

Walkability in Tucson

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Walkable urban design is critical for resilient cities.

In Tucson, walkable urban design could benefit or improve public **health**, pedestrian **safety**, thermal **comfort**, local **economies**, and **social capital** in addition to helping us reduce our carbon footprint.

28% Transportation sector contribution to 2016 U.S. GHG emissions—the largest of any industry¹.

2.1x Pedestrian deaths in Tucson more than doubled from 12 in 2016 to 25 in 2017².

Research Questions and Design



1. HOW OFTEN, AND FOR WHAT TRIP PURPOSES, ARE TUCSONANS WALKING AS A TRANSPORTATION MODE?

2. WHICH BUILT ENVIRONMENT FEATURES PROMOTE WALKABILITY ACCORDING TO BOTH TUCSON RESIDENTS AND EXISTING LITERATURE?

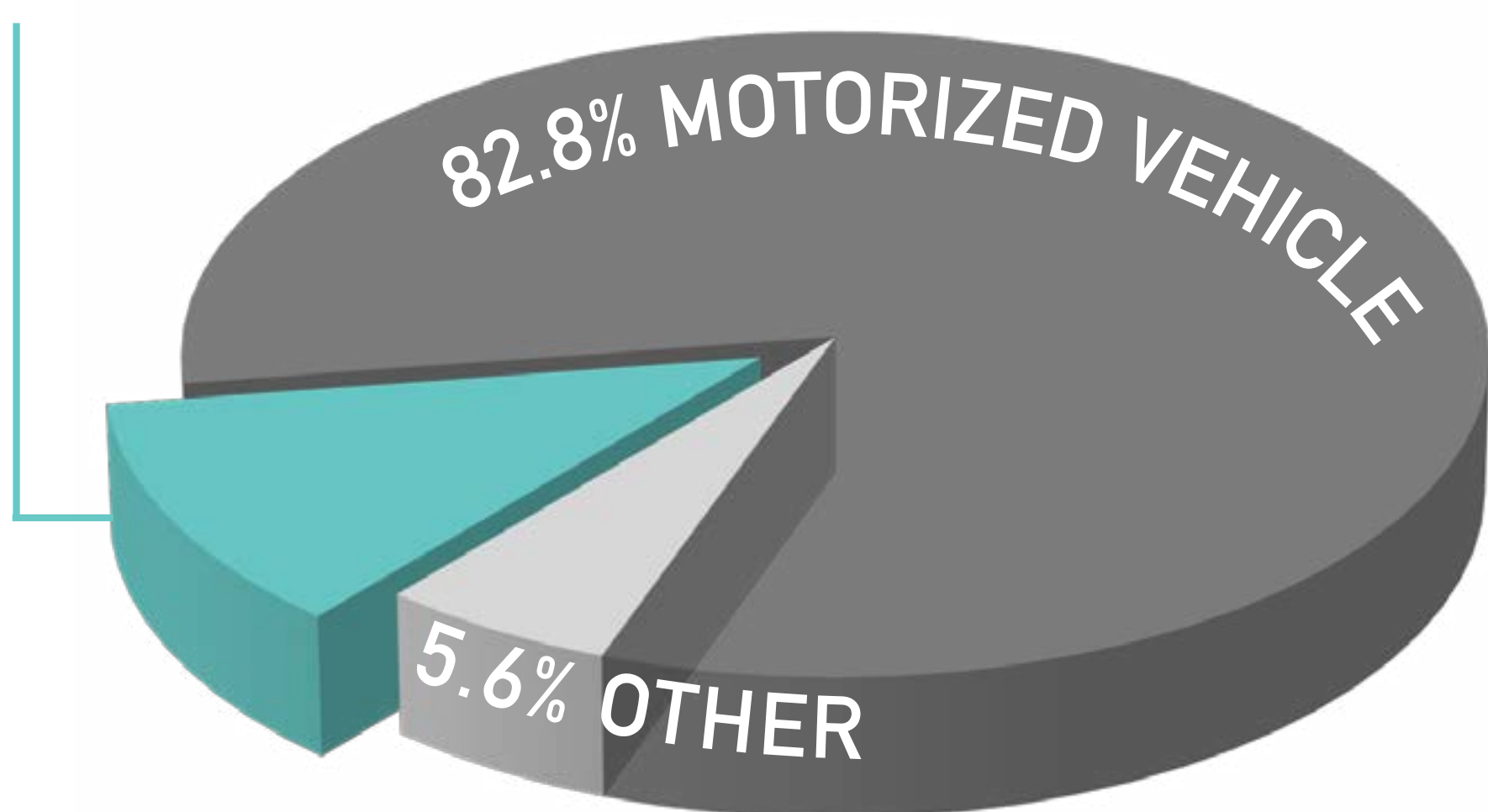
3. DO THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT CHARACTERISTICS IDENTIFIED ACTUALLY IMPACT TRAVEL BEHAVIOR?

Key Findings and Recommendations

1. Tucsonans aren't walking.

Trip Breakdown by Mode

11.6%
WALK TRIPS



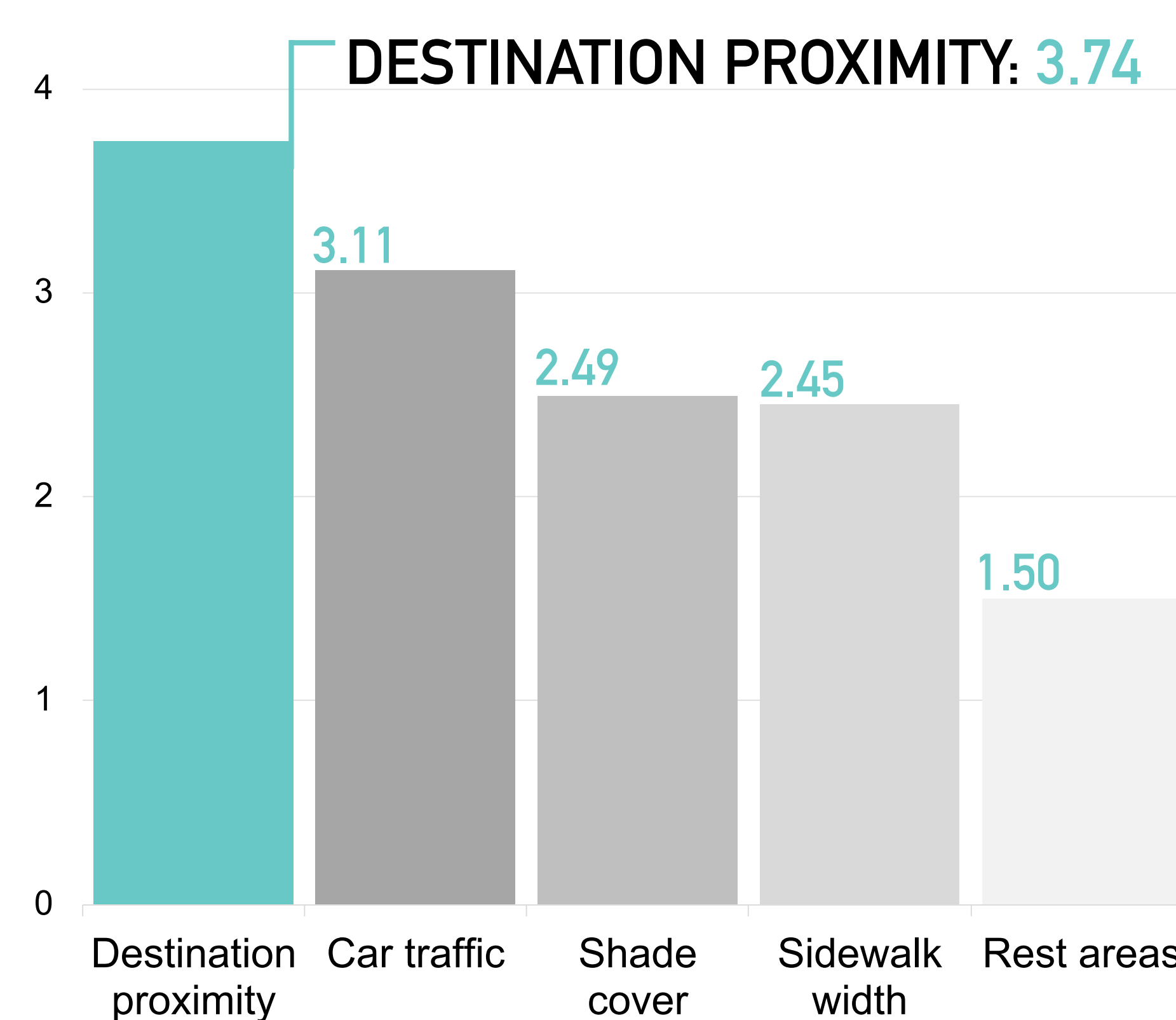
Significant variance in respondent walk trips was observed across

INCOME LEVELS & TRIP PURPOSES

2. Proximity is important....

100% OF 74 RESPONDENTS wish they had to **drive less** to complete daily activities

Built Environment Features' influence on decisions to walk from 1 (not important) to 5 (extremely important)



...now what?

3.really important!

Corbett Porch Before & After



Source: LSA Tucson³

INCLUDED FIVE OF EIGHT walkable characteristics identified by existing literature, **not including destination proximity.**

NO SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES WERE OBSERVED

in pedestrian activity, illegal crossings, or car stopping behavior.

Coordination between transportation and land use planning

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Connection of walkability to social and cultural values

References

1. U.S. EPA. (2018, July). Fast Facts on Transportation Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Retrieved from epa.gov: <https://www.epa.gov/greenvehicles/fast-facts-transportation-greenhouse-gas-emissions>
2. Associated Press. (2018, March 5). Study: Arizona has highest rate of pedestrian deaths in US. Retrieved from https://tucson.com/news/local/study-arizona-has-highest-rate-of-pedestrian-deaths-in-us/article_7e3c1128-2089-11e8-8689-7ba603ec3c00.html
3. Living Streets Alliance. (2016). History, Vision, & Goals. Retrieved from Living Streets Alliance: <https://www.livingstreetsalliance.org/about/mission-statement/>