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Cycle route network planning using GIS

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Tricia Allen and Tony Barton



Auckland



Melbourne



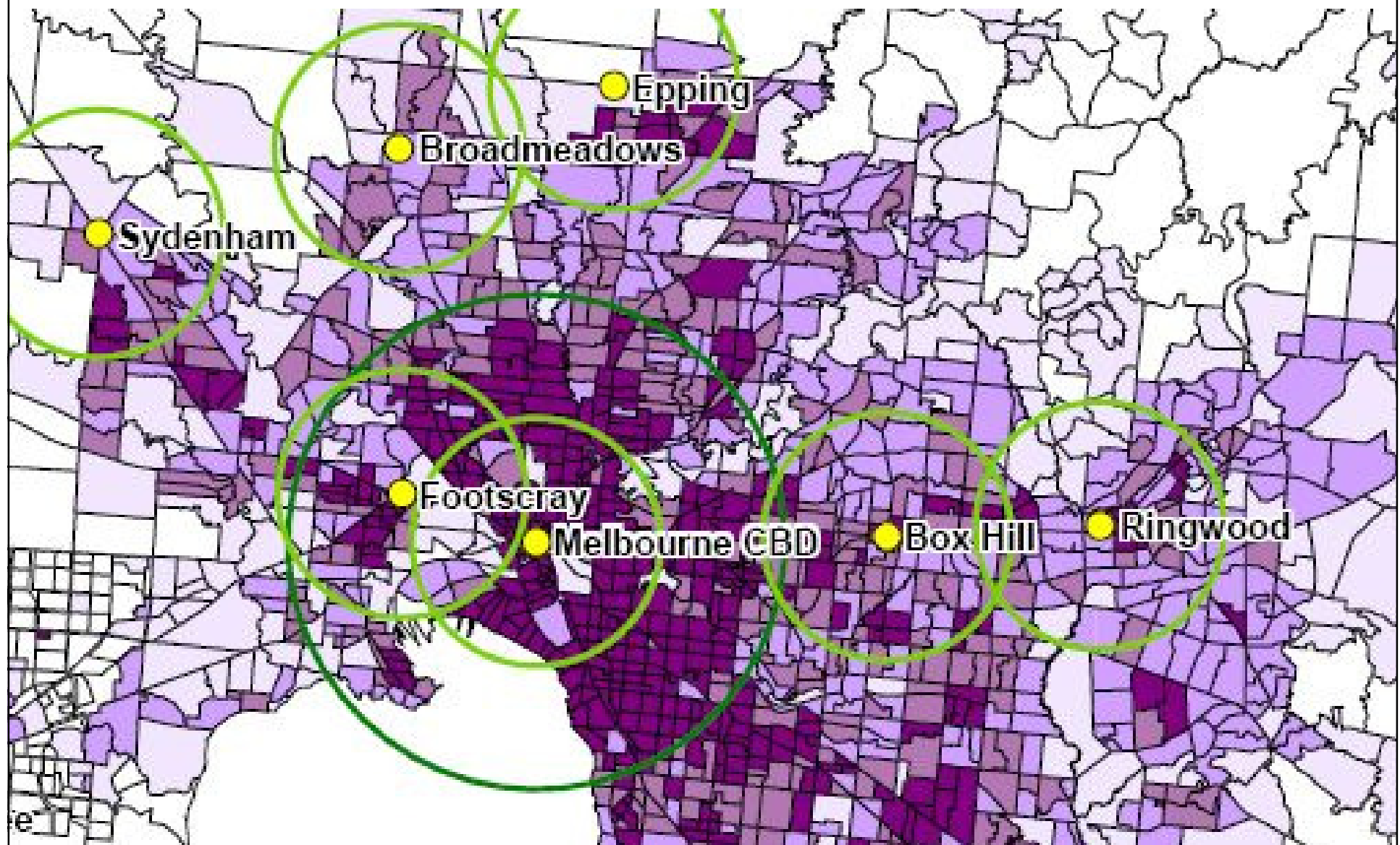
Useful data for cycle planning in GIS

- General **topographical features** such as rivers, coastlines, railways and town or activity centres;
- Centrelines of **roads and cycle route networks** (both on-road and off-road);
- **Municipal boundaries**;
- **Zone boundaries** for conventional transport planning computer models;
- **Census population and employment data**, aggregated into transport planning zones;
- **School rolls**, aggregated to zone level; and
- Cycle **crash locations** for the last five years

Demographic density

- Residential, employment and education totals from Census and school data
- Combine within transport planning model zones
- Display as persons per hectare using GIS
- Cycle network should service highest density areas first

Demographic density

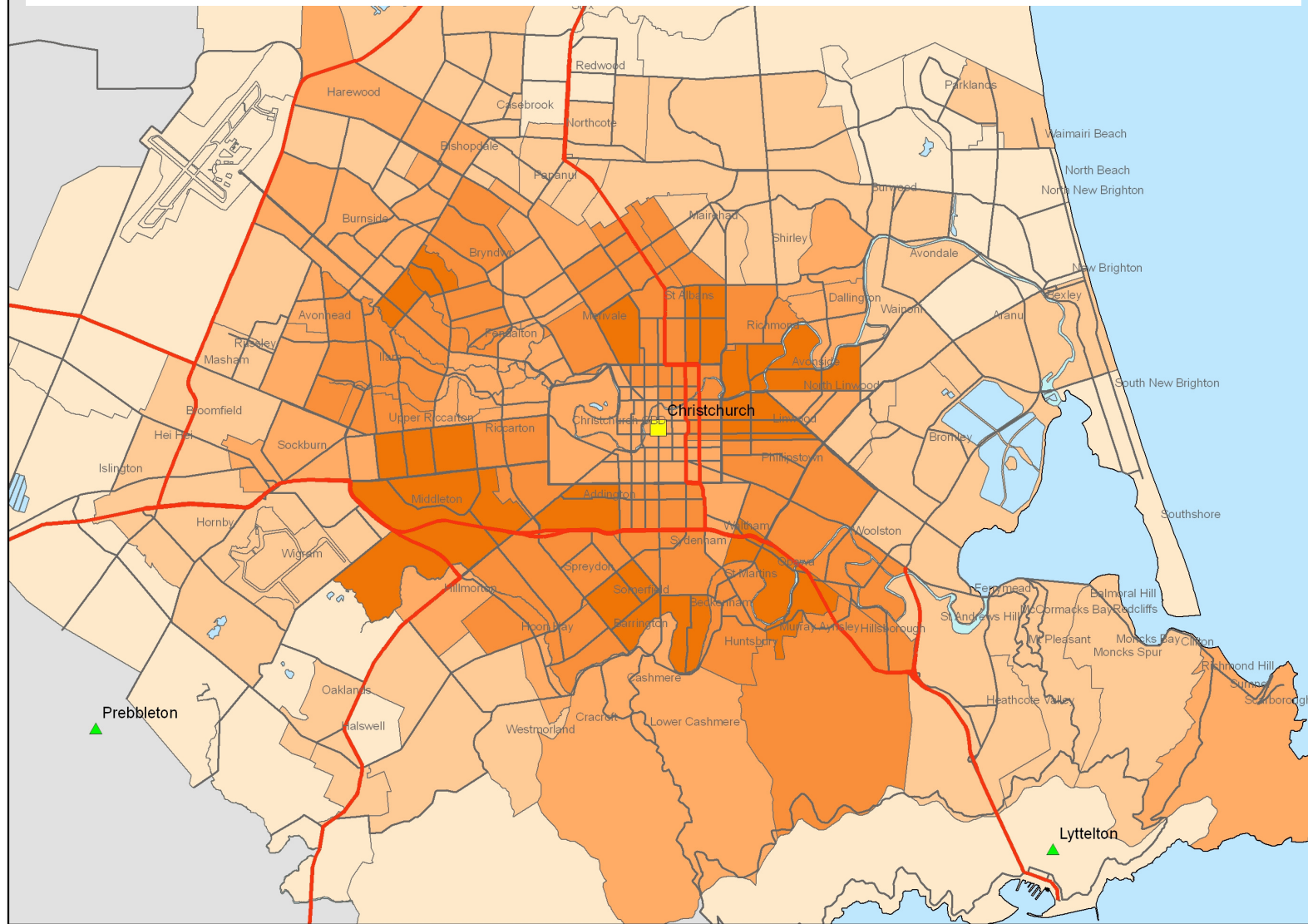


Chch cycle to work Census data 2006

- Another useful spatial data set for planning cycle networks
- Density of trips (persons per ha) can be calculated at meshblock level and plotted
- Can help understanding of existing cycle use for journey to work in any city or district
- Chch data analysed by Canterbury DHB – not just TLAs who are interested in this

Christchurch Cycle to Work Origins Census 2006

**Christchurch:
Proportion of travel to work
by bicycle by CAU
(Census Area Unit)
2006 Census**



- State Highway
- Arterial Roads
- % Travel to work by bicycle**
- 1.4% - 4%
- 4.2% - 5.9%
- 6.2% - 7.6%
- 7.7% - 9.3%
- 9.5% - 11%

Jenks (natural breaks) classification

Crash data and cycle network

- Crash data and cycle network can be mapped
- Often cycle crash data align with proposed cycle routes
- Intention is to render cycle routes safe so that crashes diminish

Auckland cycle network and crash data

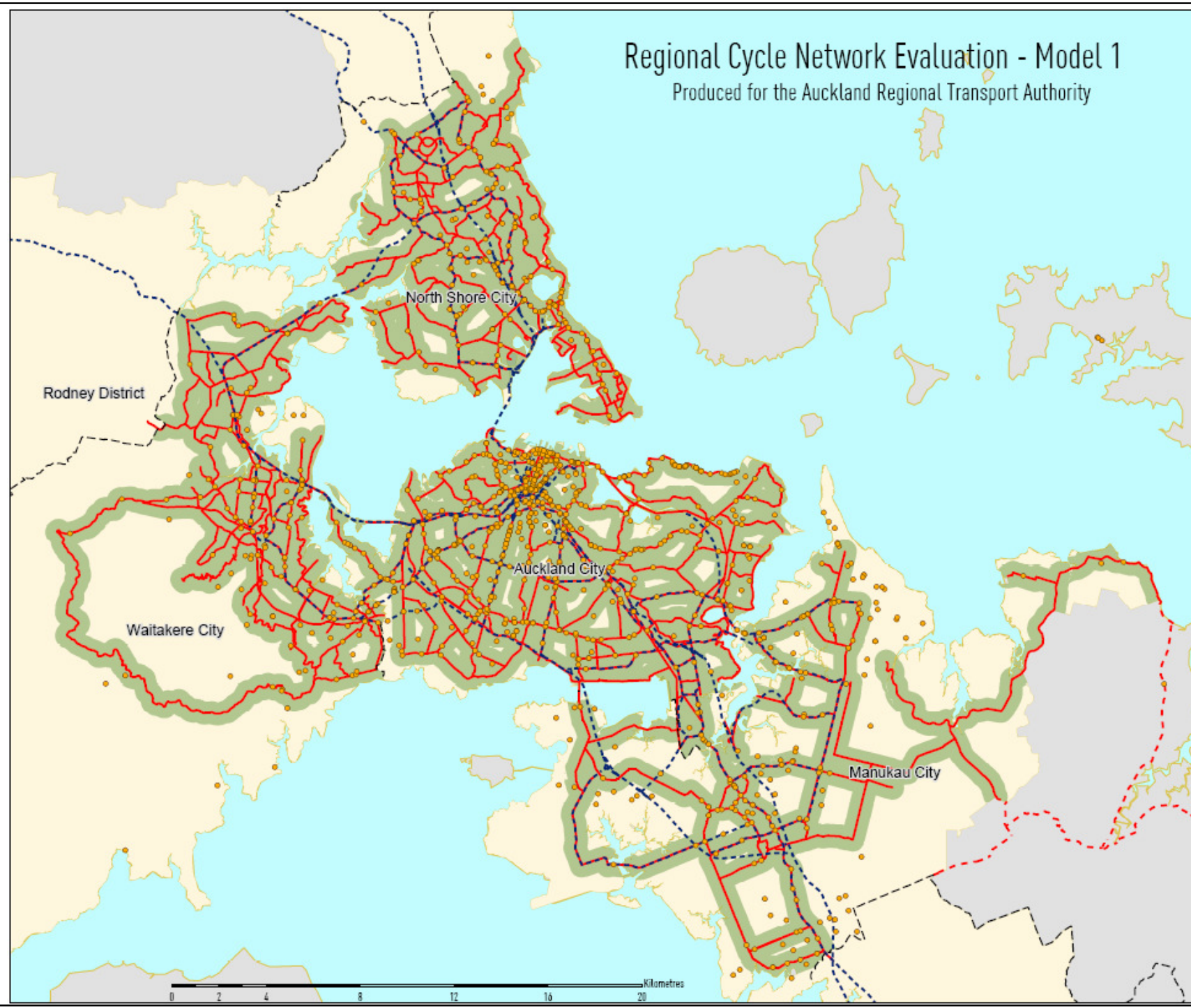


Auckland network models

- **Model 1: The sum of the parts**
- **Model 2: Regionally strategic parts of Model 1**
- **Model 3: Town centres**
- **Model 4: Town centres with regional links**

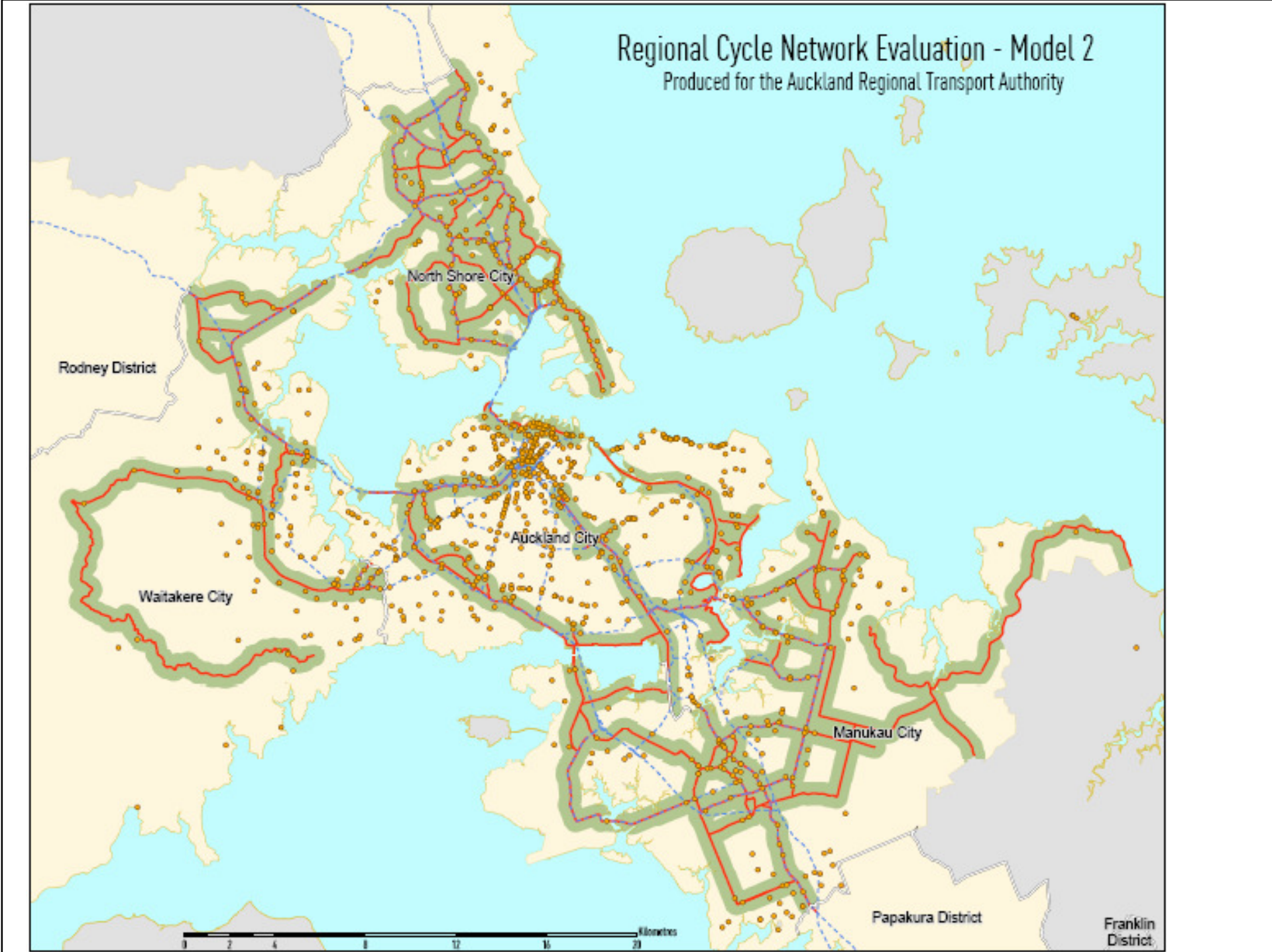
Regional Cycle Network Evaluation - Model 1

Produced for the Auckland Regional Transport Authority



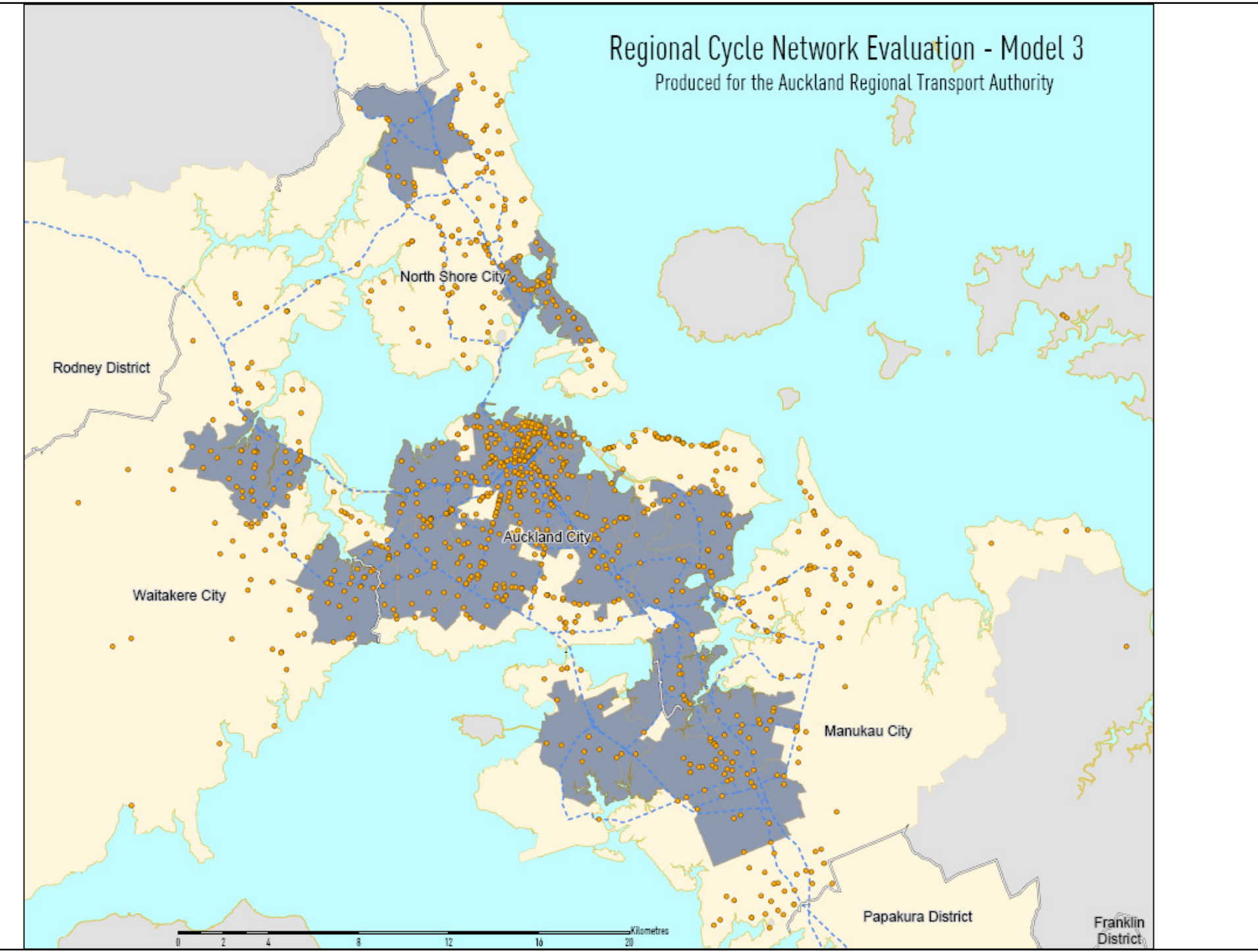
Regional Cycle Network Evaluation - Model 2

Produced for the Auckland Regional Transport Authority



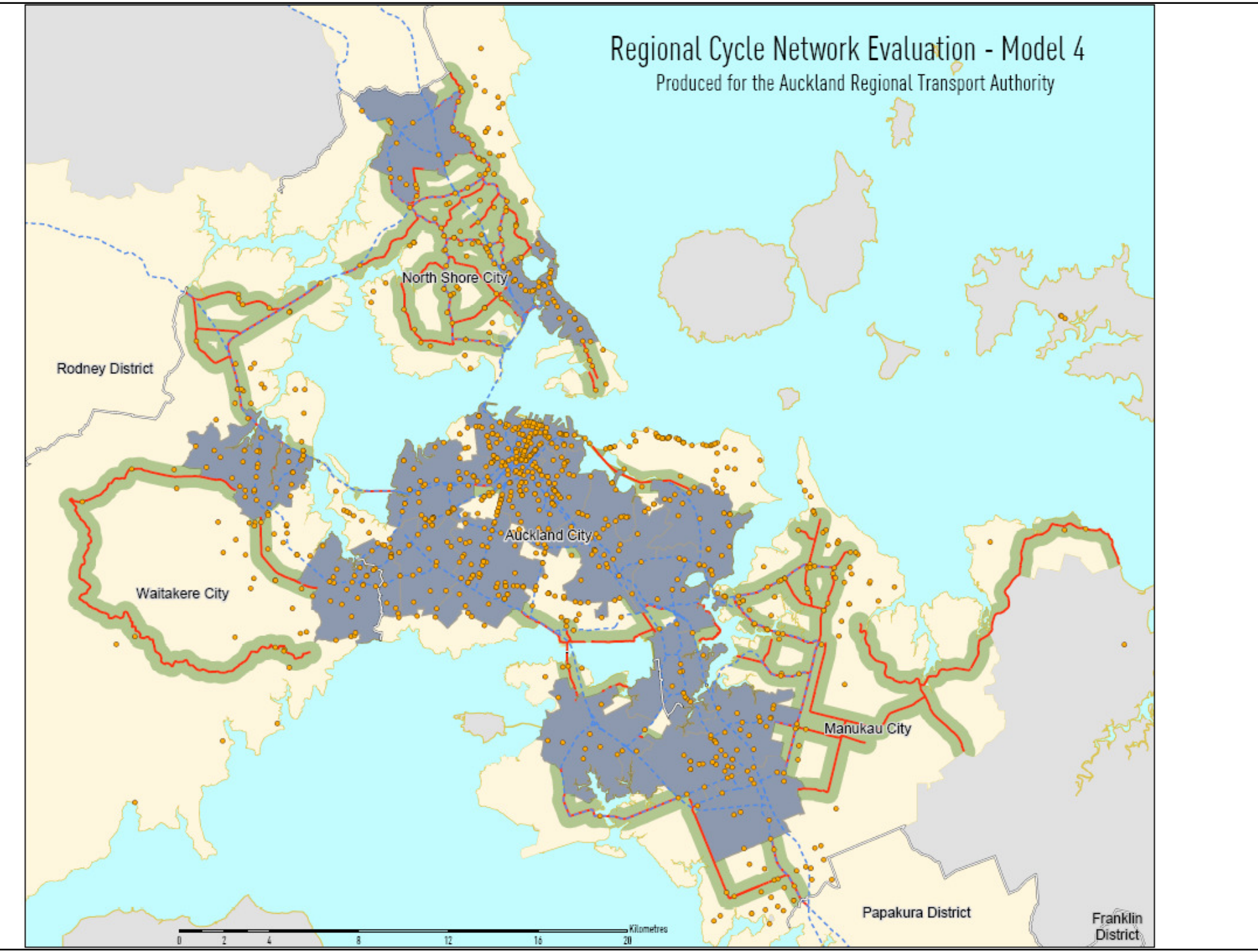
Regional Cycle Network Evaluation - Model 3

Produced for the Auckland Regional Transport Authority



Regional Cycle Network Evaluation - Model 4

Produced for the Auckland Regional Transport Authority



Network comparisons

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4
Demographic Coverage	82%	47%	55%	74%
Safety (crash coverage)	74%	24%	60%	80%
Raw Score (out of 200)	155	71	115	154
Cycle Network Length (km)	854	375	1,192	1,420
Final Score (normalised by length)	0.18	0.19	0.10	0.11

Model 2 network length, crashes

	Total Road Length	Model 2 Cycle Network Length		Total Cycle Crashes	Model 2 Cycle Crashes	
	km	km	% of road length	2001-05	No.	% of cycle crashes
Auckland City	1,354	75	6%	642	51	8%
Manukau City	1,300	143	11%	188	83	44%
North Shore City	804	91	11%	173	112	65%
Waitakere City	937	66	7%	135	26	19%
Total	4,395	375	9%	1138	272	24%

Model 2 (old & new) network length

	Total Road Length	Original Model 2		New Model 2	
	km	km	% of road length	km	% of road length
Auckland City	1,354	75	6%	247	18%
Manukau City	1,300	143	11%	169	13%
North Shore City	804	91	11%	119	15%
Waitakere City	937	66	7%	131	14%
Total	4,395	375	9%	666	15%

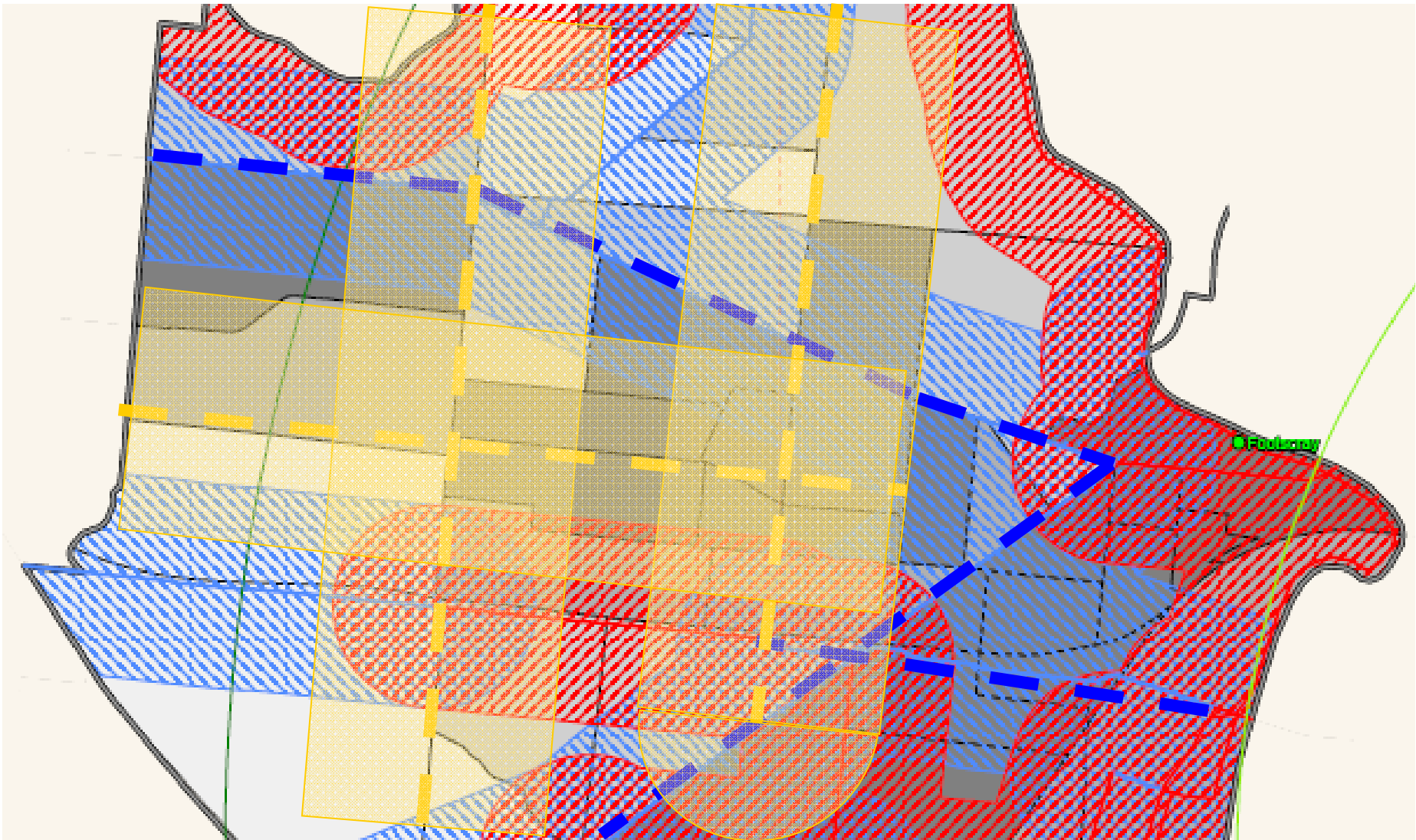
Network comparisons

	Model 1	Model 2	Model 3	Model 4	New Model 2
Demographic Coverage	82%	47%	55%	74%	82%
Safety (crash coverage)	74%	24%	60%	80%	92%
Raw Score (out of 200)	155	71	115	154	173
Cycle Network Length (km)	854	375	1,192	1,420	666
Final Score (normalised by length)	0.18	0.19	0.10	0.11	0.26

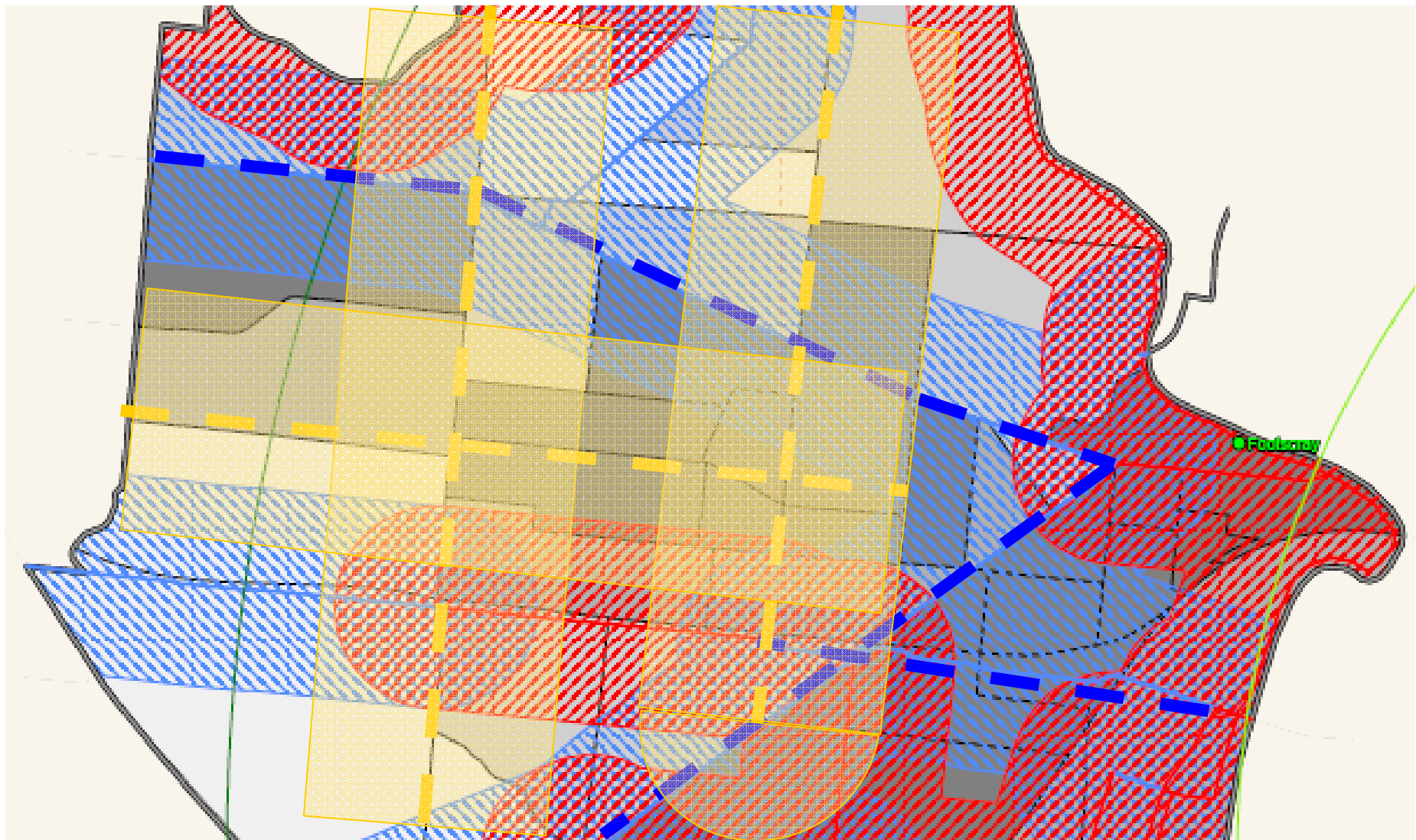
Existing and proposed routes

- Buffers around cycle network show demographic coverage
- Can be superimposed on demographic densities to identify missing key links
- Visual inspection provides useful clues
- Has been trialled in Melbourne
- Further work needed to develop a tool to optimise the technique

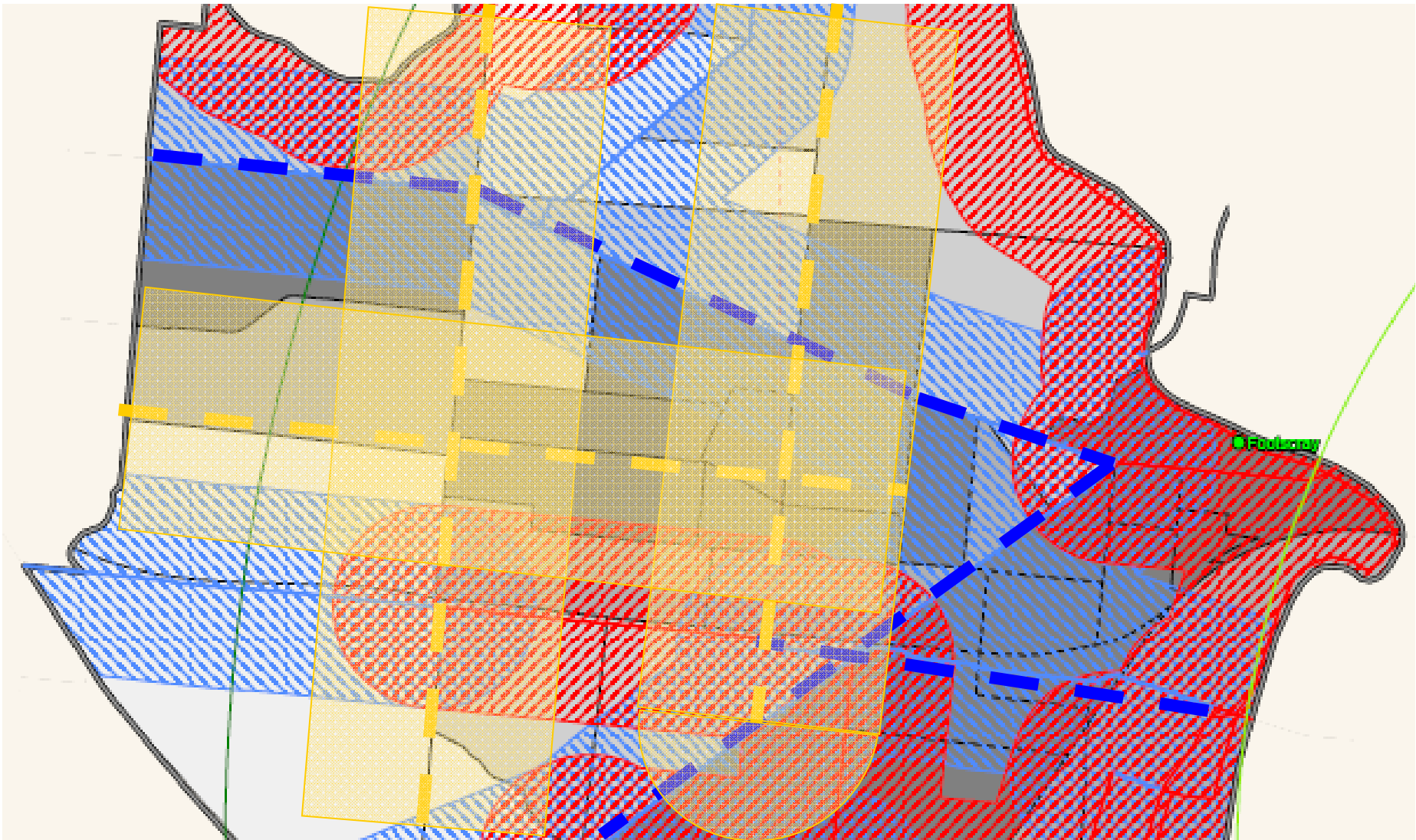
Existing and proposed routes, buffers



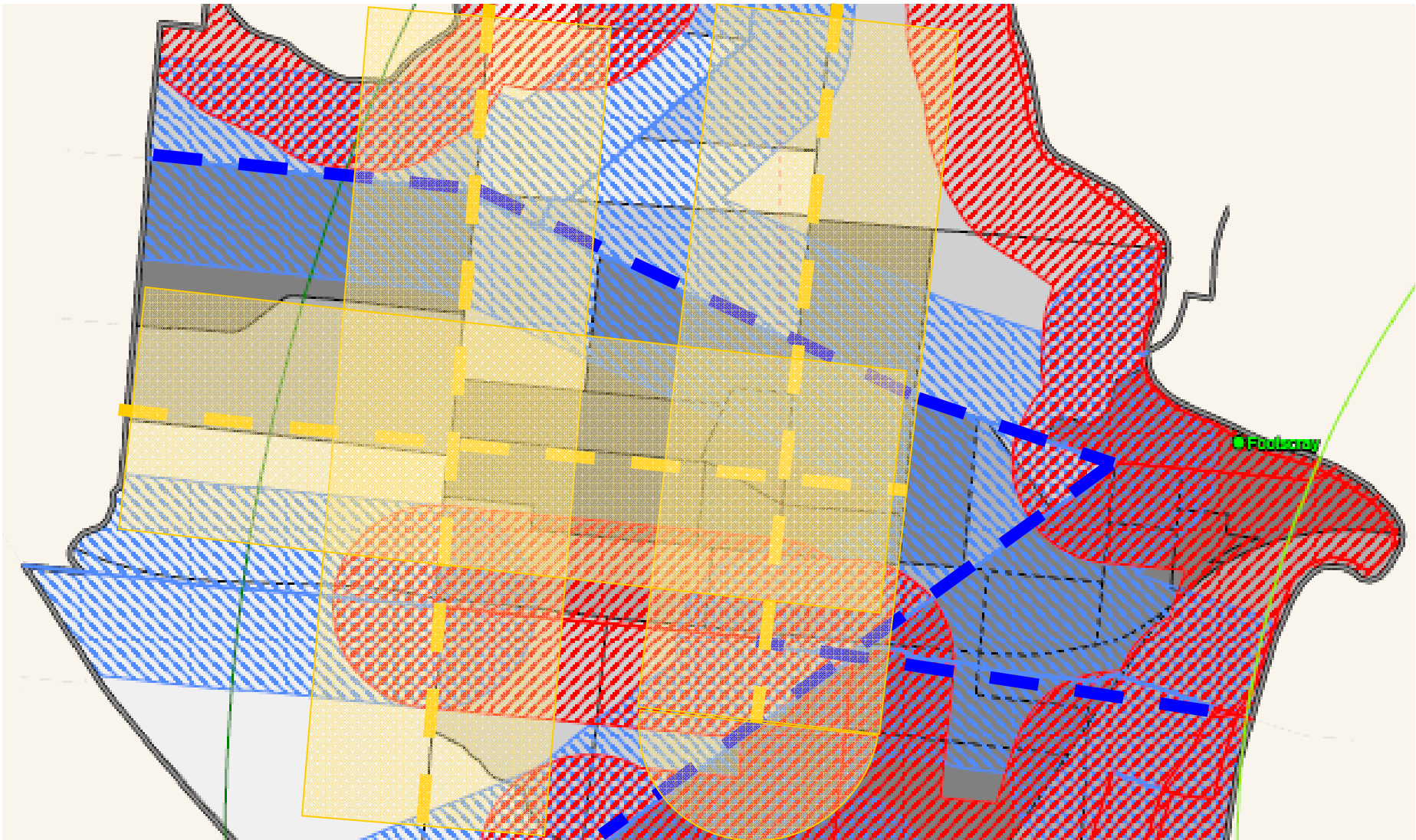
Existing and proposed routes, buffers



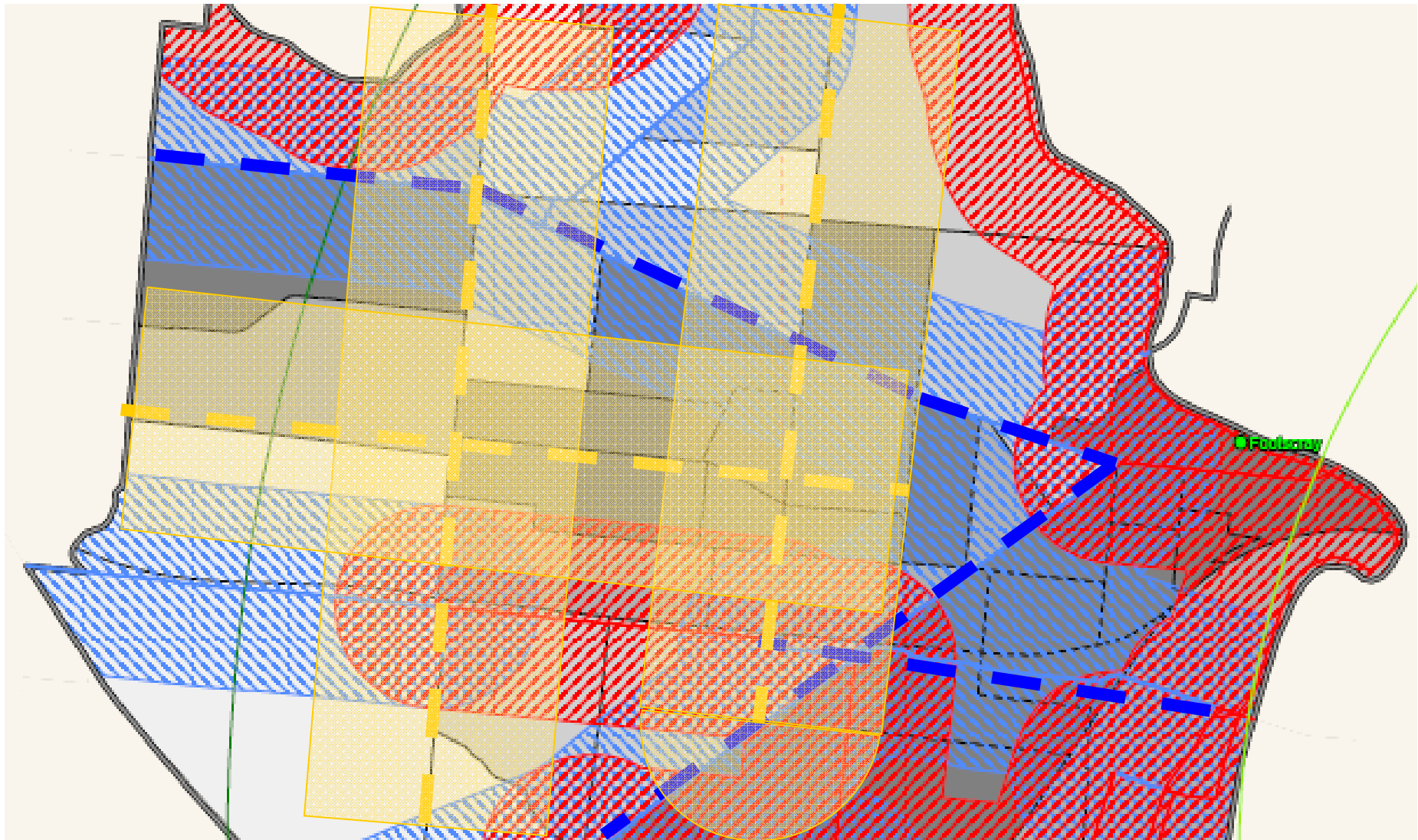
Existing and proposed routes, buffers



Existing and proposed routes, buffers



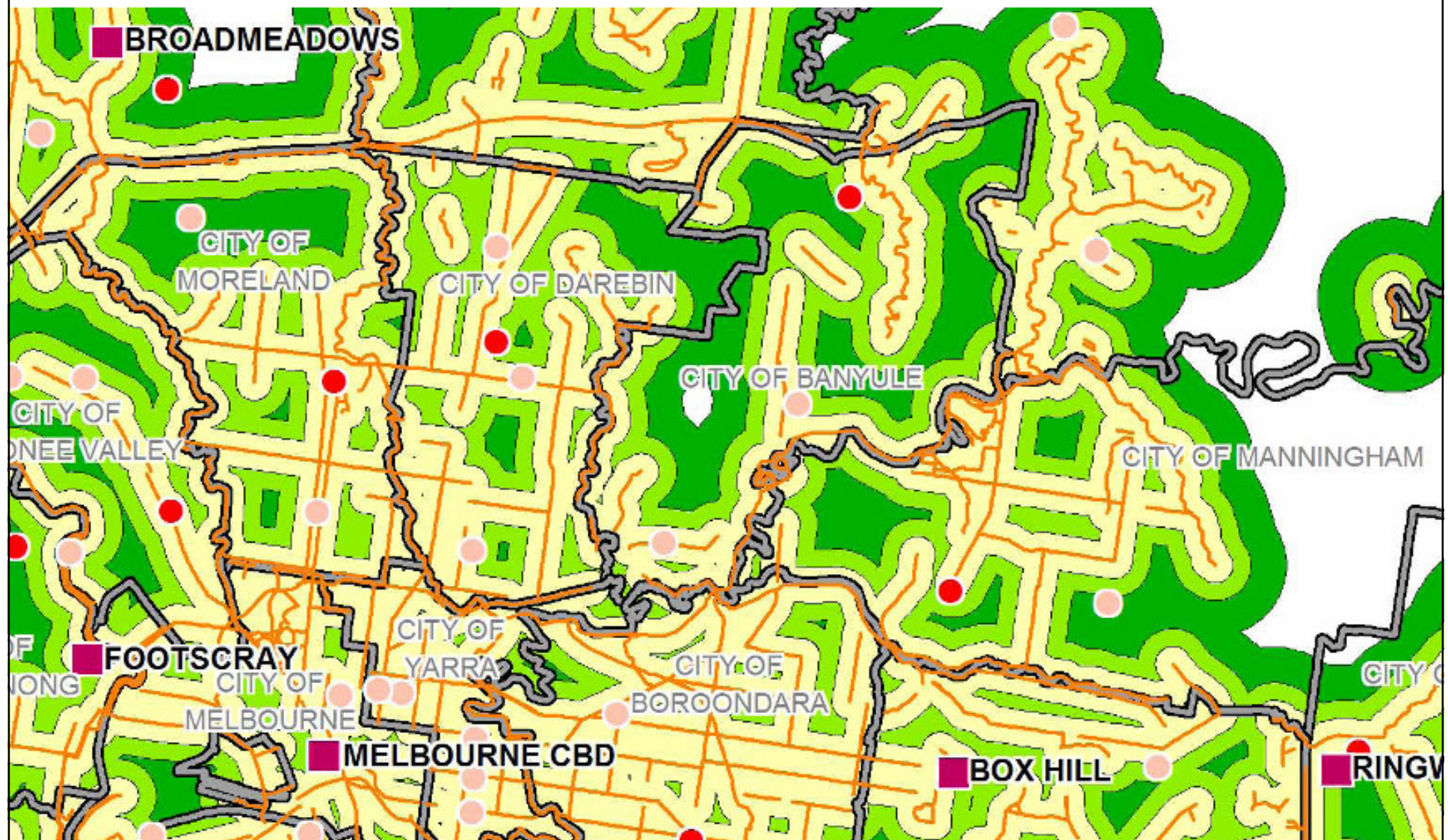
Existing and proposed routes, buffers



Coverage of different buffers

- Assume people living within 500 m of cycle network have access to it
- 500 m = 2 minutes at 15 km/h
- Average time to access network = 1 min.
- Can calculate demographic coverage for a network for any given buffer
- Can compare coverage of different networks or existing and proposed networks

Coverage of 400 m, 800 m & 1.6 km buffers



Conclusions

- GIS helps analyse and visualise complex spatial data
- Improves objectivity of cycle route network planning
- Helps rationalise spending for most effective cycle network projects