Comox Valley REGIONAL DISTRICT

Staff Report

DATE: September 15, 2022

FILE: 5330-20/SSCP

TO: Chair and Members
Sewage Commission

FROM: Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

Supported by Russell Dyson
Chief Administrative Officer

R. Dyson

RE: Sewer System Conveyance Project – Traffic Management Strategy Update

Purpose
To provide an update on the traffic management strategy and stakeholder consultation to address traffic impacts as part of the Sewer System Conveyance Project (SSCP).

Recommendation from the Chief Administrative Officer:
For information purposes only.

Executive Summary
Due to the extent and anticipated duration of construction for the SSCP, the project will have significant impacts to traffic throughout the course of construction. As such, traffic impacts have been identified as a key project risk and the project team has implemented a number of mitigation measures looking to minimize the impact of the project on the community. An update on the work underway is provided below.

Targeted Stakeholder Engagement

- Meetings, presentations and surveys have been completed with varying stakeholder groups to provide an overview of the project, discuss traffic impacts and solicit feedback. Engagement included meetings with key stakeholder groups such as emergency services, BC Transit and the School District, presentations to Town and City Councils and downtown business associations, and engagement through a survey for other private utilities and stakeholders. A full summary of the engagement and feedback is attached to the report as Appendix A, and the key takeaways are summarized below.
    - The route is widely and consistently used by stakeholders. Access to downtown Comox and disruption on Comox Road are concerns; however, most stakeholders also identified that disruption along the entire route is a concern.
    - Current/ongoing issues with congestion and parking through the core of Comox with concerns of additional impacts of further construction disruption as a result of the project were highlighted.
    - Consideration and attention needs to be given to emergency vehicles.
    - Communications is key. Many stakeholders are keen to help share information but information needs to be provided in a timely way.
- In addition, through development of the project agreement with the Town of Comox, a number of other key considerations were highlighted that will be included within the strategy. These include:
    - No construction work limiting access to Marina Park for three days prior to or during Nautical Days festival that takes place annually on BC Day long weekend.
    - Emergency vehicle access retained at all times.

    - No full or partial closures to the Boat Launch or the Marina from May 1 to October 1.
- Feedback from the stakeholders is being incorporated within the traffic management strategy, further described below, that will become a guiding document for development of the traffic management plans by the contractors for the design-build and design-bid-build construction components.

Engagement with K'ómoks First Nation

The K'ómoks First Nation is a government, a nation and an important partner on the Comox Valley Sewer System Conveyance Project. Consultation on the project is occurring through an established process that is separate from this stakeholder engagement process. While this consultation will continue through to project completion, some preliminary input noted by K'ómoks is included in this report:

- Concern about traffic impacts along Comox Road and ability to access the Band Administration office, IHos gallery and band member properties along Comox Road.
- Concern about increased traffic along Back Road, including safety of pedestrians and cyclists.
- Signage needed to discourage use of Back Road as a detour route.
- Support for additional transit options to limit vehicle use during the project.
- Ensuring engagement with band members well in advance of construction.

Traffic Management Strategy

- Urban Systems has been engaged to complete development of the traffic management strategy. The strategy will identify the recommended lane closures and detour routes throughout that have the least traffic network impacts.
- Analysis of existing traffic pattern data has been completed to understand the annual, seasonal and hourly traffic distributions and patterns. The peak traffic volumes along the route occur from 4-5pm.
- The length of the construction zone and resulting single lane alternating traffic has been shown to significantly impact the traffic capacity and resulting delays. Urban Systems is working on refining the analysis based on active construction zone lengths following a review from Comox Valley Regional District's engineering consultants looking to balance constructability and traffic impacts in determining the maximum length of the construction zone.
- The traffic management strategy will outline the proposed traffic management strategies for each portion of the project that will deliver the optimal balance of constructability and traffic impacts. It will not provide the details for how or when (for the most part) construction will occur but will provide the guidelines that the contractor must comply with when developing their own traffic management plans.
- The actual construction schedule and details for when work will be occurring throughout the project alignment will be informed by the contractors own traffic management plans, which will not be completed until late winter/early spring 2023.

The Comox Valley Regional District understands that keeping the public properly informed about traffic impacts will be key to managing traffic flows during the project and to maintaining public trust in the process. The project team is committed to keeping the public informed about this project. Recruitment for a dedicated communication role for the Sewer System Conveyance Project is underway to ensure open and consistent communications with partners, stakeholders and the public leading up to and during project construction.

Staff are working with K'ómoks First Nation to plan for an event to share information about the project, including construction and traffic impacts, with band members in October. Open houses in Comox and Courtenay are planned for early November to present the project to the community and share information about traffic management planning and construction impacts. A virtual session is also planned for those residents unable to attend in person. These sessions will review the route, share the traffic strategy and explain how stakeholder input will be reflected in the construction planning process. Invitations for these events will be communicated via direct mail to homes and businesses along the route and through a comprehensive advertising plan for other Comox Valley residents, understanding that this construction will have a valley-wide impact.

In summary, next steps include:

- **September 2022:** What We Heard Report shared with all participants.
- **Early October 2022:** Traffic management strategy circulated to key stakeholders that participated in meetings with Comox Valley Regional District staff for input and comment. This includes: BC Transit, the Downtown Courtenay Business Improvement Association, Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce, CFB 19 Wing Comox, Courtenay Fire Department, Comox Fire Department, RCMP, BC Ambulance and School District No. 71.
- **October 2022:** Traffic management strategy is finalized and inputted into the procurement processes. Traffic impacts shared at K'ómoks First Nation community meeting.
- **Later October 2022:** Advertising campaign for pre-construction planning community open houses and webinars with final traffic management strategy posted to website.
- **November 2022:** Community open houses and webinars to communicate construction impacts and highlights of traffic management strategy. Feedback to be provided to contractors for development of traffic management plans.
- **Winter/Spring 2023:** Traffic management plans developed by the contractors. Public information campaign developed and launched.
- **Spring/Summer 2023:** Construction begins.
- **Spring 2023 to project completion:** Public information campaign ongoing.

Prepared by:	Concurrence:	Concurrence:
Z. Berkey	***K. La Rose***	***M. Rutten***
Zoe Berkey, P.Eng. Project Engineer Water/ Wastewater Capital Projects	Kris La Rose, P.Eng. Senior Manager of Water/ Wastewater Services	Marc Rutten, P.Eng. General Manager of Engineering Services

Attachments: Appendix A – Traffic Management Planning Engagement Summary Report, August 2022

Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project

Traffic Management Planning Engagement

August 2022

Comox Valley
REGIONAL DISTRICT

comoxvalleyrd.ca

Table of Contents

Executive Summary 2
Introduction 3
1.1 Project Background 3
1.2 Consultation Overview 4
1.3 Consultation Goals 4
Consultation Overview 4
2.1 Approach 4
2.2 By the Numbers 5
Online Survey Results 5
3.1 General Use 5
3.2 Ranking of Management Tools 7
3.3 Themes of Comments 7
Summary of Stakeholder Meeting Feedback 8
4.1 List of Participants 8
4.2 Summary of Comments 8
4.3 K'ómoks First Nation Engagement 8
Conclusion 9
Next Steps 9
Appendices 9

Executive Summary

In Spring 2023, the Comox Valley Regional District (CVRD) will begin construction on the significant Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project. The project is critical to the long-term success of the area's wastewater management and for the protection of the marine environment – however, it will also require extensive construction work through some of the most-used traffic corridors of the Comox Valley. It will also be delivered under two different contracts, with different contractors.

In order to prepare for this disruption and reduce the impact as much as possible, the CVRD is developing a traffic management strategy that will be used as a guiding document for traffic management planning and will ensure contractors meet the expectations of the CVRD.

To inform the traffic management strategy the CVRD undertook an engagement process with key stakeholder groups in the community, ranging from emergency services, to transit, the school district and business communities in Courtenay and Comox. The engagement was held in June/July and included in-person meetings as well as an online survey. Nine meetings were held and 51 responses were provided to the survey.

Key takeaways include:

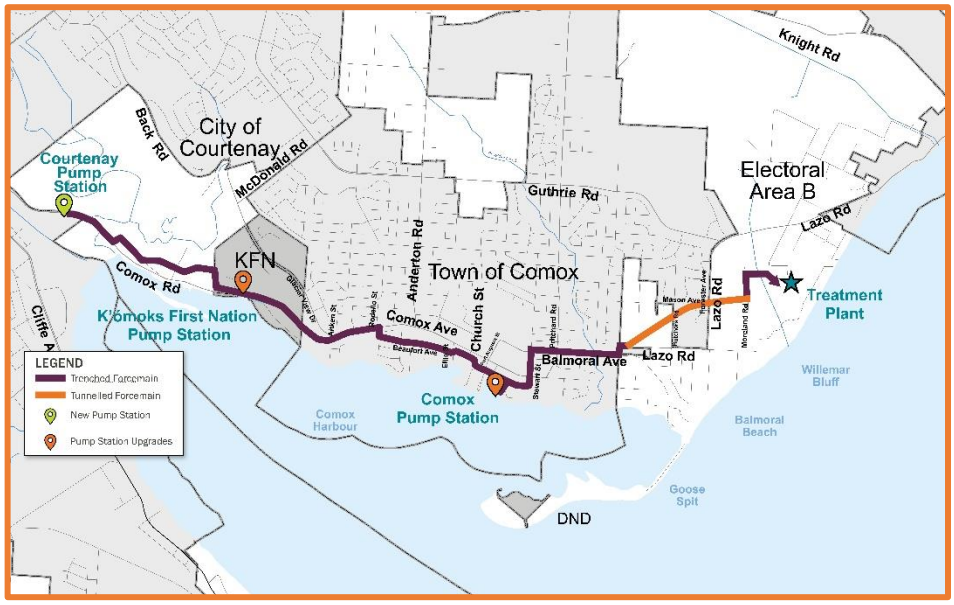
- Confirmation of the understanding that the area is highly used, in both directions, during day-time hours and that delays will be difficult to manage.
- Nearly the entire route was identified as an area of concern – there were no specific areas highlighted more than others.
- Current/ongoing issues with congestion and inadequate parking through the core of Comox and impacts of further disruption were highlighted.
- Concern about overlapping construction projects was raised, in particular the Providence project at the St. Joseph's property.
- Particular attention needs to be given to ensuring emergency responders have relatively quick, easy access through the zone.
- Communications will be key. Participants are keen to help share information but will be looking to the CVRD to ensure that the information is provided in a timely way.

A more detailed breakdown follows. The CVRD can now provide this summary information to the consulting engineers developing the traffic management strategy, in order to support their work. This engagement lays a strong foundation for future discussions with these stakeholder groups.

Introduction

1.1 Project Background

The Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project, scheduled to begin in spring 2023, will include the rerouting of key infrastructure along some of the Comox Valley's most used traffic corridors. The work – which is expected to last roughly 18 months – will see new forcemains installed using the traditional cut-and-cover method along Comox (Dyke) Road, Comox Hill, Comox Avenue (to Rodello), Beaufort Avenue, Stewart and Balmoral Avenue. The pipe will be tunneled from Lazo Road to the treatment plant.



Recognizing the impact construction work on this route will have throughout the Comox Valley, the Comox Valley Regional District has identified a coordinated approach to traffic management planning as a high priority.

To ensure that traffic management is handled consistently across the entire project area, the CVRD is creating a Traffic Management Strategy that will be provided to contractors working on the project as a guiding document in the development of their traffic management plans. In order to consider the input of key stakeholders in the strategy, an engagement was undertaken in June-July 2022. Businesses, organizations and service companies were invited to provide comment on their current use of the area and potential management tools during construction.

This report summarizes the feedback received during the engagement period.

1.2 Consultation Overview

In order to collect feedback from the community, an engagement plan was developed that offered both direct meetings with key services that use the route in the region, as well as a wider survey submitted to further impacted parties. The full list of invited participants is included in Appendix 1.

The engagement falls under the "inform" and "involve" areas of the public engagement spectrum as defined by the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2). The spectrum of public participation was used to define the engagement goals for this project.

INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Provide balanced and objective information to residents.	Obtain feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions from residents	Work directly with residents to address concerns	Partner with residents to develop a preferred solution	Place final decision making in the hands of residents

1.3 Consultation Goals

Goals for this stage of engagement included:

- Utilize stakeholder feedback gathered to inform the traffic management strategy.
- Raise awareness of impending construction and understanding of the work ahead and anticipated disruptions.
- Collect information about how the route is currently used, existing challenges/concerns and participants' ability to adapt to changes in access.
- Gauge interest/support for traffic management tools that are under consideration to identify preferred approaches.
- Create a record of engagement at the end of the process and demonstrate how feedback shaped the engagement strategy developed.

Consultation Overview

2.1 Approach

The engagement for traffic management included two key opportunities for feedback:

Meetings with key participants

Online Survey

Invitation letters were sent to all stakeholder groups identified, inviting them to a meeting, or to participate in the survey. A number of follow ups were completed to encourage participation. This survey was posted to the online engagement tool ConnectCVRD and highlighted with a news item. Local business groups in Comox and Courtenay shared the survey invite with their members.

This engagement was not promoted on social media or via more general outreach tools in order to focus the feedback on those key stakeholder groups identified.

The general timeline:

2.2 By the Numbers

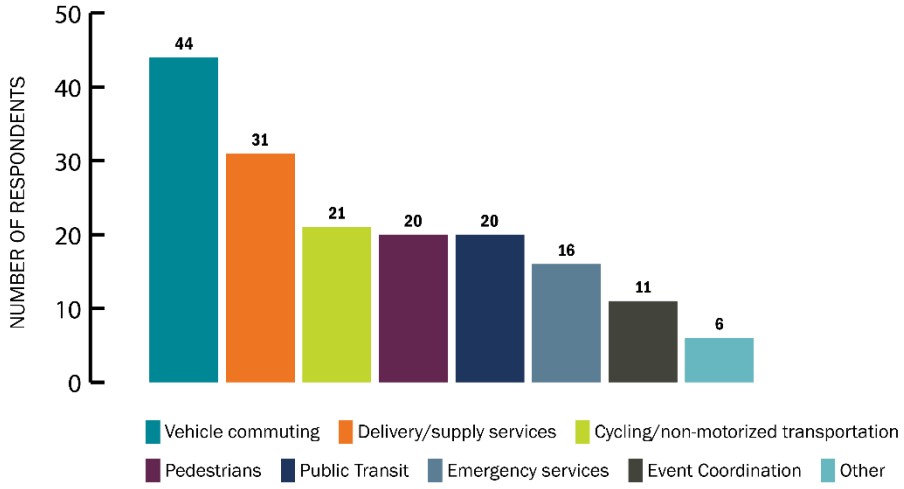
The numbers below highlight key data collected at the end of the consultation.

Online Survey Results

3.1 General Use

Results of the survey reinforced the understanding that this is a very busy route that is highly relied-upon by many in the community, for a wide range of uses.

What are the priority uses in this area for you/your organization?



Key findings included:

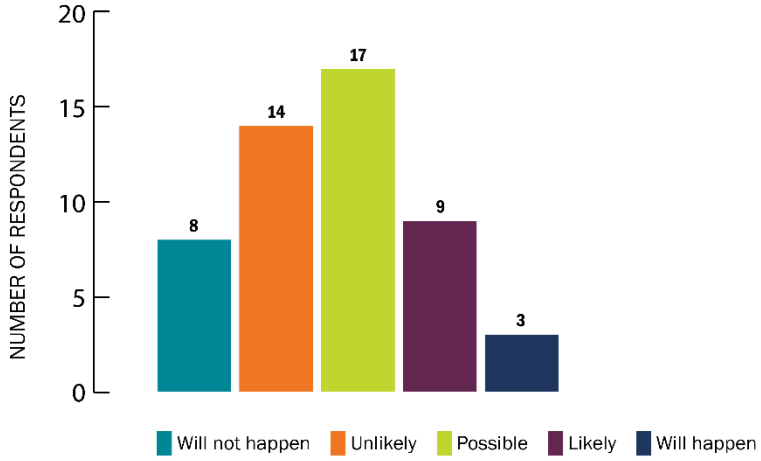
- 42 of 51 (82 %) respondents indicated they use the route daily and for multiple trips.
- Commuting for work/school, transportation/delivery of goods or services and access to services/businesses were the key reasons for travel (68%, 64% and 80 % respectively).
- Those using the route, use it in both directions.
- Traffic delays across nearly the entire route were identified equally as having an impact on respondents (58-68%). Balmoral was the one area indicated to be less of a concern.
- Use of the route is nearly equal among respondents across the morning (5 am-10 am), mid-day (10 am – 3 pm) and afternoon (3 pm – 6 pm) time slots (80-88%). Use is reduced significantly in the evening (25%) and late night/early morning (5%) time slots.

Respondents were asked to share any existing issues/challenges to traffic management in the area that should be considered. The most common comments were:

- Issues with congestion and inadequate parking through the core of Comox already and impacts of further disruption.
- Concern about overlapping construction projects, in particular the Providence project at the St. Joseph's property, and recent negative experiences of that work overlapping with roadway improvements on Comox Avenue.

There is very limited threshold for delay in the area, with 40% saying no delay could be accommodated on the route without selecting an alternate route. For 45%, up to 15 minutes of delay could be accommodated. It was divided almost exactly 50/50 between those who said there are viable alternate routes and those who said there are not.

What is the likelihood of you/your organization changing route or time of travel during construction?



3.2 Ranking of Management Tools

Respondents were asked to rate their degree of support for five traffic management tools. These were not presented as a ranking between one another, and the survey language clarified that a combo of these tools could be used. Below is a table summarizing the results.

	Strongly Oppose	Somewhat Oppose	Neutral	Somewhat Support	Strongly Support
Single-Lane Alternating	17.6 %	17.6 %	13.7 %	39.2 %	11.8 %
One-Way Route	23.5 %	17.6 %	13.7 %	27.5 %	17.6 %
Nighttime Closure (9-5)	2 %	3.9 %	7.8 %	31.4 %	54.9 %
12-Hour Closure	19.6 %	7.8 %	9.8 %	27.5 %	35.3 %
Alternate Demand Management	21.6 %	11.8 %	39.2 %	23.5 %	3.9 %

Nighttime closures generated the strongest support, while the one-way route option received the strongest opposition.

3.3 Themes of Comments

Participants were invited to share any additional comments and make suggestions about other approaches that should be considered. There were a number of very specific notes that will warrant review, but a few themes did emerge, including:

- **Concerns about Business Impacts**: Business owners indicated concern about the impact on local businesses, and the need to mitigate as much as possible.
- **Emphasis on Communication:** The importance of early, regular, proactive and consistent communications was highlighted.
- **Focusing disruption at non-peak times**: There was encouragement that work be focused outside of peak traffic hours.

Summary of Stakeholder Meeting Feedback

The project team recognized that, along with the general disruption of delays caused by construction, the critical nature of this route required focused discussion with a group of stakeholders to discuss challenges, requirements and ways to work together to ensure as smooth a process as possible.

4.1 List of Participants

Between mid-June and early July, meetings were held with:

- Comox Valley RCMP
- BC Ambulance
- Chamber of Commerce
- Comox Fire Department
- DND
- Providence Living
- Courtenay Fire Department
- BC Transit
- School District 71

4.2 Summary of Comments

These meetings offered a significant amount of detail about how each group operates, and how best to manage impacts for them. This includes details about times of day for high use, and particular operational requirements through the area. Key takeaways included:

- Organizations can help in sharing information about delays or alternate routes, and encourages the CVRD to share messages and information with the dedicated personnel
- Special attention is needed to ensure that emergency responders can get through the zone quickly when required. Sonics worked well during recent construction on the 5th Street Bridge project in Courtenay.
- There was general support for doing both sections of Comox Road at the same time, rather than one-after-the-other.
- The work will impact three bus routes. With more information and enough notice, BC Transit can build a schedule that considers delays through the corridor.
- Continued engagement and planning are required over the coming months – by sharing information both ways when available, efficiencies can be found.
- The two-year construction project at Providence Living (old St. Joseph's site) will be at peak activity in mid/late 2023. Considering parking for site workers, access to the site off of Beaufort Road or Rodello and traffic control personnel for the area will all be critical to the smooth delivery of The Views project.

4.3 K'ómoks First Nation Engagement

The K'ómoks First Nation is a government, a nation and an important partner on the Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project. Consultation on the project is occurring through an established process that is separate from this stakeholder engagement process. While this consultation is ongoing and will continue through to project completion, some preliminary input noted by K'ómoks is included in this report:

- Concern about traffic impacts along Comox Road and ability to access the Band Administration office, IHos gallery and band member properties along Comox Road
- Concern about increased traffic along Back Road, including safety of pedestrians and cyclists
- Signage needed to discourage use of Back Road as a detour route
- Support for additional transit options to limit vehicle use during the project
- Ensuring engagement with band members well in advance of construction

Conclusion

Engagement on traffic management planning has provided helpful insight into the concerns of stakeholders, and their feelings on options moving forward. Along with the input received, this was also a really valuable first step in preparing the community for the disruptions to come – setting a tone for the quality and extent of communications moving forward. This engagement exercise will help inform the development of the traffic management strategy and has also started establishing/growing trust between stakeholders and the CVRD's project team.

Next Steps

With engagement now complete, the below steps will be taken:

- The summary report and supporting documents will be sent to the consulting engineers to inform the development of the traffic management strategy.
- This summary report will be shared/distributed to stakeholder groups who participated.
- An email list will be created using the email addresses voluntarily provided through the survey process.

Appendices

Appendix 1 – List of Stakeholder Groups

Appendix 2 – Online Survey Summary Report

Appendix 3 – Stakeholder Meeting Summaries

Traffic Management Plan: Stakeholder List

Request for Meeting

- BC Transit
- The Downtown Courtenay Business Improvement Association (DCBIA)
- Comox Valley Chamber of Commerce
- Village of Cumberland
- CFB 19 Wing Comox
- Courtenay Fire Department
- Comox Fire Department
- RCMP
- BC Ambulance
- North Island College
- School District
- Comox Business Improvement Association (BIA)
- Town of Comox Council
- City of Courtenay Council

Survey Invitation

- Comox Valley Cycling Coalition
- Comox Valley Accessibility Committee (Comox Valley Social Planning Society)
- BC Hydro
- Fortis BC
- Shaw
- Telus
- Berwick House
- The Views at St. Joseph's
- Comox Valley Harbour Authority
- Comox Municipal Marina
- Comox Valley Marina
- Harbour Air Seaplanes

Consultation through Traffic Advisory Committee

- Province of British Columbia Ministry of Transportation
- K'ómoks First Nation
- Town of Comox
- City of Courtenay

Traffic Management Strategy: Stakeholder Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT
28 May 2018 - 21 July 2022

PROJECT NAME:
Comox Valley Sewer Conveyance Project

BANG THE TABLE engagementHQ

SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 What organization do you represent? (Required)

Anonymous 6/28/2022 12:30 PM	Berwick Comox Valley
Anonymous 6/28/2022 12:33 PM	Town of Comox
Anonymous 6/29/2022 10:24 AM	Telus
Anonymous 6/29/2022 02:38 PM	North Island College
Anonymous 6/30/2022 01:15 PM	CV Social Planning Society
Anonymous 7/04/2022 11:33 AM	Shaw Cablesystems
Anonymous 7/07/2022 07:25 AM	Comox Valley Cycling Coalition
Anonymous 7/07/2022 12:57 PM	FortisBC
Anonymous 7/08/2022 06:06 PM	The Views at St Joseph’s
Anonymous 7/10/2022 09:11 AM	Comox Valley Harbour Authority
Anonymous 7/11/2022 11:14 AM	Harbour Air
Anonymous 7/11/2022 01:55 PM	local government
Anonymous 7/11/2022 02:56 PM	Town of Comox, Marina

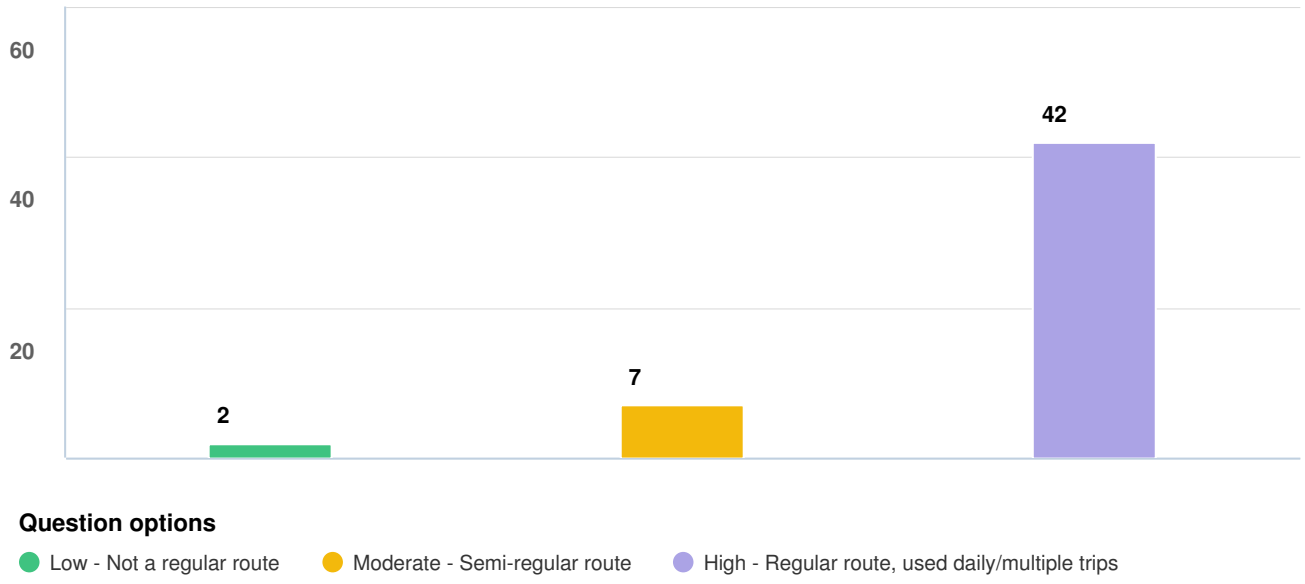
Anonymous 7/14/2022 11:31 AM	Downtown Courtenay B.I.A.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 11:21 AM	Public
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:00 PM	Comox Valley Airport
Anonymous 7/15/2022 01:54 PM	Personal
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:36 PM	Kiki's Communications / Compass Gallery + Gifts
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:21 PM	Benino and the Cottage Clothing
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:49 PM	Wayward Distillery
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:31 PM	Coast Surf Shop
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:53 PM	The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy #169
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:03 PM	Get Fit In 30
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:59 PM	Panacea Massage and Wellness, Comco Wellness Collective, Love Local Food co.Co.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:16 PM	Love Local Food Co.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:19 PM	Blackfin Pub
Anonymous	The Mill Coffee

7/15/2022 03:21 PM	
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:33 PM	City Cannabis Co.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 05:17 PM	SpiritFirst Counselling at Comox
Anonymous 7/15/2022 06:34 PM	Comox Ave retailer
Anonymous 7/15/2022 08:17 PM	Comox Valley Marina
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:19 AM	Ownership for the Comox Centre Mall
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:48 AM	Downtown business
Anonymous 7/16/2022 02:58 PM	Retail store in Downtown Comox (Comox Ave @ Pt Augusta).
Anonymous 7/16/2022 05:36 PM	Local Downtown Comox Business
Anonymous 7/17/2022 11:04 AM	Scorpio hair salon
Anonymous 7/18/2022 08:21 AM	CR Lawyers at Holland & Co/CBIA
Anonymous 7/18/2022 09:22 AM	Filberg Heritage Lodge and Park Association
Anonymous 7/18/2022 01:23 PM	comox business
Anonymous 7/18/2022 02:26 PM	Blue Heron Books, Comox

Anonymous 7/19/2022 02:42 PM	Downtown Courtenay
Anonymous 7/19/2022 02:47 PM	DCBIA
Anonymous 7/19/2022 02:54 PM	Eureka Support Society
Anonymous 7/20/2022 09:05 AM	Desolation Sound Yacht Charters & Marine Supply
Anonymous 7/20/2022 10:47 AM	Comox Valley Head Injury Society
Anonymous 7/20/2022 01:00 PM	Soul Star Metaphysics
Anonymous 7/20/2022 02:11 PM	Island Affair Giftware
Anonymous 7/20/2022 02:37 PM	Comox District Teachers' Association
Anonymous 7/21/2022 11:34 AM	comox small business
Anonymous 7/21/2022 11:57 AM	Komox Grind
Anonymous 7/21/2022 04:54 PM	Tidal Café

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Single Line Question

Q2 How would you describe the level of activity your organization, or members of your organization, has in the route area mark...

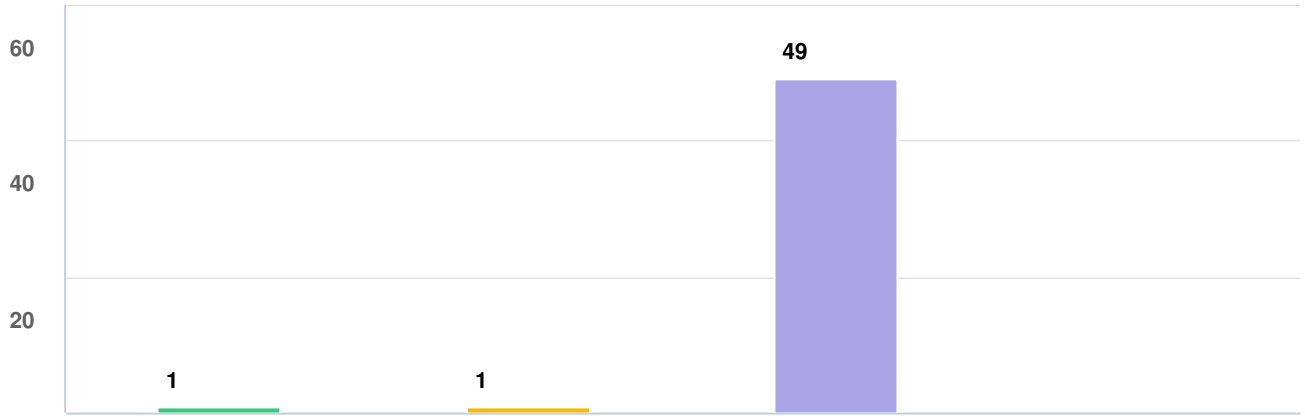


Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q3 How do you/ members of your organization use the area marked in purple now? (Select all that apply)

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q4 Do travel routes for your organization use this route in both directions? Or in one direction primarily, using another rout...



Question options

Single Direction Primarily - Eastbound (into Comox)
Single Direction Primarily - Westbound (into Courtenay)
Both Directions
Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q5 Are there current traffic management challenges in the area that we should consider? (Optional)

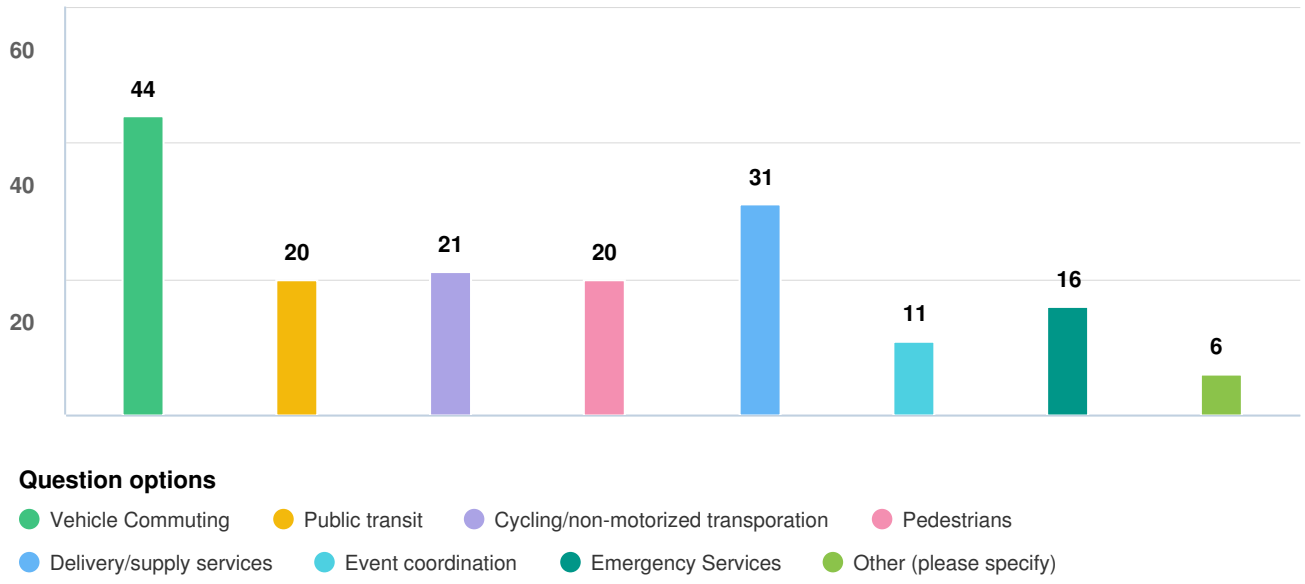
Anonymous 6/28/2022 12:30 PM	Ambulance Bay resides at our building. Also, street parking is utilized by staff and visitors.
Anonymous 7/07/2022 07:25 AM	A safe active transportation route is required from downtown Comox to the 17th St Bridge and beyond. This is a major connector and, although it has some painted shoulders, it is considered an unsafe and challenging route by many.
Anonymous 7/08/2022 06:06 PM	The View's at St Joseph's has started a new build, there will be additional construction traffic until the spring of 2024
Anonymous 7/10/2022 09:11 AM	Inadequate parking in the area depending on the season. Biggest concern would be access to the boat harbour in case of fire or other emergency.

Anonymous 7/11/2022 01:55 PM	Comox Avenue very congested especially when traffic is stopped
Anonymous 7/11/2022 02:56 PM	Two issues (both should be manageable) In the summer/early fall months there is significant traffic along Beaufort down Wilcox and down Port Augusta to access the parks and docks. Second is the large boat trailers that access the Boat Launch off Wilcox.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 11:21 AM	17th street Bridge backup issues
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:36 PM	current road projects are bottlenecking downtown traffic, which has a small footprint already. Parking and business accessibility become very limited.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:49 PM	Migration patterns of the swans, summer/fall salmon run, commuter traffic, and tourist traffic in the summer
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:53 PM	The traffic on Comox avenue is already very congest most of the day. The four way stops really impede traffic flow.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:16 PM	Parking & Bus Route
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:19 PM	Comox Avenue is already very busy now.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:33 PM	My main concern is the annoyance this construction will cause. Comox is already a destination location and I'm certain that long waits in traffic will send my customers elsewhere.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 05:17 PM	Now that the sidewalks are complete, that challenge is over. However, the Providence construction will have it's own set of traffic challenges.
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:19 AM	Consumer route for Comox businesses and deliveries.
Anonymous 7/16/2022 02:58 PM	YES: several 4-Way Stop Intersections with crosswalks all directions. Plus, cyclists. Some pedestrians are visually or physically impaired.

Anonymous 7/16/2022 05:36 PM	High traffic volumes, bus routes, access to parking lots, prime time hours shut down of work
Anonymous 7/17/2022 11:04 AM	That’s a very strange question .. why are u asking this ..
Anonymous 7/18/2022 08:21 AM	slow traffic flow
Anonymous 7/19/2022 02:54 PM	the building project at St. Joseph's
Anonymous 7/20/2022 02:11 PM	Access to The Comox Marina
Anonymous 7/21/2022 11:34 AM	maximum traffic flow at morning and afternoon commute times

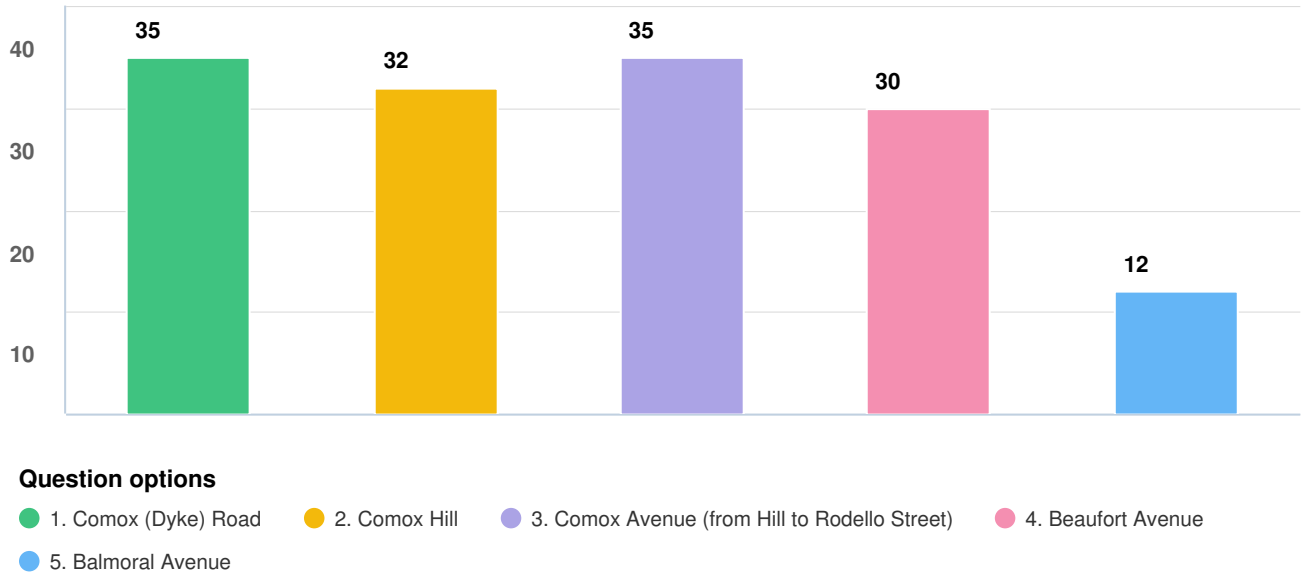
Optional question (22 response(s), 29 skipped)
Question type: Single Line Question

Q6 Traffic Management will consider a range of uses in the area. What are the priority uses for you/your organization? (Select...



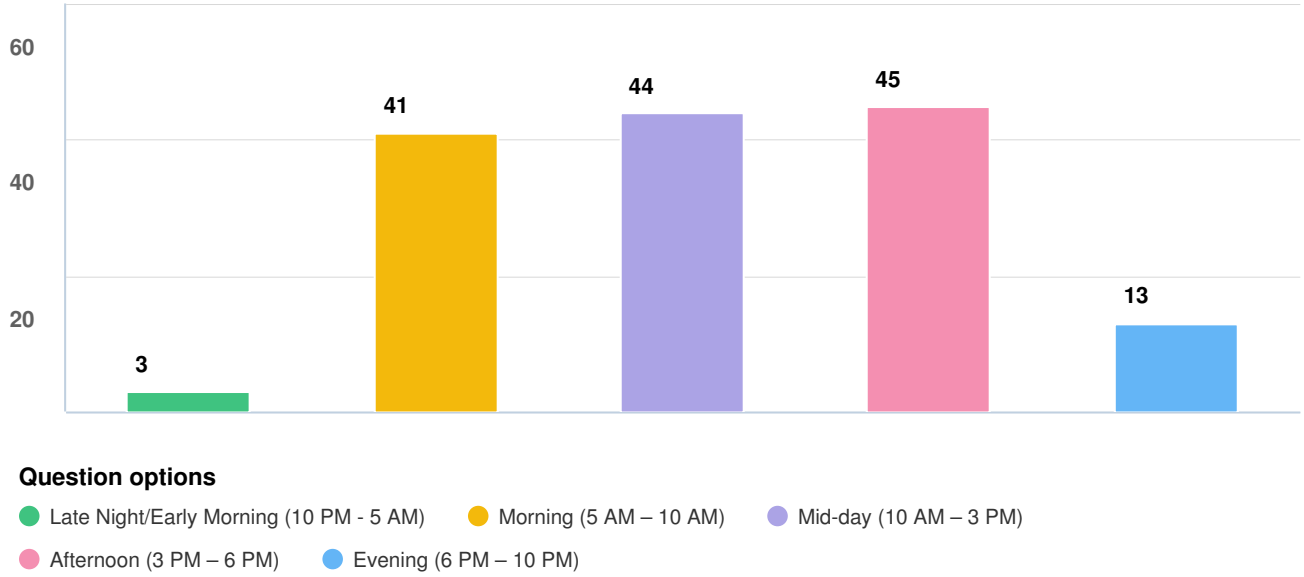
Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q7 Check the points along the construction route where you feel traffic delays will have the most impact on your organization:...



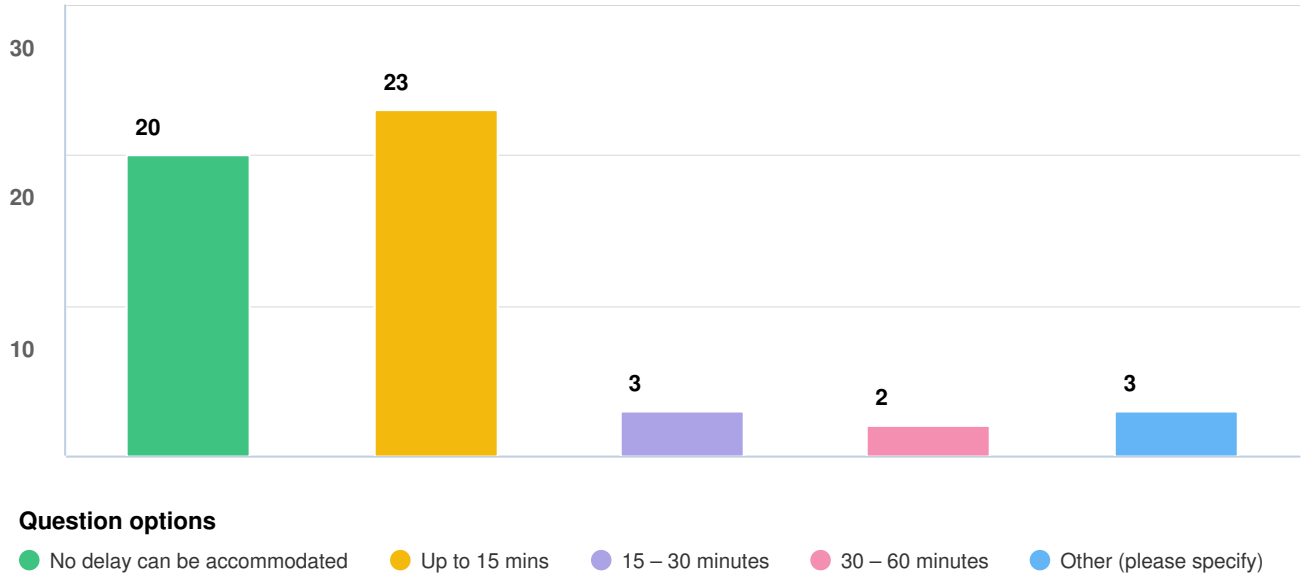
Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q8 What times of day does your organization primarily use the route? (Select all that apply)



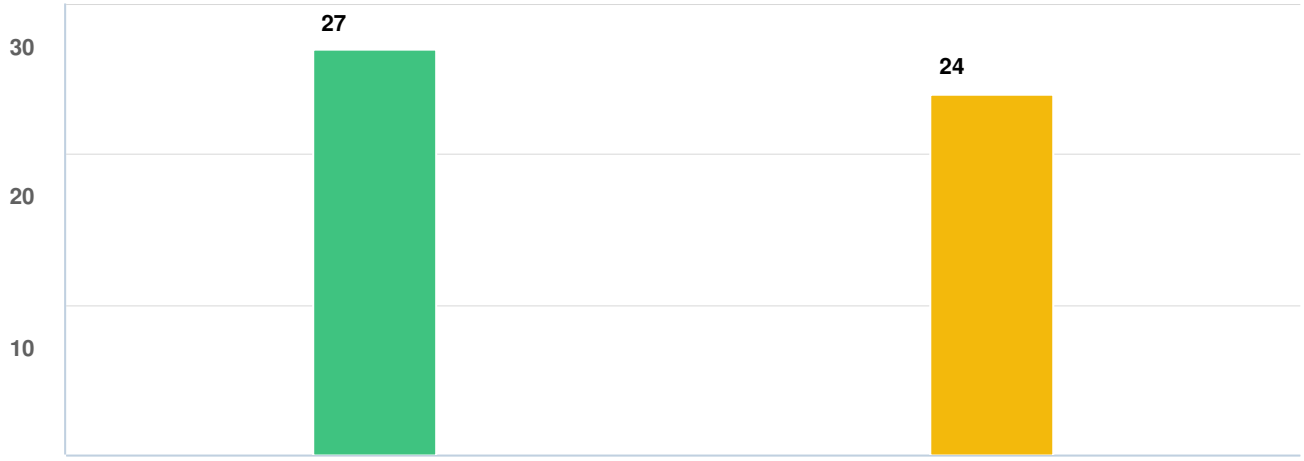
Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q9 What level of delay can be accommodated by you/your organization before an alternate route is selected?



Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q10 Based on your organization's use, are there viable alternate routes?

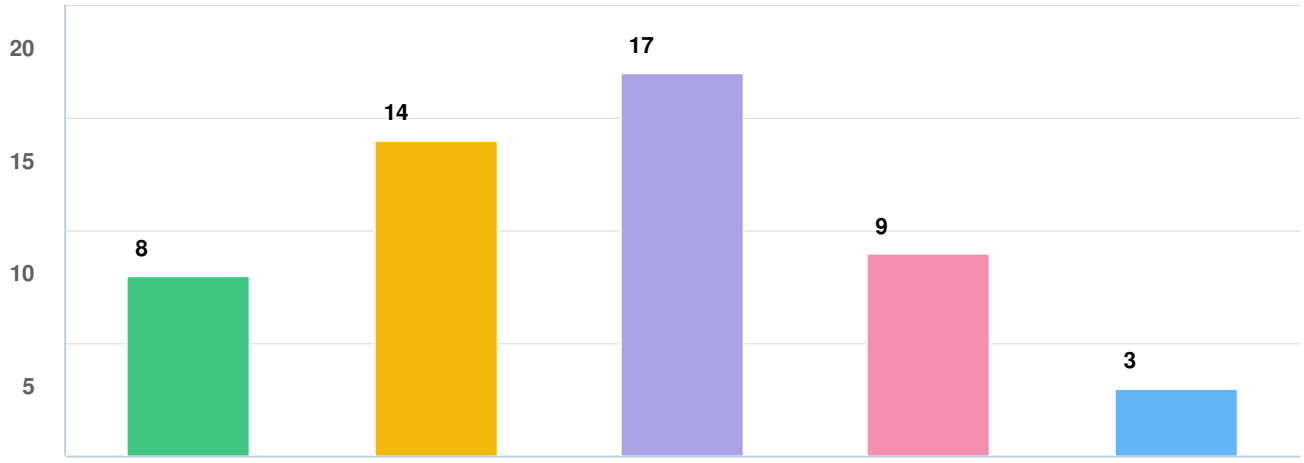


Question options

Yes No

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q11 What is the likelihood of you/your organization changing route or time of travel during construction?

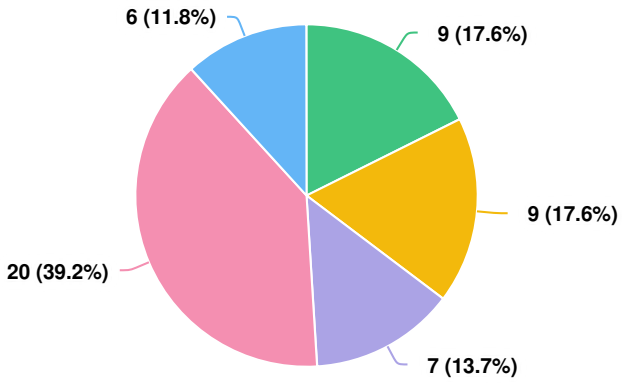


Question options

Will not happen Unlikely Possible Likely Will happen

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Checkbox Question

Q12 Single Lane Alternating: Traditional approach of maintaining one travel lane and alternating direction of flow.

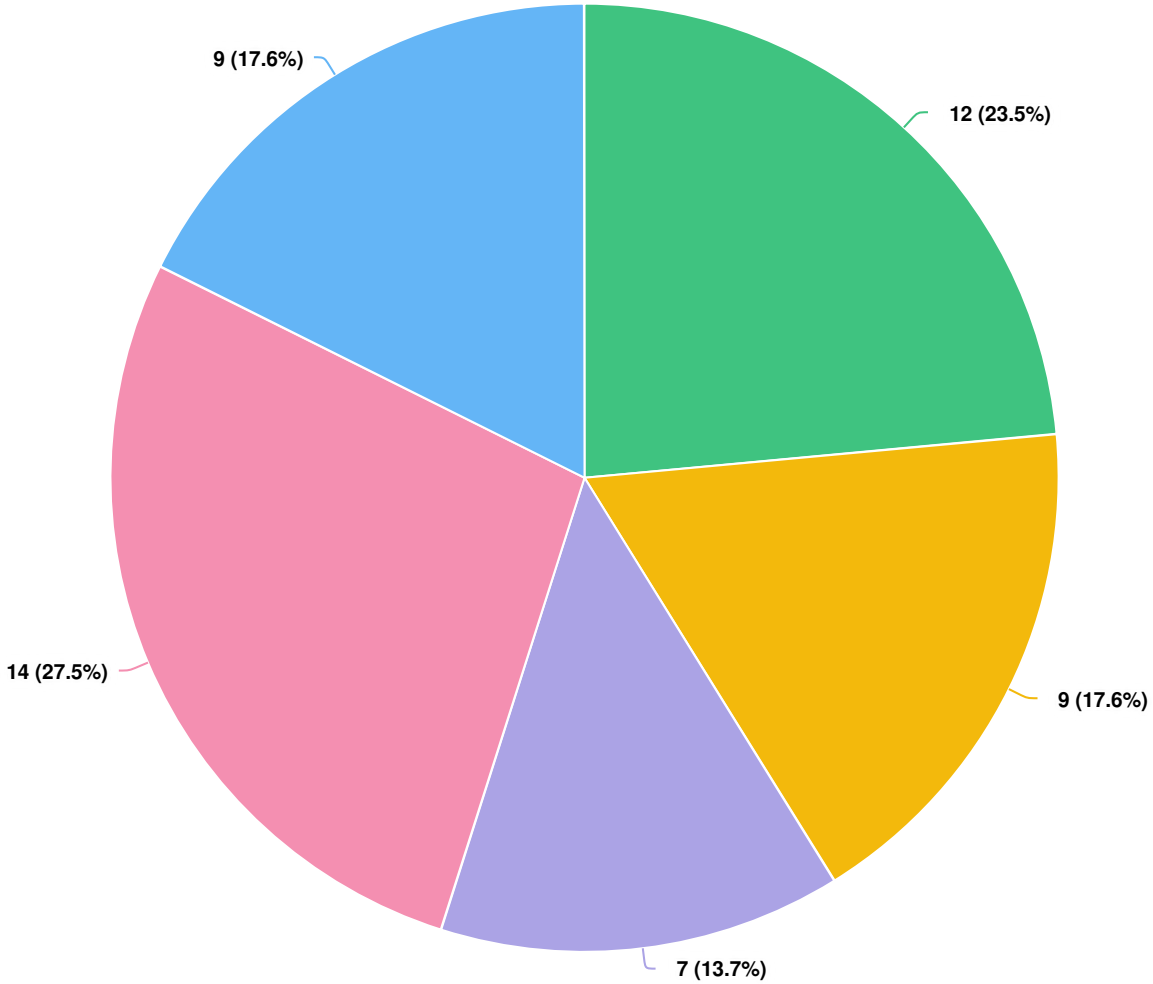


Question options

1 - Strongly Oppose
2 - Somewhat Oppose
3 - Neither oppose or support
4 - Somewhat Support
5 - Strongly Support

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q13 **One-way Route: introducing a one-way route in/out of the Town of Comox as an alternative to single-lane alternating traffic flows, i.e., flow west in the morning, and east in the afternoon – or some other one-way setup that helps to minimize traffi...**

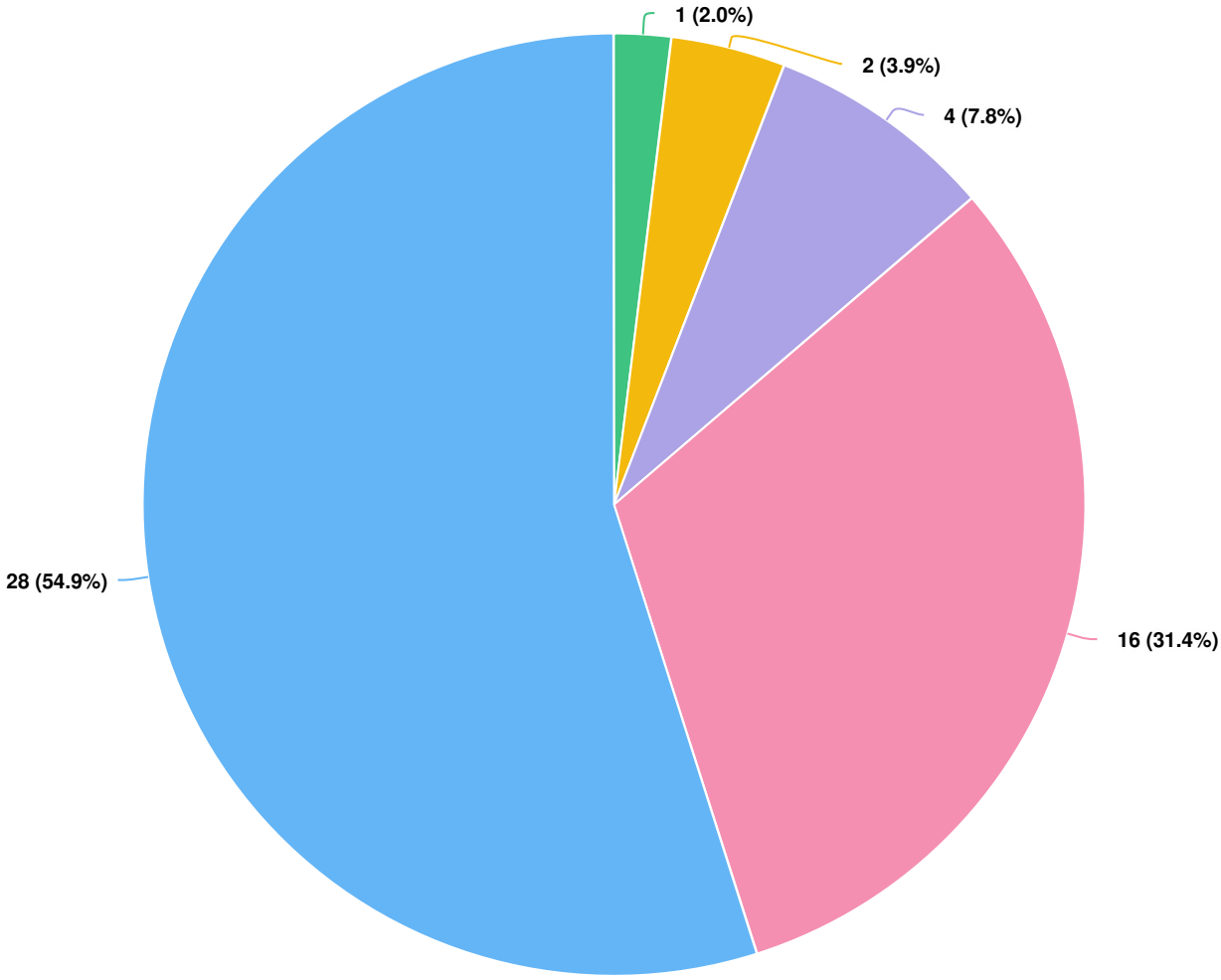


Question options

1 - Strongly Oppose
2 - Somewhat Oppose
3 - Neither oppose or support
4 - Somewhat Support
5 - Strongly Support

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q14 Nighttime Closures: Fully-closing vehicle access during night-time hours (e.g., 9 PM – 5 AM) and re-routing the reduced vehicle traffic in those periods.

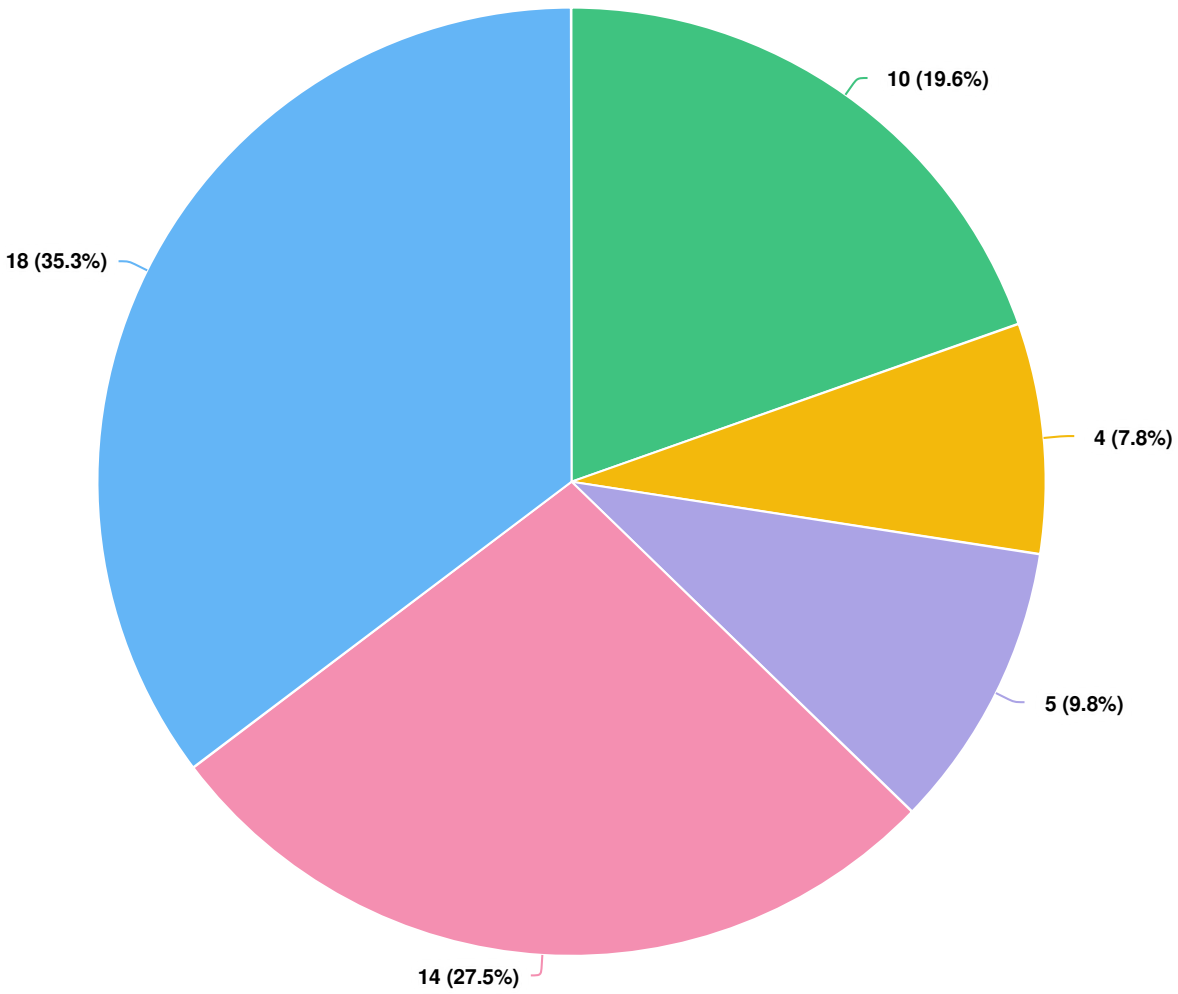


Question options

1 - Strongly Oppose
2 - Somewhat Oppose
3 - Neither oppose or support
4 - Somewhat Support
5 - Strongly Support

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q15 12-hour Closures: Fully-closing vehicle access for 12-hour periods (e.g., 7 PM – 7 AM) and re-routing the vehicle traffic in those periods.

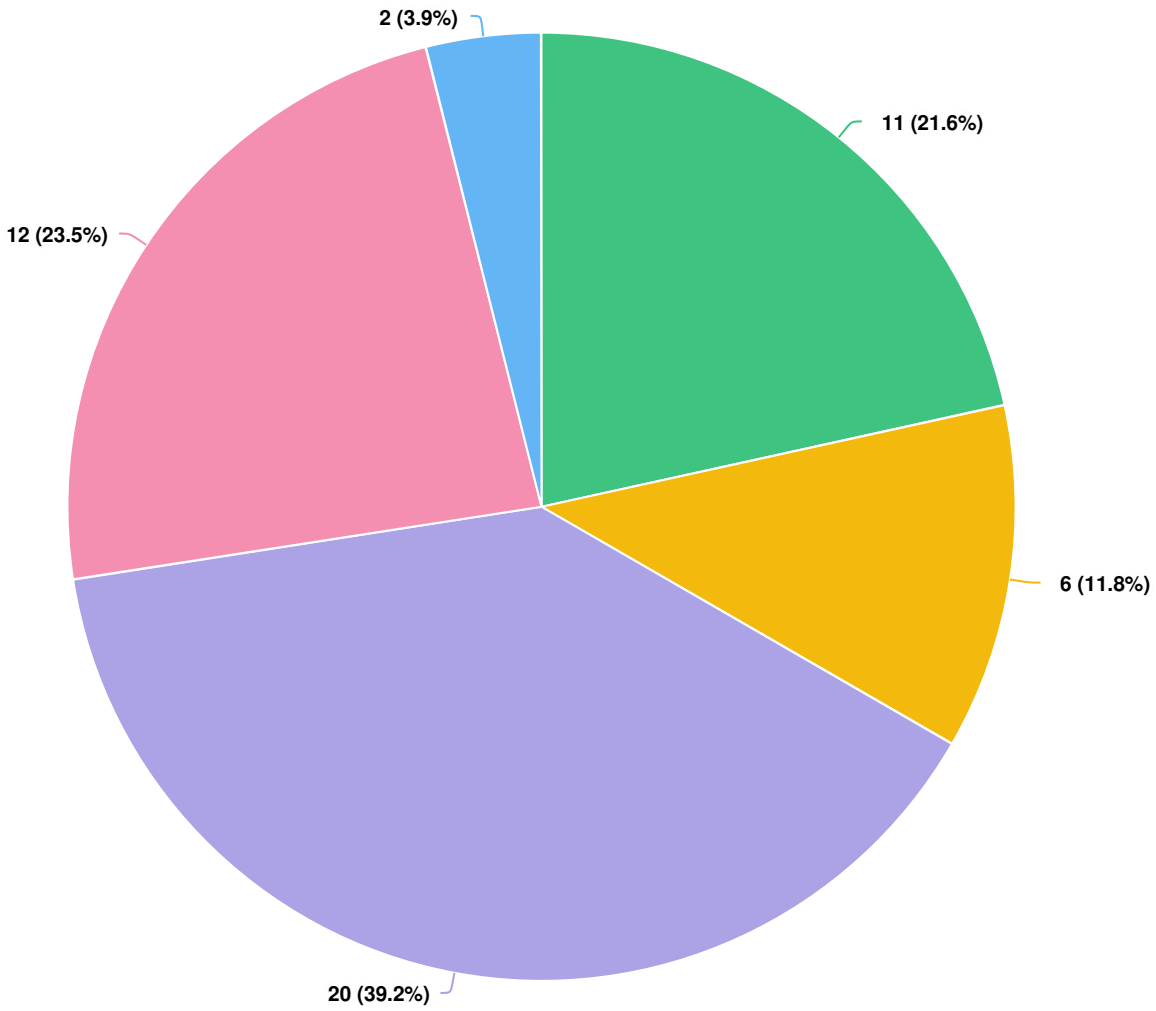


Question options

1 - Strongly Oppose
2 - Somewhat Oppose
3 - Neither oppose or support
4 - Somewhat Support
5 - Strongly Support

Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q16 **Alternate Demand Management: Approaches can vary, but could include prioritizing specific modes of transportation or uses (e.g., transit, cycling) or creating prioritized shuttle service/ride-share parking.**



Mandatory Question (51 response(s))
Question type: Dropdown Question

Q17 Do you have other suggestions that should be considered? Please Share. (Optional)

Anonymous 7/04/2022 11:33 AM	As long as emergency access to telecommunications infrastructure is maintained any options can be workable for the remaining aspects of our service delivery to residential and commercial addresses in the affected zones.
Anonymous 7/07/2022 07:25 AM	Strongly supportive of prioritizing transit and cyclists/pedestrians during the construction period. Allow cyclists and transit to move to front of line when alternating (similar to 5th St Bridge traffic management). Would also support one way route option if cyclists and transit are allowed to continue to move in both directions.
Anonymous 7/07/2022 12:57 PM	12 hour closures at night are supported, but not during the day.
Anonymous 7/08/2022 06:06 PM	We would request a traffic personnel to be posted at the entrance to The Views to ensure our traffic can enter and leave the facility
Anonymous 7/10/2022 09:11 AM	Ensure ambulances are stationed in Comox, preferably at the fire hall.
Anonymous 7/11/2022 11:14 AM	Right now there is construction near our Vancouver Terminal, passengers are still able to access it when the road is closed to other traffic.
Anonymous 7/11/2022 02:56 PM	Just keep in mind that there is only one way into the Marina and there can already be four or five large trucks with long trailers lined up to get into the space. There is also significant public traffic to access the marina, park, Sail Buildings, and splash park. Higher traffic in the summer, but a lot of fishing/boat traffic in the fall.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:36 PM	It is critical that the implemented traffic pattern remain as close to current / existing during regular business hours, to minimize the negative economic impacts on local businesses. Downtown Courtenay experienced as high as 70% decrease in their business traffic during the 5th Street Bridge project and Willow Point in Campbell River hosted an road upgrade project (including lighting and sidewalks) that resulted in several businesses closing due to lost revues from limited vehicle access. The impacts of covid have left

	Downtown Comox in restart mode, with locals and visitors finding their way back to their favourite shops and services. It is a slow return to 'business as usual'. A large road construction project implemented during high season and regular business hours, with expectations of the public to reroute, deter regular traffic patterns and have a massive negative impact on the businesses along this route.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:53 PM	Shut down to local traffic only for the duration of the project along the minor routes like Beaufort and Balmoral
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:59 PM	Communication system for closures ahoukd there not be a set schedule so, that our businesses can communicate to our customers to adapt travel routes
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:16 PM	Communication campaign on local radio airing every half hour to let commuters know the best route into comox - funded by the CVRD.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:33 PM	Just want to note im open to long term closures If that makes the project go faster.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 05:17 PM	If the Anderton - Guthrie/Lerwick to Ryan Road option can be guaranteed (meaning no other planned construction on that route for the proposed period) we should be fine.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 06:34 PM	My main concern is that the public be aware that Comox is still very accessible, I feel the Whole community knows that Comox is still open for business
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:48 AM	I worried about the clients showing up late because of traffic and losing money cause we can’t accommodate them. I’m also curious if you shut down traffic for the evening does that mean construction will be 24hours a day ?? On one hand that would be great to complete the project hopefully on time but would be hard for the people living around the site
Anonymous 7/16/2022 02:58 PM	Nothing that will solve this problem, unless work progresses on or ahead of schedule, i.e. work 24/7 crews non-stop to complete ASAP.
Anonymous	One way traffic flow during peak times or splitting the project direction

7/16/2022 05:36 PM	based on which side of the roadway is impacted. Communication out to the community is key!
Anonymous 7/17/2022 11:04 AM	As long as you can keep the flow of traffic in both directions.. as a lot of us work in apts. which would really mess up our business
Anonymous 7/18/2022 08:21 AM	night and weekend work is best
Anonymous 7/18/2022 09:22 AM	Night-time closures would be the best alternative for our organization. Clear in advance notifications of what alternate routes are as we have a lot of tourists coming to the Park.
Anonymous 7/19/2022 02:54 PM	Any plan that requires route closures to occur outside of prime travel times make the most sense and will have the least impact while not interrupting timeline.
Anonymous 7/20/2022 02:11 PM	Please avoid the DT area in the summer. Tourists are a main driver of business for the DT core in the summer and we especially need them more than ever to support us in the summertime ! Locals show their most support at Christmas(November & December). It would be best to also avoid construction in DT comox during that time as well. These suggestions are intended to help out struggling small business' in DT Comox.
Anonymous 7/21/2022 11:34 AM	whatever is chosen should be should be maintained for the duration. Predictability is KEY!

Optional question (23 response(s), 28 skipped)
Question type: Essay Question

Q18 Do you have other suggestions that should be considered? Please Share. (Optional)

Anonymous 7/07/2022 07:25 AM	Active transportation is increasing significantly, especially in the past few years (e-bikes make the Comox hill less daunting for many). There is not alternate route for cyclists using Dyke Road (Back Road is not safe for cycling). Providing cyclists with priority access on construction route as well as on alternates (through downtown) would lessen the deterrents to cyclists. Construction of the Lazo Greenway would also help move cyclists off Balmoral.

Anonymous 7/10/2022 09:11 AM	In our experience the short, infrequent,10 minute closures of the bridge for Courtenay Slough access create a lot of negative comments from the public. In the past the local radio stations have used negative language when reporting these openings. I no longer listen so they may still do that. Education to create a positive spin on closures may be helpful.
Anonymous 7/11/2022 11:14 AM	I can provide our flight departure times if there is flexibility on closure times we would be willing to work with you on that.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:00 PM	While employees will be able to adapt - passenger vehicles that travel to the airport will frequently be unaware of construction before encountering it. With arrival times critical, it will be very important to have clearly delineated alternate route options displayed before exiting both bridges to correctly re-direct travel (to Ryan Road) before they commit to a lane to the Dyke.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 02:36 PM	There needs to be collaborative efforts to ensure business revenues are not negatively impacted in Comox from this project. A year long project will deter and change traffic patterns. A major investment in Communications with a superior strategy regarding customer retention and destination Comox must be implemented.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:16 PM	1 spokes person to keep continuity. Start communication early to ensure the community thinks of the project as a positive.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 03:19 PM	We wish there was more options.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 05:17 PM	This is such a worthwhile project. Streamlining the Anderton/Pritchard - Guthrie/Lerwick route will be most beneficial. I know most people will opt for this route.
Anonymous 7/15/2022 06:34 PM	lots of warning and information available to the public, by way of all media
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:19 AM	General meeting should be held with the Comox Businesses that will be impacted by construction. Specifically for Comox Centre Mall delivery times and routes used. Obviously sales will be impacted by

	construction, will there be financial compensation for businesses. Example is the Vancouver corridor businesses that have been impacted by construction. Many have had to close.
Anonymous 7/16/2022 08:48 AM	Sjejen
Anonymous 7/16/2022 02:58 PM	Do it right, if there are any other concerns such as utilities (hydro, fiber-optic), install simultaneously. ALSO, the Bike Lanes have been eliminated and/or reduced with the new sidewalks constructed prior to this project: why? The road should have been widened to accommodate all transportation options including Bus pull-outs and areas for residential and business garbage collection (weekly for all types, incl recycling and garden waste).
Anonymous 7/16/2022 05:36 PM	Please do better than the city of courtenay when you communicate with stakeholders. You are already off to a great start.....the question is will you listen?
Anonymous 7/17/2022 11:04 AM	Please consider all accessibility to all small business as we all have been effective by Covid and are just coming back ..as we don't know what is going to happen in the fall winter spring w Covid. Thanks Cheri
Anonymous 7/18/2022 08:21 AM	winter work least disruptive
Anonymous 7/18/2022 09:22 AM	Each Summer, we host Filberg Festival attracting 1000's to Comox, and this will have an impact on our Festival.
Anonymous 7/18/2022 02:26 PM	Please get this done as soon as possible. Rather short term pain than long term agony.
Anonymous 7/20/2022 02:11 PM	Use social media to advertise rerouting/ delays etc.
Anonymous 7/21/2022 11:34 AM	clear communication with the public is of the utmost importance- it is when people's plans are disrupted that they get upset

Optional question (19 response(s), 32 skipped)

Appendix 3 - Traffic Management Plan: In Person Engagement Feedback

RCMP

- 12-4 p.m. is typically when they experience gridlock/heaviest traffic on Comox Road
- Require significant communications
- Area of greatest concern is Comox Rd.
  - Need careful consideration on ability for emergency vehicles to get through
  - Considerations for sonic/ pre-emptive systems to lock down lights to clear way for emergency vehicles
  - Rip the band-aid do all of Comox Road (both sections at the same time)
  - Off-season before summer and night-work is preferable, peak of day is when most calls are received
  - End of day for the base is when they see high traffic volume
- Requested CVRD provide blanket statement/message to RCMP for public so front-end staff is updated and can provide the appropriate messaging
- Quicker is better
- Road rage for flaggers to report to RCMP

Town of Comox Fire Department

- Service area is Area 'B' and K'ómoks, along within Town of Comox, including Morland Road
- Not overly concerned about impact
  - Single lane access is important
  - Comox Fire Department will work with contractor; continued blockage of dead-end streets is where primary concern arises
  - Recommend doing both sections of Comox Road at same time
- Often contractors reach out directly to understand first response and safety as part of construction fire safety plan
- Contractors typically call weekly and provide updates to fire
- May need to coordinate with Courtenay Fire Department for good neighbor/mutual aid agreement during works on Comox Road to allow for response times. This can be arranged without council support/approvals

City of Courtenay Fire Department

- City fire protection area is to animal hospital on Comox Road
  - Don't receive a lot of calls in this area, primarily traffic incidents
  - Supports the use of sonics for emergency vehicles, were handy on 5th street bridge
  - Challenges for FD will be increased traffic on the detour routes
- Courtenay and Comox Fire Department will discuss mutual aid
- CVRD should consider signage and bikes and communications that will be key component

- Courtenay Fire Department will respond for confined space and have inspector on site and will work directly with contractor. Comox Fire Department provides response for HAZMAT.

BC Ambulance/ Emergency Health Services

- Alternate routes and longer time frames will be considered when ambulance routing, provision for letting emergency vehicles through would be very helpful
- Agrees that construction along Comox Road all at once is preferred
- Berwick has ambulance bay but no ambulance in evening (comes from Courtenay if call received)
- Need to better understand the total duration of anticipated delays for routing the ambulance accordingly, access is key

Department of National Defence

- Provide contact/messaging to identified contact who will distribute internally and let front end staff also know for small calls from public, will direct larger calls to CVRD team
- Minimal concerns surrounding traffic, want to be informed and kept up to date on project moving forward

BC Transit

- Bulk of ridership is during school year
  - Need to better understand delays/impacts to not just construction corridor but detour routes as well
  - Interested in understanding mode shift and transportation demand management
- Project affects three routes, challenging due to nature of project and understanding when the three routes may/could be impacted
- Stewart Ave is key for bus exchange and will impact all routes
- Idea of timing impacts for Comox Road is important
  - Need to develop schedule in September if construction is to begin April 1
  - Discussion for length of time "flush in one direction for X minutes then switch" as an option for traffic on Comox Road could potentially help transit
  - Transit can reassess once construction begins and sequencing from contractors is better known
- A two phased approach could be warranted
  - Initial schedule would be worst case and address current uncertainty for fall/summer 2023 routing
  - Secondary schedule- Sept. 2023- once construction impacts and timing are better understood
  - Printed and posted schedule are the important components that take time
- CVRD to schedule follow-up meeting with BC Transit at end of July. Transit to provide route considerations/feedback via email to help inform discussion
  - CVRD to develop traffic impacts map to aide planning

  - The sooner the modelled data can be available the better
- A follow-up meeting will be scheduled for end of august.

Chamber of Commerce

- Chamber has e-news list that is distributed bi-weekly to 2,000 members. CVRD to provide link to survey to be distributed via e news
- Chamber members are located in Courtenay, Comox, Cumberland and CVRD
- Clear and concise information to public is necessary and chamber is willing to redistribute CVRD messaging about project through their social media channels/e-news etc.
- Providing solutions and not just noting road closures will be critical to project success

Providence Living

- Building underway for next two years at site
- Requested meeting to better understand how projects may impact one another
- Either Rodello or Beaufort needs to remain open, as one access is required to site as a minimum, this is the only access to the site now
- Construction in 2024 would be more palatable for conveyance but understood may not be possible, peak of construction will be mid/late 2023 for the views
  - Anticipating 90/100 people on site, will be parking on north side of Comox road on the feeder streets
- CVRD to provide notification as soon as possible to allow time for views to work around, primarily for management of construction
- Coordinating landscaping and paving will be required for around the Rodello roundabout, The Views are responsible for:
  - Widening the sidewalk on Comox Ave
  - Repainting lines – options for collaborating?
  - PMT drop across Beaufort to new building
- Night shift starts at 11pm for the facility
- Need to require traffic control personnel on Comox Road at turn out for facility during construction
  - As part of the sidewalk project people were using the fire lane as a short cut, which isn't ok. Traffic control needs to be in place to assist the flow of traffic

School District 71

- Bus depot is at 17th and McPhee, most buses go down 17th but not onto Comox Road
- Only one bus route along Comox Road that is a dedicated route for K'ómoks First Nation.
  - Picks up and drops off on Bayside and throughout IR1.
  - Pick up around 8:20 a.m.
  - Key is to ensure this route can be maintained
  - Consideration for priority for buses in morning/after school would be ideal