

National Accessibility Evaluation Technical Advisory Panel Meeting

October 3, 2017
2:00 - 3:30 P.M. CST

NOTES

*Action items denoted in bold.

Present:

Accessibility Observatory: Shannon Engstrom, Laurie McGinnis, Brendan Murphy, Andrew Owen
DC: Stephanie Dock
FL: Monica Zhong
MD: Meredith Hill, Stephen Miller
MnDOT: Deanna Belden, Michael Iacono
VDOT: Peter Ohlms

Introductions

Deanna welcomed the group to the first meeting of year 3. Shannon invited TAP members to introduce themselves to the call.

Project Update and Discussion - Andrew Owen

- **Datasets & reports**
 - Year 2 (2016)
 - Transit - calculations complete and finalizing local transit reports based on feedback.
 - Auto - confirming congestion results. As discussed in the previous TAP meeting, the AO team is continuing to explore and investigate a congestion data issue. The release date is TBD as it depends on when the data issues can be resolved.
 - Transit Report is set to release on November 9.
 - Year 3 (2017)
 - Executed amendment for year 3.
 - Deliverables:
 - Datasets: January 2018
 - Reports: February 2018
 - New bike reports planned, based on current conversations happening with the bike subgroup.
- **Data/Map API and Web Visualization**

- AO is continuing to build maps and tools to increase data visualization. University of Minnesota's [U-Spatial](#) group and AO worked together to set-up hosting for this at the University of Minnesota. Maps can now be included in ArcGIS. Andrew shared screenshots of the test service process showing how they added server access to ArcGIS. He was able to show examples of how accessibility data could be visualized and then layered with other data.
- Data organization:
 - Thresholds: AO has limited the number of layers that are possible (i.e. organizing by threshold - 20 min, 30 min, etc.) to make it easier for users to select the pertinent layers.
 - Time periods: Andrew asked the group to see if it would be appropriate to go hour by hour or other time periods?
 - Michael (MN) is most interested in individual time periods, not 24 hours.
 - Stephanie (DC) recommended using federal standards (PM-3) instead (early AM, mid AM, etc.). This is the way DC has grouped their data.
 - Next Steps: user testing
 - AO is looking for GIS users who might have a reason to include accessibility. **The following TAP members volunteered their to help test: Stephanie Dock and Monica Zhong.**
- **Bike accessibility subgroup - Brendan Murphy**
 - The subgroup met on August 21, 2017 to discuss how to calculate lower stress and higher stress streets - Level of Traffic Stress (LTS). Accessibility measurements will depend on this data.
 - Pilot studies will begin for Minneapolis, D.C., Miami and Fayetteville, AR. Current tasks are to complete basic LTS categorizations and work on code to include LTS in routing.
 - AO plans to present the pilot city data during the January 2018 TAP meeting.
 - Brendan provided an overview of the differences between LTS and minimum cost. LTS allows for analyzing accessibility by different LTS levels - 1, 2, 3 or 4. This allows accessibility to be measured based on user's comfort or threshold for different network types.
 - Stephanie Dock mentioned their team did a LTS analysis comparing LTS 1&2 and 3&4.. **Stephanie will share this report to Brendan (done).**
- **Freight accessibility subgroup**
 - Subgroup met on August 17, 2017. Two areas of focus:
 - 1) Access to freight terminals: reflecting time to closest, number reachable, variety reachable, congestion, etc. Next steps: data availability, prototype metrics.

- 2) Residential delivery - based on increased interest in services like Amazon. Next steps: data availability, discussion of origins/destinations.
- National transit report publication schedule - Access Across America: Transit 2016
 - Scheduled to publish and release November 9. Focuses on top 50 metro areas by population and presents accessibility to jobs. New for 2016: It also includes information about % change for accessibility from 2015 transit data. This will allow for rankings based on % change.
 - Press releases: Based on TAP members' requests, Ao team will create custom press releases for each local TAP. Shannon will share the releases with TAP members on October 23. AO staff will still do national media outlet press releases.

Member Updates - All

- Monica Zhong (FL) has used data to create a mobility report for local MPOs. Plan is to release the report by the end of October. **AO will check-in with Monica at the time of the report release so that AO can highlight the use of the data and also help promote the release.**
- Deanna (MN): MnDOT is using accessibility data to evaluate accessibility in the [Rethinking I-94](#) project to help with community engagement. Deanna will work with AO to create scenario analyses for this project. **Note: AO is able to do scenario analyses like this for any other organizations as part of the pooled fund project.**
- Stephanie Dock (DC) asked if AO can measure worker accessibility? **Yes, AO is able to do this analysis and will follow-up.** Stephanie also shared that they are updating their [districtmobility.org](#) - maps will be live within the month. **AO is also interested in highlighting this work and will follow-up. Other TAP members are welcome to share updates like this.**

Other Business - Shannon Engstrom

- **January TAP meeting at TRB date/time is TBD.** A doodle poll will go out shortly to collect everyone's preferences (done).
- **2018 TAP meetings past January:** will plan to schedule TAP meetings on Tuesdays for next year.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m. CT.

Appendix:

Resources from Stephanie Dock (DDOT)

1. **[District Mobility](#)**. This is our “state of mobility” public performance reporting site. The site is in the process of updating to the 2016 data, which is supposed to include accessibility data.
 - a. **Bike access:** Our consultants ran a specific analysis on the LTS data for this, using a 3.3 mile buffer (networked) to look at connectivity to blocks and access to jobs. The maps and a description of the analysis are attached (see email on 10.19).
2. **TripsDC**. This is our multimodal person trip generation tool for mixed use buildings in DC, which uses the accessibility data as an input. The site should be going live soon on the production server (end of the month at the latest), once we get our AWS and domain purchases made. If you’d like a sneak peek: <https://stamen.github.io/fp-ddot-mdx/>