

Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project

Public Engagement Summary

June 17, 2021

Public Meeting

The project partners hosted an initial public meeting on Wednesday, May 26th at 6pm virtually on Zoom, and about 25 people attended. At the meeting, information about the project context and description, Purpose and Need, and potential solutions was presented. Participants were then given the opportunity to ask questions or provide comments (summarized below). Afterwards, information about the project website, online survey, project schedule, and potential funding opportunities was presented.

Q&A Summary

- Question/Comment:** Participant lives on Beck Rd north of 7 Mile Rd. Thought that Wayne County had looked at expanding north of 6 Mile Rd when they widened south of there recently but determined it couldn't fit. Has concerns about expanding roadway here and doesn't think there is enough room to fit in a sidewalk.

Response: In Novi and Wixom, much of the additional space has already been acquired. Project partners know they will need to study potential solutions between 6 Mile Rd and 8 Mile Rd to minimize impacts to residents. Want to improve the value of the corridor, not detract from it.
- Question/Comment:** Participant lives on Beck Rd between 9 Mile Rd and 10 Mile Rd. In or near their subdivision is a small road with about 5 houses (Tottenham Court) – don't see how an expanded roadway could fit.

Response: Can investigate but think that room may already have been acquired in this section by Novi.
- Question/Comment:** Participant lives along Beck Road. Sees an issue in that there are numerous driveways and access points (different from area south of 6 Mile Rd). Sees that as potentially a safety conflict if there are now higher speeds along the corridor. Will this be considered?

Response: Yes – plan to dig into toolbox for traffic calming and speed management. Safety is important.
- Question/Comment:** How much land will need to be acquired within the State Park vs. from private residences and when would that be known?

Response: Project will be examining that question in detail for the first time. State Park managers are supportive of the project and improving access to the park. Project is aiming to minimize or avoid potential takings from residential property.
- Question/Comment:** In which order will the project be built? North to south or vice versa, for example?

Response: Not yet determined, may be dependent on funding. Wixom and Novi are more committed and further along than Northville Township.
- Question/Comment:** Speaking of consistency, participant has a concern about how left turn signals operate differently at different intersections (e.g., some are the first phase, others are the last). Should be consistent. Also, could we remove right-turns on red at 8 Mile Rd?

Response: Some of the inconsistency is based on different jurisdictions and adaptive signals that change phasing depending on time of day and the presence of vehicles.

7. **Question/Comment:** Participant is a Beck Rd homeowner and doesn't understand how this could be accomplished without taking some houses.

Response: Understand that the design will need to be flexible, looking to avoid impacts and use all design tools available. For example, may not need median turn lane everywhere in corridor.

8. **Question/Comment:** Participant lives on Beck Rd south of 8 Mile Rd. Thinks that the intersection and roadway will get more dangerous / less safe if this project happens. Has already seen it happen when the intersection at 8 Mile Rd was "improved".

Response: Will look to evaluate safety enhancements for design. There will be more opportunities to review / discuss the eventual preferred design, may even be coming out to specific homeowners to share and discuss tradeoffs.

Online Survey

An online survey was developed using Google Forms to solicit input on the Beck Road Business Corridor Improvement Project. The survey link was shared at the public meeting, on the project website, and via the project partners.

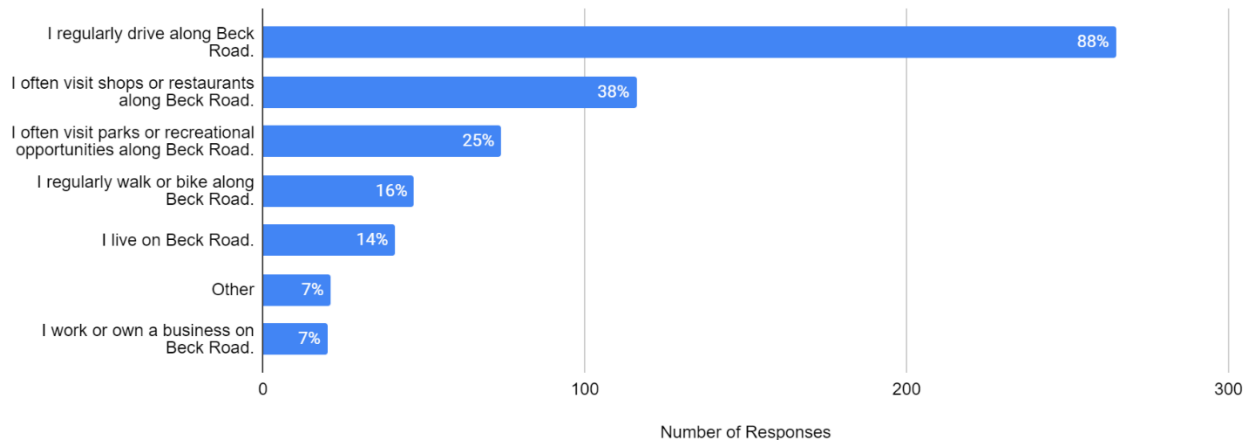
Questions

1. How do you use Beck Road?
2. Where do you live?
3. What are your concerns for Beck Road?
4. Please provide any comments you have on the concerns above.
5. How would you like to see Beck Road improved?

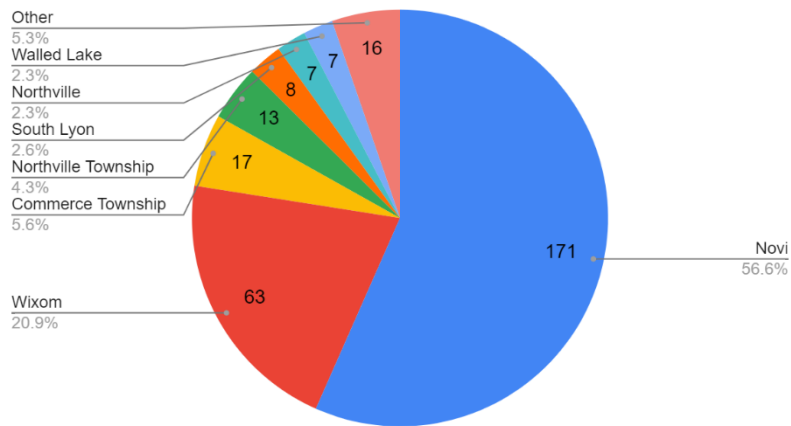
Results

There were 302 responses to the online survey which were collected from May 25th to June 16th.

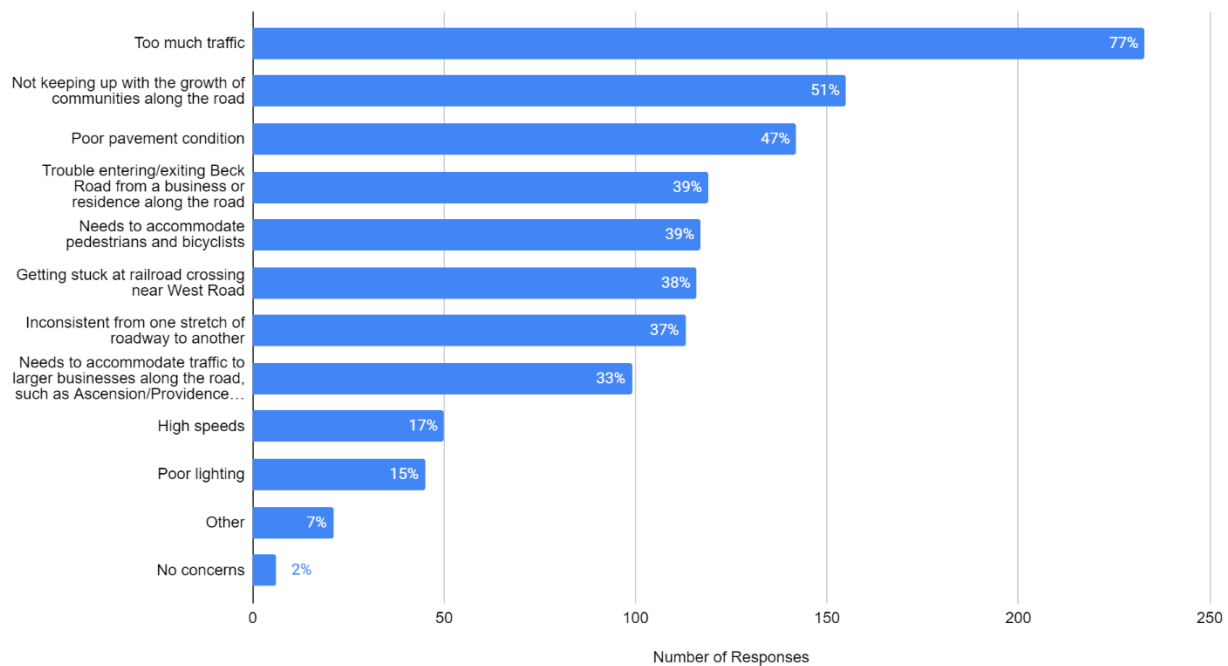
How do you use Beck Road? (Select all that apply.)



Where do you live?



What are your concerns for Beck Road? (Select all that apply.)



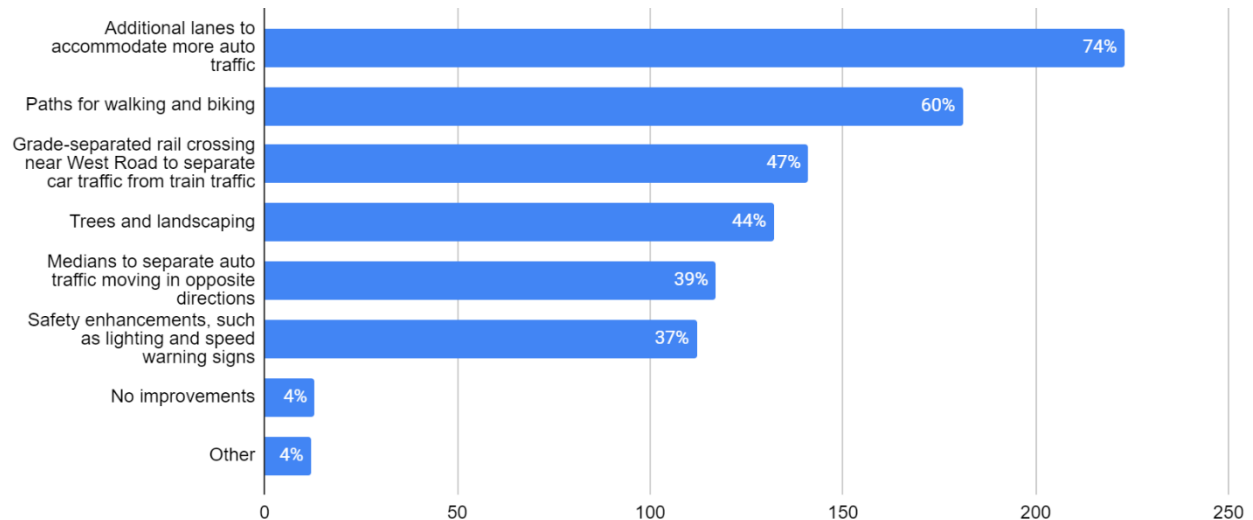
In addition to the concerns listed above, respondents noted the following current issues:

- Noise
- Trains disrupting traffic flow (to the point that vehicles will turn around while waiting)
- New development putting pressures on roadway capacity (pointing to the need for limiting development to roadway capacity)
- Need for roadway capacity to be supplemented with alternate route options (such as Napier)
- Safety of people walking/biking
- Signal timing
- Visibility / line of sight (trees, hills, traffic, turning in/out)
- Sidewalk gaps
- Left turn lane from Beck Rd to 12 Mile Rd being used as a lane to get onto I-96 East

Respondents also noted the following issues anticipated if Beck Road were to be expanded:

- Increased traffic and speeds with more capacity
- Increased noise and hazards for people walking/biking with more traffic
- Encroachment into private property and natural areas
- Disruption of residential area and decreased property values
- Traffic management during construction

How would you like to see Beck Road improved? (Select all that apply.)



Other improvements suggested by respondents were:

- Sound buffers
- Pavement maintenance
- Additional lanes only in certain parts of the corridor (such as between West Road and I-96)
- Roundabouts
- Smart traffic lights
- Blind spot reduction
- Addressing environmental issues
- Center turn lanes
- Stop light at Beck Rd & White Pines Dr