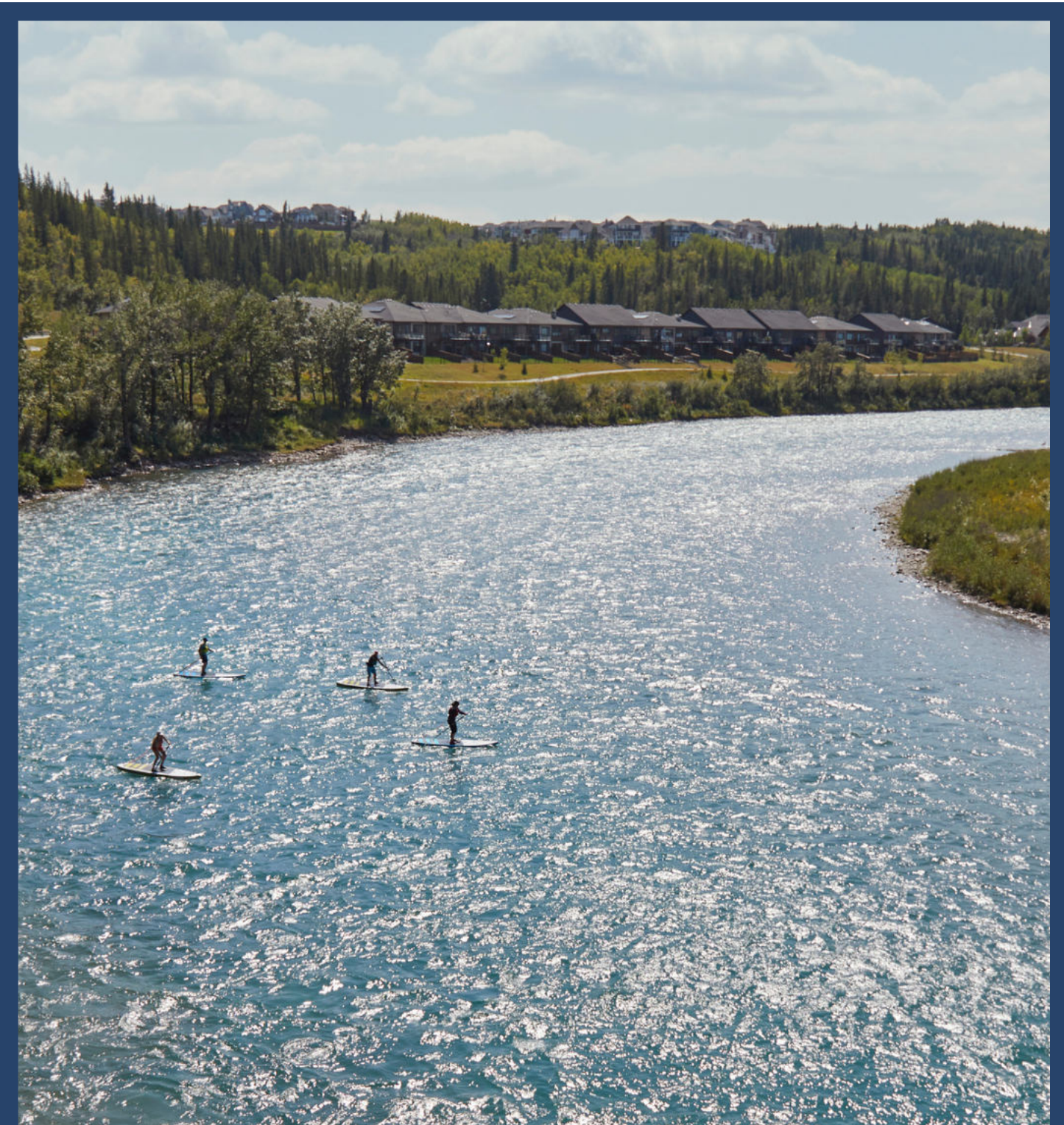




BOW RIVER RECREATION SURVEY

Initial feedback and sentiment on recreational use of the Bow River and potential Cochrane River Wave Park.

November 2021



BACKGROUND

This survey is the first step in a longer-term public engagement process and will be used to help shape how to move forward with next steps regarding river recreation and/or a potential river wave park.

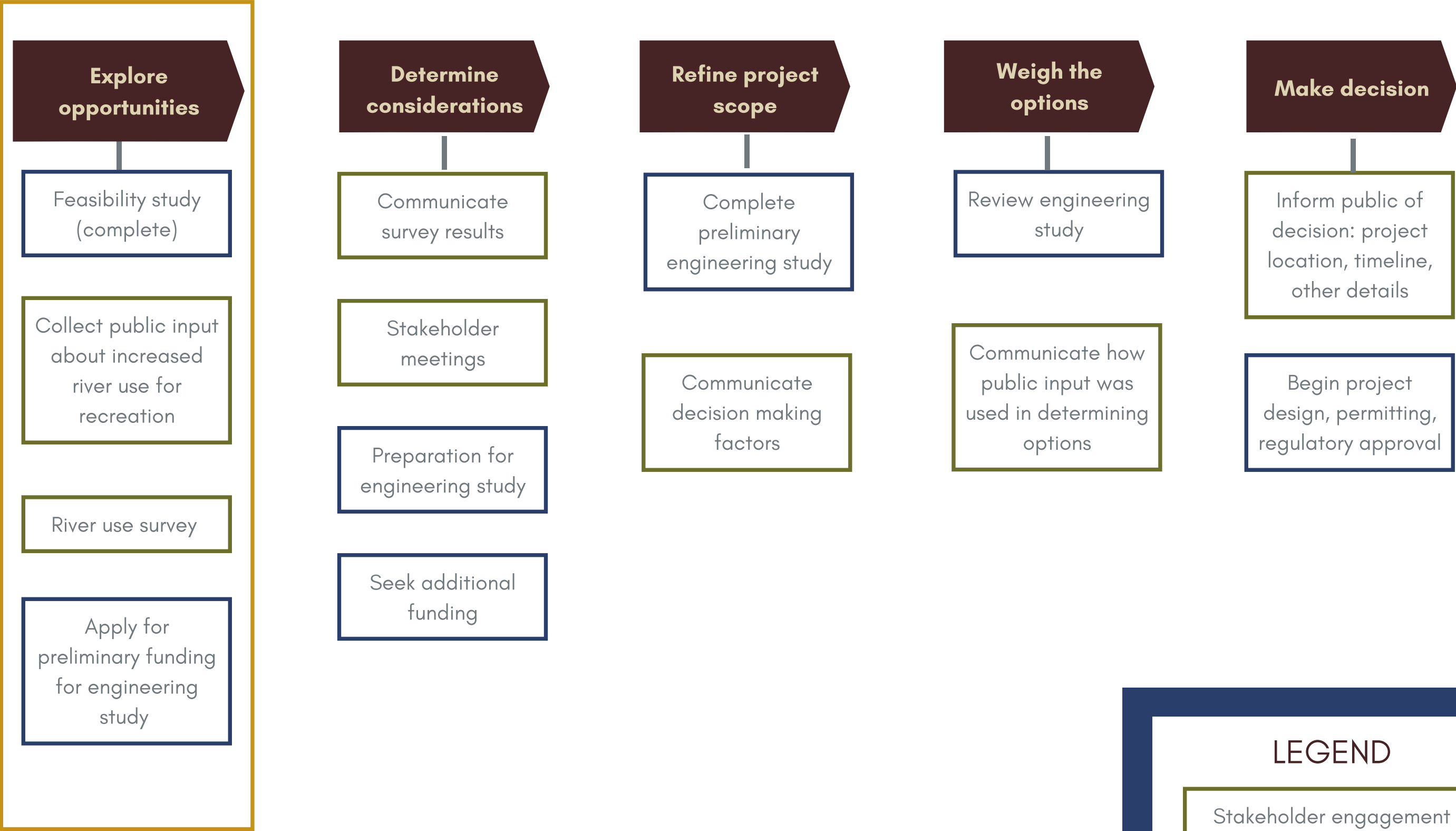
This is not a scientifically validated report. It simply reflects initial sentiment about river recreation broadly, and the potential idea of a river wave park (based on the current information available, which is limited).

Effort has been made to include summaries of comments and qualitative feedback, but any quantification of these comments is approximate. The steering committee would like to thank everyone who took the time to comment and provide input into this process.

GENERAL INFO: TOTAL RESPONSES: 2,037 | N=TOTAL NUMBER OF RESPONSES PER QUESTION



DECISION MAKING PROCESS



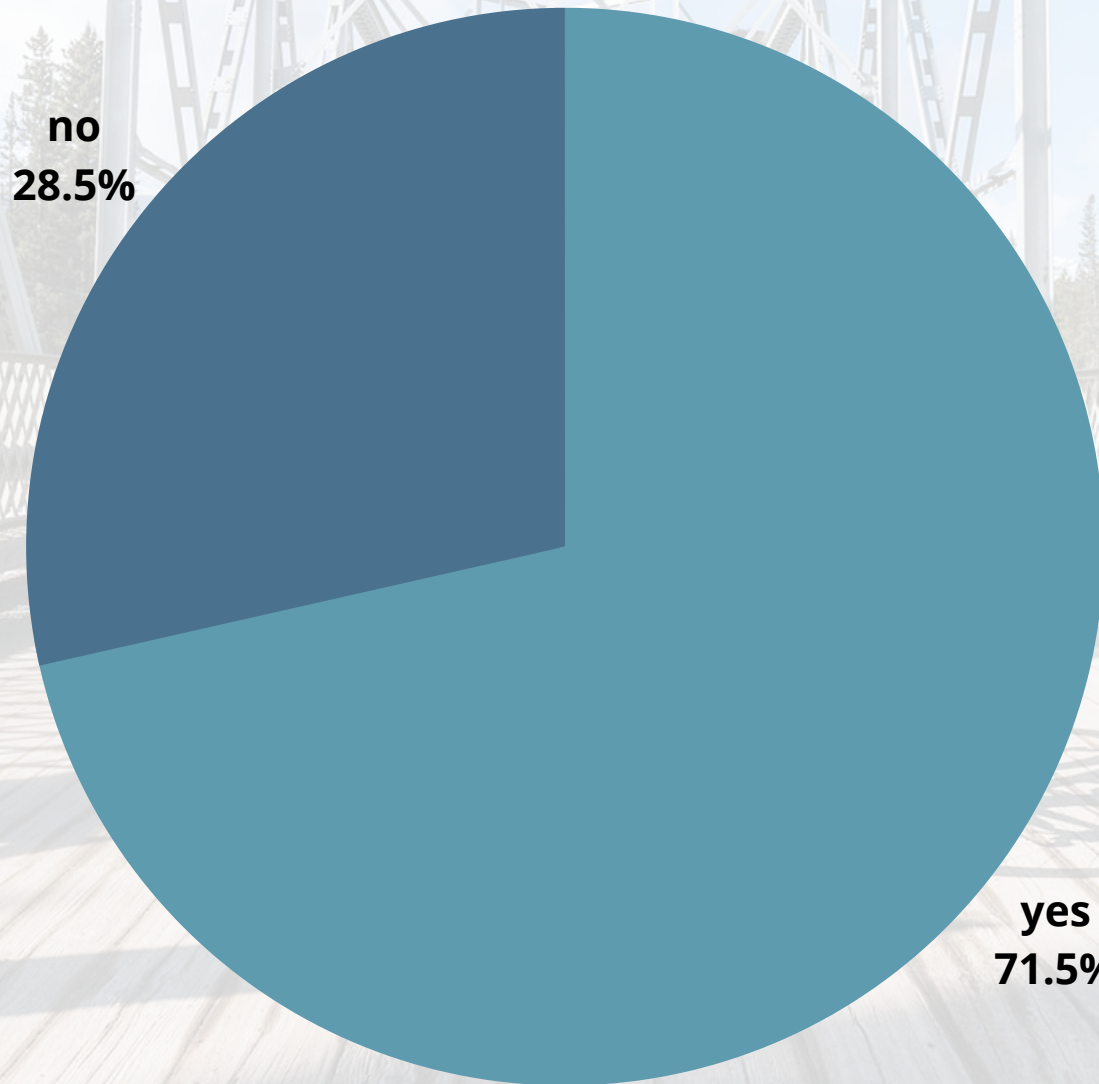
WE ARE HERE

LEGEND

Stakeholder engagement and communication

Project activities

Q1: DO YOU CURRENTLY USE THE BOW RIVER FOR RECREATION?



yes
71.5%

no
28.5%

N=2,032

Q2: WOULD YOU LIKE TO USE THE BOW RIVER FOR RECREATION?

01

THIS QUESTION DOES NOT INDICATE SUPPORT OF A WAVE PARK PROPOSAL. RECREATION IS INTERPRETED AS ANY USE: WALKING, NATURE OBSERVING, BIKING, DOG PARK, PADDLING, FISHING, ETC. RECREATION INCLUDES ACTIVITIES BOTH IN OR AROUND THE RIVER AREA.

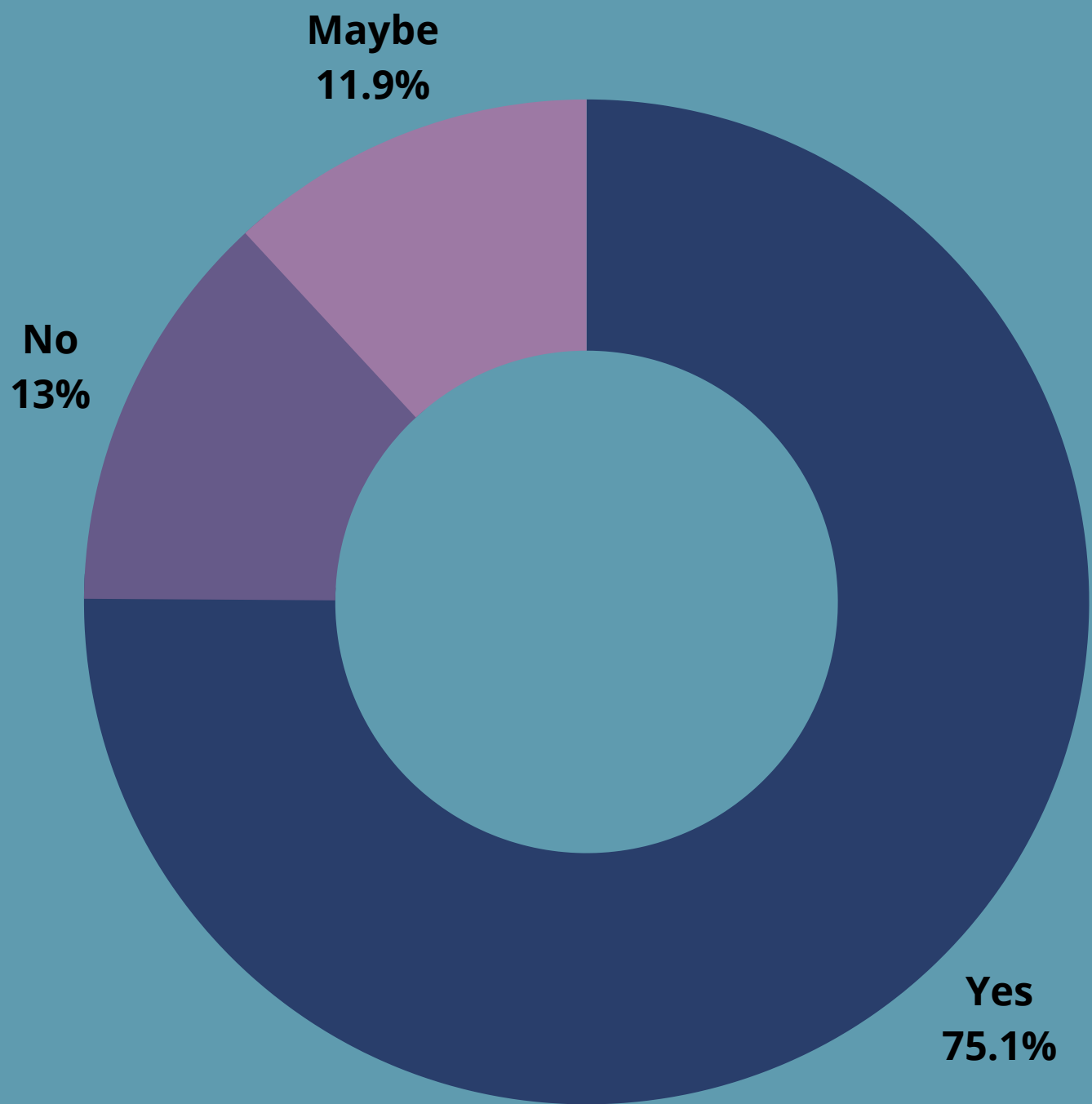
02

4% OF RESPONDENTS SPECIFIED A DESIRE TO KEEP THE RIVER IN ITS NATURAL STATE, MADE COMMENTS ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT, OR A DESIRE FOR NON-INVASIVE USE.

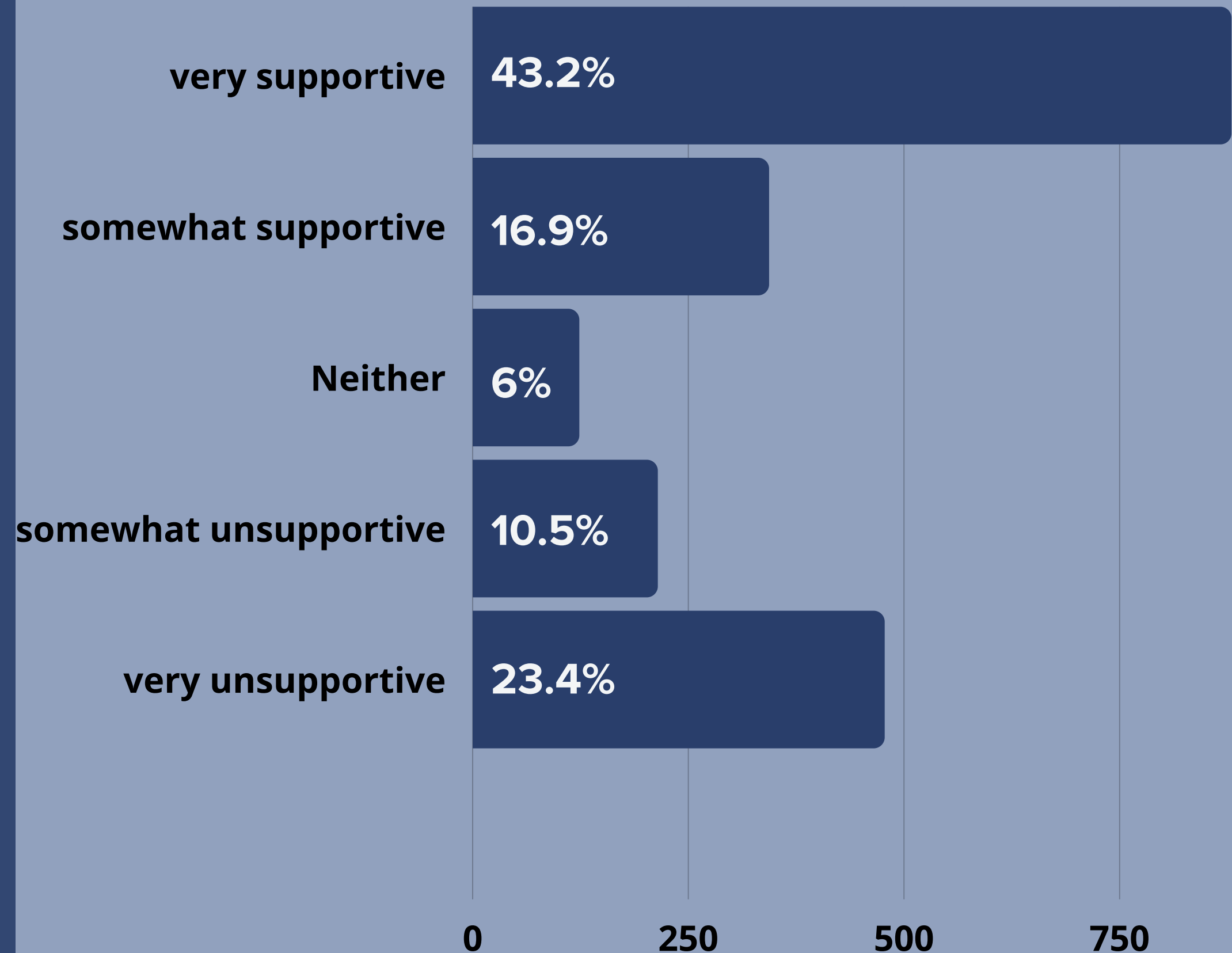
03

"I PREFER TO USE THE BOW IN ITS NATURAL STATE, AND DO NOT SUPPORT ALTERING THE RIVER FOR RECREATIONAL PURPOSES."

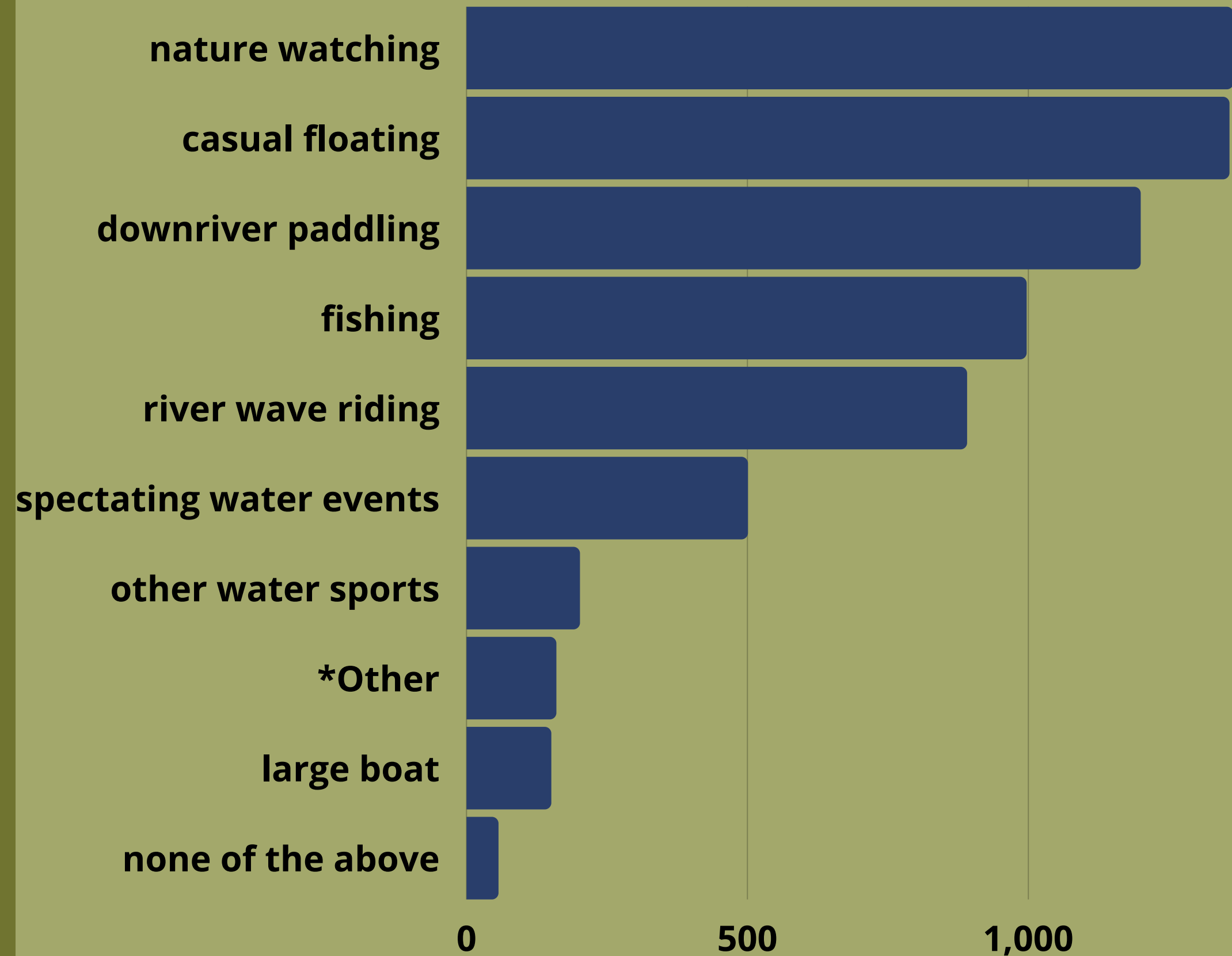
"IF THERE WERE SAFE ACCESSIBLE SERVICES I WOULD DEFINITELY USE THE RIVER"



Q3:HOW
SUPPORTIVE
ARE YOU OF
INCREASED
RECREATIONAL
USE OF THE
RIVER?



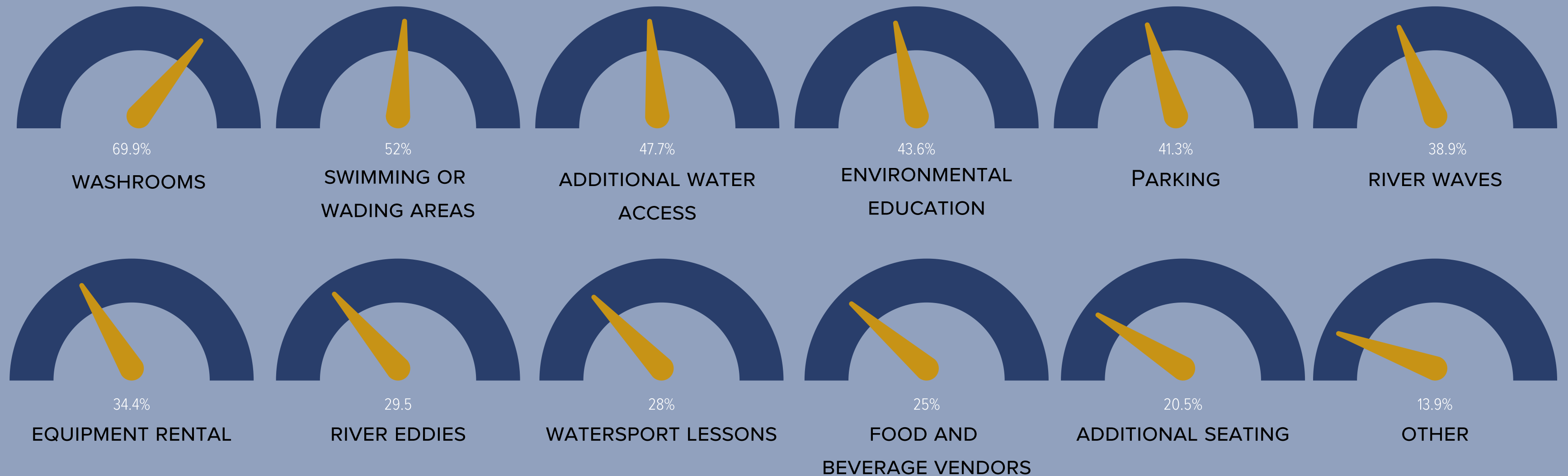
Q4:WHAT USES
WOULD YOU, OR
YOUR FAMILY
/HOUSEHOLD
MEMBERS, LIKE
TO ACCESS THE
RIVER FOR?



QUESTION FIVE

N=2,005

What types of facilities do you feel would be beneficial along the river? (select all that apply)

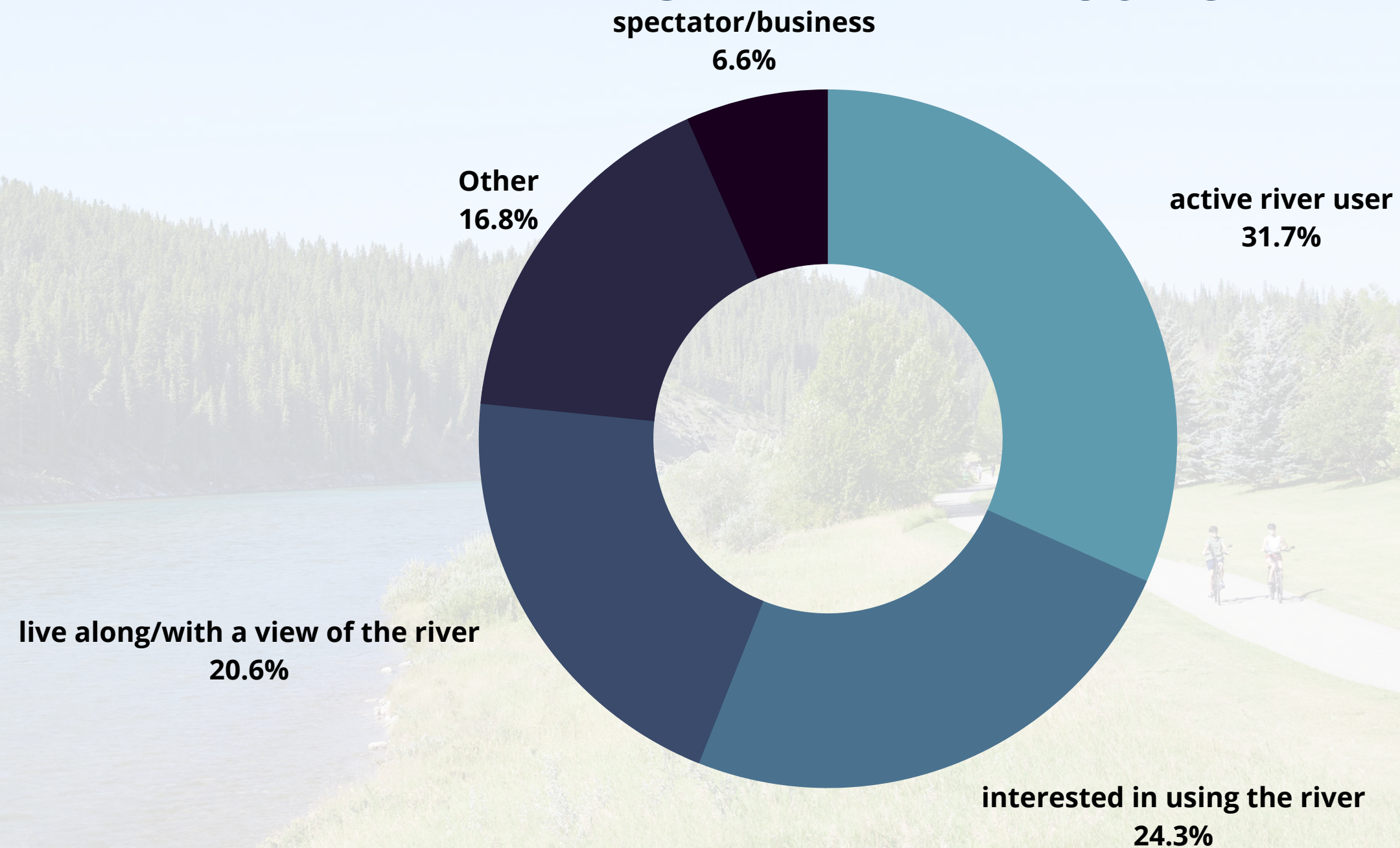


Q5-OTHER SUGGESTIONS

- GARBAGE AND RECYCLING RECEPTACLES
- BEACH AREA
- PICNIC TABLES
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESS
- FISHING PLATFORMS
- SIGNAGE

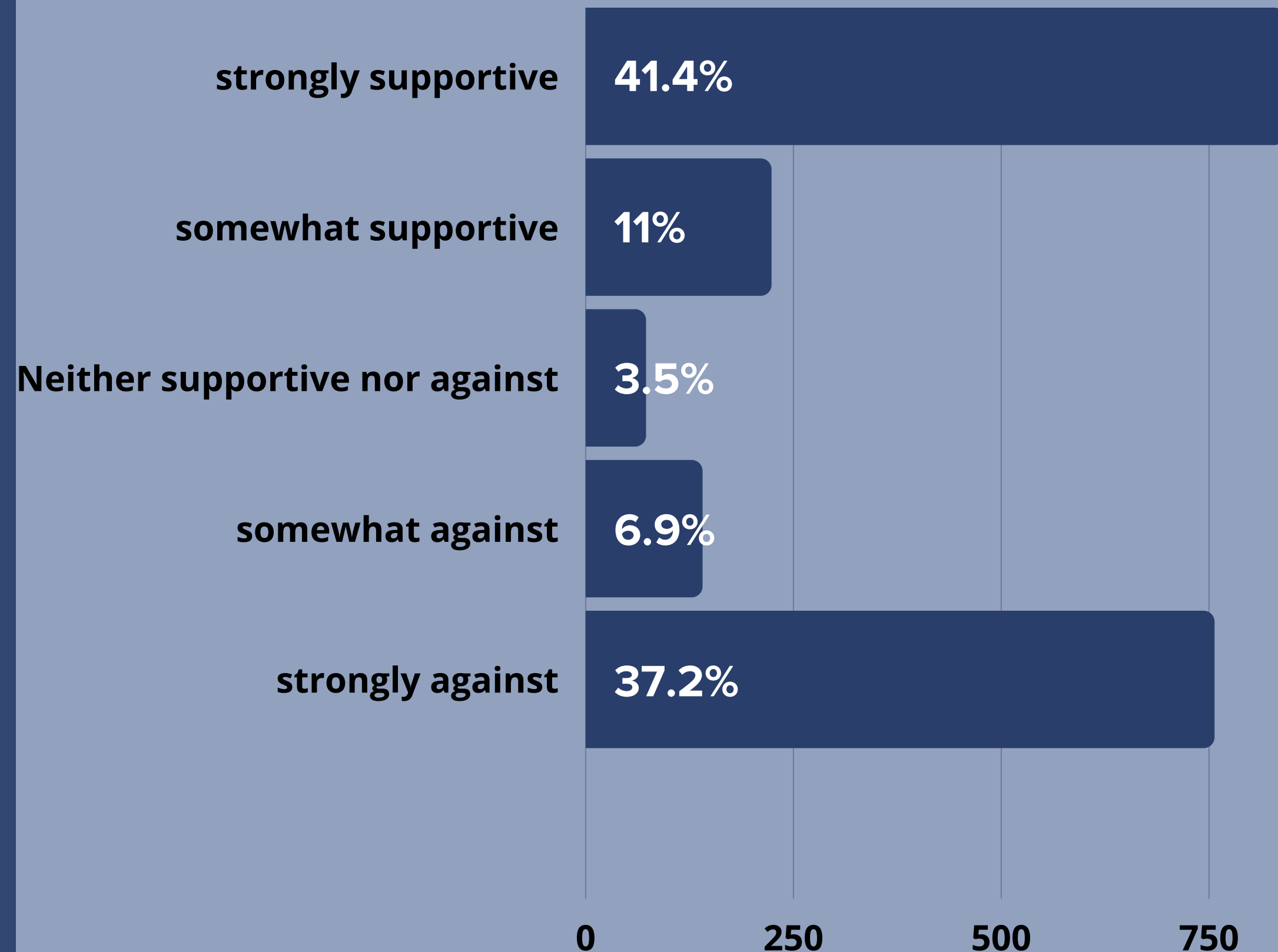


Q6: PLEASE SELECT THE STATEMENT THAT BEST DESCRIBES YOUR PRIMARY INTEREST IN THE PROJECT



N=2,017

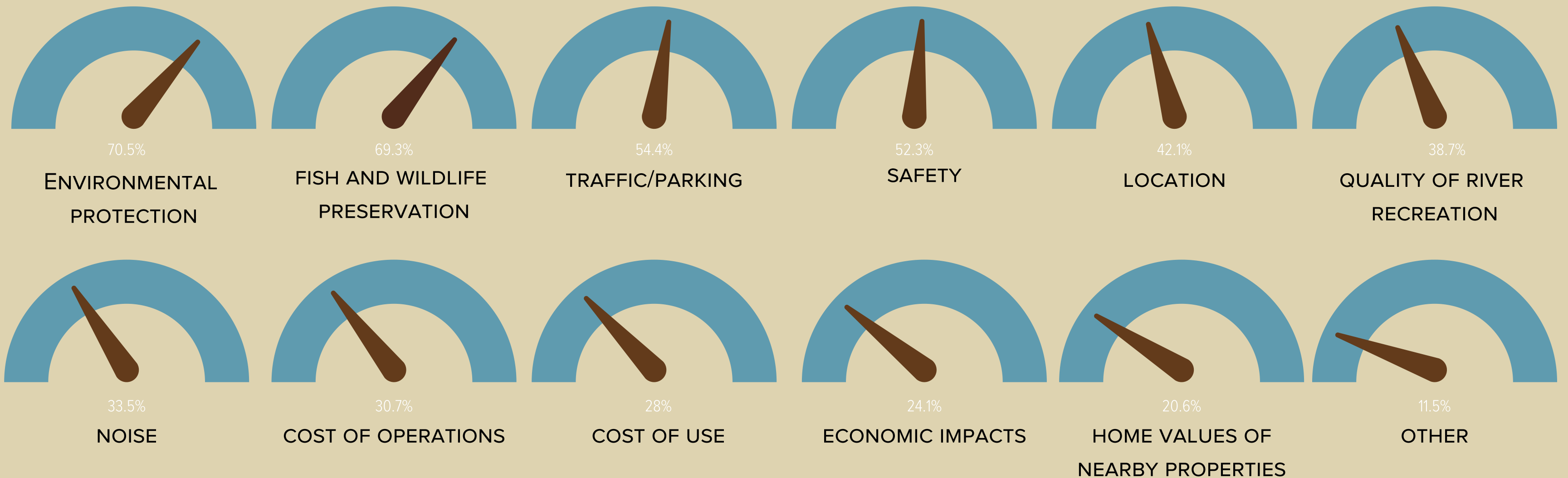
**Q7:PLEASE
INDICATE YOUR
LEVEL OF
SUPPORT FOR
THE IDEA OF
DEVELOPING A
RIVER WAVE
PARK IN
COCHRANE**



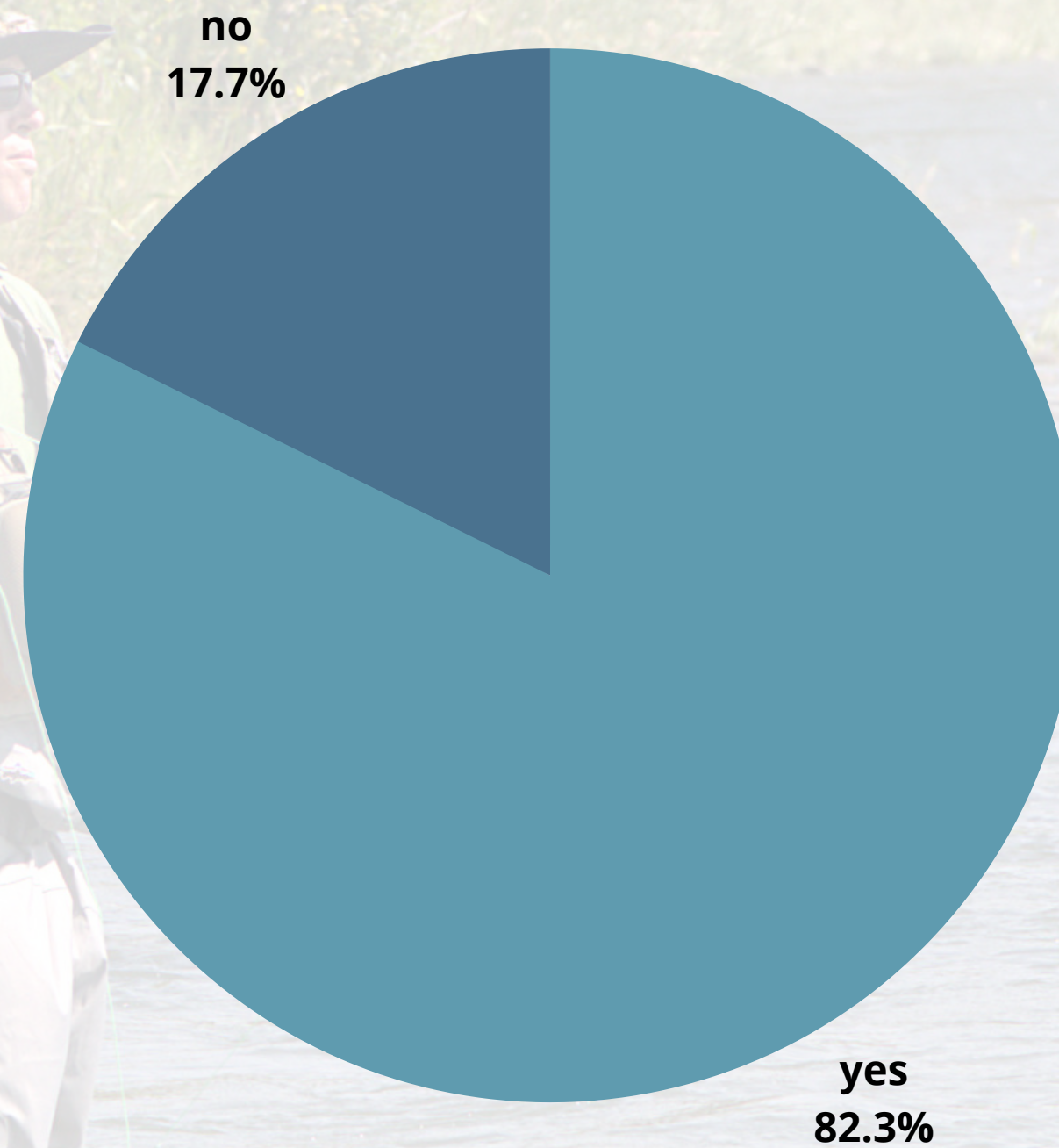
QUESTION EIGHT

N=2,036

What factors do you think should be considered
in determining whether to build a River Wave
Park in Cochrane? Please select your top 3-5.



Q9: ARE YOU A RESIDENT OF COCHRANE?



N=2,036

HOW DOES THE DESIRE FOR RIVER RECREATION CORRELATE TO THE RIVER WAVE PARK IDEA?

01

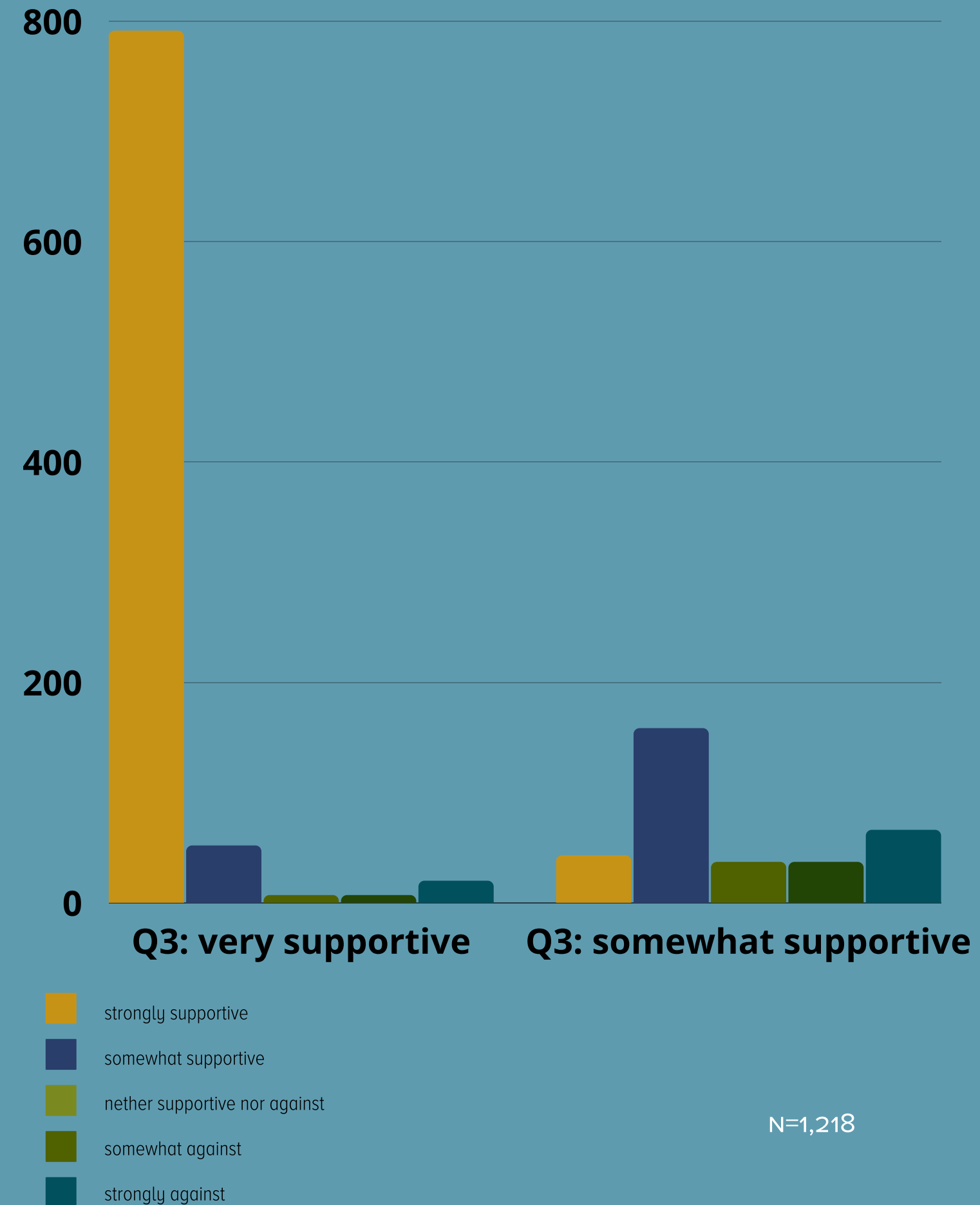
THIS CHART SHOWS HOW PEOPLE WHO INDICATED THEY ARE EITHER VERY SUPPORTIVE OR SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE OF INCREASING RIVER RECREATION (Q3) RESPONDED TO Q7: PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF DEVELOPING A RIVER WAVE PARK IN COCHRANE

02

A COMBINED TOTAL OF 130 (11%) OF PEOPLE WHO WERE EITHER SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE OR STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF INCREASED RECREATIONAL USE OF THE RIVER INDICATED THEY ARE STRONGLY AGAINST (7%) OR SOMEWHAT AGAINST (4%) THE PROPOSED RIVER WAVE PARK.

03

NOT ALL PEOPLE WHO SUPPORT RIVER RECREATION ARE SUPPORTIVE OF THE IDEA OF DEVELOPING A RIVER WAVE PARK.



WHAT DO COCHRANE RESIDENTS THINK OF THE RIVER WAVE PARK IDEA?

01

THIS CHART SHOWS HOW PEOPLE WHO INDICATED THEY ARE COCHRANE RESIDENTS RESPONDED TO Q7: PLEASE INDICATE YOUR LEVEL OF SUPPORT FOR THE IDEA OF DEVELOPING A RIVER WAVE PARK IN COCHRANE

BLUE=RESIDENT | GOLD=NON-RESIDENT

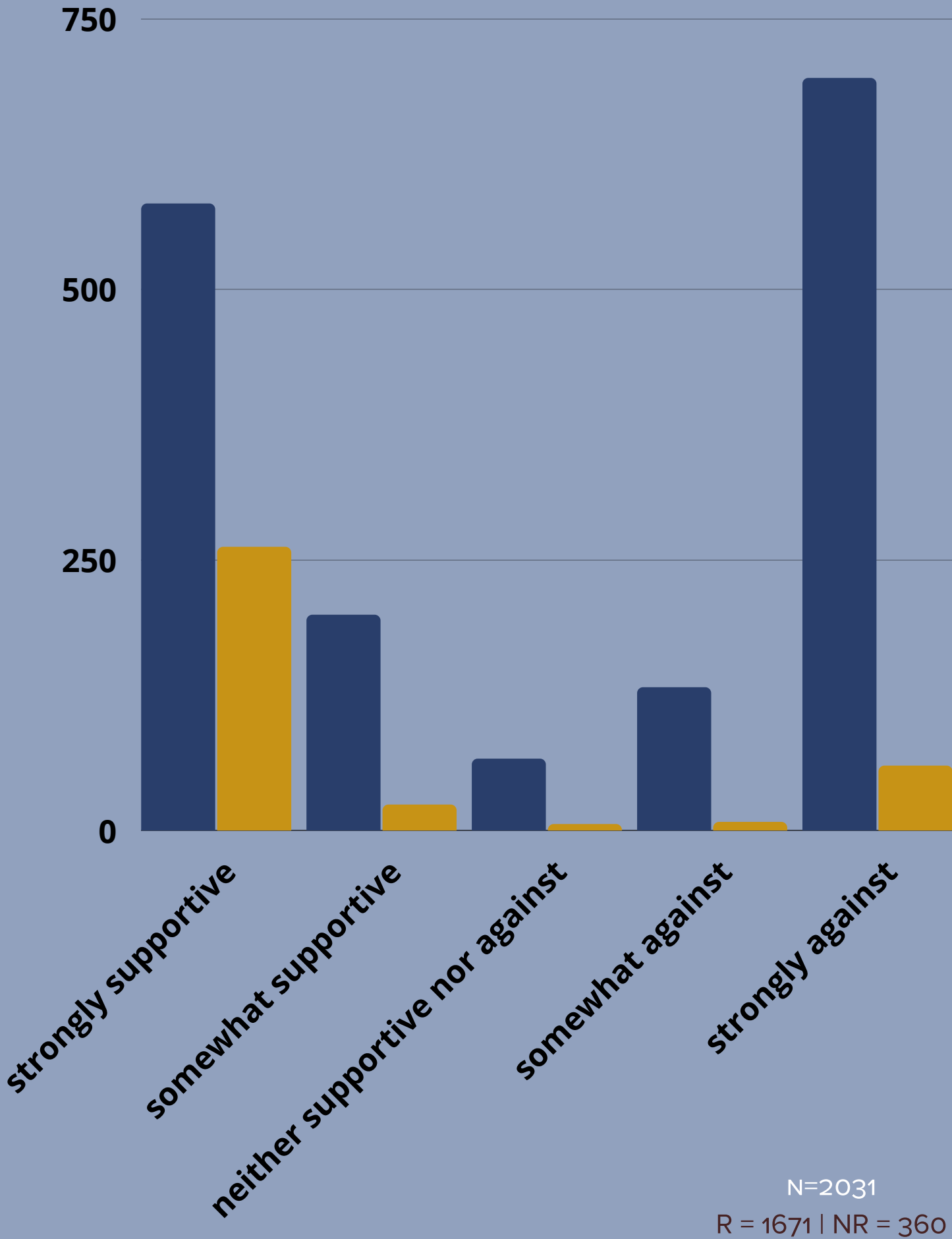
02

THERE ARE MORE RESIDENTS (R) STRONGLY AGAINST THE PROPOSED WAVE PARK THAN STRONGLY SUPPORTIVE OF IT.

MANY NON-RESIDENTS (NR) INDICATED THEIR WILLINGNESS TO TRAVEL TO COCHRANE TO USE A RIVER WAVE.

03

778 (46.5%) OF THE COCHRANE RESIDENTS WHO RESPONDED TO THIS SURVEY ARE EITHER STRONGLY OR SOMEWHAT SUPPORTIVE COMPARED TO 827 (49.5%) OF THE COCHRANE RESIDENTS WHO RESPONDED THAT THEY ARE SOMEWHAT OR STRONGLY AGAINST THE POTENTIAL RIVER WAVE PARK. 4% OF COCHRANE RESIDENTS ARE NEUTRAL.





NEXT STEPS

The survey results indicate a high amount of interest in the topic of river recreation, and that further investigation into a potential river wave park project is needed. The following are some next steps in the process:

1. Share survey results and feedback with all stakeholders.
2. Continue to investigate funding opportunities (such as grants) for further studies, including environmental and regulatory assessments, that would inform the project.
3. Develop proposal for project funding to present to Council.
4. Identify additional stakeholder groups for further public engagement.

STAY INFORMED AND ENGAGED

AS THE PROJECT PROGRESSES, WE ARE COMMITTED TO SHARING INFORMATION AND UPDATES. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE INCLUDED ON OUR EMAIL LIST, PLEASE SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES ON OUR WEBSITE.



WWW.COCHRANERIVERWAVEPARK.COM

COMMISSIONED BY THE COCHRANE RIVER WAVE STEERING COMMITTEE

