

An aerial photograph of New London Harbor, showing a large body of water filled with numerous sailboats and yachts. The harbor is bordered by a city with various buildings, including a prominent red brick building and a large parking lot. A bridge spans across the water in the middle ground. The sky is clear and blue.

Review of Responses to the Harbor Management Questionnaire

New London Harbor
Management Commission

July 2022

Photo courtesy Neff Productions

INTRODUCTION

Thank you to everyone who completed our New London Harbor Management Questionnaire.

We've received a total of 255 full responses so far, summarized on the following slides, to our questions. Included are questions concerning how people enjoy the waterfront and harbor and which harbor management issues are most important.

In addition, many respondents took time to add their own thoughtful observations and suggestions, showing how much the harbor and waterfront mean to them. Those observations and suggestions are presented in their entirety in the attachment to this presentation.

The questionnaire's purpose was to inform the community about our work to prepare New London's Harbor Management Plan and to gather helpful input as we complete the Plan in 2022.

(Continued)



INTRODUCTION (Continued)

When reviewing the results for each question as presented on the following slides, please note that the top bar on each chart always represents the multiple-choice answer that received the greatest number of responses to that particular question.

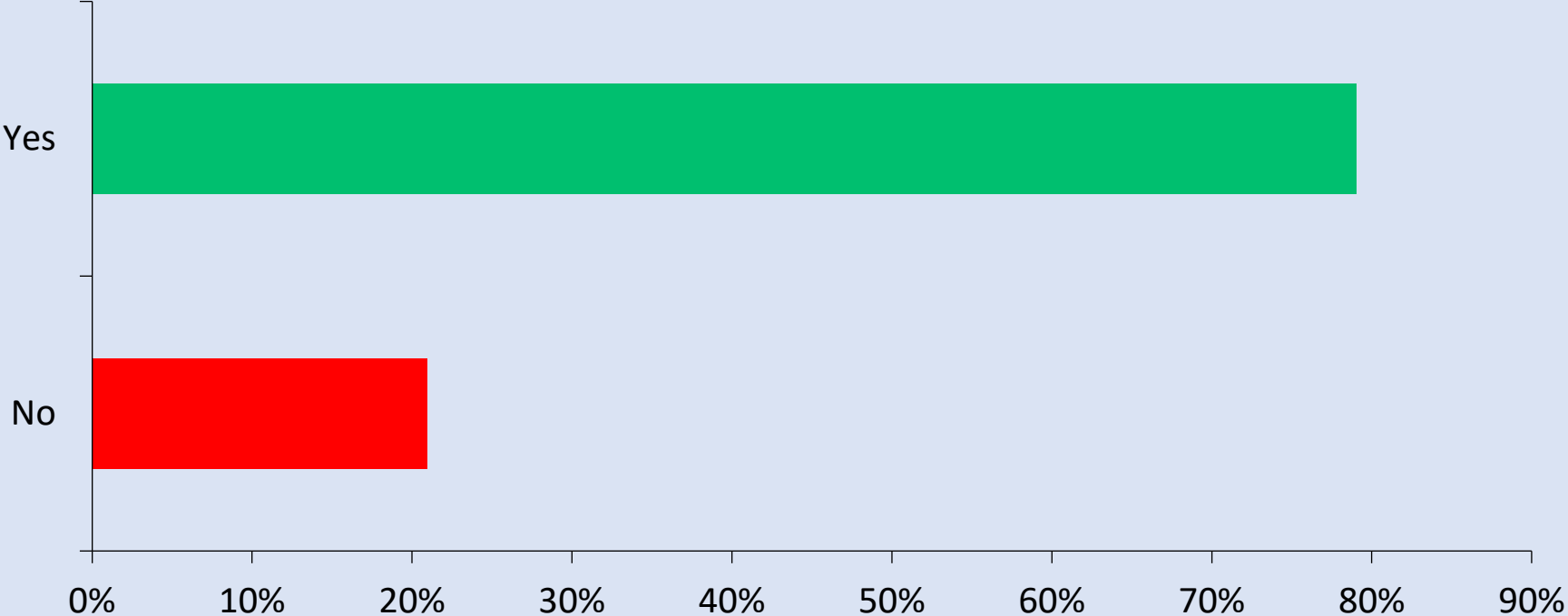
We look forward to hearing more from the public throughout the year as we continue our vital mission to guide safe and beneficial use of the harbor and protect the harbor's coastal resources.

Thank you for your continued interest and support.

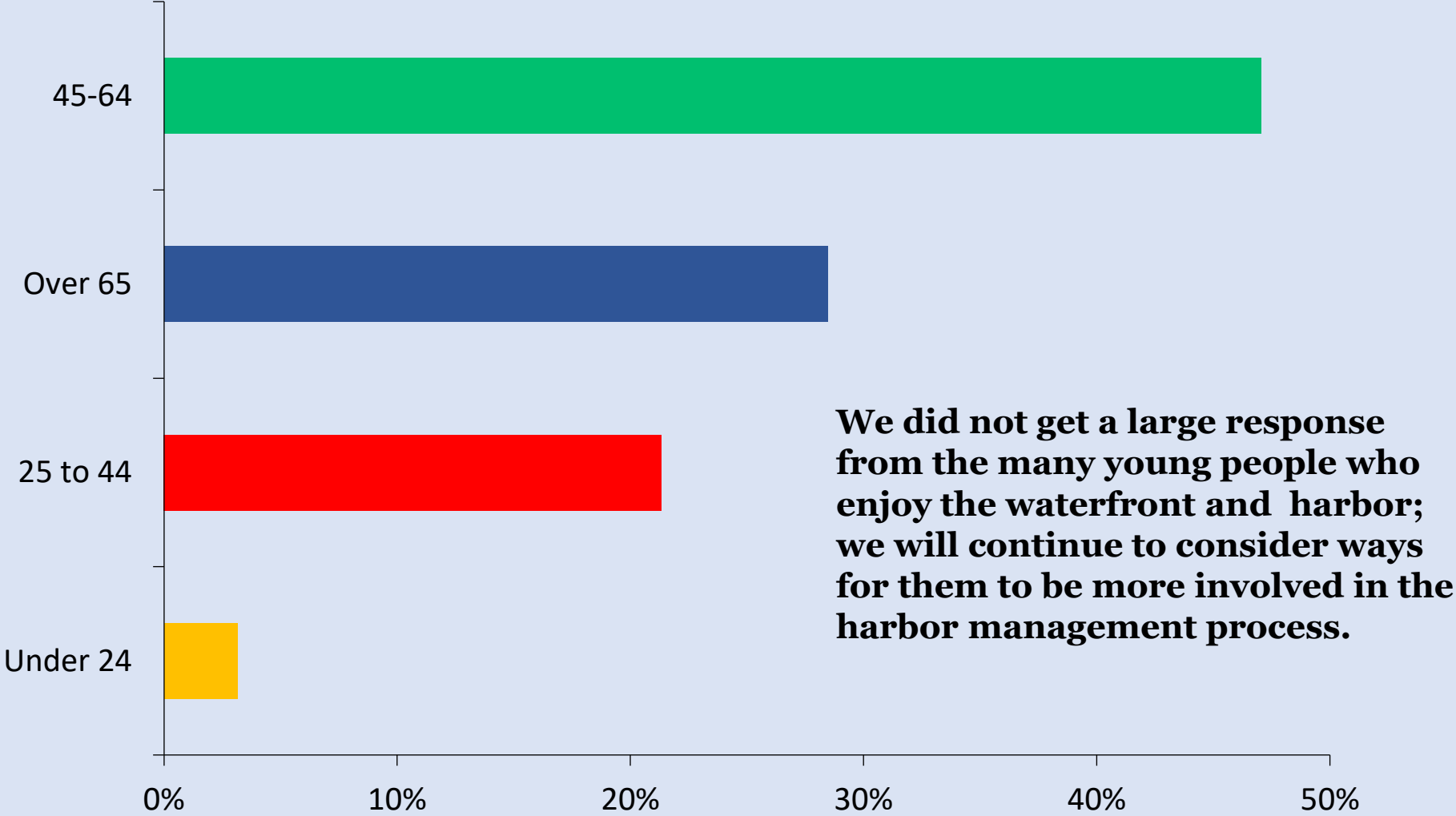
*New London
Harbor Management Commission*



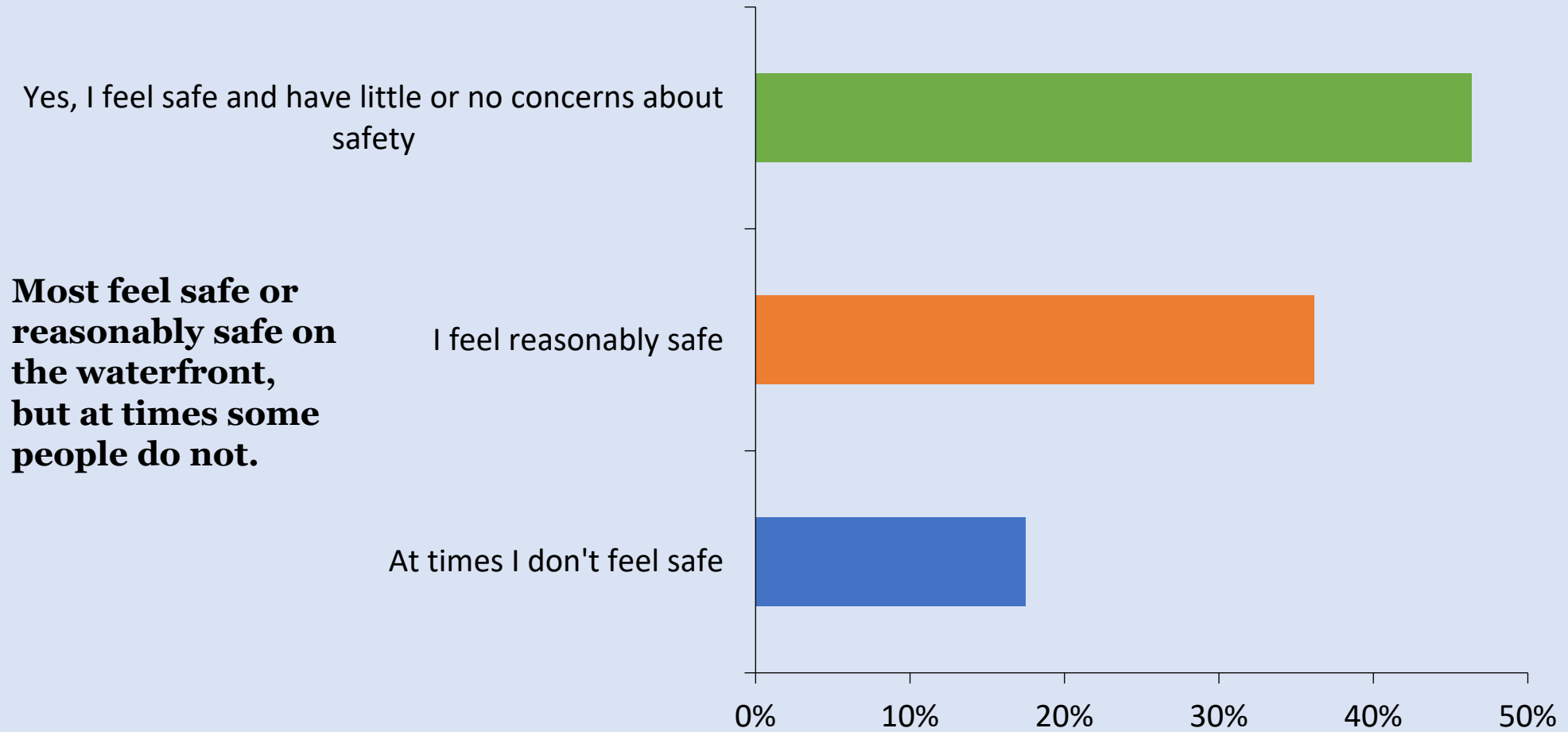
Q2 Do you live on or near (within walking distance for you) of the shore?



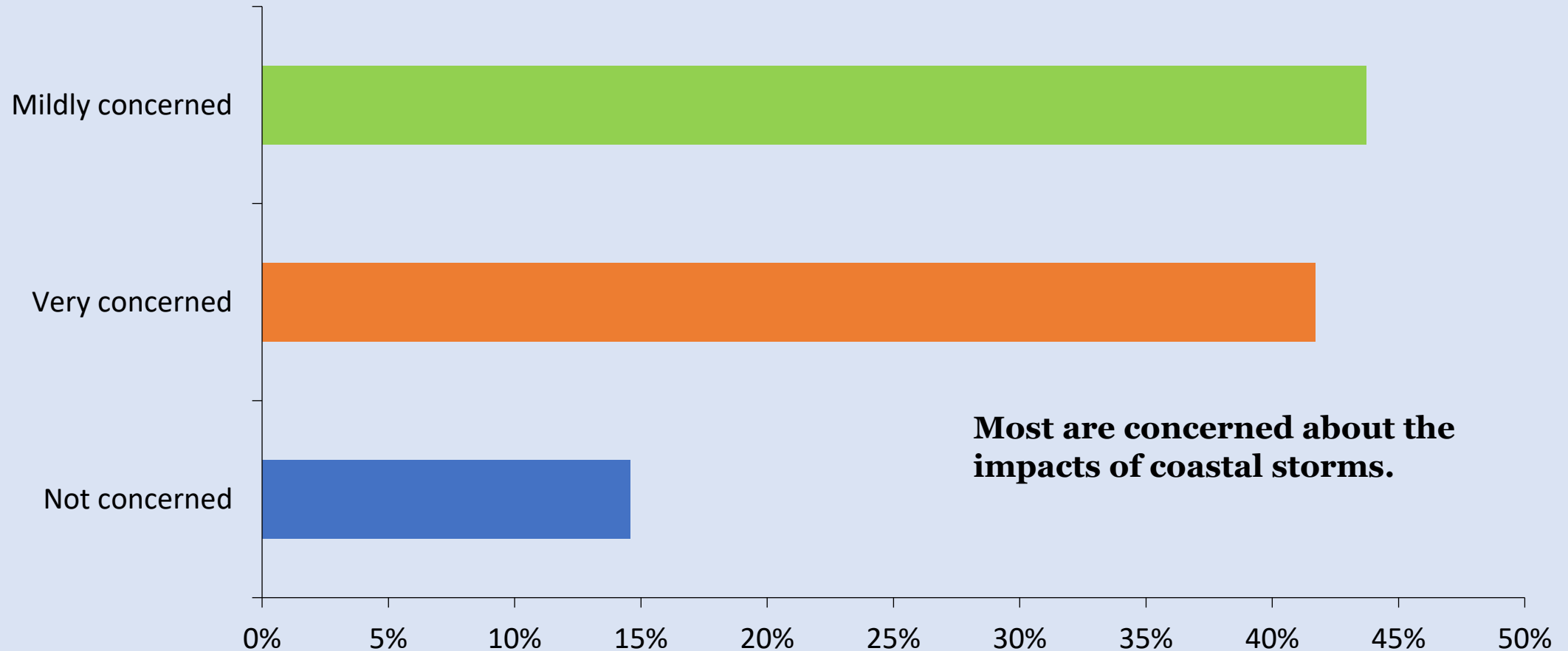
Q3 What is your age group?



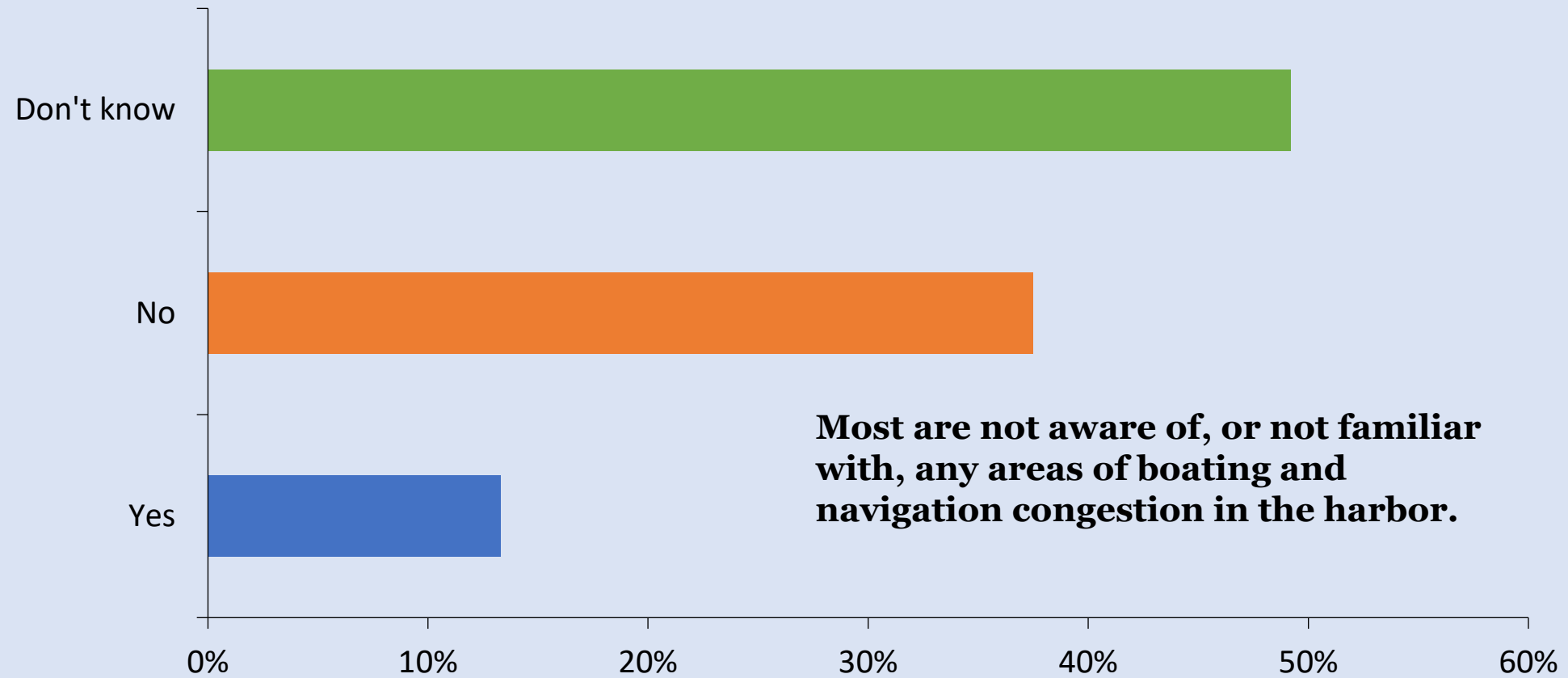
Q4 Do you feel safe when going to and using our waterfront parks and public spaces?



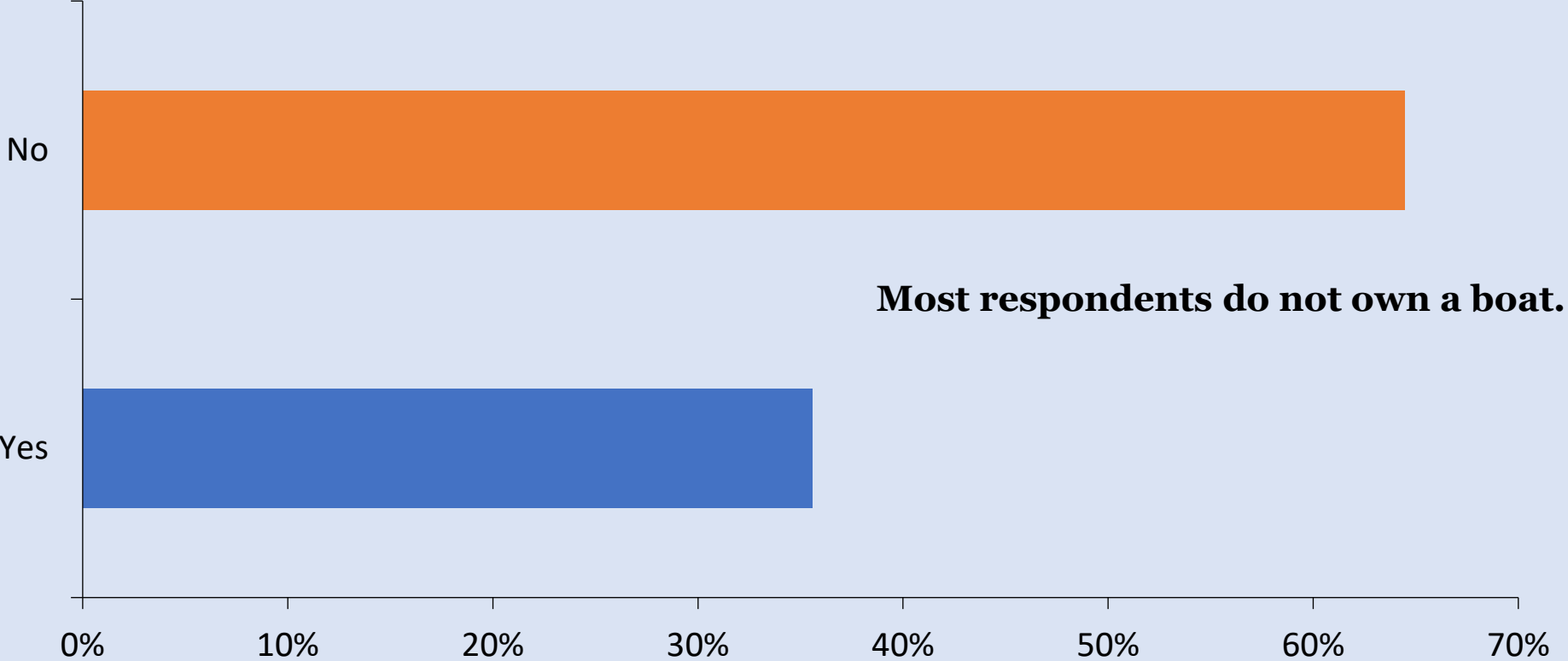
Q5 We live in an environment exposed to coastal storms that may cause flooding and erosion. How concerned are you about exposure to coastal hazards and the resiliency of our shoreline to recover from storm damage?



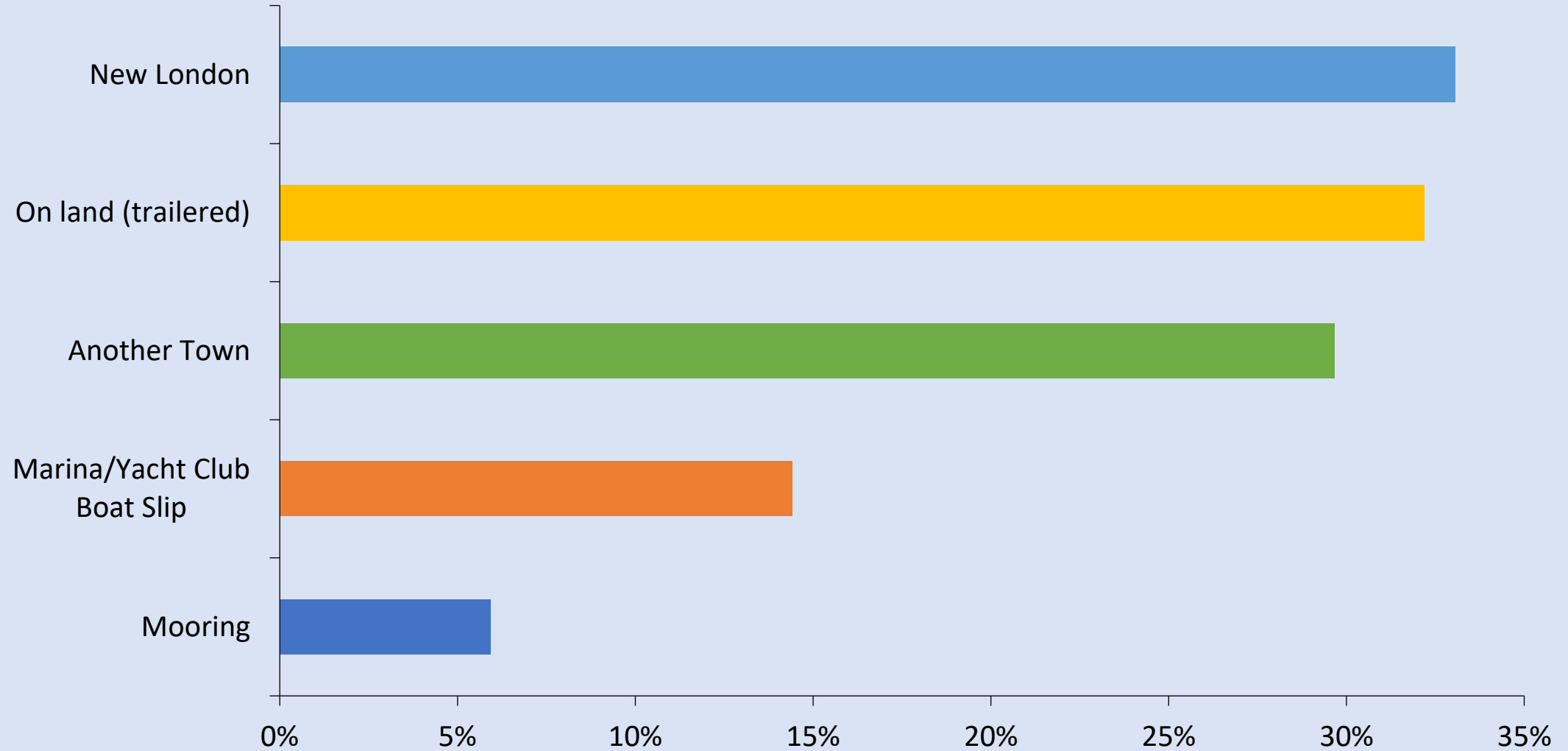
**Q6 Are there areas of the harbor where, because of congestion and other conditions, you feel that boating and navigation safety is reduced?
If yes, please explain.
(See attachment for comments.)**



Q7 Do you own a boat? If “yes,” please specify power, sail, or power craft.
(See attachment for comments.)



Q8 If you own a boat, where do you normally keep it during the boating season?

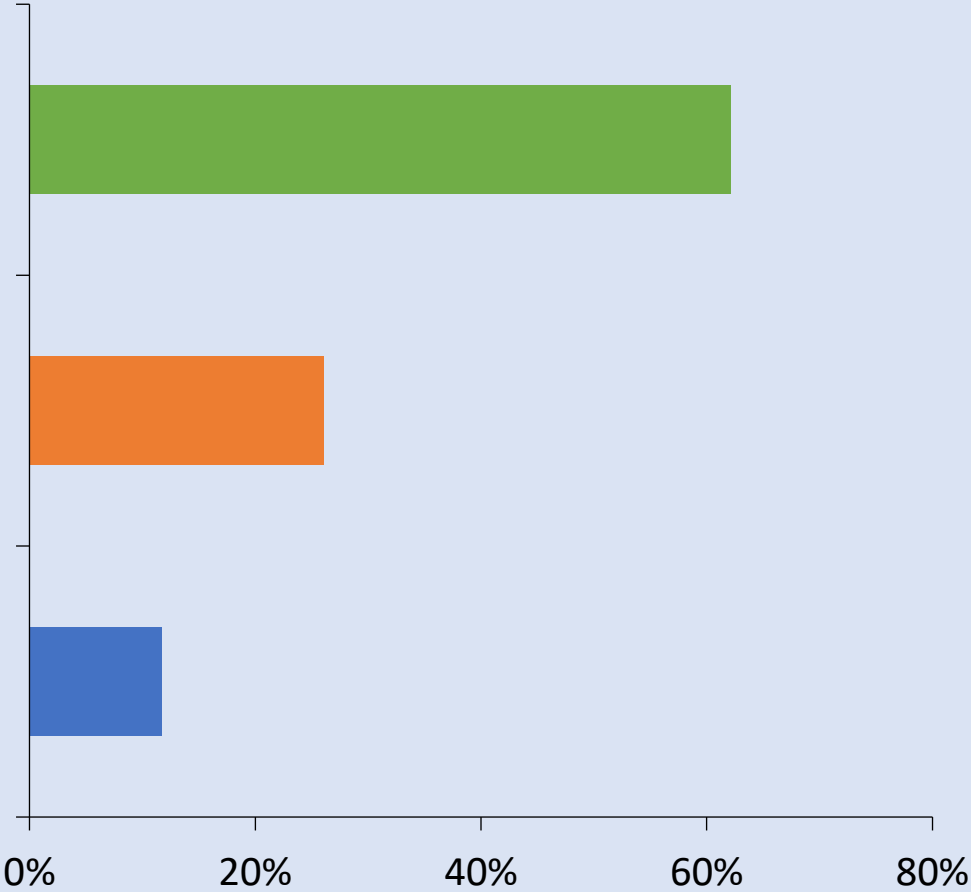


Q9 How important is boating in our harbor to you?

Moderately important as I enjoy seeing boats in the harbor, on the Thames River, and in Long Island Sound

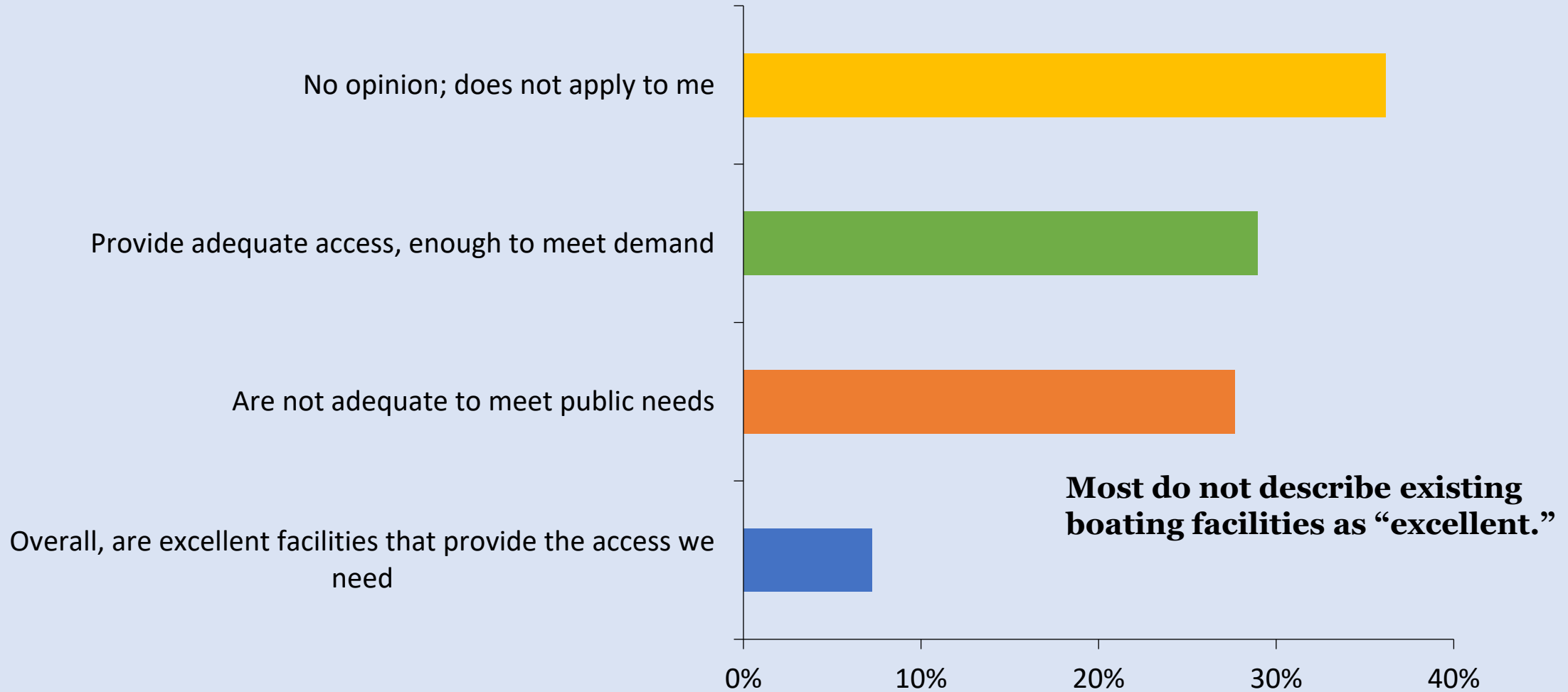
Extremely important as I am an active boater

Not important

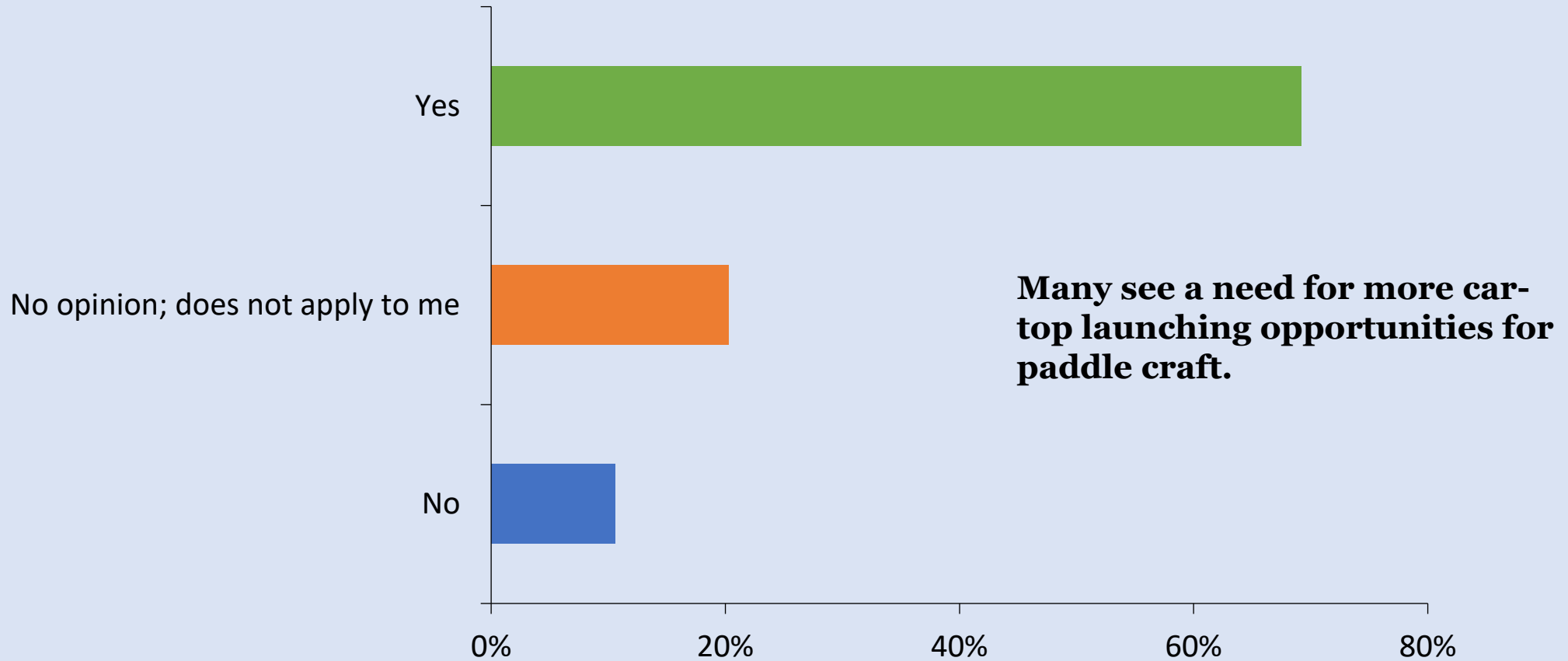


Although most respondents do not own a boat, most appreciate the importance of boating and enjoy viewing boating activities in the harbor.

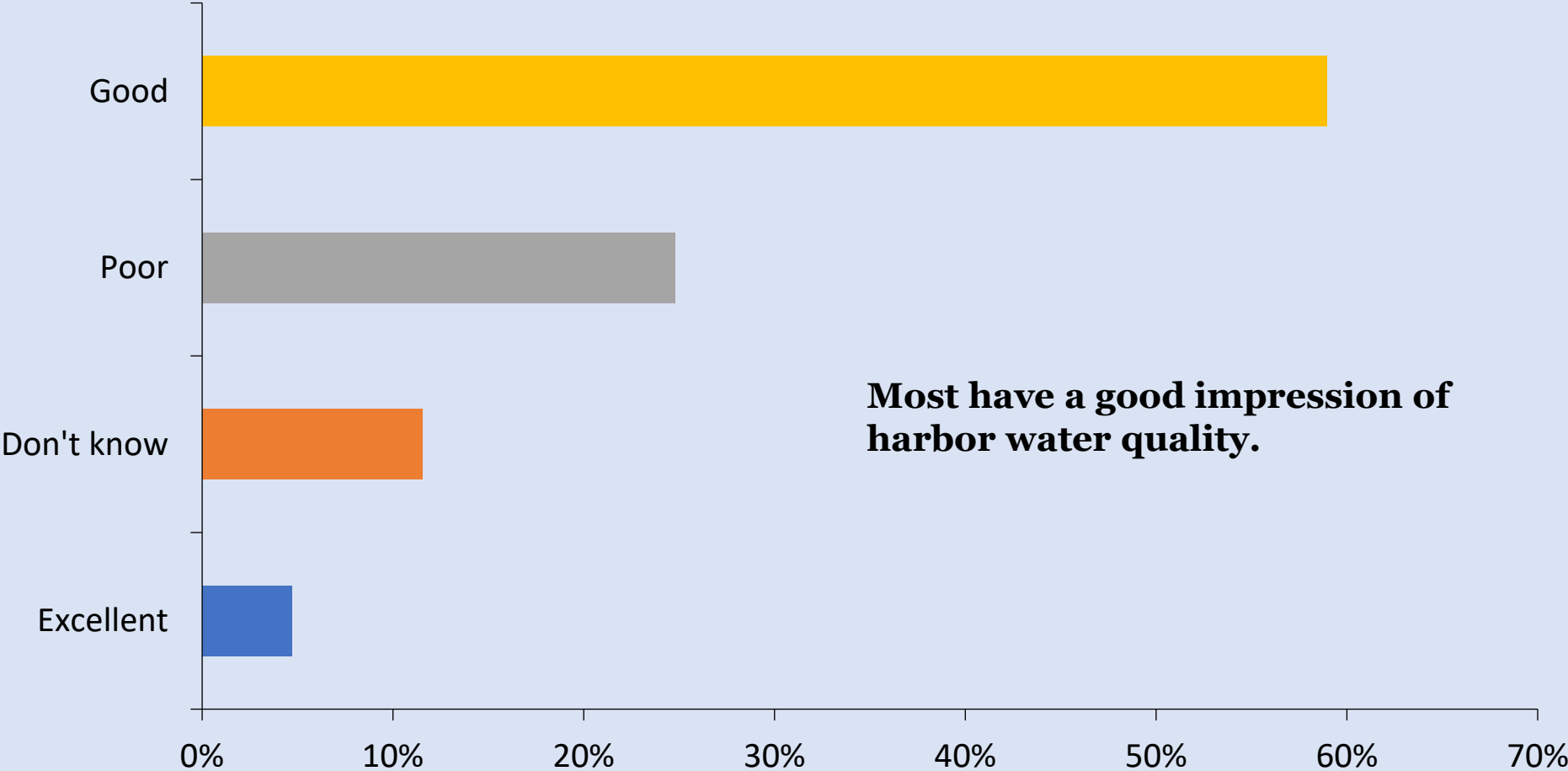
Q10 Existing public boating facilities, including City waterfront docks and moorings and the state launching ramp under the Gold Star Memorial Bridge:



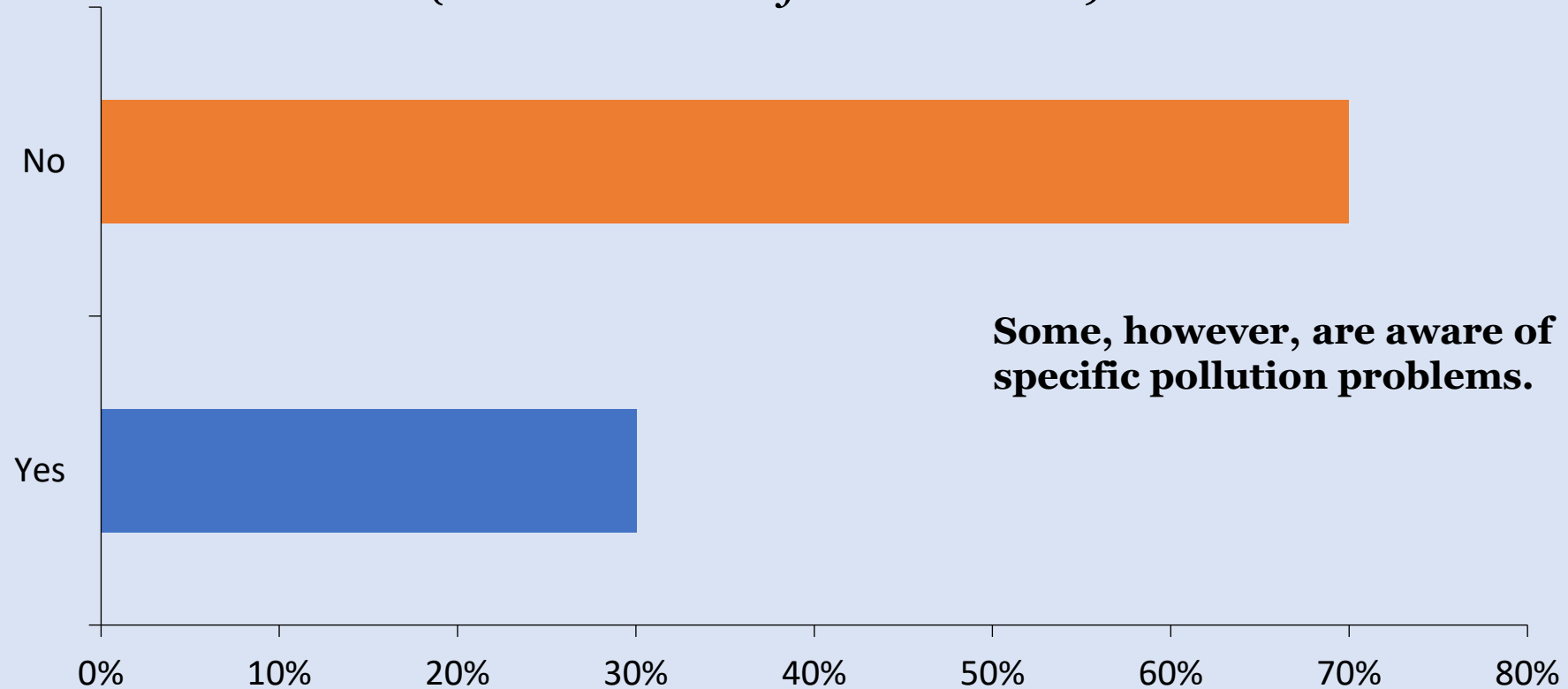
Q11 Do you see a need for more paddle craft access such as car-top launch sites for small vessels, including kayaks?



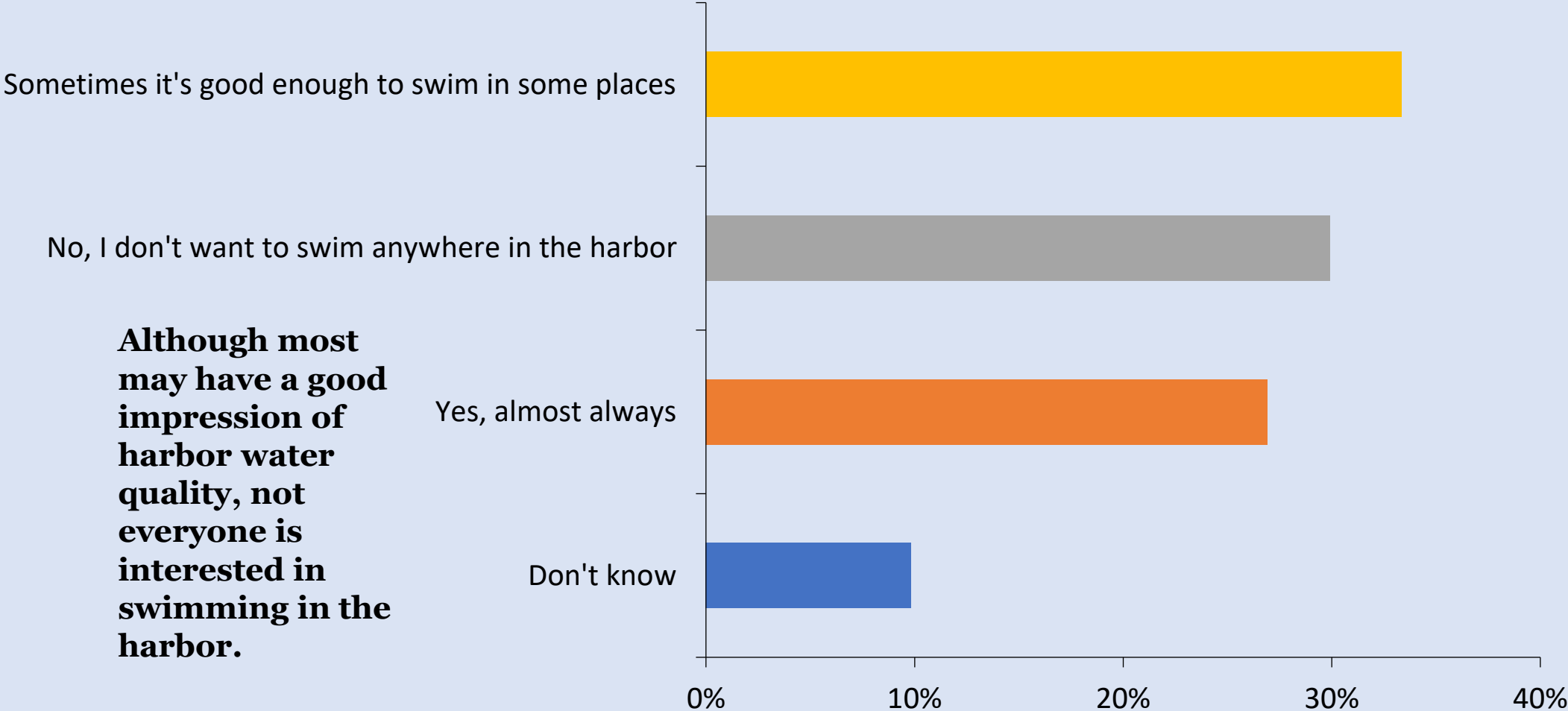
Q12 Overall, do you think the water quality in New London Harbor and the Thames River is:



**Q13 Are you aware of pollution problems in a specific location in the harbor?
If yes, please identify the location or locations.
(See attachment for comments.)**

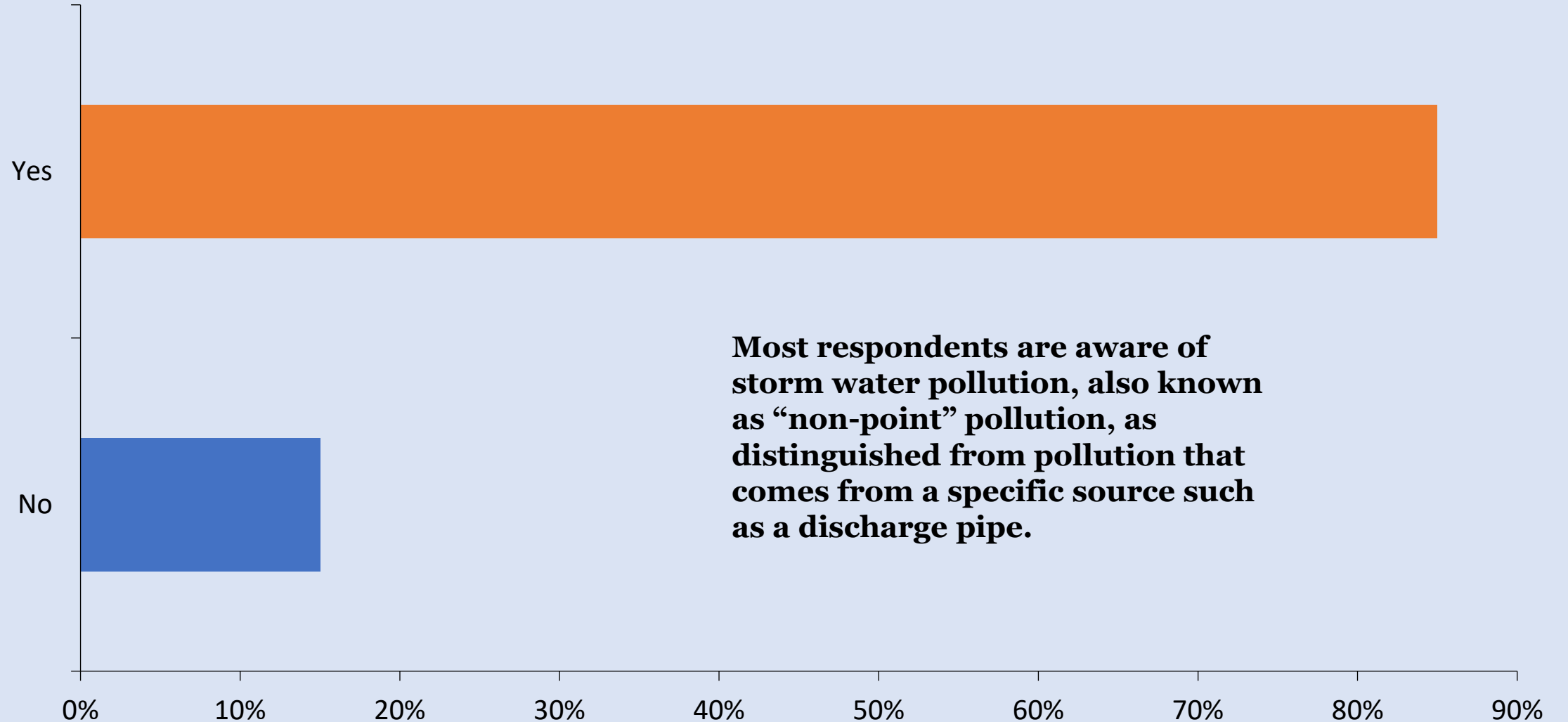


Q14 Do you think the water quality is good enough to go swimming?

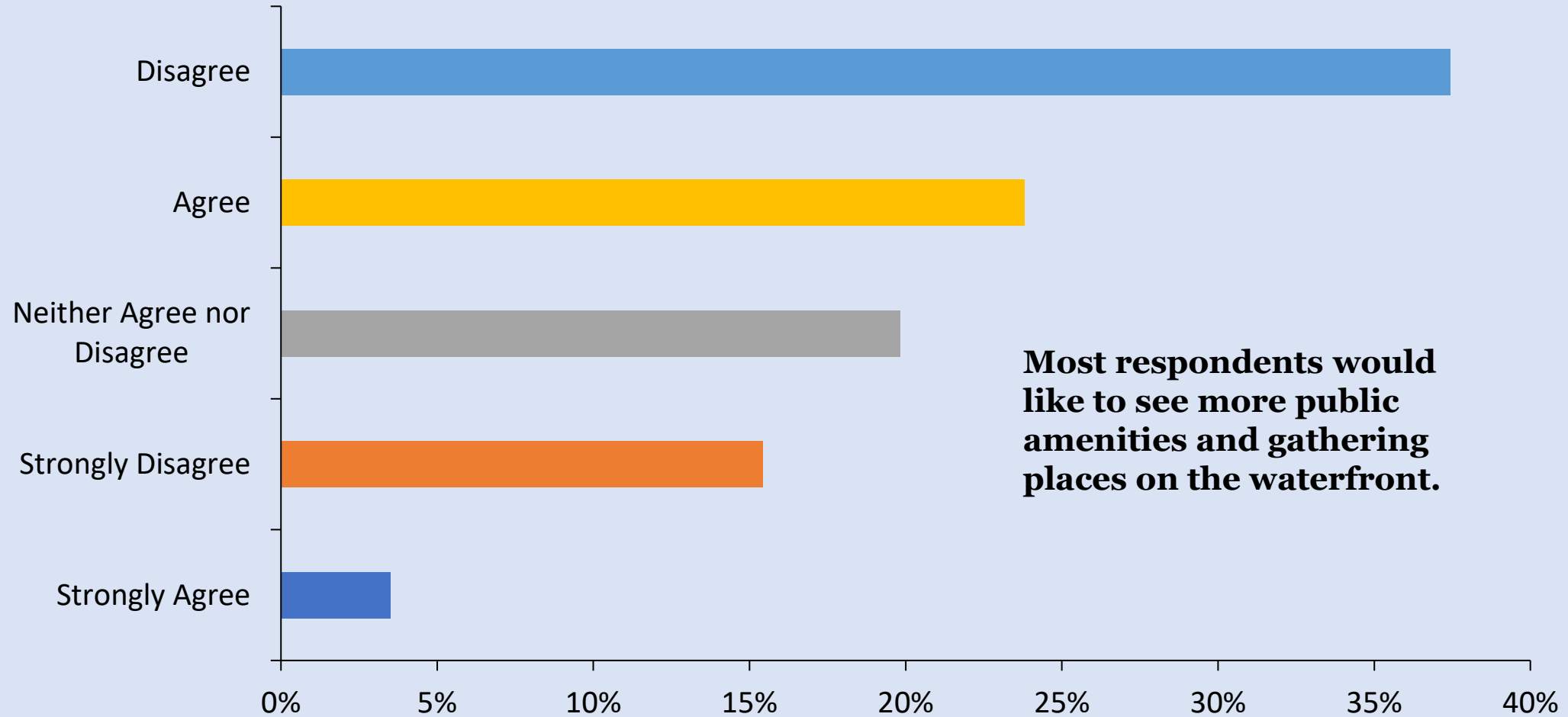


Although most may have a good impression of harbor water quality, not everyone is interested in swimming in the harbor.

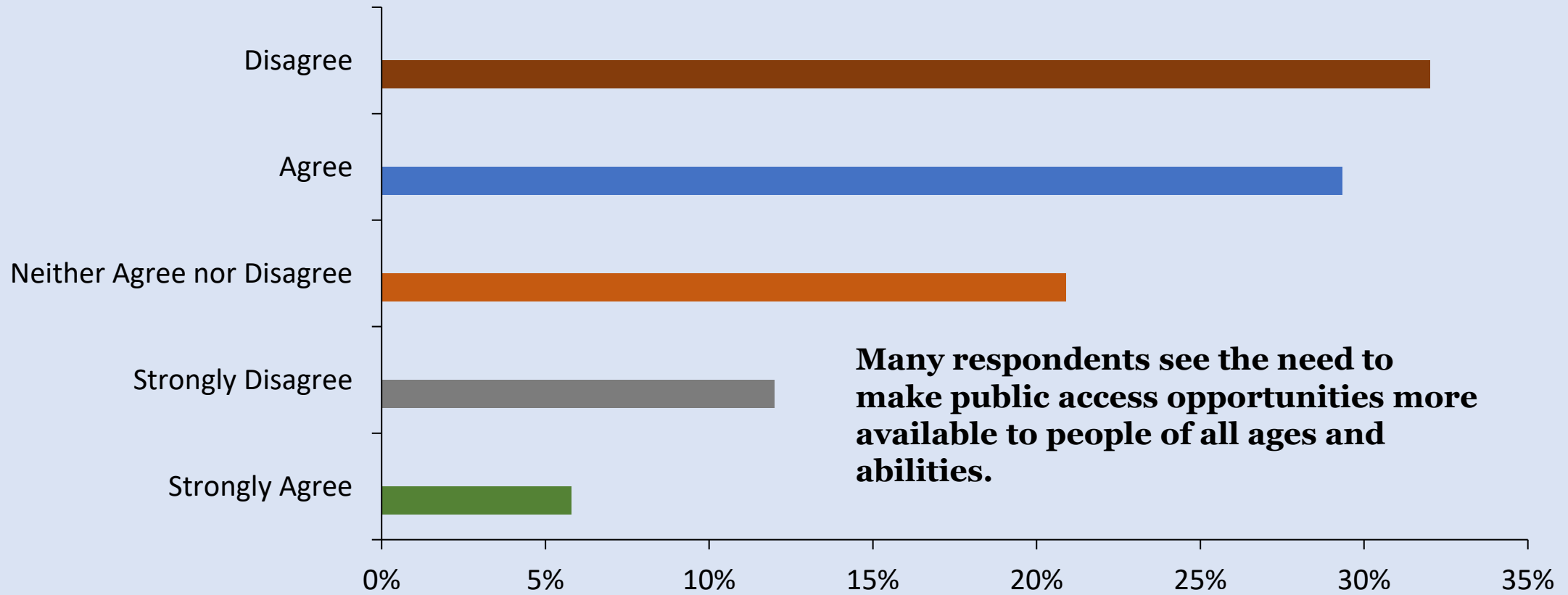
Q15 Are you aware of the pollution problems that can be caused when storm water runs off the land?



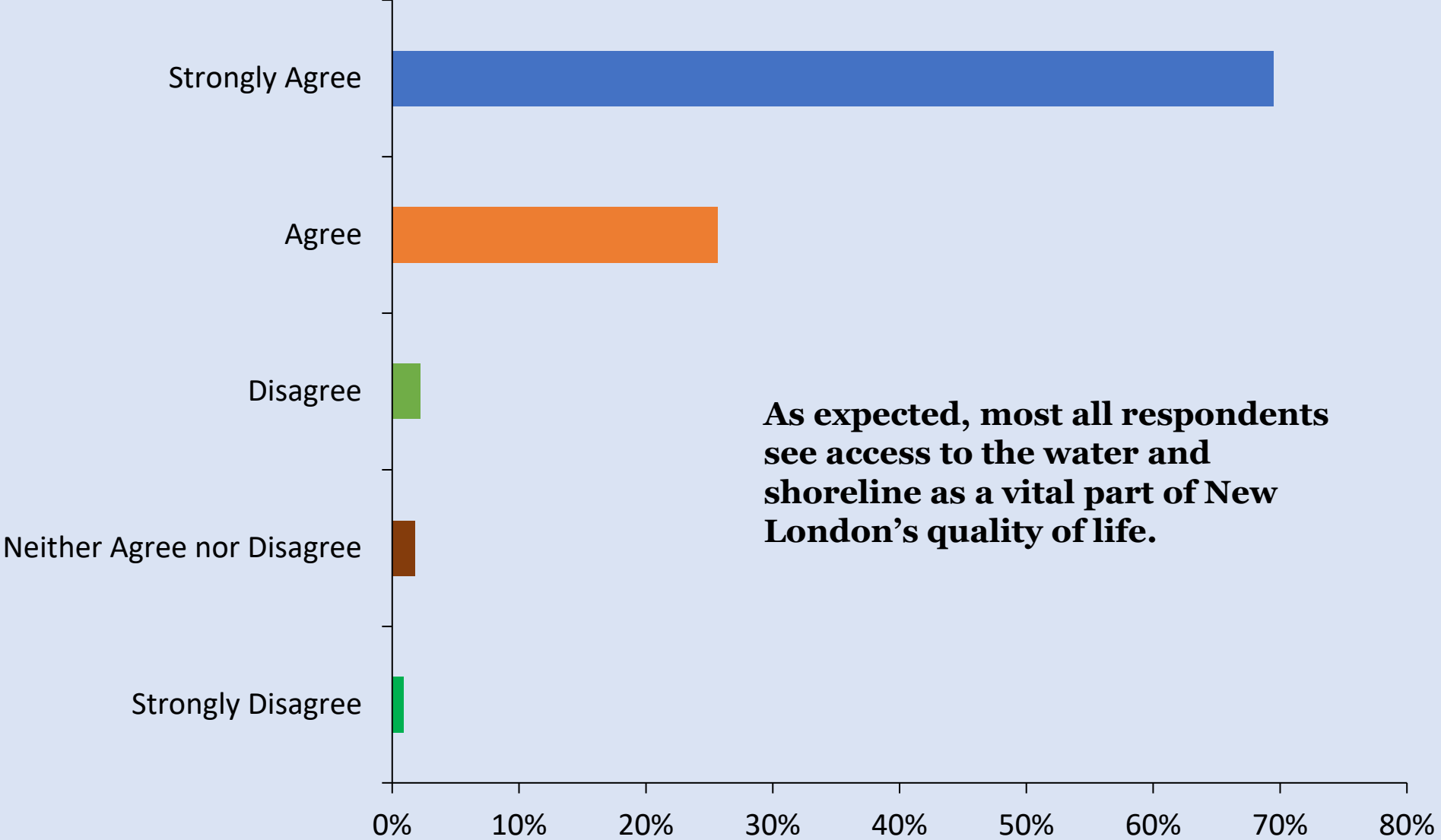
Q 16 “There are sufficient public amenities on the waterfront, including parks, walkways, and associated facilities like bathrooms, concessions and public gathering places, including restaurants.”



Q17 “Safe public access to the shore and water is reasonably available without barriers to different groups such as young children, elderly, handicapped, or people with less money.”



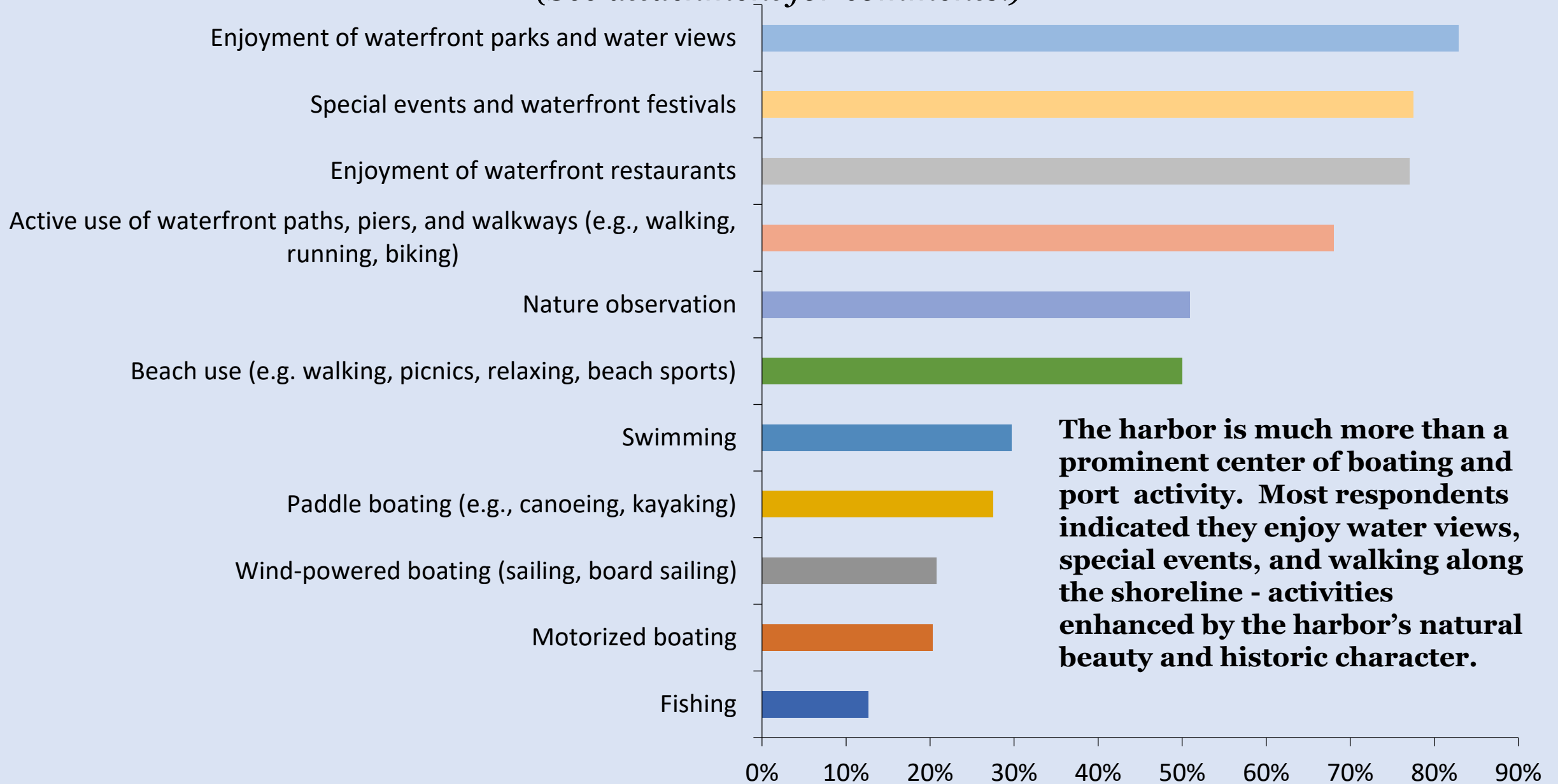
Q18 “Access to the water, beaches, and shoreline is an important part of the quality of life in New London.”



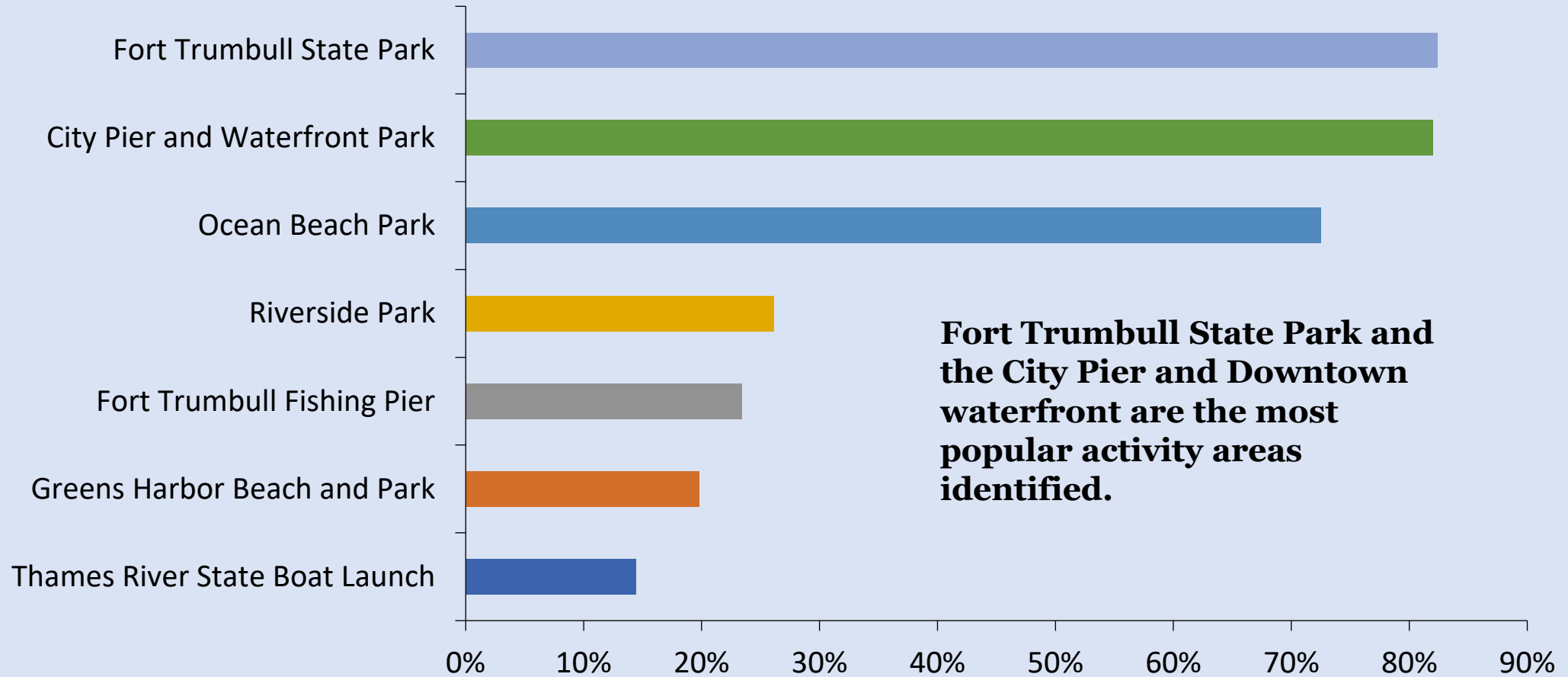
As expected, most all respondents see access to the water and shoreline as a vital part of New London’s quality of life.

Q19 How do you enjoy New London Harbor and its waterfront?

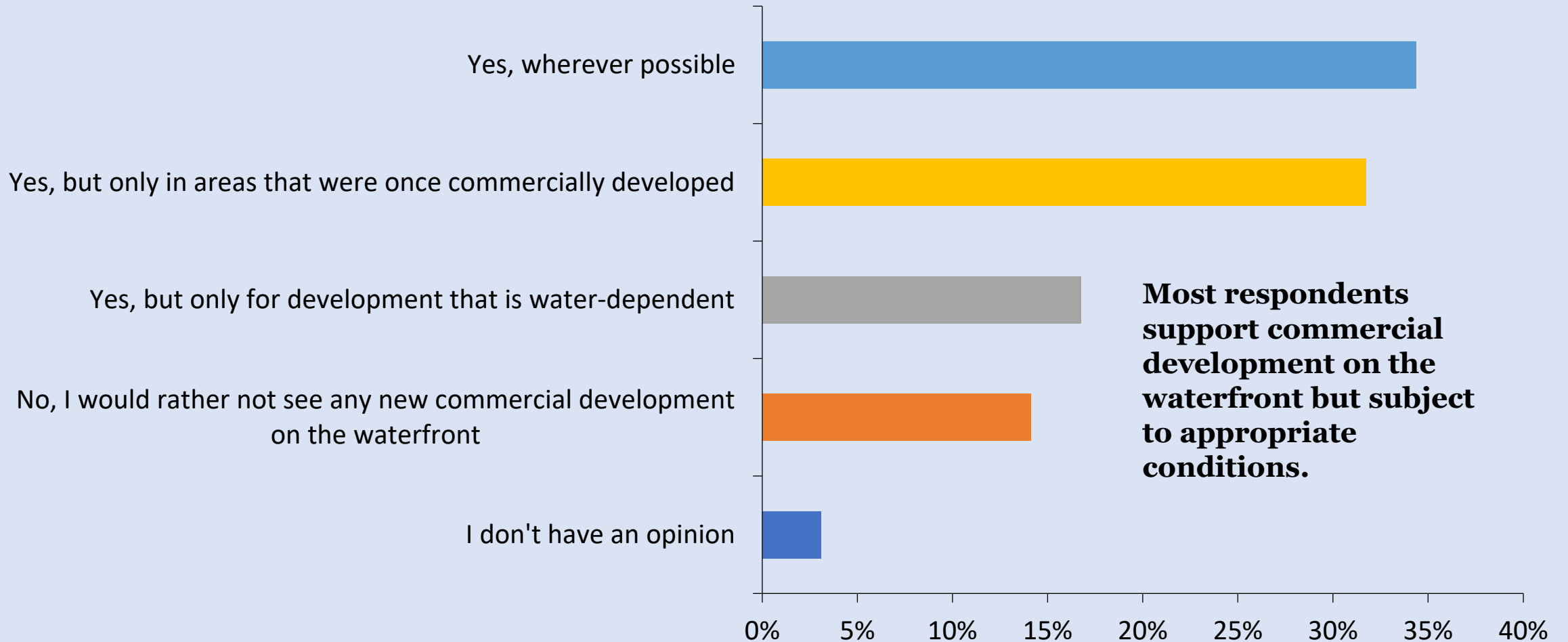
(See attachment for comments.)



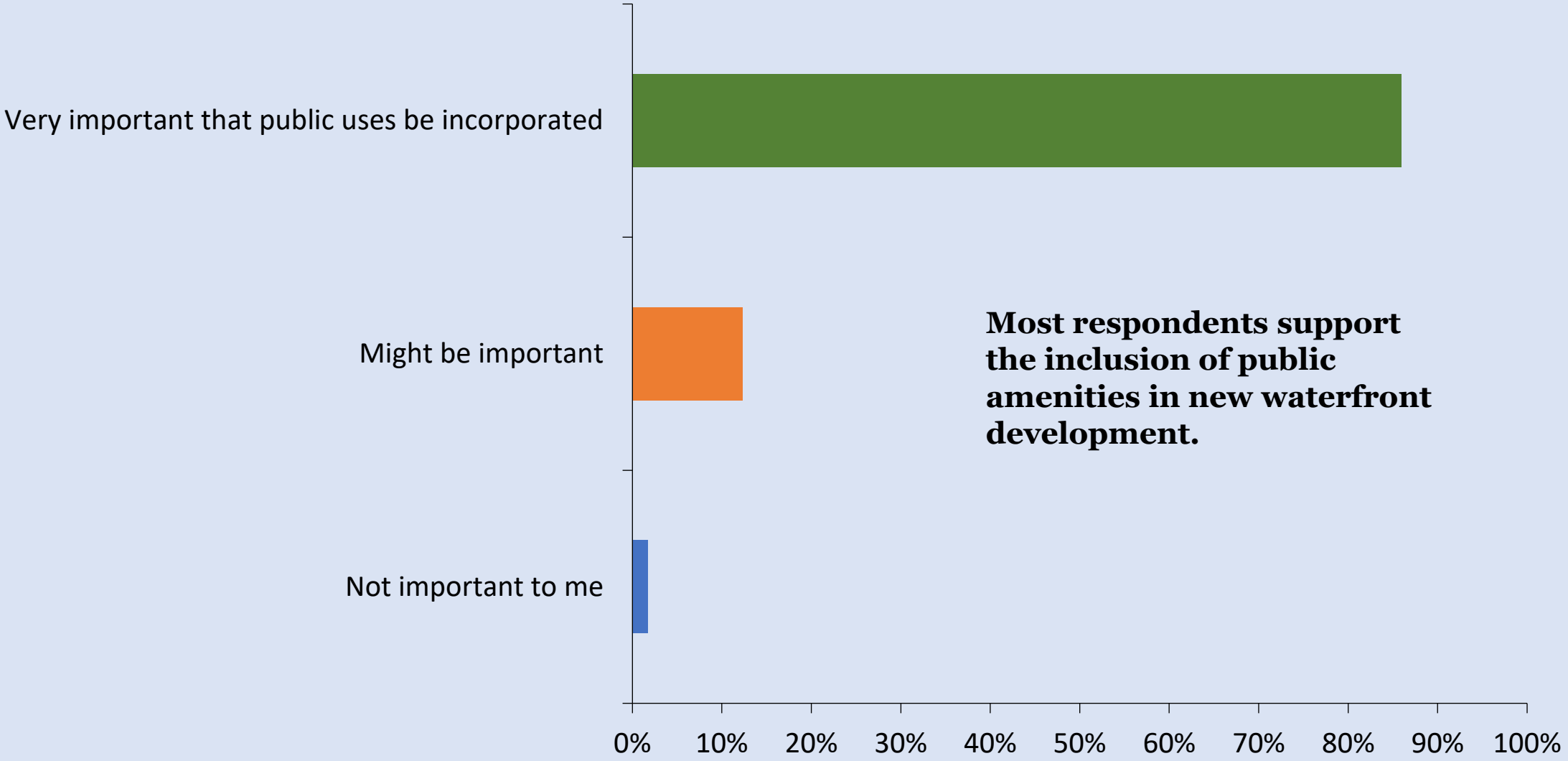
Q20 What waterfront facilities/areas open to the public do you enjoy using? (Choose as many as apply.) Other areas? Please describe.



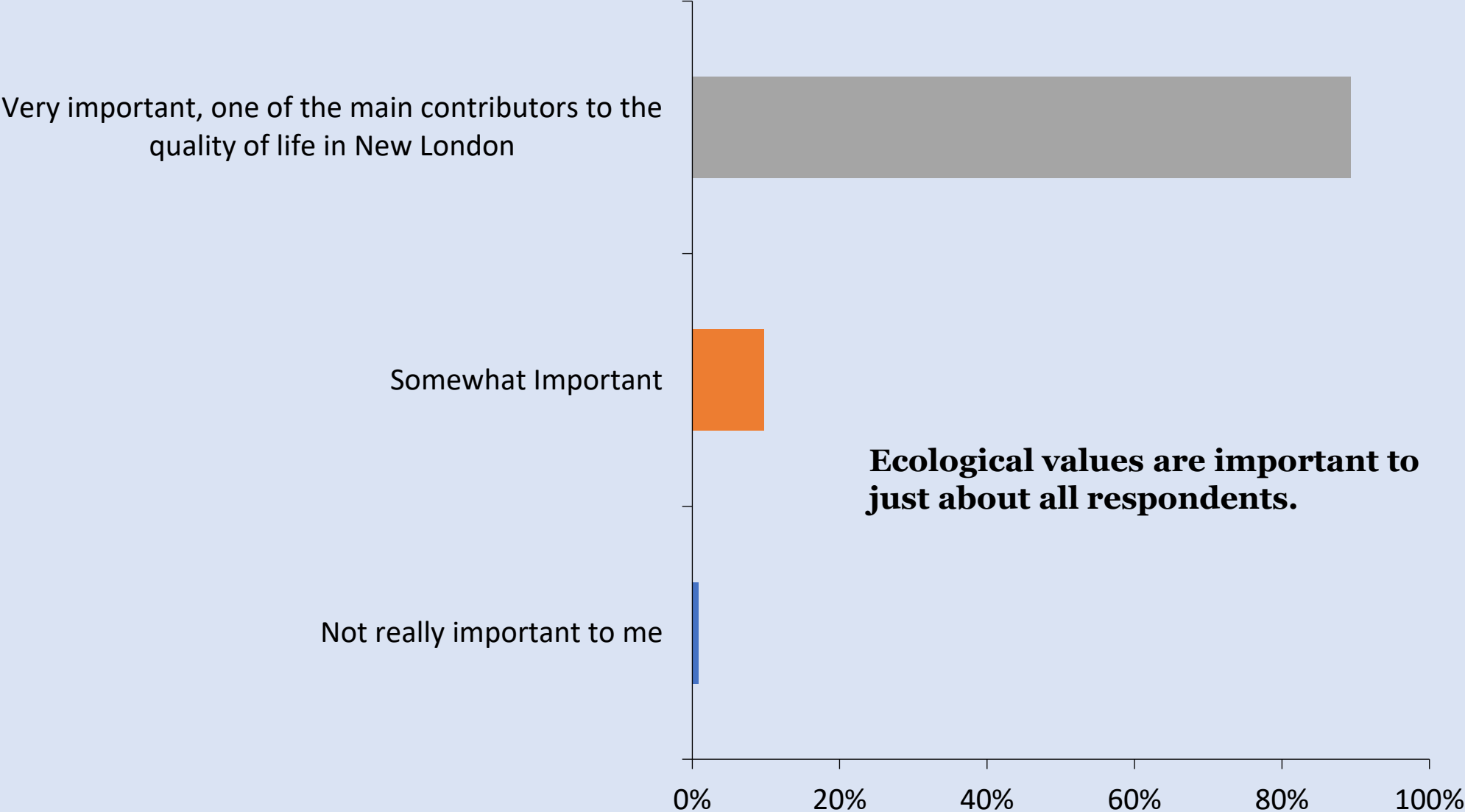
Q21 Do you agree that more commercial development on the waterfront should be encouraged?



Q22 How important is it that public amenities be incorporated in new waterfront development projects?



Q23 How important are the ecological values of our waterfront and coastal waters to you?

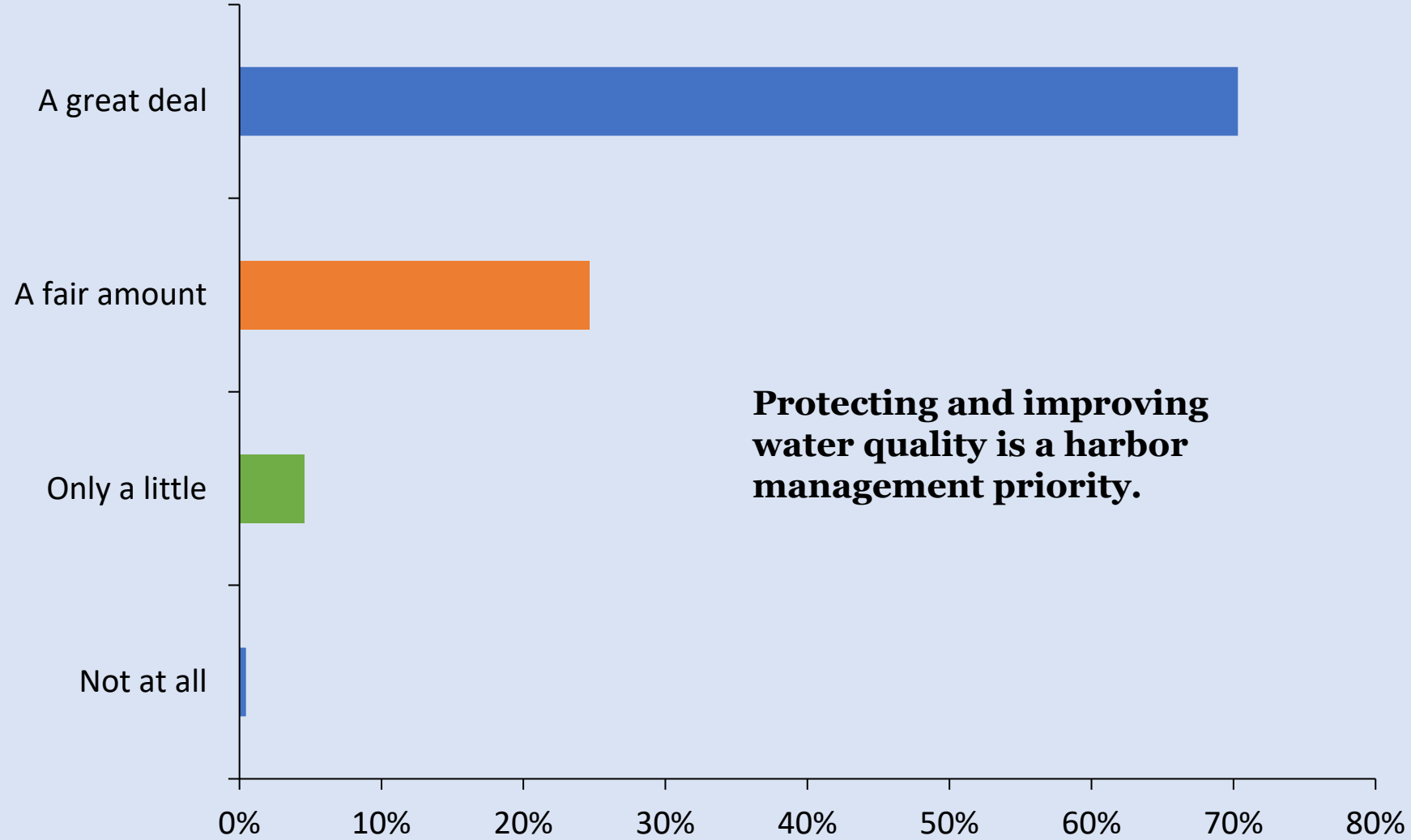




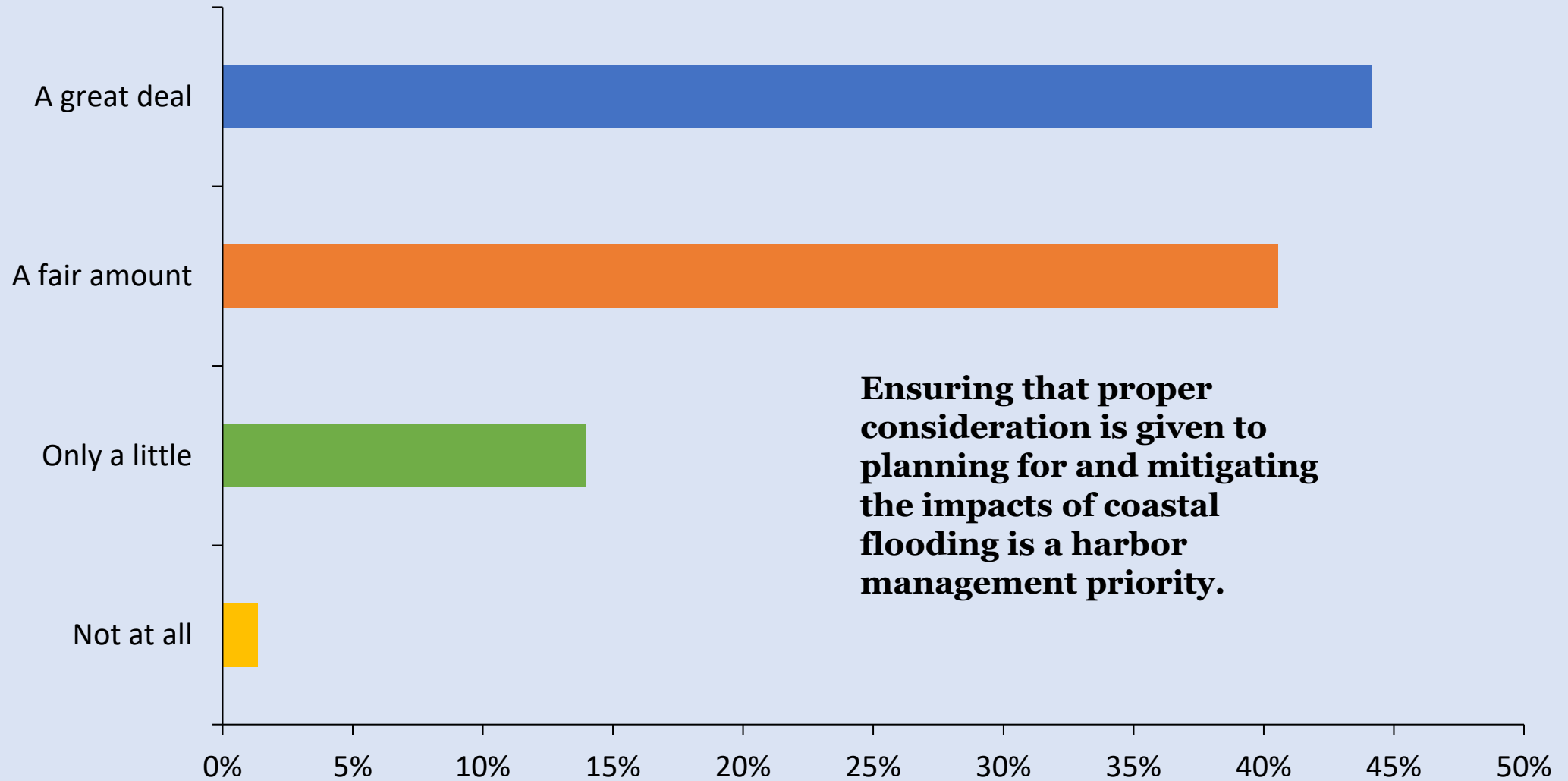
Q24-33 Please tell us how much you are concerned about the following harbor management issues?

See the following slides for the responses. These issues all will be addressed as priority issues through the policies and recommendations included in the Harbor Management Plan.

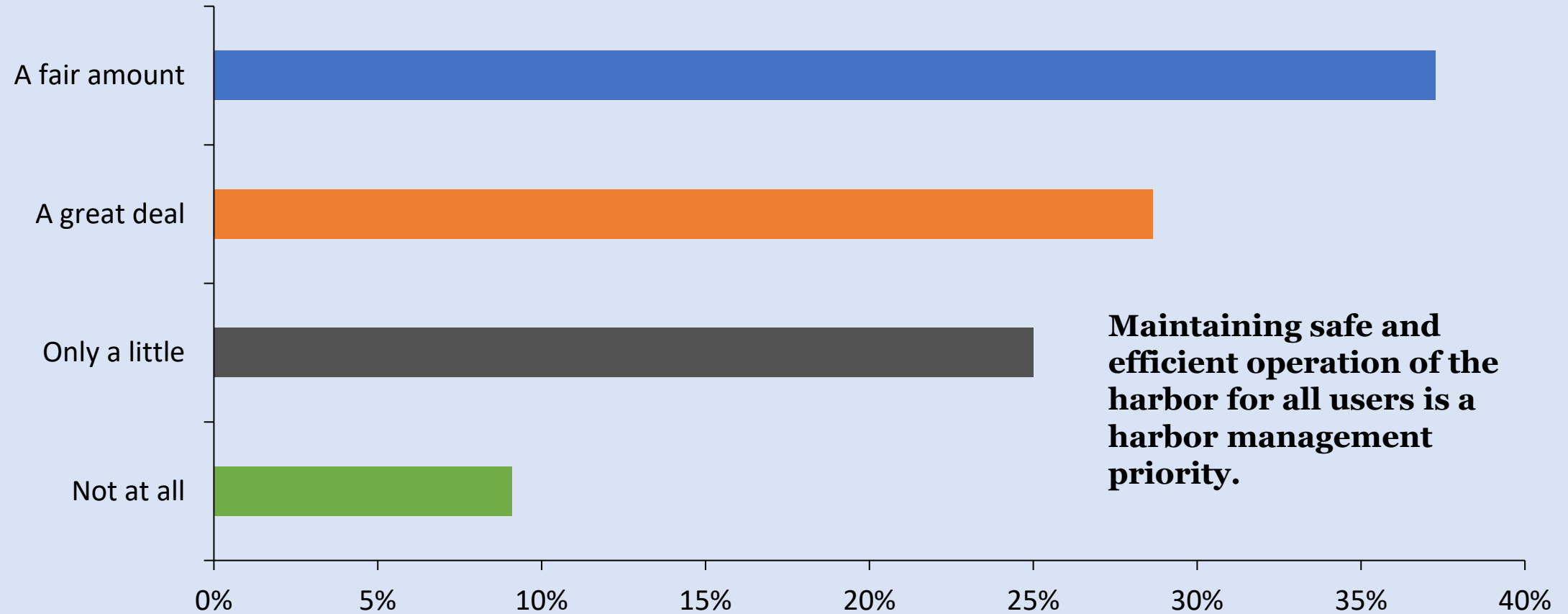
Q24 Water pollution



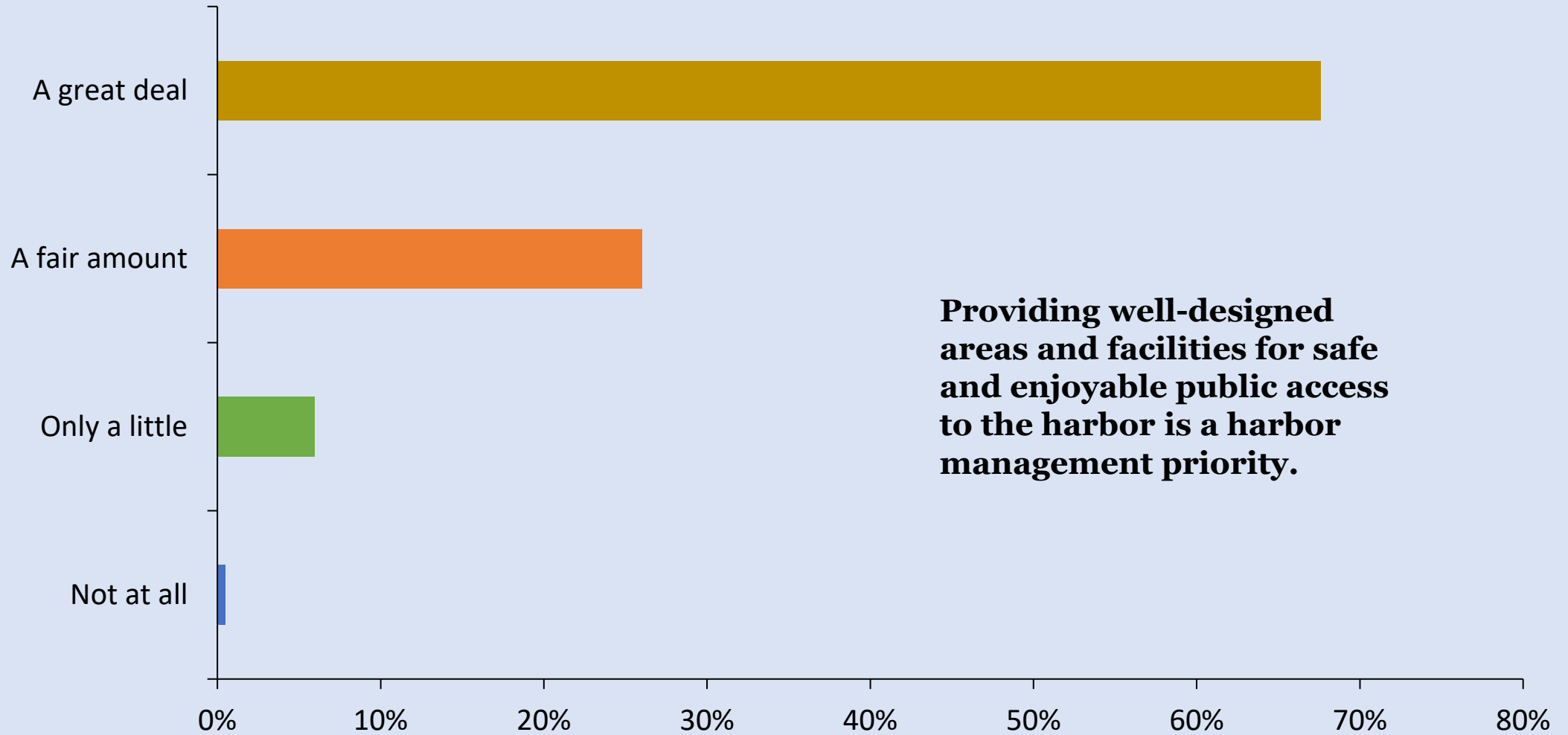
Q25 Coastal flooding and erosion



Q26 Boating safety, including conflicts among different types of boating activities

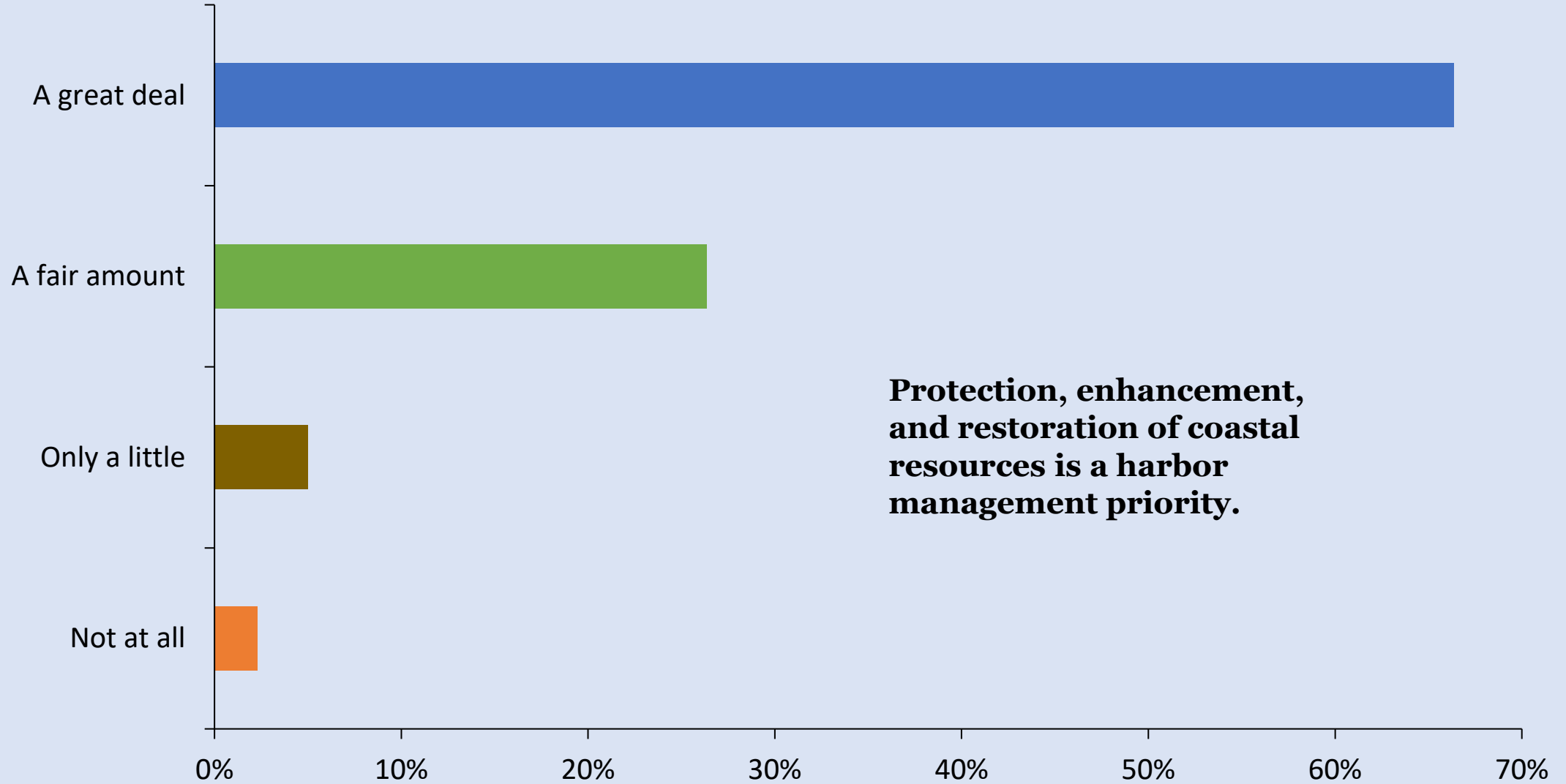


Q27 Public access to the shore and water

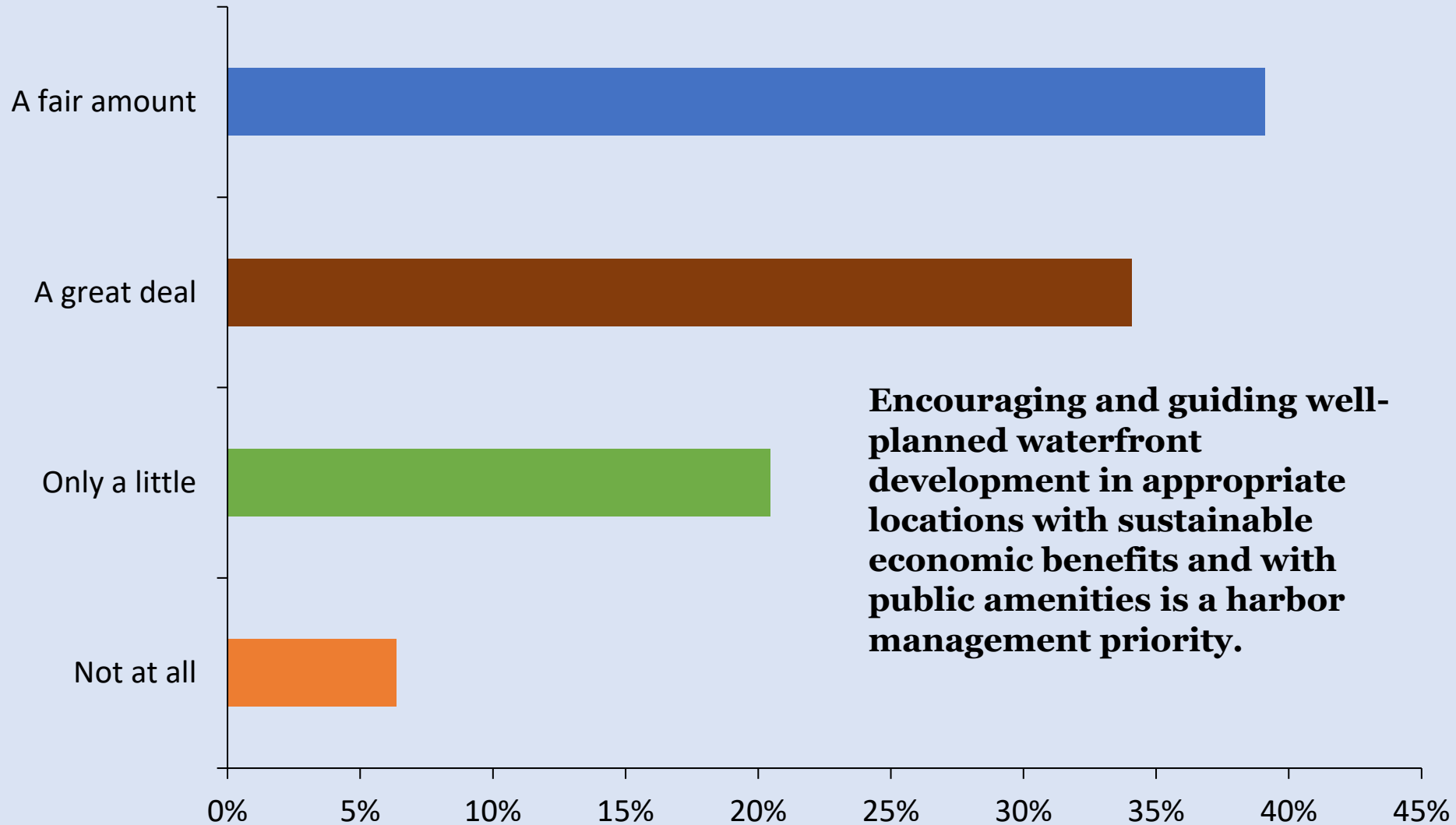


Providing well-designed areas and facilities for safe and enjoyable public access to the harbor is a harbor management priority.

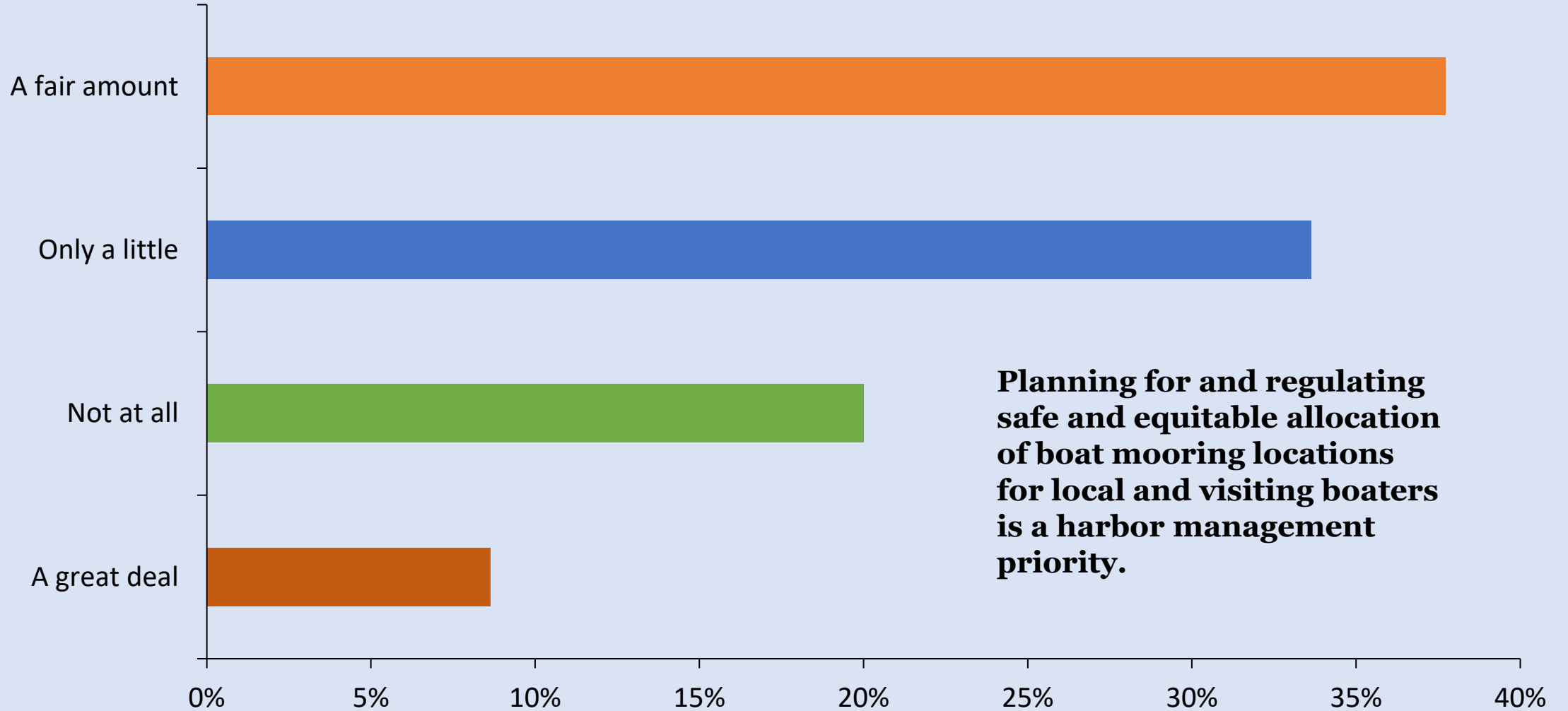
Q28 Conservation of coastal resources such as tidal wetlands and shellfish resources



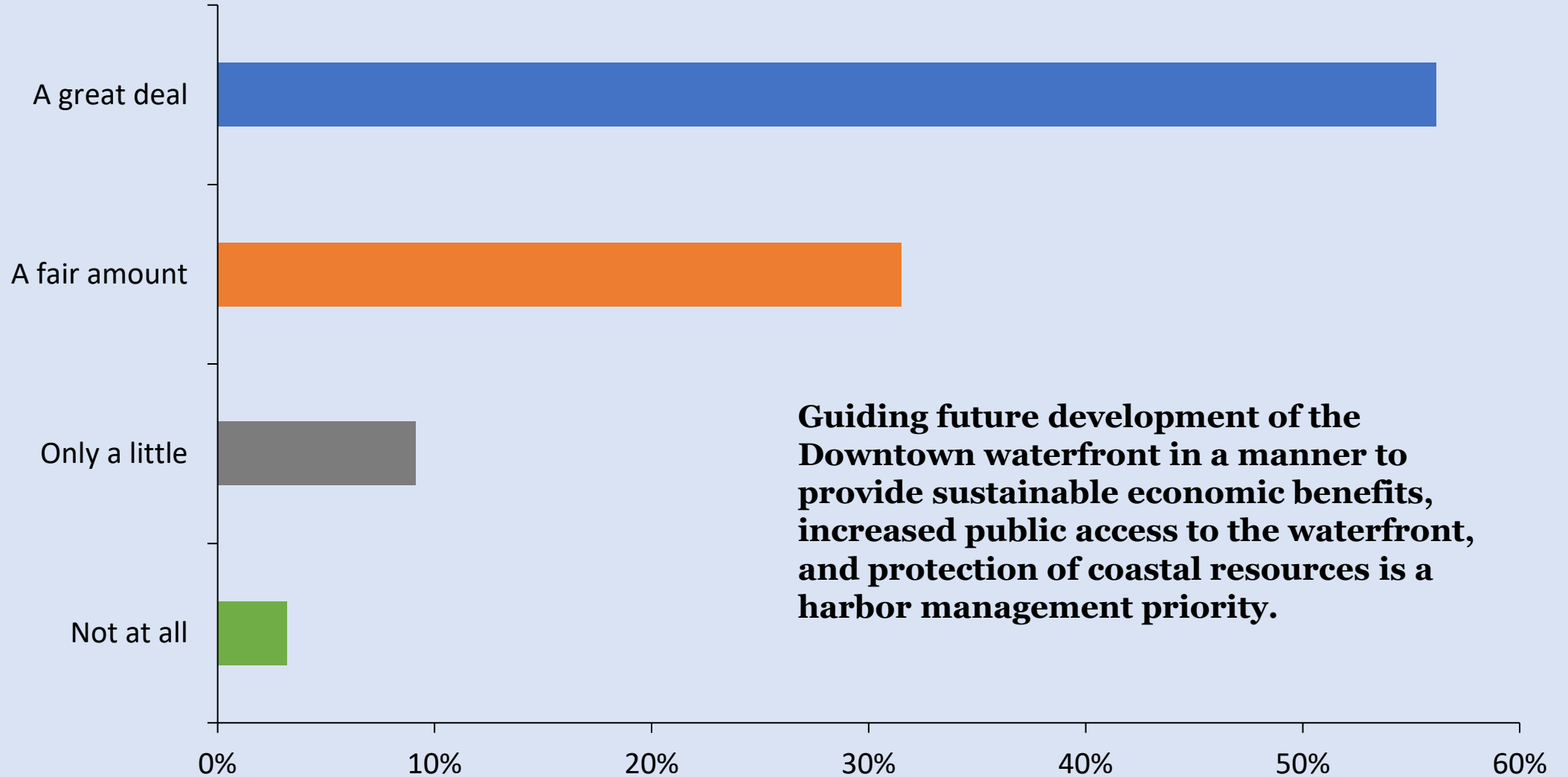
Q29 Increased waterfront development



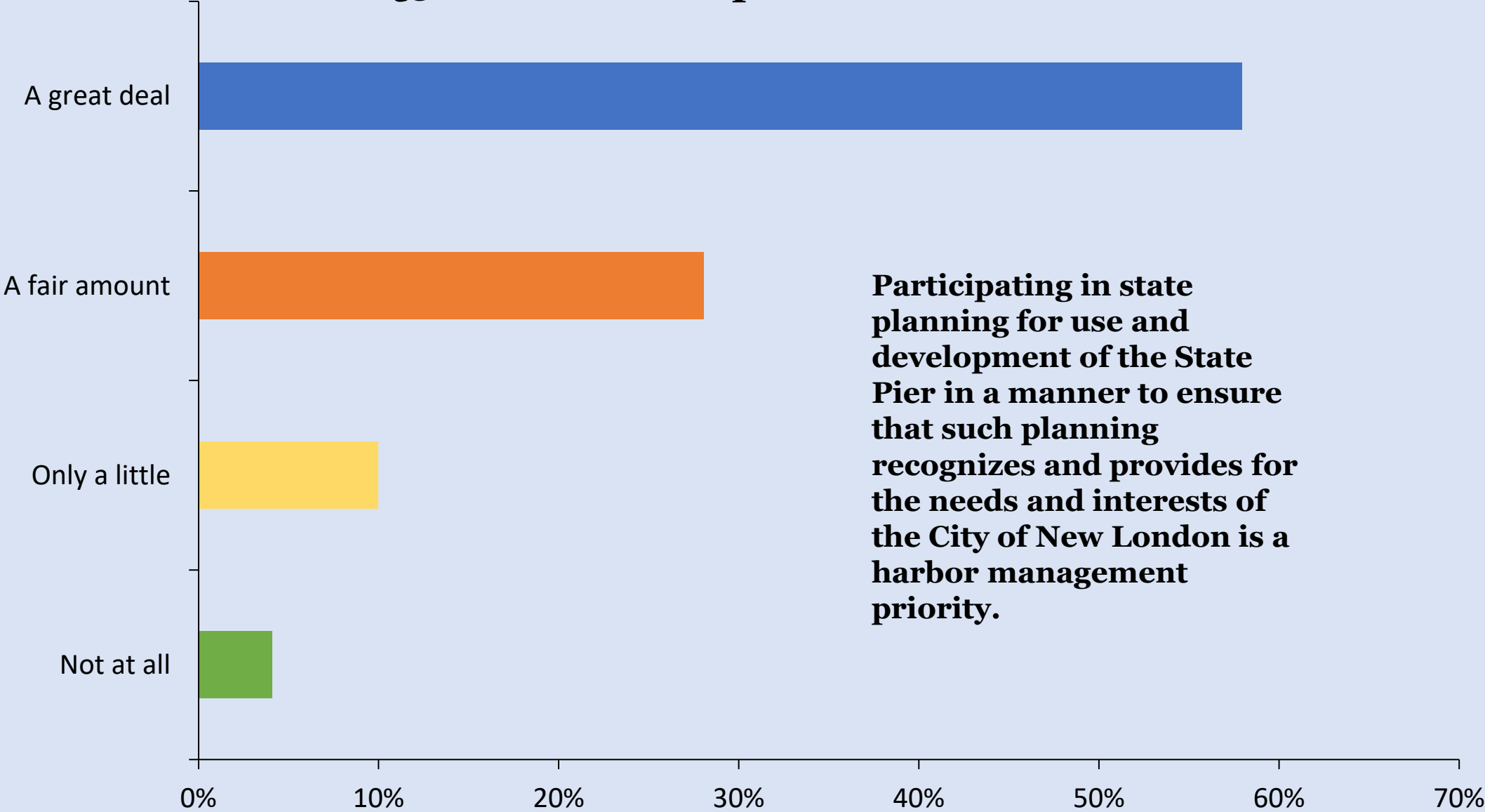
Q30 Number and location of boat moorings



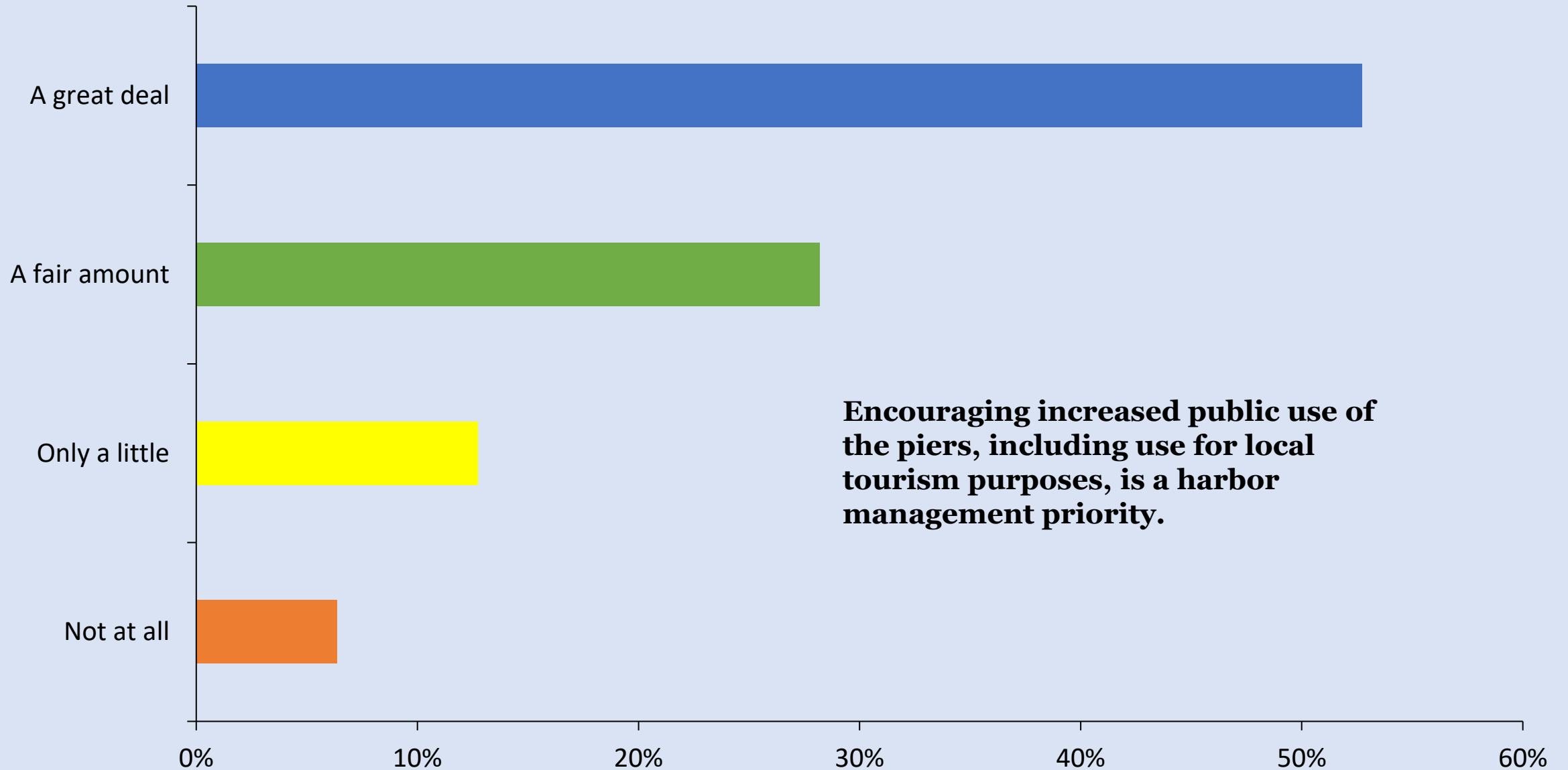
Q31 Future development of the Downtown waterfront



Q32 Future development of the State Pier



Q33 Future use and development of the Fort Trumbull piers



Q34 Thank you for your time, and your interest in our City's harbor and waterfront. We invite you to provide any additional comments that express your interest in New London Harbor, any problems you may see, and anything else you would like the Harbor Management Commission to consider.

The Harbor Management Commission is appreciative that a number of the 79 respondents who provided concluding remarks expressed support and encouragement for the City's efforts to manage safe and beneficial use of the harbor and protect the harbor's exceptional resources.

Please see the Attachment for a complete statement of all responses to this question.

Acknowledgments

New London Harbor Management Commission/Port Authority

Mayor Michael Passero

Chris Baker

Scott Cooper

Karl J. Saszik

Kathy Walburn, Chair

Dave Crocker, Harbor Master

Barbara Neff, New London Dock Master

New London City Hall

181 State Street

New London, Connecticut 06320

To contact the Harbor Management Commission/Port Authority:

call 860.443.3786

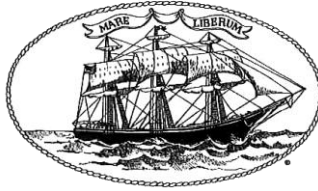
or visit us at: <http://www.ci.new-london.ct.us/>



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City of New London Harbor Management Commission

New London City Hall
181 State Street
New London, Connecticut 06320



July 2022

Review of Responses to the Harbor Management Questionnaire Attachment

Question 6

Are there areas of the harbor where, because of congestion and other conditions, you feel that boating and navigation safety is reduced? If "yes," please explain.

Question 7

Do you own a boat? If "yes," please specify power, sail, or power craft.

Question 13:

Are you aware of pollution problems in a specific location in the harbor? If yes, please identify the location or locations.

Question 19:

How do you enjoy New London Harbor and its waterfront? (Check as many activities as apply.) Other activities. Please describe.

Question 20:

What waterfront facilities/areas open to the public do you enjoy using? (Choose as many as apply.) Other areas? Please describe.

Question 34:

We invite you to provide any additional comments that express your interest in New London Harbor, any problems you may see, and anything else that you would like the New London Port Authority / Harbor Management Commission to consider.

Q6: Are there areas of the harbor where, because of congestion and other conditions, you feel that boating and navigation safety is reduced? If “yes,” please explain.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Boat speeds near mooring fields |
| 2 | Approval of the State Pier for 'windmills' ! |
| 3 | River access viewing points are needed to enjoy sights and sounds. Also connect NL Waterfront Park with Ft. Trumbul! |
| 4 | I do not have a boat and rarely take any ferry rides |
| 5 | The boat launch is under the Gold Star Bridge. The only safe way to travel is north. South is too congested with container ships and ferries. |
| 6 | There are times during the year the Thames appear full. It may not be a safety issue, but it feels like it. |
| 7 | Near and around the train station. |
| 8 | The river is very busy as a whole |
| 9 | The ferry traffic/wake is a constant issue. Also pleasure boaters seem to feel they always have the right-of-way. |
| 10 | As a pro mariner I understand the risk of much traffic |
| 11 | ferry traffic near the city pier other than that it fine |
| 12 | Not at the present time, however, increased traffic at State Pier might pose potential concerns at a later date. |
| 13 | The Thames estuary has a history as a commercial harbor, though the largest vessels visiting NL maintain safe steerage for their own good, while others do not. Some government vessels do not either Coast Guard/Navy Patrol Boats. This adds to the perception that wake management is unimportant. When it is! Fundamentally, the CT River is |
| 14 | Boating is probably reduced around the shore near the train station so that the boats don't run the risk of going over the trains |
| 15 | No Need |
| 16 | Better traffic flow during events and inclement weather. |
| 17 | There is a mostly sunken boat in Green's Harbor, this doesn't seem safe |
| 18 | Haven't seen any boating or shipping traffic to give any opinion. |
| 19 | when the worthless wind tunnels are built |
| 20 | Sail fest the river is over policed. Less boats go year after year. |
| 21 | I canoe... so don't experience harbor congestion |
| 22 | Kayaking in the Thames can be challenging with the ferries and other boat traffic |
| 23 | Too many projects on the shoreline |
| 24 | It's reckless |
| 25 | Lack of consideration for smaller vessels in the harbor. |

- 26 Understandably, the harbor is a congested area of the Thames River, and yes, that needs to be managed, but I truly believe a separate group of people, other than the ones running the Port, needs to be appointed to oversee the management of the Harbor. The new group would be made up of the members of the boating community in the area: commercial boating, recreational boating, military boating, New London locals....these are the people that know what the area needs, and they see it on a daily basis. I am skeptical as to why the Port and local area should be run by those running ports on the other end of the State of Connecticut. It seems that the New London area ports are being stymied for some reason, while the more southern ports are seeing an increase in business.
-
- 27 The harbor with recreational traffic, ships and the ferry service is not a very safe recreational area for smaller craft. However, I am ok with that. Let's prioritize the commercial traffic which will help our local economy, and us recreational boaters can travel a few minutes up and down the coastline to a different location.
-
- 28 Greens Harbor has informally marked rock formations (pink buoys) in the middle of the entryway to the harbor. Generally rock buoys do a poor job of marking actual rock locations. We have a sunken sail boat that has been very close to the anchorage area for 7 months.
-
- 29 Ferry docks
-
- 30 Ferry area can become crowded
-
- 31 Green Harbor is congested with marinas and moorings and the harbor near downtown is congested. These areas need special regulation
-
- 32 Concerned with inexperienced boaters amongst personal watercraft and ferries.
-
- 33 Lobster pot buoys in the Thames channel.
-
- 34 Sometimes people have confusion with the larger and smaller vessels sharing the same space
-
- 35 Ferry and shipping traffic at the mouth of the river complicate navigation for personal boaters. Signage and wake information is minimal.
-
- 36 Not being a boater don't feel qualified to comment
-
- 37 The ferry does not always respect the speed and wake laws and this makes wake wave dangerous for small crafts and swimmers
-
- 38 Ferry traffic is steady and a continual safety concern.

Q7: Do you own a boat? If “yes,” please specify power, sail, or power craft.

1	Sail
2	small cc
3	sail
4	Power
5	Sail
6	paddle craft
7	Paddle craft
8	kayak
9	Kayak
10	Power
11	Row boat
12	power and paddle
13	Sail, power, paddle.
14	I own four kayaks
15	sail
16	paddle craft
17	sailboat
18	Power
19	Kayak - paddle craft
20	Power, 17' Whaler
21	Paddle craft
22	power
23	Kayak
24	I'm older now, but have owned everything from a canoe to power boat and have a current boating license.
25	sailboat
26	paddle craft
27	Sail and paddle craft
28	Paddle
29	kayak
30	Sail
31	Power
32	Sail
33	power
34	power
35	Sail
36	paddle craft
37	Kayaks

38	Power
39	Paddle craft
40	Kayaks
41	kayak
42	All of the above
43	Paddle
44	Power
45	Sail
46	paddle craft
47	I operate New London Community Boating and regularly operate Power and Sailboats in the Thames River
48	Kayak
49	power
50	Sail
51	power did own a sail boat
52	sail
53	Power
54	Kayak
55	Sail
56	power
57	Paddle & sail
58	Paddle
59	Sail
60	paddle craft
61	Two kayaks
62	Paddle
63	Power
64	Power
65	Power and sail
66	Sail
67	Power boat and kayak
68	all of the above
69	sail
70	sail boat, kayak
71	power
72	kayak only
73	Kayaks
74	sail, paddle craft and jet ski

**Q13: Are you aware of pollution problems in a specific location in the harbor?
If yes, please identify the location or locations.**

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Green Harbor Beach area looks disgusting on a regular basis. |
| 2 | Various beaches along the Thames close each year. Greens Harbor, Mitchel, etc. |
| 3 | Green beach |
| 4 | Greens Harbor Beach |
| 5 | Electric Boat area |
| 6 | Shaw's Cove from run-off |
| 7 | Green Harbor beach |
| 8 | greens harbour |
| 9 | Sewage, watershed, runoff |
| 10 | greens harbor, city pier |
| 11 | Green Harbor beach |
| 12 | around pier such as between city pier and F I ferry landing |
| 13 | Upriver at Thames Shipyard |
| 14 | Ocean Beach and Green's Harbor are often not clean and there have been frequent postings about water pollution there |
| 15 | Downtown heavy metals, street debris, car liquids and metal and tire wear |
| 16 | near the sewage treatment and the entire shoreline of New London. Storm runoff is a problem. |
| 17 | Green harbor beach |
| 18 | few large mussels exist at Osprey beach anymore. Burr's Marina has a lot of silt. The water near the ferry port is often clouded with oil sheen. There are no open shellfishing areas. |
| 19 | Water Park and State Pier. Too many garbage thrown on the ground and in the river. |
| 20 | EB. PFIZER, DOW, NAVY BASE THAMES SHIP YARD |
| 21 | Greens Harbor Beach |
| 22 | there is always debris floating on the Thames |
| 23 | Greens harbor |
| 24 | Green Harbor Beach |
| 25 | Green beach/public access beside EB |
| 26 | Run off and garbage collection near Crockers |
| 27 | Greens Beach |
| 28 | Greens Harbor Beach, but I'm aware a project is underway there. |
| 29 | Green harbor beach is occasionally closed due to pollution run off. |
| 30 | Storm drain runoff from city roads |
| 31 | EB |

32	At times Green Harbor
33	No, but I've read enough scientific literature to know that there is a significant amount of heavy metal pollution in harbor sediment.
34	From the Coast Guard facility...media identified this as significant for decades. I would also assume that having EB, the Navy base and an increase in boat traffic on the Thames introduces more pollution to the water, and possibly housing sewage discharges along the river.
35	Green Beach
36	Greens Harbor Beach
37	sewage and road run off
38	Storm water outfalls have to be upgraded
39	Greens Harbor
40	Coast Guard Academy
41	Storm water runoff
42	Greens Harbor beach
43	Greens Harbor Beach / Water Quality and Glass
44	Most of the River & the Sound where i live is polluted.
45	Occasional restrictions to using a particular beach due to pollution
46	Pfizer, EB, Ft. Trumbull, Groton PAF
47	Beaches on the New London side
48	Greens Harbor Beach
49	The pollution is plastic debris not water quality.
50	A lot of trash along the shore around the board walk area
51	Shaw's Cove debris after heavy rains
52	Green Harbor
53	Greens Harbor
54	Green harbor
55	Ocean beach at times
56	green harbor beach and some of the private beaches along Pequot Ave
57	Green's Harbor Beach
58	There is extreme inequitable access to clean beaches. The only free beach is Green Harbor, which has high bacteria frequently and is a site of terrible drainage of storm water. Wealthy part time residents have a monopoly on clean beaches that must be addressed.
59	Green harbor many of the boats in the area dispose of waste in the waters
60	The beach on Pequot before Fred's
61	Along piers
62	Ocean beach, Marinas up and down the Thames, near the "Pfizer" New London Location
63	Coast guard

64 Green harbor beach has weird fluorescent stuff

Q19: How do you enjoy New London Harbor and its waterfront? (Check as many activities as apply.) Other activities? Please describe.

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1 | Outdoor concerts and children's activities |
| 2 | Maritime celebrations and History of NL |
| 3 | use of ferries and train |
| 4 | Studying the local history |
| 5 | None |
| 6 | I am now disabled and limited in my activities. |
| 7 | bicycling on adjacent paths and roads |
| 8 | Science research for the future marine scientists |
| 9 | ITS A CESPOOL LOADED WITH TRASH |
| 10 | ferry trips |
| 11 | We avoid the waterfront, to our dismay, for many reasons. NL has done a poor job with its harbor. |
| 12 | I enjoy cruising the harbor and looking at all the activity. It is a great combination of a working and recreational harbor. |
| 13 | Many of us can't even go to the beach because it is so expensive. Yet the town motto "Mare Liberia" means "Free sea" |
| 14 | Dog walking |
| 15 | The green spaces in the fort Trumbull area are a very relaxing escape from the bustle of the city. |
| 16 | Photography |
| 17 | Water taxi |

Q20: What waterfront facilities/areas open to the public do you enjoy using? (Choose as many as apply.) Other areas? Please describe.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 | Club |
| 2 | none |
| 3 | Alewife Cove |
| 4 | Fort Trumbull Marina; schooner Amistad, New London Harbor lighthouse, |
| 5 | Ocean Beach too \$\$\$\$\$, and run down |
| 6 | restaurants that have water views/outdoor decks |
| 7 | Alewife cove, Mamacoke Island |

- 8 Would love to use the Waterfront Park. It is undesirable for families, due to hygiene and homeless
-
- 9 Private beach... that I have to pay for. Ocean beach needs to be managed by the city! So funds go to city
-
- 10 Ocean Beach Park is a private beach in that it is not accessible to people who cannot pay the fee. As such, I object to its inclusion here.
-
- 11 We enjoy, emphasize enjoy, none of these.
-
- 12 I think the fishing areas are important to the people of New London
-
- 13 I'm concerned about pollution at Greens Harbor Beach and other beaches.
-
- 14 Pequot Avenue, it is especially nice for bike riding and walking, if only there was a day (Sunday) when cars weren't allowed and the citizens of New London could enjoy our waterfront.
-
- 15 Ocean Beach only when it has free entrance.
-
- 16 Fort Trumbull beyond the park. Pequot Avenue sidewalk
-
- 17 Captain Scott's!
-
- 18 private beach on Pequot Ave
-
- 19 Coastal access near electric boat

Q34: We invite you to provide any additional comments that express your interest in New London Harbor, any problems you may see, and anything else that you would like the New London Port Authority / Harbor Management Commission to consider.

- 1 Need a mooring plan published to know what standard is
-
- 2 Much more should be done to beautify the waterfront businesses along Bank Street, the road (water st.) immediately bordering the river and businesses. From the water/ferry we look at the back entry of businesses. More decks, plantings, focus on the historic structures of the buildings. Development along the waterfront that provides public access. The Dock new seafood place is a perfect use for the downtown areas.
-
- 3 would love to see more restaurants on or near the water to draw in more boaters
-
- 4 New London harbor also has many historical areas that are kept from public access, which is not fair!
-
- 5 Keeping the city clean so trash does not end up in the river. Public restrooms on the pier. More smaller events and concerts on the pier
-
- 6 With NL deep water Port. Where are the cruise ships? NL needs to develop excursions to promote n expose travelers to stay local... not bus them out to casinos n Mystic NL is home of unique historical events. Why

not invite Garde to do a show or movie combined with bus trip and lunch to one of fabulous restaurants!

-
- 7 As a frequent walker of the city, I would like Fort Trumbull connected to the downtown waterfront with a pedestrian bridge. This would make both areas more accessible to me and others who enjoy walking. In addition, if public access to the waterways is important to the city, then it should be advertised and signed as aggressively as the bike pathways are. Lastly, downtown does not need more development at waterfront park, as this will only hurt the current businesses. More should be done at Fort Trumbull to diversify and maximize where tourists and locals can visit, shop, and eat.
-
- 8 RCDA is not the answer and should be eliminated if they cannot communicate with residents. They seem to be a joke including when speaking before council. Eliminate and either replace or fold into Felix's office.
-
- 9 I've always thought there's a huge opportunity for events on the waterfront, especially combining Fort Trumbull and downtown piers. Newport Folk Festival takes place a larger, yet similar fort as Fort Trumbull, so it can be done.
-
- 10 To all involved - Please work together in the best interest of our City Harbor and waterfront resources. They are New London's greatest and most precious assets.
-
- 11 would like public kayak/canoe launch somewhere in Alewife Cove
-
- 12 Parking can be a deterrent to using the waterfront especially at Greens Harbor Beach. Any development should include plenty of parking in a safe area.
-
- 13 The Connecticut government shouldn't be engaged in commerce itself, nor should it pick winners and losers be a gate keeper. Its primary objective should be to provide vital access to commercial waterfront assets to the largest number & widest variety of enterprises that a free market may offer or allow. This requires a set of simple, fair, and transparent rules for such a finite resource. It's about the development of a vibrant working waterfront economy, not a cash cow for governments, their agencies, or patrons & friends, which has been the trend in Connecticut since its adoption of the income tax. We're watching.
-
- 14 Putting a restaurant of City Pier is not a good idea -- it ties up an important public space & blocks the view; using one of the smaller piers would work better. The City Pier is needed for special events, public boating. Developing the potential park areas of the waterfront would create a destination. Seating groups and umbrellas, in season, would draw people with food from downtown to the waterfront and enliven the area.

- 15 I think the most important goal is to strive for a balance among competing interests and factors, among them commerce, public access and recreation, overall esthetics (i.e., appearance of the harbor and shorelines), and historic preservation wherever applicable.
-
- 16 I'm an advocate for the use of State Pier for the staging of wind farm components and servicing.
-
- 17 I would like a safe place to store my fiberglass kayaks on the waterfront Park. A few years back there were racks but I wouldn't be feel safe leaving them overnight state pier I am for wind farm development but not at the expense of use of rail I am interested in learning more about the staging area for building wind turbine equipment on a temporary basis which was turned down makes more sense than one company hogging the whole piece Of everyone else
-
- 18 New London, shore location and its developed amenities, like State Pier, are great resources that are underdeveloped. That must change. I am particularly concerned about wind development issues. We must not be robbed of our resources and legacy.
-
- 19 Protect our waterways and encourage shoreline organizations to work together for the benefit of all!
-
- 20 I get very discouraged reading about DEEP interfering in development. That should be the developers' problem and local authority.
-
- 21 Some of the questions just asked regarding concern could be taken a different way than perhaps intended. Concern could mean either that the subject of the question occurs too much or too little.
-
- 22 There is a tragic lack of public areas for swimming and general beach use, Ocean beach is financially inaccessible to many New London residents, and the only other option is greens harbor which is small dirty and full of broken glass
-
- 23 Access to the water and recreational opportunities to enjoy this amenity are some of the most important features that enhance the quality of life for residents and make the city appealing to new residents and businesses. The city should focus on conserving what little waterfront is available to be converted into publicly accessible areas. Parks and open space drive up real estate values and contribute to the economic and social prosperity of the city. Furthermore, public access to the water bridges the gaps in racial and social inequity that results from a privatized coastline and limited access to nature for the underserved populations.
-
- 24 More attention needs to be paid to stormwater runoff.
-
- 25 NL has to move forward and compete as a seaport city. We can't be held back by traditional perspectives.

- 26 I'd rather see the City take back the control and running of Ocean Beach, than put one more dollar into downtown.
-
- 27 Making shoreline facilities more accessible to disabled.
-
- 28 I would like to see more public use of the waterfront, like cardboard boat regattas and similar whimsical watercraft activities.
-
- 29 New London is a coastal city and needs to identify itself as friendly to families, residents and some tourists by having water views, clean water and good recreation opportunities. Being a deep water port, that is yet another attraction.
-
- 30 The waterfront park is like a desert - open and barren. No charm, no picnic tables. Pretty much a dead zone. Needs a lobster pound and mooring launch service. Boats need to be docked there. A walking bridge should be attached to the railroad bridge to connect walkways along the shoreline. Moorings should be free to transient boaters.
-
- 31 Question 21 did not have any answers I could agree with. I would like to see more commercial development of the waterfront however it shouldn't be "everywhere" and the term "water dependent" is too limiting. There should be more restaurants, bars and high end retail adjacent to/walking distance from the downtown piers. Paddleboarders, kayak rentals are commercial activities that could be developed. Could we host an international Kite Surfing competition? New London needs some classy events, New London Jazz Fest at Fort Trumbull (this will require transportation from the garage and revision of zoning constraints on noise). Ocean Beach should be redeveloped to support seasonal retail, multiple restaurants, and space should be carved out of their overflow parking area to allow for a new canoe put in on Alewife Cove. Ocean beach should develop a new pier and moorings similar to the one in the early 1900s. Ocean Beach should develop for year round assets, including an indoor pool. Ocean beach should rent kayaks and paddle boards. The minigolf and "rides" need to be reconstructed or demolished. Residency in NL should get you in free to Ocean Beach, the amenities can be the upsell (walk-in for NL residents). In Riverside Park, the pedestrian bridge should be redeveloped allowing access to the Thames River, for too long one of our greatest assets has been cut off from the public. Restore the Thames River ecology to the point where we can have shell fishing for both public and commercial interests. Educate paddle boaters about the cross current north of Ledge Light - there are few eyes-on-the-street there and paddle boarders in particular should be aware.
-
- 32 Dumping of waste fluids from cars, trucks, buses, BOATS, SHIPS and humans. I can't stand when I see other fluids that does not belong in the river and ocean floating or even a hint of anybody or company dumping

fluids or garbage and sitting or moving around at the bottom of the river or ocean.

-
- 33 GIVE THE PIER BACK TO NEW LONDON RESIDENTS AND SCREW OFF EVERSCOURCE
-
- 34 Move the coast guard museum to Ft. Trumbull.
-
- 35 New London should be a destination for boaters but it is most unfriendly. When the cruise ships come in the stores are closed. The customers are driven to other towns. Why not make new London more appealing to keep the cruisers in town.
-
- 36 The solution of a clean harbor will take years. Since it took years to make it dirty. Keep working on solutions...if not this generation, then the next will build on what we have started
-
- 37 Looking forward to the National Coast Guard Museum adding an important element to downtown. Also, cruise ships at Fort Trumbull!
-
- 38 We need more publicly accessible beach areas, that are free or drastically reduced in price for city residents. A large percentage of our citizens cannot afford to buy a share in a private beach or even afford the excessive cost to enter OBP, and thus we are excluding our children from some of the great joys of coastal living. I care about this more than boating.
-
- 39 Public beach access is very important to me. Many NL families simply cannot afford an Ocean Beach pass and Greens Harbor the only remaining option in town.
-
- 40 Plans that include public access should be limited to New London residents at no cost and non-residents for a fee. New London's taxpayers should not bear the burden of providing shoreline access to non-residents at our expense. The council should figure out a viable means to charge non-residents for access to areas when entry/parking can be charged for, similar to how Ocean Beach Park has a resident/non-resident fee structure. We have a gem of a city and should take steps to keep it affordable for the residents.
-
- 41 I would like to see a vibrant modern industrial site developed and good docking for more mega yachts to bring jobs and tourism. I don't want to see permanent restaurants on the docks. We have enough in down town within walking distance. I would like to see a walking and bike path and trolley to Fort Trumbull and put the Coast Guard Museum there. There is plenty of room near Fort Trumbull for development to enhance our water front. Good long term development is important because the tourist industry is seasonal and shouldn't interfere with the industrial development.

- 42 would like to see a restaurant on the harbor also more launching accessibility for kayaks
-
- 43 The proposed Coast Guard Museum is planned to be built within the restricted flood zone area. This is stupid and illegal. Do not build the museum behind the train station. Build it within the Fort Trumbull where the original Coast Guard Academy was located. Do not give in to bribery.
-
- 44 Responsible development needs to occur in order for New London to become a thriving vibrant city that people want to visit and move to
-
- 45 Coast Guard Museum better suited to Fort Trumbull. Not water-dependent and too massive for site on downtown waterfront.
-
- 46 Public beach access in New London is unacceptably poor, in my opinion. The one actual, free-to-use, public beach (Green Harbor Beach) is situated in a marina, and often shows signs of petrol pollution from nearby boats. It is hard to say whether it is safe, and I am unaware of whether the city leadership conducts water testing at this site. The location and condition of this one public beach is a disservice to the economically underprivileged and by extension all New Londoners, which in a town as diverse as this, is a real shame.
-
- 47 Development should be environmentally safe, with public access and financially benefit New London.
-
- 48 Even though the concerns of a new Harbor Commission would be different from those of the State Pier (the Port), I would hope that a separate group of people that would represent the actual users of the Thames River in the New London area would be tasked with this important commitment. This group should be by appointment for terms of 2-4 years, and the members should not serve on the Port Authority. No entity should have total control of this vital seaport area in New London.
-
- 49 What I always wanted to see in New London was a Merchant Marine Museum. This from the train station to the state pier. An interactive, working museum to include the ferry services, tugboat operations, Coast Guard Museum, and an operational merchant port. All connected along the waterfront. Just my thoughts, Joe Geraci, Stonington, CT
-
- 50 We need to develop our whole city and expand the tax base, but water access holds its value and can drive that development.
-
- 51 I think that supporting "offshore wind" is a great opportunity but I hate to see you lose the existing shipping. Could you make the west side of Admiralty pier usable?
-
- 52 New London needs to promote ship-to-rail commerce. There are two railroads (New England Central and Providence and Worcester) that have access to Class 1 railroads which in turn allows access to all of America, Canada, and Mexico. New London based intermodal services will be

attractive to ocean shippers not wanting to deal with the hassle of New York or Boston harbors where landing fees are high.

-
- 53 I think the New London Waterfront Park along Water Street should be directly connected via bike/ped bridge to the Fort Trumbull area. Coast Guard Museum should be sited at Fort Trumbull instead of near Union Station. I think Pequot Ave should be closed to cars every Sunday, April through November, from 10am to 4pm, to provide access to beautiful waterfront public space for leisure and fitness, biking, walking, jogging, etc. I think the beaches along Pequot Ave and Ocean Beach should be made available to New London residents for free to provide public access to the water for reasons of health, recreation, and social justice. We need more public bathrooms and water fountains. I do not know of any public bathrooms or water fountains. We really need more of them as a first step towards developing our town and our waterfront spaces. When people visit, they need access to clean, spacious bathrooms, including drinking fountains. They should be placed along the water from Riverside Park, to New London Water Front Park, at Fort Trumbull, Greens Harbor, along Pequot Ave, and at Ocean Beach. If you have to pay to get in, they are not equitably available, and not really public.
-
- 54 I am not originally from this area. Privately held beaches are an unfamiliar concept to me. I am absolutely appalled with the amount of beaches with restricted access. Somehow, over time, these beaches should be returned to some sort of public park system. Beaches should not be privately owned.
-
- 55 The entire waterfront should be publicly accessible. The notion of private beaches is exclusive and caters only to the rich. Also, the city should not allow development along the waterfront, for example the US Coast Guard Museum. It will block views of our historic train station and contribute to environmental issues. A much better place for the museum would be at Fort Trumbull, the city and the state owes it to the citizens of New London to do something good with that site and not ruin the few good things that remain.
-
- 56 None. A lot of constituencies to satisfy. Environmental issues should not dominate. No change driven by NI B Y residents will negatively impact the community. There are already instances of this in N L.
-
- 57 Pedestrian tie between downtown waterfront park and fort Trumbull should be priority. Planning for coastal resilience for predicted sea level rise and increased rainfall needs to be considered ahead of development planning.

- 58 Thank you. We love the waterfront and our access to it-it's why we're in New London!
-
- 59 I am very concerned about the pollution of the Thames River & Long Island Sound by Pfizer, EB, Sub Base, Dow Chem, CGA, Mohegan Sun continuously discharging raw sewage into our water, along with oil spills, pesticides, chemicals etc. causing high bacteria levels & algae in the sound. I doubt anything will be done to correct this problem.
-
- 60 NL must make use of its waterfront to attract people to come and invest in our city.
-
- 61 I truly believe that development at State Pier is essential to New London's health. I am very hopeful about the wind project.
-
- 62 Would be nice for cruise ships to return to NL. The downtown waterfront as such potential, but is disgusting with the drug use and vagrants. Make it nice and welcoming for visiting boaters. I hold no hope for this since NL screws up everything they do.
-
- 63 New London waterfront: from north of Coast Guard to Ocean Beach is the city's greatest geographic asset and the most underutilized asset. Folks all over the world pay \$\$\$ millions to have this kind of access to ocean and tributaries and New London's access is squandered due to lack of planning, action, and management of the total waterfront. Note about the survey: the boating question should not be just for boaters. Civilian boating is the canary in the coal mine when it comes a vibrant waterfront: lots of pleasure craft, lots of associated commerce. Little civilian boating: miles of underutilized waterfront property. The state boat launch under the Gold Star bridge is an ugly mess. It should be made into a "model" of amenities for pleasure boaters to attract 100s of new visitors to New London. How about kayak vendors at the launch area?
-
- 64 Walking access across Shaw Cove from Bank Street to Fort Trumbull via a "bridge" attached to the railroad bridge should be considered. It can open and close for walkers similar to how it opens for vessels using swing arms and lights like railroad crossings.
-
- 65 We enjoying being near the New London Harbor & waterfront resources. Love seeing the sailing vessels that are moored in the city, watching the Submarines ply the river & eating in restaurants that are near the railroad tracks & the ferry landings - PARTICULARLY MUDDY WATES CAFE!
-
- 66 For the love of god can someone please address the sunken boat off of Burrs Marina? Literally down since mid-January, this boat (as I've been told) is 100% "not our problem" due to it being outside the channel & not a navigational hazard. Well, let me tell you, as I literally look at it several times a day (I live on Harris Rd.) it's an embarrassment to the city. Everyone is aware (I'm 100% certain Mayor Passero & Dave Crocker

were made aware back in February) of it but because no one wants to absorb the cost, it sits. No repercussions for the uninsured owner, so it sits. And the biggest loser in this... the environment. In this day and age, with all the information & physical evidence about water pollution it should have been addressed without question. For everyone to be turning a blind eye is simply disgusting. Lastly, just because it's not in the channel doesn't mean it's not a hazard. I only hope, with the huge amount of boaters expected for the fireworks tonight, there are no injuries.

-
- 67 Preserve the historic Winthrop mill area as the state pier is re-purposed to support wind-generated power sources.
-
- 68 The State pier should be developed to accommodate cruise-ships and container ships and not be single use like windpower.
-
- 69 First the city failed when it tore all the buildings down by FT Trumbull the location of the Coast Guard museum should of been Near Fort Trumbull not pigeon holed to appease a few businessmen. Then if the city decides on a sting stance with crime, then and only then will down town flourish. Allowing companies to build on the water front, then restricting residents from that area, will not improve support of any projects. It has to provide access to the areas. Very little water front construction of commercial or residential needs 100% control of the shoreline.
-
- 70 A commuter ferry (probably 3 seasons) from Pequot marinas/Ft. Trumbull area over to Groton Bank/EB would be awesome, and get some cars off the road. We can see my husband's office at EB in Groton from our home off Thames St., but he can't ride the EB bus since he works for Sup. Ship. (Navy).
-
- 71 Preserving the environment should be the focus. New London has been constant in its foolishness by giving away its resources to companies that have zero investment in the community. New London needs to focus on the people and wildlife that are HERE now. Stop selling away our future.
-
- 72 The predictions of higher sea levels and severity of storm and tides puts any further development of waterfront at great risk. The public should not bear the costs of those risks while contractors profit from development.
-
- 73 Additional access to the walkway and expansion of the Thames River Heritage Park would be great.
-
- 74 Good Job. Good Luck. Time finally to realize New London's "Potential".
-
- 75 It is important to maintain waterfront views along Bank Street and Pequot Ave so people driving or walking by can see the river and all the wonderful activity that takes place along our shores.
-
- 76 Our New London port, waterfront, and coastal areas are extraordinary assets. We should take full advantage of these assets by expanding both

commercial and recreational development everywhere along our fantastic “shoreline.”

77 I sincerely hope this forces the city to reconsider the practices of Ocean Beach. City residents living in the high poverty areas, more likely to be Black or Brown people, are isolated geographically and financially from the best beach in the region. There is no equitable access to the Pequot Avenue beaches either. Completely held hostage by millionaires who mostly only stay for the summer. Until we address the real issues of inequity, no development matters. If anything, we absolutely have to stop building luxury condos. Create middle class and affordable housing, interspersed with each other (poor people don't all have to live together). Develop our waterfront for the people that actually live here - free access to Ocean Beach, buy back our Pequot beaches and give access, create beach access as Riverside Park, and don't isolate our low income families to the cesspool of Green Harbor. Also, hold the Coast Guard accountable for dumping sewage for decades.

78 Not enough access to free local beaches!

79 Conservation and eco-conscious decisions need to be in place for any and all waterfront use and development. New construction on or near the water needs to be very eco-conscious above all else! Destruction of our natural resources must be avoided.

Please note that the above-posted responses are presented as submitted. By posting these responses, the Harbor Management Commission is not attesting to their accuracy or indicating approval or support for any particular statement.