

South Bethany Tidal Resiliency Survey Results

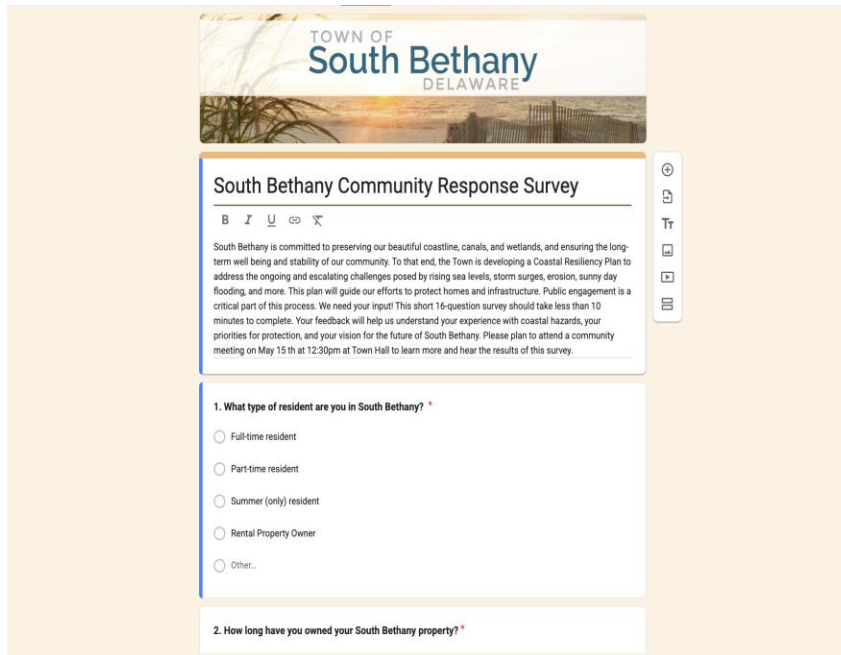
University of Delaware
Institute for Public Administration

Background Research

- We looked into a variety of past coastal planning and research conducted in South Bethany to determine common issues:
 - Poor flood management capacities
 - Water quality issues in the canals
 - Beach and Dune Erosion
- GMB: Resiliency Implementation produced in 2023
 - Utilized recommendations from this report to form survey questions regarding potential policy plans



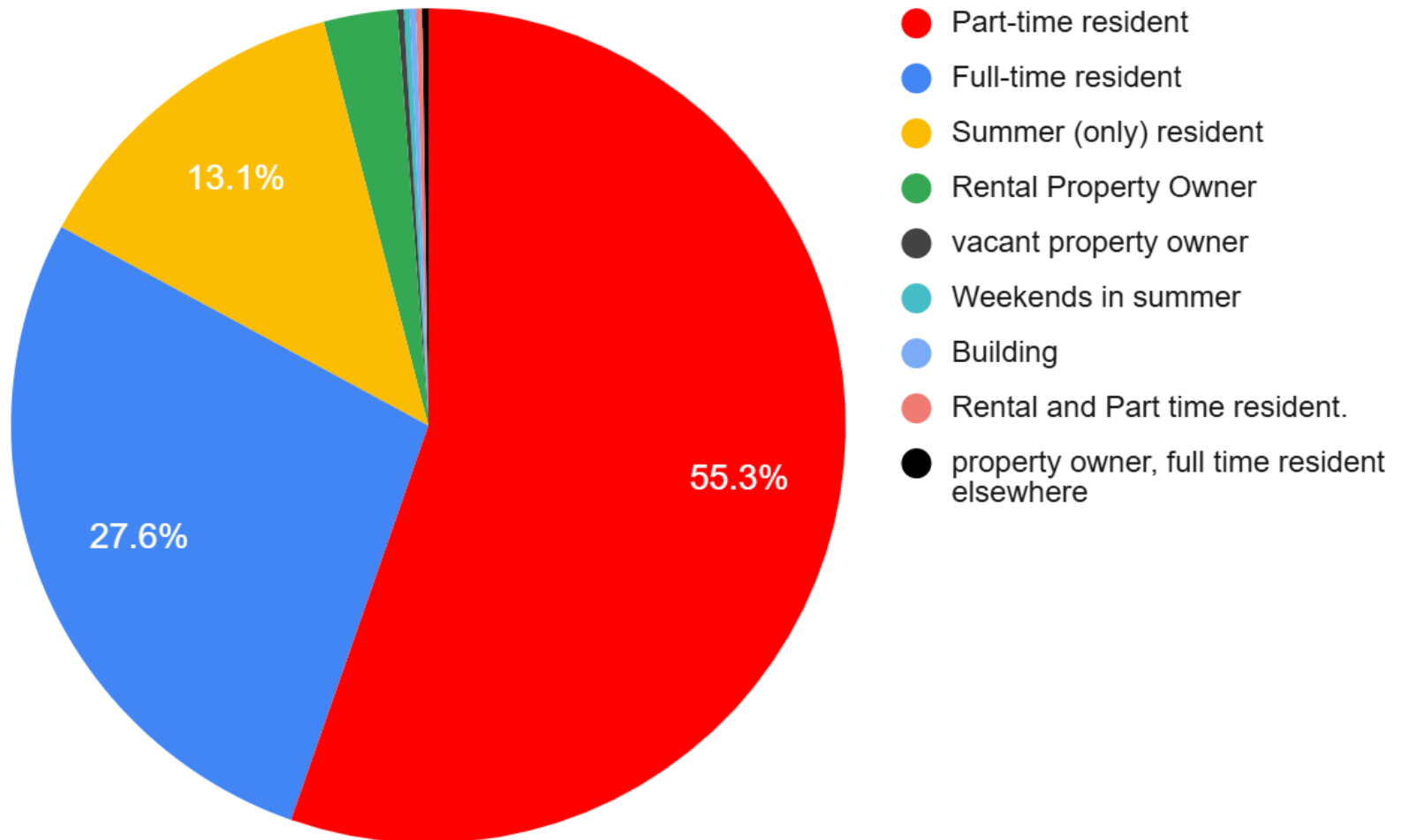
Survey Overview



The screenshot shows a web-based survey form for the Town of South Bethany, Delaware. The header features the town's name and a scenic image of the coastline. The survey title is "South Bethany Community Response Survey". Below the title is a brief introduction explaining the town's commitment to coastal resilience and the purpose of the survey. The first question is "1. What type of resident are you in South Bethany?" with radio button options: Full-time resident, Part-time resident, Summer (only) resident, Rental Property Owner, and Other... The second question is "2. How long have you owned your South Bethany property?".

- As of April 30th, the Survey received 292 responses (more responses have been received since then)
- Survey gathered:
 - Basic geographical information about resident
 - Opinions on potential policy plans for the community based on a 1 (Do not use this strategy) to 5 (I would encourage use of this strategy)
- **The goal of the survey:** Gain an understanding of what the South Bethany Community would like to accomplish through a new Coastal Resiliency Plan

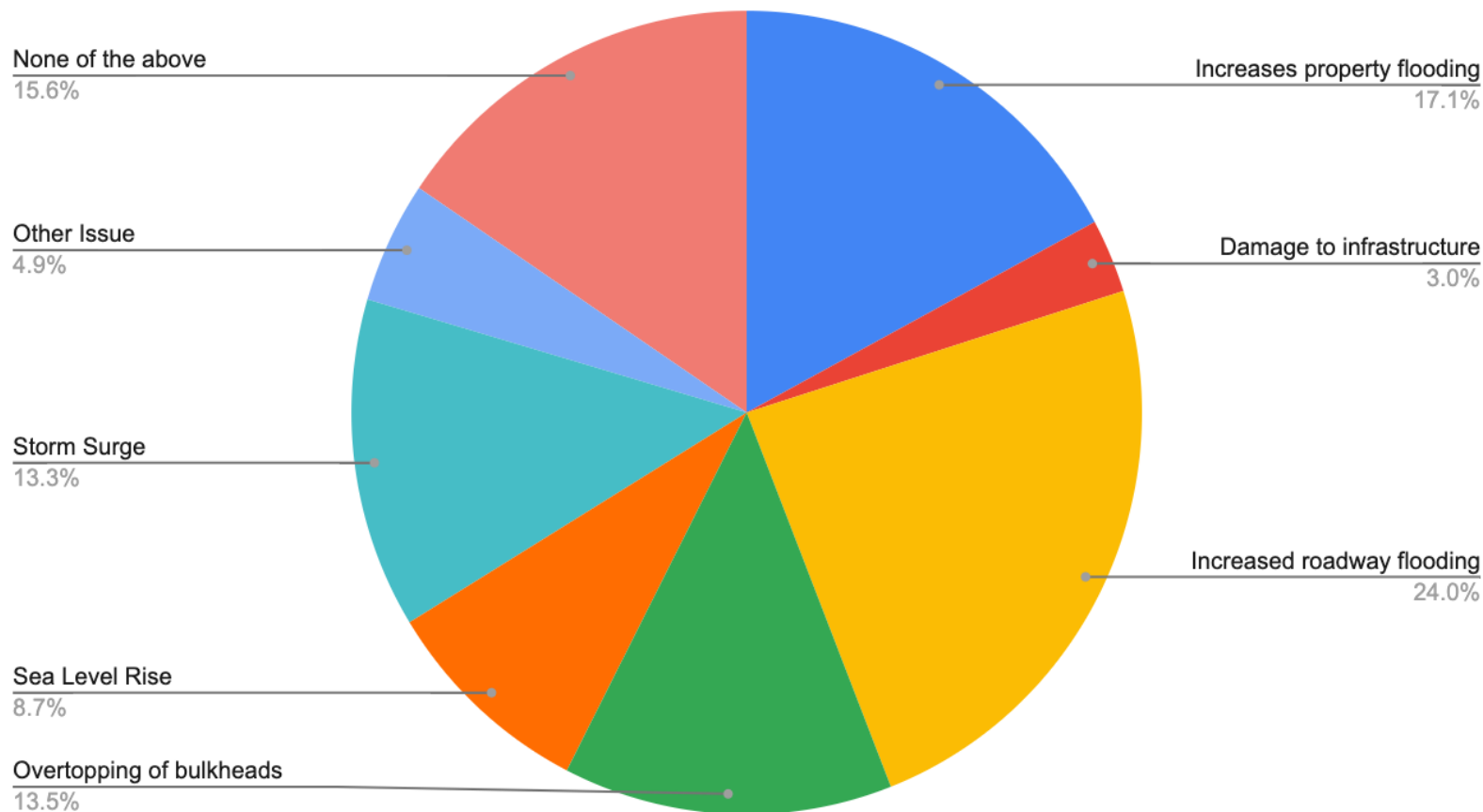
Survey Respondents: Resident Type NEW



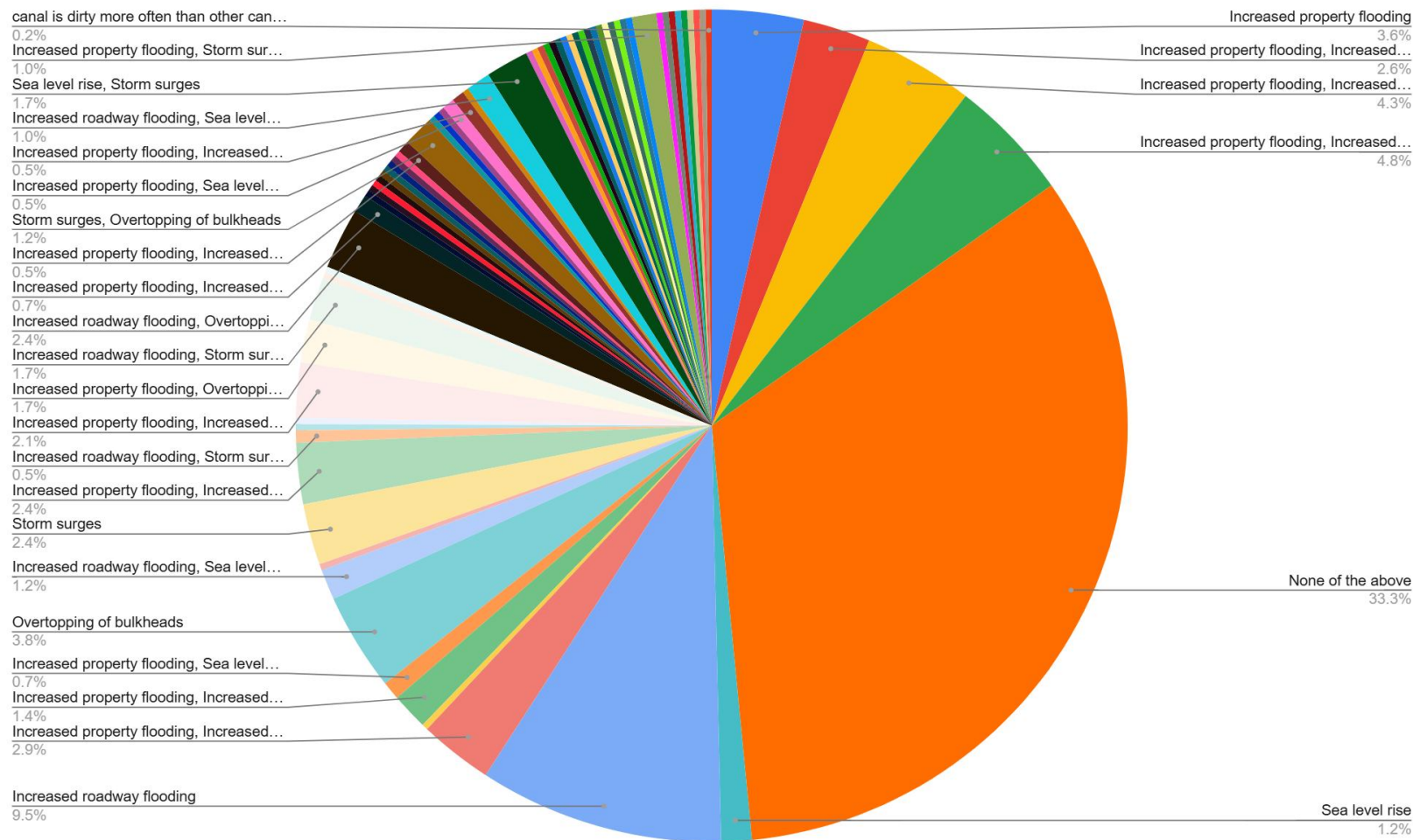
Survey Respondents: Resident Type NEW

1. What type of resident are you in South Bethany?		
	0	
Building	1	0.24%
Full-time resident	116	27.55%
Part-time resident	233	55.34%
property owner, full time resident elsewhere	1	0.24%
Rental and Part time resident.	1	0.24%
Rental Property Owner	12	2.85%
Summer (only) resident	55	13.06%
vacant property owner	1	0.24%
Weekends in summer	1	0.24%
Grand Total	421	1

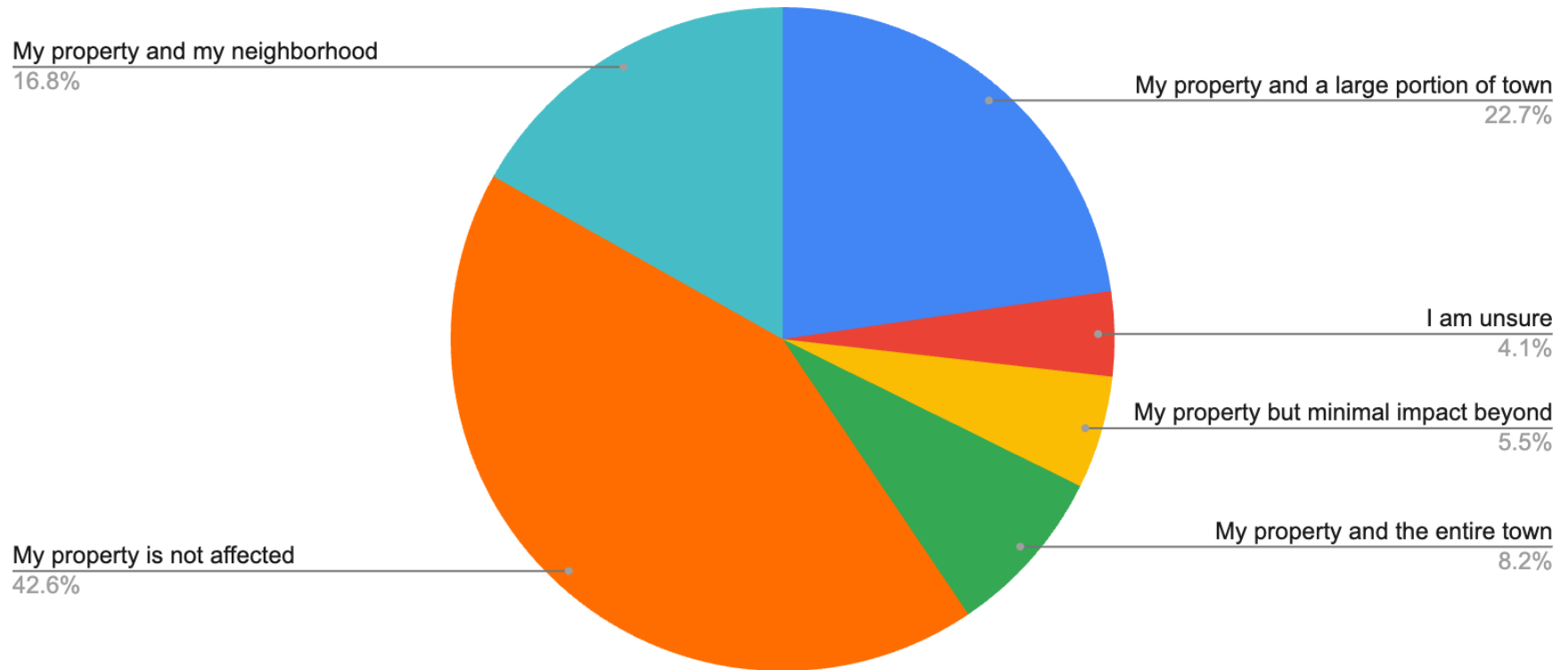
Survey Question 4: What Costal/ Back Bay Issues are you Currently Dealing with? OLD



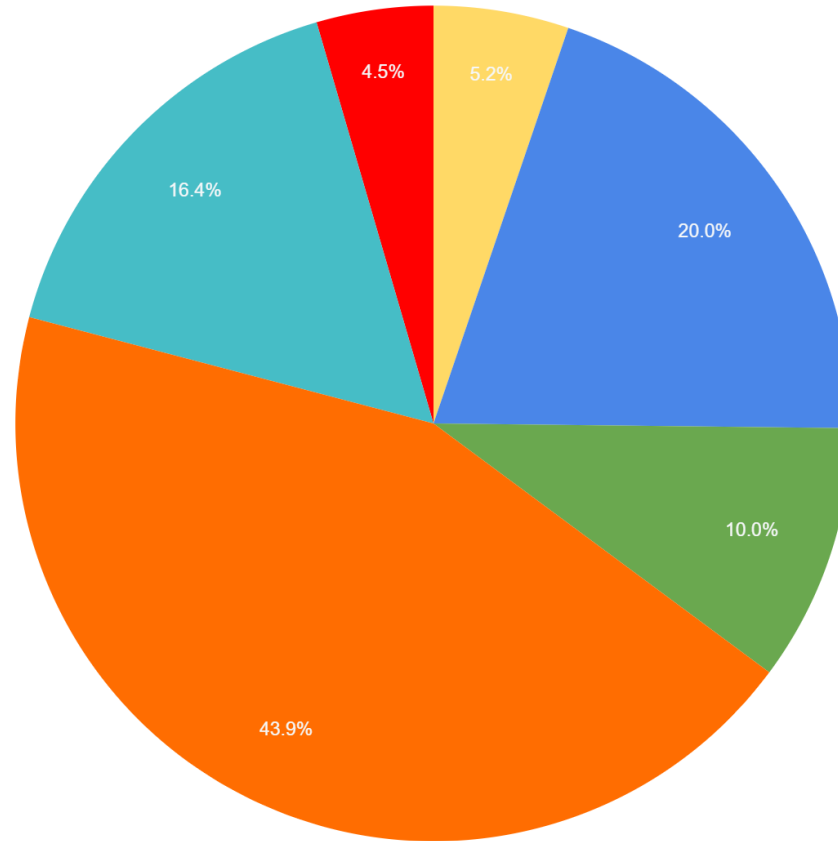
Survey Question 4: What Costal/ Back Bay Issues are you Currently Dealing with? NEW



Survey Question 5: In your Opinion How Much of your property and the town is Affected by these Coastal/ Back Bay Issues?

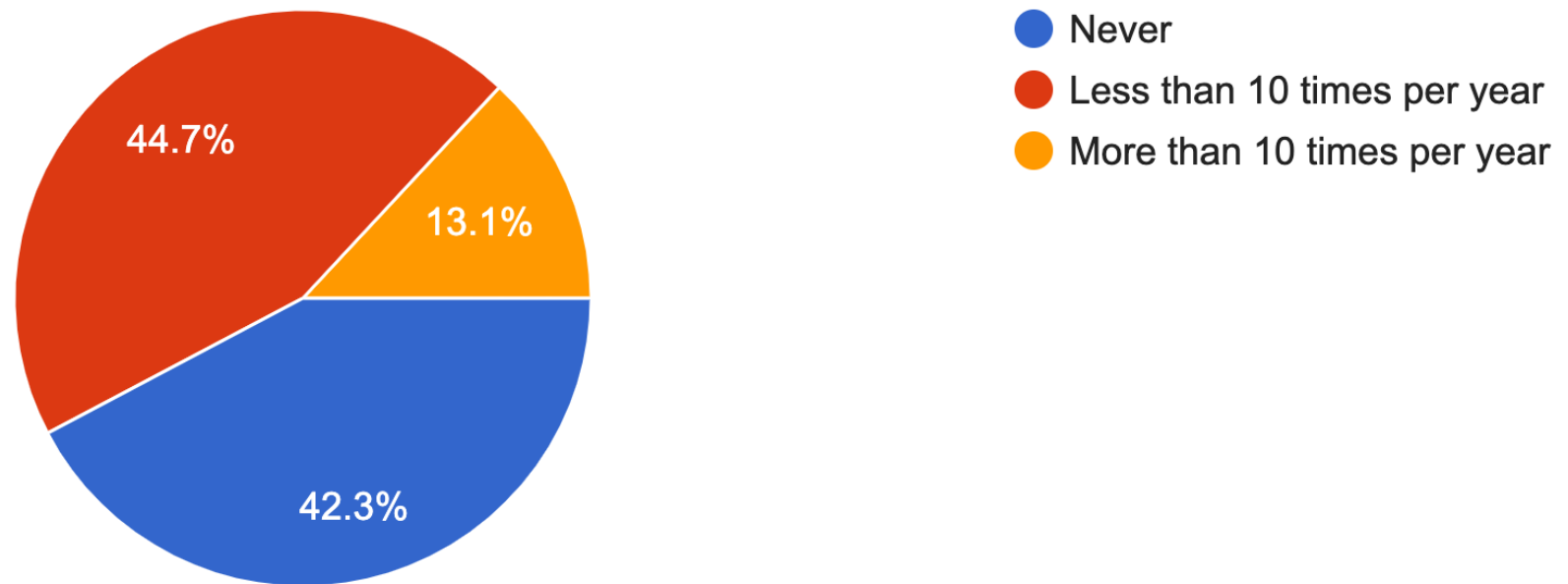


Survey Question 5: In your Opinion How Much of your property and the town is Affected by these Coastal/ Back Bay Issues? NEW

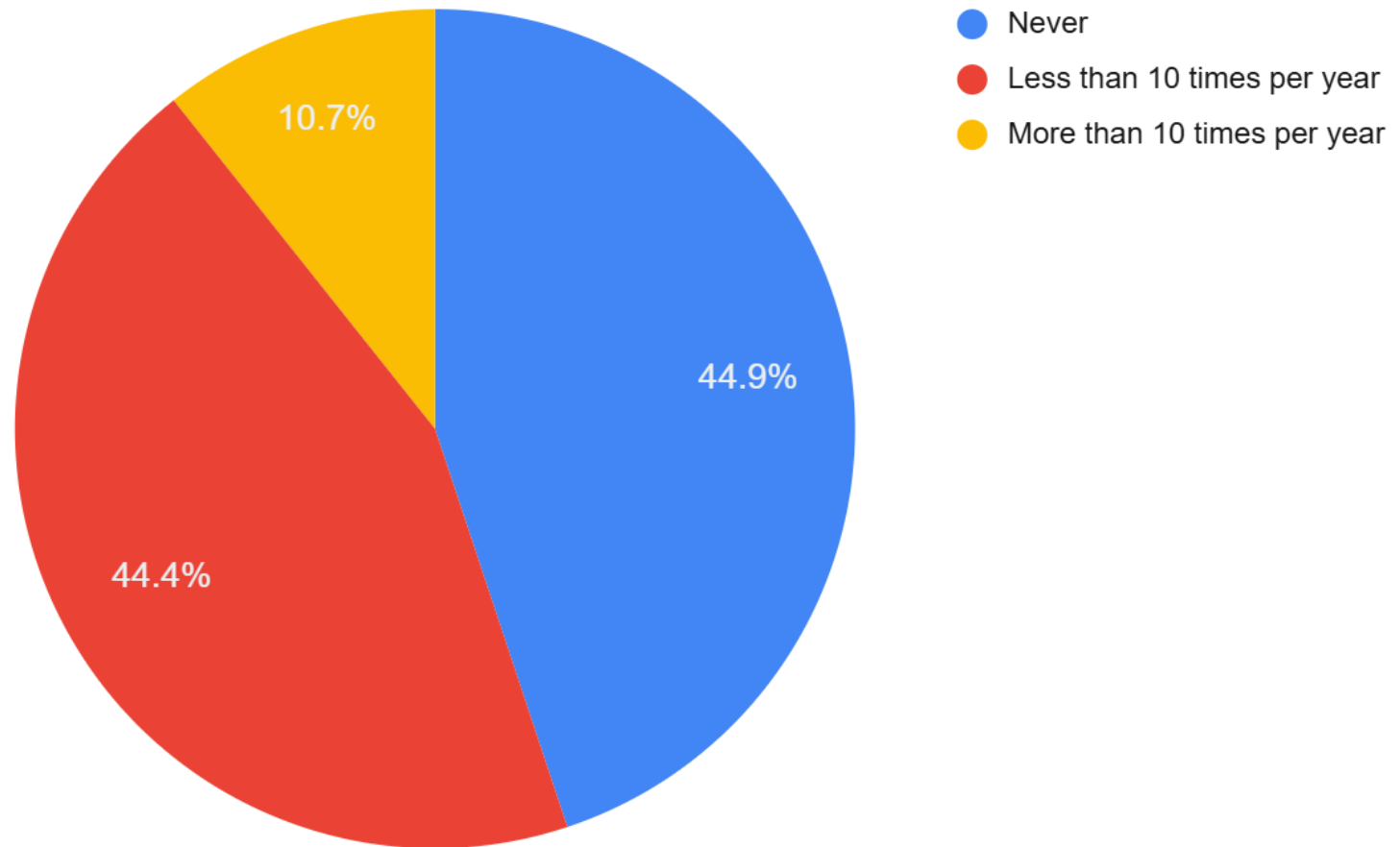


● My property is affected, with minimal impact beyond ● My property is affected, and the impact is affecting a significant portion of town, including my property
● My property is affected, and the issues are affecting the entire town ● My property is not affected but I am aware of the issues ● My property is affected and the impact is widespread in my neighborhood
● I am unsure

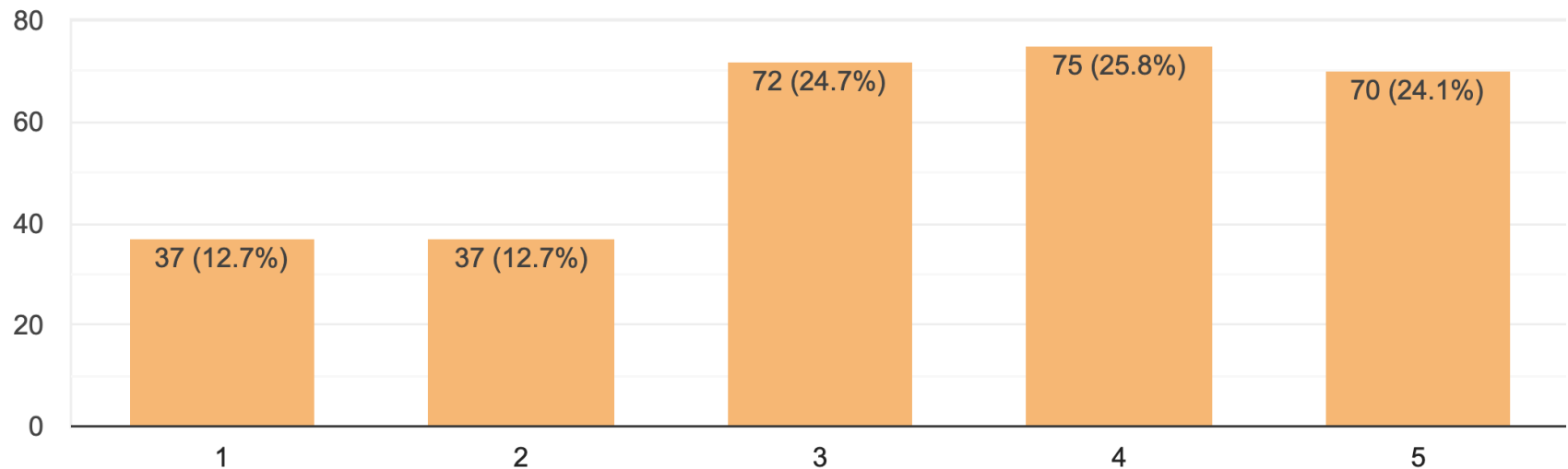
Survey Question 6: How often are you impacted by flooding that impedes roadways or access to your property?



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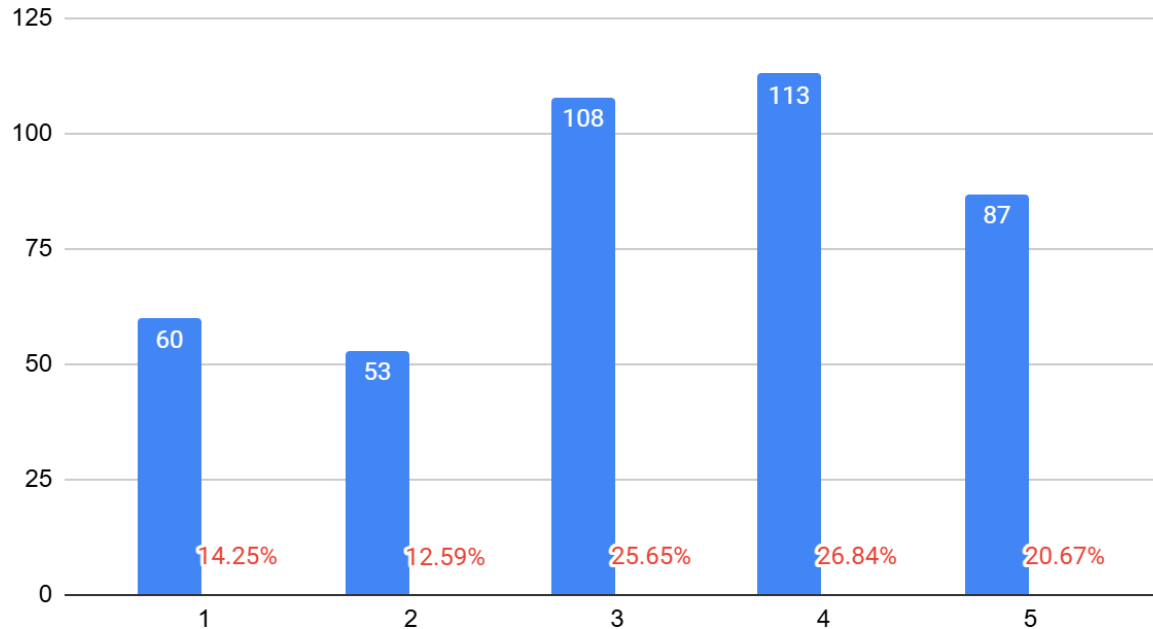
Survey Question 8: On a scale of 1 to 5 how familiar would you say you are with the term "Coastal Resilience"



1 represented "unfamiliar with the term" and 5 represented "very familiar with the term."

*Over **50%** of respondents selected either 4 or 5, demonstrating familiarity with the term coastal resilience.*

Survey Question 8: On a scale of 1 to 5 how familiar would you say you are with the term "Coastal Resilience"?



9. On a scale of 1 to 5 how familiar would you say you are with the term "Coastal Resilience":

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Initiatives Support

To what extent do you support:

- Limiting surfaces on individual lots that do not allow water to infiltrate into the ground (also known as impervious surfaces).
- The creation of a reserve fund that appropriates a portion of town revenue to be used solely for flood mitigation or other resiliency enhancing projects.
- Requiring property owners to incorporate freeboard in new construction or redevelopment.
- Permit owners to raise their bulkheads to a designated height.
- Offering incentives to encourage residents to plant trees, native, and salt tolerant plants on their properties.
- Raising the height of vulnerable roadways.

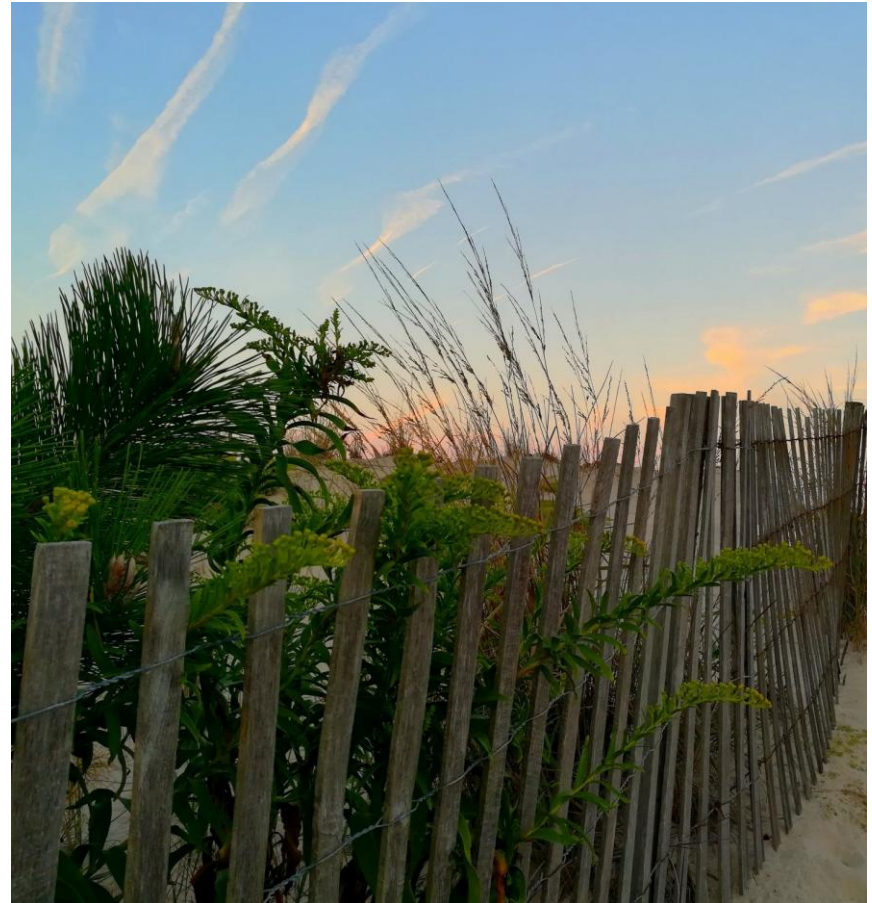
Initiatives Support AVESCORE

To what extent do you support:

- Limiting surfaces on individual lots that do not allow water to infiltrate into the ground (also known as impervious surfaces). 4.14
- The creation of a reserve fund that appropriates a portion of town revenue to be used solely for flood mitigation or other resiliency enhancing projects. 4.08
- Requiring property owners to incorporate freeboard in new construction or redevelopment. 3.98
- Permit owners to raise their bulkheads to a designated height. 3.96
- Offering incentives to encourage residents to plant trees, native, and salt tolerant plants on their properties. 4.07
- Raising the height of vulnerable roadways. 3.71

Initiatives with High Support

- Limiting surfaces on individual lots that do not allow water to infiltrate into the ground (also known as impervious surfaces)
 - 4.14
- The creation of a reserve fund that appropriates a portion of town revenue to be used solely for flood mitigation or other resiliency enhancing projects
 - 4.08
- Offering incentives to encourage residents to plant trees, native, and salt tolerant plants on their properties
 - 4.07



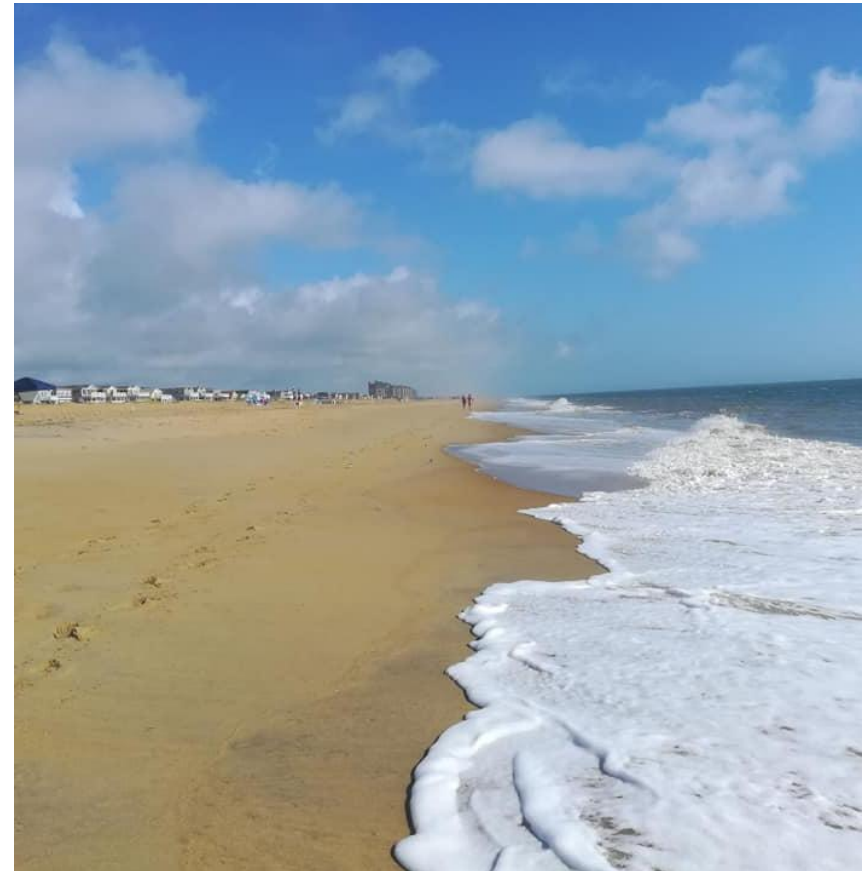
What other resiliency and/or flood prevention methods could be considered?



The more common the answer was listed the larger the response became within the word cloud: Wetland restoration, living shorelines, sea walls, etc. were among the most common responses

Common Themes

- Many agree that property and roadway flooding is a prevalent issue in South Bethany
- Many are for:
 - limiting impervious surfaces
 - planting more trees, native plants, etc.
 - Creation of a town fund to help mitigate flooding
- Common other suggested themes not within the survey:
 - Wetland restoration
 - Sea walls
 - Earthen berms
 - Improvement of Storm drains
- Change is needed!



**Thank you for listening to our
presentation!**

**Any Questions? Comments?
Concerns?**