

AGENDA

DATE AND TIME: August 12, 2021, 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM

LOCATION: Please click the link below to join the webinar:

Link to join: <https://www.zoom.us/j/88690662939>

Or dial to join: 253-215-8782

Webinar ID – 886 9066 2939

A. Approval of Agenda

B. Communication Items

1. Progress Report (Through July, 2021)
2. Next Milestone and Upcoming Schedule
3. Budget Update

C. Discussion Items

1. Community Visioning – Report Out

Description: A briefing on the methods of community engagement, level of public participation, and engagement outcomes.

D. Upcoming Agendas:

1. November: Draft EIS and Plan Alternatives Review
2. December: EIS and Plan Alternatives Recommendation

E. Other Items of Interest

F. Adjournment

G. Attachments

- Summary of Engagement: Visioning Phase (Full report, August 5, 2021)



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TACOMA TIDEFLATS

SUBAREA PLAN & EIS

SUMMARY OF ENGAGEMENT:
VISIONING PHASE
AUGUST 5, 2021 | DRAFT

 **BERK**



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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document summarizes the community engagement during the Visioning phase of the planning process for the Tideflats Subarea Plan. The visioning phase lasted from January 2021 through the final public meeting in May 2021. The purpose of this phase was to provide an opportunity to think broadly about the desired future in the Tideflats Subarea and develop preliminary future scenarios for further consideration and analysis. Engagement was designed to hear from a broad group of community members who reflected the many interests and perspectives about the history, current uses, and future of the Tideflats.

Engagement was promoted via communication materials and outreach methods designed to build awareness about the project and advertise opportunities to engage. These methods included a branded project identity, emails to the project listserv, an active project website, social media posts, press releases, a promotional video, and a FAQ sheet. The five participating governments actively participated in engagement and promotion of communications.

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic shortly after launching the outreach and engagement efforts, it was necessary to rethink the approach and pivot to virtual interaction rather than the in-person engagement opportunities originally envisioned. The revised outreach approach included virtual public meetings, focus groups, expert panel discussions, an online survey, small group briefings, social media and participation by the Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG).

As was defined in the project Work Plan, the TAG was formed to “provide input and feedback as a sounding board for the Subarea Planning Process and the City during their respective parts of the project” and to “serve as liaisons to the broader stakeholder groups they represent.” The first meeting of the TAG occurred in February 2020 as an in-person working session that offered both insights towards the vision and guidance on the Public Engagement Plan. The subsequent four meetings were held virtually and continued to contribute to the visioning process.

The collective feedback that resulted from all engagement provides guidance for developing the vision. The information in this report provides detail on the outcomes of the visioning process activities.

Strengths & Challenges

Almost half of survey respondents identified that the Tideflats greatest strength was the Port of Tacoma’s **shipping, trade activity, and jobs**. Just under half identified **natural habitat** as one of the Tideflats strengths. Meeting participants identified the **natural deep-water port**, proximity to **on-land transportation** and districts, and **jobs** to be the Tideflats strengths.

Challenges identified by meeting participants include **complex interests, community divisiveness, and incohesive uses**; followed by **environmental contamination** or neglect; and **public education**.

Opportunities & Barriers

Survey respondents overwhelmingly identified the restoration and **cleanup of natural areas** as one of their top three opportunities for the Tideflats, followed by **preserving and strengthening jobs, transitioning away from fossil fuel facilities**, and **transportation improvements**.

Meeting participants identified transitioning away from fossil fuels, increasing **clean industry**, addressing **climate change**, and improving the natural environment as the greatest opportunities in the Tideflats.

Barriers identified by meeting participants include a **lack of community understanding, poor transportation or infrastructure**, and **politics**.

Features

Meeting participants favorite features of the Tideflats included **natural resources** and **wildlife**, the Port of Tacoma and **working waterfront**, and **recreation**.

Meeting participants indicated they would like to see several features maintained, including **environmental protection** and **clean industry**, as well as **jobs, business, and economic development**.

Meeting participants would like to change and improve **environmental contamination, water quality**, or **air quality**, as well as **reduce fossil fuels, increase renewable energy** and **jobs**.

Land Uses

Survey respondents preferred **industrial** uses including **green industrial** uses or industrial uses that promote a more **environmentally sustainable** economy, followed by **container shipping** and **international trade, port maritime** uses, and a **mix** of industrial uses with a wider range of businesses and activities.

Respondents preferred **complementary** land uses including **cultural, educational, and maritime heritage facilities**; **small-scale manufacturing spaces** for fabrication or production; and **public shoreline access** and **recreation facilities**.

Economic Development

Respondents top three visions for economic development included **environmental remediation**, investments in infrastructure to **expand port facilities**, and investments in **transportation improvements**.

Transportation

More than half of respondents identified **traffic congestion** and backups as their **primary concern**, followed by **train and truck safety**, **limited walking options**, and **limited bridge access** across the Puyallup River and other waterways. The most common suggested **improvements** were adding **more biking**, **transit**, and **walking options**.

More than half of survey respondents indicated that they only travel through the Tideflats as part of a longer trip. This was followed by 37% of respondents who travel through the area to access schools and neighborhood services, 34% who work in the Tideflats, and 33% who travel to the Tideflats for recreation.

Natural Resources

Over half of respondents envision providing more **cleanup of contaminated areas**, followed by **protection for salmon, shellfish, and marine life**. Other popular visions include putting in place **green industrial development standards** to promote sustainability and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and provide more **shoreline/habitat restoration and enhancement**.

When asked about their level of interest in marine life, 66% of respondents indicated that they were very interested, followed by 21% who were somewhat interested.

When asked about their values for natural resource areas, respondents were most interested in protecting natural areas, preserving cultural purposes, providing recreational opportunities, and providing fisheries industry jobs and traditional subsistence living.

2. ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

Overview

The community and stakeholder engagement process aligned with guidance laid out in the Public Engagement Plan and included development of communication materials, facilitation of community visioning sessions, initiation of meetings supported by meeting-in-a-box materials, visioning open houses and expert panels, and ongoing online outreach. The Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG) and Tideflats Subarea Plan Steering Committee, Staff leadership Group, and Project Management Team also met regularly during this phase to provide guidance and input.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and resulting public meeting restrictions, engagement was fully virtual. To facilitate a robust process despite this challenge, the engagement team – in collaboration with the five participating governments - offered a wide range of virtual methods to engage, summarized in the following sections.

Guiding Principles for Engagement

The following principles, based on guidance from One Tacoma, the City of Tacoma's Comprehensive Plan, provided guidance for engagement activities:

- Communicate early, often, and clearly about purpose and process so the community is well informed and engaged in the planning of the project.
- Actively solicit information from businesses, residents, property owners, organizations, and other governments about their questions, priorities, and concerns.
- Apply an equity lens to identify and intentionally engage across different demographic, racial, cultural and economic spectrums that make up our community to seek the perspectives of those who may have been historically marginalized or excluded and unlikely or unable to participate in the process.
- Focus engagement around issues that can be molded and influenced by public input to ensure it remains relevant and consistent with community needs.
- Build project support through outreach and engagement efforts that allow for meaningful input throughout the constantly evolving process.
- Integrate plan development with environmental review to ensure a seamless experience for participants and multiple opportunities to comment.

The pivot to online engagement limited opportunities for community members without access to or comfort with technology to participate. Conversely, online meetings were more accessible to individuals with barriers to participation in traditional in-person public meetings, such as childcare, transportation, or mobility issues. Future engagement should balance in-person and online meeting

opportunities with a robust notification strategy that includes other low-tech methods of communicating with the community.

Stakeholders

There are a variety of stakeholders with a range of interests in this plan across the five participating governments. In addition to the stakeholders identified in the Work Plan, an initial set of stakeholders by stakeholder group is included in Appendix B. This list will be updated as the planning process unfolds.

The range of interests represented on the Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG) helped ensure regular participation in the process from many of the project's stakeholder groups, including port users, labor, regional economic, adjacent jurisdictions, and environmental groups. Community organizations, agencies, elected officials, and boards and commissions were well represented in the Meetings in a Box, Panels, and Focus Groups. This stakeholder group was equipped to participate in online meetings. Future phases of engagement should focus on reaching those less able to participate virtually.

Equity Assessment

Equity strategies were woven into each of the engagement activities. Given increasingly diverse demographics, as well as past failures to fully engage all members of the community, these strategies included the provision of supports such as translation and interpretation, engagement with trusted community partners, and a diverse range of ways to provide input. The participating governments adapted public engagement methods to public health guidance for COVID-19.

Accommodations

Project advertisements included the following standard language from the City of Tacoma:

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Exhibit 1. Sample Spanish Interpretation Support for the Visioning Report-Out



Source: BERK, 2021.

Interpretation

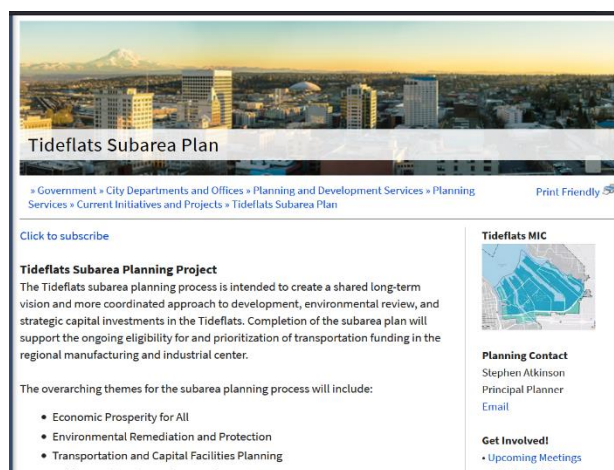
Spanish language interpretation via Zoom was available at the two largest public meetings, the Community Kickoff and Visioning Report Out.

Outreach and Advertising Methods

Communication materials and methods were designed to build awareness about the project and advertise opportunities to engage. These included:

- **Project identity and templates.** The project identity created a consistent “look and feel” for all project materials to increase visibility and overall public awareness of the project.
- **FAQ sheet.** The frequently asked questions sheet provided overview information about the project, key issues, and options and was developed based on

Exhibit 2. Project Website



Source: BERK, 2021.

the comments, questions, and issues raised throughout the project.

- **Emails to project listserv.** The project team emailed a comprehensive list of all project participants, including public meeting attendees, advisory group members, elected officials, media representatives, and any other groups that may be interested in the project.
- **Project website.** The website offered an up-to-date, accessible source of information for all aspects of the project.
- **Social media.** The project team used Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to announce project news and promote and document events and solicit feedback from a broader audience, including those who may not typically participate in planning initiatives.
- **Press releases.** Press releases were drafted and distributed by all five participating governments in advance of the two large public meetings during the visioning process.
- **Promotional video.** A 30-second promotional video provided a visually engaging overview of the Tideflats Subarea and why the community should be invested in the subarea planning process.

Communications staff at the five participating governments conducted a significant portion of the outreach. Their efforts were coordinated using a detailed Communications Plan that ensured staff at each participating government would share the same information with their respective audiences on the same timeline.

Engagement Methods

Engagement activities included a range of meeting types and an online survey.

Survey

An online survey was the primary method for stakeholders and the public to provide visioning input on their own schedules and in an open-ended format. The story map and visioning survey went live on March 15, 2021 and the survey remained open through April 30, 2021. During this time, 602 individuals provided input via the survey, including 1,172 open-ended comments.

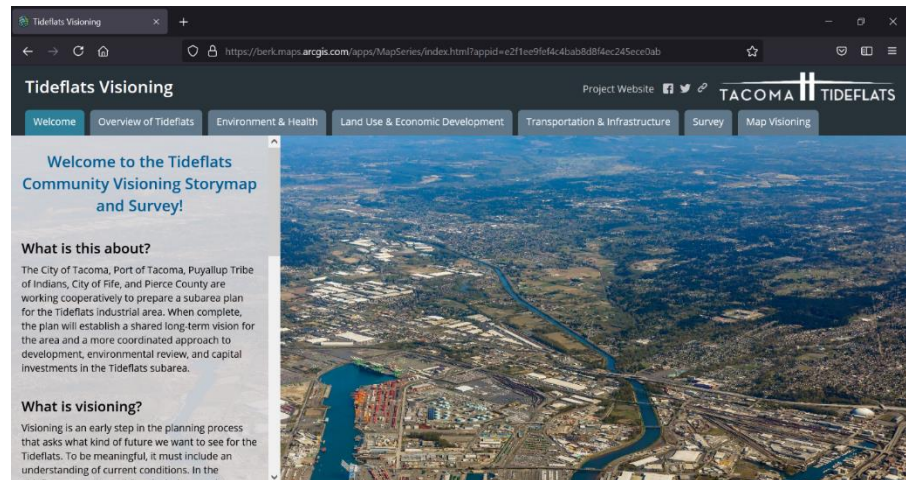
Exhibit 3. Sample Social Media Post Advertising the Visioning Survey



Source: BERK, 2021.

The survey was integrated into an online interactive [story map](#) that allowed interested individuals to learn more about the Tacoma Tideflats while responding to the survey. The survey blended multiple choice and open-ended questions, including an option to respond with an open-ended “other” response to any multiple-choice question. This offered respondents a fully open-ended opportunity to provide input to the visioning process. All quantitative survey findings, along with qualitative themes from the open-ended survey comments, are provided in the Engagement Findings section.

Exhibit 4. Story Map



Source: BERK, 2021.

Meeting Types

Stakeholder and public meetings were the primary way of providing real-time feedback on the project. There were four input-focused meeting types:

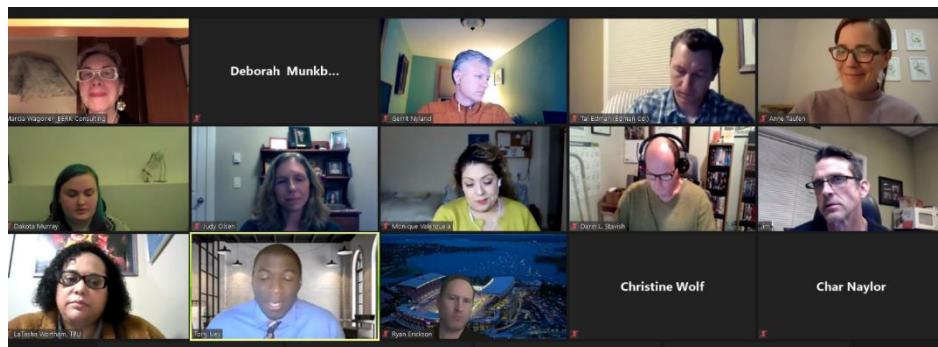
- 1. Tideflats Advisory Group (TAG) regular meetings.** The TAG provided input and feedback as a “sounding board” for the Subarea Planning Process and the City during their respective parts of the process. TAG members also served as liaisons to the broader stakeholder groups they represent, and some served as panelists at topic focused meetings.
- 2. Community Kickoff.** The Tideflats Subarea Plan project team hosted a virtual community kickoff meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2021 to initiate the public engagement period of the project. The meeting occurred via Zoom and included Spanish interpretation and English closed captioning. A recording of the meeting is [available on Facebook](#), where the meeting also streamed live. Participants provided input via online real-time polling through Mentimeter, an online platform that allows virtual meeting participants to provide feedback through a variety of question types.
- 3. Visioning focus groups.** Two focus groups meetings were conducted. Participants were invited to ensure a balanced mix of interests in economic development, natural environment, transportation, and capital facilities planning. The meetings were designed to gather visions from a wide range of perspectives and allow for an in-depth discussion of issues through a facilitated focus group discussion.

Exhibit 5. Advertisement for the Community Kickoff



Source: City of Tacoma, 2021.

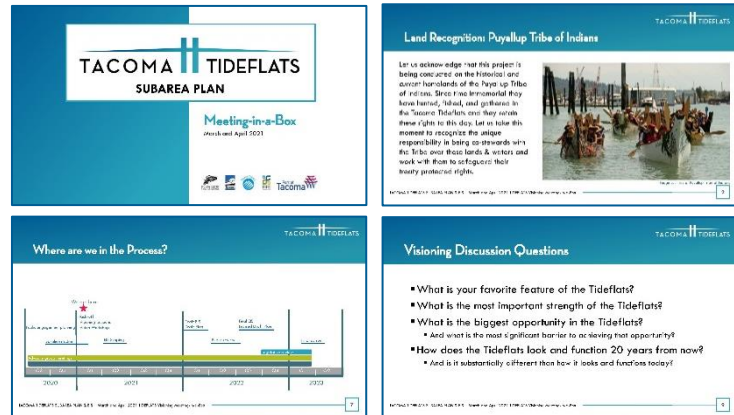
Exhibit 6. Focus Group Participants



Source: BERK, 2021.

4. **“Meetings-in-a-Box.”** Members of the Project Management (PM) Team, Staff Leadership Team, and TAG hosted informational discussions at existing community meetings to share information about the process and seek input. Meeting hosts were all provided a set of materials that described the project and provided a discussion guide with questions that allowed a consistent set of responses.

Exhibit 7. Sample Meeting in a Box Slides



Source: BERK, 2021.

In addition, there were two additional meeting types that were primarily intended to share information with participants, rather than gathering input. As a result, we do not include the minimal input gathered at these meetings in this summary document.

5. **Visioning panels.** Panelists with an interest in the Tidelands area participated in a panel discussion of three visioning themes: (1) land use and economic development, (2) natural environment and health, or (3) transportation and infrastructure. Panels occurred in a public meeting setting and focused on panelists' perspectives on opportunities, challenges, and their 20-year visions in the Tidelands. These discussions were intended to provide background information in support of the online survey. Panel discussions were followed by a question-and-answer session for attendees.

Exhibit 8. Transportation and Infrastructure Panel



Source: BERK, 2021.

6. **Visioning Report Out.** Project staff presented key themes and takeaways from the visioning meetings outlined above. Panelists participated by answering a series of informal Zoom polls.

Exhibit 9. Visioning Report Out



Source: BERK, 2021.

The following table lists the meetings summarized in this document. The Engagement Findings section summarizes the feedback provided at these meetings.

Exhibit 10. Visioning Meetings

Meeting Type	Participant Type	Meeting	Date	Attendees
Tideflats Advisory Group	TAG	TAG Meeting 3	1/21/21	18
	TAG	TAG Meeting 4	2/18/21	14
	TAG	TAG Meeting 5	4/15/21	16
Community Kickoff	Public	Kickoff	2/4/21	56+
Visioning Focus Group	Key Stakeholders (by invite)	Visioning Focus Group 1	3/2/21	14
		Visioning Focus Group 2	3/4/21	13
Meetings in a Box	Community group	Tacoma Transportation Club	3/8/21	85
	Puyallup Tribe of Indians	Puyallup Tribe of Indians Planning Commission	3/9/21	3
	Puyallup Tribe of Indians	Puyallup Tribe of Indians Fishing Commission	3/12/21	4
	Community group	Propellor Club of Tacoma	3/16/21	25
	City of Tacoma	Sustainable Tacoma Commission	3/18/21	13
	Pierce County	Pierce County Council*		12
	Chambers of Commerce	Fife/Milton/Edgewood Chamber of Commerce*	3/30/21	12
	Community Group	Pierce County Green Drinks	4/1/21	11
	Community Group	Citizens for a Healthy Bay Pt. 1 of 2	4/1/21	4
	Chambers of Commerce	Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce*	4/6/21	34
	Community Group	Citizens for a Healthy Bay Pt. 2 of 2	4/6/21	1
	Chambers of Commerce	Lakewood Chamber of Commerce	4/8/21	n/a
	Community Group	Citizens for a Healthy Bay Policy and Technical Advisory Committee	4/15/21	8
	Community Group	Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council	4/15/21	20
	City of Tacoma	Tacoma Transportation Commission	4/21/21	26
	City of Tacoma	Puyallup River Watershed Council	4/22/21	20
	City of Fife	Fife Planning Commission*	4/5/21	14
	City of Fife	Fife City Council*	3/23/21	18
Visioning Panels	Public	Panel 1: Land Use and Economic Development	3/17/21	45
		Panel 2: Environment and Health	3/18/21	32
		Panel 3: Transportation and Infrastructure	3/20/21	10

*Informational. Engagement not conducted.
Source: BERK, 2021.

3. ENGAGEMENT FINDINGS

Community Input: Methodology of Analysis

The following sections summarize themes of input gathered through visioning activities. We present findings in two sections based on whether the input was gathered through the survey or at meetings, due to differences in each type of input as noted in Exhibit 11.

Exhibit 11. Differences in Input Gathered via Meetings and the Survey

Attribute	Survey	Meetings
Proportionate representation of respondents	There is a one-to-one relationship between individuals and survey responses: each survey response represents a single individual.	Some individuals may have attended more than one visioning meeting, so their opinions may be represented more than once in the Meeting summary.
Questions posed	All survey respondents provided input based on the same survey prompts. Survey questions were developed by the project team and then vetted with the communications departments of each government. The questions were intended to tease out areas of conflict, values, and preferences of the responder.	Meeting design was intended to provide for consistent feedback across all outreach methods, though some questions evolved over time based on feedback on what was successful. Meeting-in-a-box materials provided consistent discussion questions and materials, though individual meeting hosts selected specific questions based on audience, time, and context.
Level of detail	Detail is consistent across all survey responses, with the exception of responses to the open-ended questions.	Meeting notetakers provided notes of varying detail based on level of involvement in the project. Volunteer meeting hosts were guided to provide summary bullets that simply synthesized discussion takeaways from entire meetings, to minimize reporting effort. Staff and consultant meeting notetakers provided full meeting transcripts.
Direct quotes	All free-response input provided in the survey is a direct quote from the respondent.	Input gathered from meetings have been summarized/paraphrased at times by notetakers.

Source: BERK, 2021.

Survey: Methodology of Analysis

The online survey gathered feedback from 602 respondents. We present charts of multiple-choice responses in **dark blue** in the following sections. Many respondents added open-ended responses

as “other” responses to questions. To synthesize and concisely present this open-ended feedback, we coded each open-ended comment with one or more themes based on the content of the comment, then created charts presented in **light blue** in the following sections. Charts of open-ended responses are presented as counts of respondents rather than as percentages because the total number of open-ended responses is lower than the number of multiple choice responses.

Meeting: Methodology of Analysis

The project consultants gathered input from meetings in a range of formats, including:

- Transcripts of meetings.
- Thematic summaries of key takeaways from meetings.
- Direct open-ended comments from participants via online engagement tools like Mentimeter.

To best synthesize and concisely present this open-ended feedback, we coded each open-ended comment with one or more themes based on the content of the comment, then created charts presented in **yellow** in the following sections.

Please note that due to the varying formats of the open-ended feedback, meeting input is less precisely quantifiable than survey input. For example, each survey response represents a single responding individual, but some thematic summaries from meetings may represent multiple individuals, or a single person may have provided input at multiple meetings. **Therefore, while the following charts show the frequency of themes that arose in meeting input, these counts should be interpreted only as approximations of stakeholder levels of interest in any given topic.**

Charts show all themes that appeared at least twice, but if a theme appeared only once in the meeting input, we categorized it as an “other” comment.

Exhibit 12 shows the categories of input gathered at each meeting, which are the same categories we use to organize the Meeting Findings section. This table can be used to trace the sources of the findings presented in this document.

Exhibit 12. Categories of Input Gathered at Meetings

		Categories of Input						
Meeting Type	Meeting	Vision	Favorite Features	Strengths	Opportunities	Challenges and Barriers	Features to Maintain	Features to Change
Tideflats Advisory Group	TAG Meeting 3	✓	✓	✓		✓		
	TAG Meeting 4	✓						
Community Kickoff	Kickoff		✓				✓	✓
Visioning Focus Group	Visioning Focus Group 1	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Visioning Focus Group 2	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Meetings in a Box	Tacoma Transportation Club			✓				
	Puyallup Tribe Planning Commission	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Puyallup Tribe Fishing Commission	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓
	Propellor Club of Tacoma	✓		✓				
	Sustainable Tacoma Commission		✓	✓				
	Pierce County Green Drinks	✓	✓		✓			
	Citizens for a Healthy Bay	✓	✓	✓	✓			
	Lakewood Chamber of Commerce							✓
	Citizens for a Healthy Bay Policy and Technical Advisory Committee	✓		✓	✓	✓		
	Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council	✓	✓	✓				
	Tacoma Transportation Commission	✓		✓				✓
	Puyallup River Watershed Council	✓			✓	✓		

Source: BERK, 2021.

Survey Findings

Respondent Demographics

Respondents represented a range of age groups with the largest number of individuals falling between the ages of 35 – 44 (25%) and 45 – 54 (24%). Approximately 79% of respondents fall between the ages of 25 and 64, compared to about 66% Pierce County residents who are between 20 to 64 years old.

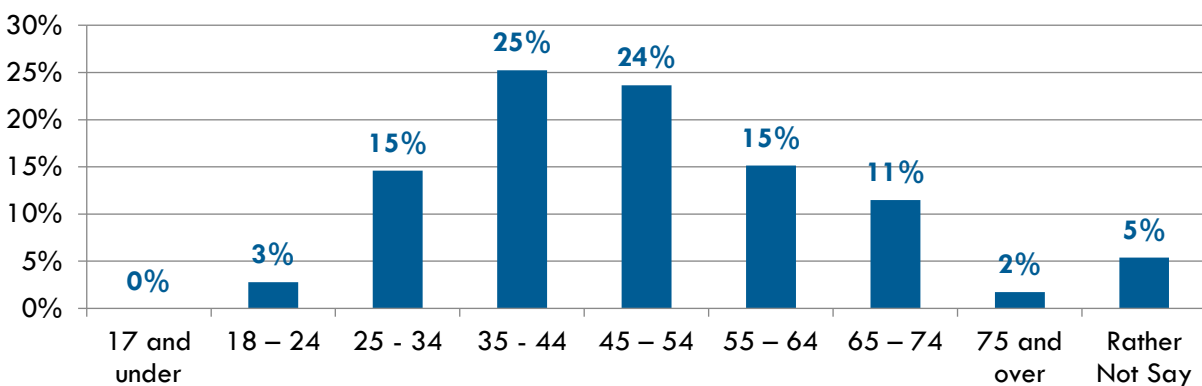
Individuals with a range of household incomes took the survey, though the majority have household incomes between \$50,000 and \$99,999 (27%) and \$100,000 and \$149,999 (25%).

73% of respondents identified as White/Caucasian, followed by 8% Native American/Alaska Native, 5% Latino/Latinx/Hispanic, and 4% Black/African. It is not possible to directly compare these proportions to the racial or ethnic demographics of the full community's population: Survey respondents could indicate multiple races or ethnicities with which they identify, but the US Census (the source of race and ethnic data) requires individuals to select only a single race or ethnicity, or to general indicate they identify with "two or more races." However, 67% of Pierce County residents identify as White, 11% identify as Hispanic of any race, and 22% identify as non-Hispanic people of color, which includes people who identify as Asian, Black/African American, Native Hawaiian/Other Pacific Islander, two or more races, or another race.

15% of respondents indicated their home zip code was 98422, followed by roughly 8% living in each 98405 and 98406. 15% of respondents indicated their home zip code was 98421, followed by nearly 13% working in 98402 and 8% in 98422.

Exhibit 13. Age of Survey Respondents (575 responses)

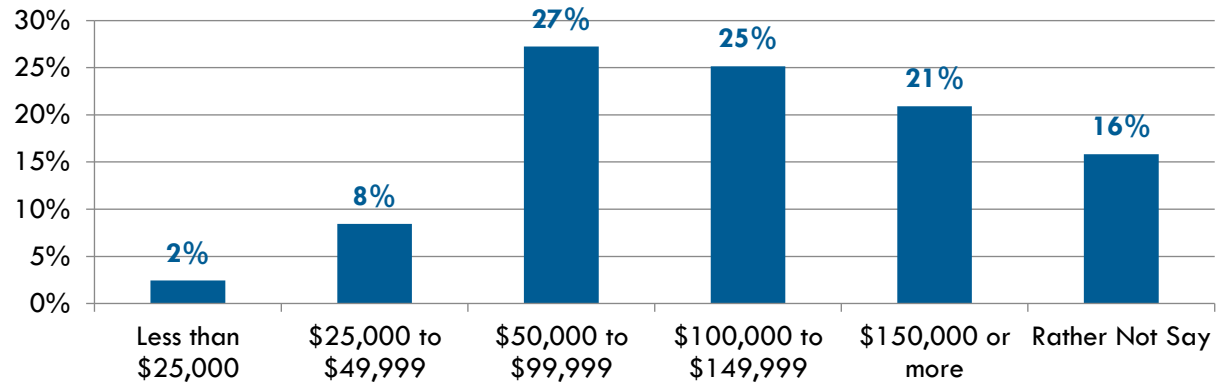
Survey Prompt: "Age."



Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 14. Household Income of Survey Respondents (569 responses)

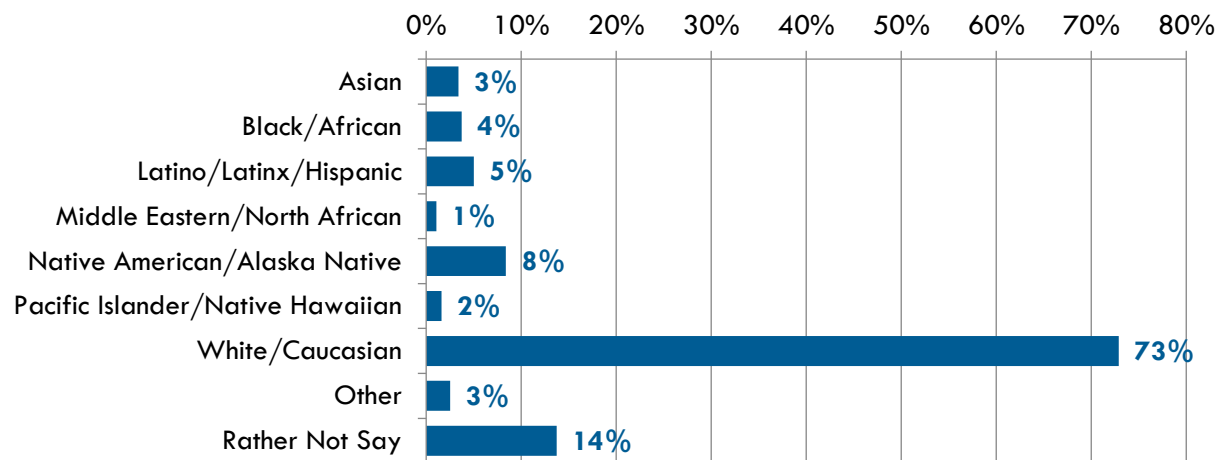
Survey Prompt: "Household Income."



Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 15. Race or Ethnicity of Survey Respondents (561 responses)

Survey Prompt: "Race/Ethnicity (check all that apply)."



Note: Percentages do not sum to 100 because respondents could select multiple options.

Source: BERK, 2021.

Legend

- Industrial center
- Pierce County border

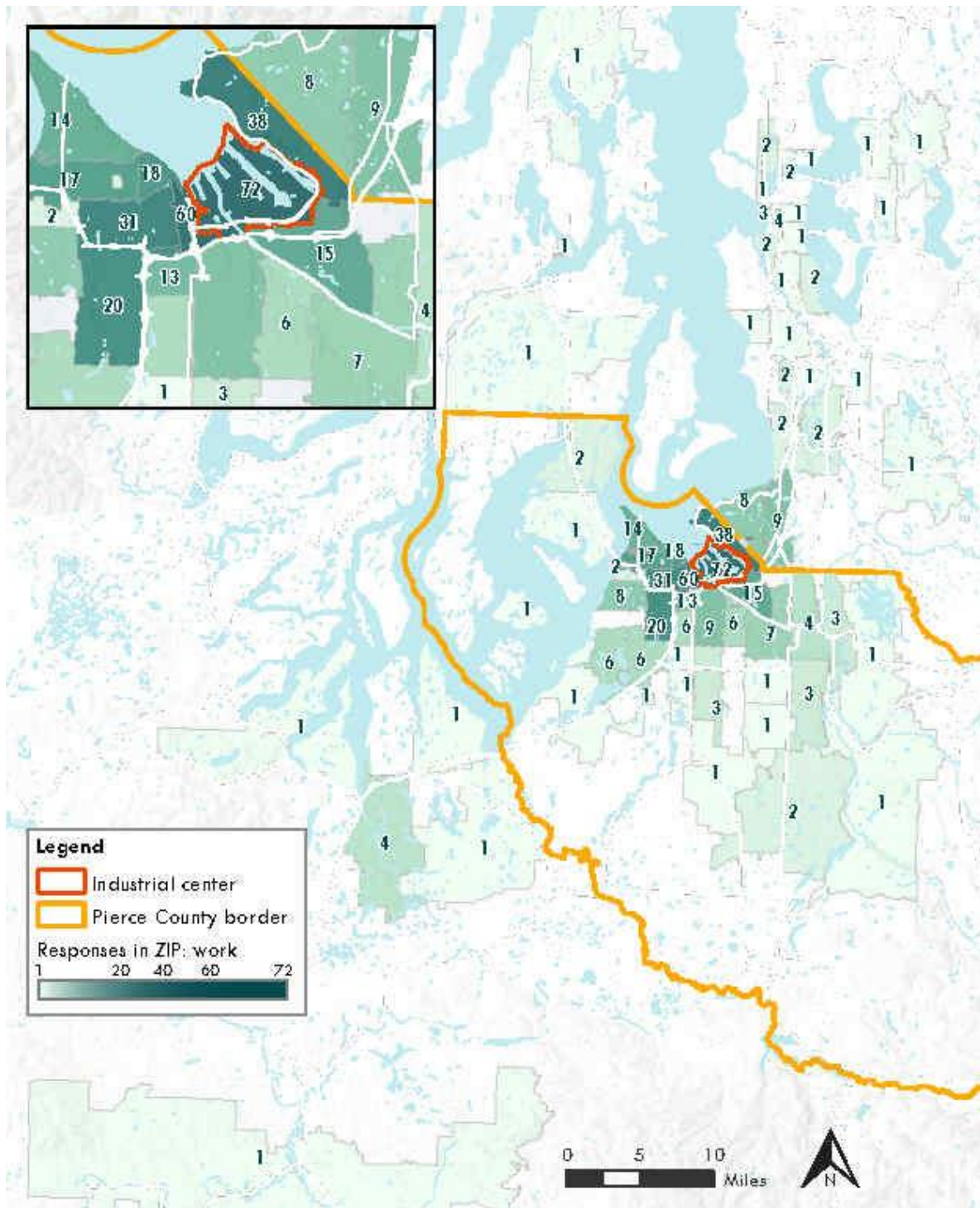
Responses in ZIP: home

Responses in ZIP: home
1
20
40
60
83

0 5 10 Miles

N

Exhibit 17. Work Zip Codes of Survey Respondents (467 responses)
Survey Prompt: "Work Zip Code."



Source: BERK, 2021

Respondent Input

The following sections are presented in the order the questions were asked in the survey.

We present charts of multiple-choice responses in **dark blue** in the following sections. Many respondents added open-ended responses as “other” responses to questions. To synthesize and concisely present this open-ended feedback, we coded each open-ended comment with one or more themes based on the content of the comment, then created charts presented in **light blue** in the following sections. Charts of open-ended responses are presented as counts of respondents rather than as percentages because the total number of open-ended responses is lower than the number of multiple-choice responses.

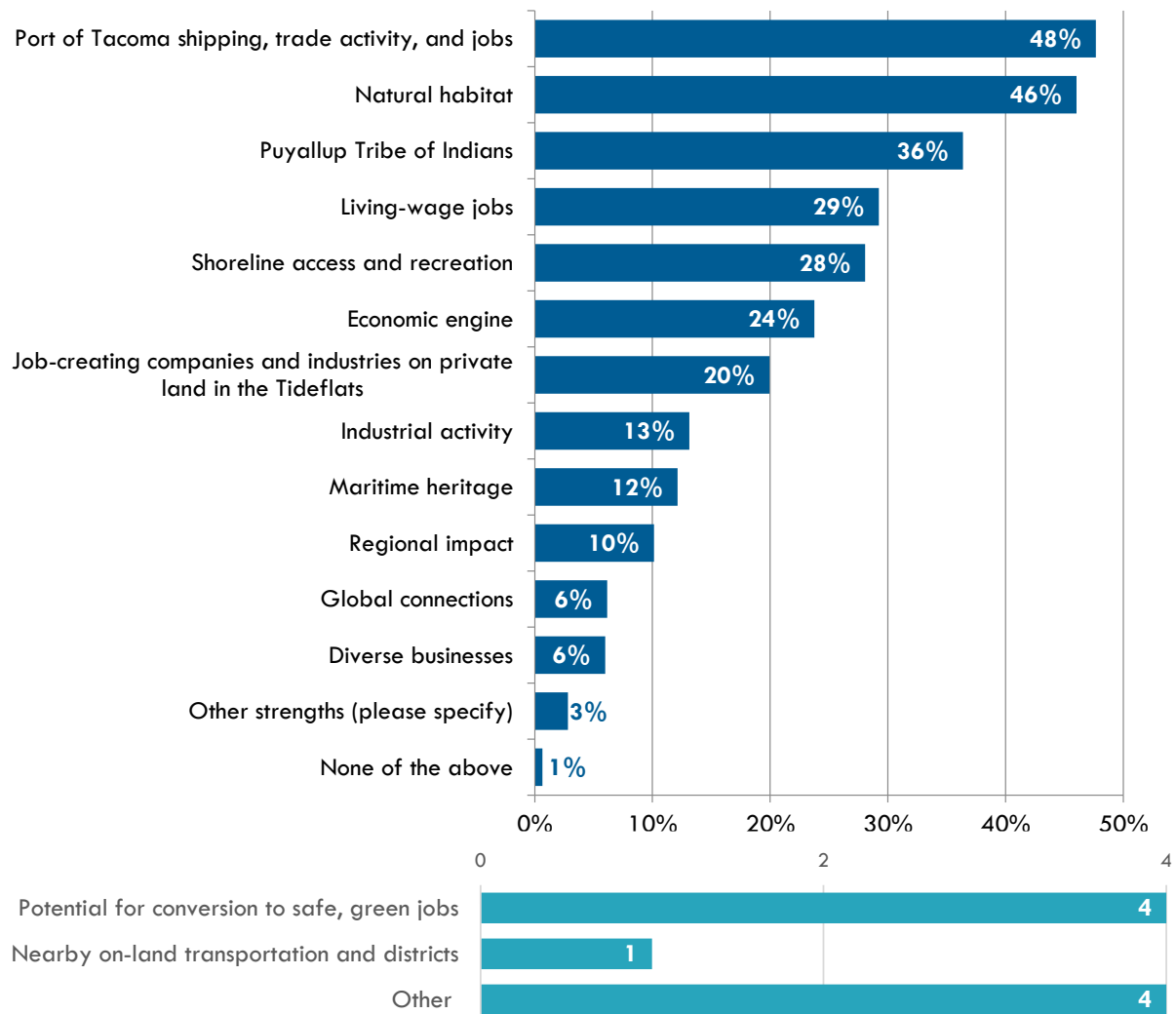
Strengths and Opportunities

Exhibit 18 summarizes survey respondents’ opinions on the Tideflats’ most important strengths. Almost half of respondents selected Port of Tacoma shipping, trade activity, and jobs as one of their top three strengths, and 46% of respondents selected natural habitat. Following these two top choices were Puyallup Tribe of Indians, living wage jobs, shoreline access and recreation, the economic engine, and job-creating companies and industries on private land in the Tideflats.

Exhibit 18. Survey Responses about the Tideflats' Most Important Strengths (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What are the most important strengths of the Tideflats? Not sure?"

Try this question instead: What is your favorite part about the Tideflats? Please select your top three."

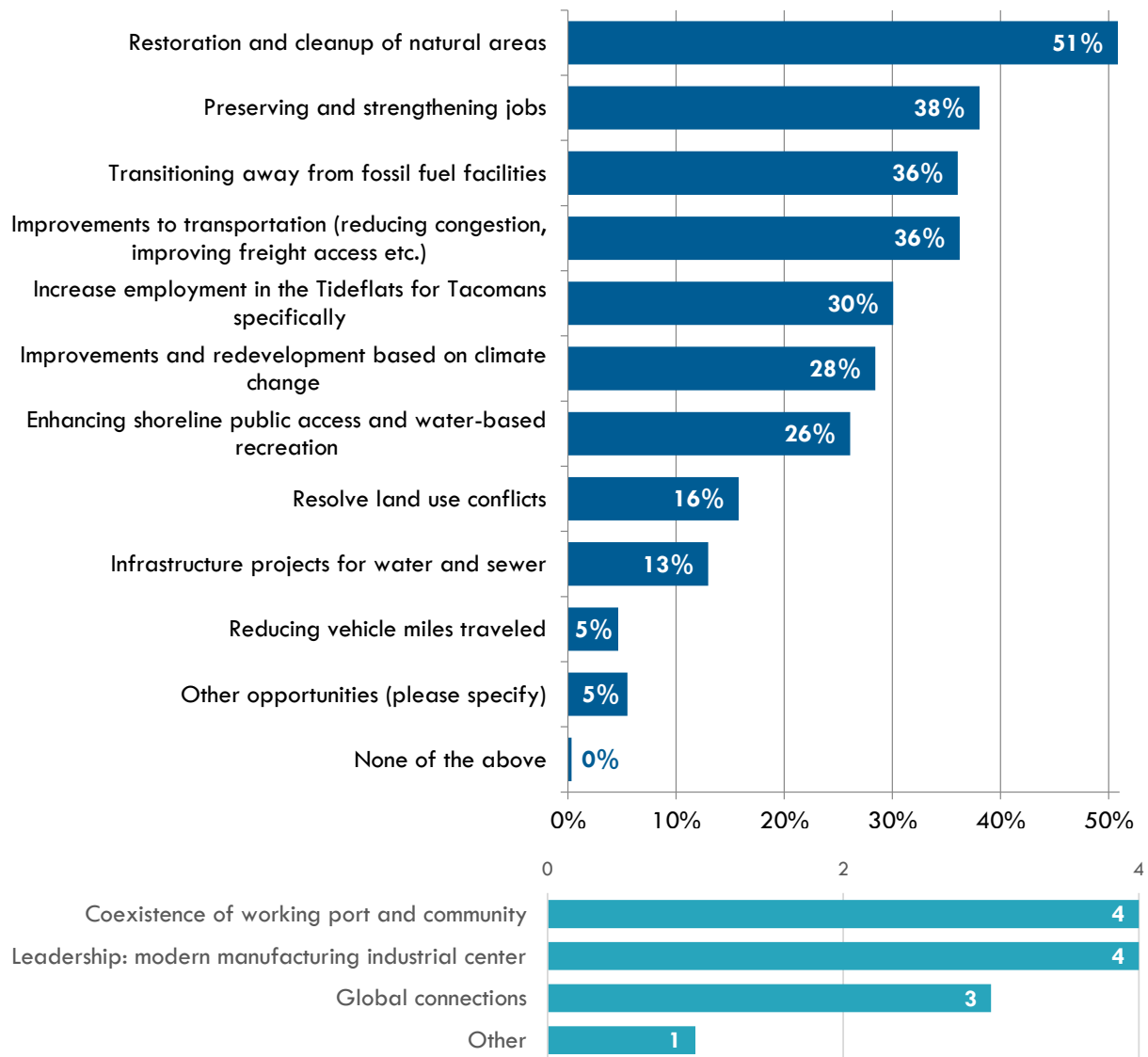


Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 19 summarizes survey respondents' opinions on the Tideflats biggest opportunities. 51% of respondents, the largest share for any option, selected restoration and cleanup of natural areas as one of their top three. This was followed by preserving and strengthening jobs, transitioning away from fossil fuel facilities, and transportation improvements.

Exhibit 19. Survey Respondents' Opinions on the Tideflats' Biggest Opportunities (602 responses)

Survey question: "What are the biggest opportunities in the Tideflats? Not sure? Try this question instead: What would you like to see added or improved through the Tideflats subarea plan? Please select your top three."



Source: BERK, 2021.

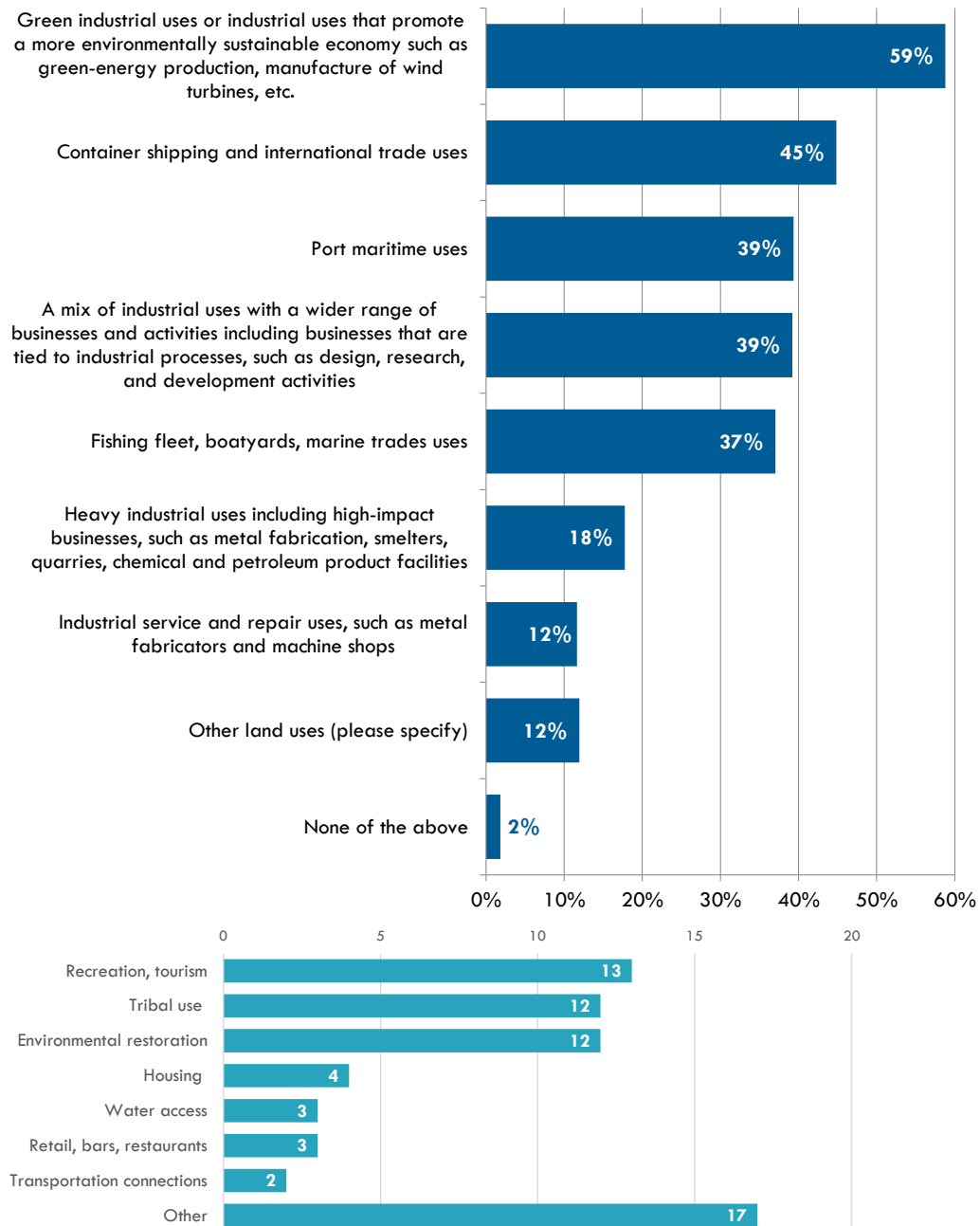
Land Uses

Exhibit 20 summarizes respondents' preferred industrial land uses in the Tideflats. The most commonly selected response was green industrial uses or industrial uses that promote a more environmentally sustainable economy, followed by container shipping and international trade, port maritime uses, and a mix of industrial uses with a wider range of businesses and activities.

Exhibit 21 summarizes respondents' preferred complementary land uses in the Tideflats. The options most frequently selected on their top three options were cultural, educational, and maritime heritage facilities (36%); small-scale manufacturing spaces for fabrication or production (35%); and shoreline public access and recreation facilities (35%).

Exhibit 20. Survey Respondents' Preferred Industrial Tideflats Land Uses (602 responses)

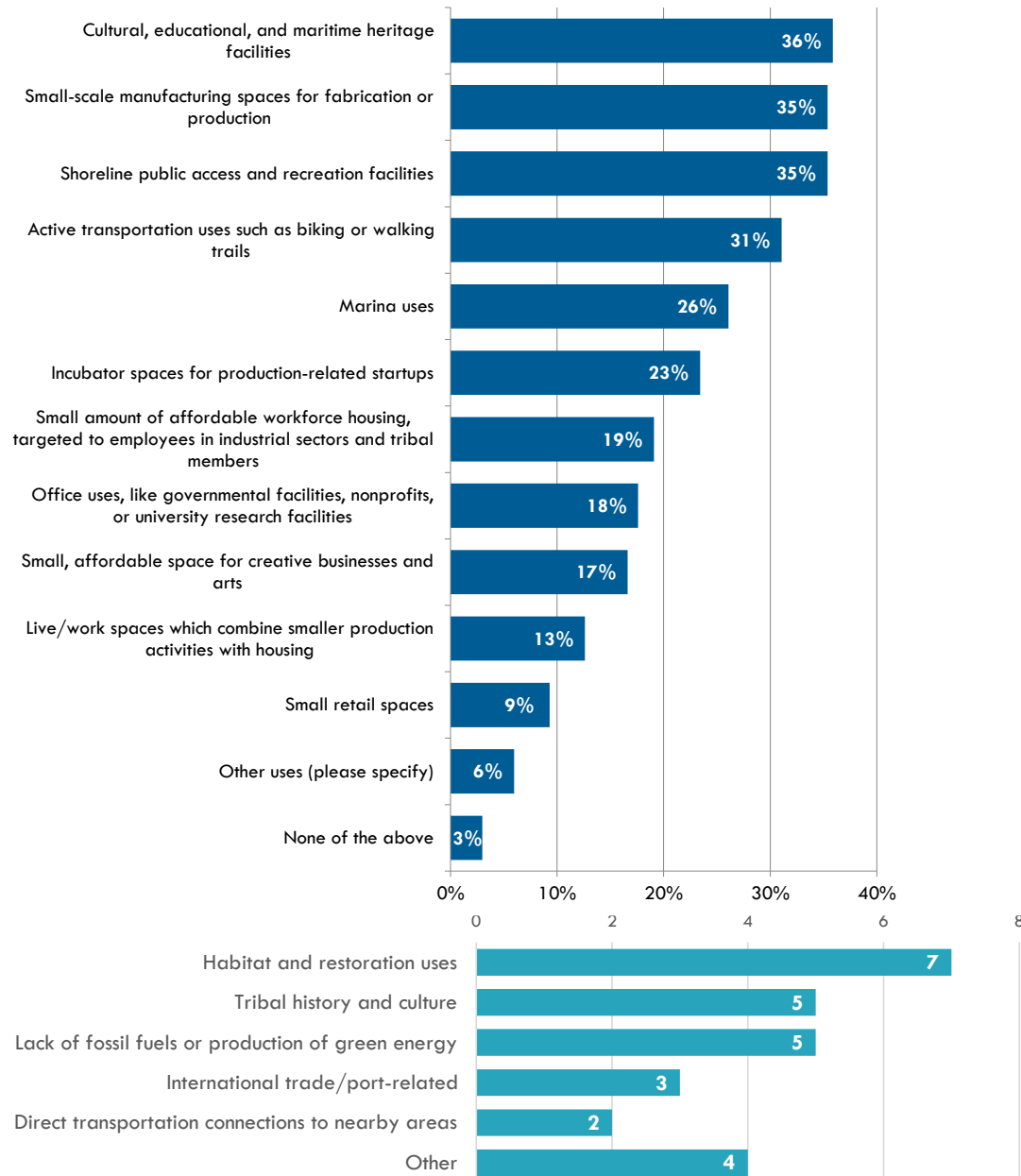
Survey Question: "What kinds of industrial land uses should be emphasized in the Tideflats study area over the next 20 years? Please select your top three. Note: The options below are for visioning purposes only and have not been evaluated for feasibility."



Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 21. Survey Respondents' Preferred Complementary Land Uses in the Tideflats (602 responses)

Survey Question: “While the Tideflats will continue to be a regional center for manufacturing and industrial uses, there may be opportunities for new uses in a few limited locations. What types of complementary uses do you think would be appropriate? Please select your top three. Note: The options below are for visioning purposes only and have not been evaluated for feasibility.”



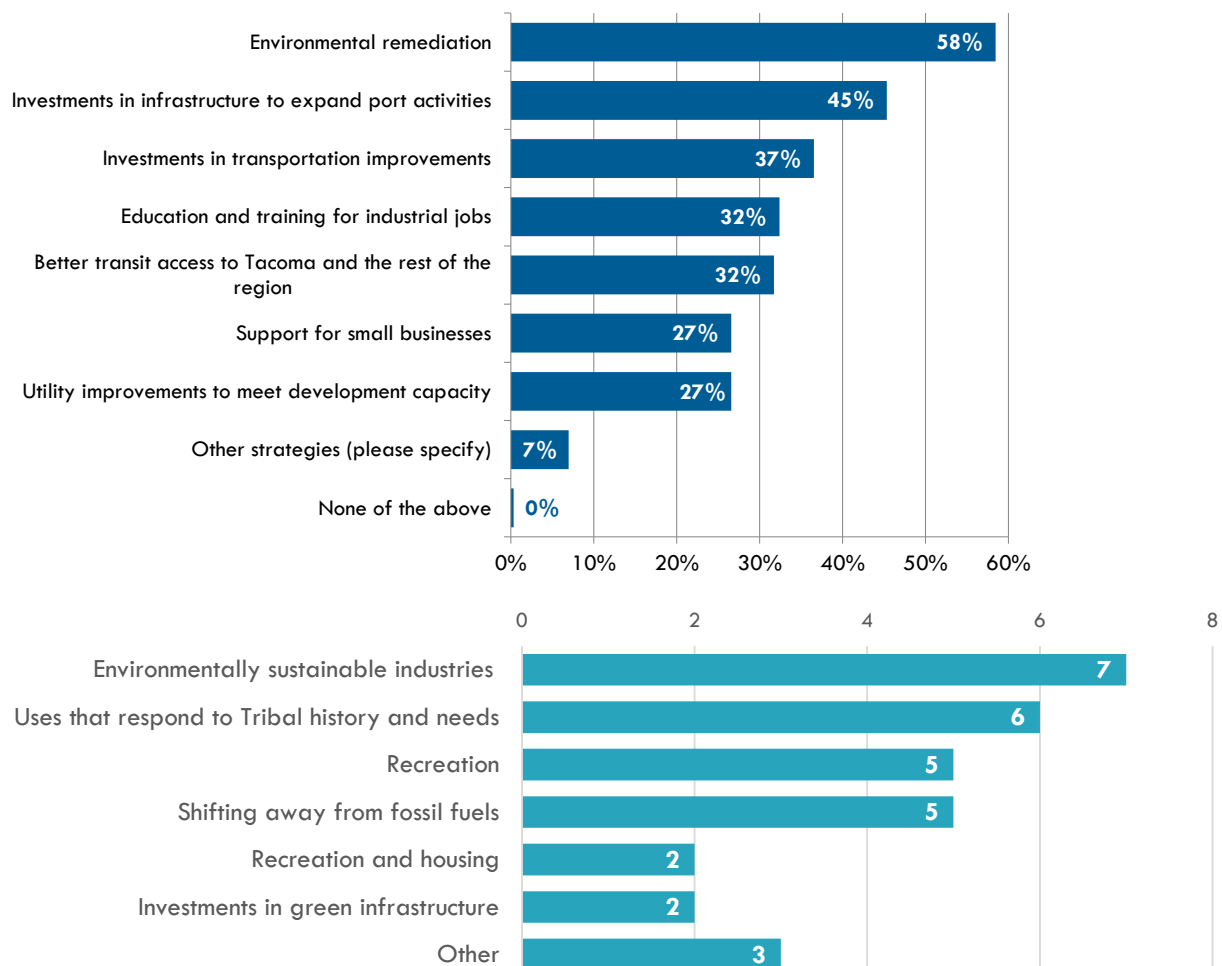
Source: BERK, 2021.

Economic Development

Exhibit 22 summarizes respondents' preferred economic development supports in the Tideflats. With respondents selecting their top three options, environmental remediation was the most frequently selected response (58%), followed by investments in infrastructure to expand port facilities (45%) and investments in transportation improvements (37%).

Exhibit 22. Survey Respondents' Preferred Economic Development Supports in the Tideflats (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What support for future economic development would you like to see for the Tideflats? Please select your top three. Note: The options below are for visioning purposes only and have not been evaluated for feasibility."



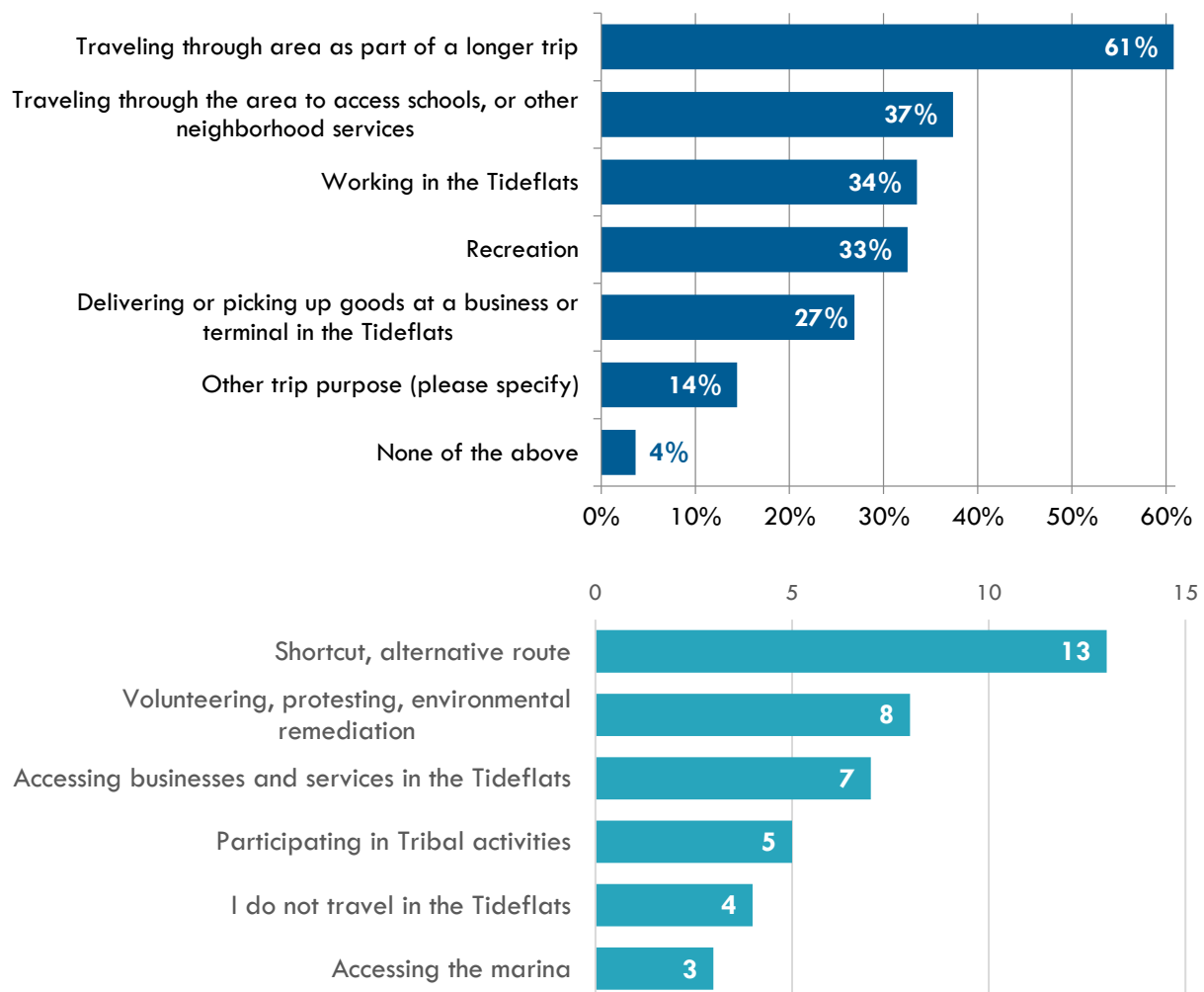
Source: BERK, 2021.

Transportation

Exhibit 23 summarizes respondents' primary travel purpose in the Tideflats. The majority of respondents (61%) indicated that they only travel through the Tideflats as part of a longer trip. This was followed by 37% of respondents who travel through the area to access schools and neighborhood services, 34% who work in the Tideflats, and 33% who travel to the Tideflats for recreation.

Exhibit 24. Survey Respondents' Primary Travel Purposes in the Tideflats (602 responses)

Survey Question: "When you travel to, from, or through the Tideflats, what are the most common purposes for your trips? Please select your top three."

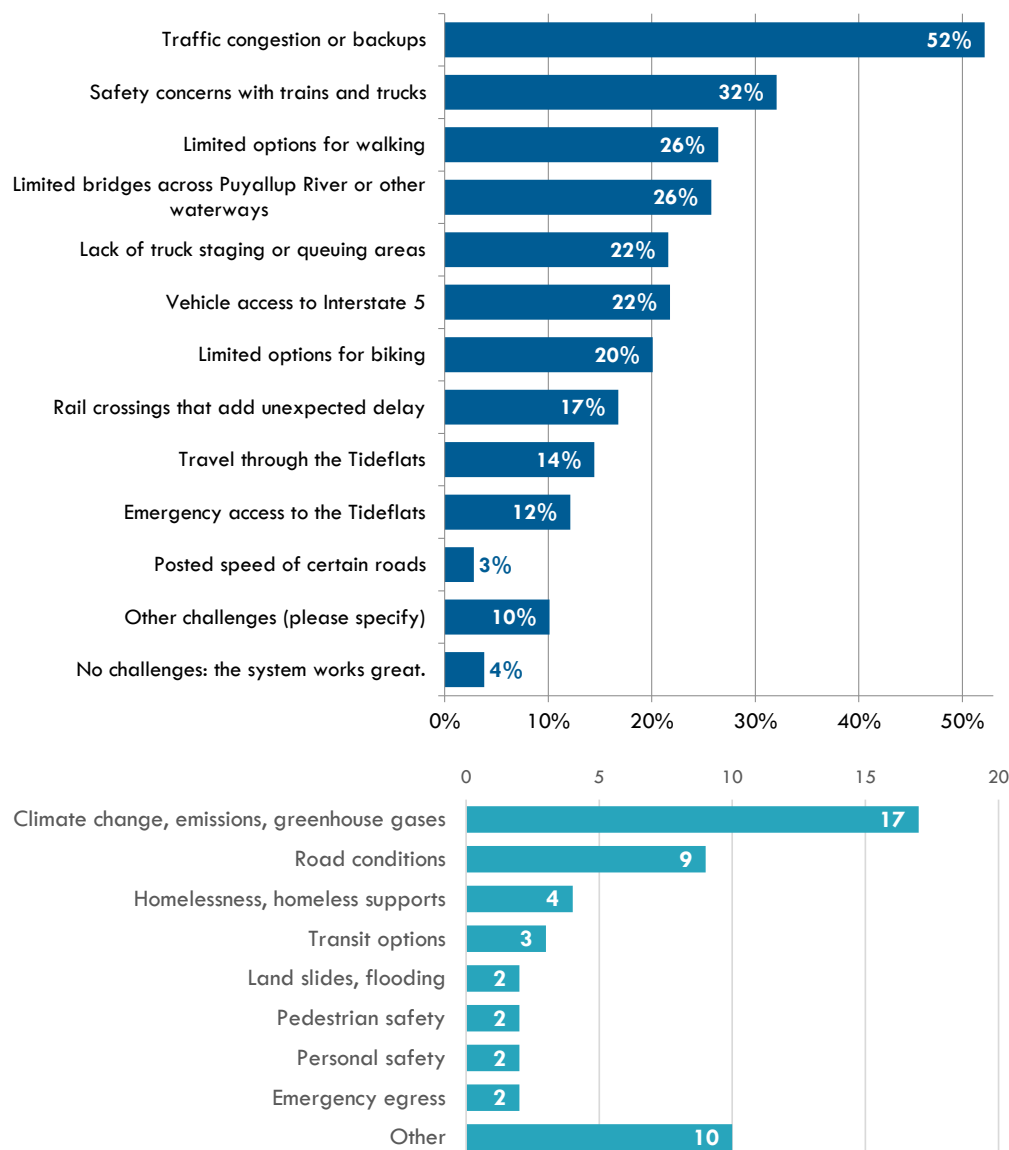


Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 25 summarizes respondents' primary transportation concerns. More than half of respondents identified traffic congestion and backups as their primary concern, followed by train and truck safety, limited walking options, and limited bridge access across the Puyallup River and other waterways.

Exhibit 26. Survey Respondents' Transportation Concerns in the Tideflats (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What are your biggest transportation concerns when traveling to, from, or through the Tideflats? Please select your top three."

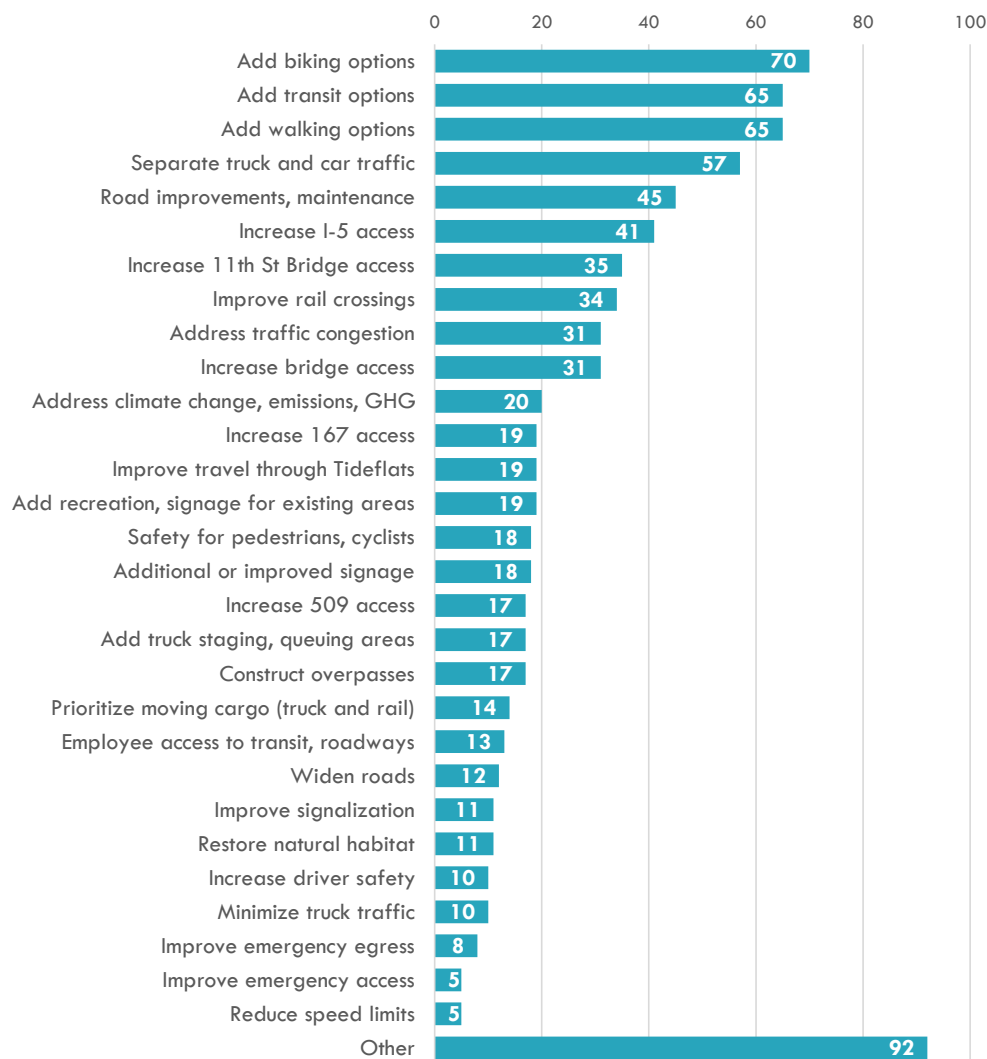


Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 27 summarizes respondents' suggested transportation improvements in the Tideflats. The most common selected responses were adding more biking, transit, and walking options. This was followed by a desire to separate car and truck traffic (whether by adding dedicated truck lanes, truck routes, or overpasses), improving the road conditions throughout the Tideflats, and increasing vehicle and truck access to I-5. Other popular suggestions included increasing bridge access—especially the 11th St Bridge—and reducing congestion.

Exhibit 28. Survey Respondents' Suggested Transportation Improvements (499 responses)

Survey Question: "If you were a transportation planner, what revisions would you make to the transportation system in the Tideflats?"



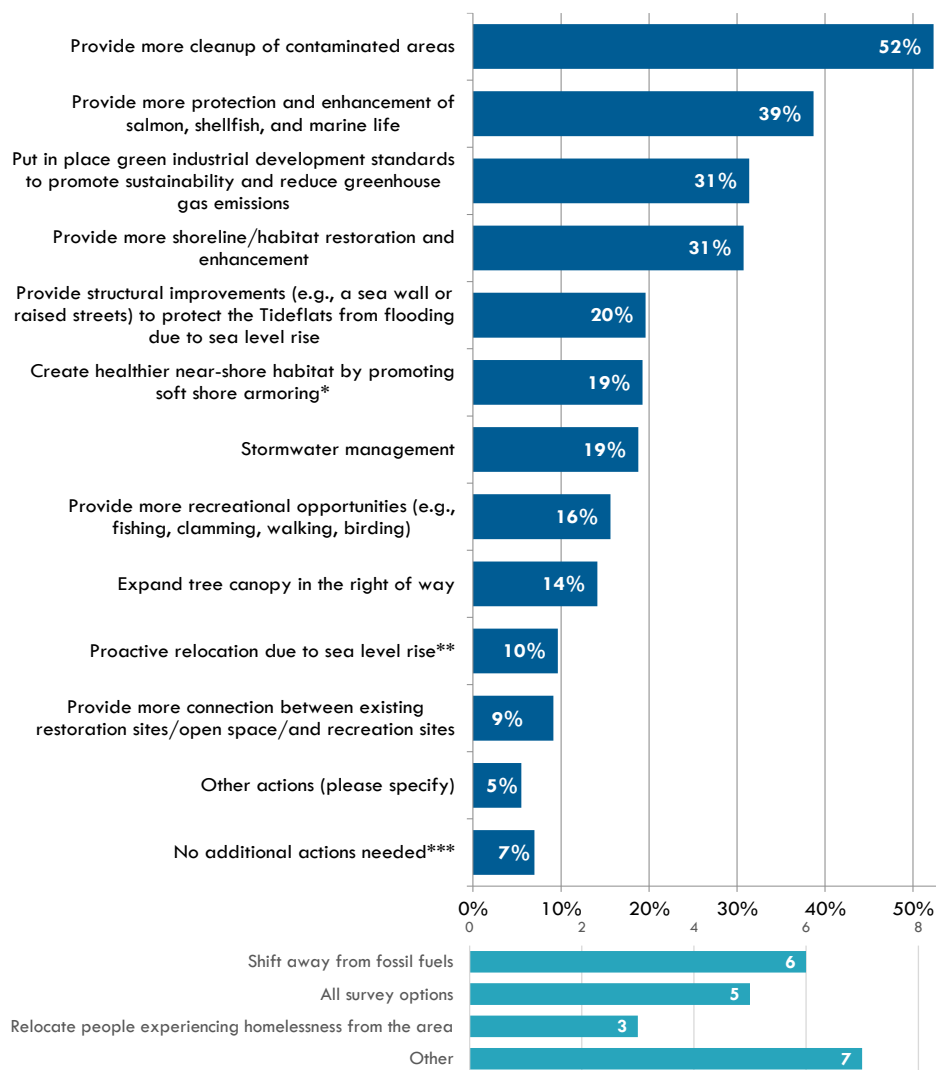
Source: BERK, 2021.

Natural Resources

Exhibit 29 summarizes respondents' preferred environmental mitigation in the Tideflats. In order to protect the natural environment and reduce potential impacts, providing more cleanup of contaminated areas and providing more protection for salmon, shellfish, and marine life were the most frequently selected responses.

Exhibit 29. Survey Respondents' Preferred Environmental Mitigation (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What actions do you think should be prioritized to protect the natural environment and reduce potential impacts? Please select your top three. Note: The options below are for visioning purposes only and have not been evaluated for feasibility."



* Original text: "Create healthier near-shore habitat by promoting soft shore armoring (the creation or restoration of a natural shoreline system using nature-based shoreline management techniques instead of harder armoring like bulkheads)."

** Original text: "Conduct a coordinated process of voluntarily and equitably relocating people, structures, and infrastructure away from vulnerable areas to protect the Tideflats from flooding due to sea level rise."

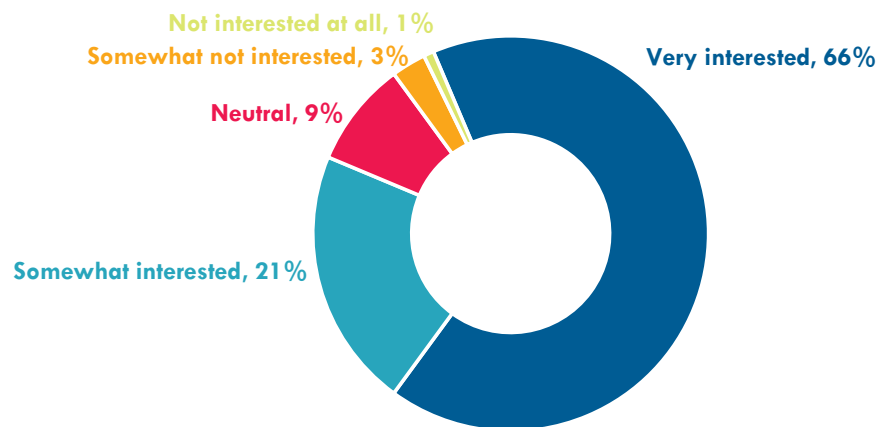
*** Original text: "No additional actions needed: existing local, state and federal programs and regulations are adequate to protect the environment and public health."

Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 30 summarizes survey respondents' level of interest in marine life in the Tideflats. Overall, there is a high level of interest: 66% of respondents indicated that they were very interested, 21% were somewhat interested, 9% were neutral, 3% were somewhat not interested, and only 1% were not interested at all.

Exhibit 30. Survey Respondents' Level of Interest in Tideflats Marine Life (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What is your level of interest in protecting salmon, shellfish, and other marine life in the Tideflats?"

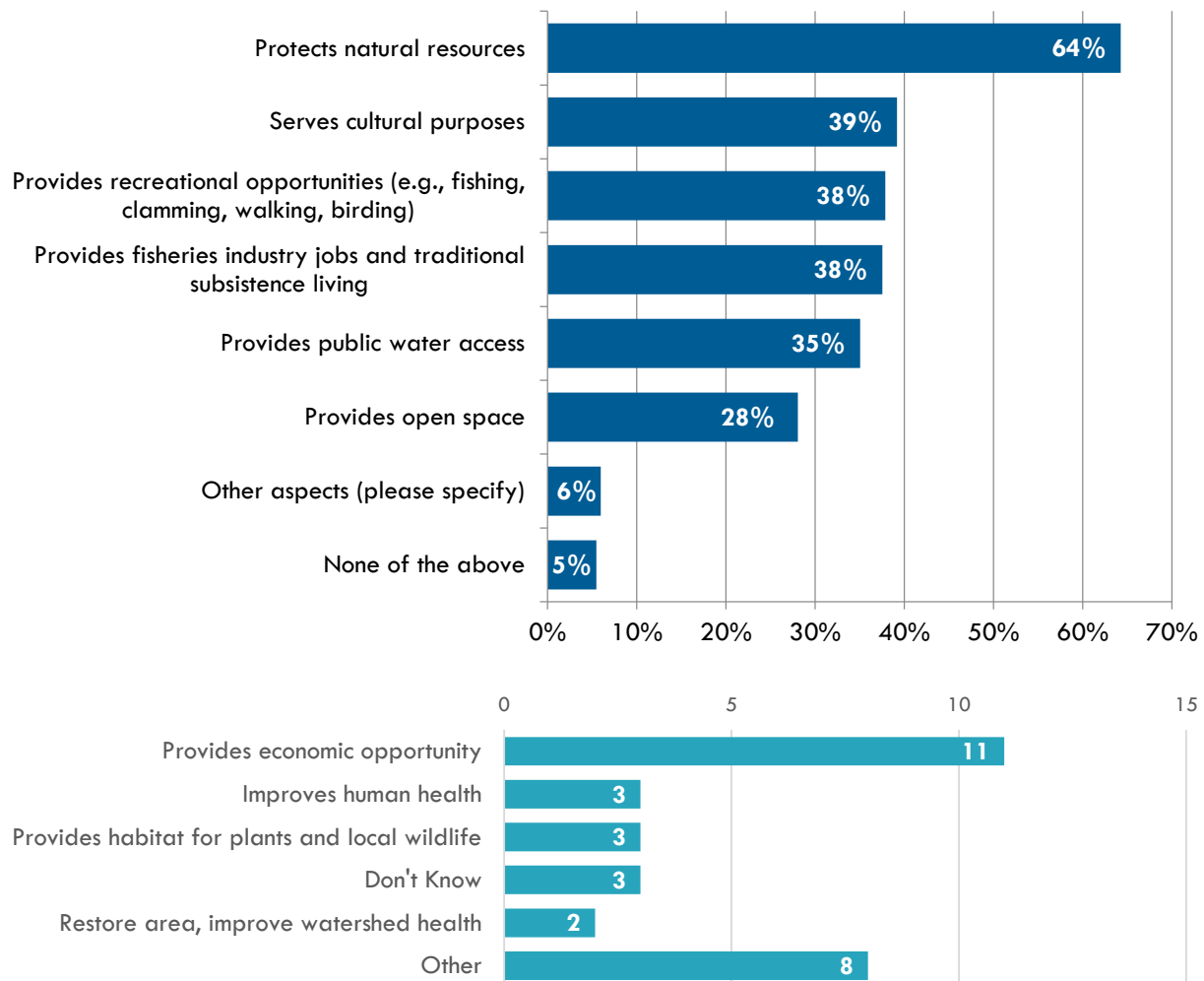


Source: BERK, 2021.

Exhibit 31 summarizes survey respondents' values about natural resources. With respondents selecting their top three values, 64% of respondents selected the fact that the Tideflats protects natural resources as what they valued most; this was the highest response by a notable margin.

Exhibit 31. Survey Respondents' Values about Natural Resources in the Tideflats (602 responses)

Survey Question: "What do you value about the natural resource areas in the Tideflats? Please select your top three."



Source: BERK, 2021.

Concluding Comments

Exhibit 32 summarizes additional comments survey respondents provided about the Tideflats Subarea Plan. 47 people mentioned balancing living wage jobs with environmental health. 46 people noted improving the health and sustainability of the area. 45 people said that port and industrial jobs are very important.

Exhibit 32. Survey Respondents' General Suggestions (235 responses)

Survey Question: "Please share any additional comments you have on the Tideflats Subarea Plan. You may also share comments about specific locations or features of the Tideflats on the map tab."



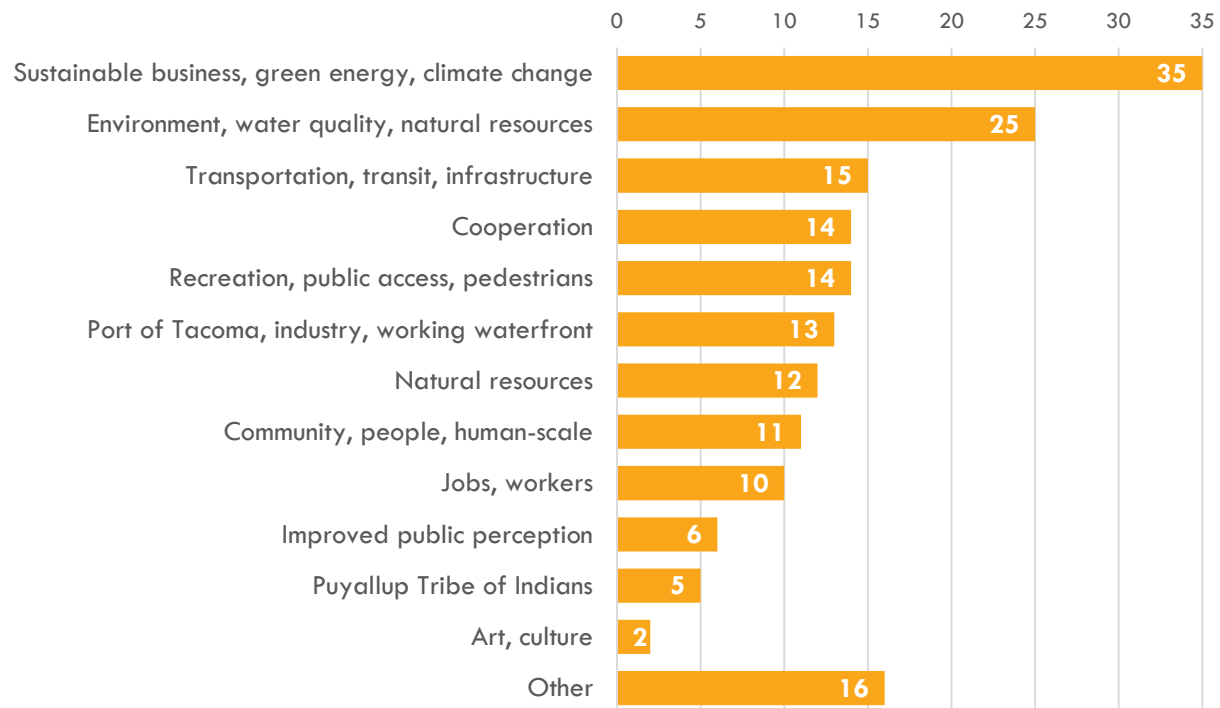
Source: BERK, 2021.

Meeting Findings

Vision

Respondents at several meetings were asked to provide input on their vision for the Tideflats. As Exhibit 33 shows, the most common responses focused on sustainable business, green energy, and climate change, and the environment, water quality, and natural resources. Respondents also noted an interest in improved transportation, transit, and infrastructure, cooperation among businesses and governments, and increased recreation opportunities, public access, and ease of use for pedestrians.

Exhibit 33. Themes of Input: Vision for the Tideflats (93 responses)



Source: BERK, 2021.

Example comments for the themes in Exhibit 33, many of which are also reflected throughout the remainder of this section, are shown in Exhibit 34.

Exhibit 34.

Theme	Sample Comments
Sustainable business, green energy, climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Primary change has to do with climate change. That’s the challenge – industrial symbiosis, public access or green power. It needs to be apparent in part to connect with the public perception. It needs to be visible. If it is not apparent it can reflect poorly on the port and cause political problems.” ■ “Tacoma is the first port in the World to successfully navigate the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy and still have a strong economic base.”
Environment, water quality, natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “a lot of restoration has happened. there is habitat for species like salmon can thrive, where people can thrive and where the tribe can continue to live. Where Tacoma is the place where the innovative industry of the future can be.” ■ “Waters have never been cleaner because of foresight of prior generations. Shoreline is walkable, fewer cars, more people on foot and transit.”
Transportation, transit, infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Transportation infrastructure needs to change. Might need partnership with state and federal resources.” ■ “20 years from now we have infrastructure that leans into restoration with jobs to better connect community around being stewards to this land.” ■ “Improving the efficiency of the infrastructure and improve the environment. Port has a major role to play as one of the largest investors in cleaning up contaminated areas.”
Cooperation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Port coexists with residential and urban area surrounding.” ■ “there is an impression that there is a challenge in all coexisting. I absolutely believe that they all can. I see complementary and consistency in the vision statement presented.”
Recreation, public access, pedestrians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Recreational areas and bike paths should have educational components too, and should be accessible and enjoyable for port workers” ■ “more habitat and water access” ■ “Still thriving area of opportunity and jobs, with more transit and more park/open space areas”
Port of Tacoma, industry, working waterfront	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Port is the premier port on the West Coast. A place of technological innovators. People choose Tacoma over Vancouver, Los Angeles.” ■ “Affirm place. Permanently protect industrial uses which are inextricably linked to environmental uses. Acknowledge and respect the Tideflats first and foremost as a place for economic prosperity and environmental stewardship.”
Natural resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Hopefully in 20 years it will be cleaner water, more fish upstream, enjoy what is down there. Nothing could be better being on the water in the Fall and do some fishing. Drop a pot or two for crab. I would like to do that again and actually catch something. I’m dreaming a lot here but I am hoping we can strive for that.” ■ “I see lots of eagles coming back though that is positive. They keep greeting us so that means things are getting better maybe.” ■ “Protections for Salmon”

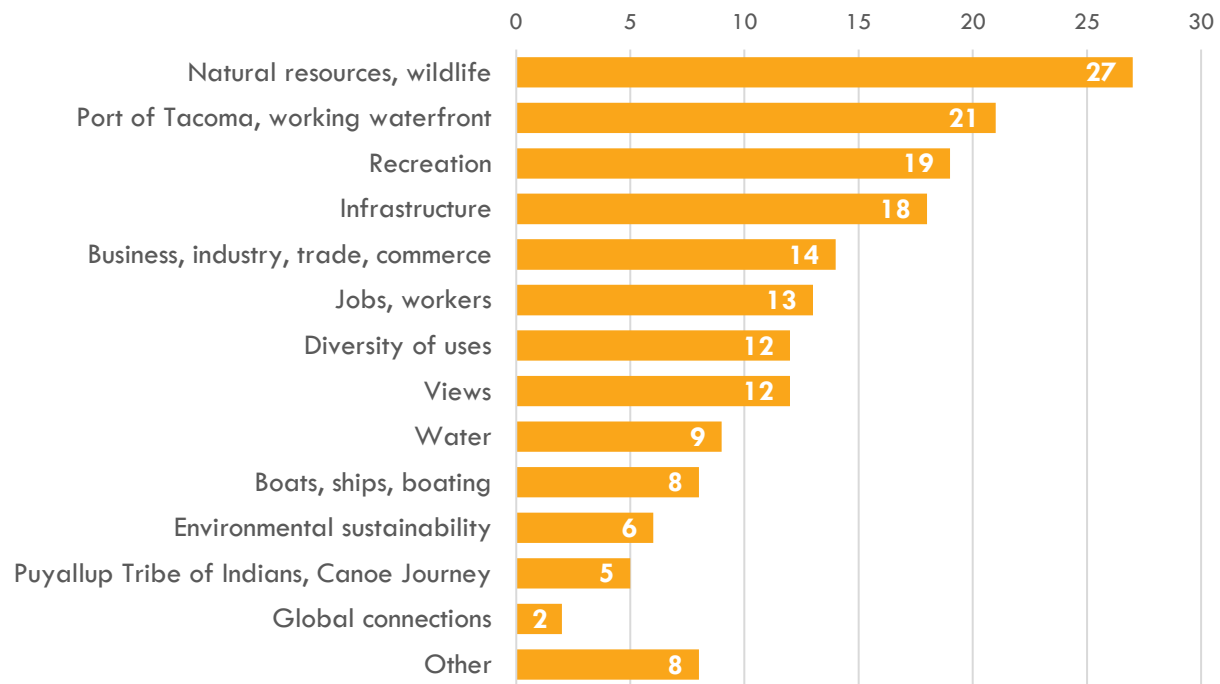
Theme	Sample Comments
Community, people, human-scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “A lot more activity at the human scale, can support a lot more industrial strength.” ■ “Larger restoration efforts that is beyond tree planting and gives people the real scientific knowledge to allow them to better be stewards and understand where they are in the larger narrative.”
Jobs, workers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Vision is for the creation of equitable jobs for people with high-school degrees. Pierce County has a large need for these types of jobs.” ■ “Prioritize and employment and manufacturing jobs, which is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse fields.” ■ “We need to plan for jobs, just like how the military prepares people for civilian life, we need to mobilize in a similar manner. Prep folks to finish their schooling or go into Environmental work.”
Improved public perception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “An area we can be proud of” ■ “All of our cargo handling and cranes are electrified using green power, beautification so Milwaukee Way doesn’t look like a homeless encampment, we have integrated the Saltchuck habitat site, embedded the most innovative tech to manage runoff, trucks move smoothly with fuels that don’t have particulate matter that disturb lungs. We will still see some things, some of the port infrastructure, we would still see vessels sliding in and out. From another lens, we have changed the public’s perception and we make Tacoma, Fife and south end great places to live. So people say it’s my port.”
Puyallup Tribe of Indians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “a lot of restoration has happened. there is habitat for species like salmon can thrive, where people can thrive and where the tribe can continue to live. Where Tacoma is the place where the innovative industry of the future can be.”
Art, culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ “Tideflats is a continued hub of commerce, with an eye on bridges to continued sustainability, fewer dilapidated properties, cultural/educational center to highlight collaboration and history – could be a core piece of the Tideflats” ■ “Blending the lines between industry and community, trails and green areas, more blatant cultural representation through art work, cultural center.”

Source: BERK, 2021.

Favorite Features

Natural resources and wildlife are the most common theme in meeting participants' descriptions of their favorite features of the Tideflats, as Exhibit 35 shows. Participants also favored the Tideflats' role as a working waterfront and the location of the Port of Tacoma; recreation; and infrastructure.

Exhibit 35. Themes of Input: Favorite Features of the Tideflats (102 responses)



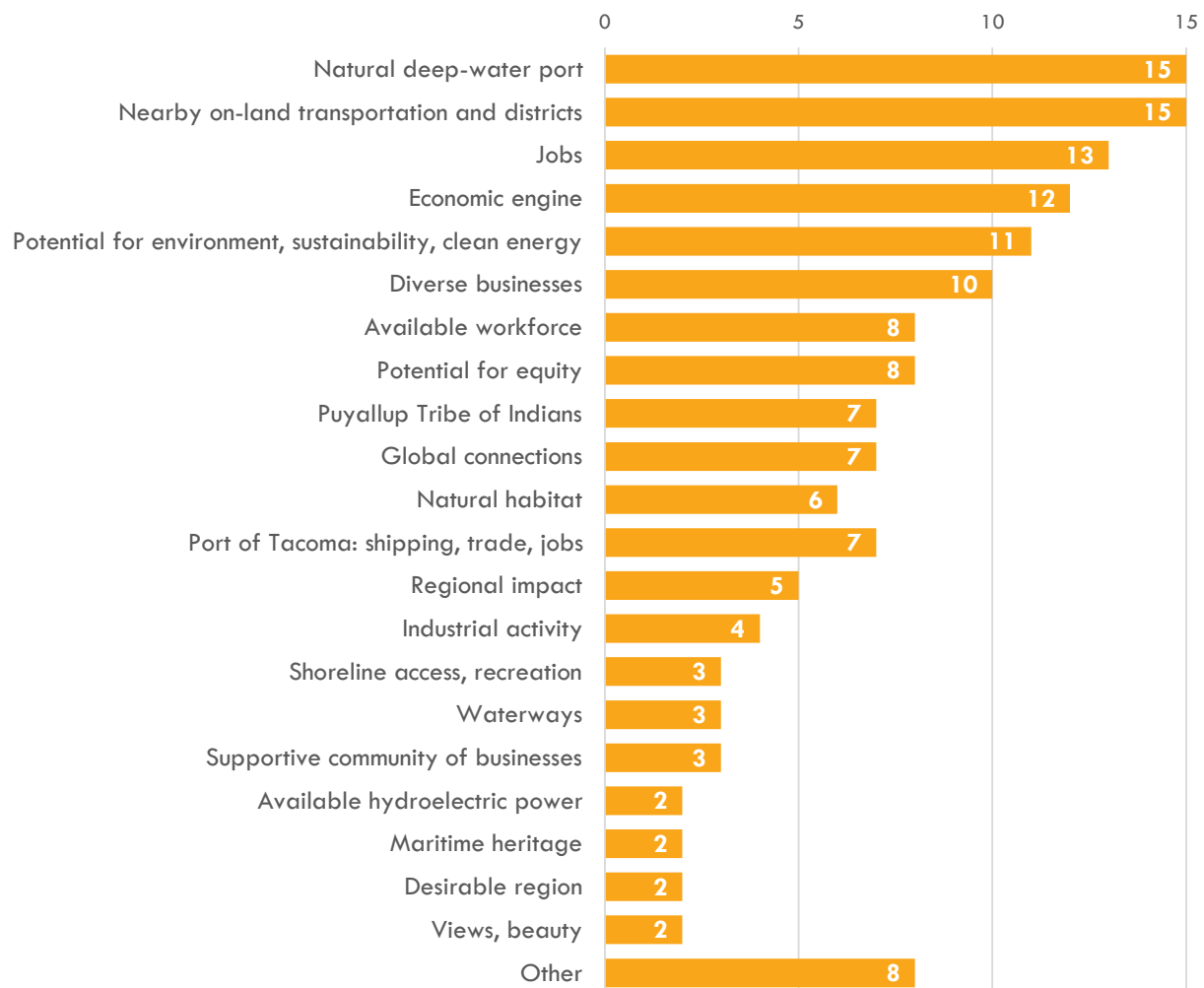
Source: BERK, 2021.

Strengths, Opportunities, and Challenges

Strengths

Meeting participants emphasized the Tideflats' natural deep-water port and its proximity to on-land transportation and districts as key strengths of the Tideflats, shown in Exhibit 36. Participants were also likely to note the Tideflats' role as a job center and economic engine for the region; the potential for sustainability and clean energy; and the Tideflats' diverse businesses.

Exhibit 36. Themes of Input: Strengths of the Tideflats (79 responses)

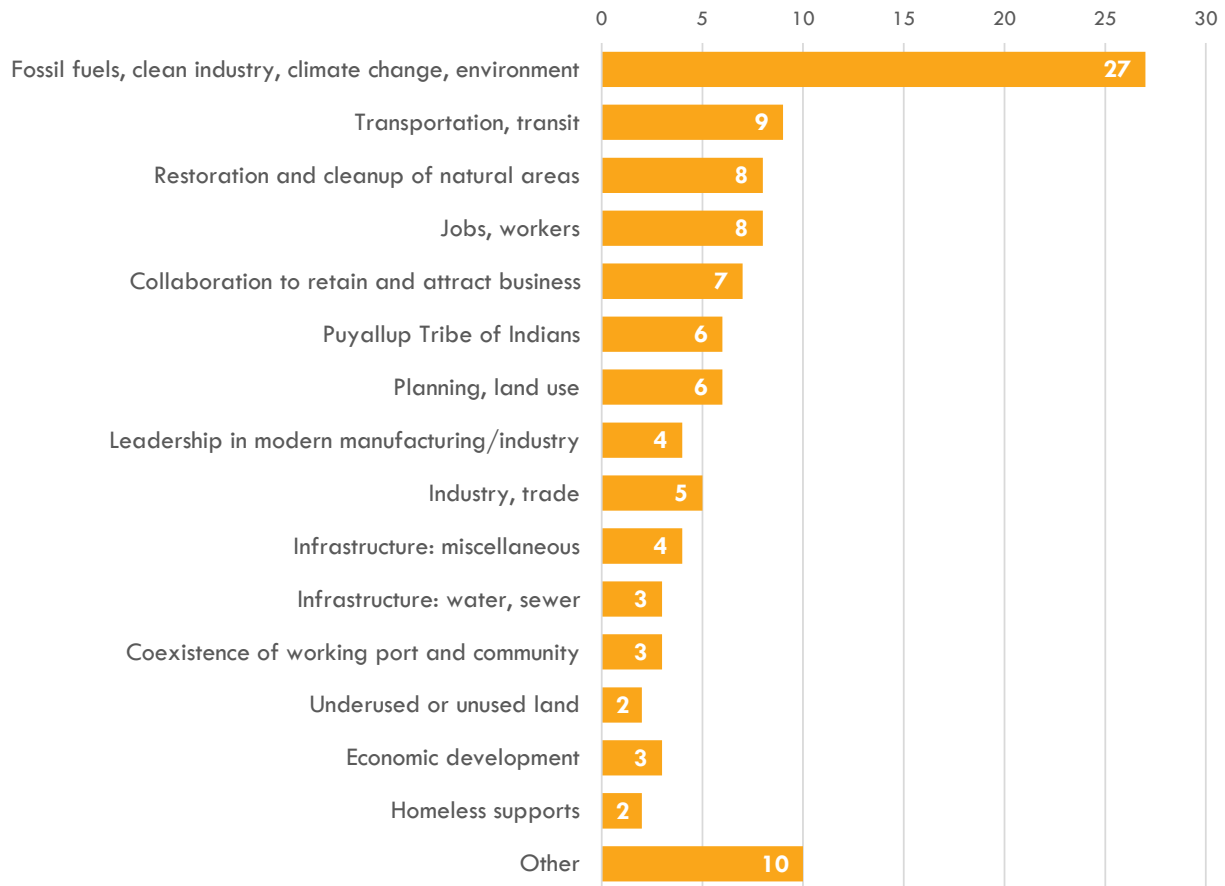


Source: BERK, 2021.

Opportunities

When describing opportunities in the Tideflats, meeting participants were most likely to identify the potential for increased environmental sustainability through shifting away from fossil fuels, toward clean industries, and addressing climate change. This theme was noted significantly more than any other area of opportunity, as Exhibit 37 shows.

Exhibit 37. Themes of Input: Opportunities in the Tideflats (93 responses)

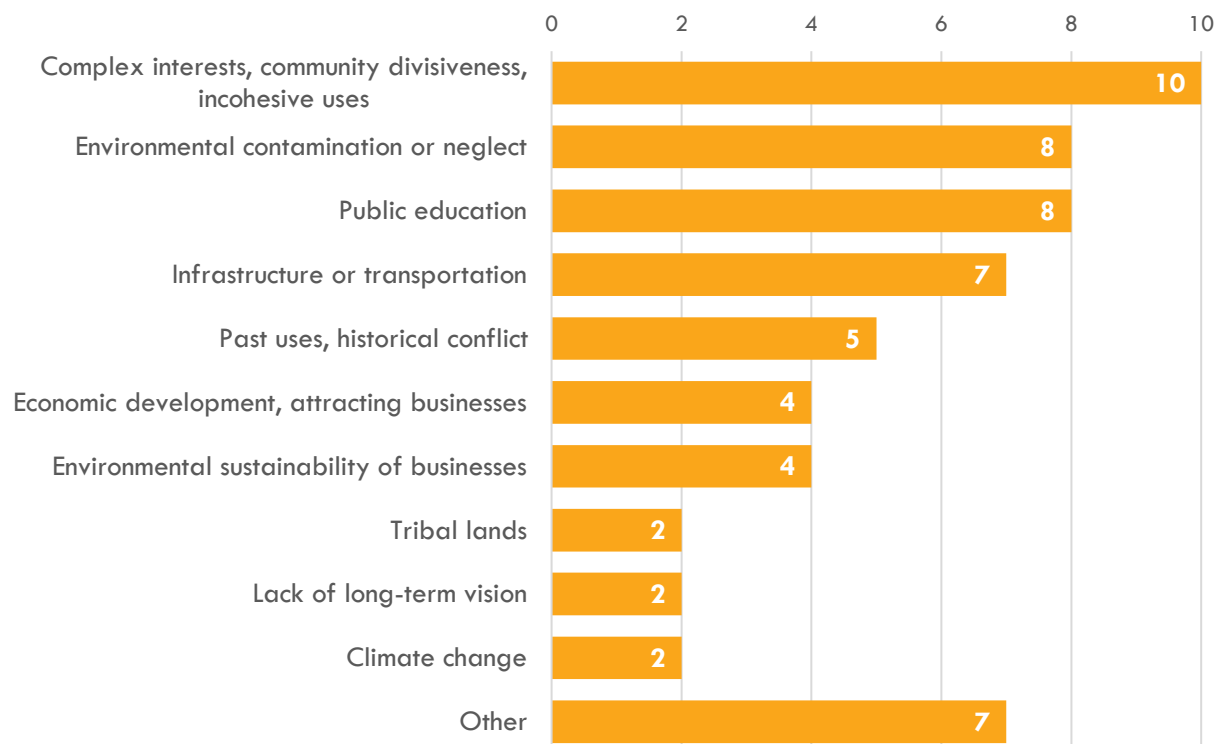


Source: BERK, 2021.

Challenges and Barriers to Opportunities

Meeting participants discussed some of the challenges the Tideflats face, shown in Exhibit 38. Participants commonly noted the complex range of community interests, community divisiveness and lack of a shared vision, and the disparate set of uses in the area as a challenge. Participants also expressed concern with environmental contamination or neglect, lack of public education, and inadequate infrastructure and transportation as top challenges.

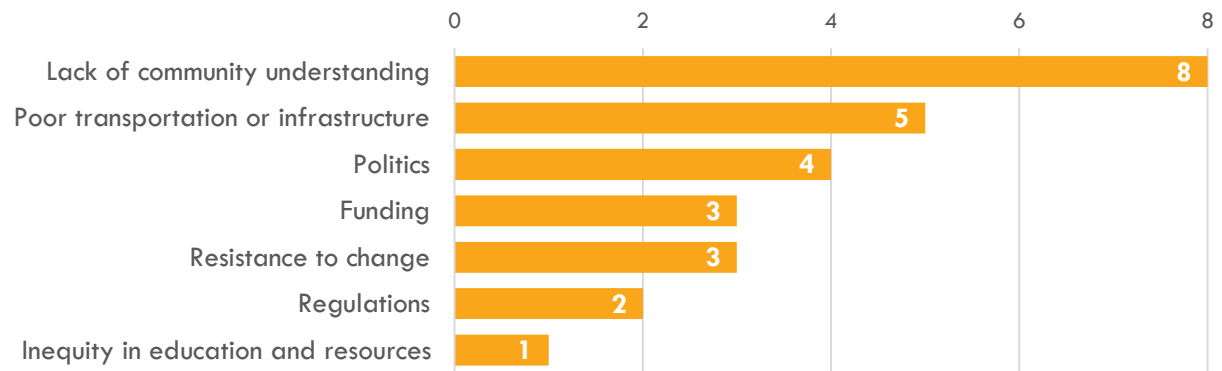
Exhibit 38. Themes of Input: Challenges faced in the Tideflats (39 responses)



Source: BERK, 2021.

Some meeting participants provided input on the barriers that the Tideflats face in achieving the opportunities noted in the previous section. Participants most often noted a lack of community understanding in the role the area plays in the regional and local economy, as shown in Exhibit 39. Participants also noted that poor transportation and infrastructure as a barrier to opportunity.

Exhibit 39. Themes of Input: Barriers to Opportunities in the Tideflats (22 responses)



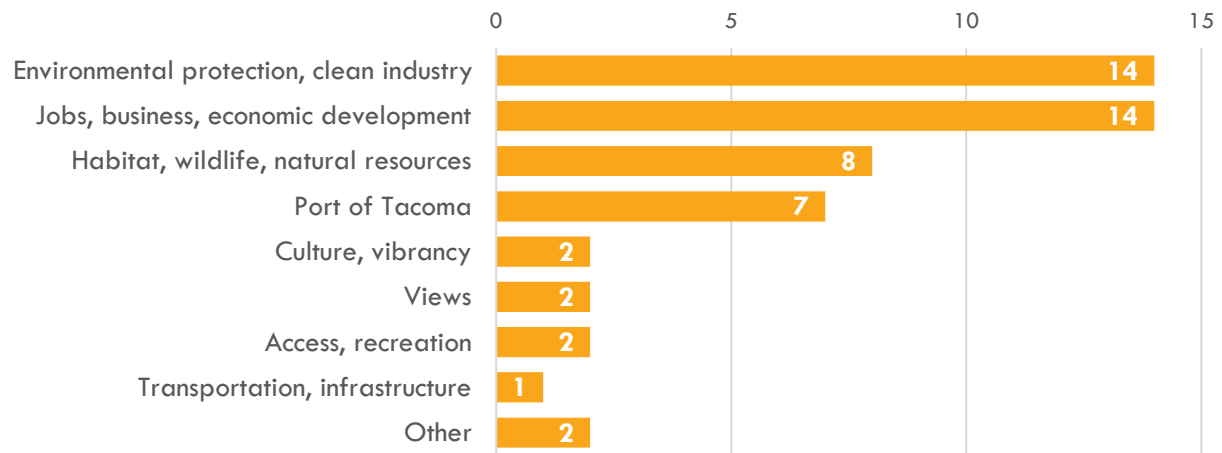
Source: BERK, 2021.

Features to Maintain or Change

Features to Maintain

Meeting participants expressed interest in maintaining the Tideflats' environmental protections, clean industry, jobs, business, and economic development, as shown in Exhibit 40. Participants also want to maintain the Tideflats' habitat, wildlife, natural resources, and Port of Tacoma.

Exhibit 40. Themes of Input: Features to Maintain in the Tideflats (31 responses)

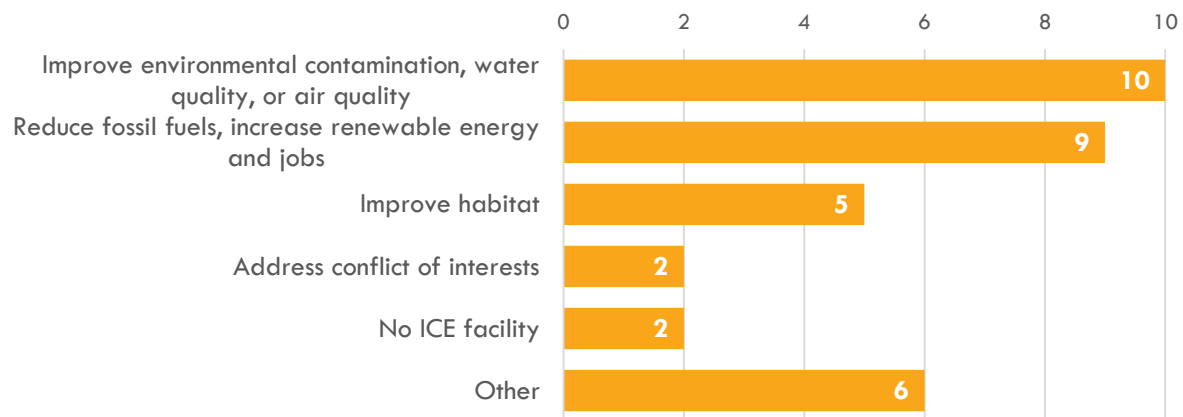


Source: BERK, 2021.

Features to Change

When asked to identify features of the Tideflats that they would like to change, meeting participants identified the inverse of the features they would like to maintain: participants are most likely to want to improve environmental contamination, water quality, or air quality, and to reduce usage of fossil fuels and transition to renewable energy and jobs. Exhibit 41 shows these priorities.

Exhibit 41. Themes of Input: Features to Change in the Tideflats (26 responses)

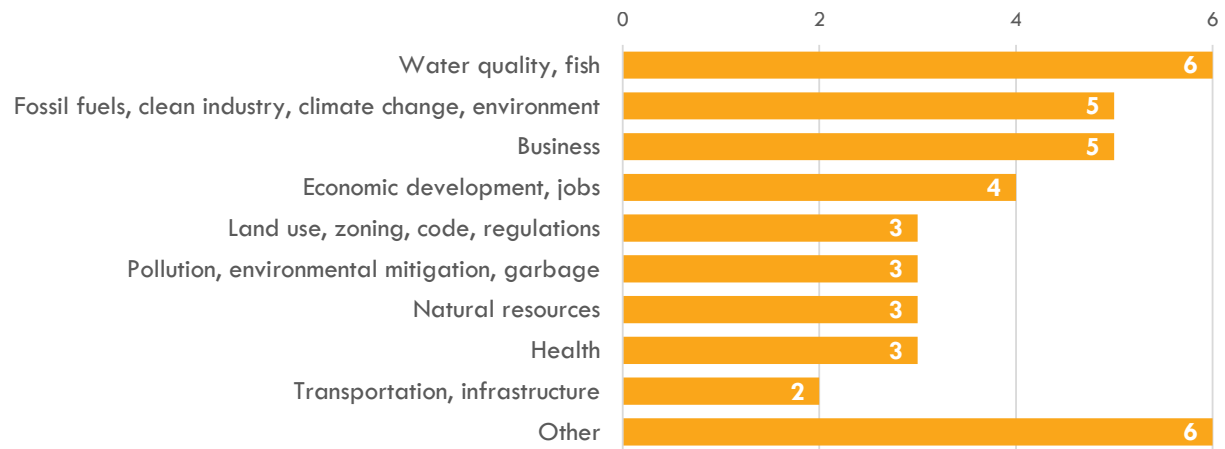


Source: BERK, 2021.

General Comments

Some meeting participants provided general comments about the Tideflats, including discussion of water quality and fish habitat; reduction of fossil fuels and increased clean industry; concerns with climate change and the environment; and interest in business, economic development, and jobs. Exhibit 42 shows these themes.

Exhibit 42. Themes of Input: General Comments about the Tideflats (21 responses)



Source: BERK, 2021.

Appendix A APRIL 2021 INTERIM SUMMARY

This interim summary is an early version of Engagement Summary compiled in early April 2021, before all engagement efforts were complete and all input was received.

Vision

- A thriving world-class port that's home to clean, sustainable business.

"The Port is the premier port on the West Coast. A place of technological innovators. People choose Tacoma over Vancouver, Los Angeles."

"Tacoma is the first port in the World to successfully navigate the transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy and still have a strong economic base."
- The working waterfront continues to offer good jobs to a diverse range of people.

"Prioritize and employment and manufacturing jobs, which is one of the most racially and ethnically diverse fields."
- Water is clean and marine resources continue to recover as habitat is restored.

"Waters have never been cleaner because of foresight of prior generations."

"Nothing could be better being on the water in the Fall and do some fishing. Drop a pot or two for crab. I would like to do that again and actually catch something."
- Cooperation and collaboration across the Port, City, and Puyallup Tribe.

"The next generation will be innovators and will be able to work together."
- Tacoma is an attractive place to live and work.

"I want my college-aged kids to want to return and raise their families. No emissions, spills, incidents—clean air and water. Proud Tacoma that great grandchildren can inherit."
- Resilient, modern infrastructure creates efficiencies between roadways, railways, and waterways.

"We need to electrify as much as we can—we need 30% more power than we have right now."

“20 years from now, Tideflats will be a place where we have the infrastructure that is needed to connect us to the rest of the world.”

- Additional transit service and green space make the Tideflats a “place for people” to work, play, and learn.

“Hope that will still have access and views to water and that every 7th grader has access to the water.”

“The Shoreline is walkable, fewer cars, more people on foot and transit.”

“In 20 years, you can get to jobs in the Port or Tideflats via transit.”

- Visible cultural representation of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians through public art or a cultural center.

Favorite Features

- The Port, the Tideflats’ function as a working waterfront, and the jobs located within the Tideflats.
- Connections to nature and natural resources, including views of Mount Rainier, a unique topography, wildlife, and habitat.
- The diversity of uses in the Tideflats:

“Like the interconnectivity between natural wildlife and human development and infrastructure. Example - ducks use the stormwater area near his building as a training area to teach their ducklings how to swim. They have built a ramp to help ducklings.”

“Diversity of business vs. nature, interactions historic vs. modern, maritime vs. non-maritime. One of my favorite conglomerations of all that in one space.”

- Connections to tribal culture:

“We paddle near the 1,000’s of containers in the Port. It is beautiful to be in the Tideflats. We want to do our traditional way of life. It gives a sacred view of the area that do not know to natives and non-natives to see our history in this area. We want to be able to still say our stories in this place. It is an anchor that keeps us connected to this land. This is who we are and where we came from. This is our religion and we have duties of things that need to be done in a good way. This place needs to allow us to pass down that knowledge.”

- Infrastructure like bridges, Port of Tacoma Road, or the Thea Foss Waterway.
- Recreation, including trails, waterfront spaces, and access to water.

Features that Should Stay the Same

- The jobs located within the area and a healthy environment.
- Environmental considerations including maintaining habitat for wildlife and salmon, minimizing pollution, and cleaning up polluted areas.

Features that Should Change

- Improving the sustainability of the Tideflats, including reducing usage of fossil fuels, cleaning up polluted areas, increasing the amount of healthy habitat, and improving water quality.

Strengths

- Proximity to major on-land transportation corridors as well as Sumner and the warehousing district.
- Availability of clean electricity via hydroelectric power.
- Location relative to Asia and position as one of few west coast ports.
- Natural deep-water port brings in deep containers without the need to dredge.
- Role as economic engine for the county, region, and country.
- Robust employment opportunities, including diverse entry points and pathways to jobs opportunities.

“Concentration of highest paying jobs in Pierce County – an economic engine.”

“Port is a huge concentration for people in the region who don’t have university degrees. A great equalizer in many ways and supports low income and BIPOC pops with jobs.”

- Available workforce.

“You have a successful port because of the people who work here.”

- Natural and urban setting makes this a desirable region in which to live, work, and play.

“At the base of Mt. Rainier.”

“Also located in a region where people want to live and be not located in the middle of nowhere.”

“Prime public recreation area, primarily the Dick Gilmer launch.”

- Interconnected mix of businesses.

“Interconnectedness – able to make changes faster and responsive”

“Variety of industry in the port that has a robustness to it that can ride through different economic cycles.”

- Resilient natural environment.
- Culture and tradition of the Puyallup Tribe, including their efforts to protect the natural environment.

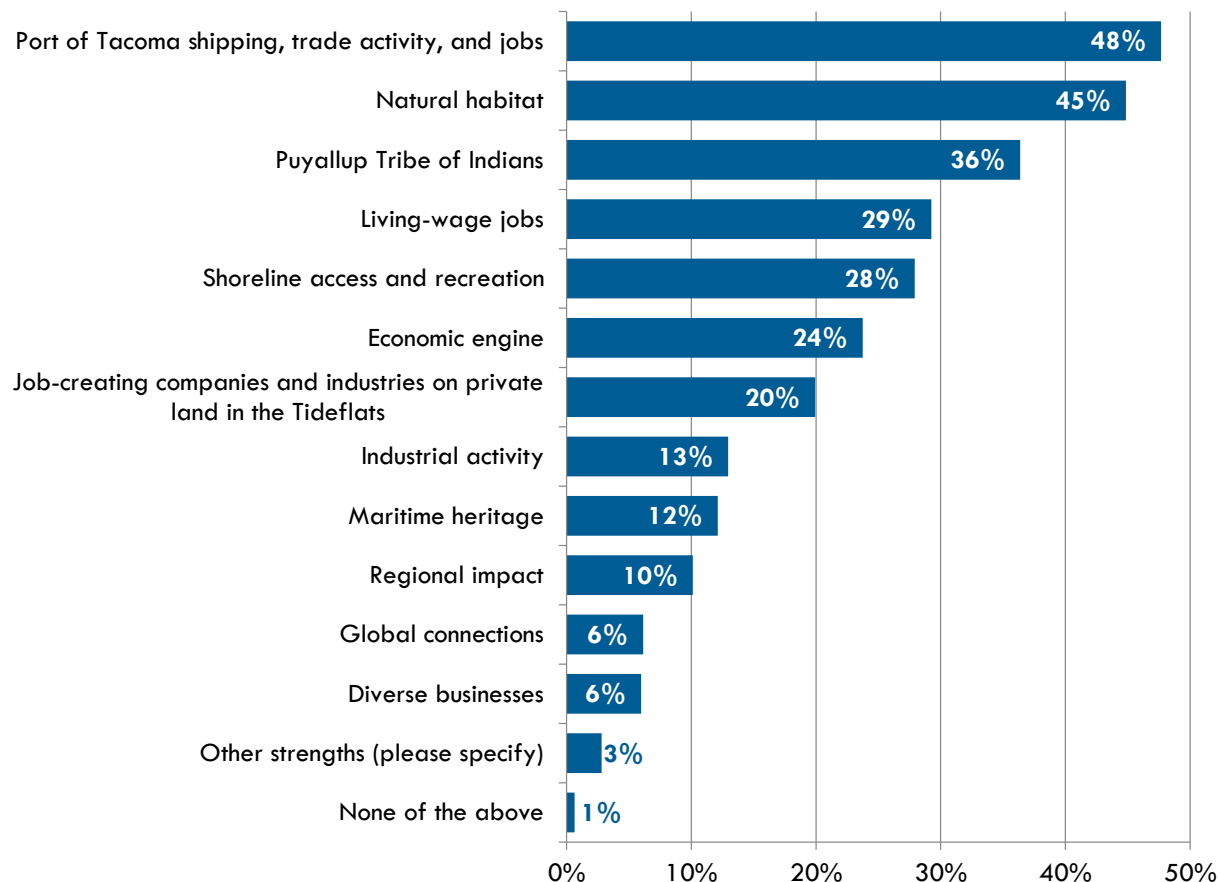
“Feel honored to be in area with the strength and tenacity of the Tribe.”

“75% of tribal members live on or near reservation, it is their homeland forever, continuing to improve environmental baseline is essential.”

- Exhibit 43 shows survey responses to a question about the most important strengths of the Tideflats. Respondents identify the Port of Tacoma, natural habitat, and the Puyallup Tribe of Indians as the top three strengths of the Tideflats. Respondents are also likely to identify living-wage jobs and shoreline access as top strengths.

Exhibit 43. Survey Respondents' Opinions on the Tideflats' Most Important Strengths

Survey Question: “What are the most important strengths of the Tideflats? Not sure? Try this question instead: What is your favorite part about the Tideflats? Please select your top three.”



Source: BERK, 2021.

Challenges

- Connecting the community to the Tideflats: The area is underappreciated because people do not understand the activities that occur and their economic significance. Community members also have “historical baggage” around the past uses, especially the smelter.
- Lack of cohesion in the existing mix of uses.
- Complex interests, including industrial businesses, tribal interests: Community members recognize the complexity of the study area’s location and the need to work around a range of interests and issues.

- Infrastructure issues, especially around transportation: Deferred maintenance on roads and advances in technology have created the need for infrastructure upgrades. Attracting newer industries will require infrastructure investments as well.
- Lack of funding to clean up contaminated sites, make infrastructure investments and ongoing maintenance.
- Legacy and ongoing contamination and poor environmental conditions.
- Climate change.
- Community divisiveness, resistance to change, and lack of shared vision.
- Attracting industrial development that's cleaner, greener, and with economic pathways: Community members recognize that attracting new industrial development or retrofitting existing businesses are not easy propositions.

Opportunities

- Collaboration and shared vision that can retain and attract businesses.
"We can set a strong example for planning in a positive way, set a fantastic example of working with the tribe. Navigating the many interests is a barrier that we have to work our way through."
- Potential to grow a low carbon climate friendly economy.
"The same geography that gives it the advantages are the ones that threaten it."
- Continuing to be an employment center.
"Keep and expand industrial jobs that can fuel an inclusive economy in a region that needs those kinds of jobs, support small businesses."
- Leadership in how modern manufacturing industrial center can look like.
"Industry is biggest opportunity."
"Green environmental initiatives, ability to pilot different technologies, sustainable ports using more electrification, innovative stormwater treatments, more connectivity."
- Opportunity to show a working port and community can coexist.
- Restoration of the natural environment.
"restoration projects in a comprehensive way that doesn't just correct what has been broken but prepares us for climate change and allow us to adapt. "
"Cleaning of water going into the Puyallup River and the Hylebos and Wapato."

- Connections to the rest of the world.

"This place connects us to the rest of the world with shipping. Opportunity to sell to the world. And opportunity to bring in from the world. This place informs us of the rest of the world."

- Access to training and employment opportunities and providing hands-on skills and trades for communities of color.

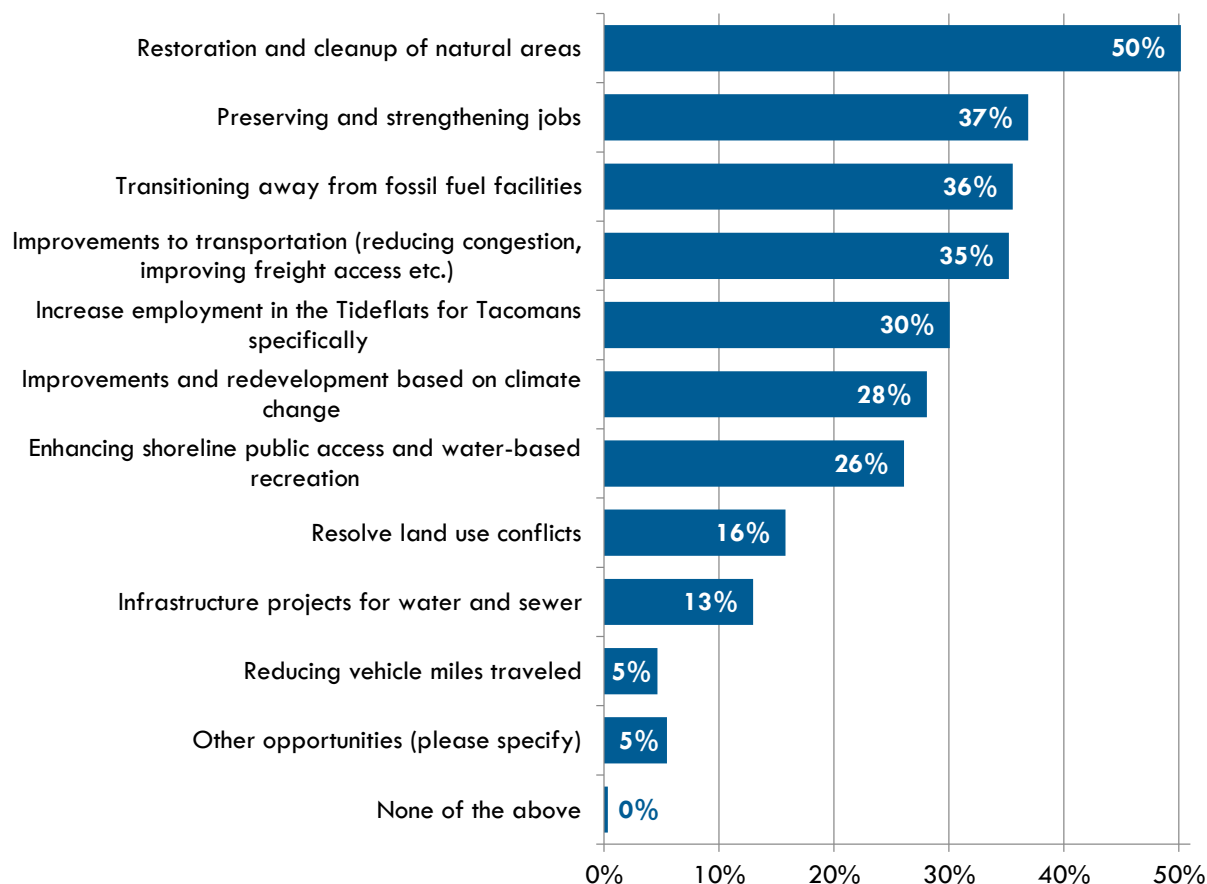
"Youth not on a baccalaureate path can enter great paying jobs with benefits and support their family. Paid training and water access are unique in the maritime industry."

- Improved transportation connections, public transit infrastructure, especially for homeless.
- Some specific opportunities referenced include the use underused or unused land with potential for economic opportunity in collaboration with sustainability, repairing the sewer plant and the opportunity to address homeless needs and clean up garbage.

Exhibit 44 shows survey responses to a question about the biggest opportunities in the Tideflats. Half of survey respondents say that restoration and cleanup of natural areas is one of the top three opportunities in the Tideflats. Respondents are also likely to identify preserving and strengthening jobs, transitioning away from fossil fuel facilities, and improvements to transportation as top opportunities.

Exhibit 44. Survey Respondents' Opinions on the Tideflats' Biggest Opportunities

Survey question: “What are the biggest opportunities in the Tideflats? Not sure? Try this question instead: What would you like to see added or improved through the Tideflats subarea plan? Please select your top three.”



Source: BERK, 2021.

Appendix B **STAKEHOLDERS**

Stakeholders

There are a variety of stakeholders with an interest in this plan. In addition to the stakeholders identified in the Work Plan, below an initial set of stakeholders by stakeholder group. This list is intended as a “living list” and will be iteratively updated as the planning process unfolds.

Exhibit 45 Initial Stakeholders by Group

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder
Community Members	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Hearing and visually impaired individuals▪ Non-English speakers▪ Older residents▪ People of color▪ Tribal members▪ Northeast Tacoma Neighborhood Council▪ New Tacoma Neighborhood Council▪ South Tacoma Neighborhood Council
Port Users	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Shipping lines▪ Beneficial cargo owners▪ Smaller business owners and employees▪ Port tenant▪ Northwest Horticultural Council and Washington Wheat Growers Commission▪ Automobile importers▪ Aerospace, trucking, and rail▪ United States Customs and Homeland Security▪ Recreational users▪ Joint Base Lewis McChord (JBLM)▪ Academic institutions that do research in/utilize port area
Regional Economic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ City of Sumner▪ City of Lakewood▪ Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce▪ Manufacturing Industrial Council
Labor	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ ILWU Local 23▪ P.C. Building and Construction Trades▪ Pierce County Labor Council▪ Trucking Owner Operators Association▪ Water navigation pilots

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder
Workforce Development Entities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ University of Washington Tacoma ▪ Community colleges ▪ Trade organizations
Elected officials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Steering Committee ▪ City Council ▪ Port Commission ▪ Tribal Council
Environmental Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Friends of Hylebos Wetlands ▪ Tahoma Audubon Society ▪ 350 Tacoma ▪ Advocates for a Cleaner Tacoma ▪ Earthcorps ▪ Forterra ▪ Surfrider ▪ CCL ▪ Citizens for a Healthy Bay ▪ Puyallup Watershed Initiative
Community Organizations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Sea Scouts ▪ NW Immigrants Rights Project ▪ La Resistencia ▪ Foss Waterway Development Authority ▪ Centro Latino ▪ Tacoma Urban League ▪ Asia Pacific Cultural Center
Local, State & Regional Agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Department of Ecology (to expedite environmental review) ▪ Metro Parks Tacoma ▪ Emergency planning commission ▪ Washington State Department of Transportation Freight and Rail Office (WSDOT) ▪ Washington State Department of Commerce ▪ Washington State National Guard ▪ Pierce Transit ▪ Department of Natural Resources ▪ Pierce Conservation District
Boards and Commissions	<p>City of Tacoma</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Police and fire ▪ Transportation Commission ▪ Planning Commission ▪ Sustainable Tacoma Commission ▪ Mayor's Youth Commission ▪ Transportation Commission ▪ Human Rights Commission ▪ Commission on Disabilities

Stakeholder Group	Stakeholder
	Port of Tacoma ■ Port Commission Puyallup Tribe ■ Planning Commission ■ Fisheries Commission City of Fife ■ Planning Commission Pierce County ■ Pierce County Planning Commission
Adjacent Jurisdictions	■ Boards and Commissions

Appendix C TIDEFLATS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING 5 SUMMARY

April 15, 2021 | 4:00 – 5:30 pm | Zoom Webinar

Members Present		Staff	Consultants
<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bill Adamson▪ Joel Baker▪ Tony Belot▪ Frank Boykin▪ Lexie Brewer▪ Joe Bushnell▪ Tom Deming▪ Tom Ebenhoh	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bruce Kendall▪ Melissa Malott▪ Bruce Martin▪ Yvonne McCarty▪ Tiffany Speir (alternate)▪ Andrew Troske▪ Ryan Windish (alternate)▪ Karen Zima	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Steve Atkinson, City of Tacoma▪ Andrew Strobel, Puyallup Tribe of Indians▪ Deirdre Wilson, Port of Tacoma▪ Evette Mason, Port of Tacoma	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Deborah Munkberg, BERK Consulting▪ Rebecca Fornaby, BERK Consulting▪ Radhika Nair, BERK Consulting▪ Marcia Wagoner, BERK Consulting

Meeting Summary

Welcome and meeting purpose

Consultant provided a review of the meeting agenda.

Project status update

Consultant gave a brief report on project status and schedule, describing upcoming activities, including a community meeting on May 13 and project team work on developing proposal alternatives.

Interim visioning findings overview

Consultant described visioning findings through March 31, including panel discussions, meetings in a box, focus group meetings, and an online survey. Selected survey findings were discussed, including those shown in the charts on the following pages.

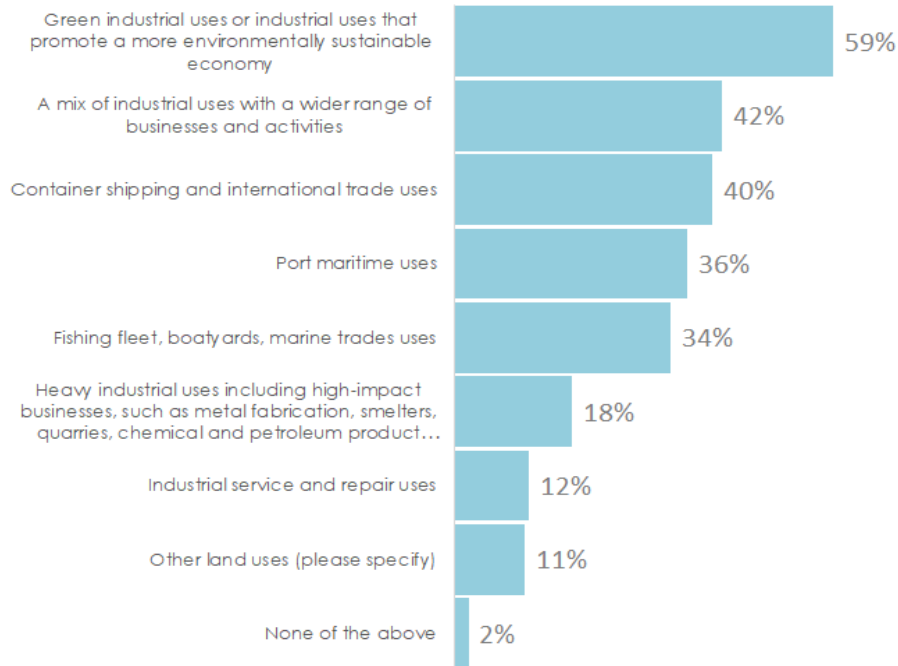
TAG members and staff shared experiences leading meeting in a box sessions and the TAG discussed their thoughts on the interim findings:

- Surprising that people didn't note that during the pandemic businesses in the Tideflats were designated as critical infrastructure and essential workers.

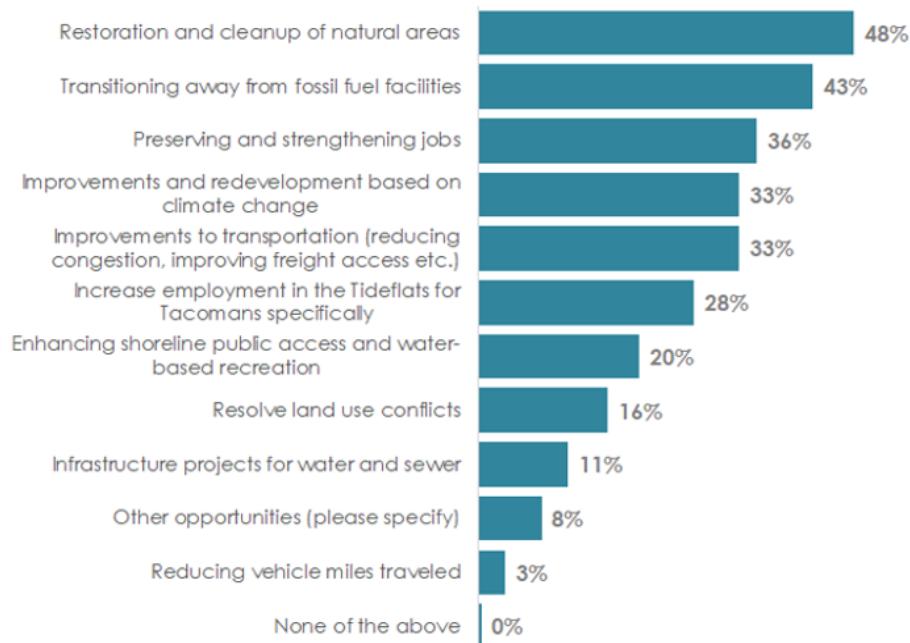
- Not surprised about diversity of opinion or that people are not aware that jobs in the Tideflats are essential. A lot was driven by the way that the questions were posed and by the degree of understanding that individuals have about the Tideflats.
- Wondering about representation of the community as a whole, not sure whether findings are definitive about the vision. Recreational part not being in there as much was a surprise, especially with respect to activation of waterways.
- Broad stakeholders have been involved in process. Want to push back on the implication that if people are not experts, then their opinion is not as important. Visioning should be broad and does include reaching out to others.
- Response to prior comment: If engaged in recreation as a principle way of accessing the Tideflats, then know a lot of about recreation and comments will focus on recreation. Someone who doesn't know a lot about recreation, won't be able to comment.
- People do speak to what they care about. Notion that people care about jobs and the environment. Should view this as the community rejecting the dichotomy between jobs and the environment. People are saying "yes and" Don't know any person whole believes there is conflict between jobs and the environment.

Interim Survey Findings Shared

Question: “What kinds of industrial land uses should be emphasized in the Tideflats study area over the next 20 years? Please select your top three.”*



Question: “What are the biggest opportunities in the Tideflats? Please select your top three.”*



* results through March 31, 2021.

Alternatives discussion

Consultants provided a brief presentation describing the environmental impact statement (EIS) process and the role of alternatives. Consultant also presented some examples of alternatives from EISs of industrial centers in other jurisdictions. TAG discussed alternatives in responses to the following questions. A summary of the discussion follows:

- What concepts/big ideas do you want to see reflected in the alternatives?
- Having heard from others, what themes, questions, or other thoughts do you have?

Summary of discussion:

- Thinking about how the character of the energy uses in the Tideflats impacts the economy. Need to understand the impact of changing fuel mixes in our economy as they are happening.
- A big idea from NE Tacoma identified about 4 years is a concept of a buffer zone. Community is interested in going for a property transition, such as with the Thea Foss peninsula. Thea Foss peninsular is a great example of a balance of community assets, preservation of industry, preservation of housing. Missing that along Marine View Drive. Get creative about how can identify the right mix of businesses along that side of the Tideflats.
- Transition needs to happen in the MIC along Marine View Drive, needs to change to allow a mix of none industrial uses within the MIC.
- In the buffer zone discussion, include consideration of property vegetation that actually acts as a buffer.
- Second the importance of vegetation to protect people from noise, prevent erosion.
- How are the alternatives going to balance manufacturing versus distribution and warehousing, versus cranes, etc. How that mix will look? Warehouse and distribution has a different look and footprint than manufacturing.
- Add to comment about mix of industrial uses. Agree with comments re water uses taking priority. Plan should prioritize water dependent uses, therefore ask the question if this is a good place for warehouse if not water dependent.
- Along with balancing of uses, look at different scales of uses
- Think about entire MIC as a whole, a lot of concrete surfaces needed for industrial uses. Opportunity in some areas for tree canopy growth to help mitigate environmental concerns. Waterways, shoreline areas that could help with growth and protect against erosion. This is an alternative approach to hardening the shoreline. Good for people who work there as well as general public. Should use greenery to complement industry.
- Important to understand the importance of water dependent uses, their growth and evolution over time in the Tideflats. Protect businesses that have to be on the water to function and to create jobs. Port has been in operation of for 100 years and has done a lot of things amazingly well, but also hiccups along the way.

- Should make sure to recognize that we are an important point in global trade. Port complex in Puget Sound is fundamental to global trade is important to all of us. Port has very special relationship with Alaska and Hawaii, which depend on ships from POT to bring them food and other necessities that they need to live. Relationship not found in ports in other locations.
- Importance of water dependent/recreation dependent uses. Should capture these uses. Vegetation and exploring other elements that would help to mitigate and help with noise protection.
- Underscore that Tideflats industrial lands are a unique regional hub in itself of commercial transportation, energy infrastructure, maritime operations, proximity to water related resources. What is provides to the community is second to none.
- Recognize that proximity to water is essential to all alternatives. What would different or increased transportation options to the Tideflats look like. Or maybe greener transportation. Consider an option with more uses transitioning to more electrification and/or greener uses.
- City of Lakewood perspective: Tideflats is a key location fo freight mobility. Location of port and industrial uses that are water dependent is the foundation of what this plan should focus on. Over time consideration of buffering and energy sources should rise from that.
- JBLM perspective – Tideflats is critical location recognition of dependency for national defense in terms of fuel lines to the port.
- Completely agree that we are completely a port on the premier stage. We should think about shipping lines, mariners that come on ships. Opportunity to keep those shipping lines here and make sure that mariners that are here enjoy their time so that they want to come here more often.
- Use of Tideflats can be improved with overall improvements to the road network in the surrounding area. Existing infrastructure improvements. Substantial infrastructure of electric infrastructure to reduce emissions. Transition to cleaner and more efficient use of fuels. Improvements to buffer zones by including transportation to make the place more accessible for workers.
- Plan should be clear about resisting incompatible uses in the MIC. When talk about mixing uses creates problems. ICE center going away, should have never been there.
- Alternatives analysis needs to be responsive to climate change scenarios. Need to have actual scenarios that looking toward in the face of sea level rise. Keep in mind that finite spaces in Tideflats. Primary focus on water dependent uses. Not allowing space for expansion for fossil fuels. Need to pick some primary focuses. Look at the best jobs scenario. Innovation and clean industry have the best job density out there.

Next steps

Consultant noted that on April 30 the period for meetings in a box and the online survey close. The next event will be a virtual community meeting on May 13, which will include a report back on visioning engagement findings and additional discussion of alternatives.