

Southmore Drive East Traffic Calming Study

As We Heard It Report

August 2022

Executive Summary

An online survey was conducted from February to March 2022 to confirm traffic concerns on Southmore Drive East and to gain community feedback on a proposed traffic calming concept design.

A total of 190 responses were received for this survey. The complete results of this survey and the comments received are presented in the following report. The main takeaways from the survey are as follows:

- The purpose of the Southmore Drive East Traffic Calming study is to improve safety, primarily by reducing vehicular speeds. **67% of respondents were supportive of the study.**
- **74% of respondents supported the proposed concept plan**, though 23% of those that supported the plan felt there should be some changes.
- **Pedestrian safety** was the most common concerns amongst respondents.
- Respondents had **mixed opinions about speed cushions**.
- Many respondents expressed concerns regarding the existing streetside parking primarily due to visibility where the street curves and at intersections.

The survey results will assist City staff in recommending permanent roadway modifications in this study area.

Introduction

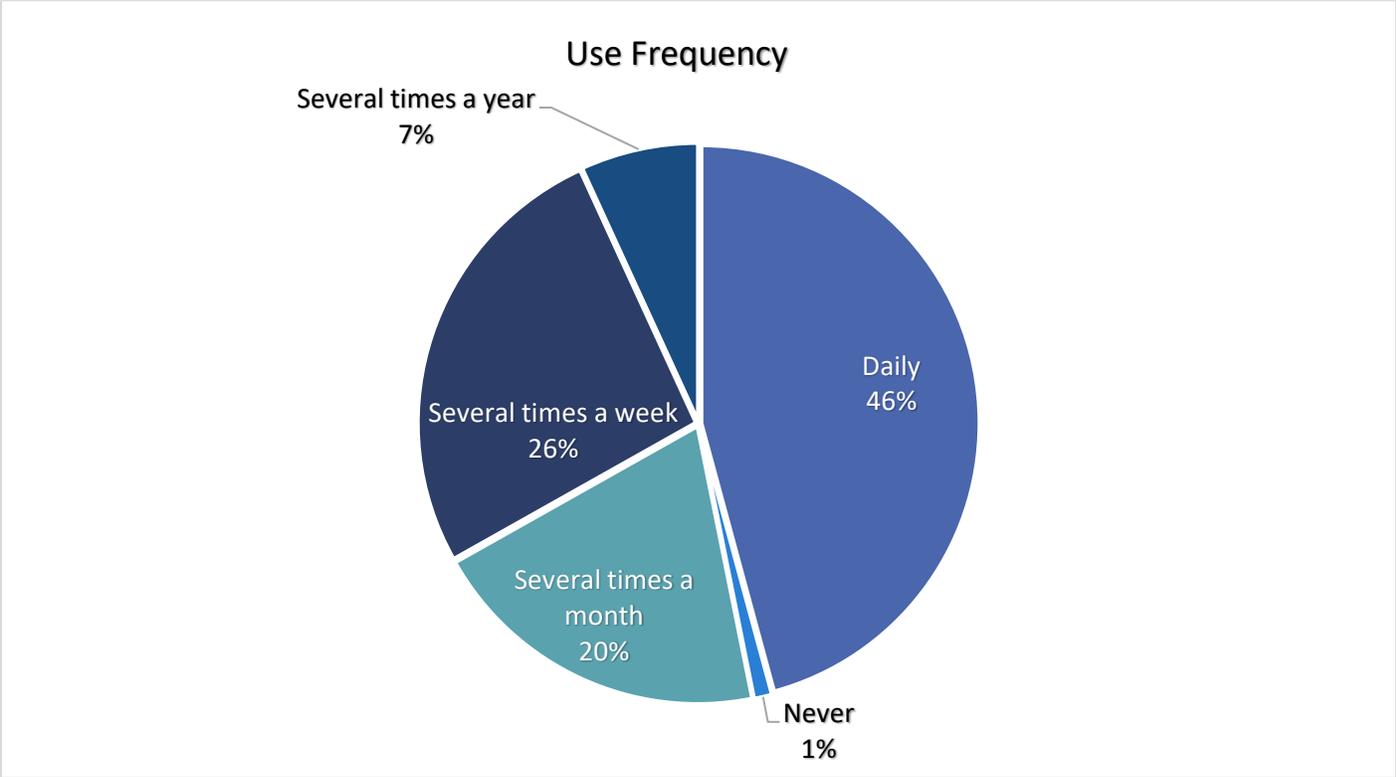
The City of Ottawa has initiated a Neighbourhood Traffic Calming (NTC) Study for Southmore Drive East. An online survey was held between February 15 and March 18, 2022. The primary purpose of this survey was to gain feedback from the public to assist City staff in recommending permanent roadway modifications to increase safety for all road users.

Survey Results Summary

A total of 190 responses were received over the course of the survey. The following presents a summary of the comments separated by question.

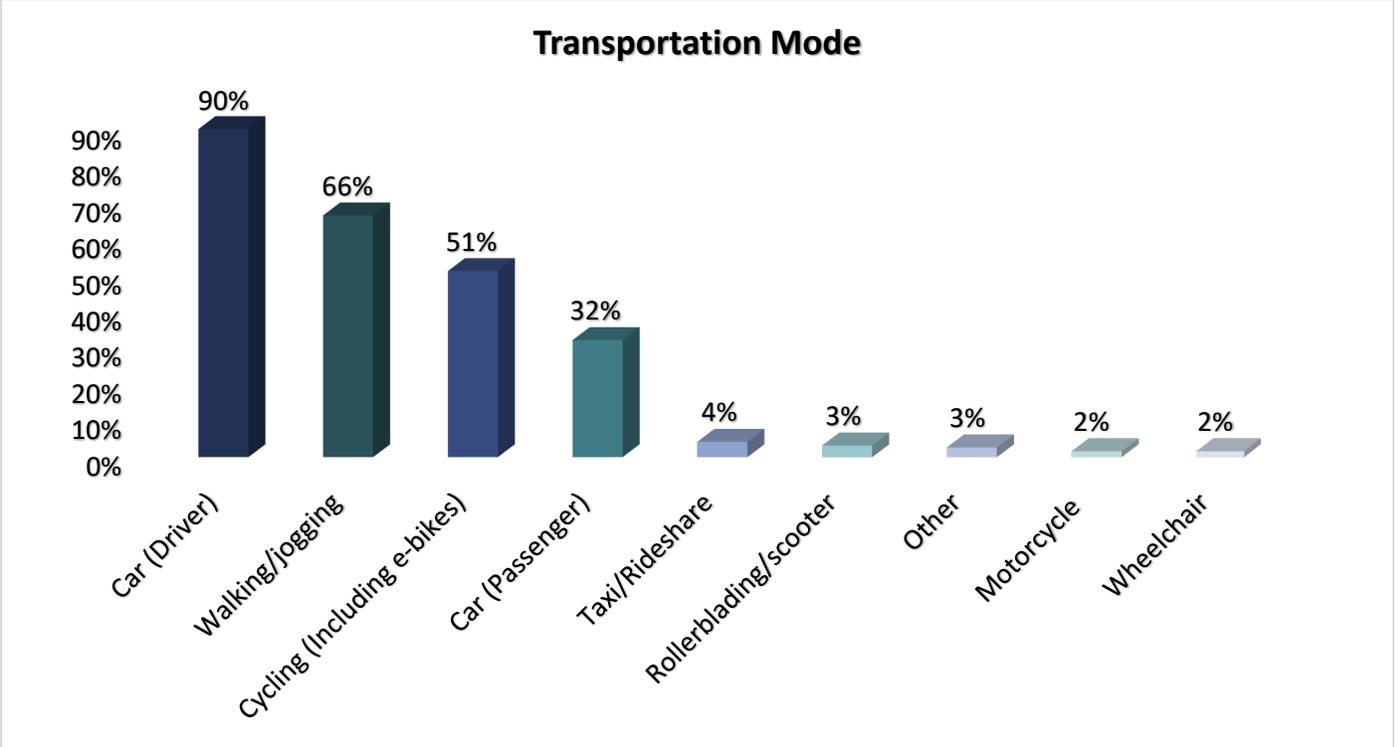
How often do you use Southmore Drive East?

Almost half the respondents stated that they use Southmore Drive East daily.



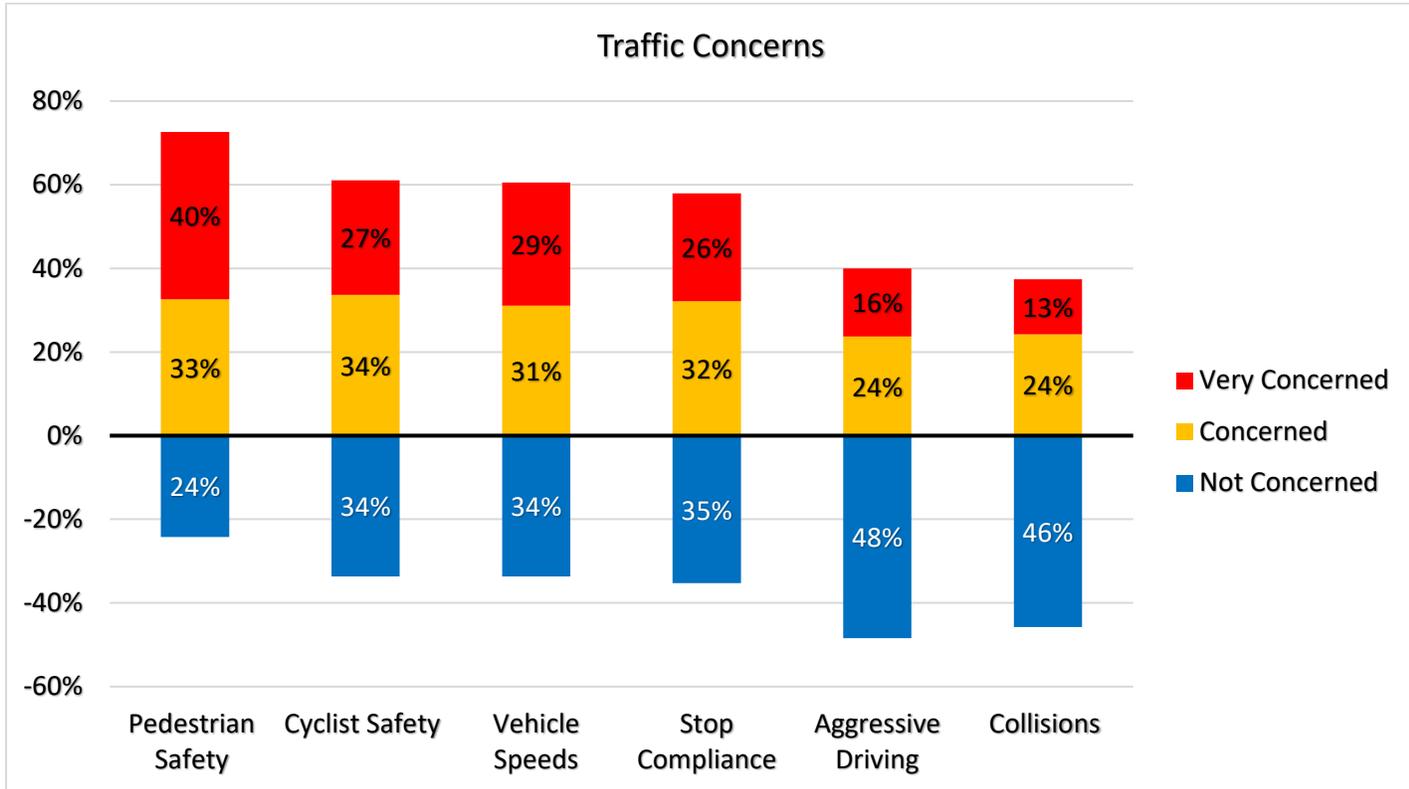
Which mode(s) of transportation do you use when traveling along Southmore Drive East?

The most common mode of transportation used by respondents is by car (Driver), followed by walking/jogging, cycling, then by car as a passenger.



How concerned are you about the following on Southmore Drive East?

Pedestrian safety and vehicle speeds were the two main concerns expressed by respondents.



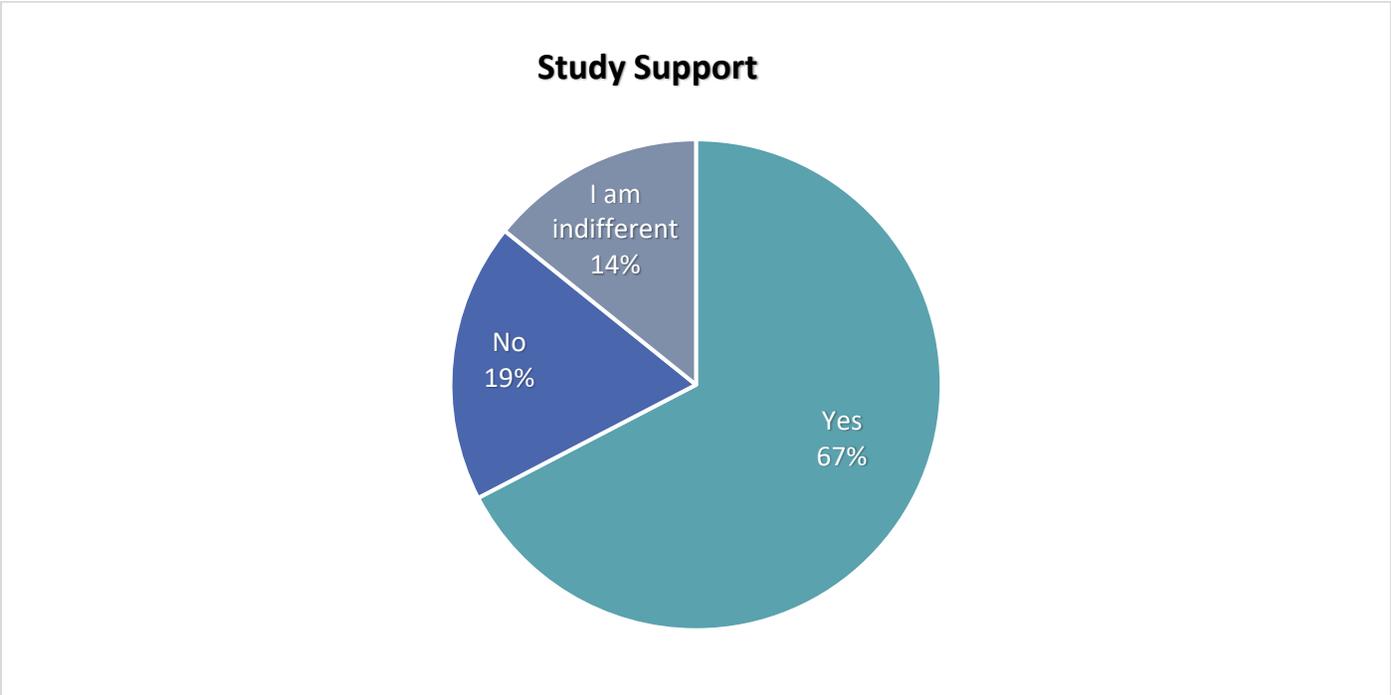
The following table presents the number of responses received for each option of this survey question.

	I Don't Know	Not Concerned	Concerned	Very Concerned
Vehicle Speeds	11	64	59	56
Aggressive Driving	22	92	45	31
Stop Compliance	13	67	61	49
Collisions	32	87	46	25
Cyclist Safety	10	64	64	52
Pedestrian Safety	6	46	62	76

The purpose of this study is to recommend permanent roadway modifications intended to improve safety, primarily by reducing vehicular speeds along Southmore Drive East.

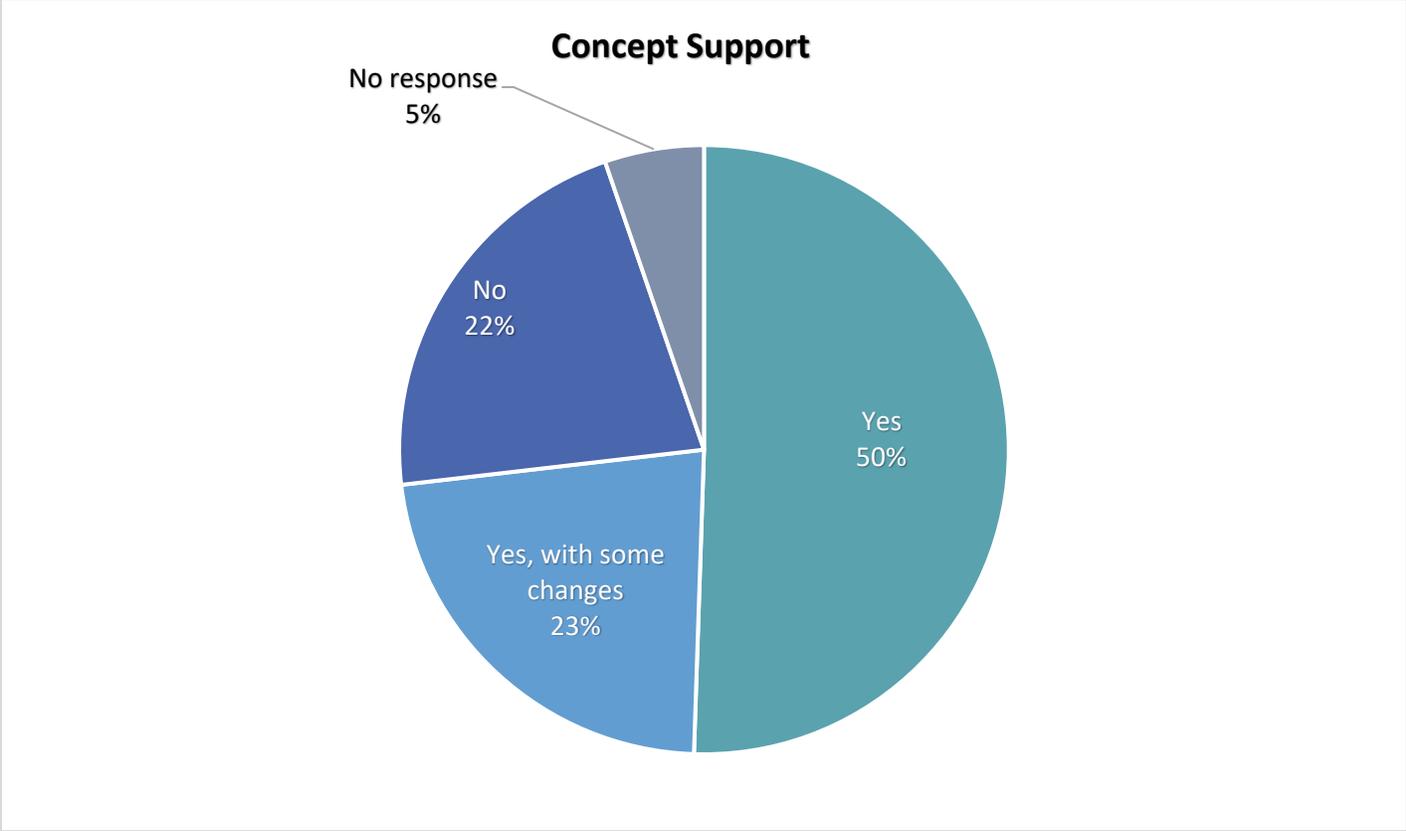
Are you supportive of this traffic calming study?

The majority (67%) of respondents were supportive of the Southmore Drive traffic calming study.



Do you support the proposed traffic calming concept design?

Half of the respondents were supportive of the proposed measures as-is, while 23% were generally supportive of the plan, with some changes.



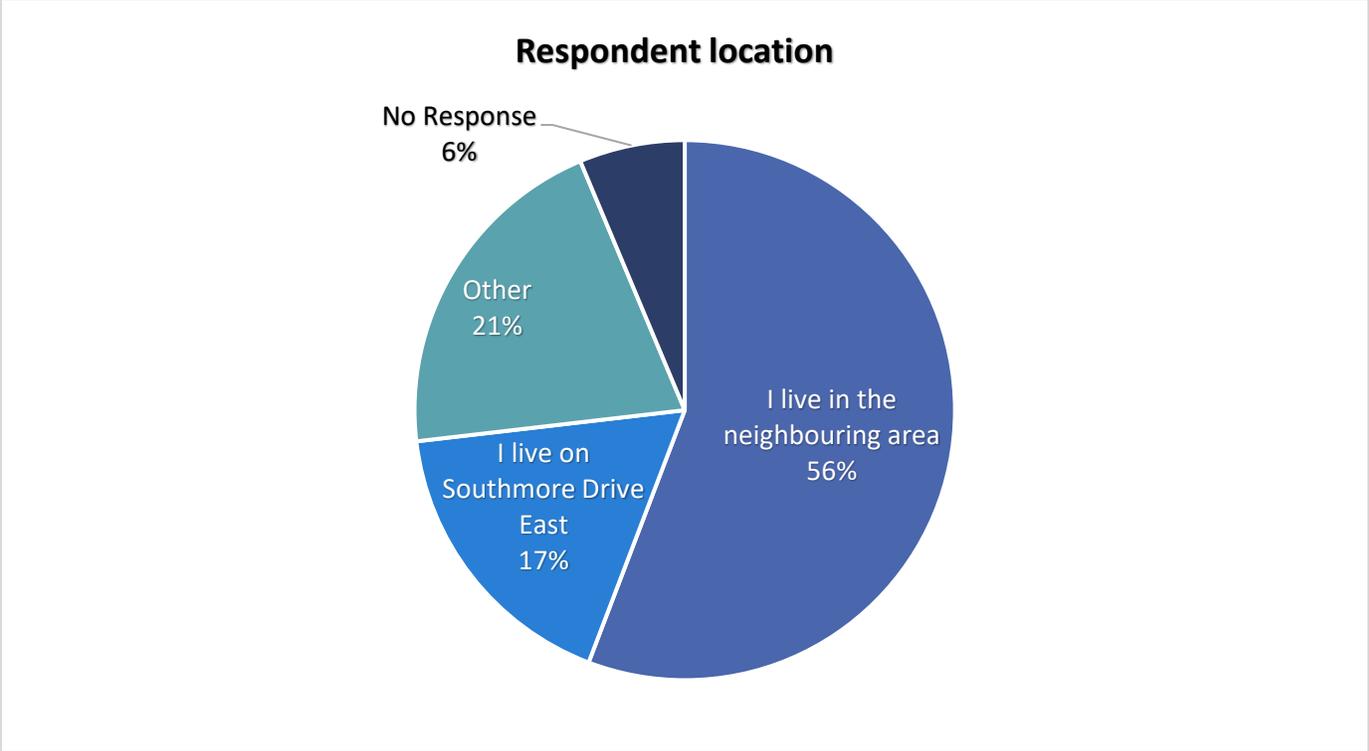
What type of changes did the respondents suggest?

For the 23% of respondents that indicated that they would support the plan, with some changes, the most common recommended changes were:

- Adding sidewalks
- Fewer speed cushions / more speed cushions
- Adding stop signs
- Removing/reducing on-street parking

Where do you live in relation to Southmore Drive East?

Most respondents reside in the neighbouring area, with 17% living directly on Southmore Drive East.



Please provide any general comments/ideas you have regarding this traffic calming study.

The following section presents a summary of the comments received from this survey.

- **Pedestrian Safety**
 - Many respondents expressed concerns regarding the safety of pedestrians (especially during the winter) and the need for sidewalks.
 - The main areas of concern were Southmore Drive East between Thorndale and Walkley (especially the Walkley/Southmore intersection), and Southmore near McCarthy.
- **Street parking**
 - Many comments expressed concerns regarding on-street parking affecting visibility. More specifically:
 - The Welland/Southmore intersection was the most common area of concern in relation to on-street parking.
 - A few respondents mentioned that the on-street parking should be restricted to one side of the street only.
 - Others suggested only allowing parking on the straight sections of the street (not on the curves).
- **Speed cushions**
 - A few mentioned not wanting speed cushions along this street.
 - Some requested fewer speed cushions while others requested that more speed cushions be added.
- **Cyclist safety**
 - A few respondents requested the addition of bike lanes along Southmore Drive East.
 - Buffered bike lanes with pinned curbs were suggested for narrowing the roadway.
- **Other**
 - Some respondents suggested other measures, such as:
 - Better signage to reinforce the posted speed limit
 - More enforcement
 - Implementation of additional turning restrictions from Southmore Drive East onto McCarthy Road
 - Multipurpose lanes for cyclists and pedestrians.
 - Extend the traffic calming measures to the whole of Southmore Drive.
 - More all-way stop signs
 - Physically narrowing the road

- Lack of stop compliance at the intersections was also mentioned by a few of the respondents

Conclusion

Most respondents supported the Southmore Drive East NTC study. The respondents demonstrated strong support towards the proposed traffic calming measures. However, almost a quarter of the respondents felt there should be some modifications to the plan. Some suggestions for modifications included adding sidewalks, reviewing the number of speed cushions, and reducing on-street parking.

The main concerns respondents expressed regarding this study area were pedestrian safety, cyclist safety, vehicle speeds, and limited visibility at certain locations.

The results of this study will assist in determining recommended roadway modifications for Southmore Drive East.