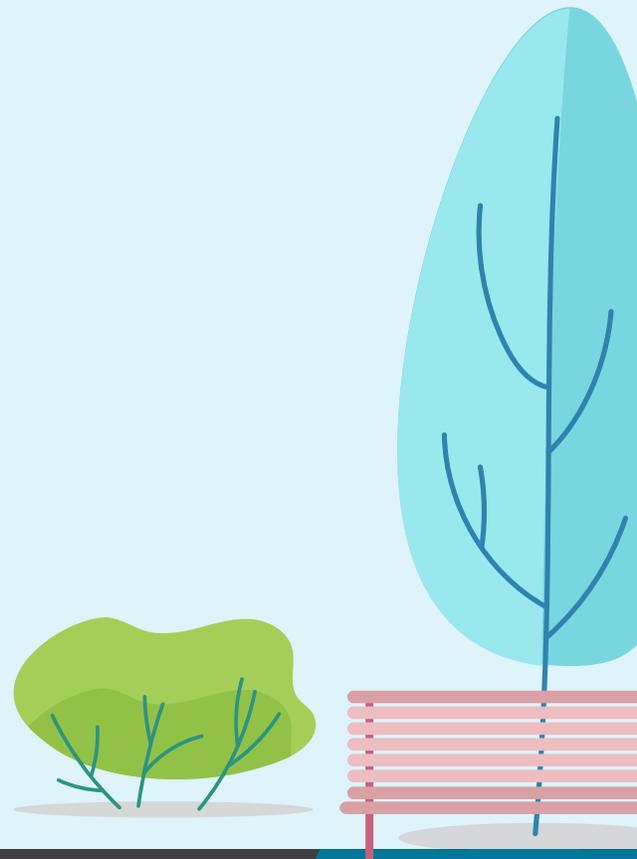


Bike Learning Zone Feasibility

What We Heard Report

Public Engagement Summary

October 2025



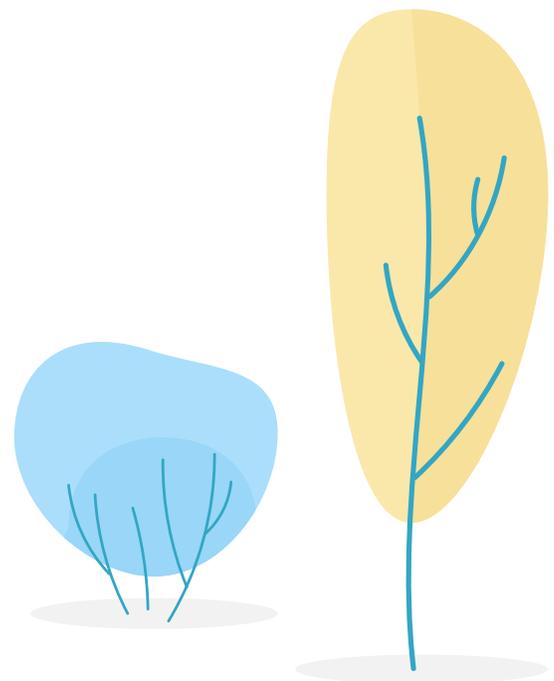
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1

Introduction

This report presents findings and themes from a 17-day engagement campaign on the proposed Bike Learning Zone for children in the City of Burnaby. It is intended to share what we heard from the community and help guide the project's next steps.





City of Burnaby

Is there anything else you would like us to know?

Share your thoughts, ideas, or concerns about the bike learning zone project. Use a sticky note or speak with a team member. We are here to listen!

What skills do children need to ride safely and successfully in your world (school)?

Complete the survey! Scan the QR code or visit Burnaby.ca/BikeZone

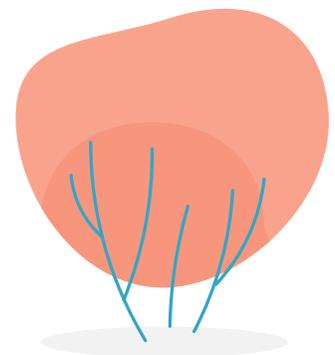
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About the project

The City of Burnaby (the City) is assessing the feasibility of establishing a Bike Learning Zone—a safe, car-free space where children can develop biking and road safety skills. Project components include public engagement activities, a temporary pop-up traffic garden, a scan for best practices and guiding resources, and initial outreach to potential program partners, collaborators and funders. The initiative aims to understand community interest and needs, identify opportunities and barriers, evaluate viability and next steps, and build awareness and early support for the facility.



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Engagement methodology

The goal of the engagement campaign was to understand community interest in a Bike Learning Zone for children, explore suitable scale of the facility, and identify preferred types of programming. The engagement campaign ran from August 29 to September 14, 2025, and included both in-person and digital engagement methods. Feedback was gathered at in-person events through interactive engagement boards, idea capture stations, and on-site conversations, as well as virtually via an online survey.

3.1. Engagement planning and pre-engagement awareness building

The project team drafted a Communications & Engagement Plan guided by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Code of Ethics and best practices, professional expertise, and input and review by City staff.

A communications campaign was launched ahead of the engagement period to promote the project through a

combination of social media posts, the City Connect eNewsletter, and a project page on the City's Your Voice website.

Awareness building efforts helped draw people into public engagement. Printed and digital materials explained what the project was and provided details about where, when, and how community members could participate.

3.2. Engagement activities

In-person events were hosted at Burnaby Car Free Day in Edmonds and at Central Park, and were held on weekends and outside of typical work hours to reach a wide range of community members (Table 1).

At in-person events, interactive display boards provided project information and invited participant feedback through sticky notes and dotmocracy voting (Figure 1). Digital engagement complemented in-person activities, with an online survey to gather detailed input on other development considerations, such as estimated frequency of use, scale of the facility, and the preferred

level of programming offered. QR codes were also available at events for the attendees to scan and access the online survey directly.



Figure 1: Interactive Engagement Board

Table 1: Schedule of Engagement Events

Date	Event	Hosts
Sunday August 31, 2025	Pop-up booth at Burnaby Car Free Day in Edmonds to promote the project and gather feedback from community members on what a Bike Learning Zone could look like. The event included activities for adults and kids, display boards with questions, and a link to the online survey.	City of Burnaby & McElhanney
Saturday September 13, 2025	Pop-up event at Central Park featuring a free, hands-on traffic garden experience. The event demonstrated what a Bike Learning Zone could look like, with bikes and helmets provided for kids to participate	City of Burnaby & HUB Cycling

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What we heard

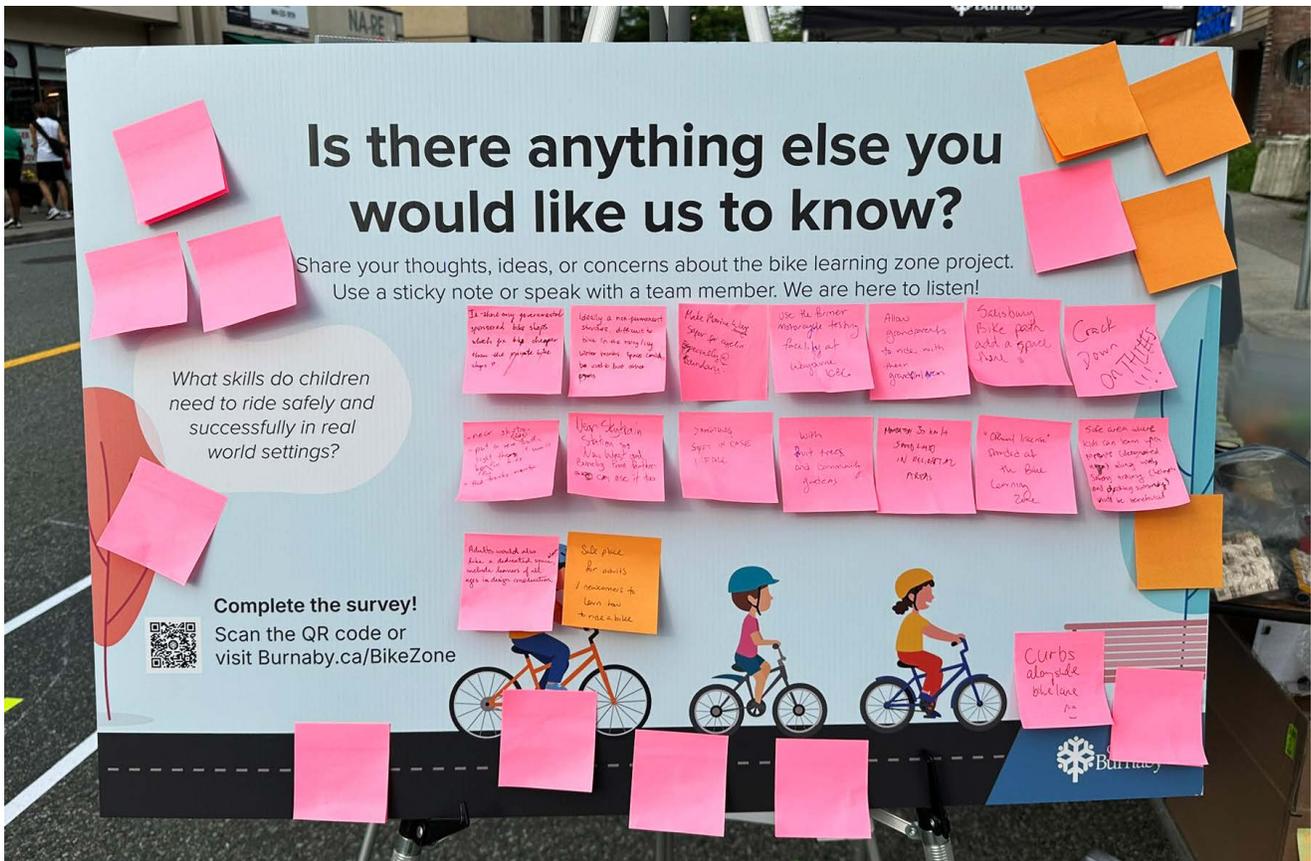
Overall support for the project was strong, and the engagement campaign generated a high level of participation and thoughtful input from community members. A total of 635 responses were submitted to the online survey, and approximately 300 individuals engaged directly with team members at two in-person events (Figure 2). This resulted in a combined engagement of approximately 935 people over a 17-day engagement period.



Online survey results identified the following common themes:

- 91.7% (582)** of respondents were interested in having a Bike Learning Zone in Burnaby.
- 48.2% (306)** of respondents had two or more children who would benefit from access to a Bike Learning Zone.
- 71.3% (453)** of respondents preferred a permanent facility dedicated for learning and available for year-round use.
- 35.7% (227)** of respondents said they would use a Bike Learning Zone a few times per month if one were available. This choice was closely followed by respondents who would use the facility at least once a week at 31% (198).
- 65.8% (418)** of respondents had a household structure of a couple with children, followed by 13% (83) who lived in a multigenerational household.

Figure 2: Engagement at Burnaby's Car Free Day





When asked to rank what the target audience for a Bike Learning Zone should be, respondents favoured **designing the space for children transitioning to a two-wheeled bicycle.**



When asked to rank which community benefits the community would like to have at a Bike Learning Zone, respondents favoured the goal of **providing a safe space for kids and youth to learn how to ride a bike.**



When asked to rank what type of programming the community would like to see offered at a Bike Learning Zone, respondents favoured **informal drop-in and pop-up educational events that do not require prior registration.**



When asked to rank which set of design features the community would like to see in a Bike Learning Zone, respondents favoured **three-dimensional street features**, such as small-scale physical stop signs, streetlights, roundabouts, curbs, speed bumps and ramps.

The following common themes were identified in open-ended responses from the online survey and on interactive poster boards at the in-person events:

- » Locating a Bike Learning Zone in a public space (such as a park, school ground, or community centre) near public transportation and bike routes to ensure accessibility for Burnaby residents and nearby communities. North Burnaby/Brentwood, Edmonds/Metrotown/Deer Lake, and Lougheed were frequently mentioned as suitable neighbourhoods to host a Bike Learning Zone.
- » Providing structured programming and integration with school curricula, and collaborating with other local and regional organizations, such as HUB Cycling, ICBC and the RCMP.
- » Ensuring the Bike Learning Zone is open to all ages, including adults and older learners.



City of Burnaby

Did you know?
Burnaby already has simple bike learning zones at Sumas Park and Poplar Park

My Dream Bike Learning Zone Has...



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Next steps

Engagement feedback reflects strong community support for a permanent Bike Learning Zone designed for young children transitioning to two-wheeled bicycles. Respondents emphasized the importance of incorporating three-dimensional educational features— such as stop signs and speed bumps—to enhance safety awareness and skill development. To enhance accessibility and usability, participants recommended a design suited to year-round operation with optional, drop-in programming where feasible. Additionally, the inclusion of community amenities such as shade structures, public washrooms, and seating was suggested to support users, program staff, and the broader public.

We recommend engaging with community groups such as HUB Cycling that may operate or contribute to programming at the new facility. These conversations should seek to understand perspectives, needs and ideas, and to build relationships that will shape how the facility connects with and involves the community. Early dialogue will help identify opportunities for collaboration, identify shared priorities, and invite groups to become active participants in the planning process.

Findings from the engagement campaign may also inform the funding and planning recommendations to Council, supporting the implementation of a Bike Learning Zone for children in Burnaby.

Appendix

Statement of Limitations

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Statement of Limitations

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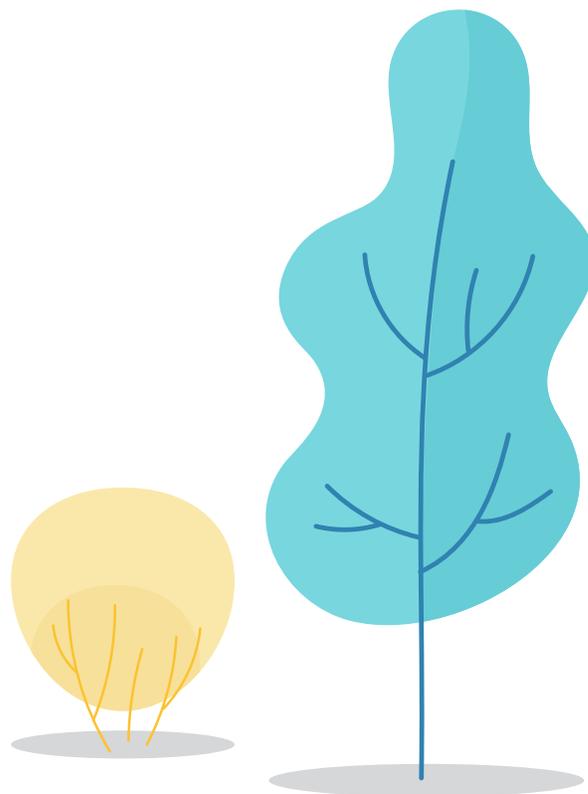
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Learn more at
Burnaby.ca/BikeZone