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Need for equity and accessibility for all commuters – not just those willing to brave the dangerous roads.

Low-impact commuters all reported a better connection to community.

A better commute can be experienced for those living in Seattle, as they interact with restaurants, art, green spaces, farmer's markets and neighbors each day.

45% of carbon emissions in WA State are from transportation.

Seattle ranks #14 for worst traffic in the U.S. (2019).

Obesity rates in the U.S. climb from 30.5% to 42.4% (2000-18).

Car owners in the U.S. spend 17% of their annual income owning a vehicle.

Can low-impact commuting improve environmental, physical, and financial health?

Internship + Methods

- Created a video series about UW commuters.
- Interviewed Seattle businesses, organizations and commuters, advocating for low-impact commutes.
- Surveyed UW PoE commuters, to understand how they get to campus.

Survey Results

- Similar to UW Transportation data - students rarely drive to campus.
- Respondent who reported driving said they would change to a PEV soon.

Interview Results

- Multiple PEV riders reported being hit by cars or having close calls. Increased safety was a top priority.
- Need for equity and accessibility for all commuters – not just those willing to brave the dangerous roads.
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Implications

- Slow down cars with real obstacles.
- Separate low-impact commuters from moving vehicles.
- Build more trails like the Burke Gilman!