



# Online Survey Results

## Local Climate Mitigation

The Onward Oceanside Project Team thanks the nearly 470 community members who participated in this survey. Responses will help to inform the updating of the City's Climate Action Plan.

While a significant majority of survey respondents agree that climate change is a human-induced phenomenon that should be addressed, other respondents remain either skeptical or uncertain about the extent to which human activity is contributing to climate change.

A high percentage of respondents indicate that they are mindful of their carbon footprint and make a conscientious effort to conserve energy and water, choose sustainable products, and minimize their solid waste stream. At the same time, many respondents find that their choices are constrained by high costs, limited access, and a lack of reliable information. Those who rent their homes or live in HOA-governed neighborhoods feel particularly constrained in terms of what they can do to reduce their energy and water consumption and/or source renewable power.

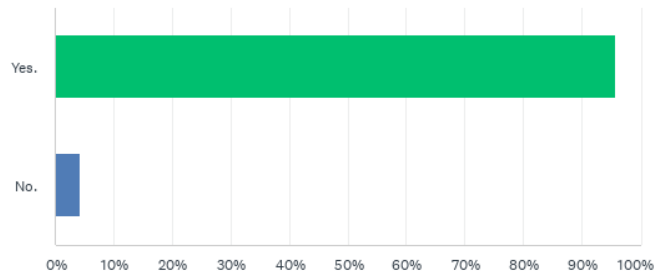
Most respondents are highly dependent on the private automobile, and less than 30 percent own an alternative fuel vehicle. Few survey respondents have calculated their carbon footprint.

Most respondents are open to local energy efficient standards that exceed state standards, as long as compliance with these standards is affordable and cost-effective for local households and businesses.

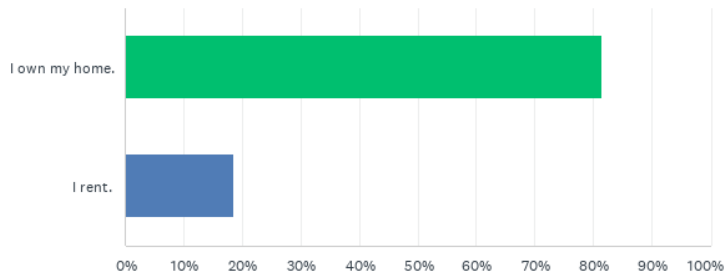
Although most respondents appear to agree that each of us should contribute to a collective effort to reduce GHG emissions, others express a wariness of regulation and assert their right to make choices that they believe to be in the best interest of their families and businesses.

A key takeaway from the survey responses is that more community outreach on climate change and climate mitigation strategies would contribute to local emissions reduction.

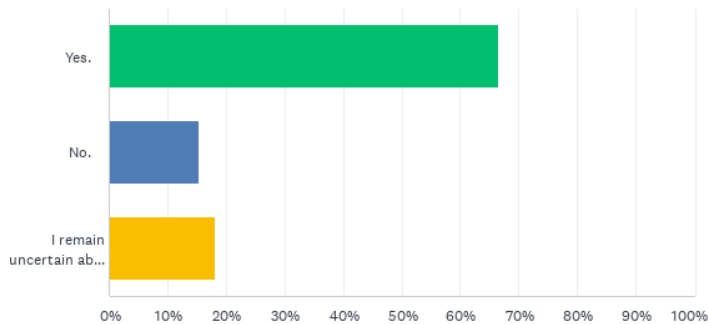
Q1 Do you live, work, and/or own property in Oceanside?



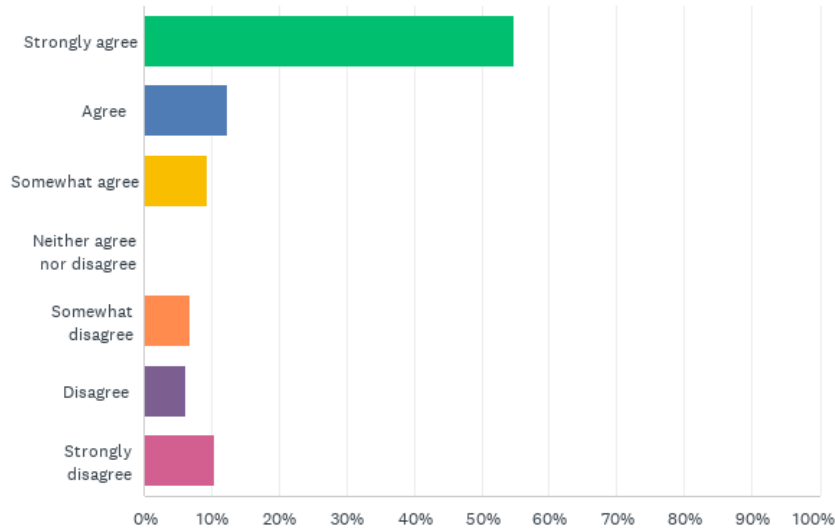
Q2 Do you own your home or do you rent?



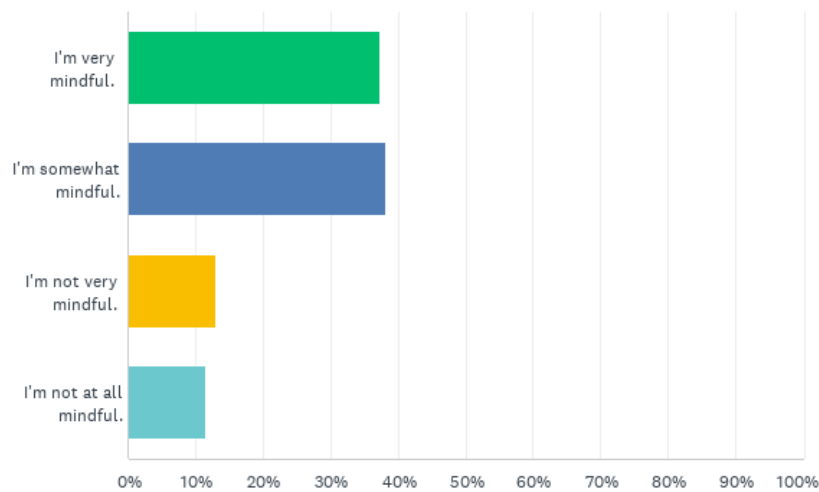
Q3 The International Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) defines climate change as “long-term shifts in temperatures and weather patterns, mainly caused by human activities, especially the burning of fossil fuels.” Does this definition generally align with your own perspective on climate change?



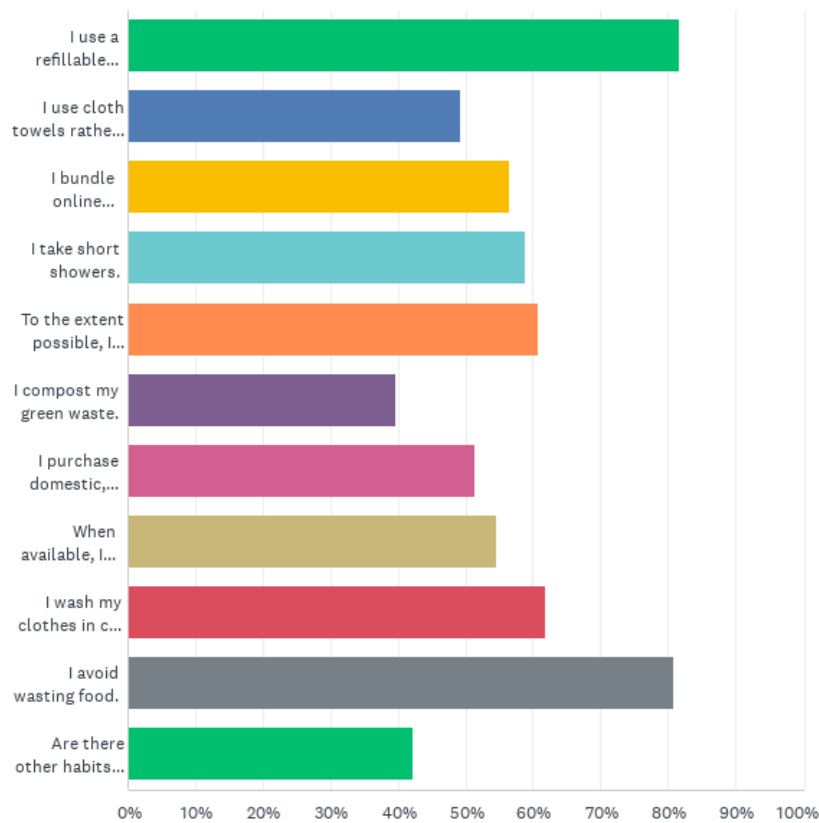
Q4 Do you agree that climate change presents a serious and urgent problem that merits immediate and decisive action?



Q5 Our choices as consumers can significantly impact our carbon footprint. Here are a few examples: A serving of chicken has less than 20 percent the carbon footprint of a serving of beef. Organic and recycled cotton have less than 25 percent the carbon footprint of nylon. The life-cycle emissions of solar electricity are roughly 12 times lower than natural gas and 20 times lower than coal. How mindful are you of how your consumer choices affect your carbon footprint?



Q6 Do you practice any of the following? Check all that apply.

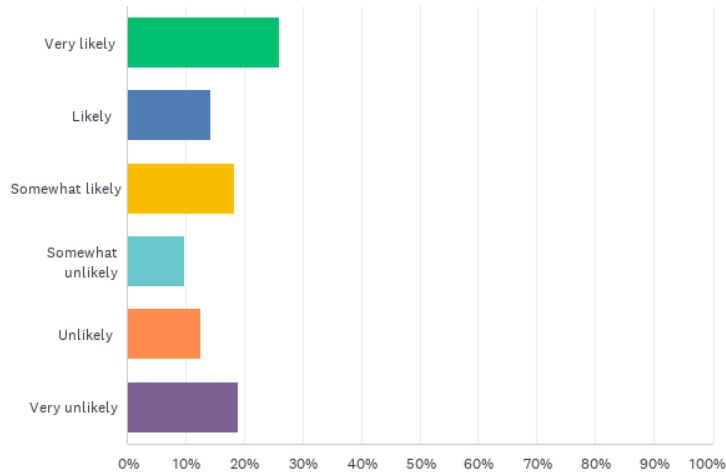


### Other Habits/Practices

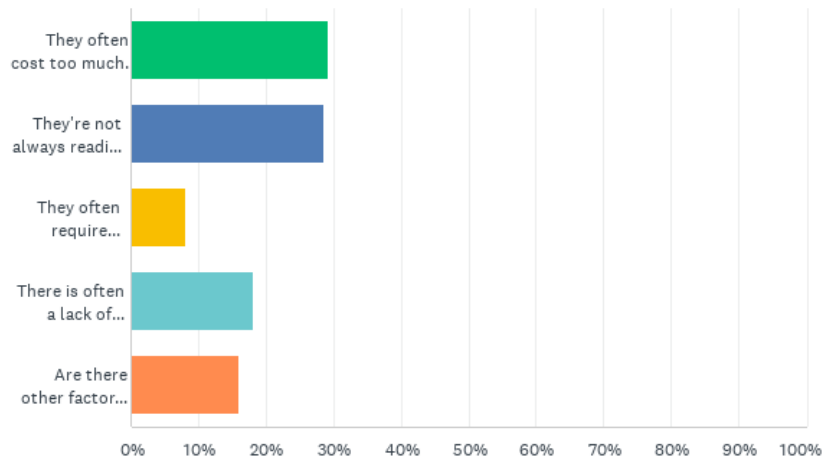
- Low-Carbon Diet
- Active Transportation
- Recycling
- Telework
- Rainwater Harvesting
- Electric Appliances
- Home Garden
- Composting
- Avoiding Fast Fashion
- Solar PV

- Passive Clothes Drying
- Reusable Bags and Other Containers
- Low-Water Landscape
- Off-Peak Electricity Use
- Bundled Vehicle Trips
- E-Bikes
- Graywater Systems
- Tree Planting
- Energy Efficient Lighting

Q11 How likely are you to purchase a low or zero emission vehicle in the next five years?



Q7 Which of the following factors most discourages you from choosing sustainable, low-emission products?

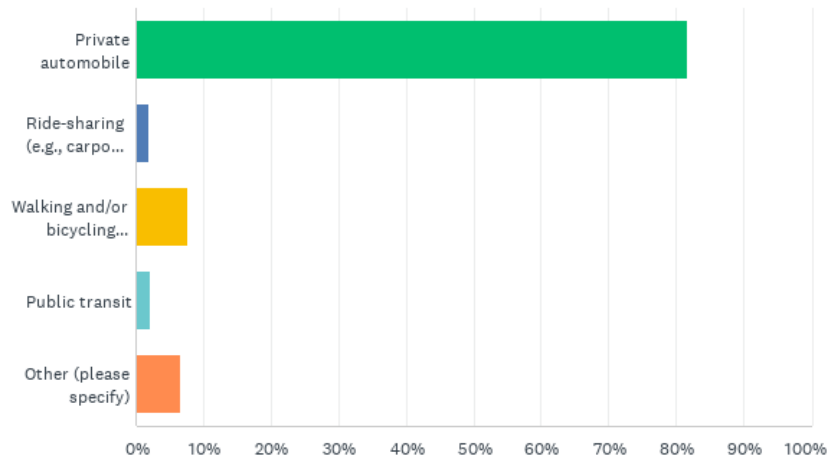


## Other Factors

Environmental Impacts of Battery Production, Disposal  
 Not Effective in Reducing Carbon Footprint  
 Limitations of Current Electricity Grid  
 Concern about "Greenwashing"

Exploitation of Labor in Mining Operations  
 Difficult to Avoid Plastic Packaging  
 Poor Quality  
 HOA Constraints on Solar

Q8 What is your principal means of getting to and from work, school, shopping and dining venues, recreational facilities, and other places you need and want to go?

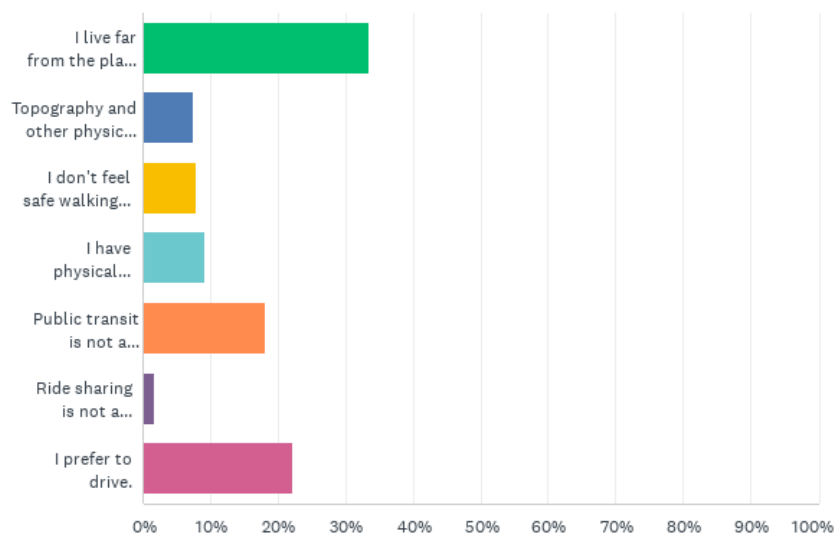


## Other Responses

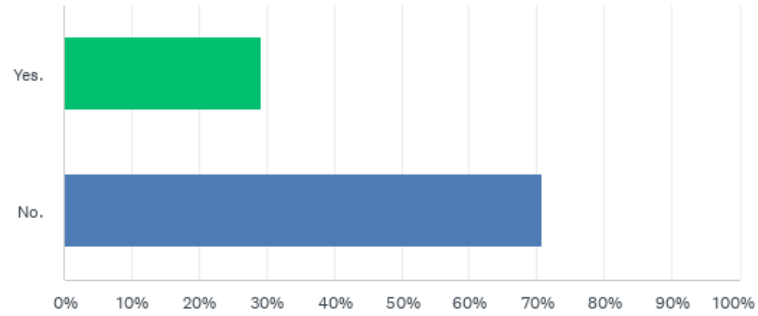
Telework  
Senior Ride Program

E-Bike  
Motorcycle

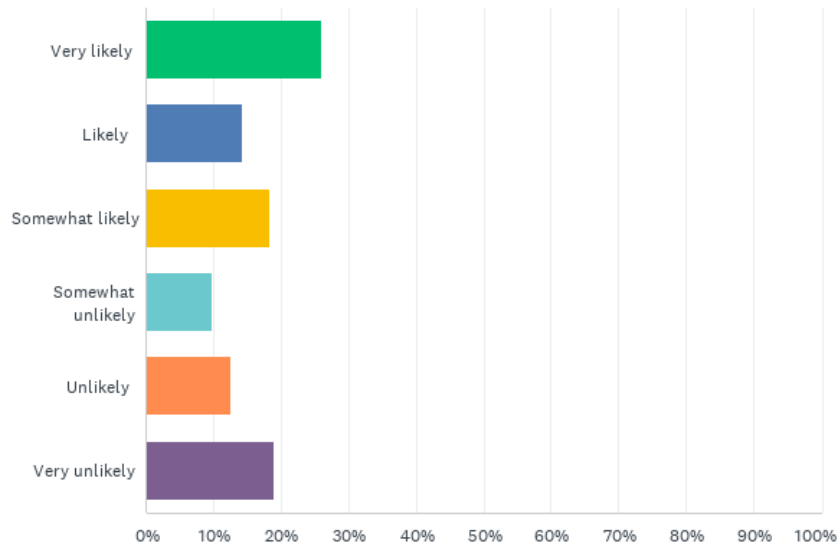
Q9 If you're highly reliant on the automobile, why is this the case?



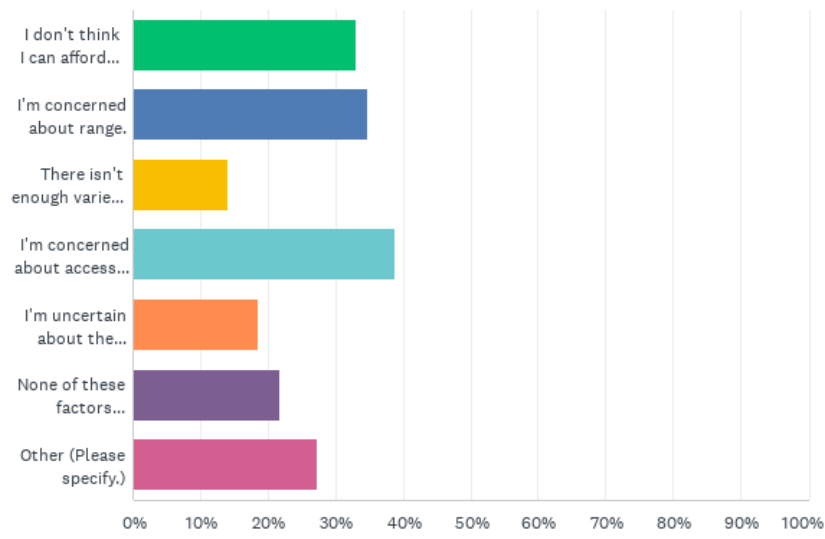
Q10 Do you own a hybrid, all-electric, or hydrogen fuel vehicle?



Q11 How likely are you to purchase a low or zero emission vehicle in the next five years?



Q12 Which of the following factors might discourage you from purchasing a low or zero-emission vehicle? Check all that apply.



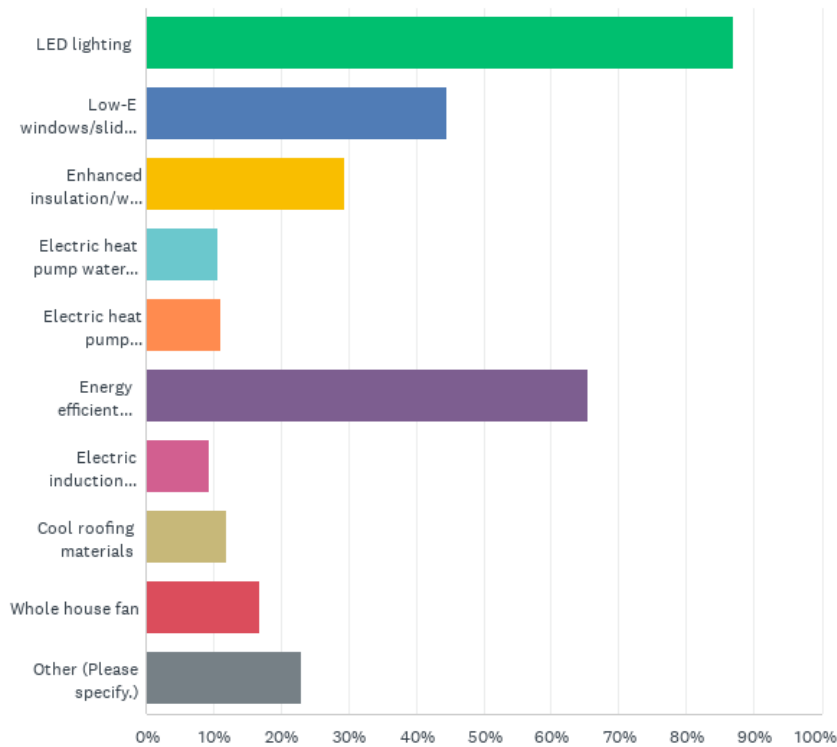
### Other Responses

**Environmental Impacts of Battery Production and Disposal**  
**No Need for a New Vehicle**  
**Few Off-Road Vehicle Options**  
**Limitations of the Electricity Grid**  
**Need for Electric Panel Upgrade**  
**Safety/Security at Charging Sites**  
**Concerns about Longevity**

**Too Small/Not Enough Headroom**  
**Reliance on Chinese Batteries**  
**Lack of Familiarity with ZEV Technology**  
**No Towing Capability**  
**Fire Risk**  
**Inability to Car Owner to Perform Repairs**



Q13 Implementing energy efficiency measures at your home or business can significantly reduce your carbon footprint and energy costs. Has your household and/or business invested in any of the following upgrades? Check all that apply.

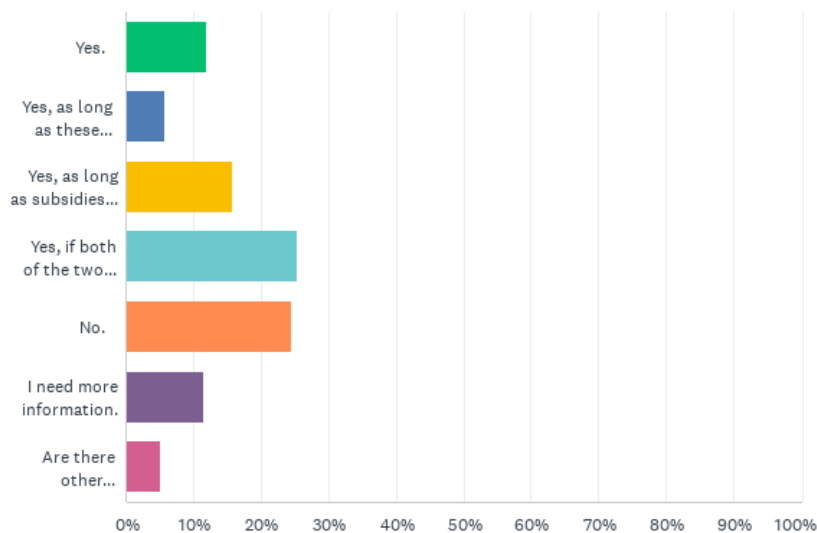


### Other Responses

Solar PV  
 On-Demand/Tankless Water Heater  
 Cool Exterior Coating  
 Passive Building Design

Renters Unable to Make Upgrades  
 No Air Conditioning  
 Wearing Layers in Colder Temperatures

Q14 Many cities have adopted their own “reach codes” that mandate energy efficiency and renewable energy facilities above and beyond what current state codes require. Local reach codes must meet state cost effectiveness standards – i.e., they must be shown to provide a positive return on investment through long-term cost savings. According to the California Energy Commission, buildings constructed under current state energy standards are as much as 53 percent more energy efficient than those built just seven years ago. A large percentage of the City’s building stock was constructed in the 1970s and 80s, when energy efficiency standards were much less stringent. Should the City require that older buildings be rendered more energy efficient when owners seek permits for additions and major renovations?

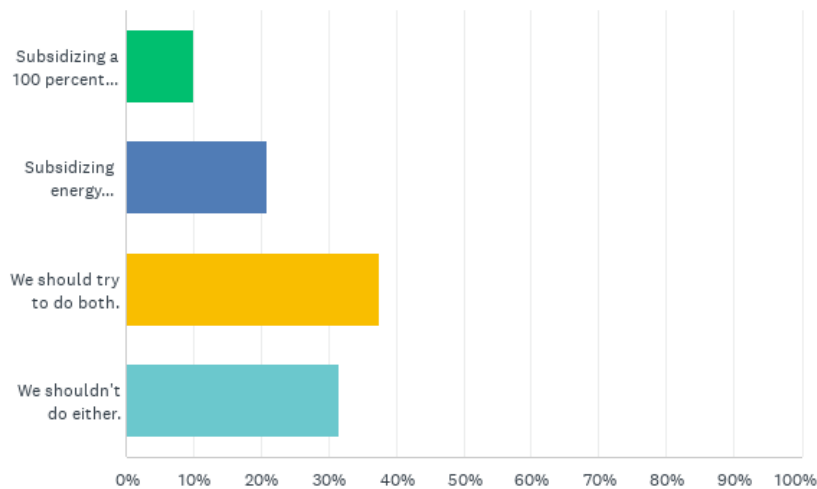


### Other Considerations

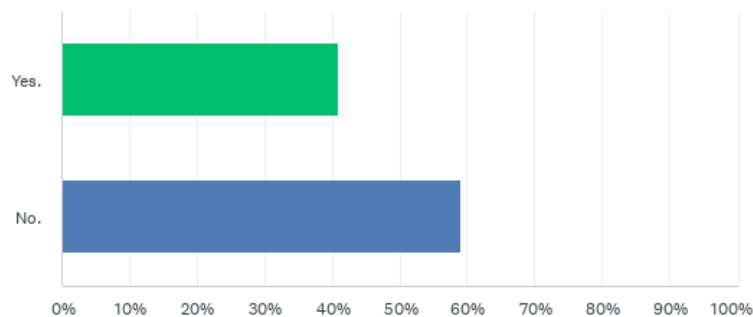
**Pursue Grants and Tax Credits to Fund Subsidies**  
**Require Bird-Safe Windows**  
**Provide Assistance to Renters**  
**Encourage On-Site Power Storage**

**Prioritize Upgrades for Lower-Income Households**  
**City Should Provide Subsidies/Rebates**  
**Require at Point of Sale**  
**Only Large Additions Should Trigger This Requirement**

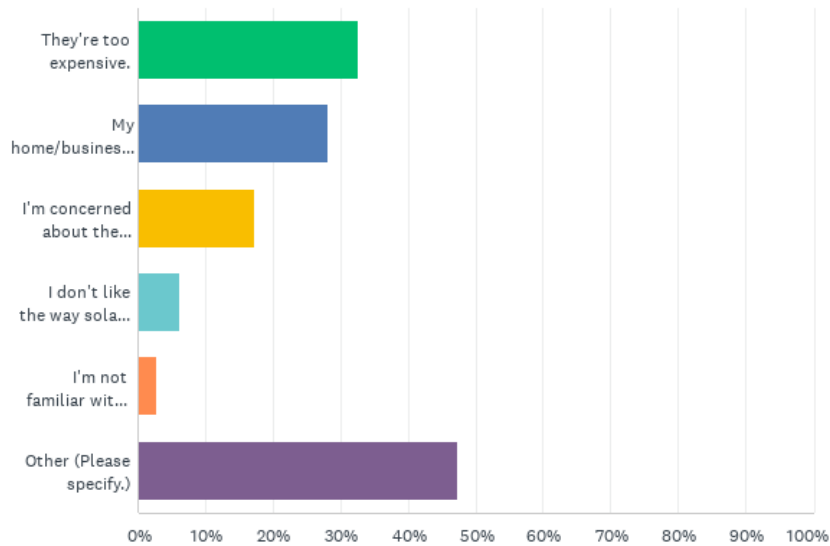
Q15 Do you think it would be better to subsidize a 100 percent renewable electricity portfolio for lower-income households or provide these households with subsidies for energy efficiency upgrades?



Q16 The cost of solar panels has decreased over the past decade and is expected to decrease further in the years ahead. Federal tax credits for solar installations typically offset a third of the cost of a solar installation. Have you installed solar panels at your home or business?



Q17 If you haven't installed solar panels, what has prevented or discouraged you from doing so?



### Other Responses

**Lack of Information**

**Not Enough Solar Access**

**No Control as a Renter**

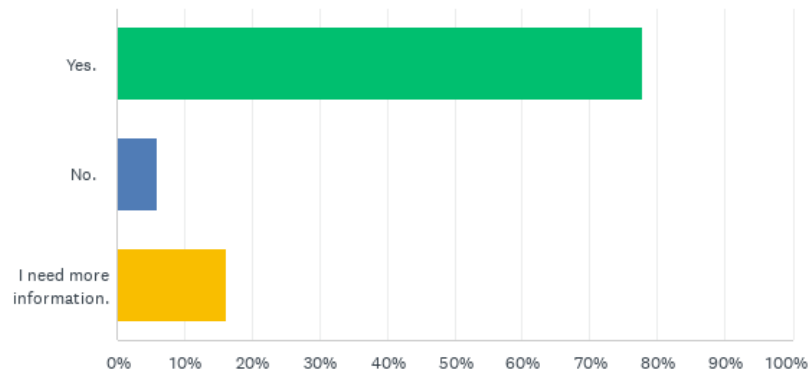
**Concern about How Panel Materials Are Sourced**

**Net Metering Standards Are a Disincentive**

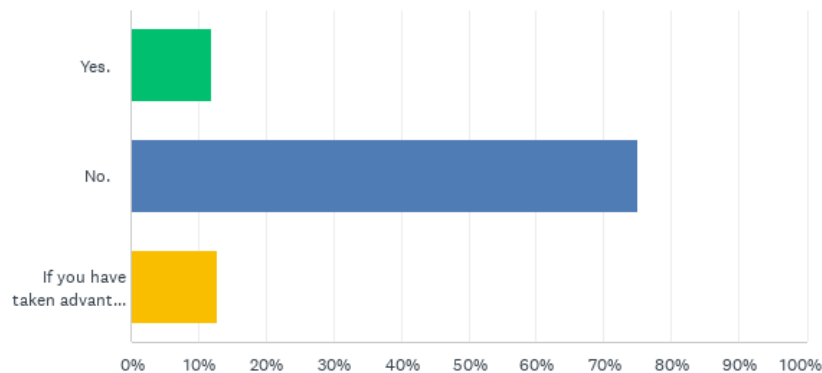
**Concern about Longevity**

**Tradeoff between Solar PV and Tree Canopy**

Q18 Under California's current "net metering" standards, utilities do not have to pay customers who generate more solar power than they consume. Homeowners and business owners thus can only "net out" their electricity cost. This discourages households and businesses from installing more solar capacity than they need for their own use. Do you support a system that pays homeowners and business owners for the surplus solar energy they supply to the grid?



Q19 Water conservation measures help to curb GHG emissions by reducing energy consumption involved in sourcing, distributing, and treating potable water. While the San Diego region has long relied on distant water sources, enhanced water efficiency, water recycling, and local water harvesting are combining to reduce dependence on distant water supply. Have you taken advantage of any water efficiency incentives or programs offered by Oceanside Water Utilities or the San Diego Water Authority?

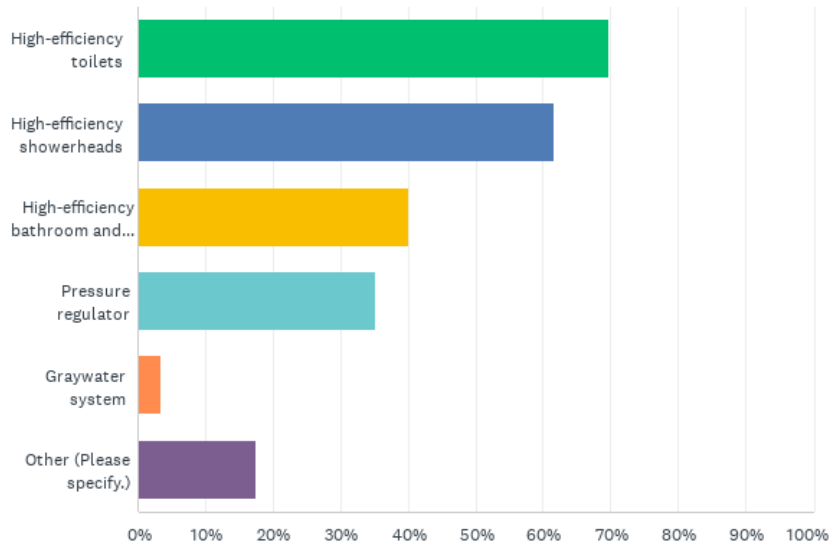


## Specific Improvements Supported by Incentives

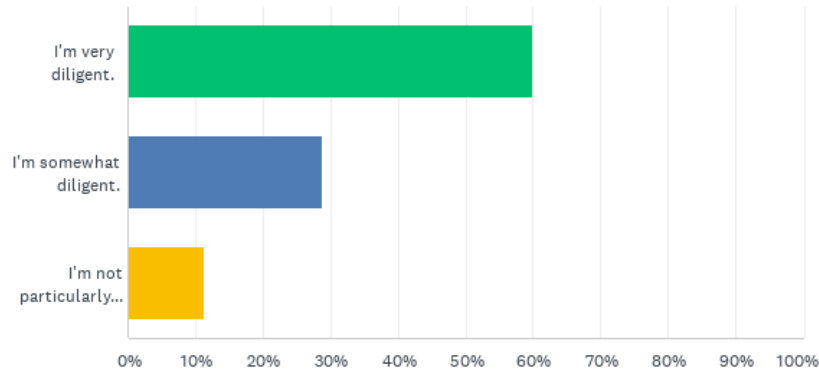
Low Water Landscaping/Xeriscape  
High-Efficiency Toilets  
Drip Irrigation  
Appliance Rebates

Rain Barrels  
Artificial Turf  
Low-Flow Faucets

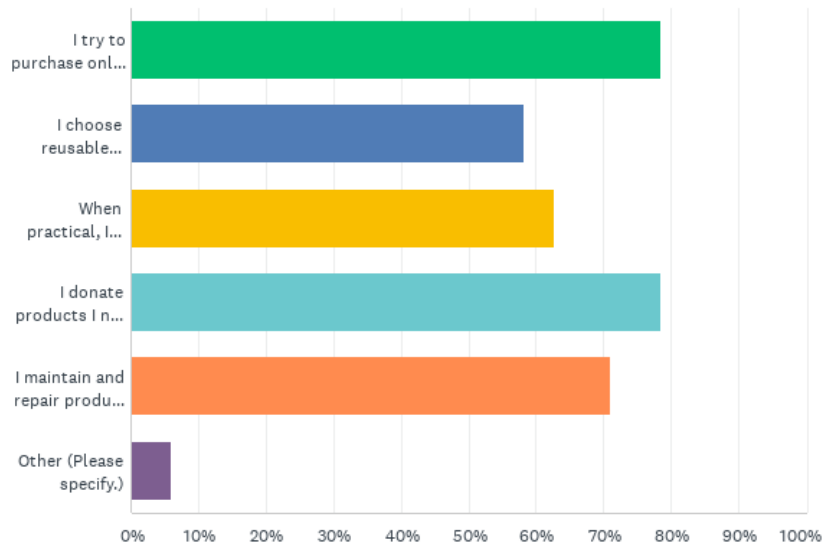
Q20 Have you installed any of the following water efficiency upgrades? Check all that apply.



Q21 The collection, transport, and off-gassing of solid waste contributes to GHG emissions. Roughly four percent of GHG emissions generated in Oceanside result from the processing of solid waste. In accordance with state law, the City of Oceanside has implemented aggressive solid waste diversion programs. Are you diligent about sorting your solid waste and disposing of it in the proper receptacle?



Q22 Which of the following practices do you regularly follow to reduce the amount of solid waste you generate? Check all that apply.

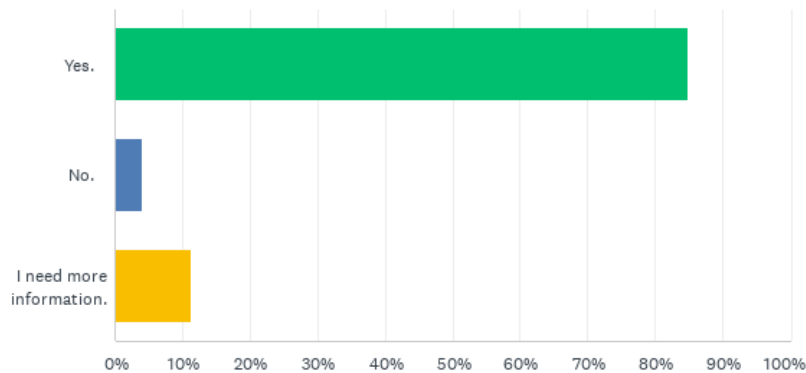


**Other Practices**

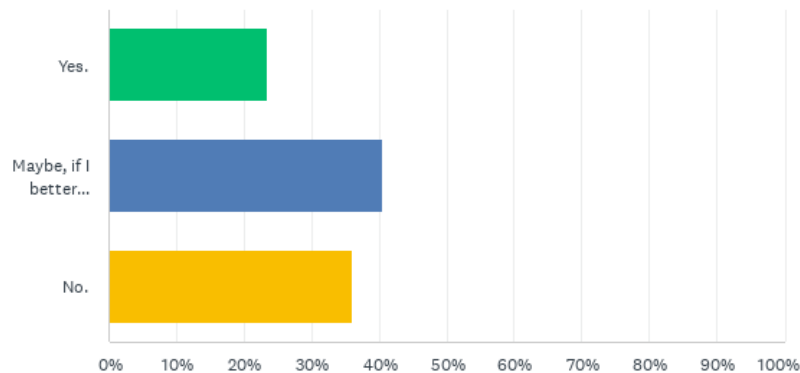
**Sharing through Buy Nothing Oceanside**  
**Avoiding Excess Packaging**

**Composting**  
**Bulk Purchasing**

Q23 The global food system is responsible for as much as 35 percent of global GHG emissions, with animal husbandry, deforestation, and the burning of waste materials being the most significant sources of farming-related emissions. In Oceanside, the transport of agricultural products, the use of mechanized farming equipment, water consumption, and the application of synthetic fertilizer likely account for most farming-related emissions. At the same time, conserving farmland helps to reduce urban sprawl, maintain carbon-sequestering trees, and encourage local food sourcing. Recognizing that there are different approaches to doing so, do you support conserving Oceanside's farmland and promoting the economic viability of local farming?

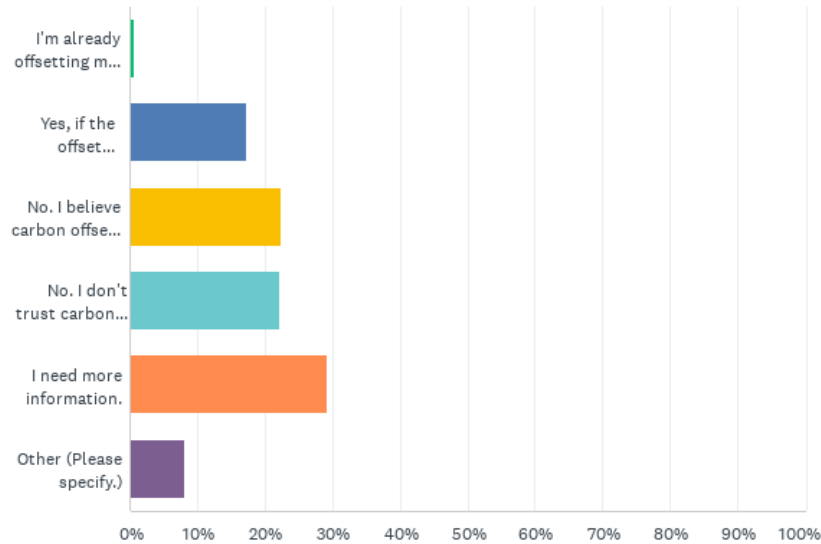


Q24 In 2024, the City of Oceanside will join Clean Energy Alliance (CEA), a collective of cities in the San Diego region that will purchase its own electricity with the goal of providing lower-cost and more renewable power than that supplied by San Diego Gas and Electric. CEA offers customers different levels of renewable energy at different price points. While the cost of electricity from renewable sources is often less than that produced by fossil fuels, customers typically pay more for a 100 percent renewable electricity portfolio. Purchasing a 100 percent renewable electricity portfolio helps to generate demand for more utility-scale renewable power supply. Would you be willing to pay up to ten percent more for a 100 percent renewable electricity portfolio?





Q25 One way to reduce one's carbon footprint is to purchase carbon offsets from a registry that tracks offset projects and issues offset credits for each unit of emissions reduction/removal that can be independently verified and certified. Carbon offset activities supported by registries include tree planting, renewable energy sourcing, methane capture at landfills and wastewater treatment plants, regenerative farming practices, conversion of solid waste to biofuels, etc. A typical household can offset much of its carbon footprint with a \$15 to \$20 monthly contribution to a registry. Would you be willing to offset some or all of your household's or business's carbon footprint through a carbon offset registry?



## Other Responses

**Hold Corporations Accountable for Their Emissions**  
**Don't Confuse Tree Plantations with Forests**  
**Stop Allowing Low-Density Development**

**Beware of Greenwashing**  
**Offsets Should Be Local**

Q26 There are many carbon footprint calculators available online. Some of the more reputable calculators include those accessed at [coolclimate.berkeley.edu](http://coolclimate.berkeley.edu), [carbonfootprint.com](http://carbonfootprint.com), [conservation.org](http://conservation.org), and [offset.climateutralnow.org](http://offset.climateutralnow.org). Have you calculated your carbon footprint?

