DATE:  June 22, 2023
TO:    Maggie Bergeron, Victoria MPO
CC:    Julie Fulgham, City of Victoria
FROM:  Ellen Soll, Alliance Transportation Group
RE:    Survey Results
Victoria ATMP Public Survey Results

This memo summarizes the results from the survey conducted in Victoria, TX, on residents’ attitudes and preferences towards walking and biking in their town. The survey included eleven questions on walking and biking, with four questions concerning demographic information.

This survey took place between March 20, 2023 to June 6, 2023. In total there were 528 responses. This survey was advertised in various forms including social media, signs at bus stops and major intersections, on-board transit, and tabling at public events.
Question 1
Respondents were almost evenly split on whether they consider their homes to be within walking or biking distance from destinations they want or need to go to.

Figure 1: Question 1 Results

“Do you consider your home to be within walking or biking distance from places you need or want to go? (Stores, entertainment, etc.)”
Question 2:
A majority of respondents perceive their neighborhood to be safe for walking or biking. However, a significant portion, around 38%, did not feel their neighborhood was safe.

Figure 2: Question 2 Results

Do you think your neighborhood is safe to walk or bike?

- Yes: 62.10%
- No: 37.90%
**Question 3:**
Most respondents walk or bike for exercise or transportation two or more times a week. A few respondents never walk or bike or just a few times a year. Overall, 73.5% of people walk one or more times a week.

**Figure 3: Question 3 Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every day</td>
<td>137</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more times a week</td>
<td>187</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About once a week</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than once a month</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>About once a month</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A few times a year</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Never</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 4:
Respondents typically walked or biked for exercise or recreation with no specific destination. When respondents did have a destination in mind, they went to the park. Respondents who chose ‘other’ typically said trails, gyms, or around their neighborhood.

Figure 4: Question 4 Results

If you bike or walk, where do you typically go?

- Recreation/leisure ride (no specific destination): 269
- Exercise (no specific destination): 156
- To parks: 241
- To healthcare facilities: 37
- To work: 51
- To grocery: 53
- To a relative or friend’s home: 77
- To school: 33
- To get to transit: 16
- To shopping/retail, dining, or entertainment: 74
- Other: 43
Question 5:
Respondents overwhelmingly cited health as the number one reason for biking or walking. Other top reasons included to reduce air pollution, save money, or reduce fuel consumption. Respondents who selected ‘other’ generally said they bike or walk for recreation.

Figure 5: Question 5 Results

What are the primary reasons for Bike/Walking?

- For my health: 460
- I do not have access to a vehicle: 33
- To save money: 88
- To reduce traffic congestion: 63
- To reduce air pollution: 104
- I do not bike or walk for exercise: 22
- To reduce fuel consumption: 86
- Other: 56
Question 6:
Respondents considered safety to be the primary reason they do not bike in the region. Traffic volumes and speeds as well as a lack of bike trails, facilities, or a connected network were contributing factors.

Figure 6: Question 6 Results

If you don't bike, why not?

- It is not safe because of traffic: 283
- Lack of bicycle facilities: 159
- Traffic volumes/speeds along roadways: 197
- Lack of trails: 235
- Lack of wayfinding signage: 50
- Biking takes too long: 19
- The bike network is not well-connected: 164
- Lack of secure bike parking: 125
- I never learned or am not confident in my skill-level: 11
- I do not own or have access to a bike: 56
- Other: 43
Question 7:
Respondents broadly said that gaps, missing, or poor sidewalk conditions were the biggest barriers for people to walk in the city. Traffic volumes were also cited as a prominent reason. Respondents who selected ‘other’ cited safety issues from crime, stray animals, and motor vehicles as barriers.

Figure 7: Question 7 Results

What are the biggest barriers to Walking/Biking in your city?

- Poor sidewalk conditions: 303
- Gaps in sidewalks/No sidewalks where I want to go: 345
- Obstructions in walking path: 150
- Lack of wayfinding and signage: 54
- Traffic volumes/speeds along roadways: 226
- Lack of infrastructure for those with Mobility Impairments: 81
- Distance; too far to walk: 137
- The weather: 82
- Other: 47
Question 8:
Respondents wanted more sidewalks, better sidewalks, and better sidewalk connectivity. Respondents were also in favor of bike lanes with designated bike routes. Respondents who chose ‘other’ cited safety issues due to crime or motor vehicles.

Figure 8: Question 8 Results
Question 9:
The most requested bicycle facility by respondents was bike lanes. Separated or buffered bike lanes received more support from respondents than shoulders. Designated routes and off-street trails were also heavily requested.

**Figure 9: Question 9 Results**

What type of Bicycle Facilities would you like more of?

- Off-street trails: 293 respondents
- Separated or buffered bike lanes: 254 respondents
- Bike lanes: 299 respondents
- Shoulders: 146 respondents
- Low-traffic and/or low-speed roads: 121 respondents
- Designated routes: 215 respondents
- None: 43 respondents
Question 10:
The most requested pedestrian facility by respondents were sidewalks, followed by off-street trails. Safety features like intersection improvements and signalized midblock crossings also received a number of responses.

Figure 10: Question 10 Results

What type of Pedestrian Facilities would you like more of?

- Off-streets trails: 313 respondents
- Sidewalks: 384 respondents
- Intersection improvements like high visibility crosswalks and curb extensions: 279 respondents
- Infrastructure for people with mobility impairments (curb ramps, audible pedestrian signals): 147 respondents
- Signalized midblock crossings: 125 respondents
- None: 24 respondents
Question 11:
The most requested program to encourage active transportation was events that specifically encourage walking and biking. Additionally, education for motorists on sharing the road and where people can walk or bike received high response rates. Respondents who chose ‘other’ largely said they just want a safe place to do it.

Figure 11: Question 11 Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Which Programs or Incentives would help you walk/bike more?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education on where I can use bike/walk (maps, signs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education for adult bike riding &amp; safety</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Workplace incentives to use alternative commute options</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education for motorists on how to share the road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More programs and events that encourage biking/walking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I don’t plan to bike or walk as a transportation mode</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 12:
Most respondents (66.7%) were between 35-64 years old. Only 5.8% were 24 or under.

Figure 12: Question 12 Results
Question 13:
The results show that an overwhelming majority of respondents are white. Respondents who selected ‘other’ typically wrote that they were Hispanic.

**Figure 13: Question 13 Results**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Race/Ethnicity</th>
<th>Respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>406</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African American</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian or Alaska Native</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Two or more</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Question 14:
A higher share of respondents is female, nearly 58%. A small proportion of respondents preferred not to answer or identified as a gender other than male or female.

**Figure 14: Question 14 Results**

What is your Gender?

- 57.47% Male
- 38.12% Female
- 3.83% Prefer not to answer
- 0.57% Other
Question 15:
Most respondents (55%) have a household income of $75k or more. Combined with the next largest group earning between $50-75k, over 75% of households earn $50k or more. Interestingly, most respondents primarily engage in walking and biking for recreation rather than for commuting or running errands. This makes the relative absence of youth and low-income populations notable as they typically engage in walking and biking for commuting and errand purposes.

Figure 15: Question 15 Results
Question 16:
Of the people surveyed, 94% reported no mobility impairment.

Figure 16: Question 16 Results