

Vadnais Boulevard Roadway and Trail Design Study

Round 2 Engagement Summary – March/April 2022

ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES AND APPROACH

Three rounds of engagement are planned for the Vadnais Boulevard Roadway and Trail Design Study. Ramsey County has completed the second round of engagement. In this round, the county shared initial trail design concepts and asked the public to provide feedback on them. This document summarizes the feedback received during the second round of engagement from March 25 through April 25, 2022.

ROUND 2 COMMON FEEDBACK THEMES

- Stronger preference for a trail on the north side of the roadway because it's more scenic/lakeside, crosses fewer intersections, has less impacts on homeowners, and better connects with existing trails.
- General excitement and support for this project; feel that a trail separated from traffic is much needed in this area; currently, it feels unsafe to walk/bike on this roadway.
- Supportive of implementing traffic calming elements to reduce speeds through the area.
- Like the idea of the trail meandering through the woods in the regional park/school area.
- Mixed feedback about a roundabout at the intersection of Edgerton Street/Vadnais Boulevard.
- Would like to complete the loop around the lake (e.g., incorporate a trail up Edgerton Street).
- Concern about impacts to trees/vegetation in the area; want to maintain as much as possible.

Round 2 engagement:

- Virtual open house held March 22, 2022
- 22 online survey responses
- 41 interactive feedback map comments
- 494 virtual open house notices mailed
- Two email blasts to project distribution list (638 subscribers)
- Eight posts on Ramsey County social media outlets

VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

On March 22, 2022, Ramsey County hosted a virtual open house where project staff gave a live online presentation followed by a question and answer session. Around 30 people virtually attended the open house, and 48 comments/questions were submitted. Below are some of the common comments/questions received:

- Preference for trail on the north/lake side of the roadway – near the lake/woods, avoids trail crossing intersections, near Twin Lake Court and John Mitchell Preserve.
- Would like to prioritize completing the trail loop around the lake; could exclude the causeway if there's not enough funding.
- Supportive of measures to slow speeds through the area like narrowing the road width.
- Need for a trail up Edgerton Street to connect the lake loop; questioned if this connection could be part of this project.
- Mixed feedback about a roundabout at the Edgerton Street/Vadnais Boulevard intersection.

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ONLINE SURVEY RESULTS

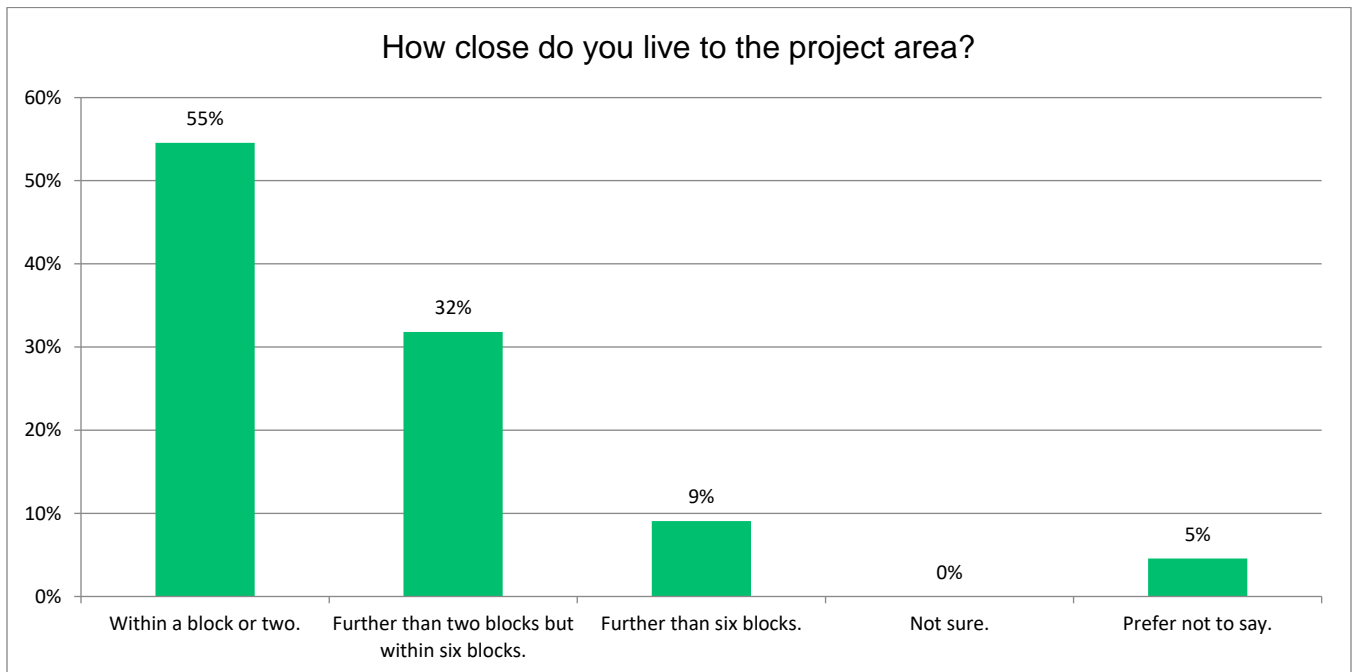
A snapshot of the online survey results are displayed on the next page. Responses to the open-ended survey questions are summarized below:

There are multiple options for each of the segments shown on the interactive map. What opportunities do you see with each option presented? What are your concerns with them?

- Stronger support for the trail on the north side because:
 - It's more enjoyable/scenic to have the trail lakeside.
 - It creates a loop around the lake between Edgerton Street and Sucker Lake Road.
 - It's safer/crosses fewer roads from Rice Street to Edgerton Street.
 - It would have less impact on homeowners.
- Support for a meandering trail through the regional park/school area.
- Preserve as many trees as possible and replace any trees removed for this project.
- General support for this project
 - Feel there's a need for a separated trail and traffic calming in this area due to motorists speeding.
 - Feel this trail would be used heavily, improve comfort for those walking/biking in the area and increase people's recreational opportunities.

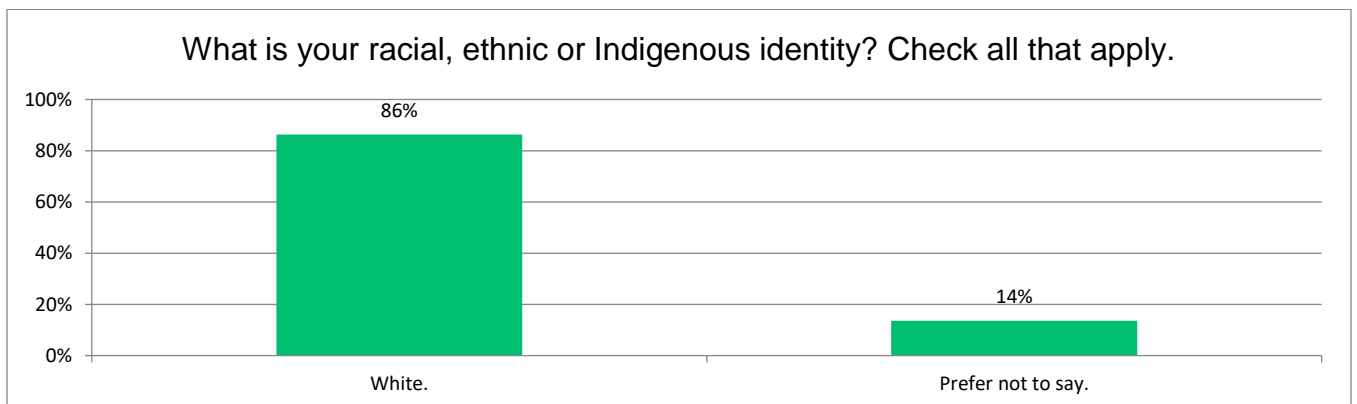
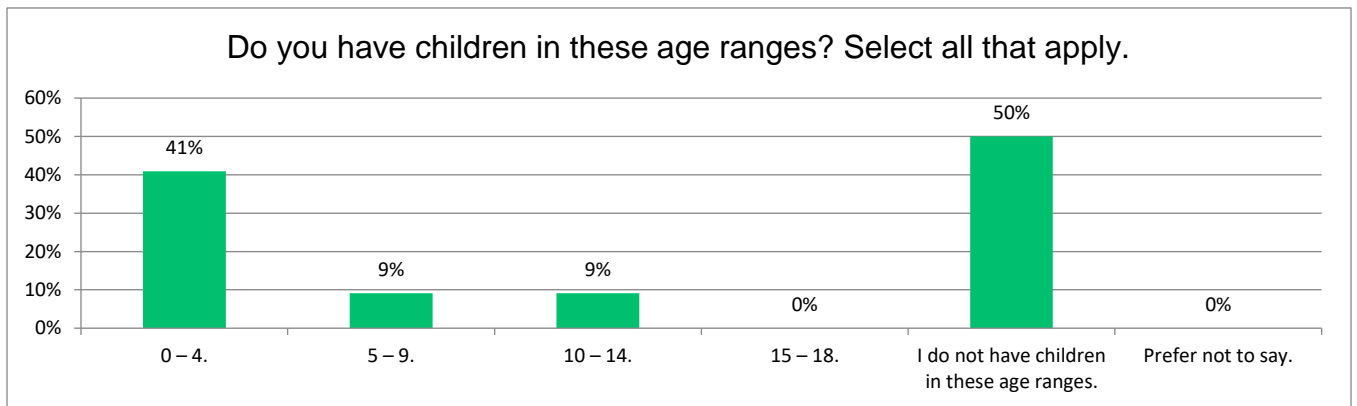
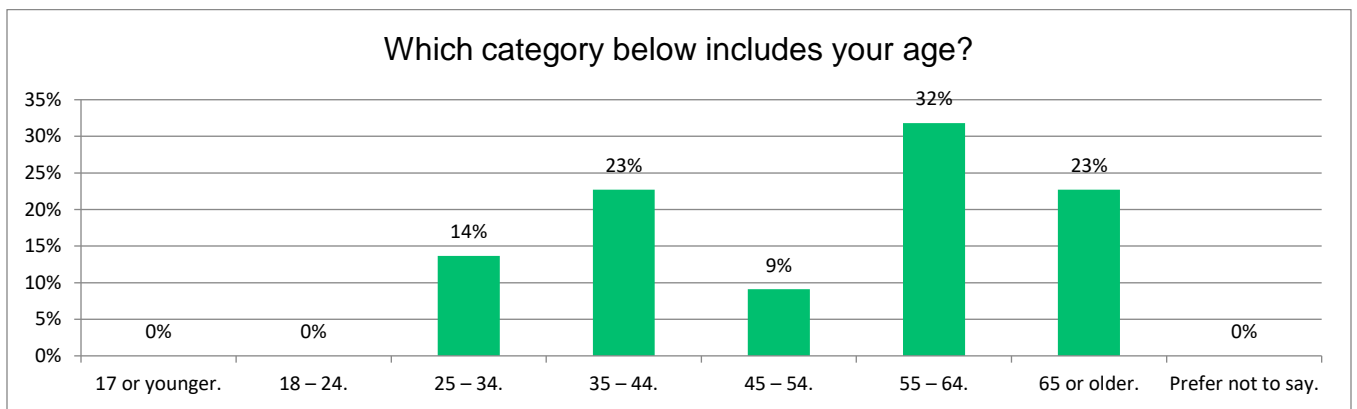
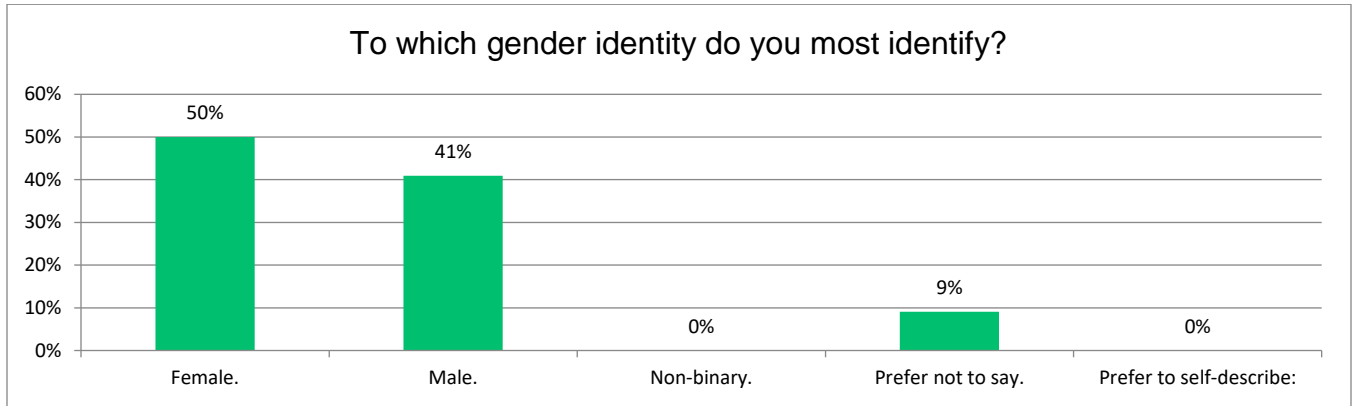
Additional comments:

- Supportive and excited for this trail/completing the loop around the lake; it's an important link to complete for pedestrian and bicyclist safety.



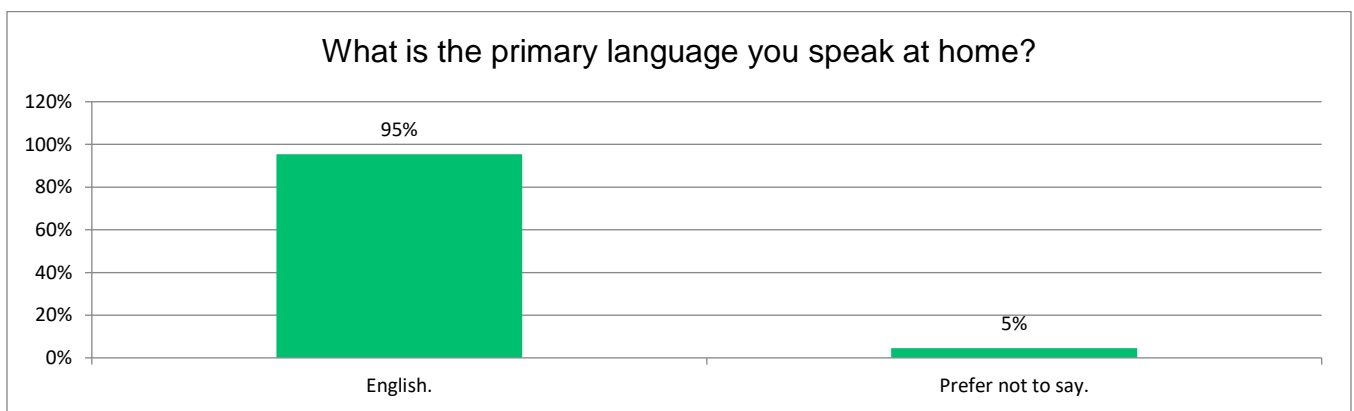
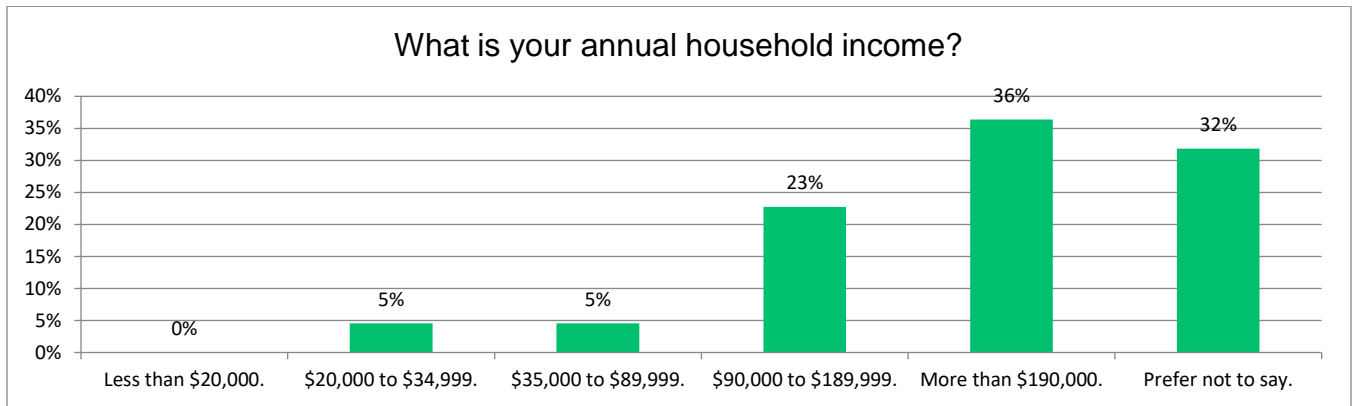
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INTERACTIVE MAP RESULTS

The interactive map featured concept drawings of how the trail could fit and what it could look like on different segments throughout the project corridor. Users could leave feedback on the concept drawings or select a pin and drop it in a location along the project corridor where they wanted to provide feedback. Pin categories included: concern and opportunity. Common feedback is summarized by comment pin category.

Concept designs

Overall

- Prefer the trail is located on the north side.
 - Would only have to cross one road between Rice Street and Edgerton Street.
 - Feel that putting the trail on the south side would complicate traffic at the intersections of Vadnais Boulevard at Twin Lake Boulevard and Twin Lake Court.

Vadnais Lake Causeway

- Consider making a connection to the Trout Brook Regional Trail to connect the trail system around Vadnais Lake.

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Regional Park/School Area

- Really like the idea of meandering the trail away from the roadway where possible.

Concern

- Ensure trail is cleared of snow during the winter.
- Difficult to see pedestrians/blind spots along the corridor (e.g., between Twin Lake Boulevard and Star Circle, between Vadnais Lake Drive and Edgerton Street).
- Concern about the impacts building a trail would have on private properties adjacent to the roadway.
- Some oppose this project because building a trail would have a negative impact on the woods/nature/scenery in the area; if a trail is built, maintain the wooded buffer zone/trees, minimize traffic congestion.
- Others would like to minimize tree loss but note many of the trees are buckthorn and are supportive of the project/feel a functional, safe trail will be a benefit to this area.

Opportunity

- Like the idea of the trail meandering through the woods on the north side of Vadnais Boulevard in the regional park/school area.
- Prefer the trail be on the north/lakeside because it's more scenic, requires less crossing and has fewer impacts on homeowners.
- At Edgerton Street, really like the connection with the existing trail around the lake.
- Mixed feedback about a roundabout at Edgerton Street/Vadnais Boulevard intersection.
- Supportive of traffic calming elements (e.g., reduced lane widths).