

Seattle Department of Transportation

MLK Protected Bike Lane

November drop-in session
feedback summary



Seattle
Department of
Transportation

PROJECT AND OUTREACH BACKGROUND

The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) is building a protected bike lane on each side of Martin Luther King Jr Way S, between the Judkins Park and Mt Baker Link light rail stations (S Judkins St to Rainier Ave S). The bike lane is intended to connect people to transit and schools and improve safety for people who walk, bike, and drive on MLK.

The following pages summarize the feedback, ideas, and questions gathered in November 2020 during a drop-in session where SDOT discussed early design plans along the section of MLK Jr. Way S between Rainier Ave S and S Judkins St.

Online Early Design Drop-in Session	Online Survey
Tuesday, November 17 6-7:30 PM	Open from November 9th – 20th

Proposed project elements along Martin Luther King Jr Way S include:

- Protected bike lanes on both sides of MLK
- Rechannelization to create safer and streamlined conditions for all road users
- Changes to parking to support bike lane installation while providing access to local businesses
- New roadway paint to improve safety conditions for bikes
- Safer conditions for pedestrians, including widened sidewalks and crosswalks

NOTIFICATIONS

- 2,984 mailers sent to notify SE Seattle residents, property and business owners of the drop-in session and online survey
- Emails to the MLK Protected Bike Lane project listserv and relevant stakeholders
- Information on the project website
- Phone interviews with stakeholders in SE Seattle

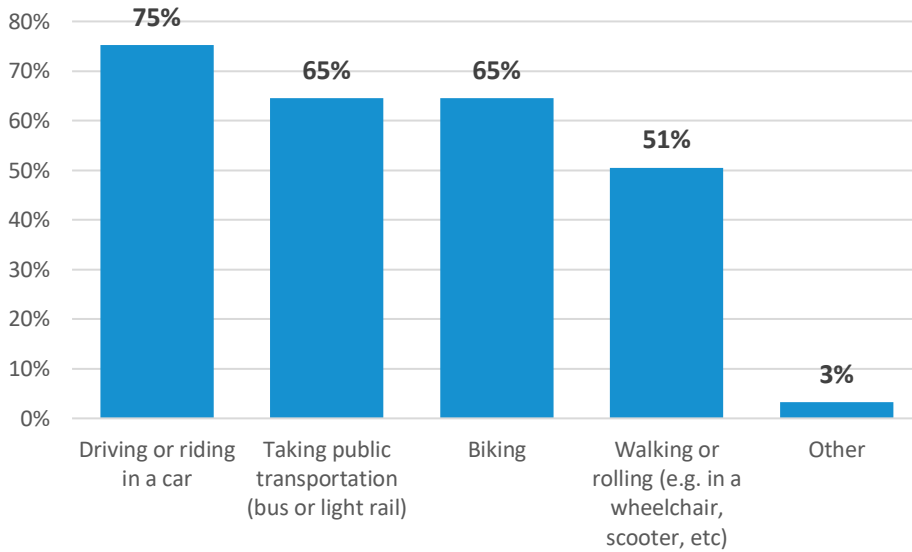
DESIGN OUTREACH-BY-THE-NUMBERS

Overall, we received nearly **100 participants** at the November online drop-in session and through the online survey. This report summarizes the survey responses we received in November 2020. Free responses are summarized into topics and themes.

OVERVIEW OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED

Key issues and concerns gathered during the drop-in session and online survey include:

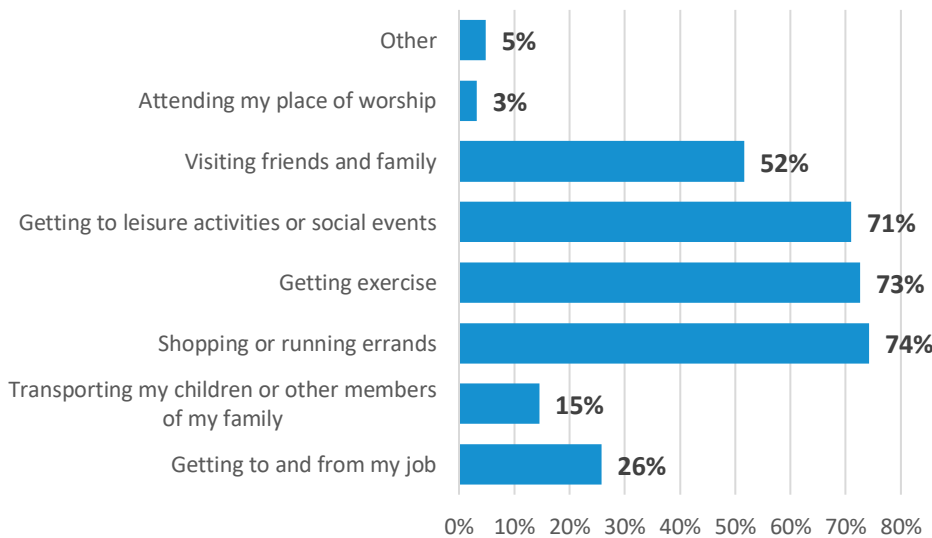
How do you travel along MLK Way S in the project area? (Select all that apply)



Write-in choices for “Other”:

- Jogging
- I avoid MLK because I feel it is unsafe

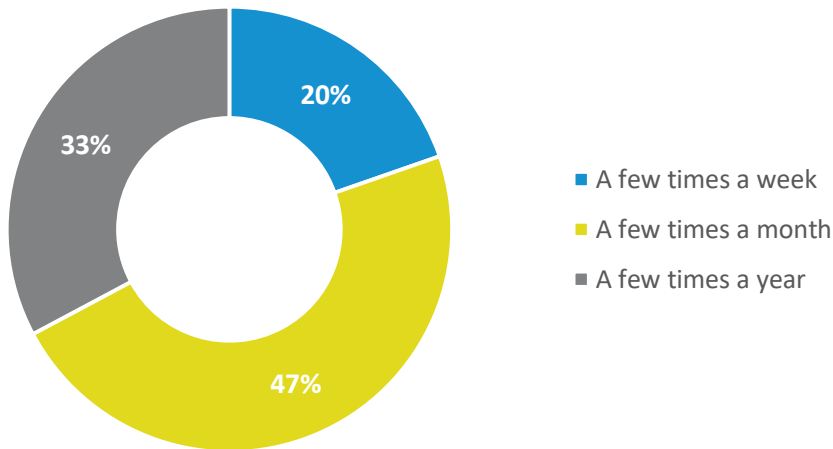
For what purposes do you bike in and through MLK Way S in the project area? (Select all that apply)



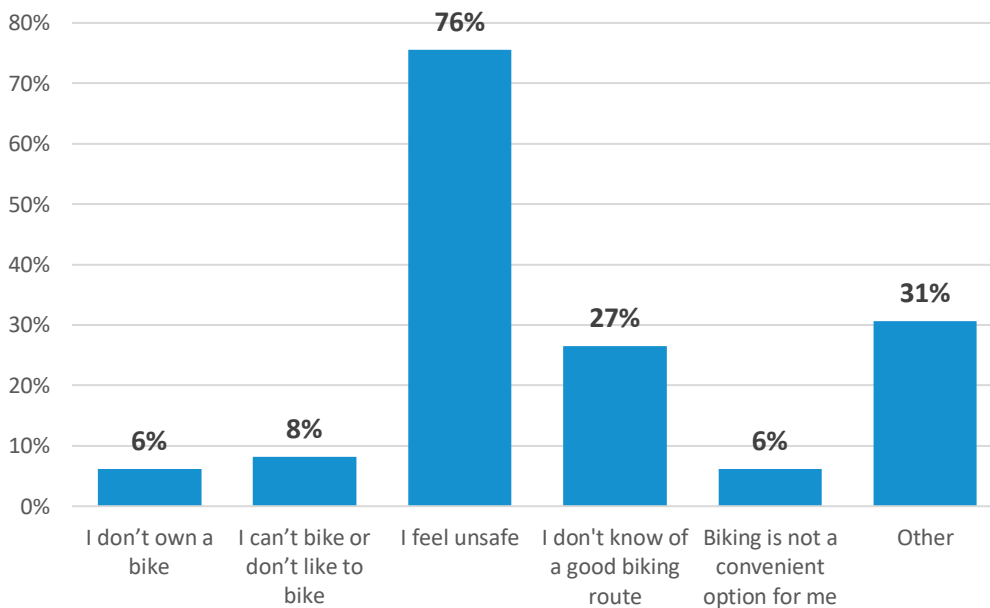
Write-in choices for “Other”:

- Accessing the light rail
- I do not bike through MLK Way S as I feel it is dangerous

How often do you ride your bike in and through MLK Way S in the project area?



If you do not bike in and through MLK Way in the project area, tell us more about why you don't. (Select all that apply)



Write-in choices for “Other”:

- There are better alternative routes
- I feel unsafe
- Poor connections with other bike facilities

Is there anything you’d like to share about the Accessible Mt Baker proposed walking/biking improvements?

- Please implement these changes as quick as possible; the intersection is very unsafe
- Speeding is a major concern; more traffic calming measures are needed
- Pedestrian improvements and safety measures, such as flashing lights and longer crossing times, are needed
- Protected intersections for bikes and concrete bike lane dividers would be good additions
- Too many cars turn on red onto MLK
- The pedestrian bridge is difficult to navigate, especially for bikers and those leaving the light rail station
- Crime is a concern in this area
- The improvements may cause traffic backups (which could lead to reckless driving and speeding from impatient drivers)
- Do not prioritize cars compared to people walking and rolling

Is there anything you’d like to share about the improvements proposed at MLK Jr. Way S and S Massachusetts St?

- Please consider floating transit islands for buses or other methods to reduce collisions between bikes and buses
- More traffic calming measures are needed
- More concrete barriers than flexible plastic posts to protect bikers are necessary
- Street intersections are too dangerous; need for bike- and vehicle-specific signals
- Cars turning right onto S Massachusetts St pose a risk to bikers
- Please repaint the crosswalk
- The turn box for cyclists is a good idea

Is there anything you’d like to share about the improvements proposed at MLK Jr Way S and S Bayview St?

- Speeding vehicles is a concern here
- More concrete barriers than flexible plastic posts to protect bikers are necessary
- Please include pedestrian safety measures in addition to a crosswalk, such as a stop light and better lighting
- Add more than one crosswalk
- Traffic calming measures are welcome
- Improvements to support the blind community are needed here

Is there anything you'd like to share about the improvements proposed at MLK Way and S Plum St?

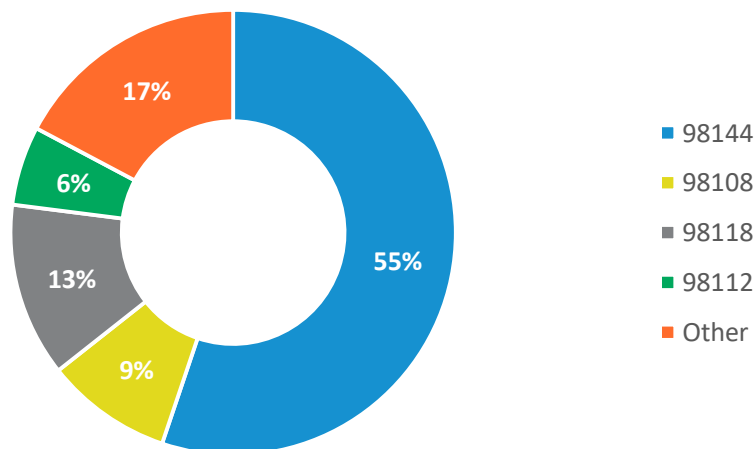
- Concrete barriers to protect bikers and pedestrians are needed
- How will cyclists get to the other side of the street if they want to turn the other way?
- Separate bikes and pedestrians
- Improved pedestrian safety measures, particularly at crosswalks, are needed, and can include a light and new paint
- Bikers need to be given better protection at intersections
- Consider floating bus stops or other measures to reduce bus and bike conflicts

Is there anything you'd like to share about the improvements proposed at MLK Jr. Way S and S McClellan St?

- Consider a more concrete barrier over a plastic flex post for bikes throughout the project area
- Consider a floating stop for buses
- Gaps between flex posts and at gas station driveways could be hazards for bikers
- Expand bike protections and lanes to McClellan St
- Better and clearer turn signaling is needed

RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

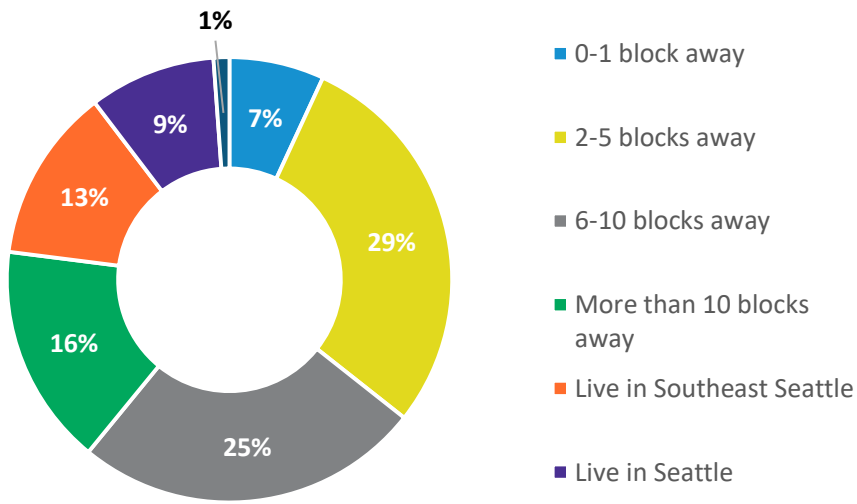
What Zip Code do you live in?



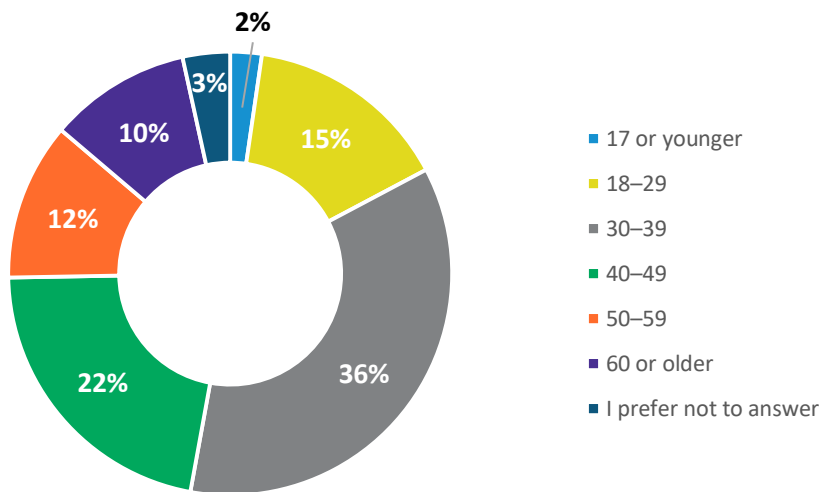
Write-in choices for other:

- 98102
- 98103
- 98104
- 98105
- 98107
- 98115
- 98122

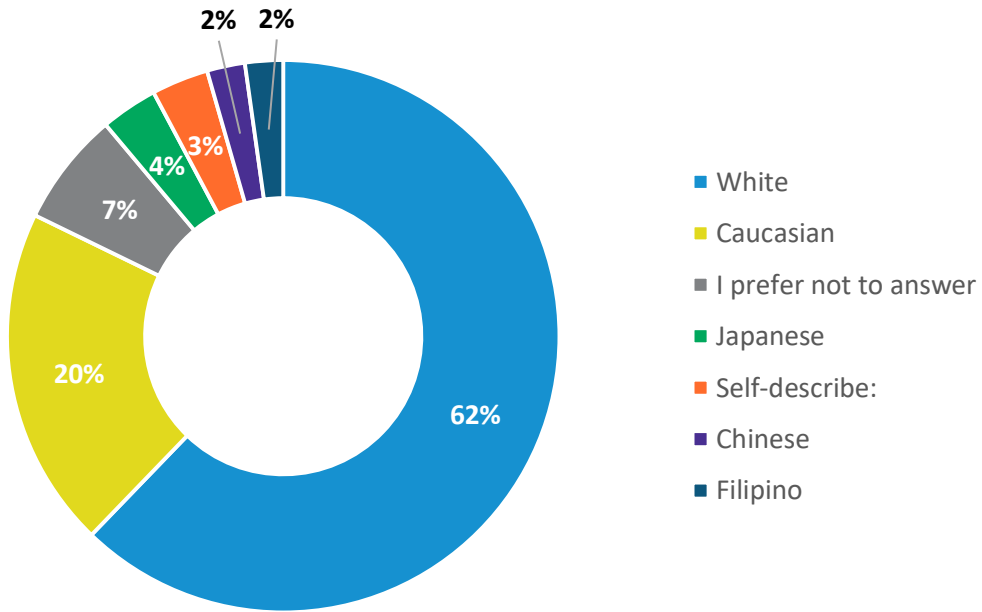
How many blocks from MLK Way S in the project area do you live?



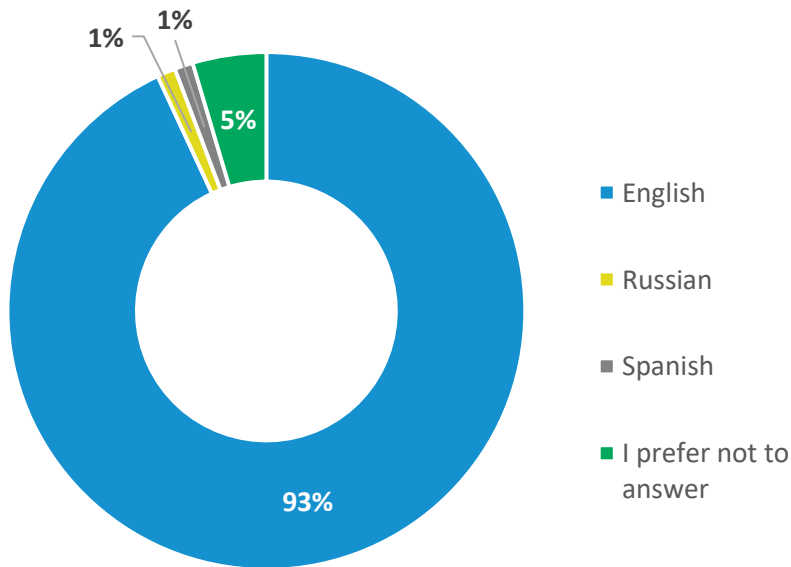
What is your age?



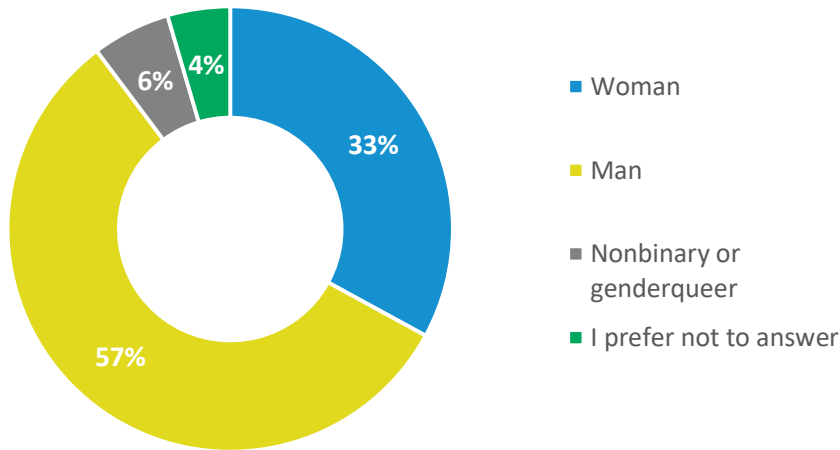
How do you identify?



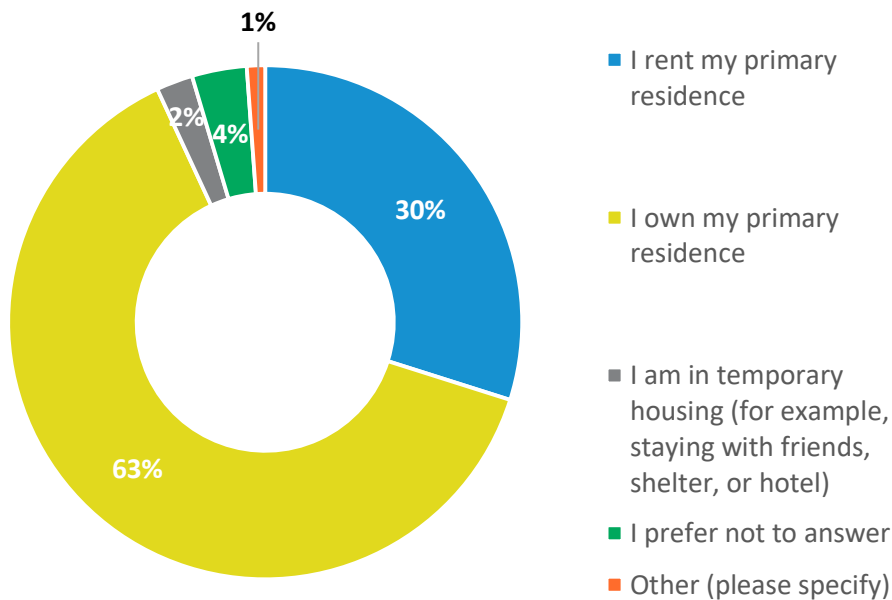
What is the primary language spoken in your home?



What gender do you identify as?



Which of the following best describes your current living situation?



General comments and feedback

- Some respondents prefer biking along Lake Washington Blvd S or other alternative routes
- Respondents support a protected bike lane on MLK Jr Way S, which will enhance safety for people walking, biking, and driving