

# Public Transportation

Christina Simmes

Public Policy Major and Anthropology Minor



# History of Trains and Streetcars

- 1920s: 17,000 miles of streetcar and 250,000 miles of railroad nationally
  - Hubs included Atlanta, Raleigh and Los Angeles
- Little government regulations led to near-monopoly
  - Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)
  - 1933: New Deal
- Increase in cars on the streetcar tracks the slower the streetcar ran and the more people transition to cars
- Small resurgence during World War 2
- 1970: Penn Central Railroad lead to Amtrak



# Policies

- Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (2021)
- Washington Statewide Human Services Transportation Plan (2022)
- New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Transportation Master Plan

# Actors

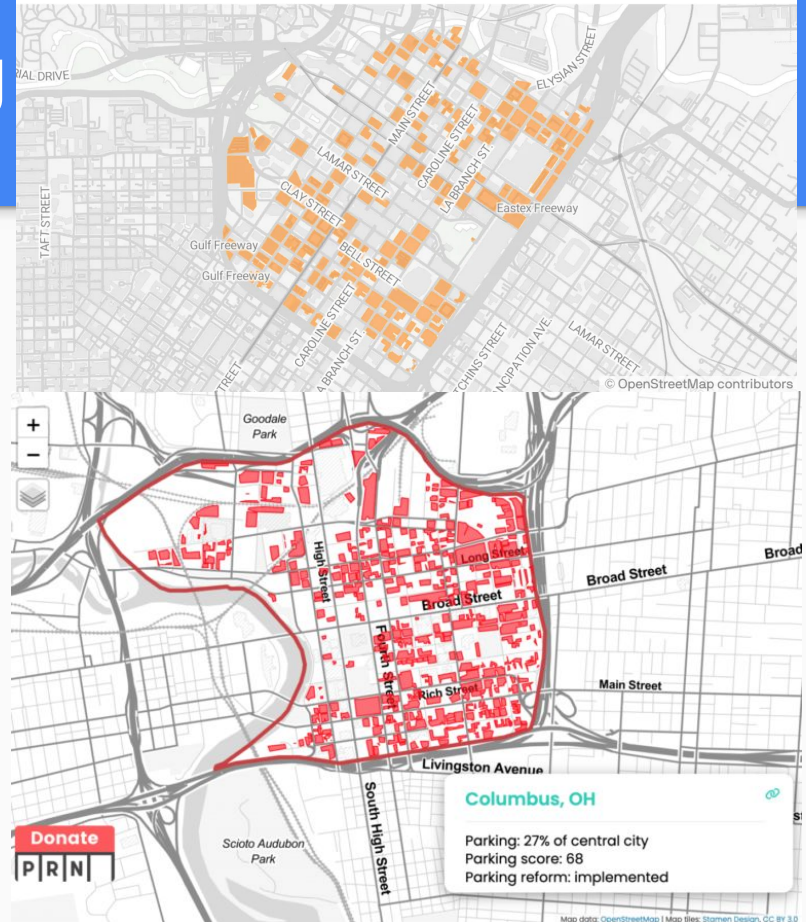
- Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)
- Car Lobbyist
- Oil Industry Lobbyist

# Climate Change and Parking

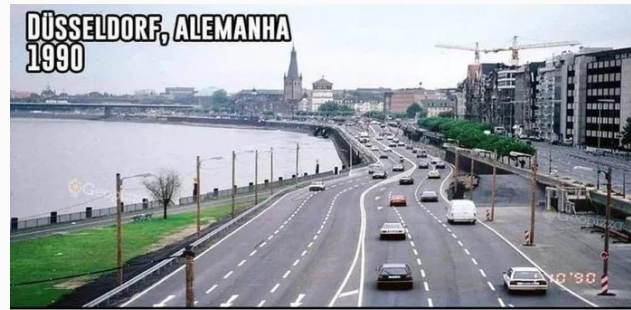
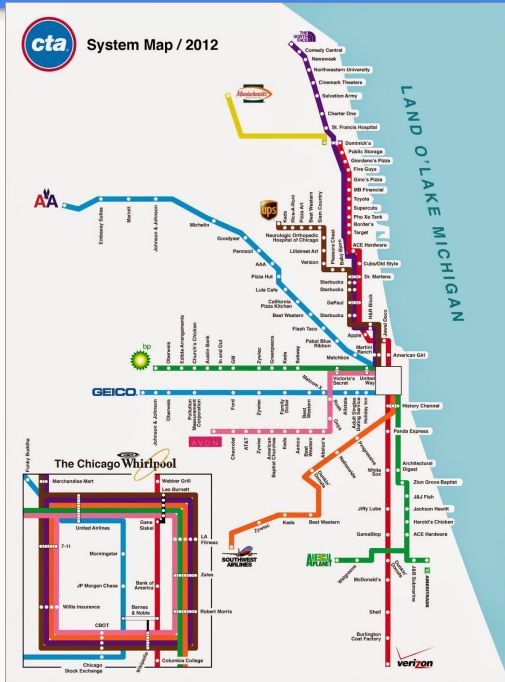
- Trains and buses use less energy than cars and airlines
  - Less idle infrastructure
- While electric cars emit less carbon they still need parking

[#68 Saturn - Sheet Metal \(TOP 100 Automotive](#)

Downtown Houston parking lots



# Buses and Walkable Cities



Cheonggyecheon, Seoul - South Korea



# Future of Railroad

