Visualizing Statewide Trips: Tools to Leverage GPS Data in Transportation Planning

The University of Utah has a new data visualization service to offer to state DOTs and other agencies. Using Small Starts funding from NITC, researcher Nikola Markovic and his team have developed a suite of visual analysis tools to demonstrate how GPS trajectory data can help accurately model and analyze mobility trends. These data are typically purchased from vendors, which means that transportation agencies must first understand the benefits before they decide to invest in data acquisition. To help agencies see that value, the research team purchased one month of Utah trajectory data to work with, which included detailed information about 2.5 million trips.

New NITC Dissertation Fellow Shiloh Deitz to Leverage Open Data to Support Travel for Persons with Disabilities

NITC has awarded $15,000 to a new dissertation fellow, Shiloh Deitz of the University of Oregon. Shiloh is a methodologist and cartographer concerned with social inequality. Her NITC-funded doctoral research project seeks to fill in missing environmental data to improve mobility options for people living with a disability. Nearly 40 million Americans report a disability, and of this population, 70 percent travel less because of the challenges they face. Better data will improve navigation tools to help people find safe and accessible travel routes.

NITC General Research Abstracts due March 23

Faculty interested in applying for a NITC general research grant should plan to submit abstracts by 5:00 PM, PT, March 23.
abstract consists of 1-2 paragraphs describing the project objectives and proposed methods. The abstract should also briefly explain how it fits the NITC theme. We're looking for projects that advance NITC's theme of "improving the mobility of people and goods to build strong communities." Following the submission of your abstract, a full proposal will be due April 22, 2020. The NITC Executive Committee selects the final slate of funded projects. We recommend discussing your project idea with the Executive Committee member of your campus.

Submit Your Abstract by March 23

Student Spotlight: Finley Heeb and Maddy Reznick, University of Oregon

Finley Heeb and Maddy Reznick are undergraduate Planning, Public Policy and Management students at the University of Oregon. They are both active in UO's transportation student group, LiveMove, and have worked together as LiveMove's speaker series coordinators for the past two years. Finley was recently featured in a Student Spotlight story in UO news, recounting what they gained from the summer 2019 Sustainable Bicycle Transportation in Europe study abroad program. Maddy was an intern in 2019 at the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability, working to support implementation of a TDM Ordinance in Los Angeles County.

Meet Finley and Maddy

NITC Research and Partner Updates

- **NITC Director Jennifer Dill Joins Eno Center for Transportation's Board of Regents**: The Eno Center for Transportation announces a new slate of members for its Board of Advisors and its Board of Regents, including our director, Jennifer Dill.
- **Northwest Transportation Conference (Corvallis, OR)**: With over 400 attendees, this year features NITC researchers: Chris Monsere, Sirisha Kothuri, Peter Dusicka, Jason Anderson, Joe Broach, Matthew Sleep, and more. **March 9–11**
- **Everything You Need to Know Before Buying an Electric Bike**: A NITC study from John MacArthur of PSU "North American Survey of Electric Bicycle Owners" was cited in *Curbed*, Thursday, February 20, 2020
- **8 Points to Plan for a Vibrant Future**: Amanda Howell of University of Oregon and Jean Crowther and Mary Stewart of Alta Planning + Design discuss their findings following a one-day workshop on technology, urban space and placemaking.
- **PSU Opens Bike-Ped Two-Day Workshop for Faculty**: Since 2012 PSU has trained 94 faculty from 54 universities on integrating bike-ped topics into their curriculum. Registration is open, and limited to a small group. **July 16 - 17**
- **NITC Research in Talking Headways—It Came from TRB!**: Mike McQueen of PSU was interviewed for the Streetsblog USA Podcast about the NITC research on e-bikes that he presented at TRB.
- **Bike Lanes Not Bad For Biz**: NITC research by Kelly Clifton was cited in the *Penticton Herald*, a local news outlet in British Columbia, Canada, in support of a two-way protected cycle track in the city's downtown area.
- **2020 Census Complete Count**: A complete and accurate census helps in the distribution of more than $880 billion in federal
funds to states, counties and cities. A self-response online survey opens March 12.