Midtown Multimodal Bridge Survey Summary

Introduction

This survey asked about preferences on the alignment and cross-section of the Midtown Multimodal Bridge. The alignments were developed as an implementation step of the Walkable Midtown Plan. The results of the survey will inform project design as it moves forward. This project is not currently funded.

The goal of the bridge project is to improve mobility and connectivity in Midtown for people walking, biking, and driving by creating a new local connection over the I-440 beltline. The project is one of the Seven Big Moves identified in the Walkable Midtown Plan, which was adopted unanimously by City Council in December 2020. The Midtown Area Specific Guidance in the 2030 Comprehensive Plan called for additional study on the alignment of the multimodal bridge. That study was completed by the City with consultant support in 2022 and resulted in three alignment alternatives for the bridge.

The survey ended with a total of 1,130 respondents and 1,661 comments. This report is a summary. The full survey and all responses and comments can be viewed here.

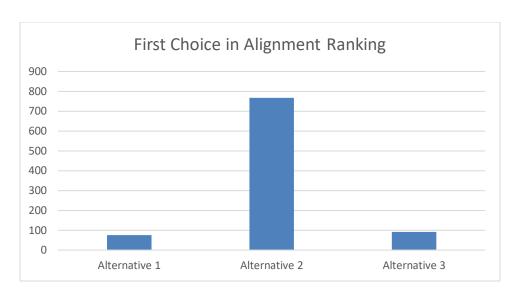
Summary of Responses

Question 1: How would you rank the three alternative alignments below? (#1 = most desirable, #3 =least desirable)







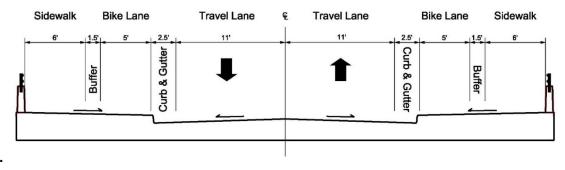


Key Notes:

- Many respondents chose Alternative 2 because of the traffic calming benefit of the roundabout and the reduction in impacts to existing business and buildings.
- Of those that chose Alternative 1, many respondents desire to preserve the woodland in the vacant parcel and avoid adding traffic to Wake Towne Drive.

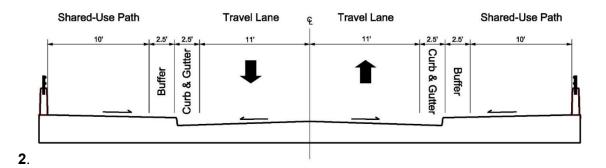
Question 2: How would you rank the three alternative cross-sections below? (#1 = most desirable, #3= least desirable)

One-Way Bikeways

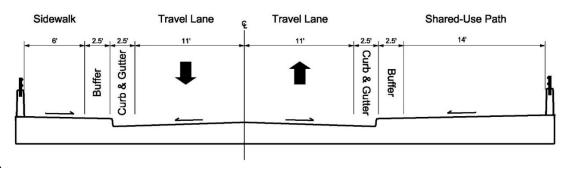


1.

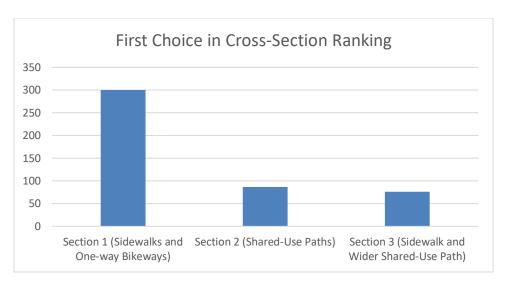
Shared-Use Paths



Offset Shared-Use Path



3.



Key Notes:

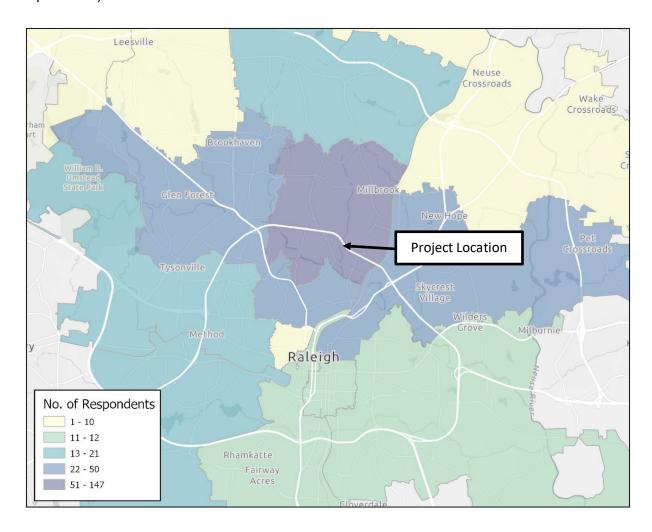
- Most respondents prefer to separate people walking and biking to reduce potential conflicts.
- Many respondents noted that a space wider than five feet is needed to effectively allow cyclists to pass each other.
- Many respondents also noted the need to tie in the bike facilities on each end to minimize street crossings for those biking.

Question 3: What else should the City consider when this project moves forward?

- Many respondents requested a lower speed limit (around 25 mph) and additional traffic calming on Wake Towne Drive and other roadways that will connect to the bridge to prevent speeding.
- Many respondents noted the need to study the intersections of Barrett Drive at Six Forks
 Road and Wake Towne Drive at Wake Forest Road to identify what other improvements
 are needed at those locations once the bridge is connected.

Respondent Locations

The map below shows the home location of respondents who provided a Raleigh zip code (338 respondents).



Voluntary Demographic Information

Participants were invited to voluntarily share their demographic information. A subset of the 1,130 respondents filled out each demographic question as noted below. This means the demographic information available is only a partial snapshot of the participants. The results of the demographic information questions are shown below. A comparison to the overall demographics for the top two zip codes, which encompass the neighborhoods on each side of the proposed bridge, are provided for context. Area demographics are based on the 2021 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates. These context notes can help guide future engagement efforts and track success against the City's goal of inclusive engagement.

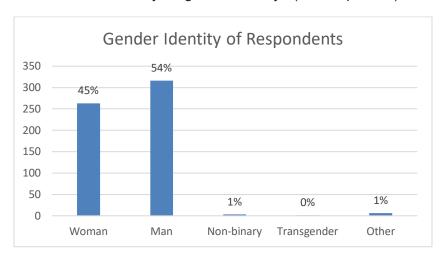
Age of Respondents 140 21% 21% 19% 19% 120 100 14% 80 60 40 3% 3% 20 1% Under 18 18-25 26-35 36-45 46-55 56-65 66-75 Over 75

Question 1: What is your age? (599 responses)

Key Notes:

- The distribution of adult responses by age generally matches the area distribution, although the populations under 35 and over 75 are slightly underrepresented.
- Children up to age 19 represent a quarter of area residents and should be considered closely in project design.

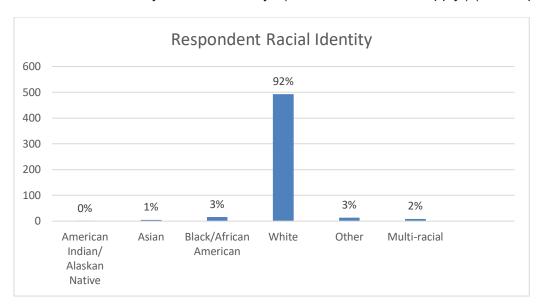
Question 2: What is your gender identity? (589 responses)



Key Notes:

- Men are overrepresented in the survey in comparison to the area population.
- Several women's responses indicated a desire for lighting along the bridge.

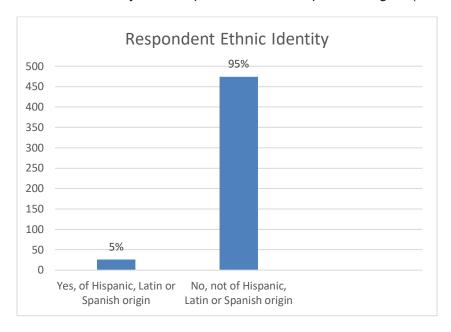
Question 3: What is your racial identity? (Please select all that apply.) (538 responses)



Key Notes:

- The white population is overrepresented in the survey (92% of respondents versus 80% of area residents).
- The black population is the most underrepresented in the survey (3% of respondents versus 13% of area residents).

Question 4: Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish Origin? (500 responses)



Key Notes:

• The Hispanic population is underrepresented in the survey (5% of respondents versus 11% of area residents).