

# MNDOT's Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Initiative: Gathering Counts in Your Community



The Minnesota Department of Transportation has put together an initiative to coordinate with local jurisdictions, community leaders, and organizations for the collection of short duration bicycle and pedestrian counts. MNDOT has provided each of its nine districts with two portable automated bicycle and pedestrian counters. ARDC is in charge of housing the counters for MNDOT District 1. These counters are free to check out and available to use for counting bicycle and pedestrian traffic in your community. Listed below are recommendations given by MNDOT regarding site selection and things to consider when counting.

## Short Duration Site Selection

- Facility types – streets, trails, sidewalks
- Facility area – rural, urban, suburban
- Trip generators – business parks, schools, churches, coffee shops, bars & restaurants
- Land uses – residential, commercial, green space

## Short Duration Count Considerations

- Choose areas with high volumes of free flowing traffic
- Counters may be checked out for a two week counting period
- Consider counts before and after construction projects
- Address equity when identifying sites, underserved areas and community needs for data
- Assure safety of personnel and equipment

## Things to avoid

- Areas where people loiter (i.e. benches, intersections, maps, lookouts, crosswalks, etc.)
- Events (i.e. fairs, races, farmer's markets, etc.). Try to capture typical traffic flows
- Motor vehicles, waving branches & Grasses, slope & curves

To learn more about MNDOT's Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Counting Initiative, view reports, reference resources, or contact MNDOT staff, visit

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/bike/traffic-counts/index.html>

For more information about the MNDOT District 1 counters, to schedule a training, or check out the counters for your project, contact:

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