

# Walking, Biking, and Rolling in VT

February 23 House Transportation Committee Testimony

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Local Motion's mission is to make it safe, accessible, and fun for everyone to bike, walk, and roll in Vermont.



# What we're trying to achieve: All ages & abilities infrastructure



#### Streets vs. Roads

Streets are places to build social and financial wealth in a community

- Complex
- Low speed

Roads move people and goods efficiently **between communities** 

- Simple
- Higher speed
  - Not necessarily cars (rail<u>road</u>)



### The "stroad"

Tries to be both a street and a road, fails at both.

- Complexity mixed with speed = Very dangerous
- Lots of lanes, signals, etc. = Very expensive
- Big-boxes and national chains = Very subsidized



Route 7, Rutland
Two people injured and one killed while walking within a quarter mile of this intersection between February and August 2022.



## **Shared space street**

- Car speeds of 1 15 MPH
- People walking, biking, and rolling can usually safely share the street with people driving
- Sometimes cars are excluded



Provincetown, MA

# Low-speed street



- Car speeds 15 25 MPH
- Painted bike infrastructure is sometimes sufficient, but protection is often desirable
- Sidewalks and short crossings for people walking and rolling



N. Union Street, Burlington

# **Moderate-speed street**



- Car speeds 25 35 MPH
- Protected bike infrastructure, ideally grade-separated
- Sidewalks & enhanced crossings for people walking and rolling



Raised bike lane and crossing in Cambridge, MA

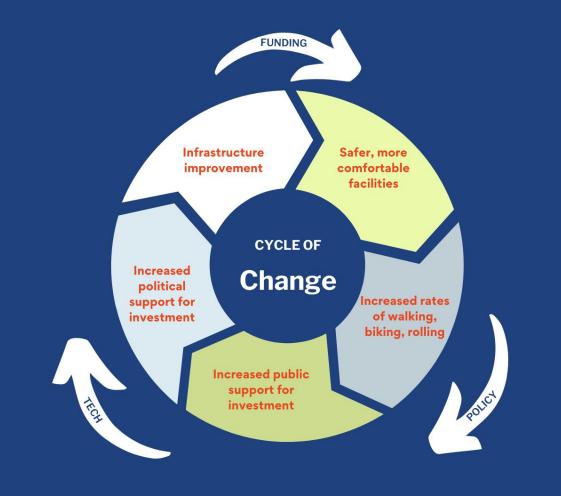
#### Roads



- Car speeds over 35 MPH
- Fully grade separated, with degree of protection/separation increasing with speed
- Access control (reducing driveways and intersections)
- Enhancements at intersections, potentially including roundabouts



Shared use path along Route 15 in Colchester



#### **Levers for the HTC**

- Policy
  - Updated Complete Streets legislation
  - Vermont State Standards update
- Funding
  - o Increased funding via Bike/Pedestrian Program Grant
  - o Transit!
- Technology
  - E-bike incentive program