

Seminar #3: Encouraging Sustainable Travel

ATTEND IN-PERSON OR ONLINE

SAVE THE DATE: Wednesday, June 16, 2010, 11:00am - 1:00pm



Measuring Walking and Cycling: A Low-Cost Survey Method for Local Communities

Asha Weinstein Agrawal - CSU San Jose & Mineta Transportation Institute

Communities nationwide seek to promote walking and cycling as an important strategy to tackle greenhouse gas emissions, traffic congestion, and public health concerns. A key component of planning for increased walking and cycling is to collect data on use of these modes so that planners can track their efforts. However, most communities lack a feasible mechanism to regularly collect this data. In response, we present a simple, inexpensive survey method to measure local walking and cycling levels. To make implementation easy for staff, a detailed manual lays out start-to-finish directions, from how to obtain an appropriate sample of households to basic methods for analyzing and interpreting the results.



Intelligent Transportation Systems as a Way to Reduce Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Matt Barth - UC Riverside & University of California Transportation Center

It is clear from both field data and sophisticated models that there can be significant energy and emission savings from implementing Intelligent Transportation Systems. Details of several "green" ITS programs will be presented. Common characteristics of the programs include: 1) reducing severe congestion to allow traffic to flow at higher speeds; 2) reducing excessively high freeflow speeds to more moderate conditions; and 3) eliminating the acceleration/deceleration events associated with stop-and-go traffic during congested conditions. It is also important to keep induced travel demand in check after implementation.



How Do We Get More People Bicycling? Evidence from the Davis Bicycle Studies

Susan Handy - UC Davis & Sustainable Transportation Center

US communities are giving increased priority to bicycling as a mode of transportation. However, it is not clear what factors are most important in promoting bicycling. A 2006 survey of residents of six small cities shows that bicycling depends on individual characteristics, the physical environment, and the social environment. Critical factors include enjoyment of and comfort with bicycling. Distances to destinations are important, as is the off-street bicycle network. These results suggest the need for a comprehensive package of strategies to improve infrastructure and change attitudes.



How to Ease Women's Fear of Transportation Environments: Case Studies of Best Practices

Anastasia Loukaitou-Sideris - UCLA & Mineta Transportation Institute

Desolate bus stops and train cars, dimly lit park-and-ride lots, and overcrowded transit vehicles represent stressful settings for women. Some choose not to patronize transit for fear for their safety. This study identifies the distinct safety concerns of women transit riders, assesses if their needs are met, and discusses best practices addressing women's fear of transit environments. Only a handful of transit operators in the U.S. have specific programs targeting women's safe travel. Based on feedback from interviews and case studies, the study offers policy recommendations for women's safe travel.

Veteran Affairs Building - 5th floor - Room #518, 1227 "O" Street, Sacramento CA

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