

# What We Heard

District of Sooke Budget Engagement 2022

Distributed October 18, 2021



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## Background

Staff identified a phased approach to the 2022 budget conversation:

- Early Learning
- Service Level Review and Citizen Budget Survey
- Budget Discussion
  - Service-level Review
  - Results from Public Input
- Draft Budget
- Open House
- Budget Approval

Starting in June 2021, District staff began an early learning conversation with the community to understand how best to connect and what information they were seeking most. This data was applied in the next phase of the community conversation and service level review which took place from August 31<sup>st</sup> to September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2021. While the District aimed to direct users to engage in the online platform, recognizing some residents prefer print materials, a modified survey was also distributed as a cover-wrap through the Sooke News Mirror.

The information contained in this report provides a snapshot of community input on the 2022 budget. Verbal conversations through in-person events are not captured in this report.

## Report

### Process and Methods

The District used “Let’s Talk Sooke” as a foundation to the budget conversation where residents could access:

- Information on the budget process
- Budget related documents and links
- Follow the budget process (timeline)
- Ask questions at any time
- Participate in the “early learning” survey

Through the early learning phase staff focussed on in-person engagement with residents, connecting with approximately 160 residents at parks and storefronts. This was complemented by participation through a 3-question online survey completed by 140 participants. Through this phase, we learned that electronic mailing lists, community pop-ups, and the District website were preferred means to connect with residents. We also learned that citizens wanted to know more about what the District is doing to respond to the climate emergency, and the status of the Transportation and Parks & Trails Master Plans.

Through the Service Level Review and Citizen Budget Survey, the District used a budget simulation exercise called Citizen Budget (Ethleo) to gather public input to identify priorities for District spending and ideas for delivering a balanced budget. Participants were tasked with increasing, decreasing or maintaining their property tax funding for different budget categories. Participants also voted on a sliding scale how important or unimportant each service was to them.

Ethelo used the results to generate a particular set of funding changes that are predicted to have the most community support.

A modified survey provided a print iteration for those not wishing to participate online. This print survey was distributed through the Sooke News Mirror with additional copies available at the municipal hall and local events.

This report includes results from the data collection during these phases of engagement.

### Advertising

The District used a variety of mediums including in person, online and print to reach the maximum number of residents. Specific tactics included:

- District News Release
- District e-newsletters:
  - August monthly e-newsletter
  - Public Participation Mailing List - Citizen Budget Launch
  - September monthly e-newsletter
  - Public Participate Mailing List – Friday before closing
- Cover wrap on the Sooke News Mirror
- Digital road-side marquee by SEAPARC for one-week; digital road-side marquee by Saseenos for one-week

- Community Pop-ups at parks and local businesses, and event booths at Celebrate Sooke!, the Thursday Night Market and the Sooke Country Market
- District Twitter Feed
- Banner on homepage of District website
- Dedicated page content at [sooke.ca/budget](https://sooke.ca/budget) and [letstalk.sooke.ca/budget](https://letstalk.sooke.ca/budget)
- Signage displayed at parks throughout community

### Response Rates

The District is working to refine its publication participation process and will include a randomized mail out for budget consultation in 2022 to help support statistically relevant data is collected. It is important to note that while the data collected does provide valuable insights to help identify priorities areas and enhance the development of District services, response rates are not statistically significant.

# Early Learning Phase - Results

## Resources

Letstalk.sooke.ca/budget platform:

**Budget 2022**

**JOIN THE CONVERSATION LET'S TALK BUDGET**

The District relies on property tax dollars to provide services and maintain parks and infrastructure that contribute to your quality of life. As a member of the community, it's important that you are informed about the District of Sooke budget, and that you have an opportunity to share your input.

**Engage with us**

Participate in our **quick poll** and **3-question Early Learning Survey** to start to shape the information we provide and how we engage on the budget. This will be followed by a citizen-budget survey later in the year that will seek more detailed input on the District's budgets.

We invite you to **connect with staff at community pop-ups** to learn more about the District's service areas and what projects are currently underway. Ask questions and learn about when key decisions are made and how you can be involved early. This helps to ensure optimum use of resources and your tax dollars.

A **service-level review** and **Citizen Budget Survey** will inform how we adapt the five-year financial plan and next year's budget priorities to set the stage for detailed community budget conversations. This tool will allow you to share your ideas for how the budget might be modified and the impacts of those adjustments.

Also in the fall, the District will also host a **virtual and in-person open house** to provide you with an opportunity to learn more about how the District's budgets are developed, the unique challenges encountered when developing municipal budgets, and our roadmap to an open budget process.

**Budget Documents & Links**

- 2021-2025 Five-Year Financial Plan
- 2021 Budget Open House (Virtual Session Recording)
- Parks & Trails Master Plan
- Transportation Master Plan

**Budget Process (Tentative)**

- Early Learning**  
This phase connects staff and residents on a preliminary budget conversation. Complete our "quick poll" questions and meet with staff at pop-ups throughout the community from June 23-July 16.
- 2022 Service-Level Review & Citizen Budget Survey**  
Residents are encouraged to join the conversation to help shape the District of Sooke's budget priorities by completing an [online survey](#) from August 31-September 26 (note: dates updated August 27, 2021).  
In addition to participating in an online survey, residents will be able to meet with Council and staff at Community Chats: share your ideas, ask questions and receive information.
- Results from Public Input & Discussion**  
Service-level review and public input results for discussion on October 18, 2021.
- Budget Presentation to Council**  
Staff will present the budget to Council for 1st and 2nd reading. (Date: to be confirmed)
  - First reading = tabling or introduction
  - Second reading = discussion in principle and on the content of the bylaw

**Participate in the Citizen Budget Survey & Service Level Review**

31 Aug 2021

The **CITIZEN BUDGET SURVEY** is now live!

Using the **Citizen Budget Survey**, residents can enter their property assessment and see how their tax dollars are distributed between district service areas. Through the survey, residents can also:

## Participation

### Early Learning – preliminary conversation

“Participate in our quick poll and 3-question Early Learning Survey to start to shape the information we provide and how we engage on the budget.”

| Participation        |                         |                        |               |
|----------------------|-------------------------|------------------------|---------------|
| Date                 | Time                    | Location               | Participation |
| <b>June 23, 2021</b> | 2:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  | Broomhill Playground   | 20            |
| <b>June 24, 2021</b> | 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  | Thursday Night Market  | 60            |
| <b>June 25, 2021</b> | 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Western Foods          | 40            |
| <b>July 6, 2021</b>  | 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. | Whiffin Spit           | 23            |
| <b>July 6, 2021</b>  | 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. | Sooke Marine Boardwalk | 8             |
| Total Reach          |                         |                        | 151           |

Table 1: Early Learning – preliminary conversation participation rates

### Early Learning – service area highlights

“We invite you to connect with staff at community pop-ups to learn more about the District’s service areas and what projects are currently underway. Ask questions and learn about when key decisions are made and how you can be involved early. This helps to ensure optimum use of resources and your tax dollars.”

At the service area highlights, residents were given “\$500” and asked to allocate the dollars between three areas:

- Infrastructure
- Resources
- Reserves/Future Planning

This activity is intended to educate public on the difficult decisions required to build a budget. The results from this activity are shared in Table 3.

| Participation             |                         |  |                                  |               |
|---------------------------|-------------------------|--|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Date                      | Time                    | Service Area                                 | Location                         | Participation |
| <b>Thursday, July 8</b>   | 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. | Administrative & Corporate Services          | Western Foods                    | 25            |
| <b>Saturday, July 10</b>  | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | Financial Services                           | Sooke Country Market             | 25            |
| <b>Monday, July 12</b>    | 8:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. | Parks & Environmental Service                | Whiffin Spit                     | 36            |
| <b>Tuesday, July 13</b>   | 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.  | Planning & Development Service               | John Phillips Memorial Park      | 12            |
| <b>Wednesday, July 14</b> | 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.  | Fire & Emergency Program Services            | District of Sooke Fire Station 1 | 3             |
| <b>Thursday, July 15</b>  | 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  | Operations (Roads & Infrastructure) Services | Thursday Night Market            | 45            |
| <b>Friday, July 16</b>    | 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. | Sooke R.C.M.P.                               | Sooke R.C.M.P. Detachment        | 16            |
| Total Reach               |                         |  |                                  | 162           |

Table 2: Early Learning – service area highlights participation rates

| Distribution of Tax Dollars                    |                |        |           |        |                              |        |
|--|----------------|--------|-----------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| Service Area                                   | Infrastructure |        | Resources |        | Reserves/<br>Future Planning |        |
|  | n              | %      | n         | %      | n                            | %      |
| <b>Administrative &amp; Corporate Services</b> | 26.5           | 34.42% | 30.5      | 39.61% | 20                           | 25.97% |
| <b>Financial Services</b>                      | 26             | 47.27% | 10        | 18.18% | 19                           | 34.55% |
| <b>Parks &amp; Environmental Service</b>       | 38             | 36.19% | 43        | 40.95% | 24                           | 22.86% |
| <b>Planning &amp; Development Service</b>      | 25             | 59.52% | 13        | 30.95% | 4                            | 9.52%  |

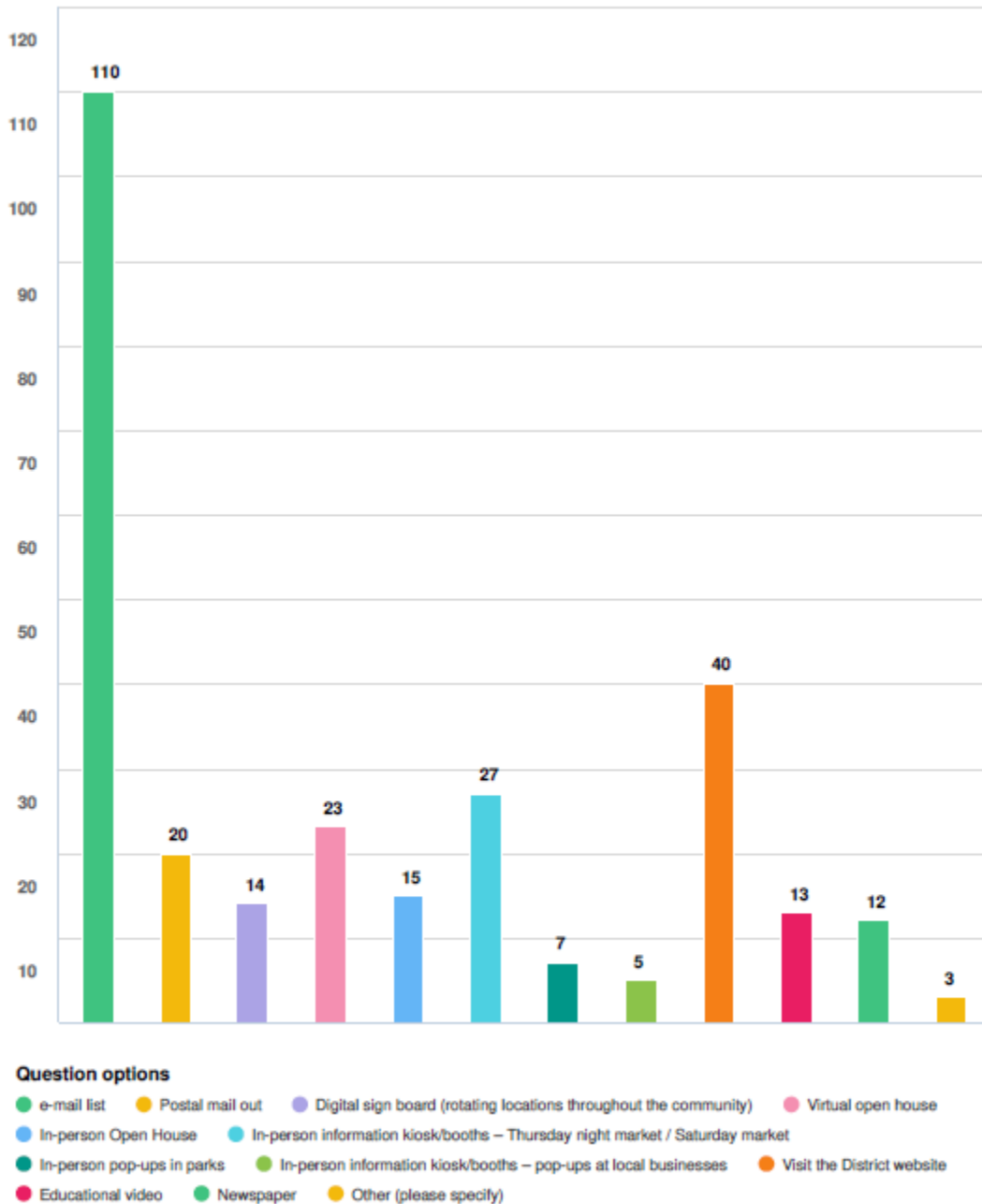
|   |       |        |       |        |    |        |
|---|-------|--------|-------|--------|----|--------|
| <b>Fire &amp;<br/>Emergency<br/>Program<br/>Services</b>            | 1     | 6.67%  | 12    | 80.00% | 2  | 13.33% |
| <b>Operations<br/>(Roads &amp;<br/>Infrastructure)<br/>Services</b> | 80    | 69.57% | 30    | 26.09% | 5  | 4.35%  |
| <b>Sooke<br/>R.C.M.P.</b>   | 11    | 27.50% | 20    | 50.00% | 9  | 22.50% |
| <b>Total</b>  | 207.5 | 46.21% | 158.5 | 35.30% | 83 | 18.49% |

Table 3: Budget Activity: distribution of tax dollars



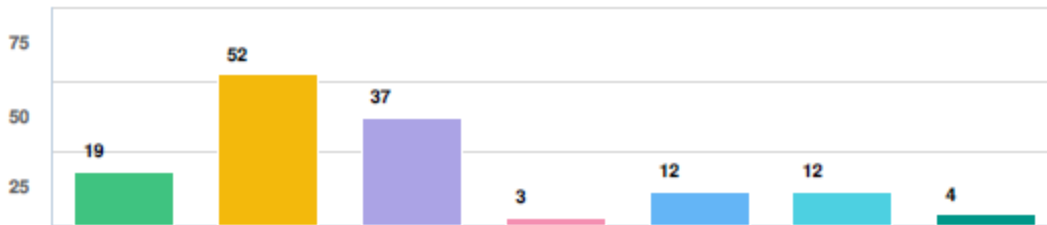
## Budget 2022: Early Learning Survey Responses

**Q1** How do you prefer to be informed about the District's budget? (Select priority areas that are most effective for you.)



Optional question (134 response(s), 6 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Q2 Which District budget topic are you most interested in learning about? (Select one)**



**Question options**

- Asset Management (Managing what we already have)
  - Implementation of Master Plans (e.g. Transportation Master Plan, Parks & Trails Master Plan)
  - Infrastructure (Systems, services & physical structures, e.g. building, roads, sidewalks, stormwater)
  - Long-term debt: How much do we have and why do we have it?
  - Operating budget: Costs involved in District's day-to-day operations
  - Reserve funds & future planning
- ▲ 1/2 ▼

Optional question (139 response(s), 1 skipped)  
Question type: Checkbox Question

**Additional comments:**

- Don't raise taxes to increase your salaries or hire more staff. We are struggling in Sooke with significant cost of living increases and every year taxes go up with NO benefit to the average resident. It is a slap in the face to hear about council and staff wage increases and new staff for services (e.g. development) that do not benefit most people.
- Is it at all possible to look into providing Sooke taxpayers with a free parking pass to our local Sooke Potholes? We shouldn't have to pay for parking, let others visiting pay. The passes could be given once we pay our property tax.
- I'm interested in how the District is budgeting for climate change impacts
- We are concerned about property tax rates rising faster than the CPI and annual inflation rate. Sooke is the 2nd fastest growing community in BC yet the increased population (and the property taxes commensurate with all the development) aren't covering costs. Hence the exorbitant tax increase this year. Clearly the growth model isn't working and must be changed for long term financial sustainability. Council is accepting a declining quality of life and level of service for existing residents in exchange for underfunded growth. DCCs must increase significantly. Existing taxpayers shouldn't be expected to shoulder the burden to appease developers. Furthermore, if we can't expand the tax base with jobs and industry then the growth model needs to be revisited. First priority should be to take care of the citizens that reside here.
- We need to build for the future of Sooke. Increase our tax base by letting big business into Sooke... what about tech companies??? This should be a plan for the future developers of

Sooke. We are not the small community that we were before. Accept development as it is inevitable! Sooke is changing!

- I am wanting more buses in Sooke. This would help keep cars off the road. Also many people rely on public transportation. There are many 50' s about every 15 minutes. however, most time's it is about every hour for a 61.
- A hard examination of the true costs that seemingly unbridled growth is imposing on our town is required.
- More playgrounds are needed and spaces for youth, aged 9-14 years.
- The Grant Road bus stops are located on uneven surfaces and there is no seating for persons with mobility concerns to use while they wait.
- Burr Road playground needs substantial enhancements. It is not sufficient.
- Need to receive tax notices earlier in the year. If we have to mail them to the homeowner there is not enough time with the mailing delays. This may be due to COVID, but it is something to be aware of.
- Community playgrounds are lacking. We need more playgrounds.
- Shade is needed at the skate park
- Need to increase the commercial tax base
- Can we get a splash park in Sooke?
- More funding for playgrounds
- Development fees should be increased to add new infrastructure
- Fire department has too many fancy vehicles. We need more RCMP members!
- Multiple answers for #2! Interested in all :-)
- I agree with Council's direct management of our Community Grants. I was on the Grants Committee for 2 years and enjoyed it, yet I think that our Community really feels a much tighter interaction the way I saw Council act this year... Incredible!
- My concerns about budgeting are related to the amount of new homes/residential property development in Sooke. It seems that each new residential property taxes barely cover the direct operating costs, with nothing remaining to contribute additional dollars for improvements to the district. One would hope that as the number of residents/homes grows and more people are paying taxes, that the city would be able to have additional funds to add amenities for the betterment of the whole community. Why bring in more homes/people if there is no benefit to the community? There is only a detriment to the community in the form of congestion and traffic. If we are waiting for commercial/industrial properties to grow the tax base to go toward an improved community, we may be waiting a long time.
- STOP BUILDING SO MANY NEW HOUSES
- All plans should be digital. No need to come to planning office or city hall for review.
- What steps are District of Sooke taking to raise additional funds, whether by grants, levies, or taxes, to pay for the huge task of decarbonising our local economy and cutting GHG emissions and also to raise the huge funds we need to pay for and mitigate the damage caused, and which will be caused, by climate change already. Fires are inevitable and sea level rise is well underway. Sooke must be preparing now!

- The biggest priority for Sooke is addressing the climate emergency. Hiring a climate action co-ordinator, implementing the work plan developed by CAC1 and the 7% solution developed by CAC2.
- The heat dome is a reminder we must plan for heat emergencies as well as fire and earthquakes.
- I'm excited that Sooke is taking a public budgeting approach. I think, however, that it's important to avoid siloed thinking—all budget items are related and connected. We can save money by recognizing that and applying the knowledge.
- I am concerned about climate change and wish to see innovations in infrastructure that mitigate against fire, flooding, reduced emissions etc.
- Expansion of the Sewer to Saseenos is very important for the Sooke Basin & T'Souke FN
- Important to educate electorate to enable them to provide thoughtful feedback. Examples - importance of maintaining assets; Adequate funding for EDRR of invasive species
- Infrastructure is actually nearly as important to me as implementation of master plan thank you
- The present 5 year budget projection sees a significant rise from a \$20 million to a \$30 million budget and significant property tax increases % over the next 3 years, I am not sure everyone is aware of this. Also year 1 has a climate category but no allocated funds subsequent years have no climate mentioned. For 2021 about 4 million was allocated for some major road projects, climate got \$3500 for an EV Bike. I think we are losing any sense of reality when it comes to a climate emergency.
- We are looking forward to the sewer gas odour problem on Mountain Heights Drive being resolved asap.
- I would like to see a Gant chart as to steps and dates for implementation and any changes noted for accountability to ensure this 10 year plan is not as incomplete as the last 10 years.
- Budget growth from 30 million to 40 million in 5 years is unsustainable without rapid growth which is not conducive to a thriving community. Growth without consideration for environmental boundaries is suicidal.
- After up front transparency, more back end action to long ongoing community complaints like lack of control any actual Bylaw Enforcement of permits and violations during and thereafter. More action on smaller fixable issues that take a mountain of bureaucracy, religion and extra cost rather than just getting on with it.

ΕΓΓΕΛΟ



# Introduction

From August 31st to September 26th, 2021, the District of Sooke used a budget simulation exercise called Citizen Budget for their 2022 budget consultation, as part of updating its Five-Year Financial Plan, in accordance with the Community Charter. This plan includes budgets for operating and capital expenditures for all departments within the municipality.

The aim was to gather public input to identify priorities for District spending and ideas for how the District can deliver a balanced budget, as mandated for municipal governments by provincial legislation while maintaining (and enhancing) services most important to citizens.

Participants were tasked with increasing, decreasing or maintaining their property tax funding for different budget categories, while staying within a balanced budget, in the same way, that a city official would. Participants also voted on a sliding scale how important or unimportant each service was to them.

Ethelo used the results to generate a particular set of funding changes that are predicted to have the most community support. This report explores the engagement process and results.

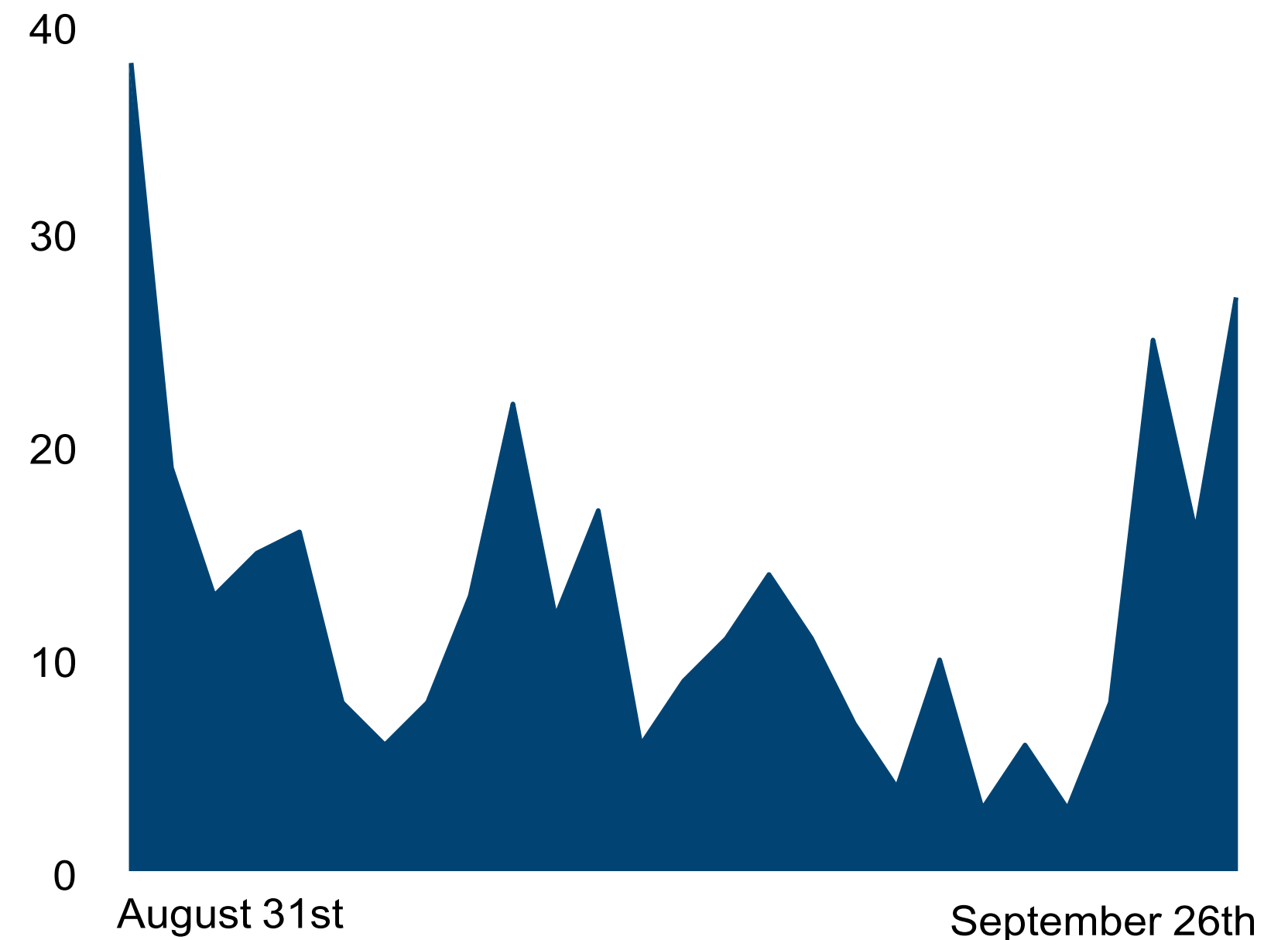
# Participation

Over the 4 weeks that the engagement was live, the online platform garnered...

- **4,709 page views**
- **10-minute average visit length**
- **722 unique local participants\***
- **112 completions ( $\geq \frac{1}{3}$  of engagement completed)**
- **186 comments**

\*All participants were authenticated following the closure of the engagement based on their IP address, device ID, and voting patterns, to ensure respondents were local and singular in their votes. 13 users were removed. All of them were staff or project admins.

## DAILY VISITORS



# Overview

Below is the budget breakdown that would be most widely supported by participants.

|  | SENTIMENT         | APPROVAL RATE |
|--|-------------------|---------------|
| Administrative Services                    | Keep the same     | 67%           |
| Legislative Services                       | Keep the same     | 75%           |
| By-Law Services                            | Keep the same     | 67%           |
| Financial Services and IT                  | Keep the same     | 73%           |
| Planning and Development Services          | 3% increase       | 67%           |
| Parks & Environmental Services             | 3% increase       | 65%           |
| Engineering (Roads & Underground) Services | 3% increase       | 69%           |
| Community Safety Services                  | Keep the same     | 62%           |
| Policing Services                          | Increase funding* | -             |

\*allocate funding for officer per year until population/officer is in line with provincial average.



# Overview

This scenario would be most widely supported by participants. The algorithm analyzed more than 50,000 budget design scenarios to identify this plan.

**ADJUSTED TAX BILL: \$1,254**

[0.64% INCREASE FROM \$1,246]



## Definition of Terms

### CONSENSUS

Consensus (Ethelo score) is a measure of the overall strength of the decision, considering both support (higher is better) and conflict (lower is better).

### SUPPORT

Support is the average value of the votes, where the value of a totally opposing vote is 0 and a totally supportive vote is 100.

### CONFLICT

Conflict is a measure of the level of disagreement in a group. Higher conflict scores represent internal resistance and risk of failure.

### APPROVAL

Approval is the percentage of people who gave a positive vote rather than a neutral or negative vote. Approval above 50% is a traditional "majority".



## Voting Results: Service Budgets



## Administrative Services



"Admin buildings need to become energy efficient and self-sufficient with solar panels, heat pumps, heat recovery and retrofits."

"There has been a lot more communication. I appreciate the monthly updates."

"You need more staff to work with the Council and Council Committees. They are overworked. Workload will only increase as Sooke gets larger."

"Climate change is going to demand more work by staff-- for example, Sooke needs to hire someone who can do carbon accounting to develop a carbon budget so Sooke can reduce its GHGs in a meaningful way."

"Administration as a % of the overall budget must be decreased. Not a reflection of effort or efficiency but rather an effort to achieve balance vs other essential priorities."

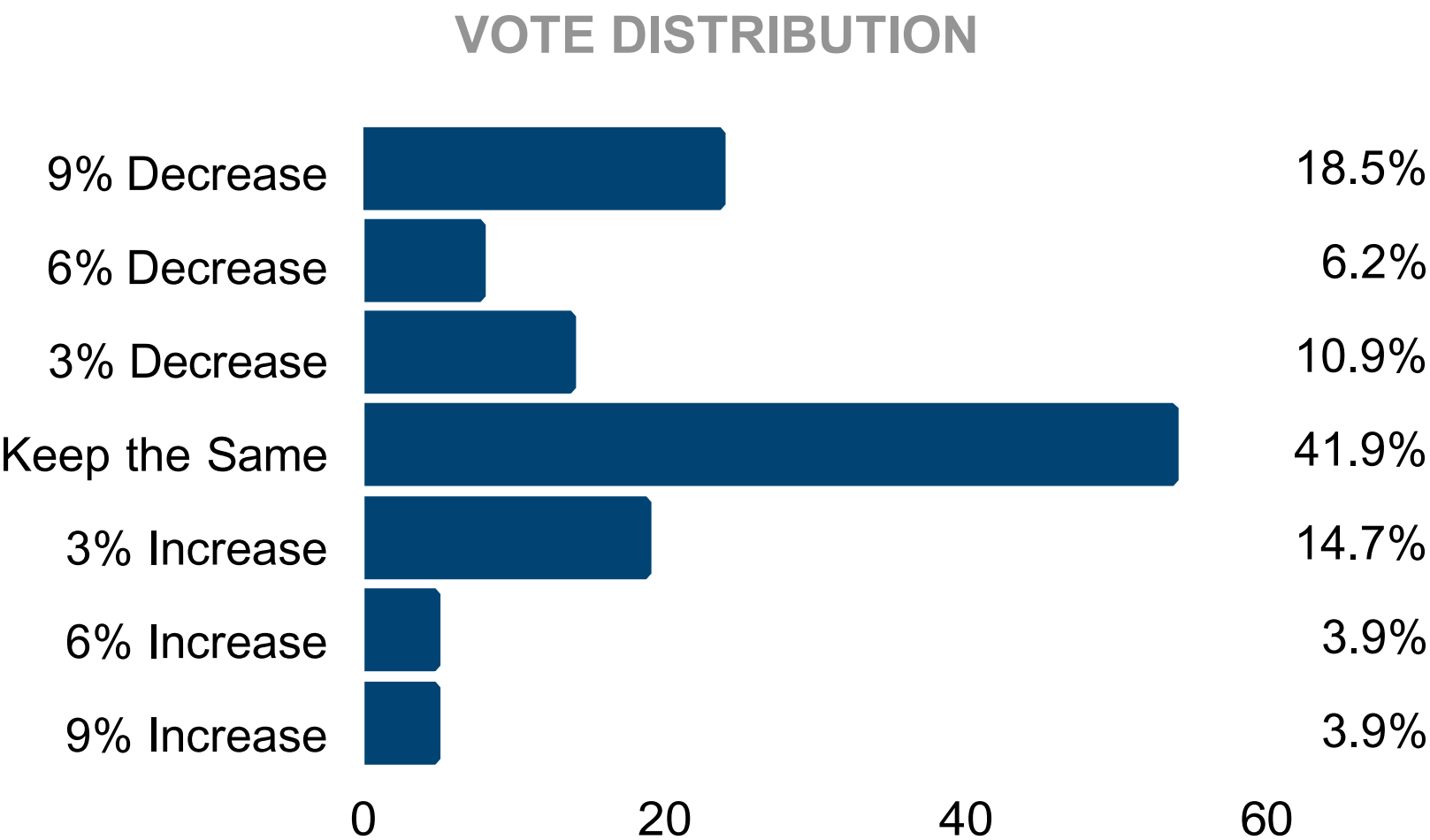


# Administrative Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Administrative Services?

BEST SCENARIO: KEEP THE SAME

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★★★★★★ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★★     |
| CONFLICT  | ★          |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★★★★★★ |





## Legislative Services



"This local government is already lacking in enforcement of bylaws and creation of bylaws to protect the environment ifSooke."

"Bylaws needed to align with new OCP need to be quickly revised and adopted. Council does not need to deliberate over each. Ask staff to revise, highlighting changes and pass at a single Committee of the Whole. Public input on need for bylaw revision was handled through OCP."

"Increase on contract for one year to revise bylaws needed to bring bylaws in line with new OCP. No public review needed as it took place during extensive OCP drafting and review."

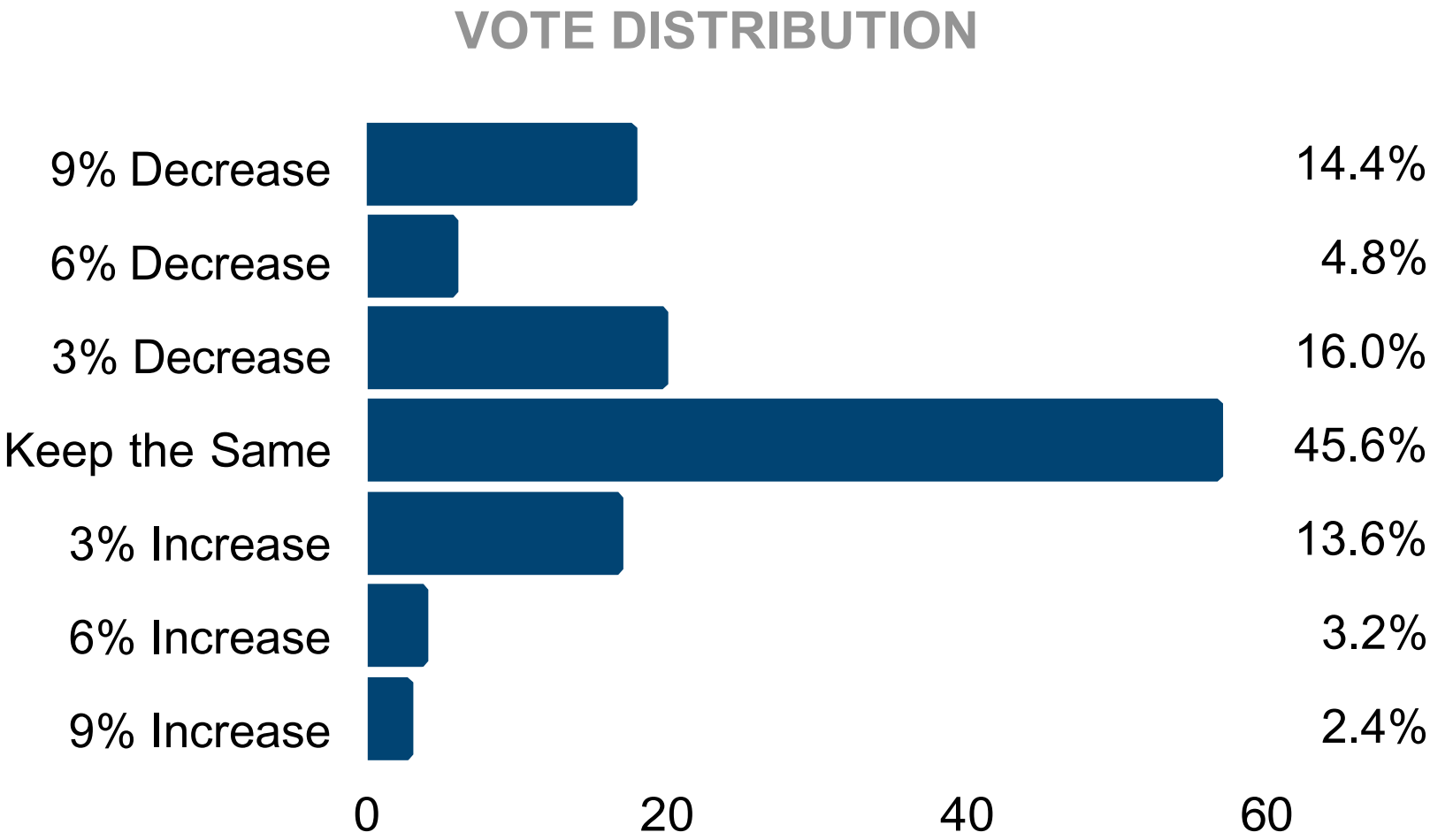


# Legislative Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Legislative Services?

BEST SCENARIO: KEEP THE SAME

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★★★★★★ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★★     |
| CONFLICT  | ★          |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★★★★★★ |



## Bylaw Services



"current level of staffing and cost is satisfactory"

"I think more funding is needed to increase the number of bylaw officers."

"Too much funding here for too little results. Again, return on investment. They are not handing out tickets and the cost of this service vs complaints they address. 382 complaints for 2 full-time staff is not logical."

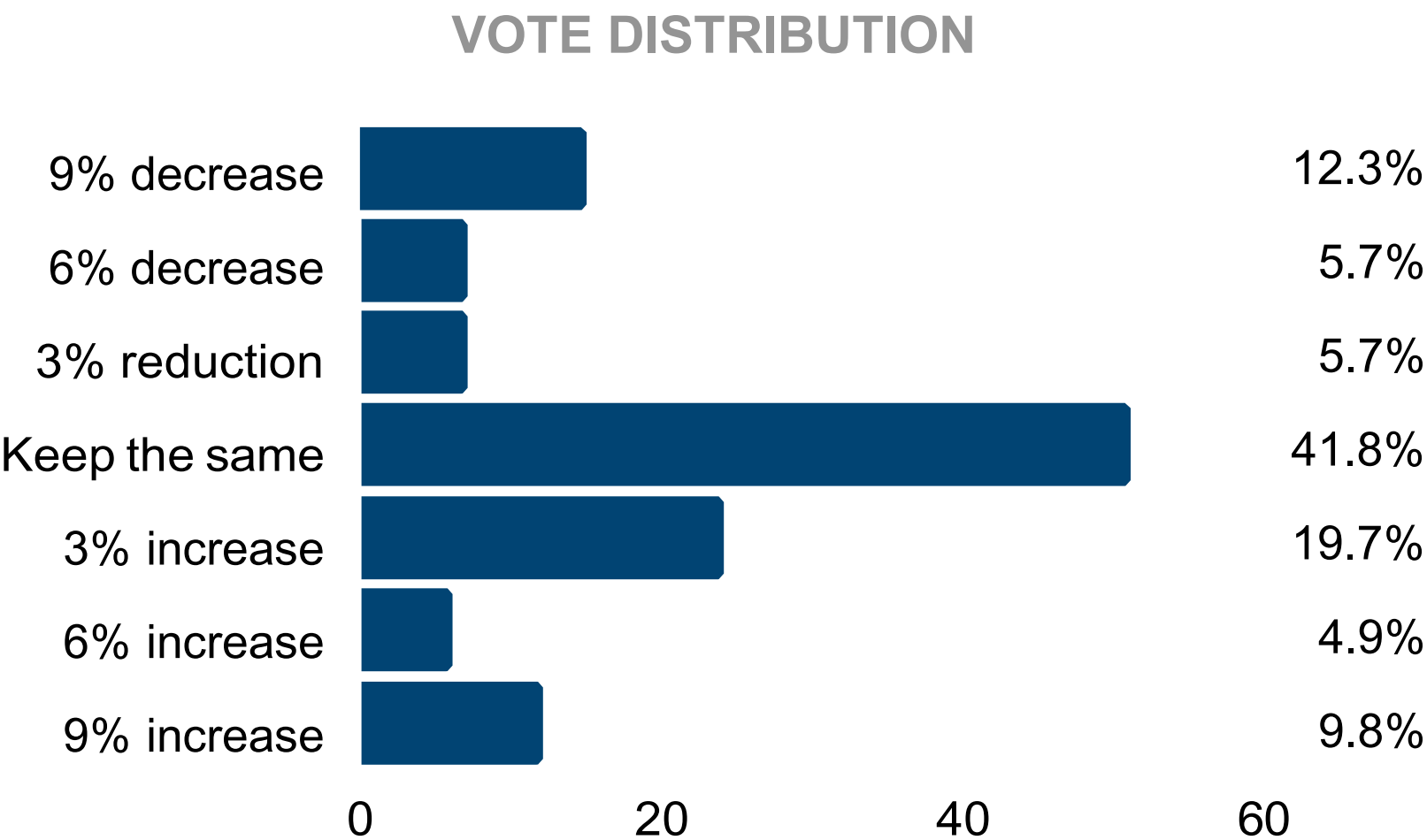


# Bylaw Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Bylaw Services?

BEST SCENARIO: KEEP THE SAME

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★★★★★★ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★★     |
| CONFLICT  | ★          |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★★★★★★ |





### Financial & IT Services



"Enhanced IT services are essential to reduce carbon emissions Districtwide. We also need systems which track and monitor our progress towards a 50% reduction in carbon emissions by 2030."

"Technology saves money! Invest on it."

"[Money] would be well spent to improve the whole "clunkiness" of watching and presenting to council and committees[...]"

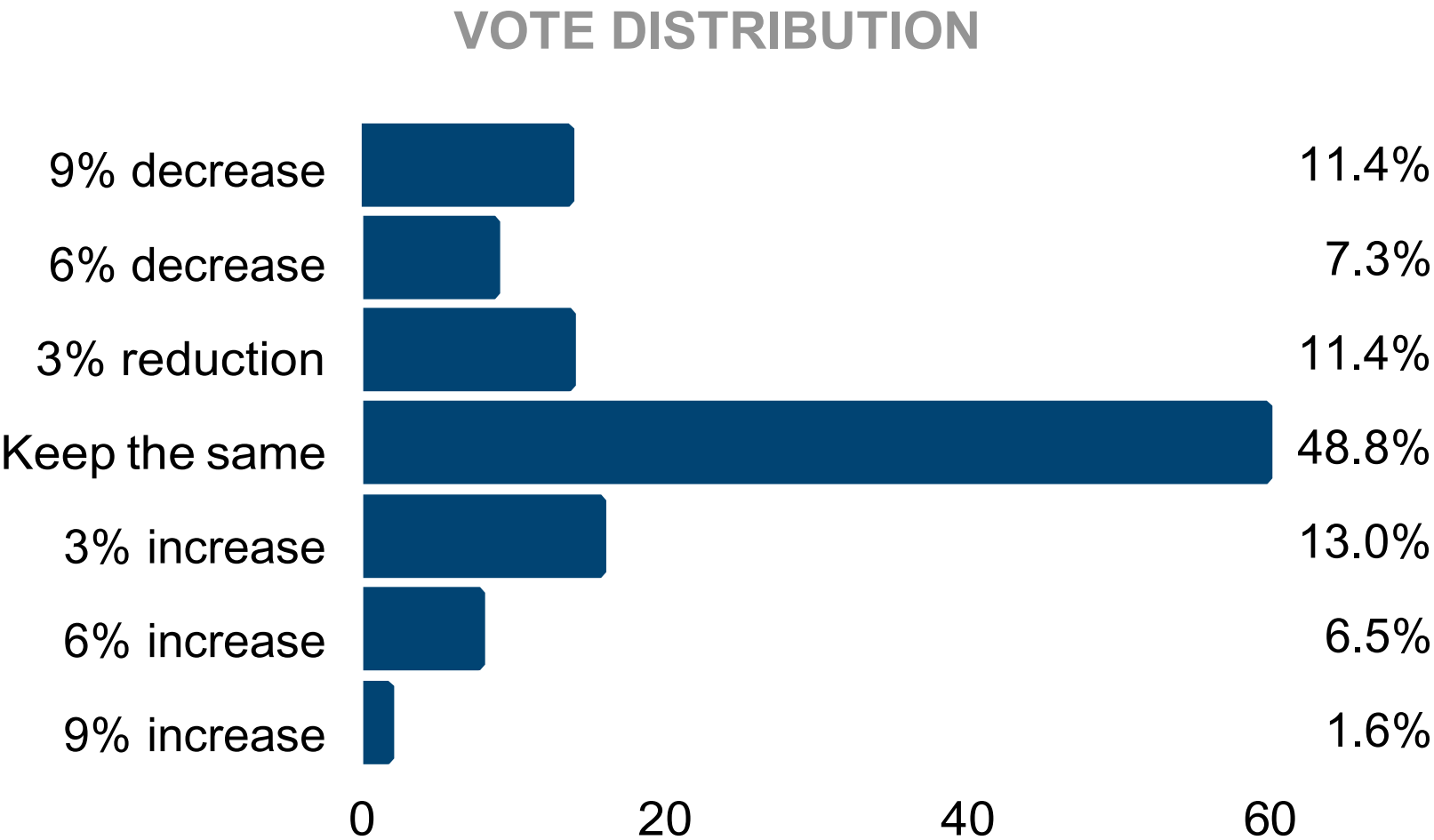


# Financial & IT Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Financial and IT Services?

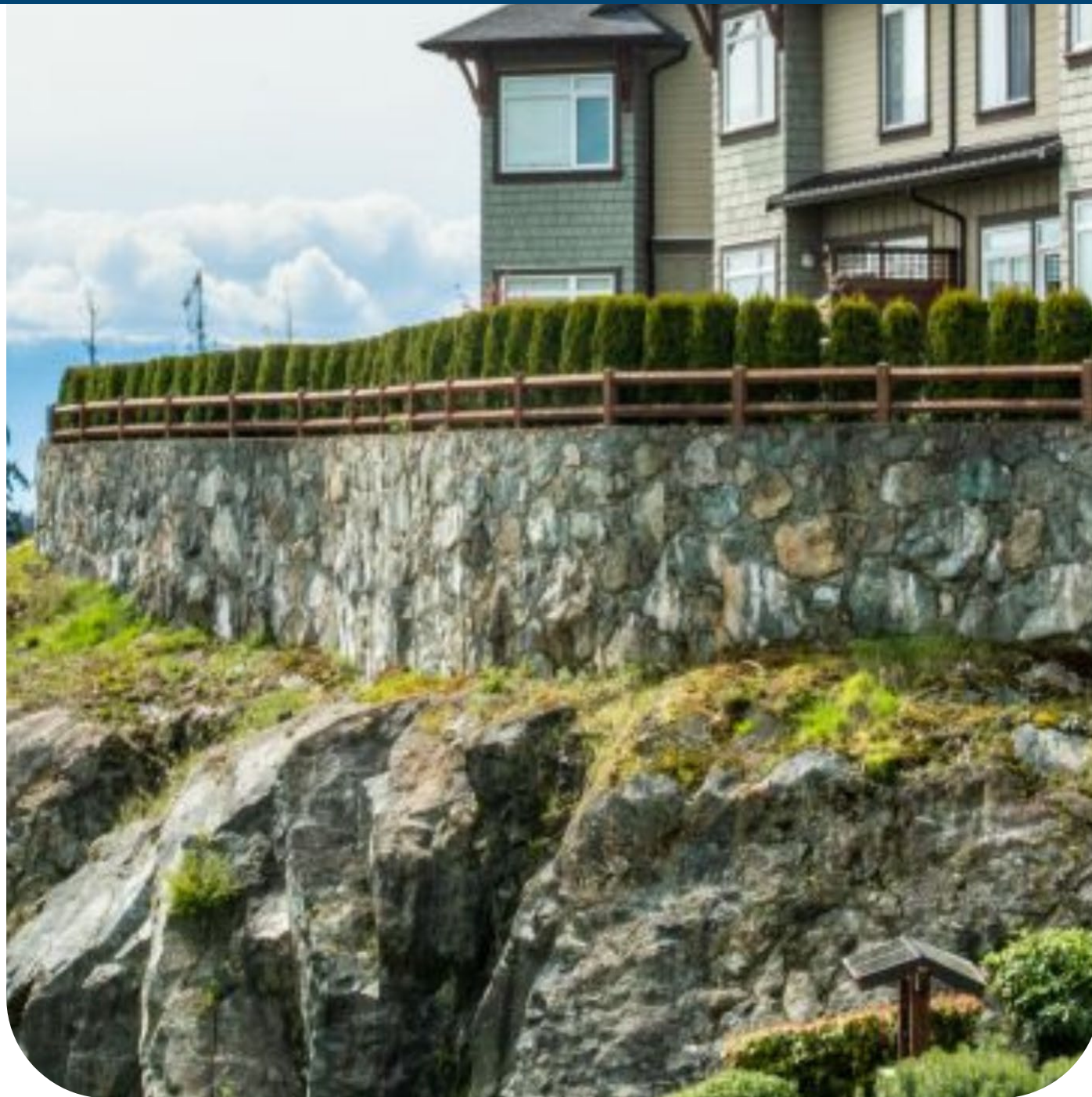
BEST SCENARIO: KEEP THE SAME

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★★★★★★ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★★★    |
| CONFLICT  | ★          |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★★★★★★ |





## Planning & Development Services



"Council needs to establish a position for climate change planner for overseeing initiatives that may adversely affect climate. All developments need to be accompanied by a climate report.

Planning and development services need a complete rethink in a climate emergency. There must be serious, urgent implementation of carbon budgeting, emissions prediction and tracking. This must be visible in all plans and planning documents. Most imperative of all, all OCP goals must be focused on reducing carbon emissions by 50% by 2030. Sadly and dangerously this is currently not the case. A bigger budget will enable resources to be devoted to correcting this currently untenable situation."

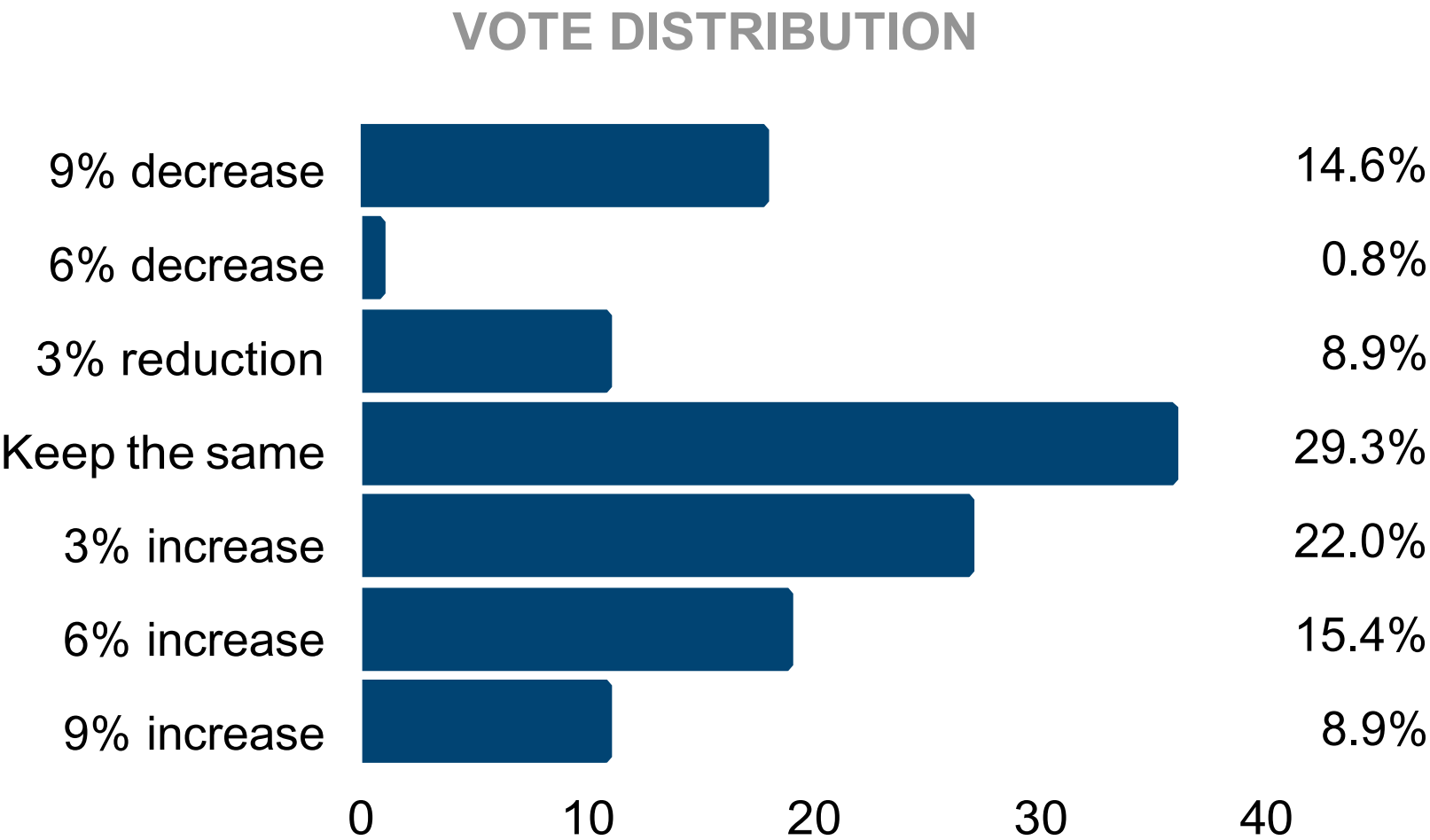


# Planning & Development Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Planning and Development Services?

BEST SCENARIO: 3% INCREASE

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★★★★★★★ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★★★☆☆   |
| CONFLICT  | ★☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆   |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★★★☆☆   |





# Parks & Environmental Services



"Need to add a Recreation Services role in the District, currently, Sooke is one of the only municipalities in BC that does nothing for recreation! [...] Rather than lease public parkland in John Phillips Park to private clubs, the District should be expanding its mandate to provide these services so there is public accountability on use of local recreation facilities."

"Better wastewater management, more parks staff and even more attention to our environmental concerns as we develop are essential."

"Climate change is going to result in both drought and flooding which will cause erosion and damage to the built environment. Mitigation measures will be needed to protect natural assets as well."

"Maintain our greenspaces"

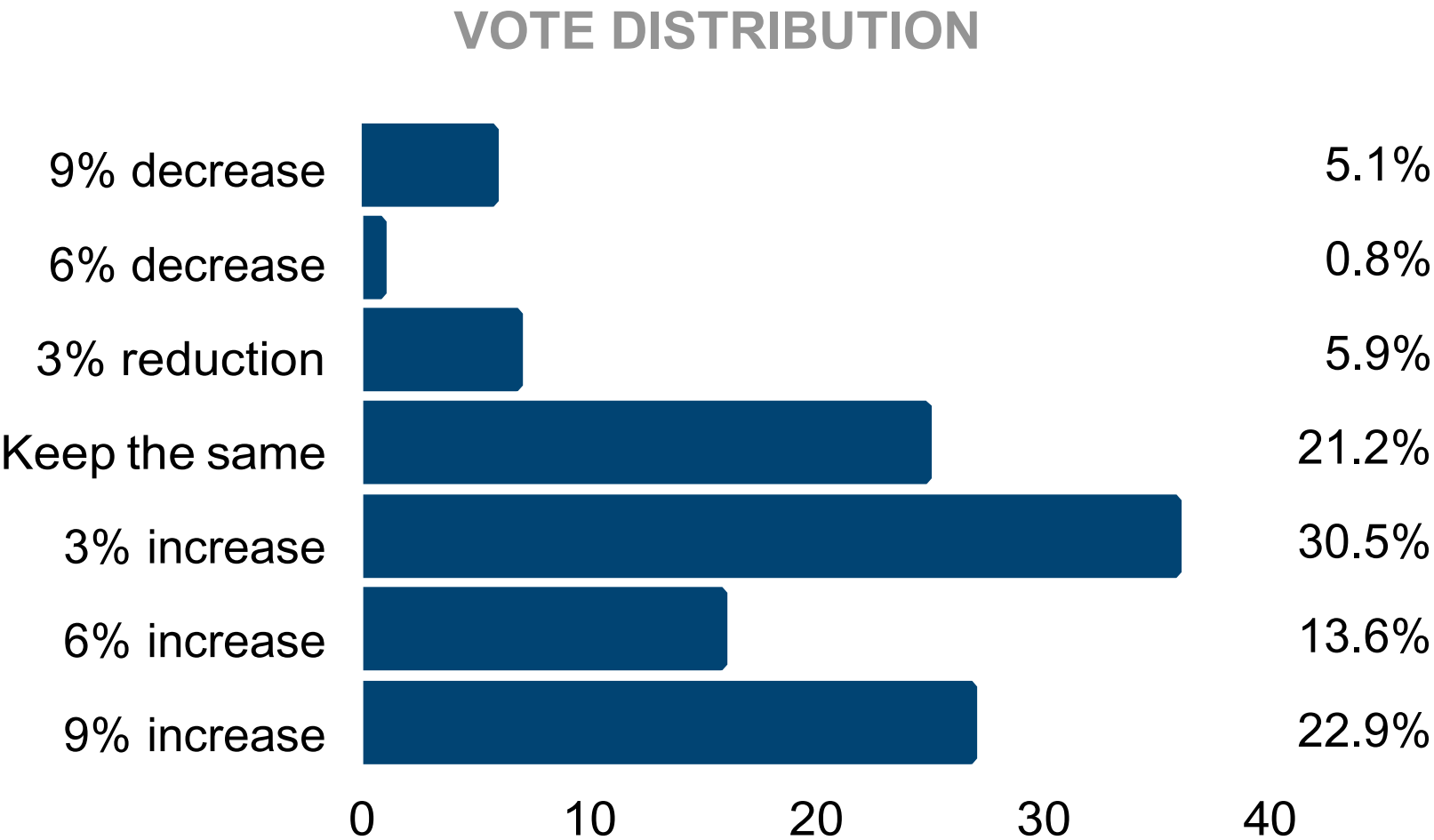


# Parks & Environmental Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Parks & Environmental Services?

BEST SCENARIO: 3% INCREASE

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |
| CONFLICT  | ★★★☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |





# Engineering Services



"It is apparent the group needs more money when you look at the conditions of the roads, lack of sidewalks. Maybe great on planning but seem to be lacking on the doing."

"Please fix Connie road. It's in dire need of repair and just not safe for pedestrians or drivers."

"Any increase should go directly to contracted infrastructure building or maintenance. Staff increase not needed."

"It would be great if the bridge across the river could be built soon. Roads are busy and children need a safe way to get to school."

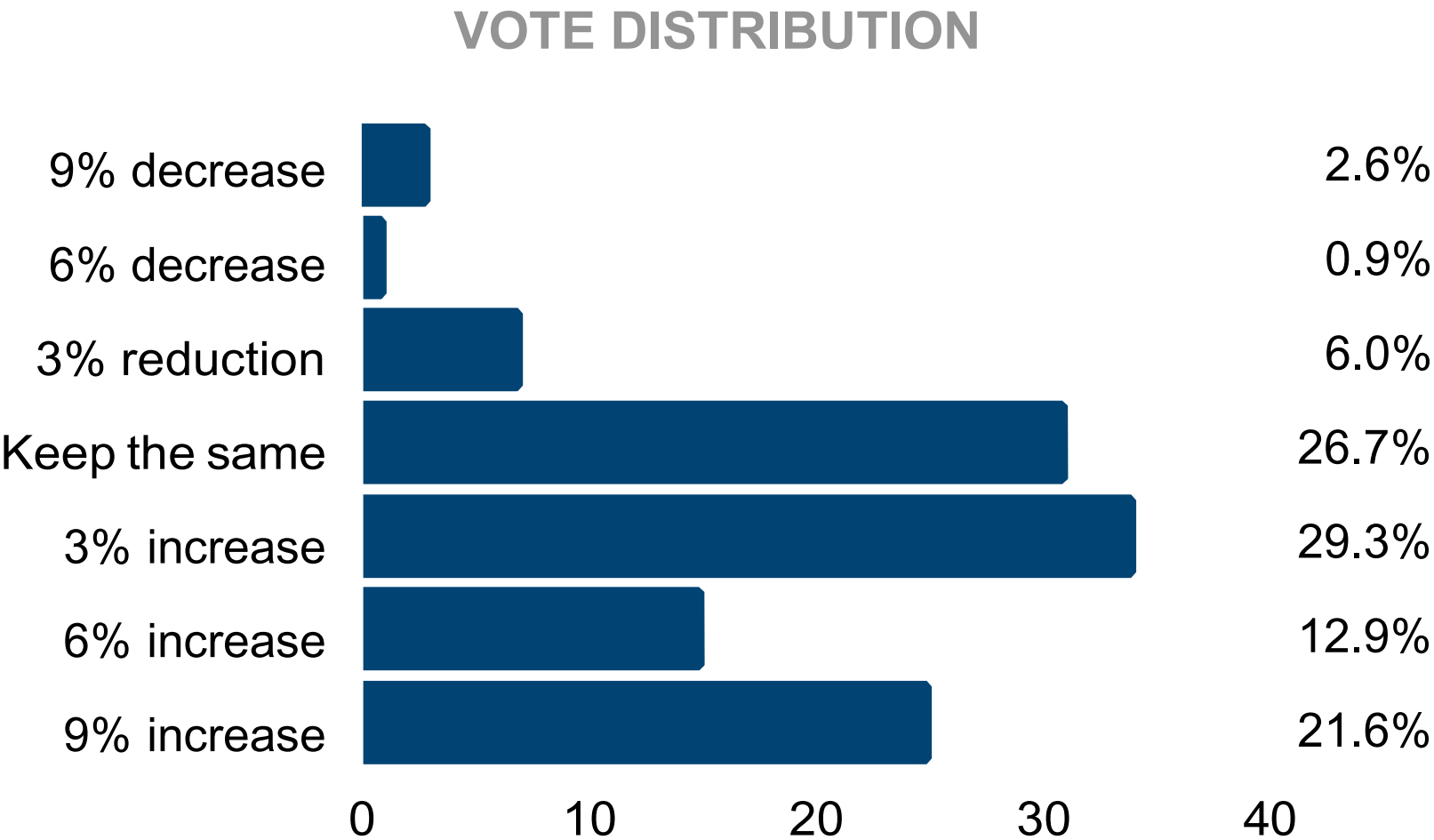


# Engineering Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Engineering Department?

BEST SCENARIO: 3% INCREASE

|           |           |
|-----------|-----------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆ |
| CONFLICT  | ★★★☆☆☆☆☆☆ |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆ |





# Community Safety Services



"It's too bad this question isn't broken down between policing and fire services. Fire services staffing costs are way too high, and police service needs to expand. Trim some of fire budget and put into policing."

"Increasing population as well as ongoing promotion of Tourist activities mandates additional resources to adequately emergency services. Also need local Hospital!!"

"Sooke is safe (unlike Prince George). Please consider decreasing RCMP funds and please consider more investments in infrastructure which is highly needed (e.g., underground infrastructure along Highway 14, sidewalks along Highway 14, roundabouts along Highway 14, Sidewalks along Whiffin Spit Rd, etc)."

"The climate emergency and the catastrophe that is now bearing down us will demand far more resources. Large forest fires, even here on the coast, are now inevitable. Fire crews and emergency services will be stretched to help people collapsing from the common summer heat waves and threatened by the fires. Not providing more funding for this area is climate science denial of the most pernicious kind."

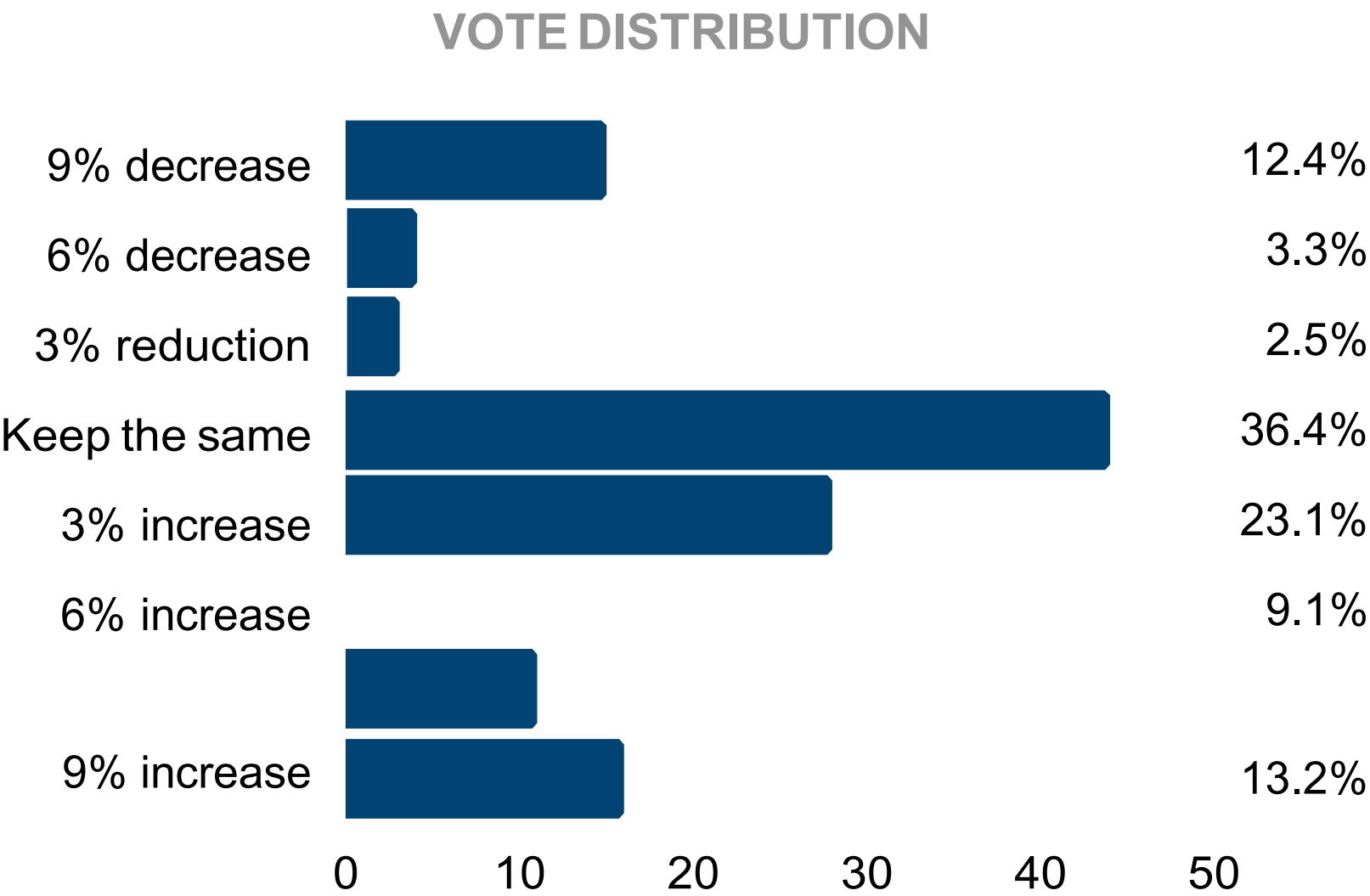


# Community Safety Services

Would you choose to increase, decrease, or maintain the current level of funding for Community Safety Services (Fire, Emergency Program & Policing)?

BEST SCENARIO: KEEP THE SAME

|           |            |
|-----------|------------|
| CONSENSUS | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |
| SUPPORT   | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |
| CONFLICT  | ★★★☆☆☆☆☆☆☆ |
| APPROVAL  | ★★★★★☆☆☆☆☆ |



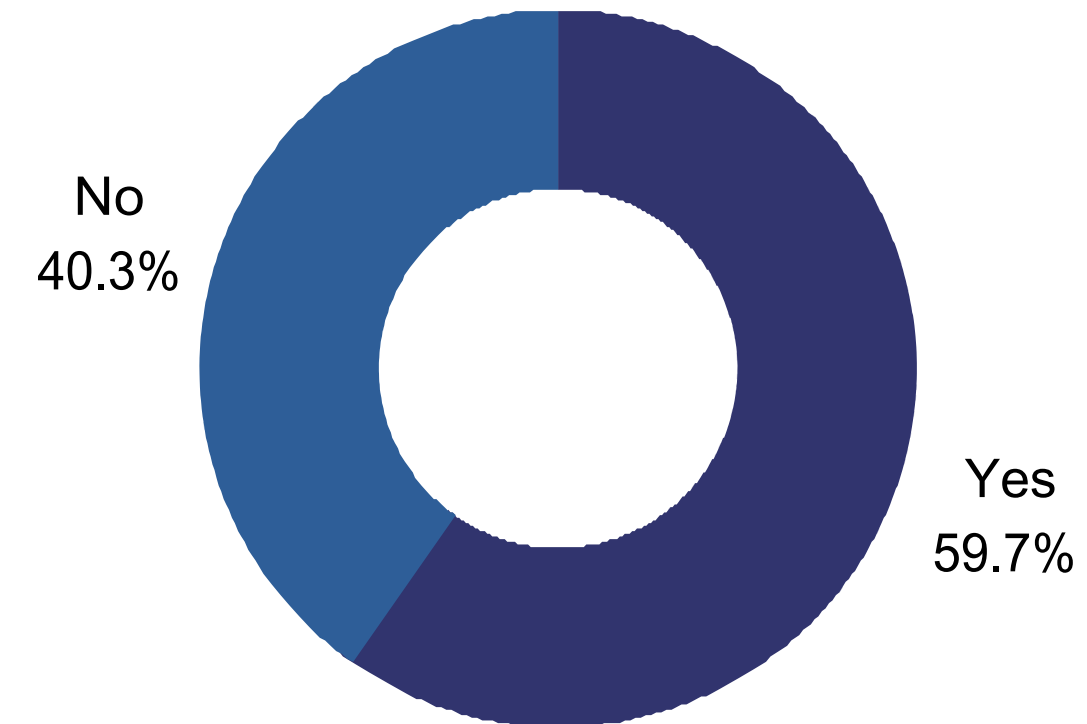


## Policing Services



Should funding be allocated to increase the number of officers in Sooke? (Officer funding is approximately \$110,000/officer.)

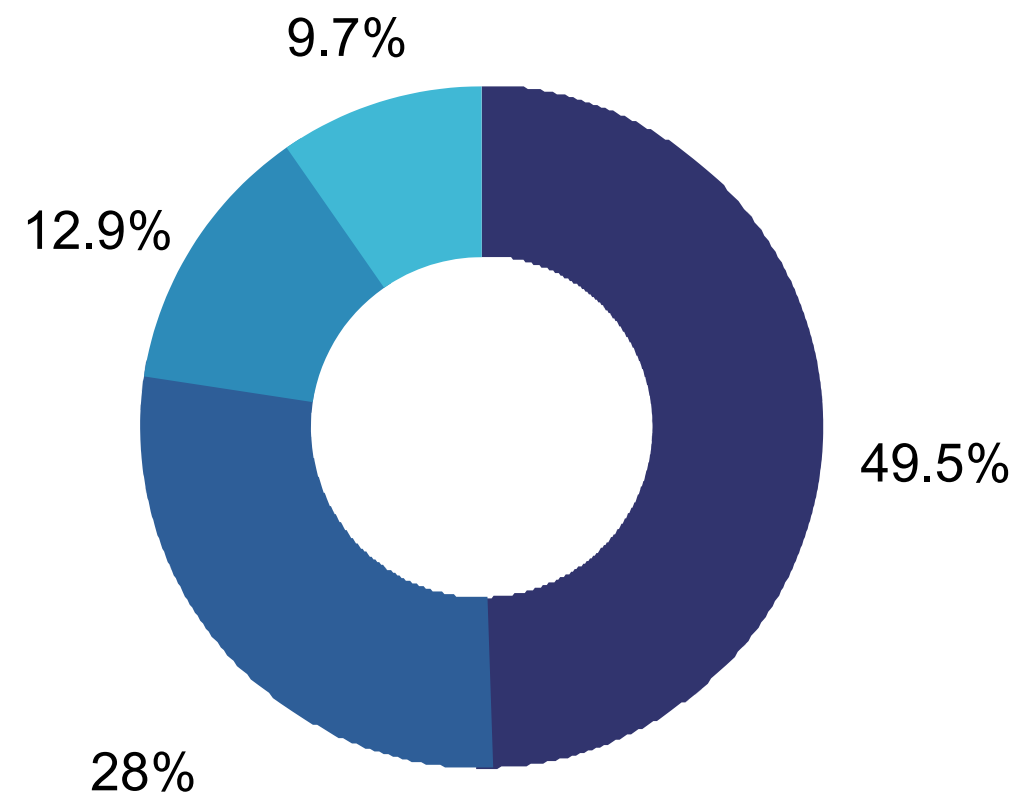
**BEST SCENARIO: YES**



# Policing Services

If yes, at what rate would you like to see officers increased?

**BEST SCENARIO: 1 OFFICER PER YEAR UNTIL SOOKE'S POPULATION PER OFFICER IS IN LINE WITH THE PROVINCIAL AVERAGE.**



- 1 Officer per year until Sooke's population per officer is in line with the provincial average.
- 1 Officer in 2022, re-evaluate next year.
- 1 Officer per year for each year in the 2022-2026 five-year financial plan.
- Other

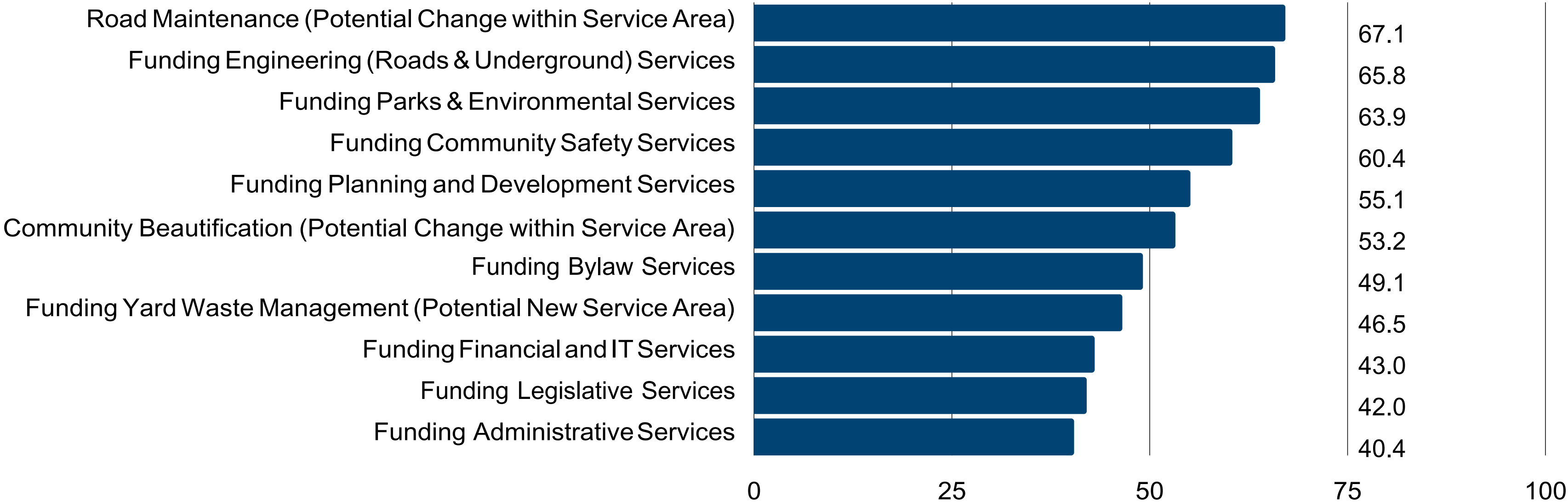


## Voting Results: Importance of Services



# Importance of Services

On a scale from 0 to 100, how important are these services to you?



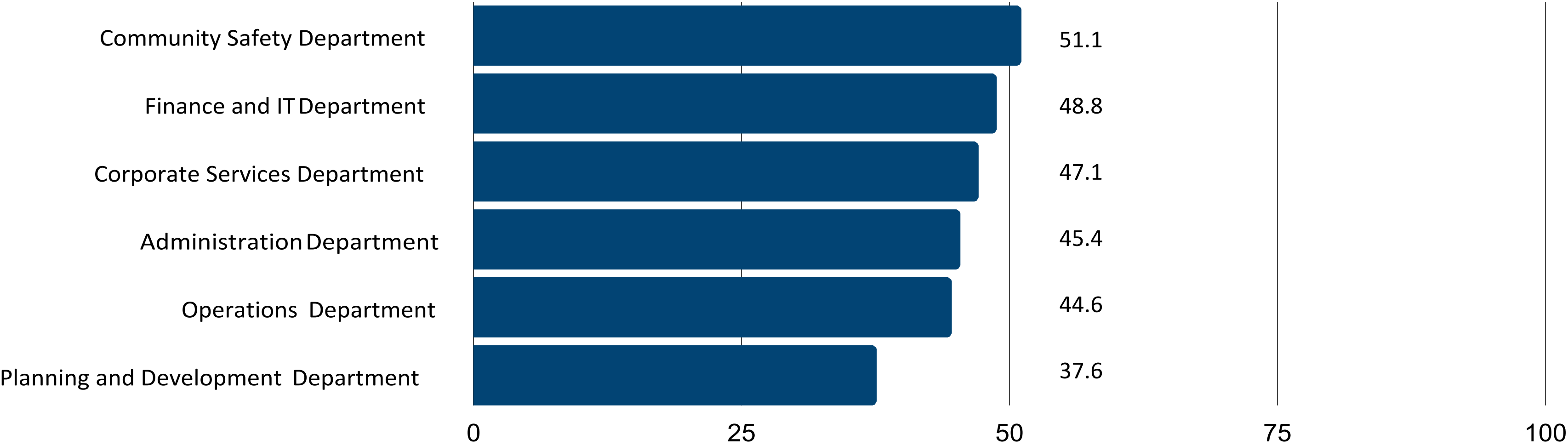




**Voting Results: Service Level Satisfaction**

# Service Level Satisfaction

On a scale from 0 to 100, how do you rate the City’s performance in providing these services?





# Service Level Satisfaction

## General Comments

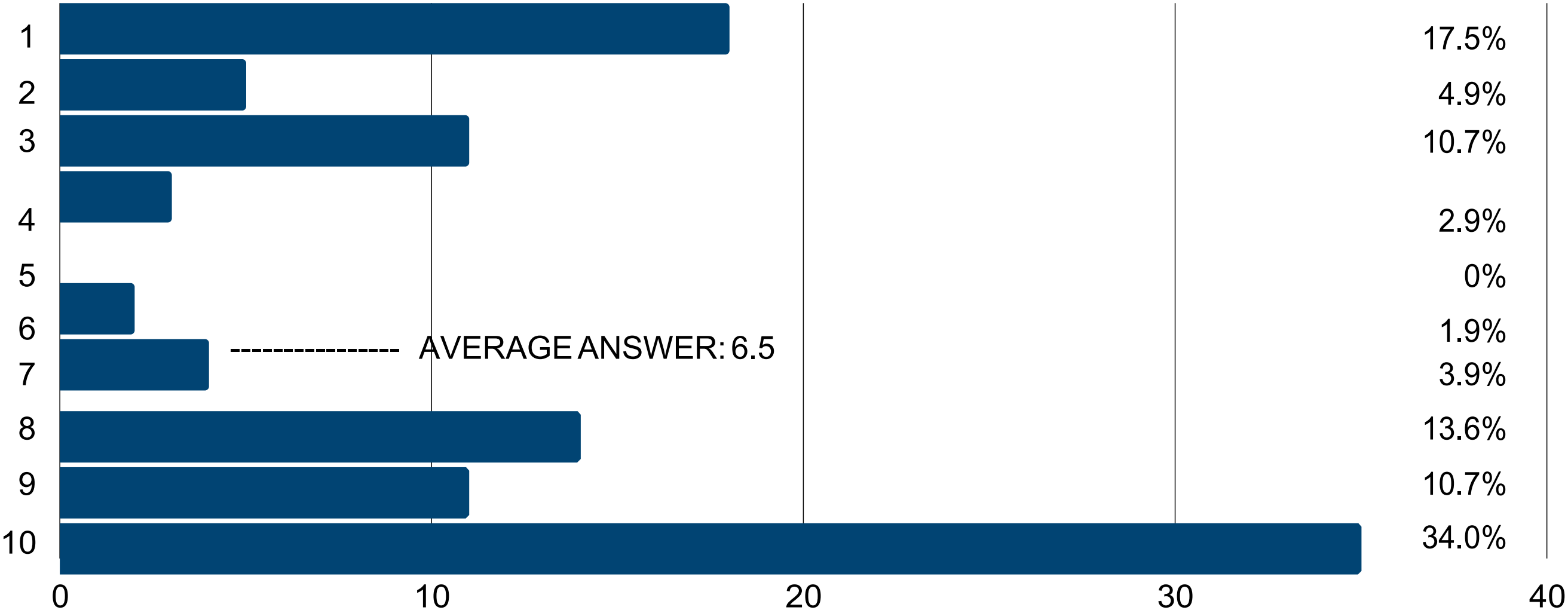
- All of the above are great and their only limitations as of this point are financial and where we as a community are relative to our growth.
- As a resident, I really just want Sooke to have improved sidewalks, trails and parks. Focusing on enhancing Sooke's natural beauty and improving its walkability will ensure that Sooke becomes a desirable place for people to live and visit, not just a suburban sprawl commuter town.
- CONNIE Road has been seriously neglected to the point it is a safety hazard!
- The District Staff & The Road Maintenance department have been made aware by many residents yet continues to be neglected.
- I think priorities need to be set and money allocated in that way. For instance, our family has had the same couch for 40 years and the fridge is leaking but we are installing solar panels, a heat pump and purchasing an electric car as we are trying to do our part for the climate emergency.



## Early Learnings Survey Follow-up

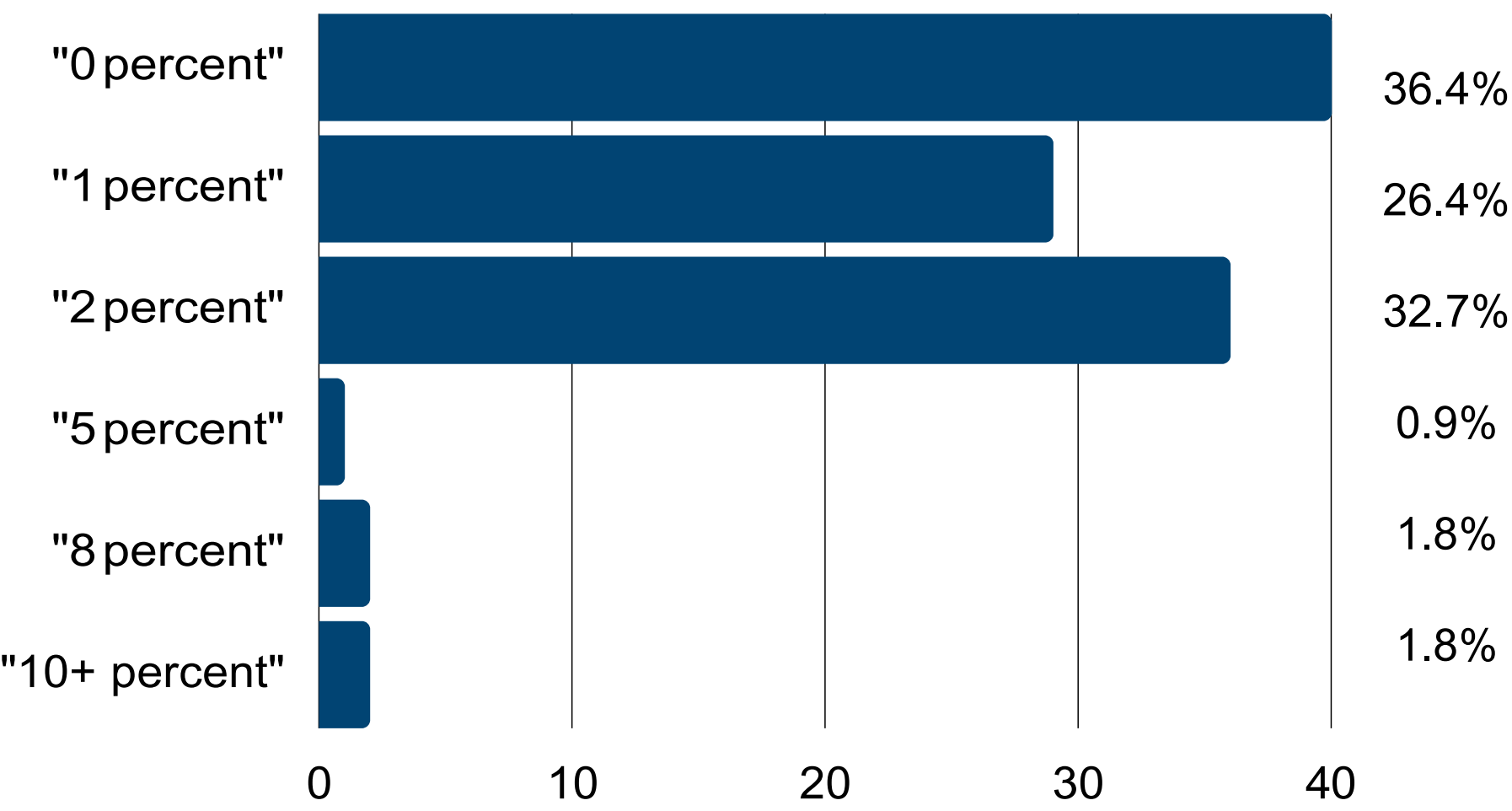
# Early Learnings Survey: Climate Action

Overall, how important is it to you that the District dedicate resources to climate action?



# Early Learnings Survey: Climate Action

How much, if any, of the District’s budget would you like to see allocated to climate action adaptation and mitigation?



## Other responses

- "8% increase. Fund to \$500,000"
- "At least 5%-10%. We are in a climate emergency. This June was just a preview of what is to come."
- "Education for taxpayers what to do."
- "Minimum 10%. This is not an option but vital to survival of subsequent generations!"
- "Provincial and Federal Responsibility" x2
- "Spending funds on climate action is not of any utility unless growth is immediately curtailed."



# Early Learnings Survey: Climate Action

**Please provide additional comments regarding opportunities or concerns for how the District might respond to the climate emergency? Share your thoughts related to budget implications.**

- I fully believe in climate change, but It's the world industries that need to change, not our small town. Rebate and top-up incentive programs for heat pumps
- and, as recommended in the draft OCP, e- bikes (but heat pumps as the priority)
- Hire a Climate Action Coordinator
- Sooke is too small to have any meaningful effect on climate change. Efforts should focus on local services to local citizens. Leave the big stuff to higher levels of government who have more resources and expertise.
- Stop allowing unchecked development and removal of forested areas, mountains, and greenspaces. Get rid of the traffic lights that contribute to idling cars and emissions and install efficient roundabouts. Get better busing services including express routes.  
Stop building houses that the road cannot accommodate additional cars. Support local small businesses and avoid large chain stores and restaurants. Keep Sooke the quiet community it should stay and don't turn it into Langford!!!!
- Focus on basic services: Roads, Water, Policing, Fire, Parks.



# Early Learnings Survey: Parks & Trails Master Plan

**The Parks & Trails Master Plan, approved in October 2020, identifies several capital projects to be delivered within the next five years. Let us know what projects you would like to see prioritized for implementation.**

- All great ideas
- The sports bix should never have been built, and the off-leash dog park is ridiculous, dog parks are for cities that have no green space. Although Sooke is quickly becoming that.....
- Multi-use sports box-exercise is good for all ages place to keep youth active and not looking for other things to do
- Upgrade to parks for kids
- Dog off-leash area
- Would very much like to see a full sidewalk from Whiffin Spit to downtown Sooke, very dangerous to walk past the Prestige hotel due to boat trailer parking forcing pedestrians onto the highway
- 1) Sports box 2) Nature trail 3) Bluffs 4) dogpark
- All of these and the more clarity about plans for John Phillips Memorial Park's revised master plan.
- More off-leash dog resources after the first one is completed
- More parks. No more urban sprawl into East Sooke or Otter Point boundaries. Focus on town core areas for higher density because area's rural nature charms are the biggest draw to Sooke for tourism dollars."

# Early Learnings Survey: Transportation Master Plan

**The Transportation Master Plan (TMP), approved in October 2020, identifies several capital projects and further action items. Please refer to pages 59-66 and let us know what projects you would like to see prioritized for implementation.**

- All great ideas
- Excellent progress and implementation plan, thank you. Roundabouts first and always! But the everafter, constant concern is traffic volume on Sooke Rd. How do you plan to manage it in working with the CRD and OCP growth projections?
- Improving cycling and pedestrian connectivity throughout sooke should be top priority
- Is there a long-term planning document for upgrading Sooke's hwy 14 through town? It's backed up most of the time and getting worse all the time. It needs to be a double lane. Is it possible to build a bypass road
- Busses are a priority, intersection improvements as noted in the master plan, and a sidewalk from Maple Street to Whiffin Spit
- Throup Road pushed through to Phillips Road and the round-about on Church Road at Throup Road, next is sidewalks on both sides of all main routes Improved & more thoroughfare connections in town, 2nd bridge crossing.
- Improved & more thoroughfare connections in town, 2<sup>nd</sup> bridge crossing.

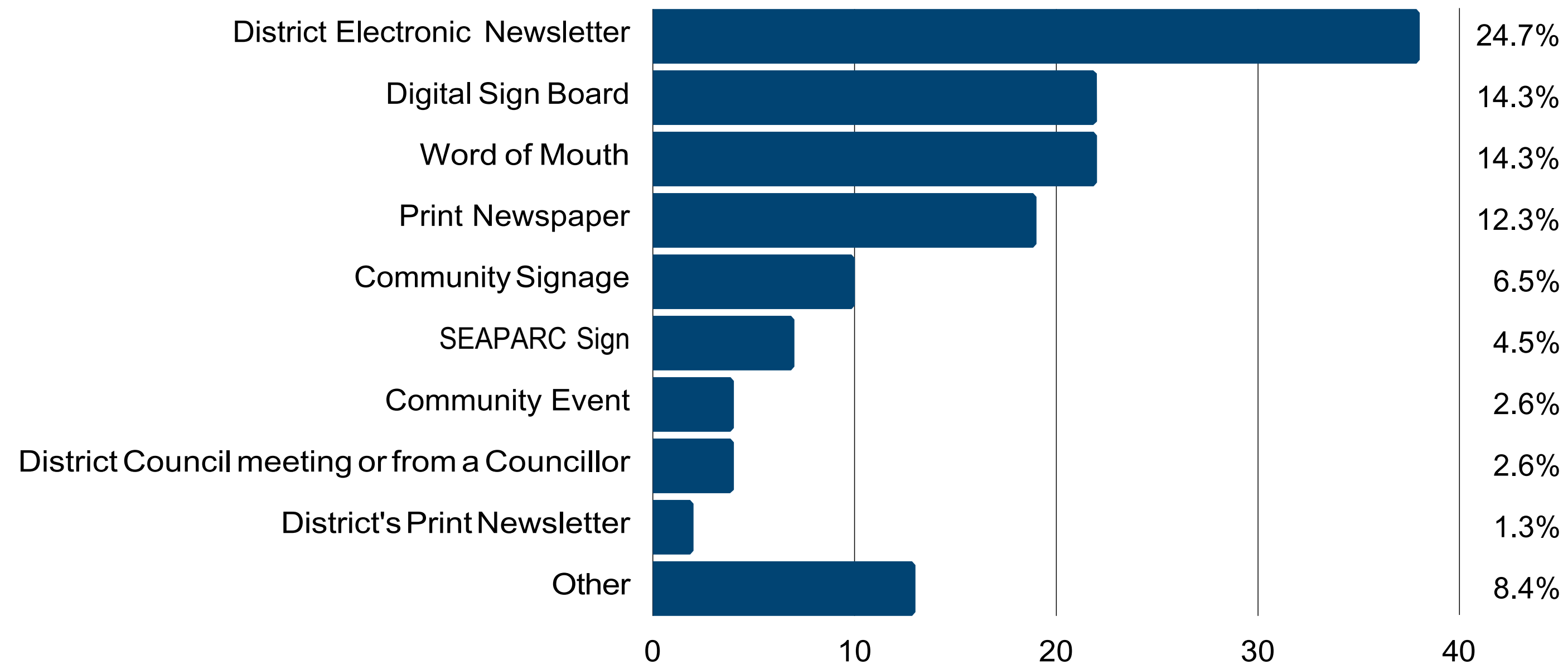




## Participants

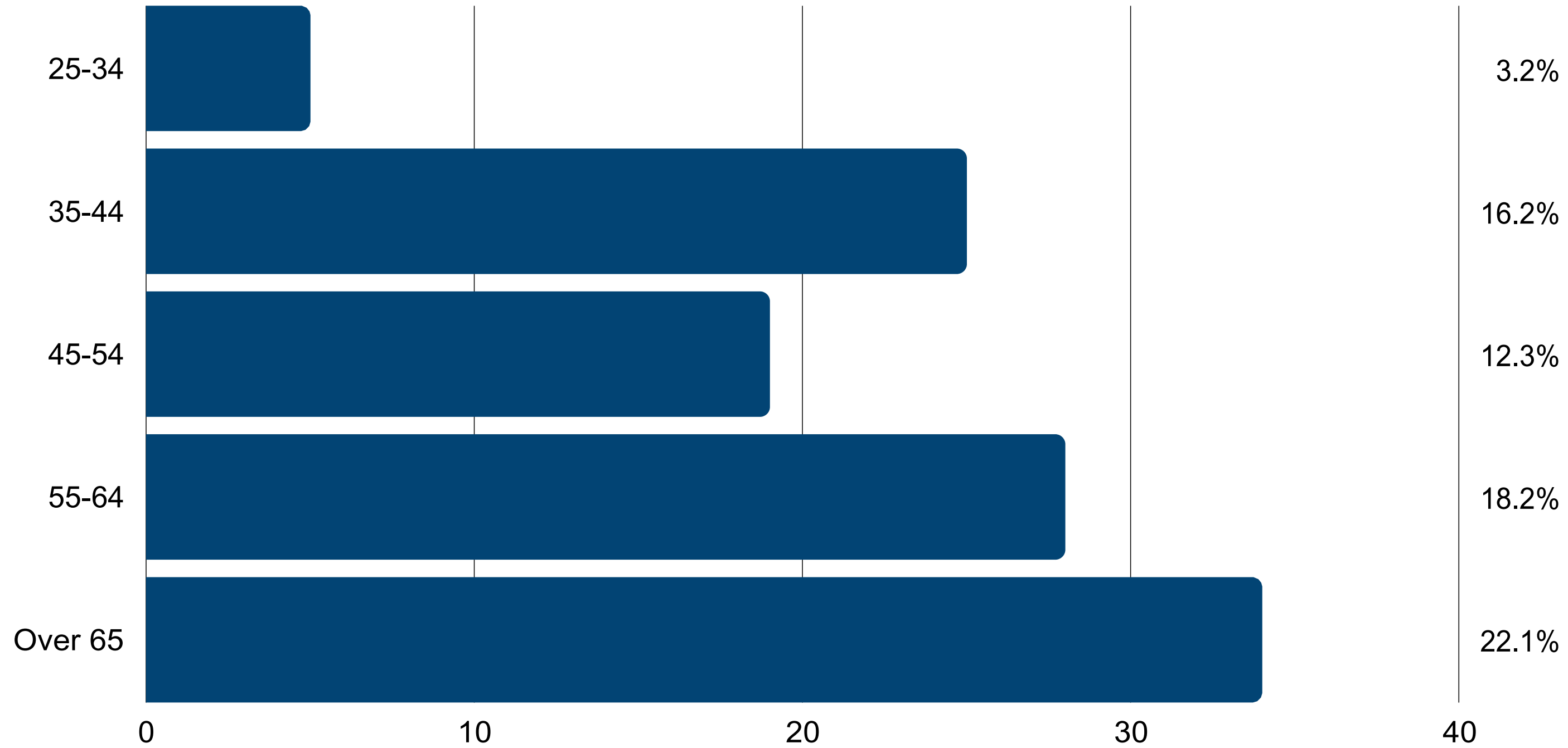


## How did you hear about this survey?



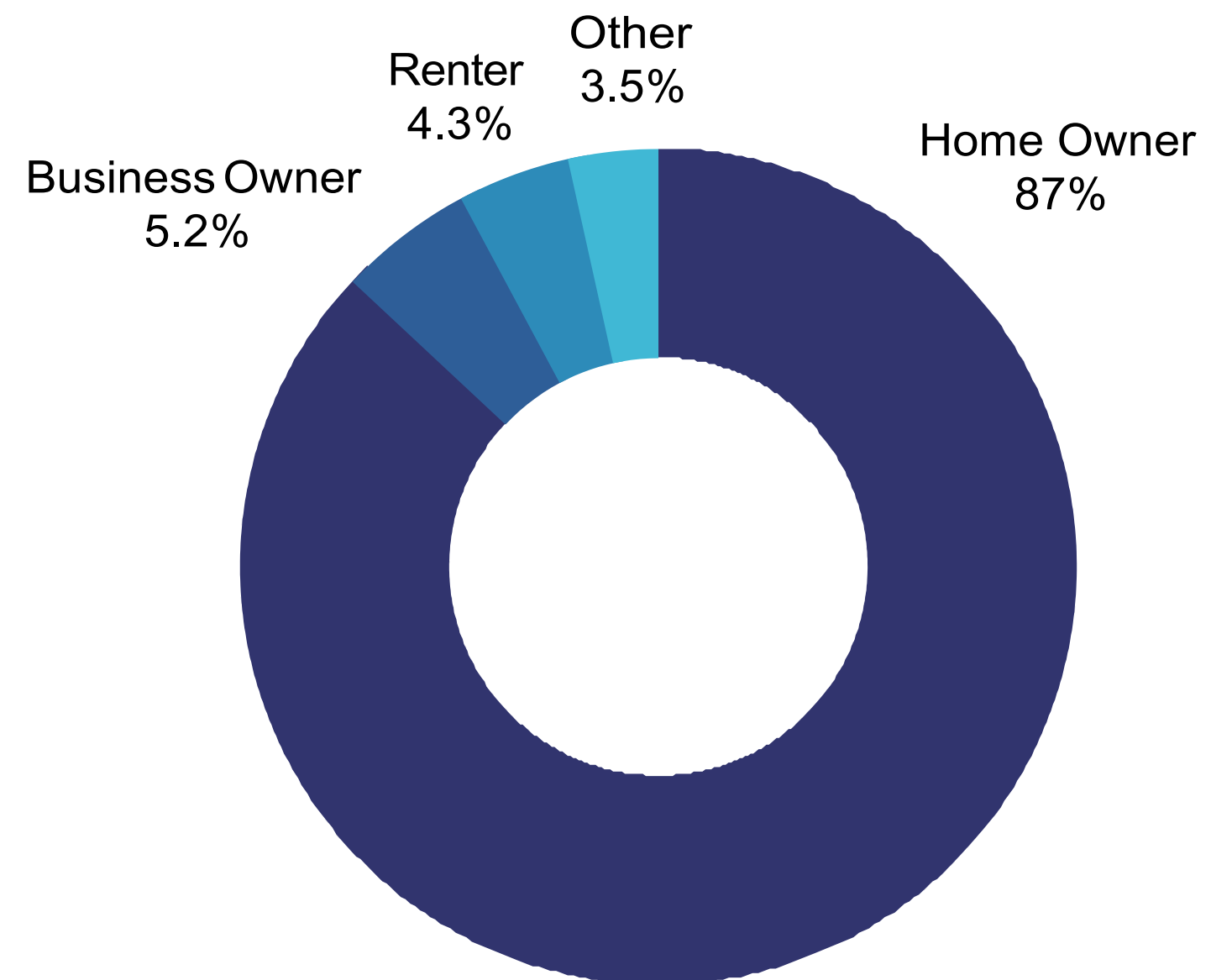
## Participants

### Age

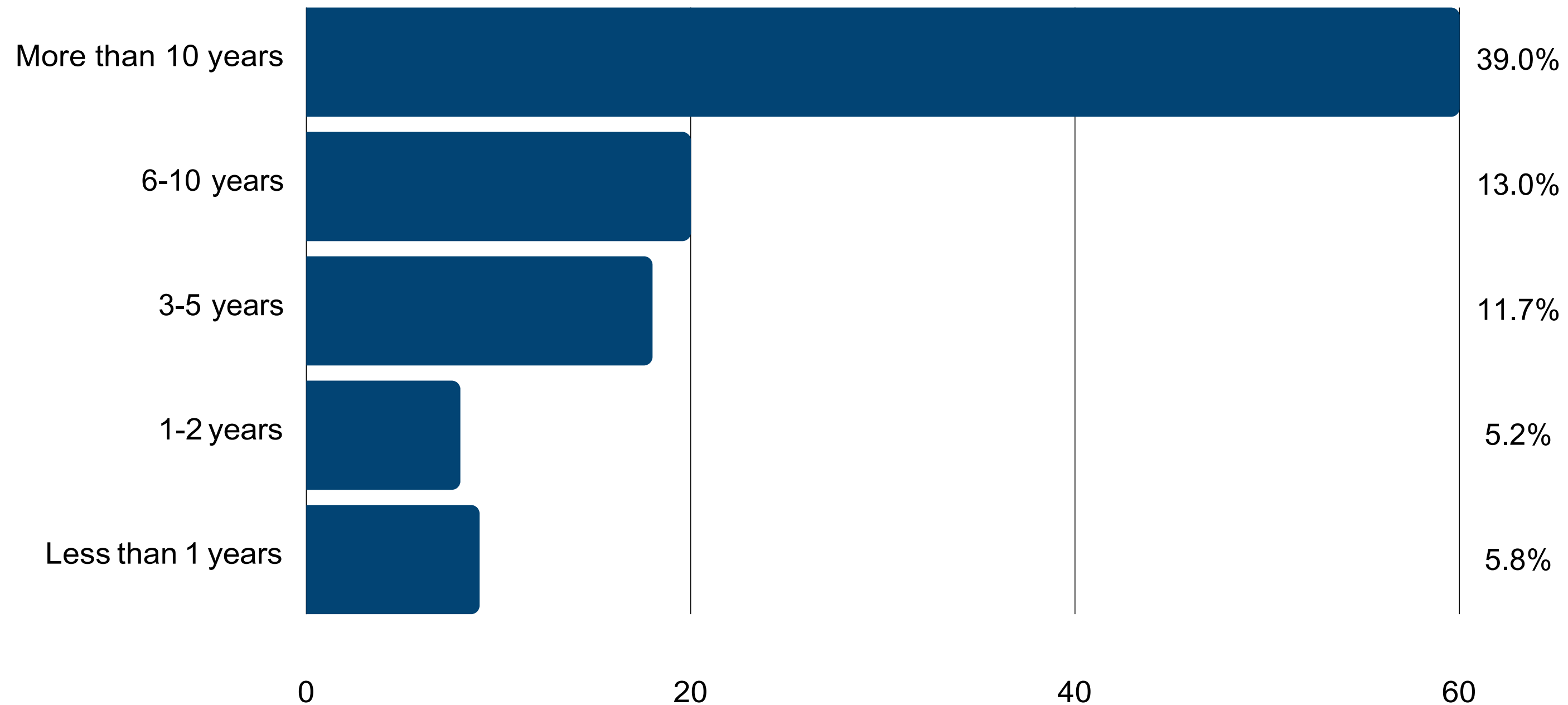


## Participants

### Status



## How long have you been living in Sooke?





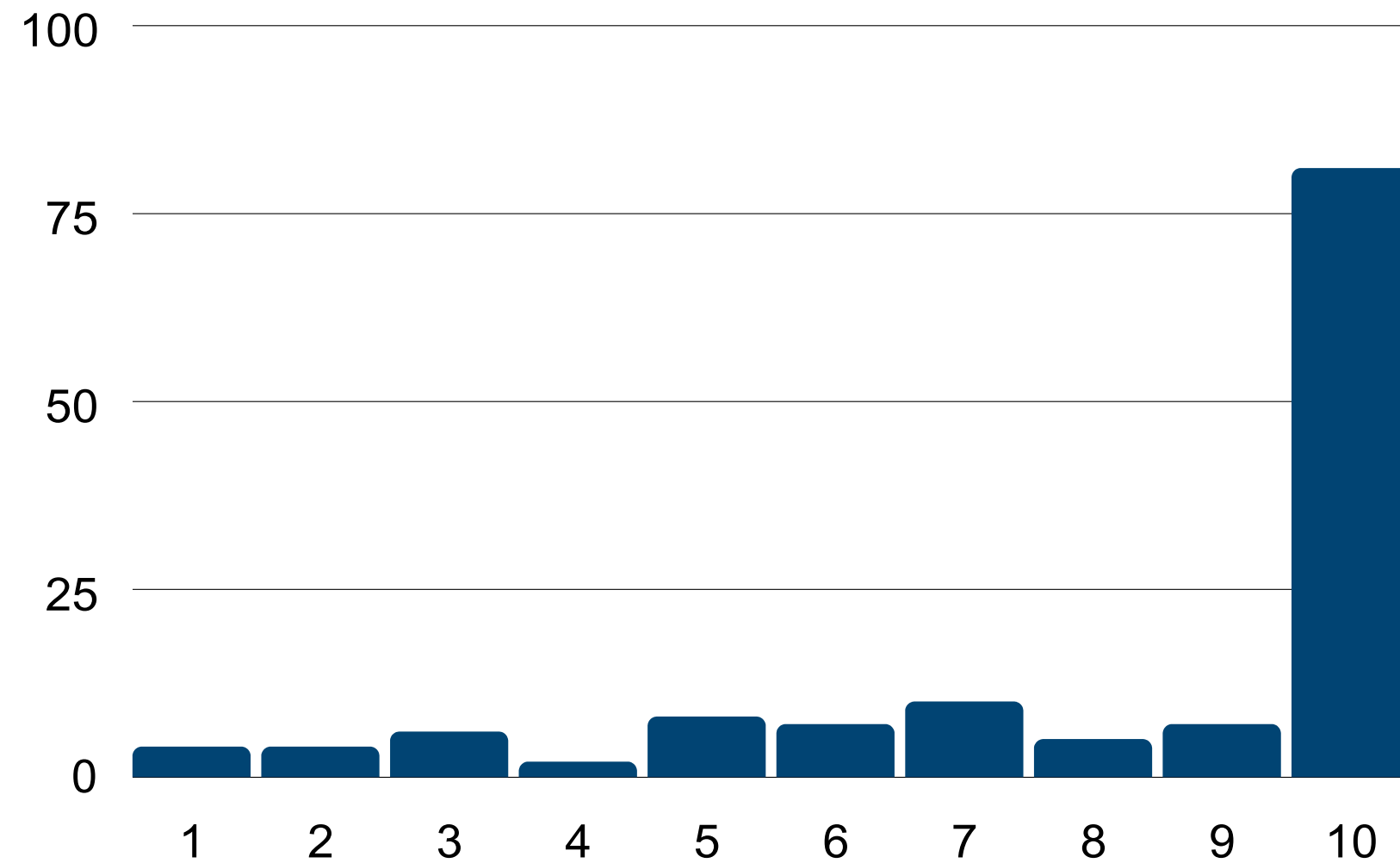
# Feedback





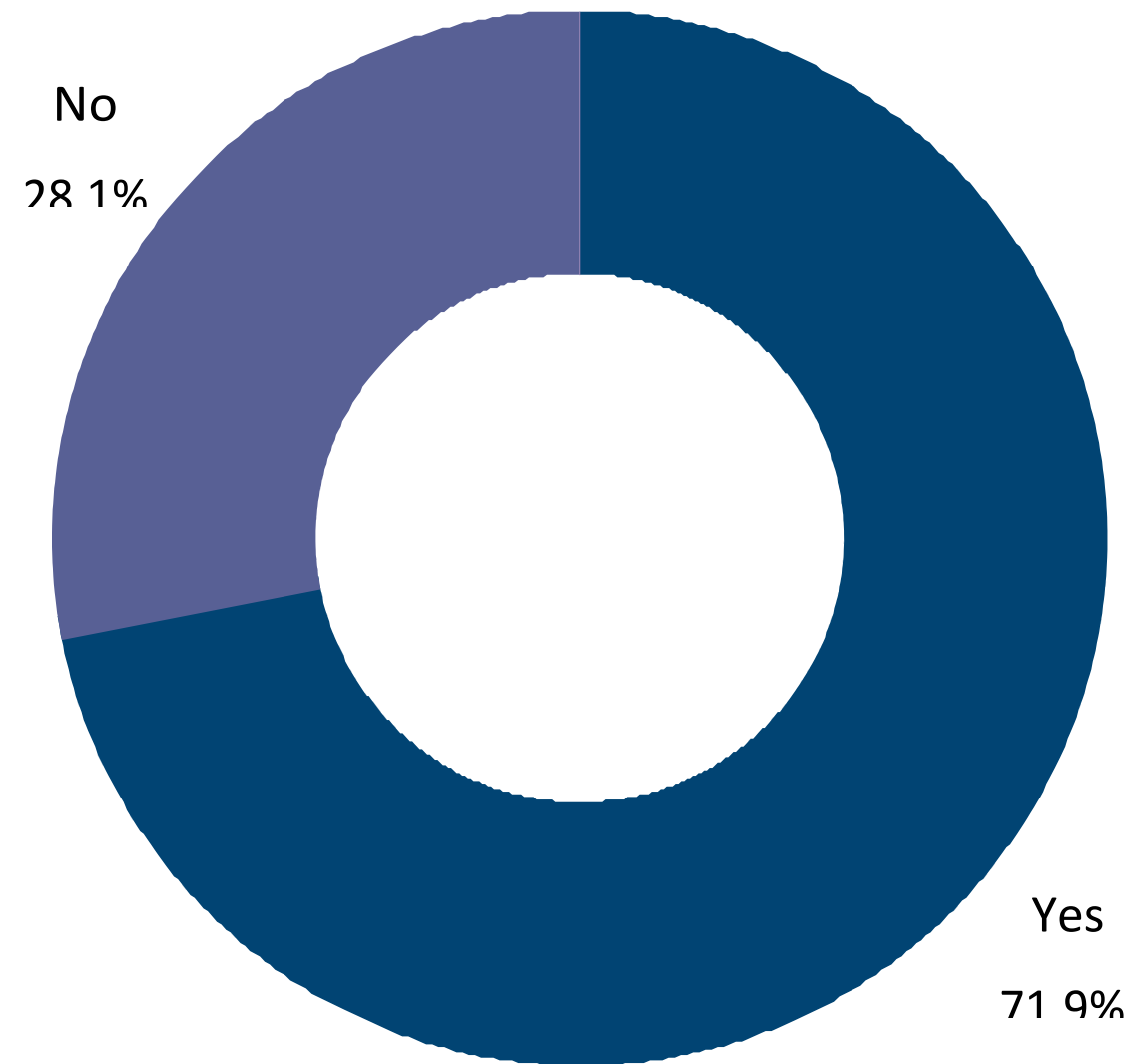
## Process Evaluation

How high would you rate this process, on a scale of 1 - 10?



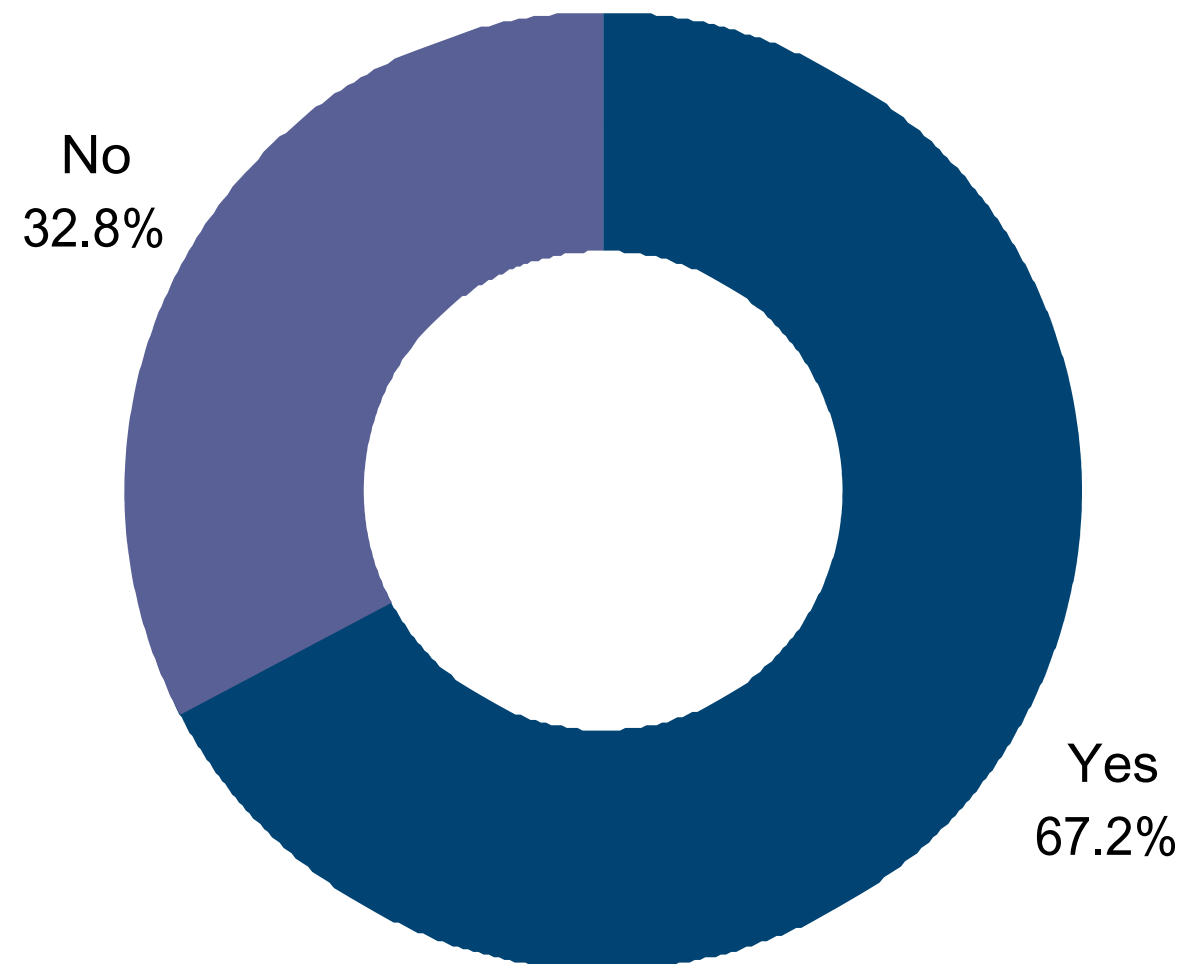
## Friend Referral

**Would you refer this process to a friend?**



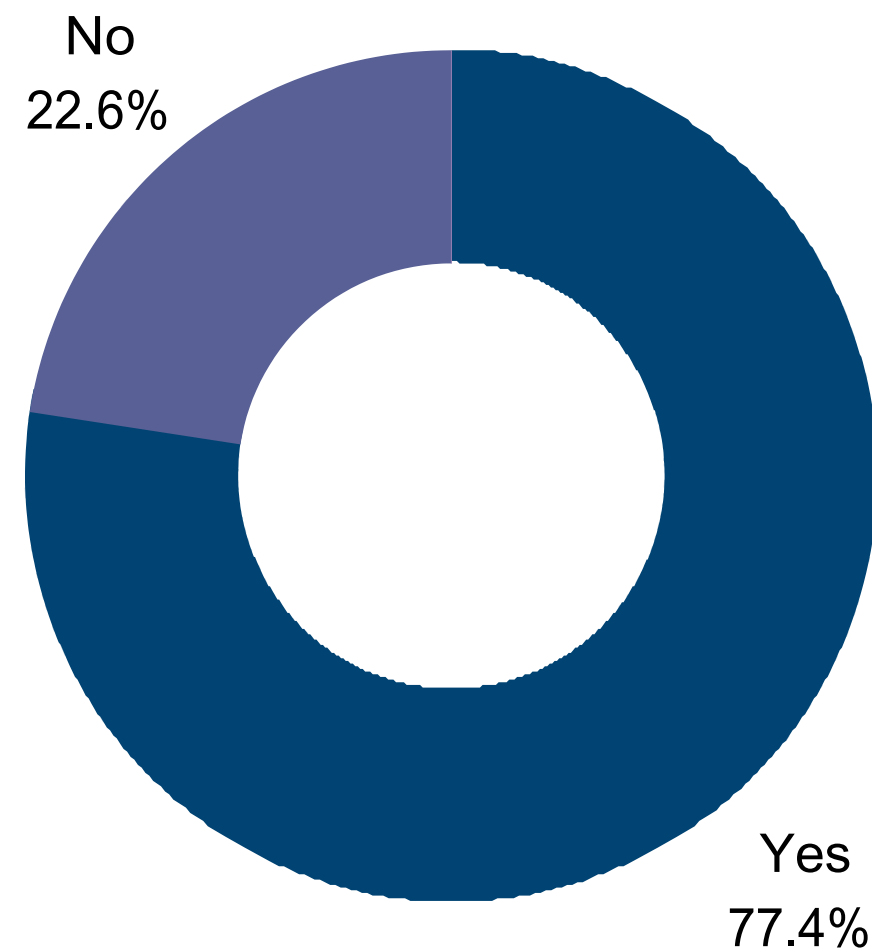
## Support for Group Results

**Would you support the collective budget outcome that is described on the group results page?**



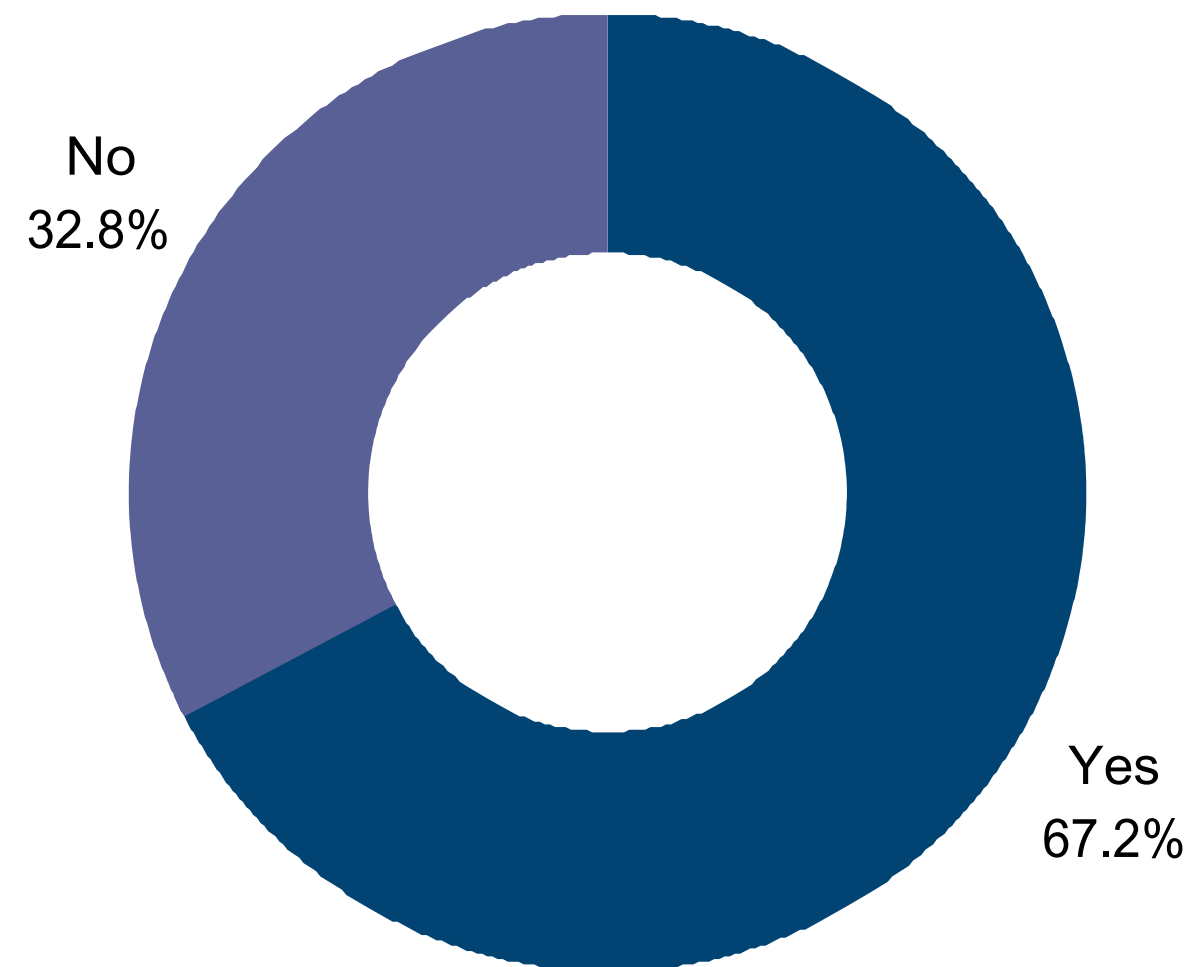
## Support for Final Decision

**Would you be more likely to support a government decision if you knew it was based on the results of a process like this?**



## Other Processes

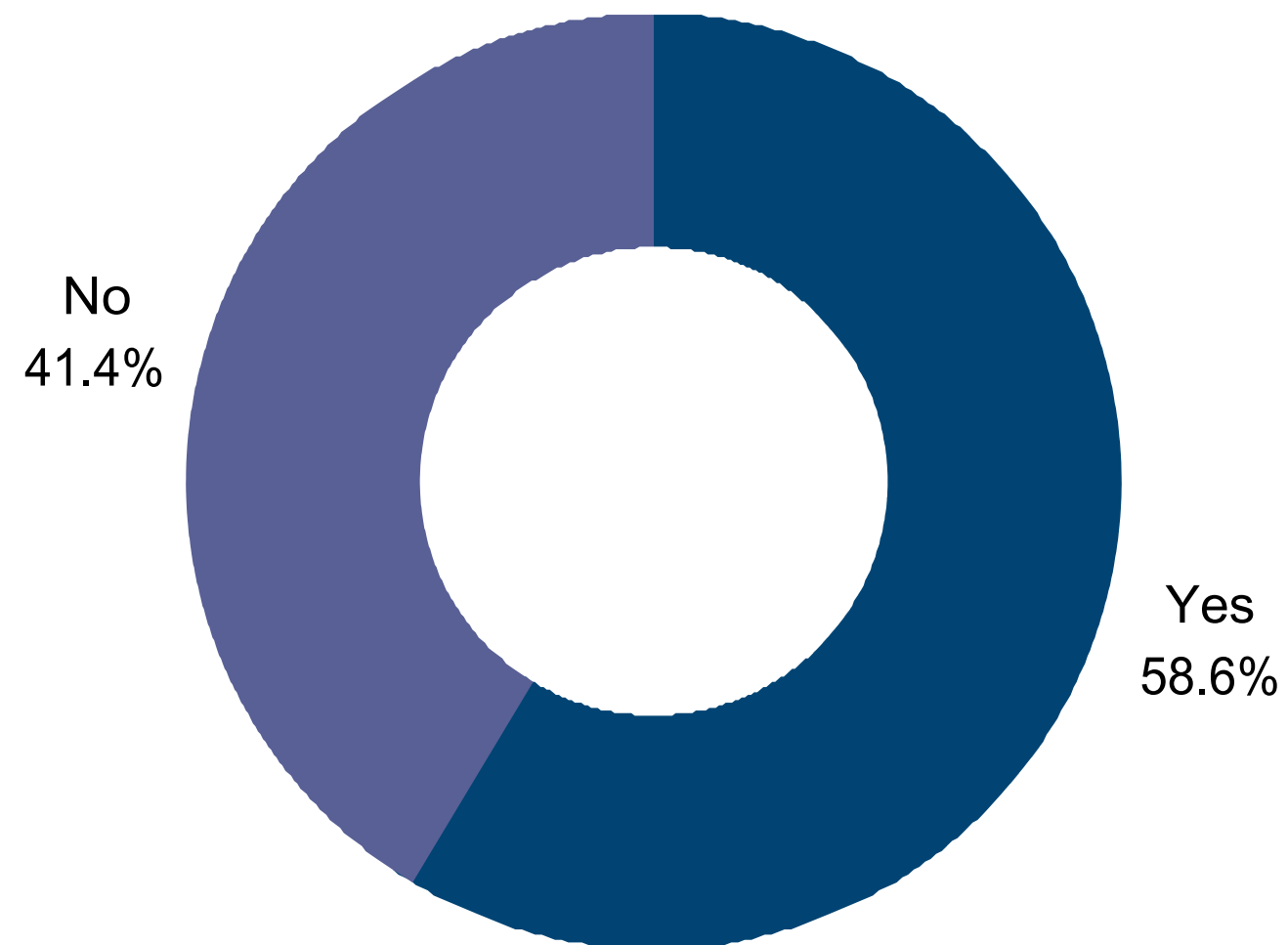
**Would you like to see Ethelo be used for other processes in your community?**






## New Learnings

**Did you learn anything new by participating in this process?**




# Where can it improve?


**What were some of the weak points of the process, which the organizers could improve to make it better for next time?**



"I do not understand the enforced "budget balance" process at the end. I wanted to increase most area budgets by 3% or more, because tackling climate change is so important and will require significant resources. This need has been lost in my submission."


Make it more neutral survey. You asked all questions to basically stay put or increase more but nothing on potentially taking away service or you know?"






"Your assumption that existing services require a balancing budget at the end is wrong. I wish to reduce cost of services I selected and add new costs related to Emergency Climate Declaration and climate mitigation and GHG reduction but your program would not allow it. Having preset requirements for a balanced budget revealed only at the end does not give you statistically relevant results. Someone at the Town Hall needs to take an elementary course in statistics to be able to see that polling like this is asking for anecdotes not relevant facts. It is helping only to develop and shore up Alternative Facts."

"The results should be broken down and community safety broken down between fire and police. Same for other services within the corporate structure such as building inspectors and bylaw. Council should be able to see where peoples concerns are and the survey is over generalized in that respect"





# What did you like?

**Are there any aspects of the process that you liked, that you'd like us to keep and perhaps expand upon?**

"The ability to comment and explain the issues as I see it were good. Climate change is an emergency that is still not being addressed by the District. I got the opportunity to say so, although whether anyone will read it is unknown."

"It's too easy for people to just click 'leave the same' 'It is good to know the long term plan for Sooke'"



"Very much appreciate the super detailed information available under the 'by the numbers' and 'did you know' etc. tabs."

"Drop down bulletins with information about what kind of services are covered under each budget."

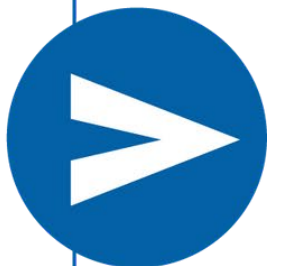
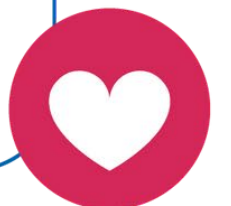
"The sliding scale for measuring relative importance is good."

"The process seems nice. Thanks."

"The ability to provide feedback"

"just the chance to be heard"

"I liked the ease of the system. It was easy to use and made me feel important that I had a voice in the process. Plus this works as I am unable to attend council meetings due to conflicting work and family schedules."



# Final Comments

Any final thoughts or feedback? We'd love to hear it!

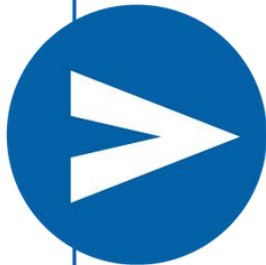
"All good, a necessary process" "Glad to see these types of surveys"

"Keep the community engagement coming!"

"good summaries of department staffing and objectives"



"Is DOS really doing everything it can to meet (better, exceed), its GHG-reduction commitments? The climate emergency is full upon us; DOS should be aiming to establish itself as a true climate leader, but it feels like business-as-usual with the conventional developments going in all around Sooke. DOS should require strictly net-neutral building (commercial & residential) and innovations such as green roofs, rain catchment systems, and motion-activated street lights to reduce night sky pollution and support insects and migrating birds who need dark environments. Develop renewable energy options including wind and solar for municipal energy needs, perhaps by collaborating with other tiers of gov't to have Sooke become a model community."







## Service Level Satisfaction Comments

As a resident, I really just want Sooke to have improved sidewalks, trails and parks. Focusing on enhancing Sooke's natural beauty and improving its walkability will ensure that Sooke becomes a desirable place for people to live and visit, not just a suburban sprawl commuter town.

The District is moving development too fast in Sooke, destroying its natural beauty and

doing nothing to support the issues the traffic lights have created. The Sooke Highway should be roundabouts. The District is focused on building sports boxes, houses, and sidewalks, meanwhile people cannot even get home from work or into town to get groceries because of the archaic use of traffic light systems that create traffic congestion. This District has the wrong priorities.

Why are the limits set at 9%?

Most of the community relations and communication is centred around housing for low income (although needed). Where we would like to see more focus and resources allocated by the city would be towards improving the current infrastructure - roads, sidewalks, downtown core etc.)

The perception that council is relying on more housing development in order to generate funds for various initiatives and not focusing on improving existing assets. Council has a tough job of trying to please most of the Sooke population, but it seems the needs of the low income population are taking precedent over the overall direction of the community.

More development results in a higher population that requires more housing, more amenities, services and investment from the municipality.

Our municipality has lacked in planning, far too many houses built before infrastructure in place, such as sidewalks, curbs, drainage. Abolish the agriculture land reserve.

Let's never do this negative voting again!

I'm not able to evaluate the performance of each department. I noticed high staff turnover and wonder if staff are overworked. I have only moved the slider up on a few items but increasing all these dept's budgets may be necessary to support a harmonious, productive workplace.

go for Steveston Village

Too much staff time wasted in meeting. Why are so many staff required for committee meetings? Surely some efficiencies can be found. Also, why does the fire department have to respond to all calls, including traffic and ambulance? Someone who is ill or injured and needs medical attention does not want fire department staff hanging around. Costs can be trimmed here.

Sooke is safe, unlike Prince George. Please divert security funding to engineering, infrastructure, sidewalks along Highway 14, Whiffin Spit Road, roundabouts along Highway 14.

The municipality has done generally OK but there is huge room for improvement especially if we keep adding growth like we are with little if any reasonable corporate tax income. Not that I want Sooke to be like Langford!

Promises, promises. How about all the talk about environmentally sound development?

Should be more focus on infrastructure and less on advertising. More doing less talking.

This is a bit of an odd question for citizens - most don't know how to evaluate whether Corp Services, Admin, etc. is doing. What are the criteria that an average citizen is evaluating the corporate services department, for example. I understand the need for feedback but it just struck me as a weird question.

Need a slider for how satisfied With politicians.

Very very dissatisfied where is action on climate emergency, why all the rezoning approvals, why permit more housing when our roadways can not hold cars that exist now, why give park to Lions, This is yet another silly survey asking questions to support political maneuvering not to assess service. It is the politicians manipulating the town not the department. Stand for the people, not developers or private interests.

Sooke is becoming a bedroom community. That is a very wise decision, that will require more of every service available. History of Colwood - not good. Need more businesses here, or quit new citizens relocating.

The number of homeless people and amount of drugs on the street continues to climb. If the RCMP is busy combating the growing mental health crisis, they won't have the necessary resources to enforce traffic or help educate our kids or

the seriousness of the climate emergency or incorporate any real, solid goals and objectives to ensure the entire District will reduce its carbon emissions by 50% by 2030. They are completely captured by the "business-as usual lobby, and do not understand the seriousness of the situation documented by the latest IPCC report. Without a complete change of focus and additional resources, Sooke will remain a rogue community without any meaningful contribution to the the Provincial effort to reduce carbon emissions in BC and Canada. That is a tragedy.

All of the above are great and their only limitations as of this point are financial and where we as a community are relative to our growth.

I think priorities need to be set and money allocated in that way. For instance our family has had the same couch for 40 years and the fridge is leaking but we are installing solar panels, a heat pump and purchasing an electric car as we are trying to do our part for the climate emergency.

CONNIE Road has been seriously neglected to the point it is a safety hazard !

The District Staff & The Road Maintenance department have been made aware by many residents yet continues to be neglected.

It is my understanding that laws and regulations are in place to ensure safety, quality and maintenance. NOTHING has been done. The maintenance crew has an obligation to report back to District unsafe and hazardous deteriorating identified areas YET nothing is fixed ? Has any of the District's staff driven Connie Rd lately ? Bring your personally owned vehicle to get a real taste of how Crappy it is ! Disappointed as a 25 plus year resident and tax payer to see such an unacceptable decline in service quality regarding road maintenance and safety.

Clearly North Sooke residents are not important to those in power of ensuring safety . We have been subjected to years of noise , blasting , traffic jams , loss of peace of the rural settings with the Highway construction. , Is it too much to ask for someone to take the lead

and provide a basic Safe road ? A Dog park Has taken a priority over safety!?



# Climate Emergency Responses

I fully believe in climate change, but It's the world industries that need to change, not our small town.

Rebate and top-up incentive programs for heat pumps and, as recommended in the draft OCP, e-bikes (but heat pumps as the priority)

Hire a Climate Action Coordinator

Stop allowing unchecked development and removal of forested areas, mountains, and green spaces. Get rid of the traffic lights that contribute to idling cars and emissions and install efficient roundabouts. Get better busing services including express routes. Stop building houses that the road cannot accommodate additional cars. Support local small businesses and avoid large chain stores and restaurants. Keep Sooke the quiet community it should stay and don't turn it into Langford!!!!

STOP CLEARING FORESTED/TREED AREAS AND STOP BUILDING MORE HOUSES AND REMOVE THE HOMELESS SHELTER. WAY TOO MANY SCHETCHY PEOPLE IN SOOKE TOO MANY BREAKINS THEFTS TRESPASSING AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY NOT SAFE ANYWHERE HERE NOW

The mayor declares a "climate emergency". then jets off to Cambodia for a "conference". What a hypocrite!

Mass transit improvements, incentives for cleaner energy options (ie furnace conversions to heat pumps, solar/wind).

Don't cut down the trees and you don't need to allocate a tax increase to address climate. Natural solution to human-caused problem

2. Ban new electric baseboard (resistive) heaters and electric boilers.
3. Require the highest possible Step Code for all new buildings.
4. Ban blasting and terracing in developments.
5. Preserve all existing trees, meadows and farmlands.
6. Comprehensively review the Zoning Bylaw with a Climate-First perspective and require semi-annual review done in light of GHG trends experienced. It should be a living document, with Climate as the life-blood.
7. Disallow the approval of a new Zoning Bylaw just to accommodate the whims of a developer or an individual. Treat all zoning variances as one time exceptions (not precedent setting) to existing zoning. A competent Variance board needs to be established to address proposed variances.

Carbon neutrality has been a DoS goal for a decade. It's time it happened. The Climate Action Committee is a good start but more is needed

moratorium on fossil fuel infrastructure including gas lines and service stations. Encouragement of neighbourhood generation of utilities incouding electricity and water

Climate Emergency. 10% require

Not particularly interested in climate mitigation, more in sensible designs and approval  
meet climate needs and fast introduction of bylaws that support initiatives in new  
OCPns

Focus on basic services: Roads, Water, Policing, Fire, Parks.

Please don't invest in this

Sea Level Rise Mitigation, Forest Fire Preparedness

They seem to be doing an adequate job of this now. No need to increase time or resources on doing more.

Please consider starting a dialog with Provincial and Federal agencies for LRT planning.

Sooke is growing and will need soon a rail link to Langford and Victoria.

As much funding as required needs to be redirected from elsewhere if necessary in order to reach the targeted 7% decrease per year in GHG emissions.

Increase local food security and grow the active transportation network. Expand place- making efforts to encourage local community identity and pride, and further support local living (e.g., supporting local businesses, decreasing commuting, encouraging participation in local committees and clubs, expand support for local make-bake-grow markets). Acquire and develop waterfront ammenitees and attractions.

Switch to EV, promote solar, wind and alternative power sources.Promote transit. Local composting facility

Sooke is too small to have any meaningful effect on climate change. Efforts should focus on local services to local citizens. Leave the big stuff to higher levels of government who have more resources and expertise.

All of science says we need to reduce GHG but no politicians are willing to take the needed steps or make the necessary decisions. Surely the future of your children or grandchildren is more important than getting reelected.

Let Federal Govt. set the responses to the climate goals

Teach Sookites what to do.

We are in a climate crisis. Responding to climate emergency should have the highest priority. If we succumb to dramatic climate events-- such wildfires, drought, and flooding - there will be not much left in Sooke. Then you r

or by having resources work "off the side of their desks". Fighting climate change requires serious resources and will cost money. Humanity has built up a huge climate debt; the time to pay has now come. The huge elephant in the room is growth and the "business-as usual" lobby. We simply cannot grow at 5 or 10% per year and decrease our carbon emissions. The numbers simply do not add up. We must make significant reductions in carbon emissions before we can have any growth. Any other approach is pure fantasy.

None

Unless the rest of the world jumps on this band wagon, Sooke is wasting its money.

Eliminate the Burning Bylawand do not allow burning of yard waste or any type of burning in rhe District!

Climate Change is an existential crisis. We must dedicate major human and financial resources to meeting its challenges in all departments. However, Climate deserves staff of its own as well; so find the funding to add a Climate Action Coordinator who can work collaboratively with the Community Economic Development person, instead of having one person trying to take on so much.



May need electric car charging stations.

More bus transit coverage and routes: More facilities for bikes and walking (trails,

corridors, bike lanes). Places for pedestrians to actually congregate in - as opposed to just parking lots. More EV charging stations. Facilities for scooters and smaller vehicles (parking, locks). Clearer and better recycling programs (we currently have the choice of paying money to recycle styrofoam - or dropping it in the dump next door for free; there is no plastic bag recycling facility in Sooke or even Langford).

Change the building code to require all new homes to install solar panels and cisterns for rain water. Every day in the summer there was a steady stream of water trucks filling up their tanks to deliver water to those people whose wells have run dry. Offer incentives to those people wanting to install these items.

Install solar panels, solar hot water, and other efficiency measures to set a good example for the community. You could give tours! Also electric vehicles.

Fund climate action only if it can be done by not increasing taxes.

We're more concerned about the impact of continued, unregulated growth. Unless it is

zero emission growth we'll need to dig even deeper to mitigate its impact. Not seeing a plan to manage what we have now let alone mitigate the impact of even more growth. Need some measurements of where we are now and how much progress we are making year over year. Looks like transportation is our biggest GHG impact yet we are continuing to build a bedroom community and a freeway.

(well hardly ever) votes for tax increases. None of your other questions presented the tax increase consequences of increasing a budget in a particular area. We need to majorly spend money on Climate, through the hiring of a climate action coordinator and associated budget. Take the money out of road paving, planning, or other departments. Seek ongoing funding from other levels of government. Or raise taxes. Has to be done somehow. Takes leadership. With real leadership at council, public would start to buy into these budgetary changes.

# Parks & Trails Master Plan Responses

1. Acquire parks in redevelopment areas Town Centre \$1,000,000  
 2. Prepare park master plans, with full community engagement for the parks with the highest needs and potential, as follows: John Phillips Memorial Park \$75,000 Whiffin Spit Park \$75,000 New Town Centre Park \$75,000  
 3. Upgrade existing trails to improve accessibility and capacity \$100,000 \$100,000 \$20,000/year Trailhead at Ed Macgregor Park entrance \$75,000 Trailhead to water at Sooke River Park \$66,000  
 4. t 7.7 Establish new infrastructure and improve existing waterfront access infrastructure per the lists provided in this section Kaltasin - improve access and provide canoe/kayak ramp \$35,000 Cains Park staircase \$75,000 Austins Place - Bluff Park staircase \$150,000 Ella Road Trail - lines in parking lot \$5,000 Murray Road - path to reduce slope \$100,000 Cooper's Cove at Sooke Road \$80,000 Seabroom Road \$63,000 7.8 Provide signs at all existing waterfront access points and road ends \$50,000

1. Bluffs Staircase 2 Nature trail

1) Sports box 2) Nature trail 3) Bluffs 4) dog park

1) Multi use sports box!!!

2) Philips Rd at seaparc/Sooke Rd - awkward and dangerous area for trail.

All great ideas

All of the above mentioned projects should proceed. All good.

All of these and the more clarity about plans for John Phillips Memorial Park's revised master plan.

Bluff Staircase, off leash park

Bluffs staircase

Bluffs Staircase

bluffs staircase

Bluffs staircase and other ammenities to encourage accessibility to the natural and outdoor attractions in our community. more drinking water stations and outdoor public shelters, such as picnic areas and spaces to congregate during winter rains.

Bridge from schools to sunriver, update old playgrounds, trails, trails, trails

Dog off leash area

Would very much like to see a full sidewalk from Whiffin Spit to downtown Sooke, very dangerous to walk past the Prestige hotel due to boat trailer parking forcing pedestrians onto the highway

First priority should be to get the main highway out of Sooke. It's like having a sewer line open right through our living room. Until that is done ... nothing els

Highway 14 along the downtown core needs help! Please consider sidewalks along Highway 14 towards Whiffin Spit Rd. Consider RoundABOUTs along Highway 14 from Whiffin Spit Rd to Kaltasin Road.

I would like to see a multi use trail system connecting the attractions of sooke. John phillips memorial park to Ed macgregor park to whiffin spit could be a start. And it could greatly reduce the parking congestion at the spit.

JPMP and Whiffin Spit master plans

|   |
|---|
| Let's do them   |
| Militias sports box abs nature trails                         |
| More green spaces and walking trails are good.                |
| more off-leash dog resources after the first one is completed |

More parks. No more urban sprawl into East Sooke or Otter Point boundaries. Focus on town core areas for higher density because area's rural nature charms are the biggest draw to Sooke for tourism dollars.

Multi-use sports box in Sunriver

Off the dog area at the Ponds Park Corridor Bluffs staircase

Multi-use sports box-exercise is good for all ages place to keep youth active and not looking for other things to do

Nature Trail

Nature trail and bluff staircase

Need to focus on restoration of ocean shoreline, protection of wildlife habitat

- Trail 1A Off-Road Gravel MUP (p. 71)

- Trail 1B Nature Trail (p. 71)

Trail upgrade projects

- Upgrade existing trails to improve accessibility and capacity (p. 73)

Parkland

- 5.1 Acquire parks in redevelopment areas in the Town Centre (p. 73)

Waterfront

- Establish new infrastructure and improve existing waterfront access infrastructure (p. 74)

No comment

No need for an off leash dog park, there is already one in Whiffen Spit.

Set up a Recreation Dept to establish and manage recreation facilities in the District so we do not have to rely on private clubs to provide these facilities!

NO TAX MONEY SPENT ON DOG PARKS!

None of these

Plant trees build bike lanes trails

off Leash Dog area

Off leash dog park

Off leash dog park and multiuser sports box are based on decades old needs assessments that are no longer relevant to new population growth needs.

Only nature trail at sun river and bluffs staircase. Other projects do not have wide public support.

Surveys and parks plans do not show statistically relevant demand.

Our family will not use any of these items so not important to us.

Parks with areas to sit and have picnics instead of only hiking trails.

Pedestrian crossing of DeMamie Creek connecting the Town Centre and local schools to the Sunriver and Phillips Road neighbourhood. Pedestrian crossing of Sooke River.

Perhaps property taxes for Sunriver homeowners should increase more than other Sooke homeowners given that half the projects are in Sunriver.



protected bike lanes on Sooke Rd, OP Rd and along to-routol routes.

Sooke River crossing for bikes and people to access Goose

STOP CLEARING FORESTED/TREED AREAS AND STOP BUILDING MORE HOUSES AND REMOVE THE HOMELESS SHELTER. WAY TOO MANY SCHETCHY PEOPLE IN SOOKE TOO MANY BREAKINS THEFTS TRESPASSING AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY NOT SAFE ANYWHERE HERE NOW

The sports bix should never have been built, and the off leash dog park is ridiculous, dog parks are for cities that have no green space. Although Sooke is quickly becoming that.....

Upgrade to parks for kids

Waterfront businesses

We need more green space for the public to use as well as more public access to the waterfront. I would like to see a Boardwalk from Whiffin Spit to Billings Spit. I am also concerned about the high number of unleashed dogs running around Whiffin Spit-- would an off-leash dog area help resolve this issue?

We're concerned that these "nice to have projects" are taking priority over critical infrastructure and essential services. We expect a minimum level of essential services throughout the District. Rather a slap in the face to fund a dog park when our only street isn't safe for us to walk on and is barely driveable.

Some review of equitable investment throughout the community is necessary.

Would love to see the crossing of Demamiel Creek completed. Would also like safe cycling/walking trails up Otter Point Road to the District of Sooke/Otter Point boundary.

# Transportation Master Plan Responses

All great idea

Excellent progress and implementation plan, thank you. Roundabouts first and always! But the everafter, constant concern is traffic volume on Sooke Rd. How do you plan to manage it in working with the CRD and OCP growth projections?

Is there a long-term planning document for upgrading Sooke's hwy 14 through town? It's backed up most of the time and getting worse all the time. It needs to be a double lane. Is it possible to build a bypass road

STOP CLEARING FORESTED/TREED AREAS AND STOP BUILDING MORE HOUSES AND REMOVE THE HOMELESS SHELTER. WAY TOO MANY SCHETCHY PEOPLE IN SOOKE TOO MANY BREAKINS THEFTS TRESPASSING AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY NOT SAFE ANYWHERE HERE NOW

Busses are a priority, intersection improvements as noted in the master plan, and a sidewalk from Maple Street to Whiffin Spit

Throup Road pushed through to Phillips Road and the round-about on Church Road at Throup Road, next is sidewalks on both sides of all main routes

Improving cycling and pedestrian connectivity throughout sooke should be top priority

Improved & more thoroughfare connections in town, 2nd bridge crossing.

Streets and public transit. Also forcing developers to provide more parking OFF of the street in future developments.

You need to get damn serious about CYCLING in Sooke. A major push. STOP giving preferences to cars!

Work with MoT to plan a second bridge across Sooke River. One bridge = our weakest link!

protected bike lanes

None bike lane & trails priorlty

Free bus service to victoria

Quit allowing new growth until existing issues with congestion and travel times are solved. The issue is not transportation corridor development it is that growth has exceeded transportation capacity. 2 lane roads in and out of Sooke, 2 lane bridge. That is what limits and all the intersection redesigns will not change that reality

CYCLING Improve cycling connectivity by pursuing the following priority cycling improvement projects: Phillips Road

â€¢ Actively pursue external funding and grant opportunities, including preparing the necessary planning and design work to meet various grant criteria.

I would like to see a side walk and bike lanes from the Prestige to Whiffin Spit Road. It is so dangerous to have to navigate walking on the road to pass all the trucks with their boat trailers parked on the side of West Coast Rd.

Sooke traffic is terrible - fix it

No comment

Please prioritize projects to improve walking, transit access and roads before cycling.

Please consider starting a dialog with Provincial and Federal agencies for LRT planning. Sooke is growing and will need soon a rail link to Langford and Victoria.

More EV charging stations to prepare for need

More walking and cycling infrastructure

Second river crossing.

An additional crossing of the Sooke River would be amazing, but unlikely I suppose.



Fund transit not road expansion as per recent CRD policy directives. Funding roads leads to more houses

leads to more congestion and pollution and GHG

Install flashing warning lights at all pedestrian crosswalks inr

Nlinvite new business.

We need another route into and out of Sooke. One road is a joke

Improve public transportation.

Improve cycling. It's not safe to cycle within Sooke!

1) All walking and rolling projects.

2) All public transit projects.

e-bike ride sharing

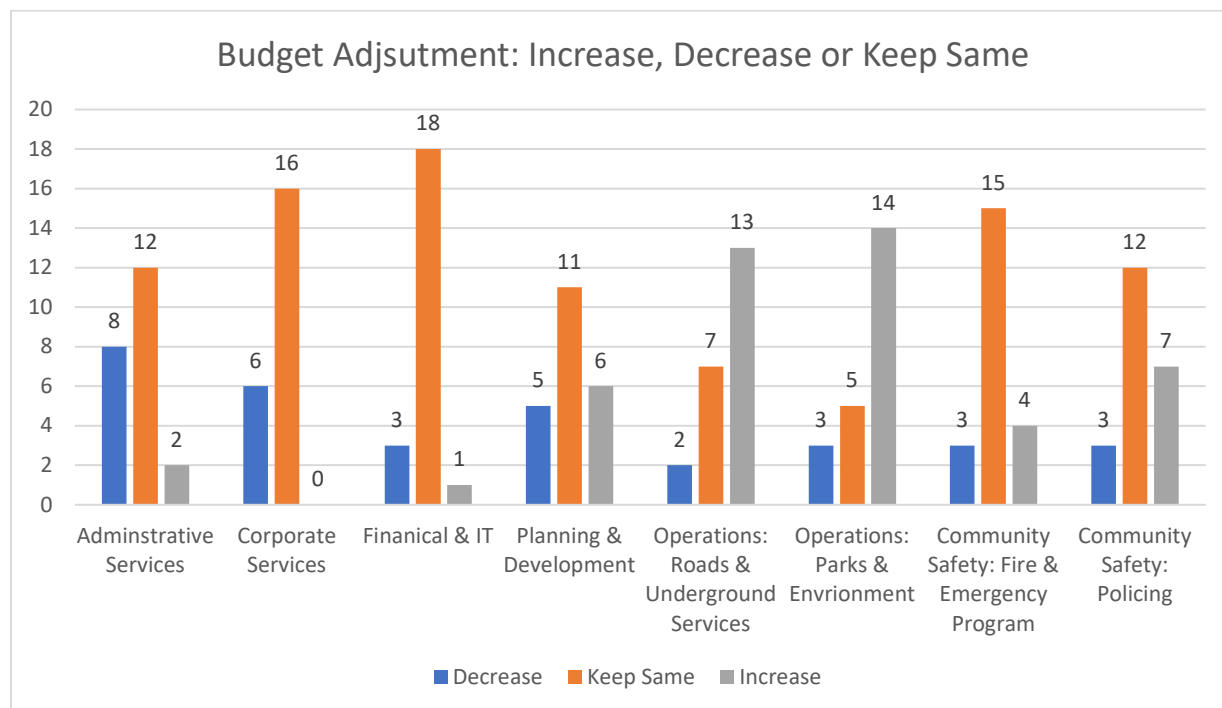
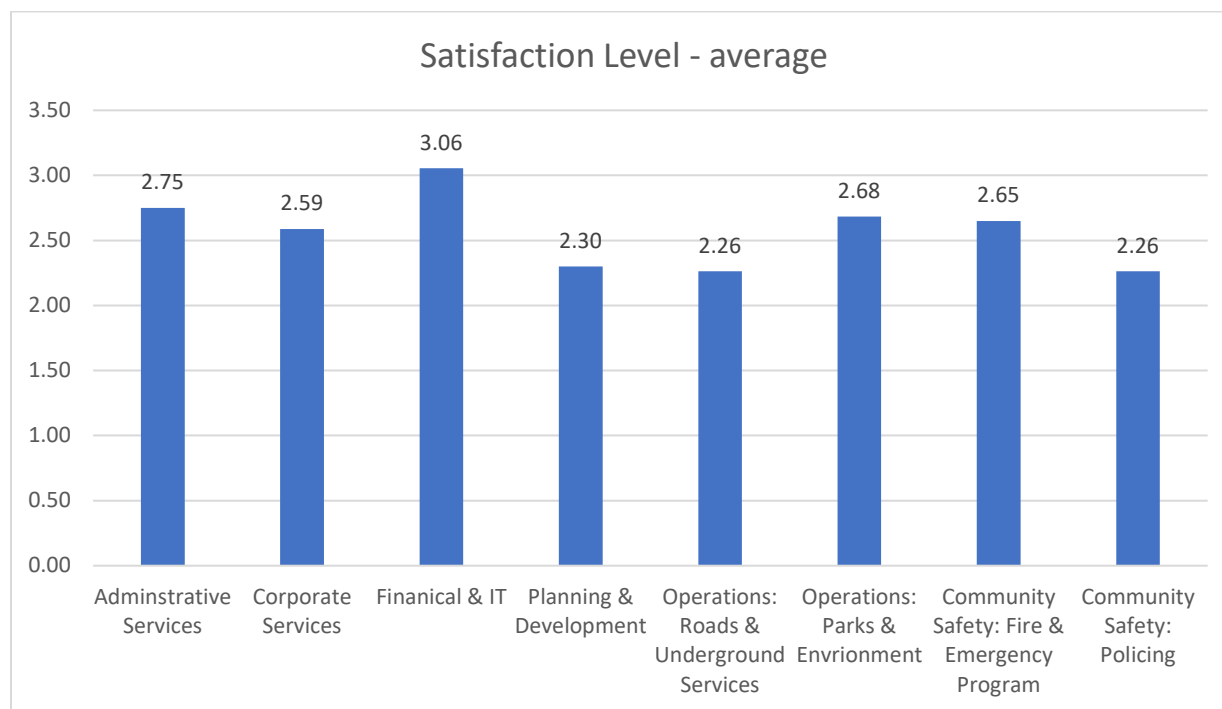
Public transit and bike paths.

Round about replacing all traffic lights. Another exit from Mall to Wadams Way

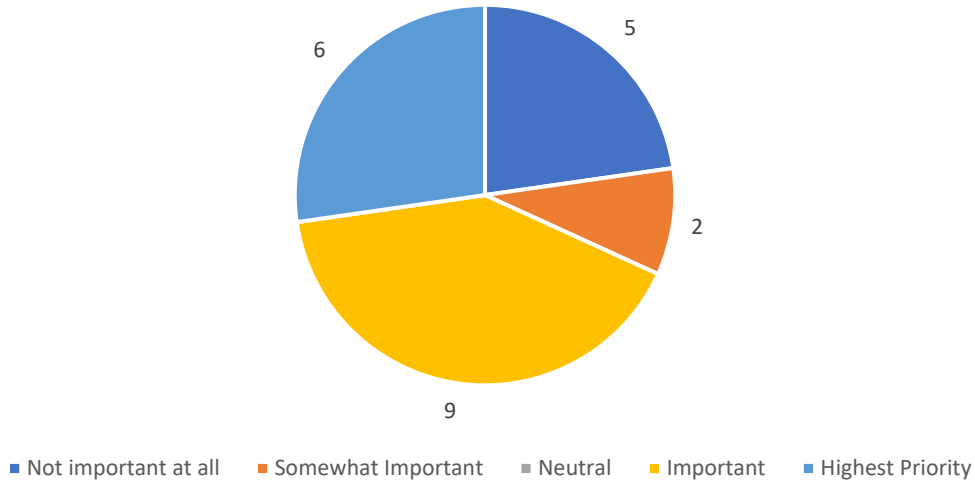
## Citizen Budget/Service Level Review – Print Survey Results

Surveys were distributed through the Sooke News Mirror and at local events/community pop-ups. 22 surveys were returned.

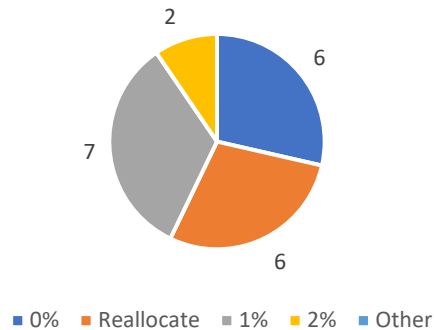
Participants were asked to rate the satisfaction level of District services, 1 being not at all satisfied, 5 being very satisfied:



1. Overall, how important it is to you that the District dedicate resources to climate action?



2. How much, if any, of the District's budget would you like to see allocated to climate action adaptation and mitigation? (Note: beyond infrastructure projects identified in the PTMP and the TMP. For reference: approximately \$87,000 = 1% tax increase)



Comments – climate action:

- Reallocate funds from John Phillips Memorial Park to Climate Action
- Unless the rest of the world jumps on the climate action bandwagon you are wasting money
- Plant trees

Additional comments:

- The plan to develop Phillips Park is an atrocity! Destroying the lovely green space in the town core is short-sighted and completely inappropriate. Continue with destruction of trees all over Sooke, it's disastrous! As the saying goes, pave paradise and put up a parking lot!
- There is nothing to do here for families. What about a play golf like Langford? Since we are growing, we need more and more stores to keep us here.
- Curtail development otherwise implement further transit infrastructure
- Better maintenance of roads and shoulders and vegetation clearing for signs. Shoulder mowing before dry season.
- Enforce no idling in vehicles throughout business areas
- improve maintenance of parks infrastructure, e.g. marine boardwalk and Murray Road approach
- No development of John Phillips Park
- Sooke needs a more visible police presence. The speeds on some of these roads are incredible. Never see them set up with radar, always outside agencies that do this.
- More business needed so we don't have to drive 20km to a good meal or a pair of jeans.
- The District does its most to add to the climate crisis and warm up. Instead of stopping development and cherishing and growing green spaces, the district approves monstrous development projects that swallow greenery of Sooke, put people in crowded, unhygienic conditions, increase noise and harmful exhaust pollution. 0% emissions? Dream on! You add hundreds if not thousands of emissions every year with crazy development. Soon people will start moving from Sooke! Then, you'll lose the tax revenue you're so crazy about to set!
- There should be continuous emphasis on infrastructure planning (smart) and traffic ease both in and out of the village (town) (city to be...). Focus on direct taxpayer needs and not frills for the few.
- The gridlock traffic in Sooke is inexcusable. With every new house/suite built it becomes worse and worse
- We have to stop all the carbon emissions that we are producing by allowing the uncontrolled housing development in Sooke.
- No climate emergency, only irresponsible buying of forest products and destruction of our landscapes. Protect our streams, creeks, rivers, forests and farms. Encourage local biz, which manufacture and create local , sustainable products to employ local people to live and work in their community.
- To a couple that have lived on and owned property on Connie Rd. for nearly forty years, the questions in this survey are almost irrelevant. The surface condition of Connie Rd has been unacceptable for the last twenty-five years. Perhaps the people who allocate funds to repair road surfaces in the district are not aware of the frustration and hopelessness one feels when having to slow down to 5km/hr to climb a mountain road to safely get to our place of residence. We have repeatedly called for repairs and resurfacing of Connie Rd. How many complaints do we have to make? We feel discriminated upon. Much of the degradation of Connie Rd. is due to improper snow removal procedures and improper driveway/rain run-off control. I know this because I was standing at the end of our driveway when approx. 100 feet of Connie Rd surface was removed along with the two inches of snow that had fallen. It has been left that way for over twenty years. It's depressing to say the least and unfair.
- I wish I had the luxury to review the details of the operation of Sooke, but my vehicles are being broken by the roadway that Sooke City Hall is responsible to keep properly repaired.



- My understanding that when Sooke Rd at the Connie Rd to Manzer Rd project is being prepared for paving, can there not be some cooperation between the Ministry of Infrastructure and Transportation, Windley Construction and the District of Sooke. All the relevant equipment will be close at hand when Highway 14 is being paved.
- Is Windley Construction still processing road surface aggregate from publicly owned blast over-burdened? Perhaps some kind of cost-effective resolution can be reached?

#### Demographics:

