Pedestrian Data Collection and Consistency in Open Street Map

January 8, 2019

Puget Sound Regional Council
The Challenge

- **Inconsistent data formats** between jurisdictions – data sets are difficult to integrate
- **Inconsistent information** – different data points are collected and not consistent regionally
- **Lack of data** in some areas
- **Longevity** of data collection activities and updates
- Challenge of **sharing and accessing** data in one place

**Sidewalk Data Example:**

Image Source: *Non-Motorized Connectivity Study*, King County Metro & Sound Transit, September 2014.
Obtain regionally consistent pedestrian asset data that supports:

- Potential **model improvements** for pedestrian travel
- Plan monitoring
- **Consistent evaluation** of pedestrian connectivity needs region-wide
- The preservation and maintenance work program
- Local needs
Why PSRC is choosing Open Street Map (OSM)?

• Open source – opportunity for PSRC and partners to **collectively contribute** to one unified data set

• Designed for and **supports multi-modal** routing

• **Existing transit networks** and tools readily available in OSM

• Data in OSM would benefit from analysis tools developed like UW’s AccessMap
PSRC Pilot

Criteria for choosing pilot sites:

- Near existing or future transit hubs
- In an area that has a sidewalk program or ADA transition plan
- Promote mutual benefit with local agencies
- At least one location in each County
PSRC Pilot

Coding method:

- Limit data collection to within half-mile buffer of a chosen location
- Data collection includes presence/absence of sidewalks, crossings and curb ramps
PSRC Pilot

Snohomish County
• Swift Orange Line Stations
  o 164th Street
  o Edmonds Community College

164th St Station
Edmonds CC Station
PSRC Pilot

Editing OSM:
• PSRC staff used iD Editor to add data.
• Edited all marked streets.
• Used local agency data and street views for cross-checking.
• May incorporate some fieldworks for final checking.
• Recorded staff hours for each site.
Next Steps

• **Finish pilot** for three counties (King, Kitsap and Pierce)

• **Once pilot is finished, PSRC will:**
  
  o Report on level of staff commitment, editing process and challenges to record data

  o Recommend how to replicate the methodology across central Puget Sound area

  o Continue to explore ways to maintain and update the data.