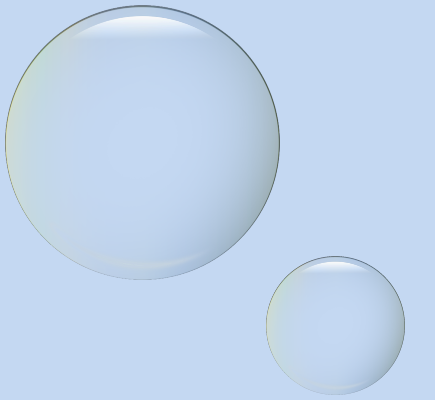




# KAIPĀTIKI COMMUNITY RECOVERY PLAN



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## About the Plan

In 2024 and 2025, Pest Free Kaipātiki engaged the local community to find out:

- how our communities have been and are continuing to respond to and recover from the cyclone and flood events of 2023
- what actions our neighbourhoods and communities would like to take to support further recovery and build a safe, connected and resilient future

## Community Engagement

Over a period of several months PFK conducted surveys and conversations inviting residents, community group representatives, and business owners to consider these questions. Our engagement included:

- 135 survey responses
- 4 Workshops
- 3 classroom activities

## What is 'Recovery Planning'?

Individuals, families, streets and communities suffered in many different ways during and after Cyclone Gabrielle and the Auckland Anniversary Floods of 2023.

While many may feel recovered on a day-to-day basis, when we look a little harder, we may realise the adjustments we have had to make to get on with life with an unresolved slip on our property or street, our local bush walking track having been closed these two years, or friends having had to move out of the area. When there is a storm forecast or heavy rain, we may feel a rush of emotions, and our overall sense of safety in our home may be compromised.

Local recovery planning is about communities working together to identify their recovery needs and make plans to actively address these needs at the street, neighbourhood or community level.

## What did we Find Out? What are the Main Priorities for Kaipātiki Community?

On the front of this plan you will see pictorial depictions of the main themes that emerged from our engagement with the Kaipātiki community.

*Our priorities for social and community wellbeing are:*

- Our neighbourhoods would be thriving if people know each other (across divisions of culture, language and age), supported each other and were kind and friendly - people introducing themselves to their neighbours and having systems for communication and information sharing in their street.
- People would like to attend more community events that are free, family-friendly and allow them to build connections. These could include markets, volunteering opportunities, neighbourhood BBQs and street parties, and cultural events. For some people the challenge is finding out that such events are happening.

*Our priority for environmental wellbeing is:*

- We value our green spaces and environment and the native plants and animals of Kaipātiki and would like to see them kept clean and healthy, with swimmable beaches and a reduction in waste and pest plants and animals.

*Our priorities for economic recovery are:*

- We value initiatives that support self-sufficiency and sustainability, such as food gardens and community composting.
- People shopping locally will support local businesses to stay open.

*Our priorities for our places and spaces are:*

- While many felt they didn't have a lot of control or influence when it comes to the built environment and the economy, many said they would like to engage more with Auckland Council processes, to do more advocacy and that they would like more open dialogue with council representatives directly.
- People can be disaster-ready by clearing gutters and limiting hard ground surfaces.
- Urban planning and building development should follow best practice to limit the impact of floods and storms in future.



# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



What would it look and feel like for your community to be thriving?

## 1. A Strong Sense of Community & Connection:

- Knowing and supporting each other is a very prominent theme, with mentions of neighbours knowing each other by name, looking out for each other, helping each other out, sharing expertise, and a general sense of kindness and friendliness.
- Social interaction and activities: Many respondents desire more social activities, community events (fun runs, Christmas events, local markets, cultural events, family-friendly events), and opportunities for people to connect and build friendships within their neighbourhoods.
- Inclusivity and belonging: A sense of belonging for everyone, with mentions of welcoming and friendly environments where people feel supported and included.

## 2. Safe and Well-Maintained Public Spaces:

- Parks and green spaces: Flourishing, well-kept, and accessible parks and green spaces are frequently mentioned as crucial for a thriving community.
- Cleanliness and upkeep: Good upkeep of public resources (green areas, beaches, etc.) and a community that actively cares for these spaces by not littering.
- Safety and low crime: Feeling safe, with less crime (including specific mentions of American-style violence, shoplifting, vandalism, and theft), is a significant desire. Safer public transport is also highlighted.

## 3. Healthy Natural Environment & Biodiversity:

- Native flora and fauna: A strong desire for more native flora and fauna, flourishing biodiversity, and a healthy natural environment accessible to all.
- Pest and predator control: The vision of a predator-free and pest plant-free environment is mentioned multiple times, with specific hopes for the return of native birds like kiwi and kereru.
- Protection and restoration: Reparation of storm damage to bush and beach areas, preservation of bush, and protecting Kauri trees are important.
- Clean harbour and beaches: A clean harbour and beaches suitable for swimming year-round are desired.

## 4. Localism and Self-Sufficiency:

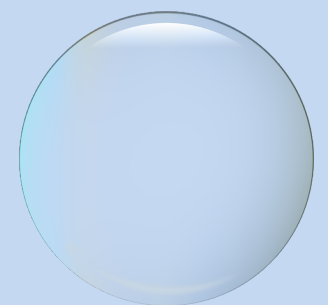
- Supporting local businesses: A community that actively supports local businesses, ideally to the point where people know each other by name in these establishments.
- Local markets are mentioned as a positive aspect of a thriving community.
- Some respondents hope for the neighbourhood to become more easily self-sufficient in the event of disasters and are interested in preparedness.

## 5. Positive and Caring Community Culture:

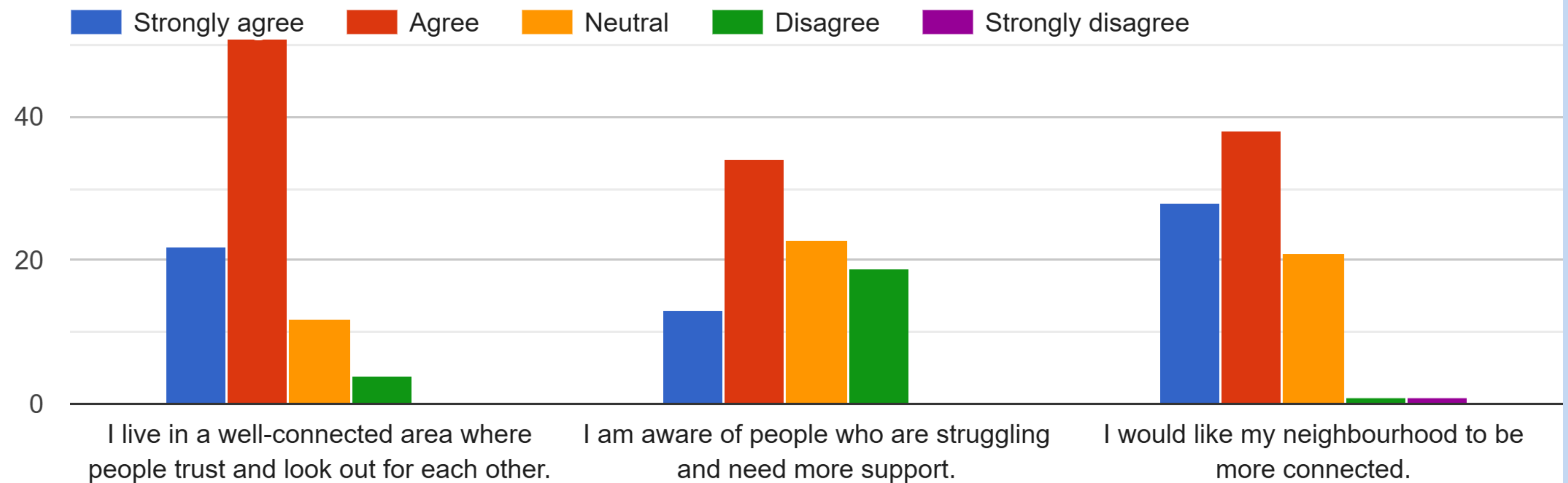
- Happiness and positivity: A general sense of happiness and positivity being spread throughout the community.
- Caring for each other: People looking out for each other and a sense of collective well-being.
- Respect and honesty: The importance of culture respect, honesty, and cleanliness.
- Volunteering and active participation: People getting involved locally and volunteering for causes they believe in.

## 6. Addressing Specific Issues:

- Traffic management: Lower traffic speeds and a sense of peace and quiet are desired.
- Housing: Safe and healthy homes for everyone and a desire for more homeowners versus renters in some responses. Less in-fill housing is mentioned in relation to potential flooding.
- Council engagement: A desire for the local board and council to be more consultative, collaborative, and responsive to the needs and aspirations of locals.



When it comes to you and your whānau's social connections in your neighbourhood and community, how much do you agree with the following statements?



# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



## Actions community members could take to improve social connections

### 1. Increase Community Events and Gatherings:

- More frequent and diverse events: This is the most prominent theme, with suggestions for more free, widely available social events and groups catering to various interests (family-friendly, sports, nature and environmental events).
- Reviving past events: Restarting successful past events like annual street parties and BBQs, markets and outdoor movies.
- Using existing spaces: Making schools more of a community hub outside of school hours and using local parks for free classes and activities.

### 2. Proactive Engagement with Neighbours:

- Introducing oneself to new neighbours and making the effort to meet new people in the area.
- Inviting neighbours for social gatherings and informal get-togethers.
- Making oneself more visible and approachable, waving and saying hello more often.
- Talking to neighbours more: Initiating conversations and building relationships.
- Sharing information within streets: Designating individuals on each street to pass on important information and potentially organise local activities, especially for those less connected digitally.

### 3. Volunteering and Participating in Community Initiatives:

- Volunteering for local causes and encouraging everyone to give a small amount of time to causes they care about.
- Getting involved in existing initiatives: Participating in pest free activities, local green projects, and community-led planning and action.
- Supporting community centres and their programmes.
- Organising community action: Initiating activities like regular street clean-ups.

### 4. Creating Opportunities for Interaction:

- Making communal areas more usable: Ensuring communal spaces are well-maintained to encourage use and social interaction.
- Connecting different age groups: Creating activities that benefit both young and older people.
- Establishing community resources: Setting up community pantries and other support systems for those in need.
- Promoting existing groups: Encouraging membership in organisations like U3A for retirees.

### 5. Communication and Information Sharing:

- Creating local networks for updates: Establishing ways to share information about community events and initiatives.
- Using online platforms: Creating and joining Facebook groups for each street or block to connect and share information with neighbours.
- Raising awareness: Educating people about local issues and opportunities for involvement.



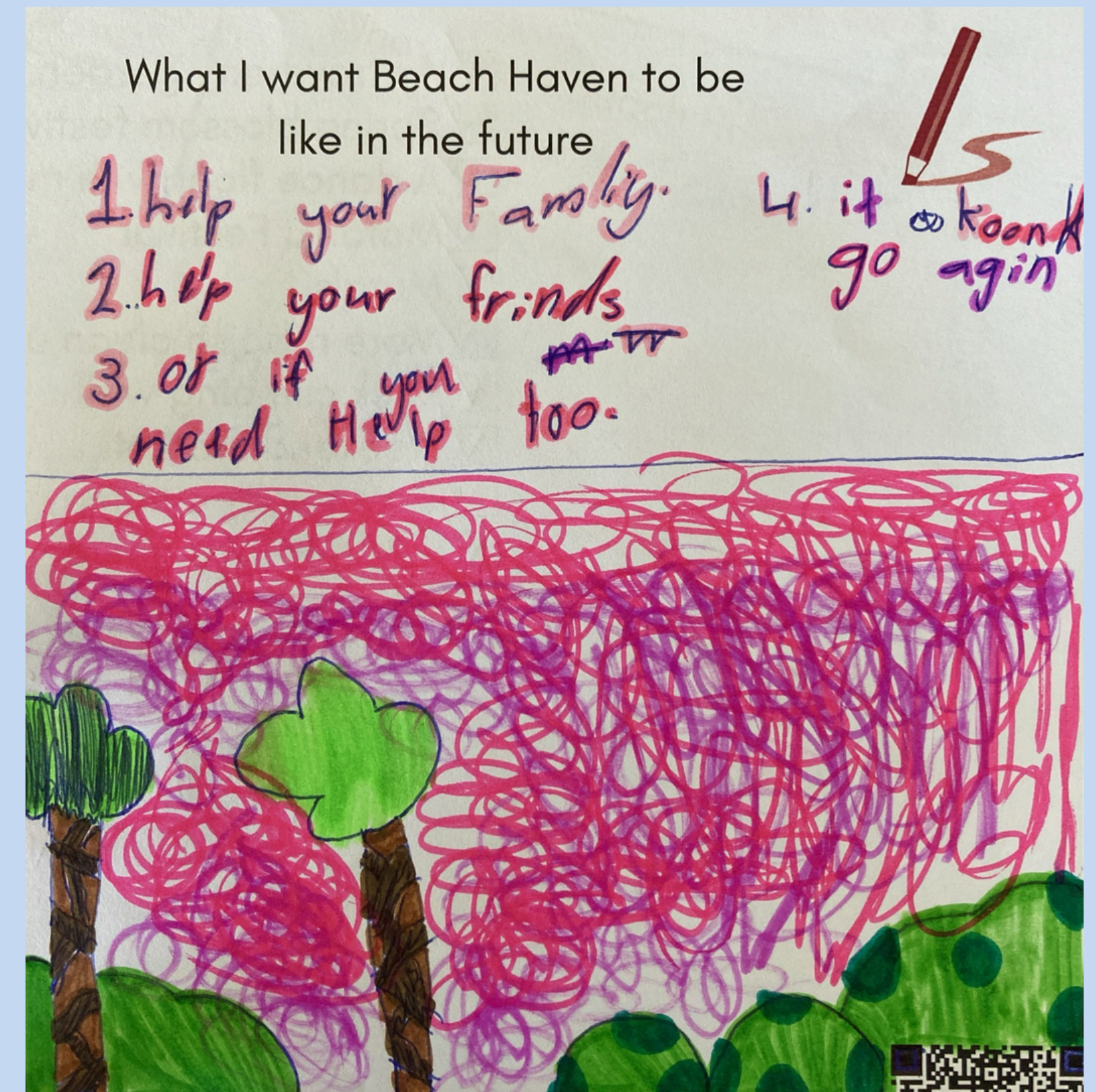
# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

## 6. Addressing Barriers to Connection:

- Improving safety and reducing crime: Addressing crime to create a safer environment where people feel more comfortable interacting.
- Supporting vulnerable populations: Being aware of and helping those in need.
- Promoting respect and inclusivity: Encouraging a culture of respect and support within the community.

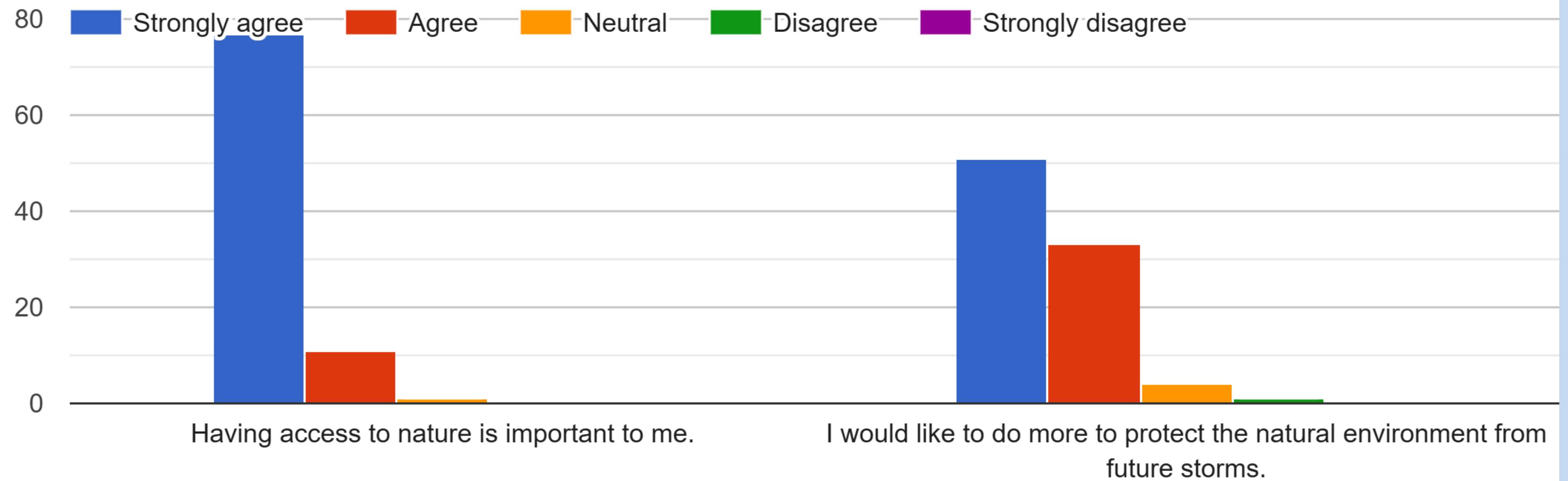
## 7. Personal Actions and Mindset Shifts:

- Being nice to people: Simple acts of kindness can foster better connections.
- Showing up and participating: Actively attending events and engaging with others.





When it comes to your relationship with the natural environment in your area, how much do you agree with the following statements?



# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



Actions community members could take to improve the natural environment in their area:

## 1. Active Participation in Conservation Efforts:

- Predator and pest plant control: More strict and regular removal of pest plants from reserves and personal properties. Biodiversity monitoring.
- Planting native trees and plants to support native birds, bees, and overall biodiversity, as well as aiding stormwater runoff.
- Joining working bees and planting days: Participating in organised community events focused on environmental restoration.

## 2. Responsible Waste Management and Cleanliness:

- Promoting and practicing cleanliness and keeping the community free of litter and rubbish.
- Participating in or organising community clean-up events, including beaches and streets.
- Reducing waste and recycling.

## 3. Improving Stormwater Management:

- Planting to ease stormwater runoff, using gardens and landscaping to manage water flow on personal property.
- Keeping drains clear.
- Advocating for better stormwater infrastructure: Engaging with the council on this issue.
- Understanding and considering water flow when making landscaping decisions.

## 4. Education and Advocacy:

- Educating others: Sharing knowledge about native flora and fauna and encouraging environmentally friendly practices.
- Being an ambassador for native plantings: Promoting the benefits of native plants.
- Advocating to the Council: Raising environmental concerns and supporting relevant initiatives.

## 5. Responsible Personal Practices:

- Creating compost bins: Managing organic waste responsibly.
- Saving water and energy: Conserving resources to reduce environmental impact.

## 6. Community Engagement and Collaboration:

- Working closely with environmental organisations and Auckland Council to achieve greater impact.
- Supporting local environmental groups by volunteering.
- Engaging with Kaipātiki projects: Participating in their initiatives.
- Organising community action: Taking the lead on local environmental projects.





# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:

## 7. Addressing Specific Environmental Concerns:

- Kauri dieback: Mention of taking courses and the desire to assist in areas affected.
- Access to reserves: Desire for better access to and involvement in the upkeep of local reserves.
- Infill housing impact: Concern about the reduction of green spaces due to development.

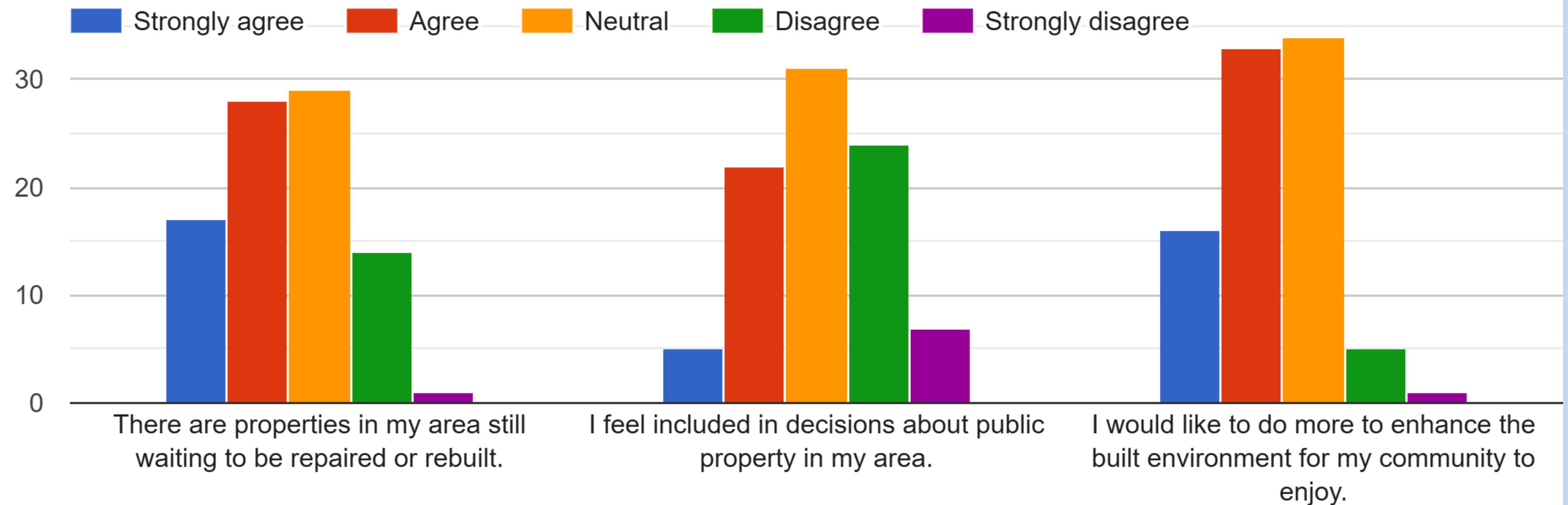
## 8. Seeking Information and Support:

- Needing more information: Some respondents indicate they need more guidance on how to contribute.
- Seeking help with enforcement: Requesting assistance in addressing environmental issues such as pest plants on private properties.





When it comes to your relationship with the built environment in your area, how much do you agree with the following statements?





# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



## Actions community members could take to improve the built environment in their area:

Many respondents indicated they were "not sure" or felt they had limited ability to influence the built environment, particularly if they didn't own property or felt council engagement was lacking. This suggests a potential barrier or feeling of disempowerment for some community members regarding this topic.

### 1. Engaging with Auckland Council:

- Being more connected to council and a desire for better communication and engagement.
- More community consultation and communication on built environment issues.
- Being vocal about community needs: Expressing requirements and concerns to relevant organisations.
- Reporting issues to Council: Informing them about road damage, rundown buildings, and other infrastructure problems.
- Advocating to Council: Pushing for improvements like liveable streets and playground upgrades.

### 2. Community-Led Initiatives and Collaboration:

- Organising community workshops to discuss priorities for the built environment.
- Participating in surveys and consultations: Providing feedback on proposed developments and plans.
- Joining local groups such as place makers or residents' associations to get involved.
- Organising community working bees to address issues like cleaning up, maintaining spaces, or do small-scale improvements.
- Helping rebuild after damage: Participating in recovery efforts if opportunities arise.
- Collaborating with neighbours on property work to avoid negative impacts.

### 3. Maintaining and Improving Existing Spaces:

- Mowing berms and removing weeds: Taking care of public and neglected spaces.
- Keeping personal property in good order: Maintaining houses, yards and berms.

### 4. Advocating for Specific Types of Development and Infrastructure:

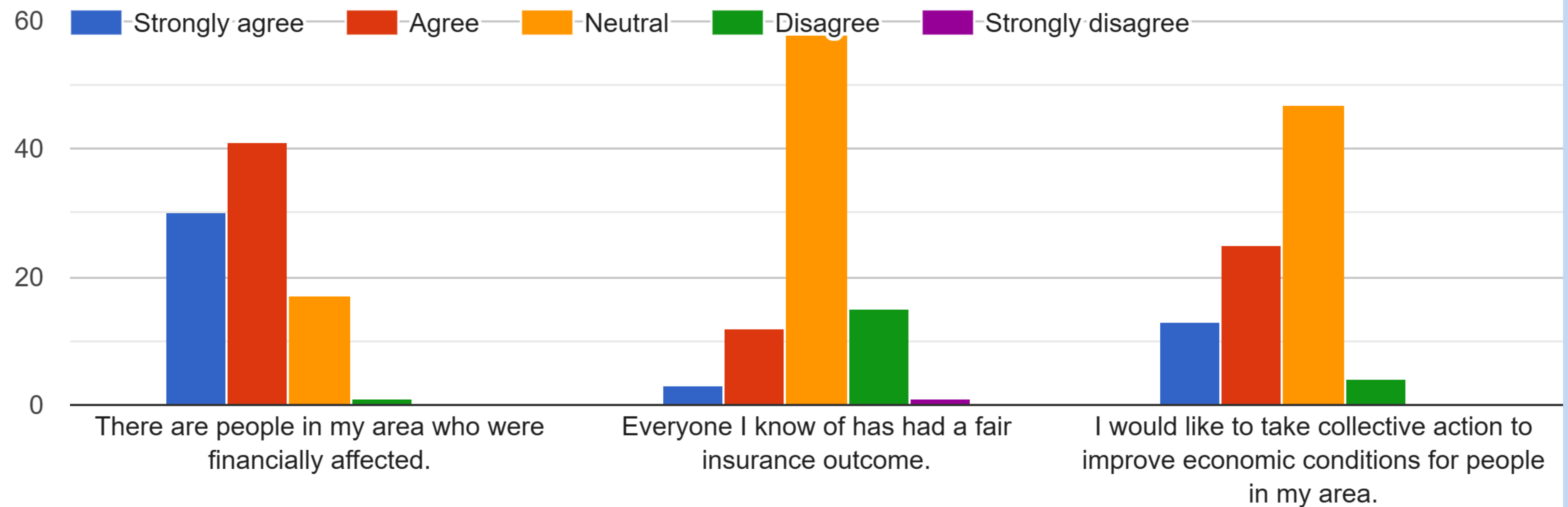
- Creating pedestrian-friendly areas.
- More green space and less concrete/infill: Prioritising natural elements in development.
- Improved infrastructure: Addressing issues like roads, drainage, and retaining walls.

### 6. Addressing Negative Aspects:

- Pushing for repairs to damaged infrastructure: Ensuring necessary maintenance is carried out.
- Addressing rundown properties: Reporting or encouraging improvement of neglected buildings.



When it comes to your financial, economic and livelihood recovery, how much do you agree with the following statements?





# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



## Actions community members could take to improve economic conditions in their area:

A significant number of respondents indicated they were "not sure," "don't know," or felt limited in their ability to directly impact the economic conditions in their community. This highlights a common perception that economic improvement is for the most part driven by larger forces (government, businesses) rather than individual actions. However, the suggestions provided focus on local support, resource sharing, and community-level initiatives.

### 1. Supporting Local Businesses and Economy:

- Supporting local businesses: Actively choosing to spend money at local shops and services instead of larger chains and keeping money circulating within the community.
- Promote employment opportunities: Encouraging job creation within the local area.

### 2. Community Support and Resource Sharing:

- Supporting food banks and charities: Donating to organisations that help those in need.
- Promoting tool libraries, communal gardens, food shares: Initiatives that help people save money and access resources.
- Community gardens and pantries: Creating local sources of food and support.
- Helping out seniors and those in need.

### 3. Advocacy and Engagement:

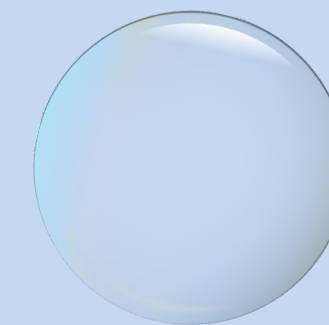
- Making submissions on legislation: Participating in the political process to influence economic policy.
- Petitioning local MPs: Urging them to take action to improve the community's economic situation.
- Being vocal to the needs of the community: Raising awareness of economic challenges.
- Promote proper education/forums about these topics: Increasing understanding of economic issues.
- Going to meetings and being aware of local needs.

### 4. Personal Financial Responsibility and Sustainability:

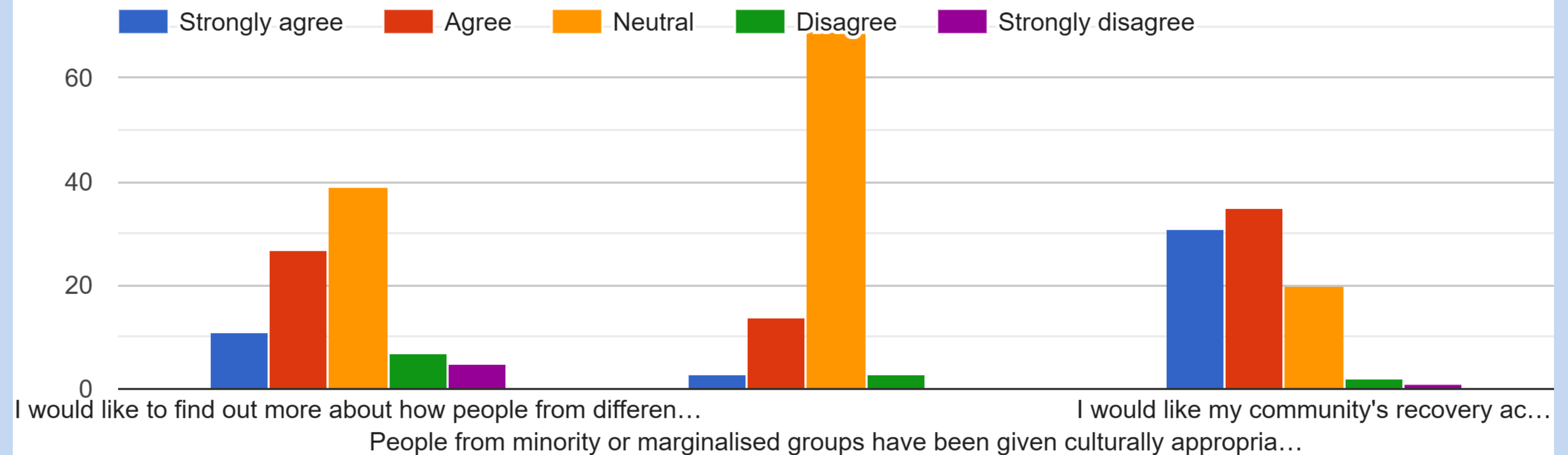
- Grow more food locally: Reducing reliance on external food sources and costs.
- Improve/increase cycling to reduce transportation costs.
- Carpooling: Sharing transport costs.

### 5. Addressing Systemic Issues:

- Advocating for a rethink of tax, property, and education: Recognising the need for broader systemic change.
- More Kiwi Build housing: Addressing housing affordability.



When it comes to cultural recovery in your area, how much do you agree with the following statements?





# THEMES FROM THE COMMUNITY SURVEY:



## Actions community members could take to improve cultural norms and behaviours in their area:

Similar to the previous question, a number of respondents indicated they were "not sure" how to take action in this area or felt it was already a fairly inclusive community. Some also expressed a preference for focusing on shared community values rather than emphasising cultural differences. However, the suggestions provided highlight the importance of active engagement, promoting understanding, and celebrating the diversity within the community.

### 1. Promoting Inclusivity and Understanding:

- Being sensitive and promoting inclusivity: A general commitment to making everyone feel welcome.
- Treating all humans the same: Focusing on shared humanity rather than cultural differences.
- Actively challenging discriminatory behaviour.
- Respecting each community: Acknowledging and valuing different cultural groups.
- Knowing and appreciating cultural differences: Learning about and understanding diverse perspectives.
- Self-awareness and respect: Being mindful of one's own cultural biases.
- Being supportive and inclusive of people from different cultural backgrounds.
- Actively embracing new cultures: Going beyond tolerance to genuine acceptance and engagement.

### 2. Fostering Communication and Dialogue:

- Wider communication across different platforms or forums encourages inclusiveness.
- More communication in different languages: Making information accessible to diverse linguistic groups.
- Having meetings or talks at local churches etc.: Utilising community spaces for cultural exchange.
- Engaging in community dialogue: Creating opportunities for conversations about culture and norms.

### 3. Supporting and Participating in Cultural Events:

- Visit cultural events and talk to people from different cultures.
- Encourage and celebrate cultural activities in the community.
- Organize diverse activities for people to learn about each other's cultures and languages.
- Celebrate different festivals and embrace their culture.

### 4. Addressing Barriers and Promoting Representation:

- Ensuring different cultures are represented in community recovery efforts.
- Including the minority in more community-based decisions and gaining feedback on how to be better inclusive culturally.
- Making information available in different languages and through different cultural groups.

### 7. Addressing Systemic Issues:

- Schools promoting tolerance and social harmony and that new cultures be actively embraced.

