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November 2, 2023

The Honorable City Council, City of Los Angeles
% City Clerk,
Room 395, City Hall
Attention: Councilmember Nithya Raman

COUNCIL FILE 23-0721: REVISED - REPORT FROM THE BUREAU OF STREET LIGHTING ON SENSORS AND COUNTERS IN THE LAKE HOLLYWOOD PARK AND INNSDALE TRAIL VICINITIES

SUMMARY

This report is in response to a request for an analysis and project delivery plan to install sensors and/or other technologies capable of counting pedestrians and vehicles in the vicinity of Lake Hollywood Park, and the east and West Innsdale Trail entrances.

BACKGROUND

The Bureau of Street Lighting has more than 223,000 streetlights throughout the City of Los Angeles. The majority of these poles are approximately 30 feet high and have power available 24 hours a day. These attributes make streetlight poles assets in the data driven world of “smart city”, and provide an existing infrastructure within the public right of way that can serve as access points for sensors, Wi-Fi, and other smart city technology. BSL has been a leader for in the Smart City marketplace when it comes to streetlighting. For the last 3 years BSL has been exploring “smart” technologies that can be attached to our streetlight poles to assist other departments and agencies within the city. These technologies range from air quality monitoring to proximity sensors, to curb management, and radar detection. One of the larger projects that we deployed was pedestrian and cyclist counters, which was done in coordination with the LADOT. These were installed at target locations throughout the City so that LADOT can collect and analyze data along specific corridors for their planning purposes.

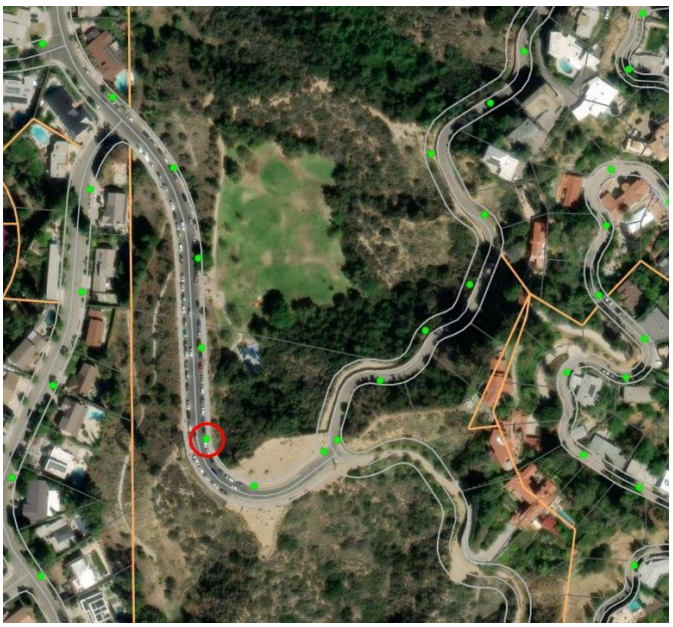
DISCUSSION
The counters that were used in the previous project with LADOT were reliable, but were very large and cumbersome to install. BSL is currently testing a new product that has so far proved to be reliable, but is much smaller, easier to install and about half the cost. Current estimated cost of this device is $6000, which includes counting analytics and three years of service/connectivity. This cost does not include installation fees, which are roughly $300 per hour.

After surveying the target locations, it has been determined that BSL can provide a solution to accurately count the vehicles and pedestrians around Lake Hollywood Park and the Innsdale Trail west entrance. However, the Innsdale Trail east entrance does not have streetlights that are adequate to mount equipment to for data collection. The poles are only 10 feet tall and will not provide a proper viewing angle for accurate data. Furthermore, the ornamental style of these poles will not support our current technology used for pedestrian counting.

We have chosen two recommended poles to mount this equipment to for data collection at the target locations:

1. The first location is around Lake Hollywood Park. This pole was chosen because we can count the number of people who walk up the sidewalks to get to the southern lookout point. The same sensor can also count the cars that pass by this location.

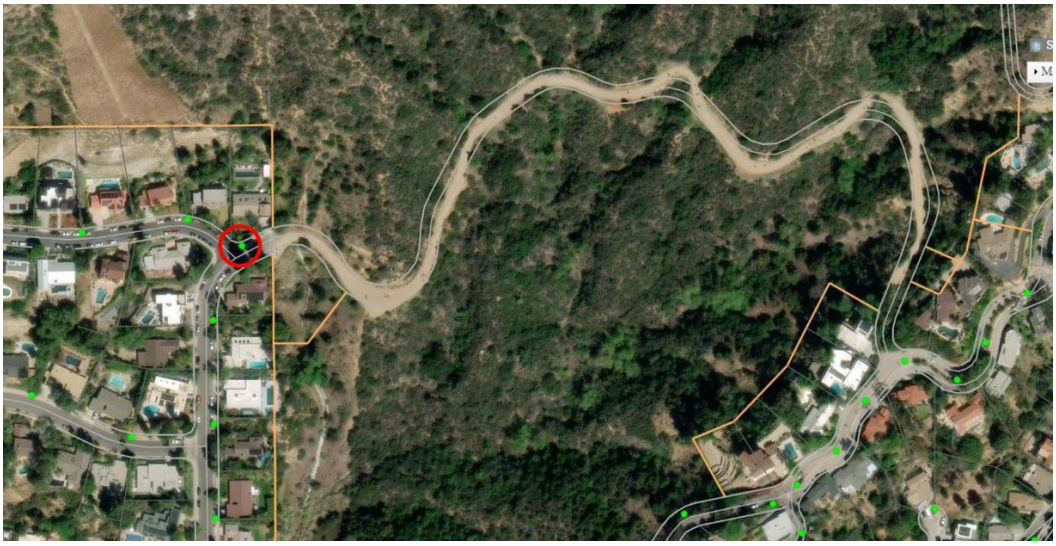
Overview of Lake Hollywood Park - Sensor location circled



Lake Hollywood Park - Pole that will have sensor

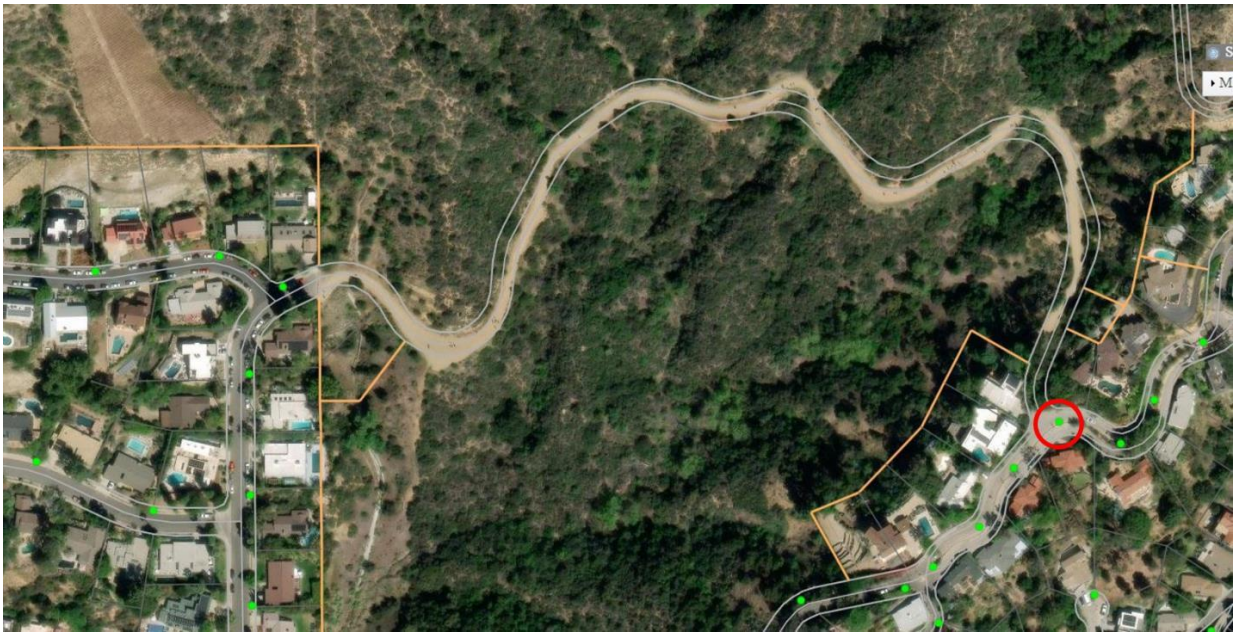
2. The second location of interest is the Innsdale Trail west entrance. There is a pole right near the entrance that will allow us to get a great view of the entrance as well as the vehicles that pass by the entrance.

Overview of Innsdale Trail west entrance



Pole that will have the sensor

Overview of Innsdale Trail East entrance (Not Feasible)



Ornamental pole at east entrance (Not Feasible)

The installation of the proposed counters can be installed on the same day, while the programming and commissioning can be done shortly after. Data collection will begin immediately after commissioning and will be continuous all day, every day.

Data will be retrieved from the counters by BSL on a predetermined basis and sent to LADOT for analysis.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Confirm recommended locations for installation, identify funding, and authorize the Bureau of Street Lighting (BSL) to purchase and install counting technology on existing streetlights in the subject area.

2. AUTHORIZE the Controller, subject to approval of the Mayor, to transfer funds from the Council District 4 portion of the Street Furniture Revenue Fund No. 43D Dept. 50 to the following accounts for the purchase of pedestrian/vehicle counting devices and for the installation costs of said devices by the Bureau of Street Lighting crews:

Transfer From:	Transfer To:	
Fund: 43D, Dept: 50	Fund: 100, Dept 84 Acct: 008780, Materials	$12,000
	Fund: 100, Dept: 84 Acct: 001010, Salaries	$2,000

3. AUTHORIZE the Bureau of Street Services, Board of Public Works – Office of Accounting, or Controller, to make any corrections, clarifications or revisions to the above fund transfer instructions, including any new instructions, in order to effectuate the intent of this instruction, and including any corrections and changes to fund or account numbers; said corrections/clarifications/changes may be made orally, electronically or by any other means.

Respectfully Submitted,

for
Miguel Sangalang, Executive Director
Bureau of Street Lighting