

# Potential Health Implications of New Mobility

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The background features a stylized city skyline in shades of blue and grey. Various technology-related icons are overlaid: a satellite in the upper right, a radio tower in the upper left, and several cars at the bottom. Some cars have signal waves above them, and one is connected to a charging station. A traffic light is visible on the far left.

## Part I

# Transportation and Health: The 14 Pathways and Technology Implications

## Part II

# Case Studies on Impacts of Pathways

# Part I: Transportation and Health

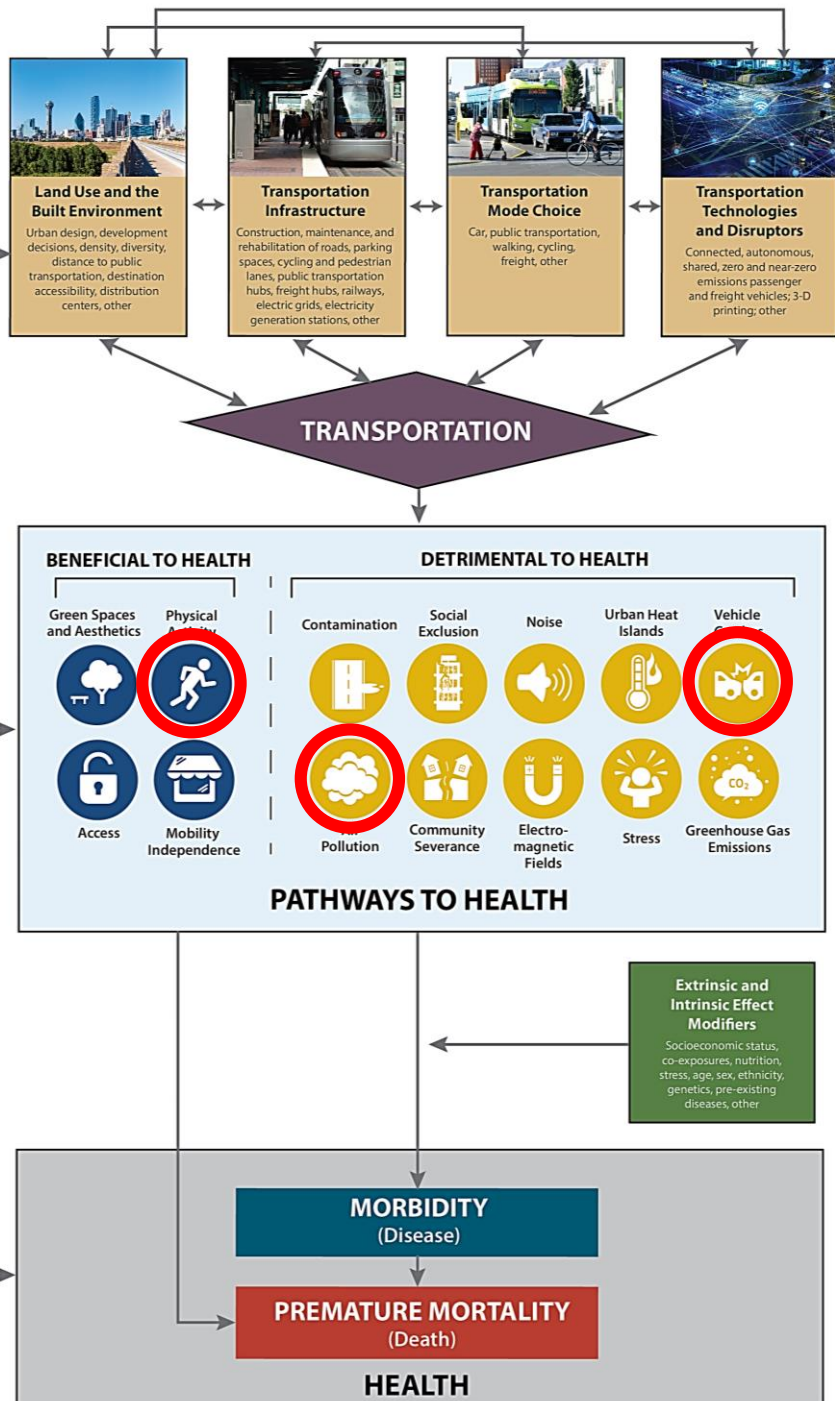




## “Recognized Linkages”

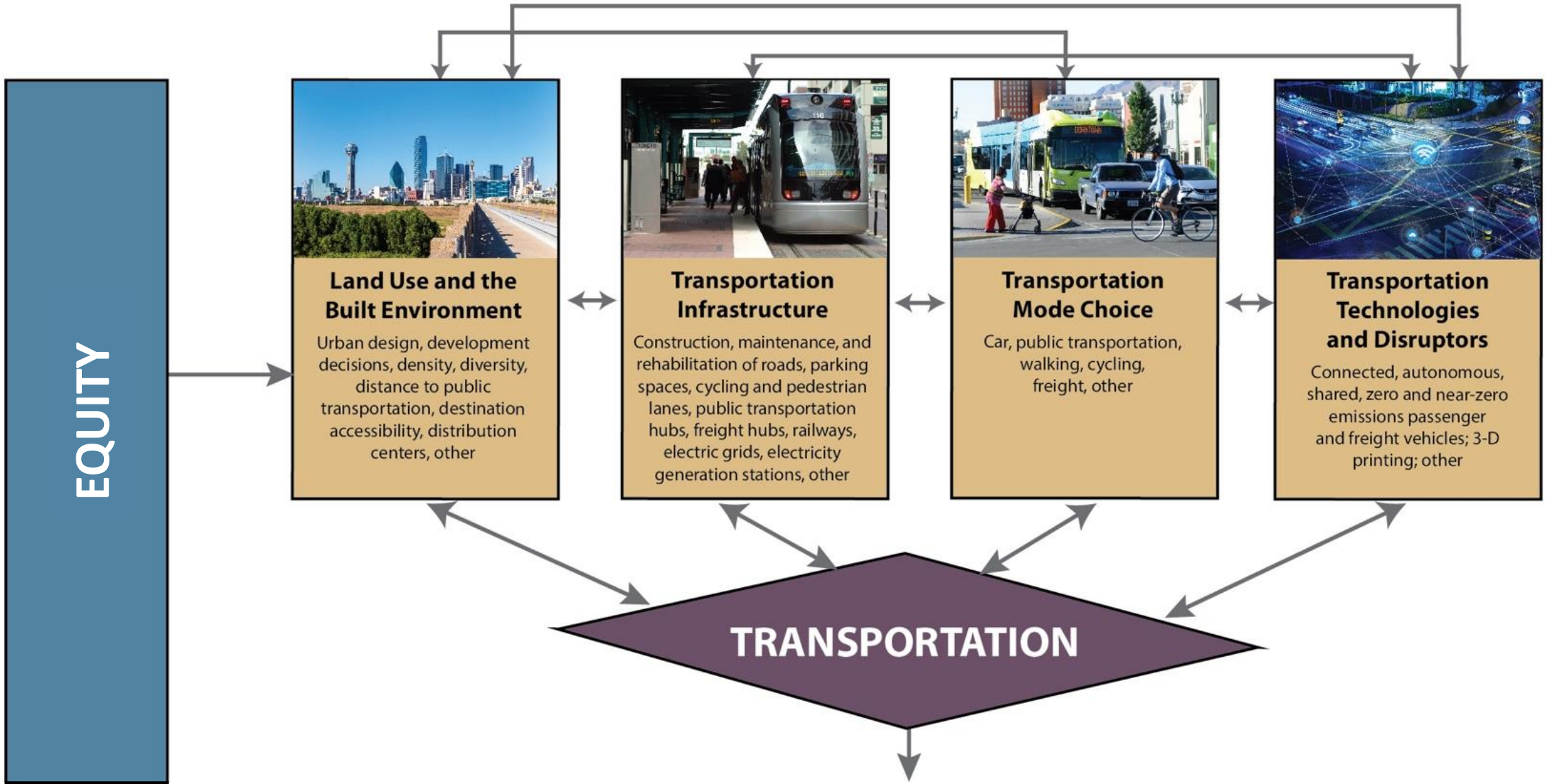
- Each year > 1.5 million deaths and 79 million injuries warranting medical care
  - Low and middle-income countries account for >90% of road fatalities despite having 48% of world’s registered vehicles
- Ambient air pollution and physical inactivity – 4.2 and 3.2 million annual global deaths





# “Less Recognized Linkages”

**Khreis, Haneen; Glazener, Andrew; Ramani, Tara; Zietsman, Josias; Nieuwenhuijsen, Mark J.; Mindell, Jennifer S.; Winfree, Gregory D.; and Burke, Thomas A. (2019). Transportation and Health: A Conceptual Model and Literature Review. College Station, Texas: Center for Advancing Research in Transportation Emissions, Energy, and Health, May 2019.**



# EQUITY

## BENEFICIAL TO HEALTH

Green Spaces  
and Aesthetics



Physical  
Activity



Access



Mobility  
Independence

## DETRIMENTAL TO HEALTH

Contamination



Social  
Exclusion



Noise



Urban Heat  
Islands



Vehicle  
Crashes



Air  
Pollution



Community  
Severance



Electro-  
magnetic  
Fields

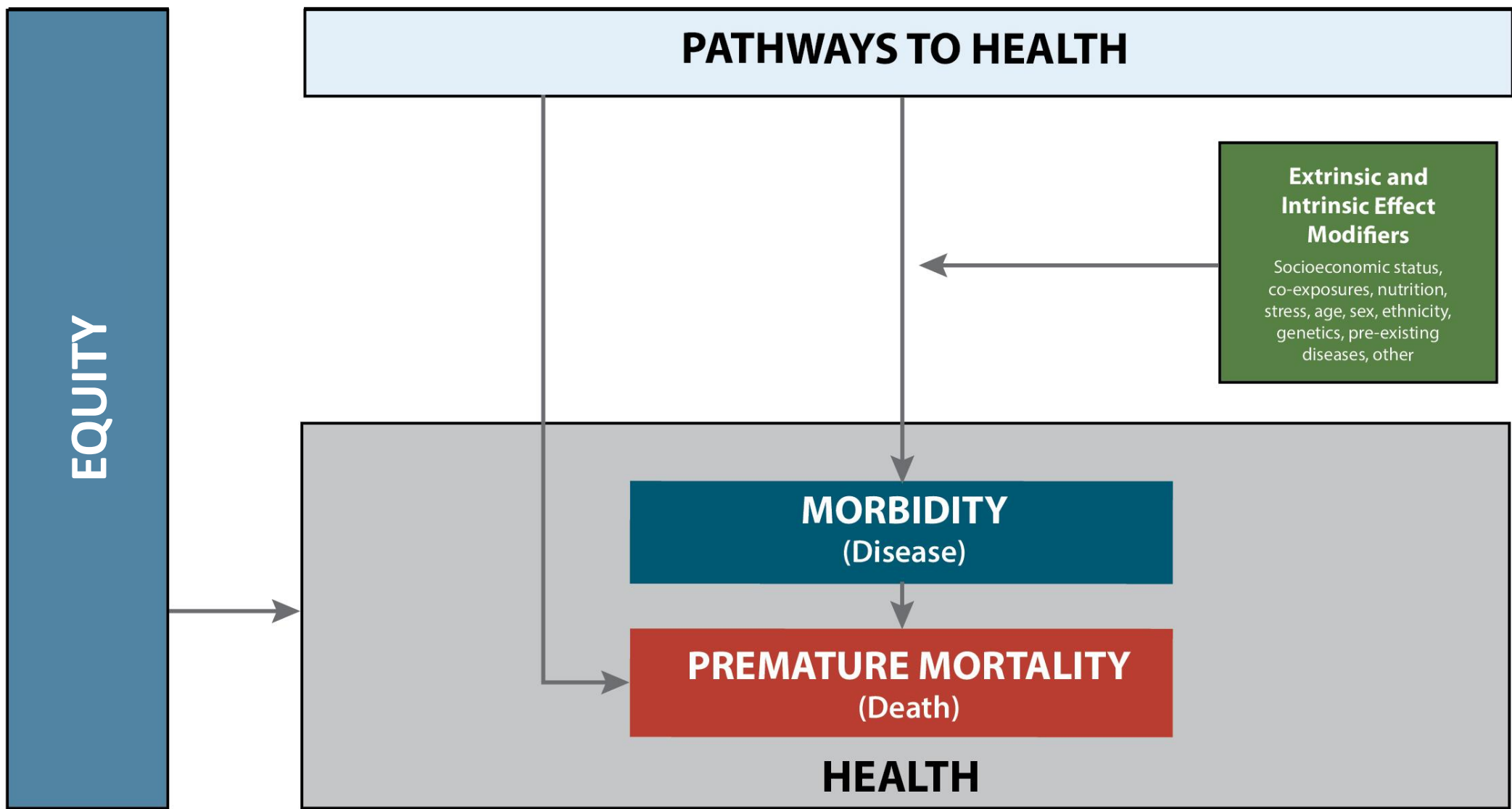


Stress

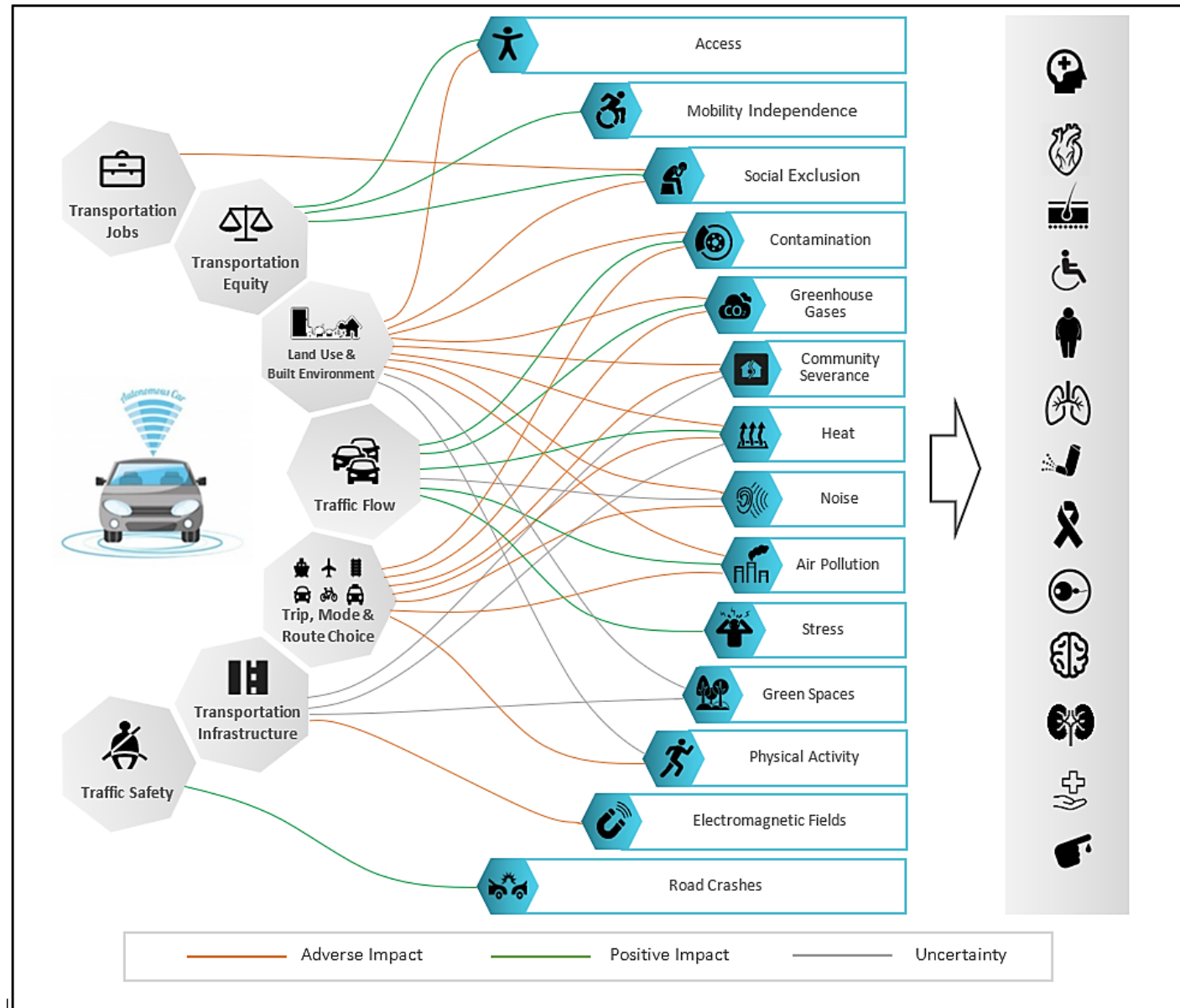


Greenhouse Gas  
Emissions

## PATHWAYS TO HEALTH





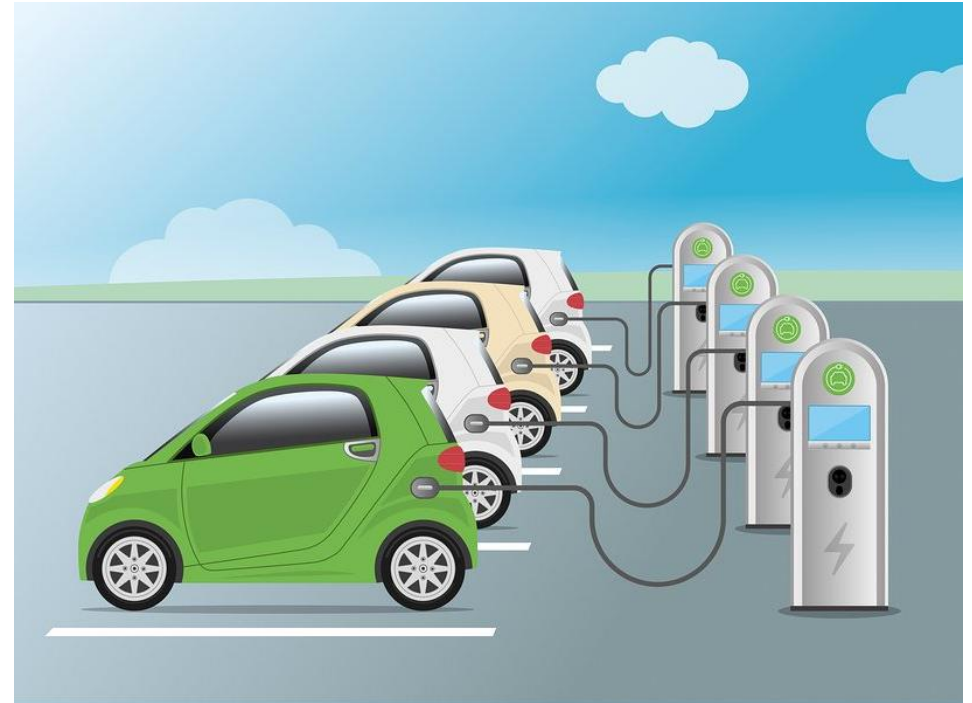


*AVs' implementation is linked to public health through 32 linkages. AVs may adversely impact health through 16*

Transportation point of impact	Link number	Health pathway	Potential direction of impact
Transportation jobs	1	Social exclusion	Adverse
Transportation equity	2	Access	Positive
	3	Mobility independence	Positive
	4	Social exclusion	Positive
Land use and built environment	5	Access	Uncertain
	6	Social exclusion	Adverse
	7	Contamination	Adverse
	8	Greenhouse gases	Adverse
	9	Community severance	Adverse
	10	Heat	Adverse
	11	Noise	Adverse
	12	Air pollution	Adverse
	13	Green spaces	Uncertain
	14	Physical activity	Uncertain
Traffic flow	15	Contamination	Positive
	16	Greenhouse gases	Positive
	17	Heat	Positive
	18	Noise	Uncertain
	19	Air pollution	Positive
	20	Stress	Positive
Trip, mode and route choice	21	Contamination	Adverse
	22	Greenhouse gases	Adverse
	23	Community severance	Adverse
	24	Heat	Adverse
	25	Noise	Adverse
	26	Air pollution	Adverse
	27	Physical activity	Adverse
Transportation infrastructure	28	Community severance	Uncertain
	29	Heat	Uncertain
	30	Green spaces	Uncertain
	31	Electromagnetic fields	Adverse
Traffic safety	32	Road crashes	Positive

## For beneficial implementation of AVs, supporting policies are required to govern:

- ✓ Urban sprawl (TDM, urban boundaries)
- ✓ CAVs ownership (shared ownership)
- ✓ Ridesharing and public transit
- ✓ Job loss (smoother transition)
- ✓ AVs infrastructure and limiting EMF
- ✓ Electrification of AVs (given electricity is clean)
- ✓ Monitor and limit non-tailpipe emissions



## Research Needs:

Quantifying and monitoring the burden of disease of AVs implementation (19 papers)

AVs= autonomous vehicles

TDM= transportation demand management

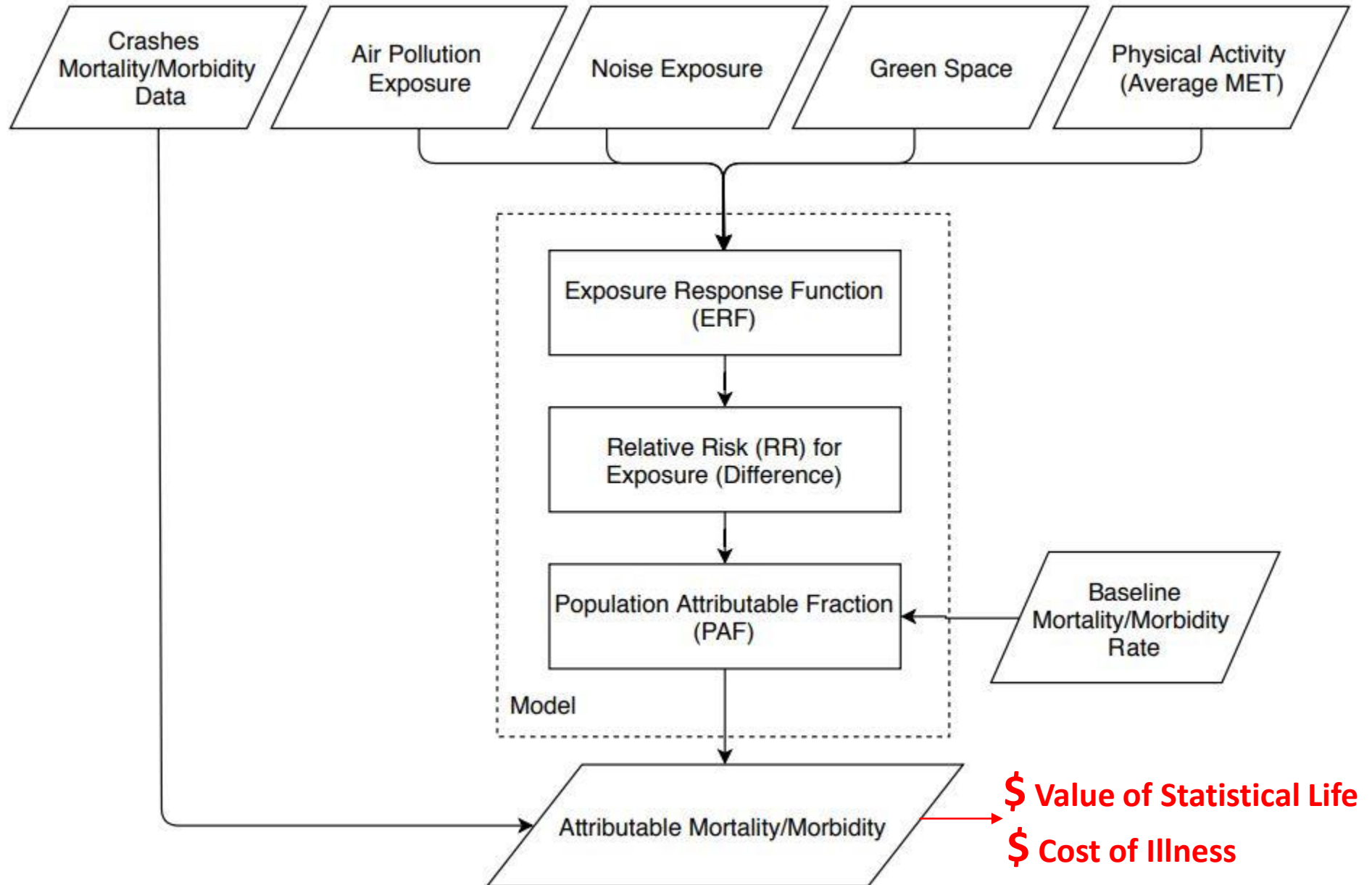
EMF= electromagnetic field

## Part II: Case Studies on Impacts of Pathways





# Quantitative Health Impact Assessment



# **Case Study 1** → **Changing the Urban Design of Cities for Health: The Barcelona Superblock Model**

# Rationale

- Barcelona has 1.6 million people on only 100 km<sup>2</sup>
- Highest traffic density in Europe → 6,000 vehicles circulating/km<sup>2</sup>
- High air and noise pollution levels
- Little green/open space → amplifying anthropogenic heat (city center 8°C > than surrounding areas)
- 503 super-blocks are proposed → a land-use intervention to reclaim space for people

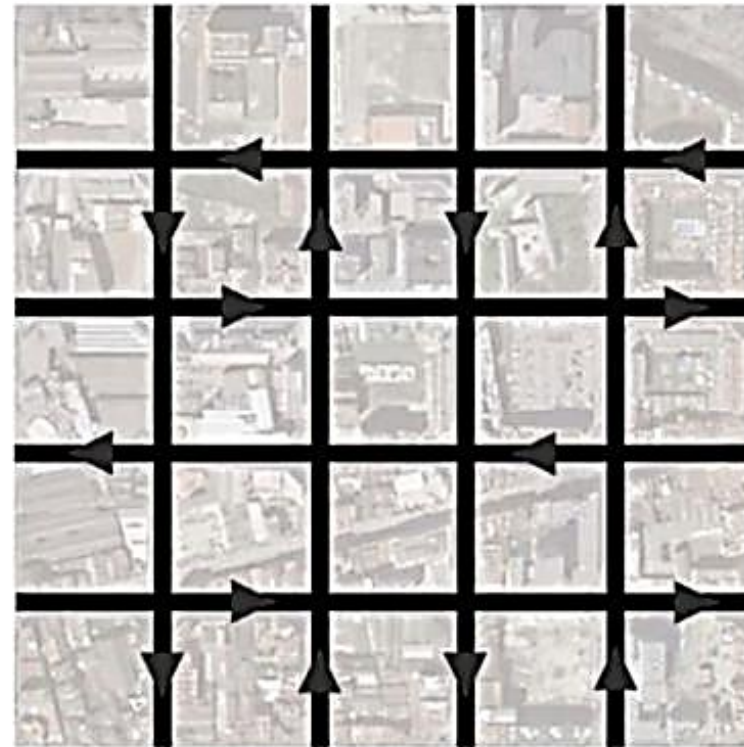




# Road hierarchy in a Superblock model

- Segregated bus, cycling and pedestrian lanes on basic network
- Bus stops at each superblock intersection
- Buses at high frequency
- Development of public open and green space

## CURRENT SITUATION



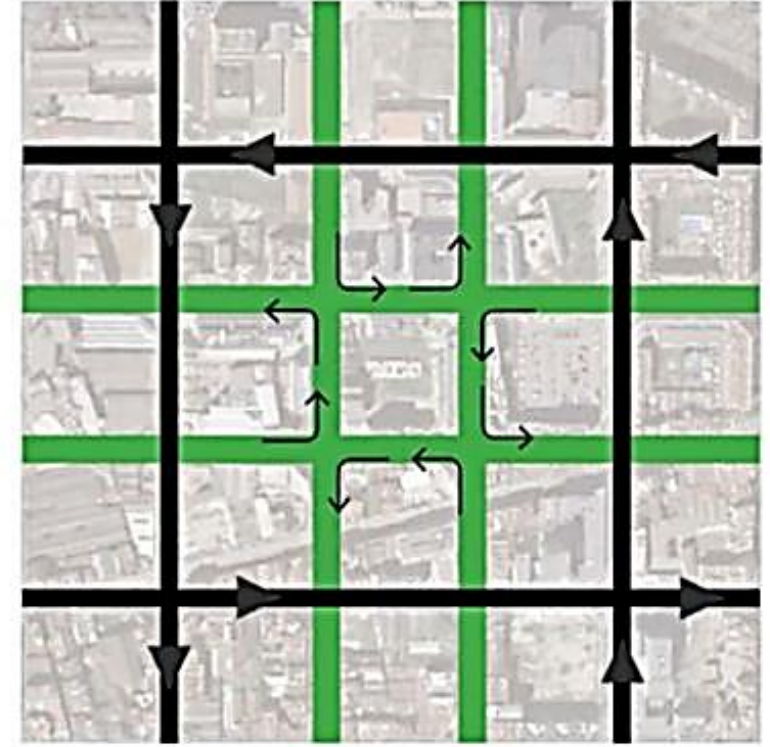
400 meters

Basic network: 50 km/h



SOLE RIGHT: DISPLACEMENT.  
HIGHEST AIM: PEDESTRIAN.

## SUPERBLOCK



400 meters

Local network: 10 km/h



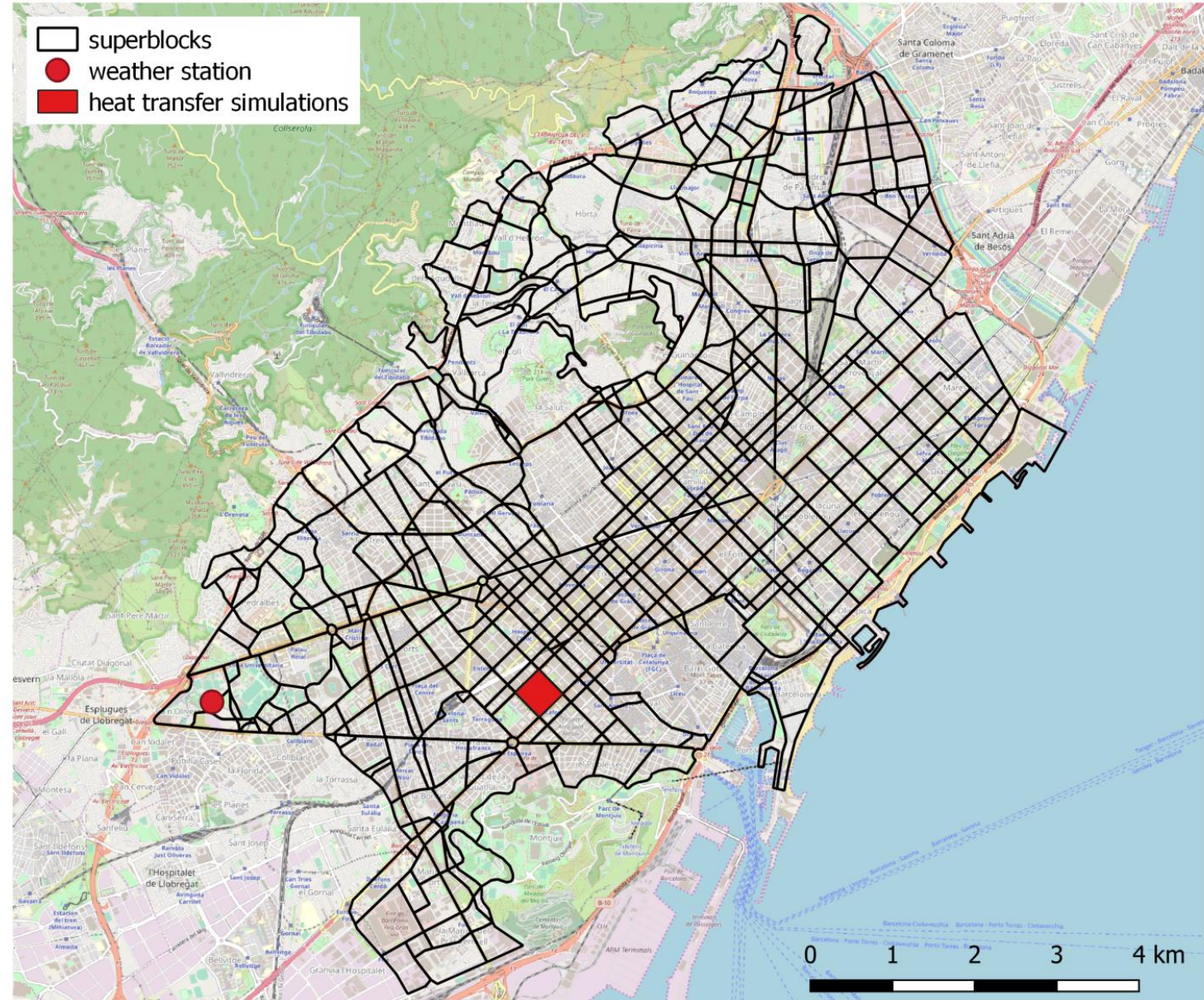
EXERCISE OF ALL THE RIGHTS THAT THE CITY  
OFFERS. HIGHEST AIM: CITIZEN.

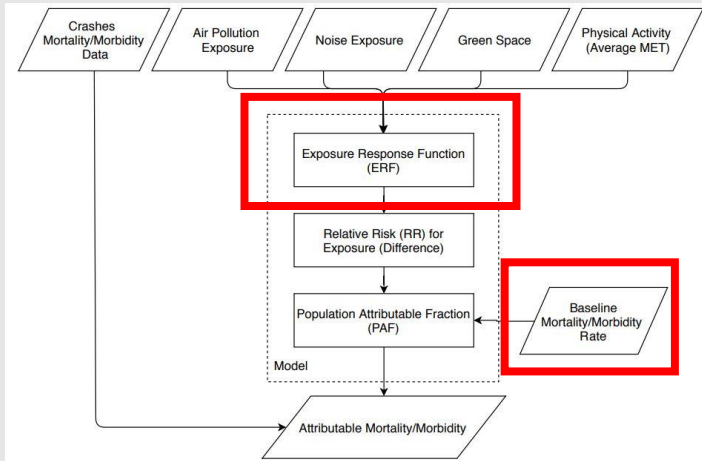
**PASSING  
VEHICLES  
DO NOT GO  
THROUGH**



# Aim and Study Setting

- Estimate preventable premature mortality attributable to Superblocks:
  - Physical activity (PA)
  - Air pollution (NO<sub>2</sub>)
  - Noise
  - Access to green space
  - Mitigation of urban heat island
- Barcelona residents  $\geq 20$  years (N=1,301,827) on the projected superblock census area level (N=503)





**Table.** Risk estimates for mortality by exposure domain

Exposure	Risk estimate	Exposure	Health effect	Study design	Reference
Physical activity	RR = 0.81 (95% CI: 0.76, 0.85)	11 versus 0 MET h/ week	All-cause mortality	Meta-analysis	Woodcock et al. 2011
NO <sub>2</sub>	RR = 1.02 (PI: 0.99, 1.06)	per 10 µg/ m <sup>3</sup>	All-cause mortality	Meta-analysis	Atkinson et al. 2018
Noise	HR = 1.038 (95% CI: 1.019, 1.058)	per 10 dB L <sub>den</sub> (Road)	CVD mortality	Cohort study	Héritier et al. 2017
Green space	RR = 0.99 (95% CI: 0.98, 1.01)	per 10% increase in greenness	All-cause mortality	Meta-analysis	Gascon et al. 2015
Heat	RR= 1.19 (95% CI: 1.16-1.23)	99th versus 74th temperature percentile	All-cause mortality	Time-series study	Guo et al. 2014

CVD=cardiovascular disease; HR=hazard rate; L<sub>den</sub>=EU day-evening-night noise indicator with 5 dB and 10 dB weights for the evening and night time, respectively; MET=metabolic equivalent of task (1 MET = 1 kcal/ kg/ h); PI=prediction interval; RR=relative risk; 95% CI=95% confidence interval

**The natural-cause mortality rate was 1,144 deaths/ 100,000 persons in Barcelona in 2015**

## Methods – Exposure-Response Functions

# Methods – Exposure Changes

Results under review – contact Haneen for more information

Mueller, Natalie; Rojas-Rueda, David; Khreis, Haneen; Cirach, Marta; Ballester, Joan; Bartoll, Xavier; Daher, Carolyn; Deluca, Anna; Echave, Cynthia; Milà, Carles; Marquéz, Sandra; Palou, Joan; Pérez, Catherine; Tonne, Cathryn; Rueda, Salvador; Nieuwenhuijsen, Mark on behalf of the Superblock evaluation team (2019). “Changing the Urban Design of Cities for Health: The Barcelona Superblock Model. Under review.

# Results - Attributable Premature Mortality

Results under review – contact Haneen for more information

Mueller, Natalie; Rojas-Rueda, David; Khreis, Haneen; Cirach, Marta; Ballester, Joan; Bartoll, Xavier; Daher, Carolyn; Deluca, Anna; Echave, Cynthia; Milà, Carles; Marquéz, Sandra; Palou, Joan; Pérez, Catherine; Tonne, Cathryn; Rueda, Salvador; Nieuwenhuijsen, Mark on behalf of the Superblock evaluation team (2019). “Changing the Urban Design of Cities for Health: The Barcelona Superblock Model. Under review.



# **Case Study 2** → **Transportation and Health: Burden of Disease Analysis of Traffic Noise and Vehicle Crashes in Houston, Texas**

An aerial photograph of Houston, Texas, showing a dense urban landscape with numerous skyscrapers in the background and a complex network of multi-lane highways in the foreground. The scene is captured during the "golden hour" of late afternoon, with warm sunlight casting long shadows and highlighting the architectural details of the buildings. A semi-transparent circular overlay is positioned on the left side of the image, containing the title and study details.

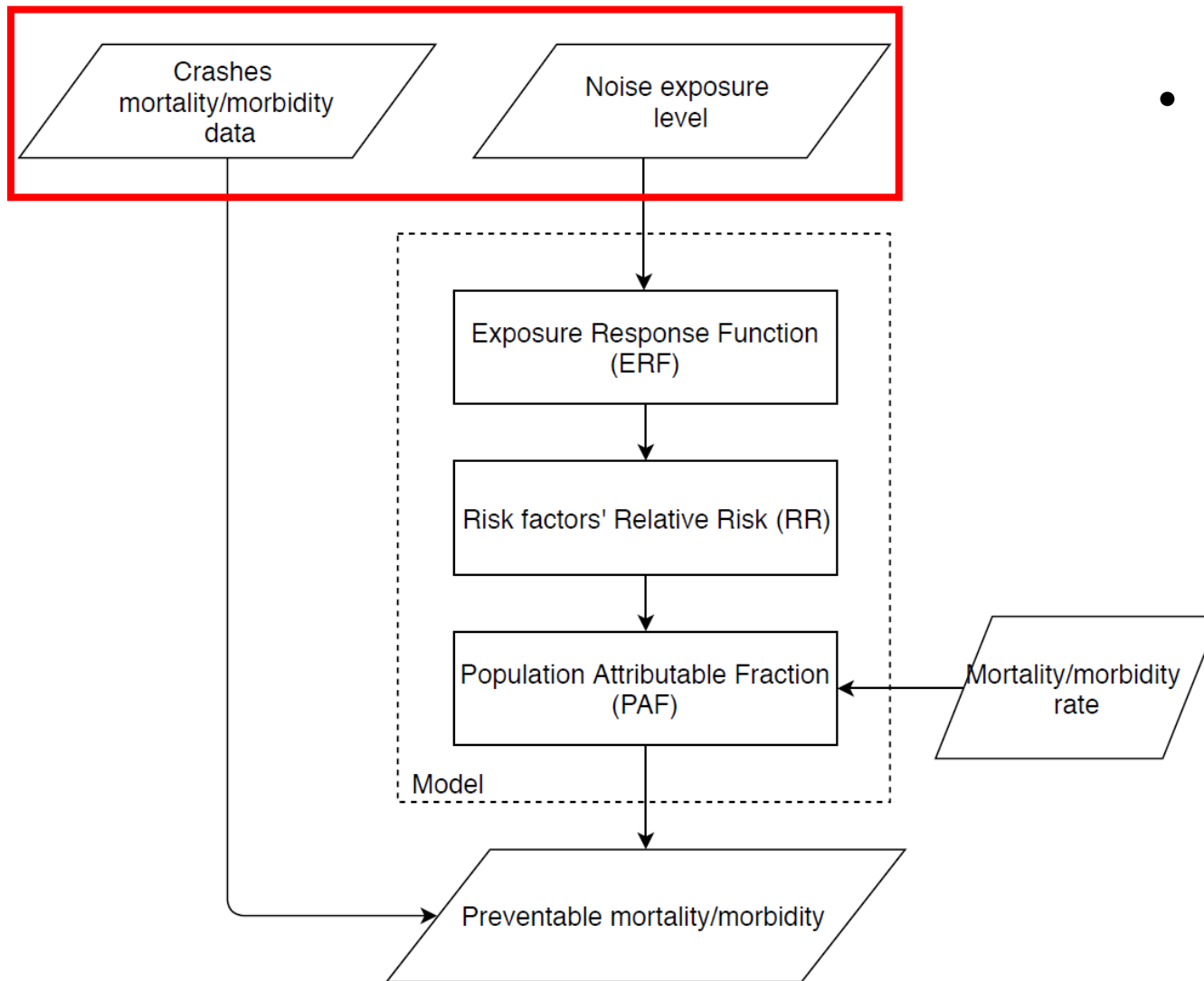
# Aim and Study Setting

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- Estimate preventable premature mortality in Houston attributable to:
  - Noise levels > 30 dB Lden
  - Motor vehicle crashes
- Houston area residents (30 to 75 years old) (N=2,045,368) on the projected census tract level (N=592)

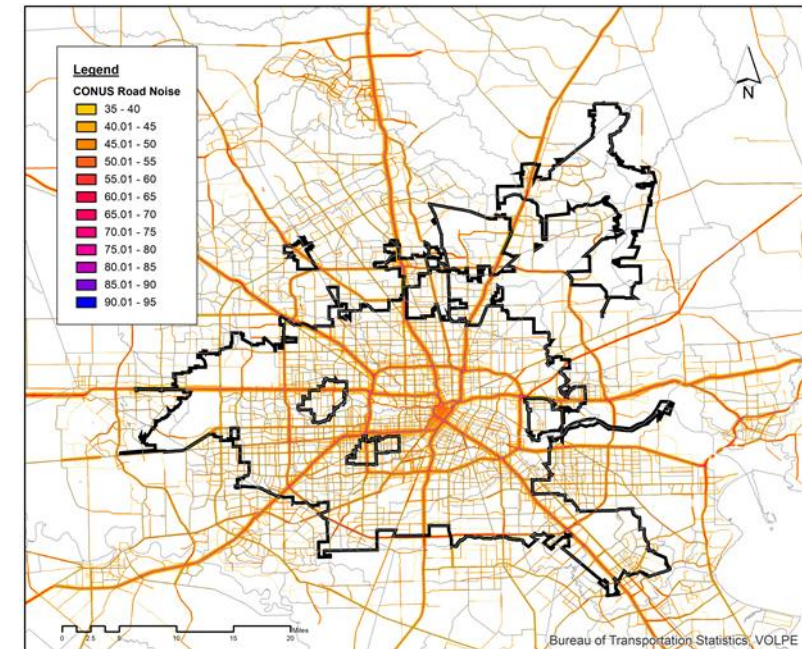


# Method



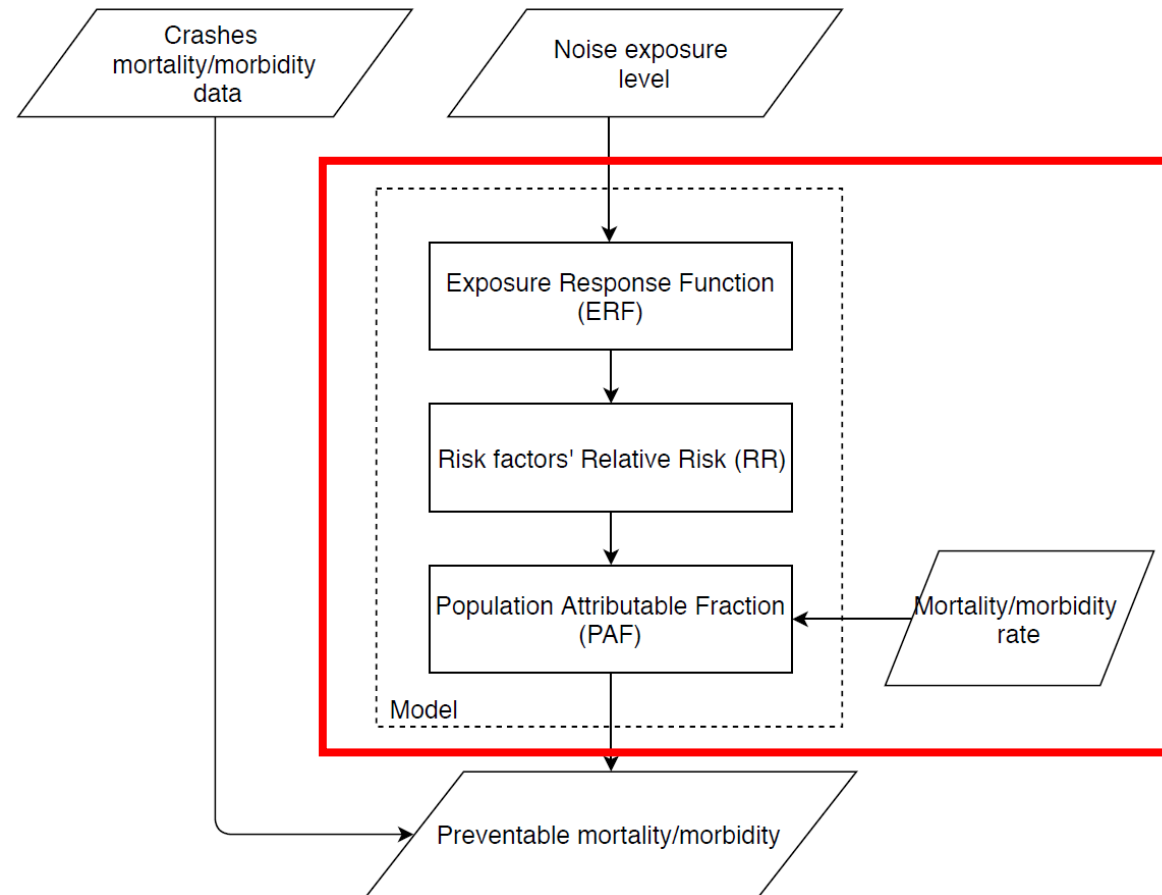
**Figure.** The methodological framework

- Roadway crash fatalities in Houston extracted from the **National Highway Traffic Safety Administration dataset (2016)**
- Noise exposures extracted from the national transportation noise maps from **US Department of Transportation (Lden) (2014)**
  - Road noise
  - Aviation noise



**Figure.** Road noise levels in Houston

# Method



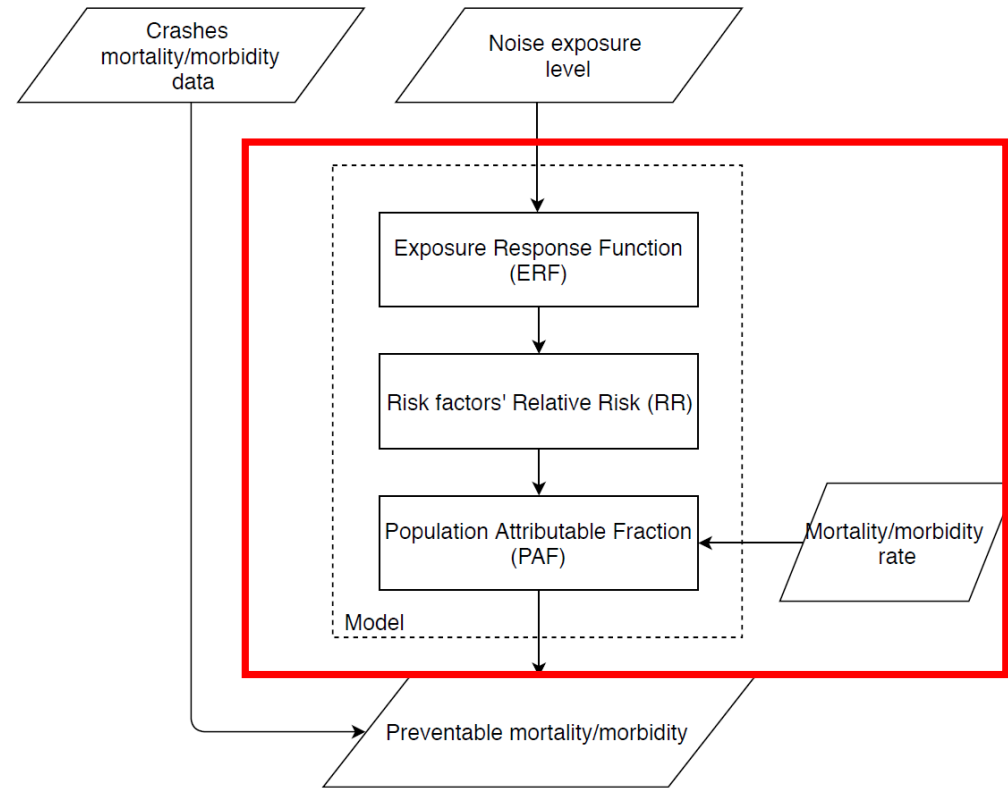
**Figure.** The methodological framework

- ERF extracted from Héritier et al. (2017)
  - HR (95% CI) for *all CVD causes of death* (ICD-10 = I00-I99) per 10 dB increase in **Lden Road** = **1.025 (1.018–1.032)**
  - HR (95% CI) for **Myocardial Infarction** (ICD-10 = I21-I22) per 10 dB increase in **Lden Aviation** = **1.027 (1.006–1.049)**
  - HR (95% CI) for **Hear Failure** (ICD-10 = I50) per 10 dB increase in **Lden Aviation** = **1.056 (1.028–1.085)**
  - Adjusted for sex, neighborhood index of SES, civil status, education level, mother tongue, nationality and annual NO<sub>2</sub> exposure

CI = Confidence Interval  
CVD = Cardiovascular disease  
NO<sub>2</sub> = Nitrogen Dioxide  
SES = Socioeconomic Status

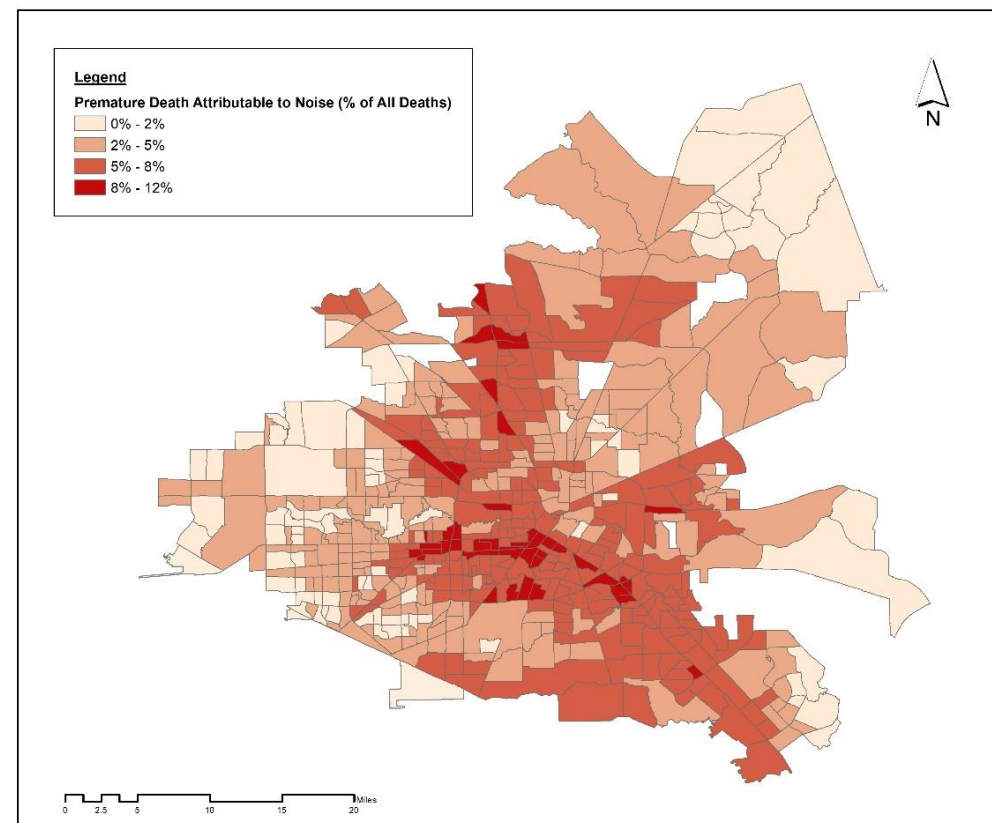
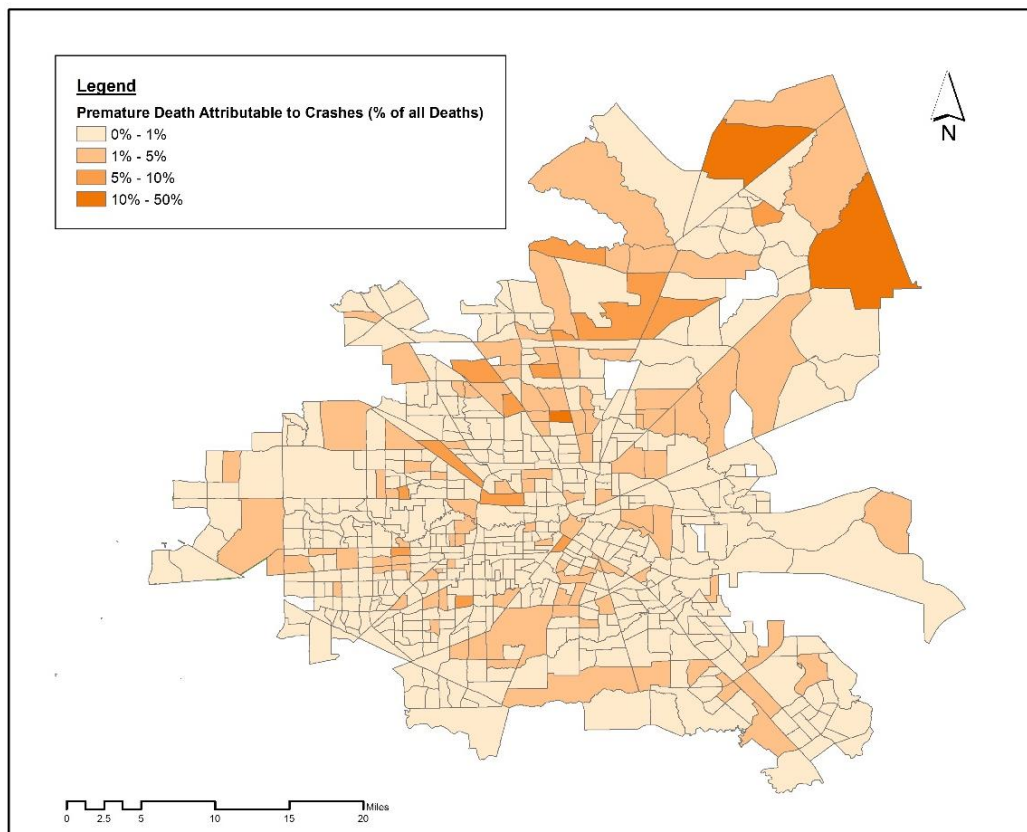


# Method



**Figure.** The methodological framework

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  - Adjusted for sex, neighborhood index of SES, civil status, education level, mother tongue, nationality and annual NO2 exposure
- Mortality data extracted from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) at the county matched to outcomes by ICD-10 codes, and restricted to >30 and ≤ 75 years old (2016)
- There is no risk of premature mortality for noise levels below 30 dB



# Results

# Results

Results under review – contact Haneen for more information

Sohrabi, Soheil and **Khreis**, Haneen (2019). “Transportation and Public Health: Burden of Disease Analysis of Traffic Noise and Vehicle Crashes in Houston, Texas”. Under review.

# Conclusions

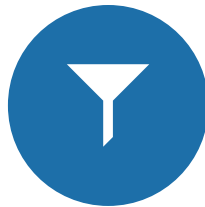
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14 pathways that link mobility to health



Differing levels of evidence for the different pathways



Pathways will be impacted by the introduction of AVs or similar technologies



The health impacts of the pathways are very context, population and policy specific



Transferability of policy and technology is complex and needs careful consideration



There is no research quantifying the burden of disease of AVs implementation

AVs = Autonomous vehicles



Mark Nieuwenhuijsen · Haneen Khreis *Editors*

## Integrating Human Health into Urban and Transport Planning

A Framework

This volume brings together the world's leading experts on urban and transport planning, environmental exposures, physical activity, health and health impact assessment to discuss challenges and solutions in cities. The book provides a conceptual framework and work program for actions and outlines future research needs. It presents the current evidence-base, the benefits of and numerous case studies on integrating health and the environment into urban development and transport planning.

Within cities there is a considerable variation in the levels of environmental exposures such as ambient air pollution, noise, and temperature, green space availability and physical activity. Many of these exposures, and their adverse health impacts, are related to and are being exacerbated by urban and transport planning and policy. Emerging research suggests that urban and transport planning indicators such as road network, distance to major roads, traffic density, household density, industry, and natural and green space can explain a large proportion of the variability in environmental exposures and therefore represent important and highly modifiable factors.

The urban environment is a complex interlinked system. Decision-makers need not only better data on the complexity of factors in environmental and developmental processes affecting human health, but also an enhanced understanding of the linkages between these factors and health effects to determine at which level to target their actions most effectively. In recent years, there also has been a shift from trying to change at the national level to more comprehensive and ambitious actions being developed and implemented at the regional and local levels. Cities have come to the forefront of providing solutions for environmental issues such as climate change, which has co-benefits for health, but yet need better knowledge for wider health-centric action. This book provides the latest and most up-to-date information and studies for academics and practitioners alike.

Environment



springer.com

Nieuwenhuijsen · Khreis *Eds.*



Integrating Human Health into Urban and  
Transport Planning

Mark Nieuwenhuijsen  
Haneen Khreis *Editors*

# Integrating Human Health into Urban and Transport Planning

A Framework

 Springer

## Contact information

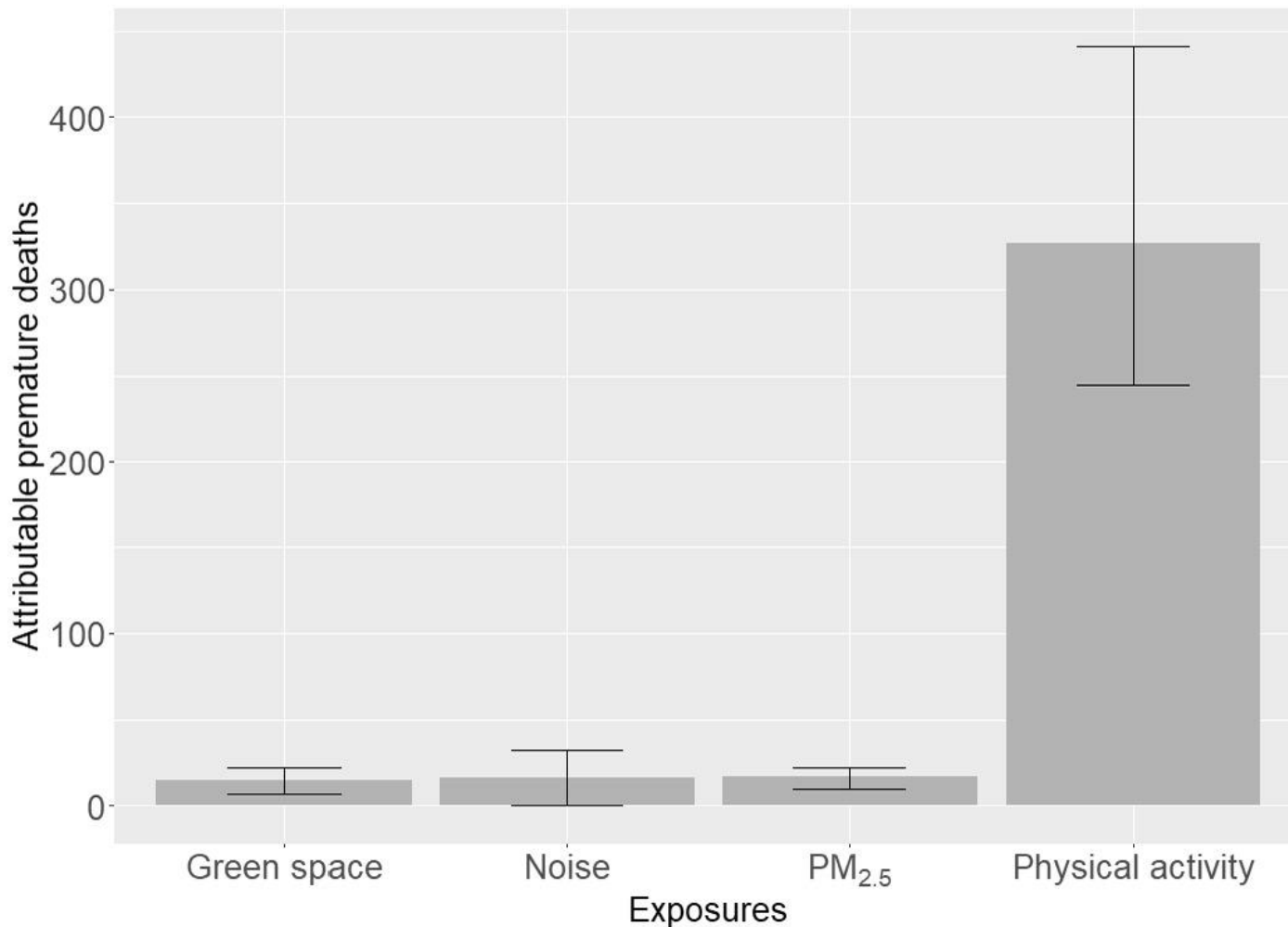
Haneen Khreis

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Twitter @HaneenKhreis

# BACK-UP SLIDES

# Results - Attributable Premature Mortality

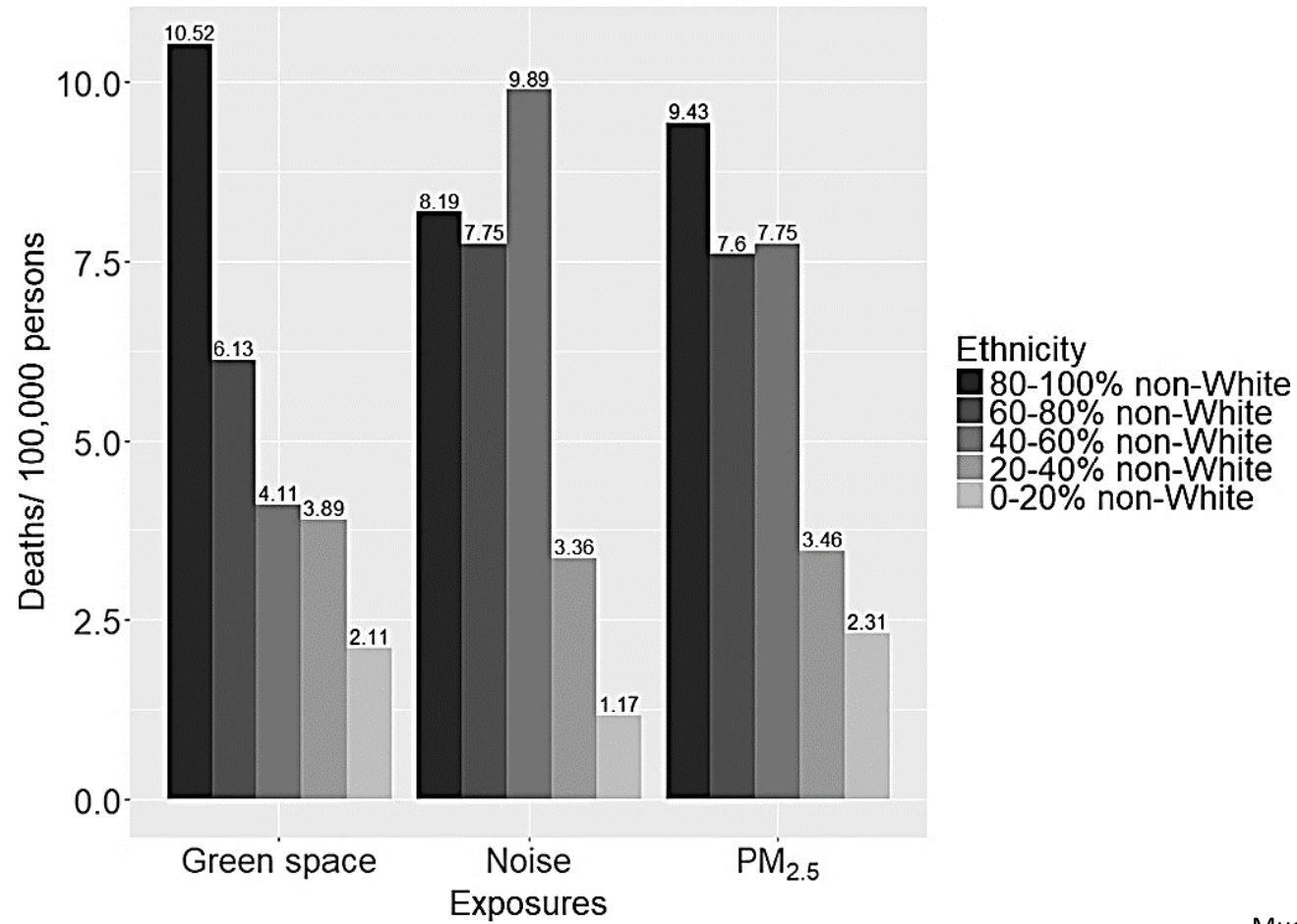


375 annual premature deaths (95% CI: 276 - 474) could be preventable by **compliance with international recommendations:**

- Physical activity → 327 deaths
- Air pollution → 17 deaths
- Green space → 16 deaths
- Noise → 15 deaths

## Bradford Case Study

Mueller, Natalie, David Rojas-Rueda, Haneen Khreis, Marta Cirach, Carles Milà, Ana Espinosa, Maria Foraster et al. "Socioeconomic inequalities in urban and transport planning related exposures and mortality: A health impact assessment study for Bradford, UK." *Environment international* 121 (2018): 931-941.



BY  
ETHNICITY

Mueller, Natalie, David Rojas-Rueda, Haneen Khreis, Marta Cirach, Carles Milà, Ana Espinosa, Maria Foraster et al. "Socioeconomic inequalities in urban and transport planning related exposures and mortality: A health impact assessment study for Bradford, UK." *Environment international* 121 (2018): 931-941.