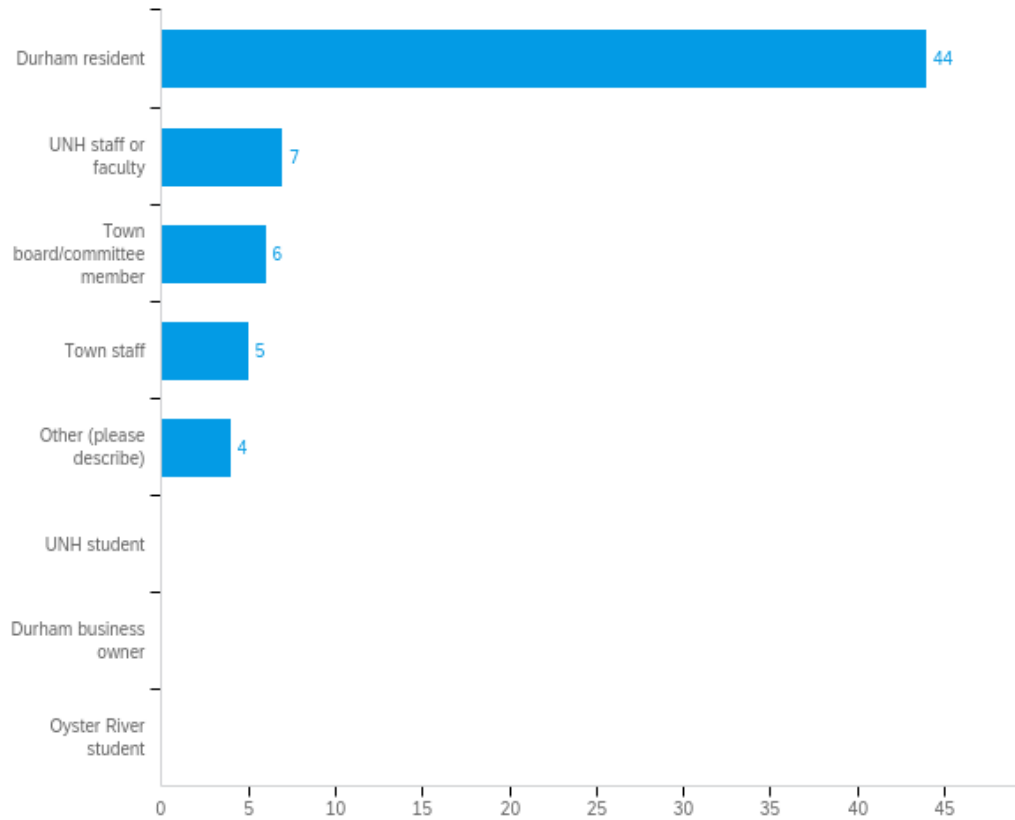


Durham Climate Adaptation Master Plan Chapter: Public Input

SURVEY REPORT

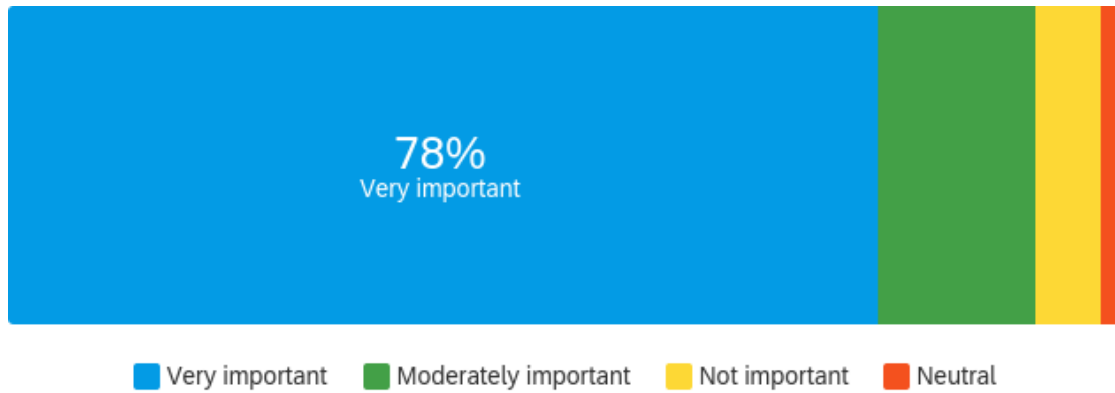
November 2021

Are you a... (select all that apply)



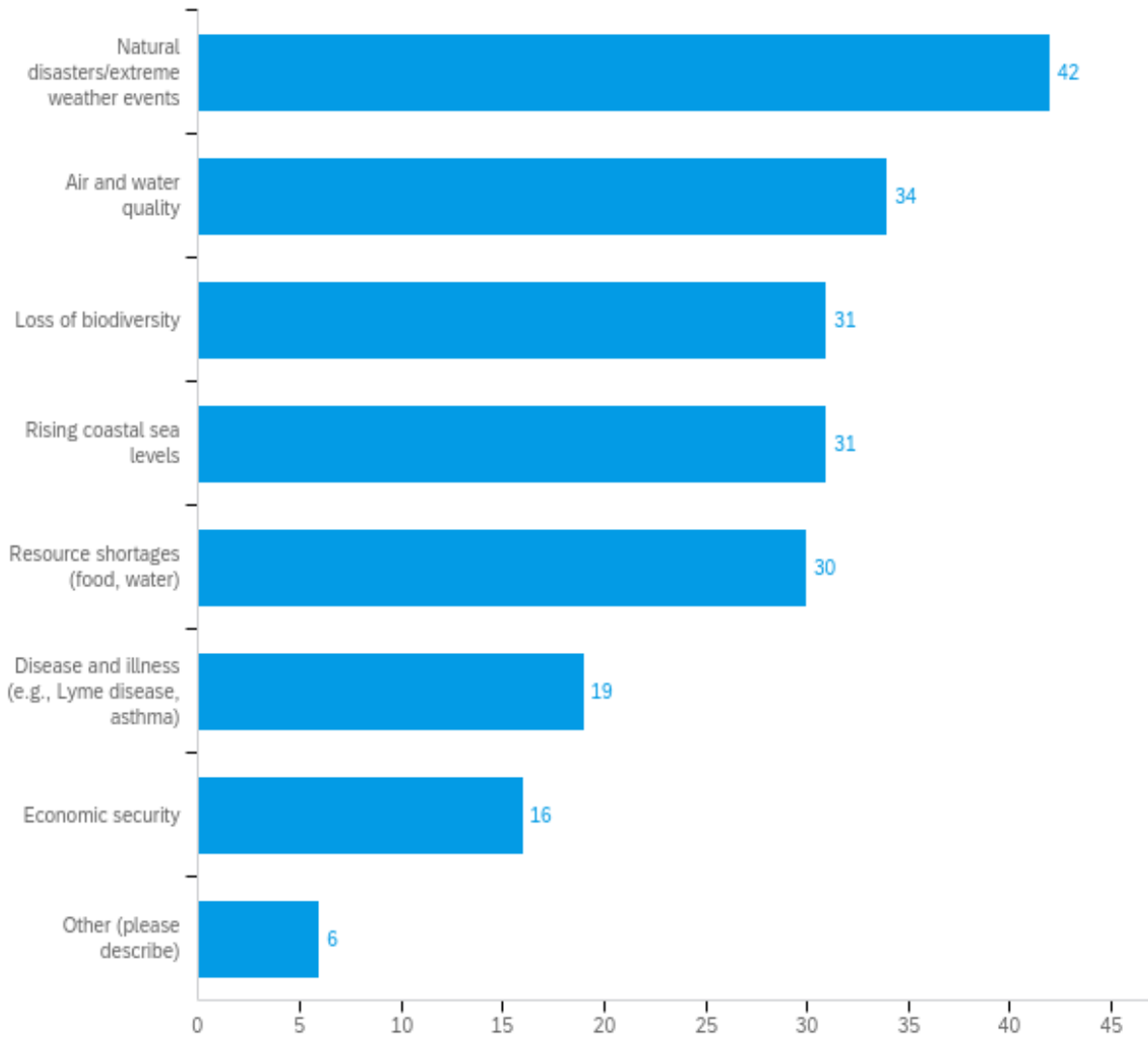
Other (text): Landowner, Oyster River Parent, Natural Resources Professional (federal agency); UNH alum; property owner

How important is the issue of climate change to you personally?



78% very important, 14% moderately important, 6% not important, 2% neutral

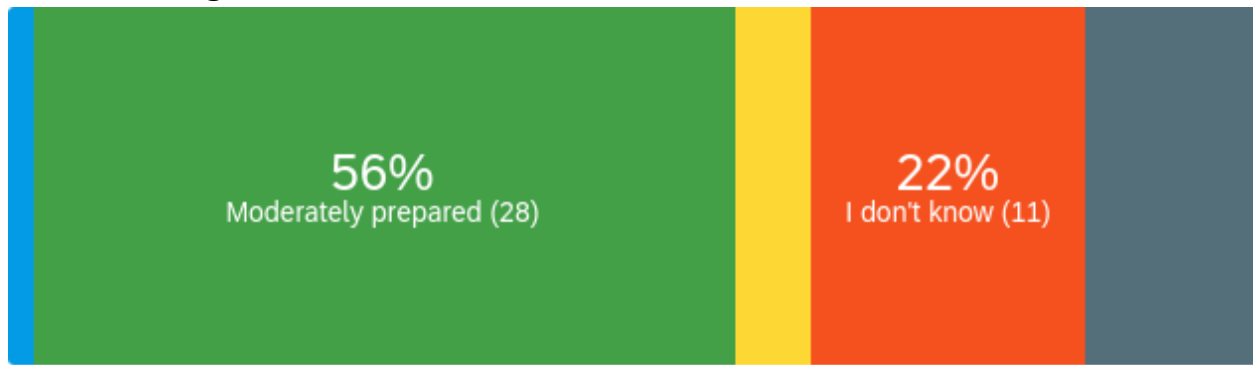
Which issues are of most concern to you related to climate change?



Other (text)

- I worry that the policies adopted to reduce carbon emissions will create unemployment and impoverish some citizens.
- The lack of objective, unbiased research and review thereof.
- These are all very interconnected – it's hard to select just a few
- Too slow and modest an attempt to become carbon neutral
- Worry that we will pursue mitigation rather than prevention
- Other environmental changes
- Steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions
- The inevitable need for significant adaptation to a changing environment and a sense that none of the public discourse acknowledges and reflects that there is a time lag between the greenhouse gasses we add to the atmosphere and the effects that will result years/decades later. So, not acting soon enough or at the magnitude needed will result in greater impacts than are understood by most people. The consequences associated with Plans to become carbon neutrality in 2030 or 2050 are likely much greater than appreciated by most of us.

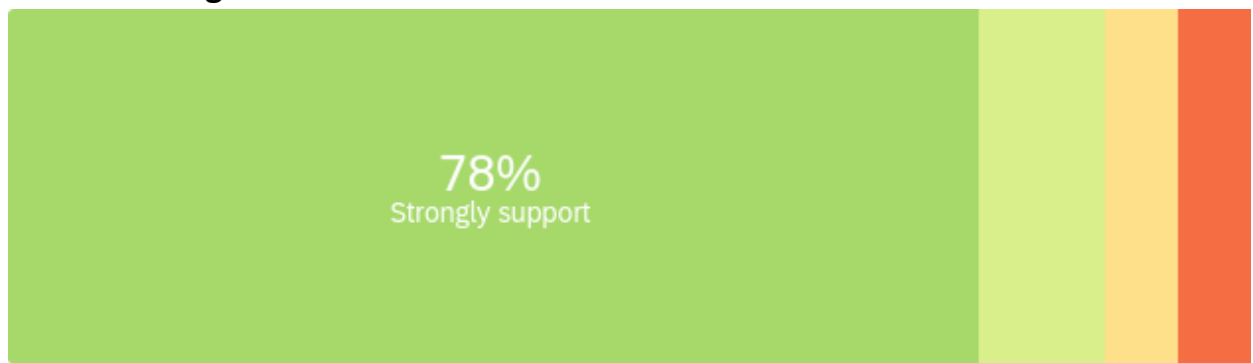
How prepared do you feel the Town of Durham is to address the likely impacts of climate change?



Very prepared Moderately prepared No need to prepare I don't know
Not prepared

2% very prepared, 56% moderately prepared, 6% no need to prepare, 22% I don't know, 14% not prepared

Do you support or oppose the Town of Durham taking action to address the impacts of climate change?



Strongly support Somewhat support Neutral Somewhat oppose
Strongly oppose I don't know

78% strongly support, 10% somewhat support, 6% neutral, 6% strongly oppose

Goal #1

Action	Do you support this recommended action?									
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total	
1.1 Support actions set forth in the University's Climate Action Plan (WildCAP 2021), particularly those where the Town is listed as a partner	68%	25	3%	1	11%	4	19%	7	37	
1.2 Amend land use regulations and policies to increase the use of electric vehicle technology (i.e., revise parking regulations to require that a percentage of spaces be electric vehicle ready, create a fee structure that would allow for the Town to purchase additional charging stations for public use, etc.)	81%	30	5%	2	14%	5	0%	0	37	
1.3 Increase number of local destinations connected by sidewalks, safe bike routes, and accessible public transportation	76%	28	14%	5	11%	4	0%	0	37	
1.4 Increase the frequency, dependability, and use of public transit	65%	24	22%	8	11%	4	3%	1	37	
1.5 Review the zoning ordinance to ensure it does not place unnecessary restrictions or barriers on residential/small business renewable energy installations and identify opportunities to encourage these types of installations	86%	32	8%	3	3%	1	3%	1	37	
1.6 Implement emission reduction strategies set forth in the Town's Carbon and Nitrogen Inventory (i.e., transition the municipal fleet to hybrid-electric vehicles and exercise the buy-out options for the Town's solar power purchase agreements)	84%	31	5%	2	11%	4	0%	0	37	
1.7 Revise criteria in the Guidelines for Acquiring Legal Interest in Conservation/Open Space Land document to include carbon sequestration and air pollution reduction	71%	25	17%	6	9%	3	3%	1	35	
1.8 Identify ways to begin shifting from natural gas to electric energy powered by renewable sources	83%	30	6%	2	11%	4	0%	0	36	
1.9 Explore additional options to increase the use of renewable energy sources by residents and business owners in Durham	86%	31	8%	3	6%	2	0%	0	36	

Comments or questions these draft actions?

- Car charging stations need to be stronger. They only charge a little bit for the amount of time they sit
- I'd rather encourage the use of electric vehicles by making charging and owning of them more convenient rather than by trying to make life difficult for people who cannot, for whatever reason, switch to electric power.
- 1.3 and 1.4 – people need to USE the public transportation, sidewalks and bike lanes. Is there a plan to encourage and/or incentivize increased use of public transportation? Otherwise it is a wasted resource to have huge empty buses, for example.
- The draft actions are based on the extreme supposition that the “science is settled” regarding climate change. It's not, and far from it. Basing long term changes on biased and/or research that does not follow the scientific method is absurd and unnecessary.
- I agree with working towards all these aspects, but i disagree with the target value and timeline.
- Looks good!
- increase power purchase agreements, look at micro grids, community
- 1.2 and 1.3 I have concerns about. At this time, electric vehicles have a very limited range especially in the winter. Most people drive to the lakes, mountains or into Boston regularly. Electric vehicles are not yet equipped to travel those distances without frequent charges. We sold our Volvo Hybrid for that reason. Durham is the home of many 55+ communities and people with disabilities (me included). This town has

become less disability and senior friendly with respect to public transportation and accessibility and parking. Being environmentally conscious is excellent, but let's not forget about our senior and disabled population that cannot walk or bike everywhere.

- 1.3 Sidewalks extremely important, especially for the children and senior citizens in town. Sidewalk extension on Mill Rd to Packers Falls is especially desirable.
- Prevention (through greenhouse gas emission reduction) is worth more than measures to mitigate the effects of climate change.
- 1.7: This is critical.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #1

- Change is costly. Some of us have only so much to spend.
- There needs to be more about obtaining alternative energy, switching to electric power doesn't help if the power is sourced from fossil fueled generation.
- Reduce the parking downtown and use that space to safely accommodate cyclists and outdoor space for restaurants or retail.
- Supporting resources to help people learn and encourage involvement.
- Review and supply an equal amount of research papers that counter the claims of man-made climate change. They exist. Ignoring them doesn't make them not true, relevant or important. A meaningful decision can only be made with full review of available research both for and against your stated cause.
- The Mill Pond Dam should be removed. Parking needs to be added to avoid traffic and idling cars. Better public transportation or ride share options (small buses or vans – especially because of Covid and future Pandemics)
- Why doesn't the town agree to increase its production of electrical power from renewable sources by 50% a year for the next 8 years and sell such power to residents and any unused portion to the grid?
- Better ensure food security from the surrounding area (York County, Strafford and Rockingham Counties, Essex County).

Goal #2

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
2.1 Ensure that capital improvement projects (i.e., drainage system improvements, street reconstruction, culvert/bridge design, water/sewer pipe replacement, etc.) are evaluated for climate impacts, using the NH Coastal Flood Risk Summary, Part II: Guidance for Using Scientific Projects (2020, and as updated)	91%	31	6%	2	3%	1	0%	0	34
2.2 Evaluate options to reduce impacts from sea-level rise and storm surge flooding to sections of roadway on Back River Road and Cedar Point Road	70%	23	15%	5	15%	5	0%	0	33
2.3 Prioritize culverts identified in the C-RiSe Assessment and the NH Tidal Crossing Project for more immediate replacement/resizing schedules in the capital improvements program to mitigate future flooding	70%	23	21%	7	6%	2	3%	1	33
2.4 Encourage NHDOT to use the NH Coastal Flood Risk Summary, Part II: Guidance for Using Scientific Projections when designing future road/bridge improvement projects along Route 4 in areas vulnerable to projected sea level rise and storm surge	94%	31	0%	0	3%	1	3%	1	33
2.5 Research and promote the use of pavement materials that are more resilient to climate impacts, including extreme heat, groundwater rise, increased freeze/thaw cycles, and more extreme precipitation	85%	28	6%	2	6%	2	3%	1	33
2.6 Evaluate adaptation options to address vulnerable infrastructure identified in the C-RiSe Assessment, including sewer and water pipes, the lift station near Beards Creek, and Beards Creek dam	88%	29	3%	1	6%	2	3%	1	33
2.7 Conduct an update to the sea level rise scenarios and floodplain analysis on the tidal portion of the Oyster River (this assumes the Mill Pond Dam is removed)	79%	26	6%	2	9%	3	6%	2	33
2.8 Investigate the feasibility of a stormwater utility program	67%	22	21%	7	3%	1	9%	3	33
2.9 Provide green infrastructure bonds or incentives for green infrastructure developments that may encourage developers to go beyond minimum design requirements	79%	26	9%	3	6%	2	6%	2	33

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- I don't support the removal of the Oyster River dam. Your question highlights another problem, letting sea water into the mill pond area with the potential for reduced rainfall brings the danger of inundation of the water table by salt water. Are you going to freshwater mains to homes that might be affected?
- 2.2 there is a lot of unaddressed storm surge flooding by college brook that I would like to see address in this document
- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- I support all of these in concept – but without expected cost or options to prioritize, I'm not sure how useful my (or anyone's) general opinion about these actions will be.
- look at changing zoning for Shoreline Protection and Wetlands overly district for sea level rise. Currently they do not anticipate impact
- in terms of 2.9 above: Revise Conditional Use requirements to require stricter and well-defined environmental criteria for proposed development.
- 2.2, people with waterfront homes should finance their own protections. I don't think people should live that close to waterfront. Sea level rise will happen. We should not spend tax dollars to support the rich residents so they can continue to live waterfront. They should live there at their own risk. In the future when their

properties are inevitably destroyed, the land should be returned to nature to act as a buffer to the rest of the community.

- The challenge is greater than these timid options for response. Go back and think again. Work on prevention rather than mitigation if we want a future.
- Encourage or require Low Impact development strategies that will reduce storm water runoff by recharging into the ground, to lessen the need for larger culverts and bridges.
- 2.3: All culverts need to be studied and assessed, not just a few. 2.7: Investigate the impact of rising sea level on the Mill Pond if the dam should be removed.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #2

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- We need to look at zoning rules for septic systems and wells located close to waterways and wetlands. There should be incentives for more environmental clean septic systems. Mine dates back to 1967. We are located across the street from the Oyster River.
- Check vital spots on Rte. 108 and other roads which are beyond town borders and therefore town jurisdiction but which directly impact the movement of people and goods into and out of Durham.

Goal #3

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
3.1 Ensure that evacuation plans are completed in coordination with surrounding towns and agencies in the coastal region to implement timely and comprehensive planning and notification for coastal storm events; routes should be reviewed periodically to evaluate risk and consider long-term planning efforts.	70%	21	23%	7	7%	2	0%	0	30
3.2 Include public transportation network vulnerabilities in evacuation planning	70%	21	20%	6	10%	3	0%	0	30
3.3 Mark evacuation routes with signage and communicate routes to the public	70%	21	27%	8	3%	1	0%	0	30
3.4 Use scenario planning (i.e., traffic demand model) to determine how potential infrastructure failures at certain points in the network would affect emergency response and evacuation processes	77%	23	20%	6	3%	1	0%	0	30
3.5 Investigate opportunities to share costs, at the regional level, of infrastructure resilience improvements that benefits multiple communities or agencies	83%	25	13%	4	3%	1	0%	0	30
3.6 Update the Town’s Hazard Mitigation plan to include a co-occurrence map showing natural disasters and extreme events and the compounding effects on the community, environment, and infrastructure	80%	24	10%	3	7%	2	3%	1	30
3.7 Identify opportunities to improve emergency communications between the Town and residents	80%	24	13%	4	7%	2	0%	0	30
3.8 Increase awareness of municipal resources available to support residents sheltering in place during storms	80%	24	13%	4	7%	2	0%	0	30

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- What event would require the evacuation of Durham?
- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- again, without cost estimates and opportunities to prioritize these actions, this survey is limited

- 3.6 Please include notification and evacuation plan in the event of an accident at Seabrook nuclear power plant. Durham falls just outside the zone the plant has demarcated for their response plan.
- 3.1: Who is responsible for the coordination with surrounding towns and agencies? That will be quite the undertaking but is very valuable. 3.4: I believe scenario planning/tabletop exercises are an excellent idea and a way to identify or help answer some issues such as 3.5; 3.7. 3.3: Is this something that would be done in advance? Who would be responsible? The police department would certainly need to be educated on this as we would be responsible for ensuring the plan is followed out if indeed the event was that major.
- 3.5: Cost-sharing arrangements between and among communities is critical and must be made to work.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #3

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- Having completed the First Responder training offered at Durham Fire Department several years ago, I encourage the town to promote this course actively in the community.
- See comments above.
- More attention needs to be paid to food security. There is a tendency in this project (as far as i can see) to de-emphasize food security. This critical subject must receive more focus.

Goal #4

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
4.1 Protect critical grassland habitat from development and implement management plans to conserve grassland habitats on Town-owned lands	93%	27	7%	2	0%	0	0%	0	29
4.2 Conserve and restore corridors between habitat blocks to facilitate wildlife movement, and minimize future loss or fragmentation of habitats	96%	27	0%	0	4%	1	0%	0	28
4.3 Protect areas identified in the sea-level affecting marsh migration model (SLAMM) as opportunities for salt marsh migration and where possible, remove physical barriers to salt marsh migration	86%	25	7%	2	7%	2	0%	0	29
4.4 In suitable areas, install living shorelines along the coastal banks to prevent erosion and stabilize the shoreline	86%	25	7%	2	7%	2	0%	0	29
4.5 Revise criteria in the Guidelines for Acquiring Legal Interest in Conservation/Open Space Land document to include flood storage	83%	24	3%	1	7%	2	7%	2	29
4.6 Improve the condition of stream crossings that have restricted aquatic organism passage	79%	23	10%	3	7%	2	3%	1	29
4.7 Assess the feasibility of establishing permanent conservation status on publicly owned, but not currently permanently protected lands, so their integrity and ability to provide ecosystem services remains unchanged	86%	25	7%	2	7%	2	0%	0	29
4.8 Identify areas suitable for solar arrays and areas to avoid, such as sensitive wildlife habitat	90%	26	3%	1	7%	2	0%	0	29
4.9 Consider minimum density requirements, especially in areas such as mixed-use zones to encourage development patterns that minimize impacts on open space and important natural resources	90%	26	3%	1	3%	1	3%	1	29

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- Support some shoreline stab but we need to recognize that these are (and always) will be dynamic systems. I support efforts in "high traffic" areas with exceptionally accelerated erosion and sedimentation, but not widespread stabilization of most/all shorelines
- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- Coordinate this goal with the one that mentions housing – use easements to allow farmland preservation while developing cluster housing on parts of large properties where farmland is preserved.
- 4.9 Our conservation/protected lands are a treasure. We pay dearly for them via our taxes and foregone revenues, but they are at the top of my list of reasons to live in Durham and pay taxes till I die in Durham.
- 4.8 we should not specifically limit solar expansion. We will need to make some sacrifices in land use to build much more solar. We need to avoid nimby ism when it comes to large scale solar expansion
- 4.7 and 4.9 are especially important.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #4

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- Enforce conservation land use restrictions! Too many rich people on Durham Point Road have land in current use that they are using/clearing for personal use. The land needs to be unused and natural. Instead, it is a tax break for rich people to use for trails, parking, logging etc.... It is a financial and conservation problem.
- Continue to encourage residential property owners to forgo lawns and plant native species to support bees, birds, and butterflies.
- Control invasives and promote native species to support pollinator species.

Goal #5

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
5.1 Implement strategies from the Town’s Integrated Pest Management Approach and continue to improve, adapt, and respond to invasive plant management	90%	26	10%	3	0%	0	0%	0	29
5.2 Identify land/property management goals and use prevention, early detection, and rapid response to reduce the impacts of invasive plants on Town-owned land	79%	23	14%	4	3%	1	3%	1	29
5.3 Conduct education, including workshops, and outreach efforts that increase invasive plant awareness among the public, volunteers, and the Town staff	83%	24	14%	4	3%	1	0%	0	29
5.4 Continue to survey, map, and monitor current and potential invasive plants and select control methods (i.e., cultural, mechanical, chemical) based on science and current technology to eradicate the known invasive species and reduce the environmental impacts they cause	83%	24	14%	4	3%	1	0%	0	29

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- Over the next 2 decades reasonable projections suggest the likelihood of major changes in the trees/vegetation, insects, fungi, and mold that will become the "new normal." It may not be feasible to preserve some of what we value today and we may turn to different species. There will always be undesirable invasives, but what they are and how we deal with them is likely to change.
- More literature for homeowners to look for invasive species in their backyards!

- Invasives are here to stay – some areas of our town have infestations that are unlikely to be eradicated with a nuclear bomb! I've battled them for years and we need to be sure that our effort to control don't lead to problems that are worse (excessive use of pesticides in sensitive landscapes). Working to minimize spread but learning to live with some invasive seems like a manageable approach especially since many of the invasives offer significant wildlife benefit (New England Cottontail and fruit for birds).
- I am not convinced that invasive plants are high in the priority of where our money and effort should be spent. Doesn't dealing with invasive plants really require a regional approach and is there evidence of this happening now?
- How can the public be encouraged to participate more in the efforts? Nature Groupie is one resource, how to make more people more aware of opportunities to learn, engage, and support the efforts?
- Current mitigation efforts appear to be as effective as they can reasonably be.
- 5.4: Control measures for invasive plant species should include control by grazing animals, particularly goats. We should encourage local grazing animal owners to build a business of renting their animals and their services to control invasive plant species (perennials, shrubs and trees).
- 5.3 Especially important.
- 5.1 There are invasive plants all over town, including town property, the town manager gets on his high horse with finger wagging judgement towards the town people about their invasive plants, but is so busy looking down his nose that he doesn't see the invasive plants on town property, including the beloved Wagon Hill. This survey is nothing more than posturing to make the town manager and town council feel good about themselves and feel important.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #5

- Looking at overall wildlife habitat quality with different goals in different parts of our landscape. Super dense (typically invasive infested) areas are great for New England Cottontail.
- See above. Control by animals is important!
- Do we plan for the loss of native trees over the next 1-2 decades and their replacement with new species? Since much of this will happen on private residential and other land, how should the town educate, advise and support residents and businesses?

Goal #6

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
6.1 Use sustainable forest management practices on Town-owned forests and incorporate climate into forest management plans	93%	27	3%	1	3%	1	0%	0	29
6.2 Reduce point- and nonpoint sources of pollution from roads, agricultural fields, and residential and commercial development to maintain healthy, resilient ecosystems	90%	26	3%	1	3%	1	3%	1	29
6.3 Work with private landowners to support conservation of undeveloped lands for long-term sustainability	86%	25	3%	1	10%	3	0%	0	29
6.4 Conduct education and outreach to raise awareness about the effects of climate change on working and natural lands	83%	24	10%	3	7%	2	0%	0	29
6.5 Incorporate climate adaptation and mitigation benefits into criteria for prioritizing future land conservation	89%	25	4%	1	7%	2	0%	0	28

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- How can we encourage the termination of harmful pesticides, and promote regenerative agriculture?
- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- 6.3 – Agree in concept but the goal here should be outreach to conservation professionals in public and private sector not offering this service through town funds. Great resources for this assistance – USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), UNH Cooperative Extension, Strafford County Conservation District; NH Fish and Game.
- See previous comment on ag easements and housing.
- Update anticipated dates of sea level rise and stop using outdated statistics. Climate change impact is coming faster than predicted and there are reliable sources which so indicate. Government must keep up!

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #6?

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- Zoning rules need to be more strict and enforced. There are too many variances approved.
- See above. And check out the recent findings of the First Street Foundation on the pace and the impact of climate change, particularly from flooding, both freshwater and sea water, on all infrastructure.
- In general (for the entire plan) please consider how the town can facilitate and support adaptation. Mitigation is fine, but seems a heavy carry for our community alone, but adaptation will be required of all of us.

Goal #7

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes		Neutral		No		Unsure		Total
7.1 Consider creating a new position within the Planning Department that would be responsible for all resilience and adaptation efforts	32%	9	32%	9	29%	8	7%	2	28
7.2 Prepare for an increase in climate-induced migration (i.e., support additional municipal services and affordable housing stock, ensure future development is guided out of vulnerable areas, plan to be a welcoming community for newcomers)	57%	16	21%	6	14%	4	7%	2	28
7.3 Develop loan programs to assist local businesses in implementing climate adaptation measures and emergency preparedness planning	43%	12	32%	9	14%	4	11%	3	28
7.4 Support local businesses to assess supply chain impacts and vulnerabilities and identify strategies to improve resilience	63%	17	19%	5	15%	4	4%	1	27
7.5 Improve social resilience by increasing social capital and civic engagement and by reducing socioeconomic vulnerabilities	64%	18	18%	5	14%	4	4%	1	28
7.6 Support student/youth engagement in climate action and municipal decision making	79%	22	4%	1	14%	4	4%	1	28
7.7 Expand compact, mixed-use developments in the downtown to extend walkability and areas for unplanned social interaction	71%	20	7%	2	14%	4	7%	2	28
7.8 Determine which populations are highly dependent on certain transportation infrastructure (roads, public transportation, etc.) to address how disruptions in the system will affect their safety and well-being	68%	19	25%	7	7%	2	0%	0	28
7.9 Consider minimum density requirements, especially in areas such as mixed-use zones to encourage development patterns that minimize impacts on open space and important natural resources	75%	21	11%	3	11%	3	4%	1	28

Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- People are crossing the border because we are offering them free stuff. Not because they are hot. Please stop with the political agenda.
- Existing dense private student housing is outside the control of UNH steadies to improve resource use and should be brought into the strategies of Wildcap programs. Otherwise the university has a false appearance of energy reduction while large numbers of students continue living the traditional lifestyles.
- 7.6 is critical. Involve youth! 7.9 can be a little problematic if it results in too many hard surfaces which cannot absorb floodwater.
- 7.1 this needs to be integrated across all positions and departments – adding a separate position sounds like a silo and may keep others out of the loop and therefore off the hook 7.3 let's see if this is available elsewhere first. Many of these are great but we can't be/do everything for everyone – cost and prioritization are important – I'm not opposed in concept to any of these
- 7.1 Rather than one position/individual, create a council/working group comprising relevant experts already living in our community. 7.2 I think constantly about climate-induced migration and the likely social/political tensions arising from it. So much so that I am looking for a "refuge property" further north in New England to be available to my children and grandchildren as the crises multiply in 2040s-2050s. Our investments in Durham will require convincing taxpayers to think that far ahead in building the infrastructures we will need to make Durham less vulnerable to the coming tensions. And how do we do that in ways that will not build barriers between us and the neighboring towns, such as Dover and Newmarket? 7.7 WALKABILITY is key. Whatever rises in Mill Plaza should have a pedestrian mall feature that links with Main st and includes places to sit in groups under trees. 7.8 SIDEWALKS! are super important for the aging population, who need to get to grocery, pharmacy, bank, post office, and so forth. ALSO: shuttles to medical centers. We need an URGENT CARE facility IN DURHAM. Lee and Dover are not accessible enough. 7.8 In terms of the costs of resilience and emergency response to natural disasters, the neighborhoods beyond the center of town, especially out Durham Point Road, seem to be the most vulnerable...property owners' choices to live on large lots near Great Bay or in forested areas bring with them added risks. Is it possible to do a 20-year review of costs-by-neighborhood to the town during major weather events (wind, ice, flooding, etc.), breaking down those costs to per-capita calculations? That is, what are the costs of tree removal/power line repair PER RESIDENT or per HOUSEHOLD in the various neighborhoods (Does Durham Point Rd. cost more per property to repair than Wedgewood? or Foss Farm? or Faculty Neighborhood? Or Edgewood/Bagdad/Madbury area?) And how do we factor the student apartments out by Tecce's fields?
- 7.1 This is a high priority and should happen ASAP. 7.2 Given our location and vulnerabilities (exposed to impacts of sea level rise and flooding from severe storms) are we realistic in thinking people displaced by climate change should relocate here? Or, are we talking about how residents may be displaced and migrate to a different area? 7.3 Why are we limiting financial support to businesses. Residents may also need support to implement adaptation measures. 7.4 I am concerned that supply chain management is beyond what Durham can meaningfully accomplish. As with so many items in this plan, our role may be one of advocacy for shaping state and federal initiatives. 7.6 Yes! But please do not limit this to students (and particularly not to only UNH). Anyone from 15-30 will live with the consequences of what we do and do not do today, while most of our current decision-makers will not bear the burden in any meaningful way. Reach out and engage and involve young adults in general (even as many may elect not to become involved).

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #7

- The comment left for section 1 applies here as well.
- Our downtown is becoming overwhelmed with student housing. I'd like to see some young professionals or senior housing mixed in. Diversity supports a robust downtown. Parking has to be addressed!
- I believe any Mill Plaza residential buildings MUST include some family-suitable, affordable units for our Durham public service employees who cannot afford to live in Durham or send their children to our schools.
- See above – neither the Town nor the university has an ability to improve sustainability of the private student housing.
- Educate people to accept retreat from the immediate shoreline and flood-prone areas near rivers, streams and low-lying areas in general. Psychologically, this will not be easy but it must be done.

Goal #8

Action	Do you support this recommended action?								
	Yes	Neutral	No	Unsure	Total				
8.1 Make resources for residents experiencing food insecurity more readily available via the Durham town website	78%	21	15%	4	7%	2	0%	0	27
8.2 Consider adopting a local food procurement ordinance	33%	9	26%	7	22%	6	19%	5	27
8.3 Incorporate additional trees and native vegetation, while also preserving mature trees, into the downtown landscape and other Town-owned properties to help lower surface and air temperatures by providing shade	89%	24	4%	1	4%	1	4%	1	27
8.4 Provide information about vectors and vector-borne diseases to the public, offer tips on how residents can protect themselves with a focus on children	81%	22	7%	2	4%	1	7%	2	27
8.5 Provide education and outreach to ensure that residents are made aware of emergency resources the Town provides, including temporary shelters during large scale disasters and warming/cooling shelters during times of extreme temperatures	78%	21	22%	6	0%	0	0%	0	27
8.6 Identify buildings in greatest need of weatherization services and support households to access these services	70%	19	19%	5	7%	2	4%	1	27
8.7 Encourage the use of energy efficiency/renewable energy/weatherization products and services by raising awareness of available financing/rebate options	85%	23	11%	3	4%	1	0%	0	27
8.8 Explore creative ways to encourage and promote affordable housing options (i.e., requiring that for new developments of a certain size, a percentage of the rental units must remain at the HUD rental rate, allowing multiple accessory dwelling units on a single lot in some zoning districts, etc.)	69%	18	8%	2	15%	4	8%	2	26
8.9 Support legislative changes needed to amend flood disclosure laws to mandate that real estate transactions disclose past and potential flooding vulnerabilities	81%	22	15%	4	4%	1	0%	0	27

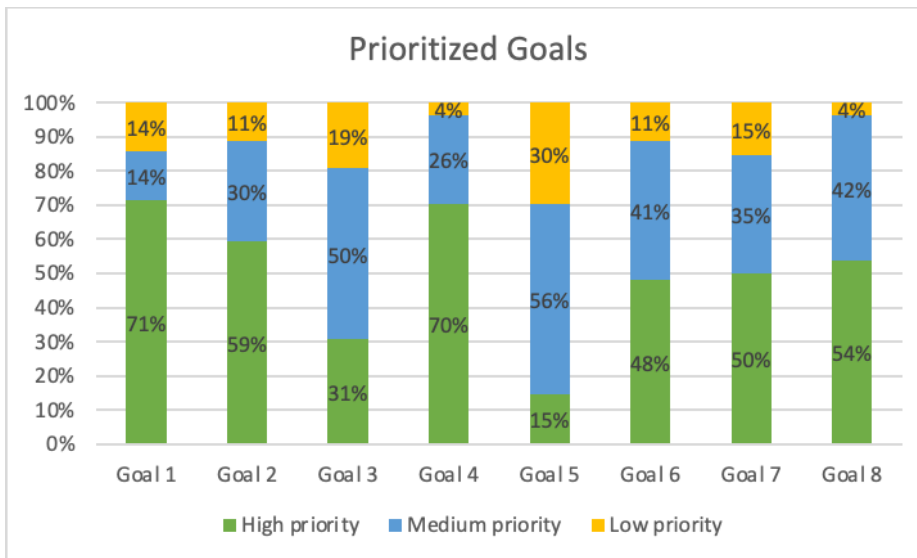
Comments or questions about any of the draft actions above

- 8.8 Don't ENCOURAGE. REQUIRE that any residential/rental developments set aside units for Durham's public service workers and their families. Not necessarily at the HUD rental rate, but at a lower rate than the maximum-profit model in place for student renters. Having such units in the Mill Plaza development for police officers and members of the Fire Department would also act as a guard against student renters' disorderly conduct.
- 8.3 Does this acknowledge and reflect the likely and possibly inevitable loss of many native species (we are already seeing early signs of annual stress on certain species trees). As insects and plant diseases find our changing climate more tolerable, these will increase and adaptation rather than preservation may be the better approach. 8.4 This seems to be addressing human diseases. That's good, but we'll also be experiencing more plant and animal diseases (possibly appearing sooner than we'll face human diseases). Should the Town have a role in addressing these? 8.5 Affordable housing is important. I'll comment here about a pattern I note in the plan, which incorporates a number of political topics that have been in discussion for years. Whether these are critical to our response to climate change is something I wonder about. I hope we do not use a climate change plan as a means of advancing political agendas – which the redirects resources from addressing climate change and its direct consequences.
- 8.2 yes to providing information – do not support restrictive requirement 8.3 our developed downtown is pretty small – this would be expensive initially with large maintenance costs that are probably not worth it – better to invest these resources on other efforts.
- 8.1 is increasingly important. 8.2 also very important. The impact of climate change on food and on our food system is critical.
- In thinking about the legislation piece, 8.9 Perhaps the legislation comments should appear more frequently as applicable to each goal in order to address a much broader support for all local, state, and federal legislation addressed toward mitigating the effects of climate change. There could be an addition to the Friday Durham Town updates noting upcoming legislation that needs support, votes, and/or speakers at town and state committee meetings/hearings, as well as outreach notices to like-minded organizations such as The Waterkeeper – Melissa Paly, Great Bay Stewards, SELT, etc. to reach out to their memberships as well. I would also suggest moving the legislation support action plan much higher on any list where applicable. Mitigating and adapting climate impacts may make things more expensive, but a solid plan makes Durham well situated to receive funding from state, foundation and federal funding. Thanks for all the work you do and for holding these input sessions.

Additional actions that should be considered to help the Town achieve Goal #8

- Keep NOISE and LIGHT pollution in mind with any dense housing developments.
- See previous comments.
- We can learn much from the Scandinavians, the Germans, the Dutch, and other European peoples as to how they are coping with these challenges. They have put forth many successful ideas and methods.

Which goals do you feel should be prioritized?



Goals	Mean
Goal 4	1.33
Goal 1	1.43
Goal 8	1.50
Goal 2	1.52
Goal 6	1.63
Goal 7	1.65
Goal 3	1.88
Goal 5	2.15

Do you have any overarching comments or questions about the chapter as a whole?

- Climate adaptation admits the global failure to address climate change in a timely and effective manner but resources put into adaptation rather than reduction of climate change mean accepting more and more climate change. 2. Is adaptation the path that a town should pursue rather than more vigorous efforts to reduce climate change by addressing the drivers of climate change more forcefully. (Or is it a fool's game to try to reduce climate change drivers unless everyone else does too?)
- Include protection of historic and archaeological resources when altering infrastructure. Shoreline resources may be hidden from view but may be disturbed by infrastructure construction or washed away by rising water levels.
- You are moving in the right direction, with the exceptions noted.

Is there anything else you would like the project team to know?

- This entire project, being premised on "climate change" seems to be a massive waste of time and resources. There are important components listed but they're built around a myopic worldview and not reasonable, objective, reliable and sound science.
- Thank you for requesting input. Durham has a remarkable brain trust to tap for creative thinking about these complex problems. Also, a remarkable reserve of community mutual concern to tap in seeking active engagement and contributions.
- I believe it will be extremely important to conduct tabletop or scenario training for each department regarding their responsibilities to anything identified as "a response" that would be needed from said department. For example, as stated under goal #3 previously, the police department should be able to fully understand any adopted evacuation plan and be able to run those scenarios with partners like DPW to make sure we are meeting the expected goals identified in said plan. Thank you for your efforts!
- Government operates too slowly. We moved fast to bring relief in the Great Depression of the 1930s and again in the 1940s during WW2. We can do that again if we use our heads and have the will to do so.

Are you interested in receiving updates on Durham's Climate Adaptation Master Plan Chapter and the upcoming work related to Durham's commitment to the Global Covenants of Mayors? 12 signed up.