

6th Street Active Transportation Improvements Project

Bremerton 6th Street Virtual Survey Report

October 2024

Overview

The project team conducted a virtual survey to gather feedback from community members, which will inform the project's design and improvement alternatives. The survey was open from Sept. 19 to Oct. 20, 2024, and was accessible through an online portal. A total of 59 responses were collected. The survey gathered data on how individuals use the 6th Street corridor, their modes of transportation, support or opposition for the project, safety concerns, perceived benefits and priorities, and other feedback regarding the project's design. Demographic information was also collected. All questions included in the survey were optional.

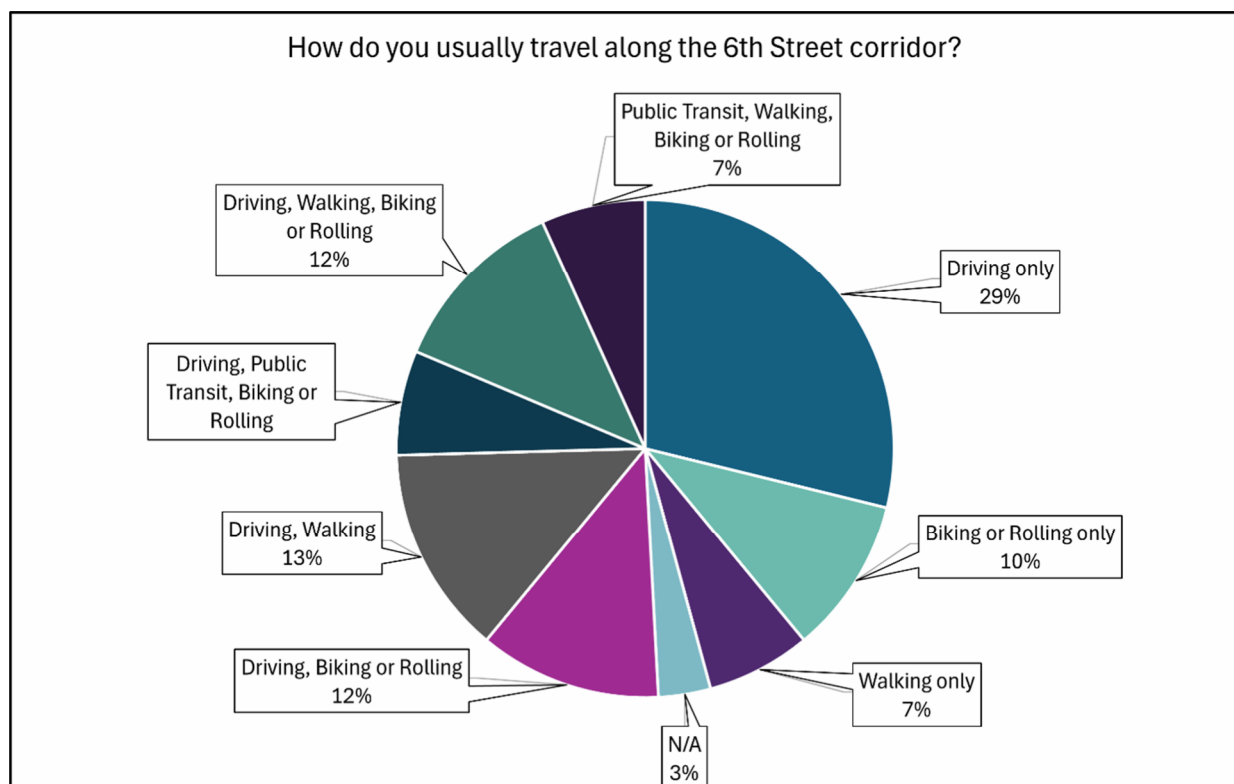
Promotions

The project team used various materials to promote the 6th Street survey. These materials included updates to the project website, an online survey portal, yard signs, and a virtual meeting held on September 19 which featured a project slideshow. These promotional efforts provided information about the project and offered access to the survey through links and QR codes. Additionally, the team collaborated with a local business, Tiny Mushroom Sign Shop, to print the yard signs.

Survey questions breakdown

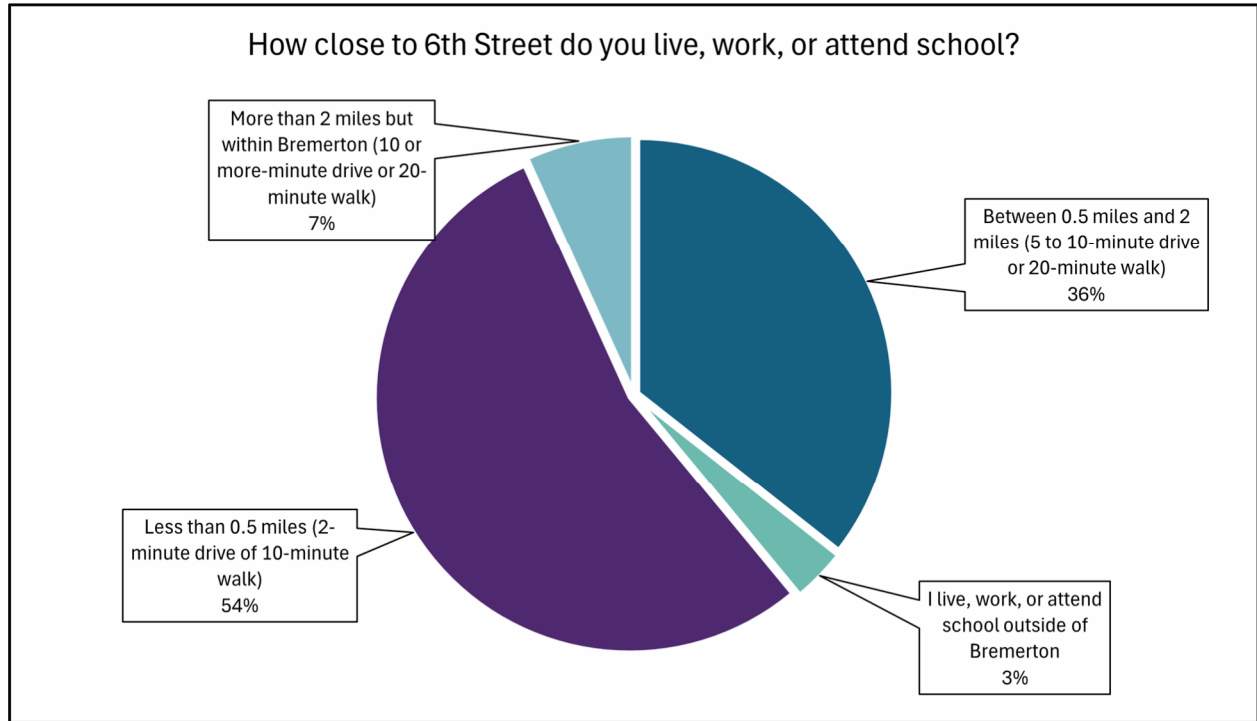
How do you usually travel along the 6th Street corridor?

- 39 report driving
- 28 report biking or rolling
- 26 report walking
- 5 report public transit



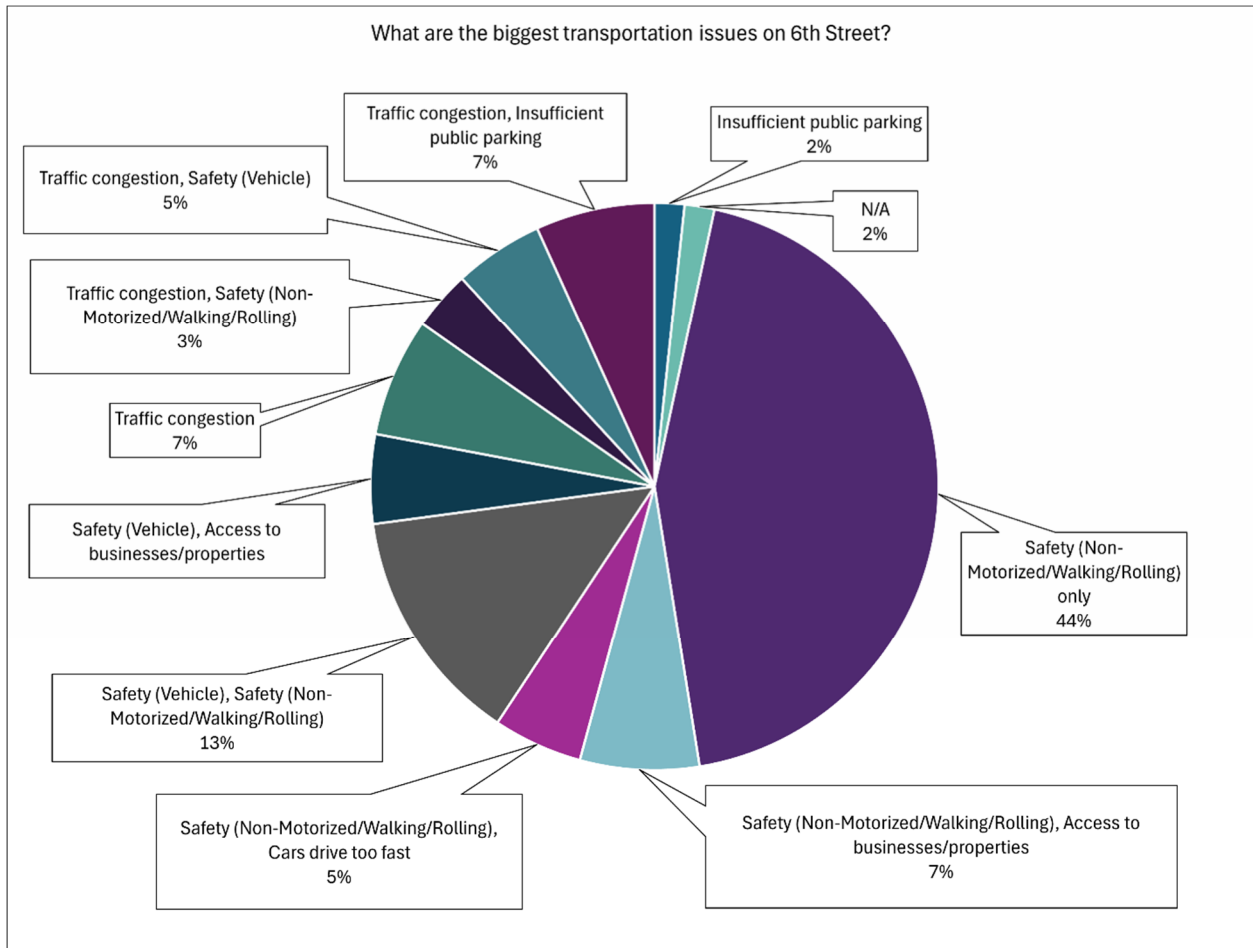
How close to 6th Street do you live, work, or attend school?

- 32 report that they lived less than 0.5 miles
- 21 report between 0.5 miles and 2 miles
- 4 report more than 2 miles but within Bremerton
- 2 report that they live, work, or attend school outside of Bremerton



What are the biggest transportation issues on 6th Street? (Select up to two)

- 57 report concerns about safety
 - 11 concerns about vehicle safety
 - 46 concerns about non-motorized/walking/rolling safety
- 12 report concerns about traffic congestion
- 4 report concerns about insufficient public parking
- 4 report concerns about access to businesses/properties

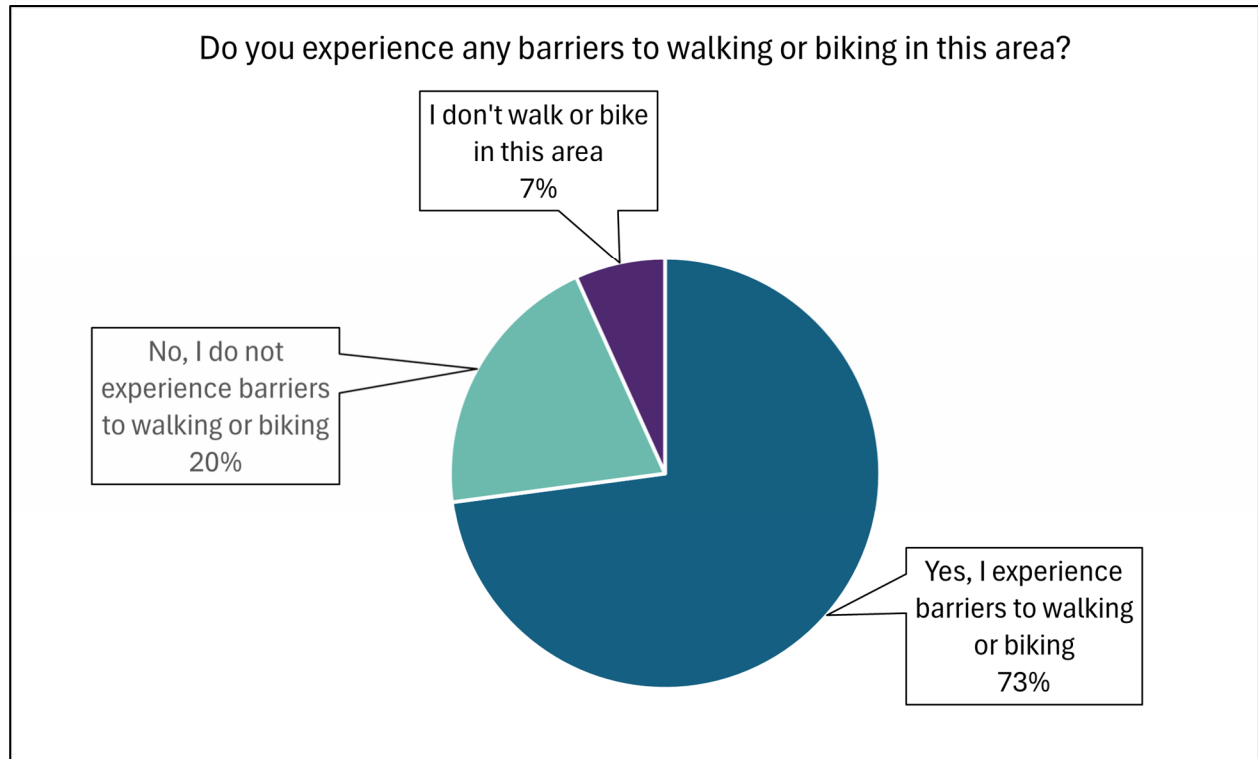


Do you experience any barriers to walking or biking in this area?

Summary: Key barriers include excessive speeding, sidewalks not being wide enough or feeling unsafe, and a lack of bike lanes and/or bike lane barriers

Answers:

- 43 experience barriers to walking or biking
- 12 do not experience barriers to walking or biking
- 4 do not walk or bike in this area



Comments:

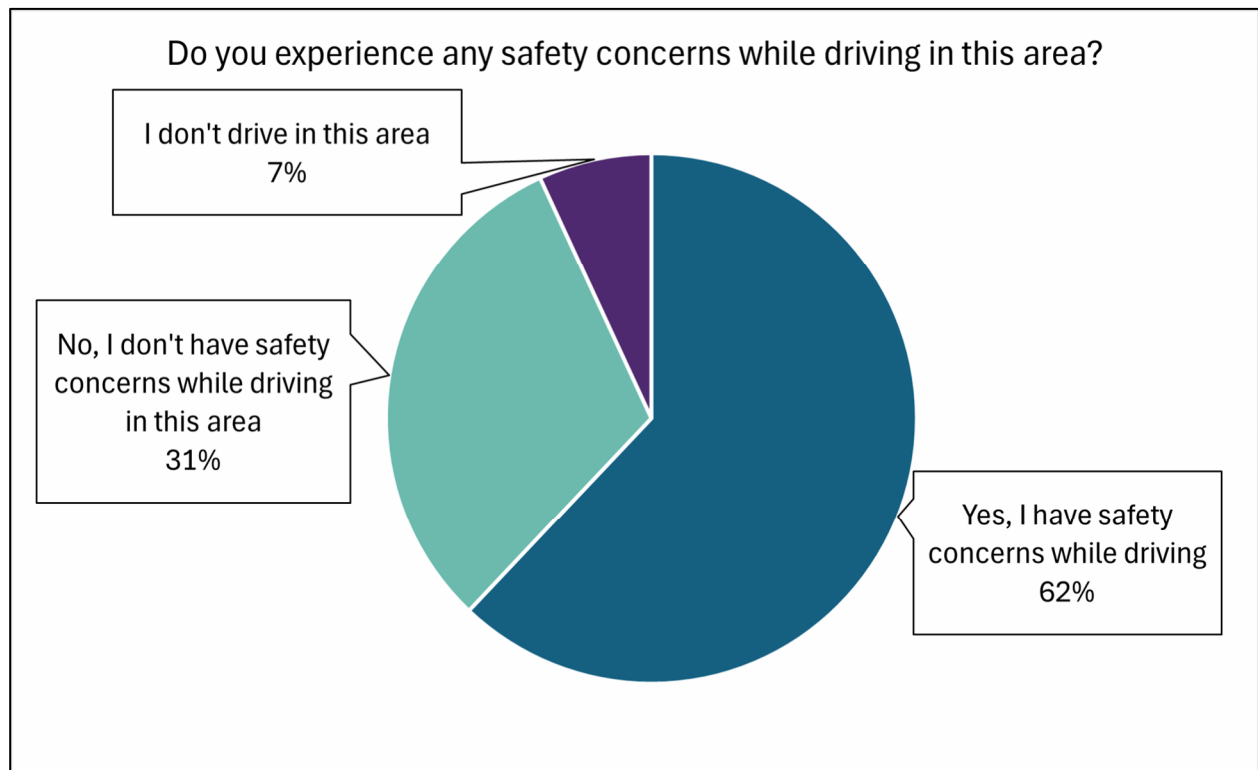
- *"Feels dangerous, too much traffic, too small sidewalks."*
- *"The sidewalks are too thin and uneven to allow for safe passage of bikes, scooters, etc."*
- *"There are no protected bike lanes which makes it unsafe and stressful to share road with speeding cars. The crosswalk signs while walking take too long for pedestrians too."*
- *"Cars drive too fast down 6th to safely bike on this road. It is basically unusable as a route on a bicycle. So, I have to go out of my way to bike on side streets to feel safe."*
- *"I usually have my small kids with me, and they sit in a double stroller. It's as wide as a wheelchair but some parts of the sidewalk I cannot get through."*
- *"It's horribly unsafe. Nonexistent bike infrastructure and road design with wide lanes encourages fast driving and fast turns. Very scary for our young family."*
- *"It's wide and dangerous, drivers are aggressive and there aren't protective bike lanes. Crossing by foot feels unsafe as traffic is very fast through there. Are we creating a highway through Bremerton??"*

Do you experience any safety concerns while driving in this area? (i.e., speeding, sight distance, or signal issues)

Summary: Key concerns while driving include pedestrians crossing, vehicles speeding, bikes using the roadway, road width, and the ability to see around turns.

Answers:

- 36 experience safety concerns while driving
- 18 do not have safety concerns while driving
- 4 do not drive in this area

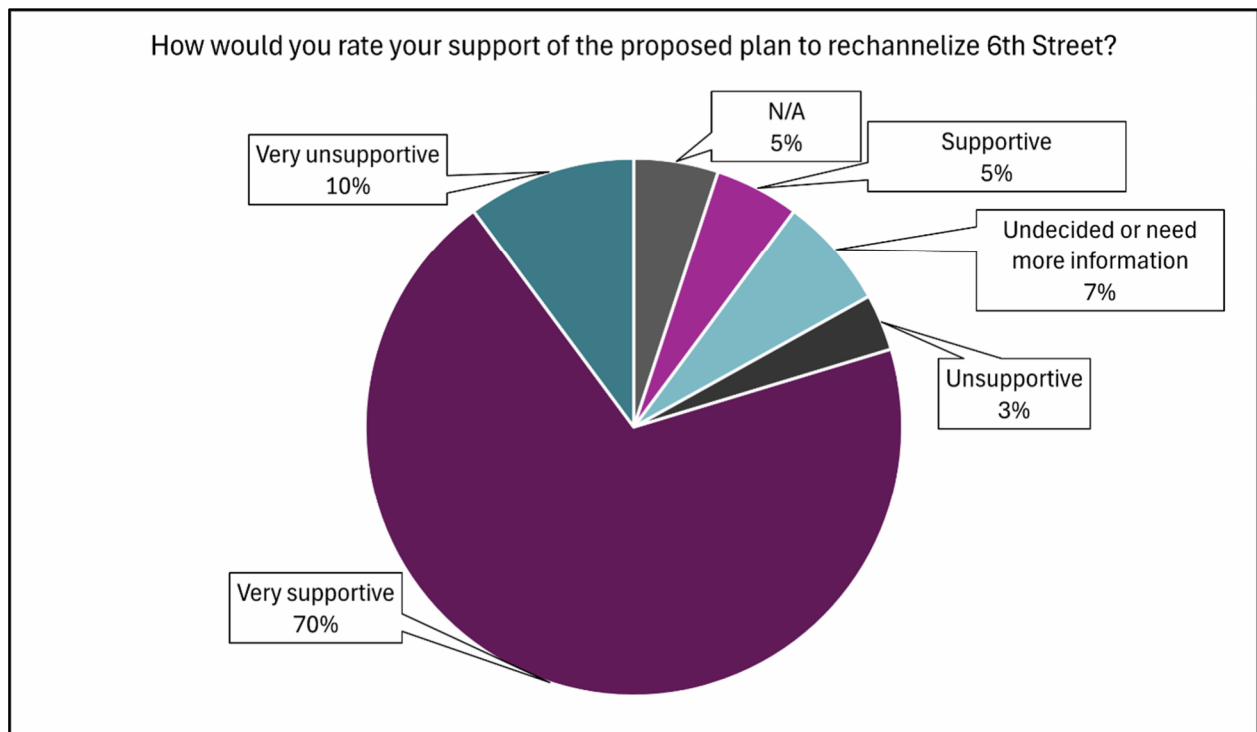


Comments:

- *"The lack of crosswalks and pedestrian friendly infrastructure leads to people constantly walking out into the street to cross, and it's very dangerous to know when a pedestrian might appear because there is no warning or crosswalk."*
- *"Many individuals who travel via bicycle or equivalent do not follow the lanes/lights that were created for them. Additionally, those individuals act as if they are a motorized vehicle and do not follow the rules of the road a motor vehicle is required to follow."*
- *"Speeding drivers that jump the traffic signals at high speed."*
- *"Sight distance while turning left onto Veneta from 6th heading west."*
- *"As a driver I am concerned about the high driving speed and aggressive driving on this corridor."*

How would you rate your support of the proposed plan to rechannelize 6th Street? Elements include reducing the number of vehicle travel lanes, adding continuous bicycle lanes, and increasing separation between vehicle lanes and the existing sidewalk.

- 42 are very supportive
- 6 are very unsupportive
- 4 are undecided or need more information
- 3 are supportive
- 2 are unsupportive

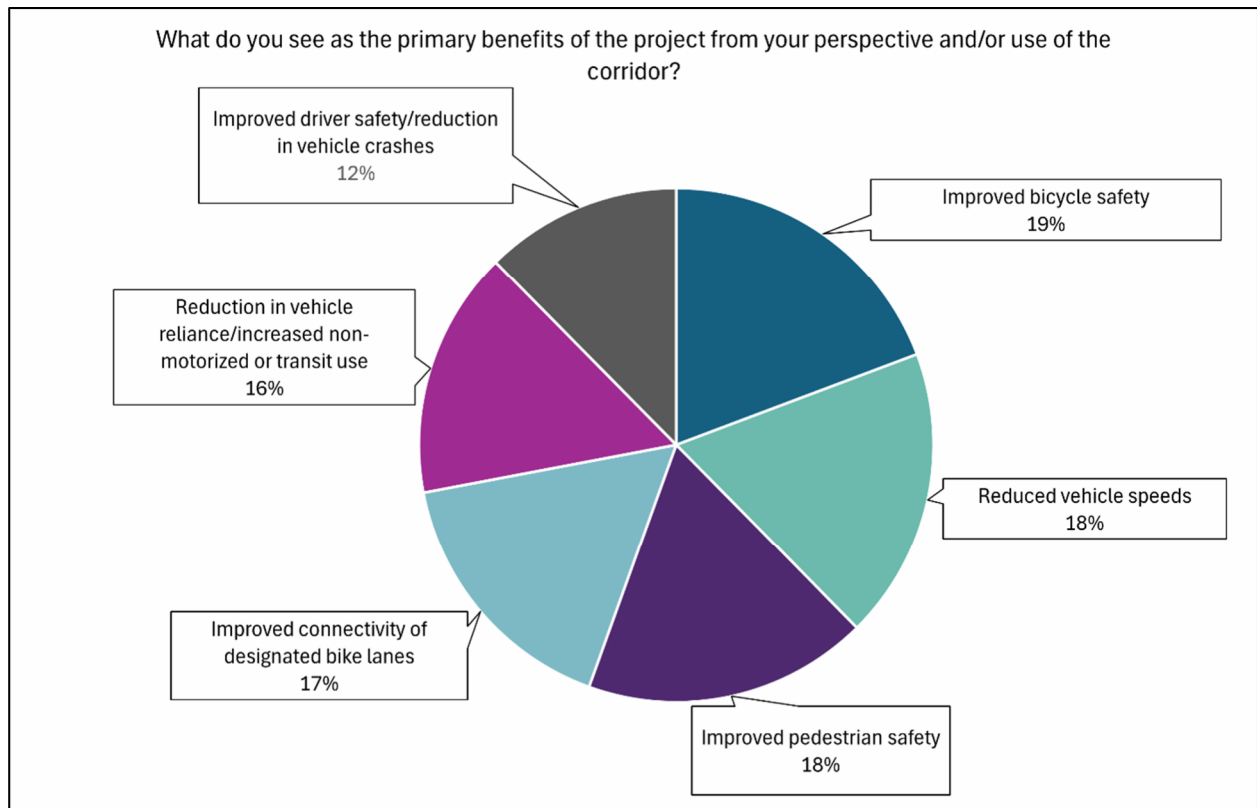


What do you see as the primary benefits of the project from your perspective and/or use of the corridor? (Select all that apply)

Summary: The primary selected benefits were reduced vehicle speeds, improved safety (for pedestrians and vehicles), and reduction in vehicle reliance/increased non-motorized or transit use.

Answers:

- 42 improved bicycle safety
- 40 reduced vehicle speeds
- 39 improved pedestrian safety
- 36 improved connectivity of designated bike lanes
- 34 reductions in vehicle reliance/increased non-motorized transit use
- 27 improved driver safety/reduction in vehicle crashes



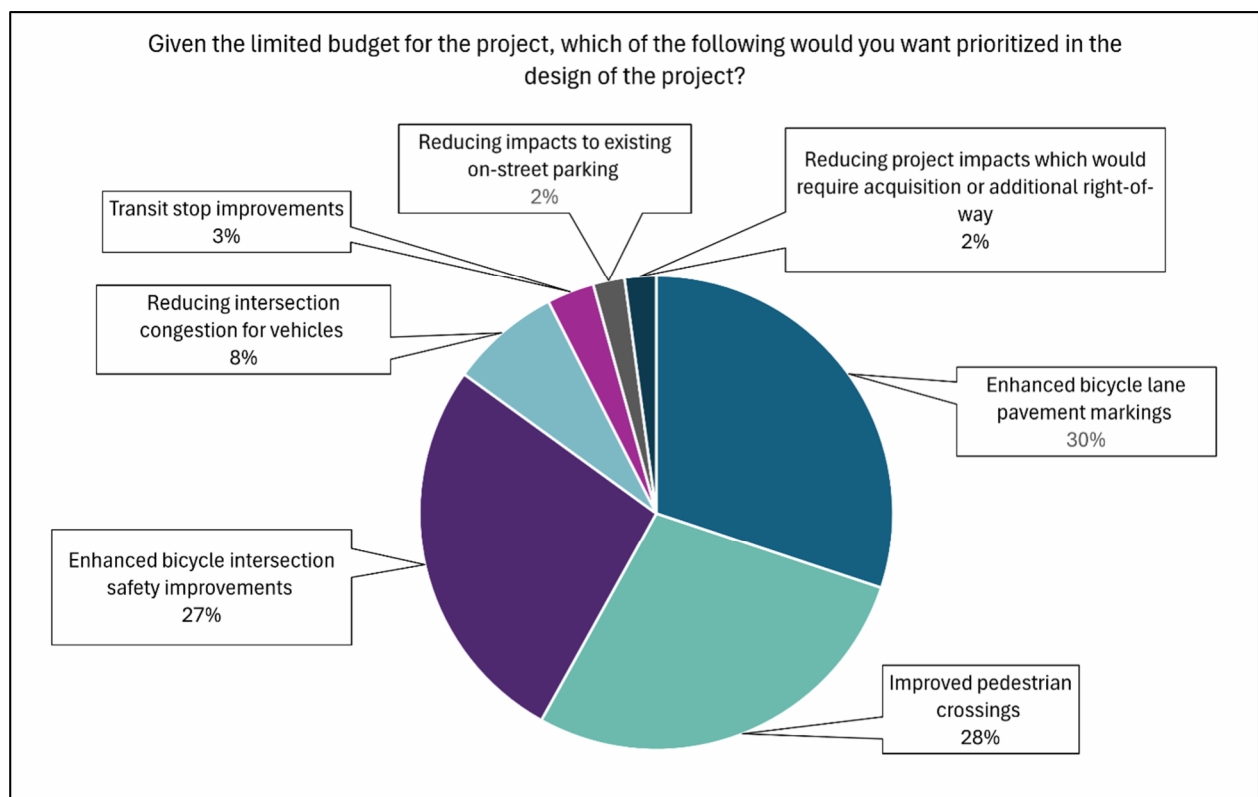
Comments:

- *“Slowing this corridor and providing access to pedestrians and non-motorized vehicles will vitalize this area and improve economic outcomes. This will also enable connectivity between Charleston district and downtown improving the business health and job opportunities.”*

Given a limited budget for the project, which of the following would you want prioritized in the design of the project? (Select up to two)

Summary: The primary priorities were enhanced bicycle lane pavement markings, improved pedestrian crossings, and enhanced bicycle intersection safety improvements.

- 28 chose enhanced bicycle lane pavement markings
- 26 chose improved pedestrian crossings
- 25 chose enhanced bicycle intersection safety improvements
- 7 chose reducing intersection congestion for vehicles
- 3 chose transit stop improvements
- 2 chose reducing impacts to existing on-street parking
- 2 chose reducing project impacts which would require acquisition or additional right-of-way



What ideas or opportunities for improvements to the 6th Street corridor do you think the City should focus on with its limited funding?

Summary: Respondents have a variety of ideas, including protected bike lanes, reduced speeds, wider sidewalks, and other amenities (curb bulb-outs, trees, lighting).

Comments:

- *"Only two lanes with a 'suicide' turn lane for businesses and residential properties, wider sidewalks, light up speed limit signs, and increased enforcement of speed limits between Chester and Veneta."*
- *"Bike lanes with physical protection, safer intersections for peds/bikers, traffic calming."*
- *"Cars need to be separated from bikers and walkers to improve safety. This means protected bike lanes and larger sidewalks for people with strollers in wheelchairs."*
- *"You need to focus on safety as the goal and then all the positives will come naturally from that end point i.e. quieter street from less loud cars, more enablement of multimodal travel, more pleasant streets to walk, sidewalks that are not terrifying to walk for families/any rational person (due to loud noise, fast turning cars and narrow sidewalks)."*
- *"Curb bulbs are much better at protecting pedestrians than center islands (no one feels safe in the middle of a street). Curb bulbs work with bus stops and bike lanes - outside for people, inside for cars."*

What else would you like the project team to know or consider as we move through the design process?

Summary: Comments include considering the impacts to shipyard employees, basing the design off other pedestrian and bike-friendly cities, prioritizing safety, reducing speeding and traffic, improving connection between areas, and continuing to gather resident feedback.

Comments:

- *"Please keep in mind the many individuals (over 15000+) who are employed at the Shipyard/NBK. Should this project go through to fruition, it will negatively impact them more than the disproportionate number of bicycle/foot traffic individuals."*
- *"Look at other cities that have implemented similar projects. E.g. Victoria has very family-friendly streets for all users."*
- *"THIS NEW WEBSITE AND SURVEY IS SO COOL. THANK YOU FOR DOING THIS."*
- *"There are lots of ways to slow cars down other than just reducing the speed limit. People don't follow speed limit signs. You can: narrow the lanes. Add raised cross walks. Add trees close to the road. All of these options. Will make 6th street more enjoyable. The cars will have 11th and Burwell. We are just asking for one road to be safe for those outside of a car. My kids take this route weekly and I'm afraid for their safety."*
- *"Cross walks that are safer for disabled pedestrians."*
- *"Keep communicating and accepting feedback from those of us who live and work here, please!"*
- *"Give the community an opportunity it's to enhance the area with local street art. large, beautiful murals. Get the businesses involved and make it a community wide competition to beautify downtown with artwork from the locals. Get the school involved - host an art walk."*



- *“It would be nice for the corridor to connect to more businesses and also connect between Charleston and Downtown Bremerton.”*