



# Midlake Boulevard S.E. Traffic Calming Project Public Open House

Report Back // What We Heard, What We Did  
May 23, 2017

## Project overview

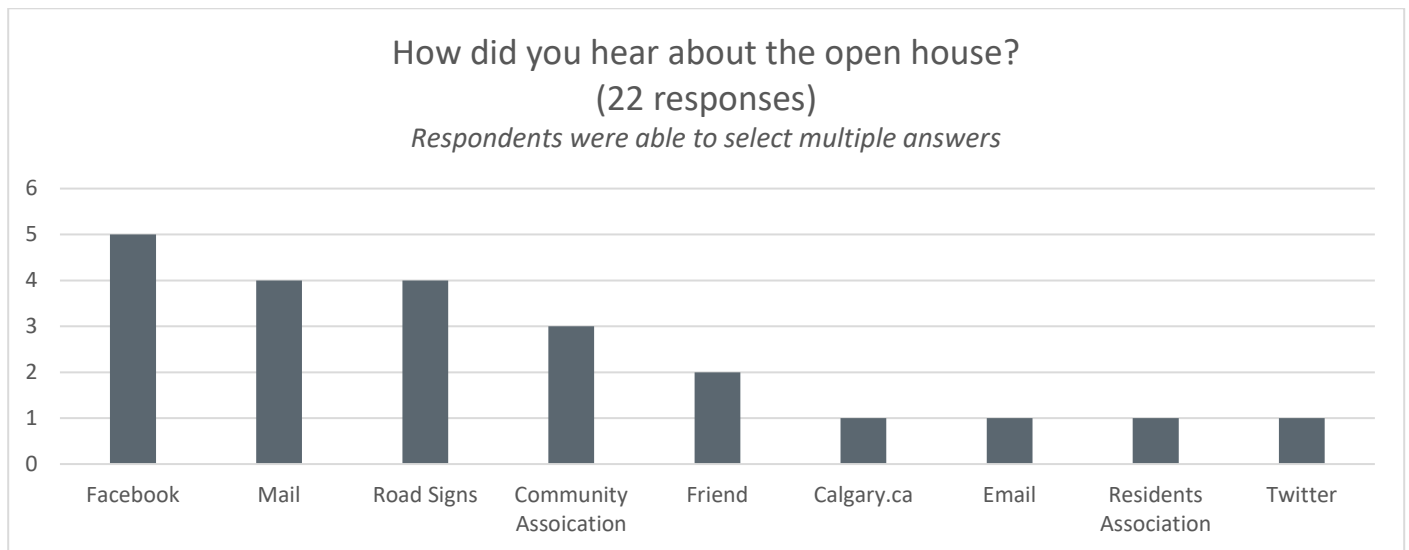
The City of Calgary is implementing a traffic calming project on Midlake Boulevard S.E., between Bannister Road S.E. and Sunbank Road S.E., to address a number of traffic concerns identified by the community including vehicle speeds and pedestrian safety. The proposed traffic calming measures will improve safety on Midlake Boulevard S.E. for people who walk, bike and drive.

The traffic calming project will also include the extension of bike lanes from Sunmills Drive S.E. along Midlake Boulevard S.E. to Bannister Road S.E.

## Engagement overview

As a part of the engagement plan, The City presented the preliminary design concept at a public open house and on the project website to gather input to refine the plan.

This report reflects what we heard at the open house that was held at Midnapore School on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Sixty-three people attended and 22 comment forms were collected.



## What we asked

Participants were shown the preliminary design concept that included:

- Mid-block curb extensions to protect parking areas



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- Removal of channelized right-turns to slow turning vehicles and reduce pedestrian crossing distances
- Extension of bike lanes from Sunbank Road S.E. to Midpark Boulevard S.E.
- Reconfiguration of the intersection at Midpark Rise S.E. to accommodate curb extensions and channel traffic to the appropriate lanes
- New pathway along the north side of the commercial area near Bannister Road S.E.

Participants were then asked to provide feedback regarding:

- Strengths and weaknesses of the preliminary concept
- Other concerns or opportunities along the corridor not addressed by the preliminary concept

Participants provided this feedback by:

- Filling out comment sheets
- Providing their thoughts on Post-it notes and placing them on a drawing of the preliminary plan

## What we heard

Feedback and input collected from the comment forms and maps were transcribed into themes by geographic location along the corridor.

- For a detailed summary of the input that was provided, please see the [Summary of Input](#) section.
- For a detailed listing of all the input that was provided, please visit the [Verbatim Comments](#) section.

## What we are working on

We are currently reviewing the input received at the open house and online, and are refining the plan to make further improvements.

## Next steps

The final design will be shared with the public online in Fall 2017.



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## Summary of input

Below is a summary of what we heard about the preliminary design concept at the public open house.

## Summary of feedback collected from comment forms and map activity

### Zone 1: Midlake Boulevard west of and including Midpark Boulevard / Midridge Drive intersection

<p><b>Strengths</b> (No responses)</p>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased volume/queues</li> <li>• Unnecessary cost</li> <li>• Removal of right turn</li> <li>• Ineffective</li> <li>• Bike lanes not needed</li> <li>• Education needed only</li> <li>• Leads to shortcutting</li> <li>• Protected parking not needed</li> <li>• Concern for cyclist safety</li> <li>• Bike lane connectivity needed</li> <li>• Project timing</li> <li>• Reduced Traffic flow</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce speed limit</li> <li>• Bus lay-by</li> <li>• Improve signal timing</li> <li>• Advanced left turn needed</li> <li>• Additional signage needed</li> <li>• Expand the plan</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increased volume/queues</li> <li>• Shortcutting</li> <li>• Poor lighting</li> <li>• Pedestrian safety</li> <li>• Separate pathway users</li> </ul>

### Zone 2: Midlake Boulevard from Midpark Boulevard / Midridge Drive to and including Midridge Drive

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addresses protected parking needs</li> <li>• Pedestrian safety</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduced to one lane</li> <li>• Leads to shortcutting</li> <li>• Increased volume/queues</li> <li>• Protected parking not needed</li> <li>• Speed/speeding</li> <li>• Traffic enforcement not needed</li> <li>• Curb extension locations</li> </ul>
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## Zone 2 continued

<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional signage needed</li> <li>• Extend playground zones</li> <li>• Address speed/speeding</li> <li>• Improve playground/school zone safety</li> <li>• Temporary measures needed</li> <li>• Traffic lights needed</li> <li>• Speed bumps needed</li> <li>• Expand the plan</li> <li>• Traffic enforcement needed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Impact to traffic flow</li> <li>• Speed/speeding</li> <li>• Shortcutting</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Pedestrian safety</li> </ul>
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## Zone 3: Midlake Boulevard south of Midridge Drive to Sun Valley Boulevard

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Narrow roadway</li> <li>• Protected parking needed</li> <li>• Bike lanes needed</li> <li>• Slows traffic</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bike lanes not needed</li> <li>• Extend bike path</li> <li>• Concern for cyclist safety</li> <li>• Education needed</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address pedestrian safety</li> <li>• Improve existing crosswalks</li> <li>• Improve accessibility at crosswalks</li> <li>• Additional signage needed</li> <li>• Reduce speed limit</li> <li>• Protected parking needed</li> <li>• Address bike lane operation</li> <li>• Address cyclist safety</li> <li>• Address speed/speeding</li> <li>• Improve playground/school zone safety</li> <li>• Improve signal timing</li> <li>• Additional lake entrance needed</li> <li>• Aesthetics</li> <li>• Wider median spacing</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cyclist speed</li> <li>• Cyclist safety</li> </ul>



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## Zone 4: Intersection of Midlake Boulevard / Sunmills Drive and Sun Valley Boulevard

<p><b>Strengths</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Separation of road users</li> </ul>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leads to shortcutting</li> <li>• Unnecessary cost</li> <li>• Sidewalk improvements not included</li> <li>• Ineffective</li> <li>• Increased traffic/queues</li> </ul>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Toll road</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Signal timing</li> <li>• Increased traffic queues</li> <li>• Shortcutting</li> <li>• Signal lights needed</li> <li>• Speed/speeding</li> <li>• Intersection visibility</li> <li>• Cyclist safety</li> <li>• Pedestrian safety</li> </ul>

## Comments located outside the study area

<p><b>Strengths</b> (No responses)</p>	<p><b>Weaknesses</b> (No responses)</p>
<p><b>Opportunities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Additional signage needed</li> <li>• Dedicated turning lanes needed</li> </ul>	<p><b>Concerns</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Leaky watermain</li> <li>• Problems with parking</li> <li>• Speed/speeding</li> <li>• Pedestrian safety</li> <li>• Reduced LRT parking</li> <li>• Signal lights needed</li> </ul>

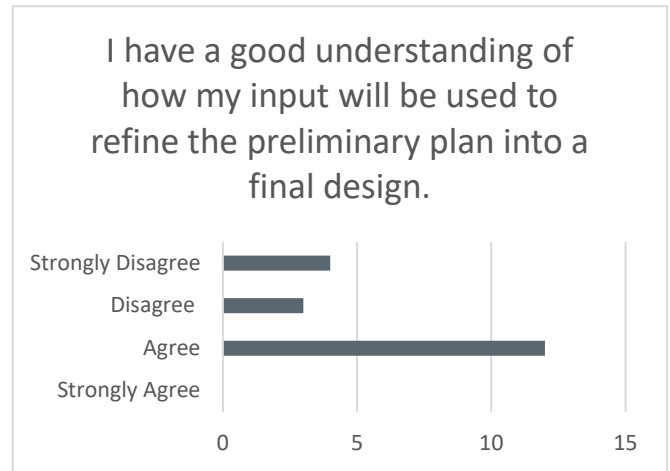
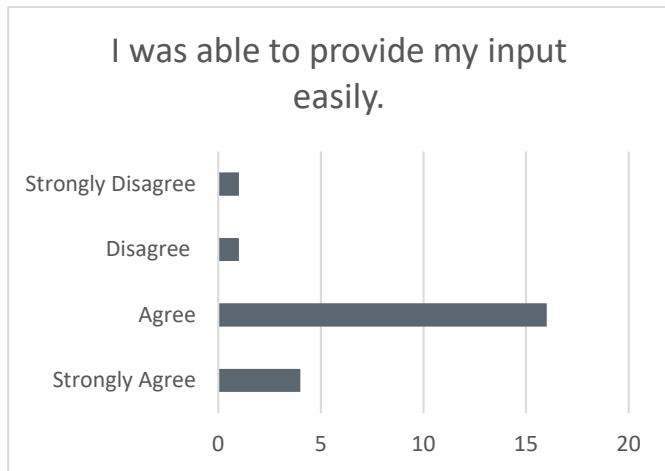
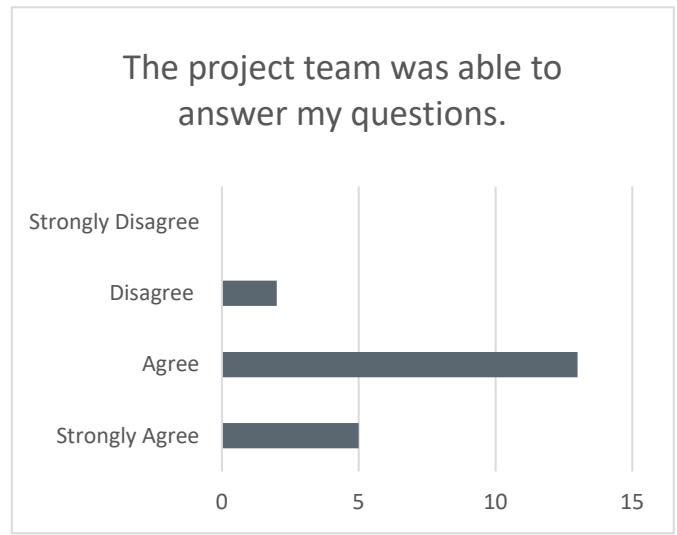
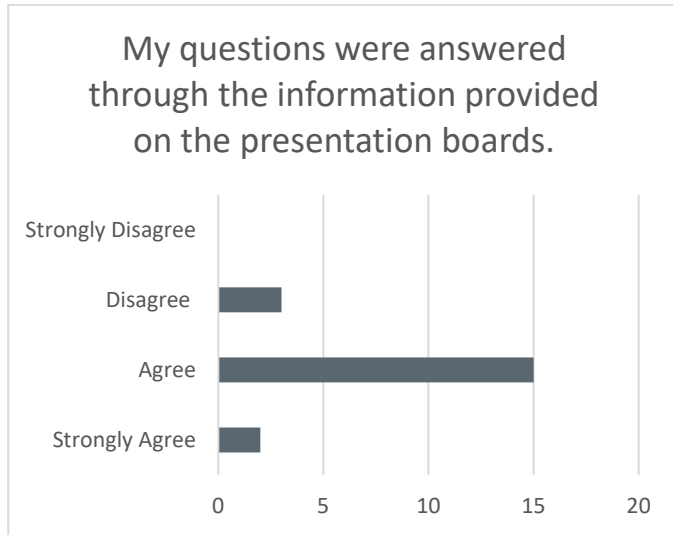


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## Open house evaluation

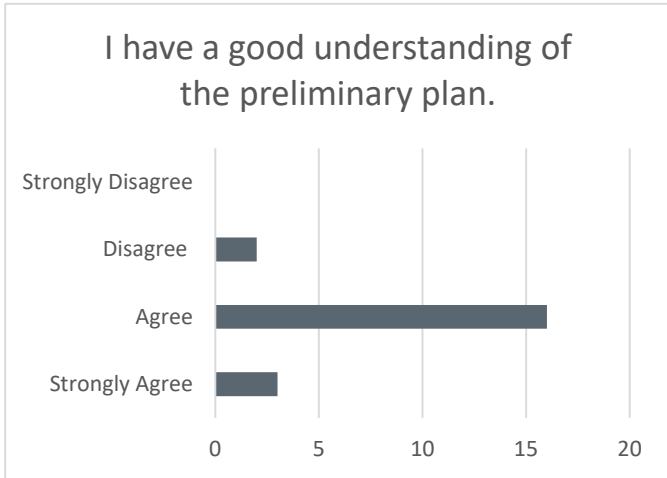
Attendees were asked to circle their level of agreement with the following statements:





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## Verbatim Comments

### Comment Forms – Preliminary Plan Evaluation

<i>Do you have any additional comments you would like to add regarding the preliminary plans?</i>
Preliminary proposal looks good! My family is also interested in a traffic calming measure for the key hole on the road in front of Midnapore School.
Yes the speed limit outside the playground zone should be 40 km/hour all the way in this project and the items that are proposed I think are good.
I would very much like to see the traffic calming measures extended into Midrise Key (between Midnapore School and Midsun Community Association).
It seems pointless to have the open house as it appears the changes will be made regardless. NO BIKE PATH. None of the attending city employees live in this community (I asked) so they truly have no understanding.
No. I think you are moving along at a reasonable rate. Keep up the good work.
I have big concerns with the increase in density of traffic on Midpark Blvd SE with change to McLeod and now community traffic changes. I have lived on this blvd for >15 years and with each change the traffic increases become congested, a speedway, loud. Are there proposed changes to this Midpark Blvd?
All I can say is that living on Midlake Blvd has become very stressful. I just want our community to be safe. Free from speeding drivers and careless driving of drivers and motorcycles.
Great idea. Love the concept. Pedestrian and bike safety.
The bike lane will NOT be an asset on Midlake Blvd. - still speeders and traffic calming may help! Too bad council has this plan decided.
Please extend calming measures to include Midrise.
I would like to suggest increased visibility for the pedestrian crosswalk on 6th and Midlake Blvd. as it is the only crosswalk for residents of Midnapore to walk and access the lake. I worry about pedestrian safety as I have witnessed many close calls. Reducing speed on Midlake Blvd. is necessary and I'm so happy to see measures being taken to calm the traffic. Thank you!
The traffic lights at Sun Valley Blvd. & Midlake Dr. are the longest lights in the world! Preliminary plans should take light synchronization into account too.
Thank you for sharing the plan and for giving residents the opportunity to contribute and respond. I thought traffic lights should be helpful but Peter explained the issues with that notion very well.
A person who has worked in industry for most of my life, we have spent millions educating workers of the dangers of vehicle traffic and do our best to keep them separate, yet here you seem to encourage additional cyclist/pedestrian interaction with vehicles even though we have an existing cyclist/pedestrian pathway 2 blocks from Midlake Blvd.
The mayor and city council have already mad the plan, voted on the plan and will proceed with the plan despite what the community suggests. BIKE LANES ARE DUMB.
In part with reducing the speed or extending the playground zones. People are and will use Midridge Dr. more and already speeding through the playground zone. Please have police review and patrol the playground area so they can see how it currently is operating and that the project will increase traffic even more.
Bike lanes are Nenshi's personal agenda and a waste of money in suburban areas.





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Keep our taxes low, try to use 40 km first! Wait and see what issue around completion of 162nd Ave and THEN assess.
Please consider future needs for Mid Sun - eg) will these changes accommodate people in wheelchairs? Sun Valley Blvd. continues to have a ton of fast traffic!
I plan to review again on web site.
If there were a lot of accidents I could understand why? But there isn't.

## Comment Forms – Open House Evaluation

<b><i>Do you have any comments about the open house?</i></b>
Great job! Keep up the good work!
No formal presentation and question answer period to allow additional ideas like 40km speed limit outside playground zone.
The staff were very patient.
Thank you doing a very nice of job. Your friendliness and willing to answer questions is very welcomed.
Well done.
Friendly, knowledgeable people. Big maps not very clear - as in unable to determine exactly where some of this starts.
The map was helpful and city workers knew the situation and answered questions. There were a few loud mouths that made it difficult to have a conversation but I don't think they worked for the city.
It would be helpful to have a spoken presentation every 1/2 hour or so.
Thank you.
Appreciate the fact it was conducted
You should have had a city employee that lives in Midnapore to be at the open house.
Good layout, staff easy to talk to
You always send people who don't live in the area to explain stuff.
I feel the decision is already made and the staff were here to placate us. Please keep our taxes low by implementing a 40 km zone but NO bike lanes - the biggest waste of tax payers \$ I have ever seen!
The BOLD NEO signage was well-timed, and well-located but the message wasn't clear as to what the "event" was about! Too vague, sounded like it was an info session regarding Midnapore School.
Very well organized
<b><i>Is there any information you still require? How can we get this information to you?</i></b>
I have signed up for the email alerts
Please wait and find out impact of 162 Ave to completion. THEN - start the research.



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## Map Activity

Attendees were asked to place Post-it notes identifying strengths and weaknesses of the preliminary design concept.

Location	Comment
<b>Zone 1: West of and including intersection at Midpark Blvd./Midridge Dr.</b>	Strengths
	<i>(No responses)</i>
	Weaknesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Issue with Midpark Blvd - increased traffic, becomes bypass</li> <li>• traffic will come to a complete stop W/B in rush hour</li> <li>• Creates further traffic congestion</li> <li>• - bikes &amp; cars can co-exist</li> <li>• - educate users to limit issues</li> <li>• Painted lines won't protect people</li> <li>• No WBT 1 lane (there will be queues).</li> <li>• Closing WBT W of Midridge will cause a traffic backup</li> <li>• Unless bike lanes go somewhere they don't do much</li> <li>• - too early to make these decisions.</li> <li>• - wait until 162 AV is done so we can assess volume</li> <li>• NBL double - people are already doing that</li> <li>• waste of money</li> <li>• it costs too much! keep taxes lower!</li> </ul>
	Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bumpout for bus on Midlake W. of Midpark Bv. (backs up traffic) WB + EB</li> <li>• -try 40 km instead of spending unnecessary city funds</li> <li>• *Ppl see the 60kph sign but not the 50kph sign E of Midpark - make it all 50kph</li> <li>• 40 km/h speed limit</li> <li>• At Midpark BV SE check signal timing - NBL just stays on - can it only turn on when needed</li> <li>• Need left turn light @ Midridge &amp; Midlake</li> <li>• No U-turn sign @ 3 way stop @ Midridge Drive</li> <li>• Traffic calming on Midridge BV north of Midlake BV</li> </ul>
Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Will the be any proposed changes to Midpark Blvd from Midlake Blvd to Sun Valley Blvd? When the traffic changes the Blvd traffic is exponentially changing each time.</li> <li>• It does not include turning across traffic (2 lanes) to get onto Midpark then race to lights out of Midpark gardens</li> <li>• Look at impacts on Midpark</li> <li>• So poorly lit in this block so in winter it is very hard to see pedestrians</li> <li>• Keep bikes &amp; pedestrians separate</li> </ul>	



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<b>Zone 2: Midpark Blvd./Midridge Dr. to and including Midridge Dr.</b>	<b>Strengths</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clearly defined bus parking vs parent/vehicle parking</li> <li>Pedestrians are safer</li> <li>Parking is more clearly defined</li> </ul>
	<b>Weaknesses</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Keep 2 lanes on Midlake Blvd from Midridge Rd to Midridge Drive (towards McLeod Tr) - If only one lane and it backs up people will cut through to community streets rather than wait in traffic</li> <li>This block no one parks. Should maintain two lanes. Closing will cause community cut through.</li> <li>Concerns with WBT down to one lane - need two lanes Potential shortcutting down Midridge Dr SE and further upstream if queuing</li> <li>Keep Midlake Blvd 2 lanes. Enforce existing traffic laws.</li> <li>Midridge to Midpark keep 2 lanes</li> <li>One lane will cause traffic backups.</li> <li>I don't think it will actually slow people down, think that there will slow people</li> <li>No one parks here - no parking lane needed.</li> <li>Curb extensions - ppl coming off of Sun Valley Bv would turn down Midvalley Dr (may get issues there)</li> <li>Space apart more</li> <li>Concern with Midridge Dr - speeding - think more shortcutting with narrowing - connect to 144 via Bannister</li> </ul>
	<b>Opportunities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More school zone signs</li> <li>Extend playground zone to edge of field</li> <li>Extend school zones</li> <li>Midnapore School could use improvement for parent drop off. Something needs to be changed.</li> <li>Need a merge lane to get out of Midridge Dr onto westbound Midlake Blvd</li> <li>ISLOWS sign for speeding</li> <li>Traffic lights here would help slow traffic and provide extra safety for school children</li> <li>Speed bumps along here would deter drag racing</li> <li>I would like traffic calming measures to include Midrise</li> <li>Photoradar 6 day week or permanent post for radar</li> <li>Temporary speed bumps until project done in school zone</li> </ul>
	<b>Concerns</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Excellent to know there is a plan! One major issue is drag racing along Midpark Blvd and make entrance intersection problems in near collisions</li> <li>Concerns with shortcutting</li> <li>Please make our sidewalks ACCESSIBLE (curb cuts etc) for folks in wheelchairs</li> </ul>



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<b>Zone 3: South of Midridge Dr. to Sun Valley Blvd.</b>	Strengths
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keeping parking</li> <li>• To narrow thoroughfare like 1 lane in each direction</li> <li>• Like 1 lane &amp; bike lane</li> <li>• Slows down traffic. Safely</li> </ul>
	Weaknesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Biking lanes not needed. Many bike paths through community. Extend Sunmills bike path to meet existing path in Midnapore.</li> <li>• Bike lanes not needed</li> <li>• Concern with dooring with bike lanes</li> <li>• We should educate drivers and cyclists &amp; peds instead</li> </ul>
	Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Also would like a RFB or enhanced ped. Crossing</li> <li>• Marked crosswalk</li> <li>• What they said, a better pedestrian crossing is needed Improve visibility</li> <li>• Mailbox loading zone needed</li> <li>• Yield signs for bikers</li> <li>• Ramp leads to bike lane - can we add a CT before ramp to slow cars?</li> <li>• MORE RFBs</li> <li>• Ramp on other side of sidewalk</li> <li>• 40 km between Sun Valley Blvd &amp; Midridge Dr</li> <li>• Change school zone to playground zone</li> <li>• Change length of light to cross Midlake Blvd to Sunmills Dr. NOT LONG ENOUGH.</li> <li>• Better lighting at intersection (safety)</li> <li>• Another entrance to the lake right here would be nice but not required if it creates undue problems for the management at the lake</li> <li>• Maintain green space, make visually appealing (6 St. &amp; Midlake Blvd.)</li> <li>• Widen - a little intimidating opp. to stop if oncoming WB traffic</li> <li>• The speed limit should be 40km outside playground</li> </ul>
	Concerns
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns with how fast cyclists are coming onto road</li> </ul>
<b>Zone 4: Midlake Blvd./Sunmills Dr. and Sun Valley Blvd Near 14A Street S.W.</b>	Strengths
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a good way to separate all modes of traffic</li> </ul>
	Weaknesses
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shortcutting from Stoney</li> <li>• Not worth the money. Fix sidewalks. Bike lanes are not any safer.</li> <li>• Traffic congestion at intersections during rush hours</li> </ul>



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	Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make this a toll road 1\$/car 2\$/truck (residents get a free pass)</li> </ul>
	Concerns
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• E-W signal timing too long on Sun Valley Blvd (timed @ 3.5 min) - causes U-turn, NB/SB queuing, left turn lights</li> <li>• Signal timings</li> <li>• Expect volumes if on Stoney - instead of taking Sun Valley Bv, they have been coming down S. Valley Bv - No come down Midpark Bv. We have to get these ppl to turn left instead of going straight on Midpark Bv. (always backed up) Maybe an additional light on Sun Valley</li> <li>• Concern with speeding on Sun Valley Blvd - 80 km/hr?</li> <li>• EBL - hard to see WBT @ Sun Valley Blvd</li> <li>• Lots of ped/bikes</li> </ul>
<b>Comments located outside study area</b>	Strengths
	<i>(No responses)</i>
	Weaknesses
	<i>(No responses)</i>
	Opportunities
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Put the yield sign back up @ Bannister to McLeod</li> <li>• At next int. to west can this be dual WBL to Superstore?</li> </ul>
	Concerns
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• @ Bannister RD concerns with NBT flying across - concerns with SBL and ped crossing EAST crosswalk</li> <li>• (Empty field) LRT parking lot SOLD now no parking area for Shawnessy</li> <li>• Centennial School parking on Midpark Close</li> <li>• Double parking by nursing homes</li> <li>• There is a water main leak somewhere (turned down pressure in area)</li> <li>• We have a water main that is leaking. Let's fix that first. Water pressure is terrible.</li> <li>• Fix leaky water main first!</li> <li>• Sun Valley Dr unsignalized - hard to get out</li> </ul>	