



GABAC

GREATER ALBUQUERQUE BICYCLING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

DEPARTMENT OF MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT, PO BOX 1293

ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

(505) 768-3658

Timothy M. Keller, Mayor

Monday, November 9, 2020

4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

NOTE: This meeting will be held electronic pursuant to Mayor Keller's instructions that Boards meet using virtual teleconferencing platforms.

Join Zoom Meeting: (Place mouse over hyperlink, right-click, choose "open hyperlink")

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://cabq.zoom.us/j/99697343471?pwd=bGorL3FUQXNka0NmaEkrRlpnVThpZz09>

Meeting ID: 996 9734 3471

Passcode: 944456

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,99697343471# US (Houston)

+16699006833,,99697343471# US (San Jose)

- **Welcome and Introductions**

- **Approval of the November 2020 Agenda**

- **Announcements/Administrative**

Meeting Format.....Josef Jansen, DMD

-Please wait until recognized to begin Comment/Questions

-Written Questions/Comments and/or Responses may be requested via chat

- *6 mute/unmute *9 raise hand

- **Public Comment**

Please email comments to jjansen@cabq.gov prior to the meeting, or use the virtual raise hand feature. Comments are generally limited to two minutes or less.

- **Presentations**

I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study – Aaron Sussman Bohannon Huston

Bike thru Burque Survey Results & COVID-19 Bike Count Data – Tara Cok MRCOG

- **GABAC Committee Reports/Updates**

- **Staff Reports**

DMD Engineering

Council Services

Parks and Recreation

Planning

Bernalillo County

MRCOG

NMDOT District 3

- **Discussion/Action Item(s)**

Vote on the revised committee name, scope, etc.

Vote on a new chair and vice-chair

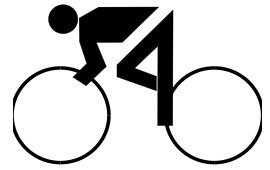
- **Adjourn**

- **Next Scheduled GABAC/GARTC Joint Meeting Tuesday, December 15, 2020 @ 4:00**

Members: Dan Majewski (City-SW); Robin Allen (City-At-Large); Josiah Hooten (City-At-Large); Raul S. Chavira (City-SE); Rose McCamey (City-NE); Richard Meadows (EPC); Lanny Tinning (Unincorporated East), Dan Jensen (City-NW)

City Staff: Josef Jansen, DMD, Engineering (768-3842)

Notice: If you are a person with a disability and require assistance to participate in this meeting, please call 768-2680, 72 hours prior to the meeting. TTY users may access this number via NM Relay at 1-800-659-8331.



GABAC

Timothy M. Keller,
Mayor

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VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES November 9, 2020

Members Present – Quorum

Dan Majewski
Richard Meadows
Robin Allen

Josiah Hooten
Dan Jensen
Rose McCamey

GABAC Members Absent

Raul Chivara

Lanny Tanning

Staff Present

Josef Jansen, COA DMD
Terra Reed, COA Planning
Cheryl Sommerfeldt, COA Parks
Tara Cok, MRCOG
Sergio Lazoya, COA Planning

Debbie Bauman, COA DMD
Petra Morris, COA Council
Whitney Phelan, COA Parks
Julie Luna, Bernalillo County
Margaret Haynes. NMDOT

Guests

Aaron Sussman
Christopher Ramirez
Mahdi Hosszini

Brady Nicholson
Peter Rice

Dan Majewski called the meeting to order

(4:00 pm)

Welcome and Introductions

Approval of the Agenda –

Motion to Approve the Agenda (Dan Majewski), 2nd (Richard Meadows), Vote – Unanimous

Public Comment

None

Presentations

I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study - Aaron Sussman, Bohannon Huston

Aaron Sussman provided a summary and set of recommendations from the I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study. Recommendations included signage and crossing improvements, multi-use trails, improvements of on-street bike lanes, road diets/ new on-street bike lanes, and proposed crossings.

Bike thru Burque Survey Results & Bicycling During Covid-19 - Tara Cok, MRCOG

The survey was open September 2 to October 1, 2020. There were 895 respondents (1,012 in 2019). This year's survey was entirely electronic and consisted of 21 questions. The survey this year asked some of the same questions as last year, but some were changed/added/deleted. This year's survey also included some questions related to bicycling during COVID-19.

Tara also presented on the changes in bicycling during the Covid-19 pandemic. MRCOG collected data from trail counters to compare trends in 2019 cycling vs 2020. Overall, this was an increase of 38.7% in April 2020 compared to April 2019. Bike and ped data for the region does show increases, especially during April and May, and bike to work survey results also support these findings. The bike to work day survey also indicates many people anticipate riding more even after the pandemic.

Staff Reports

DMD Engineering – Josef Jansen

- The North Diversion Channel notch at Indian School is currently under construction.

Parks and Recreation – Whitney Phelan

- Copper Trail is scheduled to be completed before the end of the year.
- Ventanna Ranch DMD provided approval for the crossings at Universe, Parks will add additional crusher fine, it isn't completely ADA, but will add a nice view.
- The Rail Spur Trail will have a neighborhood presentation in December and Dekker Perich Sabatini will present at the December joint meeting.
- Request placed for mask/social distancing signage
- Osuna Bridge- proposed scraping and epoxy resurfacing
- Trail activity survey will run through December
- Trail Crossing - Wyoming south of Indian School. DMD's Director and Traffic Engineer are working on this.

Planning - Terra Reed

- Sergio Lazoya and Carrie Barkhurst will be the future Planning staff representatives as of December when Terra transitions over to DMD.

Bernalillo County – Julie Luna

- Alameda Drain Trail along Second Street northwest from Montano to Paseo del Norte is complete.
- Woodward is scheduled to be in construction January of next year and will take about 210 days. Julie has been in contact with Debbie Bauman from DMD to Coordinate this with the William Street Bike Route project.

NMDOT District 3 - Margaret Haynes

- Tramway is still under construction. Signing and striping will probably be completed in the Spring.
- There is a lot of pavement preservation going on outside of the Albuquerque metro area.

Discussion/Action Items

Motion: Dan Majewski *to make a request to change the name and scope of our committee.* 2nd Richard Meadows, Vote Unanimous.

Adjourn: 6:06

Request to City Council for GABAC to Become the Greater Albuquerque Active Transportation Committee (GAATC)

WHEREAS, the Greater Albuquerque Bicycling Advisory Committee (GABAC) was established by ordinance 14-13-3-6 in 1994 to represent and advise the City on safe bicycling facilities on behalf of the on-street cycling community within the Albuquerque area.

WHEREAS, the City adopted a Complete Streets ordinance in 2015 (F/S O-14-27), and updated the ordinance in 2019 (O-19-64), recommending the formation of an active transportation advisory committee to address issues of safety, public health, the environment, and equity for pedestrians and cyclists using City streets.

WHEREAS, the Greater Albuquerque Recreational Trails Committee (GARTC) is already addressing the needs of pedestrians and cyclists as well as equestrians along off-street trails. GABAC and GARTC desire to continue coordinating by holding regular joint meetings.

WHEREAS, the current members of GABAC desire to expand the purview of their committee to address the transportation needs of both pedestrians and bicyclists using public streets rather than forming a separate advisory committee.

WHEREAS, GABAC currently resides with the Department of Municipal Development (DMD) and its staff provide technical support to the Committee. The Complete Streets ordinance calls for a new staff position to provide committee support and coordination between multiple departments including DMD and the Planning Department.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, GABAC members hereby formally request City Council to adopt by ordinance a reorganized advisory committee to address not only the needs of on-street cyclists but those of pedestrians in ways that ensure equitable and safe facilities throughout the Albuquerque area.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, GABAC members hereby formally request City Council to work with the Administration to create and fund Active Transportation Coordinator positions that can provide Committee support and coordinate between departments on implementing Complete Streets.

Approved this day ____ of _____ by a vote of a quorum of members _____ for and _____ against.

Rose McCamey _____

Raul S. Chavira _____

Dan Majewski, Chair _____

Josiah M Hooten _____

Robin J Allen _____

Lanny Tanning _____

Richard Meadows _____

I-25 BICYCLE ACCESSIBILITY STUDY: SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Greater Albuquerque Bicycling
Advisory Committee
November 9, 2020



Bohannon  **Huston**

Scope of Work

- Evaluate existing bikeway conditions along I-25 crossings between I-40 and Tramway Blvd/Roy Ave
- Review proposed improvements from the Long Range Bikeway System (LRBS)
- Consider the need for an additional crossing
- Provide recommendations to City staff → projects to be identified and designed at a later point in time
- Identify improvements within the existing right-of-way and between the existing curb lines, where possible



Purpose & Need

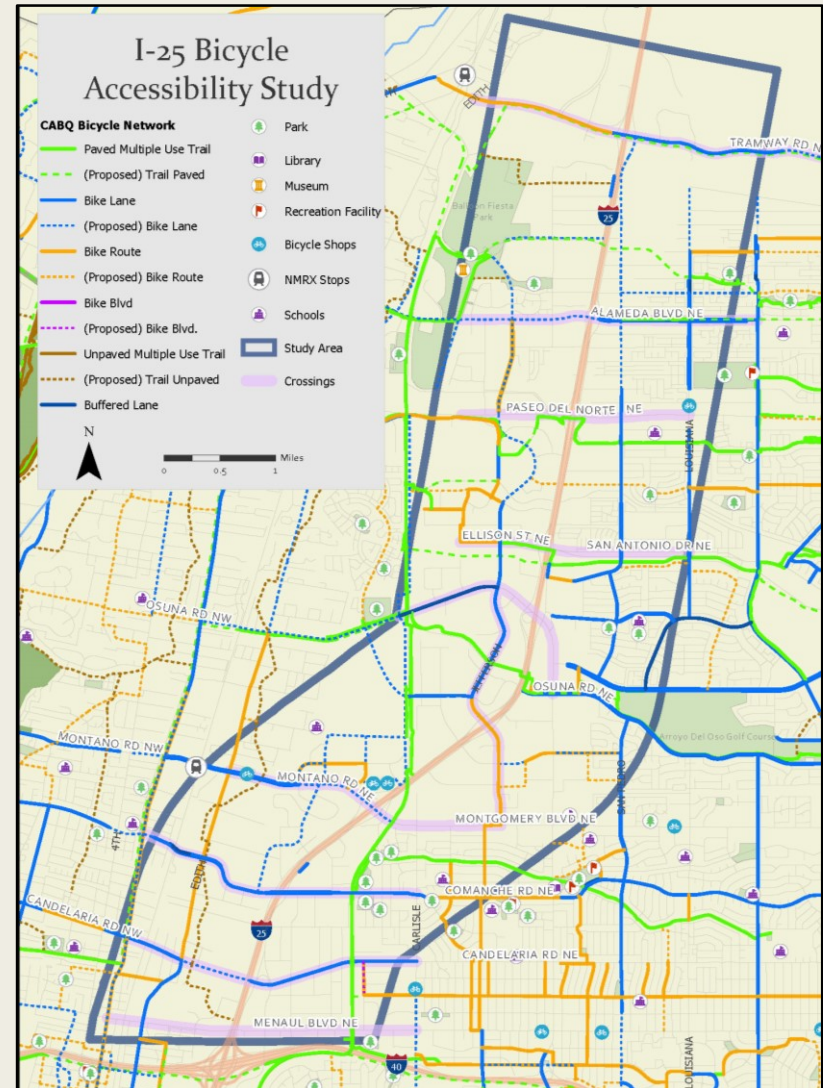
The I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study will consider three main questions:

- Is an additional dedicated bicycle/pedestrian crossing *warranted*?
- Is an additional dedicated bicycle/pedestrian crossing *feasible*?
- What types of *improvements* could be made to *existing crossings*?



Existing Crossings

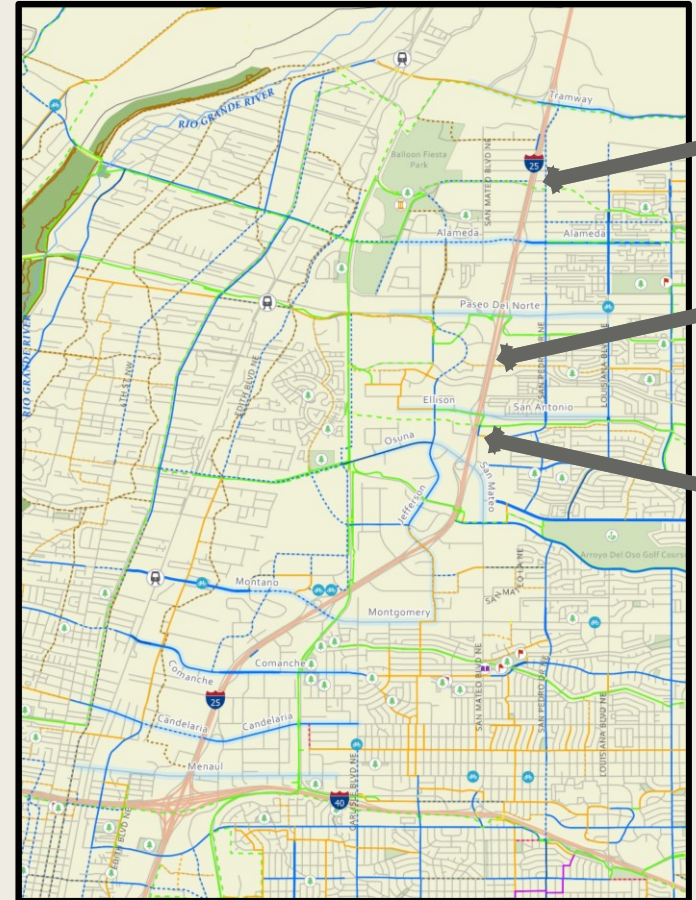
- 11 crossings:
 - 9 on-street crossings
 - North Diversion Channel
 - Dedicated bicycle-pedestrian bridge at Bear Arroyo
- North-south routes parallel to I-25



Proposed Crossings in LRBS

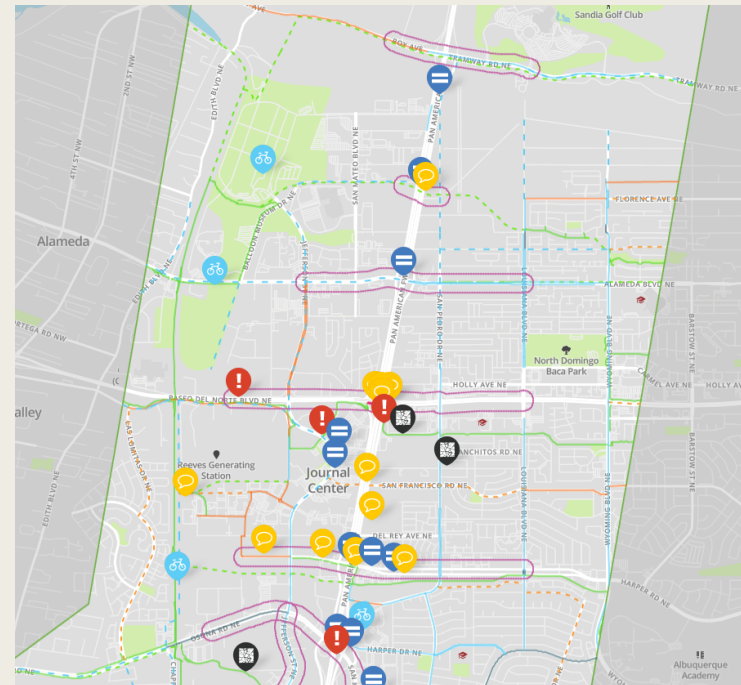
Identified in the Long Range Bikeway System Map

1. Pino Arroyo (south of Ellison Rd) – I-25 to North Diversion Channel
2. San Francisco Rd – Jefferson St to San Pedro Dr
3. San Diego Ave / La Cueva Waterway – between Alameda Blvd and Tramway Blvd



Stakeholder Feedback

- Technical Working Group – public agency staff, bicycle advocacy groups, GABAC and GARTC representatives
- Provide comments and input on study considerations
- Identify gaps and shortcomings in bikeway infrastructure
- Review technical analysis performed by Project Team
- Generate recommendations to enhance existing crossings



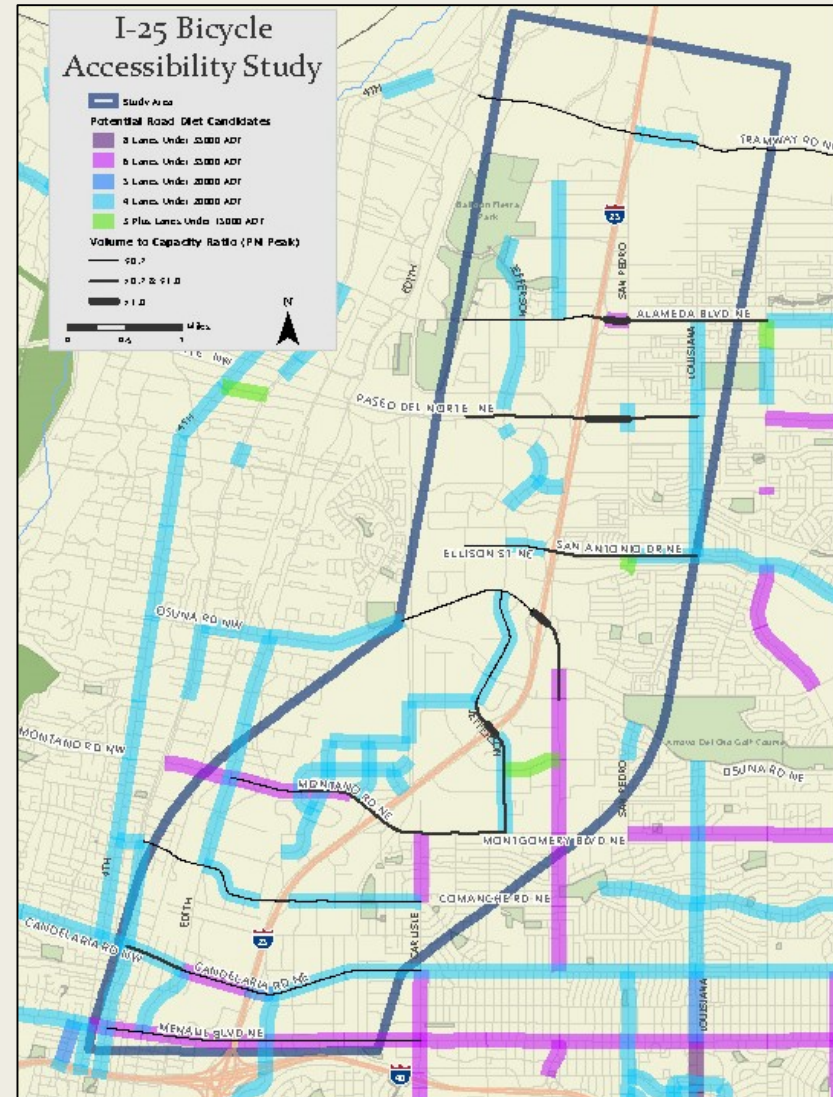
Technical Analysis

- Existing infrastructure
- Infrastructure quality (bicycle LOS)
- Safety/crash analysis
- Paths and destinations
- Nearest alternative route options
- Previously proposed improvements
- Available right-of-way/paved area
- Opportunities for roadway reconfigurations
- Rendering / feasibility analysis



MRCOG Road Diet Analysis

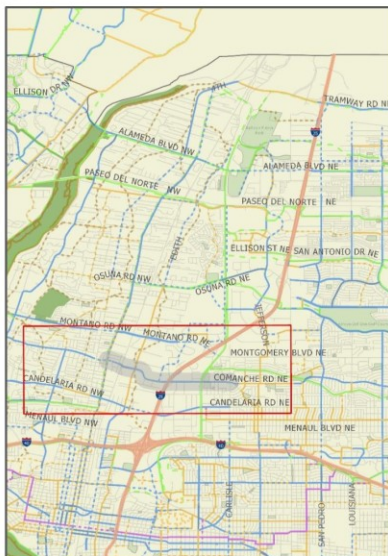
- Locations that meet NMDOT criteria for lane reductions
- Evaluate projected traffic volumes
- Identify locations where space for travel lanes could reasonably be reallocated for bicyclists



Corridor-by-Corridor Analysis

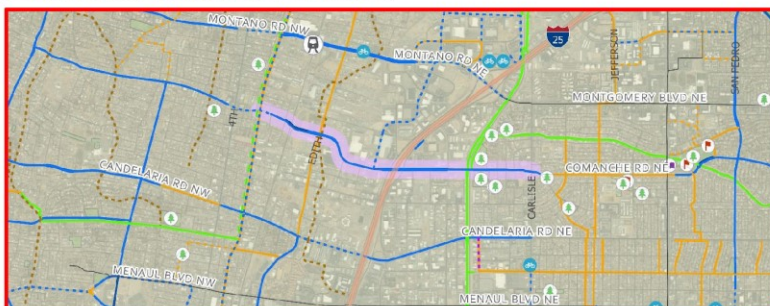


I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study



COMANCHE RD

Key Data	
Bikeways – Current	Bike Lane
Bikeways – Proposed	Proposed Bike Lane east of Carlisle Blvd
Posted Speed	35 – 40 MPH
2017 Daily Traffic Volume	13,000 - 20,000; 30,000 at underpass
General Purpose Lanes	4
Paved Area Width	65 - 88 ft
Outside Lane Width	10 - 11 ft
Bike Lane / Shoulder Width	3 - 4 ft
Center Turn Lane	Yes
Sidewalks	Yes
Parallel Trail	No
Transit Route	Commuter (13)
Bicycle Level of Service	C



CABQ Bicycle Network

- Bike Lane
- Paved Multiple Use Trail
- (Proposed) Trail Paved
- (Proposed) Bike Route
- (Proposed) Bike Lane
- Bike Blvd
- (Proposed) Bike Blvd
- Unpaved Multiple Use Trail
- (Proposed) Trail Unpaved
- (Proposed) Bike Lane
- Buffered Lane



Comanche WB at Alexander Blvd



Comanche WB at I-25 underpass

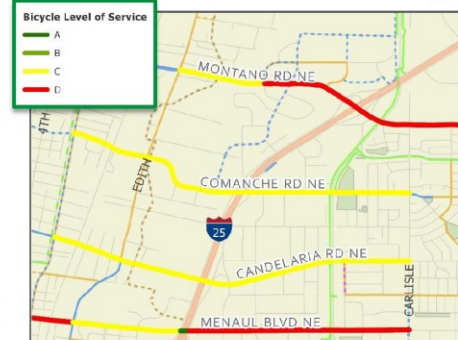


Comanche EB at I-25 Overpass - 2 lanes with no shoulder



Comanche EB at Stanford Dr

I-25 Bicycle Accessibility Study



Interactive Map Comments

Biking Destinations / Connections

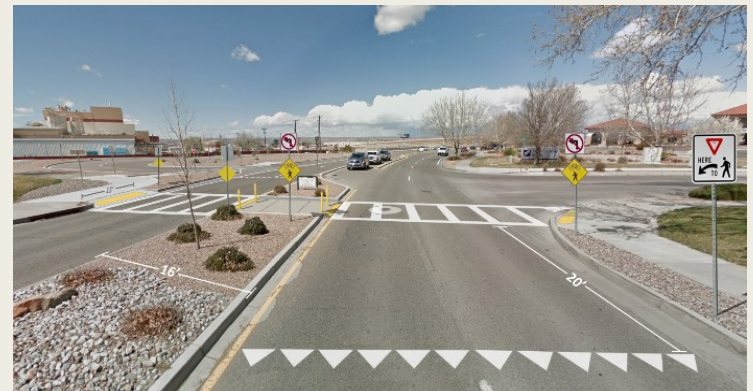
- PNM Maintenance Facility
- Brewery District
- Various schools

General Comments / Ideas

- "Currently, Comanche/Griegos is the only reasonable corridor from a lot of North Valley Neighborhoods to the Diversion Channel. This crossing would be one of my priority crossings for multi-modal upgrade."
- "There is a lot of heavy vehicle traffic at this crossing. The bicycle lane exists, but it would be very beneficial to (widen) it here. Bicycle commuters from the PNM maintenance plant were not satisfied with this crossing. It was interesting that they saw this crossing as more challenging than the short trip they need on Edith to reach their workplace!"

Recommendations: Signage and Crossing Improvements

- Bear Canyon Arroyo – connections to and from the North Diversion Channel
- Crossing of San Mateo Blvd at Osuna Rd
- Connection from Osuna Rd to San Pedro Dr (east of San Mateo Blvd)
- Approaching Paseo del Norte from the west
- Ellison Rd/San Antonio Dr & I-25
- Alameda Blvd & I-25



Proposed crossing of Jefferson St at Lang Ave



Recommendations: Multi-use Trails

- West of I-25 along Alameda Blvd at sidewalk level
- Ellison Rd between Jefferson St and I-25/access to Pino Arroyo Trail; enhance existing “trail”



Recommendations: Improve On-Street Bike Lanes

- **Jefferson St (Journal Center area);** widen existing 3-4' bike lanes
- **San Pedro Dr;** widen existing bike lanes north of San Antonio Dr, install bike lanes north of Alameda Blvd
- **Candelaria Rd – east of I-25;** reallocate space from median and center turn lane, remove third EB travel lane
- **Comanche Rd;** narrow center turn lane and allocate space to widen bike lanes

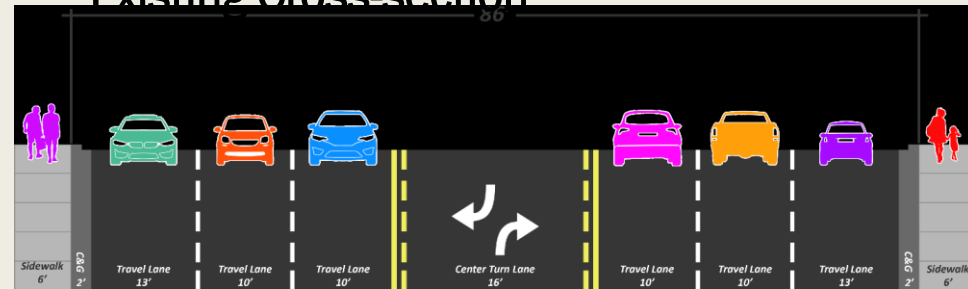


Recommendations: Road Diets/ New On-Street Bike Lanes

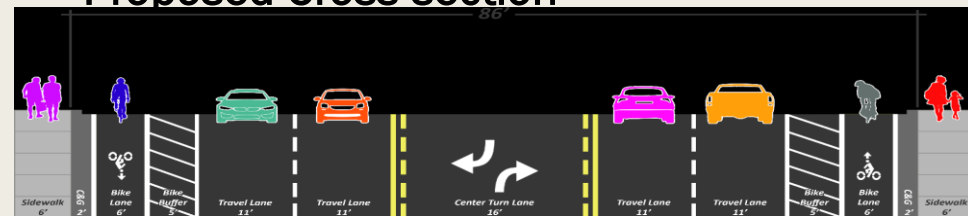
Candelaria Rd: West of I-25, between Edith Blvd and I-25

- Install a road diet that reduces the number of general purpose lanes in each direction from 3 to 2 and retains center turn lane
- Introduce wider bike lanes and buffers through restriping

Existing Cross-section



Proposed Cross-section



Recommendations: Road Diets/ New On-Street Bike Lanes

Alexander Blvd: Comanche Rd to Mission Ave (N. of Montañó Rd)

- North-south route to the west of I-25
- Remove general purpose travel lane in each direction
- Introduce wide bike lanes and buffers through restriping



Existing and Proposed Cross-section along
Alexander Blvd North of Yale Blvd



Other Corridors

■ Montgomery Blvd/Montaña Rd

- *Keep proposed bike lanes on Long Range Bikeway System*
- *Improve connections from Montaña Rd to Renaissance Blvd and to North Diversion Channel*
- *Potential improvements as part of interchange reconstruction*

■ Jefferson St Crossing

- *Keep proposed bike lanes on Long Range Bikeway System*
- *Explore improvements at time of interchange reconstruction*



No Recommendations

■ Menaul Blvd

- *No recommendations identified*
- *Parallel routes should be prioritized for improvements*

■ San Mateo Blvd

- *No recommendations identified*
- *Poor conditions for bicyclists*

■ Tramway Blvd

- *No recommendations identified; existing shoulders and bike lanes are suitable for conditions*
- *Connections from Tramway Blvd to other portions of the regional bikeway network are recommended*



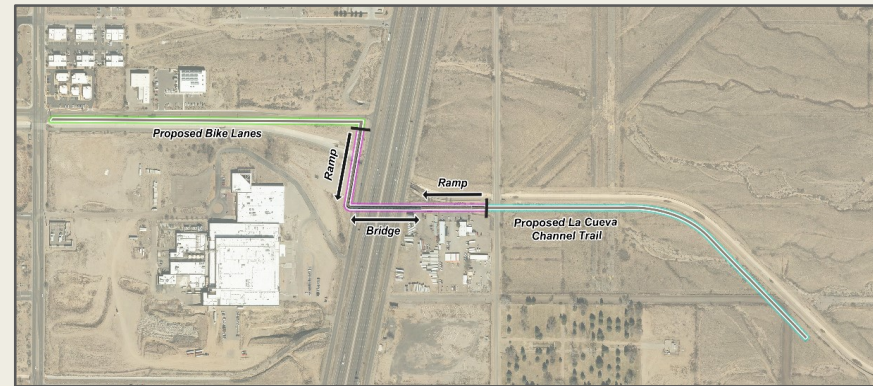
Proposed Crossings: San Francisco Rd

- Benefits include connections to Journal Center; alternative to Paseo del Norte crossing
- Technically feasible
- Significant improvements to on-street network would be needed
- Jefferson St north of Masthead Ave is a barrier to bicycle travel



Proposed Crossings: San Diego Ave

- Significant benefits in access to Balloon Fiesta Park, North I-25 Business Area
- Technically feasible
- Potential trail along arroyo east of I-25
- Connections required west of I-25



Questions?

- Debbie Bauman – dbauman@cabq.gov
- Josef Jansen – jjansen@cabq.gov
- Aaron Sussman – asussman@bhinc.com



Survey Results for the City of Albuquerque's Annual Bike to Work Day Event

PRESENTED TO GABAC BY TARA COK, TRANSPORTATION PLANNER, MRMPO/MRCOG
NOVEMBER 9, 2020



Before we dive in...

- ▶ This year's event was moved from May to September because of the pandemic.
- ▶ The event was switched to a virtual, week long event.
- ▶ The theme was different because of the pandemic this year. People were encouraged to just get out and bike.
- ▶ There were about 1,800 participants. Events and activities included a photo contest, scavenger hunt, a survey and more.
- ▶ The event website is still up at bikethruburque.com if you'd like to learn more about it.
- ▶ MRMPO/MRCOG helped with the survey but the event was organized and hosted by the City of Albuquerque and partners and BHI.



Bike Thru Burque Survey

- ▶ Survey open September 2 to October 1, 2020
- ▶ 895 respondents (there were 1,012 respondents last year)
- ▶ Survey was entirely electronic this year
- ▶ 21 questions



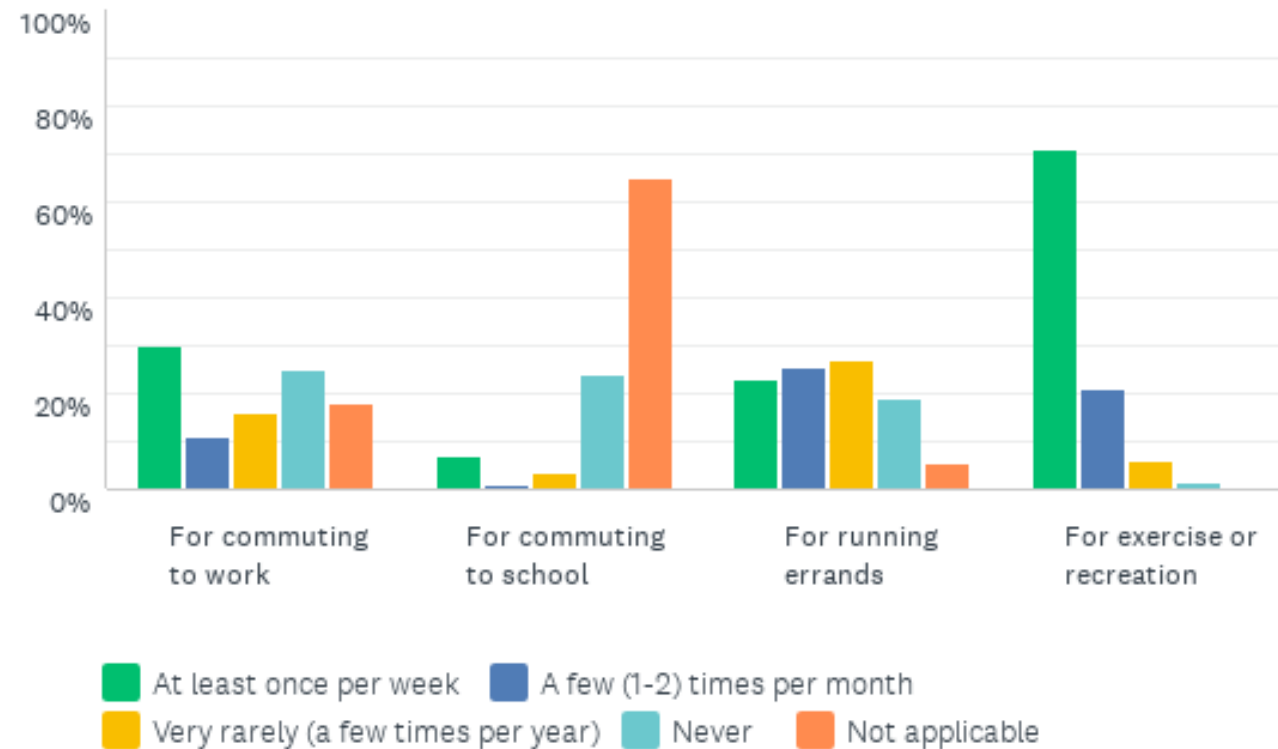
Things to Note

- ▶ Because the event was held virtually this year, and was a much different event, comparing survey to other years is difficult.
- ▶ The survey this year asked some of the same questions as last year, but some were changed/added/deleted.
- ▶ The survey this year included some questions related to bicycling during COVID-19.

Things to Note

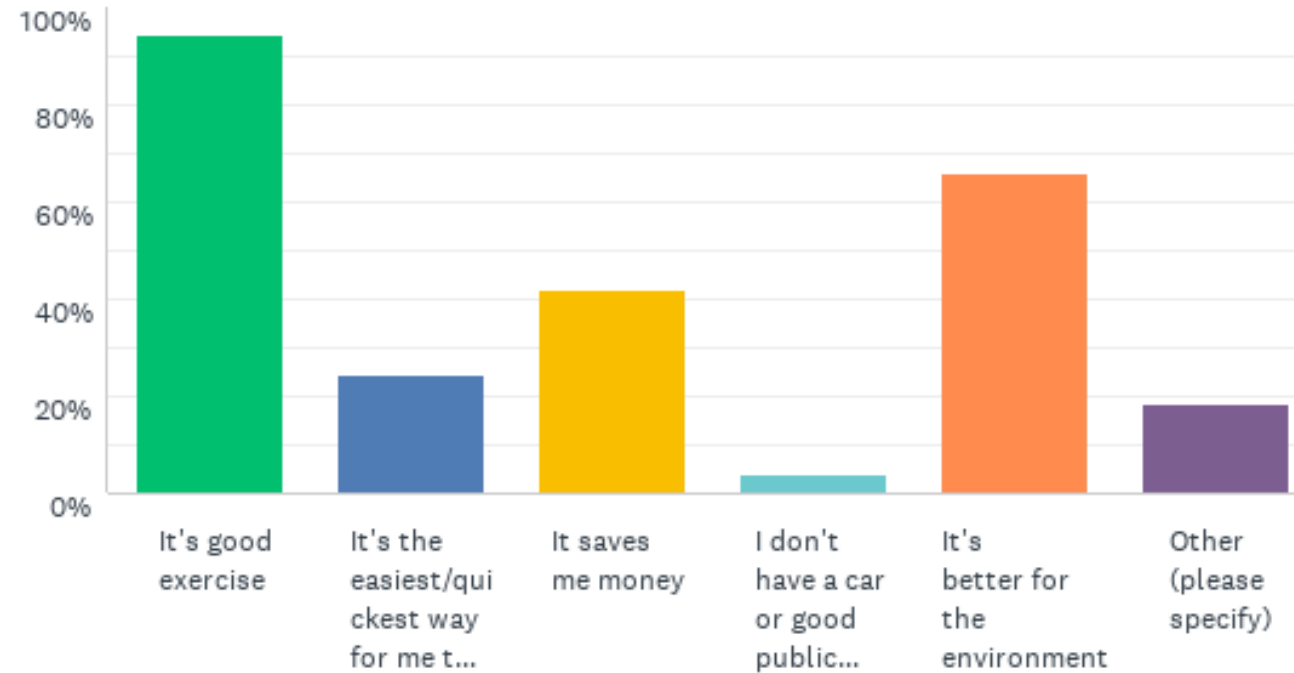
- ▶ This is a preliminary look at survey results. A full summary report will be written and shared with BTWD organizers and other stakeholders. It will be posted on MRCOG's website and GABAC will be notified.
- ▶ The survey was rich in open responses, so those written responses will be looked into more fully.
- ▶ Results are helpful for two different purposes:
 - ▶ Gives insight into event for event organizers
 - ▶ Gives insight into bicycling perceptions among the public, useful for various government and advocacy entities across the region

Q1 In general, how often do you bicycle for these trip purposes?



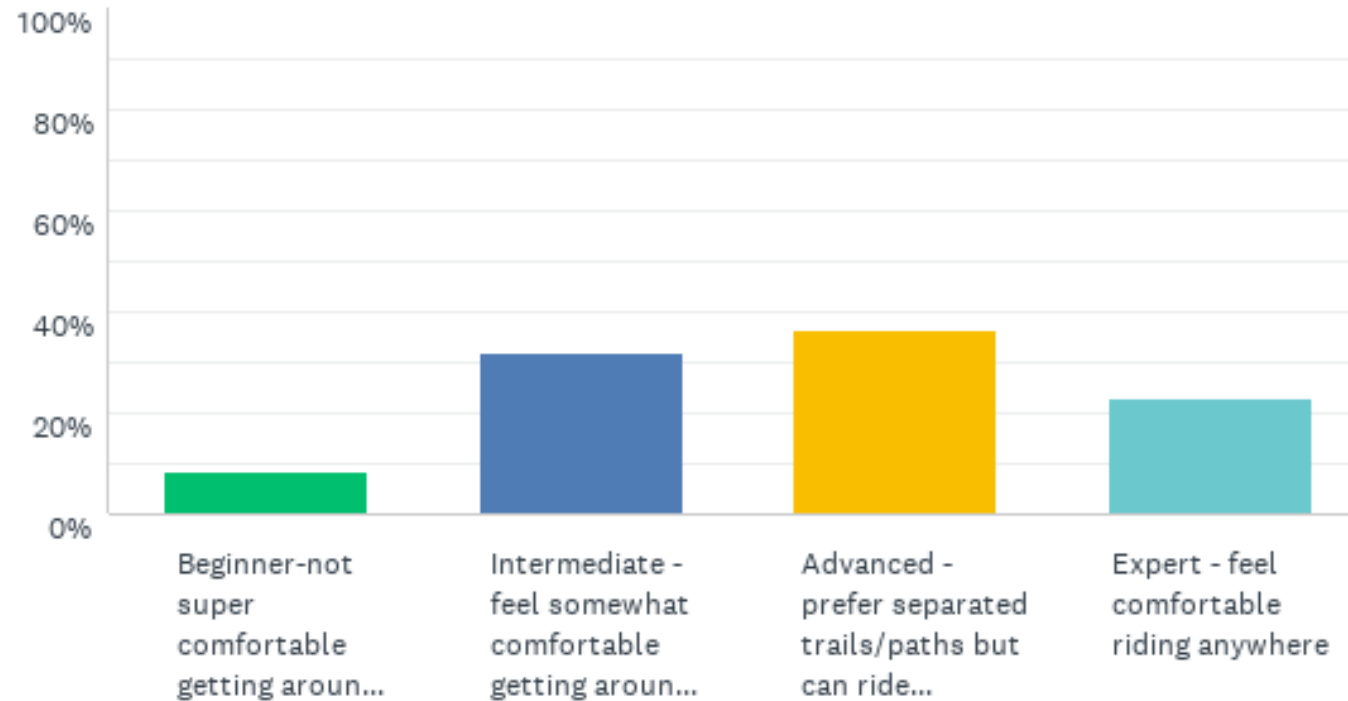
About 30% reported commuting to work at least once per week by bike (last year the figure was 60%) but about 25% reported never commuting to work by bike. There were a lot of exercise/recreation trips reported.

Q2 Why do you use your bike for trips? (Mark all that apply)



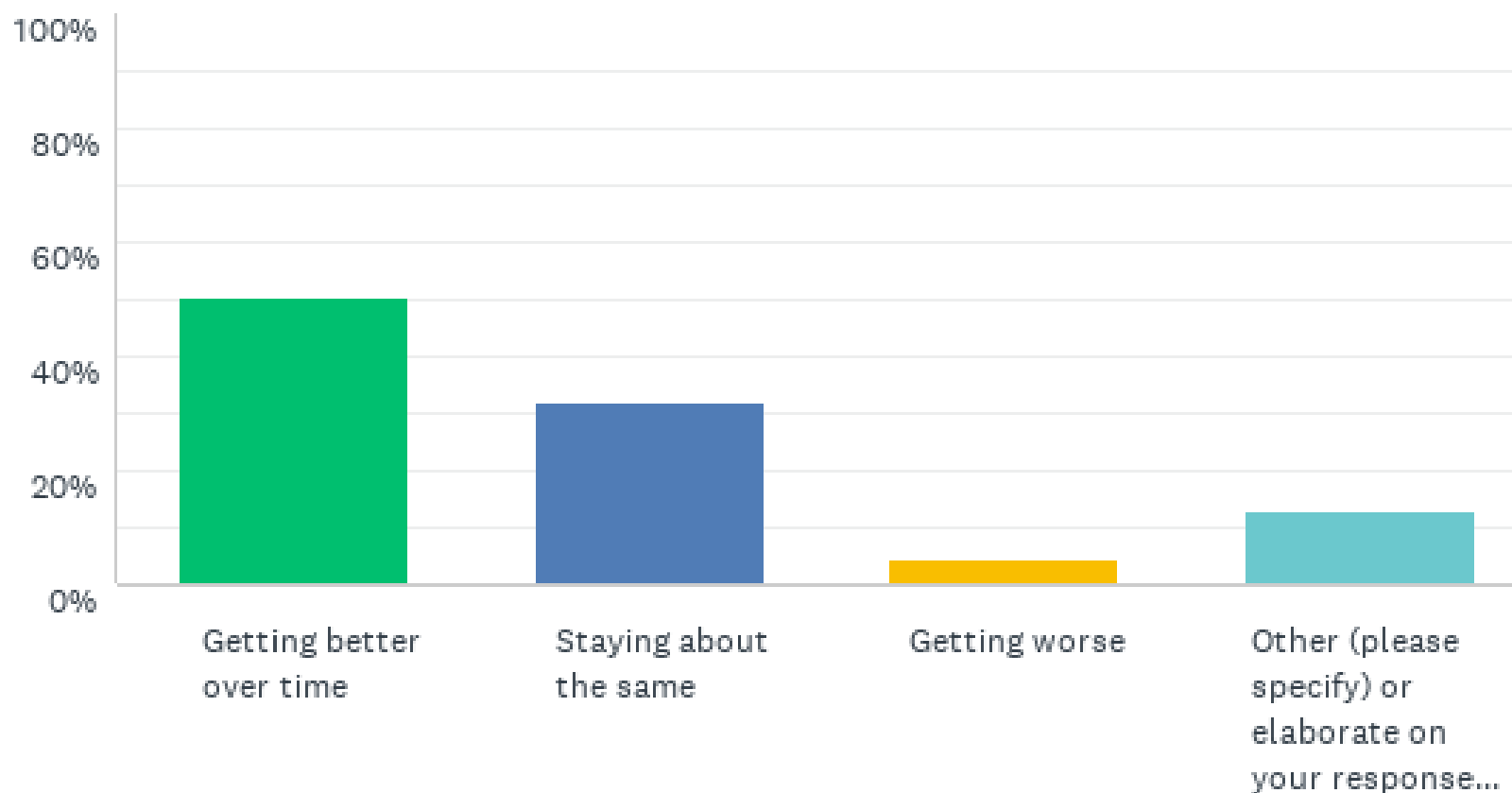
Health (95%) and environmental (66%) reasons top the list for people choosing to bicycle.

Q3 How would you describe your experience as a bicycle rider?



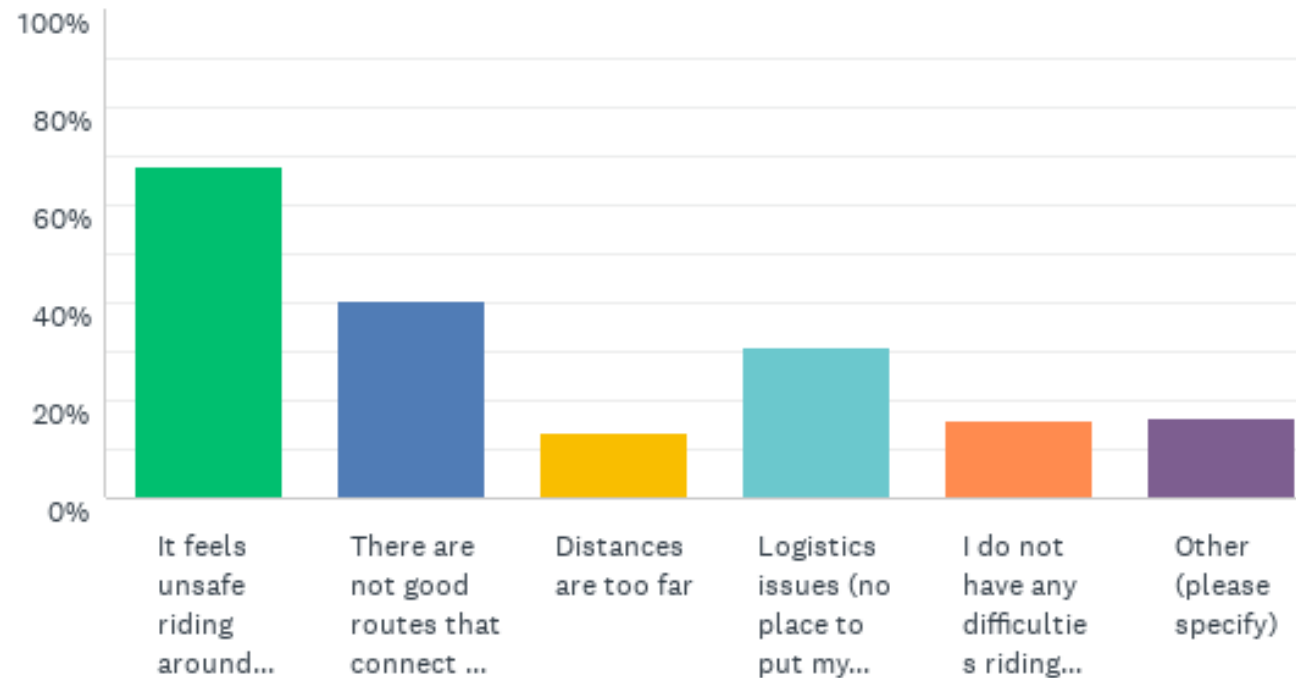
Most respondents were in the middle, bicycling experience-wise. Beginner riders did not participate at high levels (around 9%).

Q4 Do you feel that bicycling conditions in this community are:



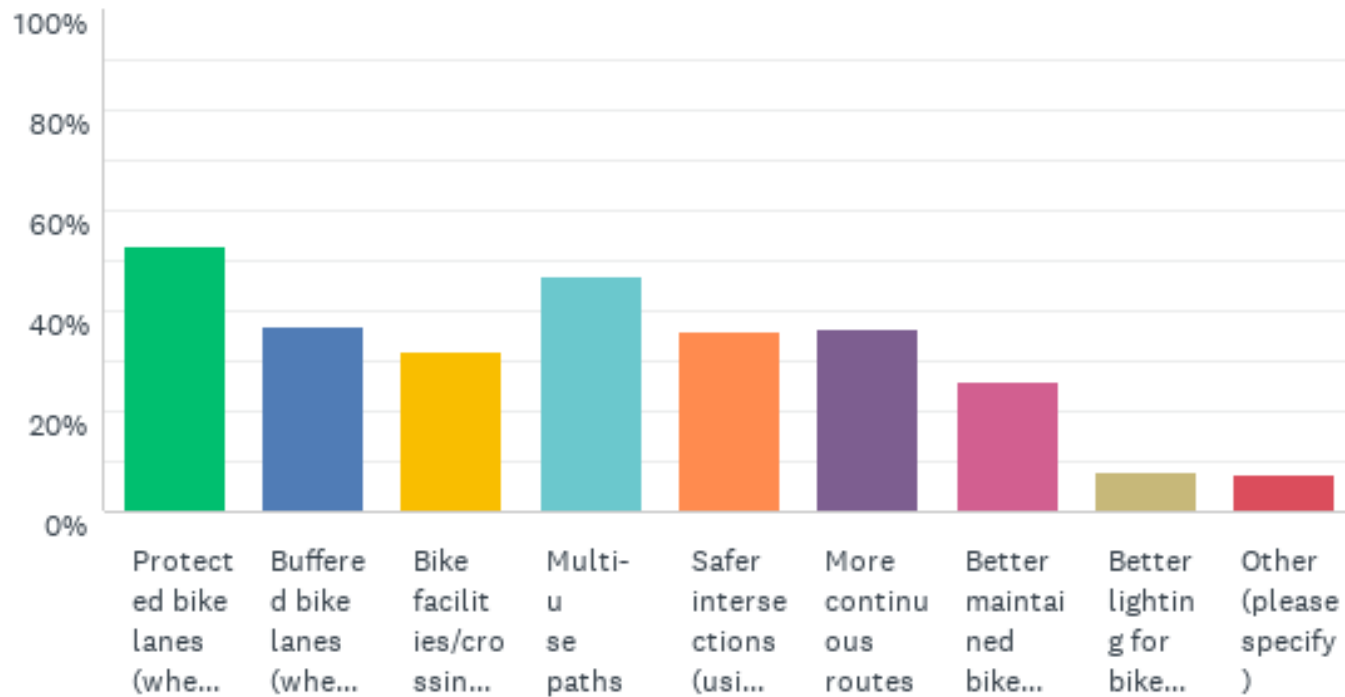
50% of respondents felt that progress is being made with bicycling conditions, about 30% felt they are staying the same, and 5% felt they are getting worse.

Q5 What are the main difficulties, if any, you find for riding your bike in your community? (Mark all that apply)



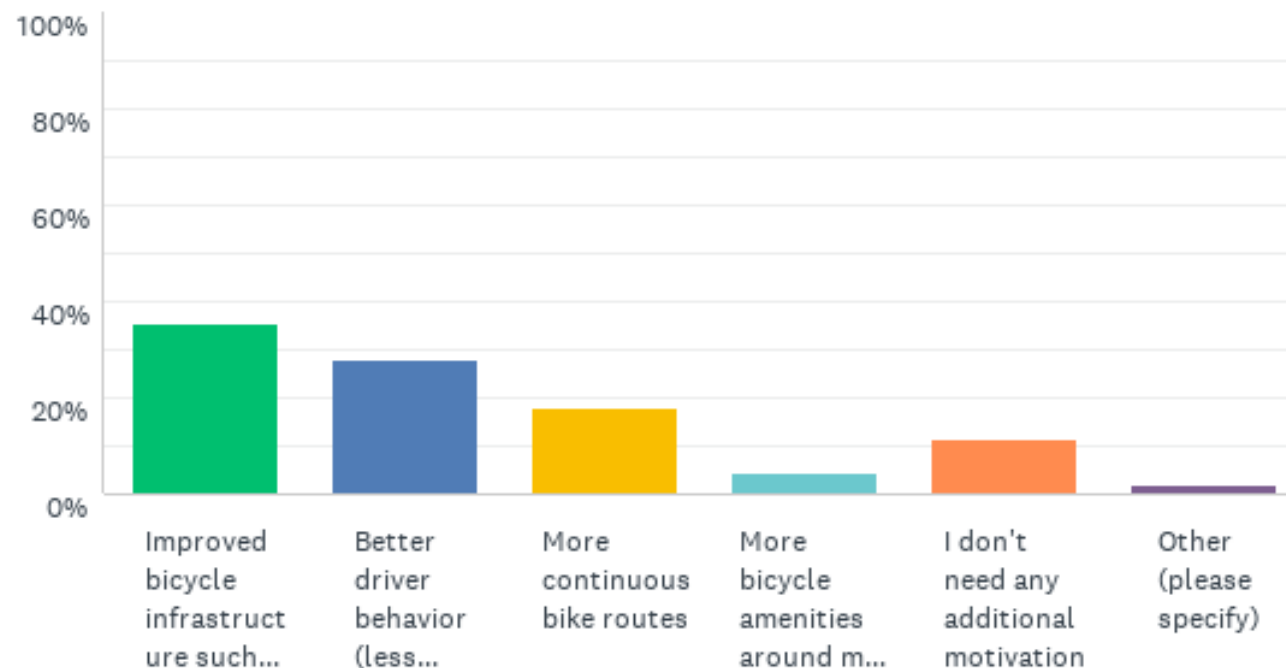
Safety riding around vehicles is the top reason cited for difficulties faced by respondents at 68% (aggressive/distracted drivers mentioned as top reason in 2019 survey). Lack of good routes that connect people to the places they want to go, was second (40%).

Q6 What bicycle infrastructure and facilities would you like to see more of? Please select up to 3 choices.



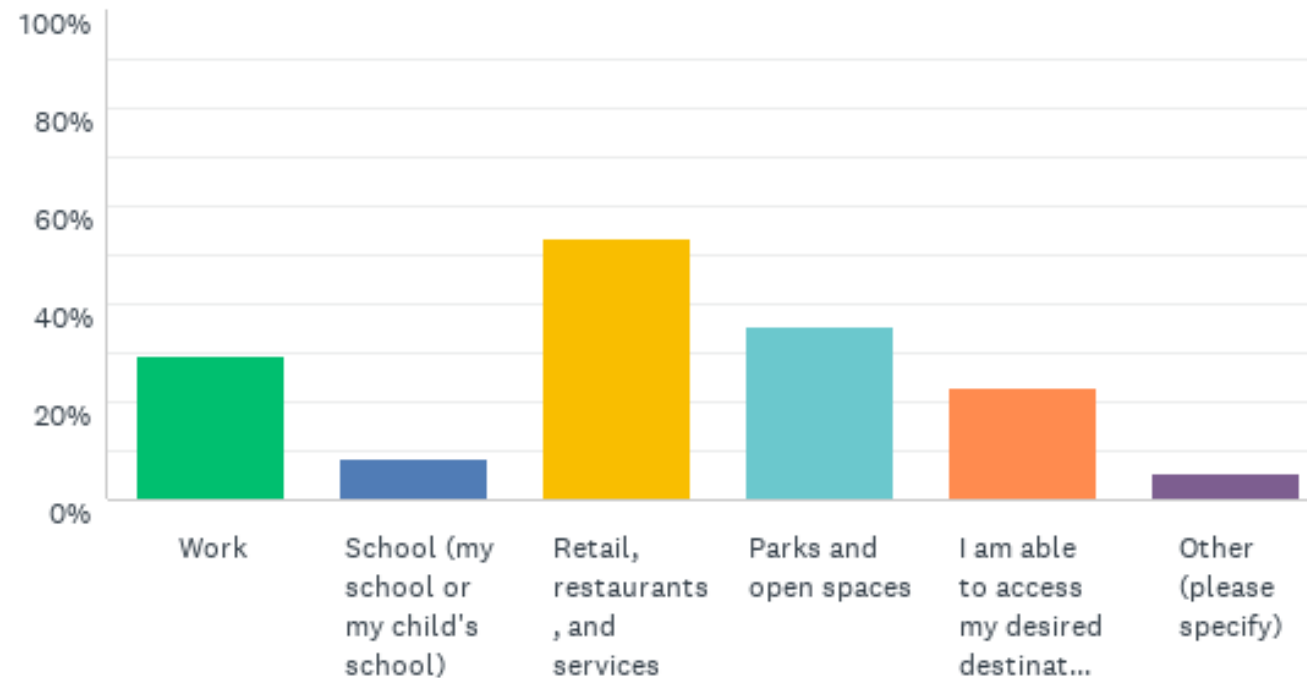
Top three facilities respondents would like to see are protected bicycle lanes (53%), multiuse paths (47%), and buffered bike lanes (37%).

Q7 What would most motivate you to ride your bike more?



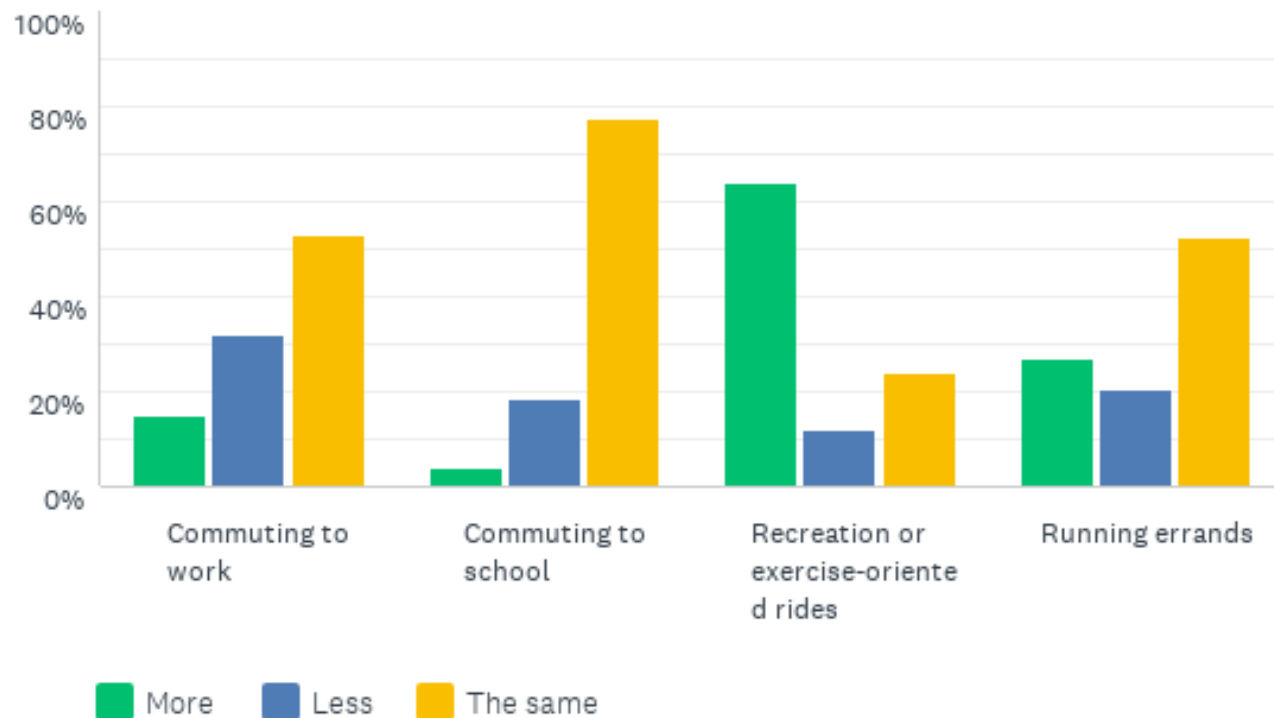
Improved bicycle infrastructure such as buffered and protected bike lanes was reported as the factor that would most motivate respondents to ride their bikes more (35%) followed by better driver behavior (less speeding, distracted driving) (28%). Last year, 'More protected bike lanes' and 'More bike lanes' were top factors cited.

Q8 What types of places do you wish you could access more easily by bicycle? (Mark all that apply)



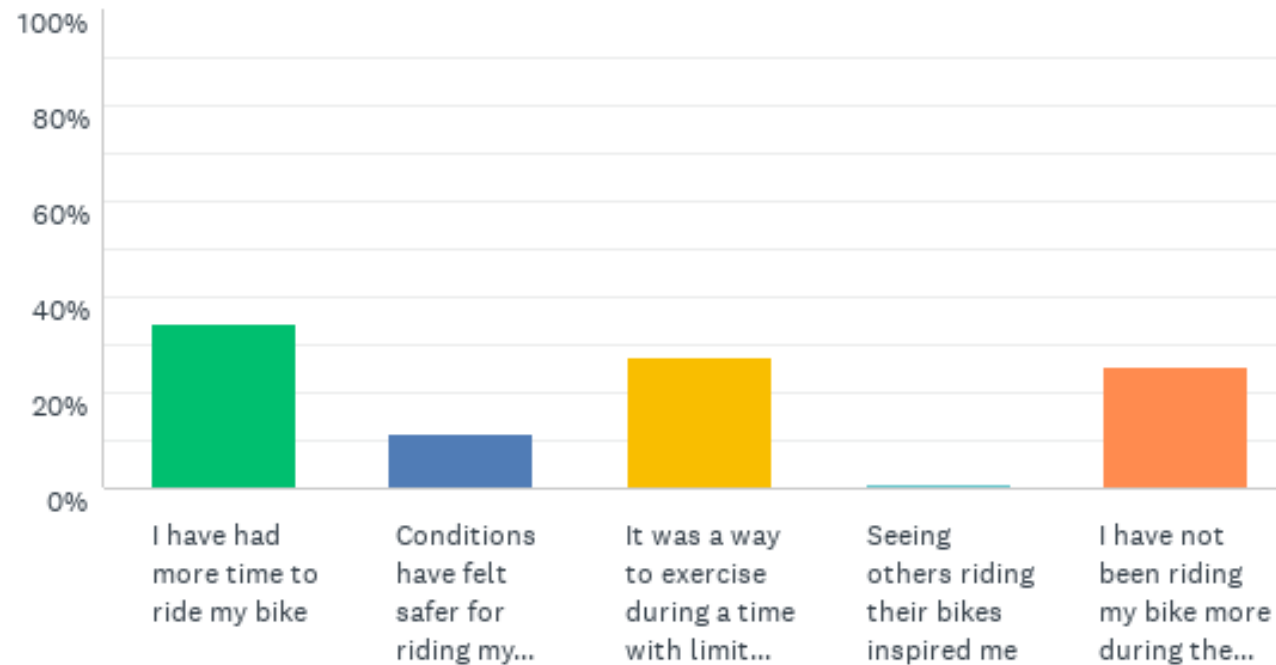
Respondents showed a desire to be able to reach daily destinations (other than just work and school) and recreational destinations more easily by bike.

Q9 Have you been doing more, less, or the same amount of the following types of trips by bike during the COVID-19 pandemic?



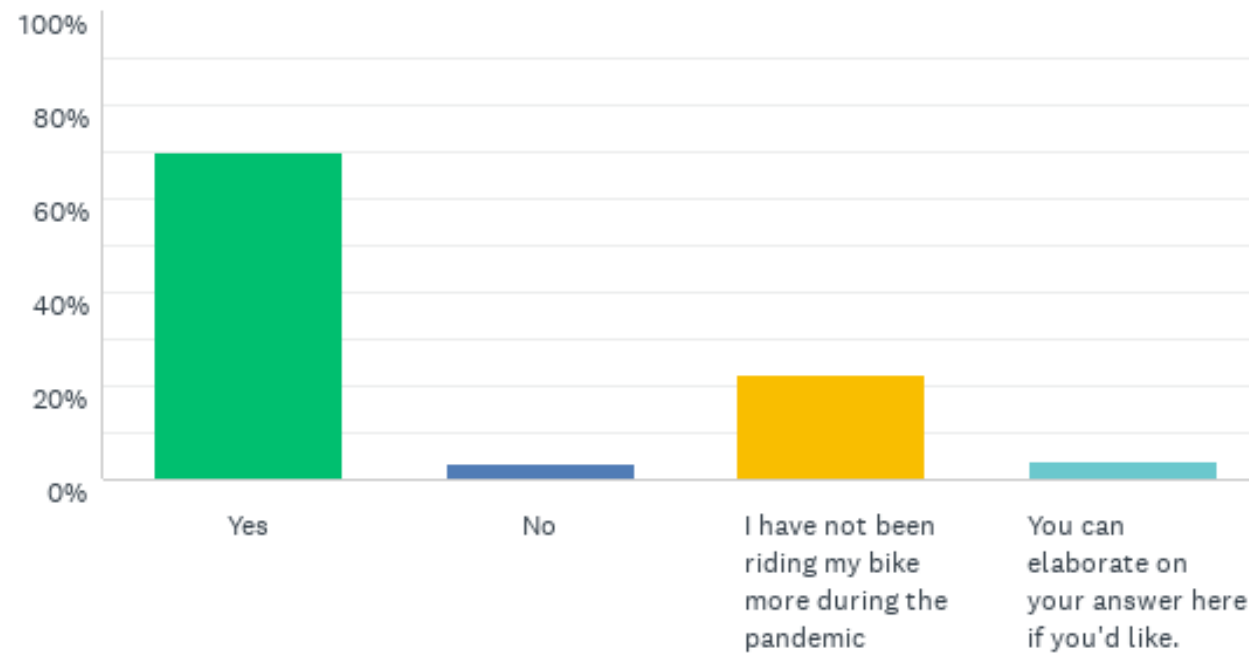
Less commuting to work and school reported (as we would expect), and much more exercise/recreation-oriented rides reported as well as more errand trips during the pandemic happening.

Q10 If you have been riding your bike more during the COVID-19 pandemic, what would you say is the main reason for this?



More time cited as top reason people have been riding their bikes more during the pandemic.

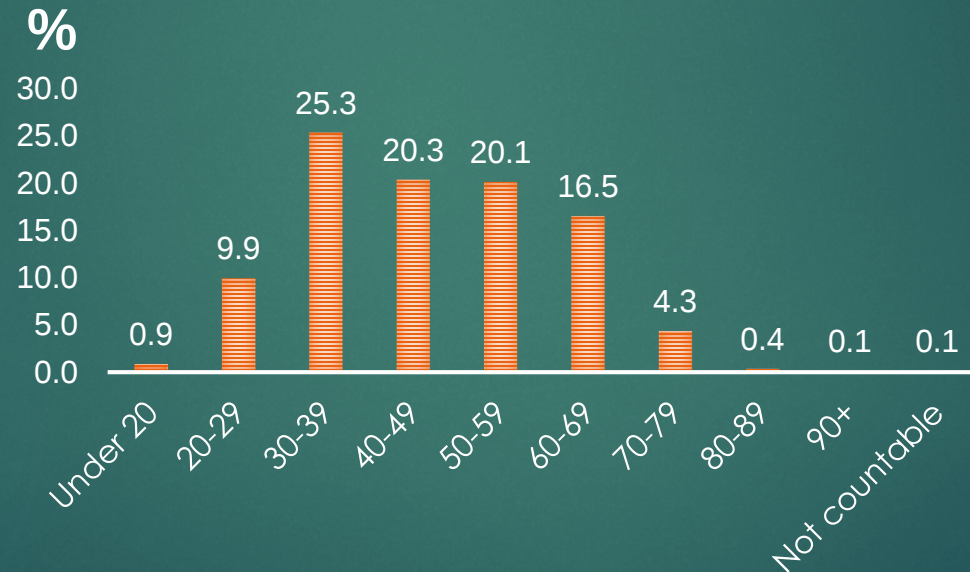
Q11 If you have been riding your bike more since the COVID-19 pandemic, do you anticipate that you will continue to ride your bike more after the pandemic is over/things return to more normal conditions?



70% of respondents reported that they anticipate they will continue to ride their bikes more after the pandemic.

Demographic Info Collected

- ▶ 53% female 44% male, 2% preferred not to answer, 1% non-binary/third gender (last year's event had 32% female and 67% male participation)
- ▶ The highest percentage of participants (29%) were from households with incomes \$100,000 or more.
- ▶ The average age of participants was 46.5 (last year was 45.5). Those in their 30s participated at the highest rate.



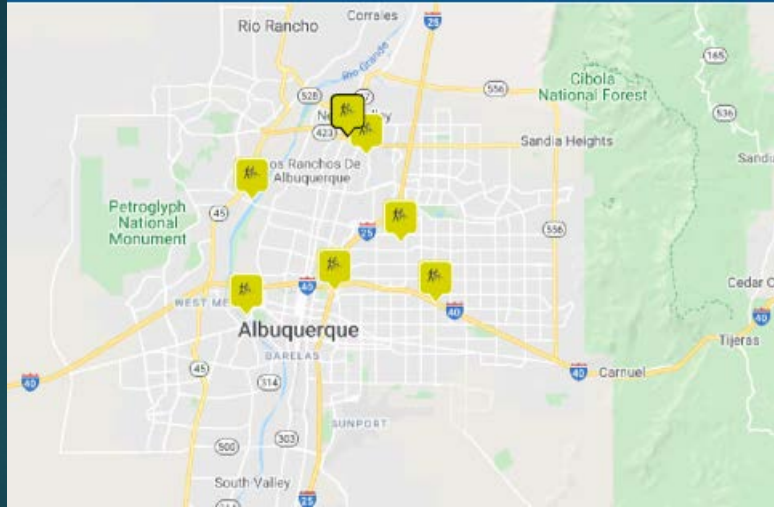
- ▶ Top zip codes (similar to last year): 87106, 87110, 87108, 87111-all near NE heights and NE heights areas.

Survey summary and Key Take-Aways

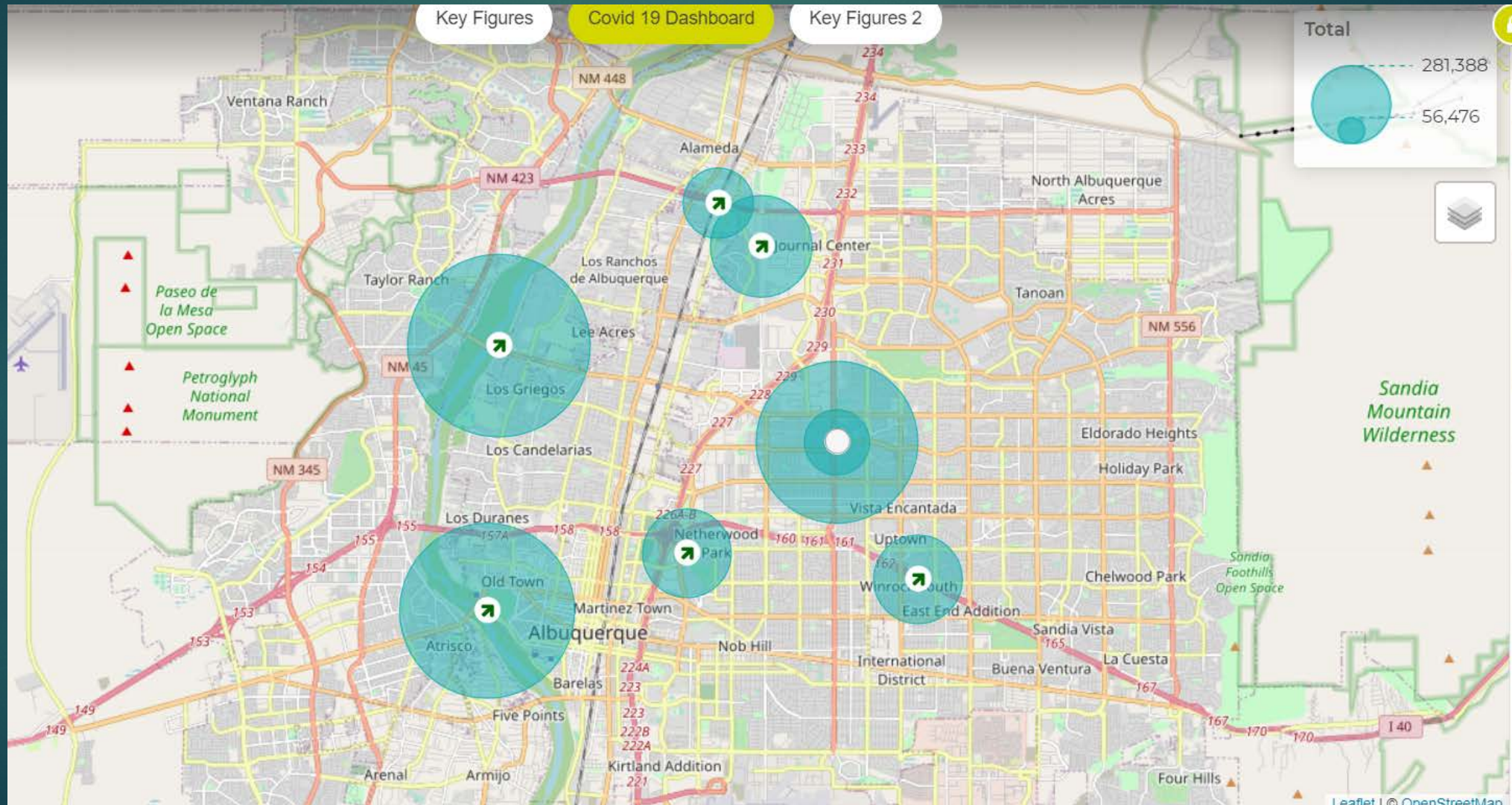
- ▶ Fewer commuters this year, likely reflects the theme of the event.
- ▶ Participation not as high among beginner bicyclists; organizers may want to explore ways to attract more of these bicyclists.
- ▶ Event attracted a high number of first time participants (44% this year versus 27% last year).
- ▶ Most participants felt bicycling conditions are getting better over time.
- ▶ Top difficulty cited is that it feels unsafe riding around vehicles.
- ▶ The top three things respondents would like to see more of are protected bike lanes, multiuse paths, and buffered bike lanes.

Impacts of COVID-19 on Active Transportation in the Albuquerque Metro Area

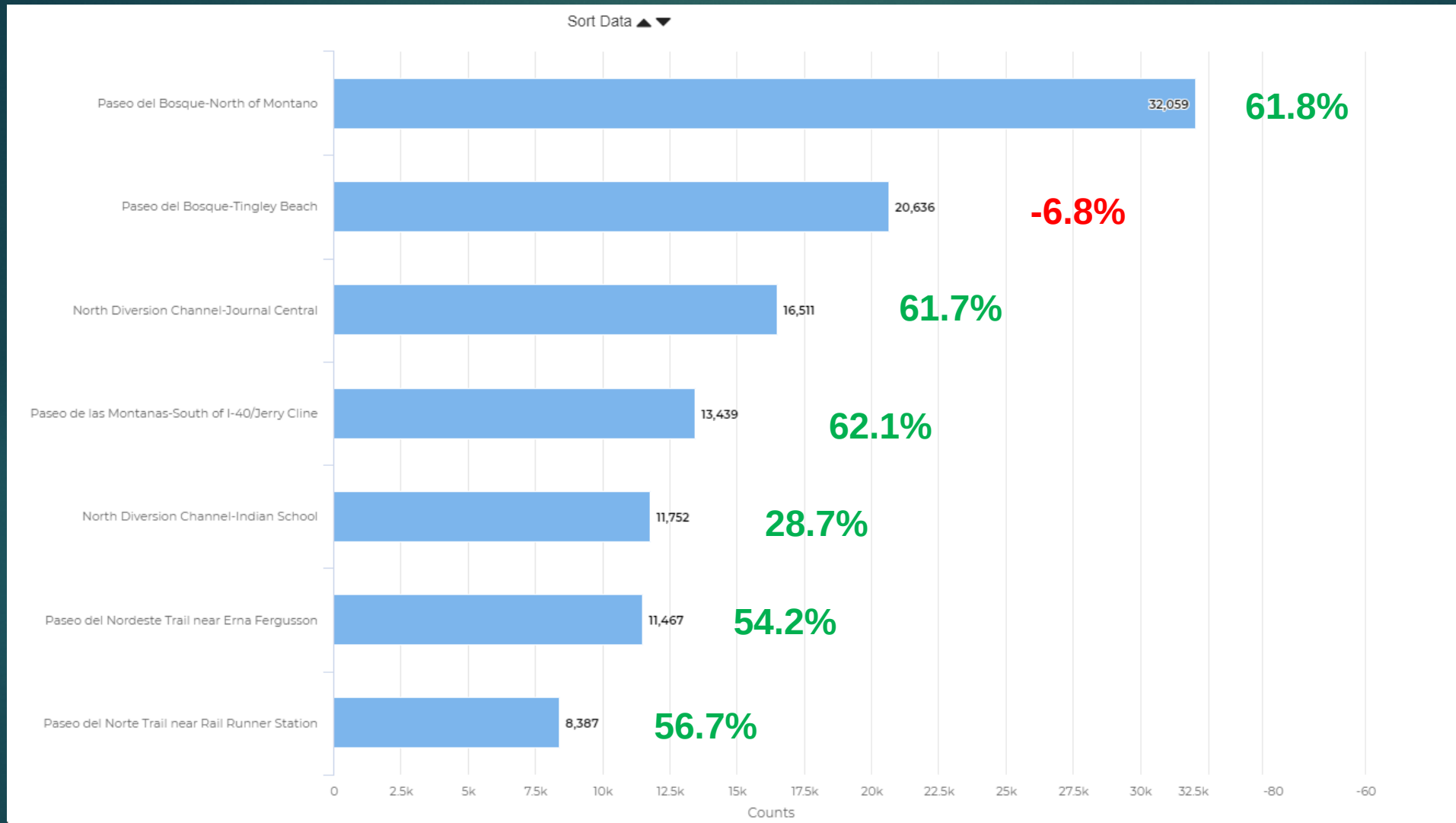
Especially in the early days of the pandemic, it seemed like more people were biking. Is this supported in the data?



Total counts at 6 of 7 locations have increased this year compared to last year.



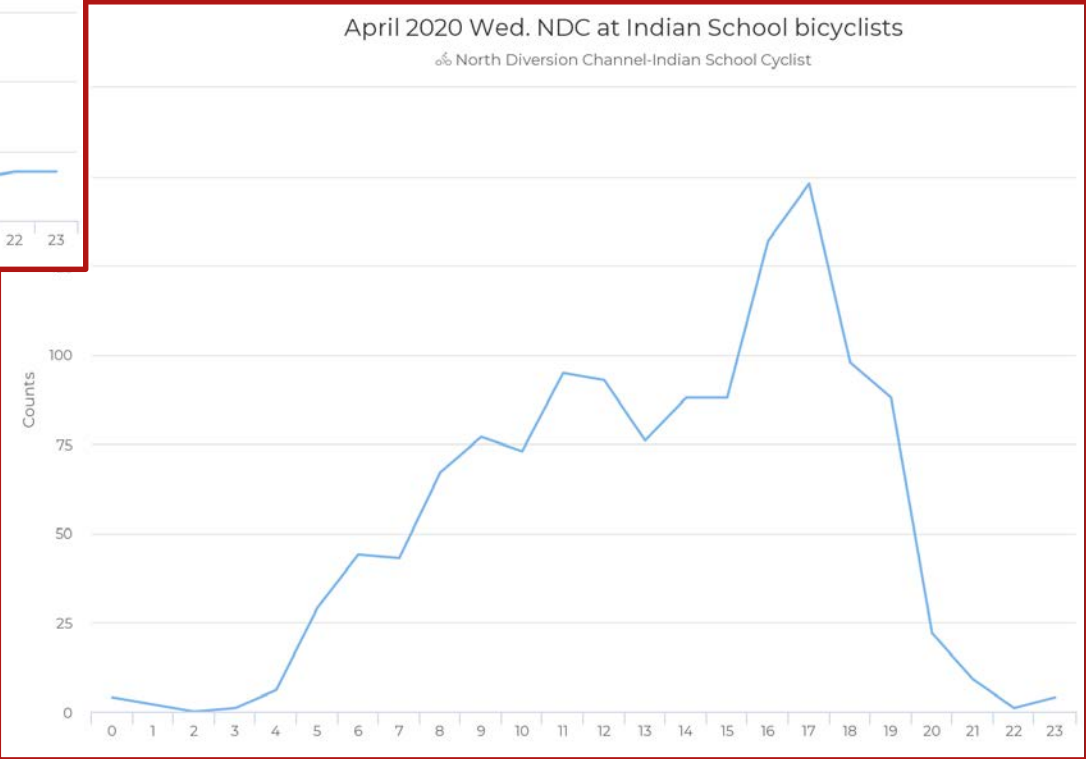
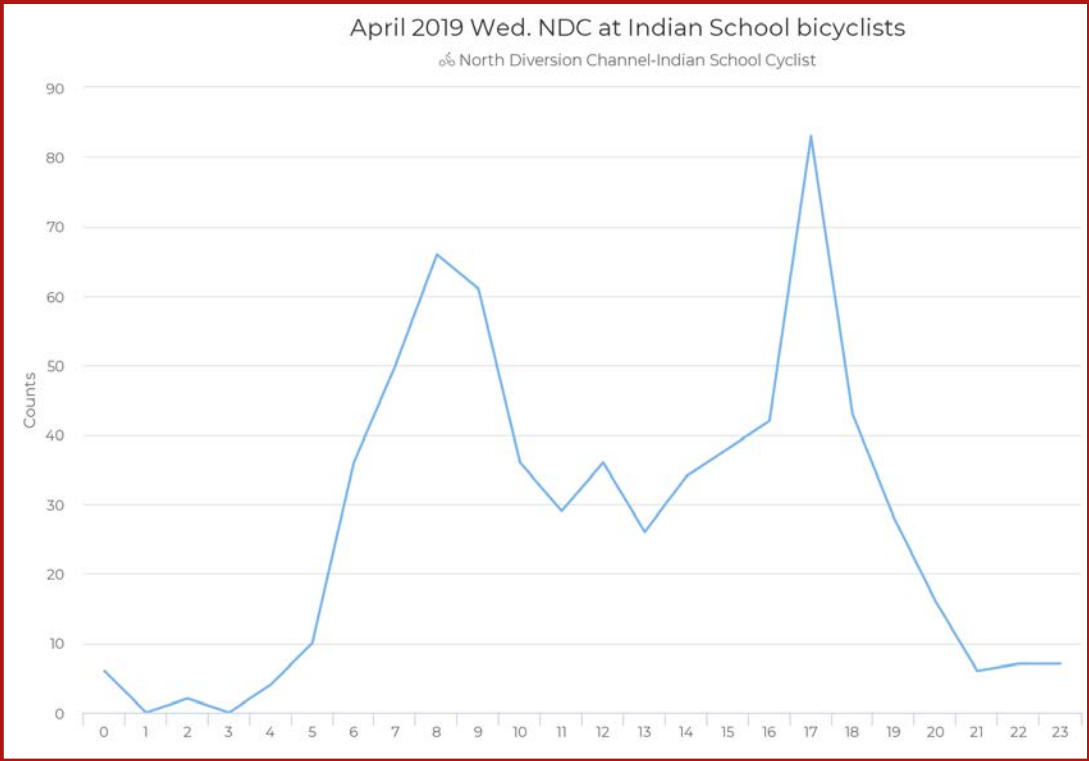
April 2020 Trail Counts Compared to April 2019



Source: Eco-visio.net

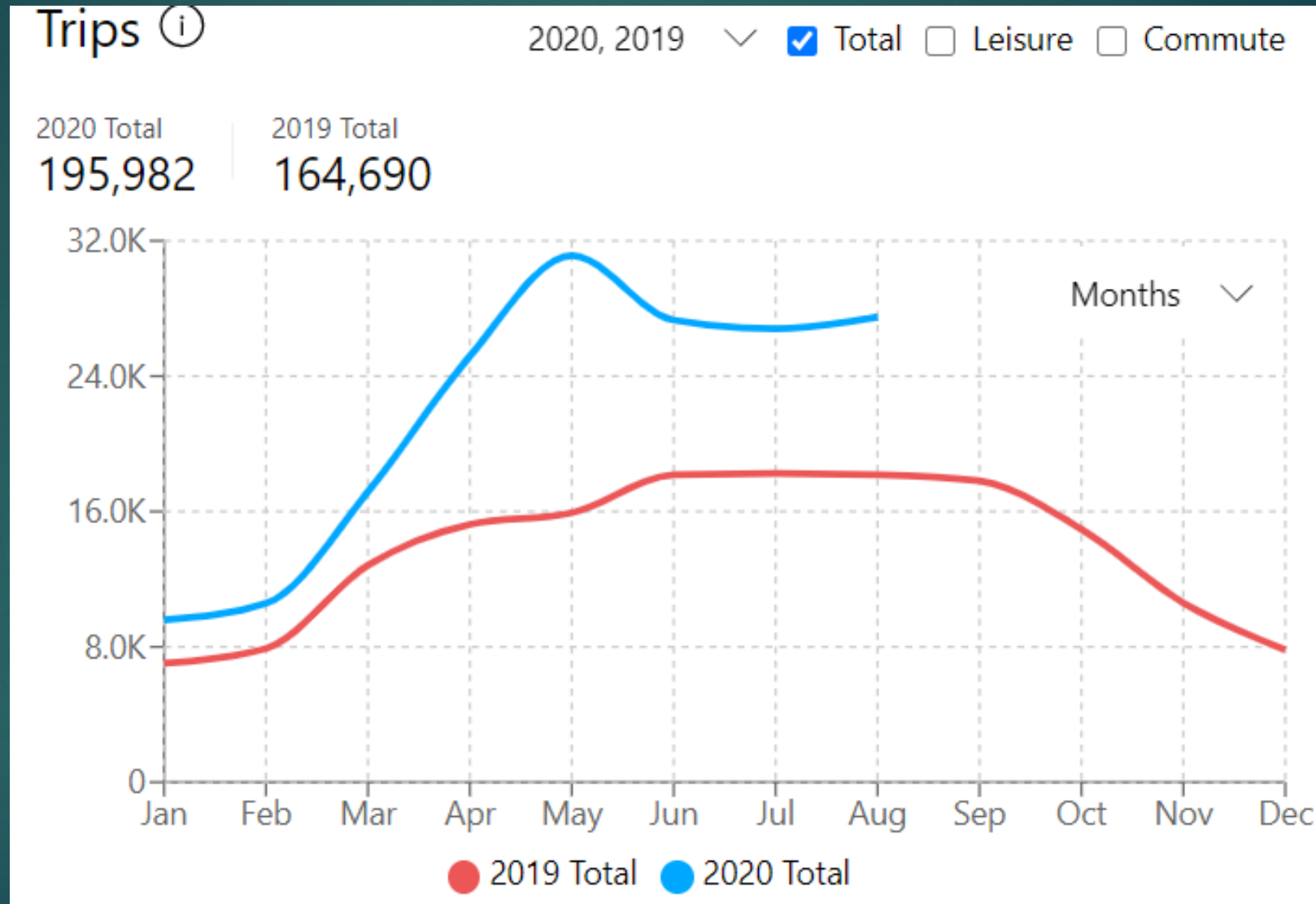
Overall, this was an increase of 38.7% in April 2020 compared to April 2019.

We also saw a shift in time of use of the trails



Mid-Region Council of Governments of New Mexico

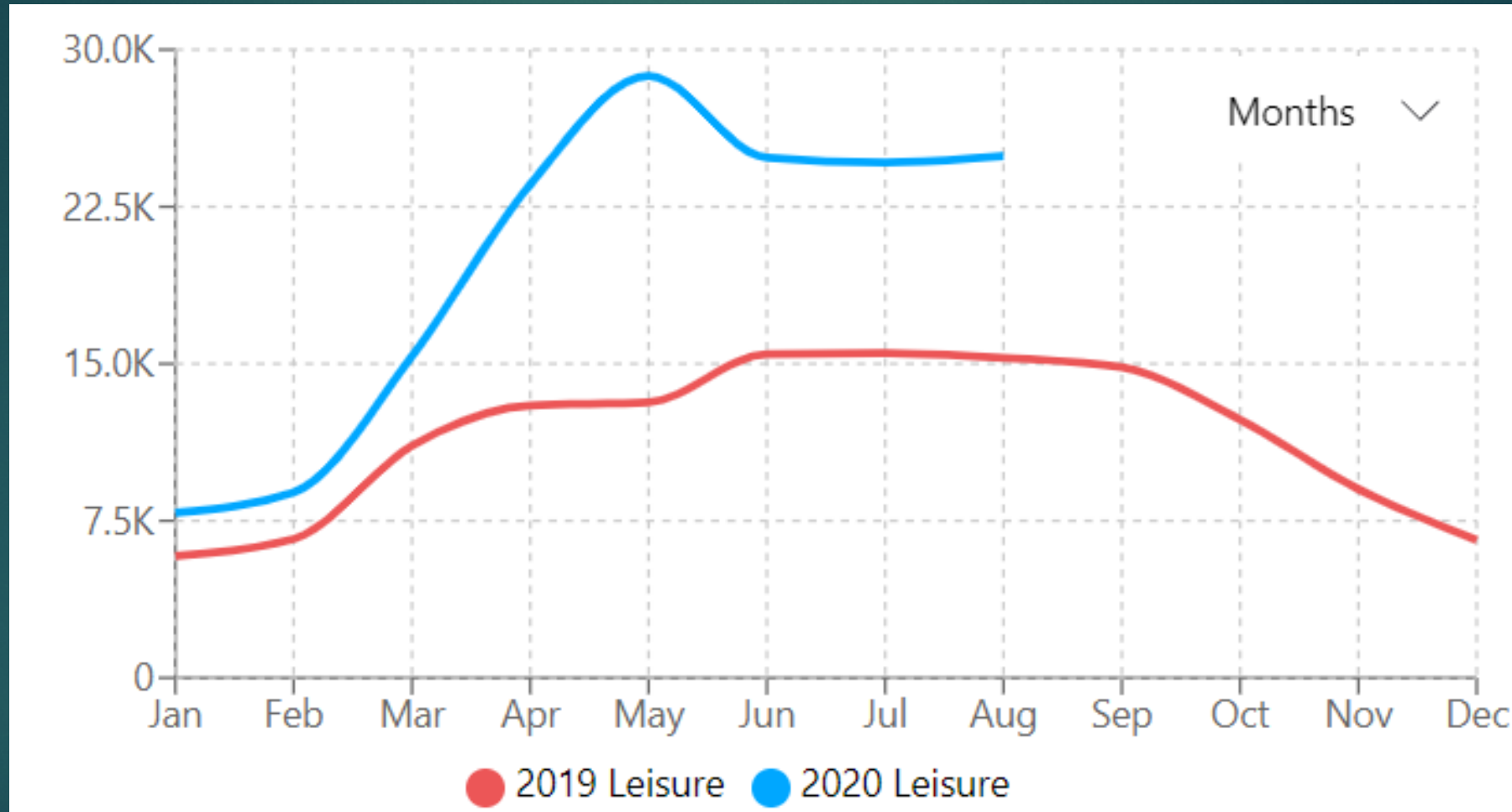
Strava data also indicates more people are biking



Source: metro.strava.com

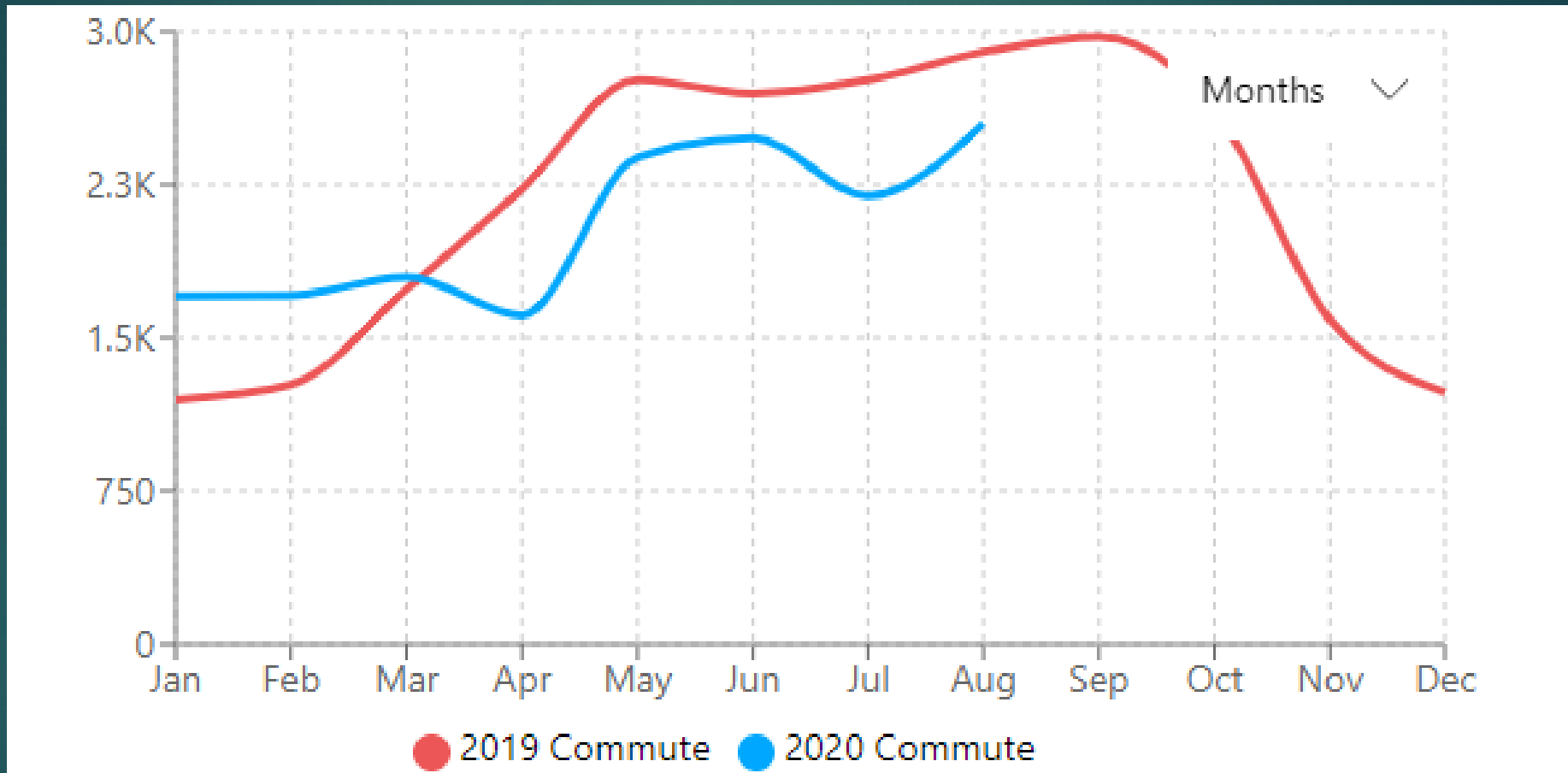
A 72% increase in 2020 compared to 2019

We see shifts in the type of bike trips being taken



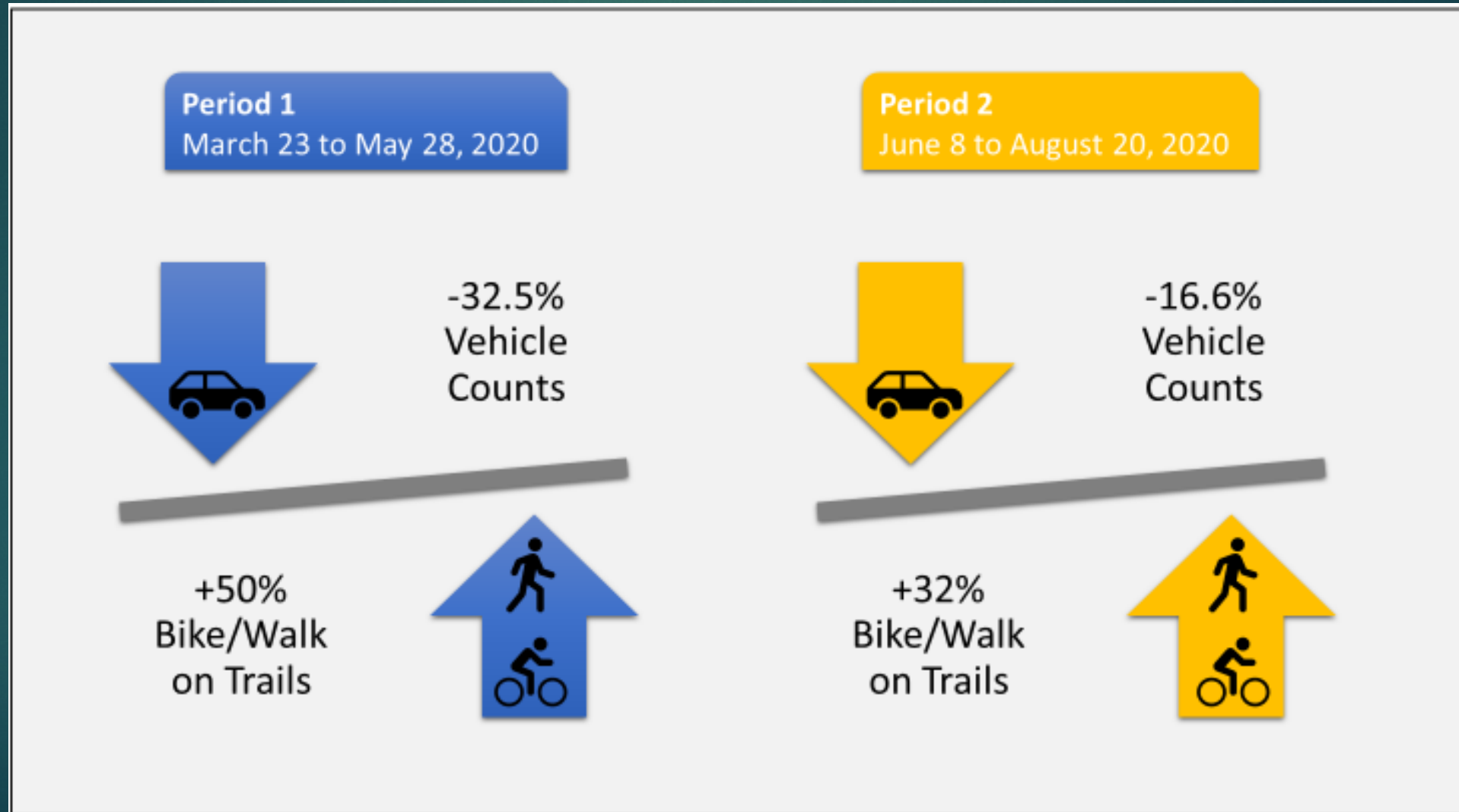
Source: metro.strava.com

Bike commute trips in 2019 and 2020



Source: metro.strava.com

Bike/ped use on the trails compared to vehicle traffic counts



Conclusions and Recommendations

- ▶ Bike and ped data for the region does show increases, especially during April and May, and bike to work survey results also support these findings.
- ▶ The bike to work day survey also indicates many people anticipate riding more even after the pandemic.
- ▶ People have gotten a taste (or reminder) of how great biking can feel during the pandemic. Planners and decision-makers in the region can see this as an **opportunity** to:
 - ▶ **reconsider how our streets serve and should serve all users and the community including reallocating roadway space to non-motorized use;**
 - ▶ **encourage and support continued bicycling and walking in various ways**