

Blatnik Bridge Online Survey Summary

An online survey was available from December 8 through December 31, 2021 to ask people about their use of the Bong Bridge for walking and bicycling, and their potential use of the Blatnik Bridge if a safe and accessible multimodal path is added to the bridge when it is reconstructed beginning in 2028.

A total of 323 people completed the survey, with an additional 74 people completing at least part of the survey. Of survey respondents, 56% indicated that they had walked, run, or bicycled across the Bong Bridge at some point in the past. People cross the Bong Bridge on foot or bike for a variety of reasons, with exercise, recreation, and access to a park or trail topping the lists of reasons. Bong Bridge users reported a wide variety of issues with the existing sidewalk on the bridge, primarily that the pathway is too narrow, that it can be challenging to get to, and that the Bong Bridge is out of the way for the destination they are trying to reach.

When asked about a potential multimodal facility on the Blatnik Bridge, 73% of respondents indicated that they would walk or run across the Blatnik Bridge at least a few times a year, and 28% indicated they would do so a few times a month or more frequently. A larger proportion of respondents indicated they would bicycle across the bridge: 77% stated they would bike across the bridge a few times a year or more frequently, and 35% stated they would do so a few times a month or more frequently.

When considering a new multimodal path on the Blatnik bridge, 22% of survey respondents indicated that they would use such a facility even though they currently never use the facility on the Bong Bridge, indicating the potential for a new connection over the Saint Louis Bay to encourage more walking and bicycling in the Twin Ports. In reviewing general comments about the project, 72% of comments were supportive of including a multimodal facility on the Blatnik Bridge, 11% were opposed to including such a facility, and 17% of comments were unrelated to a multimodal facility.

