Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

Presentation to BPAG

May 19, 2021
COUNT TECHNOLOGY

• Existing
  – Active crowdsourcing
  – Micro-mobility
  – Manual counts
  – Continuous counts
  – Short duration counts

• Emerging
  – Passive crowdsourcing
  – Video analytics
  – Connected vehicles
WHY COUNT?

• Inform prioritization of bike/ped improvements
• Begin determining baseline bike/ped volumes
• Leverage the use of emerging technologies
• Assist in the selection of continuous count locations
• Contribute to statewide bike/ped count database
• Track before/after volumes in locations with improvements
• Determine user type (commuter, recreational, mix)
• Document increase/decrease of users on a facility over time
DEVELOPING A COUNT PROGRAM

• **Existing and Historic Counts**
  - What data has already been collected?
  - Where was it collected?
  - How was it collected?

• **Determine Purpose of Data Collection**
  - What is the purpose of collecting bicycle and pedestrian counts?
  - What kinds of data are required to meet planning, policy, or programmatic needs?

• **Site Selection**
  - Develop with program goals in mind
  - Exploratory or linked with specific research questions
    - Cyclical or targeted counts
EXISTING AND HISTORIC COUNTS

• Short Duration Counts
  – MDOT SHA and BMC Turning Movement Counts
    ◦ Vehicle volume and bike/ped volume
  – MDOT SHA Special Project Counts
    ◦ Vehicle volume and bike/ped volume

• Continuous Counts
  – Anne Arundel, Department of Recreation and Parks
    ◦ BWI Trail at Dixon Park (inactive – equipment under repair)
    ◦ Jonas Green Park
    ◦ Earleigh Heights Ranger Station
    ◦ WB&A Trail at Patuxent Road
    ◦ South Shore Trail at Hansel Drive

• Additional Counts in the Region?
Proposed Count Locations
SHORT DURATION COUNT TYPES

- **Cyclical Counts**
  - Conducted annually or biannually
  - Potential uses:
    - Determine user type (commuter, recreational, mix)
    - Track increase in volume over years
    - Assist in the selection of continuous count locations

- **Targeted Counts**
  - Conducted before/after an infrastructure improvement to determine changes in volume and other travel patterns
  - Potential infrastructure improvements:
    - Installation of a bike lane
    - New trail segment connected to existing trail
    - Implementation of safety improvements
Feedback Needed

• **Bike/Ped Count Goals**
  – What is the purpose of collecting bicycle and pedestrian counts for your jurisdiction?
  – What kinds of data does your jurisdiction need to meet planning, policy, or programmatic needs?

• **Cyclical Counts**
  *Annual or biannual*
  – Choose six sites
  – Prioritize

• **Targeted Counts**
  *Before/after an infrastructure improvement*
  – Choose six sites
  – Prioritize
Next Steps

• Jurisdictions submit proposed count locations by June 16

• BMC QC and analyze proposed count locations

• BMC meet with consultant to discuss count scenarios

• BPAG Bike/Ped Counts Work Group meeting, week of June 21

• Consultant conducts initial bike/ped counts, Sept – Oct
For More Information

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