

Emerging Traffic

Here's a bright idea – an e-map that shows routes people actually use. With GPS tracers and GPRS networks, the Amsterdam RealTime project tracked 75 volunteers as they walked, cycled, and drove around the city. After 40 days, the cumulative data lit up this map: The more traveled the route, the brighter it glows. (The really hot spots are red.) RealTime was part of an exhibit at the Amsterdam City Archive last fall (www.waag.org/realtim). After receiving requests to create similar maps of Brussels, Lisbon, and Paris, the project is considering taking its code on the road. Next up: licensing the technology or distributing it as freeware.

– Jessie Scanlon

