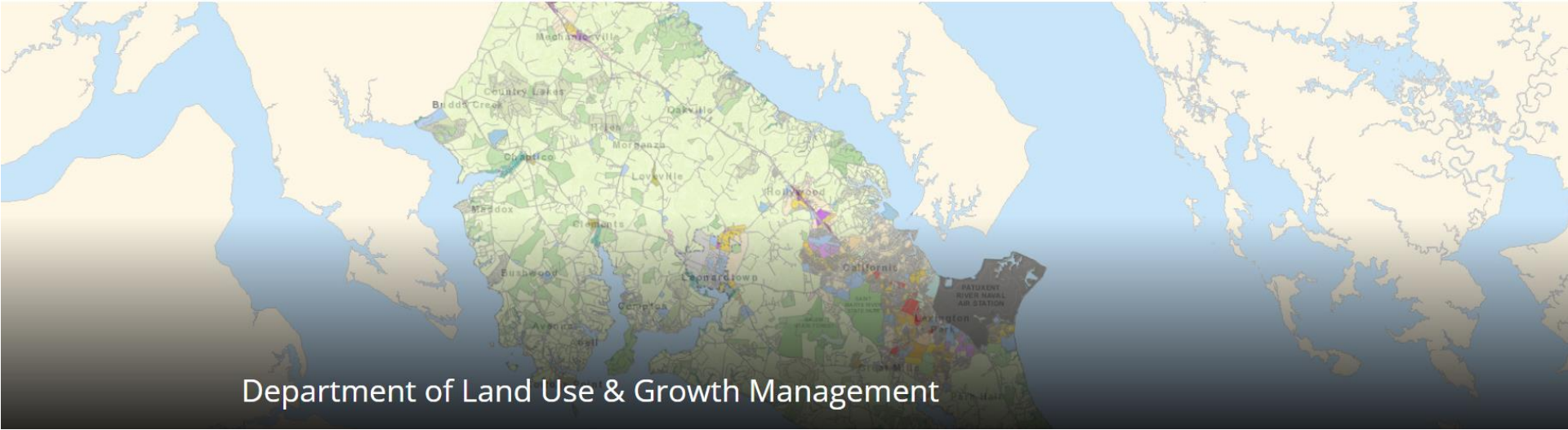


Comprehensive Plan Update Community Questionnaire & Survey

Monday, December 13, 2021
Planning Commission Presentation

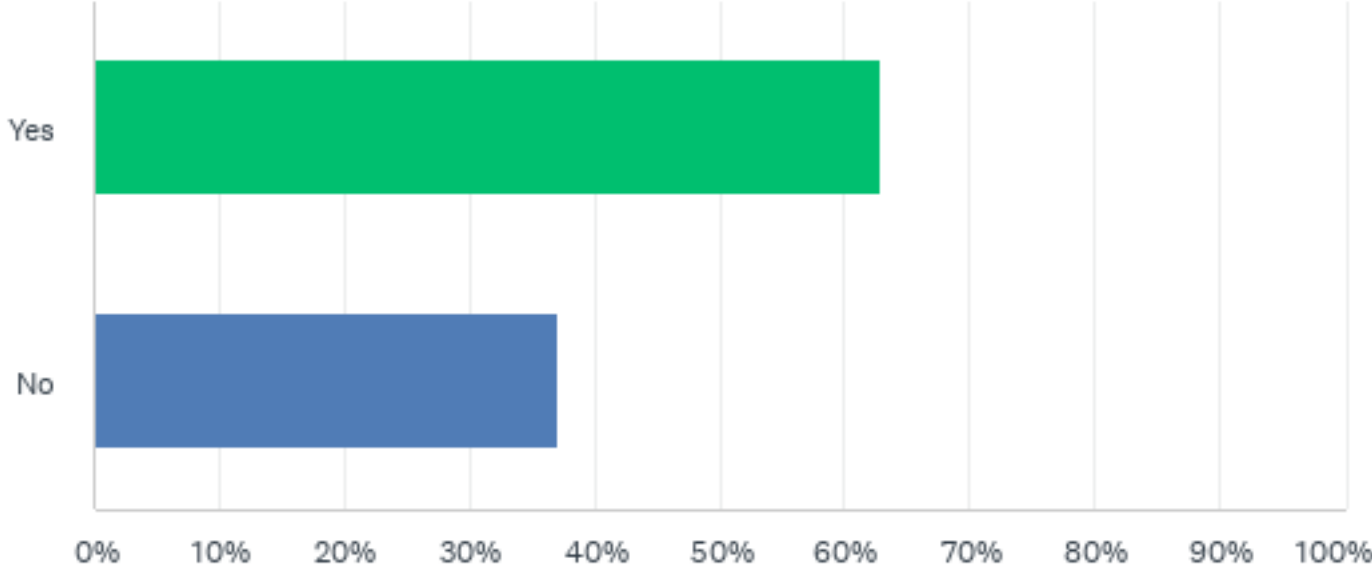


Department of Land Use & Growth Management

247
Total Responses

Q1: Have you read the 2010 Comprehensive Plan and the Lexington Park Development District Plan?

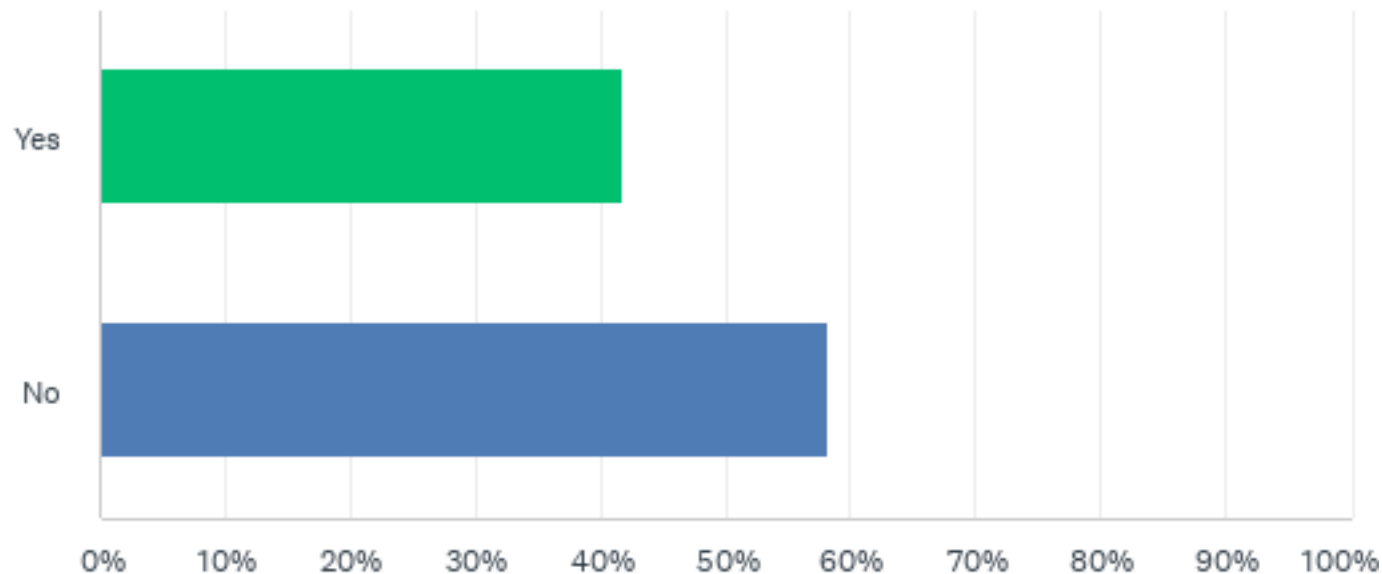
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	62.92% 151
No	37.08% 89
TOTAL	240

Q2: Have you read any of the other comprehensive plans that are on the website?

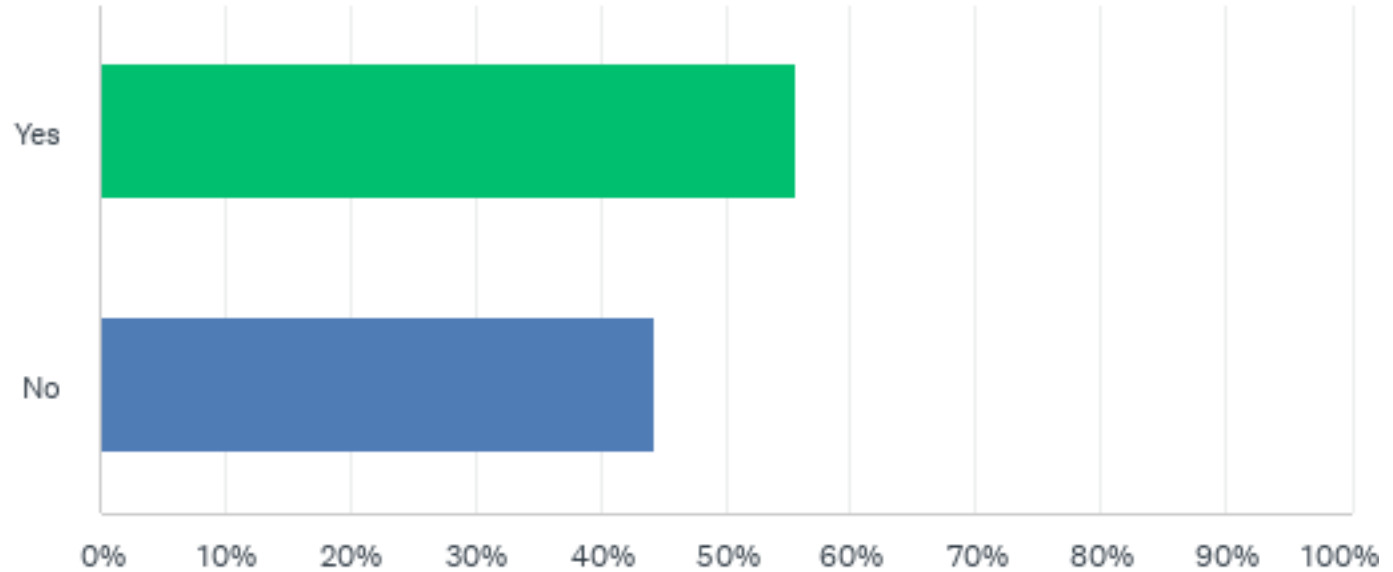
Answered: 235 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	41.70% 98
No	58.30% 137
TOTAL	235

Q3: Have you read any of the Goals, Objectives, and Policies sections from the earlier comprehensive plans that are on the Comprehensive Plan Update webpage?

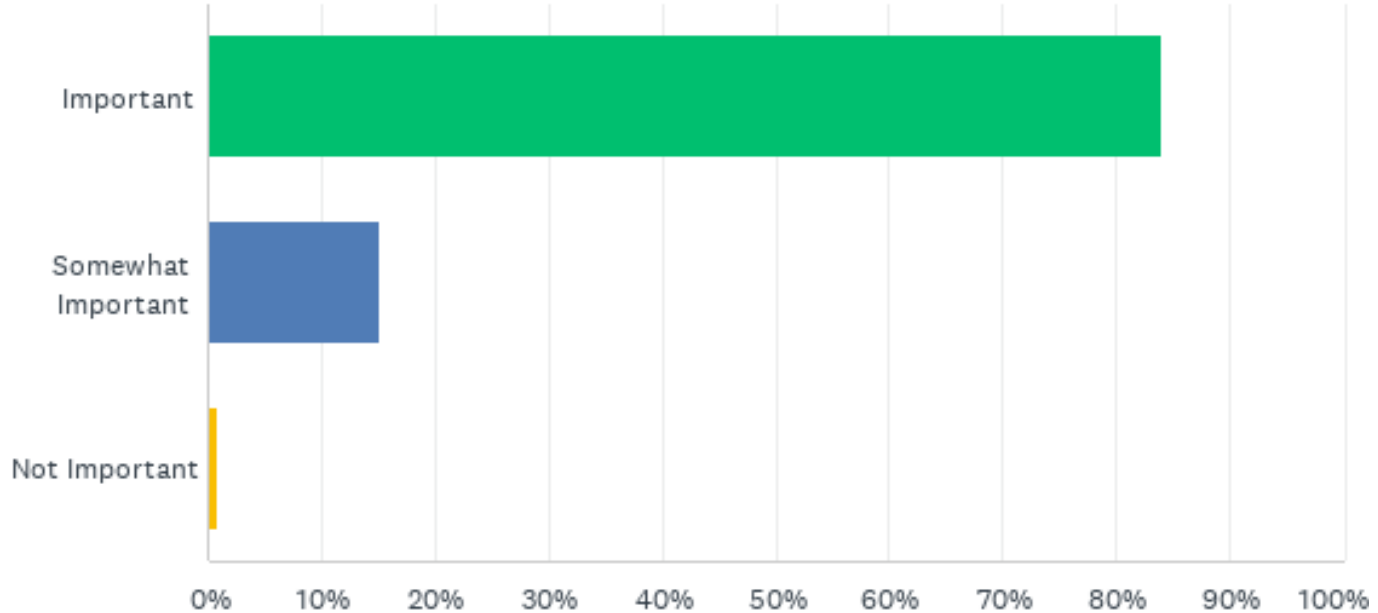
Answered: 237 Skipped: 10



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	55.70% 132
No	44.30% 105
TOTAL	237

Q4: Please rate vision: Quality of life and sustainability: A high quality of life is achieved through universal stewardship of the land, water, and air resulting in sustainable communities and protection of the environment.

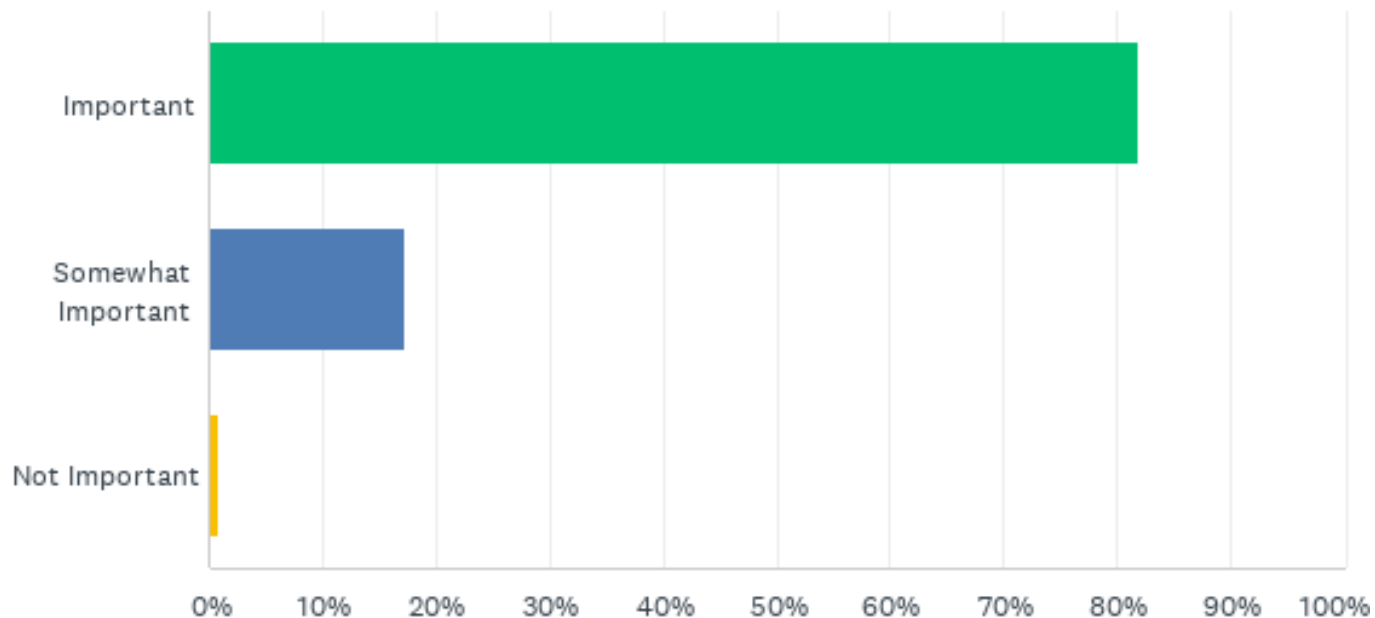
Answered: 238 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	84.03%	200
Somewhat Important	15.13%	36
Not Important	0.84%	2
TOTAL		238

Q5: Public participation: Citizens are active partners in the planning and implementation of community initiatives and are sensitive to their responsibilities in achieving community goals.

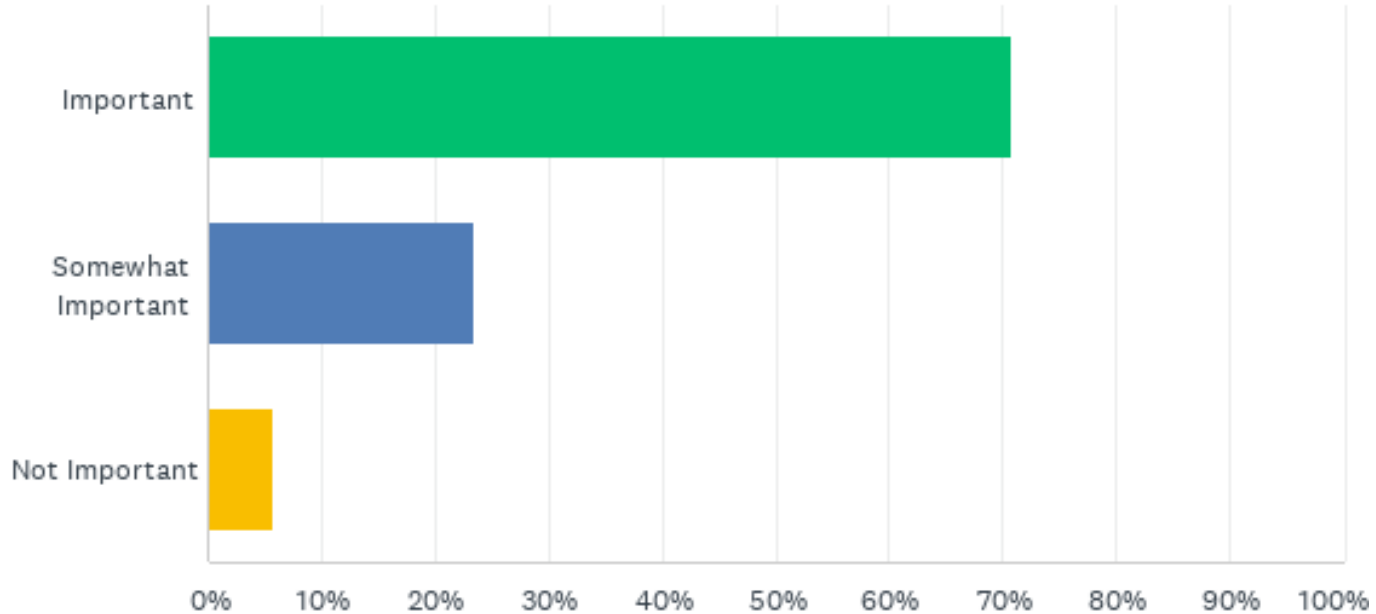
Answered: 238 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	81.93%	195
Somewhat Important	17.23%	41
Not Important	0.84%	2
TOTAL		238

Q6: Growth areas: Growth is concentrated in existing population and business centers, growth areas adjacent to these centers, or strategically selected new centers.

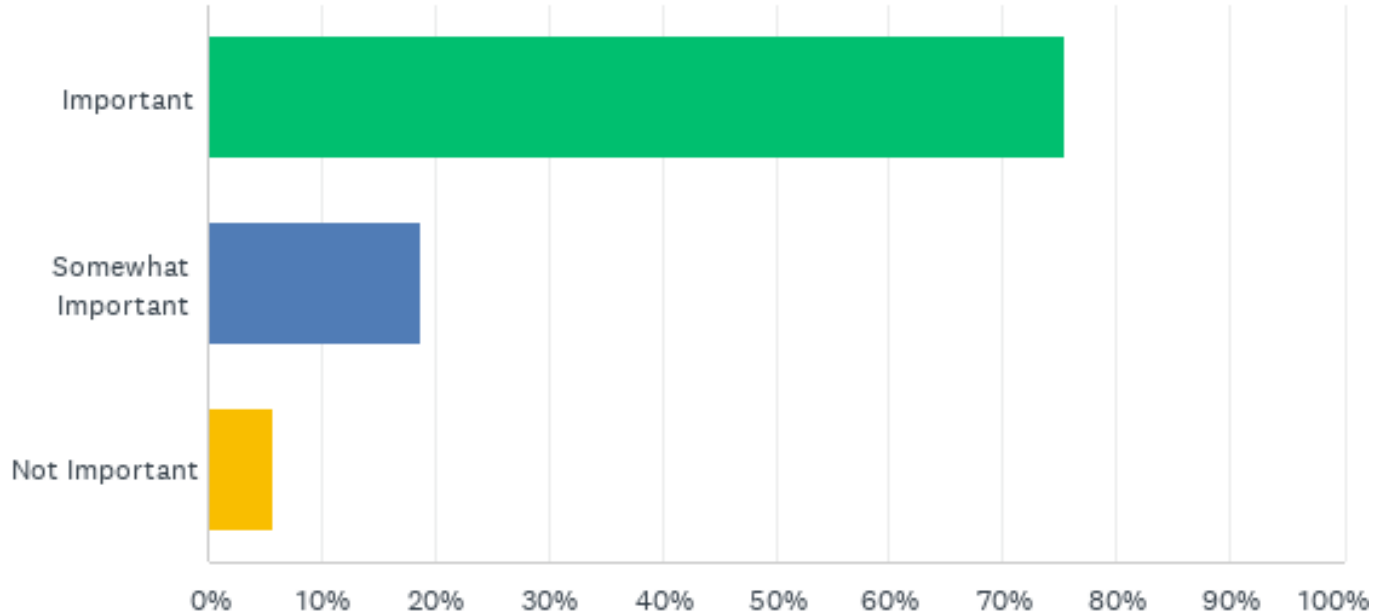
Answered: 239 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	70.71%	169
Somewhat Important	23.43%	56
Not Important	5.86%	14
TOTAL		239

Q7: Community design: Compact, mixed-use, walkable design consistent with existing community character and located near available or planned transit options is encouraged to ensure efficient use of land and transportation resources and preservation and enhancement of natural systems, open spaces, recreational areas, and historical, cultural, and archeological resources.

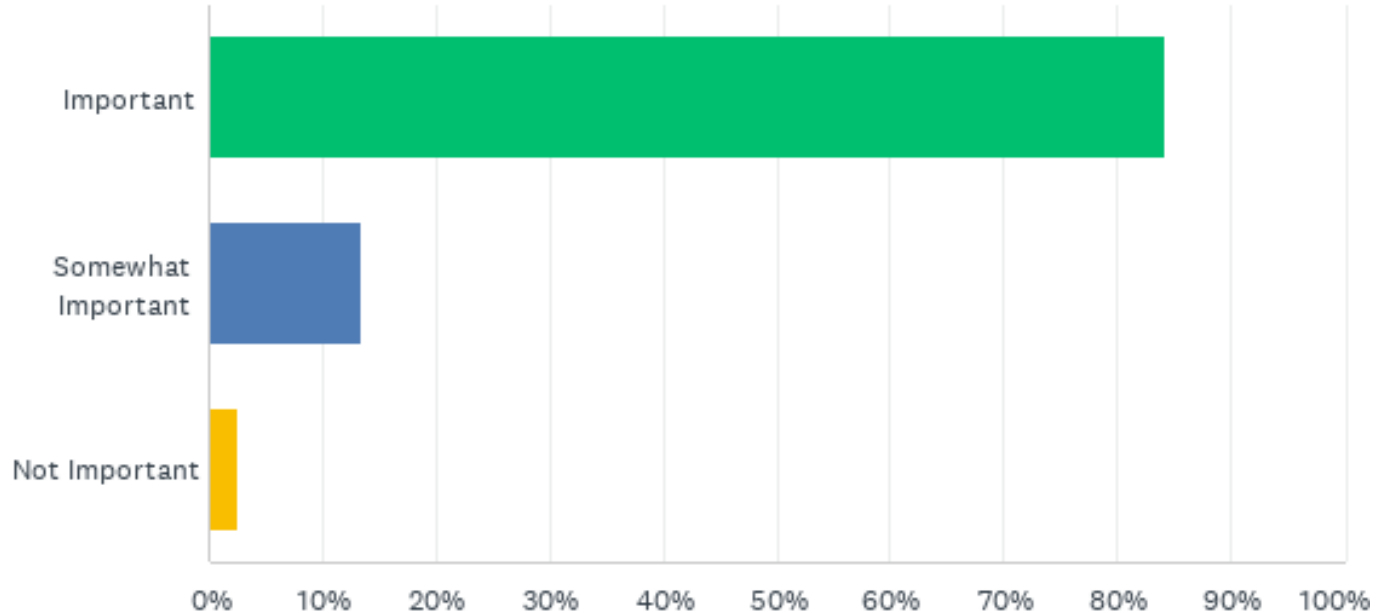
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	75.42%	181
Somewhat Important	18.75%	45
Not Important	5.83%	14
TOTAL		240

Q8: Infrastructure: Growth areas have the water resources and infrastructure to accommodate population and business expansion in an orderly, efficient, and environmentally sustainable way.

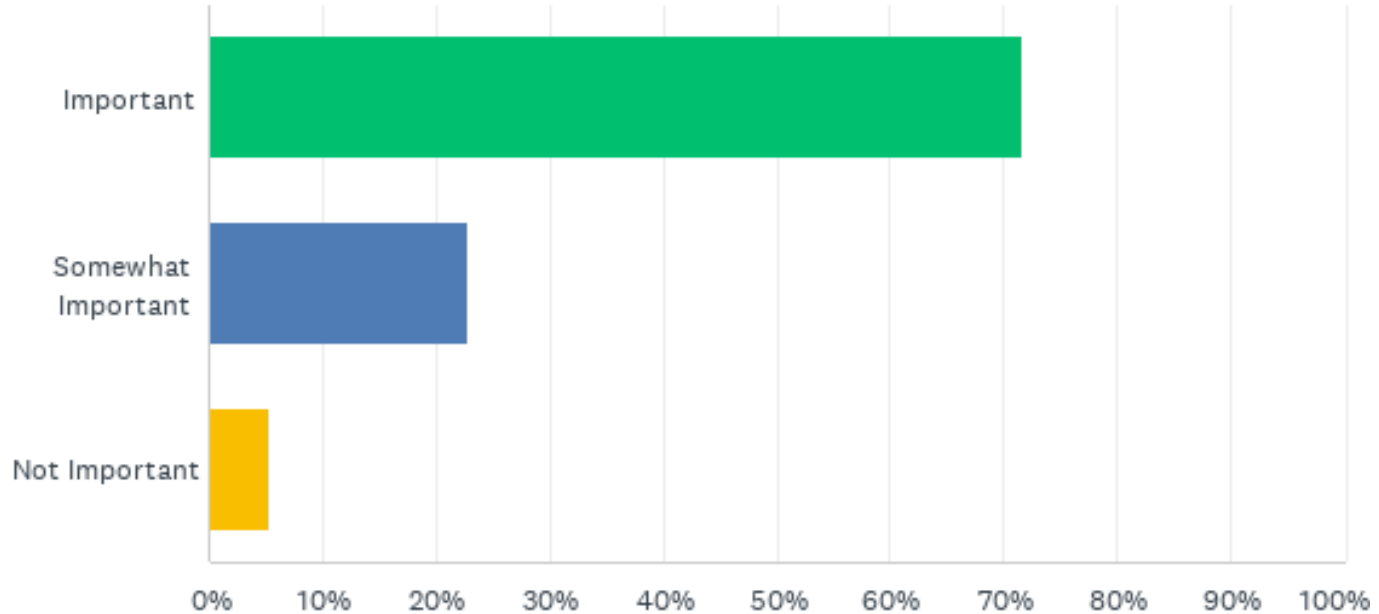
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	84.17%	202
Somewhat Important	13.33%	32
Not Important	2.50%	6
TOTAL		240

Q9: Transportation: A well-maintained, multimodal transportation system facilitates the safe, convenient, affordable, and efficient movement of people, goods, and services within and between population and business centers.

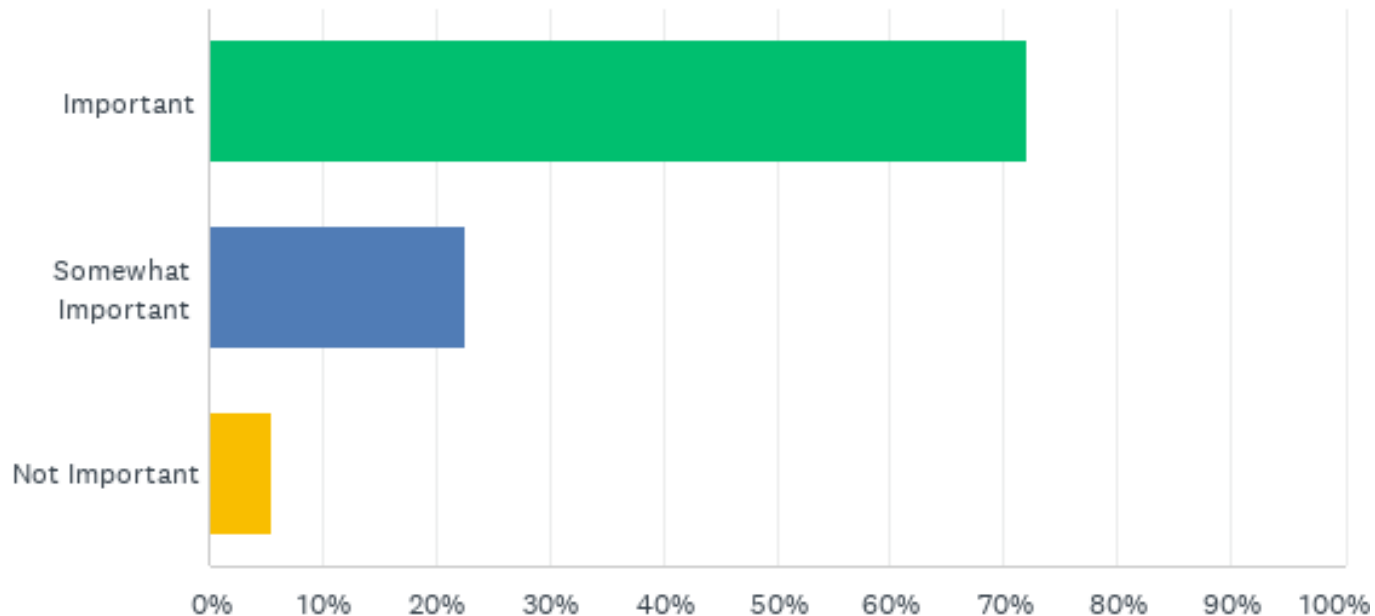
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	71.67%	172
Somewhat Important	22.92%	55
Not Important	5.42%	13
TOTAL		240

Q10: Housing: A range of housing densities, types, and sizes provides residential options for citizens of all ages and incomes.

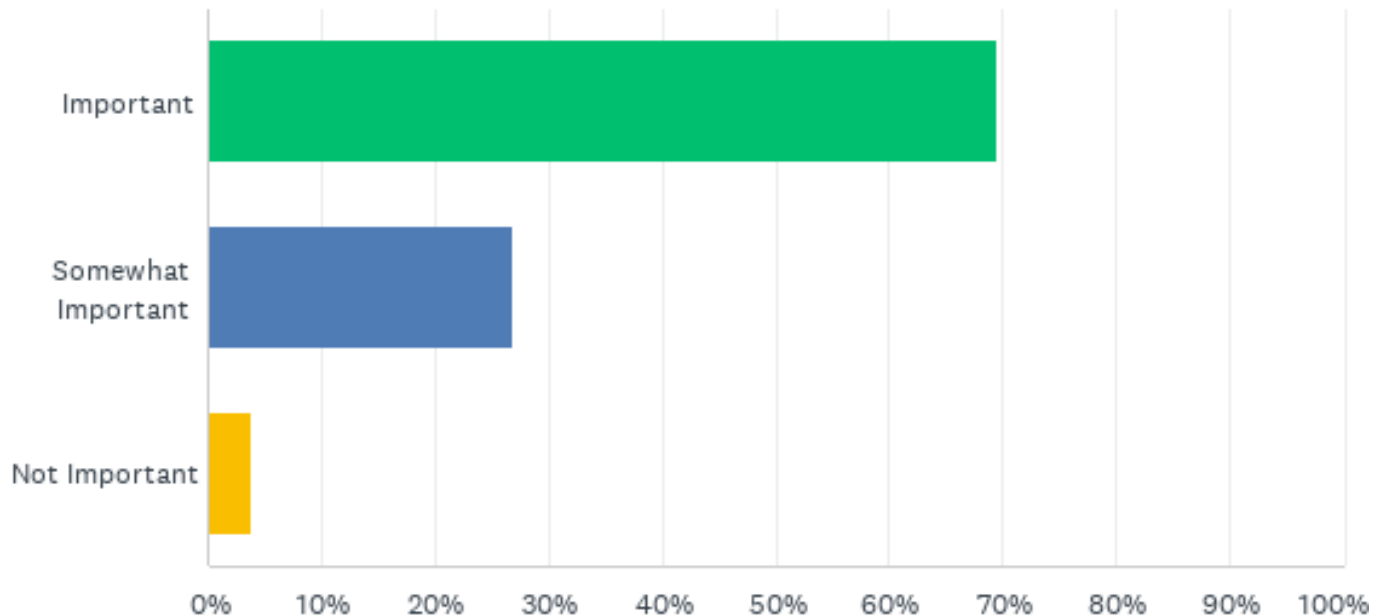
Answered: 239 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	71.97%	172
Somewhat Important	22.59%	54
Not Important	5.44%	13
TOTAL		239

Q11: Economic development: Economic development and natural resource-based businesses that promote employment opportunities for all income levels within the capacity of the State's natural resources, public services, and public facilities are encouraged.

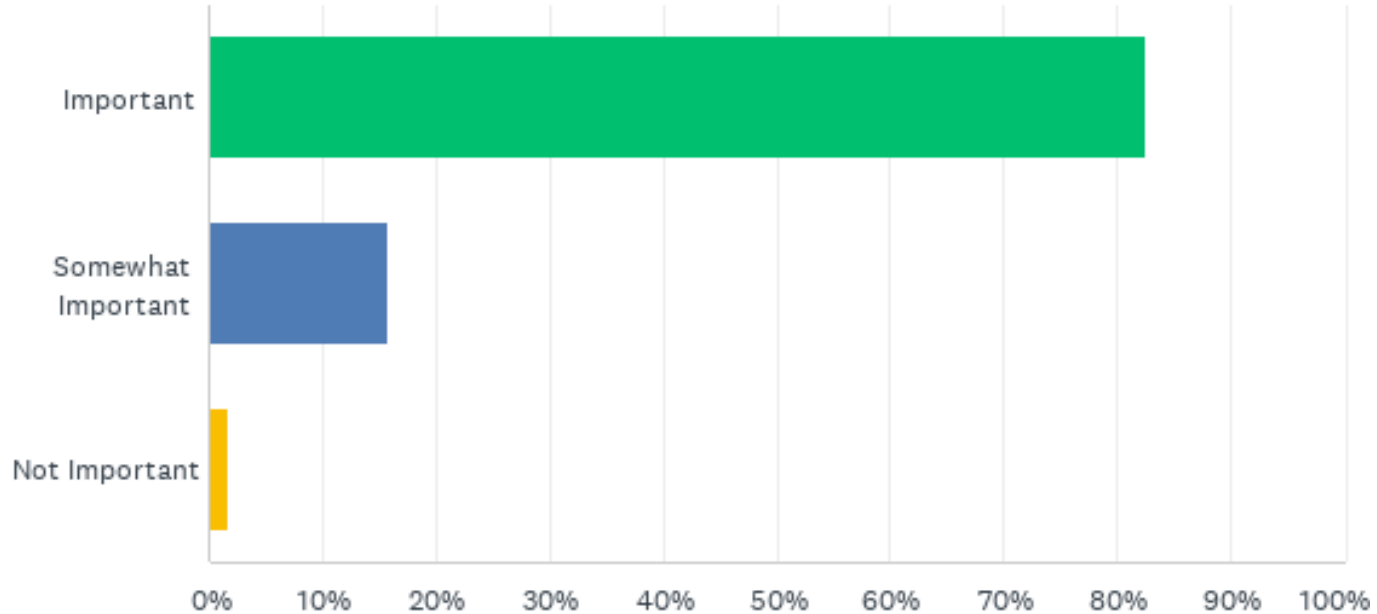
Answered: 239 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	69.46%	166
Somewhat Important	26.78%	64
Not Important	3.77%	9
TOTAL		239

Q12: Environmental protection: Land and water resources, including the Chesapeake and coastal bays, are carefully managed to restore and maintain healthy air and water, natural systems, and living resources.

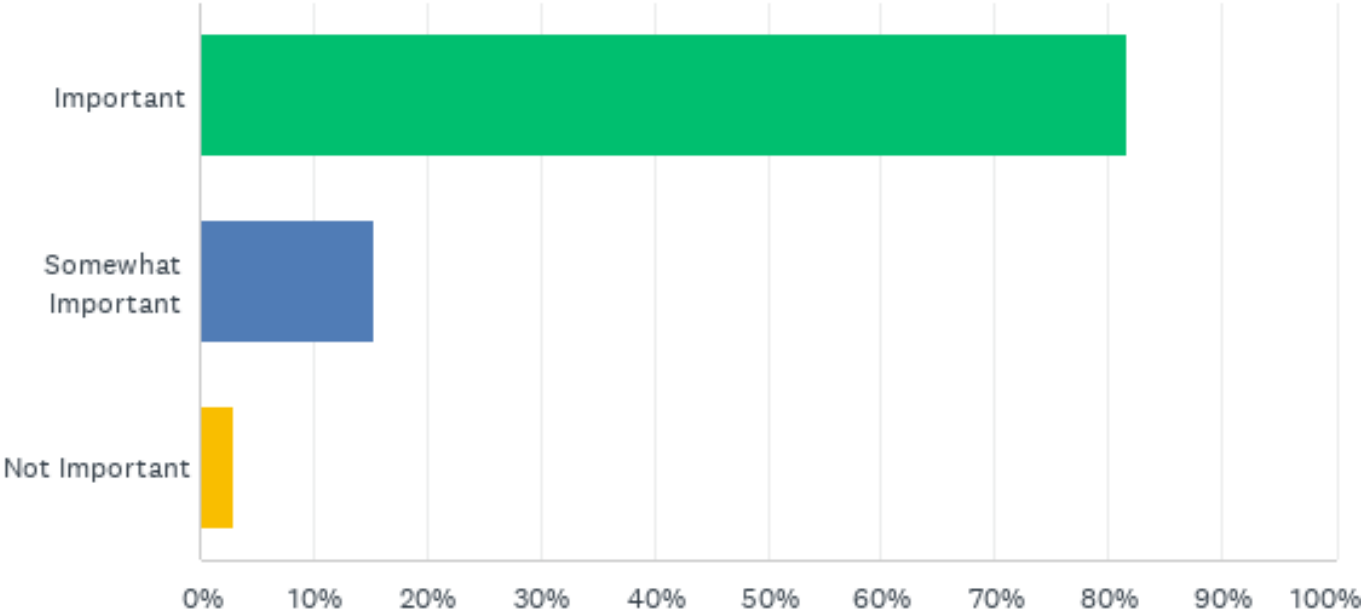
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	82.50%	198
Somewhat Important	15.83%	38
Not Important	1.67%	4
TOTAL		240

Q13: Resource conservation: Waterways, forests, agricultural areas, open space, natural systems, and scenic areas are conserved.

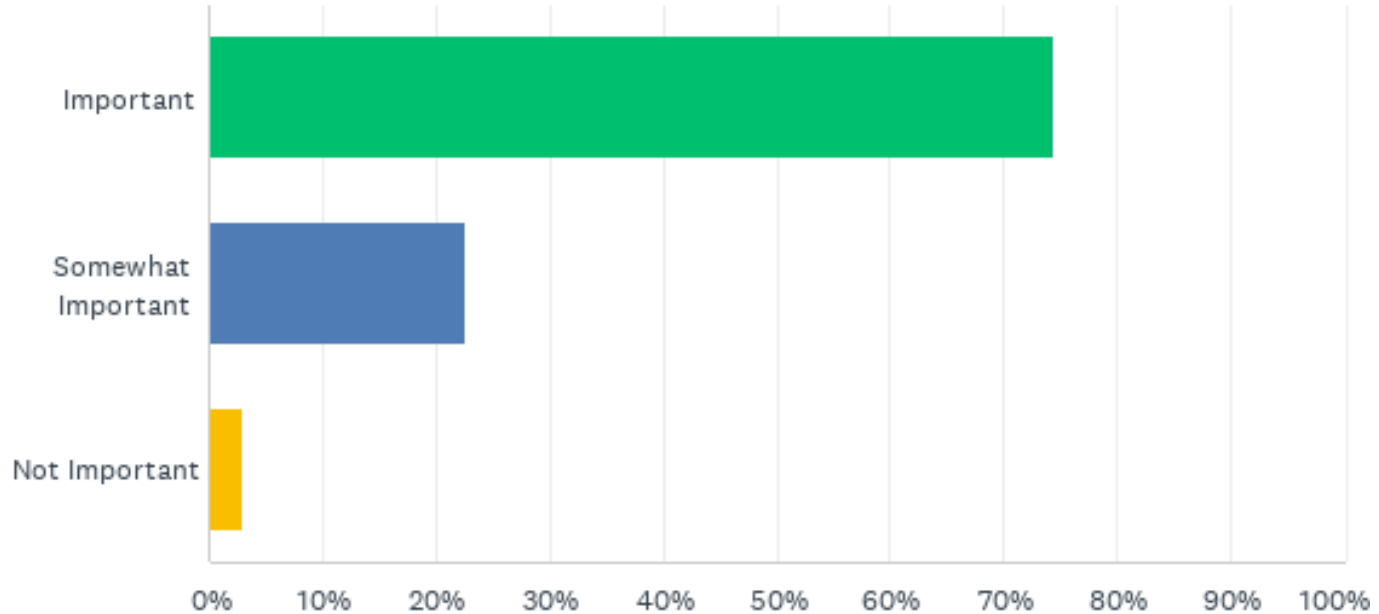
Answered: 240 Skipped: 7



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	81.67%	196
Somewhat Important	15.42%	37
Not Important	2.92%	7
TOTAL		240

Q14: Stewardship: Government, business entities, and residents are responsible for the creation of sustainable communities by collaborating to balance efficient growth with resource protection.

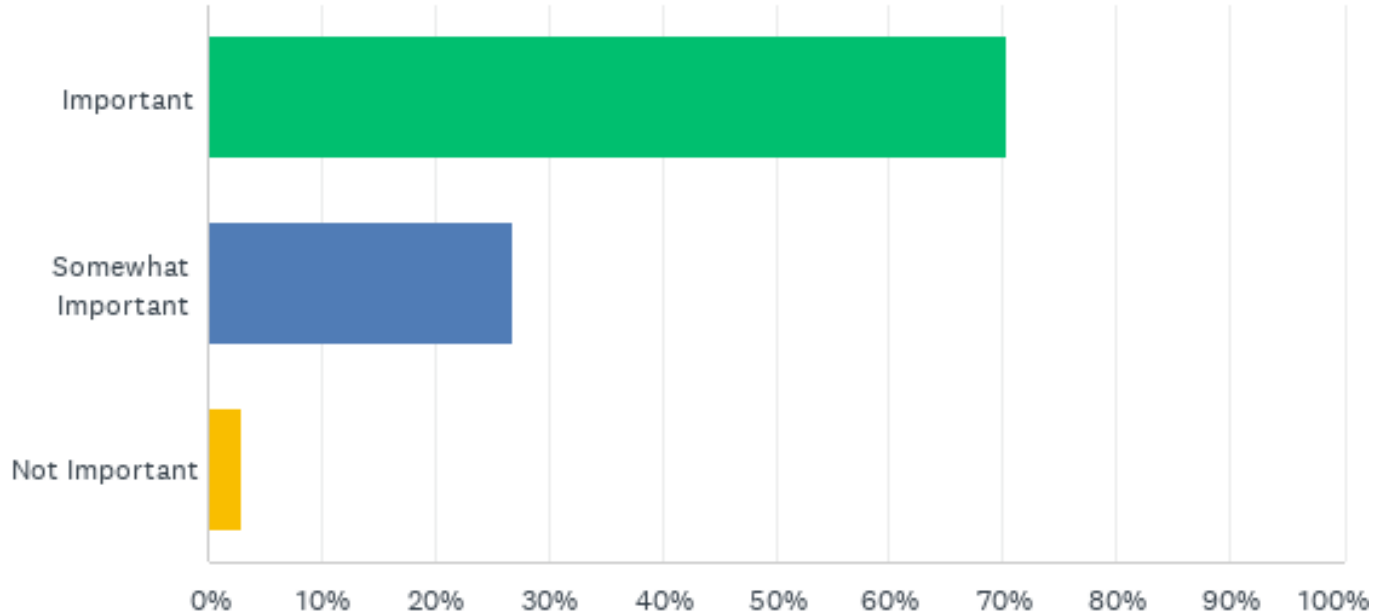
Answered: 239 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	74.48%	178
Somewhat Important	22.59%	54
Not Important	2.93%	7
TOTAL		239

Q15: Implementation: Strategies, policies, programs, and funding for growth and development, resource conservation, infrastructure, and transportation are integrated across the local, regional, state, and interstate levels to achieve these Visions.

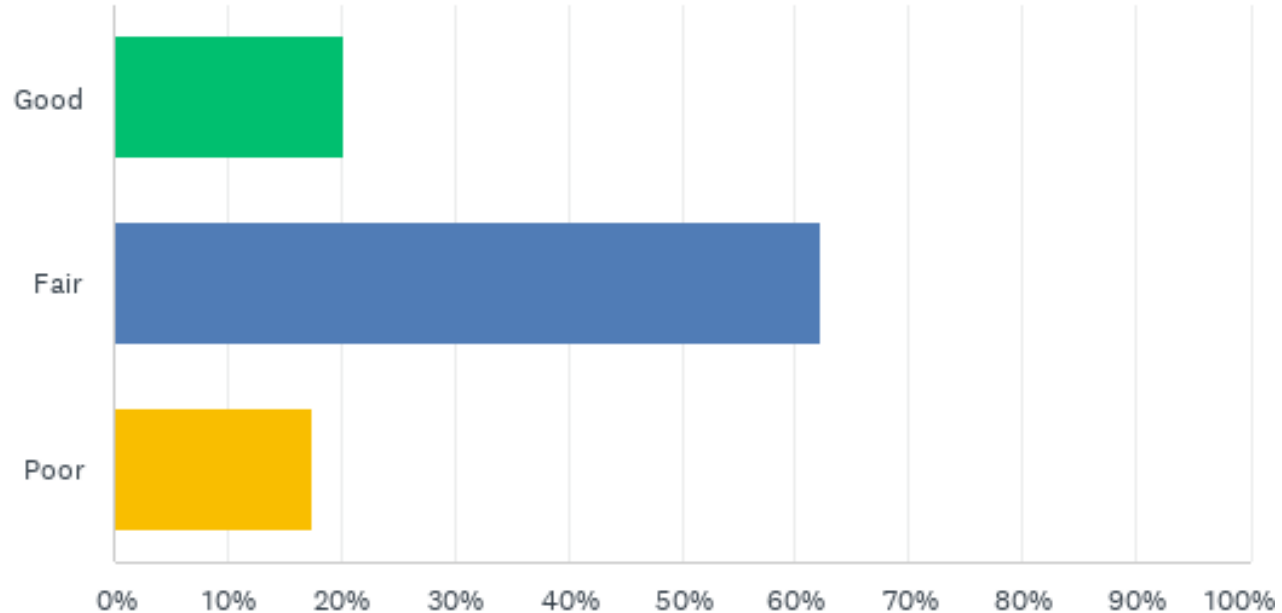
Answered: 239 Skipped: 8



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Important	70.29%	168
Somewhat Important	26.78%	64
Not Important	2.93%	7
TOTAL		239

Q16: How well have the Visions in the 2010 Comprehensive Plan been implemented?

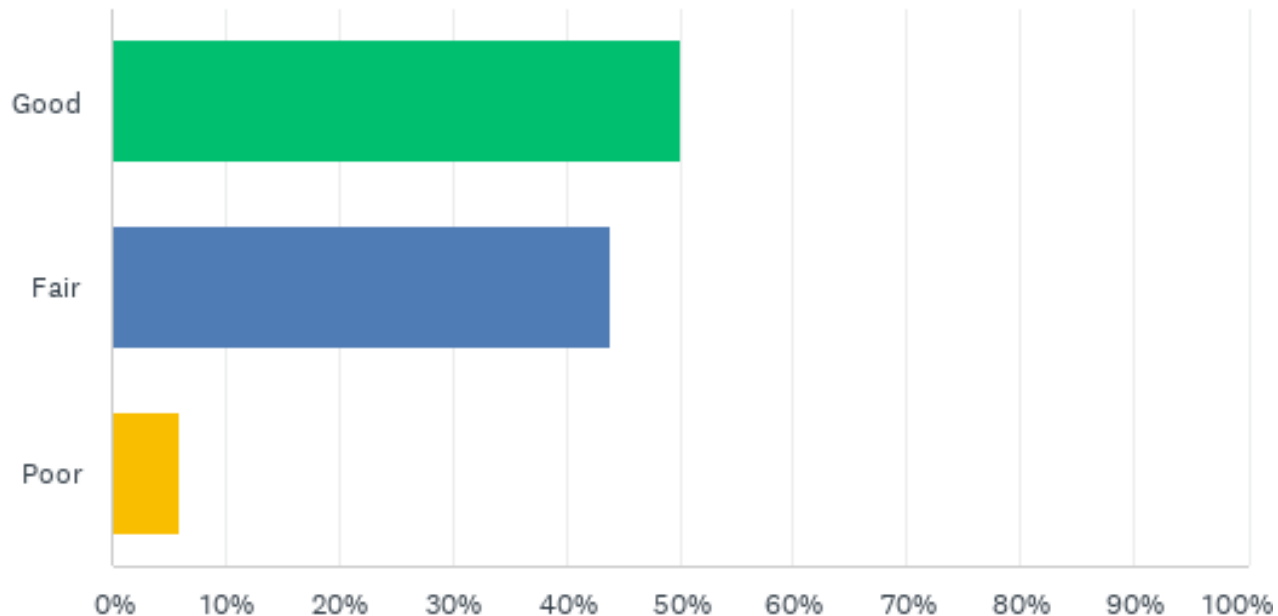
Answered: 217 Skipped: 30



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Good	20.28% 44
Fair	62.21% 135
Poor	17.51% 38
TOTAL	217

Q17: How would you describe the quality of life in St. Mary's County?

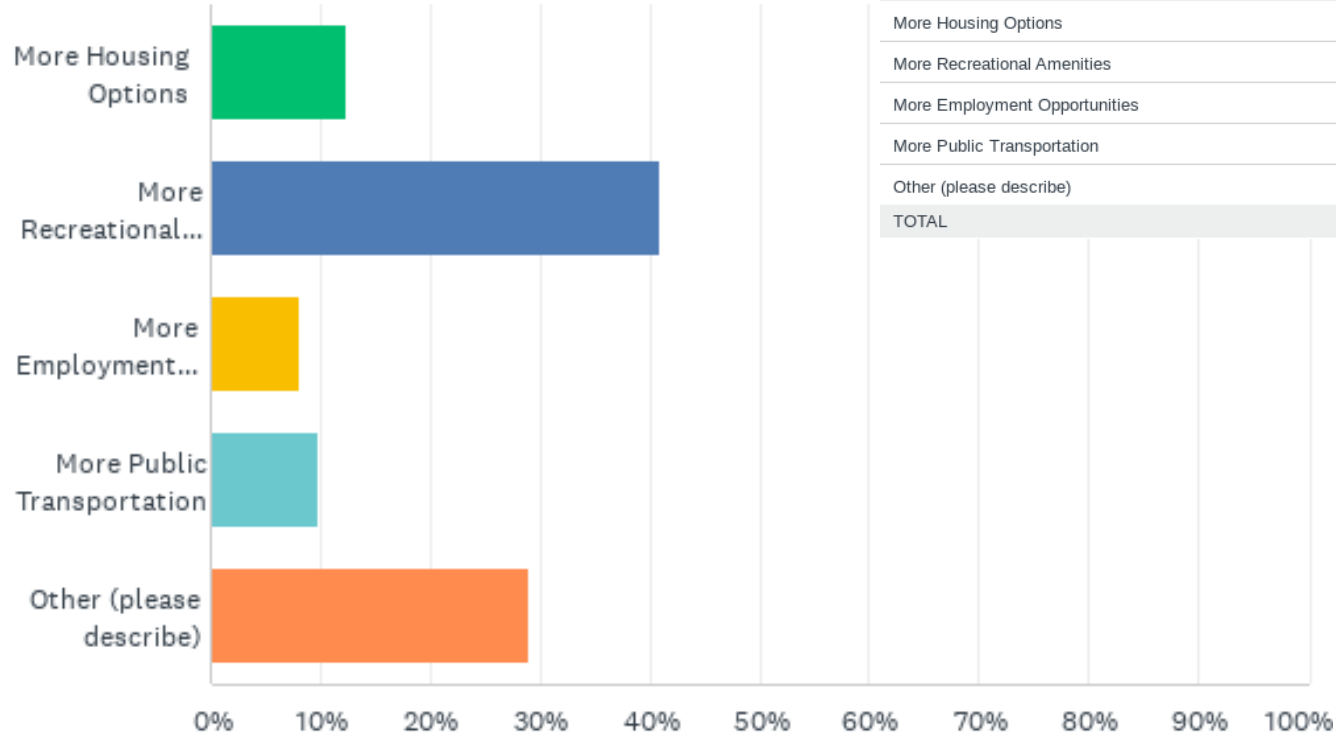
Answered: 235 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Good	50.21%	118
Fair	43.83%	103
Poor	5.96%	14
TOTAL		235

Q18: What one thing would have the greatest impact on improving the quality of life in St. Mary's County? (Please select one.)

Answered: 235 Skipped: 12



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
More Housing Options	12.34% 29
More Recreational Amenities	40.85% 96
More Employment Opportunities	8.09% 19
More Public Transportation	9.79% 23
Other (please describe)	28.94% 68
TOTAL	235

Q18: What one thing would have the greatest impact on improving the quality of life in St. Mary's County? (Please select one.)

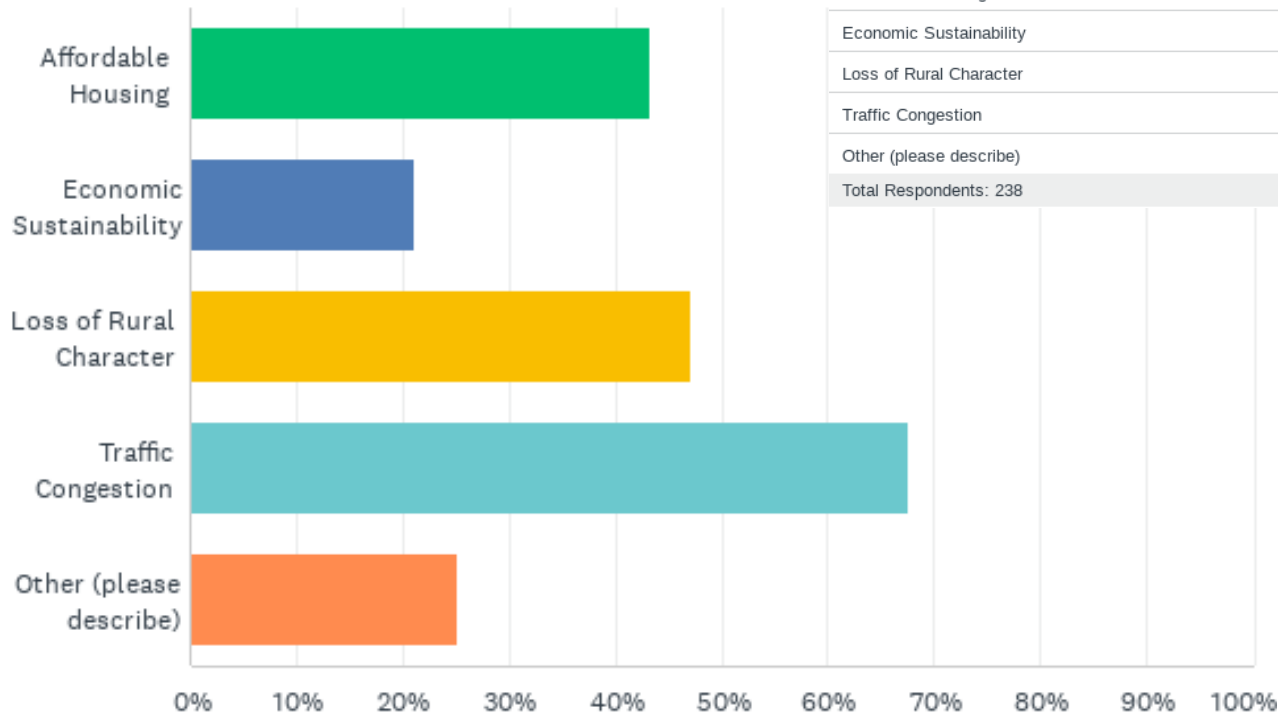
Other (please describe): 28.94% - 68 responses

Most Common Responses:

- Rural conservation and preservation (11)
- Increased entertainment options (8)
- Educational opportunities (5)
- Redevelopment, infill and increased government investment (5)
- Better infrastructure – water, sewage, cable, internet (4)
- Environment sustainability (3)
- Crime reduction (3)
- Expanded healthcare options (3)

Q19: What are the major challenges St. Mary's County will face in the next 10 years?(Please select those you deem to be "major challenges" and add "others" you do not see listed.)

Answered: 238 Skipped: 9



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Affordable Housing	43.28% 103
Economic Sustainability	21.01% 50
Loss of Rural Character	47.06% 112
Traffic Congestion	67.65% 161
Other (please describe)	25.21% 60
Total Respondents: 238	

Q19: What are the major challenges St. Mary's County will face in the next 10 years?(Please select those you deem to be "major challenges" and add "others" you do not see listed.)

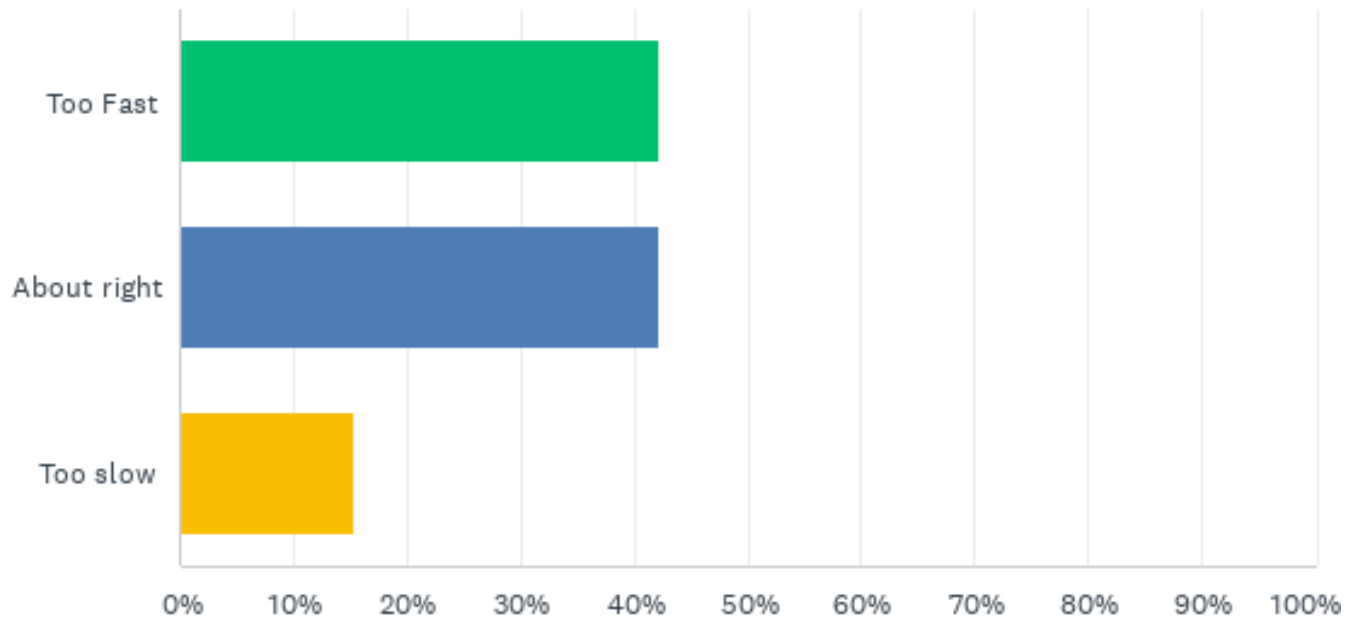
Other (please describe): 25.21% - 60 responses

Most Common Responses:

- Community infrastructure and lack of family activities (8)
- Environmental challenges – global warming, climate change, water resiliency (8)
- Increased crime and violence (7)
- Economic disparity, poverty and lack of inclusivity (6)
- Lack of healthcare options, medical access, specialists and hospitals (5)
- Educational opportunities and overcrowded schools (5)
- Loss of local businesses(5)

Q20: Which is your opinion of the pace of commercial construction in St. Mary's County?

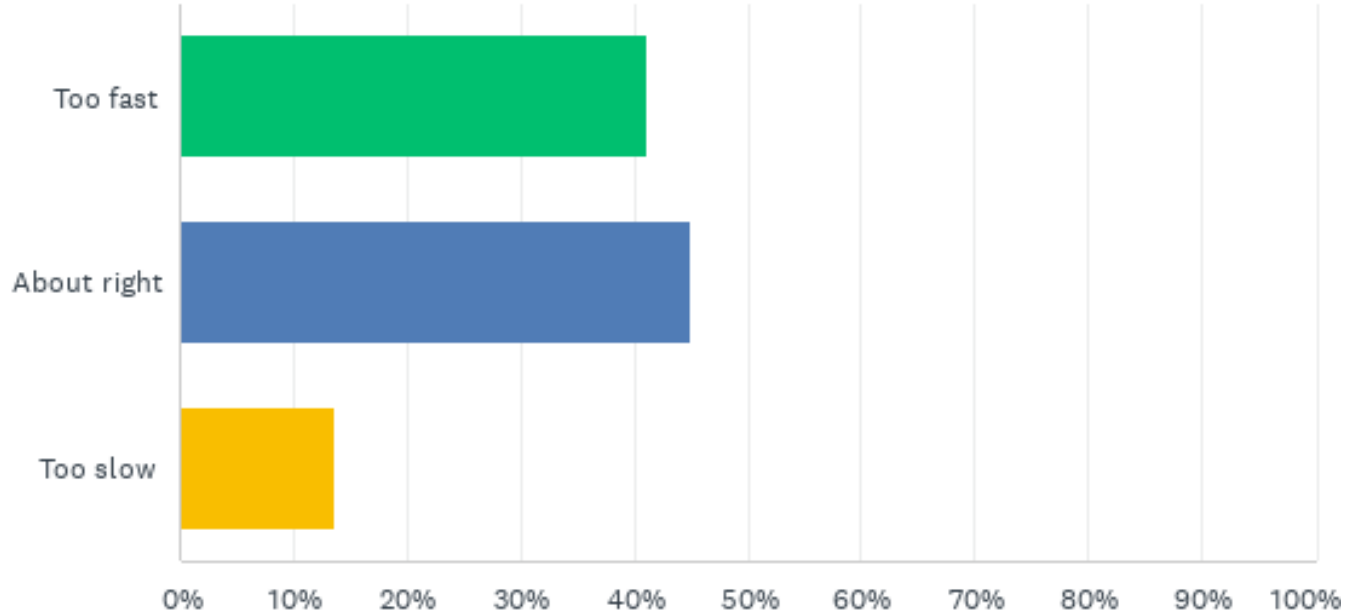
Answered: 234 Skipped: 13



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too Fast	42.31%	99
About right	42.31%	99
Too slow	15.38%	36
TOTAL		234

Q21: Which is your opinion of the pace of residential construction in St. Mary's County?

Answered: 233 Skipped: 14



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Too fast	41.20%	96
About right	45.06%	105
Too slow	13.73%	32
TOTAL		233

Q22: What assets does the County have to build on during the next 10 years?

Answered: 183 Skipped: 64

Most Common Responses:

- Proximity to water and waterways (29)
- Rural character (22)
- Public lands and open space (22)
- Education system (19)
- The Pax River Naval Air Base (16)
- Local businesses and restaurants (12)
- Strong economy and work force (11)
- Tourism (10)
- Recreation and youth activities (9)
- Historical relevance (8)
- Redevelopment opportunities/Lexington Park (6)
- Strong tax base, cash reserve and bond rating (5)

Q23: What type of housing challenges do you find in St. Mary's County?

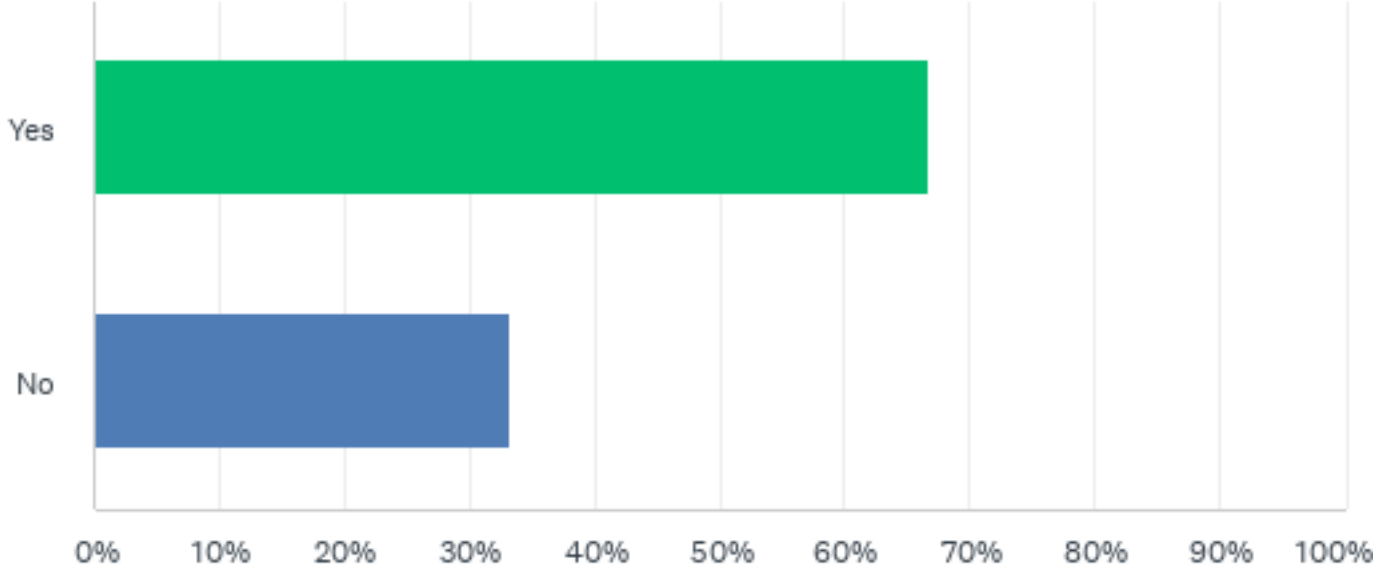
Answered: 195 Skipped: 52

Most Common Responses:

- Lack of affordable and workforce housing (54)
- Overall, too expensive and rising prices (53)
- Limited options for first time buyers / starter homes (27)
- Low inventory for all income levels (21)
- Steadily increasing rents (16)
- Aging of homes and rundown areas needing redevelopment (14)
- Lack of options for seniors and aging community (11)
- Overbuilt areas (6)
- Homeless (4)
- Lack of mixed-use projects (4)

Q24: St. Mary's County has regulations intended to safeguard the natural resources of the county. Are the current regulations adequate to protect the natural resources?

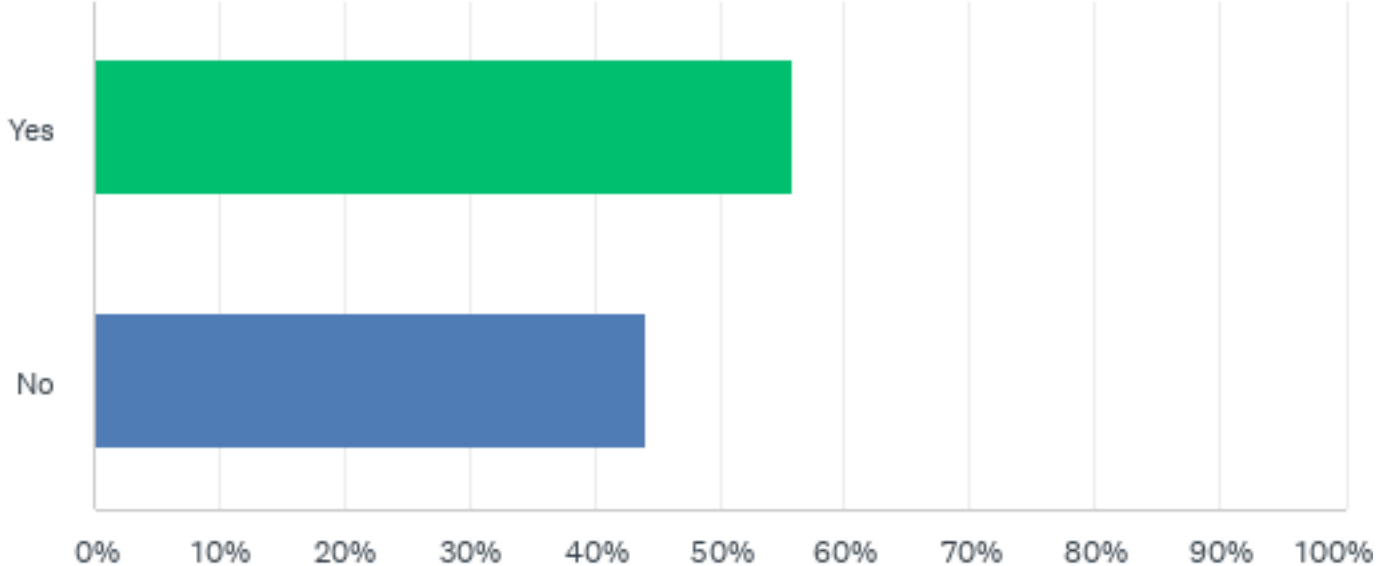
Answered: 220 Skipped: 27



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	66.82% 147
No	33.18% 73
TOTAL	220

Q25: St. Mary's County has regulations intended to safeguard the rural character of the county. Are the current regulations adequate to protect the rural character?

Answered: 215 Skipped: 32



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES	
Yes	55.81%	120
No	44.19%	95
TOTAL		215

Q26: Why do you choose to live in St. Mary's County? (You may choose and rank multiple selections with five being the highest ranking.)

Answered: 237 Skipped: 10

	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Community rural character	40.00% 90	23.11% 52	20.44% 46	8.89% 20	7.56% 17	225	3.79
Natural resources	38.18% 84	26.82% 59	24.09% 53	6.36% 14	4.55% 10	220	3.88
Close to home/work in SMC	62.80% 130	13.04% 27	10.63% 22	5.80% 12	7.73% 16	207	4.17
Recreational Resources	13.24% 27	24.51% 50	31.86% 65	15.20% 31	15.20% 31	204	3.05
Good place to raise children	35.07% 74	27.96% 59	17.54% 37	9.00% 19	10.43% 22	211	3.68
Family and Friends	44.55% 98	14.09% 31	17.73% 39	8.64% 19	15.00% 33	220	3.65
Type of housing	15.42% 31	18.41% 37	32.84% 66	14.93% 30	18.41% 37	201	2.98
Quality of schools	21.50% 43	30.50% 61	22.00% 44	10.00% 20	16.00% 32	200	3.31
Safety and security/low crime	25.46% 55	30.56% 66	23.61% 51	9.72% 21	10.65% 23	216	3.50
Medical resources	9.31% 19	14.71% 30	30.39% 62	18.63% 38	26.96% 55	204	2.61

Q27: What do you think is inadequate in St. Mary's County?

Answered: 211 Skipped: 36

Most Common Responses:

- Entertainment options for families, teens and children (53)
- Healthcare, medical and specialist options (49)
- Affordable and workforce housing (31)
- Transportation network, adequate roads and traffic congestion (25)
- Diversified economy, small businesses and start ups (20)
- Public safety – Fire/EMS/Police (18)
- Housing variety and inventory (18)
- Public transportation (15)
- School system and educational opportunities (14)
- Redevelopment / Lexington Park (12)
- Technology infrastructure – cable/internet (11)

Q28: What types of development should be discouraged in St. Mary's County?

Answered: 198 Skipped: 49

Most Common Responses:

- Big box stores/malls/strip malls (51)
- Chain retail (Dollar General) and Chain restaurants (fast food) (25)
- Large residential developments/single-family tract homes (21)
- Large scale manufacturing/Industrial (16)
- Gas stations/convenience stores (14)
- Development that hinders natural resources and environment (14)
- Overpriced large homes on large lots (13)
- Car dealerships (12)
- High density, high rent apartments (11)
- Low quality, unattractive commercial development (10)

Q29: Have you been concerned about any of the following in St. Mary's County within the past 10 years? (You may choose and rank multiple selections with five being the highest ranking.)

Answered: 236 Skipped: 11

	5	4	3	2	1	TOTAL	WEIGHTED AVERAGE
Developmental trends	40.27% 91	25.22% 57	22.12% 50	7.52% 17	4.87% 11	226	3.88
Funding priorities	39.55% 87	26.82% 59	23.18% 51	7.27% 16	3.18% 7	220	3.92
Environmental impacts	36.00% 81	24.44% 55	24.89% 56	9.33% 21	5.33% 12	225	3.76
Economic issues	25.23% 55	25.69% 56	33.03% 72	10.55% 23	5.50% 12	218	3.55
Family and Friends	19.71% 41	21.15% 44	30.29% 63	10.10% 21	18.75% 39	208	3.13

Q30: What is the one opportunity that St. Mary's County should focus on in the future?

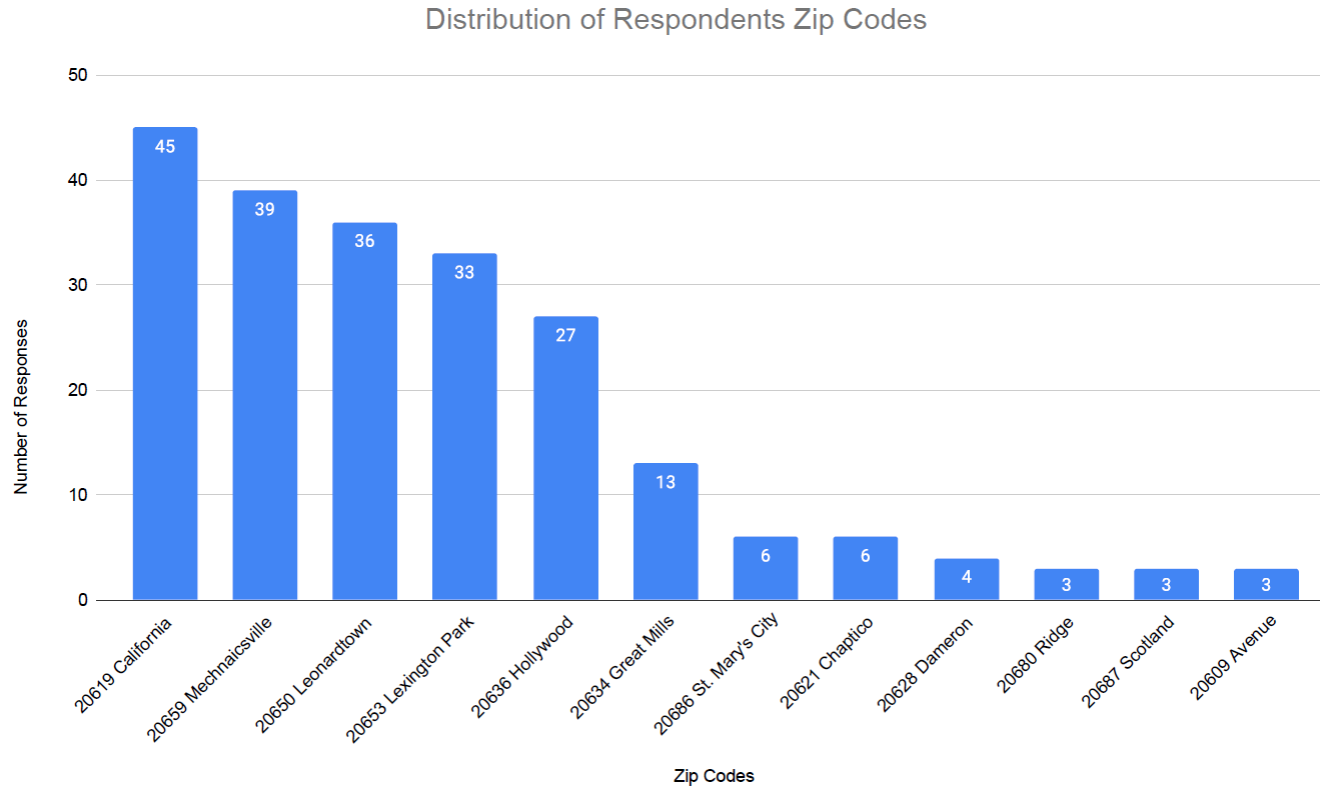
Answered: 198 Skipped: 49

Most Common Responses:

- Programs for youths and teens (36)
- Rural preservation, farm protection, rural tourism (30)
- Infrastructure – road/airport/bridges and public transportation (28)
- Pax River Naval Air Base economy and job growth (28)
- Opportunities for inclusion, diversified economy, small businesses (21)
- Environmental protection and compliance, disaster prevention (18)
- Redevelopment / Lexington Park revitalization (16)
- Educational opportunities for youth and young professionals (15)
- Preservation of parks, forests and waterfront resources (14)
- Affordable housing and rent (11)
- Senior care, healthcare opportunities (11)
- Public safety – Fire, Police, EMS (10)

Q32: Please provide the zip code of your place of residence:

Answered: 247 Skipped: 0



Q33: How long have you been living in St. Mary's County?(Select one)

Answered: 244 Skipped: 3

