Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements saskatoon.ca/engage

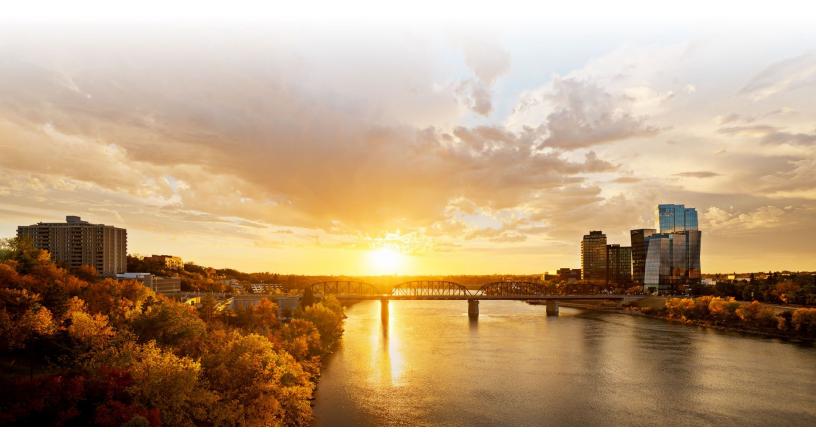




# Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements

Round 1 Public Engagement: What We Learned Report

July 2, 2024



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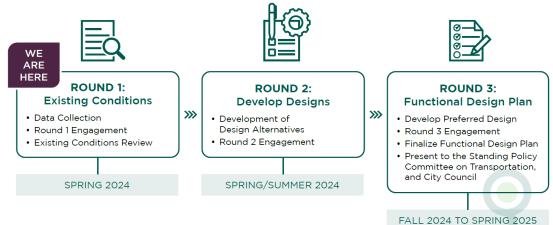


## 1.0 Engagement Summary

The City of Saskatoon (the City) is committed to promoting active transportation and providing transportation choices that are safe and comfortable for people of all ages and abilities all year round.

The City's Active Transportation Plan (AT Plan) identified Millar Avenue as a future All Ages and Abilities (AAA) cycling and walking route to help address infrastructure needs for cycling, walking, and other modes of active transportation in Saskatoon. As part of the AT Plan's implementation strategy to have shelf-ready plans, the outcome of this project is to plan and design walking and cycling facilities and does not include construction.

Three rounds of engagement will be conducted as part of the evaluation and design process for active transportation facilities on Millar Avenue between 43 Street East and Marquis Drive East. Round 1 Engagement was complete as of April 2024, Round 2 Engagement will begin in June 2024, and Round 3 Engagement will begin in early 2025.



#### Round 1 Engagement

The objectives of the first round of engagement, conducted from March to April 2024, were to:

- Introduce the community to the project by providing information on existing conditions, needs assessment and pertinent background information;
- Gather feedback from the community on opportunities and challenges they see related to incorporating active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue; and
- Help inform design alternatives that will be tailored to the corridor's transportation needs.

An open house was held on March 27, 2024 (5 to 8pm) at the Rusty McDonald Library and had 35 attendees. An online public survey was open for responses from March 11 to April 8, 2024, and had 782 responses. Lastly, a total of 5 emails were received about the project.

All feedback received in Round 1 Engagement will be considered by the project team as they develop design alternatives, which will be shared with interested parties and the public in Round 2 Engagement. Below is a summary of the common themes. For additional details, see Table 3.



#### **Support for Active Transportation Facilities**

- Support for active transportation facilities on Millar Avenue was mixed.
- Some supported the addition of either a sidewalk or a shared-use path or both facility options, whereas others did not support the addition of facilities.

#### Traffic and Congestion

- Many noted that Millar Avenue experiences high volumes of traffic and congestion, and adding facilities would increase congestion.
- As a result, people suggested separating the facilities from traffic or they opposed the project altogether.
- Lack of snow clearing was also a concern for all road users, contributing to further congestion.

#### Safety and Comfort

- Safety was a major concern noted by most respondents. Many people noted that it is difficult and unsafe to walk along the road and cross Millar Avenue.
- Some noted that sidewalks, shared-use paths, and additional crossings would make it safer.
- Conversely, others noted that adding active transportation facilities would make the area more unsafe to users due to high traffic volumes and congestion.
- Some people mentioned the addition of landscaping and better snow clearing would increase the comfort for active transportation users.

#### Accessibility

- Some people supported the addition of sidewalks only to improve the safety of pedestrians and transit users.
- Others supported the addition of a shared-use path to improve the safety of all active transportation users.

#### **Business/Property Impacts**

• Some people were concerned about the facilities negatively impacting properties along the roadway (e.g. land acquisition, removal of landscaping, parking, driveway accesses, etc.).

#### Connectivity

- Some people noted that sidewalks and/or a shared-use path would improve connectivity for active transportation users to Millar Avenue businesses and for people commuting through the area.
- Others noted that the City should prioritize the connectivity for vehicles instead due to the industrial nature of Millar Avenue.

#### Cost

• Many people noted that they were concerned about the cost of the project.



## 2.0 Background

The following report details Round 1 Engagement for the City of Saskatoon's Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements project.

#### 2.1 About the Project

The City of Saskatoon (the City) is exploring the opportunities and challenges of incorporating walking and cycling improvements on Millar Avenue from 43rd Street East to Marquis Drive. As part of Saskatoon's Active Transportation (AT) Plan's implementation strategy to have shelf-ready plans, the outcome of this project is to plan and design walking and cycling facilities and does not include construction. The City is working with ISL Engineering and Land Services to plan and design alternatives and a recommendation for this project that considers the ideas and concerns of all interested parties. The project goals are summarized in Figure 1 below.



#### FIGURE 1: PROJECT GOALS

#### 2.2 Strategic Goals

Through the three-phased engagement approach, the City will engage with key City departments, community groups, adjacent businesses, and residents to obtain feedback on opportunities and challenges to inform the development of design alternatives and the recommendation for active transportation facilities on Millar Avenue from 43 Street East to Marquis Drive.

The strategic goals and objectives for each round of engagement are outlined in Table 1.

#### TABLE 1: STRATEGIC GOALS FOR ENGAGEMENT

| #          | Strategic Goal  | Dates                         | Objectives   |
|------------|---|-------------------------------|--|
| Round<br>1 | Introduce the<br>Project and<br>Gather Key<br>Ideas and<br>Concerns | January 2024 to<br>April 2024 | Build awareness about the project and encourage<br>participation in the engagement processes for the<br>project. |



| #          | Strategic Goal                     | Dates  | Objectives   |
|------------|------------------------------------|--|--|
|            |                                    |  | Engage with interested parties and the public to gather ideas and concerns to inform the facility's design alternatives. |
| Round<br>2 | Share and<br>Gather<br>Feedback on | May 2024 to<br>June 2024   | Build awareness about the project and encourage participation in the engagement processes for the project.               |
|            | Design<br>Alternatives             |  | Share and gather feedback on the facility's design alternatives for Millar Avenue to inform the recommended design.      |
| Round<br>3 | Share and<br>Gather<br>Feedback on | Fall 2024 to<br>Early 2025                                       | Build awareness about the project and encourage participation in the engagement processes for the project.               |
|            | the<br>Recommended<br>Design       | Engagement<br>Blackout Period<br>(August to<br>December<br>2024) | Share and gather feedback on the recommended design and identify further refinements to the recommended design.          |

#### 2.3 Stakeholder Groups

A comprehensive list of stakeholders identified as having the potential to be impacted by or interested in active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue was developed, including local land owners and business owners/operators along Millar from 43 Street East to Marquis Drive, CN Rail, Saskatoon Chamber of Commerce, North Saskatoon Business Association, transit, walking and cycling groups, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Council on Aging, SaskPower, and Saskatoon Health Authority.

#### 2.4 Engagement Activities

Round 1 Engagement included a public open house and an online survey to collect feedback that will inform the development of design alternatives for All Ages and Abilities (AAA) cycling facilities and improvements to walking facilities on Millar Avenue. The general public was also able to provide input by contacting the Project Manager directly via email, mail, or telephone.



| Stakeholder                                 | Level of<br>Participation | Engagement Goal   | Engagement<br>Activity/Component   |
|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| All interested<br>parties and the<br>public | Involve                   | <ul> <li>Use various communication tactics to<br/>provide ample notice of upcoming<br/>engagement opportunities.</li> </ul> | Open house, paper<br>and online surveys,<br>correspondence<br>with project team<br>via email and phone |

#### 2.5 What We Learned

In the first round of engagement (March to April 2024), we learned about and gathered feedback on the **opportunities** and **challenges** of incorporating active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue from property owners, business owners/operators, the business association, and community groups that focus on walking, cycling and transit, and members of the public.

An open house was held on March 27, 2024 (5 to 8pm) at the Rusty McDonald Library and an online public survey was open for responses from March 11 to April 8, 2024, for the project team to learn from the community and gather feedback.

## 2.6 Communication Techniques

Adjacent landowners and business owners/operators along Millar Avenue and key interested parties were directly invited to participate in the in-person and online engagement opportunities via invitation flyer sent by email or mail (see Appendix A)

The City's social media posts (see Appendix B) and Engage page were used to promote the inperson and online engagement opportunities and share display boards and a link to the online survey.

### 2.7 Input Received

A total of **35 people** attended the open house. The open house was an opportunity to have direct and in-person conversations. Attendees gained more information about the project and provided feedback on the opportunities and challenges of walking and cycling facilities in the project area.



This was facilitated through information and feedback boards (see Appendix C) and discussion tables for participants to speak with the project team about their input using a project area map as a reference.

A total of **782 individuals** responded to the survey. The survey had a similar purpose to the open house (see Appendix D) while also gathering input from those who could not attend the open house.

Interested parties and the public were asked to share their thoughts on the opportunities and challenges relating to incorporating active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue. Overall, there was mixed support for shared-use paths and sidewalks to accommodate cyclists and pedestrians due to safety concerns, business impacts, high traffic volumes and congestion in the area, and the ability to keep the facilities cleared from snow. Some people supported walking facilities or a shared-use path, while others supported both walking and cycling facilities. Others supported neither and thought the City should focus on other City initiatives or adding active transportation facilities to other areas of the City. The following table summarizes the feedback themes from the first round of engagement.

| Feedback Themes<br>from Round 1                    | What We Learned   |
|--|---|
| Support for Active<br>Transportation<br>Facilities | <ul> <li>Support for active transportation facilities on Millar Avenue was mixed.</li> <li>Some people noted that it was important for the City to include active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue for the safety of all users. Some supported adding only sidewalks or a shared-use path, while others supported both.</li> <li>Some people noted that they did not support the addition of active transportation facilities on Millar Avenue.</li> </ul>   |
| Traffic and<br>Congestion                          | <ul> <li>Many people noted that Millar Avenue experiences high volumes of vehicle traffic (especially large trucks) and congestion throughout the day and active transportation facilities must not cause further congestion.</li> <li>Some people suggested having no active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue due to the traffic and congestion in this area or to separate facilities from traffic to not take away space from the roadway.</li> <li>Lack of cleared roads during the winter also contributes to increasing traffic and congestion as snow piles take up one lane of traffic in each direction.</li> </ul> |
| Safety and<br>Comfort                              | <ul> <li>Safety was a major concern noted by most respondents, regardless of<br/>whether or not people supported the inclusion of active transportation<br/>facilities along Millar Avenue.</li> </ul>  |

#### TABLE 3: FEEDBACK THEMES FROM ROUND 1 ENGAGEMENT



| Feedback Themes<br>from Round 1 | What We Learned   |
|---------------------------------|---|
|                                 | <ul> <li>Many people noted that it is difficult and unsafe to walk along the road and cross Millar Avenue. Some noted that sidewalks, shared-use paths, and additional crossings to separate vehicle and active transportation users would make it safer for people who walk, bike, and take transit. Others noted that adding active transportation facilities along Millar Avenue would increase the number of people walking and cycling through the area which would be unsafe for all users due to the industrial nature, high traffic volumes and truck traffic in the area.</li> <li>Some people said that measures should be taken to slow down traffic to</li> </ul> |
|                                 | <ul> <li>ensure safety on Millar Avenue for all users.</li> <li>There were also concerns noted about the lack of snow clearing during the winter months which negatively impacts the safety, access and usability of both lanes of traffic and would also impact active transportation facilities.</li> </ul>   |
|                                 | <ul> <li>A few people mentioned adding more landscaping to the space, and adding more greenery to the area would increase comfort for active transportation users.</li> <li>People noted specific intersections that would benefit from crossing devices such as flashing lights.</li> </ul>  |
| Accessibility                   | <ul> <li>The lack of walking or cycling facilities on Millar Avenue was noted as being an accessibility barrier for those who work and commute in the area by transit, walking and cycling.</li> <li>Some people supported the addition of sidewalks only to improve the safety of pedestrians and transit users, some supported the addition of a</li> </ul>   |
| Business/Property<br>Impacts    | <ul> <li>shared-use path to improve the safety of all active transportation users.</li> <li>Some people were concerned about the active transportation facilities negatively impacting properties along Millar Avenue (e.g., land acquisition, removal of landscaping, parking, driveway accesses, etc.).</li> <li>Some people were concerned about how additional active transportation users along Millar Avenue would negatively impact business operations such as access to businesses, removal of parking for customers and staff, and safety for all users when vehicles cross sidewalks and shared-use paths.</li> </ul>  |
| Connectivity                    | <ul> <li>Some people noted that sidewalks and/or a shared-use path would<br/>improve connectivity for active transportation users to Millar Avenue<br/>businesses and for people commuting through the area.</li> </ul>   |

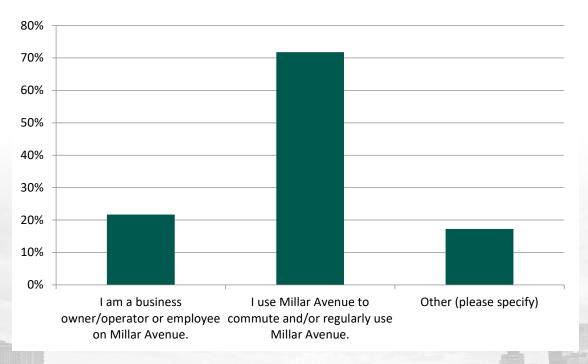


| Feedback Themes<br>from Round 1 | What We Learned  |
|---------------------------------|--|
|                                 | <ul> <li>Some people noted that the City should prioritize the connectivity for<br/>vehicles vs. active transportation users on Millar Avenue due to the<br/>industrial nature of the area.</li> </ul>   |
| Cost                            | <ul> <li>Many people noted that they were concerned that the City was spending money on adding active transportation facilities to Millar Avenue rather than other areas that were better suited.</li> <li>Some people suggested that the City instead spend money to improve roadway infrastructure in the City.</li> </ul> |

#### 2.8 Who We Learned From

The following section provides more information on who we learned from and how people are connected to Millar Avenue.

We asked people why they travel on Millar Avenue to get a better sense of why people are interested in this project (Figure 2). The survey revealed that 72% of people who responded use Millar Avenue for their daily commute or regularly use the roadway to access businesses and services. 22% of people are business owners/operators or employees along the roadway. 17% of people specified other reasons, with half of respondents stating they are interested citizens of Saskatoon or residents of Millar Avenue. Other reasons include hearing from cyclists interested in more biking infrastructure in the city.



#### FIGURE 2: SURVEY RESPONDENTS' CONNECTION TO MILLAR AVENUE



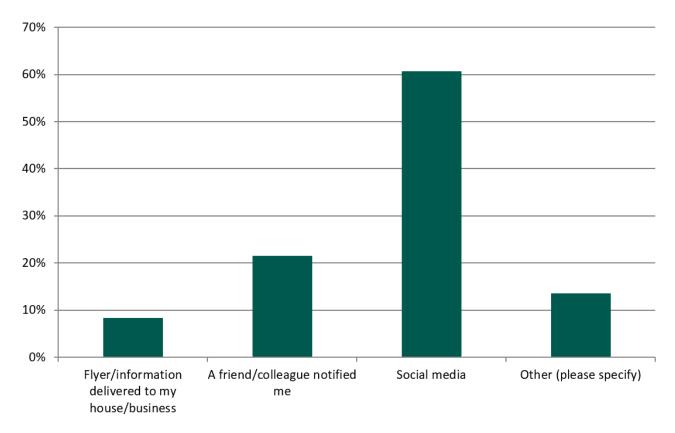
To gather information about the geographical distribution of the people engaged, we asked what neighbourhoods people reside in Saskatoon. It was found that many participants came from Lawson Heights. Figure 3 visually shows the distribution of survey respondents across different communities through a word cloud. The size of the neighborhood name in the word cloud indicates the relative number of respondents belonging to that community.

Nutana Park King George Parkridge Acreage Brighton Silversprings Aspen ridge Exhibition Varsity View University Dundonald Montgomery place Park Caswell Hill Buena Vista Adelaide Fairhaven Kensington Arbor Creek Haultain Briarwood Churchill College Park East Sutherland Richmond Heights Nutana Downtown Rosewood Holliston Willowgrove Hudson Bay Park Evergreen Lakewood Silverwood East college park Lawson Heights Brevoort Park River Heights Montgomery Silverwood Heights Mayfair Stonebridge Saskatoon Lakeview Hampton Erindale Mount Royal City Park Adelaide Churchill Hampton Village Meadowgreen Wildwood North North Park Greystone Confederation Riversdale Forest Grove Willows Avalon Queen Elizabeth Silverspring heights Lawson West Pacific Heights Martensville Lakeridge None Westview Westmount Eastview

FIGURE 3: NEIGHBOURHOODS REPRESENTED IN THE SURVEY



The majority of people learned about the project through social media (61%), making social media an important platform for reaching interested parties (Figure 4). Hearing from friends and colleagues (22%) was also another important way to reach and communicate with people. Other methods of reaching people include people hearing from local interested organisations (e.g. North Saskatoon Business Association newsletter, Saskatoon Chamber, and Saskatoon Cycles) or people accessing the City of Saskatoon project website.



#### FIGURE 4: HOW DID PEOPLE HEAR ABOUT THE SURVEY OPPORTUNITY?\*

\* Billboards were not feasible to share project information during this first round of engagement due to resourcing, bylaw requirements, and due to the nature of Millar Avenue being in industrial neighbourhoods.



We wanted to have a better understanding of people's commuting habits on Millar Avenue (Figure 5). The most common form of transportation is by vehicle with 52% of 772 survey respondents commuting by vehicle daily. Over 73% of people never cycle, walk, or take transit on the roadway. In addition to the options above, few people noted they drive transport trucks in the area.

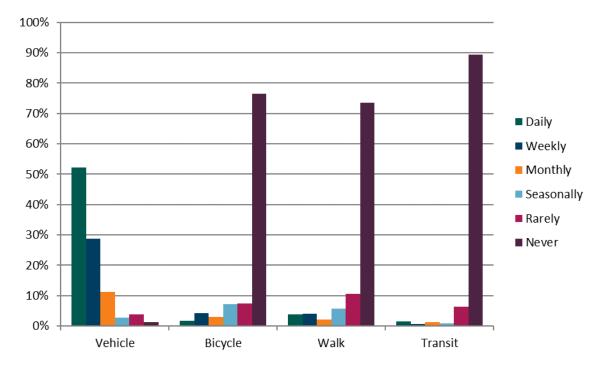


FIGURE 5: FREQUENCY OF TRANSPORT MODALITIES USED ON MILLAR AVENUE



We wanted to know why people are using Millar Avenue (Figure 6), with the majority (60%) using the roadway to travel to work and roughly half of the respondents also using the roadway to access shopping, events, and restaurants. Other reasons include accessing businesses in the area or reaching other areas of the city (15%).

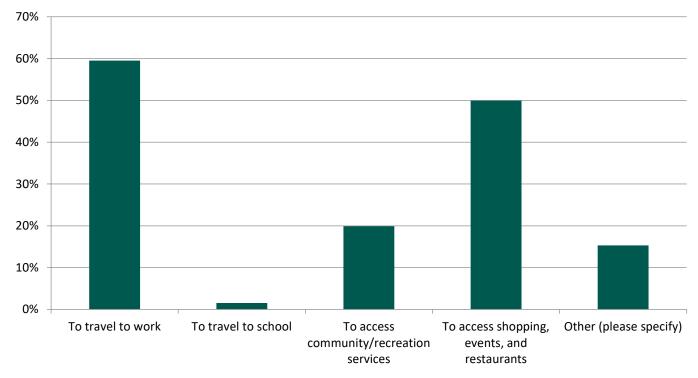


FIGURE 6: SURVEY RESPONDENTS' PURPOSE FOR USING MILLAR AVENUE.



## 3.0 Evaluation

The following measurements and evaluation tools were used to determine the success of the engagement and communications strategy.

- 906 of businesses engaged through flyers
- 233 businesses and property owners engaged through an invitation letter
- 18 groups/organisations engaged via email
- 782 survey responses
- **35** people at open house
- Representation from **79** neighbourhoods in Saskatoon:
- Online engagement (four posts per social media platform)
  - Facebook **1656** total engagement
    - 75 Reactions
    - 82 Comments
    - 23 Shares
    - 169 Link clicks
  - Twitter **138** total engagement
    - 11 Likes
    - 3 Replies
    - 26 Retweets
    - 75 Link clicks
  - Instagram 328 total engagement
    - 292 Likes
    - 19 Comments
    - 15 Shares
    - 2 Saves

Further to the above evaluation tools, participant comment forms and an internal evaluation facilitated the review of the engagement process. We received **5** responses through the open house participant comment forms with the majority being satisfied, and a few somewhat satisfied, with the open house session. After the open house, we also conducted the internal evaluation with seven project team members, evaluating the overall event outcomes, whether objectives were met, and lessons learned.

Based on the evaluation, engagement objectives were met, and the overall open house went well, with the date, time, and location being suitable for most attendees. In Round 2 of engagement, the project team will coordinate event dates to prevent overlap with the North Saskatchewan Business Association's events as the interested party was highly interested in attending the open house event. Additionally, it was recommended that table conversations follow a more facilitated and structured approach with key questions to allow participants with diverse views an opportunity to share their feedback in a safe and meaningful way.



## 4.0 Next Steps

The feedback received is used by the City to develop design alternatives for the Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements. These alternatives will be showcased in Round 2 Engagement which will include a public open house and online survey, similar to Round 1. Public input, along with other considerations like cost and technical analyses, will inform the design alternatives and recommendations.

The final design will be presented to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation and City Council in 2025.



## Appendix A: Invitation Letter/Email

#### Re: Interested Party Open House Invitation Connecting Millar Avenue, Walking and Cycling Improvement Project

#### Dear Community Partner,

The City of Saskatoon (City), along with ISL Engineering and Land Services (ISL), are planning and designing facilities for walking and cycling for Millar Avenue between 43rd Street East and Marquis Drive. The infrastructure will contribute to increased transportation options within Saskatoon by improving the accessibility, comfort, convenience and safety of active transportation.

You have been identified as an interested party, and the project team invites you to attend a dropin open house on March 27, 2024. During this drop-in session, participants will be able to review the project and will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide input on challenges and opportunities in the area, as well as offer ideas on how to:

- Improve transportation options in the study area; and
- Make the street more accessible for everyone.

Your feedback will be used by the City and ISL to assist in the development of design alternatives and inform the final design plan. This is the first of three opportunities to provide feedback on the project. The other two opportunities are scheduled for Summer 2024 and Winter/Spring 2025 with more information to come.

#### Join us on:

Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Location: Rusty Macdonald Library - 225 Primrose Dr, Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4

Time: 5 to 8 p.m.

RSVP by: Monday, March 25, 2024

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience by contacting the Project Team at akaiser@islengineering.com.

If you are unable to attend the open house, you may also correspond directly with the Project Team at TransportationSurvey@saskatoon.ca

For additional information on the project, review the attached information or visit the project Engage Page at saskatoon.ca /ConnectingMillarAve. Please submit feedback via survey by **April 8, 2024**.

Sincerely,

**Devon Parker**, P. Eng. | tel 306.975.2476 Transportation Engineer | Transportation City of Saskatoon | 222 3rd Avenue North | Saskatoon, SK S7K 0J5 <u>TransportationSurvey@saskatoon.ca</u> www.saskatoon.ca





#### **Background Information**

Saskatoon's Active Transportation Plan (AT Plan) contributes to increasing transportation options within the city by improving the accessibility, comfort, convenience and safety of active transportation. Millar Avenue has been identified for improvements to develop a complete and connected network (for walking, cycling, e-scooters, etc.) for people of all ages and abilities throughout Saskatoon.



#### **Project Timeline**

We are in the first phase of the project where we are gathering information and feedback to inform the development of design alternatives for Millar Avenue. The goal is to hear from interested parties and community members first, then the feedback will be used in developing the design alternatives and final design for Millar Avenue.

#### **Final Project Outcome**

As part of the AT Plan's implementation strategy to have shelf-ready plans, the outcome of this project is to plan and design facilities for walking and cycling for Millar Avenue and does not include construction. The project will be informed by the interested party and community feedback, by the design teams' technical evaluation of design alternatives and by City standards and policies. The project team will evaluate design alternatives and recommend one preferred option. Further feedback will be gathered from the community about the preferred option, which will inform the final design plan for Millar Avenue.



## Appendix B: Social Media Posts

#### Facebook

City of Saskatoon - Your Local Government 🥏

 $\[mm]$  Have your say in shaping the active transportation options on Millar Avenue! In support of the City's goal of improving accessibility, comfort, convenience and safety of walking and cycling, Millar Avenue between 43rd Street East to Marquis Drive has been identified as a location for walking and cycling facilities.  $\[mm]$   $\[mm]$   $\[mm]$   $\[mm]$ 

We want to hear from you, whether you are a business owner/operator on Millar Avenue, a community member or someone interested in active transportation within the city! The feedback and ideas you provide will inform the designs for Millar Avenue.

T Open House (drop-in): March 27, 2024 - 5 to 8 p.m.

🔎 Rusty Macdonald Library - 225 Primrose Dr, Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4

Survey closes April 8, 2024 - surveymonkey.ca/r/ZNX7LLX

Info: saskatoon.ca/ConnectingMillarAve

#yxe #yxecc #saskatoon #byxe

# Public Survey: Connecting Millar Avenue



Boost this post to reach up to 8696 more people if you spend CA\$150.



🗃 🚺 19

19 comments 12 shares



...

#### Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements Round 1 What We Learned Report

City of Saskatoon - Your Local Government 🥏 

★ Favorites · March 25 at 2:27 PM · 🚱

HAVE YOUR SAY - Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements

WReminder that the Connecting Millar Avenue survey closes on April 8, 2024. If you missed us at the open house, the survey is your best bet for providing the project team with feedback on the project design.

To Open House (drop-in): March 27, 2024 - 5 to 8 p.m.

🔎 Rusty Macdonald Library - 225 Primrose Dr, Saskatoon, SK S7K 5E4

In support of the City's goal of improving accessibility, comfort, convenience and safety of active transportation options, Millar Avenue between 43rd Street East to Marquis Drive has been identified as a location for walking and cycling facilities. 🤶 🚙 🚴 🔂 🛴

Survey closes April 8, 2024 - surveymonkey.ca/r/ZNX7LLX

Info: saskatoon.ca/ConnectingMillarAve

#yxe #yxecc #saskatoon #byxe

## Public Survey: **Connecting Millar** Avenue

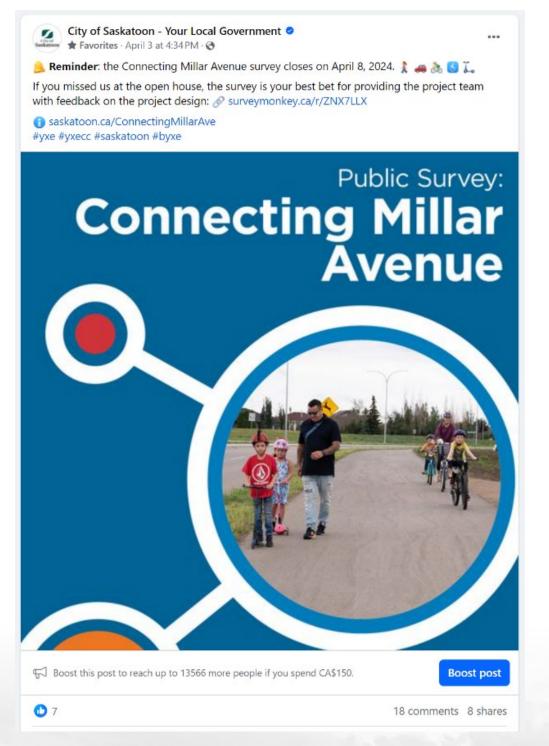


😴 Boost this post to reach up to 8696 more people if you spend CA\$150.

14 comments 3 shares



000 22







The survey for Round 1 engagement is now closed for the Connecting Millar Avenue: Walking and Cycling Improvements. Thank you to all those who responded or participated in our engagement events! Rest assured, there will be other engagement opportunities coming up later this year.

The feedback and ideas you provided will inform the walking and cycling facilities design developed for Millar Avenue (between 43rd Street and Marquis Drive). Check out the project website and the City's social media pages for project updates and details of the next round of engagement.

Info: saskatoon.ca/ConnectingMillarAve

#yxe #yxecc #saskatoon #byxe



💬 Boost this post to reach up to 13566 more people if you spend CA\$150.

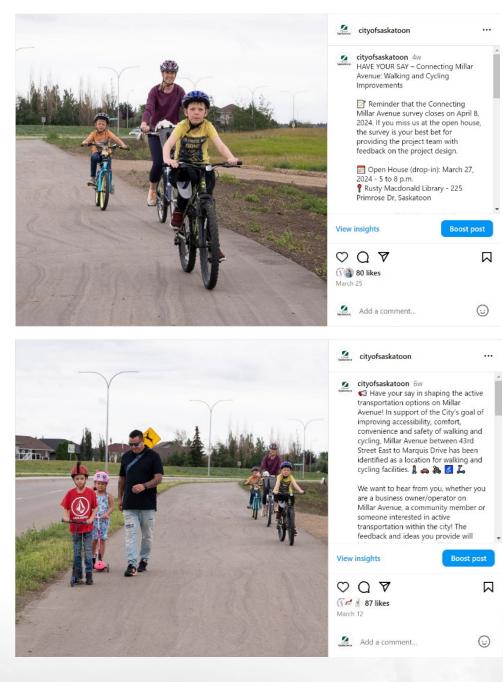
Boost post

11 comments

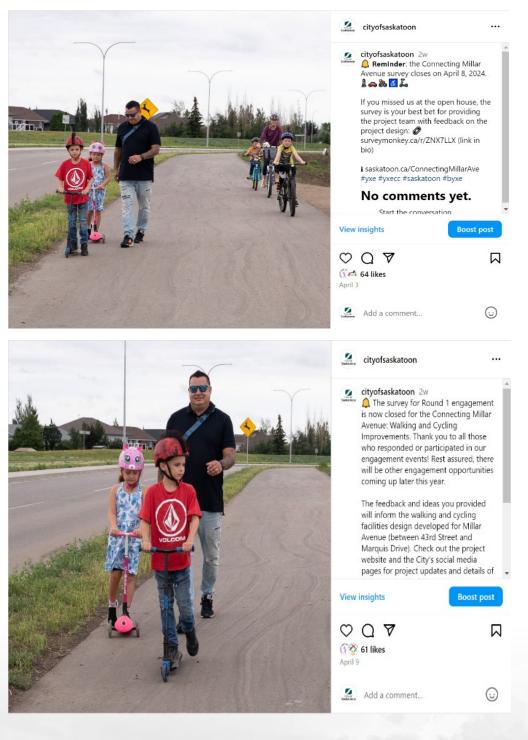
2 🙂 🖸

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#### Instagram



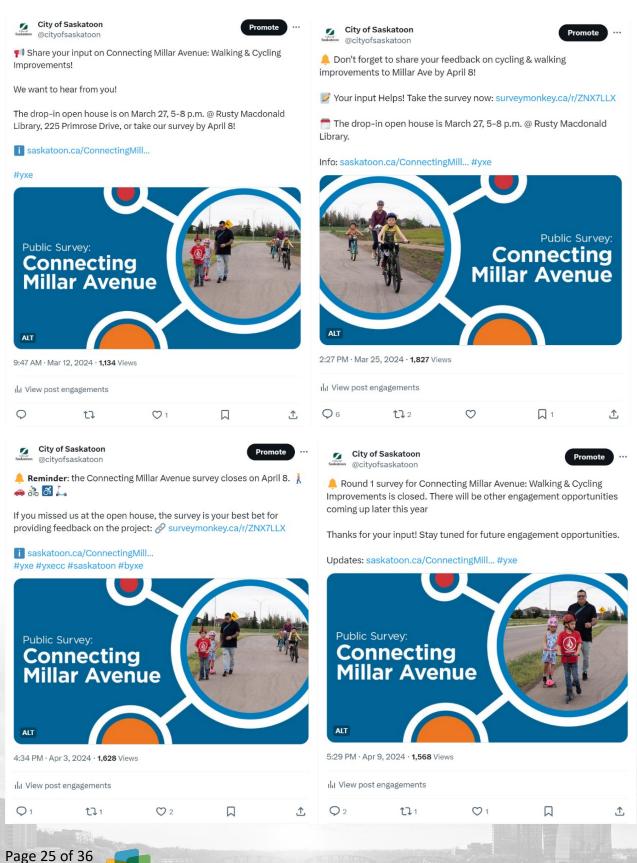




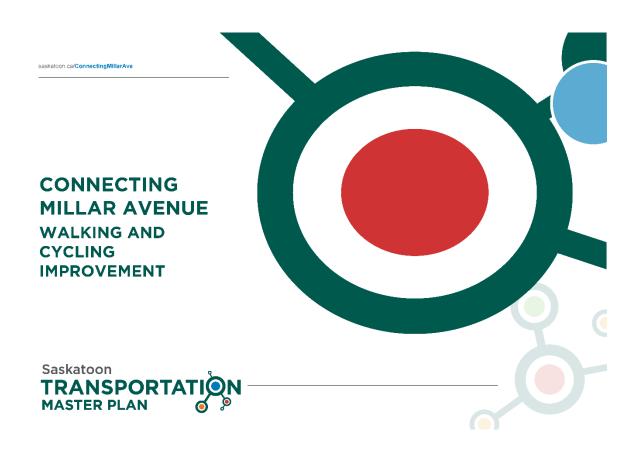


#### Twitter

ENGAGE



## Appendix C: Display Boards





## ABOUT THE PROJECT



The City of Saskatoon is exploring the opportunities and challenges of incorporating **walking and cycling improvements** on Millar Avenue from 43rd Street East to Marquis Drive.



The addition of a **pathway and/ or a sidewalk** along Millar Avenue will improve safety for all users.



This project supports the **Active Transportation (AT) Plan's** implementation strategy of having shelf-ready projects.





## HISTORY AND CONTEXT

The project will:



Eliminate gaps in the sidewalk network on major roads.



Develop a complete and connected bicycle network for All Ages and Abilities (Millar Avenue was identified as an AAA route).



Increase accessibility to a variety of businesses and land uses along Millar Avenue.



Bring Millar Avenue in alignment with current design standards.

This project is funded in part by the Government of Canada





#### DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS FOR WALKING AND CYCLING



Designed pathway (and/or sidewalk) will not impact vehicle travel lanes





## ACTIVE MODES HEATMAP

Heatmap showing cycling, walking, wheelchair use etc. (via Strava application)



sit in

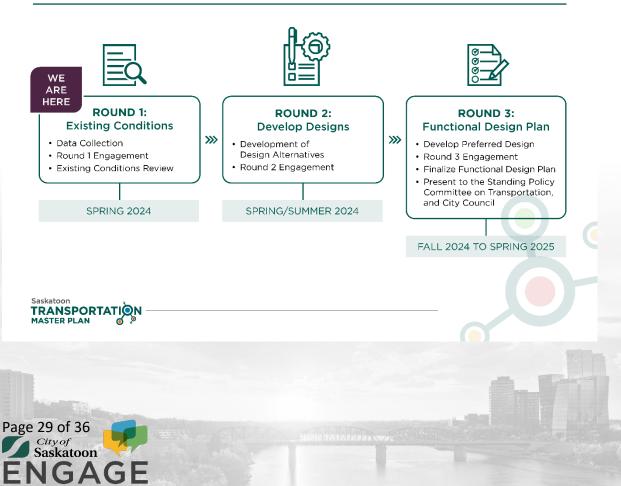
Low Activity Moderate Activity High Activity Very High Activity

This map shows that:

- Activity exists on Millar Ave despite not having proper walking/cycling facilities
- Surrounding area has moderate-high activity
- Millar Avenue is the only north-south (continuous) connection west of the rail line



## PROJECT SCHEDULE AND SCOPE



## STUDY AREA MAP

The project area is along Millar Avenue, from 43rd Street East to Marquis Drive, approximately 4.2 km.



## **EXISTING ROAD CHARACTERISTICS**



## **EXISTING ROADSIDE CHARACTERISTICS**



## HAVE YOUR SAY!

Feedback can be provided on the online survey, by **phone, email, or mail using the information below.** 





## Appendix D: Survey

#### **Open House Survey – Round 1**

**What Are We Doing?** Designing walking and cycling facilities for Millar Avenue, from 43rd Street to Marquis Drive.

**Purpose of the Survey?** To gather feedback on what you would like to see for the design and the potential opportunities/challenges of improving walking and cycling facilities in the project area,



making it more accessible to everyone. Please submit your responses by April 8, 2024.

#### **Background Information**

Saskatoon's Active Transportation Plan (AT Plan) was established to increase transportation options within the city by improving the accessibility, comfort, convenience, and safety of walking and cycling. The AT Plan identified Millar Avenue as a future all ages and abilities cycling route to work towards creating a shared-use, complete, and connected bicycle network throughout Saskatoon. Additionally, this project will address the lack of sidewalk network along Millar Avenue.



## PROJECT SCHEDULE AND SCOPE



- \* 1. Tell us about yourself!
  - □ I am a business owner/operator or employee on Millar Avenue.
  - □ I use Millar Avenue to commute.
  - □ Other (please specify)

\* 2. What neighbourhood do you reside in Saskatoon?

- \* 3. How did you hear about this survey opportunity?
  - □ Flyer/information delivered to my house/business
  - □ Billboard
  - □ A friend/colleague notified me
  - □ Social media
  - □ Other (please specify)

\* 4. Which modes of transportation do you use along Millar Avenue and how often do you use this mode of transportation on Millar Avenue?



|                   | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Seasonally | Rarely | Never |
|-------------------|-------|--------|---------|------------|--------|-------|
| Vehicle           | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0          | 0      | 0     |
| Bicycle           | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0          | 0      | 0     |
| Walk              | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0          | 0      | 0     |
| Transit           | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0          | 0      | 0     |
| Other             | 0     | 0      | 0       | 0          | 0      | 0     |
| Other (please spe |       |        |         |            |        |       |

transport)

\* 5. Why do you travel on Millar Avenue?

- □ To travel to work
- □ To travel to school
- □ To access community/recreation services
- □ To access shopping, events, and restaurants
- □ Other (please specify)

6. What opportunities should be considered in designing infrastructure to increase transportation options, like walking and cycling, along Millar Avenue?



7. What challenges should be considered in designing infrastructure to increase transportation options, like walking and cycling, along Millar Avenue?

8. Do you have any other thoughts regarding this project?

## Thank you for your participation!

This survey will remain open until **April 8, 2024.** We invite you to distribute this survey to anyone interested in participating. Your feedback, along with best practice research from other cities and internal considerations, will help to inform the City in developing the design alternatives.

Please visit <u>https://www.saskatoon.ca/ConnectingMillarAve</u> for more information related to the project.

We look forward to hearing your feedback!

#### Stay Connected!

Keep up-to-date with the project and two other upcoming engagement events. Join the email list <u>here</u> or scan the QR code.



