



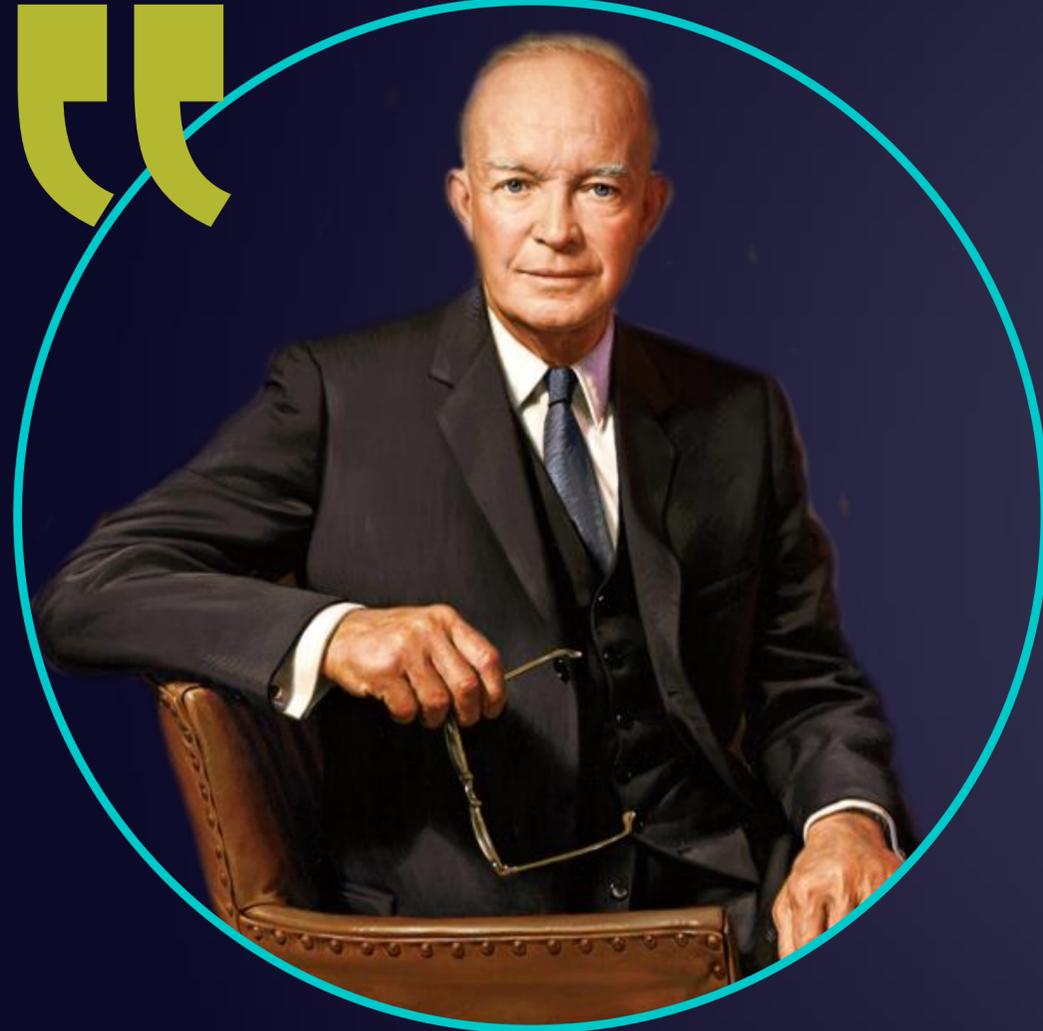
Foresight

NCHRP Report 750 Series

**Informing
Transportation's
Future**

WE LIKE **IKE**

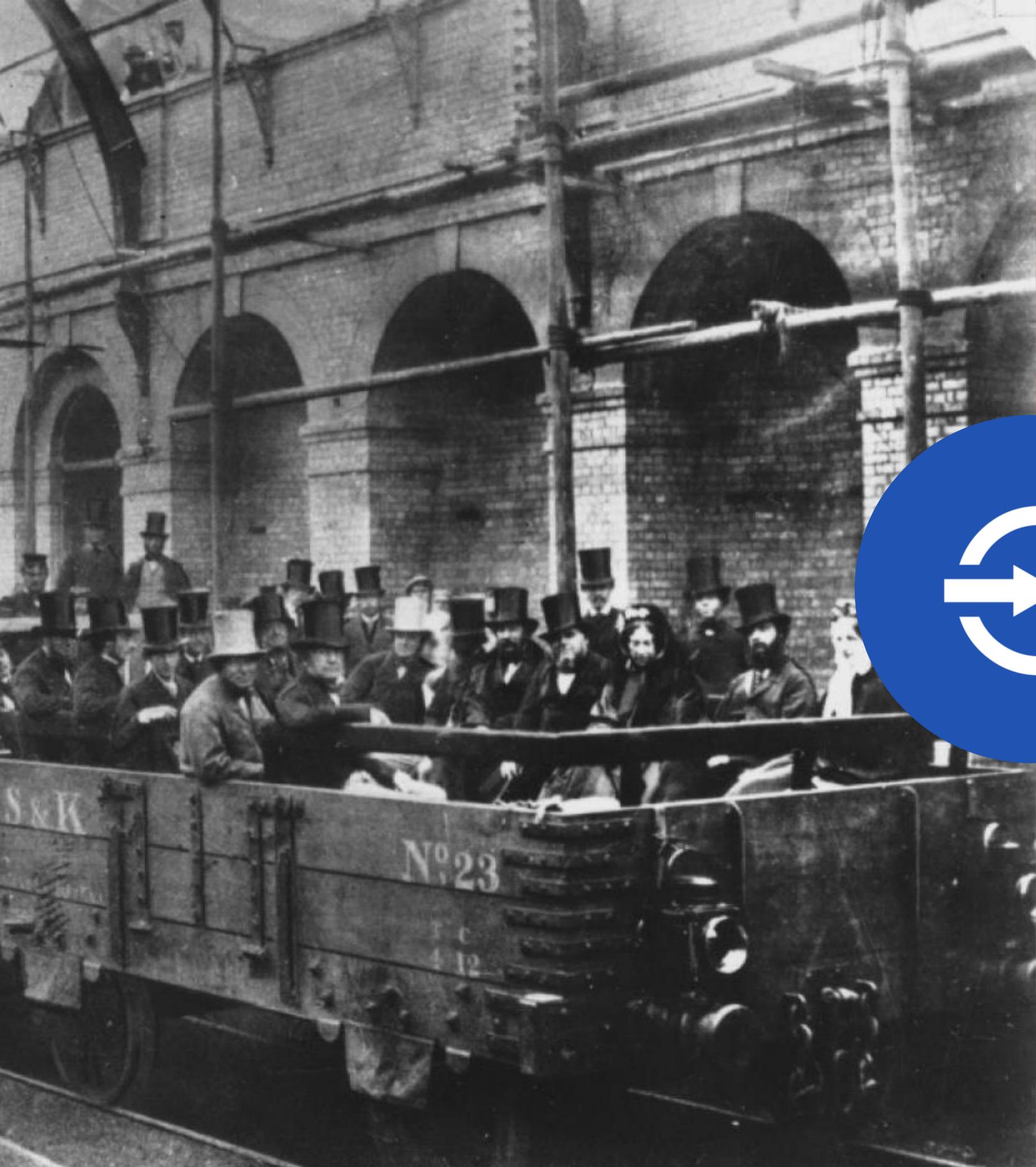
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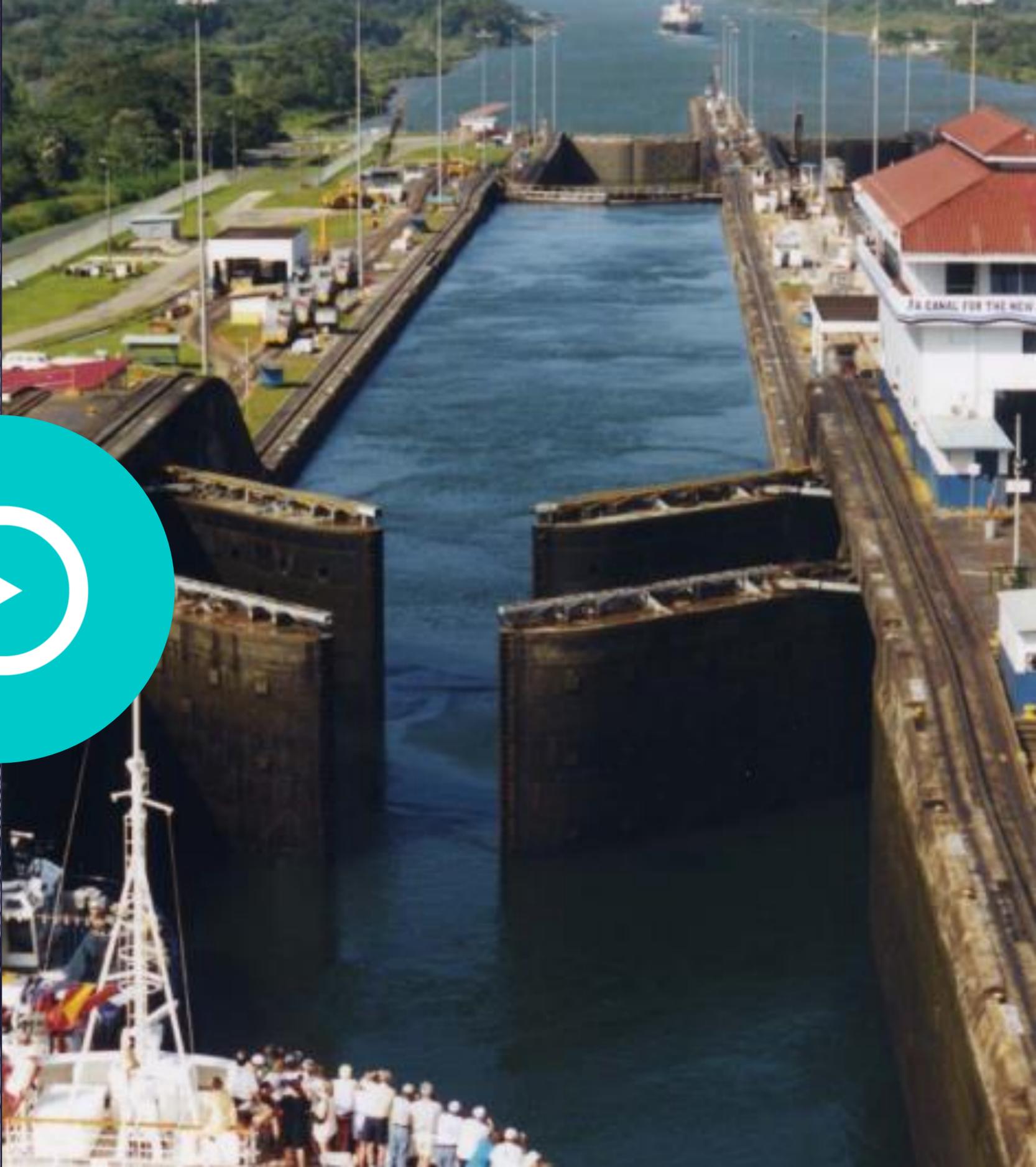


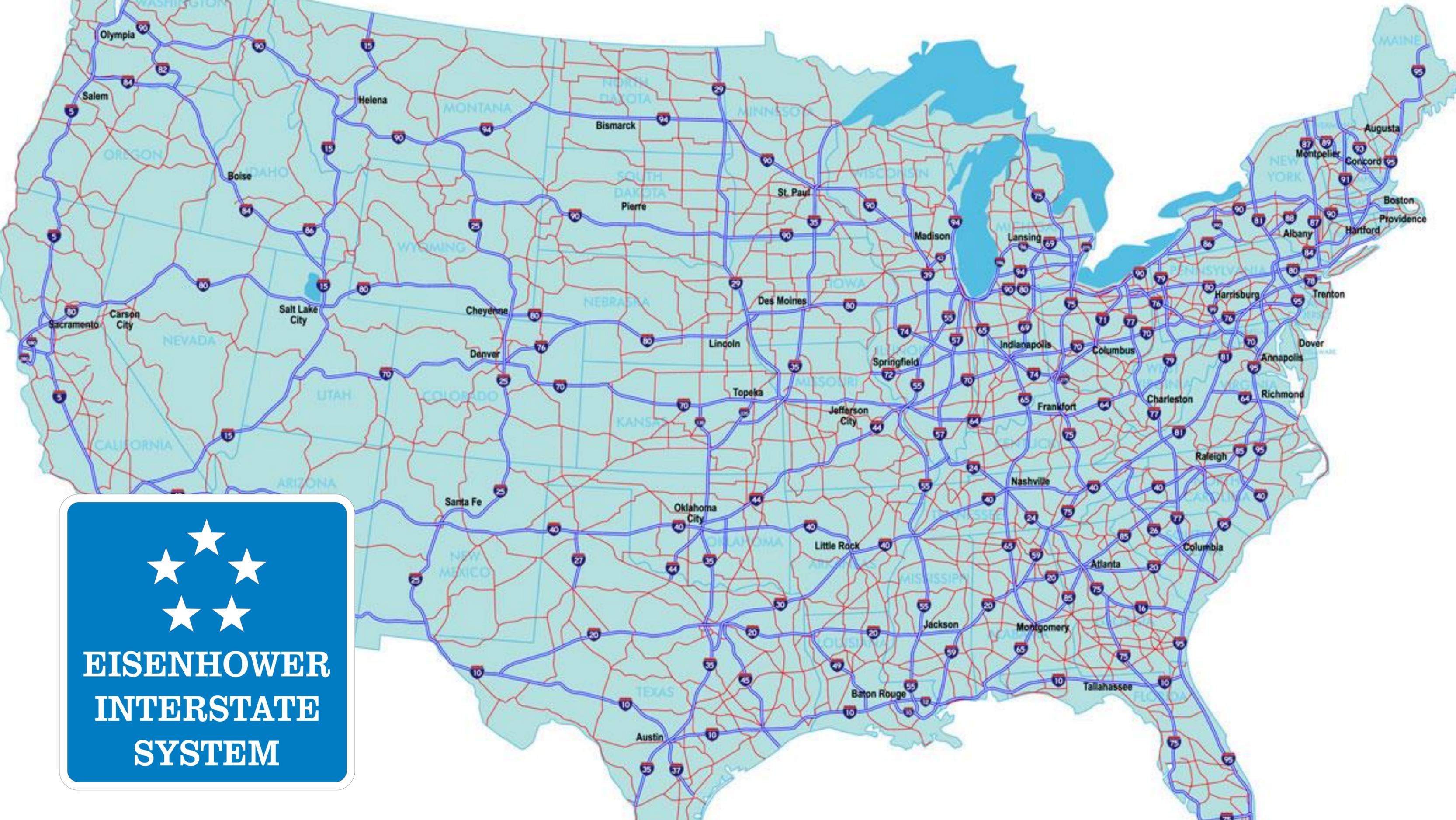
“If progress is to be steady we must have long term guides extending far ahead.”

WHY DO WE PLAN FOR THE FUTURE?

Does it really make a difference?








**EISENHOWER
INTERSTATE
SYSTEM**

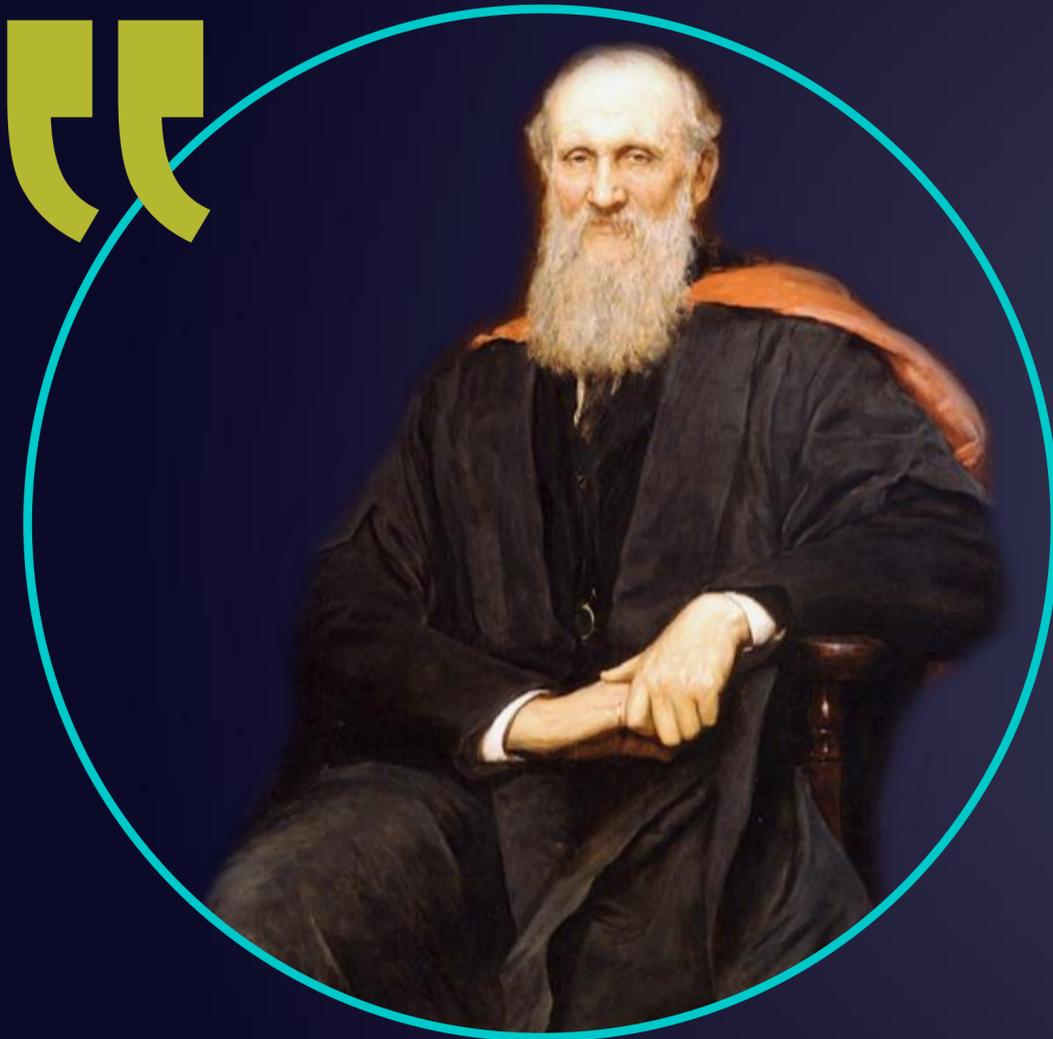
IT'S EASY TO GET THE FUTURE WRONG

We have a long history of it, in fact.

LORD KELVIN 1895

Mathematical Physicist

“



“Heavier-than-air flying machines are impossible.”

HARRY WARNER 1925

One of the Warner Brothers



“Who the hell wants to hear actors talk?”

THOMAS WATSON 1943

Chairman of IBM



“I think there is a world market for maybe five computers.”

WE CAN'T PREDICT THE FUTURE

But, we can identify signposts pointing in the right direction.



ONE OVERARCHING THEME

A shift from prediction to preparation



TODAY

PLANNING HORIZON



POINT FORECAST

Planning for a short term point in time.



RISK MANAGEMENT

Identifying and planning for both short and medium term risks.



SCENARIO PLANNING

Looking out decades and letting the future drive the planning.



FUTURE 1

Possible Scenario



FUTURE 2

Possible Scenario



FUTURE 3

Possible Scenario

MULTIPLE FUTURES

Alone or in combination?



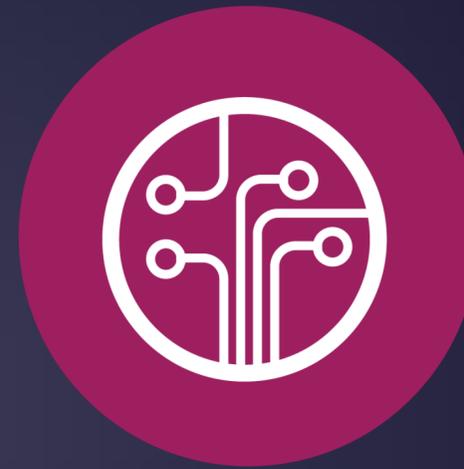
MOMENTUM

America gets older and more diverse. Global trade booms. Domestic growth flattens.



GLOBAL CHAOS

Worldwide financial instability leads to negative growth. Extreme weather increases its impact.



TECH TRIUMPH

New tech radically changes transportation. Economy booms and U.S. becomes more self reliant.



GENTLE FOOTPRINT

Public demands low-impact choices. Regulations reduce consumption, increase government control.

SOME QUESTIONS WE FACE TODAY

7 cross cutting questions

1. Will your organization work differently in the future?
2. Will the economy stay global?
3. What is resilient infrastructure and how much does it cost?
4. What if there is no more driving, but Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) still rises?
5. Where are the next boom towns?
6. Will cars fill up or plug in?
7. What's the relationship between more senior Americans and transportation?

FORESIGHT 750 SERIES

SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

Model and envision the transportation impacts of shifting socio-demographics.



ENERGY & FUELS

Identify and assess strategies for a variety of future energy scenarios.



SUSTAINABILITY

How to organize DOTs for a sustainable future.



FREIGHT

Explore and plan for the future of freight with a scenario planning toolkit.



CLIMATE CHANGE

How to prepare for extreme weather events.



TECHNOLOGY

Select the right technology investments at the right time.

SIX REPORTS AT-A-GLANCE





VOLUME 1: FREIGHT

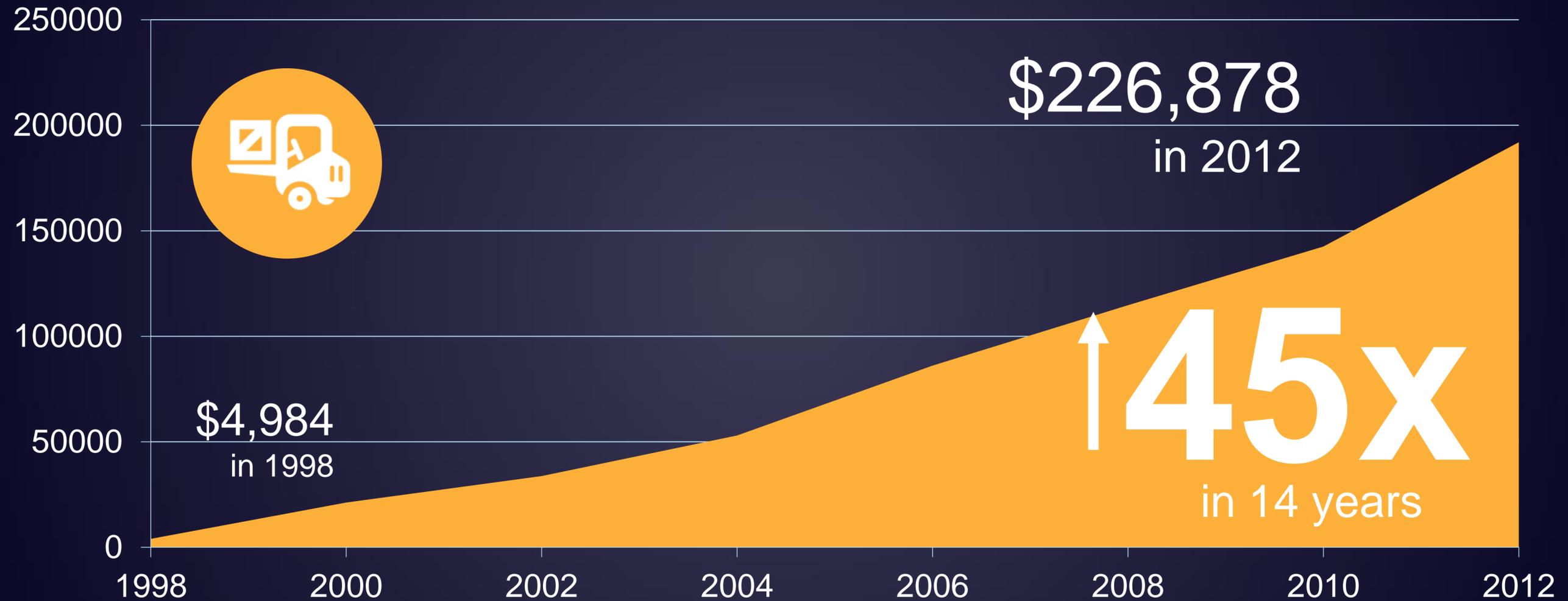
Explore and plan for the
future of freight with a
scenario planning toolkit.

1



FREIGHT

Total U.S. e-commerce sales (in millions)



FREIGHT SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Volume:

Will global freight trend up or down?

Technology:

Does a major advance in technology, like digital printers, fundamentally change how goods are delivered?

Protectionism:

Rising trade protectionism could shift global trade.

E-commerce:

With goods being delivered directly to consumers, what is the future of local retail stores?



VOLUME 2: CLIMATE CHANGE

How to prepare for extreme
weather events.

2



CLIMATE CHANGE

Number of U.S. weather events (per year) costing **over \$1 Billion**



CLIMATE CHANGE SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Population Growth:

If global populations continue to boom, will technology come to the rescue?

Extreme Weather:

Does increased rainfall and drought, alongside increased extreme weather events change how infrastructure is built?

Sea Level Change:

Will rising waters in coastal areas alter where and how Americans live?



VOLUME 3: TECHNOLOGY

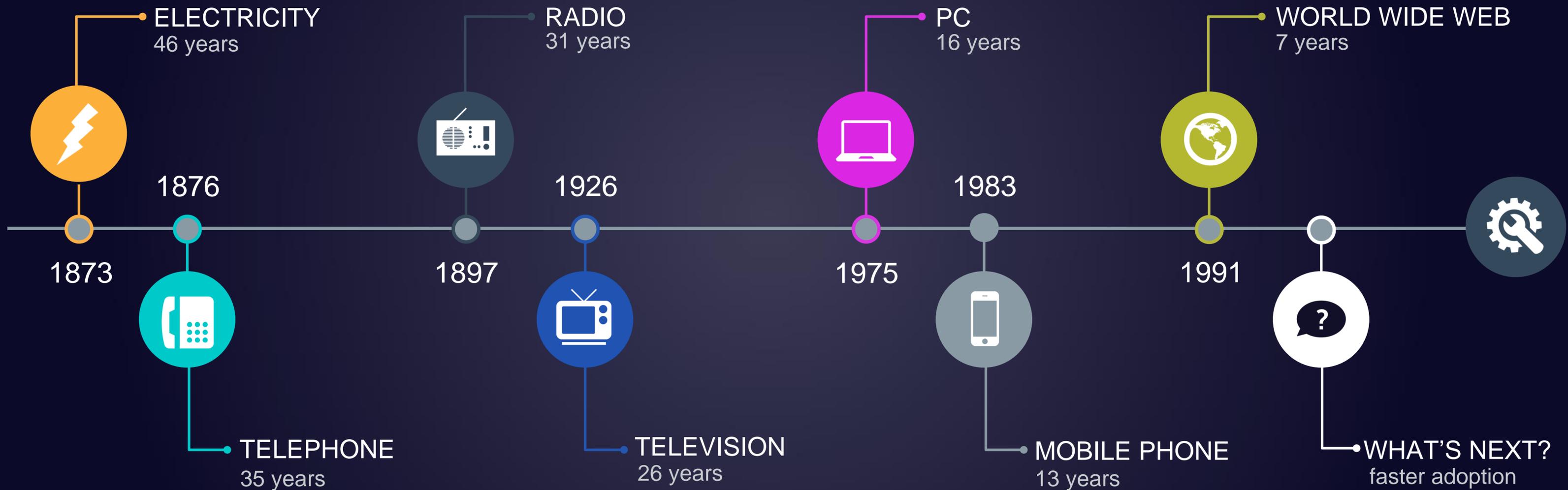
Select the right technology
investments at the right time.

3



TECHNOLOGY

Years until technology was used by one-quarter of Americans



TECHNOLOGY SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Wireless Sensors:

How might smart infrastructure change the frequency of maintenance cycles if schedules can be better optimized?

Remote Working Capabilities:

Will the need for office space decline as secure file transfer needs increase? At what cost?

Vehicle Technology:

How will worker safety and training be impacted?



VOLUME 4: SUSTAINABILITY

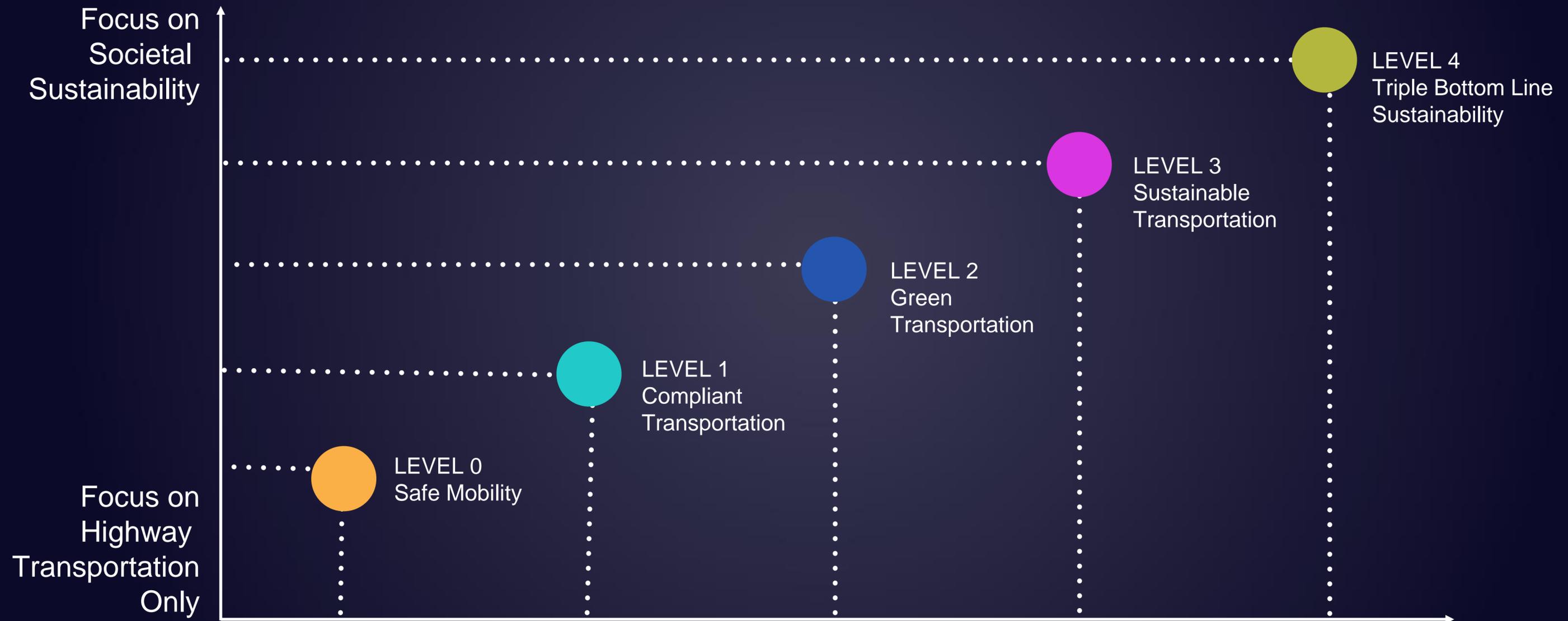
How to organize DOTs for a sustainable future.

4



SUSTAINABILITY

A shift from short term needs to long term sustainability



SUSTAINABILITY SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Population:

Size, geographic distribution, and change in characteristics.

Economic Growth:

Increase or decrease in U.S. GDP will be a major factor in resources available for transportation.

Energy:

Changes in how cars fill-up change how DOT's are funded.

Technology:

Innovations may alter how vehicles use transportation infrastructure.



VOLUME 5: ENERGY & FUELS

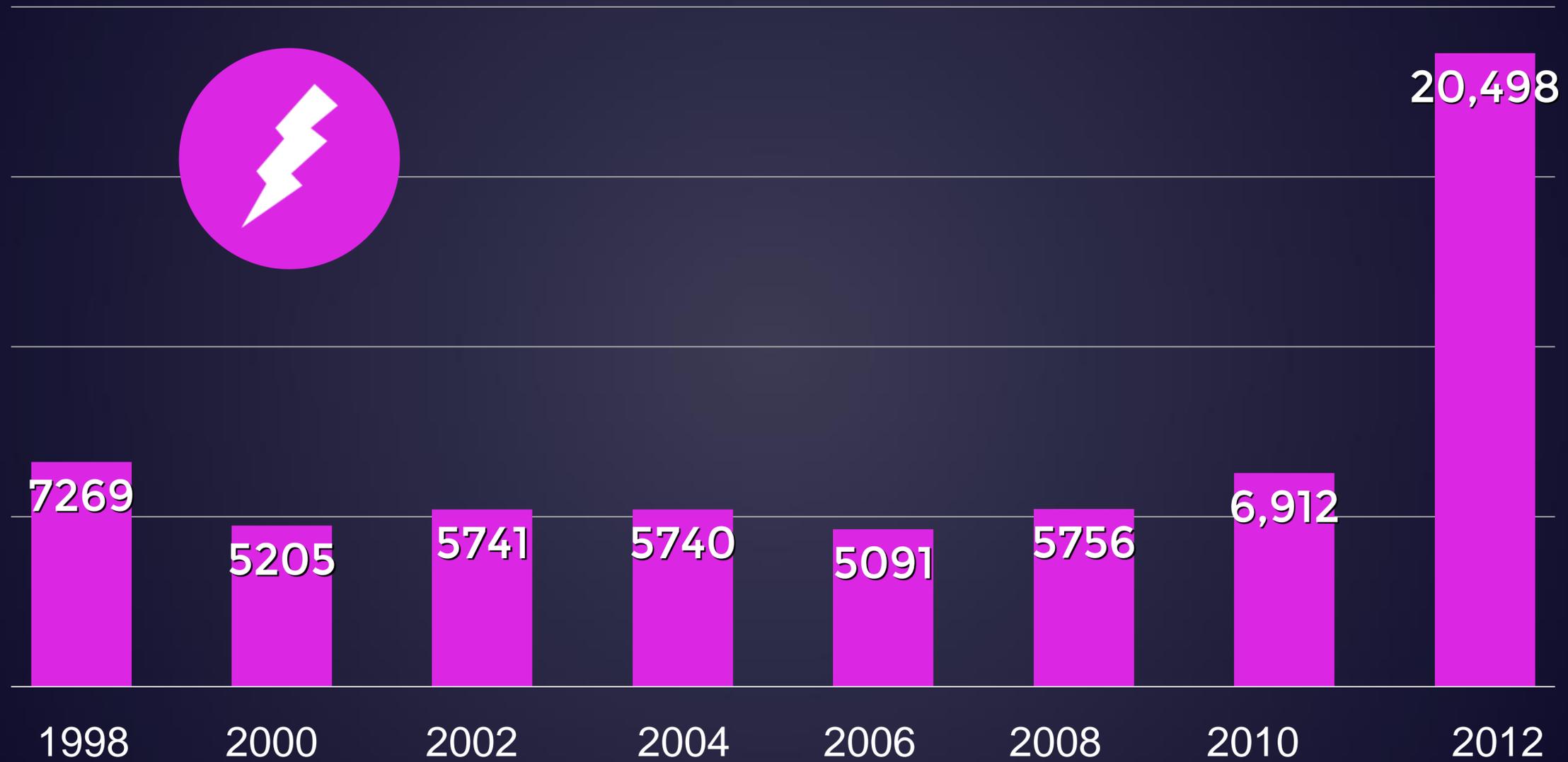
Identify and assess strategies
for a variety of future energy
scenarios.

5



ENERGY & FUELS

U.S. alternative fueling stations



ENERGY & FUELS SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Technology:

Does new fuel technology lead to fewer carbon emissions and less fuel consumption?

Driverless cars:

How quickly do self-driving cars become the norm? Will they be safer? Will they increase fuel efficiency?

Costs:

Will new fuel technology advances make personal vehicles more or less affordable? More cars? More transit?



VOLUME 6 SOCIO- DEMOGRAPHICS

Model and envision the
transportation impacts of
shifting socio-demographics.

6

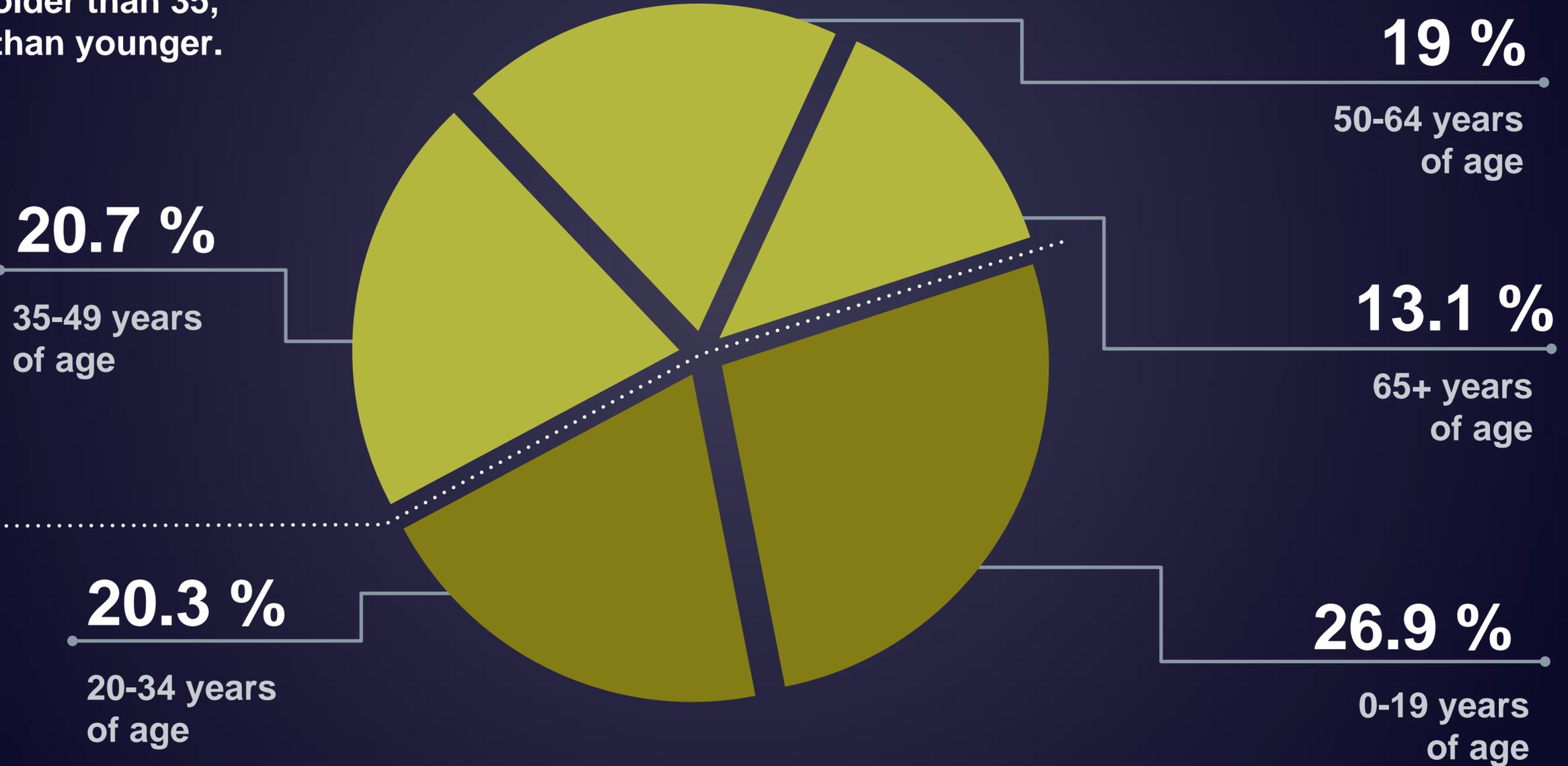


SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHICS

U.S. population by age group



More in U.S.
older than 35,
than younger.



SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC SIGNPOSTS

What to look for in the coming years.



VITAL SIGNPOSTS

Life expectancy:

As people live longer, how does a growing senior population affect transit needs?

VMT:

With DOT budgets based largely on fuel tax, how do changing transportation needs affect VMT/fuel consumption?

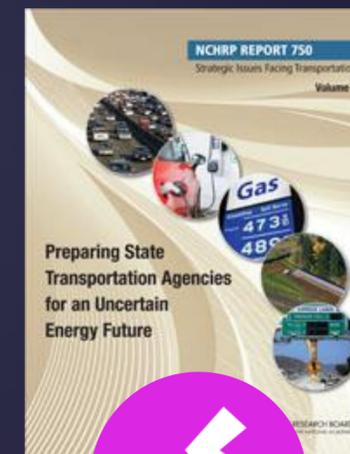
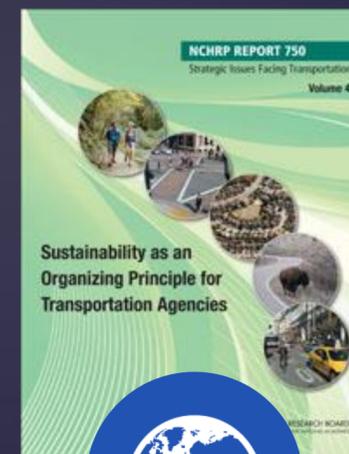
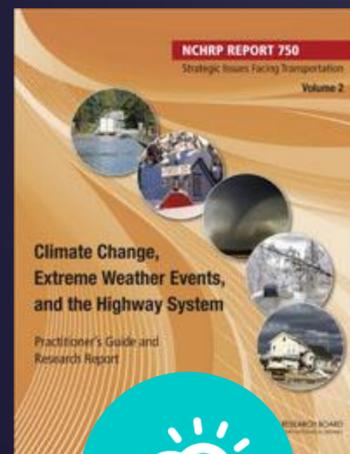
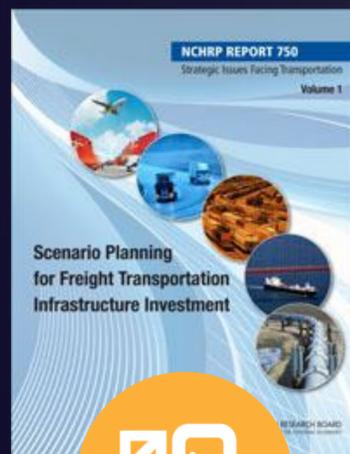
Immigration:

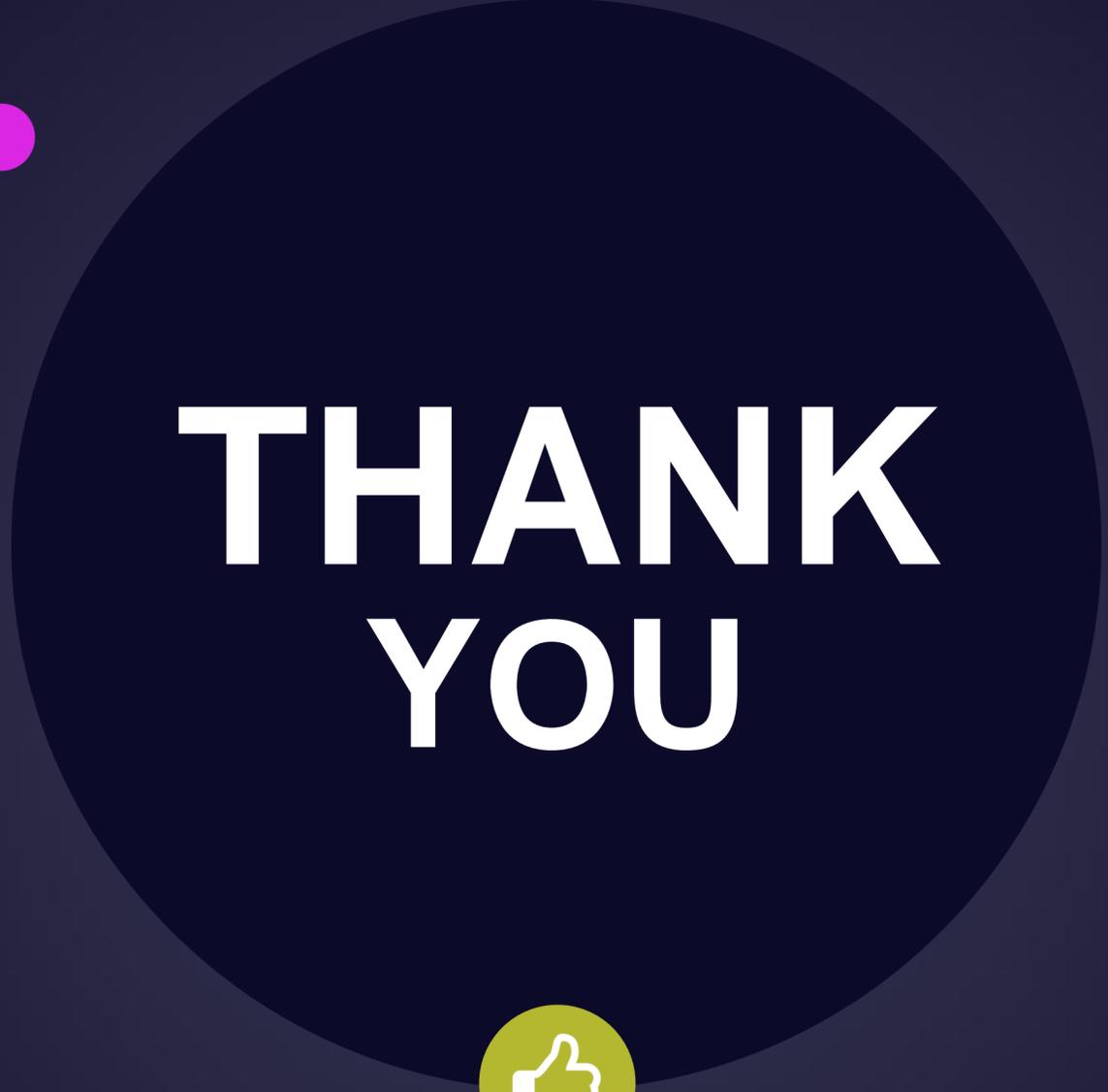
Does immigration increase or decrease in the coming years? What will the transportation needs be for America's new additions?

FORESIGHT 750 SERIES

Six reports designed to help you find future signposts

Visit [TRB.org/NCHRP](https://www.trb.org/NCHRP) and search for Report 750 to find and read all six reports in the Foresight Series.





**THANK
YOU**



See you in the FUTURE!