

# SR 37 Survey & Focus Groups

## Overview of Results



March 1, 2018



# Presentation Overview

- Public Engagement Objectives
- Participant Demographics
- Survey Results
  - Travel Patterns
  - Potential Change to Travel Patterns
  - Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvements
  - Alternative Funding Options
- General Focus Group Findings
- Questions



# Survey and Focus Group Objectives

## Web-based survey

- Secure broad participation from route SR 37 travelers
- Provide opportunity for input during a 6-week period

## Focus Groups

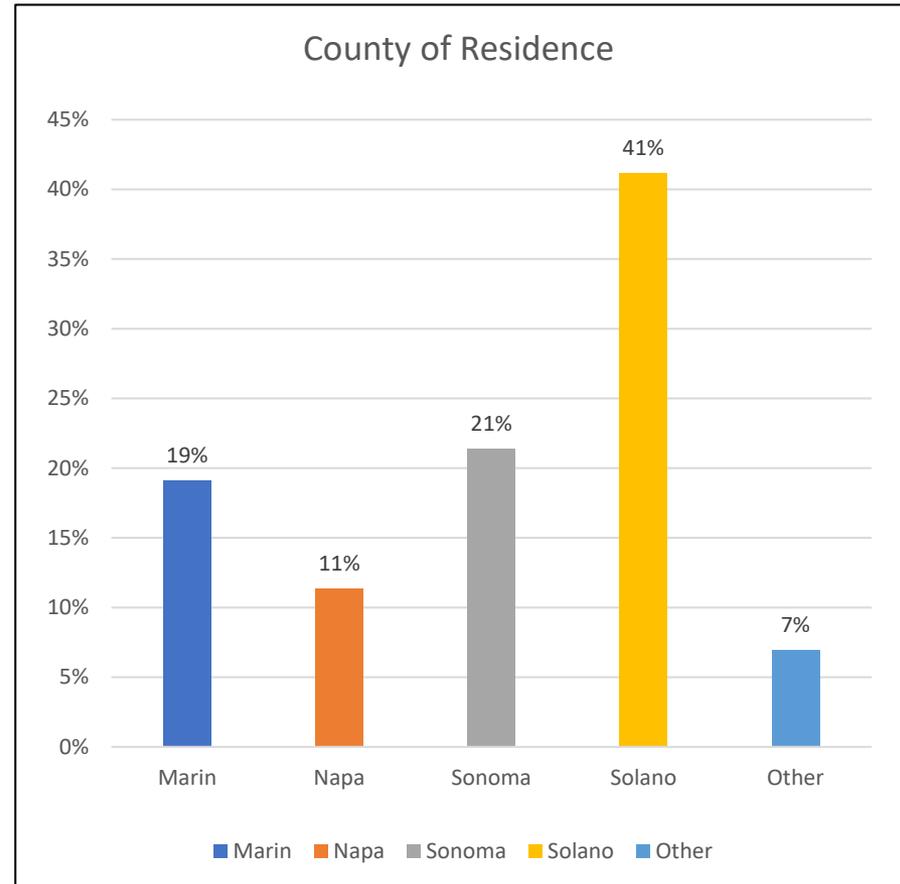
- Recruit participants not likely to attend a workshop
- Ensure representative participation, especially low-income residents
- Provide bi-lingual facilitator for Spanish-speaking participants
- Support efforts to reach minority, low-income and Limited English proficient participants



# Survey Participation from 4 County Residents

Over 3750 responses were collected

- 41% from Solano County residents
- 21% from Sonoma County residents
- 19% from Marin County residents
- 11% from Napa County residents
- 7% from other Counties





# Focus Group Methodology

Conducted six focus groups composed of:

- Sonoma County residents
- Napa County residents
- Marin County residents
- Solano residents
- Low-income residents from the 4-county area
- Spanish-speaking residents from 4-county area

# Survey Demographics





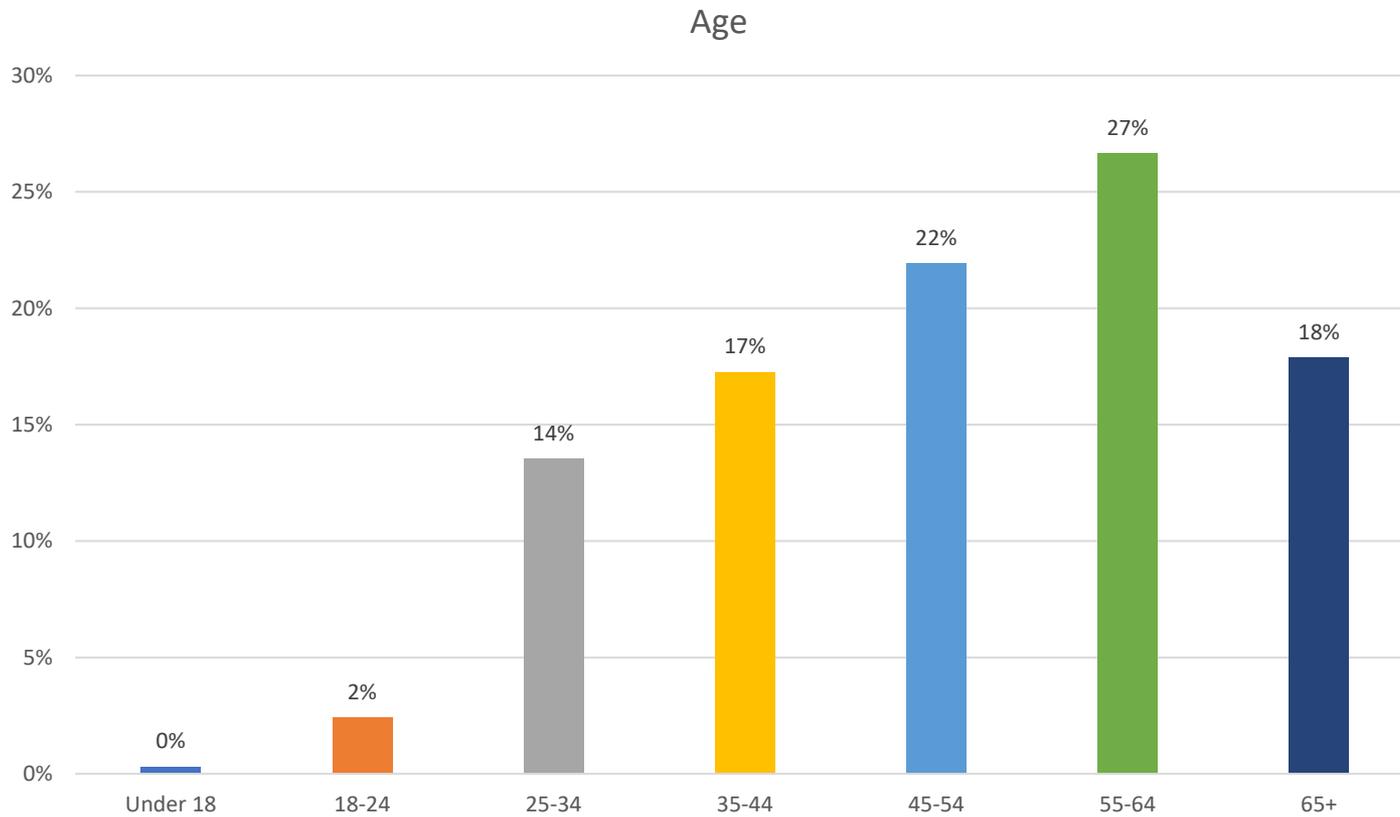
# Survey Demographics

## **Key findings in terms of age, race, ethnicity and income of respondents:**

- Nearly 50% of the respondents were between 45 and 64 years old, 31% between 25 and 44 years old, and 18% over 65 years old.
- The majority of respondents (77%) identified as White, and 7% as Asian, 6% as Hispanic, 3% as African-American, 1% as Native American and 6% as multi-racial.
- 44% of respondents had a household income above \$100,000, 30% declared earning between \$50,000 and \$100,000 and 11% declared earning less than \$50,000.

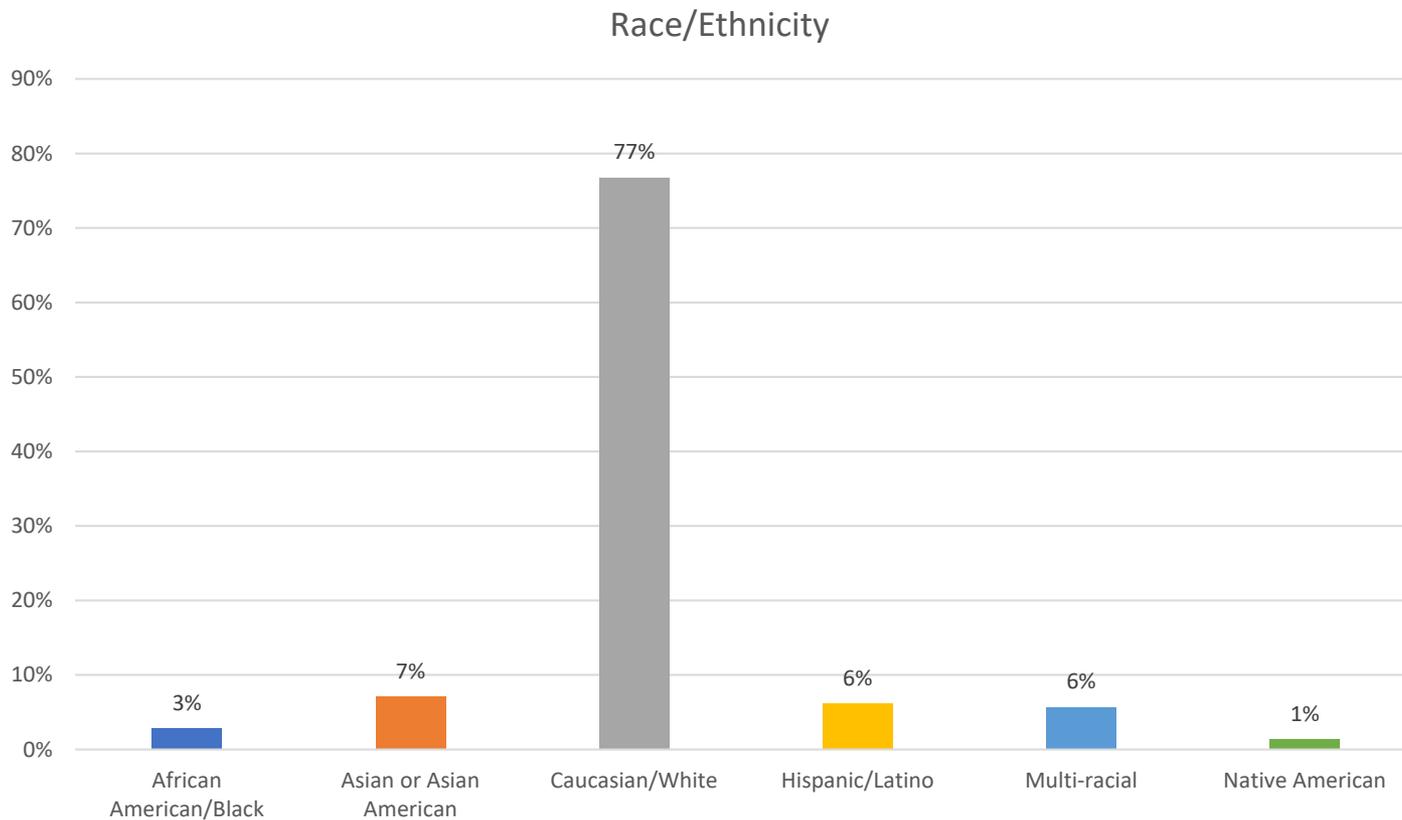


# Survey Demographics





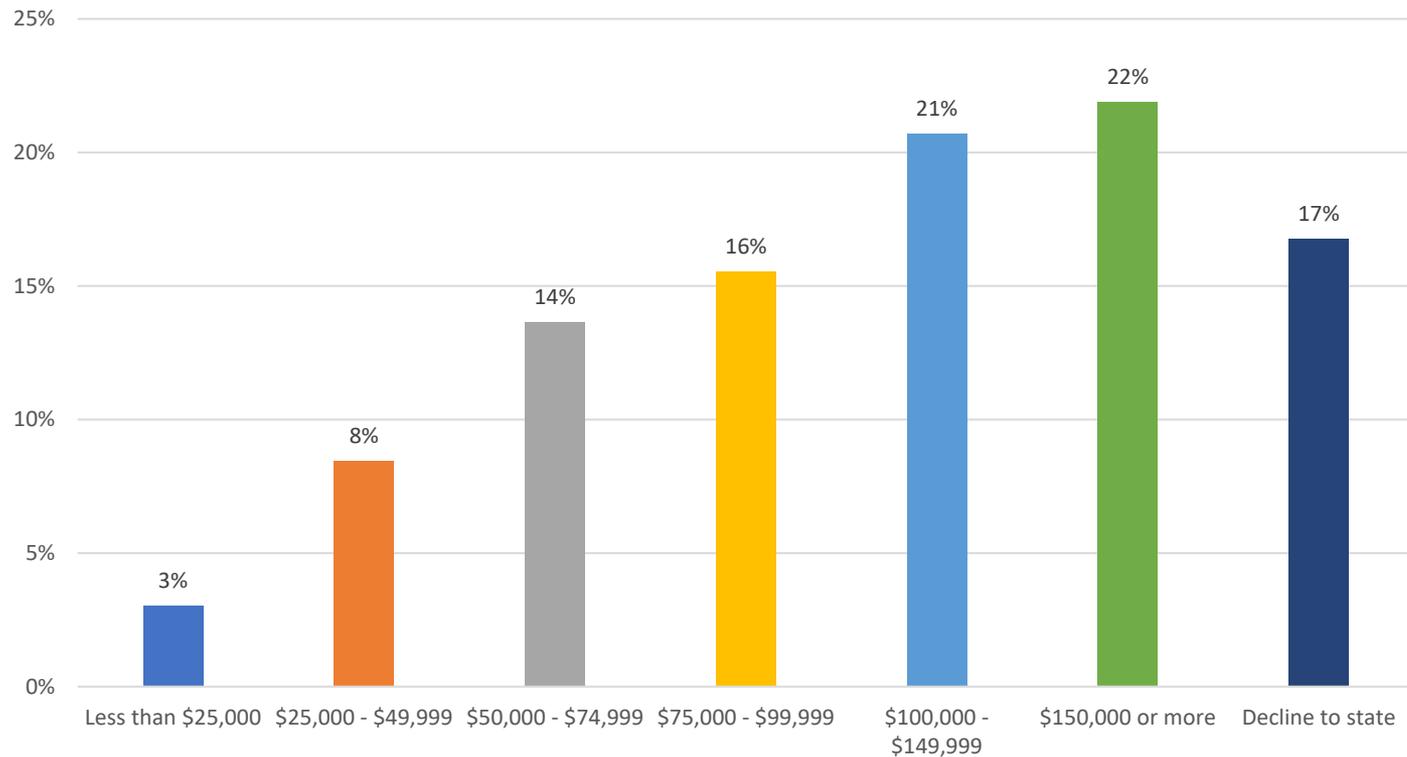
# Survey Demographics





# Survey Demographics

Household Income



# Survey Results





# Survey Results: Travel Patterns

## **Live/Work**

- Most respondents work in Marin County (Novato, San Rafael) and San Francisco.
- Most respondents live in the Vallejo area, and many others live in the main North Bay cities and towns, including Napa, Sonoma, Novato and Petaluma.
- 45% of respondents use SR 37 to go to work, and 40% for recreation.
- The majority (79%) of respondents drive alone, and 19% carpool.

## **Travel Frequency:**

- 52% of respondents travel on SR 37 either daily or a few times a week.
- 30% of respondents use SR 37 on weekdays only, and 50% on both weekends and weekdays.
- Segment C is the most frequently travelled segment for survey respondents.

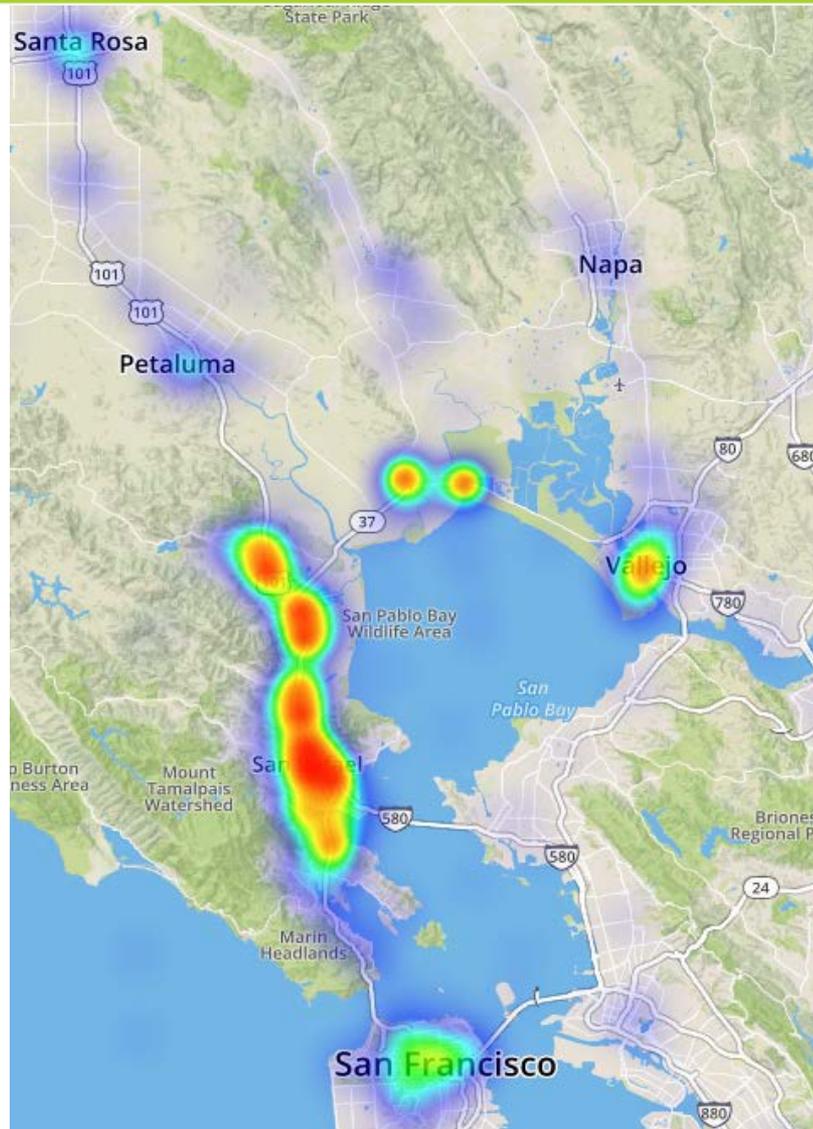
## **Alternative Routes:**

- Many respondents declared using alternate routes to SR 37, including Lakeville Highway (16%) and Highway 121 (12%).



# Survey Results: Travel Patterns

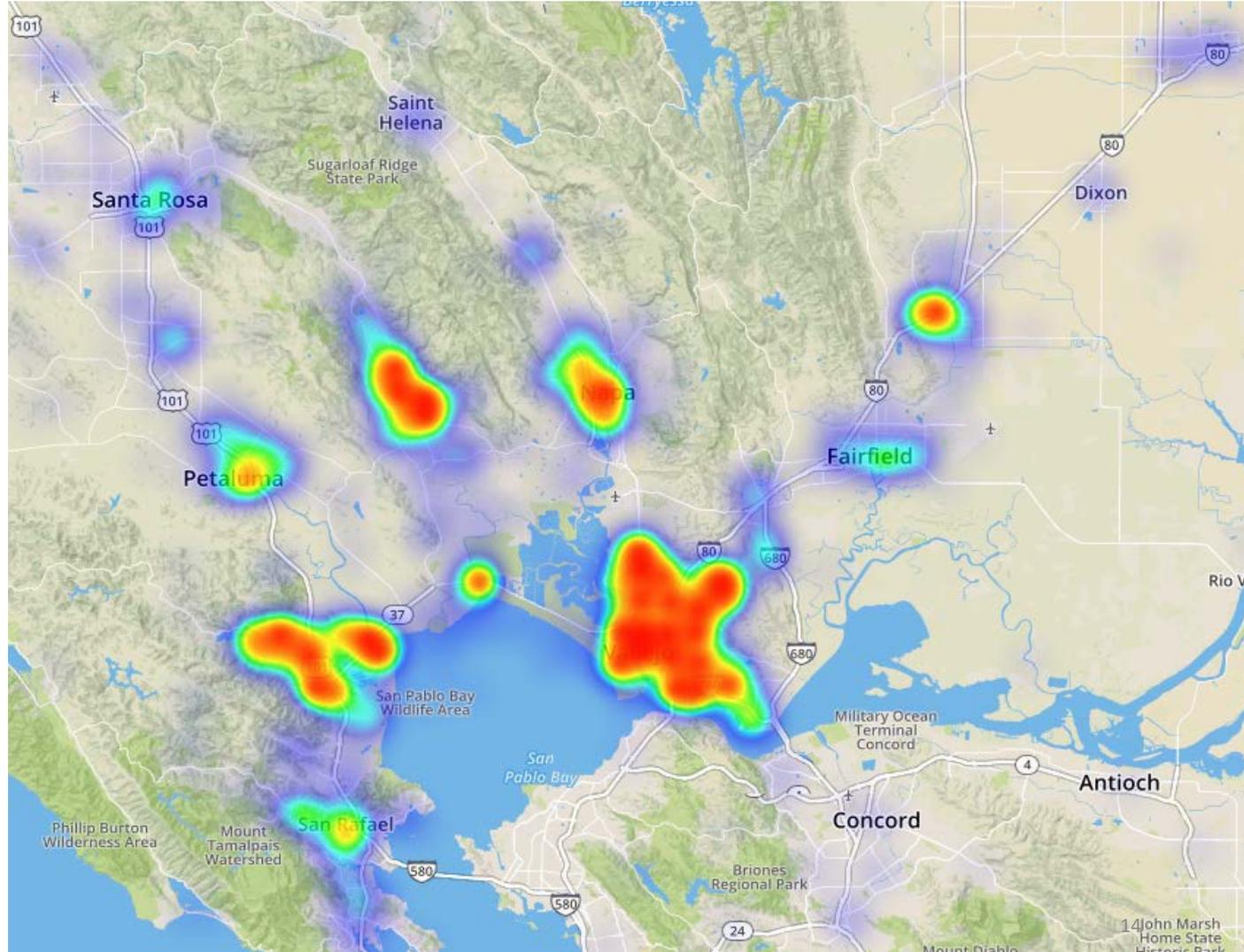
Where do you work?  
(A total of 1509 pins were  
dropped on the map)





# Survey Results: Travel Patterns

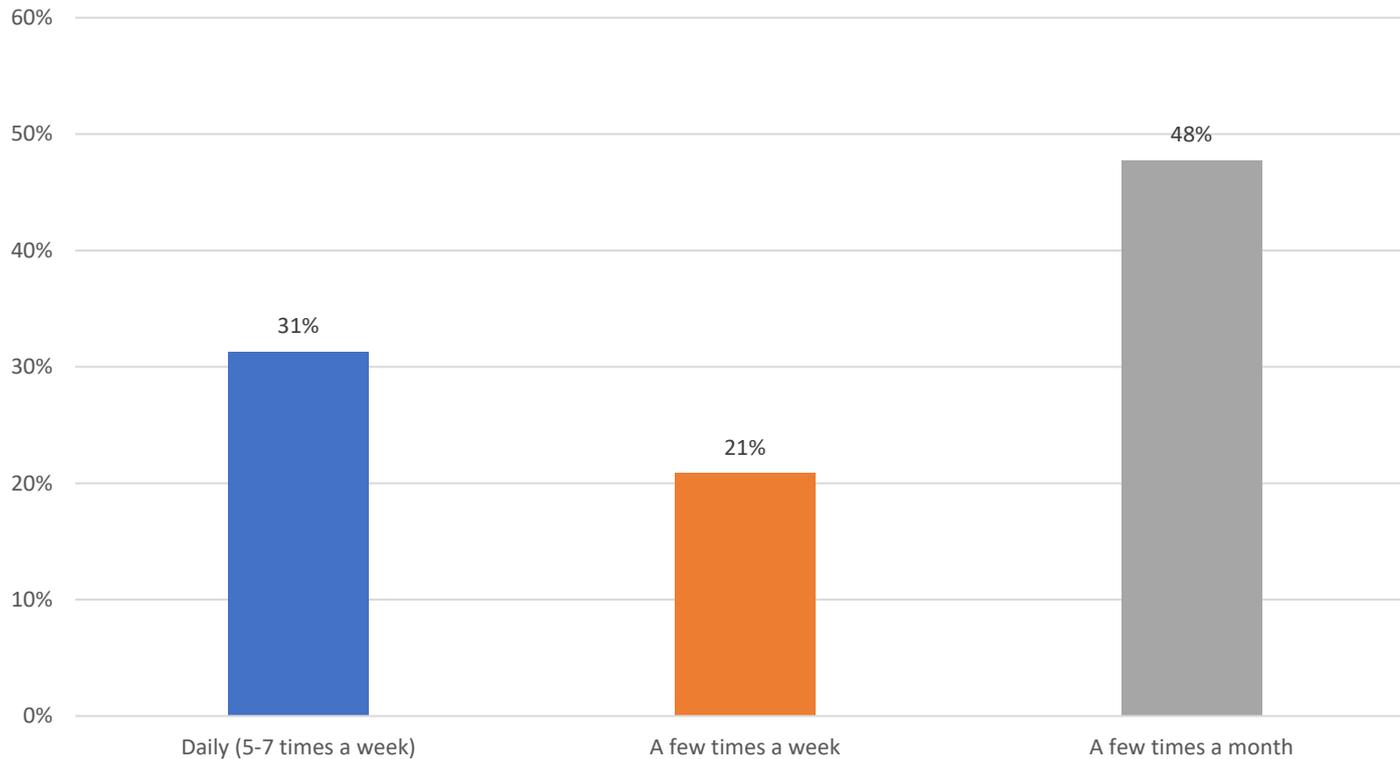
Where is home?  
(A total of 2109 pins were dropped)





# Survey Results: Travel Patterns

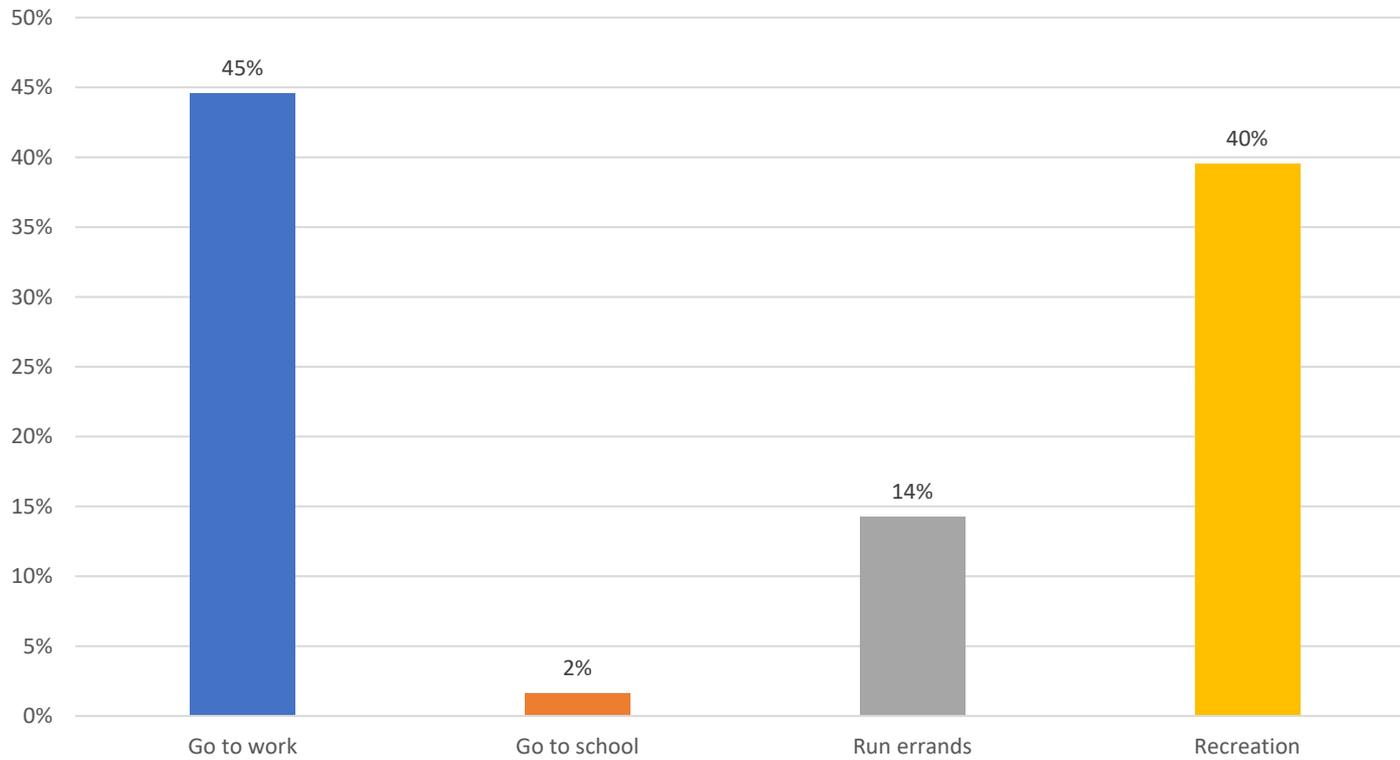
Frequency of Travel on SR 37





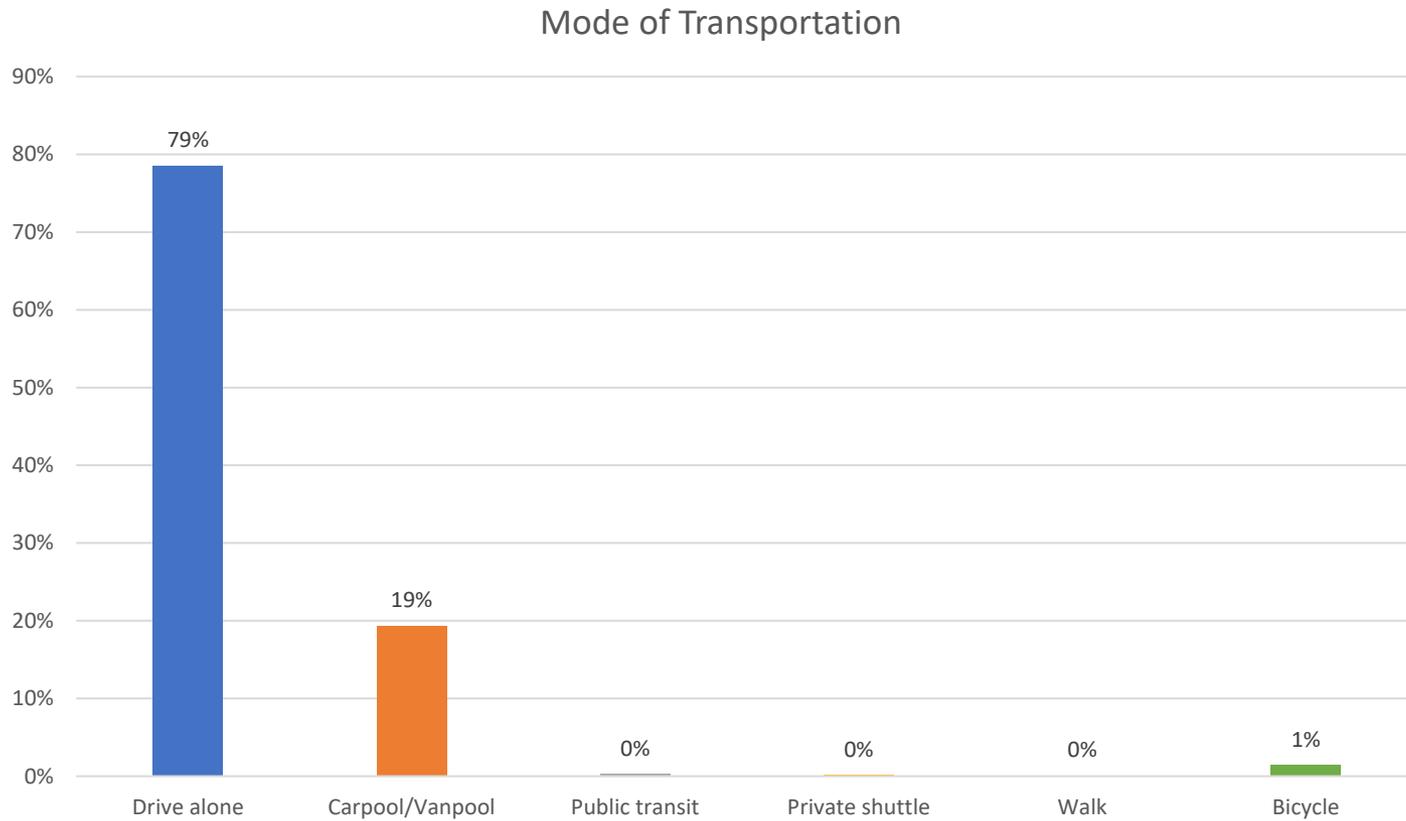
# Survey Results: Travel Patterns

Reason for travel on SR 37





# Survey Results: Travel Patterns





# Survey Results: Potential Changes in Travel Patterns

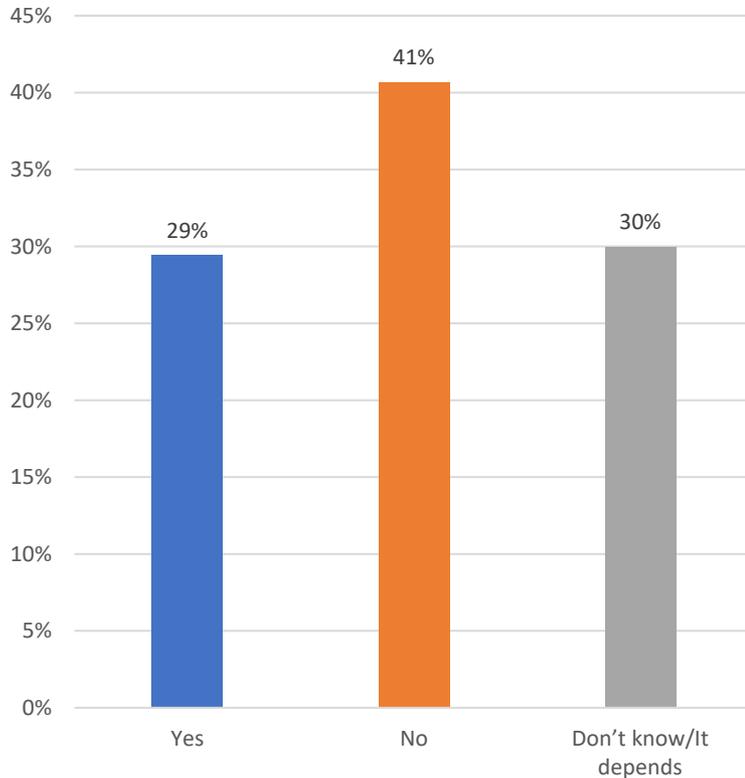
## **Likelihood of respondents to change their travel patterns:**

- 29% of respondents are likely to use public transit if better options are available
- 41% stated they were not likely to do so if better transit options were available
- 77% of respondents stated they were not likely to bicycle along SR 37 even if facilities were improved.

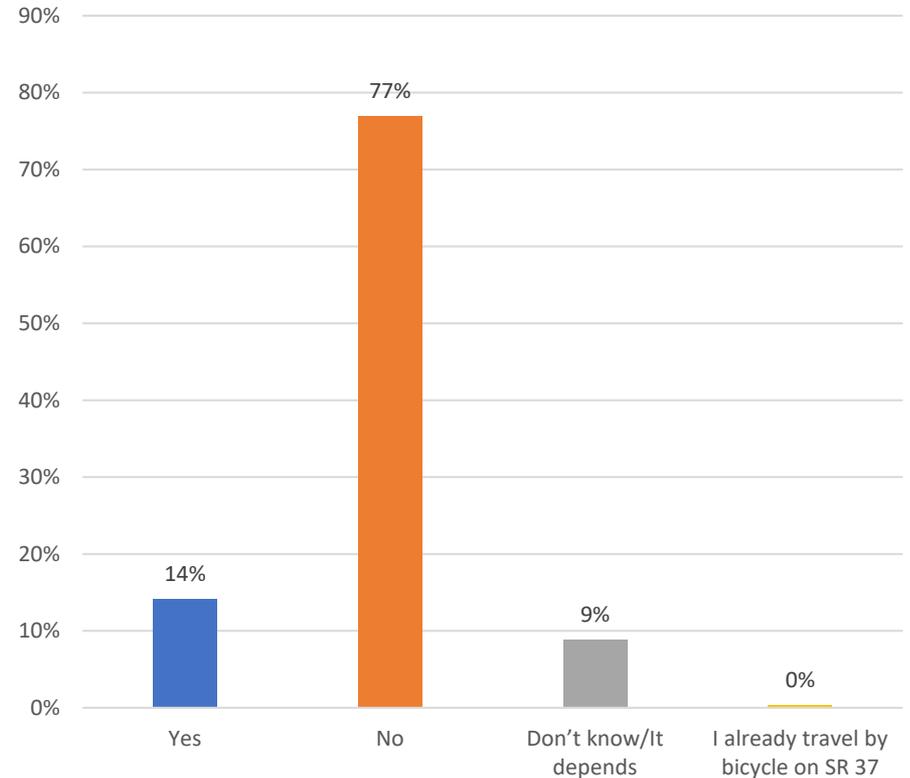


# Survey Results: Potential Changes in Travel Patterns

### Likelihood of Using Public Transit



### Likelihood of Bicycling along SR 37

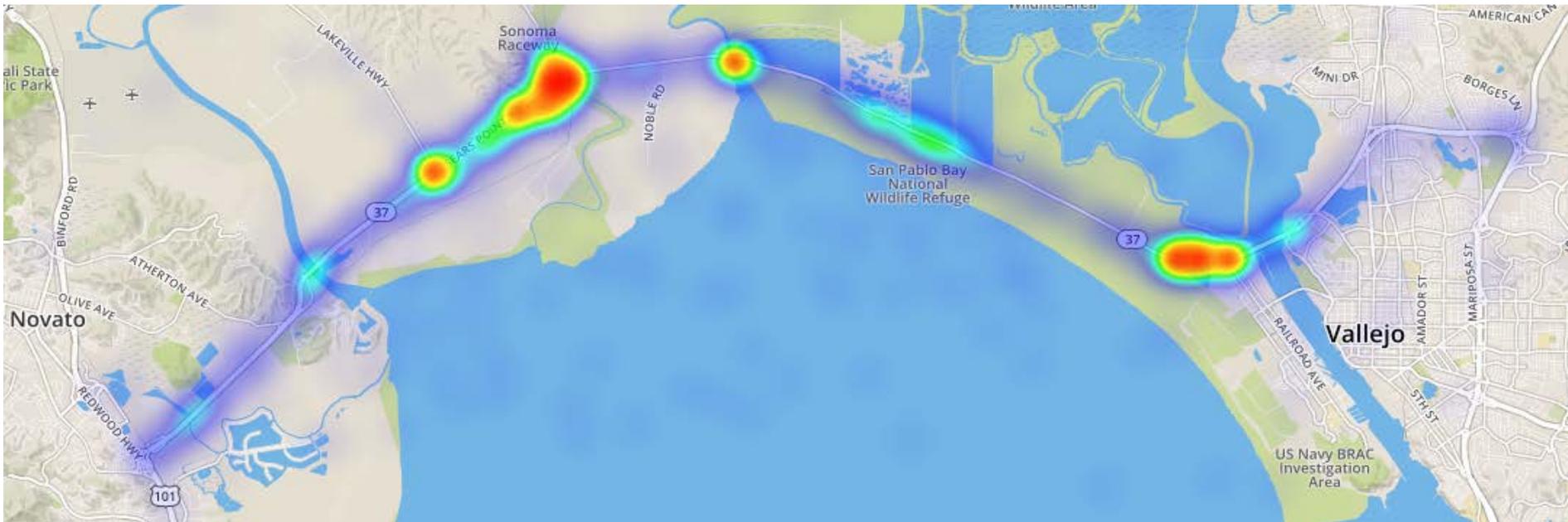




# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

Where are improvements needed?

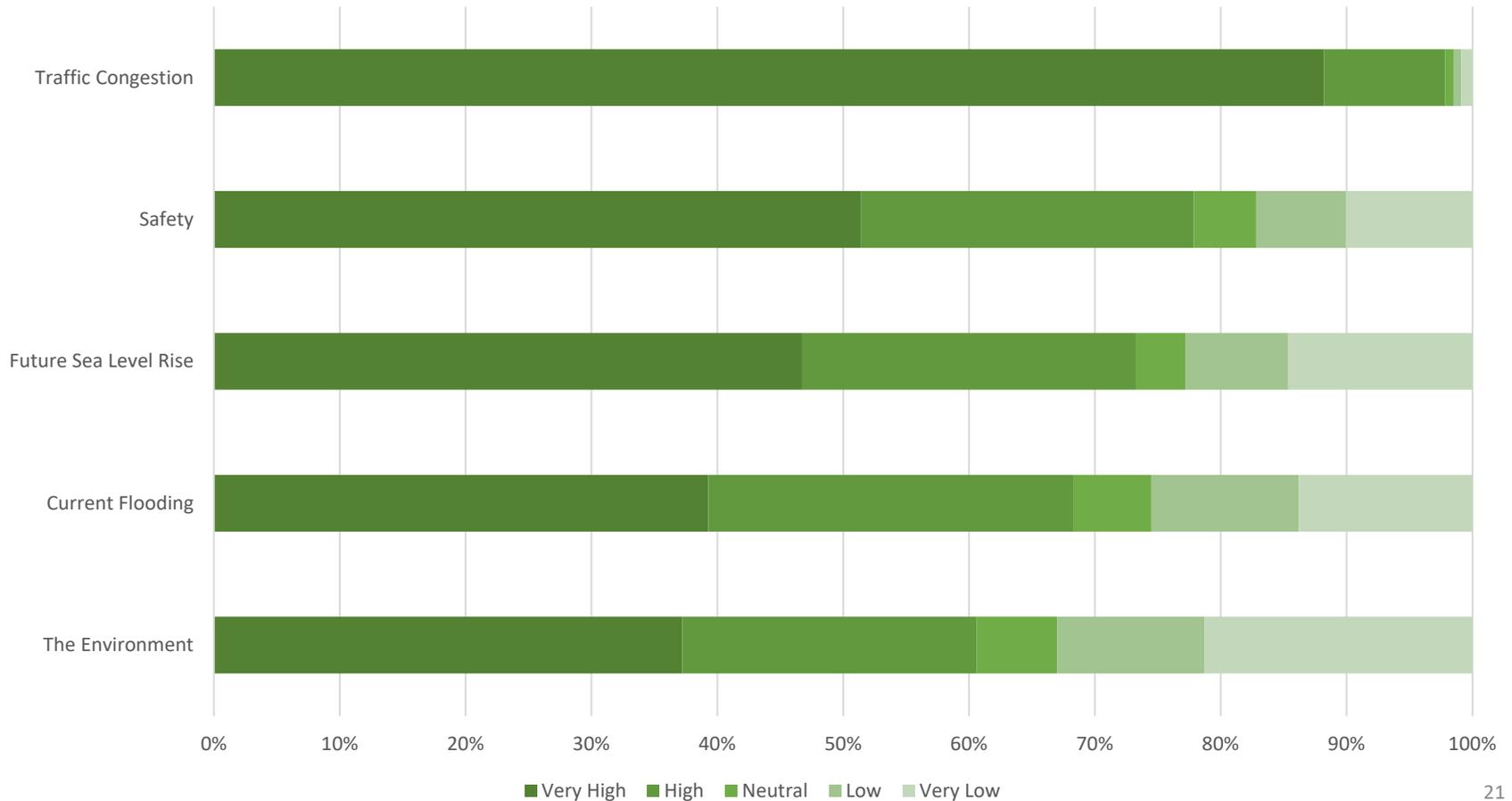
- 5426 pins were dropped on the map
- 75% **traffic concerns**
- 35%- **road safety concerns**
- 15%- **flooding concerns**
- 8%- **environmental concerns**





# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

Ranked Level of Concern (low to high) for Key Topics





# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

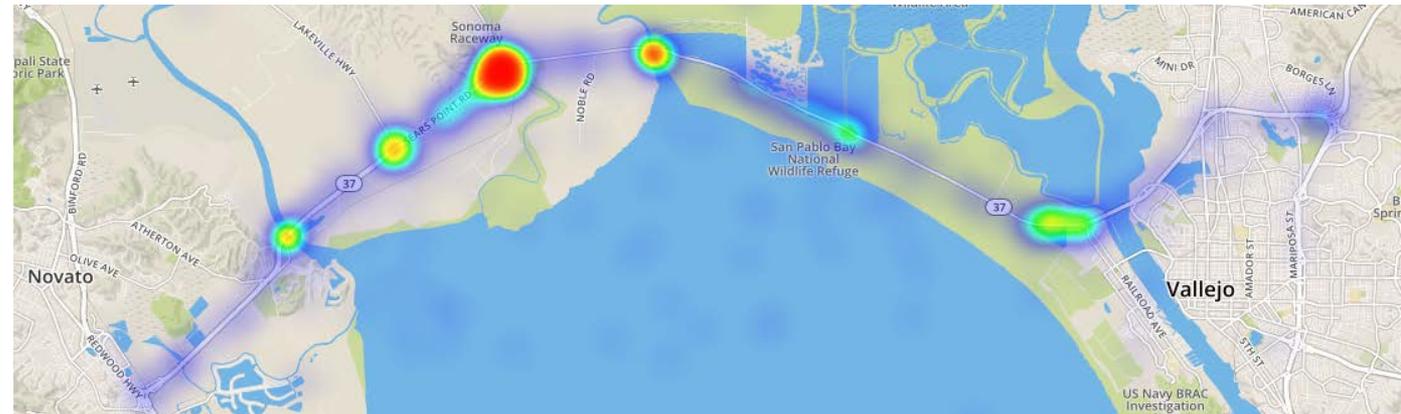
## Traffic Concerns

4099 pins were dropped on the map.



## Road Safety Concerns

1936 pins were dropped on the map.

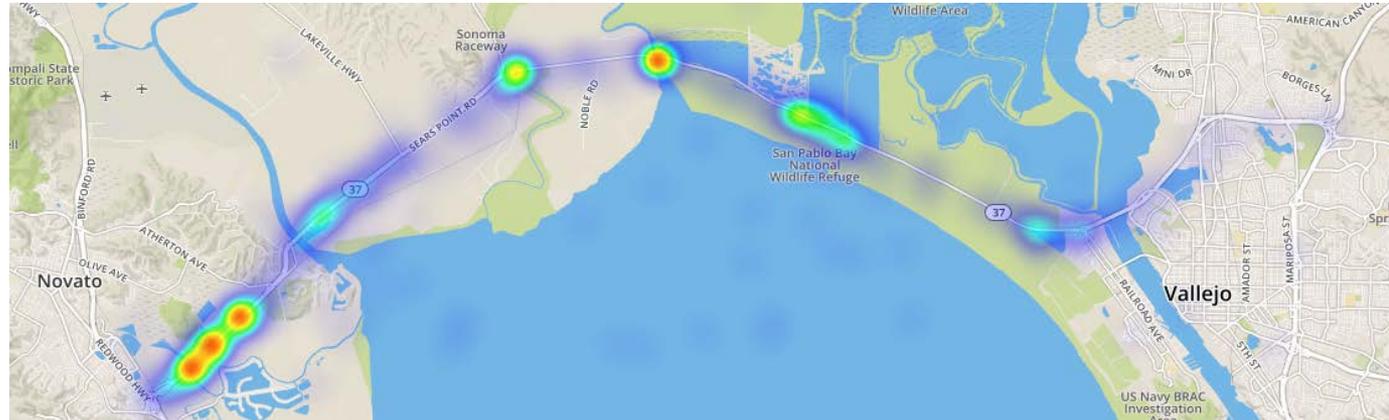




# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

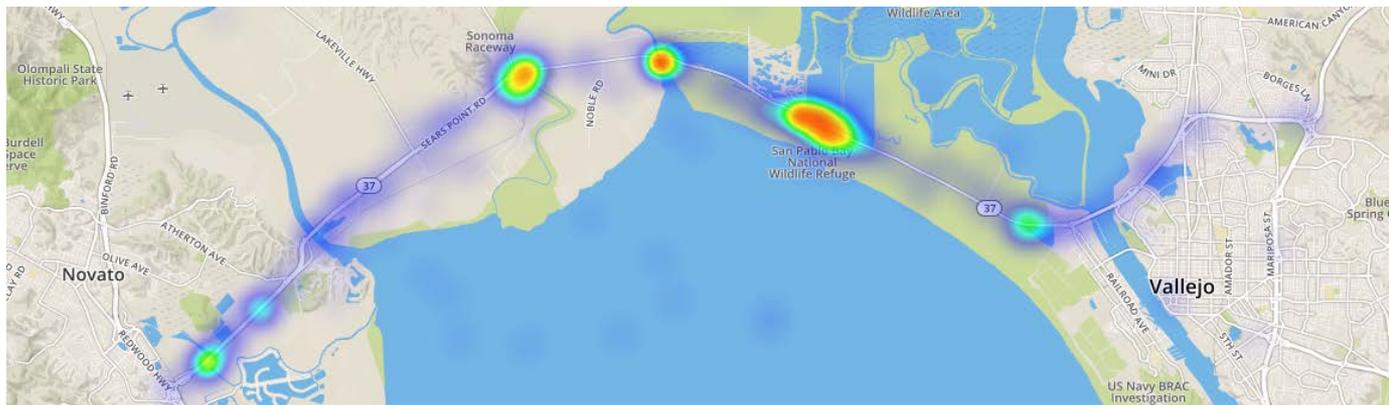
## Flooding Concerns

822 pins were dropped on the map.



## Environmental Concerns

420 pins were dropped on the map.





# Results: Zoom on Segment A

## Key Concerns - Segment A:

- Sears Point: horrible back-up east-bound in the afternoons (due to bottleneck in segment B).
- Blackpoint: poor visibility as you go over the bridge.
- Foggy conditions reduce visibility.
- Bridge over Petaluma River: dip in the road before the bridge going west. Dip limits visibility to traffic ahead and wet conditions
- Lakeville intersection: red-light slows down traffic.

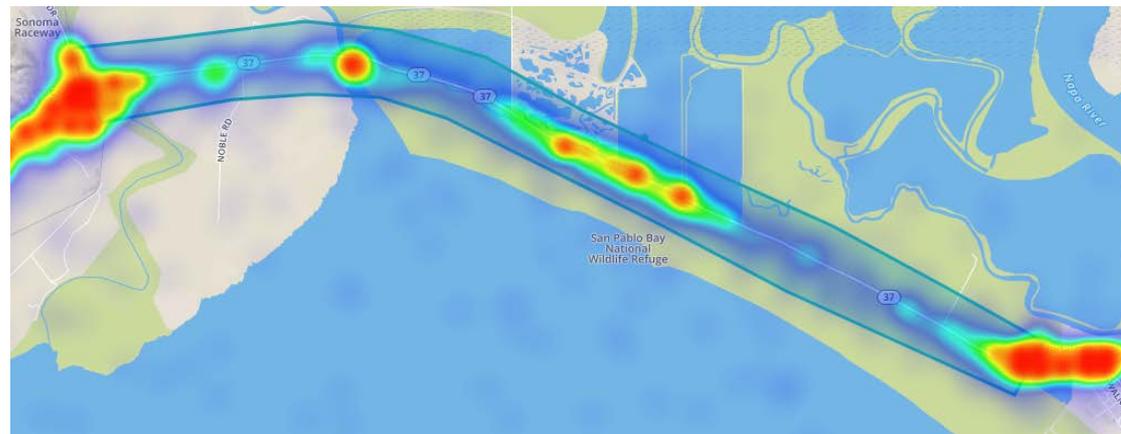




# Results: Zoom on Segment B

## Key Concerns - Segment B:

- Lane reduction creates bottlenecks at Sears Point and Mare Island.
- Headlights from oncoming traffic affects visibility at night and creates unsafe conditions.
- Shoulder is too small, creating dangerous conditions when there are accidents or cars pulled over.
- Merging to one-lane segment creates bottleneck on both ends.
- Driver behavior is an issue, people often slow down at the bend (sight-seeing etc.).

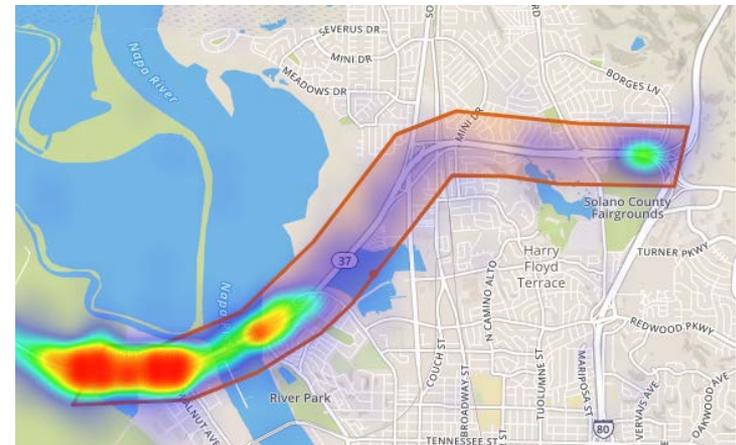




# Results: Zoom on Segment C

## Key Concerns - Segment C:

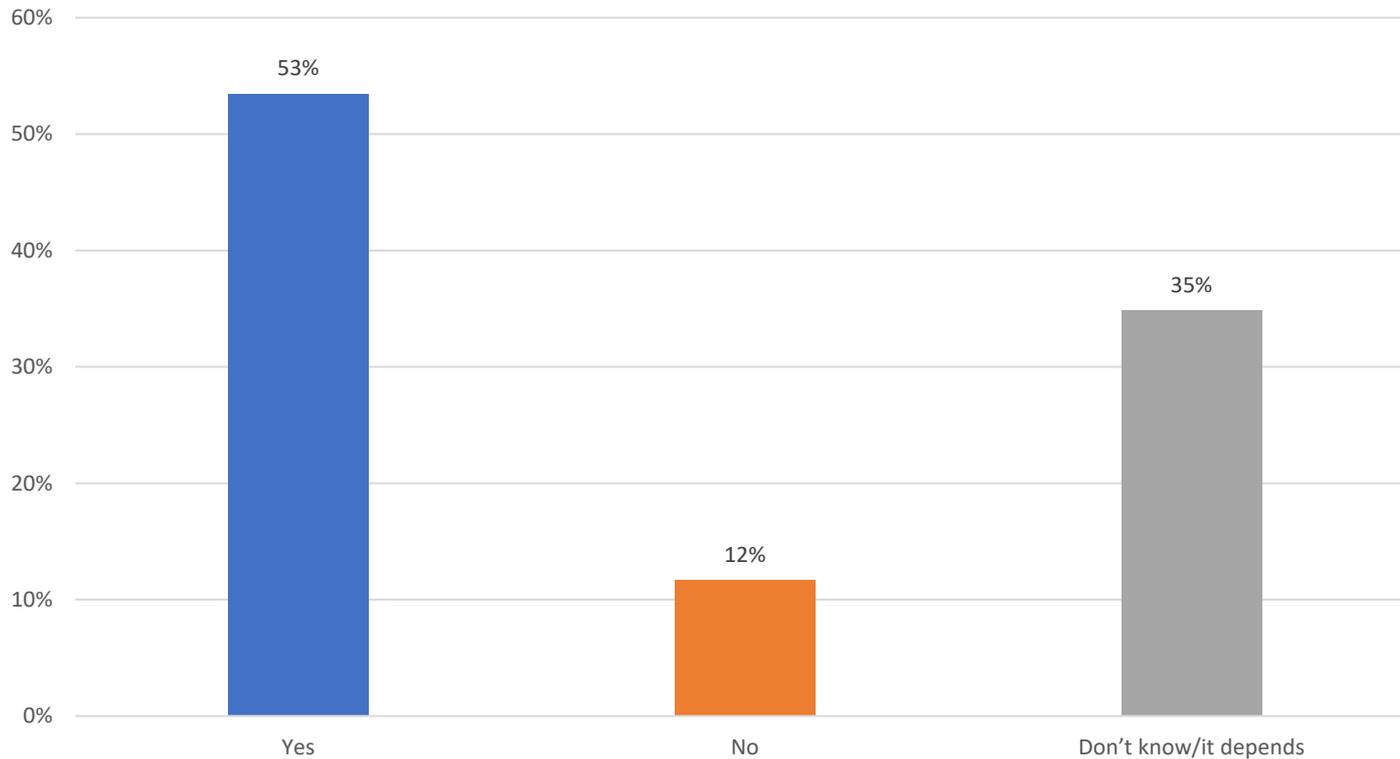
- Congestion at Mare Island because of lane reduction in Segment B.
- Short merge from SR 37 to I-80 is considered.
- Congestion at Sacramento exit in Vallejo in the mornings.
- Morning congestion at the Hwy 29 exit creates unsafe conditions coupled with bad driver behavior.





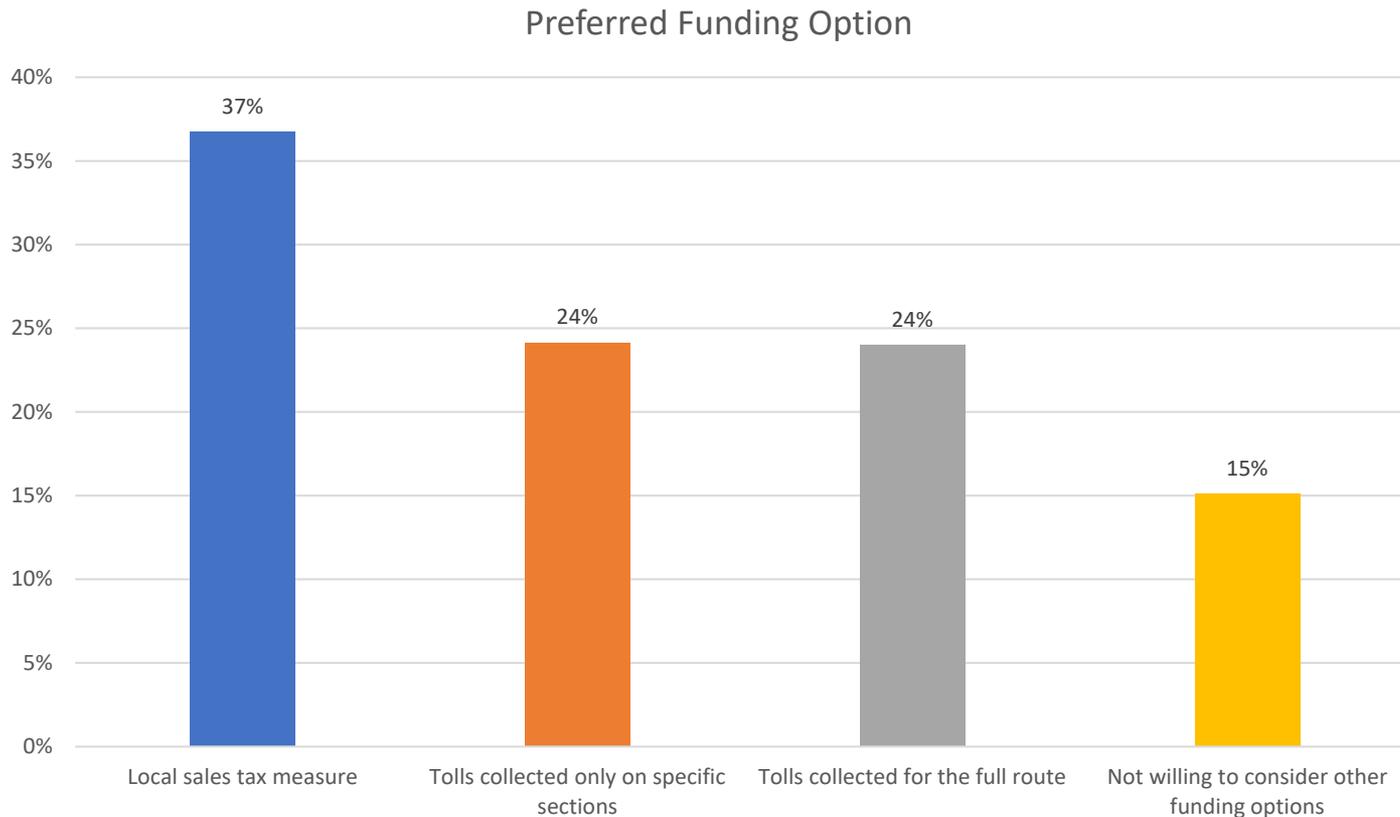
# Survey Results: Alternative Funding Options

Willingness to Consider Alternative Funding Options





# Survey Results: Alternative Funding Options



Note: respondents were asked to “select all that apply” for this question. Results therefore reflect percentage of total responses received, and not percentage of respondents.



# Results: Alternative Funding Options

## **Willingness to consider alternative funding options:**

- 53% of survey respondents were willing to consider alternative funding options and 12% stated they weren't willing to do so.

## **Preferred alternative funding options:**

- 37% of survey respondents- local sales tax measure
- 24% of survey respondents - tolls on specific sections
- 24% of survey respondents -tolls collected on the full route

## **Focus Group Responses:**

- Support for sale tax measure increased when a sunset clause and accountability measures were added
- Mixed opinion on tolls; desire for improved conditions but felt region should contribute
- Overall concerns about increased costs of commuting when few alternatives are available



# General Focus Group Findings

When possible, most commuters and frequent users modify their schedules to avoid traffic

- Ideal travel window is 10am to 2pm.
- Many rearrange their lives in response to anticipated congestion
- Those without flexible hours are resigned to the lengthy commute

Several commuters modify their route to avoid traffic.

- To get to Vallejo in the afternoon, some will take the Richmond bridge.
- Some Sonoma travelers use Lakeville instead of 121.
- Some Napa travelers drive up to Petaluma and cut over on 116 to avoid 37: try to gage traffic right before exit or use waze to determine quickest route.
- Mare Island serves as a cut-through to avoid the back-up on 37 as the lanes merge.

Participants seek improved striping and improved lighting of the corridor at night

Bad driving to save time is chronic; drivers use shoulders to skip traffic, cut into lanes at the last minute, speed, etc.



## Next Steps

Future outreach is currently being evaluated.

# Questions?





# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

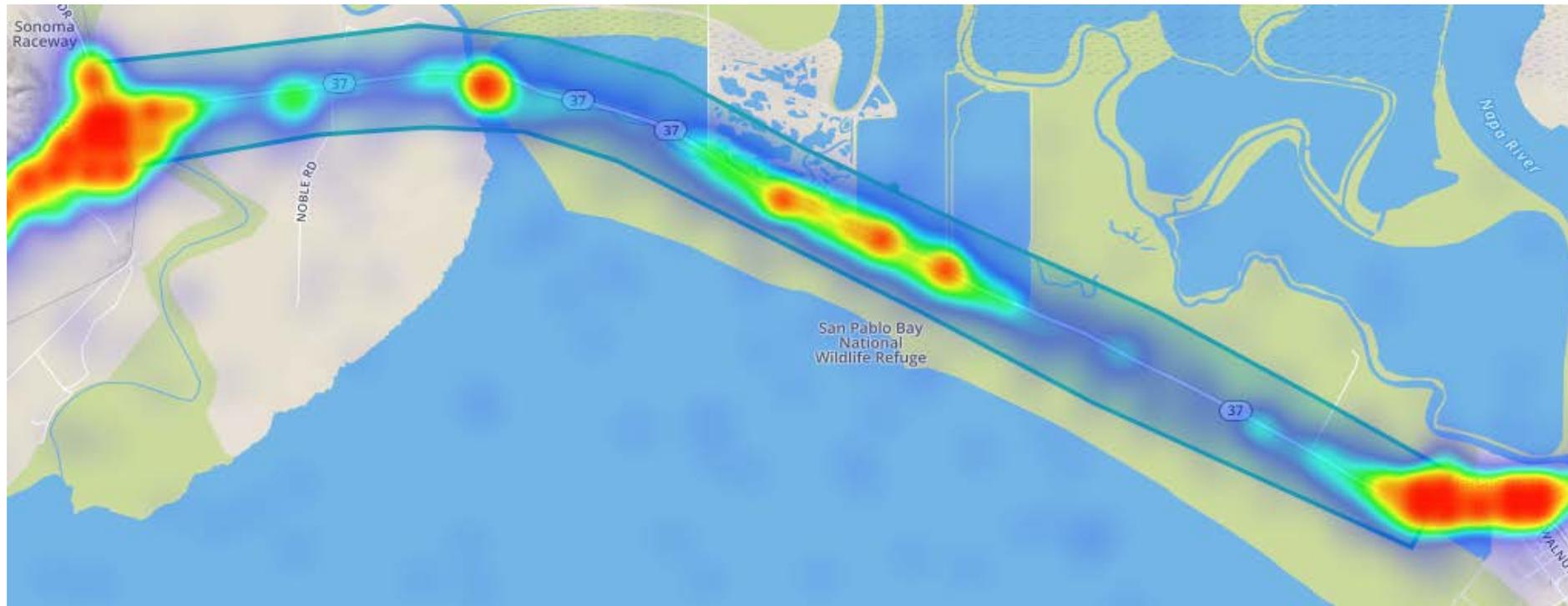
Zoom on segment A





# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

Zoom on segment B





# Survey Results: Major Concerns and Priorities for Improvement

## Zoom on segment C

