

Lents Green Ring Research Highlights

Research Goals

- To better understand community interest in the Lents Green Ring
- To seek clarity on priorities for community mobility (e.g. identifying problematic street crossings).

Approach

- 171 surveys completed at public events in the Lents area
- 3 walking tour/focus groups with 5 more scheduled this fall.
- Participatory mapping

Overview

The Lents Green Ring is a proposed 3+ mile pedestrian and cycling route that connects the East and West sides of Lents- one of Portland's most diverse neighborhoods.

Portland State University researchers have been working to better understand the Lents community's unique needs in relation to public spaces, engaging a range of research methods to clarify where Lents residents would prioritize neighborhood changes and how they think about the Green Ring as an amenity.

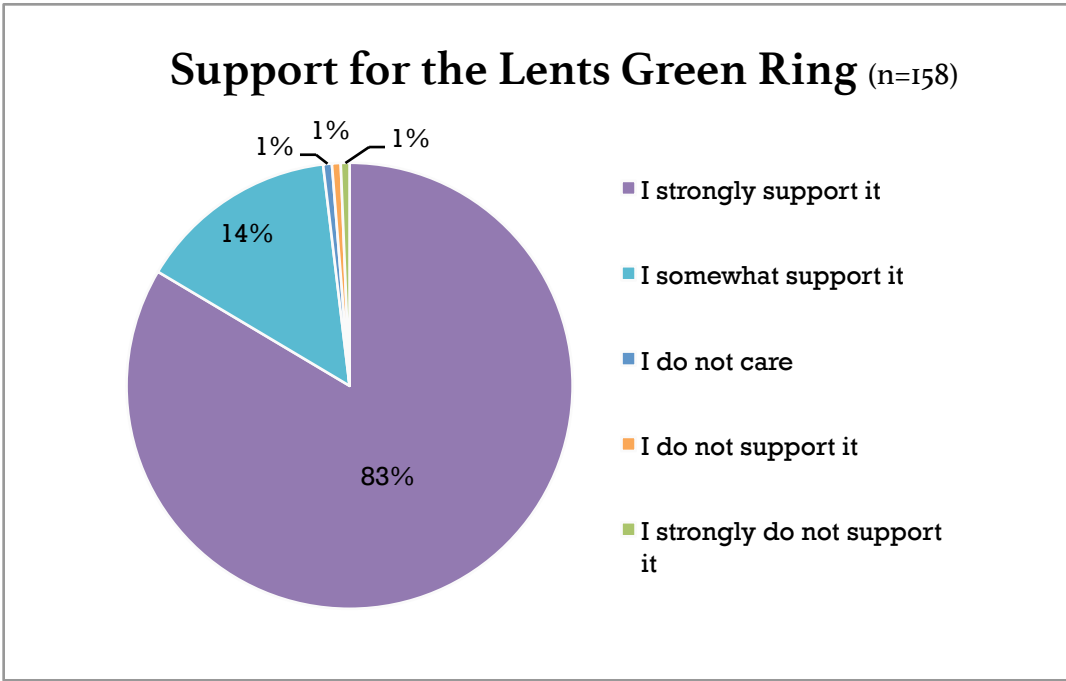
Focus groups and walking tours have yielded important discussions about gentrification and neighborhood change, while surveys have helped to illuminate community interest and perceptions of the Green Ring.

Focus group discussions have helped to point out areas in Lents that residents would prioritize for upgrades, have demonstrated where additional signage, street art, or plantings might increase feelings of safety, and have also helped to clarify that, while rising rental prices in Lents remain center in people's minds- few residents would oppose the Green Ring (despite the potential for increasing neighborhood desirability).

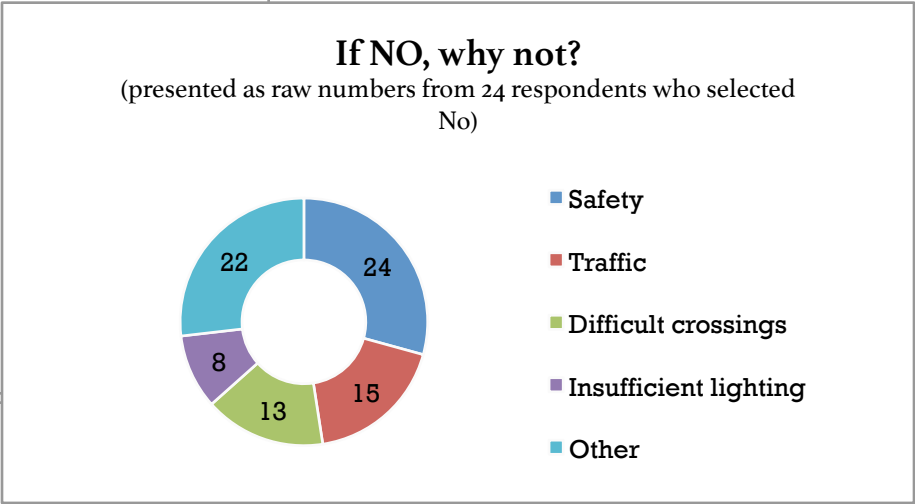
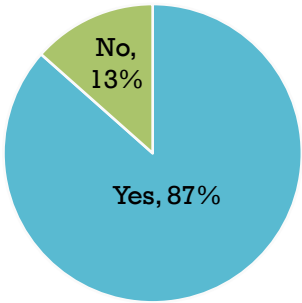
Lots of trees & shade
Many other people out walking **Proximity to bus and MAX lines**
Absence of cars **Sidewalks**
Close to public services Only slow moving cars
Close to stores and restaurants

This word cloud shows weighted responses to the survey question, "What does walkable mean to you?"

Survey highlights, based on responses to 171 surveys distributed in person at public events in the Lents area in Summer 2017



Do you currently walk in your neighborhood? (n=171)



If YES, why?

(presented as raw numbers from 114 respondents who selected Yes)

