The value of real-time parking information for last mile delivery

Dr. Anne Goodchild
Professor
Civil and Environmental Engineering
University of Washington

Abstract: Curb space is a scarce commodity in urban areas, with competing demands from cyclists, transit vehicles, commercial vehicles, and others. In addition, curb availability is unknown to users prior to arrival. When approaching their destination, drivers use a visual assessment to determine parking location, and decide where to park. If parking is unavailable, they decide whether to park in an unauthorized location, search for parking, wait, or move on to another delivery. These strategies create operational and safety problems from unauthorized parking, and increase vehicle miles travelled and carbon emissions. To address this problem, the Urban Freight Lab installed curb sensors, and built an OpenPark – an application through which drivers can see real-time and predicted availability of curb parking. This presentation will share the impact of that parking information on last mile delivery.

Bio: Dr. Anne Goodchild leads the University of Washington's academic and research efforts in the area of supply chain, logistics, and freight transportation. She is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and serves as Founding Director of both the Supply Chain Transportation & Logistics online Master's degree program and the Supply Chain Transportation & Logistics Center, the latter which launched the Urban Freight Lab (UFL) in 2016 to bring together the public and private sectors to address the challenges of the urban freight system by engaging in innovative research. For more details, please visit Dr. Goodchild's faculty profile page on: https://depts.washington.edu/sctlctr/about-us/faculty-professional-staff/dr-anne-goodchild.