

Lessons from the Green Lanes: Evaluating Protected Bike Lanes

http://bit.ly/nitc_583

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Pro Walk Pro Bike Pro Place
Pittsburgh, PA
September 9, 2014



Photo credit: Nathan McNeil, PSU

Session Overview

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----|
| 1. Overview of Sites (Chris) | 10 |
| 2. Methodology (Nathan) | 5 |
| 3. Change in Ridership (Jennifer) | 15 |
| <i>*Questions from audience*</i> | |
| 4. Design (Chris) | 25 |
| <i>*Questions from audience*</i> | |
| 6. Barrier types (Nathan) | 5 |
| 7. Community Support (Jennifer) | 10 |

Questions from audience



Research Objectives

- A field-based evaluation of protected bikeways in five U.S. cities to study:
 - Safety of users (both perceived and actual)
 - Effectiveness of the design
 - Perceptions of residents and other road users
 - Attractiveness to more casual cyclists
 - Change in economic activity

Overview of Sites

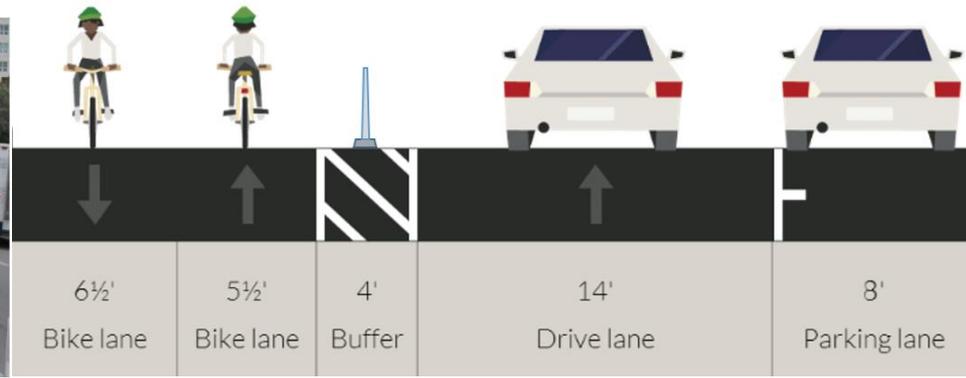
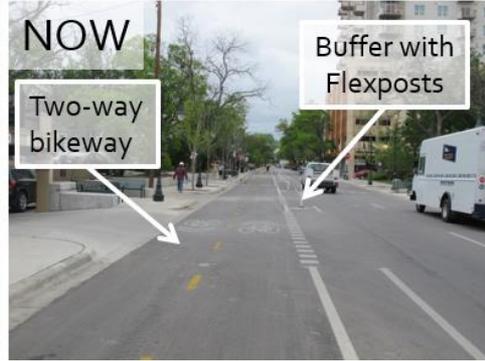


Green Lane Cities Studied

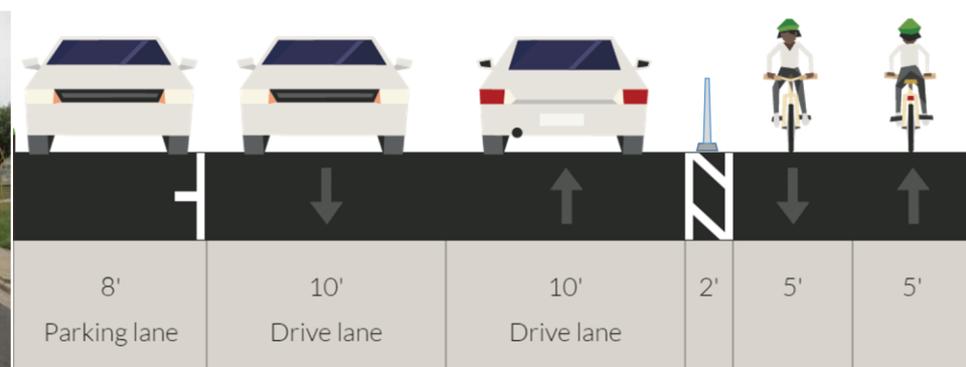
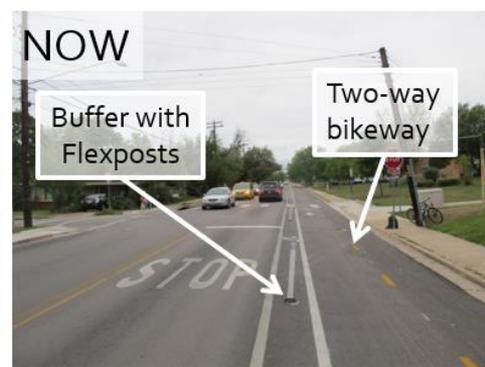


Study Facilities: Austin

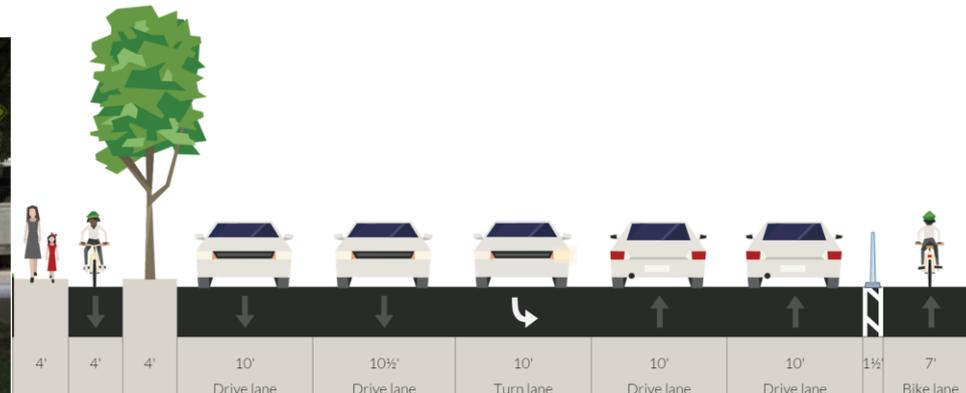
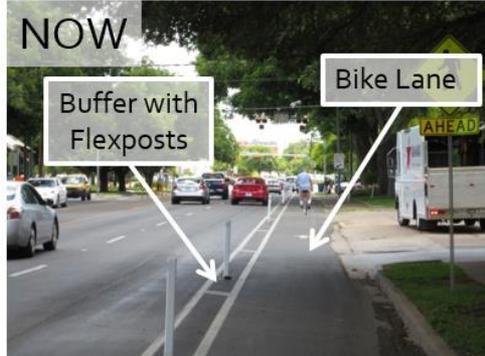
Rio Grande Street



Bluebonnet Lane

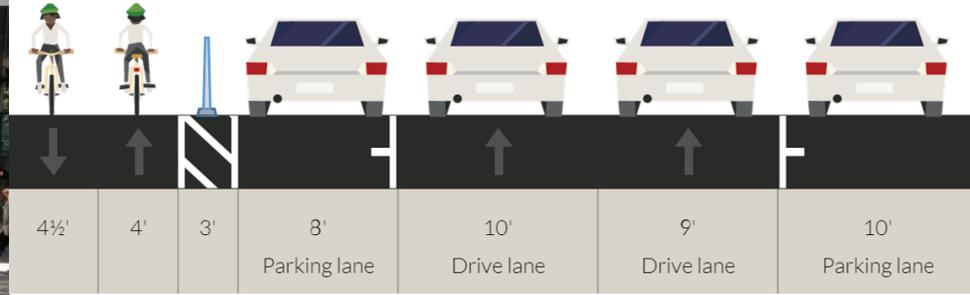
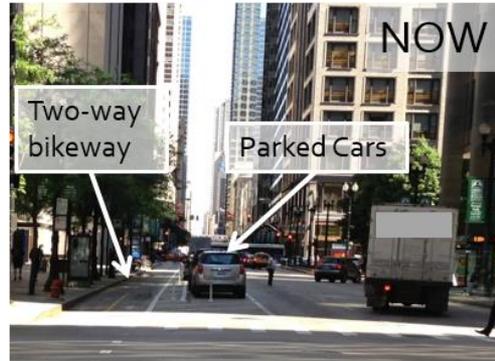


Barton Springs Road

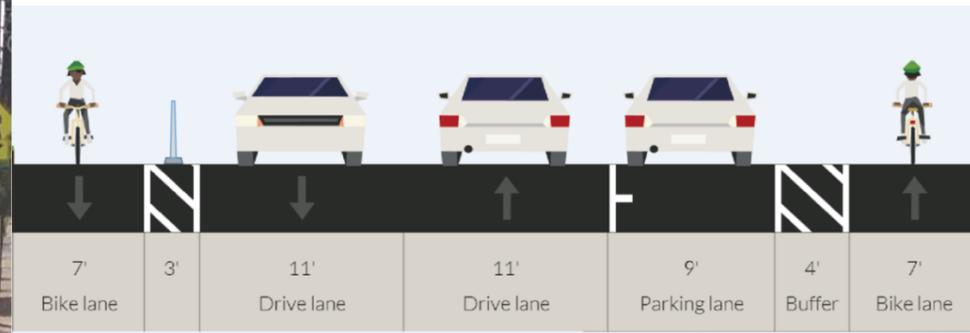


Study Facilities: Chicago

Chicago: N/S Dearborn Street



Chicago: N Milwaukee Avenue



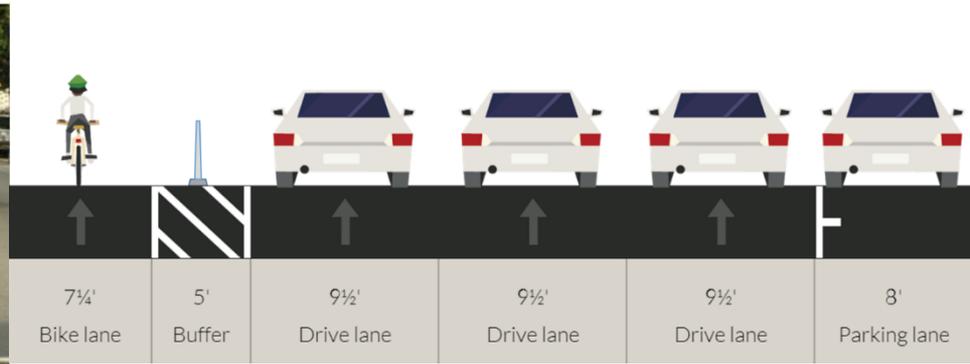
Study Facilities: Portland

Portland: NE Multnomah Street

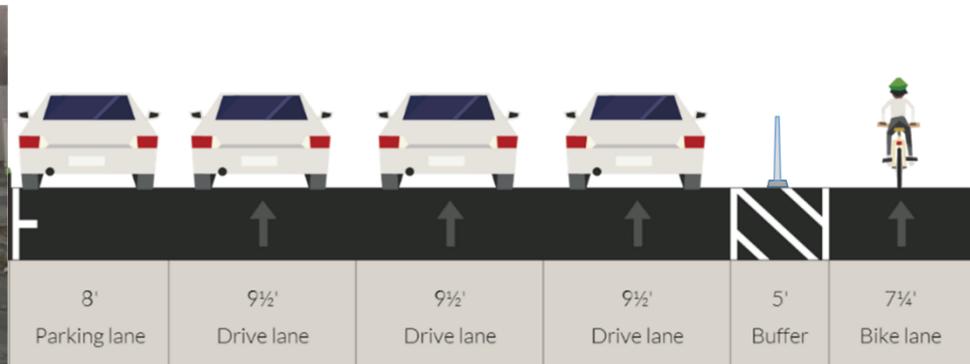


Study Facilities: San Francisco

SF: Fell Street



SF: Oak Street



Study Facilities: Washington DC

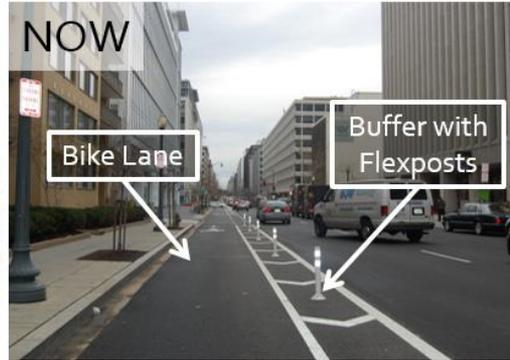
DC: L Street

BEFORE



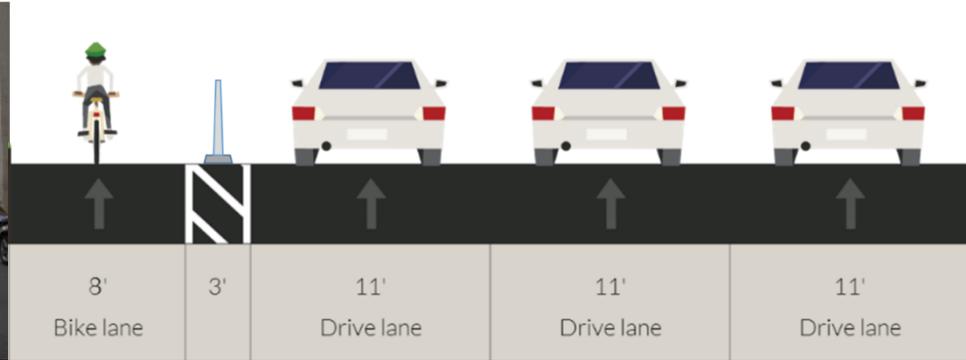
(Image: Google Street View)

NOW



Bike Lane

Buffer with Flexposts



Methodology



Video Data

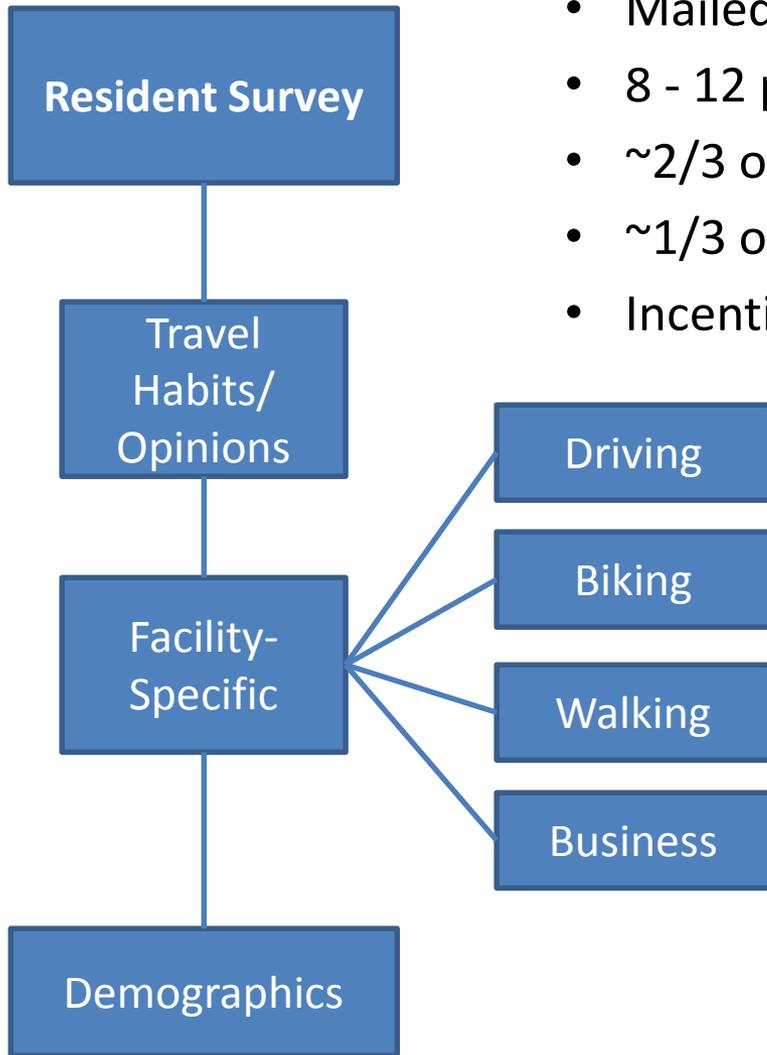
- Primarily intersections
- 3 locations per facility, 2 cameras per location
- 2 days of video (7am to 7pm) per location
- 168 hours analyzed
- 16,393 bicyclists and 19,724 turning vehicles observed



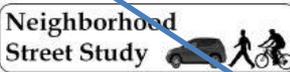
Example Video Screenshots (2 views) from San Francisco at Oak and Broderick

Resident Survey Details

- Mailed to residents living near new protected BL
- 8 - 12 pages (~40 questions)
- ~2/3 of completions paper survey returned by mail
- ~1/3 of completions opted for online survey
- Incentive of \$100 Amazon gift card raffle (3 per city)



① Complete this paper survey and the enclosed raffle slip. Return in the postage-paid envelope;
OR
 ② Complete the online survey and raffle entry at: <http://bit.ly/dc-streets>
 To take the online survey, you will need to enter this code: **D00013**
Please complete the survey by 06/06/2013


 ① Complete this paper survey and the enclosed raffle slip. Return in the postage-paid envelope;
OR
 ② Complete the online survey and raffle entry at: <http://bit.ly/dc-streets>
 To take the online survey, you will need to enter this code: **D00013**
Please complete the survey by 06/06/2013

About How You Get Around

1. For each mode of transportation, please indicate your level of use:

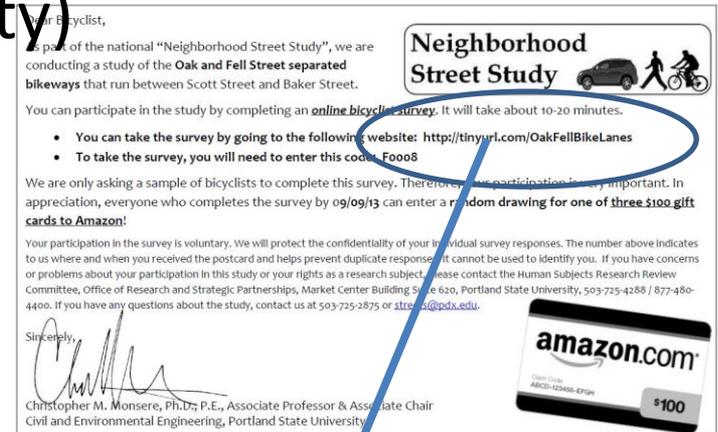
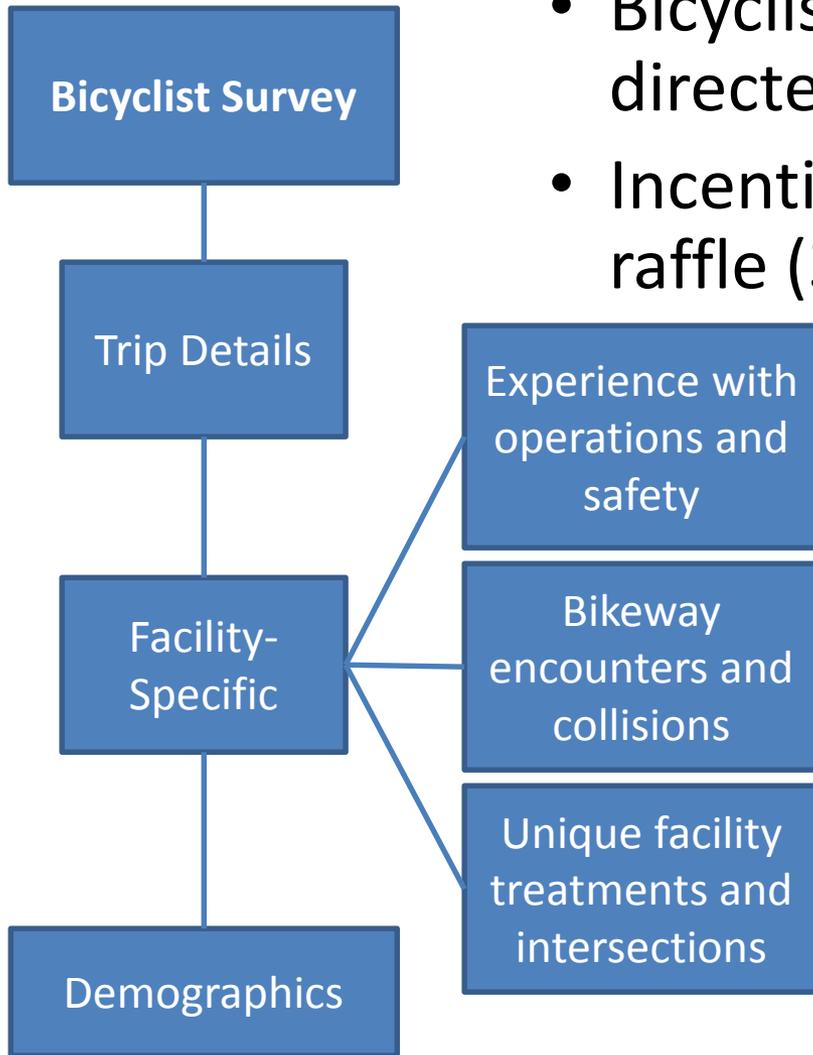
	Commute Trips (to/from work or school)			Other Trips (e.g. to the store, park, etc.)		
	Most Trips	Some Trips	No Trips	Most Trips	Some Trips	No Trips
Car/truck/motor vehicle (including carpool)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Transportation	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other (please specify):	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Compared to two years ago, are you taking more or fewer trips by each mode of transportation?

	More Trips	No Change	Fewer Trips
Car/truck/motor vehicle (including carpool)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Bicyclist Survey Details

- Bicyclists intercepted on facility and directed to online survey
- Incentive of \$100 Amazon gift card raffle (3 per city)

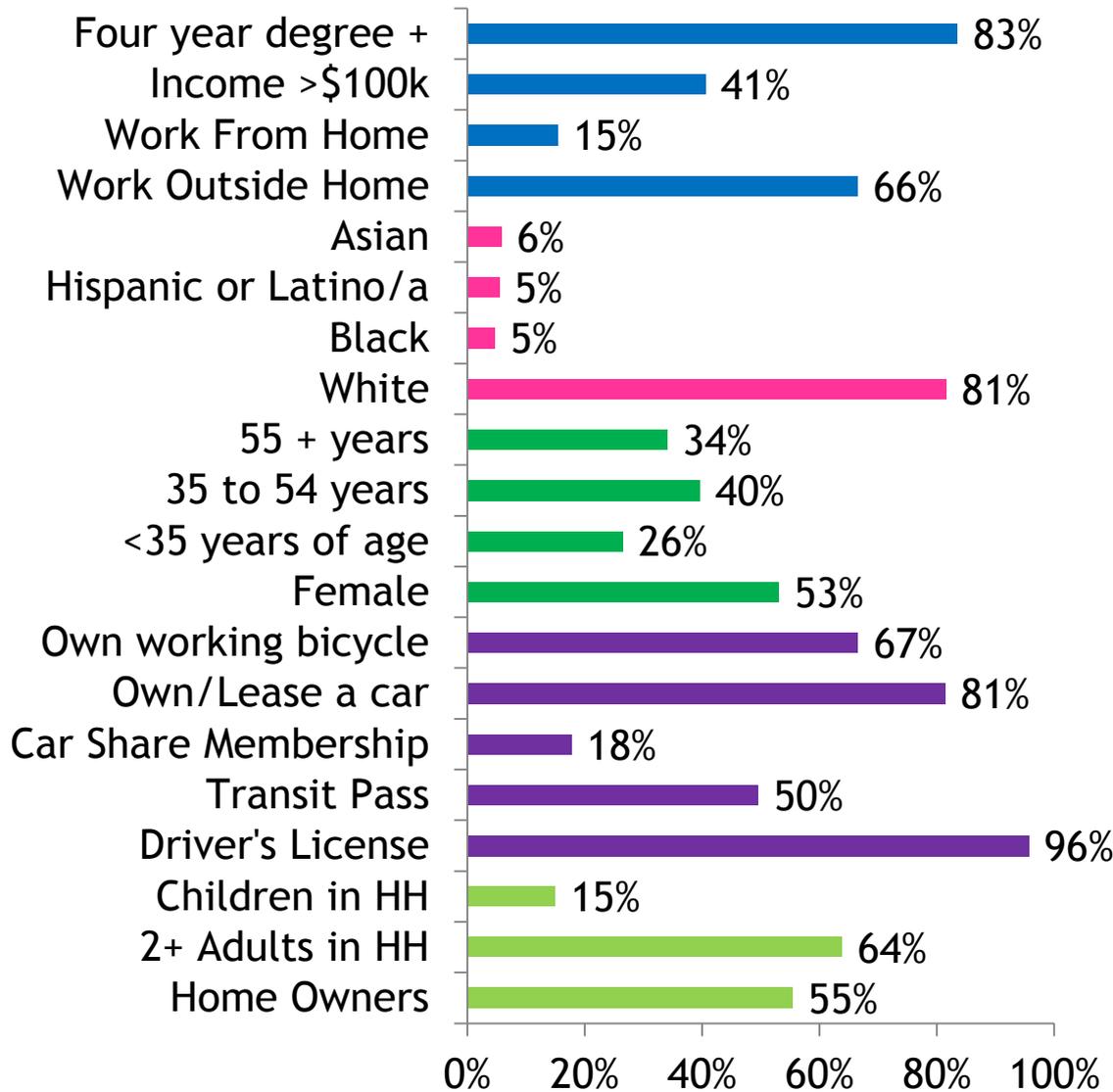


Survey Response Rates

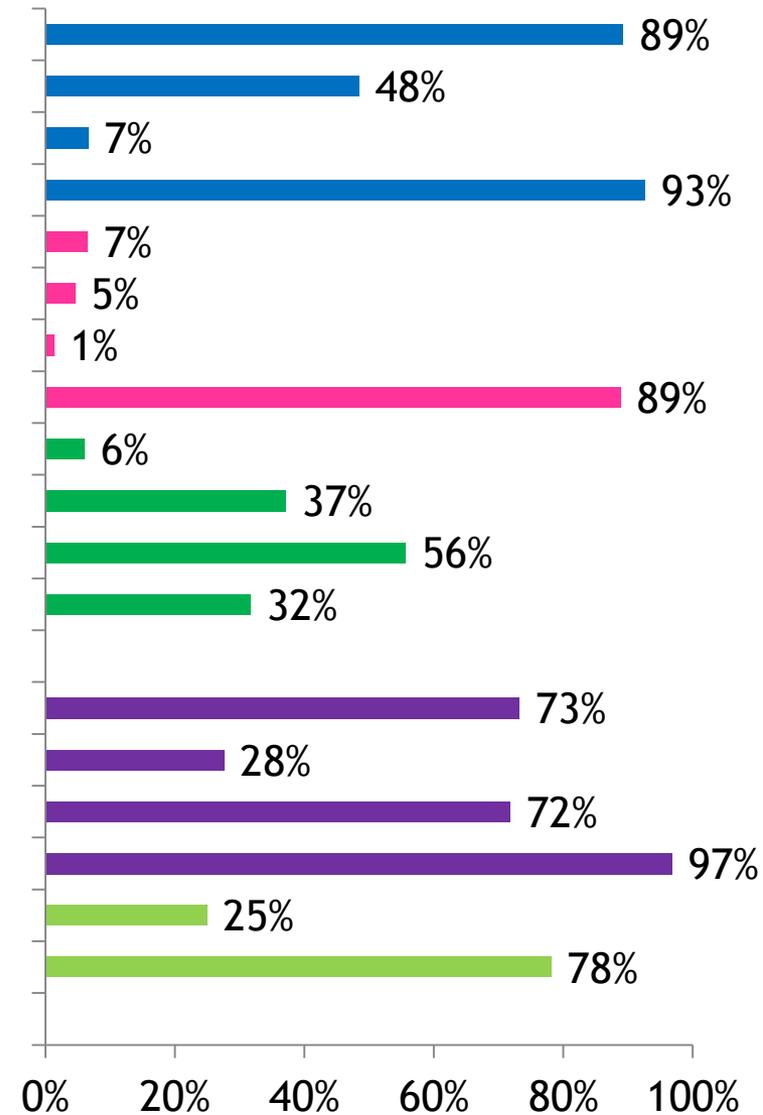
City	Route	Resident Survey			Bicyclist Survey		
		Delivered	Returned	Response Rate	Distributed	Returned	Response Rate
Washington, DC	L Street	1,832	236	13%	763	300	39%
Austin, TX	Bluebonnet Lane	1,590	439	28%	-	-	-
	Barton Springs Road*	333	91	27%	73	18	25%
	Rio Grande Street	-	-	-	98	43	44%
San Francisco, CA	Oak /Fell	1,935	517	27%	900	278	31%
Chicago, IL	N/S Dearborn Street	1,119	197	18%	600	124	21%
	N Milwaukee Avenue	1,470	311	21%	775	236	30%
Portland, OR	NE Multnomah Street	1,467	492	34%	200	112	56%
	TOTAL	9,746	2,283	23%	3,409	1,111	33%

*Note Barton Springs Road is also surveyed in the Bluebonnet Lane resident survey

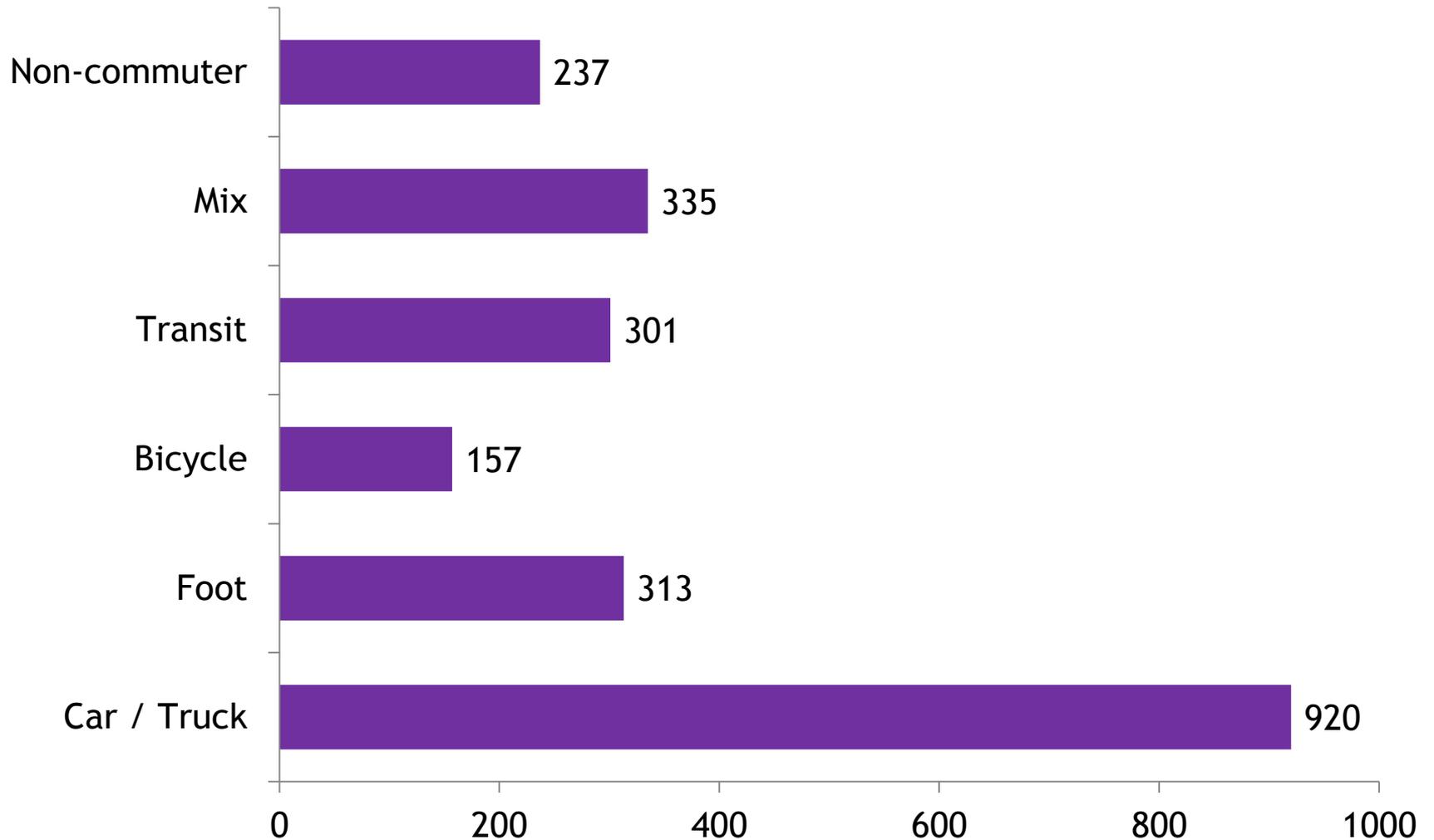
Resident



Bicyclist



Residents by Primary Commute Mode



Data Methods by Facility

		Video Data	Bicyclist Survey	Resident Survey	Count Data
Austin	Barton Springs Road		●	●	●
	Bluebonnet Lane			●	●
	Rio Grande Street		●		●
Chicago	Dearborn Street	●	●	●	●
	Milwaukee Avenue	●	●	●	●
Portland	NE Multnomah Street	●	●	●	●
San Francisco	Fell Street	●	●	●	●
	Oak Street	●	●	●	
Washington DC	L Street	●	●	●	●

Data Used in Analysis

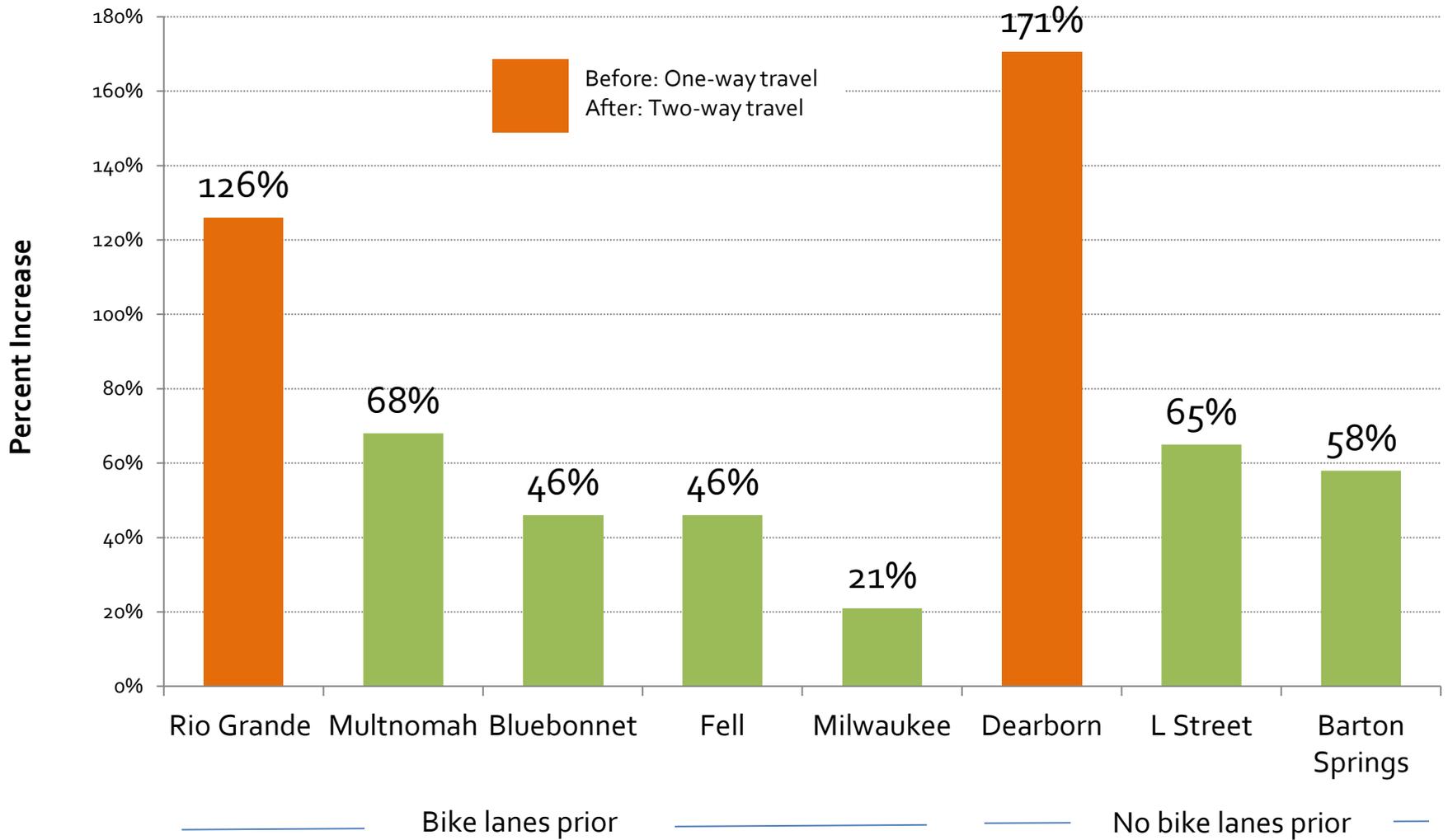
Research Element	Video Data	Bicyclist Survey	Resident Survey	Count Data
Change in Ridership	●	●	●	●
Design/Safety Evaluation	●	●	●	
Barrier Types & Comfort		●	●	
Community Support			●	

Change in Ridership:

Safety perceptions and potential riders



Change in Observed Bicycle Volumes



Before the new facility was built, how would you have made this trip?

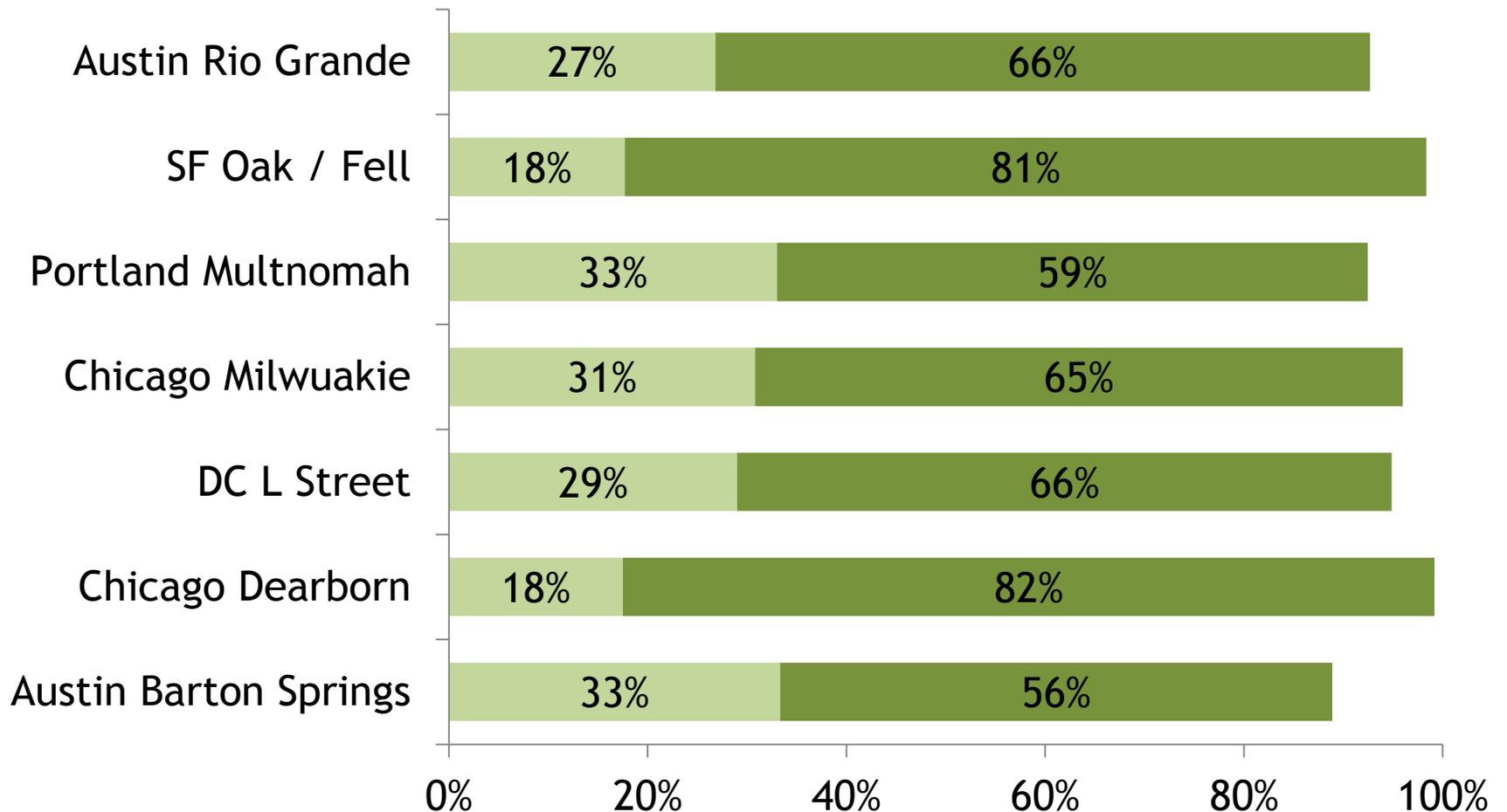


Source: Cyclist intercept surveys, Green Lane evaluation

One likely reason: Improved perception of safety

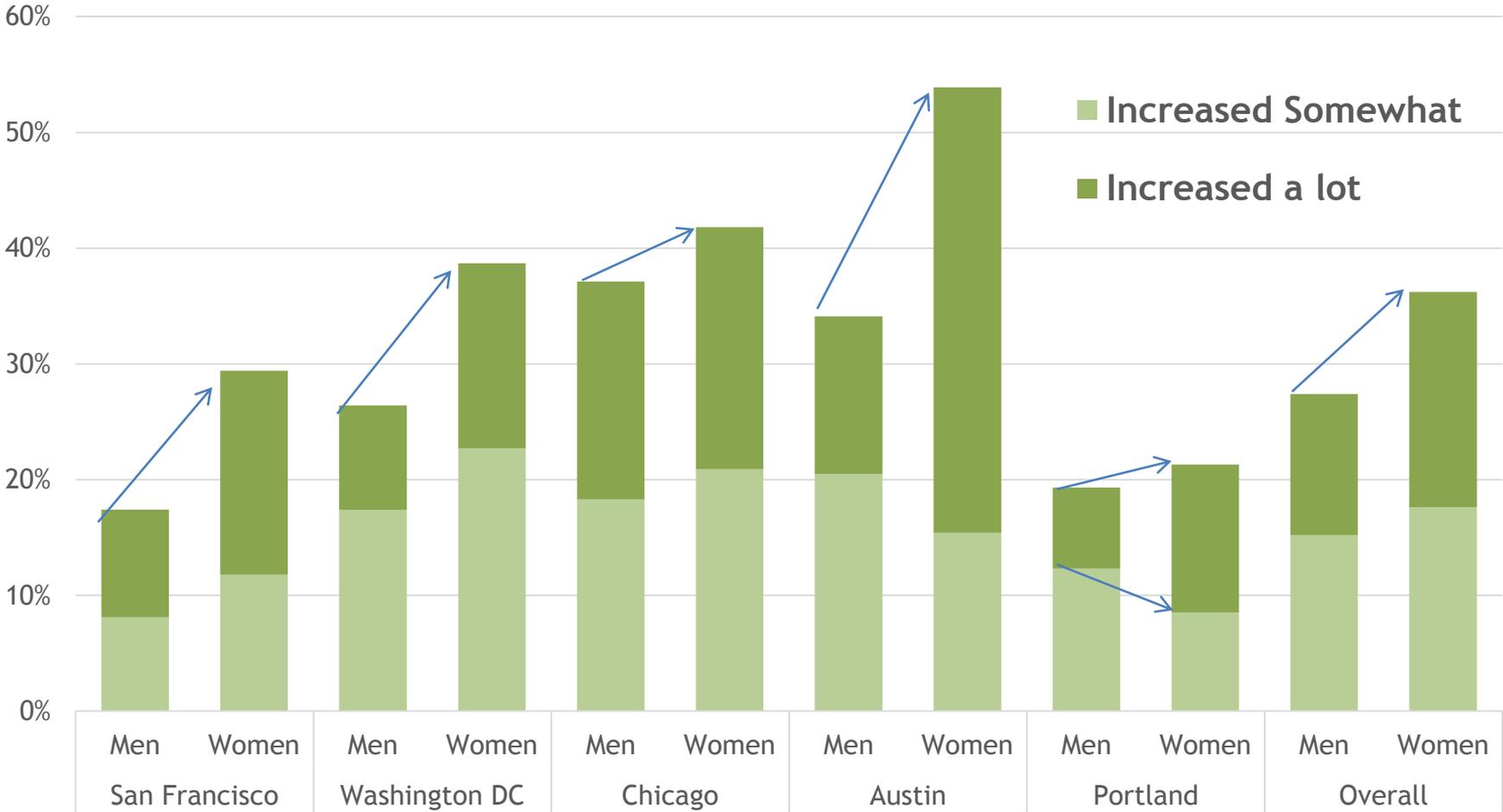
I feel the safety of bicycling on _____ has . .

■ Increased Somewhat ■ Increased a Lot



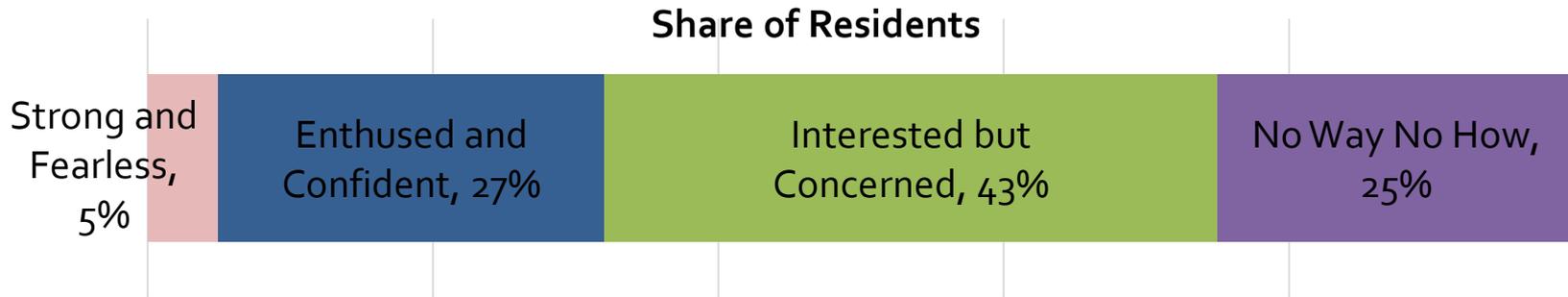
**What about attracting new
cyclists or increasing cycling?**

Because of the _____ Street separated bikeway, how often I ride a bicycle overall has . . .

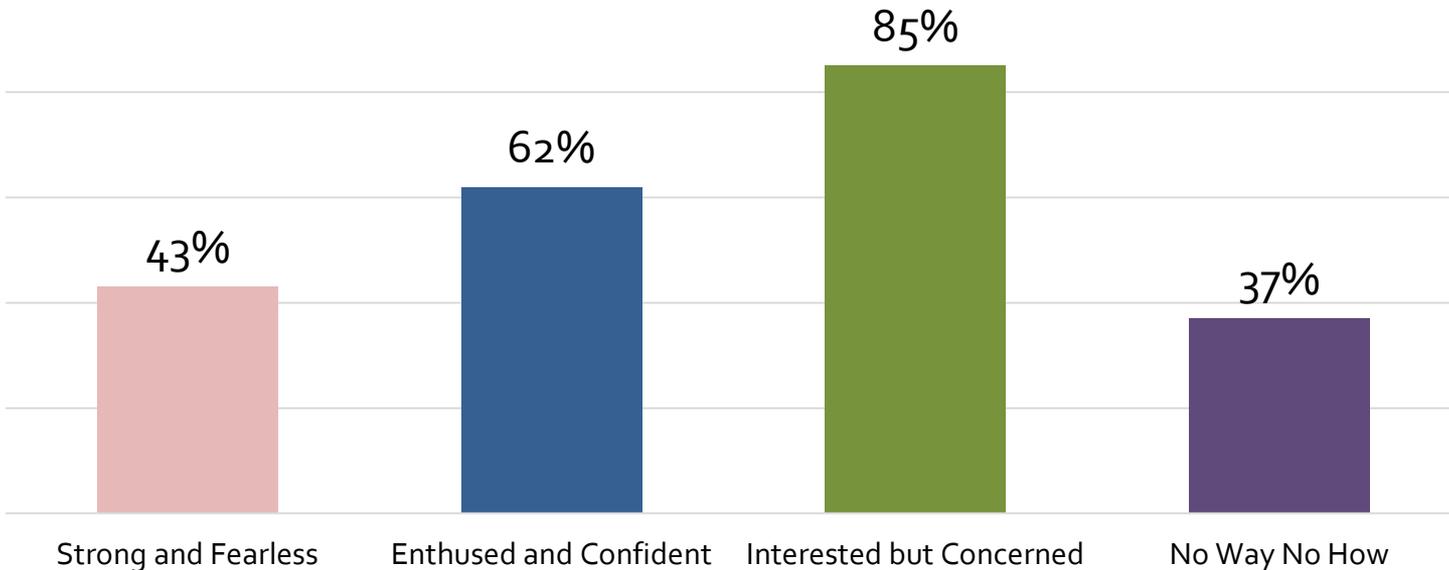


Source: Cyclist intercept surveys, Green Lane evaluation

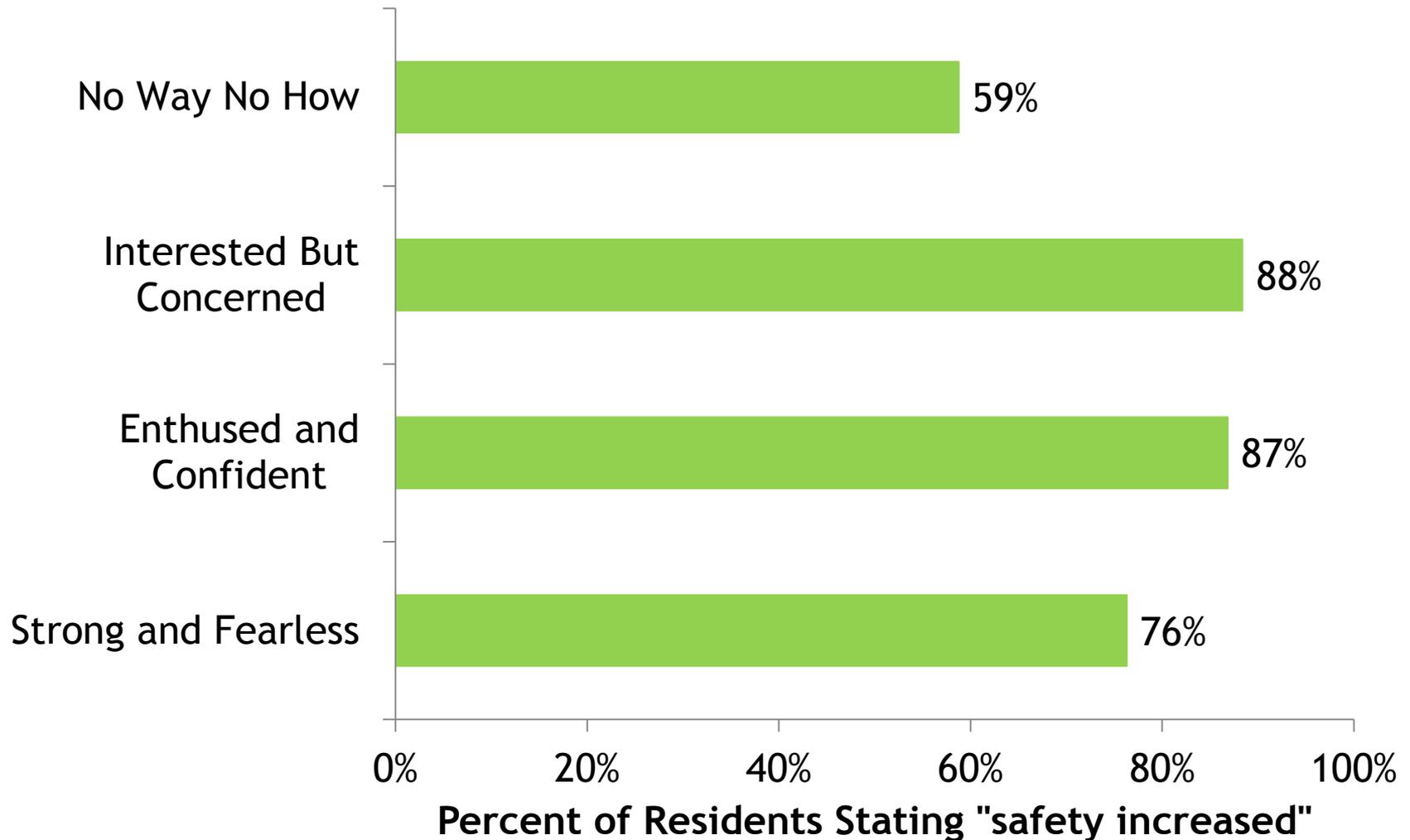
Potential New Cyclists by the “Four Types”



I would be more likely to ride a bicycle if motor vehicles and bicycles were physically separated by a barrier.



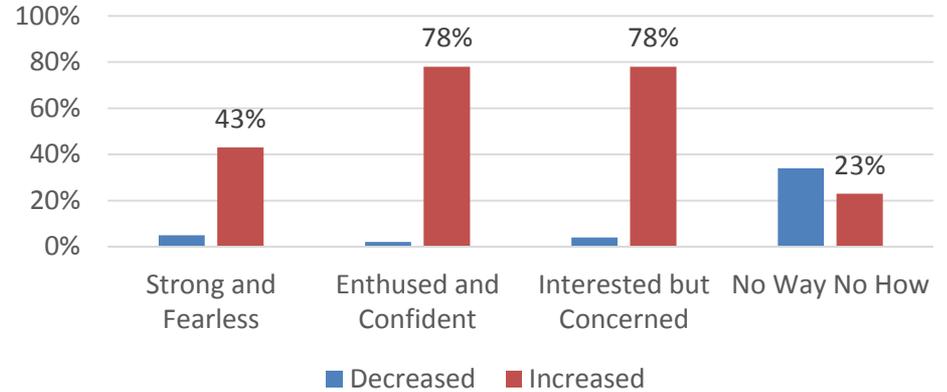
Because of the protected bike lanes, the safety of bicycling on the street has increased



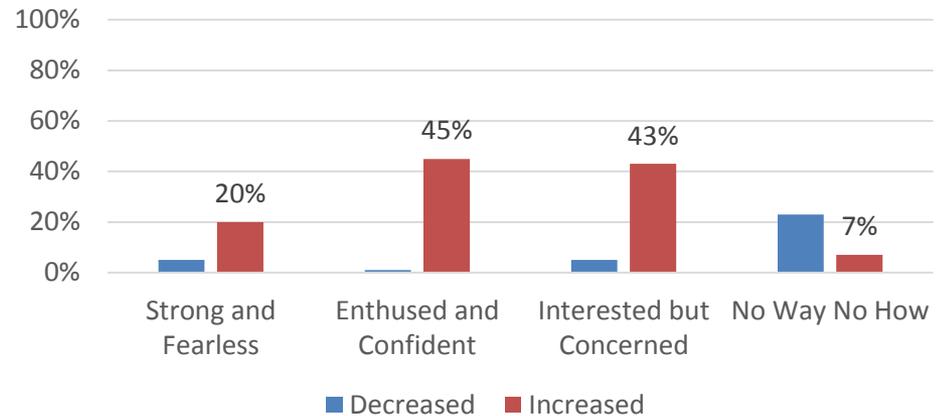
Potential New Cycling

Among residents who have ridden a bicycle on the new facility:

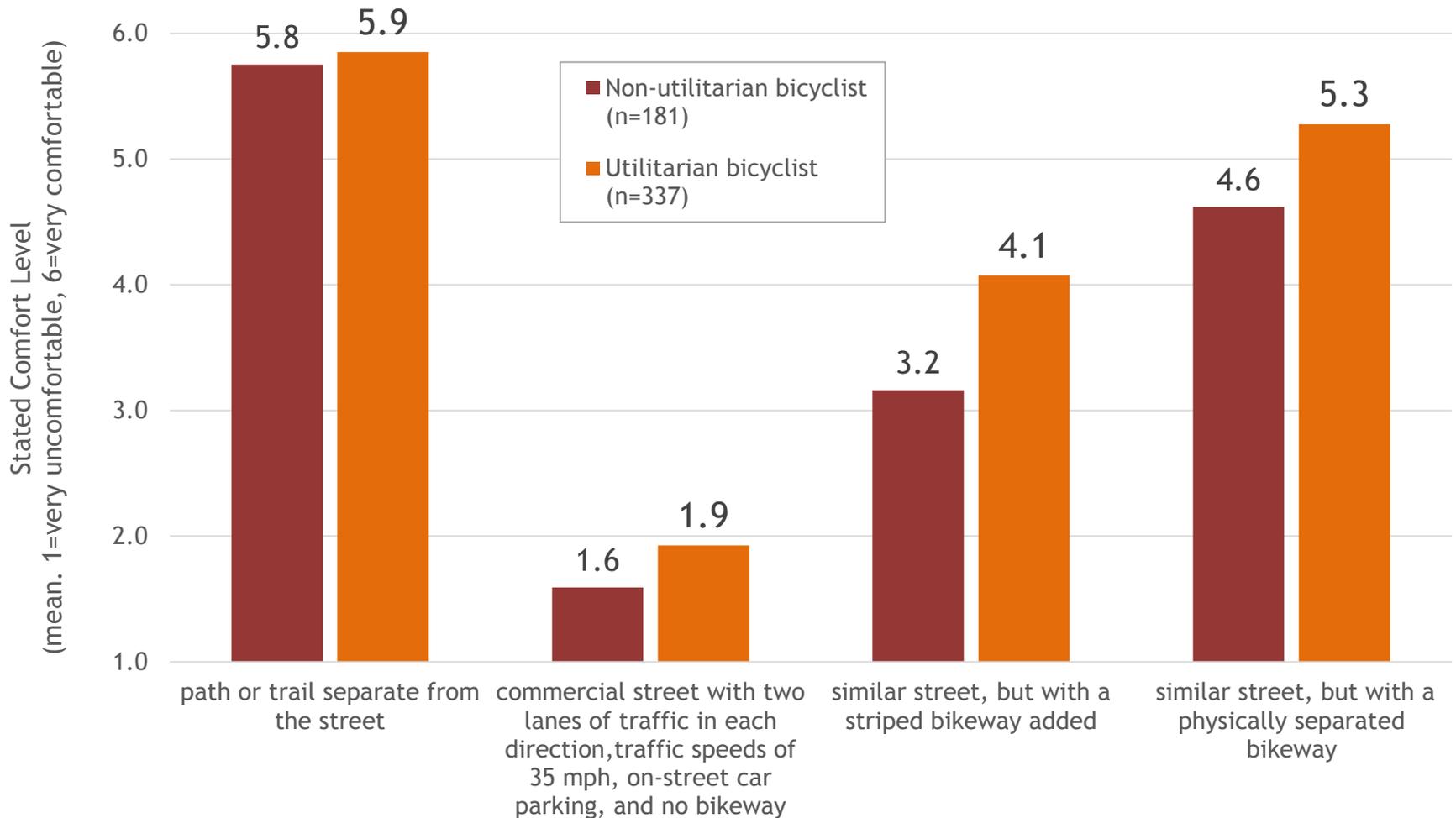
Because of the [facility], the likelihood that I will choose to bicycle on this street as opposed to other streets has . . .



Because of the [facility], how often I ride a bicycle overall has . . .



Women Residents Who Want to Bike More



Levels of comfort in different bicycling environments:

Women residents who are interested in bicycling more, by current bicycling behavior

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Questions?

Design:

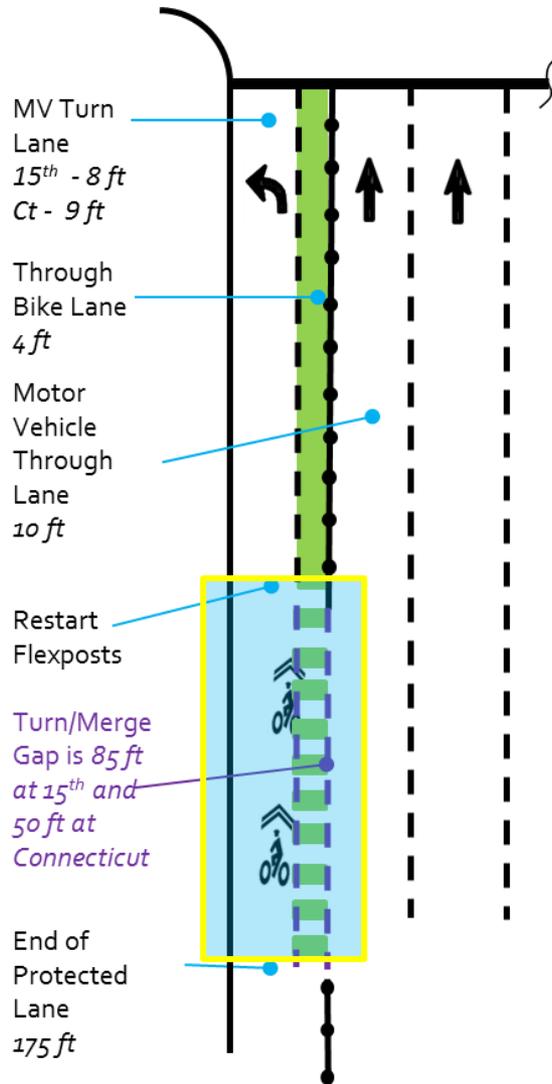
Intersections, Signals, Loading Zone, Green pavement



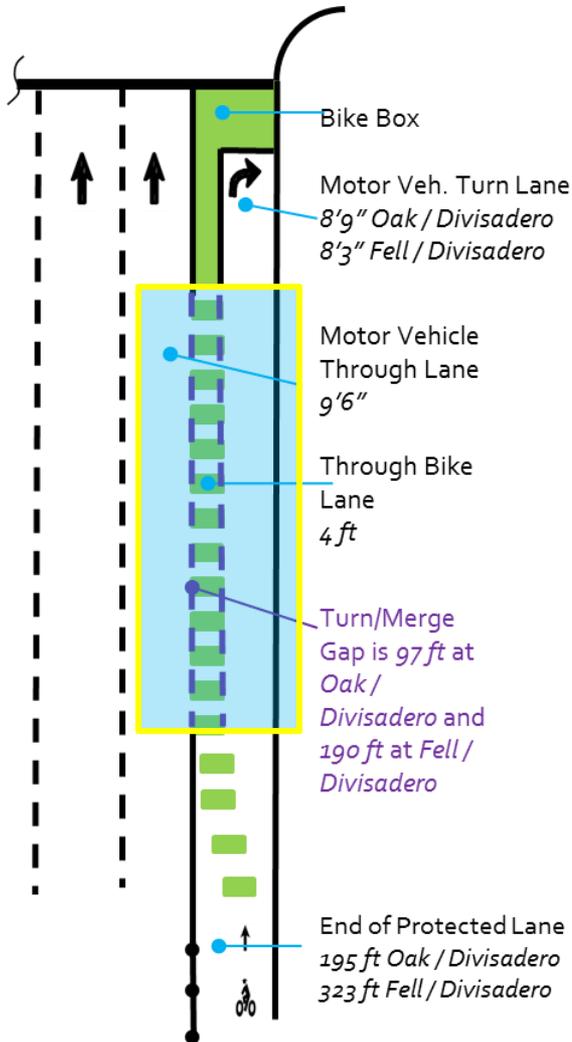
Design Elements

- Intersections
 - Turning and mixing zones
 - Fully signalized
- Providing curb access
 - Hotel loading zone
- Other design elements
 - Green pavement marking
 - Minor driveways
 - “Look Bikes”

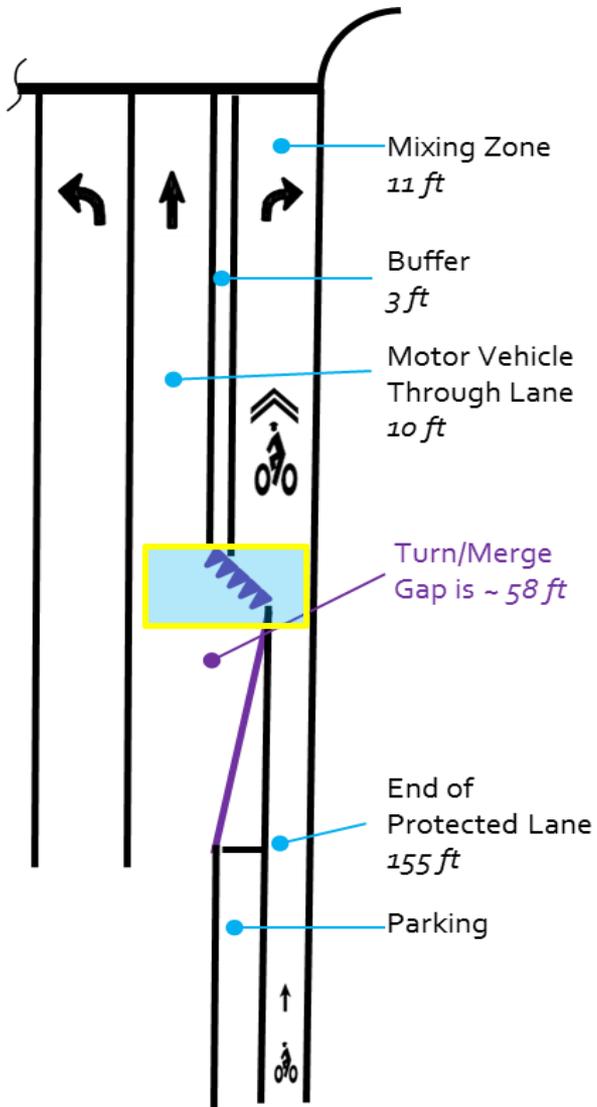
Turning Zone with Post Restricted Entry and Through Bike Lane (TBL)



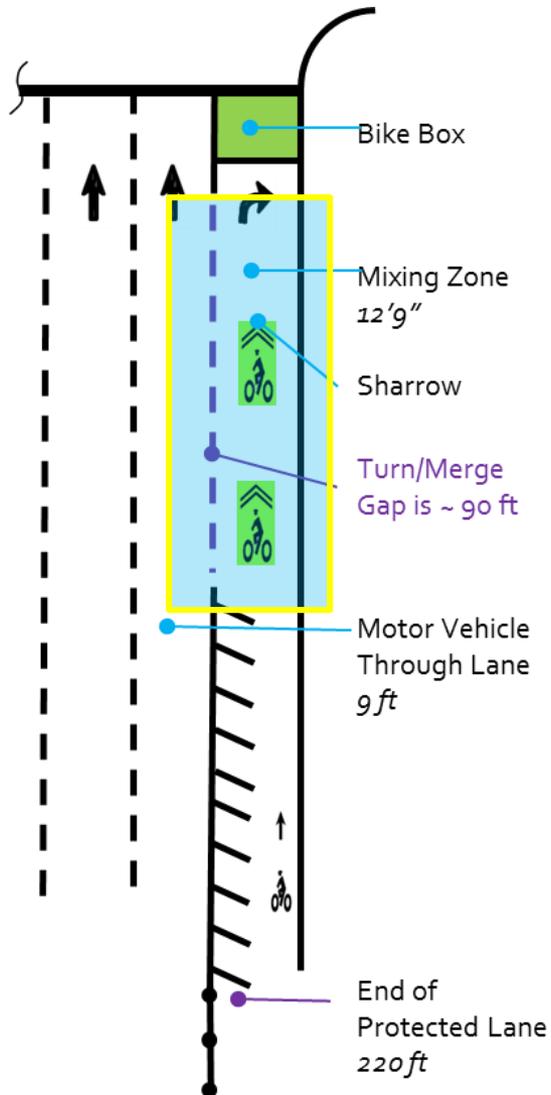
Turning Zone with Unrestricted Entry and TBL



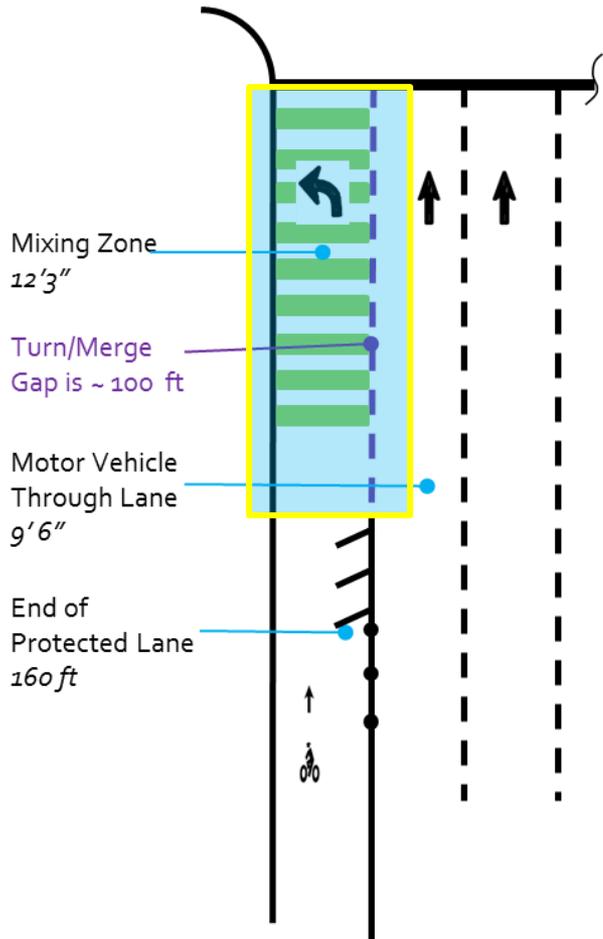
Mixing Zone with Yield Entry Markings



Mixing Zone with Sharrow Marking



Mixing Zone with Green Skip Coloring



Intersection and Type of Design	Direction of Turning Traffic	Through Bikes Per Hour	Turning Vehicles Per Hour	Observed Correct Turning Motorist	Observed Correct Through Bicycle	% of Bicyclists Agreeing They Feel Safe
 <p>Turning Zone with Post Restricted Entry and Through Bike Lane (TBL) L Street / 15th</p>	Left	110	173	86%	93%	64%
 <p>Turning Zone with Post Restricted Entry and TBL L Street / Connecticut</p>	Left	116	125	88%	89%	64%
 <p>Turning Zone with Unrestricted Entry and TBL Oak / Divisadero</p>	Right	201	126	66%	81%	74%
 <p>Mixing Zone with Yield Entry Markings NE Multnomah / 9th</p>	Right	31	94	93%	63%	73%
 <p>Mixing Zone with Sharrow Marking Oak / Broderick</p>	Right	188	24	48%	30%	79%
 <p>Mixing Zone with Green Skip Coloring Fell / Baker</p>	Left	226	48	49%	-	84%

DC Design on M Street



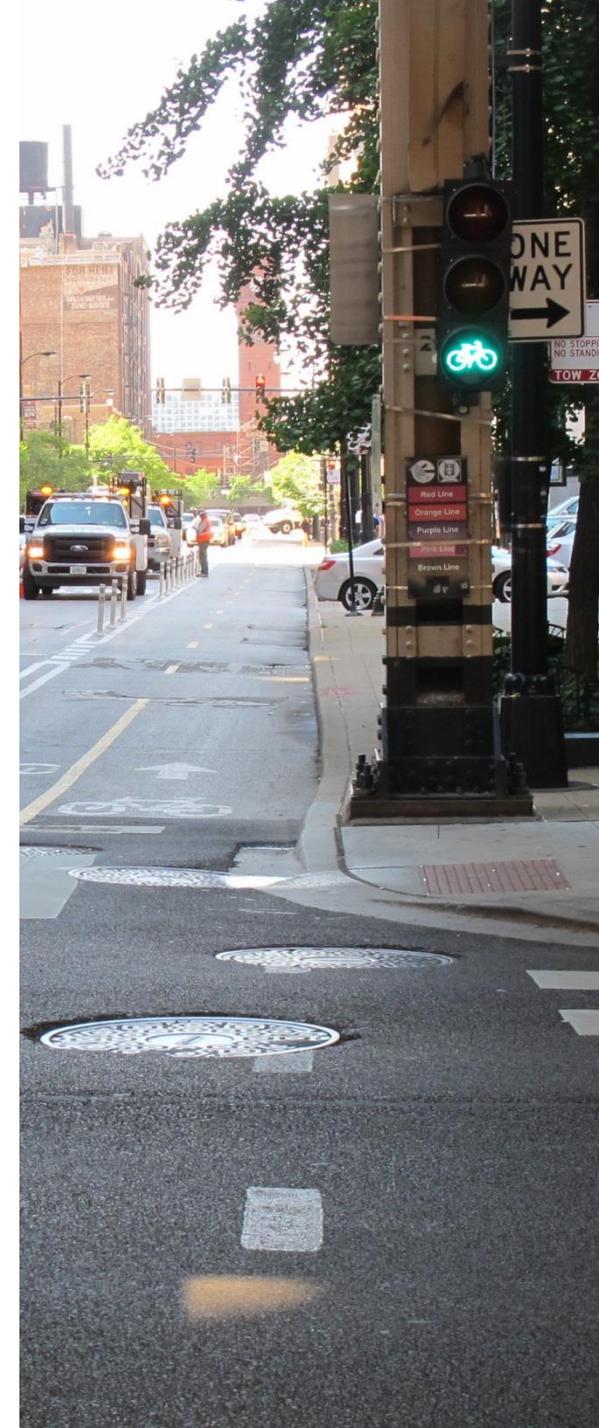
Photo from @JenniferDillPSU



Dearborn and Madison, Chicago, IL
Photo: C. Monsere

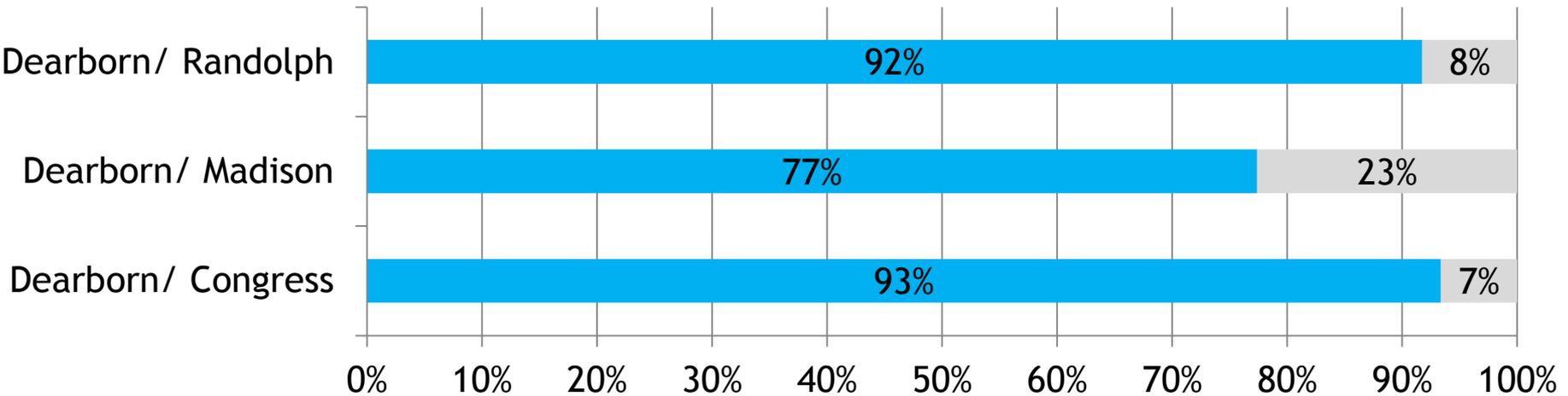
Bicycle Signals on Dearborn

- Using the small bicycle in the bicycle signal lens is a good way to communicate the signal is only for bicycles
 - 87% agree
- I like that bicyclists and turning cars each have their own signal
 - 74% agree
- At these intersections, it is always clear to me which signal I should use as a motorist
 - 66% agree



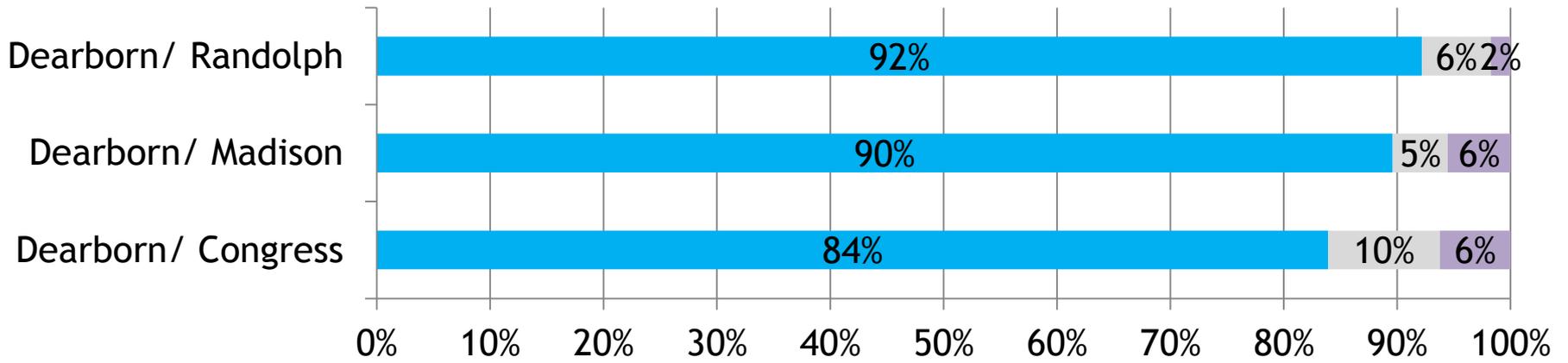
People on Bicycles

■ Waited for green/legal right-turn on red ■ Proceeded illegally on red

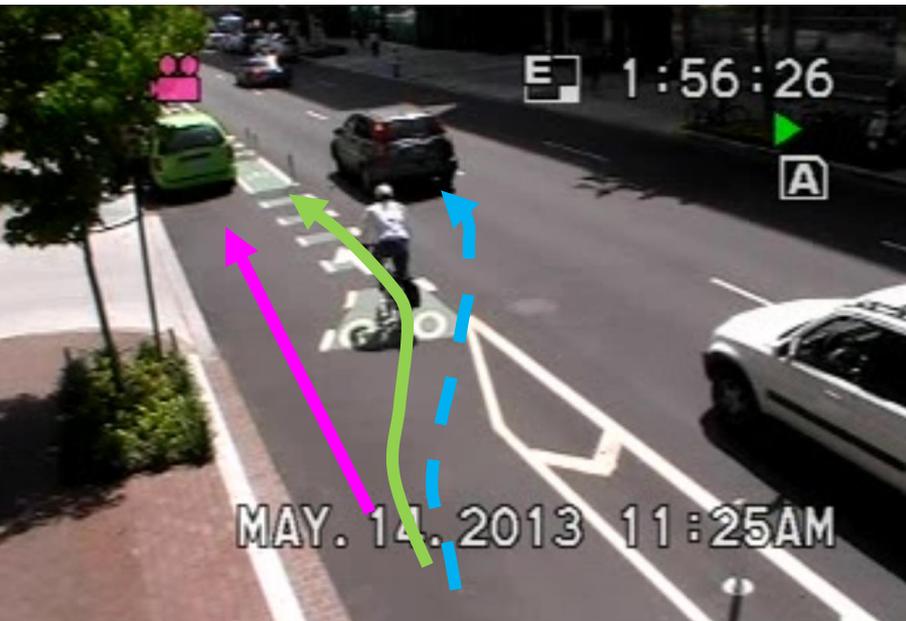


People in Motor Vehicles

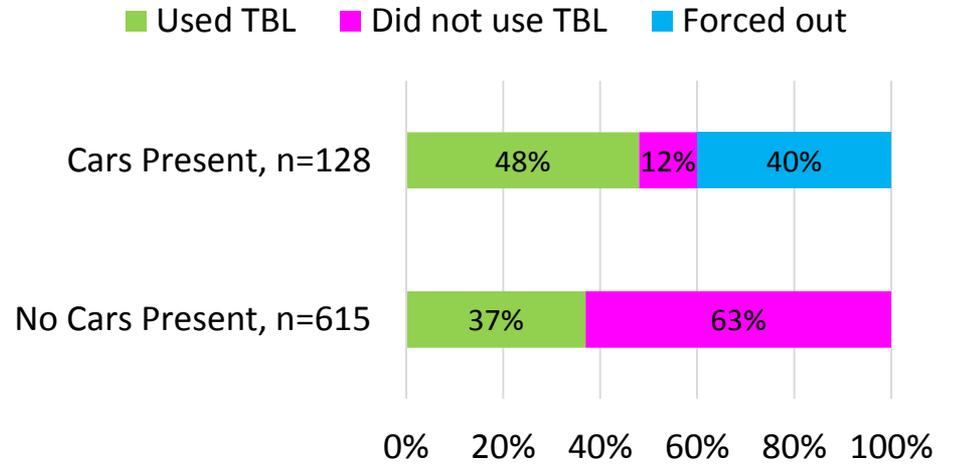
■ Legal Turn on Green ■ Illegal Turn on Red Arrow ■ Jumped into crosswalk



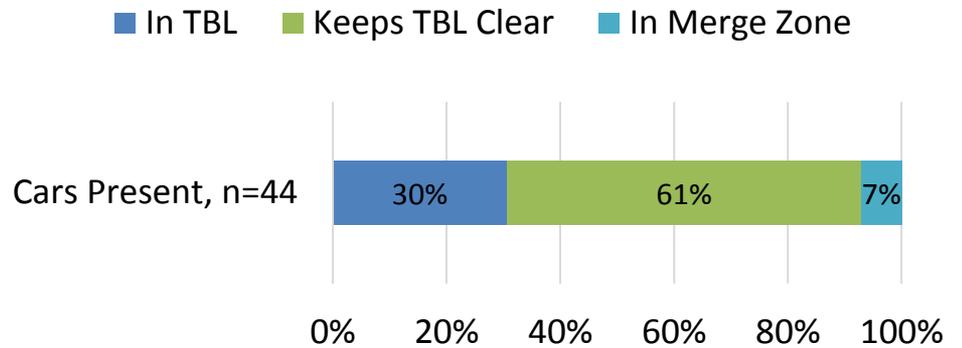
Hotel Loading Zone



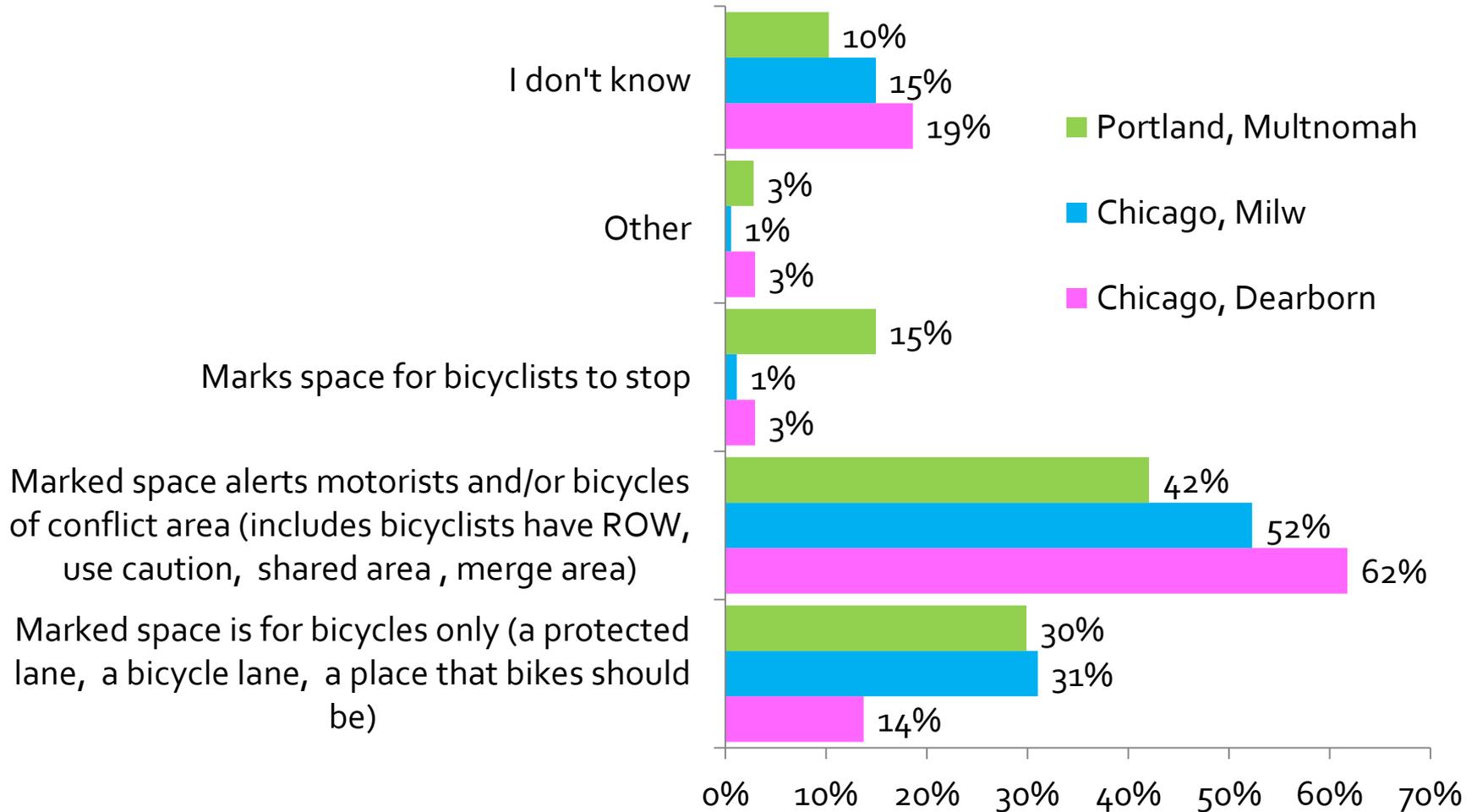
Bicycle Use



Motor Vehicle Use



Meaning of Green Marking



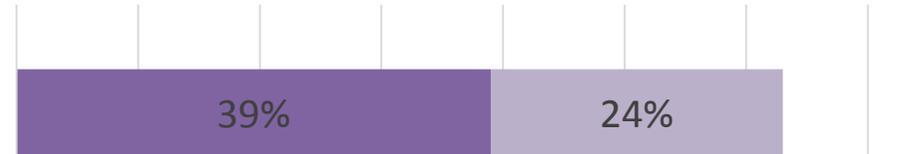
n=

Minor Intersections

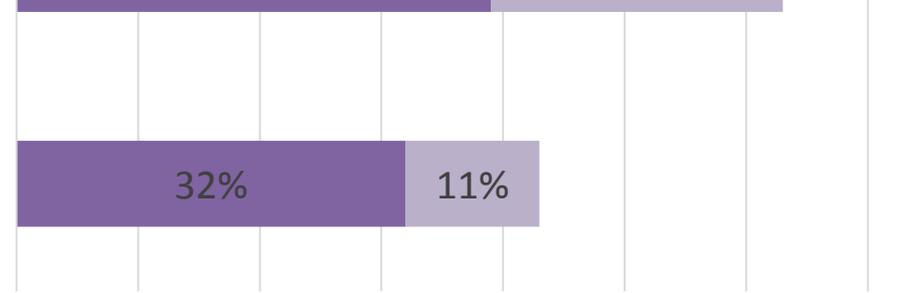


■ Somewhat Agree ■ Strongly Agree

The “Yield to Bikes” signs have made me pay closer attention to cyclists when turning off Milwaukee Ave.



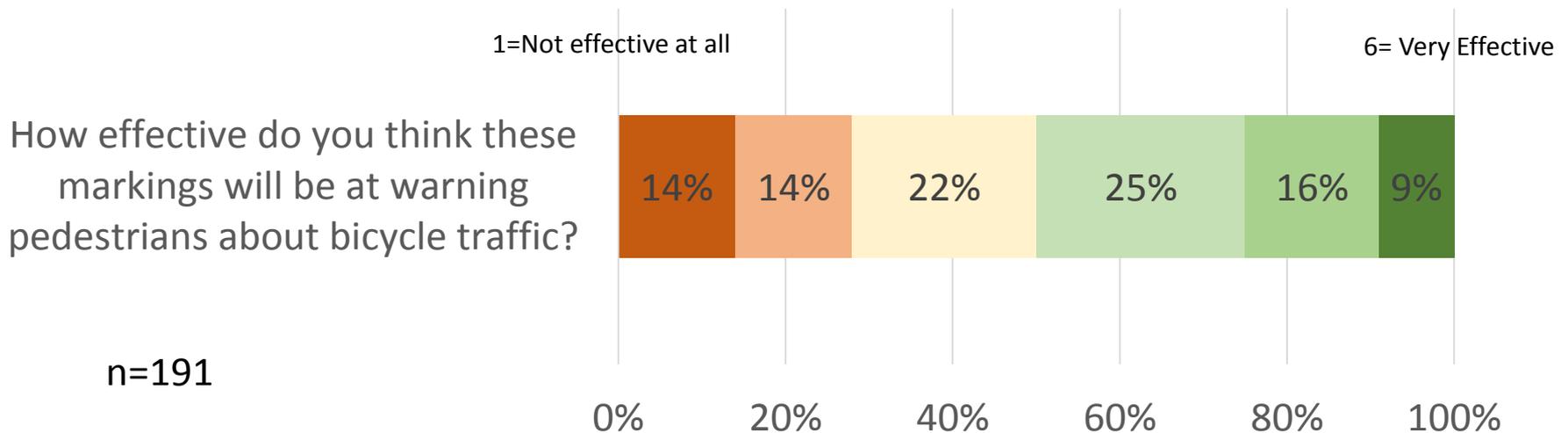
When I want to turn right, I am able to adequately see if there are any approaching cyclists in the bike lane.



0% 10% 20% 30% 40% 50% 60% 70%

n=276

Look Bikes



LET KNOWLEDGE SERVE THE CITY

Questions?

Barriers:

Buffer types and perceived comfort



Buffer type affects safety and comfort

Types of buffers used include:



Flexposts and painted buffer
(Fell Street, San Francisco)



Parked vehicles and flexposts
(Milwaukee Avenue,
Chicago)



Semi-permanent planter with
colored pavement
(Multnomah St., Portland)

Comfort on Hypothetical Facilities with Varying Buffers

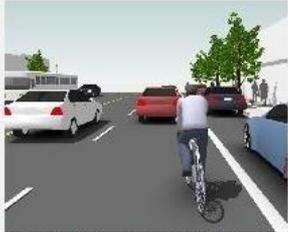
Residents + Bicyclists

Whether or not you currently ride a bicycle, please consider how comfortable you would be riding a bicycle in each situation:

Very Uncomfortable (1) (2) (3) (4) (5) (6) Very Comfortable



(A) On a path or trail separate from the street



(B) On a commercial street with two lanes of traffic in each direction, with traffic speeds of 35 miles per hour, on-street car parking, and no bike lane



(C) On a similar street to (B), but with a striped bike lane added



(D) On a similar street to (B), but with a physically separated bike lane



Bicyclists Only

How comfortable would you feel bicycling on a commercial street with two lanes of traffic in each direction, with traffic speeds of 35 miles per hour (Situation D above), but with the following types of separation from traffic:

With a solid painted buffer



With a painted 2-3 foot buffer



With a painted buffer and parked cars



With a raised concrete curb



With a 2-3 foot buffer and plastic flexposts

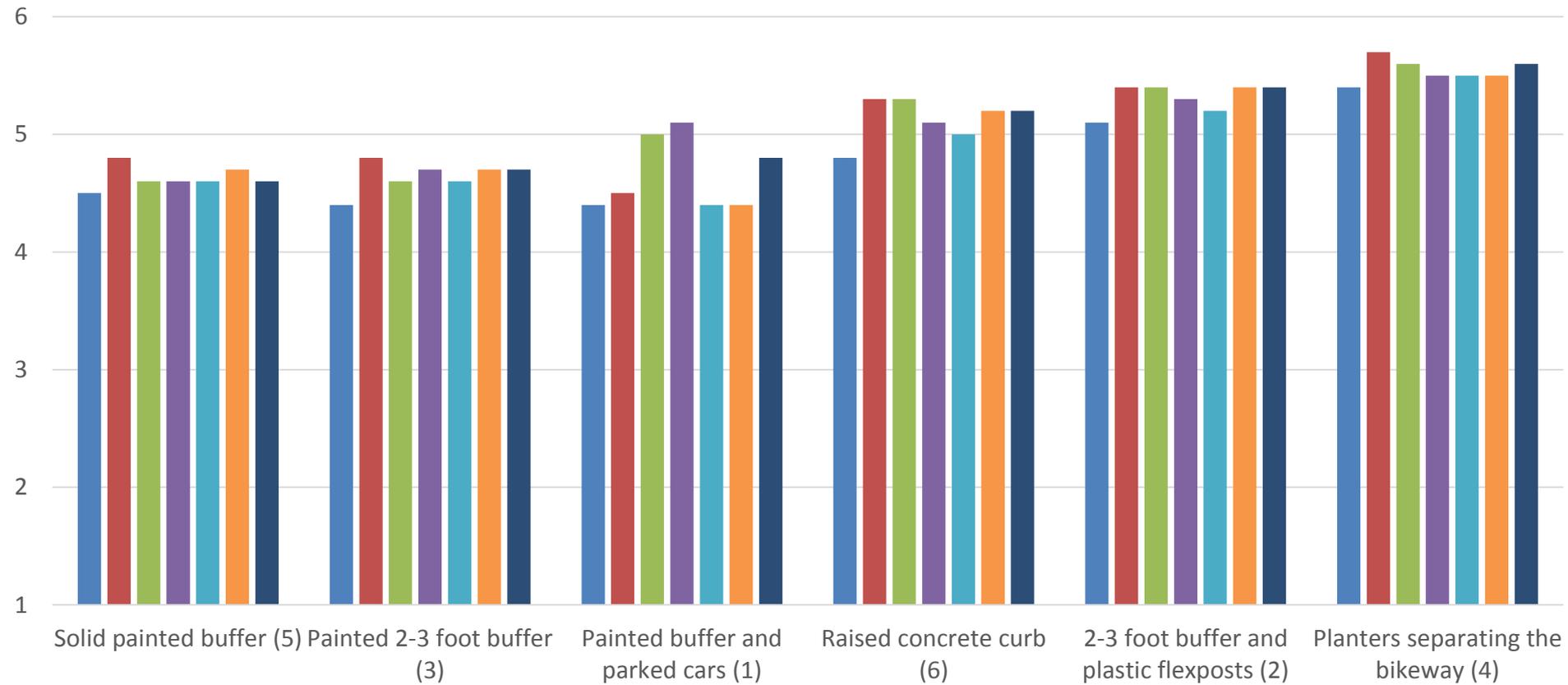


With planters separating the bikeway



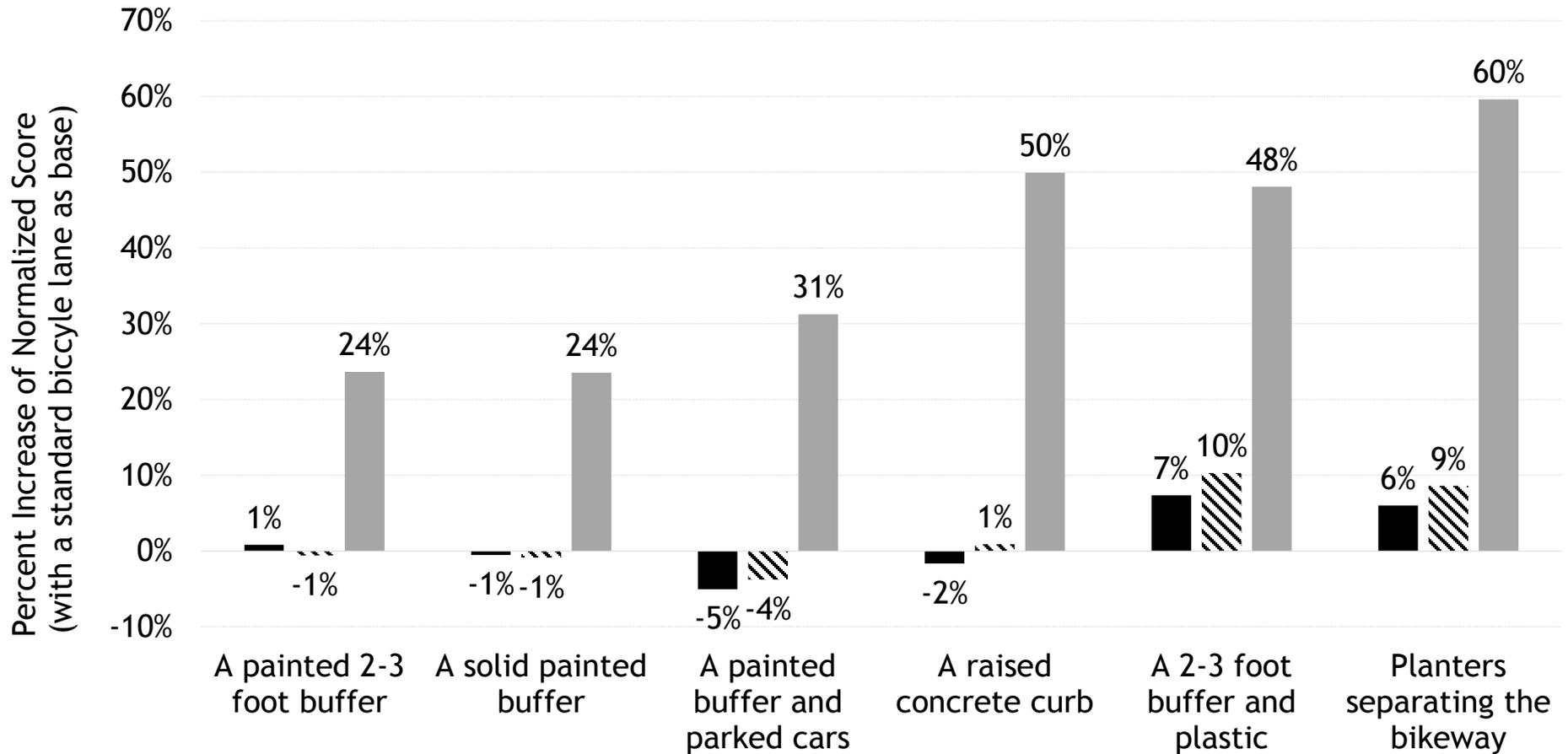
Bicyclists: Mean Stated Comfort with Hypothetical Buffers

■ Austin Barton Springs
 ■ Austin Rio Grande
 ■ Chicago Dear.
 ■ Chicago Milw.
■ Portland Mult.
 ■ SF Oak / Fell Streets
 ■ D.C. L Street

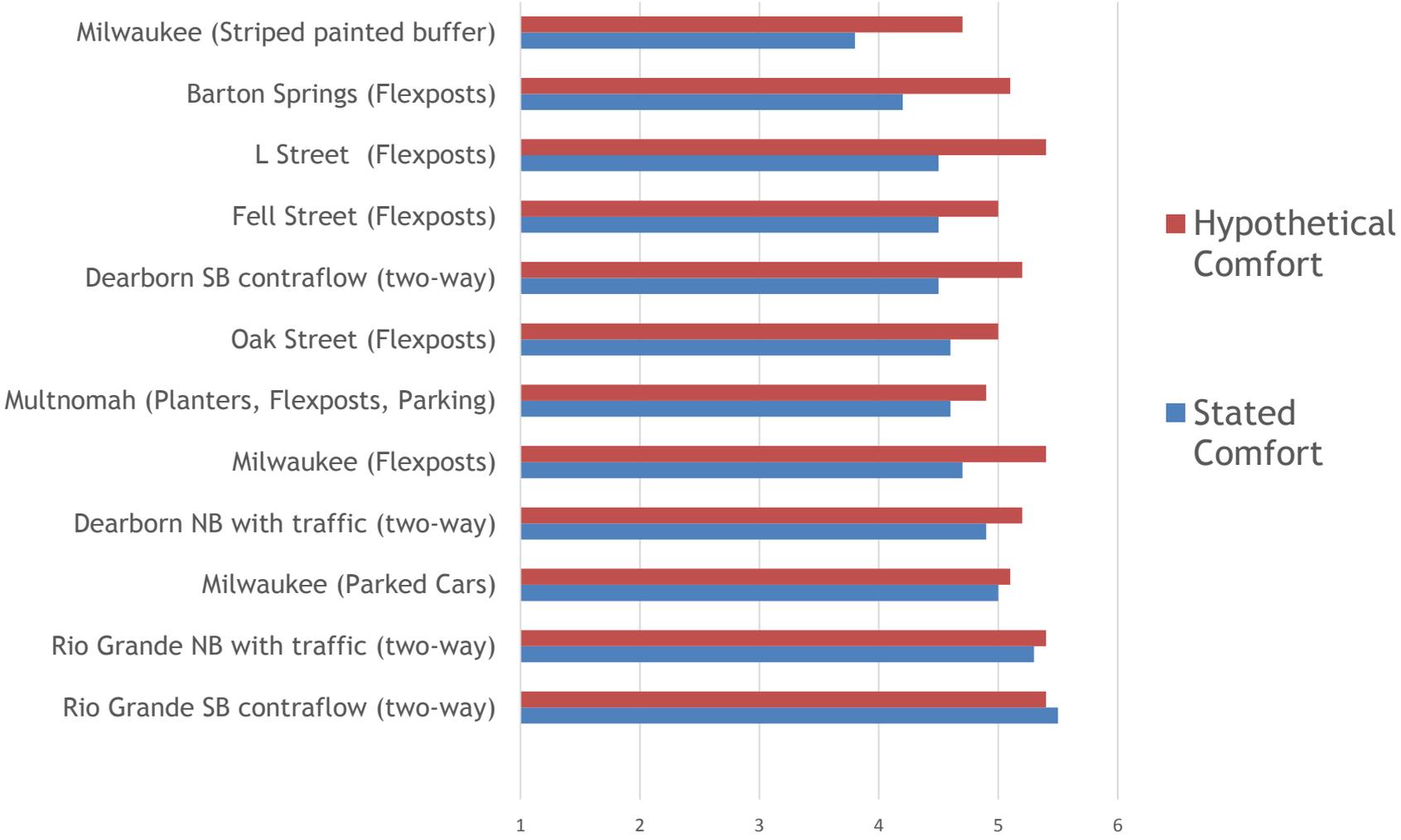


Change in Stated Comfort (from a bike lane), by bicyclist type

Strong and Fearless
 Enthused and Confident
 Interested But Concerned



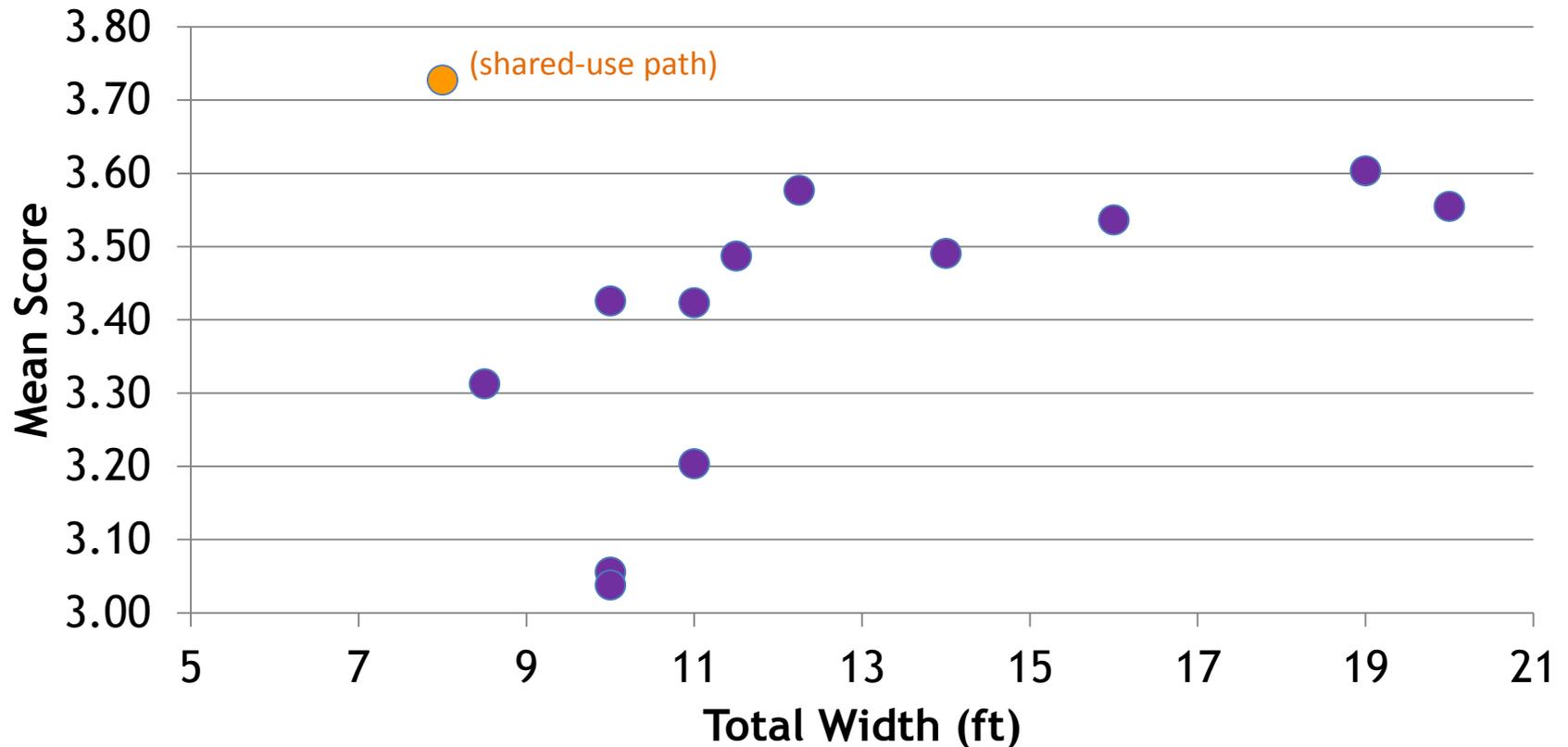
Bicyclists: Comparing Stated Comfort on Hypothetical Facilities to Stated Comfort on Actual Facilities



Source: Cyclist intercept surveys, Green Lane evaluation

Bicyclists: Buffer width and Sense of Safety

...buffer makes me feel safe



Far Edge of Bicycle Facility to Near Edge of Motor Vehicle Lane



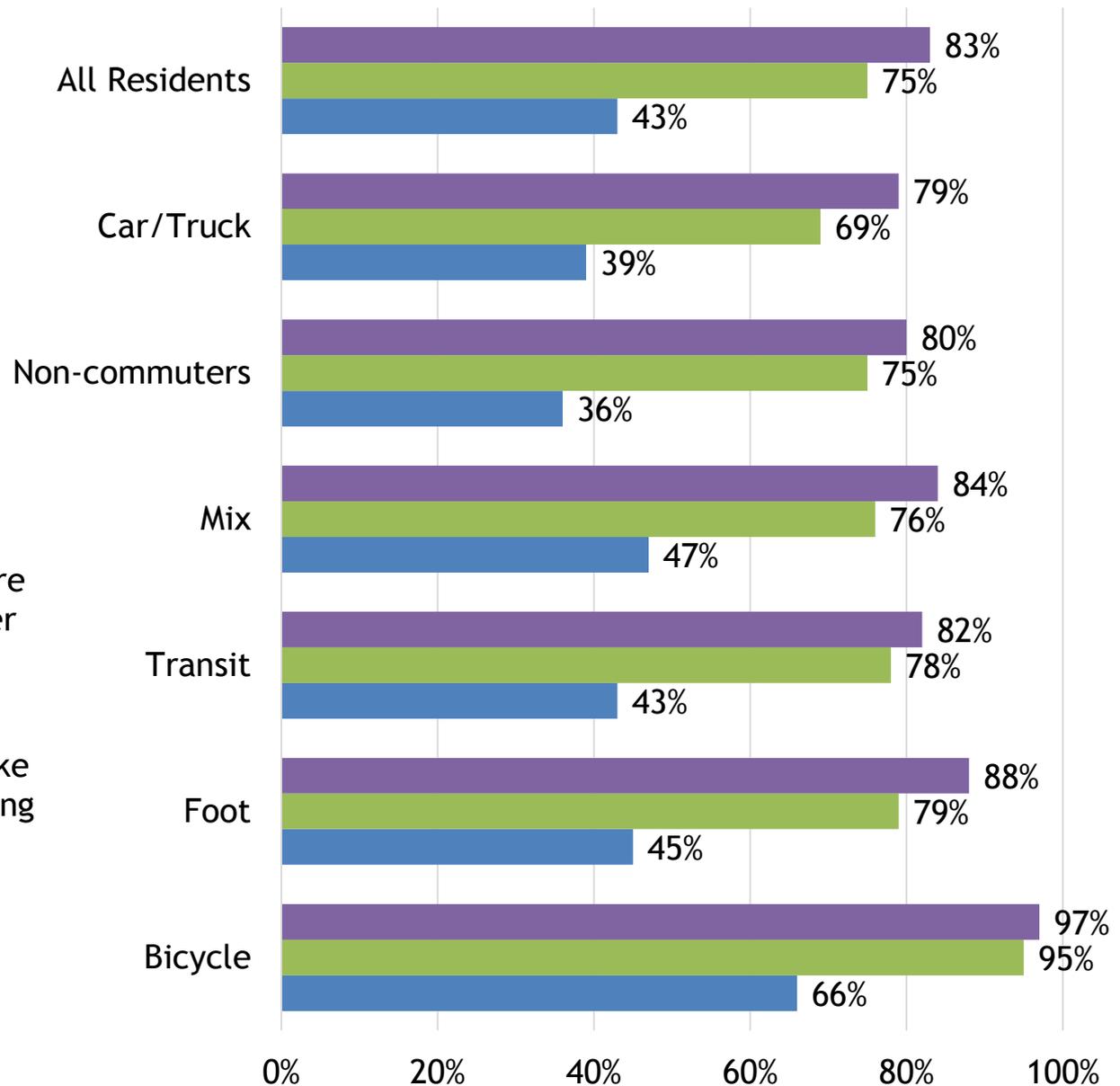
Community Support:

Motorists, Pedestrians, General

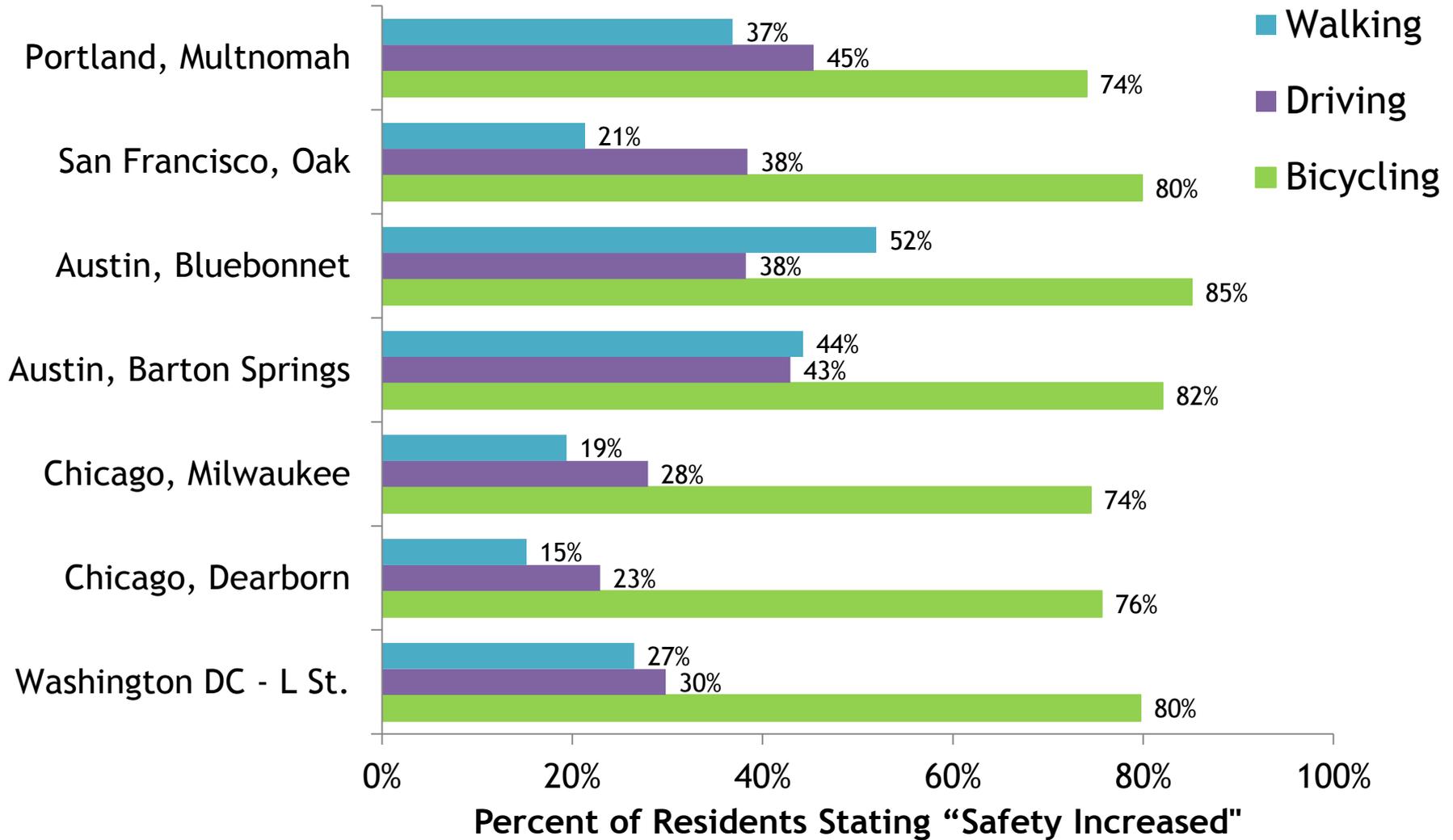


Support for Protected Lanes

- Facilities that encourage bicycling for transportation are a good way to improve public health.
- I would support building more protected bike lanes at other locations.
- Because of the protected bike lanes, the desirability of living in my neighborhood has increased

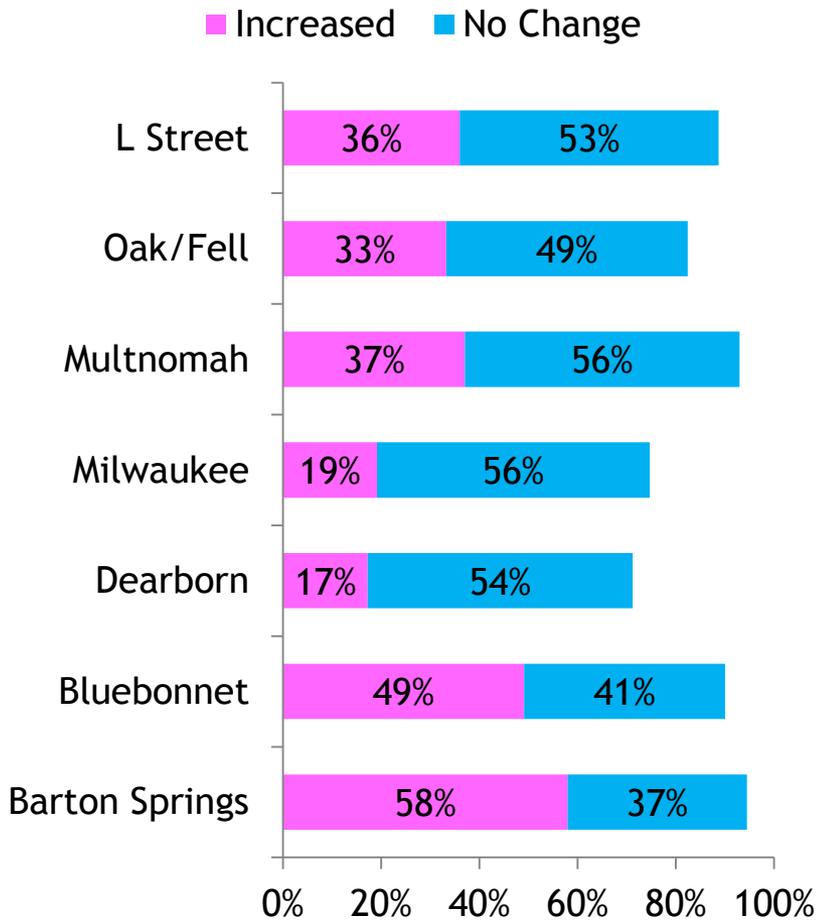


Because of the protected bike lanes, the safety of _____ on the street has . .

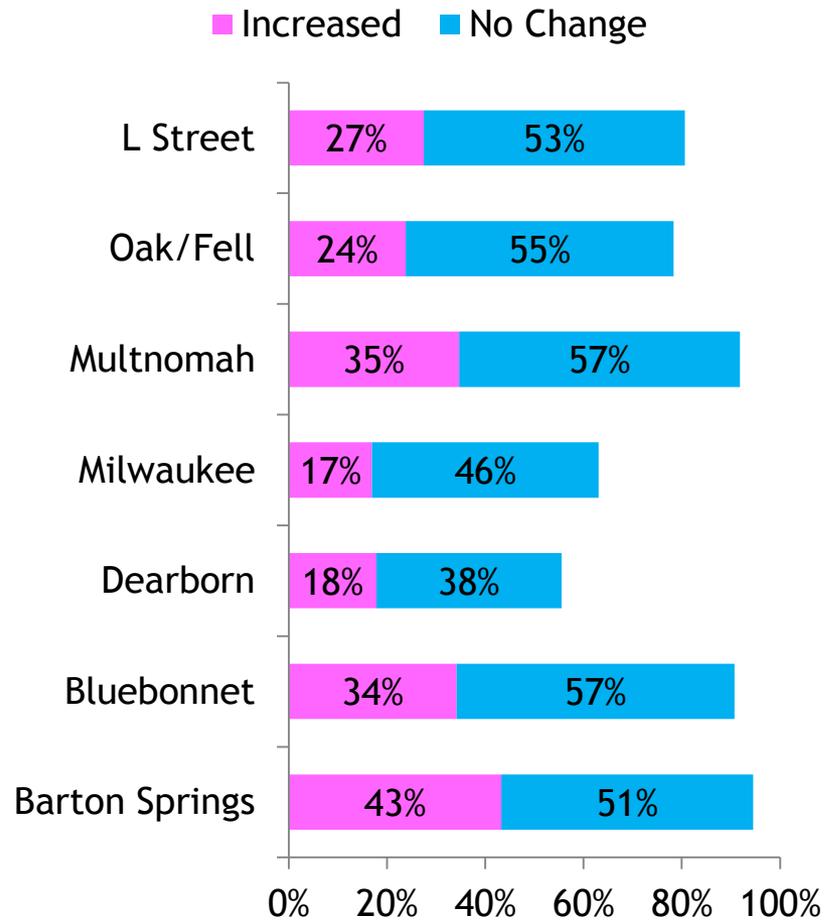


Because of the protected bike lanes,

...my satisfaction with the walking environment on this street

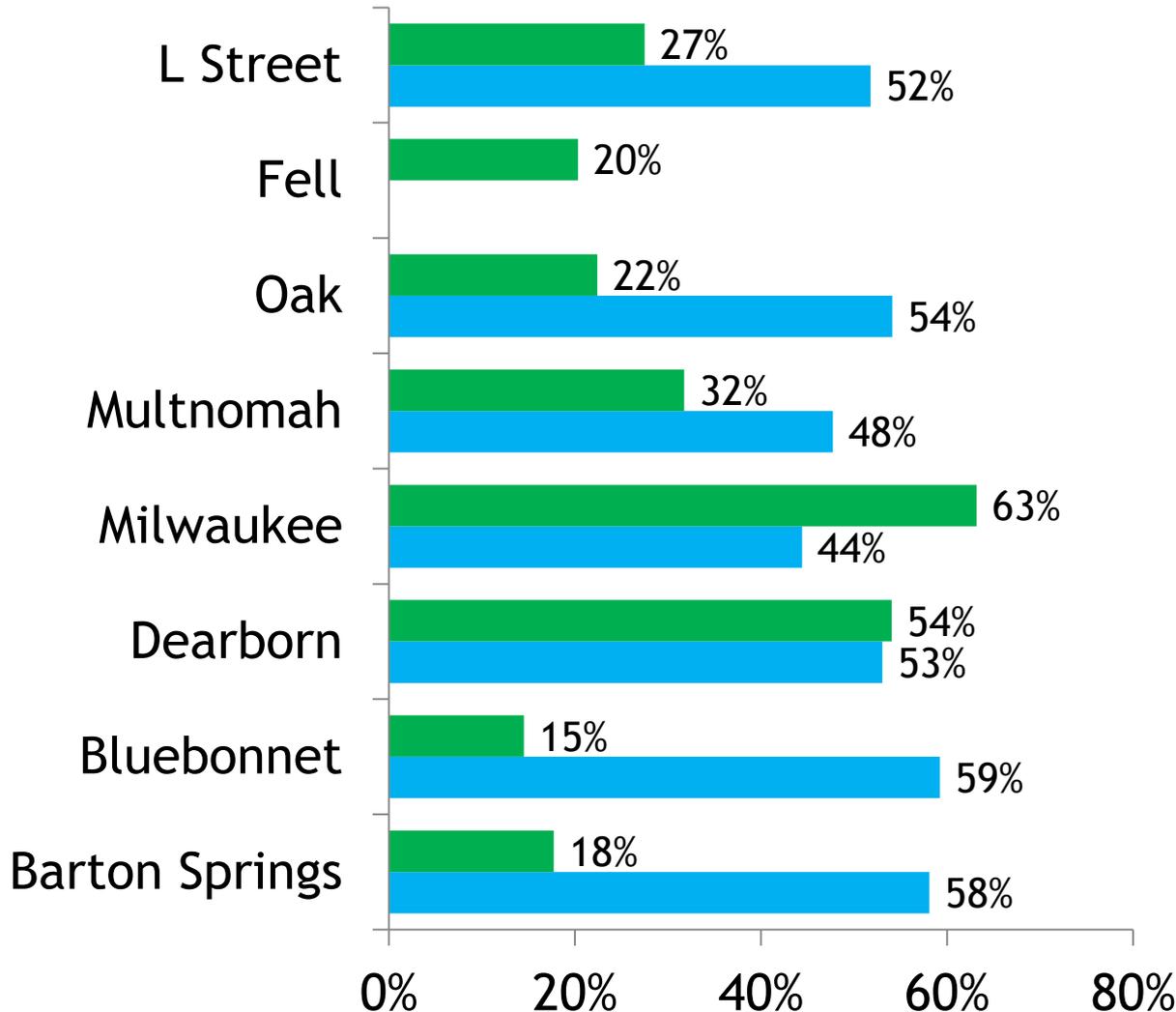


...my sense of safety when crossing this street has



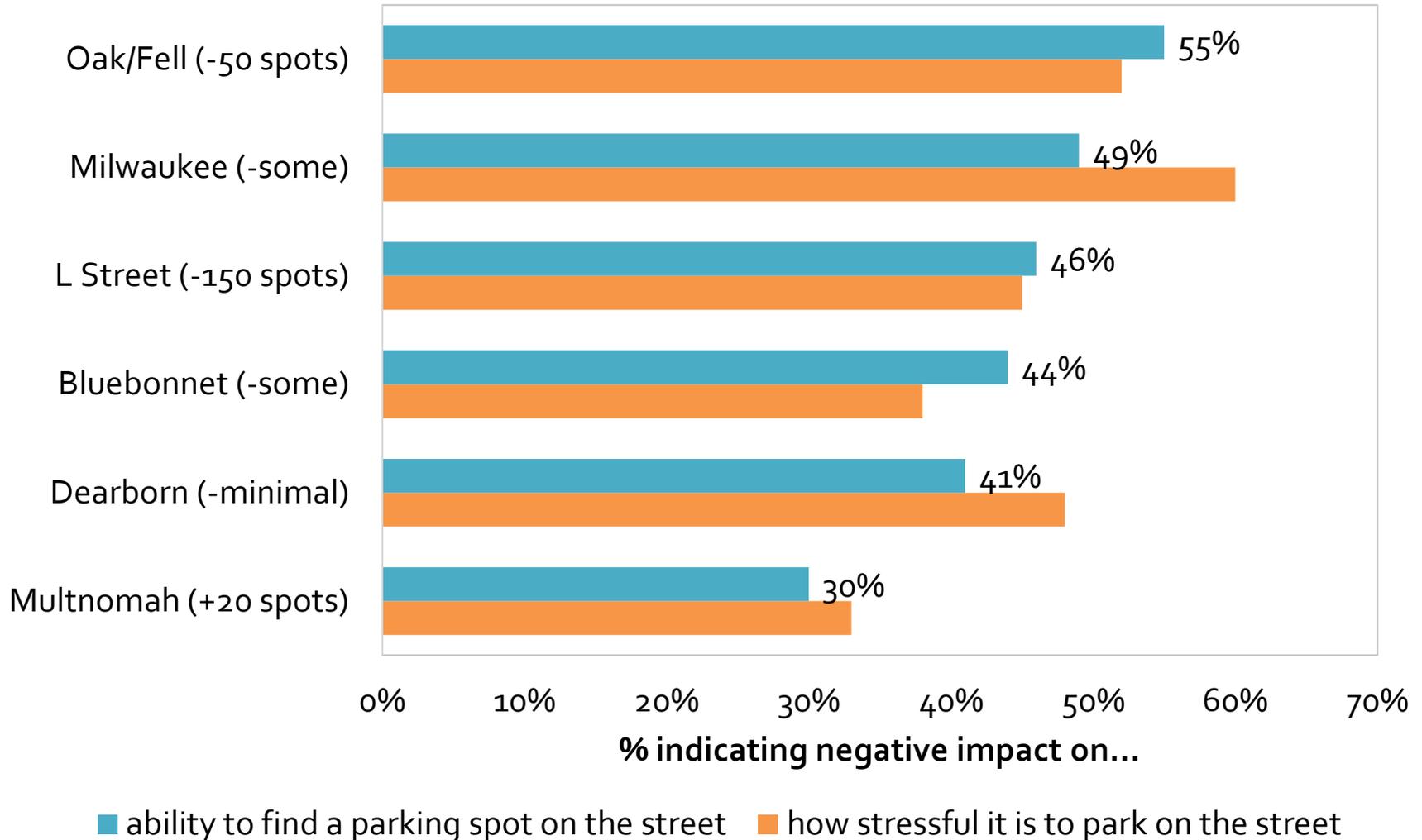
Perceptions of residents driving on street

Percent responding increased



- Since the protected bike lanes were built, the amount of time it takes me to drive on this street has . . .
- Since the protected bike lanes were built, how safe and predictable bicyclists are acting has . . .

Perceptions about Parking



LET KNOWLEDGE SERVE THE CITY

Questions?

http://bit.ly/nitc_583

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BONUS / REFERENCE SLIDES

Study Routes: Pre-Conversion

	Austin			Chicago		Portland	San Francisco		DC
	<i>Barton Springs Road</i>	<i>Bluebonnet Lane</i>	<i>Rio Grande St</i>	<i>N/S Dearborn St</i>	<i>N Milwaukee Ave</i>	<i>NE Multnomah St</i>	<i>Fell St</i>	<i>Oak St</i>	<i>L Street NW</i>
Length (miles)	0.5	0.7	0.4	1.2	0.8	0.8	0.3	0.3	1.12
# Signalized Intersections	4	0	2	13	7	10	4	4	15
# Unsignalized Intersections	2	15	5	0	5	3	0	0	0
ADT	23-28k	3.5k	5k	8-16k	12k	10k	28k	30k	12-14k
Transit stops on route	✓			✓	✓	✓			
Speed Limit	35	30	30	30	30	25	30	30	25
85% Speed (MPH)	34-36	30-32	21	n/a	36	28	n/a	30.5	n/a

Study Routes: Conversion

	Austin			Chicago		Portland	San Francisco		DC
	<i>Barton Springs Road</i>	<i>Bluebonnet Lane</i>	<i>Rio Grande St</i>	<i>N/S Dearborn St</i>	<i>N Milwaukee Ave</i>	<i>NE Multnomah St</i>	<i>Fell St</i>	<i>Oak St</i>	<i>L Street NW</i>
Construction Timeframe	Spring 2013	Aug-12	Apr-12	Nov./ Dec. 2012 and May 2013	April/May 2013	Fall 2012/ Winter 2013	Spring /summer 2013	Spring /summer 2013	Oct-12
BL Placement (in relation to traffic)	Right	Right	Left	Left	Right	Right	Left	Right	Left
Bike Lane Width (representative)	5'-7'	5' + 5'	6.5' + 5.5'	5' + 4'	7'	4'-7'	7'3"	7'3"	8'
Typical Buffer Width	1.5'	2'	4'	3'; 8' parking strip	2-4'; 9' parking strip	2'-8'	5'	5'	3'
# Bicycle Signals	1	0	1	12 to 13	1	0	0	0	0
Loss of MV Travel Lane	No	No	In places	One lane	Turn or bus lane, in places	One lane in each direction	No	No	In places
Net Loss of Parking	No	~150	No	21	69	+27 gained	28	27	151