



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

Community involvement for the project comprised community open houses, which were held in each of the four Island County planning areas, an online survey and interactive mapping tool, and numerous Advisory Committee meetings.



Community Open Houses

In person, face-to-face discussions, in locations in each of the four planning areas.



WikiMap

Online mapping app that allows users to identify routes and points of interest.



Online Survey

Broad study of users, modes, likes & dislikes, wants, and comments.

96

188



Camano
Jan. 31, 2017



North Whidbey
Feb. 1, 2017



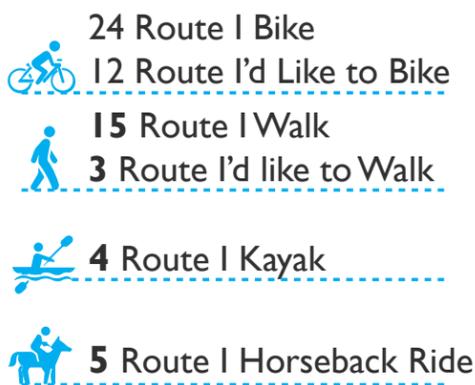
Central Whidbey
Feb. 2, 2017



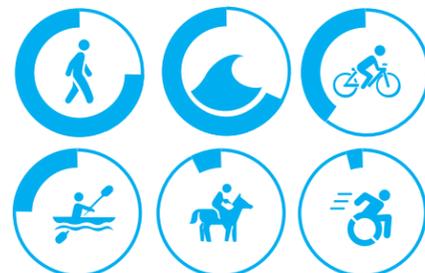
South Whidbey
Feb. 2, 2017



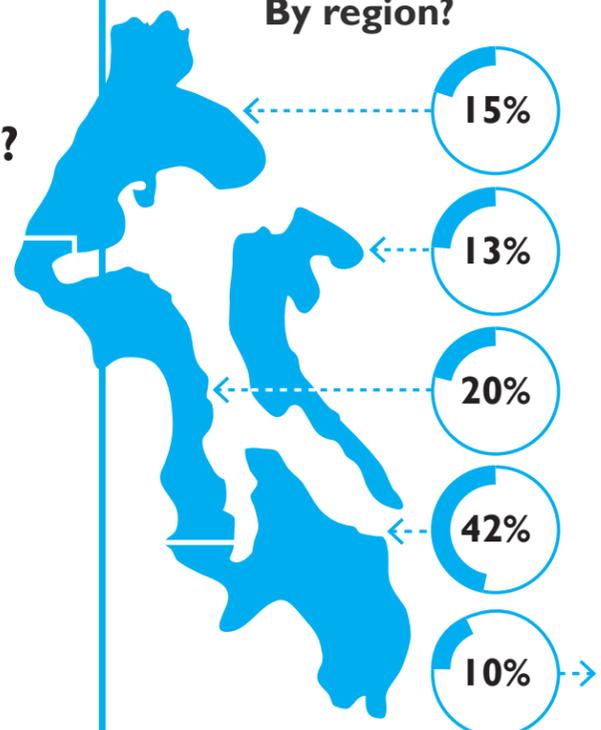
What routes were identified?



Who is responding, by mode?



By region?



What barriers?



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

WHAT WE LEARNED

WALKING AND RUNNING

Walking and running are highly local activities characterized by shorter trips closer to home. Most walking is for recreation, but high quality trails are concentrated in a handful of locations, so many residents walk on the edge of the road. Many roadways have higher speed vehicular traffic and limited sight lines, decreasing the actual and perceived safety and comfort when walking.

- » Most walking trips are for recreation.
- » Most walking trips are between 1 and 5 miles.
- » Most residents have to walk on the side of the road.
- » Vehicle speeds and volumes are cited as the biggest concerns of people walking.
- » People who walk would like wider road shoulders, sidepaths or shared use trails, and intersection safety improvements.
- » People with mobility challenges would like improved ease of access (including trails and facilities built to ADA standards)

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

WHAT WE LEARNED

BICYCLING

Both road and mountain biking are popular in Island County. Road biking in the County is predominantly recreational, but commute and utility trips are also common in proximity to cities and populations centers, and within range of the ferry terminals.

Road cyclists face many of the same concerns as people walking, namely higher speed vehicular traffic and limited sight lines, which are mitigated to some degree on roads with shoulders over 4 feet wide.

Mountain biking opportunities are concentrated in a few locations that nevertheless offer myriad high quality trails, such as the Kettles Trails.

- » Road cycling is the primary type of bicycling in Island County.
- » Most bicycling in Island County is recreational.
- » Vehicle speeds and volumes are cited as the biggest concerns of people bicycling.
- » Many roadways in the County lack bicycle facilities, such as bike lanes, though many also have shoulders that are at least 4 feet wide.
- » Maintenance of existing shoulders (i.e. sweeping debris after a windstorm) was frequently cited as an important need.
- » People would like to see more shoulders, bike lanes, sharrows and trails.
- » The County has an active shoulder widening program.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

WHAT WE LEARNED

SHORELINE USE

Shorelines are underutilized due to limited public access sites and uncertainty about private property. A number of potential and underutilized shoreline access points exist presenting a major opportunity to increase shoreline access in Island County.

Kayaking is a popular activity. While kayak camps are only relevant to a niche subset of the population, there is a need for more and better locations.

- » 92% of survey respondents visit shorelines in Island County.
- » The most popular shoreline activities are walking, beachcombing, wildlife viewing, and kayaking.
- » The most important shoreline amenities are trails, signage/wayfinding, trash cans, parking, and restrooms.
- » Improving signage and wayfinding for public shoreline sites was a consistent message in the survey and open houses.
- » Kayaking is part of the cultural identity of the islands.
- » Up to a quarter of kayakers go on a monthly basis, while over two-thirds go on an annual basis.
- » Most kayakers paddle less than 5 miles per outing.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT SUMMARY

WHAT WE LEARNED

EQUESTRIAN

Most equestrian use is limited to specific trails in parks and other open space that allow horses. Few longer equestrian trails exist in the County, and to date, there has been poor equestrian accommodation along roadways and shared use trails.

- » 10% of survey respondents ride horses.
- » Three quarters of all rides are over 5 miles, suggesting the need for a variety of longer trail options.
- » Barriers to horseback riding included inadequate road shoulders, not enough places to ride, inadequate trails, lack of horsetrailer parking, and vehicular conflicts.