

2022 LANEWAY PARKING

“PARKIFYING” TORONTO’S LANEWAYS

COSMOS NATURE LANE - SITE ANALYSIS SUMMARY



THE
LANEWAY
PROJECT
CREATING LANEWAYS THAT WORK



Project
Kickoff

Master
Planning

Detailed
Design

Implementation

Site
Analysis

WE ARE HERE

Summarize the site analysis completed in
Spring 2022

Distill key insights to take forward into the
master planning phase

UPDATED PROJECT TIMELINE

April – June

Site Analysis

August

Master Planning
& Design

*September –
October*

Implementation



*Double-framed items are core elements of TLP's laneway improvement process

WHAT IS THE LANEWAY PROJECT?

The Laneway Project is a nonprofit, full-service, multidisciplinary placemaking firm. Our mission is to transform Toronto's laneways from underutilized, utilitarian spaces into complete, vibrant, people-friendly public places. Since our founding in 2014 we have worked with over thirty communities across this city to activate and transform their local laneways, seen the integration of laneways as people-friendly places throughout the urban planning policy hierarchy (including the Official Plan, Complete Streets Guidelines, and Zoning By-Law), and developed over 20 free public planning resources to support other organizations in sharing in our mission. We are recognized internationally and have become Canada's leading expert on the community-integrated transformation of underutilized, utilitarian spaces into social infrastructure assets. We take our projects from planning through implementation and evaluation which uniquely positions us to unlock the full potential of laneways with cohesive projects while building community relationships and capacity.



2021 Laneway Park-ing in Leslieville.

LANEWAY PARK-ING

Laneway Park-ing was conceived as a COVID-response program, that would support the recovery and long-term resiliency of Main Street Neighbourhoods by transforming (or "parkifying") local laneways from underutilized, utilitarian spaces into vibrant, alternative urban green spaces to address parkland need and reattract people to the urban heart of Toronto.

SITE ANALYSIS SURVEY

PURPOSE

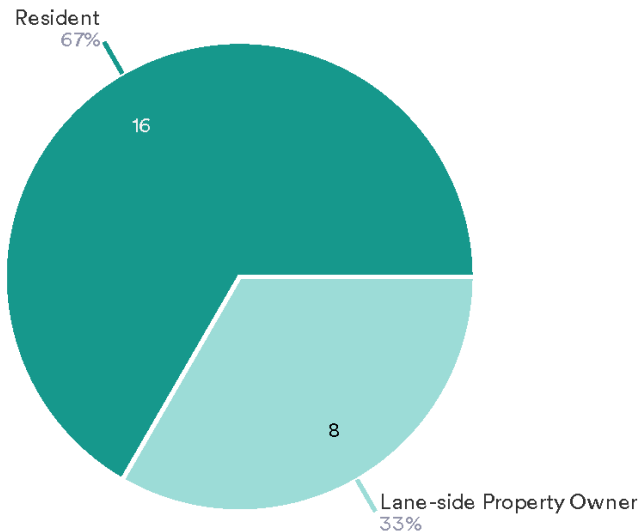
- GATHER LOCAL KNOWLEDGE** To create a better public space, we need to understand how the community currently uses and wants to use the laneway.
- MEASURABLE** By creating a common vocabulary and system of observation we can quantify the challenges and opportunities presented by the laneway.
- ACTIONABLE** Using these tools, we can identify common objectives and priorities and actionable plans to address them.
- COMPARABLE** The information collected can be compared pre- and post-implementation and across projects to measure success and improve our processes.

WHAT WE HEARD

17 residents responded to the site analysis survey, including 8 lane-side property owners
 Most respondents were involved with the community on a **daily** basis in some capacity.

I am a local...

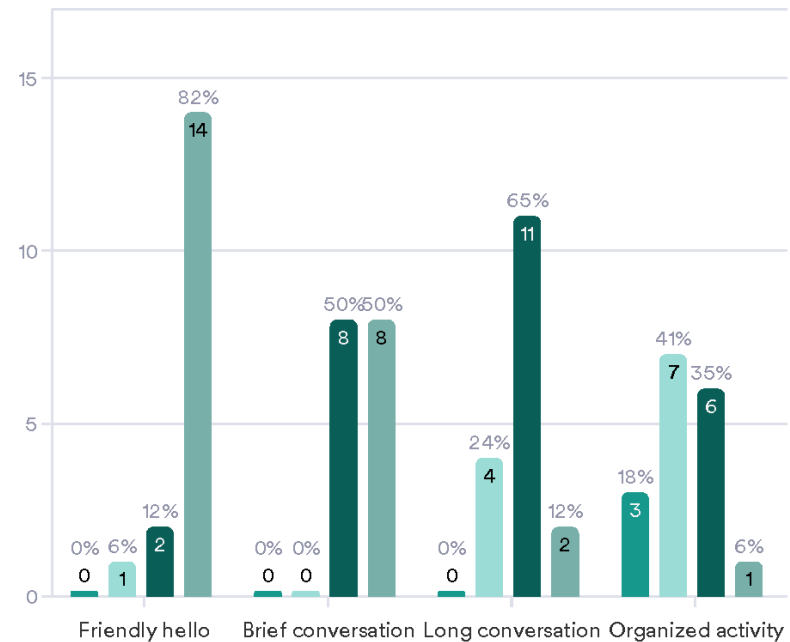
24 Responses



● Resident ● Lane-side Property Owner

How often do you usually interact with your neighbours or other community members?

17 Responses



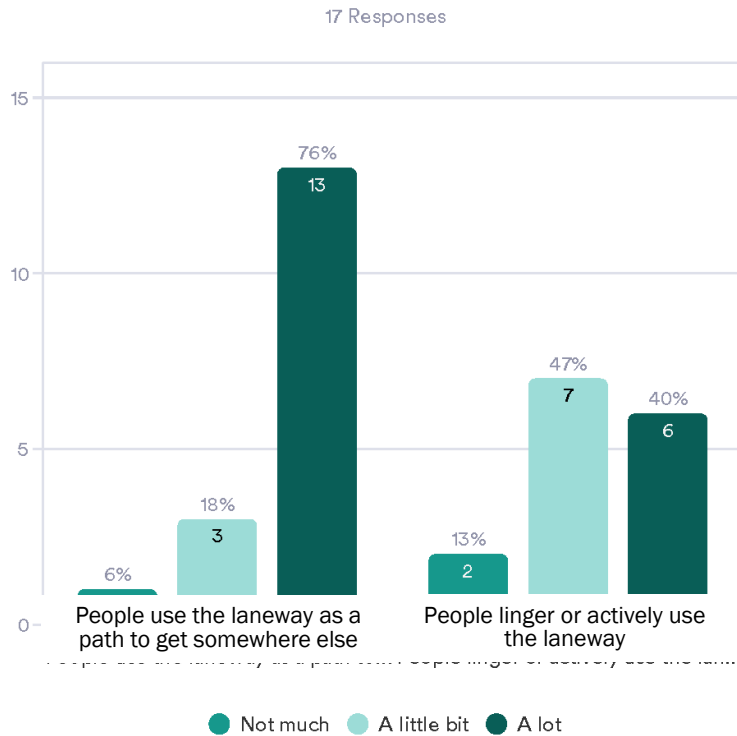
● Never ● Monthly ● Weekly ● Daily

WHAT WE HEARD

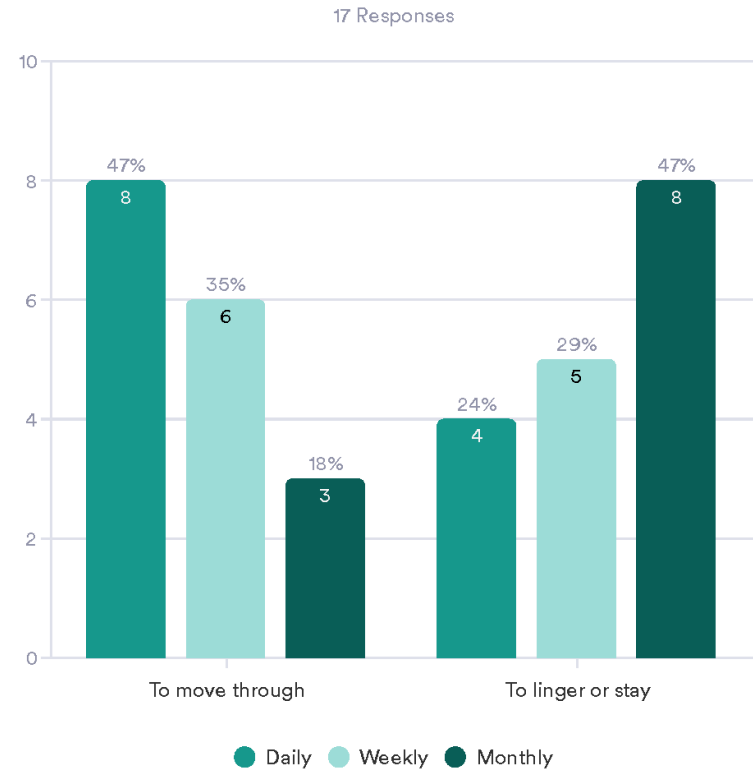
Many respondents observed that people use the laneway to pass through, with some observing that people also linger and use the laneway as well.

Most respondents use the laneway daily to move through, and actively use and linger in the laneway monthly.

From "not much" to "a lot," how much is the laneway currently used as part of everyday life in your neighbourhood?



How often do you personally use the laneway space?

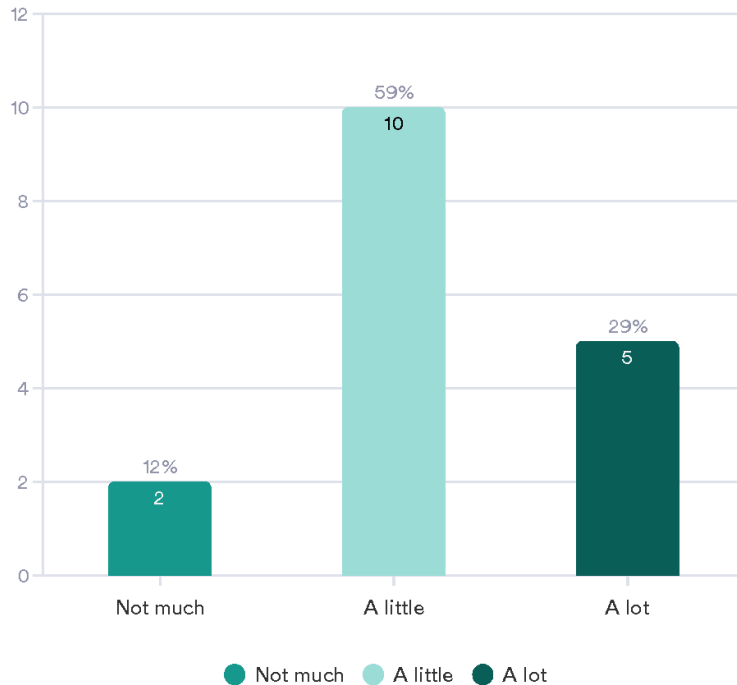


WHAT WE HEARD

Respondents are already very involved, but many are eager to be more involved with local neighbourhood activities. 8 respondents were already involved with laneway initiatives (i.e. Cosmos Nature Lane)

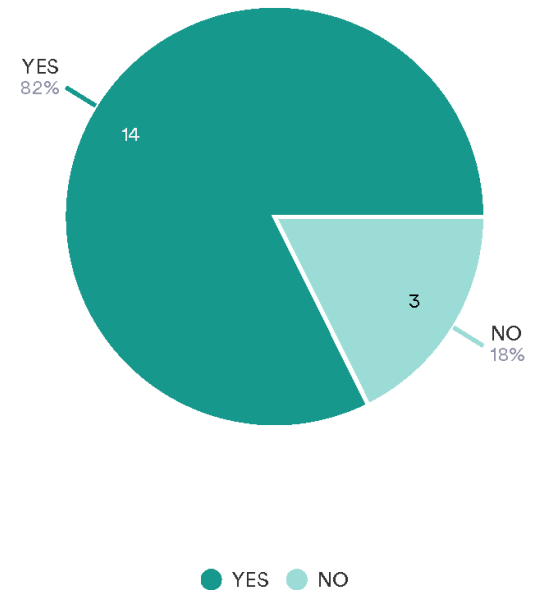
How involved are you usually with local activities or improvement initiatives in your neighbourhood?

17 Responses



Would you like to be more involved in local activities or improvement initiatives in your neighbourhood?

17 Responses

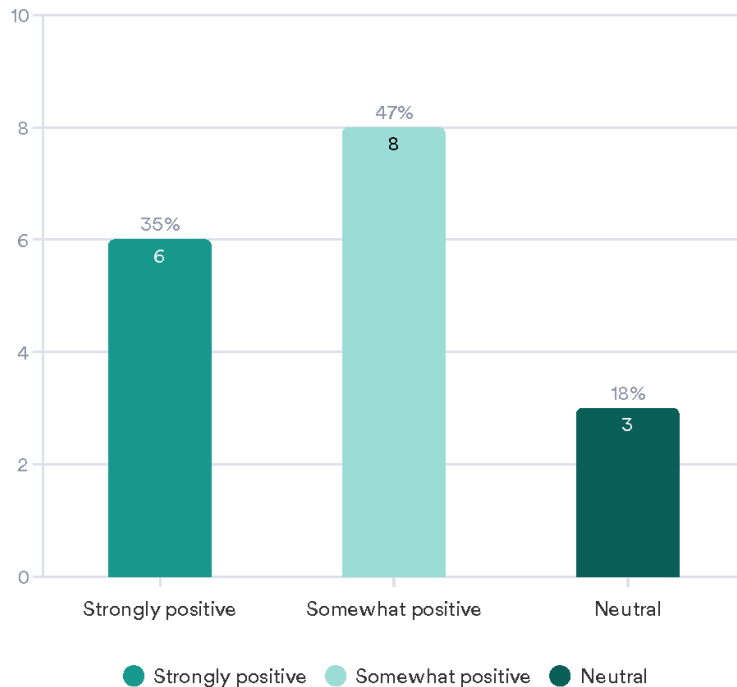


WHAT WE HEARD

Respondents feel positively about the laneway, yet have a strong desire to make more use of the laneway

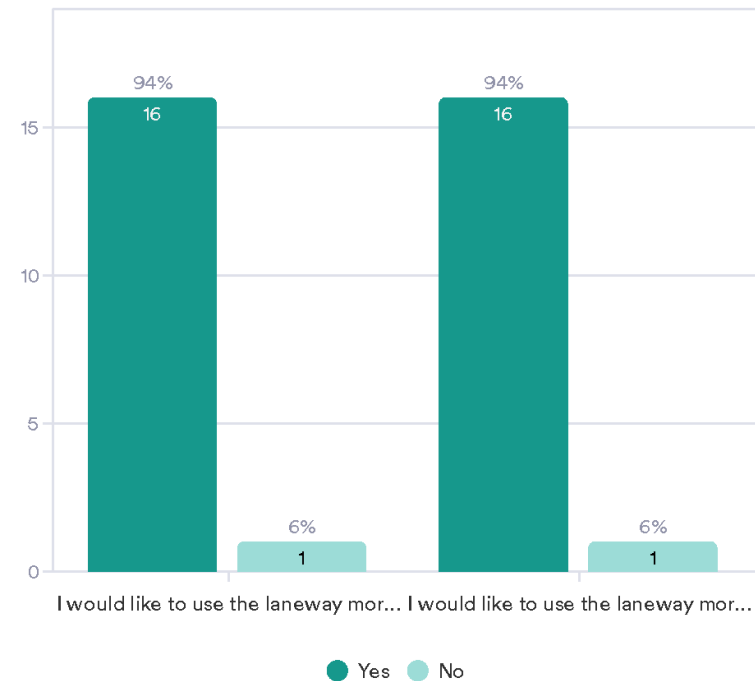
From "Strongly negative" to "Strongly positive", how do you feel about this laneway space?

17 Responses



Looking to the future, would you like to use the laneway more as part of everyday life?

17 Responses

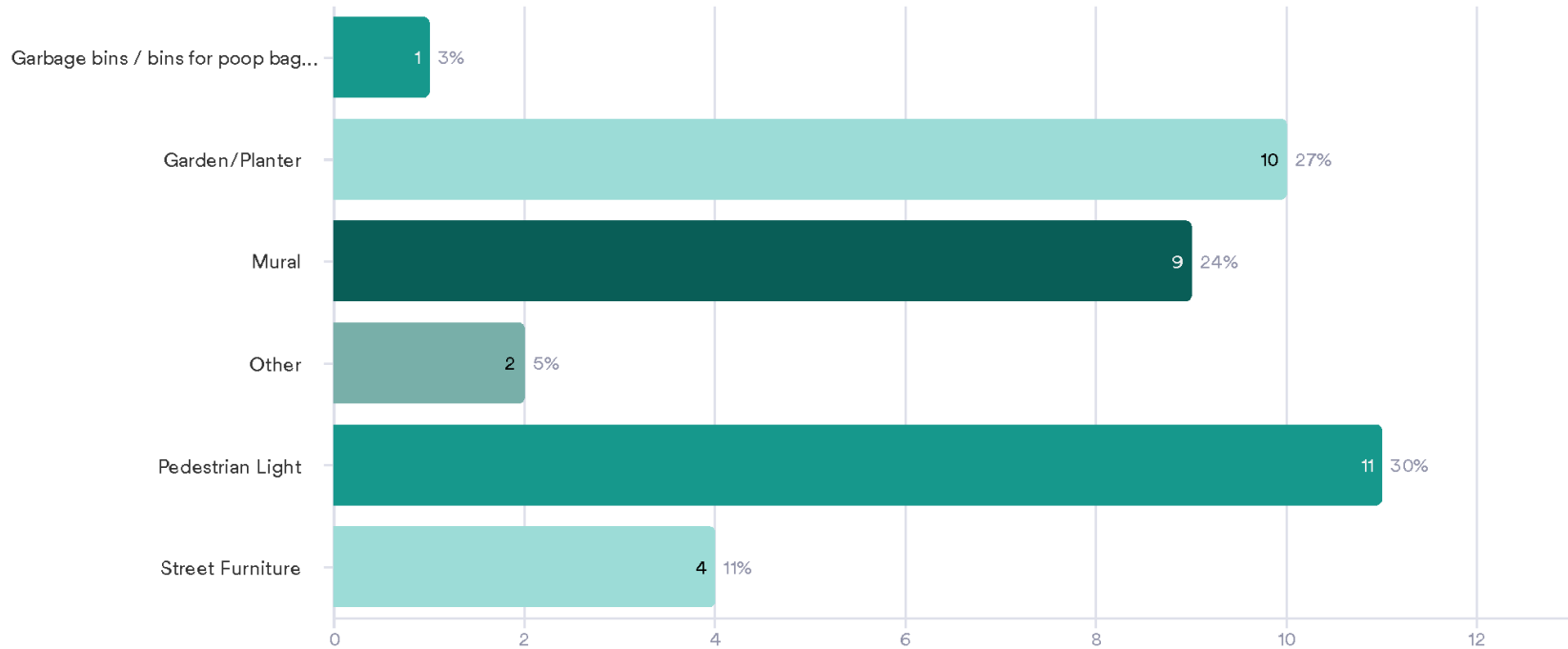


WHAT WE HEARD

Lighting, Planters and Murals were the most requested improvements.

Would you like to request an improvement to your property as part of this project?

37 Responses- 4 Empty



RESPONDENT'S WISH LIST INCLUDES:



Seating to allow people to sit, chat, and connect with neighbours [5]



Trash bins [2]



Access to shared community resources (tools, seeds, plants) [1]



Increased greenery and gardening [3]



Safe place for children to play [5]



Traffic calming [2]



More bee boxes, bird houses and pollinator/butterfly friendly plants [1]



Lighting [1]

RESPONDENTS HAVE SKILLS COVERING:



Gardening and
Horticulture

Mural Artistry and
Illustration



Carpentry

Networking and
Community Building



Painting

General Labour



SITE VISIT THEMES & IDEAS

Additional rain barrels to provide coverage for the full laneway

More lighting that is doesn't bleed into nearby houses

Supplies or resources for resident-led projects, such as "Walk this way" footprints

More permanent planters to create a gateway/focal point on the north end of the lane

Focus on small, resilient plants for lane edges and supporting ecological function of the lane

Focus on local school-aged children to create a space for play

Solar lighting near Susan Tibaldi Parkette

INTERESTED IN BEING INVOLVED OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

GET IN TOUCH

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