

Area D – Cowichan Bay OCP

Our Community. Our Future.

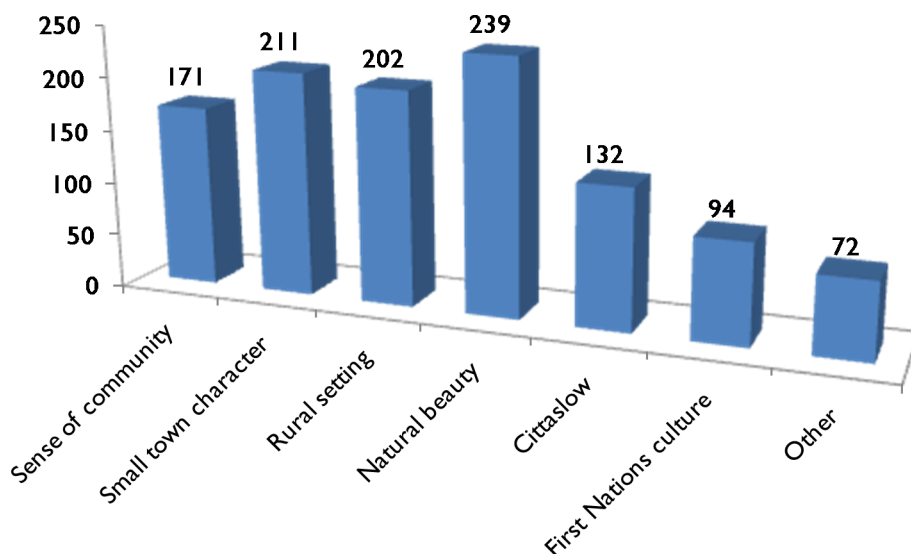
Official Community Plan Visioning Survey

A visioning survey was conducted between May 12 and June 17, 2010 as part of the Area D – Cowichan Bay Official Community Plan process. The intent of the survey was to solicit input from Area D residents and stakeholders regarding their values and opinions and future vision and goals for the electoral area. The survey was accessible online through the CVRD website and on paper at True Grain Bread in Cowichan Bay, the CVRD office in Duncan and various community events. A total of **278** people responded to the survey including **156** online respondents and **122** paper survey respondents.



OCP SURVEY RESULTS

What are the things you value about Area D - Cowichan Bay as a place to live, work or visit?

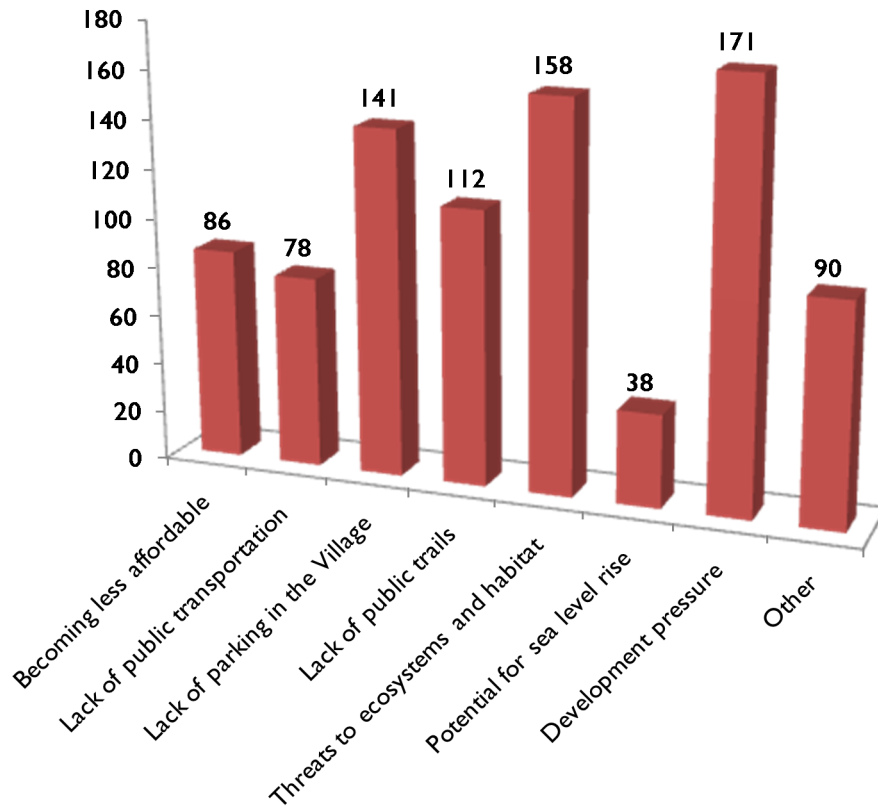


“Other” values:

- Proximity to the ocean/waterfront
- Community character, diversity and people
- Environment, ecosystems, the estuary
- Cowichan Bay as a working harbour
- Local food and agriculture
- Large areas of rural, agricultural land among developed areas



What are your concerns about Area D - Cowichan Bay?

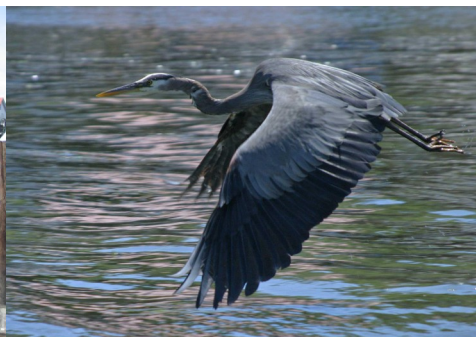


“Other” concerns:

- Pedestrian and vehicular safety
- Quality of development and infrastructure
- Access to recreational amenities / pool
- Threats to agriculture
- Water quality and quantity

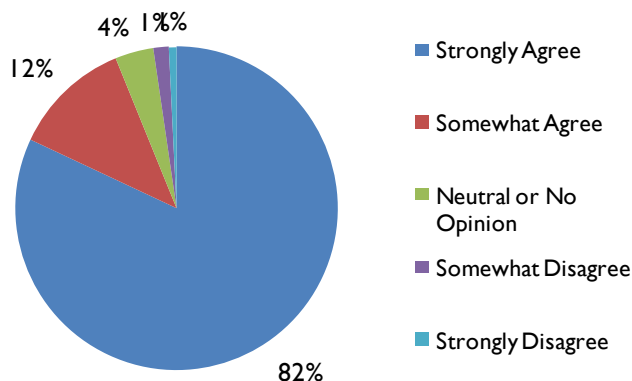
Thinking about the future of Area D - Cowichan Bay, what changes would you like to see to make the community a better place to live? (no. of responses)

- Maintain rural character; control development so that it doesn't erode quality of life (79)
- Construct more trails; create trail connections between neighbourhoods and services (46)
- Manage traffic and speed; create bicycle lanes (40)
- Protect environment, groundwater, trees; restore estuary, habitat; manage hazardous slopes (38)
- Protect farmland; encourage community gardens and farmers market (32)
- Create community meeting spaces; improve access to recreation and social activities (31)
- Manage parking in Cowichan Bay Village (30)
- Support local businesses and promote tourism/eco-tourism (24)
- Enhance access to the waterfront and create a Village boardwalk (23)
- Improve public transit (18)
- Improve governance of Area D; amalgamate with a municipality (13)
- Provide affordable housing and recreation (12)
- Maintain a working harbour and marine industry (12)
- Improve water and sewer infrastructure (11)
- Make Area D more age-friendly and accessible (9)

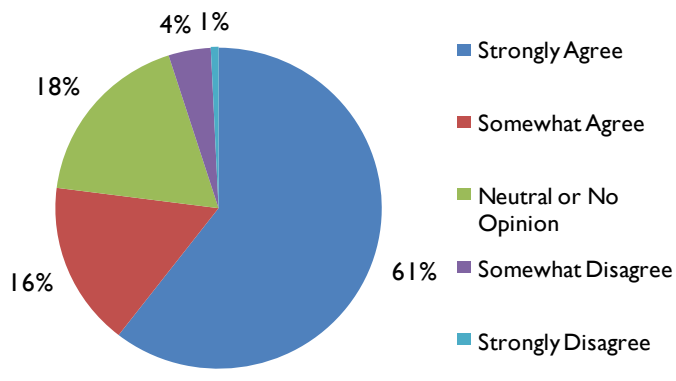


The OCP is intended to provide a vision for the future of the community and values to reflect this vision. Thinking about the future of Area D - Cowichan Bay, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The rural character of the community including the agricultural landscape, treed areas, estuary and foreshore should be respected, protected and enhanced.



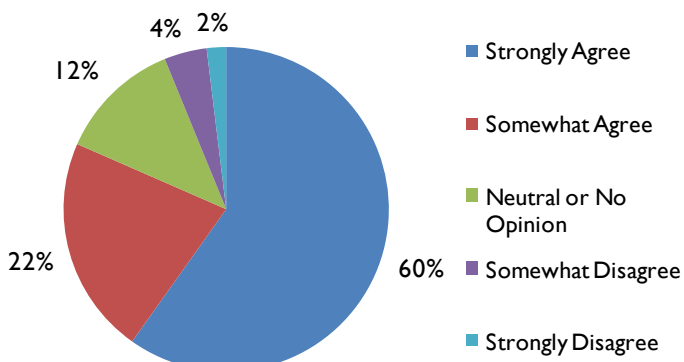
The Area D - Cowichan Bay community should embrace people of various ethnic backgrounds, age groups, incomes and physical abilities.



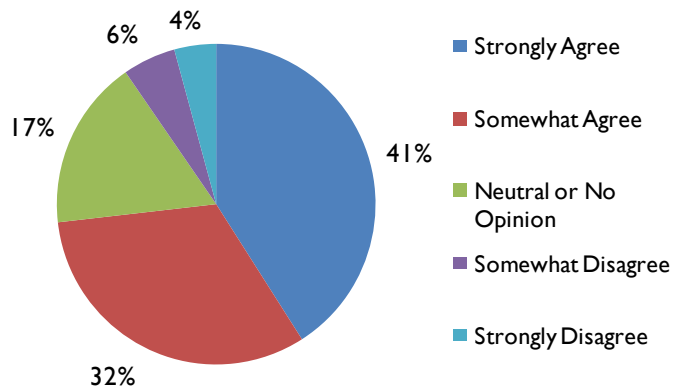
There should be a variety of housing options allowing residents to remain in the community through different stages of their lives.



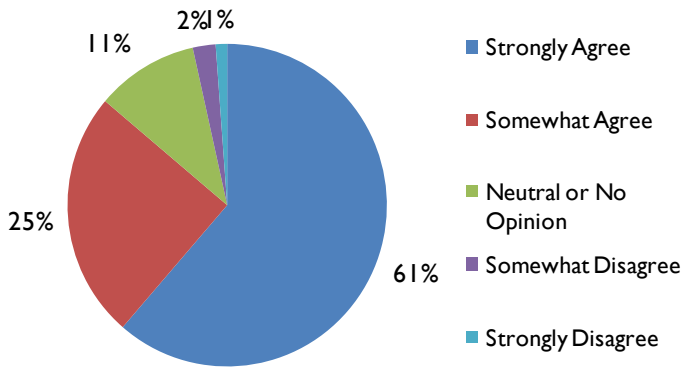
New development in Area D - Cowichan Bay should be built to a high standard, incorporating opportunities for green site and building technology.



The community should have a diverse economy with a variety of employment opportunities.



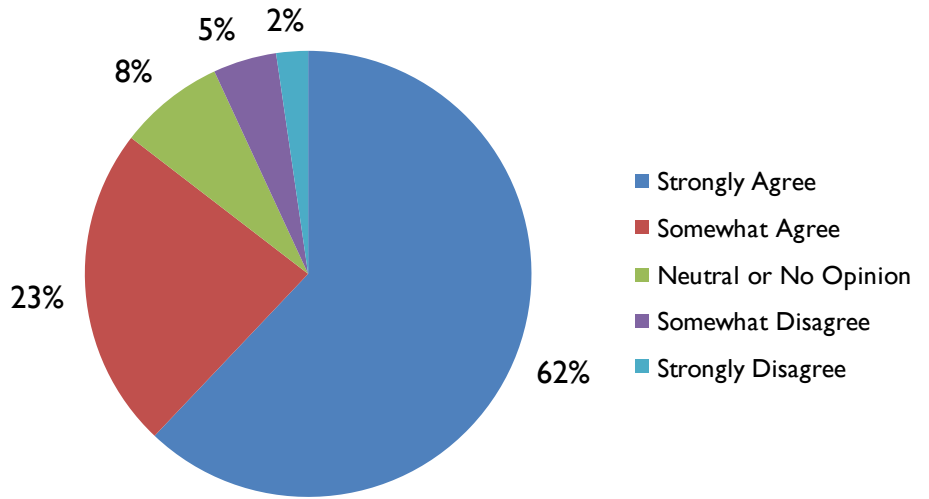
Neighbourhoods in Area D - Cowichan Bay should provide alternatives to private automobile use such as walking trails, cycling paths and public transit.



In 2009, Cowichan Bay was designated the first Cittaslow member community in North America. To what extent do you agree that the Cittaslow Manifesto represents the appropriate vision for Area D - Cowichan Bay?

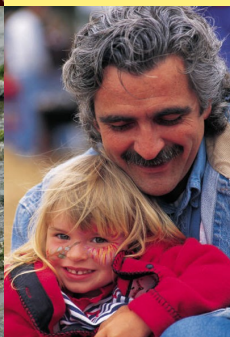
The Cittaslow Manifesto:

“Towns brought to life by people who make time to enjoy a quality of life ... towns blessed with quality public spaces, theatres, shops, cafes, inns, historic buildings, and unspoiled landscapes ... towns where traditional craft skills are in daily use, and where the slow, beneficial succession of the seasons reflected in the availability of local produce, in season. Where healthy eating, healthy living and enjoying life are central to the community.”



About the Respondents

- 84% of respondents identified Area D as their place of residence. Other respondents were primarily residents of the CVRD living outside Area D.
- 42% of Area D residents responding to the survey were from the Cowichan Bay Village area. 15% of respondents were from the Cherry Point area; 9% were from the Four-Ways area. Respondents also included residents of the following areas: Glen Road, Wilmot/Pritchard, Falcon Crescent, Hillbank, Bench Road, Lambourn, and Wood/Sears/Telegraph and Cowichan Indian Reserves.
- More than half of respondents from Area D have lived in the area for less than 10 years. 21% have lived in Area D for more than 20 years.
- 95% of Area D respondents indicated that they own their homes.
- Almost 50% of respondents indicated that they are between 45 and 64 years of age.



Complete results of the OCP Visioning Survey are available at www.cvrld.bc.ca.

For information, contact: Ann Kjerulf, CVRD Planner
250.746.2629 or akjerulf@cvrd.bc.ca