

6th Street Diverter Test 2021 Survey Feedback

August 2021

6th Street Diverter Test Overview

- Diagonal diverter temporarily placed in the intersection of East 6th Street and Bates Avenue from April to May 2021
- Diverter directs eastbound traffic on 6th Street coming from the Interstate 94 exit ramp onto Bates Avenue towards 7th Street and directs westbound traffic on 6th Street onto Bates Avenue towards 3rd Street. Directional signage indicates the changes and direct traffic onto East 7th Street.
- Online survey was used to collect feedback from residents. The online survey was opened two weeks after the diverter was placed to ensure users had an opportunity to get used to the diverter and traffic patterns were adjusted.
- Traffic counts were not included as part of this test. (See below for potential impact of COVID-19.)
- Letter mailed to approximately 1,000 nearby property addresses.
- Shared information on the test and survey on NextDoor targeting surrounding neighborhoods.
- Information and survey (closed) available at www.stpaul.gov/6thtest

Potential Impact of COVID-19 pandemic and changes to traffic volumes and travel patterns

- 2021 East 6th Street Diverter Test was completed in April and May 2021 when traffic volumes and travel patterns were still impacted by COVID-19 pandemic.
- Specifically, peak hour (rush hour) traffic volumes were not at pre-pandemic levels, likely due to the number of people still working and attending school remotely.
- Metro State University, which is immediately adjacent to East 6th Street and the test diverter, was not operating in-person during the test.

Overview of Who We Heard From

2021 Survey Respondents

- 290 survey responses
- 97% of respondents live in Saint Paul as indicated by zip code in Q10
- 92% of respondents live in zip code 55106 (Dayton's Bluff neighborhood and surrounding eastside area)

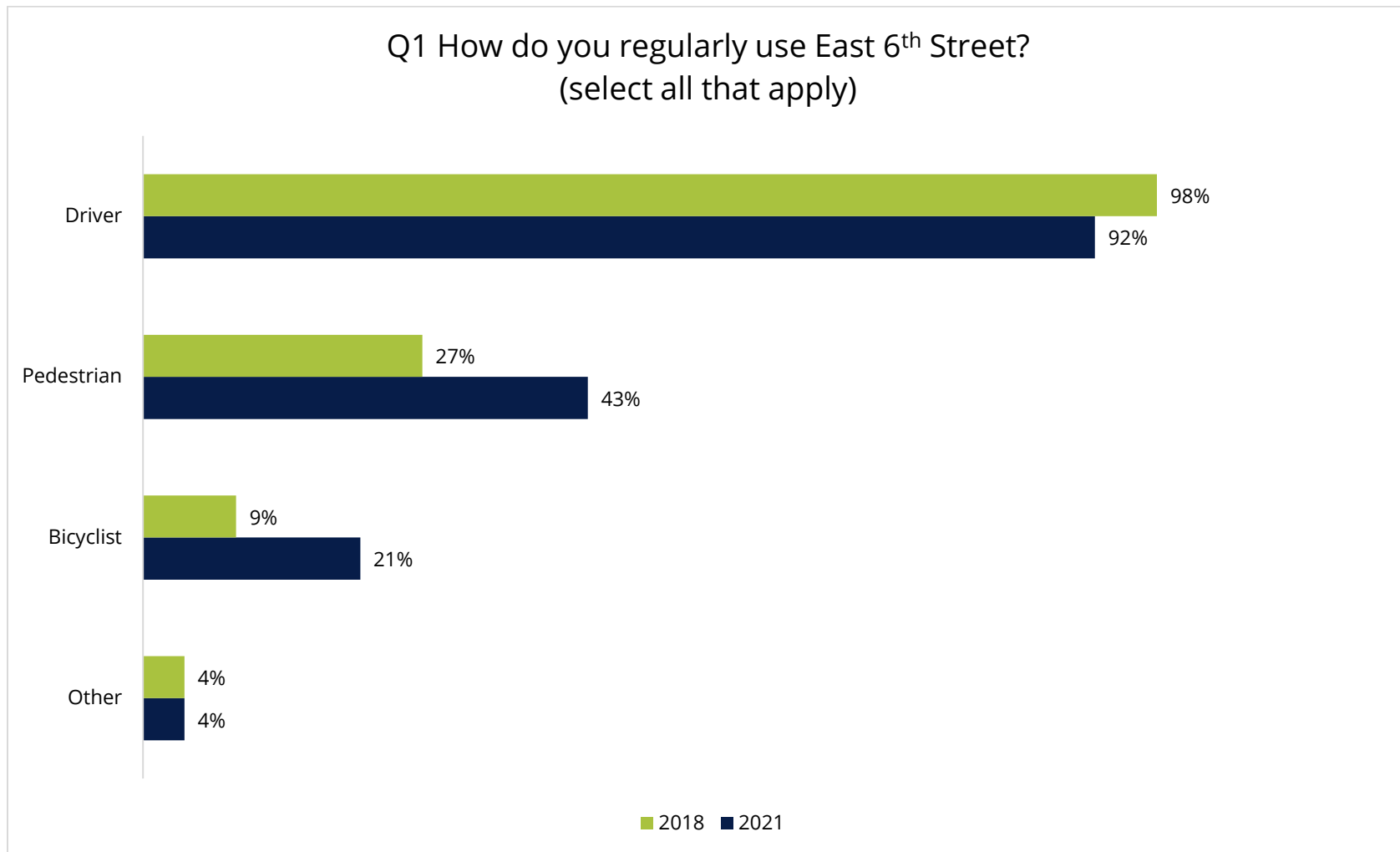
2018 Survey Respondents

- 395 survey responses
- 85% of respondents live in Saint Paul
- 75% (294) of respondents live in zip code 55106 (Dayton's Bluff neighborhood and surrounding eastside area)

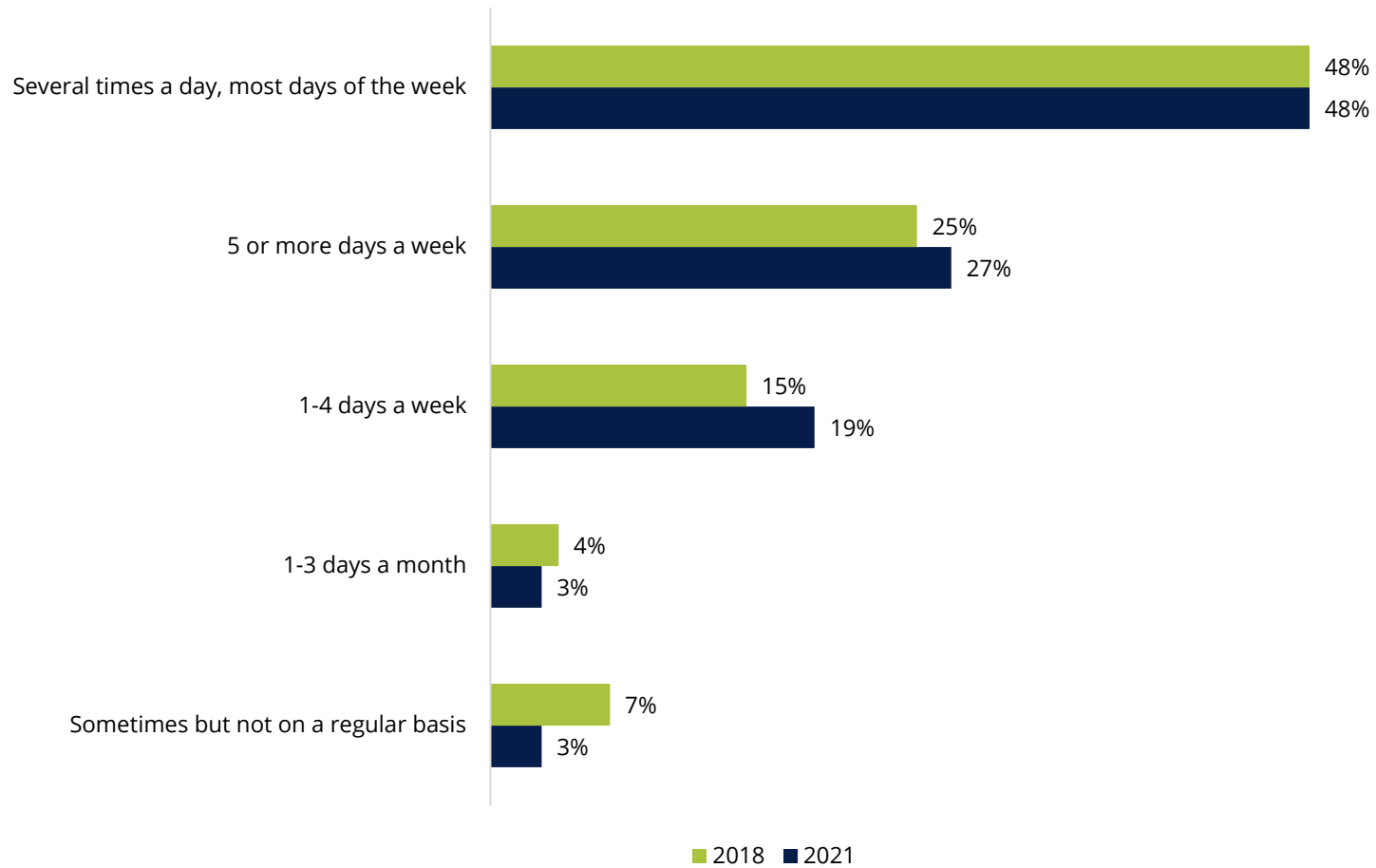
Responses to Survey Questions

Compared 2021 and 2018 survey responses as possible

**Note that 2021 test was done during the COVID-19 pandemic, which resulted in potential impacts to traffic volumes and travel patterns*

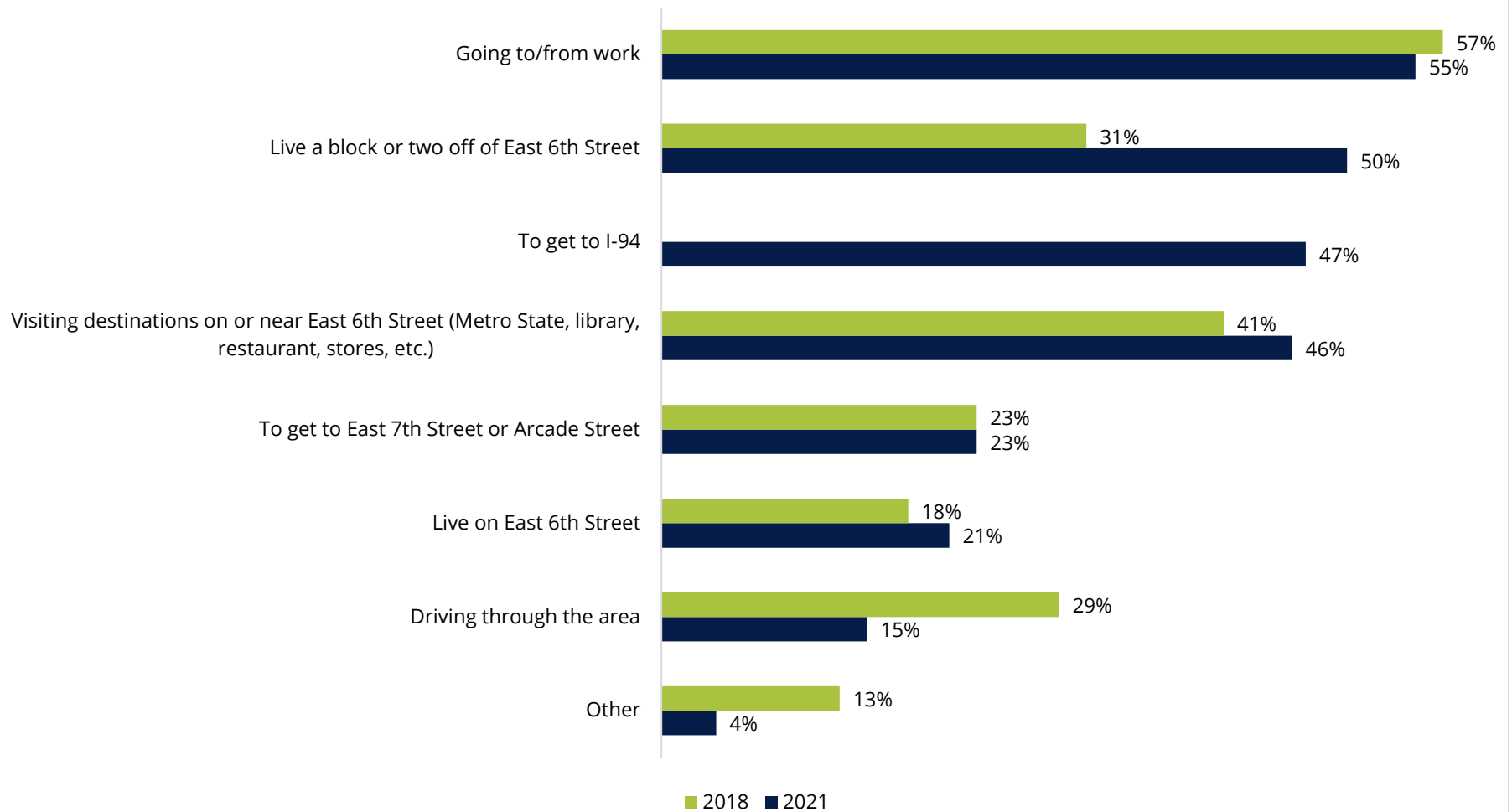


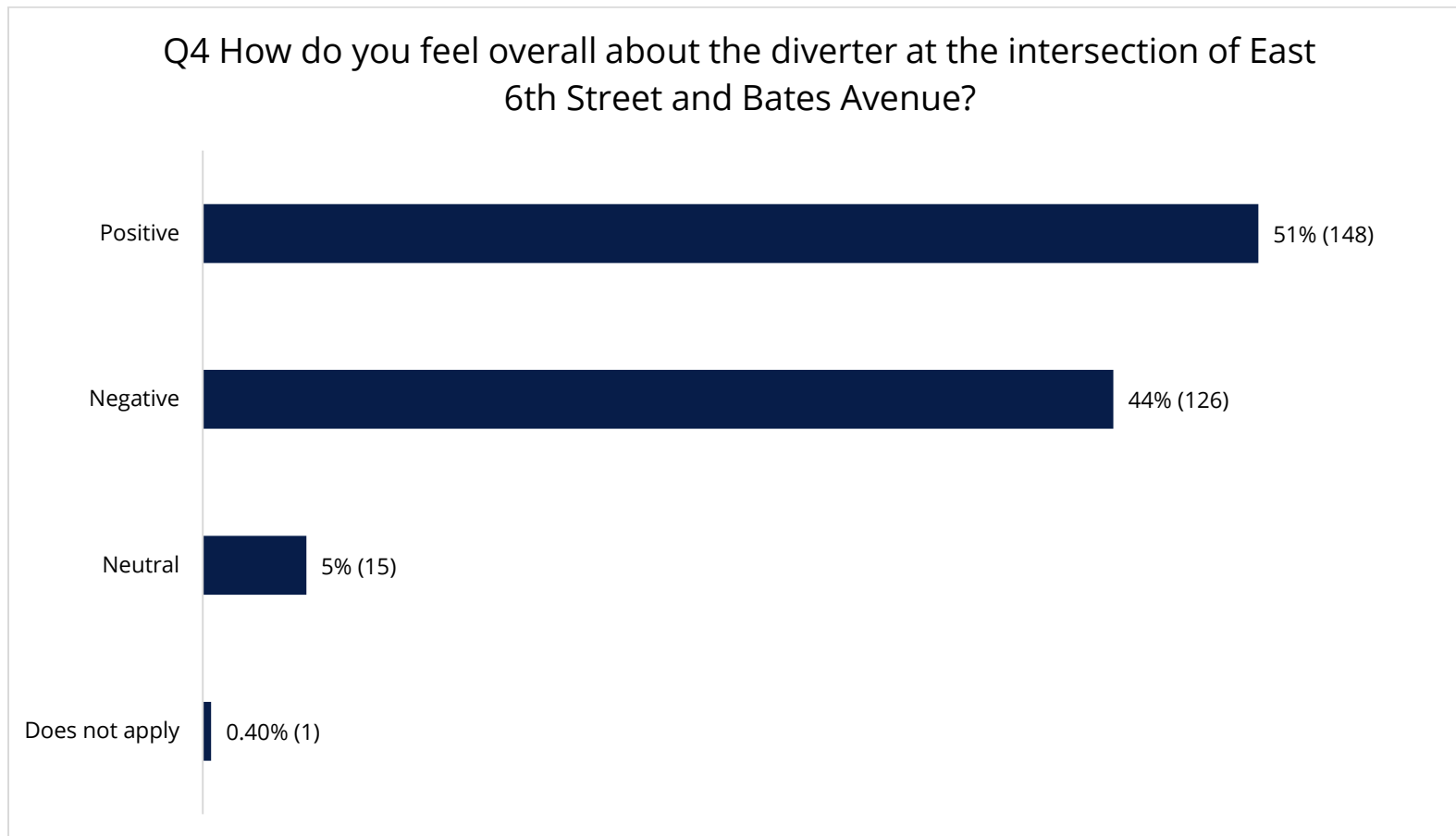
Q2 How often do you use East 6th Street?



Q3 Why are you traveling on East 6th Street between Mounds Boulevard and Arcade Street? (select all that apply)

Note: "To get to I-94" was not an option in 2018 survey



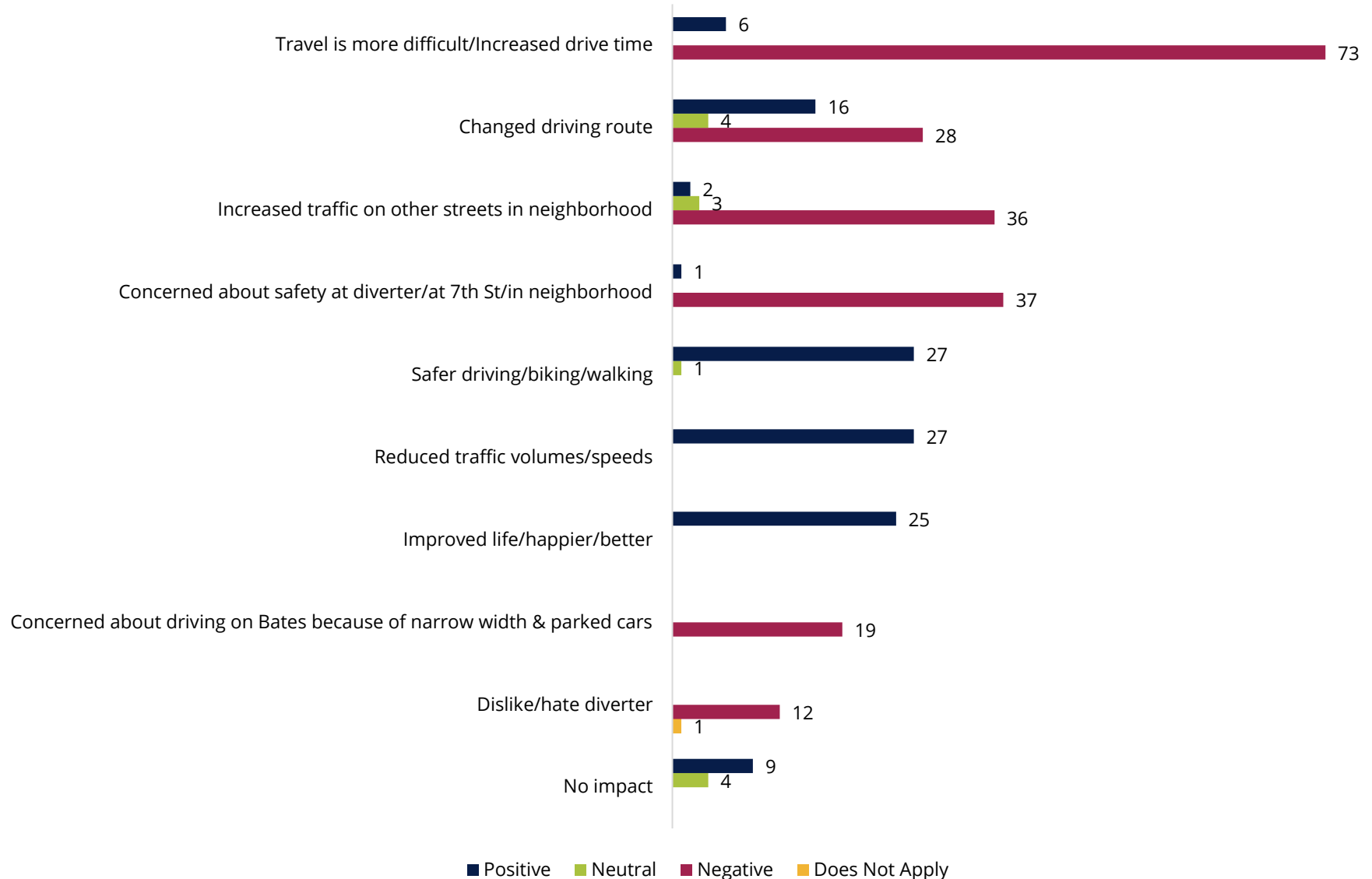


Note: 2018 response to Q4 How do you feel overall about the closure of East 6th Street?

- Positive – 29%
- Negative – 65%
- Neutral – 6%

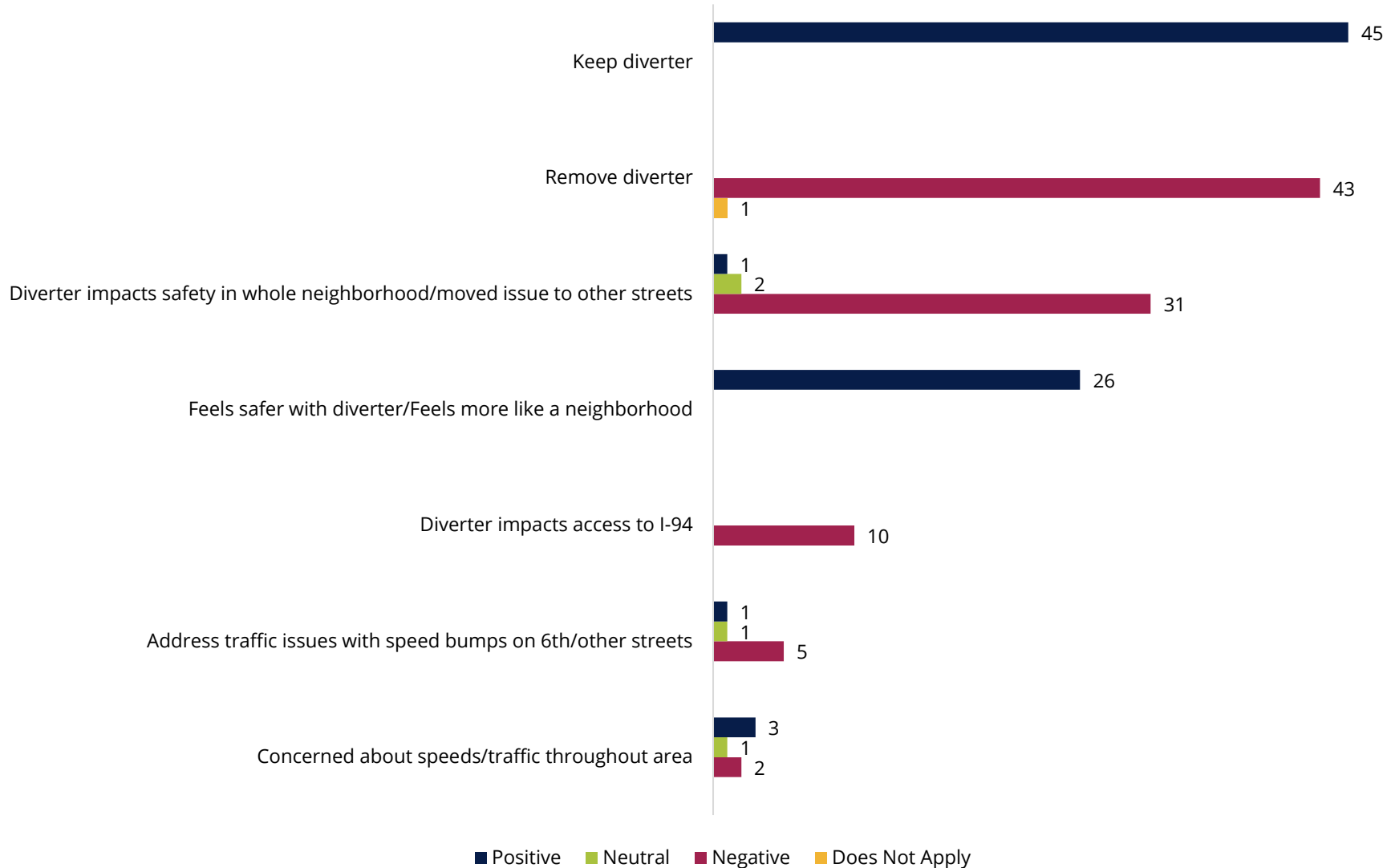
Q5 How, if at all, has the diagonal diverter at the intersection of East 6th Street and Bates Avenue impacted you? (open-ended)

Note: Main themes identified in open-ended responses sorted by responses to Q4 How do you feel overall about the diverter at the



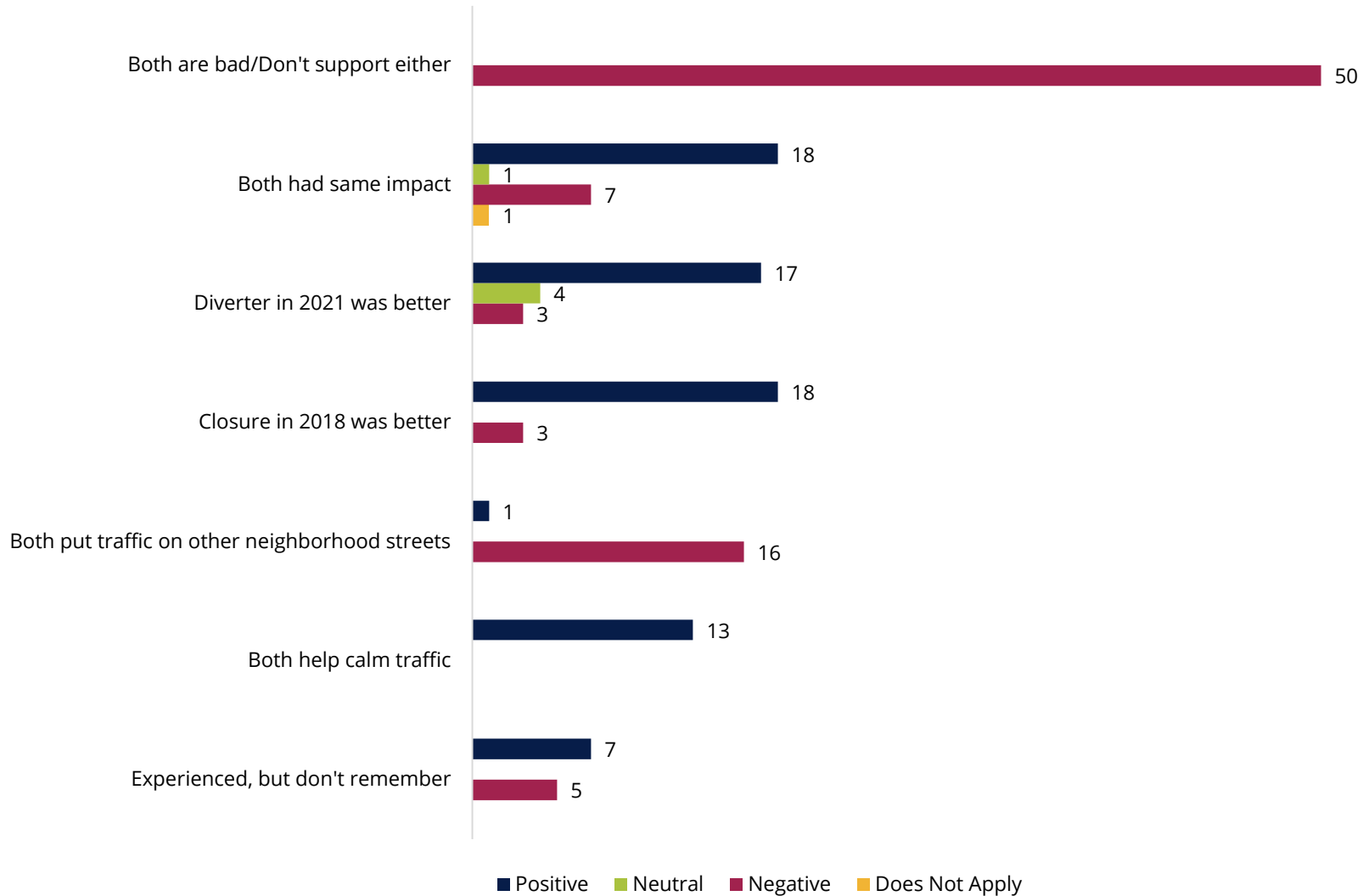
Q6 Anything else you want to tell us about the diagonal diverter at the intersection of East 6th Street and Bates Avenue? (open-ended)

Main themes identified in open-ended responses sorted by responses to Q4 How do you feel overall about the diverter at th

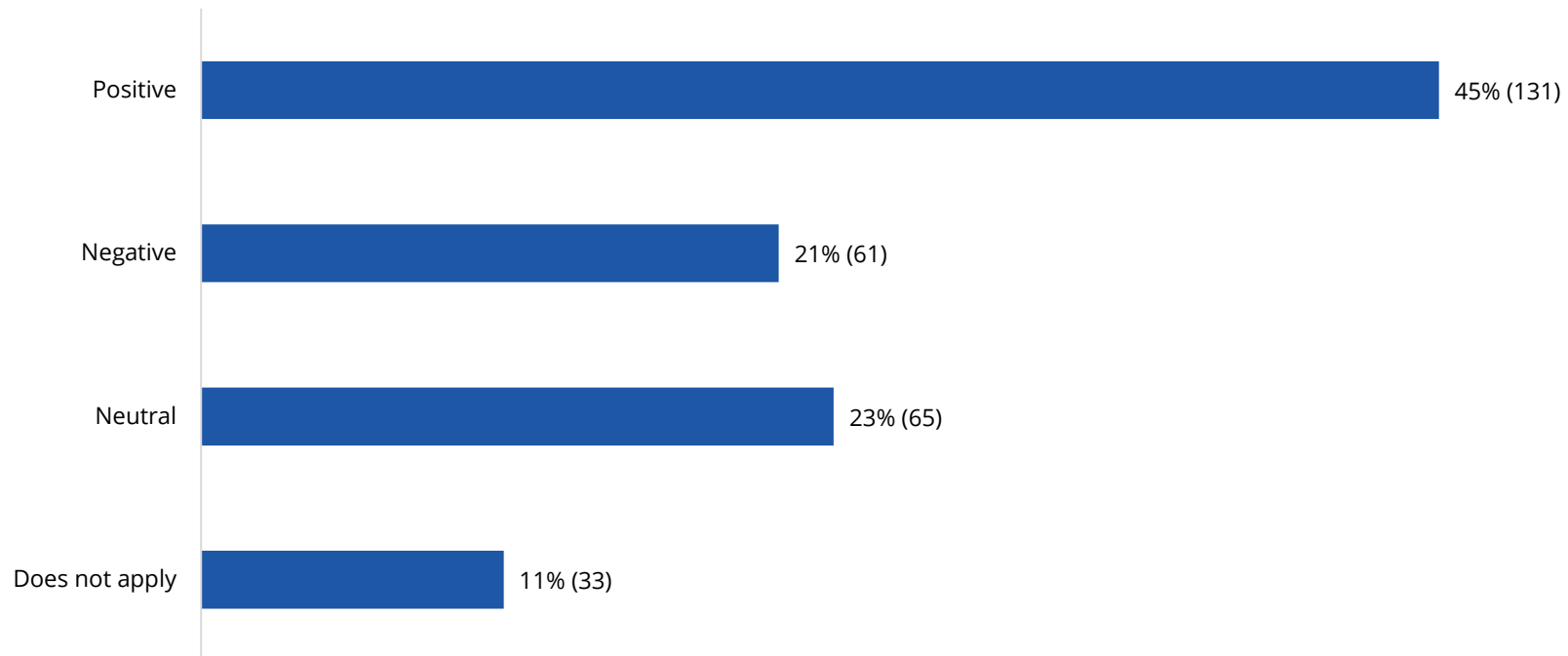


Q7 If you experienced the test closure of East 6th Street at Mounds Boulevard in 2018, how would you compare the impacts of the two different traffic calming techniques (closure and diverter)?

Main themes identified in open-ended responses sorted by respon

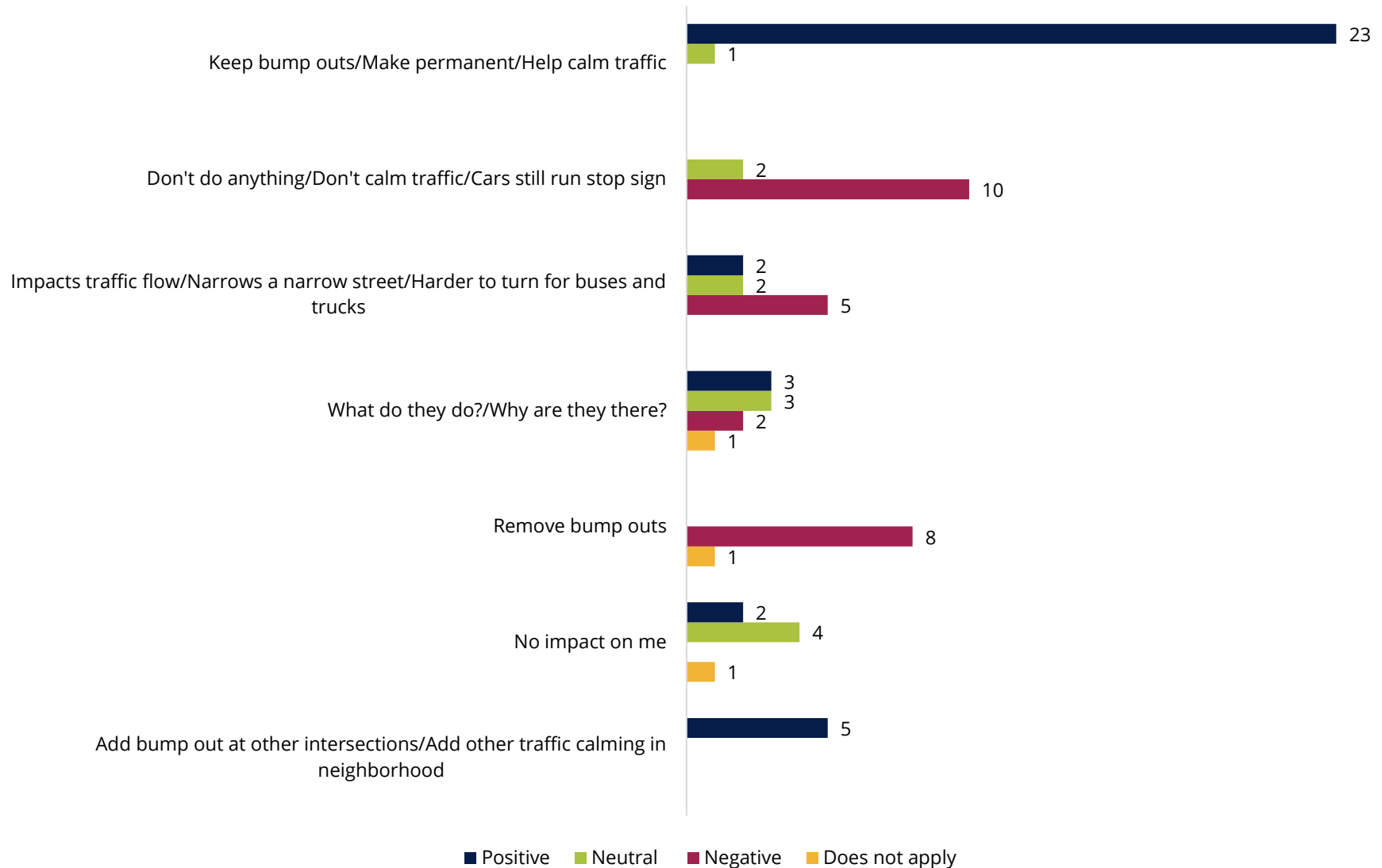


Q8 How do you feel overall about the temporary bump outs at the intersection of Bates Avenue and East 4th Street?



Q9 Anything else you want to tell us about the temporary bump outs at the intersection of Bates Avenue and East 4th Street? (open-ended)

Note: Main themes identified in open-ended responses sorted by responses to Q8 How do you feel overall about the tempor



Q11 Thinking about this neighborhood, including East 6th Street, Bates Avenue, East 4th Street, East 3rd Street, and East 7th Street, how do you feel about traffic conditions and driver behavior? (open-ended)

- 217 of 290 respondents answered
- Main themes identified in open-ended responses:
 - Drivers are speeding, ignoring traffic controls, and reckless everywhere in the neighborhood (and everywhere else)
 - Add traffic calming features (speed bumps, bump outs, stop signs, etc.) throughout the neighborhood to address speeds and reckless driving
 - Increase police traffic stops to address speeds and reckless driving
 - Drivers mainly seem fine, although there are some issues
 - Intersection of Mounds Boulevard and 3rd Street East needs to be addressed to make it safer
 - East 7th Street needs to be fixed to help traffic flow – concerns about safety because 4 lanes of traffic feels narrow with parked vehicles; add traffic signals so neighborhood cross traffic can access safely
 - Diverter doesn't address the traffic issues in neighborhood, impacts access to I-94, and should be removed
 - Diverter has helped calm traffic and should be kept