

Cambridge Bicycle Survey Summary

October, 2014

This is an overview of the key results from a survey administered as part of the Cambridge Bicycle Network Plan public outreach.

Conclusion: Although most people who responded to the on-line survey about bicycling in Cambridge ride frequently and extensively, they report that they are not comfortable on many streets and would like to see more protected bicycle facilities and bicycle-friendly street designs.

Survey Background

As part of creating a new Bicycle Master Plan for Cambridge, an on-line survey was administered during June, 2014. The survey was open to anyone, and although outreach about the survey was sent broadly throughout the community, most of the survey participants were regular cyclists, and thus not representative of the population of Cambridge, or of greater Boston. 733 responses were received.

The survey was designed to determine what kind of bicycle facilities are most comfortable for users and what will enable parents and guardians to feel that their kids can bike safely in the City. Survey questions focused on:

- Bicycling habits
- Comfort with bicycling on different streets and various bicycle facility types
- Children's bicycling habits and parents/guardians' comfort allowing children to ride on different streets/facility types



Who Responded to the Survey?

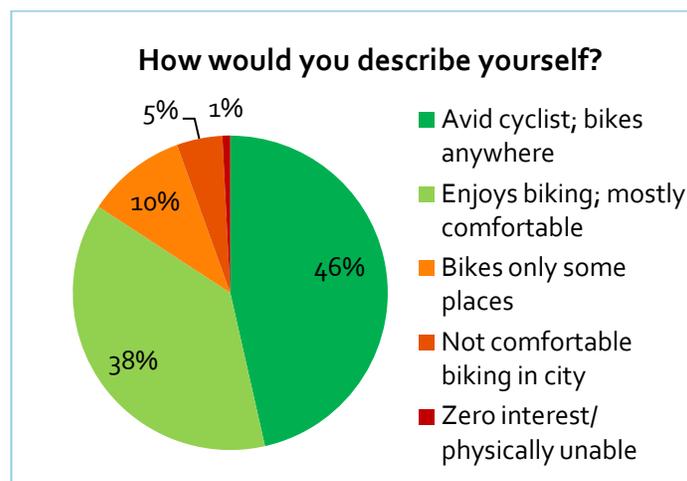
- The majority of respondents (53%) were female
- The majority of respondents were between 25-44 years old. Only 7% were in the 18-24 year old population; this would seem an underrepresentation of the student/young adult population who live and bicycle in Cambridge. This may be because the survey was administered in June, when area schools are out for the summer, although approximately 12% identified themselves as full or part-time students



- Approximately half the respondents are Cambridge residents, with another 35% living in the abutting communities
- 89% identified themselves as white/Caucasian, not representative of the general population in Cambridge
- 28% of respondents have children under age 18 at home

Bicycling Habits of Respondents

- The plurality of respondents consider themselves avid cyclists who bike everywhere, followed closely by people who are enthusiastic cyclists who prefer to ride on main streets with bike lanes or on minor streets with traffic calming/ low traffic speeds/ residential streets. About 15% limit their riding to off-road paths or out of the city.
- The vast majority of respondents ride several days a week outside of winter
- The majority of respondents ride at least sometimes during the winter and almost a quarter continue to ride daily.

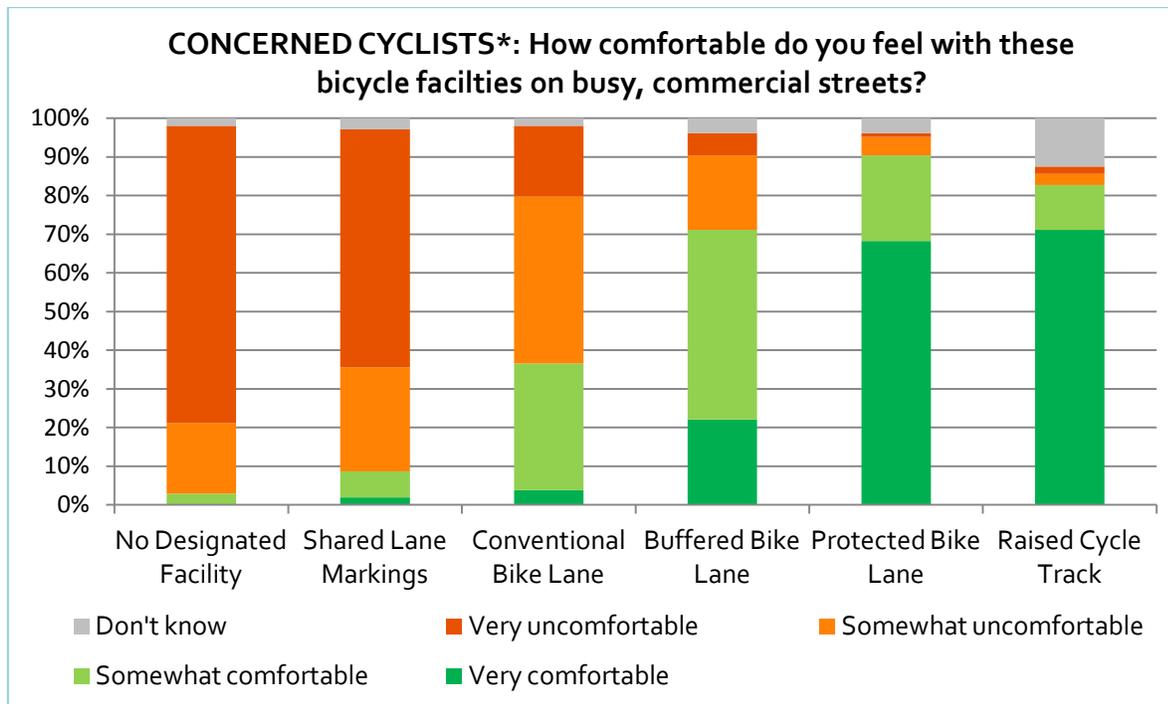
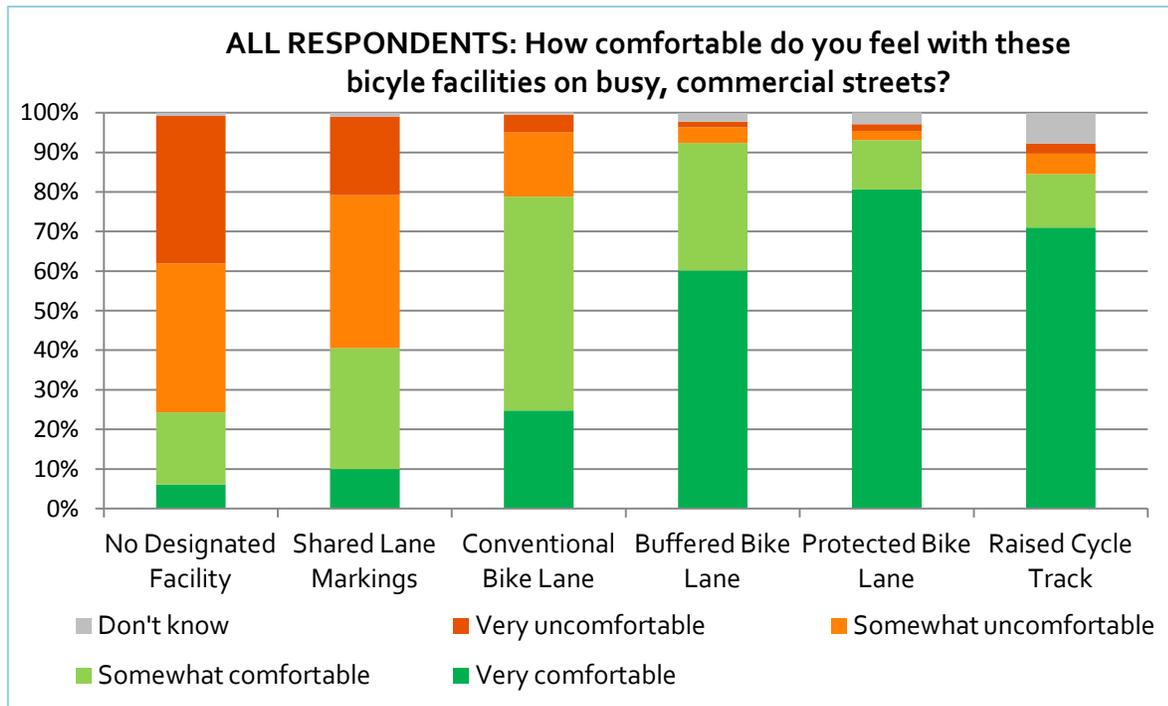


Bicyclist Comfort Levels

Cyclists were asked about their comfort levels cycling on a variety of accommodations. People were asked about their comfort levels on busy commercial streets and on non-commercial streets and sample photographs were shown for each condition.

People were also asked a separate series of questions about bicycling with children, including similar questions about comfort levels on various road types and bicycle accommodations.

Bicycling Comfort on Busy, Commercial Streets



*Concerned cyclists are defined as survey respondents who reported that they bike only some places or are not comfortable biking in the city.

Photos of Bicycle Facilities on Busy, Commercial Streets

Street with Shared Lane Markings



Street with Shared Lane Markings



Conventional Bike Lane



Conventional Bike Lane



Buffered Bike Lane



Buffered Bike Lane



Protected Bike Lane



Protected Bike Lane



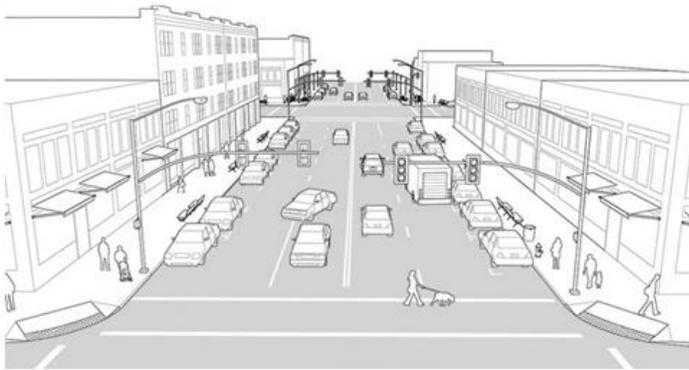
Raised Cycle Track



Raised Cycle Track



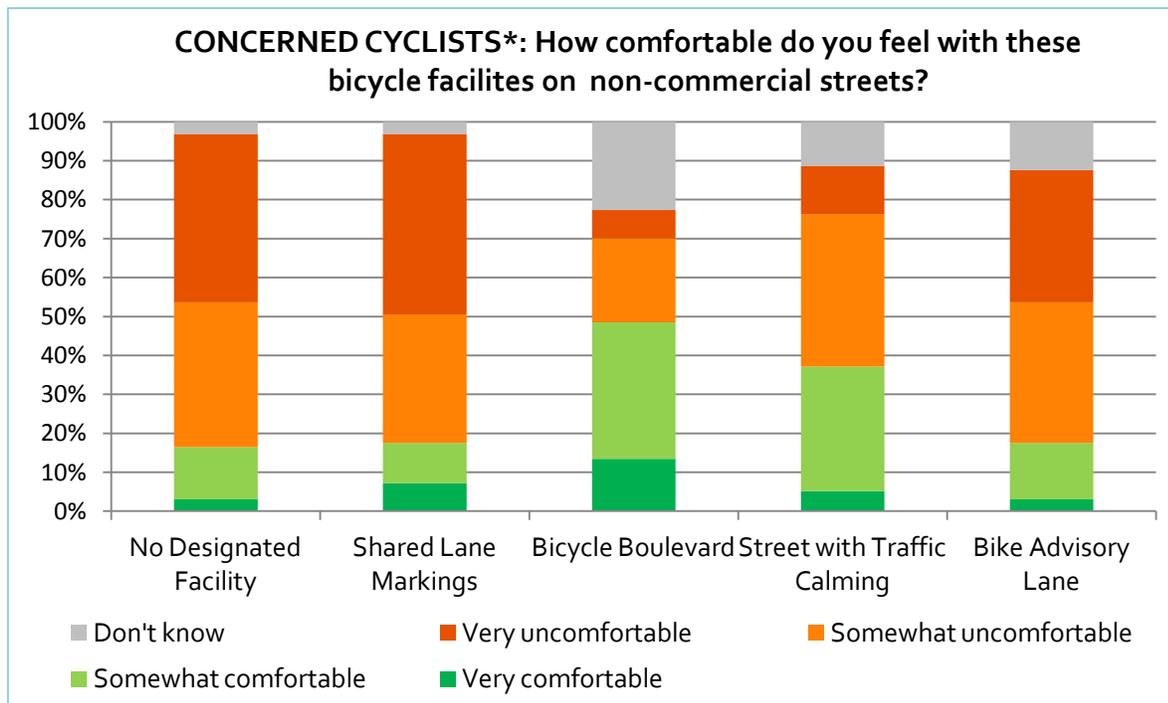
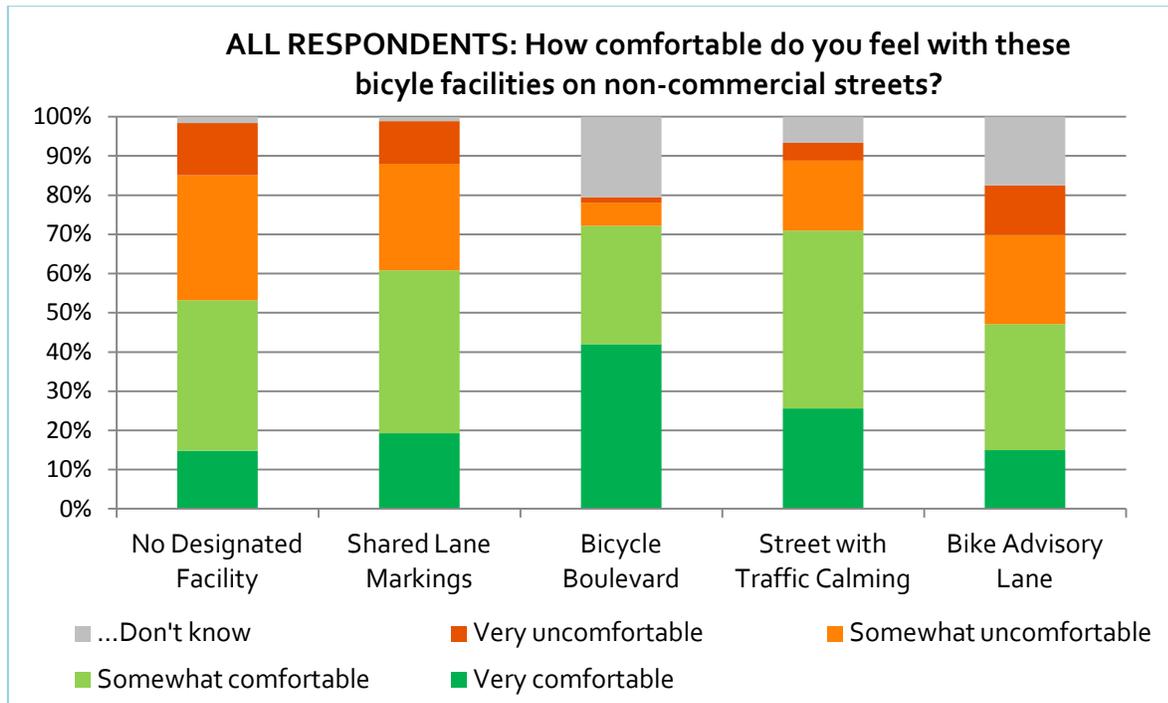
No designated facility



No designated facility



Bicycling Comfort on Non-Commercial Streets



*Concerned cyclists are defined as survey respondents who reported that they bike only some places or are not comfortable biking in the city.

Photos of Bicycle Facilities on Non-Commercial Streets

Street with Shared Lane Markings



Street with Shared Lane Markings



Bicycle Boulevard



Bicycle Boulevard



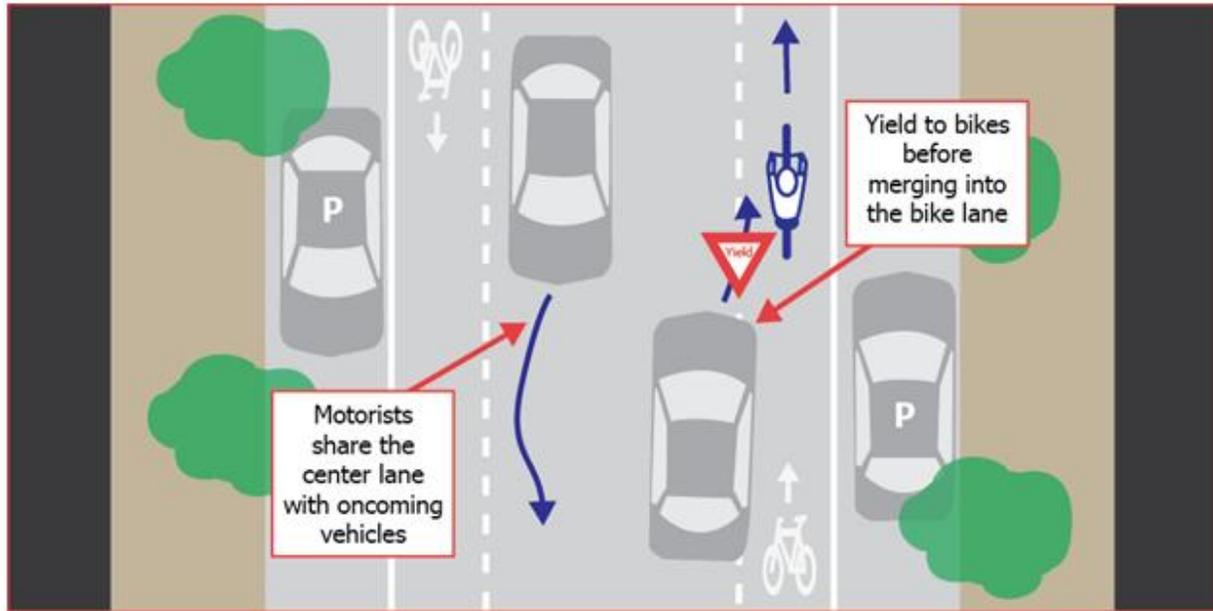
Street with Traffic Calming



Street with Traffic Calming



Bicycle Advisory Lanes



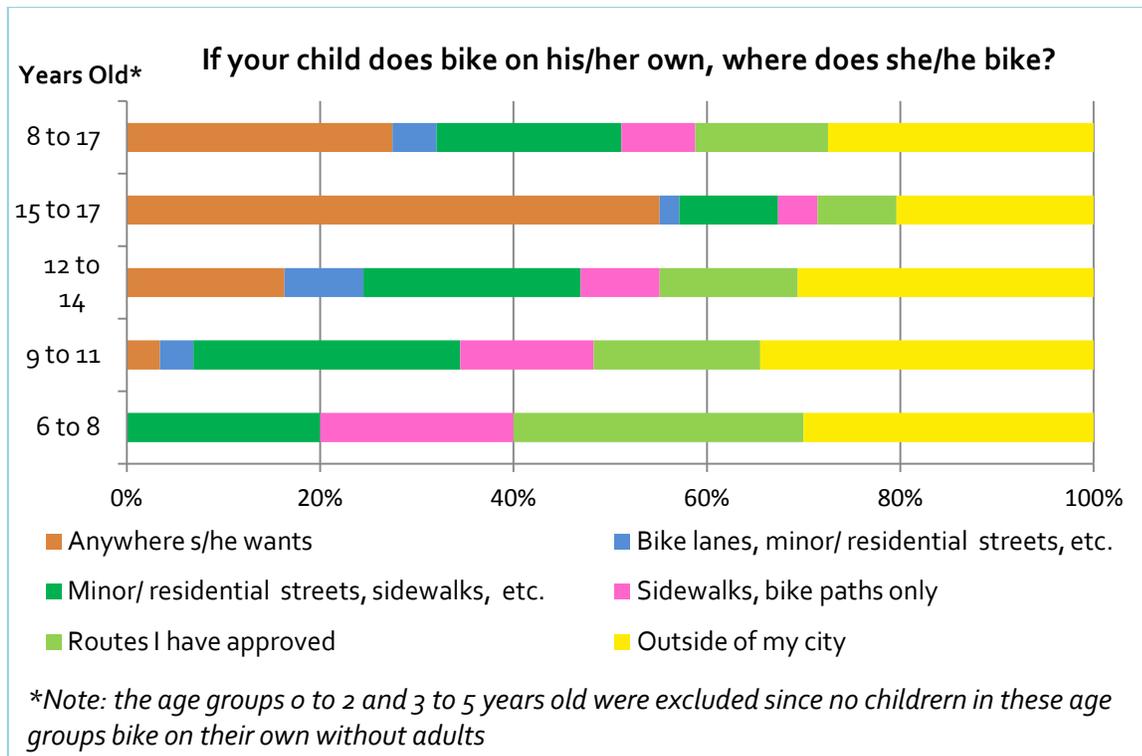
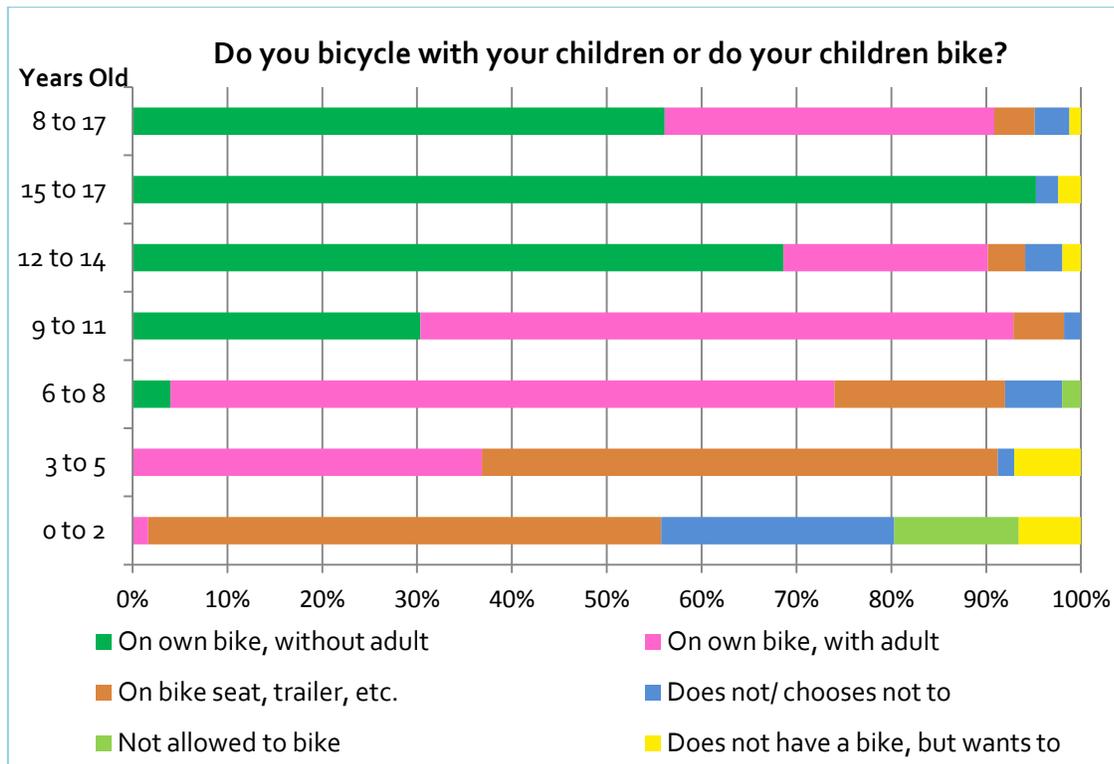
Bicycle Advisory Lanes



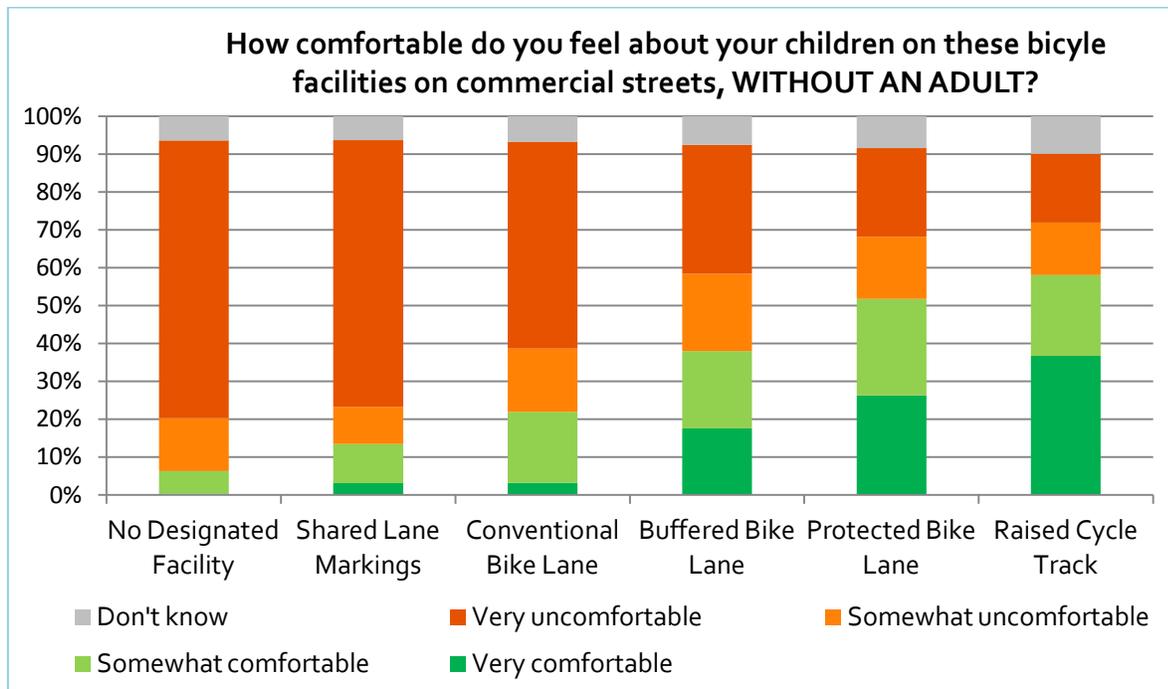
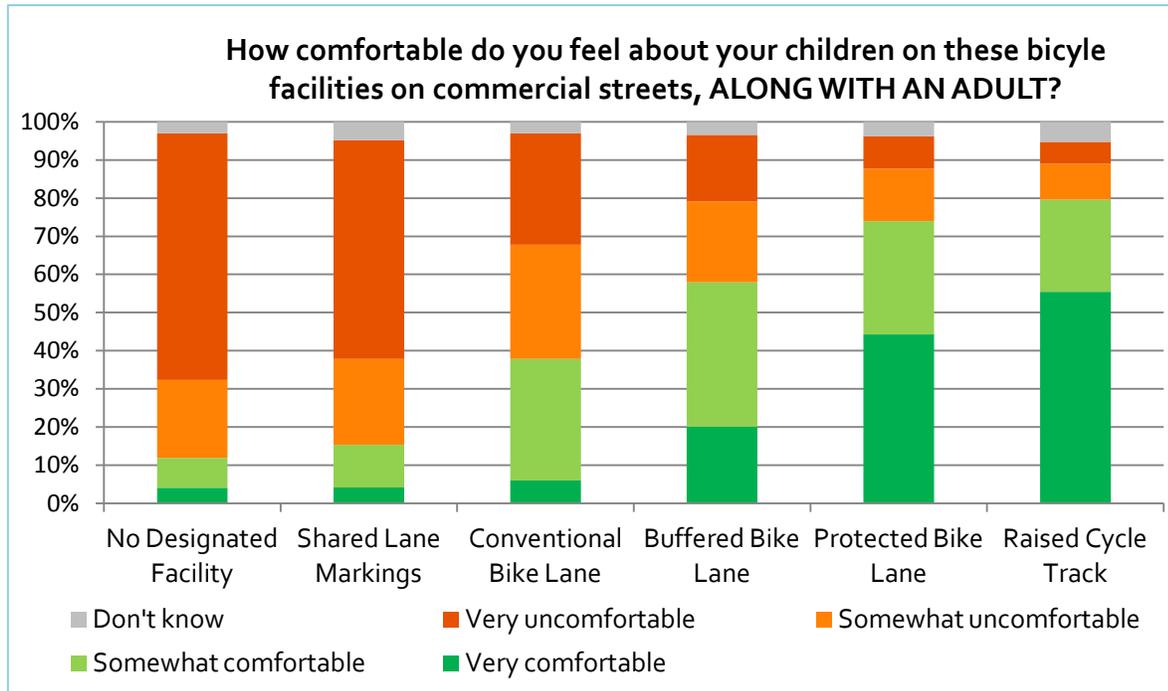
No designated facility



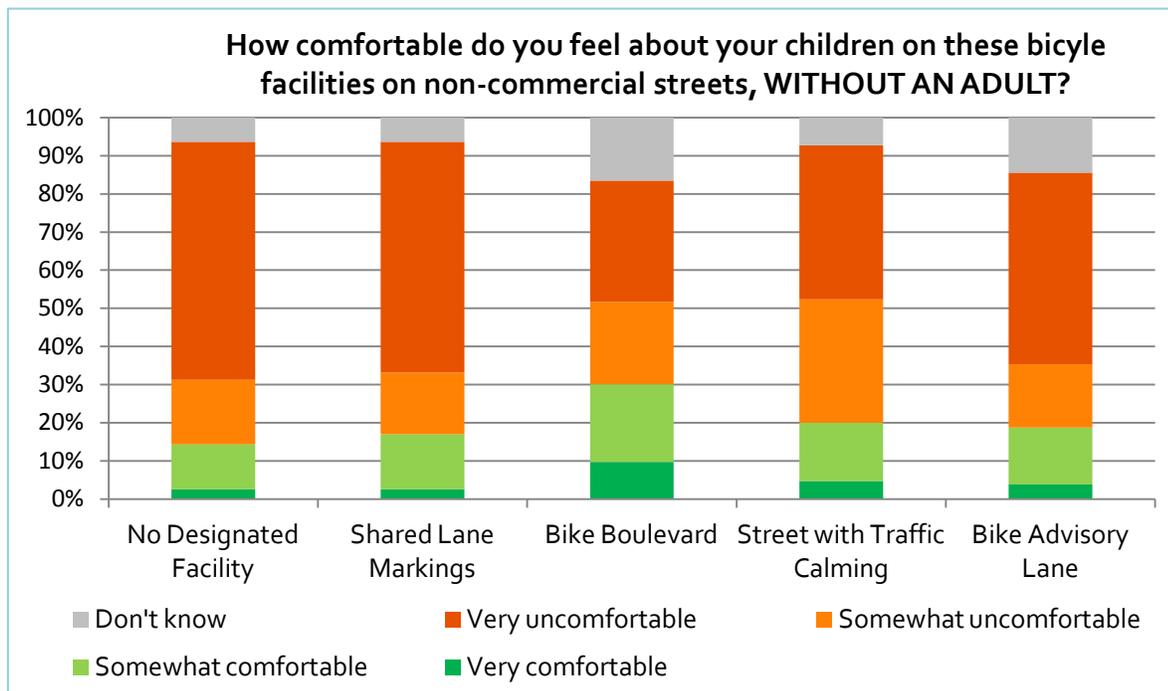
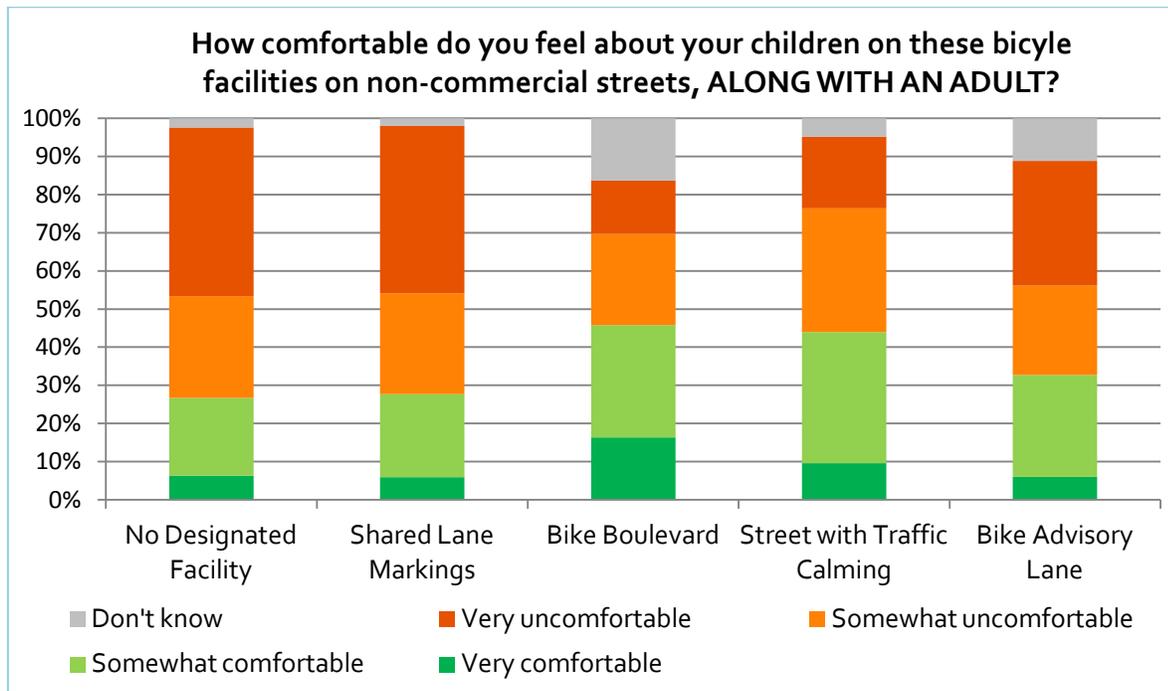
Questions about Bicycling with Children



Bicycling Comfort on Busy, Commercial Streets - Children

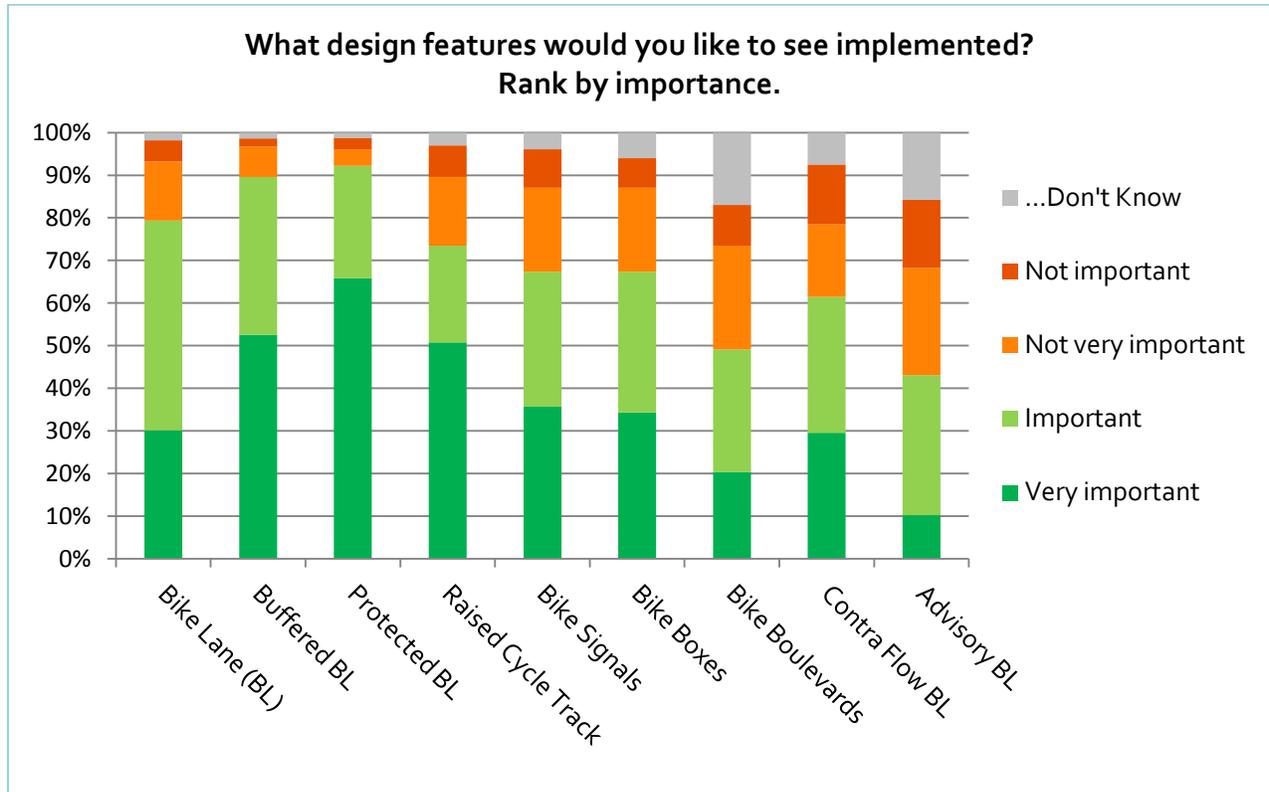


Bicycling Comfort on Non-Commercial Streets - Children



Preferred Bicycle Facilities

Survey respondents were asked to rate the importance of various bicycle facility options that they would like to see implemented in Cambridge.



Photos of Bicycle Design Features

Conventional Bike Lane



Buffered Bike Lane



Protected Bike Lane



Raised Cycle Track



Bicycle Traffic Signals



Bike Boxes



Bicycle Boulevard



Dave Parisi

Bicycle Boulevard



Frederick Chong

Contra-Flow Bike Lanes



Cambridge, MA

Bicycle Advisory Lanes



Bicycle Advisory Lanes

