

Shared Street Pilot Projects – South Lynn Street

Pilot Project Presentation and Experience Mapping – November-December 2023

Project Background

The segment of S. Lynn Street from 20th Street South to 16th Street South in the Arlington Ridge Neighborhood was nominated for Neighborhood Complete Streets (NCS) funding consideration. It ranked highly on a scored list of nominated streets. The Neighborhood Complete Streets Commission (NCSC) affirmed pursuance of a concept design and public engagement at their February 27, 2023, meeting.

This section of roadway has a history of crashes and is located near commercial corridors, schools, transit, and Metro while lacking complete sidewalks. Existing conditions include parking on both sides of the street with steep terrain.

Completing the existing sidewalk network is not feasible currently given the limited space within the right of way.

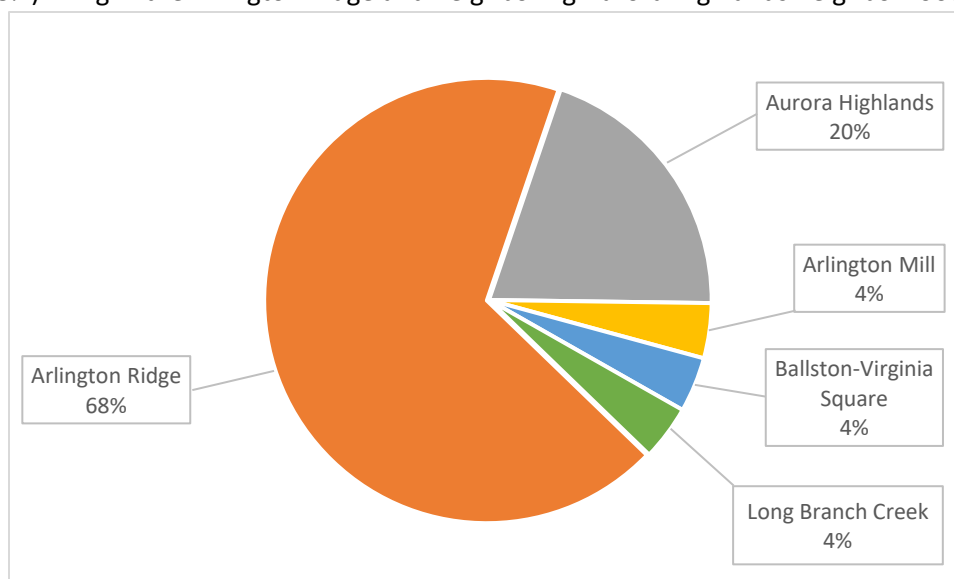
Public Engagement

In winter 2023, the County project team opened an online feedback form and interactive comment map to solicit feedback on existing conditions within the project area. The project team received 560 responses to the online form, with 32 open-ended comments and 25 location-specific comments on the online map.

Existing conditions feedback, as well as other data collected by the project team, will inform the concept design which will be shared with the public in spring 2024. Additionally results from the feedback forms will be used to gauge the effectiveness of the treatment after its implementation.

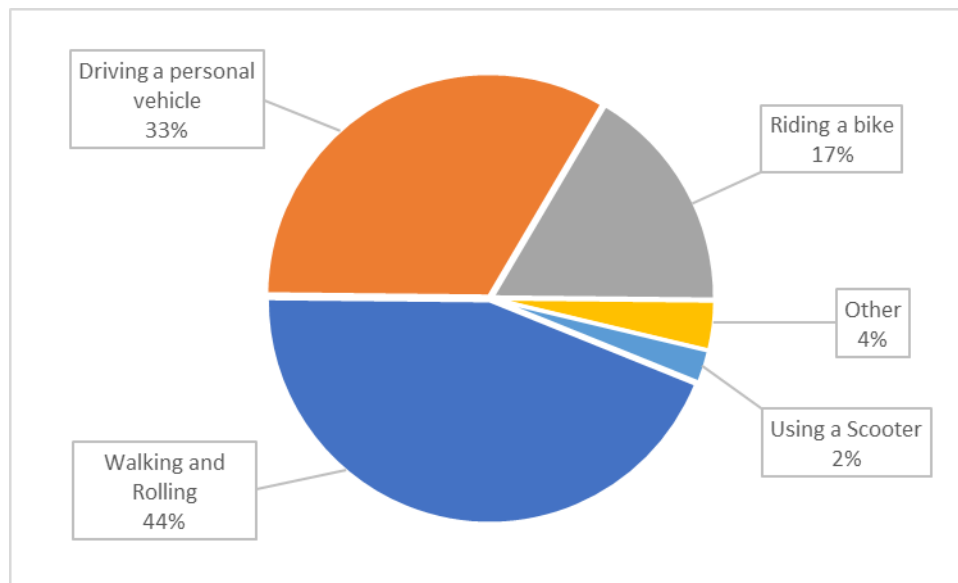
Who Participated

47 Respondents provided feedback. 98% of the respondents are residents of Arlington County with a majority (68%) living in the Arlington Ridge and neighboring Aurora Highlands neighborhoods (20%).



What We Heard

Question: On a typical day, how do you travel S. Lynn Street (16th St. S. – 20th St. S.)?



Question: Overall how safe do you feel while traveling S. Lynn Street (16th St. S. – 20th St. S.) using the following types of transportation?

	Very Safe	Safe	Neutral	Unsafe	Very Unsafe	Not Applicable	Not Sure
Walking / Rolling	9% Very Safe	9% Safe	14% Neutral	50% Unsafe	16% Very Unsafe	2% Not Applicable	- Not Sure
Riding a bike	11% Very Safe	- Safe	18% Neutral	29% Unsafe	18% Very Unsafe	18% Not Applicable	5% Not Sure
Using a scooter	8% Very Safe	- Safe	3% Neutral	8% Unsafe	19% Very Unsafe	53% Not Applicable	8% Not Sure
Driving a personal vehicle	21% Very Safe	26% Safe	21% Neutral	17% Unsafe	2% Very Unsafe	7% Not Applicable	5% Not Sure

Question: From your experience, how often do drivers yield to people walking in the street?

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Select one	5% Always	22% Often	54% Sometimes	20% Rarely	- Never

Question: From your experience, how often do drivers drive at or below the 25mph speed limit?

	Always	Often	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Select one	2% Always	27% Often	46% Sometimes	20% Rarely	5% Never

Open Ended Feedback

Respondents were also given the opportunity to provide additional feedback on their experience using Lynn Street of which we received 32 comments. An experience mapping tool was also provided for participants to communicate any specific areas of concern, travel patterns, or additional information about the roadway and its use of which we received 25 comments.

Major Themes from the open-ended feedback and experience mapping tool:

- **Concern for the safety of people walking in the street**
 - This section of Lynn Street is in the walkshed of Oakridge Elementary School and Gunston Middle School and parents would like to encourage their children to walk to school more often.
 - The Lack of sidewalks make some people feel uneasy using the street.
 - Parked cars on the street create visibility conflicts between people walking in the street and those driving cars, especially at the intersections.
 - The intersection of Lynn with 20th, 18th, and 16th Streets was identified as being more dangerous than the intersection of Lynn with 19th and 17th Streets.

Supporting Comments

- “I’ve lived next to this stretch of Lynn St since 2006. Now I walk my daughter to Oakridge and it is flat out dangerous. Have had to jump out of the way of cars, Amazon drivers, UPS, construction crews, etc. please install sidewalks to make it less dangerous, especially at intersections. Same applies to S. Kent between 16th St S and 20th St S.”
- “Adding sidewalk here would be great. Traffic is not particularly heavy on this street, but when you are walking, there are several cars parked on the street, which requires you to walk around and you end up walking right in the middle of the street. This also creates situations where drivers might not see pedestrians because visibility is blocked by the parked cars on the street.”
- **Perceived speeding throughout the project area**
 - Some of the respondents indicated that those with homes on the street or adjacent to the street are more likely to drive cautiously and those travelling through are more likely to drive at faster speeds.
 - Respondents indicated that the intersections of 16th and Lynn and 18th and Lynn are particularly dangerous due to perceived speeding.

Supporting Comments

- “Traffic coming down on 20th St from S. Arlington Ridge Rd. that turns left on to S. Lynn is especially risky for the biker and pedestrian. There is limited visibility and the driver has to negotiate the speed turning the corner.”
- “Vehicles are not warned to drive a very slow speeds, or that they are sharing the road with pedestrians, so they treat it as an ordinary street.”

Next Steps

The project team is looking for opportunities to incorporate what we heard during public engagement into the preliminary design. We will develop a design concept through winter 2024 and present these concepts to the public for feedback in spring 2024. Public feedback, along with County review, will help determine which concept to further refine for construction.

The next public engagement checkpoint for this project is expected to occur in Spring 2024.

Project Page: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/Project-Types/Transportation-Projects/NCS-Shared-Street-Pilot/NCS-S.-Lynn-Street>

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