

# **Cheasty Mountain Bike Trail Monitoring – South Loop**

## **Year 3 2025 Quarter 4 Monitoring Report**

---

**Prepared for: Shabazz Abdulkadir**

Planning and Capital Development Specialist

City of Seattle

Seattle Parks and Recreation

206-889-2884

Shabazz.Abdulkadir@seattle.gov

**Prepared by:**

Nelson Salisbury, Ecologist



**Seattle**  
Parks & Recreation

**EarthCorps**

6310 NE 74<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 201E

Seattle, WA 98115

May 2026



-This page left intentionally blank-

## Table of Contents

|                                                                       |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>1. INTRODUCTION .....</b>                                          | <b>4</b> |
| <b>2. CHEASTY BOULEVARD CAR PARKING MONITORING.....</b>               | <b>6</b> |
| <b>3. PLOT LEVEL LINEAR OBSERVATIONAL VEGETATION MONITORING .....</b> | <b>6</b> |
| <b>4. TRAIL PLOT LEVEL PHOTO MONITORING .....</b>                     | <b>7</b> |
| <b>5. FULL-TRAIL RAPID MONITORING.....</b>                            | <b>7</b> |
| <b>6. FOREST MONITORING PLOT PHOTO MONITORING .....</b>               | <b>7</b> |
| <b>7. APPENDICES .....</b>                                            | <b>9</b> |
| 7.1. Appendix A: Trail Plot Photo Monitoring.....                     | 10       |
| 7.2. Appendix B: Forest Monitoring Plot Photo Monitoring.....         | 19       |
| 7.3. Appendix C: Full Trail Rapid Monitoring .....                    | 27       |
| 7.4. Appendix D: Survey Results .....                                 | 29-37    |
| 7.5. Appendix E: Find It Fix It Quartely Report .....                 | 38-39    |

*All photos and maps in this report by Nelson Salisbury - © EarthCorps, 2026.*

## 1. **Introduction**

Seattle Parks and Recreation contracted with EarthCorps in 2020 to develop and implement a monitoring plan prior to the construction associated with the [Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project](#) at the Cheasty Natural Area in South Seattle. This report summarizes the findings for the Year 3 Quarter 4 monitoring period (October-December, 2025). Note that monitoring occurred late for this period due to scheduling difficulties.

EarthCorps performed the following monitoring tasks for Quarter 4 on April 27, 2026:

- Cheasty Boulevard Car Parking Monitoring
- Plot Level Observational Vegetation Monitoring
- Plot Level Photo Monitoring
- Full Trail Rapid Monitoring
- Forest Monitoring Plot Photo Monitoring

The following table describes the proposed monitoring year designations for this three-year reporting period:

|                               |      |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Baseline (pre-construction):  | 2020 |
| Trail construction:           | 2021 |
| Trail construction continued: | 2022 |
| Year 1 monitoring:            | 2023 |
| Year 2 monitoring:            | 2024 |
| Year 3 monitoring:            | 2025 |

See Map 1 below for plot locations.



## **2. Cheasty Boulevard Car Parking Monitoring**

EarthCorps performed an observational survey for illegal or improperly parked cars along Cheasty Boulevard between Beacon Ave S and S Andover. During the site visit on April 27, 2026, there were no improperly parked vehicles along the monitored road segment (see photos below). No other parking issues were observed at this time. The abandoned encampment noted in the last report was still present just south of the main entrance between Cheasty Boulevard and the cottonwood trail. While not occupied at the time of survey, there was substantial trash and debris noted (see pic below).



## **3. Plot Level Linear Observational Vegetation Monitoring**

Qualitative observations of vegetation conditions were noted along the linear trail edges within each plot. These observations are intended to identify and document general conditions and note any damage or decline to the native vegetation along the trail edges and to note any issues or concerns with non-native species within the plot. These observations will be updated at each quarterly visit and compliment the photo monitoring. Trends can be compared over time. The following observations were noted during the site monitoring visit on April 27, 2026.

**Plot #1:** Substantial habitat restoration efforts were noted within plot and surrounding area. Native vegetation appears healthy (especially trailing blackberry and fringe cups) and should spread due to invasive species competition reduction. Some linear erosion noted on trail tread throughout plot area.

**Plot #2:** Substantial restoration occurred inside the plot. Some minimal re-sprouting ivy and blackberry noted, overall native vegetation responding well.

**Plot #3:** The Snowberry Loop vicinity has also seen substantial restoration efforts including within the monitoring plot. Removal of ivy has created some areas of bare ground. Some ivy was noted re-sprouting and should be targeted for control. The ground disturbance has resulted in extensive spread of herb bennet (*Geum urbanum*), control should be prioritized to reduce spread throughout park.

**Plot #4:** No substantial changes to native vegetation noted at time of survey. Bare areas from previous trail modifications have filled in with non-native grass providing sufficient erosion control. Some non-native blackberry noted within the plot.

**Plot #5:** Substantial restoration occurred throughout plot and surrounding park area. A large compost pile row was constructed in the southern portion of the plot (see pic below). Native plants responding well with lots of trailing blackberry resprouting. Some new trail construction noted within plot (see photos in Appendix A).

Looking SW from trail in Plot #5



#### **4. Trail Plot Level Photo Monitoring**

Photos were taken at each plot in the same manner established in 2022 Q4. Generally, photos were taken at the edge of the 1/10 acre plot looking along the trail corridor(s) towards the center of the plot. These photos can be compared to previous photo monitoring (and future iterations) to show change over time. Photos are included in Appendix A.

## **5. Full-Trail Rapid Monitoring**

An EarthCorps Ecologist performed a whole-trail walkthrough to note and demarcate any damages or management concerns along the entire trail network. Locations were mapped using GPS and are included on an interactive web-based mapping platform. Monitoring took place on April 27, 2026.

The following attributes were considered:

- Substantial damage to vegetation;
- Substantial areas of cleared or bare ground;
- Substantial evidence of ponding or trail erosion;
- Evidence of bikes or pedestrians leaving the path;
- Specific maintenance issues or other concerns
- Damages to wetland or other fencing
- Evidence of homeless encampments or illegal dumping

Overall, there were no major concerns noted during the monitoring period. There are continued signs of minor erosion in several places and some minor trail hazards were noted, including instances of exposed roots in the trail tread. Some locations along the trail continue to see improvements or the addition of trail features. All notable instances were mapped using GPS, photographed, and are included on the web map available here: [Cheasty South Loop Full-Trail Apr 2026](#). A pdf of mapped locations is included in Appendix C.

## **6. Forest Monitoring Plot Photo Monitoring**

Photos were taken from the center of each of the three Forest Monitoring Plots located in the vicinity of the South Loop. Four photos were taken at each plot center looking in each cardinal direction. These photos can be used to compare change over time. Photos are included in Appendix B.

# Cheasty Greenspace Mountainbike/Pedestrian Trail – South Loop

## Photo monitoring Year 3, Q3 2025

### Contents

- 1. APPENDIX A: TRAIL PLOT PHOTO MONITORING – April 27, 2026..... 10
- 2. APPENDIX B: FOREST MONITORING PLOT PHOTO MONITORING – April 27, 2026..... 19
- 3. APPENDIX C: FULL TRAIL RAPID MONITORING – April 27, 2026.....27



Appendix A: Trail Plot Photo Monitoring – Year 3, Q4 2025

| Plot                                                                                                                                                     | # of Photos |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1                                                                                                                                                        | 4           |
| 3 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking NE (1 photo), #2 southern switchback looking NW and NE (2 photos), and #3 bottom of trail looking N (1 photo) |             |

Plot 1 Photo Point 1 (NE)



Plot 1 Photo Point 2a (NW)





Plot 1 Photo Point 3 (N)



Appendix A: Trail Plot Photo Monitoring – Year 3, Q4 2025

| Plot                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | # of Photos |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 2                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     | 4           |
| 4 photos at each of the individual trail legs that enter or exit the plot (3 looking downhill and 1 looking uphill) starting at NW trail and continuing clockwise. #1 top of south leg looking SE. #2 at top of north leg looking SW. #3 at top of 2-way looking S. #4 at bottom of 2-way looking SW. |             |

Plot 2 Photo Point 1 (SE)



Plot 2 Photo Point 2 (SW)





Plot 2 Photo Point 4 (SW)



| Plot                                                                                                                                                                                              | # of Photos |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 3                                                                                                                                                                                                 | 4           |
| 4 photo points at: #1 looking N (1 photo) along trail from entering plot from the S, #2 looking SW and SE (2 photos) from the trail bend, and #3 looking NE along trail entering plot from the E. |             |

Plot 3 Photo Point 1 (N)



Plot 3 Photo Point 2a (SW)



Plot 3 Photo Point 2b (SE)



Plot 3 Photo Point 3 (NE)



Appendix A: Trail Plot Photo Monitoring – Year 3, Q4 2025

| Plot                                                                                                                                                                  | # of Photos |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 4                                                                                                                                                                     | 4           |
| 3 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking SW (1 photo), #2 at end of line-intercept transect looking N and E (2 photos), and #3 bottom of trail looking SW (1 photo) |             |

Plot 4 Photo Point 1 (SW)



Plot 4 Photo Point 2a (N)



Plot 4 Photo Point 2b (E)



Plot 4 Photo Point 3 (SW)



| Plot                                                                                                | # of Photos |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------|
| 5                                                                                                   | 2           |
| 2 photo points at: #1 top of trail looking NE (1 photo) and #2 bottom of trail looking SW (1 photo) |             |

Plot 5 Photo Point 1 (NE)



Plot 5 Photo Point 2 (SW)



APPENDIX B: FOREST MONITORING PLOT PHOTO MONITORING – April 27, 2026



Cheasty Yard East (N)



Cheasty Yard East (E)



Cheasty Yard East (S)



Cheasty Yard East (W)



Cheasty Yard (N)



Cheasty Yard (E)



Cheasty Yard (S)



Cheasty Yard (W)



Cheasty Yard-2 (N)



Cheasty Yard-2 (E)



Cheasty Yard-2 (S)

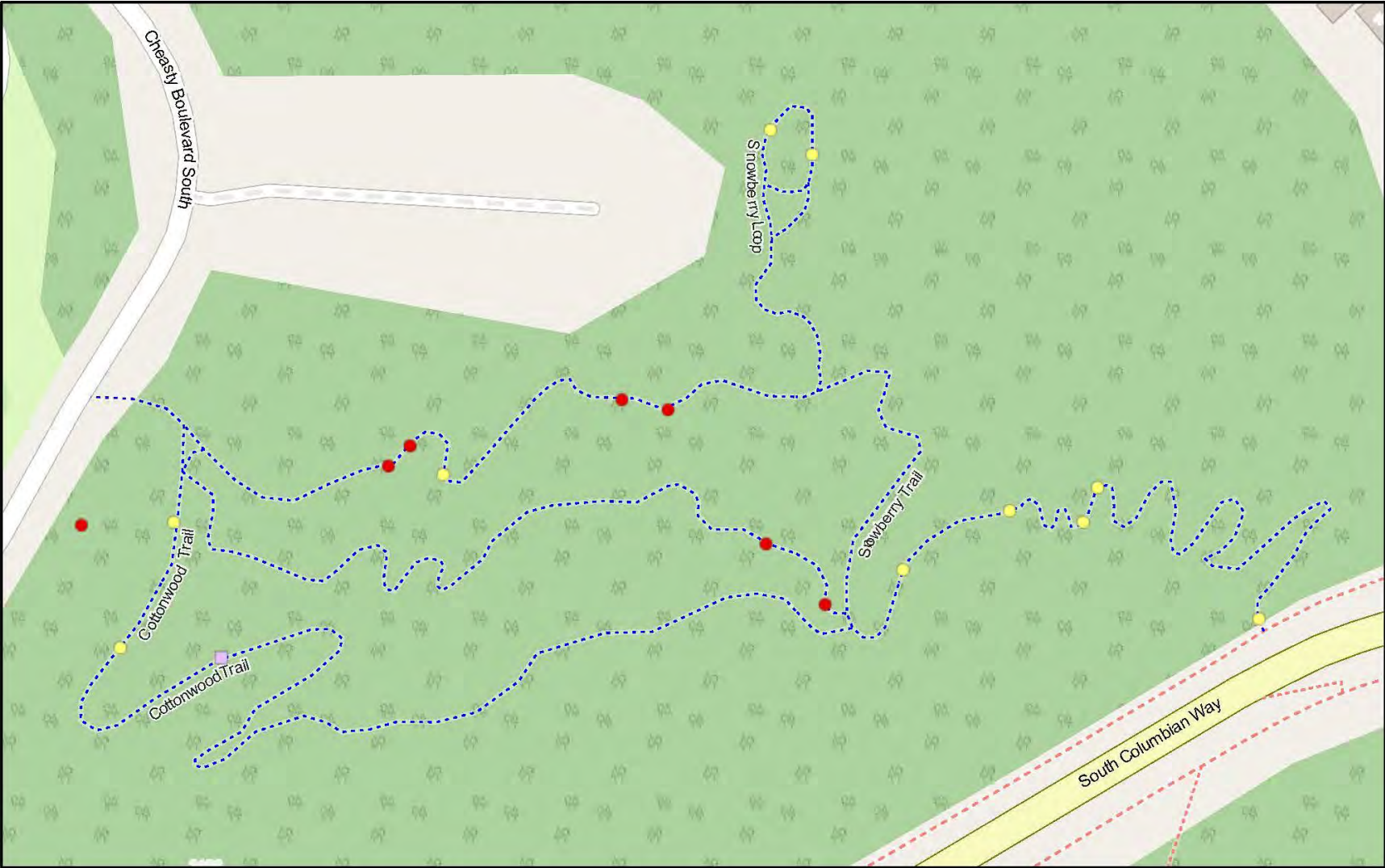


Cheasty Yard-2 (W)



-This page left intentionally blank-

Cheasty South Loop Full-Trail April 2026

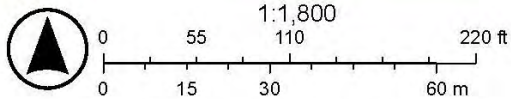


Trail Points-04/2026

Trail Condition

Trail Structure

Trail Hazard



UrbanNaure, Map data © OpenStreetMap contributors, Microsoft, Facebook, Google, Esri Community Maps contributors, Map layer

-This page left intentionally blank-

# Appendix D

Engage Seattle Parks

## Form Results Summary

Oct 01, 2025 - Dec 31, 2025

**Project:** Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project

**Form:** Tell Us About Your Experience on the Cheasty Trail!

**Tool Type:** Form

**Activity ID:** 12

**Exported:** Jun 23, 2026, 01:05 AM

**Exported By:** shabazz.abdulkadir

**Filter By:** No filters applied.

Open

**Tell Us About Your Experience on the Cheasty Trail!**  
Cheasty Mountain Bike/Pedestrian Trail Pilot Project

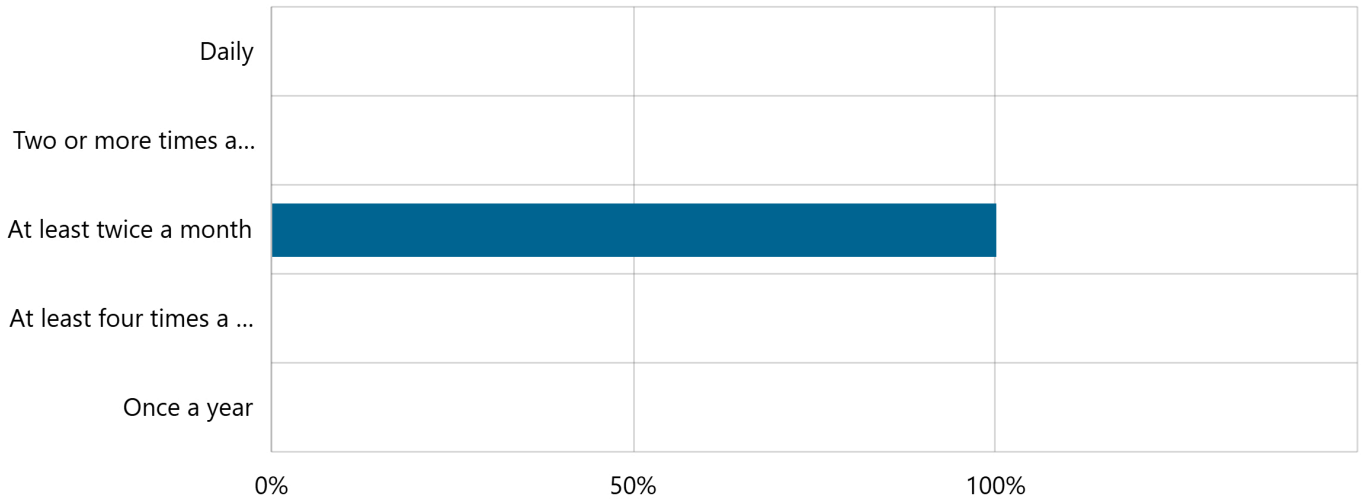
**1**  
Contributors

**1**  
Contributions

## Contribution Summary

### 1. How often do you visit the Cheasty Pedestrian and Mountain Bike Trail? Required

Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| Answer choices             | Percent | Count |
|----------------------------|---------|-------|
| Daily                      | 0%      | 0     |
| Two or more times a week   | 0%      | 0     |
| At least twice a month     | 100.00% | 1     |
| At least four times a year | 0%      | 0     |
| Once a year                | 0%      | 0     |
| Total                      | 100.00% | 1     |

**2. In what ZIP code is your home located? Enter 5-digit ZIP code; for example: 00544 or 94305** Required

Short Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)

**Sentiment**

No sentiment data

**Tags**

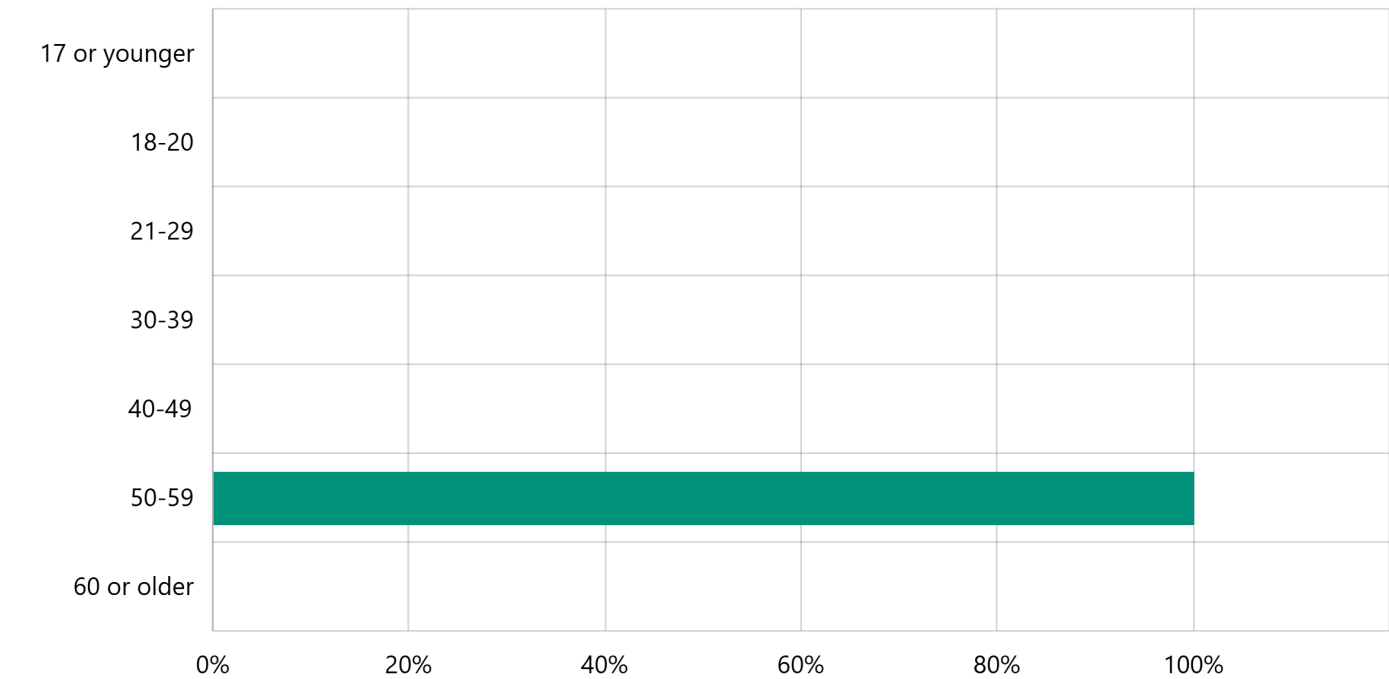
No tag data

**Featured Contributions**

No featured contributions

3. What is your age?

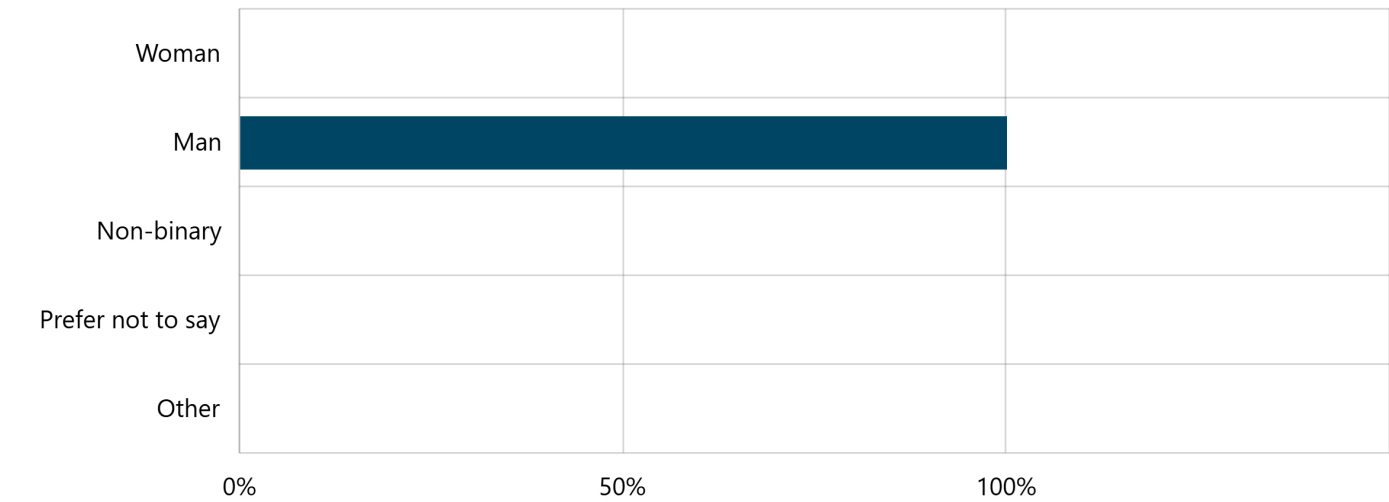
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| Answer choices | Percent | Count |
|----------------|---------|-------|
| 17 or younger  | 0%      | 0     |
| 18-20          | 0%      | 0     |
| 21-29          | 0%      | 0     |
| 30-39          | 0%      | 0     |
| 40-49          | 0%      | 0     |
| 50-59          | 100.00% | 1     |
| 60 or older    | 0%      | 0     |
| Total          | 100.00% | 1     |

4. What is your gender?

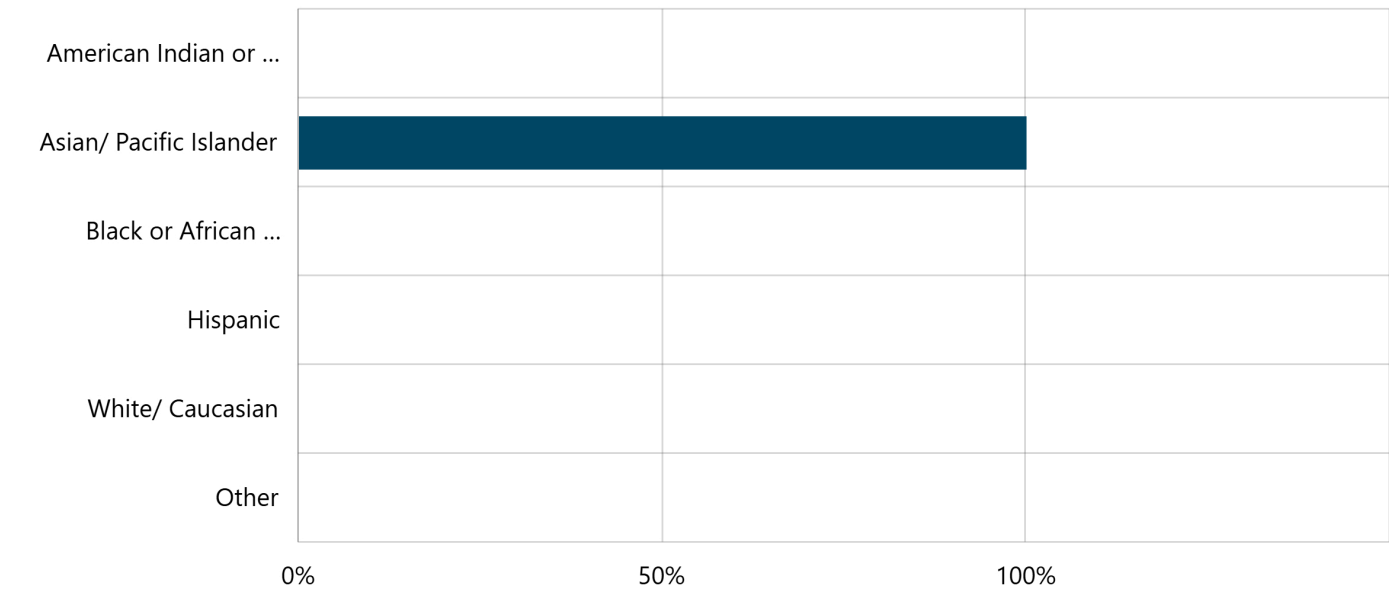
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| Answer choices    | Percent | Count |
|-------------------|---------|-------|
| Woman             | 0%      | 0     |
| Man               | 100.00% | 1     |
| Non-binary        | 0%      | 0     |
| Prefer not to say | 0%      | 0     |
| Other             | 0%      | 0     |
| Total             | 100.00% | 1     |

5. Which race/ ethnicity best describes you?

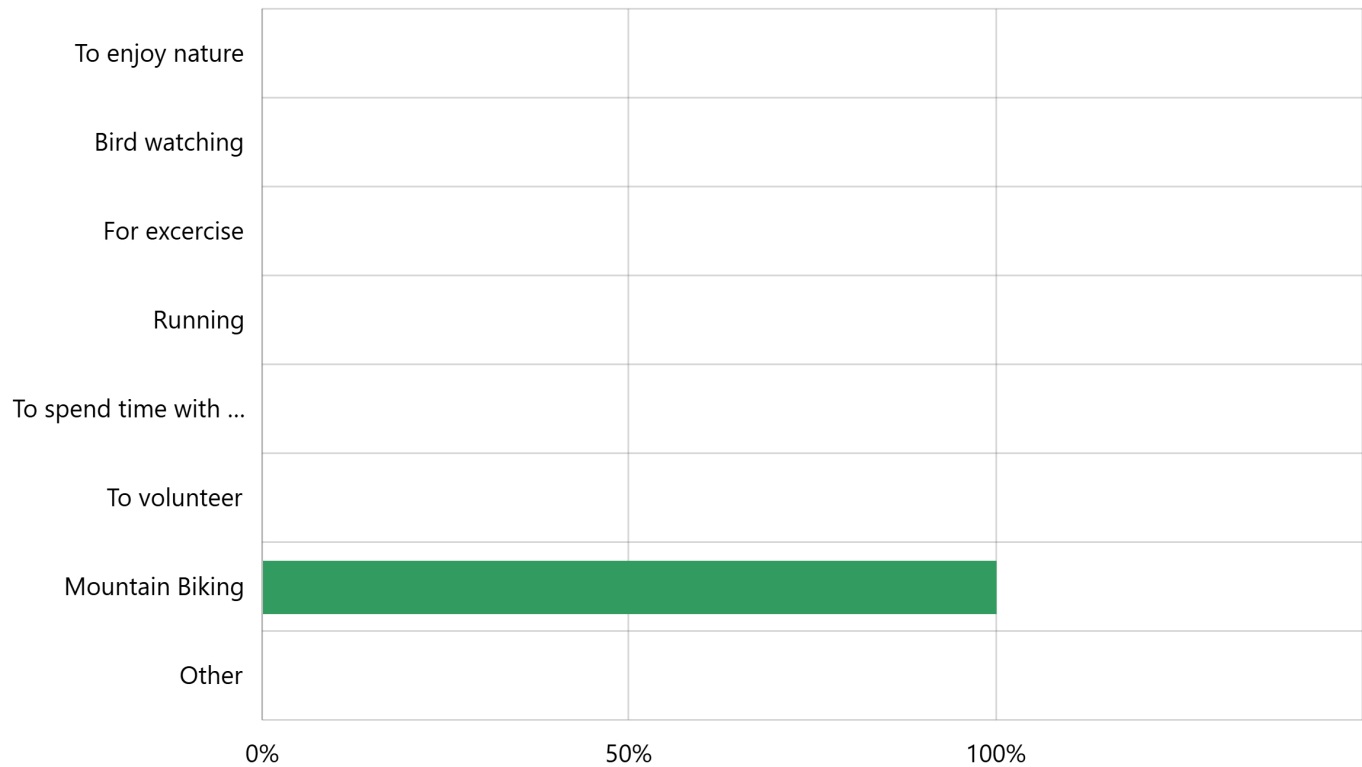
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| Answer choices                    | Percent | Count |
|-----------------------------------|---------|-------|
| American Indian or Alaskan Native | 0%      | 0     |
| Asian/ Pacific Islander           | 100.00% | 1     |
| Black or African American         | 0%      | 0     |
| Hispanic                          | 0%      | 0     |
| White/ Caucasian                  | 0%      | 0     |
| Other                             | 0%      | 0     |
| Total                             | 100.00% | 1     |

6. Why do you visit the Cheasty Pedestrian and Mountain Bike Trail?

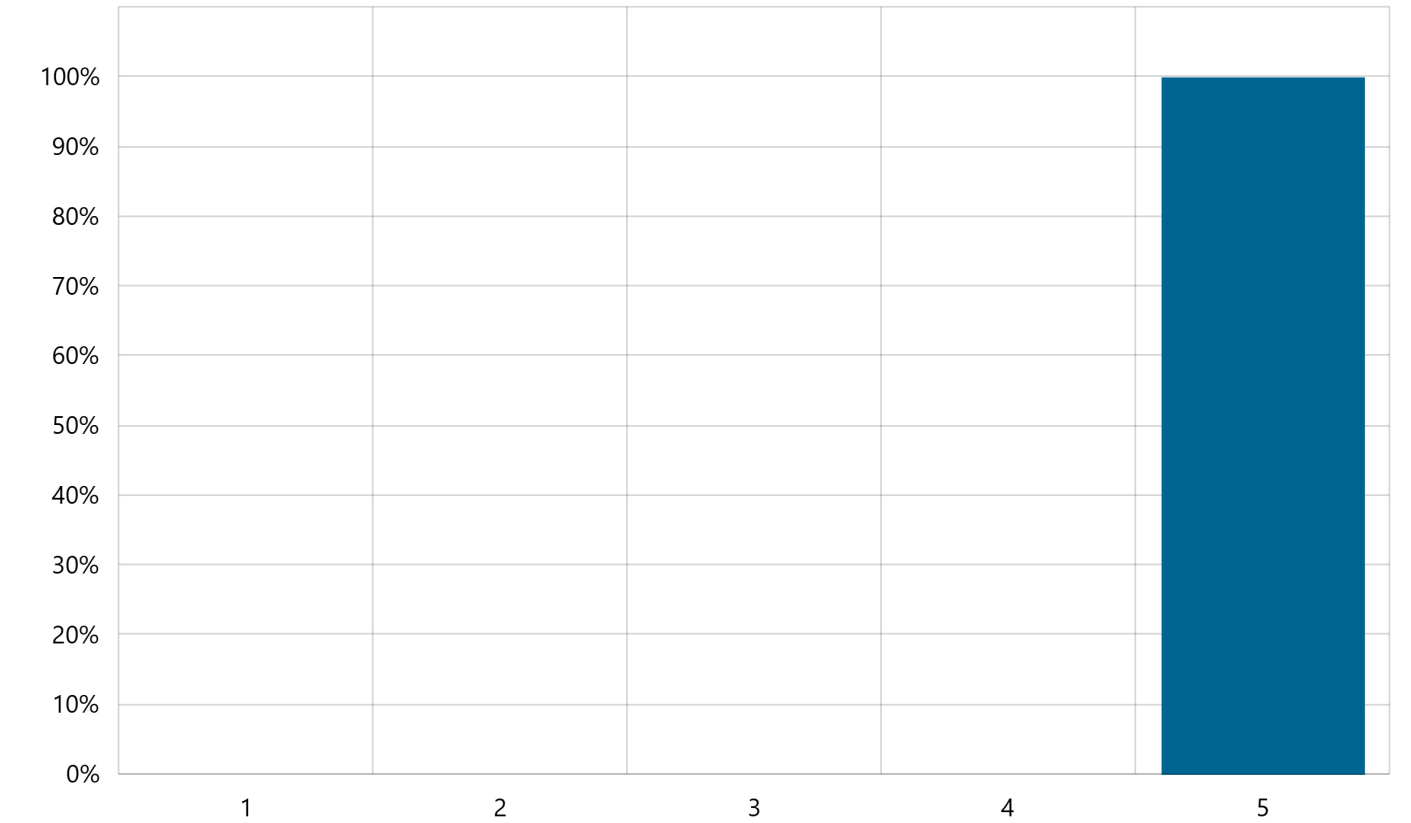
Multi Choice | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| Answer choices            | Percent | Count |
|---------------------------|---------|-------|
| To enjoy nature           | 0%      | 0     |
| Bird watching             | 0%      | 0     |
| For exercise              | 0%      | 0     |
| Running                   | 0%      | 0     |
| To spend time with family | 0%      | 0     |
| To volunteer              | 0%      | 0     |
| Mountain Biking           | 100.00% | 1     |
| Other                     | 0%      | 0     |

7. Rate your experience of the trail

Rating | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)



| 1       | 2       | 3       | 4       | 5            | Count | Weighted average |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------------|-------|------------------|
| 0%<br>0 | 0%<br>0 | 0%<br>0 | 0%<br>0 | 100.00%<br>1 | 1     | 5.00             |

8. Comments / Describe your experience

Long Text | Skipped: 0 | Answered: 1 (100%)

Sentiment

No sentiment data

Tags

No tag data

Featured Contributions

No featured contributions

# Appendix E

## Cheasty Boulevard FindIt FixIt Data Summary

10/1/22-03/31/23

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 20              | 0          | 0       | 0          | 2       | 1          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 7               | 0          | 3       | 2          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 1          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 27              | 1          | 3       | 2          | 2       | 1          | 0       |

04/01/23-06/30/23

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 10              | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 2       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 7               | 1          | 1       | 1          | 0       | 5          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 1               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 18              | 1          | 1       | 1          | 0       | 5          | 2       |

7/1/23-09/30/23

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 1               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 1          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 7               | 1          | 0       | 1          | 1       | 0          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 1       | 1          | 0       |
| Total               | 8               | 1          | 0       | 1          | 2       | 2          | 0       |

10/1/23-12/31/23

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 6               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 1       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 6               | 1          | 1       | 0          | 1       | 1          | 3       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 1          | 0       |
| Total               | 12              | 1          | 1       | 0          | 1       | 2          | 4       |

1/1/24-3/31/24

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 7               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 1       | 0          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 9               | 1          | 1       | 1          | 0       | 1          | 1       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 16              | 1          | 1       | 1          | 1       | 1          | 1       |

4/1/24-7/30/24

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 5               | 1          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 7               | 1          | 4       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 2       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 1       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 12              | 2          | 4       | 0          | 1       | 0          | 2       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and 25th Ave S

7/1/24-9/30/24

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 8               | 1          |         | 1          | 1       | 1          | 2       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 10              | 2          | 1       |            |         |            | 4       |
| On Trails           |                 |            |         |            |         |            |         |
| Total               | 18              | 3          | 1       | 1          | 2       | 1          | 6       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and 25th Ave S

10/1/24-12/31/24

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 12              | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 4          | 2       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 4               | 1          | 0       | 1          | 0       | 1          | 1       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 16              | 1          | 0       | 1          | 0       | 5          | 3       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St (expanded this quarter with North Loop opening)

1/1/25-3/31/25

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 2               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 4               | 3          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 1          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 1               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 7               | 3          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 1          | 0       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St

4/1/25-6/30/25

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 7               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 1          | 1       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 3               | 4          | 2       | 0          | 0       | 2          | 1       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 1          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 10              | 5          | 2       | 0          | 0       | 3          | 2       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St

# Appendix E

## Cheasty Boulevard FindIt FixIt Data Summary

07/1/25-09/30/25

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 0               | 10         | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 0               | 76         | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 2          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 0               | 88         | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |

10/01/25-12/31/25

|                     | Report Type     |            |         |            |         |            |         |
|---------------------|-----------------|------------|---------|------------|---------|------------|---------|
|                     | Illegal Dumping | Encampment | Pothole | Electrical | Signage | Vegetation | Parking |
| Near Trails*        | 0               | 22         | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Other parts of Blvd | 0               | 2          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| On Trails           | 0               | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |
| Total               | 0               | 24         | 0       | 0          | 0       | 0          | 0       |

\*Defined as between 4310 Cheasty Blvd and S Bradford St