

Vadnais Boulevard Roadway and Trail Design Study

Round 1 Engagement Summary – November 2021

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND APPROACH

Three rounds of engagement are planned for the Vadnais Boulevard Roadway and Trail Design Study. Ramsey County has completed the first round of engagement. In this round, the county introduced the project, shared existing conditions information and asked the public about their experiences using Vadnais Boulevard and their visions for the corridor. This document summarizes the feedback received during the first round of engagement from October through November 2021.

ROUND 1 COMMON FEEDBACK THEMES

- Generally supportive of trail separated from traffic.
- Don't feel safe biking or walking on this roadway currently; shoulder is too narrow/close to cars; uneven surface.
- Need a safe bike/pedestrian path separated from traffic.
- Connect to existing trails:
 - Need connection on Edgerton Street north of Centerville Road to loop the lake safely.
- Need for traffic calming and safer winter driving conditions.
- Curves and tree cover along the roadway cause blind spots.

Engagement To-Date:

- In-person open house held Oct. 26, 2021
- Virtual open house held Oct. 27, 2021
- 132 paper and online survey responses
- 48 interactive feedback map comments
- 493 project introduction postcards mailed
- Email blasts to project distribution list
- Yard signs posted around the project area
- 11 posts on Ramsey County social media channels

ONLINE AND PAPER SURVEY RESULTS

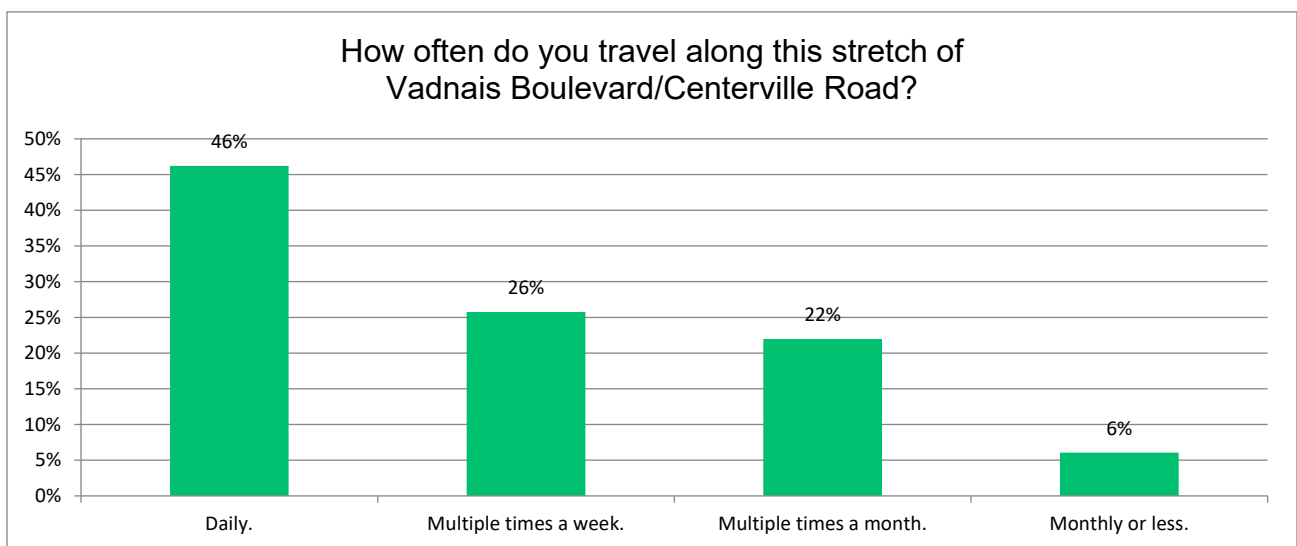
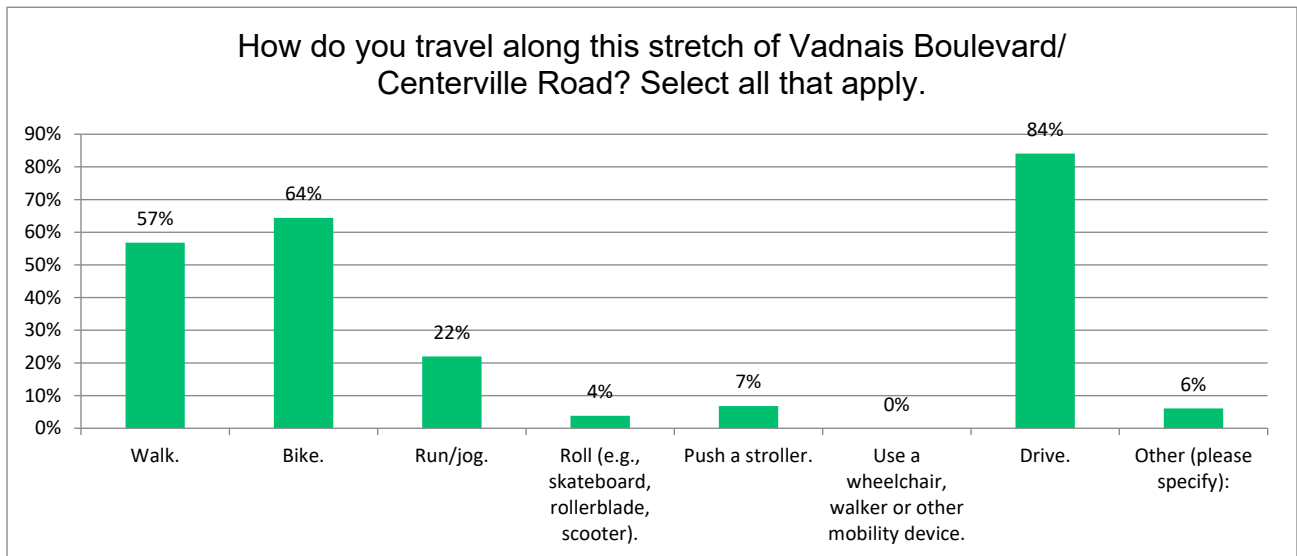
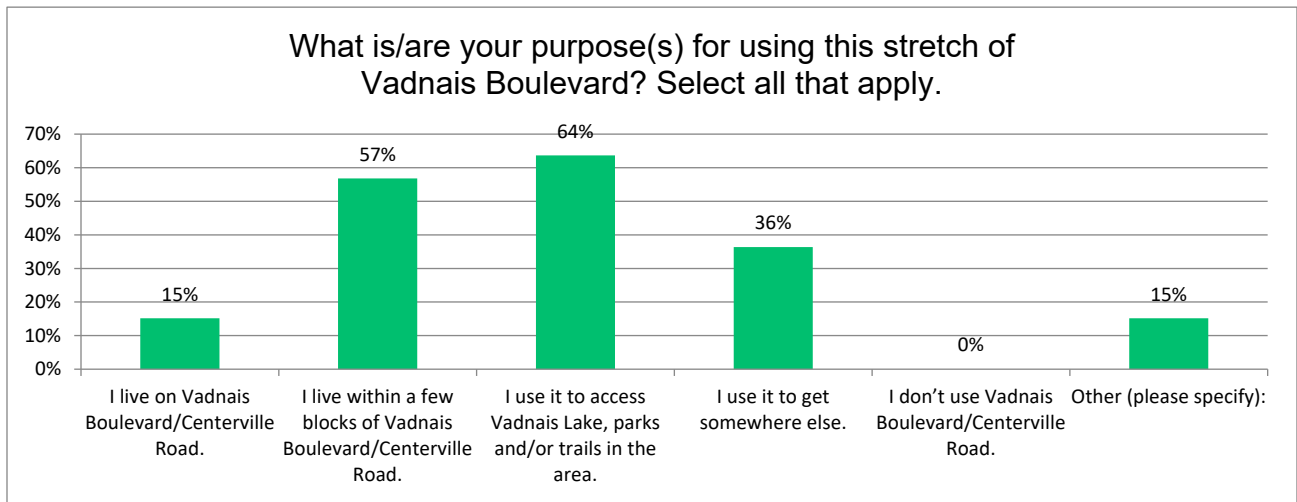
A snapshot of the online and paper survey results are displayed on the next page. Responses to the survey question regarding barriers to pedestrian and bicycle use are summarized below:

What barriers, if any, do you experience to using this stretch of Vadnais Boulevard/Centerville Road?

- Curves and tree cover cause blind spots; hard to see pedestrians/bicyclists and oncoming traffic.
- Don't feel safe biking or walking on this roadway currently; too dark/not well lit; shoulder is too narrow/close to cars.
- Much of the road, especially the shoulders, needs to be repaved; uneven surface with potholes.
- Cars travel too fast on Vadnais Boulevard/Centerville Road, roadway used as a short cut.
- Increasing traffic volumes.
- Steep slopes adjacent to shoulders make walking feel unsafe/uncomfortable.
- Cars often slide into the ditch during winter conditions making use of shoulders for walking/biking more dangerous.

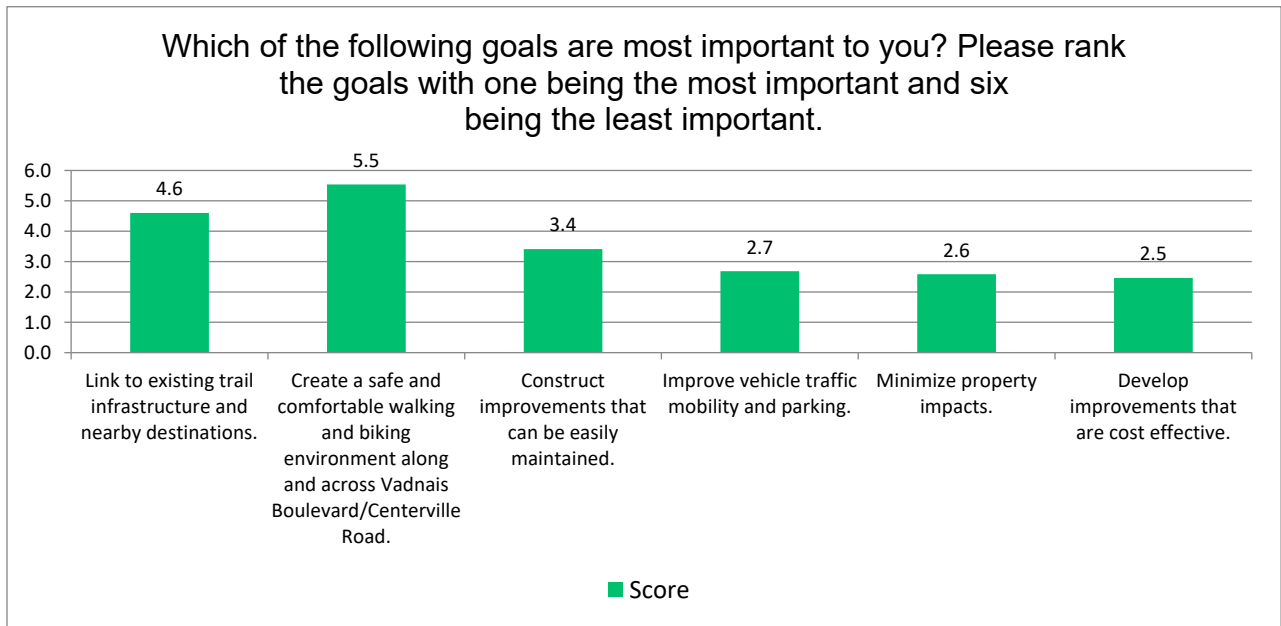
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INTERACTIVE MAP RESULTS

Users could select a pin and drop it in a location along the project corridor where they wanted to provide feedback. Pin categories included: amenities, needs improvement and important destinations. Common feedback is summarized by comment pin category.

Amenities

- Mixed feedback on suggestion to include a parking lot and carry-in access for non-motorized watercraft near trailhead on Edgerton Street

Important destinations

- Big Wood Brewery (at Edgerton Street/Vadnais Boulevard) will bring more people on bikes

Needs improvement

- Need for painted crosswalks at Vadnais Boulevard and Edgerton Street intersection
- Need connection on Edgerton Street north of Centerville Road for people to fully circumnavigate the lake safely; would like trail to be on the lake side of the road/corridors where possible

- Concern that building a trail around the lake will bring increased bicycle traffic, impact wildlife, and compromise water quality
- There are dangerous blind corners on south and southeast edges of the lake; drivers have no visibility of pedestrians/bicyclists when going westbound
- During winter months, ditch on southern edge of lake is common site of wrecks
- Drivers coming out of driveway near Taco Bell onto Vadnais Boulevard have difficulty seeing traffic coming out of roundabout
- Feel that there needs to be a trail on Rice Street headed north