Economic Benefits of Bicycle & Pedestrian Safety Investments Around Transit





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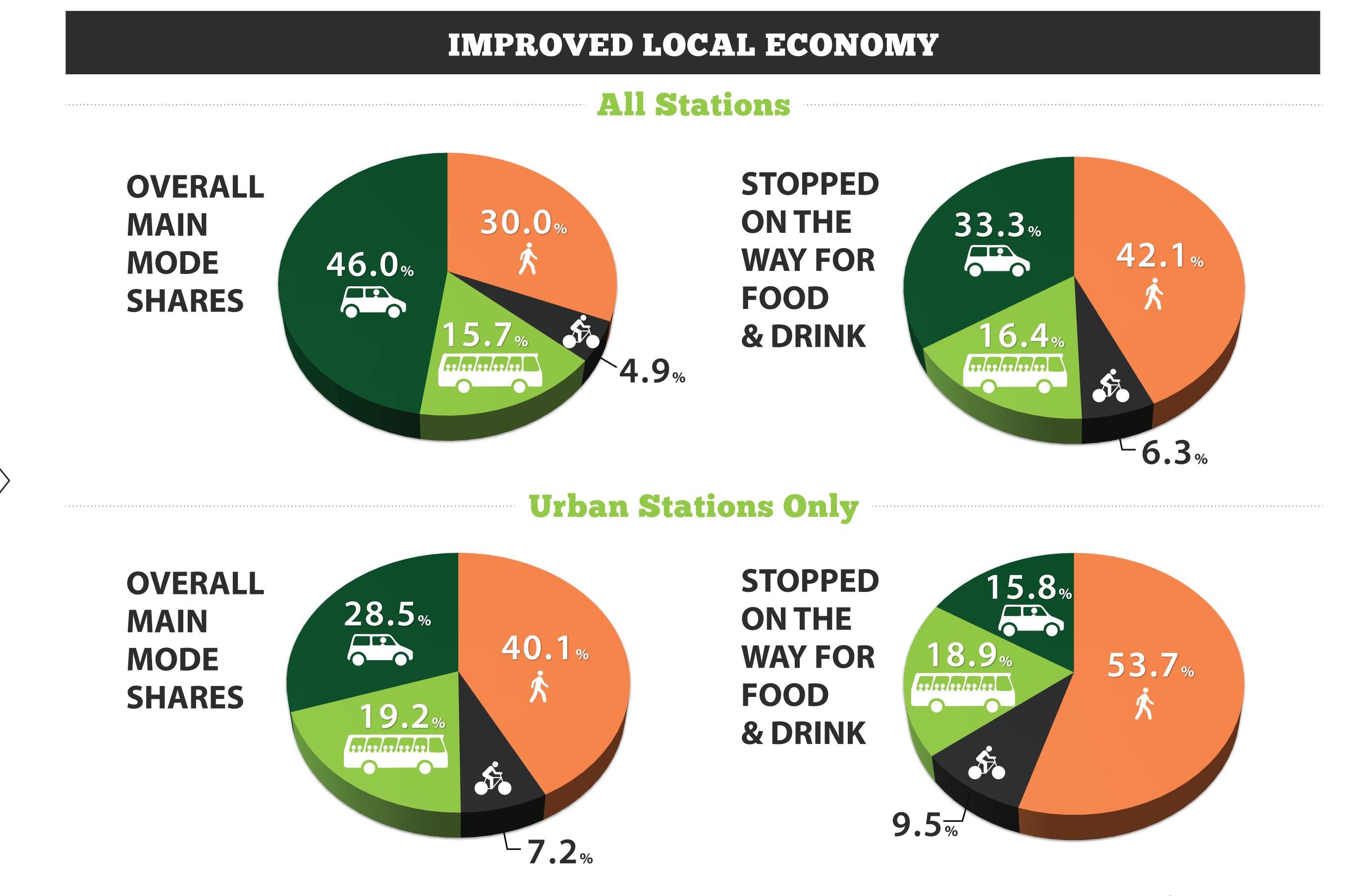




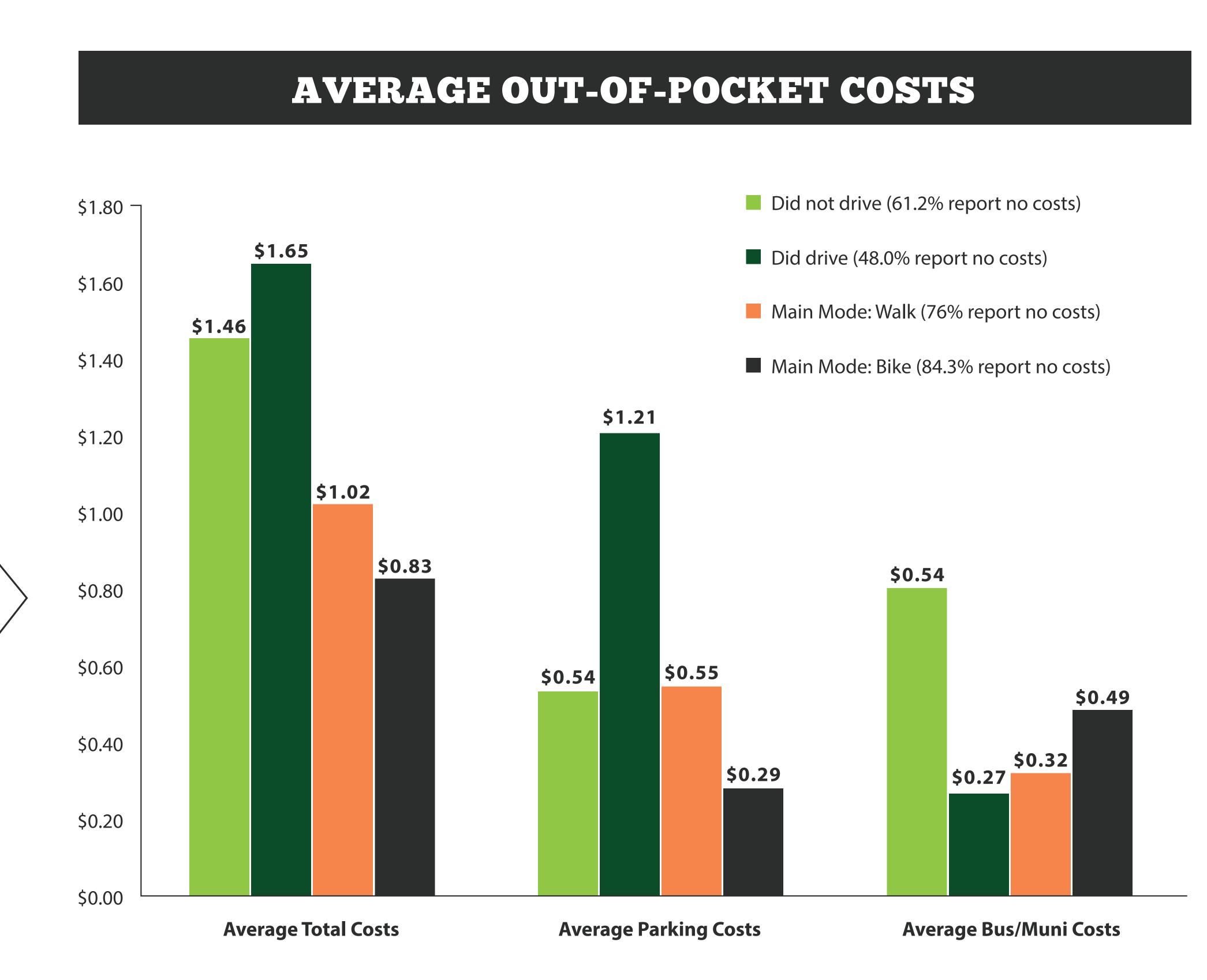
ABSTRACT: This poster presents findings from an intercept survey conducted at nine rail stations in the San Francisco Bay Area (n = 2,345). Individuals were asked about their access modes to the station and what types of stops they made before arriving at the rail station. Survey results indicate that those whose main access mode was automotive were less likely to make stops for services or goods on the way to transit, and pedestrians and bicyclists were more likely to stop. Further, non-drivers spend less on their commute to transit. The results suggest that while bicycle and pedestrian safety investments are often motivated by health and sustainability impacts, there are likely also economic benefits: to local businesses in the form of increased economic activity around rail stations, and to commuters in the form of reduced out-of-pocket expenditures on commuting.

MORE WALKING, BIKING & TRANSIT WALK BIKE 722/22/22/22/ DRIVE

Walking and bicycling, whether as the sole access to transit or as part of a multi-modal trip to access the various stations, increased from the pre- to the post-period at the treatment sites when compared to control sites.







Respondents who used sustainable transportation modes saved money on personal transportation expenditures to access the rail station (for which the study included only parking, bus fares, and tolls), even excluding the cost of gasoline and fixed costs of auto ownership.

IMPLICATIONS FOR POLICY AND PRACTICE: This program seeks to reverse decades-long, automobile-dominant commute and travel trends. Given the promising movement toward active transportation and use of transit, programs supporting mode shift and safety should be given strong consideration, support, and funding for the purpose of evaluating program effectiveness, which can support future investments.