

West End High-Crash Intersection Safety Audits

Community Outreach Summary #1 | Spring 2025

Outreach Dates

March 31-April 28

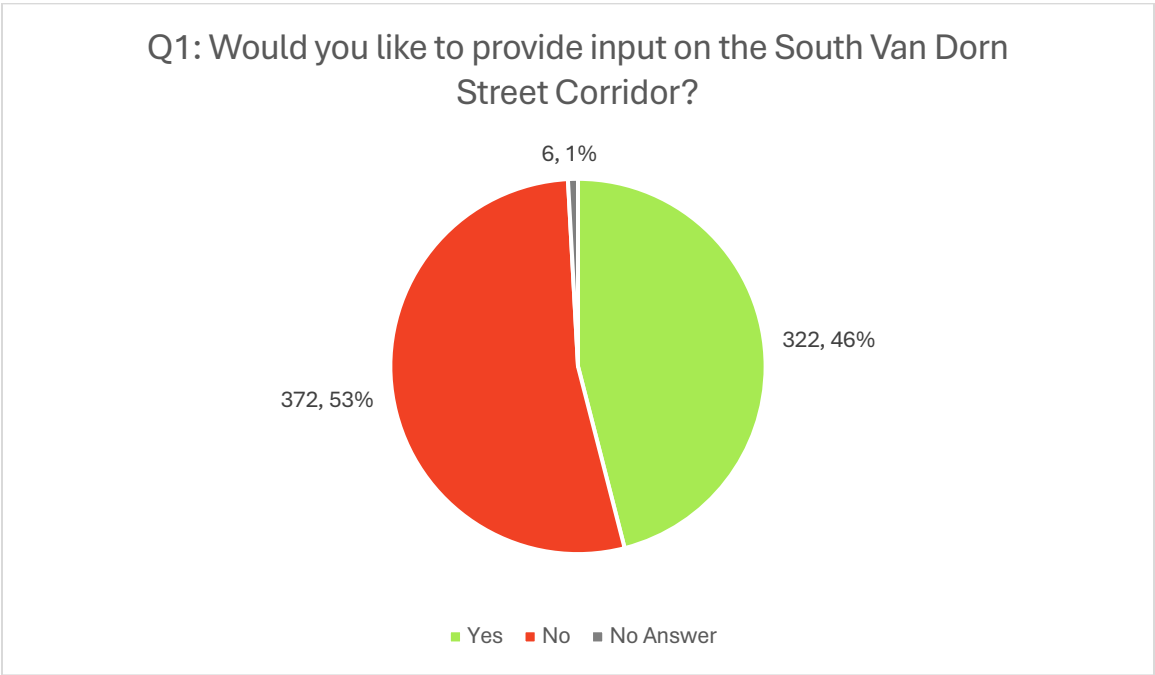
Methods of Outreach

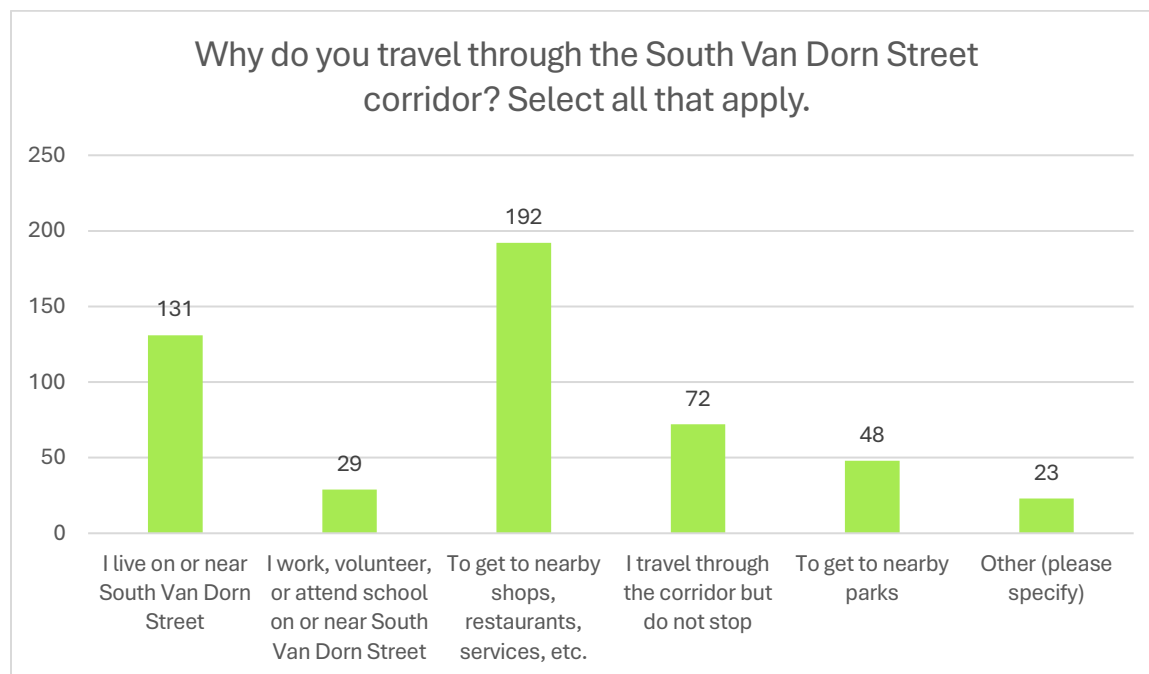
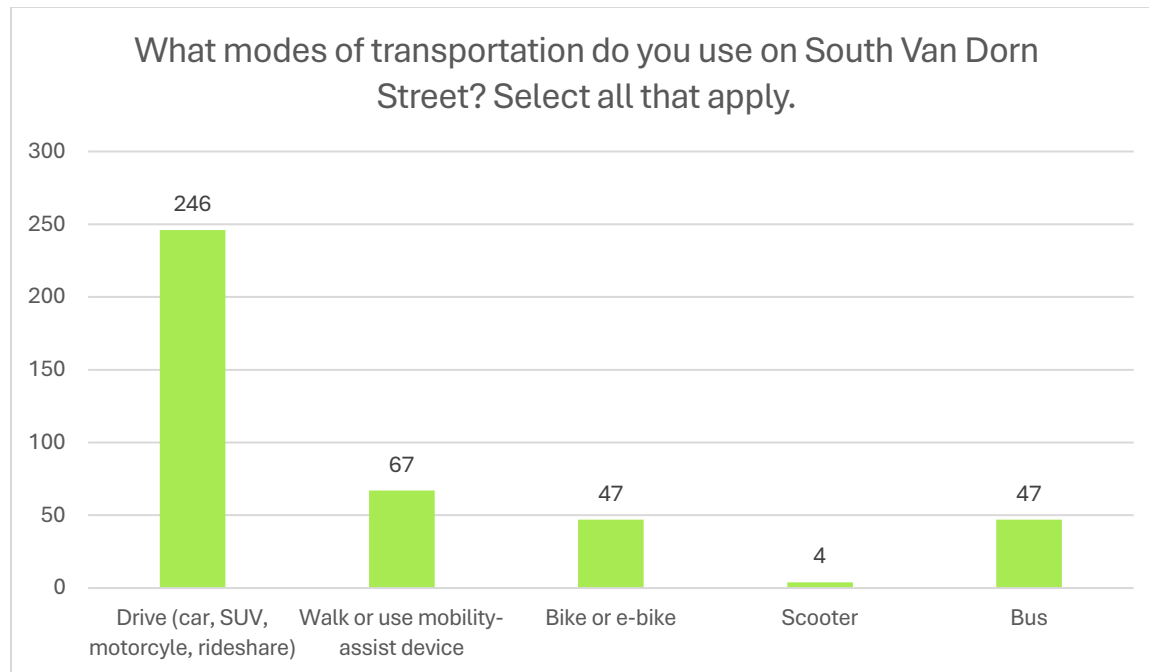
eNews | Social Media | Yard Signs | Posters | Pop-Up Events | Direct Emails to Stakeholders | Local News

Feedback Form Responses

	English	Spanish	Amharic	Arabic
Number of Responses	696	2	2	0

South Van Dorn Street

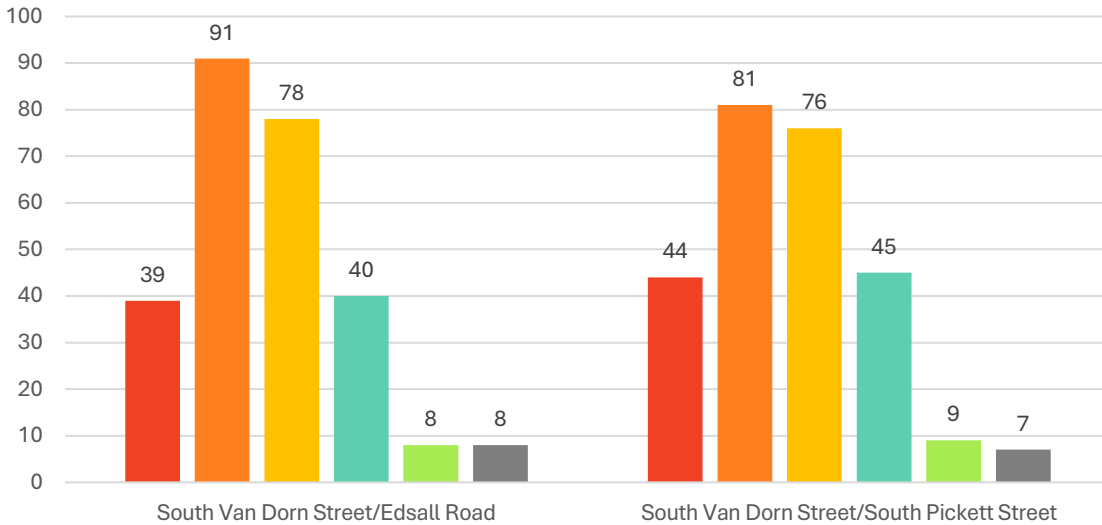




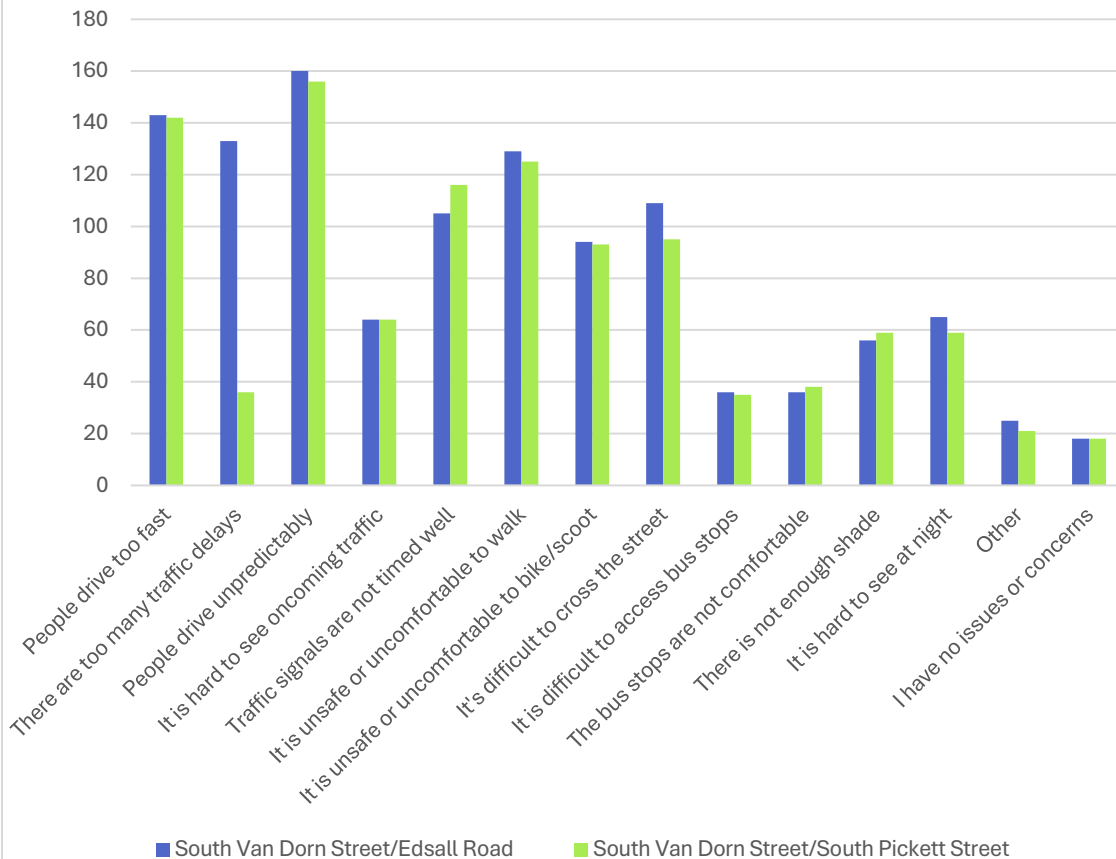
“Other” Responses:

- To visit friends
- To exercise
- To attend church
- To avoid Duke Street

On a scale of 1-5, how safe do you feel at these intersections?



What issues or challenges do you experience on the South Van Dorn Street corridor? Select all that apply.



“Other” Issues or Challenges:

- Poor pavement condition
- Too much gray infrastructure and not enough trees
- Heat island effect
- Short green lights for certain movements
- Sidewalks in poor condition
- Trash and litter
- Red-light running
- Drivers fail to yield to people walking when turning
- High traffic volumes
- Trees limit visibility in some areas
- People don’t always cross at crosswalks
- U-turn conflicts at Van Dorn/Edsall
- Intersections are too wide
- Distracted driving
- Construction-related issues
- Narrow travel lanes with large vehicles

Summary of Narrative Comments on South Van Dorn Street:

Traffic Safety

- **High-speed driving and aggressive behavior:** Widespread concern about speeding, red light running, U-turns, and lack of driver attention
- **Right-turn-on-red issues:** Especially at Edsall & S Van Dorn—hedges obstruct views, fast downhill traffic, and pedestrians in crosswalks create unsafe conditions.
- **Pedestrian safety concerns:** Drivers fail to yield at crosswalks, pedestrian signals are too short, and crossings feel unsafe or uncomfortable.
- **Bike safety and infrastructure:** Bike lanes are poorly marked, used by vehicles, and lack protection; Van Dorn feels too dangerous for biking.
- **Calls for enforcement:** Frequent requests for more police presence, red-light cameras, and speed cameras to hold reckless drivers accountable.

Traffic Operations

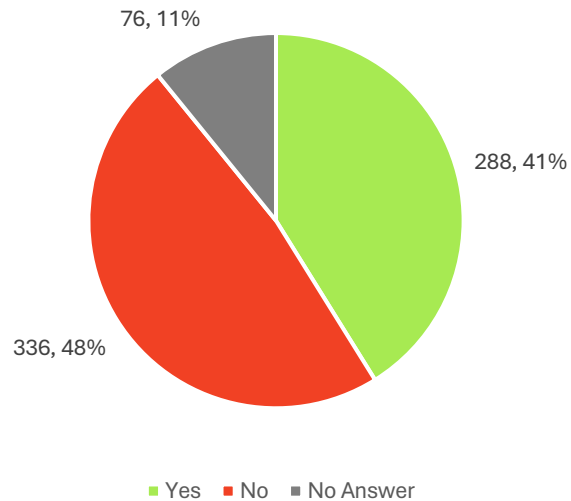
- **Poor signal timing and coordination:** Signals not synchronized (e.g., along Van Dorn and at Edsall/Pickett), causing backups and driver frustration.
- **Short/poorly designed turn lanes:** Especially southbound on Van Dorn at Pickett and Edsall; short left-turn signals lead to red light running.
- **Lane and signage confusion:** Inconsistent markings, unclear lane uses, and overhead signs out of service; drivers often end up in wrong lanes.
- **High congestion and backups:** Especially during rush hour and near businesses (e.g., car wash, bus stops); increased traffic from construction projects.
- **Cut-through and wrong-lane use:** Drivers using turn-only lanes to go straight, misusing bike/shared lanes, and shopping center cut-throughs.

Other

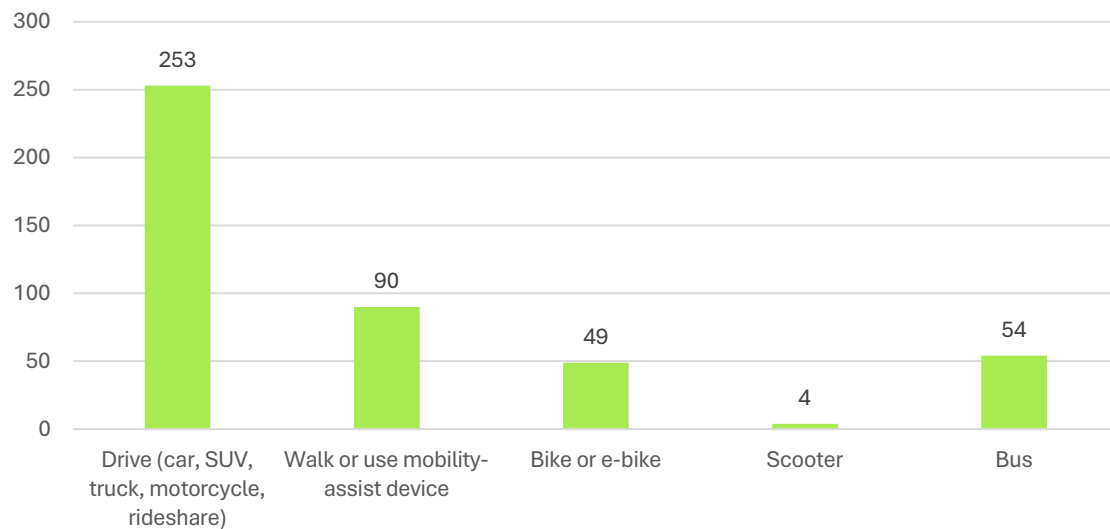
- **Poor roadway conditions:** Potholes, faded lane paint, and debris noted, especially around construction zones.
- **Desire for long-term planning:** Residents urge consideration of future development (Landmark Mall, Pickett Place) and need for scalable solutions.
- **Noise and quality of life:** Noise from traffic degrades living conditions near intersections.
- **Suggestions for improvements:** Requests for road widening, protected bike lanes, pedestrian buffers, and simplified access to commercial areas.

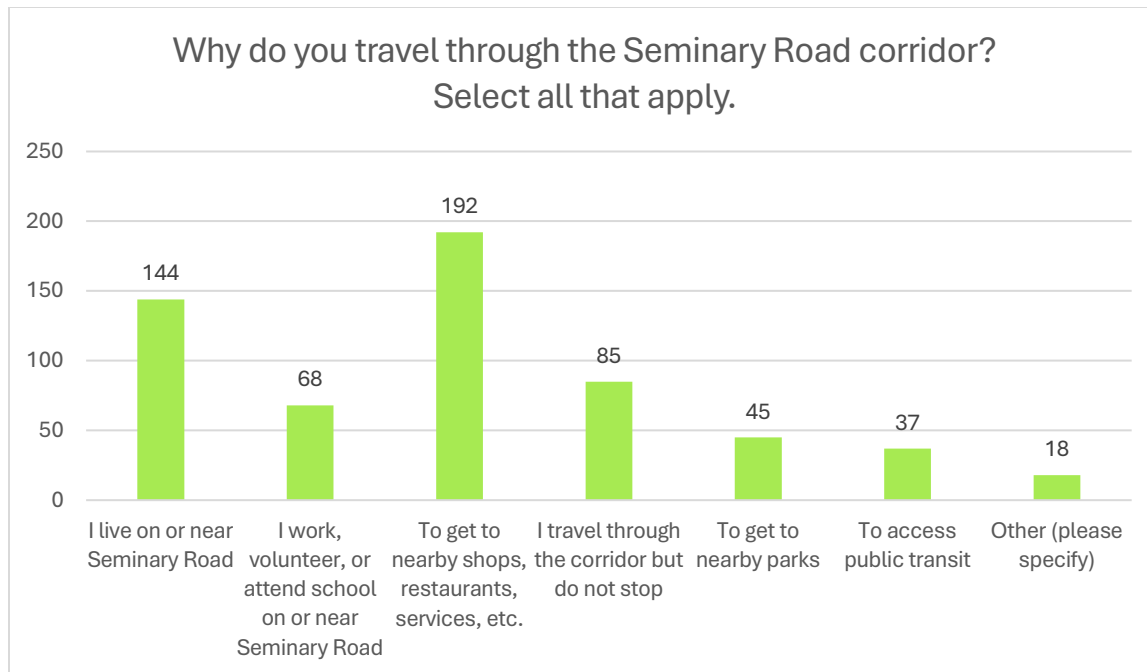
Seminary Road

Would you like to provide input on the Seminary Road corridor?



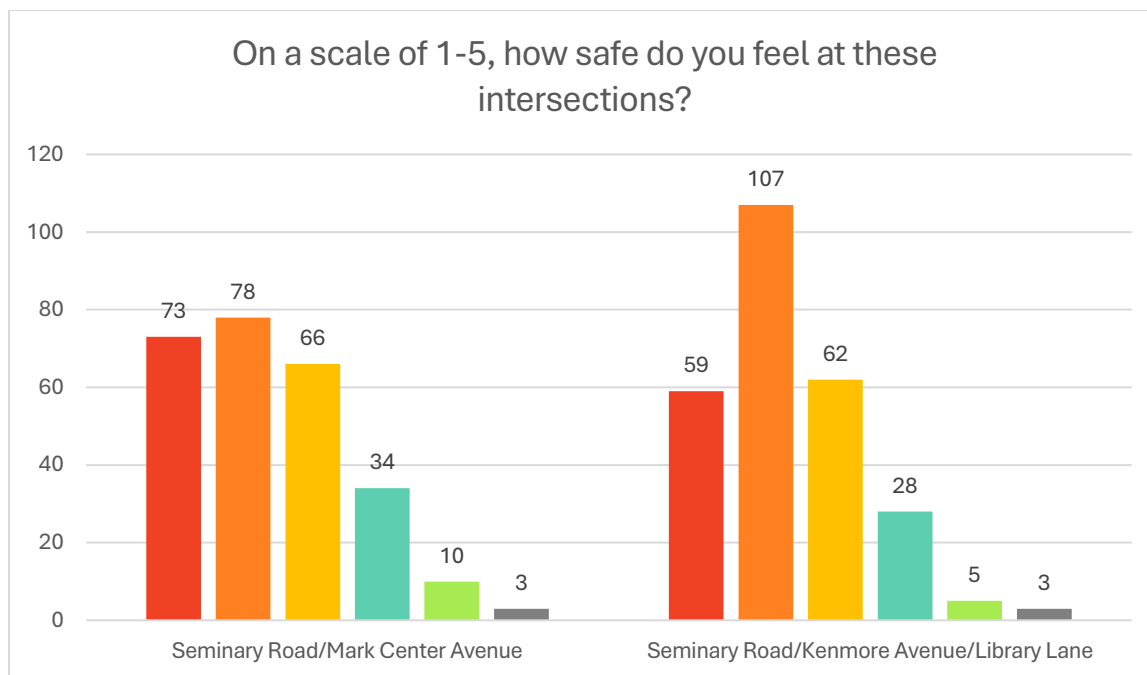
What modes of transportation do you use when traveling through the Seminary Road corridor? Select all that apply.

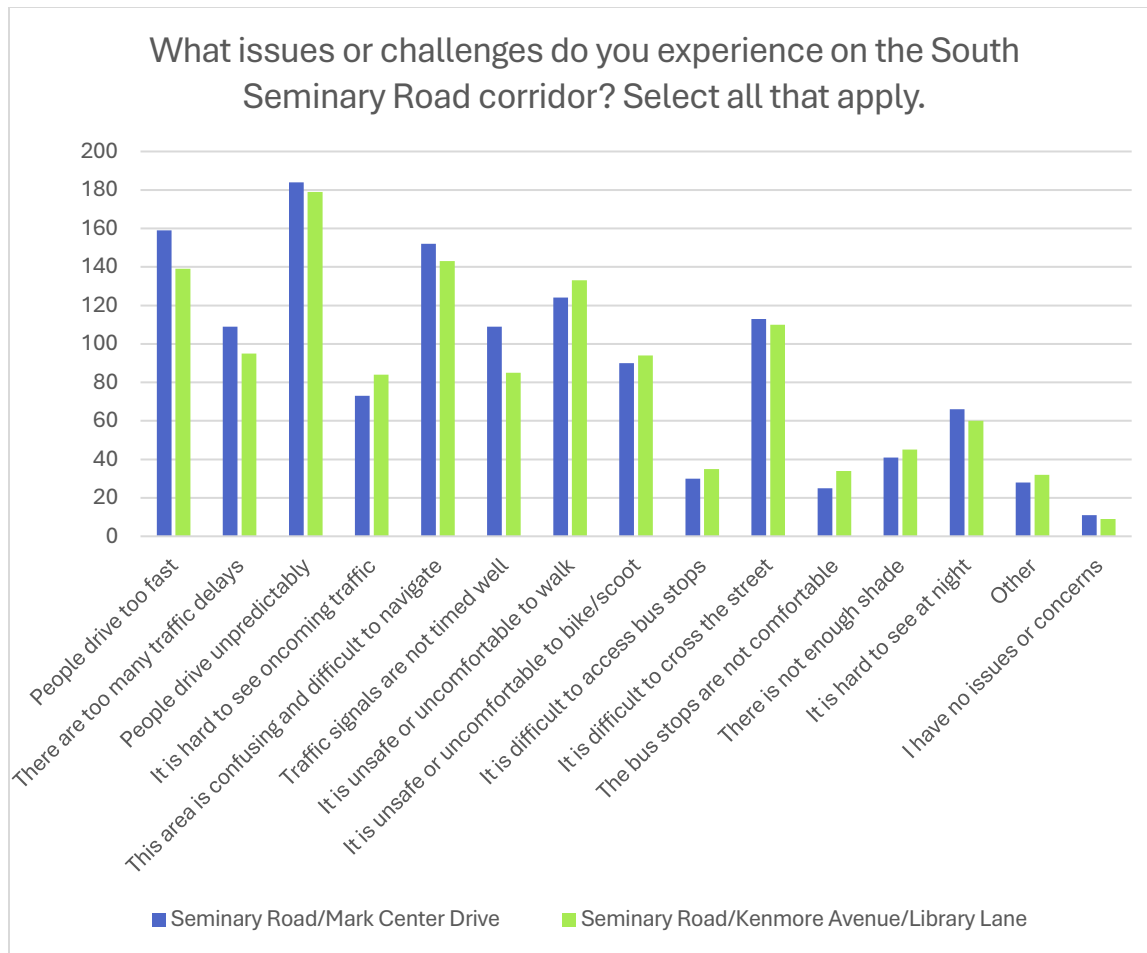




“Other” Responses:

- To access the library
- To walk the dog
- To exercise
- To attend church
- To visit friends
- To get to the hospital





“Other” Issues and Concerns:

- Duplicative ramps and driveways
- People walking can be unpredictable
- Drivers weaving/cutting across multiple lanes of traffic
- A large number of students interact with busy traffic
- Cut-through traffic from I-395
- Too many driveways, intersections, and ramps in a short distance
- Limited enforcement of traffic laws
- Too many lane changes are required
- Confusing signage and markings
- Inconsistent right turn on red restrictions

Summary of Narrative Comments on Seminary Road:

Traffic Safety

- **High crash frequency:** Frequent collisions at Seminary/Kenmore; unsafe merging and weaving lead to near-daily crashes.
- **Pedestrian & cyclist risk:** Multiple reports of unsafe crossings (especially near Kenmore, Library Lane, and Mark Center); drivers fail to yield, block crosswalks, or speed through red lights.

- **Bicycle conditions:** Cyclists forced into traffic due to disappearing bike lanes; reported close calls and abandonment of biking due to fear.
- **School zone concerns:** Speeding near Hammond Middle and the library; calls for traffic calming and more visible signage.
- **Driver behavior:** Speeding, red-light running, distracted/aggressive driving, and illegal turns common; requests for more enforcement.

Traffic Operations

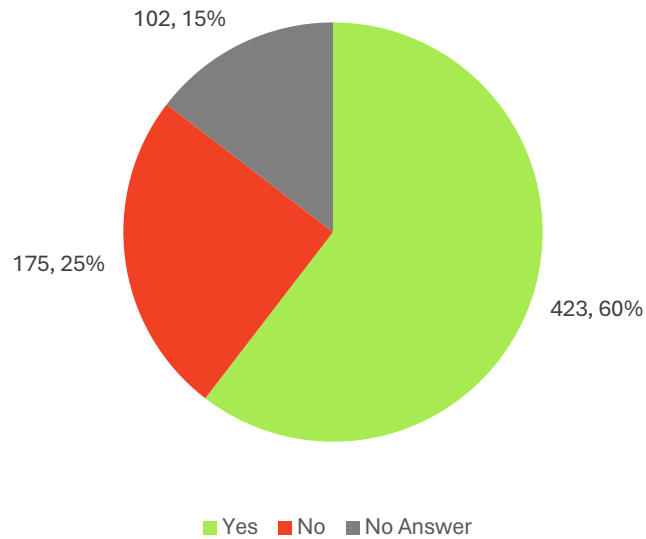
- **Lane confusion & merging hazards:** Multiple lanes and short distances to merge (e.g., from I-395 to Kenmore/Library) create unpredictable and dangerous traffic patterns.
- **Poor signal timing:** Signals are poorly coordinated, causing backups and blocked intersections, especially during rush hours and weekends.
- **Turn movement issues:** Difficult and unsafe left turns (e.g., into the medical building and at Seminary/Beauregard); need for dedicated turn lanes and clearer signage.
- **Overcapacity & congestion:** Frequent backups reported from Beauregard to 395.
- **Design criticisms:** Signage and lane markings insufficient; transitions (e.g., protected bike lanes) poorly implemented.

Other

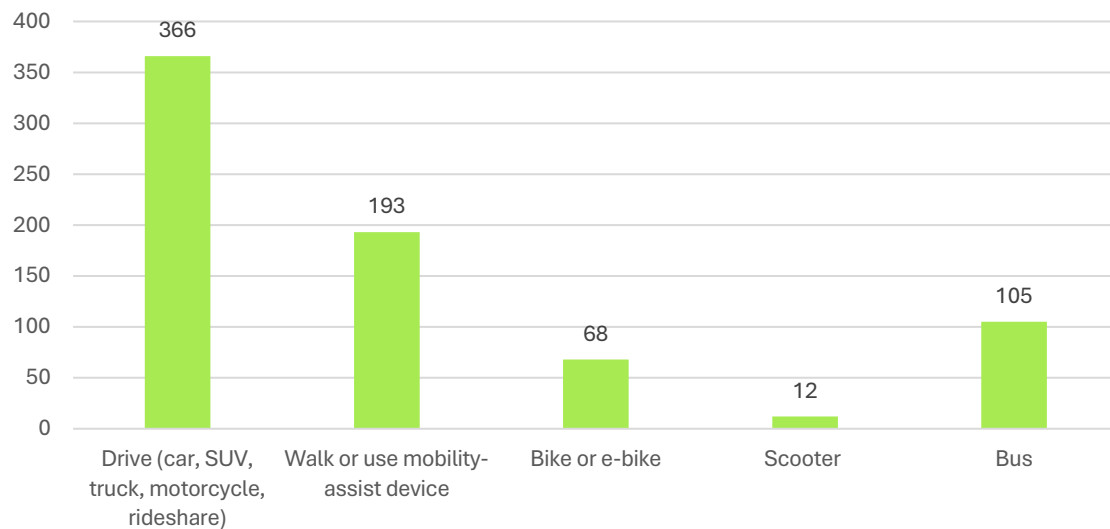
- **Enforcement and infrastructure requests:** Suggestions include better police presence, concrete medians, improved signage, and reinstallation of pedestrian deterrents like fencing.
- **Neighborhood impact:** Congestion and unsafe roads drive residents to avoid Seminary entirely; several mentioned long commutes and frequent power outages due to crashes.
- **Bus operations:** Buses contribute to congestion and visibility issues; improved bus routing and clearer stops requested.
- **Environmental/urban design:** Desire for more street trees for calming and aesthetics, and wider sidewalks for walkability.

King Street

Would you like to provide input on the King Street corridor?



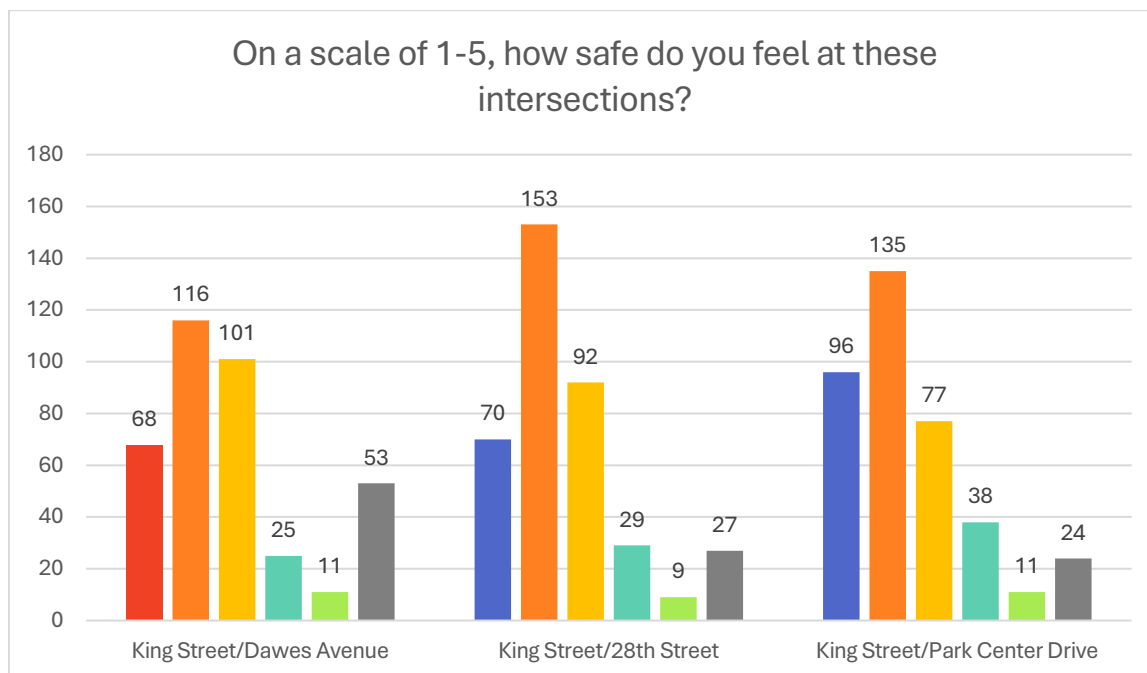
What modes of transportation do you use when traveling through the King Street corridor? Select all that apply.

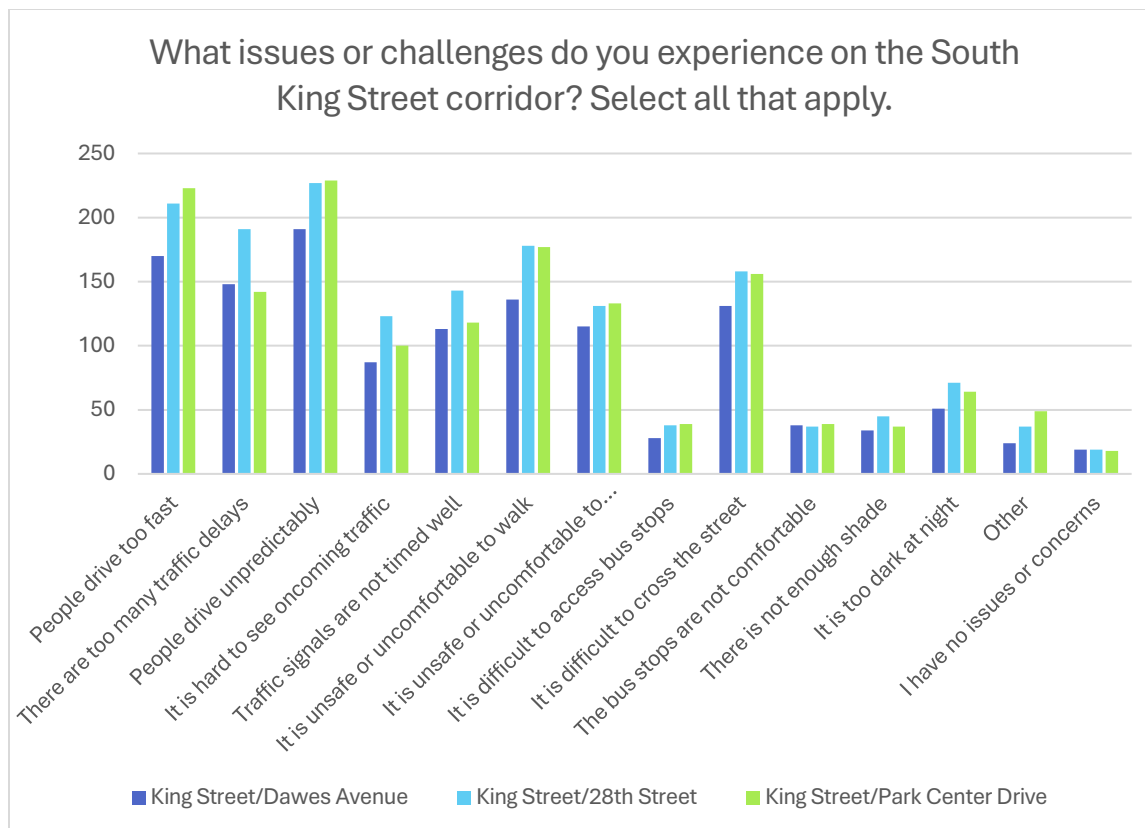




“Other” Responses:

- For pleasure
- To visit friends
- To attend children’s activities
- To walk the dog
- To attend church





“Other” Issues and Concerns:

- Illegal U-turns at Park Center Drive create conflicts and block visibility for other drivers
- Lack of bicycle detection
- Landscaping restricts pedestrian space and limits visibility
- Drivers block crosswalks and intersections
- Traffic noise
- Red-light running
- Left turns block traffic
- Poor pavement condition
- Recent lane changes to Park Center Drive at King Street create issues; desire for two lanes in each direction on Park Center Drive instead of 3 in one direction and 1 in the other
- Difficulty merging into traffic when exiting the gas station at King/Dawes
- Missing pedestrian signals
- Turn lanes are too short
- Narrow lanes create concerns about sideswipes and head-on collisions
- Left turning vehicles obstruct visibility for other drivers
- Steep roadway at King/Park Center
- Drivers try to turn left from the right lane when exiting NVCC

Summary of Narrative Comments on King Street

Traffic Safety

- **Illegal U-turns:** Numerous complaints about illegal U-turns at King & Park Center, despite “No U-Turn” signage. These maneuvers cause traffic blockages and near-misses with pedestrians and other vehicles.
- **Signal compliance:** Red light running is frequent at all three intersections, especially during rush hours and at night. Many respondents emphasized this as a major safety hazard and called for red-light cameras.
- **Vehicle speed:** Speeding is rampant, especially downhill heading eastbound on King Street toward I-395. Loud, modified vehicles and nighttime “races” were also frequently mentioned.
- **Distracted and aggressive driving:** Driver behavior is a recurring concern, particularly last-minute lane changes to reach the I-395 ramps and reckless maneuvers near the Liberty gas station.
- **Pedestrian safety concerns:** Numerous pedestrian safety issues were cited, including drivers failing to yield when turning, obstructed crosswalks, poor visibility, and poor signal timing.
- **Bicycle safety:** Lack of bicycle infrastructure, despite connections to Arlington’s Lucky Run Trail.

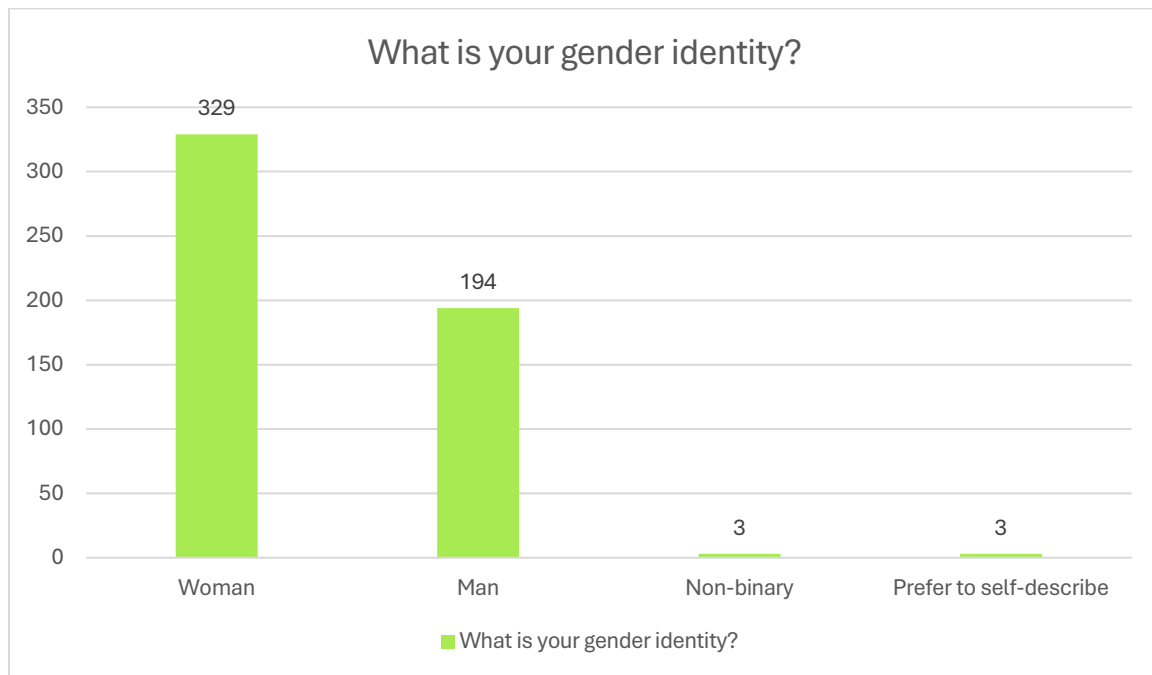
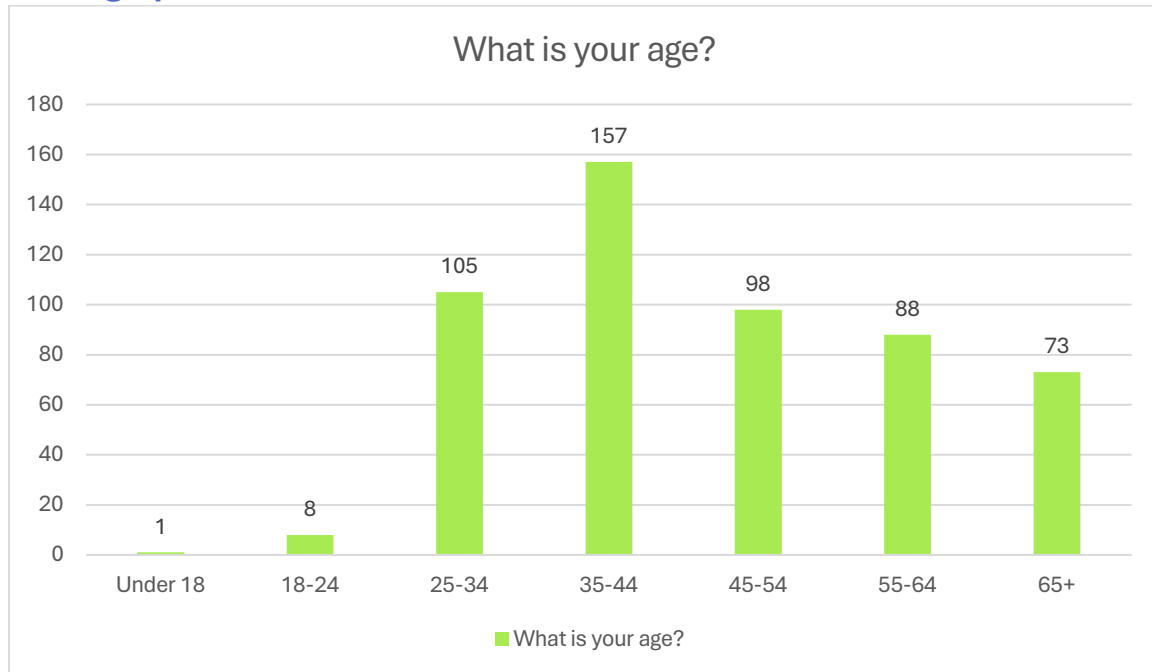
Traffic Operations

- **Signal timing:** Poor signal timing was a top concern. Signals are not synchronized between key intersections (King at Beauregard, Chesterfield, Dawes, and 28th St), causing backups and encouraging speeding to “make the light.”
- **Traffic congestion:** Many respondents experience significant delays due to blocked intersections and very short green lights, especially at 28th St and for left turns off King.
- **Confusing designs:** The intersection of Park Center & King is frequently described as confusing and unsafe, with complaints about poorly marked lanes, steep grades, and blocked visibility from parked vehicles and buses. Also, the Liberty gas station access points create chaotic traffic flow. Respondents recommend limiting entry/exit or reconfiguring the geometry to reduce conflicts.
- **Lane designations:** At Park Center Dr, three outbound lanes (two turning, one straight) are seen as unnecessary and dangerous. Several recommend reverting to two lanes in each direction to reduce conflict.
- **Double parking:** Double parking near the gym and Liberty station worsens congestion. Residents request dedicated loading zones or reestablished bus bays.

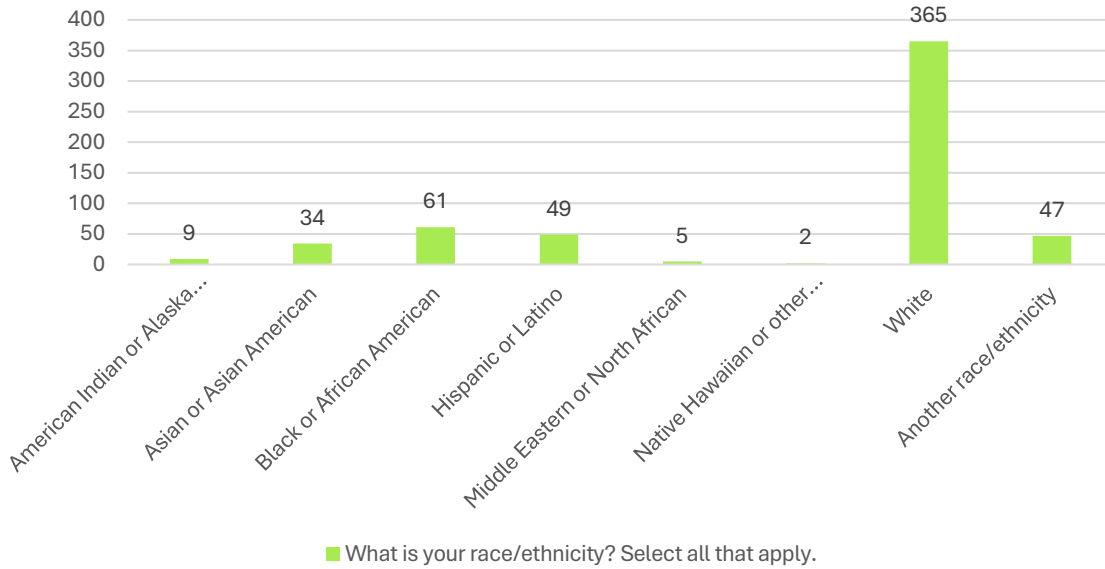
Other

- Many feel that the **main issues are behavioral** and want **stricter enforcement** (e.g., traffic cameras, ticketing, crackdowns on modified exhaust systems).

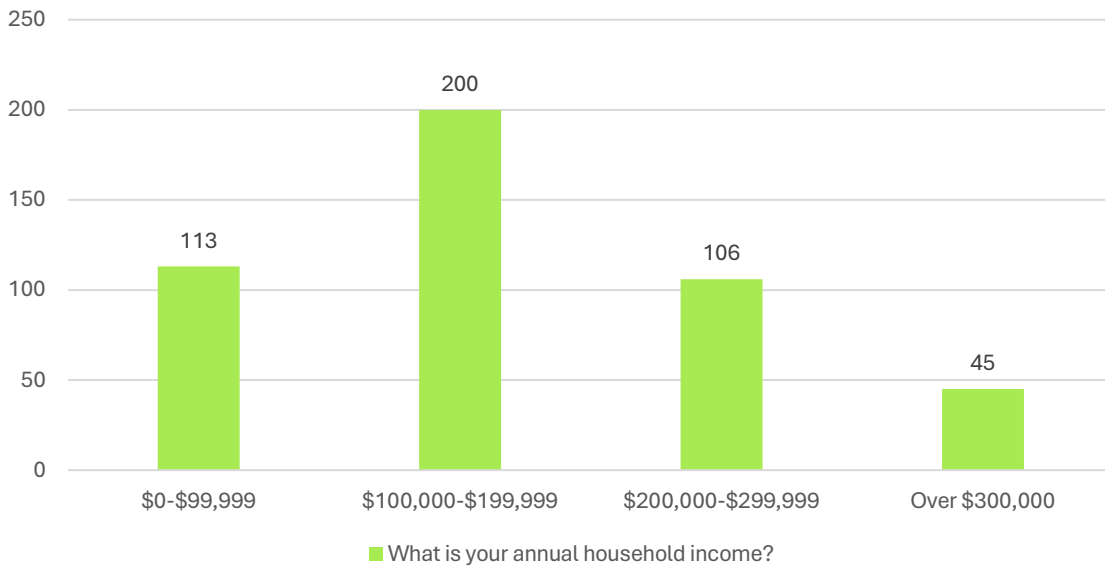
Demographic Information



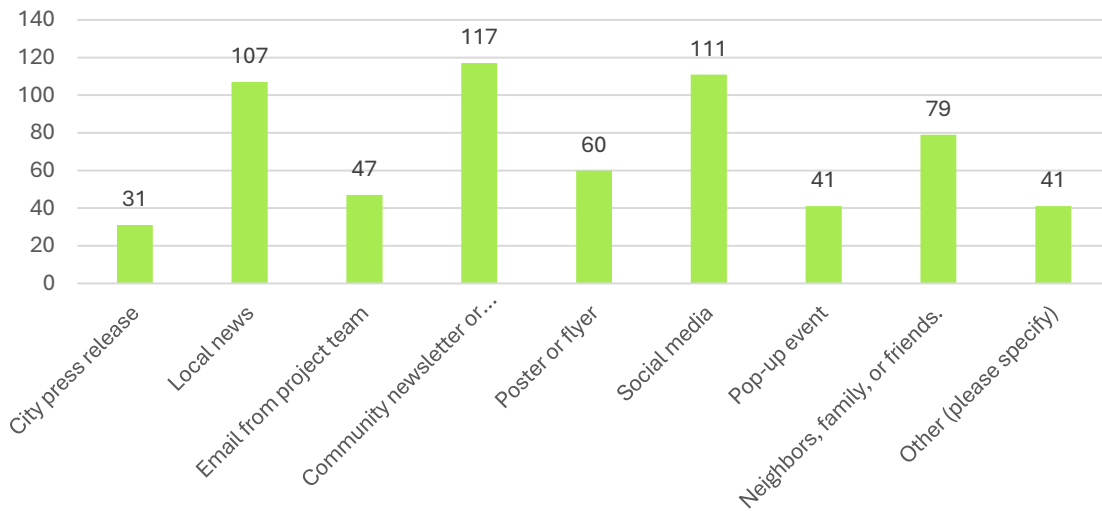
What is your race/ethnicity? Select all that apply.



What is your annual household income?



How did you hear about this project? Select all that apply.



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