



# Open Space and Recreation Plan Community Survey Results

2024

# Survey Goals and Objectives

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## Provide community input to the 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan

- Required by the State every 7 years for grant and funding eligibility



## Inform parallel planning and development efforts across Plymouth

- Master Planning Process
- Climate Action & Adaptation Plan

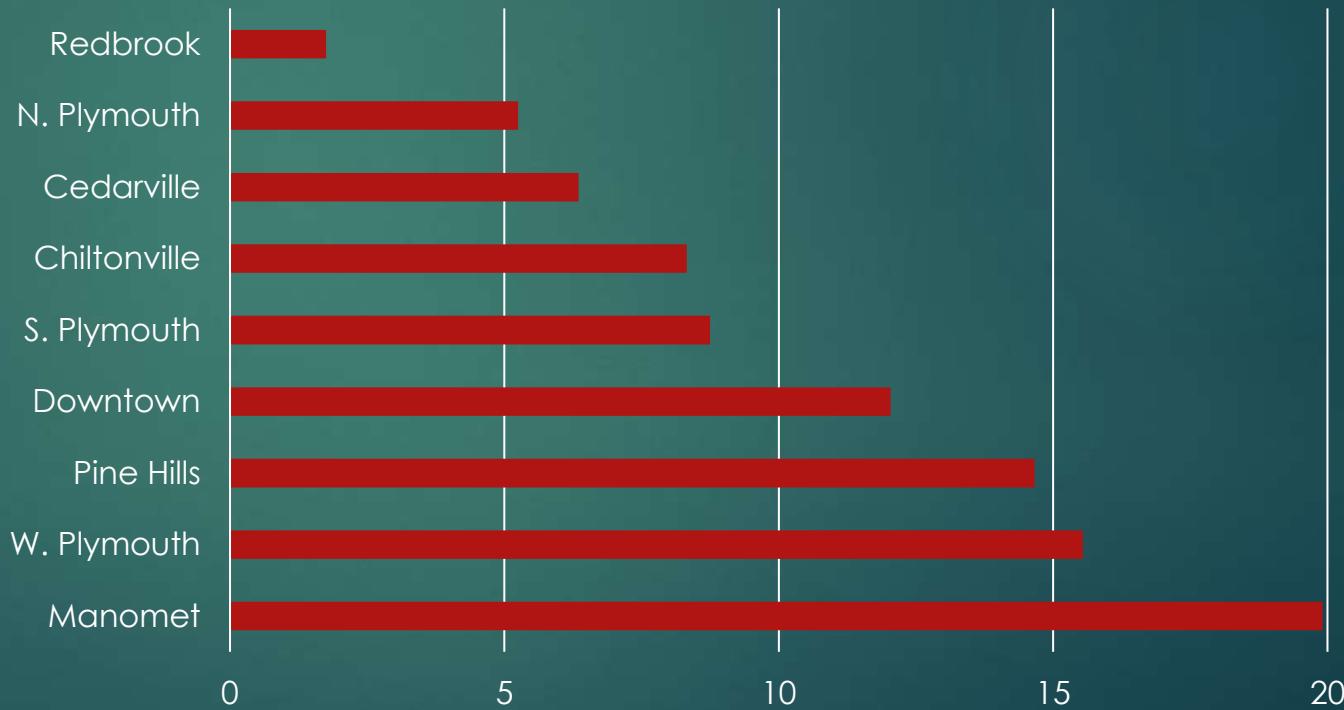
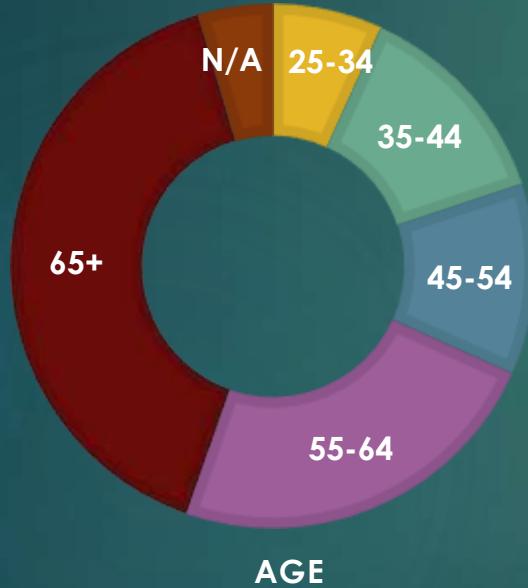


## Support the work of related Town Departments

- Conservation
- Parks & Forestry
- Natural Resources

# Participation

**459 residents responded to 11 quantitative questions  
and submitted 620 written comments**

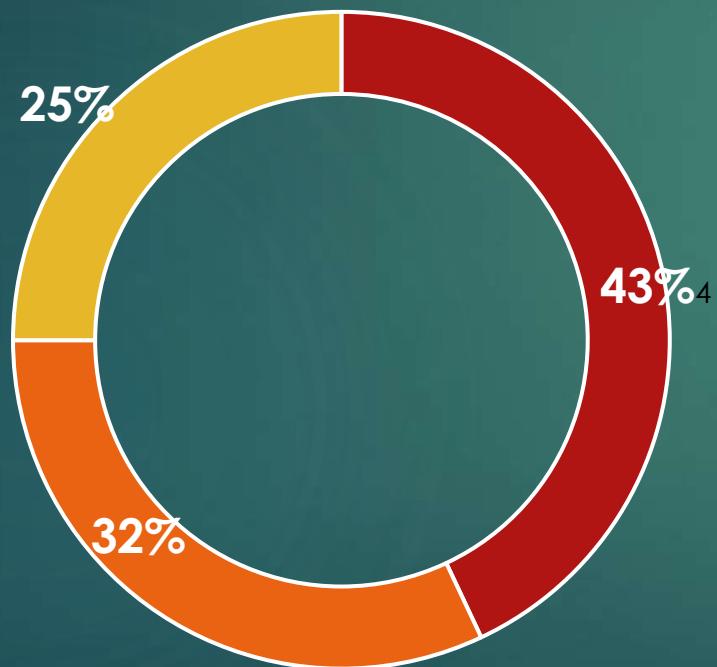


**92% are Plymouth Homeowners**

# Less than Half are Satisfied with Current Efforts to Preserve Open Space

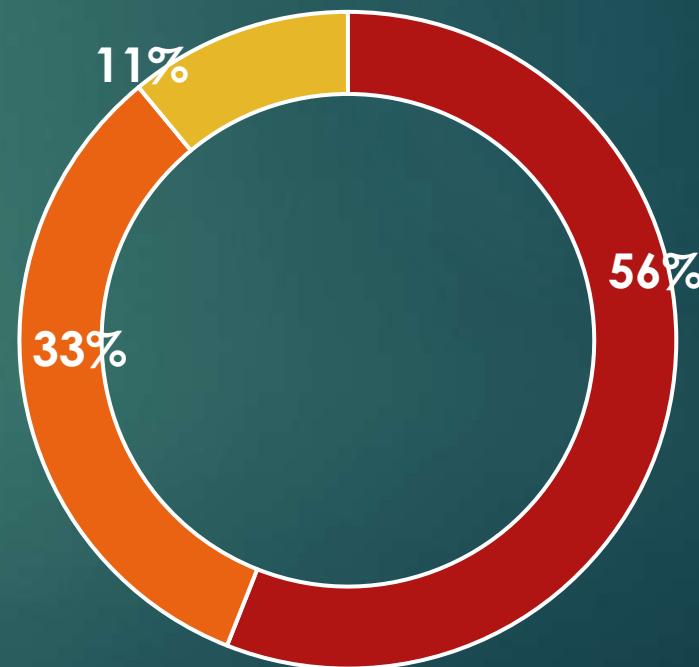
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Satisfaction with job Plymouth is doing to preserve open space



■ Satisfied ■ Neutral ■ Dissatisfied ■

Satisfaction with job Plymouth is doing to provide recreation options



■ Satisfied ■ Neutral ■ Dissatisfied ■

# Administration

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April-May 2024



PLYMOUTH  
INDEPENDENT



# Underlying Theme

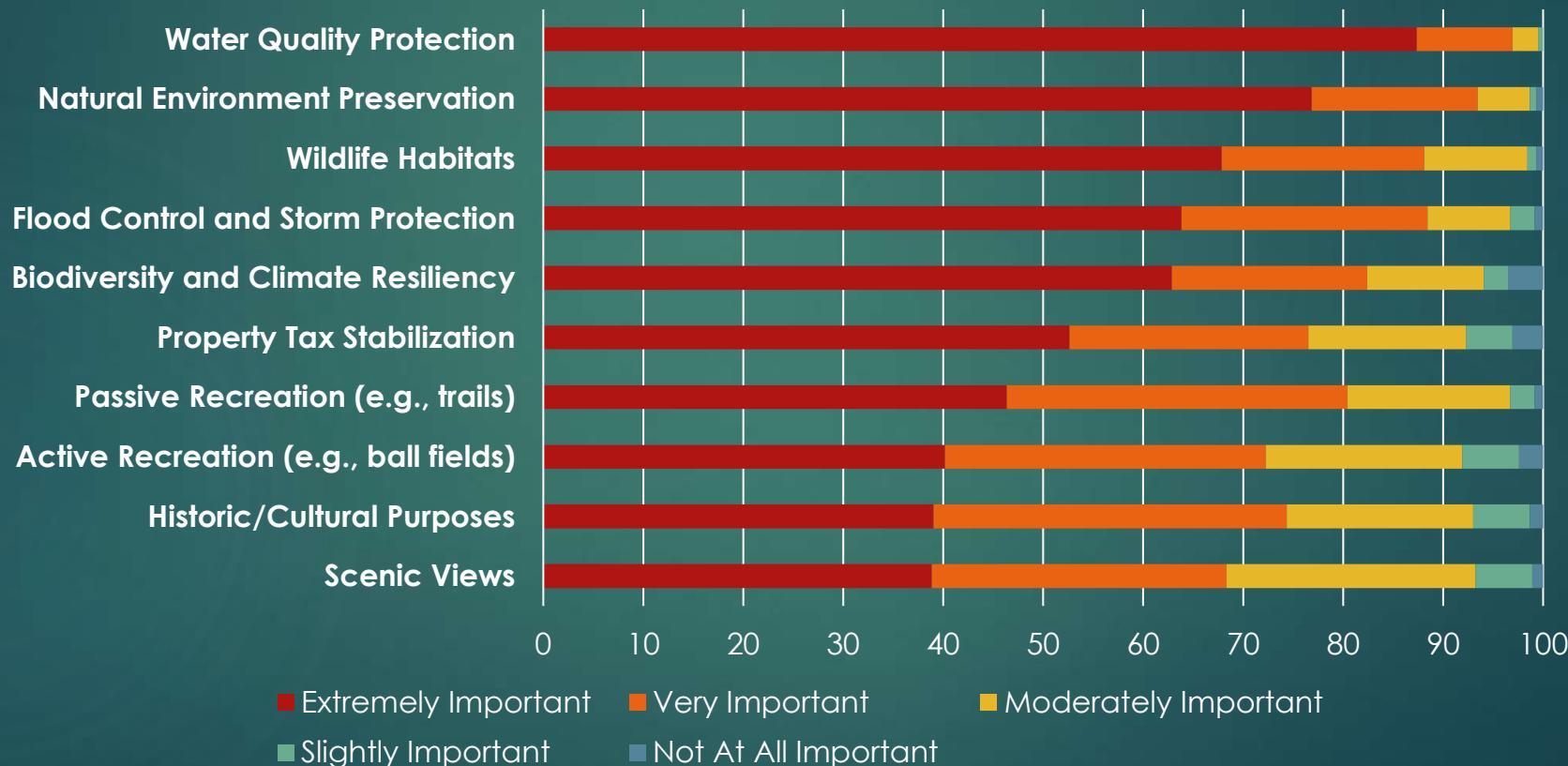
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*“It’s important to keep investing in open space. It’s a community good whose value isn’t immediately measurable in dollars and cents, but it contributes immeasurably over time to the quality of life and beauty of our community.”*

# Environment is Top of Mind

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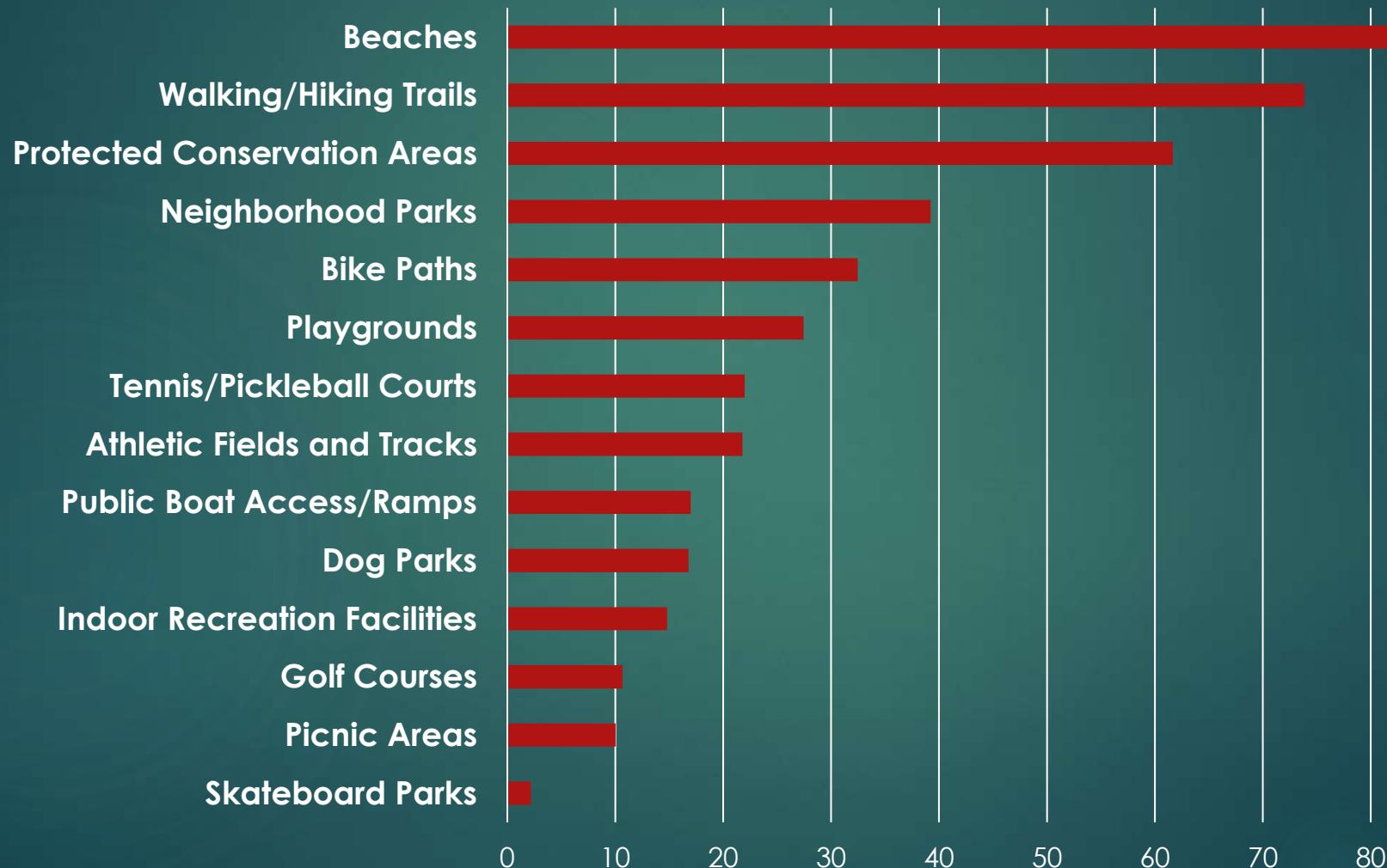
## How Important is it for Plymouth to Provide and Maintain Open Space for These Reasons?



# Beaches & Hiking Trails are Highly Valued

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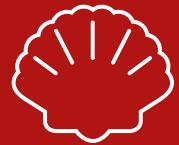
## Which Resources are Most Important to You?



# Wishlist for Improvements is Consistent

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300 residents submitted ideas for improvements to specific locations and shared strong opinions about development.



## Beach Upgrades

- Get rid of Bert's
- Replenish sand
- Make it accessible
- Add facilities
- Improve parking



## Parks/Ponds Renovations

- Veteran's
- Emerson
- Briggs Field
- Forges Field
- Nelson
- Morton Pond
- Hedges Pond
- N. Plymouth playgrounds



## Non-motorized Infrastructure

*“Make Plymouth more walkable and bikeable!”*



## Dog Parks

*“WE NEED ONE!”*



## Stop Building

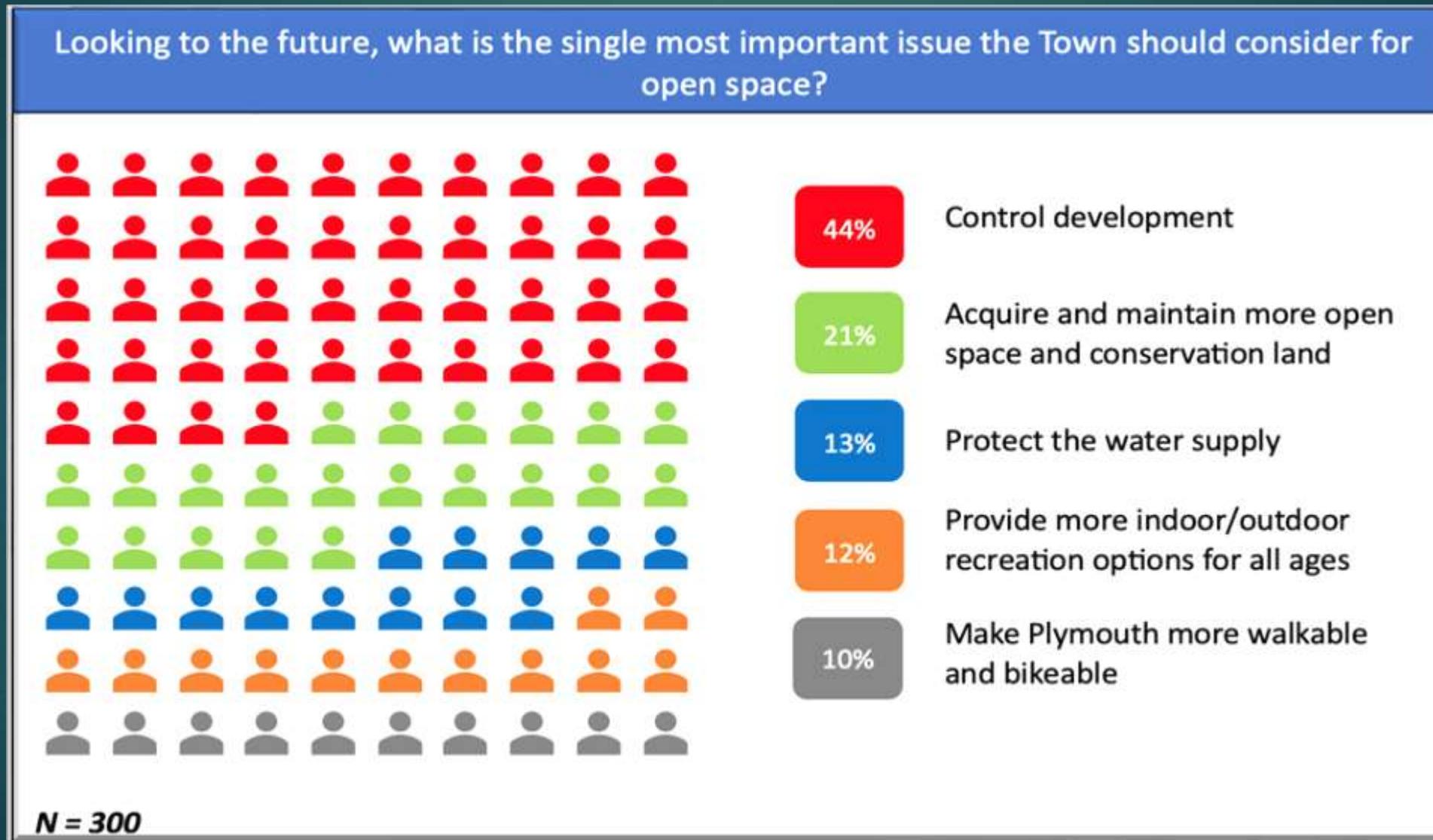
*“The best way to improve ALL open spaces is to stop destroying them!”*

# Strong Support for Ways to Acquire More Open Space

Town's Available Strategies to Acquire Open Space	% Support
Require developers to dedicate specific proportions of open space in their projects	81%
Purchase land through land grants and Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds	76%
Promote gifts of private land to Conservation Commission	72%
Convey Town-Owned Tax Title properties (i.e., foreclosed properties) to conservation or recreation status	72%

# Setting Priorities for the Future

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# What's Next?

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**Plymouth Master Plan Listening Session**  
focusing on  
**OPEN SPACE & RECREATION**  
Co-Sponsored by Open Space Committee & Master Plan Committee

Join the conversation:  
**Thursday, September 12, 2024**  
**6:00-7:30 PM**  
**Plymouth Public Library,**  
132 South Street, Plymouth, MA 02360

    
**PLYMOUTH  
MASTER PLAN**  
Charting our future together

**We want to hear from you!** Plymouth is updating the Open Space & Recreation Plan and the Comprehensive Master Plan. This forum will include a presentation followed by an interactive open house.

Please come share your thoughts on needs and goals for open space, parks, recreation, and natural resources in Plymouth!

For translation services, contact the Department of Planning & Development by September XX, 2024. Phone: 508-747-1620, x10142.

Para serviços de tradução, entre em contato com o Departamento de Planejamento e Desenvolvimento até quarta-feira, XX de setembro de 2024. Telefone: 508-747-1620, x10142.

For more information, please visit the Open Space Committee website:  
<https://www.plymouth-ma.gov/703/Open-Space-Committee>

- Communicate survey results
- Inform 2024 Open Space and Recreation Plan
- Support Master Plan process and other Town initiatives
- Develop recommendations for additional open space opportunities for the community

# Open Space Committee: Sample of Accomplishments 2017-2024

- ▶ Land Acquisition: Approximately 488 acres acquired via tax title conveyance for open space, at no cost to the Town (except for filing, registration fees)
- ▶ Trail Work (In partnership with Wildlands Trust and Dept of Energy and Environment):
  - ▶ Completed more than 60 work projects to open and maintain walking trails
  - ▶ Initiated trail camera project to assess trail use
- ▶ Education and Publications:
  - ▶ Developed, updated and distributed thousands of Trail Guides, free to the public
  - ▶ Co-sponsored Sustainable Plymouth's *Invasive Plant Guide: Dirty Dozen*
  - ▶ Led 14 Community Hikes and published 19 *Take a Hike* columns
  - ▶ Participated in Community Education events, e.g., Herring Festival, Plymouth Garden Tour
  - ▶ Created 2 Story Walks in partnership with Plymouth Library & Public Schools
  - ▶ Co-sponsored/participated in: Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness Program; Priority Plymouth's Climate Action Plan, Balancing Sustainability, Growth and Development in Plymouth Panel Discussion; Invasive Plant Workshops and work projects
- ▶ Partnerships: Sustainable Plymouth, Wildlands Trust, SeePlymouth, SE MA Pine Barrens Alliance, Dept of Energy and Environment, Planning Dept, Audubon

# A Final Thought from a Constituent

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*“Plymouth is incredibly unique in its offerings – oceans, lakes, cranberry bogs, hiking trails, golfing, downtown, neighborhoods. Keep the diversity of what is available. This is a huge part of the draw.”*