

City of Milwaukee  
 Transportation System Plan Update  
**Summary of Community Briefing Comments**

The City received approximately 200 written comments in the course of the four Community Briefings. Project staff entered all written comments into a spreadsheet and categorized them by theme.<sup>1</sup> As shown by the table on this page, participants commented on a wide range of transportation issues. Project staff identified 11 major themes and 17 minor themes.<sup>2</sup> Of note is the number of comments received about speeding and cut through traffic. Participants made 21 comments about speeding and 15 comments about cut through traffic, which equates to roughly 20% of the total number of comments received.

**Table 1: Comments Categorized by Theme and Frequency**

Major Theme	Number of Comments	Minor Themes			
		<i>The numbers of comments for each Minor Theme are shown in parentheses and add up to the total number of comments for each Major Theme.</i>			
Safety	45	Speeding (21)	Audible Pedestrian Crossing (6)	Visibility (4)	Miscellaneous (15)
Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements	36	Connectivity (10)	Bicycle Lane (7)	Sidewalk or Sidewalk Alternative (7)	Miscellaneous (12)
Auto Circulation	32	Cut Through Traffic (15)	Traffic Warrants (7)	Congestion (4)	Miscellaneous (6)
Street Design	12	Drainage (8)	Traffic Calming (2)	Miscellaneous (2)	
Public Transit	11	Relocate Transit Center (4)	Land Use Impacts (2)	Miscellaneous (5)	
Street Classification	8	Street Design (5)	Freight (2)	Miscellaneous (1)	
Safe Route to School	6	Sidewalk (2)	Miscellaneous (4)		
Highway 224	6	Miscellaneous (6)			
Street Improvements	6	Miscellaneous (6)			
Development	5	Transportation Impacts (5)			
Parking Supply	3	Miscellaneous (3)			
Miscellaneous	16	Miscellaneous (16)			

<sup>1</sup> Each comment was assigned a major theme category and a minor theme category where appropriate. Most major themes had multiple minor themes associated with them. For example: *Safety* is a major theme, and it has four minor themes associated with it, namely *speeding*, *audible pedestrian crossing*, *visibility*, and *miscellaneous*. The themes were determined after a thorough review of all of the comments.

<sup>2</sup> Miscellaneous category not included in count.

**Table 2: Comments Summarized by Major Theme**

Major Theme	Narrative Summary
Safety	Speeding concerns garnered the highest number of comments out of all of the comments made by participants. The remaining safety concerns had to do with a lack of audible pedestrian crossings, poor visibility at intersections, dangerous bicycle connections, a lack of traffic signage, short signal timing (making it difficult for pedestrians to cross streets safely), and dangerous intersections.
	Streets with perceived speeding problems: Railroad, Harrison, Lake, Oatfield, Monroe, Linwood, Johnson Creek, River Road, 19 <sup>th</sup> , 22 <sup>nd</sup> , 35 <sup>th</sup> , 40 <sup>th</sup> .
Bicycle & Pedestrian Improvements	Participants indicated that they'd like to see more connectivity within neighborhoods and to the Springwater Corridor Trail. Other desired improvements included bicycle lanes, sidewalks (or sidewalk alternatives), and improved pedestrian crossings.
Auto Circulation	Cut-through traffic garnered the second highest number of comments out of all the comments made by participants. Participants also indicated a need for more traffic controls (e.g. turn lanes, turn signals, traffic signals) at certain locations and improved railroad crossings. Some concern was expressed about traffic congestion and a lack of connectivity.
	Streets with perceived cut through traffic problems: Railroad, Lake, Oatfield, Monroe, King (between 32 <sup>nd</sup> and 42 <sup>nd</sup> ), 32 <sup>nd</sup> , 35 <sup>th</sup> , Historic Milwaukie.
Street Design	Drainage was repeatedly mentioned as an issue for pedestrians, bicyclists, and automobiles. A few comments were made about the need for more traffic calming devices although not all participants liked the new traffic circle at SE 34 <sup>th</sup> Avenue and Sellwood Street.
	Areas identified as having drainage issues: Railroad, Madison, 32 <sup>nd</sup> , Monroe & Home, Hwy 224 & 37 <sup>th</sup> .
Public Transit	Regarding bus service, some participants indicated that they would like to see the transit center at City Hall relocated. Others wanted better TriMet/City coordination and better bus service on weekends. Regarding light rail, some were opposed and some were in favor. Some expressed distrust of Metro and TriMet and had concerns about how light rail would impact businesses and residents.
Street Classification	Almost all participants who commented on street classifications felt that (1) traffic counts should not drive a street's classification and (2) streets should be designed according to their classification. The remaining few comments had to do with whether or not freight should be allowed on certain streets.
Safe Route to School	Some made specific recommendations for improved school route safety (e.g. sidewalks, improved school crossing). Others expressed their safety concerns more generally.
	Schools with perceived safe route issues: Linwood Elementary, Campbell Elementary, Oak Grove Schools (serves Island Station residents).

<b>Major Theme</b>	<b>Narrative Summary</b>
Highway 224	There were more questions than comments about the form and role of Highway 224. Should there be more traffic signals or fewer? Should it be above or below grade? Should it have more or less access restrictions? Some noted the poor connection with 99E and others didn't want it to be a visual or physical barrier to north-south travelers.
Street Improvements	A number of comments were made about the poor condition of certain streets.
	Streets identified as being in poor condition: Railroad, Wood, Monroe, King.
Development	Most of the comments in this category expressed general concern about increased development (both within and outside of the City) potentially having negative impacts on the City's transportation system.
Parking Supply	All parking supply comments had to do with the general concern that there was not enough parking downtown for customers or employees.
Miscellaneous	<p>These comments were either suggestions, statements, or comments that were unclear to staff. Suggestions and statements included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Perform audit of 1997 TSP as to what projects were completed;</li> <li>• Inform public of Regional Transportation Plan meetings to influence regional transportation priorities in a positive way;</li> <li>• Include UGMA in TSP scope;</li> <li>• Include long term vision not just a list of projects in updated TSP;</li> <li>• Create neighborhood sub-area plans;</li> <li>• Include undeveloped right-of-way in street inventory;</li> <li>• Improve connectivity without using existing right-of-way;</li> <li>• Protect downtown character and support longtime small businesses.</li> </ul>