

VOL. 2 ISSUE 1 · WINTER 2021

# THE ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION MESSENGER

Official Quarterly Newsletter of the ATRC



PHOTO: OVERLAKE VILLAGE COMPLETE STREETS PLAN REDMOND, WASHINGTON

## Welcome to Our Newsletter!

The Active Transportation Resource Center (ATRC) would like to wish you all a very Happy 2021! This year we have big plans to boost and streamline the content on our website, to provide newsletters a few times per year, to offer a new teleconference and webinar series, On the Move, provide even more tailored technical assistance, and more. This first newsletter of the year introduces (or re-introduces) the ATRC and gives detailed descriptions of existing services, new initiatives, and more information on what's happening now.

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PHOTO: MTC "BIKE TO WHEREVER DAY"

# What is the ATRC?

**Purpose:** "The ATRC's mission is to provide resources, technical assistance, and training to transportation partners across California to increase opportunity for the success of active transportation projects."

The ATRC is here for you! We are made up of an amalgamation of universities, consultants, and State agencies. As our purpose states, we provide a variety of trainings, webinars, resources, and technical assistance statewide. It is our goal to consistently stay up to date on best practices and to ensure that we are always providing quality materials and assistance. Visit the [ATRC website](#) for more information.

## Did You Know?

**The ATRC has a Counter Loan Program available for statewide borrowing**

[FIND OUT MORE](#)







# ATRC Overview

## 1. CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Services provided: On-call non-infrastructure (NI) and public health technical assistance, training webinars and NI implementer teleconferences, NI workshops and site visits, resource development, project profiles, and other related services for the ATRC.

CDPH has been a part of the ATRC for several years. They play an integral role in providing quality technical assistance to ATP applicants and implementers. CDPH delivers quarterly NI teleconferences where ATP implementers can have open, focused discussions regarding challenges, successes, and solutions they've discovered in their projects. They also deliver quarterly training webinars on relevant active transportation and public health related topics. An archive of past webinars can be found on the ATRC website. CDPH is very knowledgeable on active transportation solutions and remain aware and up-to-date on current research around the state and nationwide. Their expertise is paramount to the ATRC and if your agency is in need of NI resources or technical assistance, don't hesitate to [reach out!](#)



## 2. CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, SACRAMENTO

Services Provided: Training courses, automated counter loan program, ATRC listserv and website, and other analytical and administrative assistance.

CSUS has been with the ATRC for several years. Their primary role in the ATRC is to provide free or low-cost training courses throughout the state, such as the Introduction to Bicycle Planning and Design training, FHWA's pedestrian and bicycle safety and design training, crossing guard training (coming soon), and the ATP Symposium. Visit our [training webpage](#) to request training in your area! CSUS is also the administrator of the ATRC [Automated Counter Loan Program](#) so that any local agency can have access to automated counter equipment. In addition, CSUS assists with ATP-TAC meeting facilitation, ATRC website development, and ATRC listserv management.

Want to hear  
more about the  
ATRC's efforts  
toward better  
active  
transportation  
counts in  
California?

SEE: [ATRC PRESENTATION AT THE CALTRANS INNOVATION EXPO](#)



PHOTO: TOWARD A SHARED UNDERSTANDING OF PEDESTRIAN SAFETY; USDOT, JUNE 2020

### 3. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT COST TOOL

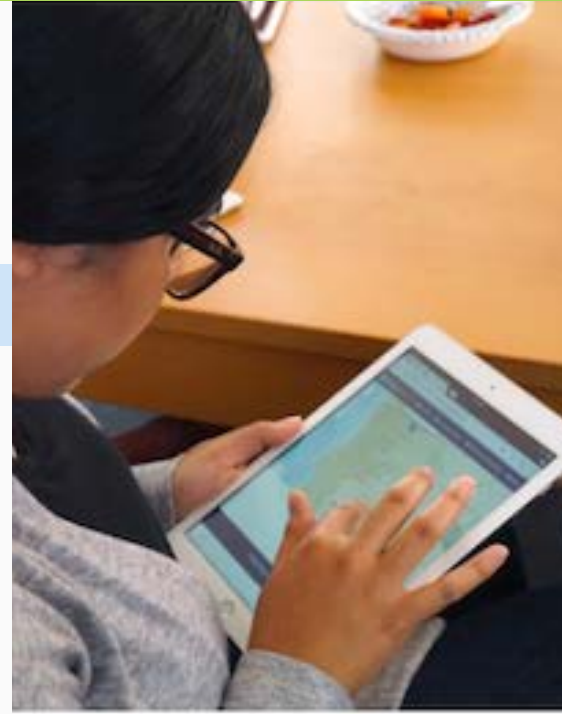
Services provided: Benefit Cost Tool

The ATRC has contracted with UC Davis to develop a research based active transportation benefit cost tool. The tool will be used to estimate the benefits of active transportation projects as part of a project evaluation process. Under rigorous research, with a literature review, a White Paper analysis, and a Technical Advisory Committee to give input, the benefits represented in the tool will be heavily vetted prior to implementation into the tool. The tool, which is currently under construction, is expected to be used in the ATP, but can also serve as a tool for local agencies to use to compare active transportation projects within their specific jurisdictions.

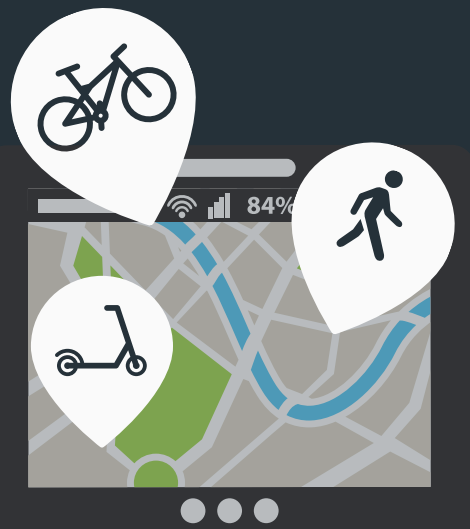
## 4. ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION SAFETY DATA TOOLS

Services provided: TIMS Tool and Street Story

The ATRC has contracted with Safe Transportation Research and Education Center (SafeTREC) at UC Berkeley to develop a Transportation Injury Mapping System (TIMS) tool for the ATP. This online tool displays bicycle and pedestrian crashes in a heat map relative to an ATP project boundary to allow agencies to make data-driven project decisions that addresses the highest safety needs. The ATP-TIMS Tool was used successfully in ATP Cycles 4 and 5. In addition, SafeTREC also developed an ATP version of another tool called Street Story. Street Story is a map-based, community engagement tool that allows residents, community groups, and agencies to collect information about transportation collisions, near misses, general hazards and safe locations to travel. Once an entry is made, community groups and agencies can use the information as a part of community needs assessments and transportation safety planning efforts.



PHOTOS: BERKELEY SAFETREC STREET STORY



## Did You Know?

You can request specialized training for your agency or geographic area

SEE THE [ATRC RESOURCE PAGE](#) OR EMAIL [ATRC@CSUS.EDU](mailto:ATRC@CSUS.EDU) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



## 5. ATP DISADVANTAGED COMMUNITIES TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Services provided: Technical assistance to disadvantaged communities

The ATRC has successfully run a Disadvantaged Communities Technical Assistance (DAC TA) Program for many years. The program provides disadvantaged communities with extra support and capacity building skills in order to more competitively apply for the ATP. After seeing the success of the DAC TA program in Cycle 2 and 4, the ATRC was able to double the efforts and resources provided towards the Cycle 5 program. Local Government Commission (LGC) was contracted to provide technical assistance to ten disadvantaged communities throughout the application process and into the beginning stages of implementation, if selected. Despite the challenges the state faced in 2020, eight of the ten communities were able to submit applications, and the remaining two, with the assistance of LGC, are now preparing for Cycle 6.



## 6. EVALUATION AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

The need for an Evaluation program for the ATP has been pressing for a few cycles and the ATRC is now working to meet this need. This program will enhance the overall ATP by providing a much needed service - tailored data collection assistance, an evaluation plan with data collection framework, project impact analysis, and more. The contractor will provide both qualitative and quantitative recommendations to measure benefits with consistent data sources. Some metrics that will be considered may include (but are not limited to):

- Increase in biking and walking trips (counts)
- Safety
- GHG Reduction
- Enhancing public health
- Program equipment sustainability for NI projects
- Much more

Stay tuned for more details regarding this project.

# Great Things Happening Now!

## ON THE MOVE

ATRC On the Move is a new two-part series of quarterly webinars entitled Perspectives 2021 and quarterly teleconferences entitled Synergy 2021.



ATRC Active Transportation Resource Center

ATRC On the Move Presents:

# PERSPECTIVES 2021

QUARTERLY WEBINARS



Perspectives 2021 provides the latest trends and innovative programming from experts in the field. The goal of the webinars is to enrich, improve, sustain, and build capacity of your Active Transportation Non-Infrastructure program. The webinars also offer an opportunity to ask questions and share successes.



ATRC Active Transportation Resource Center

ATRC On the Move Presents:

# SYNERGY 2021

QUARTERLY TELECONFERENCES



Synergy 2021 is geared toward Non-Infrastructure awardees (including combo projects) and offers an opportunity for you to receive program updates, guidance, best practices, and resources from your Active Transportation NI state staff. Share ideas and challenges with fellow funded programs. Each event will focus on one of the NI program Es.

## PROJECT PROFILES

Project Profiles are an exciting opportunity for agencies to showcase their work. This ongoing Caltrans initiative, done by the ATRC, takes the details of completed ATP projects and turns it into a colorful infographic that shares the benefits accomplished by the project. These profiles are done for both Infrastructure and Non-Infrastructure projects and if you would like your agency to have a recently completed ATP project showcased, please reach out to us at [atp-ni@dot.ca.gov](mailto:atp-ni@dot.ca.gov)



## Get Involved!

Here are three ways you can help us spread awareness of the ATRC:

1. Share this ATRC newsletter with a colleague
2. Encourage a colleague to sign up for our listserv
3. Share a valuable resource from our website to your network