

Newton-King George Boulevard Plan

Engagement Summary
October 2022

I Where We Are

Introduction

The Newton-King George Boulevard Plan encompasses the southern portion of the Newton community along King George Boulevard. Bounded by 68 Avenue and Hyland Road to the north, Highway 10 to the south, 134 Street to the west, and 138 Street to the east.

Engagement for the Newton-King George Boulevard has been ongoing since the initiation of the plan. From Summer 2020 to Summer 2022, three online community surveys were made available for the public to complete and provide their feedback. They were: Getting Started Survey (July 2020), Draft Stage 1 Plan Survey (May 2021), and Draft Stage 2 Plan Survey (July 2022).

The following is a comprehensive summary of all engagement completed for the Newton-King George Boulevard Plan.



I What We Did

A Quick Look

Over the past 2 years, the plan was refined through a comprehensive community engagement process. In total over 2,000 residents participated in surveys and one-on-one conversations with staff. The result is a plan that reflects direct resident involvement.

By The Numbers...

Approximately,

9,750

Touchpoints with participants, residents, and stakeholders.

A touchpoint is an interaction not a person. Very involved residents could be the source of multiple touchpoints.

3 ways residents were notified:



Mail

Postcards sent to area residents and property owners.



Social Media

City of Surrey Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter targeted ads for South Surrey residents.



Website

City of Surrey Website, E-News, and South Surrey CitySpeaks Panel

Completed Surveys

2,175

Emails & Phone Calls

300+

Postcard Mail-outs

7,275

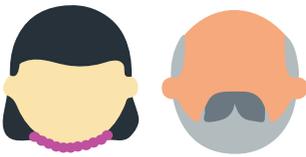
I Who We Reached

Below is a snapshot of who we reached through the entirety of engagement compared with the existing community profile. Our goal was to ensure we heard from a balanced and diverse range of residents.

Who We Heard From

Community Profile 2021 (Plan Area)

Number of People



Total: 2,813
 Male: 44%
 Female: 47%
 Non-Binary: 1%
 Prefer not to answer: 4%

Total: 13,001
 Male: 42%
 Female: 43%

Age



19 years and under: 2%
 20 - 29 years: 16%
 30 - 39 years: 17%
 40 - 64 years: 42%
 65 years and over: 21%
 Prefer not to answer: 2%

19 years and under: 23%
 20 - 29 years: 12%
 30 - 39 years: 13%
 40 - 69 years: 32%
 70 years and over: 7%

Language

(Language spoken most often at home.)



English: 74%
 Punjabi: 16%
 Tagalog: 2%
 Other: 4%
 Prefer not to answer: 2%

English: 63%
 Punjabi: 26%
 Tagalog: 2%
 Hindi: 2%
 Other: 6%

Survey #1

Getting Started Survey

July 2020

Engagement Summary

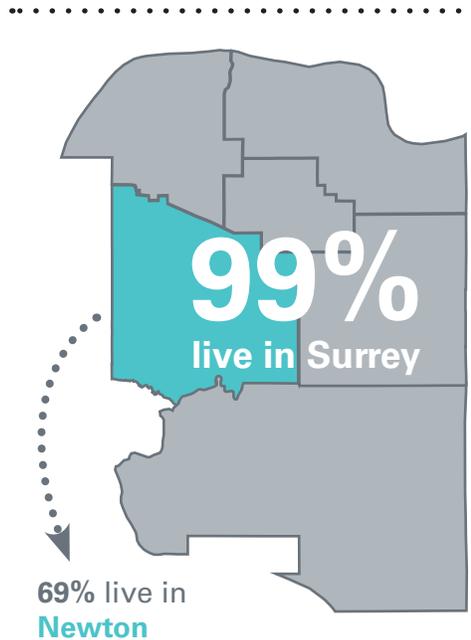
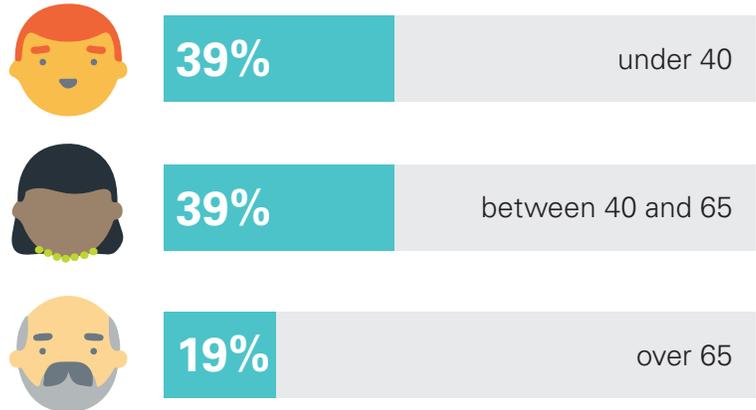


I Who We Reached

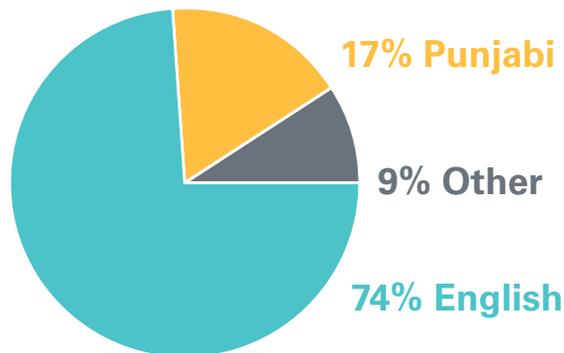
This is a snapshot of participants from the July 2020 Getting Started Survey.



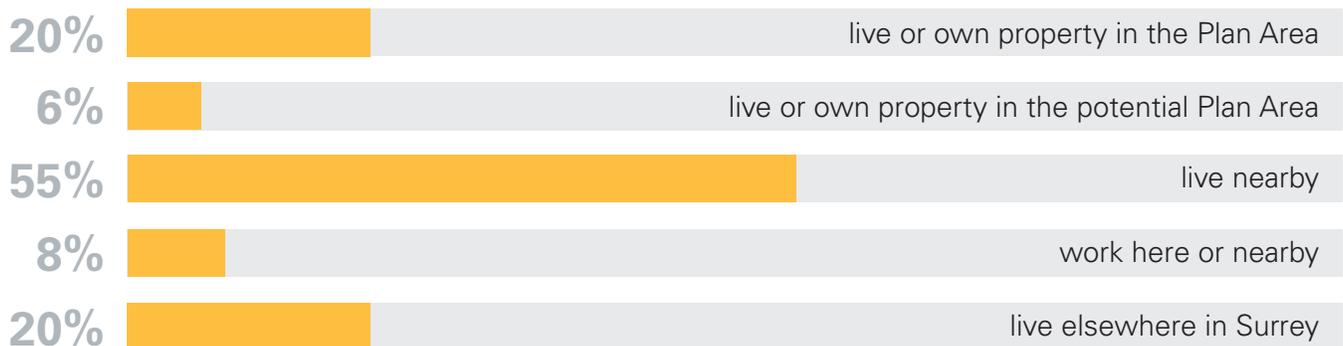
Age of Participants



First Language of Participants

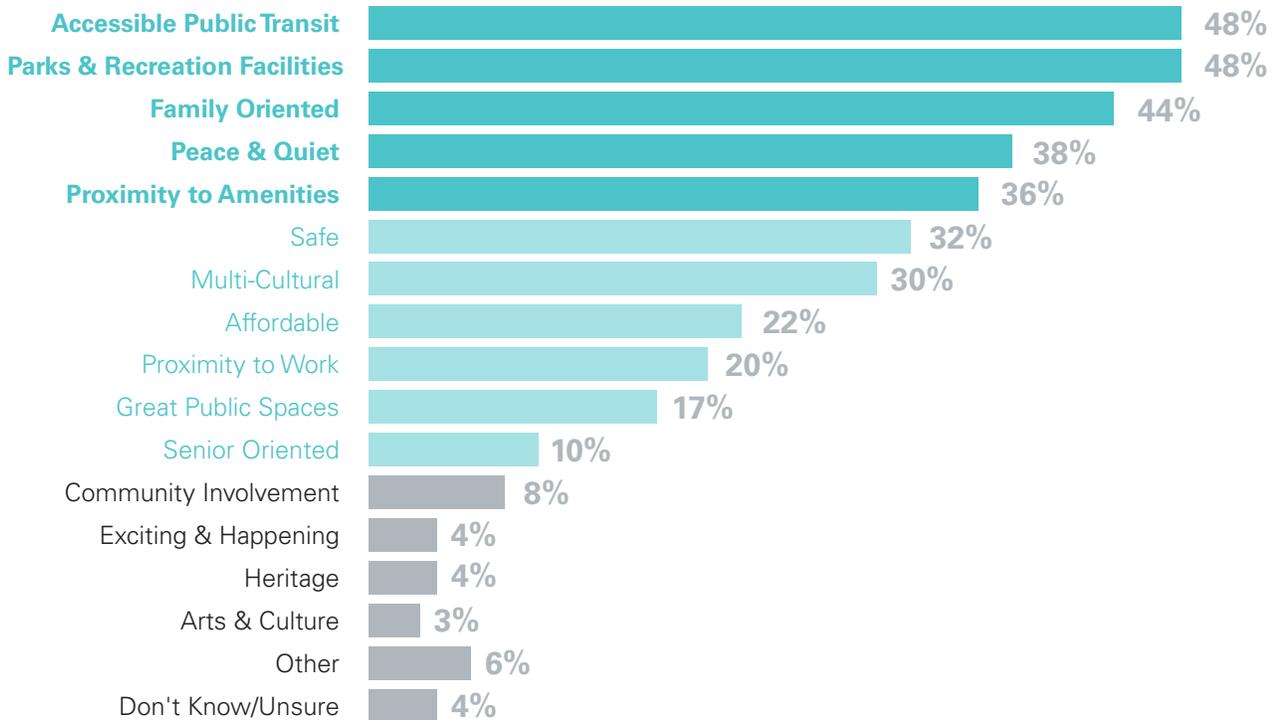


Relationship to the Plan Area

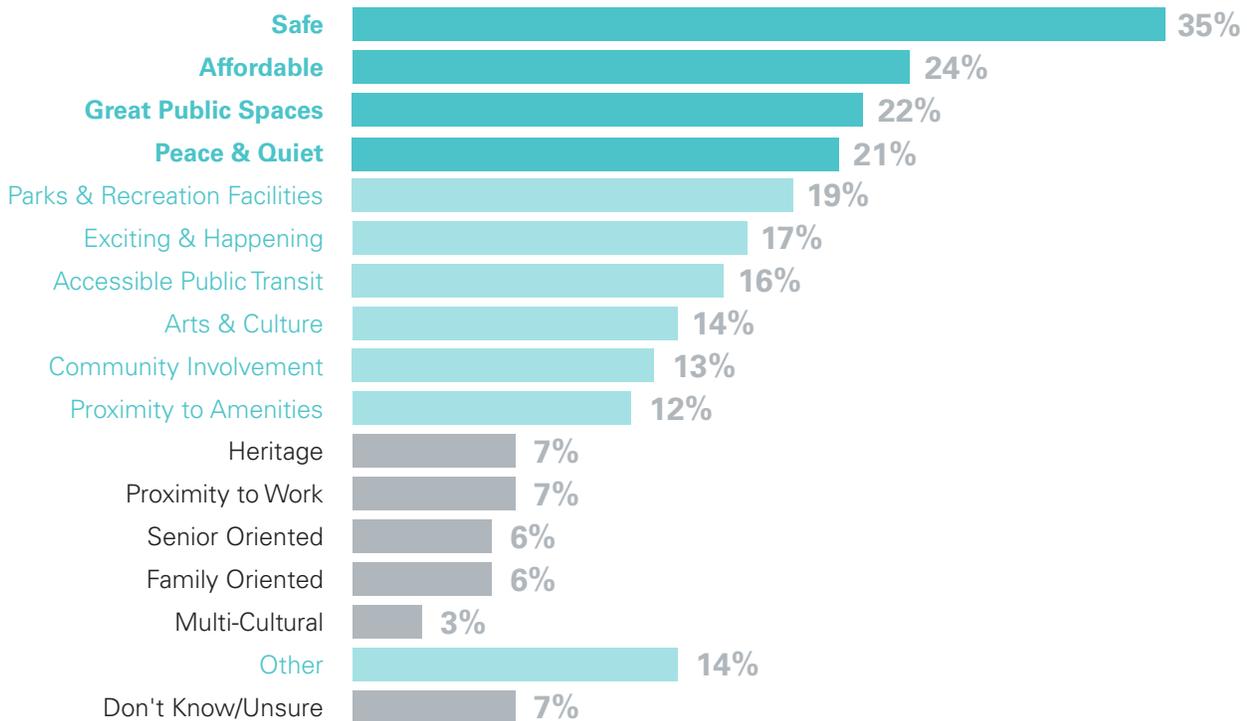


I What We Heard

We asked participants what are the **best things** about the neighbourhood?



We asked participants what's **missing** from the neighbourhood?



I What We Heard

We asked participants what their vision is for the future of Newton-King George Boulevard...



Safety from crime and traffic

"Safe for families and accessible for the elderly"

"King George Boulevard area [should be] completely developed with businesses with a very high regard for the safety of the local community and ease of access to the local community."

Adequate public transportation and a limit on the traffic on King George Boulevard"



Family friendly, multi-cultural community

"We want Newton to be a family friendly safe neighbourhood full of cultural diversity."

"The involvement of indigenous people of the territory we reside in and the inclusion and welcoming of people."

"A mix of cultures, sounds, and laughter, where neighbours can walk down a street and grab coffee together."



Addition of parks and green spaces

"Newton should be a community with more nature based points of interest."

"Better designed community parks and green space pathways."

"I would like to see the area include family homes, green spaces, treed streets, bike pathways."



A variety of local shops, restaurants, and businesses

"Community events to highlight local business."

"Small business & restaurants. A destination rather than a pit stop."

"Small businesses supporting community who support small business."



Walkability with less reliance on vehicles

"Neighbourhoods needs to be walkable. This means access to shopping, entertainment, schools and services on small scale."

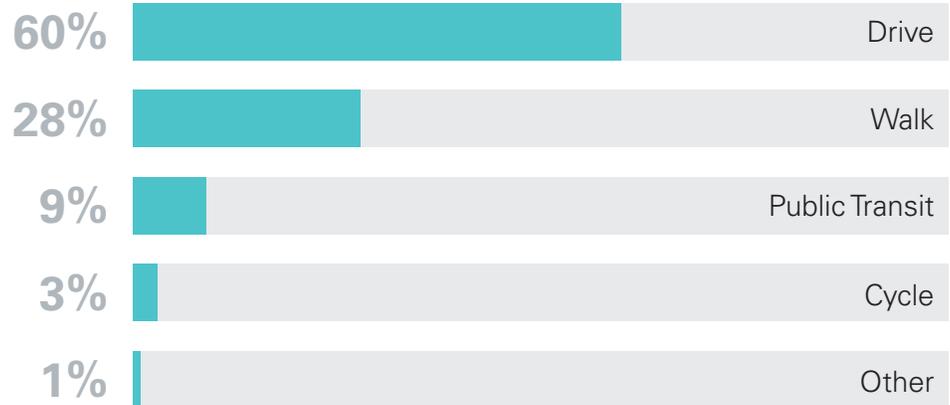
"A walkable community where King George Boulevard is turned into a more pedestrian and biking friendly space with separated bike lanes and side walks... businesses on the ground floor with residences above..."

I What We Heard

We asked participants how they travel within their neighbourhood...

60%

Drive



We asked pedestrians and cyclists what challenges they face the most...

Challenges for Pedestrians

- 1. Distance**
A lack of amenities and destinations nearby
- 2. Safety**
A lack of sidewalks/crosswalks and dangerous driving
- 3. Traffic**
Noise and pollution
- 4. Pedestrian Environment**
Lack of pleasant scenery and interesting landscapes
- 5. Danger & Fear**
Crime and other threats

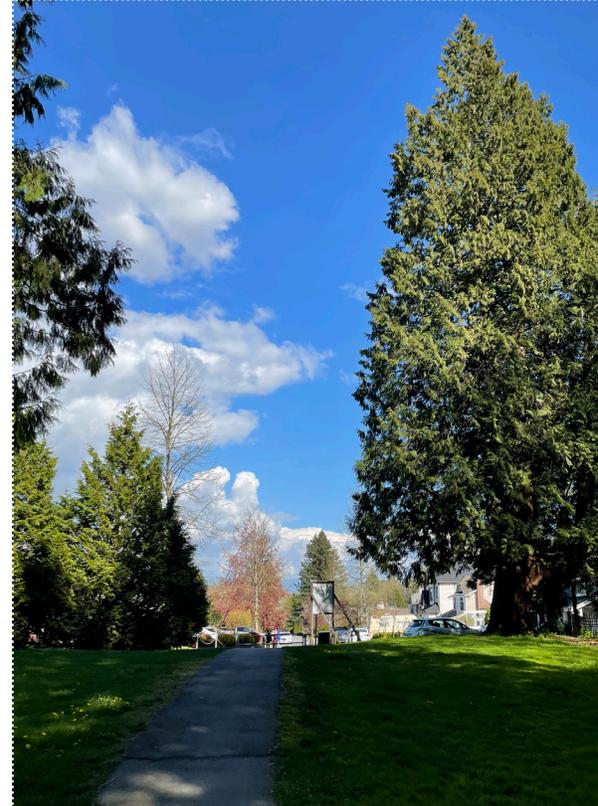
Challenges for Cyclists

- 1. Traffic**
Noise and pollution
- 2. Lack of Infrastructure**
Lack of pleasant scenery and interesting landscapes
- 3. Danger & Fear**
Crime and other threats



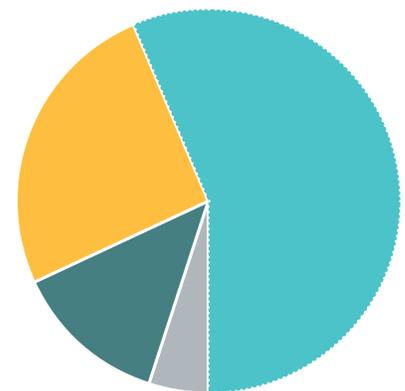
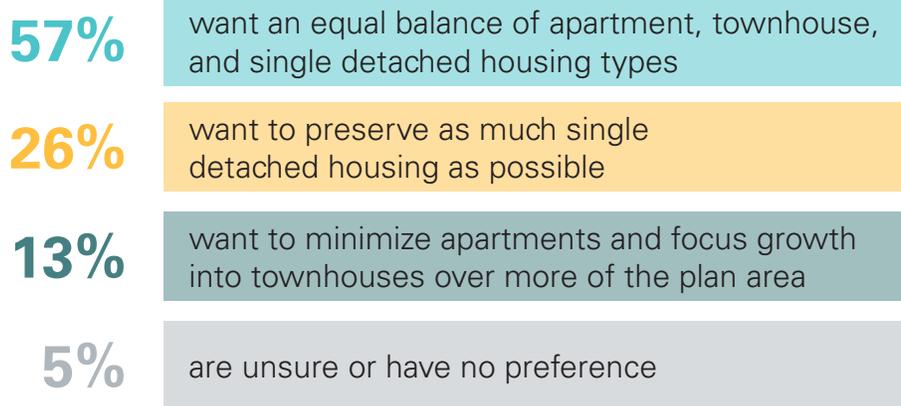
I What We Heard

We asked participants what they wish was closer to home or within walking distance...



Housing & Density

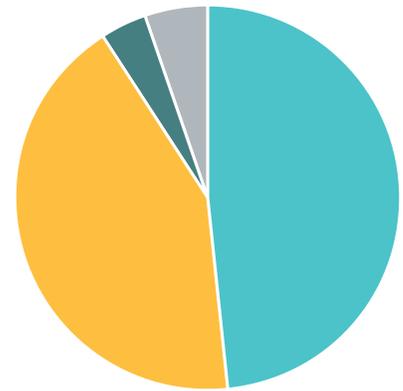
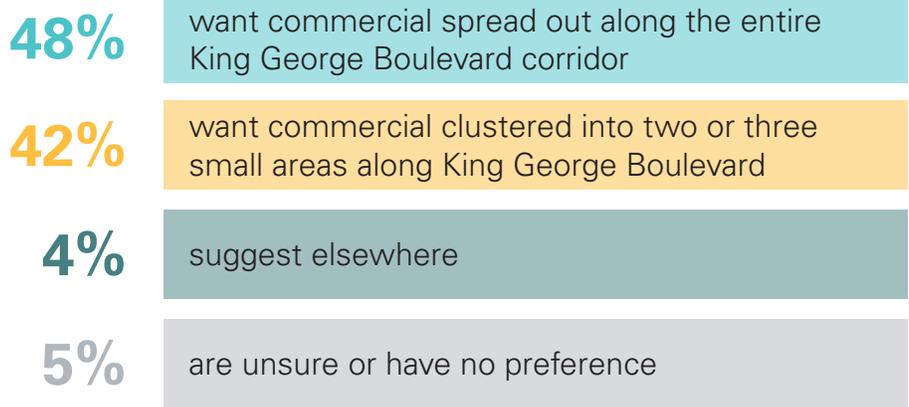
We asked participants to tell us their preferred growth scenario...



I What We Heard

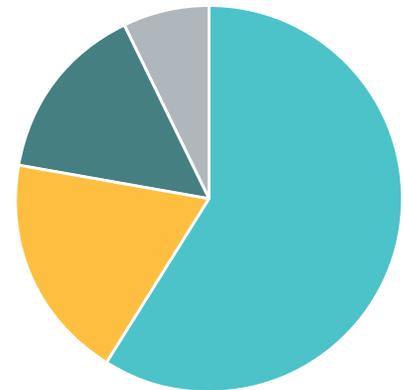
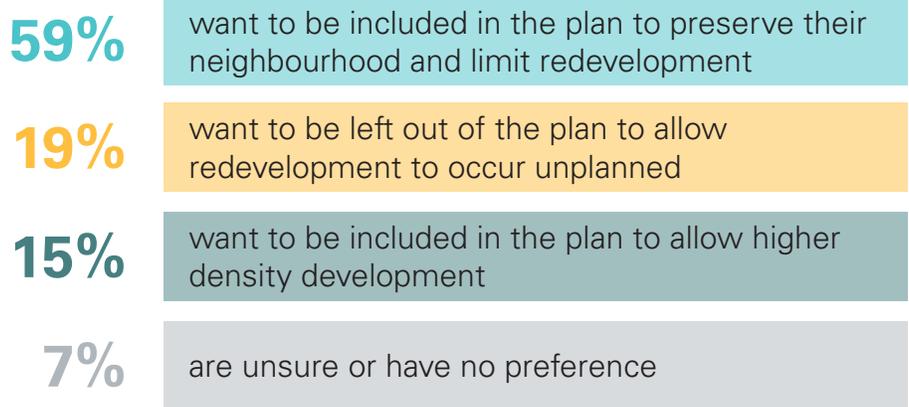
Commercial & Mixed-Use Areas

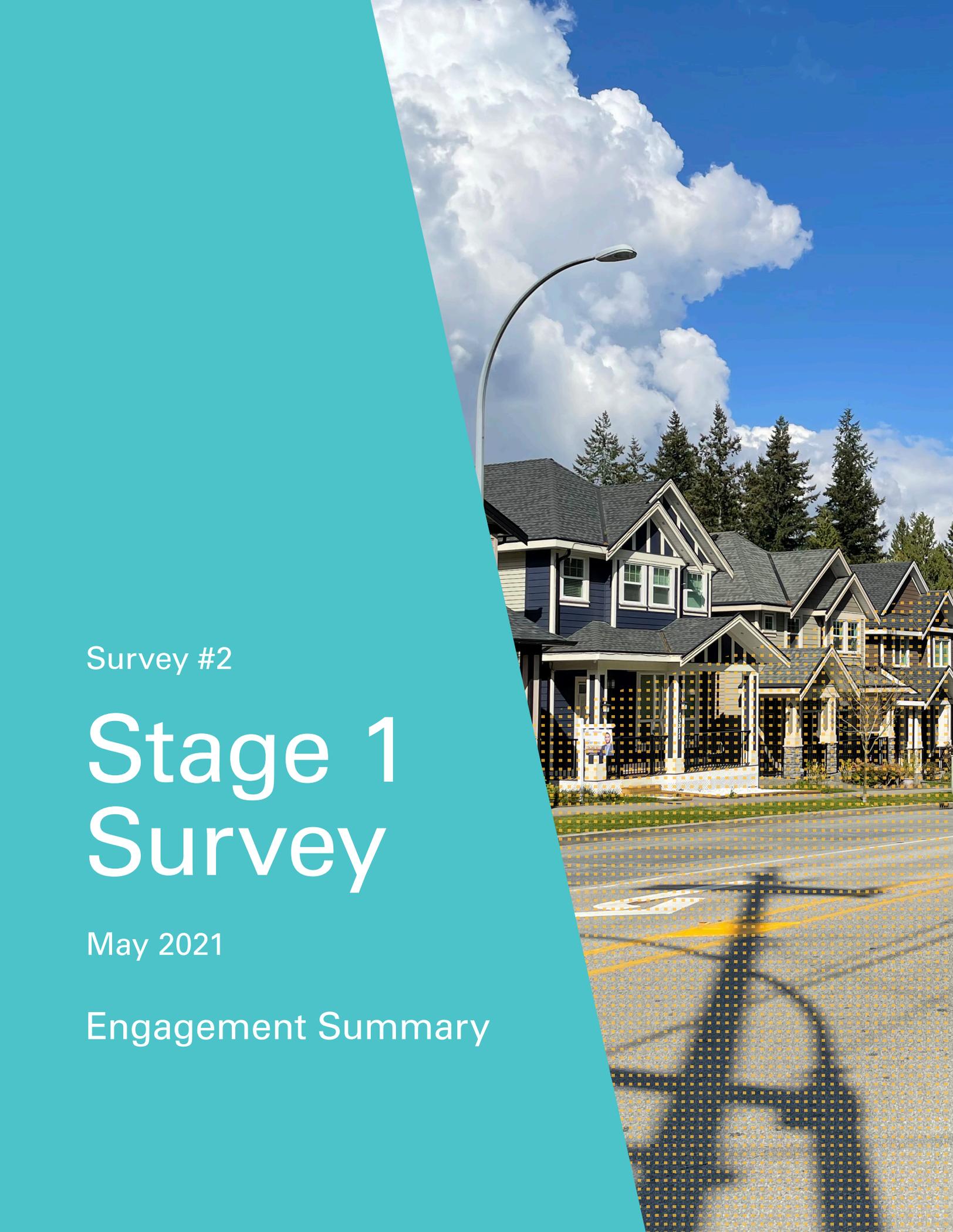
We asked participants to tell us their preferences for new commercial areas along King George Boulevard...



Inclusion in the Plan

We asked residents of the potential plan extension area if they would like to be included in the plan...





Survey #2

Stage 1 Survey

May 2021

Engagement Summary

Who We Reached

This is a snapshot of participants from the May 2021 Survey.



Age of Participants



21%

under 40



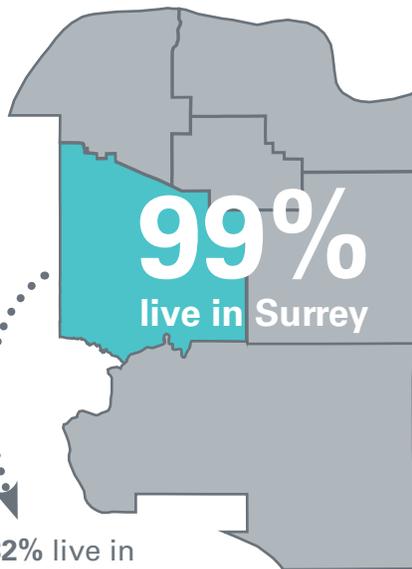
49%

between 40 and 65

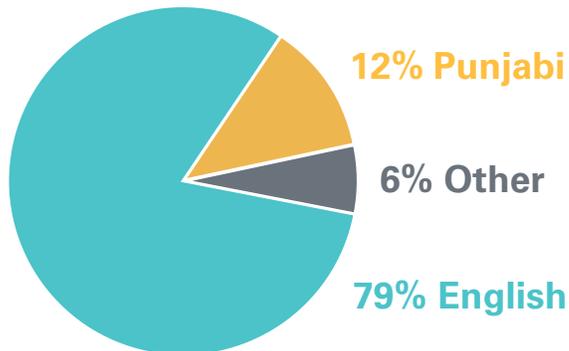


29%

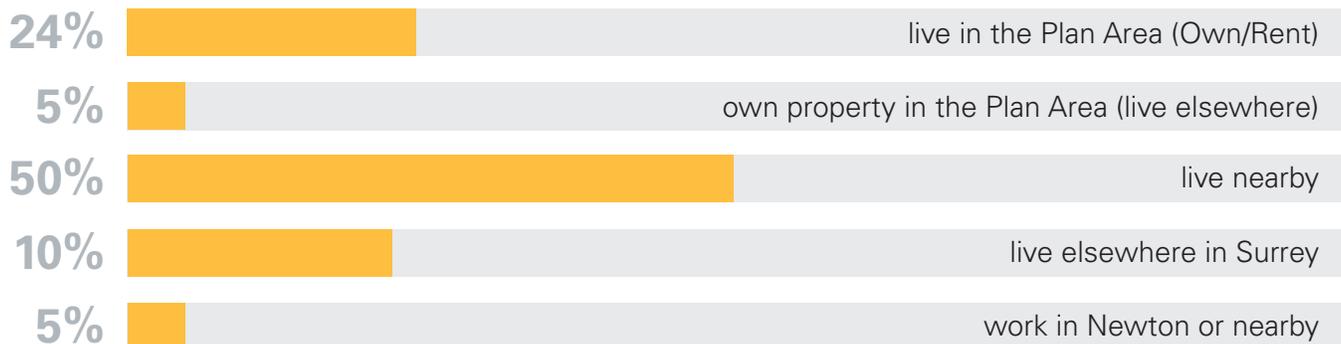
over 65



First Language of Participants



Relationship to the Plan Area



I What We Heard

Vision Statement

We asked participants if the vision statement accurately reflected their vision for the neighbourhood.

77%
Agree

Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".



Of the responses that were neutral or disagreed, participants raised concerns around achieving some of the vision qualities, including safety and affordability. Feedback included:

"Unless there is a dramatic change I have trouble visualizing the area as safe. It used to feel that way but over the last few years it seems to be on a decline."

"Housing is not affordable now and prices are constantly going up. Affordable housing does not seem to be a likely possibility."

We asked participants if there was anything missing from the vision. Two new themes emerged:



Connectivity



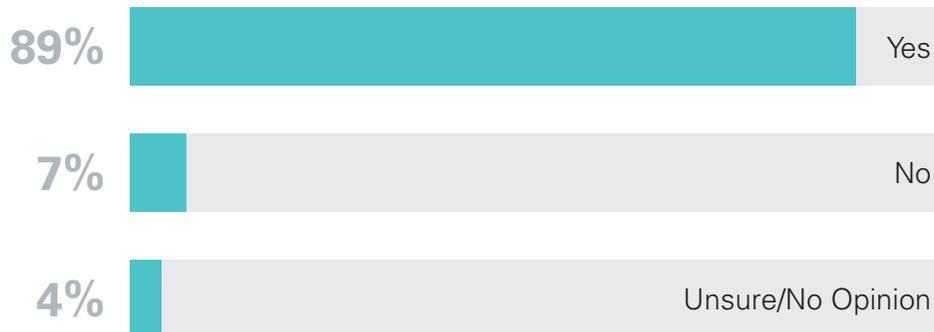
Schools and Community Facilities

I Where We Are

Growth Concept

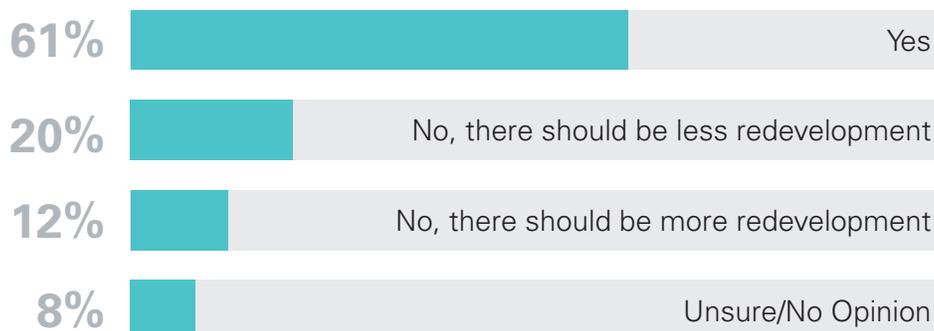
We asked participants if they supported limiting redevelopment in environmentally sensitive areas and wetlands?

89%
said "Yes"



We asked participants if the Plan provided a good compromise to accommodate growth while respecting the existing neighbourhood?

61%
said "Yes"



We asked participants if they agreed with the amount and location of new commercial space?

74%
Agree



I Where We Are

Transportation Concept

The Transportation Concept seeks to improve the Plan Area’s connectivity by providing new road connections. This supports walkability, well-connected cycling infrastructure, convenient access to transit, and multiple route options to disperse vehicular traffic and decrease congestion. It also provides access and circulation to support new development.

We asked participants on what they thought about the proposed transportation concept?

79%
Agree

Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".



Parks and Open Space Concept

The Parks and Open Space Concept seeks to improve residents’ access to parkland and protect riparian ecosystems.

We asked participants on what they thought about the proposed parks and open space concept?

79%
Agree

Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".



I Where We Are

Land Use Concept

The Land Use Concept merges all of the aforementioned considerations for growth, transportation, and parks into one comprehensive plan that will guide growth and redevelopment for the next 15-30 years.

We asked participants on what they thought about the proposed land use concept?

72%
Agree

Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".



Verbatim Comments

Throughout the survey, participants were encouraged to provide verbatim comments on the plan. Staff have analyzed these comments to identify themes and concerns listed below. Staff will seek to address these comments through revisions to the plan and in subsequent engagement throughout Stage 2 of the planning process.

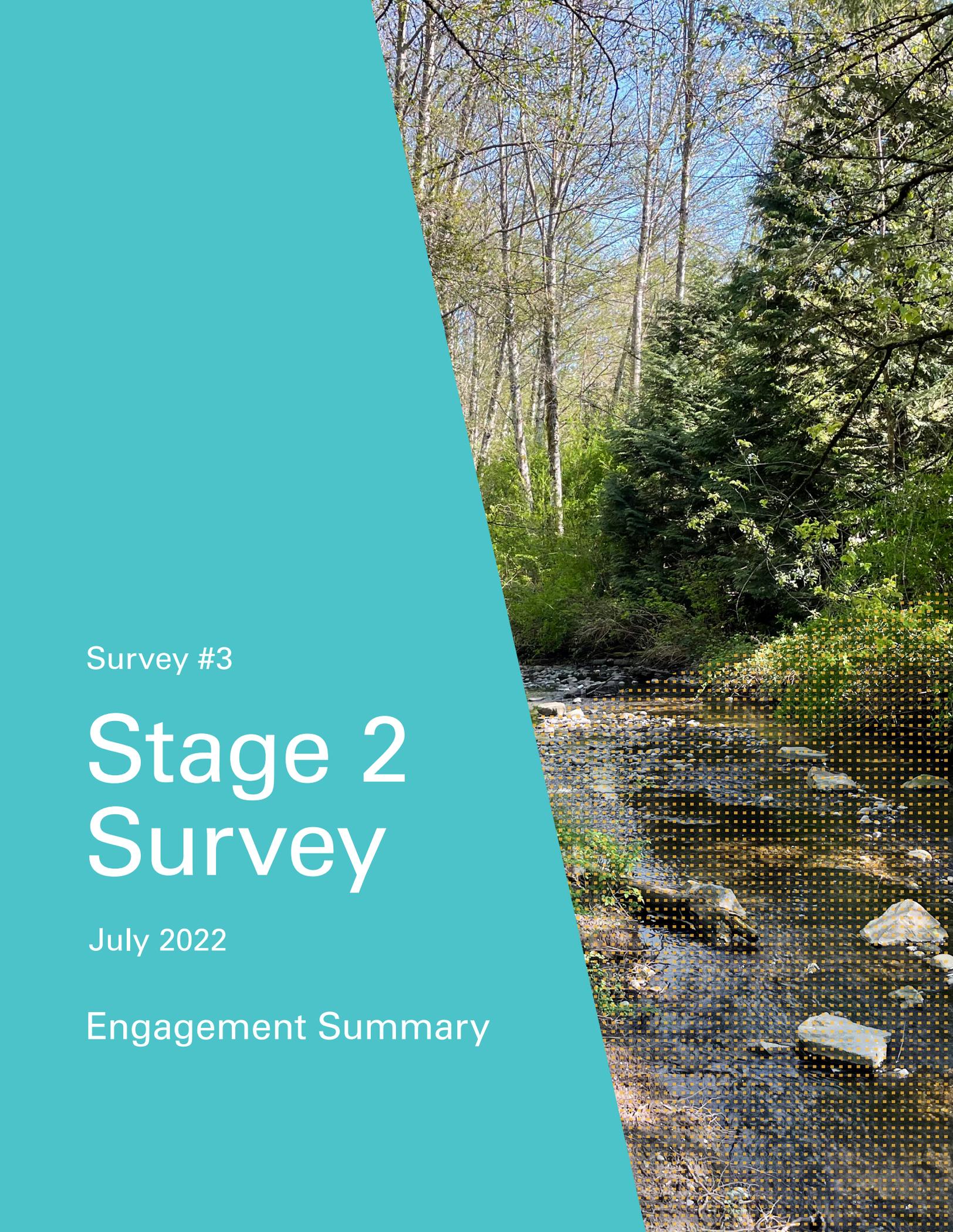
Affordability - Concern for affordability and supply of family-oriented housing.

Green Space - Need for significantly more green space and usable parkland with both active and passive uses as well as improvised tree-lined streets.

Walkability - Lack of safe and convenient access to daily needs - more local businesses, parks, grocery, other services and amenities.

Public Transit - Need for improved public transit such as SkyTrain.

Schools - Concern for school capacities and the need for more schools in the area as population increases.



Survey #3

Stage 2 Survey

July 2022

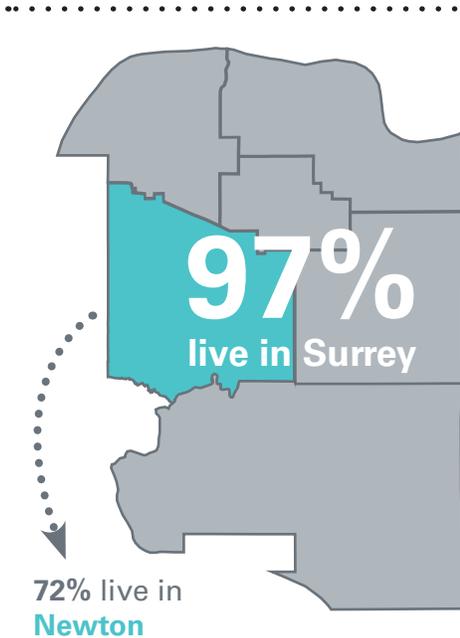
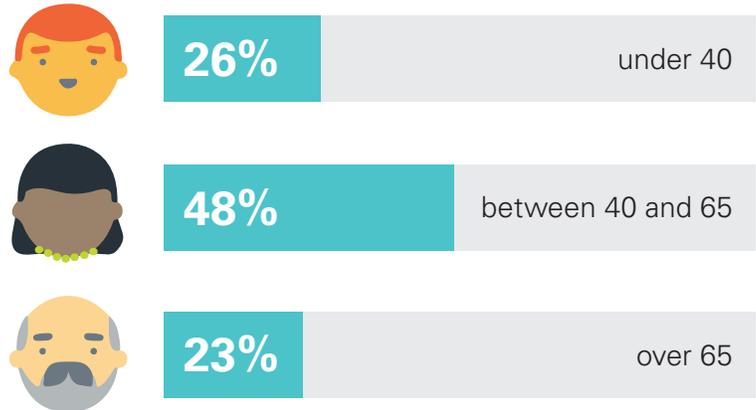
Engagement Summary

I Who We Reached

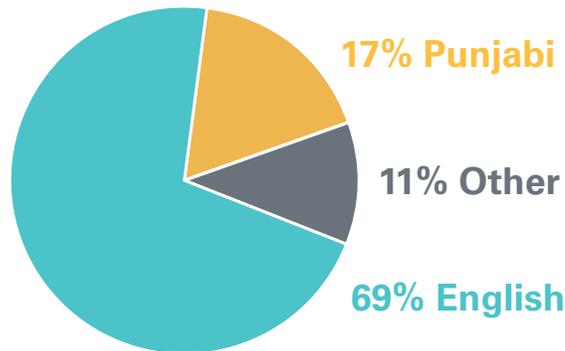
This is a snapshot of participants from the two online surveys for the Newton-King George Boulevard Plan: the CitySpeaks Panel Survey and the Open Community Survey, conducted from July - August 2022.



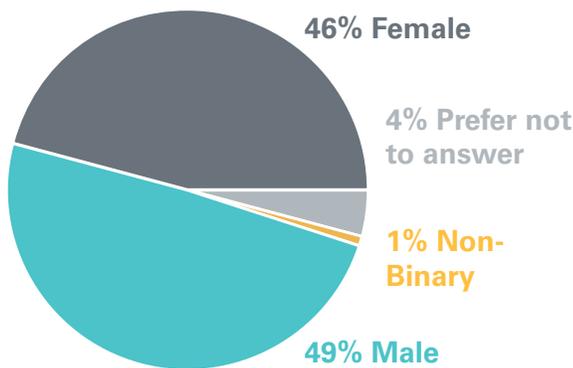
Age of Participants



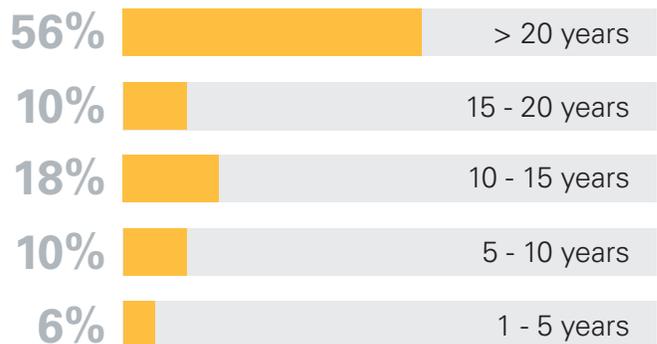
First Language of Participants



Gender of Participants



Years Living in Surrey

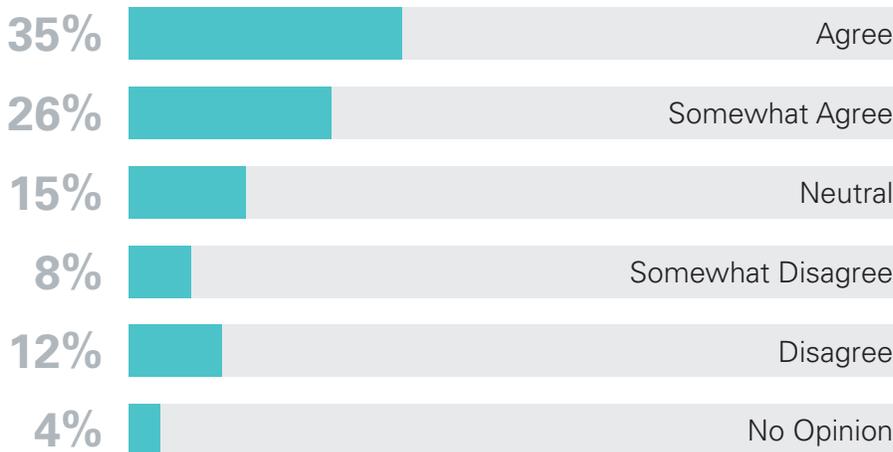


I What We Heard

Land Use Strategy

We asked participants whether they thought the Land Use Strategy works towards achieving the Vision. (583 responses)

61%
Agree



Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".

For those who Disagreed, we asked why? (182 responses)

Note: Responses included anyone who **did not choose "Agree"** and also left a response.

Concerned about **housing availability** and **affordability**.

Want more emphasis on **parks** and **park preservation**.

Concerned about **availability of services** (e.g. schools, medical, etc.).

Concerned about **traffic** and **congestion**.

Want more emphasis on **active travel** (e.g. walking, cycling, rolling, etc.).

Do not want any **change** in their neighbourhood.

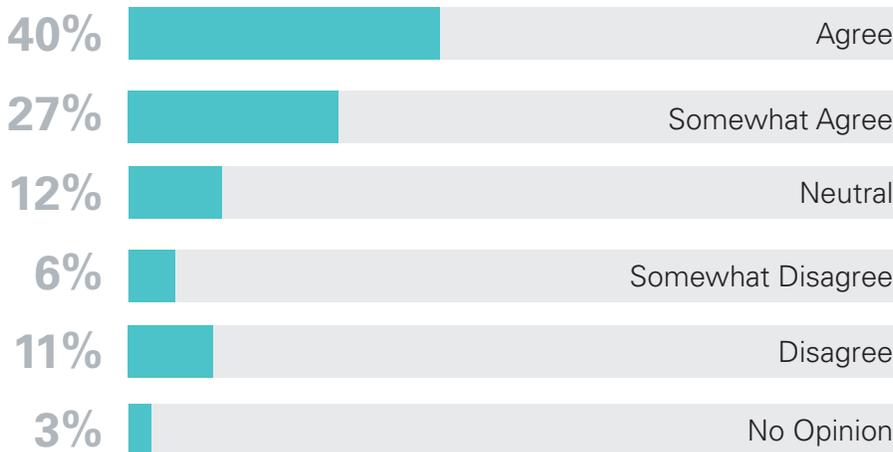
Concerned about **safety** and **crime** in the area.

I What We Heard

Transportation Strategy

We asked participants whether they thought the Land Use Strategy works towards achieving the Vision. (529 responses)

67%
Agree



Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".

For those who Disagreed, we asked why? (72 responses)

Note: Responses included anyone who **did not choose "Agree"** and also left a response.

Want to see more considerations for **rail rapid transit** along King George Boulevard.

Want more emphasis on **active transportation infrastructure** (i.e. walking, cycling, rolling etc.).

Want more considerations for **auto infrastructure**.

Concerned that decisions are **developer-influenced**, rather than city-led.

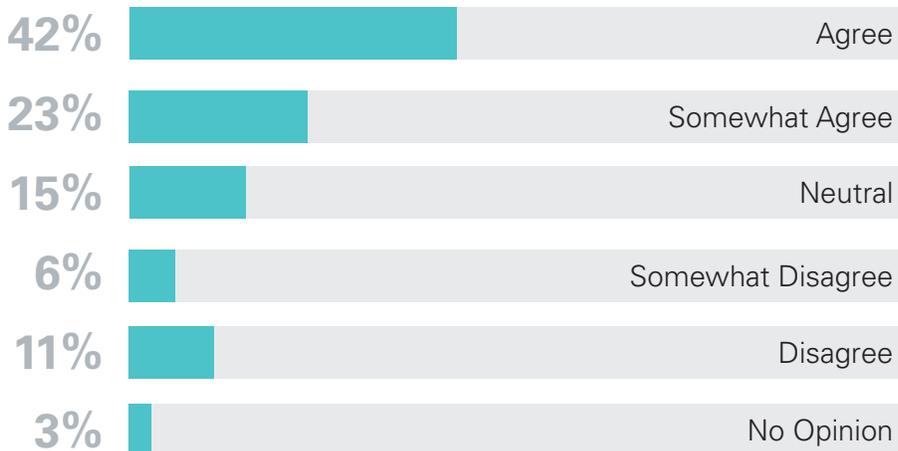


I What We Heard

Parks & Open Space Strategy

We asked participants whether they thought the Parks & Open Space Strategy works towards achieving the Vision. (502 responses)

65%
Agree



Note: **Agree** includes "Agree" and "Somewhat Agree". **Disagree** includes "Disagree" and "Somewhat Disagree".

For those who Disagreed, we asked why? (72 responses)

Note: Responses included anyone who **did not choose "Agree"** and also left a response.

Want **more parks** and **expanded parks**.

Want more protected, natural, **riparian areas**.

Concerned about **safety** in parks.

Concerned about **displacement** as a result of park acquisition.

Want more **recreational amenities**.

Concerned about decisions being **developer driven**, rather than city-led.

Want more **greenways** and **connections** to parks.