

# US Route 4 Corridor Study Inter-Municipal Update

TOWN OF EAST GREENBUSH/TOWN OF NORTH GREENBUSH

## Survey Highlights

May 2023

### SURVEY OVERVIEW

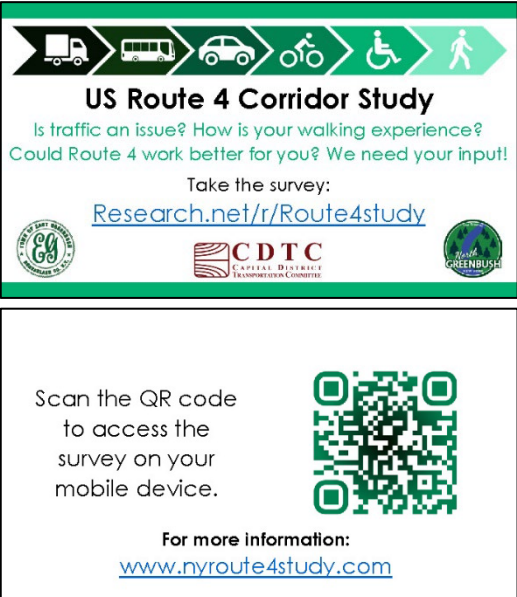
As part of the public engagement component of the US Route 4 Corridor Study Inter-municipal Update, an online survey was developed. The survey sought to gather valuable insights and opinions from residents, employees and community members to help inform the study's findings. Participants were asked to provide their perspectives on various aspects related to the US Route 4 Corridor, including transportation options, traffic management, economic development opportunities, safety measures, and the creation of a well-integrated transportation network.

The twenty-one (21) question survey was created and distributed using the Survey Monkey platform. The survey opened February 03, 2023, and remained open until April 25, 2023. There was a total of 784 responses received.

The survey was available on the project website at [www.nyroute4study.com](http://www.nyroute4study.com) and was advertised on the town websites. An information flyer which included a link to the online survey was prepared and distributed through social media and email. In addition, survey cards were prepared and distributed throughout the community and local businesses which included a Quick Response (QR) code for direct access to the survey on a smartphone or tablet.

Throughout the survey period, participants' responses were treated confidentially and used solely for the purposes of the study. The survey was voluntary, allowing participants to withdraw from the process at any time without penalty.

By engaging in this survey, community members played a vital role in shaping the future planning and decision-making processes regarding the US Route 4 Corridor. Their input helped to inform the development of Corridor Concepts that aligns with the community's goals and aspirations.



The image shows a survey card for the US Route 4 Corridor Study. At the top, there is a green banner with icons for a truck, bus, car, bicycle, wheelchair, and pedestrian. Below the banner, the text reads: "US Route 4 Corridor Study", "Is traffic an issue? How is your walking experience? Could Route 4 work better for you? We need your input!", and "Take the survey: [Research.net/r/Route4study](https://Research.net/r/Route4study)". There are logos for the Town of East Greenbush, CDTC (Capital District Transportation Committee), and the Town of North Greenbush. Below this, there is a QR code and the text: "Scan the QR code to access the survey on your mobile device." and "For more information: [www.nyroute4study.com](http://www.nyroute4study.com)".

*Survey Card*







**Question 11 (Q11)** asked participants what type of land uses they would encourage or discourage in the study area.

Of the responses received the top 4 encouraged land uses included:

- Protection of natural areas /open space
- Restaurants
- Public outdoor recreation
- Retail Stores

Of the responses received the top 4 discouraged land uses included:

- Motels / Hotels
- Convenience Stores
- Residential – Apartments
- Residential – Multi-Family Units/Duplexes/Townhomes

**Question 12 (Q12)** was an open ended, follow up question to Q12 and asked participants what other land uses they would encourage in the study area.

The top 3 responses received included:

- Senior Center
- Better traffic flow
- Public park that offers open green space, picnic area(s), walking trails, biking, restroom facilities, etc. (similar to the Crossings of Colonie)

**Question 13 (Q13)** was an open ended, follow up question to Q12 and asked participants what other land uses they would discourage in the study area.

The top 3 responses received included:

- Increased Traffic Volume: Many individuals express concerns about the existing traffic congestion and discourage any development that would further increase traffic, such as big box stores, large retail, fast food chains, and apartments.
- Traffic Safety: Concerns about traffic safety and congestion are frequently mentioned, with people discouraging the development of businesses that would exacerbate traffic problems or create unsafe traffic patterns. They also express the need for traffic improvements and synchronization of lights.
- Specific Businesses: There are various specific businesses mentioned that people discourage, such as tattoo studios, nail salons, vape shops, oil change shops, storage facilities, and large parking lots.

**Question 14 (Q14)** asked participants how important it is to accommodate all types of transportation, including all modes driving, walking, bicycling, and buses. Here all modes scored high for importance of being accommodated. Driving scored highest, 85% selected very important followed by buses 55%, and walking 48% and lastly bicycling 40% selecting very important.

**Question 15 (Q15)** asked participants how they would rate the overall environment, experience, and aesthetics of the study area. Only 31% rated it as good or excellent. The remaining 68% selected fair or poor and 1% selected no opinion.

**Question 16 (Q16)** asked participants to select their top two (2) bicycle facilities they would like to see. The two most selected were shared multi-use path (57%) followed by on-street bicycle lanes (38%).

**Question 17 (Q17)** asked participants to select their top three (3) streetscape elements they would like to see. The top three that emerged were sidewalks (71%), street lighting (57%), and pedestrian crossings (50%). Lowest scoring were benches with 16% selecting.

**Question 18 (Q18)** asked participants to select their top three (3) transit amenities they would like to see. The top three amenities identified were shelters at bus stops (66%), lighting at bus stops (54%), and finally benches at bus stops (41%)

#### **SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FUTURE**

**Question 19 (Q19)** was open ended and asked participants to identify the top 2 concerns or challenges to the study area. By a substantial margin traffic, traffic congestion, traffic volume was the biggest concern.

**Question 20 (Q20)** was open ended and asked participants to identify the top 2 opportunities to the study area. The top answers included the convenient location of the area and access to the major destinations in the area.

**Question 21 (Q21)** asked participants to share any other ideas you have for improvements to the study area or examples of areas you like. Traffic congestion is a major issue, and there is a need for better traffic management. The focus on creating a pedestrian-friendly environment, with improved walkability, lighting, and connectivity, is emphasized. Additionally, there is a call for the development of community spaces, a sense of town center, and a balance between growth and maintaining the town's character. Accessible housing options and the need for a balanced approach to development are also highlighted.