

TRANSPORTATION ENGINEERING SEMINAR

Estimating Pedestrian and Cyclist Activity at the Neighborhood Scale

Friday, February 13, 2015

3:00pm to 4:30pm

Please join us in Schwada Building (SCOB) room 101 

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Good estimates of the total amount of bicycle and pedestrian activity on our roads are needed for two main purposes. First, knowing how much cyclists and pedestrians are using roadways can inform where investments in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure are needed. Second, estimates of total cyclist and pedestrian activity can serve as the denominator for calculation of cyclist and pedestrian crash rates, which, in turn, help to identify locations for road safety investment. While estimates of vehicle activity are readily available from routinely collected traffic counts as well as travel demand forecasting models, spatially detailed estimates of bicycle and pedestrian activity rarely are: few communities conduct regular counts of pedestrians or bicyclists, and few models generate estimates of the use of these modes. This presentation introduces a method that uses existing data to estimate cyclist and pedestrian activity at the neighborhood scale, and implements the method for the state of California. Activity levels are estimated at the census tract level using travel survey data in combination with census and land use data. These activity estimates are then used to calculate two policy indicators: intensity of road use by cyclists and pedestrians, and crash rates for these road users.

Dr. Deborah Salon is an Assistant Professor in the School of Geographical Sciences and Urban Planning at ASU, and a Senior Sustainability Scientist at ASU's Global Institute of Sustainability. Prior to coming to ASU Dr. Salon was a member of the Research Faculty at UC Davis's Institute of Transportation Studies.



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