



CURB USE SURVEY

Manhattan Community Board 4 | April-May 2022

2022 MCB4 CURB USE SURVEY

Methodology:

- Manhattan Community Board 4 (MCB4) launched a survey in April-May 2022 to collect input from community members on the most important uses of curb space.
- The survey was sent out via MCB4 members, the MCB4 email newsletter, and further distributed by community groups.
- Within a month, over 700 responses were received, including nearly 400 associated with residential zip codes within Manhattan Community District 4 (MCD4).

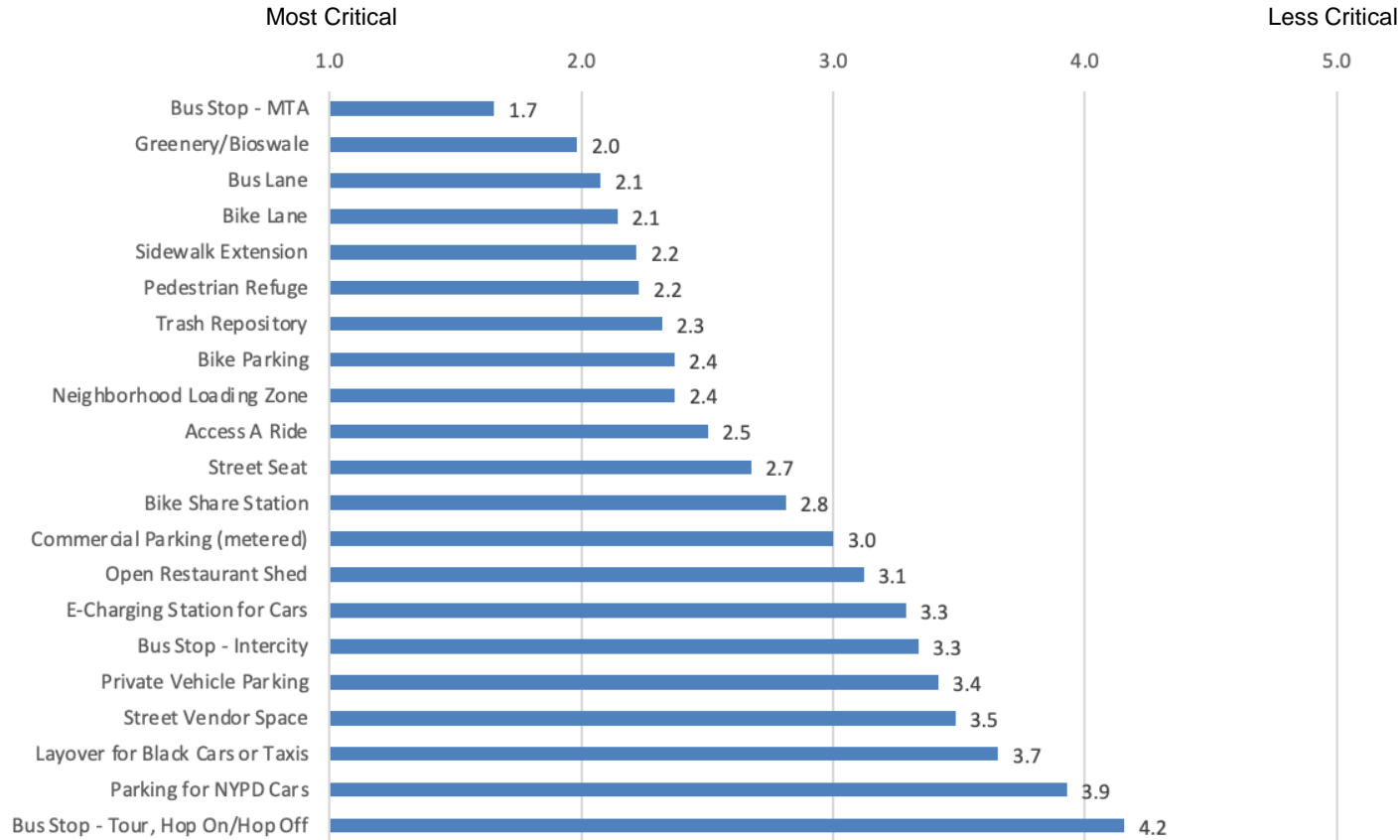
Key Findings:

- Public transit, pedestrian and bike uses tended to be most highly prioritized by residents. For residential streets, MTA bus stops, greenery/bioswales and bus lanes were the highest prioritized uses.
- For commercial arterials, MTA bus stops and bus lanes were the most prioritized, followed by greenery/bioswales and bike lanes. Top uses were similar for citywide and MCD4 respondents.
- Tour bus stops, NYPD parking and space for black cars/taxis were among the lowest prioritized uses on both types of streets.
- MCD4 residents' comments reflected ongoing debates over the use of curb space, including around the topics of parking availability and outdoor dining.

RESIDENTIAL STREETS - ALL RESPONSES

Question: Please rate various curb uses (1 is the most critical use)

Average Score for Residential Streets

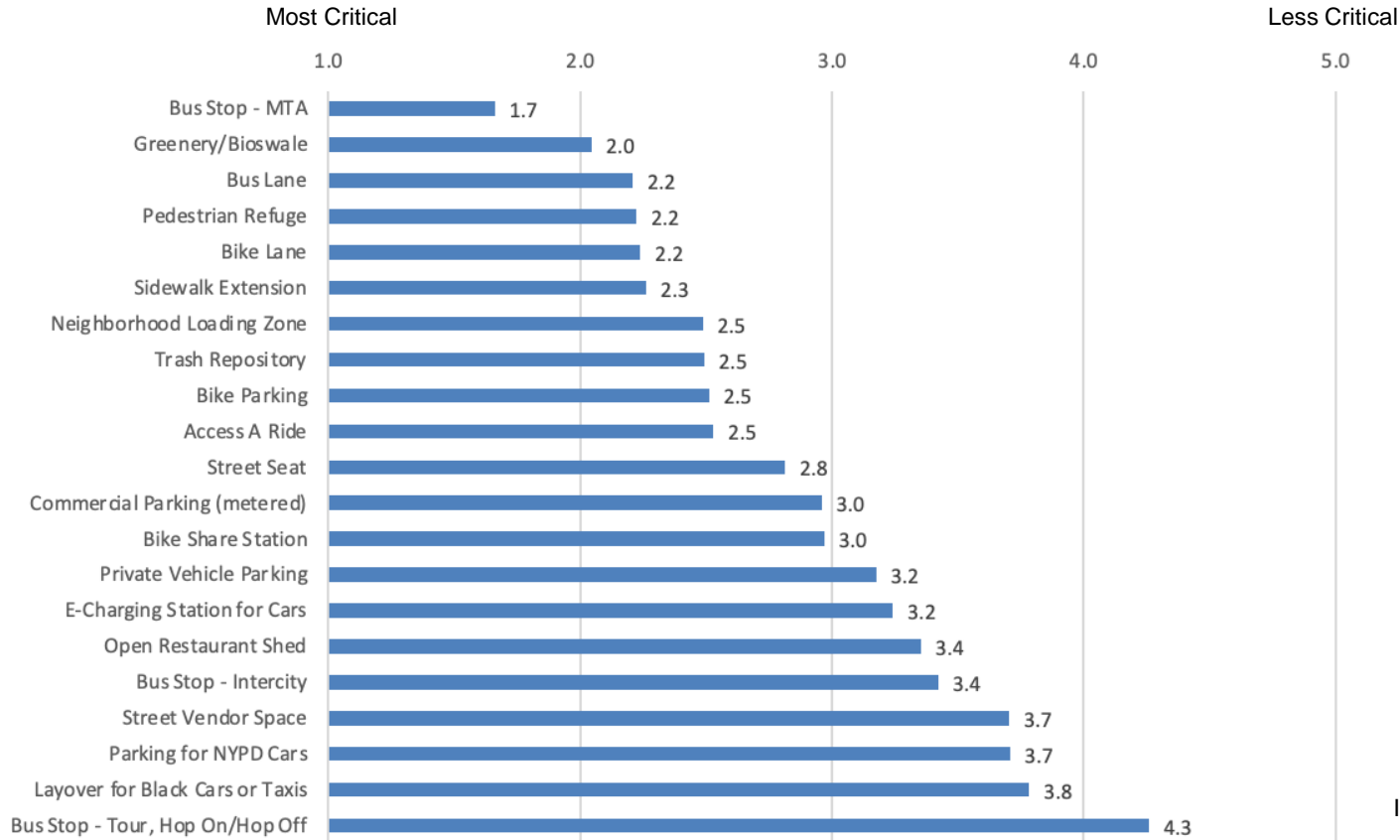


n=807 responses

RESIDENTIAL STREETS - MCD4 RESPONSES

Question: Please rate various curb uses (1 is the most critical use)

Average Score for Residential Streets (CD4)

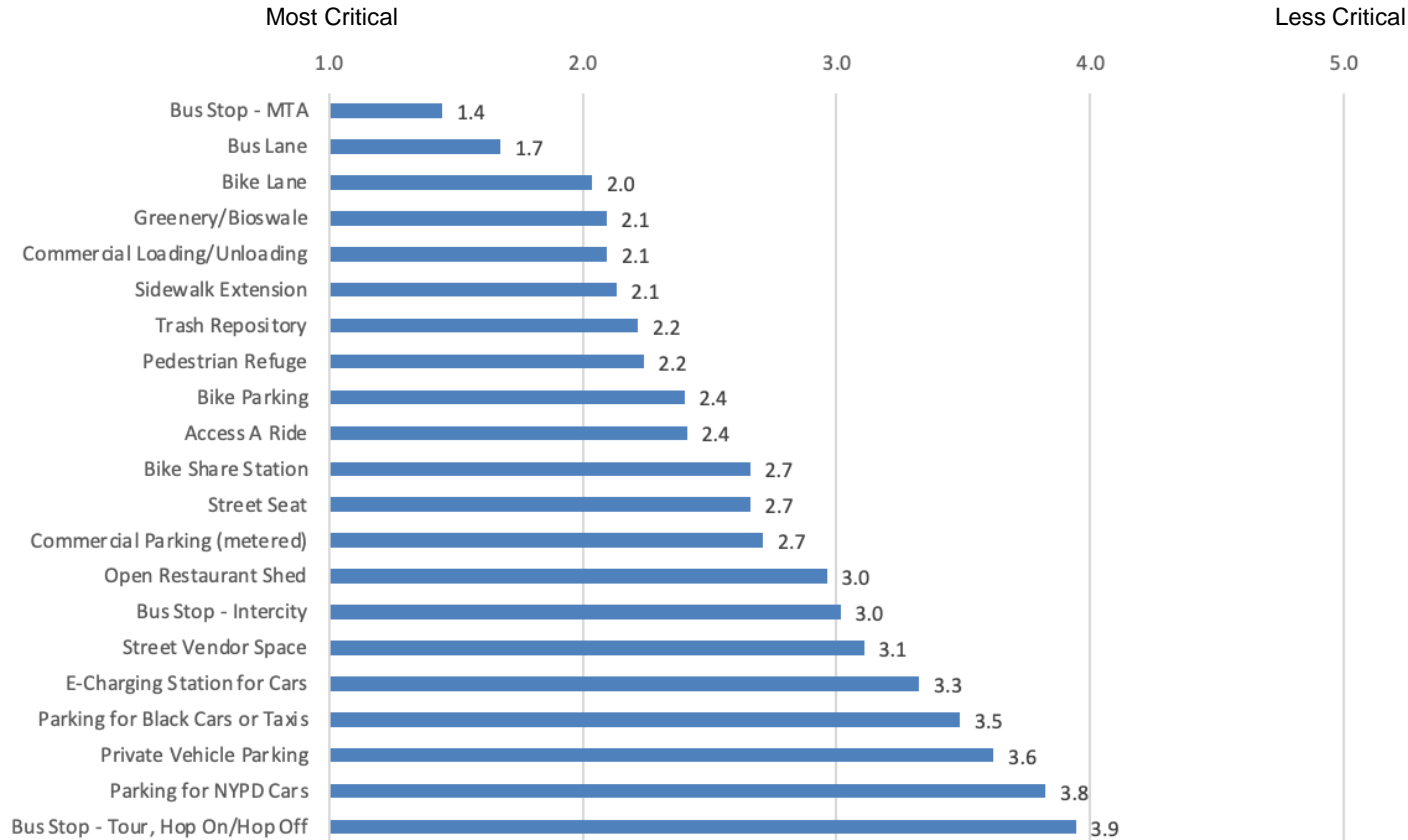


n=380 responses
Includes zips 10011, 10001,
10018, 10036, 10019

COMMERCIAL ARTERIALS - ALL RESPONSES

Question: Please rate various curb uses (1 is the most critical use)

Average Score for Commercial Arterials

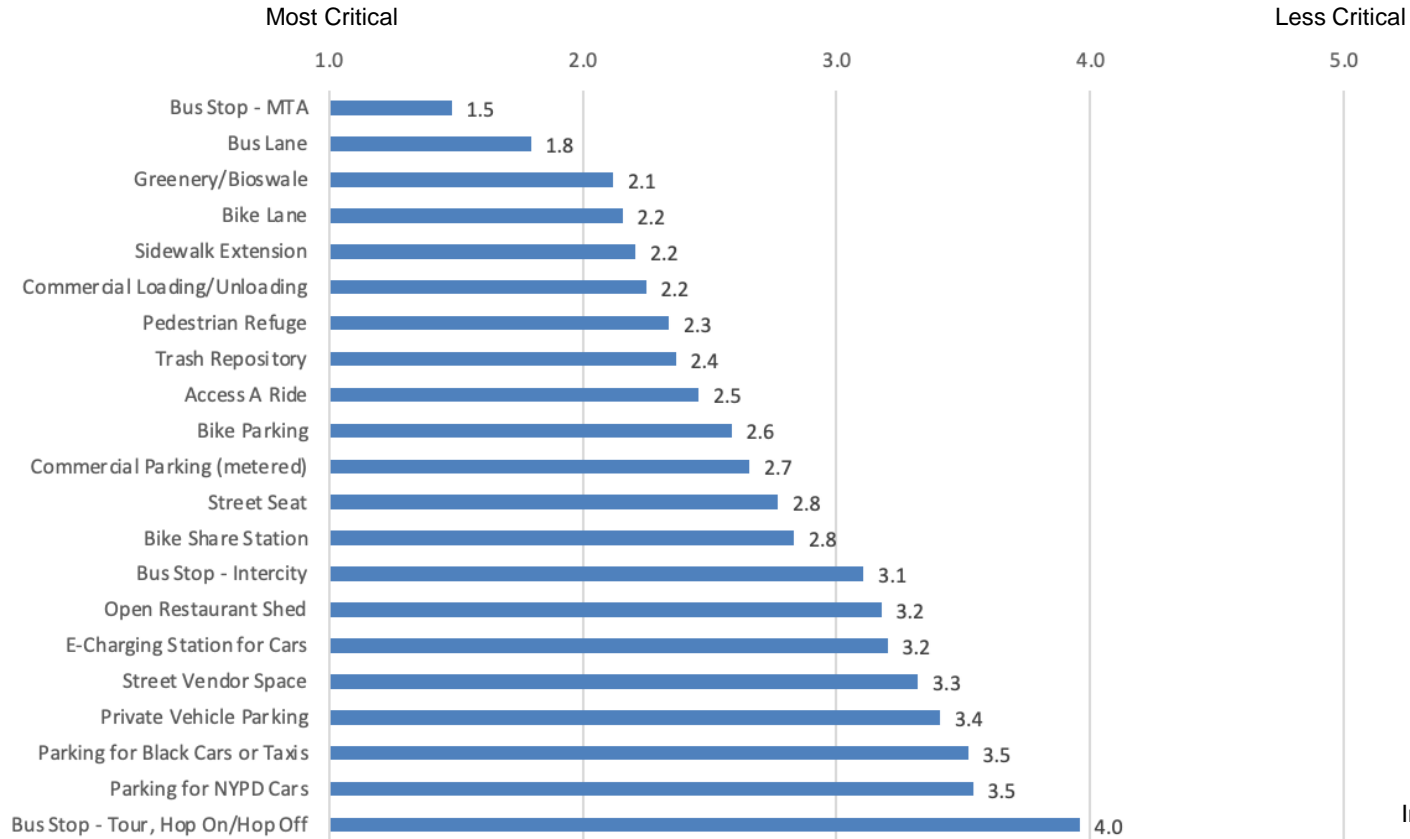


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COMMERCIAL ARTERIALS - MCD4 RESPONSES

Question: Please rate various curb uses (1 is the most critical use)

Average Score for Commercial Arterials (CD4)



n=380 responses
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Respondent Comments (MCD4)

The most frequent MCD4 resident comments were about parking (both for and against, with a majority advocating against private parking), open restaurant sheds (majority against), enforcement, sanitation, and bikes.

Select MCD4 Respondent Quotes:

Prioritization of pedestrians over parking

- *Pedestrian safety first. Encourage walking. Improve the bike infrastructure. The fewer private cars, the better. There should be no free parking, ever.*
- *First, prioritize pedestrians: easy and safe. Then mass transportation: bus, access-ride, bike. Finally parking: discourage use of private vehicles in the city.*
- *Streets should prioritize pedestrians, transit and productive uses above and beyond storage of private vehicles, which must be excluded almost entirely.*
- *I have no interest in any kind of parking for private vehicles in the neighborhood. We need more space for people walking and biking. Car ownership in our neighborhood is low!*

Need for additional parking for residents

- *There has been an increasing assault on resident parking in the Chelsea area. As a long-term resident who has had a car the entire time, which is taken out of the city almost every day for work, this is becoming burdensome.*
- *Nothing has been said about the right of existing residents to park in their own block as opposed to allowing parking from even out of state cars.*

Need for enforcement

- *Impose fines for bikers and pedestrians who flagrantly violate traffic rules posing great danger to themselves and drivers. Mandate helmets on Citibikes*
- *There also needs to be enforcement. I mostly travel by bus, and there is usually at least one car, taxi or truck parked or standing in the bus stop.*

Respondent Comments, continued (MCD4)

Select MCD4 Respondent Quotes:

Restaurant Sheds

- *The restaurant sheds have got to go. Outdoor tables and chairs are ok, but the sheds are not built to code. they are moldy, block proper gutter water drainage and block street cleaners.*
- *There should be a limit to #of seats in restaurant sheds. Should not double or more the actual size of restaurant. Should be built to keep rats out and water/snow moving to sewers.*
- *Restaurant sheds are nice except there are way too many on small side streets where the streets are narrow and residents need parking.*

Sanitation

- *Anything anything anything to get the trash off our streets. And bring back compost.*
- *Accelerate containerization of commercial and residential trash or allow it to be placed, cordoned off, in the street on pick up days. For those with wheelchairs or children the mountains of trash can become difficult to pass.*
- *Yes, I would love for you to find a way to not pile trash on the sidewalks anyway as it just gets so gross! Do I prefer green spaces and nicely done restaurant sheds 100%.*

Bikes

- *I am happy to see bike lanes, bike stations and increased bike riding. At the same time, as an older pedestrian, I frequently feel unsafe with bikers ignoring traffic signals, riding in the wrong direction, and riding on sidewalks.*
- *What will be done about bicycles, e-bikes, scooters, and now even motorcycles that freely ride all over the sidewalks? Pedestrians are in danger ON THE SIDEWALKS because of vehicular traffic.*

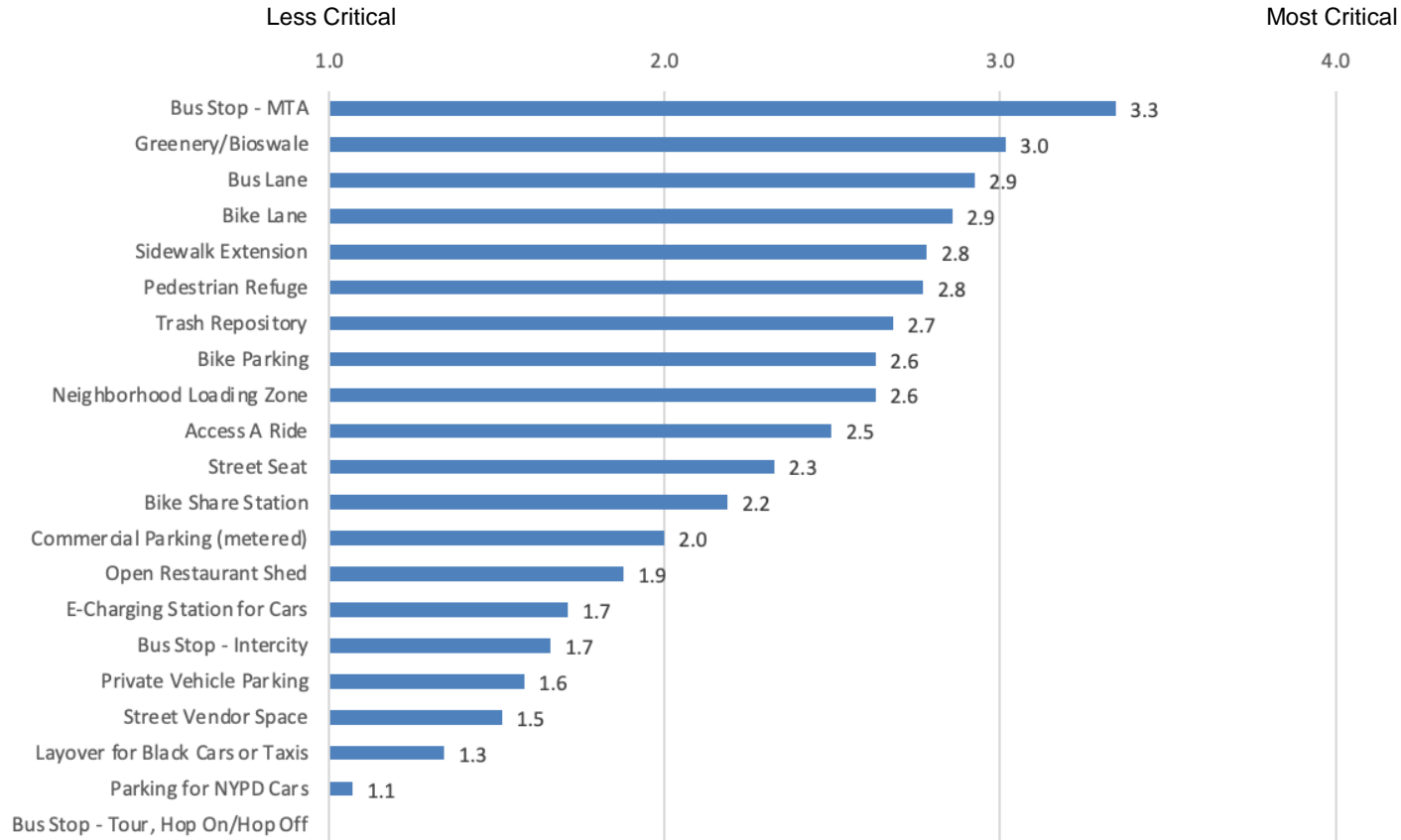
Appendix

Graphs with ratings flipped where 5 is Most Critical

RESIDENTIAL STREETS - ALL RESPONSES

Question: Please rate various curb uses (5 is the most critical use)

Average Score for Residential Streets

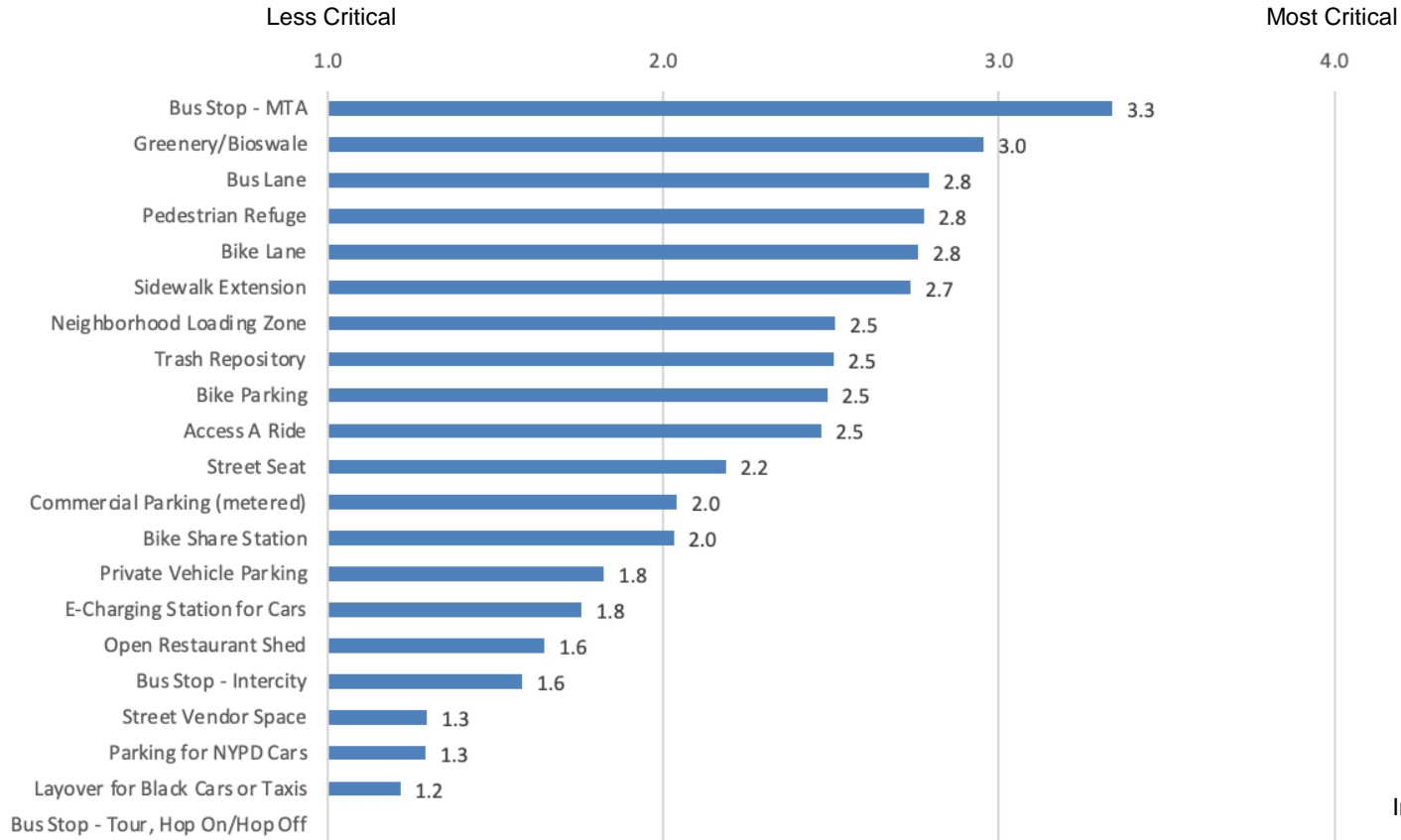


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RESIDENTIAL STREETS - MCD4 RESPONSES

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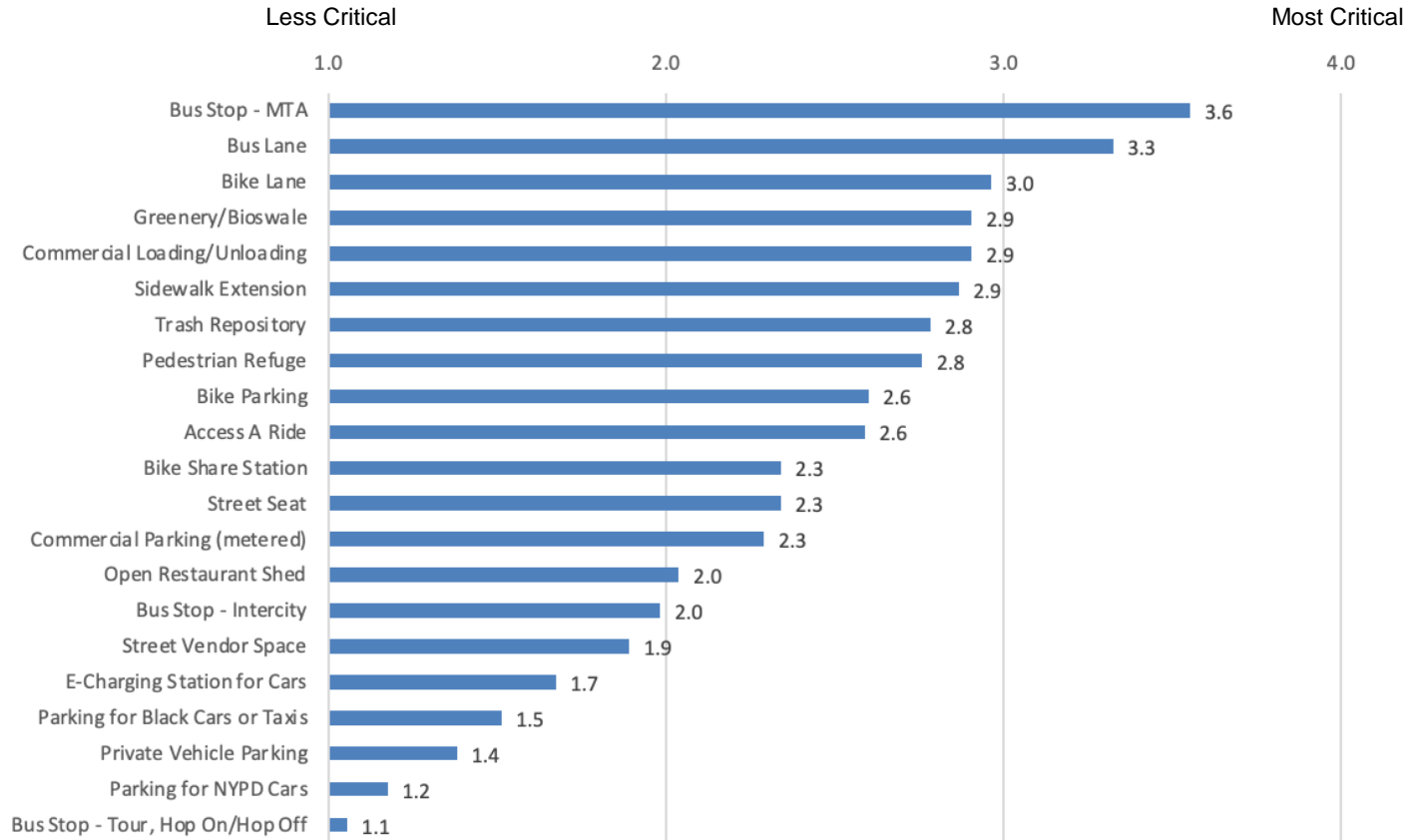


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COMMERCIAL ARTERIALS - ALL RESPONSES

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Average Score for Commercial Arterials

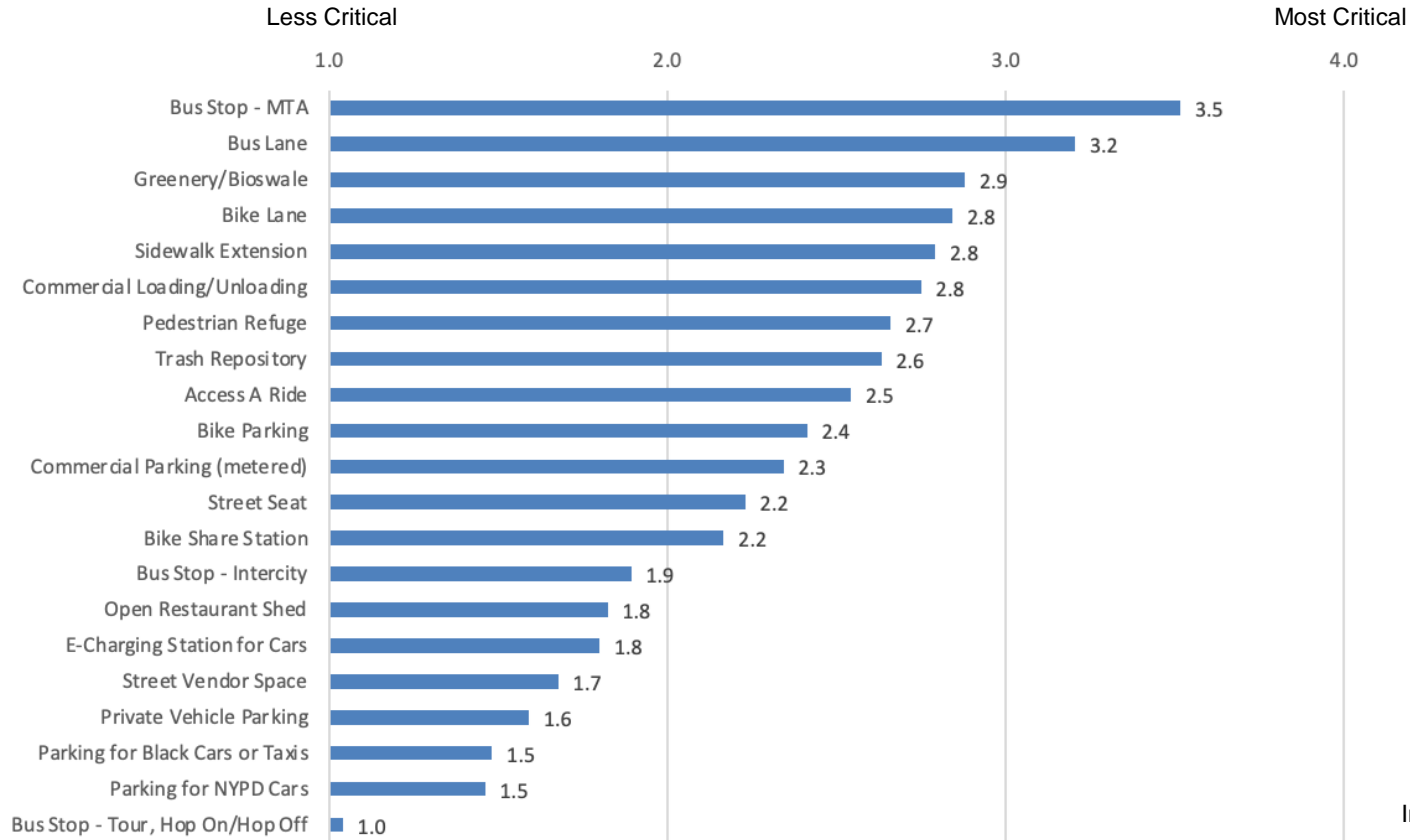


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COMMERCIAL ARTERIALS - MCD4 RESPONSES

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Average Score for Commercial Arterials (CD4)



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