

SMALLER LAKE ACCOTINK

Preservation Feasibility Study

The Future of Lake Accotink: Study and Engagement Survey

December, 2024



Fairfax County,
Virginia

Project Summary

Background

The Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study is an effort to better understand what is happening within Lake Accotink and in the Accotink Creek that feeds into it, and to identify what actions are feasible to maintain the smaller lake in a sustainable, equitable, and cost-effective manner.

Research Approach

- Fielded an online public survey in Fall 2024.
- Implemented a multi-method outreach approach aimed at reaching as many respondents as possible across Fairfax County:
 - Survey invitation postcards sent to 5,000 addresses.
 - Outreach and sharing to local stakeholders via county social media, and at public events.
 - Full survey translated into Spanish, Korean, and Vietnamese.
- Analyzed data received from 1,503 statistically valid survey responses.

Survey Overview

Fairfax County hired PRR, an independent firm, to lead development, outreach, and analysis of The Future of Lake Accotink: Study and Engagement Survey.

PRR worked with the county to understand the two primary goals of the survey:

1. To gather public input on the proposed Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study scope of work.
2. To improve understandings of public preferences for outreach, information-sharing and gathering feedback as the study progresses.

PRR developed and programmed the survey instrument, advised on outreach strategy and designed materials, analyzed survey data, and compiled this report.

Survey Fielding:

Thursday, September 19 –
Wednesday, October 30, 2024

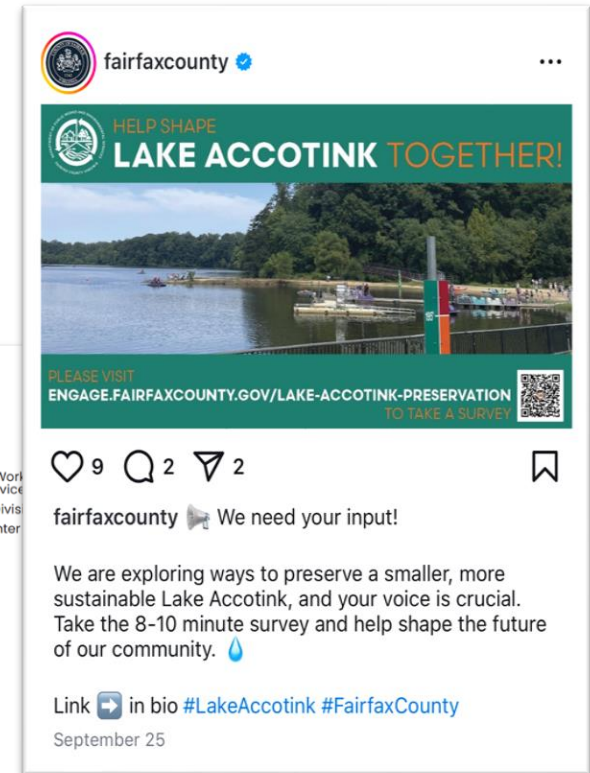
Survey Responses:

1,503 total responses

Outreach and recruitment

The county used several outreach methods to publicize the survey, including:

- Mailing 5000 survey **postcards** to a random sample of county addresses.
 - Oversampled census tracts identified as “high” or “very high” on the Fairfax County Vulnerability Index.
- Posting on **social media** across county platforms.
 - Including: Instagram, X, Nextdoor, Facebook
- **In-person outreach** at:
 - Community Clean-Up Day at Lake Accotink Park
 - Ravensworth Farm Fall Festival.
- Included in **County Supervisor newsletters** and e-mails.
- Posted **signage and flyers** at:
 - Fairfax County Government Center
 - The Lake Accotink Trail
 - County libraries
 - Audrey Moore Rec Center
 - Local apartment complexes



The survey and all materials were available in **English, Korean, Spanish, and Vietnamese.**

A **drawing** for ten \$100 gift cards was included to incentivize participation.

Analysis and Reporting

Data cleaning

- Ensured all included responses answered at least one survey question.
- Checked for spam or bot responses.
- Recoded “other” responses where appropriate.

Quantitative analysis

- Created crosstabs to break out responses by key variables including location, proximity, and scope of work review.
- Calculated pairwise correlations across all variables to detect general patterns using Pearson’s correlation coefficient.

Qualitative analysis

- Applied a grounded approach to thematic analysis to produce summaries of all open-ended questions.
- Reviewed all scope-of-work responses in aggregate to generate a list of topics to include or revisit in the scope.

Reporting

- Used charts to display quantitative responses to all questions.
- Demographic data can be found at the end of the report.

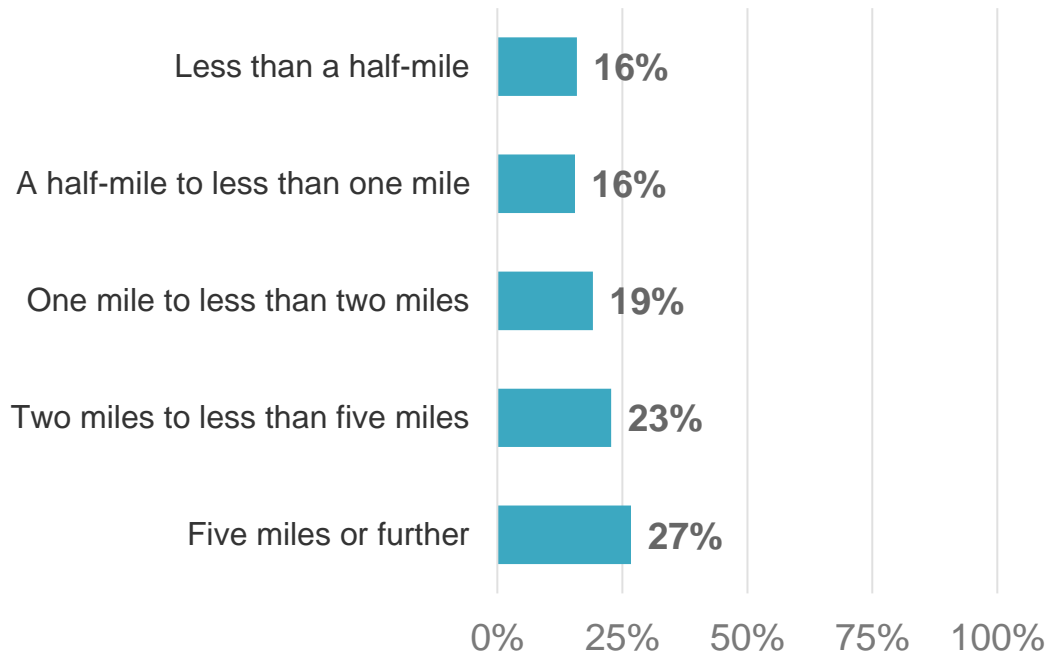
Detailed Findings: Lake Use and Preferences



Half of respondents live within two miles of the lake; more than a quarter live five miles or further.

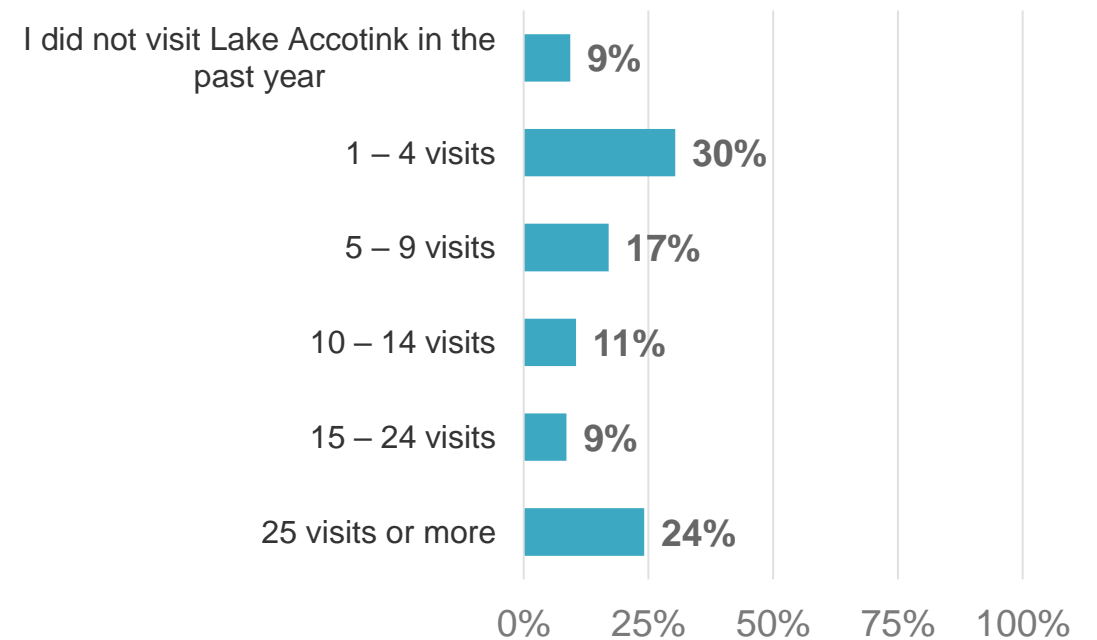
How far do you live from Lake Accotink?

(n = 1,477)

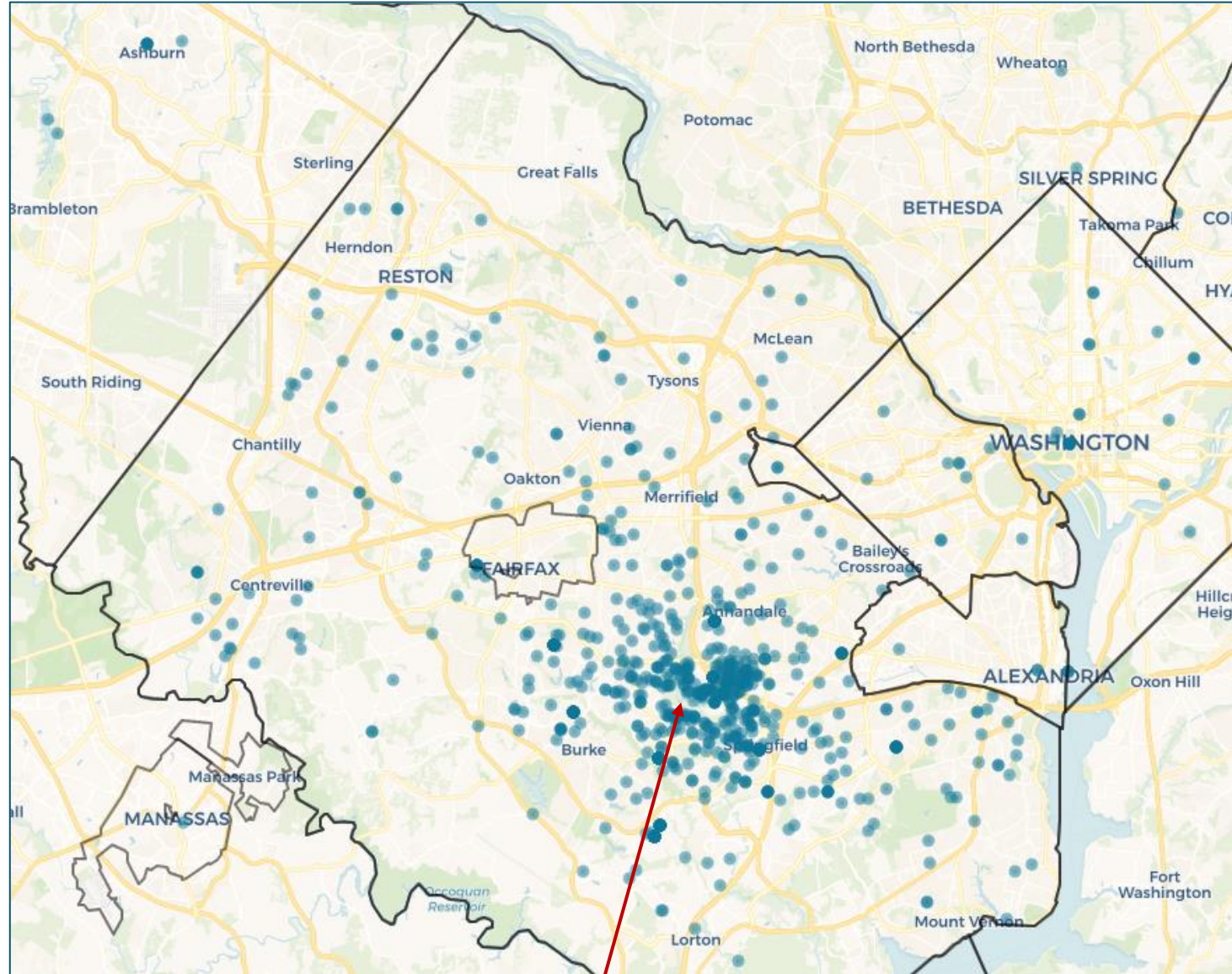
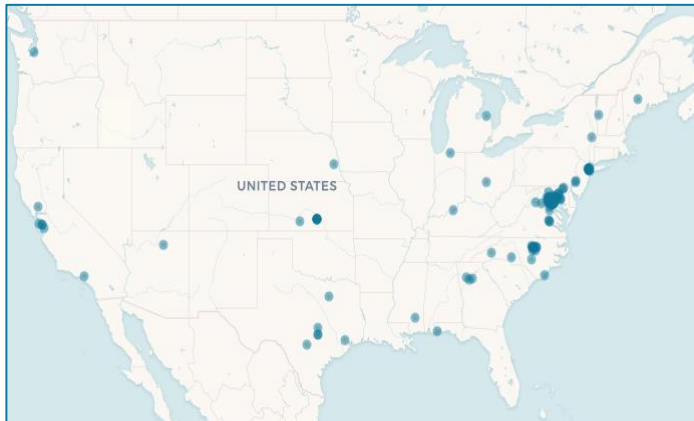


In the past year, how often did you visit Lake Accotink? Your best guess is fine.

(n = 1,466)



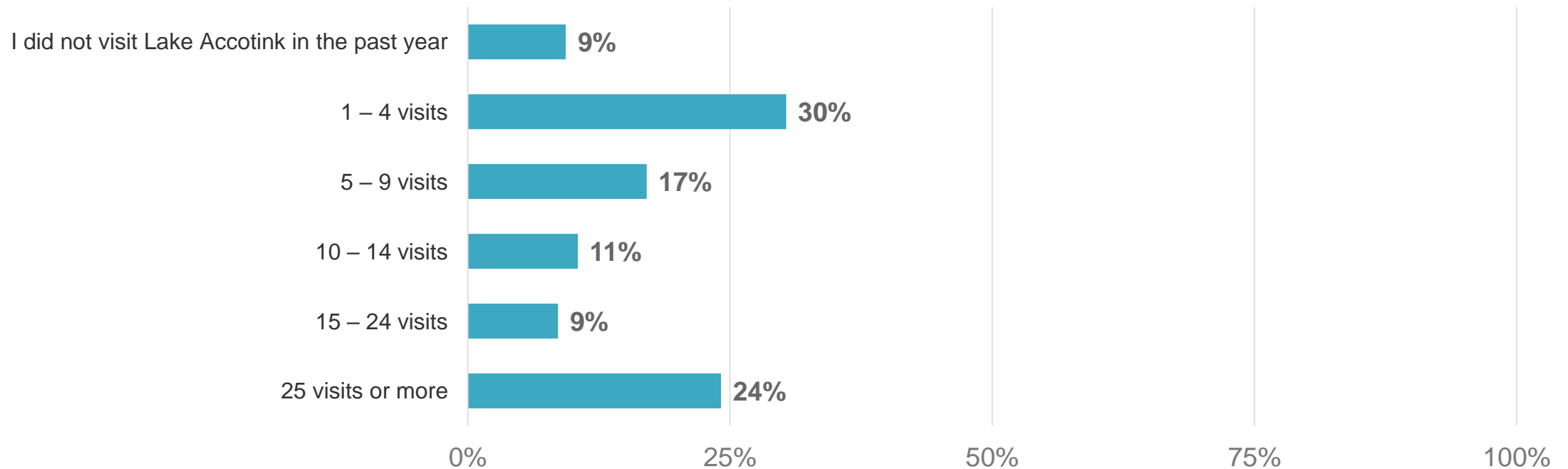
Most responses came from Fairfax County. Many centered near Lake Accotink



Lake Accotink Area

More than 90% of respondents visited the lake last year; 44% visited at least ten times.

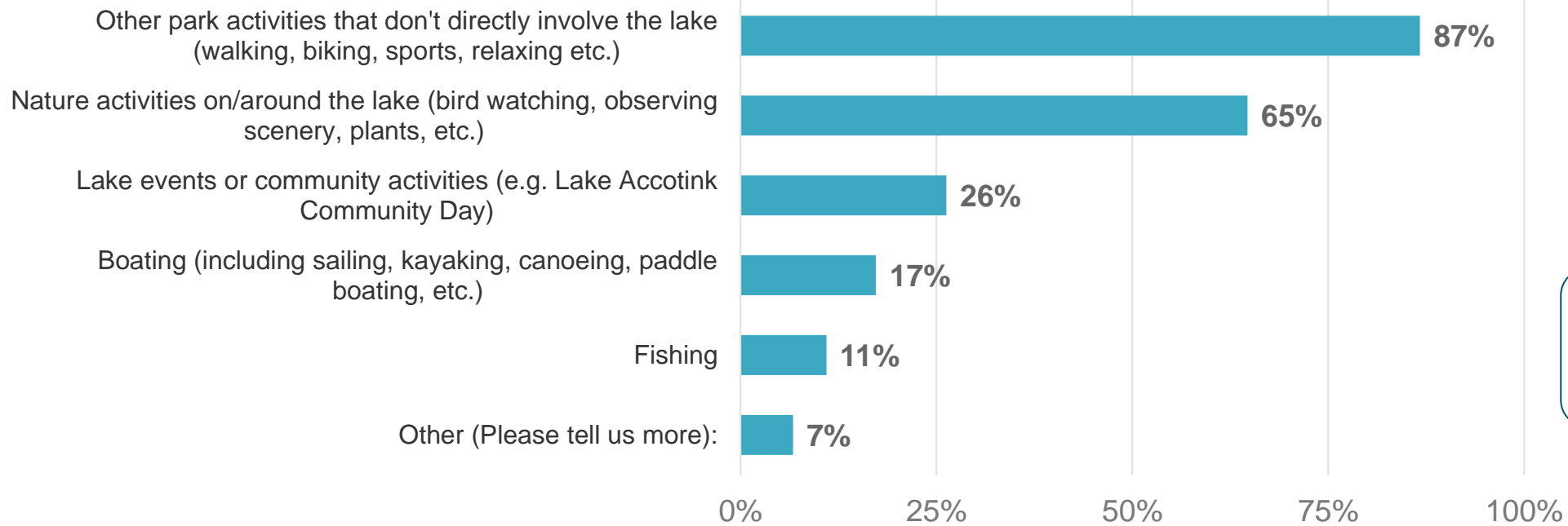
In the past year, how often did you visit Lake Accotink? Your best guess is fine. (n = 1,466)



Respondents engage in varied activities at Lake Accotink Park, many involve the lake.

When you visited Lake Accotink, which activities did you engage in?
Please select all that apply.

(n = 1,314)

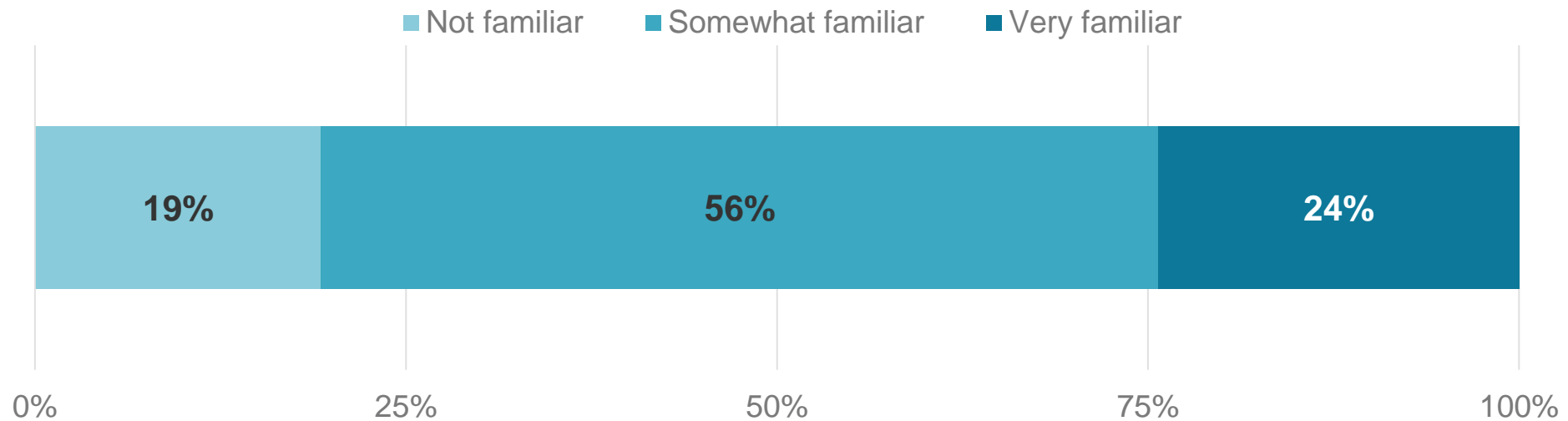


Other responses include:
invasive plant removal,
reserved space for events,
and summer camp.

Most are at least somewhat familiar with information about the future of Lake Accotink.

How familiar are you with prior studies and information regarding the future of Lake Accotink and lake dredging?

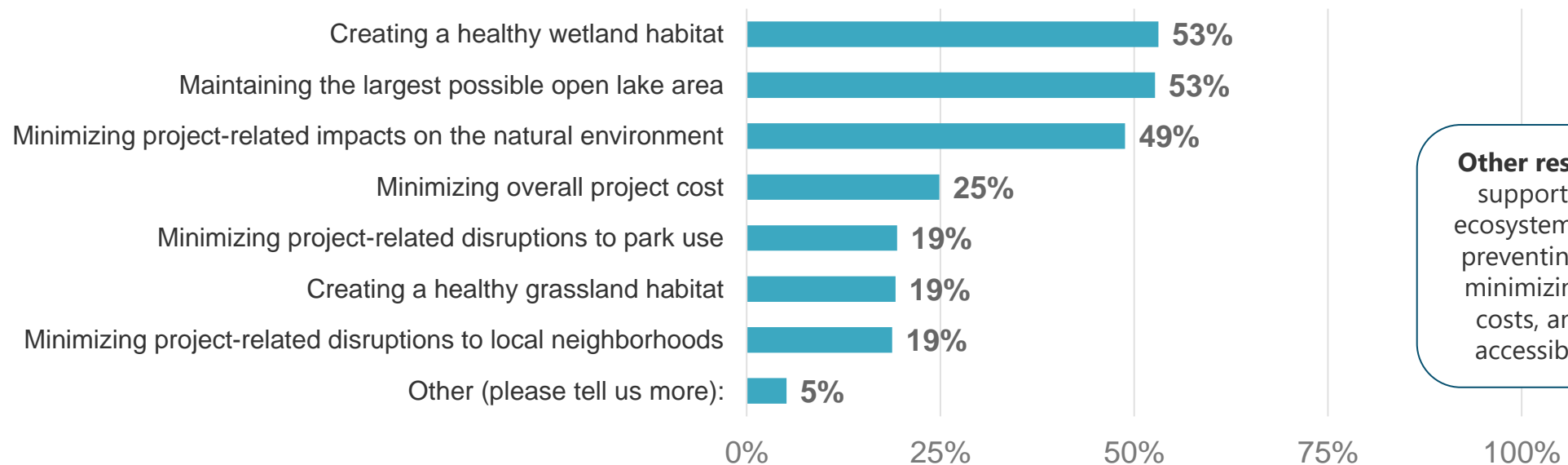
(n = 1,410)



Creating a healthy wetland, maintaining the largest possible lake area, and minimizing environmental impacts are important considerations for most.

Which of these factors are most important to you when analyzing and evaluating the alternatives (potential projects)?

Please select up to three. (n = 1,395)



Other responses include supporting the overall ecosystem and watershed, preventing development, minimizing maintenance costs, and maintaining accessible water views.

Detailed Findings: Scope of Work

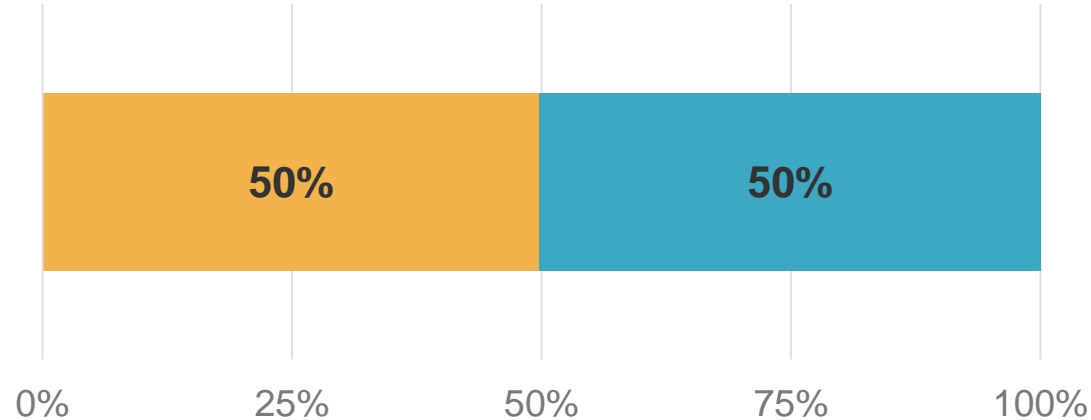


Half of respondents read the study scope; 29% chose to offer comments.

Have you read the proposed scope of work for the Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study?

(n = 1,369)

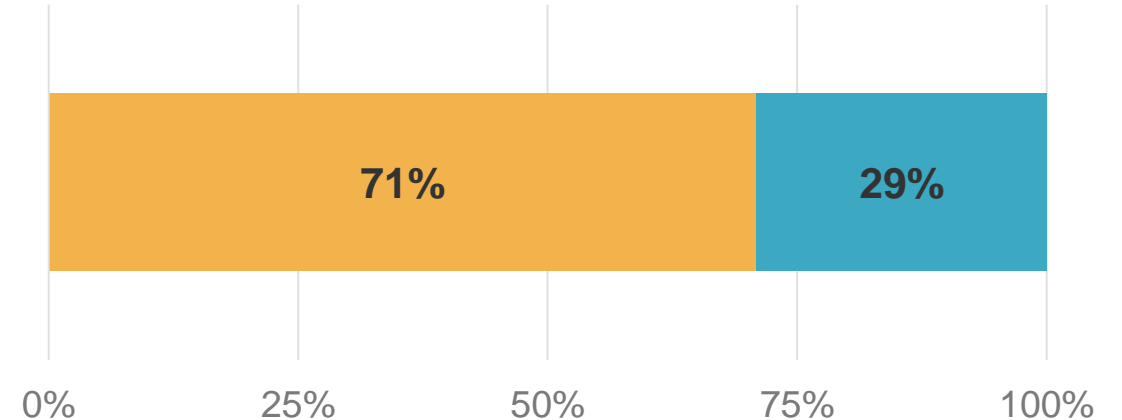
■ No ■ Yes



Would you like to comment or provide feedback on the proposed scope of work?

(n = 1,321)

■ No ■ Yes



Scope of work feedback.

The survey included the opportunity to review the proposed scope of work document and offer feedback on the following three questions:

- Do you have any comments or feedback on the current content of the study scope of work? (116 responses).
- Are there any questions or considerations that you would like to see included in the study that are currently missing from the scope of work? (154 responses).
- Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the scope of work? (120 responses).

In total, 209 respondents provided comments for some or all questions. Comments were read and each point was sorted as one of the following:

- **Scope addition or edit** - direct suggestions for edits or additional considerations in the scope of work.
- **Study comments or questions** – input or questions about the study or study process, other than the scope content.
- **General comments or questions** – general feedback on Lake Accotink, preferences for its future, questions or comments about the park, or other considerations not directly linked to the study or scope.

These comments were then coded as part of a **thematic analysis** summaries of which are included in the following slides.

Public feedback: Scope additions and edits.

80 respondents suggested over 100 additions or edits to the scope of work:

- Nearly a quarter of all suggestions related to **sedimentation**, including:
 - Studying options to reduce incoming sediment in the future.
 - Including long-term efforts to manage sediment.
- Consideration of **environmental impacts** was a top comment, including requests to study impacts to wildlife and vegetation in and around the lake, and neighborhood environmental impact.
- Several comments suggested studying **dewatering and dredge spoil removal** options including; using the Robinson Terminal site, recycling spoils for community use, or seeking location alternatives.

Top* requested scope additions or edit topics

Environmental impacts (plants, wildlife, etc.)	16
Reducing sediment upstream/inflow	15
Long-term sediment management	9
Robinson terminal usage	8
Community engagement plan details	6
Floodplain / downstream impacts / broader study area	6
Comparisons to cost/plan for maintaining full size lake	6
Assessment of broader lake value to FC	5
Cost comparisons of alternatives over time	4
Dredge spoil location/usage	4
Detailed comparison of smaller lake sizes	4

*Showing topics receiving four or more comments, full comment list available in the appendix.

Public feedback: Scope additions and edits

Sedimentation Example Comments

“A smaller Lake Accotink Lake doesn't resolve the sedimentation issue. So, the sedimentation study needs to determine the filling rate and timeframe before the dam reaches equilibrium. The study also needs to determine how much sediment will need to be removed at various intervals to maintain lake design criteria.”

“Have you considered innovative methods that could be employed to reduce the amount of sediment being contributed from upstream sources? This seems to be missing from the proposal. If you don't address sedimentation, how long will the alternatives (wetlands, grasslands) even last?”

“I would hope and feel certain that the contractor and subcontractors will be looking at sustainability of keeping sediment at bay. Hoping a portion of their work will keep sediment at reasonable levels over the next 50 years or so. Perhaps there can be a collection "trap" for sediment that can instead of flowing into the lake, it can be collected at a location upstream to be emptied periodically. This emptying would be easier and more cost-effective than dredging the lake every few years.”

“The SOW does not examine the upstream causes of sedimentation flowing into Lake Accotink, thus it does not identify possible long-range upstream efforts to reduce sedimentation in the Lake. Nor does it contemplate potential variations in sedimentation rates resulting from future catastrophic weather events such as has just occurred in a large swath of the Southeastern U.S. from Florida to Southwestern Virginia.”

Public feedback: Scope additions and edits

Environmental impact example comments

“Please remember the freshwater mussel population downstream from the dam, the only one remaining in Accotink Creek, being kept viable only by the sediment capture function of Lake Accotink.”

“The study scope should explicitly address how each proposed alternative will ensure long-term environmental resilience, particularly in light of climate change and ongoing urban development in the watershed.”

“Include discussion of vegetation management in emerging wetlands in a no dredge scenario.”

“The impact to habitat during the potential dewatering process and the impact to environmental justice communities by construction activities, particularly the amount of dump trucks and pollution needed to transport dredge materials.”

Dewatering and spoils example comments

“The study does not sufficiently explore alternative de-watering and sediment transportation options, such as the Robinson Terminal, and Vulcan Materials sites which could reduce community disruption and environmental impact.”

“Study dredging and allowing the dredged material to dry on the lake side shore until removal of dried, dredged material by truck to the mulch site by the railroad overpass parking lot. Material then could be used by the public without charge as mulch, or filler dirt. Presuming the dredged materials does not contain hazards..”

“I would like to keep those de-watering trucks off of our neighborhood streets, and I’m insisting that Fairfax County fully explore the use of Robinson Terminal as a dewatering site option as presented in the Task Force report. Fairfax County is totally ignoring a viable option.”

Public feedback: Scope additions and edits

Additional example comments

“The societal impact of a healthy Lake Accotink should be a part of the scope. People contribute to all aspects of Lake Accotink.”

“I see nothing on a projection of disruption to neighborhoods; The section on gauging impact to the community is vague at best and should include the factors that will be considered. The last study included a section on community impact that was insufficient and did not address equity.

“Floodplain analysis needs to look closely at impacts (inundation, sedimentation, scour) to Cross County Trail upstream of islands built with dredged material. Same with impacts to historic railroad embankment... upon which the lake loop trail runs.”

“The scope of work within the feasibility study does not address nor explore finding alternative ways to keep the lake as-is, which is unacceptable.

“This seems purely an engineering study with no long-term economics considered. Also, are there other things you can do to enhance the lake for the patrons? If you’re not investing in the lake itself, can you invest in other infrastructure to ensure it is still a community amenity?.”

“Impact to the stream at the bottom of the dam that used to be in the area that was stocked for Trout would like that to be restored.”

“Ensuring that equitable access and inclusion are considered in the planning and decision-making process is crucial. For example, the community impact assessment should include how different demographic groups will experience the project, particularly in terms of access to recreational opportunities.”

“What are the differences between each size of lake (small, medium, & large) in terms of cost and environmental impact?”

Public feedback: Other scope comments.

158 respondents provided just over 200 scope comments relating to the work or lake more broadly:

- Many comments (80) in the scope section expressed **preferred outcomes for the lake**, including: preserving the full lake (37), choosing the largest “smaller lake” option (16), letting the lake return to nature/taking no action (14), or choosing a middle option balancing lake size, cost, and environmental need (13).
- Several topic areas related to the **study or project process**, including; feeling additional studies were unnecessary or costly, concerns about project managers, leaders or contractors, general support for the scope or process, questions around community engagement or equity, and project timeline concerns.
- Top remaining comment areas included recreation, cost or funding, stormwater or sediment, as well as general appreciation for the lake.

Top* comment topic areas:

Preserve the lake	37
Concern for number and cost of studies	17
Choose largest possible lake option	16
Concerns about process, project management, contractors, or leadership	15
Let the lake return to nature / take no action	14
Recreational considerations	13
Concerns or suggestions re: costs and funding	13
Prioritize balancing lake/cost/environment	13
General support for scope or work	11
General appreciation of the lake	10
Broader stormwater or sediment concerns	9
Community engagement questions or concerns	6
Desire for short study timeline, or sooner project action	5
Equity considerations or concerns	4

*Showing topics receiving four or more comments, full comment topic list available in appendix.

Public feedback: Other scope comments

Preferred lake outcome example comments (80)

“I think the scope of work needs to provide for preservation of the lake. If the lake cannot be maintained at the current size, it should be maintained at least 1/2 - 3/4 of the current lake size.”

“Fairfax should keep Lake Accotink's foot print the same! A smaller size will mean overcrowding less ability to enjoy the quite of nature.”

“The normal ecological progression is for the lake to become a wetland. Let it be natural.”

“I follow the Friends of Lake Accotink group on Face[book] lol. I have lived near the lake for about 50 years. I'm a pragmatic person and I believe that a wetlands solution might provide the best solution to balance an attractive environment, minimal disruption, and cost.”

“One thing to mention is the importance of maintaining as much of the lake as possible. It's an important area for the community for recreation and as a wildlife refuge.”

“Why should the study scope of work be limited to a smaller lake? The community wants to maintain the current lake size. Shouldn't the study provide different alternatives at raising the funds required to dredge the lake instead?.”

“I think the county should try to keep Accotink at its current size and maybe restore its depth and original size and start stocking fish again (one can dream). I have seen the estimated dredging time and price from previous years and it seems like the more the county puts it off, the more expensive and more time consuming the dredging will be.

Public feedback: Other scope comments

Study process, management, or leadership comment examples

“Ensure oversight, continued project evaluation, and budget reviews. Ensure competitive bidding on all aspects of this project.”

“The county has overspent doing studies, this has been done several times at this point. The county has a responsibility to fix the lake and not just keep kicking the can down the street. This should have been done 10 years ago.”

“It's an extremely in-depth and complex scope of work, understandably. In the end we need to make sure that big picture themes like fairness, equity, wise management of natural resources, and fiscal soundness prevail.”

Other comment or concern examples

“The cleanliness of the water is a bigger issue for me than the presence/absence of the lake itself. I think the solution should focus on what's HEALTHIEST for the community (to include the wildlife).”

“As lake size scaling options vary, how will O&M cost savings be channeled back into enhancing or creating other park features in order to retain recreational value to the community? Smaller lake with lower dredge maintenance should result in more robust park offerings to compensate.”

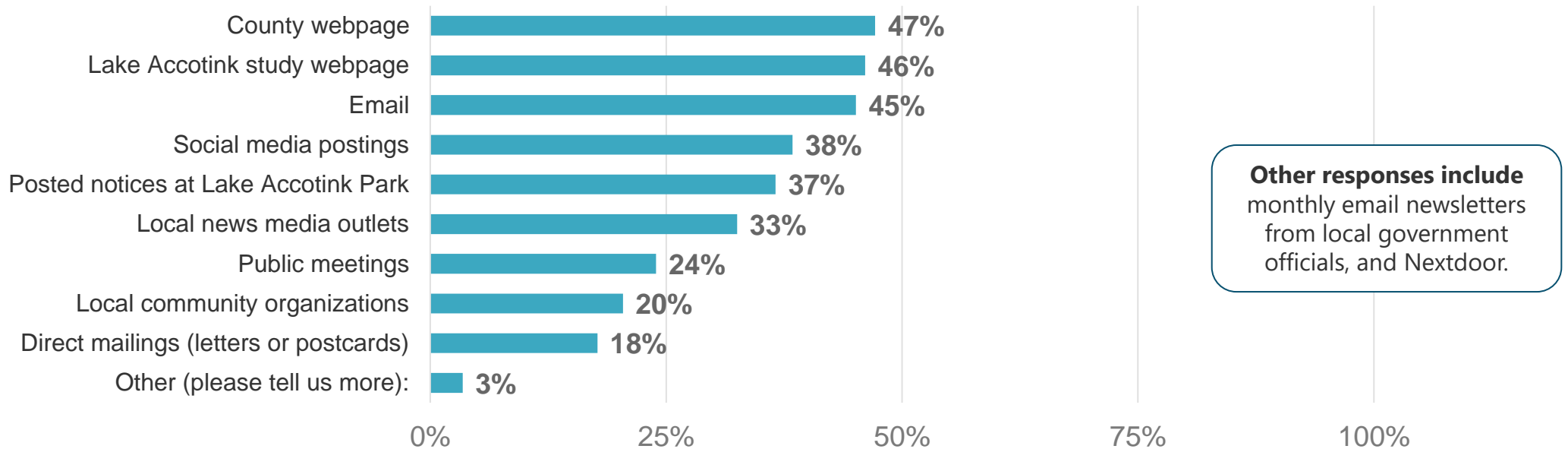
“The historical importance of the lake and dam is extremely understated. This lake should be a National Historic Site due to the direct support to the US WW-I and WW-II war efforts.”

Detailed Findings: Engagement and Communication

Nearly half of respondents would like to receive info from county and project websites, or email.

How would you like to receive future updates on progress or opportunities to be involved with the study?

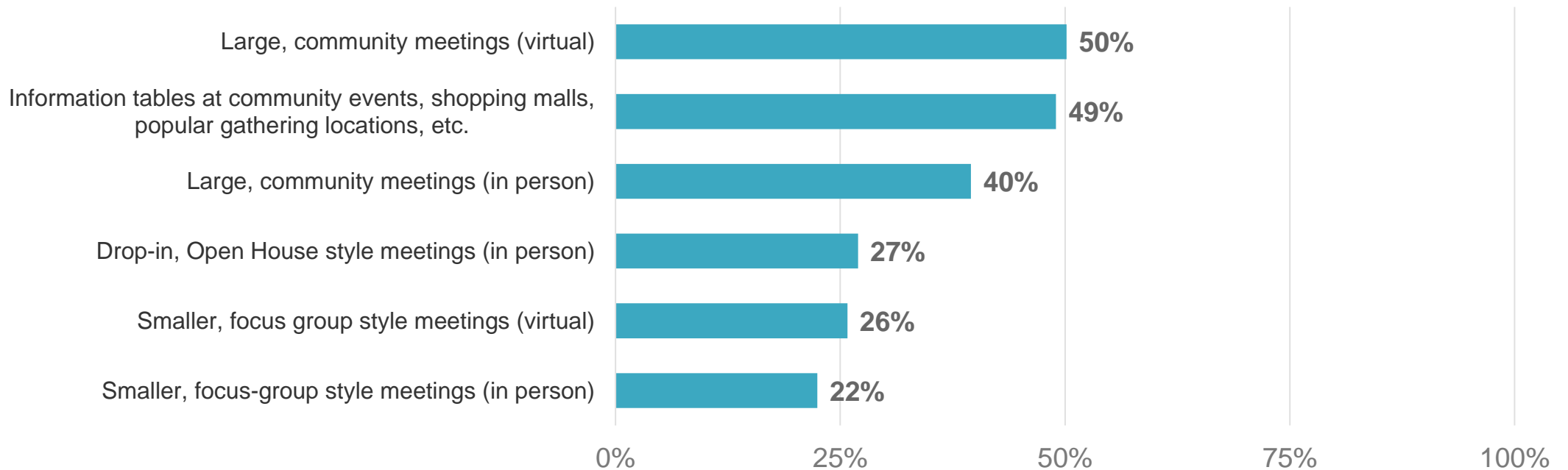
Select all that apply. (n = 1,224)



Many feel community meetings and informational tables are most effective for ensuring input.

What forms of engagement do you feel would be most effective for ensuring community input into the study and future progress?

Select up to three. (n = 1,194)



Public feedback: Info and Communication

Over 300 respondents shared preferences for receiving information; Facebook and other social media were top suggestions, along with neighborhood or civic groups, local newsletters, and at community meetings held virtually or in local schools, libraries, or at the lake.

“Hold hybrid meeting (virtual and in person) at locations nearest to the lake and its community such as Ravensworth Elementary School, Lake Accotink Shelter, etc. Post on facebook and Instagram.”

“Neighborhood newsletters, Board of Supervisors newsletters are good at getting the information to those most directly impacted by this undertaking. Appreciated the notice given and location for the community meetings held at Lake Braddock high school when the previous undertaking was being evaluated (in 2019?).”

Please set up a county moderated Facebook page or some other social media tool where it is easy to follow along and get information about the project as we move forward

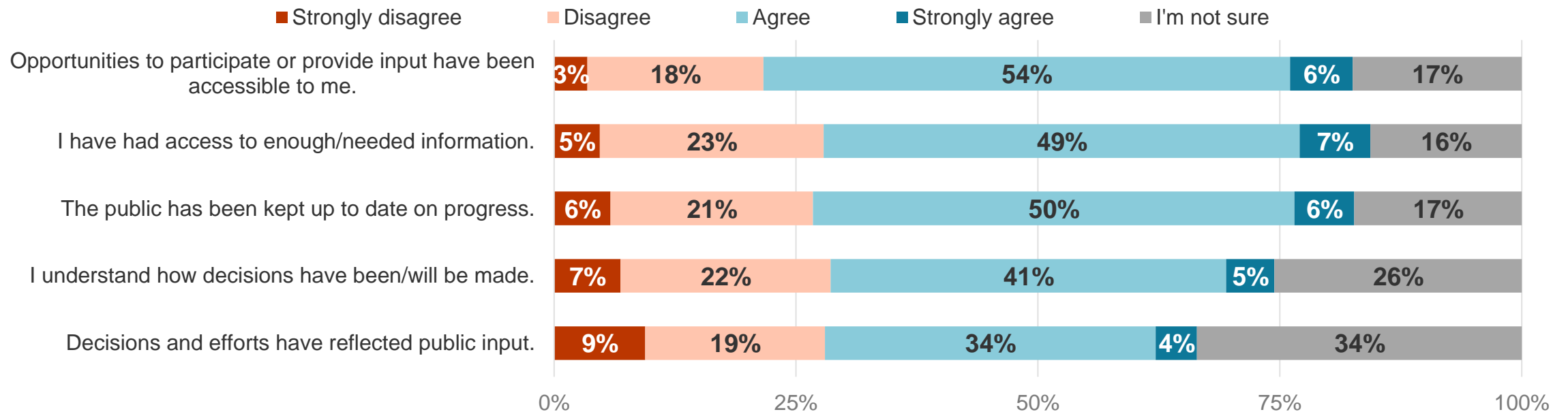
“Each of the neighborhoods near the park has a civic association. You should work through them to ensure information is disseminated as well. You should also work thorough the community organizations that interact with people in Vietnamese and Spanish because there is a large local community where English is not their first language.”

“North Springfield has a community newsletter, but I am unsure if the other communities bordering the park have one. The elementary schools in these communities would be the most convenient for community members.”

“Local neighborhood associations are the best conduits to disperse information and gather responses.”

Most agree they've had opportunities to participate and access to information; fewer understand decision-making and the role of public input.

Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about engagement about Lake Accotink up to this point.
(n = 1,168)



Public feedback: Engagement

Nearly 200 respondents commented on community engagement related to Lake Accotink; more than a third felt more work was needed, past engagement had gone unheard, or had other concerns, some felt positively about the process, others offered specific ideas or suggestions.

“Progress reports should be issued and project staff should give public briefings with Q&A QUARTERLY.”

“I have only seen communications about the project on the Facebook page Save Lake Accotink. If members hadn’t posted about it, I wouldn’t have known what was going on.”

“I feel like a few loud voices have had extraordinary impact”

“Sometimes I think public comments are never taken into account, but a mere formality.”

“I think the county has provided a lot of information about their work on Lake Accotink. I just haven't had the time to read it all and really inform myself.”

“Public engagement needs to be improved. For example I was not made aware of this survey until two days prior to the survey window closing.”

“This is the first time I’ve seen an effort to engage the broader community.”

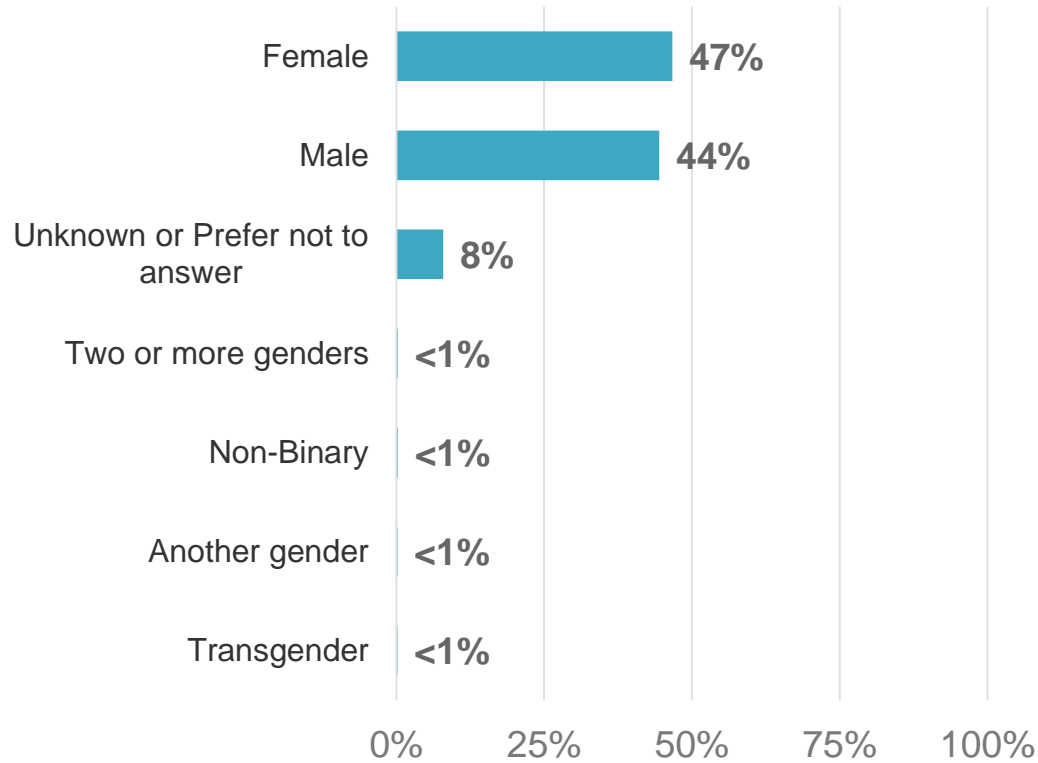
“Thank you for trying to get wide input from all of us.”

Project Demographics

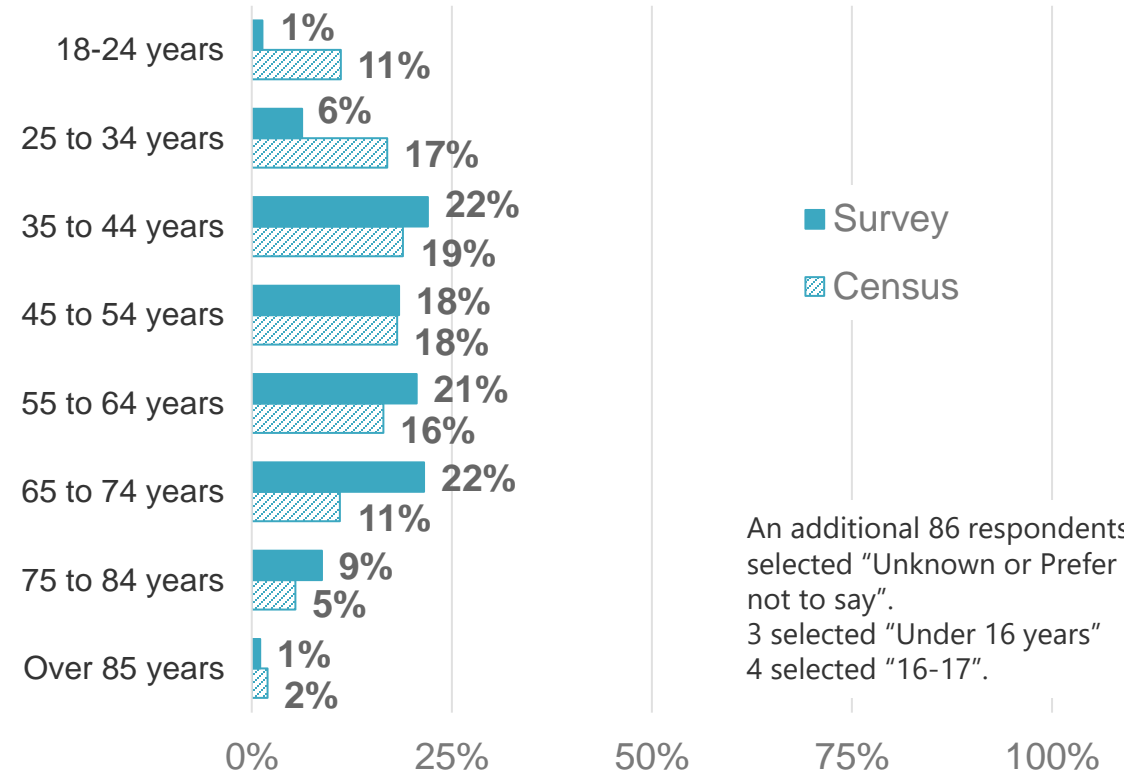


Gender and age

Do you think of yourself as:
(n = 1,133)

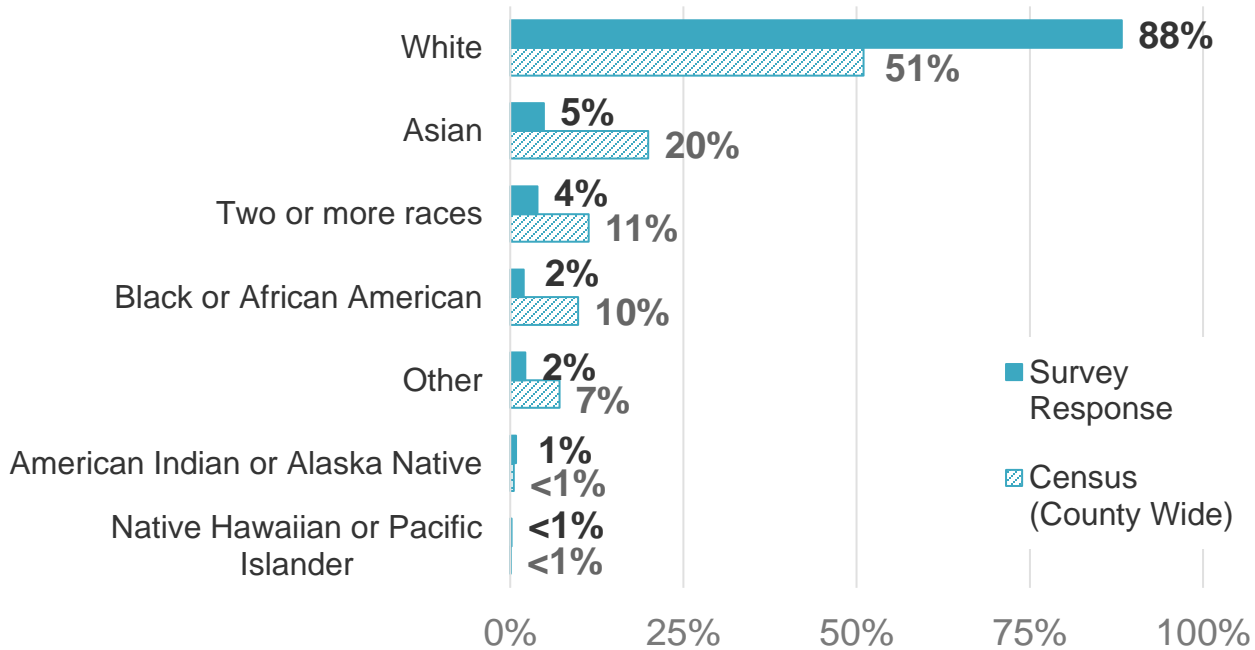


What is your age:
(n = 1,049)



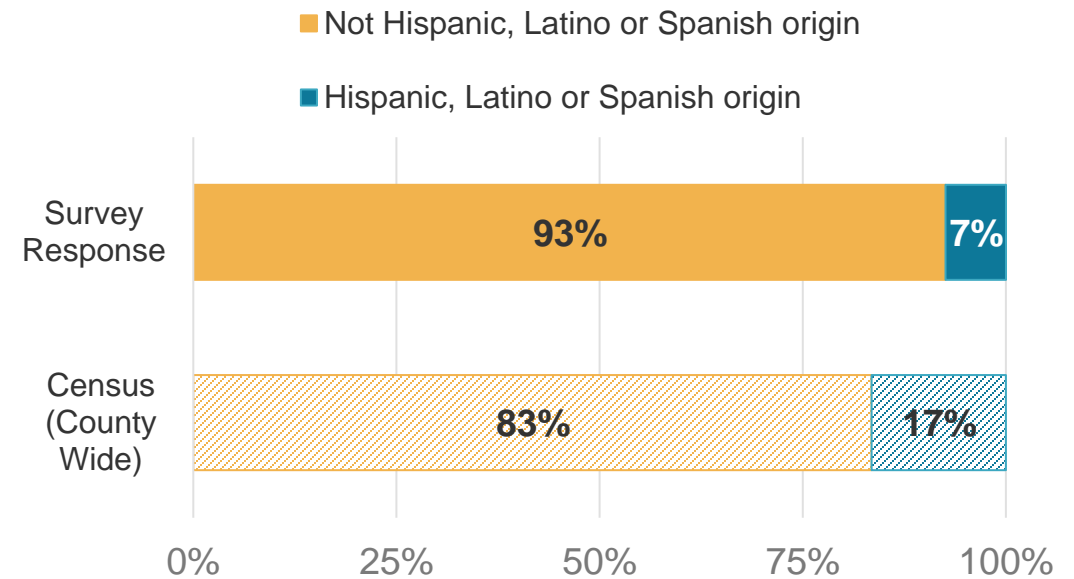
Race and ethnicity

What is your race:
(n = 971*)



*An additional 135 respondents selected "Unknown or Prefer not to say"

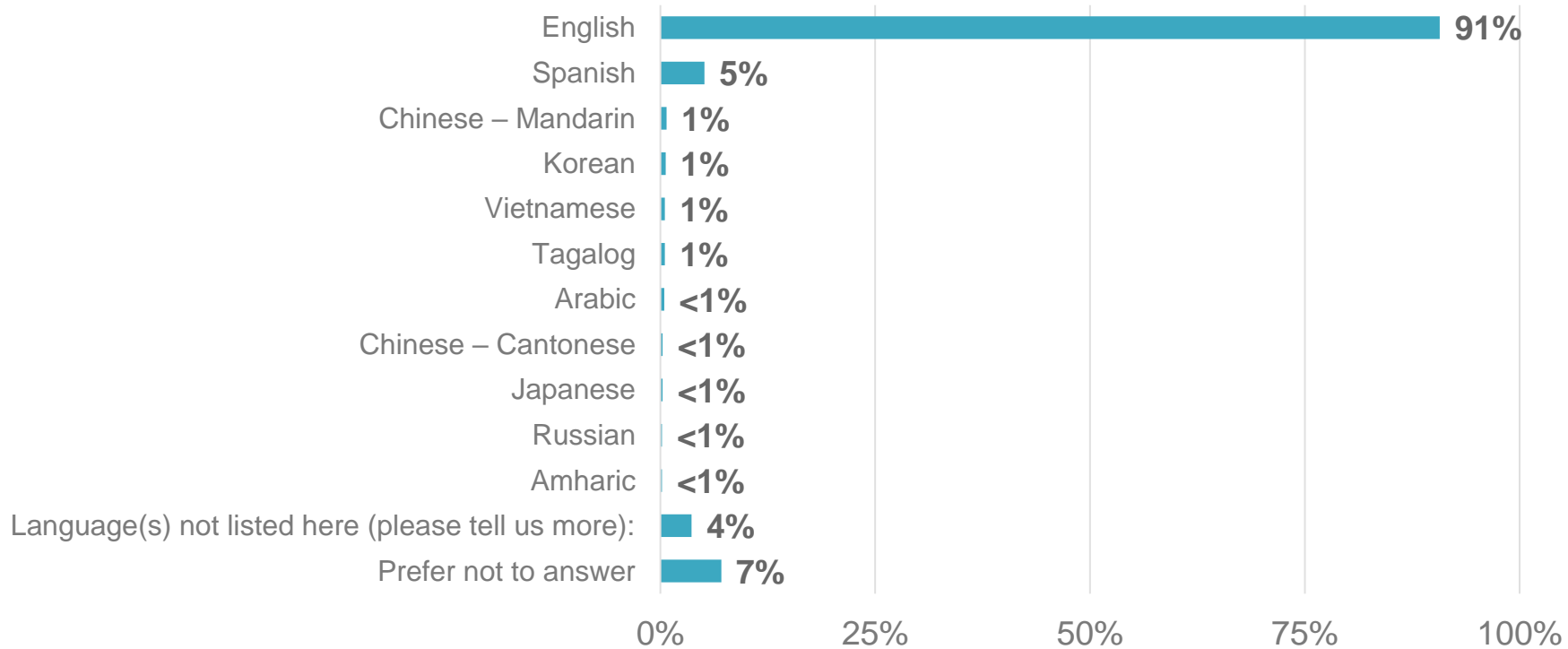
What is your ethnicity:
(n = 931*)



*An additional 175 respondents selected "Unknown or Prefer not to say".

Language

What language(s) do you speak at home?
(n = 1,129)

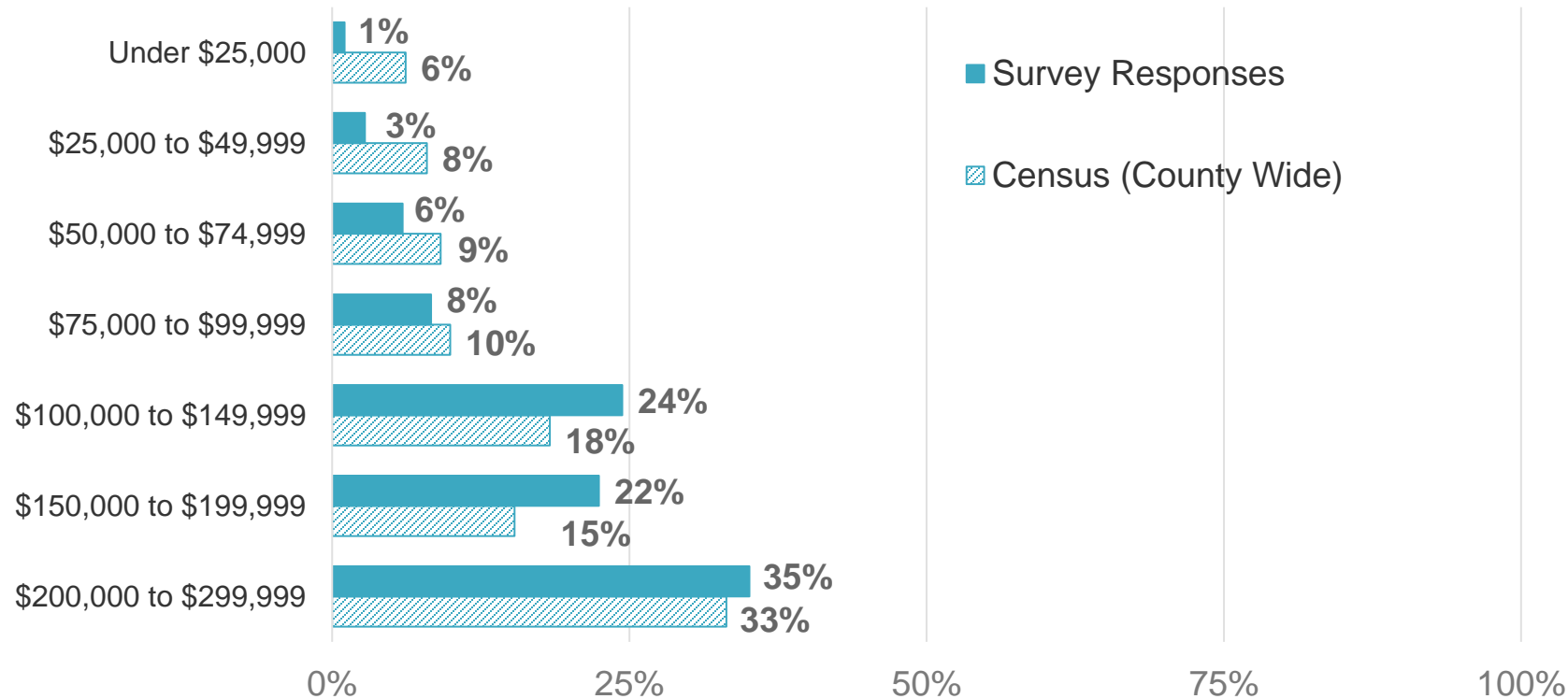


Other responses include
German, Hebrew, French,
Italian, Portuguese, Laos,
Romanian, Greek

Household income

What is your annual household income?

(n = 758)



An additional 356 respondents selected "Don't know" or "Prefer not to say".

Appendix A: Survey instrument



The Future of Lake Accotink: Study and Engagement Survey.

Select your preferred language:

- English
- Español
- 한국어
- Tiếng Việt

Lake Accotink provides valuable recreational opportunities to Fairfax County residents and supports a variety of wildlife. Lake Accotink is important to people from different cultures and backgrounds for many reasons. However, due to the large, developed area upstream, and the significant amounts of sediment that flows into the lake, continuing to dredge the lake to maintain its current size, might be too expensive, too impactful to our natural resources, or too disruptive to adjacent communities.

Preservation Feasibility Study.

The Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study (“the study”) is an effort to better understand what is happening within Lake Accotink in the Accotink Creek that feeds into it, and identify what actions are feasible to maintain the smaller lake in a sustainable, equitable, and cost-effective manner. In late 2023, the Task Force on the Future of Lake Accotink (“the Task Force”) found that a smaller lake, 20-40 acres, would “meet significant community and social goals.” The work of the Task Force also documented the need for additional study and analysis. In response to the Task Force report, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors has initiated the following studies:

- **Sedimentation Rate Study** - to better understand how much sediment is transported to Lake Accotink from Accotink Creek and how much is escaping (or exiting) the lake downstream.
- **Dam Assessment** – to determine the improvements and maintenance needed to ensure long-term regulatory compliance and safe functioning of the Lake Accotink Dam.
- **Preservation Feasibility Study** – to assess the feasibility of preserving various smaller lake options, (20 to 40 acres, 4 to 8 feet deep) and determine the best management methods, planning level costs, regulatory and permitting challenges, maintenance dredging intervals, and other key aspects.

The County is working with an independent design and engineering firm to conduct the Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study which will evaluate potential smaller lake options. The study will be coordinated with and utilize results from the Accotink Creek sediment study and the Lake Accotink dam assessment. Several questions in this survey will ask for feedback on the draft scope of work for this study. If you would like to provide feedback on the draft scope of work for this study, we encourage you to review it prior to beginning the survey. The draft scope of work can be found here: [Scope of Work Document](#)

We want your input

Public input is critical to ensuring the study adequately addresses resident and stakeholder questions and concerns. The Task Force's findings address the methodology used in the 2023 Lake Accotink Dredging Community Survey and this survey is intended to ensure the community has input on the questions to be addressed by the study and to build lines of communication with the public to share information and collect feedback as the study progresses.

This survey should take ten minutes or less to complete. As a thank you for participation, adults (age 18+) can enter to win one of ten \$100 gift cards at the end of the survey.

Please note: This survey will close on October 30, 2024.

Please enter your cross streets. To help us know what part of the county you're responding from, please consider providing your general location by cross streets. Enter two streets and then click "Set Location" button.

2. How far do you live from Lake Accotink?

- Less than a half-mile
- A half-mile to less than one mile
- One mile to less than two miles
- Two miles to less than five miles
- Five miles or further

3. In the past year, how often did you visit Lake Accotink? Your best guess is fine.

- I did not visit Lake Accotink in the past year
- 1 – 4 visits
- 5 – 9 visits
- 10 – 14 visits
- 15 – 24 visits
- 25 visits or more

4. When you visited Lake Accotink, which activities did you engage in? Please select all that apply.

- Boating (including sailing, kayaking, canoeing, paddle boating, etc.)
- Fishing
- Lake events or community activities (e.g., Lake Accotink Community Day)
- Nature activities on/around the lake (bird watching, observing scenery, plants, etc.)
- Other park activities that don't directly involve the lake (walking, biking, sports, relaxing etc.)
- Other (Please tell us more):

5. How familiar are you with prior studies and information regarding the future of Lake Accotink and lake dredging? This might mean you attended public meetings, reviewed reports or visited websites published by Fairfax County, or engaged with other information about the future of the lake.

- Very familiar
- Somewhat familiar
- Not familiar

The County plans to evaluate several alternatives for the future size, depth, and layout of Lake Accotink. Many considerations are involved in evaluating the alternatives, including public priorities.

6. Which of these factors are **most important** to you when analyzing and evaluating the alternatives (potential projects)? Please select up to three.

- Minimizing project-related impacts on the natural environment
- Minimizing project-related disruptions to park use
- Minimizing project-related disruptions to local neighborhoods
- Maintaining the largest possible open lake area
- Creating a healthy wetland habitat
- Creating a healthy grassland habitat
- Minimizing overall project cost
- Other (please tell us more):

The County is working with an independent design and engineering firm to conduct the Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study, which will consider information on sedimentation, the Lake Accotink Dam, and overall feasibility.

Public input is welcome on the draft scope of work for how the study will be conducted and the questions it will explore. If you have not already reviewed the scope but would like to provide feedback, it can be found here: [Scope of Work](#).

7. Have you read the proposed Scope of Work for the Smaller Lake Accotink Preservation Feasibility Study?

- Yes
- No

8. Would you like to comment or provide feedback on the proposed scope of work? (If yes, you will see several additional questions. If not, you will continue to the next section of the survey).

- Yes
- No

9. Do you have any comments or feedback on the current content of the study scope of work?

10. Are there any questions or considerations that you would like to see included in the study that are currently missing from the scope of work?

11. Is there anything else you would like to tell us about the scope of work?

12. How would you like to receive future updates on progress or opportunities to be involved with the study? Select all that apply.

- County webpage
- Lake Accotink study webpage
- Public meetings
- Social media postings
- Local news media outlets
- Direct mailings (letters or postcards)
- Email
- Posted notices at Lake Accotink Park
- Local community organizations
- Other (please tell us more):

13. What forms of engagement do you feel would be most effective for ensuring community input into the study and future progress? Select up to three.

- Large, community meetings (in person)
- Large, community meetings (virtual)
- Drop-in, Open House style meetings (in person)
- Smaller, focus-group style meetings (in person)
- Smaller, focus group style meetings (virtual)
- Information tables at community events, shopping malls, popular gathering locations, etc.

14. Is there anything else you can tell us about either question above? (For example, what social media platforms are best or community groups to contact, or convenient locations for community meetings)

The following questions help us to understand how well we have engaged with the community up to this point and where we could do better moving forward. Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about engagement about Lake Accotink up to this point.

15. Decisions and efforts have reflected public input.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm not sure

16. I understand how decisions have been/will be made.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm not sure

17. The public has been kept up to date on progress.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm not sure

18. I have had access to enough/needed information.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm not sure

19. Opportunities to participate or provide input have been accessible to me.

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree
- I'm not sure

20. Please share any additional comments you have on public engagement or your answers to the questions above.

The following questions help us ensure we are connecting with a variety of community members in and around the study area. All responses are optional.

Do you think of yourself as:

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Non-Binary
- Two or more genders
- Another gender
- Unknown or Prefer not to answer

What is your race:

- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- White
- Two or more races
- Other
- Unknown or Prefer not to answer

What is your ethnicity:

- Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin
- Not Hispanic, Latino or Spanish origin
- Unknown or Prefer not to answer

What is your age:

- Under 16 years
- 16-17 years
- 18-24 years
- 25 to 34 years
- 35 to 44 years
- 45 to 54 years
- 55 to 64 years
- 65 to 74 years
- 75 to 84 years
- Over 85 years
- Unknown or Prefer not to answer

What language(s) do you speak at home?

- Amharic
- Arabic
- Chinese – Mandarin
- Chinese – Cantonese
- English
- Japanese
- Korean
- Russian
- Spanish
- Tagalog
- Vietnamese
- Language(s) not listed here (please tell us more):
- Prefer not to answer

What language would you prefer to receive materials in (if different than above)?

What is your annual household income?

- Under \$25,000
- \$25,000 to \$49,999
- \$50,000 to \$74,999
- \$75,000 to \$99,999
- \$100,000 to \$149,999
- \$150,000 to \$199,999
- \$200,000 to \$299,999
- \$300,000 or more
- Don't know
- Prefer not to say

Would you like to provide your contact information for future updates and/or to enter the survey drawing? This information will only be used for the purposes you select. Fairfax County does not disclose any of our visitors' personal or private information.

- Yes – I would like to enter the drawing
- Yes – I would like to receive future updates about Lake Accotink
- No, Thank you

Please enter your contact information, this information will only be used for the purposes you indicated.

Fairfax County does not disclose any of our visitors' personal or private information unless required to do so by the Virginia Freedom of Information Act or other law.

Any e-mail or other correspondence sent to a member of the Board of Supervisors, or any other public official and/or employee of Fairfax County is subject to disclosure under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.

First Name

Last Name

Email

Drawing Entry

We appreciate your feedback! As a thank you for participating in this survey, you can enter a drawing for a chance to win one of ten \$100 gift carts (Visa, Amazon, or another gift card of your choice). Please note you must be 18 or older to enter this drawing.

Drawing rules:

- No purchase is necessary to enter the drawing.
- This drawing is administered by PRR, 1501 4th Ave, Suite 550, Seattle, WA 98101
- This drawing is sponsored by Fairfax County
- To enter you must:
 - Complete the Lake Accotink Community Survey.
 - Indicate your interest in entering the drawing by selecting “yes” below and providing your full name and email address or phone number.
- You are eligible to enter if:
 - You are 18 years of age or older
 - You complete the Lake Accotink Community Survey by the survey close date
 - You are not a current employee of PRR, or Fairfax County.
- The odds of winning are based on the number of eligible drawing entries. For example, if 100 people enter the drawing, your chances would have a 1 in 10 chance of winning. If 1,000 people entered, you would have a 1 in 100 chance of winning.
- Winners of the \$100 gift cards will be chosen within one month of the survey closing and will be notified via email or phone within two months of the survey closing.
- The ten winners will be selected through a random drawing from among all eligible drawing entrants.
- Winners do not have to be present for the drawing.
- Winners’ contact information will not be used in any publicity or promotional materials.
- Winners may need to report the cash value of the prize to the Internal Revenue Service as part of their earnings.

Would you like to enter the survey incentive drawing?

- Yes, and I meet all the eligibility criteria listed above
- No

Is there anything else you want to tell us about Lake Accotink or the study?

Thank You for Completing this Survey

Public comment topics: Scope adds and edits

Topic	
Environmental impacts (plants, wildlife, etc.)	16
Reducing sediment upstream/inflow	15
Long-term sediment management	9
Robinson terminal usage	8
Community engagement plan details	6
Floodplain / downstream impacts / broader study area	6
Comparisons to cost/plan for maintaining full size lake	6
Assessment of broader lake value to FC	5
Cost comparisons of alternatives over time	4
Dredge spoil location/usage	4

Topic	
Environmental impacts (plants, wildlife, etc.)	16
Detailed comparison of smaller lake sizes	4
Long term site management and cost	3
Impact to local home values	3
Engagement of specific communities	3
Timeline / time impacts	2
Dredge spoils - transit options	2
"No-action" assessment	2
Project impacts to local neighbors	2
Wetland site location and usage	2
Long term site management and cost	3

Public comment topics: General scope comments

Topic	
Preserve the lake	37
Concern for number and cost of studies	17
Choose largest possible lake option	16
Concerns about process, project management, contractors, or leadership	15
Let the lake return to nature / take no action	14
Recreational considerations	13
Concerns or suggestions re: costs and funding	13
Prioritize balancing lake/cost/environment	13
General support for scope or work	12
General appreciation of the lake	10

Topic	
Broader stormwater or sediment concerns	9
Community engagement questions or concerns	6
Desire for short study timeline, or sooner project action	5
Equity considerations or concerns	4
Development concerns or objections	4
Dam / lake draining concerns	3
Further info on lake history or context	3
Challenges accessing or understanding scope	2
Call for consideration of prior studies	2
Other (1 comment topics)	4

Public comment topics: Information sharing

Preferred source/method	
Facebook	90
*Shared specific meeting location	58
Neighborhood/civic group	52
Nextdoor	26
Instagram	24
Newsletters	22
X (formerly Twitter)	19
Government or elected official	16
Virtual meetings	13
News media	12
Lake groups (Save Lake Accotink, Friends of Lake Accotink)	11

Preferred source/method	
Local events	11
Specific community organizations	9
County webpage (or similar sources)	8
Email	7
Translated languages	7
Mail / postcard	6
In person meetings with officials	6
Comments not directly related to engagement	45

*Specific suggested locations included: at Lake Accotink, local schools (Ravenswood, North Springfield, etc.), libraries, and recreation centers

Public comment topics: Additional thoughts

Topic	
Preserve the lake / large lake	67
Choose a balance option (size, cost, environment)	26
Cost concerns	15
Return the lake to nature	14
Appreciation for work or outreach	9
Take action / shorten timeline	7
Contract, process, or leadership concern	4
Request for more information	3
Defer decisions to experts	2
Other uncategorized	41