



Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts and Proposed Pilot Project

Technical Committee

September 14, 2021



Agenda

- Overview
- Why Count?
- History of Program Development
- Proposed Pilot Project
- Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program
(Proposal in Development)
- Cost Estimate
- Next Steps

Overview

- **Traffic Count Contract**
 - Three year contract with AMT Consulting
 - BMC has historically conducted traffic counts
 - Contract includes ability to conduct bicycle and pedestrian counts
- **Proposed Pilot Project**
 - Fall 2021
 - One count site in each jurisdiction (total eight)
- **Proposed Full Count Program**
 - Estimated to start spring 2022
 - Present to Tech Committee in early 2022
 - Informed by pilot project
 - Developed in coordination with BPAG members, member jurisdictions, and planning partners

Why Count?

- **Quantitative data for bicycle and pedestrian planning is increasingly important to support performance-based approaches**
- **Assist in understanding the role bicyclists and pedestrians play in transportation network**
- **Support regional, local, and state planning activities:**
 - Inform the public and decision makers about actual usage and travel patterns
 - Track and analyze travel trends
 - Plan for new or improved facilities
 - Measure impacts of specific projects (before and after)
 - Support funding applications
 - Increase understanding of safety concerns and exposure rates

History of Program Development

- **Reviewed State of Practice with BPAG**
 - Existing and Emerging Count Technology
 - Reasons for Conducting Bike/Ped Counts
 - Process to Develop a Count Program
 - Determine Existing and Historic Counts
 - Determine Purpose of Data Collection
 - Count Location Selection
 - Short Duration Count Types
 - Repeating
 - Project Specific (Before/After)
- **Input from BPAG, Member Jurisdictions, and Planning Partners**
 - Repeating and Project Specific Count Locations
 - Regional Goals
 - Prioritization Criteria

Proposed Pilot Project: Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

- **Weeklong counts conducted at eight sites throughout the region during Oct 2021**
 - One count site in each jurisdiction
 - Count locations reflect input from BPAG members, BMC member governments, and planning partners
 - Located on a variety of facilities
- **Outcomes**
 - Directional bicycle and pedestrian volumes
 - RAW video files (potential use in safety assessments)
 - Exploration of any challenges with implementation, technology, data
 - Coordination with jurisdictions on data analysis and documentation of needed resources
 - Provide lessons learned to guide recommendations for regional program

Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Count Program (Proposal in Development)

- **Weeklong counts conducted throughout the region on a repeating and project specific basis**
 - Repeating counts: measure and track over time bicycle and pedestrian volumes
 - Project specific counts: measure impact (before and after)
 - Located on different facilities
- **Development of program**
 - Shaped by lessons learned from pilot program and input from BPAG members, BMC member governments, and planning partners will shape
 - Propose 5 – 10 year plan
 - Develop list of count locations
 - Determine achievable program goals
 - Create data management and sharing plan
 - Explore resources required for data analysis and use

Cost Estimate

- **Proposed Pilot Project**
 - Weeklong counts at 8 locations, \$12,000
- **Regional Count Program Scenarios**
 - Cyclical counts repeated every three years
 - Targeted counts (before/after) every year

	Avg. Annual Cost	Avg. Count Locations per Year	Total Count Locations (9 Years)
Scenario 1	\$15,000	6 repeating, 2 project specific	18 repeating, 18 project specific
Scenario 2	\$23,000	10 repeating, 3 project specific	28 repeating, 27 project specific
Scenario 3	\$48,500	20 repeating, 6 project specific	62 repeating, 54 project specific

Next Steps

Sept 2021	Coordinate with BPAG to finalize pilot project count locations
Oct 2021	Conduct pilot project counts
Dec 2021	Review pilot project data
Jan 2022	Present pilot project data and lessons learned to BPAG
Feb – March 2022	Develop recommendations for regional program
April 2022	Present regional program to Technical Committee
May 2022	Conduct first round of regional program counts

For More Information

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