

2015

Dixie Transportation Expo



Regional Project Survey Report

Dixie Metropolitan Planning Organization

2/26/2015

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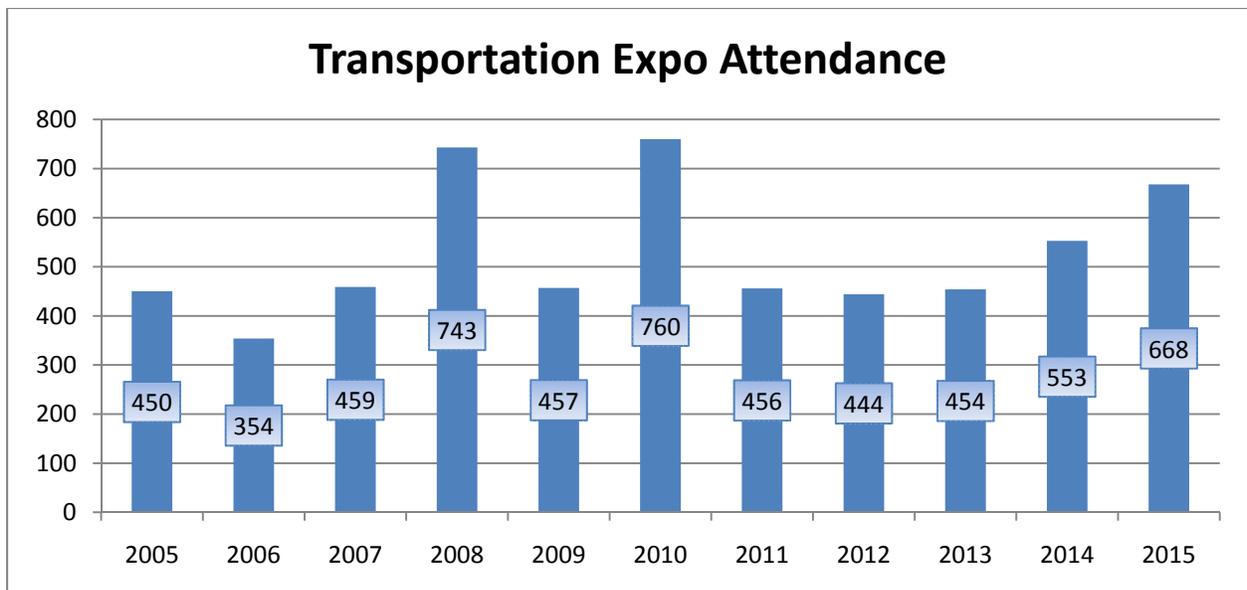
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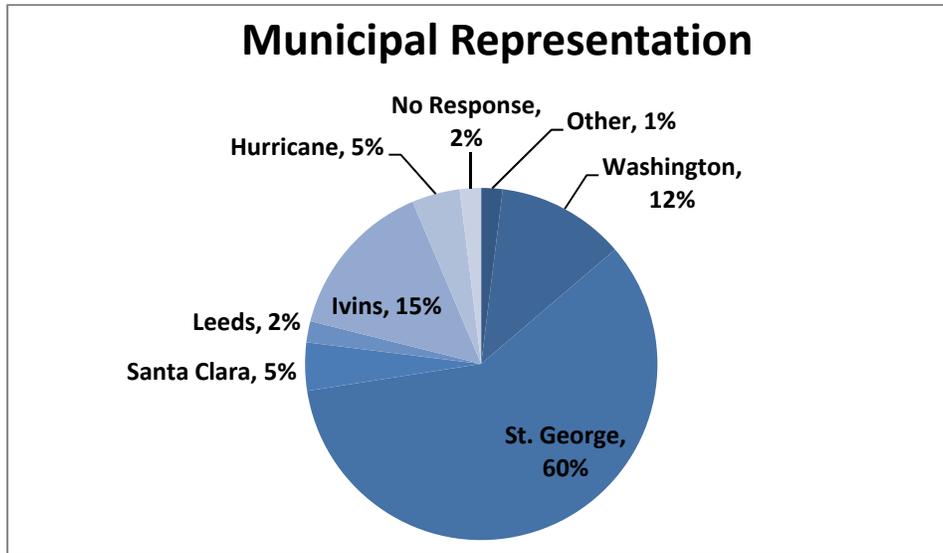
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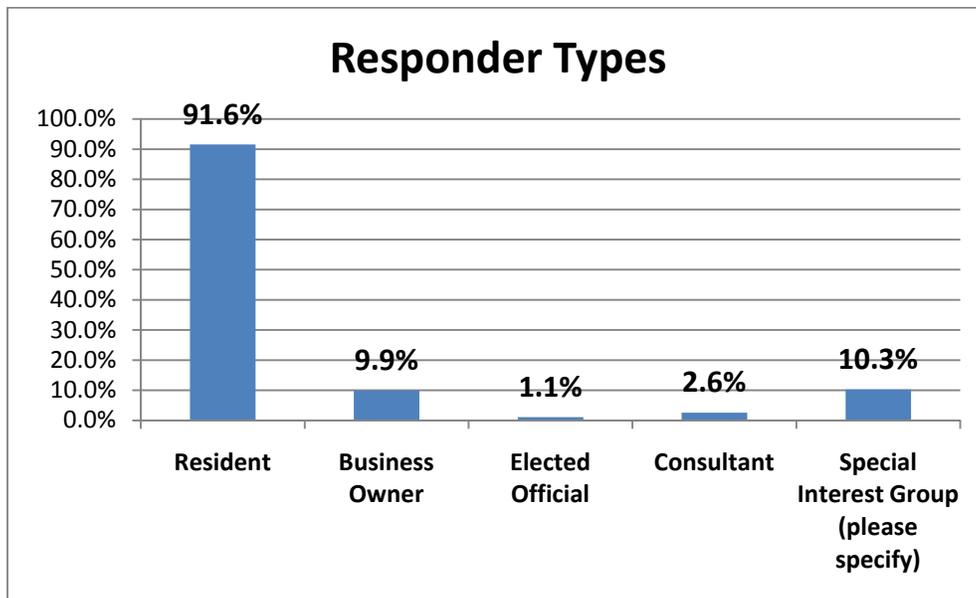
Introduction:

A Regional Project Survey was distributed to the attendees at the Dixie Transportation Expo in early February 2015. Of the more than 600 in attendance, **278 people participated in the survey**, up 48 from 2014. This report contains the results of that survey.

Geographic Representation: Though a clear majority of survey responders came from St. George, there was representation from several municipalities.

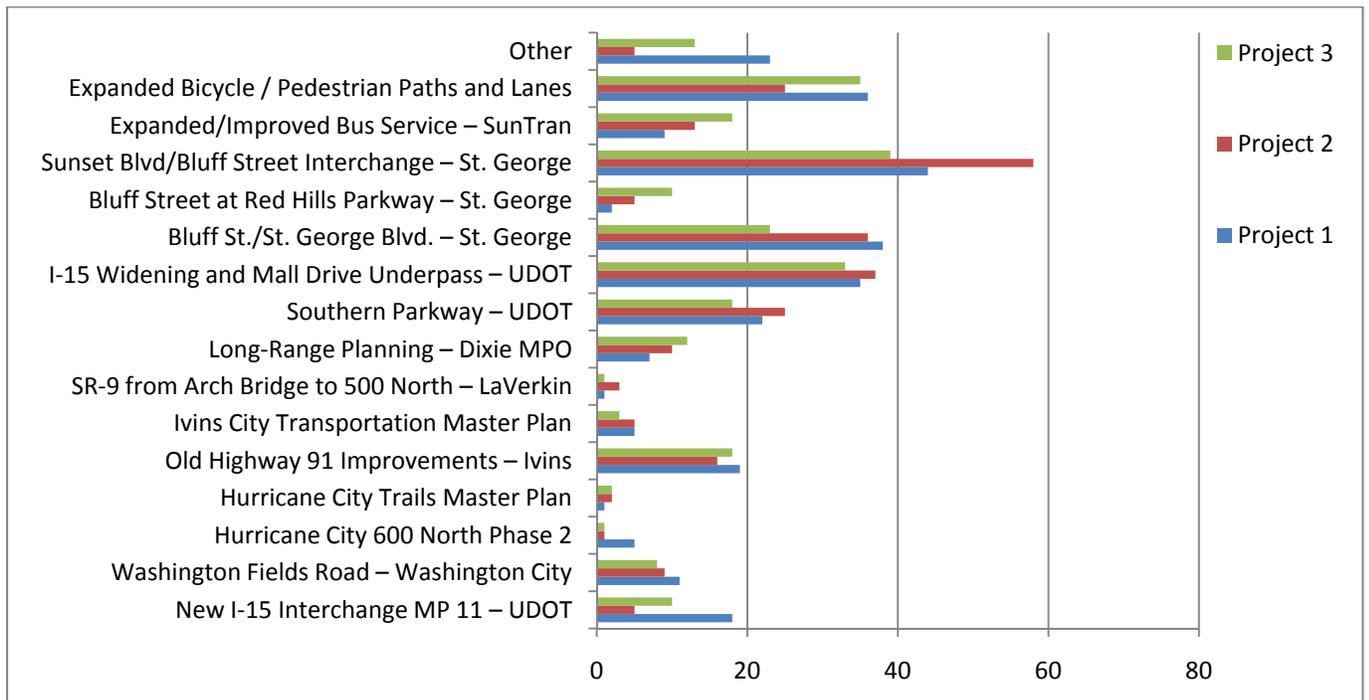


Types of Responders: Attendees were also asked which description best describes them in relation to regional transportation.



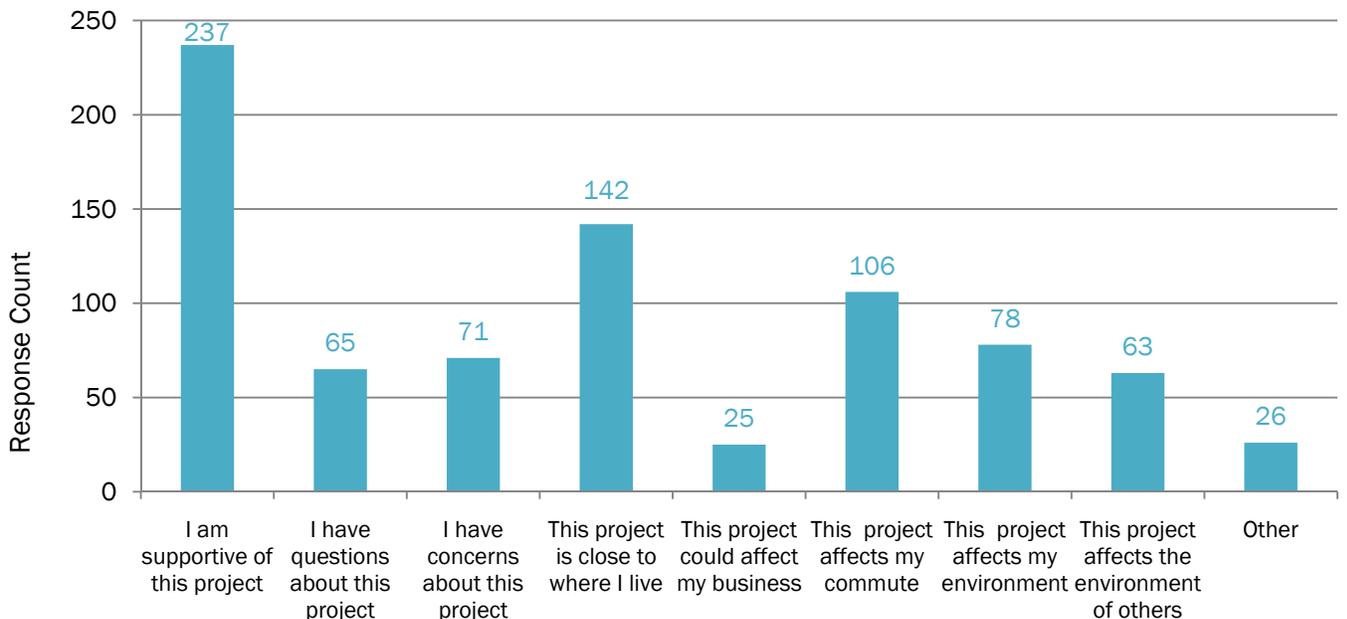
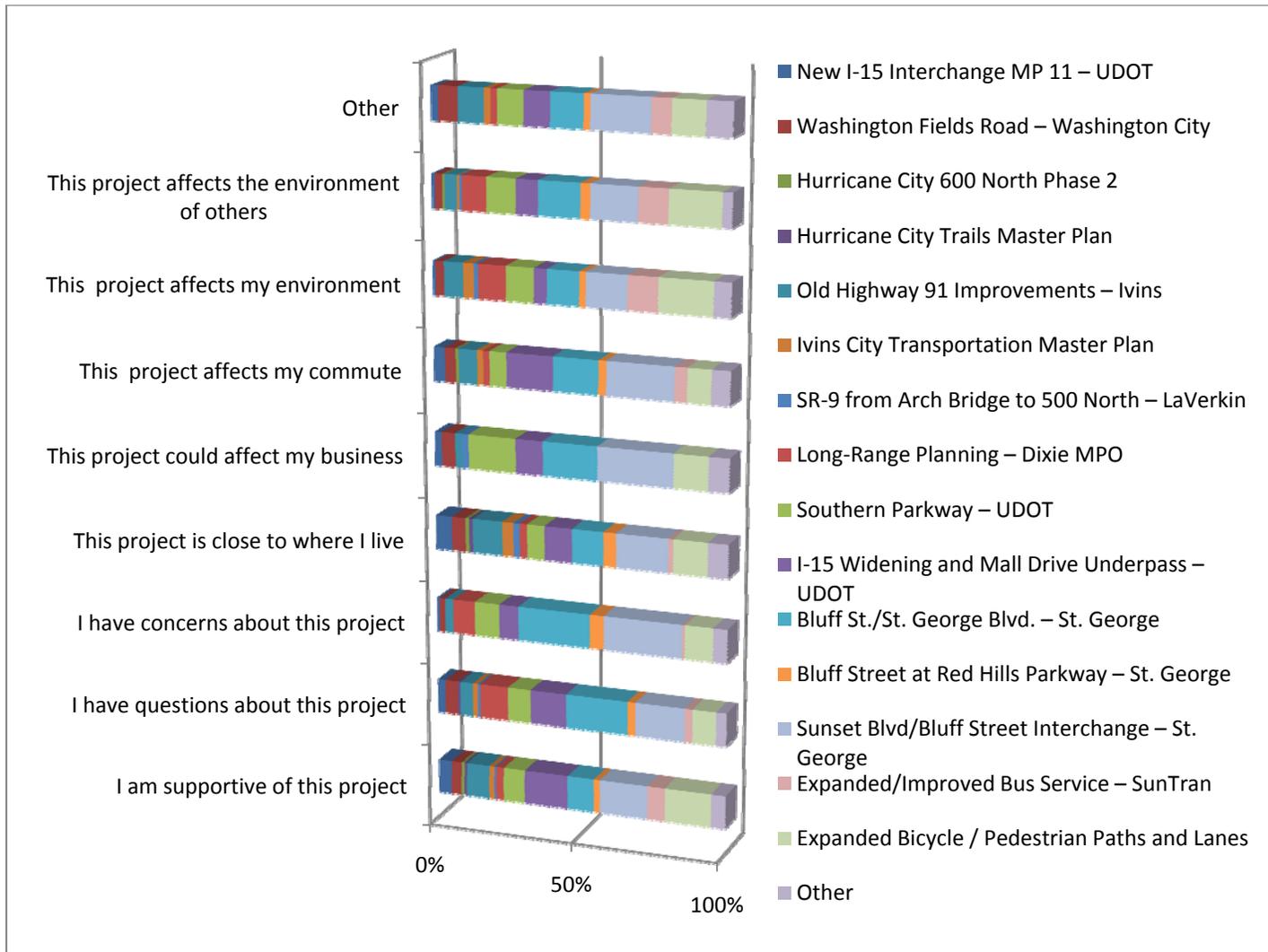
Please choose the top three projects you are interested in.

Answer Options	Project 1	Project 2	Project 3	Response Count
New I-15 Interchange MP 11 - UDOT	18	5	10	33
Washington Fields Road - Washington City	11	9	8	28
Hurricane City 600 North Phase 2	5	1	1	7
Hurricane City Trails Master Plan	1	2	2	5
Old Highway 91 Improvements - Ivins	19	16	18	53
Ivins City Transportation Master Plan	5	5	3	13
SR-9 from Arch Bridge to 500 North - LaVerkin	1	3	1	5
Long-Range Planning - Dixie MPO	7	10	12	29
Southern Parkway - UDOT	22	25	18	65
I-15 Widening and Mall Drive Underpass - UDOT	35	37	33	105
Bluff St./St. George Blvd. - St. George	38	36	23	97
Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway - St. George	2	5	10	17
Sunset Blvd/Bluff Street Interchange - St. George	44	58	39	141
Expanded/Improved Bus Service - SunTran	9	13	18	40
Expanded Bicycle / Pedestrian Paths and Lanes	36	25	35	96
Other	23	5	13	41
Other (please specify)				62
<i>answered question</i>				276
<i>skipped question</i>				2



Key Takeaways: Sunset Blvd/Bluff Street Interchange was clearly the top project of interest. The Bluff St./St. George Blvd, I-15 Widening /Mall Drive, and Expanded Bike/Ped paths were also projects of interest

Why did you choose these three projects?



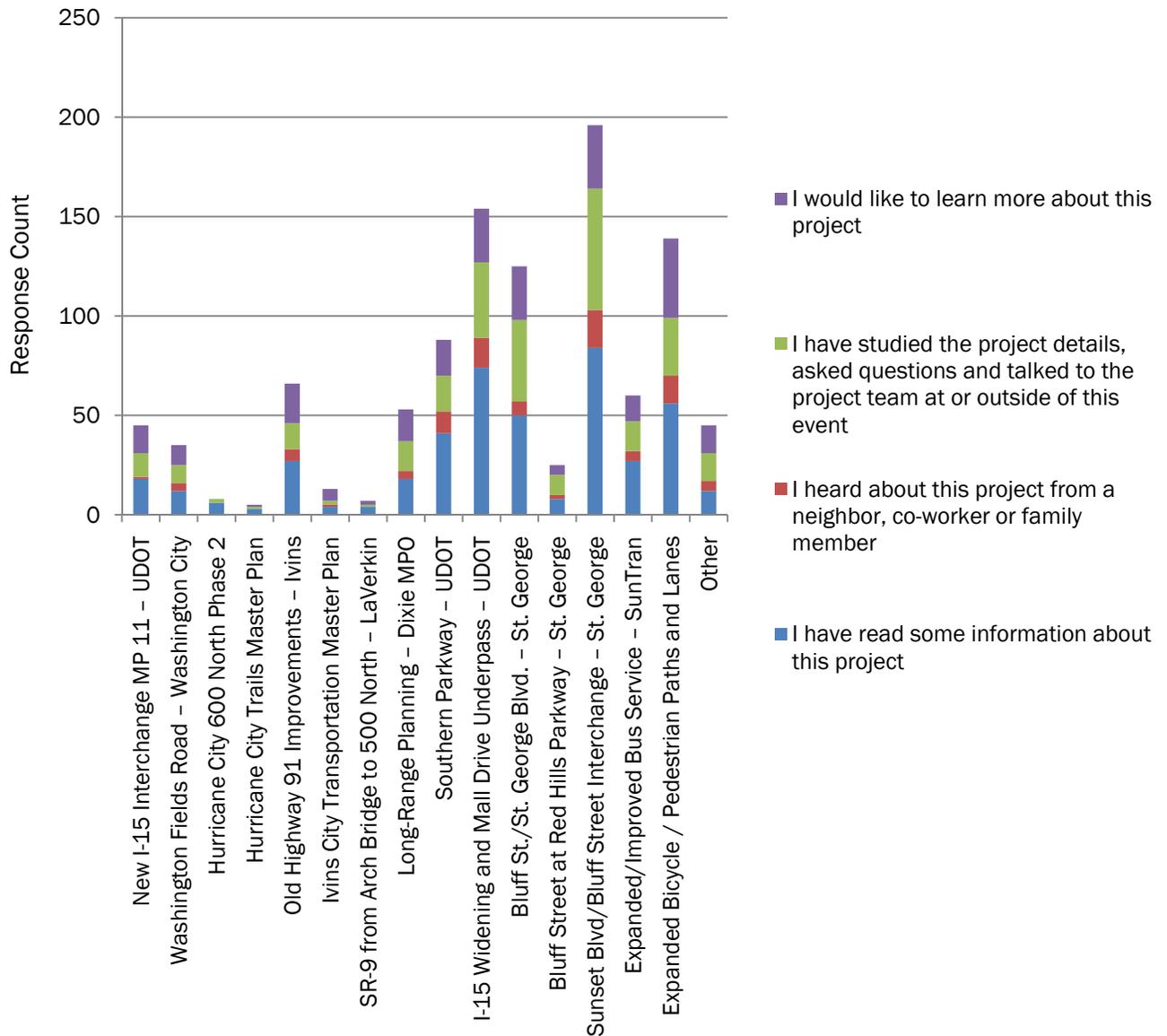
Please indicate your level of concern with your top three projects:

Answer Options	(Low Concern) 1	2	3	4	5	6	(High Concern) 7	Rating Average	Response Count
New I-15 Interchange MP 11 - UDOT	3	0	4	6	4	6	8	4.87	31
Washington Fields Road - Washington City	2	2	1	2	12	1	4	4.63	24
Hurricane City 600 North Phase 2	1	0	1	0	3	1	1	4.57	7
Hurricane City Trails Master Plan	0	0	1	0	0	1	2	5.75	4
Old Highway 91 Improvements - Ivins	5	2	3	3	12	10	8	4.79	43
Ivins City Transportation Master Plan	0	0	1	2	2	3	2	5.30	10
SR-9 from Arch Bridge to 500 North - LaVerkin	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	3.20	5
Long-Range Planning - Dixie MPO	4	0	0	1	5	2	14	5.50	26
Southern Parkway - UDOT	10	7	4	10	15	3	8	3.95	57
I-15 Widening and Mall Drive Underpass - UDOT	13	5	5	10	20	14	19	4.59	86
Bluff St./St. George Blvd. - St. George	6	5	6	12	21	13	20	4.88	83
Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway - St. George	1	1	0	0	3	3	7	5.67	15
Sunset Blvd/Bluff Street Interchange - St. George	11	13	5	23	21	15	32	4.69	120
Expanded/Improved Bus Service - SunTran	4	2	0	4	11	2	13	5.06	36
Expanded Bicycle / Pedestrian Paths and Lanes	8	8	4	10	12	7	38	5.10	87
Other	1	0	0	0	6	2	22	6.35	31
Other (please specify)									22
<i>answered question</i>									241
<i>skipped question</i>									37

Top 5 Projects of Concern

1. Hurricane City Trails Master Plan
2. Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway
3. Long-Range Planning – Dixie MPO
4. Ivins City Transportation Master Plan
5. Expanded Bicycle/Pedestrian Paths and Lanes

Which statements best describe your understanding about your top three projects?



Key Takeaways:

- Responders were the most aware of the Sunset Blvd./Bluff Street Interchange, I-15 Widening and Mall Drive Underpass, and Bluff St./St. George Blvd. Interchange.
- People were least aware of the New I-15 Interchange MP 11, Washington Fields Road, Hurricane City 600 North Phase 2, and Hurricane City Trails Master Plan.
- The project that people expressed the most interest in learning more about is the Expanded Bicycle/Pedestrian Paths and Lanes.

Please draw a line between the category and its priority to you.

Answer Options	1st Priority	2nd Priority	3rd Priority	4th Priority	5th Priority	6th Priority	7th Priority	Response Count
Safety	130	49	31	14	5	2	2	233
Congestion Relief	54	83	38	23	14	4	3	219
Air Quality	25	37	34	43	35	7	3	184
Capacity	7	29	56	39	43	18	2	194
Economic Development	15	12	23	32	48	44	15	189
Wildlife Preservation	7	9	20	23	22	67	23	171
Other (Please specify)	6	5	7	4	1	7	2	32
Other (please specify)								32
<i>answered question</i>								246
<i>skipped question</i>								32

Top Priorities

1. Safety
2. Congestion Relief
3. Air Quality

Lowest Priorities

1. Wildlife Preservation
2. Economic Development

Please indicate your level of support for the following projects

Answer Options	(Do Not Support) 1	2	3	4	5	6	(Fully Support) 7	Rating Average	Response Count
Washington Parkway (Northern Corridor)	34	4	12	42	29	26	86	4.93	233
Western Corridor	23	10	14	56	29	14	68	4.74	214
Southern Corridor through Hurricane	7	7	14	42	24	37	99	5.50	230
Mall Drive underpass under I-15	8	4	11	29	21	38	132	5.85	243
<i>answered question</i>									250
<i>skipped question</i>									28

Key Takeaways:

- All projects had more support than opposition
- The Mall Drive Underpass had the greatest amount of support
- The Northern Corridor had the most responders who did not support the project, but the Western Corridor had the lowest overall level of support.

Please indicate below whether you feel we need more, the same, or less of the following

Answer Options	More	Same	Less	Response Count
Roadway Alternatives	147	68	7	222
Transit Options	139	76	3	218
Cycling Trails	142	73	8	223
Pedestrian/Hiking Trails	146	71	7	224
Other (Please Specify	19	2	3	24
Other (please specify)				23
<i>answered question</i>				250
<i>skipped question</i>				28

Key takeaways:

- Those who provided feedback overwhelmingly wanted more roadway alternatives, transit options, cycling trails and pedestrian/hiking trails.

Do you believe that cities in the Dixie area should prioritize improvements to make bicycling and walking more attractive for transportation?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	80.7%	209
No	6.9%	18
Unsure	12.4%	32
<i>answered question</i>		259
<i>skipped question</i>		19

Key takeaways:

- Overwhelmingly, responders thought the Dixie area should prioritize making cycling and walking more attractive for transportation.

On average, how often do you ride the SunTran Bus?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
20 times/month or more	0.4%	1
10-19 times/month	0.4%	1
5-9 times/month	0.0%	0
1-4 times/month	2.6%	7
At least one time/year	7.9%	21
Never	88.8%	237
<i>answered question</i>		267
<i>skipped question</i>		11

What factors would attract you to ride the bus more often (circle all that apply)?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Stops closer to my home and/or destinations	42.4%	106
More frequent service	22.4%	56
Faster trip time	15.2%	38
Cleaner and more comfortable busses	3.2%	8
Other factors (please specify)	14.0%	35
I never intend to ride the bus.	42.4%	106
Other (please specify)		36
<i>answered question</i>		250
<i>skipped question</i>		28

Should cities in the region encourage the expansion of bus service to meet the transportation needs of the population?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Yes	81.7%	215
No	3.8%	10
Unsure	14.4%	38
<i>answered question</i>		263
<i>skipped question</i>		15

What type of development is most needed in the region?

Answer Options	Response Percent	Response Count
Large lot (rural style) half-acre lot size or larger	24.1%	48
Medium lot (urban style) 8,000 to 10,000 square-foot lot size	40.7%	81
Small lot (urban style) less than 8,000 square-foot lot size	9.5%	19
Higher density with single family homes (planned developments and private communities)	12.1%	24
Higher density - multi-family type developments	13.6%	27
<i>answered question</i>		199
<i>skipped question</i>		79

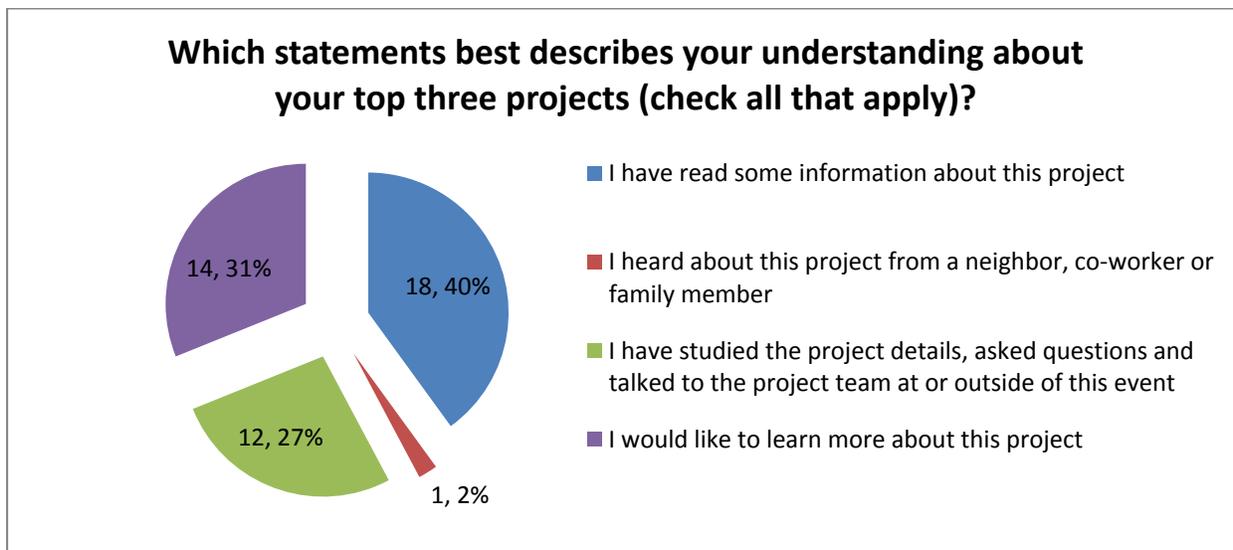
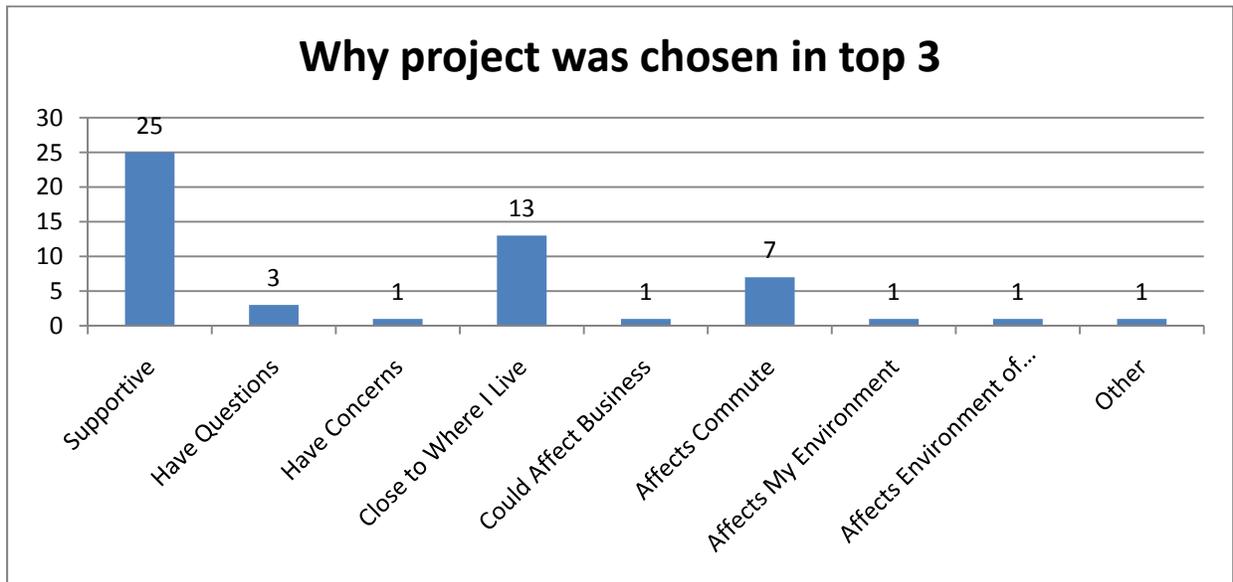
Key Takeaways

- Almost 26 percent of responders thought higher density with single family homes or higher density with multi-family type developments were the most needed development types in the region.
- The highest number of responders chose medium lot. Almost 65 percent of responders thought medium or large lots were the most needed development types.

Project Highlights

New I-15 Interchange MP 11 – UDOT

12 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



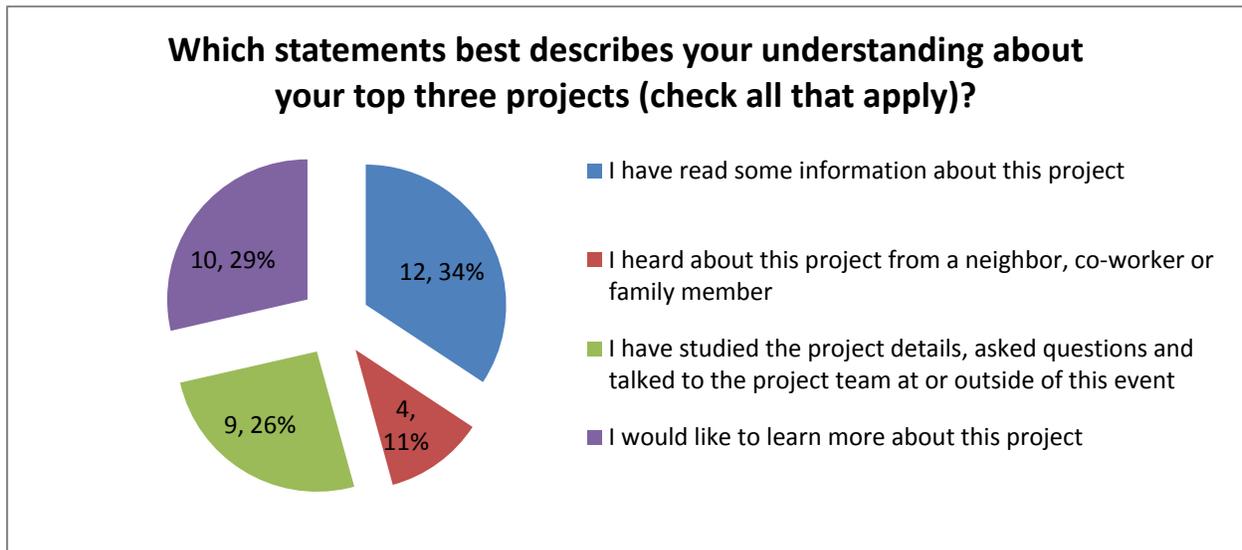
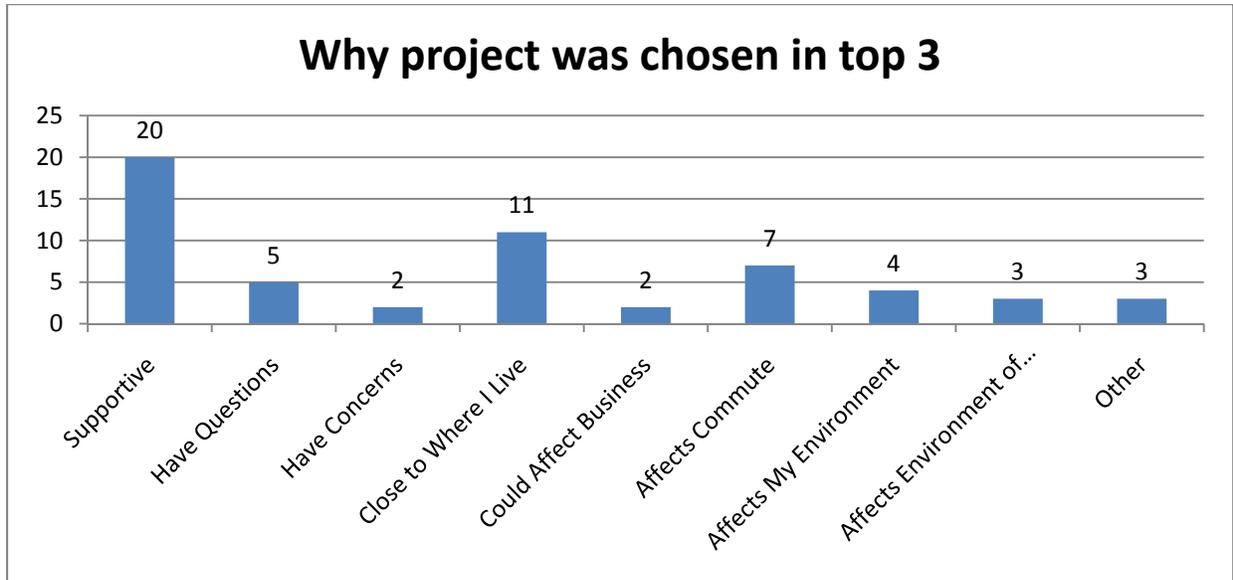
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.87

Comments:

- It would help traffic at Green Springs a lot
- Cost won't be productive. People will use it, but then they will turn towards shopping area and area will still be crowded.

Washington Fields Road – Washington City

10 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



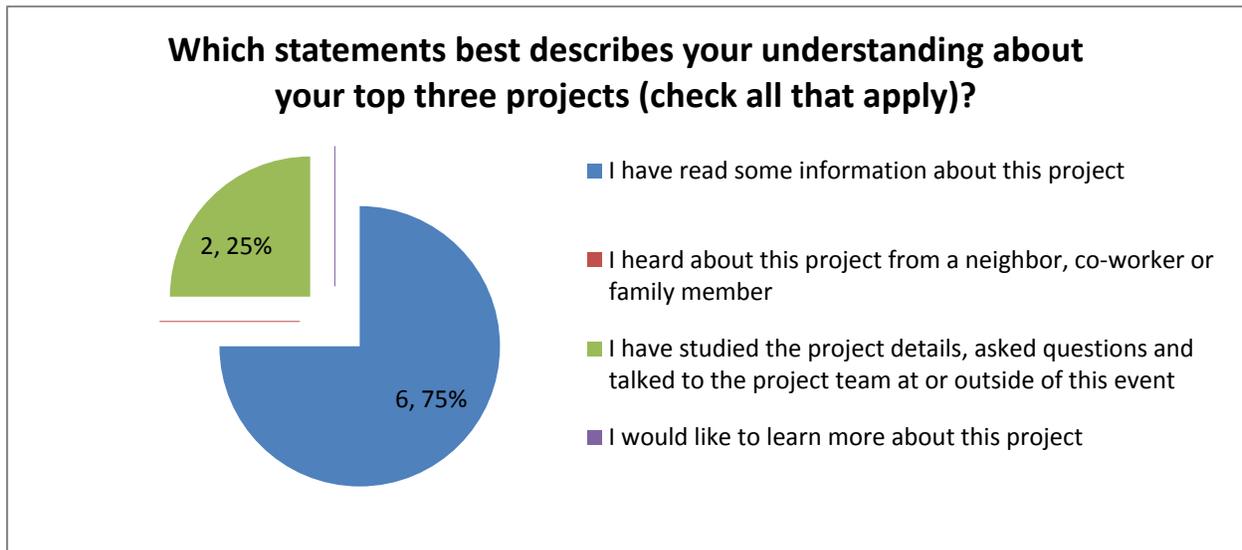
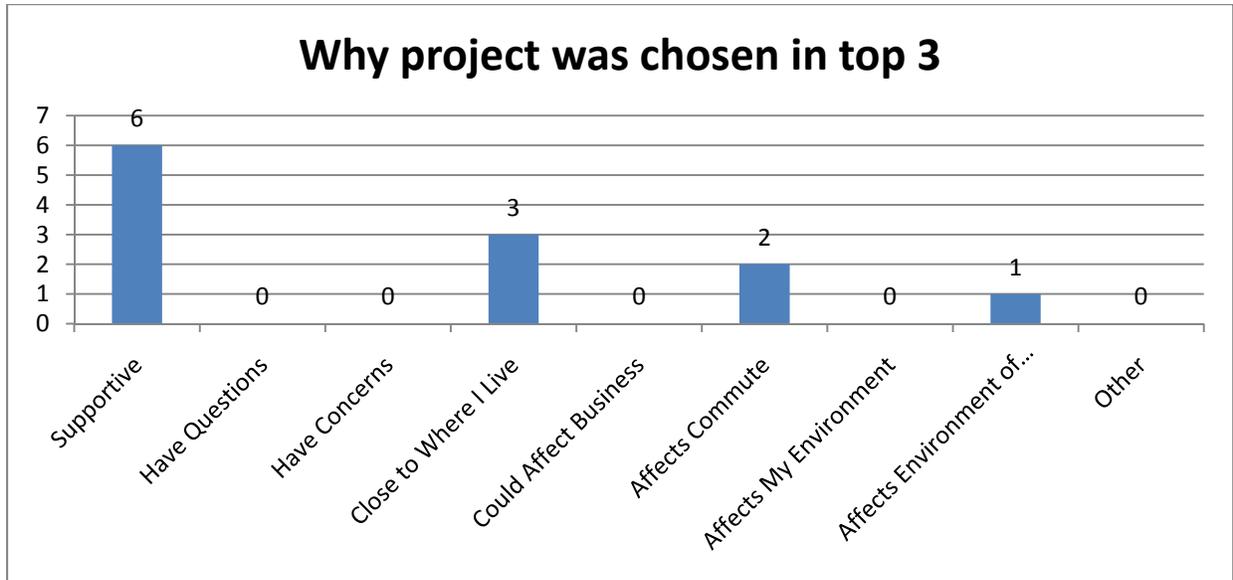
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.63

Comments:

- Needs to be wider and repaired

Hurricane City 600 North Phase 2

2.5 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



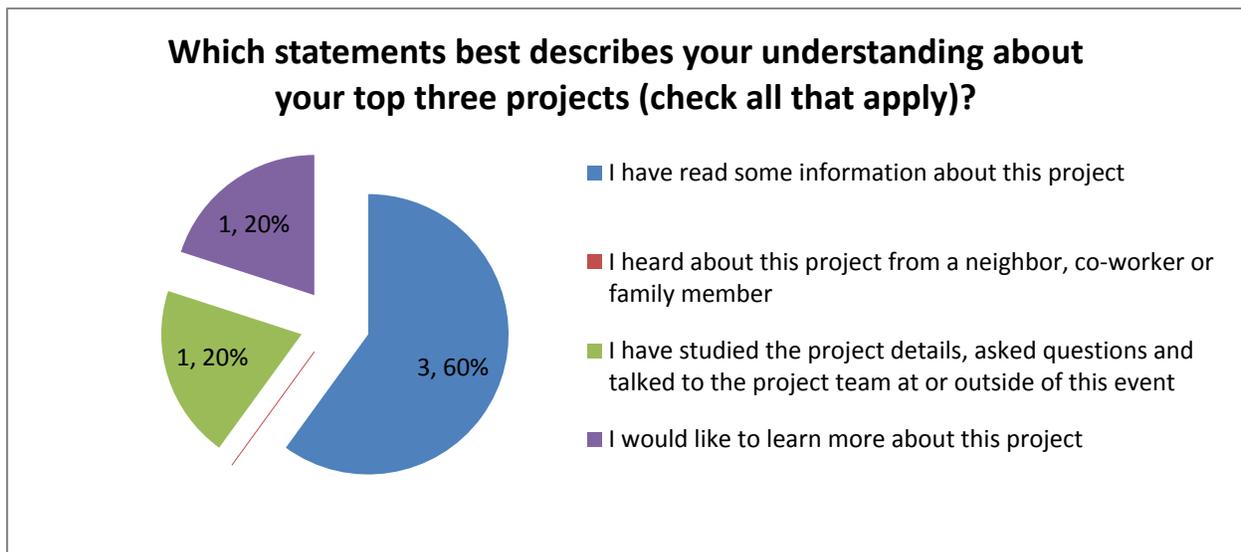
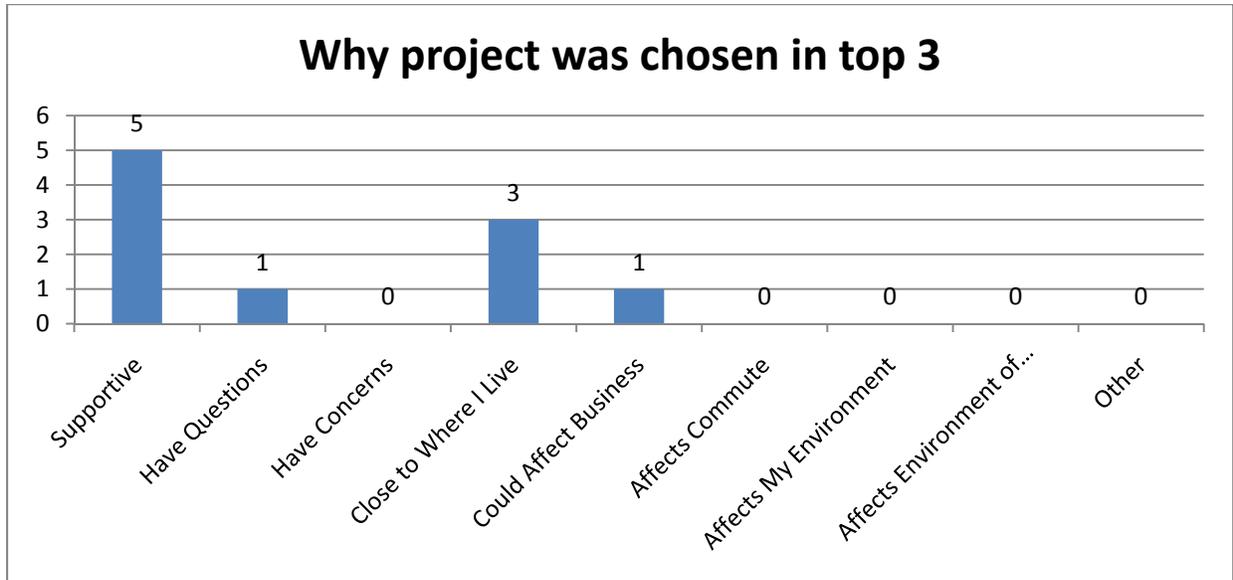
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.57

Comments:

- Very important to the traveling public for this project to take place.

Hurricane City Trails Master Plan

Less than 2 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



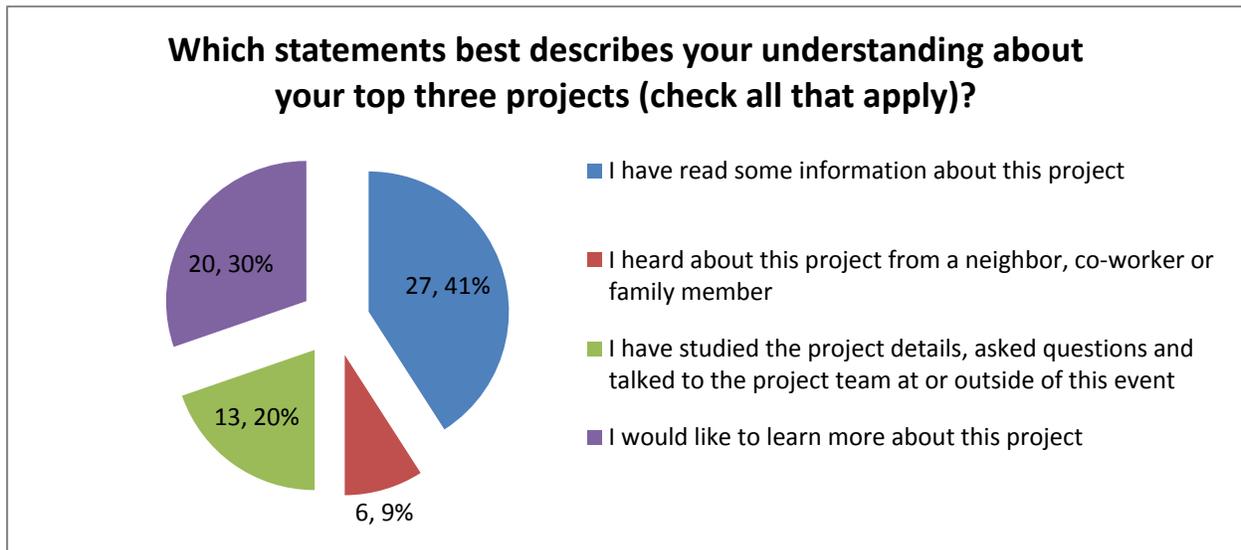
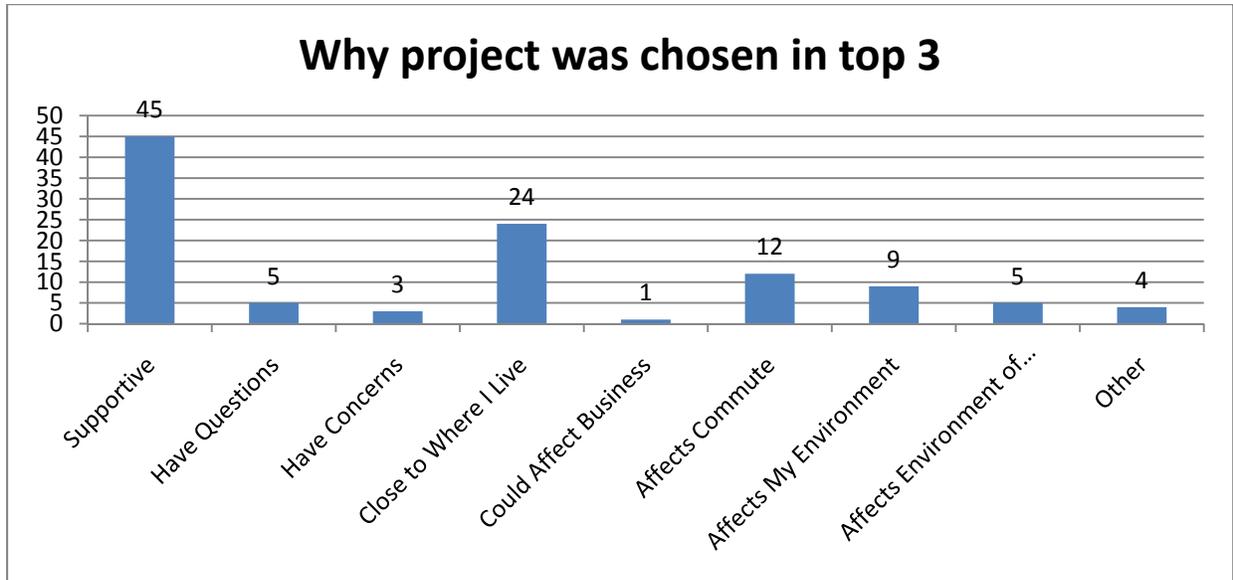
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 5.75

Comments:

- Need to provide trails for horses
- Responder lives/rides bikes in Hurricane

Old Highway 91 Improvements – Ivins

More than 19 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



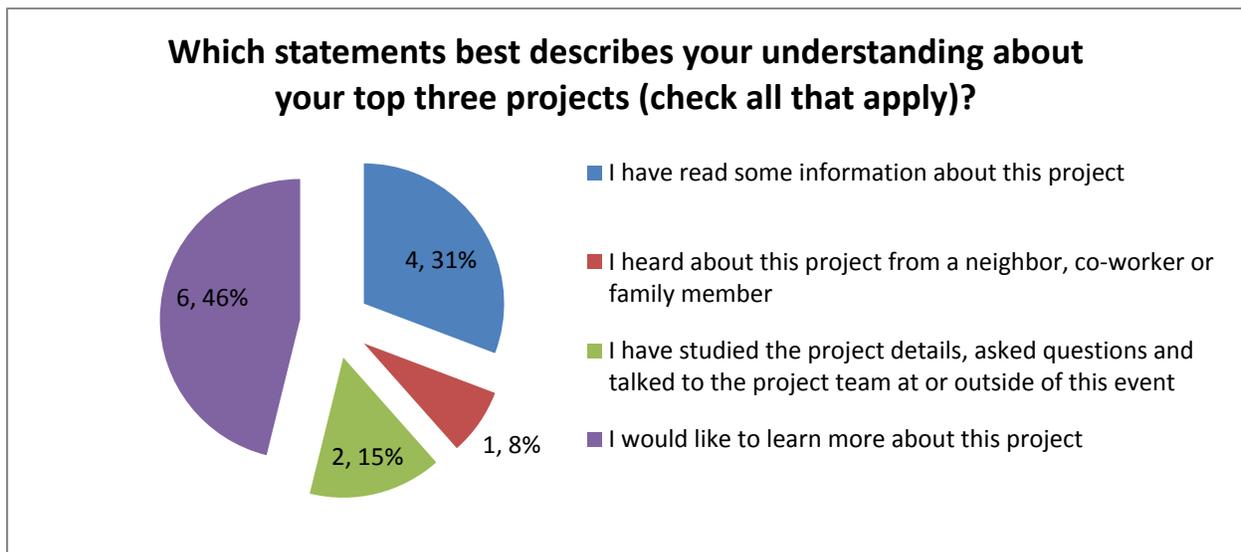
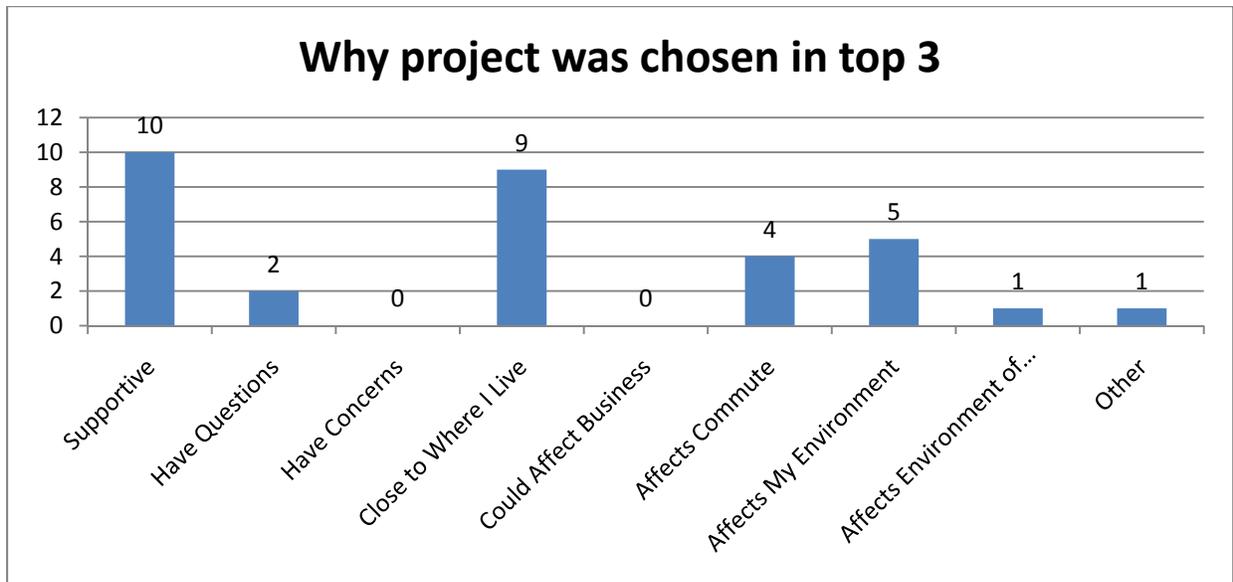
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.79

Comments:

- Concerns about the road being dangerous, include it being rough and narrow.
- Implement U-turn and right-turn lanes
- Improvements should include bicycle infrastructure
- Speed limit should be 30 mph entering Ivins

Ivins City Transportation Master Plan

Less than 5 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



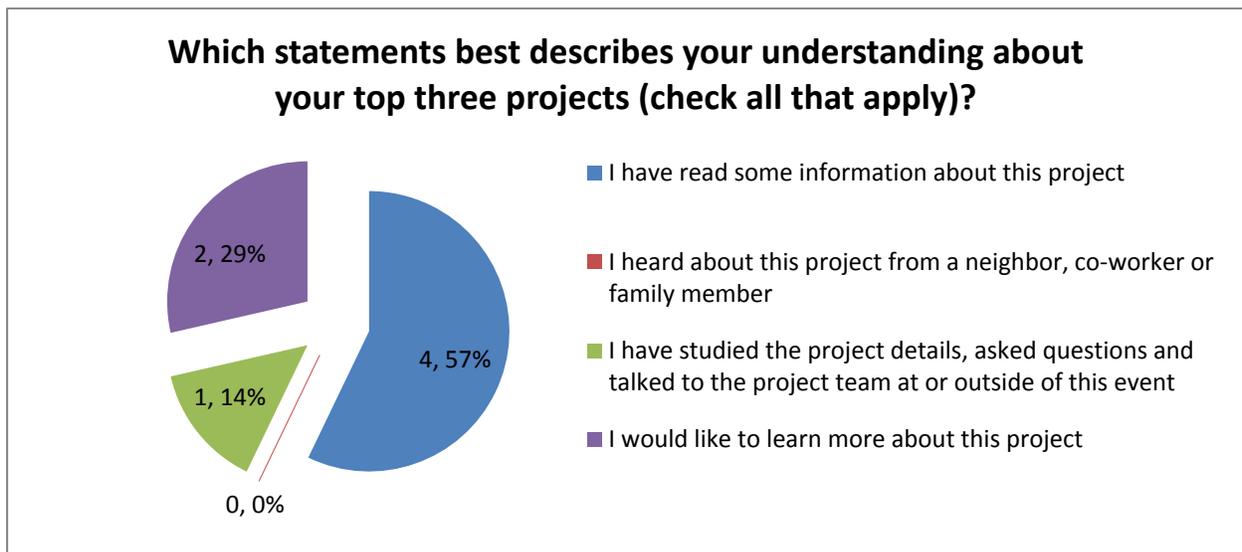
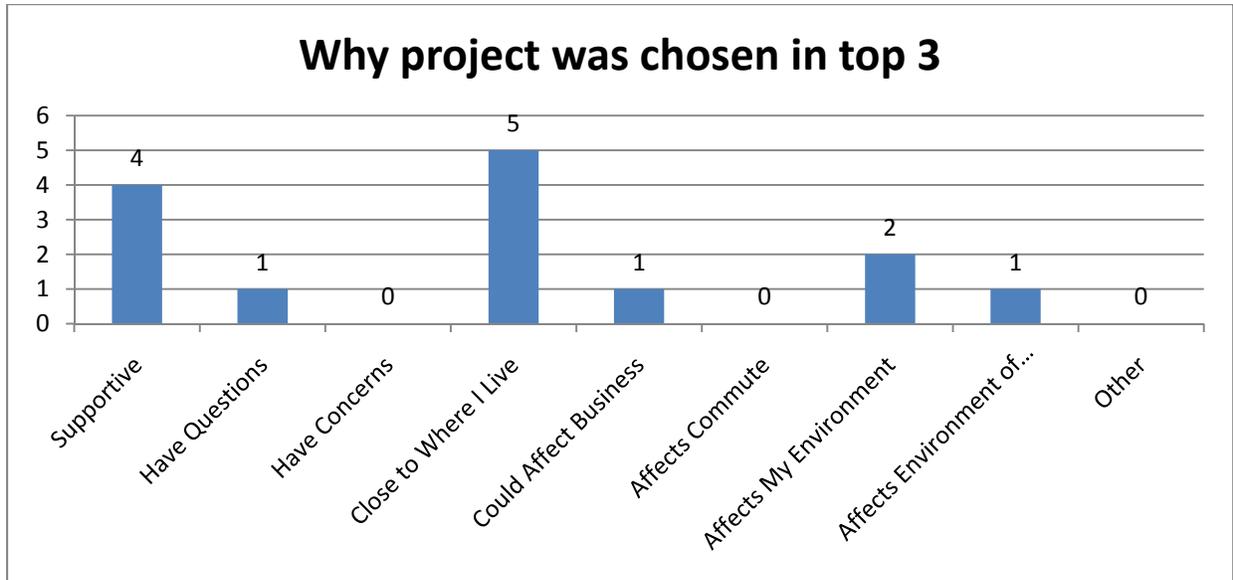
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 5.3

Comments:

- Kudos on adding Bus #5 (I'm a bus rider). Next concern is to extend bus hours at least on Friday or Saturday; Not only for Tuacahn performances but also in St. George for Tabernacle concerts.

SR-9 from Arch Bridge to 500 North – LaVerkin

Less than 2 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



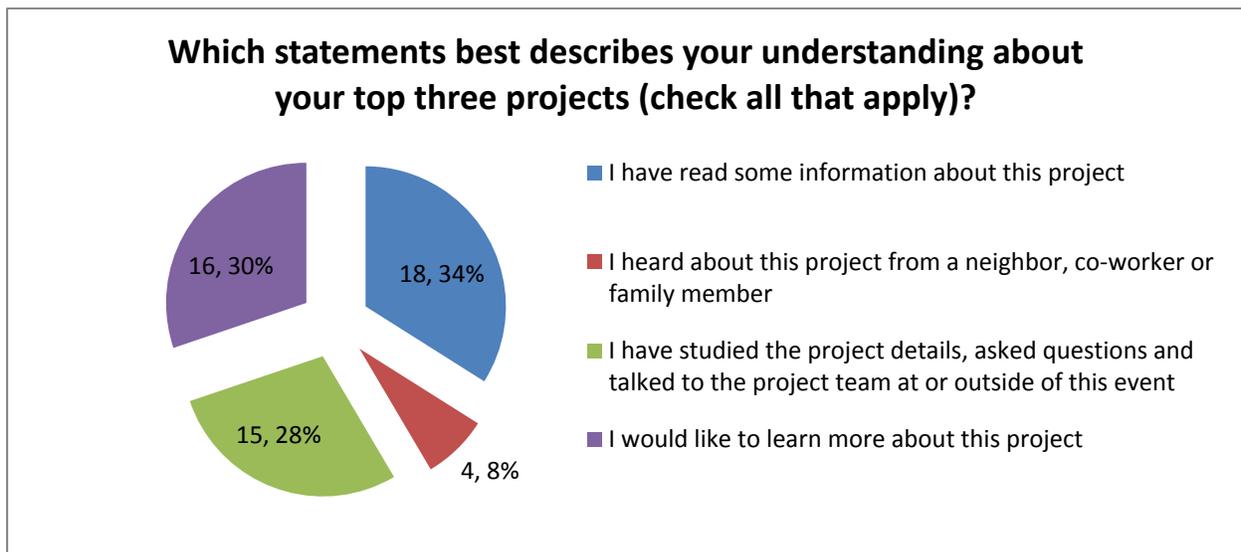
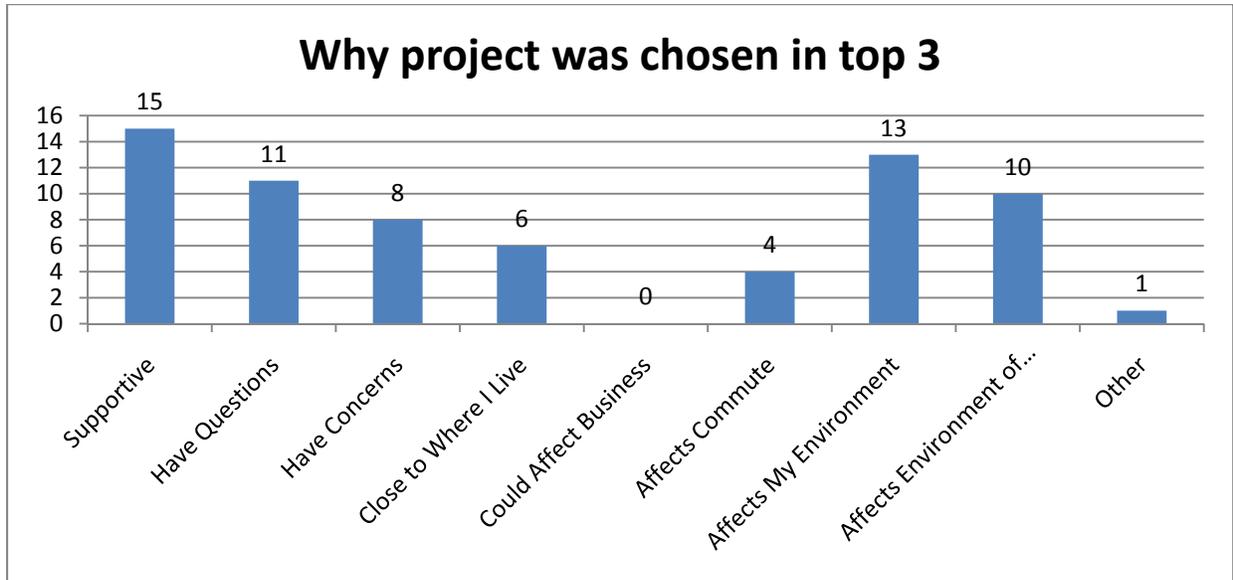
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 3.2

Comments:

- Responder’s farm borders project

Long-Range Planning – Dixie MPO

10.5 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



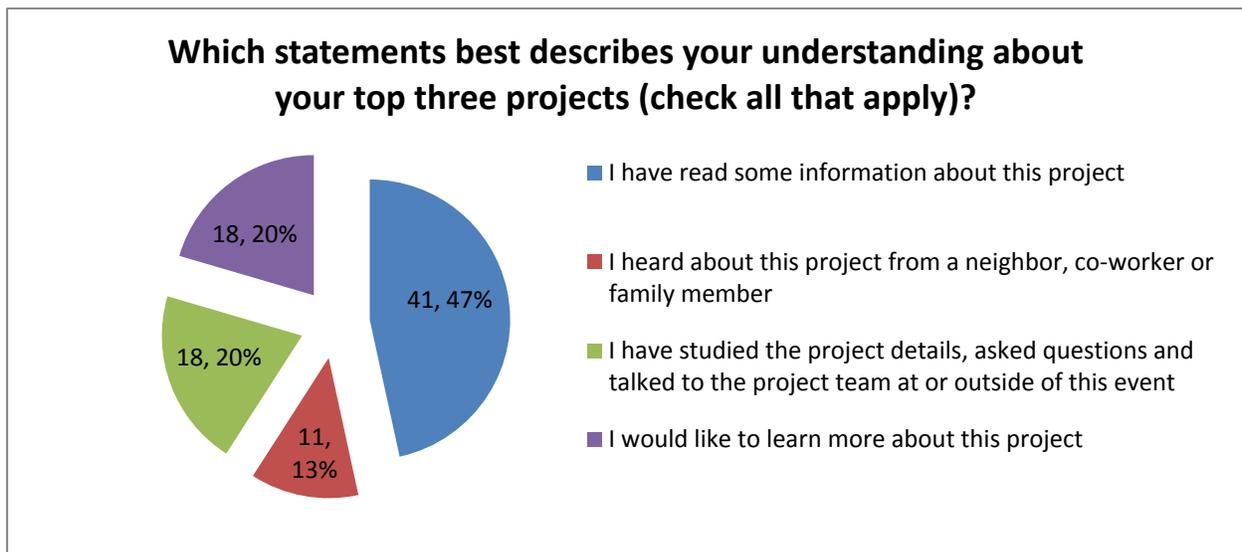
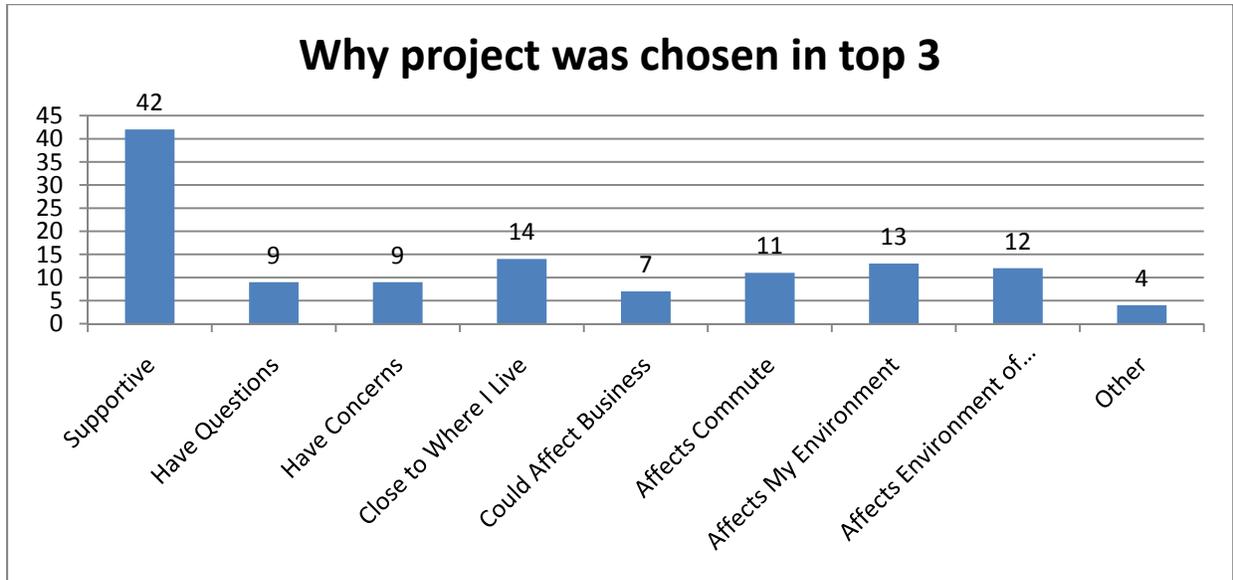
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 5.5

Comments:

- Call for a “check on transportation” to avoid “problems similar to Wasatch,” diminishing quality of life. Call for diversity of transportation choices and natural area preservation.
- Call for a balance between development and quality of life, and big picture thinking.
- Support voiced for Northern Corridor from exit 13 to Red Hills Parkway. Feels tortoise conflict can be mitigated.
- Future planning should include forecasts for driverless vehicles.

Southern Parkway – UDOT

23.5 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



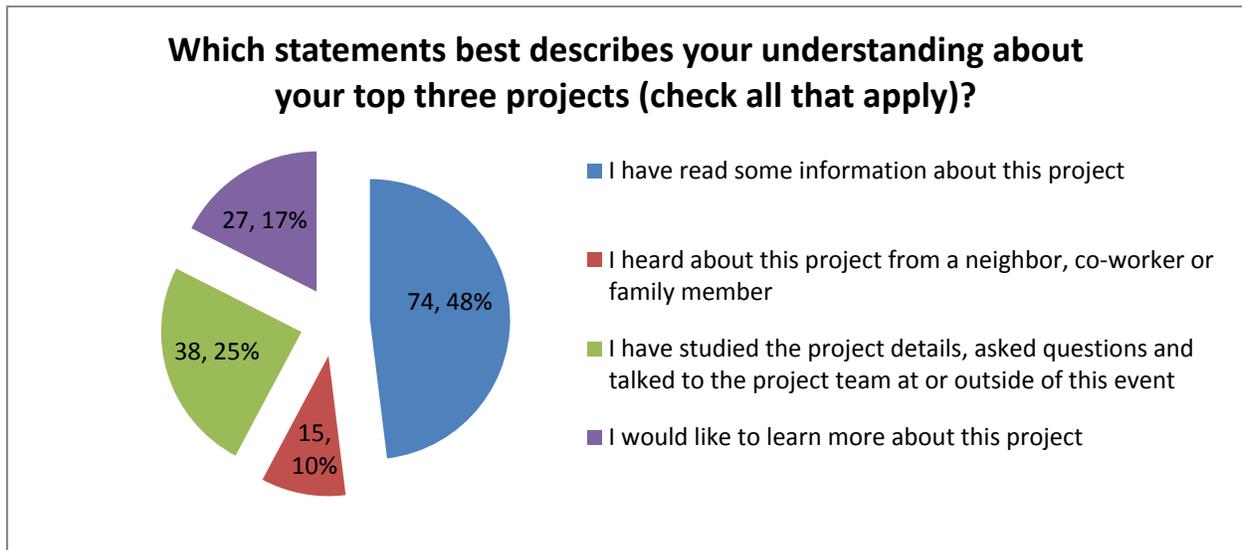
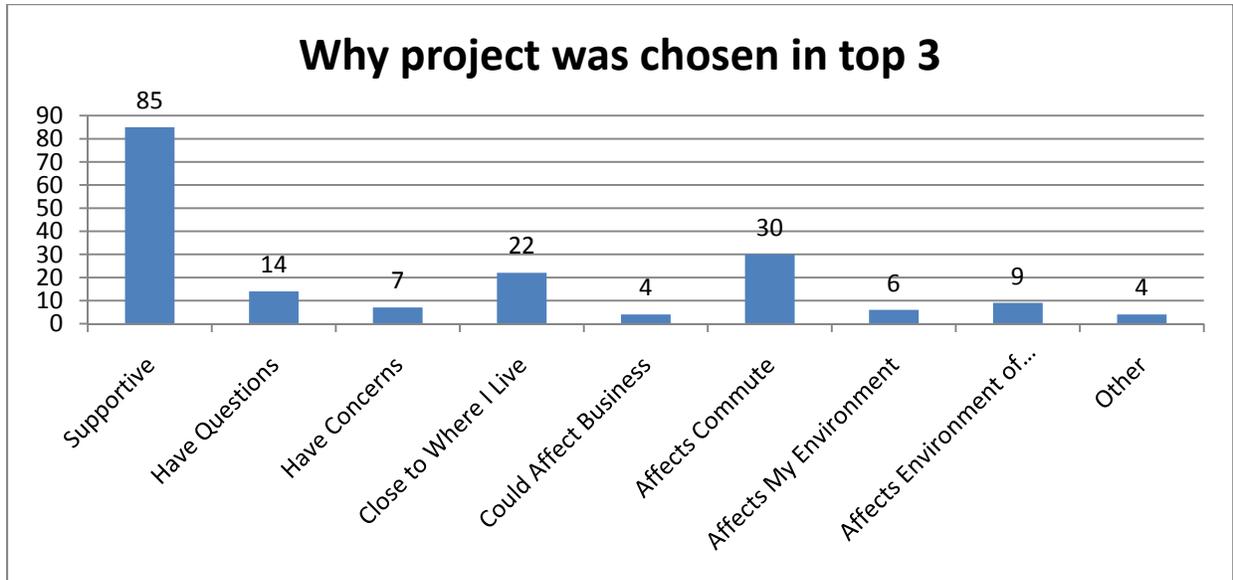
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 3.95

Comments:

- Concerns about traffic being diverted from St. George businesses
- Show of support due to benefits to traffic flow and connectivity
- Suggested dedicated bike path instead of a separate joint use trail
- Suggestion to make a loop tying back to I-15 at the north end.

I-15 Widening and Mall Drive Underpass – UDOT

38 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



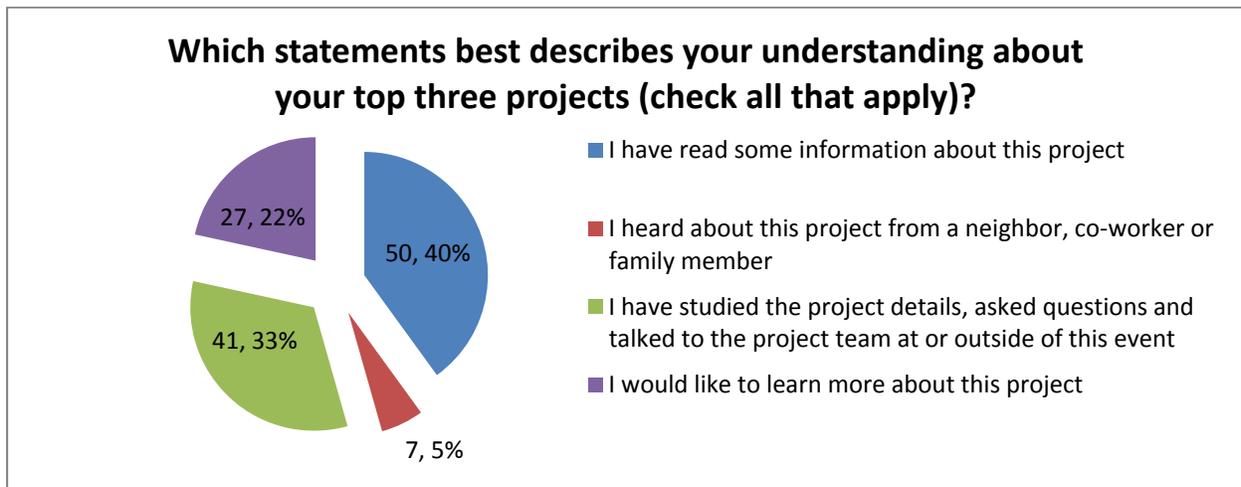
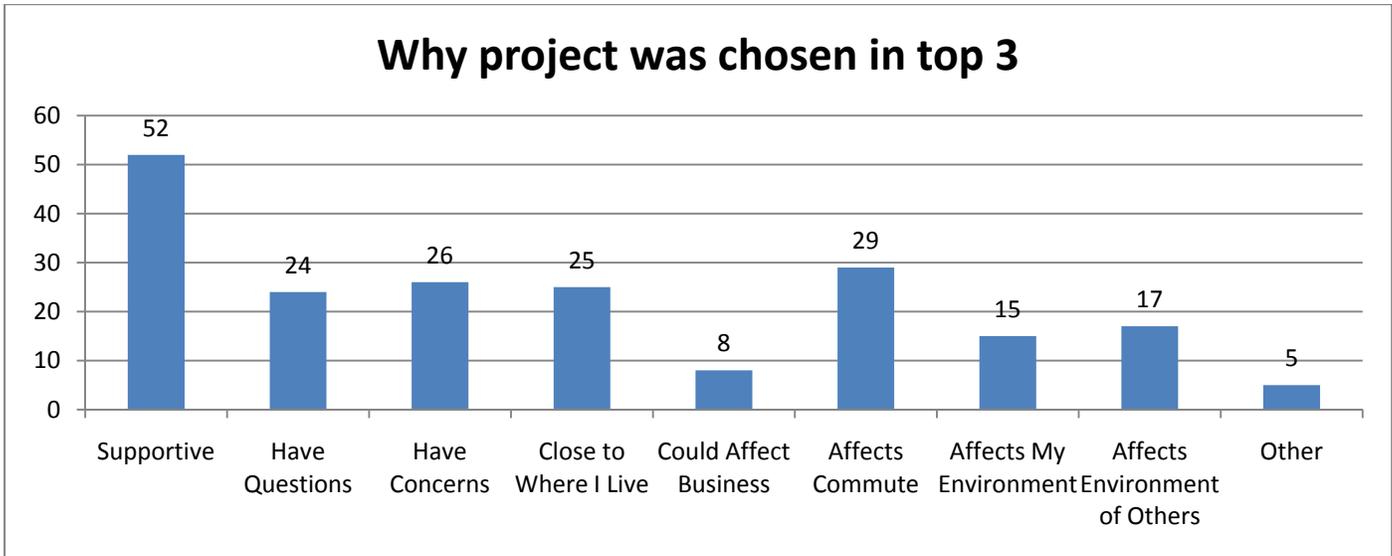
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.59

Comments:

- Concerns about traffic speed and flow in the area
- Responder suggests road should eventually connect to Northern Corridor
- Several responders commented in favor of project

Bluff St./St. George Blvd. – St. George

35 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



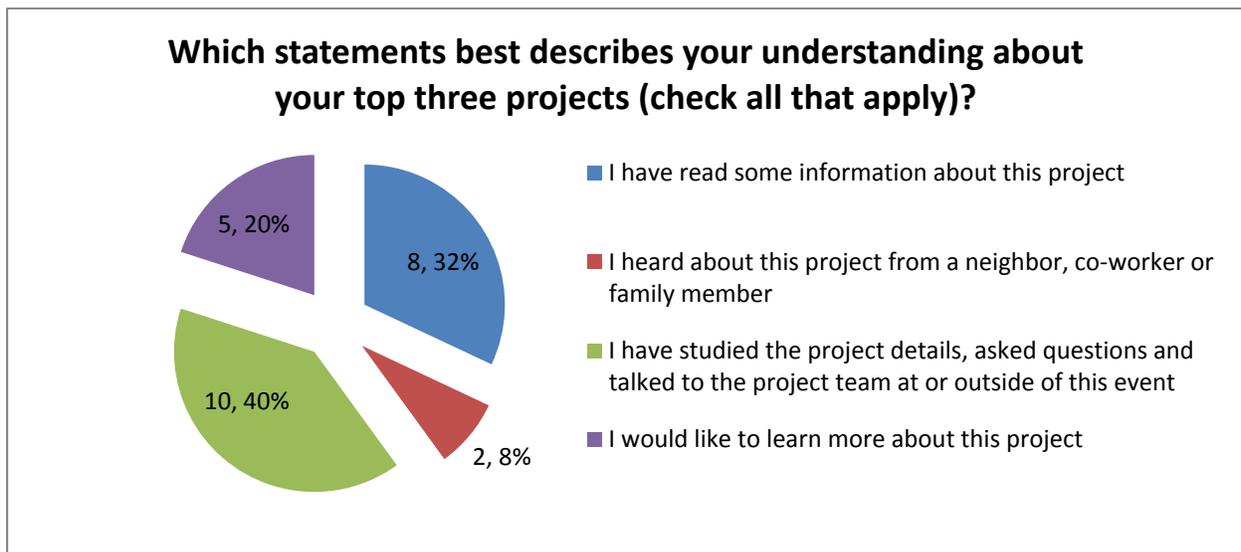
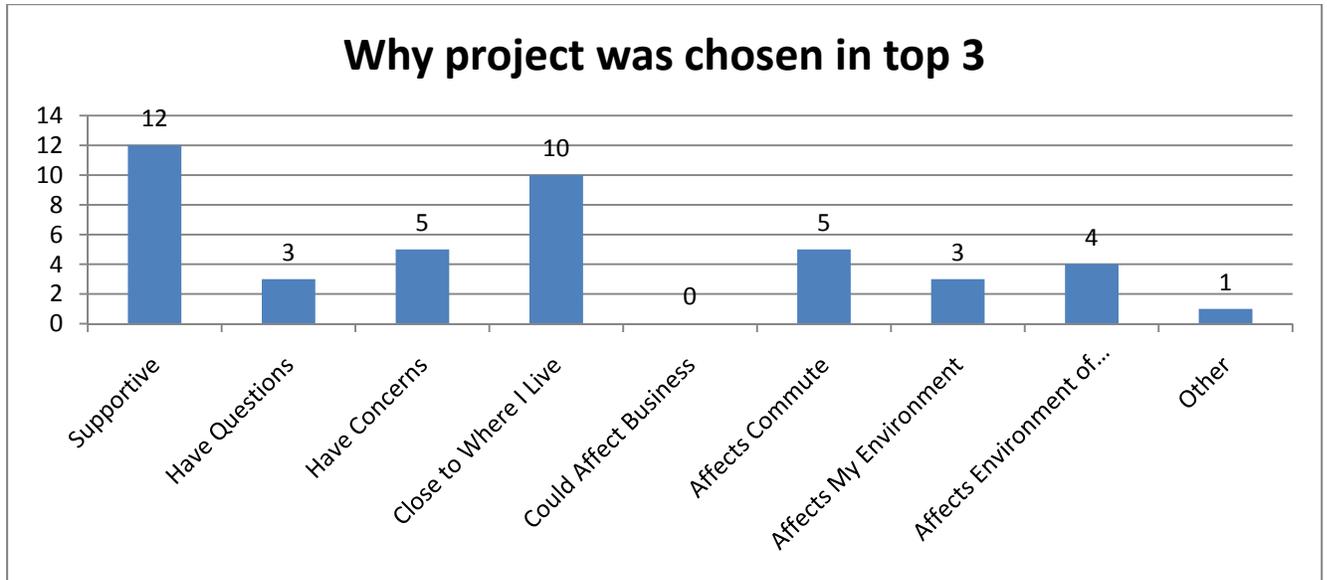
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.88

Comments:

- Concerns about U-turns, intersection design and right only turns
- Looks like the Golf Courses won't be impacted! Great! *Traffic tie-ups during construction
- Concerns about impacts to businesses and accesses
- I just think it's a lot of unnecessary confusion. I feel it is going to make matters worse.
- Concerns about impact on motorists, and functionality once airport expansion takes place.

Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway – St. George

6 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



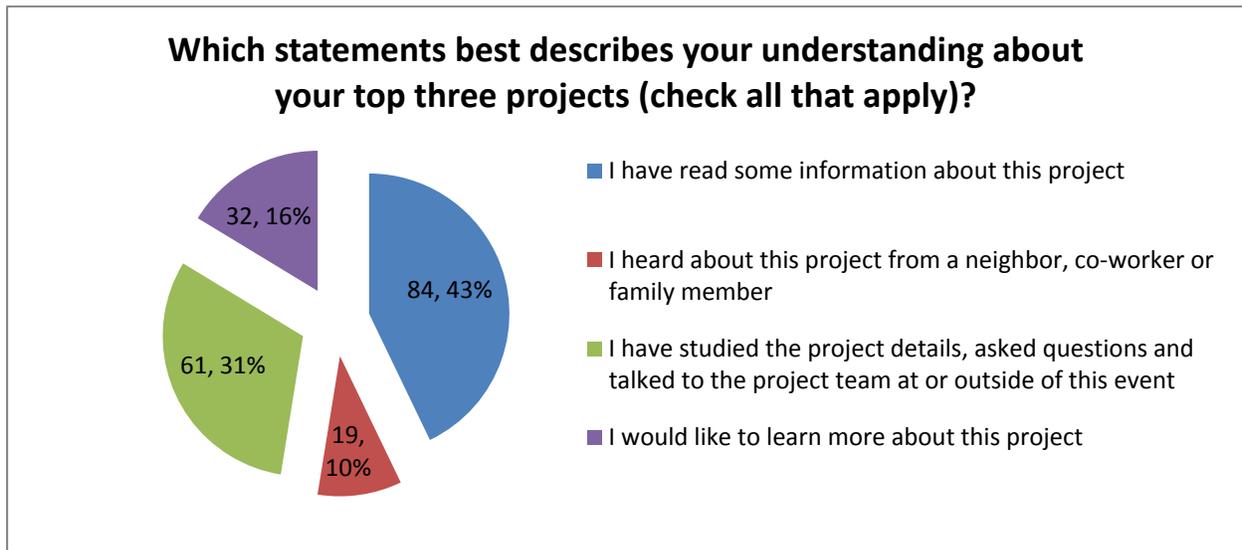
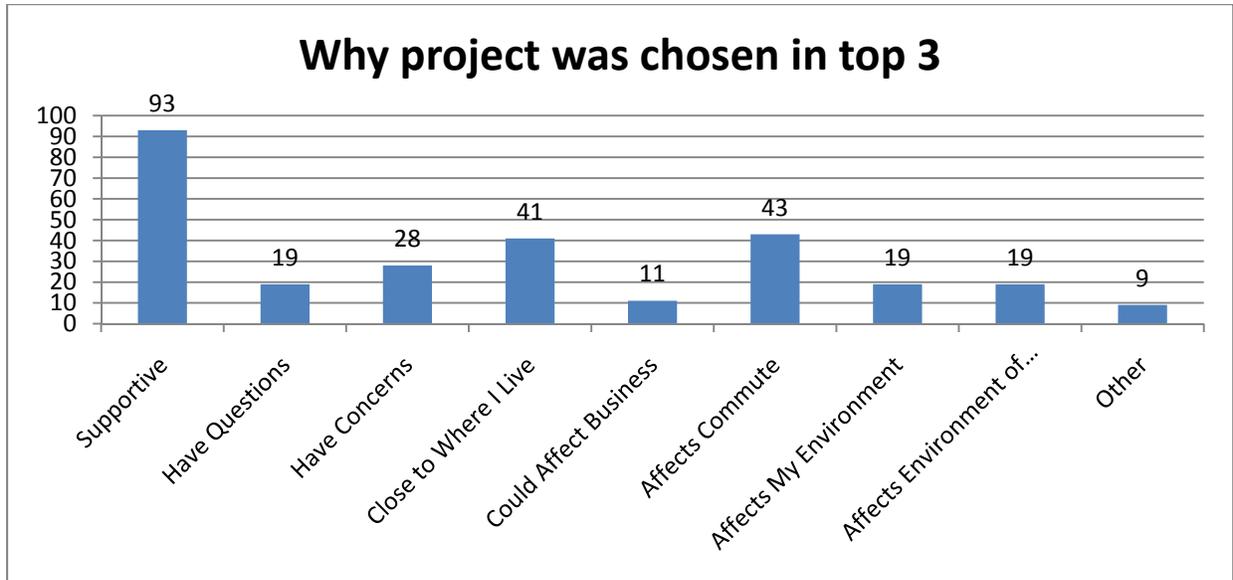
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 5.67

Comments:

- Project importance highlighted
- Project need and safety questioned
- Concerns about Ivins' growth projections
- Concern about the southbound merge

Sunset Blvd/Bluff Street Interchange – St. George

51 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



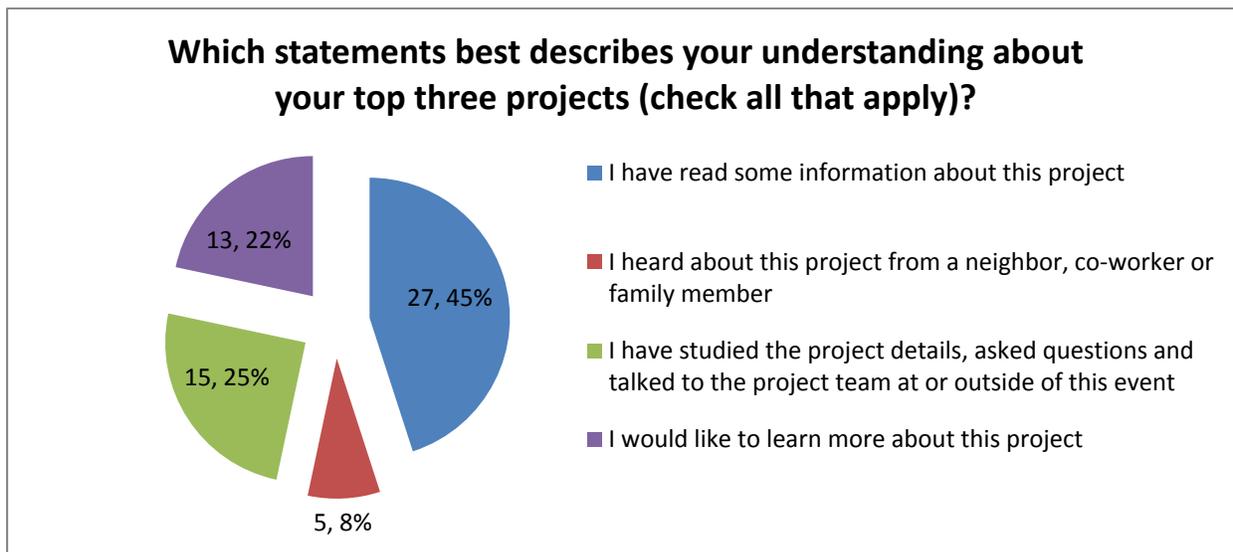
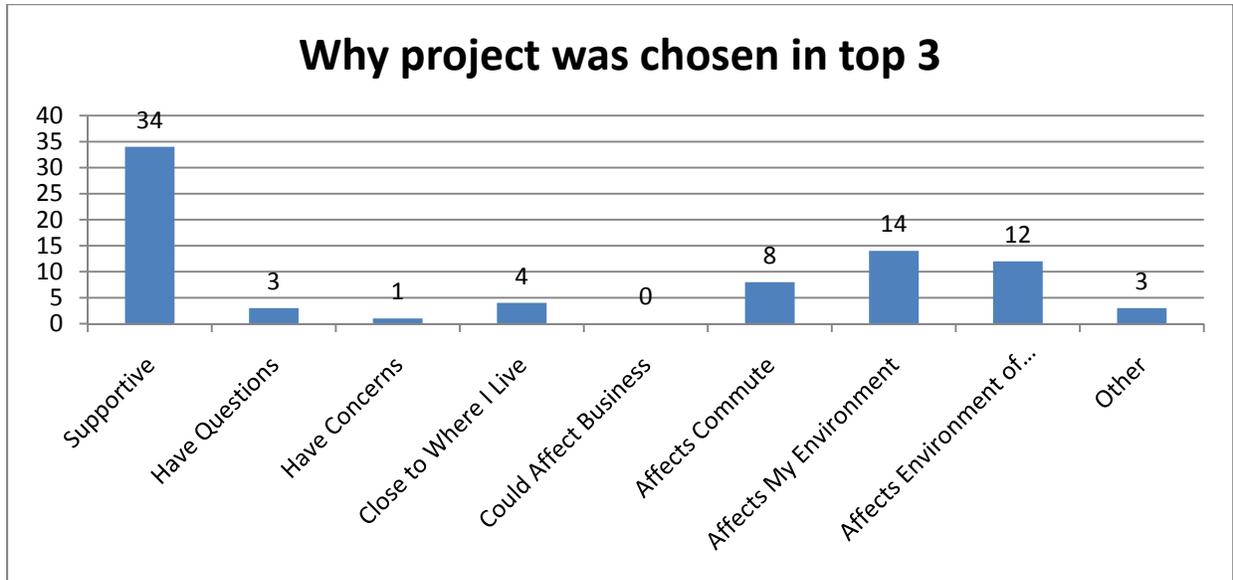
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.69

Comments:

- Project importance highlighted
- Concerns voiced about project necessity, design, impacts on businesses and safety
- Comments in favor of project’s positive impact on traffic flow

Expanded/Improved Bus Service – SunTran

14.5 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



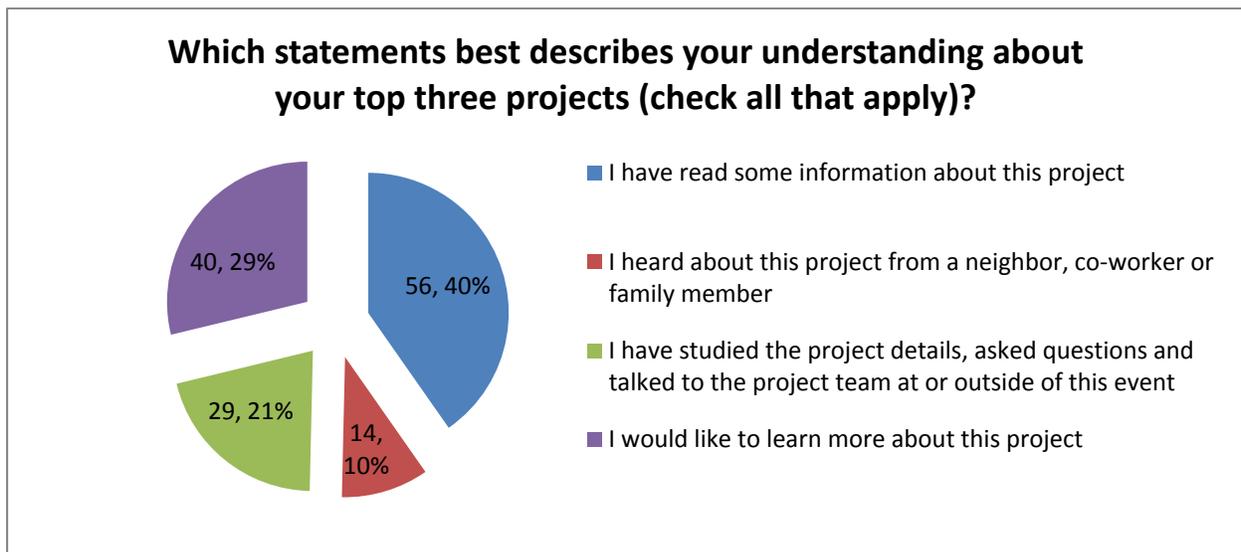
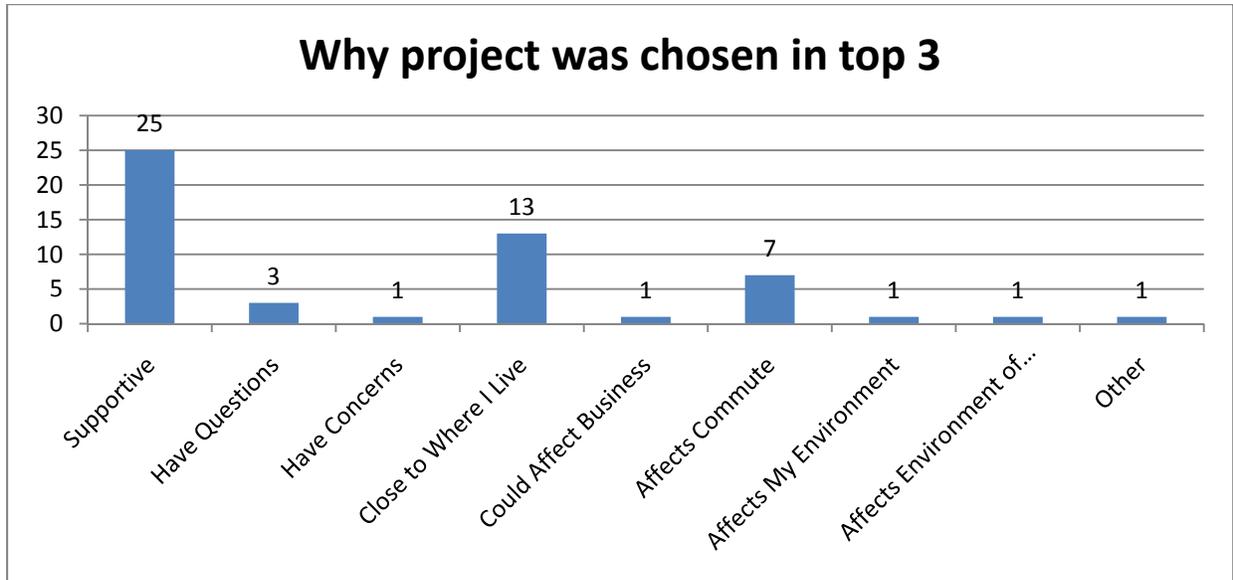
Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 5.06

Comments:

- Focus on transitioning from personal vehicles to public transportation
- Belief that increased funding would result in environmental benefits and increased ridership
- Comments in favor of service expansion
- Call for more municipal collaboration regarding funding and routes

Expanded Bicycle / Pedestrian Paths and Lanes

12 percent of responders selected this project in the top 3.



Average level of concern about this project on a scale from 1 to 7: 4.87

Comments:

- Call for more trails and off-road bicycle/ped paths
- Sun River Trail needs to be cleaned
- Comments about how trails and bicycle facilities are a major tourist draw
- Call for increased safety
- Suggestion to connect St. George and Hurricane bike paths
- Bicycle/ped paths have a positive impact on health and environment

Additional Feedback

Project Feedback

Current Transportation/Project Feedback
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- Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway: Coming off of flyover, the two lanes should merge into the right lane (both north and south).
- The Sunset/Bluff Intersection should NOT be elevated. Design a ground level roundabout, an exit for Valley View to get to Bluff. Too costly and ineffective. Hurts businesses as well.
- NO ROUNDABOUT EVER! 6” High (or higher) divider between Bluff North and South from Sunset North to just beyond Southbound theater entrance going North. To prevent turns into theater going North on Bluff. Extend the blending area after Sunset, North from two lanes to one lane North – Allow more time to blend three into one.
- The traffic on Bluff does not require more lanes. The public need to calm down. Bluff will look like Washington Blvd in Ogden in you add more lanes. Totally ugly! Like an airport runway.
- Surprised no fly-over from No bound Bluff to Westbound Sunset. That is the traffic bottle neck.
- Please restrict left turn out of driveway by Gun Barrel Rest. Onto Northbound Bluff. Cars turning left there will drive in the center lane and block people that want to turn left off of Bluff onto 1250.
- We continue to support an “at grade” solution for the Bluff St./Sunset intersection.
- The interchange needs to remain ground level. The preferred design is not effective and very expensive.
- Concerned about cost, functionality and impact on Sunset Corner. We’re grateful that UDOT is stepping back and slowing down to re-evaluate to see if there is another option that serves the public well, costs less and compliments the business community. Hopefully, there is an on-grade solution that works for the next 20 years.
- Dave Asay was so helpful and walked us through the whole Bluff/Sunset/St. George Blvd plan. Loved the wall display. Much easier to understand the planned improvements.
- Red Hills Parkway Radar feedback
 - Sign SB thru. Your speed? Slow Down
 - Need longer green on East – West. Make green the default until a ????? from SR-18 shows up
 - Made this more dangerous than before! What were you thinking?? Waste of Money
 - Allow through movement at intersection
 - This is a death zone merge (Southbound SR-18 with Bluff Street) Very scary. Merge sight distance (Southbound SR-18 with Bluff Street). Glad to see someone is planning for future growth! Good job!

Potential Transportation/Project Feedback
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- Look at traffic control at MP 11 and Mall Drive Traffic Control
- Suggested road from Bloomington Hill to Bloomington without need of freeway use (2)
- Suggested traffic light at St. James
- Suggested signal at 300 and Mall Drive
- Suggested widening of River Road at 2450
- Build a bridge over the Virgin River at Babylon Road
- Please connect the existing roads from Little Valley to the airport.
- Red Cliffs Drive turning left onto Mall Drive – a left-turn arrow light is needed for a few cars per-light to be able to cross.
- Please put a light at the corner of Sandia Lane and Mall Drive (3000 East) at the St. George City / Washington City easement. It’s an accident waiting to happen.

- Please do not put a road through the Red Cliffs Reserve. Keep the area for hikers, bikers, animals, etc.
- We really need the Northern Washington Parkway to alleviate congestion.
- Please put in the Northern Corridor.
- I love this plan (Northern Corridor)
- Please keep the reserve free from connector road.
- Northern Corridor/ Washington Parkway: Studies show wouldn't solve congestion problems, honor HCP and reserve, save taxpayer dollars, don't do it.
- Northern Parkway: Yes Please. Hurry.
- I would like to have the Northern Route through the Reserve. The people in the western part of the city (Ivins, Santa Clara, etc.) need a more direct route to I-15. This would not harm the Reserve and would be beneficial to the citizens in the western part of the County.
- Northern Parkway: Please honor the HCP and protect this special part of our landscape / Red Cliffs Reserve. Don't build this. Save taxpayer dollars.
- SR-9 onto south I-15 needs to be widened. SR-9 needs more lanes at I-15.
- Northern Corridor is needed to reduce congestion on Bluff and St. George Boulevard.
- We need a Northern Corridor to cut congestion in St. George and improve access to I-15.
- Consider paving the frontage road (old highway 91) from Harrisburg south to industrial park.
- Pave the remaining section of the frontage road from Harrisburg to Industrial development.
- Please take another look at how Bluff St widening will adversely affect Hispanic businesses on the West side between St George Blvd and Sunset. A disproportionate impact could be found. Please investigate noise abatement measures to protect our backyard BBQ quality of experience.
- 400 N. and Bluff Street is desperate in need of a left-turn light. Very dangerous intersection.
- I'm very concerned about and interested in a safe way to turn left off of Bluff in the area of Diagonal St. without having to go clear down to the nearest light. Please put left-turn arrows at the lights along Bluff Street.

Other Project Feedback

- Washington Parkway
- Exit 13 to Highway 18 via Red Hills Parkway
- Keep new construction small-scale and low-speed through residential areas on north 1150 West in Hurricane
- Please open the Purgatory Bridge now.
- Do not like bottle neck between 700 N and Sunset

Cycling/Active Transportation/ Trails

- Where is the crossing for Bicycles on Bluff Street? It does not work well for pedestrians and cyclist...wait time, conflicts w/ turning vehicles, where do bikes go N on SR-18?
- Designated cycling lanes on all streets requested
- Community bike racks requested
- Mall Drive Bridge needs connection to Virgin River trail below the bridge for massive biking and cyclist commuter community. We use Mall Drive now but it's very dangerous due to narrow shoulders and steep gravel embankments! Please add a simple connection from the bridge to the River trail.
- Bluff Street at Red Hills Parkway: New intersection is not bicycle and pedestrian friendly. And the dotted lines are confusing to drivers. Most traffic is east to west and not north to south.
- Link existing and future trails, creating a cohesive trails system
- Grow the county into a highly utilized active transportation community
- Consider more horse trails

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telegraph Street needs a bike lane
Public Transportation	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Covered benches at bus stops requested • Bus hours expansion to 10 p.m. requested • Consider more transit options to and from the airport • Comments regarding public transportations positive impact on air quality • Needs to be available for those with disabilities • Lower fares could result in increased ridership • Nice to have in emergency situations • More stops in Washington requested • Important for the elderly, and those without access to personal vehicles • Consider expansion of service to Bloomington Hills and Settle Valley • Bus Route to Springdale for residents and tourists
Policy and Process Feedback	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As you build more roads, you will have to tax us more. Maintain current roads but strictly limit unnecessary ones. • A lower speed limit on Read Hills Parkway east of 10th East would improve safety and make it more comfortable to drive through the curve coming up to the light. • Please keep the desert tortoise preserve free from more roads. • I hate driving through road construction projects. You rebuilt Bluff and Sunset intersection just a few years ago, and now you're thinking of coming back again? Please build a project that will last 30 years this time.
Other	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern with the new traffic flow – cars turning onto Snow Canyon Parkway from Bluff at same time cars turning onto Red Cliffs Parkway from Hwy 18. Hesitation as both turn and possibility of head on collision. Vehicles crossing overpass coming from Hwy 18 in left lane and cars coming from Snow Canyon and Red Hills parkway also merging into the same lane at the same time. • Our comments have been well known. We APPRECIATE UDOT working w/us to find alternative solutions. We look forward to finding a better alternative. • Get rid of the engineers