



SAANICH CLIMATE PLAN UPDATE

Phase 1 Engagement Report



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

On November 4, 2024, Council endorsed a detailed Terms of Reference for a targeted update to the 2020 Climate Plan. The targeted update is being developed in five phases, supported by an engagement strategy. This report outlines the activities that were completed under the first phase of public engagement.

The objective of Phase 1 was to gather input from stakeholders and community members on key themes, issues, opportunities, and potential actions related to climate change. Building on the extensive engagement undertaken for the 2020 Climate Plan, the Update will undergo targeted outreach focused on:

- Engagement with certain key stakeholders, marginalized communities and service providers;
- Engagement with First Nations and Indigenous populations;
- General public engagement to understand current climate change awareness, to inform development of actions and to receive input and feedback.

In Phase 1, over 1,200 individuals were engaged at 18 key events/activities throughout the spring, summer and fall 2025. Activities varied in type and included hosting a climate stall at local events, key stakeholder workshops and presentations, riding major bus routes in Saanich to speak to passengers, public open houses and workshops, and more. A varied audience was reached through the engagement activities.

In addition, the Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) has been contracted to lead engagement with select community groups who are disproportionately impacted by climate change. This work is ongoing, and results will be incorporated into the Phase 2/final engagement report.

A summary of feedback from engagement boards, surveys and workshops is provided in this report. The findings from the first phase of engagement will be used to inform the development of draft strategies and actions for the draft Climate Plan Update.

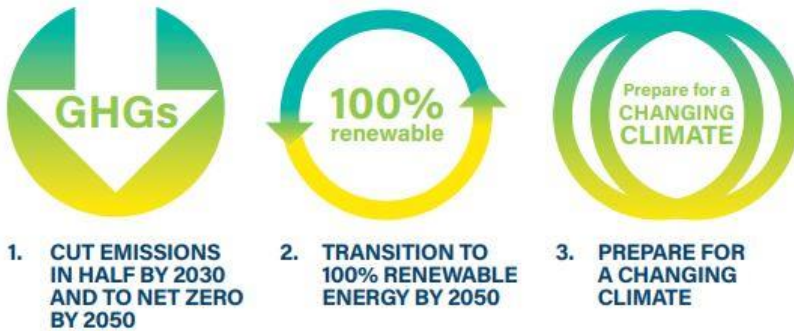
Highlights:

- Most people want Saanich to reduce GHGs in both municipal operations and across the community, and to act to protect our community from and adapt to climate hazards.
- Participants identified that their biggest reasons to act on climate change are to protect future generations, improve health and wellbeing, and protect local ecosystems.
- Most respondents have already experienced and are concerned about climate-related impacts, mainly extreme heat events/heatwaves and wildfires/poor air quality.
- Respondents place a high priority on protecting vulnerable residents (e.g., unhoused and low-income people, seniors, children, people with disabilities, outdoor workers, etc.) when planning climate adaptation to address climate hazards.
- Compared to the 2019 Climate Plan survey, the 2025 survey shows lower support for climate action:
 - A 10% decrease in respondents rating it “somewhat/moderately–very important” that Saanich take climate action.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

At the November 4, 2024, Committee of the Whole Meeting, Council endorsed a detailed Terms of Reference for a Climate Plan Targeted Update. The Climate Plan Targeted Update will build upon the work of the 2020 Climate Plan, which outlines a commitment to the following climate goals:

Saanich Community-wide Climate Goals



District of Saanich Corporate Climate Goals



Figure 1. Saanich Climate Plan Goals

The 2020 Climate Plan identifies 131 actions to be implemented, most of which have now been completed or are well underway. We have made significant progress towards our goals, including a 19% reduction in community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from our 2007 baseline.

The Climate Plan Update will be a streamlined document, with a focused five-year action plan that will confirm the additional actions needed to meet our 2030 and 2050 targets. It will reflect major local and global shifts since 2020, including more frequent extreme weather and climate hazards, updated climate science, a housing and affordability crisis, and a changing policy landscape. The Updated Plan will align with and build upon recent Council-adopted strategies, including the Official Community Plan, updated Active Transportation Plan, Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, updated Urban Forest Strategy, E-Mobility Strategy, Building Retrofit Strategy, Zero Emission Fleet Strategy, and upcoming Zero Waste Strategy.

The Update is being developed in five phases and will be informed by public and stakeholder engagement:

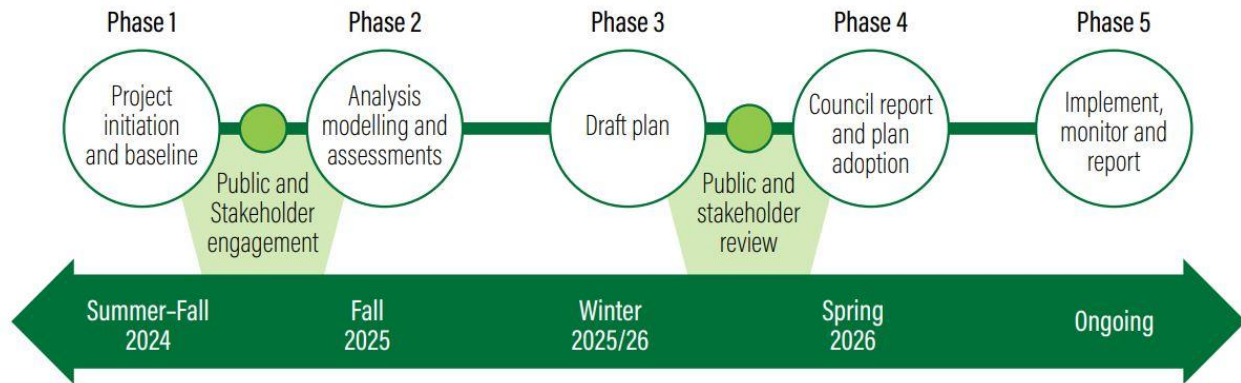


Figure 2. Saanich Climate Plan Update Timeline

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of engagement activities and feedback received during Phase 1: Public and Stakeholder Engagement.

The engagement strategy is based on the International Association of Public Participation (IAP2) spectrum of public participation, and has been designed to achieve the following goals:

- **Inform** – to provide balanced and objective information that will keep key stakeholders and public up to date and assist them in understanding the issues, problems, alternatives, opportunities and/or solutions.
- **Consult** – to obtain key stakeholder and public feedback on analysis, alternatives and/or decisions.
- **Involve** – to work directly with key stakeholders and the public throughout the process to ensure that their concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered as part of the decision-making process.
- **Collaborate** – to partner with key stakeholders and the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.
- **Empower** – to provide resources and support for Saanich residents, organizations, and businesses, to take their own climate actions to improve their resilience and reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions, through education, promoting rebates, and the One Planet Saanich initiative.

2.0 ENGAGEMENT APPROACH

A considerable amount of engagement was undertaken with key stakeholders and the community to develop the 2020 Climate Plan. Since the last Climate Plan was approved, there has been continued and extensive engagement undertaken with the community and key stakeholders including the local health authority, construction and development industry; retail businesses; building, home, and strata owners; schools, faith groups and civil society; and neighbourhoods through the Plan's implementation and initiatives such as Step Code Engagement, Circular Economy Accelerator, District 2030, Strata Energy Advisor, One Planet Saanich, A Hot Topic: Feeling the Impacts of Extreme Heat research, and the Neighbour to Neighbour initiative. Therefore, the Update builds upon the engagement from the 2020 Climate Plan and engagement from multiple climate related projects since the Plan was adopted, and focuses specifically on the following:

- Engagement with certain key stakeholders, marginalized communities and service providers;
- Engagement with First Nations and Indigenous populations;
- General public engagement to understand current climate change awareness, to inform development of actions and to receive input and feedback.



Figure 3. Climate Plan Engagement at Strawberry Festival

2.1 Audience

2.1.1 First Nations and Indigenous Engagement

In recognizing the strong connection between reconciliation and climate work the updated Climate Plan will centre respect for Indigenous rights and knowledge. In March 2024, letters from the Mayor's office were sent to the local Nations -Songhees, Esquimalt, W̱ JOŁEŁP (Tsartlip), BOKEĆEN (Pauquachin), STÁUTW̱ (Tsawout), W̱ SIKEM (Tseycum) and MÁLEXEŁ (Malahat), to inform them about the project and see if there is any interest in engaging with staff, and including offers of funding or honoraria to staff, Council and Knowledge Holders in the Nations for their work on the Saanich Climate Plan update. These letters were sent very early in the process of updating the Climate Plan to be sure to provide adequate time for the Nations to be involved. Ongoing initiatives initiated under the 2020 Climate Plan (e.g., Tillicum Green Infrastructure Project, Gorge Coastal Flood Adaptation Strategy) continue to involve Indigenous partnerships. Local Indigenous artists have been contacted for art commissions in the updated Plan. Staff have completed various cultural safety and humility training opportunities to strengthen our capacity to engage respectfully with the local Nations and community. Staff have also completed a review of written materials by Indigenous governing bodies relating to climate change (see more in Landscape Scan section below).

2.1.2 Marginalized Communities

To identify the unique needs, aspirations and barriers faced by certain members of the community, targeted engagement is being conducted with key stakeholders, marginalized communities and service providers. In addition to the engagement described in this report with youth/students, the Accessibility, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (ADEI) Committee, and transit riders, The Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) has been contracted to lead engagement with a range of community groups, including seniors, newcomers, people with disabilities, and low-income people. This engagement is currently ongoing, and the results will be presented in the Phase 2 Final Engagement Report. Certain vulnerable groups and marginalized communities were also reached through the Climate Plan Update Survey and Climate Adaptation Workshops, which are discussed below.

2.1.3 Key Stakeholders

Staff have engaged internal and external stakeholders, as outlined in Appendix A, including community organizations, other governments and health institutions, educational institutions, economic development agencies and businesses, food and agricultural groups, transportation groups, environmental groups and the Sustainability and Climate Action Advisory Committee.

2.1.4 Community Members

Community members have been engaged on the progress Saanich has made since the 2020 Climate Plan and the need for a targeted update. As described in the methods section below, staff reached out to residents where they were already gathered, in addition to hosting events that drew people specifically interested in climate change. Saanich has gathered feedback from community members on options, including community aspirations and concerns to incorporate into the Updated Climate Plan.

2.2 Methods of Engagement

The purpose of the first phase of engagement was to receive input on key themes, issues, opportunities and potential actions related to climate change from key stakeholders and community members.

Saanich began the first phase of engagement on April 19, 2025, with an engagement tent at the Saanich Earth Day Festival. Throughout the spring, summer and fall, Saanich attended and hosted a variety of engagement events and methods to capture input from a large and diverse audience, with Phase 1 engagement concluding in November 2025. Several methods of engagement were used, informed by the IAP2 spectrum of public participation. These included:

- **Project Website and Hello Saanich** - development of a project page on the Saanich website (www.saanich.ca/climateplan), which includes a link to the HelloSaanich platform to provide access to information about the project, key reports and ways to be engaged.

- **Survey** – development of an online and paper copy survey to gather feedback from the community through this first phase of engagement.
- **Prize Draw** – those who completed the online and paper survey had the ability to enter a free prize draw to win a \$500 gift card to their local bike store of choice, \$100 gift card to the Aunty Collective store, or one of three \$40 gift cards to Big Wheel Burger.
- **Climate Quarterly** – the Climate Quarterly has over 800 members and provides information about climate change news and events in our region.
- **Media & Advertising** – Both paid and free advertising were used to raise awareness about the project and promote opportunities for individuals to be engaged. The open-house events and survey were promoted through radio advertisements and newspaper articles. Other means of advertising the project included social media posts, Saanich web page updates, posters, newsletters, Saanich on-hold messages and advertisements through community associations and other organizations.
- **Festivals & Events** – key Saanich and regional festivals and events were attended with our staffed climate stall, which included climate engagement games and kids’ activities (including a spin wheel and waste sorting game), a ‘What would you like to see in Saanich’s Climate Plan Update’ ideas board, and other information and handouts on climate-friendly grants and rebates, emergency preparedness, Saanich’s Residents’ Climate Action Guidebook and more.
- **Recreation Centre & Facility Displays** – a display was set up at Saanich Commonwealth Place that included a ‘What do you want to see in Saanich’s updated Climate Plan’ ideas board and paper surveys for residents to complete. A table was also set up at the Municipal Hall during the month of June, during tax time which promoted the project and handed out useful climate-friendly resources.
- **Engaging on Transit** – staff rode several key transit routes in Saanich to discuss the Climate Plan with



Figure 4. Climate Plan Engagement at Music in the Park

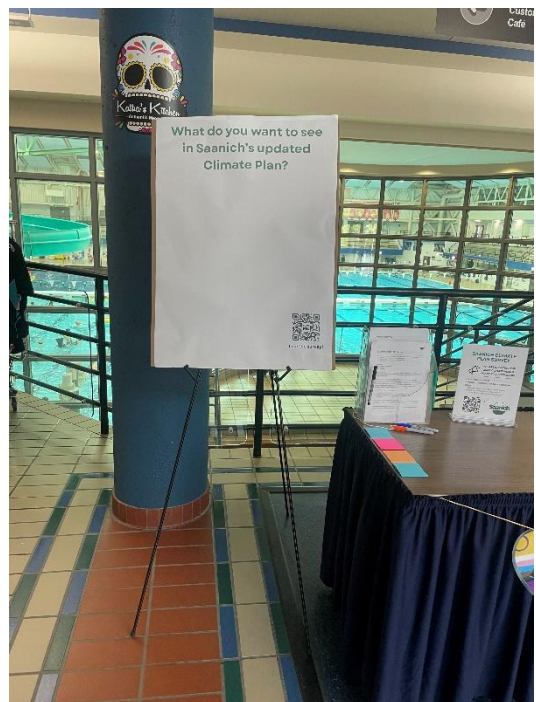


Figure 5. Climate Plan Update booth at Saanich Commonwealth Place

transit passengers and gain feedback and input through discussion or completion of the survey while passengers made their trips.

- **Engaging with students** – staff completed presentations and adaptation workshops with students at the University of Victoria, Claremont Secondary School and Mount Doug Secondary School.
- **In-person engagement with marginalized groups** – staff contracted the Community Social Planning Council (CSPC) to engage with marginalized groups and community members in-person at a variety of community gatherings.
- **Emails and phone calls** – emails and phone calls were made to key stakeholders, organizations and individuals to answers questions and provide updates about the project.
- **Public Open Houses & Workshops** – open houses and workshops were held in October 2025 to enable individuals the opportunity to participate in activities and provide feedback through information boards, discussions with staff, interactive workshops and the survey.

2.3 Rights Holders and Priority Populations Landscape Scan

Staff conducted a scan of recent climate engagement or climate strategy documents that were relevant to Saanich. The scan included engagement completed with and by Indigenous groups, the Provincial government, local governments and academic institutions. The scan complements in-person engagement activities to help inform the updated Climate Plan.

Recommendations for local governments identified through these engagements are discussed in Section 3.6.

2.4 Phase 1 Engagement Events

Over 1,200 individuals have been engaged at 18 key activities throughout spring, summer and fall 2025 for Phase 1 engagement. A variety of information was shared with attendees at these engagement activities, including:

- Climate Plan Survey
- Discussion boards for input
- Handouts with QR codes to the project website and survey
- Information on climate-friendly rebates and resources, including the Saanich Residents’ Climate Action Guidebook

The key Phase 1 engagement events are outlined in Table 1.

Table 1. Key Phase 1 Engagement Events

Event	Date (2025)	Involvement	Approximate # Engaged
Saanich Earth Day Festival	April 19	Climate Stall with spin wheel quiz for kids	50
Mount Doug School	April 2	Presentation + workshop	29

Unstaffed Table at Municipal Hall	Month of June	Table with resources	Unknown
Gorge Canada Day Picnic	July 1	Climate Stall	200+
Saanich Strawberry Festival	July 6	Climate Stall	200+
Unstaffed Table at Saanich Commonwealth Place	July-October	Engagement board and survey	64 sticky notes
Cadboro Bay Festival	August 10	Climate Stall	200+
Music in the Park	August 19	Climate Stall	30
Bus Engagement	August 22	In-person engagement	100+ handouts
Bus Engagement	August 27	In-person engagement	100+ handouts
University of Victoria Environmental Sciences Climate Policy	October 1	Online presentation	35 asynchronous, 6 in-person
Claremont School	October 8	Presentation + workshop	58
Bus Engagement	October 9	In-person engagement	100+ handouts
Public Open House #1	October 18	Engagement + workshop	28
Mt Doug School	November 12	Presentation + workshop	23
Public Open House #2	October 29	Engagement + workshop	47
Saanich Accessibility, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADEI) Advisory Committee	November 5	Hybrid presentation	8
Saanich Sustainability and Climate Action Advisory Committee	November 13	Hybrid presentation	6

3.0 WHAT WE HEARD

3.1 Response Rate

Table 2 provides a summary of response rates to the key Phase 1 engagement opportunities.

Table 2. Phase 1 Engagement Response Rate Summary

Project Phase 1	Response Rate
Number of key engagement events/activities	18
Number of attendees engaged during key events/activities	1,284+
Number of surveys completed	643
Number of attendees at the stakeholder Climate Adaptation Workshops	95
Number of attendees at the Open House Climate Adaptation Workshops	49
Number of attendees at the Open Houses	75

3.2 Public Engagement and Climate Adaptation Workshops

3.2.1 Public Open Houses

Two Public Open Houses were held:

- October 18 (Lambrick Park Secondary School) from 12:00-4:00 PM
- October 29 (Victoria Hellenic Centre) from 3:00-7:00 PM

Residents were encouraged to pop into the Open House and provided the opportunity to:

- Read the [information boards](#)
- Speak with Saanich staff
- Comment on the interactive boards
- Sign-up for an adaptation workshop
- Complete surveys and feedback forms
- Learn about local rebates and programs
- Try an e-bike test ride
- Watch a DIY air filtration demonstration to learn how to build an at-home air filtration system
- Tour of the renewable energy upgrades at Gordon Head Recreation Centre
- Childcare and children’s activities were



Figure 6. Climate Plan Engagement at Lambrick Park Secondary School

provided

3.2.2 Engagement Boards Feedback

Engagement boards were used at the open houses and other key events in Phase 1 engagement:

1. **What would you like to see in Saanich’s updated Climate Plan?** This board was displayed at the climate stall during events and at the unstaffed display in Saanich Commonwealth Place. Feedback gathered informed staff about the community’s familiarity with actions completed since the 2020 Climate Plan and captured resident’s priorities for the Climate Plan Update.
2. **What actions related to this focus area would you like to see in the updated Climate Plan?** A total of 29 [boards](#) were displayed at the public open houses to explain the Climate Plan Update and showcase progress within each focus area- Transportation; Buildings and Infrastructure; Food, Consumption and Waste; Ecosystems; Community Well-being; and Leading by Example. A feedback board at the end of each focus area invited residents to contribute ideas and indicate their priorities for actions with the use of sticky notes.

Table 3. Public Feedback and ideas from engagement boards for all six focus-areas

Transportation
Key Ideas (by most responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand the protected cycling and active transportation network • Some concerns regarding the location and placement of some bike lanes (arterial vs. side roads) and active transportation infrastructure and around traffic calming measures that reduce traffic flow • Improve/expand on end-of-trip facilities and infrastructure for bikes and e-bikes • Provide incentives for the purchase of e-bikes and electric vehicles (EVs) • Improve electric battery recycling programs • Expansion and more convenience of EV charging infrastructure • Improve public transit frequency and convenience • Safe and convenient transit and active transportation options for all schools
Buildings and Infrastructure
Key Ideas (by most responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase incentives for home retrofits and electrification • Ban fossil fuel use in new buildings; varied opinions on the use of renewable natural gas (RNG) • Prioritize protecting trees and green spaces through new development and densification • Build with fire resistant materials • Provide ample tree shading for buildings • Air conditioning in all multi-use residential buildings (MURBS) • Regulations around the use of wood burning stoves
Consumption, Waste, Food and Materials
Key Ideas (by most responses)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grow food in more underutilized spaces (boulevards, rooftops, balconies)

- Provide grants for gardening and balcony growing
- Use/acquire more municipal land for agriculture
- Support leasing land to farmers as part of climate adaptation measures
- Measure carbon sequestration by local farms
- More repair cafes and tool libraries
- Support curbside pickup for soft plastics
- Provide clearer recycling pathways for hard-to-recycle items (e.g., e-bike batteries)
- Hold producers accountable for packaging materials
- Provide support and education for composting
- Develop embodied carbon resources and regulations

Ecosystems

Key Ideas (by most responses)

- Protect mature trees and urban canopy; concerns around replacing one large tree with several small trees
- Increase biodiversity and conservation work (e.g., implementation of Biodiversity Conservation Strategy, more ecological restoration and invasive plant management)
- Ecologically conscious building designs and development
- Better management of urban forests to reduce wildfire risks
- Re-forest parks in decline
- Rename parks/green spaces with Indigenous place names
- More beach clean ups
- Enhanced shoreline stewardship through clam gardens and restoration efforts

Community Well-Being

Key Ideas (by most responses)

- Provide more public amenities for cooling (e.g., water stations, pools, cooling centers)
- Provide more shade/tree canopy for shading
- Increase park and greenspace access across Saanich
- Support and provide grants to residents and organizations for climate action
- Develop equitable neighborhoods by ensuring densification aligns with affordability and livability

Leadership in District Operations

Key Ideas (by most responses)

- More solar on District facilities
- Improved intermunicipal collaboration and leadership

3.3 Climate Adaptation Workshops

A total of four Climate Adaptation workshops were hosted at the Open Houses. Workshops were also hosted with the following community stakeholders:

- Claremont Secondary School (2 workshops)
- Mt. Doug Secondary School
- Saanich Sustainability and Climate Action Advisory Committee
- Saanich Accessibility, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (ADEI) Advisory Committee

The intent of the workshops was to:

- Provide information on climate projections and climate hazards for the region;
- Seek input on how these climate hazards will impact/are impacting the community; and
- Generate ideas on resilience actions that Saanich, other levels of government, community organizations, businesses, individuals/households, etc. can implement to build resilience to these hazards



Figure 7. Climate Adaptation Workshop at Open House #1

A short presentation at the beginning of the workshop described the climate projections and linked them to trends and hazards we are already observing in Saanich. Small groups selected a local climate hazard: extreme rainfall, drought, extreme heat, wildfire smoke/ combined heat and smoke, or another hazard of their choice, and then reviewed a brief scenario for that hazard. The groups were then invited to identify the consequences the community could face if no adaptation actions are taken, including to disproportionately vulnerable demographics or geographies, and brainstorm resilience actions.

3.3.1 Climate Adaptation Workshop Results

The key concerns and suggested resilience actions for each hazard are included below:

Table 4. Key concerns and resilience actions from Climate Adaptation Workshops

Extreme Heat	
Key Concerns	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health risks: increased heat illnesses and mortality risks; increase in hospitalizations; difficulty keeping vulnerable groups safe. • Systems and Infrastructure: Higher energy demand and costs for cooling; more GHG emissions from increased A/C use; shorter lifespan/faster deterioration of certain infrastructure. • Environmental impacts: stresses on native ecosystems, biodiversity and water supply. • Increasing housing density leading to loss of large trees to provide shading and cooling. 	

<p>Key Suggested Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand access to cooling: community cooling spaces, public pools/hours, AC/heat pumps in public buildings, more support for home heat pumps and air conditioning programs. • Public education, including heat-alerts and guidance on what to do during high-risk periods. • Preserve mature trees, plant shade trees at schools and along active transportation routes, increased permeable surfaces to reduce urban heat islands. • Targeted support for lower-income residents and people experiencing homelessness (resources, outreach, transportation to cooling spaces). • Retain and expand the urban tree canopy.
<p>Extreme Rainfall</p>
<p>Key Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and safety risks: mental and physical health stress and mobility barriers, especially for vulnerable groups; increase in landslides; street safety and driving risks. • Infrastructure and property damage and associated financial losses. • Stresses on native ecosystems, biodiversity and water quality. • Certain areas in Saanich are more vulnerable than others (e.g., low lying parks/communities), localized flooding. • Removal of urban tree canopy and greenspaces leading to more flooding.
<p>Key Suggested Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve storm drains, increase stormwater capacity, flood-proof and elevate at-risk structures. • Install rain gardens, permeable pavements and rain barrels/cisterns. • Adopt climate-informed design standards and proactive stormwater management plans; limit impervious surfaces; develop regional holding/reservoir ponds and retain/build wetlands. • Public guidance on protecting homeowners from flooding (e.g., installing drains, tiles, and site grading); targeted outreach in flood-prone neighborhoods. • Protect floodplains from upstream pollution and maintain urban trees to reduce erosion. • Promote 15-minute access to groceries and essential services to reduce reliance on roads during flooding events.
<p>Drought</p>
<p>Key Concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dry soil leading to erosion; limits to crop growth; water wells drying; increased irrigation costs for local farmers; decrease in local food production; local food price increases. • Shrinking waterways and wetlands; biodiversity losses. • Equity concerns for rural well users and leasing farmers; increased community conflict over water use.
<p>Key Suggested Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information and guidance on drought tolerant landscaping and resilient species; education on watering schedules. • Cisterns and rainwater capture; dual plumbing for greywater reuse.

- Stable agricultural water rates; increase access to organics for soil management.
- Retain and expand the urban tree canopy.
- Emergency water supply systems; peak demand management.

Combined Heat and Smoke/ Wildfires

Key Concerns

- Compounding health risks (heat illness plus respiratory impacts); mental health impacts.
- Impacts on pets/animals.
- Heightened vulnerability for low-income and unhoused residents.
- Reduced photosynthesis and crop yields, impacts on local agriculture and biodiversity loss.
- Economic/labour impacts for outdoor workers.
- Homes not equipped with the right infrastructure to protect from both heat and smoke; reduced solar panel efficiency.

Key Suggested Actions

- Distribute masks (prioritize vulnerable populations) and respirators; improve indoor air filtration in homes, schools and public spaces; provide public clean air spaces; provide portable HEPA or DIY Corsi-Rosenthal kits to the public.
- Partner with Island Health to develop preparedness and alerts, including dual smoke and heat advisories, guidance on how to limit exposure, etc.
- Expand FireSmart education and home upgrades (ember-resistant materials, defensible space, metal roofs); update building code requirements for smoke filtration and fire-resistant construction; plant more fire-resistant tree species.
- Increase volunteer firefighting capacity and response; conduct fuels management/underbrush removal with volunteers where appropriate.

3.3.2 Workshop Evaluation Forms

Following the Open House workshops, participants received evaluation forms. These forms assessed the workshop’s effectiveness in informing residents about climate change in Saanich and in gathering participants’ ideas. They also collected optional demographic information to help staff understand who we heard from.

A total of 24 evaluation forms were submitted. We heard from a variety of age groups and income levels, with most participants being seniors (aged 66+). Two participants indicated they were 2SLGBTQ+ and two indicated they were from a visible minority group.

Most participants (87%) agreed or strongly agreed that the workshops increased their understanding of Saanich’s projected climate changes and the progress that has been made on community resilience to date (Figure 7). All participants (100%) reported having the opportunity to express their priorities and learn from peers during the sessions (Figures 8 and 9).

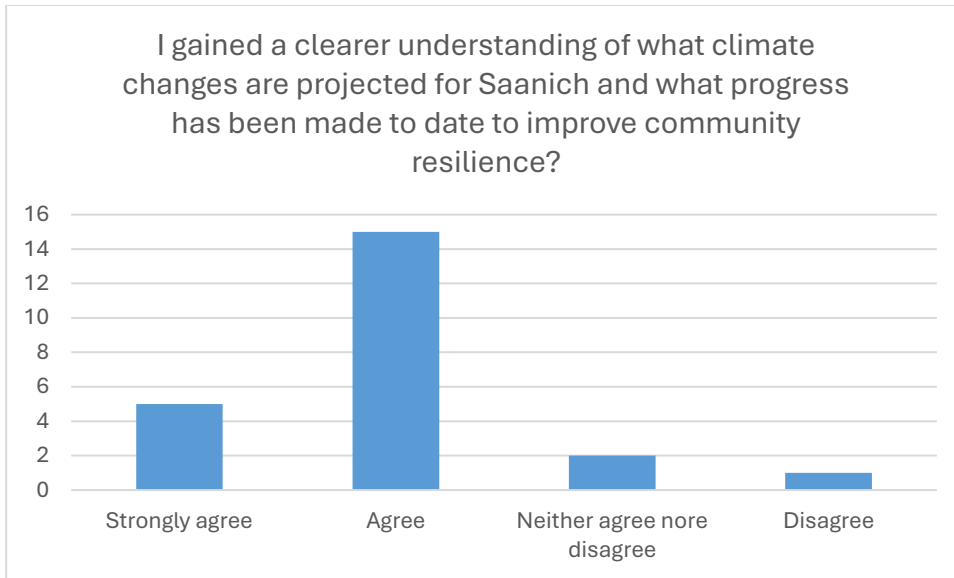


Figure 8. Participants' understanding of Climate Changes and Adaptation in Saanich from Climate Adaptation Workshops

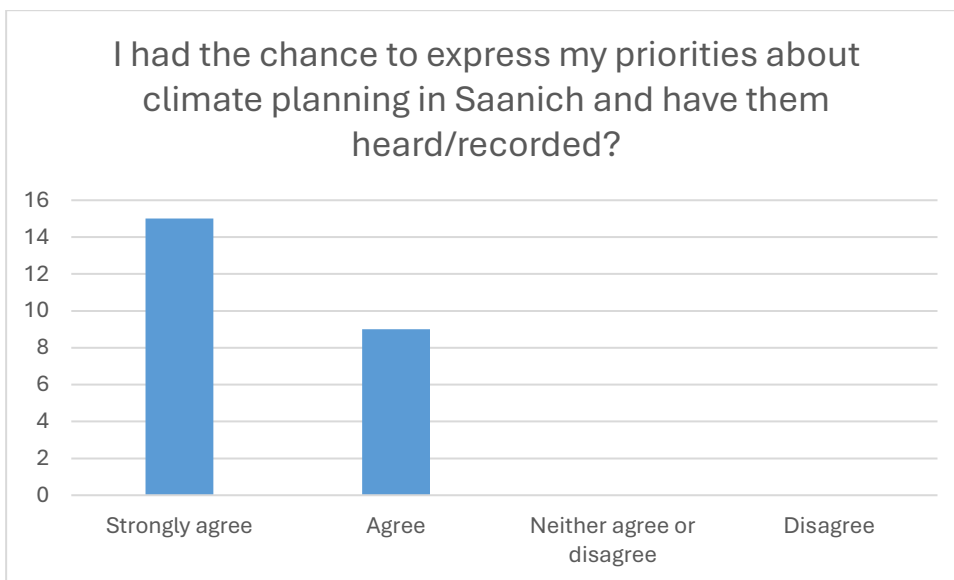


Figure 9. Participants' experiences from Climate Adaptation Workshops

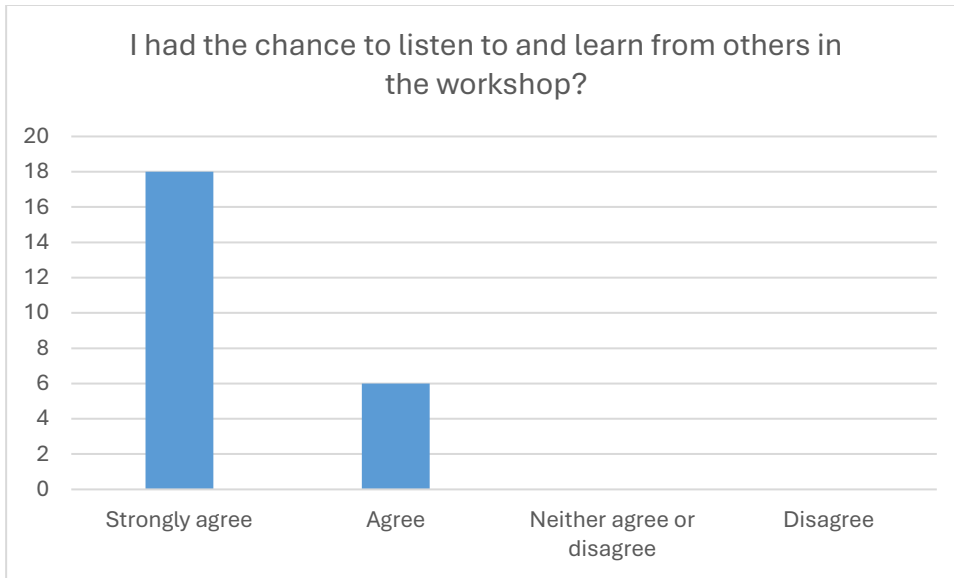


Figure 10. Participants' experiences learning from others from Climate Adaptation Workshops

3.4 Climate Plan Update Survey and Results

The Climate Plan survey was launched on June 26 and closed on October 31, 2025, following the public open houses and workshops. The survey consisted of 35 questions. A copy of the paper survey is included as Appendix B, and the full multiple choice survey responses can be found in Appendix C.

The survey was open to residents, workers and visitors to Saanich. It covered questions on general climate action, climate mitigation and adaptation, and included specific questions on the key theme areas of transportation, buildings and infrastructure, and waste, food and consumption. The survey was intended to get an understanding of the public's current knowledge of climate change, their interest in Saanich taking climate action as well as what they are doing as an individual, the issues and opportunities associated with climate action and where individuals would like action to be prioritized. Respondents were encouraged to reference the 2020 Climate Plan and 2024 Climate Plan Report Card while completing the survey.

3.4.1 Response rates and Demographic Information

Paper and online surveys were available, and 643 surveys were fully completed/submitted, and an additional 197 surveys were partially completed. Only fully submitted surveys were included in the survey analysis below. There was participation from Saanich residents across all neighbourhoods, with 83% of respondents living in Saanich or 94% regularly visiting Saanich for other reasons such as work, school recreation, visiting friends and family, errands etc. Respondents ranged from under 15 to 66+, with the two highest age groups being 66+ (23%) and 15-25 (19%). There was representation from a variety of genders, identities and income levels, however representation from some of these groups was low (e.g., non-binary, Indigenous, newcomers and immigrants, etc.) as shown in Figures 10-13.

The survey was an open online survey, allowing people to respond whether they lived in Saanich, elsewhere in the CRD or beyond. Survey participants were not controlled, and responses were not spread evenly across all Saanich neighbourhoods and demographics, which may lead to under- or over- representation of some groups. We did not restrict submissions by IP address, so some individuals may have responded more than once, though protections were in place to deter automated

(bots) entries. As a result, the survey is not statistically representative of all residents in Saanich and should be read as the view of the respondents who chose to participate.

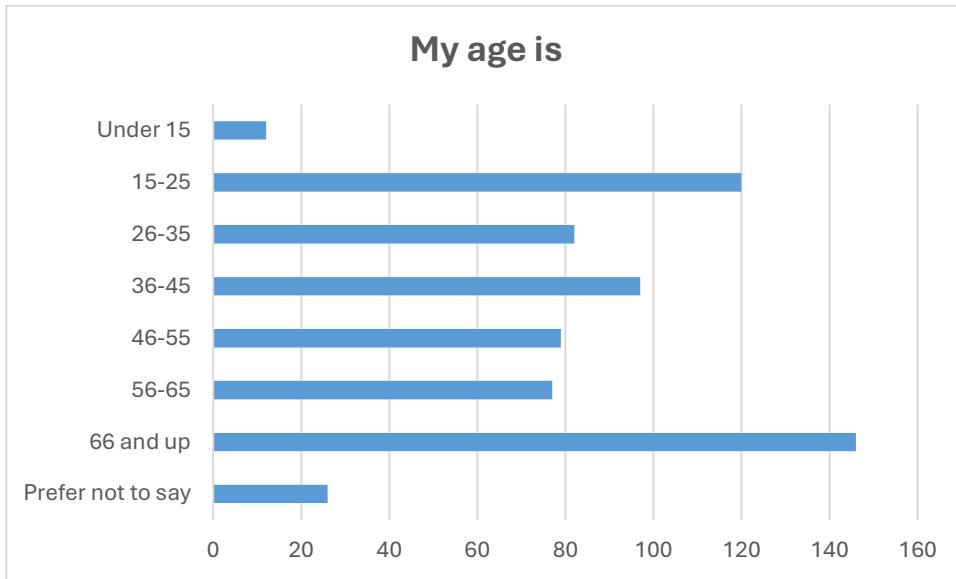


Figure 11. Age ranges from survey responses

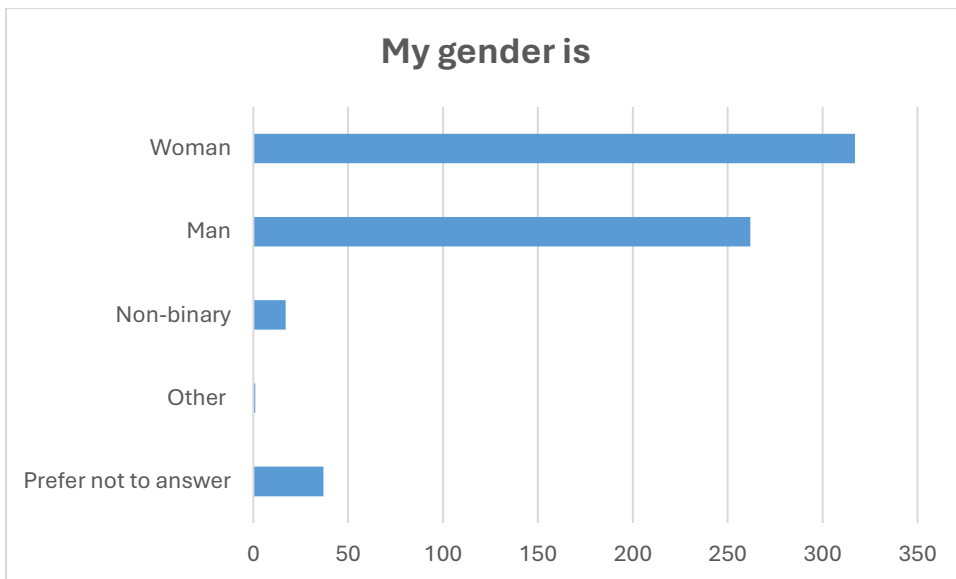


Figure 12. Gender identification from survey responses

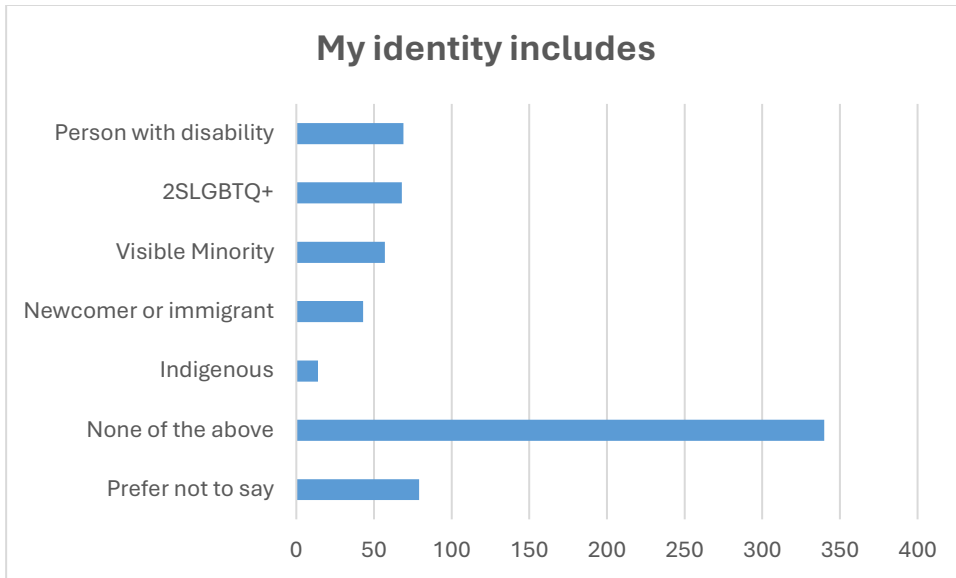


Figure 13. Identity identification from survey responses

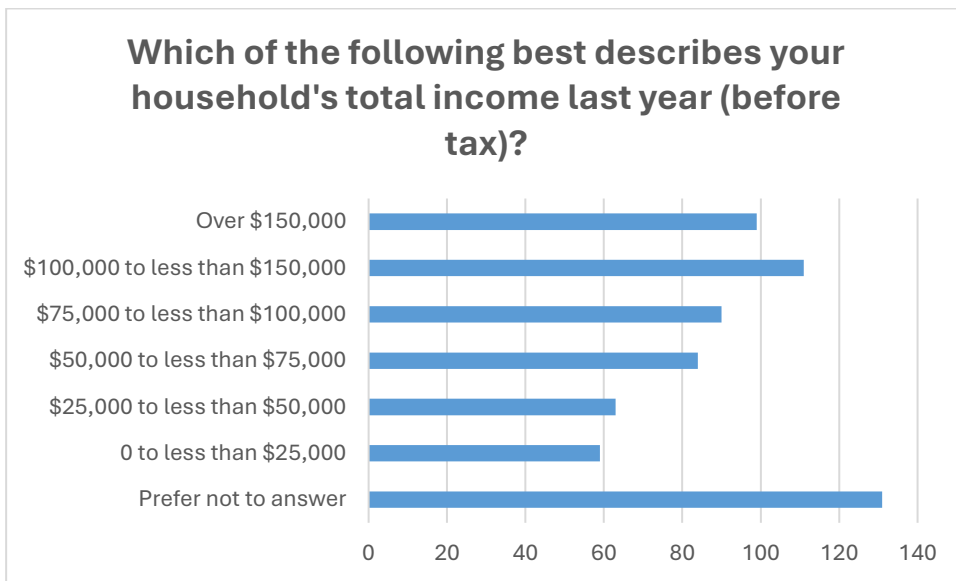


Figure 14. Income identification from survey responses

3.4.2 Priorities for Taking Climate Action in Saanich

73% of respondents indicated they are extremely or very concerned about climate change, while 9% said they are not concerned at all (Figure 14). Overall, 82% said it is extremely, very, or moderately important for Saanich to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in municipal operations and in the

community, and 11% said it is not at all important (Figure 15). This represents a 10% decrease from the 2019 Climate Plan survey, when 92% rated climate action as very to moderately important.

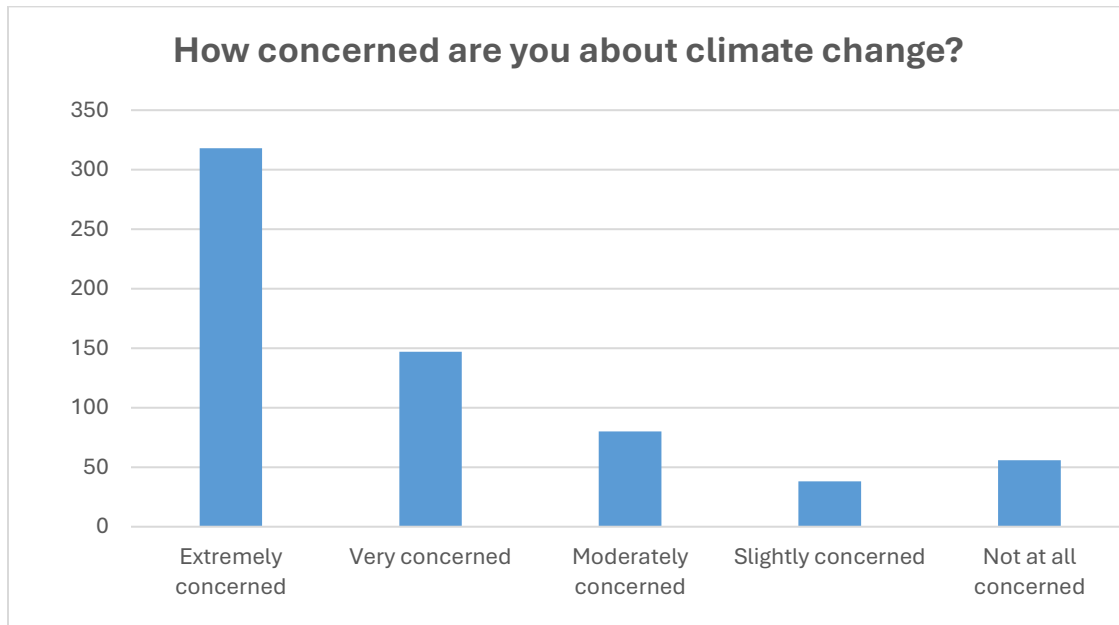


Figure 15. Climate change concerns from survey responses

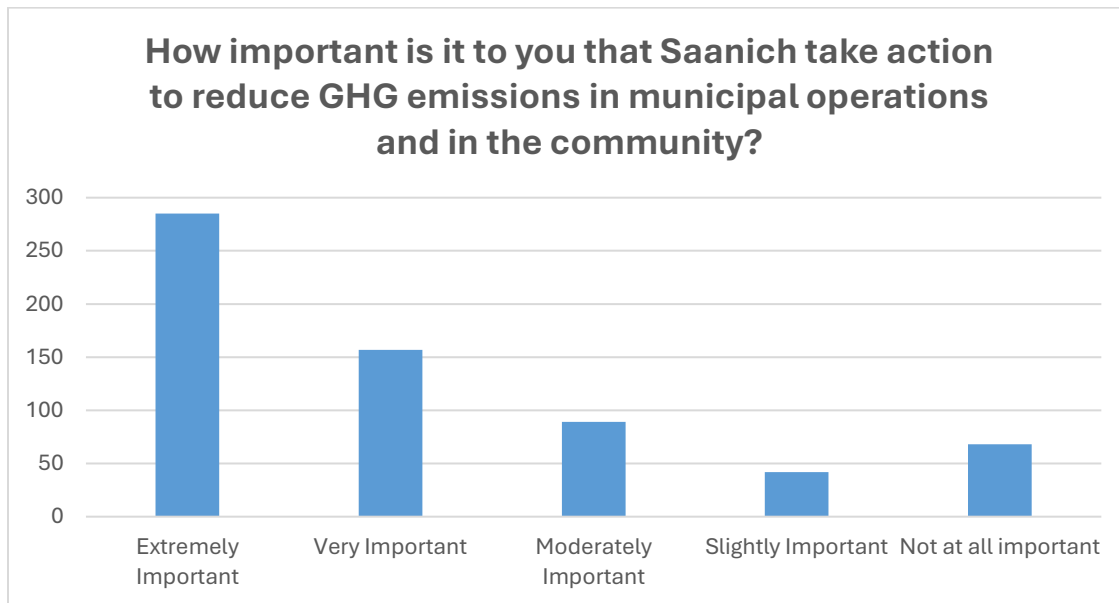


Figure 16: Importance of Saanich municipal climate action from survey responses

Respondents also provided feedback on the co-benefits of taking action to address climate change (Figure 16), with respondents indicating the most important (absolutely essential/very important) co-benefits are protecting future generations (80%), increased health and well-being (79%), and protected and biodiverse ecosystems (77%).

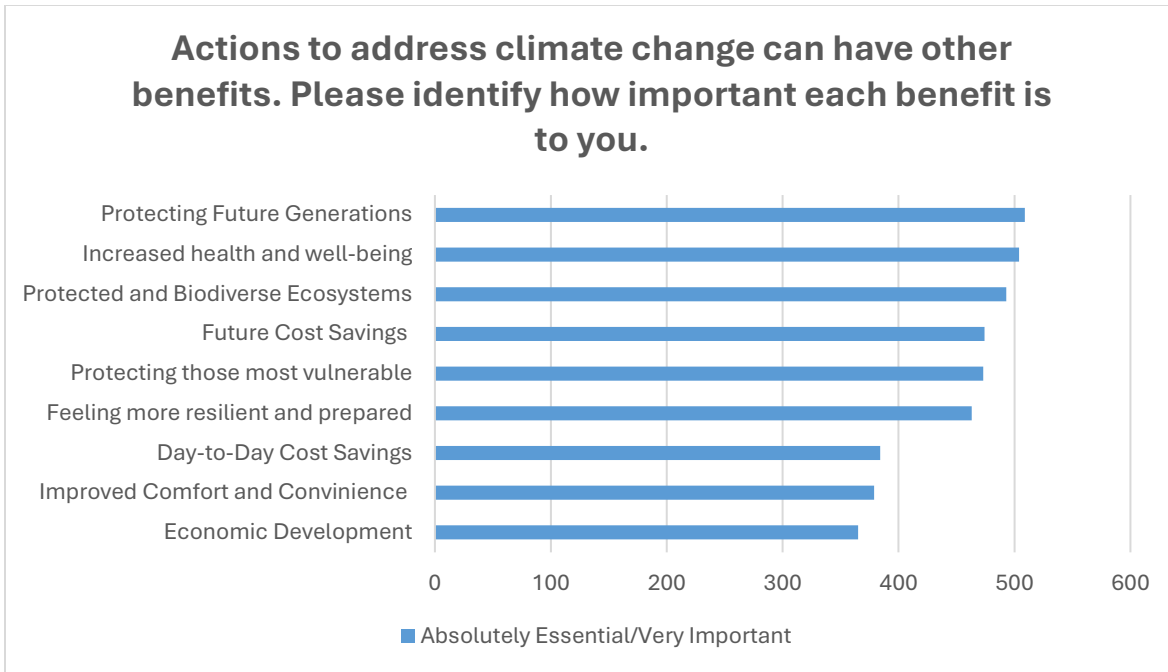


Figure 17. Importance of climate action co-benefits from survey responses

3.4.3 Personal Experiences with Climate Change

Respondents were asked about their personal experiences with climate-related impacts and risks (Figure 17). Over the past five years, the most commonly experienced impacts were disruption to normal activities due to extreme heat event or heatwaves (66%); disruption to normal activities due to poor air quality from wildfires (61%); and changes to local biodiversity of wildlife (47%).

The hazards and/or risks of greatest concern were heatwaves and extreme heat events (51%), wildfires and damages from wildfires happening in our community (41%), and poor air quality from wildfires (36%) (Figure 18). The top hazards/risks that were identified in the ‘other’ category included loss of biodiversity and urban forests; social instability and mental health impacts; decreasing water quality and marine life.

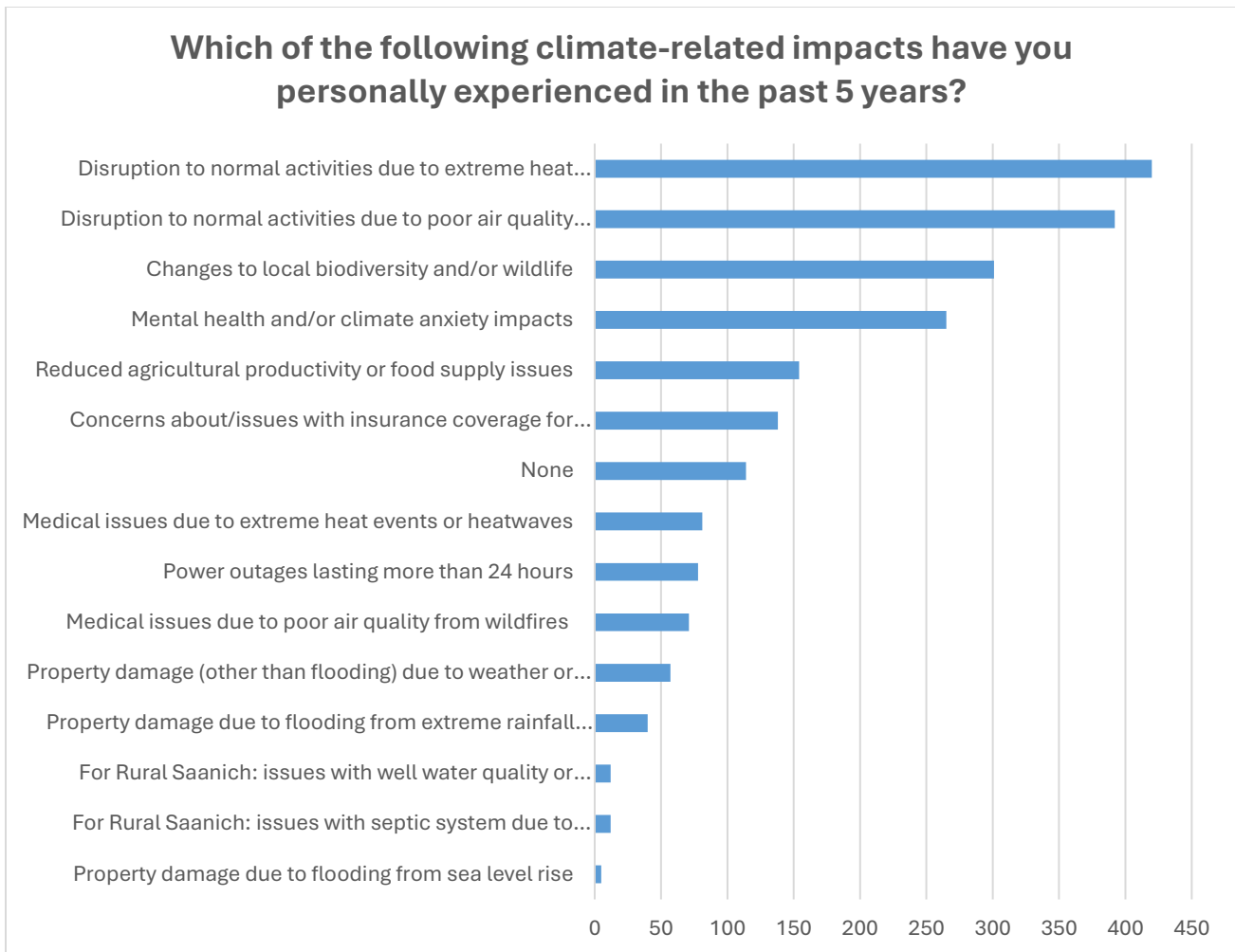


Figure 18. Personal Experience with climate-related impacts from survey results

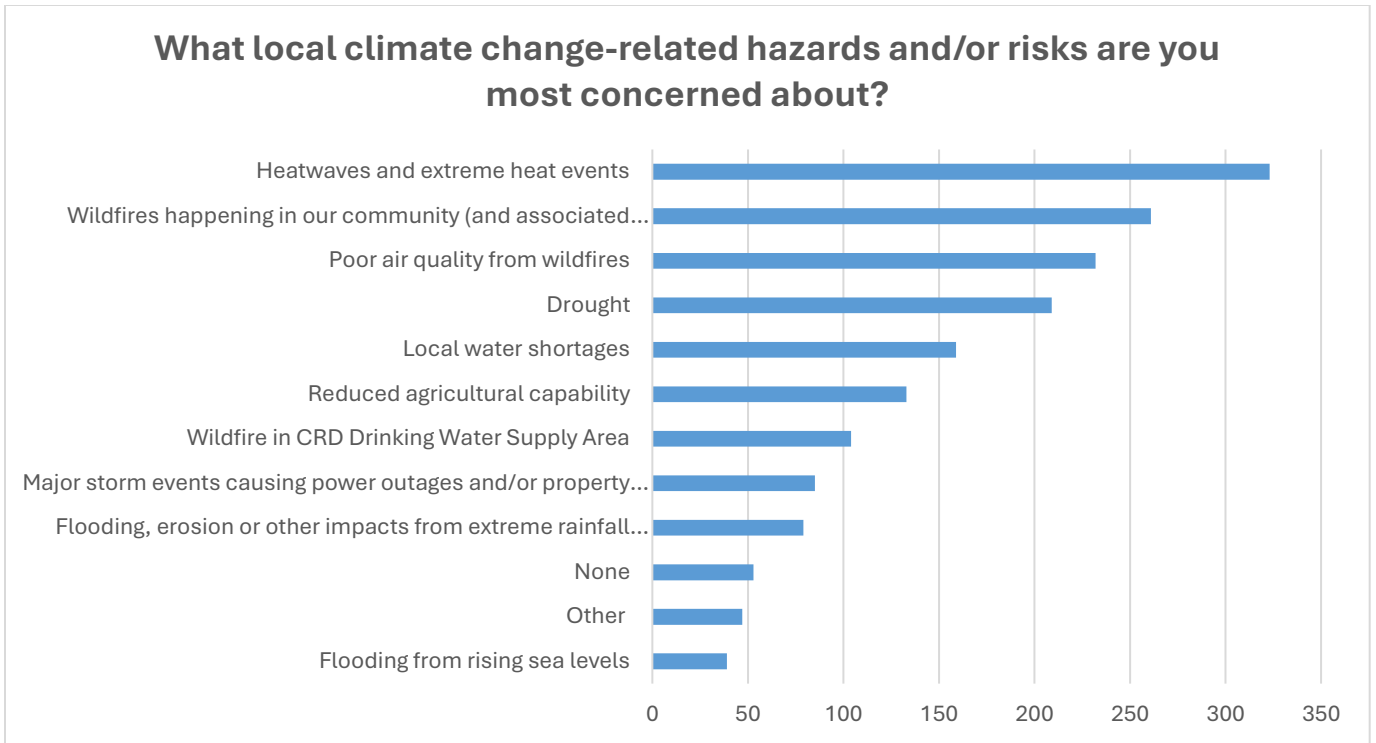


Figure 19. Climate change-related risks and hazards of concern from survey responses

The expenses that have increased for most respondents potentially due to climate-related factors, include food costs (70%), home or property insurance (54%) and utility bill expenses (48%) (Figure 19).

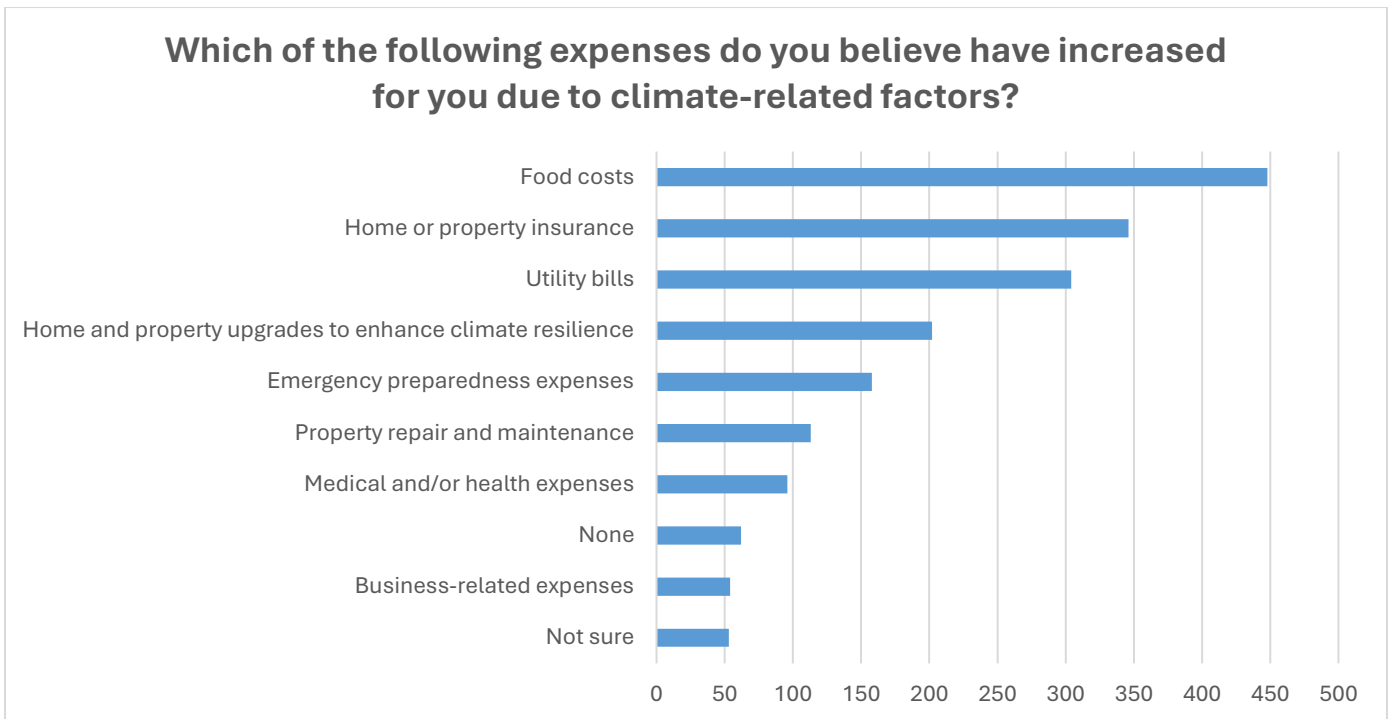


Figure 20: Expenses increasing due to climate-related factors from survey responses

3.4.4 Survey Questions on Transportation

When asked for their primary mode of transportation (Figure 20), individual driving was the most common mode of transportation (44%), followed by walking or wheelchair (16%) and public transit (16%). When aggregating the categories, there is a relatively equal split between primary transportation modes by motor vehicle (49%) (e.g., individual driving, carpooling, taxi, etc.) vs. transportation by public transit or active transport (51%).

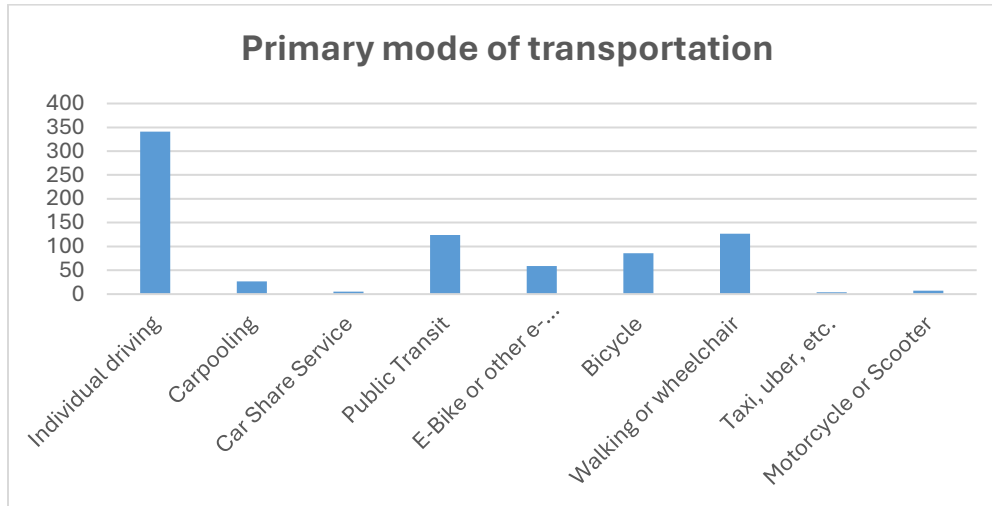


Figure 21. Primary transportation modes from survey responses

When asked what would help respondents choose active modes of transportation more often higher frequency buses (47%), free transit fare (37%) and more protected bike lanes (33%) and more/different bus routes (33%) were the top responses (Figure 21).

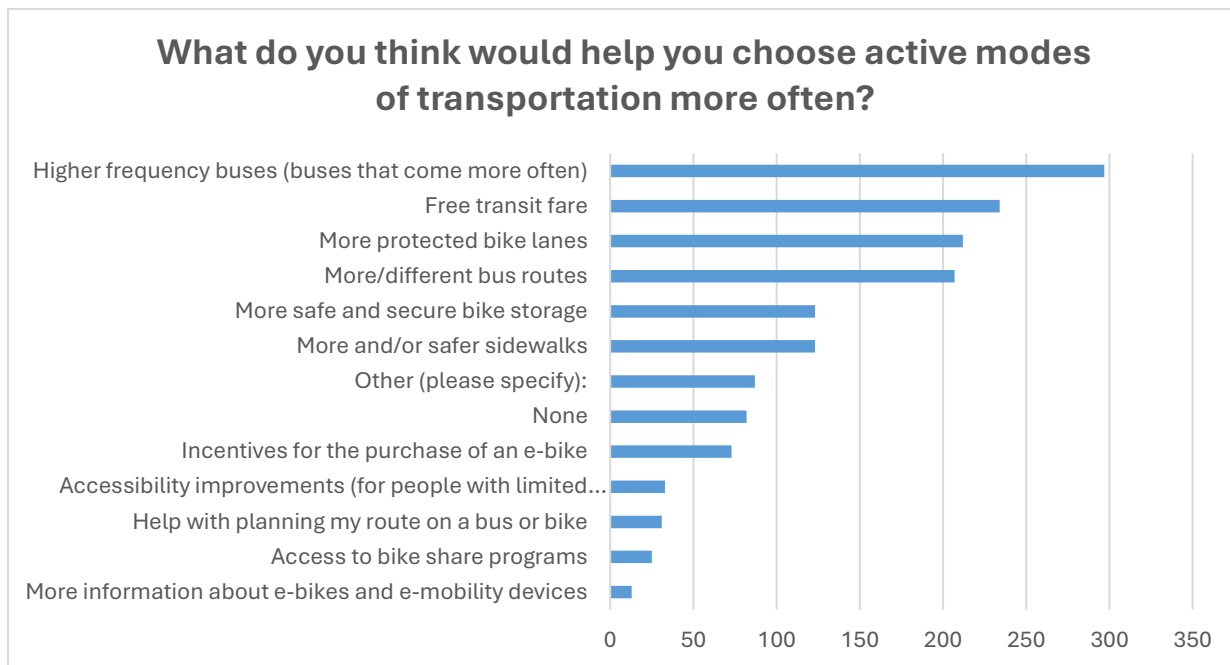


Figure 22. Actions that would help choose active transportation from survey responses

37% of respondents that planned to purchase a vehicle in the future indicated that their next vehicle was either very likely or likely to be an electric vehicle (EV). For those interested in purchasing an EV, purchase incentives (53%), higher performance in battery life and range (45%) and more public charging infrastructure (37%) were the main answers that would help respondents to choose an EV (Figure 22).

66% of respondents indicated that they did not currently own an e-bike or e-mobility device, 24% already own one and 10% were interested in purchasing one (Figure 23). The most impactful options for helping people choose an e-bike or e-mobility device were purchase incentives (39%), and more availability and convenience of end-of-trip infrastructure (e.g. secure bike storage, charging stations, etc.) (33%), as shown in Figure 23.

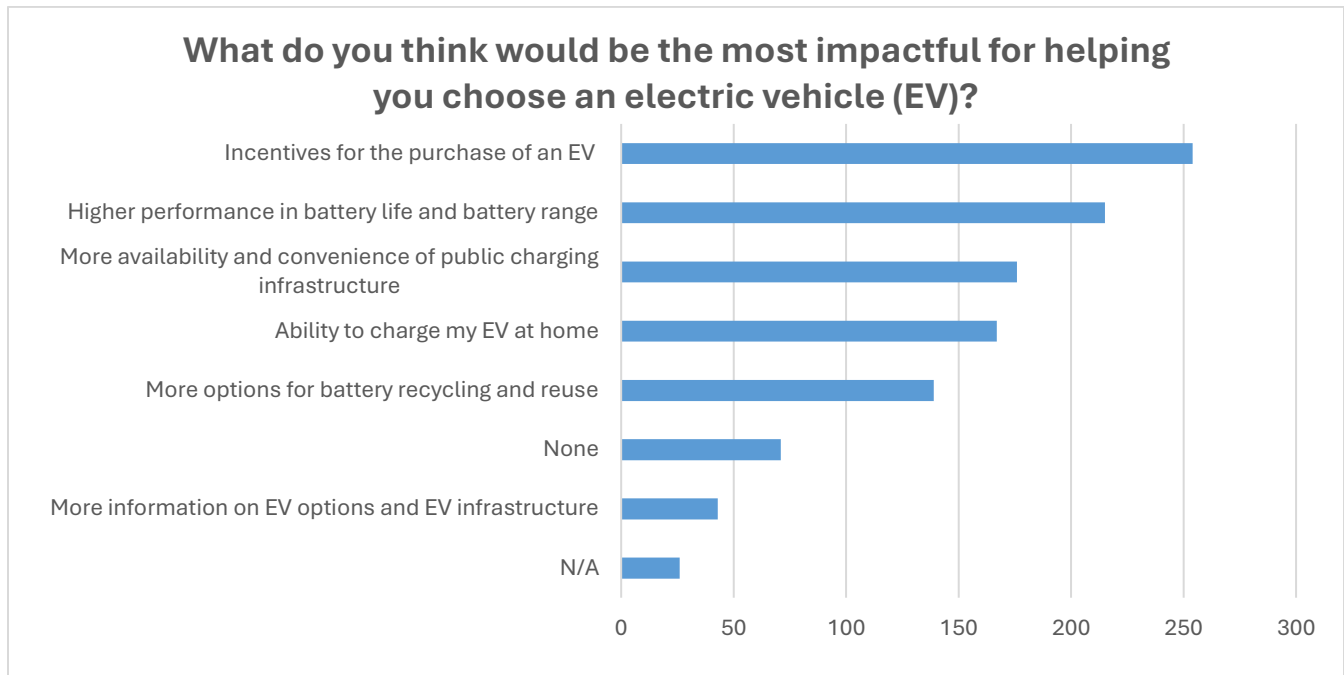


Figure 23. Priority supports for EV purchase from survey responses

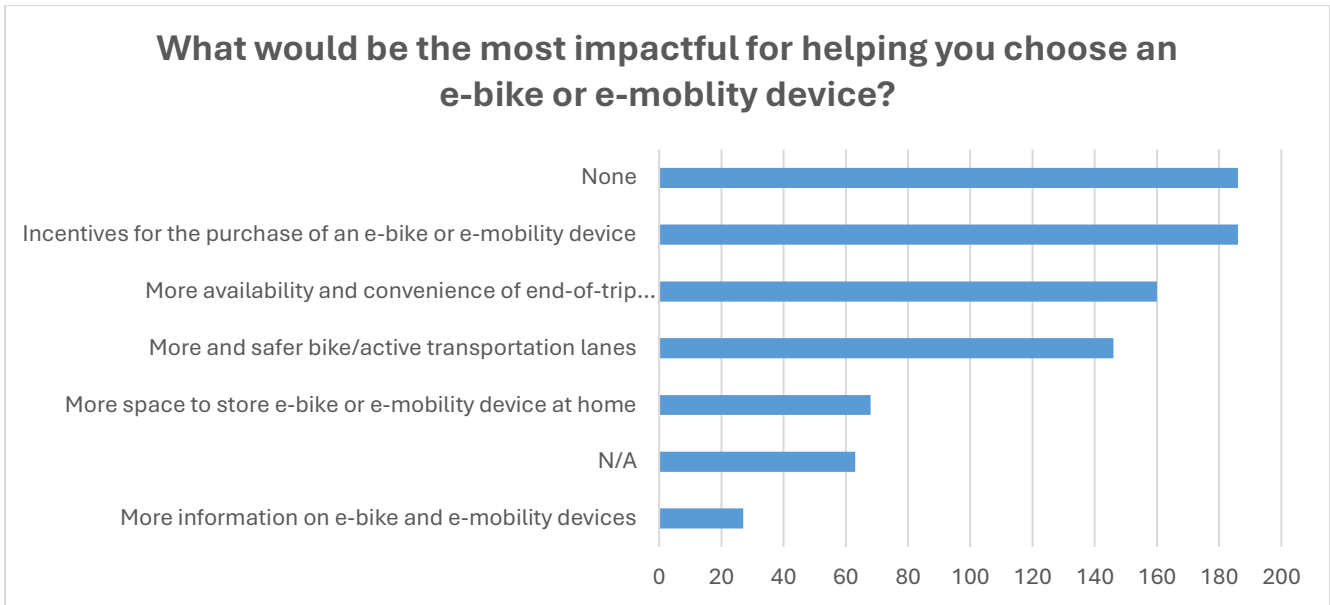


Figure 24. Priority supports for e-bike or e-mobility device from survey responses

3.4.5 Survey Questions on Buildings and Infrastructure

Most respondents (445, 70%) were Saanich homeowners, with 164 (26%) indicating they were renters, 20 (3%) ‘other’ (e.g., retirement home, public subsidized housing, precariously housed, etc.), and 10 members (2%) in co-op housing. The most common housing type was single-family dwelling (61%), followed by condo/apartment (15%) and secondary suites (11%).

The survey collected household energy sources by end uses (space heating, domestic hot water, fireplace, cooking, clothes dryer and other ancillary uses). For space heating, electricity (e.g., electric baseboards, electric radiant heating, etc.) was the most common energy source, followed by heat pumps and then natural gas. Respondents also primarily used electricity for water heating and clothes dryers, where natural gas was the most common for fireplaces and cooking.

For those using fossil fuels at home, the survey asked if they would be interested in switching to a renewable energy source, with 27% wanting to switch as soon as possible, or sometime in the future, 10% unsure and 19% not wanting to switch at all (Figure 24). 51% were interested in switching to an electric heat pump for heating and cooling, 26% were still unsure, and 23% were not interested (Figure 25).

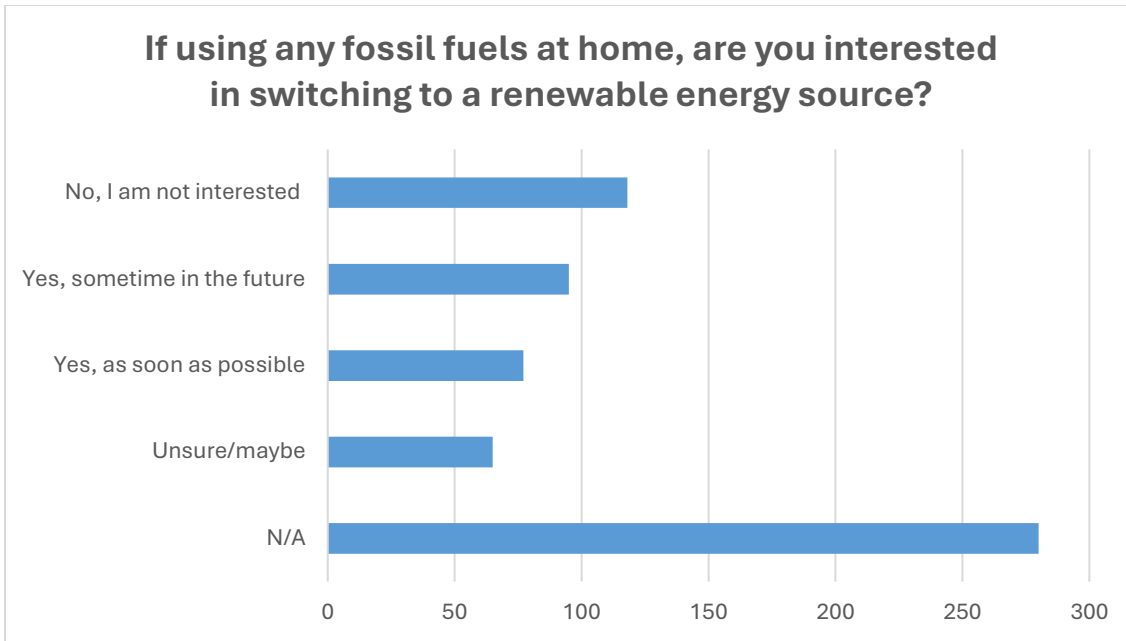


Figure 25. Interest in switching to a renewable energy source from survey responses

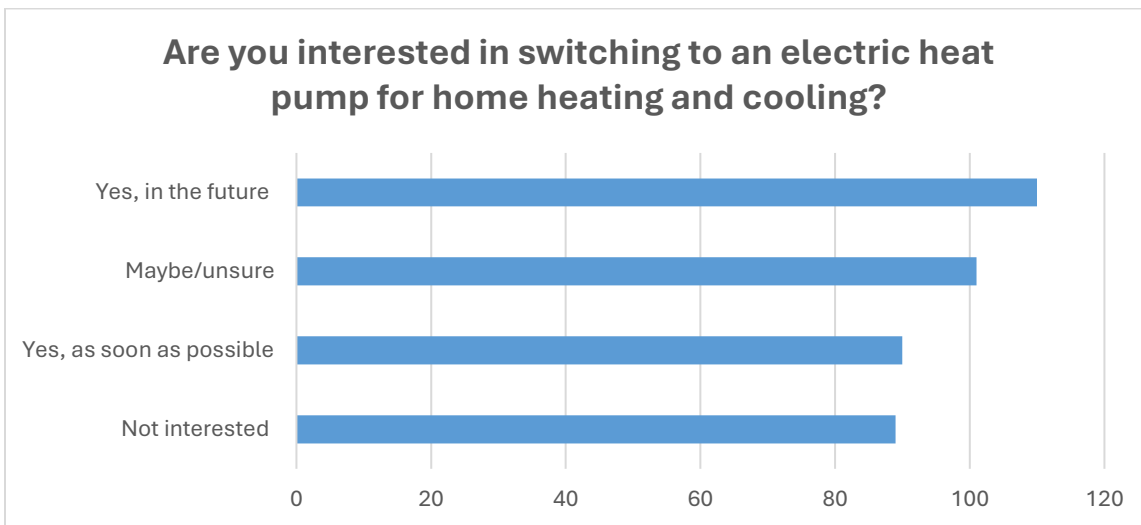


Figure 26. Interest in switching to an electric heat pump from survey responses

When respondents were asked what they think are the most important actions to support climate action for existing buildings in our community, the top responses were rebates and incentives to lower the installation costs of climate-friendly home upgrades (63%), maintaining low hydro-electricity rates (41%), and incentives or support programs focused on energy upgrades for low income or vulnerable households (34%) (Figure 26).

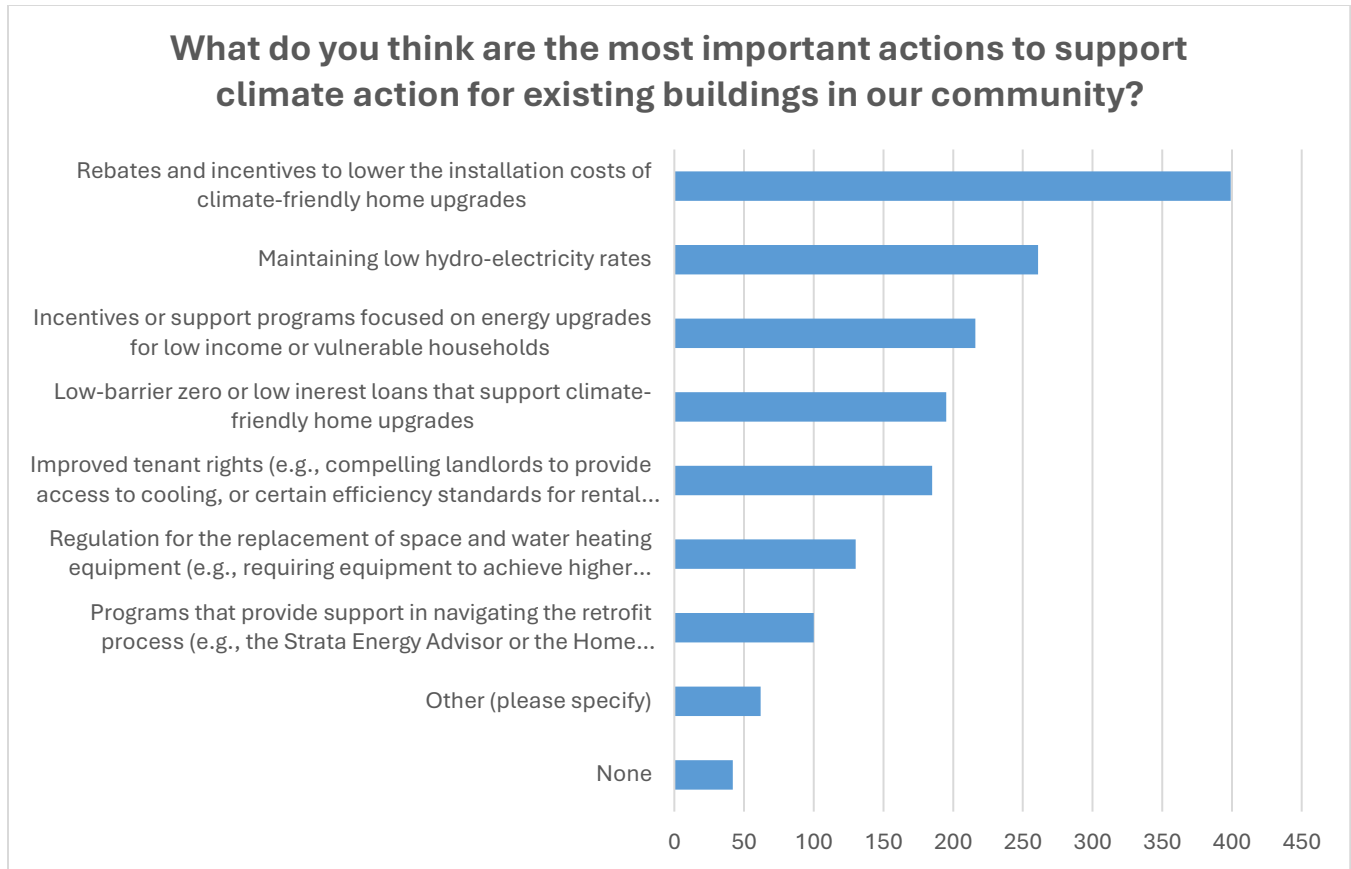
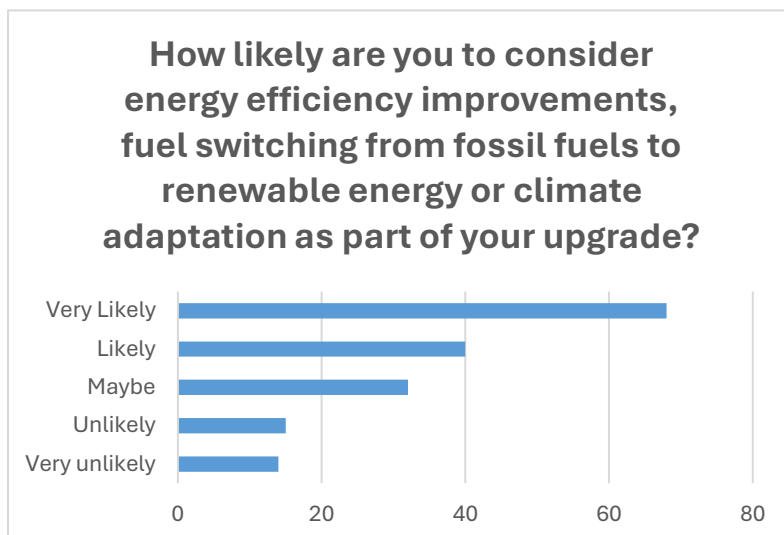


Figure 27. Most important actions to support climate action for existing buildings from survey responses

Homeowners

Homeowners were asked whether they were planning to undertake any home renovations in the next 5 years. Among those planning renovations (37%), the survey asked the likelihood of including energy improvements, fuel switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy or climate adaptation measures. Overall, 65% indicated they are likely or very likely to include one or more of these improvements (Figure 27).



Among those who recently completed upgrades, the most common were window replacements (60%), improved insulation (walls, floors, attic, etc.) (58%) and the switching from fossil fuel heating to a renewable electricity heating system (38%).

Figure 28. Likeliness of climate-friendly building renovations from survey responses

3.4.6 Survey Questions on Food and Consumption

The survey provided respondents with a list of lighter-living and zero waste measures and asked how frequently they participate in each. The top activities that respondents indicate they follow all the time were composting food scraps (27%), using reusable items (bags, to-go cups, containers, etc.) (18%) and reducing food waste (14%). The activities that were followed the least or never included using shared platforms and services (e.g., car shares, tool libraries) (1%), eating a vegetarian or plant-based diet (5%), recycling all eligible materials (6%) and supporting companies that are truly green or have strong sustainability principles and practices (6%).

When asking residents what may prevent them from choosing climate-friendly foods (e.g., plant based or vegetarian foods) instead of meat and dairy, most indicated preference (51%), higher costs (33%) and dietary/health restrictions as the main reasons (19%). Some other reasons residents provided were concerns around intaking enough protein and nutrition and disliking the ingredients in meat alternatives (Figure 28).

Respondents were also asked about the different places they may get their food. The most common ways respondents access food on a weekly basis is by far through the grocery store (63%), followed by growing food at home (14%) and then local farm stands (6%). A higher number of respondents indicated that they purchase from local farm stands (26%) and farm markets (29%) on a seasonal basis (Figure 29).

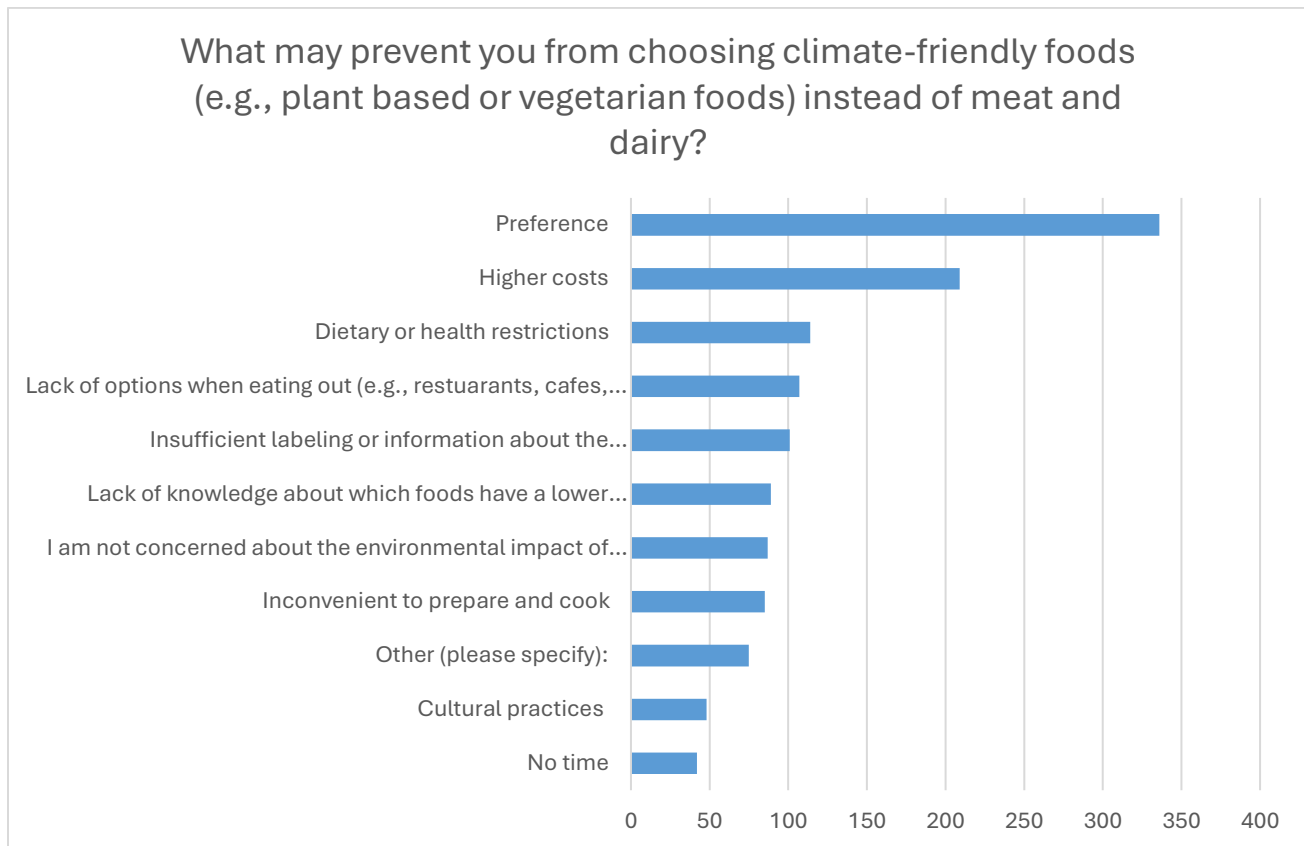


Figure 29. Reasons for consuming meat and dairy from survey responses

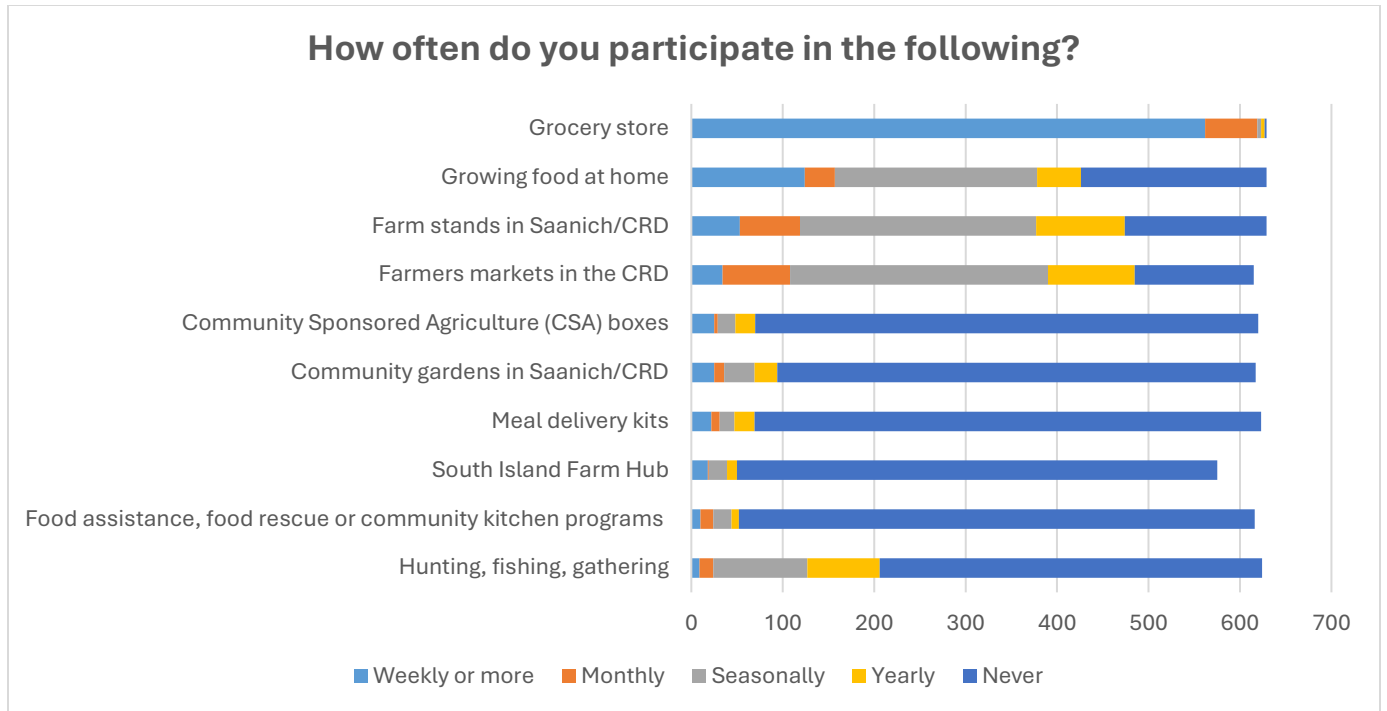


Figure 30. Places respondents access their food from survey responses

3.5 Open-Ended Responses

The survey’s final open-ended question invited additional comments or ideas for the Climate Plan Update. A total of 243 comments were provided. The most common themes are summarized in the table below:

Table 5. Open-ended question responses summarized by theme

Category	Number of responses	Typical Comments Raised
Transportation: Active modes and road space	44	Requests for more protected bike lanes, safer and more continuous active transportation networks; concerns around bike lanes causing congestion, limiting emergency access and acknowledging some people/ jobs largely rely on vehicles
Governance, Budget, Scope	39	Mixed support for accelerating climate action; concerns about increased taxes and value for money; desire to see increased funding related to urban forest and biodiversity; requests to link the Climate Plan to other Saanich Plans and accelerate related plans; some climate change denial
Urban Forest and biodiversity	35	Strong support for wetland, tree and habitat protection; concerns regarding conflicts with

		increased density, development and infill as it reduces impervious areas and urban tree canopy
Transit and Regional Trail	33	Frustration with speed, reliability, safety and coverage of bus system; desire for a regional rail system
Buildings and Energy	30	Support for decarbonization; concerns around affordability, incentives, barriers and utility rates
Education, engagement and equity	28	Desires for more outreach to schools and seniors; requests to improve communications to address climate misinformation

3.6 Landscape Scan - Recommendations for Local Governments

To supplement engagement, staff reviewed published documents from different organizations who conducted engagement and/or identified strategies for climate action that are relevant for Saanich.

The following documents were identified through the landscape scan:

- ÁTOL,NEUEL (“Respecting One Another”) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) (2021)
- Tsawout Nation Consultation Protocol (2024)
- BC First Nations Climate Strategy and Action Plan (2022)
- Assembly of First Nations National Climate Strategy (2023)
- Métis Nation Climate Change Strategy (2024)
- Climate Change, Intersectionality, and GBA+ in British Columbia (2021)
- City of Victoria Adaptation Engagement (2025)
- A Hot Topic: Feeling the Impacts of Extreme Heat (2023)

The following recommendations from the documents above were identified as being relevant to local governments when undertaking climate action:

Indigenous Relations

- Align with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), B.C. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples’ Act (DRIPA), and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) calls to action.
- Support recognition of local First Nations’ rights, history, culture, land codes, marine use laws, etc., and follow proper consultation protocols.
- Recognize and protect the legitimacy of Indigenous Knowledge for responding to the climate crisis.
- Support First-Nations led conservation/restoration efforts.
- Recognize First Nations jurisdiction to access, use, and management of their territories and resources, including food and water sources and medicines, in their own self-determined ways.
- Strengthen emergency management, response, and recovery systems within and between First Nations communities.
- Improve public knowledge and understanding of the societal, cultural, health, and economic consequences of climate change impacts on First Nations.

Provincial Engagement

- Plan through an equity and intersectional lens: maximize co-benefits, build capacity, invest in housing/poverty reduction, use disaggregated data and Indigenous Knowledge, and embed Indigenous health/wellness in adaptation.
- Increase representation of women and equity-deserving groups, deepen engagement with those most at risk, and partner with provincial/NGO organizations.

Local Government Engagement

- Ensure transparent/accountable reporting, map climate risks with socioeconomic indicators to target priority neighbourhoods, and track equity indicators.
- Fund community-led initiatives (including peer emergency networks and micro-grants), deliver equitable financial assistance and green-jobs training, and provide culturally safe, trauma-informed resources.

Academic Engagement

- Extend hours at municipal cooling facilities during heat events, accommodate pets at cooling centers, and include pet emergency planning in all public emergency guidance.
- Resource neighbourhood networks to check on and assist residents during heat, and advocate to the Province for programs that ensure low-income and otherwise disadvantaged households can keep cool at home.

4.0 SUMMARY & NEXT STEPS

The Phase 1 Engagement report will be made available to the public on the climate plan website www.saanich.ca/climateplan.

The findings from the first phase of engagement, including the detailed survey comments, will be used alongside detailed research, data analysis and modelling to inform the development of draft strategies and actions to achieve both the climate targets and to address the projected climate changes for the region. These draft strategies and actions will form the basis of a second phase of engagement in Spring 2026.

APPENDIX A: KEY STAKEHOLDER LIST

The following table provides a list of stakeholders considered as part of the Climate Plan development. This list may be expanded as the plan is further developed and it should be noted that different stakeholders are engaged at different levels of the IAP2 spectrum. Local First Nations are rights holders and were also contacted as described in the main part of the document.

Key Stakeholders	
Saanich Council, Committees & Corporation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District of Saanich Council Sustainability & Climate Action Advisory Committee 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accessibility & Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Advisory Committee
Other Governments and Health Institutions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CRD staff Provincial Government staff Other regional municipalities as required 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vancouver Island Health Authority Victoria Foundation BC Healthy Communities
Educational Institutions	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Camosun College One Planet Saanich Schools Royal Roads University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School District 61 and 63 University of Victoria Youth Climate Corps BC
Community Members and Organizations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General Public and Residents Community Social Planning Council of Greater Victoria Greater Victoria Acting Together for the Common Good (GVAT) One Planet Saanich 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saanich Community Associations Saanich Community Association Network (SCAN) Cadboro Bay Village Business Improvement Association Gordon Point Estates Residents' Association
Environmental Agencies	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bear Hill Elk Lake Community Coalition Friends of Bowker Creek Society Friends of Glencoe Cove Friends of Harriet Road Friends of Tod Creek Watershed The Land Conservancy Victoria Natural History Society Ancient Forest Alliance 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mount Douglas Park Society MyClimate Plan Rithet's Bog Conservation Society Saanich Legacy Foundation Sierra Club BC
Economic Development Agencies & Business	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater Victoria Chamber of Commerce 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vancouver Island Economic Alliance

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism Victoria (Greater Victoria Visitors and Convention Bureau) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vancouver Island Technology Park • Synergy Foundation
Food and Agriculture	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Region Food & Agriculture Initiative Roundtable • Haliburton Farm 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lifecycles • South Vancouver Island Farmers' Institute • Victoria Compost Education Centre
Transportation	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Bike • BC Transit 	

APPENDIX B: CLIMATE PLAN SURVEY



Saanich Climate Plan Survey

This survey can be returned in person to the reception desk at the following locations:

- 4636 Elk Lake Drive (Saanich Commonwealth Place)
- 3220 Cedar Hill Road (Cedar Hill Recreation Centre)
- 770 Vernon Ave (Municipal Hall)

Or by mail to:

District of Saanich - Sustainability
1- 3350 Douglas St.
Victoria, BC, V8Z 3L1

This survey should take approximately 10 minutes, and you can enter to win a \$500 gift card to your bike store of choice (within the CRD), \$100 gift card to Aunty Collective; or 1 of 3 \$40 gift cards to Big Wheel Burger.

Most of the actions from the 2020 Climate Plan have now been completed or are well underway. We have made significant progress towards our goals, including a 19% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from our 2007 baseline. An updated Climate Plan will confirm what actions we need to get us to our 2030 and 2050 goals, while accounting for major changes in global and local contexts, including more extreme weather events, a housing and affordability crisis, and increasing political and economic uncertainty.

An updated Climate Plan will address both:

- Climate change mitigation (reducing our GHG emissions), and
- Climate change adaptation (being prepared and resilient to climate impacts) in our community.

The Plan will also focus on opportunities to improve the various co-benefits of climate action, including affordability, green jobs, mental and physical wellbeing, environmental health, and quality of life.

Your input will be used to help us inform the updated Climate Plan and identify the actions necessary to help us achieve our climate goals.

To learn more visit saanich.ca/climateplan.



Participation in this survey is voluntary, and a response is encouraged, not required. IP addresses collected by SimpleSurvey and other information collected will be stored on SimpleSurvey's servers located within Canada. It is not the District's intention to collect personal information, so please do not provide any third-party information (i.e. talk about others) and/or any personally identifiable information about yourself in your responses.

Your information is being collected for the purpose of engagement for developing the updated Saanich Climate Plan and supporting strategies and is authorized under the Local Government Act, Community Charter and sections 26(c),(e) of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act. Questions about privacy can be directed to the District of Saanich Privacy Officer at 770 Vernon Ave, Victoria BC, V8W 2W7, 250-475-1775, foi@saanich.ca.

For more information, please contact sustainability@saanich.ca.

Do you consent to these terms? Yes

If you checked yes, move on to the next question.

General Climate Action

Climate change is caused by greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, mainly from burning fossil fuels (i.e., natural gas, oil, propane, diesel and gasoline). Climate action includes reducing our impact on the climate (mitigation) and preparing for climate changes that are already occurring or will occur (adaptation). See saanich.ca/climateprogress to learn more.

1. How concerned are you about climate change? (choose one)

- Extremely concerned
- Very concerned
- Moderately concerned
- Slightly concerned
- Not at all concerned

2. How important is it to you that Saanich take action to reduce GHG emissions in municipal operations and in the community? (choose one)

- Extremely important
- Very important
- Moderately important
- Slightly important
- Not at all important



3. Have you seen or used the Saanich Climate Calculator and/or Saanich Resident's Climate Action Guidebook? Access

Yes

No

4. Actions to address climate change can have other benefits. Please identify how important each benefit is to you.

	Absolutely Essential	Very Important	Of Average Importance	Of Little Importance	Not Important at All
Increased health and well-being (e.g., cleaner air, improved mental/physical health)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Day-to-day cost savings (e.g, cheaper at home heating bills)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Future cost savings (e.g., avoiding the high cost of climate-induced damage by preparing today)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Improved comfort and convenience (e.g., a cool home during a heat wave)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Economic development (e.g, green jobs)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feeling more resilient and prepared (e.g., stronger food systems, emergency preparedness)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protected and biodiverse ecosystems	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting future generations	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Protecting those most vulnerable	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Are there any other benefits that are important to you? (optional):

Climate Adaptation

Climate modeling for the Capital Region predicts that we will experience more extreme weather events such as increasingly hotter days and more heatwaves, with less snowfall in the cold months and less rain in the summer months, and more intense rainfall events. These changes will lead to a growing risk of wildfire, flooding, drought, sea level rise and smoke within the region.

5. Which of the following climate-related impacts have you personally experienced in the past 5 years? (check all that apply)

- Disruption to normal activities due to extreme heat events or heatwaves
- Medical issues due to extreme heat events or heatwaves
- Disruption to normal activities due to poor air quality from wildfires
- Medical issues due to poor air quality from wildfires
- Mental health and/or climate anxiety impacts
- Property damage due to flooding from extreme rainfall events
- Property damage due to flooding from sea level rise
- Property damage (other than flooding) due to weather or storm events
- Power outages lasting more than 24 hours
- Concerns about/issues with insurance coverage for climate-related damage
- Changes to local biodiversity and/or wildlife
- Reduced agricultural productivity or food supply issues
- For Rural Saanich: issues with septic system due to precipitation changes
- For Rural Saanich: issues with well water quality or availability due to precipitation changes
- None

6. What local climate change-related hazards and/or risks are you most concerned about? (choose up to three)

- Heatwaves and extreme heat events
- Wildfires happening in our community (and associated damage)
- Poor air quality from wildfires
- Wildfire in CRD Drinking Water Supply Area
- Flooding, erosion or other impacts from extreme rainfall events
- Flooding from rising sea levels



- Major storm events causing power outages and/or property damage
- Drought
- Local water shortages
- Reduced agricultural capability
- None
- Other (please specify):

7. Which of the following expenses do you believe have increased for you due to climate-related factors? (check all that apply)

- Food costs
- Utility bills
- Home or property insurance
- Property repair and maintenance
- Home and property upgrades to enhance climate resilience
- Medical and/or health expenses
- Business-related expenses
- Emergency preparedness expenses
- Not sure
- None

Transportation

Transportation is the largest source of community-wide GHG emissions in Saanich. The majority of these come from the use of personal vehicles. To learn more read the Mobility Chapter (pg. 12-16) of our 2024 Climate Plan Report Card (saanich.ca/climateprogress).

8. Please indicate how frequently you use each of the following modes of transportation:

	Primarily	Secondarily	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Individual driving	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Carpooling	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Car share service (e.g., Modo, Evo)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public transit	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
E-bike or other e-mobility device	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Bicycle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Walking or wheelchair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



	Primarily	Secondarily	Sometimes	Rarely	Never
Taxi, uber, etc.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Motorcycle or scooter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

9. What do you think would help you choose active modes of transportation more often?
(choose up to three)

- Higher frequency buses (buses that come more often)
- Free transit fare
- More/different bus routes
- More protected bike lanes
- More and/or safer sidewalks
- Incentives for the purchase of an e-bike
- More information about e-bikes and e-mobility devices
- More safe and secure bike storage
- Access to bike share programs
- Accessibility improvements (for people with limited mobility)
- Help with planning my route on a bus or bike
- None
- Other (please specify):

10. If you plan to purchase a future vehicle, how likely is it that your next vehicle will be electric?

- Very likely
- Likely
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely
- Unsure
- I do not plan on purchasing a vehicle - **skip to question 12**
- I already own an electric vehicle - **skip to question 12**

11. What do you think would be the most impactful for helping you choose an electric vehicle (EV)? (choose up to three)

- Incentives for the purchase of an EV
- More availability and convenience of public charging infrastructure
- Ability to charge my EV at home
- Higher performance in battery life and battery range



- More information on EV options and EV infrastructure
- More options for battery recycling and reuse
- None
- N/A

12. Do you own an e-bike or e-mobility device (e.g., electric kick scooter)

- Yes, for my own use **-skip to question 14**
- Yes, shared with friends/family **-skip to question 14**
- I plan to buy one in the future
- No

13. What would be the most impactful for helping you choose an e-bike or e-mobility device?
(choose up to three)

- Incentives for the purchase of an e-bike or e-mobility device
- More and safer bike/active transportation lanes
- More availability and convenience of end-of-trip infrastructure (e.g., secure bike storage, charging stations, etc.)
- More space to store e-bike or e-mobility device at home
- More information on e-bike and e-mobility devices
- None
- N/A



Buildings

Buildings are the second greatest source of community-wide greenhouse gas emissions in Saanich. BC Hydro's electricity is mainly sourced from hydro power which is renewable; this means a climate-friendly home is an energy efficient, all-electric home. Read the Buildings and Infrastructure Chapter (pg. 17-20) of our 2024 Climate Plan Report Card (saanich.ca/climateprogress).

14. What kinds of energy does your home use for the following:

	Electricity	Electric Heat Pump	Natural Gas	Wood	Propane	Heating Oil	Other	Not sure	N/A
Main heating system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Secondary heating system	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Fireplace	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Water heating	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Cooking (e.g., stove, bbq)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Clothes dryer	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Ancillary uses (hot tub, swimming pool, patio heating, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Please specify 'other' above or if you have multiple fuel types for any of the above uses (optional):



15. If using any fossil fuels at home (i.e., natural gas, heating oil and/or propane), are you interested in switching to a renewable energy source (electricity from BC hydro - e.g., electric heat pump, electric hot water tank, electric stove)?

- Yes, as soon as possible
- Yes, sometime in the future
- No, I am not interested
- Unsure/maybe
- N/A

Only answer question 16 if you use natural gas at home.

16. Are you concerned about the potential health impacts from natural gas in the home?

- Yes, very concerned
- Yes, somewhat concerned
- No, not concerned
- Maybe/unsure
- N/A

Only answer question 17 if you do not have an electric heat pump at home.

17. Are you interested in switching to an electric heat pump for home heating and cooling?

- Yes, as soon as possible
- Yes, in the future
- Not interested
- Maybe/unsure

18. I live in a:

- Single-family dwelling
- Secondary suite, includes laneway-, garden-, basement-, or upstairs- suite
- Houseplex (i.e. attached housing) with 6 units or less (e.g., duplex, fourplex, townhouse)
- Townhouse or strata housing complex with 6 units or more
- Condo/apartment
- Mobile home/moveable dwelling
- Other

19. Do you rent or own a home?

- Rent - **skip to question 23**
- Own – **go to question 20**



- Member in co-op housing - **skip to question 23**
- Other (e.g., retirement home, public subsidized housing, precariously housed, etc.) – **skip to question 23**

20. Are you planning any home renovations within the next 5 years?

- Yes – **skip to question 22**
- No – **skip to question 23**
- I have recently completed home renovations – **go to question 21**

21. Did you complete any of the following climate-friendly home upgrades?

- Switched from fossil fuel heating to a renewable electricity heating system
- Switched to a renewable electricity hot water heating system
- Electrical panel upgrades
- Removal of a fossil fuel heating system (e.g., oil tank)
- Improved insulation (walls, floors, attic, etc.)
- Window upgrades
- Installation of solar panels or other renewable electricity
- Other (please specify):

Go to question 23

22. How likely are you to consider energy efficiency improvements, fuel switching from fossil fuels to renewable energy (e.g., natural gas furnace to heat pump) or climate adaptation as part of your upgrade?

- Very Likely
- Likely
- Maybe
- Unlikely
- Very unlikely

23. What do you think are the most important actions to support climate action for existing buildings in our community? (choose up to three)

- Rebates and incentives to lower the installation costs of climate-friendly home upgrades
- Low-barrier zero or low interest loans that support climate-friendly home upgrades
- Improved tenant rights (e.g., compelling landlords to provide access to cooling, or certain efficiency standards for rental homes)
- Programs that provide support in navigating the retrofit process (e.g., the Strata Energy Advisor or the Home Energy Navigator)
- Maintaining low hydro-electricity rates



- Regulation for the replacement of space and water heating equipment (e.g., requiring equipment to achieve higher levels of efficiency or lower emissions)
- Incentives or support programs focused on energy upgrades for low income or vulnerable households
- None
- Other (please specify):

Food and Consumption

Food, material goods, and waste account for a significant portion of Saanich's greenhouse gas emissions. To reduce our emissions in this area, we need to embrace 'lighter living' such as switching to plant-based diets and reducing our waste and consumption. To learn more, read the Food & Materials Chapter (pg. 21-23) of our 2024 Climate Plan Report Card.

24. Which of the following 'lighter living' and zero waste measures do you take?

	All the time	Frequently	Occasionally	Rarely	Never	N/A
Eating a vegetarian or plant-based diet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Purchasing second-hand goods and/or participating in item swaps (e.g., clothing swaps, book exchanges)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Repairing or repurposing old items	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using shared platforms and services (e.g., car shares, tool libraries)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reducing food waste	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Using reusable items (bags, to-go cups, containers, etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Avoiding single-use items	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Composting food scraps	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recycling all eligible materials	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Supporting companies that are truly green or have strong sustainability principles and practices	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Please specify 'other' above (optional):

25. What may prevent you from choosing climate-friendly foods (e.g., plant based or vegetarian foods) instead of meat and dairy? (check all that apply)

- Preference
- Dietary or health restrictions
- Cultural practices
- Lack of knowledge about which foods have a lower climate impact
- Inconvenient to prepare and cook
- Insufficient labeling or information about the environmental impact of products
- Lack of options when eating out (e.g., restaurants, cafes, quick-service establishments, etc.)
- Higher costs
- No time
- I am not concerned about the environmental impact of my food
- Other (please specify):

26. How often do you participate in or visit the following:

	Weekly or more	Monthly	Seasonally	Yearly	Never
Farm stands in Saanich/CRD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Farmers markets in the CRD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Grocery store	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hunting, fishing, gathering	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community Sponsored Agriculture (CSA) boxes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Community gardens in Saanich/CRD	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
South Island Farm Hub	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Food assistance, food rescue or community kitchen programs (e.g., Mustard Seed, Saanich Neighbourhood Place)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Growing food at home	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Meal delivery kits	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



27. I am a resident of Saanich

- Yes
- No, I live elsewhere in Greater Victoria – **skip to question 29**
- No, I live outside Greater Victoria – **skip to question 29**

28. What area of Saanich do you live in?

- Blenkinsop
- Cadboro Bay
- Carey
- Cordova Bay
- Gordon Head
- Quadra
- North Quadra
- Royal Oak
- Rural Saanich
- Saanich Core
- Shelbourne
- Tillicum
- Not sure

Go to question 30

29. Do you regularly (e.g., more than once a month) visit Saanich for other reasons (e.g., work, school, recreation, visiting friends and family, errands, etc.)

- Yes
- No

30. My age is:

- 15-25
- 26-35
- 36-45
- 46-55
- 56-65
- 66 and up
- Prefer not to say

My gender is:

- Woman
- Man



- Non-binary
- Other
- Prefer not to answer

My identity includes:

- Indigenous
- Visible Minority
- Newcomer or immigrant
- Person with disability
- 2SLGBTQ+
- None of the above
- Prefer not to say

Which of the following best describes your household's total income last year (before tax)?

- 0 to less than \$25,000
- \$25,000 to less than \$50,000
- \$50,000 to less than \$75,000
- \$75,000 to less than \$100,000
- \$100,000 to less than \$150,000
- Over \$150,000
- Prefer not to answer

Including yourself, what is the total number of people living in your house (adults + children)?

- 1-2
- 3-4
- 5-6
- 7-8
- 9+



Do you have any other ideas or comments for the Climate Plan Update?

Please email sustainability@saanich.ca with your name and email to be entered into the prize draw.

APPENDIX C: CLIMATE PLAN SURVEY RESULTS

Find the Detailed Phase 1 Survey Results at

https://www.saanich.ca/assets/Community/Documents/Planning/sustainability/Climate_Plan_Update_Survey_Results_2025.pdf?639010947245530000