

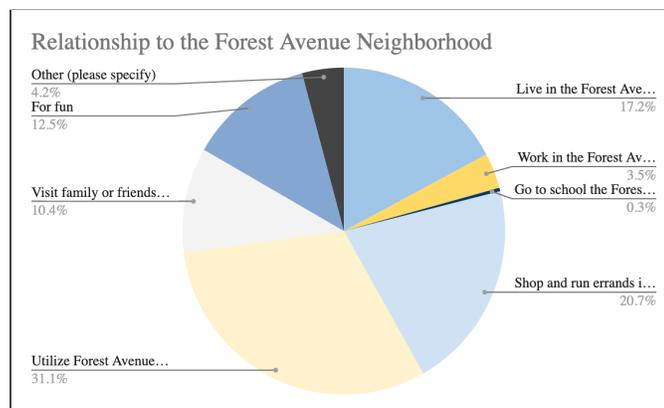
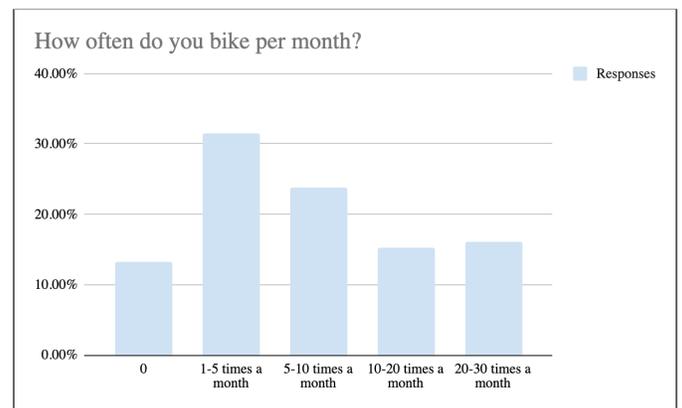
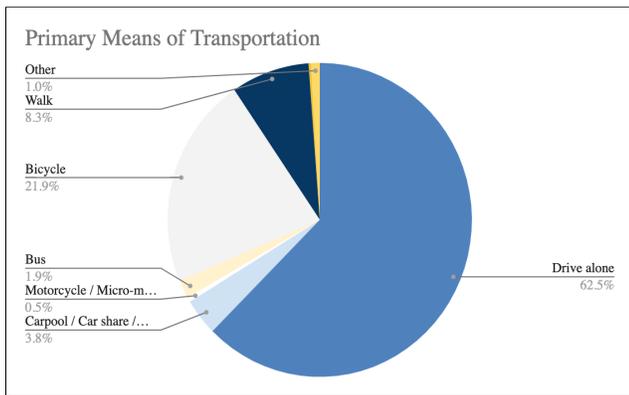
Forest Avenue Healthy Streets Initiative - Fall 2021 Survey Results

Themes: Improvements to streetscape, dedicated bike lanes, slowing traffic, and developing Forest as a convenient, multimodal corridor to connect to different parts of the city.

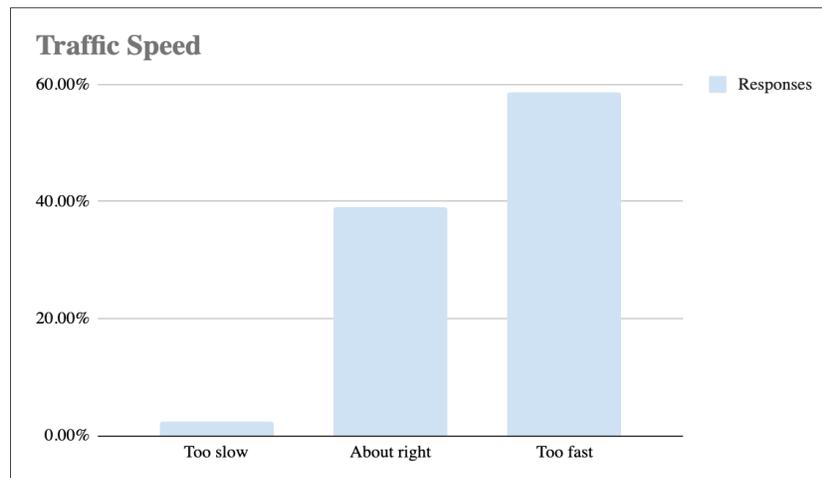
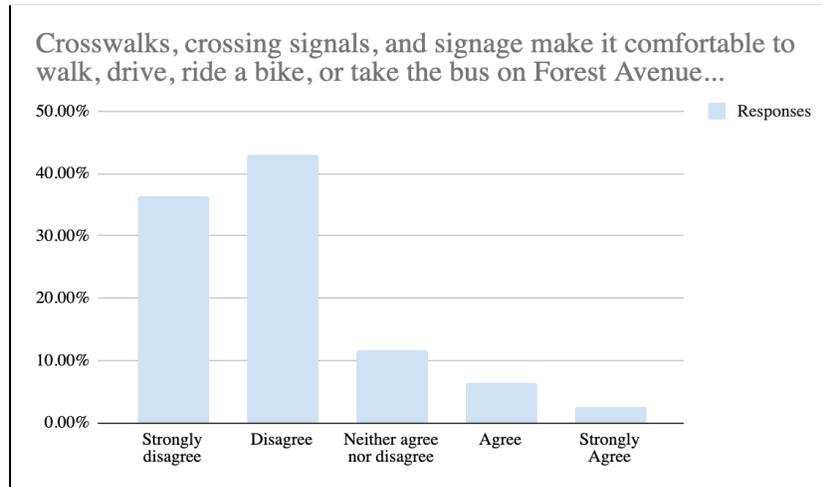
Primary Concerns	COUNTA of Primary Concerns
Bike connections to other parts of City	32
Bike Lanes	53
Crosswalks	17
Slowing Traffic	29
Streetscape Improvements	113
Grand Total	260

Findings:

- ★ The existing conditions of Forest Avenue are poor, often quite dangerous. Pedestrians and bicyclists contend with speeding car traffic and on-street parking, which blocks the sight lines of pedestrians, bicyclists, and drivers alike. Nevertheless, many neighborhood residents do actually walk and bike around the area, usually crossing the street to the Richardson Complex, but also up and down Forest Avenue to reach businesses and restaurants on Elmwood or biking to reach the Niagara Street cycle paths.



- ★ An overwhelming majority of survey respondents echo similar sentiments about Forest Avenue: Fast traffic speeds and unsafe or uncomfortable walking and biking conditions. Forest Avenue is utilized by cars, mostly as a thru-way. High speeds make it dangerous for people on bikes to share the road with cars and the nearly nonexistent crosswalks force pedestrians to make dangerous choices, particularly when trying to visit the Richardson Complex across the street.



- ★ Many respondents also noted that the current state of street parking on Forest Avenue is unsustainable. Street parking is more apparent closer to Elmwood Avenue, but there is little in the way of delineated line markings. Cyclists, trying to dodge speeding cars, hug the side of the road, but their pathway down the street becomes blocked from the side by parked cars. Drivers pulling onto Forest from side streets have their sight lines obstructed, as they contend with cars parked on the side of the street. **10% of all written feedback from survey respondents explicitly referred to parking**—noting that they either wanted parking

removed or to be restricted OR they noted that existing street parking makes it incredibly dangerous for bicyclists, pedestrians, and drivers to navigate Forest Avenue.

- ★ Aside from the basic safety improvements of Forest Avenue (slowing traffic, protected bike lanes, and crosswalks), many respondents, especially local residents, wanted to see aesthetic improvements to the neighborhood. Dedicated stewardship of the area would go a long way in maintaining any changes and improvements to Forest Avenue, making the neighborhood a safer, more accessible place for all who use it.

