Metropolitan Council

Better biking options in the Twin Cities region?
There's an app for that.

The Metropolitan Council is using a smartphone application to get a better understanding of bicyclists' route and habits, info that will help make the region more bike-friendly.

The Council has licensed the use of the app CycleTracks, developed by the San Francisco County Transportation Authority, for use by cyclists in the Twin Cities region.

This application is free to download and use and records your actual bike trips with the help of GPS. CycleTracks also allows users to track their rides.

The app sends details of the routes to a centralized database. The Met Council can then use the information on your routes to improve regional transportation planning by giving transportation planners a better understanding of the routes cyclists take.

How to use CycleTracks:

- Download the application CycleTracks from the Google Play (android) or App Store (iPhone).
- Turn on your GPS.
- Select "Start Trip" when you are ready to start bicycling.
- When your ride is complete, select "Finish Trip" and pick a reason for your trip.
- Press "Submit" to complete.

Quick Facts:

- The San Francisco County Transportation Authority (SFCTA) developed the application. The Met Council has been given permission from SFCTA to participate.

- Cyclists opt-in and volunteer their bike information and each of their rides.

- The app requests general information (age, gender, email address), but no personal information needs to be divulged to use the application.

- A cyclist must log in and out to record a trip.

- The application gives cyclists an opportunity to see maps and get statistics for their rides.

- The Metropolitan Council can use the cycling data for future transportation planning.

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