Help us map where sidewalks end and win prizes for your neighborhood!

WalkDenver & Denver Environmental Health (DEH)’s Community Active Living Coalition (CALC) are proud to host the WALKscope Data Challenge May 31 through June 14, 2016. Teams comprised of neighbors, schoolmates, or co-workers will compete to collect data about sidewalks and crossings throughout Denver using the WALKscope online pedestrian data collection tool (www.walkscope.org).

Participating in the challenge is easy as 1-2-3:

1. **Form a team.** Teams can be made up of neighbors, school-mates, co-workers, or just friends! Once you’ve assembled your team, be sure to sign up at [www.walkdenver.org](http://www.walkdenver.org).

2. **Learn how to use WALKscope.** Participate in the Data Captain training on May 31 from 5-7pm, location TBD (RSVP to calc@denvergov.org) AND/OR get your team together to review this Tip Sheet AND/OR watch the WALKscope training video at [www.walkdenver.org](http://www.walkdenver.org).

3. **Collect data.** Your team can collect data anywhere within the City and County of Denver, preferably in areas where data hasn’t been collected previously – review the map at [www.walkscope.org](http://www.walkscope.org) to see which areas haven’t yet been surveyed. Reach out to calc@denvergov.org for assistance in planning data collection. Check the leaderboard at [www.walkdenver.org](http://www.walkdenver.org) for regular updates on how much data your team has collected compared to others. *The top 3 teams that collect the most data between May 31 and June 14 will win $1000 for a neighborhood-designed walkability project, such as sidewalk art or wayfinding signs!*

Data collected during the Challenge will help WalkDenver & CALC to tell stories with photos, maps, and statistics that illustrate the challenges people on foot face throughout the city, and build the case for policies and investments that make walking a safe and easy option for all Denver residents.

The remainder of this document provides tips on how to use WALKscope to collect data about sidewalks and pedestrian crossings. For more information, visit [www.walkdenver.org](http://www.walkdenver.org) or contact Jill Locantore at [jill.locantore@walkdenver.org](mailto:jill.locantore@walkdenver.org).
**What is WALKscope?**

WALKscope is an online tool for crowdsourcing data about walkability. Anyone can use the tool via a smartphone, tablet, or desktop computer to record information about sidewalk and intersection quality throughout Denver. This information will help create an inventory of pedestrian infrastructure in Denver, identify gaps, and build the case for improvements.

**Before you start**

If you are recording data in the field with a device such as a smart phone or tablet, make sure that your device is fully charged and that location services are enabled for both your device AND your browser. WALKscope will work best if you close other applications and have plenty of free memory on your device. The WALKscope web page may load slowly if you are in an area with poor reception.

**Accessing WALKscope**

You can access WALKscope directly through your web browser; there is no need to download the application onto your phone or computer. Go to [www.walkscope.org](http://www.walkscope.org). Click on the “Add Data” tab at the top right-hand side of the page. Click on the blue “Let’s add some data!” button. Enter your Team Name and click the orange “Get started” button.

**The basics**

1. Move the map to the area where you would like to collect data.
2. Select a sidewalk (line) or intersection (circle). The item you select will turn yellow.
3. Select “2016 WalkShops” as the project you are collecting data for.
4. Select the data you would like to record: sidewalk quality or intersection quality. This will bring up a short list of survey questions.
5. Once you submit your answers, the sidewalk (line) or intersection (circle) will turn green.
6. Select another sidewalk or intersection to record more data.

**TIP:** Try to answer ALL of the questions as best you can. It helps if you add a picture too!

WALKscope’s mobile data collection interface. In the left image, the yellow line indicates the sidewalk segment the user has chosen to report on. The right image shows the survey questions.
Moving the map
There are a few different ways you can move the map:
1. Click on and drag the map. You can also click on the plus (+) and minus (-) signs to zoom the map in and out.
2. Click on the menu button in the upper left corner (a circle with three horizontal lines). Then you can:
   a. Click on the blue “Locate me” button to move the map to your current location. Location services must be enabled on both your device AND your browser for this to work.
   b. Alternatively, enter an address in the orange box and click on the blue “Find address” button.
   c. Click on the map again to close the menu.
When you first open the map or move to new location, it may take a moment before the sidewalks (lines) and intersections (circles) appear on the map.

**EXPERT TIP:** Outside of the City and County of Denver, and in certain locations within Denver, you will not see lines representing sidewalks, or circles representing intersections. To add data in these areas, click the “point mode” button adjacent to the map. You will see a blue pin on the map. Move the map until the pin is located on the sidewalk or intersection you are surveying. Then proceed as above. In most cases, however, you should use “sidewalk/intersection mode.”

WALKscope’s mobile data collection interface. The left image shows “Point mode,” which you should use when collecting data outside the City and County of Denver. The right image shows the menu with the “Locate me” and “Find address” options.
WALKscope Data Challenge Tip Sheet

Answering the survey questions: Sidewalk Quality

**What type of sidewalk?**
Use your best guess for sidewalk width. Attached sidewalks are directly adjacent to the street, whereas detached sidewalks have a strip of grass or other elements such as seating, bike parking, trees etc. between the sidewalk and the street. Some neighborhoods in Denver have narrow sidewalks with curbs designed to be easy to drive over. For these, choose “less than 3 feet rollover curb.”

![Attached Sidewalk](image1)
![Detached Sidewalk](image2)

**Do you feel unsafe? (lighting, traffic, or other)**
Safety is important, but often hard to quantify. Sometimes low lighting or fast-moving traffic can trigger safety concerns, while other times the presence of lots of people or appropriate protection from traffic can offset those concerns. Use your best judgment and tell us more in the description!

**Pedestrian amenities**
Shade trees, landscaping, benches, public art and other amenities make a nice, inviting place to walk. Let us know in the description about the amenities you particularly like.
WALKscope Data Challenge Tip Sheet

Answering the survey questions: Intersection Quality

Are there painted crosswalks?
Well-marked crosswalks increase visibility and contribute to pedestrian safety. Be sure to note whether the crosswalks are in all crossing directions, or just some.

Are there traffic controls?
Some, but not all traffic lights also have signals specifically for pedestrians. Some intersections may have pedestrian signals, but not traditional traffic lights. Intersections with stop signs typically do not have traffic lights or pedestrian signals.

How many lanes are there to cross?
Count the number of lanes on the street with the **most** lanes. For instance, if one street had 4 lanes and the other had 7, the number of lanes recorded would be 7. Count turn lanes as lanes, but not parking.

Are there pedestrian amenities?
Bulb-outs are an extension of the curb that shorten crossing distances. Median islands provide a safe place for pedestrians to wait part way across the street. Accessible curb ramps make it easy for people in wheelchairs to cross the street.

Still have questions? Contact Jill at jill.locantore@walkdenver.org or 303-895-6376.
Are there problems with driver behavior?
Drivers that speed, run red lights or stop signs, or fail to yield to pedestrians create hazardous conditions for walking. If you are familiar with the area, answer this question based on your general experience. If you are not familiar with the area, answer this question based on your current observations.