

THE HONORABLE ROGERS ANDERSON, CHAIRMAN



NASHVILLE AREA

**Metropolitan Planning Organization**

# Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts

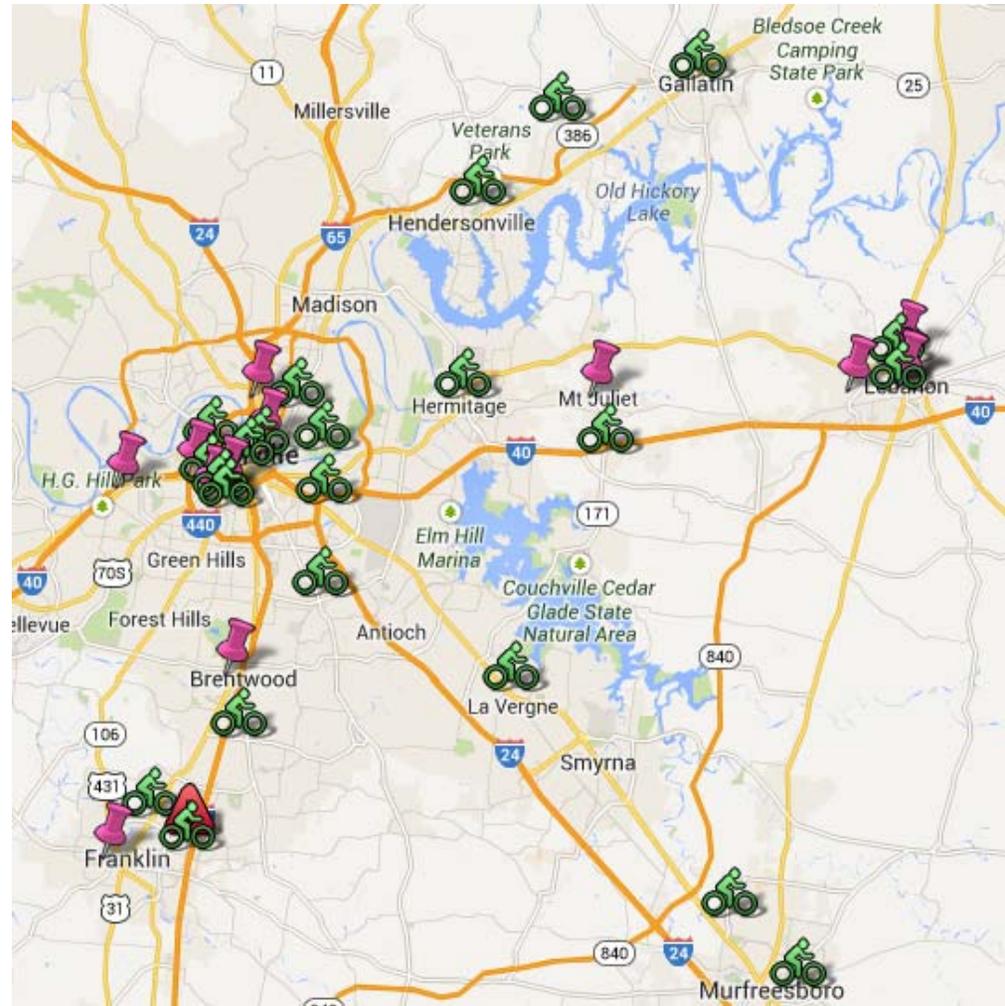
## 2013

# Volunteer Instructions

Leslie A. Meehan, AICP  
Director of Healthy Communities

# Study Area

- ➔ Five County Region
  - 22 traditional locations
  - 12 new locations
- ➔ 16 counts in Davidson
- ➔ 3 counts in Rutherford
- ➔ 3 counts in Sumner
- ➔ 4 counts in Williamson
- ➔ 8 counts in Wilson



# Why Do Counts?

- ➔ Non-motorized modes do not have consistent, uniform data collection and analysis system
- ➔ Result = harder to justify funding, document benefits, understand what influences walking and biking



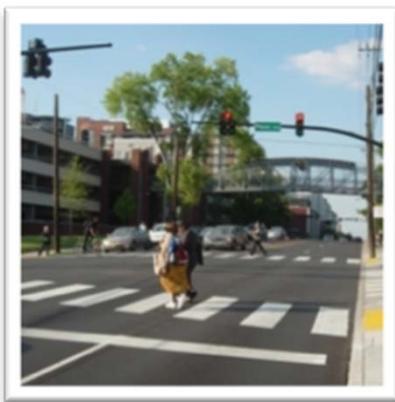
# How will the counts be used?

- ➔ Build the Regional database of bicycle and pedestrian count information (last counts 2009 and 2011)
- ➔ Understand the facility needs and uses of bicyclists and pedestrians
- ➔ Share data with National Bicycle and Pedestrian Documentation Project



# Selection of Count Times

- Peak walking & biking season
- School in session
- Conducive weather conditions
- Not during prime vacation time
- Typical weekday (Tues, Wed, or Thurs)
- Commute time periods



# Selecting Count Locations

- Historical count locations
- Bicycle facility
- Greenway
- High collision area
- Transit facility
- Planned project
- Mix of land uses; smart growth
- Area with users but no facilities
- Stakeholder recommendations



# Count Day Information

**Day:**  
**Tuesday, September 10, 2013**  
*National Count/Survey Week*

**Time:**  
**2 Hour AM Peak (7:00-9:00am)**  
**2 Hour PM Peak (4:00-6:00pm)**  
*Arrive 15 minutes prior to count start.*

**Back-up:**  
**Wednesday, September 11, 2013 (Rain Day)**



# Items to Bring

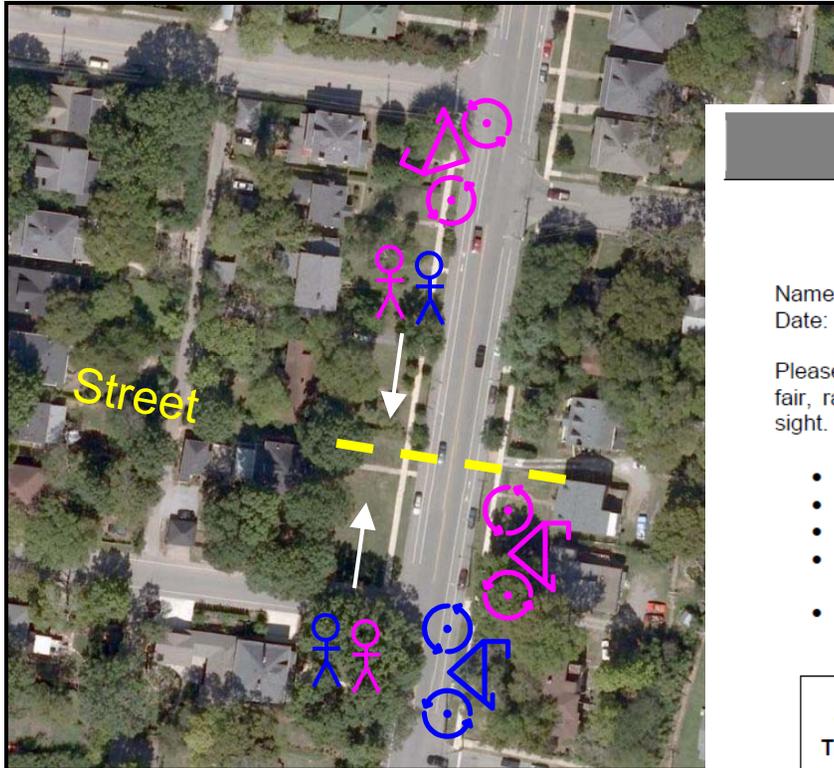
- ➔ Location/Time Assignments (Provided via email)
  - Instructions
  - Location Map
  - Count Forms
  - Letter from MPO
- ➔ Camera or smart phone
- ➔ Watch/Stop watch
- ➔ Clipboard
- ➔ Pen/Pencil & spare
- ➔ Optional: Hat, sunscreen, jacket, folding chair, water, snacks



# Your Safety is Important

- ➔ Locate yourself in a safe spot for the count.
- ➔ Do not assume parking is available nearby.
- ➔ Be aware of private property. Stay in the public right-of-way during the count.
- ➔ Make sure you can see the intersection or roadway clearly (even if you stay in your car).

# Street Location



NASHVILLE AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## STANDARD STREET COUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in your name, count location, date, time period, and weather conditions (sunny, fair, rainy, very cold). Count all bicyclists and pedestrians crossing through your line of sight.

- Count for two hours in 15-minute increments.
- Count bicyclists who ride on the street and on the sidewalk.
- Count the number of people on the bicycle, not the number of bicycles.
- Pedestrians include people in wheelchairs or others using assistive devices, children in strollers, etc.
- People using equipment such as skateboards or rollerblades should be included in the "Others" category.

| 15-Minute Time Period | Bicyclists |      | Pedestrians |      | Others |      |
|-----------------------|------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|
|                       | Female     | Male | Female      | Male | Female | Male |
| 00-:15                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 15-:30                |            |      |             |      |        |      |

# General Form Input

NASHVILLE AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

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|--------------------------|------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|
|                          | Female     | Male | Female      | Male | Female | Male |
| 00-:15                   |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 15-:30                   |            |      |             |      |        |      |

### Fill Out:

- Name
- Location
- Date
- Time Period
- Weather



# Data Input: Street Count Form

NASHVILLE AREA  
METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

## STANDARD STREET COUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in your name, count location, date, time period, and weather conditions (sunny, fair, rainy, very cold). Count all bicyclists and pedestrians crossing through your line of sight.

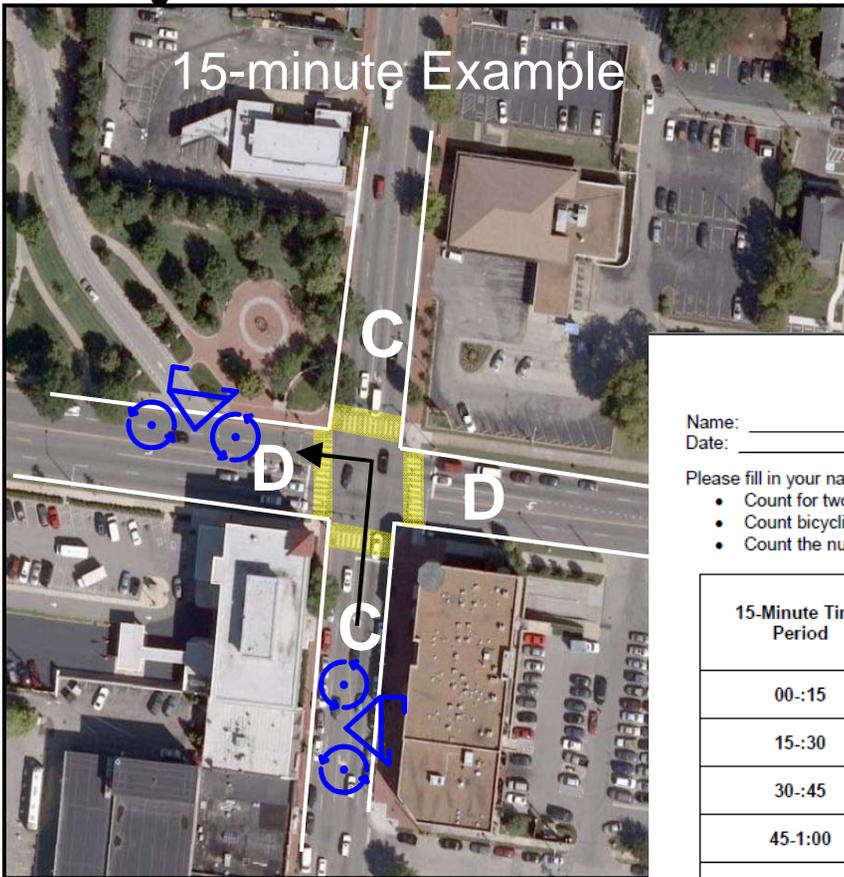
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| 15-:30                |            |      |             |      |        |      |

### Data:

- 15 minute intervals
- Use "Tick" marks
- Count from each direction
- Count by person
- Others include:
  - Skateboarders
  - Rollerbladers
  - Segways

# Intersection Location – Counting Bicycles



**Scenario:**

**Bicyclist travels on Street C, turns left onto D.**

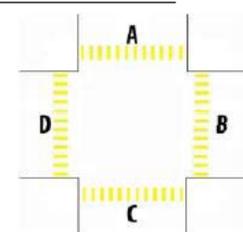
**One person = one tick mark**

## STANDARD INTERSECTION COUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

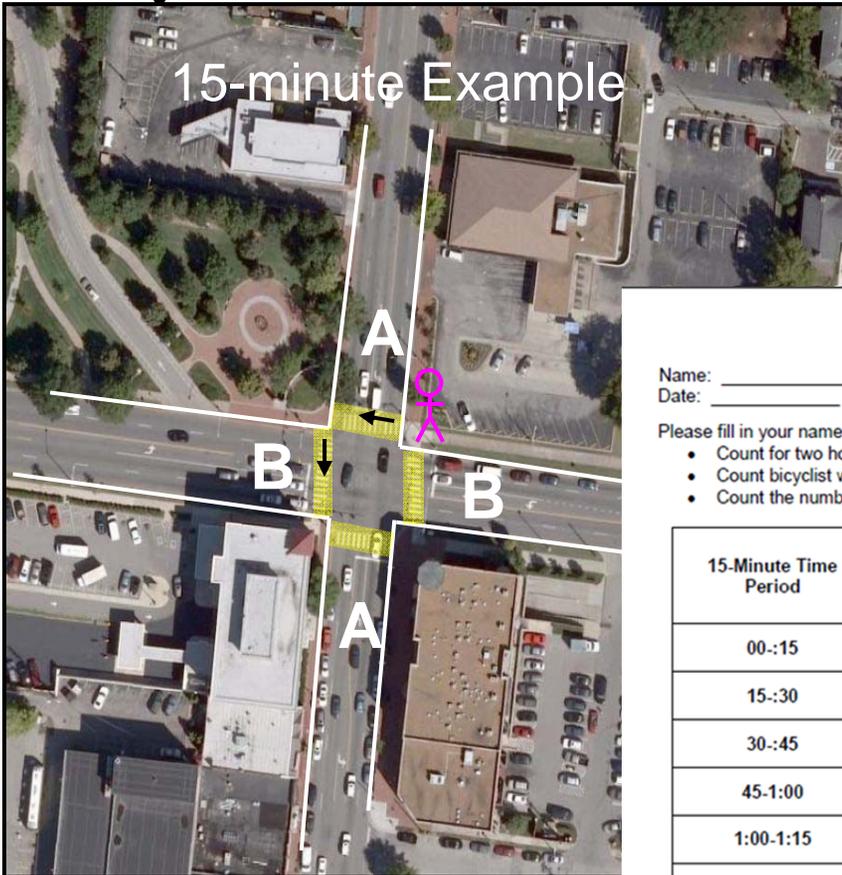
Please fill in your name, count location, date, time period, and weather conditions (sunny, fair, rainy, very cold).

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|-----------------------|------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|
|                       | Female     | Male | Female      | Male | Female | Male |
| 00-:15                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 15-:30                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 30-:45                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 45-1:00               |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:00-1:15             |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:15-1:30             |            |      |             |      |        |      |

# Intersection Location – Counting Pedestrians



15-minute Example

Scenario #1:

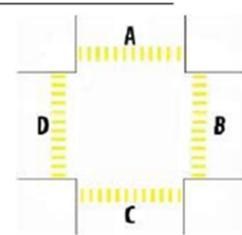
Pedestrian arrives Street A, crosses A, then crosses B

## STANDARD INTERSECTION COUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

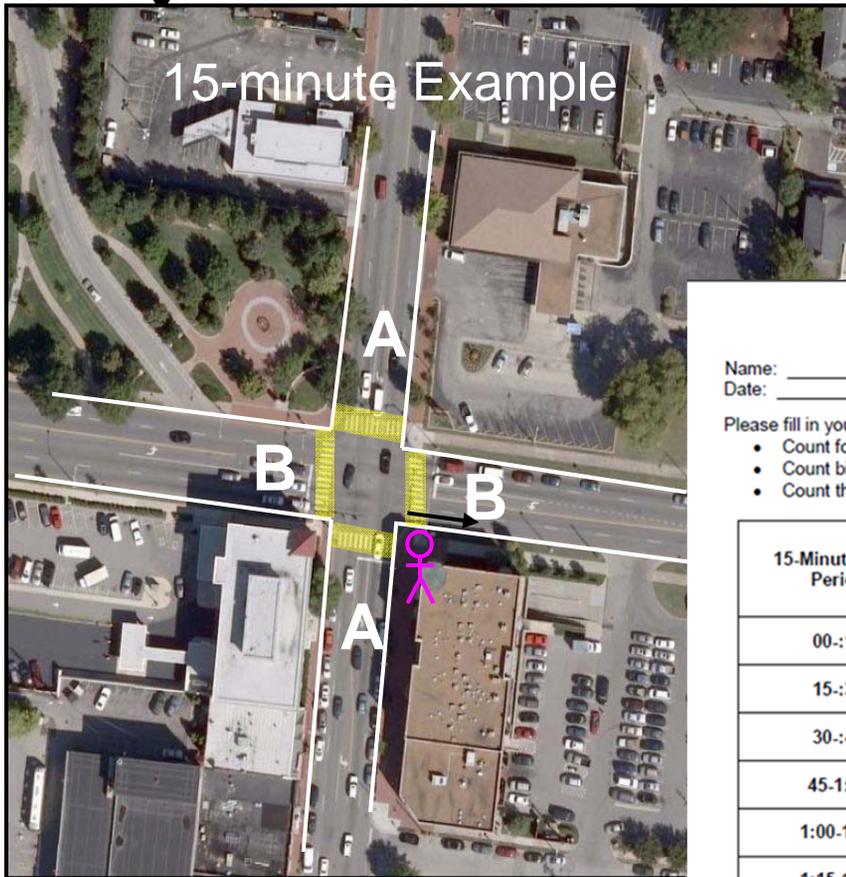
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|-----------------------|------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|
|                       | Female     | Male | Female      | Male | Female | Male |
| 00-:15                |            |      | 1           |      |        |      |
| 15-:30                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 30-:45                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 45-1:00               |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:00-1:15             |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:15-1:30             |            |      |             |      |        |      |

# Intersection Location – Counting Pedestrians



**Scenario #2:**

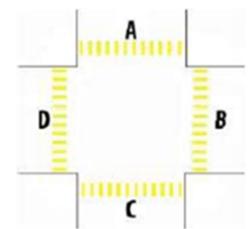
**Pedestrian walks up Street A and then turns on Street B**

## STANDARD INTERSECTION COUNT FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill in your name, count location, date, time period, and weather conditions (sunny, fair, rainy, very cold).

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|-----------------------|------------|------|-------------|------|--------|------|
|                       | Female     | Male | Female      | Male | Female | Male |
| 00:-15                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 15:-30                |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 30:-45                |            |      | 1           |      |        |      |
| 45-1:00               |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:00-1:15             |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:15-1:30             |            |      |             |      |        |      |

# Data Input: Intersection Count Form

STANDARD INTERSECTION COUNT FORM



Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Location: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Time Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Weather Conditions: \_\_\_\_\_

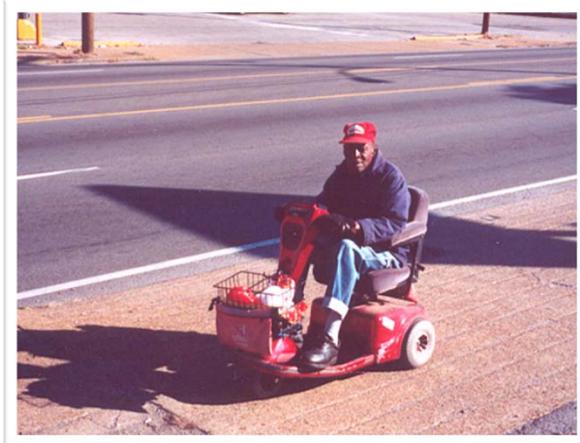
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| 1:00-1:15             |            |      |             |      |        |      |
| 1:15-1:30             |            |      |             |      |        |      |

**Identify Street Names for Orientation**

# Know How to Classify Users



# Know How to Classify Users



**2 Bicyclists**



**2 Pedestrians**

# How to Respond to Questions from Public during the Count

- ➔ Conducting bicycle and pedestrian counts on behalf of the Nashville Area MPO
- ➔ Data will be used to evaluate bicycling and walking travel needs and use
- ➔ Biennial count program to identify growth
- ➔ Volunteer effort

***Maintain the count even if someone asks questions.***

# Returning the Data

Return completed count forms within 24 hours in any of 3 ways:

1. Scan & email to: [meehan@nashvillempo.org](mailto:meehan@nashvillempo.org)
2. Fax to: (615) 880-2450

\*\*Please keep originals until we confirm the count forms have been received and are legible.\*\*

3. Mail to: Leslie Meehan  
Nashville Area MPO  
800 Second Avenue South, P.O. Box 196300  
Nashville, TN 37219

***Thank you for helping us in this important effort!!***

# **Nashville Area MPO Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Counts**

## **Contact Information:**

**Leslie Meehan  
MPO Project Manager**

**862-7211 or [meehan@nashvillempo.org](mailto:meehan@nashvillempo.org)**

**[www.nashvillempo.org](http://www.nashvillempo.org)**