Data Collection for Dummies
A Local Government Approach to Getting, Sharing, and Using Useful Data: A Case Study
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Case Study Background

• 65th Transit Village Plan

• Vision of a thriving, multi-use, multi-modal community, centered around a major regional transit hub and California State University, Sacramento. Transit-Oriented Development (TOD).

• Vision adopted into policy, driving need for quantified data on transportation and land use for the study area.
Study Area: 65th Street/University Transit Village Plan Area
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One Crowded Kitchen . . .

- City of Sacramento
  - Planning, Development Services, DOT, Utilities, ADA, Neighborhood Services, Economic Development

- California State University
  - Administration, Faculty, Staff, Students, Neighboring Community

- Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA)
And even more cooks . . .

- Regional Transit

- Neighborhood RAC (Redevelopment Advisory Committee, made up of residents, business members, and CBOs)

- Caltrans

- SACOG

- And probably more!
And to thicken the soup . . .
(Background: Adopted Plans/Studies)

• 65th Transit Village Plan
  – Environmental with Mitigation Monitoring Plan (MMP)
• South 65th Community Plan
  – Environmental with MMP
• California State University, Sacramento plans and studies (incl. tram/BRT)
• Granite Regional Park, St. Francis Master Plan, Folsom Widening studies
• 65th Expressway Project, DOT Bicycle Mobility Study, SEATS
• AND MORE!!!!
Background: 65th TVP MMP

- Mitigations include: road widening, dedicated turn pockets, increased crossing distances, and signal light optimization, all to increase automobile LOS.

- Mitigations are unfavorable for peds/bikes, and contradictory to “vision” of 65th TVP.

- Issue of short-term and long-term fix.
Short-term Fix: Data Issues

- In order to postpone unfavorable mitigations, have to study impact of postponing mitigations

- THEN, we can turn to the long-term fix and gather data

- But short-term fix includes data needs for Supplemental EIR
Long-term fix: Data Issues

- New traffic studies and environmental determinations needed
- Want to consider multi-modal Level-of-Service
- Need to coordinate with all the stakeholders mentioned earlier
Data: Collection Methods and Constraints

• Local governments often short of resources for detailed studies

• Often utilize consultants for data collection

• Current methods place automobile as primary mode

• Current methods do not always appropriately incorporate multiple stakeholders
Or to serve it up plainly . . .

- HOW DO WE KEEP PROJECT FROM “PARALYSIS BY ANALYSIS?”
Steps for Movement

• Importance of early involvement, broad involvement

• Multi-modal LOS development

• Better education of policymakers on need for multi-modal solutions, especially at TOD

• Better quantified data to reinforce policy direction

• Faculty/Staff support, and Student research projects

• Coalitions of planners, engineers, advocates, and community interests
Thank You

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