

As the first of two public surveys conducted for Moving Dutchess Forward, this survey aimed to understand **residents' priorities and challenges in meeting daily travel needs** across Dutchess County.

The survey was promoted widely through in-person events, email campaigns, press releases, and radio, and remained open from Nov. 2025 through Feb. 2026.

KEY SURVEY STATISTICS

483 responses **56** ZIP codes **450+** comments

WHO RESPONDED

Race		Age	
White	71%	18 to 64	71%
Black/African American	6%	65 and older	21%
Asian, Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	5%	Under 18	1%
Did not say	21%	Did not say	7%

WHAT WE HEARD

Daily Trips

91% of respondents typically used a personal vehicle for daily trips.

Common daily destinations included food shopping, work, family/personal business, recreation/exercise, healthcare and retail shopping.

Transportation Mode for Daily Trips

Ride a Car	91%
Walk	22%
Bicycle	11%
Ride the Bus / Train	9%
Rideshare / Other	6%

Daily Destinations

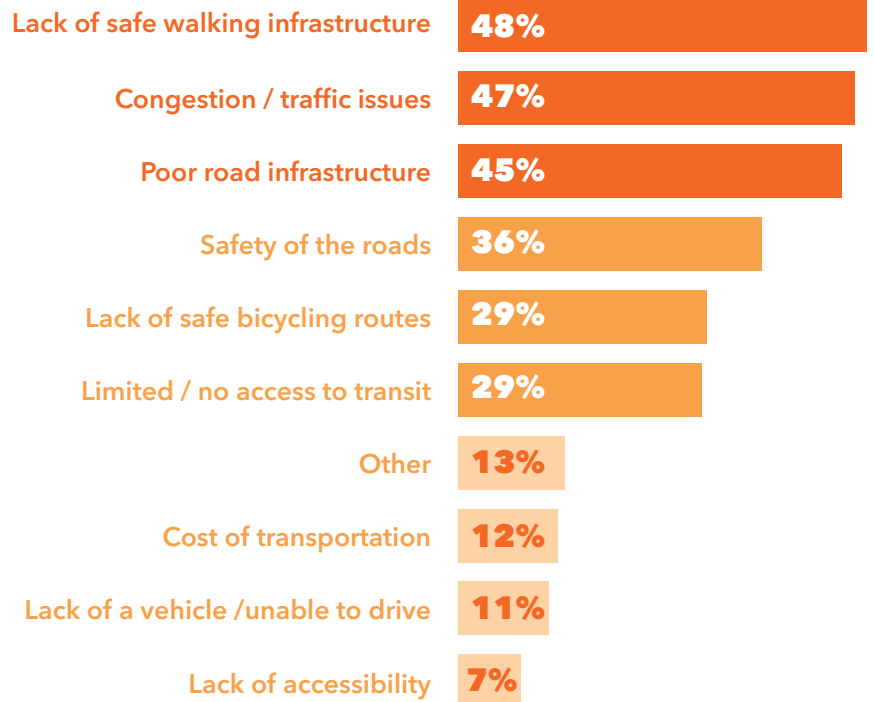
	71% Food Shopping
	48% Work
	33% Family / Personal Business

Transportation Challenges

Nearly half of all respondents said that a lack of safe walking infrastructure was their biggest transportation challenge.

Many respondents pointed to risky intersections, unsafe driving and speeding, and high cost of private vehicle ownership.

Public transit challenges included limited service frequency, and lack of real-time information and amenities at bus stops.

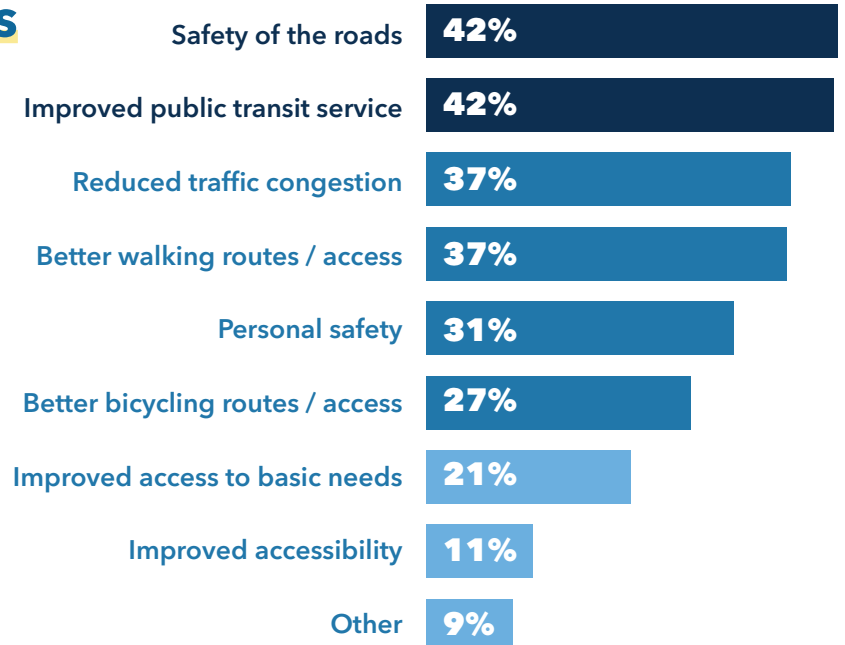


Transportation Priorities

The top two transportation priorities were roadway safety and improved public transit service.

Many respondents called for safer walking and bicycling environments for themselves and their families, including young children and older adults.

Responses reflected a strong desire for safer, more reliable, and more accessible transportation options.



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Learn more

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What People Like Most About Their Transportation Options

Respondents appreciated transportation assets such as the rail trails, access to Metro-North and Amtrak trains, the Beacon Free Loop Bus, and biking and walking infrastructure.

Recommendations:



Transit Access: Respondents want improvements that prioritize the safety and accessibility of public transit, such as bus stop amenities.



Network Connectivity: Respondents suggested improvements to increase connectivity geographically, such as expanding rural transit options, and connectivity across modes through schedule coordination.



Travel Experience: Respondents suggested traffic calming projects and congestion-reduction measures for safer and smoother journeys.



Walking and Biking: Respondents suggested safety and accessibility improvements to biking and walking routes to improve connectivity to shopping areas, schools and transit.



Transit Equity: Respondents advocated for safe walking, biking and bus infrastructure to provide equitable access across age and income levels.

How Transportation Access Has Changed

Nearly two-thirds of respondents indicated a decline in their transportation access and experience in recent years.

Reasons included increased traffic congestion, dangerous driver behaviors and lack of enforcement, poor bus reliability, loss of ferry access, and the rising costs of car ownership.

Concerns:



Roadway Safety: Respondents cited concerns around dangerous driving behavior, poor sight lines and risky intersections.



Basic Needs: Respondents experienced difficulty accessing basic needs due to public transit route design and gaps in walking and biking infrastructure.



Transit Reliability: Respondents recounted experiencing travel difficulties due service delays and inconsistent schedules



Infrastructure Maintenance: Respondents shared concerns about potholes, fading lane markings, and snow clearing.




Transportation Affordability: Respondents shared concerns about transit fare barriers for low-income residents, and increasing costs of vehicle ownership.

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