

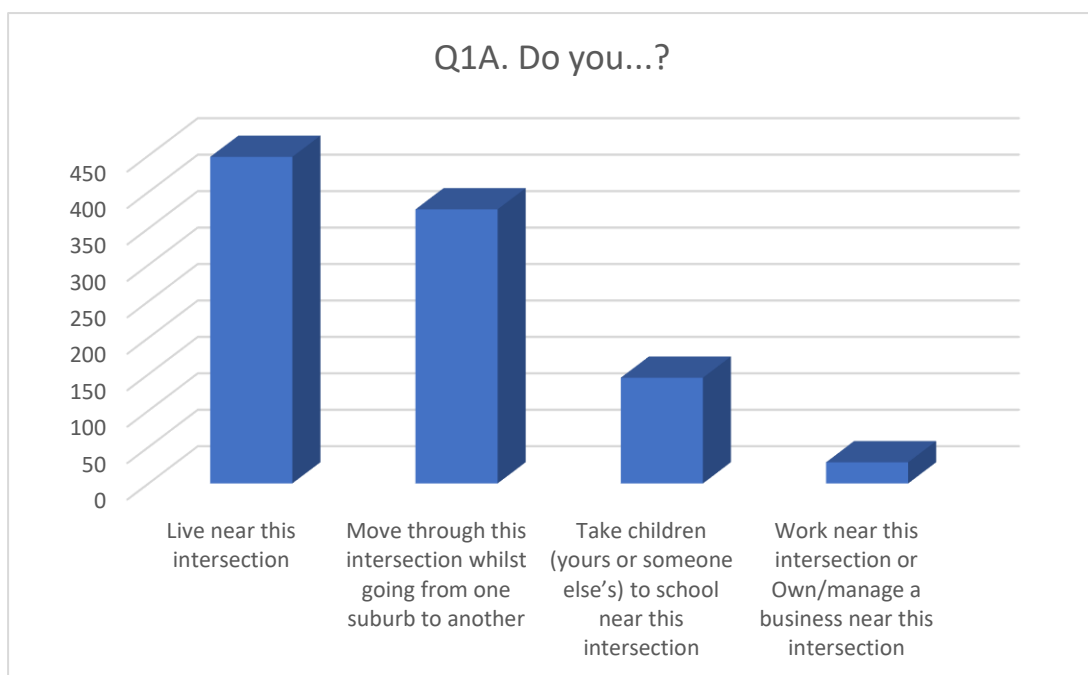
Enhancing Safety at the Box Hill/Station Road Intersection

In response to an ePetition presented to Wellington City Council on 12 September 2019, we engaged with the Khandallah community in July 2020 and carried out a survey to gauge the community's views about traffic safety issues at the Box Hill and Station Road intersection.

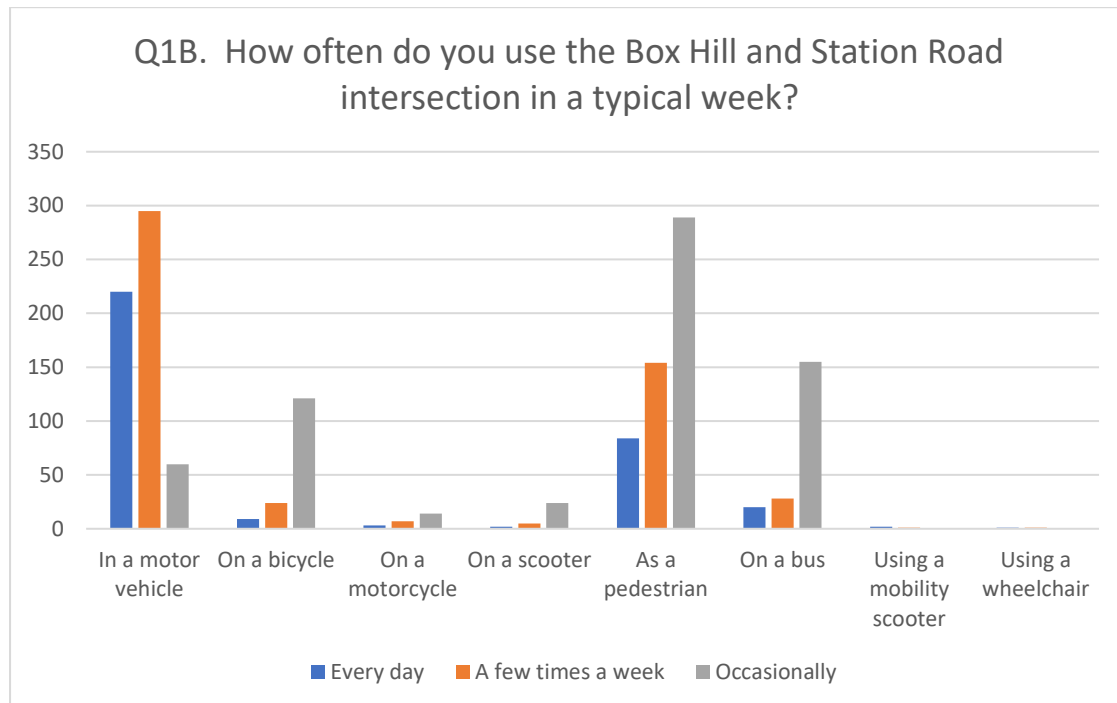
The survey was anonymous and was open from 20 July until 10 August 2020. There were 582 people who responded, and the summary of results are listed below.

Results Summary

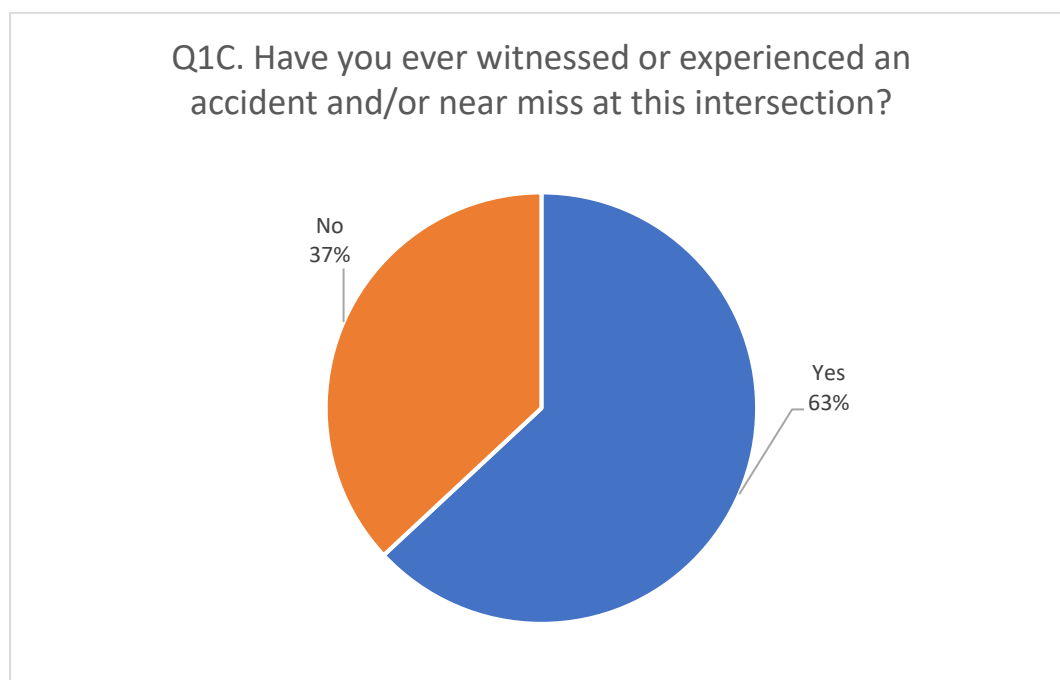
- 448 of survey respondents live near the intersectionⁱ and 376 regularly move through the intersection while going from one suburb to another. 145 respondents take children to school near this intersection.



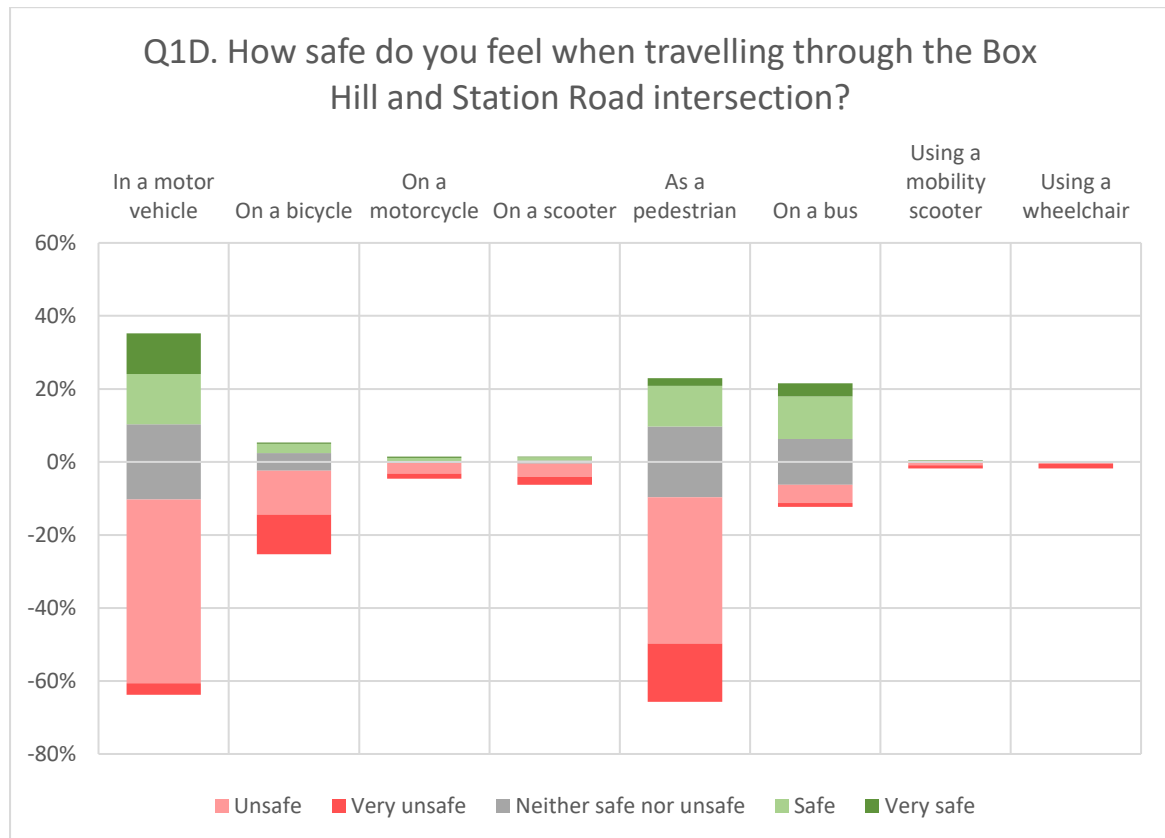
- More than 500 respondents move through the intersection every day or a few times a week as a motorist. More than 200 respondents move through it every day or a few times a week as a pedestrian with at least 250 occasionally.



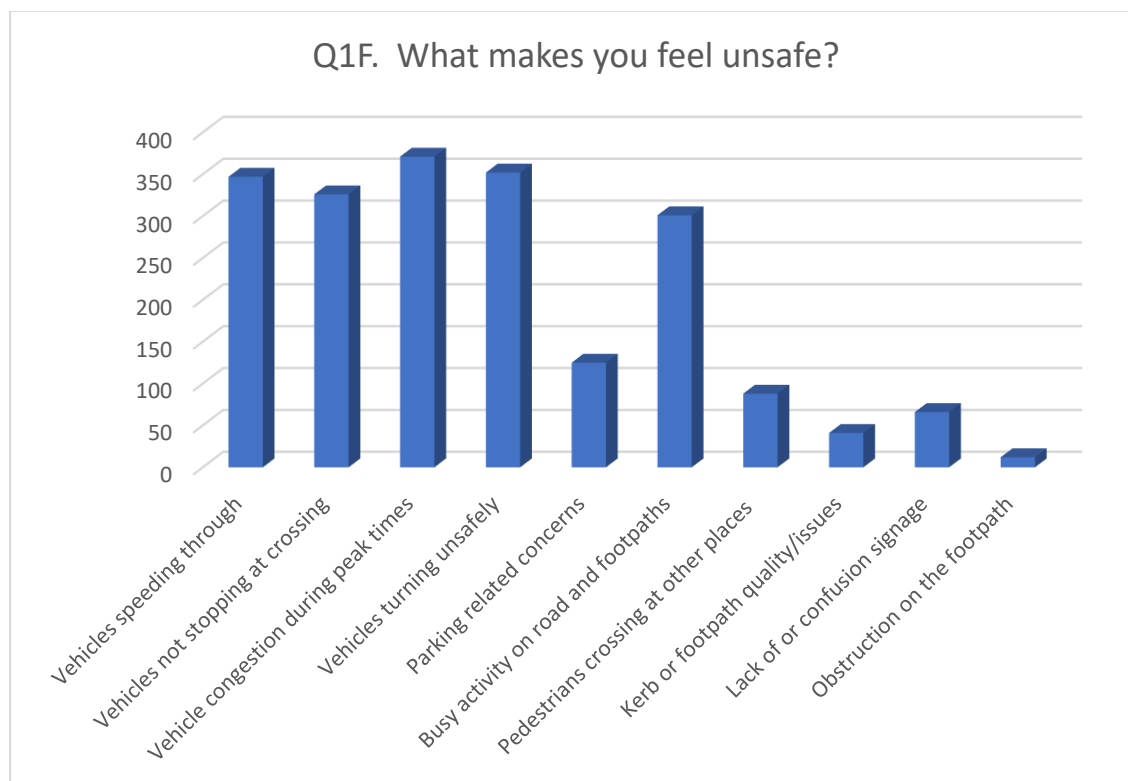
- 63% of survey respondents have witnessed a recent accident or a near miss. Of the 63%, 87% had witnessed a recent near miss and 13% had witnessed a recent accident.



- More than 50% felt unsafe-to-very-unsafe either in a motor vehicle or as a pedestrian. The survey indicates that there is a general feeling of being unsafe in some way around the intersection except by bus.



- Of those who reported feeling unsafe, the top five reasons identified were:
 - Vehicle congestion during peak times
 - Vehicles turning unsafely
 - Vehicles speeding through the intersection
 - Vehicles not stopping at the zebra crossing
 - Busy activity on road and footpaths



Themes from the open questions

The overarching theme from the open responses is that “a lot that can happen at once” at this intersection with challenging topography. The following were commonly noted by respondents.

1. Impromptu child activity because of the childcare locations nearby. About this, respondents said things like:
 - “[I have seen] children crossing the road almost hit by cyclists and motorists”
 - “Drivers don’t see school children using the pedestrian crossing. I had to drive onto the other side of the road to avoid them”.
2. Road users in vehicles not making safe and timely right turns from both directions. About this, respondents said things like:

- “Cars that turn right out of station road onto the main road take their life in their hands each time they do this”
 - “Cars desperately [try] to get out of side roads”.
3. The location of the hill combined with layout of the intersection and the amount of activity possible nearby means it can be difficult to manage speed and see risks as a motorist. About this, respondents said things like:
- “[There is] no visibility of the pedestrian crossing coming down the hill, had to brake suddenly and ended up rear ending another car”
 - “Very hard to see cars that come around corner, plus cars stopping for crossing. [This] has led to numerous near misses in last year”
 - “Near miss coming out of station road due to northern blind spot”
 - “Drivers make too little allowance for the complexity of the area and are impatient”.

When asked what could make the intersection safer, the most common suggestions included:

- Installing traffic lights and/or roundabout
- Lowering the speed limit
- Relocating the pedestrian crossing.

The findings suggest that users need to be able to quickly react to multiple hazards, sometimes with limited visibility. The results suggest that near misses may be common.

Conclusion:

Based on a high percentage of concerns received regarding safety at the intersection there is a mandate to further investigate options for safety improvements.

The information gathered from the survey will form part of the assessment at this intersection. We are now conducting further investigations to identify safety improvement options.

We will update our website with the short list options and present a preferred option to the Khandallah community in November 2020 with the opportunity for the community to comment.

Next steps:

- October 2020 – Determine and analyse a preferred option
- November 2020 – Presentation to the community on a preferred option
- December 2020 – Develop a detailed design for the preferred option

ⁱ Near means about a 15-minute journey from the intersection for pedestrians and footpath users, or 5 minutes by vehicle.