

Engagement Summary

Newton-King George Boulevard Getting Started **July 2020 Survey**

Newton is Growing

Surrey is developing a new land use plan in Newton. The plan is for the neighbourhood along King George Boulevard between Newton Town Centre and Highway 10.

Newton is growing and this is the only urban area between Newton Town Centre and Highway 10 currently without a plan.

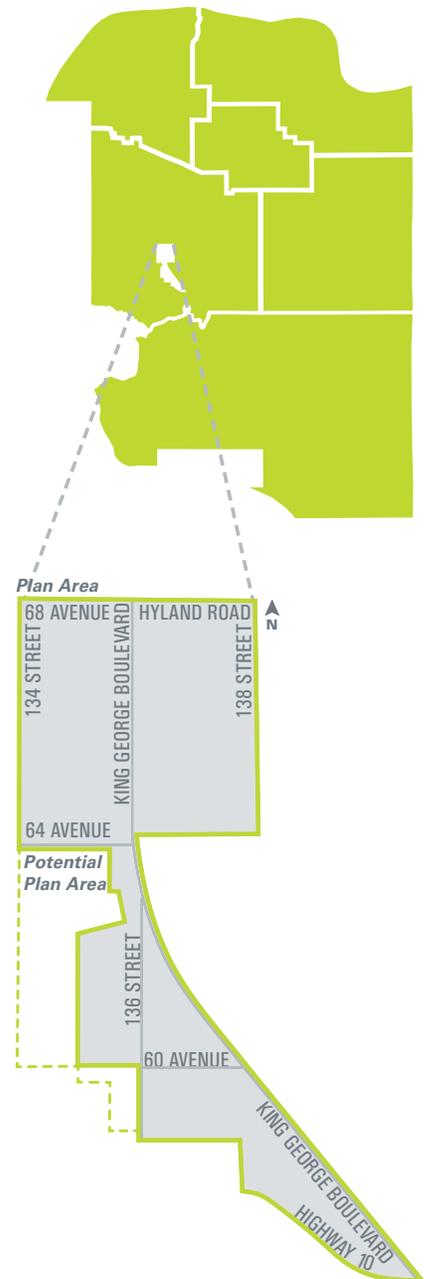
WHY DO WE NEED A PLAN?

The City creates land use plans for areas that are experiencing growth and development pressure. A plan determines what can be built and where. It guides the City when considering future development applications. It is important to remember these plans are very long range. They take several decades to build out.

What We Did

Land use plans rely on community input. To get started on this plan, we sent letters to owners and occupants of properties in and around the Plan Area asking them to participate in a survey. The survey was also promoted on social media and sent to CitySpeaks panel members living in Newton.

The purpose of this survey was to ask residents about their community. Our intent was to better understand the neighbourhood. What is great about living here? What are the challenges? This input allows us to start to consider how we can grow to accommodate new housing, jobs, and community spaces.



For More Information

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Participant Summary

This is a snapshot of participants from the July 2020 Survey.

There were approx.
1200
completed surveys.



69% live in Newton

Age of Participants



39% under 40



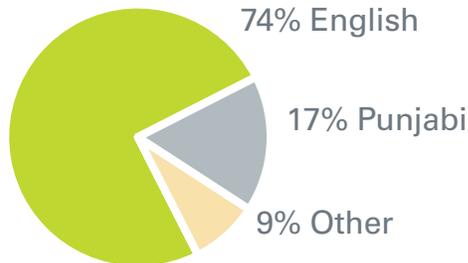
39% between 40 and 65



19% over 65



First Language of Participants



Relationship to the Plan Area

20% live or own property in
the Plan Area



6% live or own property in
the Potential Plan Area



55% live nearby



8% work here or nearby

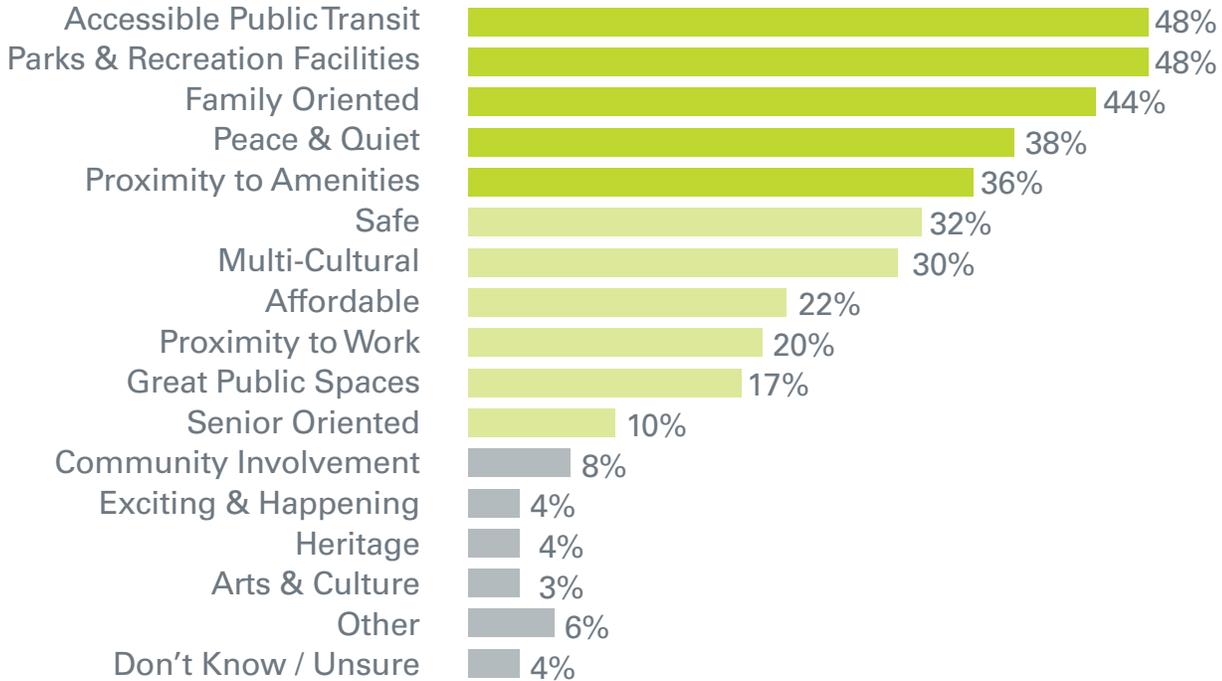


20% live elsewhere in Surrey



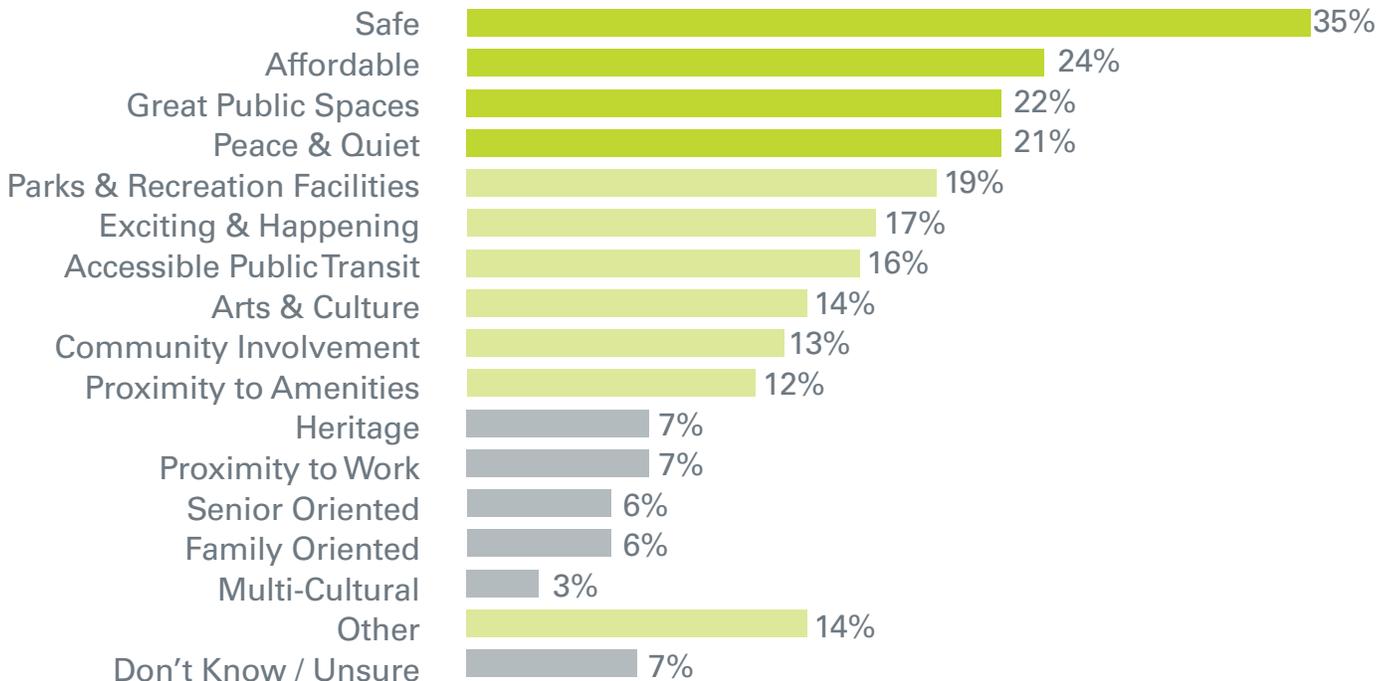
What's are the best things about the Neighbourhood?

Participants could select up to 5 options. We want the plan to enhance and preserve these qualities.



What's Missing from the Neighbourhood?

Participants could select up to 3 options. We want the plan to work towards improving these aspects of your neighbourhood.



What's Your Vision for the future of Newton-King George Boulevard?

We conducted an in-depth analysis of over 1000 written comments from the survey. In order, these are the top 5 themes identified and some verbatim quotes from the survey:



Safety from Crime and Traffic

Quotes from the survey:

- | *Safe for families and accessible for the elderly.*
- | *King George Boulevard area [should be] completely developed with businesses with a very high regard for the safety of the local community and ease of access to the local community.*
- | *Adequate public transportation and a limit on the traffic on King George Blvd.*



Addition of Parks and Green Spaces

Quotes from the survey:

- | *Newton should be a community with more nature based points of interest.*
- | *Better designed community parks and green space pathways.*
- | *I would like to see the area include family homes, green spaces, treed streets, bike pathways.*



Family Friendly, Multi-Cultural Area for Seniors, Children, Vulnerable People

Quotes from the survey:

- | *We want Newton to be a family friendly safe neighbourhood full of cultural diversity.*
- | *The involvement of indigenous people of the territory we reside in and the inclusion and welcoming of people who use drugs to participate in the community in meaningful and positive ways.*
- | *A mix of cultures, sounds, and laughter, where neighbours can walk down a street and grab a coffee together.*



A Variety of Local Shops, Restaurants, and Businesses

Quotes from the survey:

- | *Community events to highlight local businesses.*
- | *Small businesses & restaurants. A destination rather than a pit stop.*
- | *Small business supporting community who support small business.*



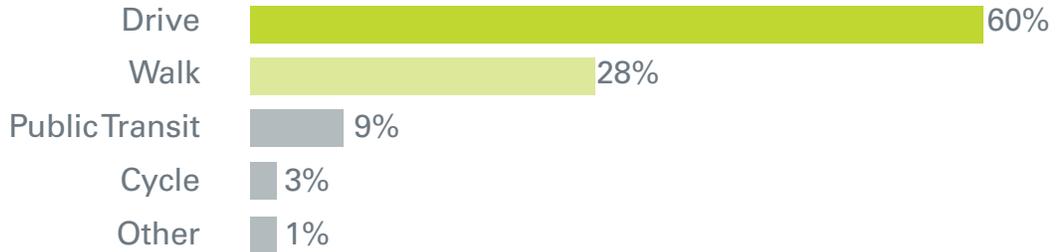
Less Reliance on Vehicles/Walkability to Schools, Shops and Services

Quotes from the survey:

- | *Neighborhoods need to be walkable. This means access to shopping, entertainment, schools and services on small scale that doesn't require owning and using a personal vehicle for every interaction.*
- | *A walkable community where King George Blvd is turned into a more pedestrian and biking friendly space with separated bike lanes and side walks, less reliance on vehicles, businesses on the ground floor with residences above, and more restaurants and cafes with large outdoor patios.*

How do you travel within the neighbourhood?

We want the plan to make the neighbourhood safer and more accessible for people of all ages and abilities to get where they are going.



CHALLENGES FOR PEDESTRIANS

We asked pedestrians what challenges they face when walking. We also asked drivers what most often deters them from walking. In order, these are the top 5 concerns we heard from both groups:

-  **Distance**
A lack of amenities and destinations nearby.
-  **Safety**
A lack of sidewalks/crosswalks and dangerous driving.
-  **Traffic**
Noise and Pollution.
-  **Pedestrian Environment**
Lack of pleasant scenery and interesting landscapes.
-  **Danger & Fear**
Crime and other threats.

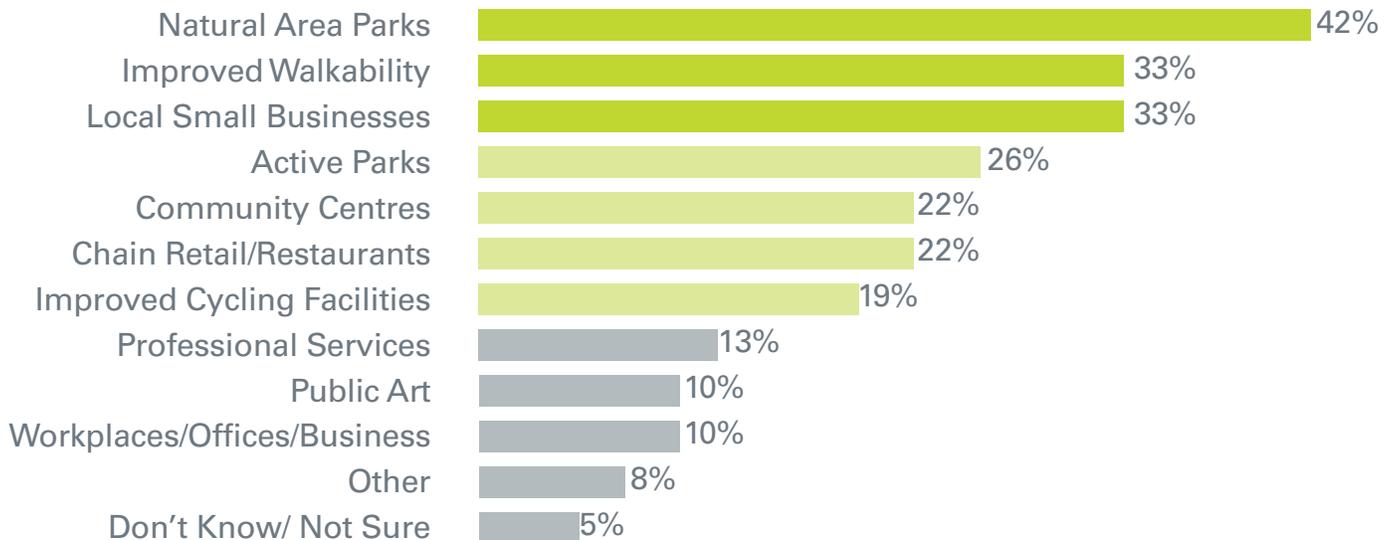
CHALLENGES FOR CYCLISTS

We asked cyclists what challenges they face when they are on their bikes. In order, these are the top 3 concerns we heard:

-  **Traffic**
Noise and Pollution.
-  **Lack of Infrastructure**
Lack of pleasant scenery and interesting landscapes.
-  **Danger & Fear**
Crime and other threats.

What do you wish was closer to home or within walking distance?

Participants could select up to 3 options. We want the plan help you access more of what you need closer to home.

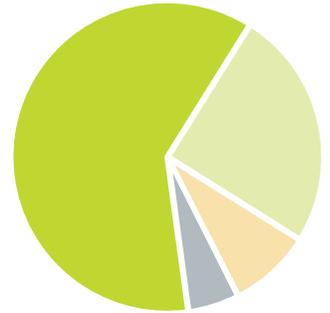


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Housing & Density

There are different ways we can accommodate growth. We asked participants to tell us their preferred growth scenario.

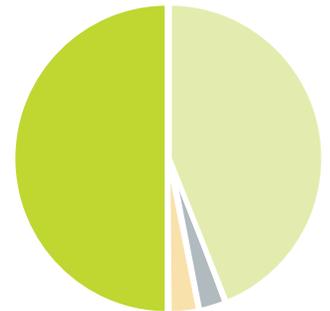
- 57% want an equal balance with some apartments, some townhouses, and some single detached housing.
- 26% want to preserve as much of the existing single detached housing as possible, this would mean focusing growth into apartments along King George Boulevard.
- 13% want to minimize apartments and focus growth into townhouses over more of the plan area.
- 5% are unsure / have no preference.



Commercial and Mixed Use Areas

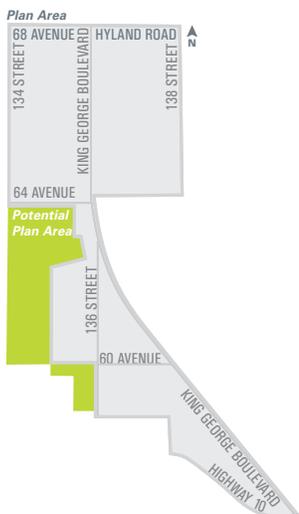
Residents were asked their preference for new commercial areas along King George Boulevard.

- 48% want commercial spread out along the entire King George Boulevard corridor.
- 42% want commercial clustered into 2 or 3 small areas (or nodes) along King George Boulevard.
- 4% suggest elsewhere.
- 5% are unsure / have no preference.

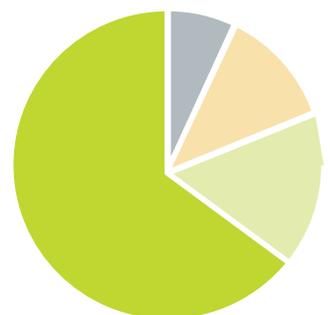


Inclusion in the Plan

Residents of the Potential Plan Area (shown in green on the map below) were asked if they would like to be included in the plan.

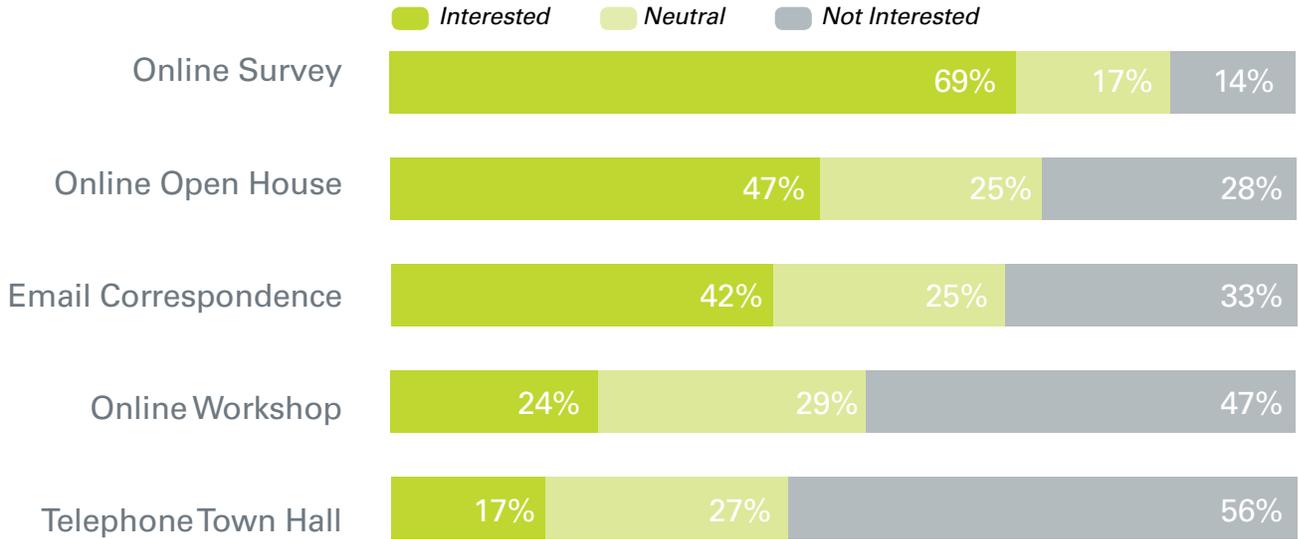


- 59% want to be included in the plan to protect their single detached neighbourhood and limit redevelopment.
- 19% want to be left out of the plan to allow redevelopment to occur unplanned.
- 15% want to be included in the plan to allow higher density redevelopment (such as townhouses).
- 7% are unsure / have no preference.



Upcoming Engagement

We have to rethink our traditional engagement practices due to COVID-19 restrictions. We asked participants which types of engagement activities they would be interested and safe participating in. By far, the preferred method of engagement was online surveys (69%), followed by online open houses (47%) and email correspondence (42%). Participants were much less interested in online workshops and telephone town halls. We will use this information as we plan engagement moving forward.

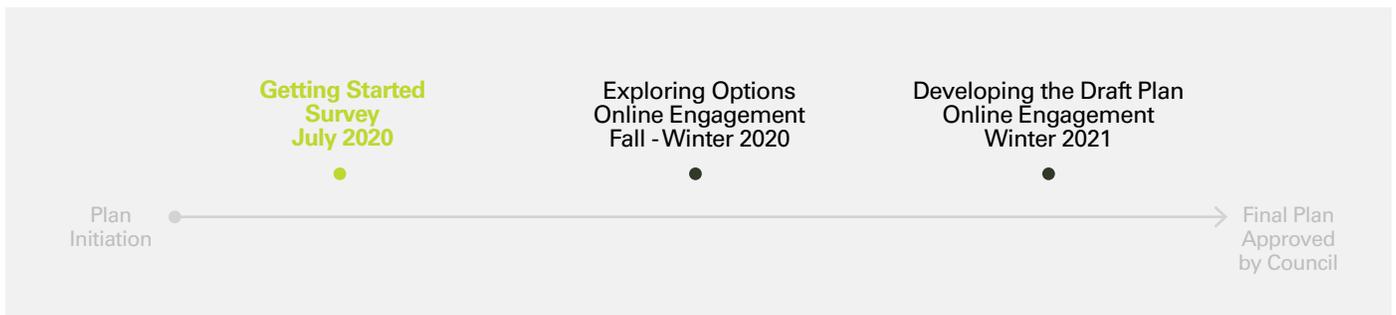


Our Next Steps

We will use the feedback collected from this survey to develop a draft *Vision Statement*, draft *Principles*, and a draft *Land Use Concept*.

We will present the draft *Vision Statement*, draft *Principles*, and draft *Land Use Plan* back to the community later this year. We will offer online engagement opportunities to gather your feedback and to make sure we haven't missed anything.

We will notify those in the plan area directly by mail. Online engagement opportunities will be open to all who want to participate. We are also always available for email or phone conversations. We hope you will continue to stay involved throughout the planning process.



For More Information

If you have any questions about the planning process or if you would like to discuss any of the survey results:

Contact Kristen Lassonde
by email at kristen.lassonde@surrey.ca
or by phone at 604.591.4654