

# Bitcoin & Urbanism

By: Wyatt O'Rourke



# Inspiration

This is an introspective look at our built environment (specifically in and around U.S. cities) and how bitcoin can rejuvenate urbanism. I believe, like many, that bitcoin is as much of a social instrument of change as it is a technological or financial instrument of change.



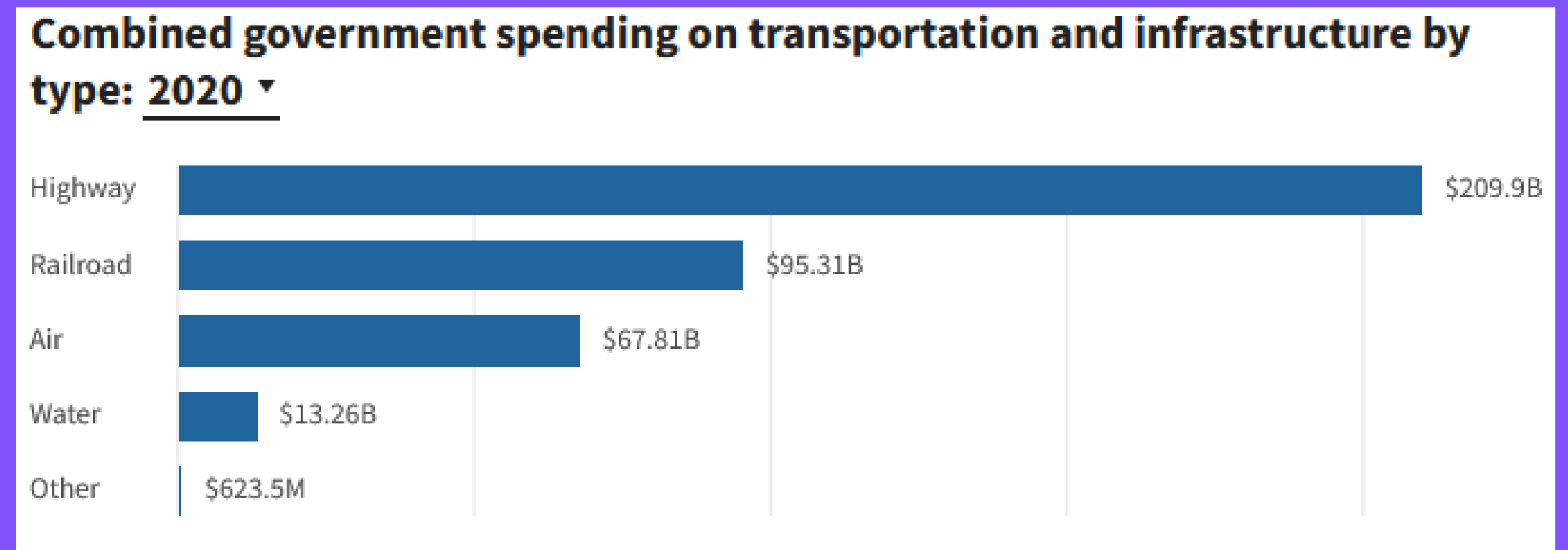


# Current State of our Built Environment



# Public Enemy #1 - Car Culture

Car culture is the the intrinsic idea that a car is needed to get anywhere.





# Hollowing Out of Our Urban Cores



## Kansas City 1955

Dense urban core with vast amounts of street car networks



## Kansas City 2014

Urban core density and street car network has been bulldozed and replaced by highway networks and parking lots





## Urban Scars

Many of our cities have been reduced to surface parking abandoned after 5pm on any given work day

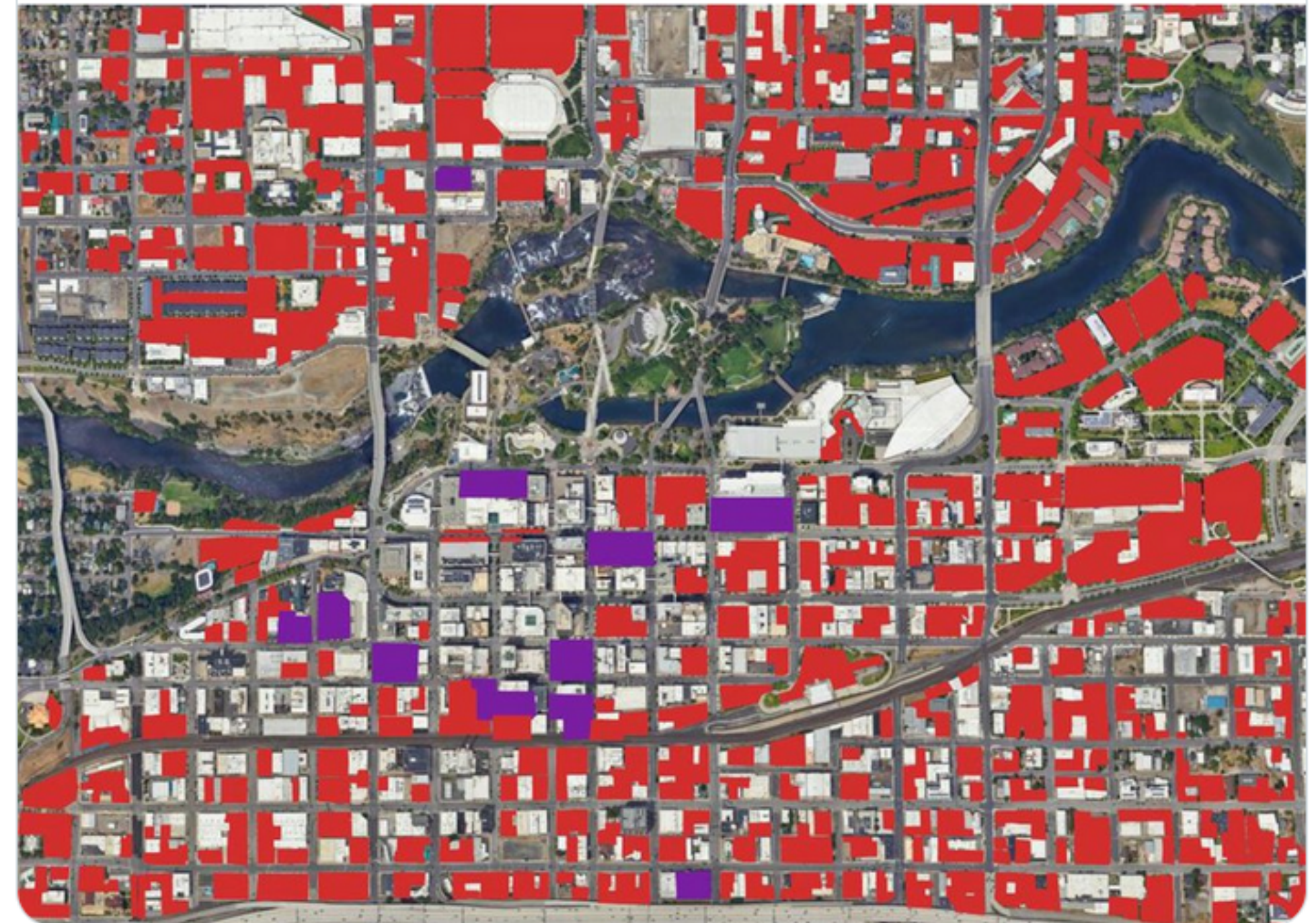


CoolDiamondsFTW

@ftw\_cool

I mapped all the surface parking lots in Downtown Spokane Wa.

■ Surface Parking ■ Parking Garage



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NIMBYism

## Public Enemy #2

Not-in-my-back-yard (NIMBY) is a pollutive mindset many de-growthers share. The whole idea is that they block new development because “how dare a train stop or apartment complex built next to my single family home and lot.”



# Current State of Our Social Fabric

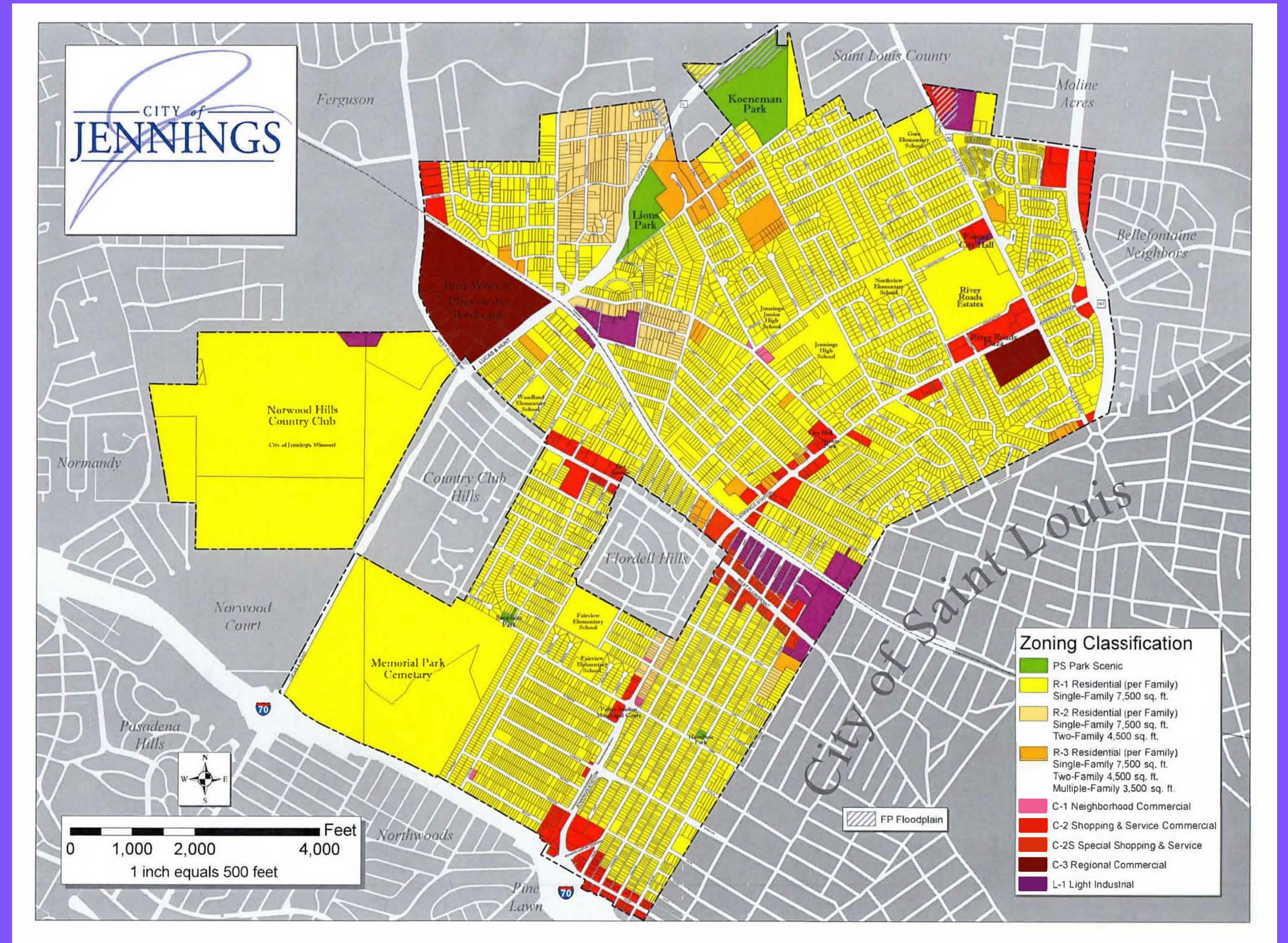




# Central Planners

## Zoning

- It is innate in any sort of central planning to think your centralized entity can perfectly plan how resources should be used
- In reality that is never the case and specifically in the case of zoning it is the residents of the specific municipality who bear the brunt of central planners egos





# Sprawl

- Bulldoze cities for highways and parking lots = a transitory concrete waste land where no one lives or interacts with each other.
- Central Planners in the 20th century made the following conscious decisions
  - Designated cars as nearly the only source of transportation
  - Drastically overprioritized single-family homes as the prominent type of home
  - Opted to destroy economically productive land to build a sprawling network of subdivisions and highways.
  - Manipulated local markets and skewed incentives in favor of sprawl



**Hayden Clarkin**

@the\_transit\_guy

No solar farm or paper straw could mitigate the environmental impact that is unfettered urban sprawl. (Maricopa, AZ)



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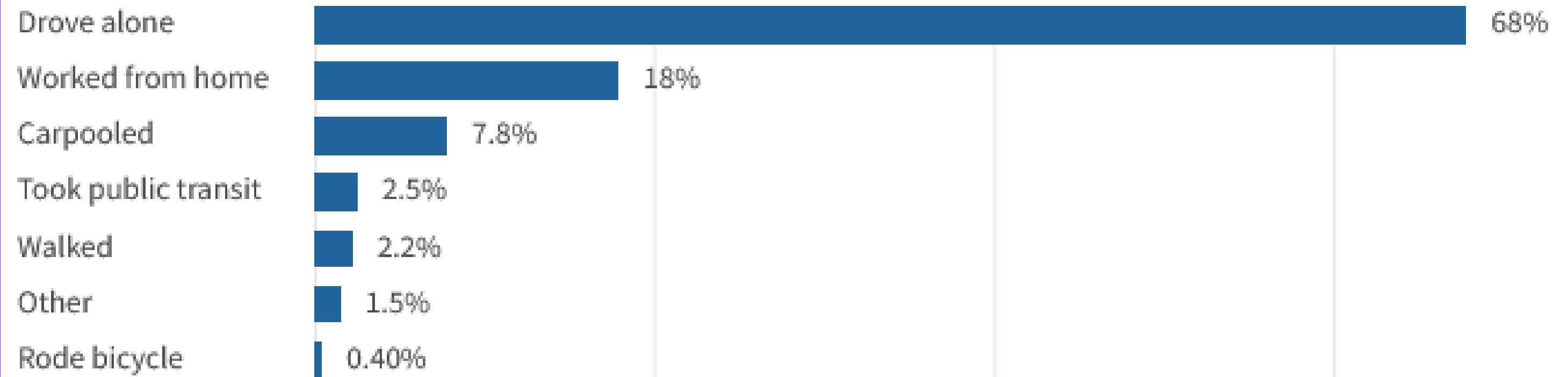
Effect

# Anti-Social Behavior

68% of people drive alone to work...sad...

## Means of commute for workers 16 and older: 2021 ▾

In 2021, 67.8% of workers went to their place of work by driving alone.



Source: [Census Bureau](#). [↗](#)



# The Costs you Bear

- Sprawling car infrastructure is very expensive to maintain and in many occasions in a state of disrepair.
- Cities are measured in linear feet. Constantly expanding the necessary infrastructure needed to support a world-class city to the edges of suburbia is of course very expensive and inefficient.
- Reminder – this was only done in the first place to support cars.
- If your currency doesn't hold its value and is constantly being de-based it only makes whatever potential for maintenance that much more expensive

Video Link



**Jonathan Berk**

@berkie1



“We built cities all over America that are designed for automobiles and not designed for people... Our housing costs are high, in part because of the way that we've designed our cities.”

- @GovDougBurgum North Dakota comments during the @NatlGovsAssoc winter meetings



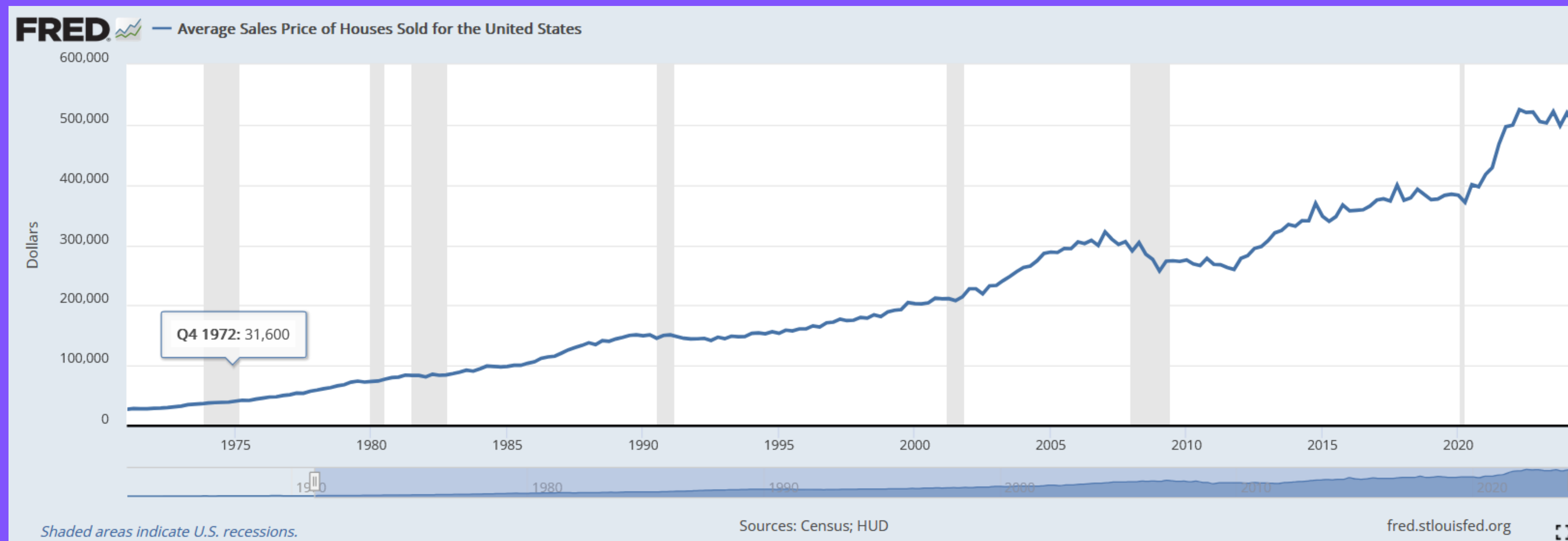
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# How Bitcoin Affects the Built Environment



# A Better Store of Value

Bitcoin is a savings technology. The limited supply, decentralized, and digitally native nature of bitcoin make it a very unique asset/network. It is more scarce, more liquid, more transferable, cheaper to maintain, easier to buy, and easier to protect than a house.



# Real Costs

The Sprawl choking almost all of our American cities is so expensive and inefficient, about the only way to pay for it is to just print money.

The cherry on top – cars are a depreciating asset bought predominantly on debt and provide very little value besides some transportation utility that could be more efficiently provided anyway.



# How Bitcoin Affects the Social Fabric



# Remove the State

Bitcoin is a decentralized open-source software protocol designed to remove the middle man.

It is not a stretch to theorize that when you can decentrally verify trust, you create a society that is more willing to trust and interact with each other

Humans are social beings, lets keep it that way





# Restore Dignity



## High Time Preference

They have no respect for you



## Low Time Preference

They have the utmost respect for you





# Wyatt O'Rourke

X: @WROrourke

TG: Wyatt O'Rourke

Website: <https://wyattorourke.com/>

