



COVID-19 PANDEMIC

COVID-19 Impacts on Walking and Bicycling

June 18, 2020

WILMAPCO Technical Advisory Committee



Bicycle/walking for transportation and sanity

What Social Distancing Means

JUST DON'T

Travel
Go to playdates
Visit relatives
Play sports with friends
Head to a playground
Attend parties – even with family

CAUTION

Go to the grocery store only when needed
Pickup needed medication
Fill up the car with gas
Takeout from restaurants



Department
of Health

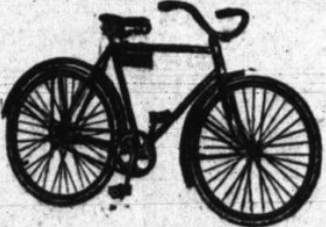
facebook.com/NYSDOH
twitter.com/healthNYgov

ENJOY

Walks and runs
Bike rides
Calls and video chats
Reading
TV and movies
At home hobbies

Then and Now

- 1918



**Ride a Bicycle
And Keep Well**

As a precaution against the influenza, keep out of the crowds; ride a bicycle to and from your work. Just look at the ruddy-cheeked delivery boys riding to and fro. They demonstrate what a Bicycle will do for YOU. Every man who lives a sedentary life NEEDS a BICYCLE. One will give you fresh air, new blood, a new lease on life. We've a model that will please you and on

Easy Terms That Will Suit You
ROANOKE CYCLE CO.
105-105½ West Campbell Avenue

- 2020

nrpa.org/Coronavirus

COVID-19: PHYSICAL DISTANCING IN PUBLIC PARKS AND TRAILS



- Do not use parks or trails if you are exhibiting symptoms.
- Be prepared for limited access to public restrooms or water fountains.
- Share the trail and warn other trail users of your presence and as you pass.
- Observe CDC's minimum recommended physical distancing of 6' from other persons at all times.

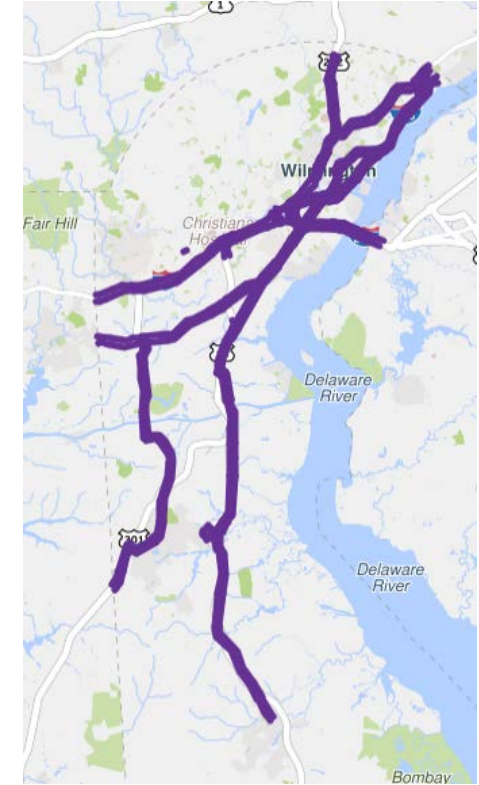
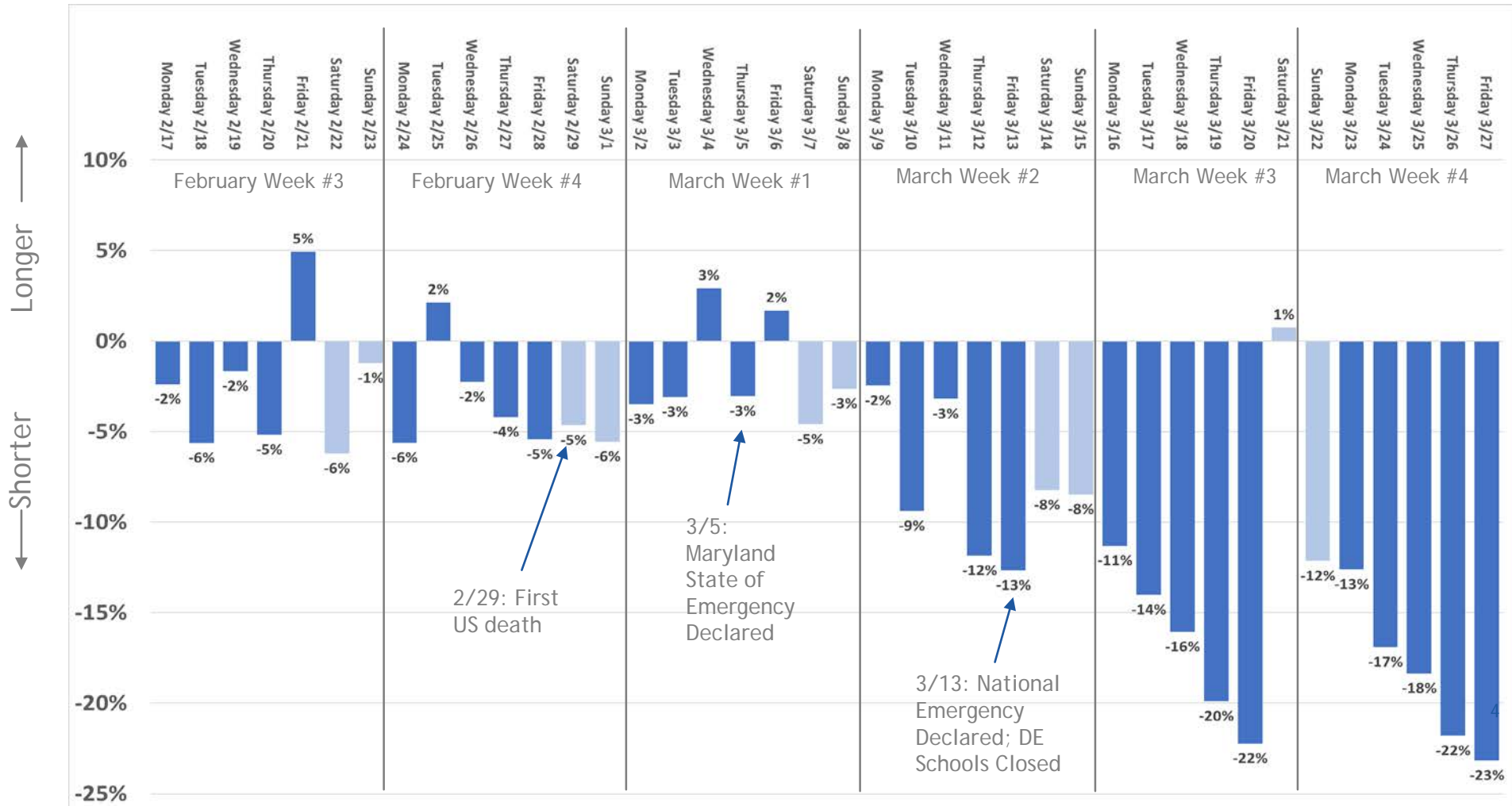
Follow CDC's guidance on personal hygiene prior to visiting parks or trails.

NRPA National Recreation and Park Association
Because everyone deserves a great park

Less Driving on NCC Interstates and US Routes

Comparison of combined travel times for all routes Interstate/ US Routes (see map) from the same time period in 2019 to 2020.
PM peak period is measured from 4pm-6pm.

Departures in Travel Times: March 2020 vs. March 2019 PM peak Period

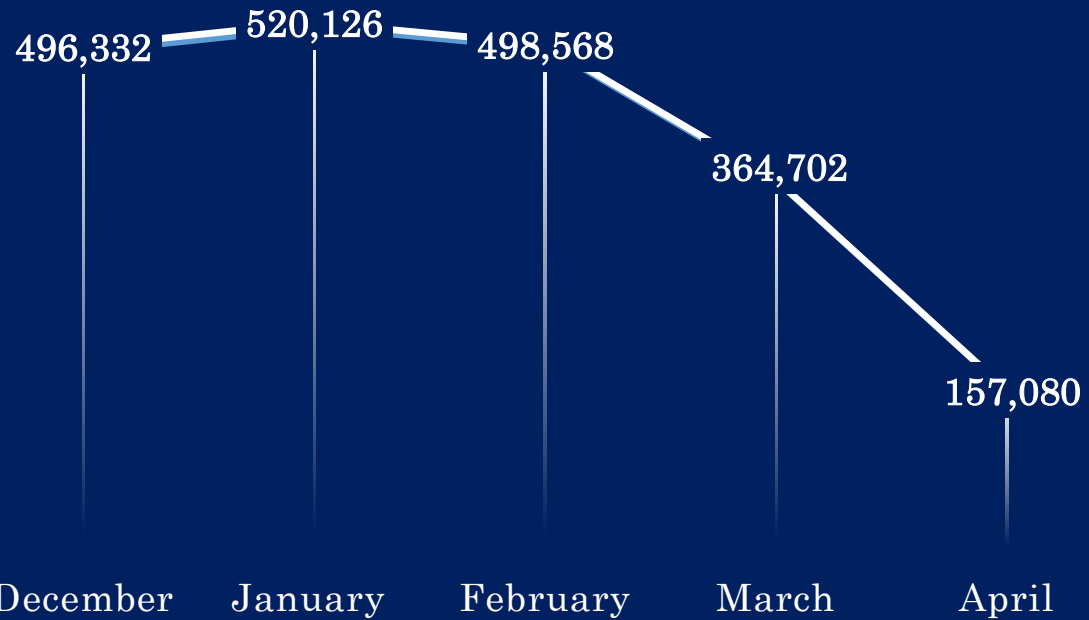


Weekday Weekly Changes
2019 vs 2020 (PM Peak)

Avg. WEEKDAY Travel Time Changes	PM% Change 2019 to 2020
Feb. Week #3	-2%
Feb. Week #4	-3%
March Week #1	-1%
March Week #2	-8%
March Week #3	-17%
March Week #4	-19%

Transit service and use declined

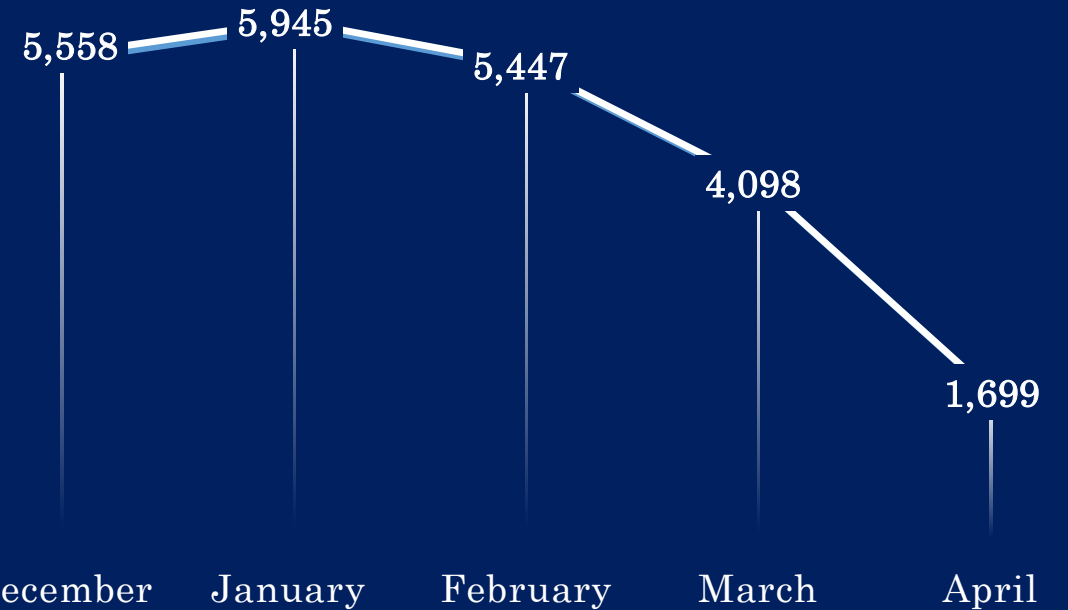
New Castle County Bus Ridership



DART First State

* April data are preliminary

Cecil County Bus Ridership



Cecil Transit



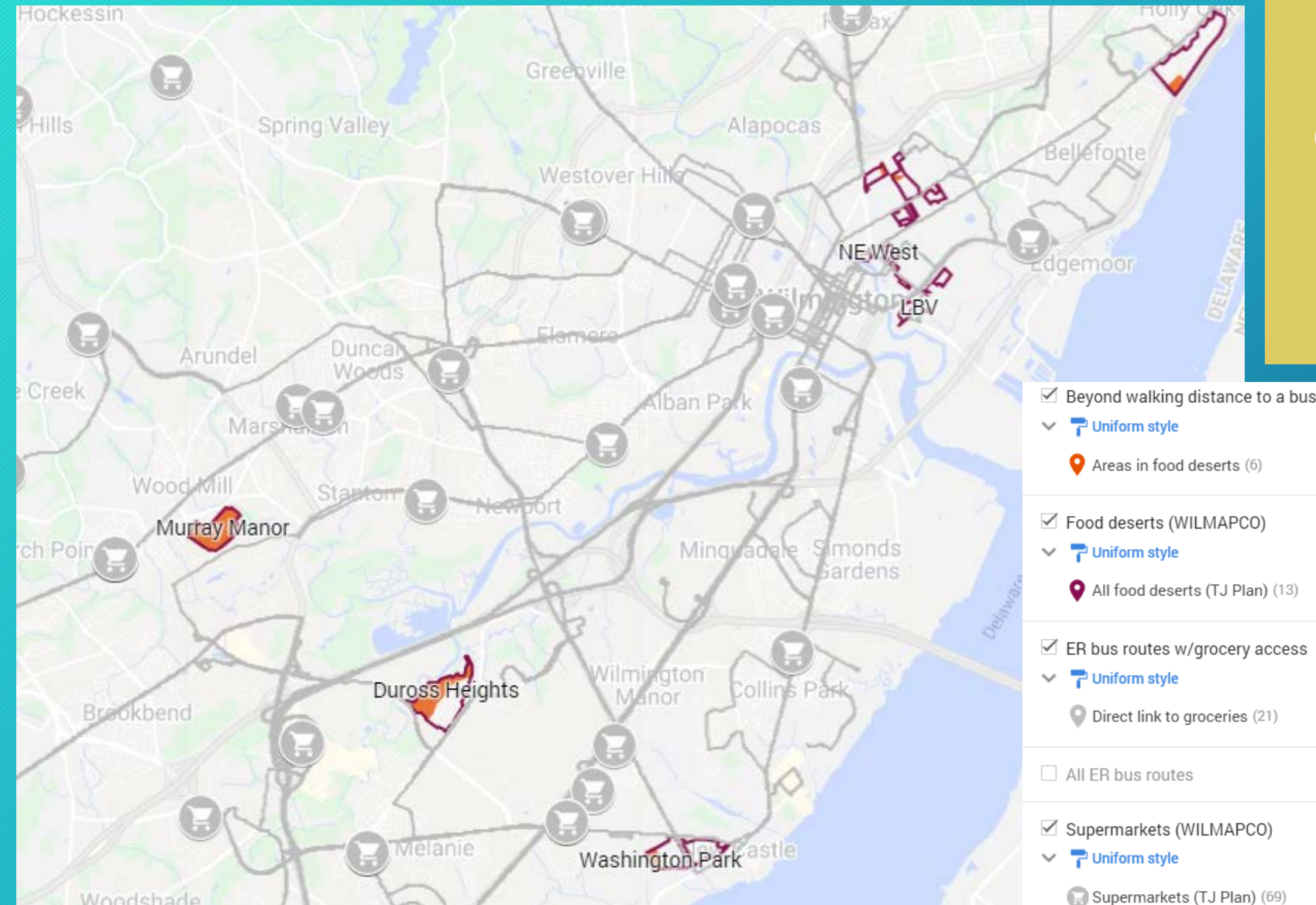
FOOD DESERTS

Google MyMaps

NEW CASTLE CO.

80%

of households in food deserts are within **WALKING DISTANCE** to a bus with direct access to a supermarket



Park & Ride Use Down Except at Parks

Park & Ride /Park & Pool Use - April 2019 vs. 2020

Station Location	Avg. Spring Usage 2018 - 2019	April 2020	Change
Claymont Train Station	457	6	-99%
Fairplay Station	189	1	-99%
Newark Train Station	269	5	-98%
Peoples Plaza, Rt 896 & 40	38	7	-81%
Prices Corner, Centerville Road	29	3	-90%
Route 896 and Route 4, Newark*	75	25	-67%
Route 7 and Route 273	57	14	-75%
Smyrna Rest Stop US 13 & SR1	41	3	-93%
Brandywine Springs Park	9	30	+224%
Delcastle Recreation Center	26	42	+65%

Average Daily Decline
2019 vs. 2020: 87%

Strategies: Active transportation with physical distancing

Excerpt
from
NACTO

Maintain transportation systems to safely move essential workers and goods

Build pop-up bike lanes

Classify bike shops as essential services

Convert actuated to fixed signals where possible

As traffic volumes drop, adjust signal timing to slow vehicle speeds and ensure safety

Create clear messaging of city policies and guidelines

Give simple instructions in plain language

Place signage in obvious places

Address immediate delivery & pick-up needs

Develop protocols for on-sidewalk queuing at grocery stores

Relieve crowded areas to support physical distancing

Close or limit through traffic on select streets for social distancing

Close or limit through traffic on streets adjacent to or within parks for social distancing

Temporarily expand pedestrian facilities in high-volume or congested locations using interim materials

Restrict access routes to areas and attractions where it is impractical to promote social distancing

Maintain transportation systems to safely move essential workers and goods

Bike Shops Are Essential

- “Bikes are the new toilet paper”
- Bike Shops classified as essential businesses in Delaware and Maryland with some restrictions
- Urban Bike Project distributed 209 bikes in May alone
- Newark Bike Project distributed 310 bikes from March-May, a 70% increase from 2019



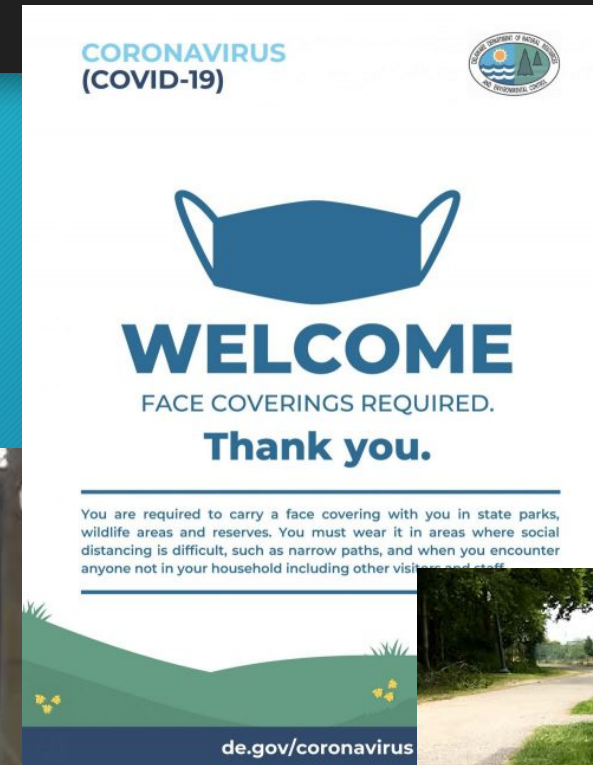
Maintain transportation systems to safely move essential workers and goods

Automate pedestrian push buttons

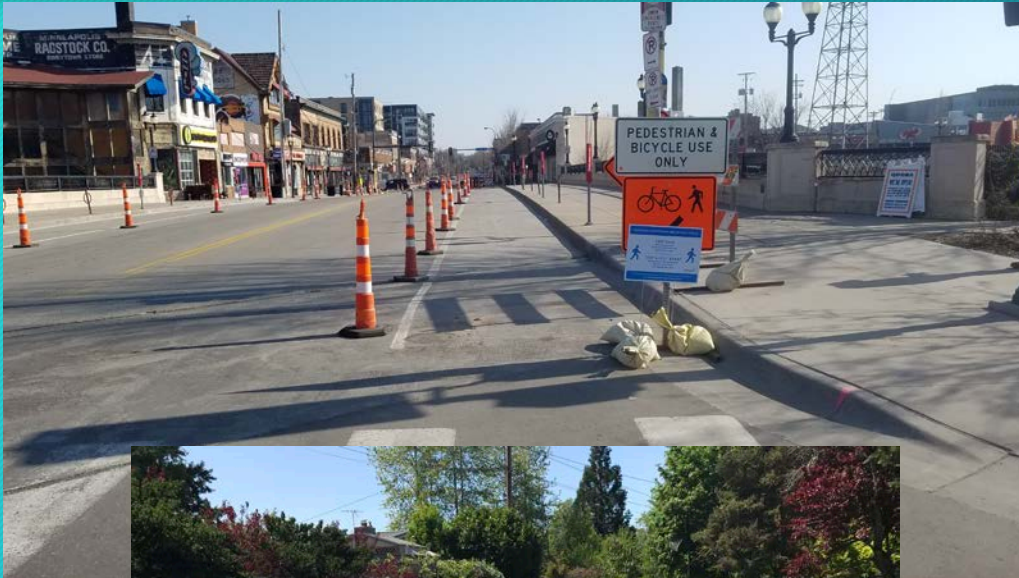
- Some buttons observed to be automated
- Local changes lack signage
- Example signage



Create clear messaging of city policies and guidelines



Relieve crowded areas to support physical distancing



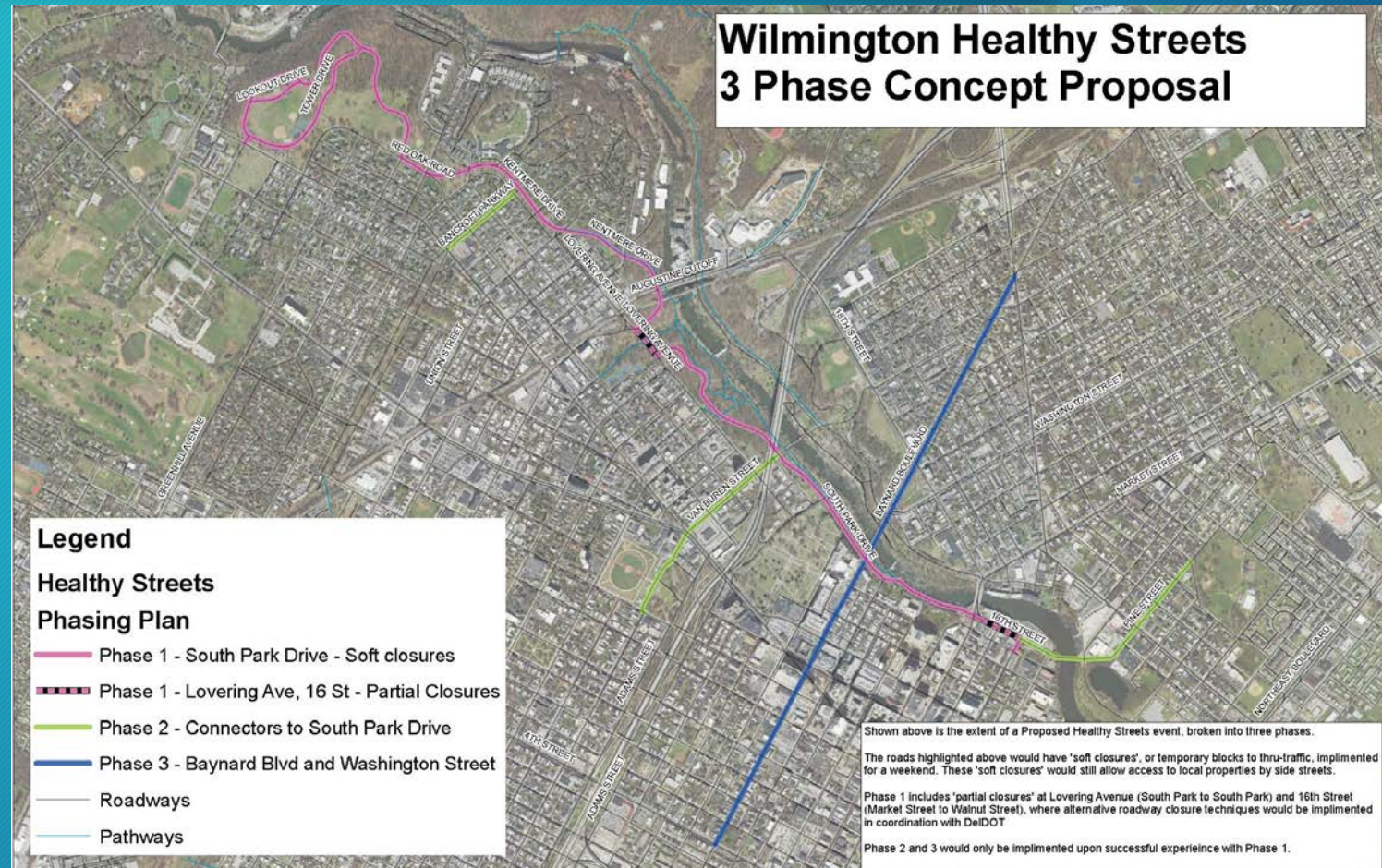
Relieve crowded areas to support physical distancing

- Healthy Streets Wilmington Proposal
- Currently on hold



Relieve crowded areas to support physical distancing

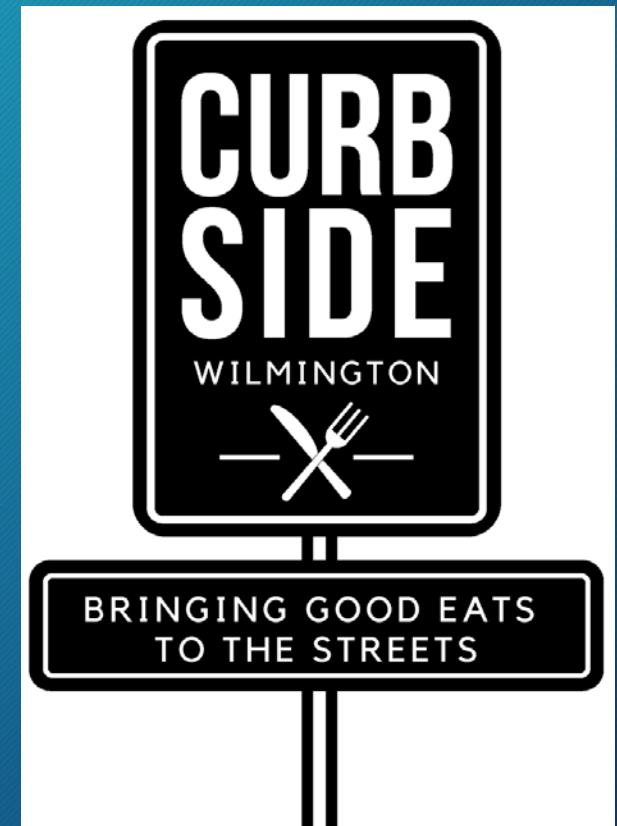
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Relieve crowded areas to support physical distancing

- Newark Outdoor Dining Proposal

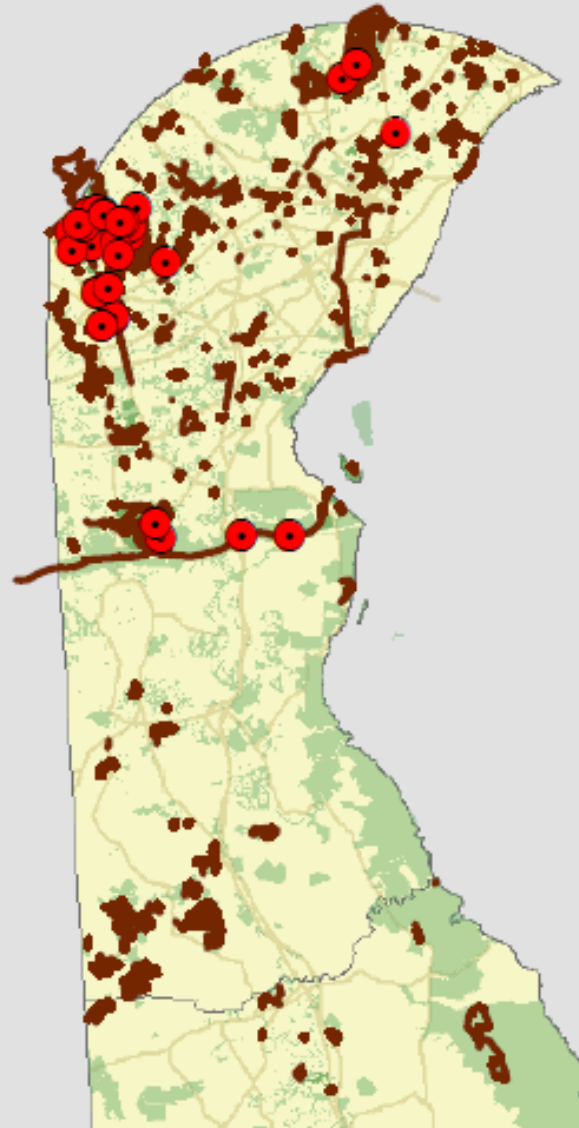
- Curbside Wilmington



Trail Use

"Of Americans who own a bike, 21% of them have been riding more since the COVID-19 pandemic."

--TREK Study



- Trail Counters - Existing
- Trail Counters - all
- Trails Data
- Protected Lands

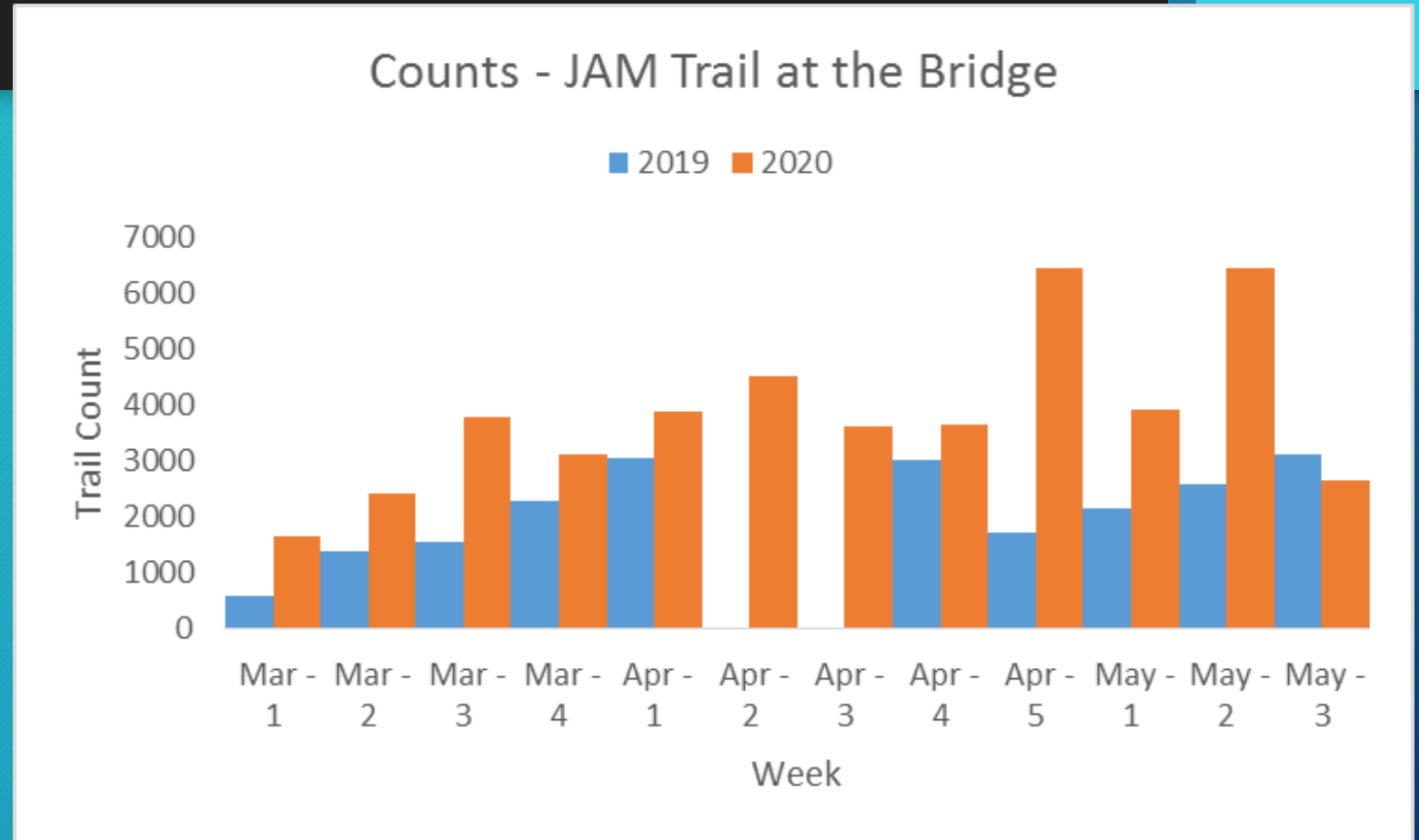
Trail Use

- Change 2019-2020
- Delaware State Park Counts

	Mar	Apr	May
BC Brandywine Trail	↑ 113%		
BC Nature Center	↑ 156%		
James Hall - West		↓ -20%	↑ 18%
LP Lums XC	↑ 173%	↑ 264%	
Newark Res		↓ -21%	↓ -14%
Redd - Fiberglass Bridge			↑ 209%
WCC Bryans Field IR	↑ 186%	↑ 283%	↑ 412%
WCC Paper Mill Tunnel	↑ 57%	→ 3%	
WCC Pomeroy North/Hopkins IR		↑ 101%	↑ 274%
WCC Pomeroy South/Towers		→ 3%	↑ 75%
WCC Tri State		↑ 217%	↑ 456%
WCC Whitely Farms Accessible	↑ 182%		
WCC Whitely Farms Trail	↑ 100%		

Trail Use

- 2019 vs 2020 Counts on JAM Trail
- Delaware Greenways





JAM Bridge South — Analysis by Direction

Shared

Location

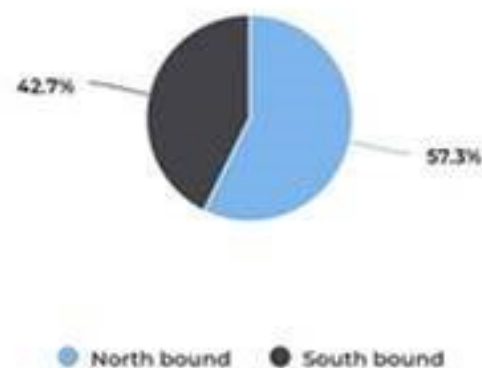


Distribution by Direction

Whole Period

JAM Bridge South

IN OUT



Pictures Gallery

JAM Bridge South

No Data

Whole Period

JAM Bridge South

Daily Average

343

+0.0%

Compared to: Previous Year

Whole Period

JAM Bridge South

Peak Day

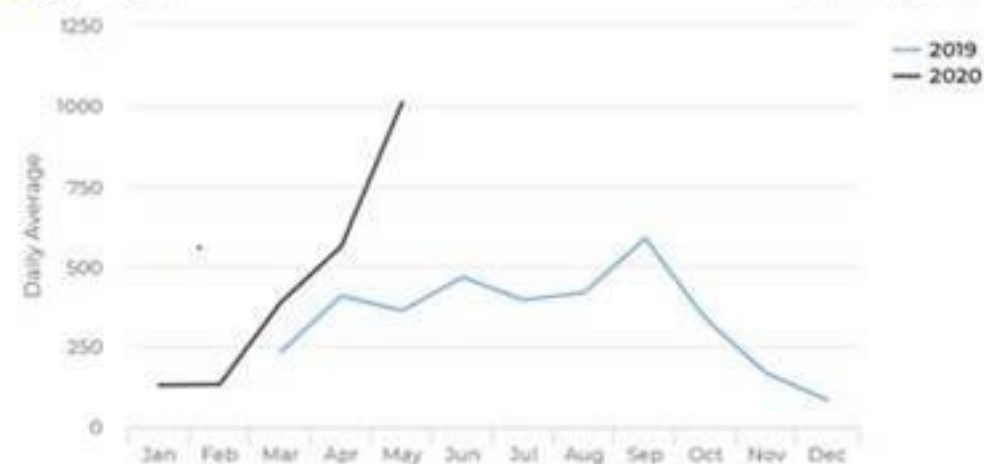
Saturday
May 2, 2020

2,190

Annual Comparison by Month

@3y → @0d

JAM Bridge South



Daily Avg. - Week

Current Year 50/7

JAM Bridge South

Daily Average

244

+34.2%

Compared to: Previous Year

Daily Avg. - Weekend

Current Year 24/7

JAM Bridge South

Daily Average

593

+1.0%

Compared to: Previous Year

What's Next?

- Physical distancing may still be needed until there is a vaccine
- Motor vehicle volumes creeping back up as economy reopens
- Some communities have expressed continued desire for slow walk and bike streets
- Will the use of walking and bicycling continue to be preferred?

