



Chestermere Transit Feasibility Study

Planning for Growth

Mobility Needs Assessment

Public Input Summary



Calgary Regional Partnership



CHESTERMERE



APRIL 2014

MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

Background

The Calgary Regional Partnership (CRP) is working with the Town of Chestermere to complete a Transit Feasibility Study for the Chestermere area. No funding has been allocated for a transit service. The study will examine if and how a future (10 to 20 years) transit service for the Chestermere area might be successful. The results from this study will be presented to Town Council in Fall 2014 for information.

Public Engagement

The Calgary Regional Partnership is implementing a public engagement process in conjunction with the study to ensure community needs are gathered from the outset and reflected in any future public transit system as much as possible.

We understand this project, and a future transit system, will only be successful if it meets the social, economic and environmental needs of Chestermere residents.

The public engagement process has been organized in three phases illustrated below. As part of the Information Gathering & Assessment phase, the CRP attended Winterfest and met with the Whitecapper's Association in January 2014, as well as collected feedback through an online feedback form available from March 10-21. The online feedback form was advertised on road signs and Chestermere Utilities Inc. insert was delivered to approximately 6,000 homes advertising the project web site and requesting public input. More than 450 feedback forms were submitted and the input received is summarized in the following pages.

Public Engagement Process

November – April 2014	April 2014	May – June 2014
Information gathering & analysis	Develop options	Select preferred option(s) for feasibility analysis
<p>PUBLIC Interviews/focus groups and surveys to identify perceptions, issues, concerns, benefits, users, desired routes, stops, destinations and frequency</p>	<p>PROJECT TEAM Develop preliminary options to reflect public input</p>	<p>STEERING COMMITTEE Meeting to discuss workshop outcomes and refine materials for public open house</p>
<p>STEERING COMMITTEE Meeting to present results of engagement to date and discuss upcoming workshop process</p>	<p>PUBLIC Workshop to refine and evaluate preliminary options collaboratively</p>	<p>PUBLIC Public open house and online survey to gather feedback on the preliminary options</p>
		<p>PROJECT TEAM Complete feasibility study</p>

The CRP at Winterfest 2014



Chestermere Utilities Inc. insert delivered to 6,000 homes

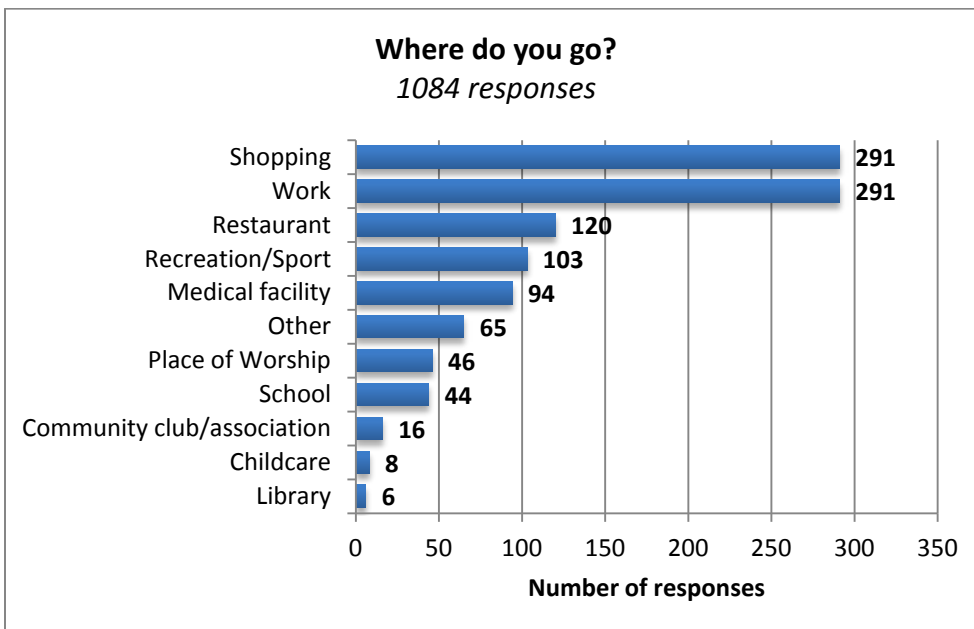
The Calgary Regional Partnership wants to hear your ideas about regional transit. We need your input now to make sure future plans reflect community opinions.

Please visit
chestermeretransit.ca
 for more information and to provide your input.

Transit between Chestermere and Calgary

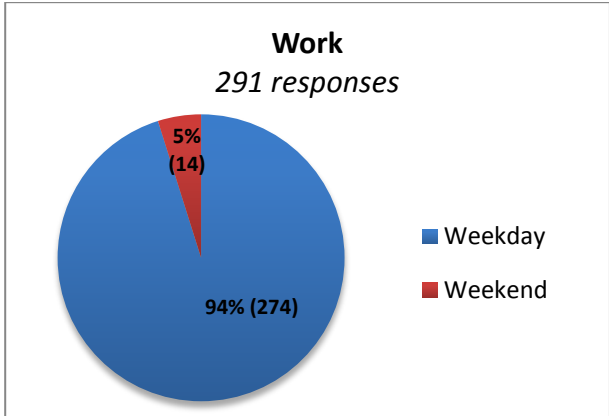
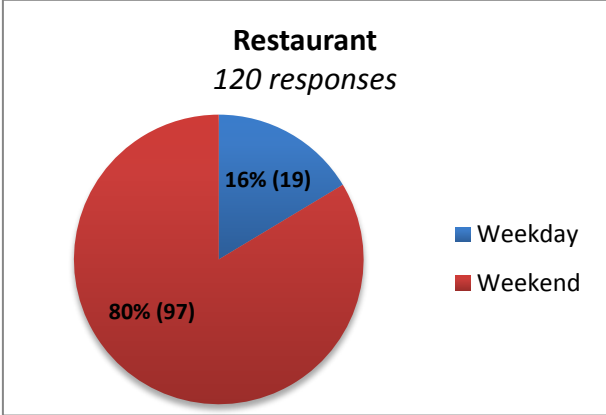
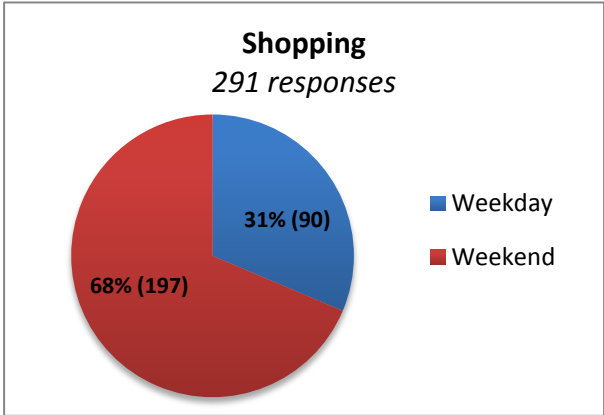
As part of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan, the CRP is developing a plan for a regional transportation system. Calgary is recognized as a high-demand location within a future regional transit system, and a key destination for many Chestermere residents.

Where do you travel to in Calgary?



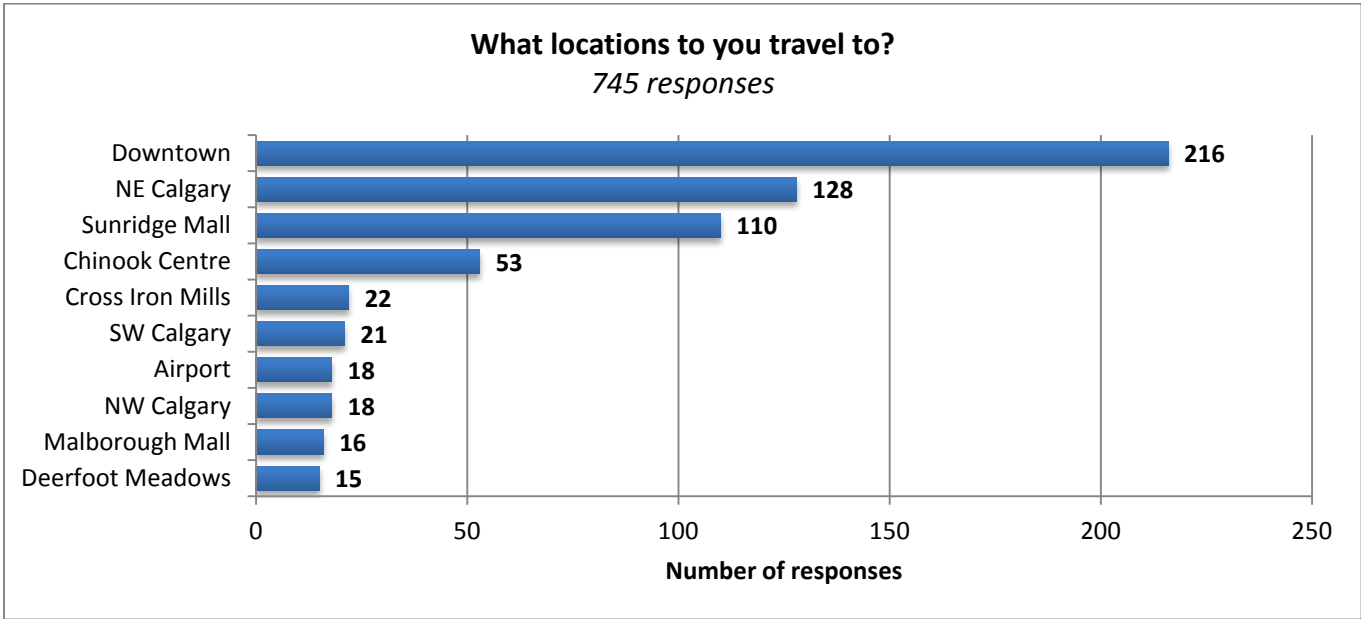
The Calgary destinations most frequently cited by respondents were work and shopping.

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The majority of travel to Calgary for shopping and restaurants is on the weekend.

Almost all respondents who travel to Calgary for work go during the week (94% or 274).

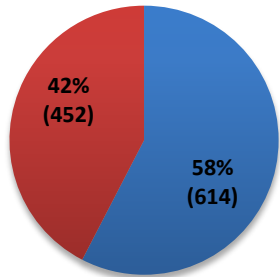


The most frequent destinations for respondents were downtown, northeast Calgary and the Sunridge area. Shopping centres, especially Sunridge Mall, are also frequent destinations.

Less frequent destinations included Village Square Leisure Centre (13), University of Calgary (13), Peter Lougheed Hospital (12), Mount Royal University (11), Foothills Industrial area (8), LRT stations (8), SAIT (7), Southcentre Mall (7), Foothills Hospital (5), WinSport (3), and Market Mall (2).

Do you travel during the week or weekend?

1066 responses



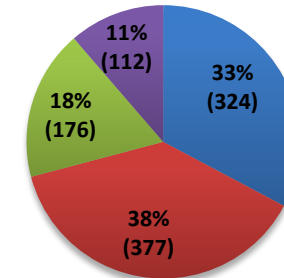
■ Weekday
■ Weekend

Summary

- There are almost as many weekend trips to Calgary as weekday trips.
- Respondents indicated their travel frequency to Calgary is primarily daily or weekly.
- Respondents travel to Calgary between 6 am and 2 pm 71% of the time, but our survey did not provide an opportunity to select return travel times. It can be inferred that most respondents are departing for Calgary in the AM.
- More than half of the AM travel is during the week (64%), and more than half of the PM travel is on the weekend (57%).
- The majority of respondents (93% or 991) use a car to get nearly everywhere.

What time do you travel?

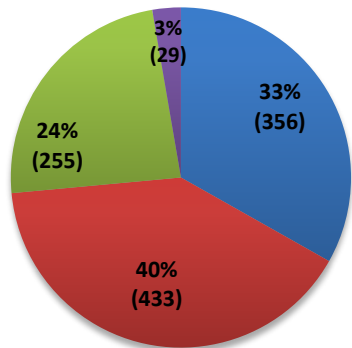
989 responses



■ AM peak (6-9am)
■ AM off-peak (10am-2pm)
■ PM peak (3-6pm)
■ PM off-peak (7-11pm)

How often do you travel?

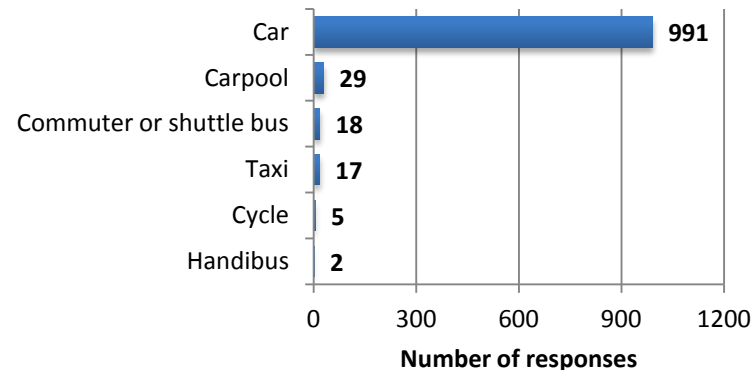
1073 responses



■ Daily ■ Weekly
■ Monthly ■ Rarely/Never

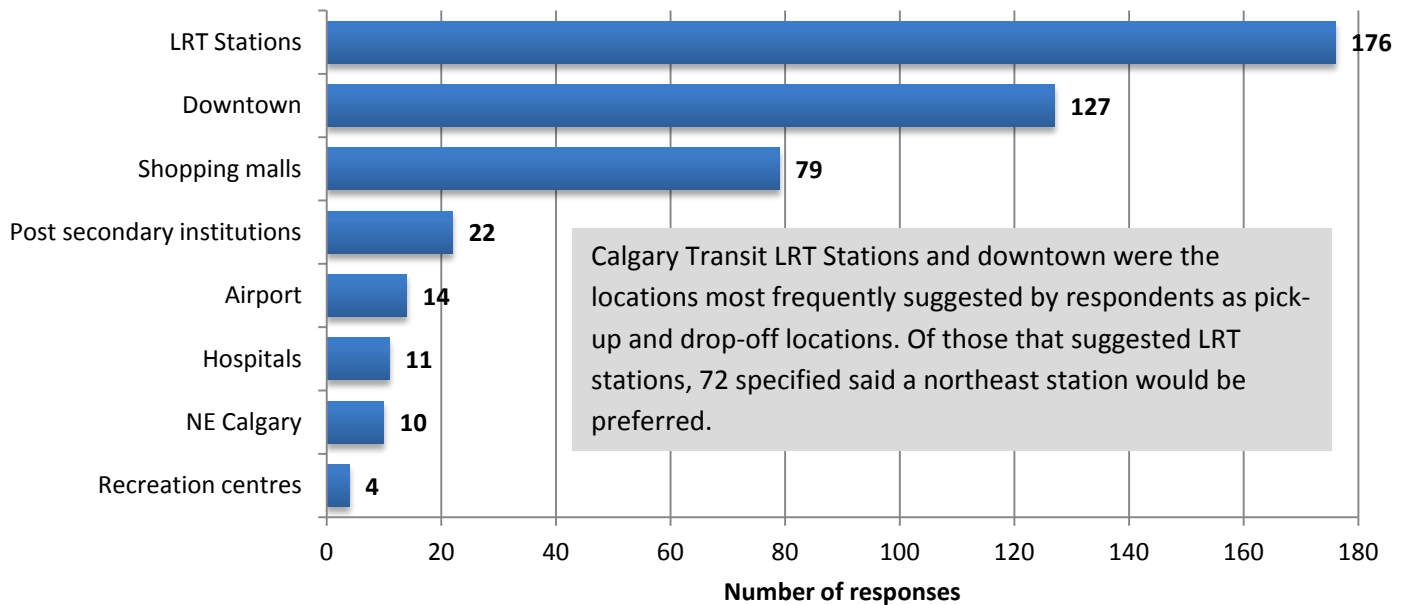
How do you get there?

1062 responses



Where should the pick-up and drop-off locations be in Calgary?

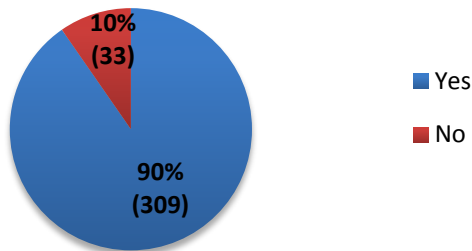
443 responses



Calgary Transit LRT Stations and downtown were the locations most frequently suggested by respondents as pick-up and drop-off locations. Of those that suggested LRT stations, 72 specified said a northeast station would be preferred.

Do you believe transit to/from Calgary would benefit Chestermere?

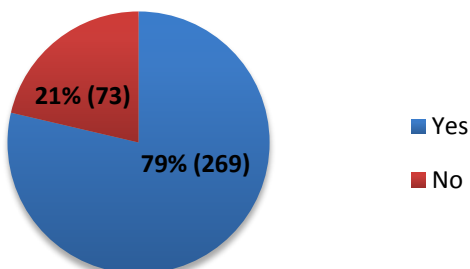
342 respondents



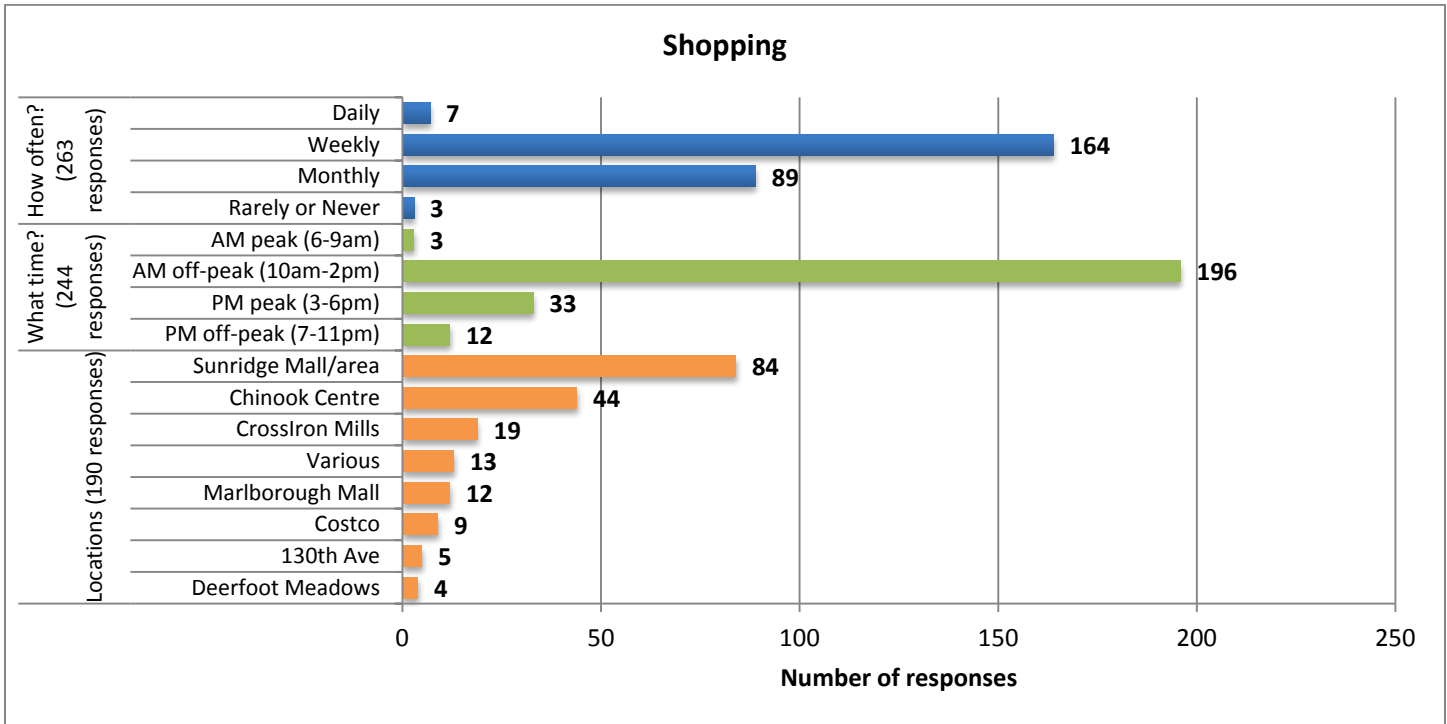
The majority of respondents (90% or 309) believe transit to/from Calgary would benefit Chestermere and would use it if it were available (79% or 269).

Would you use transit to/from Calgary if it were available?

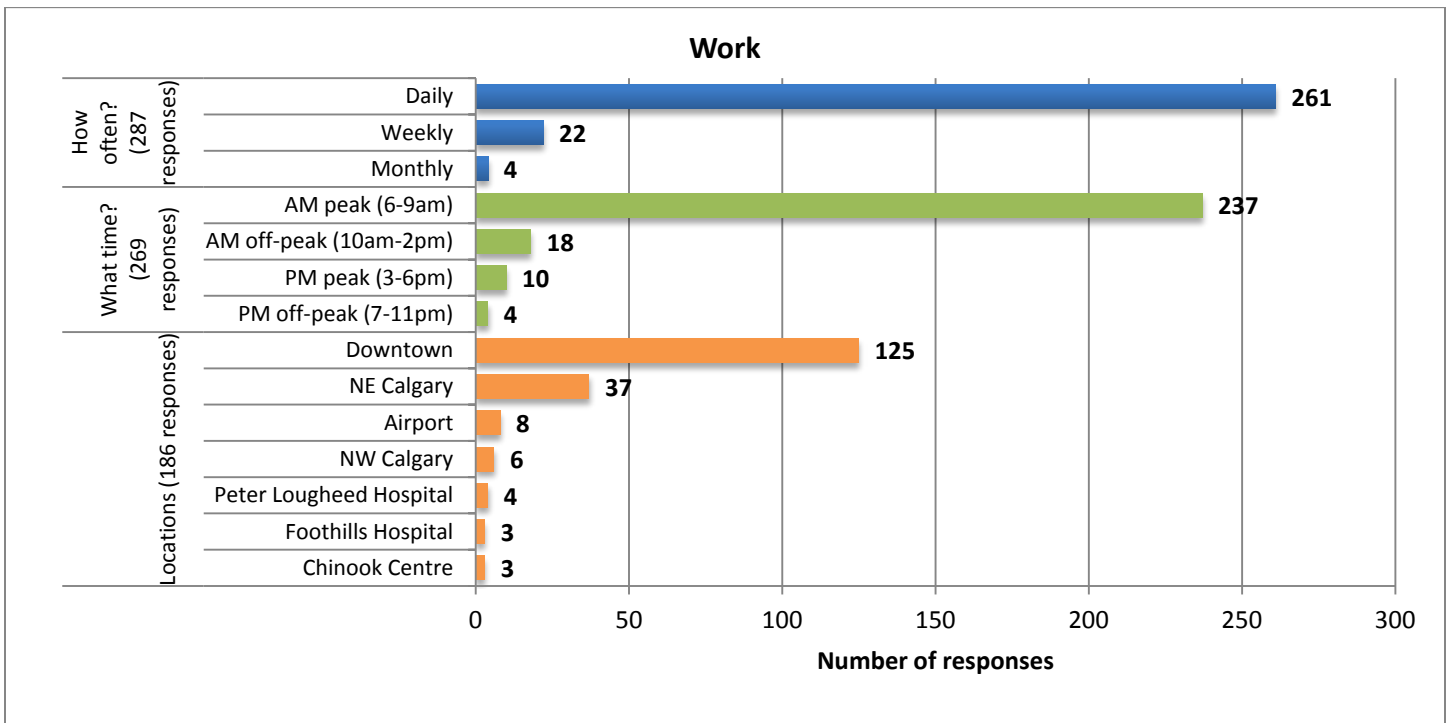
342 respondents



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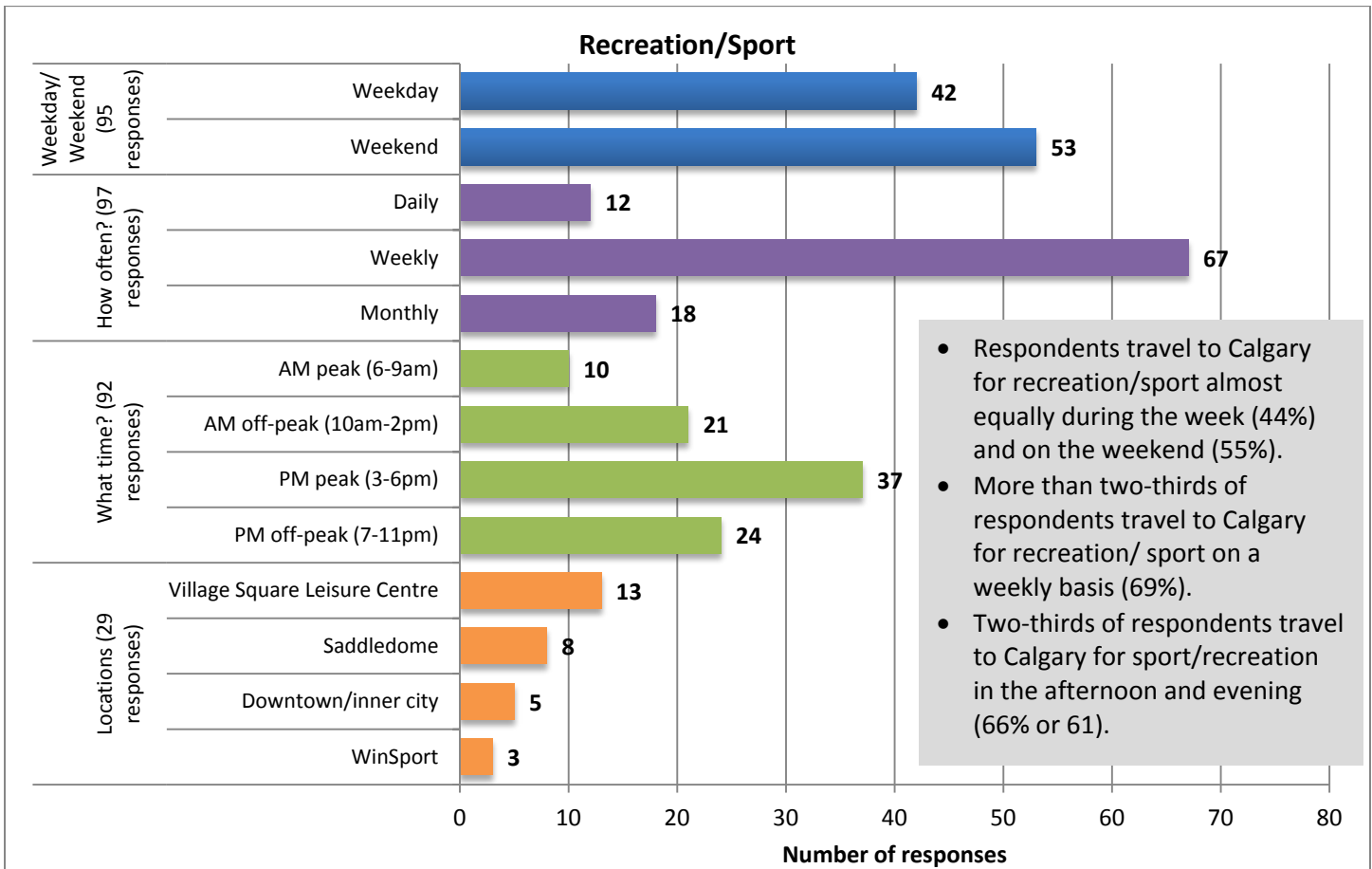
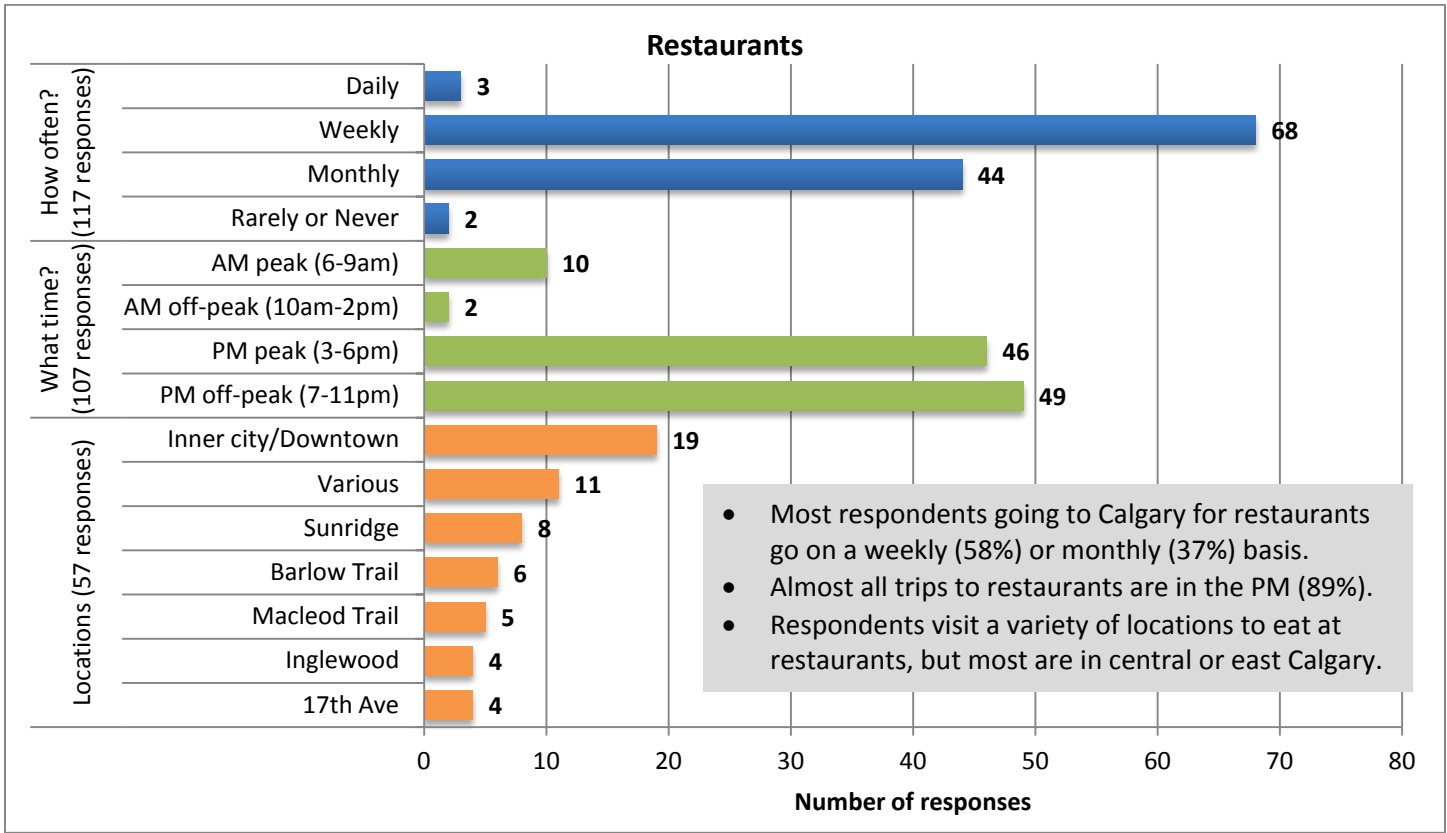


- Nearly two-thirds of respondents who shop in Calgary go on a weekly basis (62% or 164).
- The majority of respondents who shop in Calgary travel from 10am to 2pm (80% or 196), and of those, 74% (144) of trips are on the weekend.
- Almost half of respondents (44% or 84) shop at Sunridge Mall or in the Sunridge area.

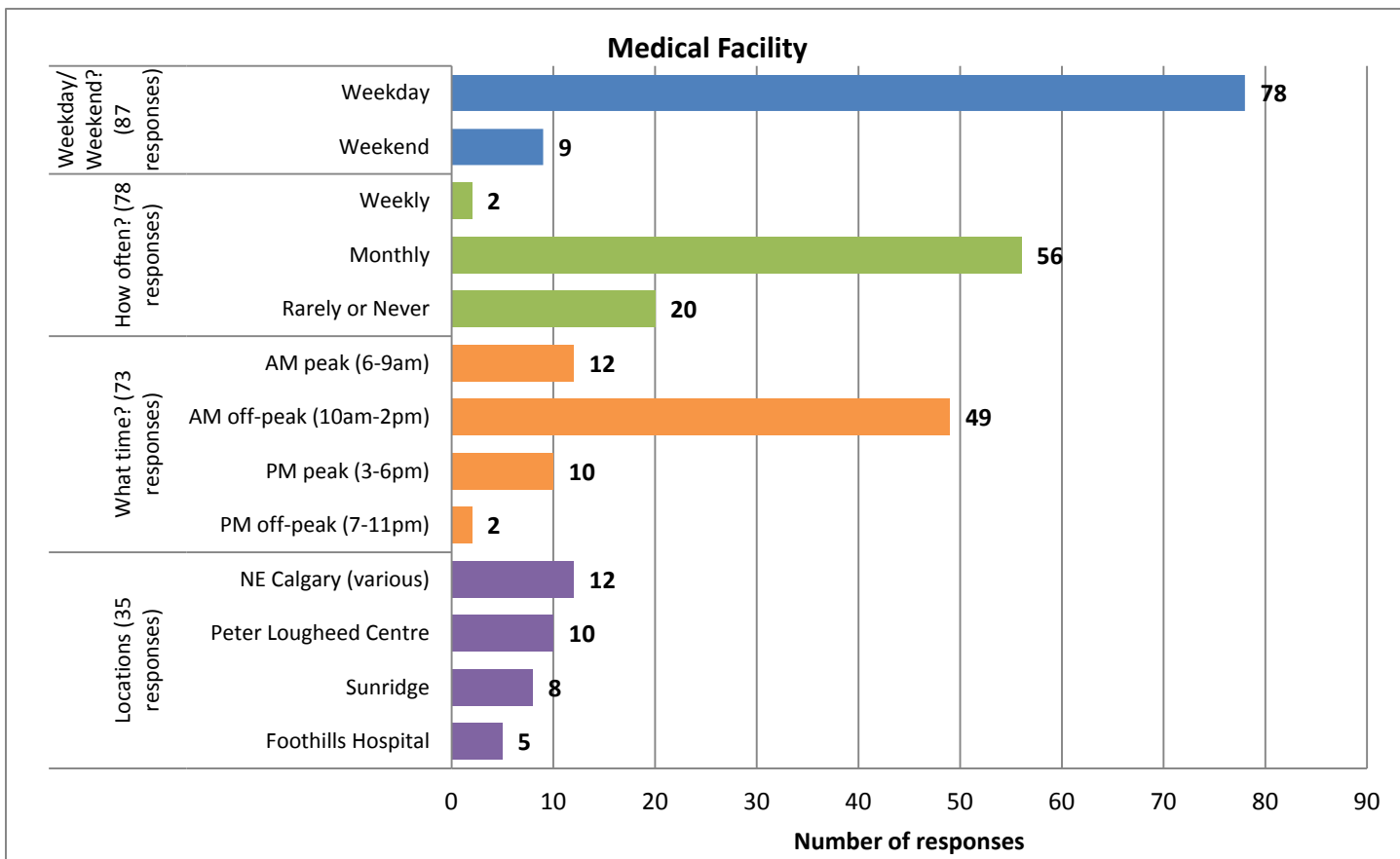


- Almost all respondents who work in Calgary go on a daily basis (90% or 261).
- The majority of respondents who work in Calgary travel from 6am to 9am (88% or 237).
- Two-thirds of respondents (67% or 125) work in downtown Calgary.

MOBILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY



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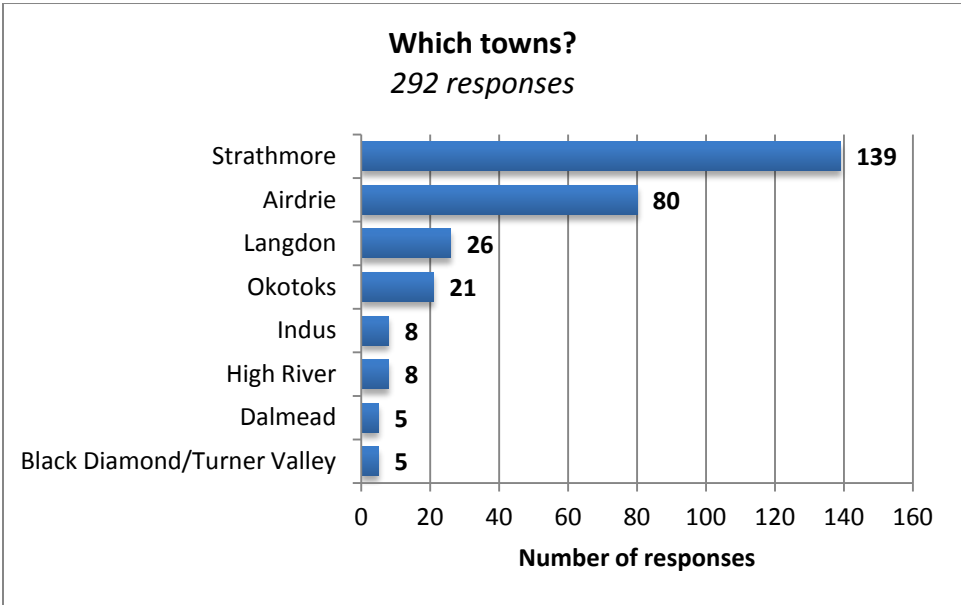


- The majority of respondents said they go to medical facilities in Calgary during the week (90% or 78).
- Respondents said trips to medical facilities in Calgary are primarily on a monthly basis (71% or 56).
- Most visits to medical facilities in Calgary are in the morning and early afternoon (83% or 61).
- Respondents said they go to various medical facilities in northeast Calgary.

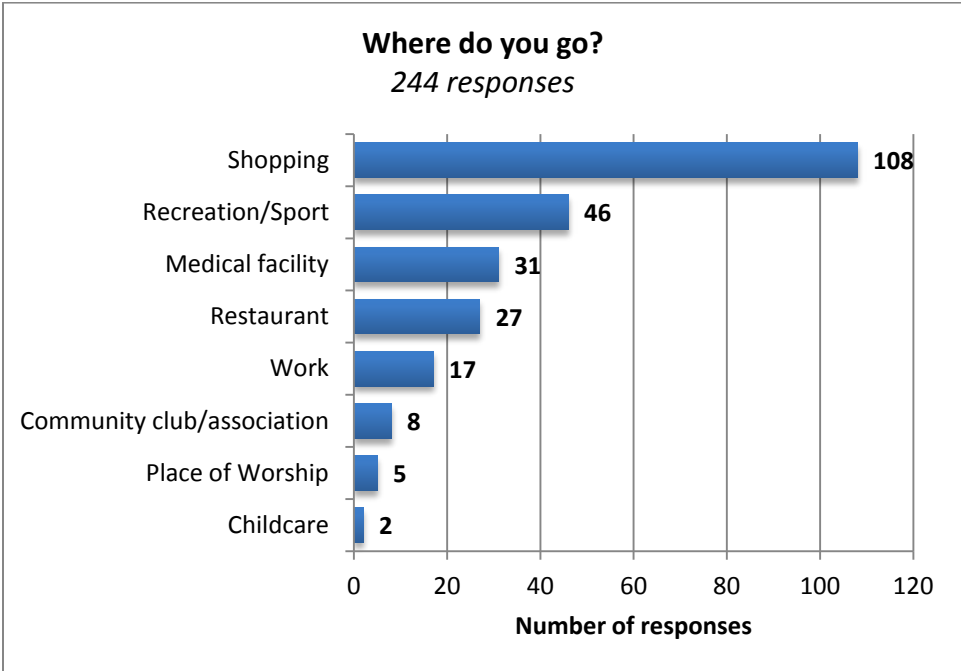
Regional Transit

As part of the Calgary Metropolitan Plan, the CRP is developing a plan for a regional transit system. An effective regional transit system should include travel between municipalities in the region.

Do you travel to other towns in the region?



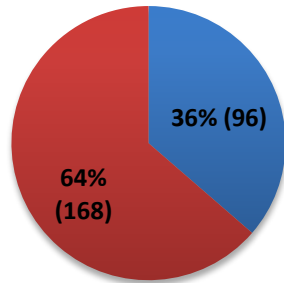
The respondents who indicated they travel to other municipalities mostly go to Strathmore and Airdrie.



Shopping was cited as the regional destination almost half of the time (44% or 108) and some respondents use regional recreation/sport facilities (18% or 46).

Do you travel during the week or weekend?

264 responses



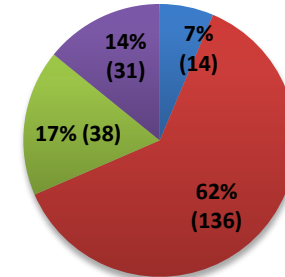
■ Weekday
■ Weekend

Summary

- Two-thirds of trips to other municipalities are on the weekend.
- More than half of trips to other municipalities are on a monthly basis, and nearly 20% of respondents rarely or never travel to another town in the region.
- More than two-thirds of travel to other municipalities in the AM (68% or 150).
- From the respondents who travel in the PM (32% or 69), more than half (56% or 39) travel on the weekend.
- Respondents travel by car 96% of the time to get to other municipalities.

What time do you travel?

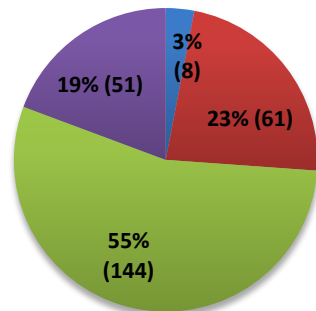
219 responses



■ AM peak (6-9am)
■ AM off-peak (10am-2pm)
■ PM peak (3-6pm)
■ PM off-peak (7-11pm)

How often do you travel?

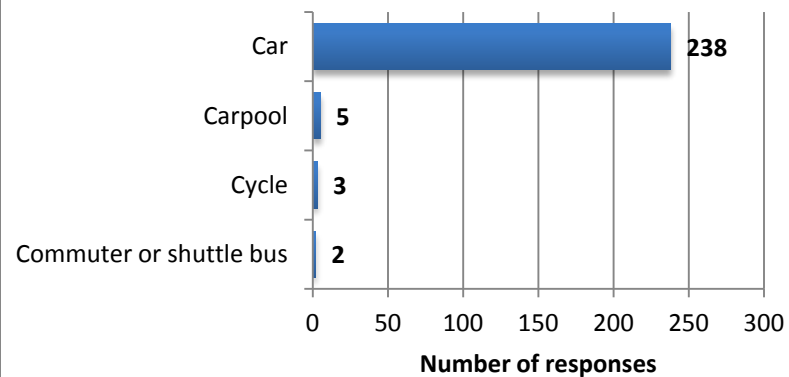
264 responses



■ Daily ■ Weekly
■ Monthly ■ Rarely/Never

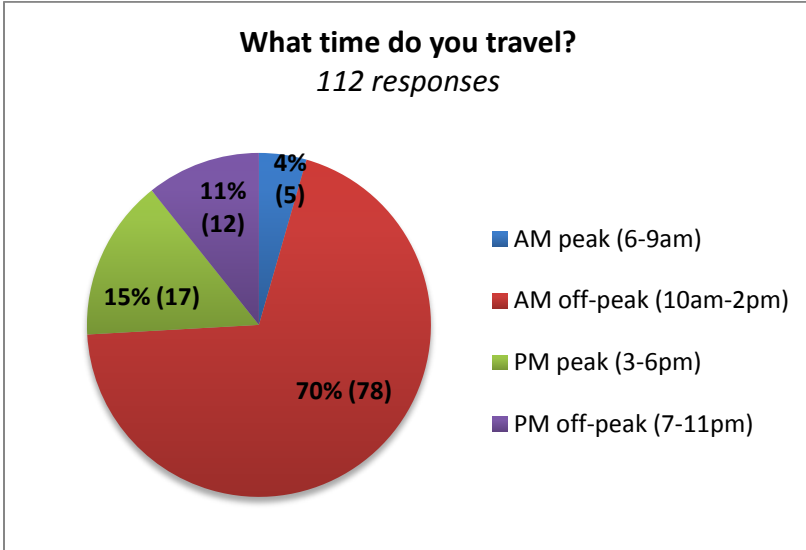
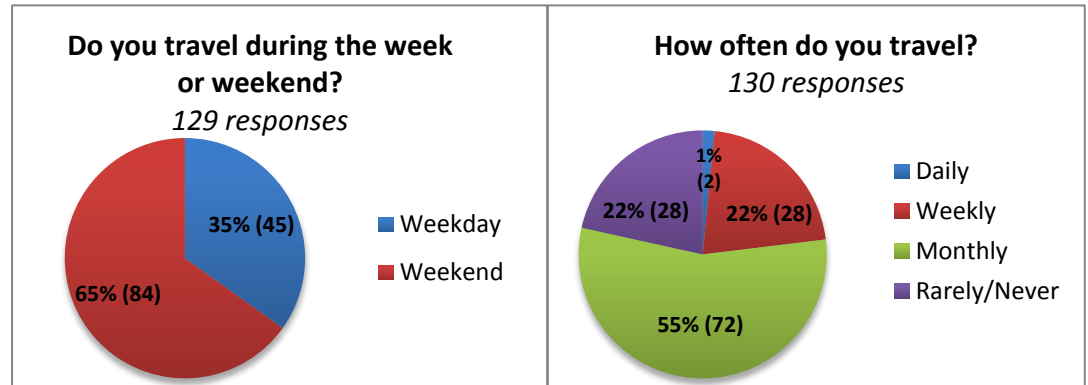
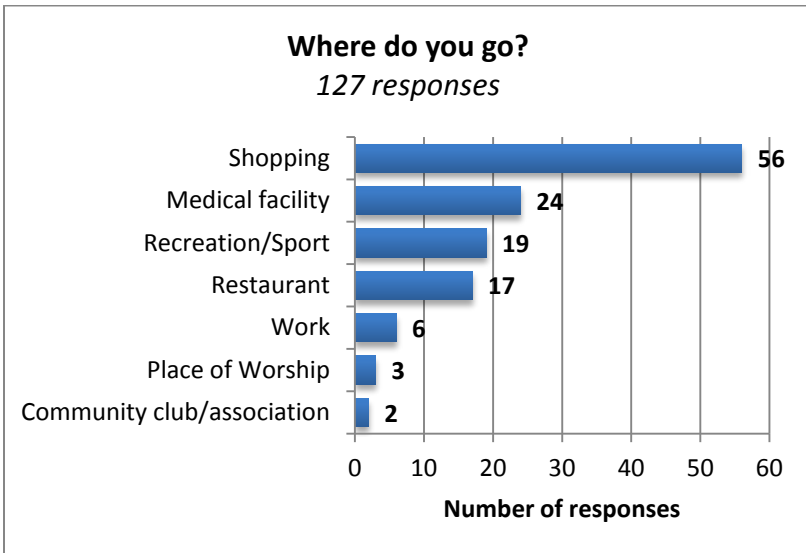
How do you get there?

248 responses



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Regional Transit – Strathmore (139 respondents said they travel to Strathmore)

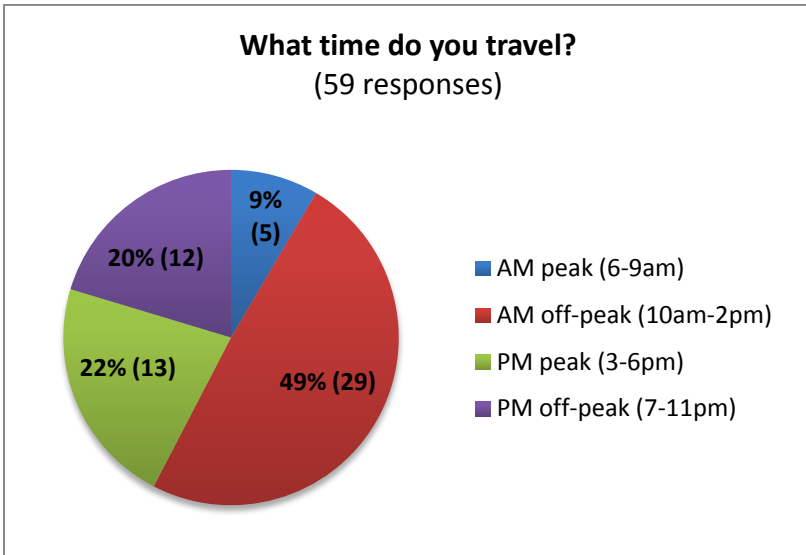
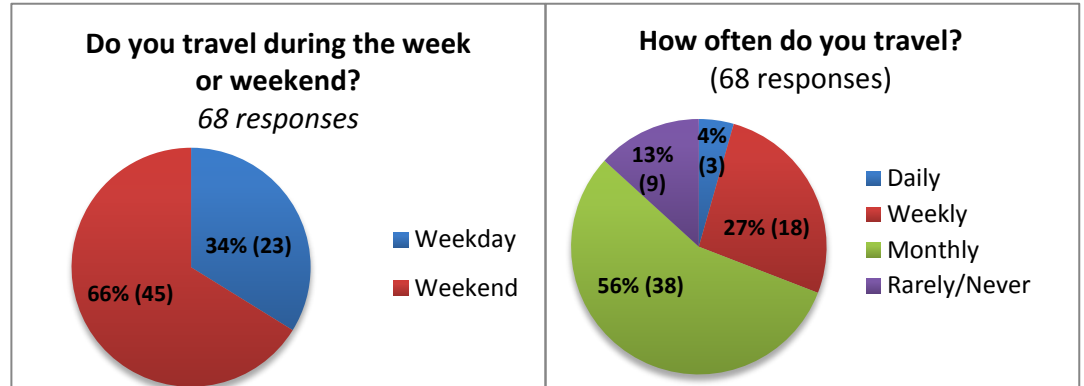
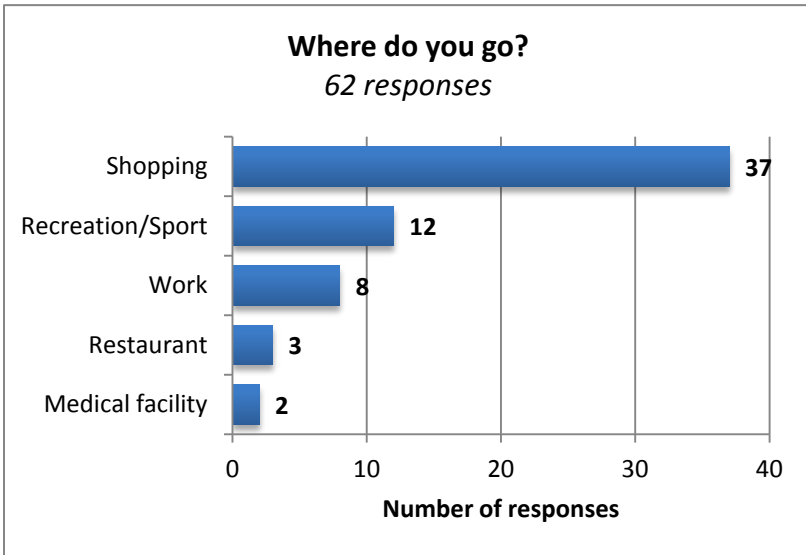


Summary

- The primary purpose respondents gave for traveling to Strathmore was shopping (44%), and most shopping trips are on the weekend (42 or 75%).
- Two-thirds of trips to Strathmore are on the weekend.
- More than half of the trips to Strathmore are monthly.
- The majority of travel to Strathmore is in the AM (83 or 74%), and more than half of those trips are on the weekend (53 or 64%).
- Respondents who travel to Strathmore in the PM (29 or 26%) mostly go on the weekend (16 or 55%).
- Almost all trips to Strathmore are by car (97% or 121).
- Many respondents said pick-up and drop-off locations should be located in shopping areas (19), and two people specifically suggested Wal-Mart.

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Regional Transit – Airdrie (80 respondents said they travel to Airdrie)



Summary

- The reason most frequently provided for traveling to Airdrie was shopping (60%). From those, eight respondents said they go during the week and only one said they go on the weekend.
- Two-thirds of trips to Airdrie are on the weekend.
- More than half of the trips to Airdrie are on a monthly basis.
- More than half of the trips to Airdrie are in the morning (34 or 58%), and two-thirds of those are on the weekend (64% or 22).
- Respondents who travel to Airdrie in the PM (25 or 42%) mostly go on the weekend (17 or 68%).
- Almost all trips to Airdrie are by car (97% or 62).
- Respondents most frequently said pick-up and drop-off locations in Airdrie should be located in shopping areas (12), and three people specifically suggested Wal-Mart.

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Additional comments

158 respondents provided additional comments. The most frequent comment was that a transit service would be beneficial and was needed (72), with most specifically mentioning service between Calgary and Chestermere. Many people (26) specifically mentioned Chestermere’s youth needing transit to get to post-secondary institutions and access social activities, some even suggesting they could not stay in Chestermere if a transit service isn’t provided by the time their children are university or college aged. Several people (13) also specified the environmental and social benefits a transit service would provide, such as reducing traffic congestion, emissions and drunk driving.

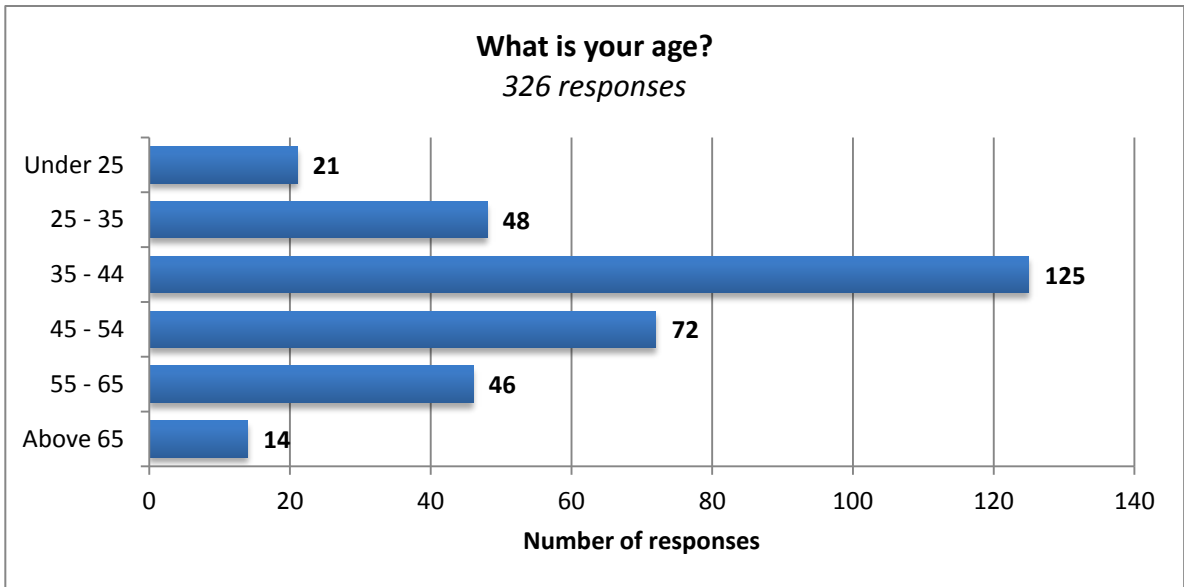
If a transit service is provided, respondents said it must be frequent (22) and affordable (17). Several people (14) also suggested a local transit service within Chestermere would be beneficial; indicating travel without a vehicle in Chestermere is difficult. Some suggested multiple stops in Chestermere as part of a transit service to Calgary would be beneficial.

Respondents that expressed concern cited possible increases in taxes (13) or crime (5), or said it wasn’t necessary (4) and would disrupt the small-town atmosphere (3).

Less frequent comments included a transit service is needed for seniors (6), and should be coordinated with Calgary Transit (4) and connected with or accommodated by the new development (3).

Demographics

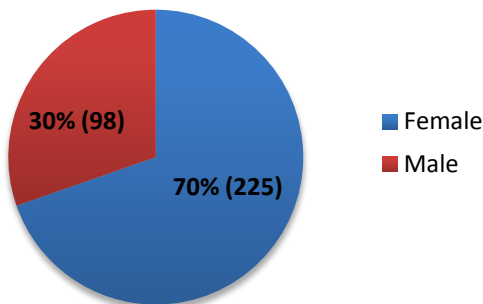
Respondents were asked to provide demographic information to better understand the public input.



More than half of respondents were between the ages of 35 and 54 (61% or 197).

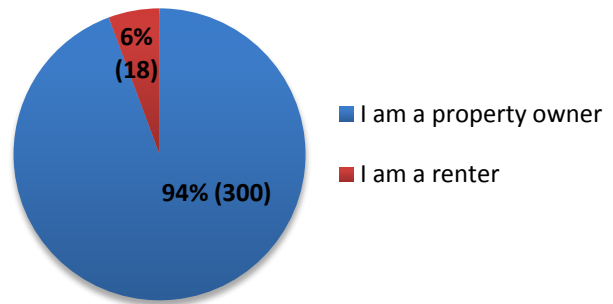
What is your gender?

323 responses



Are you a property owner or a renter?

318 responses



The majority of respondents were female and almost all respondents were property owners.

What community do you live in?

222 respondents told us which communities they were from. Input was received from a variety of communities:

- Westmere (71 or 32%)
- Rainbow Falls (54 or 24%)
- West Creek (36 or 16%)
- Lakeview (22 or 10%)
- West Chestermere (20 or 9%)
- East Chestermere (19 or 9%)

Conclusions

Transit between Chestermere and Calgary

- The Calgary destinations most frequently cited by respondents were work and shopping.
- The majority of travel to Calgary for shopping and restaurants is on the weekend.
- Almost all respondents who travel to Calgary for work go during the week.
- The most frequent destinations for respondents were downtown, northeast Calgary and the Sunridge area.
- There are almost as many weekend trips to Calgary as weekday trips.
- Calgary Transit LRT Stations (specifically northeast stations) and downtown were the locations most frequently suggested by respondents as pick-up and drop-off locations.
- 90% of respondents believe transit to/from Calgary would benefit Chestermere and 79% would use it if it were available.

Regional Transit

- Respondents who travel to other municipalities mostly go to Strathmore and Airdrie.
- Shopping was cited as the purpose for travel to other municipalities almost half of the time.
- Two-thirds of trips to other municipalities are on the weekend.