Data Collection & Research

Overview
This module will review some of the methods and reasons behind conducting research on bicycle and pedestrian planning. Research on bicycle and pedestrian planning helps answer questions about behavior, needs, and will help set benchmarks to determine the progress and success of a program. From answering questions about users to facilities, this research can improve the outcomes of a bicycle or pedestrian facility and network. Different approaches are available for a researcher to utilize, and should be selected based on context of the issue and available resources.

Learning Objective:
- Understand data collection methods and appropriate applications
- Identify applications for research and appropriate methods for each

Suggested Use
_x_Professional Development     _x_Graduate Level     _x_Undergraduate

Time Required
__Less than 1 hour     __1 hour     __2-3 hours     _Half-day Workshop     _Full-day Workshop

Instructions
  1. Announce purposes and give brief overview of the day
  2. Give lecture
  3. Break for discussion and questions
  4. Summarize lecture and discussion
  5. Assignments
  6. Circulate handouts and evaluations

Lecture
  1. Why Research is Necessary
  2. Conducting and Using Research
  3. Methods and Typical uses
     a. Counts
     b. Surveys
     c. Interviews
     d. Travel Diaries
     e. GPS
  4. Facilities Evaluations

Materials/Handouts
  - Pedestrian audit form examples
Assignments and Activities

1. Pathway counts
2. Intersection counts

Suggested Readings


Related Modules

- Bicycle Facilities Design
- Pedestrian Facilities Design