



# The REAL Plan

## H-GAC Regional Transit Committee

April 14, 2022



**SECTION**

# ***Introduction to REAL***





# What are REAL?

## Regional Express Access Lanes



[REAL Explainer on Vimeo](#)





# What is the REAL Plan?

The REAL Plan is a **comprehensive plan** to present a **long-term vision** for the future that shows how the transportation network will evolve over time to **move people and goods**.

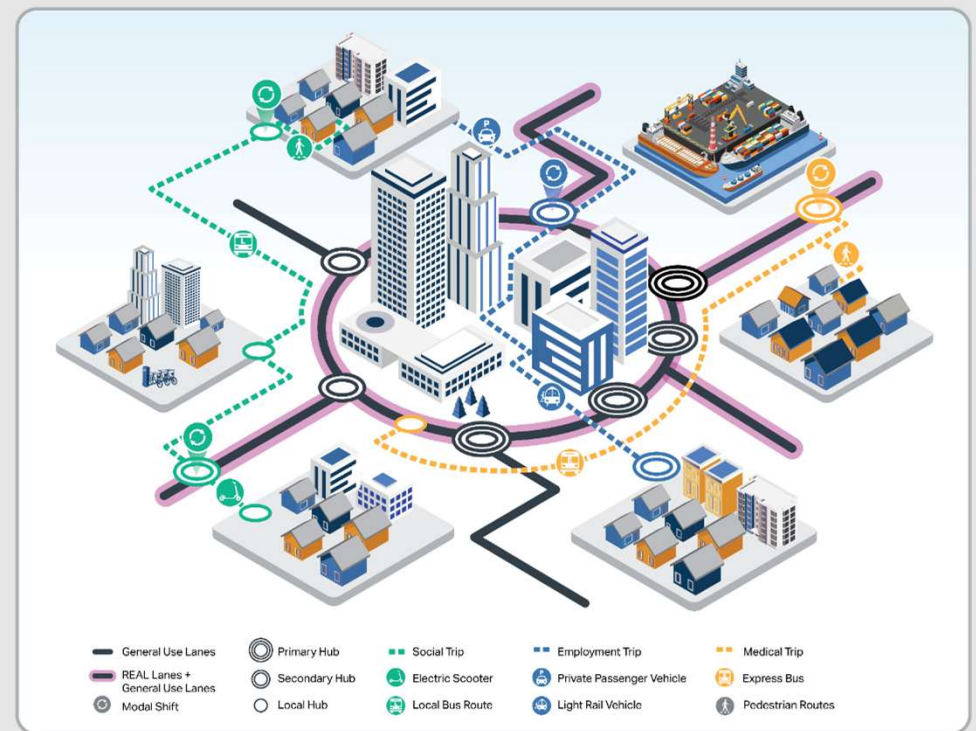
The REAL Plan includes an **interconnected multimodal transportation system** to provide **equitable access** to opportunities for the entire region.





# What is an interconnected multimodal transportation system?

- **Agile** multimodal transportation system
- Connected through **mobility hubs**
- Provide wide range of **multimodal** choices
- **Scalable** mobility concept
- **Adaptable** to future growth and innovation





**SECTION**

# *Why REAL?*



## What's Driving the REAL Plan?



Mobility



Public Transit



Freight



Future Technology



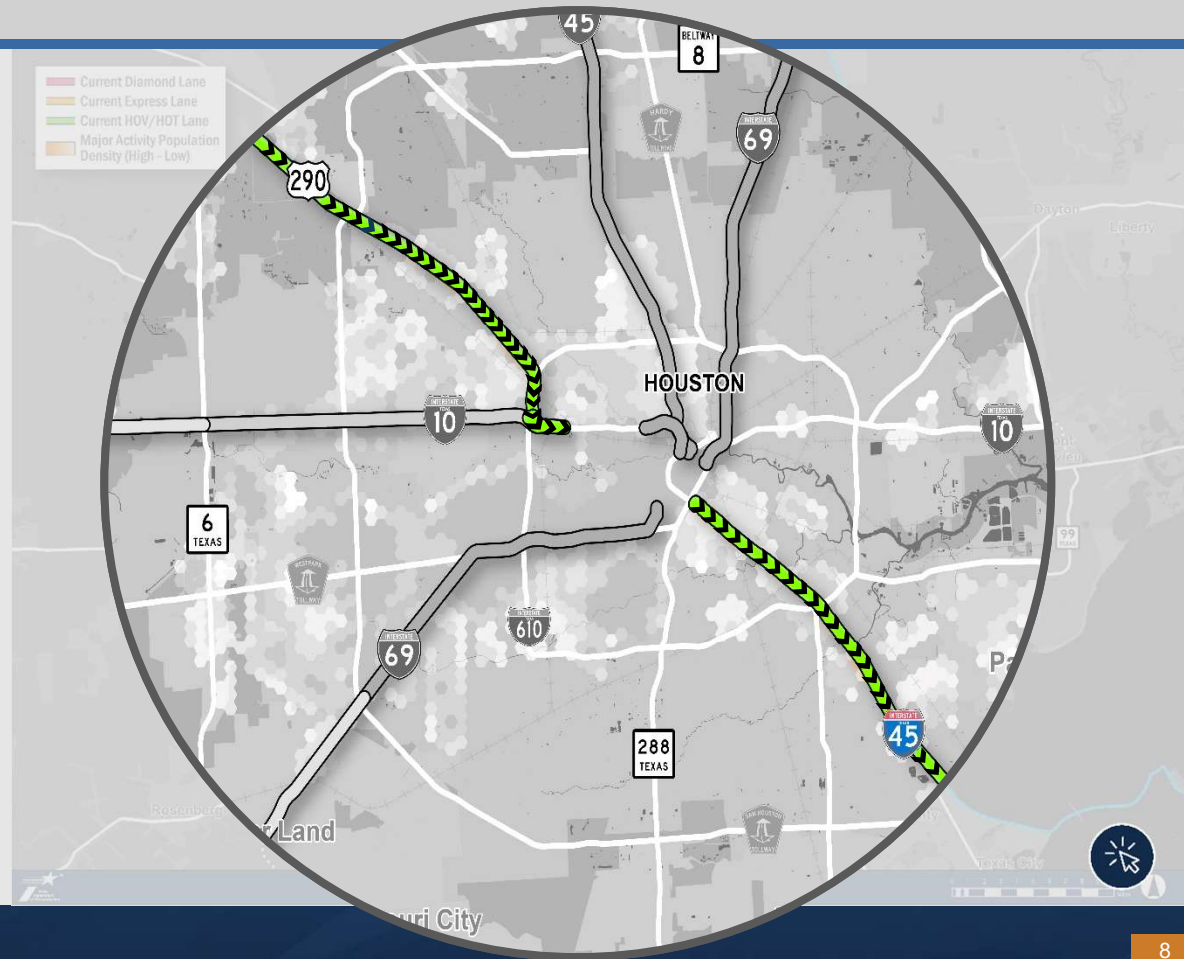
On-going Regional  
Initiatives





## Mobility

- Inconsistent Express/HOV lanes (reversible, two-way, 2+ HOV, 3+ HOV)
- Linear gaps
- No system-to-system connectivity for express lanes
- Current system doesn't recognize demand of emerging activity centers
- Limited travel options for commuters



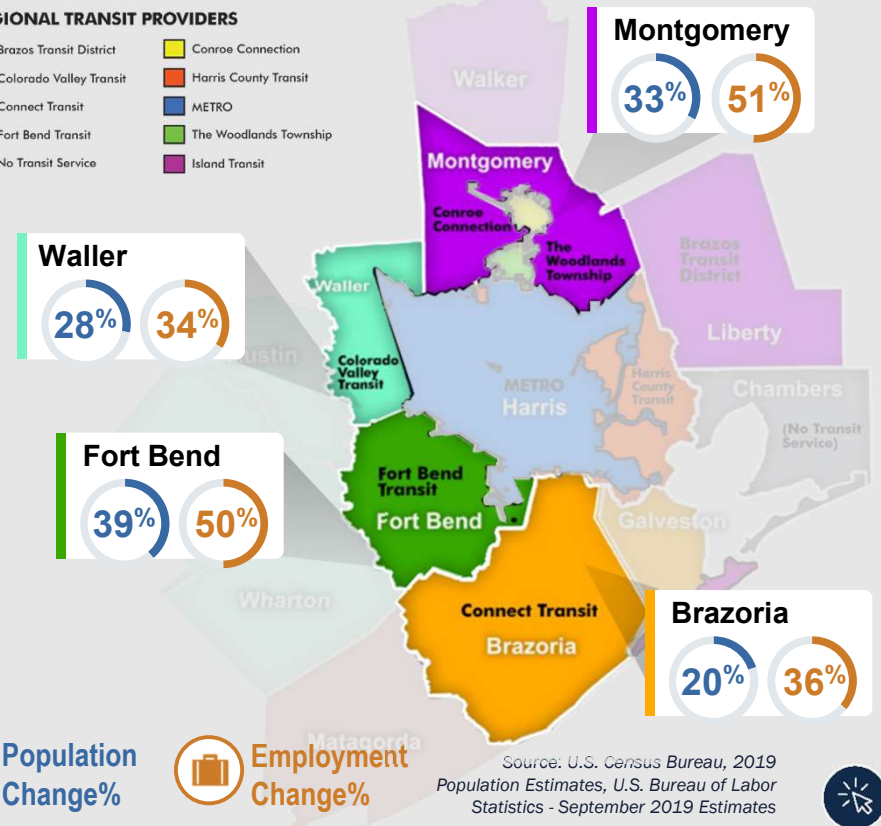


## Public Transit

- Limited transit service outside Harris County
- Lack of integrated/seamless intermodal system
- Tremendous population and employment growth outside Harris County/METRO service area

### REGIONAL TRANSIT PROVIDERS

Brazos Transit District	Conroe Connection
Colorado Valley Transit	Harris County Transit
Connect Transit	METRO
Fort Bend Transit	The Woodlands Township
No Transit Service	Island Transit



Population Change%

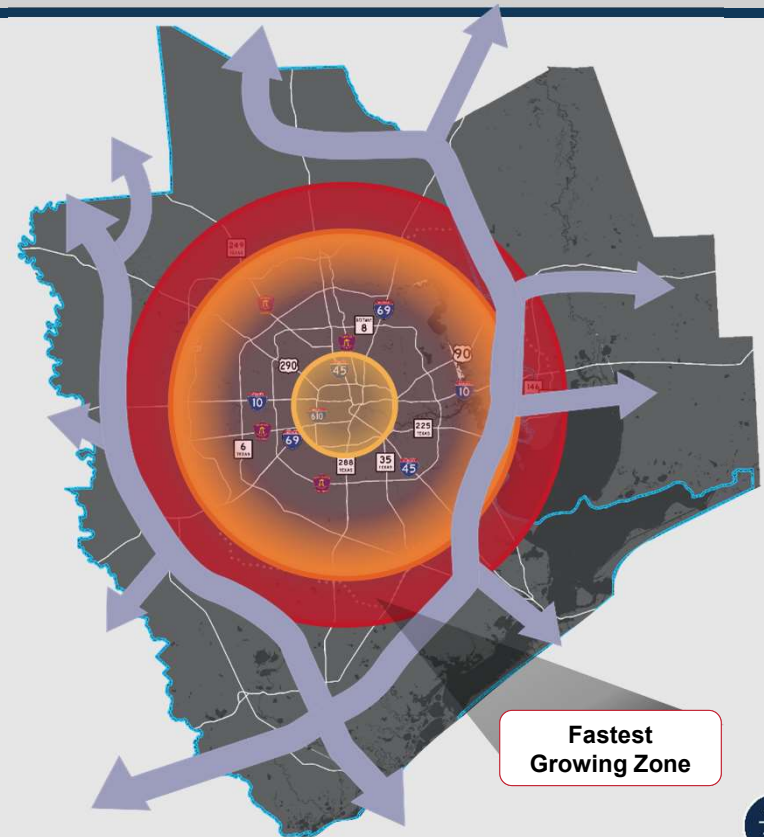


Employment Change%



## Freight

- 6th ranked U.S. container port by total TEUs
- Truck trips to the Port of Houston are expected to grow from 3.5 million in 2019 to 8.5 million in 2045
- Congestion & bottlenecks at interchanges
- Safety issues
- Network connectivity/access to intermodal facilities
- Community and environmental issues
- Keeping freight traffic away from urban core



Source: H-GAC Regional Goods Movement Study, 2013; H-GAC Port Area Mobility Study, 2020





## Future Technology



CV/AV adoption



EV charging



Mobility as a Service



Autonomous trucking facilities



Automated incident detection



Dynamic lane markings



Last mile freight delivery



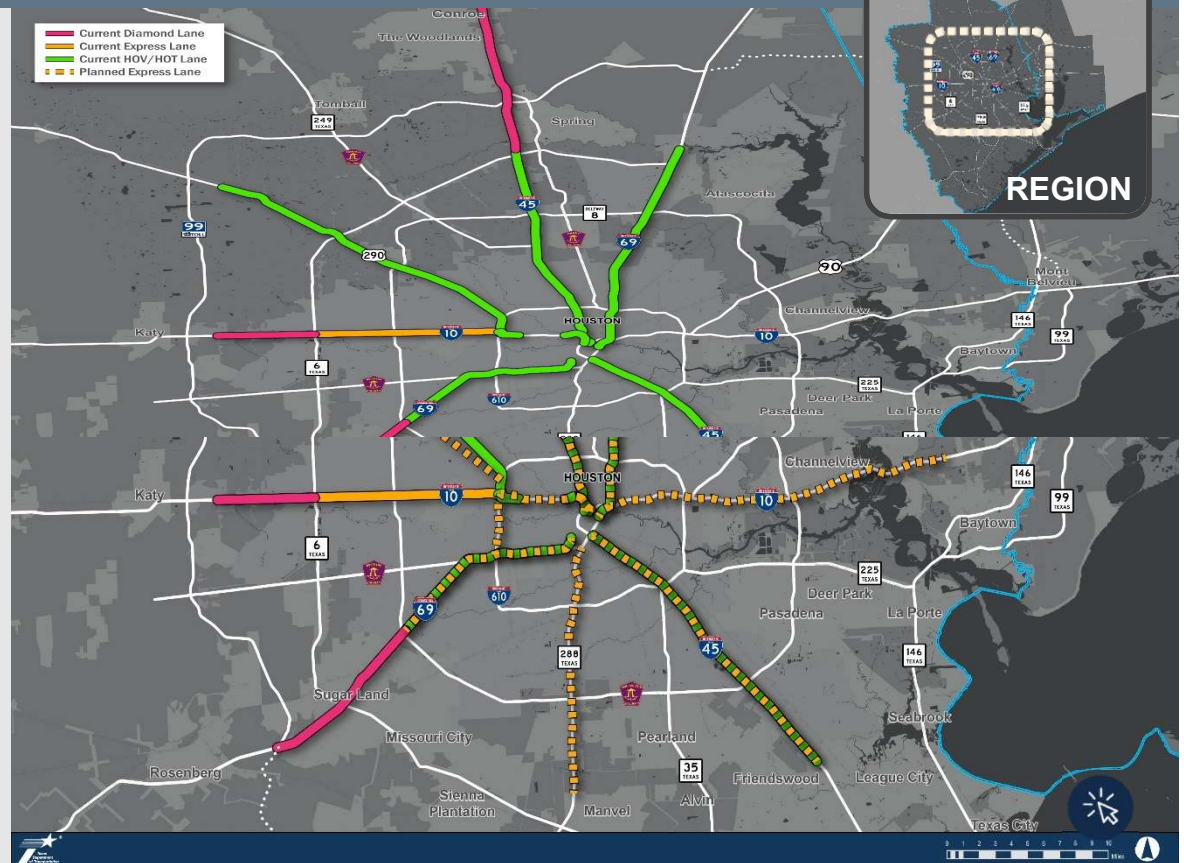
Drone





## On-going Regional Initiatives

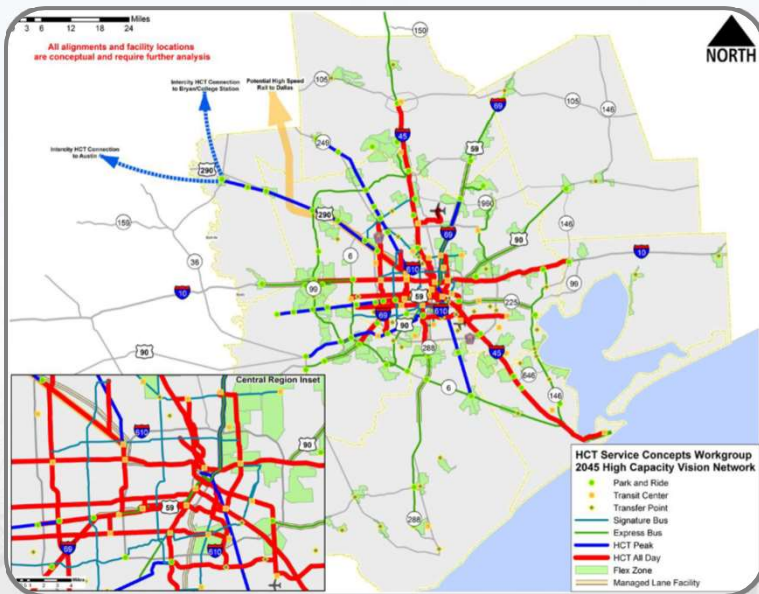
- **143 miles** of existing HOV/HOT on TxDOT facility
- **Future conversion** of HOV/HOT to 2-way Express Lanes along:
  - I-45
  - I-69
  - US 290
- **Planned Express Lanes** along:
  - Inner Katy
  - I-610 W
  - SH 288
  - I-10 E
  - Hempstead Road



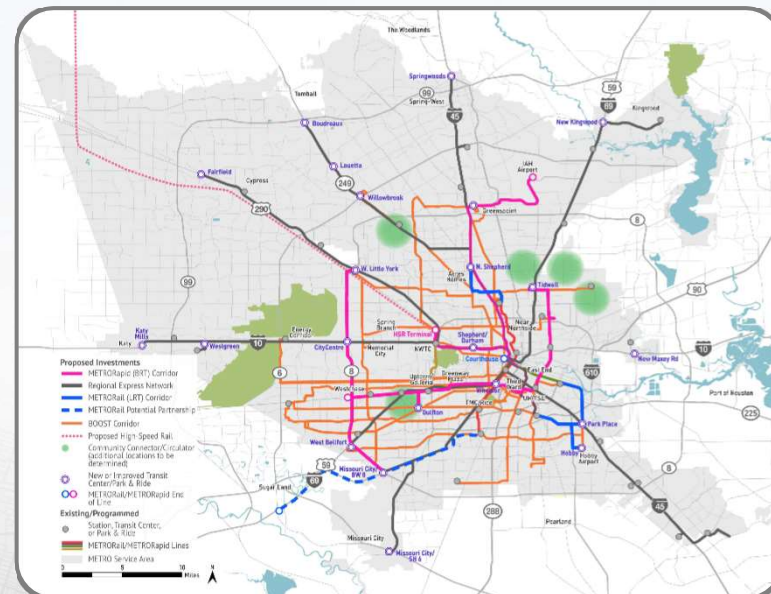


# On-going Regional Initiatives

## H-GAC HCTTF 2045 RTP



## METRONext Moving Forward Plan







**SECTION**

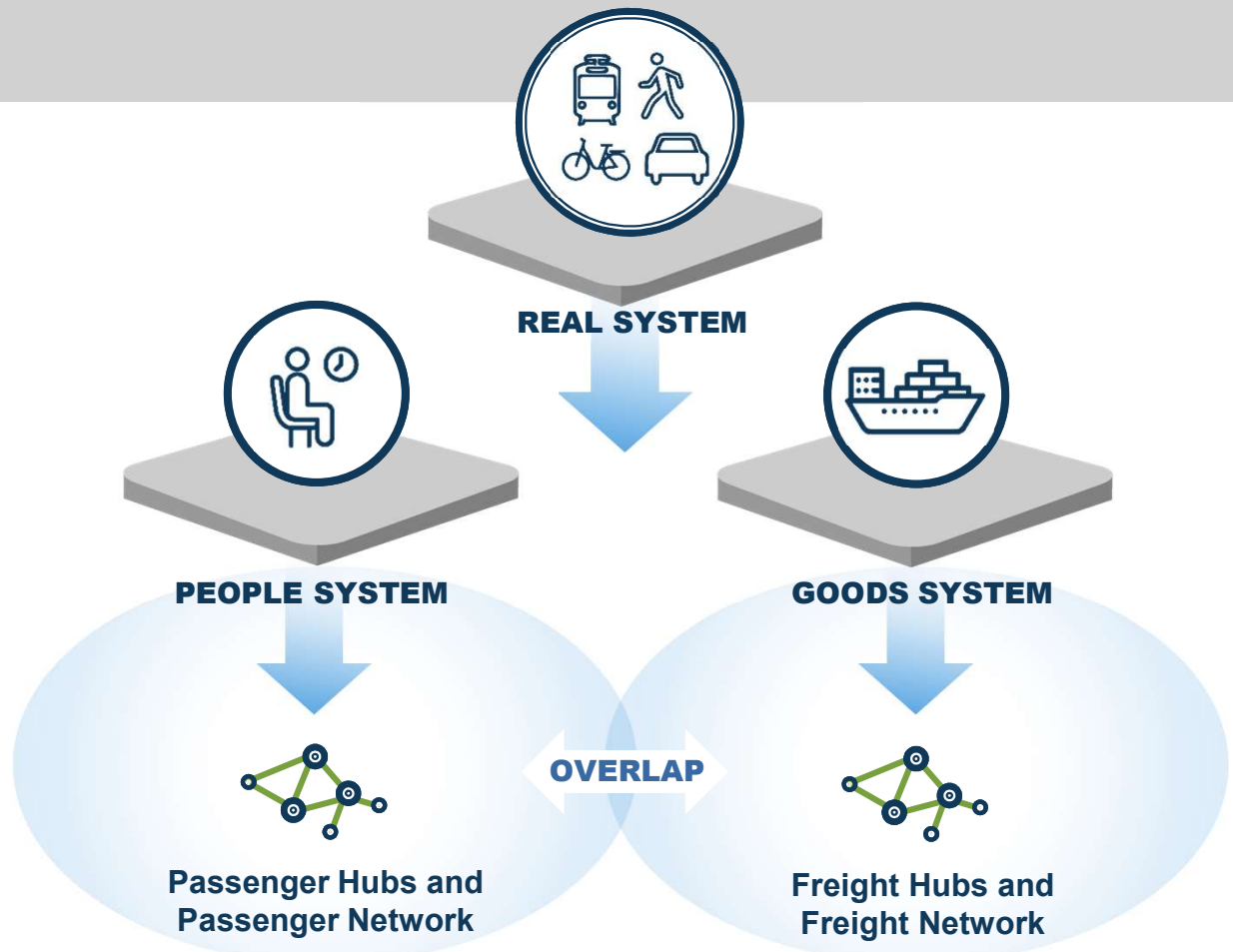
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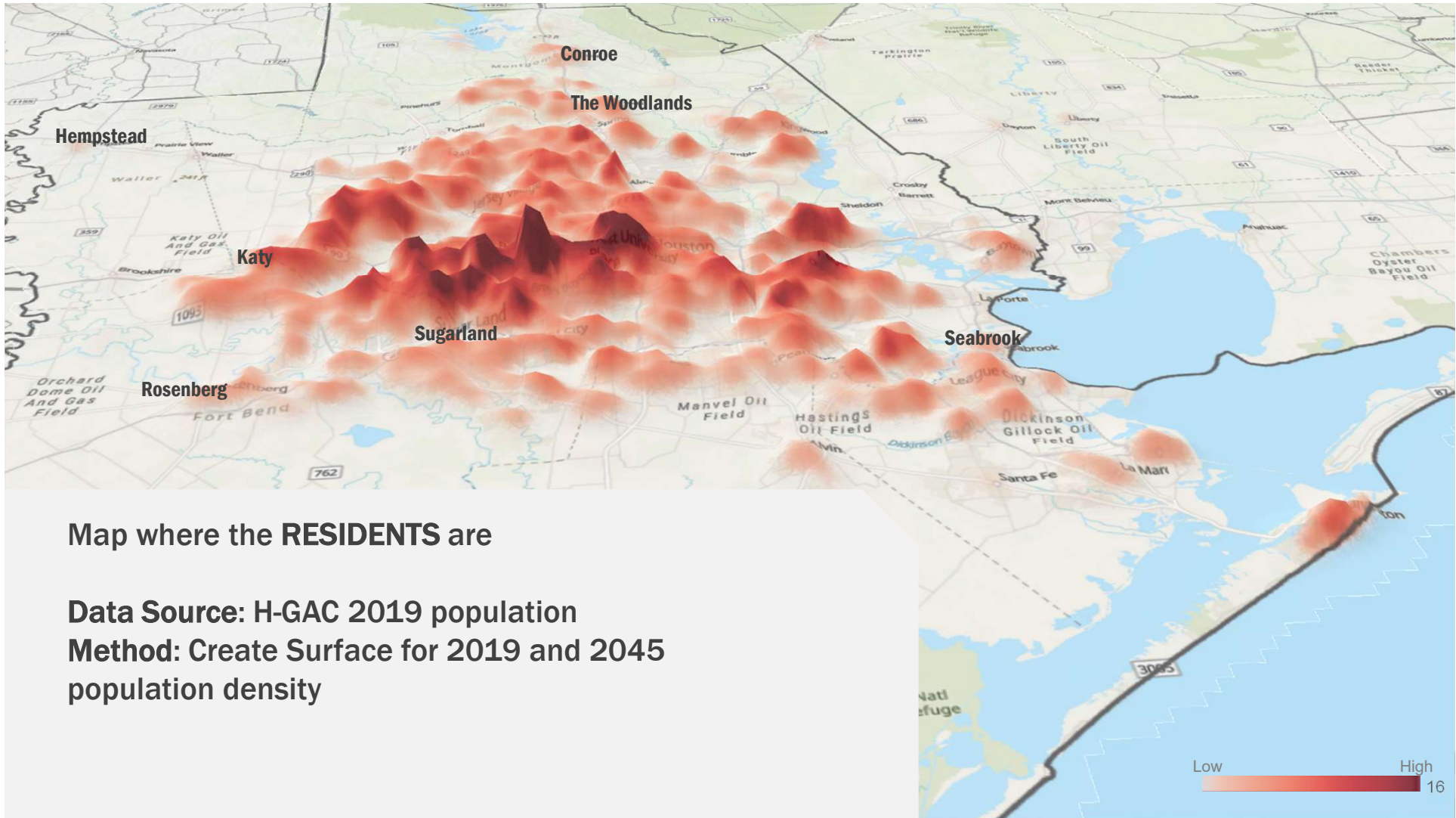
***REAL System  
Development***



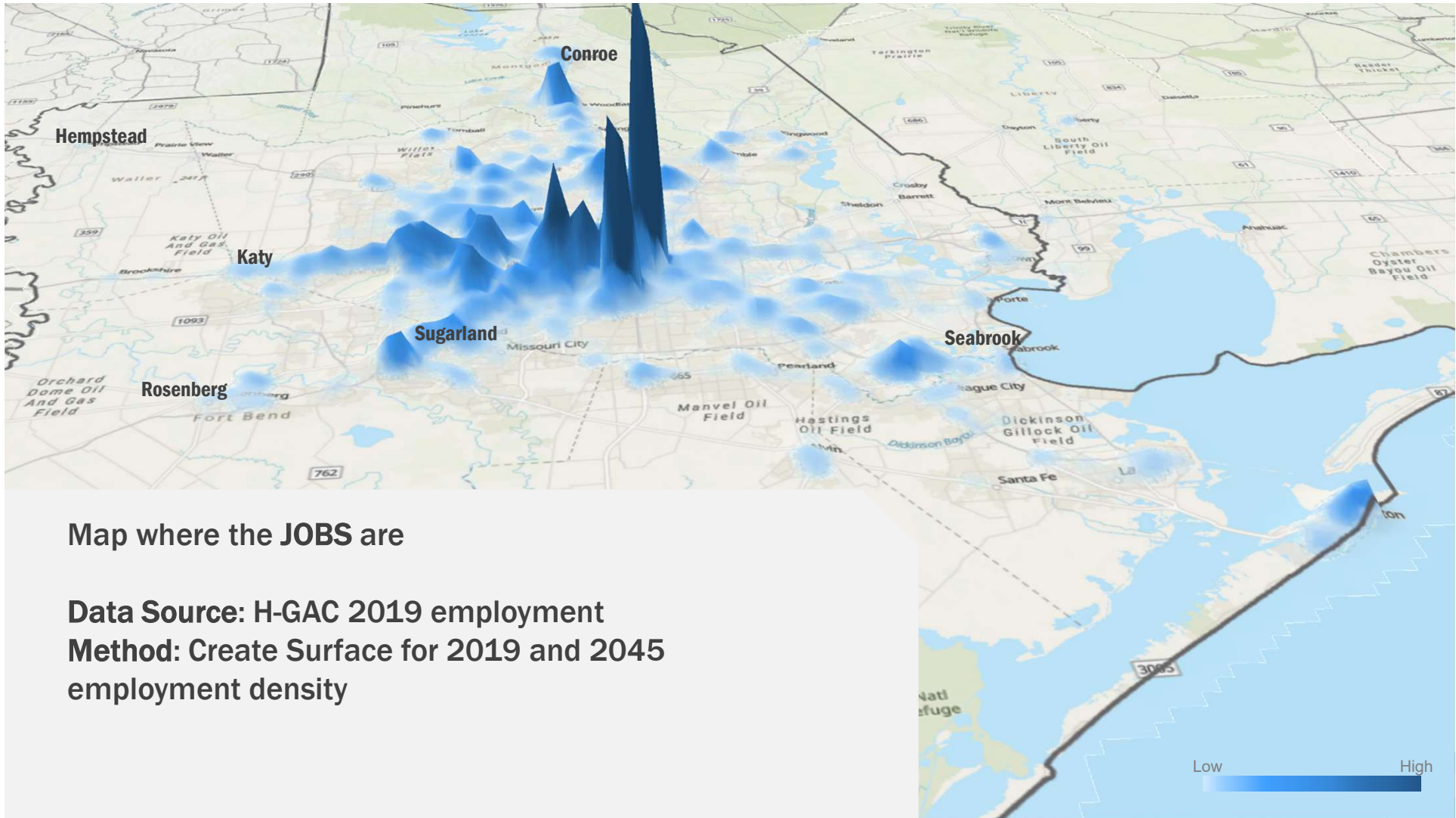
## Overview of REAL System

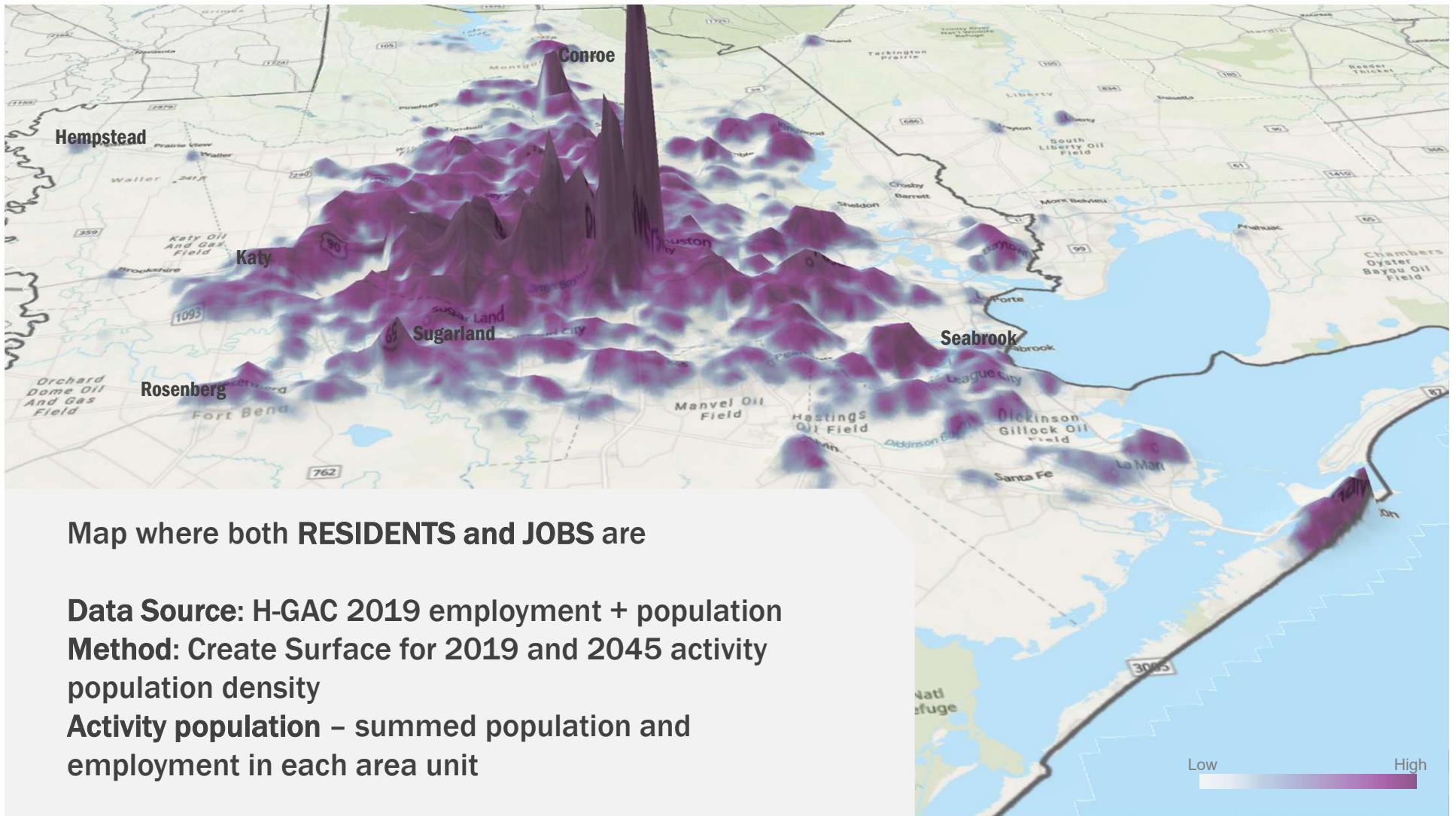
- There are **two** components of the REAL system
  - People System**
  - Goods System**
- Each “system” has two components
  - Multimodal Hubs**
  - Network of REAL Lanes and Connections**
- People System and Goods System will overlap



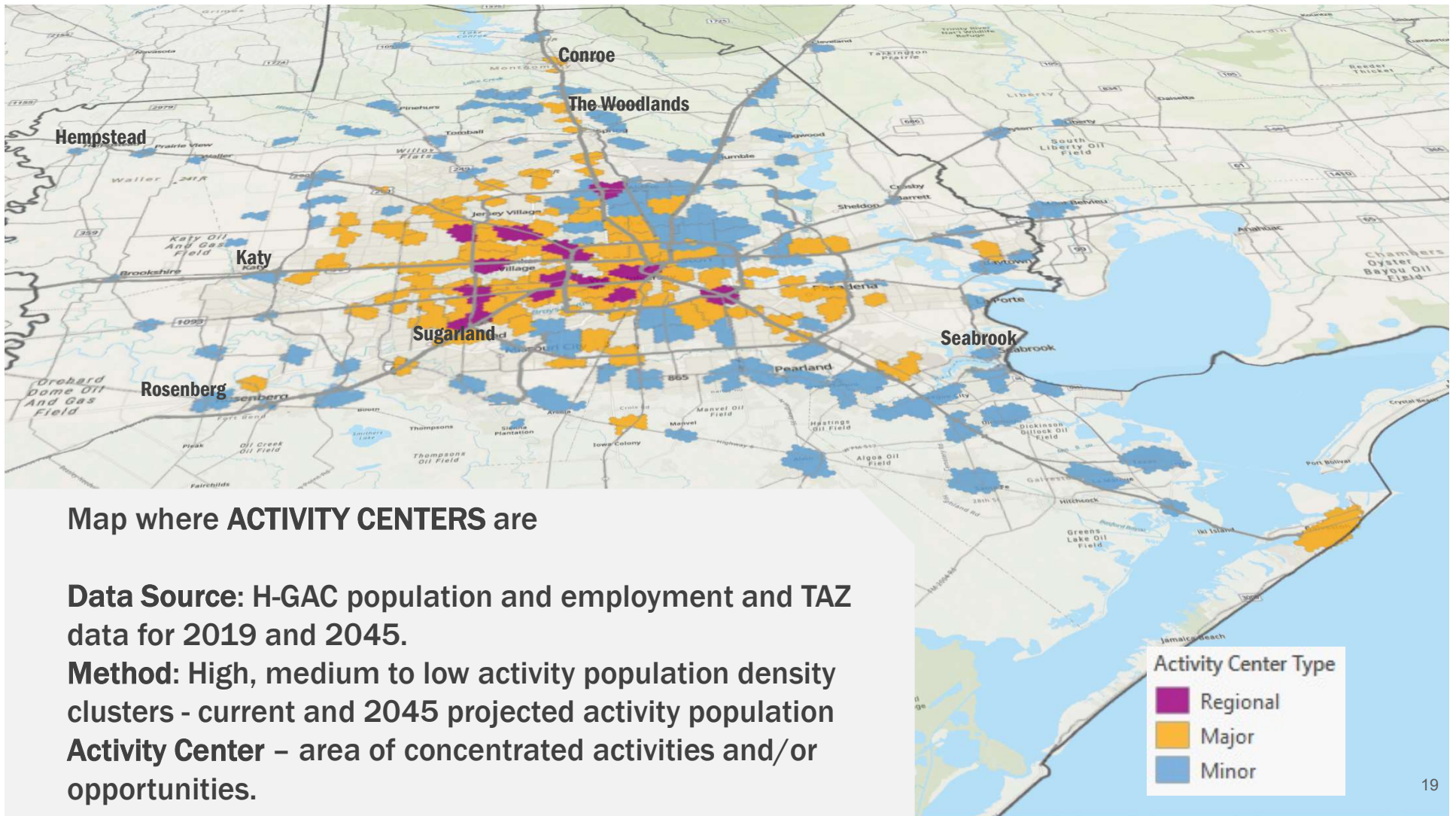




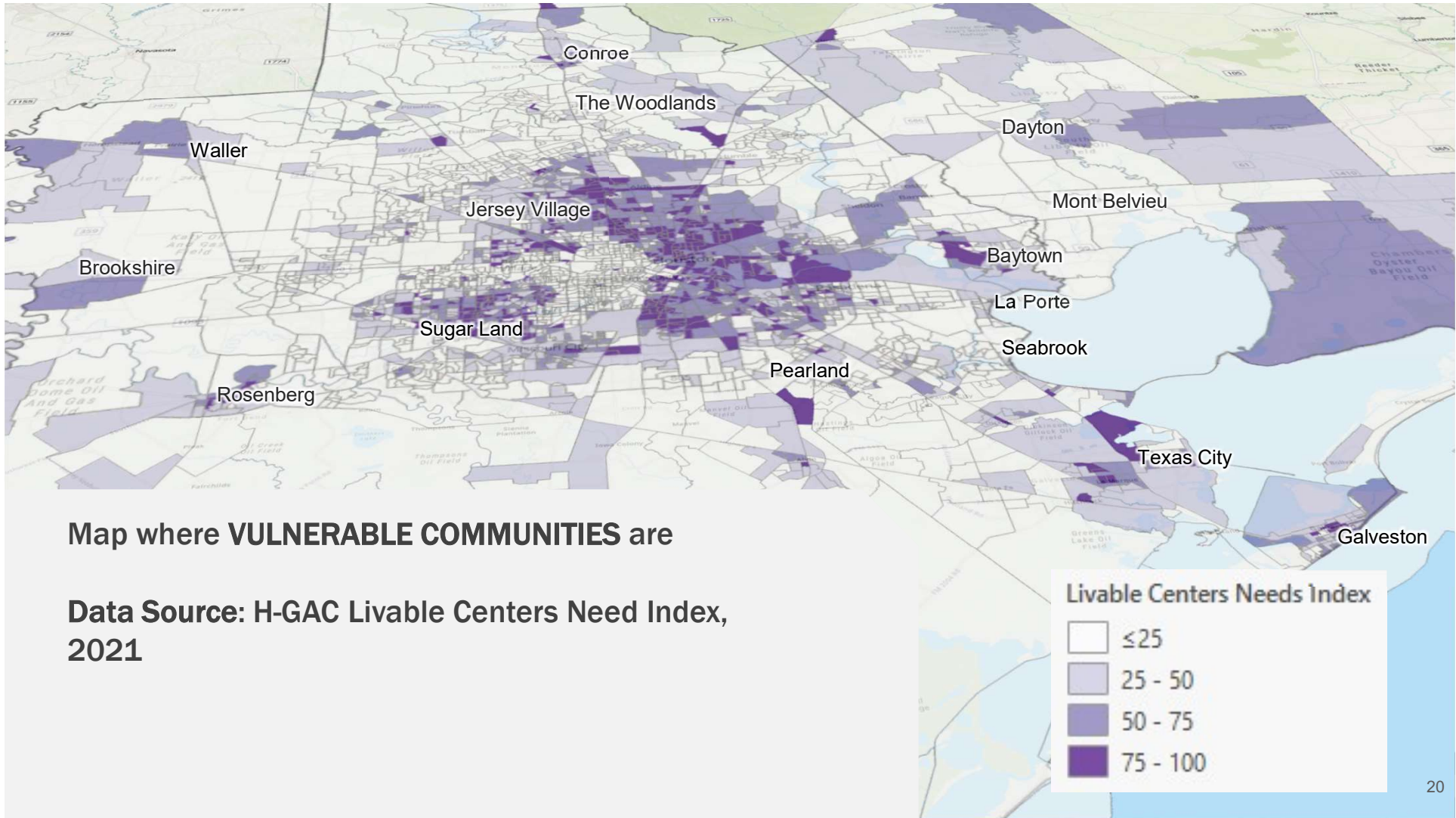


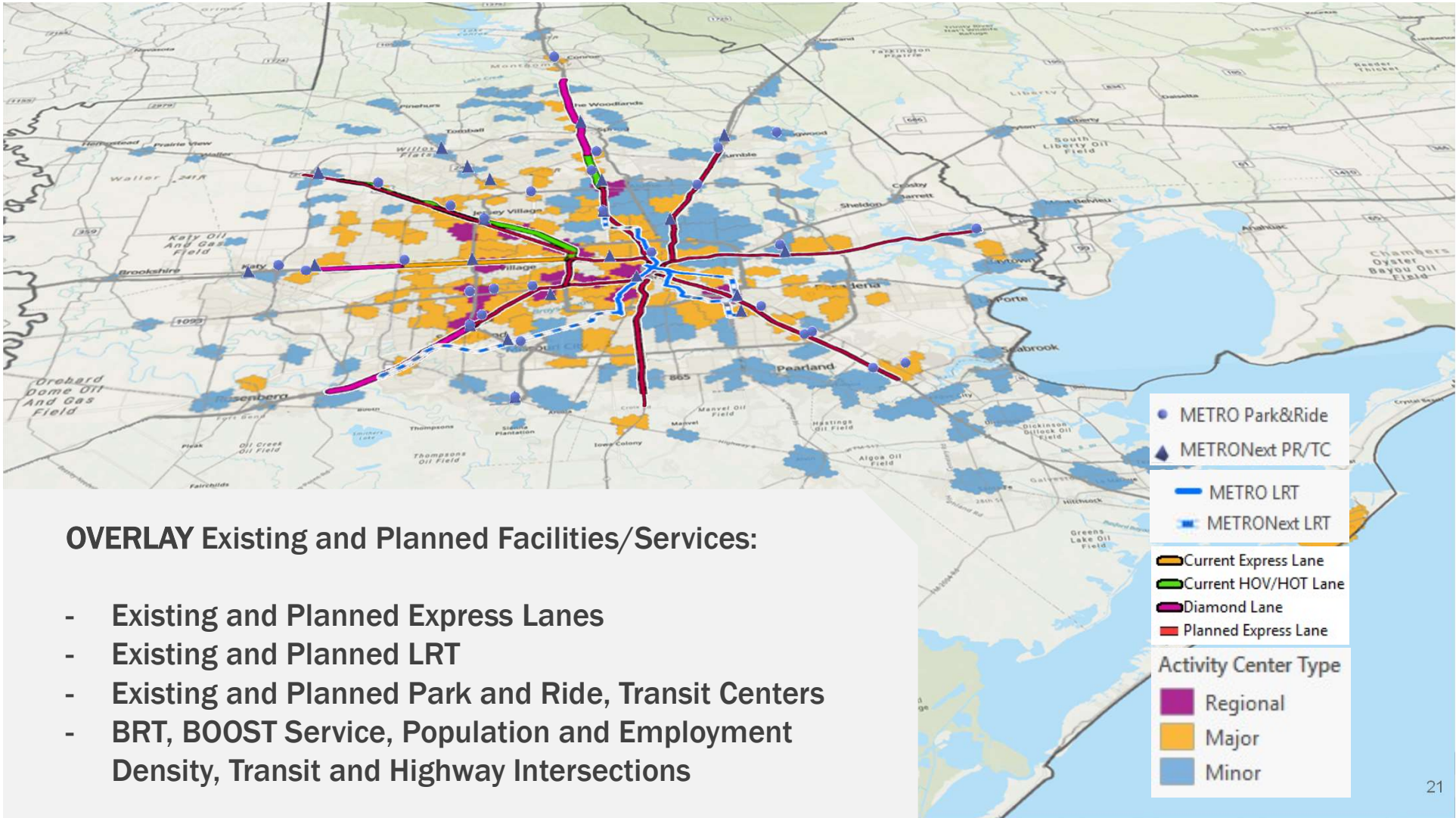




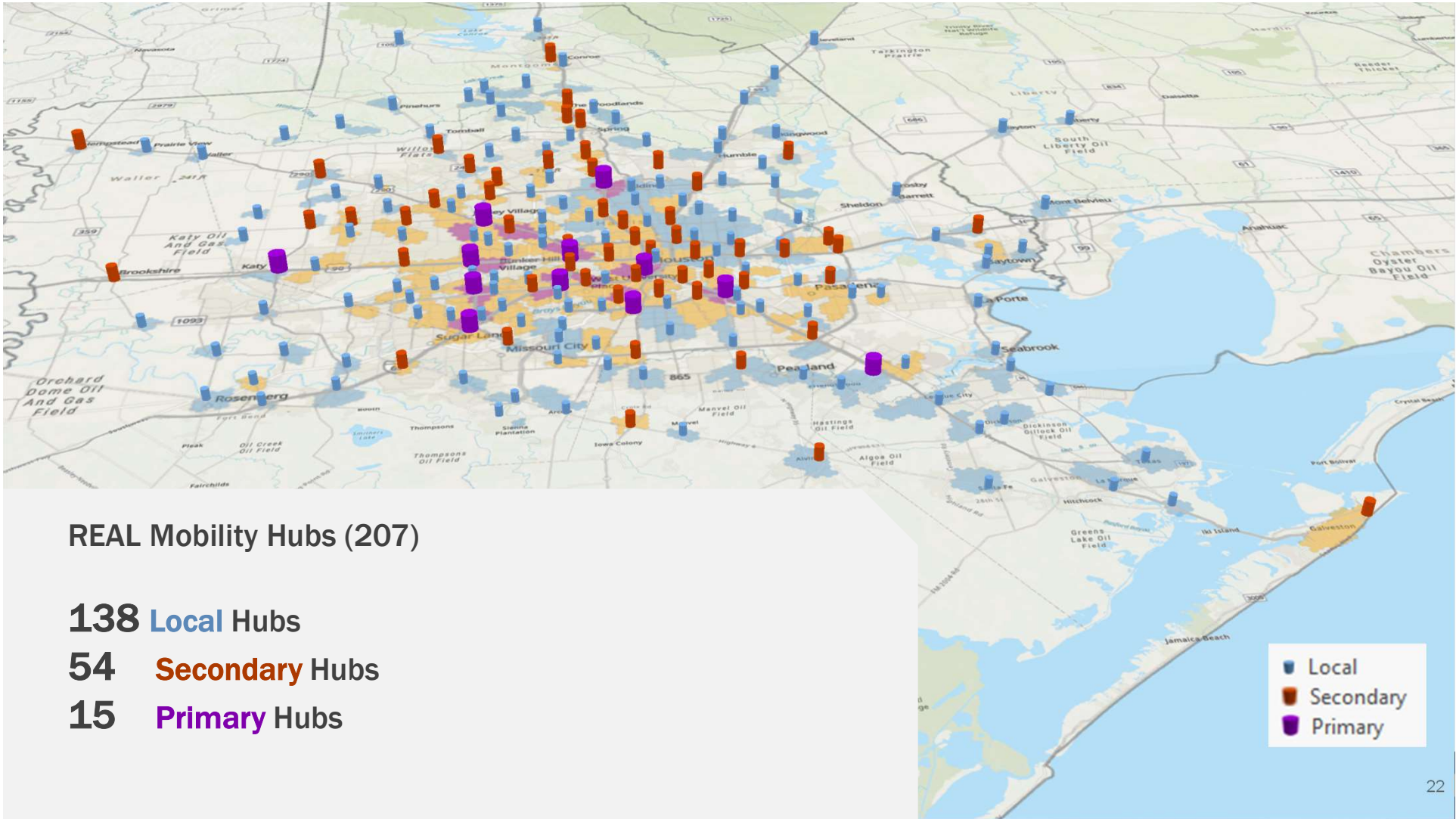




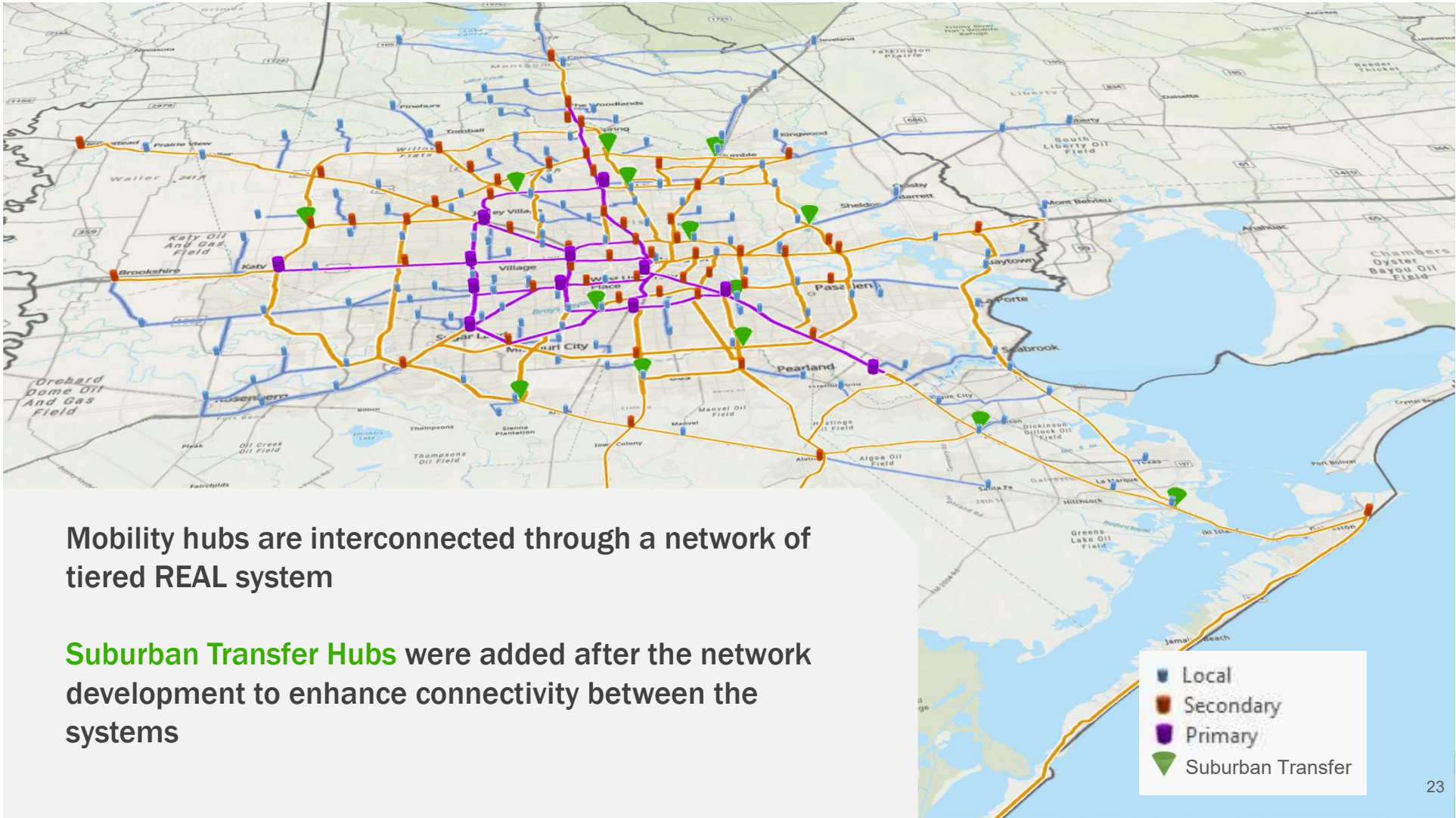












Mobility hubs are interconnected through a network of tiered REAL system

**Suburban Transfer Hubs** were added after the network development to enhance connectivity between the systems



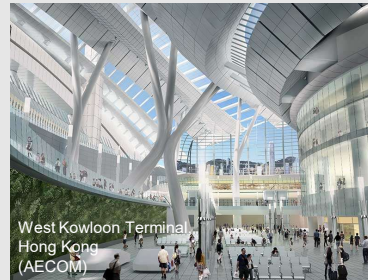
**SECTION**

# ***Multimodal Hub Concepts***

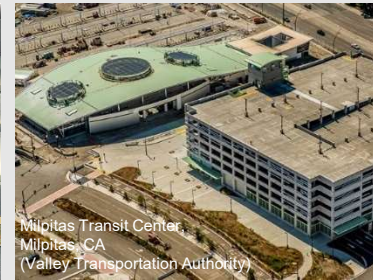
Source: Corbin/Uber

## What is a Mobility Hub?

- It is an **integrated** platform of mobility services, amenities, that connects to the REAL lanes.
- A Mobility Hub serves as a **multi-modal** focal point connecting to the transportation network.
- There are **three levels** of hub depending on the demand:
  - Primary
  - Secondary
  - Local



Primary



Secondary



Local



### Most Intensive

Large-scale hubs that act as focal points for the regional mobility network

### Medium Intensity

Medium-sized hubs connecting regional transportation network and dispersing users onto more local modes

### Least Intensive

Small-scale hubs that focus on neighborhood-level transportation solutions.



## What is a Freight Hub?

- A freight hub is a **collection of infrastructure** designed to support industrial, manufacturing and logistics activities.
- Infrastructure could support roadway, rail, and waterborne modes or the **intermodal movement of goods**
- There are two levels **depending on the type of activity**:
  - Freight Villages
  - Unified Distribution Districts



Freight Village



Unified Distribution District



### More Industrial Use

Activities relating to transport, logistics and the distribution of goods, both for national and international transit, are carried out by various operators

### More Commercial / Residential Use

Freight accessing residential and retail properties, consolidation of deliveries, promotion of alternative delivery methods and delivery infrastructure



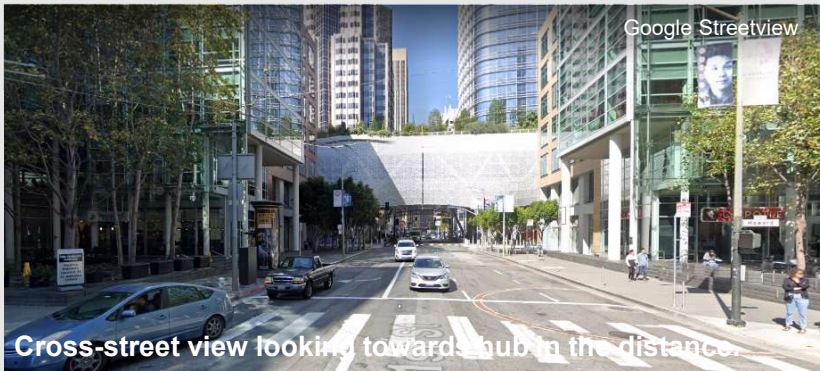
**SECTION**

**3**

***Multimodal Hub  
Concept***



# Example Hub: Salesforce Transit Center, San Francisco



Cross-street view looking towards hub in the distance.

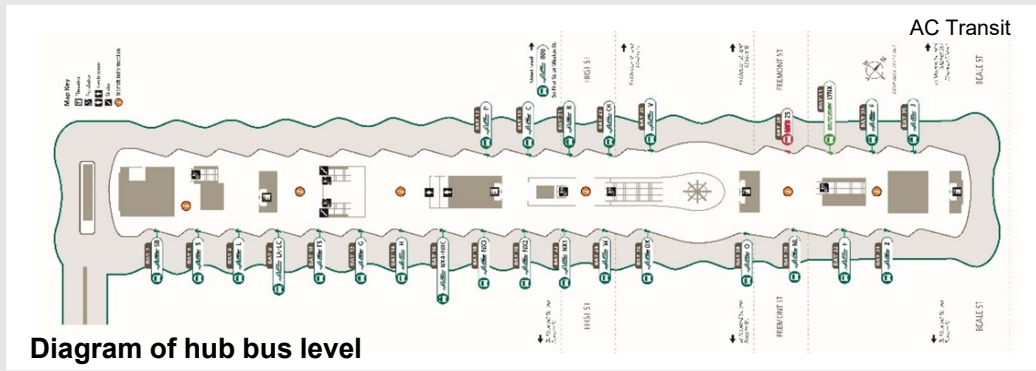
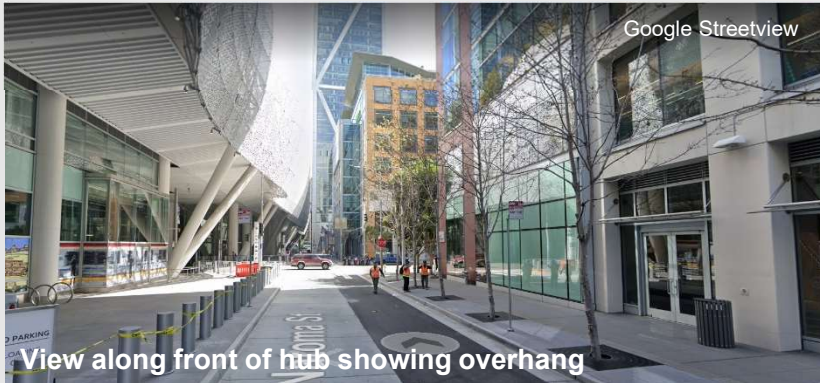


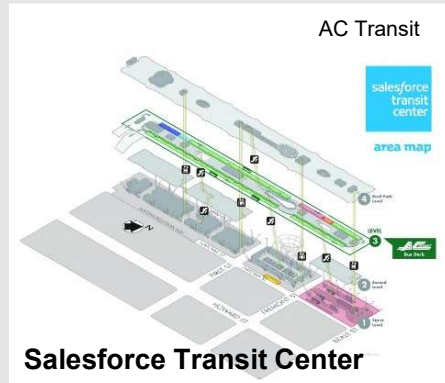
Diagram of hub bus level



View along front of hub showing overhang



Cross-section view of hub



Salesforce Transit Center



## Downtown Hub Rendering



## Downtown Hub Animation







**SECTION**

**4**

***What's Next?***



# Where do we go from here?

## COLLABORATION

Continue collaboration with regional stakeholders

## INTEGRATION

Integrate all planned transportation improvements and initiatives in a cohesive plan

## FLEXIBILITY

Provide maximum flexibility for stakeholders to connect to TxDOT system

## MULTIMODAL CHOICE

Serve all users in the region by creating a system that saves time, money and offer multimodal choices

## AGILE SYSTEM

Provide agile system to address freight & economic development



# Thank You

For more information: [TxDOT.gov](http://TxDOT.gov) and Search: The REAL Plan

Andrew C. Mao, P.E., Director, District Transportation Planning  
[Andrew.Mao@txdot.gov](mailto:Andrew.Mao@txdot.gov)

Catherine McCreight, MBA, MA, Project Manager  
[Catherine.McCreight@txdot.gov](mailto:Catherine.McCreight@txdot.gov)

