

City of Bridgeport

Plan of Conservation and Development

Transportation Thematic Meeting

10 Middle Street
6PM, Thursday, September 6, 2018



On September 6, 2018, the City of Bridgeport Master Plan of Conservation and Development project team held their second thematic meeting related to transportation and multimodal transit connections in Bridgeport. The purpose of this meeting was to review best practices for transportation planning, identify relevant priorities from the meeting attendees, and identify strengths, issues and new ideas for improving all forms of transportation. Eight (8) members of the public were in attendance.

The project team began the meeting by introducing the Master Plan and clarifying how transportation planning relates to the larger picture of the Plan. Following the presentation, the meeting attendees were given clickers to vote in real-time on interactive survey questions that helped to identify the group's priorities relevant to transportation systems in Bridgeport (results below). Attendees broke out into groups to identify the strengths, challenges, and new ideas for reforming and improving Bridgeport's transportation (summarized below).

Breakout Session Notes

The statements below are a summary of the opinions expressed by meeting attendees. The statements do not necessarily reflect City policy or objective facts.

Strengths of Bridgeport's Transportation System:

- The GBT bus system is good and well connected
- Bridgeport is served by multiple modes of transportation

Issues and Challenges with Bridgeport's Transportation System:

- Roads are in terrible condition, though streets in the North End are in better condition
- Potholes make it very challenging to drive, and especially to bike in the City
- Sidewalks are in poor condition
- I-95 and Route 8 disconnect neighborhoods in the City, especially Downtown and the South End

- Bridgeport doesn't capture all the traffic (as in potential visitors and business patrons) that flows through on the highways
- Residents rarely walk in Bridgeport because of poor walking conditions, connectivity, and perceptions of safety issues
- Local college students often do not feel comfortable outside of their campuses
- There is a general perception that Bridgeport is not safe
- Many crosswalk lights do not work, especially in the East End
- Lack of bike lanes and bike racks
- Downtown has no foot traffic and always feels empty
- Train service and bus service stops early on the weekend evenings, and taxi cab service at night is also limited
- Uber has been pushing out the taxi drivers although Uber is available at night
- Bus station area is dark at night and buses stop running at 10 PM
- Streets are overcrowded due to cars parked on both sides which makes travel difficult for cars and bikes to pass through; East End, East Side, and the Hollow are older neighborhoods with narrow streets and are particularly plagued by this problem
- Complex intersections are a problem and a safety issue; this is especially true around the railroad as there are poor pavement markings in the area
- Misaligned, weird intersections are a safety issue

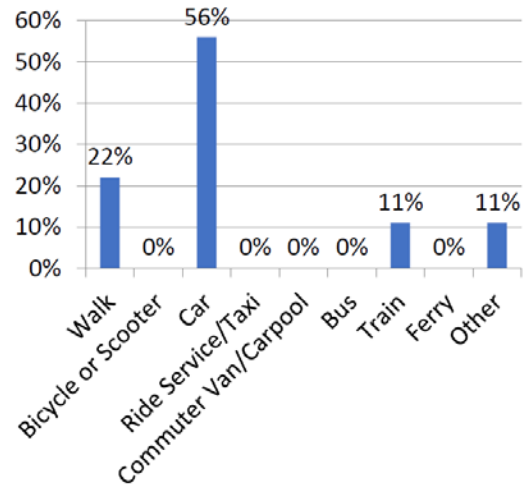
Ideas for Improving Bridgeport's Transportation System:

- Need schedules for buses at each stop with accurate arrival times
- Need to make the City more accessible, connected and safe to attract visitors
- Need schedules for buses at each stop and clearer notification of arrival times
- Need more mapping and wayfinding
- Train station is beautiful but there should be more visuals and pictures, make things look nicer and promote Bridgeport better
- Bridgeport should maintain its authenticity and remain unique, it shouldn't copy what has been done in other places
- The Art Streetscape Demonstration project that drew lines where cars shouldn't be driving got a lot of interest and support, people were proud of it; this type of thing should be made permanent and be done more throughout the City
- An intersection safety analysis is needed

Interactive Survey Results

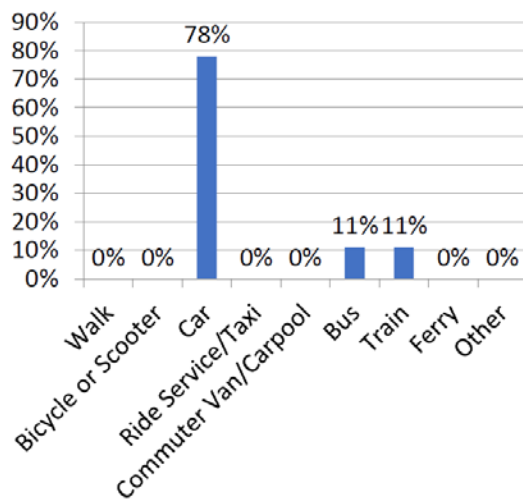
How do you typically commute to work or school?

1. Walk
2. Bicycle or Scooter
3. Car
4. Ride Service/Taxi
5. Commuter Van/Carpool
6. Bus
7. Train
8. Ferry
9. Other



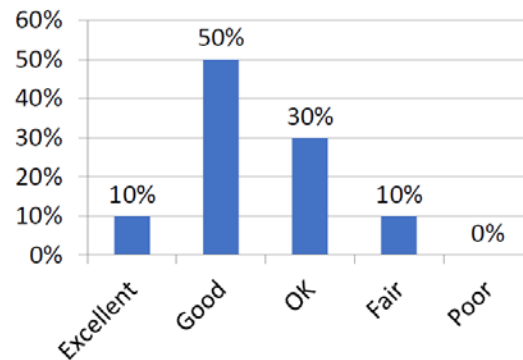
How do you typically make leisure trips (shopping, errands, visiting, etc.)?

1. Walk
2. Bicycle or Scooter
3. Car
4. Ride Service/Taxi
5. Commuter Van/Carpool
6. Bus
7. Train
8. Ferry
9. Other



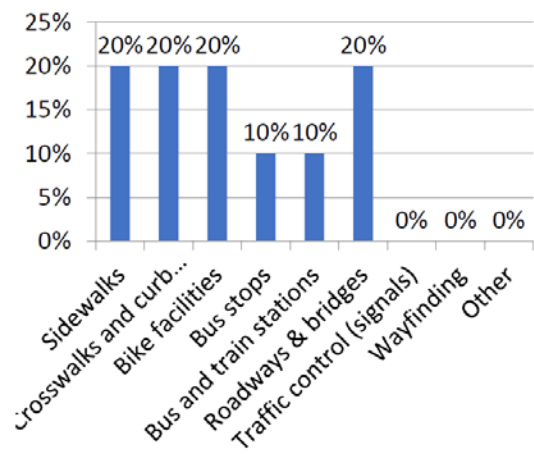
How would you rate the City's transportation network compared to cities of similar size (Stamford, New Haven, Hartford, etc.)?

1. Excellent
2. Good
3. OK
4. Fair
5. Poor



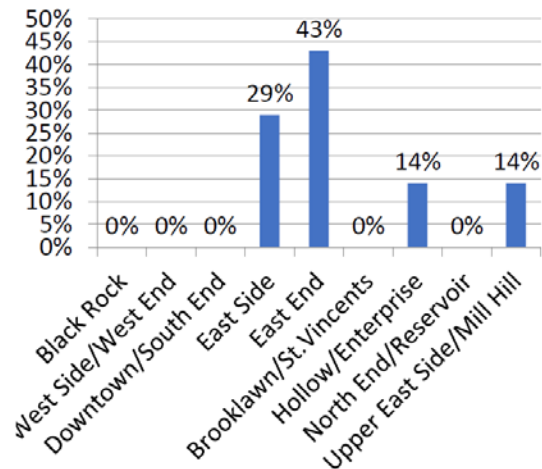
Which element of the City's transportation infrastructure needs the most improvement?

1. Sidewalks
2. Crosswalks and curb ramps
3. Bike facilities
4. Bus stops
5. Bus and train stations
6. Roadways & bridges
7. Traffic control (signals)
8. Wayfinding
9. Other



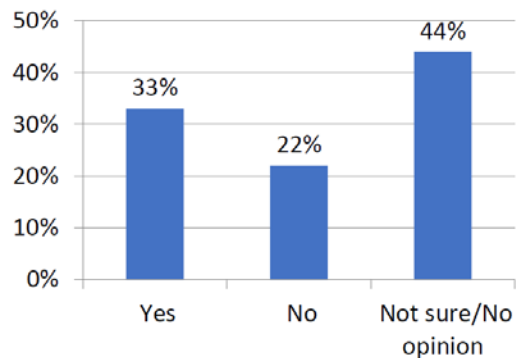
Which areas of the City are most underserved by transit relative to need?

- 1.Black Rock
- 2.West Side/West End
- 3.Downtown/South End
- 4.East Side
- 5.East End
- 6.Brooklawn/St.Vincent's
- 7.Hollow/Enterprise
- 8.North End/Reservoir
- 9.Upper East Side/Mill Hill



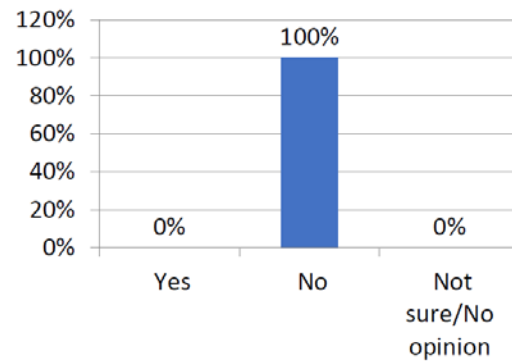
Is GBT bus service adequate to meet the community's needs?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure/No opinion



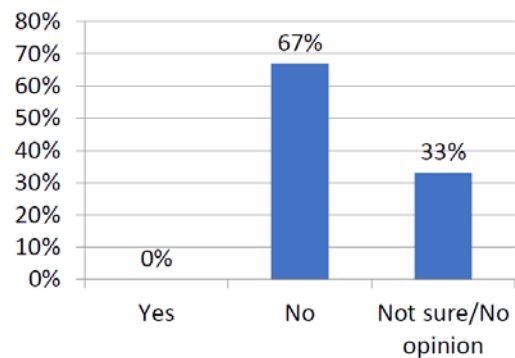
Is the City's pedestrian infrastructure (sidewalks, crossings) adequate?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure/No opinion



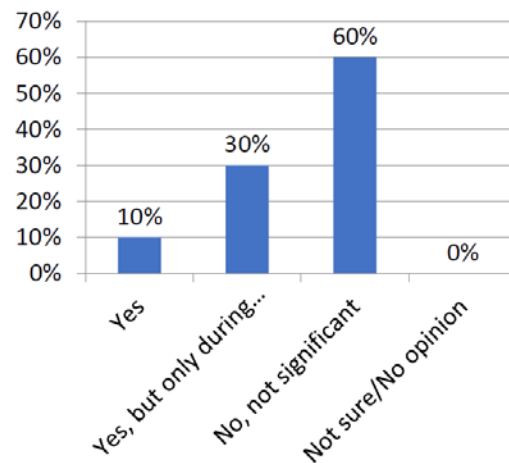
Is the City's transportation network reasonably accessible to those with mobility impairments?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure/No opinion



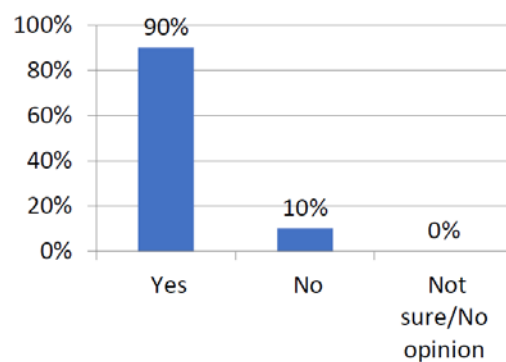
Is traffic congestion an issue on Bridgeport's streets? (excluding highways)

1. Yes
2. Yes, but only during rush hours
3. No, not significant
4. Not sure/No opinion



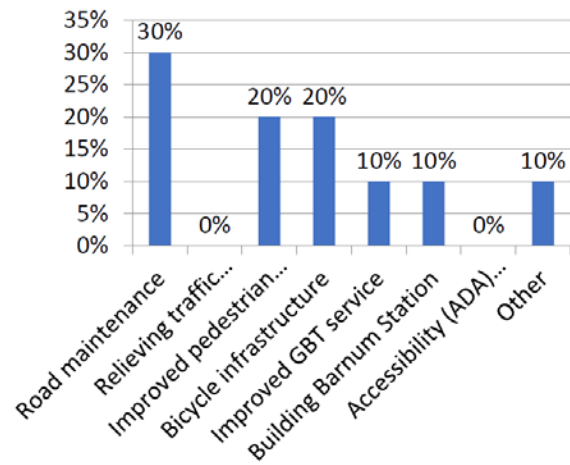
Should bike infrastructure (bike lanes and paths) be provided on or along City streets?

1. Yes
2. No
3. Not sure/No opinion



What is your top transportation priority?

1. Road maintenance
2. Relieving traffic congestion
3. Improved pedestrian infrastructure
4. Bicycle infrastructure
5. Improved GBT service
6. Building Barnum Station
7. Accessibility (ADA) improvements
8. Other



Project Team

- Lynn Haig – City of Bridgeport
- Dean Mack – City of Bridgeport
- Francisco Gomes – FHI
- Zainab Kazmi – FHI