



An Open Data Approach to Curbside Management

City of Minneapolis

PROJECT PARTNERS

Walker Consultants
Bolton & Menk
Umojo
Whittier Alliance
Open Mobility Foundation



PROJECT CHALLENGE

Our project seeks to address public access to information about curb regulations and availability. With the general rise in e-commerce over the past decade along with new passenger and food delivery options, demand for curb space is increasing in urban settings. Delivery and other services that use the curb space are increasingly using advanced technologies to improve their efficiency. However, many cities still primarily rely on static signage to communicate curbside regulations. Our project is working to make these regulations and availability data available in digital formats.

IMPACT

The project study area is an approximately mile long stretch of a diverse and vibrant business district in south Minneapolis known as Eat Street. The corridor is within a Justice40 CEJST tract. The only parking management in the area is posted time limits so we have limited info about parking and delivery demand here compared to areas of the city with metered parking. As we work to make curb information more available here, our goal is to improve the environmental safety of the area through less traffic and vehicle emissions, along with boosting economic development through improved curb access.

CURRENT STATE OF THE ISSUE

We estimate there are approximately 300 standard parking spaces in the project corridor. The lowest overall occupancy we've observed is 46%, and the highest was 82%. However, many of the highest demand blocks were at 100% occupancy during peak demand. Most heavy freight deliveries are made during moderate demand, but food deliveries are common during peak demand.

STAGE 1 OUTCOMES

This project will utilize the Curb Data Specification (CDS) developed by the Open Mobility Foundation to represent our curb data on our open data portal through application programming interfaces. A key successful outcome will be identifying and integrating existing city systems to populate the data fields needed in the specification. Another key success measure is finding private partners willing and able to ingest this data.

STAGE 2 VISION

A Stage 2 deployment of this project would likely scale the work in the current project corridor to other commercial corridors in the city. It would also likely involve working closer with private partners to refine the APIs on our open data portal to ensure they're providing optimal information and ensuring there's value in making that data available in digital form.