

CANDLER PARK DECIDES!

OFFICE OF AMIR FAROKHI

DISTRICT 2 - ATLANTA

PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING - 2021



VOTING RESULTS

LIST OF WINNING PROJECTS

Total Allocation: **\$44,710**

Project Name	# Votes	\$ Allocation			
1. Candler Park Bathroom Overhaul	781	\$12,500	8. Electrical Box Art - McLendon / Candler Park Ave	447	\$1,250
2. Repair & Move Benches in Candler Park	733	\$2,750	9. Electrical Box Art - Clifton/McLendon	425	\$1,250
3. "Urban Orchard" - Candler Park	713	\$1,980	10. New Artistic Bike Racks in Candler Park	421	\$4,000
4. Kudzu and Invasives Removal	677	\$5,000	11. Electrical Box Art - Clifton/Dekalb	355	\$1,250
5. "Urban Orchard" - Iverson Park	655	\$1,080	12. Electrical Box Art - North/Moreland	355	\$1,250
6. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park Trail / Golf Course	613	\$900	13. Beaver Buddy / Playground Structure	265	\$1,500
7. Candler Park Pool Improvements	582	\$10,000	14. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park	-	Incl.

LIST OF WINNING PROJECTS

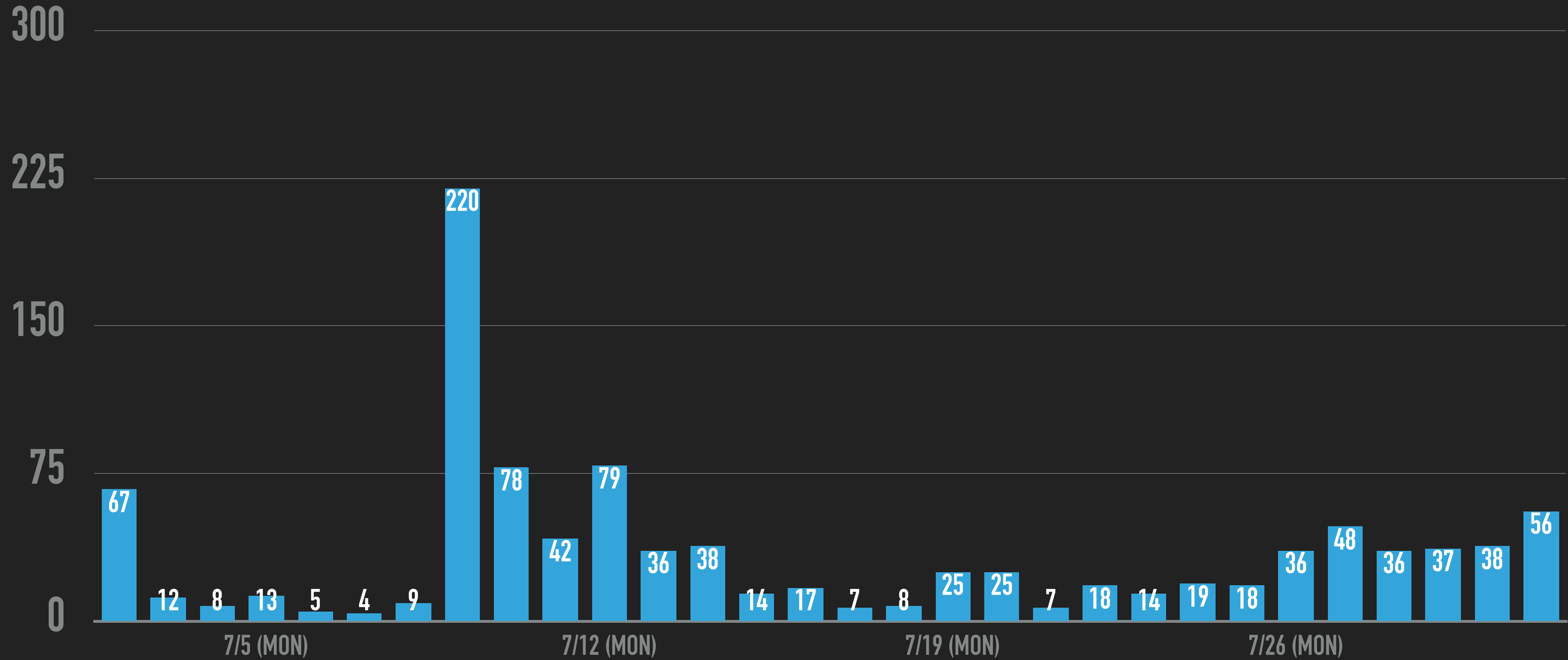
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Matching Funds:	Candler Park Conservancy	Trees Atlanta	ATL Parks and Rec	Contact Point	TOTAL FUNDING:
* The following additional funds were generously contributed:	1- \$12,000 2- \$1,250 4- \$9,000	7- \$12,000 10- \$1,500 13- \$1,000	3- \$2,285 4- \$10,000 14- \$1,350	1- \$8,500	1- \$1,000
					District 2 allocation: \$44,710 + Matching Funds: \$109,780

VOTES BY DAY

JULY 1 - JULY 31, 2021

Total votes: 1,045



COMPLETE LIST OF BALLOT ITEMS

Project Name	Votes Received		Votes Received
1. Candler Park Bathroom Overhaul	781	12. Electrical Box Art - Clifton/Dekalb	355
2. Repair & Move Benches in Candler Park	733	13. Electrical Box Art - North/Moreland	355
3. "Urban Orchard" - Candler Park	713	14. Sixth Tee Footbridge	317
4. Kudzu and Invasives Removal	677	15. Freedom Park Trail Invasives Removal / Beautification	307
5. "Urban Orchard" - Iverson Park	655	16. Beaver Buddy Public Art	265
6. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park Trail/Golf Course	613	17. Golf Course Signs	217
7. Candler Park Pool Improvements	582	18. McLendon Ave. Parklet	98
8. Electrical Box Art - McLendon/Candler Park ave	447	19. Iverson Park Swings	58
9. Electrical Box Art - Clifton/McLendon	425	20. Oakdale/McLendon Crosswalk Mural	53
10. New Artistic Bike Racks in Candler Park	421	21. Candler Park Stationary Bikes	41
11. Address Erosion Runoff at Euclid/North	364	22. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park	incl.



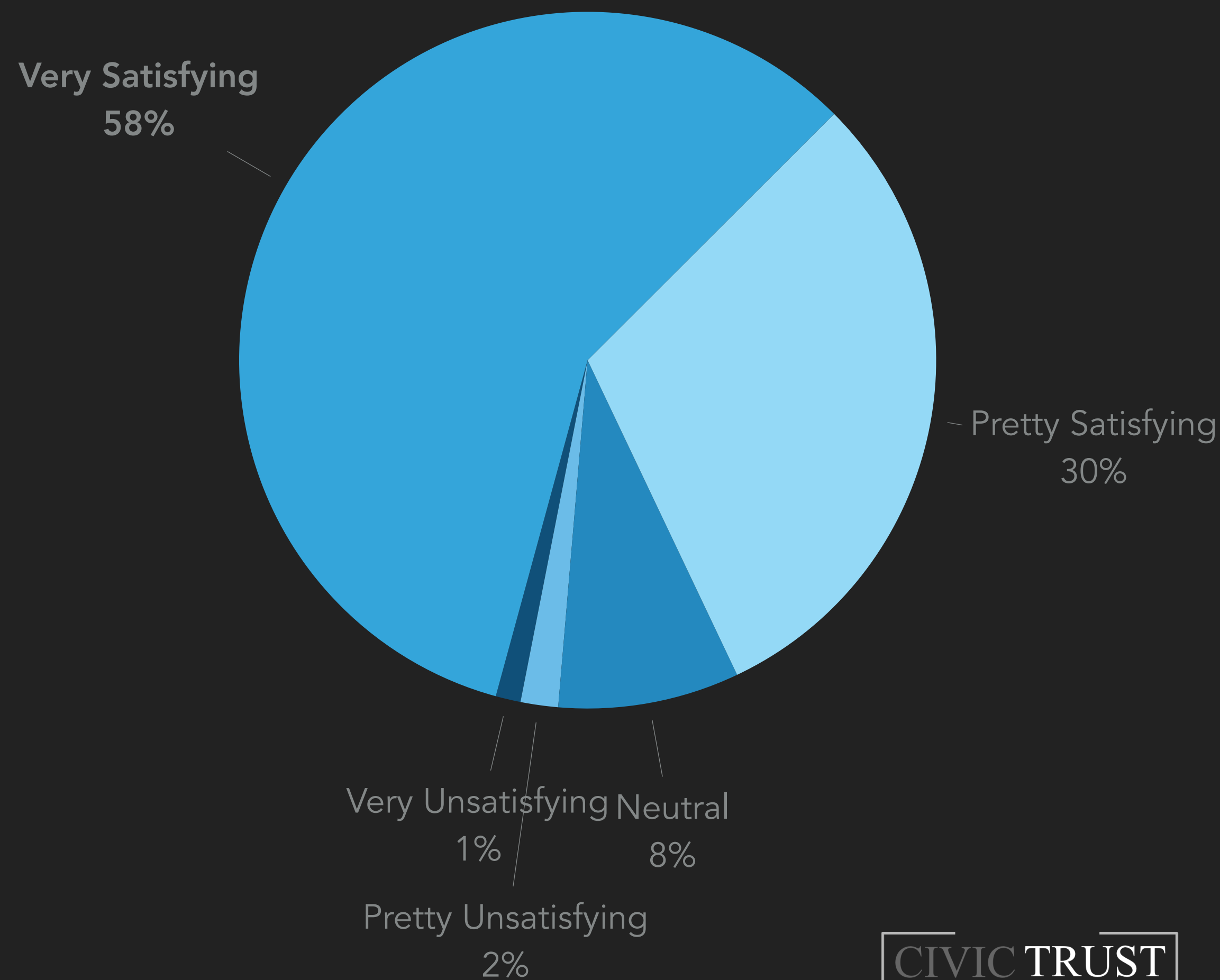
SURVEY RESPONSES

SURVEY RESULTS

HOW WOULD YOU RATE YOUR EXPERIENCE WITH CANDLER PARK DECIDES?

Response	#
Very Satisfying	201
Pretty Satisfying	105
Neutral	29
Pretty Unsatisfying	6
Very Unsatisfying	4

TOTAL RESPONSES = 345



SURVEY RESULTS

WOULD YOU SUPPORT AN INITIATIVE TO DO THIS PROCESS ANNUALLY AT A CITY LEVEL?

Response	#
Yes	334
No	12



TOTAL RESPONSES = 346

SURVEY RESULTS

WOULD YOU SUPPORT AN INITIATIVE TO DO THIS PROCESS ANNUALLY AT A CITY LEVEL?

WHY OR WHY NOT?

"Yes, being able to play an active part in the community is encouraging and ties me closer to it"

"Yes, with everything else being done online, this just makes practical sense."

"Yes, citizens need more ways to voice opinions"

"Yes, direct ballot/public initiatives are excellent ways to engage the community"

"Yes, great way to engage citizens and eliminate their ability to say "I didn't get a voice.""

"Yes, I feel like I'm getting to help make decisions on specific projects/action and can't wait to see them implemented!"

"Yes, I like to have a say"

"No, I believe there should be a process based on need not local preference"

"Yes, I like having a more active role in how my local government allocates funds"

"Yes, I like having a voice around facilities and places of interest to me and my family "

"Yes, It will improve civic engagement and will make citizens more invested in their city's development and success."

"Yes, I like having a direct effect on my community. I would love to see more options to support local

"Yes, This creates transparency between us and our local government so we can see where our tax dollars are going"

"Yes, I LOVE this process! I can see all sorts of uses from recycling, garbage pickup, employment, repairs.."

Yes = 97%; No = 3%

SURVEY RESULTS

IF THIS PROCESS WERE OFFERED TO YOU ANNUALLY, DO YOU THINK YOU WOULD TAKE PART?

Response	#
Yes	340
No	6



TOTAL RESPONSES = 346

SURVEY RESULTS

DO YOU FEEL THAT "PARTICIPATORY BUDGETING" PROGRAMS LIKE THIS ARE A POSITIVE STEP BY THE CITY TOWARDS BETTER ENGAGING THE PUBLIC?

Response	#
Yes	341
No	3

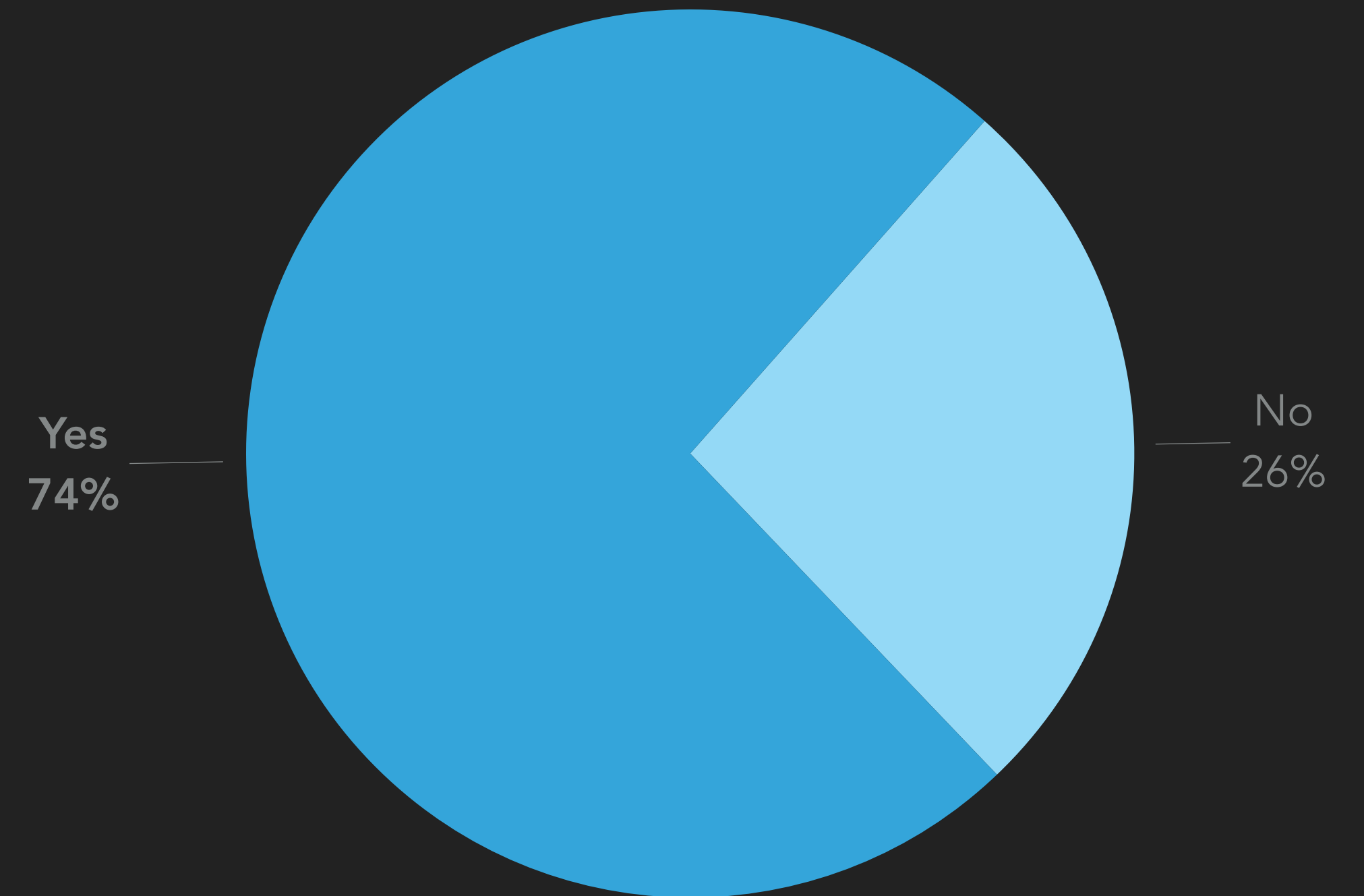


TOTAL RESPONSES = 344

SURVEY RESULTS

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE MORE CIVICALLY ENGAGED THAN YOU CURRENTLY ARE?

Response	#
Yes	249
No	89



TOTAL RESPONSES = 338

CAN YOU THINK OF ANY WAYS THIS PROJECT MIGHT HELP YOU BECOME MORE CIVICALLY ENGAGED?

"**Better understanding** budgeting and timeline of municipal works projects"

"Becoming more aware of the changes the city has in mind"

"By expanding the scope of the process and using it not only for improvement projects but for **other decisions** made by the city"

"Not sure. But I feel like this **creates momentum** that could move me towards more civic involvement "

"Offer clear **volunteer** opportunities"

"Once projects are approved, a call for **volunteers** to help implement some of the projects would be great"

"**Live meeting** to present ideas before voting"

"I would consider **actively lobbying** friends, neighbors for my choices "

"I would like to know who develops these ideas and how I can participate"

"Ask me to volunteer to remove invasives and help keep the park clean instead of just spending money to do work that the community should be engaged in"

"Reps from neighborhood orgs or NPUs **canvassing** neighborhoods to find and address community needs"

"Voting and getting updates on the outcome of the vote, also I'd **volunteer** to install some fruit trees"

DO YOU HAVE ANY ADDITIONAL COMMENTS THAT YOU THINK WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR NEXT TIME?

"I like the online voting. I think the main thing was I didn't know they were offering a chance to submit proposals, so publicize that more next time"

"Be more transparent about cost estimates. Also, provide reasons for why projects were rejected"

"Consider means to determine the viability of rejected projects through alternative programs"

"Communicate better to folks about how to make suggestions, or create workgroups, that create good long-term projects to be funded"

"Explanation of where the proposals came from and how to submit your own for future years"

"More graphics/plans + timeline"

"Needs to be better publicized"

"I like the access to the update on previously selected projects. Please continue this"

"Most of the public probably has no idea how these project options were developed and made available for voting"

"It does a good job of engaging, I'm just not sure I agree with it. Especially when it introduces internet and a cell phone as barriers to participation"

"I would have liked to have seen information about the groups or individuals who would be in charge of the various proposals"

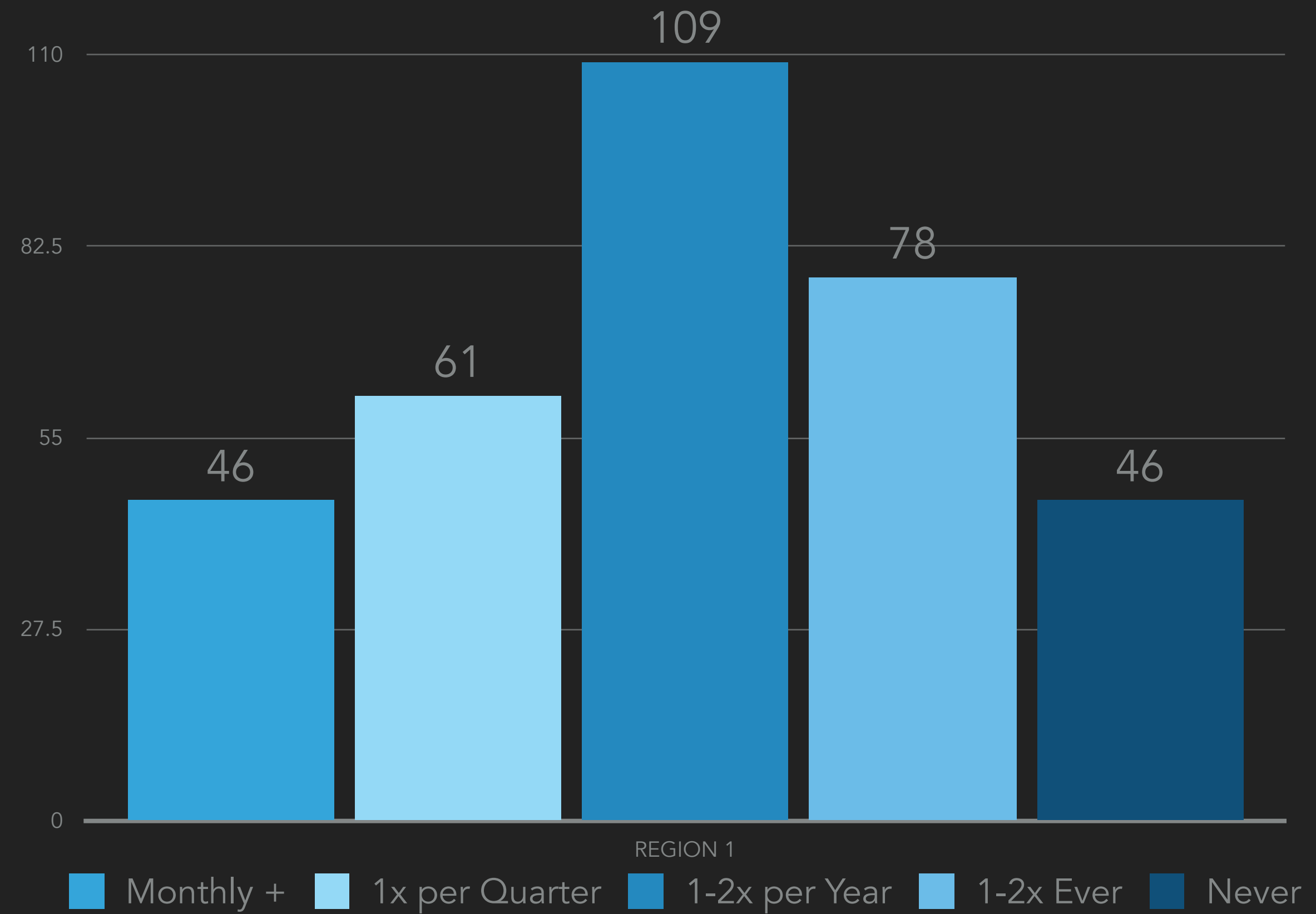
"I would like to know why some projects were left out"

"I love this and I really hope the city starts doing it on a larger scale"

SURVEY RESULTS

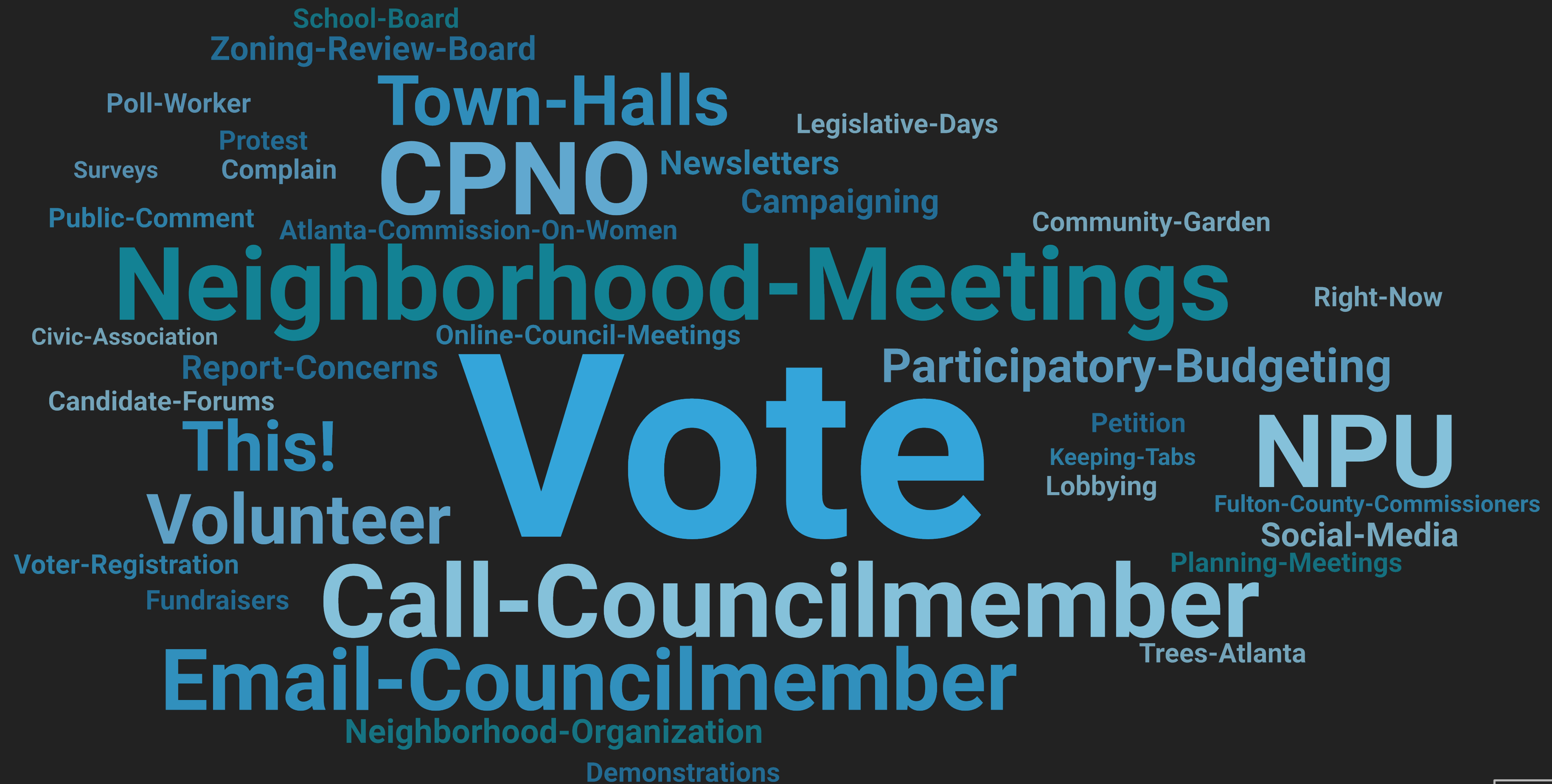
HOW OFTEN DO YOU ENGAGE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT?

Response	#
Monthly +	46
1x per Quarter	61
1-2x per Year	109
1-2x Ever	78
Never	46



TOTAL RESPONSES = 344

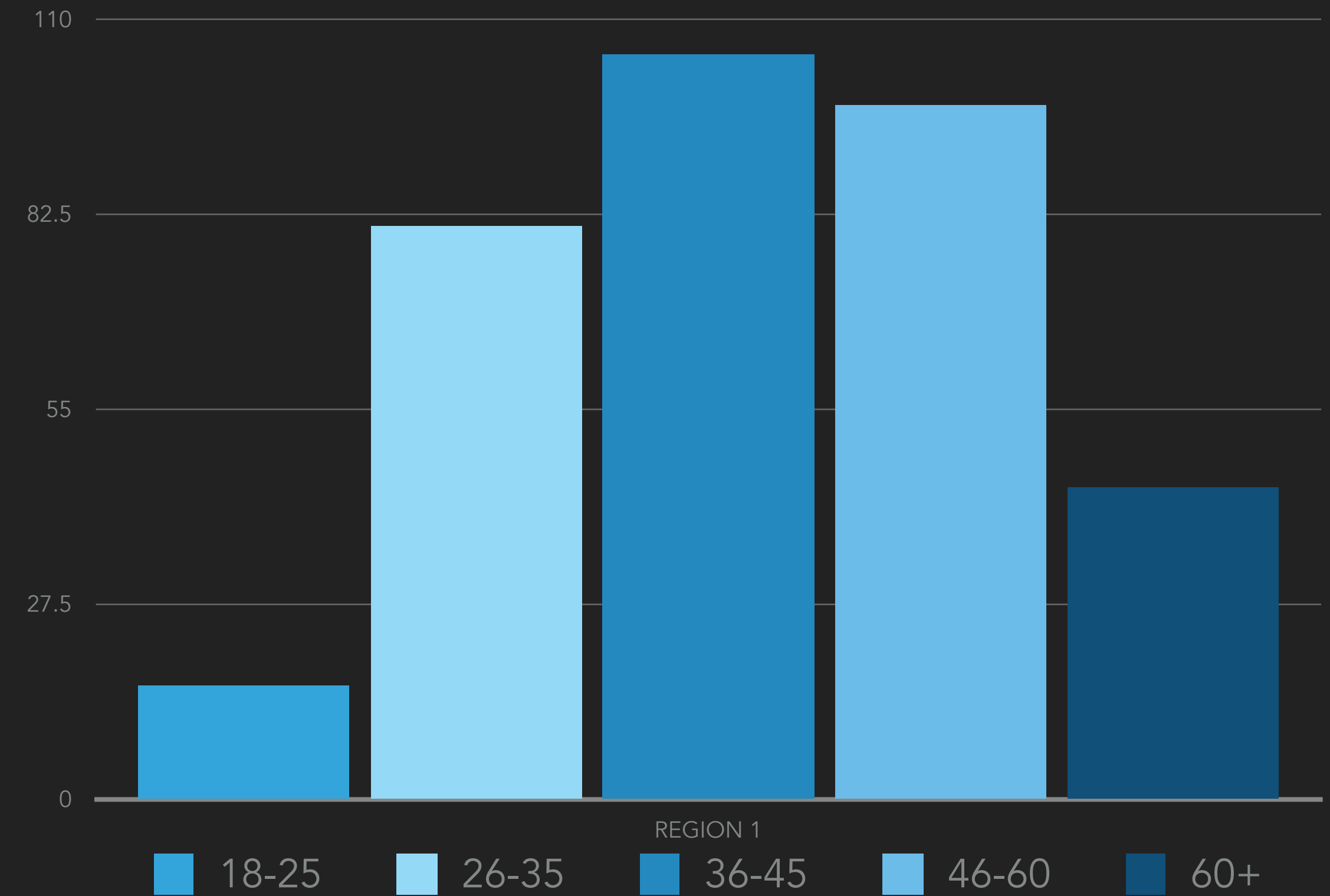
WHAT ARE SOME WAYS THAT YOU ENGAGE WITH YOUR LOCAL GOVERNMENT?



SURVEY RESULTS

WHAT IS YOUR AGE GROUP?

Response	#
18-25	16
26-35	81
36-45	105
46-60	98
61 (+)	44

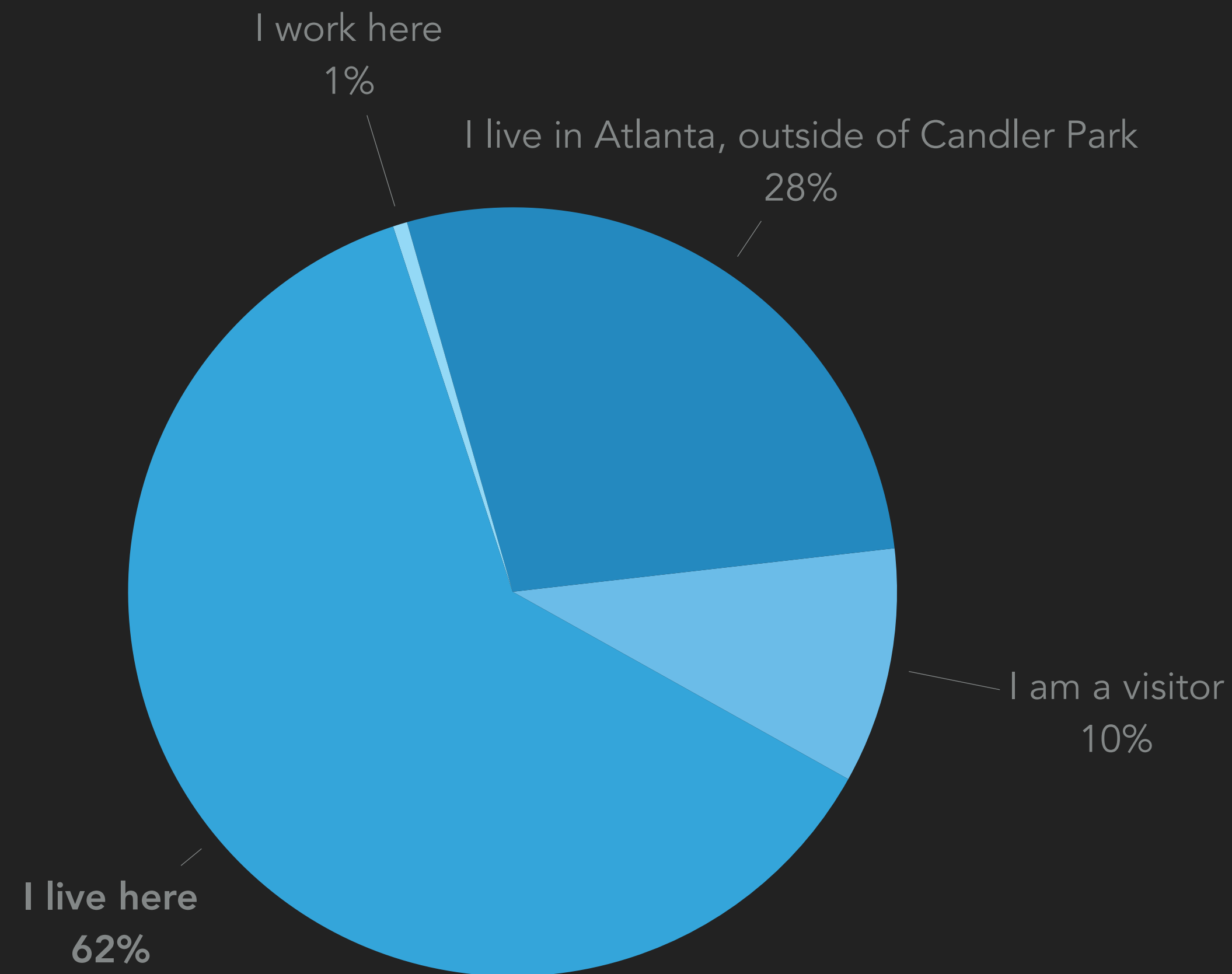


TOTAL RESPONSES = 344

SURVEY RESULTS

WHAT IS YOUR RELATIONSHIP TO CANDLER PARK?

Response	#
I live here	206
I work here	2
I live in Atlanta, outside of Candler Park	92
I am a visitor	45



TOTAL RESPONSES = 345

CONCLUSIONS

▶ Highlights:

- ▶ Respondent satisfaction score remains very high and consistent (4.4 out of 5 in 2021 vs 4.3 in 2000)
- ▶ Respondents show overwhelming support for project continuation and expansion:
 - ▶ After completing the process, 29 out of 30 respondents said they would support an expansion to a city level
 - ▶ 49 out of 50 respondents said they would take part in this process annually if it were offered to them
 - ▶ 99 out of 100 respondents feel that this process is a positive step by the city toward better public engagement
- ▶ The majority of our participants engage with local government 1-2x per year or less. 36% had engaged 1-2 times in their whole lives

▶ Takeaways:

- ▶ By far the most popular public request is for expansion of volunteer opportunities. 74% want to be more civically active than they currently are. The public cites interest in spreading awareness, help developing and lobbying for their proposals, and opportunities to help install “hands-on” projects like tree planting. A funnel could also be created that leads to participation with non-profit partners
- ▶ The public cites a desire for more awareness around the process, especially around idea generation. Ideally, this process would be done annually and we could spread awareness for next year’s idea generation during the vote, which has much higher participation

▶ Next Steps:

- ▶ In the coming months Civic Trust seeks to develop a project tracker to offer Candler Park residents a view into project completion
- ▶ Civic Trust hopes to keep collaborating with the office of Amir Farokhi to expand Participatory Budgeting opportunities for Atlantans



APPENDIX:

- PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS
- PUBLIC COMMENTS

WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name	Description
1. Candler Park Bathroom Overhaul	<p>The bathrooms located on the outside of the pool house at Candler Park have been closed for years. These existing, centrally located facilities could provide a vital public restroom in our heavily used park. This project would repair, clean, paint, add timed locks, and re-open the bathrooms for public use during park hours. The new doors & timer locks would lock the bathrooms during hours that the park is closed to help deter vandalism. This project will pay for 3-4 days/week cleaning for 2022, initial repairs and cleaning, and painting the interiors with graffiti resistant paint. The Department of Parks and Recreation is paying for future repairs to the bathrooms. Cleaning costs beyond FY 2022 are not yet budgeted, but will need to be addressed in the future.</p> <p>Contact Point would contribute \$1,000, the Candler Park Conservancy would offer \$12,000 in addition to managing the installation, and the Atlanta Department of Parks and Recreation would offer \$8,500 in matching funds.</p>
2. Repair & Move Benches in Candler Park	<p>There are five historic benches inside Candler Park that are excessively weathered and, in some cases, in locations that are no longer useful. By repairing, repainting and relocating these benches, we can provide more opportunities for everyone to sit and enjoy the park.</p> <p>Candler Park Conservancy is matching \$1,250 for this project and will be managing the installation. project and will be matching \$9,000.</p>

WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name

Description

3. "Urban Orchard" - Candler Park

20 fruit trees to be planted in Candler Park along the stairs/slop near the pool. This includes:

- * Eleven 7-gallon trees (fig, chickasaw plum, nectarine, Methley plum, Asian persimmon)
- * Seven 15-gallon trees (American persimmon, loquat)
- * Two 30-gallon canopy trees (oak)

4. Kudzu and Invasives Removal from Active Lawn along Candler Park Drive

The hillside above the soccer fields and below Candler Park Drive is completely overgrown with kudzu and other invasive species. Trees Atlanta will provide the technical expertise to remove, treat and replant the hillside with appropriate native trees and shrubs. This newly open vista will allow expansive views from Candler Park Drive, help promote healthy vegetation, as well as vastly improve the aesthetics of the active lawn.

Trees Atlanta is donating over \$10,000 to purchase 50 trees to be planted as part of this project and is managing the implementation. Candler Park Conservancy is participating in overseeing this 5 year project and will be matching \$9,000.

WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name

Description

5. "Urban Orchard" - Iverson Park

25 fruit trees to be planted throughout Iverson Park along the perimeter. This includes:

- * Six 7-gallon trees (fig, chickasaw plum, Asian persimmon)
- * Twelve 15-gallon trees (Methley plum, pawpaw, American persimmon)
- * Seven 30-gallon fruiting and/or canopy trees (oak, American elm, serviceberry)

Trees Atlanta is offering \$5,185 in matching funds to complete the project.

6. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park Trail/Golf Course

5 fruit trees to be planted in Candler Park along Freedom Park Trail at the north end of the golf course.

This includes:

- * Five 7-gallon Chickasaw plum trees
-

7. Candler Park Pool Improvements- Shade, Paint, & Mural

The pool at Candler Park has multiple opportunities for improvement for this fantastic community and regional resource. This project would add a mural covering the brick wall along the back of the pool which would be visible to all park visitors. It would also add four tables with umbrellas to provide seating and shade for pool visitors. Lastly, it would involve weeding, power washing, and painting the exterior of the pool house and eaves that face the interior of the pool.

Candler Park Conservancy is matching \$12,000 for this project and will be managing the installation.

WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name

Description

8. Candler Park Electrical Box Art - McLendon/
Candler Park Ave.

Power boxes are often over-looked canvases that can be turned into mini murals to add pops of color and brightness to an otherwise boring and sometimes vandalized box. It helps beautify the community and supports local artists. It can also help to brand the neighborhood and let people know that they are visiting the Candler Park neighborhood, if the name is painted on one part of the box. My project is to makeover the power boxes at key intersections within and surrounding Candler Park. This kind of project is happening all around Atlanta, beautifying neighborhoods and supporting local artists. It is an easy way to add more art to Candler park when there are not a lot of mural walls available. It also helps curb graffiti on these grey boxes.

9. Candler Park Electrical Box Art - Clifton/
McLendon

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WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name

Description

Install two new bike racks at the pool and soccer fields to encourage biking to the park, provide security, and add functional art to the park space. These rack designs from a local artist will be customized to say "Candler Park" in the wheel of the bike.

10. New Artistic Bike Racks in Candler Park

Candler Park Conservancy is matching \$1,500 for this project and will be managing the installation.

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11. Candler Park Electrical Box Art - Clifton/
DeKalb

WINNING PROJECT DESCRIPTIONS

Project Name

Description

12. Candler Park Electrical Box Art - North/Moreland

Power boxes are often over-looked canvases that can be turned into mini murals to add pops of color and brightness to an otherwise boring and sometimes vandalized box. It helps beautify the community and supports local artists. It can also help to brand the neighborhood and let people know that they are visiting the Candler Park neighborhood, if the name is painted on one part of the box. My project is to makeover the power boxes at key intersections within and surrounding Candler Park. This kind of project is happening all around Atlanta, beautifying neighborhoods and supporting local artists. It is an easy way to add more art to Candler park when there are not a lot of mural walls available. It also helps curb graffiti on these grey boxes.

13. Beaver Buddy Public Art / Playground Structure / Selfie Prop

Installation of a 4-ft tall fiberglass beaver sculpture after it has been custom-painted by a local artist. The large, sturdy and colorful structure could serve as an adhoc playground feature and a selfie prop. It would be located in the vicinity of the playground, the stream, and the existing educational signage (for the Candler Park Brook project that was completed in 2006) along the sidewalk from Terrace Avenue to the parking lot.

Candler Park Conservancy is matching \$1,000 for this project and will be managing the installation.

14. "Urban Orchard" - Freedom Park

6 fruit trees to be planted in Freedom Park along North Avenue near the Euclid Avenue intersection. This includes:
* Six 15-gallon fruit trees (pawpaw, American persimmon)
Trees Atlanta is offering \$1,350 in matching funds, which completely covers all costs!

MORE PUBLIC COMMENTS:

"It's a chance to be positive, not just complain. I have an MPA and spent my career in state government. This is a great tool."

"I think we could do some projects with neighbor labor."

"Gets me to tune in"

"I don't want to see this as the sole or even main basis for decision making. public input is great but the public, including myself, are mostly uninformed idiots and completely unaware of the larger dynamics and constraints of public decisions."

"Yes, this process provides an opportunity for me to think about how to improve our city and gives an outlet for civic participation that feels productive and concrete."

"I wasn't aware they were soliciting ideas for the area"

"I would like to know why some projects were left out, ie the gate between Marta and Iverson Park which got a lot of support in the submission phase"

"It gets me thinking about politics in a tangible way. I like this since politics is something that can feel pretty abstract."

"Proof of improvements are really being done and not just lip service."

" I would like more word of mouth outreach, as well. Not just geared toward folks who are already involved."

"More trust in government. I was [leadership position] of the [Neighborhood Organization] and have seen how the city manages and its disillusioning and creates lack of trust and interest."

"It expanded my thoughts on what creative projects can be done to make my neighborhood more enjoyable. I was pleasantly surprised at the many thoughtful projects that were proposed."



A HUGE THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS!

YOUR GENEROSITY AND HELP MADE THIS
PROCESS A GREAT SUCCESS





THANK YOU

District2
Atlanta

Contact: matt@civictrust.us

CIVICTRUST.US