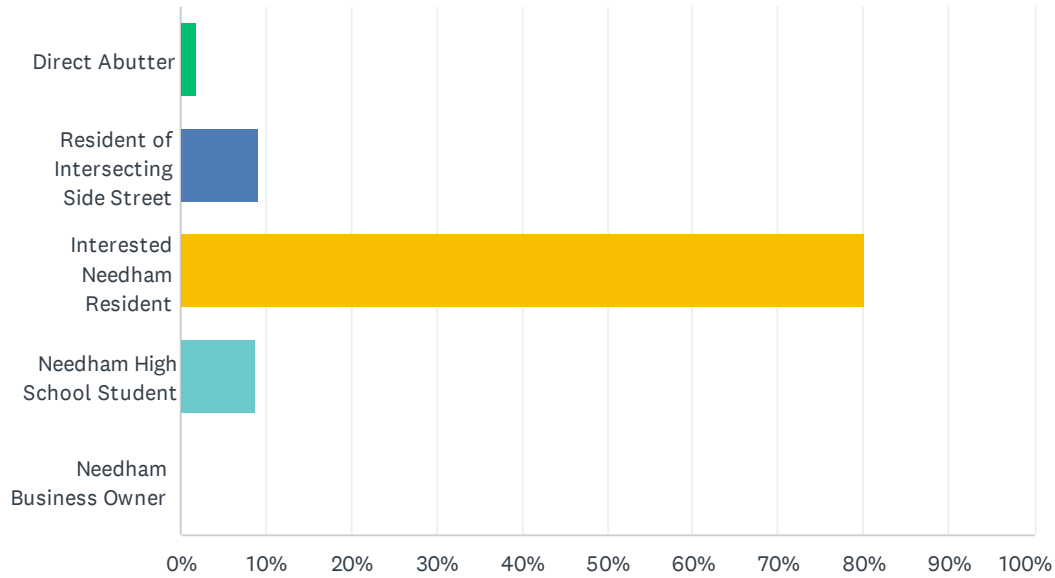


## Q1 What is your relationship to the project?

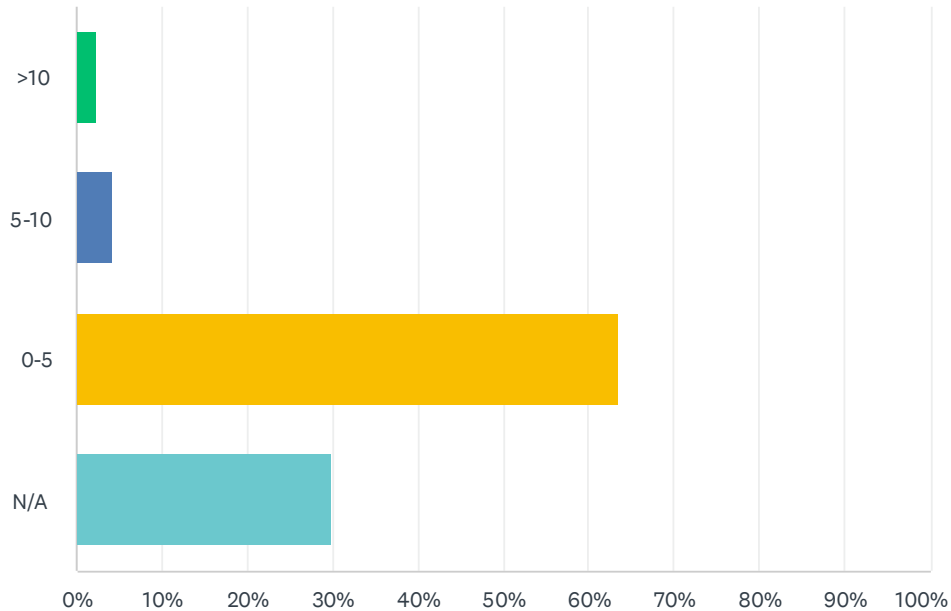
Answered: 324 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Direct Abutter	1.85%	6
Resident of Intersecting Side Street	9.26%	30
Interested Needham Resident	80.25%	260
Needham High School Student	8.64%	28
Needham Business Owner	0.00%	0
TOTAL		324

## Q2 Regardless of the season, how would you describe your typical bicycling habits on Highland Avenue in terms of trips per week?

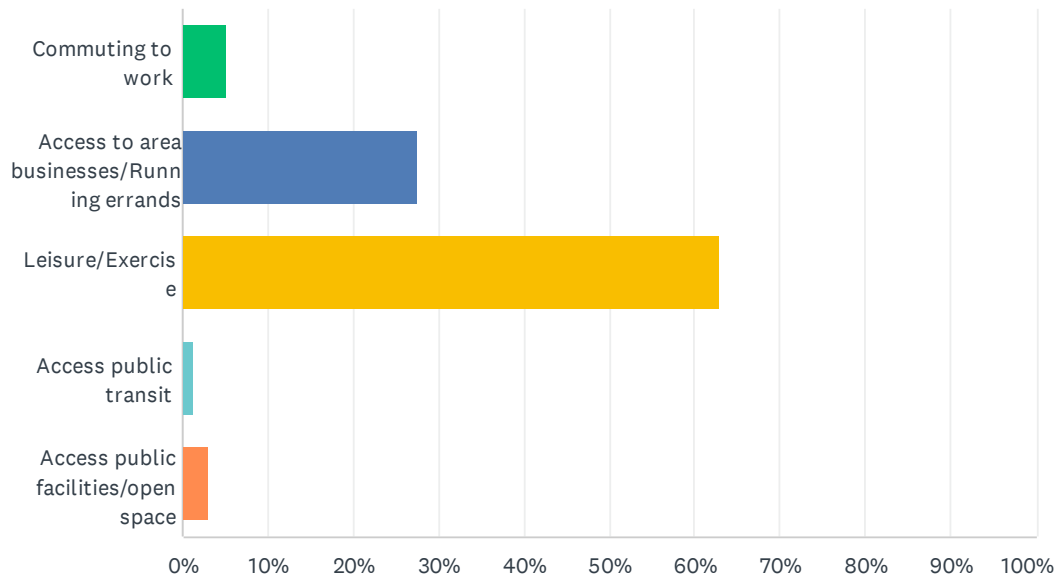
Answered: 329 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
>10	2.43%	8
5-10	4.26%	14
0-5	63.53%	209
N/A	29.79%	98
TOTAL		329

### Q3 What best describes the nature of your bicycle trips?

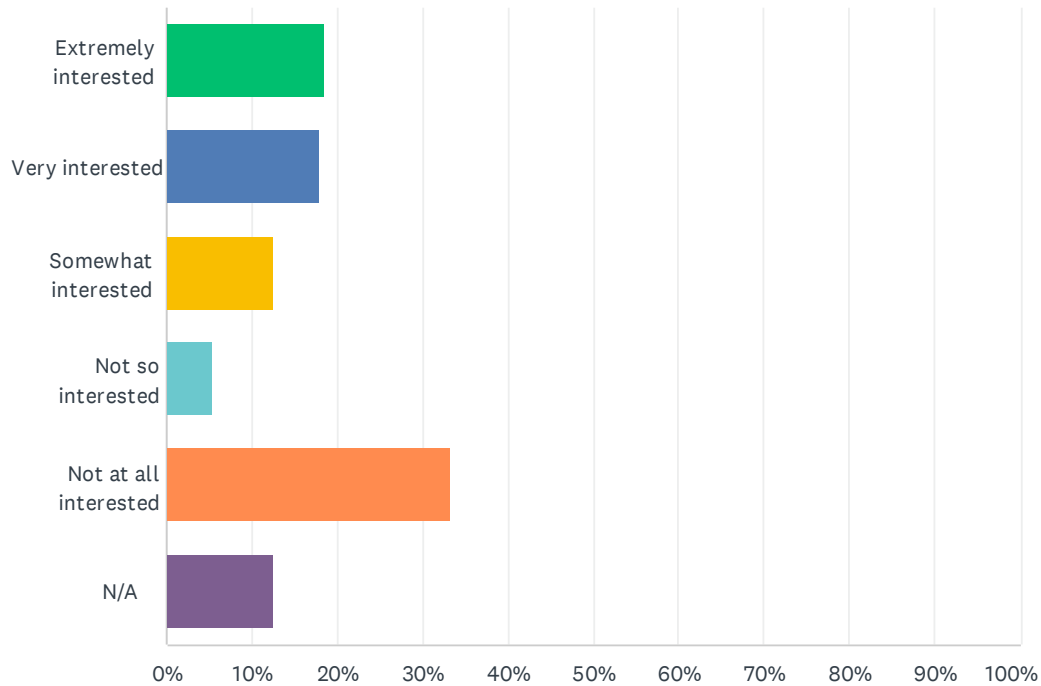
Answered: 232 Skipped: 98



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Commuting to work	5.17%	12
Access to area businesses/Running errands	27.59%	64
Leisure/Exercise	62.93%	146
Access public transit	1.29%	3
Access public facilities/open space	3.02%	7
TOTAL		232

Q4 If you do not currently bicycle on this portion of Highland Ave, how would you rate your interest in doing so if improvements were made (i.e. bike lanes installed, etc.)?

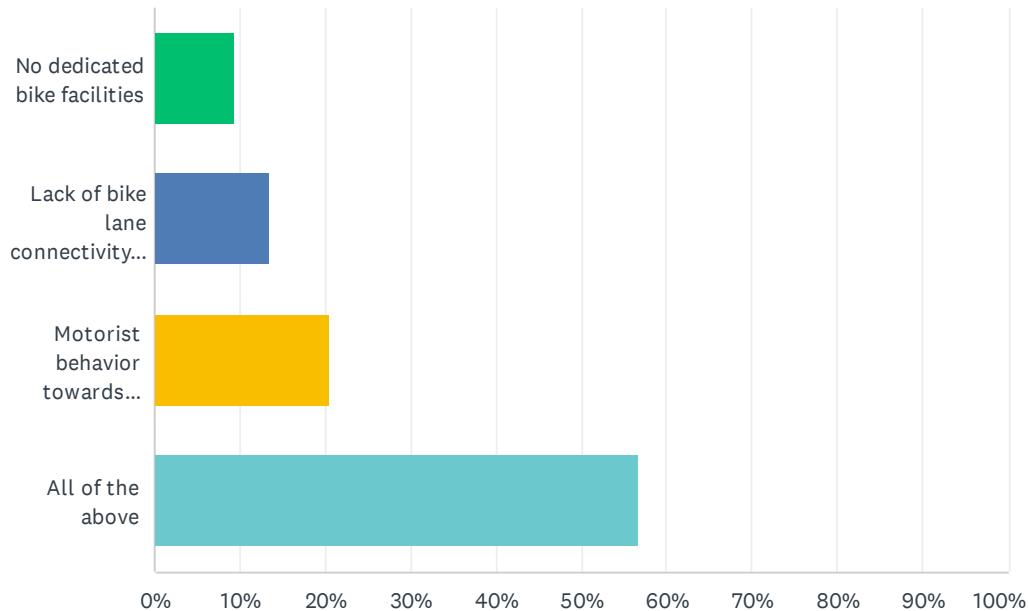
Answered: 319 Skipped: 11



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Extremely interested	18.50%	59
Very interested	17.87%	57
Somewhat interested	12.54%	40
Not so interested	5.33%	17
Not at all interested	33.23%	106
N/A	12.54%	40
TOTAL		319

## Q5 What prevents you from bicycling along Highland Avenue within the project limits, or increasing the frequency at which you ride your bike on Highland Avenue?

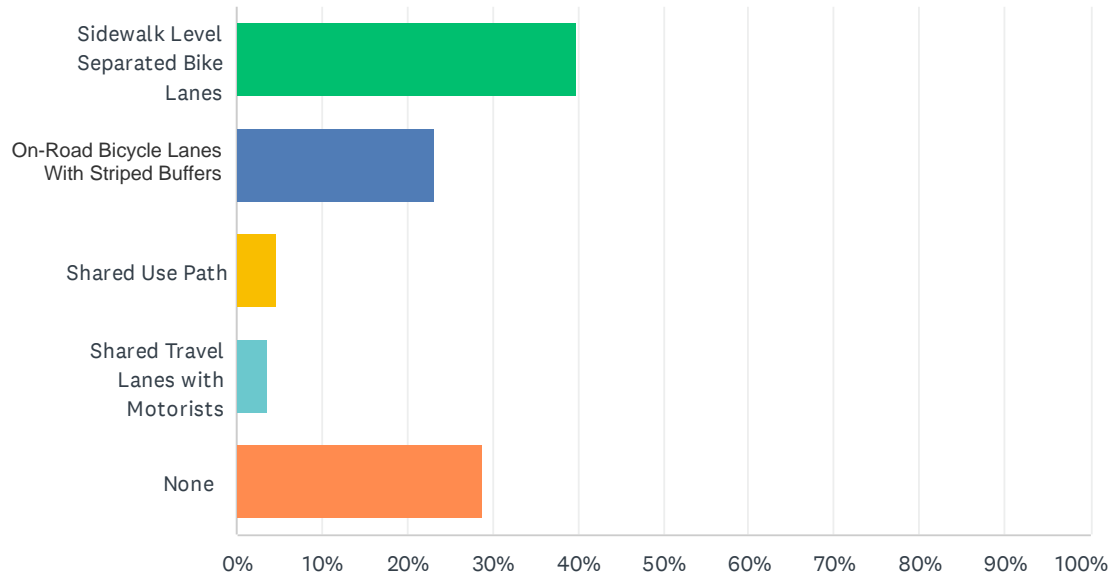
Answered: 215 Skipped: 115







ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
No dedicated bike facilities	9.30%	20
Lack of bike lane connectivity from other areas of Town	13.49%	29
Motorist behavior towards bicyclists	20.47%	44
All of the above	56.74%	122
TOTAL		215

## Q6 What type of bicycle infrastructure/accommodations would you prefer within the project limits?

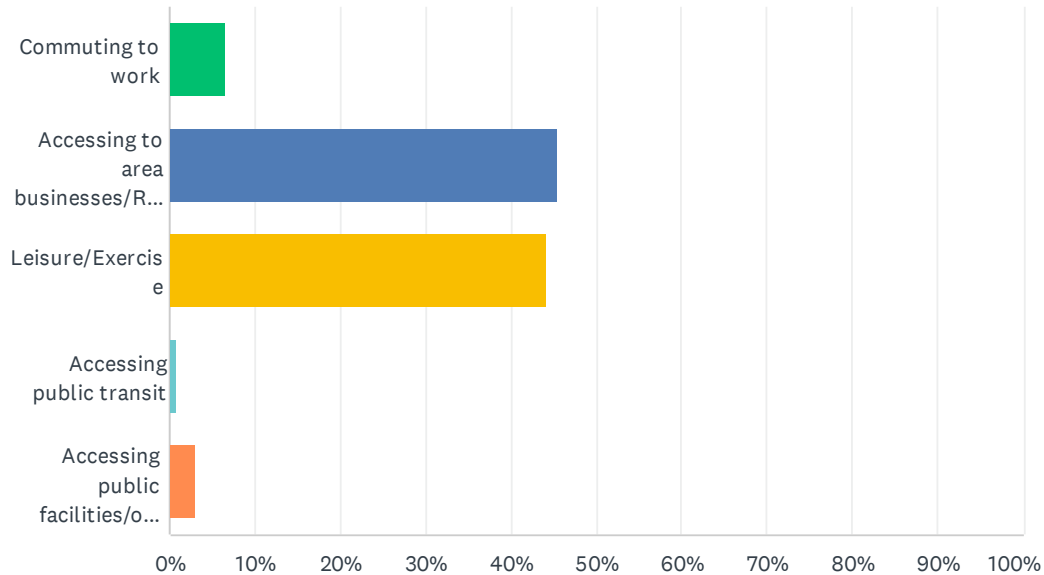
Answered: 324 Skipped: 6



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
	39.81%	129
	23.15%	75
	4.63%	15
	3.70%	12
None	28.70%	93
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>324</b>

## Q7 If your preferred bicycle lane type was constructed, how would you best describe the nature of trips you would take?

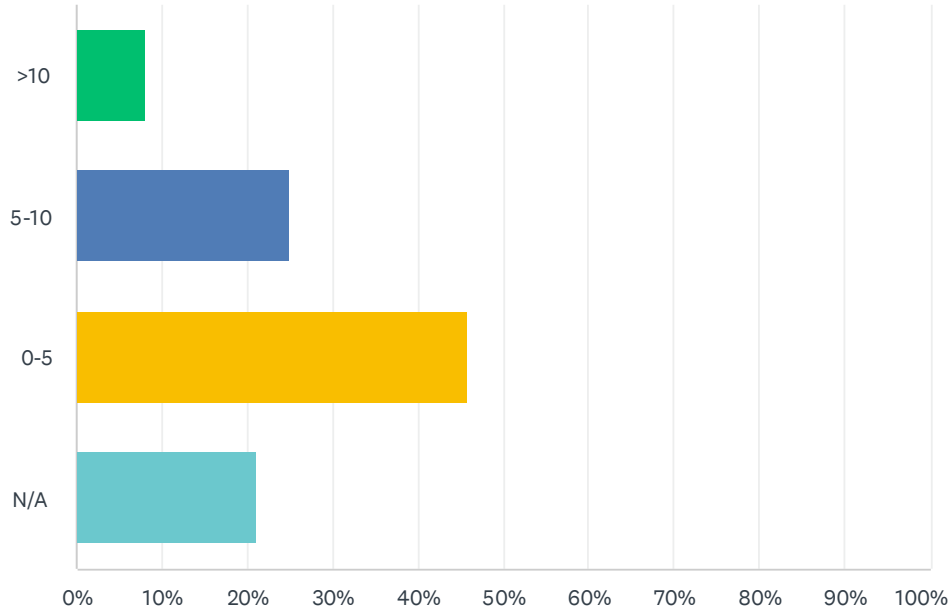
Answered: 227 Skipped: 103



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Commuting to work	6.61%	15
Accessing to area businesses/Running errands	45.37%	103
Leisure/Exercise	44.05%	100
Accessing public transit	0.88%	2
Accessing public facilities/open space	3.08%	7
TOTAL		227

## Q8 If your preferred bicycle lane type was constructed, how many trips per week are you likely to ride your bike on Highland Avenue?

Answered: 318 Skipped: 12

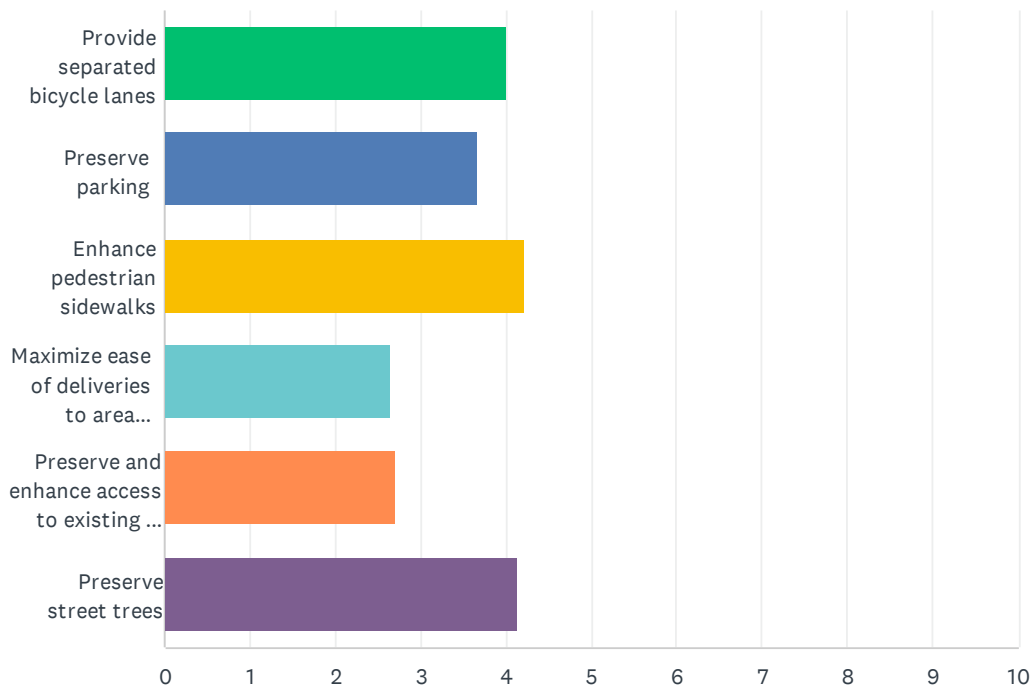


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
>10	8.18%	26
5-10	24.84%	79
0-5	45.91%	146
N/A	21.07%	67
TOTAL		318



**Q9** The available width on this section of Highland Avenue presents constraints on the type(s) of bicycle lanes that can be constructed. For certain bike accommodations (i.e. on-road bike lanes), driving lane widths may need to be reduced and/or parking spaces may need to be reduced/removed, and trees may need to be removed. To better assess the public's preferences please rank the following priorities, 1 being your highest priority.

Answered: 313 Skipped: 17



	1	2	3	4	5	6	N/A	TOTAL	SCORE
Provide separated bicycle lanes	37.05% 113	15.08% 46	4.92% 15	5.25% 16	5.57% 17	24.26% 74	7.87% 24	305	4.00
Preserve parking	20.53% 62	17.55% 53	13.25% 40	18.54% 56	10.26% 31	17.55% 53	2.32% 7	302	3.66
Enhance pedestrian sidewalks	16.00% 48	30.67% 92	25.67% 77	12.00% 36	7.67% 23	4.33% 13	3.67% 11	300	4.23
Maximize ease of deliveries to area businesses	0.67% 2	6.40% 19	15.82% 47	23.57% 70	32.32% 96	16.16% 48	5.05% 15	297	2.64
Preserve and enhance access to existing bus stops	1.68% 5	7.72% 23	17.79% 53	20.13% 60	28.86% 86	18.46% 55	5.37% 16	298	2.71
Preserve street trees	24.34% 74	22.04% 67	19.41% 59	15.13% 46	8.88% 27	7.89% 24	2.30% 7	304	4.14

**Q10 Is there any other feedback relative to bicycling on Highland Avenue you would like to provide?**

Answered: 164   Skipped: 166

## Q10 Is there any other feedback relative to bicycling on Highland Avenue you would like to provide?

Answered: 164 Skipped: 166

#	RESPONSES	DATE
1	I would mostly use this with my kids to be able to get around town on our bikes more easily on the weekends and for them to also bike more safely themselves.	3/10/2025 7:39 AM
2	I am strongly against any addition of bike lanes. We need to keep the trees and preserve the aesthetic of the street.	3/9/2025 4:42 PM
3	Recommend using these funds for other initiatives.	3/9/2025 10:17 AM
4	Highland is a narrow road that might be widened by using some berm but losing trees is a bad alternative. We cant afford to lose parking spaces. But road surface conditions improvement are critical. I ride 3,000 miles a year. road surface conditions are the most important safety factor. thanks wpl2@rcn.com	3/9/2025 9:13 AM
5	People should not bike on Highland ave. Let's stop focusing on bikers and fix some pot holes, repave some streets.	3/8/2025 10:04 PM
6	The images in question 6 don't seem to show any auto parking. Seems significant parking would be lost on the southern section of this project and trees on the northern end, especially if the bike lane is at sidewalk level. I haven't seen a sidewalk level design used in other towns. Was the loss of parking taken into account in the planned zoning change? If you are just trying move bicycles in this area why not use Webster St with access to Highland businesses and the train provided by side streets?	3/8/2025 6:31 PM
7	Better signage for drivers re cyclists	3/8/2025 2:14 PM
8	More lanes needed in town!!	3/8/2025 11:40 AM
9	I think you'll need to reduce the speed limit on Highland if you make room for bicycles.	3/8/2025 10:27 AM
10	No changes are needed!	3/8/2025 9:55 AM
11	I do not think it makes much sense to promote cycling on Highland Ave when there are much safer parallel streets. I prefer Hillside and Webster and Manning. Why not work on improving cycling there, and similar streets. What is the imperative to put more cyclists on the busiest street.	3/7/2025 11:00 PM
12	Please try educating bike riders as to the rules of the road and enforcing stop signs and traffic lights. I observe all the same rules as cars when I drive but frequently see bike riders going through lights, stop signs and riding the wrong way on one way streets with care for pedestrians or cars.	3/7/2025 8:03 PM
13	I have young elementary aged kids. Without bike lanes, I don't feel safe having them ride their bikes along this area	3/7/2025 5:45 PM
14	Not safe for the bikes or the vehicles to have them on this road. Not safe for the pedestrians to have them on the sidewalks. People should avoid Highland when traveling by bike.	3/7/2025 4:29 PM
15	Chapel St at May is the most dangerous of the intersections if you're southbound and aiming for Dedham Ave. You have to cross the right lane over to the left lane on a slight uphill and you can't readily see the cars coming up behind you. Not sure what to do about that. If you stayed on Chapel to then turn left at the Great Plain light, your hair would turn grey waiting for the signal.	3/7/2025 2:42 PM
16	I commute to Boston and Watertown by car. The commutes are much longer than they used to be. I blame traffic jams and slowdowns on squeezed in roadways and entrance ramps caused by too many bike lanes in the wrong places. The ratio of bike lanes being built to their actual use by bikers is not a good one. In other words, I would prefer we go back to more car lanes	3/7/2025 12:45 PM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

and less bike lanes for commuters. The excise taxes paid by vehicles should go towards road maintenance.

17	Keep in mind the need to connect to an extended Needham Rail Trail to Chestnut St. on the southern end and a new Needham-Newton Community Way starting at Webster St. on the northern end.	3/7/2025 12:01 PM
18	When I ride on Highland Avenue I always ride on the sidewalk. I do not trust the drivers. There is just too much traffic on Highland Ave. to ever feel safe.	3/7/2025 11:55 AM
19	Preserve transportation = the effective movement of people and goods. A bike lane system would be an extreme detriment to this. A bike lane system would be the greatest damage to the greatest number of people in Needham.	3/7/2025 11:04 AM
20	Safety for all pedestrians is number one priority.	3/7/2025 10:40 AM
21	It is important to create a safe place for biker and pedestrian with the consideration of kids could be a bit less careful at times when they are with their friends.	3/7/2025 10:03 AM
22	My preference is to maximize driving lanes and minimize the impact of bicycles on traffic. I consider bicycles more of a nuisance then a "mode of transportation".	3/7/2025 9:48 AM
23	Don't build the bike lane. It's already crowded enough on the road in that part of town.	3/7/2025 9:32 AM
24	When planning please be mindful of our winters, emergency vehicles, and resources (fiscal and land) considering the vast majority of Needham tax payers currently do not use the bike lanes that have been installed to date.	3/7/2025 9:17 AM
25	I currently have a bike lane in front of my house on highland ave and NEVER see anyone use it. I see mostly cars and walkers. Needham shouldn't invest in a bike lane that will hardly be used. Waste of taxpayers dollars.	3/7/2025 8:41 AM
26	This street is busy enough as it is with cars! Do not take away space to allow for bikers, as it will only add to traffic and congestion. Additionally sidewalks are for pedestrians only! Bikes and scooters should not be allowed. Instead, create a bike path where the old unused railroad tracks are (behind the Needham Heights firestation) to create a place for bikers to ride.	3/7/2025 8:19 AM
27	This survey seems to make the assumption that all needham residents have a desire for bike lanes..., not true at	3/7/2025 8:03 AM
28	no bike lanes	3/7/2025 7:34 AM
29	We do not need separate lanes for bicycles	3/7/2025 7:10 AM
30	Please listen to the voters in Boston and follow that example (and don't rely solely on the hype from mayor's office): Needham does NOT need another dollar wasted on this. Refocus your efforts on fixing the 3rd world roads and poorly timed lights. THAT is a much more pressing issue. Pick any road around Mitchell School - all abysmal!!!!	3/7/2025 6:09 AM
31	It would be ideal to have a continuous bike path within this area, but ideally it would not come at the expense of currently available parking or planted trees. Either way, sharrows are just pointless, so even a 4-5' bike lane against the curb would be better than nothing. Thank you for allowing us to take this survey.	3/6/2025 9:12 PM
32	The City of Boston is reversing its decision to build/expand dedicated bicycle lanes because of their negative impact on traffic flow. Let's not spend money on something that might be used by <5% of the residents of Needham.	3/6/2025 7:17 AM
33	I would like to see bycyclists using valid bycycle paths. For the number of people bycycling I don't want to shorten the width of traffic lanes. I think this will become a driving hazard for cars and pedestrians. Please review the way Newton (and other towns) that have bycycle lanes and the issues it has created. This should be put up for a town wide vote on the ballot.	3/5/2025 10:42 PM
34	I think in theory it is a wonderful idea but having treated multiple bike riders with traumatic brain injuries from being hit by cars, I sadly do not think it is safe. I don't think that we have the infrastructure to accommodate a bike paths around here, especially this time of year. The snow on the sides of the road and along sidewalks puts people at risk. It creates a dangerous environment and cars end up having to cross double yellow lines to pass bike riders. I wish it were different. I've seen other communities where it works (fewer cars, wider roads, warmer weather!) I don't think it makes sense around here.	3/5/2025 8:58 PM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

35	Sorry to say but sometimes roads are really meant for cars - and adjusting for bikes is a risk to everyone. Please let's not encourage more bikes on roads that barely adequately support car traffic....	3/5/2025 2:51 PM
36	Riding a bike southbound on highland ave between rosemary st and may st is super dangerous because of the number of people opening car doors without looking. This is probably the most important section for some separation of bikes from car traffic, but also where it probably makes the least sense to have a shared use path due to the heavy pedestrian traffic to dunkin donuts and sudbury farms	3/5/2025 2:50 PM
37	Kids bike to the high school and would take highland if safe. Please consider students when consider changes.	3/5/2025 2:43 PM
38	I have children and want to encourage them to bike more. This will help make it safer if there are dedicated bike lanes.	3/5/2025 2:31 PM
39	Do not put bicycle lanes along Highland Avenue	3/5/2025 2:18 PM
40	No	3/5/2025 2:08 PM
41	I occasionally bike for errands coffee or nails. Along Highland Ave I bike on the sidewalk due to traffic, parking, etc. When I'm out biking with some friends, we bike in the street. I don't see a lot of true "cyclists" along that route, perhaps because the design and traffic are not conducive, therefor they choose other routes. I think it's important to keep in mind students walking to the HS, people walking to the library and churches and other popular pedestrian areas. I think some blocks of the road need the street parking, where in other areas it's not needed.	3/5/2025 2:05 PM
42	I am against and have significant concerns about this project, which will likely impact residential neighborhoods and major roads. The legitimate driving and neighborhood needs of the many would be sacrificed for the convenience of the few.	3/5/2025 11:23 AM
43	I do not believe that these costly improvements will increase Bicycle use in Needham.	3/5/2025 8:58 AM
44	See my note above. Prioritizing bike lanes over other civic needs and safety is a mistake. It also allocates disproportionate resources to white collar males. Blue collar workers and minimum wage workers are not riding bikes to Needham. They are driving and taking the MBTA.	3/4/2025 8:26 PM
45	Provide safe bicycle 🚲 lane for people who use this as their mode of transportation.	3/4/2025 6:17 PM
46	Biking along Highland Ave is impractical	3/4/2025 5:45 PM
47	It shouldn't be a designated part of highland ave, period	3/4/2025 1:57 PM
48	MOST MOTOR VEHICLES PAY FOR ROADS THROUGH TAX ON GAS. BIKE RIDERS ARE BY LAW CALLED PEDESTRIANS. PEDESTRIANS ARE SAFER ON SIDEWALKS WHERE THERE ARE NO MOTOR VEHICLES. BOTH SAFETY AND FAIRNESS SUGGEST KEEPING BIKES OFF HIGH TRAFFIC STREETS.	3/4/2025 10:33 AM
49	Absolutely do NOT want to lose any of the limited and valuable parking spots on Highland Ave. I would regard improving the bicycling infrastructure as such as low priority as to want it not even a topic of discussion, let alone an expense to taxpayers or any changes in the road.	3/4/2025 10:02 AM
50	We should keep the town streets as they are now. We need our street width and parking.	3/4/2025 9:26 AM
51	We do not need bike lanes.	3/4/2025 9:22 AM
52	Congestion already awful. No bike lanes needed.	3/3/2025 10:35 PM
53	Dedicated bike lanes on Centre street in West Roxbury are a disaster and the residents hate them. The streets are now much more narrow, parking is more difficult and nobody ever uses the paths. Total waste of money and a hindrance. It's a terrible idea.	3/3/2025 10:27 PM
54	Please do not give up car lanes or parking for a tiny number of bikers. Love biking, but I do it outside of Needham in quieter towns.	3/3/2025 8:16 PM
55	Use our tax money for the miles of sidewalk deteriorating and dangerous causing personal injuries to the residents.	3/3/2025 4:15 PM
56	I love the raised bike lanes on Highland Ave. between Webster and 95/128	3/3/2025 1:41 PM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

57	Other than accessing the library and shops Webster street is a much safer street for bikes and would still be my preferred route to cross Needham N-S. The biggest danger on Highland avenue is passing parked cars and the danger of being "doored". The raised bike line on Needham street crossing the Charles into Newton is an absolutely terrible design - constant grade changes, and risk of collision with traffic from side streets, which will tend not to look for bikes moving along the "sidewalk". Center street in W Roxbury is maybe the best example Ive seen of trying to preserve parking while making it safer for cycling. I am an experienced cyclist of many decades and I commute to work by bike from my home in Needham to my office near Panera bread in Needham. I don't ride on highland because I prefer to use quieter neighborhood streets for a safer and more direct route. I hope this is helpful - thanks.	3/2/2025 5:20 PM
58	In order to use a bicycle safely, it's important to have a lane that is not easily accessible to pedestrians / cars / parking -- otherwise it won't be available to bicyclists and will be dangerous.	3/2/2025 4:04 PM
59	I'm comfortable biking on the relatively wide Highland Ave. Where there are turning lanes, cars can sometimes be less courteous to bikers but we should just join the traffic and wait for the light.... Most important to me is wastewater drains that are level with the street surface and regular street sweeping to remove debris from the shoulder/bike lane. This is especially relevant for the "onroad bike lanes with striped buffer" since without regular sweeping (mostly during the winter) the bike lane seems to collect even more debris, so we end up riding in the buffer zone rather than the designated bike lane.	3/2/2025 11:23 AM
60	Honestly, this seems like a giant waste of taxpayer money. This is a busy area but it's already possible to bicycle on the sidewalk for safety (I've done it myself).	3/1/2025 11:16 PM
61	Highland avenue is dangerous enough and shouldn't have dedicated bike lanes. There are too many pedestrians especially students & businesses with cars pulling in and out. Bike lanes should be constructed on wide roads with minimal pedestrians like they are on Greendale.	2/28/2025 4:02 PM
62	I think we can find better things to spend tax money on. No one current uses the existing bike lanes on highland from Webster St through to Newton as it is.	2/28/2025 3:48 PM
63	Reducing lanes for drivers would cause traffic tie ups, especially at school dismissals and rush hours. It is a busy area! Also please do not take down any more trees in Needham unless for safety reasons . Thank you.	2/28/2025 2:25 PM
64	Highland Ave. does not seem to make sense for bike lanes.	2/28/2025 2:09 PM
65	I think that maximizing signage and roadway markings will be important to give drivers of automobiles as much chance as possible to be aware of bicyclists especially at intersections and areas of tight roadway and parking dimensions.	2/28/2025 1:24 PM
66	Need to separate bikes from cars with a barrier. Car drivers in U.S. are not aware of bike riders. It is not part of our culture. We are a culture oriented toward cars.	2/28/2025 12:56 PM
67	I can no longer ride a bike but I strongly believe we should have safe bike lanes for residents	2/28/2025 12:51 PM
68	Whatever you do, do not turn the avenue into an asphalt nightmare like Needham Street. They did options #1 in question 6, and the results are hideous: no green berms, no trees ( except for the occasional tree set way back). Even with all that ugly bike lane work, many areas of the new lanes still have utility poles! Talk about ridiculous. Do not elevates any bike lanes to sidewalk level and keep wide sidewalks. Try to have green berms where possible. Do not mimic Needham Street.... It's an aesthetic disaster.	2/28/2025 12:44 PM
69	This is a really bad idea that focuses on 2% and penalizes the majority of residents	2/28/2025 12:16 PM
70	No, thank you	2/28/2025 11:33 AM
71	Thank you for this project! Our family are all big bike users (e.g. to school, library) and I'd feel my children and myself are far safer with better bike lanes in this area.	2/28/2025 11:16 AM
72	please make Needham more bike friendly	2/28/2025 11:09 AM
73	Bike lanes will make it easier for our kids to get around the town independently -- to get to school safely, to visit their friends, to participate in activities.	2/28/2025 10:55 AM
74	Preserving trees is important. But even more important is to plant new and more trees. And by trees, I mean real trees; trees that create a canopy that provides shade; not crappy	2/28/2025 10:44 AM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

ornamentals that only grow to a poke-you-in-the-eye height.

75	Parallel parking and the risk of getting 'doored' is currently the primary hazard.	2/28/2025 10:31 AM
76	I'm delighted to know this project is underway and appreciate the outreach for input. I would definitely be on my bike and riding on this roadway more frequent both for leisure and running errands if it were safer. As a senior citizen, I am acutely aware of the risks of riding on busy streets, and as a result have to confine myself to side streets with less traffic. Would love to be able to use Highland Avenue and other busier roadways in Needham.	2/28/2025 9:10 AM
77	The traffic congestion is already unruly. Adding bike lanes would just add to the confusion	2/28/2025 8:34 AM
78	Biking on the street is dangerous	2/28/2025 7:58 AM
79	No Bike Lanes on Higland Ave.	2/28/2025 7:10 AM
80	Needham is so congested we need parking spots	2/28/2025 6:36 AM
81	Bike lanes are confusing and dangerous for motor vehicles using the roads. As a Needham resident who drives around town daily, I have yet to see even one biker on the already existing bike lanes. We don't need more.	2/28/2025 6:10 AM
82	Why to create another street with risk for both bicycle and autos! Can Needham fund projects that town really need? Stop wasting tax payers money on projects like this one - you already wasted tons of money on Needham town center.	2/27/2025 9:35 PM
83	I don't see why we would use these funds for bike lanes in this area as not many people bike. Old people and those with children prefer their cars. All this money spent on the very few who actually bike here. I don't see the necessity. And the state gives money for this so that they can dictate the terms ie. put in bike lanes because there is a strong push to get rid of cars from the roads. Always strings attached. No thank you. And this is great in theory but is not in keeping with the fact that we are a car culture!	2/27/2025 6:10 PM
84	Not in favor of bike lanes!	2/27/2025 8:08 AM
85	The addition of bike lanes will increase safety for kids and adult bikers alike. It would be a huge improvement to the corridor and encourage a more open community. Thank you!	2/27/2025 7:19 AM
86	The proposed project only benefits a narrow group - bike riders on this proposed project area. There are far more people who will be adversely affected: motorists. And people will avoid known areas of bad traffic, thereby also adversely affecting businesses on or near these areas. This project is not only unnecessary but will also cause more problems, not less, for the public at large.	2/26/2025 10:48 PM
87	Serious bikers should not be biking on Highland Ave. They could use the rail trail or back roads.	2/26/2025 10:06 PM
88	I bike with my family (young kids age 3 and 7) along highland on the weekends. Safe bike lanes for my kids is very important to me. As an adult, I can maneuver traffic, but my children cannot. I would like Needham to be more pedestrian and biker friendly. It'll be good for the town	2/26/2025 9:40 PM
89	BIKE LANES SAVE LIVES	2/26/2025 8:44 PM
90	Waste of money...repair neighborhood sidewalks and street before using funds for this idea	2/26/2025 5:59 PM
91	Bicyclists need to realize their place on the road and proceed with caution. Haven't had an issue in 50 yrs because I don't ride haphazardly and stay as tight to the curb as possible and even on the sidewalk without disturbing pedestrians. Let's stop spending money on unnecessary items because a small minority is kicking and screaming. The Highland Ave and Webster bike lane by the temple is an embarrassment to the town.	2/26/2025 5:42 PM
92	There are a number of roads and sidewalks in Needham that require repair. Shouldn't our Chapter 90 funds go toward those fixes first?	2/26/2025 4:42 PM
93	Make no changes.	2/26/2025 12:03 PM
94	Bag the whole project and put the money into maintaining streets.	2/25/2025 2:07 PM
95	On Greendale I've seen the bike lane turn into a de facto parking lane. While I'm fine with on-road bicycle lanes, I'm positive that drivers will try and park in them along Highland, and the car traffic is heavy enough that this would make cycling feel dangerous.	2/25/2025 12:23 PM



## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

96	As a young family, we wish for safe bicycle access throughout town. My kids will bike to high school in the future if it is safe enough to do so. Separation from drivers and parking is very important.	2/25/2025 11:25 AM
97	Bicycles and cars do not mix. We are an automobile society and have been increasing populations hugely. Why not eliminate cars first. Why not take a look at all the traffic. Why don't you take a walk down South Street and look at the foolishness of bikers risking their lives. Where is the common sense in government today????	2/25/2025 7:05 AM
98	Who are all these bicyclists you are catering to? We are auto dependent, you cannot change that. Stop catering to the minority!!	2/24/2025 8:13 PM
99	It's great to see some thought and initiative being taken to improve the biking infrastructure of Needham which is currently really subpar. I hope something comes of it and it's not going to be downvoted like everything else does. This town needs more bikepaths, public transportation, parks and community infrastructure.	2/24/2025 7:09 PM
100	Not a good use of money or time. You won't see heavy bike traffic on that road no matter what you add. Where would people be going? Very very few bike commuters in Needham and even less use Highland Ave	2/24/2025 6:37 PM
101	I have lived just off Highland Ave for 33 years and to my recollection I have never seen a bicycle on Highland Ave. With the foot traffic across Highland Ave where no one uses the cross walk at the High School, Dunkin Donuts, Trader Joe's etc. bicycle lanes would be a safety hazard. A separate bicycle lane for 1.3 miles in my opinion would be useless and a safety issue for bikers and pedestrians. Highland Ave is already congested enough without adding bicycle lanes.	2/24/2025 11:45 AM
102	I am responding as a non-biker. I don't know the percentage of Needham residents who do bike, but my perception is that it is a small minority. It is important, therefore for non-bikers viewpoints to be proportionally considered. I have seen the retrofitting of streets in Boston, in Cambridge, West Roxbury and elsewhere. The signs and structures are confusing, intrusive and frankly ugly. They make parking more difficult and create more dangerous conditions for pedestrian, bikers, and drivers. I respect the right of bikers to share the roads but am strongly opposed to worsening the aesthetics, safety and convenience of our roads, particularly Highland Ave, for the sake of a small number of users.	2/24/2025 10:57 AM
103	Please do not remove trees. This makes the appearance of our community worse. In the past, the removal of trees has been treated as insignificant, which to me is very far from the truth. PLEASE PRIORITIZE TREES MORE	2/24/2025 8:16 AM
104	Please make biking safe and attractive. Anything to get people out of those cars. People drive for errands of less than a mile. I walk for 2 -- stores, library, getting out.	2/24/2025 8:14 AM
105	The new bike section on Highland north of Webster are more dangerous than nothing. A rider could fall off into the road, the ups and downs of crossing side streets make it unpleasant and cars are not looking when turning across it.	2/24/2025 6:38 AM
106	I'm	2/23/2025 10:08 PM
107	Thanks for opening up this process. 2 things you should avoid, everywhere: sidewalk-level bike lanes. The trouble with those is that if something happens that a cyclist needs to avoid (unpredictable small child pedestrian) the biker can go off the curb, sideways, which is an almost 100% loss of control as well as a fall from a height meaning worse injury. The sidewalk paths north of Webster Av scare the daylights outta me (which will surprise you if you read my answer to Q5) & I don't use them, I just use the street. I don't think I've ever seen anyone use the sidewalk paths. Much better to have street-level bike lanes, isolated from car traffic by either those flexible poles you see in city or a parked-car lane. Striped markings are a distant 2nd choice. 2nd thing to avoid: sidewalk curb bumpouts into traffic lanes. They're a problem on Centre St north of Beacon in Newton. They impinge on wheeled travel, and when a cyclist hits one he/she can flip over the handlebars. I deprioritized the pedestrian sidewalks b/c as a frequent user I'm unaware of any problems there. I've also never had a problem finding a parking space, anywhere in NDM, & I do drive often too.	2/23/2025 5:51 PM
108	I have an idea for a layout for the road. PLEASE CONSIDER THIS going from left to right: a 5 or so foot sidewalk, a 11 foot wide bike lane that accommodates travel from both directions and is clearly decided for both directions, a four foot strip of grass with trees planted at even	2/23/2025 4:14 PM



## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

distances, a 1-1.5 foot buffer, 2 10 foot lanes to slow down traffic, a 6.5 foot wide area for street parking, another four foot strip of trees and lastly another five foot wide or so sidewalk.

109	It is fine the way it is. All this "feel good" nonsense is a waste of taxpayer money and time	2/23/2025 4:00 PM
110	Motorists kill 40,000+ people (and injure many more) in this country every year. It's time for the carnage to end! Bicycling is the most efficient means of transportation. Let's prioritize what's BEST! Motor vehicle traffic and parking are horrible in every possible way.	2/23/2025 12:20 PM
111	Do not support the town spending tax money to add bicycle lanes on an already very busy street	2/22/2025 7:28 PM
112	I DO NOT want bike lanes added on highland Ave. we are a suburb where people need to use their cars. It is already difficult to get around town and the town does a poor job in the snow months providing good access to our current sidewalks. Our roads are in disrepair. We should focus on maintaining our current roads and making our current sidewalks pedestrian friendly.	2/22/2025 6:05 PM
113	Highland is a major thoroughfare; do not attempt to create more congestion by adding bike lanes.	2/22/2025 4:15 PM
114	I think there are other priorities the town should focus on	2/22/2025 12:41 PM
115	Please do not make traffic even slower.	2/22/2025 10:39 AM
116	Question 8 is invalid. It is either 0 or na. But, this survey is biased. There is no just 0 it is 0-5.	2/22/2025 8:57 AM
117	Strategic parking needs to be available for those who cannot walk or cycle. Places to lock up a bicycle that do not impede or obstruct sidewalk access for those with wheels (wheelchair, stroller, walker) must be strategically placed.	2/22/2025 7:33 AM
118	Bikes do not need to take this main thoroughfare. There are plenty of parallel routes. Come on, now. Get real.	2/22/2025 7:14 AM
119	Concerned about not disrupting access to stores/Post Office/Church.	2/21/2025 6:14 PM
120	The best solution for me is any that involves physical protection for the bikers and pedestrians. I would much rather have plastic bollards or a curb against the cars than some paint on the road.	2/21/2025 3:27 PM
121	A bike lane would be fantastic!! I currently ride a couple times a week for errands but would feel much safer and would do so more frequently with a bike lane of any type	2/21/2025 2:45 PM
122	I don't care for this project as I understand it today. The climate and the layout of the town is not amenable to biking. It's either really cold or really hot and most people do not bike. Massachusetts in nearly all cases hold drivers responsible for bike/car accidents. Seniors don't ride bikes and now they are being asked to comment on a plan where biking is more important than driving and walking on Highland Avenue. This will also push traffic onto side streets. And its not a good look to be cutting down trees or expanding the road to accomodate biking. Shared bike lane with the road is the only option that is realistic. I am ALWAYS respectful of bikers, watch carefully when driving and it will still allow me street parking as I support the many businesses and offices along Highland Avenue. Parking lots are inadequate for many reasons.	2/21/2025 2:33 PM
123	Yes don't do the project	2/21/2025 2:10 PM
124	Please do not add bike lanes they are bad.	2/21/2025 2:00 PM
125	Traffic is my biggest concern.	2/21/2025 1:53 PM
126	I do not think it is necessary to spend tax payer money to make major changes on Highland Ave to accommodate bicycles. I don't think there are a significant number of people who want to bike on Highland Ave that justifies a huge expenditure of money. We have to do major renovations to two public schools. Why not spend the money on the school construction that will cost a tremendous amount of money and will likely raise our high taxes even higher. Also, I live on Brookside Rd. We have been waiting for two years to have the street repaved and it has yet to be done. The residents also requested sidewalks last June and were told it would be too expensive. Why is all the money being spent on bikes lanes in the center of town, while other town needs are being ignored.	2/21/2025 11:26 AM
127	Bike lanes are unusable to children & adults due to the many entrance lanes. The only feasible	2/21/2025 10:42 AM

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option is share use travel lanes consisting of 4 lanes in each direction (shared right lane) or 3 lanes with the middle lane for turning across oncoming traffic (needs signs supportin driver education reinforcing middle lane usage).

128	1) the center is already too congested. Let bicyclists find other pathways. 2) pedestrians and trees should be the priority, not accommodating the small bicycle minority.	2/21/2025 10:09 AM
129	Given my experience with bike lanes in other towns, it makes no sense to inconvenience and endanger drivers and pedestrians to create bike lines of barely a mile - most bikers are biking far more than that and once the lanes end, they are in the same situation as before. It's a proposal that seems to lack any commonsense.	2/21/2025 10:06 AM
130	I would love to see dedicated bike paths available to encourage students to bike to school safely, help folks get to transit stops, and help community members run errands and access public facilities safely. We currently have our kids ride on the sidewalks, but even those are bumpy, curvy, and in some cases, unsafe, requiring us to have the kids bike in the roads with drivers not prioritizing bikers and walkers safely.	2/21/2025 9:38 AM
131	I don't understand why try to put in bicycle lanes on busy, crowded streets. Wouldn't it be better to add bike lanes and paths on other streets that are not busy?	2/21/2025 9:29 AM
132	Traffic is already an issue - less room for cars will only make this worse.	2/21/2025 9:09 AM
133	I am an avid cyclist and was on Needham Bikes. I use Highland to ride to my parents house, and to go to Sudbury farms many days a week and it is challenging. I also ride back from Newton on Highland. The bike lanes toward Newton are excellent and it would be amazing if Needham had similar on Highland. Other bike lane improvements on Central and Dedham have been a huge help when I commute . home	2/21/2025 8:57 AM
134	Needham could spend tax dollars much more efficiently	2/21/2025 8:23 AM
135	The need for bicycle lanes is overestimated. 1/3 of the year no one can bike due to weather. Residents need the road to drive and spaces to park. Businesses need easy access.	2/21/2025 8:13 AM
136	Bike lanes create dangerous conditions for pedestrians crossing the street especially by the high schools. They do not have "speed limits " to obey and they can be oblivious to others	2/21/2025 8:12 AM
137	I fear the possibility of being doored most on Highland Avenue. Having a bike lane that parallels closely parked cars would likely increase the risk of that. I have found when there is a bicycle lane, if I ride outside it to pass doors about to open or opening, I can attract rage from drivers who have to slow down.	2/21/2025 7:55 AM
138	Wrong place to introduce cars and bikes. You're looking for trouble.	2/21/2025 7:40 AM
139	Bicycle riders should follow the rules and laws of the road for their safety, pedestrian safety and for drivers too. The bicyclist need constant reminding.	2/21/2025 7:29 AM
140	I am a regular leisure cyclist, several trips per week. I live in the area near Highland Ave. I have absolutely no interest in cycling on Highland Ave and don't understand why anyone would need to. Traffic is already slow and that would make it worse. I prefer to cycle on Webster and Manning. I would prefer dedicated bike lanes on Webster over Highland.	2/21/2025 7:27 AM
141	Although I'm not a biker, I'm a strong believer that Needham must have safe biking infrastructure on at least one major road leading to each of our connecting towns (Wellesley, Newton, Dedham, Dover). Every biker is one less car on the road which we all benefit from so we need to optimize their safety.	2/21/2025 7:27 AM
142	I think a small % of folks in town are biking; I'd hate to see huge changes just for a small group. I'd rather see resources helping pedestrians in this area as I think that's the larger and more likely group.	2/21/2025 7:26 AM
143	Nothing that would increase taxes. Cannot afford. This is not a priority	2/21/2025 7:09 AM
144	I don't think this is a good idea	2/21/2025 7:03 AM
145	There is no need for dedicated biking space. Regural sidewalk can be used. There are not that many pedestrians. Please preserve the trees and parking space	2/21/2025 6:47 AM
146	Bike lanes are also useful for those who like running, e-scooters, etc.	2/15/2025 1:26 PM
147	Honestly, the scariest thing about biking on the road is the high school drivers. It's a perfectly	2/14/2025 7:14 PM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

	nice bike ride when people aren't going to school	
148	Add bike lanes around town!	2/14/2025 1:29 PM
149	Why have 11' lanes with a 4' buffer. Wouldn't it make more sense to have a 10' lane which is more common for denser roads with a larger bike lane and also using a planter of bollard buffer.	2/14/2025 1:23 PM
150	Nope.	2/14/2025 1:12 PM
151	The design team needs to be much, much more future driven by which I mean wean Needham off high-speed, large and heavy motor vehicles that are bad for the environment and people. It's doable as where we should be 5 years from now. Let's use low-speed vehicles for local transportation; golf cars (electric or gas) included for sure. Several U.S. states already do this. Commonwealth of Massachusetts laws need to be modified to better allow for this. Multimodal lanes could be implemented for Highland Ave by making Highland one-way southbound and Webster St one-way northbound, leaving half of each street open for low-speed vehicles, bicycles, and pedestrians. Golf cars have max speeds of 20 mph with some meeting reps having max speeds of 30. No change to local, intersecting neighborhoods is needed since those areas already have 25 mph speed limits (or should). Plus, 2 golf cars fit into 1 standard parking space, so you double your available parking without adding new parking lots. It seems as though each time we redesign street geometries, we shortly thereafter see roadways filled with still more heavy motor vehicles and the congestion and danger to non-motor vehicle users added in. Example: intersection of Great Plain and Chapel St is now 6 lanes wide for walkers crossing Great Plain, and crossing lights are timed in favor of motor vehicles: often times pedestrians just give up waiting for the "walk" light and just venture into the roadway.. ouch! We truly DO need to wean Needhamites off of heavy, gas guzzling motor vehicles for local transportation. It's nice that you want to add bicycle lanes, but we seniors are not bicycle users. So, I think your design is short-sighted. Five years from now we will be back redesigning our roads, it seems to me. (I can forward details of my vision for Highland Avenue etc if you send an email contact address.)	2/14/2025 10:33 AM
152	I believe the rules of the road should be enforced for drivers and bicyclists and that this would reduce accidents / injuries. Speeding automobiles and reckless bike riders should be ticketed.	2/14/2025 6:59 AM
153	People drive cars here. We need to improve traffic congestion, not make life worse for everyone other than three people who like to bike in the most crowded area of town.	2/14/2025 6:48 AM
154	This is a great corridor for bike lanes and I strongly support any way to get separated lanes put into place!	2/12/2025 10:53 PM
155	More bike infrastructure would help pedestrians as well and encourage better bike riding habits:	2/12/2025 7:30 PM
156	Please come up with creative solutions to keep sidewalk level/ protected bike lanes throughout the entire project limits. On street lanes with high design speed (11ft travel lanes and no traffic calming) is not all ages and abilities design. Please protect the bike lanes in the residential sections to provide safe access for the target users, which will most likely be high school students. Many sections of your sidewalk level bike lanes are also in the door zone, please add buffers. Reduce parking space width to 7 feet to gain a few feet back for buffers which is within design standards for 11 ft general purpose lanes. reduce lane widths from 11 ft in sections that are not on the bus route. Do not keep right turn lanes @ GPA and West St, and make sure no turn on red signs are added. Prioritize keeping the existing wide sidewalk in the commercial areas and reduce the parking inventory to fit the sidewalk level bike lanes and keep existing sidewalks, this also helps reduce costs by keeping existing utility poles, lights, trees..etc in the same place. DO NOT ADD parking space @ the library, the majority of land use in this area is already parking, large lots at the library, memorial field, highschool, sudbury farms, rosemary recreation center...etc, Instead add space for sidewalk level bike lanes, and space for inbound (to watertown) bus stop @ rosemary street (design a bypass bike lane to the rear of the bus stop. Also think of creative ways to add space for bus stops at the other high use stops. Remove on street parking @ 100 west street, it is underutilized and not necessary. Instead use the added space for green infrastructure and street trees. Even if this project doesn't have the funding for street trees leave space for adding it later. @ rosemary st bring the sidewalk level bike lanes further into the intersection, this allows bike to keep momentum up the hill and bikes don't need to stop where the cars are, consider adding a contraflow bike lane on rosemary street to add better access to memorial field. Add a no turn on red sign @ rosemary street to reduce conflict with bicycles (and reduce right turn conflicts for cars). There is a unique opportunity to collaborate with the great plain project and add protected intersection elements @ highland ave. Harden the 4ft shoulders instead of using paint where applicable.	2/12/2025 12:08 PM

## Highland Avenue Roadway Improvements Project

Keep the sidewalk level bike lanes and sidewalks raised @ intersections and driveways for continuous bike lanes and sidewalks, which are proven designs to slow turning traffic and encourage vehicles to stop @ intersections. Break up long sections of street parking by removing a parking space for a tree every 3 or 4 spaces. Long shot recommendation- consider a round about @ may street

157	Adding bike lanes to a town like Needham is a waste of town funds.	2/12/2025 8:11 AM
158	This is not Amsterdam. I do ride in the good weather. It is flat out too congested to introduce more bikes or to slow traffic. Cars will got to other neighborhoods.	2/7/2025 5:58 PM
159	I am interested in riding in Needham but feel limited as I will not ride in traffic along a two-lane road. Feel most safe on a dedicated bike path or trail. Would love to be able to ride beyond my neighborhood for both errands/shopping/dining and leisure. More bike racks and storage will need to accompany the expanded lanes along Highland Ave!	2/7/2025 3:32 PM
160	We need better access through Newton (the hike lanes on Needham Ave are a joke). We also need better bike infrastructure through the center of town (since there's none now) and also more bike parking. Thank you!	2/7/2025 11:30 AM
161	Please make it safe and comfortable for kids to bike - 7 year olds with parents, and youth riding by themselves.	2/7/2025 10:01 AM
162	test	2/6/2025 10:26 AM
163	test	2/6/2025 8:55 AM
164	test	2/6/2025 8:45 AM