



Engagement Summary Report

August 2018

The Future of Transportation in Pitt Meadows
Community Engagement
June 18 – July 31, 2018

PREPARED BY:
Kirk & Co. Consulting Ltd.

FOR:
City of Pitt Meadows
TransLink
Vancouver Fraser Port Authority
Canadian Pacific
Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

Kirk&Co.

ABOUT KIRK & CO. CONSULTING LTD.

Kirk & Co. is a recognized industry leader in designing and implementing comprehensive public and stakeholder consultation and engagement programs. Utilizing best practices, consultation and engagement programs are designed to maximize opportunities for input. Kirk & Co. independently analyzes and reports on public and stakeholder input.

The views represented in this engagement summary report reflect the priorities and concerns of engagement participants. They may not be representative of the views of all people who live and work in Pitt Meadows because participants self-selected into the Future of Transportation in Pitt Meadows community engagement, and therefore do not reflect a random sample.

Contents

1.0 Background	01	Appendix 1	Notification materials
2.0 Community engagement: June 18 – July 31, 2018	02	Appendix 2	Discussion guide and feedback form
2.1 Participation	02	Appendix 3	Display boards
2.2 Notification	03	Appendix 4	Small group meeting summary
2.3 Engagement methods	03		
2.3.1 Discussion guide and feedback form	03		
2.3.2 Display boards	03		
2.3.3 Online materials	04		
2.3.4 Small group meeting	04		
2.3.5 Open house	04		
2.3.6 Intercepts at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	04		
3.0 Community engagement results	05		
3.1 Small group meeting key themes	05		
3.2 Feedback form	06		
4.0 How input will be used	20		

1.0

Background

From June 18 to July 31, 2018, the City of Pitt Meadows hosted an engagement process for members of the community to provide feedback about their priorities for the future of transportation in the city.

There are a number of organizations that have a role in various aspects of transportation planning and investment in Pitt Meadows. Recognizing this, the City brought them together in this engagement process so that participants could learn more about various initiatives under consideration or development, all in one place, and how these initiatives could affect how people move around Pitt Meadows in the future.

The initiatives that were the subject of the engagement period were:

TransLink

- New B-Line in 2019
- Development of the Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows Area Transport Plan

Vancouver Fraser Port Authority / Canadian Pacific

- Proposed grade separations of railway at Harris Road and Kennedy Road

Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure

- Planning for future improvements to increase safety and reliability along Lougheed Highway

City of Pitt Meadows

- Planning for potential future local connections:
 - North Lougheed Connector
 - Kennedy-McTavish Connector
 - Allen Way-McTavish Connector

While each of the initiatives proposed by these organizations is at a different stage of development, and not all are planned to happen in the same time frame, the City's goal was that participants could have a chance to learn about each of the initiatives and their current state of development or planning.

This report provides a summary of the feedback received by the City of Pitt Meadows during the engagement process.

All input received through this community engagement will be shared with the relevant organizations and will be considered, along with technical and financial information, as they advance their initiatives through planning and development.



2.0

Community engagement: June 18 – July 31, 2018

2.1 PARTICIPATION

There were a total of **424** participant interactions during the community engagement:



206

feedback forms were received
(152 online, 54 hard copy)



162

people attended a public
open house



33

people attended a small
group meeting



21

people participated in brief intercept
interviews at the Pitt Meadows Family
and Recreation Centre



2

people provided feedback
through email



A public open house was held at the Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall on Monday, June 25, 2018.

2.2 NOTIFICATION

Notification activities to inform the community about the opportunity to participate in the engagement process were broad and included the following:



Postcards

Delivered by Canada Post to all residents and businesses in Pitt Meadows (approximately 7,000 postcards).



Media release

A media release was issued by the City on Thursday, June 21, inviting people to RSVP for the June 25 small group meeting or participate through other methods.



Print advertisements

Advertisements ran in the Maple Ridge – Pitt Meadows News on Wednesday, June 13, Wednesday, June 20, Friday, June 22 and Wednesday, July 4.



Stakeholder emails

Emails were sent to the City of Pitt Meadows' Active Transportation Committee and Open Government Committee, and the Ridge Meadows Chamber of Commerce, who forwarded it to approximately 75 Pitt Meadows businesses and residents.



Online advertisements

Facebook ads ran from June 15 to June 25 (10,876 impressions).



Social media

14 tweets from @citypittmeadows, 5 posts to www.facebook.com/pittmeadows, and 1 Instagram post from @citypittmeadows leading up to and during the engagement period.



City of Pitt Meadows website spotlight

The Future of Transportation community engagement was featured on the City's website from June 18 to July 16.



All engagement materials were available at **haveyoursaypittmeadows.ca**.



Lougheed Highway digital billboard

Two billboards ran from June 25 until August 2 and directed viewers to haveyoursaypittmeadows.ca.

See Appendix 1 for examples of the notification materials.

2.3 ENGAGEMENT METHODS

2.3.1 Discussion guide and feedback form

The City of Pitt Meadows developed a discussion guide which provided information regarding transportation within the city. The discussion guide introduced the transportation initiatives proposed by the other organization, and provided context from the City's perspective. Included in the discussion guide was a feedback form, which readers were encouraged to complete after reviewing display boards provided by each organization.

Please see Appendix 2 for a copy of the Discussion Guide and Feedback Form.

2.3.2 Display Boards

Each organization produced a set of display boards related to its proposed initiatives. These display boards were provided to small group meeting participants, shown in large format at the open house and posted online.

Please see Appendix 3 for a copy of the four sets of Display Boards

2.3.3 Online Materials

All materials were available online on the City of Pitt Meadows' new engagement website, haveyoursaypittmeadows.ca. Of the 206 feedback forms received, 152 (74%) were submitted online.

2.3.4 Small Group Meeting

33 people attended the small group meeting held at Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall.

The small group meeting provided attendees with an opportunity to hear from each organization and to participate in a facilitated discussion and question and answer session about the initiatives. Participants were welcomed through opening remarks by Mayor John Becker, Councillor Peter James (Katzie First Nation), MP Dan Ruimy (Pitt Meadows-Maple Ridge), and MLA Lisa Beare (Maple Ridge-Pitt Meadows and Minister of Tourism, Arts and Culture). Following their opening remarks, elected officials and their staff sat at an adjacent table to observe the discussion.

Date	Time	Location	Attendance
Monday, June 25	1:00 – 3:30 p.m.	Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall	33

Please see page 5 for key themes from the small group meeting. See Appendix 4 for a summary of the presentations and discussion at the small group meeting.

2.3.5 Open House

162 people attended a public open house held at Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall following the small group meeting.

The open house allowed community members to drop in and speak with the project teams and ask questions about the transportation initiatives. Display boards were set up around the room to facilitate discussion. Hard copy feedback forms were available and attendees were encouraged to complete the feedback form during the session, at home or online.

Date	Time	Location	Attendance
Monday, June 25	4:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall	162

2.3.6 Intercepts at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre

There were two intercepts at the Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre specifically on the topic of the proposed grade separations of railway at Harris Road and Kennedy Road. Participants were also encouraged to attend the open house or to read the engagement materials online and complete the feedback form.

Date	Time	Location	Intercepts
Saturday, June 23	10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.	Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	15
Wednesday, June 27	4:30 – 6:30 p.m.	Pitt Meadows Family Recreation Centre	6

3.0

Community engagement results

3.1 SMALL GROUP MEETING KEY THEMES

Meeting	Key themes
Small Group Meeting Pitt Meadows Heritage Hall Monday, June 25, 2018 1:00 – 3:30 p.m. 33 attendees	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participants expressed the need to engage early and often with the Pitt Meadows Heritage Society regarding relocation of the Pitt Meadows Museum and General Store as a result of the Harris Road Underpass Project.• Participants noted concerns about noise and vibration from existing and future expanded Canadian Pacific operations and asked whether mitigation measures would be explored.• Participants expressed interest in design and opportunities for community enhancement and beautification as part of the proposed Harris Road Underpass Project, including suggestions of First Nation artwork along new infrastructure, pedestrian and cycling facilities, landscaping, and improved access to businesses on Harris Road.• Participants expressed concerns about safety on Highway 7 and suggested improvements at the intersection of Highway 7 and Harris Road.

3.2 FEEDBACK FORM

The following are summary results from the 206 feedback forms and 2 submissions received by email.

Please note that not all respondents answered every question. The total number of mentions for qualitative data may exceed the total number of respondents as participants may have commented on more than one topic.

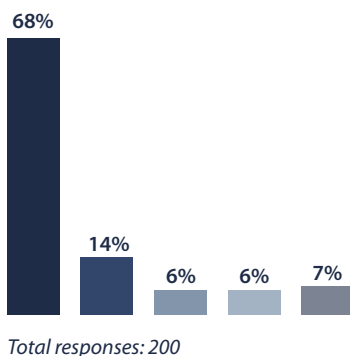
TOPIC 1 – VANCOUVER FRASER PORT AUTHORITY / CANADIAN PACIFIC

Proposed grade separations of railway at Harris Road and Kennedy Road

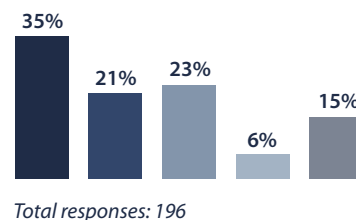
PROJECT OBJECTIVES

1. Please rate your level of agreement with the following objectives for the Harris Road Underpass and Kennedy Road Overpass Project:

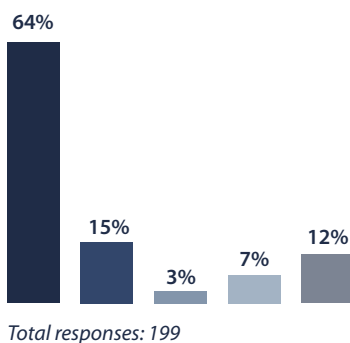
Improve response time for emergency services and increase reliability for commuters, transit users and commercial drivers



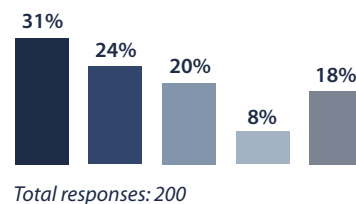
Reduce the effects of growing trade on communities



Improve safety and eliminate rail crossing-related delays for drivers, cyclists and pedestrians



Help the port authority and industry responsibly manage growing trade through the Port of Vancouver



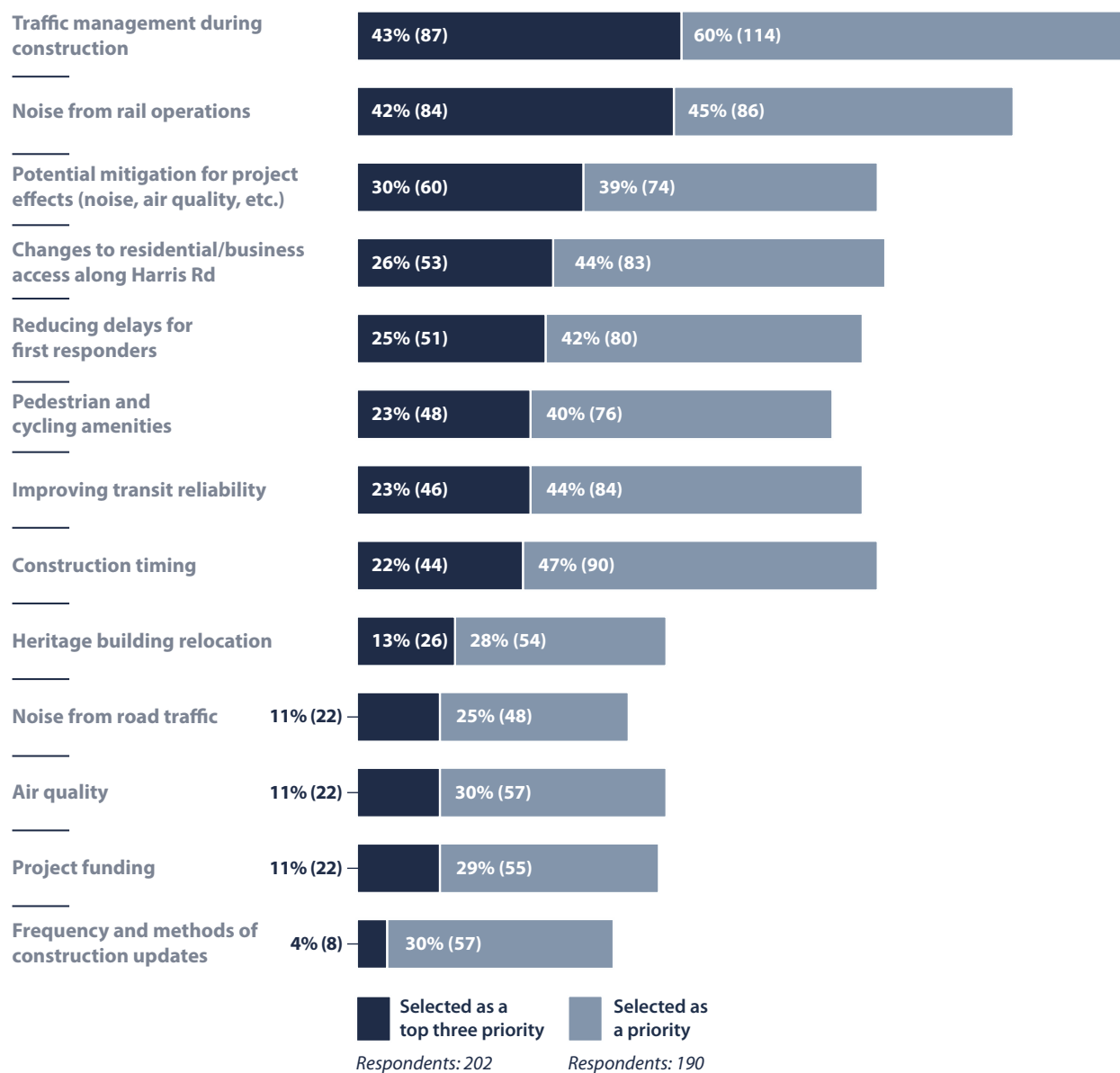
2. Are there any other considerations you would like considered as part of the project objectives?

Themes from considerations (104 responses):	Number of Mentions
Concerns about impacts from Canadian Pacific activity, including noise, vibrations, environmental impact, train length, proximity to homes and potential expansion.	40
Opposition to the proposed Harris Road underpass, citing various reasons: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impacts to Pitt Meadows' main artery; • Impacts to the character of Pitt Meadows; • CP benefits from the underpass, but not the community; and • Uncertainty about need for the project. 	14
Suggestion to build an overpass at Allen Way, rather than an underpass at Harris Road.	11
Concerns about impacts on neighbouring properties, the Keystone building in particular; requesting noise and visual mitigation, as well as emergency vehicle access and traffic management during construction.	10
Area aesthetics are a priority, and suggestions of planting vegetation or installing public art.	9
Opposition to Harris Road underpass, but support for the Kennedy Road overpass.	8
Support for the grade separations.	7
Improving Harris Road/Lougheed Highway intersection is a higher priority, particularly traffic flow and safety.	7
Pedestrian safety and access is a priority for the grade separations, including access to West Coast Express.	6
Community planning and consultation is a priority.	6
Concerns about environmental impacts.	5
Transit suggestions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transit and safe pedestrian connections/bus stops to the new B-line on Lougheed. • Increase the West Coast Express service, including weekends and mid-day. • Requests for a SkyTrain. 	5

INTERESTS AND ISSUES

3. Please indicate which of the following interests and issues you're interested in learning more about during future engagement:

Results shown as percentage of total respondents.



4. Are there other interests or issues not listed above that you would like considered?

Themes from other interests or issues (58 responses):

Number of Mentions

Concerns about impacts from Canadian Pacific activity, including noise, vibrations, environmental impact, train length, proximity to homes and potential expansion.

18

Opposition to the proposed Harris Road underpass.

5

Area aesthetics are a priority, and suggestions for planting vegetation and installing public art.

4

Concerns about commuter traffic cutting through Pitt Meadows to avoid Highway 7, and truck traffic in Pitt Meadows on Bonson Road and Airport Way in particular.

4

Concerns about impacts on neighbouring properties, the Keystone building in particular; requesting noise and visual mitigation, as well as emergency vehicle access and traffic management during construction.

3

Concerns about traffic delays and access to businesses and emergency vehicle access during construction.

3

Suggestion to build an overpass at Allen Way, rather than an underpass at Harris Road.

3

Transit suggestions, including:

3

- Transit planning for the future, beyond the B-line; and
- Requested a SkyTrain to Maple Ridge.

Traffic and road suggestions, including:

3

- Limiting residential street parking;
- Planning for the integration of autonomous vehicles;
- Lowering the speed limit and improving intersections on Bonson Road.

Pedestrian safety and access must be a priority for the grade separations, including access to West Coast Express, and the safety of the grade separation

2

Suggestion that the heritage buildings should remain in the area, but that if relocated, should be relocated together.

2

Suggestion of having bicycle lanes and/or multi use path at the grade separations.

2

Themes from other interests or issues (58 responses):**Number of
Mentions**

Community amenity suggestions:

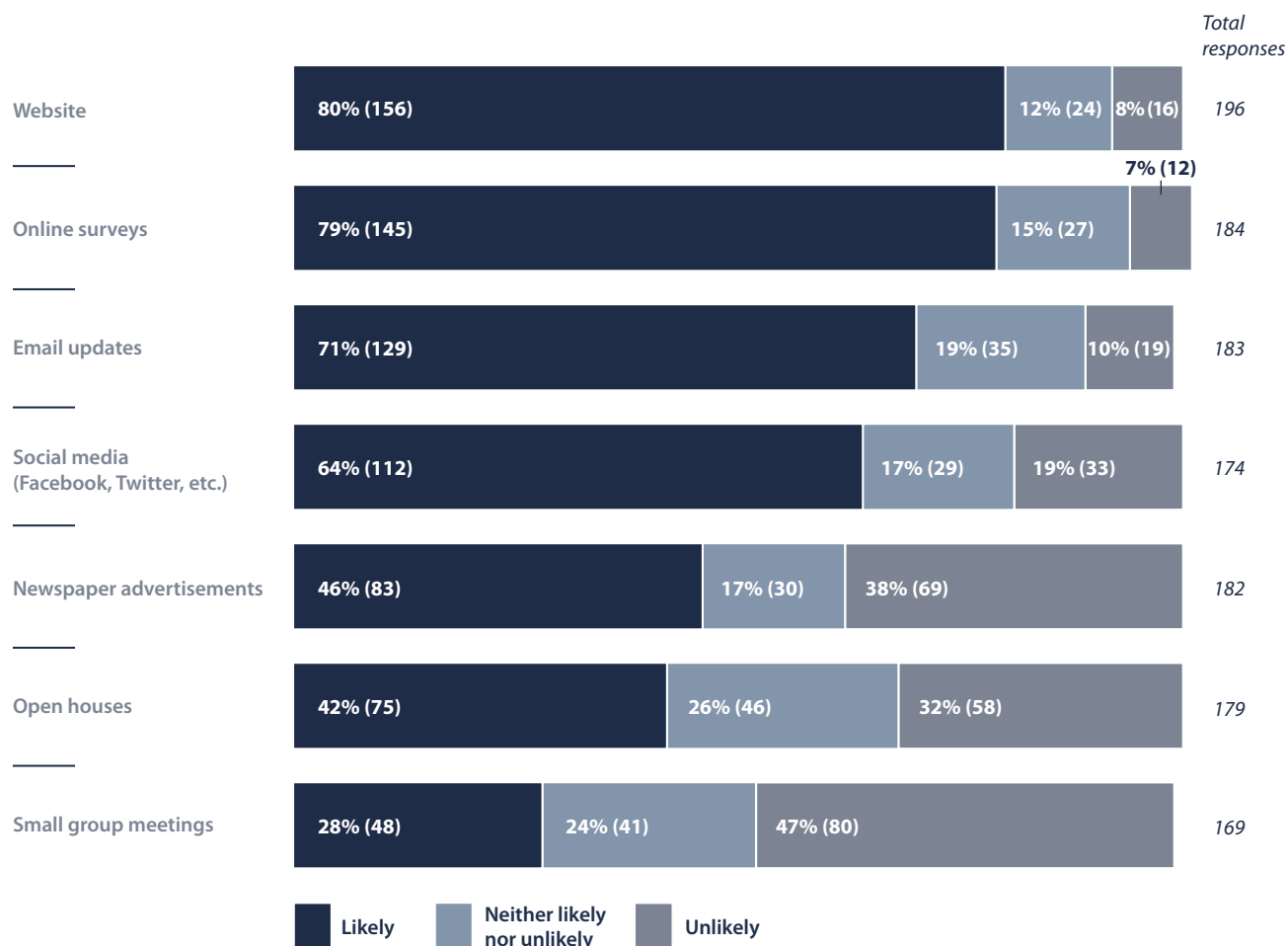
2

- Land owner compensation; and
- Develop the Pitt Meadows waterfront with small local business and festivals/activities.

Interested in receiving information updates

2**FUTURE COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT**

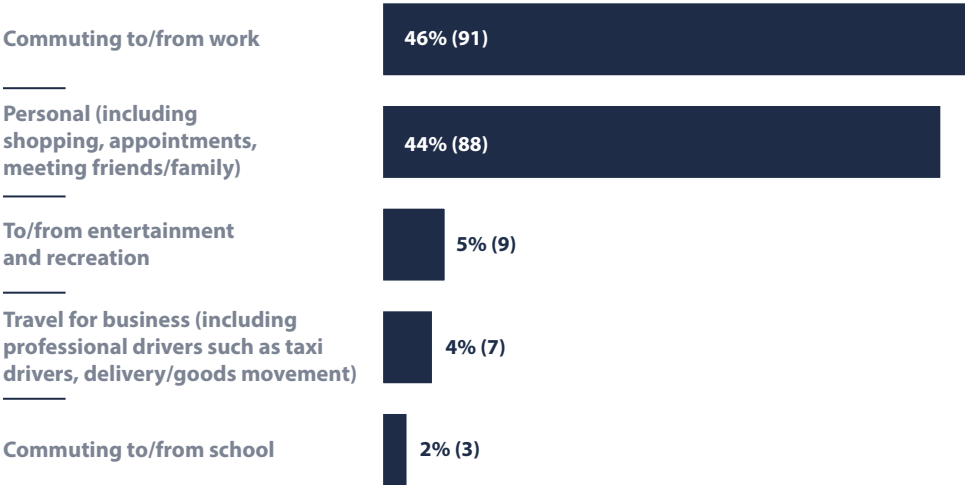
5. Please indicate how likely you would be to read information or participate in engagement regarding the Harris Road Underpass and Kennedy Road Overpass through the following methods:



TOPIC 2 – MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE

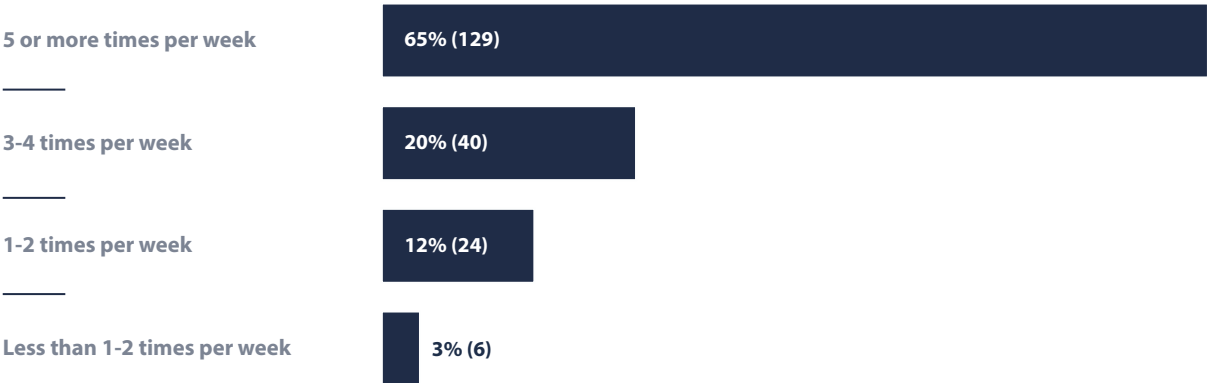
Highway 7 Corridor Improvement Plan

6. What is your primary reason for using Highway 7?
 Please select only one



Total Responses: 198

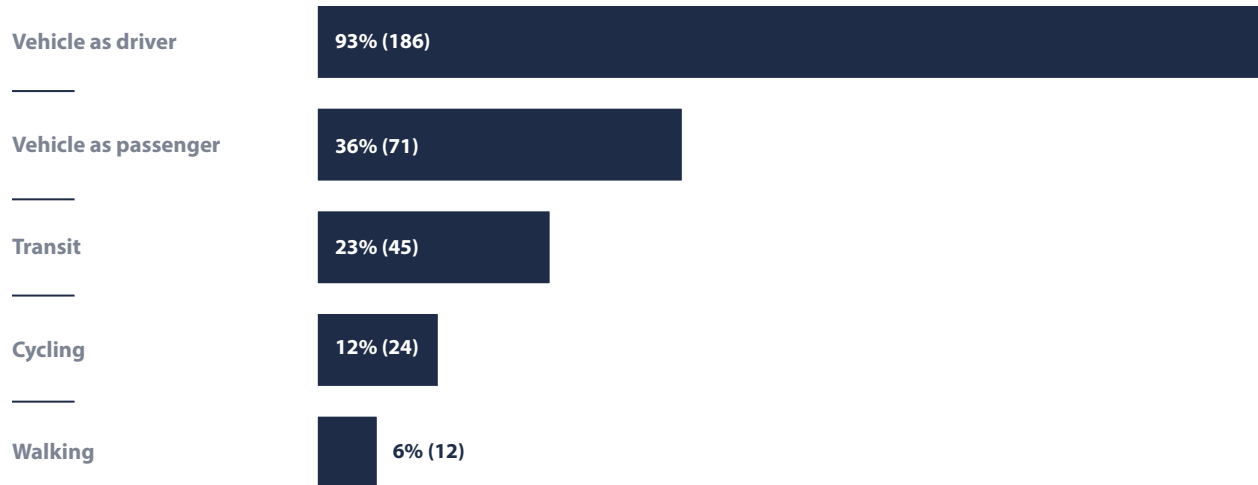
7. How often do you travel on Highway 7?
 Please select only one



Total Responses: 199

8. Which modes of travel do you use on Highway 7?

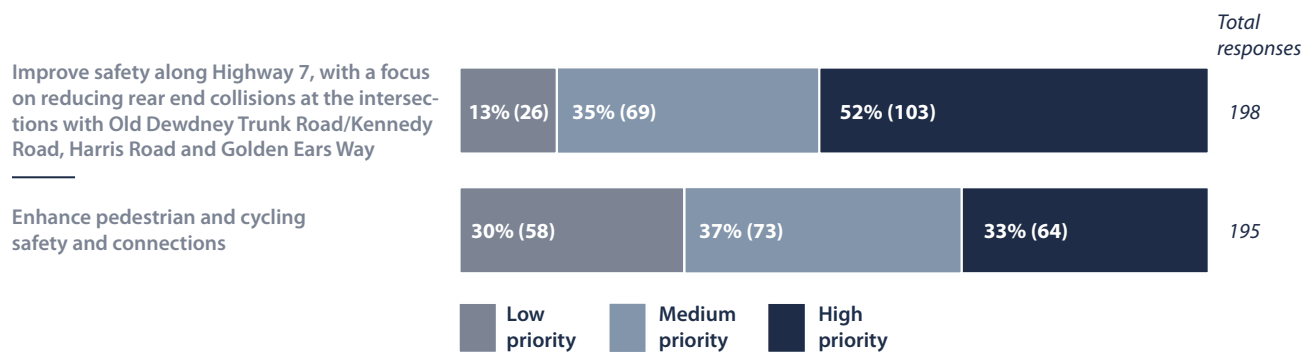
Select all that apply



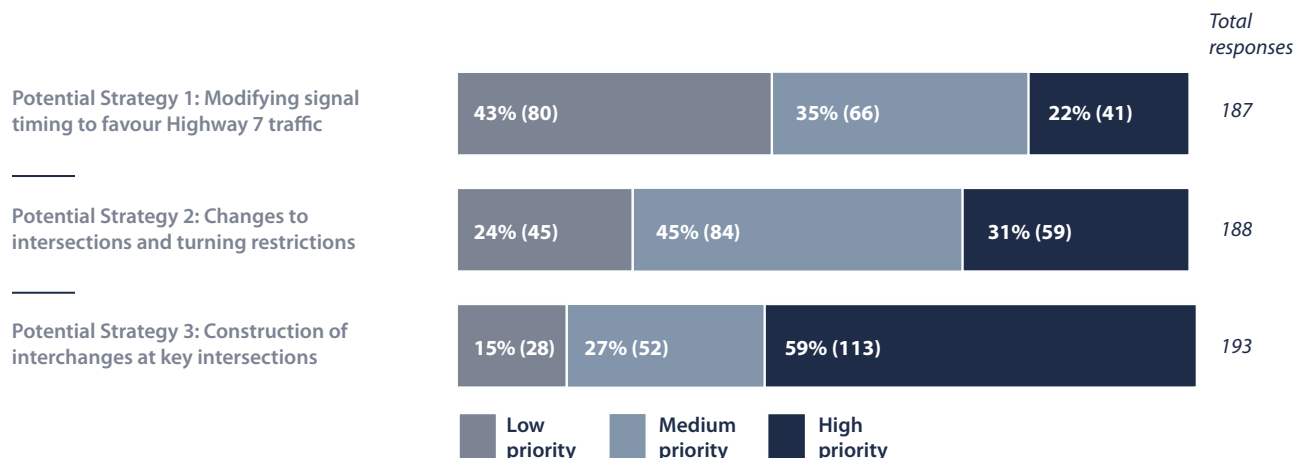
Total Respondents: 199

9. What types of transportation improvements do you consider to be priorities for the Highway 7 corridor?

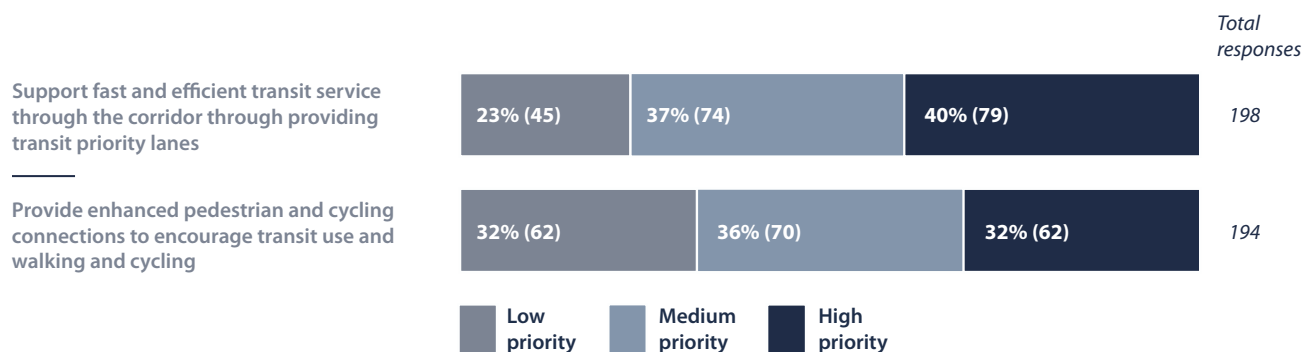
IMPROVING SAFETY



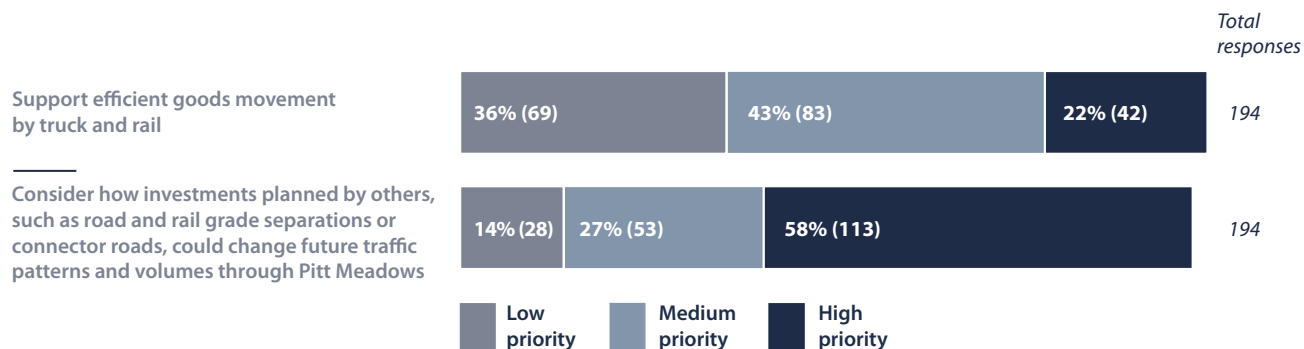
REDUCING CONGESTION (REDUCE CONGESTION THROUGHOUT THE HIGHWAY 7 CORRIDOR BY CONSIDERING VARIOUS STRATEGIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS):



SUPPORTING TRANSIT, PEDESTRIAN AND CYCLING MOVEMENTS



FACILITATING GOODS MOVEMENT

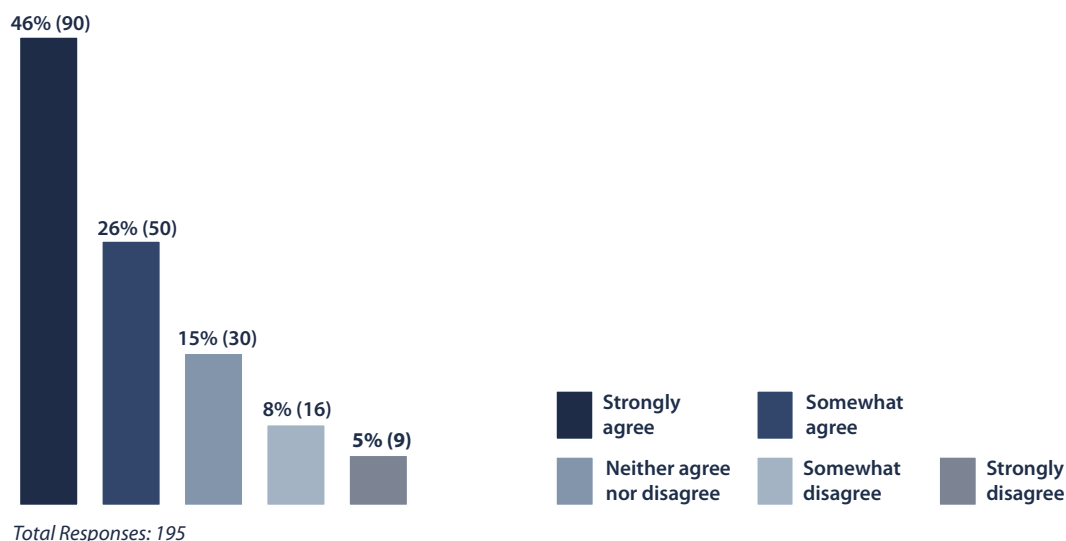


10. Please provide any additional comments you may have or any other priorities you would like considered.

Themes from additional comments (68 responses):	Number of Mentions
<p>Participants provided traffic and road suggestions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adding a roundabout or cloverleaf at Harris Road and Highway 7; • Prioritizing making it easier and safer for traffic on Harris Road to get onto Highway 7, e.g. longer light at the intersection; • Repainting lines, and • Planning for future growth with alternate routes through Pitt Meadows to reduce congestion. 	27
Concerns about impacts from Canadian Pacific activity, including noise, vibrations, environmental impact, train length, proximity to homes and potential expansion.	11
Concerns about commuter traffic cutting through Pitt Meadows to avoid Highway 7, and truck traffic in Pitt Meadows on Bonson Road and Airport Way in particular.	5
Suggestions for improving pedestrian and cycling amenities to promote active transportation.	5
<p>Participants provided transit suggestions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the West Coast Express service, including during weekends and mid-day; • Including frequent transit connections, as well as safe pedestrian connections to bus stops for new B-line on Lougheed; and • Prioritizing improved transit to reduce single occupant car use. 	5
Opposition to the proposed Harris Road underpass.	3
Suggestion of building an overpass at Allen Way rather than an underpass at Harris Road.	3

TOPIC 3 – CITY OF PITT MEADOWS

Potential future local road connections

11. Please rate your level of agreement with the City of Pitt Meadows continuing to pursue the North Lougheed Connector.**12. Please provide any considerations you want the City of Pitt Meadows to be aware of if we pursue the North Lougheed Connector.****Themes from considerations (59 responses):****Number of Mentions**

Suggestions regarding potential community planning, including developing a master plan in the area, with some requesting a mix of commercial and residential including affordable housing, others requesting light industrial use.

13

Concerns about the potential loss of agricultural land.

11

Support for the North Lougheed Connector.

11

Traffic and road suggestions, including improvements to Lougheed Highway and not implementing a toll on the connector.

4

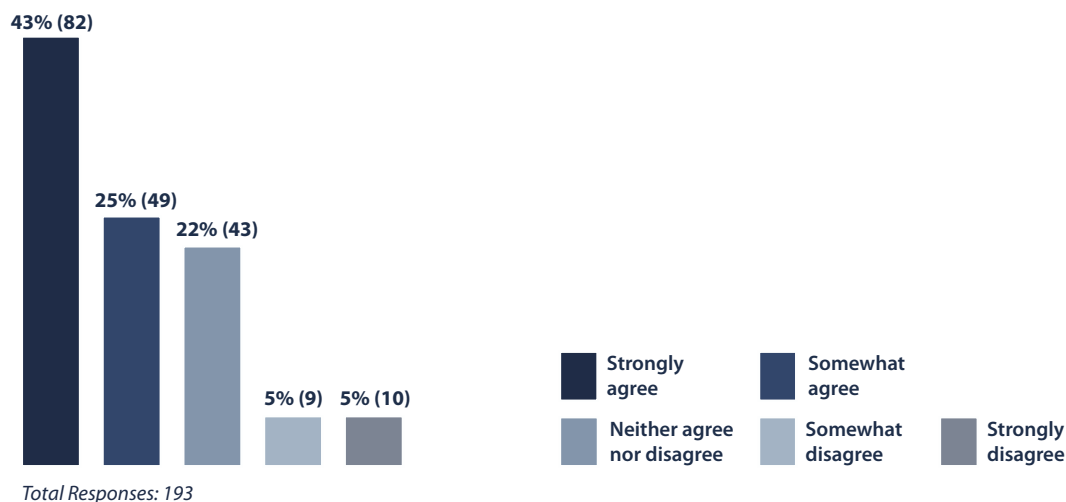
Opposition to the North Lougheed Connector, noting that it will not ease traffic congestion.

3

Concerns about commuters from Maple Ridge cutting through Pitt Meadows.

3

13. Please rate your level of agreement with the City of Pitt Meadows continuing to pursue the Kennedy-McTavish Connector.



14. Please provide any considerations you want the City of Pitt Meadows to be aware of if we pursue the Kennedy-McTavish Connector.

Themes from considerations (41 responses):

Number of Mentions

Traffic and road suggestions, including:

11

- Creating a direct connection from Highway 7 to Golden Ears Bridge;
- Improving Highway 7 intersections in Pitt Meadows;
- Planning initiatives to decrease vehicle traffic.

Concerns about the potential loss of agricultural land.

8

Support for the Kennedy-McTavish Connector.

8

Concerns about truck traffic in Pitt Meadows.

4

Concerns about the impact of CP's activities, including noise, vibrations, environmental impact, train length, proximity to homes and potential expansion.

3

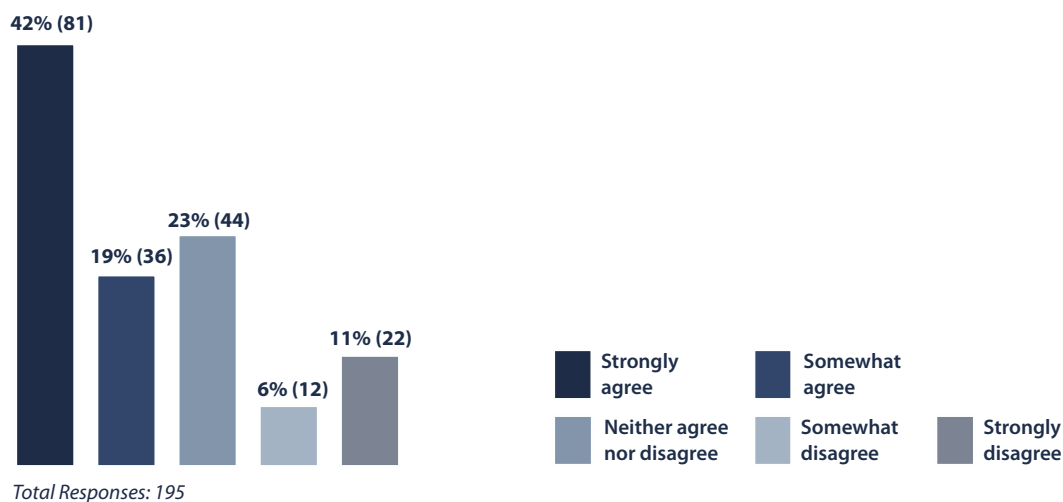
Opposition to the proposed Harris Road underpass.

3

Pedestrian and cycling suggestions, including adding a multi-use path to the connector.

3

15. Please rate your level of agreement with the City of Pitt Meadows continuing to pursue the Allen Way-McTavish Connector.



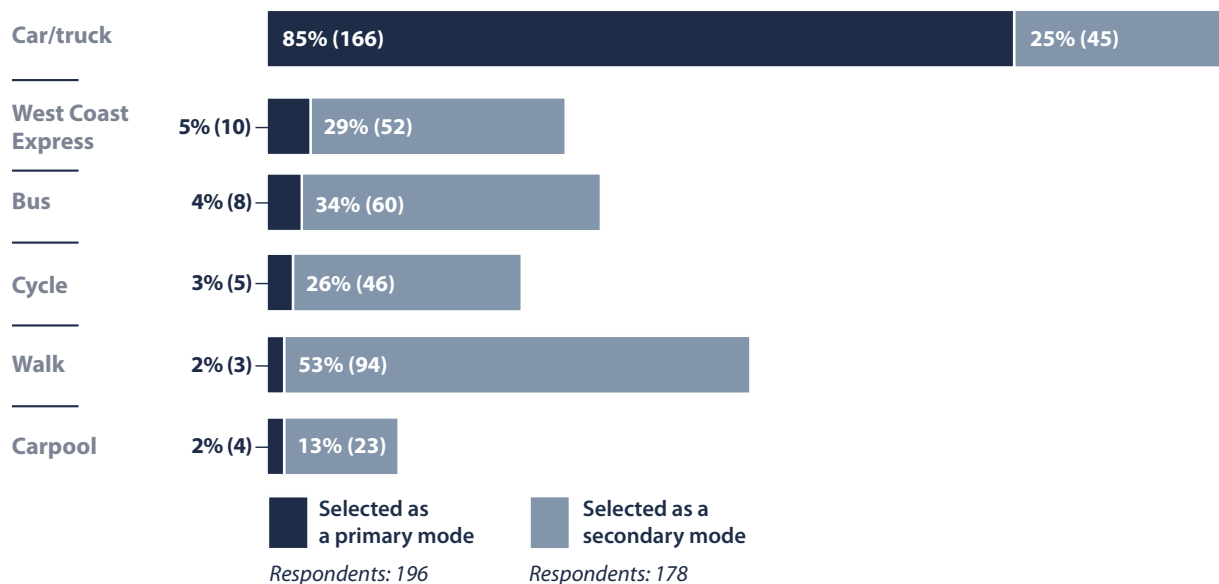
16. Please provide any considerations you want the City of Pitt Meadows to be aware of if we pursue the Allen Way-McTavish Connector.

Themes from considerations (41 responses):

Themes from considerations (41 responses):	Number of Mentions
Support for the Allen Way-McTavish Connector.	10
Opposition to the Allen Way-McTavish Connector.	7
Traffic and road suggestions, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing this connector rather than the proposed Kennedy Road overpass; Connecting Allen Way to Baynes Road directly. 	6
Suggestion of building an overpass at Allen Way rather than an underpass at Harris Road.	3
Concerns about truck traffic in Pitt Meadows.	3
Concerns about the potential loss of agricultural land.	3

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

17. What forms of transportation do you use?



OTHER TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

18. If you have other transportation priorities that you want the City to be considering, we want to hear about them. Briefly tell us about your transportation priorities for Pitt Meadows.

Themes from other transportation priorities (59 responses):

Number of Mentions

Transit suggestions, including:

32

- Increasing the West Coast Express service, including during weekends and mid-day;
- Including frequent transit connections, as well as safe pedestrian connections to bus stops for new B-line on Lougheed; and
- Improving bus connections from Pitt Meadows to the SkyTrain.
- Building a SkyTrain line to Pitt Meadows.

Pedestrian and cycling suggestions, including:

9

- Improving cycling facilities emphasizing safety and signage; and
- Prioritizing walking and cycling in transportation planning.

Traffic and road suggestions, including:

8

- Accommodating ride sharing, electric vehicles and autonomous vehicles; and
- Harris Road and Highway 7 intersection improvements.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS/SUBMISSIONS

19. Please provide any additional comments you may have about the initiatives outlined in the discussion guide and display boards, or any aspect of transportation in Pitt Meadows.

Themes from additional comments and submissions (50 responses):	Number of Mentions
<p>Traffic and road suggestions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing speed limits and more enforcement of speed limits; Syncing light timing; and Prioritizing making it easier and safer for traffic on Harris Road to get onto Highway 7, e.g. longer light at the intersection. 	8
Concerns about impacts from Canadian Pacific activity, including noise, vibrations, environmental impact, train length, proximity to homes and potential expansion.	8
<p>Transit suggestions, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Including frequent transit connections, as well as safe pedestrian connections to bus stops for new B-line on Lougheed; and Improving bus connections from Pitt Meadows to SkyTrain. 	6
Opposition to the proposed Harris Road underpass.	5
Pedestrian and cycling suggestions, including improving amenities to promote active transportation in Pitt Meadows.	5
Concerns about impacts of the Harris Road underpass on neighbouring properties, the Keystone building in particular; requesting noise and visual mitigation, as well as emergency vehicle access and traffic management during construction.	4
Community planning and consultation is a priority.	4

4.0

How input will be used

The feedback received through this engagement has been shared with the relevant organizations and will be considered, along with technical and financial information, as they advance their initiatives through planning and development.

While this report provides a summary of the most frequently mentioned themes, all feedback received has been provided to the relevant organizations for their review.

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