

Regional



PEDESTRIAN PLAN INDIANAPOLIS MPO



Summary of Survey Results

The MPO Regional Pedestrian Plan conducted the first of several public input opportunities and surveyed Central Indiana residents to determine their preferences and concerns regarding sidewalks, trails, and other pedestrian facilities in their communities. The survey was active for approximately one month from Friday, November 9, 2018 to Saturday, December 15, 2018. It was commissioned by the Indianapolis MPO to determine the concerns and challenges related to pedestrian connectivity and to help the Indianapolis region become more walkable. Results of the survey will be evaluated by the MPO and its consulting team and will be used to help set priorities for walkway investments in Central Indiana. A total of 283 people responded to the survey, which focused on the following:

- Determining how respondents' are walking (prevalence, mode, and destination)
- Determining where respondents' would walk to if they had better pedestrian access or lived somewhere else
- Understanding what makes Central Indiana a great place to walk
- Examining challenges to walking (personal safety and/or other reasons)
- Gathering recommendations for improving the walking environment



Below are some of the general conclusions from this preliminary survey:

Prevalence of Walking

Most respondents (77.03%) said that they walked for at least thirty (30) minutes at a time during the week for recreation, exercise, to get to/from places, or for any other reason.

Assistive Devices

Most respondents (97.53%) said that they do not use an assistive device to move as a pedestrian. Of those that said that they use an assistive device, most said that they moved using a cane (1.77%), while others used a walker (0.35%) or a motorized scooter/wheelchair (0.35%).

Destinations for Walking (Current)

Respondents were asked to determine which destinations they did or didn't walk to now from a list of seven (7) destinations, including work, school, public transit facilities, medical services, grocery facilities, entertainment facilities, and for exercise. Most respondents (87.63%) said that they currently walk for exercise more than walking to a specific destination. The top three destinations that respondents currently do NOT walk to/from included:

- Medical services - 65.37%
- Work - 64.66%
- Grocery facilities - 62.19%

Destinations for Walking (Future)

Respondents were asked to determine which destinations they would want to walk to if they had better pedestrian access or lived somewhere else from a list of seven (7) destinations, including work, school, public transit facilities, medical services, grocery facilities, entertainment facilities, and for exercise. Most respondents (95.05%) said that they would like to walk for exercise more than any other destination, closely followed by walking to/from entertainment facilities (92.23%). The top three destinations that respondents do NOT want to walk to/from included:

- Medical services - 23%
- Work - 18%
- Grocery facilities - 12%

Community Walking Amenities

Respondents were asked to identify what makes their community a great place to walk from a list of options. Most respondents (58.66%) said that their community had a good network of pedestrian facilities (ex. sidewalks, multi-use paths). Nearly 52% of respondents identified that being within walking distance of their destinations what made their community a great place to walk.

Personal Safety

Most respondents (69.31%) said that they felt threatened for their personal safety at some point when they were walking.

Threats to Personal Safety

Respondents were asked to determine threats to their personal safety from a list of options. The top three responses to these threats included:

- Motorists behavior - 50.5%
- Motorists too close to walkways - 37.9%
- Unsafe pedestrian facilities - 35.4%

Challenges to Walking

Respondents were asked to identify reasons they did not walk more frequently from a list of options. Most respondents (50.18%) cited the speed of automobile traffic being too fast and/or the volume of automobile traffic being too high as being a major reason they did not walk more frequently, closely followed by unsafe intersections or crossing locations due to the lack of pedestrian signals and/or time to cross (47.29%) and a lack of pedestrian facilities (ex. sidewalks, multi-use paths) (46.21%).

Locations for Improvement

Respondents were asked to identify which types of locations they think need the most improvement in their walking environment from a list of options. Most respondents (52.71%) said that major intersections needed the most improvement, closely followed by major street corridors (51.26%). Other results included:

- Near or within parks or other recreation centers - 21.3%
- Near entertainment facilities - 20.94%
- Near highway interchanges - 35.4%
- Near public transit - 22.02%
- Near schools - 16.97%
- On bridges or overpasses - 16.25%
- Other - 9.39%
- Near medical services - 2.89%

Age

Of the respondents, 24.63% said they were between the ages of 25 and 34, 23.16% said they were between the ages of 35 and 44, 5.88% said they were between the ages of 18 and 24, and 8.09% said they were age 65 or older.

Gender

Most respondents (65.07%) were female.

Ethnicity

Most respondents (87.87%) identified as White or Caucasian.

Income

Of the respondents, 37.1% said that their total household income is above \$100,000, 23.2% said it is between \$62,000 and \$100,000, 17.6% said it is between \$38,000 and \$62,000, and 8.1% said their total household income is below \$38,000. 14% of respondents chose not to answer.

Household

Most respondents (38.60%) said that two (2) people currently live in their household. A few respondents (6.62%) said that they had five (5) or more people currently living in their household.

County (Residence)

Most respondents (80.15%) said that they live in Marion County. The other 19.85% of responses came from outside of Marion County. No Hancock County residents responded to this survey.

County (Employment)

Most respondents (78.54%) said that they work in Marion County.