

Micro-module A: Online Urban Data Gathering

A6- Accessibility of Amenities Evaluation Based on Urbano

Former studies have indicated that one of the significant qualities of a walkable city is access to varied amenities within walking distance, which has been linked to socioeconomic growth and quality of life.

Urbano is an urban analytics toolset that enables an automated workflow for analysing the accessibility of facilities, as well as how the distribution of amenities affects people walking in a neighbourhood. It uses multi-source open data to import contextual GIS, OpenStreetMap, and Google Places data into Grasshopper to create an urban mobility model.

In this micromodule, the tutorial will introduce the whole process of creating the urban mobility model via Urbano, including data collecting, pre-processing, inputting and final result outcomes.

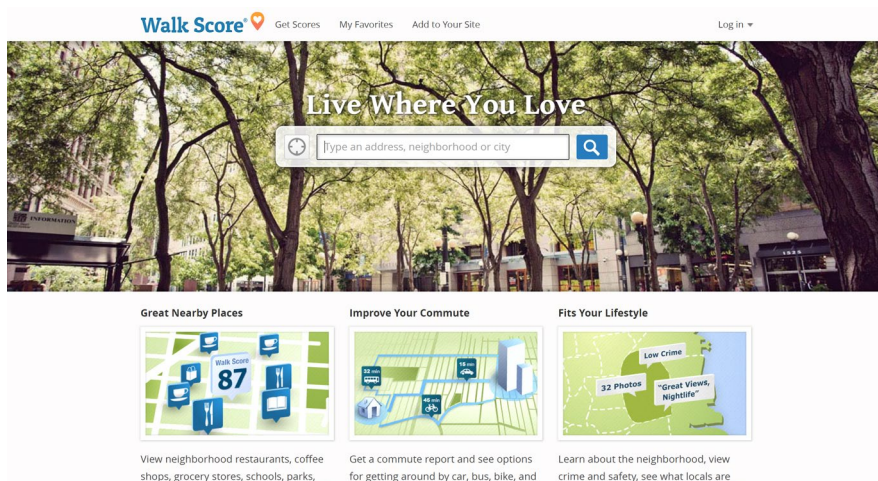
1. Introduction of Walkable Neighbourhood Evaluation and Urbano Toolkit

1.1 Walkable Neighbourhood

The idea of walkability has evolved into a critical theoretical and operational function. Walkable communities have been derived from studies to considerably reduce traffic-related pollution and the risk of chronic illnesses (Frank et al. 2006; Lee and Buchner 2008), promote economic growth and prosperity (Claris and Scopelliti 2016), as well as encourage growth in social capital and political involvement (Leyden, 2003). One of the most significant components of a walkable city is walkable amenities, which have been linked to socioeconomic growth and quality of life.

1.2 Walkscore

The fundamental cause and motivation to promote walking activity is generally accepted to be proximity to and availability of facilities (Clark et al., n.d.). To assess cities' walkability, efforts have been undertaken to rank them based on a shortest-distance study between various Points of interest (POIs). These walkability ratings, known colloquially as Walkscores (Brewster et al. 2009; ESRI 2019; Walkscore 2019), are calculated on a one-to-one scale and include criteria such as access to services and facilities such as grocery stores, doctors, parks, schools, hospitals, and public transit.



The screenshot shows the Walk Score website interface. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links for 'Get Scores', 'My Favorites', 'Add to Your Site', and 'Log in'. The main heading is 'Live Where You Love' with a search bar below it containing the placeholder text 'Type an address, neighborhood or city'. Below the search bar are three main sections:

- Great Nearby Places:** A map showing a Walk Score of 87. Below the map, it says 'View neighborhood restaurants, coffee shops, grocery stores, schools, parks,'.
- Improve Your Commute:** A map showing transit options. Below the map, it says 'Get a commute report and see options for getting around by car, bus, bike, and'.
- Fits Your Lifestyle:** A map showing 'Low Crime' and '32 Photos'. Below the map, it says 'Learn about the neighborhood, view crime and safety, see what locals are'.

<https://www.walkscore.com/>

Data Services

Next Steps

- [Request pricing](#)
- [Download case study](#)

Walkability, Real Estate, and Public Health Data

Walk Score data is used by analysts and researchers in the fields of real estate, urban planning, government, public health, and finance.

Walk Score has received grants from the [Rockefeller Foundation](#) and the [Robert Wood Johnson Foundation](#) to align our algorithms with the latest academic research.

Walk Score data is available in a variety of formats including [shapefiles](#), [spreadsheets](#), and [via our APIs](#). We can provide Walk Score data for individual addresses or larger geographic areas like postal codes. Walk Score data is available in the United States and Canada. Walk Score and Transit Score are patented systems, multiple other patents are pending.

With our subscription services, Walk Score data can be tracked over time to measure historical trends. For example, the percentage of residents in a city who can walk to fresh food in 5 minutes.

Research and Data Services

- Data Services
- Walkability Research
- Public Health Research
- Walk Score Methodology
- Case Study PDF

Data Products

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Walk Score
Measures walkability on a scale from 0 - 100 based on walking routes to destinations such as grocery stores, schools, parks, restaurants, and retail.

Pedestrian Friendliness

Pedestrian friendliness metrics include population density, average block length and intersection density.

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Transit Score
Measures transit accessibility on a scale from 0 - 100. Calculates distance to closest stop on each route, analyzes route frequency and type.

Public Transit Data

Public transit data is available for hundreds of transit agencies. Includes location of all transit stops, routes, route frequency, and route type.

68

Bike Score
Measures bike accessibility on a scale from 0 - 100 based on bike infrastructure, topography, destinations and road.

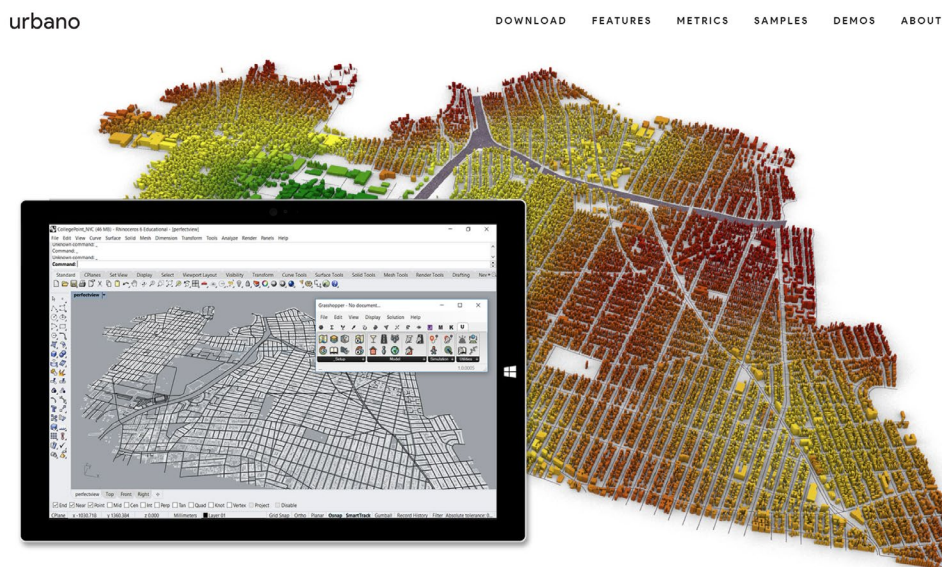
Score Details

Score Details data includes grocery stores, parks, restaurants, coffee shops, transit locations, farmer's markets, and

<https://www.walkscore.com/professional/research.php>

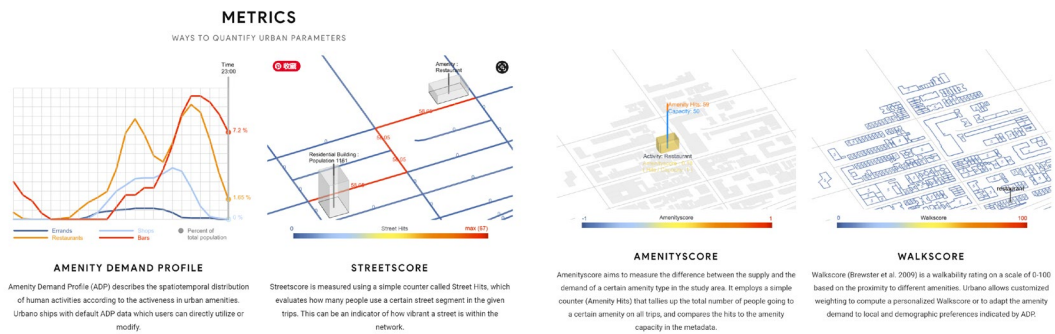
1.3 Introduction of Urbano

Urbano is an urban analytic toolset that promotes a completely automated workflow for analyzing the accessibility of facilities as well as how the distribution of amenities affects people walking in a neighborhood (Yang, Samaranayake, et al., 2020). It used multi-source open data to import contextual GIS, OpenStreetMap, and Google Places data into Grasshopper to create an urban mobility model (Dogan et al., 2018). A series of test studies confirmed the potential and usefulness of the new modeling framework, which incorporates trip-sending logic as well as three innovative urban design metrics: Streetscore, Amenityscore, and an upgraded Walkscore.



<https://www.urbano.io/>

1.4 Metrics in Urbano



The Walkscore in Urbano is based on a shortest-distance study between various places of interest (POIs) using OpenStreetMap and the Google Place API, of which categories consist of Walkscore amenities.

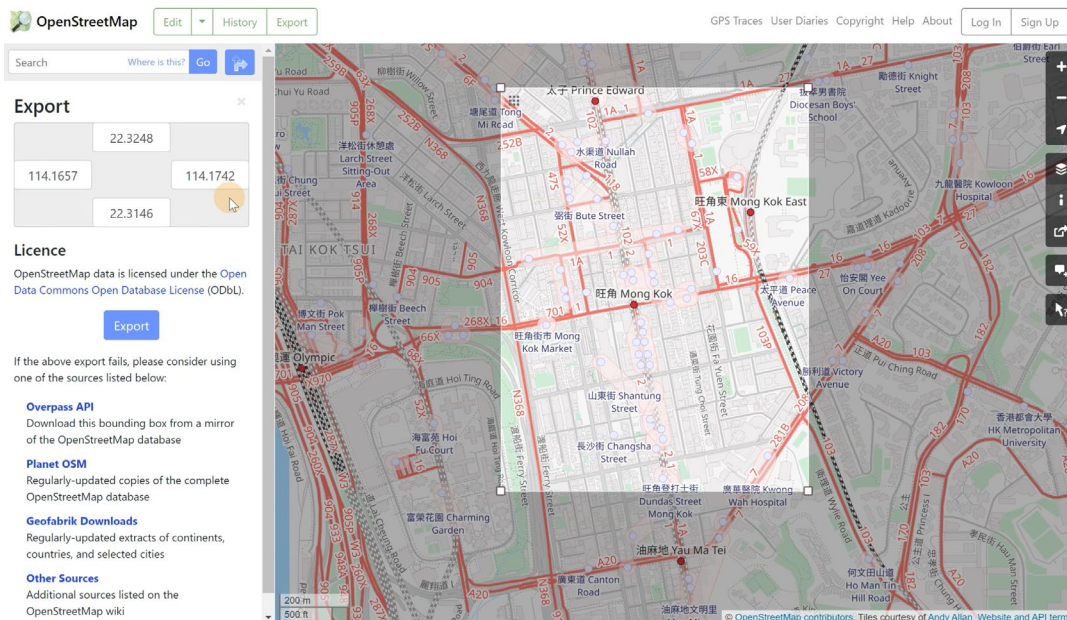
Streetscore determines how many people utilize a specific street section. This could be used to determine how lively a street is in the network overall or at a certain time of interest.

Amenity Hits represent pedestrian hits that an amenity received during a simulated round. Street Hits measures how many people utilize a certain street section on all visits, which may be used to show the Street Score simulation outcome.

In the following part, this tutorial will take Mong Kok as a case study to show the whole process for creating a mobility model in Urbano.

2. Data Collection

2.1 To obtain osm data of the research area



When entering the website of OpenStreetMap, drag the window to find our research area, and click 'Export', we need to choose 'Manually Select a different area', and set the boundary we want, in the following part we also need to input the longitude and latitude of the .osm, so we need to mark the four numbers on the left. And click blue button to download the document.

2.2 To obtain 3D pedestrian data of the research area

Download the GDB file of 3D pedestrian network dataset of the whole Kong Kong, after downloading, we need to roughly clip the shapefile with the larger research area boundary, we could amend the boundary after input into Urbano.

<https://data.gov.hk/en-data/dataset/hk-landsd-openmap-3d-pedestrian-network>

2.3 To pre-processing Amenity Demand Profile (ADP)

Following by the tutorial of A5, we could obtain different types of amenities (POIs) via APIFY, including the popular time of different times, in this case, we need 3 time point of popular time, 13:00 and 19:00 on Saturday and 8:00 on Thursday. After we download all

types of amenities, we need to pre-process the data first- get the average amenity demand of different times of amenities.

address	category	cid	city	country	location	location	neighbor	popularTimesHistogram/Sa/13/hour	popularTimesHistogram/Sa/13/occupancyPercent	popularTimesHistogram/Sa/19/hour	popularTimesHistogram/Sa/19/occupancyPercent	popularTimesHistogram/T/8/hour	popularTimesHistogram/T/8/occupancyPercent
Mong Kok Dart bar		1.32E+17	Mong Kok	HK	22.31894	114.1703		19	35	1	26	14	0
Square Mill Live music		9.94E+18	Tai Kok Tai	HK	22.32084	114.1614	Square Mill	19	79			14	64
314 Sai Ye Bar		4.21E+18	Mong Kok	HK	22.3259	114.1687	314 Sai Ye	15	35	21	67	10	27
Tong Mi, F Bar		1.17E+19	Tong Mi	HK	22.32696	114.1681		19	56	1	7	14	0
63 Nathan Bar		1.36E+19	Tsim Sha	THK	22.29718	114.1718	63 Nathan	19	64			14	0
17 Hak (Restaurant)		2.34E+17	Mong Kok	HK	22.31751	114.1726	17 Hak	19	40			14	0
International Bar		1.72E+19	Tsim Sha	THK	22.3034	114.1602	International Commerce Centre (ICC), 118/F, The Ritz-Carlton, Hong Kong, 1 Austin Rd W			1	22	14	0
44 Bounds Bar		1.66E+19	Mong Kok	HK	22.32642	114.1688	44 Bounds	19	27			14	0
G/F, 42 Kai Bar		1.53E+19	Kowloon	CHK	22.3296	114.1923	G/F, 42 Kai Tak Rd			1			
33-35 Cha Bar		7.49E+18	Tsim Sha	THK	22.29813	114.1745	33-35 Chatham Rd S						
290 Che Bar		1.36E+19	Sham Shui	HK	22.33243	114.1604	290 Che	19	22	1	57	14	0
Hong Kon Bar		1.33E+19	Jordan	HK	22.30579	114.1708	Parkes St	19	6	1	22	14	0
Ground Fl Bar		1.01E+19	Tsim Sha	THK	22.30123	114.1737	Ground Fl	19	74	1	56	14	0
Hong Kon Bar		7.87E+18	Sham Shui	HK	22.33241	114.1639	Tai Po Rd	19	25	1	95	14	0
Tsim Sha T Bar & grill		1.53E+19	Tsim Sha	THK	22.3029	114.173							
70 Mody F Bar		1.12E+19	Tsim Sha	THK	22.29913	114.179	70 Mody Rd						
Hong Kon Bar		1.59E+19	Jordan	HK	22.30585	114.1709	Nanking S	19	23	1	91	14	0
Tsim Sha T Bar		8.17E+18	Tsim Sha	THK	22.30177	114.1748							
Hong Kon Pub		2.10E+18	Prmco Edu	HK	22.323	114.1694	1/F, Wing F	19	15	1	84	14	0
1/F, 5 Nam Bar		7.50E+19	Yau Ma Te	HK	22.30583	114.1711	1/F, 5 Nanking St						
Level 5, Cc Modern E		1.82E+18	Mong Kok	HK	22.31827	114.1681	Level 5, Cc	19	48			14	68
G/F, 192 T Bar		6.16E+18	Jordan	HK	22.30648	114.1701	G/F, 192 Temple St						
G/F, Lee Si Bar		1.04E+19	Yau Ma Te	HK	22.30597	114.1676	G/F, Lee Si	19	90	1	47	14	17
Langham I Bar		1.65E+19	Mong Kok	HK	22.31792	114.1688	Langham I	19	79			14	58
17 Wai Chi Bar		1.27E+19	Jordan	HK	22.30624	114.1677	17 Wai Ching St						

The final format we need to input into Urbano is the CSV data, including categories of amenities and the amenities demands of the 3 time points.

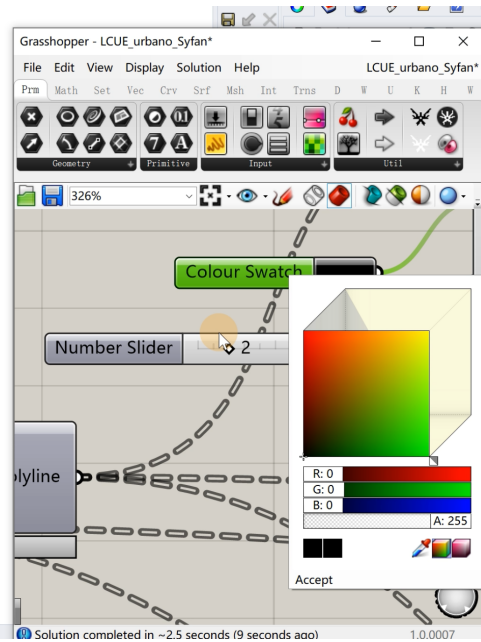
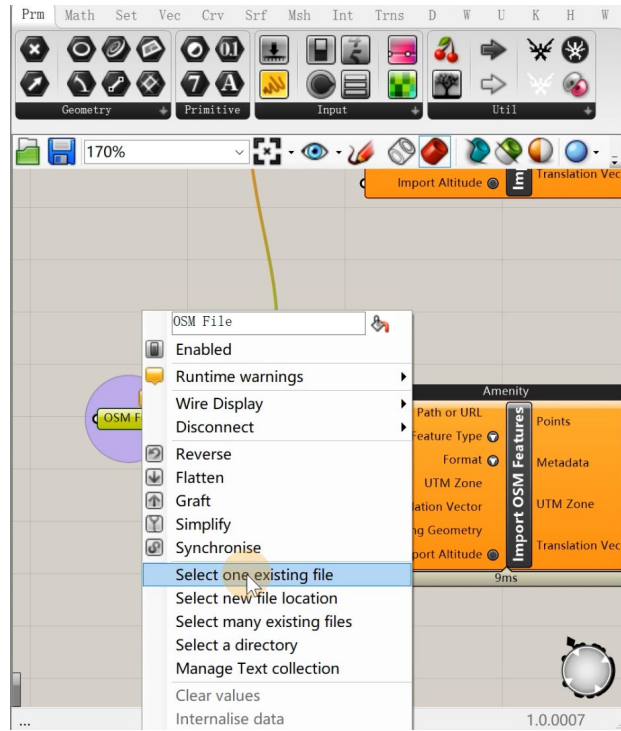
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
1	restaurant	0.1	0.12	0.03				
2	public_building	0	0	0				
3	taxi	0	0	0				
4	post_box	0.07	0	0				
5	mall_store	0.13	0	0				
6	parking	0	0	0				
7	convenience_store	0.1	0.09	0.08				
8	fast_food	0.1	0.12	0.09				
9	clothes_store	0.09	0.07	0				
10	cafe	0.1	0.09	0.05				
11	cinema	0	0.15	0.03				
12	atm	0.07	0	0.04				
13	supermarket_store	0.1	0.09	0.08				
14	beauty_store	0.11	0.07	0.01				
15	photo_studio_store	0.02	0.07	0.05				
16	marketplace	0.09	0.09	0.01				
17	library	0.18	0.04	0				
18	toilets	0	0	0				
19	bakery_store	0.09	0.07	0.04				
20	cosmetics_store	0.08	0.07	0.01				
21	community_center	0.05	0.07	0.02				
22	bus_station	0.09	0.09	0.12				

3. Data Inputting

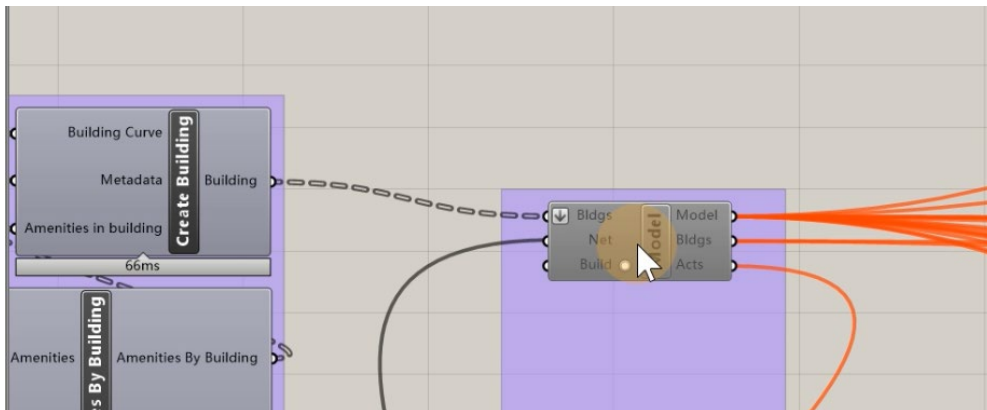
3.1 Inputting osm data to generate the building outline

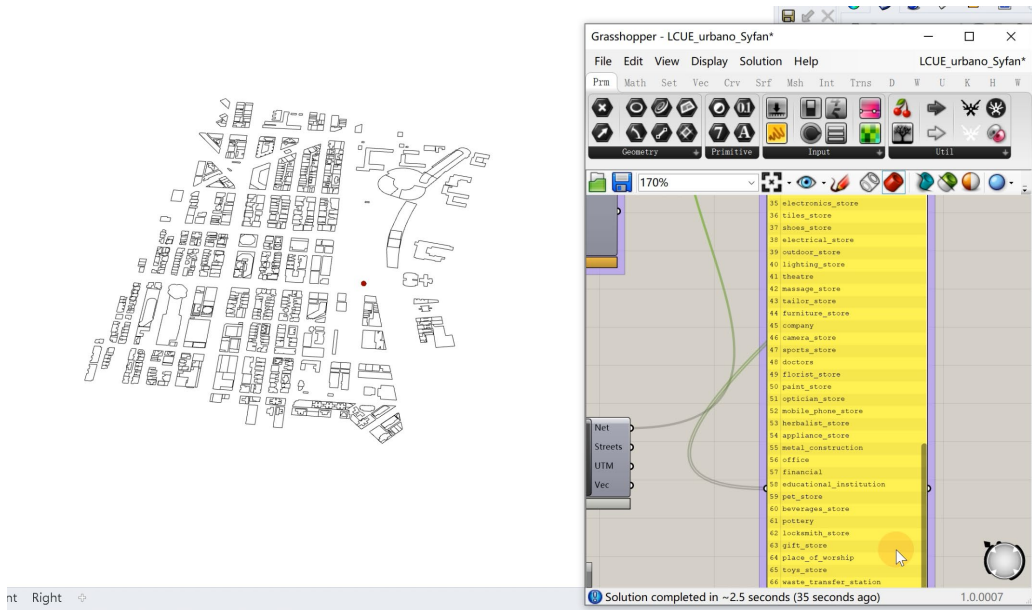
First, right click the 'OSM File' battery, and click 'Set one existing file', choose the file we have downloaded before. You could see the auto-generated building massing, amend the 'Color Swatch' and 'Number Slide' on the right to change the color and line width of the building outline.

Second, right click the 'Model' battery to enable it, the followed file shows the types of amenities in the research area. Right click and copy the data only, we could paste the document to create the csv file that contain the amenities amend like we mentioned before.



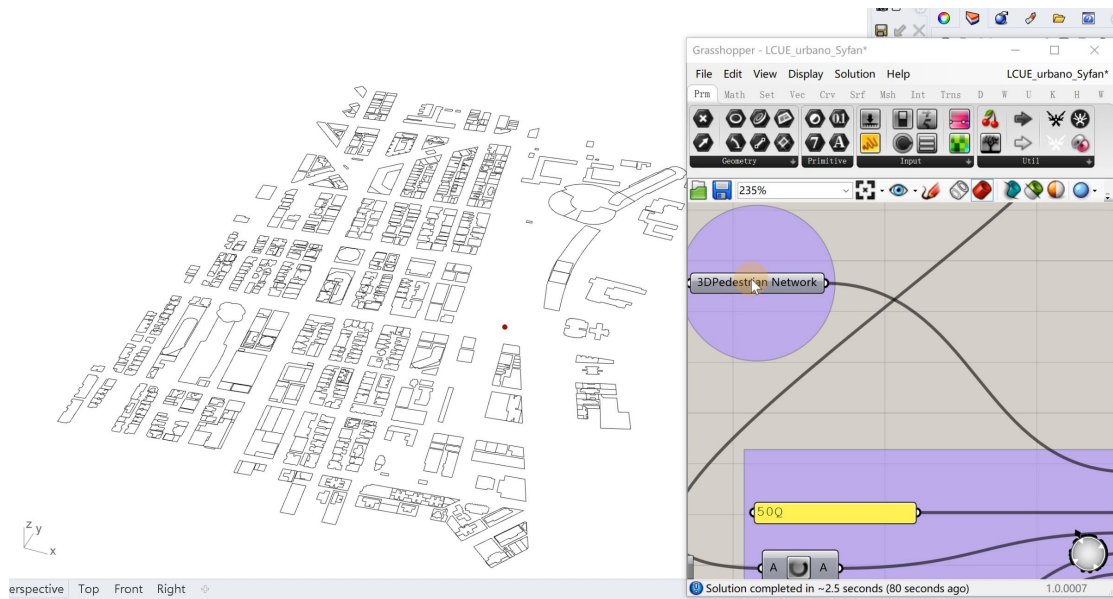
Solution completed in ~2.5 seconds (9 seconds ago)





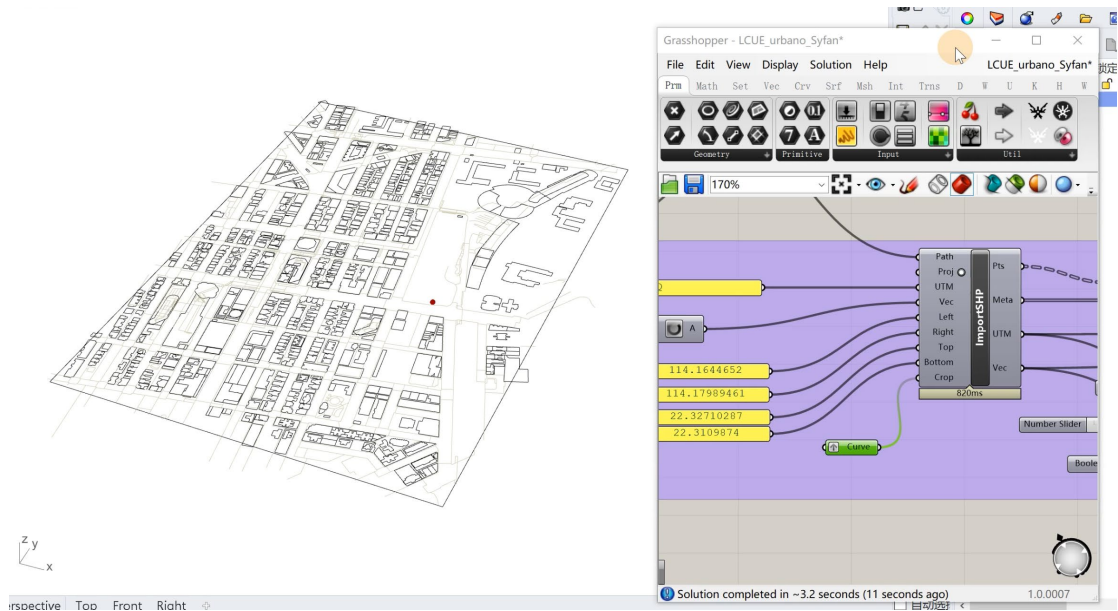
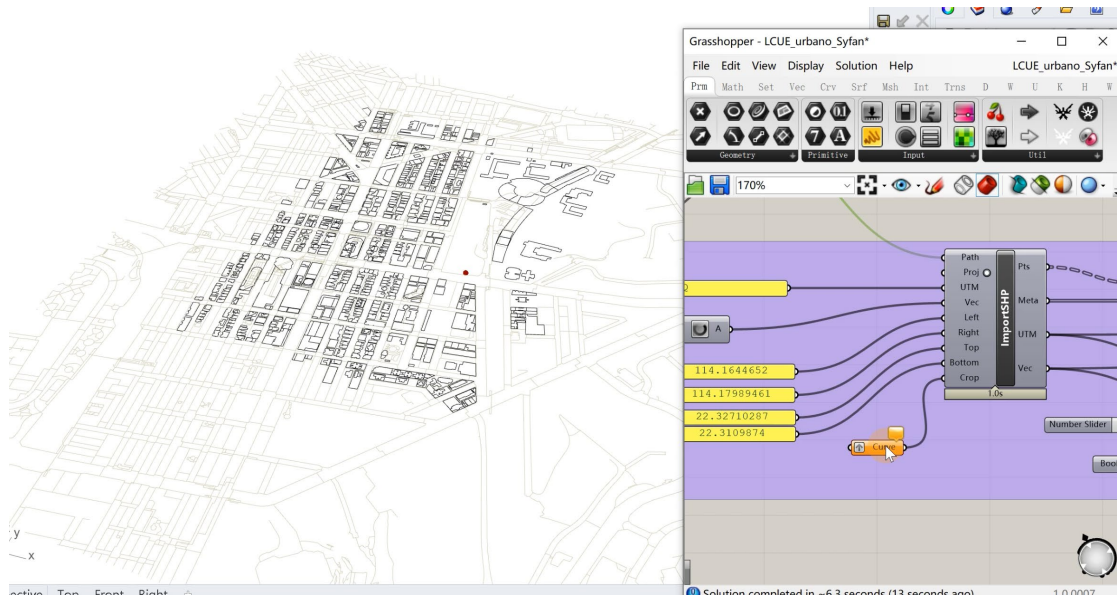
3.2 Inputting 3D pedestrian network

First, right click the '3D Pedestrian Network' battery, and click 'Set one existing file', choose the file we have downloaded and clipped before. Be careful that other format of documents when exporting the shapefile need to be put in the same folder.



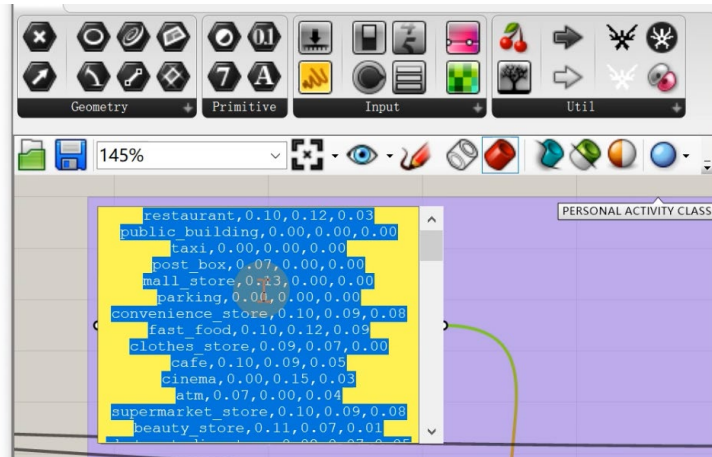
try!.cpg	2021/12/20 20:42	CPG 文件
try!.dbf	2021/12/20 20:42	DBF 文件
try!.prj	2021/12/20 20:42	PRJ 文件
try!.shp	2021/12/20 20:42	SHP 文件
try!.shx	2021/12/20 20:42	SHX 文件

We also should set the longitude and latitude of the file to give geo-reference for auto-calibration. Draw a closed polyline in Rhino, and set the curve to clip the pedestrian network.



3.3 Inputting Amenity Demands Profiles

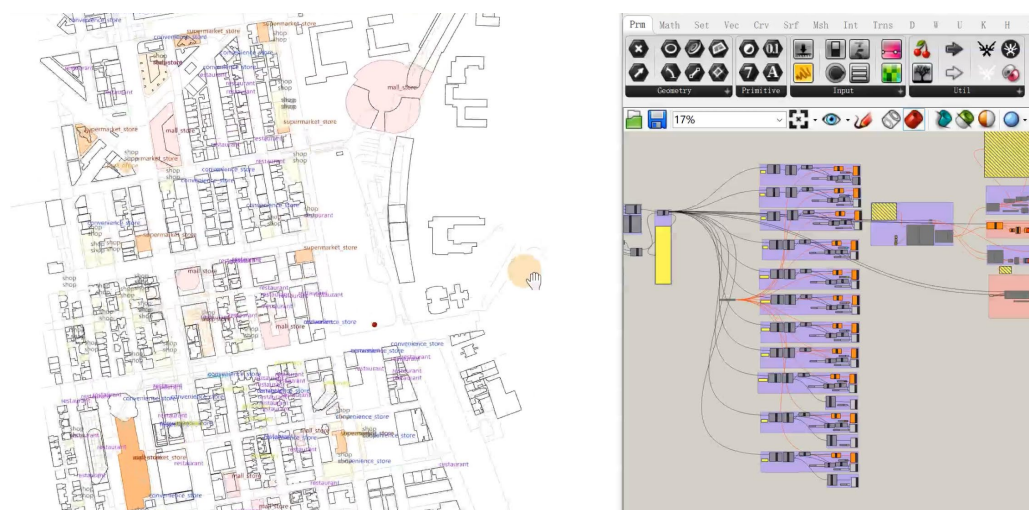
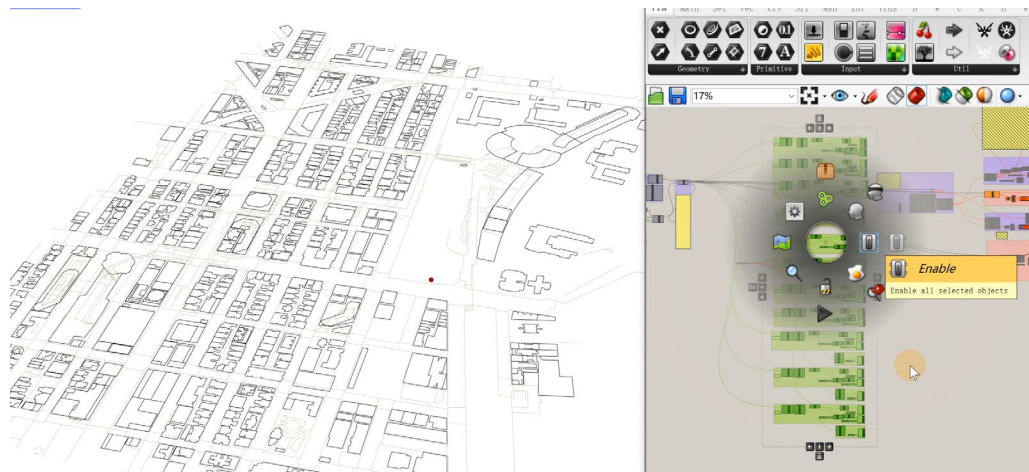
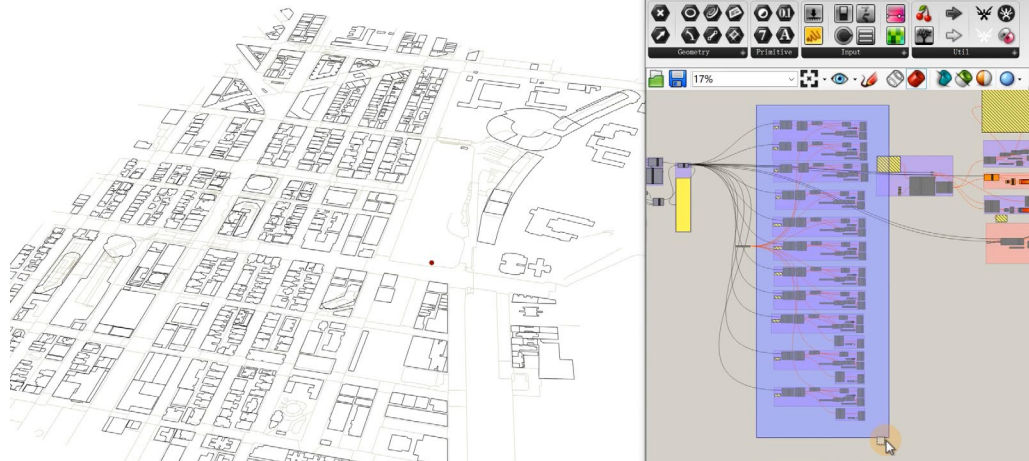
Copy the content file, double click and paste the Amenity Demands Profiles in it.



4. Result Visualization

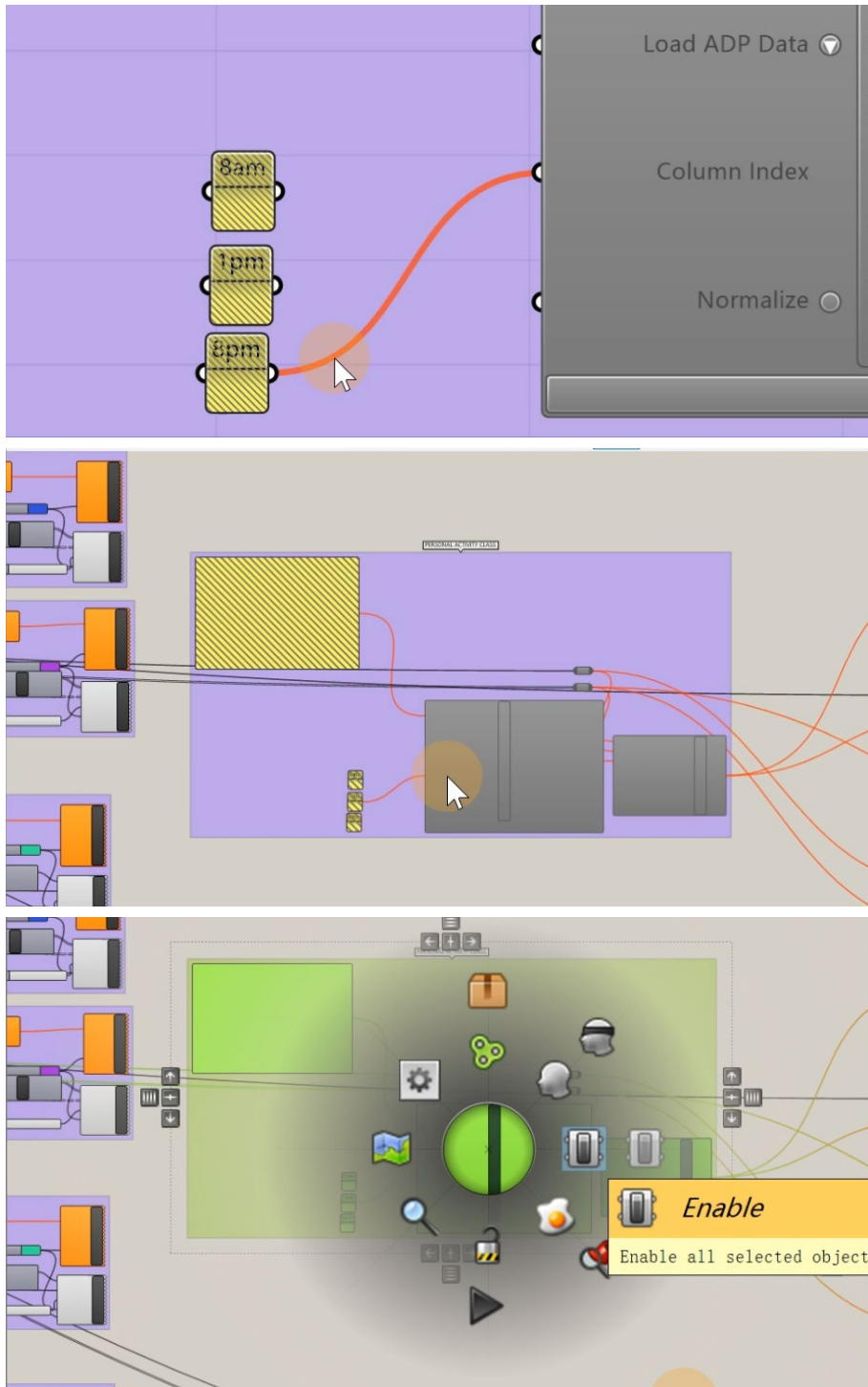
4.1 Distribution of Amenities

This group is to visualize the distribution of amenities, we could choose to preview the certain types of amenities by typing different texts, enable the batteries, you could see the distribution of different amenities, you could change the text size and colors.



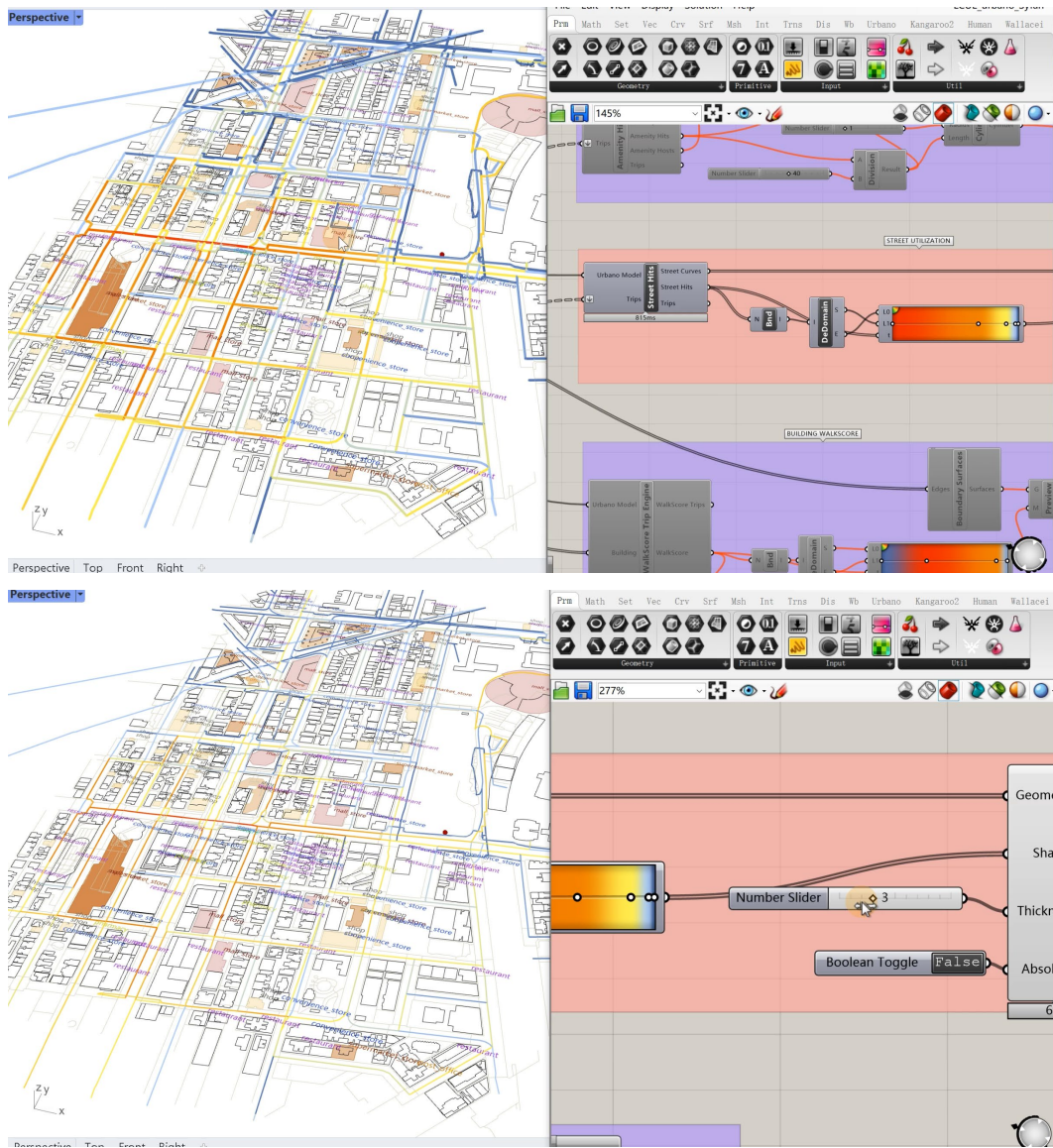
4.2 Generating the mobility model

Before we enable the batteries, we should choose the certain time we want to simulate, in this case, we change the time from 8 pm to 1 am, and select the group 'Personal Activity Class', and enable it, it may takes a long time to load.



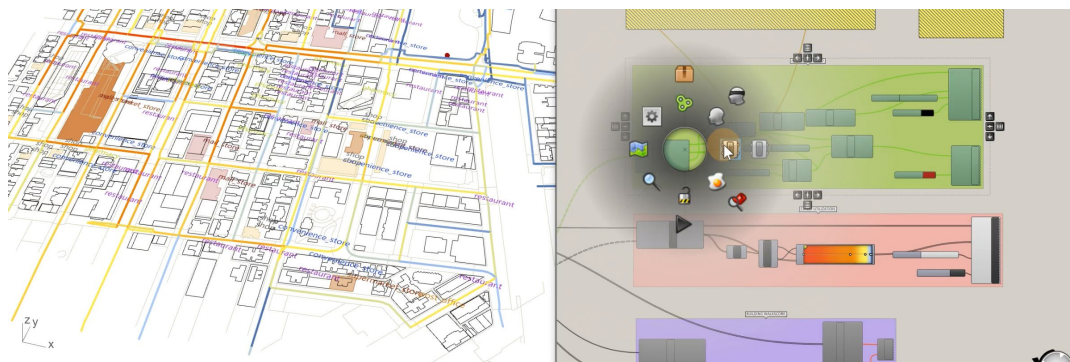
4.3 Visualizing Street Hits

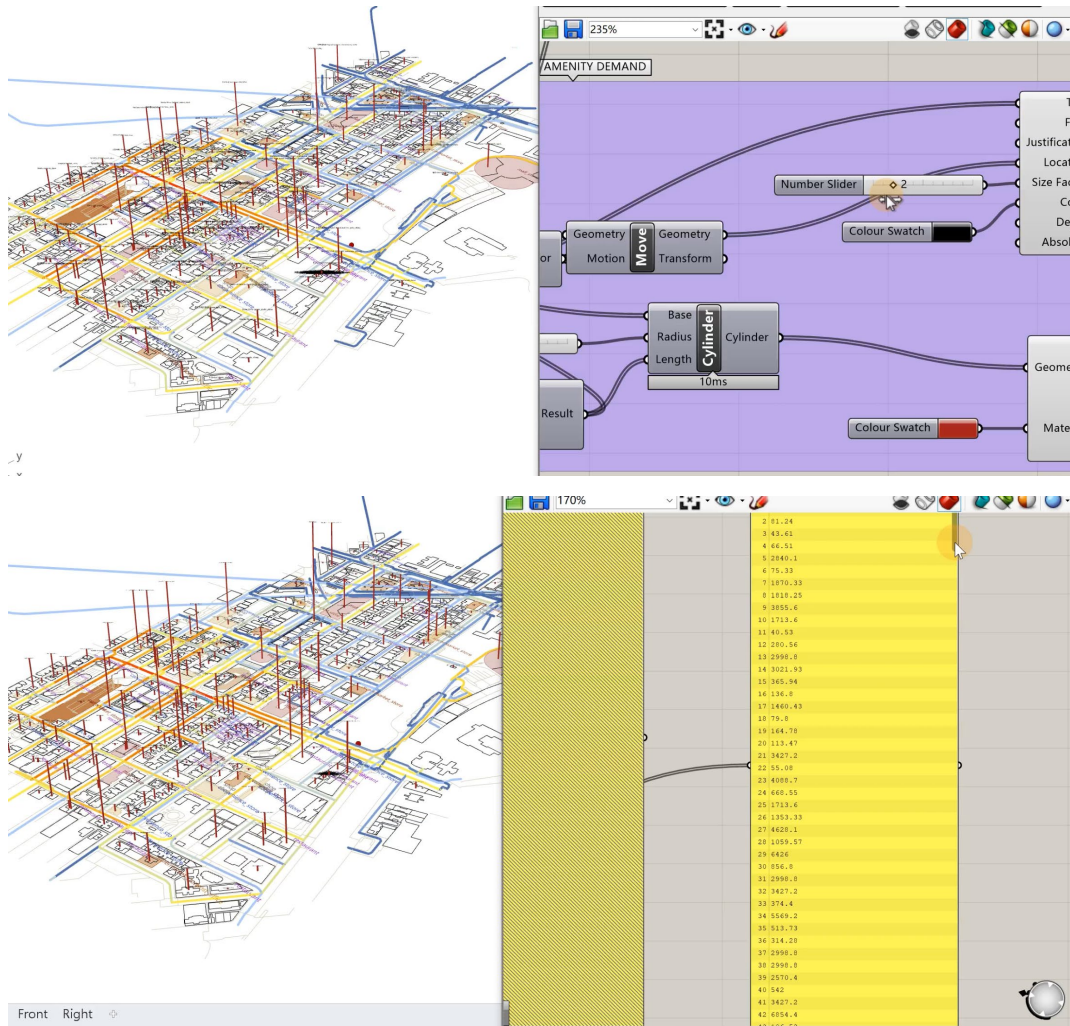
Enable the group 'STREET UTILIZATION', you could see the visual result of Street Hits, you could change the color ramp and line width.



4.4 Visualizing Amenity Hits

Enable the group 'AMENITY DEMAND', you could see the visual result of Street Hits, you could change the color and line width, as well as the height of the columns. Also, enable the panel, you could output the Amenity Hits at the building level, right click the panel, and choose 'copy data only'.





4.5 Visualizing Walkscore

Enable the group 'BUILDING WALKSCORE', you could see the visual result of Walkscore at building level, you could change the color ramp. Also, enable the panel, you could output the Walkscore at the building level, right click the panel, and choose 'copy data only'.

