SAANICH E-BIKE INCENTIVE PILOT PROGRAM

The Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) has been actively engaging with regional and international partners on just transitions. Within this initiative the CSPC has launched the Transportation Access, Climate and Economic Security (ACES) project to design a regionally focused climate equity framework for transportation decision making. The CSPC is using this framework to maximize co-benefits in program planning decisions that lead to best climate, accessibility, and affordability outcomes.

CSPC has collaborated with the District of Saanich and UBC REACT Lab to help design and implement the Saanich E-Bike Incentive Pilot Program. Because of the high upfront cost of low-carbon transportation alternatives such as electric vehicles (EVs), people with low-incomes face additional barriers to transitioning away from carbon heavy transportation.

Background

An e-bike, which costs about 1/10th of an EV, could be a more viable economic option for people with low-incomes. In 2018 the average cost of an e-bike in British Columbia was $3,000;[1] the Saanich e-bike incentive project works to mitigate the initial affordability challenge of purchasing an e-bike by providing tiered incentives for different income levels.

A key element of the Saanich E-Bike Incentive Pilot Program was the development of two key tools: tiered rebate levels linked to household income and size, and income testing that respected individual's right to privacy and reduced unnecessary administrative load. The three-tiered incentive amounts provided to participants were: $350, $800, and $1600.

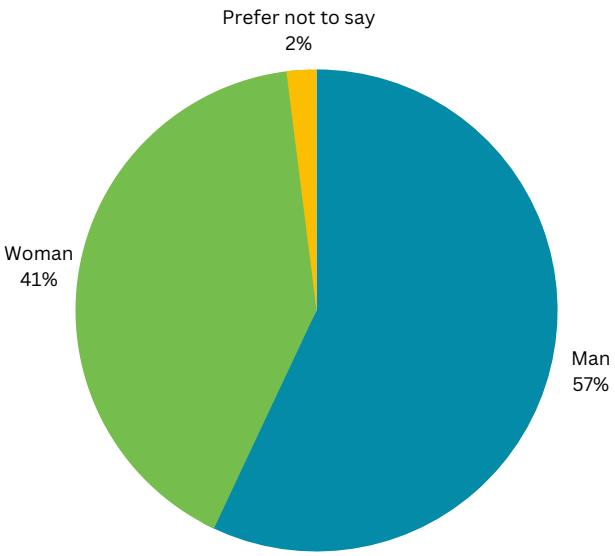
This report was completed before the $800 incentive level data was available. Please read the next page for the results of the $350 and $1600 incentive levels.

THE RESULTS

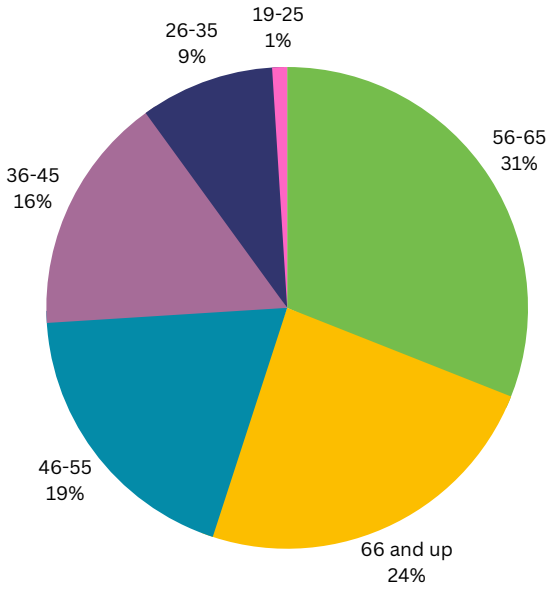
The $350 Incentive Level

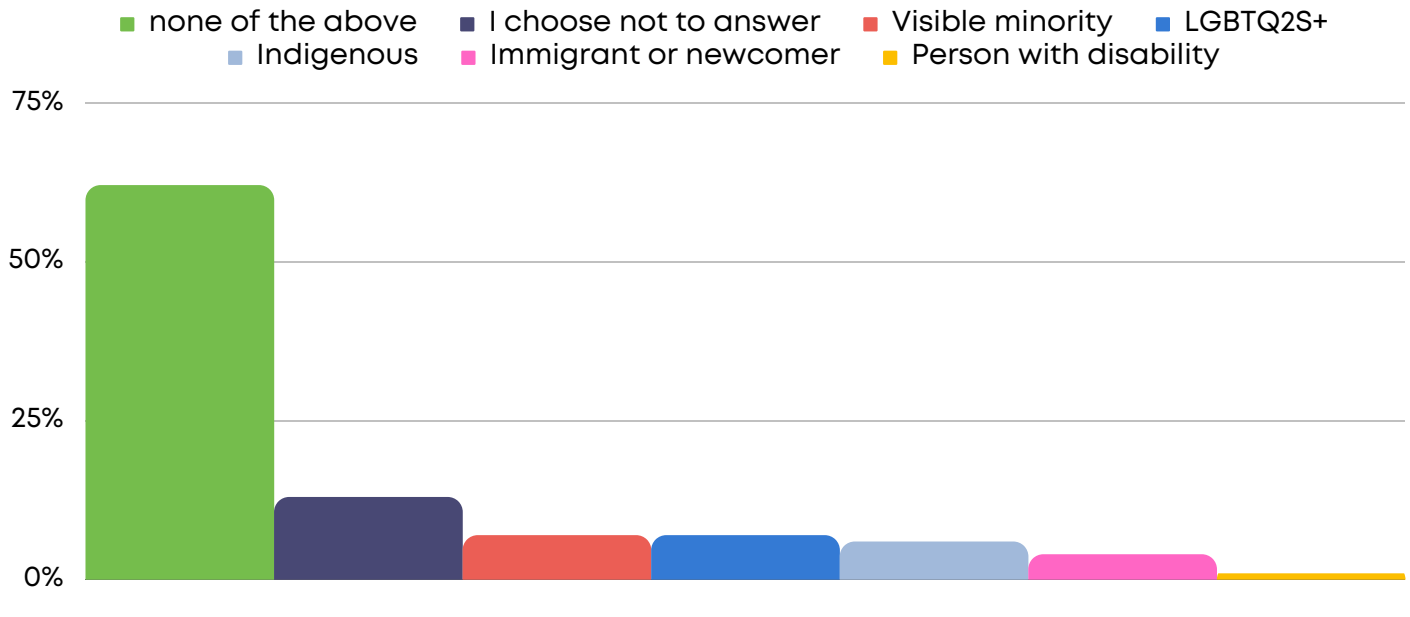
The average price of e-bikes purchased by participants in this incentive level was **$3,339.78.** The $350 incentive covered about 1/10th of the average e-bike purchased. There were one hundred and eighty-two participants in this incentive level.

Participants Gender



Participants Age



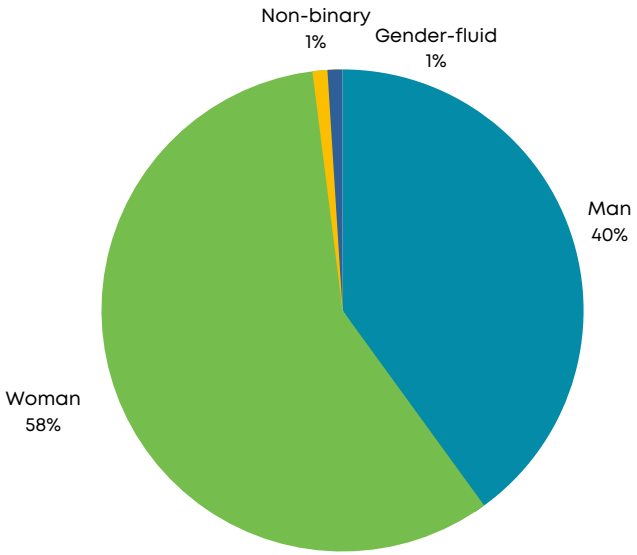


THE RESULTS

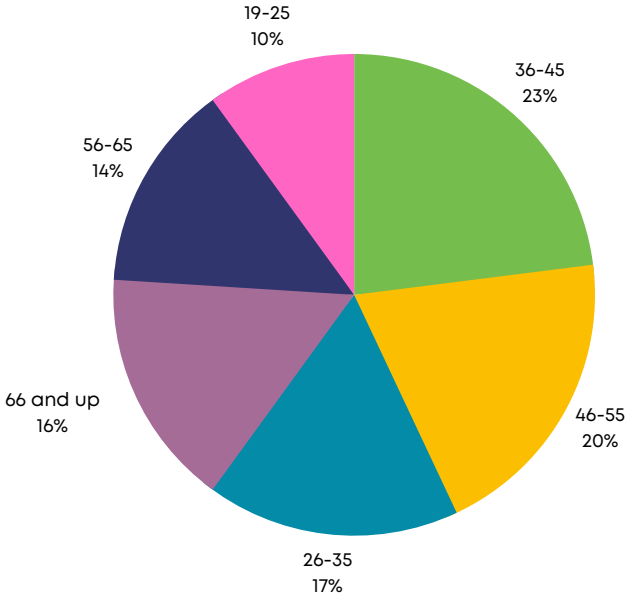
The $1600 Incentive Level

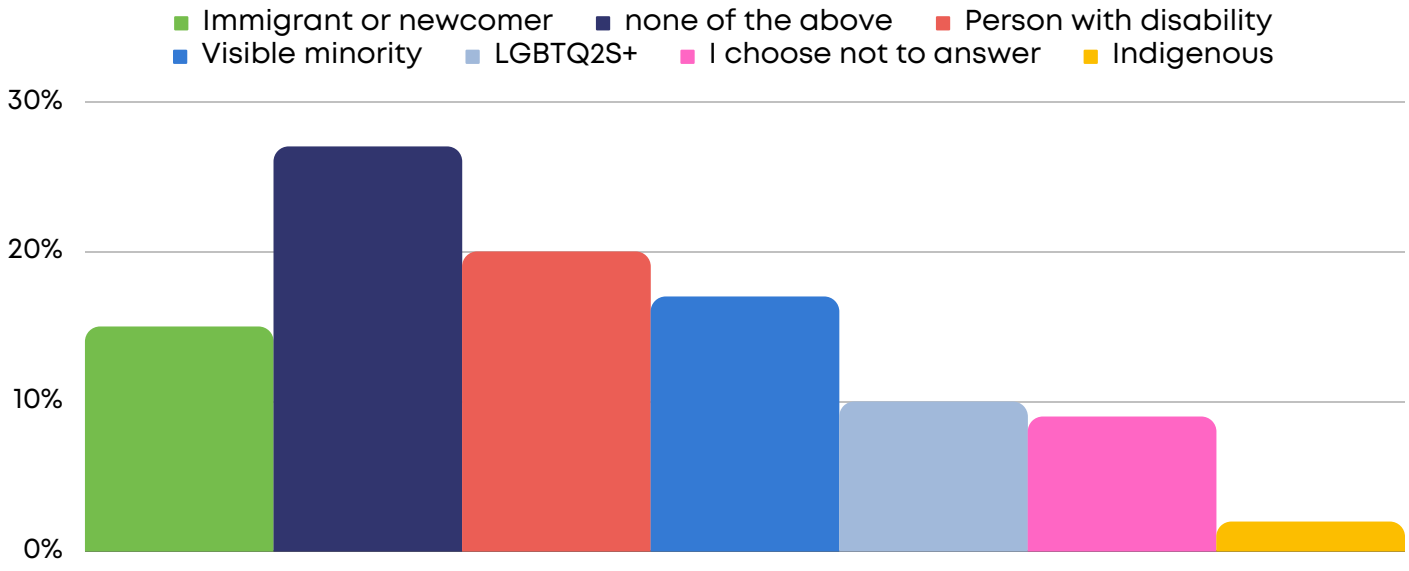
The average price of E-bikes purchased by the participants in the $1600 Incentive level was **$2,566.34.** the incentive of $1600 covers 62% of the average e-bike purchased. There were one hundred and one participants in this incentive level.

Participants Gender



Participants Age





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