

SE Home Avenue Survey Summary

August 2020

Online Survey

Between July 1-July 31, 2020, the City of Milwaukie hosted an online survey about the SE Home Avenue SAFE project on the SAFE website. The purpose of the survey was for the project team to learn preferences and insights from neighbors and users of Home Avenue. Participants were asked to give their feedback on a series of 8 questions related to the proposed sidewalk improvements on Home Avenue. The survey included questions such as how people currently walk on the street, what their safety concerns are, and more.

Project staff promoted the survey through the [July Milwaukie Pilot newsletter](#), the virtual open house on June 22, 2020, City social media accounts, an email to the interested parties list, and via a [factsheet](#) that was mailed to neighbors within a two-block radius of the project corridor. The City also invited the Hector-Campbell NDA board to share it with their members.

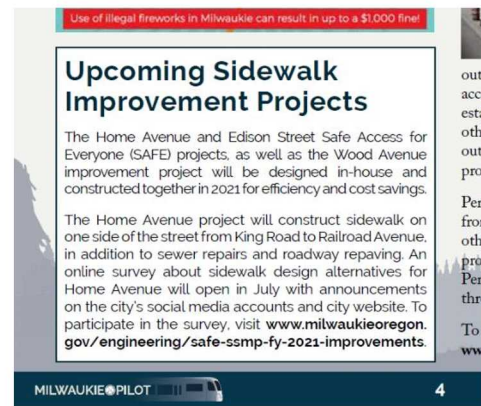
Survey Results

A total of 86 people took the online survey and provided thoughtful feedback on the sidewalk location and other project considerations.

The following are common themes from the survey results:

- People in general felt somewhat unsafe as a pedestrian on Home Avenue.
- The most frequently-crossed intersection for pedestrians on Home Avenue is at Monroe Street.
- People feel safer walking on the west side of Home Avenue than they do on the east side.
- The vast majority of people believe that preserving trees is more important than preserving the existence of on-street parallel parking or building the sidewalk as far from the roadway as possible.
- The top suggestions for how to distinguish or separate the sidewalk from the roadway were to build a raised sidewalk with a curb and to create a landscaped, grassy area, or gravel barrier between the roadway and the sidewalk.
- When people walk along Home Avenue, they are usually out for a neighborhood stroll, with no specific destination in mind.

The project team is reviewing all these comments and will consider them as the design is finalized.



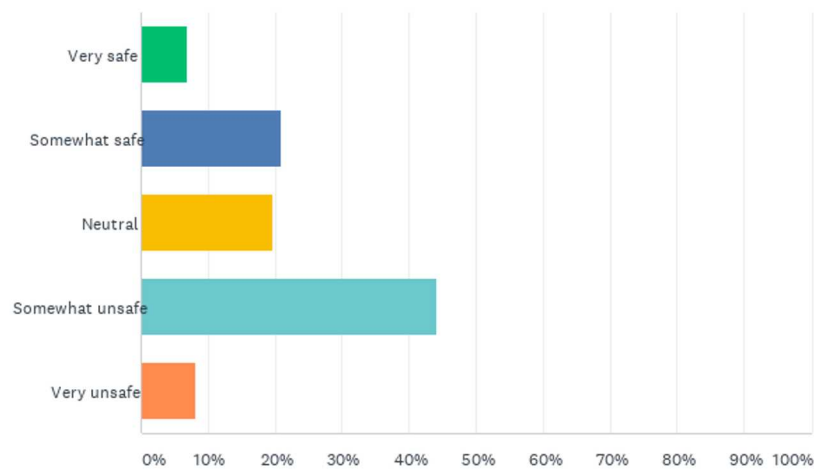


Summary of Responses by Question

Question 1: How safe do you currently feel as a pedestrian on Home Avenue?

Twice as many people (38) feel somewhat unsafe as a pedestrian on Home Avenue, compared to those who feel somewhat safe (18) or neutral (17). Smaller numbers of people feel very safe (6) or very unsafe (7).

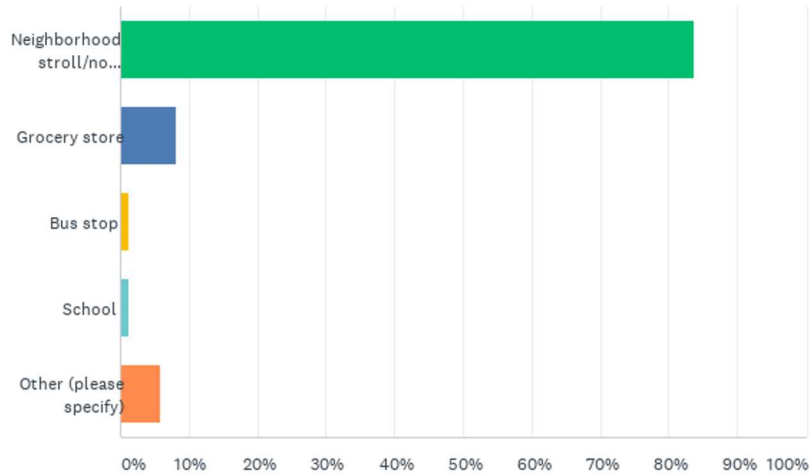
Q1 How safe do you currently feel as a pedestrian on Home Avenue?



Question 2: What is your destination when you walk on Home Avenue?

The vast majority of respondents (72) said that they walk on Home Avenue for a neighborhood stroll, or with no destination in mind, rather than use it to reach a particular destination. The most common destination, however, was the grocery store (7). Of the five “other” write-in responses, two people said they walk to Homewood Park.

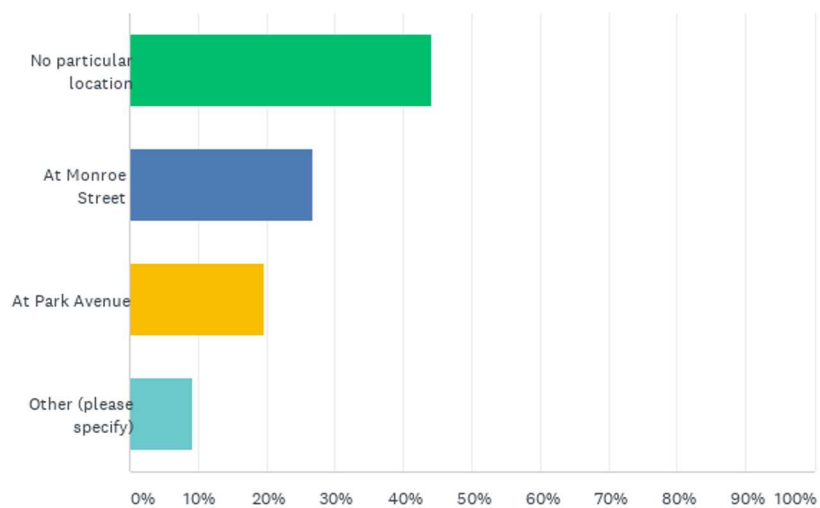
Q2 What is your destination when you walk on Home Avenue?



Question 3: When walking, where do you cross Home Avenue?

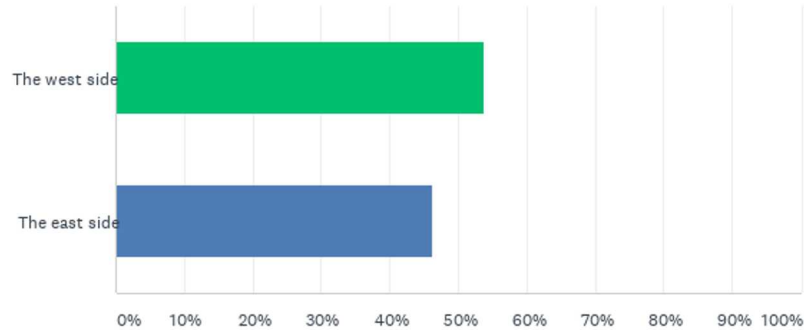
Most people (38) do not cross Home Avenue at any particular intersection when they are out walking, but among those who do, Monroe Street was the most common choice (23), followed by Park Avenue (17). Two of the 8 people who wrote in “other” comments indicated that they cross the street at the park.

Q3 When walking, where do you cross Home Avenue?



Question 4: Which side of the street feels the safest to you or do you use the most often?
 Respondents indicated that they feel safest on the west side of the street, with 54% indicating that the west side feels safer. The other 46% indicated the east side feels safest to them.

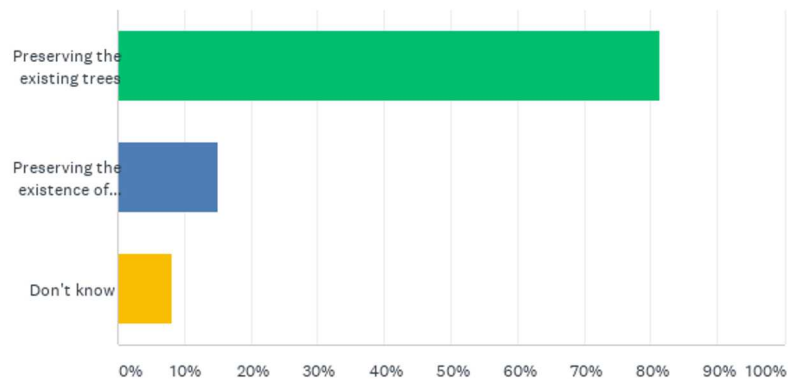
Q4 Which side of the street feels the safest to you or do you use the most often? Please see project map below (west is on the left and east is on the right).



Question 5: When we build the sidewalk, some impacts will be made to the existing infrastructure. Please choose which is more important to you.

When given the choice, more than five times as many respondents (70) indicated that preserving the existing trees was more important to them than preserving the existence of on-street parallel parking (13). Approximately 8% of respondents responded that they don't know.

Q5 When we build the sidewalk, some impacts will be made to the existing infrastructure. Please choose which is more important to you.



Question 6: Because the sidewalk will likely be at street level rather than raised 6 inches with a curb, how do you prefer the sidewalk be distinguished or separated from the roadway?

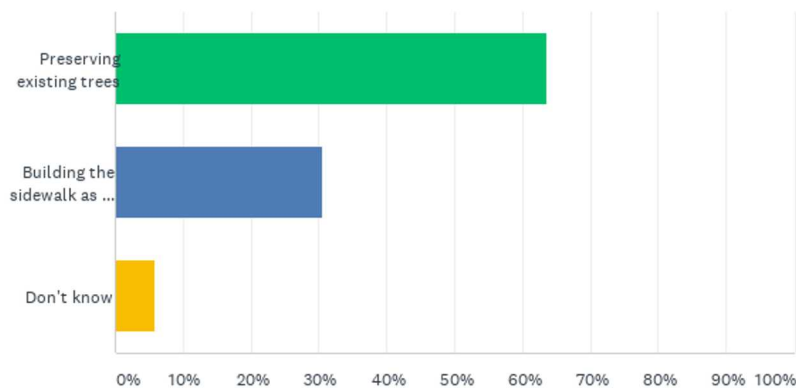
A high percentage of people (62%) offered ideas about how the street could be distinguished from the roadway; and 38% said they don't know. Key themes included:

- Construct a raised sidewalk with curb (14)
- Landscaped and grass/gravel strip (13)
- Use paint or different colors to distinguish the walking surface (9)
- Bioswales (8)
- Do not build a sidewalk until you have funds to raise it above street level (2)

Question 7: Which is your highest priority?

More than twice as many people prefer to preserve existing trees (54) rather than have a sidewalk as far from the roadway edge as possible (26). And five people said they don't know. These results are similar to those of Question 5, in which the vast majority of respondents chose preserving trees over preserving parallel parking.

Q7 Which is your highest priority?



Question 8: Is there anything else you would like to share with the project team?

Ten people provided other feedback on the project, and themes included:

- Interest in speed bumps
- Meandering the sidewalk to save trees
- Advising the City to keep the plan simple