

Report for Draft Recommendations Survey

Response Counts

Completion Rate:

45.1%



Complete



114

Partial

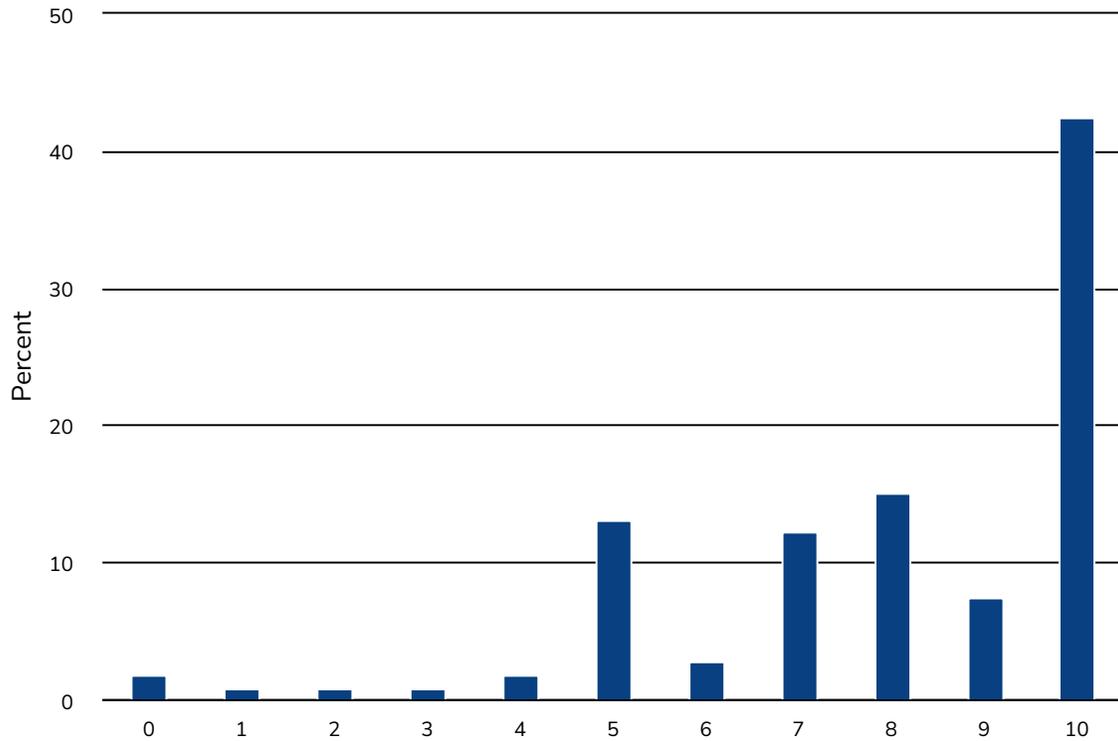


139

Totals: 253

1. Please indicate how you feel about each idea for NATURAL SURFACE TRAIL DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION using the map below for reference.

Formalize existing trails on Town-owned land.



Statistics

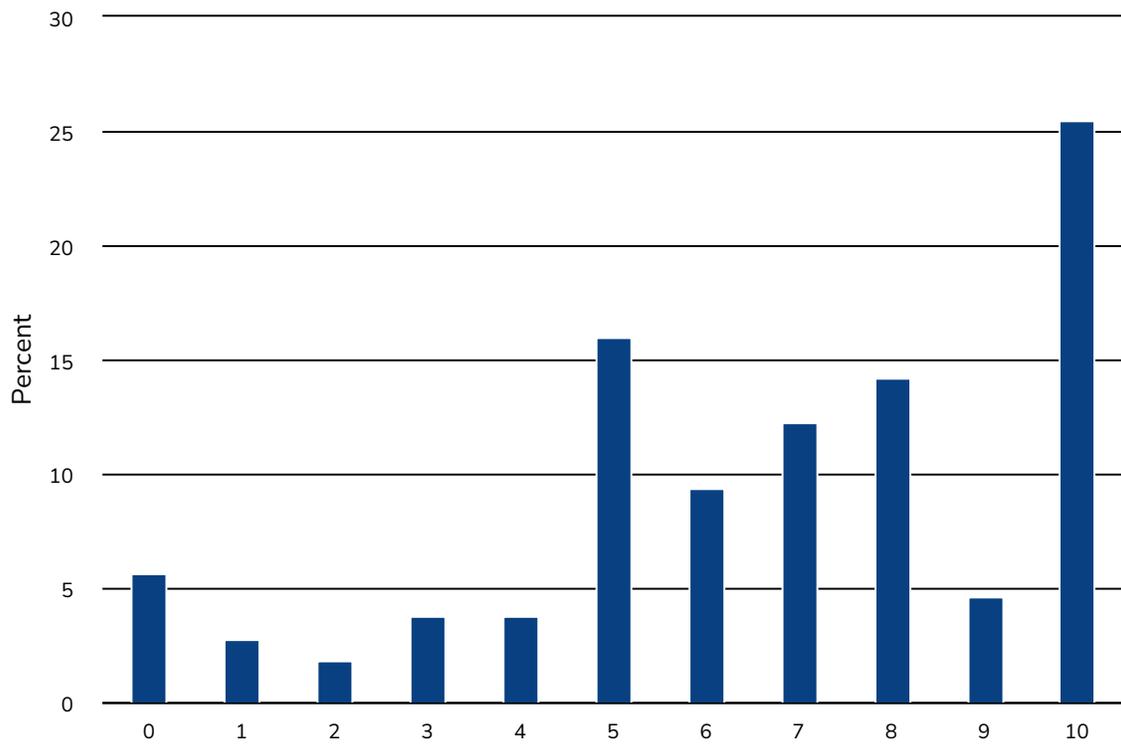
Average

8.0

Total Responses

106

Build kiosks at key trailheads and neighborhood connections to help keep people oriented throughout the trail network.



Statistics

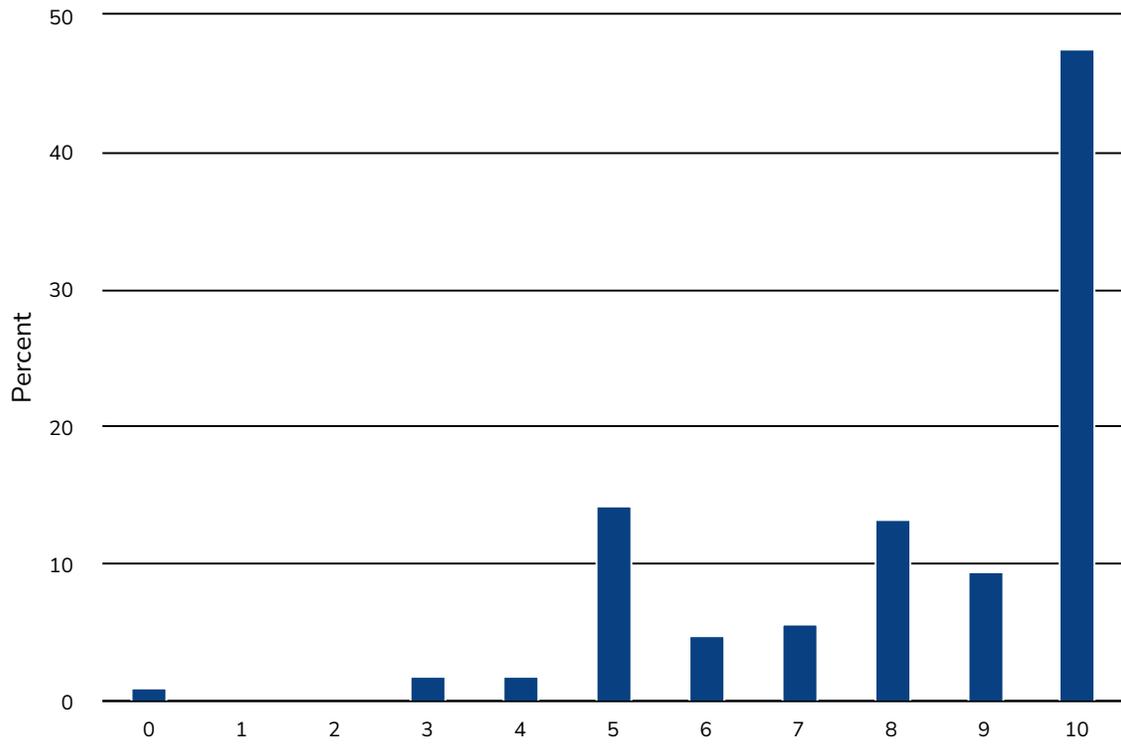
Average

6.7

Total Responses

106

Build a multi-use main thoroughfare trail that connects schools and neighborhoods.



Statistics

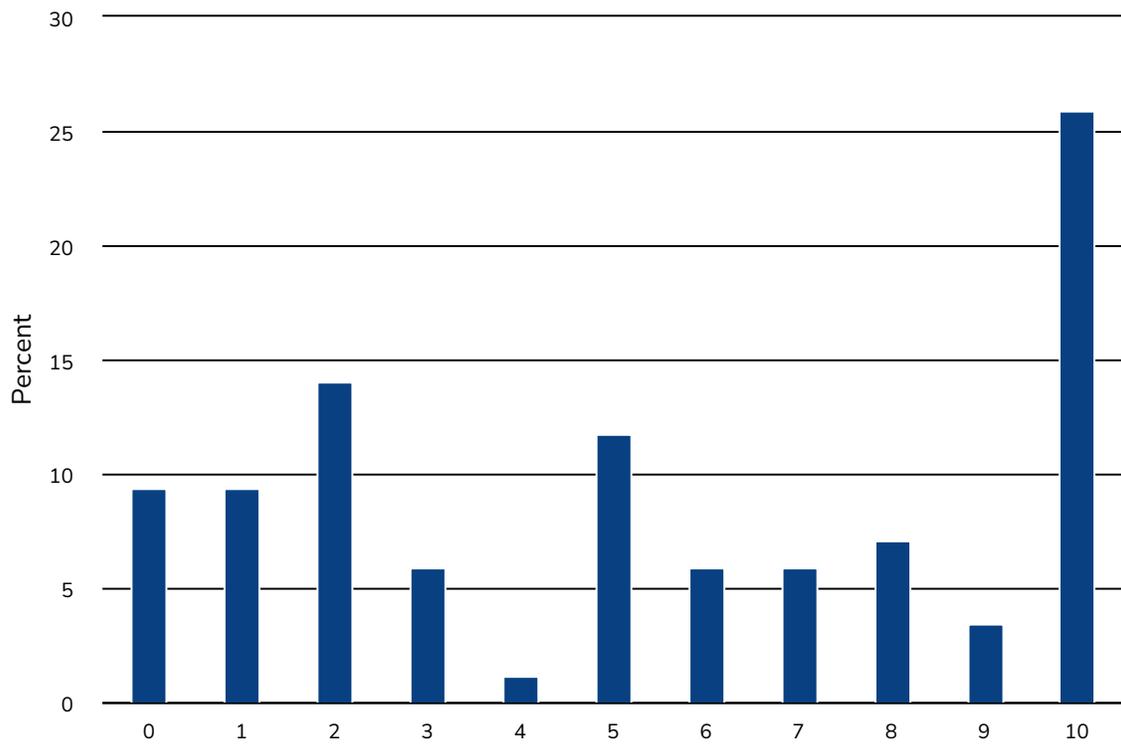
Average

8.2

Total Responses

105

Design and build mountain-bike optimized trail "spurs" off the main thoroughfare trail.

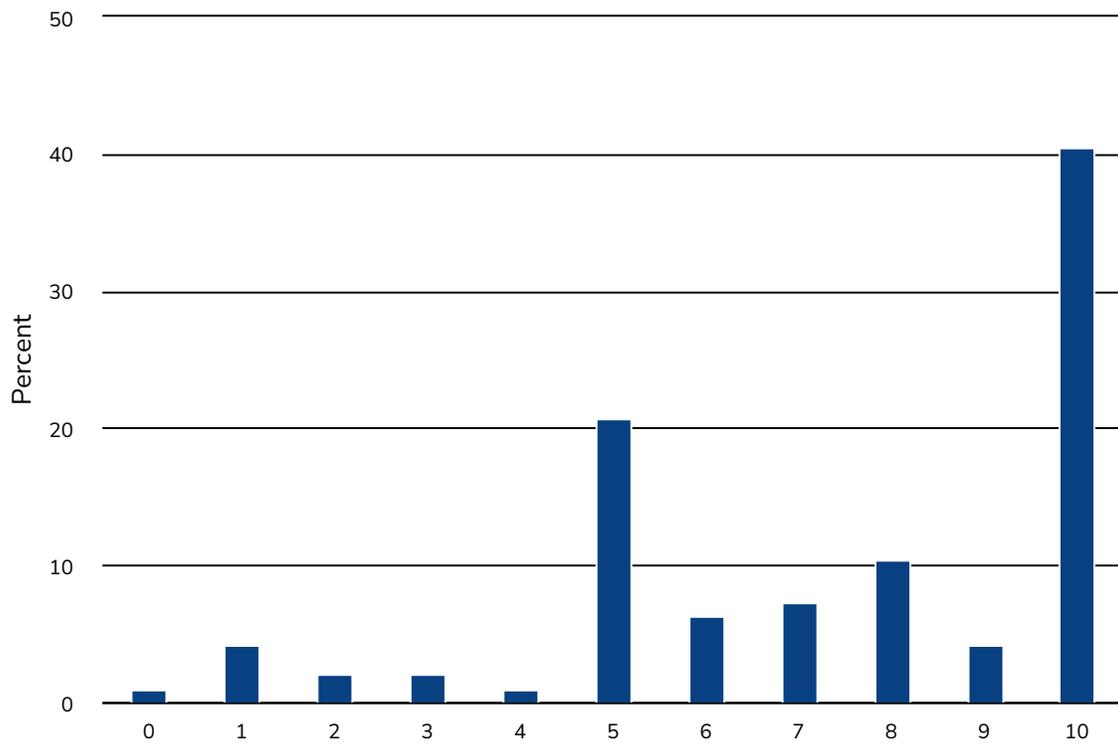


Statistics

Average 5.4

Total Responses 85

Build a paved bike path along 289.



Statistics

Average

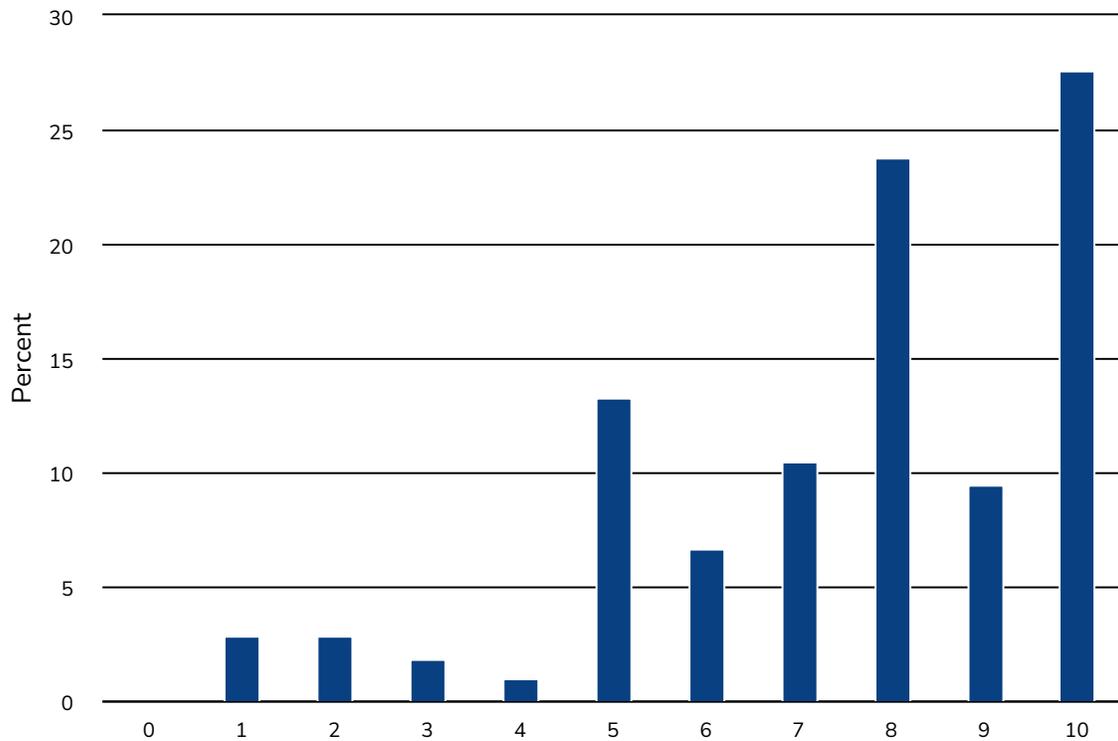
7.4

Total Responses

96

2. Please indicate how you feel about each idea for PLANNING, PARTNERSHIPS, OPERATIONS, AND MAINTENANCE.

Develop a workplan for the Town Trails Committee that lays out roles and responsibilities for trail maintenance, stewardship, and building.

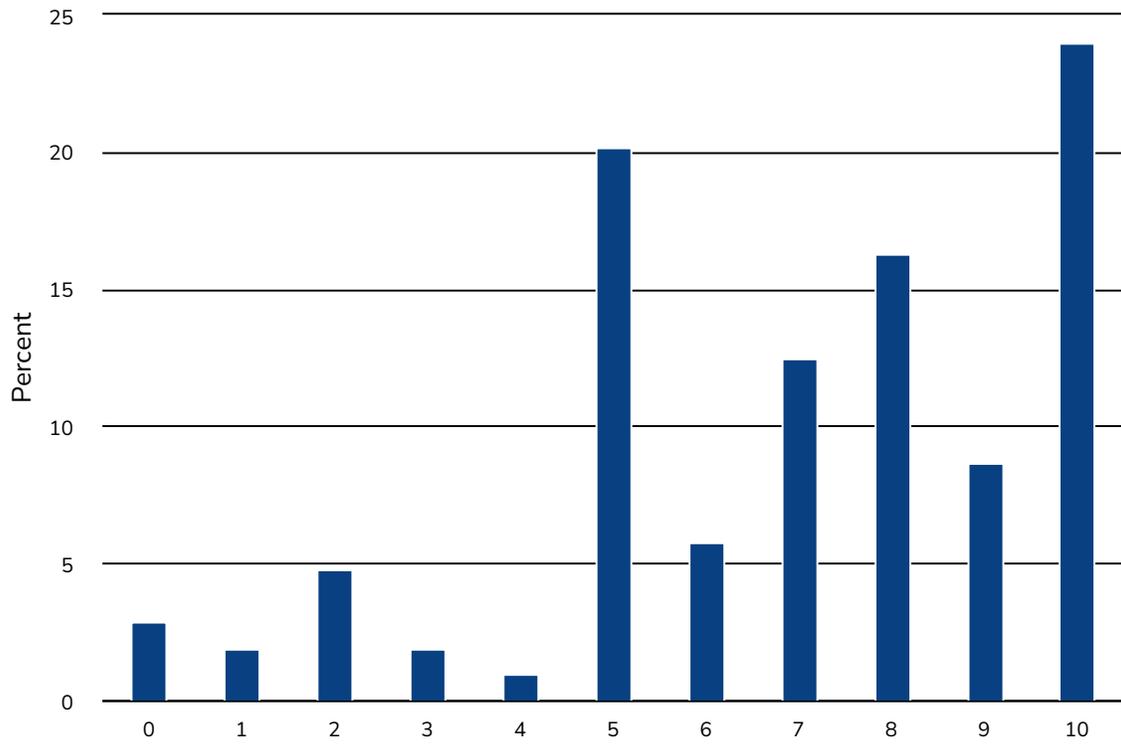


Statistics

Average 7.5

Total Responses 105

Work with the Fellowship of the Wheel for trail maintenance and management where appropriate.



Statistics

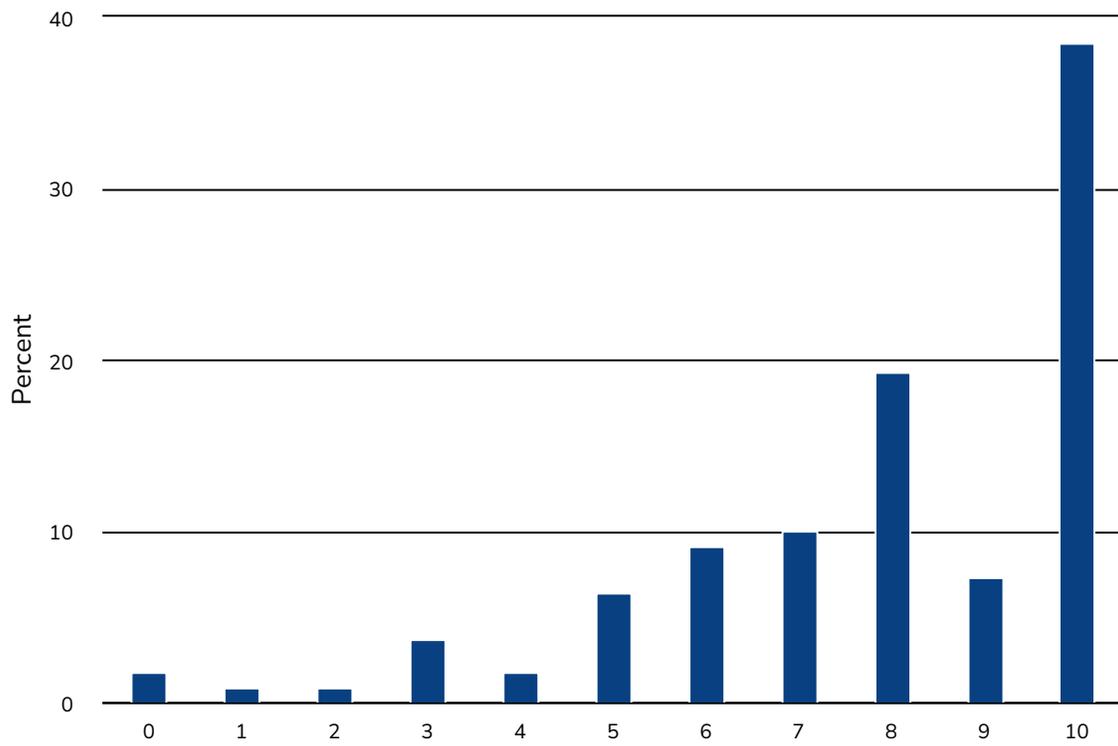
Average

6.9

Total Responses

104

Develop maps, wayfinding signs, and trail blazes.



Statistics

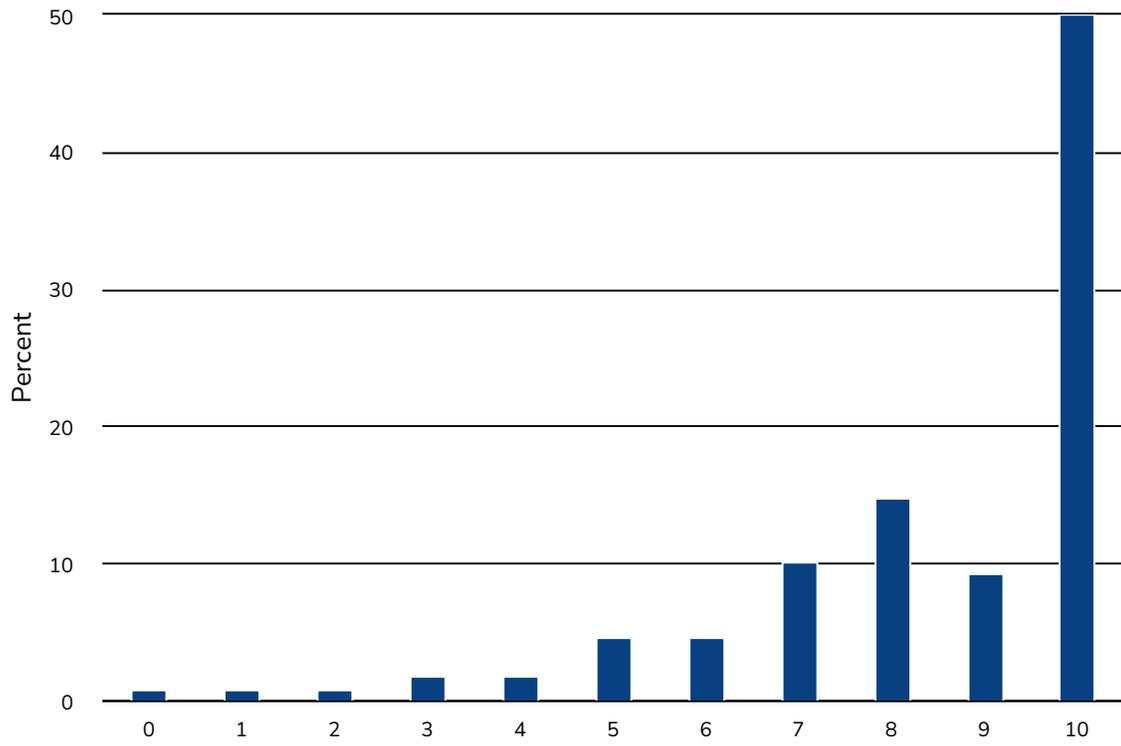
Average

7.8

Total Responses

109

Work with private landowners to allow public access on trails where appropriate.



Statistics

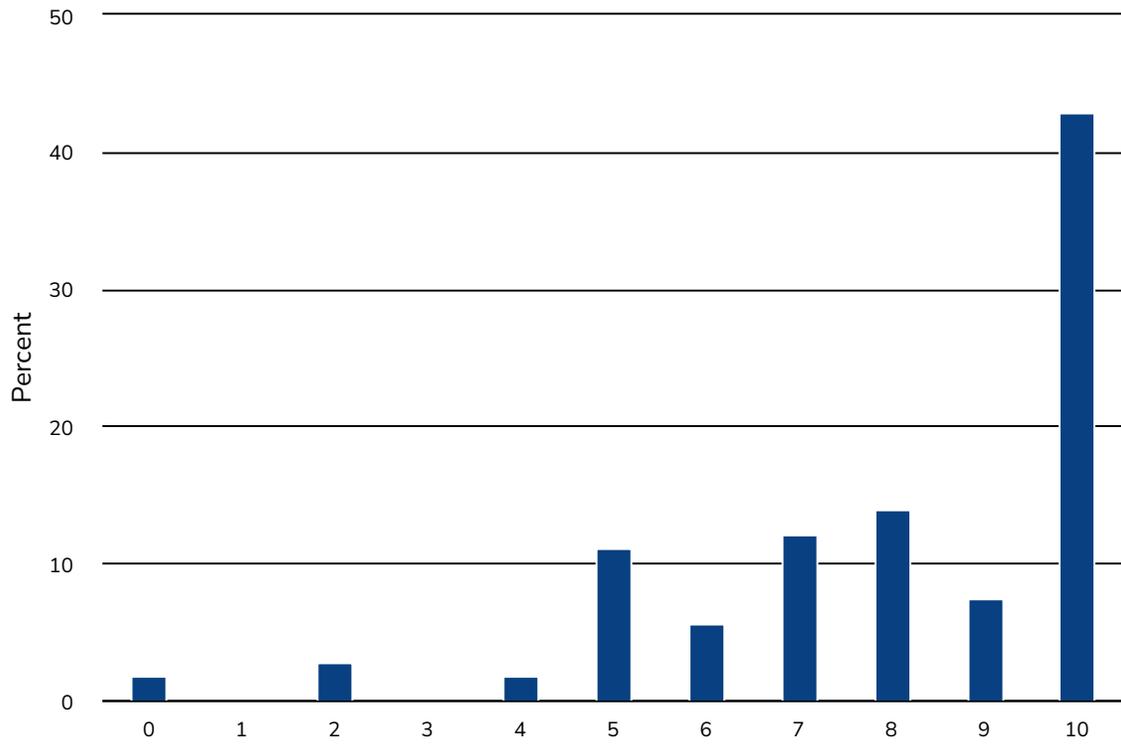
Average

8.4

Total Responses

108

Develop strong communication between town staff and committee members, trail managers, landowners, and users.



Statistics

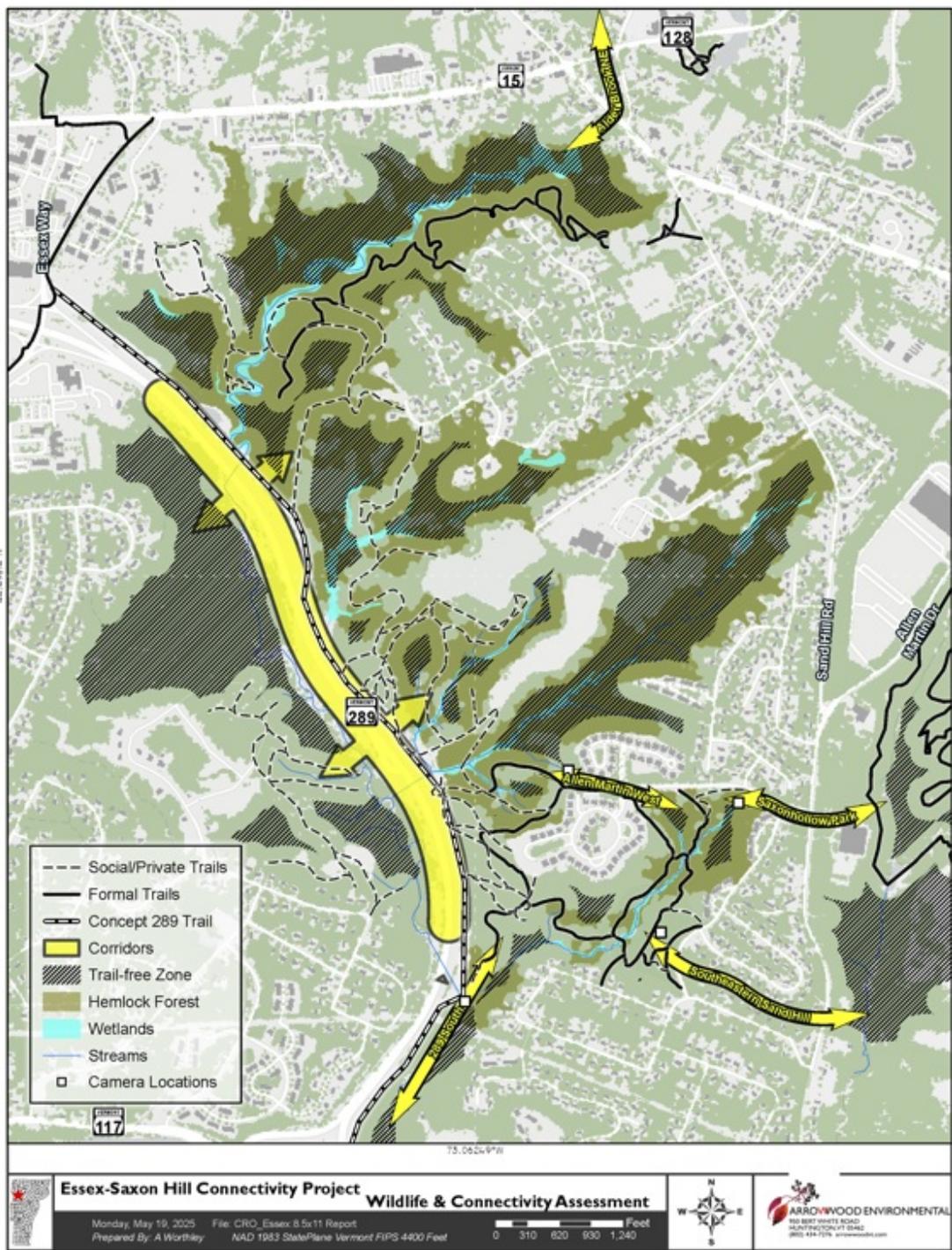
Average

8.0

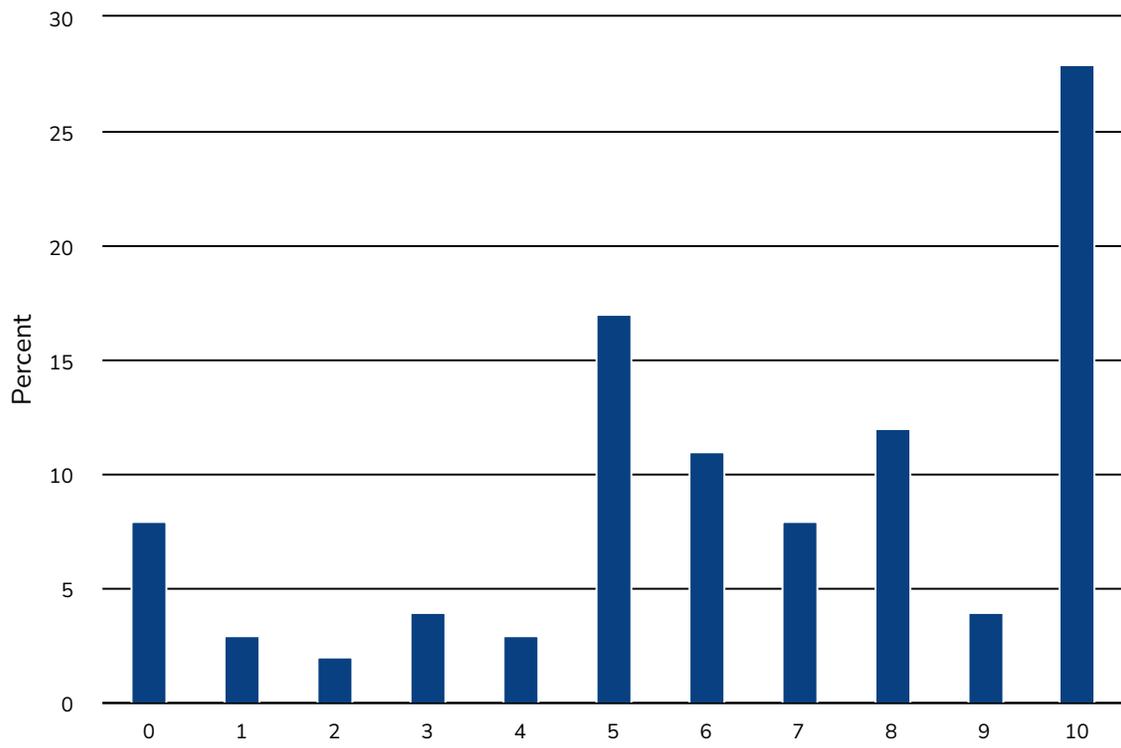
Total Responses

107

3. Please indicate how you feel about each idea for WILDLIFE HABITAT AND CONNECTIVITY using the map below for reference.



Encourage residents and businesses to turn lights off at night to protect wildlife and birds.



Statistics

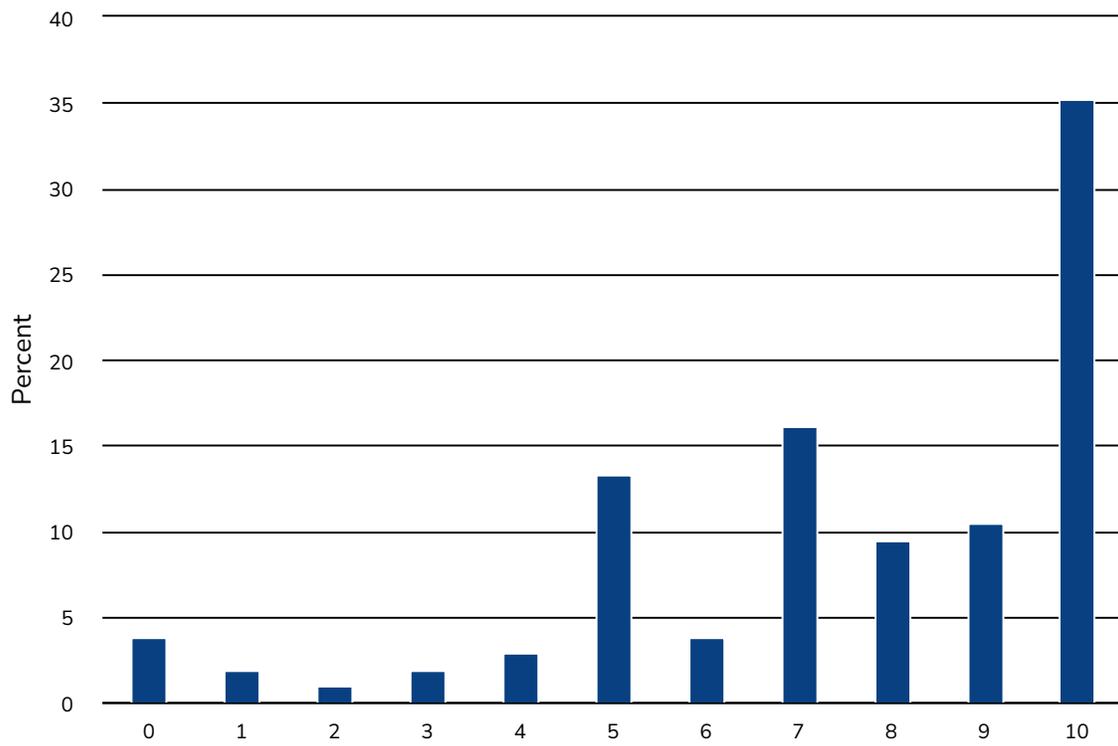
Average

6.5

Total Responses

100

Plant trees and shrubs along wildlife corridors to give wildlife more coverage to cross.



Statistics

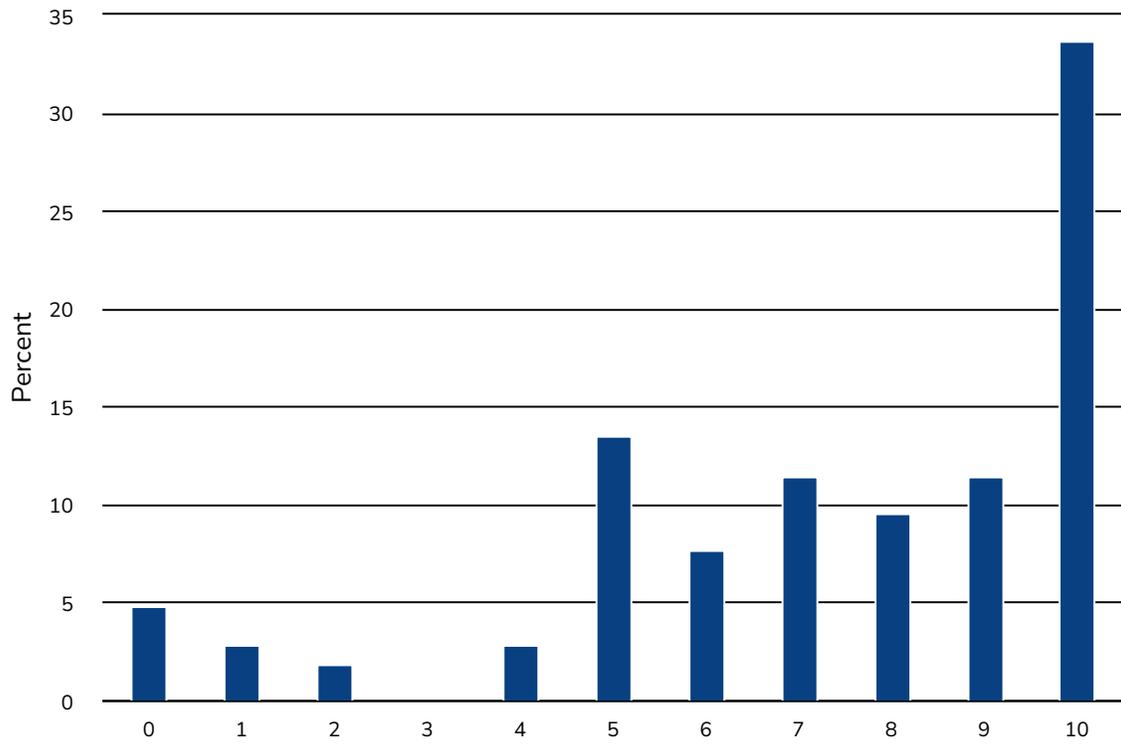
Average

7.5

Total Responses

105

Keep new trails away from river edges and other crucial wildlife areas.



Statistics

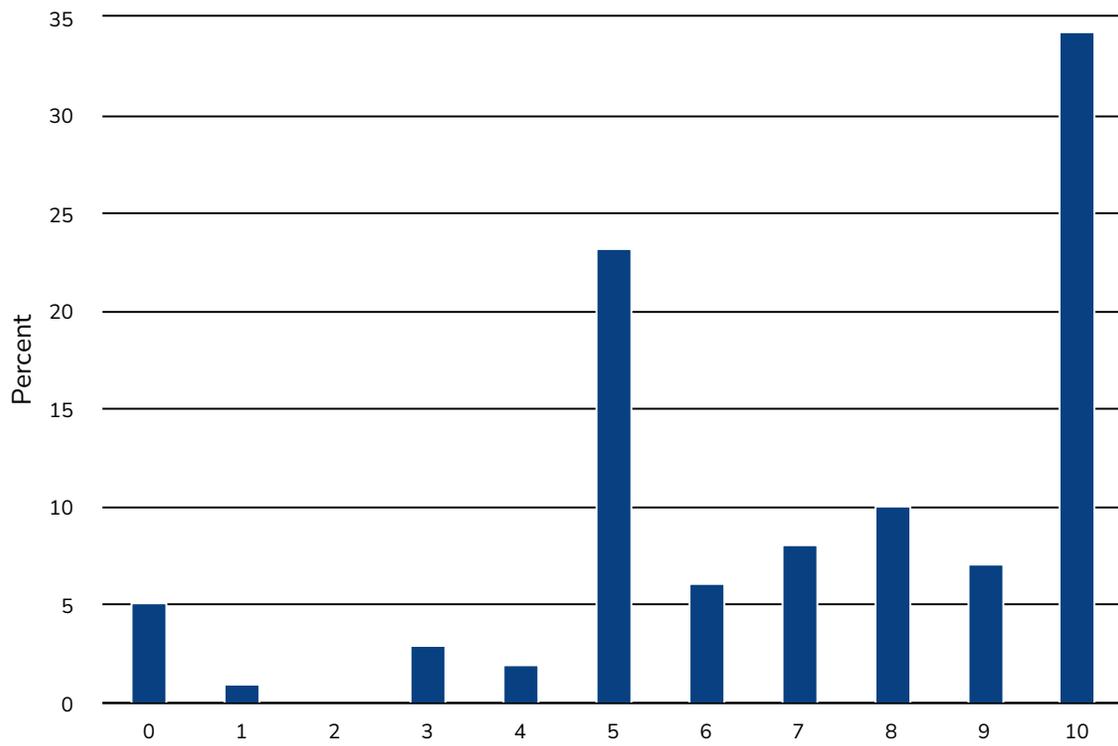
Average

7.3

Total Responses

104

Maintain vegetation along 289.



Statistics

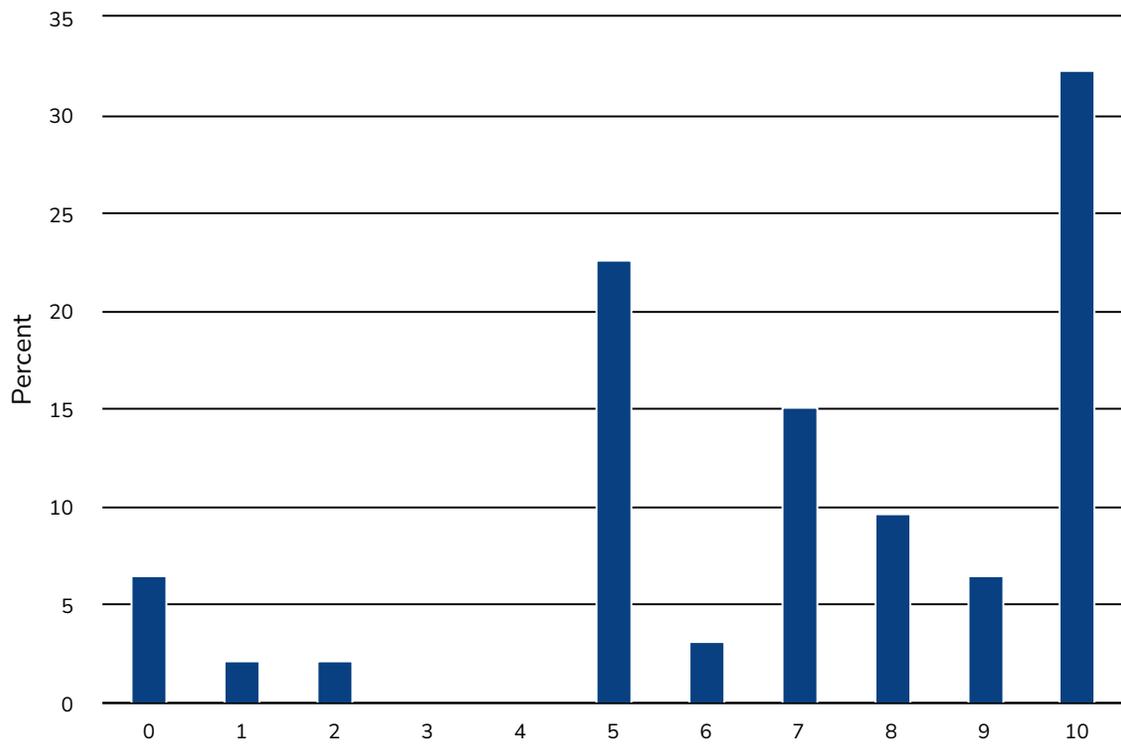
Average

7.2

Total Responses

99

Consider building a wildlife overpass or underpass to give animals an opportunity to cross 289 safely.



Statistics

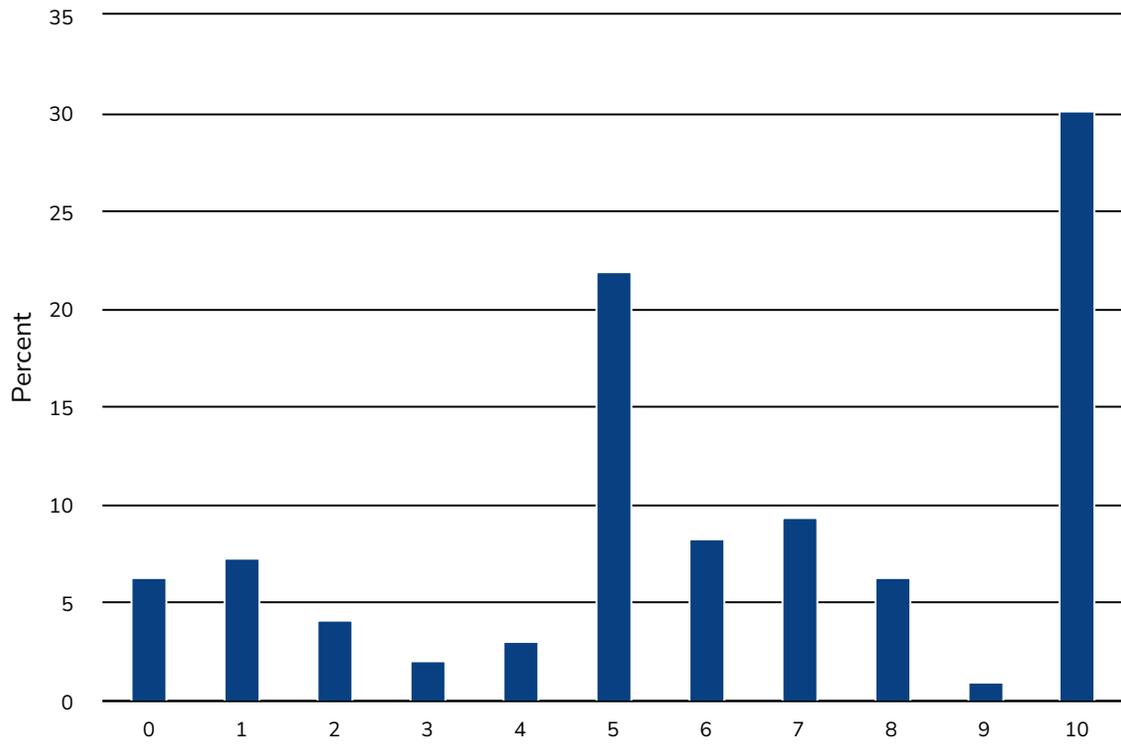
Average

7.0

Total Responses

93

Consider a broader wildlife study that assesses all of Essex beyond the project area.



Statistics

Average

6.2

Total Responses

96

4. Do you have any other thoughts or comments you'd like to share about the draft recommendations or the Keystone Trail Project in general?

ResponseID Response

- | ResponseID | Response |
|------------|---|
| 25 | I believe building out mountain biking trails is an economic engine for Essex as well as connectivity for attracting new residents. We need a safe path along 15 for our kids and adults. Many ride to work and kids want to ride to school. It will reduce vehicular traffic once we feel safe. |
| 27 | Can you tell us the relative cost of the paved path, natural surface path, and mountain bike trails per mile? I'm guessing that a paved path costs 3x over a natural surface path - is that right? If so, I'd like to prioritize natural surface paths that build out an entire network rather than a smaller network of paved paths. |
| 38 | I am not supportive of mountain biking on the trails. If electric bikes are to be used they should be limited in speed and size and sound. |
| 40 | The sooner |
| 41 | Prioritize bike paths, not wildlife passage. |
| 42 | thank you for doing this |
| 45 | I'm surprised that the Keystone map does not extend to include the already existing bike/walking trail along Rt15, behind the Elementary School, along R 128 and through Autumn Woods and back to 15. Extending that network to connect to the proposed Keystone would provide the opportunity for more town-wide accessibility. |
| 46 | I believe the area in question would be best for wildlife only |
| 51 | The priority order of potential project phases is backwards. There is already usable connectivity on the sand hill side, sub-optimal, but usable. Start by connecting the overpass across 289 and that will both provide the key connectivity that is missing but momentum to develop trail networks because more people will have access to them. |
| 52 | - Keep trails in Keystone natural areas natural. Design them for light recreation use, since the soils can't handle heavy use or mountain biking and the highest and best use is for nearby residents' enjoyment. Also, it's one of the few "casual" outdoor rec locations left in Essex, and I'd like it to remain an alternative to busier places like Indian Brook and Saxon Hill. While Keystone trails may be used as an alternative transportation option by some, separated sidewalks and bike lanes are the most safe and efficient option for most people / day-to-day needs. - Wildlife: be careful about encouraging corridors and crossings over 289, which would be a safety risk to both wildlife and drivers. Instead, upgrade existing stream crossings for wildlife passage (they already use them); this will also increase flood resilience. It's also OK if some trails intersect or run near water for a time because this is an important feature for human / canine users - we are part of nature too! Just keep impacts limited to certain areas. |
| 54 | This is important work - thank you for prioritizing it! |

ResponseID Response

55 I would not like to see any development of Mathieu town forest. It should left as a light use recreational path. Indian brook and Saxon are so busy and overused it's nice to have a place a bit less accessible and popular. If we're concerned about wildlife displacement then turning mathieu into a thoroughfare would have a huge impact. Leave it alone, not everything needs to be improved.

56 I would like to see mostly unpaved multi use paths with maybe a few paved trails or loops for those with wheelchairs. Less emphasis on mountain bikes, they already have a lot of trails at Saxon Hill. Personally, I own horses and would like to see opportunities for horseback riding in at least some trails in Essex. It's a shame that horses are no longer allowed at Saxon Hill and it's virtually impossible to ride horses at Indian Brook due to off leash dogs. I can't even walk my leash reactive dog at Indian Brook due to off leash dogs. Essex needs a leash law across the board. Loose dogs should only be on private property or fenced dog parks to keep all safe. Very few people have their off leash dogs truly under voice control. Back to the horses, I'd love to see at least some trails in Essex that allow horses. It's best to keep horses and mountain bikes separate, however.

57 It would be nice to provide safer bike route along river road with a segregated space / bike path between sand hill and 5 corners to connect the town with the junction. Likewise, a paved bike over/underpass to connect neighborhoods on either side of side of 289 (especially those on the south side). A paved bike path connecting the neighborhoods from river road to the Essex town center and schools would be really great. Along 289 would be good if it can be accessed easily from neighborhoods vs driving to the departing lots only.

59 I think the natural surface multi-use trail makes the most sense. It balances accessibility for different kinds of users while preserving the natural environment. Paving is unnecessary and will be impactful to the environment.

61 Connection to existing path over 289 at Essex Way is very important.

63 Make it happen -- building bike trails was rated far more important in the newest Town Plan as compared with habitat preservation.

66 Need more caretakers in the woods.

70 I would like a paved trail to bike on on the sand hill side of 289. It would be especially useful if it ran parallel to 289 to reach the outlets. The area is very hard to bike with kids:the sidewalks are in rough shape and it is not safe to bike in the road. When there is a bike able path it inevitably stops at the worst possible moment (ie biking up sand hill from river road at the curve. I would appreciate a focus on paved trails for all to use vs mountain bike trails only used by a limited amount of people.

115 Trails build community. Trails encourage physical activity. Go trails.

ResponseID Response

135	I live in the Greenfield road neighborhood, this project sounds amazing. Would love to be able to bike up to the outlets for errands and I would love to be able to help my kid bike to school on trails. Mountain bike trails would be great though Saxon Hill is so close that it's a little tough to think that it's the most important thing, but certainly multi-use trails would get a ton of use.
166	There are several culverts that pass under 289. Even a stone base trail is not permeable. Many of the access points are steep and will get torn up by mountain bikers. I suggest limiting the mountain bike entrance points to areas less prone to erosion. There are four wheelers and motorcycles that pretty regularly ride illegally back there.
170	The main path should connect to the river and the Essex experience area.
175	If this impacts our vegetation and the privacy that every landowner has a right to, then we should not proceed with this project. Not ONE tree should be compromised for a bike path.
178	There should be a connection between the residences near Sand Hill Road and the Essex Experience. Something a path along 289 could accomplish. There are plenty of mt. bike trails at the present time, the emphasis should be on trails that could be handled by everyone with minimum grade and a hard packed surface. Take a look at the recently completed Adirondack Rail Trail from Lake Placid to Tupper Lake. A firm surface, paved where necessary, open to winter recreation, impressive pull-offs and fencing. A classy job.
179	Please give consideration to the existing snowmobile trails along I-289 and Saxon Hill Forest.
183	More paved bike paths please
188	It would be especially nice to have an accessible path that crosses over or under 289 to allow families and children that live in Pinewood and other neighborhoods west of 289 to safely access the forest trail system.
192	Paved bike path down Old Stage Rd (and maybe Towers Rd to connect w other proposed bike trails), as it is heavily used by bikes and runners, to connect with other trails connected to the Essex Experience.
194	A bike path along 289 and out to the middle school would be amazing!
195	It would be ideal to have a focus on a bike lane that connects Essex Town to other towns, such as Jericho along route 15. This would encourage travel into Essex to the Saxon Trails and businesses.
200	Let's not raise taxes. Keep it simple. Keep it inexpensive. Vermont has a lot of outdoor opportunities, we don't need to spend more money to get outside.

ResponseID Response

203 Trail biking is a small, probably more wealthy group of people, but doesn't represent as wide a range and as accessible a range of people as a paved path. Indian Brook trails already provide unpaved natural paths, so don't duplicate. 289 already has the tunnel for water at the Winooski River end, maybe expand or put a bridge down that. There are a lot of trails and they should be connected together for a large bike path around Essex. Good ideas overall.

209 Thank you for all your work on this!

214 I think this a good idea in part because I know trail networks already exist. I would prevent any motorized vehicles or serious mountain biking to keep walkers/hikers and wildlife safe and to preserve the forest ambience.

224 I prefer a pea gravel path vs pavement.

225 Paths must be able to be maintained over the long run with funds appropriated. Care must be taken the load motorized vehicles cannot access the trails. Safety on the trails must be addressed. One trail should be completed at a time.

231 Getting this project to point where the current trails are protected and will be available for future generations is key. Establishing a plan that is inclusive and allows the community users to have these trails for years to come is the main focus. Once that is established you can have a set plan for future growth, maintenance and shared use. These are a key outdoor recreational infrastructure in our surrounding area and should be protected.

237 Connect the neighborhoods with the schools. Mountain bike trails are not a priority (too specialized)- let the FOW do their own thing. Wildlife will move through no matter what. Essex is blessed with enough wetlands that help protect the wildlife. BTW wildlife uses trails, I see it all the time while snowmobiling. Roads and housing are more of a threat than rec paths.

242 Sounds awesome! I am not clear if this would be possible, but it would be cool if pedestrians could cross 289 safely in order to access both sides of the trail network easily.

250 I think these areas are a special resource, especially some of the lesser known existing trails. Even just making some of these more known and marked, and maintained (clearing leaves and obstacles) can be a great thing.

253 In my opinion trails should be kept as natural rather than paved. Mountain bikes are able to use these natural trails. It is important to educate everyone on the etiquette of trail use ie who has right of way. Paving trails in natural areas is never a good idea.

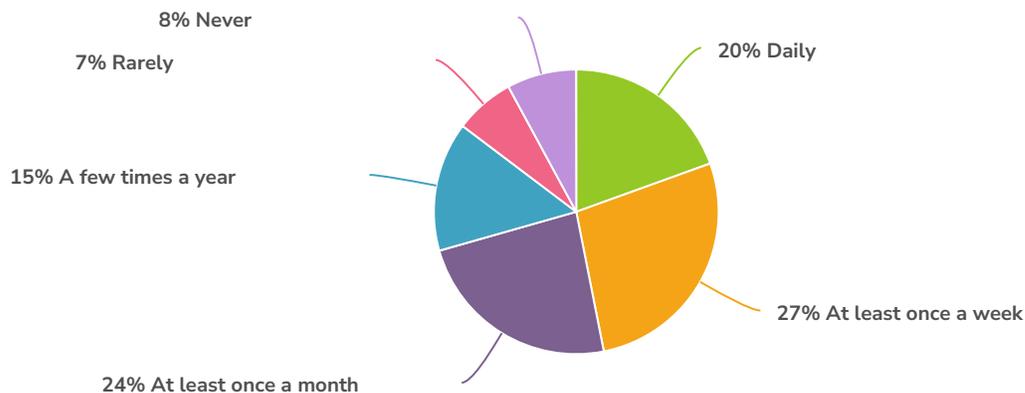
Report for Keystone Trails Connectivity Study & Essex Active Transportation Plan Visioning Survey

Response Counts



Totals: 322

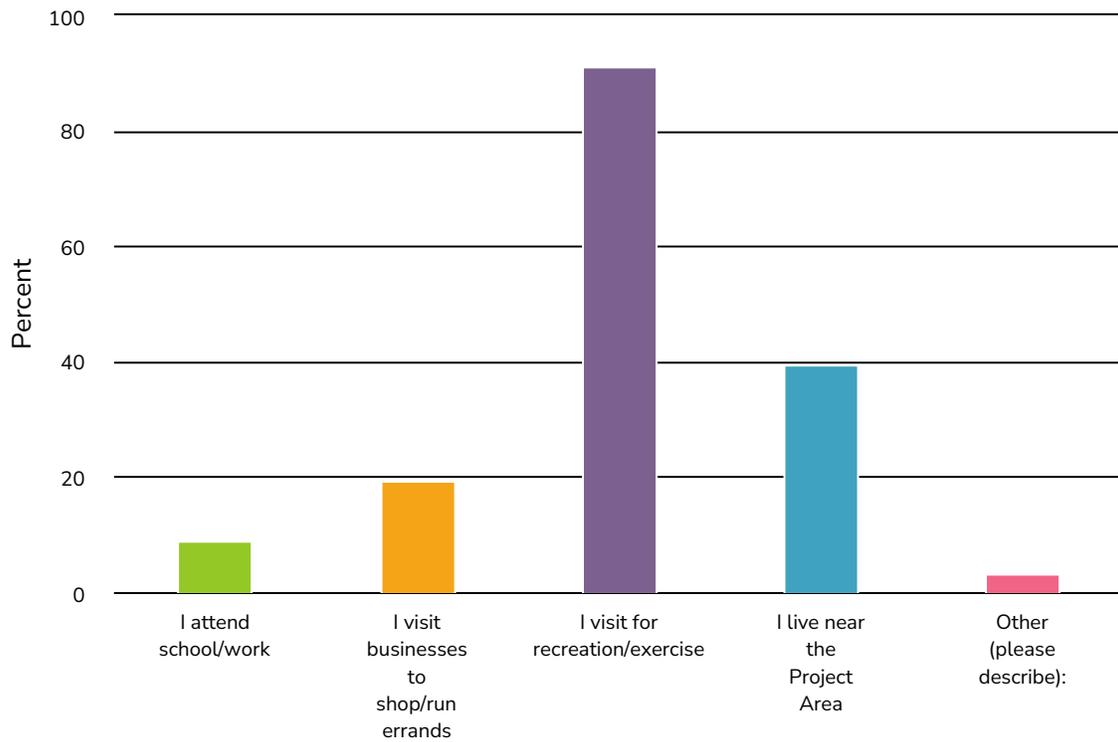
1. How often do you or members of your household use trails, sidewalks, and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Keystone Project Area?



Value	Percent	Responses
Daily	19.5%	37
At least once a week	27.4%	52
At least once a month	23.7%	45
A few times a year	14.7%	28
Rarely	6.8%	13
Never	7.9%	15

Totals: 190

2. What is your general purpose of visiting the trails, sidewalks, and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Keystone Project Area? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
I attend school/work	9.2%	16
I visit businesses to shop/run errands	19.5%	34
I visit for recreation/exercise	91.4%	159
I live near the Project Area	39.7%	69
Other (please describe):	3.4%	6

Other (please describe):**Count**

Walking the dog

1

exercise in my neighborhood

1

nature immersion

1

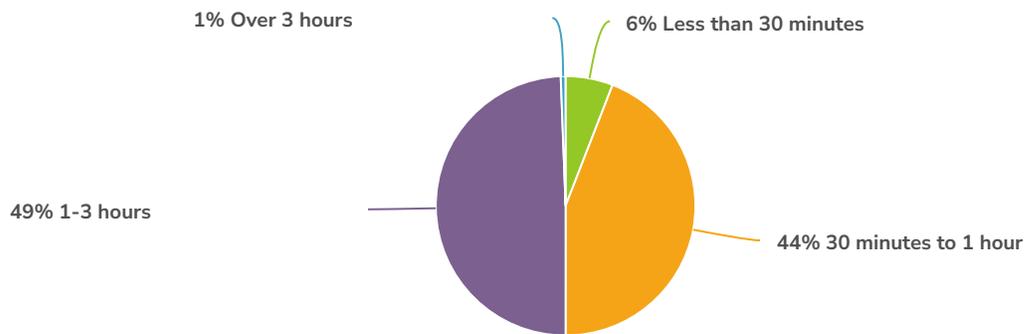
walking my dog

1

Totals

4

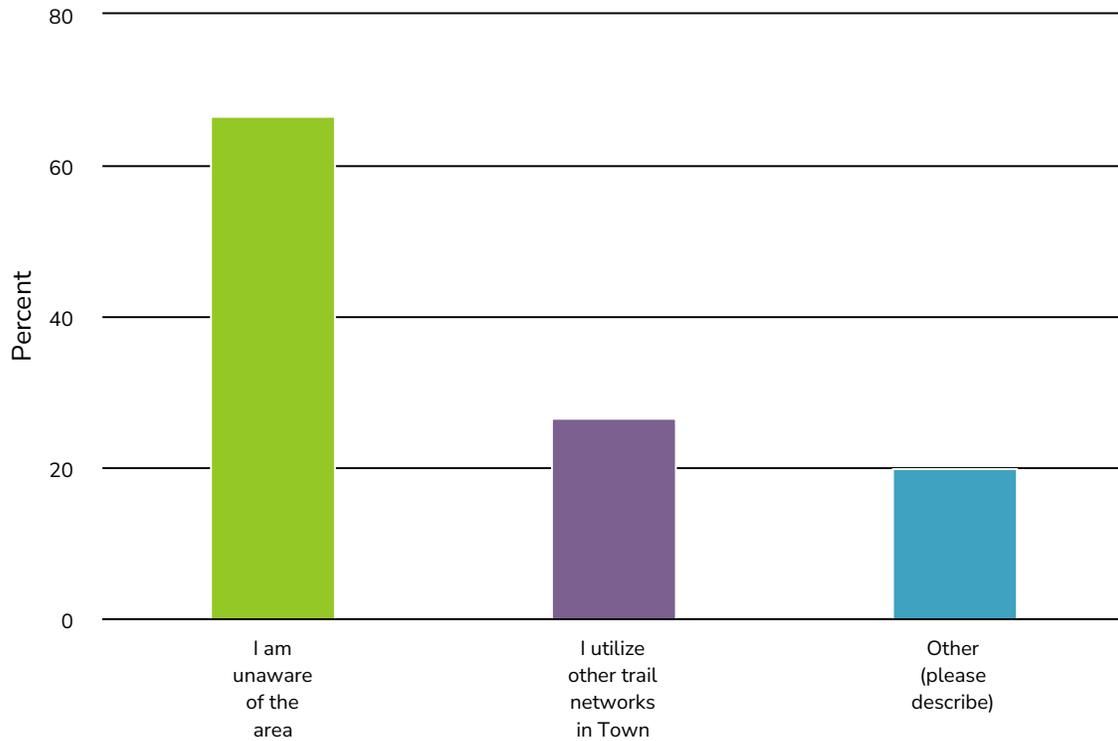
3. On average, how long are you using the trails, sidewalks, and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Keystone Project Area for each visit?



Value	Percent	Responses
Less than 30 minutes	5.9%	10
30 minutes to 1 hour	44.1%	75
1-3 hours	49.4%	84
Over 3 hours	0.6%	1

Totals: 170

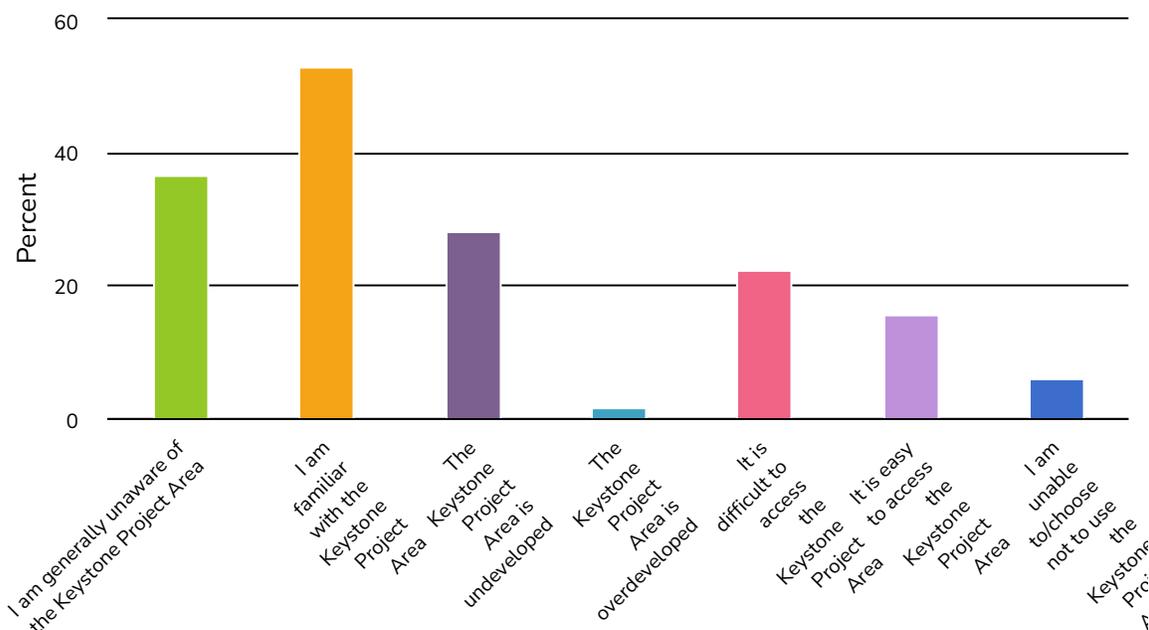
4. If you do not use the trails, sidewalks, and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Keystone Project Area, please tell us why.



Value	Percent	Responses
I am unaware of the area	66.7%	10
I utilize other trail networks in Town	26.7%	4
Other (please describe)	20.0%	3

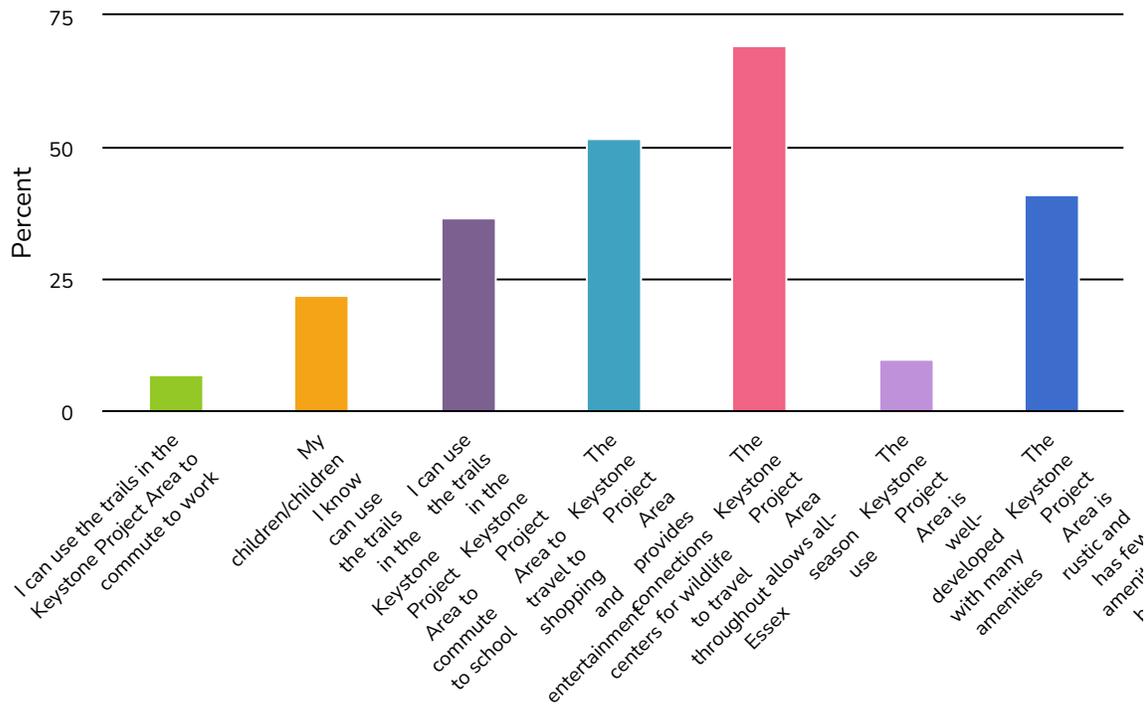
Other (please describe)	Count
I do not live nearby	1
I have no reason to	1
Need flat surface for aging joints	1
Totals	3

5. What phrases best describe your existing experience with trail and bike/pedestrian connectivity in the Keystone Project Area? Select the three phrases you most agree with.



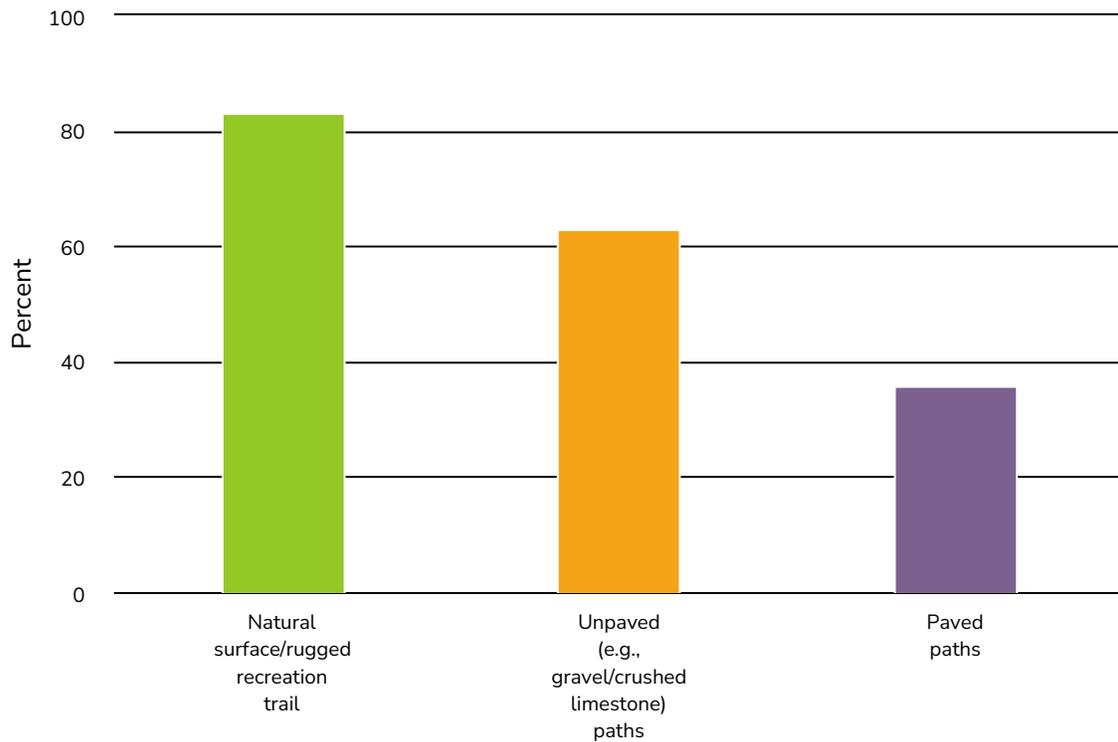
Value	Percent	Responses
I am generally unaware of the Keystone Project Area	36.7%	61
I am familiar with the Keystone Project Area	53.0%	88
The Keystone Project Area is undeveloped	28.3%	47
The Keystone Project Area is overdeveloped	1.8%	3
It is difficult to access the Keystone Project Area	22.3%	37
It is easy to access the Keystone Project Area	15.7%	26
I am unable to/choose not to use the Keystone Project Area to get around Essex or for recreation	6.0%	10

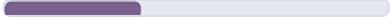
6. What phrases best describe your desired future experience with trail and bike/pedestrian connectivity in the Keystone Project Area? Select the top three phrases you most agree with.



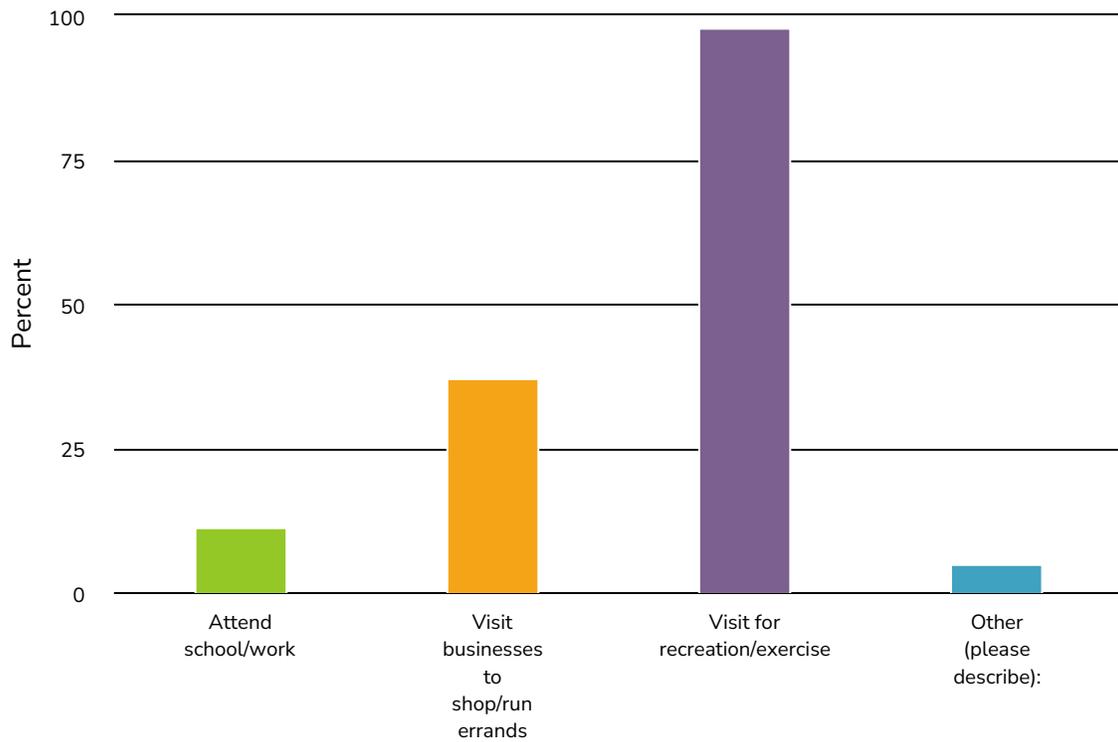
Value	Percent	Responses
I can use the trails in the Keystone Project Area to commute to work	6.9%	11
My children/children I know can use the trails in the Keystone Project Area to commute to school	21.9%	35
I can use the trails in the Keystone Project Area to travel to shopping and entertainment centers	36.9%	59
The Keystone Project Area provides connections for wildlife to travel throughout Essex	51.9%	83
The Keystone Project Area allows all-season use	69.4%	111
The Keystone Project Area is well-developed with many amenities	10.0%	16
The Keystone Project Area is rustic and has few amenities beyond trails	41.3%	66

7. This project is intended to identify multi-use active transportation opportunities in the Keystone Project Area. What types of off-road connections would you like to see developed? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Natural surface/rugged recreation trail	83.3% 	135
Unpaved (e.g., gravel/crushed limestone) paths	63.0% 	102
Paved paths	35.8% 	58

8. If an expanded trail network were to be developed in the Keystone Project Area, what general purposes would you utilize it for? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Attend school/work	11.4%	18
Visit businesses to shop/run errands	37.3%	59
Visit for recreation/exercise	98.1%	155
Other (please describe):	5.1%	8

Other (please describe):	Count
Commute to work	1
None	1
Since they don't connect to my house, it would have to be a multi-destination outing, such as going to a park followed by ice cream. If they connected to broader areas, then they would be more useful for me.	1
Walk dog	1
dog walking	1
my child has outgrown the EES and EMS, but our neighbors' kids still attend these schools. I'd want them to have a chance to ride bikes there if a route would connect Pinewood Manor to the back woods of EMS.	1
nature immersion	1
Totals	7

9. If an expanded trail network were to be developed in the Keystone Project Area, what types of summer activities would you envision it hosting? Select an answer that represents your feelings about the activity.

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Neutral	Moderately important	Very important	Responses
Walking/Running Count Row %	8 5.1%	7 4.4%	10 6.3%	36 22.8%	97 61.4%	158
Cycling (e.g., road/gravel/commuting cycling) Count Row %	12 7.7%	9 5.8%	17 11.0%	41 26.5%	76 49.0%	155
Mountain biking Count Row %	22 14.0%	5 3.2%	19 12.1%	19 12.1%	92 58.6%	157
Skating/scootering Count Row %	73 49.0%	17 11.4%	39 26.2%	13 8.7%	7 4.7%	149
Wildlife viewing & identification (e.g., nature-study, plant/animal ID) Count Row %	7 4.5%	18 11.6%	26 16.8%	59 38.1%	45 29.0%	155
Natural photography Count Row %	24 15.7%	11 7.2%	49 32.0%	47 30.7%	22 14.4%	153
Geocaching (an outdoor activity where participants use GPS-enabled devices to find hidden containers, called geocaches, at specific coordinates) Count Row %	51 34.0%	18 12.0%	53 35.3%	22 14.7%	6 4.0%	150
Totals Total Responses						158

10. If an expanded trail network were to be developed in the Keystone Project Area, what types of winter activities would you envision it hosting? Select an answer that represents your feelings about the activity.

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Neutral	Moderately important	Very important	Responses
Walking, running, or biking on a plowed path Count Row %	18 11.6%	12 7.7%	18 11.6%	45 29.0%	62 40.0%	155
Fat biking on groomed snow Count Row %	25 16.1%	11 7.1%	34 21.9%	35 22.6%	50 32.3%	155
Cross country skiing on groomed snow Count Row %	11 7.1%	7 4.5%	20 12.8%	46 29.5%	72 46.2%	156
Snowshoeing Count Row %	10 6.5%	7 4.6%	23 15.0%	66 43.1%	47 30.7%	153
Fat biking on ungroomed snow Count Row %	40 26.7%	9 6.0%	58 38.7%	26 17.3%	17 11.3%	150
Cross country skiing on ungroomed snow Count Row %	14 9.4%	11 7.4%	38 25.5%	51 34.2%	35 23.5%	149
I would not use the Project Area in the winter Count Row %	59 51.3%	5 4.3%	37 32.2%	6 5.2%	8 7.0%	115
Totals Total Responses						156

11. Are there any other types of activities that you envision the trails, sidewalks, and other bicycle and pedestrian facilities in the Keystone Project Area hosting?

ResponseID	Response
21	No just more connectivity please!!
81	snowmobile
84	Leash laws like Mills River Park
98	nature education
103	no
106	Plow all the existing sidewalks first!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
117	accessible including those w/ mobility issues, art
136	Rec facil parks, sports facil, rec centers
163	Link to Saxon Hill mountain biking network
174	Please fix/plow sidewalks on Allen Martin Dr.
183	None
186	No
190	No
195	Bird watching
214	Dog walking
221	Access to short glades in winter.
246	visiting friends, library, restaurants, business
253	Quiet time for walkers and cyclists.
267	Pump Track, jump lines, nature information
280	Plow a skating oval on Indian Brook.
284	Large, paved circuit at a park

ResponseID**Response**

286

fun mtb trails

287

Excited for new mountain bike trails

289

Connect essex town and junction

313

Off-leash trails for dogs, snowmobiling at Saxon

317

a multi use Route 15, High School to Maplefields?

325

running races

334

a dog park

340

Sledding opportunities in the winter; dog walking

353

Don't pave nature!

354

Keep it as natural as possible. Don't kill trees.

356

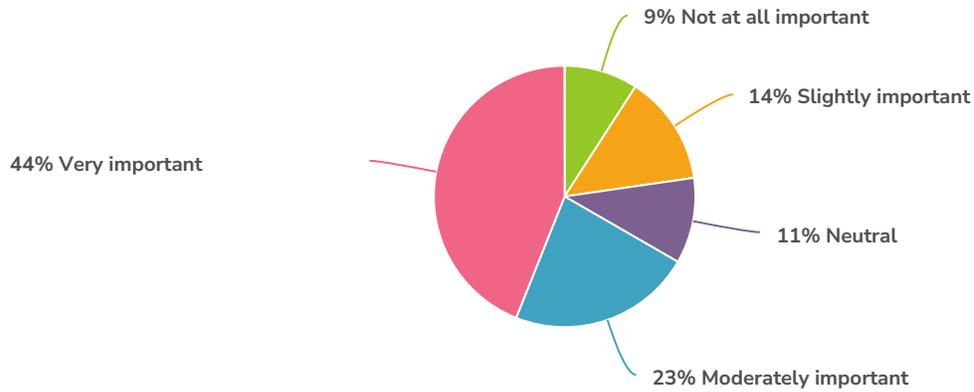
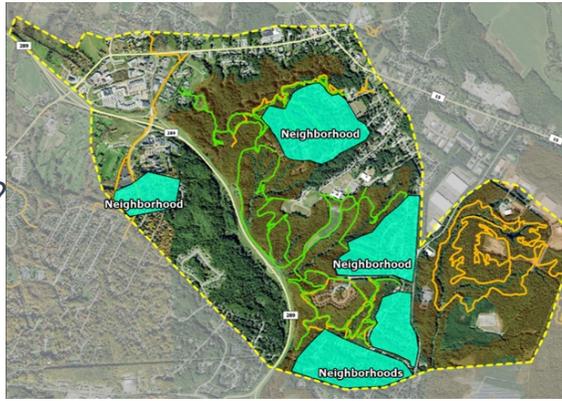
Races with entry fees—> revenue

380

Wildlife area, leave it alone.

12. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect

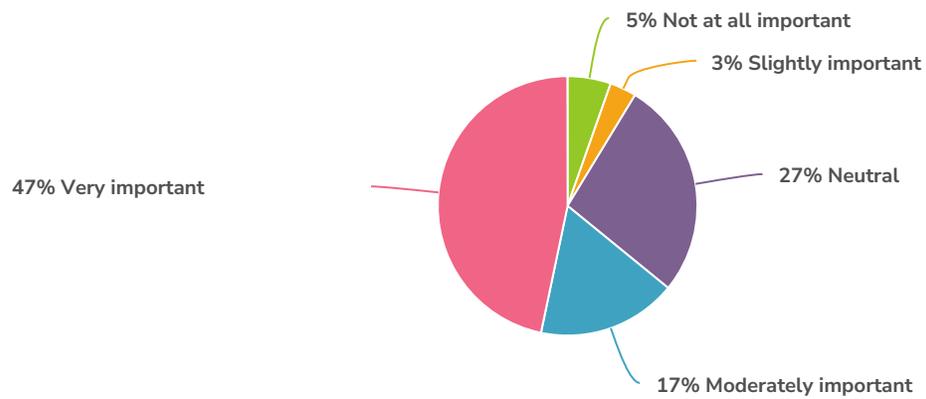
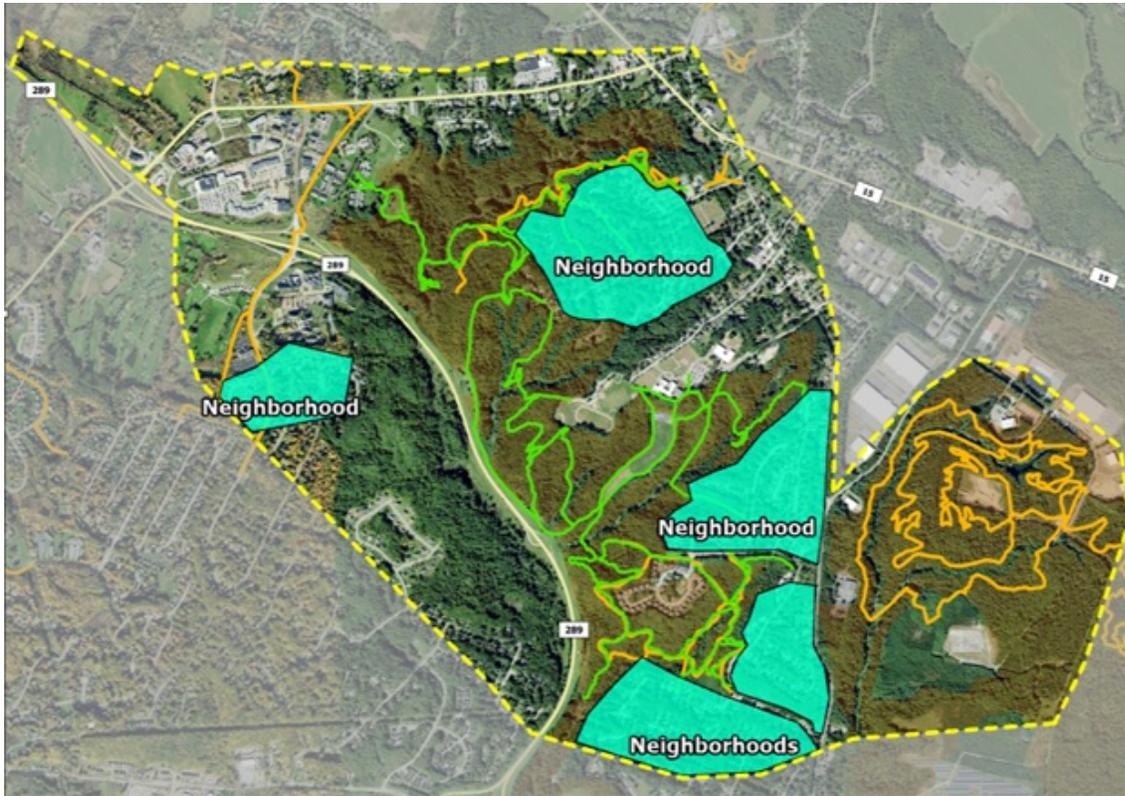
to Residential Neighborhoods?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	9.1%	6
Slightly important	13.6%	9
Neutral	10.6%	7
Moderately important	22.7%	15
Very important	43.9%	29

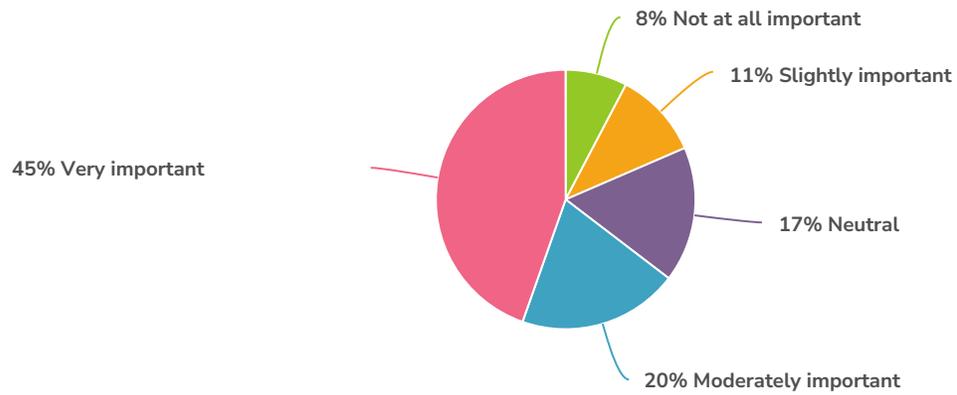
Totals: 66

13. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to Residential Neighborhoods?



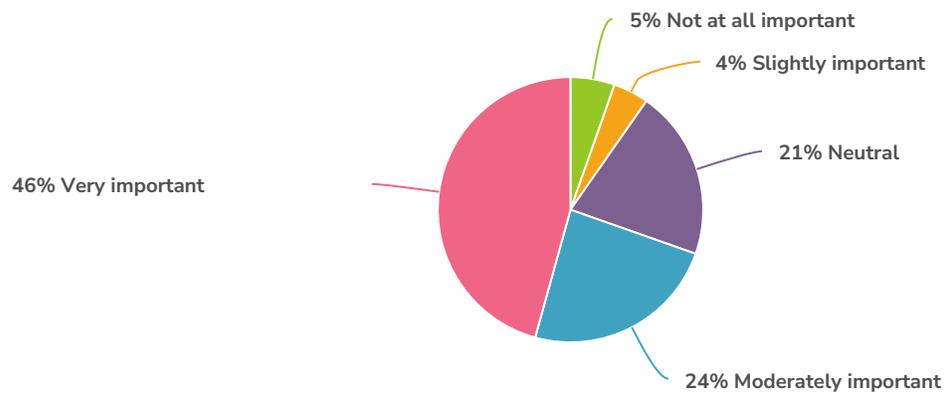
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	5.4%	5
Slightly important	3.3%	3
Neutral	27.2%	25
Moderately important	17.4%	16
Very important	46.7%	43
		Totals: 92

14. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to Essex Middle School & Founders Memorial School?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	7.7%	5
Slightly important	10.8%	7
Neutral	16.9%	11
Moderately important	20.0%	13
Very important	44.6%	29
		Totals: 65

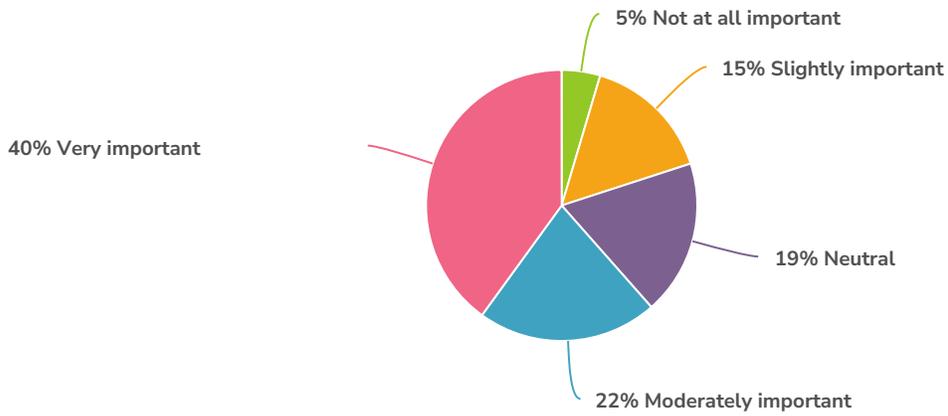
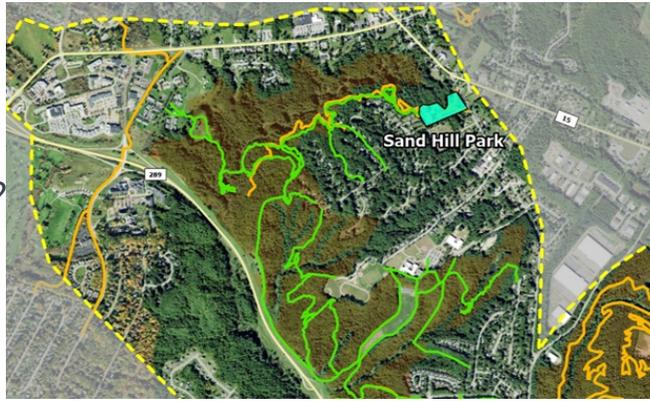
15. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to Essex Middle School & Founders Memorial School?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	5.4%	5
Slightly important	4.3%	4
Neutral	20.7%	19
Moderately important	23.9%	22
Very important	45.7%	42
		Totals: 92

16. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to

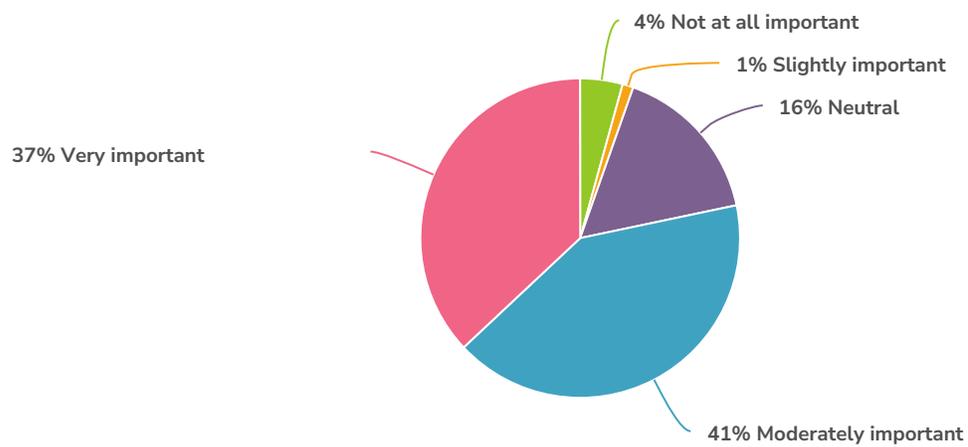
Sand Hill Park?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	4.6%	3
Slightly important	15.4%	10
Neutral	18.5%	12
Moderately important	21.5%	14
Very important	40.0%	26

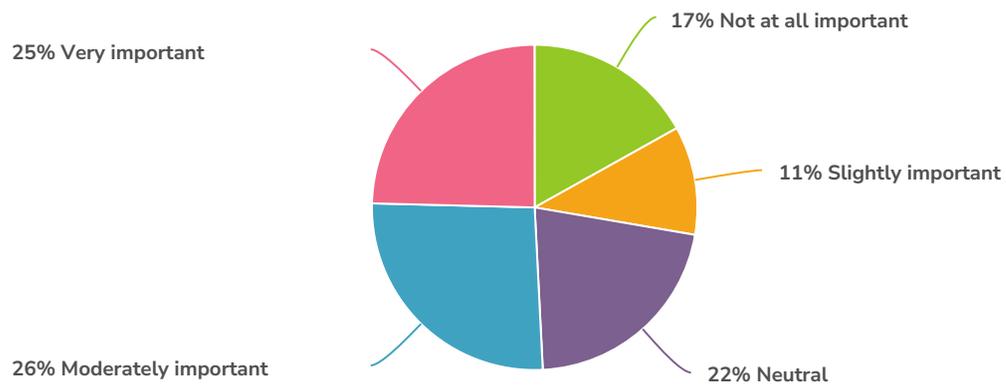
Totals: 65

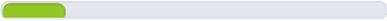
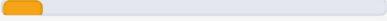
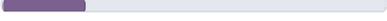
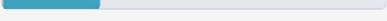
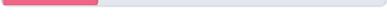
17. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to Sand Hill Park?



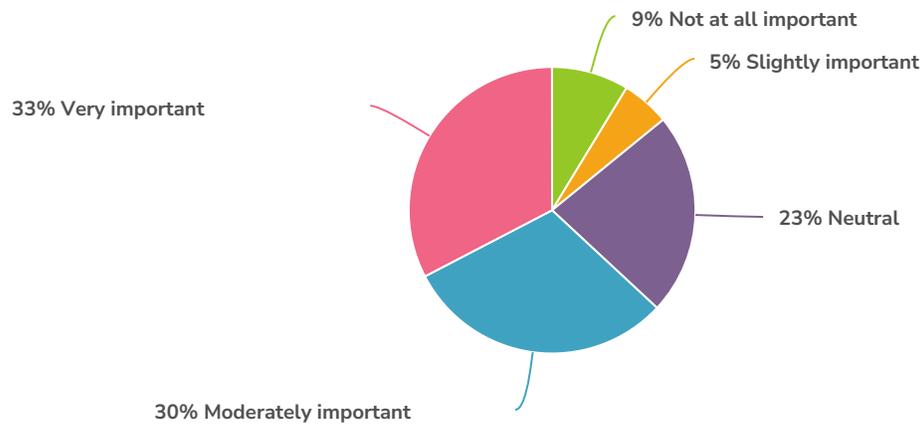
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	4.3%	4
Slightly important	1.1%	1
Neutral	16.3%	15
Moderately important	41.3%	38
Very important	37.0%	34
		Totals: 92

18. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to the Essex Free Library/Green Mountain School/Essex Elementary School?



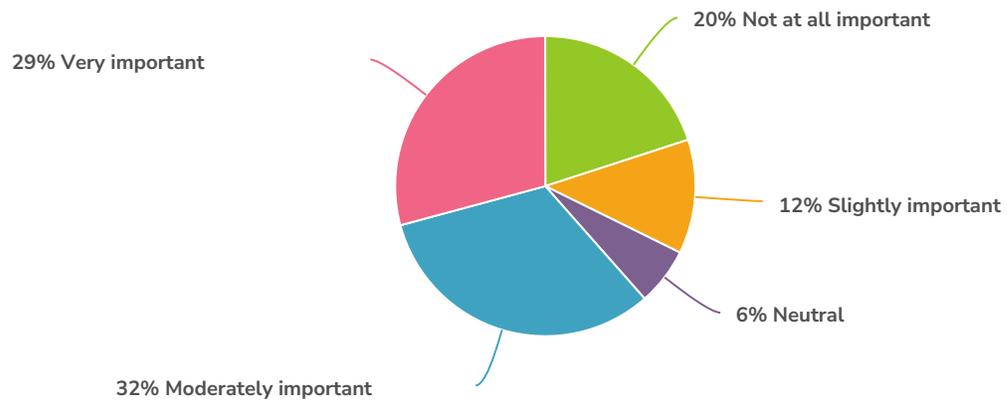
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	16.9% 	11
Slightly important	10.8% 	7
Neutral	21.5% 	14
Moderately important	26.2% 	17
Very important	24.6% 	16
		Totals: 65

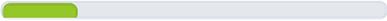
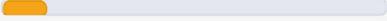
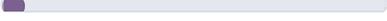
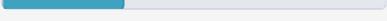
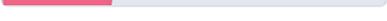
19. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to the Essex Free Library/Green Mountain School/Essex Elementary School?



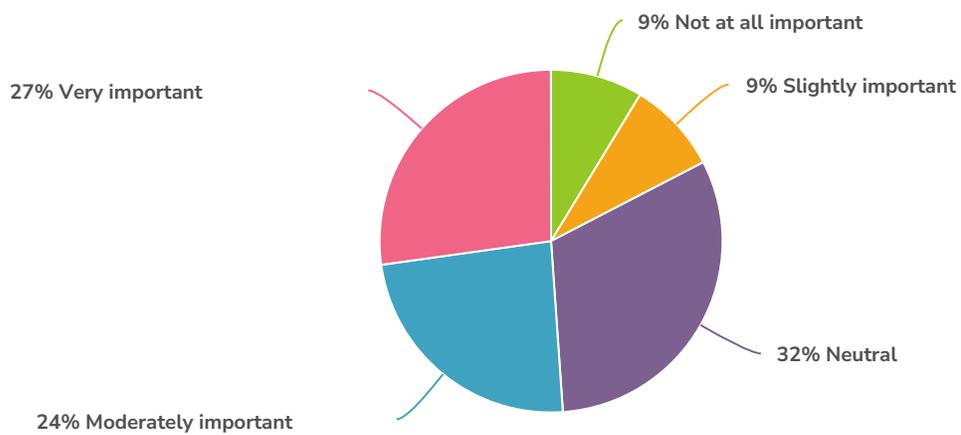
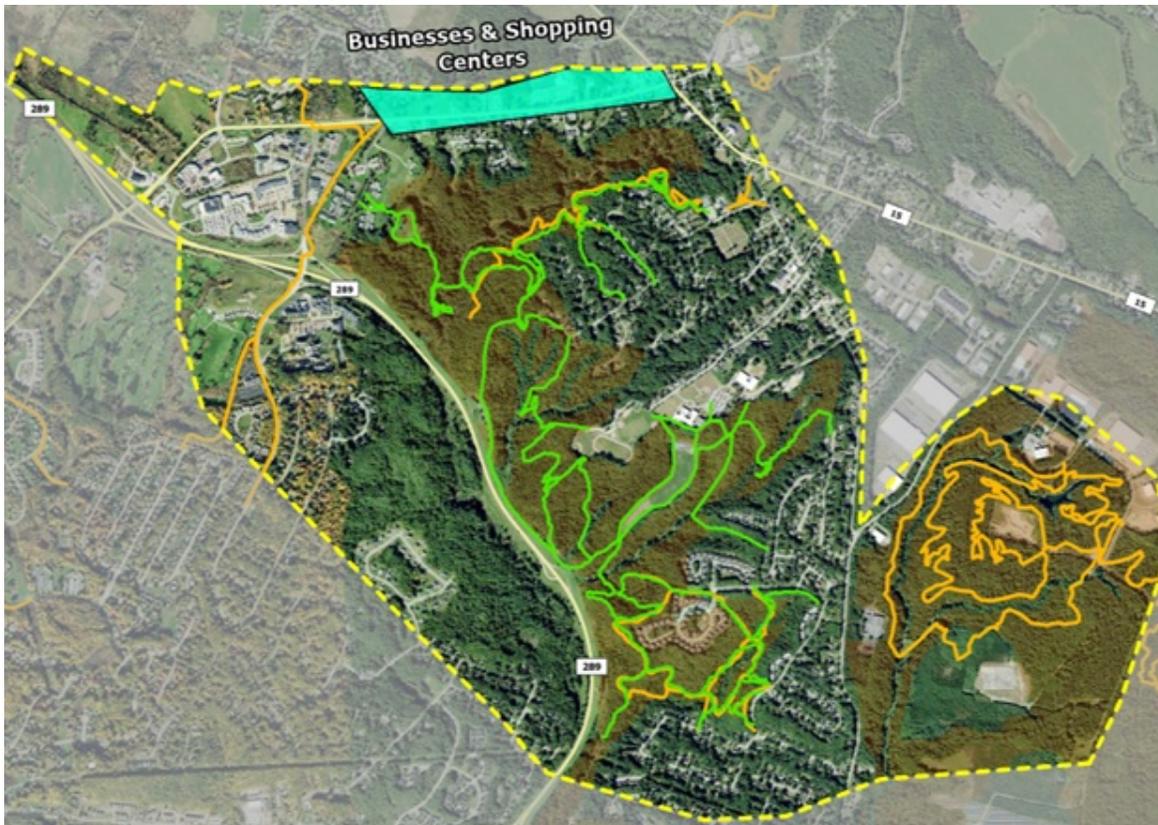
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	8.7%	8
Slightly important	5.4%	5
Neutral	22.8%	21
Moderately important	30.4%	28
Very important	32.6%	30
		Totals: 92

20. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to businesses & shopping centers east of Highway 289?



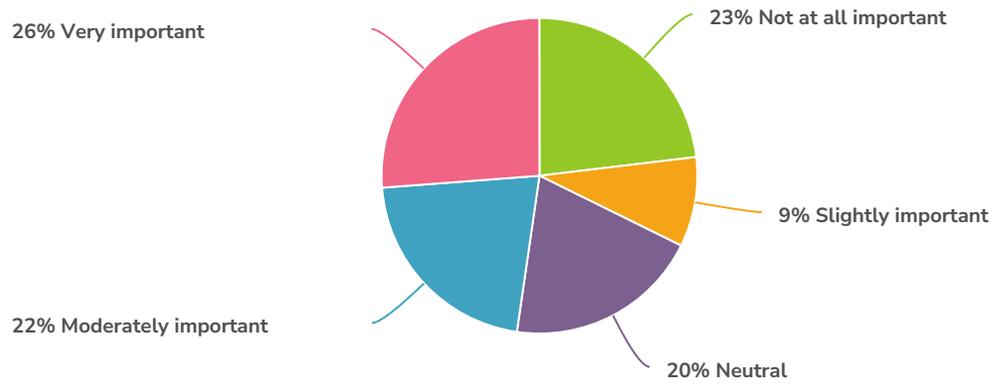
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	20.0% 	13
Slightly important	12.3% 	8
Neutral	6.2% 	4
Moderately important	32.3% 	21
Very important	29.2% 	19
		Totals: 65

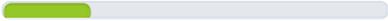
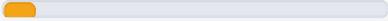
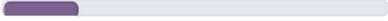
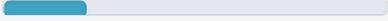
21. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to businesses & shopping centers east of Highway 289?



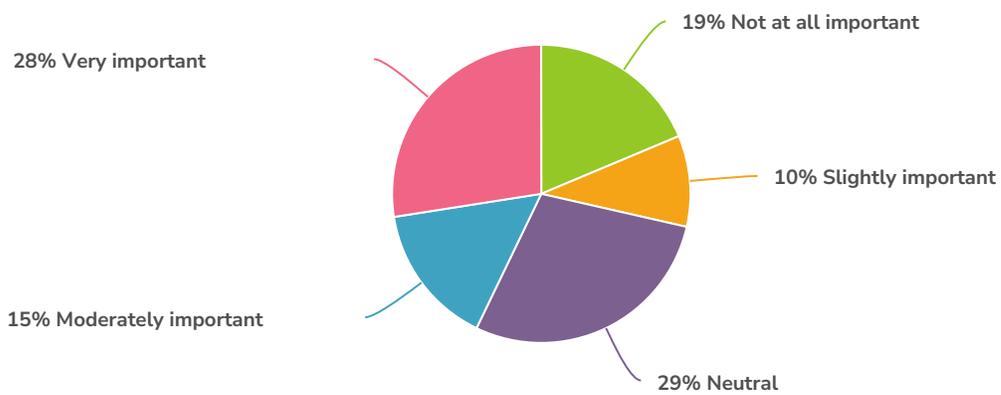
Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	8.7%	8
Slightly important	8.7%	8
Neutral	31.5%	29
Moderately important	23.9%	22
Very important	27.2%	25
		Totals: 92

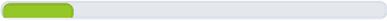
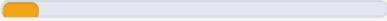
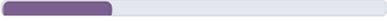
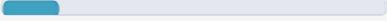
22. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to businesses & shopping centers west of Highway 289?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	23.1% 	15
Slightly important	9.2% 	6
Neutral	20.0% 	13
Moderately important	21.5% 	14
Very important	26.2% 	17
		Totals: 65

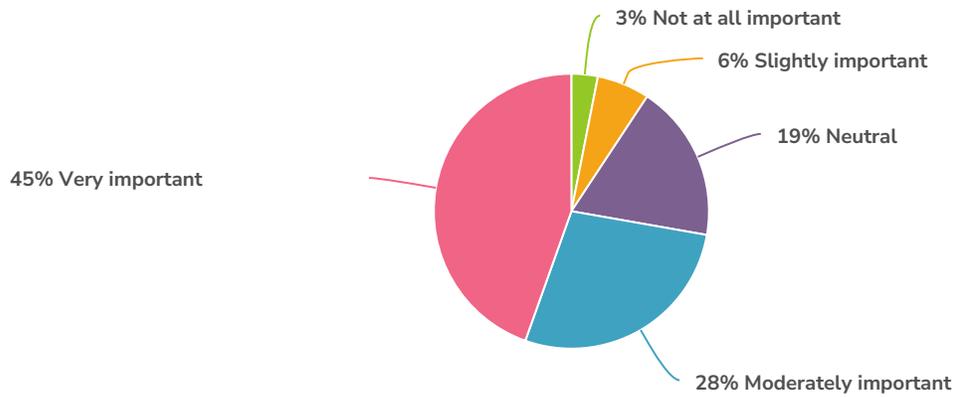
23. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to businesses & shopping centers west of Highway 289?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	18.7% 	17
Slightly important	9.9% 	9
Neutral	28.6% 	26
Moderately important	15.4% 	14
Very important	27.5% 	25
		Totals: 91

24. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to the

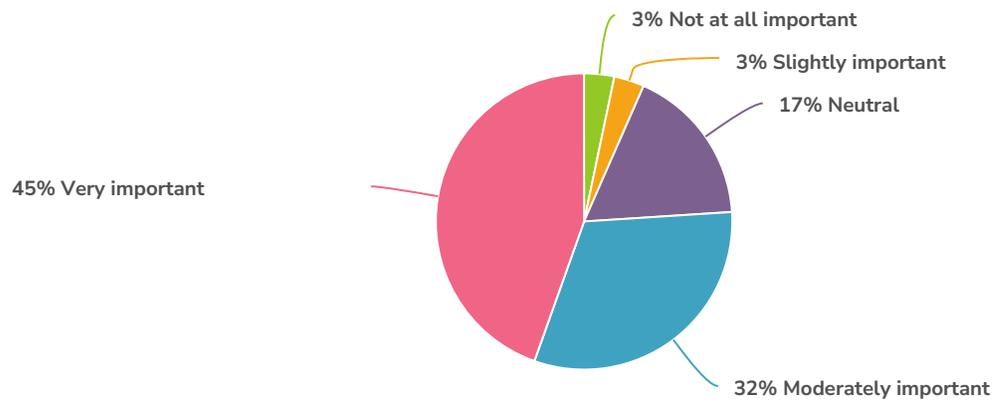
Mathieu Town Forest?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	3.1%	2
Slightly important	6.2%	4
Neutral	18.5%	12
Moderately important	27.7%	18
Very important	44.6%	29

Totals: 65

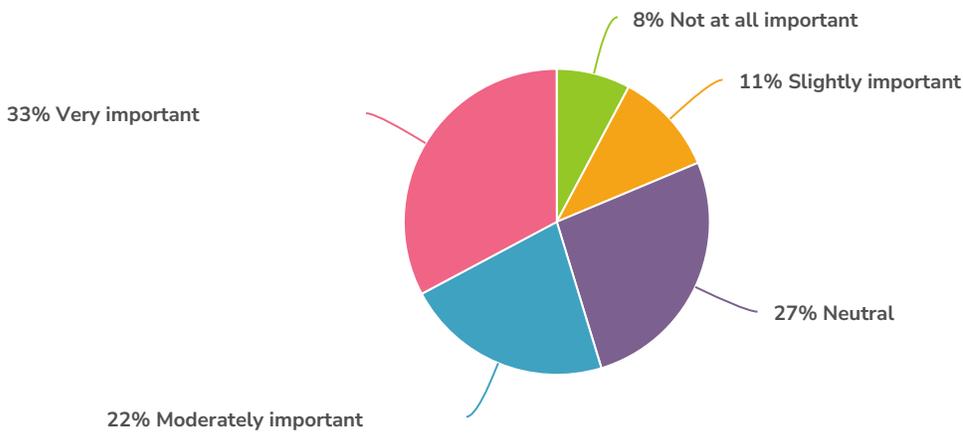
25. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect to the Mathieu Town Forest?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	3.3%	3
Slightly important	3.3%	3
Neutral	17.4%	16
Moderately important	31.5%	29
Very important	44.6%	41
		Totals: 92

26. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect outside

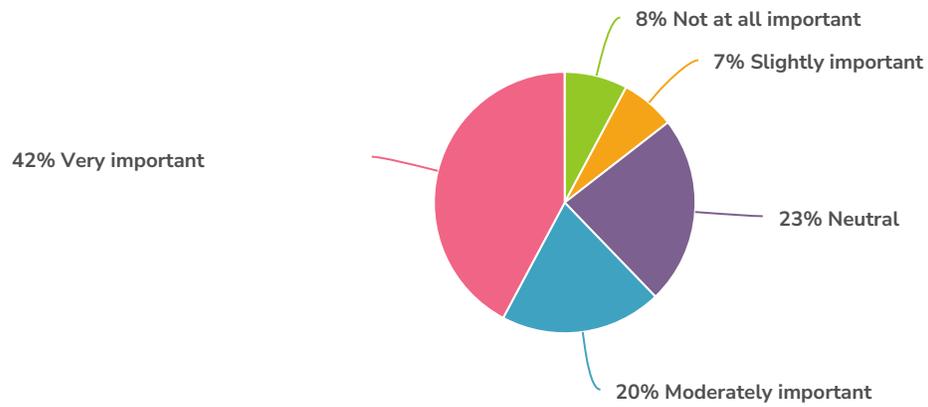
the Keystone Project Area?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	7.8%	5
Slightly important	10.9%	7
Neutral	26.6%	17
Moderately important	21.9%	14
Very important	32.8%	21

Totals: 64

27. How important is it for the Envisioned Trail Network to connect outside the Keystone Project Area?



Value	Percent	Responses
Not at all important	7.8%	7
Slightly important	6.7%	6
Neutral	23.3%	21
Moderately important	20.0%	18
Very important	42.2%	38
		Totals: 90

28. What locations outside the Keystone Project Area should the envisioned trail network connect to?

ResponseID Response

21	Route 15 at both ends of Essex for better connectivity
78	Provide a safe corridor to get to the north side of Route 15 and Route 128. Connect to the Meadow's Edge neighborhood and EES, PLEASE!!!
81	Essex High School
84	Lower Sandhill rd to 117 where many live because it's not safe to access 117 or to cross roads Sandhill to get to Saxon Hill trails.
103	City of Essex Junction
108	Main Street and Athens Drive intersection where sidewalk ends on Main Street.
113	Indian Brook Reservoir & the new Town Center trails to be developed!
115	Essex Junction and the Tree Farm
116	The City of Essex Junction
117	All of Essex outside of the area and Essex Junction. Need to make it easier for school kids to connect without cars too.
136	City of EJ, town of westford, Indian brook park, whites tree farm, winooski river.
145	Pinewood Manor neighborhood
146	Saxon hill
149	Connection to the VAST trail near 289/Colchester Road and Indian Brook Pond are possible and would be incredible
160	Trails west of 289.
161	Jericho
171	Essex Junction
172	Ideally the region's trail networks would be interconnected. Connections would be made to Mobbs, Catamount, and the Richmond trails
173	Essex Junction
175	Essex Bike Path which begins off Old Colchester Road.

ResponseID Response

177 Not that important, but it would be cool if there was a way to connect sex in hell to either Jericho, or Richmond area trails

178 Catamount Family Center

183 Essex Junction

191 Catamount Outdoor Family Center, Indian Brook

196 I'm thinking big here - connect to Catamount Outdoor Family Center? Connect to gravel biking opportunities in Jericho? Connect to commuting/business opportunities in Essex Junction?

206 Pinewood manor neighborhood

214 Other mountain biking trail networks to help create longer distance connectivity (eg multiple towns)

225 South Burlington or Williston

230 Route 128 & Weed Road

243 Pinewood Manor

246 Pinewood Manor, Lang Farms developments, homes along Rt 117

248 Indian Brook

250 Indian Brook Park (VAST network?) not sure about latter

253 Colchester Bike path

258 Rt 15 south of 289. Ideally bike path/side walk continuing from the junction where it ends at the Fairview neighborhoods up past 289

260 Connecting to Essex Junction and the Jericho trail network.

267 Catamount, Williston, Richmond

268 Essex Experience and the surrounding existing bike/ped paths

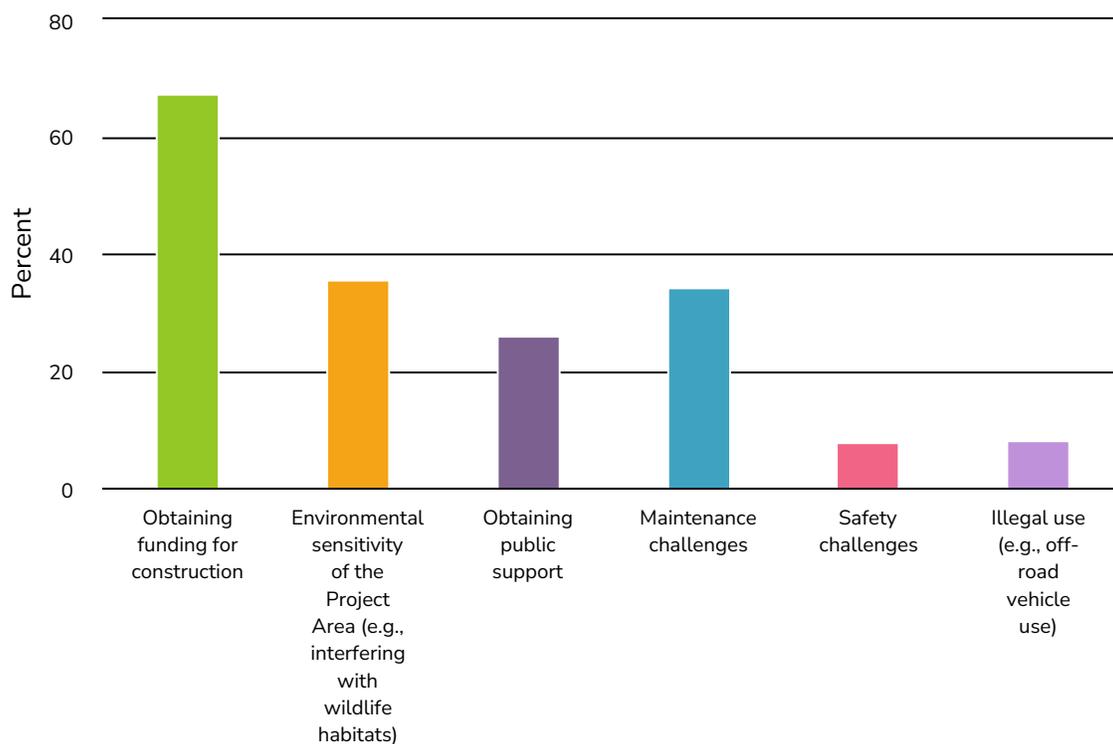
273 All of the residential around Route 15 need safe access to Keystone area. High traffic, no sidewalk, and no crosswalks. Residences along 15 are isolated from accessing Keystone area by walking/riding

274 Circle dr

ResponseID Response

276	Communities off VT15 - Whitcomb Meadows, Deer Crossing, and potentially link to Jericho!
284	Chapin Rd area, Indian Brook, Bixby Hill
285	Any other trail locations
286	into westford
292	Winooski, Williston
298	Indian Brook connection
300	Any other trail networks or areas the might cut down on cycling commute time.
313	Other residential areas, Five Corners, Indian Brook
329	The Joseph Lane/Thomas Lane neighborhoods off of 128. There is already a trail that connects them to the Elementary School.
332	access from the city, where thereis parking
334	connections to essex junction neighborhoods
337	Essex Way, Pinewood
349	The Susie Wilson bypass please! I can't get to Essex on foot safely because of that busy road
350	Winooski Valley Park District
355	Essex jct.
356	Connect rural Essex to town center utilizing vast trail or roadside paths. Also connect Jericho to Essex. Also make Vast trail an all season trail.
362	Essex Jct
368	5 corners
371	5-corners area
382	Williston, Old Stage Rd, biking alternative to Rte 15
384	Essex junction, Susie Wilson area

29. In a word or phrase, what do you see as the biggest challenges to creating successful trail/active transportation connections near the Keystone Project Area? Select the top two challenges that you agree with.



Value	Percent	Responses
Obtaining funding for construction	67.5%	104
Environmental sensitivity of the Project Area (e.g., interfering with wildlife habitats)	35.7%	55
Obtaining public support	26.0%	40
Maintenance challenges	34.4%	53
Safety challenges	7.8%	12
Illegal use (e.g., off-road vehicle use)	8.4%	13

30. Natural resources in parks can include areas that are ecologically significant such as natural communities, wetlands, larger streams and wildlife habitat. Wildlife habitat can include deer wintering areas, vernal pools, beaver ponds, and large old trees. Some of these larger features, such as beaver ponds, we can map remotely, while the presence of other smaller features, such as unique trees, we cannot. In both circumstances, documenting local knowledge about these resources is essential in understanding their significance and drafting appropriate management guidelines. What natural resources of note are in the Keystone Project Area?

ResponseID	Response
21	Not sure it's hard for us to get past Essex experience/resort area
81	Alder Brook
100	Wildlife corridors, older trees sensitive plants
103	Alder Brook
104	large trees, vernal pools
106	Majority should remain wild
117	Springs, sand, lightning bugs, orchids, yum fungus
123	Wetlands, streams, deer and other wildlife
136	Deer, bear, old growth trees
137	Alder brook
145	wildlife habitat, streams, wetlands, vernal pools
153	wetlands
160	Alder Brook. Native Fiddlehead Ferns.
177	Indian brook. Saxon hill summit.
186	Not sure
192	Brooks and streams

ResponseID	Response
203	Wetlands, old growth trees
210	Wildlife habitat; forest
235	Wetlands, streams, nice forest
238	?
246	Steep inclines on the western side of 289
248	water
250	drainage into the Winooski
260	Wetlands and general wildlife habits
276	stands of mature trees
278	deer and wildlife
280	Wildlife
284	A good view to the east mtns
285	Wildlife
286	not sure
300	Wet and boggy areas i think
301	forest
313	Edible &/or rare plants & fungi, seeps, snags
317	Deer yard, undisturbed wild river wetland habitat
327	Suggest using community science apps for data
334	i am not sure
337	numerous springs and small streams, large trees
340	Specific animals: Thrush, bobcat, owls, bats
354	Don't know
356	Streams/ natural water movement/ bobcats

ResponseID**Response**

360

all of the above

371

?

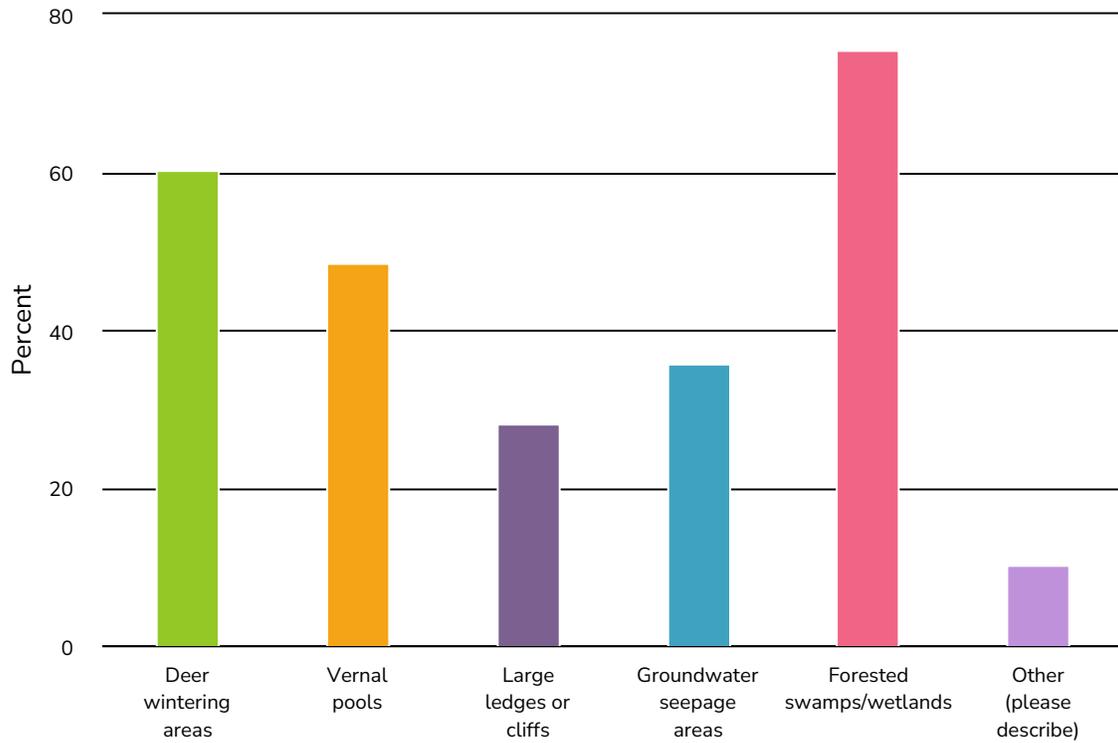
372

Alder brook-teeming with predatory wildlife

382

not knowledgeable about these

31. Are any of the following resources present in the Keystone Project Area? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Deer wintering areas	60.3%	47
Vernal pools	48.7%	38
Large ledges or cliffs	28.2%	22
Groundwater seepage areas	35.9%	28
Forested swamps/wetlands	75.6%	59
Other (please describe)	10.3%	8

Other (please describe)	Count
?	2
I am not aware but it is important to preserve natural habitats.	1
Raptors (owls & hawks)	1
bear habitat	1
unknown	1
woods cool down the town	1
woods that are home to and the food sources of critters	1
Totals	8

32. What kind of wildlife do you see using the Keystone Project Area?

ResponseID Response

21	There were 2 fisher cats and a dead skunk on the bike path to countryside a few days ago
78	Deer, small mammals, owls
81	Deer
98	Bear, deer, owl, fisher, coyote, squirrel, bobcat
100	Fox deer raccoon birds bear coyote porcupine
103	All kinds
104	deer, fox, bear, frogs, birds
106	All kinds
113	deer, turkeys, rabbits
117	game animals, birds, insects, reptiles, amphibians
123	deer, birds, small mammals
136	Deer and small animals, birds, squirrels
137	deer, fisher, fox, racoon, bear, owl
141	Deer, fisher cats, bear, squirrels
145	deer, foxes, birds, moose (occassionally), bear
149	Deer
153	owls, deer, racoons
157	All species native to the area
158	Deer, birds, etc.
160	Birds. Deer. Beaver. Small fish.
164	Squirrels, deer
172	Deer, birds, chipmunks
174	Deer and owls in Saxon Hill area

ResponseID Response

177 Mostly deer turkey and birds

186 Owls, hawks and deer

192 Deer, coyote, rabbits, frogs, birds, owls

196 Squirrels!

203 Deer, salamanders, various birds

207 Deer, small mammals, birds

214 Deer

215 Deer, bear, small mammals, owls & other small birds

221 Squirrel

230 beavers, deer, frogs, salamanders

235 birds

238 deer owls

246 porcupine, fishercat, bear, moose, whiteratsnake,

248 ?

250 deer birds skunks various rodents

253 foxes, turkeys, deer and moose, fishercats

256 Foxes, birds, owls, raccoons

258 Birds

260 deer, moose, bear, fox, opossum, many birds, etc.

262 Skunks

267 Deer, rabbits, birds, squirrels

276 deer, beaver, birds

277 deer, rabbits, fox, skunks

278 deer

ResponseID Response

280 Deer

282 bear, deer, birds

284 Small mammals, birds, fish, insects, deer

285 All

286 none

294 Owls, raptors, reptiles, and amphibians

298 small animals and birds, flowers, mushrooms

300 Deer birds squirrel

301 deer

308 Deer coyotes fox racoon fisherman's bears

309 deer, squirrels, birds, owls

313 Deer, small mammals, birds (some uncommon)

317 Insects, invertebrates, small mammals

322 Deer bear fox birds

325 deer

327 Deer, fox, coyote, raptors, woodcock, turkey

329 Bear, deer, rabbits, a variety of birds inowls

332 birds

337 deer, squirrels, other ground critters

340 thrush, bobcat, bear, deer, owls, fox, fisher cat

354 Don't know whats there but leave wildlife alone

356 Deer/ birds

360 deer, birds, fox, coyote, fisher, squirrels

361 Fisher cat, deer, skunk, birds, chipmunks squirrel

ResponseID Response

372 Bear, deer, fishers, fox, coyote, owls, rabbits

374 Deer, coyote, bears, fishers. All types of birds.

380 Who wrote this survey?

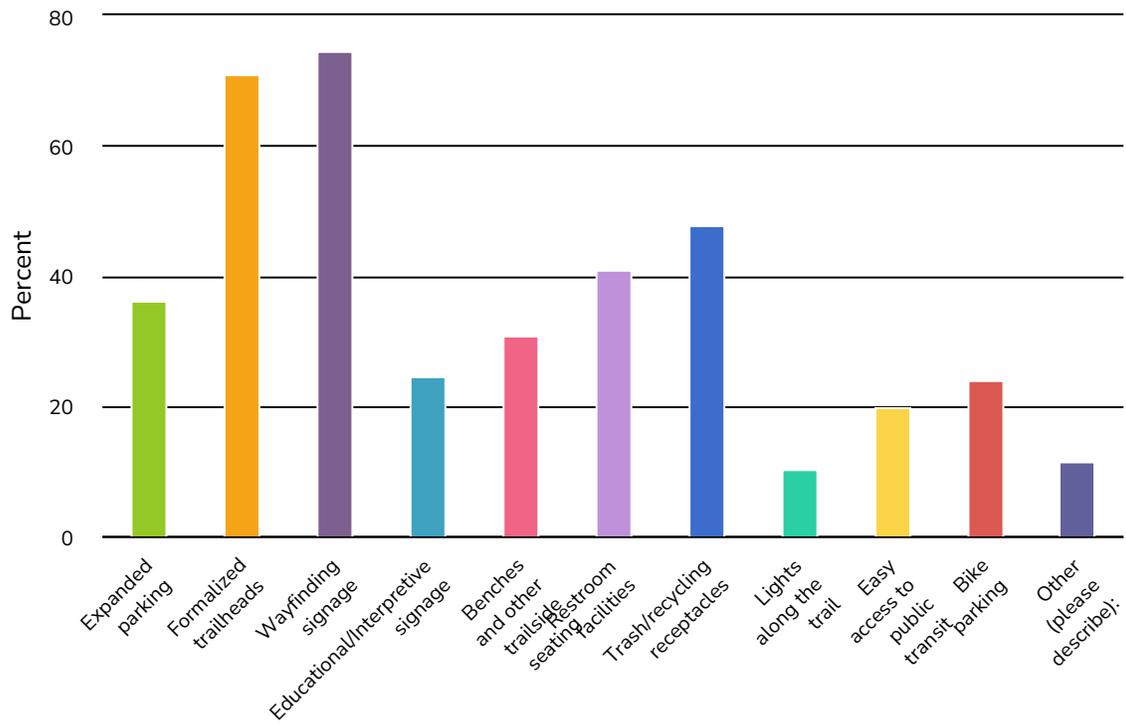
382 deer

384 Deer, bears, birds, Fishers, small mammals

33. How important are the following factors when developing a multi-use trail network within the Keystone Project Area? Select the answer that represents your feelings about the potential factor.

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Neutral	Moderately important	Very important	Responses
Recreation value Count Row %	3 2.0%	3 2.0%	4 2.6%	21 13.9%	120 79.5%	151
Habitat preservation and wildlife connectivity Count Row %	1 0.7%	2 1.3%	9 6.0%	53 35.6%	84 56.4%	149
Commuting/active transportation value (to work, school, or other locations of interest) Count Row %	12 7.9%	17 11.3%	33 21.9%	46 30.5%	43 28.5%	151
Education (e.g., interpretive signage, wildlife identification, cultural/historical information) Count Row %	12 7.9%	19 12.6%	45 29.8%	59 39.1%	16 10.6%	151
Totals Total Responses						151

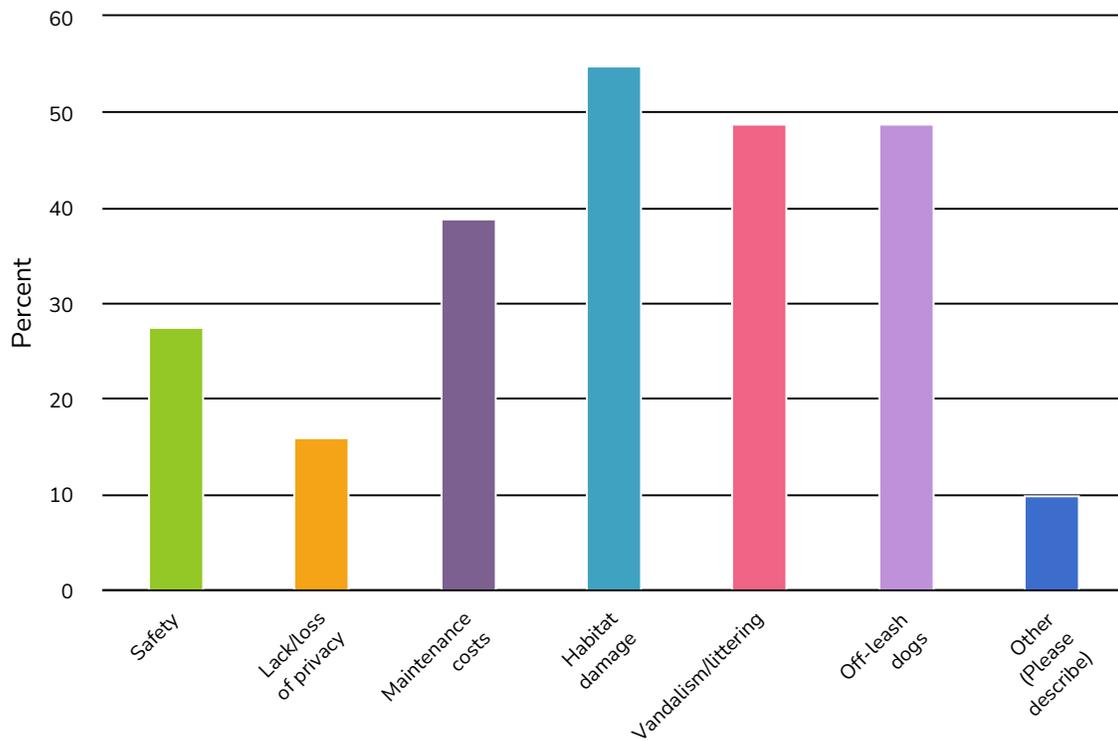
34. What amenities would you like to see developed to support the Envisioned Trail Network in the Keystone Project Area? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Expanded parking	36.3%	53
Formalized trailheads	71.2%	104
Wayfinding signage	74.7%	109
Educational/Interpretive signage	24.7%	36
Benches and other trailside seating	30.8%	45
Restroom facilities	41.1%	60
Trash/recycling receptacles	47.9%	70
Lights along the trail	10.3%	15
Easy access to public transit	19.9%	29
Bike parking	24.0%	35
Other (please describe):	11.6%	17

Other (please describe):	Count
Bicycle repair station with tools	1
Dog walking resources (poop bags, trash).	1
Dogs welcome	1
Groomed XC ski trails	1
Leash requirement signs, poop bags dispensers, flat gravel terrain, benches, way finding signs	1
Leave it alone	1
Leave it in trampled and trash free	1
Parking can be shared with places like schools, unless needed	1
Trash/recycling at the trailheads only	1
bridges at some spots	1
camping, lighting for paved sections	1
none!	1
plow all sidewalks!!!!	1
restaurants/breweries near biking trails	1
signage for dog leashing and private property	1
signage to pick up after your dog, dog bags and trash cans	1
some wheelchair accessible trails	1
Totals	17

35. What concerns do you have about the development of a multi-use trail network within the Keystone Project Area? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Safety	27.5%	36
Lack/loss of privacy	16.0%	21
Maintenance costs	38.9%	51
Habitat damage	55.0%	72
Vandalism/littering	48.9%	64
Off-leash dogs	48.9%	64
Other (Please describe)	9.9%	13

Other (Please describe)	Count
lack of respect for the beautiful area	1
I like the current trail system because it is quiet, undeveloped, and low traffic. I am VERY much against further development of this area!	1
I want to just extra emphasize the problem of off lease dogs and people not cleaning up after dogs	1
Lack of cohesion and general awareness	1
Lack of connectivity to Lower Sandhill Road which desperately needs multimodal infrastructure	1
Not allowing off leash dogs	1
Overuse / crowding	1
Separate trails for pedestrians and bikers. It is dangerous for both to be on the same trails.	1
bikes on walking trails	1
concerns that dogs wont be welcome, we want dogs	1
none	1
not connecting enough neighborhoods	1
some trails on the map are on private property	1
Totals	13

36. The Envisioned Trail Network in the Keystone Project Area currently does not have a name – if you have a suggestion for what the area should be named, please enter it here.

ResponseID	Response
21	Town connector
84	Indifferent to this project, too many risks
94	Essex Healthy Community Trail Network
104	Essex Trail System or ETS
106	Experience Essex Recreation Area
115	Essex Town Trails
117	Concerned Keystone is inappropriate. Consider special attributes of the trail for names- i.e. Larch
123	Essex Town Trails or Town Loops
132	Centerwoods Trail Network
141	Essex Town Forest
145	The Alder Brook Trail Network
149	Essex Etc. (Essex Trails Connected)
153	Hemlock Hollow
160	Alder Brook Trail Network
172	Town Center Trails
177	Saxon woodlands? ldk.
186	The Saxon experience
203	Essex connector
214	Essex Woods
235	Sand Hill Trails
238	Saxon Hill

ResponseID Response

239 Essex Town Bike and Nature Trails

243 Essex Natural Recreation Center

246 Tmakwa- Abenaki for beaver who builds community -but ask Chief Brenda Gagne for her thoughts!!

253 Chittenden County recreation trails

280 Abenaki Way

284 Essex Core Trail Network, possibly Applecore, but that might be too cutesy

289 Velosiped

317 Suburbia tramples the earth

337 do not name it after a person

349 Essex Connector Trails

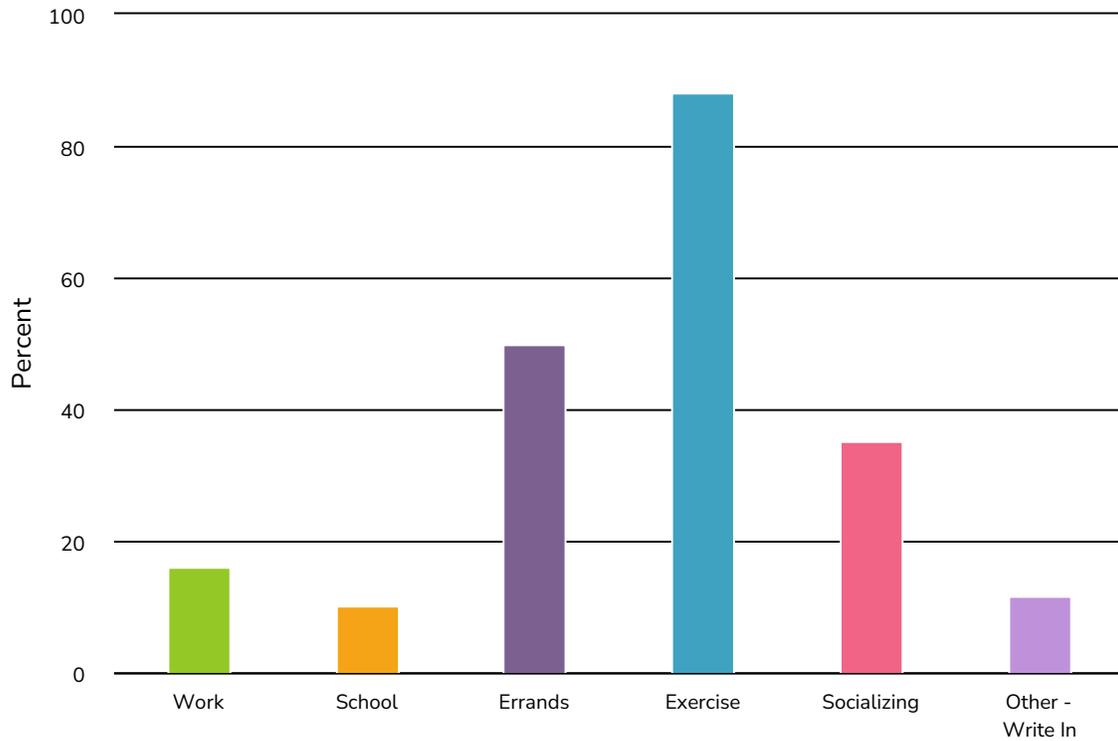
356 Essex Connection

370 EssexConnex

372 Essex center Trails

380 Suburbia

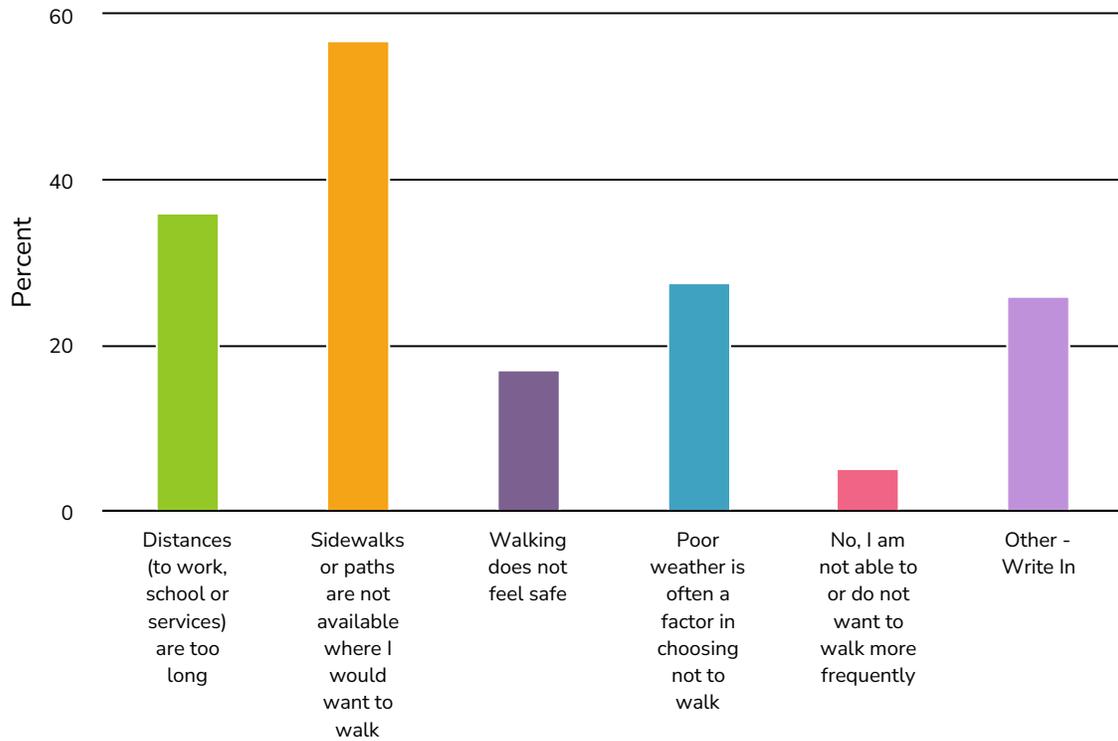
37. Do you walk or travel with the assistance of a mobility device in town for any of the following purposes:



Value	Percent	Responses
Work	16.2%	11
School	10.3%	7
Errands	50.0%	34
Exercise	88.2%	60
Socializing	35.3%	24
Other - Write In	11.8%	8

Other - Write In	Count
dog walking	2
I walk without assistance	1
Running, soon kayaking on the winooski with foldable kayaks	1
Wasn't sure of the question,I walk but do not need assistance.	1
children - strollers	1
no	1
shopping, going to dentist, bank	1
Totals	8

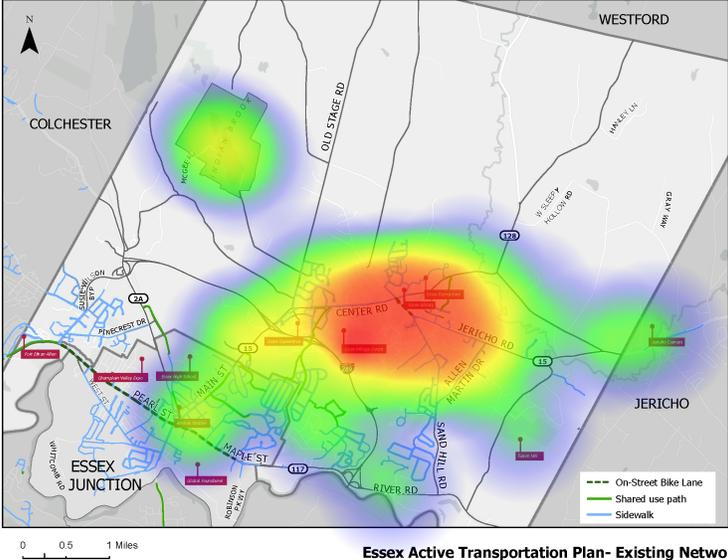
38. If you do not walk or travel with the assistance of a mobility device in town, what prevents you from doing so? (check all that apply)



Value	Percent	Responses
Distances (to work, school or services) are too long	36.2%	21
Sidewalks or paths are not available where I would want to walk	56.9%	33
Walking does not feel safe	17.2%	10
Poor weather is often a factor in choosing not to walk	27.6%	16
No, I am not able to or do not want to walk more frequently	5.2%	3
Other - Write In	25.9%	15

Other - Write In	Count
Absolute discriminatory due to lack of bike/ pedestrian path from largest neighborhood in Essex off Lower Sandhill Road! Extremely dangerous for kids who want to bike to school from Lower Sandhill homes!	1
Disjointed network and traffic	1
Don't need mobility device	1
I don't have the time, driving is faster	1
I don't live in essex	1
I don't use a mobility device. Maybe I'm not understanding your question?	1
I have no need to visit/dine/shop in Essex. I work there but that is it.	1
I live in fairfax	1
Missing sidewalks is a huge barrier.	1
NA	1
if icy	1
n/A	1
sidewalks and such ARE NOT PLOWED!	1
sidewalks are covered with ice, roads are too dangerous to walk along	1
trafiic	1
Totals	15

39. Can you provide specific locations where, if there were improvements, you might choose to walk or travel with the assistance of a mobility device? Provide up to three locations by clicking on the map.



Essex Active Transportation Plan- Existing Network

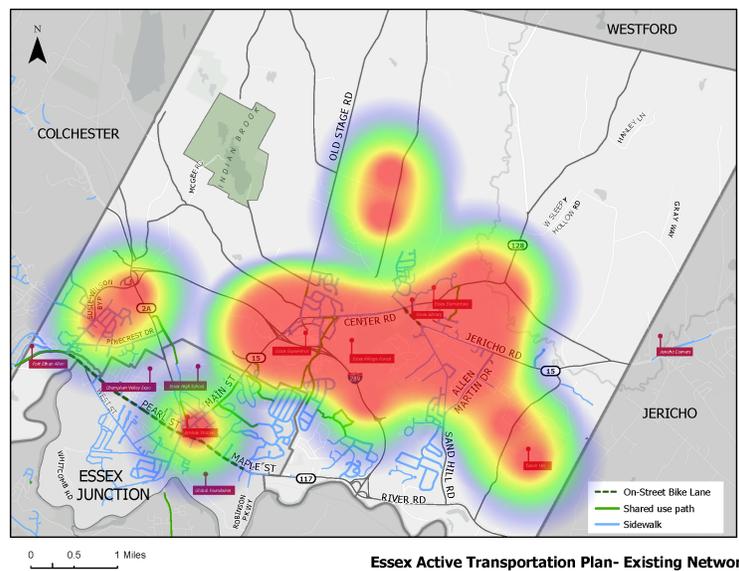
Value	Count	Comment
Location 1	34	36

ID	Option	Comment
85		
96		This part of the survey does not work on my phone: Town Forest, Library, Essex Elem
103		
108		
109		
112		
141		

ID Option Comment

145		Indian Brook
148		
174		Allen Martin Drive sidewalks are terrible and not maintained in winter.
177		
195		too much traffic. Can't cross street.
203		There is sidewalks missing on route 15 between sandhill rd and Allen Martin. It would be great to have access to the businesses and Saxon hill trails via bike or running with side walks the whole way. Also the side walk along Allen Martin needs to be maintained.
214		
223		Where I live
225		
230		
236		
239		Center road is downright hostile. High traffic speed, not enough crossings, narrow shoulders, sidewalks interrupted by business entrances.
246		I would like a link between Pinewood Manor and EMS back woods
247		
253		
268		Connecting to Jericho
273		
276		
277		Bike path along rt 15 west of 289 into Essex Junction

ID	Option	Comment
282		
289		
298		
313		Off-road / separated paths near VT-15 would feel safer / more pleasant than along VT-15
325		
327		
334		
362		



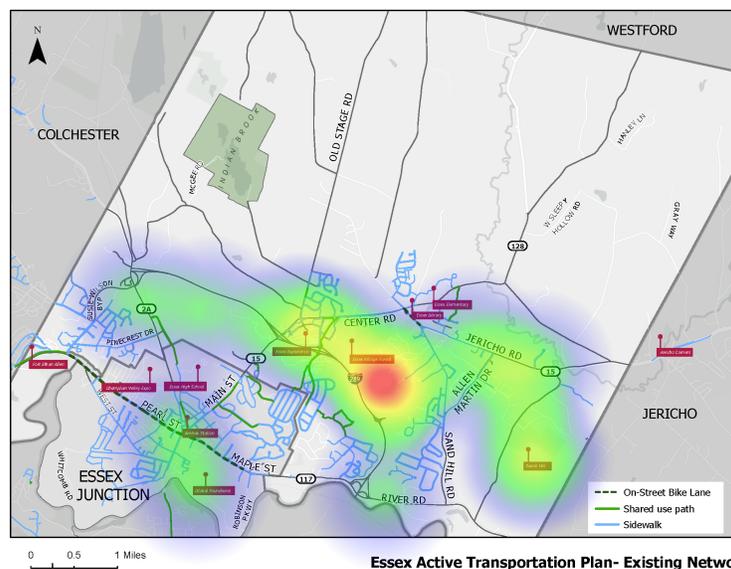
Value	Count	Comment
 Location 2	28	 36

ID	Option	Comment
103		

ID Option Comment

108		
109		
112		
141		
145		Chapin Orchard
148		
195		Too difficult crossing over highway. Traffic dangerous for walkers.
223		Where I work
225		
230		
239		I suspect it's not the town's decision, but the little path connecting Hannaford to the Thai restaurant shows what could be. A few new curb cuts and some marked crossings would make it easy to get from the bike path behind Phoenix to Hannaford to Black Flannel, to the Cinemas, and then back to the bike path.
246		2A is too dangerous to bike or walk so Susie Wilson destinations must be driven to.
247		
253		
268		Staying off Route 15 when traveling from Jericho to Essex
273		
276		
278		
278		

ID	Option	Comment
282		
298		
313		Maintain / upgrade existing sidewalks along Sand Hill Rd & Allen Martin Dr
325		
334		
362		
368		
368		

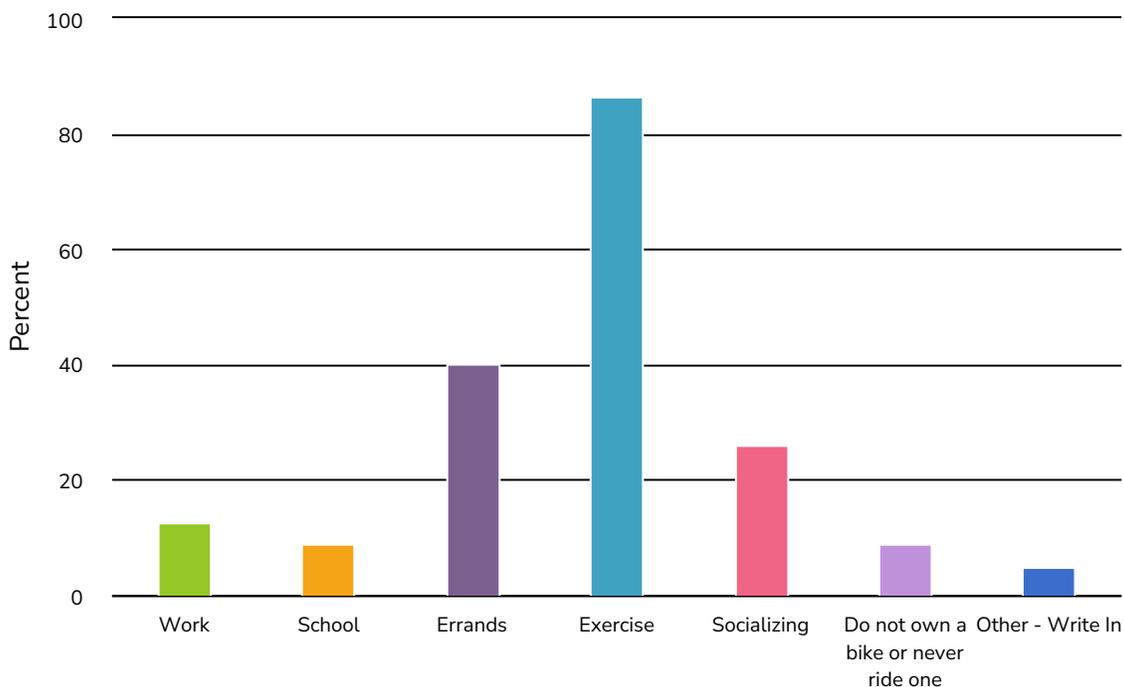


Value	Count	Comment
 Location 3	16	 36

ID Option Comment

103		
112		
145		Essex Middle School
148		
203		Same as previous comments.
223		Where I mountain bike - Saxon Hill
225		
230		
246		Widening Rt 117 and designating a bike lane/ separate bike path so that bicyclists can safely ride along it.
253		
278		
282		
298		
334		
362		
368		

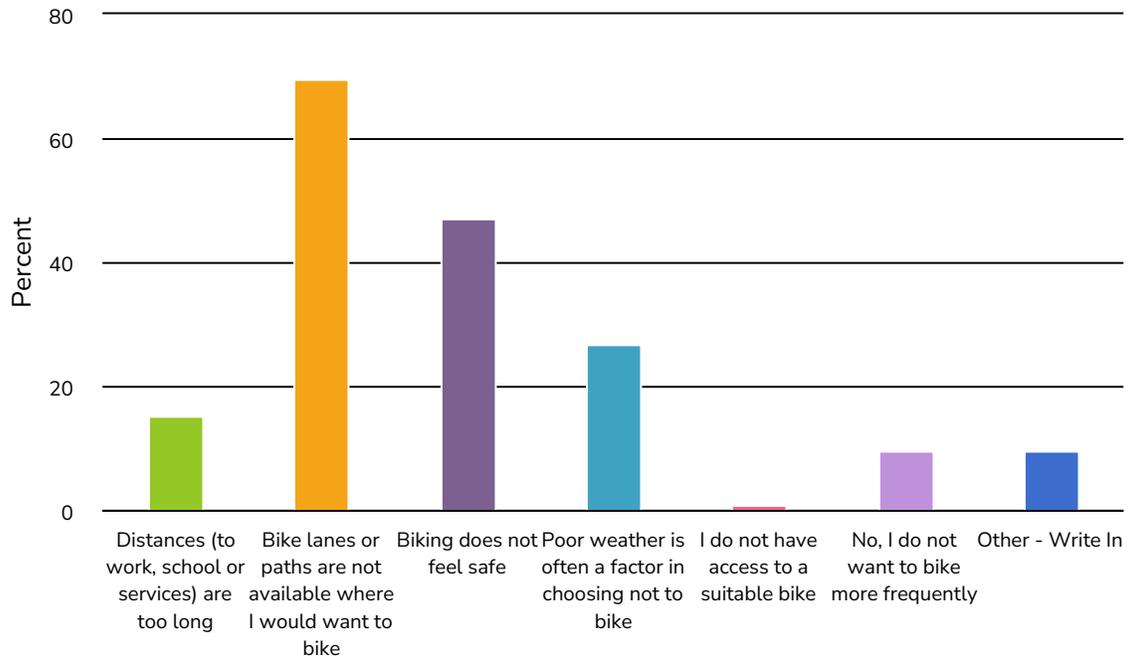
40. Do you bike in town for any of the following purposes:



Value	Percent	Responses
Work	12.6%	15
School	9.2%	11
Errands	40.3%	48
Exercise	86.6%	103
Socializing	26.1%	31
Do not own a bike or never ride one	9.2%	11
Other - Write In	5.0%	6

Other - Write In	Count
Bike to Paul Mazza's for veggies	1
Do not like to bike in areas with motorized vehicles	1
I don't feel comfortable road biking, so even though I love mountain biking, I don't bike on roads in Essex.	1
I only bike in the Saxon Hill trail network	1
dentist appointments, banking, shopping, buying food/restaurants	1
my only way to get around	1
Totals	6

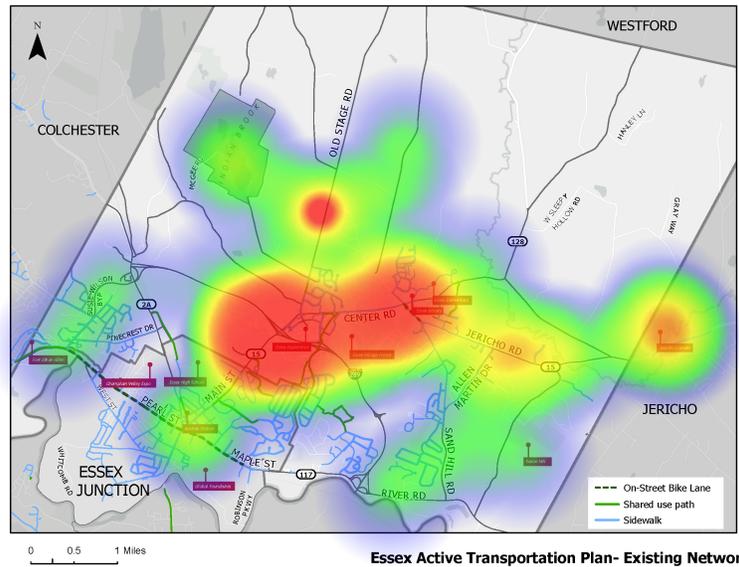
41. Do any of the following prevent you from biking more frequently?
(check all that apply)



Value	Percent	Responses
Distances (to work, school or services) are too long	15.2%	17
Bike lanes or paths are not available where I would want to bike	69.6%	78
Biking does not feel safe	47.3%	53
Poor weather is often a factor in choosing not to bike	26.8%	30
I do not have access to a suitable bike	0.9%	1
No, I do not want to bike more frequently	9.8%	11
Other - Write In	9.8%	11

Other - Write In	Count
Connections	1
I don't feel safe biking on the road, so I drive to the MTB trail	1
It's general poor manners to bike on mtb trails after rain	1
New and exciting trails	1
Not so much poor as too cold. Riding on 15 to Sandhill is hairy scary.	1
Off lease dogs and disrespectful dog owners	1
On the next question, I wouldn't bike in any new locations if there were improvements, since I live in Williston and I'm not willing to bike from Williston to Essex.	1
Trailhead is overflowing and trails are crowded	1
no bike racks at businesses, the post office	1
nothing	1
too many cars!	1
Totals	11

42. Can you provide specific locations where, if there were improvements, you might choose to bike? Provide up to three locations by clicking on the map.



Value	Count	Comment
Location 1	50	53

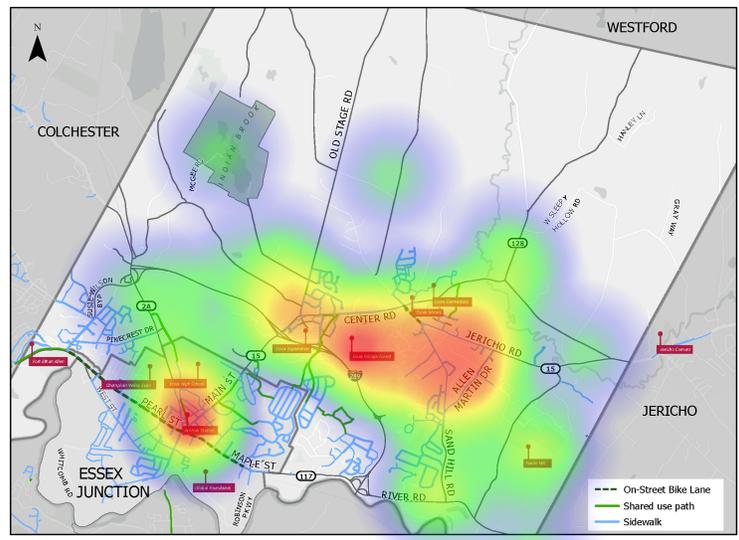
ID	Option	Comment
78		Would love to see a biking/walking path that links Meadow's Edge or Bixby Hill Road to Chapin Farm Road (Towers Road has cars that drive too fast and too close to the edge of the road for comfort!).
85		
87		
94		Clicking did not work. Essex Free Library, ADL, Market 32
103		
108		
109		

ID	Option	Comment
113		I live on Lost Nation Road - so biking to Old Stage in order to cross Rt 15 to get to the Essex Experience doesn't feel safe, particularly with young kids.
117		The 4 corners is busy and tight for biking. Feels very unsafe when I ride along 15 despite the tiny bike lane. Too scary too often.
123		
145		Indian Brook
148		
153		
172		Bike path ends, lots of traffic
173		Need bike lanes or preferably bike paths along route 15 between Essex jct and Essex. And Essex and westford
174		Sidewalks on Allen Martin and Thompson are not in good shape and are unmaintained. That means nobody will park further from the trailhead and commute in to ride Saxon Hill trails. That, in turn, means the trailhead parking is always overflowing.
177		Having a hard time with this. Connecting Essex experience to sandhill and Saxon would be awesome. I live near 5 corners and we could cycle.
191		Old Stage road makes important connections for gravel/road riding and could use wider/improved shoulders.
192		
196		
203		Side walk/ bike path is not sufficient to cross over th over pass into the village, especially with children in tow. A wider continuous sidewalk would be great.
208		
223		Where I live
225		

ID Option Comment

230		
236		
239		Mini golf! Also the Lang Farm shops.
246		I'm just now finding out there is a wooded area here?
250		
253		
258		
268		Staying off Rt 15 of having bicycle infrastructure to make it safe
273		
276		
277		Bike path along rt 15 west of 289.
278		
284		Essex Library--I'd like to safely bike from Essex Library to Chapin rd, but the shoulder is too narrow (leads to a sharp ditch) to feel like I have an exit when a car comes
298		
301		
309		
313		Off-road paths near VT-15 would be safer / more pleasant due to traffic
325		
331		

ID	Option	Comment
334		
349		Susie Wilson bypass
356		
362		
368		
382		A way to bike to Winooski and Burlington would be great. Right now, there are not very good alternatives for a route. Also, a better way to bike from Essex to Williston would be good.
384		



Essex Active Transportation Plan- Existing Network

Value	Count	Comment
 Location 2	36	 53

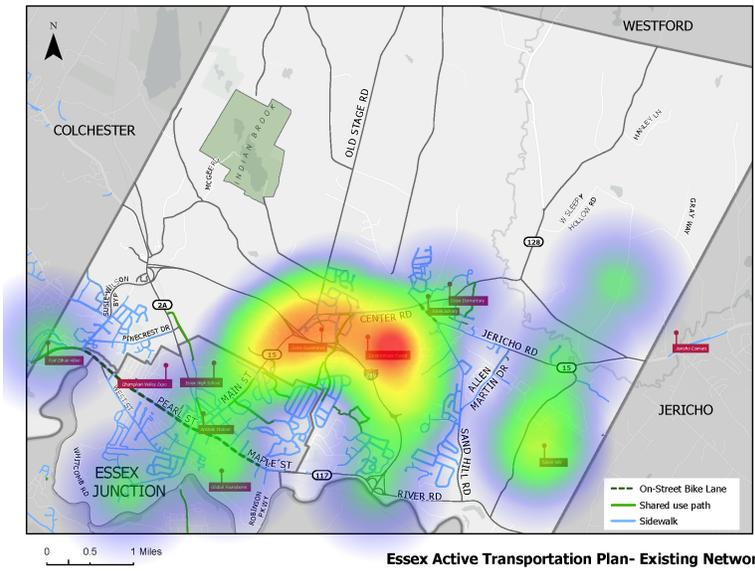
ID	Option	Comment
81		Saxon Hill is difficult to get to safely.

ID Option Comment

84		No choice on map for lower Sandhill Road!
85		
87		
103		
108		
109		
117		Same here. No good safe way to ride here along River Road and down Sandhill. Scary.
123		
145		Chapin Orchards
148		
172		No bike infrastructure
192		
214		
223		Where I work. So far I haven't found a path that avoids VT-15, but it would be awesome if there was a path.
225		
230		
236		
246		I want to be able to cross 289 from Pinewood Manor to get to the EMS side
250		

ID Option Comment

253		
258		
258		
273		
276		
278		
298		
301		
309		
313		Maintain / upgrade existing sidewalks / paths on Sand Hill Rd & Allen Martin Dr
325		
331		
334		
362		
368		
382		A way to bike through Essex from Colchester to connect with Westford is desirable. Rte 15 and 2A have too much traffic and do not feel safe.



Essex Active Transportation Plan- Existing Network

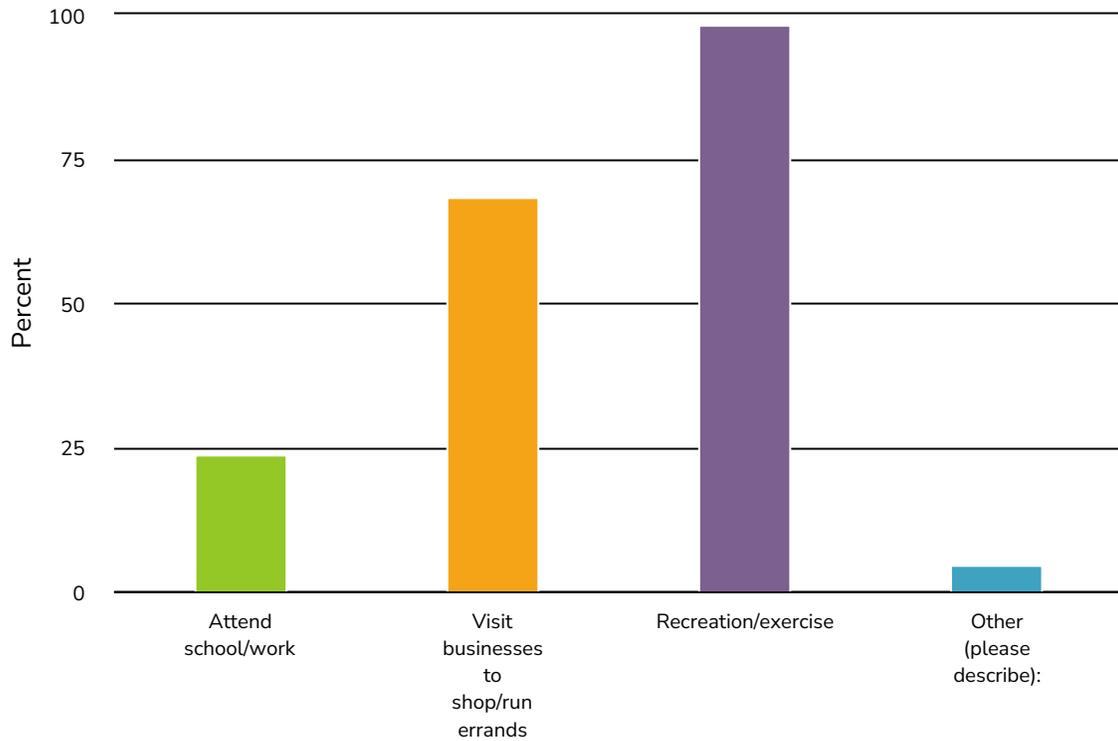
Value	Count	Comment
Location 3	21	53

ID	Option	Comment
87		
103		
117		Very scary. This is most direct route to get to Essex Junction but I use back roads to get to the city as that section of 15 is way too narrow and cars and big trucks going too fast too often. It bums me out as would prefer this to the round about way thru brickyard from Lang Golf path which also gets very dark at night with no lights. Also very hard to cross from our side of 15 to the north side to connect to path.
123		
145		Essex Middle School
148		
172		I'd really like to be able to bike from Winooski all the way to Saxon Hill and back and feel safe
192		
225		

ID Option Comment

230		
236		
253		
258		
278		
301		
313		Add bike lane or path along VT-117 to Sand Hill Rd (or at least Greenfield Rd)
331		
356		
356		
362		
368		

43. If the Town developed a more complete active transportation network, what purposes would you utilize it for? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Attend school/work	23.8%	30
Visit businesses to shop/run errands	68.3%	86
Recreation/exercise	98.4%	124
Other (please describe):	4.8%	6

Other (please describe):	Count
---------------------------------	--------------

Bike to Richmond to access Route 2 and businesses there.	1
--	---

Connect to my Essex Jct family and friends	1
--	---

Pick child up from school	1
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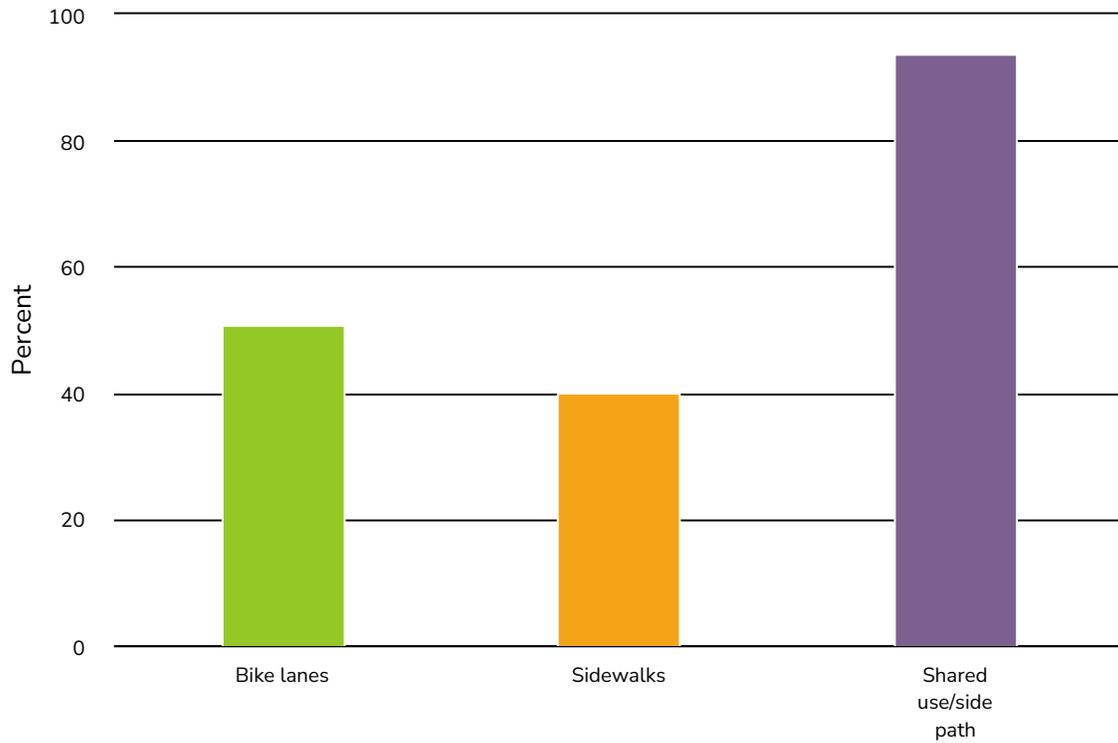
access parks, library	1
-----------------------	---

socialize, attend events	1
--------------------------	---

visit people	1
--------------	---

Totals	6
--------	---

44. What types of on-road connections would you like to see developed in the town? Select all that apply.



Value	Percent	Responses
Bike lanes	50.8%	67
Sidewalks	40.2%	53
Shared use/side path	93.9%	124

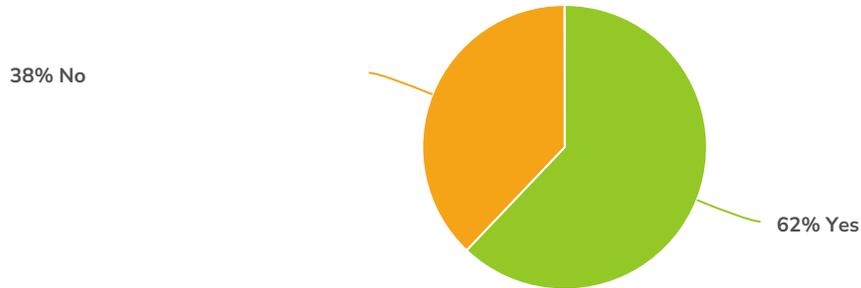
45. If an expanded active transportation network were to be developed in town, what types of summer activities would you envision it hosting?
 Select an answer that represents your feelings about the activity.

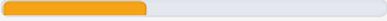
	Not at all important	Slightly important	Neutral	Moderately important	Very important	Responses
Walking/Running Count Row %	5 3.8%	4 3.0%	4 3.0%	37 27.8%	83 62.4%	133
Cycling (e.g., road/gravel/commuting cycling) Count Row %	5 3.8%	0 0.0%	8 6.0%	39 29.3%	81 60.9%	133
Skating/scootering Count Row %	40 32.0%	15 12.0%	37 29.6%	21 16.8%	12 9.6%	125
Totals Total Responses						133

46. If an expanded active transportation network were to be developed in town, what types of winter activities would you envision it hosting? Select an answer that represents your feelings about the activity.

	Not at all important	Slightly important	Neutral	Moderately important	Very important	Responses
Walking, running, or biking on a plowed path Count Row %	8 6.2%	6 4.6%	12 9.2%	30 23.1%	74 56.9%	130
Fat biking on groomed snow Count Row %	28 22.6%	8 6.5%	29 23.4%	29 23.4%	30 24.2%	124
Cross country skiing on groomed snow Count Row %	13 10.3%	8 6.3%	20 15.9%	41 32.5%	44 34.9%	126
Snowshoeing Count Row %	12 9.6%	13 10.4%	21 16.8%	51 40.8%	28 22.4%	125
I would not use the active transportation network in the winter Count Row %	34 47.9%	4 5.6%	27 38.0%	2 2.8%	4 5.6%	71
Totals Total Responses						130

47. We plan to host another survey to review the public's thoughts on active transportation and trail design options in Winter/Spring 2024. Would you like to receive an email notification about the upcoming survey?



Value	Percent	Responses
Yes	62.1% 	82
No	37.9% 	50

Totals: 132

49. Are there any other thoughts, concerns, or comments you'd like to share about our parks, outdoor recreation, or active transportation in our community?

ResponseID	Response
21	We moved from the city where we biked everywhere, with more space and less lights it should be very doable for Essex to put priority on non-car use!
78	Please facilitate safe pedestrian traffic across Routes 15 and 128 near Essex Center! Thank you
81	Please put some thought into the snowmobile access
84	Take care of what you have for failing infrastructure that we tax payers pay for. It's crumbling or non existent for very active existing neighborhoods here. Thank you!
94	Thank you for working on this. I love to use my bike for errands but don't feel safe on the busy streets.
96	Concerned about missing/damaged footbridges on the trails behind Sandhill Park, and also the damaged footbridge over Brown's River behind Trowbridge Estates - I don't always mind the challenge, but it is hazardous/dealbreaking for those with mobility issues. Also very concerned about safe routes across rt15 - the only crosswalk is at the library, BUT the sidewalk switches to the other side of the street at St Pius, so I'm jaywalking either way. I'll take my chances crossing 15, but it's very unsafe for children and the elderly, who deserve full and protected access to the community
98	more public information on volunteering for trails
104	Spread out parking for bike trails so they are not all parking at Thompson Drive and Saxon Hill Road
106	Plow all sidewalks!
109	I'm thrilled to see these projects going forward!
112	I drive to So. Burlington every week to access the bike paths for walking and biking and would love to have similar ones here
113	Sometimes, the sidewalks/paths that ARE currently in town aren't even plowed/cleared after a snowfall making it very challenging to make use of the areas available currently.
116	Dogs are a problem everywhere

ResponseID Response

- 117 Too much diesel distribution/construction trucks added to 15 due to Saxon Hill warehouse distribution builds. Need to downzone the RPD-I to eliminate adding more as it is not industrial but it is being treated like it is. Not close enough to interstate for distribution businesses to be housed in there. Overall, it is bad for our economy and town.
- 137 Currently, most access points do not have parking, visitors park on lawns and trespass on private property, this should be addressed
- 141 It would be wonderful to have a connection to the trail network at/near the 289 intersection with Essex Way (near the movie theater).
- 153 As an avid mountain biker, I think recreational mountain biking should be kept at Saxon Hill and the area west of Sandhill Rd should be reserved for walking/nature experiences and cycling only as a means of getting to/from shopping centers. User overlap could lead to conflicts, I think it's best to give each user group their own space. Also, we don't need more MTB trails, we need more maintenance & improvement on our existing MTB trails.
- 154 Cycling opportunities are most interesting to me.
- 157 I think this is a great idea worth exploring more
- 160 We've used these trails for recreation for many years and it would be great to see some improvements especially transitions between trail sections (ex: Sand Hill Park trails and Tanglewood Dr trails, etc.). Would also be in favor of preserving/improving Alder Brook stream conditions.
- 161 The area is seriously lacking options for getting anywhere without a car. Multi-use trails connecting Essex, Jericho, Underhill etc would be amazing
- 174 You have to give people a reason to want to travel in Essex before giving people paths to travel on. You could have gold-plated sidewalks in town, but if people don't want to be there it's a waste of time and resources.
- 175 Really can't complain as Saxon hill is a great MTB location, but expanded trails would be awesome as there is so much wooded area. The bike path in Essex needs completion though there are point where it drops to sidewalks where it should be complete. It also drops off at Sunset Drive while it should continue to all three schools in Essex Center and to Saxon Hill.
- 177 Thank you so much for this initiative, I feel like it is the perfect compliment to the expansion that we have seen in Essex. I also feel like we could have a trail system rivaling Kingdom trails, but on public and .:)
- 196 This is a super exciting project! Best of luck. I live in Williston and often come to Saxon Hill to mountain bike and fat bike. I love the idea of more trails and connectivity for biking/skiing/walking for fun and for utility (work,school,shopping,etc.)

ResponseID Response

203	I love that this is being developed! I see essex as a unique community where there is a place for all ages. From young families to aging adults. Having recreation paths and cohesive walking/biking options will only increase the health and vibrancy of our town. It will also spur more economic growth!!!
206	The town should continue to buy large parcels of land to use for recreation and wildlife. Development should be focused in areas that are already broken into smaller more fragmented parcels.
214	Set the stage for future long distance recreational trail connectivity with other networks even outside of Essex
221	Thank you for taking on this great idea and create more paths.
223	This is great!
235	I think the trails in Essex behind the middle school / neighborhood on Saxon Hill Rd should be kept for hiking/walking. I think they would definitely benefit from more signage. It's nice to have a hiking area separate from biking. Saxon Hill should be where the biking is. Maybe a single double track to connect the neighborhood to the middle school for kids to bike on would be okay, but definitely do not want lots of single track flow trails in the woods behind the middle school. I am a "serious" mountain biker and I ride Saxon alot. I stronger feel that bikes should be at saxon and the other trails should be for walkers.
238	work with FOTW please
239	How old is this survey?
246	I hate that some parks were clear cut. They offer zero shade to people who want to enjoy their time relaxing, picnicking and watching over their kids
250	grateful for what we have, a few small improvements would work wonders
253	encouraging outdoor exercise is a fantastic idea.
258	This is exciting!
260	Check out Road Guy Rob on YouTube and his features on Carmel Indiana. Also looking a Bentonville Arkansas for inspiration on trail network development.
273	These plans are not considering all of the residences along route 15, with no safe sidewalks, crosswalks, etc. The current map says there is sidewalk on Route 15 which is inaccurate from Essex Library to Jericho.
276	The lack of safe pedestrian routes along VT15 from west of Allen Martin to the Jericho line is a SIGNIFICANT gap in the network

ResponseID Response

282	I would like to see some of the existing single-use areas preserved (ie. the trails behind 289 are generally walking only, while Saxon Hill is more bike-focused). I prefer multi-use paths along the roads, whereas I prefer rugged trails with signage in the woods.
284	Connecting the trails in the outer areas (Chapin Rd for me), would be essential to my increased use of the trail network. Having to drive to a trail is a major drawback.
287	Making sure there are trails that challenge all bikers
313	Keep Keystone networks natural, avoid overuse. Provide shared use paths along major routes. Make smart, efficient investments.
317	Fix our aging parks with adequate parking
325	need short cut from the Essex Outlets to Sand Hill Park
329	I would urge the inclusion of the Joseph Lane/Thomas Lane neighborhoods in both planning projects as well as the neighborhood on the other side of R128 (I don't recall the name
334	I REALLY wish there were some porta poties or restrooms for those of us who run or walk at very early times of day or in areas where there are no business.
356	Trails make Essex a desirable place to buy a home and brings people in community together.
360	Further development of the town forest trail system will increase traffic and damage the ecosystem. I am VERY much against it!
361	Please keep the natural areas safe for the wildlife
382	Please think about connecting to other towns. It would be great to work with other towns on this.