

# NORTH PORTLAND IN MOTION

## Community Engagement Summary July 2021 - July 2022

The North Portland in Motion team spent the first year focused on listening and learning about the transportation issues, needs, and priorities of the people who live, work, learn, and play in the North Portland peninsula.

Guided by community input, PBOT aims to **identify transportation needs and near-term investments** to improve access to community destinations and support walking, biking, and public transit use in the North Portland peninsula over the next 5-10 years. North Portland in Motion began in Summer 2021 with an anticipated final plan appearing before city council in 2023.

This document summarizes the first year of outreach activities and public input from the project kick-off in July 2021 through July 2022. The input from this outreach phase is being used to develop new projects and programs. Further outreach will be gathered to refine recommended projects and programs.

Several outreach methods were used to gather input from community members, including **online surveys, focus groups, and Community Advisory Group (CAG) meetings**. Key themes from each of these outreach activities and CAG meetings are included in this summary.

### OUTREACH BY THE NUMBERS

- 1** **KICK-OFF SURVEY**  
June 2021 to August 2021
- 1** **ONLINE OPEN HOUSE**  
December 2021 to February 2022
- 4** **COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP MEETINGS**
- 4** **COMMUNITY WALKS & RIDES**
- 2** **POP-UPS & TABLING EVENTS**
- 7** **FOCUS GROUPS & WORKSHOPS**
  - Oregon Walks
  - BikeLoud PDX
  - St Johns Small Businesses
  - Community Cycling Center
  - New Columbia Residents at Our Village Gardens
  - Kenton Residents at Renaissance Commons
  - Portsmouth Residents Wayfinding Workshop at Miraflores Apartments
- 20+** **PRESENTATIONS & LISTENING SESSIONS**



**STUDY AREA MAP**

# Plan Goals & Study Area

This plan is an opportunity to convene the greater North Portland community to identify shared priorities and opportunities for new investments to support better access to important places on the peninsula and better connections to Northeast Portland and the Central City.

The North Portland in Motion project study area is defined by both natural and human-made edges, including rivers, bluffs, highways, railroads, and industrial areas. The study area for North Portland in Motion includes the following neighborhoods in the North Portland peninsula: St. Johns, Cathedral Park, Portsmouth, University Park, Kenton, Arbor Lodge, and Overlook.

## PROJECT GOALS

- 1 Engage deeply with North Portlanders to understand transportation needs and barriers to meeting daily mobility needs.
- 2 Identify a near-term prioritized investment strategy of projects and programs to improve conditions for walking, biking, and transit.
- 3 Build new relationships with community-based organizations to represent the diverse neighborhoods and communities within North Portland.

# Public Engagement Approach

The North Portland in Motion project team aims to engage with community members most impacted by the outcomes of the plan, including low-income residents, people with disabilities, Black, Indigenous, and People of Color communities, and immigrant communities.

Community engagement for the project includes formal opportunities, like the Community Advisory Group and online surveys as methods for gathering feedback. In addition, project team members are visiting places where people gather within the community to provide meaningful, convenient, and conversational engagement opportunities. As you review this public involvement summary note that a variety of engagement tools have been applied to include all North Portland community members who would like to be involved.

Because Spanish is a commonly spoken language in the study area, materials for the project are being translated to Spanish. The winter 2021-22 Online Open House postcard mailer sent to 25,000 residential addresses included both Spanish and English languages. However, very few community members participated in the Online Open House in Spanish.

To address these gaps in representation and to understand and elevate the perspectives of non-English speaking and lower income North Portlanders, the North Portland in Motion team held a series of intentional focus groups and workshops in partnership with Hacienda CDC, Home Forward, and New Columbia. Key takeaways from those outreach events are summarized in this report.

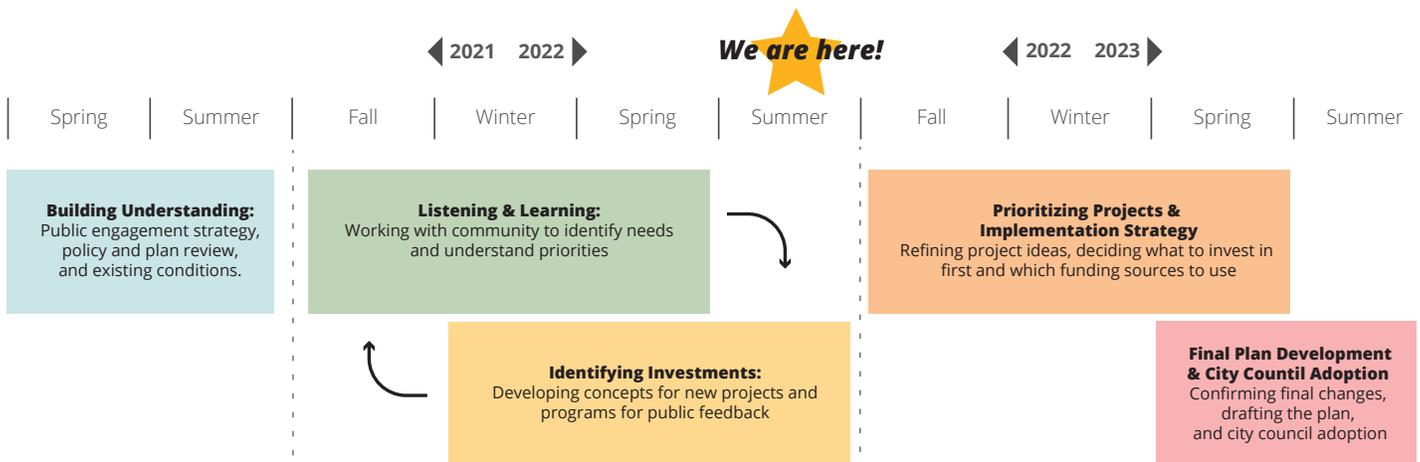


Wayfinding workshop with Hacienda CDC



Focus group with residents of Renaissance Commons in Kenton

## PROJECT TIMELINE



# Community Engagement Events

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## 2022 OUTREACH EVENTS (January to Early July)

- St Johns Neighborhood Association Presentation. July 11, 2022
- Wayfinding Workshop: Portsmouth Tour with Hacienda CDC / Miraflores. July 9, 2022
- Focus Group: Renaissance Commons, Kenton. June 2, 2022
- University Park Neighborhood Association Presentation. June 13, 2022
- Portsmouth Neighborhood Association Presentation. June 13, 2022
- Portland Bicycle Advisory Committee North Portland Tour. June 12, 2022
- Kenton Neighborhood Association Presentation. June 8, 2022
- Overlook Neighborhood Association Presentation. June 7, 2022
- Community Advisory Group Meeting #4. May 24, 2022
- Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association Presentation. May 19, 2022
- St Johns Neighborhood Association Presentation. May 9, 2022
- Tabling Event: Spring Fling / St Johns Farmers Market. May 7, 2022
- North Portland Land Use Group Meeting Presentation. April 28, 2022
- St Johns Boosters - Board Meeting Presentation. April 20, 2022
- Focus Group: Our Village Gardens / New Columbia. April 13, 2022
- Focus Group: Community Cycling Center. March 21, 2022.
- Community Advisory Group Meeting #3. March 1, 2022
- Info Session with North Portland Neighborhood Services. February 10, 2022
- Focus Group: St Johns Boosters. January 21, 2022
- Kenton Neighborhood Association Presentation. January 12, 2022
- Issues & Opportunities Workshop with BikeLoud N/NE. January 20, 2022

## 2021 OUTREACH EVENTS (Early July to December)

- Oregon Walks Plans & Projects Committee Workshop. November 1, 2021
- Community Advisory Group Meeting #2. October 26, 2021
- St Johns Center for Opportunity Board Presentation. October 25, 2021
- University Park Neighborhood Association Presentation. October 25, 2021
- Community Advisory Group Meeting #1. October 5, 2021.
- New Columbia September Event with Oregon Walks. September 28, 2021
- North Portland in Motion Pedalpalooza Kick-Off Ride. August 29, 2021
- Cathedral Park Neighborhood Association Presentation. August 10, 2021
- Portland Freight Committee Meeting Presentation. August 5, 2021
- North Portland Leadership Forum Presentation. August 2, 2021
- St Johns Boosters Walking Tour. July 30, 2021
- Tabling Event: Our Village Gardens Celebration at New Columbia. July 24, 2021
- Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association Presentation. July 15, 2021
- North Portland in Motion Sunday Parkways Virtual Webinar. July 9, 2021
- Portsmouth Neighborhood Association Traffic Safety Forum. July 6, 2021

Visit [northportlandinmotion.com](https://northportlandinmotion.com) to see a list of all past engagement and upcoming events.

# Common Themes & Key Takeaways

The feedback received during the first year of the plan will directly inform the proposed projects and programs shared with the public during the summer of 2022 and in the plan itself.

The following takeaways summarize all the feedback heard through North Portland in Motion community engagement activities from summer 2021 through spring 2022:

- **Safer speeds are critical.** Address speeding on busy streets and reduce cut-through traffic.
- **Build more crossings.** Add and improve crossings on busy streets and near community destinations, like schools and parks.
- **Improve access to important places.** Consider key North Portland places, including schools, parks, natural areas, and main streets.
- **Invest in more comfortable bike routes.** Expand neighborhood greenways and improve and extend bike routes on busy streets.
- **Invest in amenities and services to improve the public realm.** Improved lighting, better maintained streets and bikeways, more trash cans, and cleaner trails and public spaces make people safe and comfortable being in the public realm.
- **Create spaces to connect with neighbors, services, and local businesses.** Activate community spaces, including public plazas and main streets.
- **Incorporate more trees and green space.** Find ways to add tree canopy, add green space, and manage stormwater issues.
- Collaborate with Portland Parks and Recreation **to improve access to and better maintain the many off-street trails and multi-use paths** throughout North Portland.
- **Make transit better.** Add and improve crossings at transit stops, add amenities to transit stops, and make traveling by bus faster and more reliable.





## Project Kick-Off Survey

The Project Kick-off Survey opened June 23, 2021 and closed on August 15, 2021 with over **750 survey responses**. The survey was hosted online through the City of Portland website at [northportlandinmotion.com](http://northportlandinmotion.com). The survey and information about North Portland in Motion were shared widely with over 8,000 members of the public through a PBOT news release. The news release raised awareness of the project and community members were invited to subscribe to the North Portland in Motion email newsletter at this early stage of the project.

The project team shared about North Portland in Motion and invited participation in the Project Kick-off Survey through in person events and presentations to community stakeholders. The project team spoke with residents at a pop-up tabling event at Our Village Gardens in New Columbia (July 2021), St. Johns Boosters hosted a neighborhood tour (July 2021), the project team and Community Advisory Committee hosted a Pedalooza bike ride (August 2021), and Oregon Walks hosted a community "Steptember" walk (September 2021).

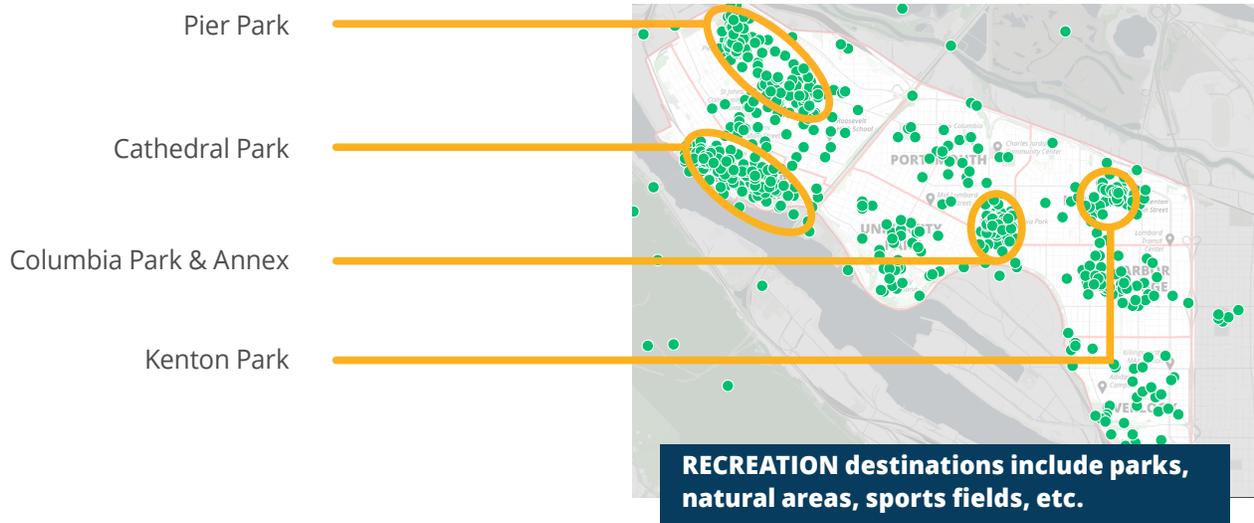
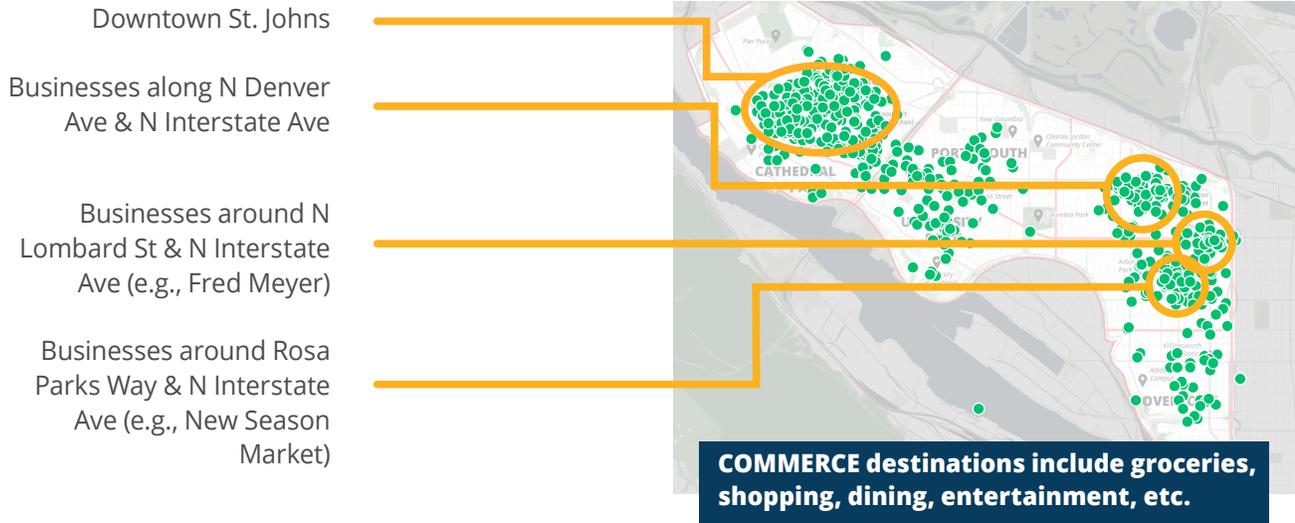
The project team gave presentations and engaged in discussion with the following groups: Portsmouth Neighborhood Association Traffic Safety Forum, Sunday Parkways Virtual Webinar, Arbor Lodge Neighborhood Association, North Portland Leadership Forum, Portland Freight Committee, and Cathedral Park Neighborhood Association.

### HOW DID WE GATHER INPUT?

- 1 NEWS RELEASE**  
to over 8,000 neighbors
- 1 NEIGHBORHOOD TOUR**
- 1 COMMUNITY WALK**
- 1 COMMUNITY BIKE RIDE**
- 1 POP-UP TABLING EVENT**
- 6 PRESENTATIONS**  
to community stakeholders

## WHERE DO PEOPLE GO FOR...

Survey respondents were asked to identify destinations where they go for commerce, recreation, and community. Areas with a high number of responses are identified in the maps below.



# Key Themes | Project Kick-Off Survey



## PEDESTRIAN NETWORK

- Many shared that it is difficult to cross busier streets due to lack of safe crossings.
- Many noted gaps in the sidewalk network or inaccessible sidewalks due to poor condition or lack of ADA access.
- A need for more streetscape amenities including additional street trees, lighting, and wayfinding.



## BIKING NETWORK

- Many felt that today's bike network is incomplete and does not serve important community destinations.
- A need to fill network gaps where bike lanes end suddenly and add new bike connections in neighborhoods without bike access.
- A desire to upgrade bike lanes to add more protection, especially on busier streets.
- A desire to expand and improve the neighborhood greenway network to serve all neighborhoods in the peninsula.



## TRANSIT SERVICE

- Many noted long travel times on the bus to reach destinations outside of North Portland, especially deeper into the peninsula.
- A desire for transit priority treatments to increase speed and reliability.
- A need for better stop amenities including shelters, benches, lighting, and marked crosswalks at bus stops.
- A desire for new and modified service to increase frequency and provide more direct service to important destinations.



## VEHICLES & PARKING

- Many shared concerns about higher speed cut-through traffic on neighborhood streets.
- Many expressed a desire for better parking management, especially in areas with new high density residential development.
- A desire for traffic calming and traffic enforcement to address illegal speeding and reckless driver behavior.
- Many noted it's difficult to access basic needs without using a car due to a lack of transportation options.



## BEYOND INFRASTRUCTURE

- Many highlighted opportunities for community placemaking – especially in areas around schools, parks, and commercial areas.
- A common theme centered around a need to better maintain the public realm including cleaning up trash, debris, and abandoned vehicles.
- Many noted a lack of new mobility services including Biketown, shared electric scooters, and car-share. PBOT uses the term "new mobility" to describe transportation services that are enabled or defined by digital technology.

# Survey participation

**WHERE DO PEOPLE LIVE?** Almost a quarter (21%) of survey respondents said they live in the St. Johns neighborhood. Sixteen percent of respondents live in Kenton and 14% live outside of the plan study area. Others said that they live in Portsmouth (13%), Arbor Lodge (13%), University Park (11%), Overlook (7%), and Cathedral Park (6%).

**HOW DO PEOPLE TRAVEL?** Survey respondents were asked where they commute to. Over 50% of respondents commute to one of two places: within the plan study area (26%) or the Central City (26%). Survey respondents were also asked how they get around for all trips, such as commuting, pleasure, errands, or recreation. More than half of respondents reported that they walk and drive most days.



## Online Open House #1 | Issues & Opportunities

The Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBOT) conducted an online open house between December 1, 2021, and February 1, 2022 to gather feedback on priorities and key opportunities for investing in transportation projects in North Portland. These projects will support better access to important places within the peninsula, as well as better connections from North Portland to Northeast and Downtown Portland.

The online open house included an issues map to gather community input about pedestrian, biking, and transportation needs in North Portland.

The online open house was available in two languages, English and Spanish. Overall, the online open house generated over **1,300 unique visitors** over the course of 2 months. The corresponding survey yielded a total of **349 participants**.

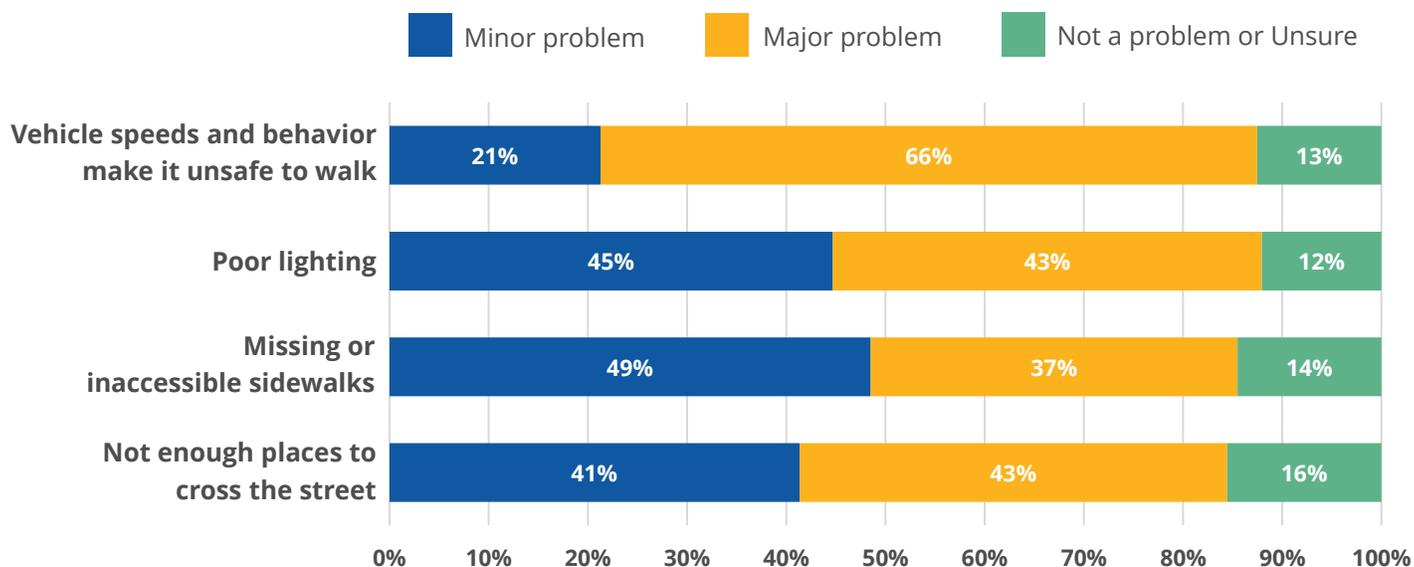
Community members were informed of the online open house through bilingual postcards mailed to every household and business in the North Portland peninsula, social media posts across all major platforms in both English and Spanish, two email newsletters to over 1,000 project update subscribers, and canvassing at BIPOC-owned businesses and community-based organizations. The project team met with the following community groups to invite further participation: University Park Neighborhood Association, St. Johns Center for Opportunity Board, Kenton Neighborhood Association, and North Portland Neighborhood Services.

### HOW DID WE GATHER INPUT?

**25K** BILINGUAL POSTCARDS  
in English and Spanish

**2** EMAIL NEWSLETTERS  
to over 1,000 subscribers

**4** PRESENTATIONS  
to community stakeholders



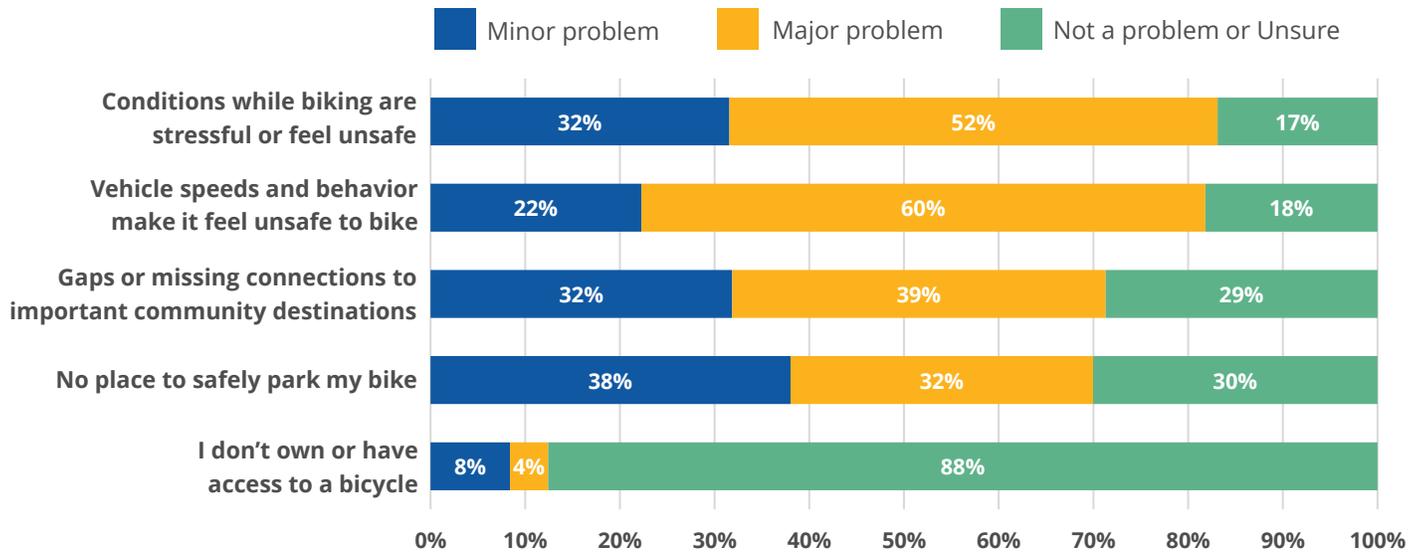
**WHAT MAKES WALKING DIFFICULT IN NORTH PORTLAND?**

**Vehicle speeds and behavior make it unsafe to walk:** There were 343 responses to this question. Most participants (66%) felt that vehicle speeds and behavior were a major issue. 21% felt it was a minor problem.

**Poor lighting:** There were 340 responses to this question. Participants were almost split between thinking this was a major (43%) or minor (45%) issue.

**Missing or inaccessible sidewalks:** There were 338 responses to this question. Almost half (49%) felt that missing sidewalks were a minor problem, while 37% felt they were a major problem.

**Not enough places to cross the street:** There were 341 responses to this question. Just under half (43%) felt that this was a major problem, while slightly fewer (41%) felt it was a minor problem.



**WHAT MAKES BIKING DIFFICULT IN NORTH PORTLAND?**

**Conditions while biking are stressful or feel unsafe:** There were 320 responses to this question. More than half (52%) felt this was a major issue, and 32% felt it was a minor problem.

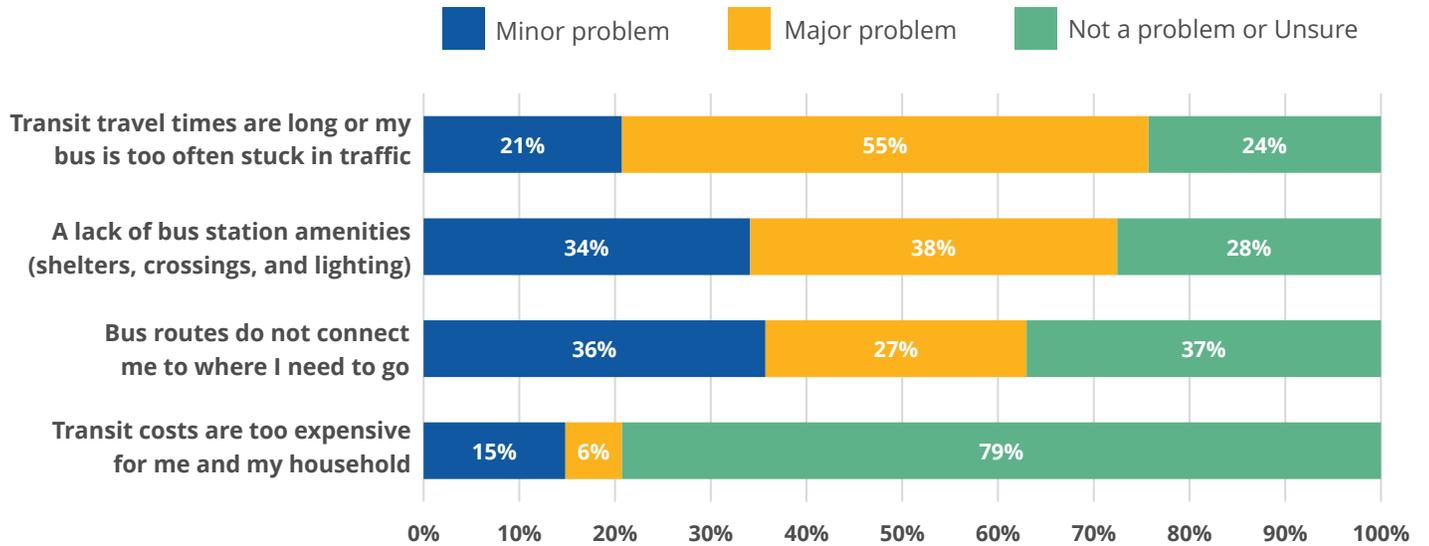
**Vehicle speeds and behavior make it feel unsafe to bike:** There were 319 responses to this question, and the majority (60%) felt this was a major problem. Only 22% felt it was a minor problem.

**Gaps or missing connections to important community destinations:** There were 317 responses to this question. Most (39%) felt this was a major issue, while slightly fewer felt it was a minor issue (32%). 16% were unsure, and 13% felt it was not a problem.

**No place to safely park my bike:** There were 313 responses to this question. Answers were somewhat closely split on whether this was a major (32%) or minor (38%) issue. 19% felt it was not a problem.

**I don't own or have access to a bicycle:** There were 298 responses to this question. The overwhelming majority (81%) felt this was not an issue.

## KEY THEMES | ISSUES & OPPORTUNITIES OPEN HOUSE



### WHAT MAKES USING TRANSIT DIFFICULT IN NORTH PORTLAND?

#### Transit travel times are long or my bus is too often stuck in traffic:

There were 309 responses to this question. Over half (55%) felt it was a major problem. 21% felt it was a minor problem.

#### A lack of bus station amenities including shelters, crossings, and lighting:

There were 305 responses to this question, and respondents were almost evenly split on whether this was a major issue (38%) or minor issue (34%).

**Bus routes do not connect me to where I need to go:** There were 308 responses to this question, and 36% felt it was a minor problem, while 27% felt it was a major problem.

**Transit costs are too expensive for me and my household:** There were 304 responses to this question, and the overwhelming majority (72%) felt this was not a problem. 15% of respondents felt it was a minor problem.

# Online Open House #1 | Issues & Opportunities

As part of the online open house, the issues map allowed participants to mark locations on map where they experience issues and barriers to transportation in North Portland. 138 participants submitted a total of 543 comments on the map.

## BARRIERS TO WALKING AND BIKING

- Speeding vehicles
- Unsafe crossings
- Lack of traffic calming measures such as speed bumps
- Deficient or lack of lighting
- Unsafe conditions along the St. John's Bridge (not under PBOT's jurisdiction)
- Trash, debris and stormwater issues
- Parked and abandoned cars create visibility hazards



## BARRIERS RELATED TO PUBLIC TRANSIT

- Need for more frequent transit
- Need for direct transit from the peninsula to Downtown Portland
- Trash, debris, and flooding around transit stops
- Need for more transit options in the St. Johns area
- Most common transit lines mentioned: 35, 16, and 4
- Most common bus stops mentioned: Stops along Lombard (served by line 75)

## ISSUES ACCESSING COMMUNITY DESTINATIONS, INCLUDING:

- Areas in St. John's, such as St. Johns City Park, the Community Center, and St. Johns Square
- Willamette Cove/North Portland Greenway
- Charles Jordan Community Center
- Columbia Park
- Arbor Lodge Park
- Greeley Cycle Path
- Downtown Kenton and Kenton Park

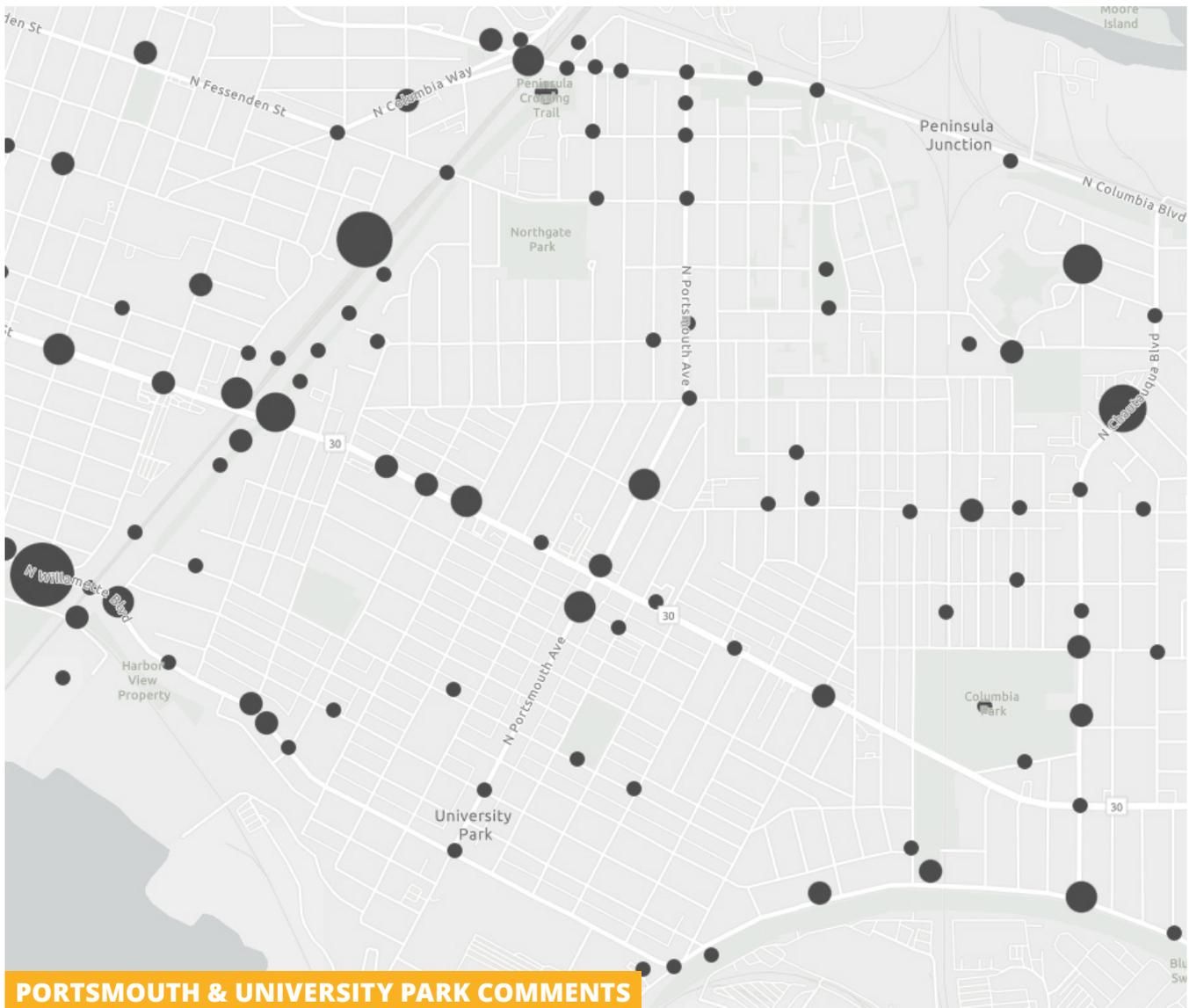




## St Johns and Cathedral Park Neighborhoods

*Major themes in this area of the peninsula include:*

- People have difficulty crossing N Smith St due to speeding vehicles.
- People noted a lack of comfortable walking and biking routes between N Lombard and N Fessenden.
- An opportunity to improve transit access and connections near St Johns plaza.
- People would like better walking and biking connections along the railroad cut.
- People would like to see more frequent crossings on N Lombard St, especially near Roosevelt High School.
- People noted the need for safer walking and biking conditions on N Willamette Blvd, particularly where the bike lanes end just north of the railroad cut.
- Better access for people walking and biking over the St Johns Bridge, as well as neighborhood cut-through traffic were major themes as well.



**PORTSMOUTH & UNIVERSITY PARK COMMENTS**

Portsmouth and University Park Neighborhoods

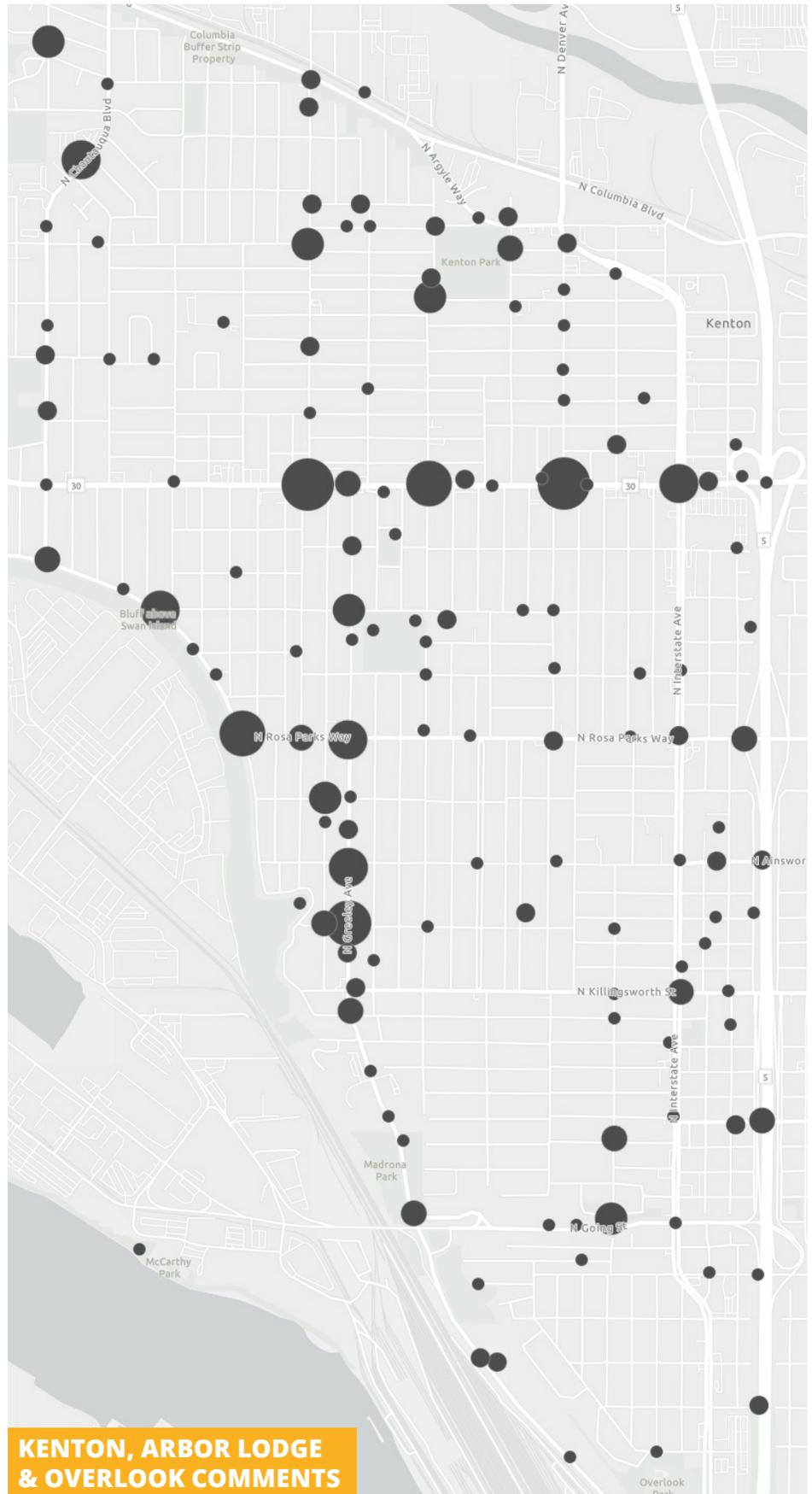
*Major themes in this area of the peninsula include:*

- Higher speeds and a lack of safe places to cross the street on busier streets like N Lombard St, N Portsmouth Ave, N Chautauqua Blvd, N Willamette Blvd, and N Willis Blvd.
- Safety concerns centered on the Peninsula Crossing Trail, including illegal vehicle use of the multi-use path.
- A common concern was high-speed cut-through traffic on local streets near N Columbia Blvd.
- A desire to improve existing bike lanes on popular routes like N Willamette Blvd or N Fessenden St.
- Many noted difficulty in crossing the railroad cut that divides Portsmouth and University Park from important destinations in St Johns.

## Kenton, Arbor Lodge, and Overlook Neighborhoods

*Major themes in this area of the peninsula include:*

- The intersections of N Denver/ Lombard and N Peninsular/ Lombard were commonly noted for safety concerns.
- The need for more safe pedestrian crossings near Kenton Park.
- Many noted a need for more frequent crossings on busy streets like N Peninsular and N Chautauqua.
- A desire for traffic calming and a new neighborhood greenway on N Delaware Ave.
- Safety concerns about multiple crossings on N Lombard St.
- A need for more improved crossings and safer speeds along N Greeley Ave.
- A desire to improve irregular or difficult crossings along N Willamette Blvd.
- Some noted concerns about high vehicle speeds and traffic on N Ainsworth.
- Crossing Interstate-5 on foot or on bike was highlighted as a major barrier.



**GENERAL COMMENTS**

There were 156 responses to this open-ended question. Common themes include safety, traffic and congestion, and connectivity.

**Safety** was a major theme mentioned throughout the open comments. Specific concerns included:

- Address overall speeding vehicles
- Improve ADA accessibility near parks and transit stops
- Fix sidewalk and curb issues
- Improve crosswalks to make them safer
- Create safer connections for bicyclists and pedestrians
- Make designated bike lanes and trails safer and more accessible
- Add better lighting along bike and pedestrian routes.
- More law enforcement related to speeding vehicles, theft and other crime, and abandoned vehicles
- Debris and trash clean up should be a priority

Concerns related to **traffic and congestion** included:

- Traffic calming and speed reduction measures
- Speed bumps or traffic diverters in specific areas
- Several respondents were unhappy about the Lombard project and felt it has made traffic worse
- Some mentioned crossing the St. Johns Bridge was unsafe or had too much traffic

Concerns related to **connectivity** included:

- Some respondents mentioned that transit in North Portland was unreliable and made the community car dependent
- Many want more frequent transit
- Some expressed a desire to transition to an interconnected network for pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users

Increase street maintenance and fix potholes **Other concerns** that respondents raised included:

- Several respondents wanted more greenspaces, tree canopy, and planter barriers
- Several people wanted less of a bike focus and for the City to focus on other more pressing issues
- Some wanted better equity around the cost and fees of transit
- A few mentioned wanting better signage and wayfinding to destinations



## Community Advisory Group

The North Portland in Motion Community Advisory Group (CAG) is made up of 20 members who live, play, worship, go to school, work or do business in and around the project area. The CAG provides local knowledge and in-depth feedback throughout the planning process and supports community engagement. The CAG will meet seven times. Four CAG meetings were held during the first year of the project.

### CAG Meeting #1 | Kick off

During the first CAG meeting on October 5, 2021, PBOT staff and consultant staff from JLA Public Involvement welcomed the CAG and led introductions. PBOT staff outlined the purpose and goals of North Portland in Motion. The group reviewed and discussed the role of the CAG as part of the North Portland in Motion planning process. In summary, the committee is a place for CAG members to share their thoughts, input, advice, as well as the viewpoints of the organizations they represent. PBOT will use the CAG's feedback and recommendations to identify projects within the plan. The CAG is an advisory body and therefore does not have a formal decision-making role; however, PBOT will work towards creating a plan that everyone supports.

### NORTH PORTLAND IN MOTION COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP

- **Stephanie Blair** St Johns Center for Opportunity, St Johns Farmers Market.
- **Jonna Lynn Bransford** University Park Resident
- **Aaron Brown** Oregon Walks, St Johns Resident
- **Paul Buchanan** Portsmouth NA
- **Jennie Cambier** University of Portland
- **Nic Cota** Overlook NA, Bikeloud PDX
- **Brett Duesing** St Johns Resident
- **Kali Glenn-Haley** University Park Resident
- **Ally Holmqvist** Bicycle Advisory Committee, Cathedral Park Resident
- **Pat Jewett** North Portland Greenway, St Johns
- **Jesse Neilson** Kenton Resident
- **Ryan Northam** Arbor Lodge Resident
- **Rebecca Small** Friends of Columbia Park
- **Liz Smith & Carol Tricoche** St Johns Boosters
- **Lauren Smith Plinski** Portland Community College, Multiple Neighborhoods
- **Beth Staus** Arbor Lodge NA
- **Ethan Stuckmayer** Resident, St Johns
- **Jennifer Vitello** Cathedral Park Resident
- **Libby Winter** WTS & IAP2, Arbor Lodge

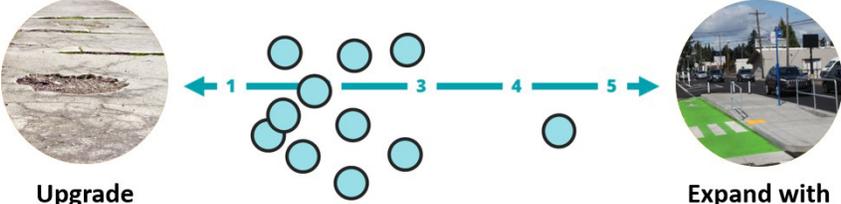


Group Activity:

## Project & Program Strategy



*Should we prioritize projects that make improvements to the **existing transportation facilities network** or focus our attention on **new facilities**?*



**Upgrade Existing Networks**

**Expand with New Facilities**

### CAG Meeting #3 | Project & Program Strategies

At the third CAG meeting on March 1, 2022, PBOT staff presented updates on the project and public involvement activities, including the 2021-22 online open house. To help shape the strategy and direction for potential North Portland in Motion projects and programs, consultant staff from JLA led a group exercise and discussion in the virtual meeting space.

Questions were presented as a scale where CAG members could place a “dot” to show which of the two options on the scale they prioritize and how much.

The visualization above is an example of the question “Should we prioritize projects that make improvements to the existing facilities network or focus our attention on new facilities”? Nearly all CAG members placed dots between one and three on the scale, closer to the “upgrade existing networks” end of the spectrum on the left. One dot is placed between four and five closer to “expand new facilities” on the right.

#### SUMMARY OF RESPONSES TO PROJECT AND PROGRAM STRATEGY QUESTIONS

- Most of the group leaned toward **building physical infrastructure**, with one person wanting to focus on developing supportive programs.
- When asked about pedestrian safety projects, the group leaned more toward **busier arterial and collector streets**, but a couple of people were in the middle or closer to neighborhood streets near parks and schools.
- The group leaned more towards **closing crossing gaps on busier corridors** rather than focusing on areas with higher pedestrian activity.
- Most participants stated that they prefer to focus on **building more frequent and safer crossings** versus focusing on improvements to the pedestrian environment.
- The group leaned more toward **protected bike lanes** over neighborhood greenways.
- The group leaned more toward **upgrading existing networks**, with one outlier who wanted to focus on expanding the network with new facilities.

## CAG Meeting #4:

### Project Types and Early Ideas

On May 24, 2022, PBOT staff shared early project types, desired project outcomes, and project ideas with the CAG. While the project ideas were still under development, staff invited CAG feedback in this early stage. Staff emphasized that PBOT is working to identify projects that are responsive to community identified priorities, align with PBOT's transportation goals and policies, and can be delivered in the next 5-10 years.

CAG members responded positively to the draft project ideas and the proposed network that would be built out to provide increased safety and connectivity throughout the peninsula. CAG members gave feedback to staff on how to communicate project types more clearly and raised questions about how projects would be prioritized.

With feedback from the CAG, project staff worked to refine the project types and ideas to create a straightforward, near-term plan for improving walking, biking, and transit in North Portland. Staff also created an additional, optional CAG meeting during the summer to receive more feedback before bringing project ideas to the public.





## Focus Groups & Workshops

Through North Portland in Motion, PBOT staff are engaging with North Portlanders to understand their transportation needs and building new relationships with community-based organizations. PBOT staff understand that some North Portlanders prefer to engage in conversation rather than take an online survey. In order to hear a wide range of perspectives, PBOT staff collaborated with partner organizations to host focus groups and workshops to have in-depth conversations with community members. The focus groups and workshops allowed community members to engage in the project at a time and location that was convenient for them. PBOT offered different options to encourage participation, such as gift card stipends, meals, activities for families and children, and language interpretation, based on the needs of the group.

## Oregon Walks

PBOT held a Steptember Walk in New Columbia and visited the Oregon Walks Plans & Projects Committee met with the project team in the fall of 2021 to discuss transportation needs for people walking in North Portland.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Slow down vehicle speeds and make crossings safer
- Explore partnerships with place-based organizations (e.g. affordable housing providers) to provide transportation options
- Increase micromobility options to connect people between neighborhoods
- Expand secure bike parking
- Develop better quality, low cost interventions to get projects on the ground as quickly as possible.
- Train more BIPOC bike mechanics for community hubs
- Address barriers, such as Interstate 5 and railroads, and increase connectivity
- Add more trees and develop plazas and community centered spaces



## Bike Loud

Bike Loud, a local cycling and traffic safety advocacy group, participated in a focus group on January 20, 2022.

### KEY TAKEWAYS:

- Upgrade existing bike lanes on busier streets to add more protection for people cycling
- Improve density and legibility of the neighborhood greenway networks
- Improve bicycle wayfinding to help people navigate to community destinations
- Invest in better bike connections over barriers including I-5 and the “railroad-cut”



## St. Johns Boosters

The project team facilitated a focus group with St. Johns Boosters, the longstanding business association for the St. Johns neighborhood, on January 21, 2022.

### KEY TAKEWAYS:

- Support activation, programming, and investments in the plaza at Lombard and Philadelphia in downtown St. Johns
- Provide more frequent, safer crossings to improve pedestrian and bike access to the Lombard Main St area
- Support efforts to unify and connect the various nodes of small business activity throughout St Johns and Cathedral Park



## Community Cycling Center

On March 21, 2022, Community Cycling Center staff discussed issues and needs with PBOT staff based on their experience working with youth and families in North Portland.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Provide safe crossings on busy streets like Fessenden, Lombard, Portsmouth, Chautauqua and Willis
- Slow vehicle speeds on neighborhood streets
- Create more wayfinding signs, especially to parks
- Increase secure bike storage
- Address personal security and traffic safety to remove barriers to biking for families with children



## New Columbia Residents at Our Village Gardens

New Columbia residents shared their transportation experiences during a focus group at Our Village Gardens on April 13, 2022.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Speeding is a major safety concern on busier streets
- Participants prefer to get around by walking to most neighborhood destinations including parks and commercial areas
- Participants shared concerns about personal safety while traveling on foot or by transit



## Kenton Residents at Renaissance Commons

Through a partnership with REACH CDC staff, residents at Renaissance Commons apartments met with the project team to discuss their transportation needs and priorities on June 29, 2022.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Speeding is a top concern
- Add or improve crossings especially at N Argyle and Interstate and N Argyle and N Brandon
- Increase parking near Renaissance Commons, particularly accessible parking spots
- Increase loading space for emergency vehicles and drop off and pick up at Renaissance Commons
- Street signs are unclear and need to be repaired or improved
- Add more bus shelters with sun and rain protection
- Residents agreed that they prefer not to have a bus stop or line closer to Renaissance Commons due to noise and traffic concerns



## Portsmouth Residents at Miraflores Apartments

Community Cycling Center, Hacienda CDC staff, and PBOT worked together to host a Spanish language wayfinding workshop with Portsmouth families at Miraflores Apartments.

### KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- Increase lighting on key walking routes and off-street trails
- Families prefer to walk to neighborhood parks and schools using calm, quiet, local streets
- Participants shared a preference for high-quality crossings of busier streets with good visibility



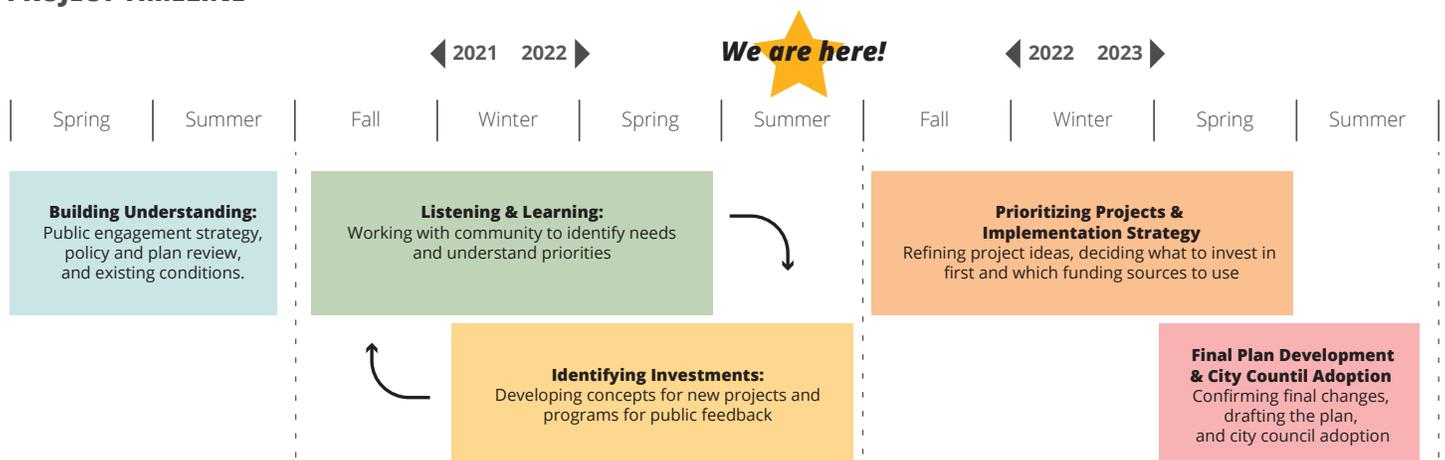


## What's Next?

The project timeline is roughly two years with an anticipated final plan appearing before City Council in 2023. PBOT is deeply invested in elevating voices from North Portland's diverse communities—especially those who may have historically underrepresented—through the Community Advisory Group, partnerships with community-based organizations, focus groups and workshops, online and in-person open houses, neighborhood walks and rides, and consultation with neighborhood associations and other civic organizations.

The outreach to date has provided insights and feedback about community needs and priorities. With this information, the project team will develop and share project and program ideas for further community input through the summer of 2022.

### PROJECT TIMELINE



### FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit the project website and sign up for email updates at:

[www.northportlandinmotion.com](http://www.northportlandinmotion.com)



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