

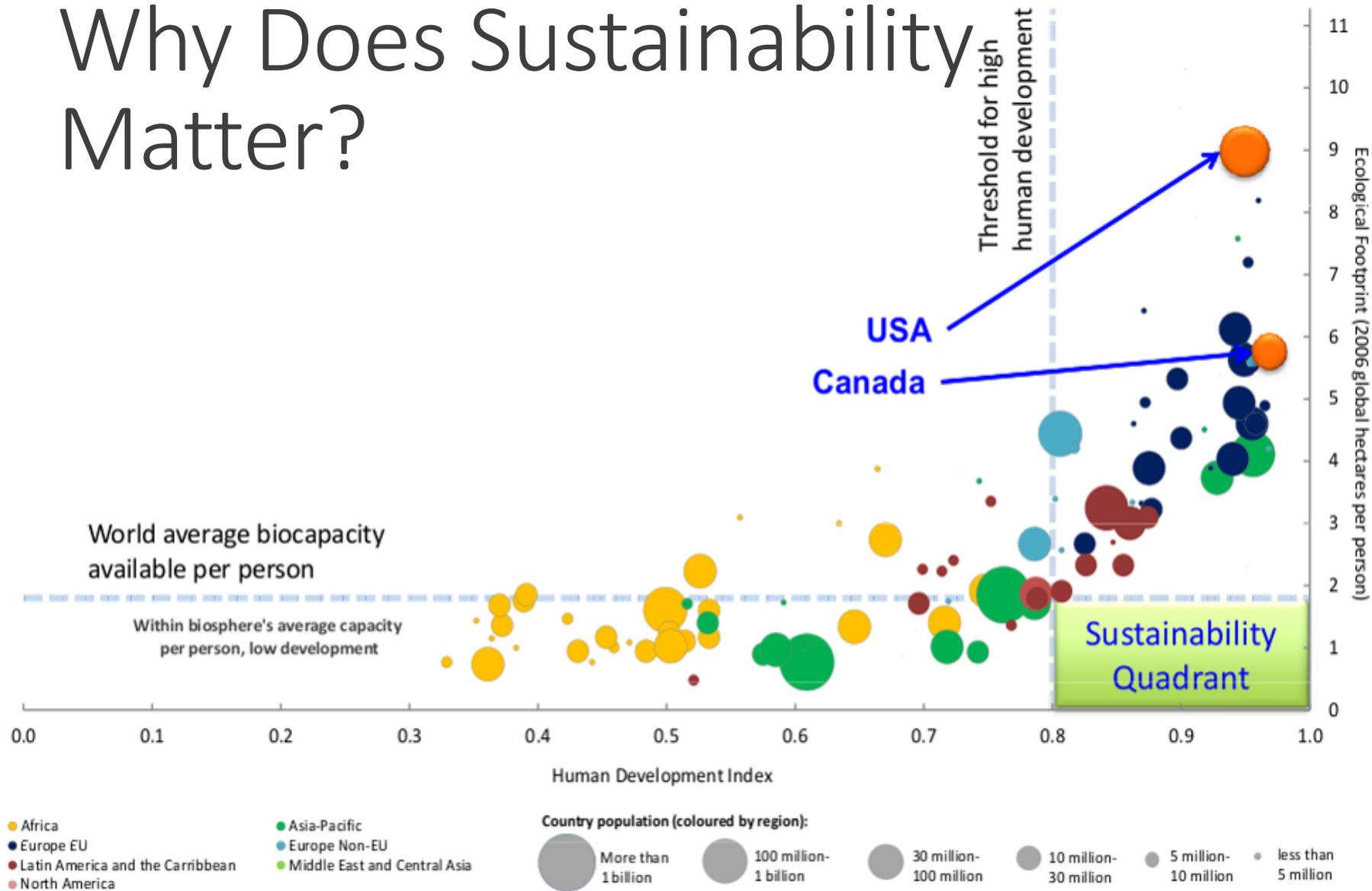


# Introduction to Sustainable Transportation

Ryan P. Avery, PhD, PE, AICP, GISP, ENV SP

University of Washington

# Why Does Sustainability Matter?

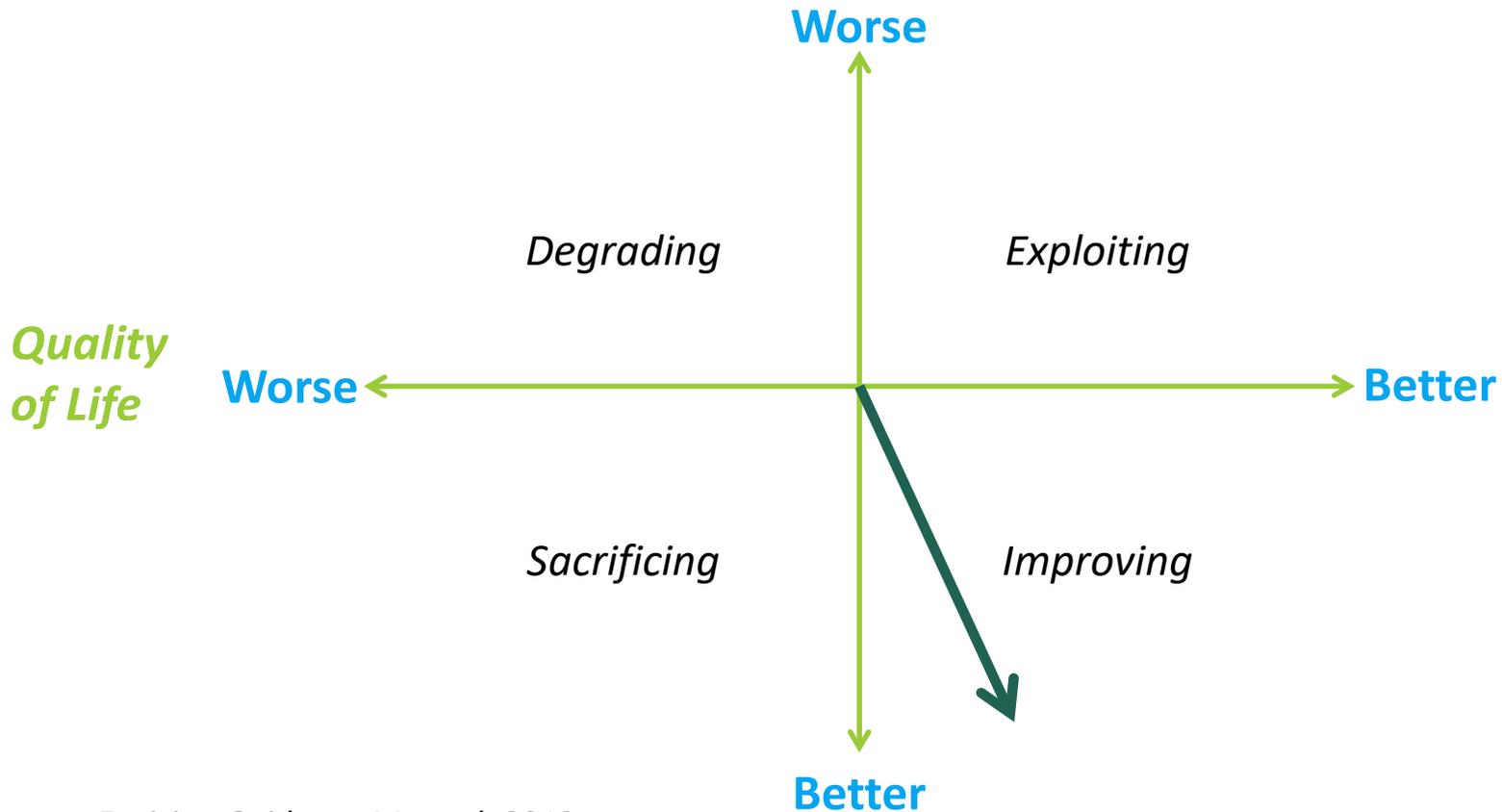


Plotted by Irene Dhong, UFL ENV 6932

Figure 6: Human development index vs. ecological footprint by country (Source: Living Planet Report 2006, World Wildlife Fund).

# Why Does Sustainability Matter?

## *Environmental Footprint*



Source: *Envision Guidance Manual, 2012*

# Why Sustainable Transport?

Transport accounts for much of our:

- Energy Use
- Carbon Emissions

Urbanization is continuing worldwide:

- Increased density is an opportunity
- Provides economies of scale



# Patterns of Development

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## TRADITIONAL SUBURBAN RESIDENTIAL



*Source: iStockphoto/Scott Cramer*

## TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT



*Source: thetransitpass.wordpress.com*

# What Can We Do?

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Change how we plan, design, build, and live:

- Consider life-cycle costs and effects
- New focus on livability, especially for land use and development
- Alternative energy sources
- Don't forget freight/goods movement



# Planning is Already Changing

Complete Streets

Walk/Bike Emphasis

Demand Management

Pricing/Tolling

Transit-Oriented  
Development

Focus on Resiliency



Photo: <http://www.connectnorwalk.com/>

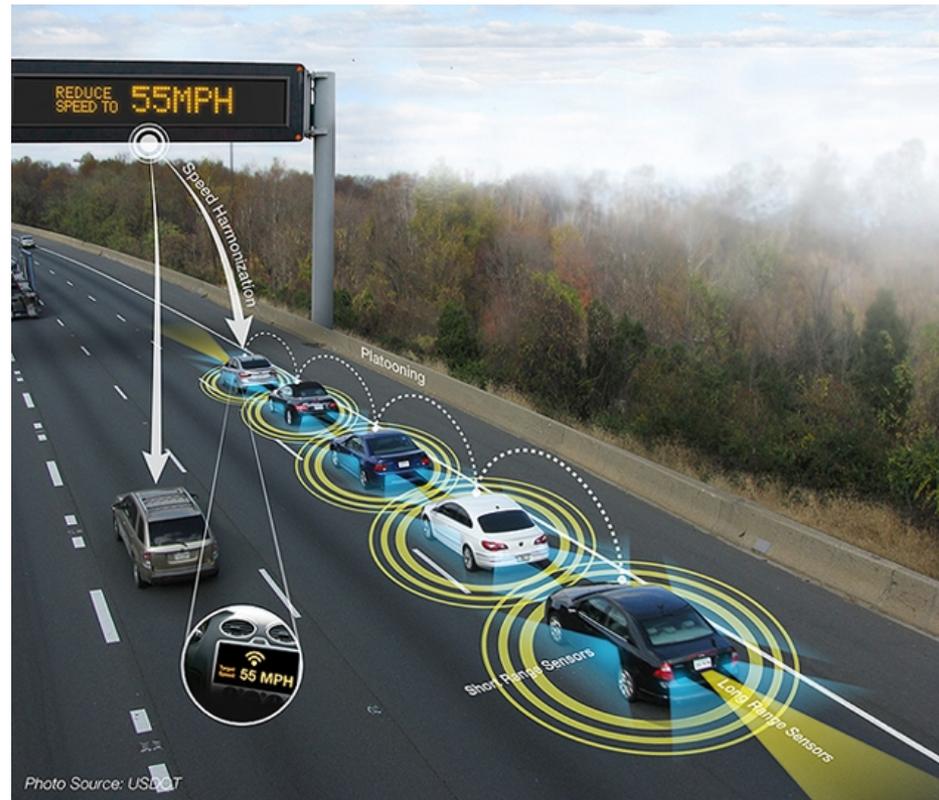
# Can Technology Save Us?

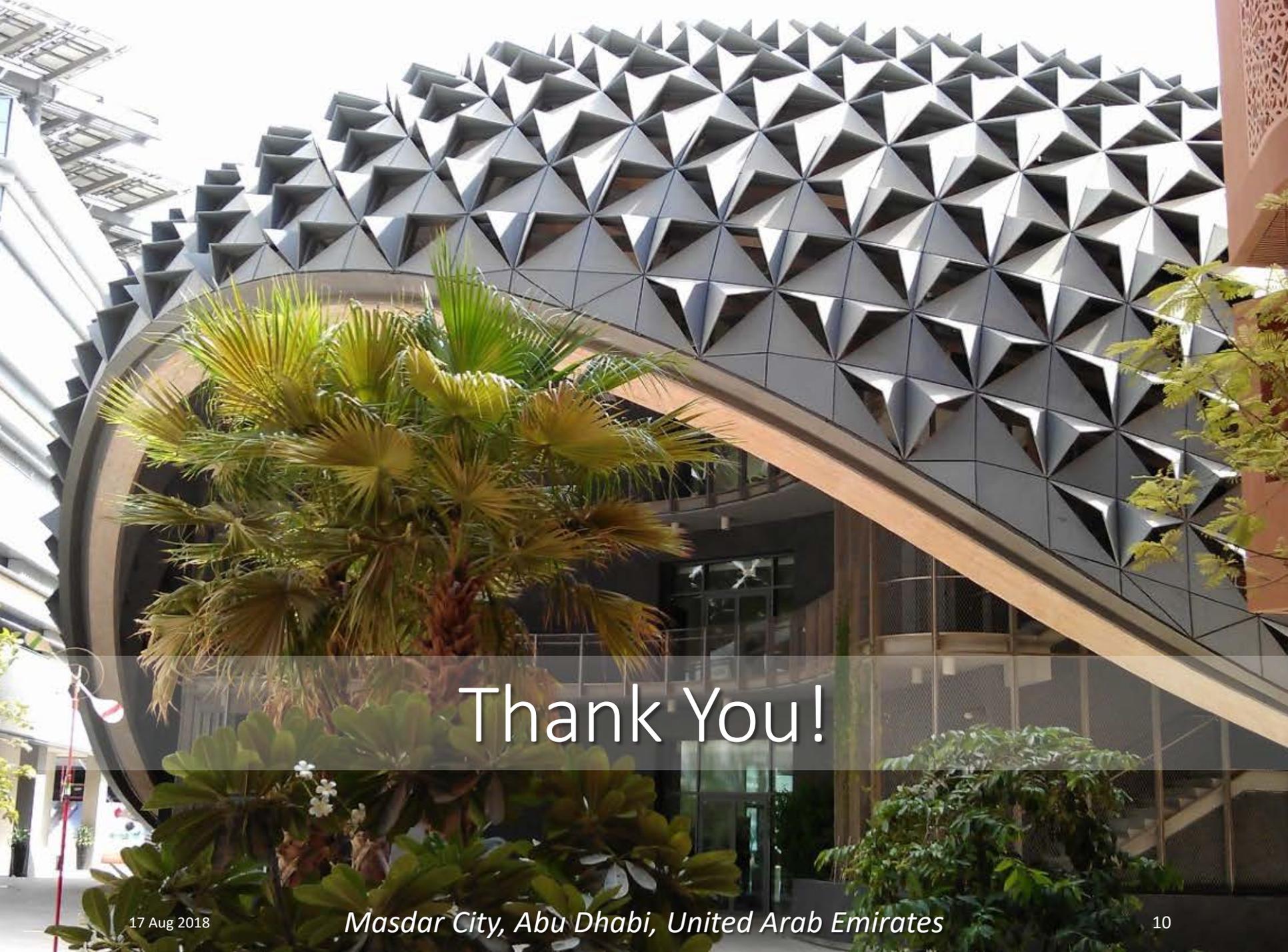
Connected/  
Autonomous vehicles?

Hyperloop?

Air Scrubbers?

Transporters?





Thank You!

APA Webinar

# Sustainable Transportation - What is it? With Examples from a Sustainability Icon, Norway!

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August 17, 2018

# Agenda

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- > Introductions
- > Why sustainable transportation?
- > About the University of Washington Program
- > Overview of Sustainable Transportation (Ryan)
- > Norway and Sustainable Transportation (Ed)
- > Questions



# Your presenters

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## **Dr. Ed McCormack**

- > Director, UW's Master in Sustainable Transportation Program
- > Research Associate Professor, UW Civil & Environmental Engineering
- > Former Senior Engineer for Norwegian Public Roads Administration
- > PhD: Geography



## **Dr. Ryan P. Avery, PE, AICP, GISP**

- > Senior Transportation Planner / Engineer at WSP
- > Affiliate Professor, UW Civil & Environmental Engineering
- > PhD: Civil & Environmental Engineering



# Why Sustainable Transportation?



# Why do we have a program in sustainable transportation?

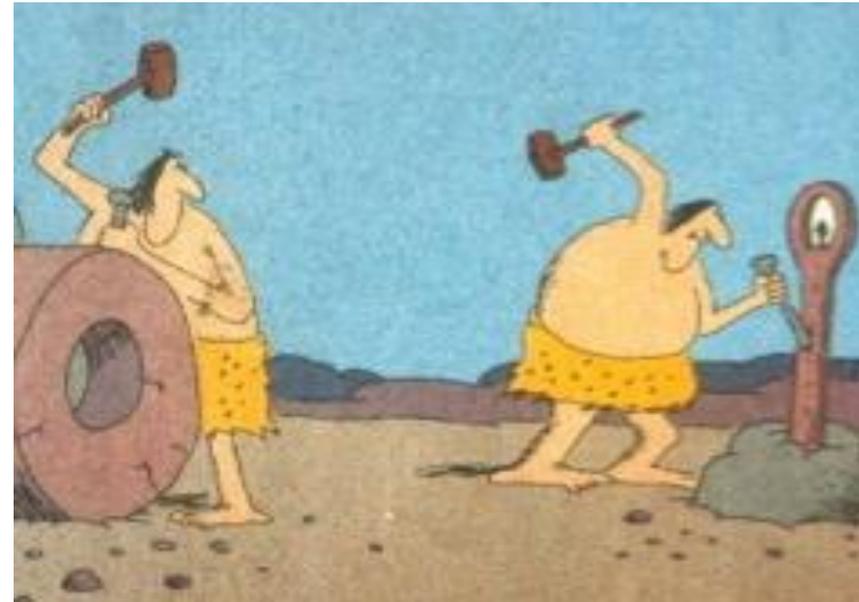
## **New / major considerations:**

- > Climate change
- > Human health
- > Energy and resources
- > Mobility and social equity
- > Economy and e-commerce
- > etc...

## **Opportunities for change:**

- > Non-motorized modes
- > Travel demand management
- > Tolls and pricing
- > Public transit
- > Autonomous vehicles
- > Land use, transit-oriented development
- > etc...

## **Early pricing example**



# University of Washington's Master of Sustainable Transportation (MST)

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## **Focus on sustainable transportation:**

- > Planning, policy, research, and analysis

## **Explores the growing concern of transportation impacts across all categories:**

- > Environmental, social, energy, and economic impacts

## **Designed for working professionals:**

- > Convenient, part-time, online format with 43 credits
- > 9 courses in three Focus Areas over 3 years

- > MST Program website:

[www.sustainable-transportation.uw.edu/](http://www.sustainable-transportation.uw.edu/)





# Norway and Sustainable Transportation



# We will:

- Discuss why Norway is a sustainability transportation icon
- Present a few examples
- Look at Norway's programs and attitudes
- Speculate on why they value sustainability



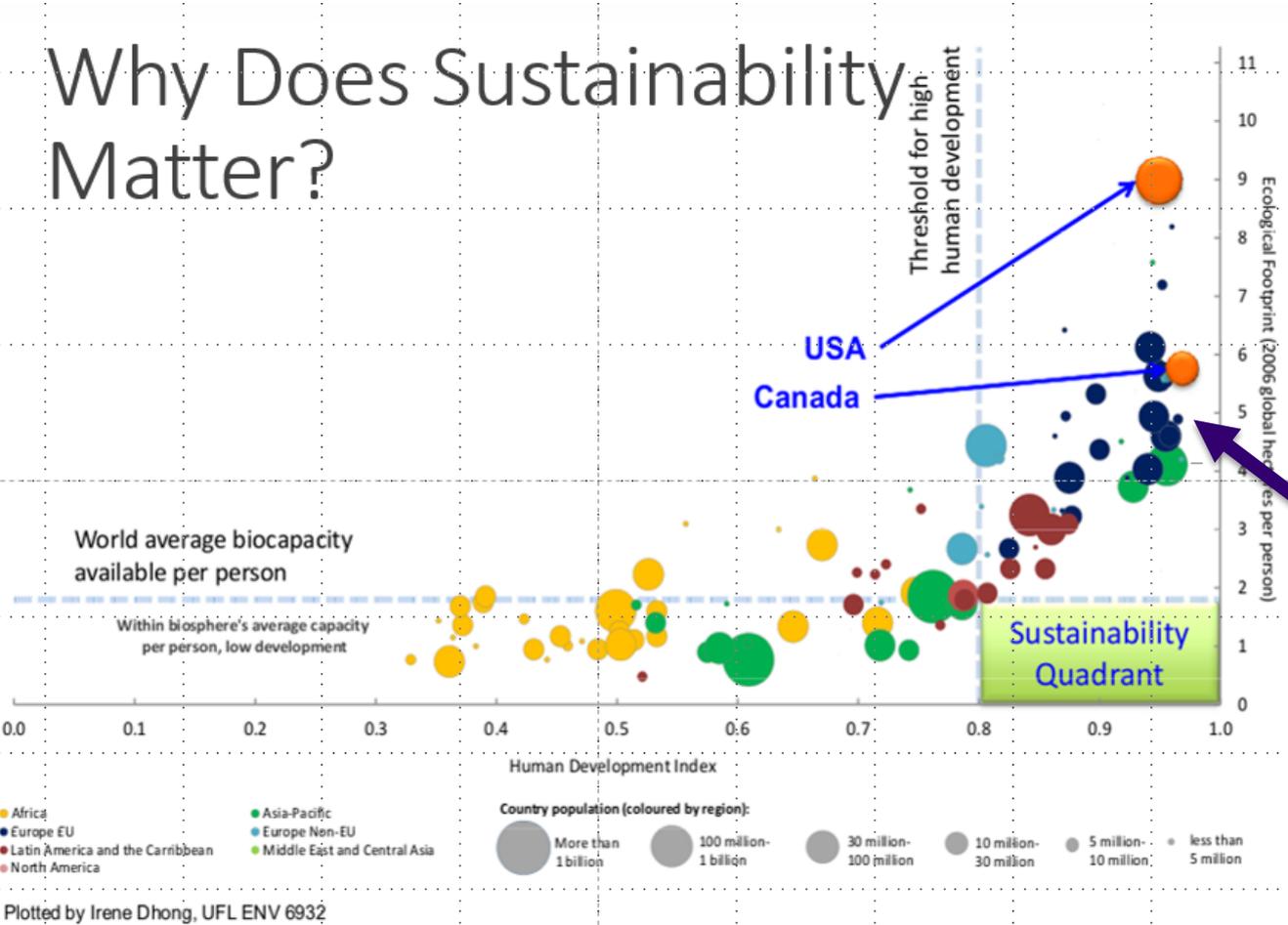
# Norway Overview

- High per-capita income (# 5 in world, US is # 9)
- Major oil exporter
- Income evenly distributed (Gini index)
- Social welfare democracy
- Often in the top ranks in happiness surveys
- Not officially part of the Europe Union



# Sustainability

## Why Does Sustainability Matter?



Norway:  
Ranked 1 in  
Human  
Development

# Norway Facts

- Population 5.2 million (Minnesota)
- 125,000 square miles (New Mexico)
- 57,000 roadway miles (Wyoming)
- Density 34 people /sq. mile (Nevada)
- 16,000 miles of coast line
- Rugged, mountainous, arctic country
- Transportation budget around \$7 billion (2017)



# Challenges to Transportation -Mountains



# Challenges to Transportation - Winter



# Challenges to Transportation – Historic Urban Form



# Norway as a Green Place

- Stated national goals:
  - all new vehicles are zero emission by 2025
  - zero passenger car growth in cities
  - carbon neutral by 2030 (partially by buying carbon offsets)
- Higher environmental impacts due to an advanced society
- But environmental policies well integrated
- Stable GHG even though transport volumes have increased
- 99% power from hydroelectric

Environment › Climate Change

## **Norway to 'completely ban petrol powered cars by 2025'**

'What an amazingly awesome country', Elon Musk tweeted in response to the plan

# Supports Alternatives to Fossil Fuel Vehicles

- Electric Cars: 52% of all new cars sales in 2017, 2<sup>nd</sup> largest Tesla



BUSINESS NEWS JANUARY 3, 2018 / 12:12 PM / 7 MONTHS AGO

**Norway powers ahead (electrically): over half new car sales now electric or hybrid**



# Why are Electric Vehicles Common?

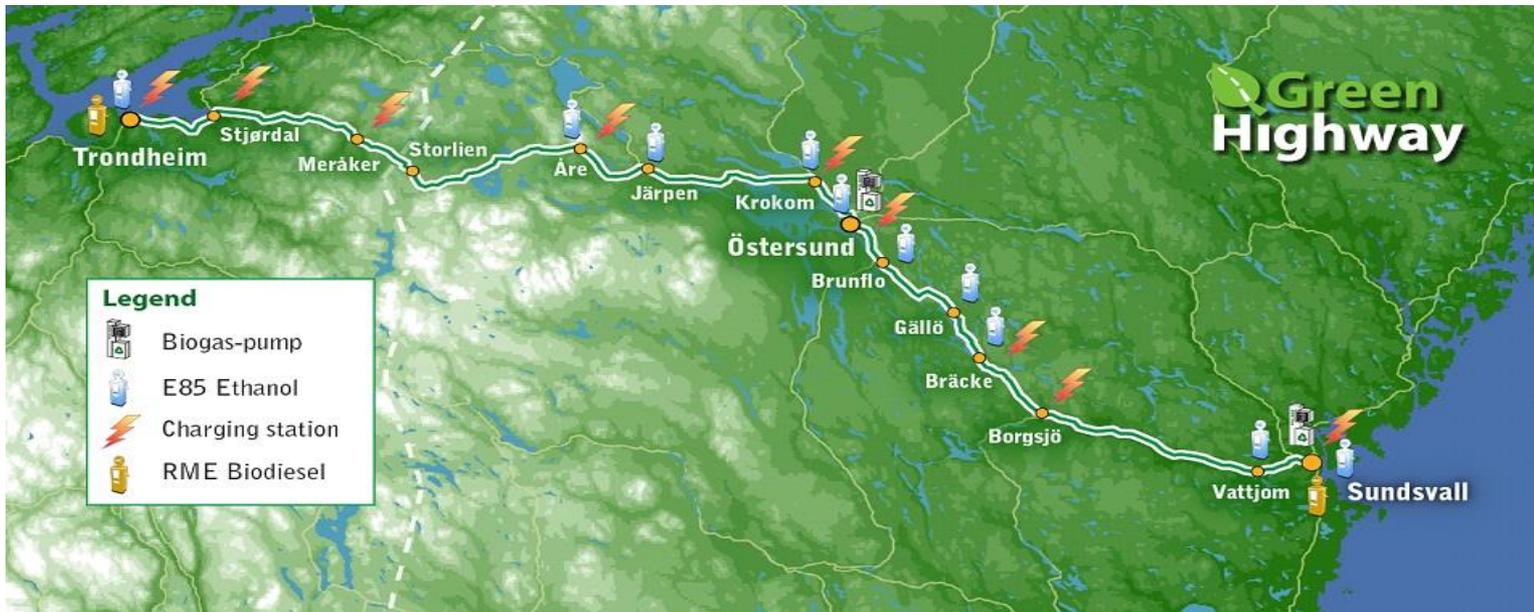
- Due to national policy/regulations they are less expensive than gas/diesel vehicles
  - Tax breaks to purchase e-cars
  - Lower roadway tolls
  - Free charging
  - Free ferries fares
  - Lower or free parking rates
  - Gas expensive, electricity relative cheap





# Green Highways

- Fossil fuel free corridor stretching from Norway to Sweden
- Freight highway
- Series of stations for renewable fuel and charging



# Norway's Steep Vehicle Taxes

- Fuel tax (gasoline ~\$8 per gallon)
- Vehicle purchase tax (tied to emissions)
- Annual registration tax
- Scrap deposit tax
- Income tax on company cars
  
- Electric cars not taxed near as much
  
- Adds around \$3 billion a year to treasury

# National Transport Plan (2018 - 2029)

- Prioritizes resources in transportation
- Climate considerations “are the basis of the work of the transport agencies”
- This drives many goals:
  - zero growth in car traffic
  - urban growth in transit and non-motorized modes - not in cars
  - major investment in cycling
  - move freight off roads to sea and rail
  - coordinated transportation planning
- Budget for land transport:  
\$7.3 billion/year

ENGLISH SUMMARY

National Transport Plan 2018-2029



# National Transport Plan

- Goal - cut greenhouse gases from transport sector by 50%
- Incentives for zero and low emission transport
  - continued tax breaks and subsidies
  - parking priority
  - more charging stations to support long trips
- Significant increase in use of sustainable biofuels
- Investment in existing transit systems plus new bus rapid transit and light rail

NEWS

## Large order placed for hybrid buses in Norway

Tide Buss in Norway has ordered 35 [electric buses](#), including 25 [Volvo buses](#), meaning the city of Trondheim has the largest electric bus fleet in

By Intelligent Transport

25 September 2017

 No comments yet

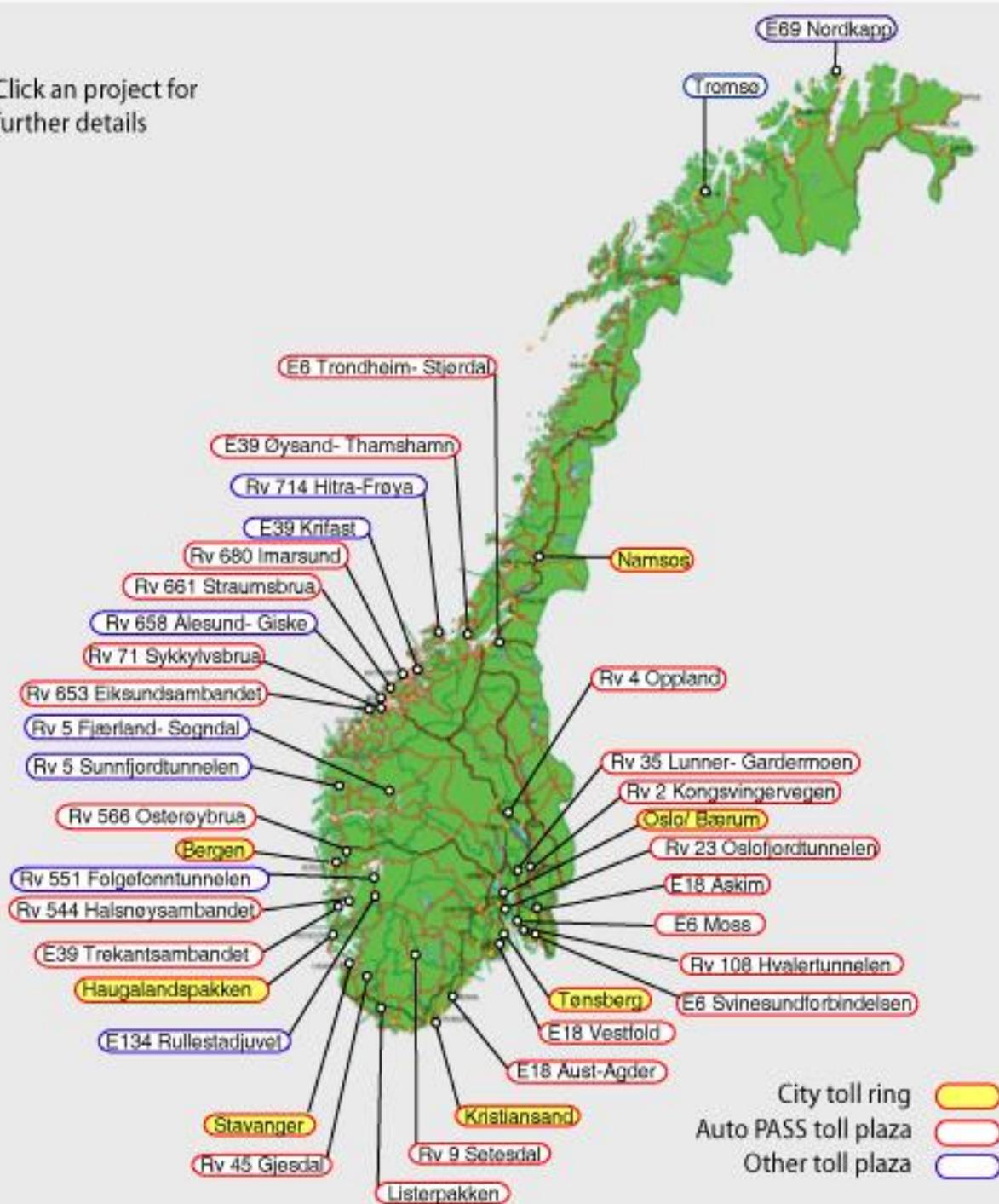
SHARES

# Transportation Funding - Tolls

- Common in Norway (50 toll systems currently)
- 40% of annual construction budget comes from tolls
- Tolls cover investment costs plus used to support transit and non-motorized transportation
- Tolls to reduce traffic and emissions
- Often a public-private partnerships
- Policy tool



Click an project for further details



# Urban Toll Rings

- Around several major cities
- Policy and fiscal tool (with a non-motorized allocation)
- Increasing discussion about use for congestion management



# Why are Tolls Common in Norway?

- Mountainous country – roads expensive
- Political parties agreed action needed
- Tolls go to new transportation infrastructure
- Tolls last only 15 years
- Toll stations do not create bottlenecks
- Toll roads are clearly higher quality
- Can have different rates for zero emission vehicles
- Pay for your impacts ethic

# Non-motorized travel in Norway

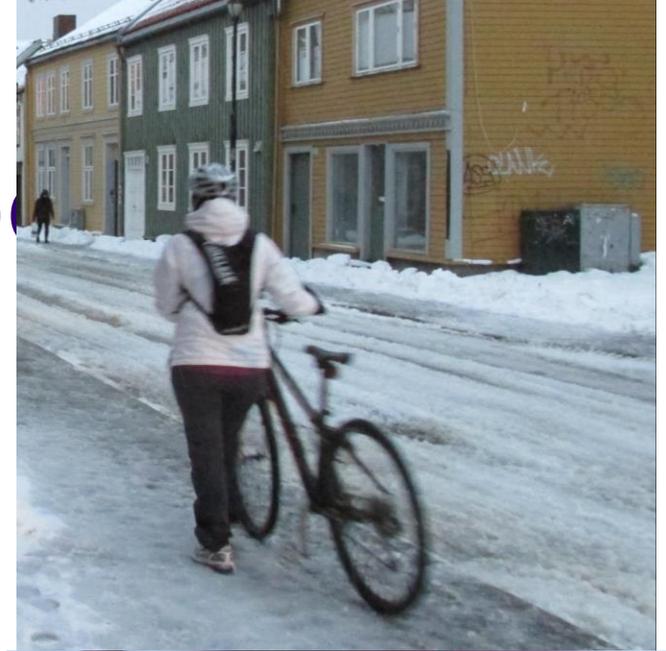
- 25% of all trips on foot (USA 9%)
- 5% of all trips on bikes (USA 12%)
- Most Norwegian towns have bike/ped facilities
- Non-motorized facilities designed into most new transportation projects
- Low rate of pedestrian fatalities (2 per million people)



# Extensive Bike and Pedestrian Infrastructure







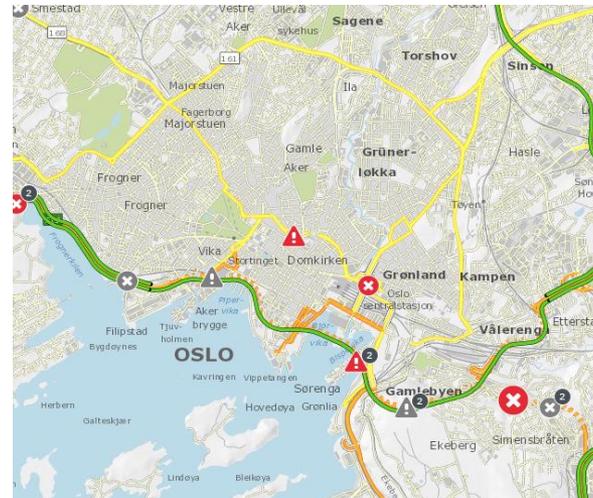
# National Transport Plan

- \$923 million for pedestrian and bike infrastructure
- Goal: 10% to 20% bike ridership
- Prioritize development of 10 bike express routes in 9 major cities
  - high quality separate facilities
  - designed for fast travel (25 MPH)
  - commuter links between inner city and outer suburbs



# Urban Areas

- Fuel taxes and funding used to remove passenger cars
- Urban environmental agreements (\$4.1 billion) with local governments for land use plans that supports zero growth of cars
- New transit services
- Mitigation required for projects that increase passenger cars usage



# Roundabouts

- Replaced most traffic signals
- Lower cost, maintenance and energy
- Better throughput and safety



# Norway and Tunnels

- Over 900 tunnels
- Replace ferry routes
- Many long and deep tunnels
- A number have roundabouts
- Adding 40 to 50 miles of tunnel per year
- Under urban areas



# Sustainable Impact: Tunnels

- Tunnels better in mountains (less climbing and snow plowing)
- Replace ferries
- Reduce urban congestion and optimize space



# Why is Norway so Sustainable?

- Norwegian Social Attitudes
  - Equality and fairness
  - History of cooperation among equals
  - History of small farm ownership so a focus on self-independence and sustainability
  - Concern about esthetics and nature



# Planning Attitudes?

- Norway
  - Top down planning
  - Driven by social mandates “e.g. Lower greenhouse gas emissions”
  - Often EU programs
  - Trust their government to do the right thing
- USA
  - Bottom up planning
  - Often driven by stakeholder concerns
  - More individual programs
  - Skepticism of government

## Key EU targets for 2030

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- At least 40% cut in **greenhouse gas emissions** compared with 1990
- At least 27% of total energy consumption from **renewable energy**
- At least 27% increase in **energy efficiency**

# Norway Overview

- Smaller more homogeneous society
- Citizens trust their government
- Willing to spend funds to make life better
- Oil wealth helps
- Environmental concerns always on agenda
- But also major exporter of oil and user of energy
- **Bottom line:  
Beautiful country and  
citizens interested in  
keeping it that way**



# Contact Information

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## **Master of Sustainable Transportation Program**

<https://www.sustainable-transportation.uw.edu/>