
**MACKENZIE AVENUE TO RIDEAU CANAL
EASTERN PATHWAY – UPGRADE OF
CYCLING LINK
AS WE HEARD IT**

Introduction

In November-December 2021, an online consultation was held to gain public feedback regarding the recommended functional design for an improved cycling connection between the Mackenzie Avenue cycling facility at Rideau Street and the National Capital Commission (NCC) Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway. The proposed design includes a protected bidirectional cycle tracks on the west side of Colonel By Drive Between Mackenzie Ramp and Daly Avenue. Key features of the design include:

- Two-way cross-ride with new northbound bicycle signal phase at the Mackenzie Avenue and Rideau Street intersection
- Accommodation for eastbound cyclists on Wellington to join the Mackenzie Avenue cycle track in the northbound or southbound direction
- Raised half-height two-way cycle track segment providing segregation from both traffic and pedestrians
- Addition of Tactile Walking Surface Indicators (TWSI) at the intersection of Colonel By Drive and Daly Avenue

Consultation Overview

Online public consultation was held on the project webpage between 29 November and 19 December 2021 requesting public feedback on the draft functional design. This feedback will inform the detailed design stage now underway.

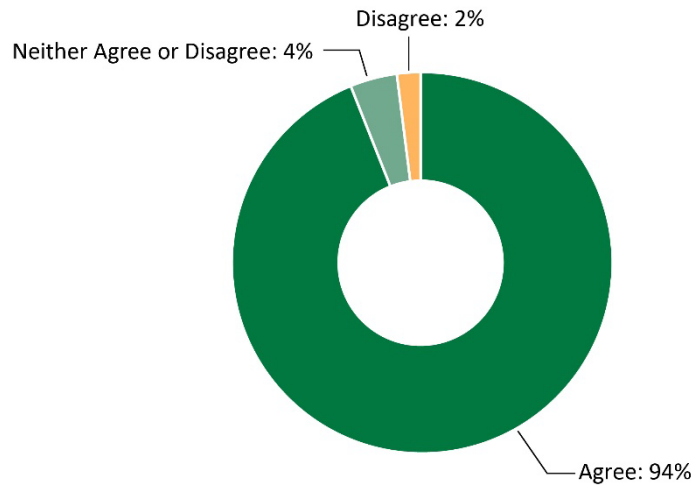
The consultation materials were also promoted through the Ward 12 office (Councillor Fleury) and Bike Ottawa.

This report summarizes input received from the online survey.

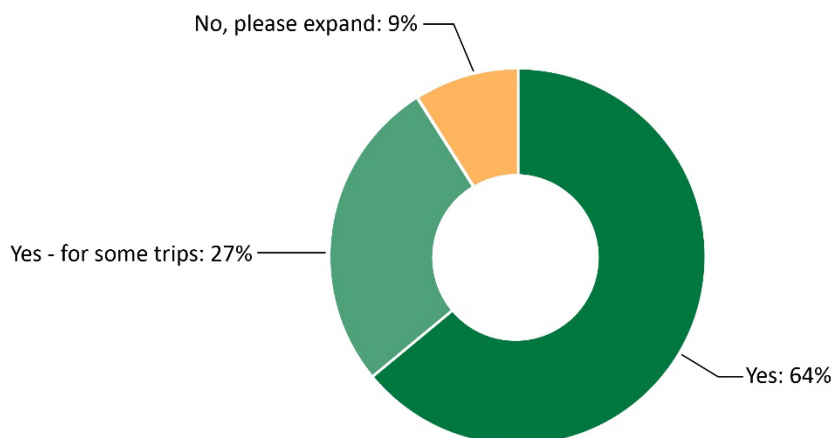
Public Questionnaire Results

In total 117 responses were received through the on-line survey with results summarized below.

- **Do you agree the connection between the Mackenzie Avenue cycle tracks and the NCC Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway is one of the key missing links in the city of Ottawa cycling network?**



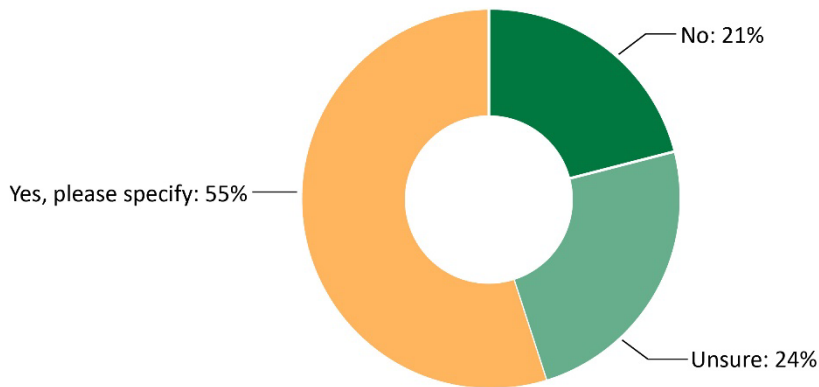
- **Will the functional design presented on the study webpage help improve cycling connection between the Mackenzie Avenue cycling facility at Rideau Street and the NCC Rideau Canal Eastern Pathway?**



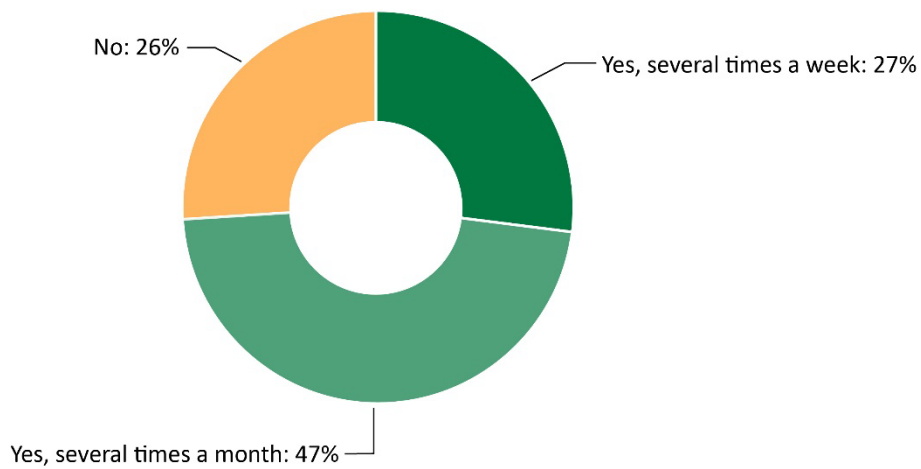
- **What aspects of the design will be more helpful for your trips? (Select all that apply)**

	Count	Percentage
Northbound Protected cycling facility between Daly Avenue and Rideau Street	100	85%
Southbound Protected cycling facility between Rideau Street and Daly Avenue	86	74%
Connection for eastbound cyclists on Wellington to turn north onto the Mackenzie Avenue cycle track	63	54%
Other, please specify	13	11%

- **Are there any aspects of the draft functional design you do not like? (If yes, please specify)**



- **Would you use this route by bike in the winter, if it were cleared of snow and ice?**



Please provide any general comments you may have.

Responses to the four most common 'Additional comments' received through the survey are presented below.

1. *Connectivity plans to Rideau Street cycle tracks and planed Wellington cycle tracks westward?*

As part of this project, options will be evaluated for an improved linkage eastbound to the Rideau Street cycle tracks. If feasible, implementation would be limited to a reserved eastbound bike lane link along the south side of Rideau Street. This is intended to be an interim improvement.

A planning study has been initiated which envisages a comprehensive cycling connectivity solution for all desire lines at the Rideau/Mackenzie and Rideau/Sussex intersections over the long-term (including further west to Elgin). Implementation of these plans would be contingent on design approval by stakeholders and future budget availability.

2. *Winter maintenance plans?*

The proposed cycling connection will be winter maintained and added to the Winter Cycling Network upon completion. The new link will provide winter connectivity north to Gatineau via the existing Mackenzie Avenue cycle tracks to the Alexandra Bridge and south to the NCC Eastern Canal pathway including an improved link to the Laurier cycle tracks (also on the Winter Cycling network).

3. *The width of the proposed link- sufficient?*

The Facility width is consistent with the width of the Mackenzie cycle track north of Rideau and is not shared with pedestrians.

4. *Cyclists crossing Rideau northbound- risks?*

When crossing Rideau Street, a protected phase will be provided for cyclists (both northbound and southbound) where no conflicting vehicular movements are permitted. The project will also provide a curb protected queuing area on the south side of Rideau at the Mackenzie Ramp for cyclists waiting on a northbound crossing phase. This area also served to reduce the unprotected crossing distance for southbound cyclists.