

Seattle Department of Transportation

# MLK Protected Bike Lane

August drop-in session  
feedback summary



**Seattle**  
Department of  
Transportation

## PROJECT AND OUTREACH BACKGROUND

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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 August 2020 during a drop-in session where SDOT discussed what they heard from the community in the spring and the current design at four key spots in the corridor.

| Online Early Design Drop-in Session | Online Survey                |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Tuesday, August 11   5-6 PM         | Open from August 11th – 26th |

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

- Protected bike lanes on both sides of MLK
- Rechannalization 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

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- 2,900+ mailers sent to notify SE Seattle residents, property and business owners of the drop-in session and online survey
- Yard signs along project corridor
- Emails to the MLK Protected Bike Lane project listserv and relevant stakeholders
- Information on the project website
- Social media campaign
- Phone interviews with stakeholders in SE Seattle

## DESIGN OUTREACH-BY-THE-NUMBERS

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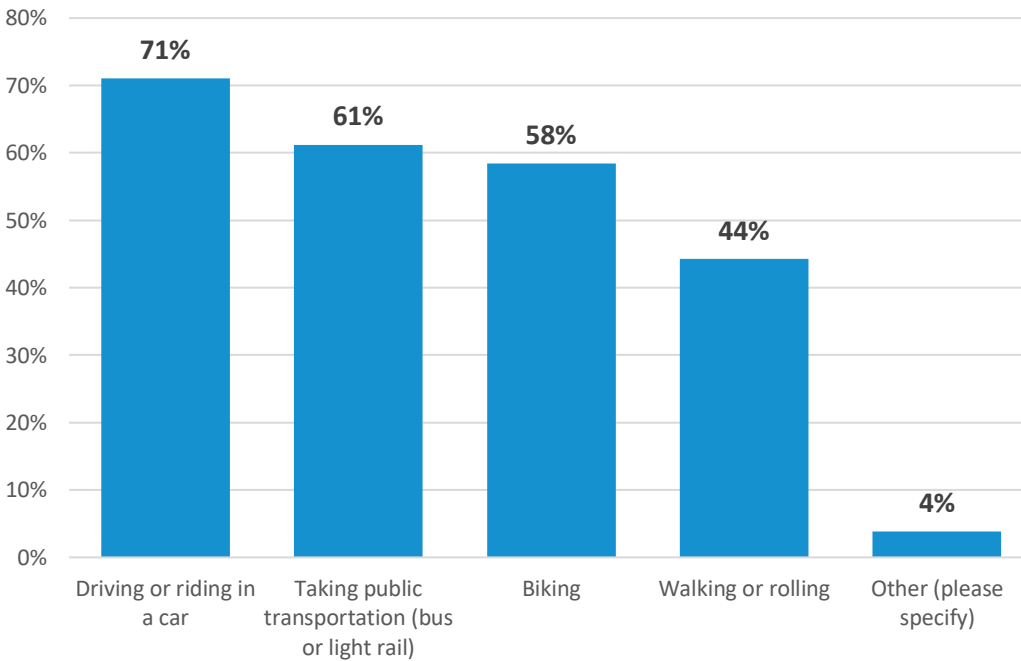
Overall, we received over **180 participants** at the August online drop-in session and through the online survey. This report summarizes the survey responses we received in August 2020. Free responses are summarized into topics and themes.

## OVERVIEW OF FEEDBACK RECEIVED

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

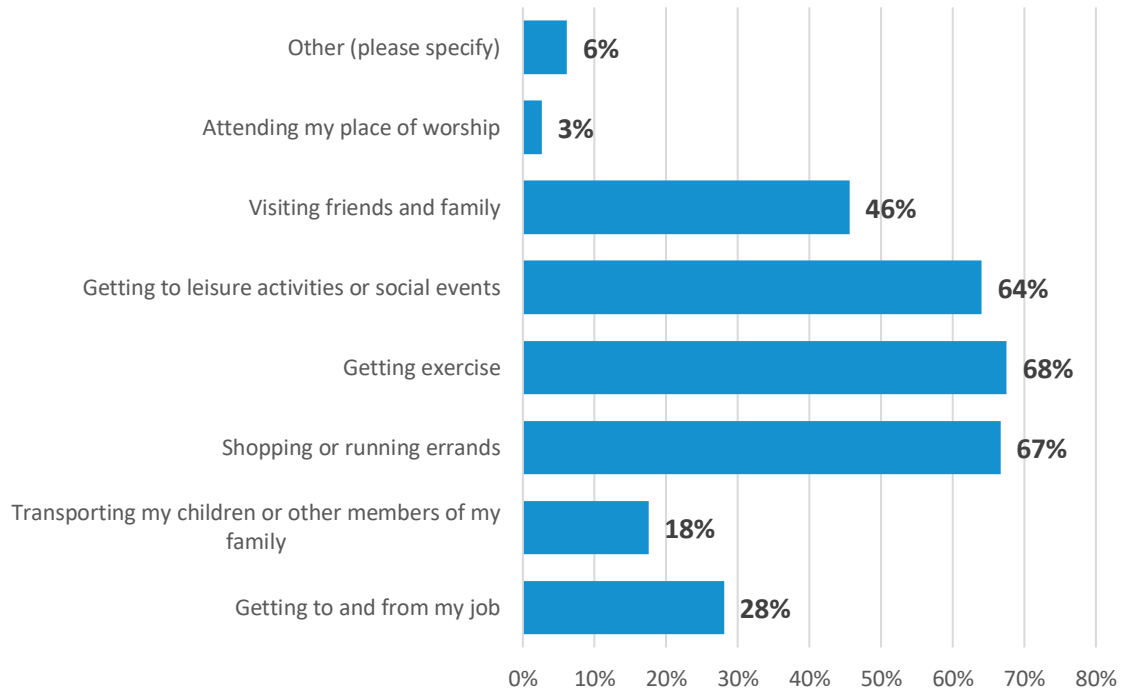
### How do you travel along Martin Luther King Jr Way (MLK)? (Select all that apply)



#### Write-in choices for “Other”:

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

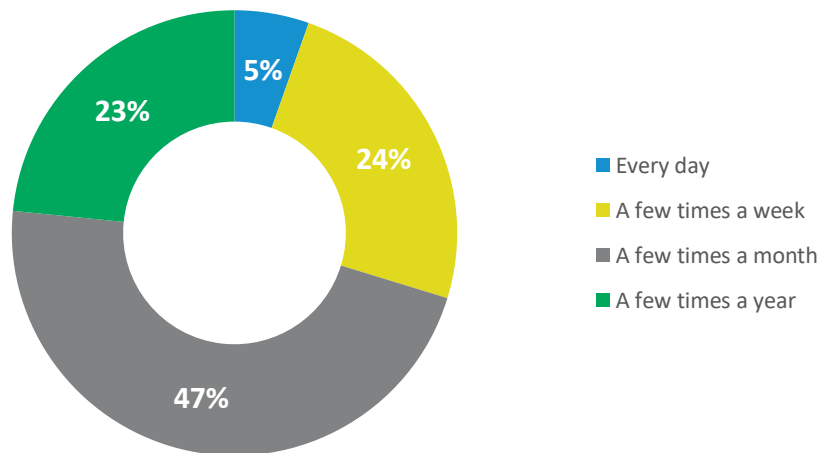
**For what purposes do you bike along MLK? (Select all that apply)**



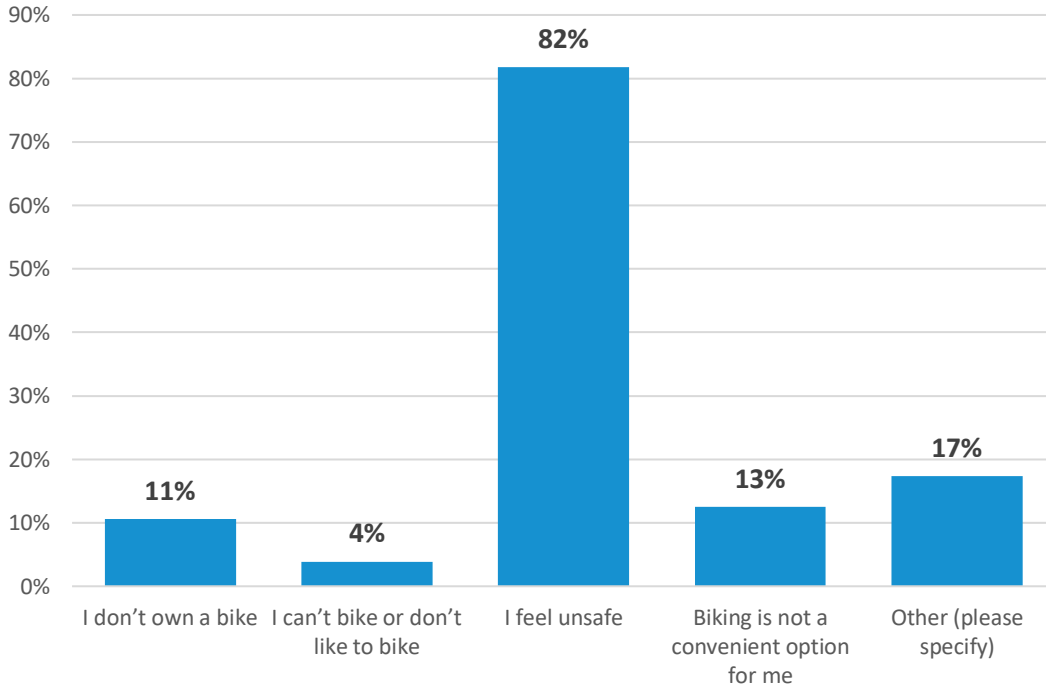
**Write-in choices for “Other”:**

- Visiting nearby parks, restaurants, and bars
- Visiting clients
- Accessing the light rail
- Visiting P-Patch

**How often do you ride your bike on MLK?**



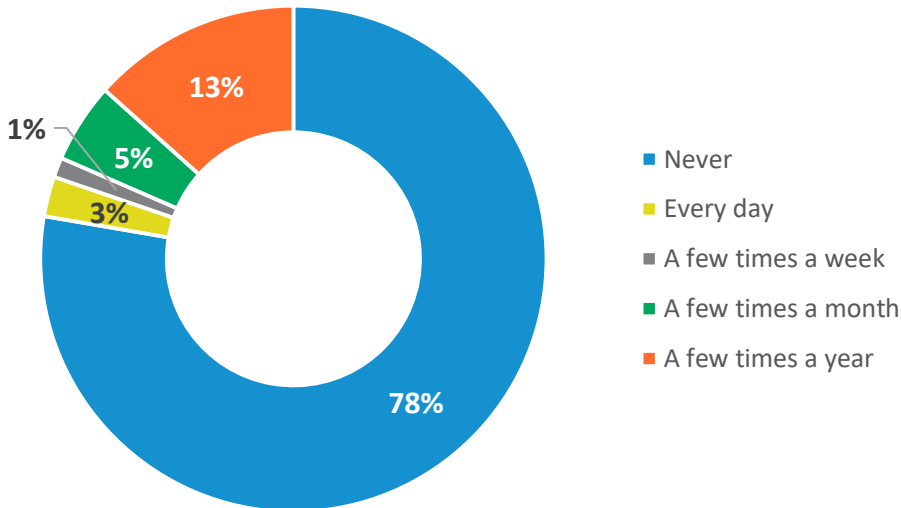
**If you do not bike in and through MLK Way in the project area, tell us more about why you don't.  
(Select all that apply)**



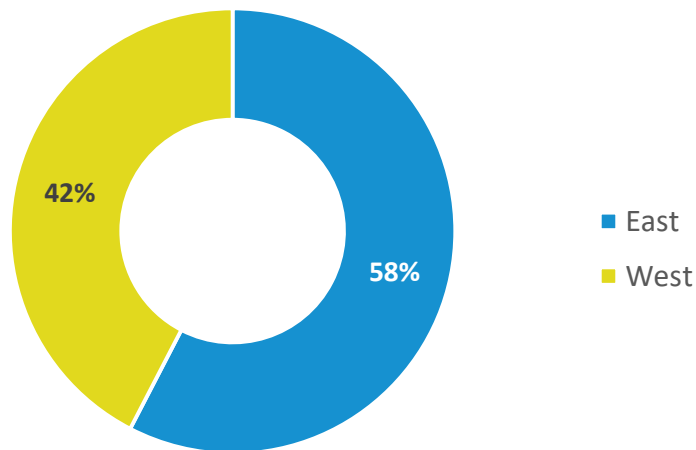
**Write-in choices for "Other":**

- There are better alternative routes
- I feel unsafe and avoid biking on the route
- I feel unsafe but have no choice but to bike on the route
- I do not live close to the route

**How often do you use street parking along MLK?**



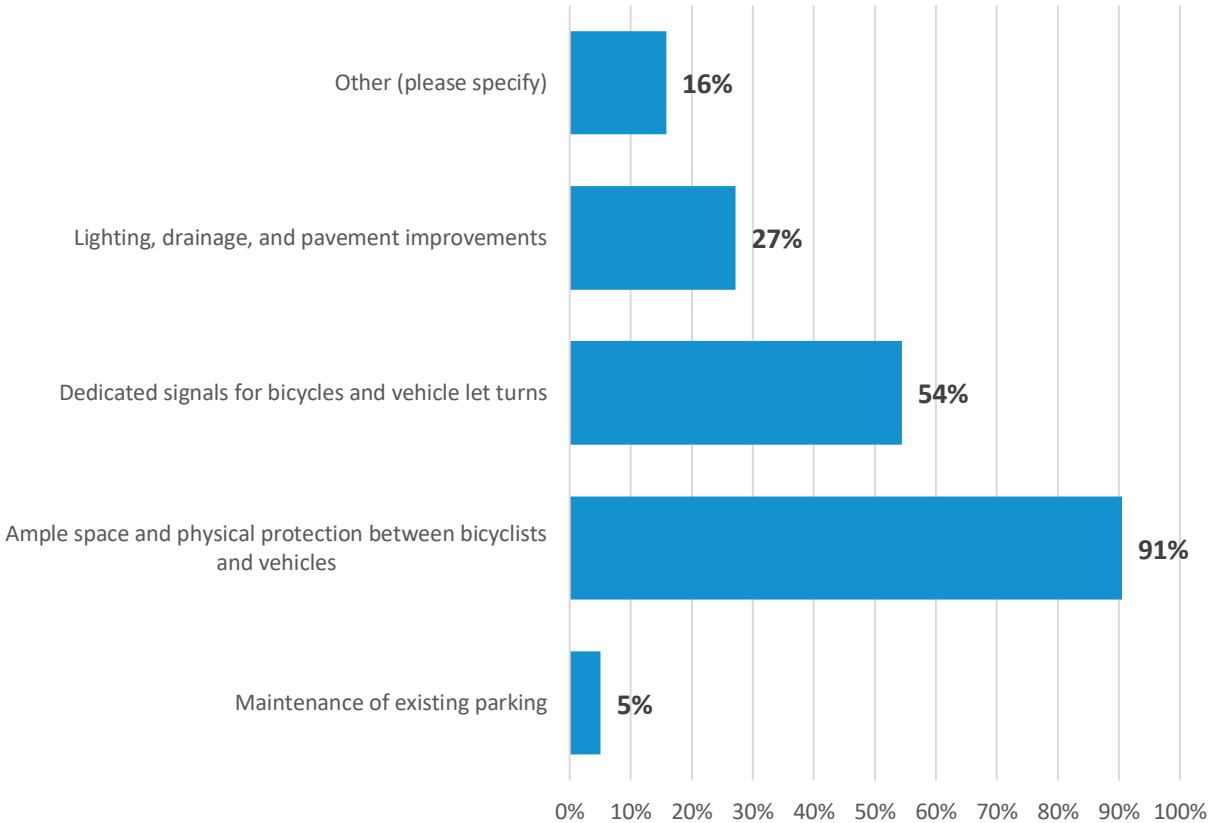
**If street parking is maintained only on one side of the roadway, which side of the street should it be on?**



**Please comment on the reason for your answer to the question above.**

- More homes and businesses are on west side of street
- Parking on the west slows down traffic
- East side is uphill, and it's safer for bikes to pass by parked cars there
- There are more parks on the east side
- East side residents don't have alleyway parking
- No opinion (I don't park there; bike safety is a higher priority)

**When considering this design, what are your top 2 priorities for a protected bike lane? (Select 2)**



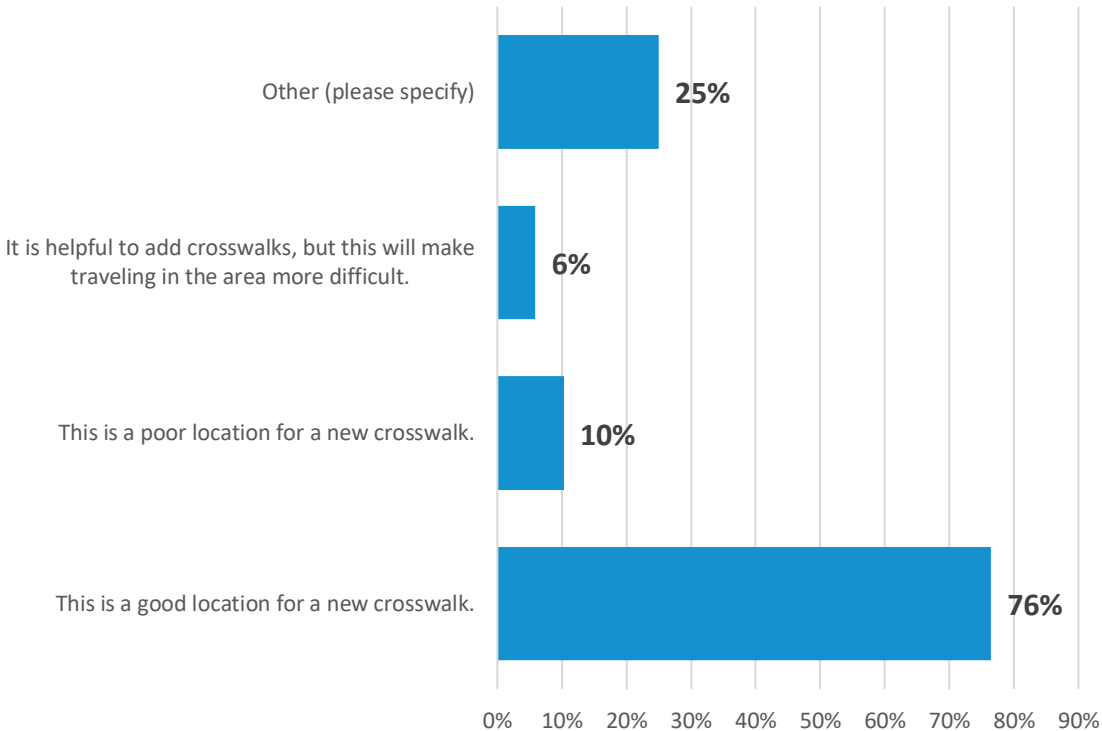
**Write in choices for “Other”:**

- Separation of bikers and pedestrians
- Safety
- Bike lane accessibility
- Separation of bike and vehicles
- Sidewalks for pedestrians and substantial barriers for bikers
- Space

**What questions or comments do you have about this design?**

- Not enough space for both bikers and pedestrians
- Traffic calming is needed/car speed a lot
- Concrete barriers to separate bikers from drivers are needed
- Clearer traffic paint would be a good addition
- Please add a sidewalk
- Bike and bus interactions are a concern
- Clearer turn signaling is needed
- This project should be extended (further north)
- Safety from vehicles is a major concern

**What is your opinion of this crosswalk? (Select all that apply)**



Write in choices for other:

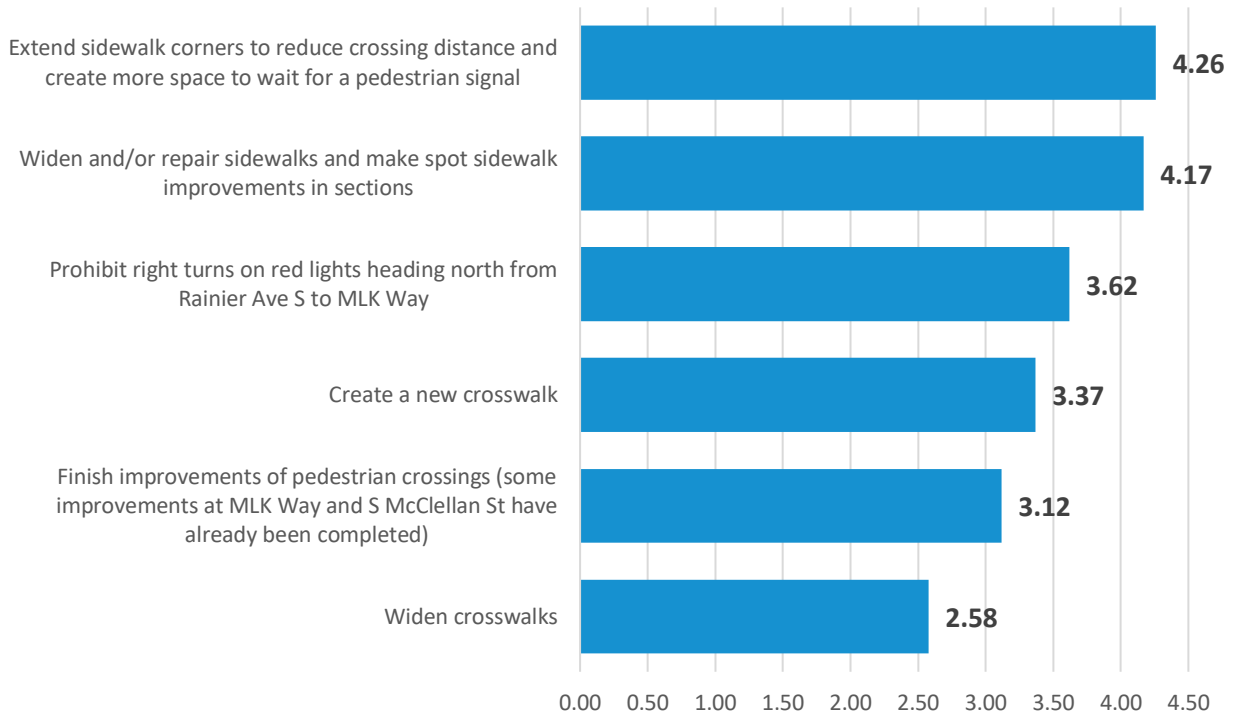
- More crosswalks are needed
- Safety is a concern due to vehicle speeding
- Install traffic lights so that vehicles stop
- Concern that pedestrians will wait to cross in bike lanes
- Consider a raised crosswalk, protected median, stop lights, signs, and protected bulbs
- There are few pedestrians at this intersection

**Can you please share your reasons for your answer about the S Plum St crosswalk, and your preference for an alternate crossing location in the project area?**

- More sidewalks needed in general
- Need additional traffic control measures
- Crosswalk provides access to tennis center
  - Move crosswalk closer to tennis center entrance
- Add crosswalk to the south to between S Hill and S Plum
- Add crosswalk by Holgate
- Crosswalk will serve Lighthouse for the Blind
  - More safety measures to serve blind community are needed



**Of these, which would be your highest priorities? (Please rank from highest to lowest)**



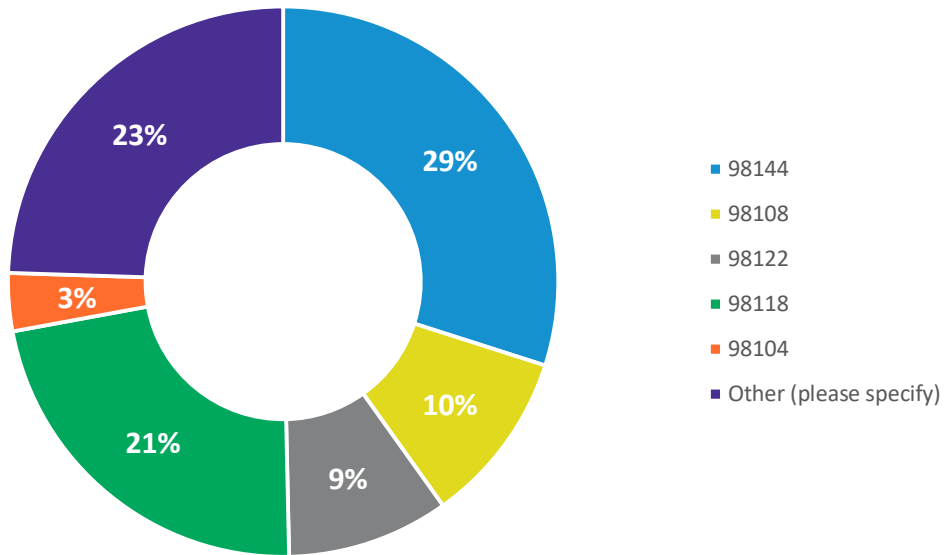
**Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?**

- Please build out entire Seattle bike lane and sidewalk network
- Bike lanes are not welcome
- Making intersection near school safer should be a top priority
- Solid barriers are needed to protect bikers and pedestrians
- Improve light signaling along MLK
  - There should be traffic signals at pedestrian crossings
  - Signal lighting along MLK does not line up
- Many more crosswalks are needed
- Center turning lane should not be continuous as drivers use it as a passing lane
- Vehicles speed too much / traffic calming measures are highly needed
- Prioritize safety, not vehicles
- This is a critical area/intersection used by many
- Implement “no right on red”
- Expand the bike lane and make it longer
- There is not enough being done for pedestrian safety and non-white communities
  - All improvements should be implemented

## RESPONDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

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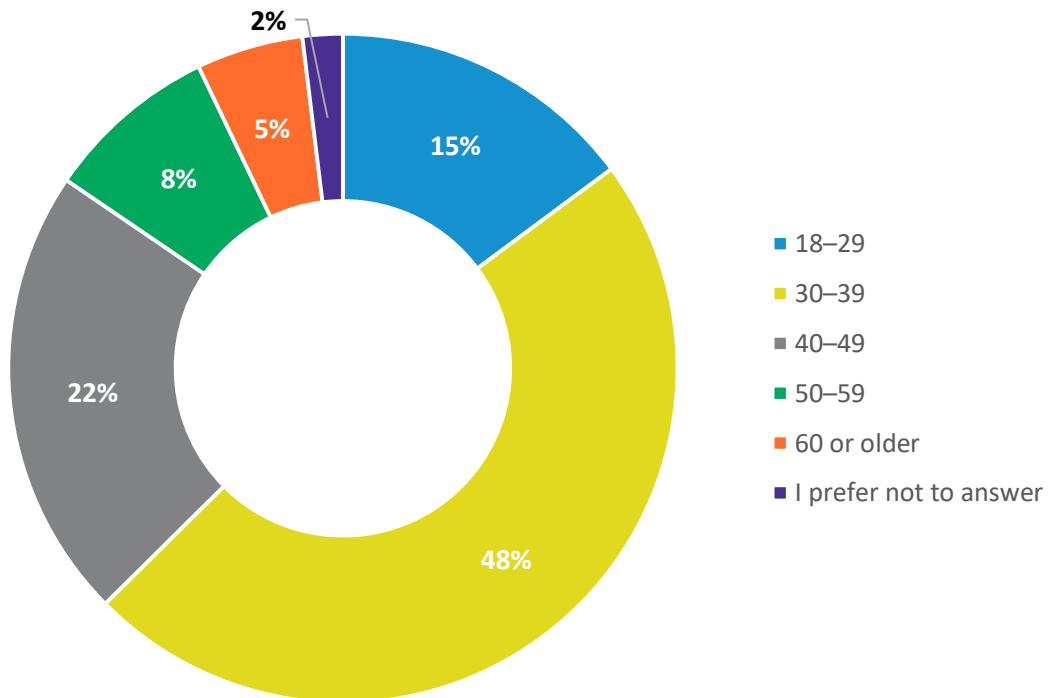
### What Zip Code do you live in? (Select one)



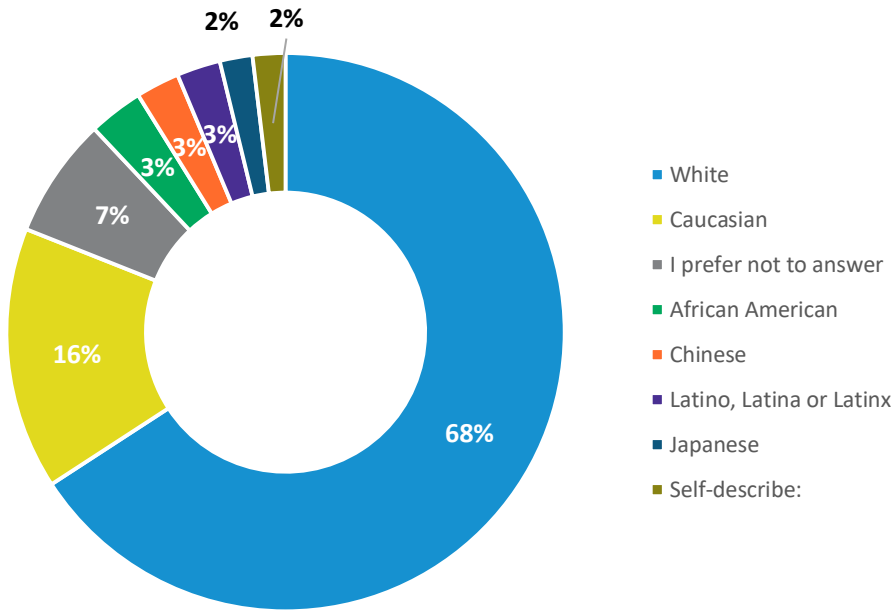
Write-in choices for other:

- 98102
- 98103
- 98105
- 98107
- 98109
- 98112
- 98115
- 98126
- 98133
- 98178
- 98188
- 98296

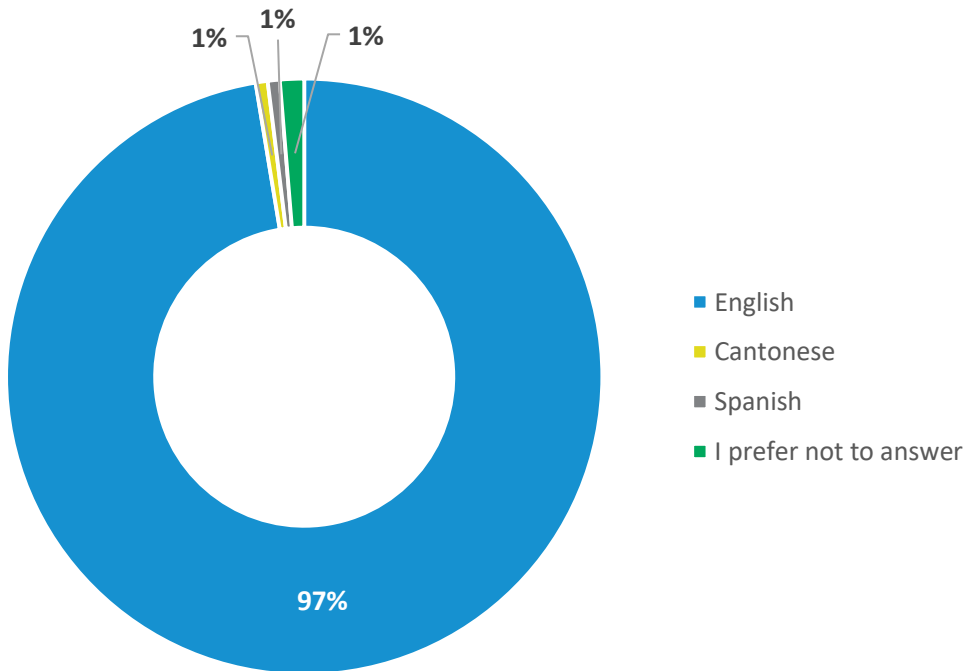
**What is your age? (Select one)**



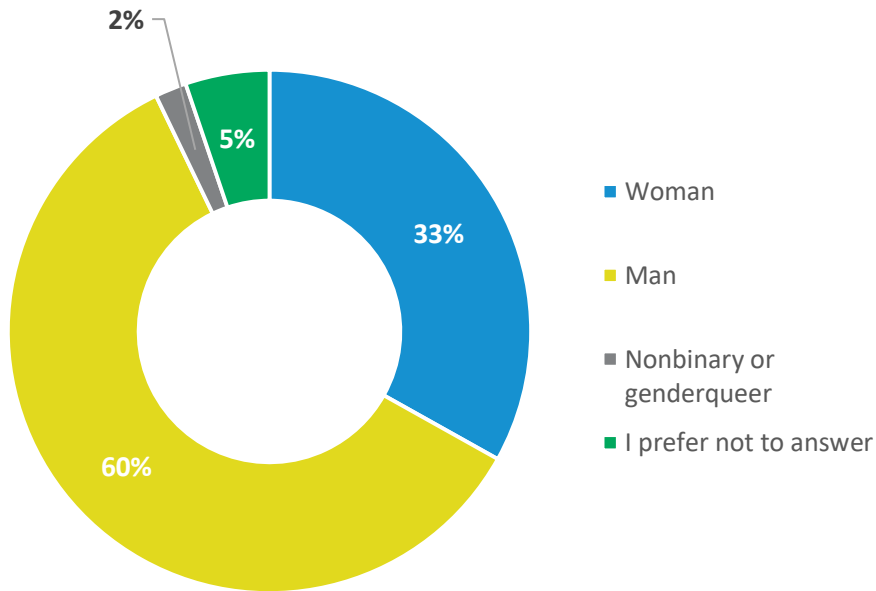
**How do you identify? (Select all that apply)**



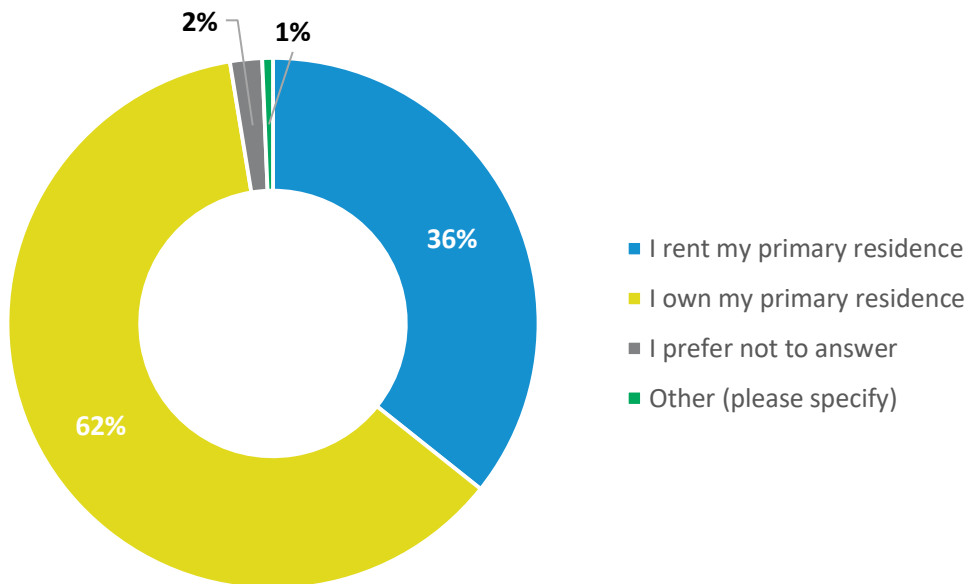
**What is the primary language spoken in your home? (Select one)**



**What gender do you identify as?**



**Which of the following best describes your current living situation? (Select one)**



## GENERAL THEMES

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- Bikes and pedestrians need to be separated
- Bikers should have concrete barriers protecting them from cars
- Sidewalks are needed
- Traffic calming measures are heavily needed
- More crosswalks are needed
  - Stoplights should be installed at crosswalks
- Prioritize pedestrian and biker safety