Counting Bikes in Seattle

An Overview of SDOT’s Data Collection
Seattle Bike Counts Through 2011

• Entering Downtown Core
  • Manual at 29 locations

• Citywide
  • September of 2008 and 2010
  • Manual counts at 32 locations

• Burke Gilman Trail
  • 2010 at 10 locations
  • Pilot for use of tube counter technology for bikes

• Other Locations
  • Collected at various locations to support project planning
New Seattle Bike Count Program

– Began in January 2011
– Part of the National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation (NBPD) project
– Counts in January, May, July, September
– 50 intersections across the city counted at the same time
– Three time periods for each location: Off-peak (10am-noon), PM peak (5-7pm), and Saturday (noon-2pm)
– Bike counts include turning movements
– Pedestrian are counted per crossing leg
This map shows the 50 locations for SDOT’s quarterly bicycle and pedestrian counts.
This is a sample data sheet from a p.m. peak count at Dexter Avenue North and Denny Way.

The bicycle counts (with turning movements) are shown in boxes on each leg of the intersection.

The pedestrian counts are shown where the crosswalk would be.
Future Seattle Bike Counts

• Quarterly video counts every year
  – January, May, July, September

• Manual counts, Downtown Core & Citywide
  – For two more years

• Ad-hoc turning movements counts
  – As needed for project planning purposes
2011 Data

Time Series Maps: Slides 8 through 36 show the variation by time and month for all 50 locations.

- The first series shows each time period for each location
- The second series shows the p.m. peak counts for each location by month of count
- The third series shows the Saturday mid-day counts for each location by month of count
- The fourth series shows the a.m. (off-peak) counts for each location by month of count

Count Summaries: Slides 38 and 39 show a summary of counts for all locations, arranged from highest volume location to lowest.
Contacts for More Information

National Bike and Pedestrian Documentation (NBPD) Project
http://bikepeddocumentation.org/

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Turning Movements Counts
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Complete 2011 Time Series
P.M. Peak Series
Saturday Mid-day Series
Off-Peak (A.M.) Series
Summary of July 2011 Saturday Counts