



# VisionEval Overview

April 27, 2021

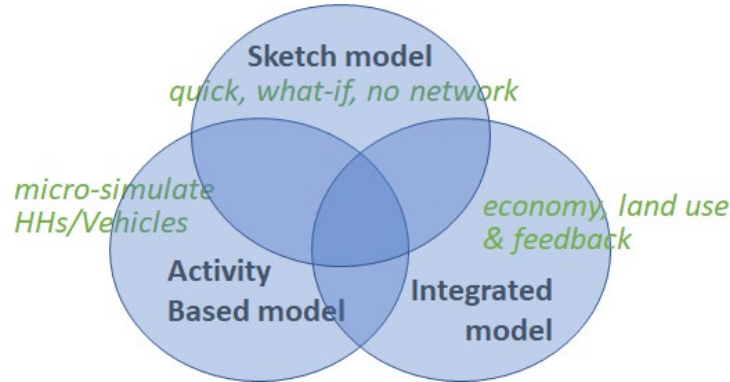
North Carolina Model Users Group



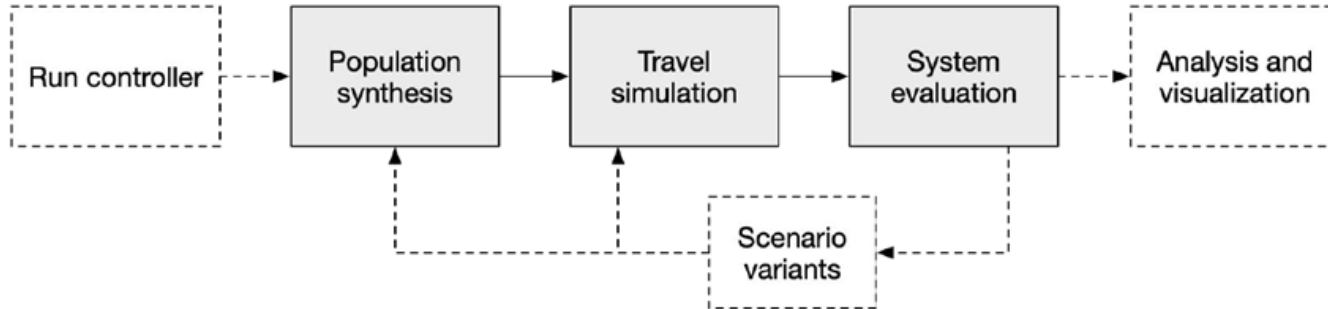
[http://bit.ly/Learn\\_VisionEval](http://bit.ly/Learn_VisionEval)

# VisionEval Design Considerations

VisionEval models occupy niche between...



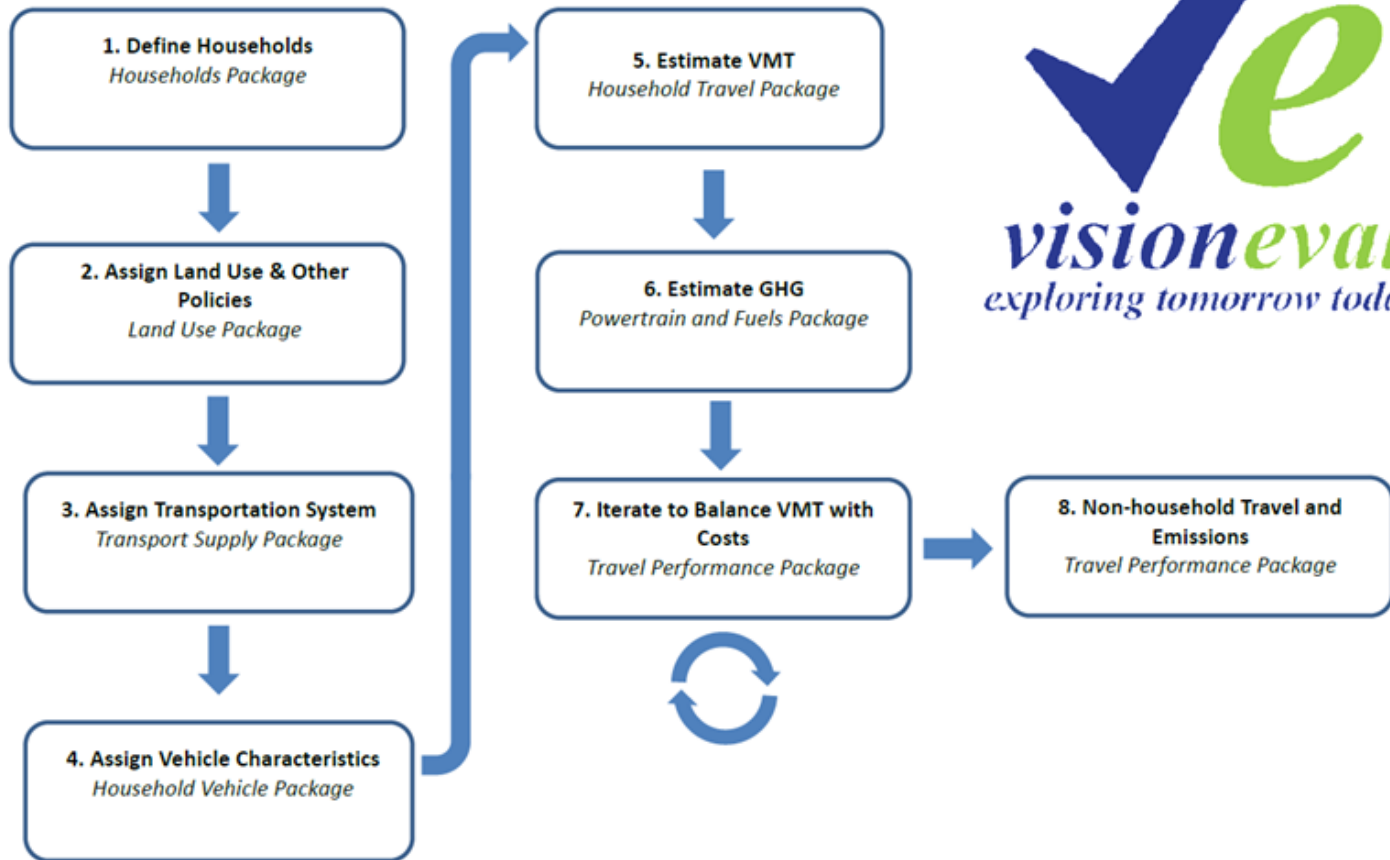
... balancing rapid computation & accurate representation



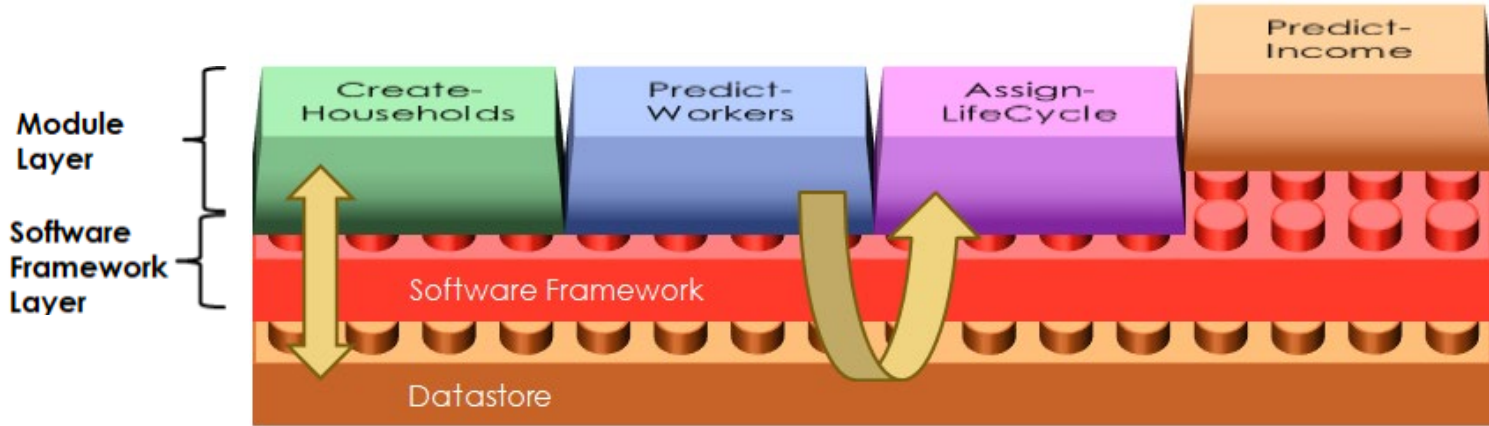
# VisionEval Model System Goals

- **Support strategic modeling**
  - Broad scope
  - Fast – run many scenarios
- **Modular**
  - Share components between models
  - Can be modified and extended
- **Open science approach**
  - Reproducible – data and source code available
  - Open source licensing
- **Customizable**
  - Add additional metrics or modify existing computations
  - Re-estimate from local data

# VisionEval Model Schematic



# VisionEval is a collection of modules



# VE-RSPM Key Concepts

CreateHouseholds  
PredictWorkers  
AssignLifeCycle  
PredictIncome

**VESimHouseholds  
Package**

PredictHousing  
LocateEmployment  
AssignLocTypes  
Calculate4DMeasures  
CalculateUrbanMixMeasure  
AssignParkingRestrictions  
AssignDemandManagement  
AssignCarSvcAvailability

**VELandUse  
Package**

AssignTransitService  
AssignRoadMiles

**VETransportSupply  
Package**

AssignDrivers  
AssignVehicleOwnership  
AssignVehicleType  
AssignVehicleTable  
AssignVehicleAge  
CalculateVehicleOwnCost  
AdjustVehicleOwnership

**VEHouseholdVehicles  
Package**

CalculateHouseholdDvmt  
CalculateAltModeTrips  
CalculateVehicleTrips  
DivertSovTravel

**VEHouseholdTravel  
Package**

CalculateCarbonIntensity  
AssignHhVehiclePowertrain

**VEPowertrainsAndFuels  
Package**

*Iterate X Times*

CalculateRoadDvmt  
CalculateRoadPerformance  
CalculateMpgMpkwhAdjustments  
AdjustHhVehicleMpgMpkwh  
CalculateVehicleOperatingCost  
BudgetHouseholdDvmt

*End Iteration*

CalculateComEnergyAndEmissions  
CalculatePtranEnergyAndEmissions

**VETravelPerformance  
Package**

## Key Concepts:

- Household Synthesis & Land Use
- Household Multi-modal Travel
- Vehicles, Fuels & Emissions
- Adjustments for Congestion
- Adjustments for HH Costs & Budgets

# Performance Measures

## Mobility

- Daily VMT per capita
- Annual walk trips per capita
- Daily Bike trips per capita

## Economy

- Annual all vehicle delay per capita (hours)
- Daily household parking costs
- Annual HH vehicle operating cost (fuel, taxes, parking)
- Annual HH ownership costs (depreciation, vehicle maintenance, tires, finance charge, insurance, registration)

## Land Use

- Residents living in mixed use areas
- Housing type (SF: MF)

## Environmental

- Annual GHG emissions per capita
- HH vehicle GHG/mile
- Commercial vehicle GHG/mile
- Transit Vehicle GHG/mile

## Energy

- Annual all vehicle fuel consumption per capita (gallons)
- Average all vehicle fuel efficiency (net miles per gallon)
- Annual external social costs per households (total/% paid)

Many others metrics are possible.

Outputs tied to individual households allows stratification by groups, such as:

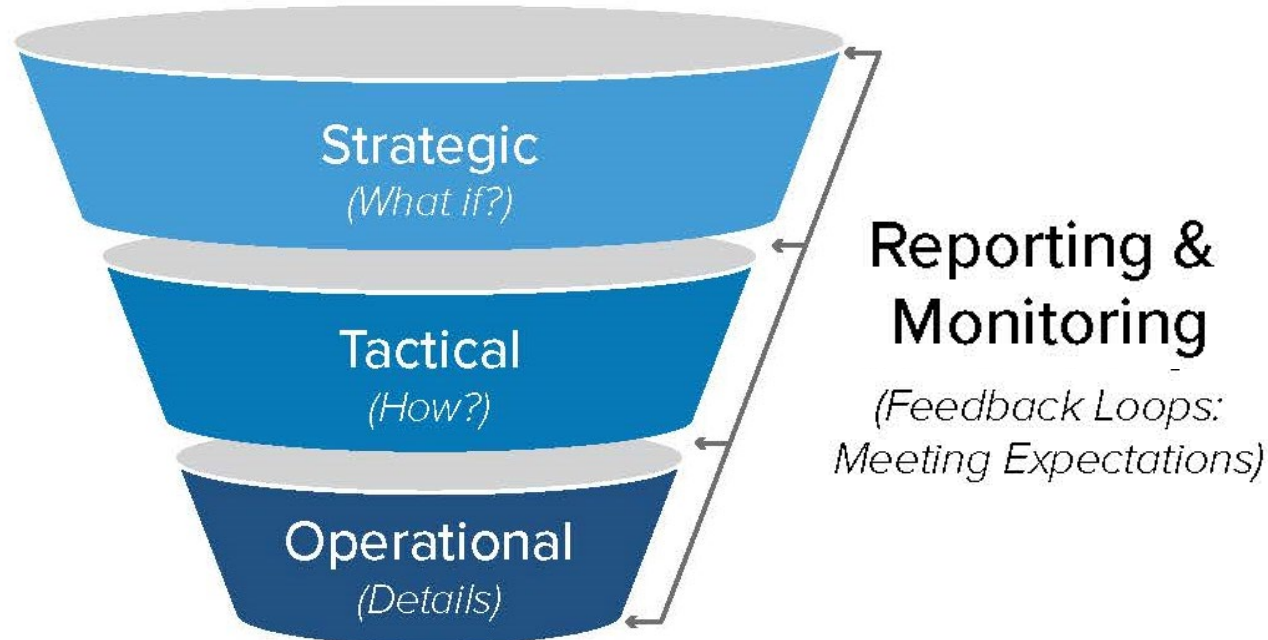
- Income group
- Land use (mixed use areas)
- Family type (presence of kids)
- Other (auto ownership)

Keep in mind...

- Strategic/First order effects, comparisons *between* scenarios better than *absolutes*
- Report at appropriate aggregation
- Mindful of what is/is not modeled

ODOT Reporting example (region-wide)

# ODOT's S-T-O-R-M Analysis Toolkit



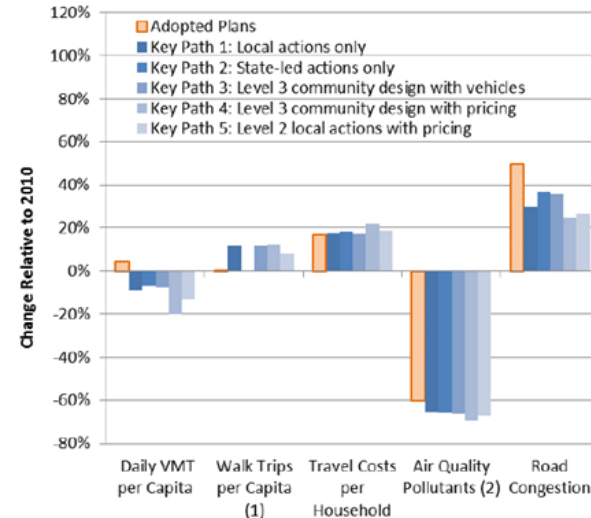
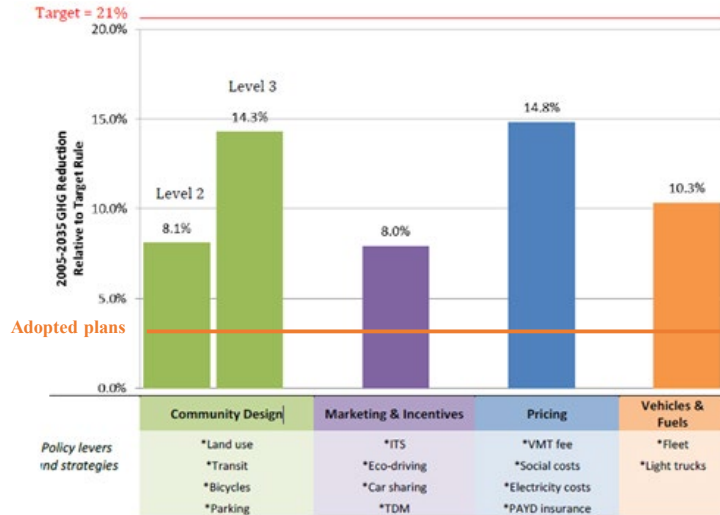


# Outputs - MPO Strategic Assessment

## RSPM Inputs

Regional Context	Local Actions		Collaborative Actions	
	Community Design	Marketing & Incentives	Vehicles & Fuels	Pricing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demographics</li> <li>• Income Growth</li> <li>• Fuel Price</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Future Housing (Single- &amp; Multi-Family)</li> <li>• Parking Fees</li> <li>• Transit Service</li> <li>• Biking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TDM (home &amp; work-based)</li> <li>• Car Sharing</li> <li>• Education on Driving Efficiency</li> <li>• Intelligent Transportation Systems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vehicle Fuel Economy (mpg)</li> <li>• Fuels</li> <li>• Commercial Fleets</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pay-As-You-Drive Insurance</li> <li>• Gas Taxes</li> <li>• Road User Fee</li> </ul>

## Corvallis Area MPO Results

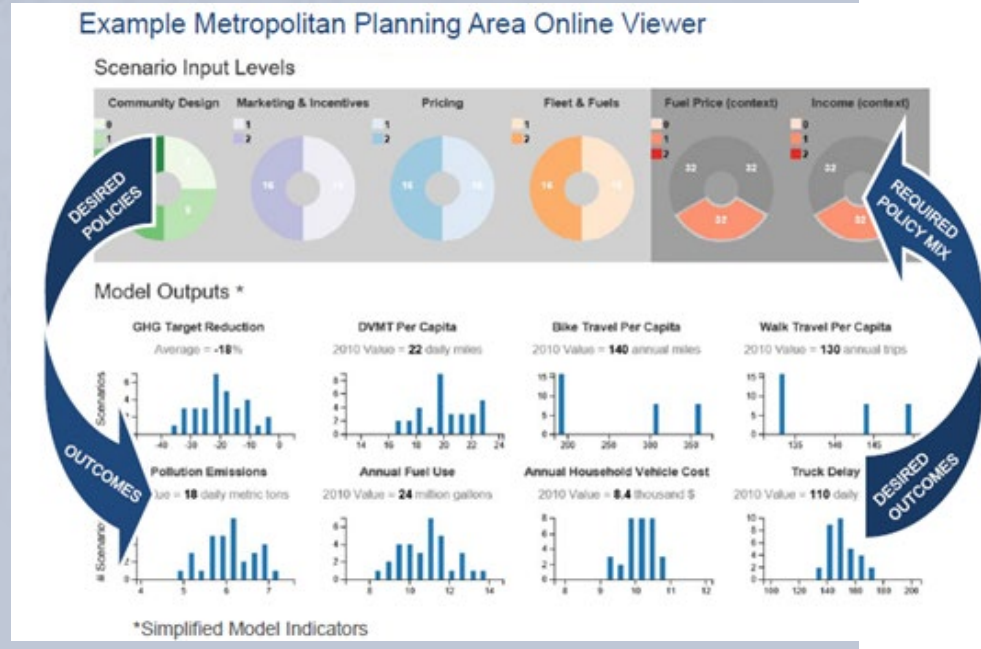


# Incorporate “Learning” & Uncertainty

## Understanding Tradoffs

RSPM’s scenario viewer shows how choices would affect various regional indicators.

The process can also be reversed, allowing participants to choose desired outcomes, then view scenarios that reflect those outcomes.

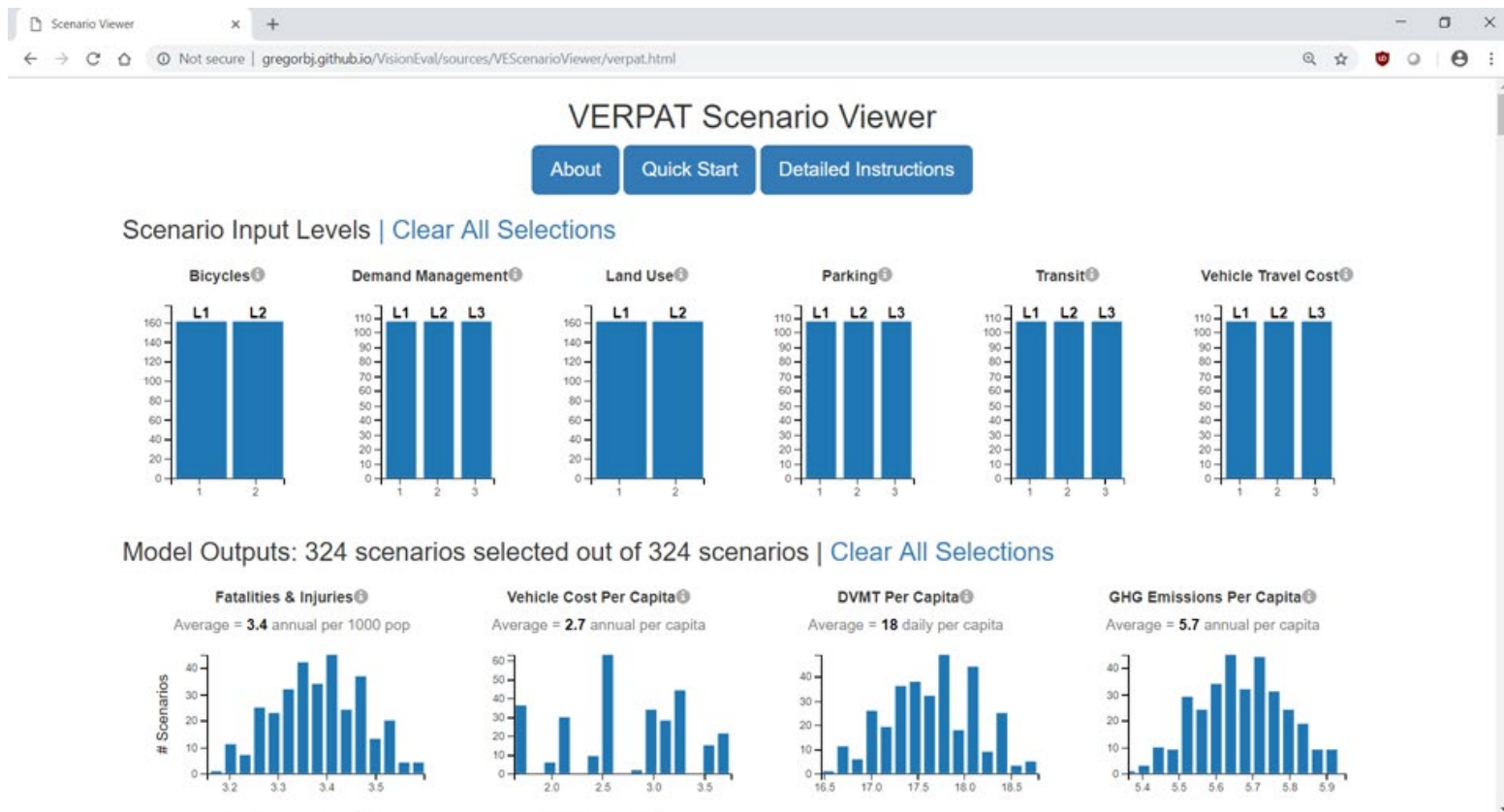


Web-based interactive viewer enables exploring 1000s of scenarios to understand policy tradeoffs & resilience to outside forces

# Live Scenario Viewer

# Using the Scenario Viewer:

## Example Results for 324 Model Runs (2x3x3x2x3x3)



# Using the Scenario Viewer

The screenshot displays the VERPAT Scenario Viewer interface. At the top, there are navigation buttons for "About", "Quick Start", and "Detailed Instructions". Below this is the "Scenario Input Levels" section, which includes a "Clear All Selections" link and six bar charts for different input categories: Bicycles, Demand Management, Land Use, Parking, Transit, and Vehicle Travel Cost. Each chart shows two levels (L1 and L2) with a y-axis representing a numerical value. A green callout box with an arrow points to the Bicycles chart, stating "Filter on L2 Bicycle Scenarios".

Below the input levels is the "Model Outputs" section, which includes another "Clear All Selections" link and four bar charts: Fatalities & Injuries, Vehicle Cost Per Capita, DVMT Per Capita, and GHG Emissions Per Capita. Each chart shows the number of scenarios (y-axis) for various output values (x-axis). A green callout box with an arrow points to the Fatalities & Injuries chart, stating "Improved safety outcomes".

**Scenario Input Levels | [Clear All Selections](#)**

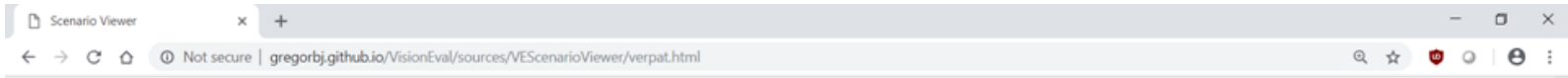
**Bicycles** | **Demand Management** | **Land Use** | **Parking** | **Transit** | **Vehicle Travel Cost**

**Model Outputs: 162 scenarios selected out of 324 scenarios | [Clear All Selections](#)**

**Fatalities & Injuries** | **Vehicle Cost Per Capita** | **DVMT Per Capita** | **GHG Emissions Per Capita**

Average = 3.4 annual per 1000 pop | Average = 18 daily per capita | Average = 5.7 annual per capita

# Using the Scenario Viewer



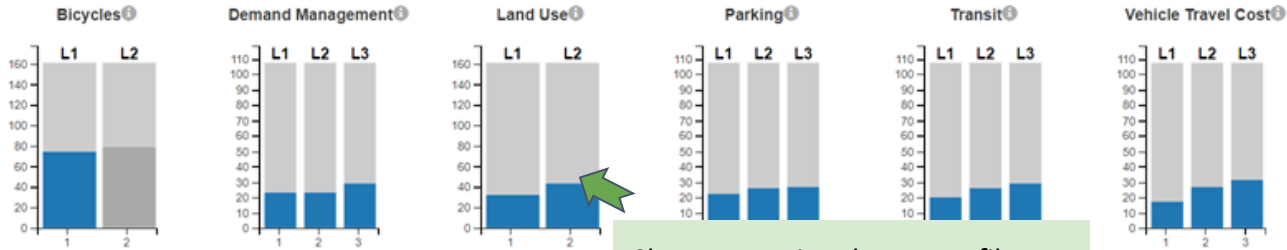
## VERPAT Scenario Viewer

About

Quick Start

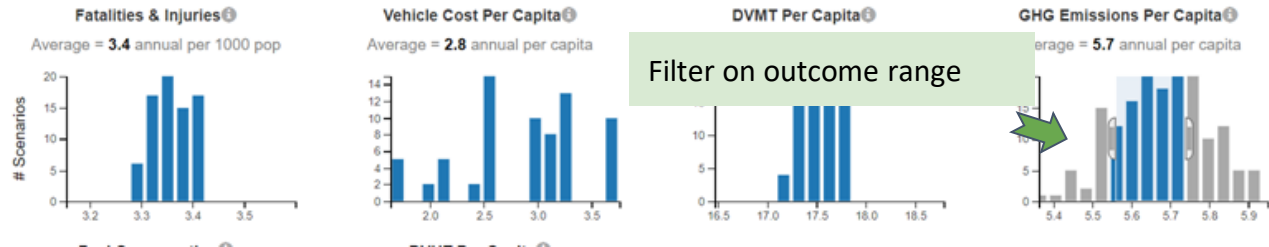
Detailed Instructions

### Scenario Input Levels | [Clear All Selections](#)



Show scenarios that meet filter

### Model Outputs: 75 scenarios selected out of 324 scenarios | [Clear All Selections](#)



Filter on outcome range





# Concept of Scenarios

- **Reference Scenario** “Plans & Trends”

Base - (Intermediate) - Future years

- **Pivot off Reference future year** “What if”

- **Sensitivity Tests** (manual)

One-at-a-time, change single “category” of inputs

- **Combination Scenarios** (automated)

All combinations of “categories”

Feeds the **VEScenarioViewer**

Note:

**“Category”** : Represent a policy direction of many projects, often multiple inputs: e.g. “pricing”, “Transit-Medium”

**Caution:** Combination runs grows quickly...

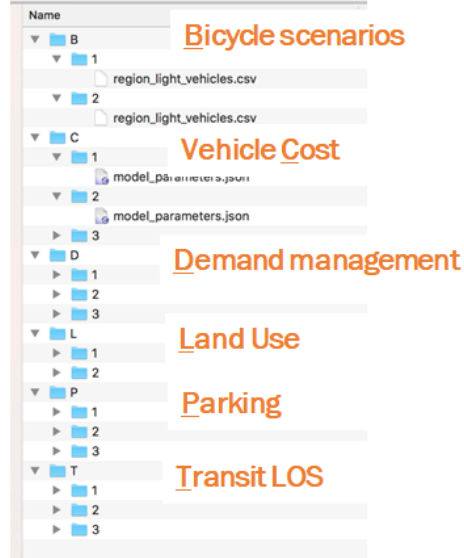


# Automated Creation of Scenario Combinations

Automated Scenario building, running, outputs

Models every combination of input “category” dimensions (eg. levels 1,2,3, where 1=reference)

Single future year, point to full base scenario inputs



# Resources & Wrap-Up

[VisionEval.org](http://VisionEval.org)

[TMIP Forum](#)

VisionEval Tool Applications [case study reports](#)

[Getting started](#)

- [File Summary XLS](#)
- [Inputs by geo \(VE-RSPM & VE-State\)](#)
- [Concepts Primer](#)

## Tutorials

- [VERSPM inputs, outputs, modules, and more](#)

### Contacts

Jeremy Raw, FHWA

[jeremy.raw@dot.gov](mailto:jeremy.raw@dot.gov)

Dan Flynn, Volpe

[daniel.flynn@dot.gov](mailto:daniel.flynn@dot.gov)



### Pooled Fund FHWA-Volpe

**DOTs**      **MPOs**

- OR      ▪ Las Vegas
- MD      ▪ Atlanta
- WA      ▪ Houston
- Ohio
- NC
- CA

[Visioneval.org](http://Visioneval.org)