



Kingsport MTPO 2050 LRTP

MTPO Executive Board Meeting

May 14, 2026

Agenda

- 1) Summary of Public Feedback
- 2) Overview of Project Scoring
- 3) Discussion / Questions



Summary of Public Feedback

01

Overview

- 122 surveys completed
- 326 markers / comments placed on the map

Share Your Input

Home / [Share Your Input](#)

We Want to Hear From You!

Public engagement is a key component of understanding the challenges experienced by people who live, work, play, and travel throughout the area. Through surveys, [workshops and open houses](#), stakeholder interviews, and online engagement tools, we gather feedback to ensure the plan reflects the needs and priorities of residents, businesses, and community partners.

Your insights help us identify where the system works well and where improvements are most needed—both today and through the year 2050. Together, we can guide long-term multimodal investment priorities and shape a transportation network that better serves our region.

Please complete this short survey and then continue to the interactive mapping exercise (or feel free to begin with the map, if you prefer). The questions and interactive map will be open through **April 5, 2026**.

Public Survey – Share Your Transportation Concerns

This survey contains five questions about your transportation experience in the Kingsport area. At the end, following the questions, you will be given a chance to review your responses and to select **Submit** to complete the survey. You *must* select **Submit** for us to receive your responses.

Select **Next** to continue.

Which transportation mode do you use most often for your everyday trips in the Kingsport area?

☐ Driving

☐ Walking

☐ Bicycling

☐ Transit

☐ Combination of modes

☐ Other (please specify)

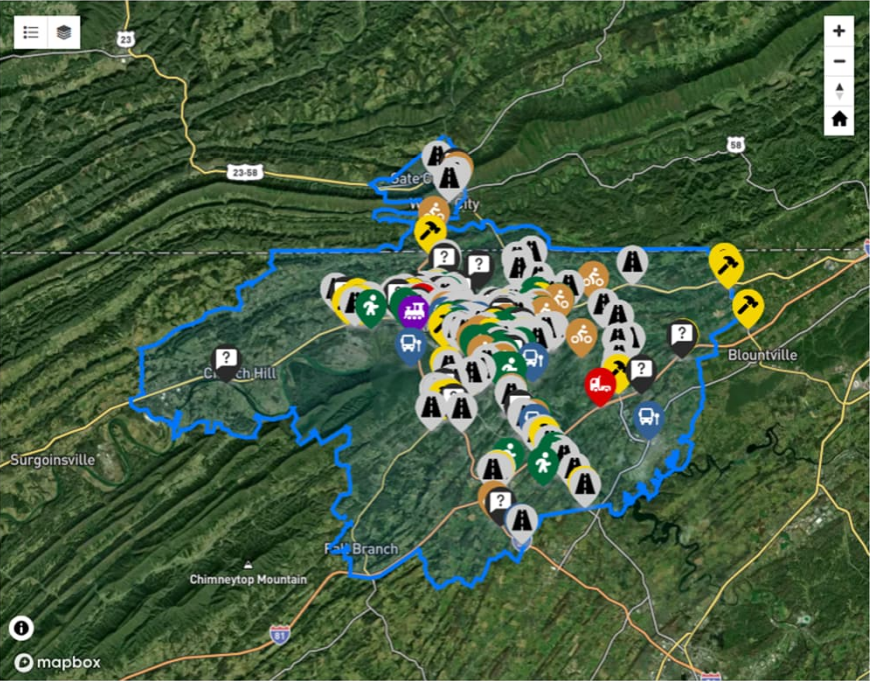
[Next](#)

Use the Interactive Map to Identify Issues

Please use this interactive map of the Kingsport region to “drop markers” at specific locations where you have noticed or experienced a transportation problem, challenge, or opportunity for improvement. We want to hear about concerns for all modes of travel, so choose the marker category that best represents your comment and place it on the map; you can find descriptions of each type of marker to the right of the map. Then add any details you’d like—brief or detailed—about the issue. The more information you share, the better we can understand your concerns.

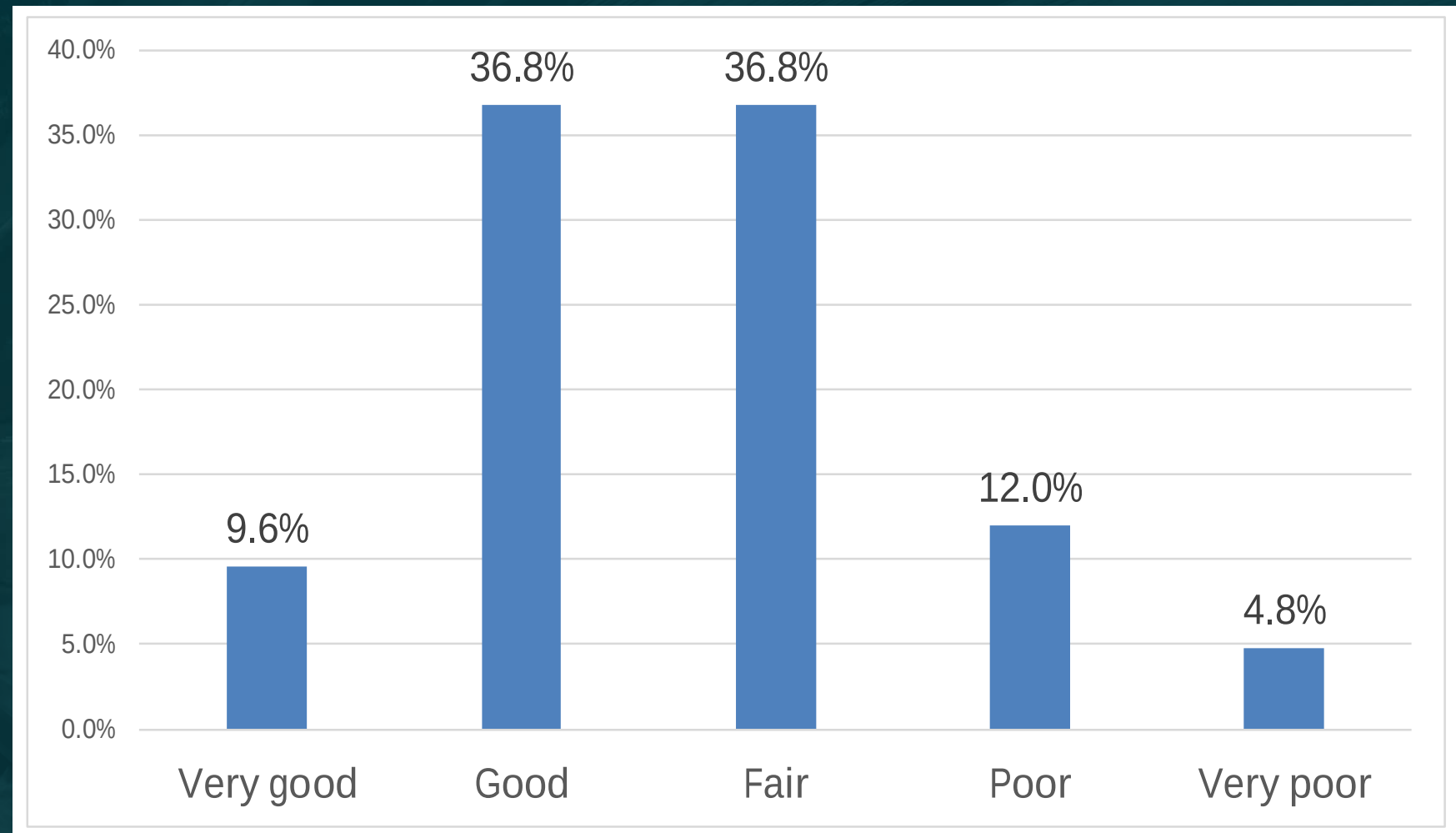
To review the instructions, click the “i” button in the upper-left corner of the map. For further assistance, click the “?” button.

326 contributions

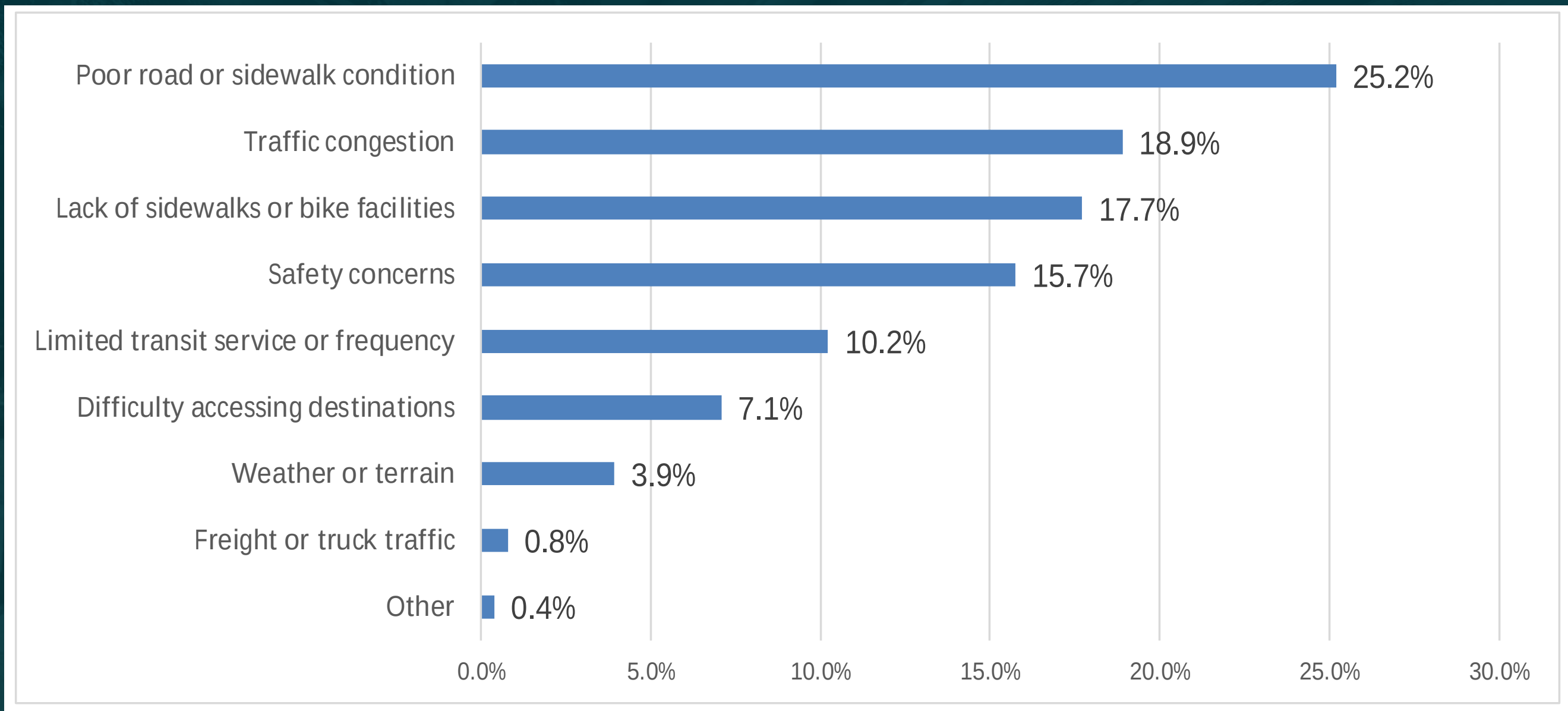


Overall Condition of the Transportation System

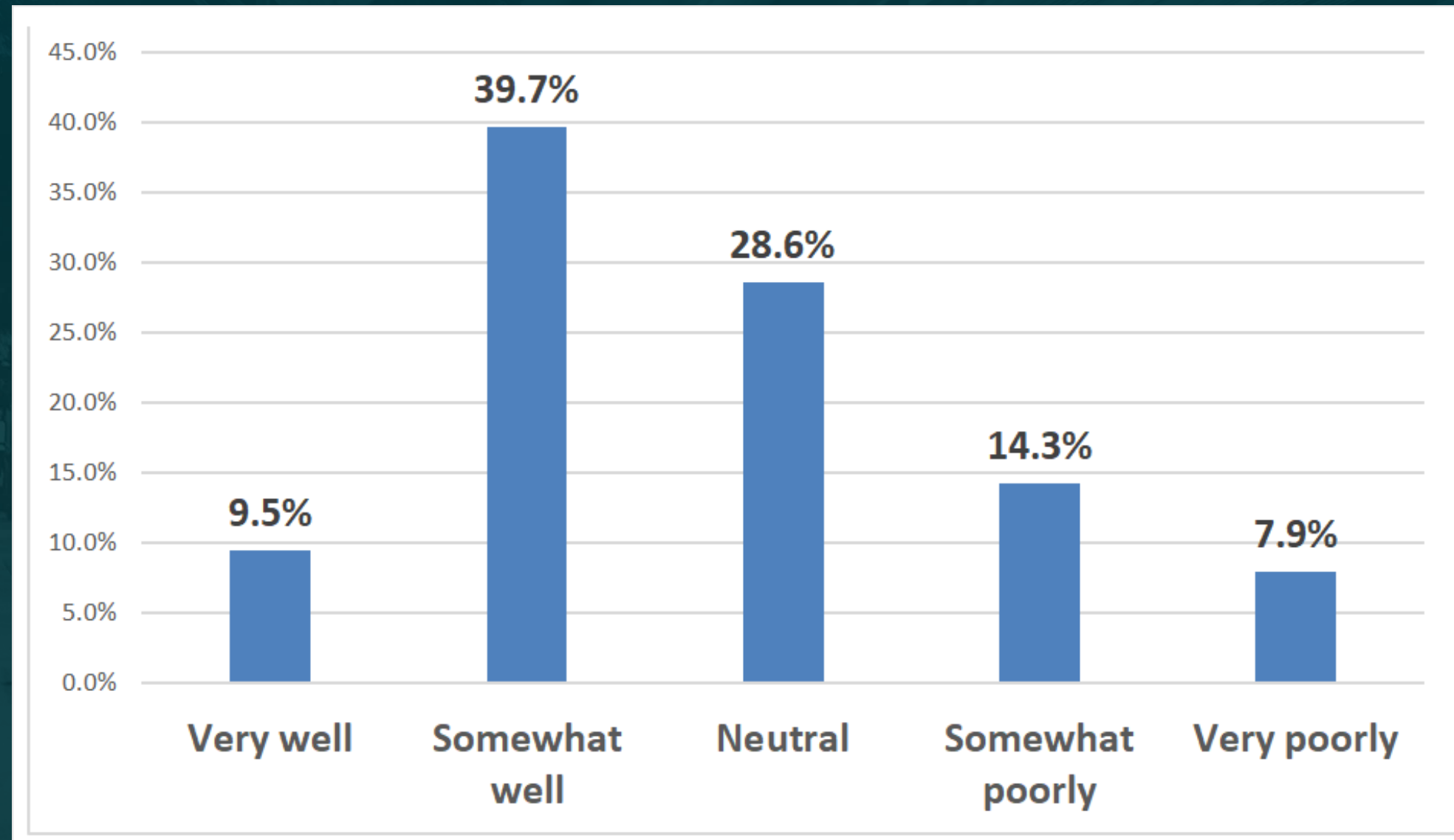
- **Potholes and Road Surface Deterioration** (Most Common Theme)
- **Traffic Congestion and Bottlenecks**
- **Traffic Signal Timing and Operations**
- **Safety Concerns** (Drivers, Pedestrians, Cyclists)



Factors that Most Impact Transportation Usage



Transportation System Supports Daily Needs

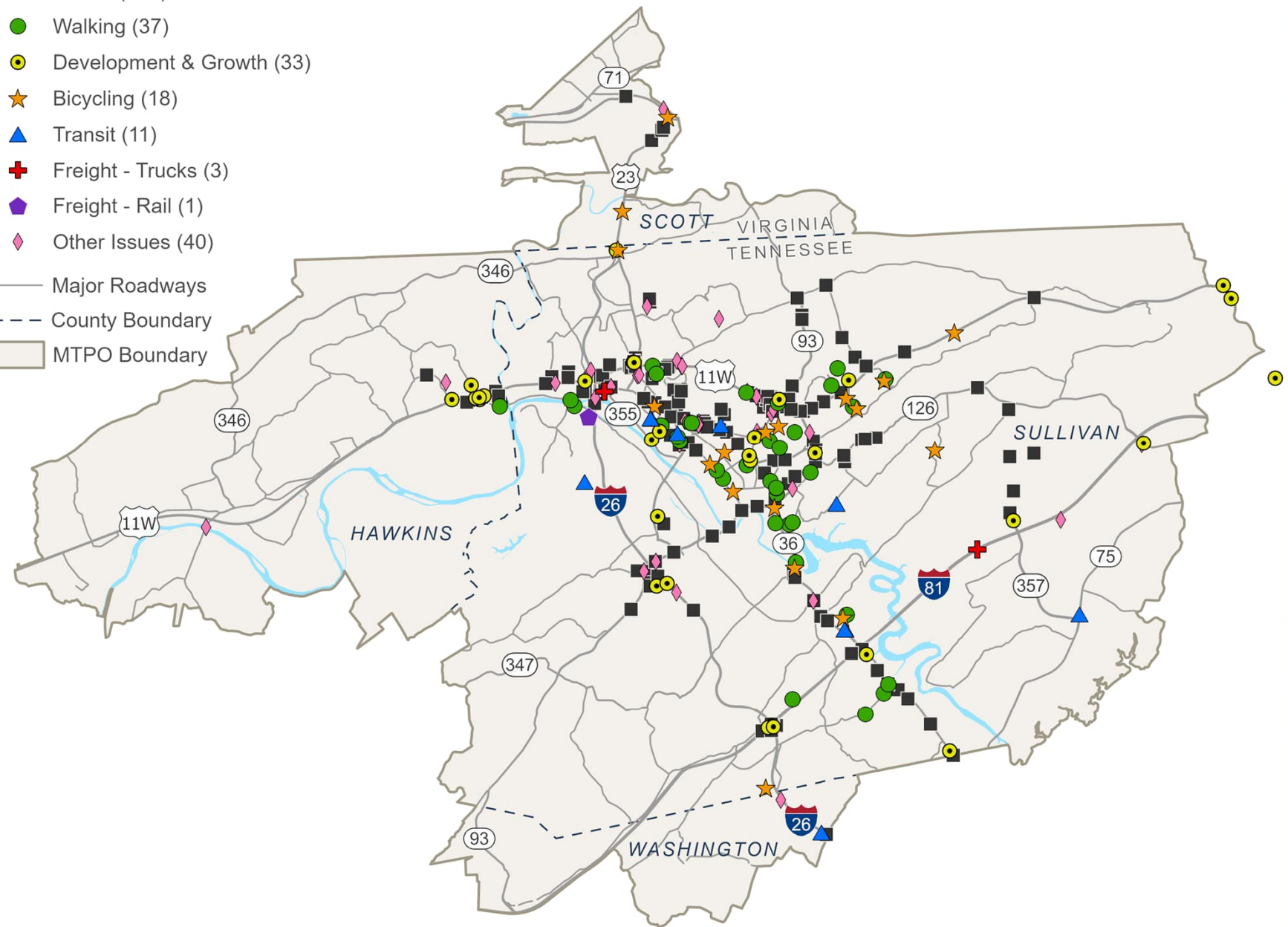


Areas of Concern

■ 326 Map Markers

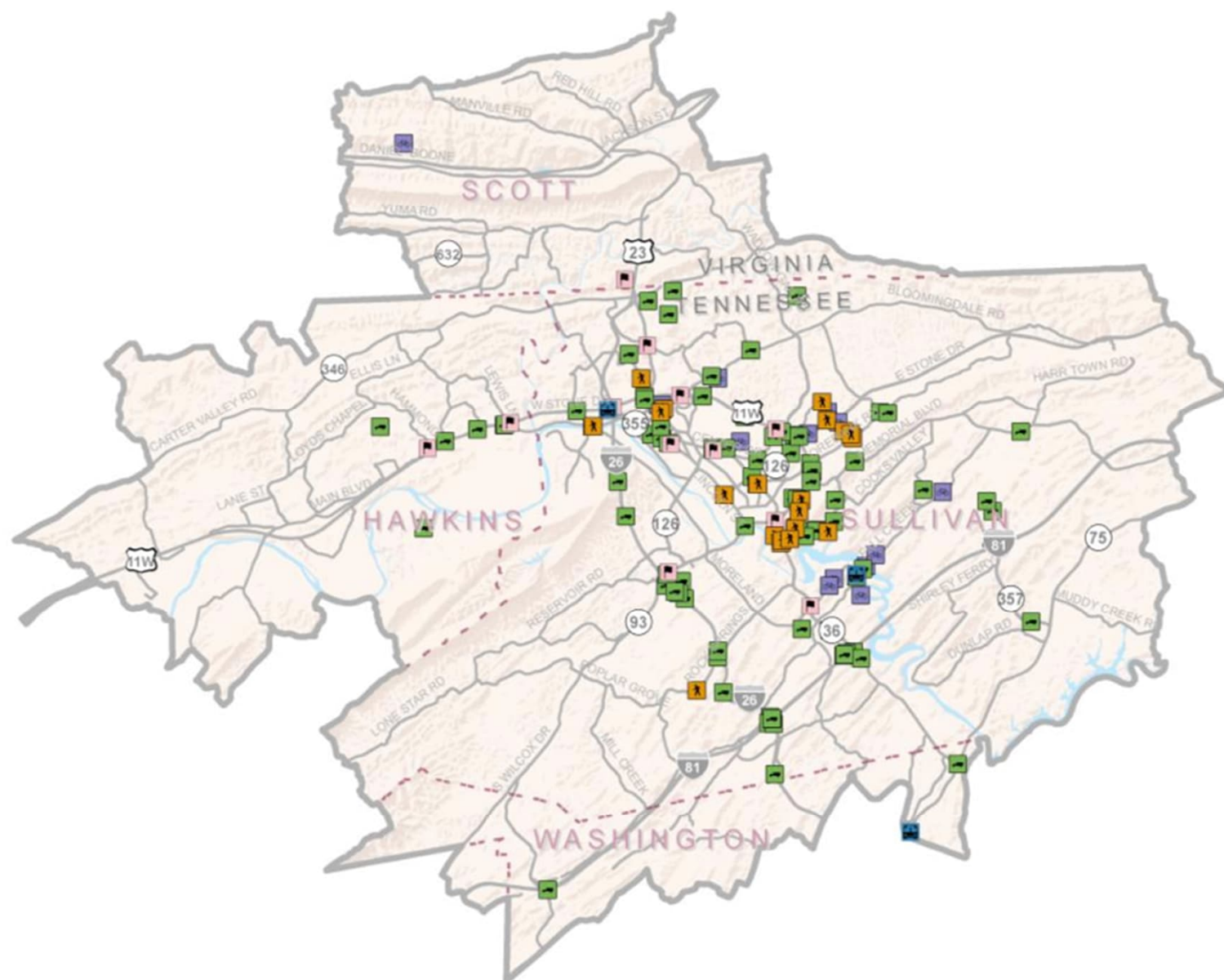
Areas of Concern by Category

- Roads (183)
- Walking (37)
- Development & Growth (33)
- ★ Bicycling (18)
- ▲ Transit (11)
- ✚ Freight - Trucks (3)
- ◆ Freight - Rail (1)
- ◇ Other Issues (40)
- Major Roadways
- - - County Boundary
- ▭ MTPo Boundary

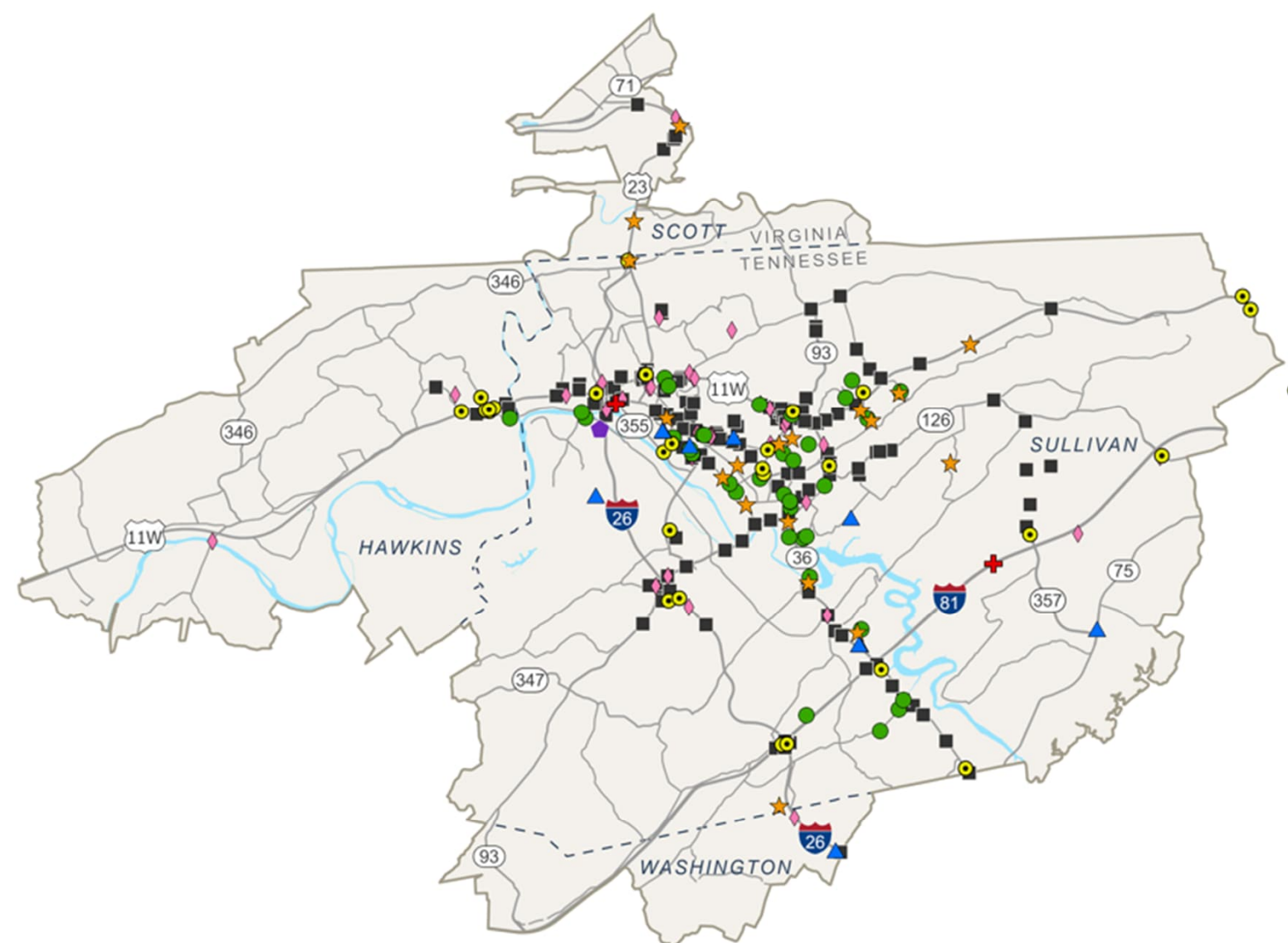


2045 LRTP Markers vs. 2050 LRTP Markers

2045 LRTP Markers



2050 LRTP Markers

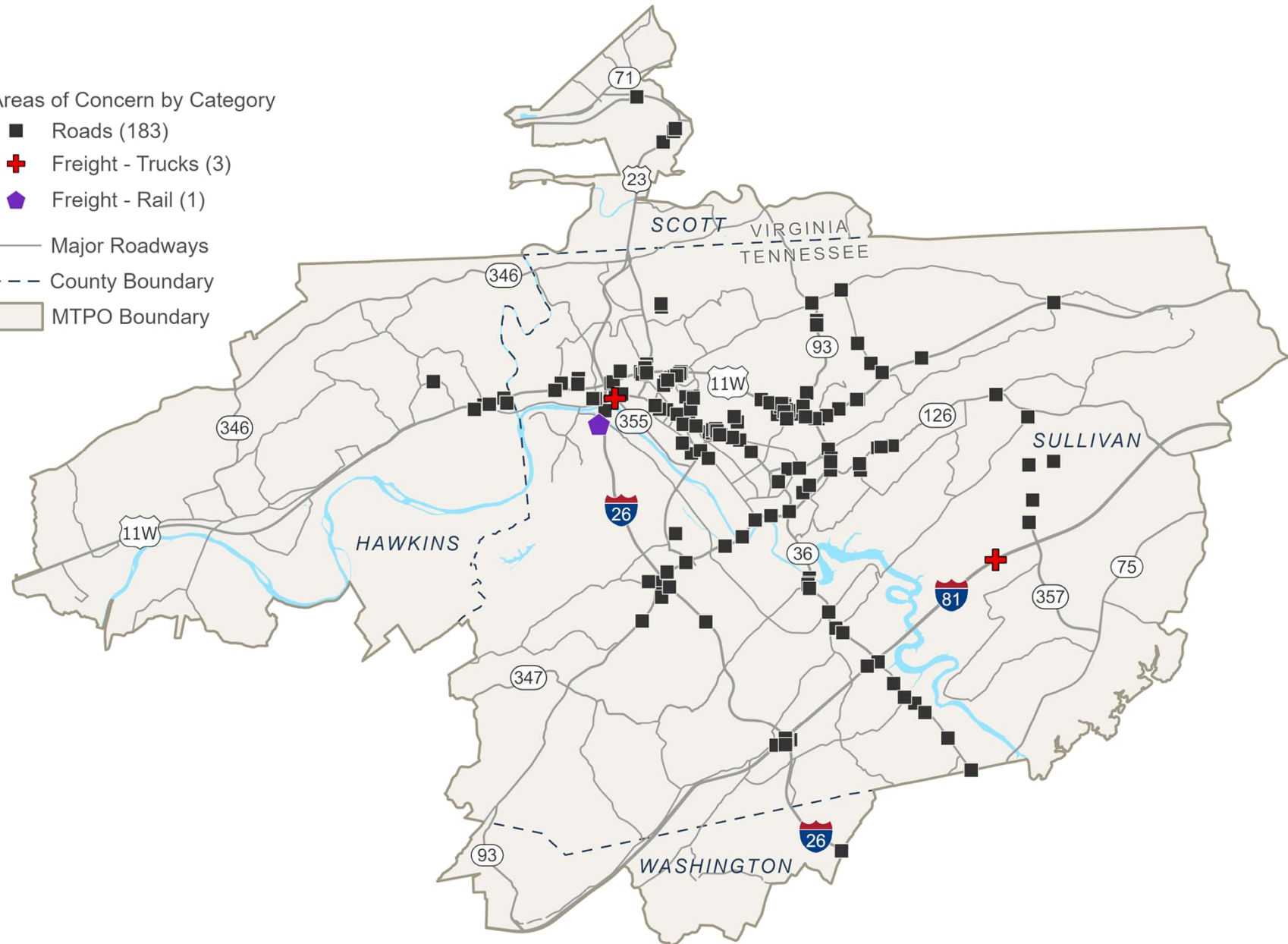


Areas of Concern

- Roads
- Freight - trucks
- Freight - rail

Areas of Concern by Category

- Roads (183)
- ✚ Freight - Trucks (3)
- ◆ Freight - Rail (1)
- Major Roadways
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- MTPO Boundary

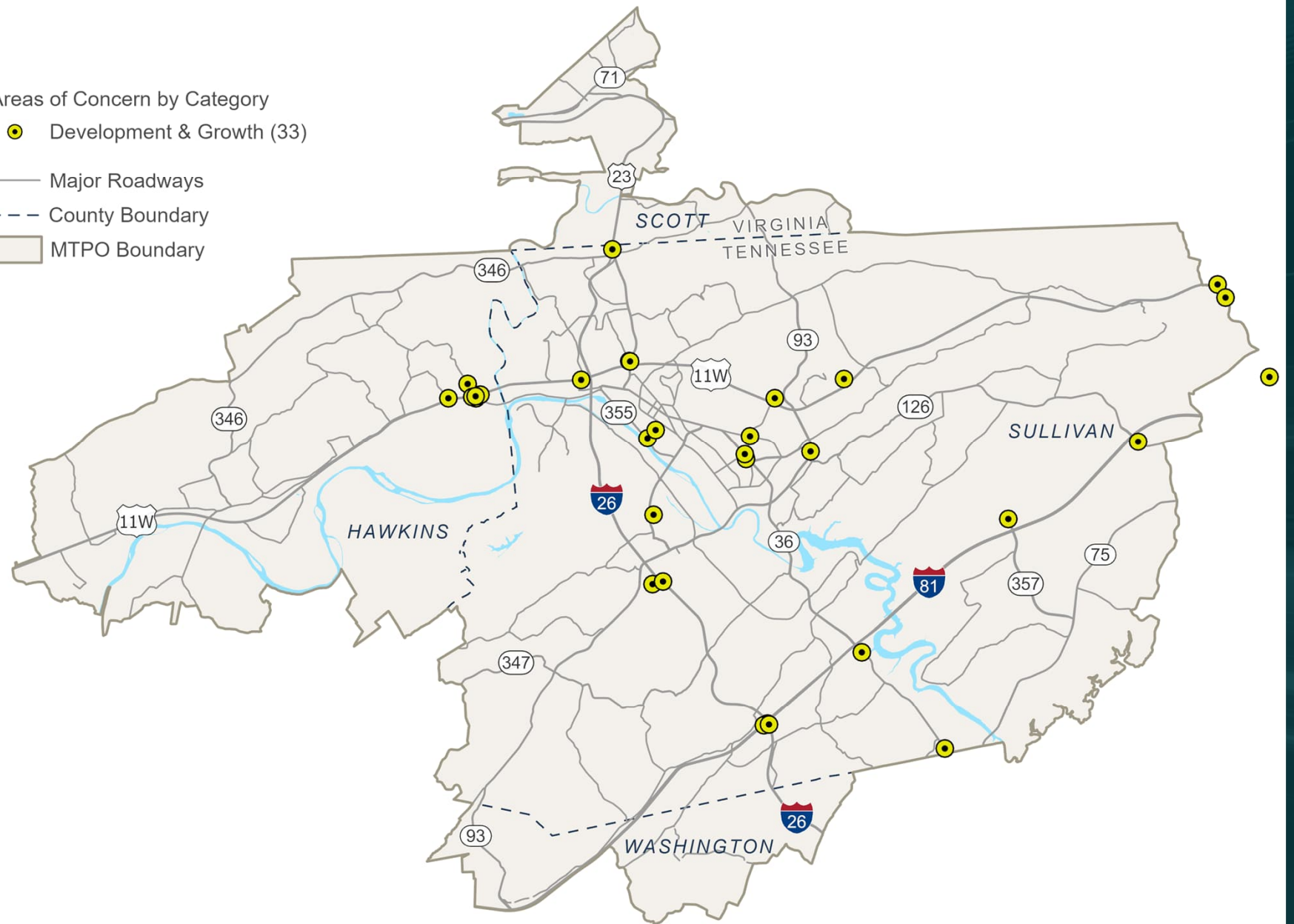


Areas of Concern

- **Development and Growth**

Areas of Concern by Category

- Development & Growth (33)
- Major Roadways
- - - County Boundary
- MTPo Boundary



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- aecom.com**

Areas of Concern

■ Other Issues

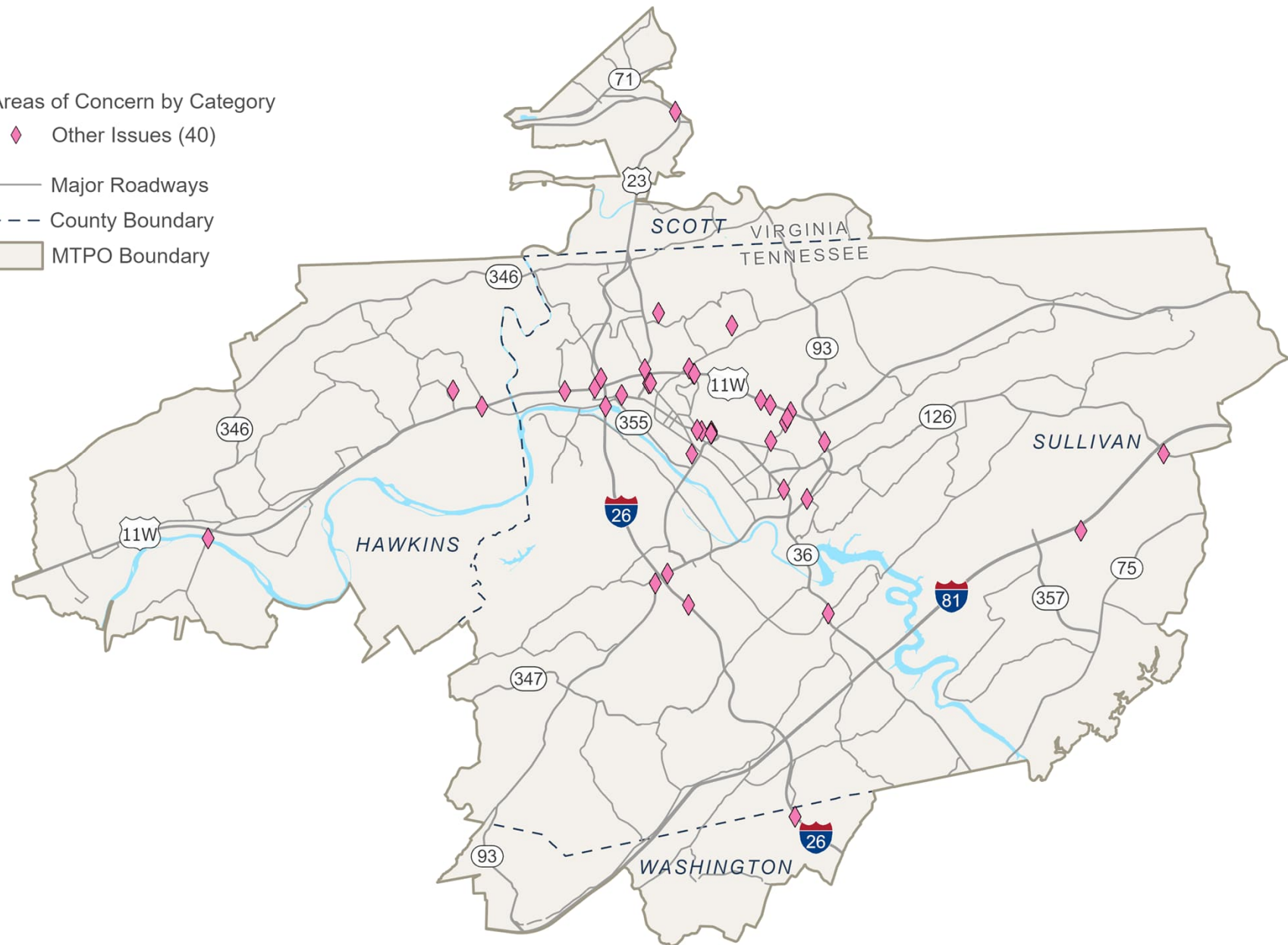
Areas of Concern by Category

◆ Other Issues (40)

— Major Roadways

- - - County Boundary

MTPO Boundary



How Do These Align with the 2050 LRTP Goals?



Livability

- Improve safety
- Promote Complete Streets
- Promote active transportation
- Advance viable public transportation
- Balance roadway capacity, mobility, and land use



Sustainability

- Maintain transportation assets
- Pursue cost-effective management strategies and technologies
- Minimize impacts to the natural and built environment
- Improve system resiliency



Prosperity

- Target investments that support growth and redevelopment
- Support tourism, including bike and pedestrian improvements
- Support land use patterns that reduce costs
- Develop a safe and secure transportation system

Challenges Compared to 2050 LRTP Goals & Objectives

Key Public Input Theme	Representative Issues Raised	Alignment to 2050 LRTP Goals & Objectives		
		 Livability	 Sustainability	 Prosperity
Poor Road Conditions & Maintenance	Widespread concerns about potholes, rough pavement, substandard patching, sunken roadways, poor striping, and long-term lack of maintenance. Some noted vehicle damage and safety risks.	Improve safety	Maintain transportation assets; improve system resiliency	
Traffic Congestion	Heavy congestion cited repeatedly on Stone Drive, Center Street, Eastman Rd., Allendale area, I-26, SR-36, and peak-hour travel. Comments note lack of capacity, turning difficulties, and growth pressures.	Balance roadway capacity, mobility, and land use		Support growth and redevelopment
Traffic Signal Timing & Operations	Frequent complaints about unsynchronized signals, long cycle lengths, inefficient phasing, congestion near major commercial nodes, and safety concerns such as rear-end crashes.	Improve safety	Cost-effective management strategies and technologies	
Driver Behavior & Traffic Safety	Speeding, red-light running, aggressive driving, poor use of turn/merge lanes, lack of law adherence, road rage, aging drivers, and general safety concerns were commonly cited.	Improve safety		Develop a safe and secure transportation system
Lack of Sidewalks, Crosswalks, and Pedestrian Safety	Numerous comments cited missing or sidewalks needing repair, lack of crosswalks, jaywalking conflicts, and pedestrian access gaps (notably Bloomingdale Pike, Colonial Heights, neighborhoods).	Promote complete streets; promote active transportation		
Limited Bicycle Infrastructure & Safety	Residents expressed desire to bike for daily trips but cited lack of bike lanes, protected facilities, and secure parking. Safety was a dominant concern, particularly on high-speed corridors.	Promote active transportation; Improve safety	Minimize impacts to the natural and built environment	
Public Transit Availability	Comments about limited bus hours, no weekend/Saturday service, infrequent routes, lack of neighborhood coverage, long wait times, and affordability issues. Some noted impacts on residents without cars.	Advance viable public transportation		Support land use patterns that reduce costs
Car Dependency & Lack of Multimodal Options	Residents described the region as highly car-dependent, with few viable alternatives. Strong interest in walkable development, better transit, bicycling, and even intercity rail service was expressed.	Promote complete streets; advance viable public transportation	Minimize impacts to the natural and built environment	
Intersection Design & Turn Lane Deficiencies	Comments referenced inefficient intersections, lack of turn lanes, poor roundabout usage, improper striping, and road designs not meeting current traffic demands.	Improve safety; balance roadway capacity	Cost-effective management strategies and technologies	
Growth and Access Challenges	Some respondents accepted congestion as a result of growth but noted lack of parallel routes, parking constraints, limited downtown access, and overcrowding impacting quality of life.	Balance mobility and land use		Target investments that support growth & redevelopment

Upcoming Events

- Project Website

www.engagekmtpo.com

- Virtual Stakeholder meetings

- Public Event

Kingsport 2050 LRTP

Welcome to the KMTPO 2050 Long Range Transportation Plan Update!

The Kingsport Metropolitan Transportation Planning Organization (KMTPO), the designated Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) for the Kingsport region, is updating its Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) to a 2050 horizon year. This website introduces the regional vision that will shape future year transportation investments, policy decisions, and mobility improvements across the area for decades to come.

Explore the site to learn about the Kingsport Metropolitan Planning Area (MPA), understand the LRTP process and timeline, participate in surveys, share your feedback, and review project materials—including the draft LRTP as it becomes available.

Join Us on May 22 at Public Works Day!

Your voice matters. Help shape the future of transportation in the Kingsport MPO region by sharing what issues are most important to you.

Join us Friday, May 22, 2026
10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Kingsport Farmers Market
308 Clinchfield Street

Visit the **Kingsport 2050 LRTP table** to share your ideas and ask questions.

Why is the LRTP important?

Whether you drive, bike, walk, or take transit, transportation affects all of us every day. It shapes how we travel to work and school, get to medical appointments, reach shopping destinations, and participate in social events or recreational activities. A reliable and connected transportation system makes these daily trips safer, easier, and more efficient for everyone.

Transportation also plays a critical role in supporting local businesses and the regional economy by keeping goods and services moving smoothly. By planning for future needs, the LRTP helps ensure the transportation network continues to provide safe travel options, strengthens community connections, and supports long-term economic growth across the region.

[What is a LRTP?](#)

[KMTPO Study Area](#)

[LRTP Timeline](#)

[More Information on KMTPO](#)

The Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP) is a **federally required planning document** that every Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) must update regularly – within the Kingsport region the LRTP must be updated every five years. The LRTP serves as the region's roadmap for meeting long-term transportation needs and complying with federal regulations that guide how funds can be spent on transportation projects.

The LRTP evaluates current and future conditions, identifies key challenges and opportunities, and prioritizes investments across all modes—including roads, transit, walking, biking, and freight movement. The plan supports the regional transportation network remaining **efficient, resilient, and aligned with the community's long-term vision and goals** while supporting eligibility for federal transportation funding.

Overview of Project Scoring

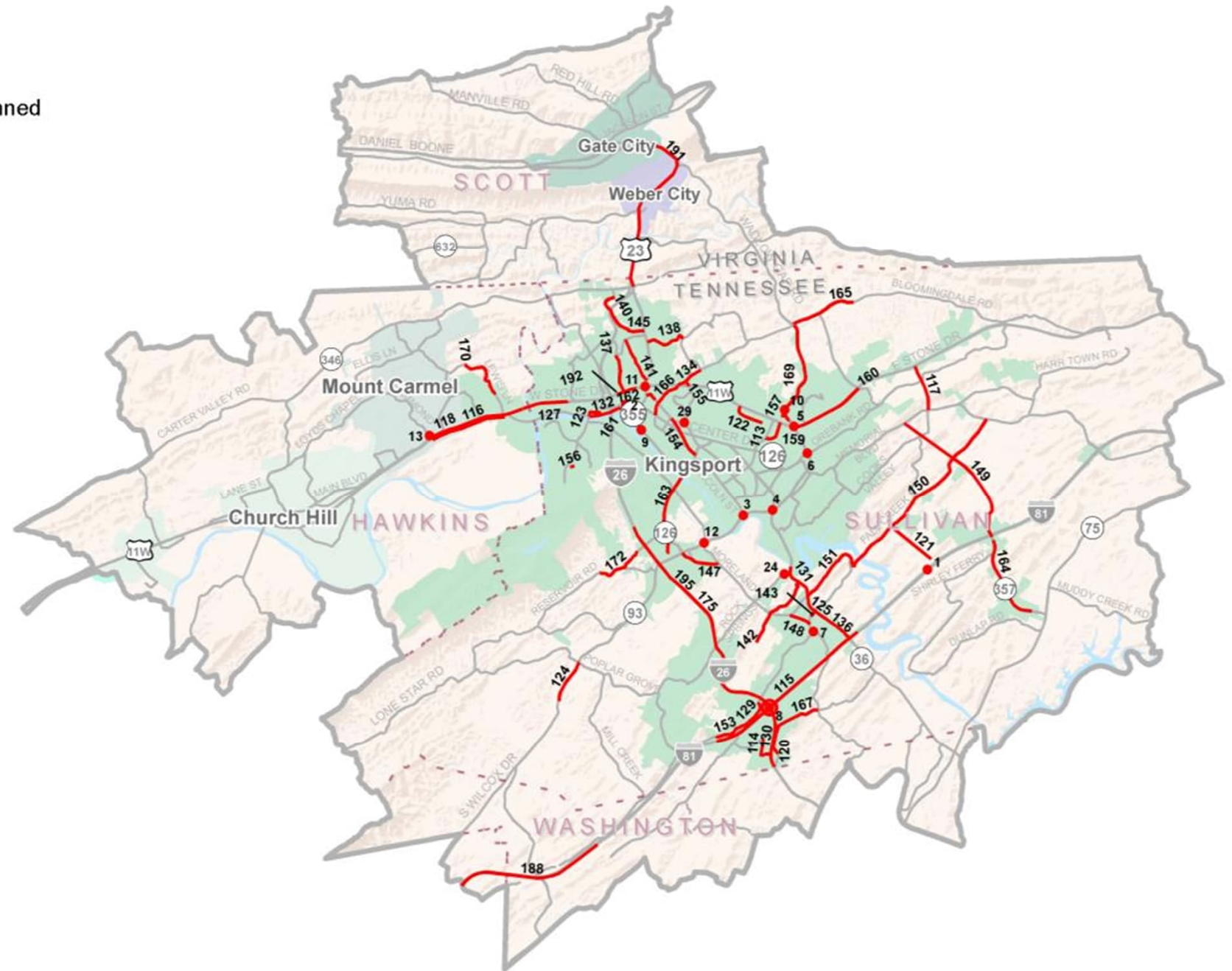
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Project Identification

- 2045 LRTP Projects Reviewed and Updated
- Technical Analysis will Potentially Identify Additional Projects

Legend

- Illustrative, Planned
- Illustrative, New, Planned
- Municipality**
 - Kingsport
 - Church Hill
 - Mount Carmel
 - Weber City
 - Gate City
- Major Roadways
- County Boundary
- MTPO Boundary



Project Evaluation Measures

25

Safety

- **#1** (10 points) – Number of vehicle crashes
- **#2** (5 points) – Number of bike/pedestrian crashes
- **#3** (10 points) – Fatal and serious injury vehicle crashes

20

Operational Efficiency

- **#4** (5 points) – Addresses Existing LOS
- **#5** (5 points) – Addresses Future LOS
- **#6** (2 points) – Traffic signal project and / or incorporates new technology
- **#7** (5 points) – Creates parallel facility / system redundancy
- **#8** (3 points) – Difference between existing and projected future volumes

10

Accessibility

- **#9** (3 points) – Population growth surrounding project (2023 - 2050)
- **#10** (3 points) – Employment growth surrounding project (2023 - 2050)
- **#11** (4 points) – Improves connectivity of system

15

Active Transportation

- **#12** (5 points) – Non-motorized demand near project
- **#13** (5 points) – Extent to which the project reaches communities with greater needs
- **#14** (5 points) – Pedestrian Level of Traffic Stress (LTS) and Bicycle LTS

10

Environmental

- **#15** (5 points) – Number of challenging areas the project touches (floodplains, historical areas, steep slopes, and parks)
- **#16** (5 points) – Project improves capacity without widening or adding new facility

20

Economic

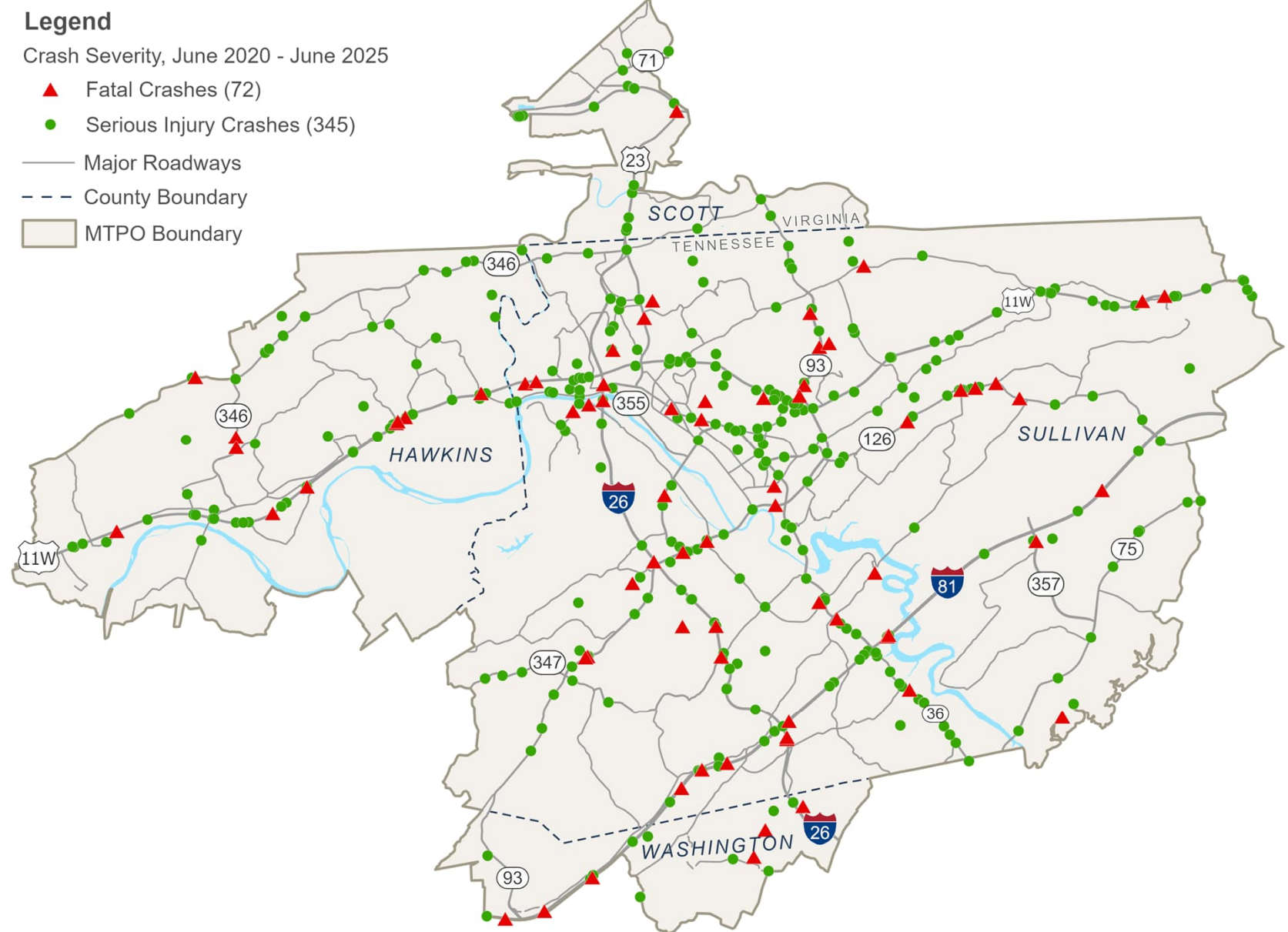
- **#17** (5 points) – Percent of trucks in existing network
- **#18** (5 points) – Within 1/2 mile of identified economic development nodes
- **#19** (5 points) – Job access score
- **#20** (5 points) – Improves access to identified tourist destinations

Project Evaluation

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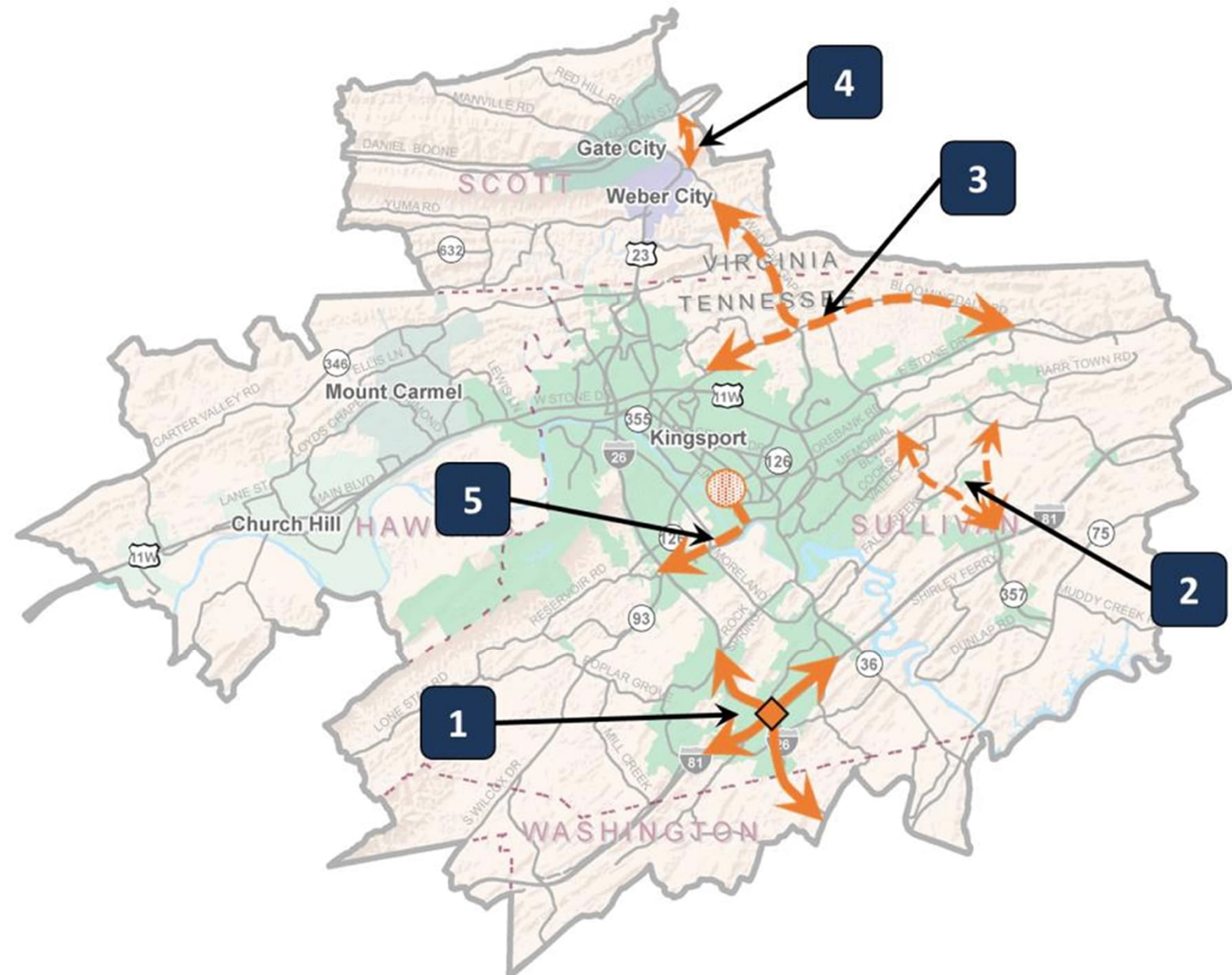
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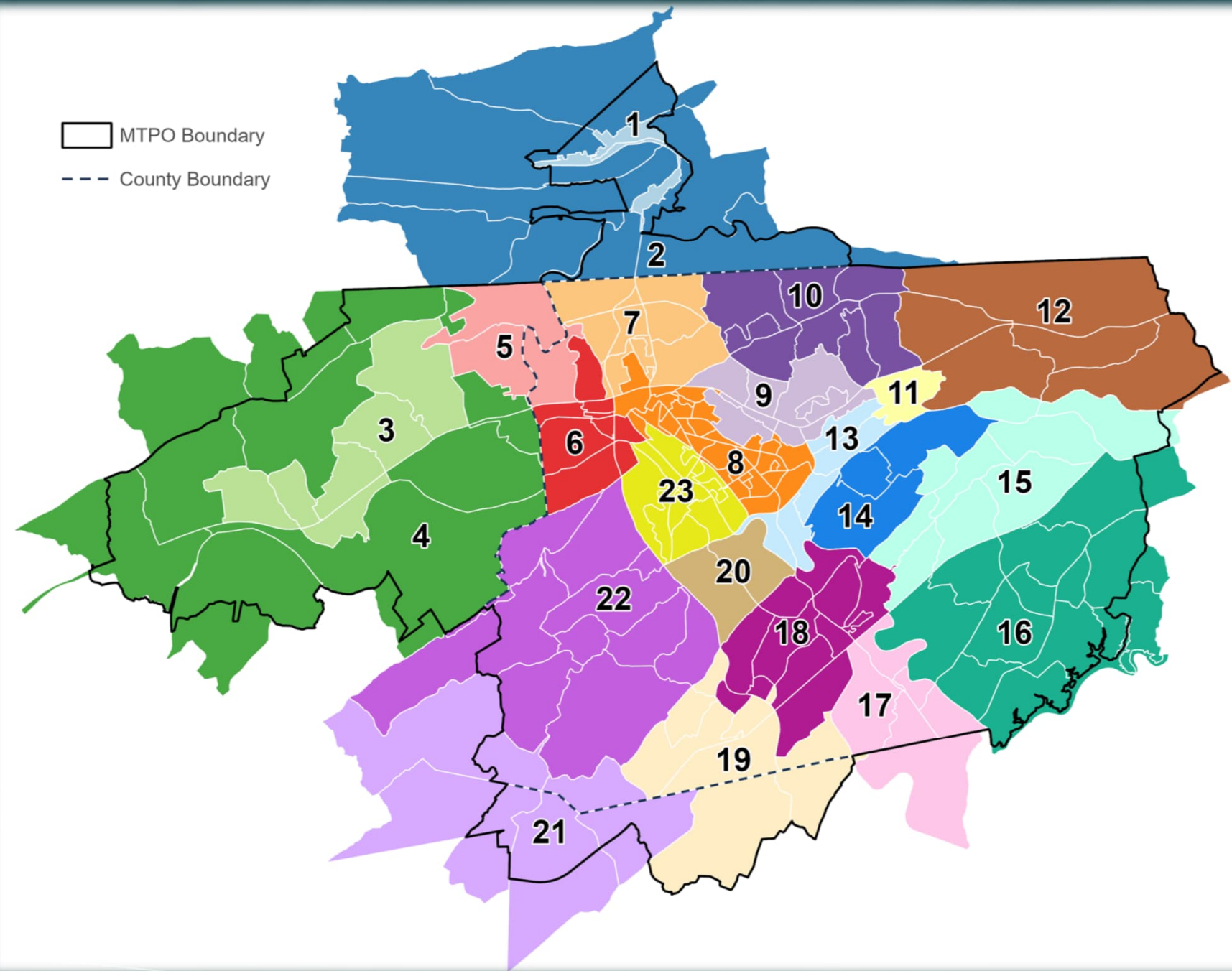


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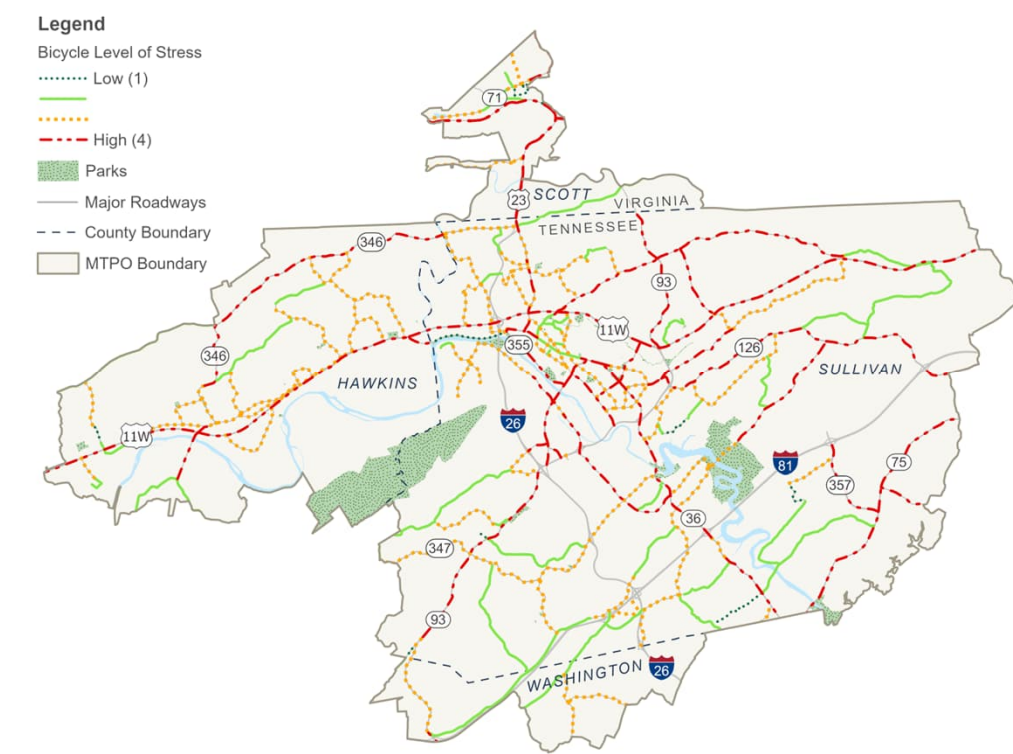
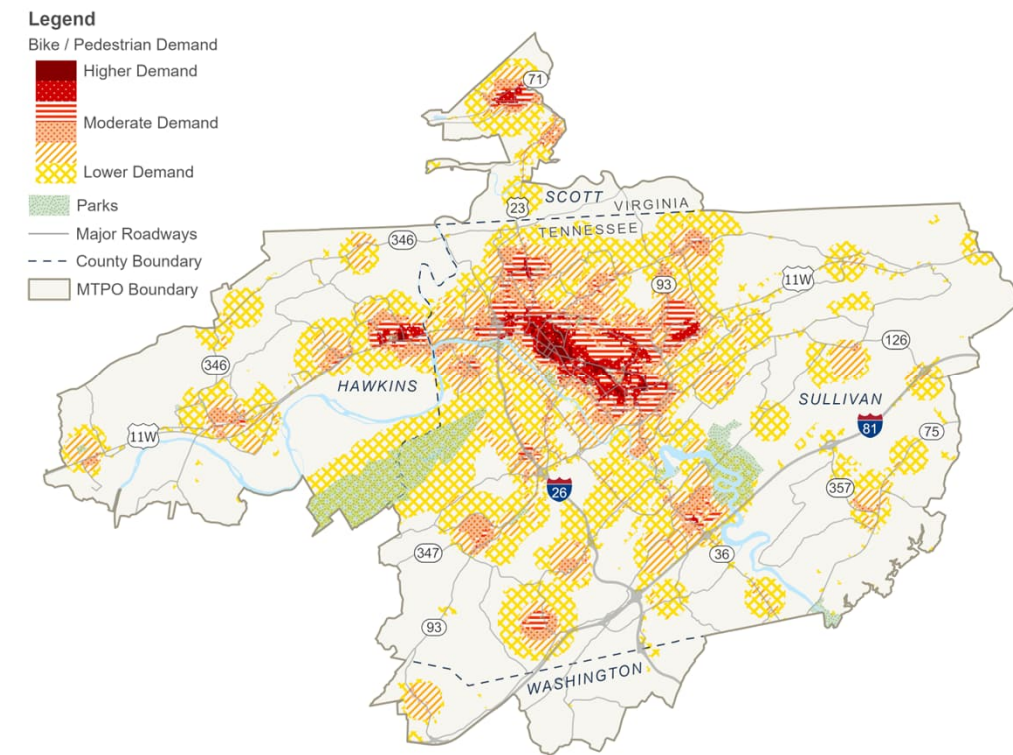


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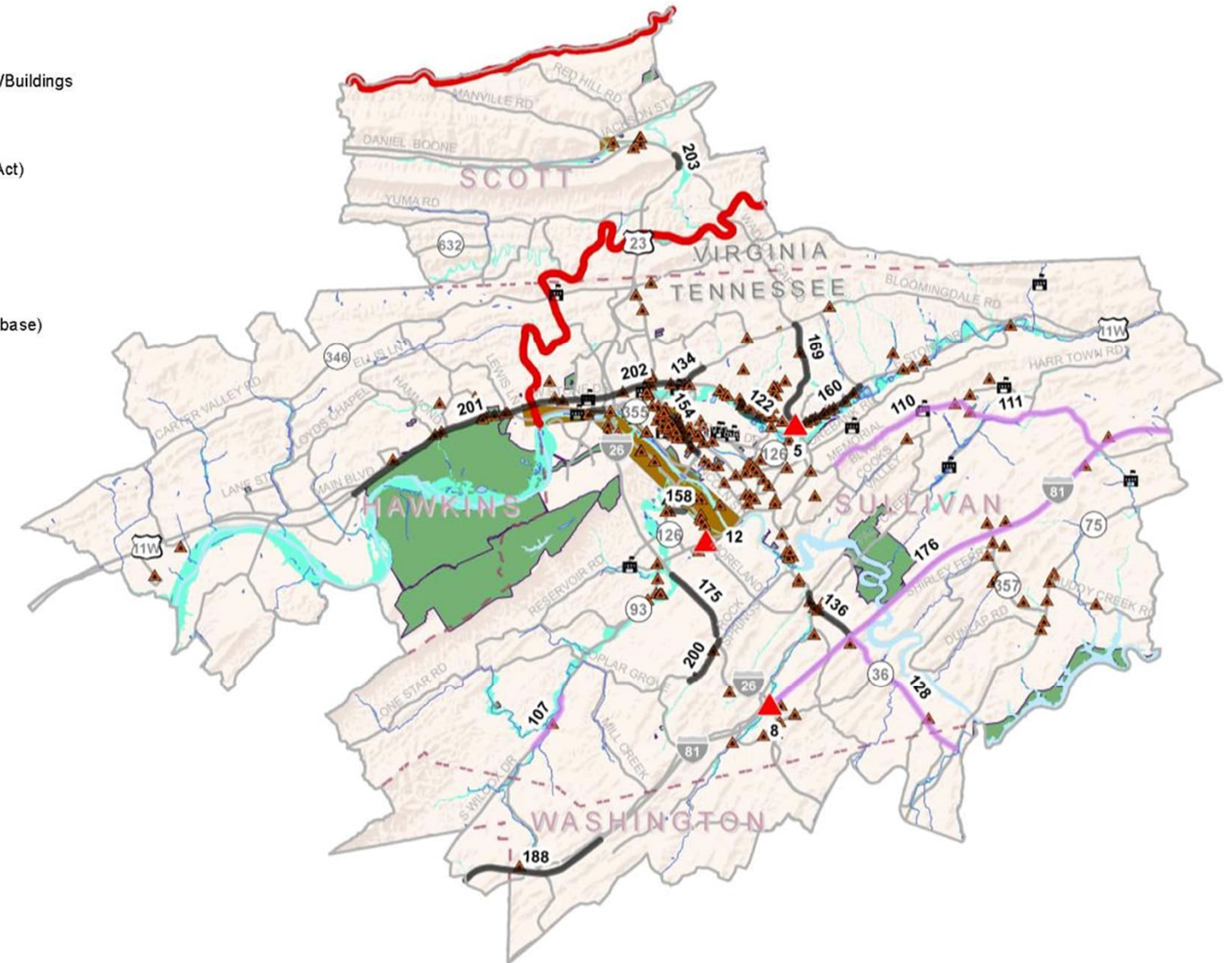
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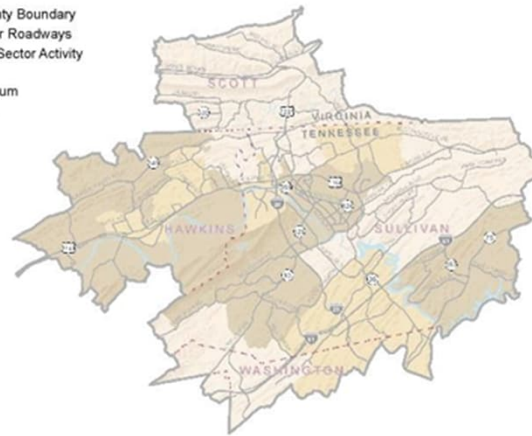
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Industrial Sector

Legend
..... County Boundary
— Major Roadways
Industrial Sector Activity
Low
Medium
High

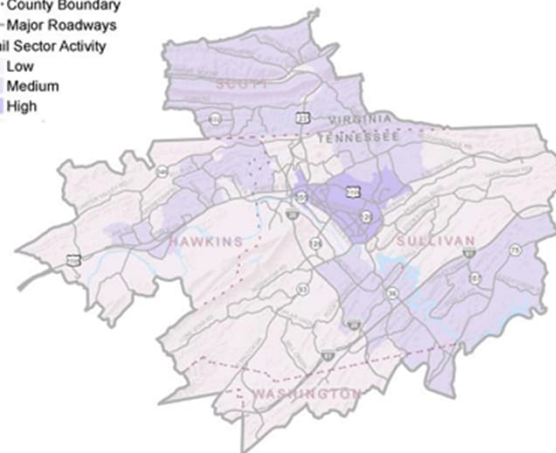


Key industrial sector growth nodes include:

- US-23 Industrial Parks
- Church Hill
- SR-357 (Airport Parkway) Corridor
- Eastman Campus
- Tri-Cities Aerospace Park

Retail Sector

Legend
..... County Boundary
— Major Roadways
Retail Sector Activity
Low
Medium
High

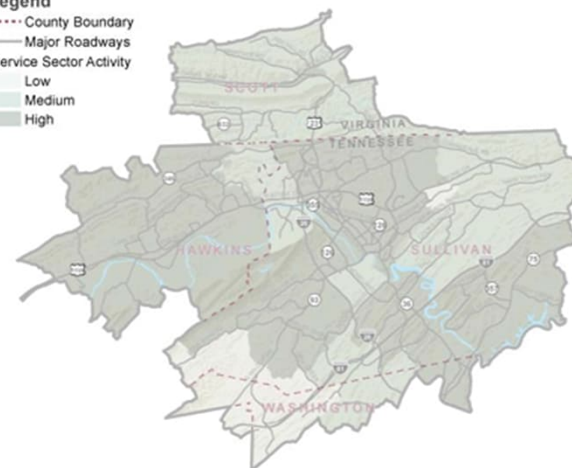


Key retail sector growth nodes include:

- US-11W (SR-1/East Stone Drive)
- Church Hill/ Mount Carmel/ Allandale Area
- SR-36 (Lynn Garden Drive)
- Bloomingdale Road
- SR-93 (North John B. Dennis Highway)
- SR-93 (South John B. Dennis Highway)
- Downtown Kingsport
- Eastman Road
- Meadowview Area

Service Sector

Legend
..... County Boundary
— Major Roadways
Service Sector Activity
Low
Medium
High



Key service sector growth nodes include:

- US-11W (SR-1/Stone Drive)
- SR-93 (John B. Dennis Highway)
- Downtown Kingsport
- Eastman Road

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Discussion / Questions

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