

Project staff for the 2023 Midtown Greenway access improvements between Harriet and Garfield avenues resumed community engagement efforts in June 2021, following initial engagement in 2018 and 2020.

The goal of the 2021 engagement is to listen to stakeholders about existing challenges and identify needs to help inform initial designs that will improve connections between the Midtown Greenway and nearby areas for people of all abilities.

This document summarizes the engagement efforts and feedback project staff received between June and August 2021.

Engagement to-date outreach with



15 community stakeholders and organizations



virtual listening session held **JUNE 16, 2021**

315

online community survey responses

8

meetings, conversations, or presentations with community stakeholder groups



255 project introduction postcards mailed out

Common themes we heard from community stakeholders

Ramp access design visioning



Did not want a design that includes retaining walls or concrete surfaces



Favored a design that has as little disruption to garden and green space as possible



Favored a design with an at-grade ADA ramp that has no walls and a gentle slope (e.g. CEPRO park)



Favored preserving the function and ambiance of the garden as part of this project



Favored adding Soo Line gardening spaces next to the Greenway to make up for any lost garden space



Some participants did not want a new bike access at the chosen location between Harriet and Garfield avenues



Virtual listening session and survey

On June 16, 2021, Hennepin County project staff hosted a virtual listening session to provide an overview of the project, timeline of events and engaged in a questions and answers session with attendees

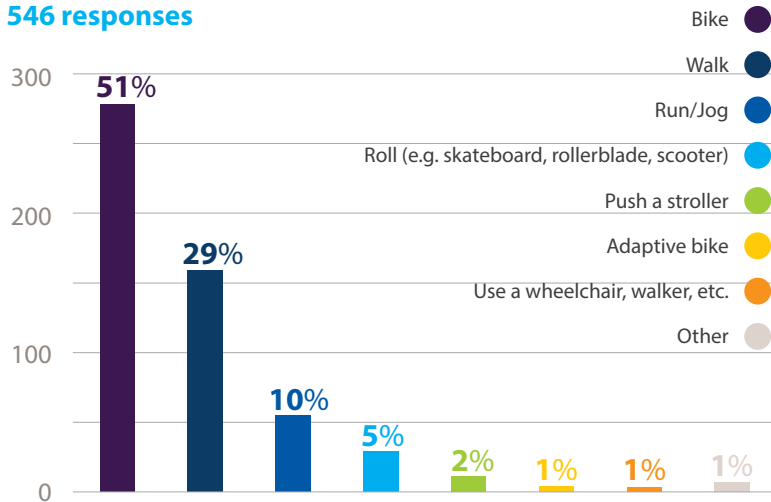
Following the listening session, a survey was shared with community stakeholders for feedback. See the results on the following pages.

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS: CURRENT USE

A snapshot of the online community survey results are displayed below. A list of common themes and responses received were summarized for open ended questions.

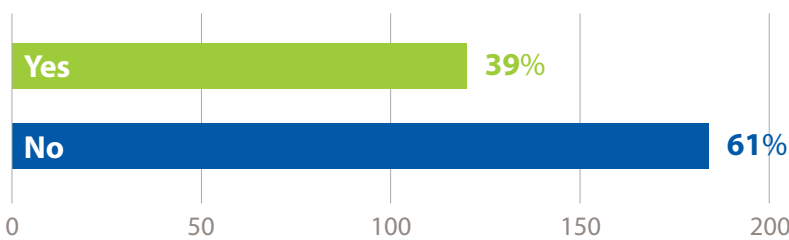
What modes of travel do you use when you use the Greenway? Select all that apply.

546 responses



Do you use the Soo Line Garden space today?

304 responses



If you said Yes, how do you use the Soo Line Garden space?

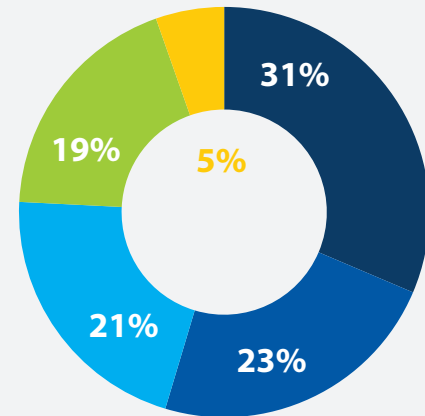
129 responses

- I grow produce/garden there
- To walk, run, push a stroller, walk my bike through to access the Greenway
- Use it for relaxation, breaks, to sit on one of the benches, meditation/personal well-being
- Meet community members/other gardeners
- Create habitat for monarch, birds, bees, etc.



Do you use any of the following access points to the Midtown Greenway? Select all that apply.

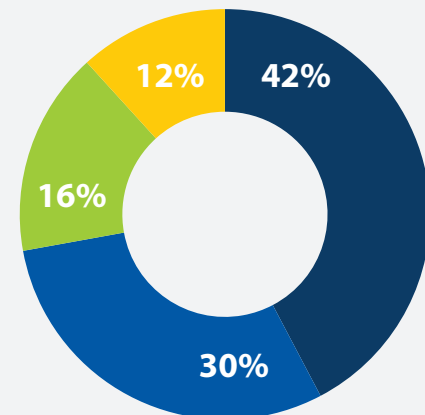
723 responses



- Bryant Avenue
- Nicollet Avenue
- Soo Line Garden - Between Harriet & Garfield
- Lyndale Avenue - Lyn-Lake
- Other

How often do you use the Greenway?

298 responses



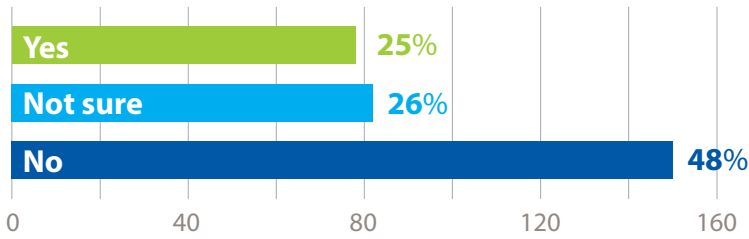
- Multiple times a week
- Multiple times a month
- Daily
- Monthly or less

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS: FUTURE USE

If access to the Midtown Greenway between Harriet and Garfield avenues is improved with a paved surface and flatter grades to accommodate people of all abilities:

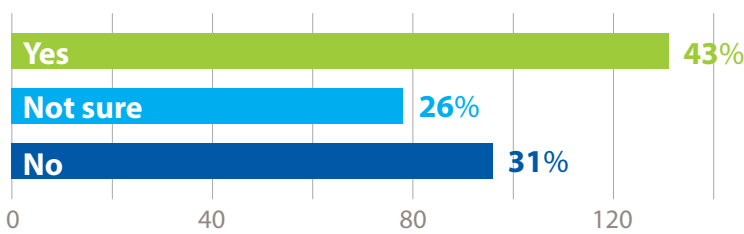
Would you use the Greenway more often?

310 responses



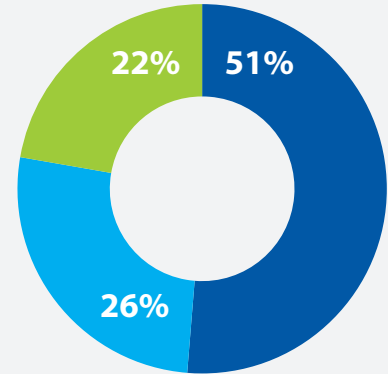
Would you use the access area between Garfield and Harriet avenues if we added a resting and seating area?

305 responses



Would you use the Greenway in a different way than you do today?

310 responses

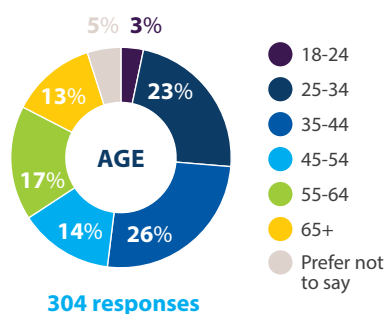
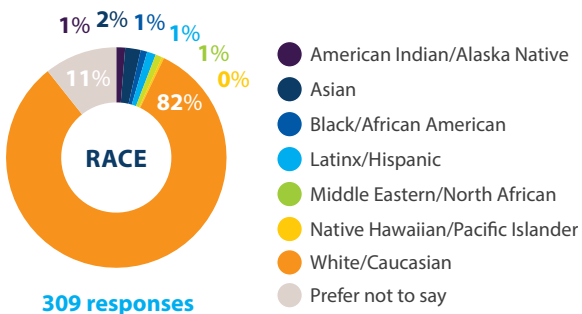
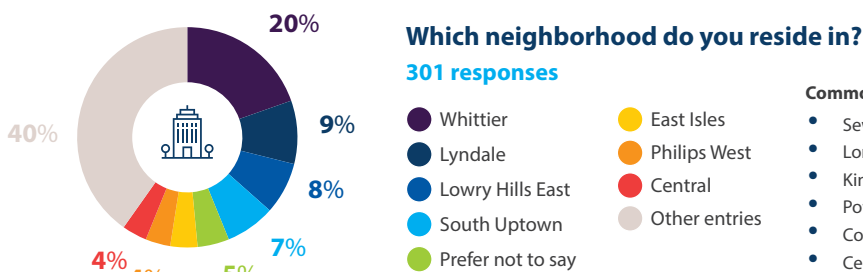


If you said Yes, how would you use the Greenway differently?

84 responses

- Would use the Soo Line Garden as entrance/exit to the Greenway rather than going to Nicollet or Bryant
- Would be able to bring toddler with stroller and friends who use wheelchairs to the Soo Line Garden and Greenway
- If an ADA access is added, incorporate/don't disturb as much of the garden as possible

ONLINE COMMUNITY SURVEY RESULTS: DEMOGRAPHICS



Do you have difficulty walking or climbing the stairs?

303 responses

