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LADOT Awarded Mobility Grant, Will Conduct Department’s First Count of Walkers and Bicyclists

Los Angeles, CA (October 8, 2019)

The Los Angeles Department of Transportation (LADOT) will conduct its first-ever count of people who walk and bike on Los Angeles streets using a combination of its Automated Traffic Surveillance and Control (ATSAC) system and volunteer counters. The count is partially funded by a grant from the Toyota Mobility Foundation to LADOT, the City of Los Angeles Information Technology Agency (ITA), and California State University Los Angeles (CSULA). In addition to the count, the $825,000 grant will be used for a pilot program over the next two years to install new cameras, sensors, and updates to machine learning software in an effort to expand personal mobility options for all.

"What gets measured matters," said LADOT General Manager Seleta Reynolds. "As we continue to transform our streets to meet climate and safety goals, the way we measure their use transforms, too. Our partnership with the Toyota Mobility Foundation takes advantage of technology to supplement our first citywide walk and bike count."

"The Information Technology Agency is committed to helping L.A. City departments deliver cutting-edge technology," said ITA General Manager Ted Ross. "We are proud to partner with LADOT to use emerging technology that creates insight and benefit to those walking and biking in Los Angeles."

The count will use cameras as well as volunteers placed at specific locations to monitor the number of people walking and cycling on the streets. Students and researchers at CSULA created the video recognition algorithm to count people on bikes and people who walk, which will complement counts performed by volunteers and other survey tools.

Encouraging active transportation methods such as walking and biking is crucial to lowering greenhouse gas emissions and improving air quality. Those interested in volunteering for the count can sign up here.

Additional information about the count is available here.
About Toyota Mobility Fund
The Toyota Mobility Foundation was established in August 2014 to help create a better, more mobile society. By applying Toyota’s expertise in technology, safety, and the environment, the foundation seeks to resolve urban transportation challenges, expand options and access for personal mobility, and design human-centered mobility solutions for the future.

About LADOT
LADOT leads transportation planning, project delivery, and operations in the City of Los Angeles. We work together and collaborate to deliver a safe, livable, and well-run transportation system in the city and region. Our vision is for all people in Los Angeles to have access to safe and affordable transportation choices that treat everyone with dignity and support vibrant, inclusive communities.

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