

Curbside Food Waste Collection – Engagement Results

Regional Board Meeting

February 22, 2024

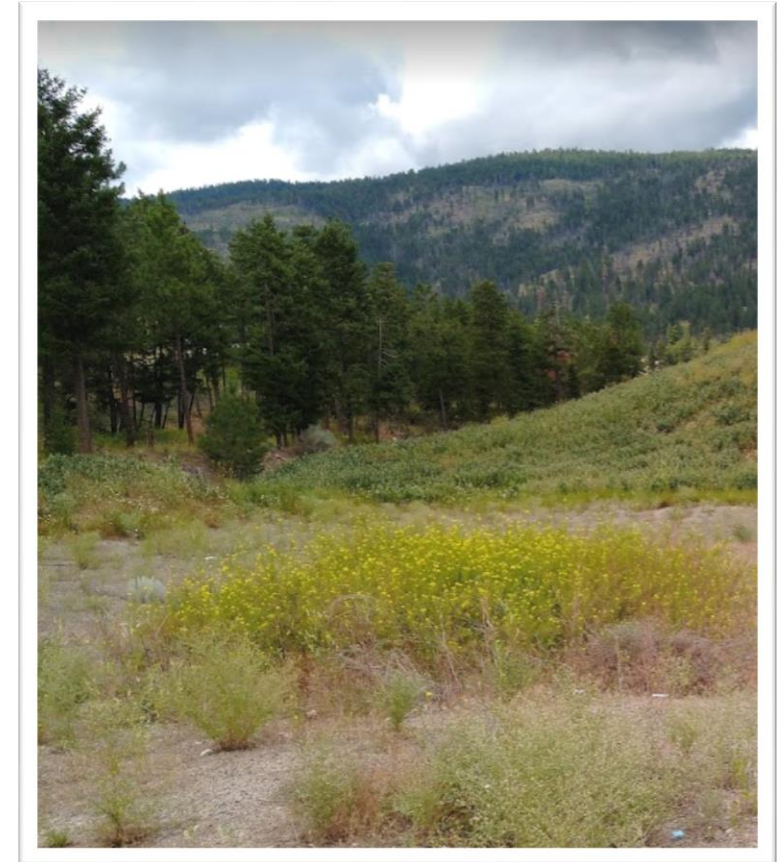
1450 K.L.O. Road
Kelowna, BC, V1W 3Z4
rdco.com



Background: Solid Waste Management Plan

- Required under the Environmental Management Act
- Submitted and approved by the Province
- Public consultation and input required

SWMP: 10 years of direction
Expires Dec 31, 2030



Background: Solid Waste Management Plan

Re-evaluate organic waste diversion opportunities while considering the need to maintain landfill gas collection and use at the landfill



Background: Food Waste Feasibility Study

- Completed Nov 2022
- Presented to the Board Feb 2, 2023
- Study recommended adding food waste to existing yard waste carts as the preferred option



Background: Engagement

- Board was presented with an engagement framework in April 2023
- Urban Systems developed a comprehensive Food Waste Collection Communications & Engagement Strategy, June 2023
- Fall 2023, Phase 1 of engagement began



Update: Fall 2023 engagement



- Resident survey on curbside food waste collection
 - 1800 surveys sent
 - 30% response rate (5% more than expected)



- [Yoursay.rdco.com](https://yoursay.rdco.com) launched
 - 2700 visits to the Your say food waste page
 - 157 comments through the Q&A or forum

What we heard from engagement



Overall support



Cost concerns



Nuisance of wildlife, rodents and odour

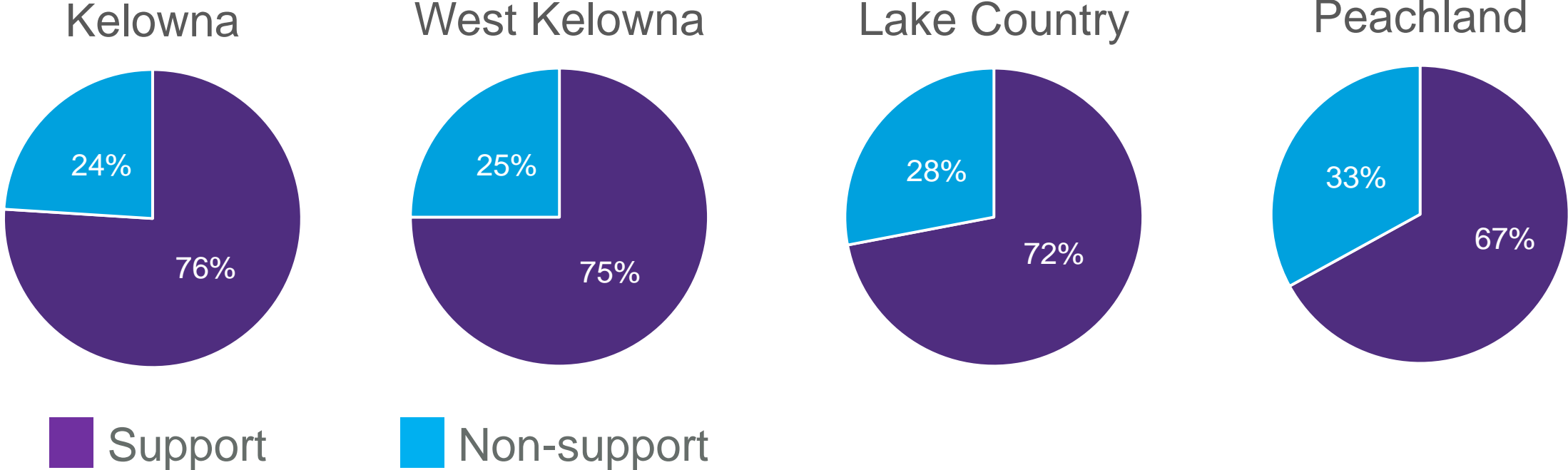


Scheduling concerns

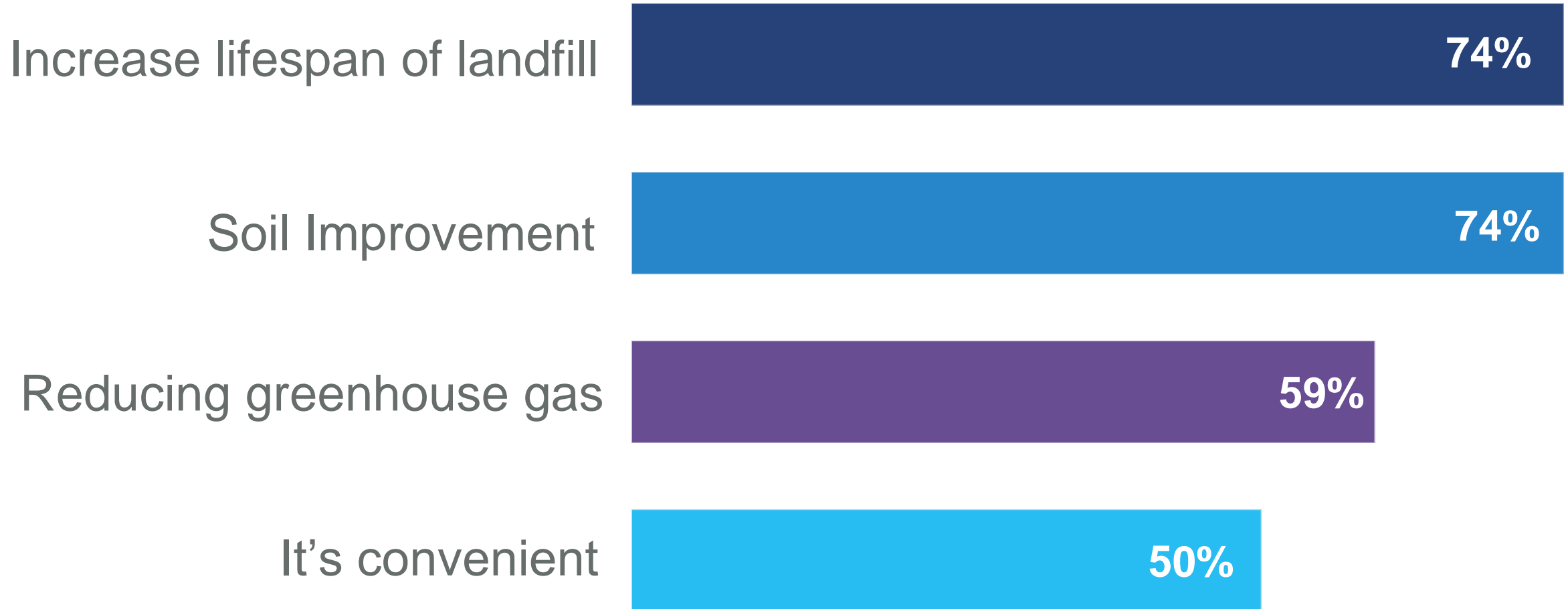
Support for curbside food waste collection

Region wide – 73% support

Support by municipality



Top reasons for support

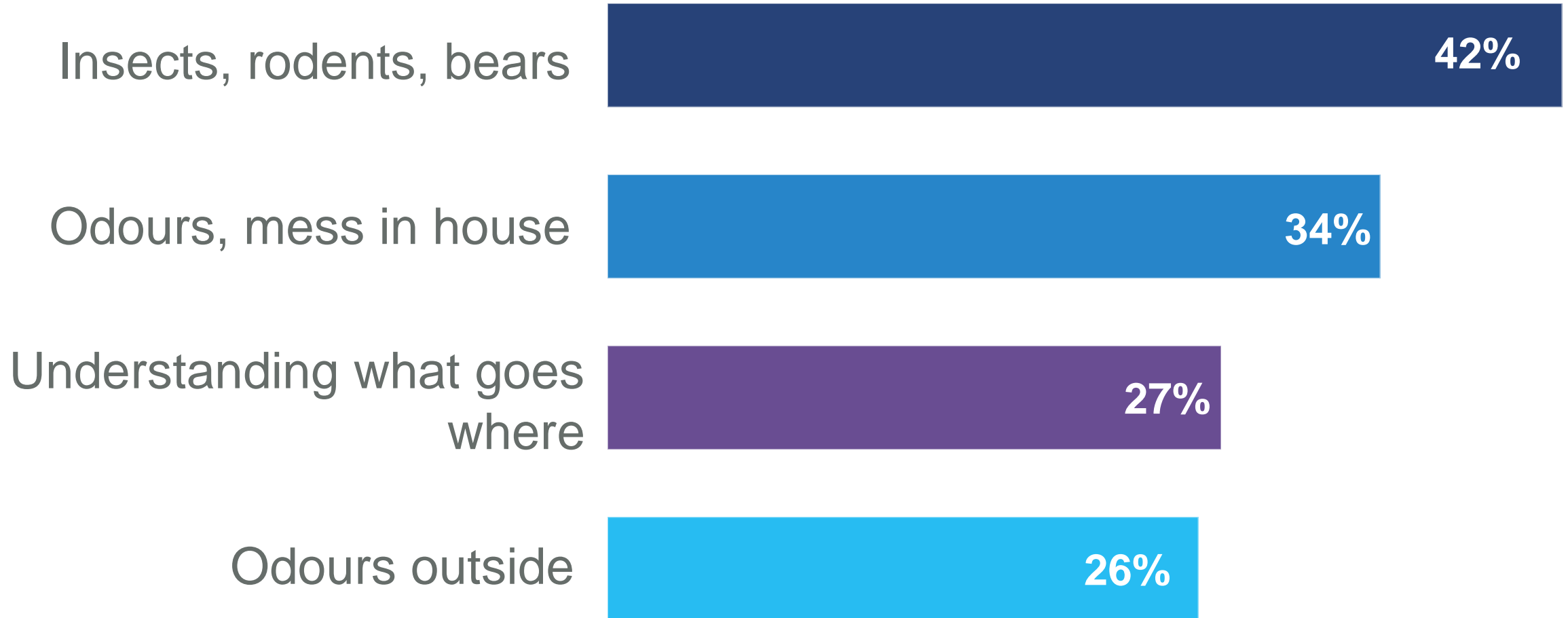


Cost concerns

- 63% willing to pay more for food waste collection depending on cost
- 54% willing to pay \$50/year
- Support decreases as costs increase



Nuisance and other concerns



Schedule concerns

- 53% are concerned about having biweekly (every other week) garbage collection
- 74% can manage extra garbage through cart upsizing or tag-a-bag program
- 73% feel weekly collection of organics (yard and food waste mixed) is an improvement in service



Your say results

- 157 residents commented through the Your say web page
- Majority support curbside food waste collection
- Top concerns
 - Wildlife, rodents
 - Costs



Service concept based on feedback

- Food waste added to yard waste carts (comingle, mixed organics)
- Weekly collection of organics
- Biweekly collection of garbage



Next steps

- **Service design**
 - Where composting or processing will take place
 - Considerations for siting a transfer station
 - Estimating service costs
 - Working through resident concerns
 - Quantifying the impacts of curbside collection frequency
- **Engaging with Municipal Councils**
- **Continue public engagement**

Recommendation

All Directors - Unweighted Corporate Vote - Simple Majority (LGA s.208)

THAT the Regional Board receive the report Curbside Food Waste Collection – Engagement Results from the Associate Director of Engineering Services, dated February 22, 2024 for information.