

Springfield Bicycling and Walking Survey 2014

Summary Results

April 2014



Timothy W. Brennan, Executive Director

Public Participation and Outreach

From October 2013 through March 2014 staff from MassBike and the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission held ten public meetings on the development of the Springfield Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan. Each meeting consisted of a discussion with residents about existing conditions and recommendations for improving biking and walking in Springfield, a mapping exercise to identify problem locations, and the completion by attendees of the Springfield Bicycling and Walking Survey 2014. Additionally, staff from MassBike and Partners for Healthier Communities attended seven community events to survey residents.

The following provides the dates and locations of each event.

Public Meetings

11/1/2013	Pioneer Valley Rowing Club
11/13/2013	Dunbar YMCA
11/14/2013	Dunbar YMCA
11/20/2013	Gerena Elementary School
12/6/2013	Vietnamese American Civic Association - Senior Citizens Meeting
12/5/2013	Vietnamese American Civic Association - Youth Meeting
12/12/2013	Mason Square Health Task Force
1/16/2014	Armory Quadrangle Civic Association
2/4/2014	Bay Area Neighborhood Council
3/11/2014	New North Citizens Council

Survey Tabling

1/30/2014	Basketball Clinic - Dunbar YMCA
2/11/2014	Forest Park Library
2/20/2014	Springfield College Fit Fest
2/20/2014	YMCA- Chestnut Street
2/25/2014	Edgewater Brown Bag
2/28/2014	Boys and Girls Club
3/3/2014	Caring Health WIC Office - Main Street

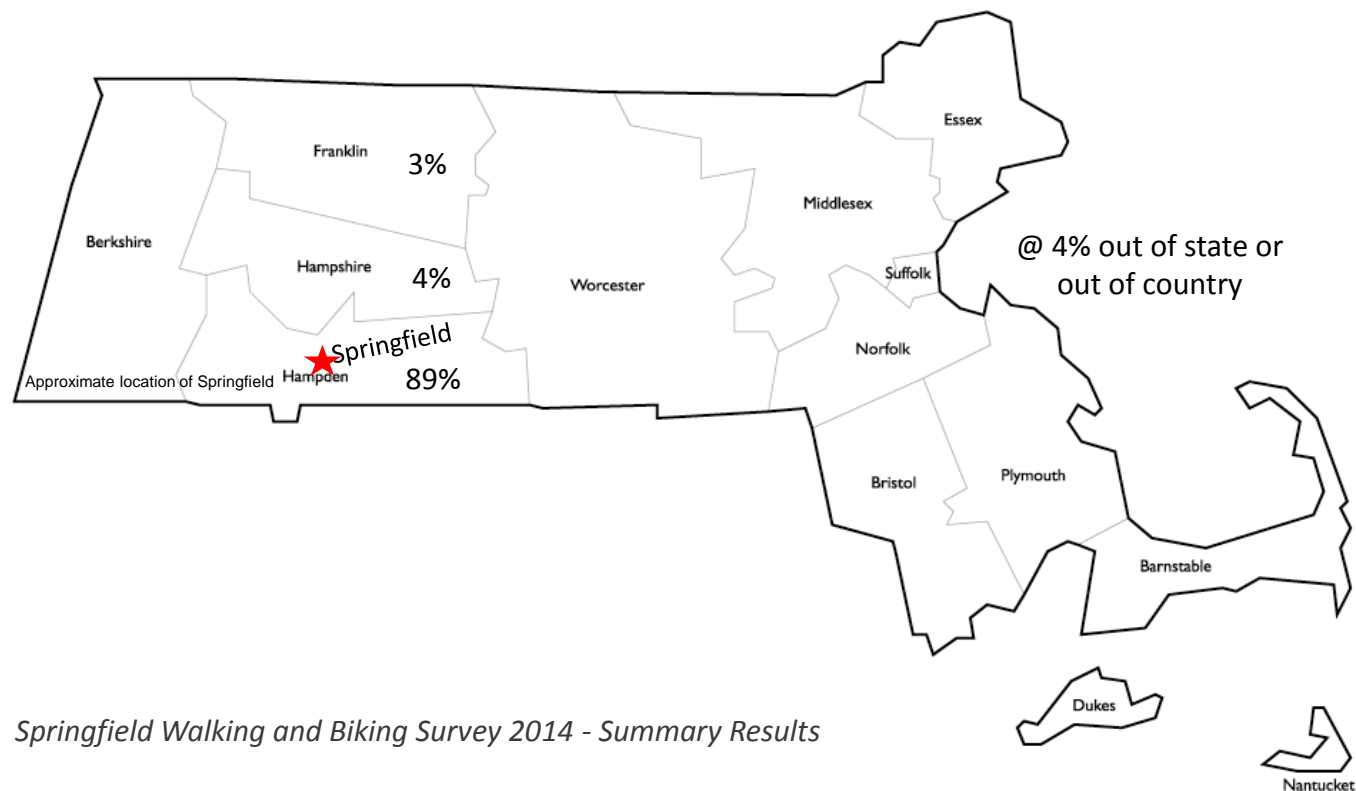
Springfield Bicycling and Walking Survey 2014

From October 2013 through March 2014 the Springfield Bicycling and Walking Survey 2014 was provided to the public in a paper version (in both Spanish and English) at public meetings and tabling events or as a web-based survey. In total, there were 603 responses over the six month period.

The following summary is organized by question topic and follows the question sequence of the survey.

What city or town do you live in?

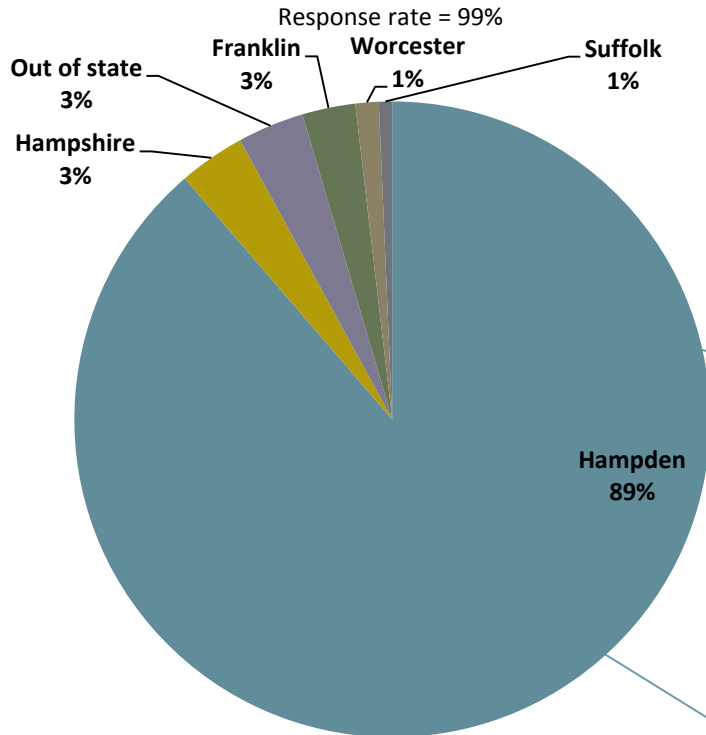
Organized by county



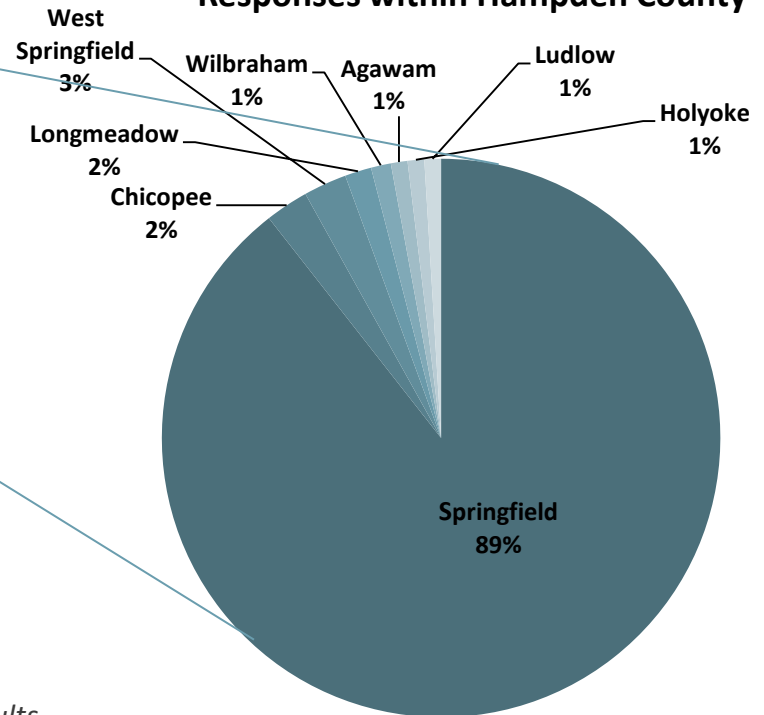
What city or town do you live in? (Continued)

Organized by county

Responses by County or Out of State

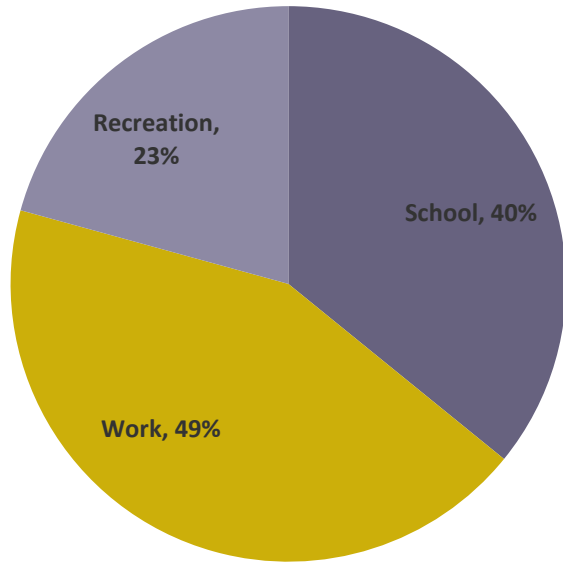


Responses within Hampden County



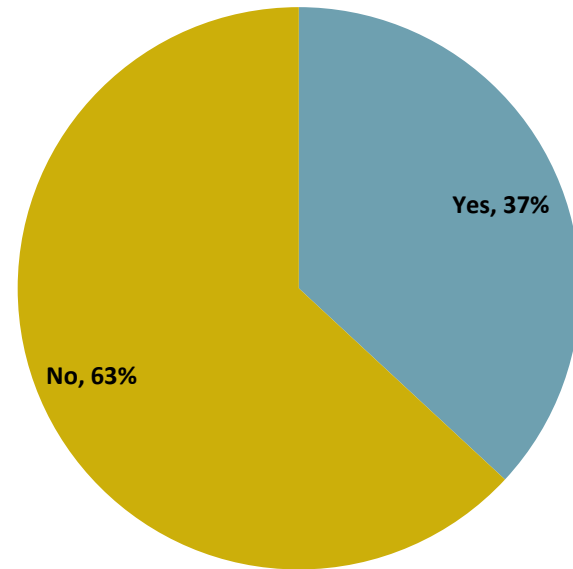
If you don't live in Springfield, what brings you here?

Response rate = 21%



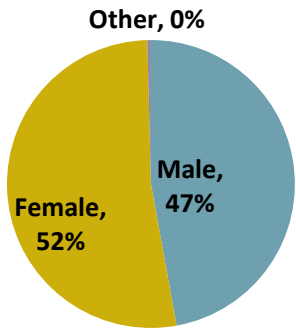
Have you heard of Live Well Springfield?

Response rate = 65%



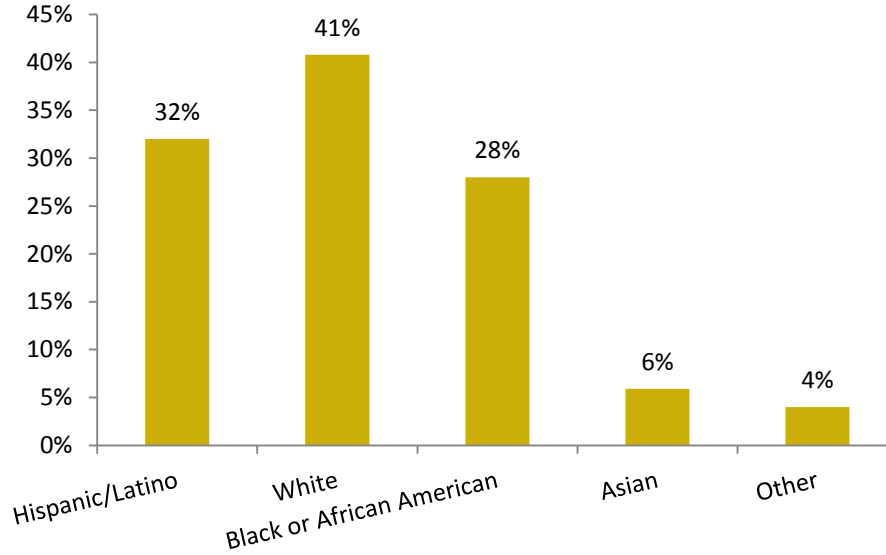
Gender

Response rate = 81%

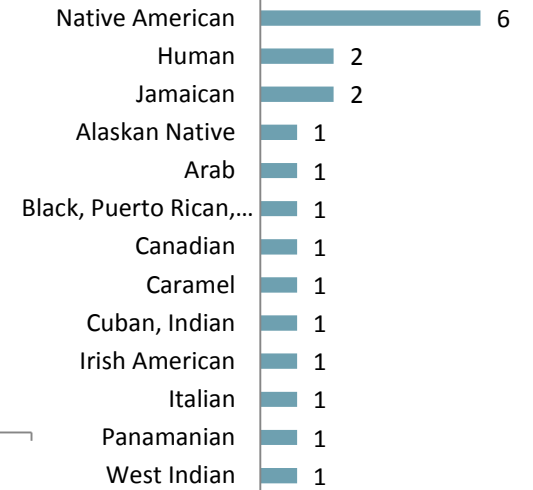


Race/Ethnicity (Check All That Apply)

Response rate = 79%

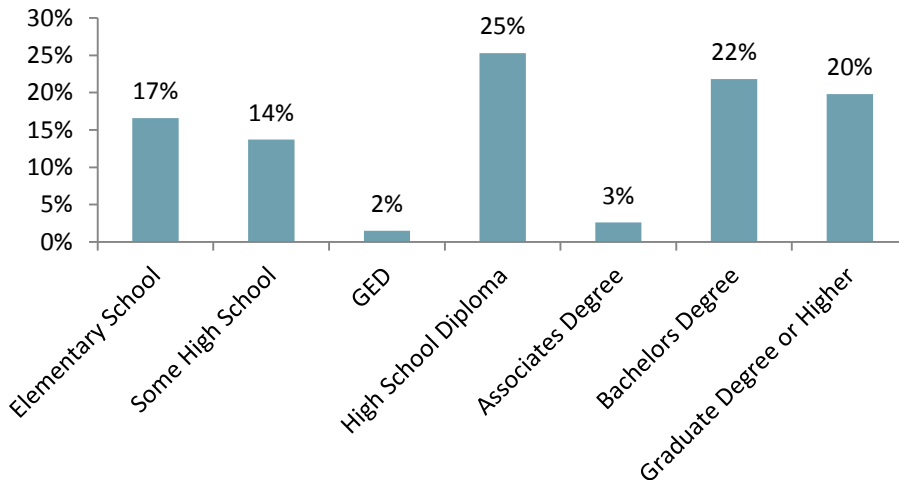


"Other" Responses for Race



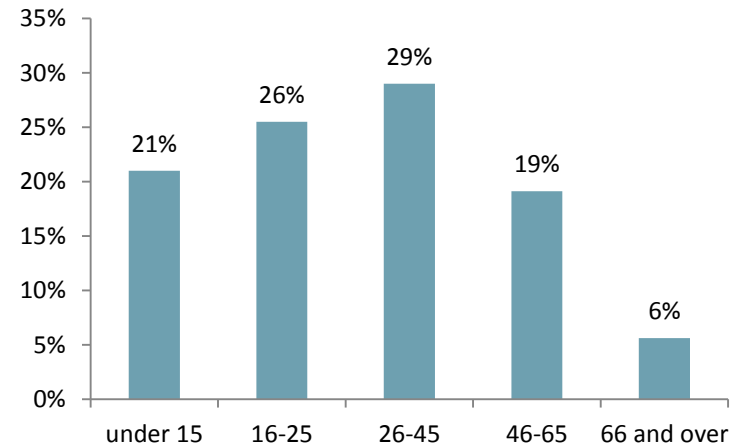
Highest Level of Education

Response rate = 76%



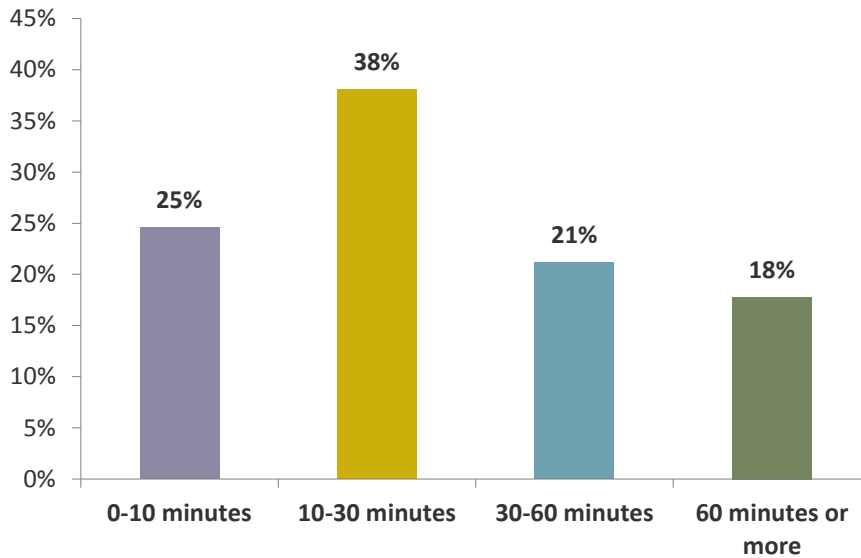
Age

Response rate = 86%



How much do you walk every day?

Response rate = 97%

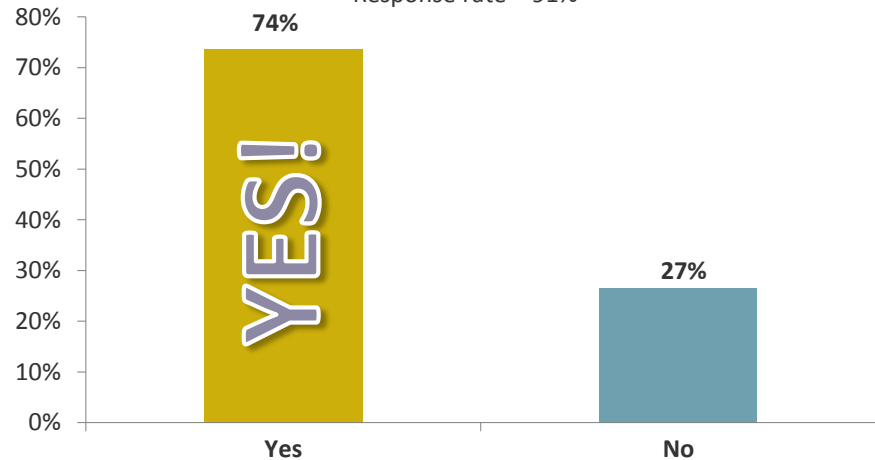


Did you know...
The Centers for Disease Control recommends 150 minutes of brisk walking every week!
That's only 20 minutes a day, seven days a week!
Source: CDC
<http://tinyurl.com/7lj15v>



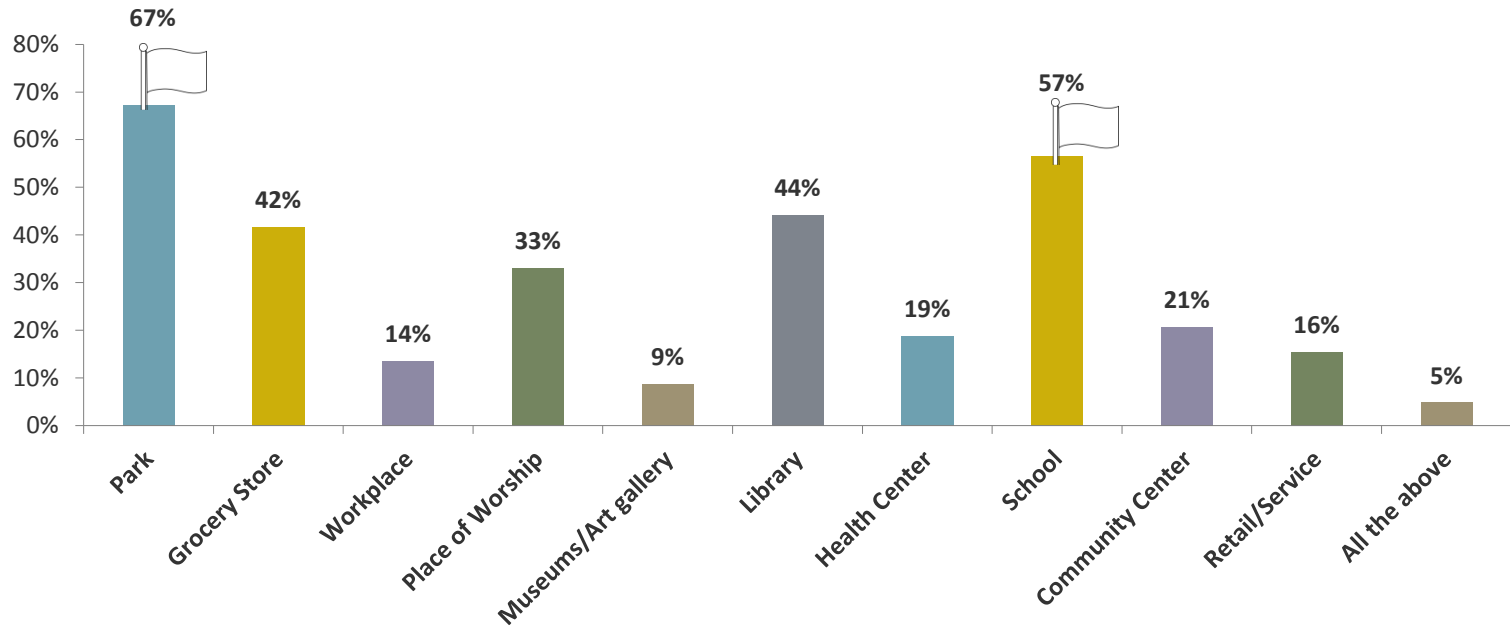
Would you like to walk more often?

Response rate = 91%



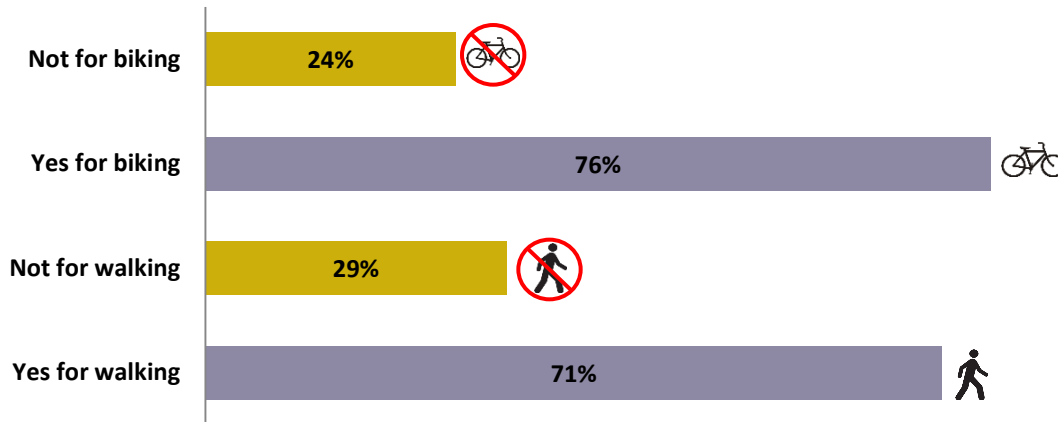
Which of the following neighborhood services are within walking distance of your home?

Response rate = 96%



Do you consider your neighborhood good for walking/biking?

Response rate = 82%

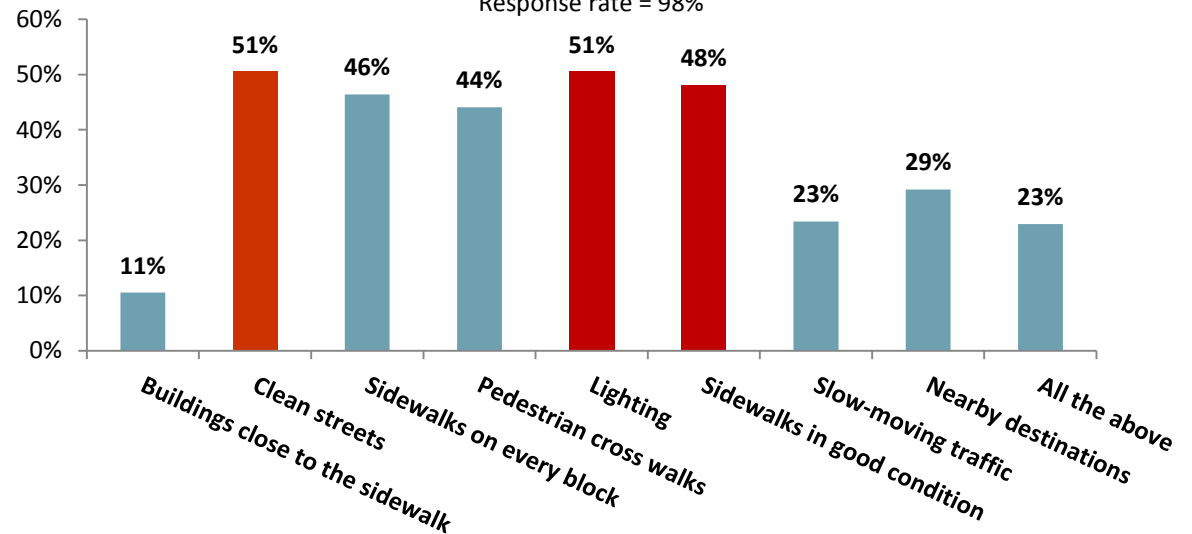


Great News!
The majority of Springfield residents rate their neighborhood good for both walking and biking!

The top three most important features that make for a great neighborhood for walking are clean streets, lighting, and sidewalks that are in good condition.

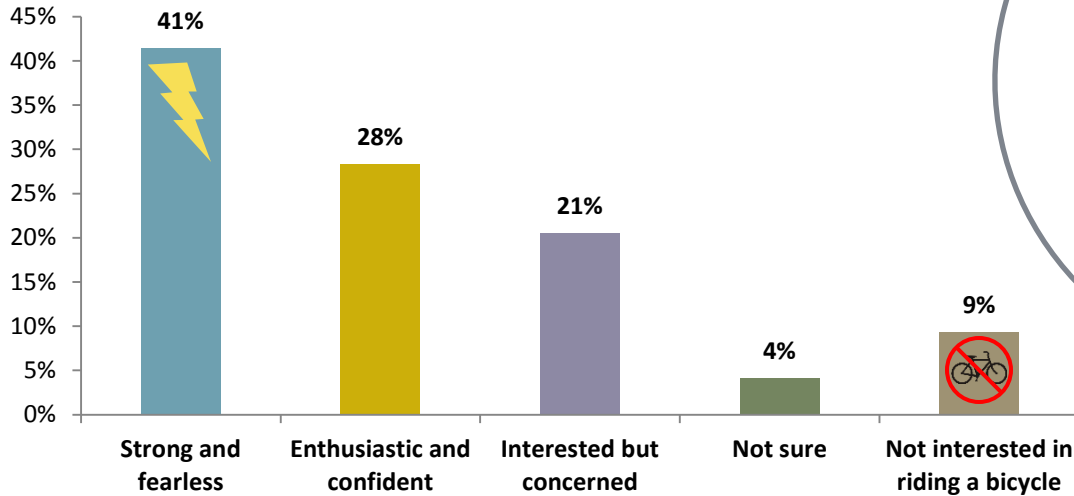
What features are important for making a neighborhood great for walking?

Response rate = 98%



How confident are you on a bicycle?

Response rate = 93%



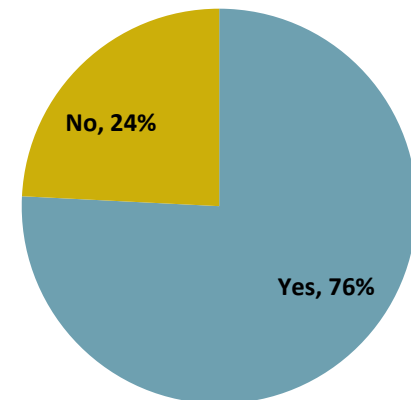
Generally, behavioral changes (mode shift) happens within these groups of folks!

Creating safe opportunities for biking through the addition of bike lanes, separated bike lanes, wayfinding signage, and bike parking can all help to encourage and support increasing levels of bicycling.

For more on this topic see: [Four Types of Transportation Cyclists in Portland](#)

Would you like to bicycle more often?

Response rate = 90%



Did you know...

National data show that bicyclists riding in areas without bike paths or bike lanes are much more likely to *feel unsafe* compared to bicyclists riding on paths or lanes....

Also, nearly one-third of the population (32%) is dissatisfied with their community designs for making biking safe.

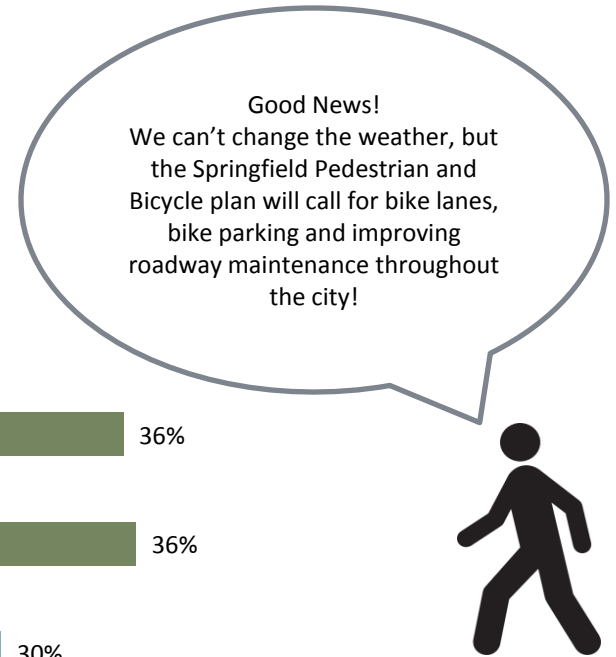
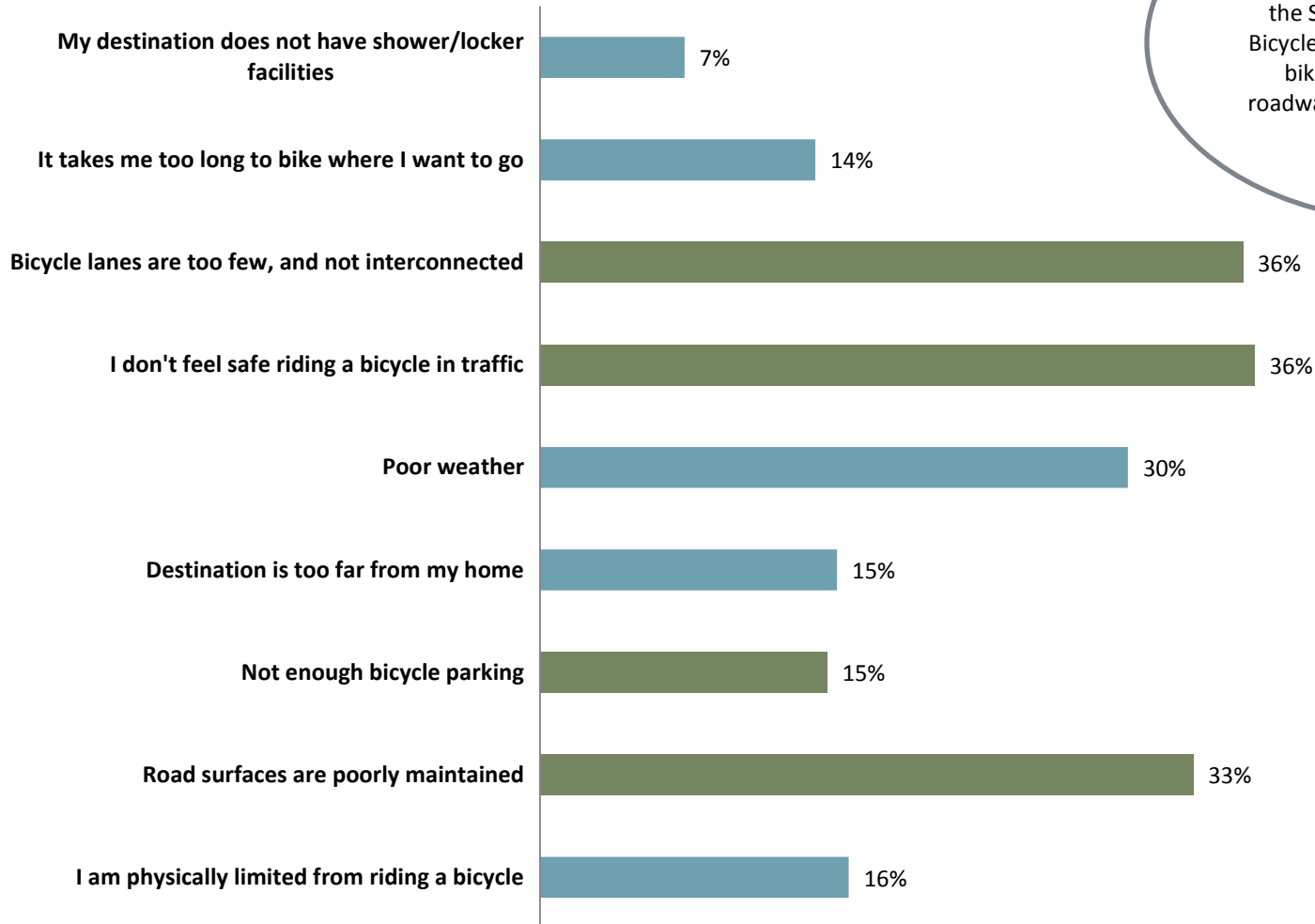
Imagine that!

Source: [How Bike Paths and Lanes Make a Difference, BTS](#)



What keeps you from bicycling more often?

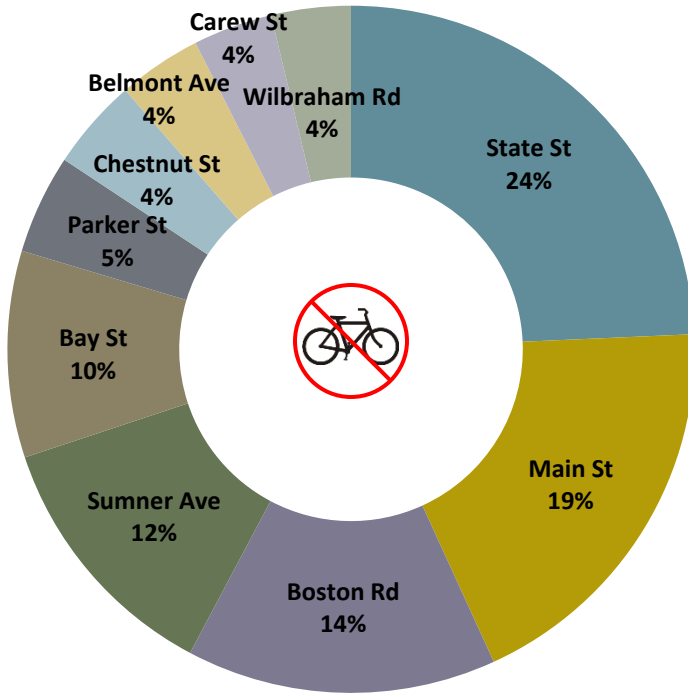
Response rate = 75%



Good News!
We can't change the weather, but the Springfield Pedestrian and Bicycle plan will call for bike lanes, bike parking and improving roadway maintenance throughout the city!

Top 20 Worst Roads for Bicycling in Springfield

Response rate = 61%

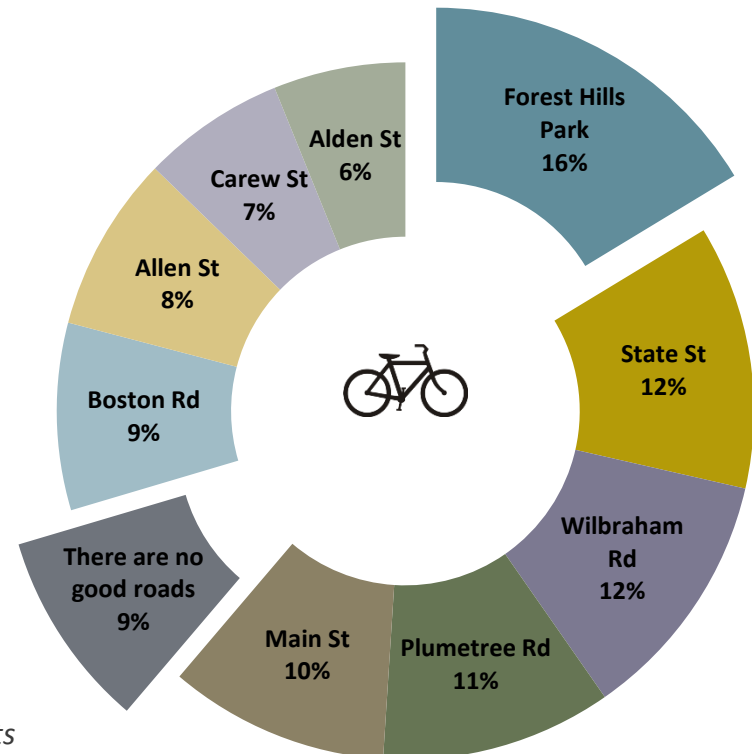


Best & Worst Streets Overlap

Worst		Best	
State St	24%	State St	12%
Main St	19%	Main St	10%
Boston Rd	14%	Boston Rd	9%
Carew St	4%	Carew St	7%
Wilbraham Rd	4%	Wilbraham Rd	12%

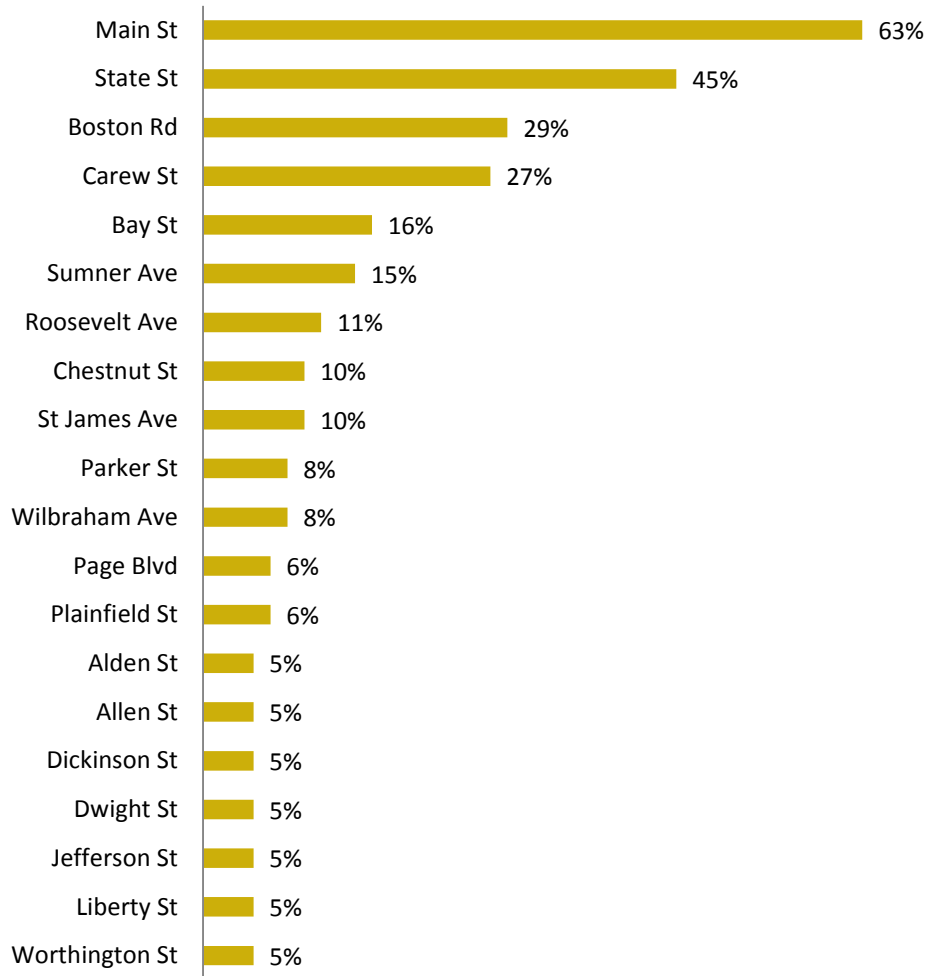
Top 10 Best Roads for Bicycling in Springfield

Response rate = 45%



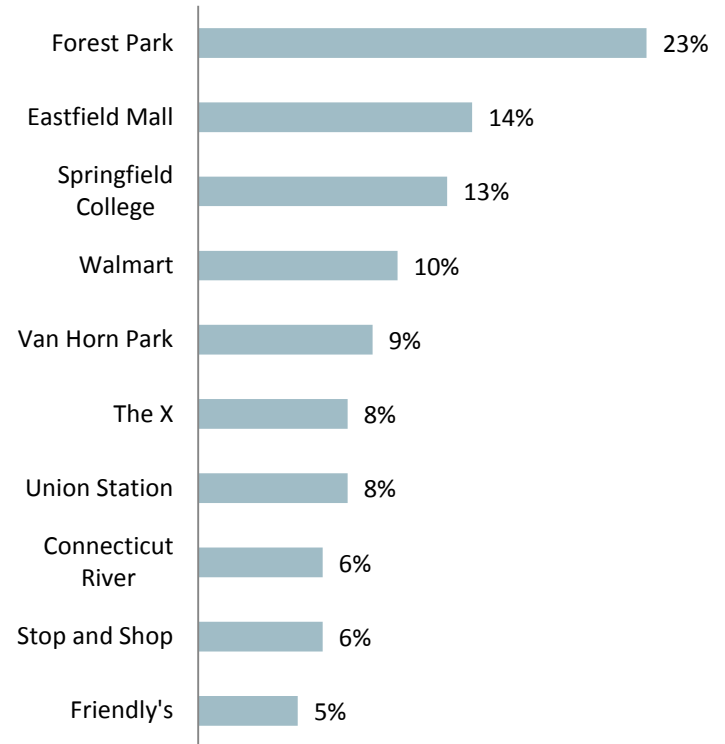
Top 20 Springfield Streets to Install Bike Parking

Response rate = 91%



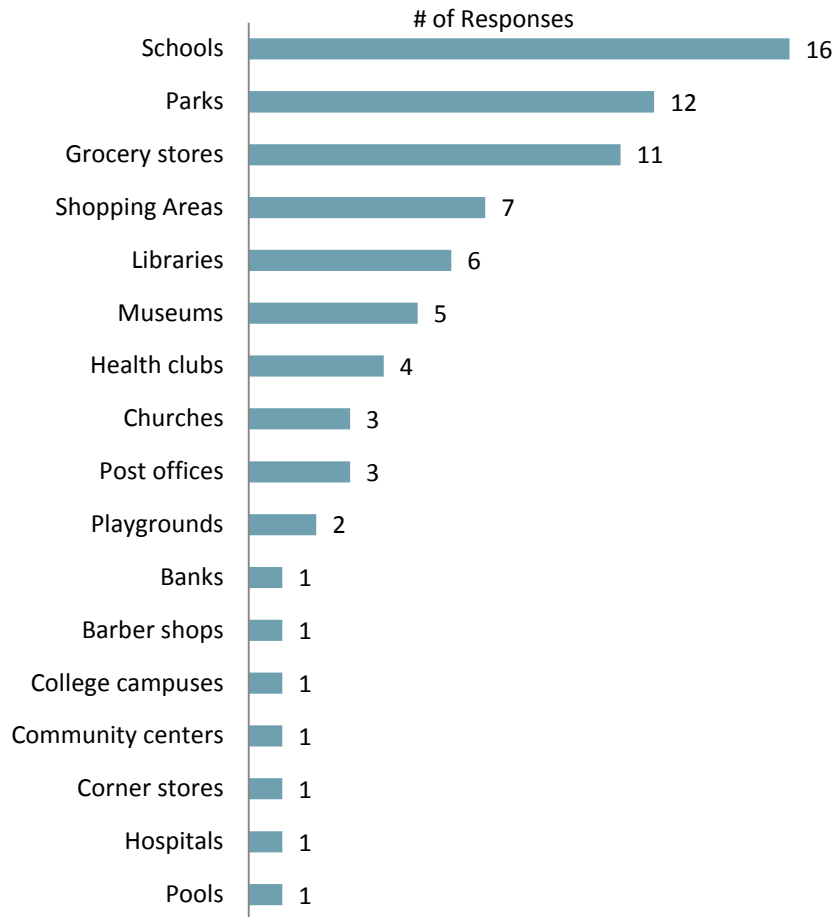
Top 10 Springfield Locations to Install Bike Parking

Response rate = 91%



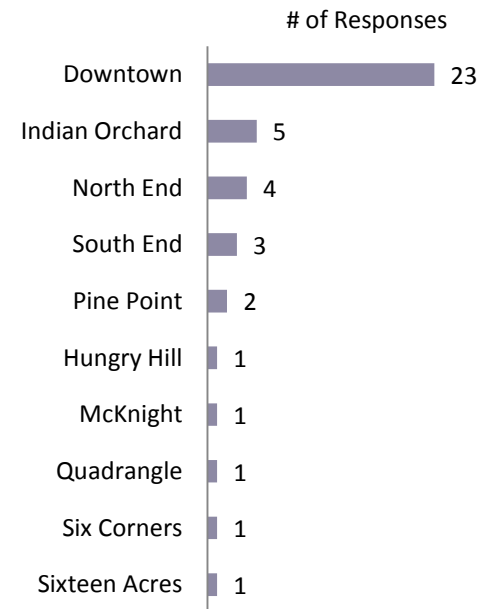
Springfield General Locations to Install Bike Parking

Total # of responses = 76



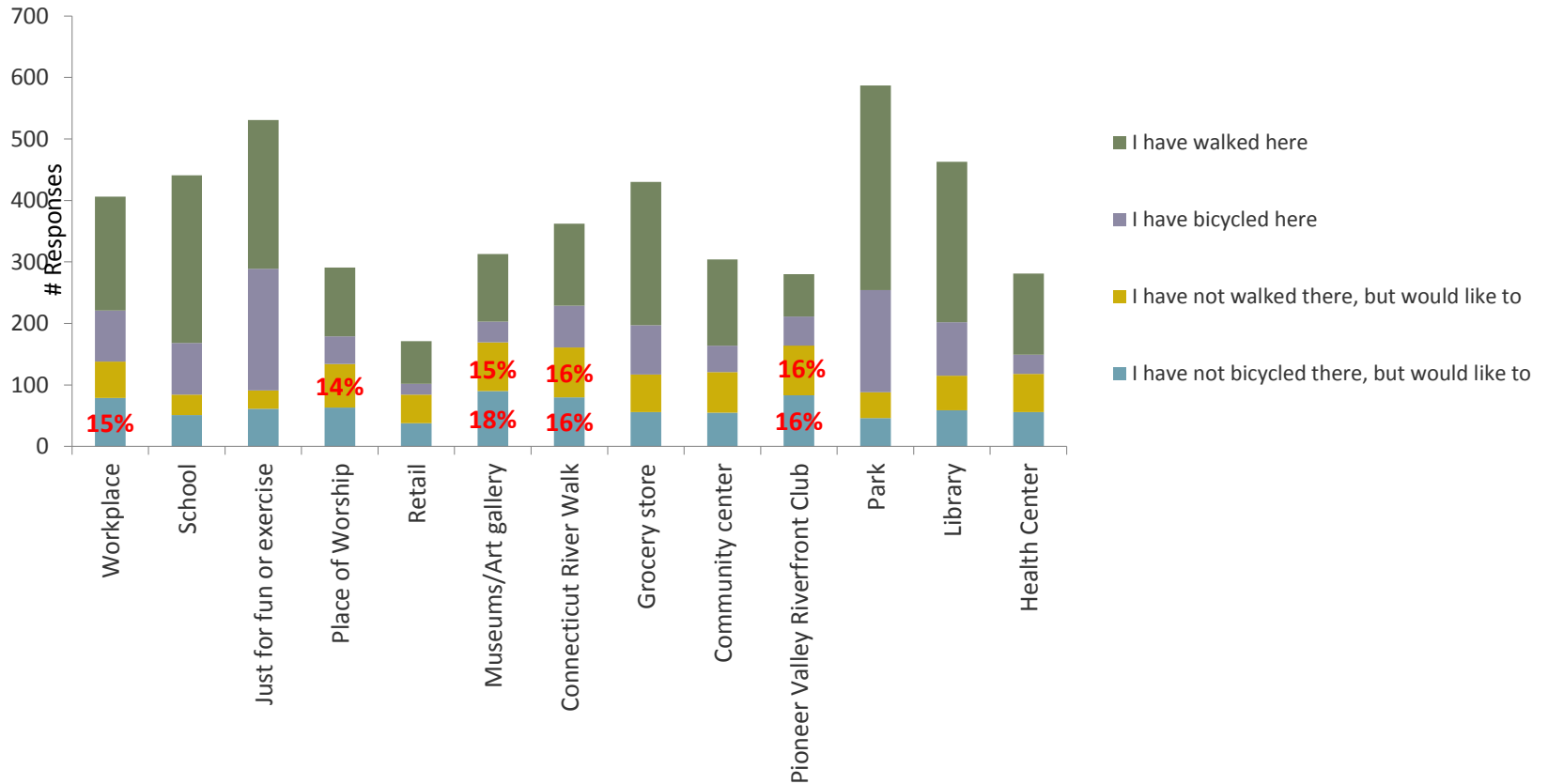
Springfield Neighborhoods to Install Bike Parking

Total # of responses = 42



For each of the following destinations, please indicate whether you have walked or bicycled there. If you have not walked or bicycled to the destination, please indicate whether you would like to do so if it were convenient.

Response rate = 85%



Questions or comments?

Please contact:

Catherine Ratté

Principal Planner/Manager

Pioneer Valley Planning Commission

Phone: 413/781-6045 Email: cratte@pvpc.org

Jimmy Pereira

Springfield Healthy Design Coordinator

Program Associate

Massachusetts Bicycle Coalition

Phone: 413.784.4822 | Email: jimmy@massbike.org