



Waitsfield In-Street Crosswalk Sign Pilot Project

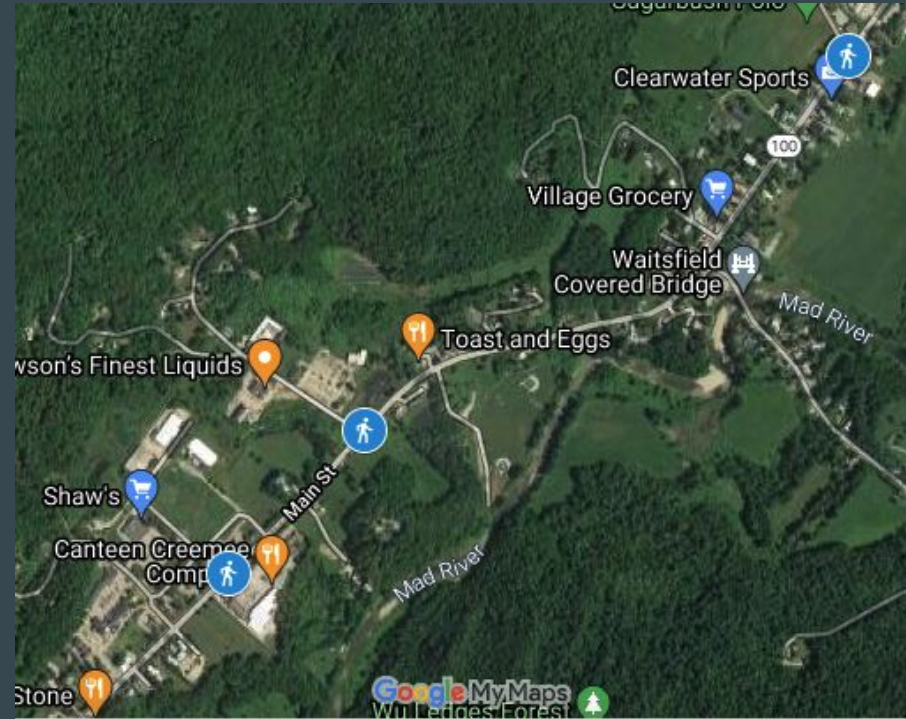
Community Feedback Survey Results



Prepared by Kati Gallagher, MRVPD
July 26, 2021

Pilot Project Overview

- Project initiated as part of broader pedestrian safety efforts led by the Town of Waitsfield, with support from MRVPD (“Tiger Team”).
- Worked with Local Motion to borrow three signs at no cost to be placed at the Waitsfield School, Carroll Road, and Village Square crosswalks.
- Secured a permit from VTrans allowing the signs to be left out overnight, a previous barrier to implementation.
- Crosswalk signs in place between Wednesday, 6/17 - Wednesday, 7/14.



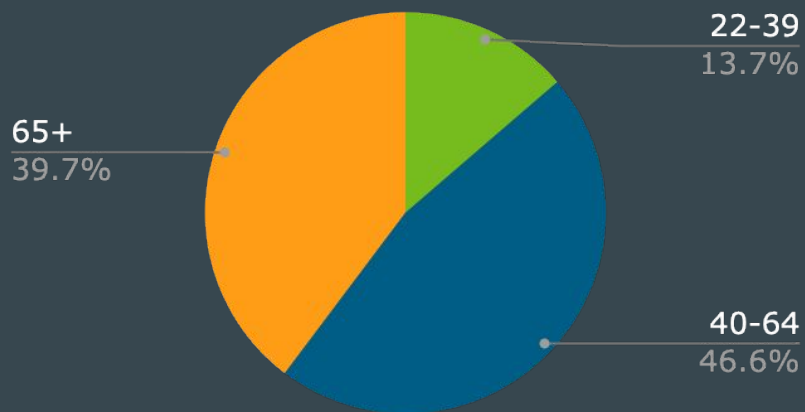
Survey Overview

- Survey language drafted by Local Motion with adjustments made by MRVPD to make survey more specific to the Waitsfield project and goals.
- Signs posted at either end of the three crosswalks to alert pedestrians to the survey; provided shortened link and QR code for access.
- Outreach included:
 - Website and Facebook updates on Town of Waitsfield and MRVPD pages.
 - Valley Reporter article ran 6/24/21, along with two Front Porch Forum posts.
- Received 73 total survey responses, plus an additional dozen emailed messages.

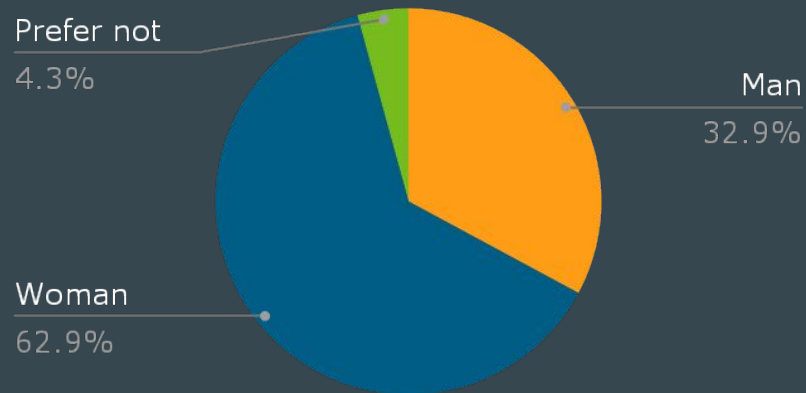


Demographics

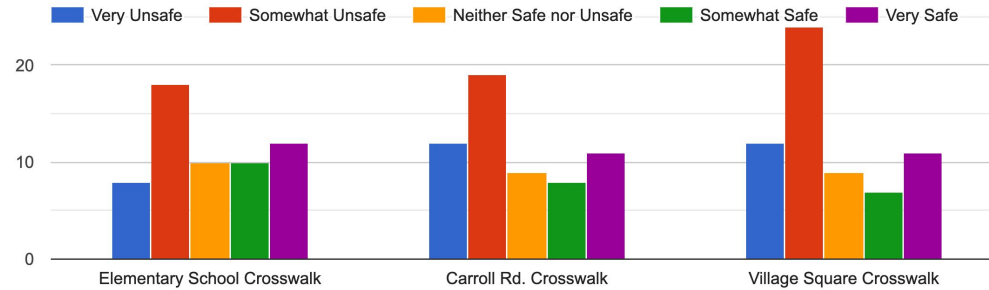
Age



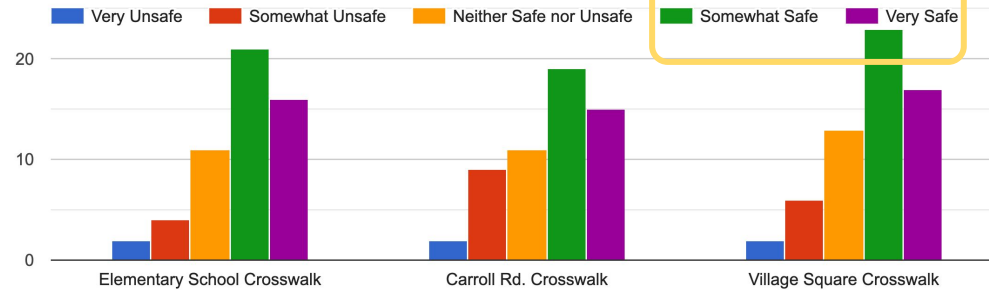
Gender



How safe did you feel walking in Waitsfield BEFORE the Demonstration Project?

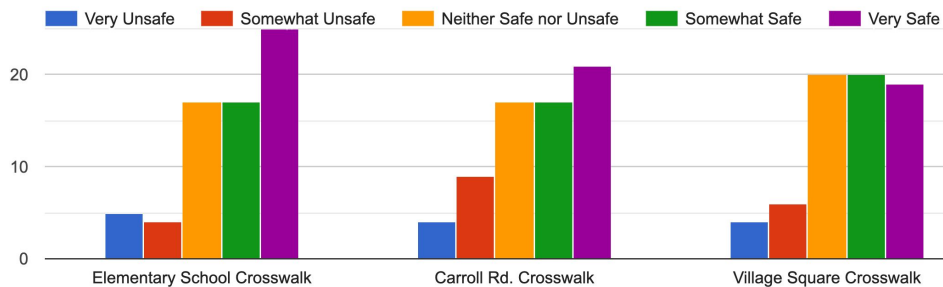


How safe did you feel walking in Waitsfield DURING the Demonstration Project?

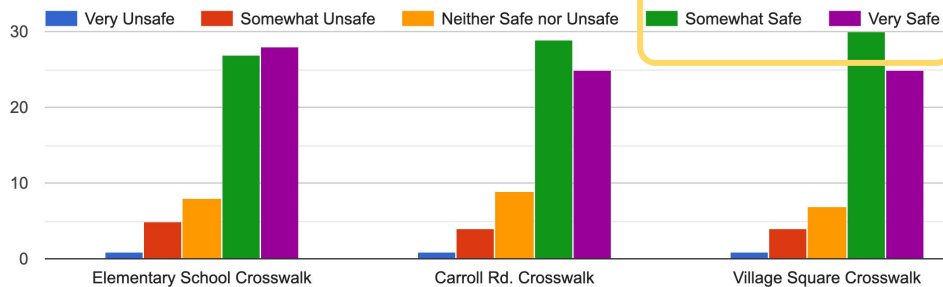


89% increase!

How safe did you feel driving in Waitsfield BEFORE the Demonstration Project?



How safe did you feel driving in Waitsfield DURING the Demonstration Project?



38% increase!

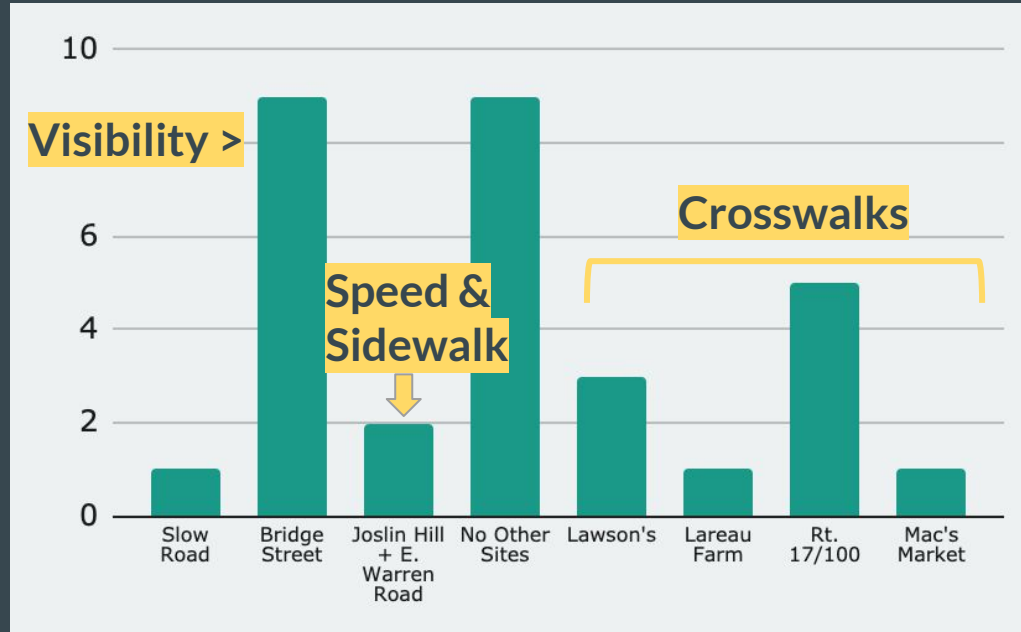
What did you like about the demonstration project?

- The signs are an eye-catching complement to existing infrastructure
- The signs are a welcome piece of a larger pedestrian safety plan
- The signs improve traffic calming, crosswalk visibility, and pedestrian awareness

What did you not like about the demonstration project?

- The signs are not a silver bullet
- Additional pedestrian safety measures are unnecessary
- In-street signs could create additional stress for drivers

Are there any specific sites in mind other than those in this demonstration project that would benefit from pedestrian safety improvements?



Do you have any other ideas for how to make Waitsfield safer and more welcoming for all road users?

Crosswalk Improvements:

- Flashing pedestrian-activated signs
- Crossing flags
- Painted crosswalks
- Flashing lights or sound at crosswalks

Reduce Speed:

- Consistent sheriff patrol
- Narrow lanes/Traffic calming

General Pedestrian Safety Suggestions:

- More sidewalks through town
- Mirror at Bridge Street/Rt. 100 intersection
- Public education/communications

Other:

- Take down signs instead of adding more
- Turn Slow Rd. into a one-way
- Ticket bicyclists for unsafe biking

Key Take-Aways

1. In-street crosswalk signs were effective at making walkers and drivers feel safer.
2. A majority of residents support additional pedestrian safety interventions.
3. In-street crosswalk signs are not a silver bullet.
 - a. Not all crosswalk locations are suitable for in-street signs, particularly those that are adjacent to intersections with turning vehicles.
 - b. The signs' portable rubber bases made them vulnerable to being displaced by vehicles.