Harnessing GIS: Engagement and Policy Tools

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Overview

- Linking GIS and advocacy concepts
- Example 1: Technical crash data evaluation
- Example 2: BikeEasy Audit Tool (BAT)



Linking GIS and Advocacy

- Understanding transportation and GIS data acts as a barrier for policy engagement
- Need tools to provide accepted data to enter policy process
- Increasing number of tools that make data collection easier

Make It So!

Empowering Communities to make a Difference

Thank you for your interest in **MakeltSo!** This app is designed to empower everyday community members to document where the local infrastructure breaks down for cyclists, pedestrians, and transit users. The motivation behind this tool is to help communities gather data and put pressure on local city staff and elected officials to spend as much time, energy, and money making as comprehensive transportation networks for biking, walking, and transit as has been created for vehicles over the last 70 years.

Marc Schlossberg University of Oregon

http://aaablogs.uoregon.edu/makeitso/

Making Sense of GIS Data: Mapping Crashes

Pedestrian Crashes by Severity, Orleans and Jefferson Parish, 2006-2010



TOTAL

1151

42

100

173

Making Sense of GIS Data: Hot Spot Analysis



CrimeStat Program http://www.nedlevine.com/nedlevine17.htm

Making Sense of GIS Data: Audit

Figure 37: Audit Findings-Tulane and 5 Broad (1)



Narrow pedestrian access zone on South Broad Street at Canal St impedes accessibility

Figure 39: Audit Findings--Tulane and S Broad (3)



Severe trip hazards on South Broad Street at Tulane Avenue

Figure 41: Audit Findings-Tulane and S Broad (5)



Sidewalks are missing or damaged on Tulane Avenue at S Dorgenois St

Figure 38: Audit Findings—Tulane and 5 Broad (2)



Pedestrian wait times exceed 60 seconds to cross S South Broad Street at Gravier St





Crosswalks are faded and missing; curb and median lack ADA ramps at Tulane Avenue and South Broad Street

Figure 42: Audit Findings-Tulane and S Broad (6)



Cars frequently obstruct sidewalks on South Broad Street

Making Sense of GIS Data: Audit

Pedestrian Crashes and Pedestrian Infrastructure Audit Scores, Tulane-Broad Hot Spot



Crash Data Source: New Orleans Regional Planning Commission, Courtesy of Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development

Making Sense of GIS Data: Counts

Pedestrian and Bicycle Count Summary, Tulane Avenue							
	Pedestrians		Bicycles				
	Tulane	New Orleans	Tulane	New Orleans			
	Avenue	Average (Observed)	Avenue	Average (Observed)			
Total Observed	468	317	71	114			
Estimated Daily Traffic							
(EDT)	1,731	928	263	392			
Gender							
Female	36.8%	40.6%	16.9%	28.7%			
Male	63.3%	59.4%	83.1%	71.3%			
Race							
White	29.7%	58.4%	50.7%	69.7%			
Black	65.7%	36.1%	47.9%	25.7%			
Other	4.7%	5.5%	1.4%	4.6%			
Age Group							
Adult	96.4%	95.4%	98.6%	98.1%			
Youth	3.6%	4.6%	1.4%	1.9%			
Travel Orientation							
Street (Pedestrians)	4.9%	4.8%					
StreetRight Way							
(Bicycles)			43.7%	81.0%			
StreetWrong Way							
(Bicycles)			5.6%	7.0%			
Sidewalk	94.9%	91.3%	50.7%	11.8%			
Neutral Ground	0.2%	3.9%	0%	0.2%			
Helmet Lise (Bicycles)			Q 5%	22.0%			
Observation Dates: 3/26/13: 3/28/13							
Observation Dates: 3/26/13; 3/28/13							

Taking GIS to the Streets: Bicycle Audit



Bike Maps That Give Riders the Info They Actually Need

The city of Austin is doing its best to remove the mystery by using a mapping system that gives riders a quick, color-coded visual overview of its bike network, all keyed to the real-world experience a person can expect when cycling on any given street. According to Nathan Wilkes, a project designer and network planner at the Austin public works department who specializes in bike infrastructure, the map is heavily influenced by the thinking of Roger Geller, the bicycle coordinator for the city of Portland Oregon, who developed an influential taxonomy of transportation cyclist types in his city.



AUSTIN TEXAS BICYCLE MAP



SEPARATED PATHS (PAVED) SEPARATED PATHS (UNPAVED) HIGH-COMFORT ROADS MEDIUM-COMFORT ROADS LOW-COMFORT ROADS EXTREMELY LOW COMFORT RESTRICTED SIDEWALKS (see reverse map) HELPFUL SIDEWALKS

MINOR TRAILS (may require walking)



Problem: Need a tool that measures bicyclists' street comfort that is easy to use and disseminate to public and non-profit organizations

New Tool: Bike Easy Audit Tool (BAT)

Result: National best practice tool that helps clearly "map" conditions and prioritize investments to close gaps in system

http://gas2.org/2012/02/16/bike-the-nation-new-orlea

Austin "High Comfort" Example: North Loop at Lamar



Bike Easy Audit (BAT) Location: North Loop at Lamar

Overall Feel of Place		
Do or would you feel safe riding your bicycle here?	Circle: Yes, No	Describe: Traffic speeds up for intersection and there is no bike facility. This is a more intense road section.

Question	Bike Facility Availability		Score
1	Is there a bike facility?	If yes, add 5. If no, score 0	0
	Bike Facility Quality		Score
2	Are there obstructions/debris?	If yes, subtract 1	0
3	Is facility continuous for entire block (excluding intersection)?	If no, subtract 1	-1
4	Does the facility provide a dedicated, separated space for bicyclists?	If no, subtract 1	-1
5	Speed	If posted speed is above 30 mph, subtract 1	0
6	Road Intensity	If ADT is above 20,000, subtract 1	0
	Total Score	Add all rows together for final score	-2

Bicycle Faci	lity Type (circl	e)				
Bike lane	Buffered bike	lane Contra flow bike lane	e Green lane	Cycletr ack	Bicycle boulevard	Sharrow None
A Little Bit	About You					
Please circle statement t describes ye	e the hat best ou	I feel comfortable riding my bike on any street in any condition	I feel comfort riding on a de bicycle facility	able signated ,	feel comfortable ridir only on quiet streets o on trails/paths	ng I do not feel comfortable or or interested in bicycle riding

Low-Stress Comfort Score: 0



Questions?

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