



February 2026 SBAC Meeting: City Updates



Mobility & Safety in Somerville: 2025 Key Performance Indicators



MAYOR JAKE WILSON
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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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Contents

TRAVEL PATTERNS

- Transit
- Walking / Rolling
- Bicycling
- Driving

SAFETY TRENDS

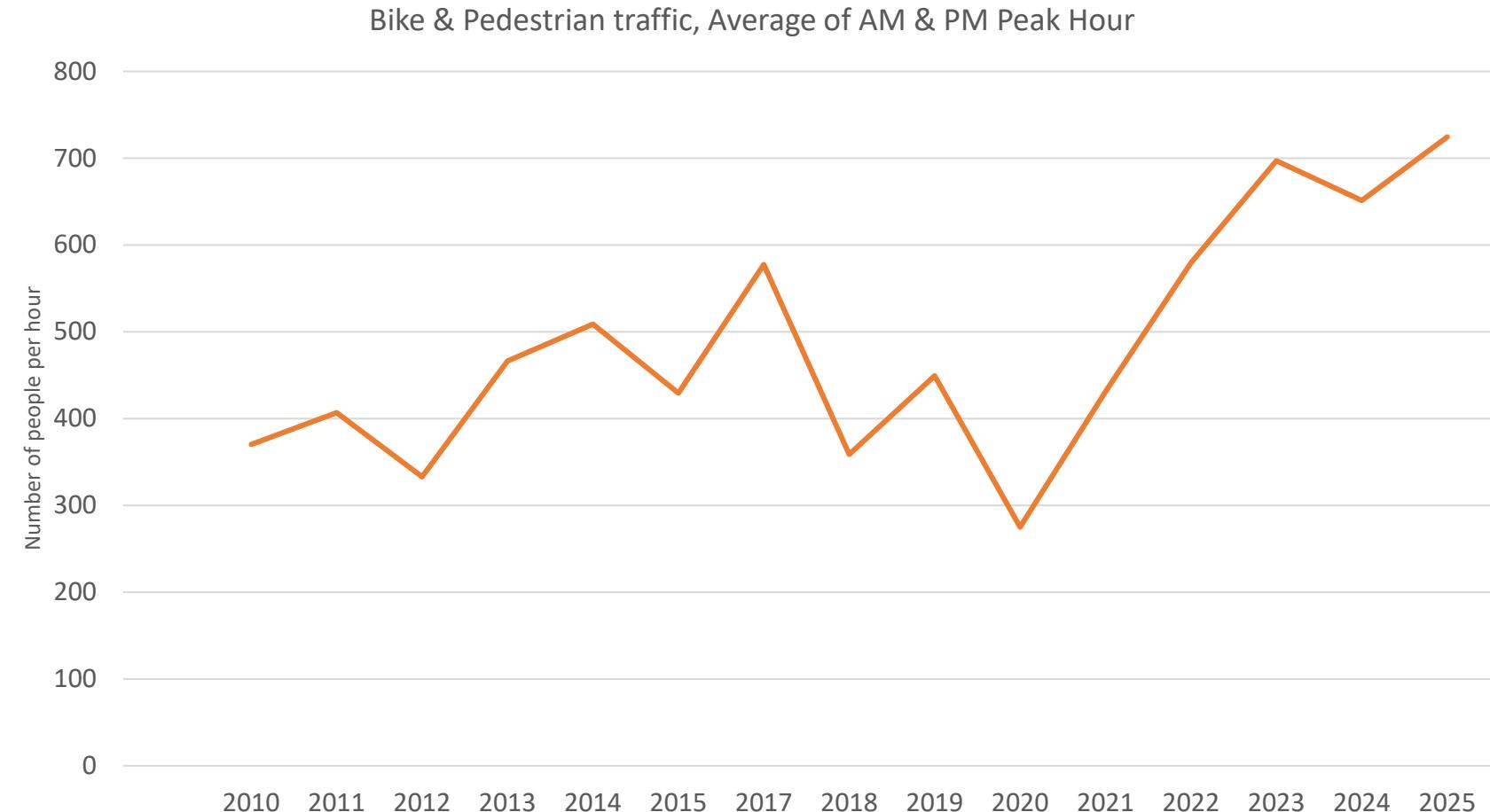
- Crashes
- Vehicle Speeds
- Compliance

OUR STRATEGIES

- Traffic Calming
- Streets & Sidewalks
- Bicycle Network
- Transit Priority
- Public Engagement



Our count program includes four sites on the Community Path;
average counts at these sites set new records in 2025



Note: Count locations = Buena Vista Road, Grove Street, Willow Avenue, Cedar Street

Source: City of Somerville annual bike & pedestrian count program at 42 locations

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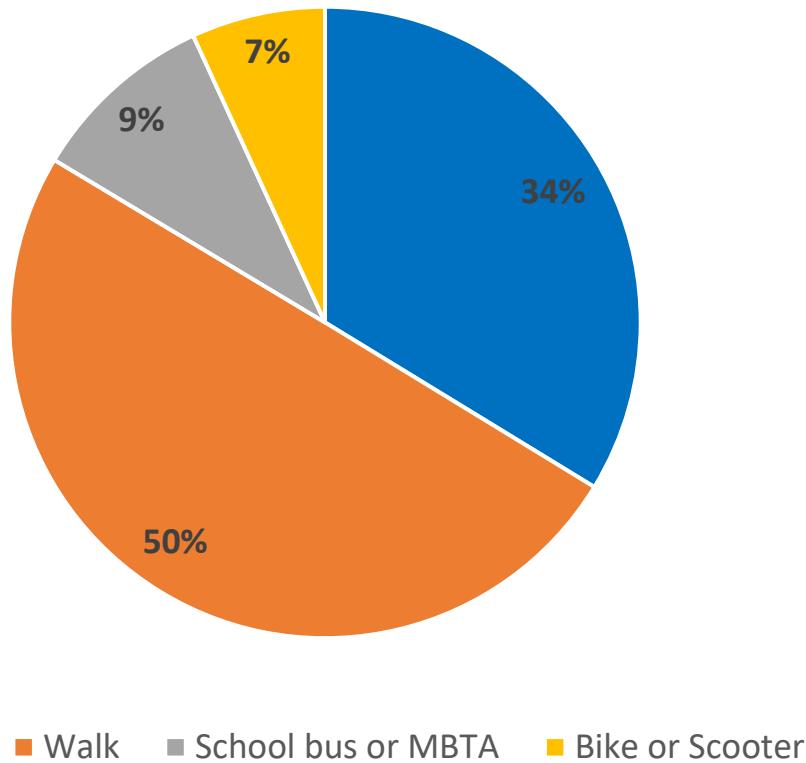
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Somerville surveys our school families on travel preference;
most students walk, bike, or take transit to school

Getting to School - all SPS, Average 2019 to 2025



Notes: Average of all SPS schools, AM and PM travel mode, for families surveyed between 2018-19 and 2025-26 school years; total survey responses = 16,047

Source: Somerville Public Schools annual travel survey

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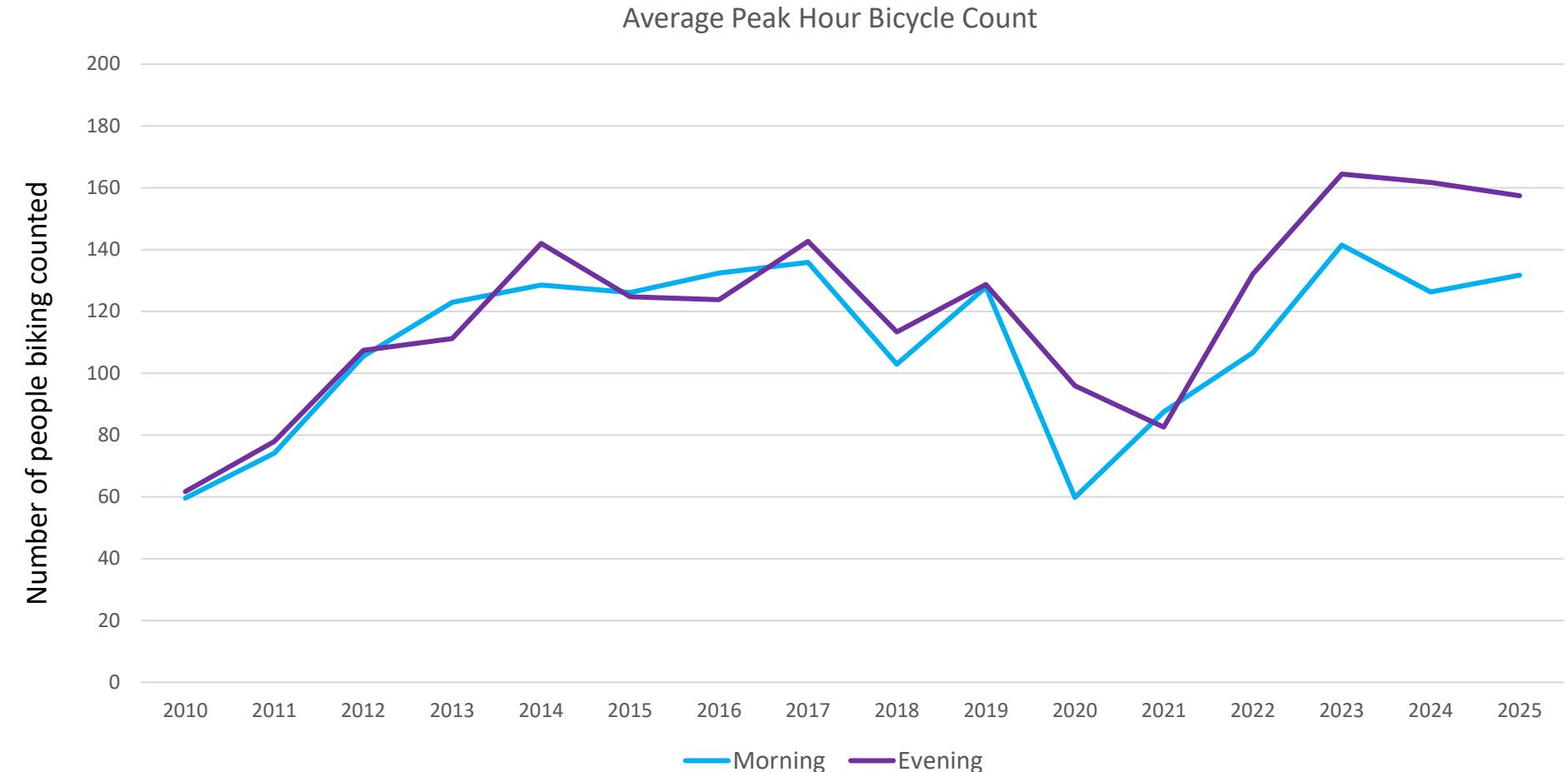
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Somerville's annual bike count program continued in 2025;
patterns have shifted between morning and evening



Source: City of Somerville annual bike & pedestrian count program at 42 locations

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Public bike share ridership remained high in 2025;
more than 250,000 Bluebikes trips began in Somerville



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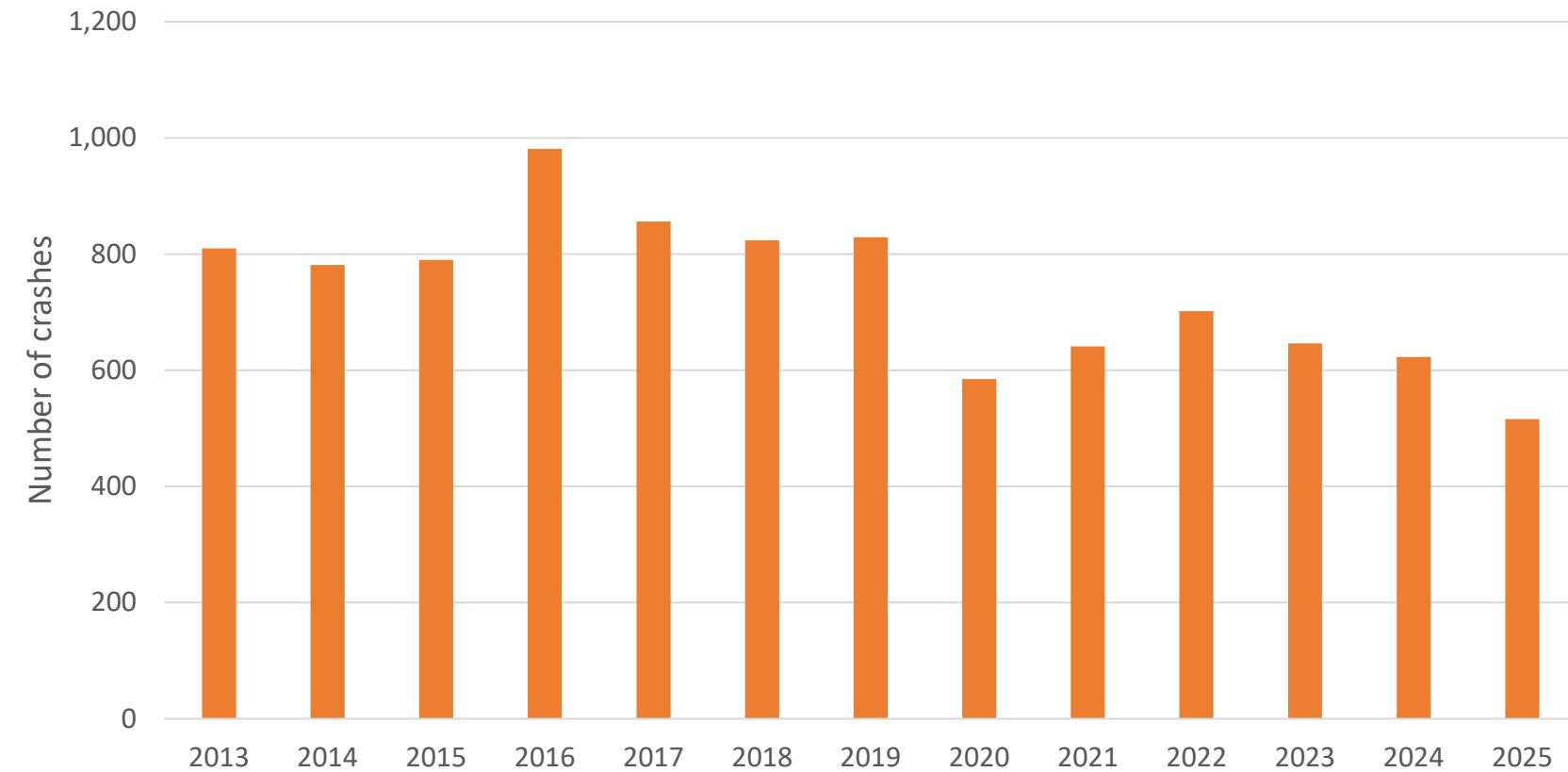
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Reported crashes in Somerville continued to decrease in 2025;
with 525 total crashes reported for the year



Note: data include records for all state and City roads in Somerville

Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/22/26; Somerville Police Department crash reports

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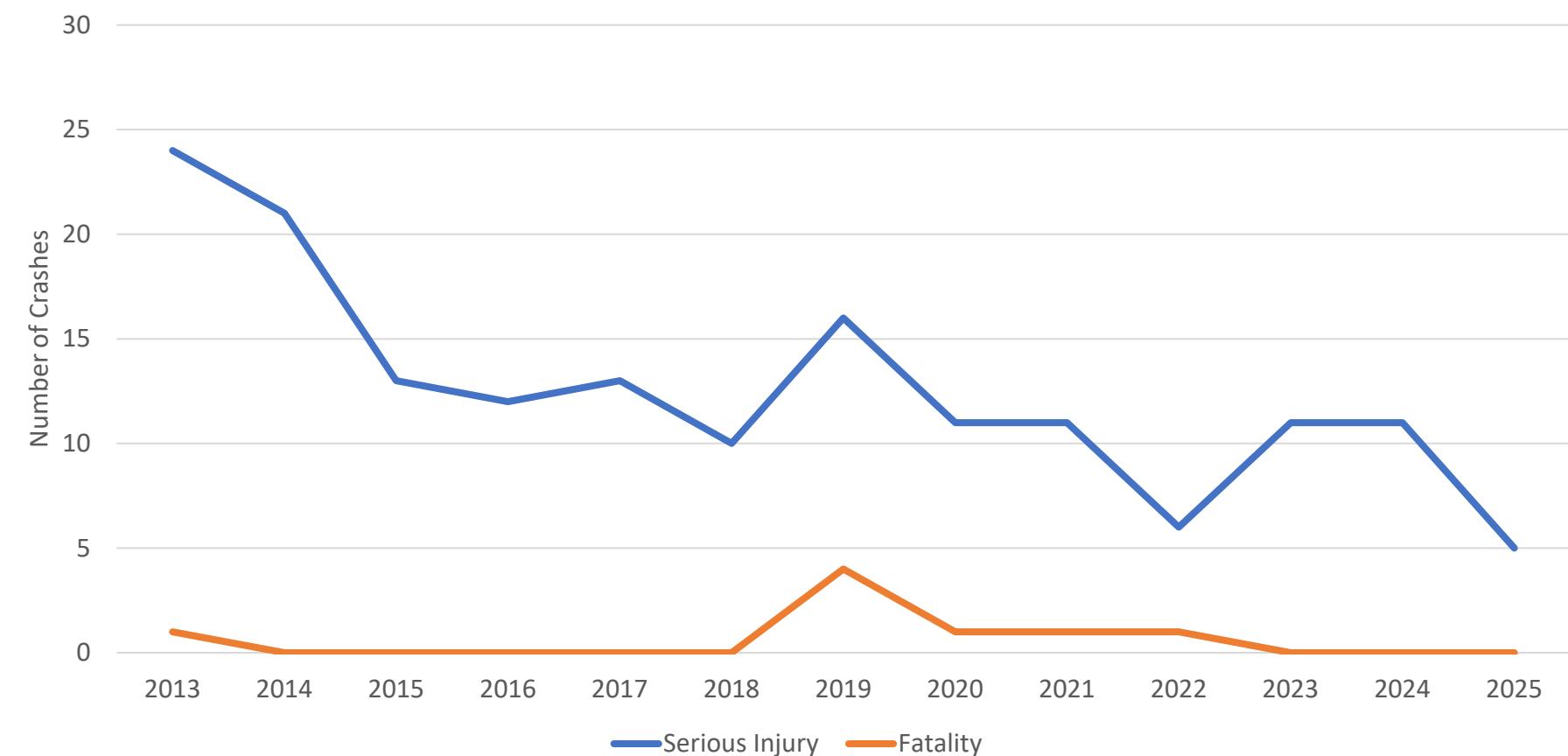
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In 2025 serious injury crashes in Somerville decreased by 50%,
and for the third year in a row we suffered no fatal crashes



Serious injuries can include broken bones, loss of consciousness, and significant blood loss.

Full details at <https://masscrashreportmanual.com/vulnerable-user/injury-status/>

Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/22/26, & SPD crash reports

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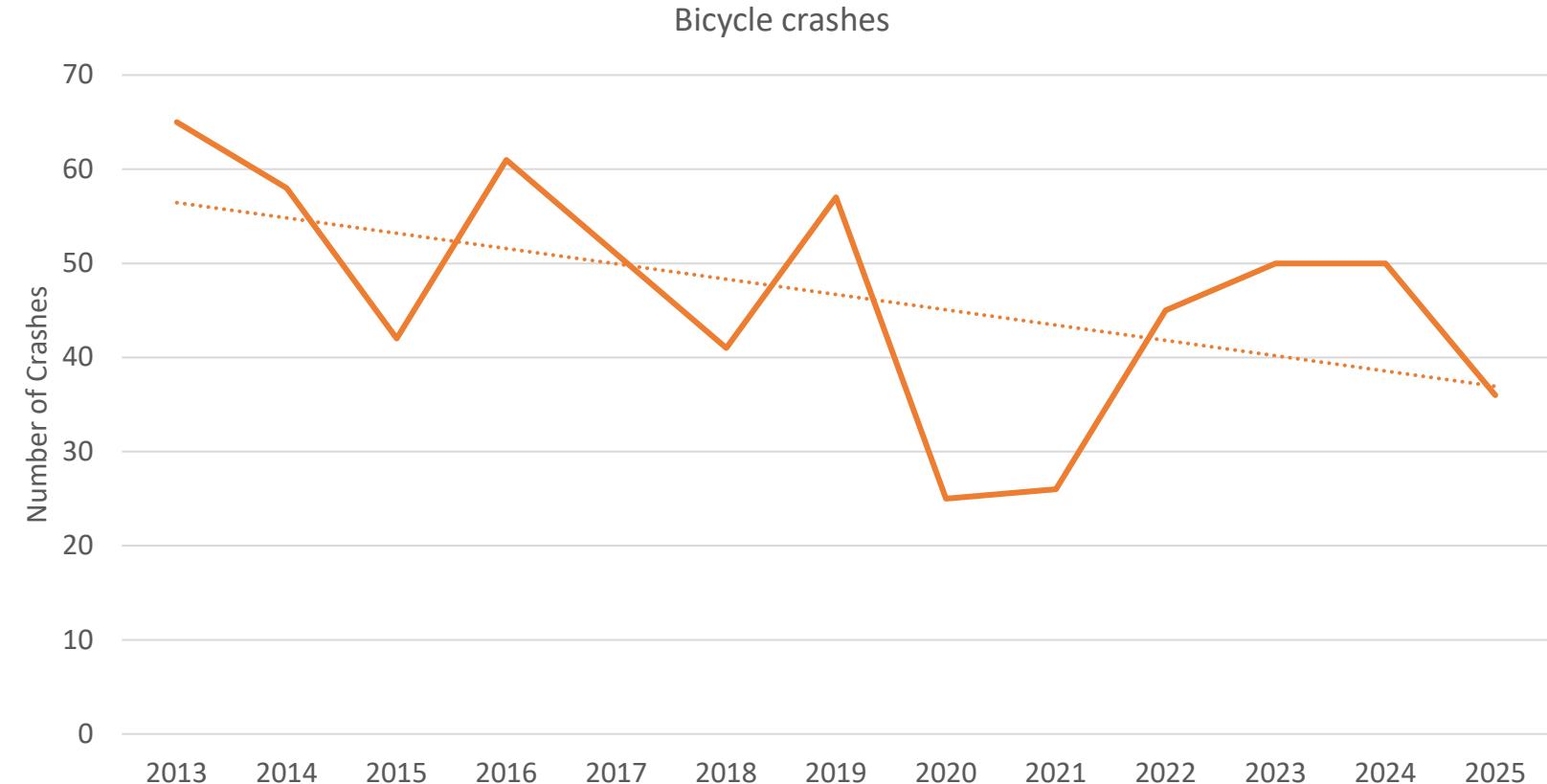
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In 2025 there were 36 bicycle crashes reported in Somerville, this represents a 25% decrease from the previous 3-year average



Note: data include records for all state and City roads in Somerville

Source: MassDOT IMPACT crash data portal; retrieved 1/22/26, & SPD crash reports

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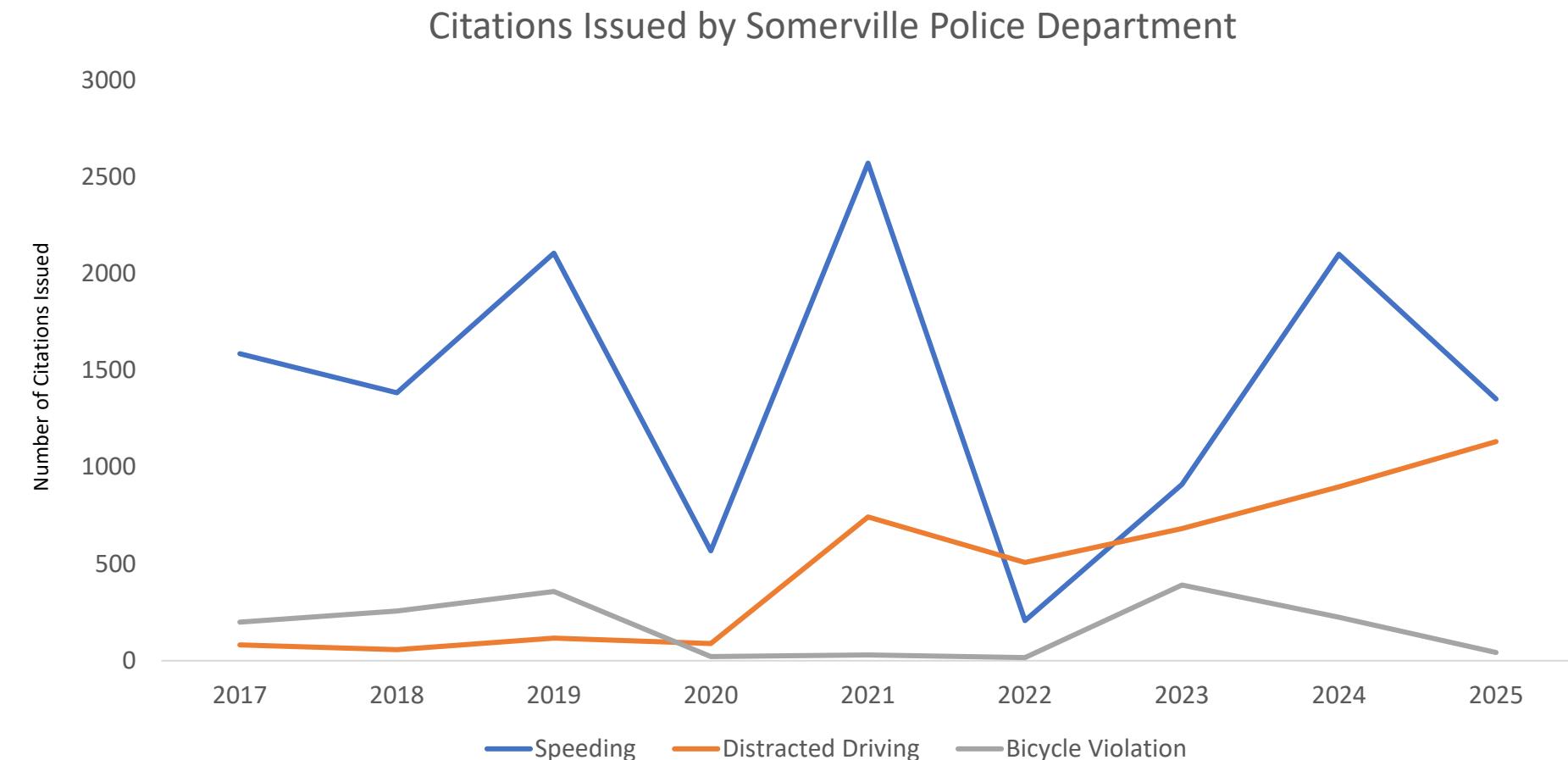
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Traffic citations are another data point to understand safety;
speeding and distracted driving are common violations



Note: bicycle violations are often for failure to stop for pedestrians at crosswalks or at red lights, but also include other bicyclist infractions

Source: Somerville Police Department public data dashboard

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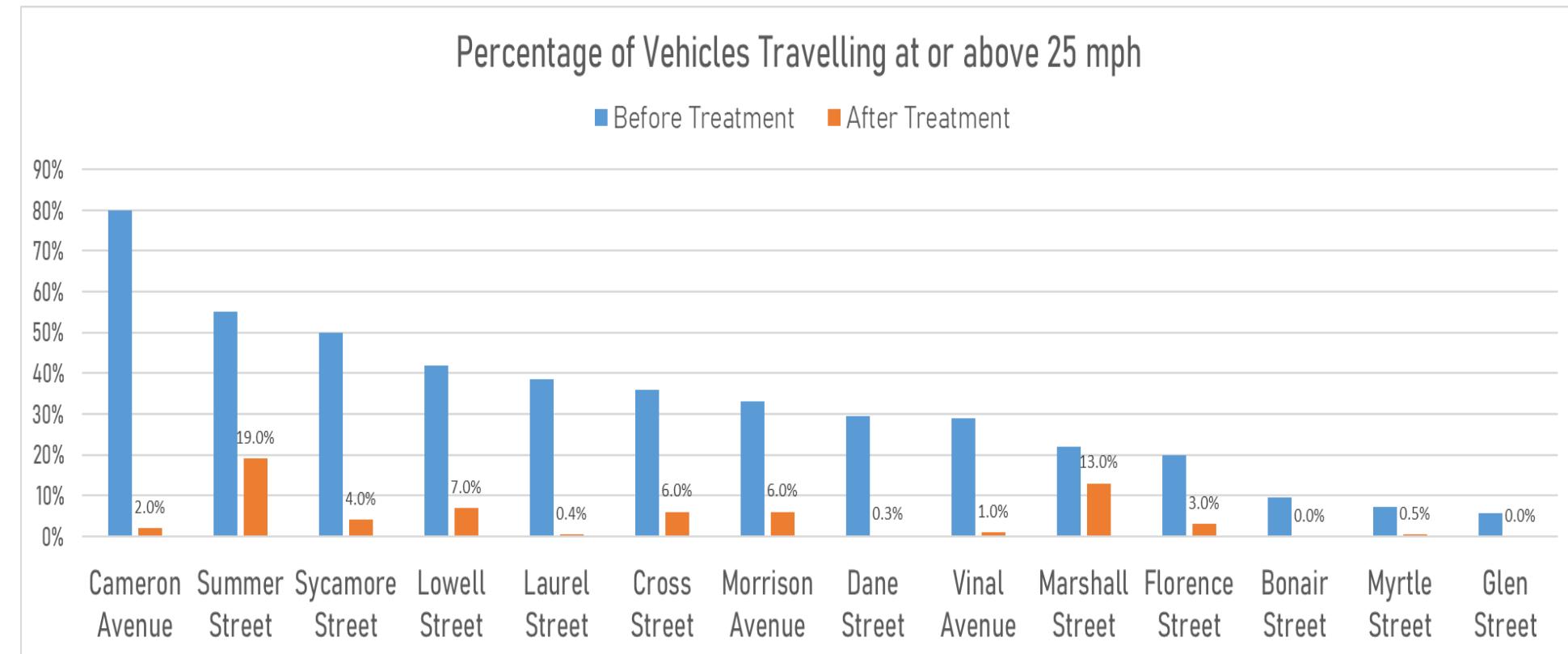
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Streets & Sidewalks
Bicycle Network
Transit Priority
Public Engagement



MAYOR JAKE WILSON
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC PLANNING &
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

The City's traffic calming program improves safety;
our data show significant speed reductions after treatment



Source: City of Somerville Automatic Traffic Recorder (ATR) devices

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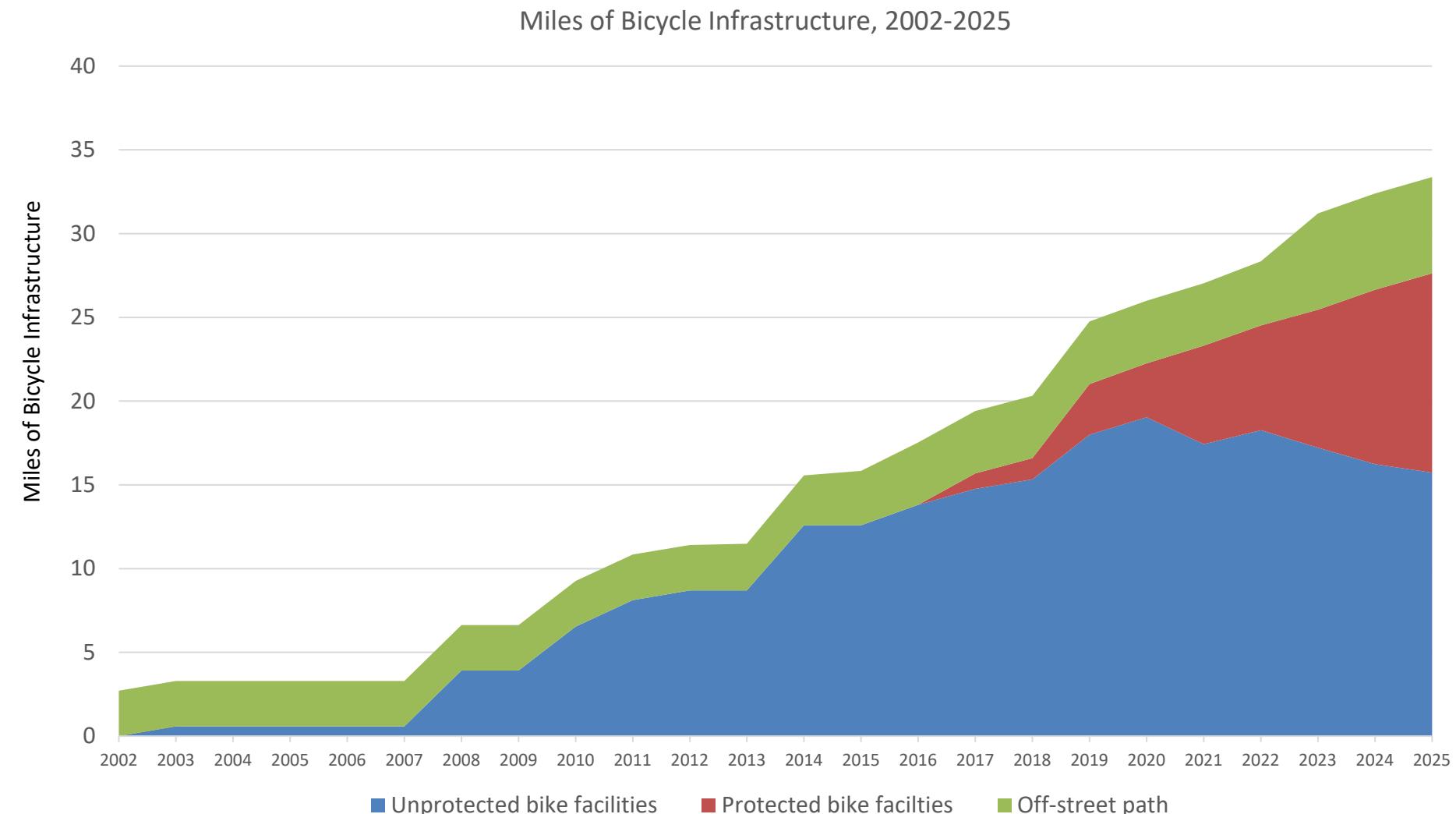
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Somerville continued to grow our bicycle network in 2025,
we installed 1.5 miles of protected bike facilities citywide



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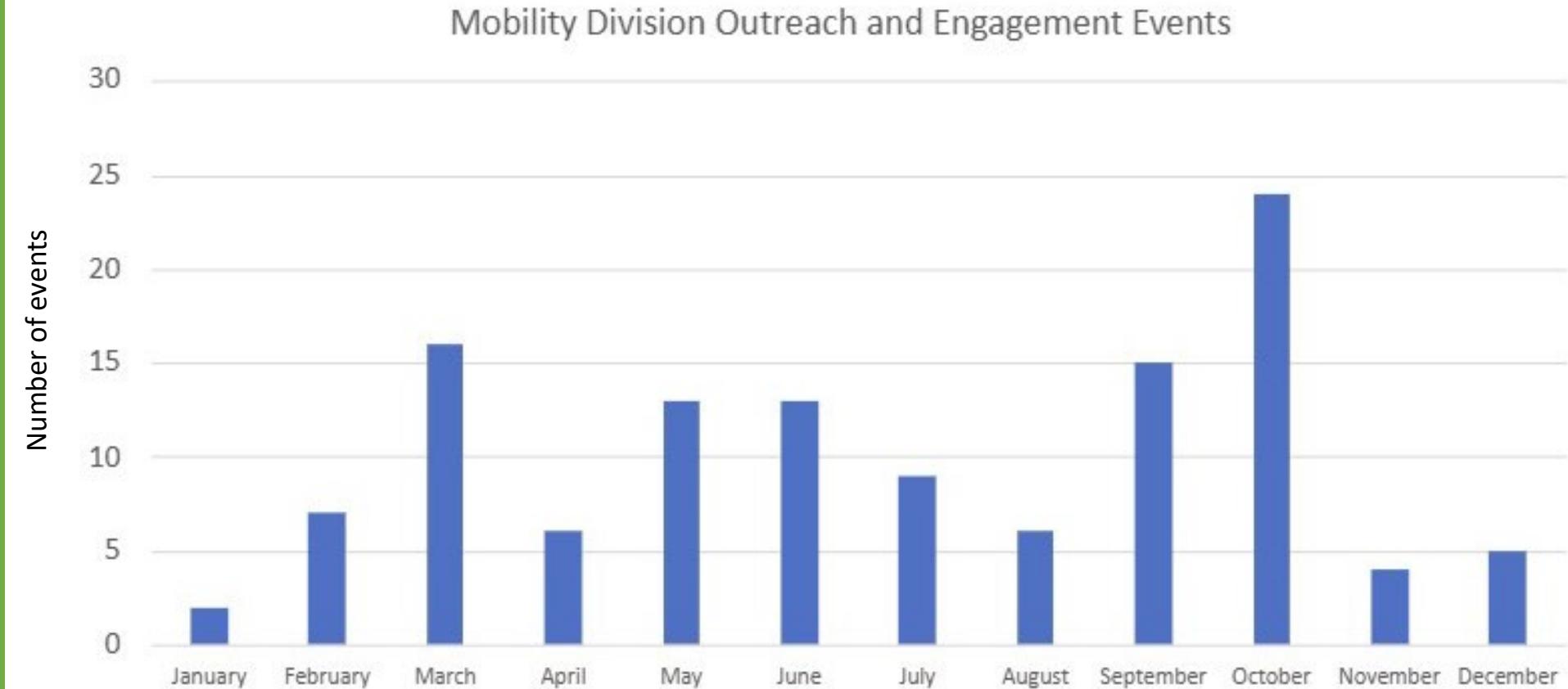
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Mobility Division's outreach program continues to grow,
we engaged community members at 120 events in 2025



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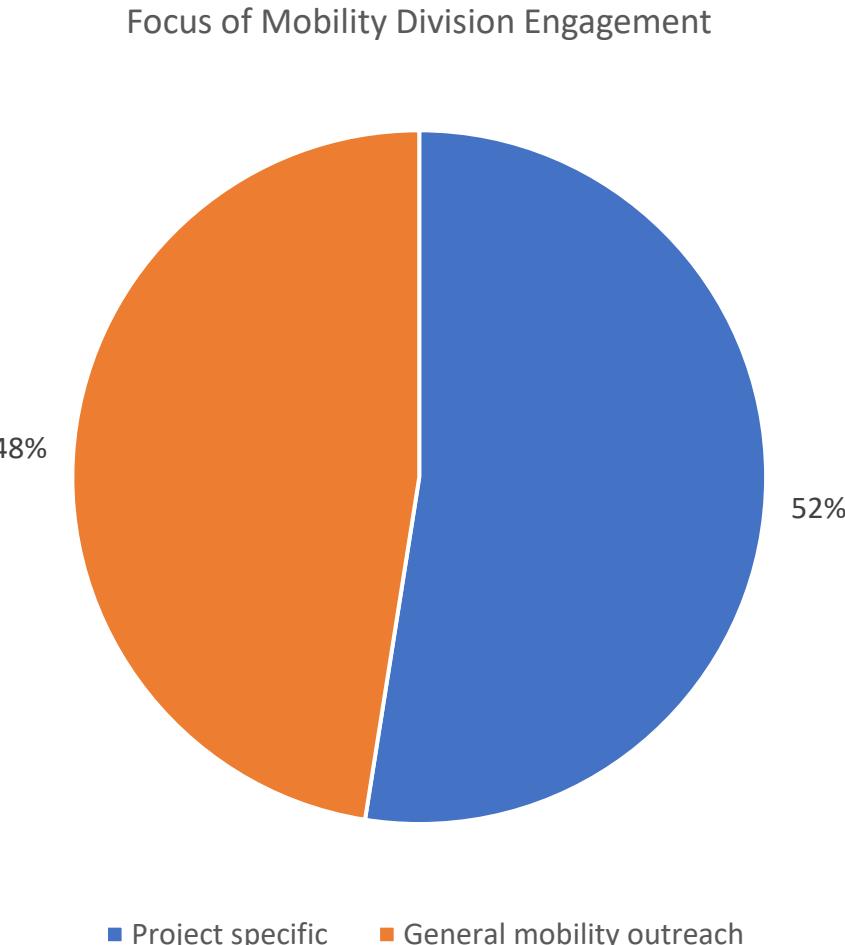
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Our engagement can be grouped in two main categories:
general outreach and project-specific outreach



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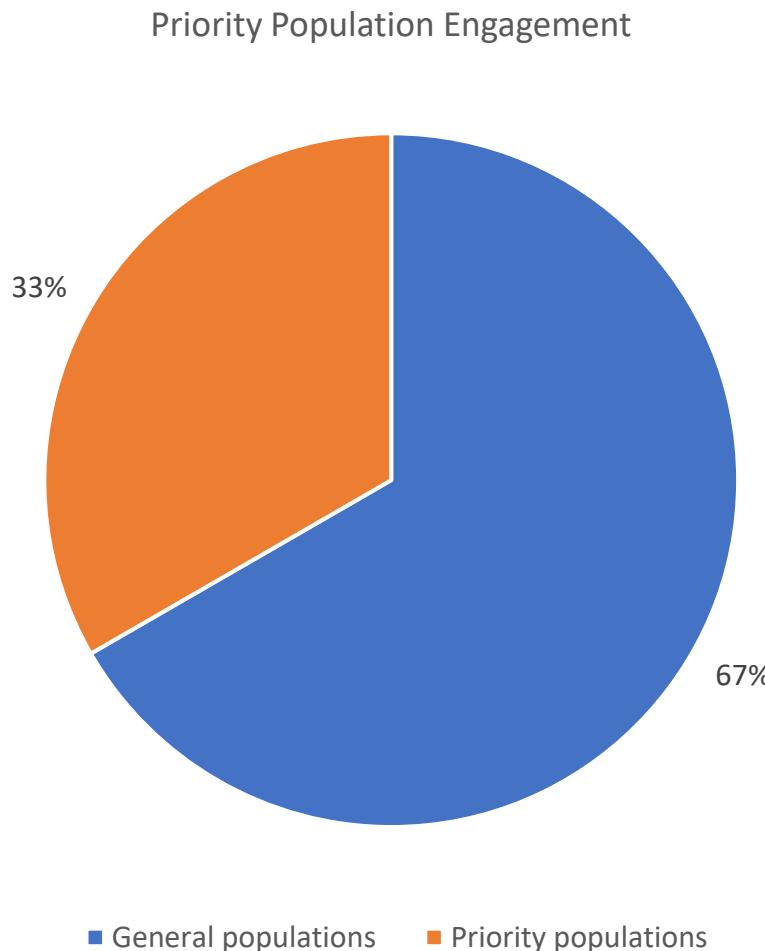
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We continue to prioritize engagement with
people who face barriers to participation



Note: priority populations include youth, older adults, people with low income and people with limited English proficiency

Source: Mobility Division event tracker

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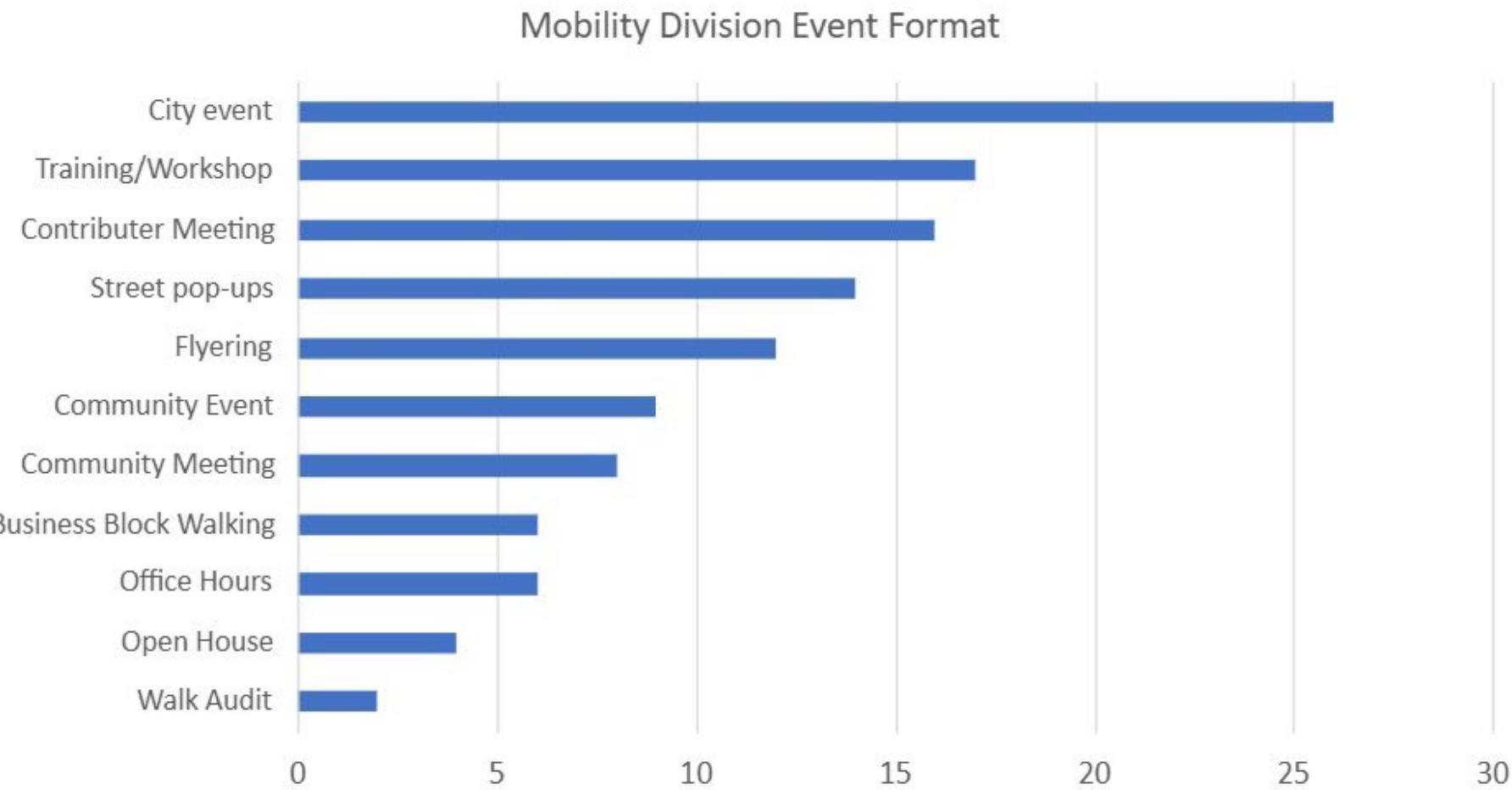
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Our engagement gets beyond traditional public meetings,
with the goal of meeting people where they are



Source: Mobility Division event tracker



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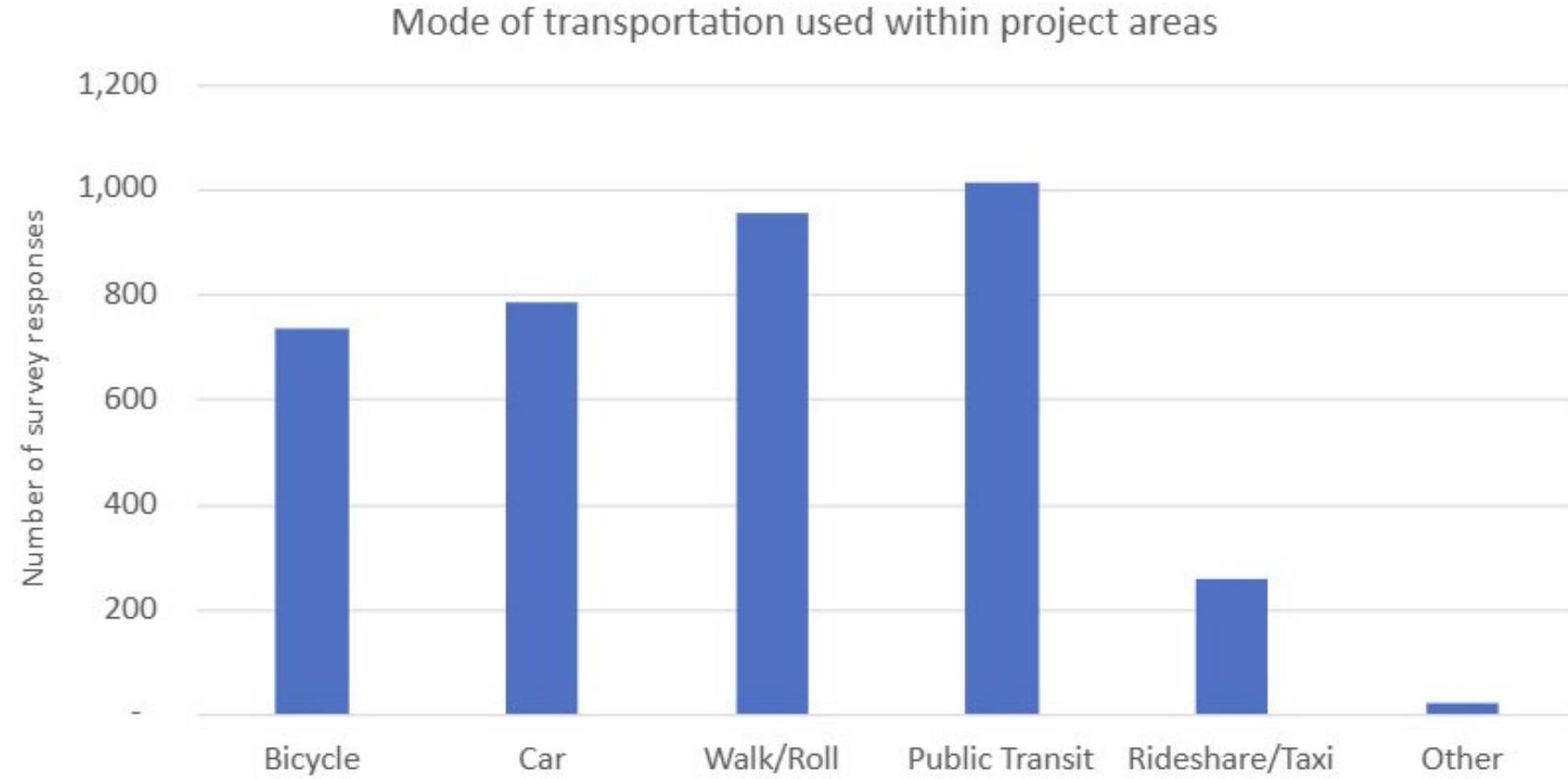
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We survey all the ways people travel within a project area;
public transit, walk/roll and car are the most common



Note: Survey responses were analyzed from the following 2023-2025 projects: Tufts Street Reconstruction, West Broadway Reconstruction, Elm-Beacon Connector, Somerville Avenue Quick-Build, Broadway-Magoun Reconstruction; survey respondents can select more than one travel mode

Source: SomerVoice survey response tracker

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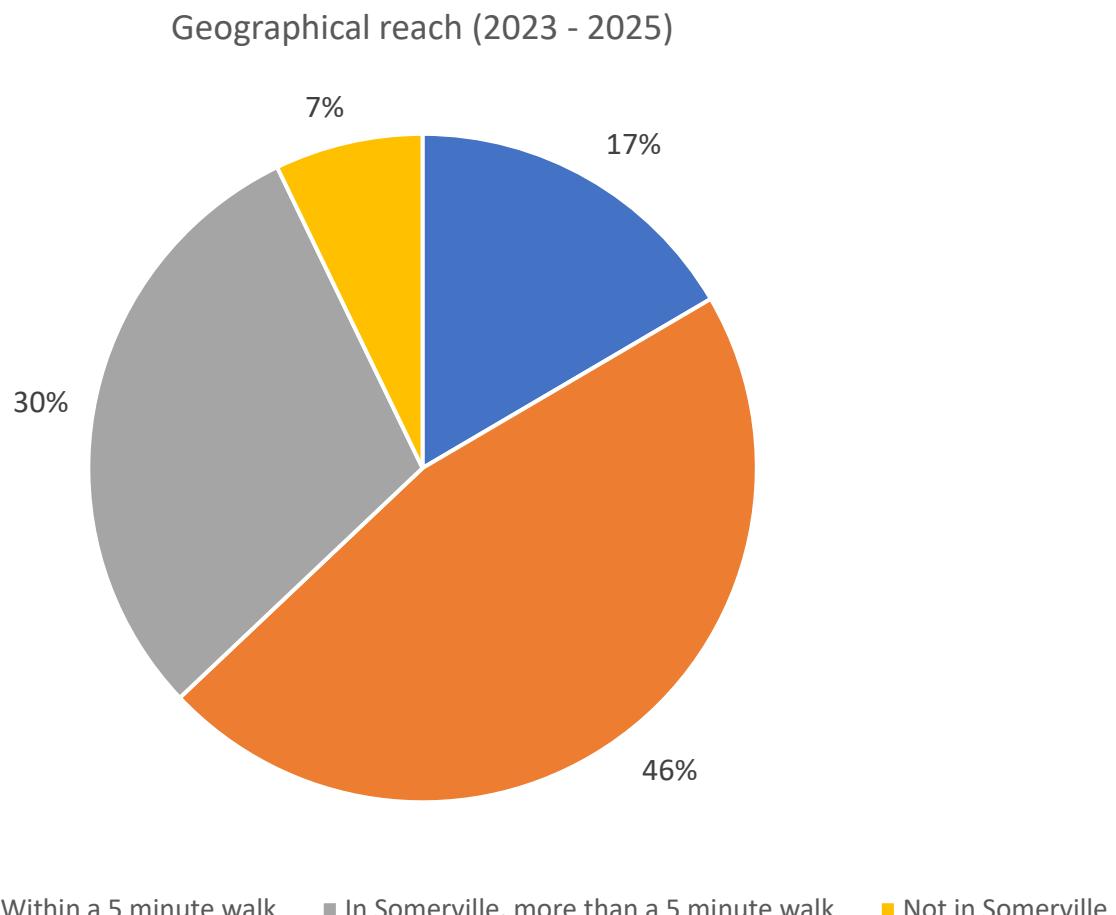
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We are most likely to hear feedback from community members
who live on the project street or within a 5-minute walk of that street



Note: Survey responses were analyzed from the following projects – Tufts Street Reconstruction, West Broadway Reconstruction, Elm-Beacon Connector, Somerville Avenue Quick-Build, Broadway-Magoun Reconstruction

Source: SomerVoice survey response tracker

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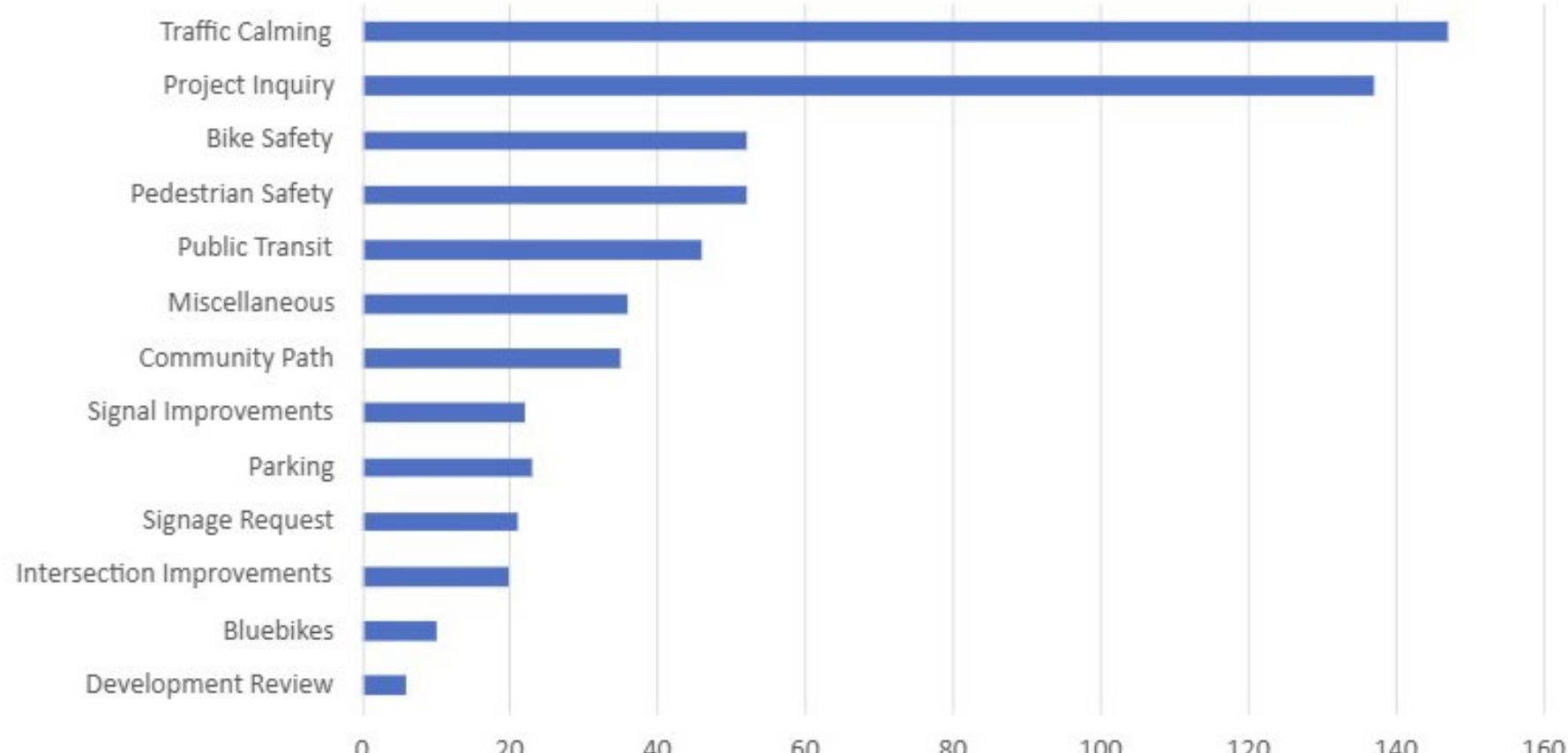
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Mobility receives many 311 requests and direct email inquiries;
traffic calming is the most frequent topic

More than 600 Constituent Inquiries in 2025



Source: Mobility Division constituent inquiry tracker



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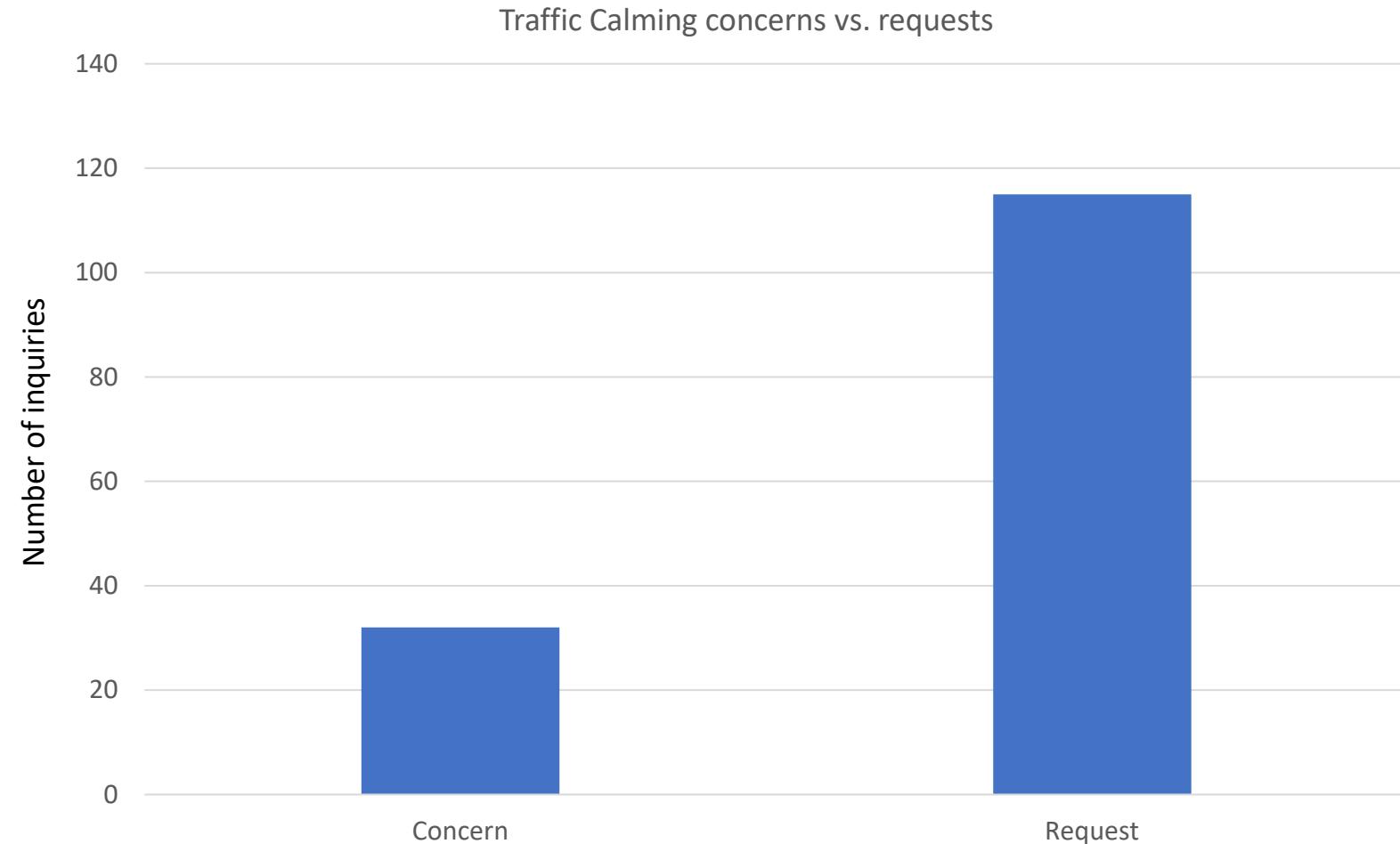
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In 2025, we received 145 traffic calming inquiries;
78% were requests while 22% were concerns/complaints



Source: Mobility Division constituent inquiry tracker

Upcoming Events

- Lunar New Year Cultural Festival, Saturday, 2/14,
Somerville High School Cafeteria



Civic Day, Somerville High School, April 2025

Quick-Build Projects

Faster-implementation projects that use flexible materials and minimal or no construction

Design

- **Elm-Beacon Connector ([project page](#))**

- We have been working closely with other departments in the City, as well as with the City of Cambridge and the MBTA to ensure that we develop the safest and most effective design for this quick-build project.
- At the same time, we've been exploring ways to increase the scope to meet more of the needs and feedback we heard from community members.
- Final design expected April 2026
- Installation planned between summer-fall 2026

- **Somerville Avenue ([project page](#))**

- Phase 1 Community Engagement Report [published](#)
- Initial design development anticipated to take place through winter

- **Community Path Safety Improvements ([project page](#))**

- Community Engagement Report [published](#)
- Design Strategy to be shared in early 2026



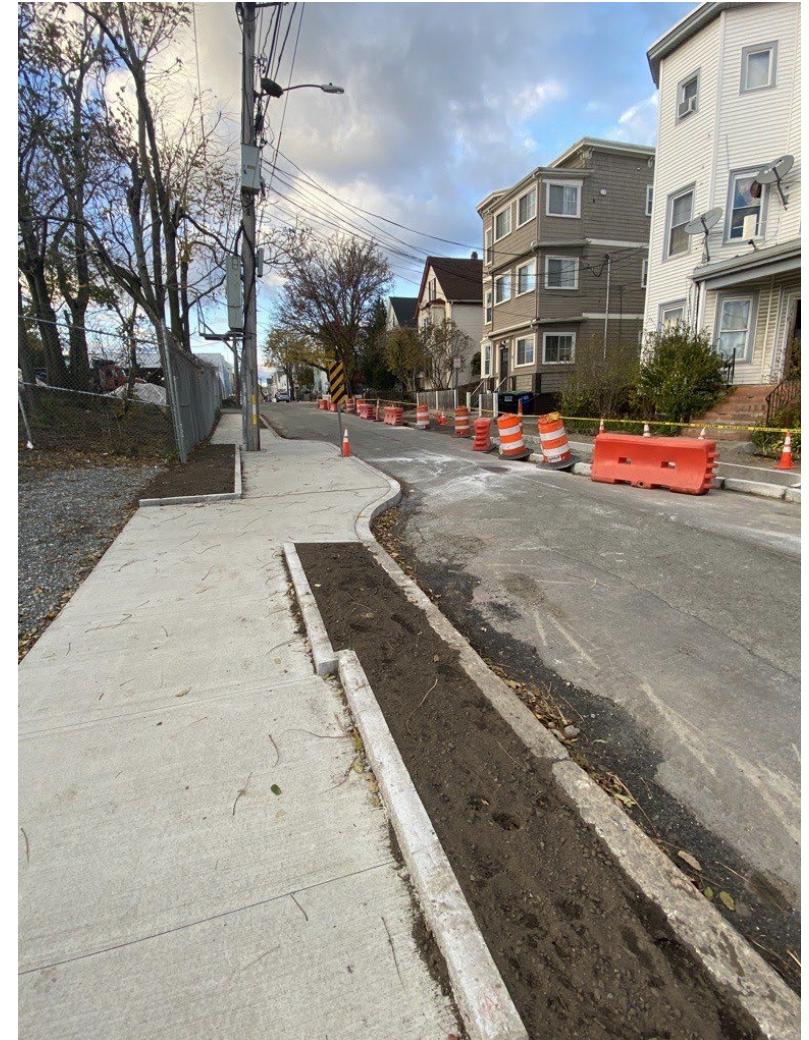
Elm-Beacon Connected Open House, John F. Kennedy School, March 2025

Complete Streets Projects

Projects that do not typically include substantial utility/bridge/signal work; typically using construction contracts that bundle multiple streets together

Construction

- **Tufts Street ([project page](#))**
 - Remaining sidewalks, other streetscape improvements, and repaving of the roadway will occur in spring/summer of 2026
- **West Broadway ([project page](#))**
 - Streetscape reconstruction anticipated to begin in spring 2026



Tufts Street, November 2025

Complete Streets Projects

Projects that do not typically include substantial utility/bridge/signal work; typically using construction contracts that bundle multiple streets together

Design

- **Western Pearl Street Reconstruction Project** ([project page](#))

- Updated design materials available on project webpage
 - [Illustrative plan](#)
 - [Open house posters](#)
 - [Recorded presentation](#)
- Updated Design Community Engagement Report [published](#)
- Final design anticipated early 2026

- **Broadway Magoun Reconstruction Project** ([project page](#))

- Reviewing community feedback
- First Community Engagement Report to be published this month
- Initial design anticipated late winter/early spring 2026



West Pearl Street Reconstruction Project updated design engagement timeline

Major Infrastructure Projects

Projects that include substantial utility/bridge/signal work as well as streetscape work; typically using standalone construction contracts

State Managed

- **McGrath Boulevard ([project page](#))**
 - Conceptual Design materials
 - [Conceptual design overview](#)
 - [Major intersections conceptual designs](#)
 - [Flyover rendering of conceptual design](#)
 - [12/4/25 Open House poster boards](#)
 - [12/9/25 Public Hearing \[slide deck\]\(#\) and \[recording\]\(#\)](#)
 - 75% design anticipated in 2026
- **Mystic/Maffa bridges ([project page](#))**
 - Construction underway
- **Route 38/Route 28 Intersection ([project page](#))**
 - Major construction activities wrapped up for season
- **Mystic River Bike/Ped Bridge ([project page](#))**
 - [Slides](#) and [recording](#) of October 2025 meeting available online.

McGrath Boulevard Project
Transforming McGrath Highway into a street-level multimodal boulevard

What This Project Will Do

- Remove the elevated overpass on McGrath Highway (Route 28) over Washington Street and replace it with a ground-level road
- Make travel safer for everyone - those driving, walking, biking, and taking transit
- Add green space and support local business

Timeline

- 2011-2018 Planning
- 2021-2023 Project Development
- 2024-2027 Design Development
- 2027-2032 Construction

McGrath Blvd. Somerville

28 McGrath Blvd. Somerville

• McCarthy Overpass identified as aging and needing replacement

• Extensive public engagement and formation of a Working Group

• Removing viaduct and building Boulevard determined as preferred solution

• Conduct survey and utility investigation, perform environmental studies, and prepare refined concept design (10%)

• Preliminary Design (25%)

• Design Public Hearing

• Environmental Permitting

• Detailed Design (75%, 100%, Final)

• Right of Way acquisitions

• Bid package

• Advertise project for bid

• Select contractor and issue Notice to Proceed

• Construct boulevard through phased construction approach

Union Square

Brickbottom

Star Market

East Cambridge

Medford **Everett**

Boston **Cambridge**

The McGrath Boulevard project stretches roughly 1.5 miles from the intersection with Academy in Somerville to Third Street in Cambridge

Many design options were evaluated including potential cross-sections and intersection configurations. Through a consensus-driven design process, the preliminary design here was selected as the 'preferred alternative'.

Drift for conceptual review. Designer's advisor notes: this design is preliminary and conceptual despite the hard-line finished style produced by the software used to create the image. The design is based on a 2011 orthographic aerial photograph due to the distortion of the orthographic photogrammetry.

McGrath Boulevard Project open house poster, December 2025