

**Marin County Community Development Agency
Collaboration: Sea-level Marin Adaptation Response Team (C-SMART)
Adaptation Plan Passport Results Summary**

In summer 2017, Marin County Community Development Agency (CDA) launched the ***Collaboration Sea Level Marin Adaptation Response Team (C-SMART) Adaptation Plan Passport***. The objective of this passport was to seek input from community members to inform next steps the County could take to address sea level rise in West Marin. As C-SMART Phase 1, including the Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Report, is anticipated to conclude in September 2017, CDA staff are developing a Phase II work program with direction from the Marin County Supervisors. Thus public input is critical to ensure next steps reflect local interest.



While previous C-SMART passports and surveys focused on the ***where*** and ***what*** of adaptation, this passport sought to understand the ***how***. Participants were asked to give a High, Medium, or Low ranking to 11 different possible next step options spanning four categories: site scale improvements, community scale planning, continued partnerships and public education. Space was also provided for participants to comment on each ranking. Additionally, space was provided for additional options that participants felt were important for staff and elected officials to consider as possible next steps. Participants were also asked demographic questions to help staff understand community representation.

Passport options were modified from Next Steps in the ***Public Review Draft Marin Coast Sea Level Rise Adaptation Report***. These next steps are ideas that have arisen through the C-SMART process to date. The options could be initiated with existing CDA staff time, but do not suggest County financial commitment. Passport results will be shared at the 8/1/17 Marin County Board of Supervisors C-SMART workshop.

The passport was shared with local community members through both traditional outreach and social media including:

- Hard Copies at Public Workshops (6/8/17 in Point Reyes Station and 6/14/17 in Stinson Beach)
- Hard Copies at June 2017 East Shore Planning Group Meeting (per request)
- Online Survey Monkey shared via:
 - Marin sea level rise website and email list (4,000+ email addresses)
 - Announcement in Point Reyes Light
 - Marin County Sea Level Rise Facebook page
 - West Marin Next Door (400+ people who live in West Marin)

A total of 83 passports were completed! Summary results are as follows.

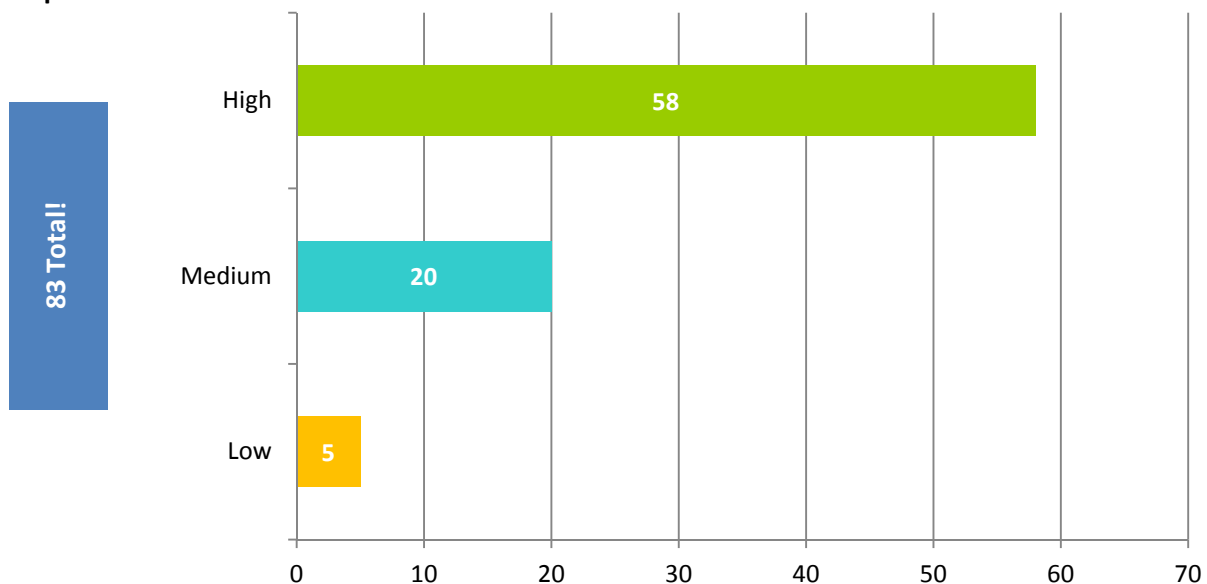
Site Scale Improvements

Option 1

----- Develop a “**Homeowner’s Guide to Preparing for Sea Level Rise**” to help property owners navigate regulatory system and funding opportunities to elevate or otherwise retrofit homes to accommodate sea level rise and storms. Topics could cover:

- County permitting process
- Coastal Permit Development requirements
- Agency Compliance (FEMA, California Coastal Commission, etc.)
- Potential estimated building elevation increase

Responses



Comments

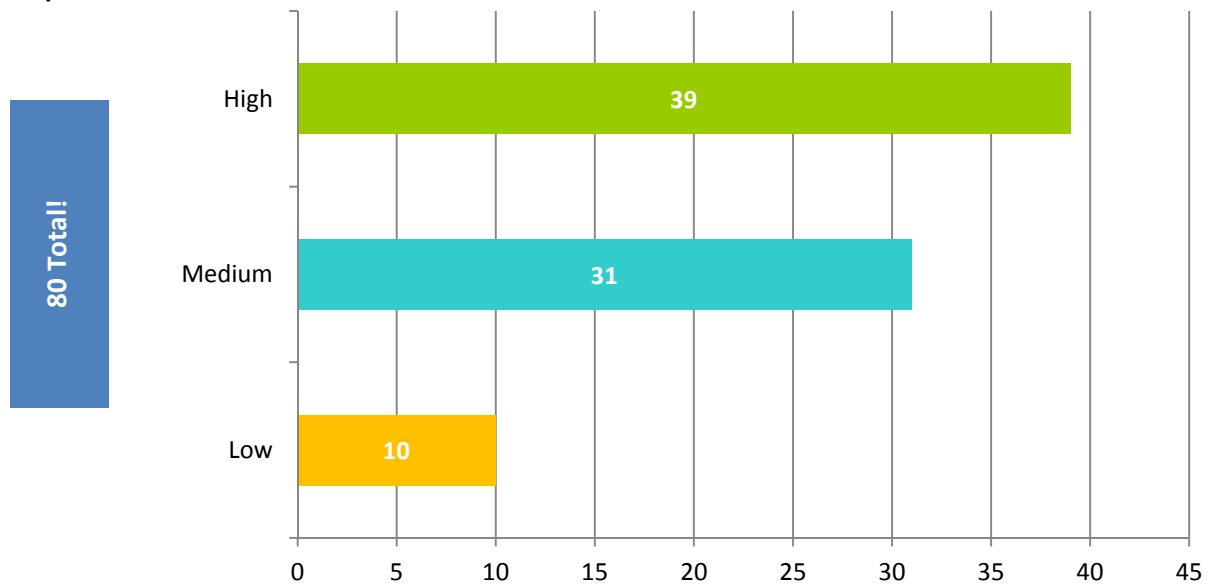
- Real estate disclosure statements
- Send them out by mail
- Sea level rise is B.S.
- Along with a list of other resources to help homeowners navigate the process and possibly list best practices
- Could be helpful to contactors for implementation. Possible savings on community-grouping of activities
- Limit to properties where flooding may occur / 3 feet of sea level rise
- Citizens need to be assured that government will NOT be part of the problem through excess regulations/requirements
- Should happen regardless for transparency
- Currently a lot of confusion on what is permissible, when permits are required, when waivers/exclusions can be sought. Would be helpful for County website and distributed to the community via architects, contractors and realtors

Site Scale Improvements

Option 2

----- Develop and distribute technical information and guidance on **home retrofitting options** which could include elevation, wet/dry floodproofing, flood gates, drainage improvements, amphibiation, etc.

Responses



Comments

- Homeowners will rely on professionals
- Liberals still trying to regulate the world! Leave us alone!
- If the technical guidance is consistent with agency rules and accepted/embraced by the preponderance of contractors, this could be higher priority
- These may be expensive and costs need to be included. Some homes are not worth protecting
- Related to option #1
- Good in the short term, but I wonder about a waste of money for these interim steps. Why spend the money and then move/modify again?
- Limit to homes vulnerable to 3' sea level rise

Site Scale Improvements

Option 3

----- Other Ideas – site scale improvements

Comments (Individual responses, not tabulated)

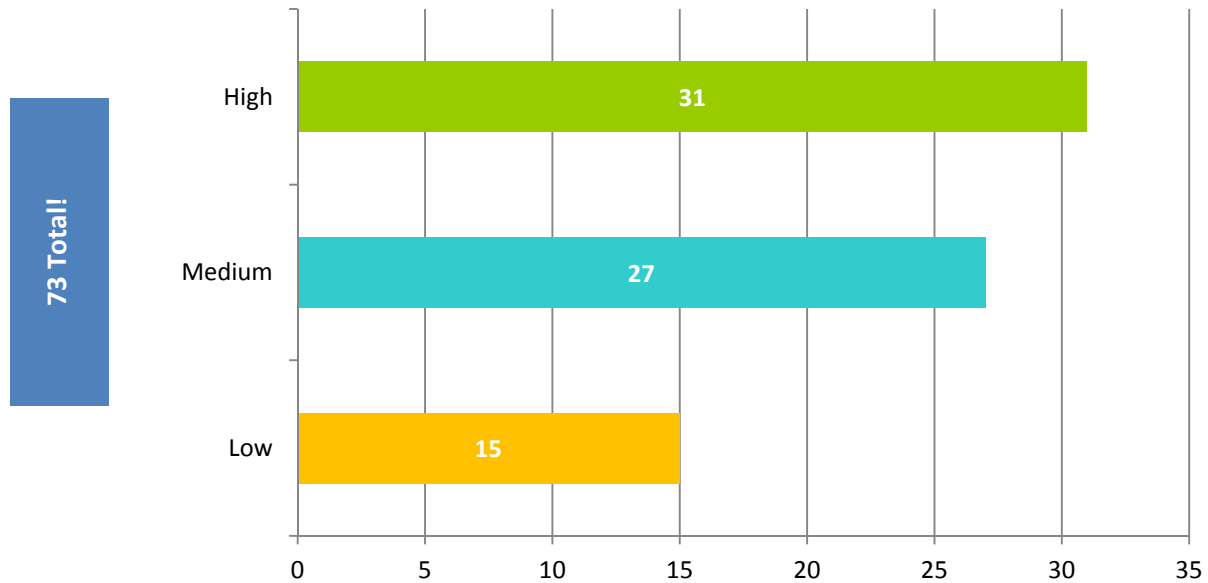
- Staff time is probably best served by “more technical” planning type efforts. Guides and options would be helpful and maybe the staff could serve as a guide to direct individuals. Ultimately workshops with agency and industry reps could be helpful. Maybe this effort could work with community scale planning?
- Site elevation (home elevation), septic elevation, plumbing, reinforcement of stream banks.
- Consolidate projects. Look into grants
- Waste water systems – retrofit or replace with community system
- Programmatic permitting, avoid duplicity, clearing house for homeowners/property owners
- Streamline permit process. Forget the past, think about the future and get it done!!!!
- More local meetings in beach/coastal community. Greater publicity/outreach
- Address required changes to infrastructure (roads, utilities, waste water)
- Stop meddling!
- Protect the rights of the existing network of protection that already exists and allow property owners to improve and maintain it.
- Tidal wetland enhancements, restoration and vegetation carbon capture

Community Scale Planning

Option 4

----- Develop a **subcommittee** with Marin County BOS representation and community/local agency representatives to prioritize C-SMART next steps.

Responses



Comments

- More government? No!
- Community/local agency representatives have to have direct experience with coastal living in recent years, in the area of study
- This is very important to help maintain momentum on this project
- Too many acronyms here. Subcommittee should have authority to retain consultants
- BOS have to be responsible, knowledgeable and keep leadership roles. Committees can become too politicized.
- Seems that those who are most impacted – residents – should define priorities with government buy in
- Only viable if/when there is a LCP resolution. Once resolved this is a medium priority.

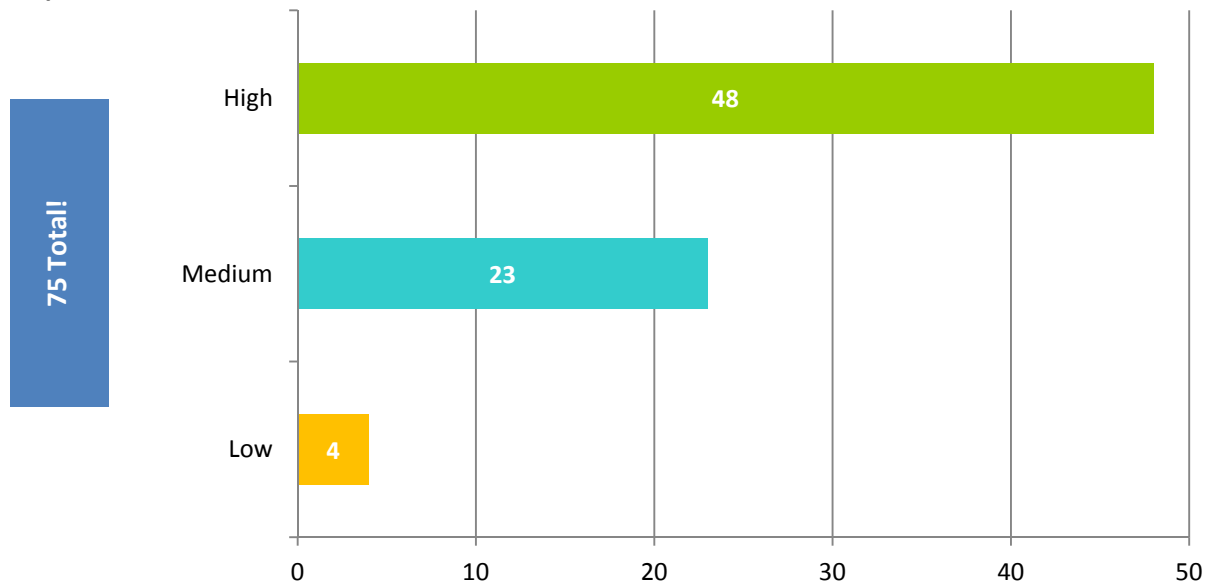
Community Scale Planning

Option 5

----- Initiate **Community Plans for Adapting to Coastal Hazards** (Community PATCHs) in conjunction with community members and asset managers for smaller scale planning centered around vulnerable assets of community wide importance.

- Identify subarea boundaries for prioritization, possibly based on timing, area of impact, costs, equity, environment, economy, etc.
- Develop planning timeframes around the point at which flooding creates recurring significant problems
- Evaluate adaptation alternatives with cost estimates in more detail, which may include armoring, elevation, realignment, etc.

Responses



Comments

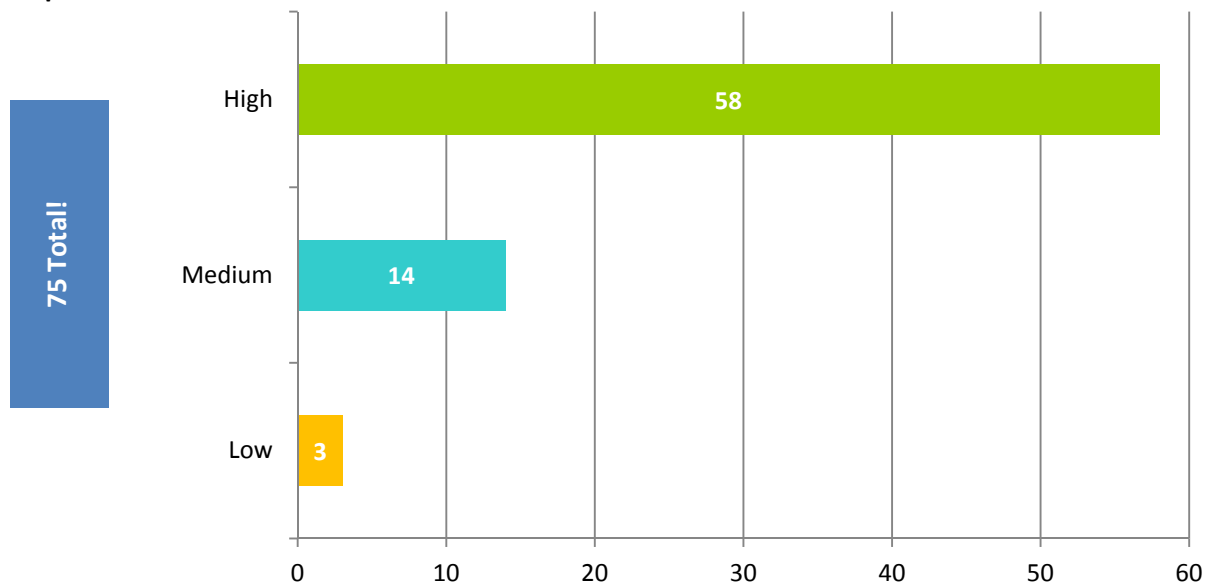
- Roads and Septic prioritize
- More B.S.
- The most important issue is the transportation system, which means the low lying roadways (i.e. Highway 1 around the Bolinas Lagoon)
- Asset managers? Very different timelines/objectives from homeowners
- Include shoreline retreat and tidal wetland restoration as a strategy
- Need technical help and knowledge
- Could be extremely valuable for near term flooding problems on our roads

Community Scale Planning

Option 6

----- Consider sea level rise in capital improvement projects (roads, utilities, armoring, etc.) including both incremental repairs and maintenance, and new projects. Develop financing matrix for identifying possible funding sources including federal and state grants, local assessment districts, philanthropic resources, and public-private partnerships

Responses



Comments

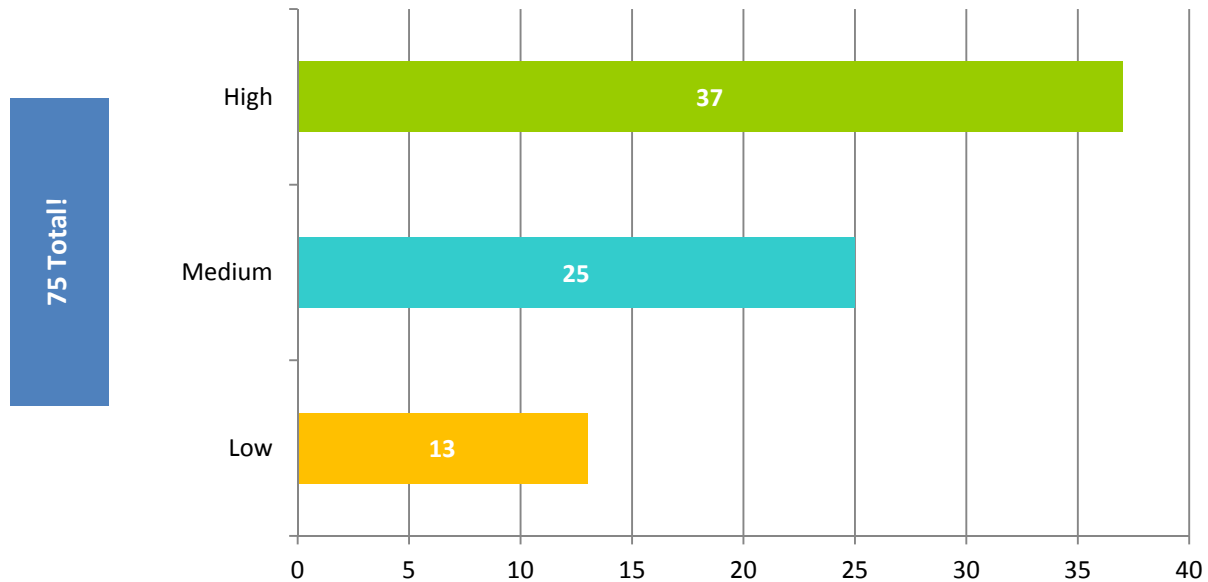
- Levee road (on Sire Francis Drake) flooded several times this past winter with rain and king tides and will be worse with sea level rise. Also Inverness store/downtown Inverness.
- More B.S.
- Promote new technologies as part of our new reality, like energy from solar, turning sewage into drinking water (toilet to tap), water production from solar panels, etc.
- More holistic approach
- Action to find funding sources will be critical
- Absolutely critical. If you're in a hole stop digging. Create ordinances that bar governmental future bailouts/emergency payments if strong guidelines/laws have not been followed on all prior new construction and major renovations.

Community Scale Planning

Option 7

----- Evaluate **land use planning, zoning and legal frameworks** for addressing sea level rise which could include height limits, construction standards, and post-storm prohibitions. Such options could be integrated in the Local Coastal Plan Implementation Program and Marin Countywide Plan update.

Responses



Comments

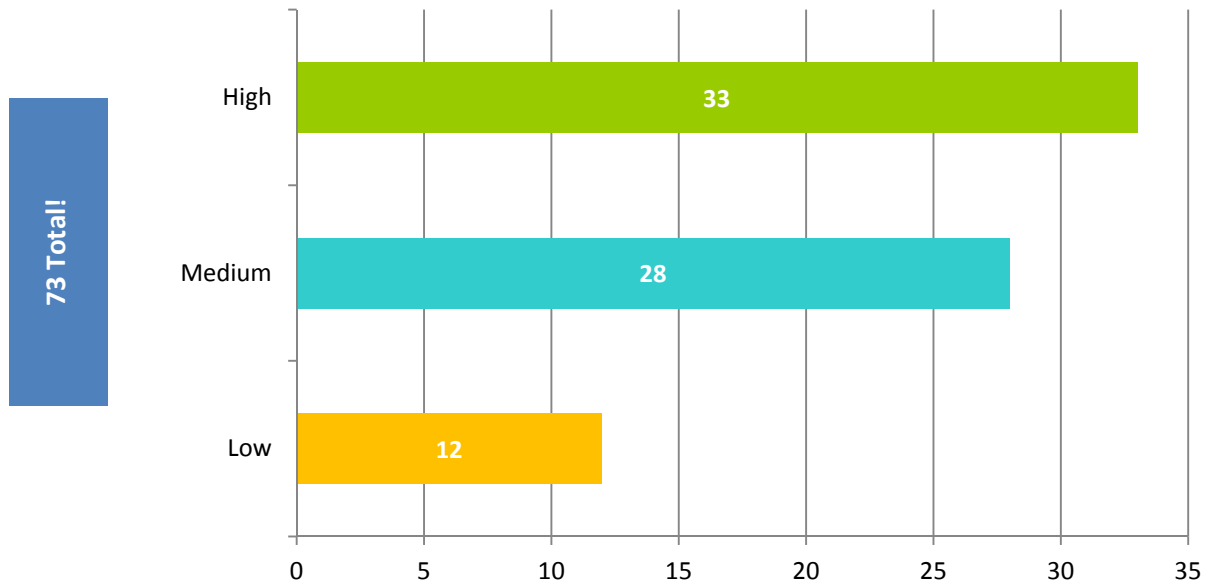
- Should be a separate focus
- While protecting the existing community fabric and organic framework in place now.
- Also very important for systemic mitigation
- I have severe flooding on my property, but I will not engage with sea level rise planning until there is CEQA reform or CEQA exemptions for public safety projects
- Focus on critical issues (low lying properties and erosion), not an excuse to increase regulations
- This could be a nightmare and effectively stall all new development...probably a good thing... but it would also stall attempts to retrofit... a bad thing... both due to weirdness at Coastal Commission...
- Should be “implement” rather than “evaluate”... This has immediate impact on property values – needs a really sound legal framework
- Appalling to me how little environmental hazards have been considered for some construction. More attention to environmental protections and more training for staff in decision making/advisory roles
- Early to include standards in regulatory documents without consensus on what fixes are needed
- Absolutely critical. If you’re in a hole stop digging. Create ordinance that bars governmental future bailouts/emergency payments if strong guidelines/laws have not been followed on all prior new construction and major renovations.

Community Scale Planning

Option 8

----- Consider sea level rise resiliency in the next update of the Marin Countywide Plan as a basis for developing countywide policies and programs.

Responses



Comments

- More B.S
- Very important though another substantial impediment to speedy MCP update

Community Scale Planning

Option 9

----- Other Ideas – Community Scale Planning

Comments (Individual responses, not tabulated)

- Very High! Federal/state scale basis, like resource conservation districts, federal standards and \$, local control and implementation
- Map and evaluate public trust boundaries, plan for public access
- Looking for more ways to expand government?
- Communities should be encouraged to work with the county to formulate and implement these proposals
- CEQA reform is vital. Conservation extremist groups block all sensible things due to CEQA. They block bike infrastructure, dredging, levees, public transit, public projects to address sea level rise
- Provide good estimates of sea level rise/flooding by year
- Provide demonstration projects; look at architectural solutions outside of U.S.
- Find grant and other sources of funding for large scale improvements

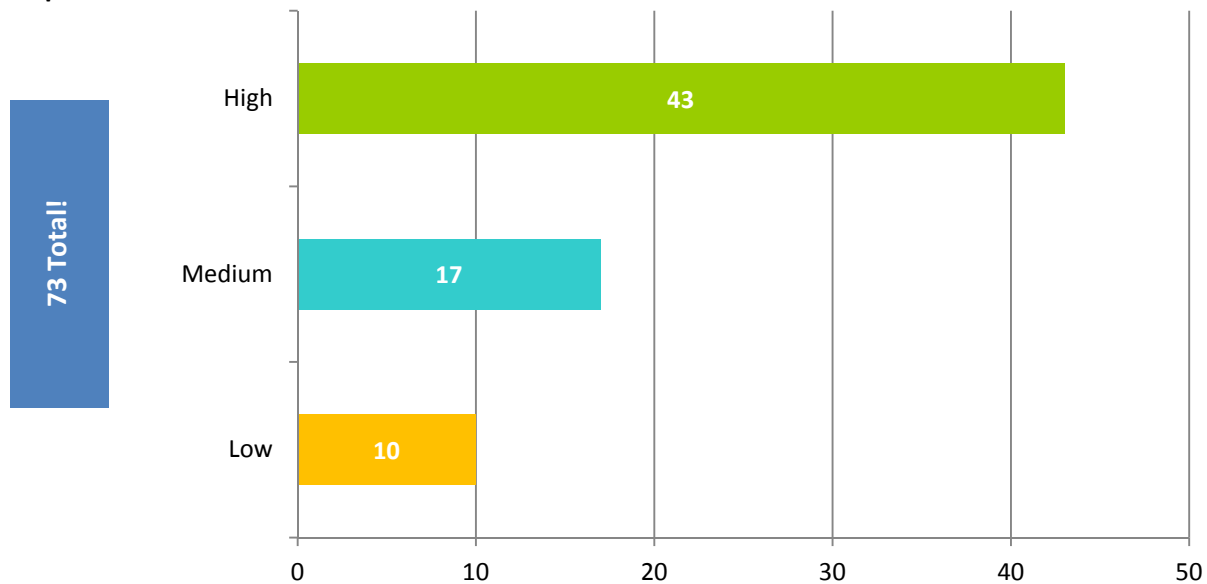
Continued Partnerships

Option 10

---- Develop an **interagency sea level rise task force** with membership including County Supervisor and agencies who oversee West Marin assets (transportation, utilities, public lands, natural resources, etc.). Participants could include:

- Caltrans, MTC and TAM for transportation planning support
- National Park Service/Golden Gate National Recreation Area/CA Department of Parks and Recreation/Marin County Parks
- PG&E and local service providers to discuss utility adaptation

Responses



Comments

- Good luck! / Sure! Let's get everyone in the world involved / Prescription for bureaucratic paralysis / too broad, won't result in action
- We need progressive thinking individuals in this subject and majority of these agencies have not shown forward vision so far
- A task force could succeed with mandated completion date and leader with decision making authority
- Interactions with community groups will also be essential and critical
- Scary because this feels like it will force a one-size-fits-all solution, and that's not going to work best
- Golden Gate Transit, Water District (NMWD & MWD), telephone companies, cable companies, sewer and water treatment, and underground facilities and utilities
- A no brainer
- Get GFA/NOAA involved to spur Caltrans action on Highway 1. That worked for past flood control

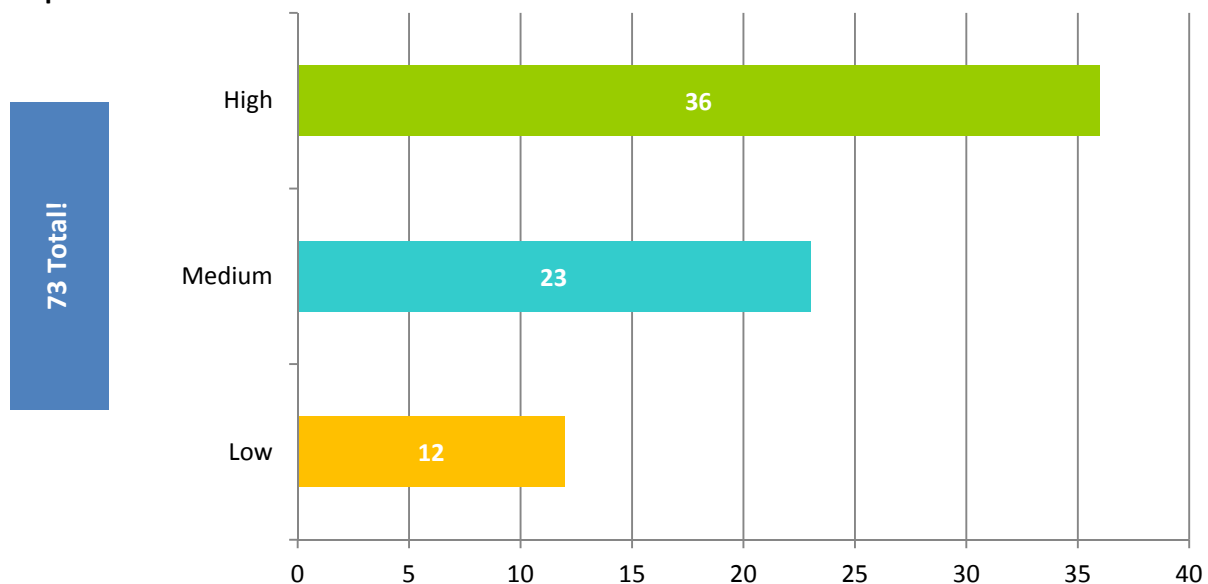
Continued Partnerships

Option 11

---- Continue to work with the Sonoma/Marin County Sediment Management Working Group to assist with the development of a **Regional Sediment Management Plan** to

- encourage beneficial reuse of available, non-polluted sediment resources;
- restore and maintain coastal beaches;
- reduce shoreline erosion and coastal storm damages; and
- sustain recreation, tourism, public safety and access

Responses



Comments

- Gulf of the Farallones, Jack in rep
- Very important to build relationships
- General studies like this fail at the site level
- Very important for long term flooding mitigation and resources sustainability
- CEQA reform will be necessary for almost all of the good ideas proposed in this survey to work
- What does this mean? That sea level rise will bring more sediment or move sediment around more? Either way a lot of beach front uses will be unsustainable

Continued Partnership

Option 12

----- Other Ideas – Continued Partnerships

Comments (Individual responses, not tabulated)

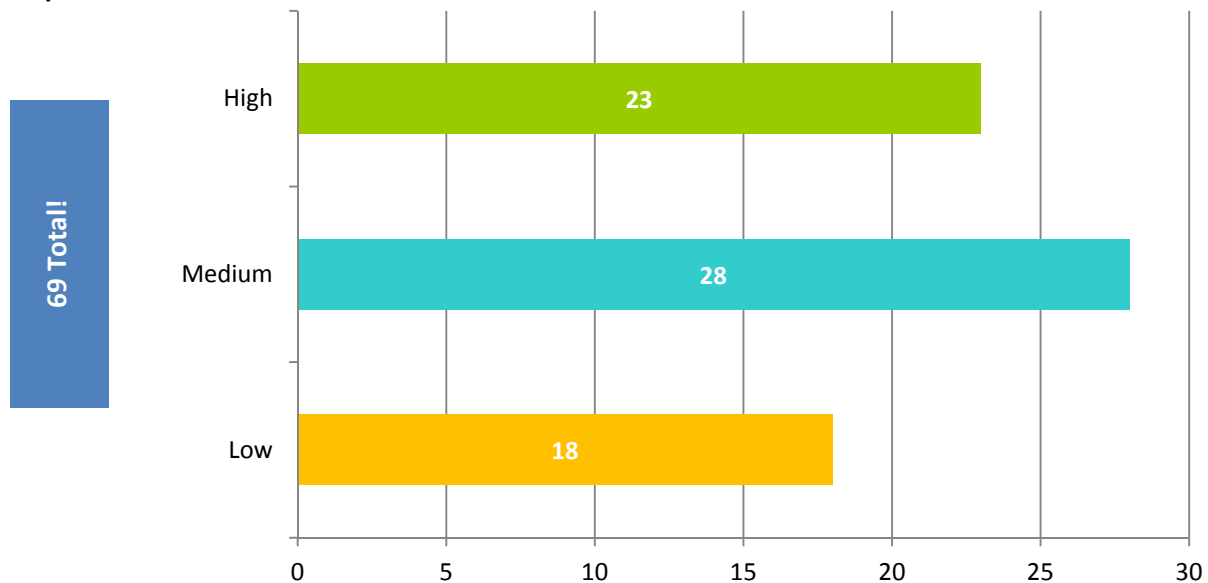
- Use partnerships with education systems/student to help with monitoring and mitigation options
- Most important is to allow local residents to adapt to changing conditions without interference from agencies with more allowance for strategic decisions. Important to realize that we want community to continue and not to undue damage. Trust the people that live here!
- Fund raisins to prepare for all these inevitable outcomes – home loss/relocation, community emergency solutions for housing transitions. Be sure that people who are continuing to build or remodel in zones that will see the rise are going to need to go beyond current 3 ft. Suggestions for FEMA
- Coordinate with Caltrans and other agencies. How to get these agencies to move quickly and in a coordinated way? How do we pay for this?
- Engage local housing bodies : Community Land Association of West Marin and Bolinas Community Land Trust in long term planning
- East Shore issues to have substantial East shore representation, including East Shore Planning Group
- Cooperation between community groups and governmental agencies is an absolute requirement
- I beg Marin Board of Supervisors to support state level CEQA reform and/or apply for CEQA exemption to critical public safety and green transportation projects. I consider planning for sea level rise to be a public safety project. Marin has clueless extremists who abuse CEQA to do things like prevent flood detention basins on the basis of aesthetics or minor impacts to endangered species
- Engage Marin Resource Conservation District, Marin Conservation Corps and UC Extension service in shoreline land management planning and restoration

Public Education

Option 13

----- Establish a **citizen's science monitoring program** for community members to gather data on West Marin sea level rise impacts which could include measuring beach widths, documenting king tides and flooding, and monitoring wetlands.

Responses



Comments

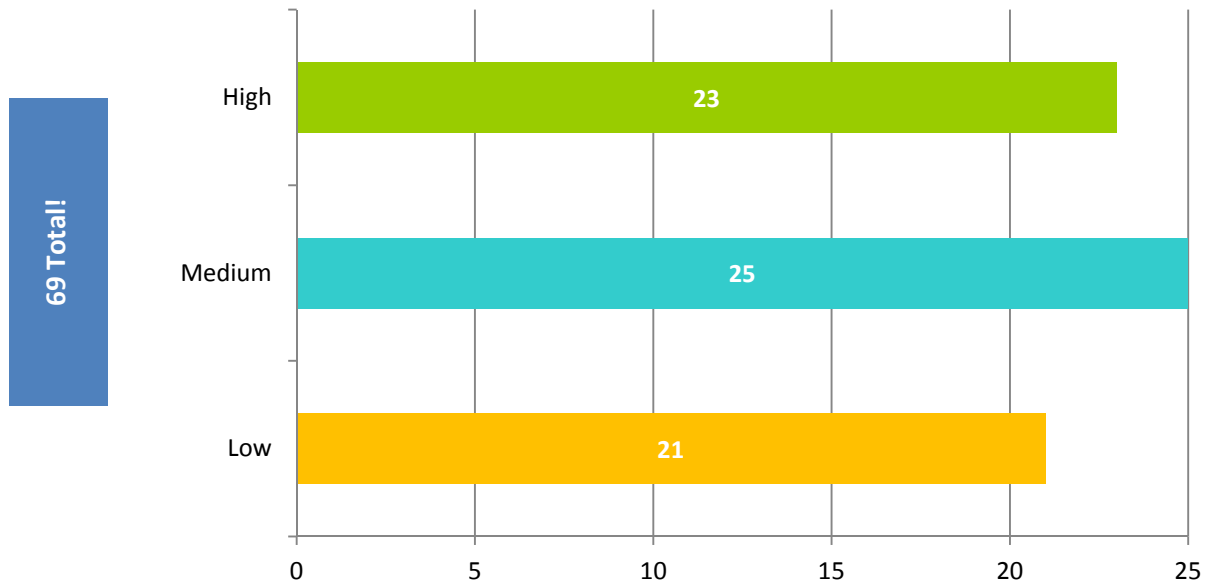
- Get real
- Too little, too late
- This should be handled by the County, not volunteers!
- Why not have existing groups do through own programs (Beach Watch, Point Blue, PRNS, GGNRA, etc.)
- Useful, but this data is available via remote sensing under existing frameworks

Public Education

Option 14

----- Continue to pursue funding and partnerships to formalize a sea level rise **public education** program for high school students.

Responses



Comments

- Get real
- Too little, too late
- This should be handled by the County, not volunteers!
- Why not have existing groups do through own programs (Beach Watch, Point Blue, PRNS, GGNRA, etc.)
- Useful, but this data is available via remote sensing under existing frameworks

Public Education

Option 15

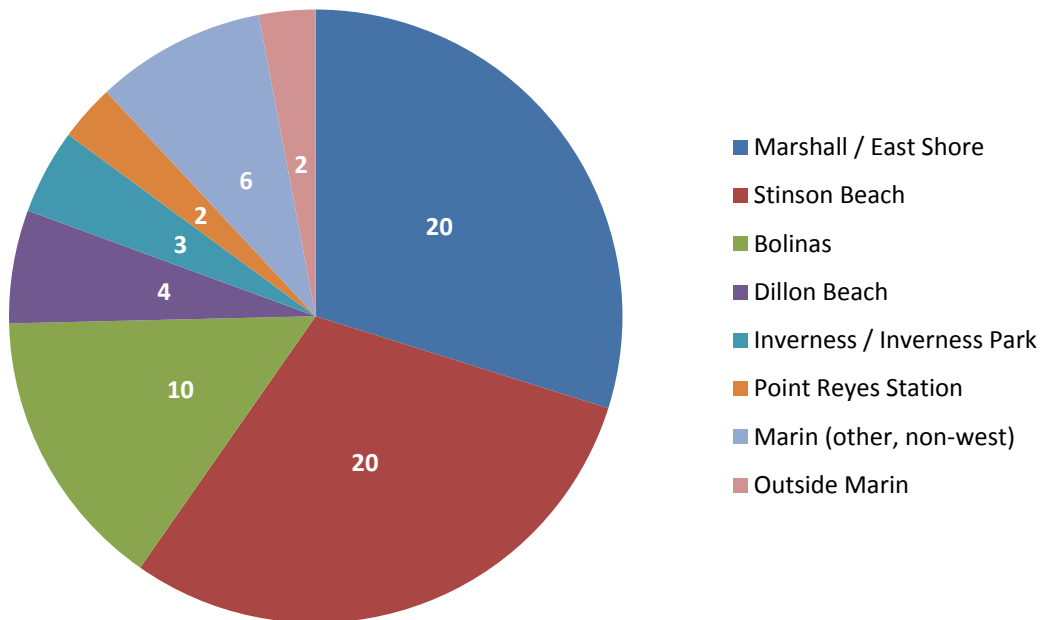
----- Other Ideas – Public Education

Comments (Individual responses, not tabulated)

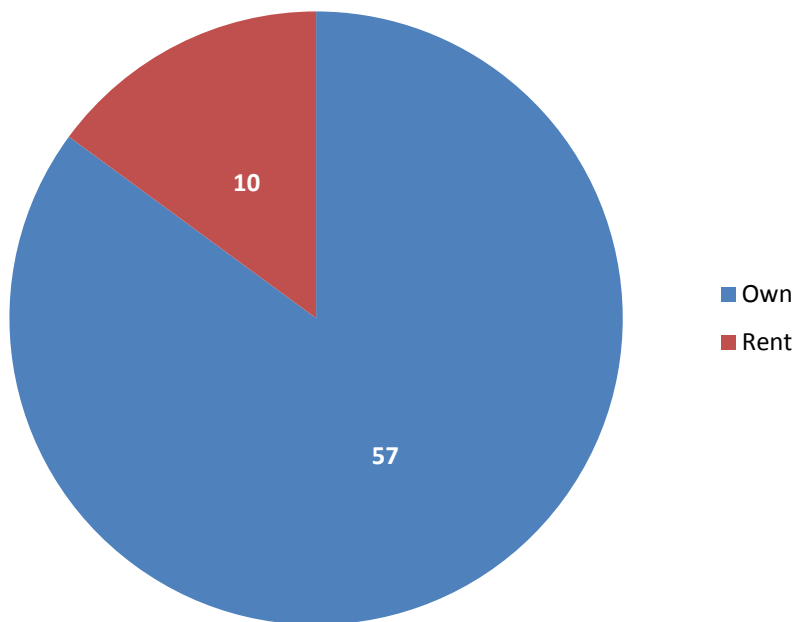
- Rather than develop a Marin County product, explore other areas for established programs. No need to duplicate
- Work out cost – who is going to subsidize Army Corps and FEMA? Can we do it as a whole package, blanked proposal/common engineer? Involve Coastal Commission and environmental groups like EAC. Outside groups must recognize our communities are important and must be protected
- Encourage a marine science program at local schools that can utilize this new normal as a significant useful monitoring device. High school marine biology classes – connected with Bodega Marine labs
- Please just get on with it! And allow varied responses by CA coastal geography to prevail – one size does not fit all!
- Is there a way to show in time increments (say every 5 years) where we are in sea level rise – is it occurring more quickly or more slowly?
- Liberals looking to warp young minds
- Provide up to date local maps with sea level rise projections including different storm return periods, etc. This should be web-based (Google-Earth overlay?) and easy to use and access, with all appropriate source information and disclaimers included
- Of course

Demographics

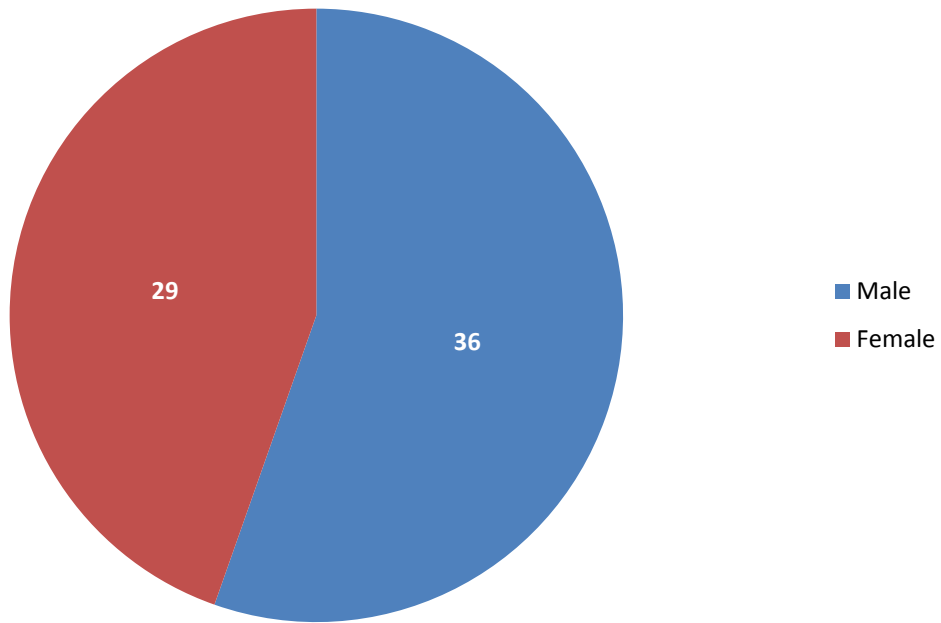
What community do you live in?



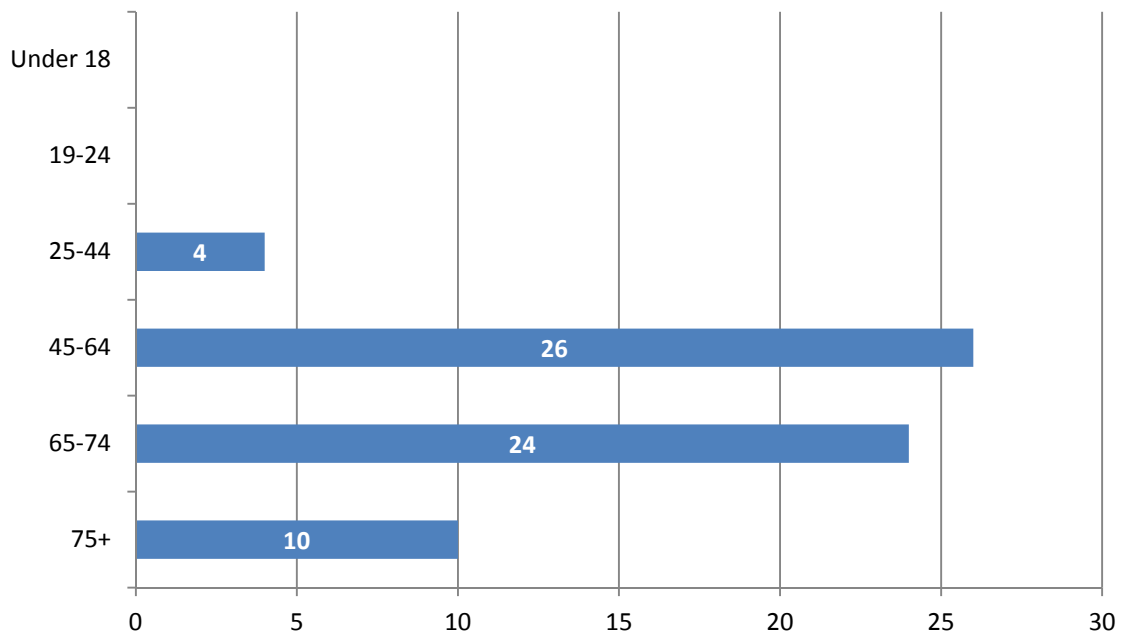
Do you own or rent?



Gender?

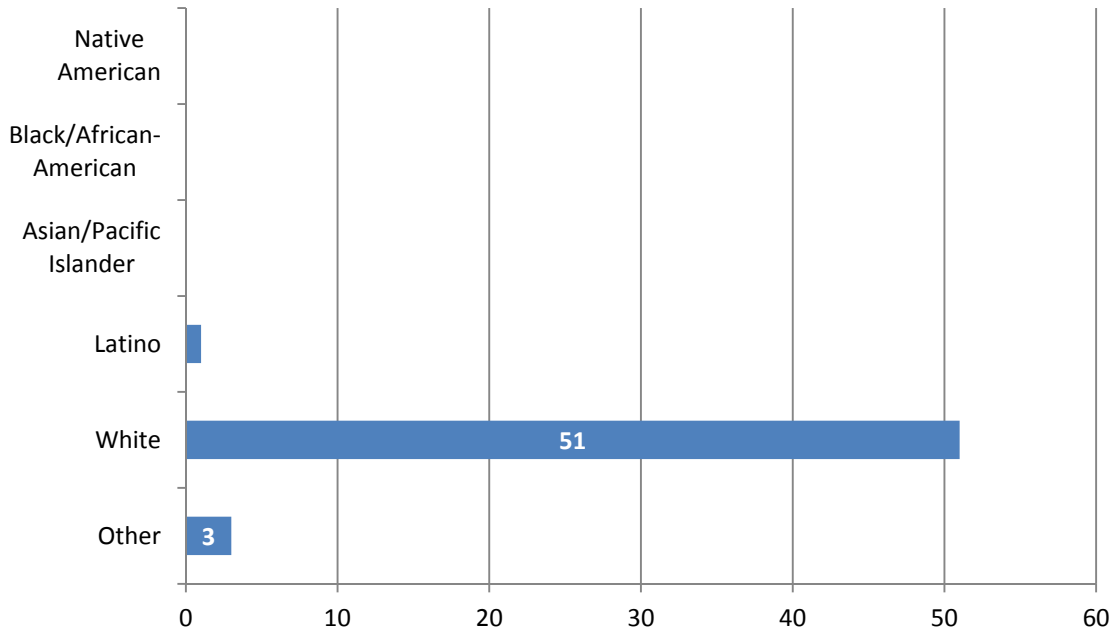


Age



Bracket?

Race/Ethnicity?



Annual household income?

