

COUNTY HIGHWAY 32 PEDESTRIAN AND SAFETY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT PHASE 1 ENGAGEMENT SUMMARY - SUMMER/FALL 2022

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Washington County is exploring pedestrian and safety improvements to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 32 between I-35 and Trunk Highway 61. This study will assess intersection and traffic safety improvements, drainage improvements, and bicycle and pedestrian improvements. The objective of this project is to improve the safety of the CSAH 32 corridor by addressing transportation, utility, pedestrian, and drainage issues as well as improving pavement condition.



WHAT ENGAGEMENT OCCURRED?



Public Meeting

August 15, 2022
Forest Lake City Hall



Stakeholder Meetings

Forest Lake Area Schools,
Local Businesses,
Clear Lake Association



Community Surveys

Community Survey &
Online Map



WHAT WE HEARD

Early engagement efforts identified support of the County Highway 32 Pedestrian and Safety Improvement Project. There were many stories and comments shared with specific safety concerns and individual experiences along the corridor. Overall, the support for dedicated bicycle and pedestrian facilities was clearly heard. Biking and walking for recreation and commuting were both referenced. Additionally, specific improvements for various intersections throughout the study area were identified.



WHAT ARE THE COMMON THEMES?

- Dedicated bicycle and pedestrian facilities
- Traffic safety
- Access management
- Pavement Condition



The two biggest concerns:

- **Conflicting Movements** create conflicts between all modes and dedicated facilities are needed
- **Safety** for all modes, including motorists, pedestrians and bicyclists.



WHAT IMPROVEMENTS ARE NEEDED ALONG CSAH 32?



Need for
Bicycle and
Pedestrian
Facilities

12th Street SW

12th Street
Intersection

4th Street SW

4th Street
Intersection

Forest Road N

Forest Rd &
Centennial
Intersections

Lake Street S

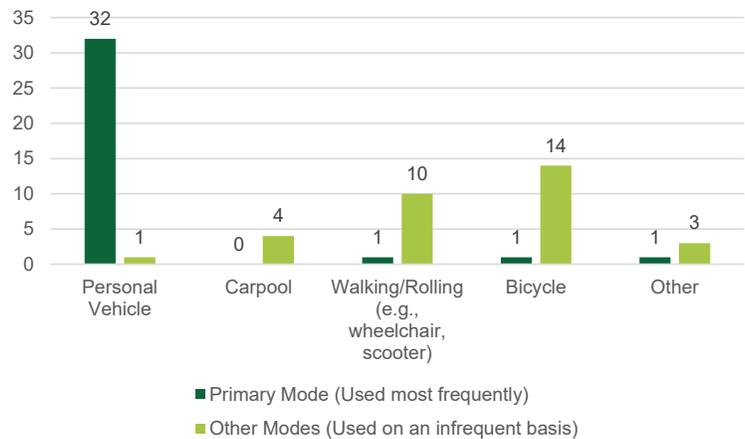
Highway 61
Intersection



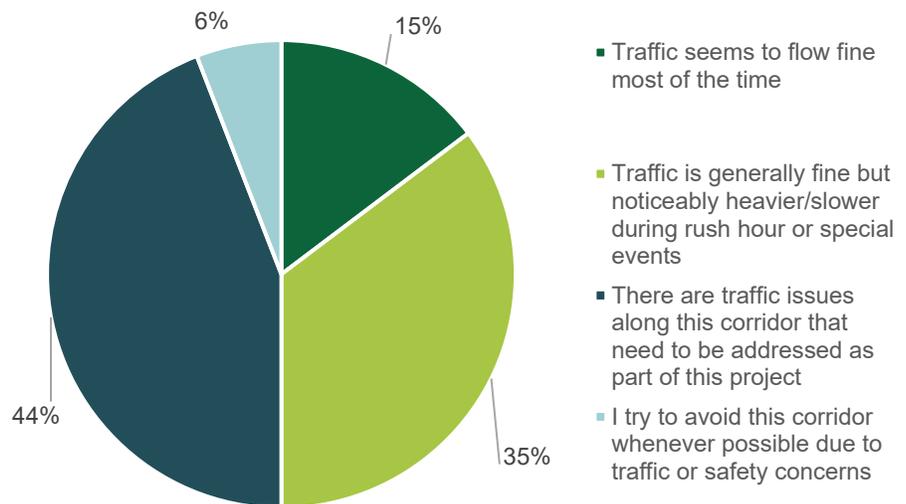
SURVEY RESULTS

An online survey was available through the months of August and September. The survey asked questions of the public to learn about their experiences with County Highway 32 and what they would like to see in the future. See survey results below.

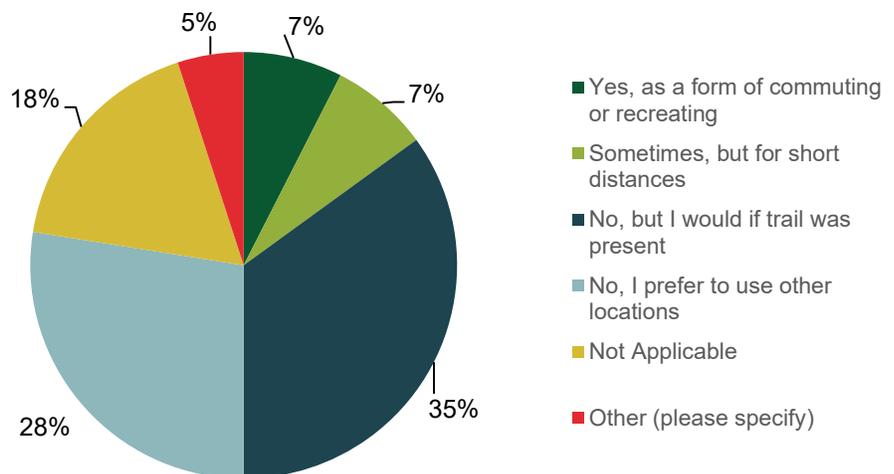
1) How do you move along CSAH 32/11th Ave SW between I-35 and Highway 61? Identify both your primary (most used) mode of transportation and other modes you use on a less regular basis.



2) Which of the choices below most closely match your opinion of the current traffic levels and operations along CSAH 32?



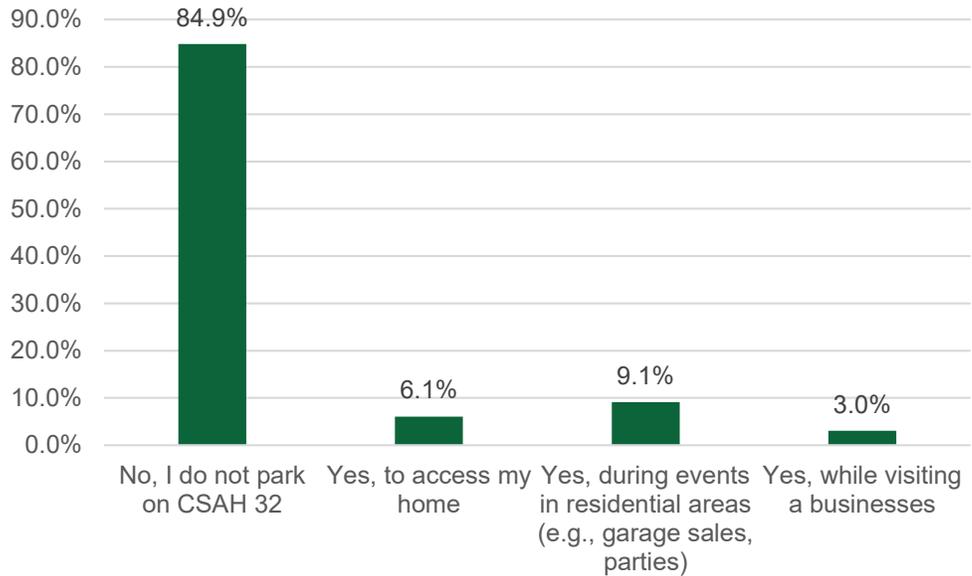
3) Do you currently use CSAH 32 as a walking, rolling, or biking route?



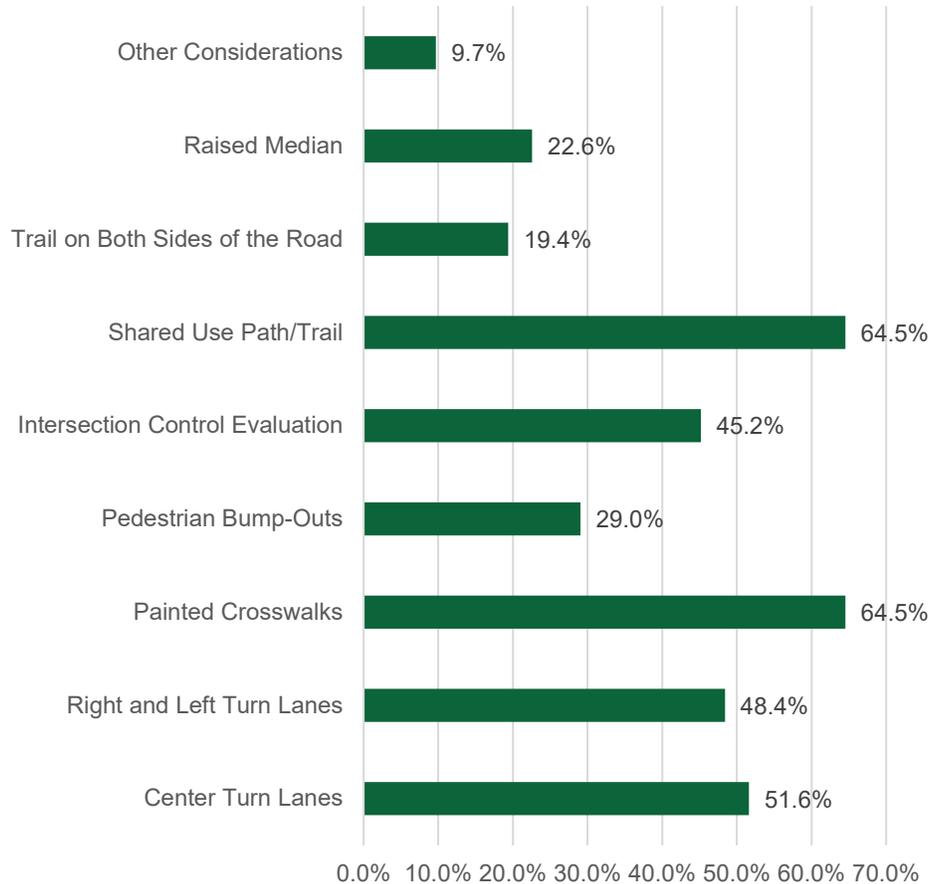


SURVEY RESULTS

4) Do you currently park along CSAH 32/11th Ave? (Check all that apply)



5) What design elements you would like to see investigated with the CSAH 32 Pedestrian and Safety Improvement Project?





SURVEY RESULTS

6) Please rank the following design considerations based on your order of importance (1 being most important). Not all items must receive a ranking.

Most Important Design Considerations



#1 Additional Turn Lanes



#2 Trails



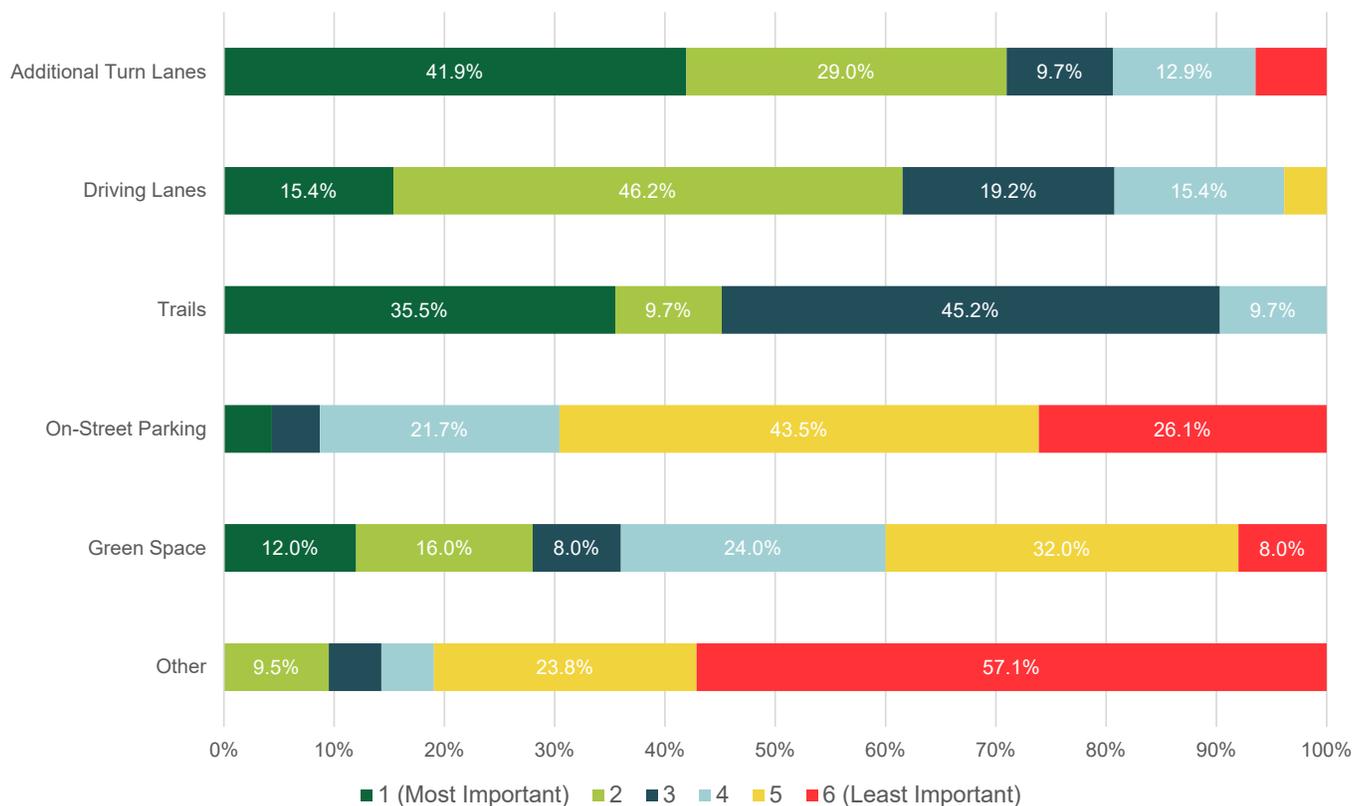
Least Important Design Considerations



#4 Green Space



#5 On-Street Parking





SURVEY RESULTS

7) Are there are other needs, concerns, or ideas that you would like to share to inform the CSAH 32 Pedestrian and Safety Improvement Project?

The following summary identifies common themes and ideas presented through the comments.

4

comments

Improvements are needed to the Highway 61 and CSAH 32 intersection. Signal timing improvements are needed to manage congestion and need for bike and pedestrian improvements.

3

comments

Bike and pedestrian improvements are the most important.

The overall need for improvements and specific intersections that warrant attention and improvements were noted.

3

comments

Longer turn lanes and signal timing improvements are needed.

Longer turn lanes are desired at 4th Street and 12th Street, with desires for changes in traffic control.

3

comments

Speeding is an issue throughout the project area.

Traffic speeds along the corridor are an issue. There are desires to reduce the speed limit and increase enforcement.

2

comments

School drop off and pick up are dangerous for all travelers.

Congestion, lack of dedicated facilities, and traffic control along the corridor create safety concerns for all users during school drop off and pick up.

2

comments

Sight distances create a safety issue.

The current roadway curves and some intersection configurations create sight distance concerns.

2

comment

Additional turn lanes and intersection changes are desired.

Turn lanes at Forest Road and Centennial Drive are desired and the realignment of Fenway and 11th Avenue is also desired.

1

comment

On-street parking is not needed along County Highway 32.

There is little demand for on-street parking along the corridor.