

LOWER SOUTHEAST RISING



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Lower SE Rising Area Plan PAC
July 25, 2023

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Welcome and Introductions

Name/pronouns

What is your favorite thing to do in your neighborhood during the summer?



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Agenda

| Time | Agenda Item |
|-----------|--|
| 6:30 p.m. | Welcome and Introductions |
| 6:40 p.m. | Public comment |
| 6:45 p.m. | Updates and overview of public outreach |
| 6:50 p.m. | Review public feedback on the Discussion Draft Plan |
| 7:35 p.m. | Ideas on refinements to the plan based on public feedback (discussion) |
| 7:55 p.m. | Wrap up and next steps |



Public Comment



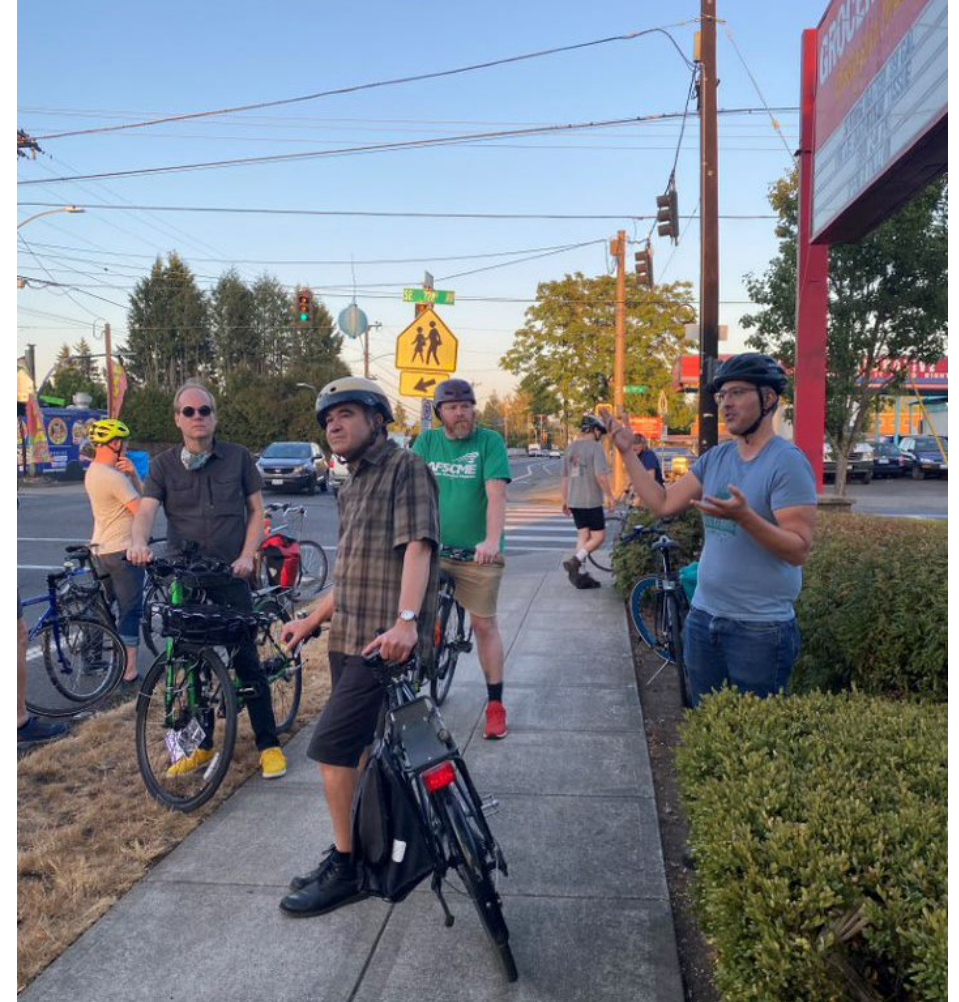
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Project Goals

- Increase commercial opportunities and neighborhood-serving businesses
- Increase housing affordability and choices
- Expand active and green transportation access
- Accompany improvements with community stabilization strategies



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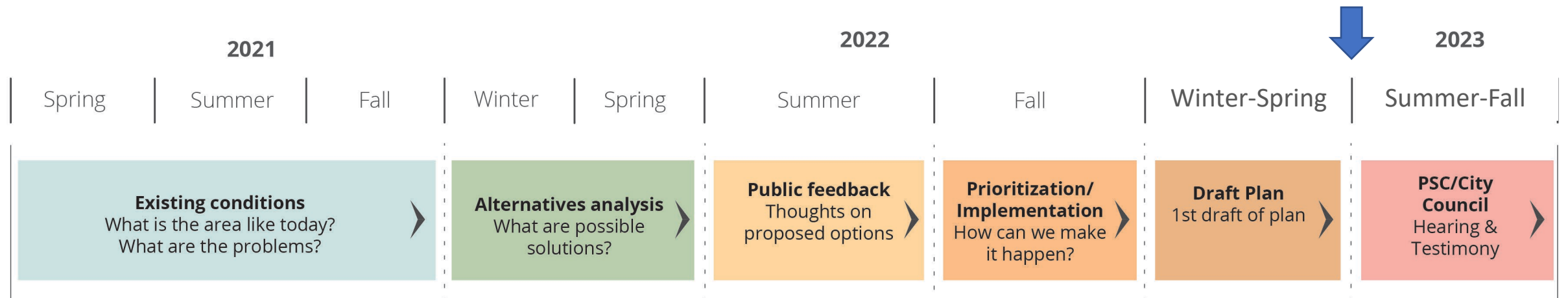
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Project Timeline

Near-term schedule:

- Discussion Draft Plan released – **May 17**
- Public engagement and feedback – **May through July**
- Publish Proposed Draft Plan – **late August**
- Planning Commission Hearing – **September 26** (5 pm)

PROJECT TIMELINE*



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Overview of Discussion Draft Public Outreach

- **Online open house and survey**
- **Map App** tool showing draft zone changes – options to submit comments
- **Virtual information session** and Q & A (May 24)
- **Tabling at community events and gathering places** (Lents and Woodstock farmers markets, Mt. Scott Community Center, Grocery Outlet, Mercado, SF Supermarket)
- **Focus group discussions** with Spanish-, Chinese-, and Vietnamese-language communities
- **Project email** (LowSEPlan@portlandoregon.gov) - questions and comments
- **Mailers** (sent to owners of properties proposed for zone changes and all residents within 400 feet of these properties)
- **Flyers** at area schools, Francis Center (food and clothing pantry)



Public Feedback Summary



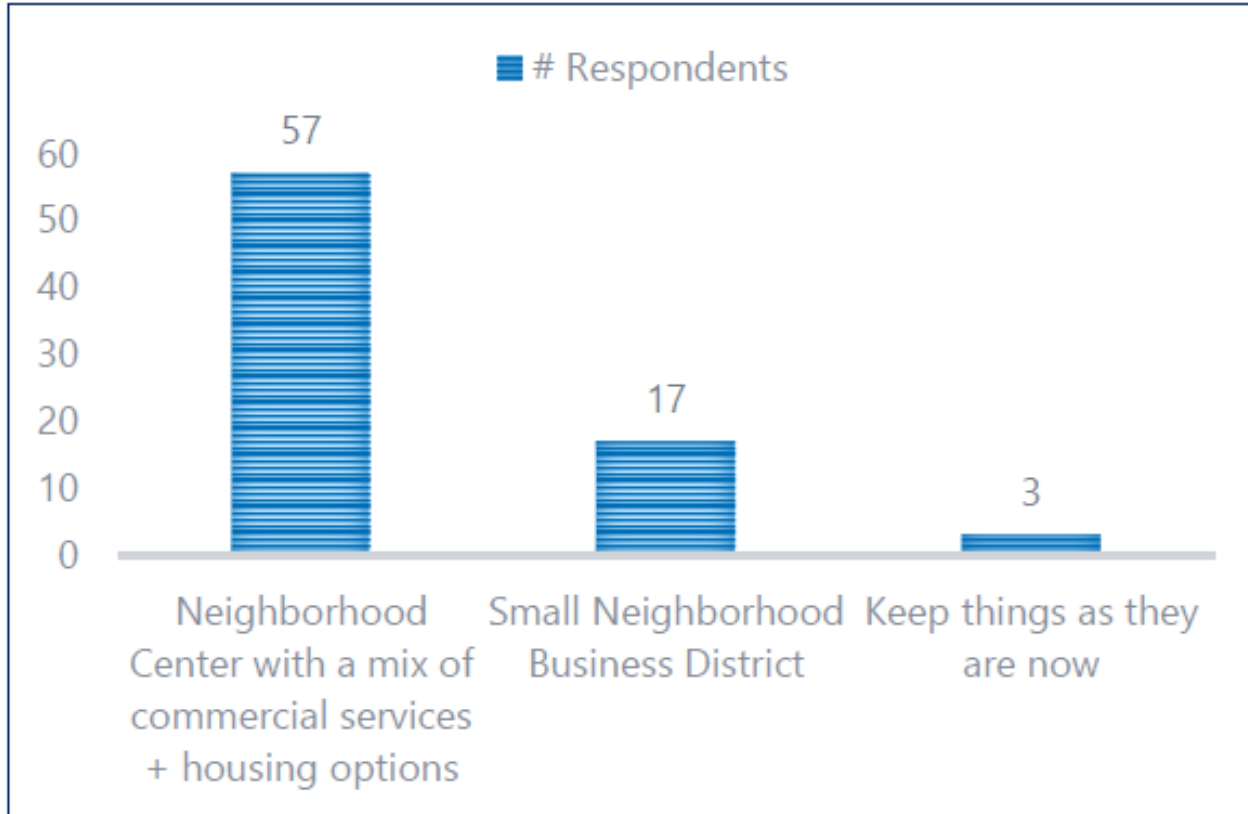
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LAND USE

Q1: How do you feel about a new Brentwood-Darlington Neighborhood Center?

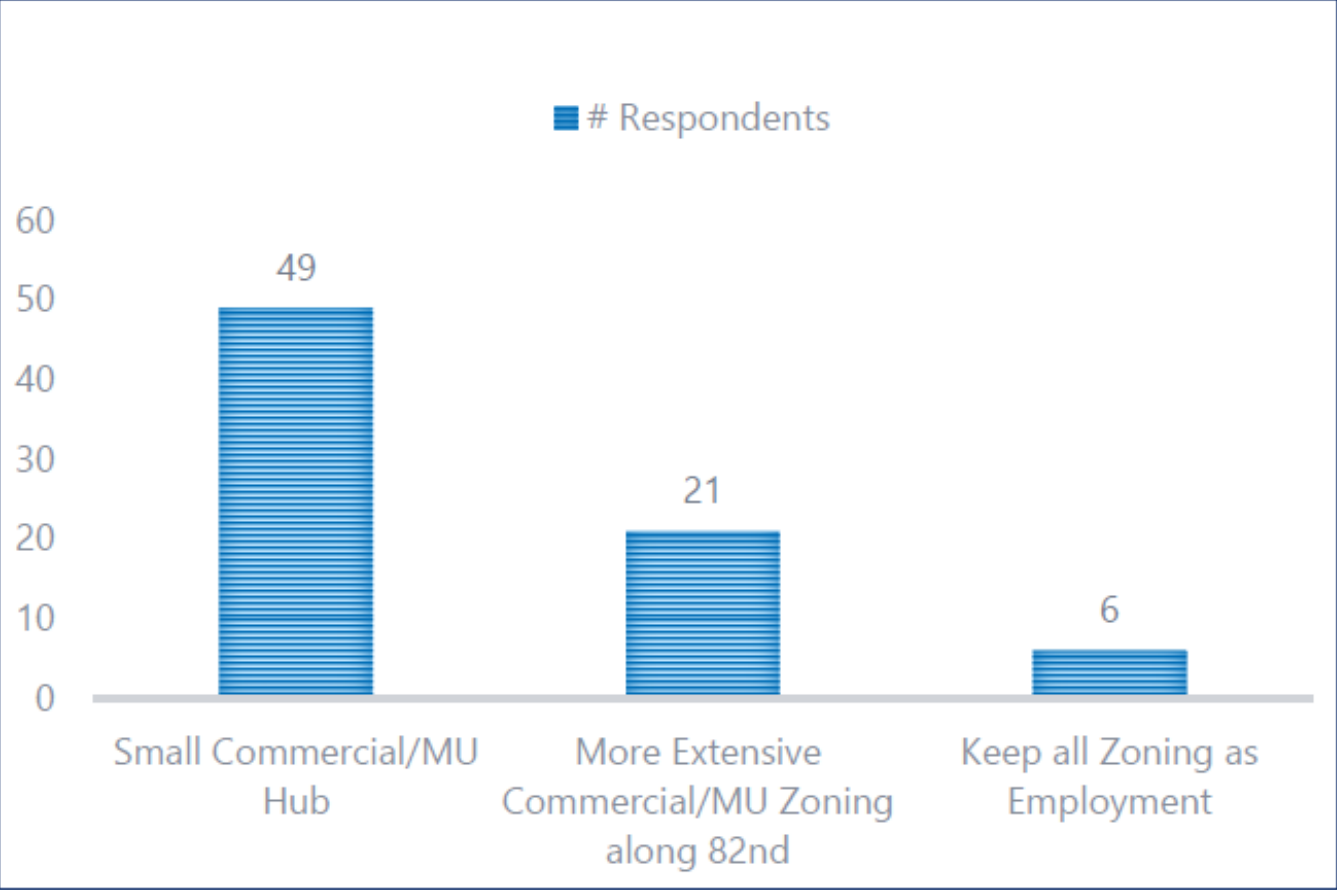


Key Themes

- Support for a new Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood center, especially the additional commercial services this could bring.
- Support for the potential “placemaking” opportunity of a new neighborhood center, and desires for street improvements and including more trees and green elements.
- Concern about impacts new businesses and housing may have on traffic and parking.
- Concern about the affordability of new commercial spaces and the need to prioritize existing and new local businesses.



Q2: How do you feel about a new commercial hub centered on 82nd Ave and Flavel St?

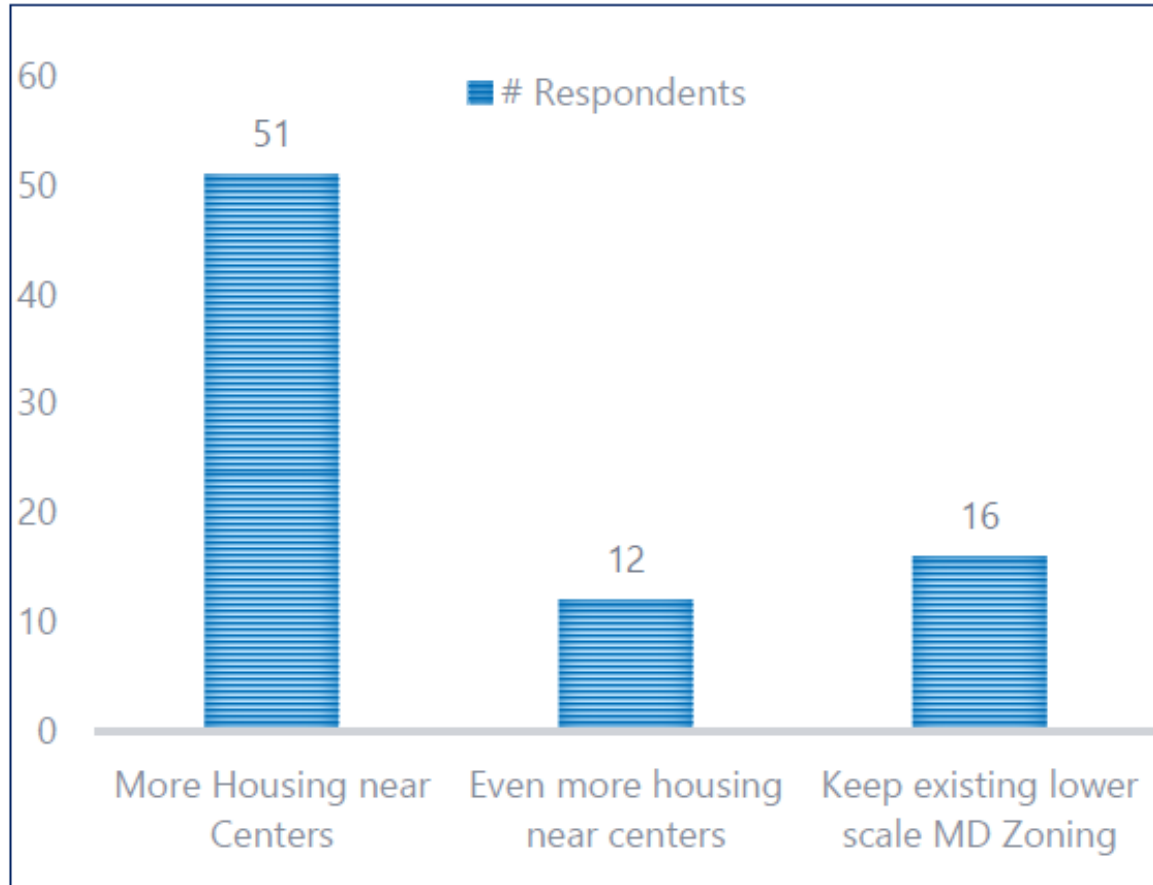


Key Themes

- Support for a commercial hub in this location, but that it needs an improved pedestrian environment.
- Support for new housing opportunities on or adjacent to 82nd Avenue.
- Need for addressing traffic and safety issues on 82nd Avenue if it is to become a thriving commercial hub.
- Some interest in allowing more commercial uses and housing more broadly along 82nd.



Q3: How do you feel about expanded housing options near the Heart of Foster and Lents Centers?

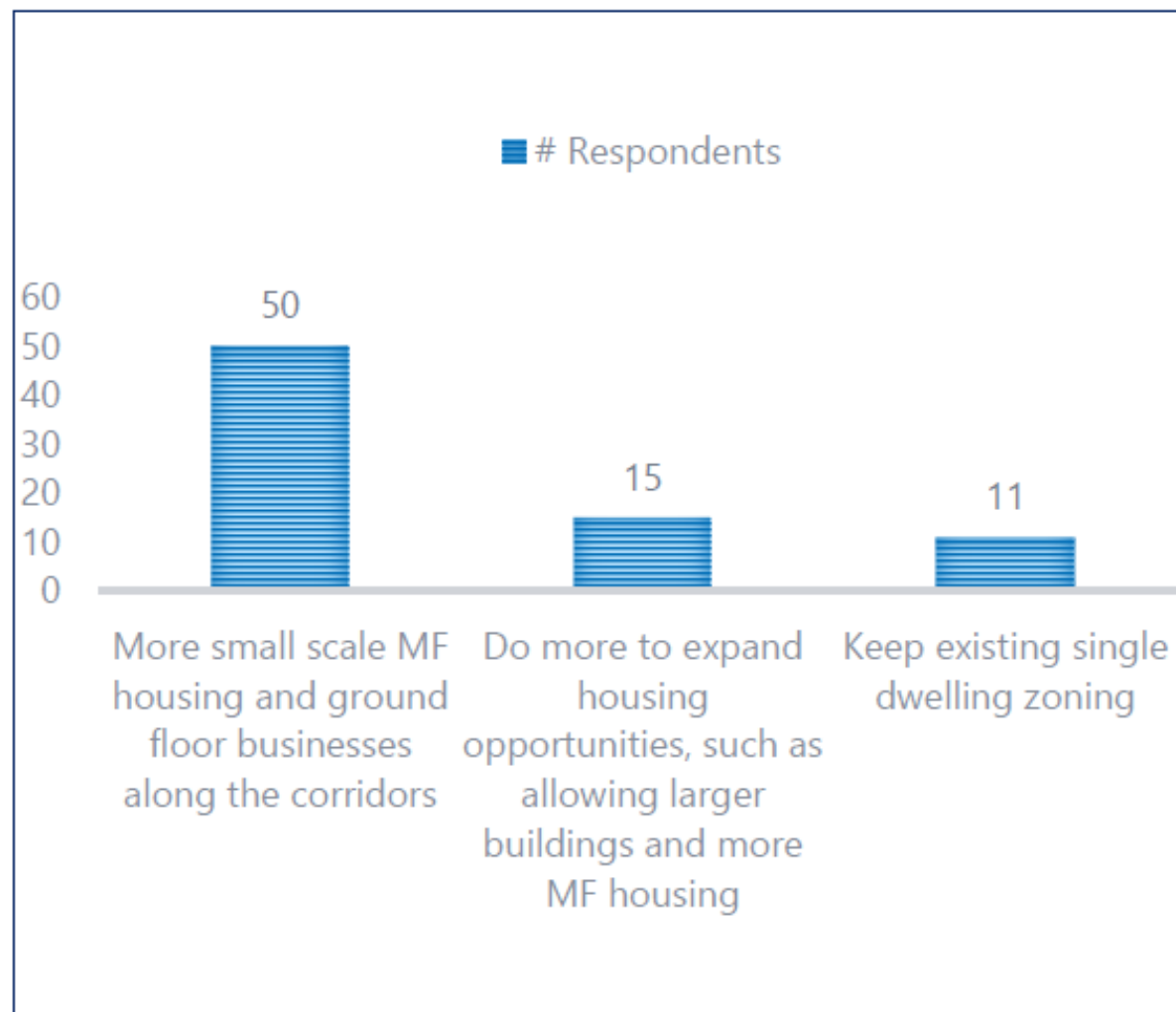


Key Themes

- Support for more multi-dwelling housing opportunities around the Heart of Foster and Lents Centers.
- Questions about the benefits of allowing more housing if it is not affordable.
- Concern that increasing height allowances will have negative effects on existing residents, and that larger-scale buildings should be kept to the corridors.
- Concern about impacts of higher density housing on neighborhood parking if parking is not required for new development.



Q4: How do you feel about expanded housing options along these corridors?

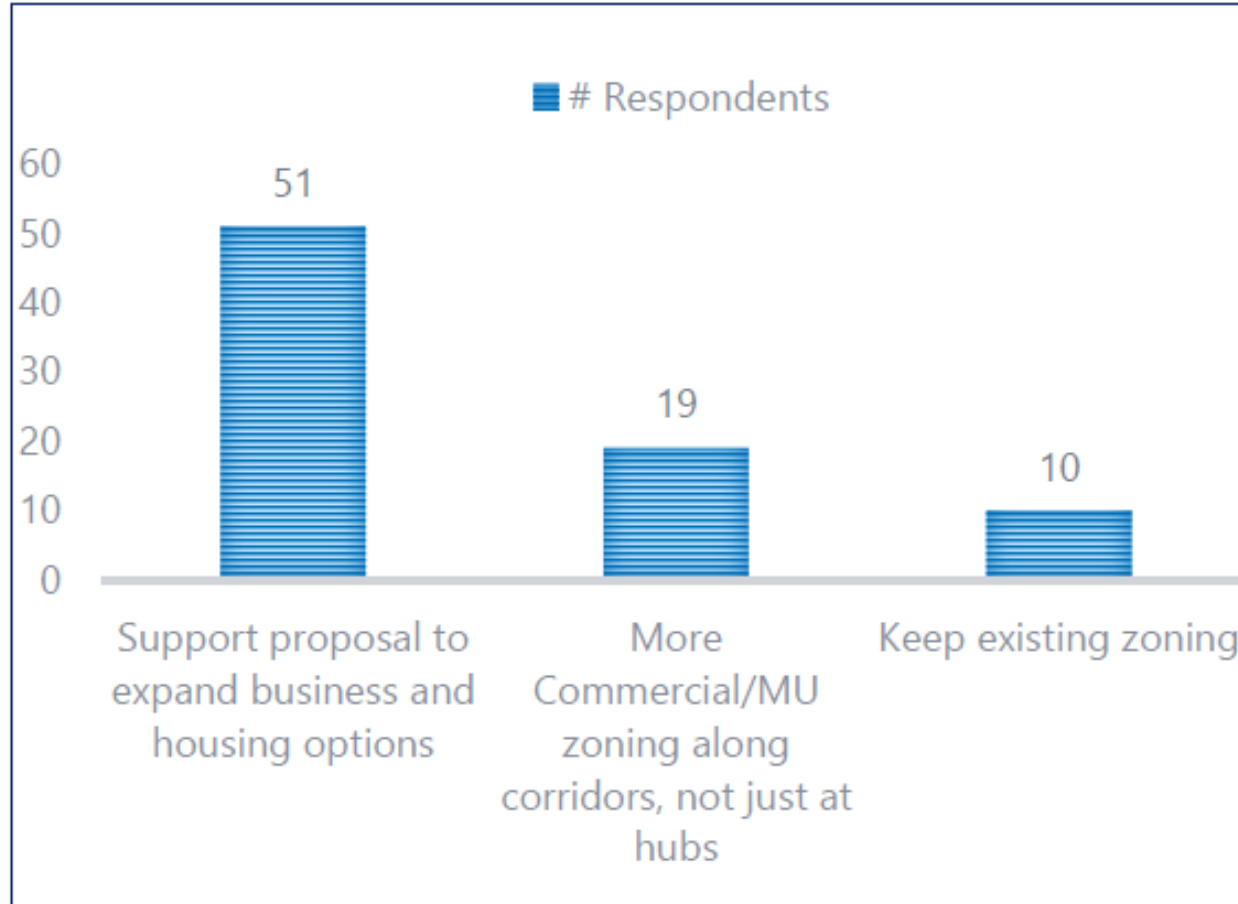


Key Themes

- Support for allowing more multi-unit housing along the corridors, along with small ground-floor businesses.
- Need to prioritize housing affordable to working-class residents, including people living in the area.
- Concern about impacts of new development on parking and traffic.
- Interest in prioritizing small, local, and BIPOC-owned businesses with the new ground-floor commercial allowances.



Q5: How do you feel about strengthening small commercial hubs along these corridors?



Key Themes

- Support for expanding commercial/mixed-use allowances at hubs along the corridors, with some interested in allowing this more broadly along the corridors.
- Concern about the impact new businesses and residences will have on traffic and parking.
- Desire for street improvements, with better pedestrian, bicycle, and transit access, to accompany the new development.
- Concern about displacement of current small businesses.



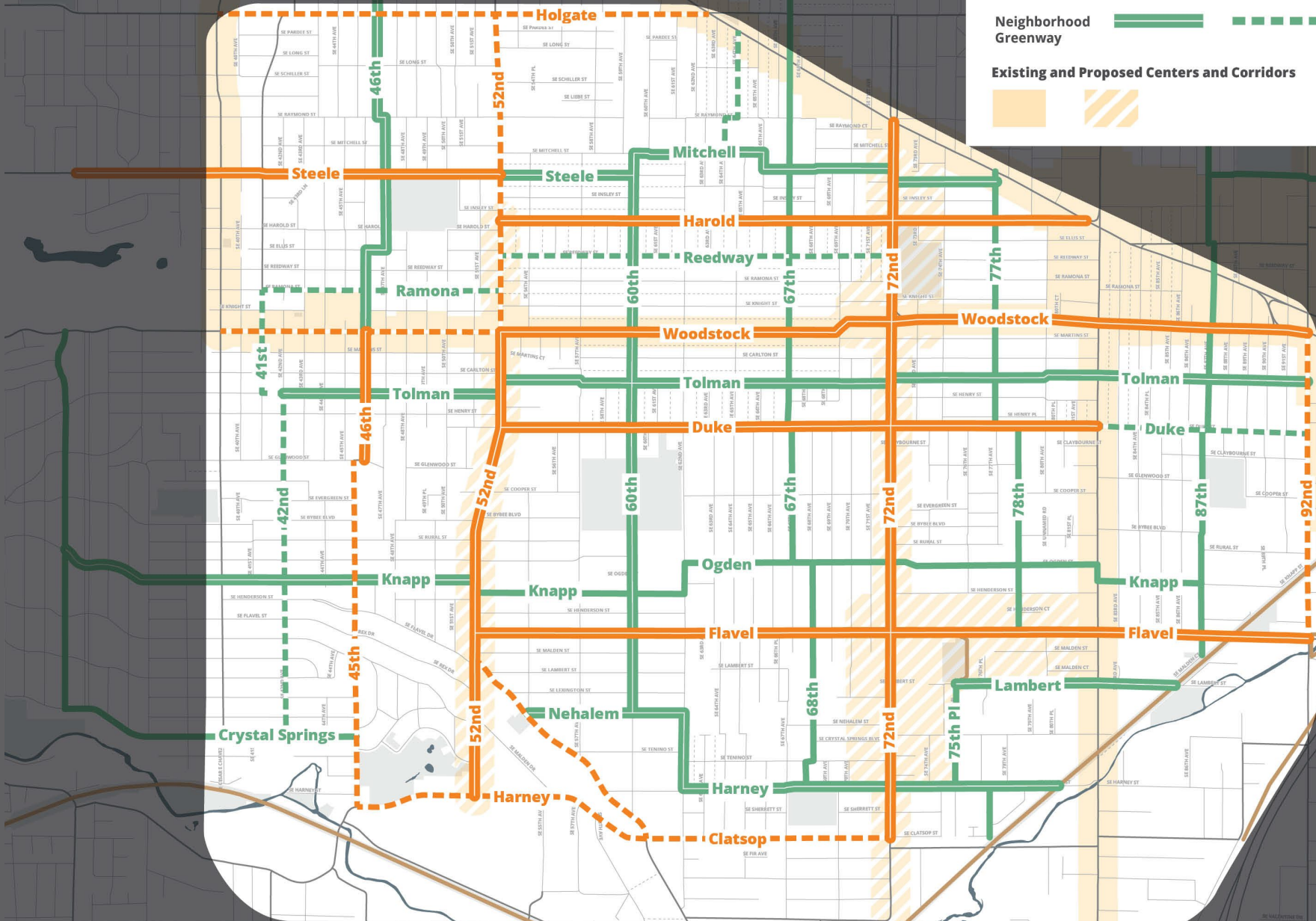
Transportation: Recommended Projects

RECOMMENDED PROJECTS

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------|--------|----------|
| | Tier 1 | Tier 2 | Existing |
| Corridor Improvement | | | N/A |
| Neighborhood Greenway | | | |

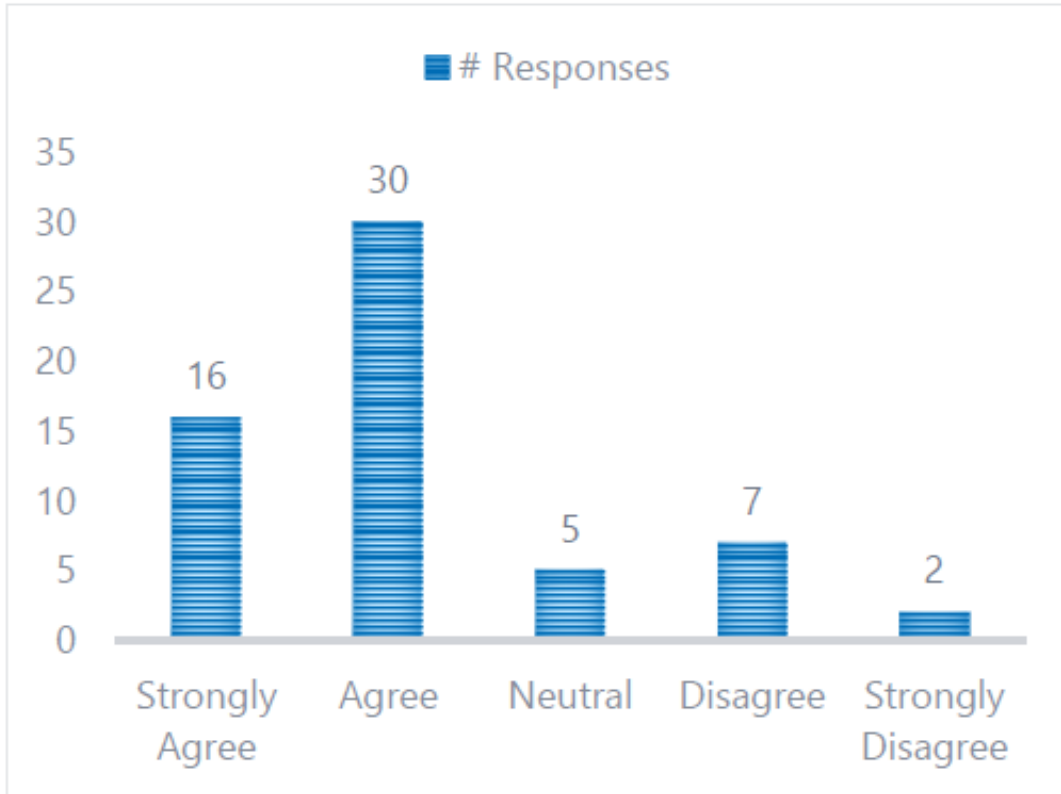
Existing and Proposed Centers and Corridors

| | |
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TRANSPORTATION

Q1: Do you feel this network of corridor improvements would meet the safety, walking, and biking needs on busy streets in this area?

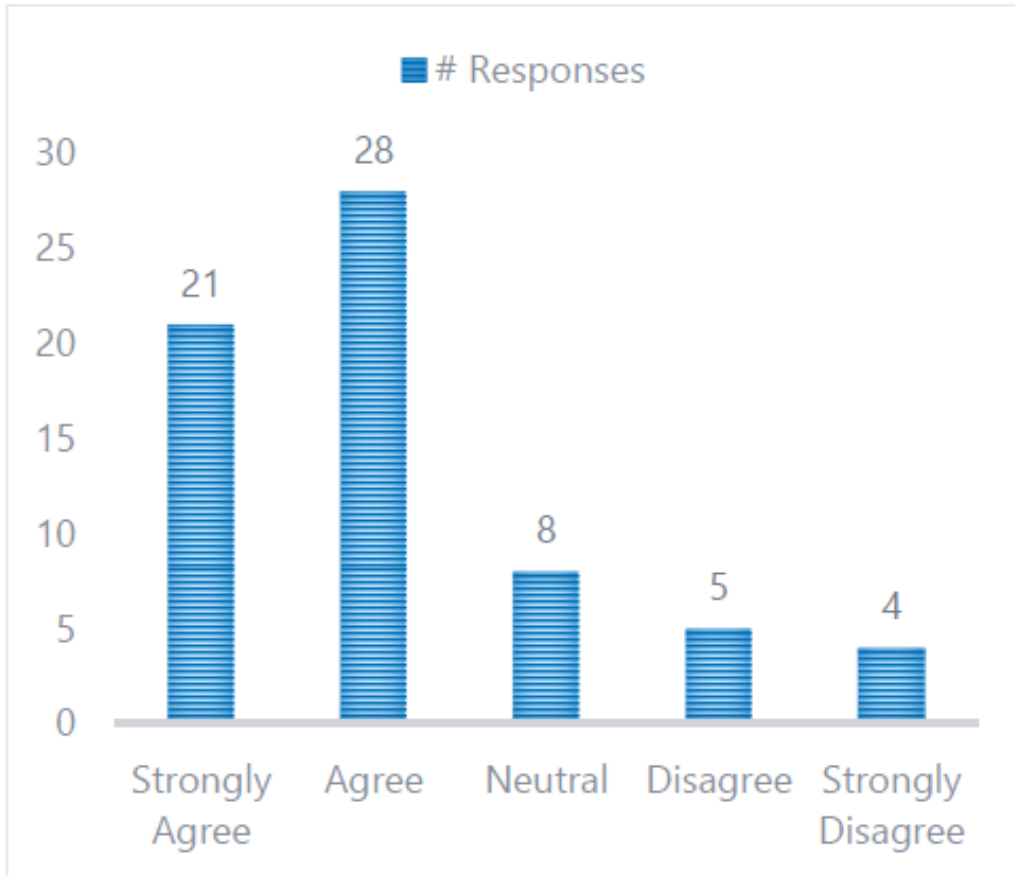


Key Themes

- Support for bike lanes and other transportation improvements along corridors.
- Support for reducing traffic speeds and improving walkability along corridors and other major streets.
- Those disagreeing with the proposal expressed concerns about bike lanes causing the loss of parking in areas where parking is already difficult, or felt that bike lanes were not appropriate on busy corridors.



Q2: Do you feel this network of Neighborhood Greenways would meet the safety, walking, and biking needs on neighborhood streets in this area?

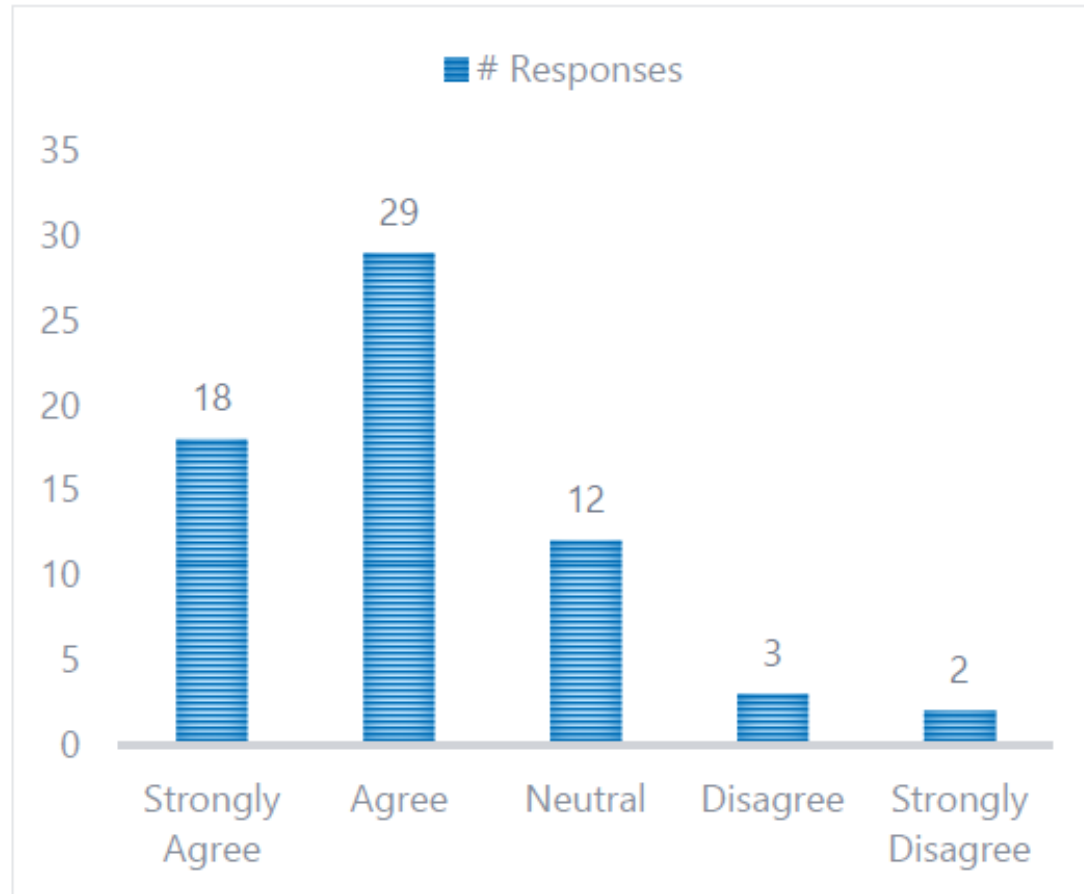


Key Themes

- Support for the system of Neighborhood Greenway improvements.
- Support for bike/ped improvements and crossings of busy streets along Greenway routes.
- Need for improvements to existing residential streets to support use of Greenways, as some are in poor condition.
- Need for traffic calming measures to ensure Greenways are not used for cut-through car traffic.



Q3: Do you feel this future network would provide safe and convenient access for people walking, rolling, and biking to important destinations?

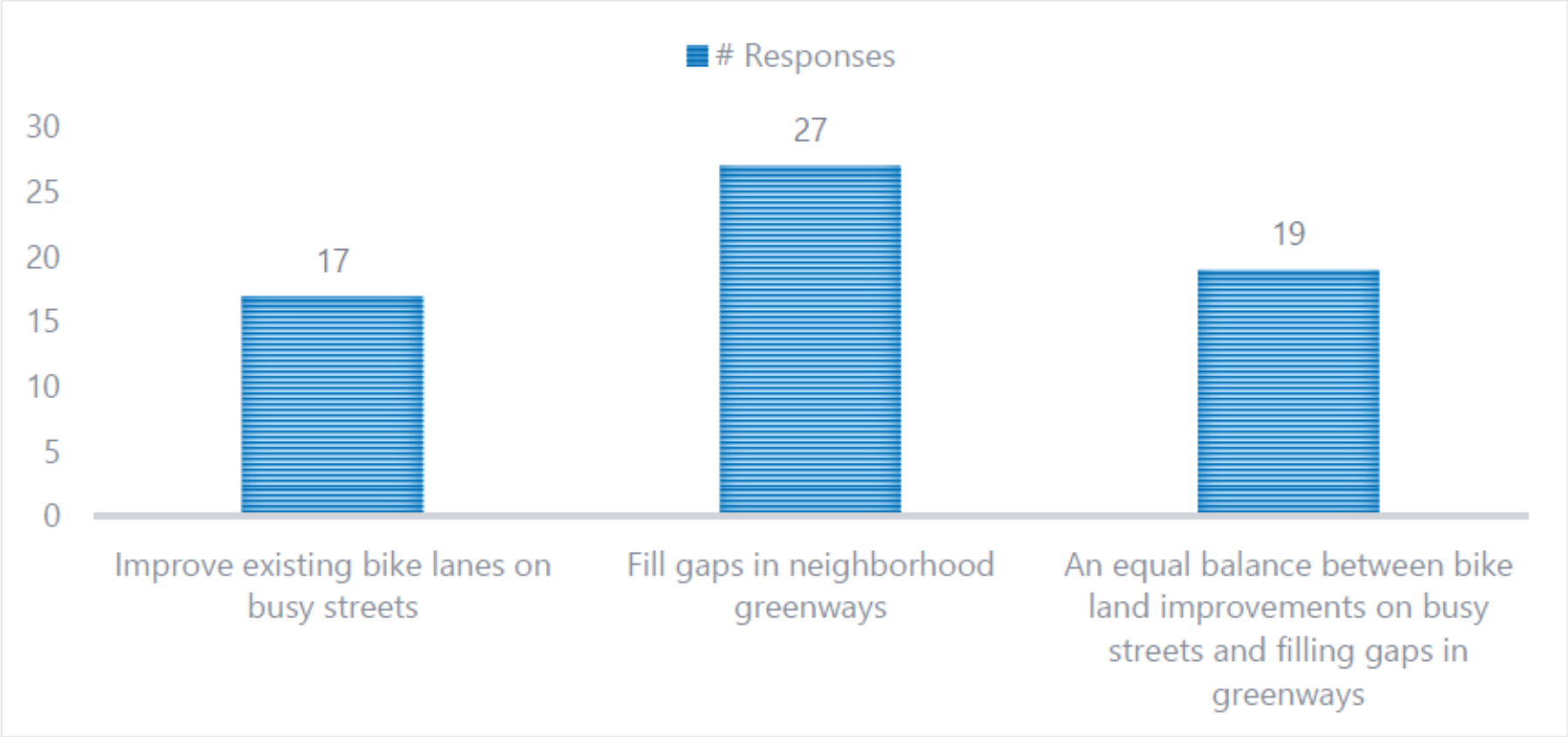


Key Themes

- Overall support for proposed system of safety and access improvements.
- Some desire physical barriers between bike lanes and car traffic on busy streets.
- Concern that while the improvements are positive and necessary, that additional traffic and speed control mechanisms are needed to ensure a safe bike and pedestrian environment.
- Some prefer prioritizing sidewalk improvements.



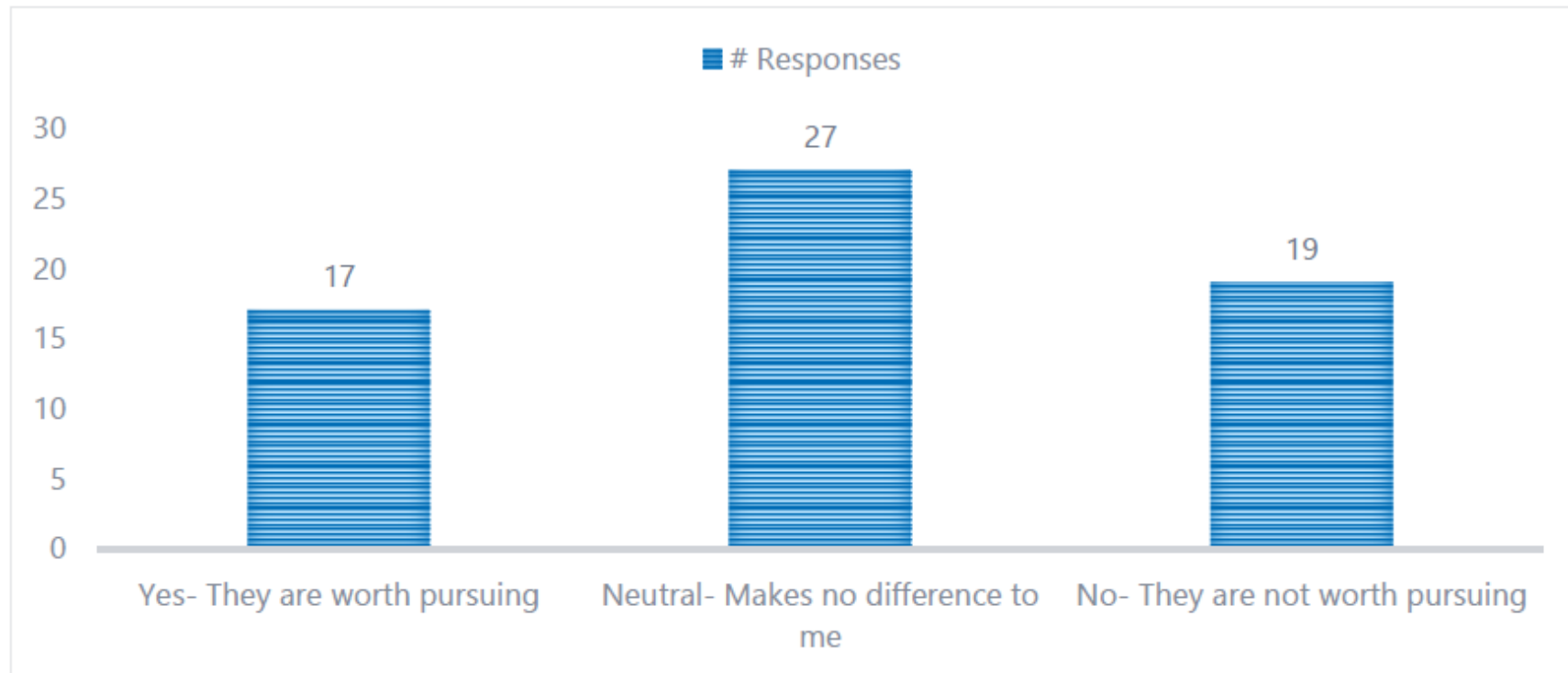
Q4: To improve safety and access for people walking and biking, should we first improve existing bike lanes and crossings on busy streets or fill gaps in the Neighborhood Greenway to create calm, low-traffic residential streets?



Q5: Do you think the Lower SE Rising bus network recommendations that did not make it into TriMet's Forward Together Plan are worth pursuing and / or keeping in the plan?

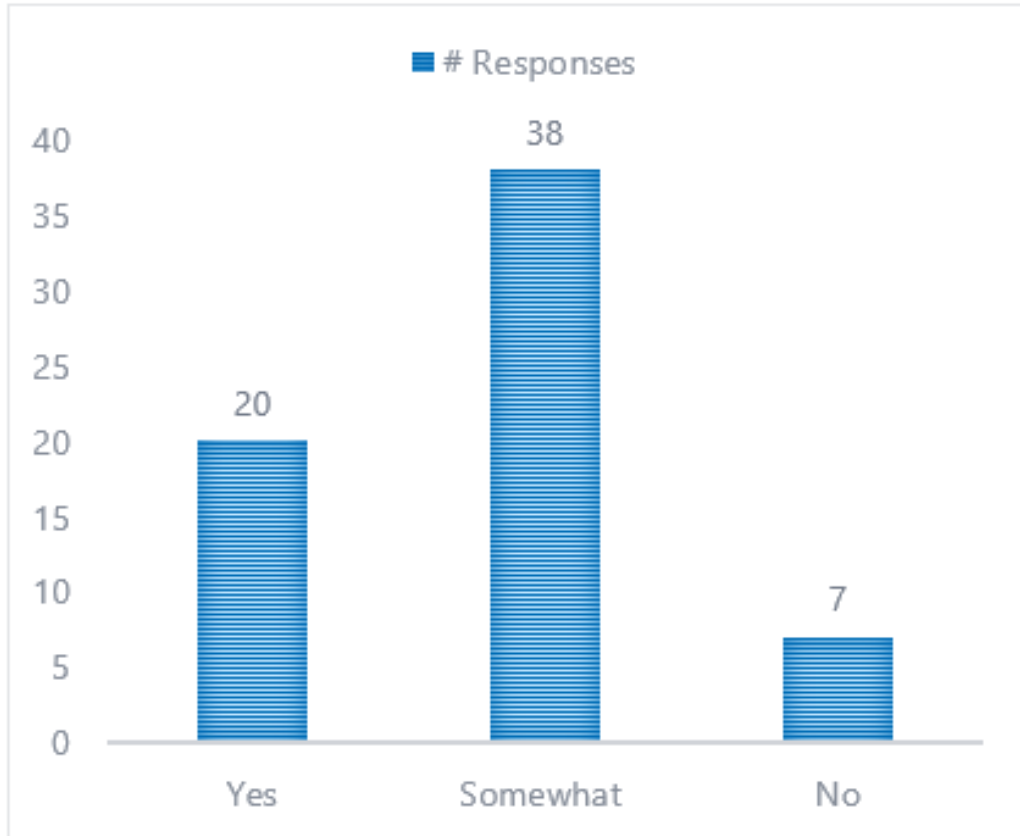
Recommendations not included in TriMet's plan include:

- Continuous east-west service on SE Flavel St between 72nd and 82nd
- Continuous north-south bus service on SE 72nd Ave



SUMMARY QUESTION

Do you think that the Plan's land use and transportation proposals will help address these (*the Plan's*) objectives?



Key Themes

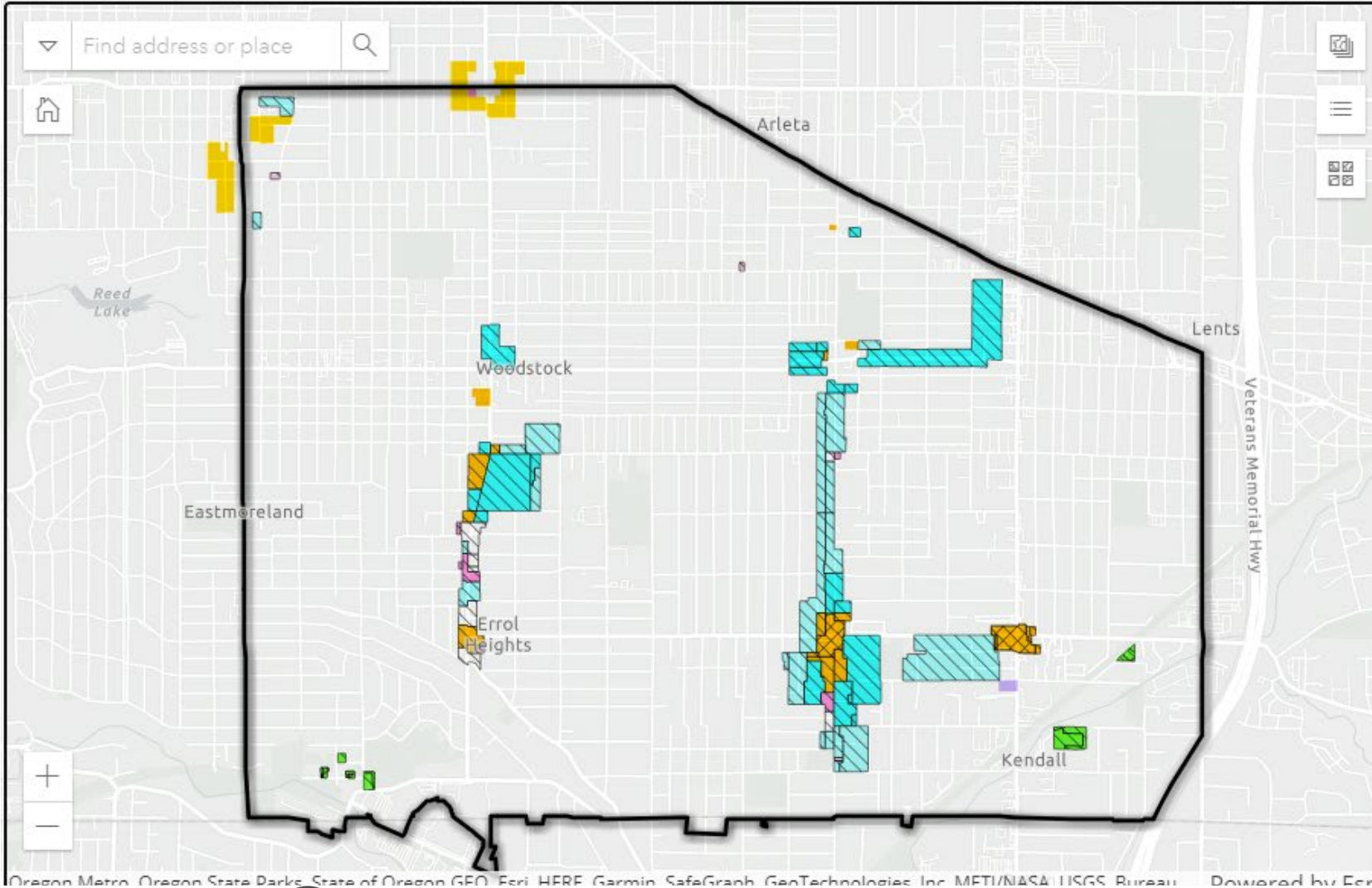
- General support for the proposed land use changes.
- Concern that land use changes by themselves will be insufficient without efforts to ensure truly affordable housing and support for community economic development is provided.
- Concerns over lack of parking to accommodate increased density.
- Local streets and sidewalks should be improved, not just the corridors and greenways.



Feedback from Focus Group Discussions

- Support for the land use proposals
- Concerns about additional traffic and insufficient parking
- Need to ensure housing that is affordable to lower-income people
- Agree that the priority corridors and neighborhood greenways are in the right locations
- Mixed responses on prioritizing improvements on corridors versus greenways
- Concerns about bike lanes on busy streets bringing loss of parking, congestion
- Like the idea of bus service on SE Flavel connecting to the light rail station





Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan, Discussion Draft

[Read the Discussion Draft Documents](#) ↗

Project Timeline

-  **May 12, 2023** – Discussion Draft released for public comment
-  **June 30, 2023** – Discussion Draft public comment period ends
-  **August 2023** – Proposed Draft released for public testimony and hearings at the Portland Planning Commission (dates TBD)

The Lower Southeast Rising Area Plan addresses land use and transportation challenges in the Brentwood-Darlington neighborhood and nearby areas, including parts of the Woodstock, Mt. Scott-Arleta, and Lents neighborhoods. In response to nearly two years of community input, plan seeks to expand opportunities for neighborhood businesses and housing, along with



Discussion

Ideas for plan refinements, based on community feedback



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Next Steps

- Staff will refine Draft Plan based community feedback
- Public release of Proposed Draft – *late August*
- Planning Commission Hearing – *September 26 (5 pm)*
- City Council – TBD
- Final PAC get together?

Email: LowSEPlan@portlandoregon.gov

Website: <http://www.portland.gov/lower-se-rising>



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