



# Bainbridge Island Walking & Biking Needs Survey

March 2018

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Report of Results

# Agenda

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- Who is Bainbridge Mobility Alliance?
- Survey overview and objectives
- Who took the survey?
- What did we hear?
- Questions/discussion

# Survey Sponsor

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## **Bainbridge Mobility Alliance**

- Citizen coalition
- Mission to improve conditions and opportunities for walking and biking on Bainbridge Island
- Survey based on similar community surveys by various organizations – customized for island issues

# Survey Objectives

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The survey was intended to do the following:

- Gather **baseline data** on behaviors and attitudes with respect to walking and biking.
- Understand the **perspectives and needs** of Bainbridge residents with respect to walking and biking.
- Identify **priorities and preferences** with respect to **infrastructure improvements**.
- Gauge the willingness of island residents to support a **funding measure** to enable construction of enhanced facilities for walking and biking within a reasonable time.



# Survey Delivery

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- 100% Online
- Widely promoted to general audience
- Designed to allow one response/person



# Survey limitations

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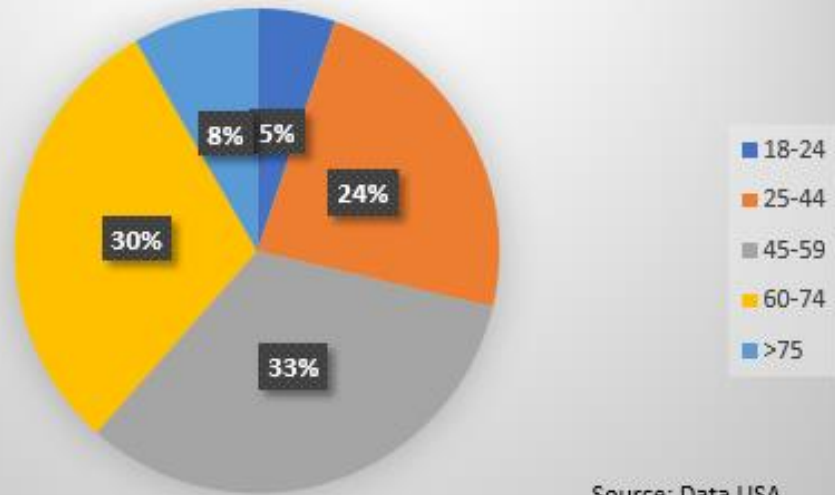
- Not a randomized survey – open to all residents
- Questions were limited to specific areas of inquiry
  - Limited info on what besides infrastructure improvements will motivate people to change behavior
  - No questions about specific projects

# Who took the survey?

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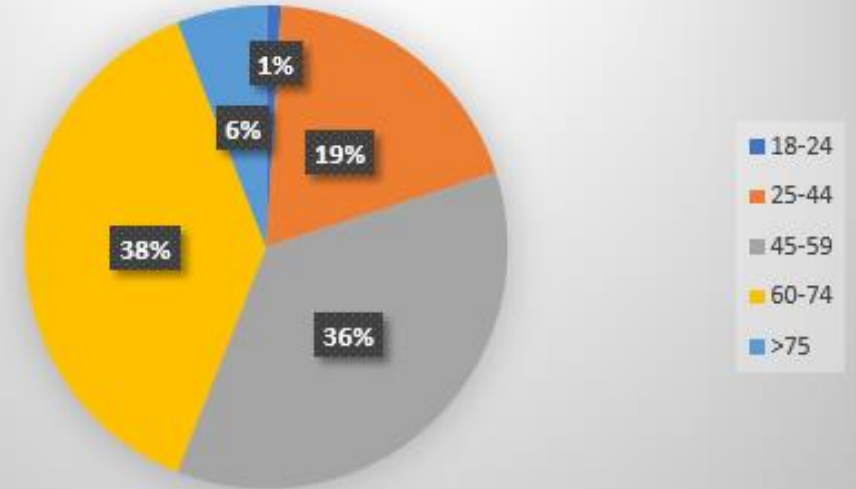
- 1,576 people – 97% island residents
- 62% of respondents were women
- ~ 1/2 were commuters, and half of commuters travel to Seattle
- ~ 1/3 of respondents were parents of school-aged kids
- Less than 1/4 were frequent bike riders
- ~ 3/4 were frequent walkers
- 4% have physical mobility limitations or disability

### Bainbridge Age Distribution



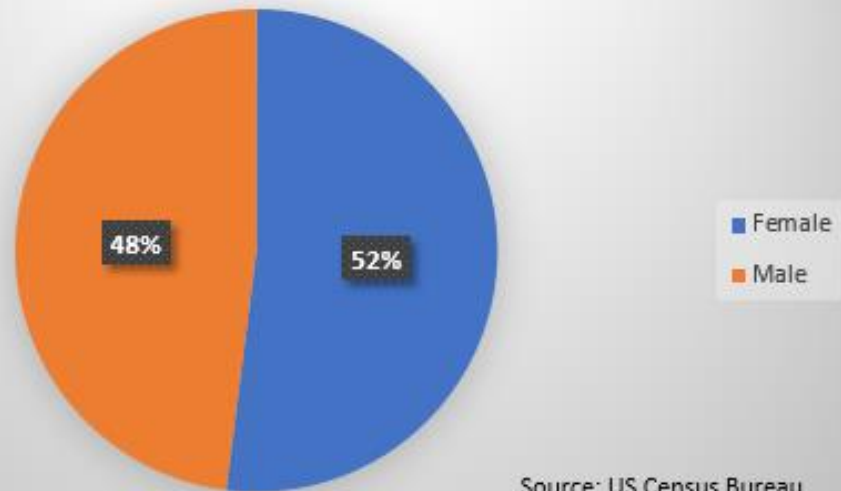
Source: Data USA

### Survey Age Distribution



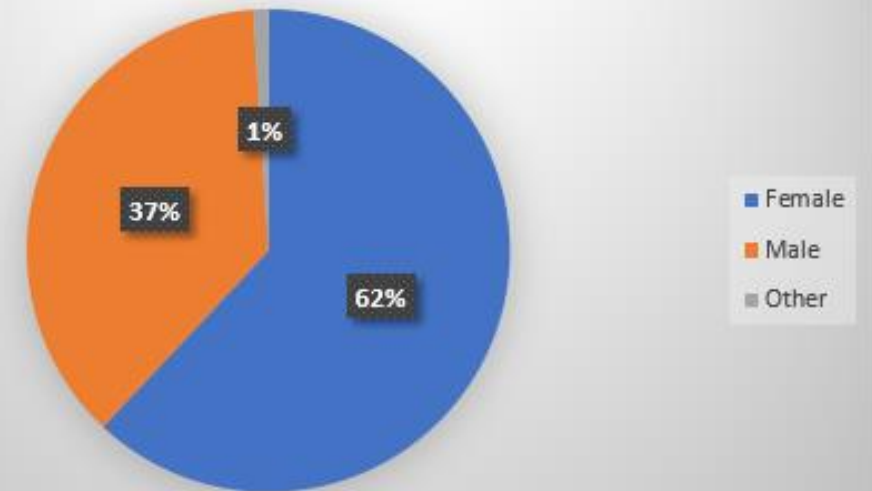


### Bainbridge Gender Distribution

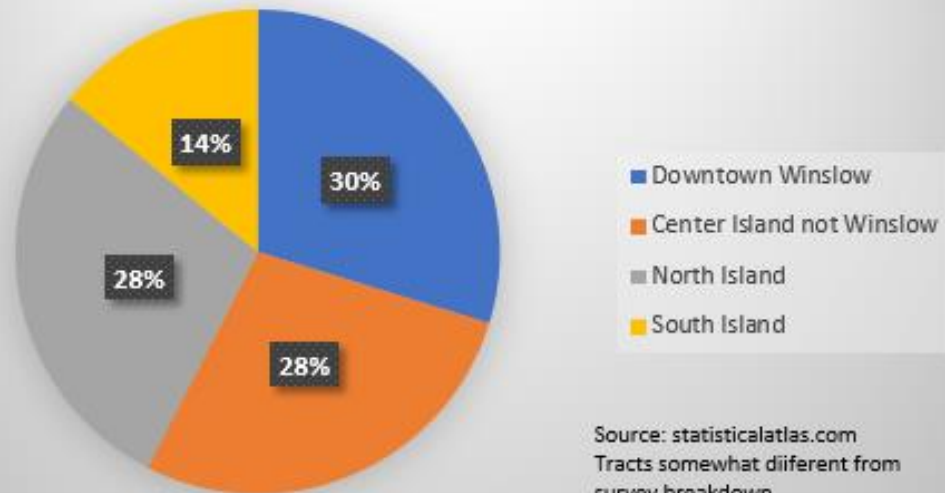


Source: US Census Bureau

### Survey Gender Distribution

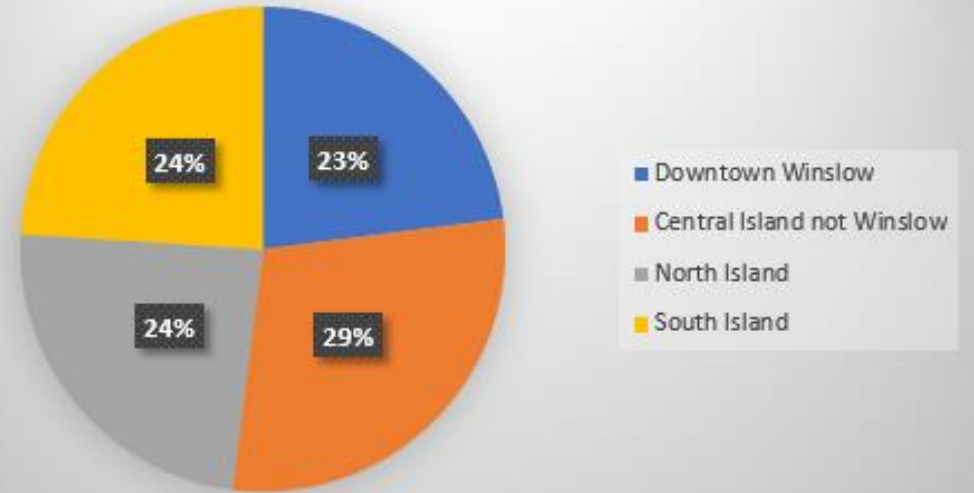


### Bainbridge Residential Distribution



Source: statisticalatlas.com  
Tracts somewhat different from  
survey breakdown

### Survey Residential Distribution



# Finding 1: People not satisfied with infrastructure for walking and biking

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- 71% of respondents rated the biking environment on Bainbridge as Somewhat or Very Unsafe
- 48% of respondents rated the infrastructure for walking in the vicinity of their home as Bad or Very Bad – ratings vary widely by area



## Finding 2: Poor infrastructure is a barrier to walking and biking

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71% of those who do not bike or would like to bike more identified inadequate bike infrastructure as a barrier

77% of parents with school-aged kids said lack of safe infrastructure is a barrier to their kids walking or biking to school





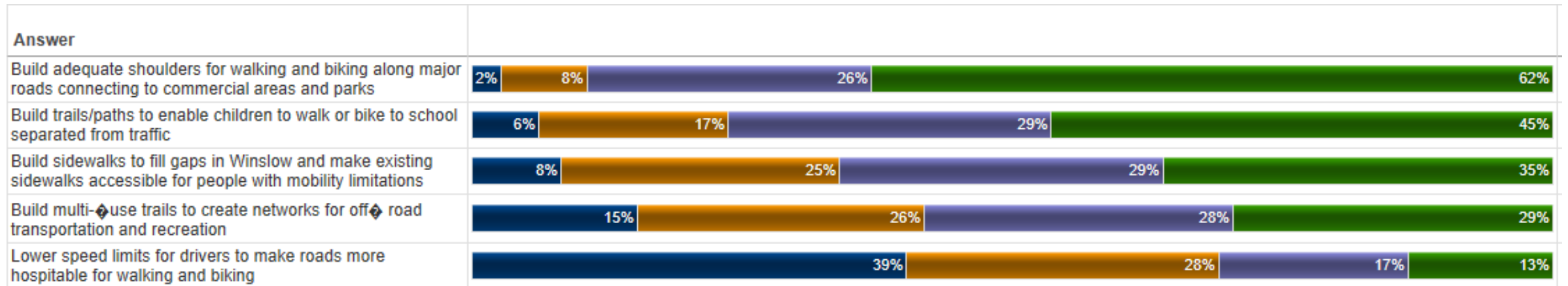
## Finding 3: People want a range of infrastructure improvements

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Islanders want to see:

- Shoulder improvements (88%)
- Safe routes to school (76%)
- Other improvements

# Priority of infrastructure categories



 = Very Important  
 = Important





## Finding 4: People want high-quality shoulder facilities

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More than half of respondents indicated they want more than a standard 5' shoulder on major island roads

- 43% of “Interested but concerned” cyclists said a buffered shoulder was their minimum acceptable option – 24% want physical separation from cars





## Finding 5: Motivating factors

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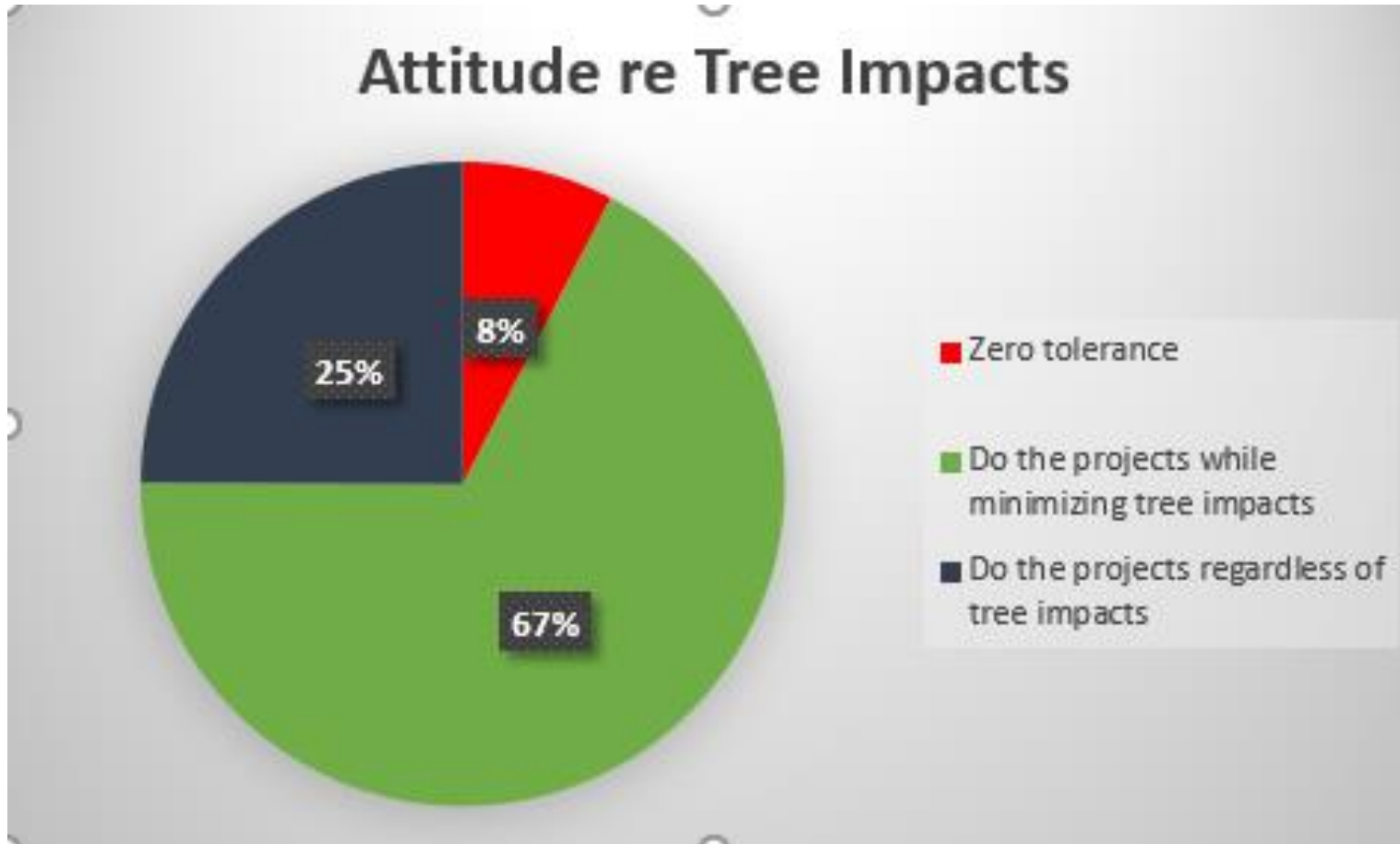
- People are highly motivated by the health benefits of walking and biking (91%)

Other highly-rated factors include fun/enjoyment and connection to nature



## Finding 6: Some tree impacts accepted

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- ~2/3 of respondents expressed a moderate view regarding tree removal to construct walking and biking facilities, as long as impacts are minimized
- Very few people expressed a “zero tolerance” view

# Finding 7: There is strong support for a ballot measure

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- 74% of respondents said they would be Likely or Very Likely to support a tax increase with an average cost of about \$19/household/month to significantly shorten the time required to construct connected networks for walking and biking
- Of the likely supporters, almost 60% indicated they would support a larger funding measure to further accelerate the construction of facilities for walking and biking

# Funding measure support seen across demographics

Subgroup	Percent Likely/ Very Likely
Overall	74.1%
Men	75.1%
Women	73.2%
Parents of school kids	77.3%
Commuters	78.0%
Non-commuters	70.6%
“Interested but Concerned”	80.2%

Subgroup	Percent Likely/ Very Likely
Downtown Winslow	78.4%
Central Island	71.3%
North Island	69.9%
South Island	76.8%
Age 45-59	78.0%
Age 60-74	72.0%
Age >75	68.8%

# Concerns of Non-supporters

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- ~ 25% Unlikely or Very Unlikely to support the described funding measure
- Most common reason for lack of support was that they “Need more information or justification”
- Second most common reason was “Can’t afford to pay more taxes”

# Free Text Responses – **What else** should we do to improve conditions for walking and biking on the island?

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779 free-text responses regarding this question. Examples of frequent responses:

- Enforce current speed limits
- Educate bikers and drivers about how to share the roads safely
- Address safety issues in specific areas/roads
- Improve street lighting in high-traffic areas
- Keep the existing bike lanes free of debris
- Make safety improvements NOW – we've waited too long
- And MANY other ideas



# Subgroup analysis

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# Finding 1: Parents of school-aged kids (N=540) want better infrastructure

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- 77% said a lack of safe infrastructure is a significant barrier to their kids walking or biking to school
- 70% rated the biking environment on the island as either somewhat or very unsafe
- 65% said their kids would walk or bike to school more often if there were safe infrastructure between home and school



## Finding 2: People who live in and near Winslow are happier with the current pedestrian infrastructure

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- 81% of Downtown Winslow residents rated the pedestrian environment near their home as Okay or Very Good, as compared to 52% of the overall group
- 48% of Central Island (not downtown) residents rated the nearby pedestrian environment as Okay or Very Good; compared to 38% of North Island residents



# Finding 3: People walk more in Winslow

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A significantly higher % of Downtown Winslow residents reported frequently walking to get to a destination

- 82% v. 47% overall
- Center Island 43%
- North Island 30%





# Gender differences

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## Finding 4: Men feel safer than women

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The percentage of men rating the biking environment as Fairly or Very Safe was almost twice as high as that for women (37% v. 22%)

As a group, women show more risk aversion than men – and a greater need for high-quality bike lanes/infrastructure

46% of women were in the “Interested but concerned” group, compared to only 28% of men

# “Interested but Concerned” bikers

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- This is the group that would like to bike more but is not comfortable with current infrastructure – they might be encouraged to bike if infrastructure is improved (n=610, or about 40% of survey respondents)
- This group rated the importance of all infrastructure categories more highly than the general group
  - 95% of this group rated shoulder improvements as either Important or Very Important
  - 83% of this group rated trails/paths to enable kids to walk or bike to school separated from car traffic as Important or Very Important



# Thank you!

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WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU  
HAVE??