

1-Year Report for the 2022 Wendy Tao International Smart Cities Scholarship

Meiqing Li

I am extremely honored to receive the inaugural Wendy Tao International Smart Cities Scholarship. Thanks to the generous support, I was able to conduct a trip to Hong Kong in summer 2023 following up with my previous fieldwork trip in 2022. During the trip, I was able to catch up with my collaborators, collect additional data, and validate some information regarding my dissertation project studying active transportation planning in Hong Kong.



In the previous year, I mentored two undergraduate student research assistants to help me collect some social media data on civic urbanism towards public space placemaking from facebook and twitter. With the financial support, I was able to purchase some Twitter APIs which allowed me to grab large amounts of text data for systematic sentiment analysis, as well as other natural language processing techniques. I presented a paper stemming from this project entitled

“Active transportation planning in Hong Kong: seeking common ground between mobility plans and grassroots activism” at the Harvard MIT UBC Urban China Conference in Boston, March 2023.



In the following year, I plan to continue working on my dissertation project, understanding the nuances of sustainable transportation planning policy, pedestrian travel behaviors and built environment across cultures and states. Again, I greatly appreciate the generous support from the Wendy ISC Scholarship.



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