Cedar Avenue reconstruction

Preliminary Engagement Summary - Little Earth - Spring 2023

What engagement has occurred?
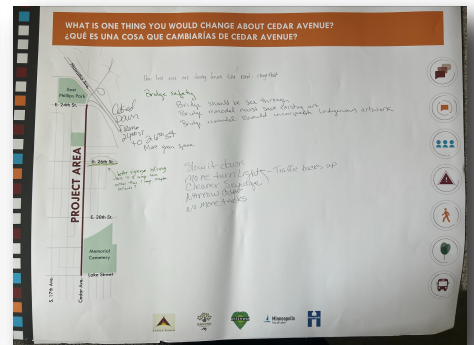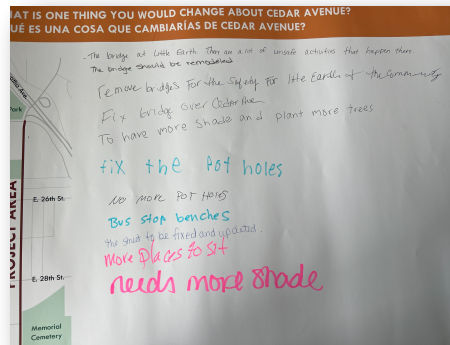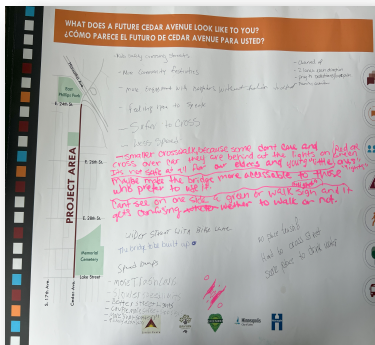
**Little Earth Resident Assocation
Listening Session
In-person
May 22nd**

**Little Earth Resident Assocation
Listening Session
In-person
June 1st**

Hennepin County is developing a conceptual design for the reconstruction of Cedar Avenue (County Road 152) both *with* the community and *for* the community. During preliminary engagement the county partnered with community based organizations in the Phillips neighborhood with the interest, capacity and expertise in conducting engagement. Little Earth Resident Association, Banyan Community, and the Midtown Greenway Collation will assist the county with engagement throughout the conceptual design phase.

Photos of engagement events and materials from spring 2023

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Need more information or would like to attend an event? Email us at
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Little Earth preliminary engagement summary

The project team held two Little Earth focused **listening sessions**

At each listening session the following questions were asked of participants, in both English and Spanish.

What does a future Cedar Avenue **look like** to you?
What is one thing you would **change** about Cedar Avenue?
What should **engagement look and feel like** on this project?
What else would you like to tell us?

30 community members contributed...

94 unique comments.

These translated to **159** feedback points...

...within **15** community themes.

The graphic below shows a breakdown of feedback points by community theme:

Safety
23%

Road design
11%

Bridge
8%

Other themes
25%

Community wellness
16%

Pedestrian
8%

Listening session themes (spring 2023)

More than half of participants' feedback centered around safety, community wellness and road design. Within each of these themes are key feedback points that address design elements, transportation safety concerns or general wellness of the Phillips neighborhood. Here are examples of feedback points grouped by community themes.

Approach to summerizing feedback

Feedback at the listening sessions was very diverse and touched on several different themes. In selecting direct community quotes, we sought to represent community feedback accurately by highlighting this range of input. Our approach for choosing examples of these themes was as follows:

- Aim to not overrepresent a specific type of comment within each theme
- Select comments from community members that staff had extensive conversations with at community events
- Provide minimal grammar and language adjustments to the format of public comment

Safety

Reduce speed limit

Cedar divides the Little Earth community, impacting crossing/engagement between sides due to safety/accessibility

Improve existing and additional street lighting to increase safety

Safer crosswalk, especially for youth and elders

Update and improve Cedar Ave. Bridge at Little Earth crossing

Community wellness

Plant more trees/increase green space

Family activities like in years past

Cleaner, add trash and recycling bins

Visible culture in art, signage, etc.

The Little Earth community should be on the frontline and not an after thought

Water fountain

Road desgin

Close down from 24th to 26th Street, more green space
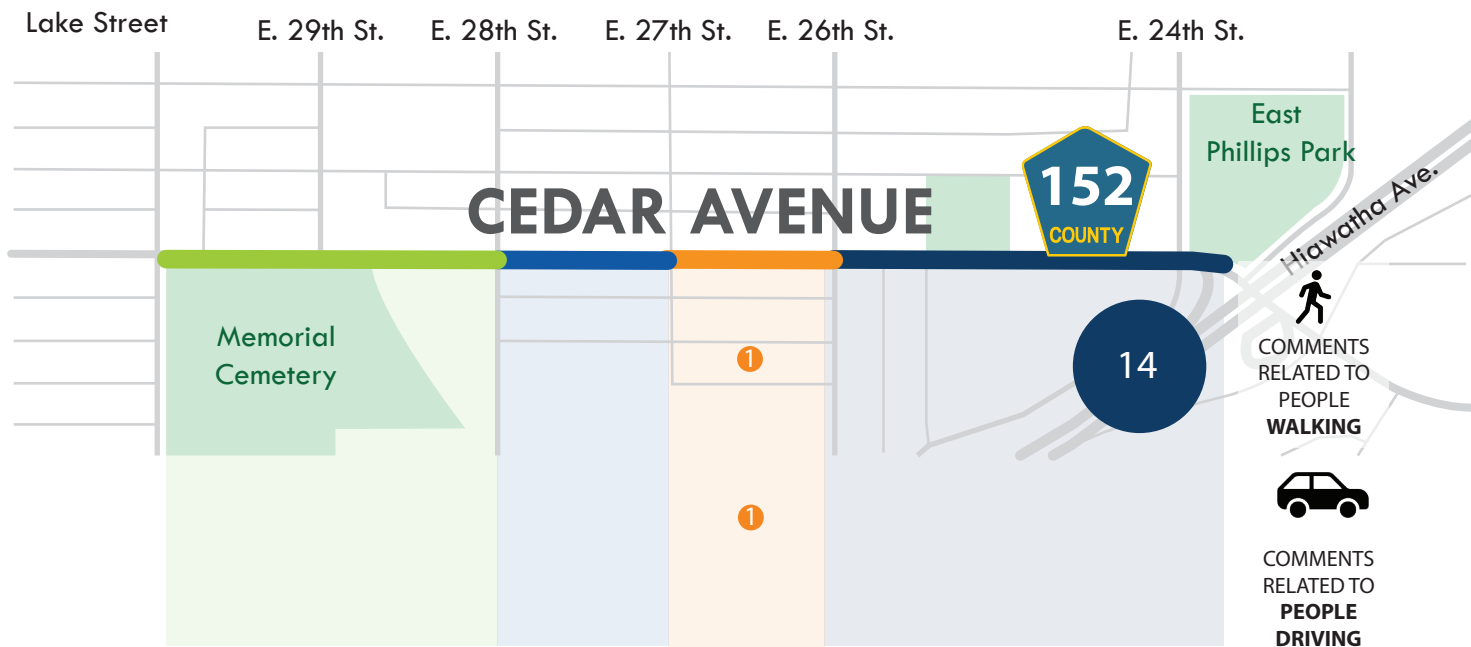
Increase the saftey for bikers

Water accumulates by the bus stop, so as cars go by MT riders are splashed

Repair and update the bridge over Cedar Ave
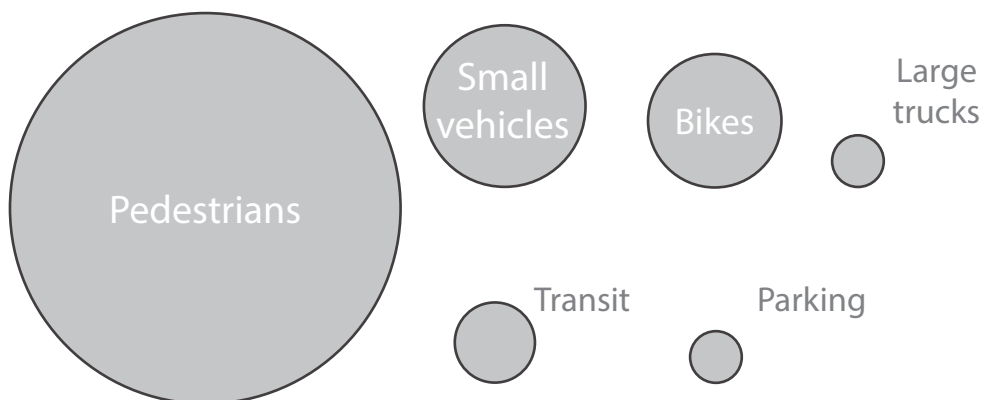
Reroute large trucks

Locational feedback

The following map shows the number of community comments that relate to a specific geographic location on the corridor:

Lake Street   E. 29th St.   E. 28th St.   E. 27th St.   E. 26th St.   E. 24th St.

East Phillips Park

CEDAR AVENUE

152 COUNTY

Memorial Cemetery

Hiawatha Ave.

1

1

14

COMMENTS RELATED TO PEOPLE **WALKING**

COMMENTS RELATED TO **PEOPLE DRIVING**

GENERAL CORRIDOR COMMENTS

The graphic to the right shows the relative number of comments by mode that were not specific to a location on Cedar Avenue:

Pedestrians

Small vehicles

Bikes

Large trucks

Transit

Parking

Cedar Avenue pedestrian bridge

A significant number of comments were specific to the pedestrian bridge over Cedar Avenue at Cedar Field Park. Many of these comments were tied to feedback points, such as safety, art and rehabilitation. A breakdown of those comments by related themes is shown below:

Bridge

8 comments show support for the bridge to be, rebuilt, rehabilitated or modified

6 comments highlight concerns with personal safety

3 comments show desire for more art that reflects community