

2023 Roadway Reconfiguration Questionnaire Summary

The City released a questionnaire at the Roadway Reconfiguration Open House in March 2023 in efforts to collect thoughts and considerations from the Harrisonburg community regarding upcoming roadway reconfiguration projects. The questionnaire was open for the public to respond until late April. The purpose of the questionnaire was for staff to receive feedback from our daily roadway users and gauge community interest in reconfiguration projects that generally support enhancing safety on Harrisonburg roads. The questionnaire was promoted through a press release and local media, on the City's website and social media pages, public signage, and at an Open House event.

The questionnaire resulted in 64 participants where respondents could choose multiple options/interests on various questions. Of the responses, 50 travel by car, 25 walk, and 24 bike in the City (some respondents utilizing multiple travel methods). Results showed 76% respondents support or strongly support and 16% oppose or strongly oppose roadway reconfigurations, where 8% respondents were neutral. Respondents were asked "what are the most important benefits they think reconfigurations will have" and 48% of respondents shared new bike lanes are the greatest benefit, followed by 43% for safer speeds, 32% more buffer for sidewalk, and 29% for safer left turns.

Open House visuals and communication with Harrisonburg Public Works project staff helped address concerns the public had relating to specific projects through available visual aids for each project and frequently asked question answers. The event's visual aids and FAQ resources including specific project information/timeframes are available on the City website at www.harrisonburgva.gov/roadway-reconfigurations.

Although the Open House event has passed and questionnaire has closed, the public is still welcome to send thoughts and considerations by emailing brittany.clem-hott@harrisonburgva.gov as the Harrisonburg community experiences reconfiguration project progress this summer 2023.

The City plans to continue to monitor and measure outcomes and project effectiveness, reporting on these findings in the future.