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Tilahun, N., Thakuriah, P., and Mallon, Y. (2013) Factors Determining Transit Access by Car Owners: Implications for Intermodal Passenger Transportation Planning. In: Transportation Research Board Annual Conference, 13-17 Jan 2013, Washington DC, USA.

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Deposited on: 03 April 2013

# **Factors Determining Transit Access by Car-Owners: Implications for Intermodal Passenger Transportation Planning**

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*In Proc. Transportation Research Board Annual Conference 2013*

Paper URL: <http://amonline.trb.org/2veh7q/2veh7q/1>

Word count: 6220  
Figures and Tables: 5  
Total: 7470

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## **Abstract**

Although walking is the dominant mode of transportation to transit facilities, there are variations by socio-demographics, geography, mode of public transit used and other factors. There is particularly a need to understand ways in which car owners who choose to use public transportation can be encouraged to carpool, walk or bicycle in the “first mile” and “last mile” of the transit trip, instead of driving. These considerations have implications for addressing cold start trips resulting from short drives to transit facilities, active transportation strategies that may benefit transit users who currently drive, and in deriving solutions for shared transportation such as bicycle-sharing and car-sharing programs. Using data collected in the Chicago Metropolitan Area, we investigate how the mode choice for the access trip to bus and rail transit stops is related to costs, personal and household variables, trip characteristics, and neighborhood factors including crash frequencies, crime prevalence, neighborhood racial characteristics, population density, roadway density etc. for persons in car owning households. The results suggest that while much of the choice depends on personal and trip related variables, some neighborhood level factors as well as the provision of parking at transit stations have important relationships to mode choice that can influence built environment factors such as density and policy areas such as the provision and operation of transit parking facilities.

## 30 **Introduction**

31 Access to transit facilities can be an important factor in the choice to use public transportation and in  
32 the overall quality of public transportation trip experience (1, 2). Yet research has focused to a far  
33 greater extent on the availability of transit itself and on the quality of the transit trip. However, in order  
34 to improve transit service from the perspective of users, there is a need to consider the entire transit  
35 trip – the quality of the transit facility access trip, the waiting conditions in the facility, the transit trip  
36 itself and the trip from the facility to the final destination.

37 Although walking is the dominant mode of transportation to transit facilities, there may exist variations  
38 by socio-demographics, geography, mode of public transit used and other factors. There is particularly a  
39 need to understand ways in which car owners who choose to use public transportation can be  
40 encouraged to carpool, walk or bicycle in the “first mile” and “last mile” of the transit trip, instead of  
41 driving. These considerations have implications for addressing cold start trips resulting from short drives  
42 to transit facilities, active transportation strategies that may benefit transit users who currently drive  
43 and in deriving solutions for shared transportation such as bicycle-sharing and car-sharing programs. The  
44 goal of developing innovative public transportation-centered intermodal passenger transportation  
45 systems may be further assisted by green neighborhood vehicles and innovative ICT-based strategies  
46 such as real-time walking buddy-finder to and from transit stations and stops.

47 In this paper, we explore the transit facility access mode behavior of car owners. We have primarily used  
48 the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning’s Household Travel Tracker Survey (2007-2008) (4) for a  
49 case study of the Chicago metropolitan area. Our goal is to understand factors that contribute to the  
50 propensity of auto-owning transit riders to choose specific transit access modes. We use a mixed  
51 multinomial logit model for this purpose and draw implications regarding strategies that may needed to  
52 increase active transportation and shared transportation access modes. We also estimate a binary logit  
53 model of the propensity to drive very short distances to transit facilities with the goal of understanding  
54 factors that may help reduce cold start emissions from these trips.

55 The paper is organized as follows: in the next section, we briefly describe main findings from the  
56 literature on the topic of access trips to transit facilities and factors that determine such behavior. We  
57 then present a conceptual model of the traveler’s decision-making process that pertains to the context  
58 here. We describe the data used and then present the model results. In the closing section, we draw  
59 policy implications and future research recommendations.

## 60 **Background**

61 The “first mile” and the “last mile” problems, whereby travelers experience difficulties in accessing  
62 transit facilities and in going from transit stops to their destinations, is a major deterrent to using public  
63 transportation. Most strategies to improve public transit ridership focuses on the actual transit service  
64 levels and use conditions. However, while the ability of transit systems to allow access to jobs, shopping,  
65 social or health-related destinations have an effect on transit use, lack of convenient and safe access to  
66 and from transit facilities itself has major detrimental effects on transit ridership and the overall  
67 efficiency of the transportation system. Brons et al (1) supported this statement by highlighting that rail

68 stations accessibility is an important aspect of whether rail is chosen as travel mode. They demonstrated  
69 that facilitating access to rail is more important than providing parking lots at the stations or improving  
70 rail travel itself. Improved strategies are needed to allow wider geographical coverage of access by  
71 various sustainable modes, lower access time and cost, improved information about travel options, and  
72 safe and quality travel to and from transit facilities.

73 Several authors have commented on various aspects of the transit facility access problem. We consider  
74 three different aspects of the research: the role of the built environment, role of social factors such as  
75 crime and road safety, and finally, some opportunities provided by transit access and strategies to  
76 address the problem.

77 The first line of research considered focuses on factors in the built environment which support transit  
78 access. For instance, Cervero et al (5) utilized ANOVA and regression analysis to show that people in  
79 denser places (downtowns) usually walk to transit stations in contrast to individuals in suburban settings  
80 who frequently drive. The author further notes that transit catchment areas are larger for lower density  
81 suburban places than higher density downtowns. Other authors (9) have also noted that the assumption  
82 of transit station walking catchment areas being 400 meters or 800 meters may lead to an  
83 underestimation of actual transit facility catchment size. Their research highlighted that people are  
84 willing to walk longer distances to reach transit stations especially rail stations. Daniels and Mulleys (10)  
85 emphasized that walking distance to transit stops is mostly related to the mode of transit being accessed  
86 and that people are more likely to walk longer distance to train stations than to bus stops.

87 The availability of park-and-ride lots at stations also influences transit access mode, as noted by Cervero  
88 et al (5). People with cars were likely to drive to stations if parking was available. More significantly, he  
89 emphasized that the absence of pedestrian-friendly environment (connected crosswalks, narrower  
90 streets, fewer lanes, and so on) and the land use mix around stations influence people's decision to  
91 drive instead of walking to transit stations. The same study found that the built environment had limited  
92 effect on whether or not people ride buses to and from rail stations (5).

93 Cervero (6) also emphasized that in order to overcome built environment barriers encountered by  
94 pedestrians while accessing transit stations, park-and-ride lots should be converted to transit oriented  
95 developments. These findings are generally supported by Park (7) who noted that street design, the  
96 quality of path walkability, and the walking distance itself significantly affect people's mode choice to  
97 transit stations.

98 A second line of research has focused on safety, and personal well-being while accessing transit  
99 facilities. The results are mixed. Using logistic regression models along with state crash location data and  
100 information on the existence of bus stops near those crash locations, Hess et al (8) showed that roads  
101 with bus stops have a higher number of pedestrian crashes. Other authors have considered social  
102 factors, particularly crime. Kim et al (11) considered Light Rail Transit (LRT) access in the St Louis  
103 metropolitan region and showed that in addition to built environment, individual characteristics, socio-  
104 economic and socio-demographic status of household members, the level of crime around stations also  
105 impact transit ridership as well as the mode choice to transit stations. They noted that female riders are

106 unlikely to walk at night from or to stations especially when the stations are reputed to have high levels  
107 of crime. Their results showed that women are usually picked-up or dropped-off at high crime stations  
108 at night. Walton et al (12), on the other hand, found that fear of crime, distance to transit stops, carriage  
109 of goods, or concern for time are of lesser importance compared to the convenience of the car and bad  
110 weather in explaining why people drive instead of walk to transit.

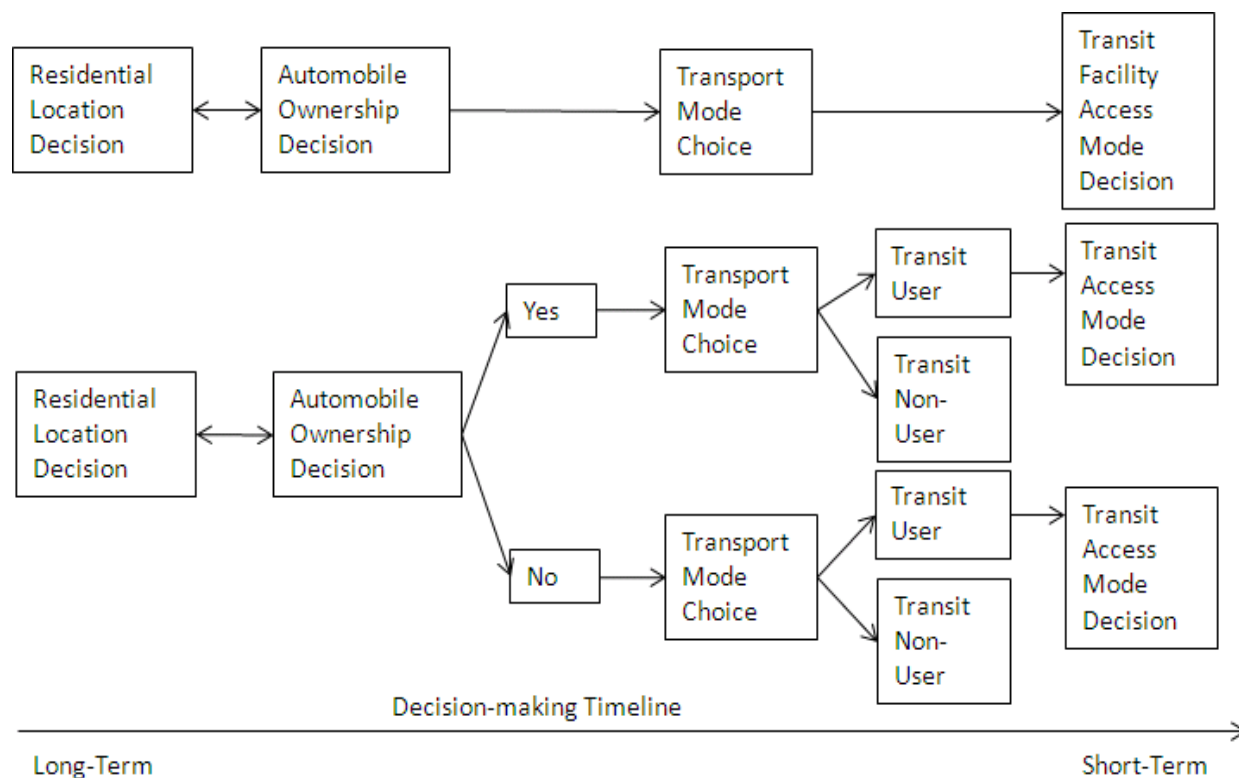
111 A third line of work has focused on the opportunities presented by the transit access trips for health and  
112 well-being outcomes as well as on developing innovative “last-mile” transportation. In particular,  
113 Consolvo et al (13) noted that opportunistic physical activities, where a person incorporates activities  
114 into their normal, everyday life is a sustainable approach to a healthy lifestyle in contrast to structured  
115 physical activity, where people elevate their heart rate for the purpose of exercising. Recent evidence  
116 from the health disciplines clearly shows that moderate levels of exercise on a daily basis have positive  
117 health outcomes. Besser et al (15) evaluated if walking to transit stations helps a person meet the US  
118 Surgeon General’s recommendation of 30 minutes or more of daily physical activity. They found that  
119 transit users in the U.S. spend a median of 19 minutes walking from and to transit stations. They also  
120 found that 29% of transit users get their full 30 minutes or more of their recommended daily physical  
121 activity just by walking from and to transit stations. Based to their results, improved non-motorized  
122 access to transit stations can contribute to an active lifestyle especially for minority and low-income  
123 people and for people living in high density areas.

124 Several recent papers and reports have focused on innovative sustainable means of public  
125 transportation facility access. Shaheen and Finson (16) investigated the feasibility of the Segway Human  
126 Transporter (Segway HT). They determined that this electric mobility device will be successful only with  
127 the cooperation among public and private companies. Other sustainable first or last mile connectors, as  
128 previously mentioned, are bicycles, station electric cars and electric bicycles, folding bicycles and others  
129 (17).

## 130 **Research Approach**

131 As mentioned previously, we seek to understand transit access mode choice behavior of car-owners.  
132 While most studies focus on access to rail stations, this study will look at both rail and bus boarding  
133 location especially focusing on persons with at least one personal vehicle in their household. The trips  
134 considered in this study are all home based access trips when people most likely have all the potential  
135 mode alternatives at their disposal. Figure 1 depicts the conceptual decision-making process. In the top  
136 half of the figure, we show the overall process, and in the bottom half, we show an expanded process  
137 that provides more details on the decision process that ranges from the long-term to the short-term (18,  
138 19). The medium to long term decision of auto-ownership affects the alternatives available for day-to-  
139 day decisions on what mode to use (though different modes may be taken on different days). A  
140 household’s residential location decision – the residence with its built environment and access  
141 characteristics - may partly determine the decision to own automobiles. It is also possible that  
142 residential location choice and automobile ownership choices are jointly determined. The choice of  
143 mode for a particular trip may be affected by automobile availability as well as residential location  
144 characteristics and decisions may be altered on different days.

145 The choice of mode to access a transit station is likely quite different for car owners and non-car  
 146 owners. Those without a personal vehicle have made a decision (or are driven by economic  
 147 circumstance) to very likely use non-motorized options. Because these decisions occur over different  
 148 time scales, we focus on car-owning transit users in this paper. This also makes it possible to examine  
 149 the extent to which their mode choices are affected by neighborhood factors, location-related factors,  
 150 socio-demographics and trip-related factors.



151

152

153 **Figure 1. Conceptual framework for long, medium and short term decisions affecting mode choice**

## 154 **Data**

155 Part of the data for this paper is from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP) Travel  
 156 Tracker Survey, which was conducted between January 2007 and February 2008 for use in the agency's  
 157 regional travel demand modeling. Telephone, mail, internet, GPS, and in-person interviewing techniques  
 158 were employed. The sample is composed of 10,552 households out of a total of 2,940,016 households in  
 159 the Northeastern Illinois area, based on the 2000 U.S. Census. All household members provided detailed  
 160 information about their travel for the assigned travel day(s), 1 or 2 day(s). Survey completion rates by  
 161 county were as follow: 6,986 households (66.2%) in Cook, 994 households (9.4%) in Du Page, 67  
 162 households (0.6%) in Grundy, 463 households (4.4%) in Kane, 73 households (0.7%) in Kendall, 988  
 163 households (9.4%) in Lake, 369 households (3.5%) in McHenry, and 612 households (5.8%) in Will. The  
 164 full details of the data are provided in (4).

165 From the survey data, we only used the subset of respondents who are in vehicle-owning households. In  
 166 addition, only those trips where the respondent originated from home and took transit to their ensuing  
 167 activity is considered. This is done because in many cases, if an individual walked, drove and parked, or  
 168 bicycled to a transit station when they left home, their vehicle would not be available to them for  
 169 accessing transit during later parts of the day.

170 Three models describing mode choice are estimated and discussed. Figure 2 shows two 2-dimensional  
 171 tables for Model I (all home-based transit trips) and Model II (home-based work trips by transit for  
 172 transit users from car-owning households. In Model III, a subset of the individuals in Model I, specifically  
 173 those for whom a transit station is within 15 minutes of walking time from home, is also used to explore  
 174 the decision to drive for very short distance travel.

175

		Model I				Model II	
		Auto ownership				Auto ownership	
		Owner	Non-owner			Owner	Non-owner
Trip Origin for all Transit trips	Home- based	Yes	No	Trip Origin for Work trips only	Home- based	Yes	No
	Non- home based	No	No		Non-home based	No	No

176

177 **Figure 2: Samples for Models I (all home-based transit trips) and II (home-based transit trips to work)**

178 For each respondent who used transit, the transit file in the survey includes the mode they used for  
 179 accessing transit, the location, and in cases when the person walked or biked, the travel time or distance  
 180 to the station. When a person used a vehicle to access the transit station and the trip was the first of  
 181 the day, travel times had to be computed based on home and boarding location coordinates using Google  
 182 maps. In each case travel times for the modes that were not used had to be computed by making  
 183 assumptions about walking, bicycling, and driving speed and using the known modes' travel time to  
 184 compute the travel time for others. For these conversions, we assume an average speed of 3.1mi/hr  
 185 for walking and 15.5mi/hr for bicycling. To calculate the travel times for driving when the mode used by  
 186 the respondent was bicycling or walking, instead of relying on a constant average driving speed for all  
 187 observations, a two-step process was used. This process first calculates what the average travel time by  
 188 auto is to travel from the tract centroid for respondent's residence to the boarding location using  
 189 Google maps. Tract centroids are used since for privacy reasons the actual home coordinates are  
 190 masked in the public data. The estimated travel time and network distances from Google maps is then  
 191 used to compute an average travel speed that is specific for the tract. Since the type of network and  
 192 facilities available are likely to differ by the part of the metropolitan area that respondents live in, this



193 allows us to account for that heterogeneity which may influence the driving time. This average speed is  
194 then used to convert to driving travel times what has been provided for the walking or biking modes.

195 Finally, when a respondent drove or was dropped off at the transit station, travel times are first  
196 calculated by using Google maps. In these cases, the centroid based travel times are “corrected” by  
197 using average ratios between actual to centroid based travel time calculations based on cases where  
198 persons reported their actual travel times. Once these mode specific travel times are calculated, we  
199 focus our analysis only on those individuals who are 18 and over.

200 This data is then linked to tract level demographic data from the ACS 2005-2009 5-year data as well as  
201 parking availability and capacity data was taken from the Regional Transportation Authority Mapping  
202 and Statistics (RTAMS) (21). Another portion of the data were obtained from a Spatial Decision Support  
203 System (SDSS) developed by the authors as a repository of geographical attributes within the Chicago  
204 metro area (22). The Chicago area SDSS integrates a Multi-Criteria Decision Making (MCDM)  
205 environment with small-area spatial data to integrate transportation decision-making with housing,  
206 community development, economic development and physical planning. Using a number of raw data  
207 sources and modeling outputs, it consists of a number of indicators on traffic and transportation,  
208 accessibility measures, regional employment opportunities, small-area employment estimates based on  
209 forecasted job openings and actual jobs, affordable housing, school quality, crime, health, land-use and  
210 the built environment.

211 The factors within the SDSS used in this paper can be categorized into two groups: The first group of  
212 factors relate to the physical environment of the area that may be conducive to biking or walking  
213 including the availability of transit; population density; quality, complexity and connectivity of the  
214 walking environment; distance from the city center; extent of violent and non-violent crime in the  
215 region; extent of roads in the area and level of vehicular traffic flow (called Built Environment factors).  
216 The second group of factors relate to social behaviors, cognitive and demographics (called Behavioral  
217 factors) including percent of school-going children and percent of carless households.

218 A summary of the variables from the SDSS and summary statistics for the variables used in the models  
219 below are given in Table 1.

## 220 **Model**

221 This study looks at only transit trips that that originate from home. Respondents could have walked,  
222 bicycled, driven and parked, or be dropped off at the transit boarding location. We frame the mode  
223 choice problem in this context as an outcome that is explained by four groups of factors (i) the cost of  
224 travel from home to the boarding location (ii) the characteristics of the person and their household (iii)  
225 the characteristic of the trip and (iv) the characteristics of the urban environment in which the decision  
226 is made.

227 Household and demographic variables are mainly included to control for the constraints imposed by  
228 within-household tradeoffs and preferences that change with age, gender and life-stage. The

229 characteristics of the trip including the duration of the transit leg of the trip, and the purpose at the end  
 230 activity, can also limit which mode is used to access the transit station. For example, the attire and  
 231 appearance required at work may deter the likelihood of using more physically intensive modes. Finally,  
 232 the characteristics of the urban environment are included to control for built environment as well as  
 233 perceptions of the environment related to the access trip. These include variables such as roadway  
 234 density, block density within the tract, racial composition as well as crime and roadway crash statistics  
 235 for the tracts in question.

236 Models I and II are mixed multinomial logit models, where, in addition to the attributes of the person,  
 237 location and trip, also includes attributes of the transit access mode alternatives, namely, the travel time  
 238 of each access mode from home to the work place. This model is used to draw associations among the  
 239 four sets of factors discussed above and the choice of the access mode.

240 Model III, a binary logit model, is estimated for the decision to drive on very short trips to a transit  
 241 station. We identify these as trips that would have taken 15 minutes or less to walk from home to the  
 242 boarding location. Model III estimates the propensity to drive very short trips as a function of the same  
 243 set of individual/household, trip, and neighborhood level variables. These trips are particularly  
 244 important as they can presumably be replaced by non-motorized modes and yet remain a source of cold  
 245 start emissions which are substantially greater than emission levels under normal engine operating  
 246 temperatures.

247 Models I and II have four outcome variables – walk, bike, drive and park, dropoff. Three models are  
 248 estimated. The choice is considered to be a multinomial choice problem where the systematic part of  
 249 the utility for individual  $i$  taking mode  $j$  is as follows:

$$250 \quad U_{ij} = a_j + b_i t_{ij} + g' z_j + e_{ij}$$

251 where:

$a_j$  : is an alternative specific constant for mode  $j$

$b_i$  : are unobserved parameters for person  $i$  with density  $f(b_i / q)$  in the population,  
 where  $q$  represents the parameter of the density distribution. In this case we assume  
 a normal distribution for  $b$ .

252  $e_{ij}$  : is an unobserved random term distributed iid extreme value

$t_{ij}$  : is a the alternative specific trave time for mode  $j$  for individual  $i$

$z_j$  : demographic and neighborhood-specific variables

$g_j$  : vector of alternative-specific coefficients related to choice  $j$

253 .

254 These models are estimated for all trips as well as only for trips that are destined to work. A third  
 255 binomial logit model is also estimated where the independent variables are the individual and  
 256 neighborhood related variables and the dependent choice is the **choice to travel** by auto to the transit  
 257 station. This analysis is limited to individuals where the transit station chosen is within 15 minutes  
 258 walking time of the respondent's home.

## 259 **Results**

260 The estimated results for Models I and II are given in Table 2. Table 3 presents the results of Model III.

### 261 ***Model I: Mode Choice for All trips***

262 We will first discuss the results from model I where mode choice is predicted using travel time, personal  
 263 variables, household characteristics, and the characteristics of the area in which the respondent lives.  
 264 The base mode is auto.

265 Travel time: The estimates of  $\beta$  for travel time in all models are as expected negative. We estimate taste  
 266 heterogeneity under assumptions of normality which suggests that the estimate is negative in over  
 267 99.9% of cases suggesting the assumption of normality is a reasonable one. The model says that as the  
 268 difference in travel time between any two modes increases, it becomes more and more likely that the  
 269 person would choose the faster mode. In part, this means less-direct pedestrian routes, for example,  
 270 would make it less likely that a person would opt for the walking mode, if travel times on alternative  
 271 modes are not as affected by the complexity of the network or if they provide speed advantages to  
 272 these alternatives.

273 Demographic variables: Several demographic variables are important in describing the odds of being  
 274 dropped-off or choosing to walk to a station. Each additional worker in a household increases the odds  
 275 that a person would be dropped off. Increases in household vehicles reduce the odds of carpooling. For  
 276 the walking mode, increased household vehicle reduces its odds while age of the person also has the  
 277 effect of reducing the odds of choosing to walk as opposed to driving.

278 Few demographic and household level variables explain the choice to bicycle. The decision appears to  
 279 be independent of age, household factors such as number of workers, gender (not reported in model) at  
 280 least in this sample. Households with larger number of vehicles are less likely to bicycle than drive.  
 281 Every additional vehicle lowers the odds of using bicycle to a greater degree than of walking or being  
 282 dropped off. In total though, the decision to bicycle is not explained by the person, trip, or location  
 283 factors descriptors considered.

284 Trip related variables: Trip related variables including purpose of trip, departure time, the duration of  
 285 the length of the transit trip, as well as the duration of the activity at the end of the transit trip were  
 286 included in the initial models. Of these trips duration and work trip purpose significantly explained  
 287 choice. Longer duration trips favor the base auto mode against both walking and being dropped off. The  
 288 reason for these may be that for longer duration transit trips decisions to walk may significantly increase  
 289 total travel time. In addition, those with longer duration trips may be less likely to be dropped off  
 290 because of potential substantial delays that may ensue when the coordination with other household  
 291 members fails. The results also show that in general, the auto mode share is significantly favored for

292 work trips compared to walking or bicycling and shows some evidence, although less significant, against  
293 being dropped off.

294 Neighborhood/Environment variables: These variables include those that physically influence the modal  
295 choice such as roadway density, block density, population density, transit availability in the area, transit  
296 operator-provided parking availability at chosen bus or rail station as well as those factors which may  
297 influence people's perceptions of the walking environment. Additionally, we include social/behavioral  
298 factors such as the maximum number of bicycle and pedestrian crashes either at the home tract or the  
299 boarding tract, the number of crimes in the census tract per thousand population, the median tract  
300 income, as well as the racial composition of the tract.

301 Population density and block density increase the odds of walking even after controlling for the amount  
302 of time that it takes to walk to the transit station. While roadway density had some positive effect on  
303 getting dropped off, it does not influence the walking preference. Provision of parking at the boarding  
304 location by the transit station significantly lowers the odds of walking. The relationship is not  
305 necessarily one-directional, meaning that in some cases it may be that those who prefer driving seek out  
306 the transit facilities with parking and in other cases, the availability of parking makes it attractive to  
307 drive, park and then take transit. The availability of parking also lowers the odds that a person would be  
308 dropped off.

309 Surprisingly both crashes as well as crimes per thousand populations were not related to the choice of  
310 the access mode in the all-trips mixed model. Rather racial composition and median income seem to  
311 influence the choice to walk as opposed to drive. In a way, these may reflect personal perceptions of  
312 respondents about the areas in which they are making the mode choice. Places with higher incomes  
313 may be deemed safer and hence increases the odds of walking in such areas. However, there may be  
314 some reluctance to walk in areas where the percentage of minority populations may be very large for  
315 fear of crime. For example, Quillian and Pager (23) report that "the percentage of a neighborhood's  
316 black population, particularly the percentage young black men, is significantly associated with  
317 perceptions of the severity of the neighborhood's crime problem." It is possible that the percent  
318 minority variable is serving as a proxy for perceived fear of crime, rather than actual crime statistics.

319 While the factors explaining the work-only model (Model II) are for the most part similar to the model  
320 for all trips in the sign and significance of the estimates, a few exceptions are present. In particular, the  
321 racial composition of a neighborhood and population density are not important in the mode choice  
322 decision. Both variables however appear potentially important for the access mode choice to transit  
323 stations when the trip purpose is non-work trips (based on a model that is not presented here for sake  
324 of brevity). Time of day when these trips are taken may also have an influence on the differences in  
325 significance.

### 326 ***Short trips***

327 We have defined very short trips as those for which walking travel times to the transit station are 15  
328 minutes or less. The choice being modeled is the decision to drive as a function of personal, trip, and  
329 neighborhood characteristics. The results are given in Table 3. Overall, the likelihood to drive such

330 short distances is small as evidenced by the intercept term. However, some covariates increase its  
331 likelihood. The results for this smaller subset of access trips are not very different from the variables  
332 that encourage driving for the larger subset. Age as before plays an important role favoring driving as  
333 one gets older. Higher number of household vehicles and work trips also favor the decision to drive. The  
334 availability of larger parking capacity at transit stations contributes positively to a decision to park and  
335 ride even amongst those with very short trips. Neighborhood and built environment factors do not  
336 affect the choice in a systematic way. Finally, increasing median income lowers the probability to drive  
337 to transit facilities a short distance away.

## 338 **Conclusion**

339 The analysis in this paper has the overarching goal of informing policy areas that may favor switching  
340 from automobile use to non-motorized modes or car-sharing for trips to access a transit station. Such a  
341 modal switch has implications for addressing issues related to cold start trips resulting from short drives  
342 to transit stations, active transportation strategies that may benefit transit users who currently drive,  
343 and in deriving solutions for shared transportation. We employ three mode choice models to access  
344 transit from home. Our findings by and large show that transit access mode choice is heavily influenced  
345 by the cost of getting to a station, individual/household conditions that induce different constraints or  
346 enable flexibility on the travel choice of the individual, and the trip characteristics themselves.  
347 Primarily, travel time explains much of the mode choice. Factors that increase the travel time by non-  
348 motorized modes relative to driving such as circuitous pedestrian routes and unavailability of pedestrian  
349 facilities would significantly skew the odds of against non-motorized travel.

350 Our analysis also finds that other than the travel time variable, the use of bicycling is not explained very  
351 well by household, trip-related, or neighborhood variables. It appears that demographic and built  
352 environment variables are not well suited to capture the motivation to bicycle.

353 Higher number of within-household workers correlates positively with the choice to being dropped off.  
354 The policy challenge in this respect is whether the same coordination can be enabled at neighborhood  
355 level scales for community-wide shared transportation. Here different innovative strategies may be  
356 desired to match people and create opportunities for ride sharing to a transit station. The key is likely  
357 not only to generate the necessary matches, which may not be technologically challenging, but to  
358 enable building trust and confidence among coordinating individuals so that users can reliably and safely  
359 reach the transit station. When coordination occurs within the household, this type of trust is implicit in  
360 the arrangement.

361 While parking availability enables transit use, the increased number of spaces available to park tends to  
362 correlate with park and ride arrangements and less so with walking or drop-off arrangements. Here  
363 opportunities may exist to encourage sharing rides either among household members or with other  
364 neighborhood transit users with the goal of creating higher-occupancy parking spots with differential  
365 pricing. The behavioral response to a reduction in parking or solo parking or introduction of differential  
366 parking pricing may result in inducing coordination for ride-sharing to transit or for some persons to  
367 altogether abandon transit as a mode. If transit users, especially for work trips, travel to high density,

368 high parking cost locations, the possibility for coordination may be attractive. These issues need further  
369 research.

370 Of the neighborhood-level variables in the model for all home-based transit trips, those that tend to  
371 favor walking are population density and median income while racial composition lowers the odds.  
372 When work trips are modeled separately, only the effect of median income remains significant in  
373 increasing the odds of walking. This may be due to both the physical appearance and perception of the  
374 neighborhood safety that are associated with higher income locations. When non-work trips are  
375 modeled separately (not reported in the paper), the influence of population density is found to  
376 positively contribute ( $p\text{-val}=0.070$ ) to the odds of walking. In addition, the proportion of minorities,  
377 while not statistically significant ( $p\text{-value}=0.15$ ) still shows the negative association with the probability  
378 of walking to a transit station in largely minority areas when the trip purpose is non-work related. In the  
379 similarly specified non-work model, the only other variable that significantly predicts access mode  
380 choice is the travel time ( $p\text{-val}=0.001$ ). From a policy perspective, the contrasting results from the work  
381 and non-work models suggest, albeit weakly, that population density still matters in encouraging  
382 walking to transit. Perceptions that likely are associated with higher concentration of minority  
383 populations also likely have some impact on the travel decision.

384 Finally, for very short trips that could be walked, the choice to drive appears mainly related to  
385 individual's age, and their trips characteristics particularly to work. Here again, however, parking  
386 capacity increases the possibility of driving very short distances with potentially substantial  
387 consequences for cold start emissions.

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Table 1 Model Variables

Variables		Mean	Units/description
Transit station access mode shares	Auto	28%	
	Bike	2%	
	Carpool	7%	
	Walk	64%	
Age		44	
Number of household workers		2	
Number of household vehicles		2	
Transit trip duration		59 minutes	
Work destined trips		71%	
Number of parking at boarding location		281	
The higher of number of bike/ped crashes (killed/injured) at either home tract or boarding tract		12	
Number of crimes per 1000 population in tract		42	Total violent and non-violent crimes in census tracts per thousand population for 2006
Transit Availability Index (TAI)		0.657	Composite index with range (0-1) which gives the extent to which residents have access to transit (bus and rail); based on three input measures – frequency (person-minutes served), hours of service (number of hours) and service coverage (percentage of census tract area covered)
Pedestrian Environmental Factor (PEF)		20.040	Composite index with range (0-100) which ranks tract suitability for pedestrian travel; based on input values of population, income, number of households, amount of commercial and residential land uses as a percentage of census tracts, weighted trip origins and destinations, and Pedestrian Environment Factor (PEF) values, where PEF's are the average number of blocks for the quarter section within each census tract and the eight adjacent quarter sections
Density		14520	2010 Population /square mile in census tract
Road density		0.031	Total Linear Miles of Roads (in all functional classes) within Census Tract
Percent population not white 2010 (by tract)		36%	
Household income 2010 for tract		\$69,950	
Observations		1388	

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Table 2 Mixed Model for Access to transit station

		All trips Estimate (t-stat)	Work trips Estimate (t-stat)
$\beta$	travel time to station ( $\beta$ )	-0.264 (-8.722)***	-.238 (-7.286)***
	$\sigma(\beta)$	0.099 (4.411)***	0.080 (3.817)***
Bicycle	(intercept)	3.330(0.690)	2.702 (0.500)
	Age	-0.040 (-0.987)	-0.041 (-0.786)
	Household workers	0.403 (0.675)	0.595 (0.600)
	Household vehicles	-1.363 (-1.896).	-1.345 (-1.555)
	Trip duration	-0.017 (-1.367)	-0.017 (-0.847)
	Work trip?	-1.629 (-2.132)*	-
	Parking (100s)	-0.012 (-0.371)	-0.135 (-0.648)
	Crime per 1000 pop	-0.001 (-0.069)	0.006 (0.209)
	Maximum bik/ped crashes	-0.043 (-0.700)	-0.018 (-0.247)
	Transit availability index	-0.237 (-0.049)	-2.365 (-0.442)
	Block density	0.027 (0.729)	0.028 (0.865)
	Population density	0 (0.167)	0.000 (0.048)
	Roadway density	5.614 (0.490)	4.733 (0.339)
	Non-white percentage	-1.922 (-0.616)	-1.697 (-0.366)
	Median tract income	0.006 (0.444)	0.010 (0.868)
Dropped off	(intercept)	-0.108 (-0.076)	-0.641 (-0.429)
	Age	-0.008 (-0.660)	-0.009 (-0.694)
	Household workers	0.668 (2.674)**	0.656 (2.439)*
	Household vehicles	-0.646 (-3.375)***	-0.579 (-2.804)**
	Trip duration	-0.016 (-2.864)**	-0.010 (-1.691).
	Work trip?	-0.614 (-1.872).	-
	Parking (100s)	-0.074 (-1.957).	-0.088 (-2.144)*
	Crime per 1000 pop	0.003 (0.467)	0.001 (0.074)
	Maximum bik/ped crashes	0.015 (0.755)	0.011 (0.508)
	Transit availability index	0.888 (0.650)	-0.119 (-0.086)
	Block density	-0.018 (-1.393)	-0.018 (-1.291)
	Population density	0.000 (-0.488)	0.000 (0.020)
	Roadway density	4.208 (1.716).	3.133 (1.268)
	Non-white percentage	-0.980 (-1.563)	-0.178 (-0.262)
	Median tract income	0.010 (2.227)*	0.013 (2.666)**
Walk	(intercept)	7.034 (4.470)***	6.595 (3.954)***
	Age	-0.039 (-3.334)***	-0.040 (-3.207)**
	Household workers	0.022 (0.092)	0.183 (0.663)
	Household vehicles	-0.840 (-4.172)***	-0.805 (-3.402)***
	Trip duration	-0.020 (-3.309)***	-0.021 (-2.871)**
	Work trip?	-0.772 (-2.397)*	-
	Parking (100s)	-0.088 (-2.390)*	-0.101 (-2.534)*
	Crime per 1000 pop	0.012 (1.450)	0.012 (1.256)
	Maximum bik/ped crashes	0.015 (0.655)	0.028 (1.107)
	Transit availability index	0.170 (0.117)	-0.583 (-0.381)
	Block density	0.027 (1.881).	0.020 (1.327)
	Population density	0.00005 (2.723)**	0.000 (1.636)
	Roadway density	1.426 (0.263)	-2.910 (-0.484)
	Non-white percentage	-1.291 (-2.132)*	-1.002 (-1.508)
	Median tract income	0.010 (1.930).	0.010 (1.625)
Goodness of fit	Log-Likelihood	635.600	485.810
	McFadden R <sup>2</sup> :	0.465	0.447
	Likelihood ratio test : chisq =	1104.200	785.820
	Likelihood ratio test : p-value =	0.000	0.000

Significance: \*\*\* &lt; 0.001, \*\* &lt; 0.01, \* &lt; 0.05, . &lt; 0.10

Table 3: Driving Choice on transit access trips that are shorter than 15 minutes by walk mode

	Estimate	Standard Error	z value	Pr(> z )
Intercept	-4.040	1.634	-2.472	0.013*
Age	0.026	0.011	2.252	0.024*
Household Size	-0.207	0.139	-1.488	0.137
Household workers	0.066	0.234	0.281	0.779
Household vehicles	0.903	0.212	4.267	0.000***
Trip duration	0.023	0.005	4.386	0.000***
Work trip	0.728	0.351	2.072	0.038*
Parking (100s)	0.080	0.039	2.078	0.038*
Crime per 1000 pop	-0.007	0.008	-0.870	0.384
Maximum bik/ped crashes	-0.013	0.019	-0.690	0.490
Transit availability index	-1.097	1.468	-0.747	0.455
Pedestrian Environmental Factor	-0.003	0.014	-0.196	0.845
Population density	0.000	0.000	-1.288	0.198
Roadway density	-1.002	5.632	-0.178	0.859
Non-white percentage	-0.129	0.662	-0.195	0.846
Median tract income	-0.012	0.006	-2.150	0.032*
Null deviance	505.110	on 837 degrees of freedom		
Residual deviance	399.750	on 822 degrees of freedom		
AIC:	431.750			
psuedo r2:	0.209			

Significance: \*\*\* < 0.001, \*\* < 0.01, \* < 0.05, . < 0.10