

Presented at *TFI Communication Technology Asset Valuation Conference*, January 28-29, 2015
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The Growth of Urban Centers

What's an Urban Center?

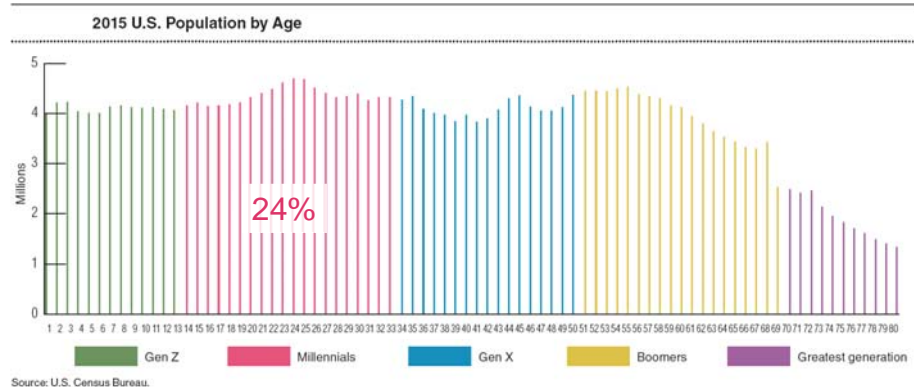
- Development offering diverse multimodal spaces
 - Live (apartments, condos)
 - Work (corporate, services, co-working)
 - Play (retail, food & beverage, nightclub)
- Dense and walkable
 - Walk Score ®
- Transportation options
 - Parking
 - Mass transit, bike shares
- Not Just For Downtowns
 - Rise of “Urban Burbs” offering suburban medium-density builds



The Domain, North Austin, Texas



Changing Demographic and Social Patterns



Source: Urban Land Institute <http://uli.org/wp-content/uploads/ULI-Documents/Emerging-Trends-in-Real-Estate-2015.pdf>

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Millennials Are Flocking to Urban Centers

Millennials (62%) prefer to live in the type of mixed-use communities found in urban centers where they live in close proximity to a mix of shopping, restaurants and offices.^{xvii} They currently live in urban areas at a higher rate than any other generation. This is the first time since the 1920s where the growth in U.S. cities outpaces growth outside of the cities.^{xviii} And, 40 percent say they would like to live in an urban area in the future.^{xvii} The “American Dream” is transitioning from the white picket fence in the suburbs to the historic brownstone stoop in the heart of the city.

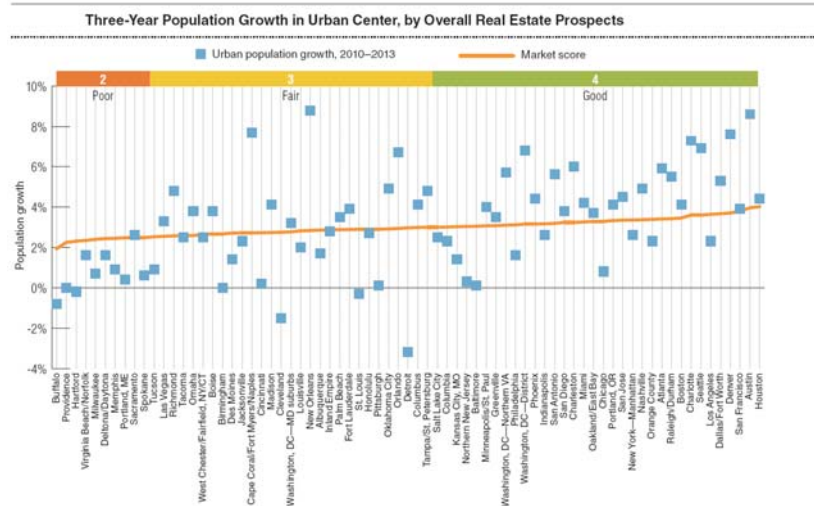
Source: Neilson Millennial Report, Feb 2014
<http://www.nielsen.com/content/dam/corporate/us/en/reports-downloads/2014%20Reports/nielsen-millennial-report-feb-2014.pdf>

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Real Estate Market Prospects Tied to Urban Centers



Source: Urban Land Institute <http://uli.org/wp-content/uploads/ULI-Documents/Emerging-Trends-in-Real-Estate-2015.pdf>

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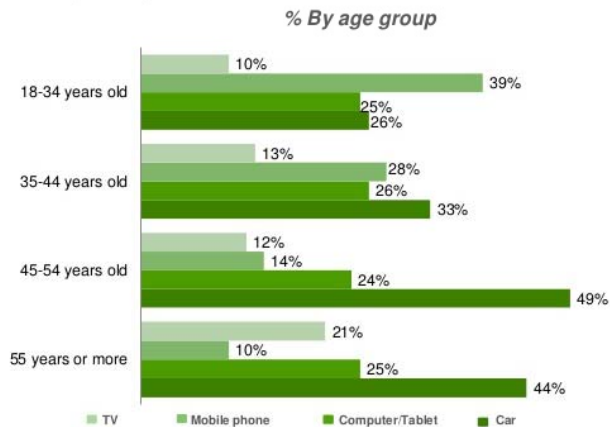
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Millennials Place Importance on Connectivity

From a 2014 Survey Commissioned by Zipcar:

In your daily routine, losing which piece of technology would have the greatest negative impact on you?



Source: http://www.slideshare.net/Zipcar_PR/millennials-2013-slide-share

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Communication Networks in Urban Centers – Mobile



- Coverage initiated through macro site deployment on exterior location (rooftop)
 - Low-frequency spectrum required to penetrate buildings
- Capacity added through ancillary exterior building locations
 - Building interference, attenuation between sites, radio interface constraints
- Small cells, distributed antennas, and Wi-Fi deployment as an afterthought



- Networks fully integrated with developer and city infrastructure plans
 - Dedicated cable runs, power connectivity, concealed or "plain-sight" antenna mounting, wired backhaul availability
- Small cells offering integrated 3G, 4G, Wi-Fi solutions
- Goal is to eliminate unsightly, ad-hoc, and occasionally "redundant" buildout of networks

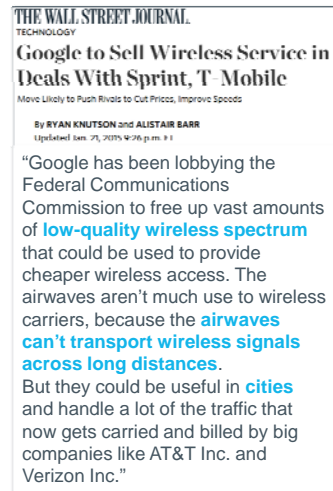
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Communication Networks in Urban Centers – Mobile (cont.)

- Does density disfavor the incumbents?
 - Small cells operate with limited range
 - Limited range synonymous with high-frequency spectrum
 - No longer requires expensive “beach-front” spectrum
 - “Flip the script”
 - » Wi-Fi network provider first, cellular network as backup
 - » Is this Google’s strategy with the MNVO deals?
- Implications
 - Traditional mobile infrastructure is inefficient at serving dense, walkable centers
 - Access for new entrants is last major impediment
 - » As system builds gradually shift away from providers and towards developers and systems, anyone can “pay to play”



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Communication Networks in Urban Centers – Wireline & Cable

- Economics for wireline & cable are stronger in urban centers.
 - Cost per unit passed is cheaper as density increases
 - » Cheaper to deploy fiber to a single MDU (vs a suburban single family neighborhood)
 - » Cheaper to leverage existing infrastructure conduit or micro-trench (vs trenching miles of suburban dirt)
 - » Rationale behind AT&T Project VIP’s goal of fiber to an additional 1 MM MDU’s
 - Data caps on wireless still shaping mobile usage patterns
 - For businesses, enterprise-level security and provisioning starts here



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Communication Networks in Urban Centers – Wireline & Cable (cont.)

- But, the economics are ripe for change.
 - Cities are getting smarter about designing for multiple providers
 - Some aggressively pushing developers or building owners to install fiber as part of new builds, and for redevelopment, eliminating the previous generation copper/coax infrastructure
- Goal is to facilitate end-to-end Gigabit capability
 - Incumbents' Fiber-to-the-node or DOCSIS 3.0 network will not be enough
- Wired Backhaul for Mobile Providers
 - All these small cells require backhaul with large bandwidth capabilities
 - Incumbents that also double as wireless carriers can lose a key defensive mechanism as "middle-mile" provider

FIGURE 16: SEPARATE CONDUIT CONSTRUCTION OUTSIDE UNIFORM BANK

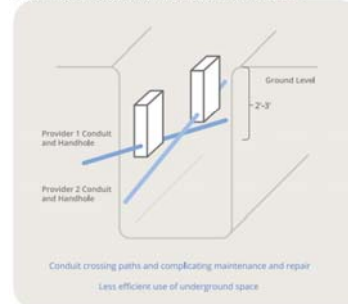


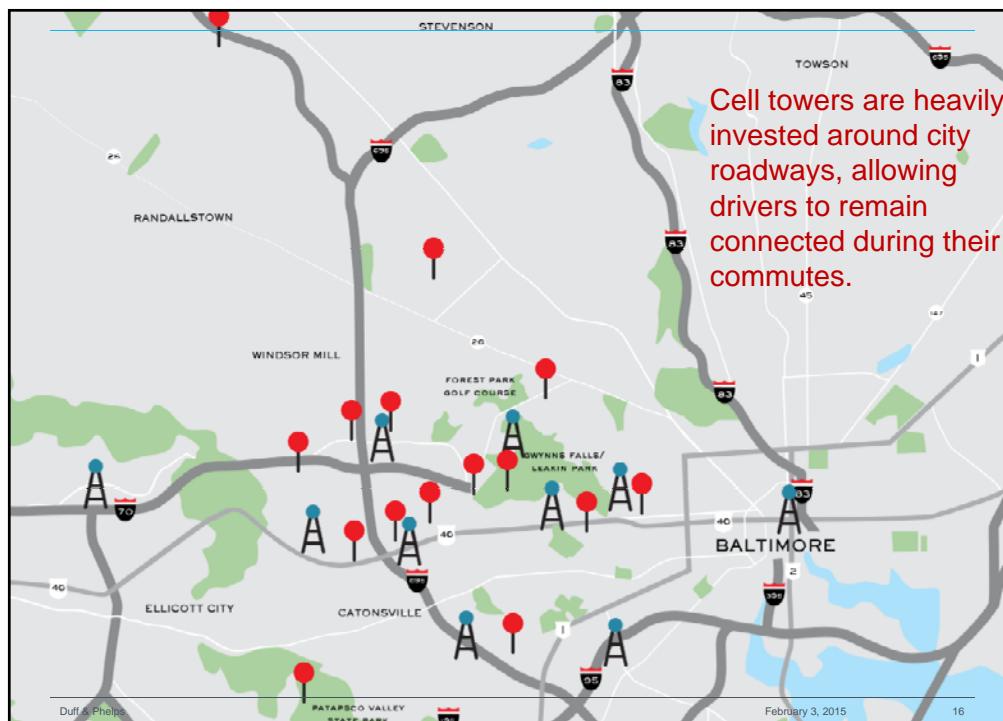
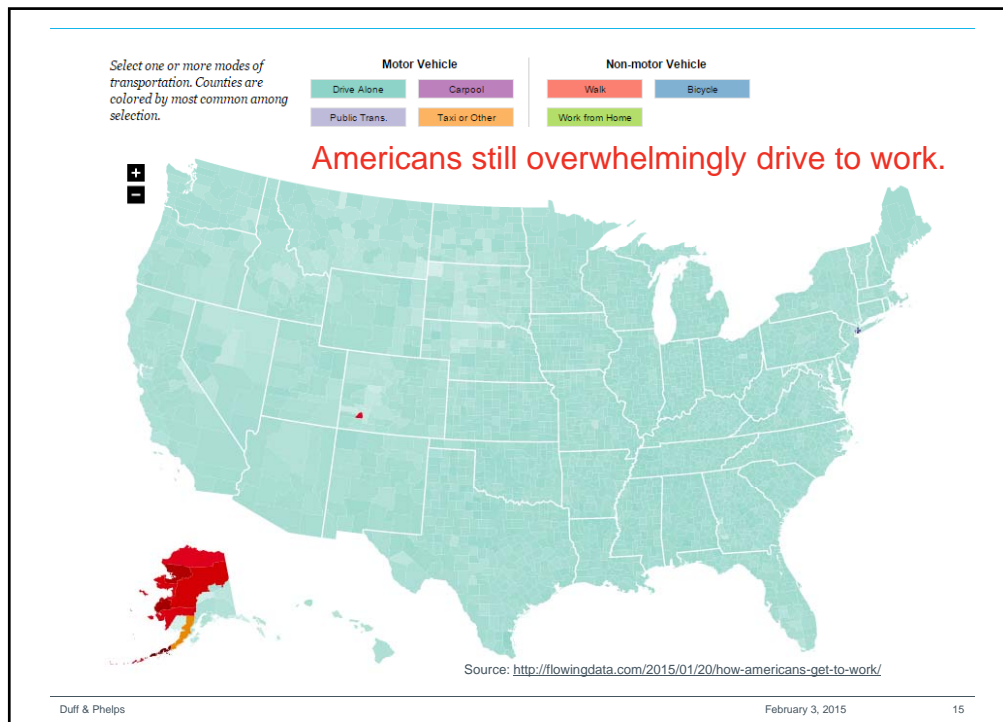
FIGURE 15: UNDERGROUND CONDUIT BANK FOR MULTIPLE USERS



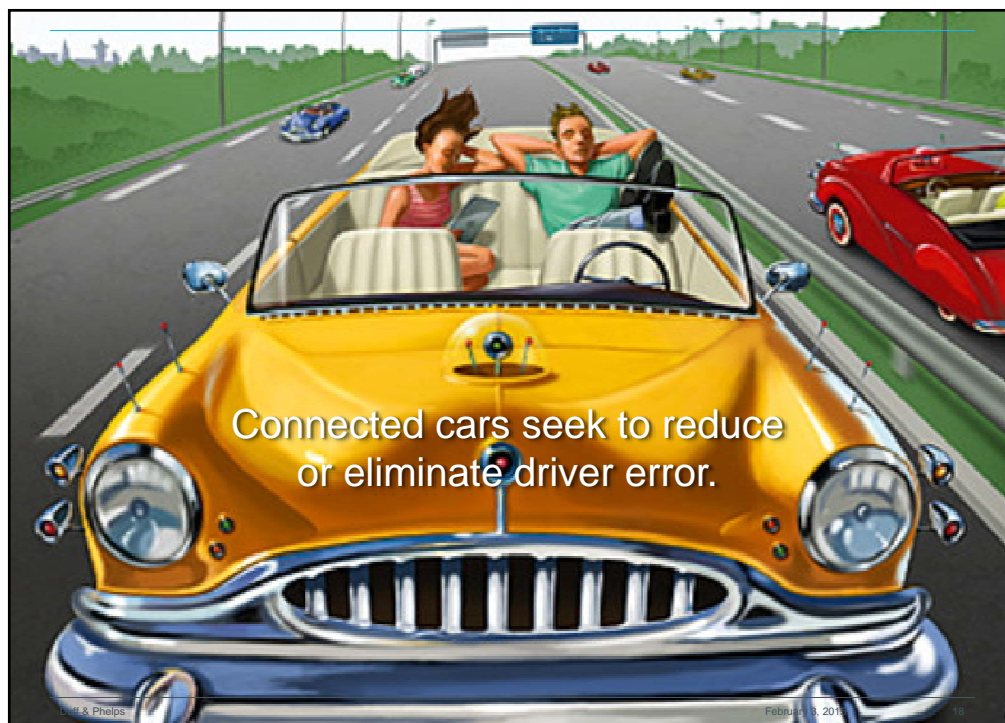
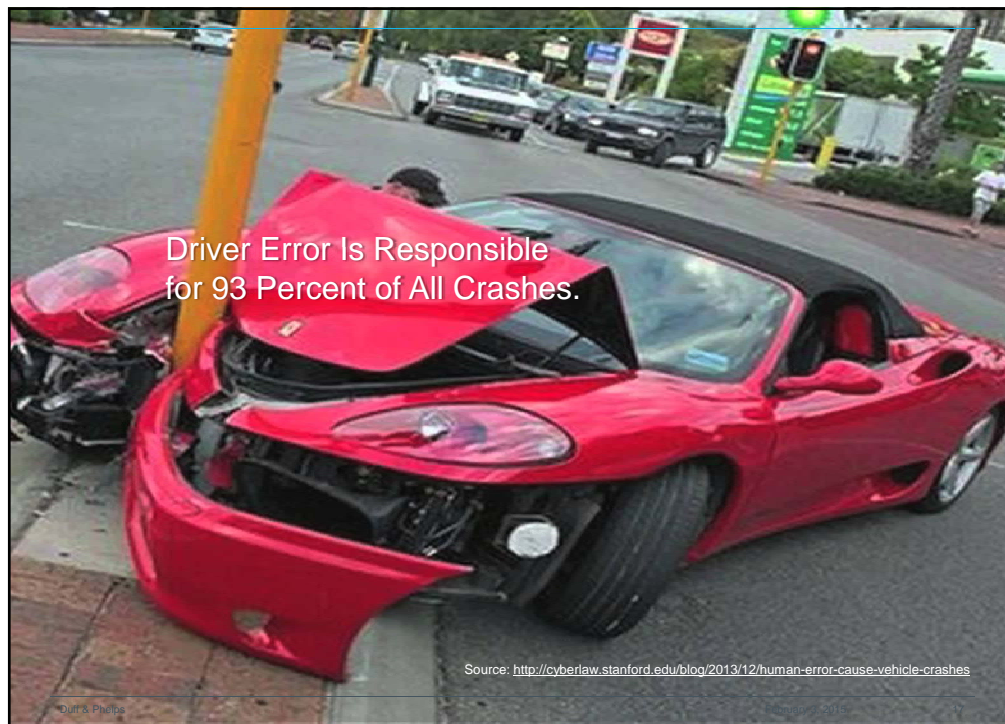
Source: "GIGABIT COMMUNITIES: Technical Strategies for Facilitating Public or Private Broadband Construction in Your Community." <http://www.ctcnet.us/wp-content/uploads/2014/01/GigabitCommunities.pdf>

Is there a future for traditional cell towers in cities, or are they resigned to the pasture?





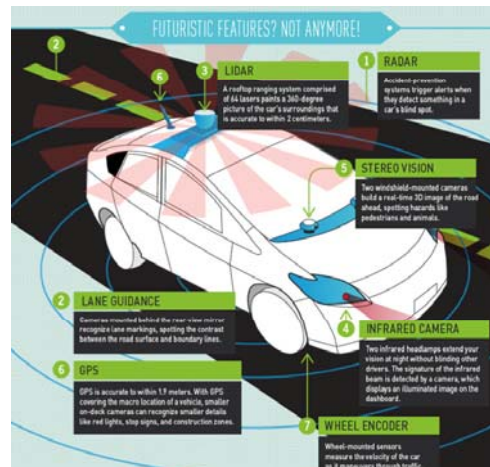
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Technology Solutions to Reduce Vehicle Accidents

- Connected Cars
 - Direct short-range communication between vehicles and highway beacons to help them coexist
 - Useful tools but still require a human driver
- Autonomous Cars
 - Currently, driverless car technology adds \$70,000 to \$100,000 to the cost of a vehicle, with mass-market projections of \$3,000 to \$5,000 [1]
 - Google expects driverless cars to be on public roads in 2 to 5 years [2]
- NHTSA estimates short-range communication technology could prevent, or reduce in severity, as many as 80 percent of crashes involving non-impaired drivers. About a third of highway fatalities are alcohol-related. [3]



[1] http://www.washingtonpost.com/local/trafficandcommuting/driverless-cars-15-things-you-need-to-know/2014/08/25/786c6fbc-d79b-11e3-95d3-3bcd77cd4e11_story.html
 [2] <http://www.foxnews.com/leisure/2015/01/16/google-expects-public-in-driverless-cars-in-2-to-5-years/>
 [3] <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2013-05-30/google-s-self-driving-cars-get-boost-from-u-s-agency.html>

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What Do These Vehicles Require Beyond the Onboard Gizmos?

- The technical term for the infrastructure is **Vehicular communication system**. [1]
 - Both vehicles and roadside units are the communicating nodes, providing each other with information, such as safety warnings and traffic information.
 - Both are dedicated short-range communications (DSRC) devices
 - DSRC works on the 5.9 GHz band with bandwidth of 75 MHz and an approximate range of 3,000 feet
 - Expected to support both private data communications and public (i.e. safety) communications, with higher priority given to the public side.
 - Developed in part of intelligent transportation systems (ITS) which obviously relies on wireless communications but also wired backhaul of the roadside units.
- You also need
 - GPS service
 - Mobile data service (commercial carriers)
 - Mapping service subscription such as Google
 - Other potential cloud services like diagnostics (OnStar, Verizon Vehicle) and security

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicular_communication_systems

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Open Questions on Intelligent Transportation Systems

- Will these systems be build from scratch or will they utilize existing mobile infrastructure on highways?
 - Spectrum frequencies are radically different, with different propagation characteristics
 - » Existing mobile carriers: 700 MHz to 3 GHz
 - » DSRC: 5.9 GHz (currently)
 - » With distance limitations, DSRC may be inadequate at these locations without additional infill investment
 - » If you're going to infill, would you prefer to build the whole thing on dedicated infrastructure?
 - Tower backhaul is already there
 - » Does it need to be bulletproofed?
 - » Does it need to be fiber?
 - » New revenue opportunities for wireline incumbents
 - » ...With regulatory strings attached?

[1] http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vehicular_communication_systems