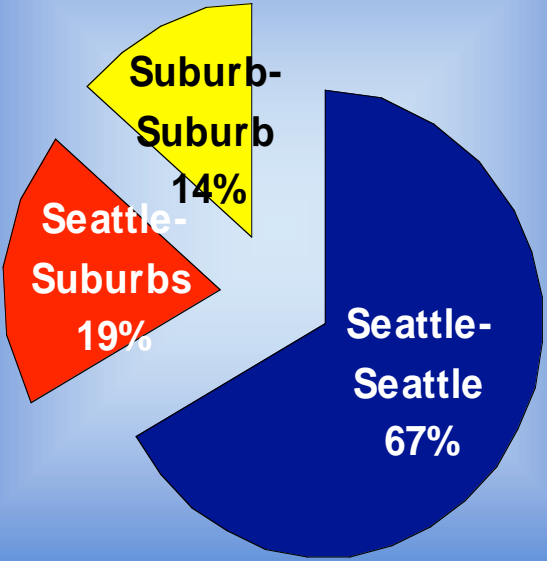
Density of Eastside Cities (2000)



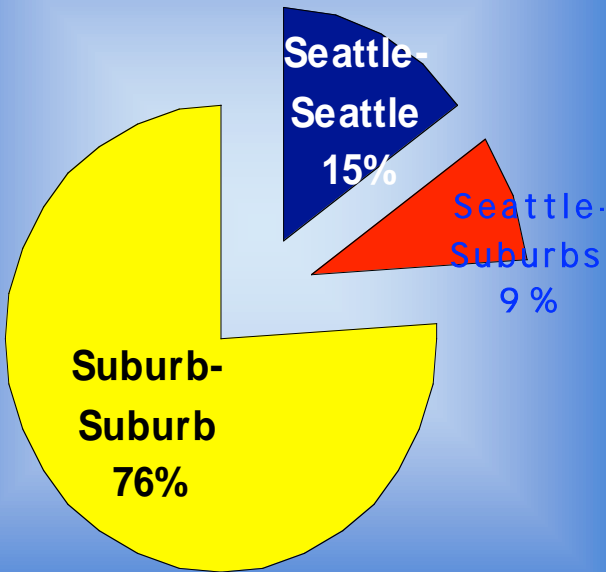
2103/data/census/density of selected/citie

City of Seattle Dominates Transit Trips

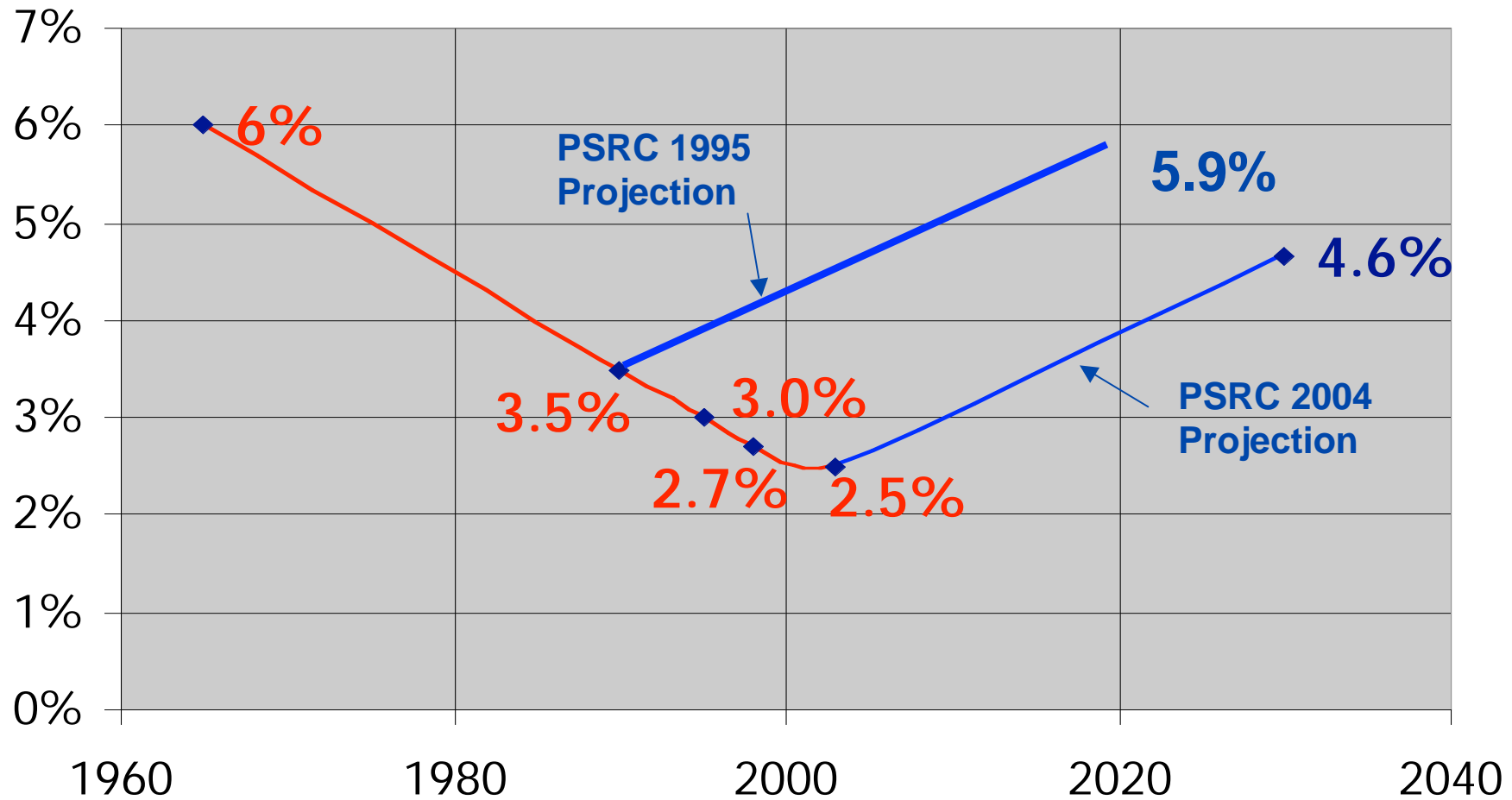
2020 Transit Trips



2020 All Person-Trips



Percent of Daily Person-Trips by Transit (Central Puget Sound)



(Sources: PSRC, National
Transit Database, TDA)

Problems with Light Rail on I-90

Safety on the bridge

It's never been done - major modifications required

Land to bridge transition - slow to 10mph

98% capacity - frequent shutdowns

Tunnel access limitation - BRT flexible

Dedicated use of reversible lanes unwise

Train every 5 miles or bus every mile

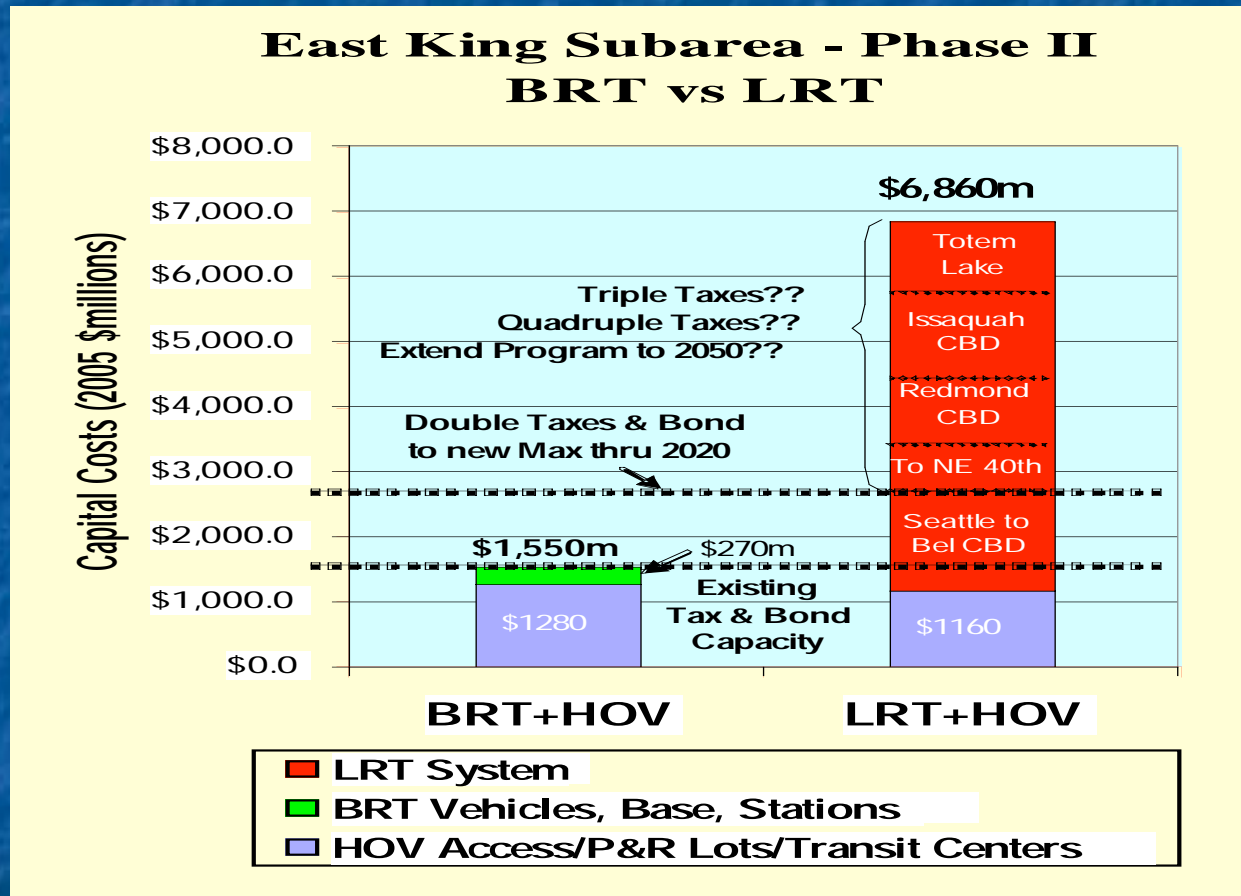
Shifting traffic overloads the GP/HOV lanes

Travel times longer with LR than BRT

WSDOT Report not yet available - Summary only

LR does not serve the information age

Eastside LRT would cost more than 4 times the cost of a superior BRT system



Prepared by the ETA Research Committee:
 Jim MacIsaac; P.E.; Dr. Will Knedlik; Dr. Rich Harkness; Dr. Bill Eager, Chair
www.EastsideTA.com

The Advantages of Bus Rapid Transit over Light Rail Transit

LRT

- replaces some express buses
- limited coverage
- Limited capacity
- 20 to 40 years to implement



BRT/HOV

- builds on successful express bus system and HOV lane
- connects all centers
- Lower cost, higher capacity
- In place by 2010



Summary

Don't fall in love with a transportation mode and try to implement it at any and all costs

Know your customer and tools available
– choose wisely

Congestion is the problem – don't spend money on anything that doesn't help reduce congestion.