



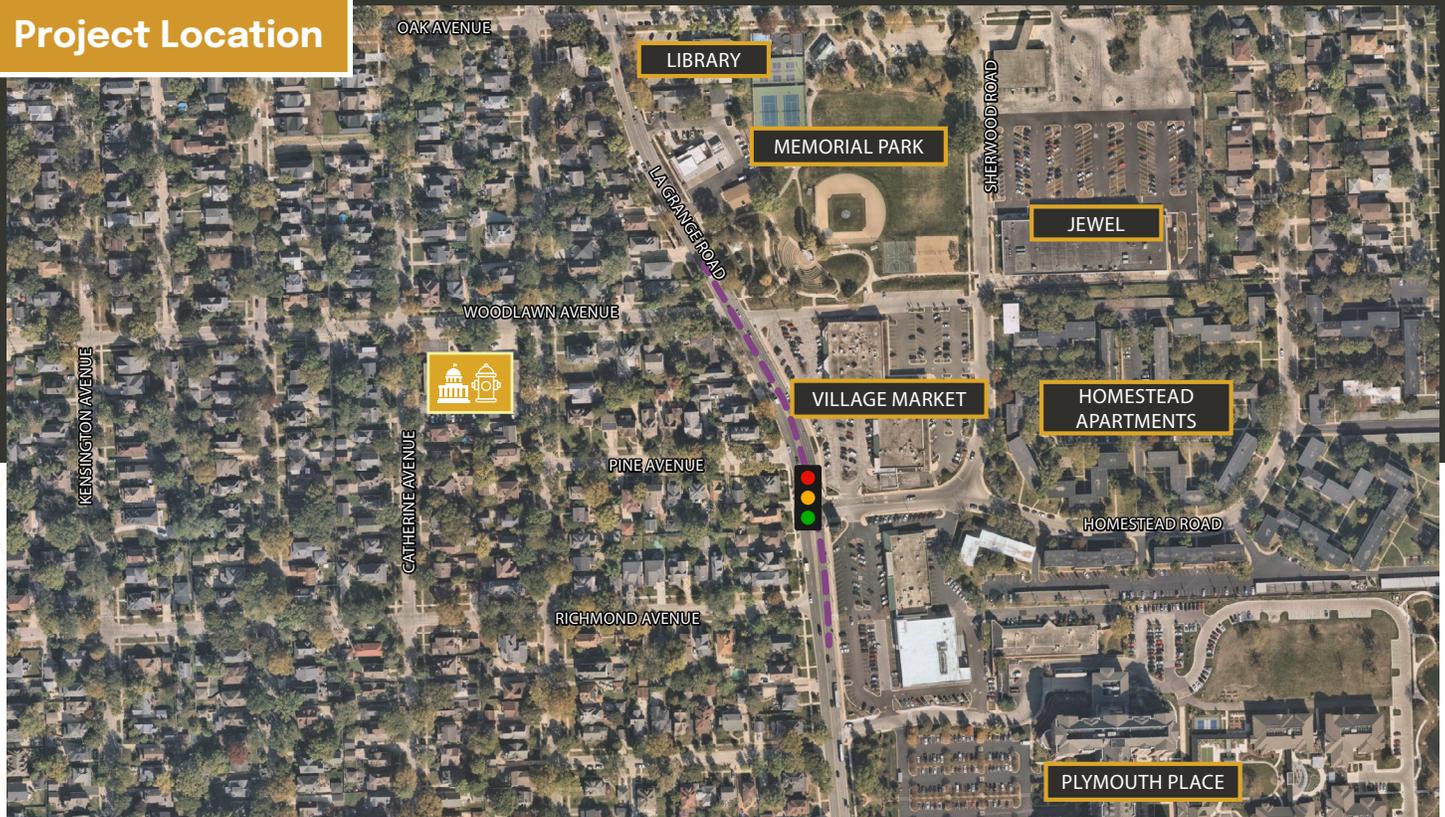
Public Meeting #1 Newsletter

The Village of La Grange Park is currently conducting a Phase 1 corridor study for a portion of La Grange Road in the Village Market area, between Richmond and Woodlawn Avenues.

The Village recognizes the strong desire in the community to improve pedestrian and bicycle safety along and across La Grange Road near the Village Market. In 2023, La Grange Park approved the Village Market Streetscape Improvement Plan. This plan recommended the development of traffic safety improvements along La Grange Road, reflecting the input the community conveyed during that process.

Due to the community's passion on this issue, the Village identified that they needed to focus the next steps on improvements to safety. Therefore, this current study will assess traffic and roadway design improvements in the area to enhance safety, connectivity, and mobility. As La Grange Road is an Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) road, the Village cannot make changes on their own and instead must go through a process to document the community's desire and need for changes to reach a solution with IDOT.

Project Location



The first of two public meetings was held on April 23, 2025 in an open house format at the La Grange Park Public Library. The outreach prior to the meeting included newspaper advertisements and letters mailed to residents along the study area. The project team worked with the Village of La Grange Park to advertise through additional public outlets including the Village's E-Briefs Newsletter, social media posts, and printed copies of the survey. Information was also provided virtually on the project website <https://www.lagrangepark.org/576/La-Grange-Road-Traffic-Safety-Improvement>. It included exhibits, an interactive map with an option for visitors to provide comments, and a survey for visitors to complete. The public outreach was conducted starting April 3, 2025, when the first of two public meeting notices was published. The formal comment period extended from April 23, 2025 through May 15, 2025.



Public Feedback Summary

A summary of public feedback is as follows completed during the period of April 23, 2025 to May 15, 2025

-  **82 people** attended the Village of La Grange Park open house on April 23, 2025
-  **222 people** took the survey
 - 27 filled out paper copies of the survey at the open house
 - 195 took the survey online

-  **250 comments received**
 - 22 submitted handwritten comments at the workshop
 - 138 submitted as part of the comment section within the survey
 - 90 comments were added to the PublicCoordinate map



Open House Meeting Information:

Project information was provided in an open-house format without a formal presentation. Exhibit boards presented at the meetings included an overview of the study and defining the Phase 1 process, an introduction to the project and its schedule, and a summary of existing traffic data and crash data. An important part of the open-house meeting is to discuss concerns and questions with visitors. The project team was available to answer questions. Additionally, an area was set aside for visitors to complete a survey. The same survey was available on the project website.



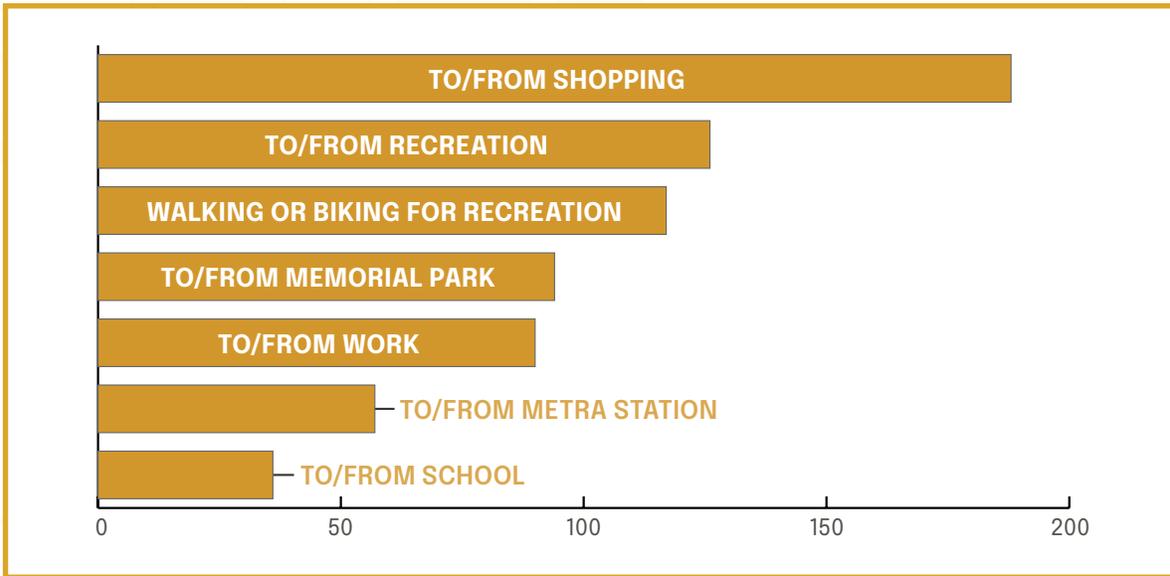
Survey Results:

A survey with eight questions was provided on the project website and available in-person for attendees to complete. The goal of the survey was to better understand how safety is perceived on the corridor, how stakeholders interact with the corridor, and identify users' priorities and concerns. A total of 222 survey responses were recorded. It is important to note that not all respondents completed all of the questions. Therefore, the total number of responses may not equal 222 for each question. A summary of the results is provided on the subsequent pages.



Question 1:

How do you use La Grange Road?



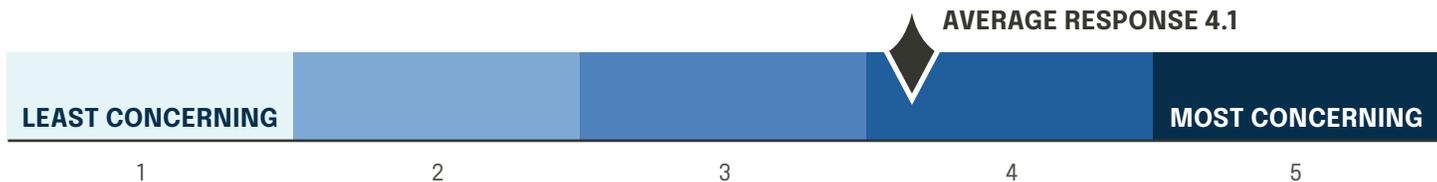
Question 2:

Do you experience congestion at any point along La Grange Road within the project limits, particularly near Homestead Road or Woodlawn Avenue?



Question 3:

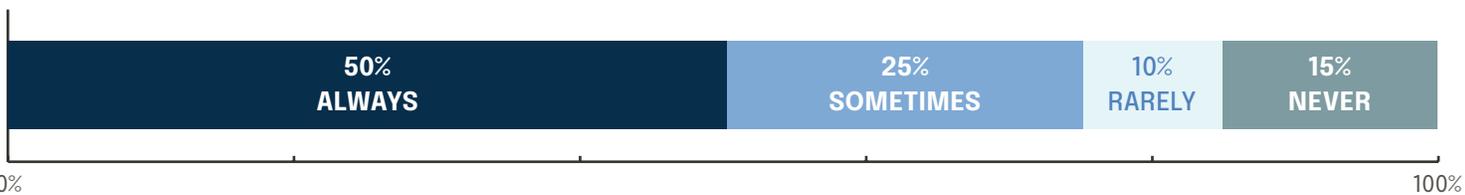
On a scale from 1 to 5 (1 being least concerning; 5 being most concerning), is speeding a concern along La Grange Road?





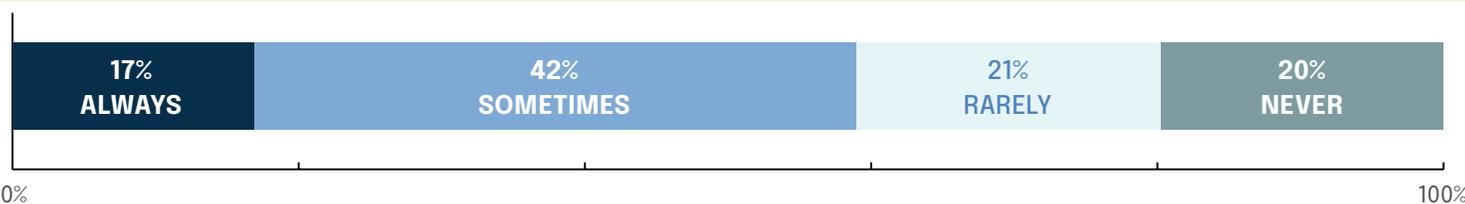
Question 4:

As a pedestrian, how often have you had difficulty crossing at the intersection of La Grange Road and Woodlawn Avenue?



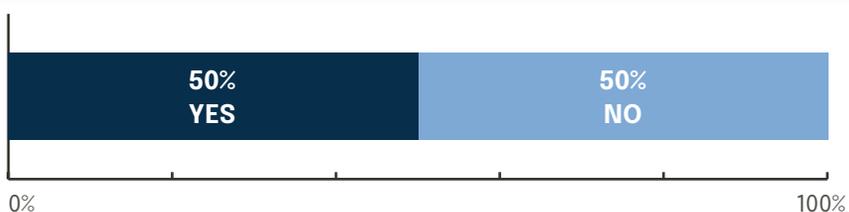
Question 5:

As a pedestrian, how often have you had difficulty crossing at the intersection of La Grange Road and Homestead Road?



Question 6:

Do you currently bike within the project limits?



Question 6A:

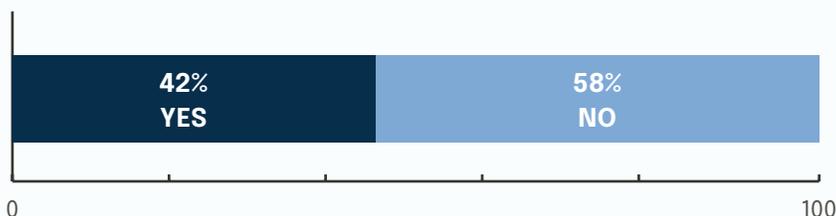
If you answered no, would you bike if you felt conditions were safer?

37 additional people (18%) would bike if they felt conditions were safer



Question 6B:

Are bike facilities adequate to travel the corridor?



Question 6C:

If you answered yes, please describe where bicycle facilities are inadequate.

Open ended responses have been reviewed and incorporated into the Summary of Comments section.

Question 7:

On a scale from 1 to 5, (1 being not important at all; 5 being extremely important), how important is it to cross La Grange Road safely?



Question 8:

What else should be considered during the planning and design of improvements along La Grange Road?

Open ended responses have been reviewed and incorporated into the Summary of Comments section.

Summary of Comments

A total of 250 comments were received from the online mapping and the open-ended questions on the in-person comment form and online survey. Comments and questions received were primarily related to the following items:

PEDESTRIAN/BICYCLIST IMPROVEMENTS

Many respondents commented that sidewalks were too narrow and too close to roadways

Many respondents felt there were not enough bike accommodations throughout the Village, including a lack of dedicated bike lanes

Most respondents did not feel safe biking on La Grange Road

- Traffic was cited as too heavy and fast to bike on the road
- Sidewalks were cited as too narrow for bikes, and respondents noted it is illegal to bike on the sidewalks

Many commented on not feeling comfortable crossing La Grange Road

- Desire stated for improved crossings at Oak, Woodlawn, and Homestead

Several commented that there were conflicts at retail driveways

VEHICULAR TRAFFIC

Significant comments regarding speeds

- Majority of comments show support for a reduction in speed and/or increased enforcement of current speed
- A few comments opposed reduction in speed

Frequent comments regarding congestion

- Concerns about congestion due to Ogden Avenue

Many commented that turning movements off La Grange Road onto side streets were too fast, creating dangerous pedestrian crossings

Several comments raised concerns specifically about truck volumes and speeds, and inquired if there was a way to prevent trucks from using La Grange Road in this area

Potential Improvements

WOODLAWN AVENUE INTERSECTION

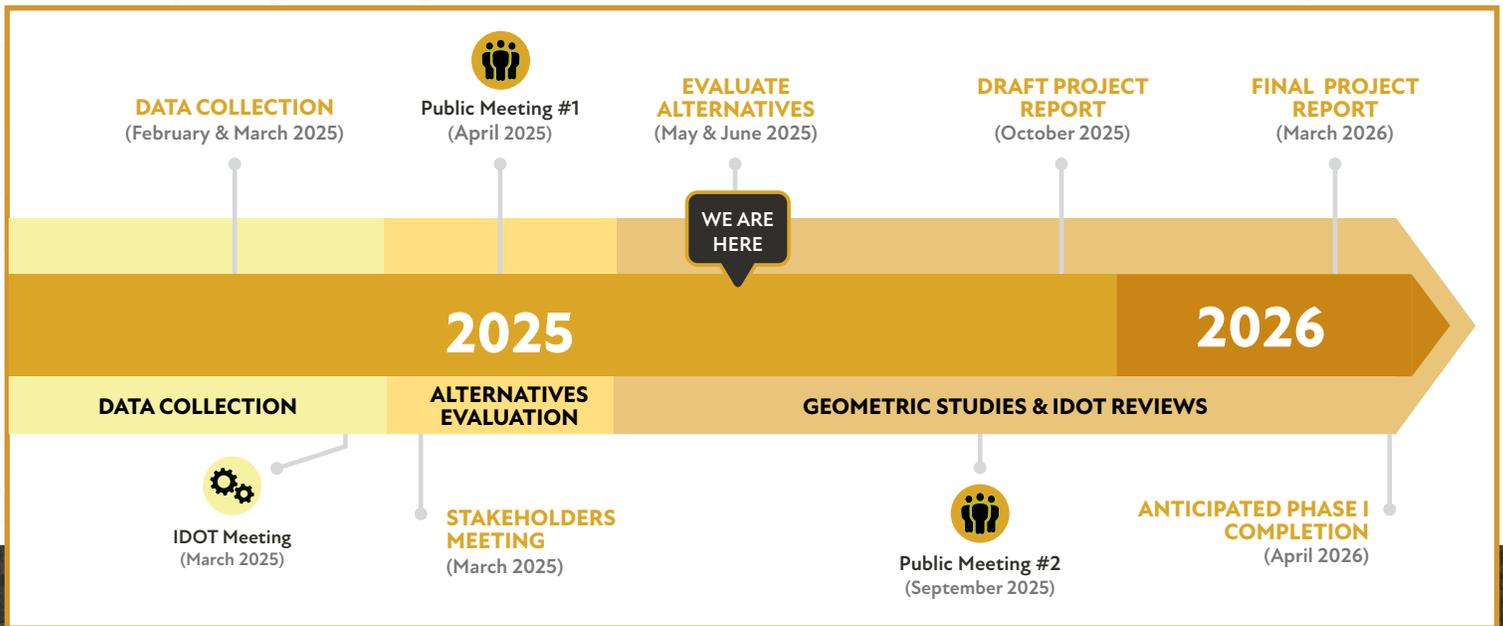
- Significant support for a pedestrian activated crossing and/or traffic signal
- Opposition for a new traffic signal or widening citing concerns of increased congestion and negative impacts to Memorial Park
- A few respondents suggested a pedestrian overpass

OAK AVENUE INTERSECTION:

- Significant support for pedestrian improvements and/or traffic signal

Next Steps

The goal of the first public meeting was to obtain additional input and data regarding the study area to help direct the next steps in the process. This input will be used to develop geometric studies which will be presented at the second public meeting later in 2025.



Stay Involved

The project website will continue to be updated throughout the study. Stay up to date at:

<https://www.lagrangepark.org/576/La-Grange-Road-Traffic-Safety-Improvement>

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Derek Rockwell, Senior Planner / Project Coordinator, Village of La Grange Park, at (708) 354-0225, x206 or via email at drockwell@lagrangepark.org