

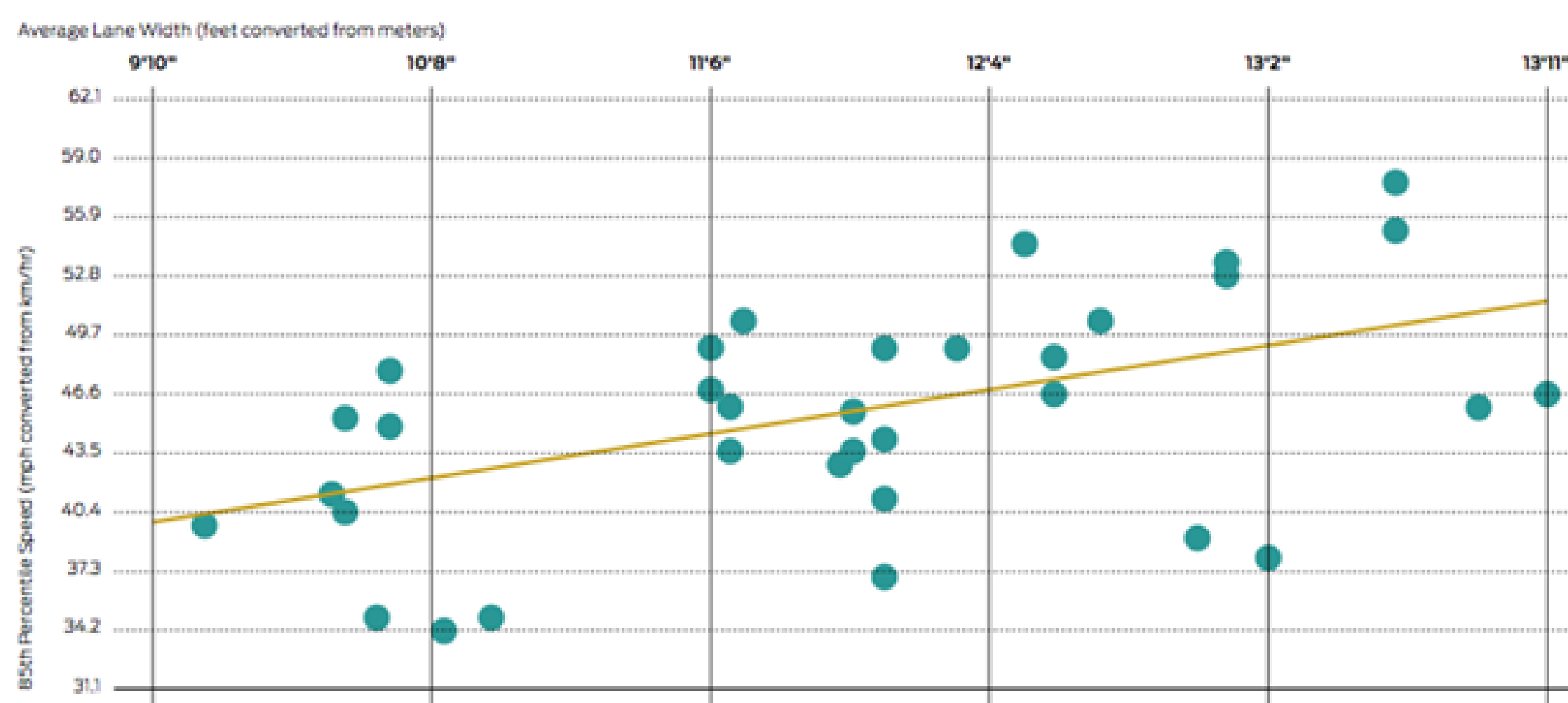
Project Benefits

These are key project benefits. More details about project benefits at <https://www.littlerock.gov/for-residents/bikeped-little-rock/projects/bike-lanes/kavanaugh/>

Slow Speeding, Aggressive Drivers

Discussed more in “Corridor Concerns”, traffic calming is a major neighborhood concern and an important project benefit. Narrowing traffic lanes, a lateral shift, and placemaking (bicycle and pedestrian visibility) are all proven techniques to calm traffic.

Wider travel lanes are correlated with higher vehicle speeds.



“As the width of the lane increased, the speed on the roadway increased... When lane widths are 1 m (3.3 ft) greater, speeds are predicted to be 15 km/h (9.4 mph) faster.”
 Chart source: Fitzpatrick, Kay, Paul Carlson, Marcus Brewer, and Mark Woodridge 2000. “Design Factors That Affect Driver Speed on Suburban Streets.” Transportation Research Record 175: 18–25.

Local Business

This project would not only help local businesses by easing the Hillcrest Business District’s parking congestion, but also by shifting shopping patterns. If a Hillcrest resident gets in her car to access the Hillcrest Business District, she either adds to its parking congestion *or* she decides, instead, to travel a bit further to the ample parking of big box stores and chain restaurants. When she walks or bikes to her neighborhood business, she connects that business to her home turf and becomes a loyal customer. This is one reason why the **Hillcrest Merchant’s Association** is “Not Opposed” to this project.

Driver Convenience

Conflicts between a travel lane shared by people driving cars and driving bikes don’t just scare the person on a bike, they also inconvenience the person behind the wheel.

“I like the idea for the bike lanes on Kavanaugh getting a little redo. Right now, as a car driver, it stresses me out that the cyclists are so close. I’m afraid I might hit someone by accident.” - Katharine H.

Sustainable Transportation

Transportation is the largest source of Little Rock metro area’s carbon emissions; our metro area has the most Vehicle Miles Traveled out of 52 comparable communities. Only a complete, low-stress bike network will encourage a major mode shift to bicycles for commuting and short errands. Including Hillcrest in this network lets Hillcrest residents be part of the climate solution.

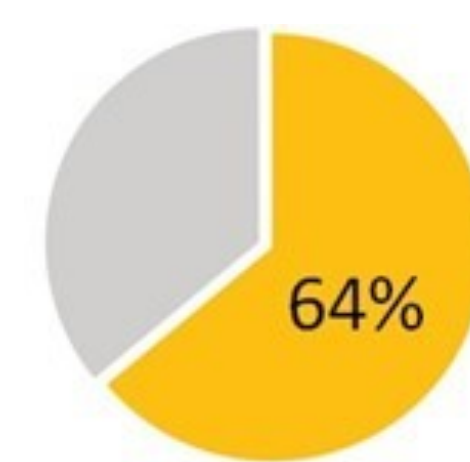


Protect Parked Cars

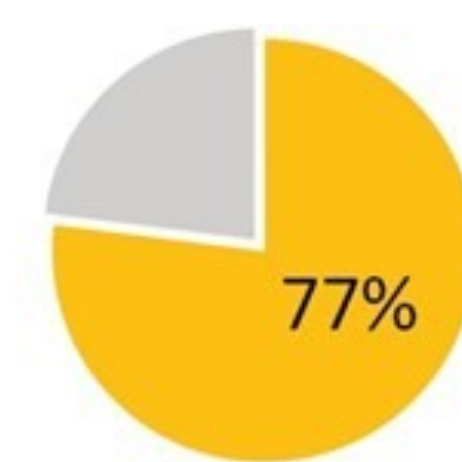
Discussed more in “Corridor Concerns”, bike lanes would create a 7 ft. buffer between moving cars and parked cars and calm traffic, reducing this collision.

Attract Great Neighbors

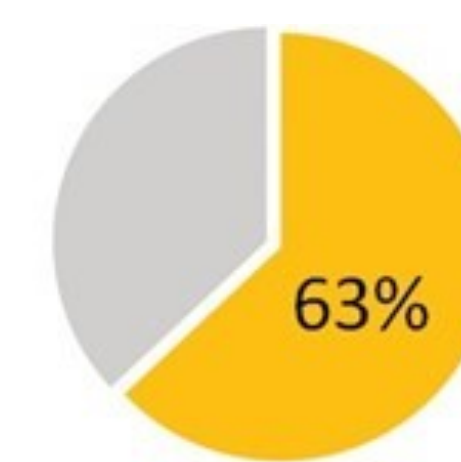
Surveys show that Millennials who have options on where they want to live choose places where they don’t need a car. Creating a safe bike corridor in Hillcrest would make it a more attractive place to live within Little Rock and make Little Rock a more attractive place for top quality talent.



Millennials choose first where they want to live, and only then do they look for work.



Plan to live in an urban core.



Want to live in a place where they don’t need a car.

Walkable City Rules: 101 Steps to Making Better Places – Jeff Speck

Aging in Place

A focus of AARP is promoting neighborhood changes that allow residents to “age in place”. A neighborhood that requires a car for independence and mobility may force some residents to relocate as they get older.

Pedestrian Safety

The benefit to residents when they are riding a bike are obvious, but the project has many important safety benefits for pedestrians as well. See also “Corridor Concerns”

“YES to bike lanes on Kavanaugh! Like it or not, Kavanaugh is one of the most popular streets used by cyclists, runners and walkers in the city. Early in the morning, on most days, you would think some kind of running event was taking place from 5:30 a.m. until well after 8:00 a.m. I am one of those early morning users and I see it first hand.” Emil M.

Community Health

Unfortunately, the Little Rock metro area is one of the least physically active and most obese places in the country. This has a strong negative effect on our qualities of life but also strong financial downsides. Studies show a strong correlation between cities built to encourage walking and biking for transportation and community health. There is no single intervention more effective at encouraging biking than building bike lanes and trails that separate bikes from vehicles.

What keeps you from biking more often? (Check all that apply)	Arkansas	Little Rock
Destinations too far/takes too long to bike	30.7%	28.5%
Unsure of routes to take	16.6%	18.8%
Traffic is too heavy	70.0%	72.1%
Dangerous intersections	69.1%	64.2%
Motorists don’t exercise caution around cyclists	76.7%	77.0%
Lack of bike facilities - bike lanes, paths, wide shoulders, etc.	79.9%	89.0%
Poor condition of bike facilities	27.5%	26.7%
Weather	33.0%	32.7%
Lack of lighted routes or paths	24.2%	19.4%
Personal security	18.6%	18.8%
Need to transport other people or things	30.7%	30.9%
Traveling with small children	13.3%	9.7%
Lack of secure bicycle parking	35.0%	32.1%
Lack of work amenities (showers, lockers, etc.)	25.8%	30.3%
Exposure to air pollution	3.6%	3.6%
Other	10.1%	11.5%
Total Number of Respondents	894	165

26. What facility improvements would encourage you to bike more often? Please rate all of the options below using the scale provided.

	High	Medium	Low	Responses
More bike lanes on major streets	74.1%	16.6%	9.2%	865
More bike lanes on minor streets	58.1%	31.4%	10.5%	849
More bicycle paths and trails	84.1%	11.8%	4.1%	863
Paved shoulders on narrow streets	72.6%	10.2%	3.5%	831
More wide outside lanes (easier to share lane with cars)	53.4%	28.9%	17.7%	820
More shared lane markings in travel lanes	49.6%	31.4%	19.0%	811
More buffers between bicyclists and vehicles	74.8%	18.8%	6.4%	846
More on-road bike signage (share the road signs/bike may use full lane signs)	57.3%	25.9%	16.7%	830
Bike accommodation through intersections and interchanges	64.6%	26.5%	8.9%	830

Increase Property Values

Bike lanes, especially in Hillcrest’s close proximity to the Arkansas River Trail, have the potential to increase property values in Hillcrest, especially on Kavanaugh.

Committed to Walking and Biking

In order to increase economic investment, attract top quality talent, promote equity, community health, community cohesiveness, and sustainability, the City of Little Rock is committed to building streets that include safe places to walk and bike as discussed in Mayor Scott’s Mobility Agenda, the Road to 2020, “Must Do” Policy Statements, the Complete Streets Resolution, and the Complete Streets Ordinance. We are also committed to following national best safety practices for bicycle infrastructure as set by FHWA and US DOT.