Q&A Summary
March 8 Webinar

DVRPC Presentation

Q: How much assignment time increase by having 580,000 links compare to 50,000 links?

A: 20min --> 2 h (roughly)

Q: Do you preserve the link numbers (or any equivalence) for future updates from OSM?

A: It is not clear if future updates will be done via OSM or by conflation with county SCL files. A more important issue is the permanence of bus top IDs. We have been assured by our main transit operators that these will be constant for the near future.

Q: Are you able to share the GTFS importer?

A: Yes. Email us and we will share it. Email: wscherr@dvrpc.org

Q: How will non-motorized travel be modeled?

A: using a conventional 4-step model w/ motorized / non-motorized split taking place directly after trip generation.

Q: Is the transit simulation schedule-based?

A: Yes, we use VISUM's timetable based assignment

Q: Will you able to share your enhanced data for research purposes?

A: Yes.

Q: Just wondering if any particular model developed to estimate the external (through) trips for the 250 external zones, or just based on external travel survey?

A: We will use a conventional 4-step process for the new "external" zones and validate based on cordon counts (that is the plan at least; we are still developing the demand model)

CDOT Presentation

Q: you have access by walk and auto what about bicycle?

A: We have some coding geared towards non-motorized travel. Detailed modeling of bike and walk using this network is next on our to-do list.

Q: What are the benefits of having two types of bike detectors: temperature and metal detection?

A: Temperature provides bike and ped together and the metal detection provides bike only. If you have both temperature and metal detection at the same site you can classify data into bike only and ped only traffic.

Q: Is the equipment used on trails only or on streets too?

A: Both…Streets are continuous counters (bike only) and trails are short duration (bike and ped counts together)

Q: How long do you estimate it will take you to add bikes & peds?

A: That is a great question! ....

Q: How much is the cost of eco-counter

A: Just spoke with an eco-counter rep, roughly costs $3000 for basic pyro box eco-counter (from a webinar participant)

Questions that were answered verbally

Q: What procedure was used to incorporate the field data into your travel demand model?

A:

Q: Do the temperature detectors work on Urban Paved Streets?

A: Not that I am aware of…the counter would pick up changes in temperature of people sitting in cars so that is why the metal detection is a diamond shaped loop in the pavement.

Q: Did you check the accuracy with video or manual counts?

A: Not with video but we did conduct 2 hour manual counts upon installing the counters.

Q: Do you know some data collection manual or handbook regarding non-motorized?

A: There are a number of projects currently being worked on that include the NCHRP 08-78 and the rewrite of the Traffic Monitoring Guidebook that might address this need.

Comment: Answer to current guidance on bike ped counts: http://bikepeddocumentation.org/

Q: Were the only locations along bike paths or were lanes or sidewalks also monitored at any point?

A: Locations were both on bike paths and in the far right lane or shoulder on a roadways.

Q: Why do you think Wednesday had such a different pattern?

A: The bike to work day marketing efforts…if a person is only going to bike to work one day of the year, they typically bike on the bike to work day.

Q: Have there been interest in extrapolating the bike/ped counts to estimate total ridership?

A: CDOT would be interested in extrapolating the bike/ped counts to estimate total ridership but currently there is not enough data (too many gaps) to provide these kinds of statistics.

Q: Any problems with $$ carbon fiber bikes not being counted by loops?

A: The sensitivity of the counter is set such that the metal spokes in the tires can be detected so this is not a problem.

Q: How do you differentiate between a small person and a big dog?

A: This is a challenge and yes the counter will pick up a big dog or small person. The counter is installed 29 inches from the ground so there is every effort to avoid small animals. In CDOT's experience, the counter typically undercounts and therefore if a few dogs are picked up by the counter, there were probably a few pedestrians that were not picked up.

Q: What is the longest count with the eco-counter? Can you use it for a 72 hour count?

A: We have one short-duration counter that has been in one location for over 2 years…the battery life is 10 years so yes, we can use it for 72 hours or more.