

# Marquam Hill Connector Online Survey

## Response Summary

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TriMet is in the process of evaluating various ways of connecting the future Gibbs Street MAX station and destinations on Marquam Hill. As part of that process, an online survey was distributed to the public to ask about important goals for evaluating various connector types.

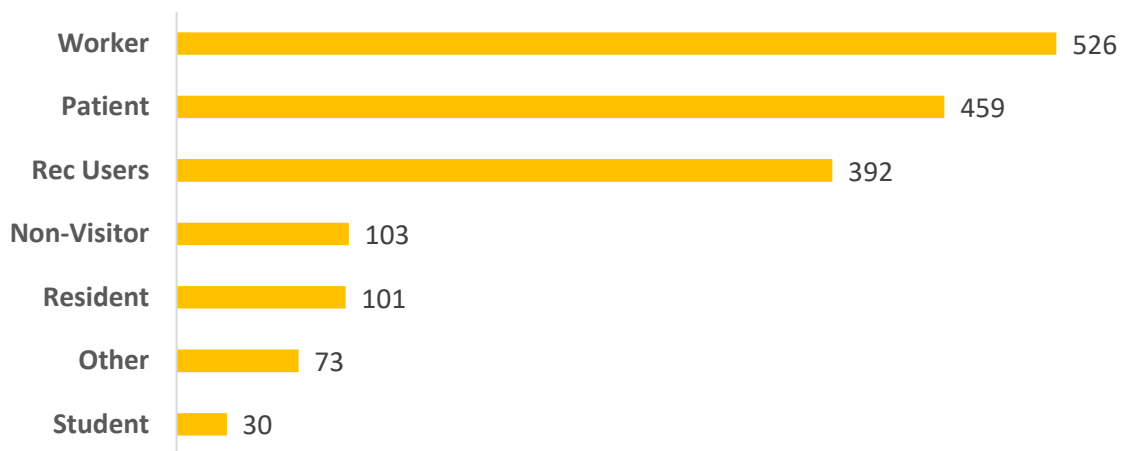
### Notification

The survey was launched on Monday, March 18 and remained open for two weeks. TriMet sent two emails about the survey to the SWC Corridor email list (roughly 4,000 subscribers) over that time period. Additionally, project partners and working group members were asked to distribute the survey to their communities. TriMet worked directly with OHSU to have the survey distributed to OHSU employees.

**Total Survey Responses: 1,017**

### Respondent Types

Respondents were asked to choose the reasons that they visit Marquam Hill. The three most common answers were to go to work, to go to medical appointments, and to enjoy recreational opportunities. The least common response was to go to school at OHSU.



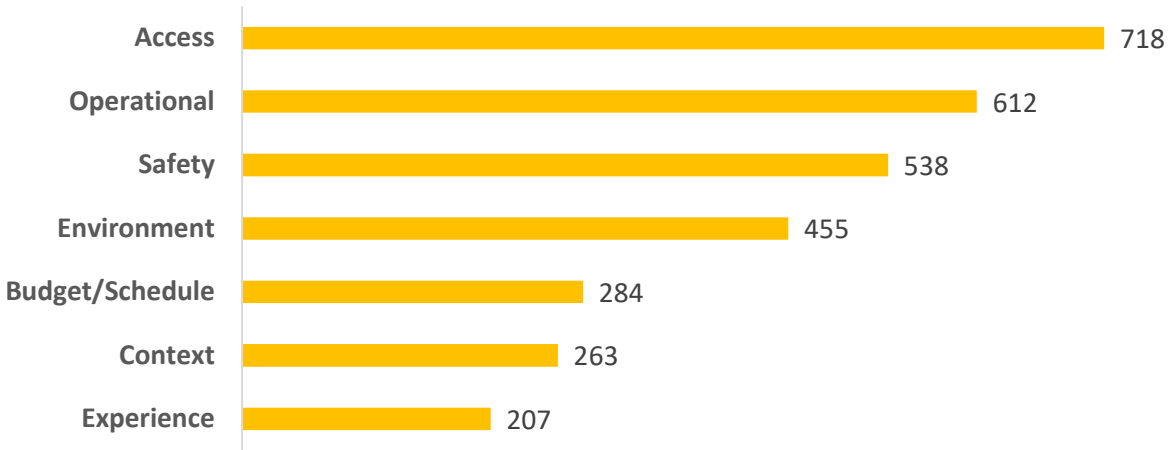
Number of Responses

*Note: Respondents could choose multiple*

### Most Important Goals

Respondents were given a list of seven project goals for evaluating the connector type options. This list was developed by the Marquam Hill Working Group and Green Ribbon Committee ([view full list](#)). Respondents were asked to choose the three most important goals from the list.

Overall, “Access,” “Operational,” and “Safety” were the most common choices as important goals. The least common answers were “Context” and “Experience.”



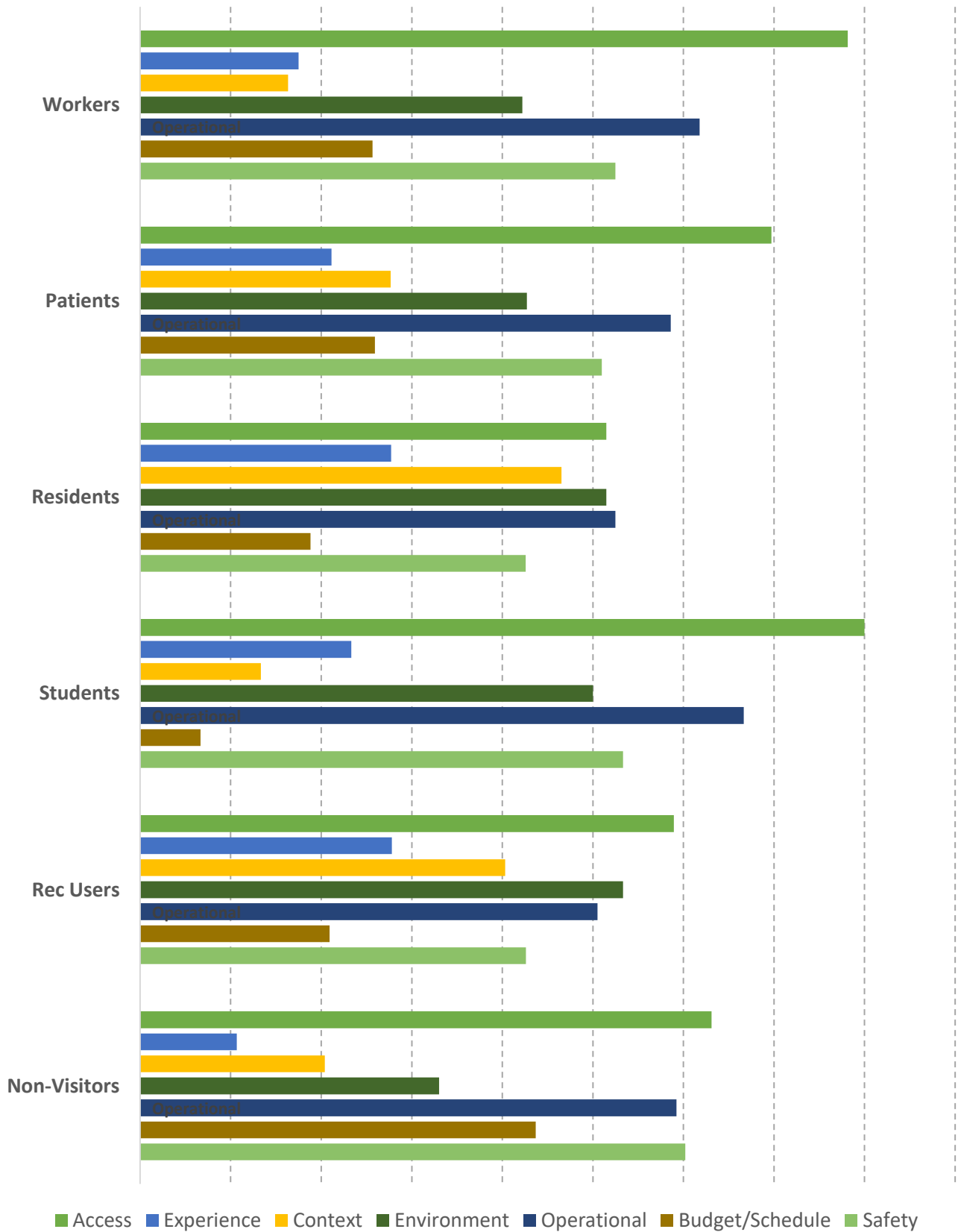
Number of Responses

*Note: Respondents were asked to choose three*

## Important Goals for Each Respondent Type

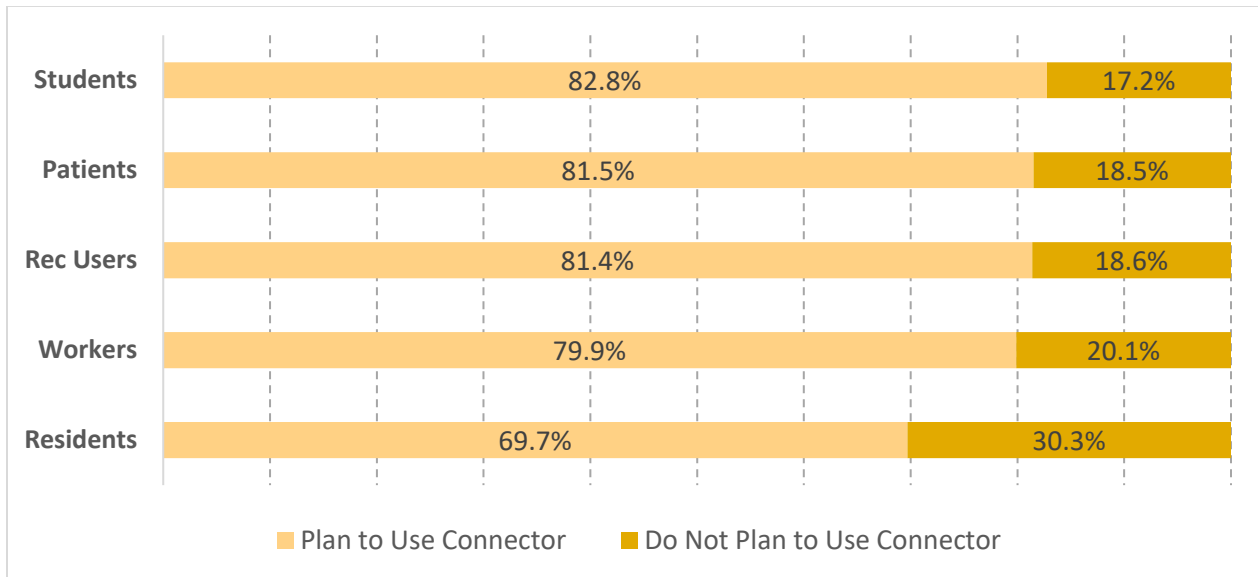
Analyzing the most important goals by each of the respondent types, we find that there are some important distinctions:

- **Workers, students, and patients** were all similar to the overall results, with “Access,” “Operational,” and “Safety” as the three most common answers. Additionally, for workers and patients, “Context” and “Experience” were the least common choices.
- For respondents that identified as **students**, “Budget/Schedule” was the least common choice as an important goal, followed by “Context.”
- Respondents that identified as **residents and recreational users** more commonly chose the “Environmental,” “Context,” and “Experience” as important goals compared to other respondent types, though only “Environmental” was one of the top three most common answers for both groups, supplanting “Safety.”
- For **residents**, “Context” was also a more common choice than “Safety” as an important goal.
- Respondents that identified as **non-visitors** to Marquam Hill chose “Budget/Schedule” as a top goal more commonly than other respondent types, though the three most common goals for this group were “Access,” “Operational,” and “Safety,” similar to the overall results.



## Likely Users of the Connector

Survey respondents were asked if they planned to use the connector. Overall, about 78% of respondents that indicated they visit Marquam Hill said they planned to use the connector. This differed slightly by the respondent type. Those that identified as recreational users and patients were slightly more likely to say that they would use the connector, while those that identified as Marquam Hill workers and residents were slightly less likely to say that they would use the connector.



## Top Comment Themes

As part of the survey, respondents were asked if there was anything else that was important to consider for the Marquam Hill Connector. They were given space to provide an open-ended comment response.

A total of 303 respondents provided answers to this question. Below are some of the common themes from these comments.

- **Make the connector fast, efficient, and convenient.** In line with the goals of “access” and “operational,” the most common comment theme (81 comments) was related to the speed, efficiency, and ease of the connector. People said that they preferred something that would require limited walking or waiting to transfer from MAX, and that would get them to their destination quickly. There was some concern about a connection that would have limited capacity and may require waiting (such as an elevator). Several people mentioned that unless it was incredibly simple and easy, they would likely walk instead.
- **Protect the natural and historic environment of Terwilliger Parkway.** While “environment” and “context” were not the most common goals, at least 50 comments mentioned these themes. There was significant interest in minimizing the disruption both to the flora and fauna (with the White Oaks mentioned several times), as well as the historic character of the Parkway as a recreational corridor.

- **Minimize neighborhood impacts.** The third most common comment theme (44 comments) related to concerns about the impacts on the surrounding neighborhood. These included things such as impacts to structures (residential and business), parking and traffic concerns, as well as worries about added noise and light pollution.
- **Make sure it is safe.** There were 37 comments that highlighted the importance of creating a safe connection. There were a number of references to existing elevators, ramps, or tunnels in Portland that currently do not feel safe due to cleanliness, darkness, and other issues.
- **Consider the needs individuals with limited mobility.** At least 27 comments specifically mentioned the importance of making the connection easily useable for those with limited mobility and those with mobility devices

## Other Comment Themes

While not as prevalent as the top five comment themes, there were a number of other topics that came up relatively frequently. The comment topics that came up at least five times include:

- Do not build a connector at all. (13 comments)
- Make sure to consider the use of bikes on the connector. (11 comments)
- Concern about the cost of the connection. (11 comments)
- Important to have weather protection. (10 comments)
- People need to access OHSU at all hours, not just standard business hours. (10 comments)
- This connection could be a new attraction for the city. (9 comments)
- Important to consider connections to the South Waterfront from Gibbs Station. (6 comments)

## Comments on Specific Connector Types

A number of people made comments that specifically referenced different types of connectors.

- **Aerial Tram (32 comments).** Comments related to aerial trams were divided fairly evenly between three different themes:
  - The existing aerial tram is a success and the connection should try to mimic that success.
  - The existing aerial tram has many issues and the connection to should be wary of repeating these issues.
  - The connector should be incorporated as an additional stop on the existing tram.
- **Tunnel (15 comments).** Most comments related to tunnels were supportive, specifically requesting a deep tunnel with an elevator or a full station underground (like Zoo MAX station). Those that were against a tunnel voiced concern about safety and cleanliness.
- **Elevator (13 comments).** There was a fairly even split between those for and against elevators. Those against voiced concerns about existing elevators in the TriMet system, such as mechanical problems, cleanliness, and capacity.
- **Funicular (11 comments).** The majority of comments (9) related to funiculars were supportive of a funicular as the connector type.