

# **Making Headway:**

## **Transit Media Metrics**

**(and the Blueprint for Other DOOH)**

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*Digital/static OOH audience measurement  
and research specialists since 1995*

# *I'm going to talk about...*

- 3 **myths** we need to give up
- From guidelines to **audits**
- DOOH **CAN** do it!



*Context:* U.S. **Transit** media

# 3 MYTHS WE NEED TO GIVE UP



# MYTH #1

## Diversity:

- Too many different types of Digital OOH
- We can't establish common standards or methods

# MYTH #2

## Baby Steps:

- Gradually “refine” current data
- “Crude” metrics are OK – we need to start somewhere
- It’s better than nothing

# MYTH #3

## Fancy Measurement Tools:

- Technology is a stand-alone solution for audience measurement
- Technical tools are “better” than old-fashioned methods

**FROM  
GUIDELINES  
to  
AUDITS**





# Measurement Hierarchy

Guidelines

Policy

Standards

Audits

# What's the Difference?

	<b>GUIDELINES</b>	<b>POLICY</b>	<b>STANDARDS</b>	<b>AUDITS</b>
<b>WHO?</b>	Industry Body (with input)	Execs (Buyer/Seller)	Research Suppliers (often)	Unbiased Bureau/Association
<b>COMPLIANCE</b>	Optional	Mandatory	Enforceable	Enforced
<b>DETAIL</b>	General	Specific	Measurable	Verified



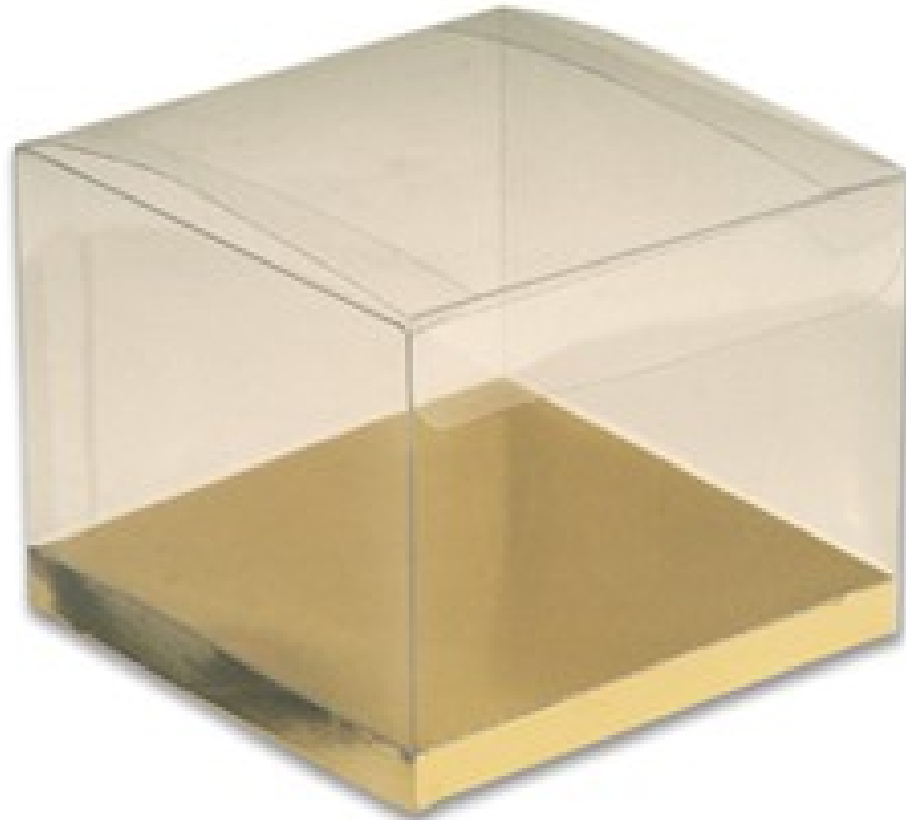
**This is currently missing**

# *Question for you:*

What is the most important quality of an **AUDIT**?



# TRANSPARENCY!



**Glass** box NOT Black box

**DOOH  
CAN DO IT!**



# Where Do We Start?

Establish **STRUCTURE**

Identify **RESOURCES**

Define **PROCESS**



# Case Study: TRANSIT MEDIA METRICS

# STRUCTURE

(who leads the charge?)

TRB

- Transportation Research Board
- Funded **Research**

COMMITTEES

- Guidelines and **Oversight**
- Transit agencies, media sellers

TAB

- Traffic Audit Bureau
- **Implementation** – Nationwide



# RESOURCES

(what can we use?)



Rider-  
ship



Travel  
Surveys



Bus routes  
Roads  
Traffic  
Ped's



Eye  
Tracking

# PROCESS

(2 important points)

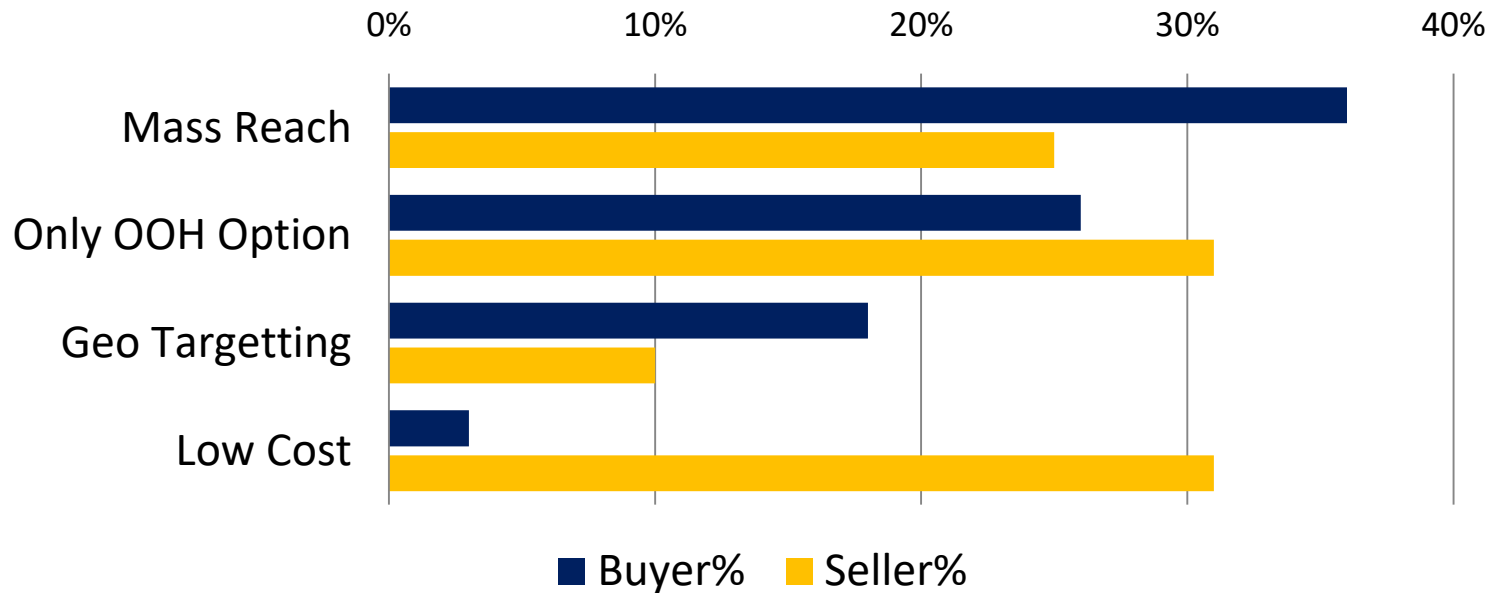
1. Avoid **PITFALL**: get **BUY-IN**  
(*stakeholder consultation*):

- Multiple committees
- Transit media buyer/seller surveys
- In-depth interviews – buyers/sellers

# Key Findings

## 1. Sellers' misconceptions

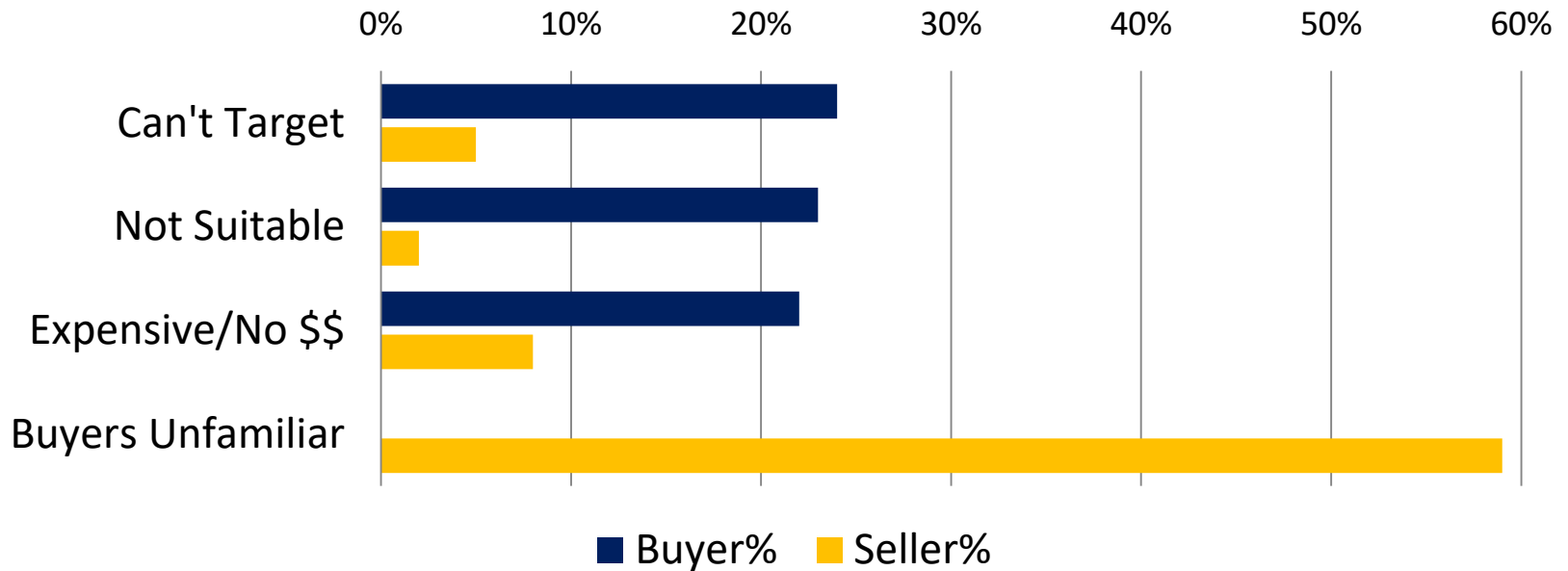
### Why Buyers Choose Transit Media



# Key Findings

## 2. More sellers' misconceptions

### Why Buyers Don't Choose Transit



# PROCESS

(2nd important point)

2. GIGO: **know** your data sources or collect your own:
  - 2800 intercept surveys (3 markets)
  - 450 bus-route miles – counts by side
  - Eye-tracking pilot study

# Data Issues

- Ridership data – inconsistent
- Road/traffic data – spotty
- Eye tracking – very little
- **Solution** – collect our OWN data



- 2800 intercept surveys (3 markets)
- 450 bus-route miles – passing-vehicle counts by side of bus
- Eye-tracking study

# Fieldwork





Subjects wearing eyewear with cameras and retina tracking followed a fixed bus-subway route.

# Live eye camera tests

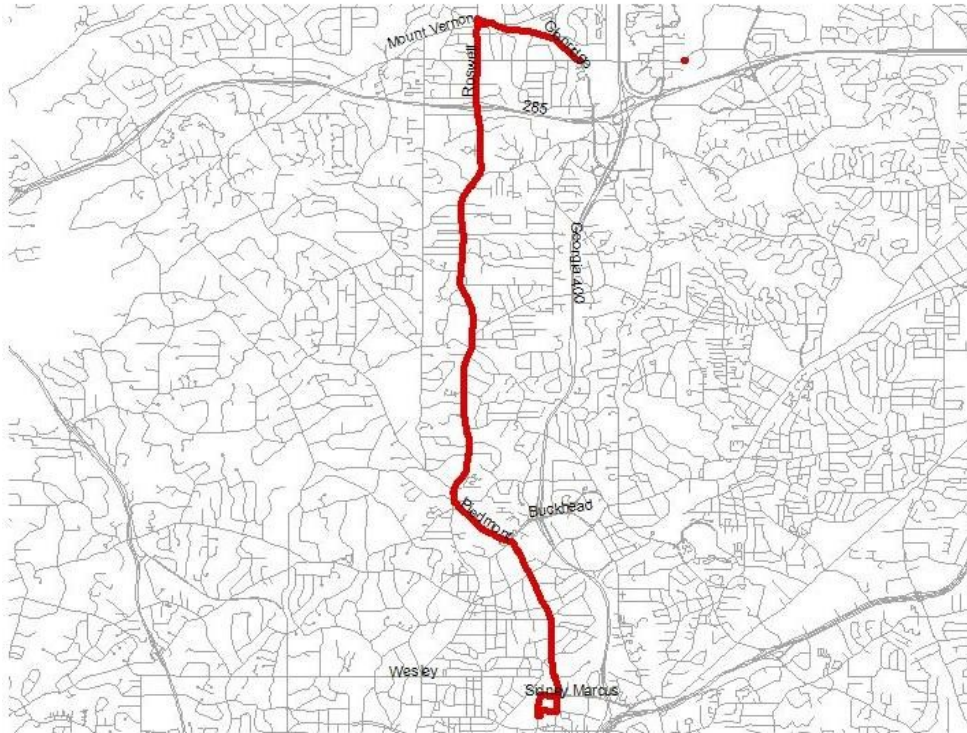




Vehicle-mounted mobile camera

# Example:

## Atlanta Route 5



**5.8 miles**

**14 runs**

**13.2 mph average**

### **Vehicle counts:**

Opp 10,905 (78%)

Same L 2,816 (20%)

Same R 237 ( 2%)

Piedmont Rd NE/Morosgo Dr NE to  
Roswell Rd NE/Glenridge Dr NE

# FIELDWORK: Rider-Targeted

- 2800 intercept surveys across 3 cities;
- Questions included:
  - Basic demographics
  - Trip purpose
  - Origin-destination + trip details
  - Trip and transit use frequency
  - Media notice

# Interior Transit Media (rider-targeted):

- **Bus Interiors** - avg by bus garage
- **Rail Interiors** – avg by rail line group
- **Rail Stations** – avg by station  
(concourse and platform separately)
- **Rail Exteriors** – avg by rail line group

# OTS – Transit Interiors

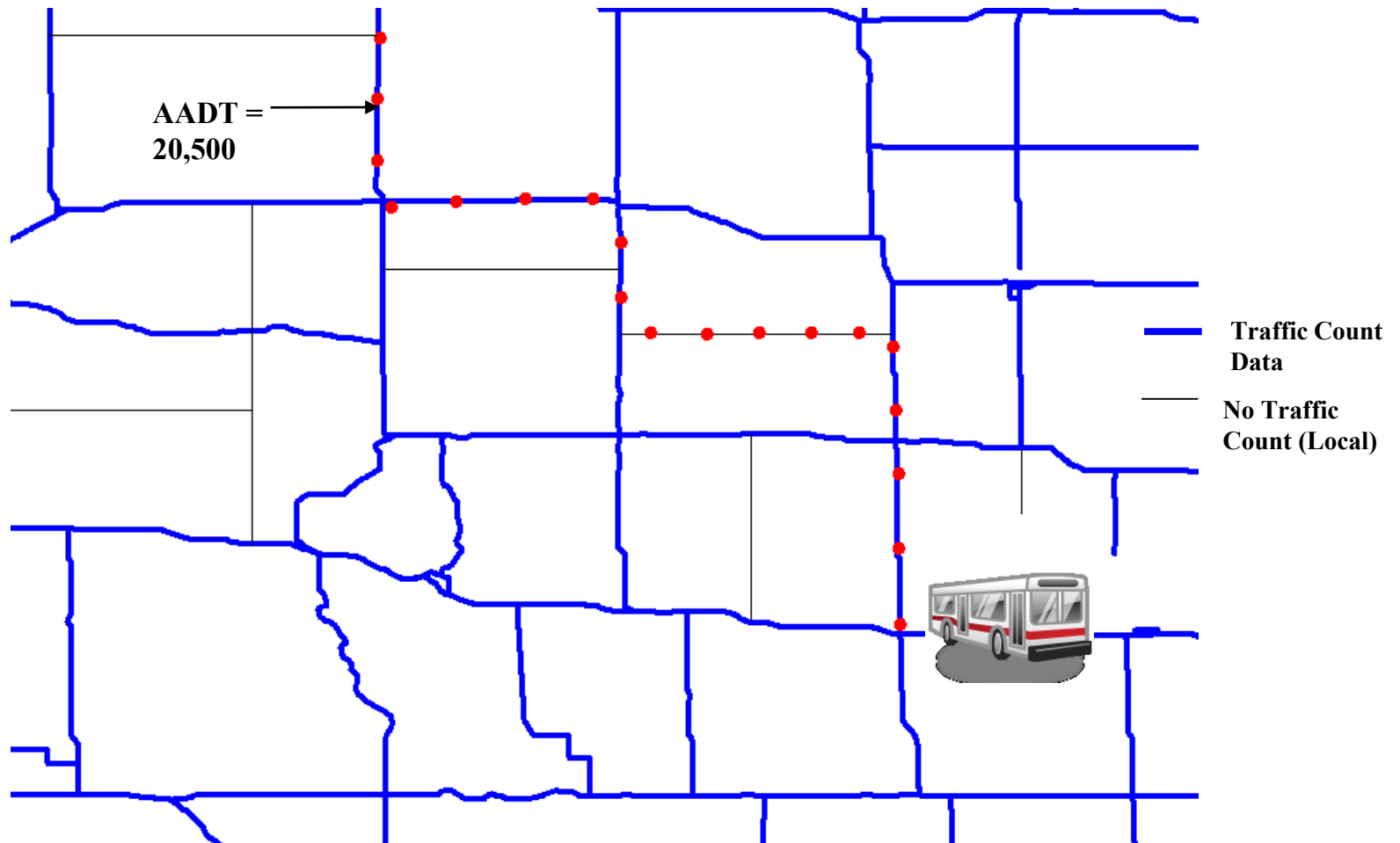
- Based on **ridership data** at the following levels of detail (“**granularity**”):
  - Bus interiors – by bus garage
  - Rail interiors – by line or group of lines
  - Rail exteriors – by line or group of lines
  - Stations – by station
- **Visibility indexes** applied to ridership



# OTS – Bus Exteriors (cont'd)

- **Data inputs** to measure bus exteriors:
  - Traffic counts
  - Road data (class, speed, one way)
  - Travel times/speeds (ideally GPS)
  - Census data (pop. density, mode)
  - Fleet data
- Result is bus exterior OTS from **pedestrians and vehicle occupants**

# Matching Bus GPS Data with Traffic Counts



## OTS Components by Bus Side

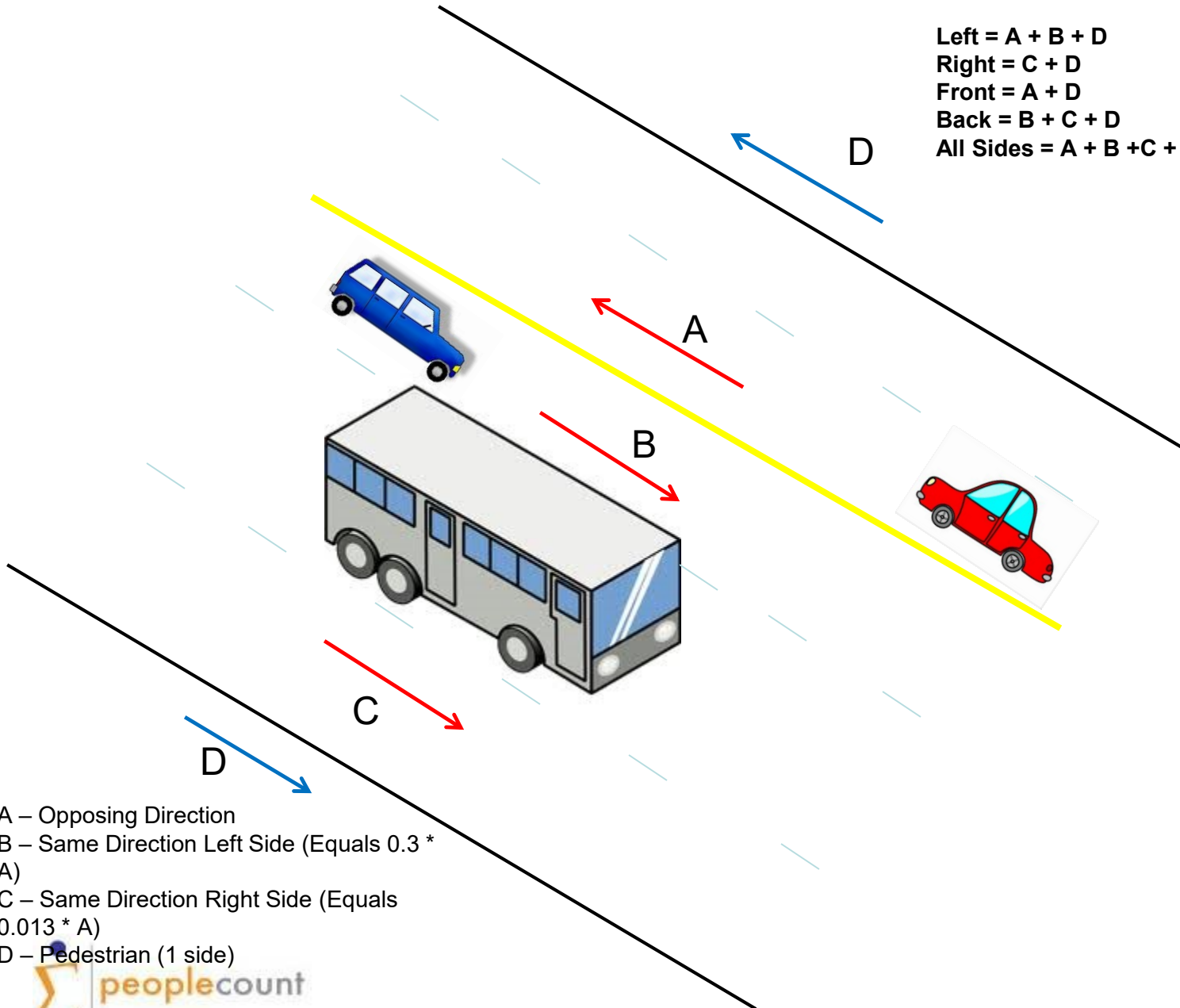
Left =  $A + B + D$

Right =  $C + D$

Front =  $A + D$

Back =  $B + C + D$

All Sides =  $A + B + C + (2 * D)$



A – Opposing Direction

B – Same Direction Left Side (Equals  $0.3 * A$ )

A)

C – Same Direction Right Side (Equals

$0.013 * A$ )

D – Pedestrian (1 side)





**IMPLEMENTATION**

# Implementation

- Traffic Intensity Model to be applied to each DMA
- OTS calcs must be rolled out for **each transit system with a rail component**
- Bus-only systems can be processed via software and traffic count layer
- Ready to implement Top 50 DMAs in 2012

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**“Questions?”**

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