

A blurred photograph of a traffic scene, likely at night or in low light. The foreground shows the rear side of a dark-colored car, including the rearview mirror and a taillight. In the background, other vehicles are visible, their lights blurred into streaks of red and white. The overall color palette is dominated by dark blues, greys, and muted reds.

Vehicle Mileage Fees: Texas Exploratory Study

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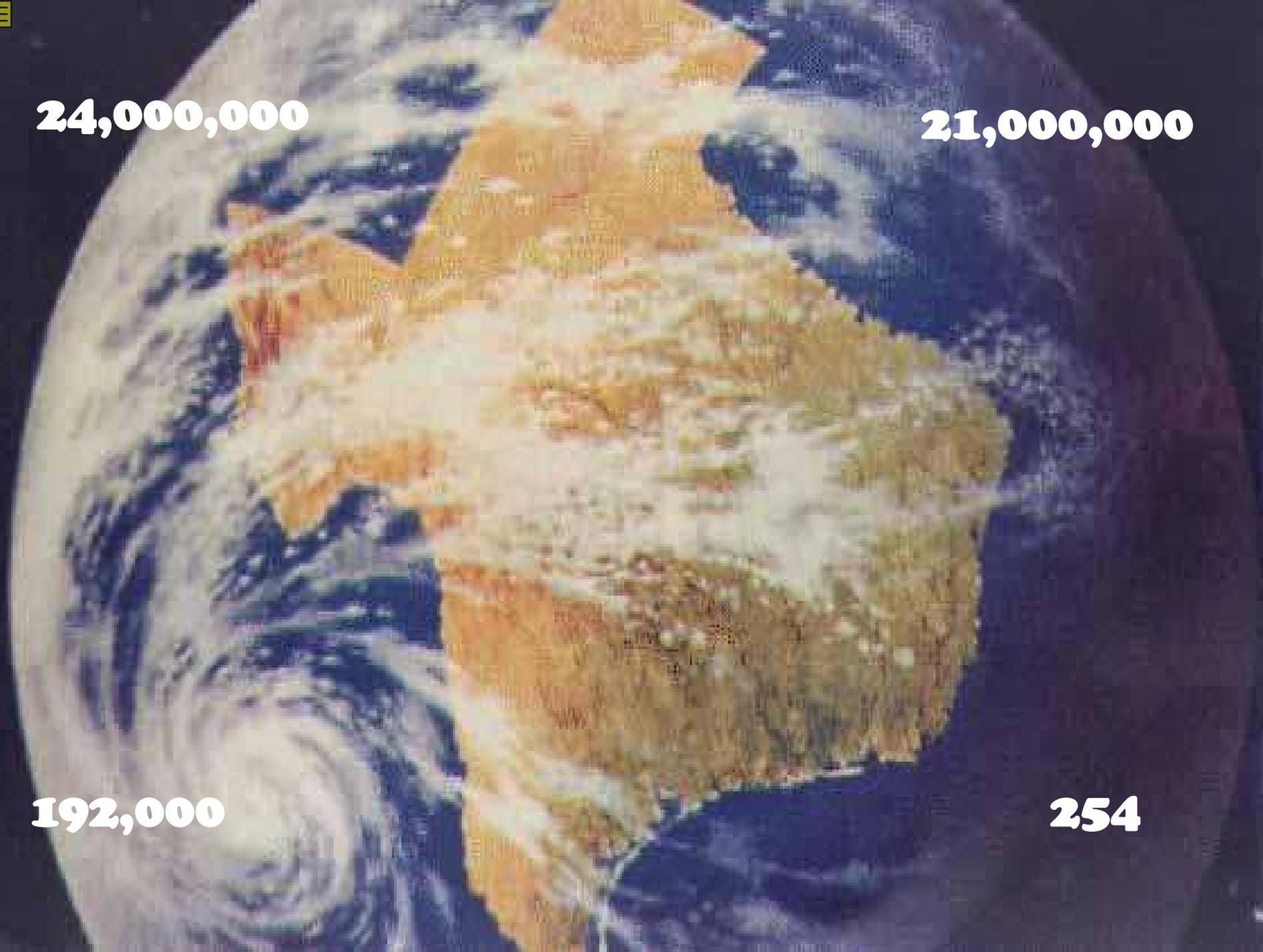


24,000,000

21,000,000

192,000

254



The background of the slide is a close-up, slightly blurred image of the American flag, showing the stars and stripes in shades of blue, white, and red. The stars are arranged in a grid pattern, and the stripes are horizontal. The overall texture is that of a fabric or paper with a slight grain.

VMT Exploratory Study

1. Focus Groups

2. Stakeholder Interviews

3. Technology Panel

4. State DOT Peer Group

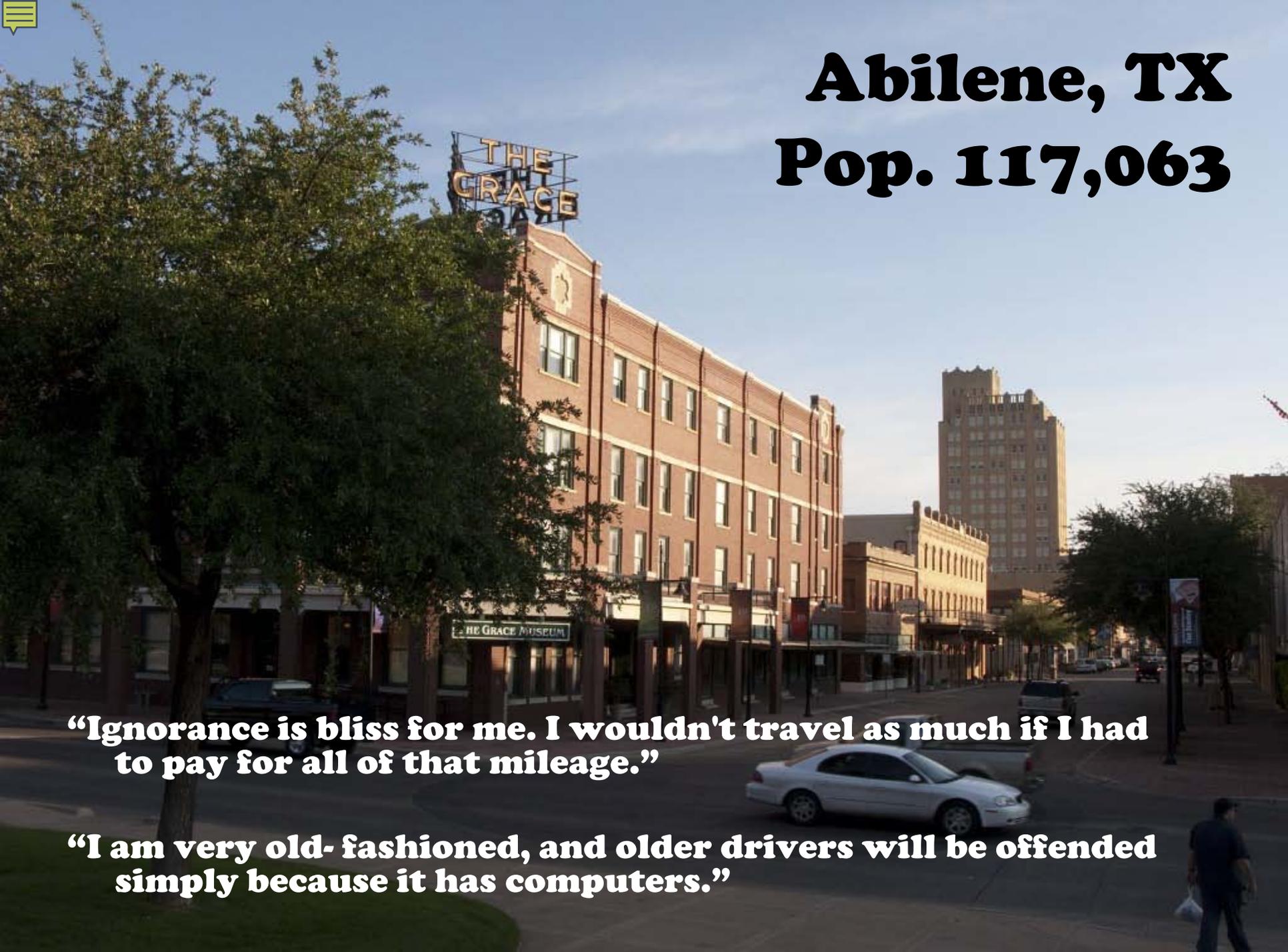


- 1. Set a policy foundation for a pilot**
- 2. Gauge interest, preferences, understanding**
- 3. Get feedback: deployment options**

Yoakum, TX

Pop. 5,632

- **“This will be a nightmare!”**
- **“Government doesn’t belong in my car!”**



Abilene, TX

Pop. 117,063

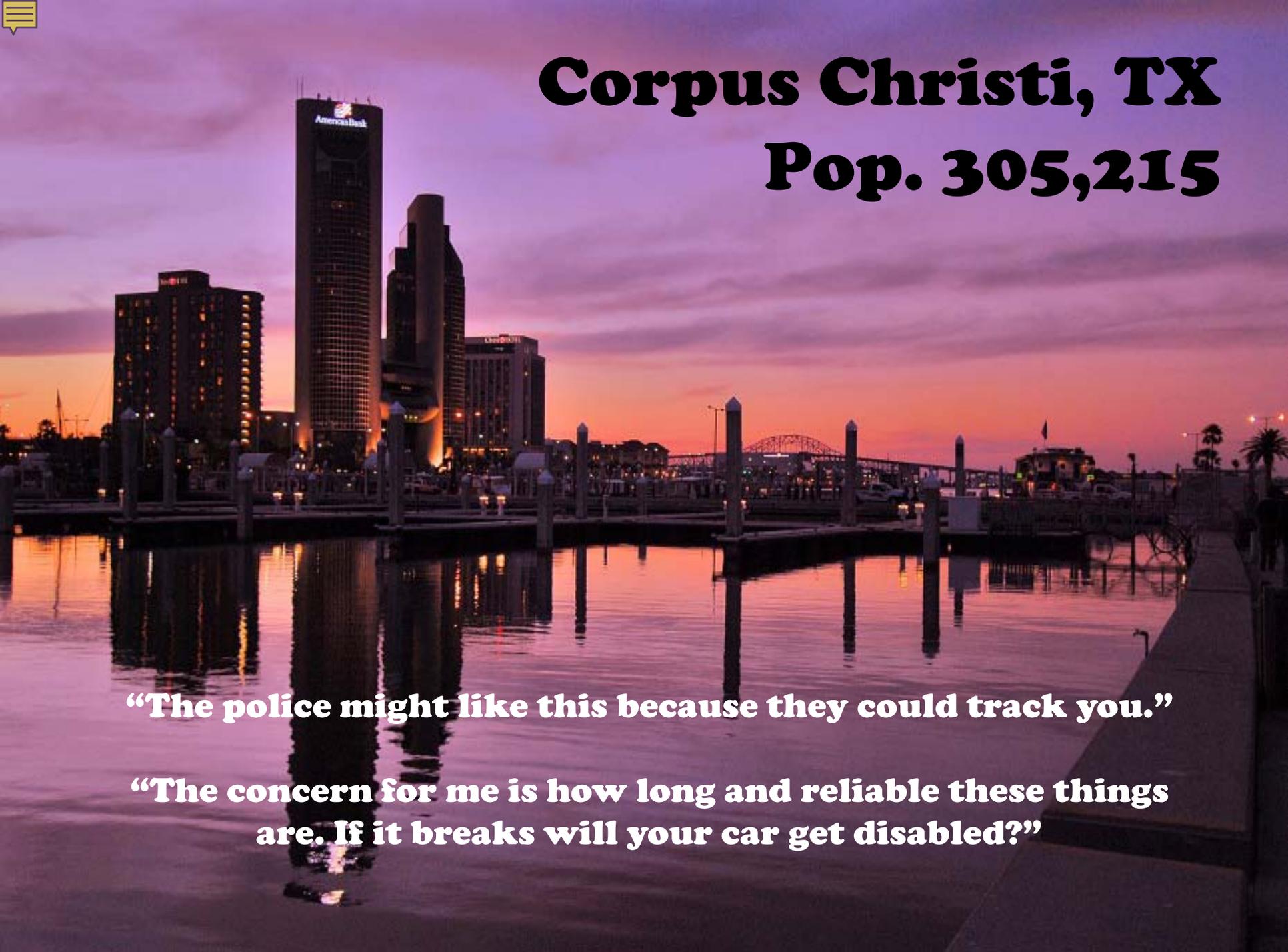
“Ignorance is bliss for me. I wouldn't travel as much if I had to pay for all of that mileage.”

“I am very old-fashioned, and older drivers will be offended simply because it has computers.”



Laredo, TX
Pop. 236,091

“Except for the Big Brother thing, this is the best option.”

A photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a mix of purple, pink, and orange. In the foreground, there is a body of water with several wooden pilings or posts. The city buildings are lit up, and their lights are reflected in the water. The tallest building has "America's Bank" written on it. Other buildings have "Hilton" and "Cherry Hill" visible. A bridge is visible in the background.

Corpus Christi, TX

Pop. 305,215

“The police might like this because they could track you.”

“The concern for me is how long and reliable these things are. If it breaks will your car get disabled?”

A nighttime photograph of the Dallas skyline. The most prominent feature is a tall, slender skyscraper (the Bank of America Plaza) that is brightly lit with a vibrant green neon glow. Other buildings in the background are lit with various colors like yellow, white, and blue. The city lights create a dense, glowing pattern against the dark night sky.

Dallas, TX
Pop. 1,197,816

“Texans do not like their privacy invaded... it’s a cultural thing.”



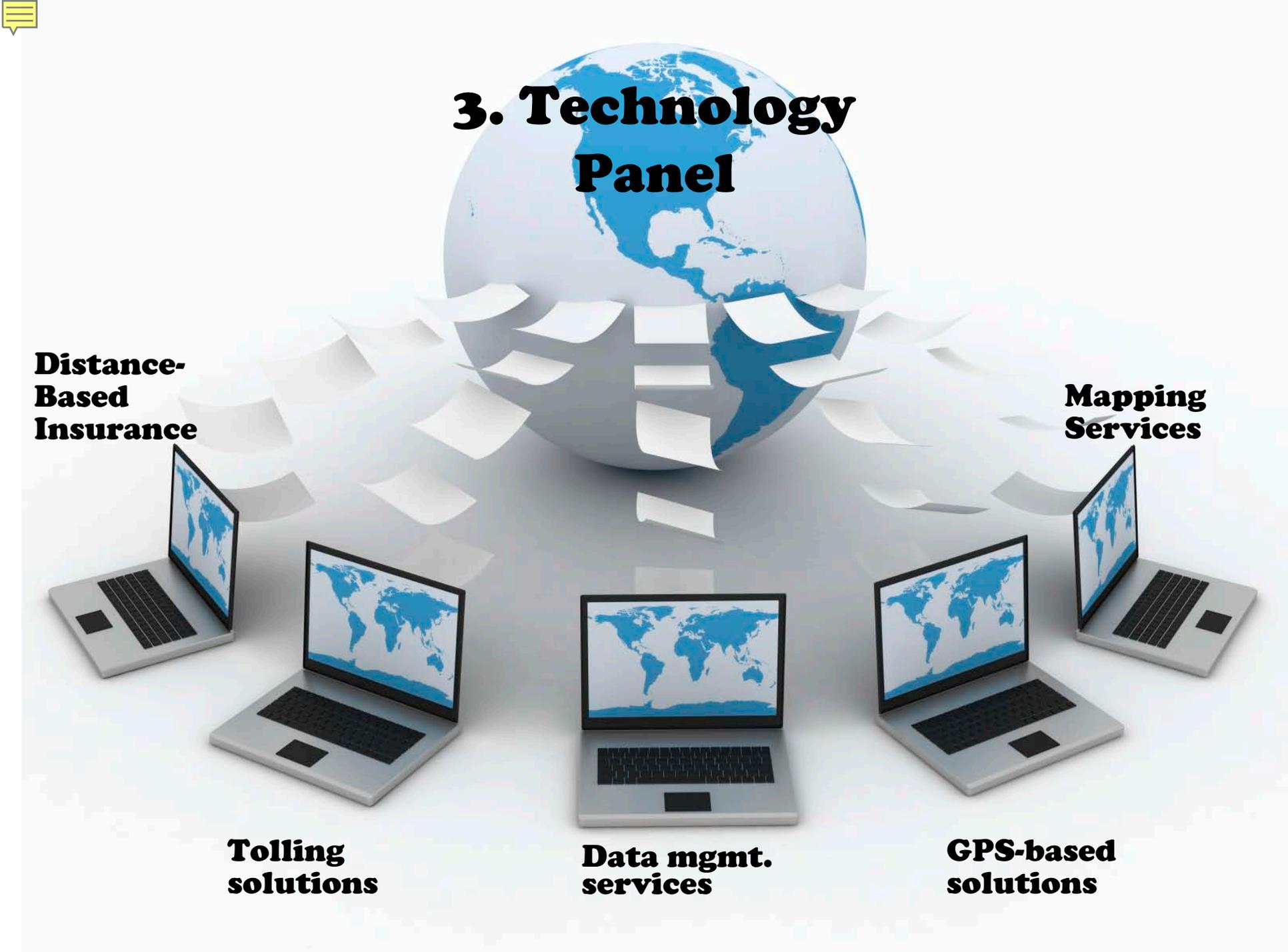
- **Public does not understand transportation finance or needs**
- **4 roots of opposition (privacy, cost, bureaucracy, enforcement)**
- **Texas public: simple model, target EVs first, address “fair share”**

Stakeholder Opinions



- **Vision for future**
- **State of funding**
- **VM fee concept**
- **Barriers**
- **Outreach strategy**





3. Technology Panel

**Distance-
Based
Insurance**

**Mapping
Services**

**Tolling
solutions**

**Data mgmt.
services**

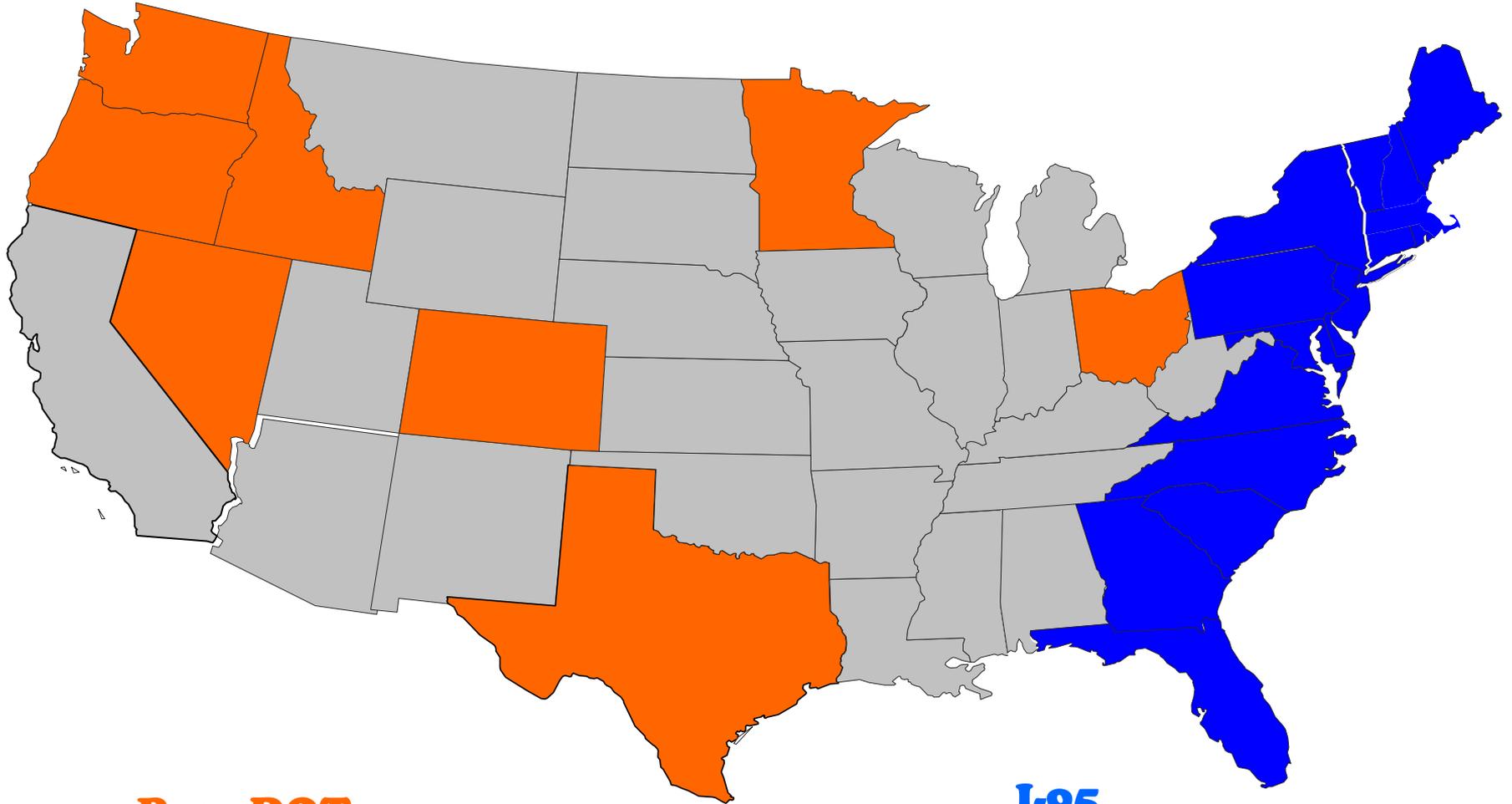
**GPS-based
solutions**



Questions for Panel:

- **Technology options?**
- **Value-added services available?**
- **Solving implementation issues?**
- **Panel conclusion: public concerns can be addressed through policy and technology**

4. State DOT Peer Group



**Peer DOT
members**

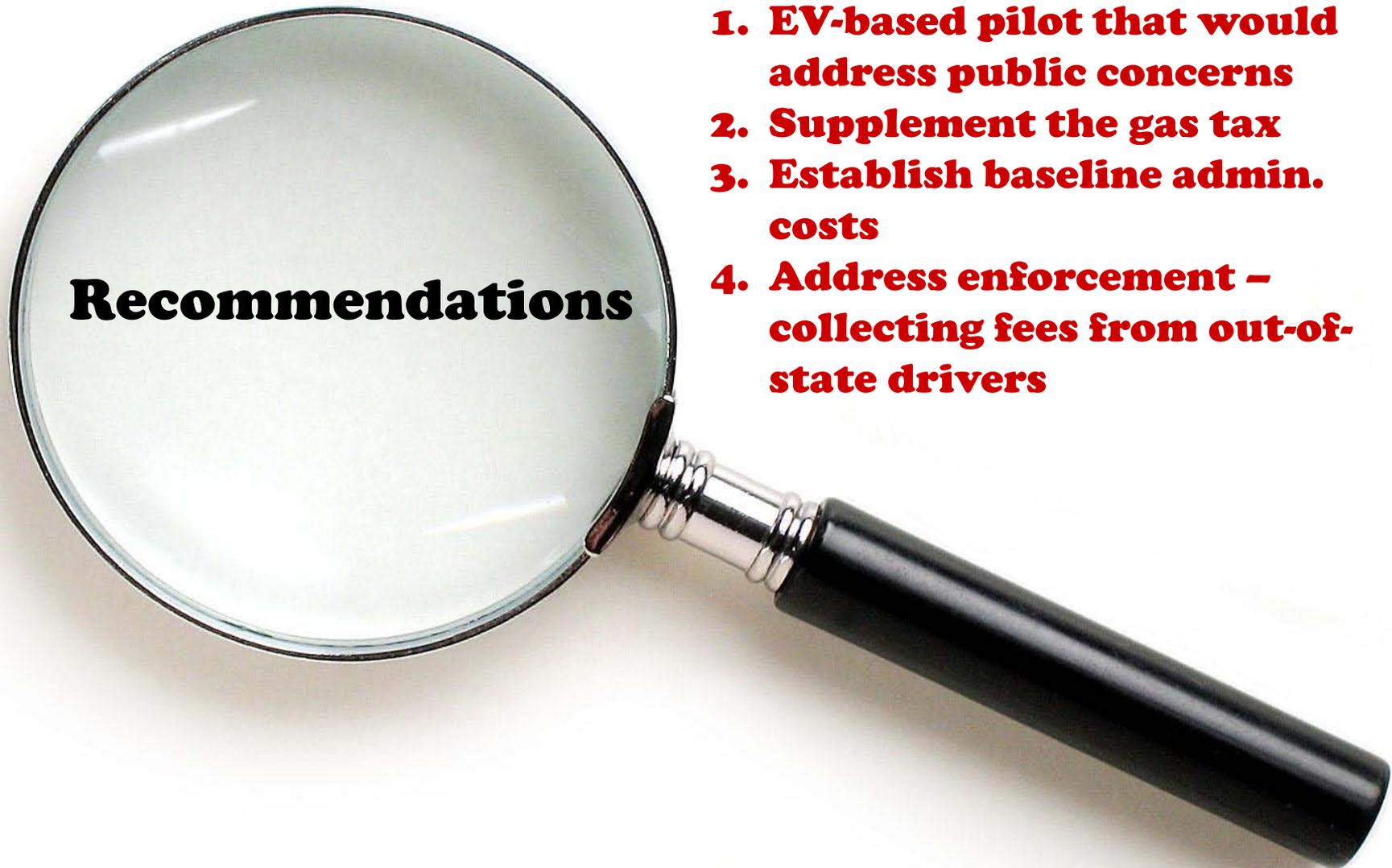
**I-95
Coalition
members**



What TTI Heard

- + **“Fix current system first!”**
- + **“What gas tax?”**
- + **“Funding problem?”**
- + **“VM fees won’t work!”**
- + **Public distrust of gov’t**
- + **“Fair share, privacy, cost”**

**= NO VM fees in Texas
(...at least not now)**



- 1. EV-based pilot that would address public concerns**
- 2. Supplement the gas tax**
- 3. Establish baseline admin. costs**
- 4. Address enforcement – collecting fees from out-of-state drivers**

December 2010

March 2010

April 2011

- **TTI presents study findings to TX Trans. Comm.**

HB 1669 filed in TX House

- **TTI updates Comm. on state & national activities**

- **Commission requests future update on other states and examples of pilots**

- **Battelle highlights its Road Fee Test project with MnDOT**

2010

2011

HB 1669 (Introduced)

- 1. DMV would establish a VM fee pilot for registered EVs in 2011, requested recommendations by 10/1/2012, end program in 2013.**
- 2. Pilot must provide two options:
odometer model or an installed unit**
- 3. DMV rule would establish technology to be used, fee amount, fee collection, & participation incentives**
- 4. DMV pilot would consider issues of efficiency, revenue generation/stability, fairness, and privacy**



HB 1669 (Substitute)

- 1. TxDOT, DMV, DPS, Comptroller would set VM fee admin. framework & participation incentives**
- 2. Pilot is limited to EVs & hybrids in D/FW area. Pilot lasts from 1/1/2012 to 7/15/2012**
- 3. Optional participation available to first 1,000 persons eligible**
- 4. Mileage determined by odometer reading**

Status: Pending in Committee



What's ahead: Keep going!

- 1. Establish an administrative framework for a potential VM fee implementation**
- 2. Continue monitoring activities in other states**
- 3. Continue DOT peer group discussions**



Simple.

Simplicity

- **Remember: for whose sake is the simplicity of the model designed?**
- **“Easy for us” does not equal “easy for the customer.”**

