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# What We Heard Report

Version 2.0

Official Community Plan Refresh

April 8, 2025

Revised November 13, 2025

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# 1 Summary

The District of Barriere Official Community Plan (OCP) Refresh project began in September 2024 and kicked off public engagement on October 21, 2024 with staff and Council workshops, followed by several engagement activities. The first phase of public engagement for this project included workshops with District staff and Council, six conversations with community groups, and an open house. In addition to the in-person engagement events and direct conversations, an online survey was available November 18 to December 18, 2024, receiving a total of 146 responses.

The first phase of community engagement was to validate the community vision statement, goals, and to understand key challenges, opportunities, and ideas. This first phase also helped the project team learn more about priorities of District residents to begin to update and develop new policies within the OCP.

## Key Themes Heard from the Community – Phase 1

Several key areas of discussion emerged through conversations with the community and feedback received:

- **Affordable and diverse housing.** The community is open to increasing density and offering more housing choices for all ages, including affordable options for youth, young families, and seniors.
- **Investment in infrastructure.** Water and sewer infrastructure needs to be expanded to better serve the community.
- **Revitalization of the Town Centre.** Encouraging new businesses, supporting existing businesses, improving pedestrian mobility, and creating a space that citizens are proud of and attracts tourists and visitors to stop and explore Barriere.
- **Improved walkability and active transportation.** Sidewalks, trail connectivity, and pedestrian safety will improve quality of life and boost the local economy.
- **Access to health care.** Offering more facilities, services, and having health care practitioners available for residents.
- **Amenities and recreation.** Activities for youth, a recreation centre, and more opportunities to recreate will improve the quality of life for residents and encourage families to make Barriere home.

## **Community Feedback on Draft Directions – Phase 2**

Following Phase 1 engagement, the project team developed draft policy directions that built on the key themes heard from the community. A second open house was held on November 5, 2025, at the Seniors' Centre, with approximately 40 people in attendance to review and provide feedback on the draft OCP.

### **Participants were asked to provide input on several key areas:**

- Draft vision and guiding principles
- Land use plan map
- Parks, recreation, and trails mapping
- Four Development Permit Areas (Downtown Core, Yellowhead Corridor, Industrial Lands, and Environmental)
- Housing policy directions

Overall, participants were supportive of the draft directions presented. Feedback was gathered through poster boards, sticky notes, dot voting, and Feedback Frames, allowing community members to express their views on how well the draft OCP reflected the priorities identified in Phase 1.

***A summary of results and feedback can be found throughout Section 5.***

## 2 Background

To ensure the Official Community Plan (OCP) reflects the values of the community, the project team is committed to engaging citizens in an effective and meaningful way. The focus of the first round of engagement was to raise awareness of the OCP Refresh, reach community members, and begin to dig into the community's vision for the future of the District of Barriere.

## 3 Project Timeline

|                                        |                                 |
|----------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Project Start .....</b>             | September 2024                  |
| <b>Phase 1 Public Engagement .....</b> | October – December 2024         |
| <b>District Staff Workshop.....</b>    | October 21, 2024                |
| <b>Council Workshop .....</b>          | October 21, 2024                |
| <b>Open House #1 .....</b>             | November 20, 2024               |
| <b>PlaceSpeak Conversations .....</b>  | November 27 – December 10, 2024 |
| <b>Community Survey .....</b>          | November 18 – December 18, 2024 |
| <b>Prepare Draft OCP .....</b>         | January – October 2025          |
| <b>Open House #2 .....</b>             | November 5, 2025                |
| <b>Adoption .....</b>                  | Winter 2025/2026                |

## 4 Engagement Activities

### 4.1 Community Survey – Phase 1

A community survey was available from November 18 to December 18, 2024. The survey touched on key topics for the OCP and was an opportunity for the project team to learn more about the vision and goals residents have for their community. The survey ran concurrently with in-person engagement to try and capture more perspectives for those unable to participate in person. A digital and paper-copy version were both available. In all, there were 146 respondents to the online survey.

### 4.2 Open House – Phase 1

An open house was held on November 20, 2024, at the Seniors' Centre to gather community members to discuss the project and gather feedback. Questions posed to the community focused on higher-level visioning questions which would help the project team update the OCP's vision and goals. This initial round of community engagement has helped to identify other key areas for updates and the community's support of certain initiatives/updates (such as housing, infrastructure and revitalization of the town centre).

### 4.3 PlaceSpeak – Phase 1

PlaceSpeak is an initiative to tap into the knowledge and ideas held by local community groups and champions. Through small group virtual discussions, the project team was able to ask questions and discuss key topic areas with different interest groups throughout the community and region. These groups represent a broader audience within the community, which allows the project team to better understand the vision for the future of the community, and gain understanding of the key opportunities and issues within Barriere. The following groups were involved:

- Barriere & District Seniors Society
- Barriere Trails Society
- Chamber of Commerce
- Interior Health
- Lower North Thompson Community Forest Society (LNTCFS)
- North Thompson Activity Centre Society (NTACS)

## 4.4 Draft Directions Open House – Phase 2

A second open house was held on November 5, 2025, at the Seniors' Centre to present the draft Official Community Plan (OCP) and gather final community feedback. Approximately 40 people were in attendance and gave feedback on specific topics within the draft OCP. Each topic was presented on a poster board with opportunities to give feedback via sticky notes/comments, dot voting, or Feedback Frames. Topics included:

**Draft Vision Statement and Guiding Principles** – the draft OCP includes an updated vision statement and 11 guiding principles to shape future development.

**Housing Policies** – updated housing policies are broken into five key areas: supportive housing, rental diversity, addressing the aging population, streamlining approvals, and enabling density.

**Development Permit Areas (DPAs)** – three existing DPAs have been updated including Downtown Core, Yellowhead Corridor, and Industrial Lands DPAs. A new Environmental DPA has been included to help protect sensitive environmental and hazard areas within the community.

**Updated Mapping** – including land use map; parks, recreation & trails; and the three existing DPAs (mentioned above). A new map for the new Environmental DPA was also presented at the open house.

## 5 Outcomes & Feedback

The following section summarizes the outcomes from all events outlined in Section 4, Engagement Activities. During Phase 1 engagement, several key themes emerged, including:

- **Affordable and Diverse Housing.** The community supports increasing density and providing more housing options for all age groups, including affordable choices for youth, young families, and seniors.
- **Investment in Infrastructure.** There is a need to expand water and sewer infrastructure to better serve the community.
- **Revitalization of the Town Centre.** Revitalizing the Town Centre to attract new businesses, support existing ones, enhance pedestrian mobility, and create a space that residents are proud of—one that also draws tourists and visitors to explore Barriere.
- **Improved Walkability and Active Transportation.** Enhancing sidewalks, trail connections, and pedestrian safety will improve residents' quality of life and support the local economy.
- **Access to Health Care.** Expanding health facilities and services, with more healthcare practitioners available for residents.
- **Amenities and Recreation.** Offering more activities for youth, building a recreation centre, and increasing recreational opportunities will improve residents' quality of life and encourage families to settle in Barriere.

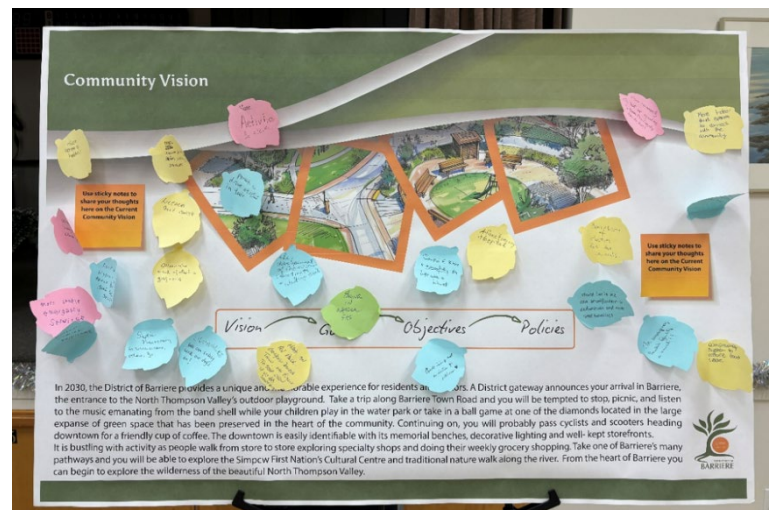
The draft OCP was updated using these themes as a foundation, with the draft document being presented to the community in November 2025. Open house attendees were overall supportive of the direction and draft policies within the draft OCP.



## 5.1 Open House Poster Boards – Phase 1

### Community Vision - feedback

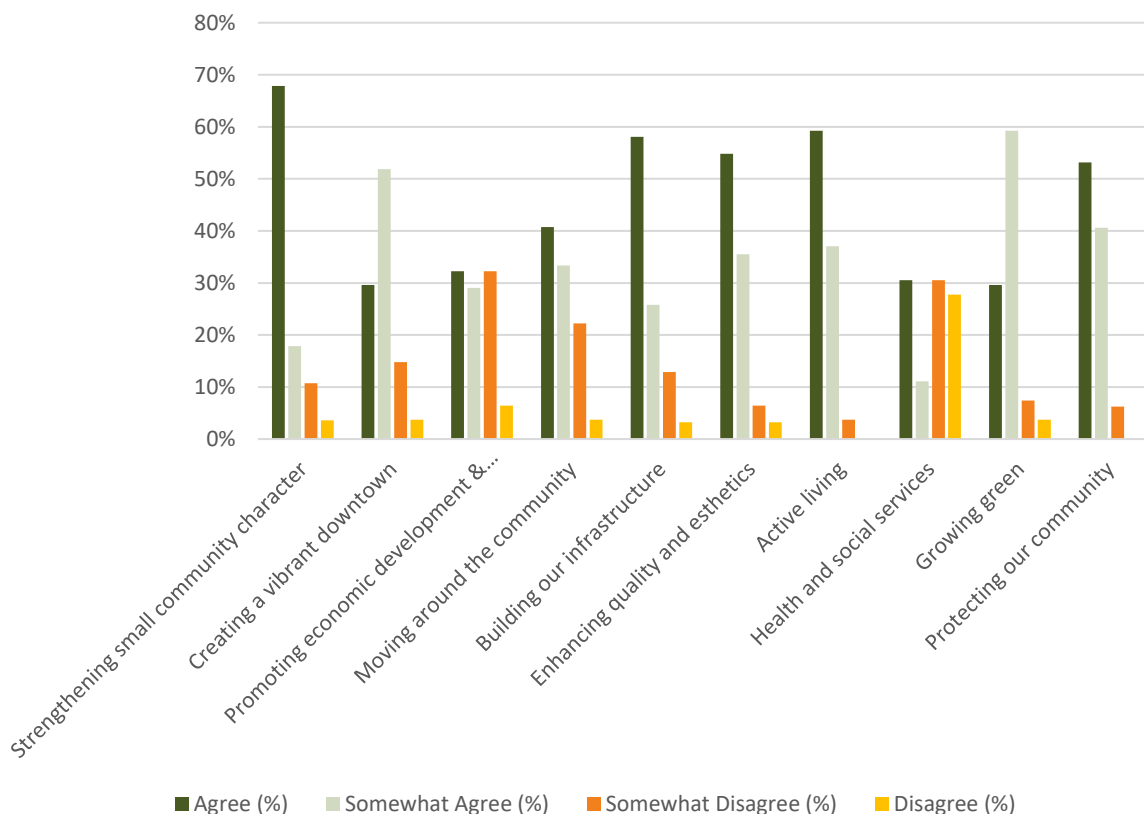
- Better medical services
- Would love to see more beautification in downtown and move small businesses
- Condo living and amenities for retirees
- More business downtown
- Sidewalks we can safely walk our dogs on!
- An emergency health facility is a must
- Permits to drive ATV/SWS in town
- Erect a bigger higher tower for good cell service
- The development of commercial storefronts and walking trails
- Control e-bikes and everybody on bikes wear helmets
- Septic necessary in some areas, others, no
- Bring in natural gas
- More activities for teens
- Higher density dwellings at an affordable price
- More stable emergency services
- More community lots that are appealing to teens (bowling alleys, arcade etc.)
- A functioning hospital
- More indoor third spaces to connect with the community
- Need an RV park. Everyone drives through, no place to stop even if we had something
- Create defined parking streets, walking areas etc.
- Availability of doctors for all residents
- Composting system to reduce food waste
- Reliable access to healthcare
- Allow the use of electric golf carts



## Community Goals – how much do you agree with the following goals?

Open house participants were asked to agree with the existing goals of the OCP. There was some confusion around this question as to whether participants were being asked whether they agree with the goals remaining in the OCP, or whether they felt that these goals have been met. This is apparent in the goal “health and social services” where many participants chose “disagree” or “somewhat disagree.” It is apparent from conversations and other feedback received that having access to health care is a very important goal in the community and something that is currently lacking.

The graph below shows how many respondents agree or somewhat agree (dark and light green) and somewhat disagree or disagree (orange and yellow) with the ten goals of the OCP. The majority of respondents agree that all ten goals are important for the community and the OCP.



**Housing – in 2045, what does your neighbourhood look like in terms of housing type and density?**

- There should be multifamily dwelling built
- More senior housing
- More options for affordable housing
- Don't over densify!
- Condensed & multifamily residential zoning
- Broad spectrum of housing opportunities that are affordable
- Less single-family dwellings, more multi
- Multi-family + connected green spaces
- Lots do not need to be 1 acre. 1/3 or 1/4 acre will support septic with today's technology

[illegible]

## Employment and economy – what does our economy look like in 2045?

- More small business in the downtown core rather than services
- More emergency services paid e.g.: paid fire department
- More small businesses
- Small, local businesses; youth employment programs working with schools
- More work for youth
- More businesses that can keep us shopping local

Official Community Plan Refresh

## EMPLOYMENT & ECONOMY

Employment and economy focuses on thriving local businesses and offering a variety of services to meet community needs. This can include economic diversity, attracting a skilled workforce, tourism and business innovation.

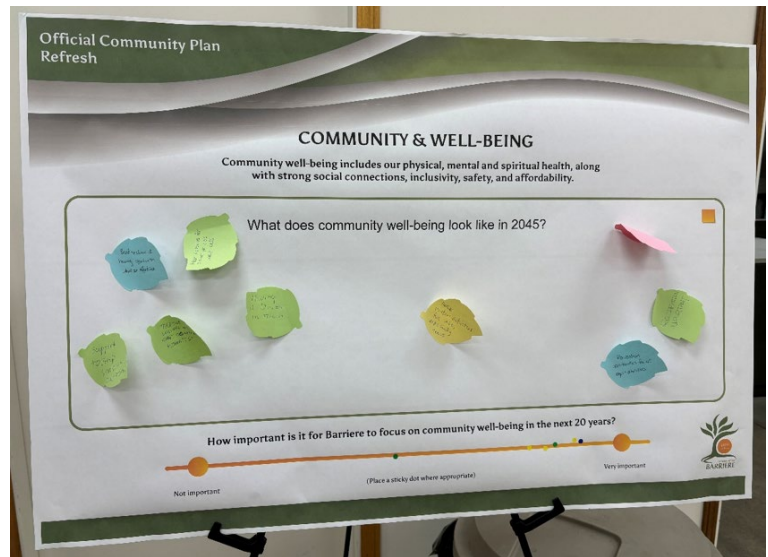
What does our economy look like in 2045?

How important is it as a barrier to focus on employment and economy in the next 20 years?

Not important (Place a sticky dot where appropriate) Very important

## Community and well-being – what does community well-being look like in 2045?

- We need to have the emergency room at the clinic reopen
- Having a doctor in town
- More activities for 25-40 yrs olds without kids
- Terrible unless we get doctors + dentist
- Support to keep seniors in own home
- More winter activities for all, especially teens
- More crime prevention initiatives
- Recreation opportunities for all ages + abilities
- Recreation is important

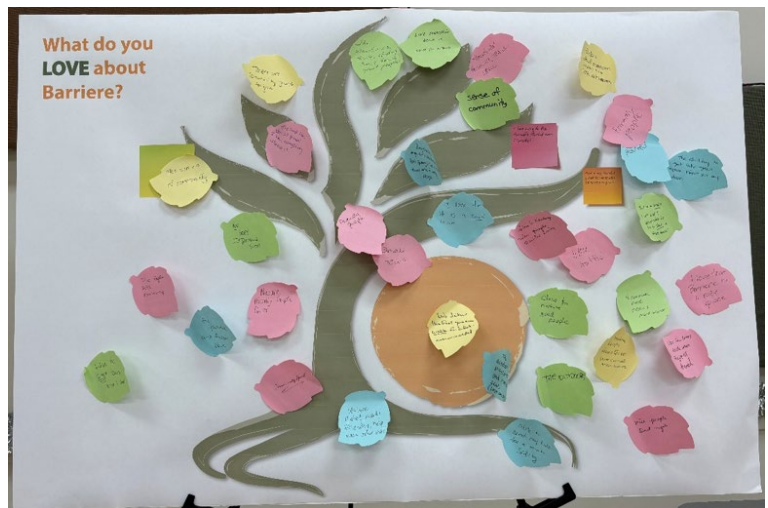




## What do you love about Barriere?

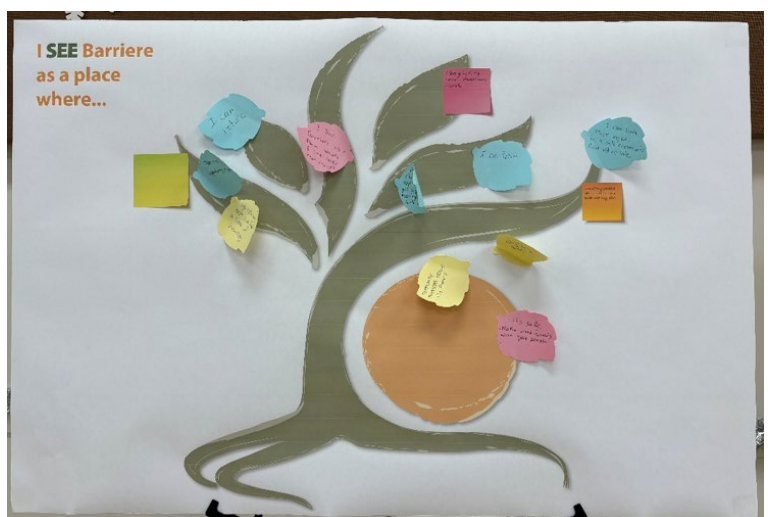
- Being close to a larger centre like Kamloops but getting to live in a small town with friendly people
- Outdoors; lots of recreation to do; close to Kamloops
- The mountains; trails; hunting; small town; great people
- Close to nature; good people
- I love the trees outside when they're all decorated
- The ability to get into green space right out my door
- The outdoor play spaces and connected trails
- Nature friendly people; quiet
- "Pleasant-ville"; friendly, trails, small
- Potential for trails network
- The splash pad and Fadedear Park
- Nature; quiet; mostly friendly; help each other out.
- Able to send my kids for a walk safely
- There are community groups to join
- We like the fact you can walk for whatever is needed
- Love everything about it; close to outdoors
- I've lived here for 53 years! I love everything about it.
- Friendly people

- Close to Kamloops; Nice people; Quiet living
- That it's a small town and I would like to see it stay a small town
- I love that Barriere is a nice place
- Little traffic
- Peaceful
- Love the small town; keep it small
- Sense of community / community spirit
- The tight-knit community



## I see Barriere as a place where...

- I can retire
- There is lots of opportunity to grow
- I see Barriere as a place where I can make new friends
- I can retire
- I can both raise my kids in a safe community and retire later
- Where kids have opportunities to get a good education, meaningful jobs in the valley.
- Its safe; make good friends with good people
- Community members become like family
- I can grow old + raise a family
- My kids are safe and feel a sense of belonging.

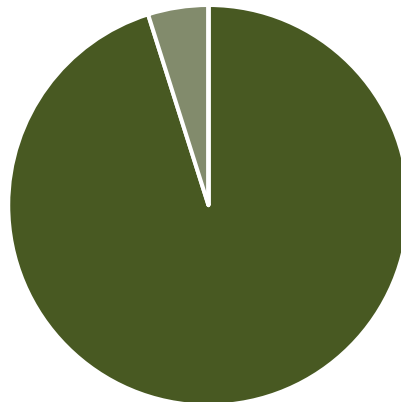


## 5.2 Feedback Frames – Phase 1

Feedback Frames are a great way to gauge how the community feels about a certain issue by using anonymous voting and simple questions. Feedback Frames were used during the Open House to better understand community priorities and values for the future.

### Where do you live?

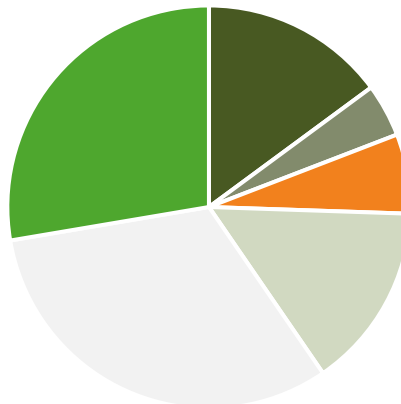
- District of Barriere (95%)
- TNRD (5%)
- City of Kamloops (0%)
- Other (0%)



The majority of respondents were full residents of Barriere (95%). A small percentage (5%) of participants were from the surrounding area (Thompson-Nicola Regional District). No participants identified being from the City of Kamloops or other areas.

### What is your age?

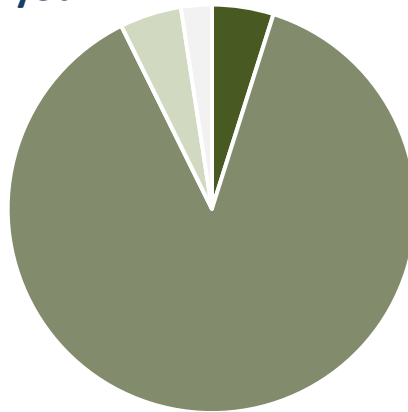
- 29 or younger (15%)
- 30-39 (4%)
- 40-49 (6%)
- 50-59 (15%)
- 60-69 (32%)
- 70 or older (28%)



Most respondents were 60 or older (60%) which was anticipated as a large portion the population of Barriere falls within this demographic. The event was also hosted at the Seniors' Centre. 15% of respondents were 29 or younger, many of whom were likely youth participating in the event through the Girl Guides and Rangers programs.

### Please select the description that best suits you.

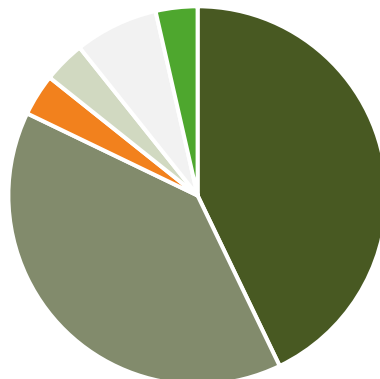
- I am a renter (5%)
- I am a homeowner (88%)
- I live in supportive housing (0%)
- I don't rent or own (5%)
- Other (2%)



The majority of respondents were homeowners (88%) with only 12% indicating that they rent, neither rent or own, or “other.”

### Do you support mixed-use (commercial / residential) development in the Downtown (Main Street)?

- Strong agreement (43%)
- Agreement (39%)
- Neutral (4%)
- Disagreement (4%)
- Strong disagreement (7%)
- Not sure (4%)



The majority of respondents support development of the Downtown (Main Street) area (82% of respondents indicating they are in strong agreement or agreement). A small proportion of respondents either disagreed or strongly disagreed (11%) or were neutral or not sure (8%). Additional comments included this being important for economic diversification and ensuring it's the right kind of development.

## Do you support policies in the OCP that strengthen relationships with Indigenous peoples and incorporate Indigenous knowledge in District documents?

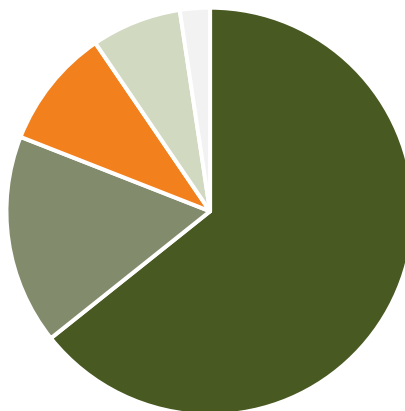
- Strong agreement (33%)
- Agreement (14%)
- Neutral (22%)
- Disagreement (11%)
- Strong disagreement (17%)
- Not sure (3%)



Overall respondents were supportive of supporting policies that strengthen Indigenous relationships (47%) compared to those who were not supportive (28%). 23% of respondents were either neutral or not sure.

## Do you agree that the OCP should include a policy that promotes fibre optic internet for all residents and businesses?

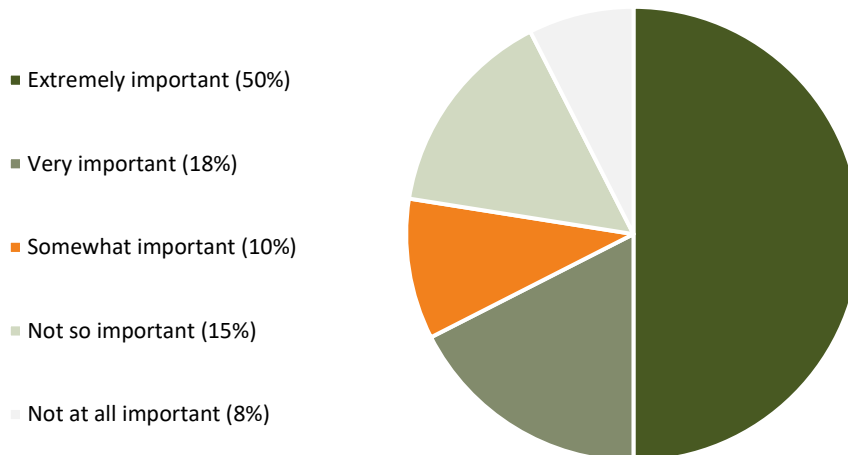
- Strong agreement (64%)
- Agreement (17%)
- Neutral (10%)
- Disagreement (7%)
- Strong disagreement (2%)
- Not sure (0%)



Respondents are overall very supportive of a policy that promotes fibre optic internet (81% in strong agreement and agreement) with an additional comment indicating this could attract workers from the lower mainland. Only 9% of respondents were in disagreement or strong disagreement and 10% were neutral.

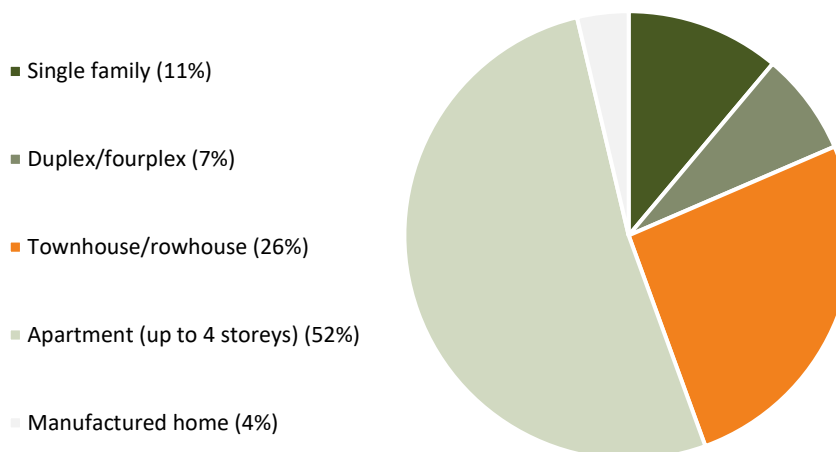


## How important is it that infrastructure (water/sewer) be extended throughout the town to ensure less reliance on wells and septic systems?



Given that many residents of Barriere are on wells and septic systems, it is interesting to note that 68% of respondents feel extending infrastructure is extremely important or very important. 23% of respondents feel this is not so, or not at all important. 10% of respondents fell in the middle at somewhat important. Additional comments included this being a must to support more infill, the need for a septage receiving station and public sani-dump, and the District water being unpalatable.

## Which type of housing do you think is currently under-supplied in Barriere?

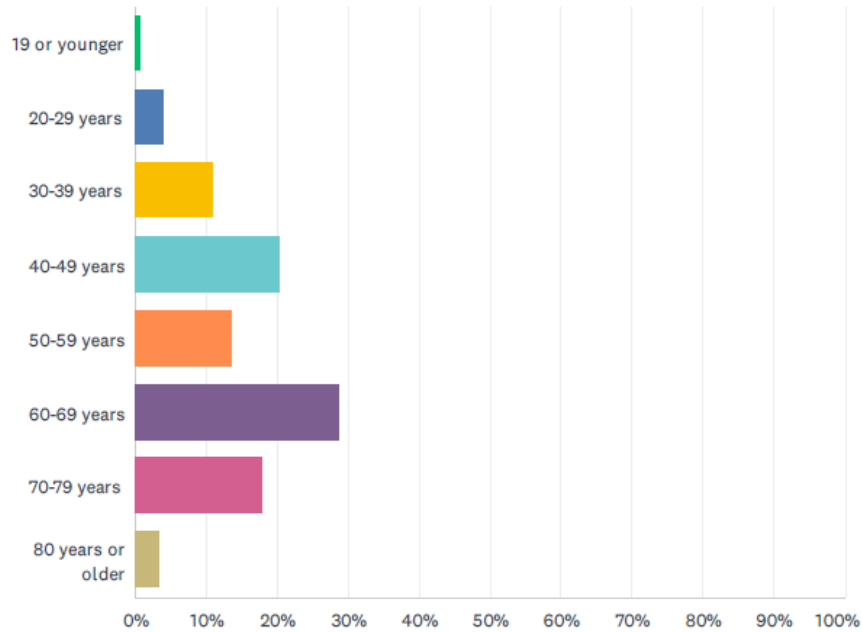


The majority of respondents feel higher-density housing options are needed in the community, including apartments (up to 4 storeys) (52%) and townhouses / rowhouses (26%). According to respondents, there is less need for single family, duplex/fourplex, and manufactured homes. Several comments included the need for seniors housing and housing that supports aging in place.

## 5.3 Survey Results – Phase 1

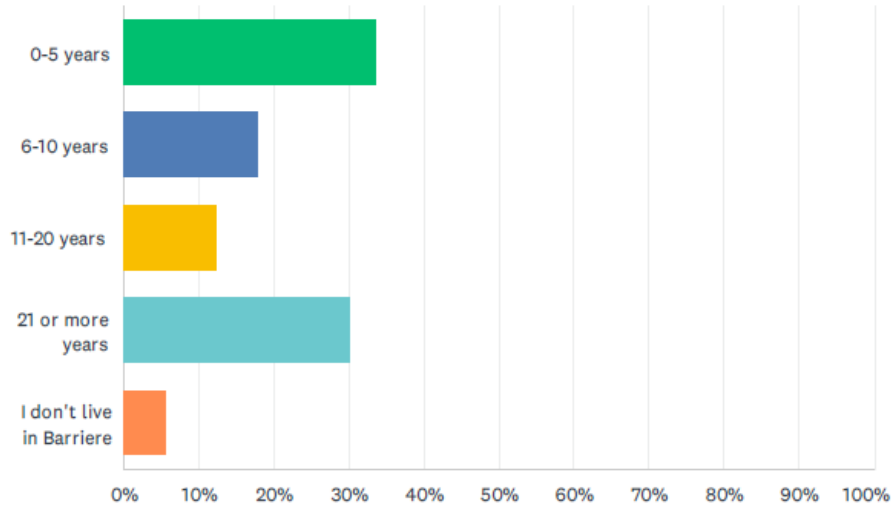
The survey was available online and in paper copy from November 18 – December 18, 2024. There were 146 completed surveys.

Q1. What is your age?



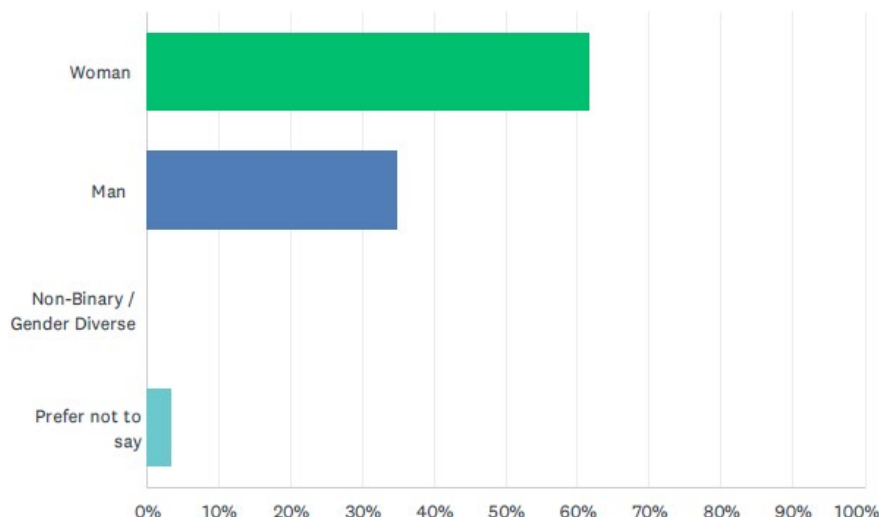
| ANSWER CHOICES    | RESPONSES |
|-------------------|-----------|
| 19 or younger     | 0.68%     |
| 20-29 years       | 4.11%     |
| 30-39 years       | 10.96%    |
| 40-49 years       | 20.55%    |
| 50-59 years       | 13.70%    |
| 60-69 years       | 28.77%    |
| 70-79 years       | 17.81%    |
| 80 years or older | 3.42%     |

## Q2. How long have you lived in Barriere?



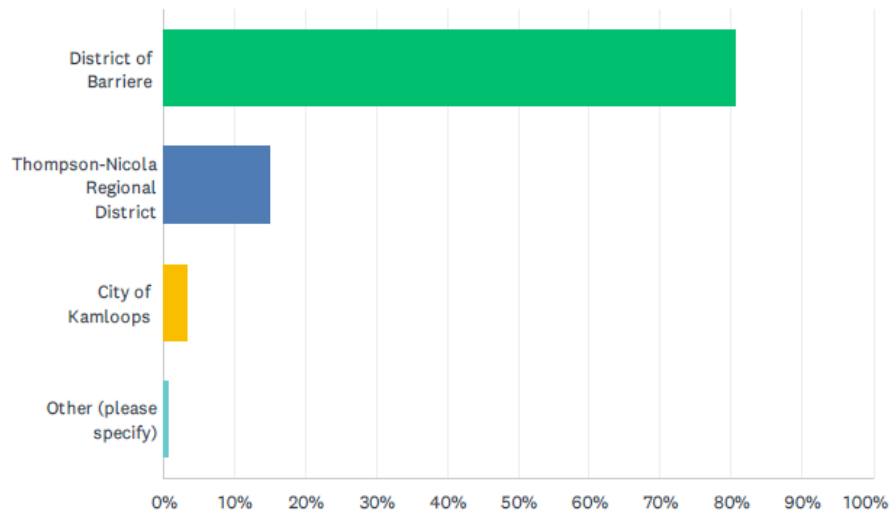
| ANSWER CHOICES           | RESPONSES |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| 0-5 years                | 33.79%    |
| 6-10 years               | 17.93%    |
| 11-20 years              | 12.41%    |
| 21 or more years         | 30.34%    |
| I don't live in Barriere | 5.52%     |

## Q3. What is your gender?



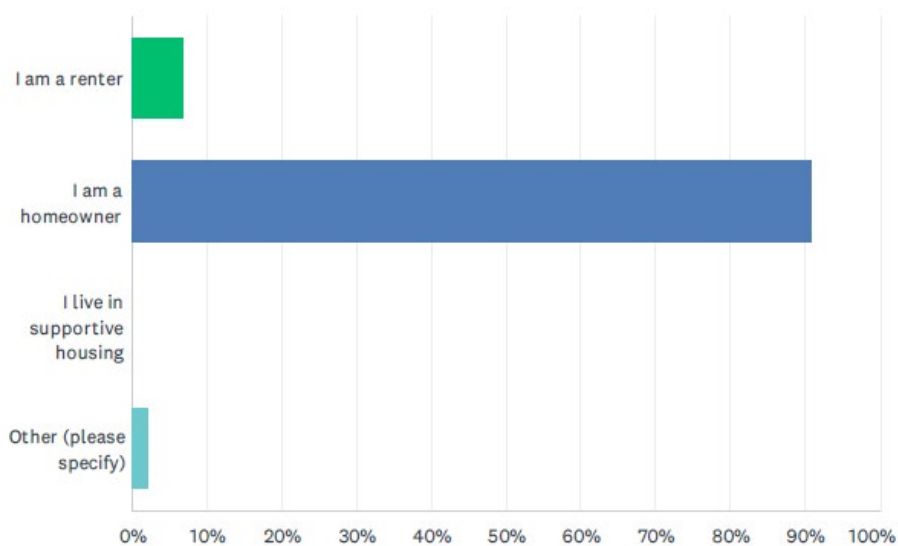
| ANSWER CHOICES              | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Woman                       | 61.64%    |
| Man                         | 34.93%    |
| Non-Binary / Gender Diverse | 0.00%     |
| Prefer not to say           | 3.42%     |

#### Q4. Where do you live?



| ANSWER CHOICES                    | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|
| District of Barriere              | 80.82%    |
| Thompson-Nicola Regional District | 15.07%    |
| City of Kamloops                  | 3.42%     |
| Other (please specify)            | 0.68%     |

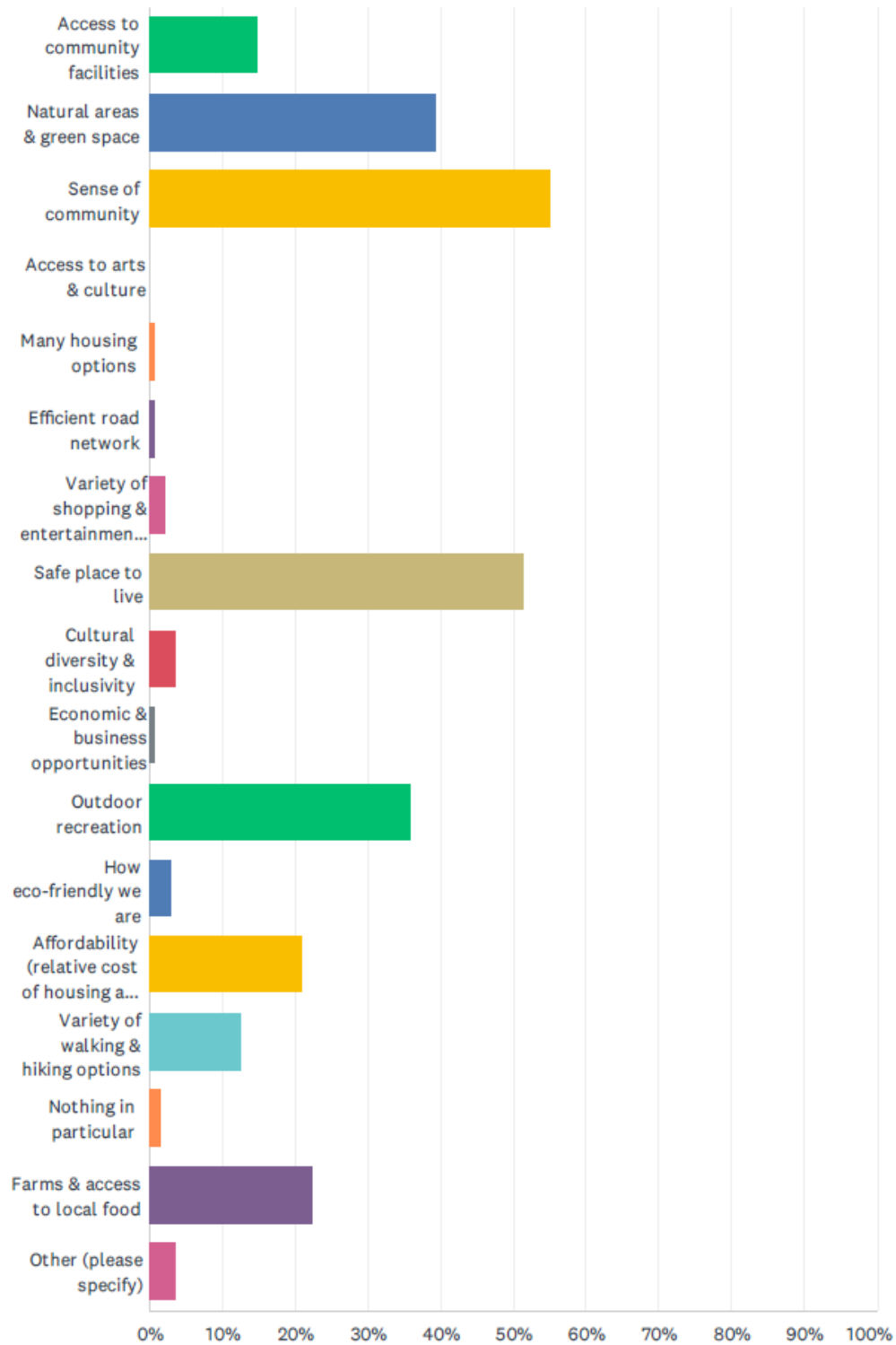
#### Q5. Please select the description that best suits you.



| ANSWER CHOICES               | RESPONSES |
|------------------------------|-----------|
| I am a renter                | 6.90%     |
| I am a homeowner             | 91.03%    |
| I live in supportive housing | 0.00%     |
| Other (please specify)       | 2.07%     |

**Other answers include:**  
business owner, land owner,  
community forest manager.

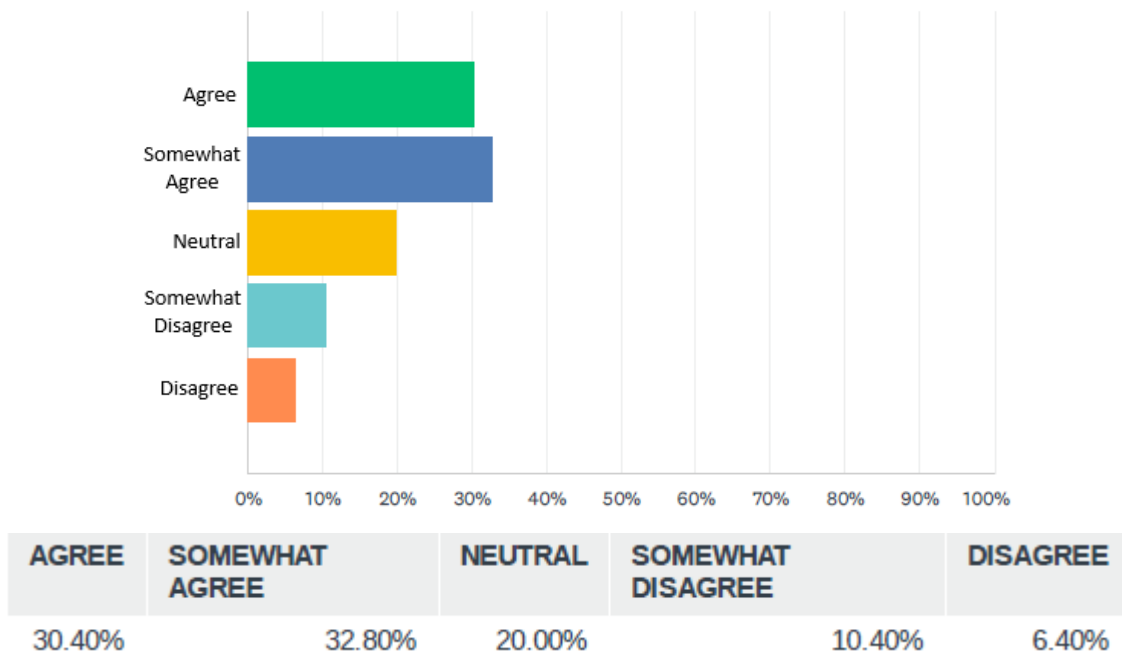
## Q6. What do you love about Barriere?



| ANSWER CHOICES                                     | RESPONSES |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Access to community facilities                     | 14.93%    |
| Natural areas & green space                        | 39.55%    |
| Sense of community                                 | 55.22%    |
| Access to arts & culture                           | 0.00%     |
| Many housing options                               | 0.75%     |
| Efficient road network                             | 0.75%     |
| Variety of shopping & entertainment options        | 2.24%     |
| Safe place to live                                 | 51.49%    |
| Cultural diversity & inclusivity                   | 3.73%     |
| Economic & business opportunities                  | 0.75%     |
| Outdoor recreation                                 | 35.82%    |
| How eco-friendly we are                            | 2.99%     |
| Affordability (relative cost of housing and taxes) | 20.90%    |
| Variety of walking & hiking options                | 12.69%    |
| Nothing in particular                              | 1.49%     |
| Farms & access to local food                       | 22.39%    |
| Other (please specify)                             | 3.73%     |

**Other answers include:** close to lakes, indoor recreation (community centre), many things listed are lacking, less rules than the city, rural atmosphere with access to airport, university, very good climate.

Q7. Do you agree with the Vision Statement in the current OCP?



Q8. What elements do you feel are missing from the Vision Statement?

Many suggestions were given which likely go beyond the vision statement. Feedback was heard which included elements that are missing from both the vision statement and the community as a whole. A summary of feedback is included below.

**Recreation:**

- Year-round activities, including organized sports such as hockey, curling, skating, skiing, soccer, baseball, pickleball, and swimming.
- More recreational facilities, including accessible walking paths and outdoor spaces like an outdoor ice rink usable throughout the winter.
- A goal for more recreational trails and facilities, especially those that can cater to youth, like a BMX track.
- Mention of specific facilities like an indoor pool (for seniors and general public use) and more activities for youth (ages 10-18).



### **Health and social services:**

- A mention of healthcare services, such as a health center, assisted living, or independent living facility.
- Acknowledgment of emergency services and healthcare facilities in the vision, including more specifics on access and availability.

### **Infrastructure and amenities:**

- Plans for improved infrastructure, such as paved roads, sidewalks, curbs, and safe pedestrian pathways to ensure safety, especially for the elderly and those with mobility challenges.
- The inclusion of a variety of public amenities such as the library, sports fields, cultural centers, and other essential community services to foster a welcoming and engaging environment for residents and visitors.
- A more defined downtown core with multi-family housing (such as condos) to promote development and growth.
- Improved public safety, including addressing traffic concerns and the need for better speed control, particularly with fast-moving vehicles in the downtown area.
- A focus on community connections, perhaps through action or strategic plans that address the needs of all citizens, including more youth activities and spaces for families to engage in.
- More detailed plans for public services like libraries, highway signs for travelers, and increased information for newcomers to the town.

### **Community vibrancy:**

- More emphasis on building and supporting local businesses, including small shops, coffee shops, and retail spaces in the downtown area.
- A need for increased housing options and the development of more affordable spaces for business owners and residents.
- Promoting and supporting a variety of businesses to make the community more diverse and vibrant.
- A more vibrant and well-maintained downtown with well-kept store fronts and specialty shops.

### **Indigenous recognition:**

- More acknowledgment of Indigenous lands and the inclusion of local Indigenous culture and landmarks, such as the Simpcw First Nation's Cultural Centre.
- Efforts to make the community more inclusive, with a focus on family-friendly activities and spaces that cater to all age groups.

### **Sustainability:**

- A stronger focus on sustainability, including green initiatives to battle climate change, energy-efficient infrastructure, and eco-friendly practices.

### **Q9. What elements do you feel should be removed from the Vision Statement?**

Overall community members feel that the vision statement does not necessarily reflect Barriere now, but what they hope Barriere will grow into. The statement can be more concise, but some elements are missing. A summary of feedback is included below.

### **Focus on future goals:**

- The vision statement should be rewritten with more emphasis on the future, particularly on how the goals will be achieved by 2030.
- Add a goal to see the community grow and expand, making it clear that the vision includes population and economic growth over time.

### **Clarify wording:**

- Change the wording of "Outdoor Playground" to "Year-Round Playground" to better reflect the vision.
- Clarify what "well-kept storefronts" means—should they be clean, updated, or without clutter?
- The term "bustling" could be better defined, as the current downtown area does not yet feel vibrant or active.

### **Shorten the vision statement:**

- The vision statement is too long and wordy. It should be condensed and made more concise for clarity.

**Be more specific:**

- Include clearer details on how the community will connect better, such as improved pedestrian infrastructure (sidewalks, off-street trails).
- Add details on where the Simpcw First Nation's Cultural Center is located and how it will be promoted.
- Specify the expected timeline for goals—some feedback suggests that a longer timeline (10-15 years) might be more realistic than five years.

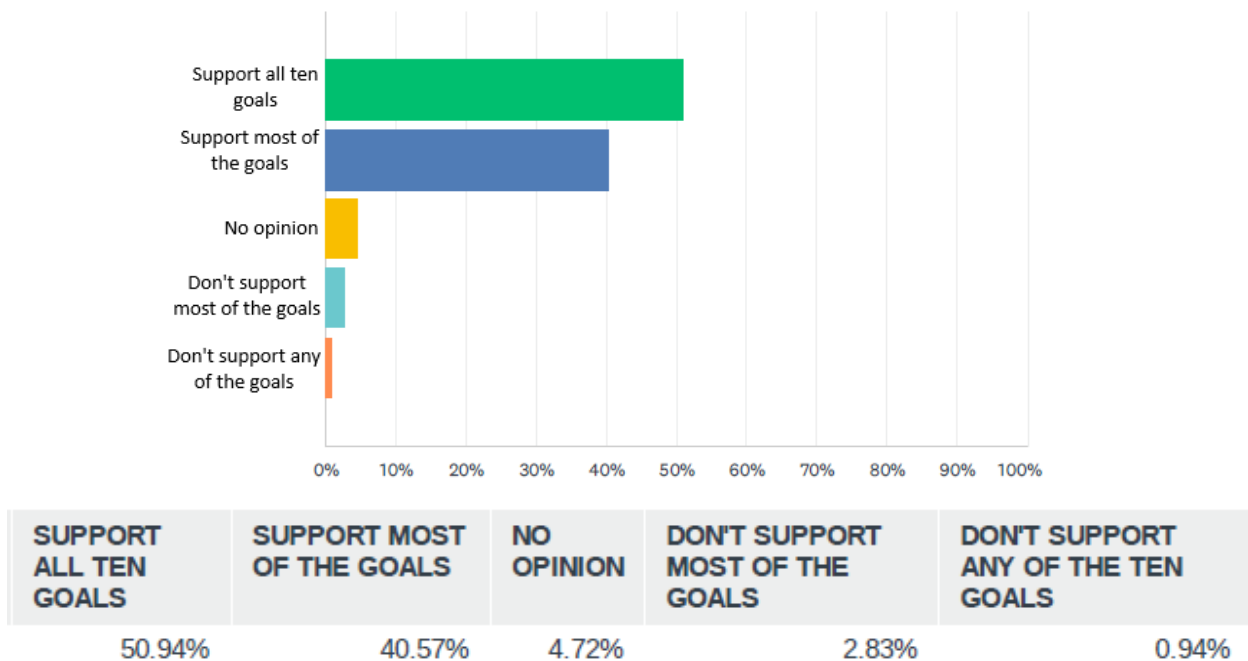
**Highlight community development:**

- Emphasize the importance of building businesses and work opportunities, while ensuring that regulations are conducive to an affordable community.
- Mention specific goals to improve downtown, such as addressing vacant store fronts and removing non-functional structures like the old gas station.
- Include a focus on enhancing dining options in the community, rather than just picnic areas.
- Ensure that the downtown is not just "well-kept," but actively revitalized, with a focus on reducing the number of empty or rundown storefronts.

**Recreation:**

- Address the need for more pathways and trails, including the development of riverfront and ridge trails to connect the community.
- Mention improvements to recreational spaces, such as ballparks and the location of the dog park.

Q10. Do you support the ten Community Goals as noted above?



Q11. Are there any Community Goals that should be revisited?

**1. Strengthening small community character**

- Promote Barriere as a Family orientated community.
- Engage with Indigenous Communities to include traditional games & activities.
- Lack of activities and facilities for our youth downtown.
- We should mention our Agri plex and annual fall fair promoting rural life.

**2. Creating a vibrant downtown**

- Creating a vibrant downtown has omitted the fact that there are no sidewalks!! The Active Living and Health and Social Services would also benefit from a sidewalk from PetroCan to the Legion.

**3. Promoting economic development and diversification**

- Welcoming new businesses

**4. Moving around the community**

- Concentrate on maintaining our roads.
- Trails between neighbourhoods are mostly foot traffic made and could use a refresh/maintenance.

- Love the thought of having a connecting path through all the neighborhoods so walking and cycling is more accessible.
- Enhance moving around communities without using vehicles.

## **5. Building infrastructure**

- Need sewer upgraded and available to all in the area.
- The water filtration system is not good.
- Building our Infrastructure could get an update that focuses on Asset Management.

## **6. Enhancing quality and aesthetics**

- Addressing the sewage smell.

## **7. Active living**

- Children are our Future & leadership skills are learned through year-round team/individual sports & activities.
- It would be amazing if we had more municipal parks with trails for some hiking (or cross-country skiing) that are available within walking distance from town that are more clearly marked (maybe some way finding signs).

## **8. Health and social services**

- Provide a solid healthcare service 24/7.
- Get our emergency ward opened again.
- We need better medical. we need access to services.
- Health care is not “stable” as you indicate.
- The health portion should be further expanded on as currently health services are severely lacking.
- It would be amazing if we could open out our health services again, so community members don't have to find use health services outside of the community.
- Need more medical services (e.g. lab, first responders, fire department, community health, hospice support), emergency services, entice doctors to want to come and stay in the community.
- Yellowhead Seniors Living and Seniors Centre

## **9. Growing green**

- Keep open backyard burning

## **10. Protecting the community**

- Need is a huge one that needs to be addressed.
- Include heavy patrols downtown and throughout the outer areas.

## Q12. Are there any Community Goals that you feel are missing?

### **Affordable housing:**

- More affordable housing should be considered.
- Need for senior's housing (independent and assisted living) to accommodate the growing number of seniors.
- A focus on less single-family homes and more townhouses or apartments.

### **Community facilities and recreation:**

- A community facility with a gym, indoor pool, sauna, and other recreational spaces for children and adults.
- A community rec center as a future goal for the town.
- Indoor activities for youth, such as skating during winter months.

### **Downtown development and business support:**

- Attract larger chain stores like Fields to provide local shopping options.
- Improve the appearance of downtown and create more attractive store fronts with funding and grants.
- Encourage an active Chamber of Commerce and make licensing and insurance options easier for businesses.
- A focus on supporting and building business in the area.
- The establishment of a municipal campground, possibly managed by a local group like the Lions.

### **Transportation and infrastructure:**

- More sidewalks and paved paths for safe walking and mobility.
- Connect existing trails and community pathways for better accessibility.

### **Crime and safety:**

- A focus on getting rid of drug trafficking and vandalism in the community.
- Cracking down on crime to ensure public safety.

### **Environmental and infrastructure:**

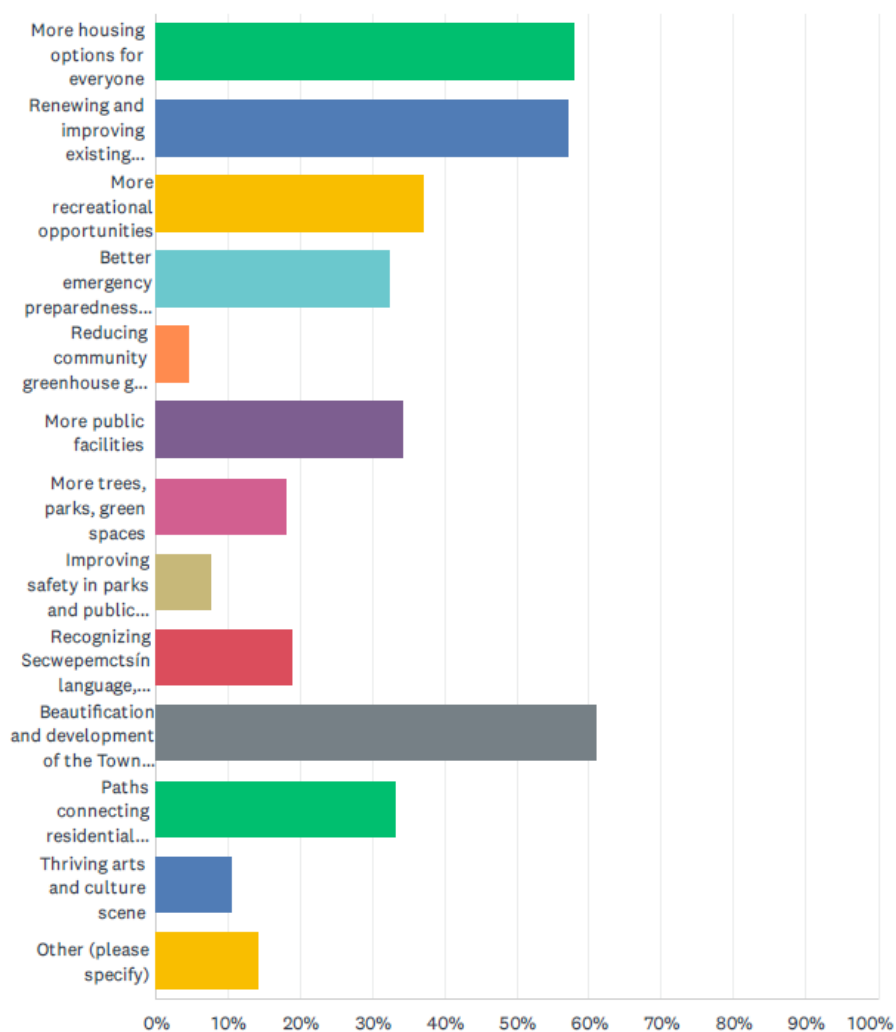
- Improved environmental protection efforts.
- Better water infrastructure for the community.
- Better space and infrastructure for the Farmer's Market.
- Encouraging local food production and better access to local producers.



**Community and social services:**

- Provide safe events to bridge the gap between elders and youth, fostering community unity.
- Promoting community growth and development, with a focus on achieving more urban-like amenities without losing the town's quiet, small-town charm.
- A desire for Barriere to be a modern community while maintaining a rural atmosphere.

### Q13. What community improvements would you most like to see over the next 20 years?

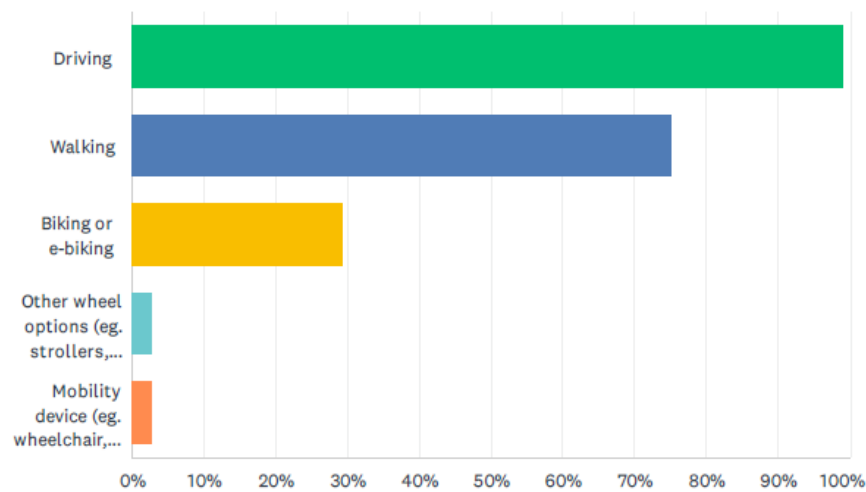


| ANSWER CHOICES                                                   | RESPONSES |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| More housing options for everyone                                | 58.10%    |
| Renewing and improving existing infrastructure                   | 57.14%    |
| More recreational opportunities                                  | 37.14%    |
| Better emergency preparedness and wildfire protection            | 32.38%    |
| Reducing community greenhouse gas emissions                      | 4.76%     |
| More public facilities                                           | 34.29%    |
| More trees, parks, green spaces                                  | 18.10%    |
| Improving safety in parks and public spaces                      | 7.62%     |
| Recognizing Secwepemctsín language, culture and history          | 19.05%    |
| Beautification and development of the Town Centre (main street)  | 60.95%    |
| Paths connecting residential areas to parks and open space areas | 33.33%    |
| Thriving arts and culture scene                                  | 10.48%    |
| Other (please specify)                                           | 14.29%    |



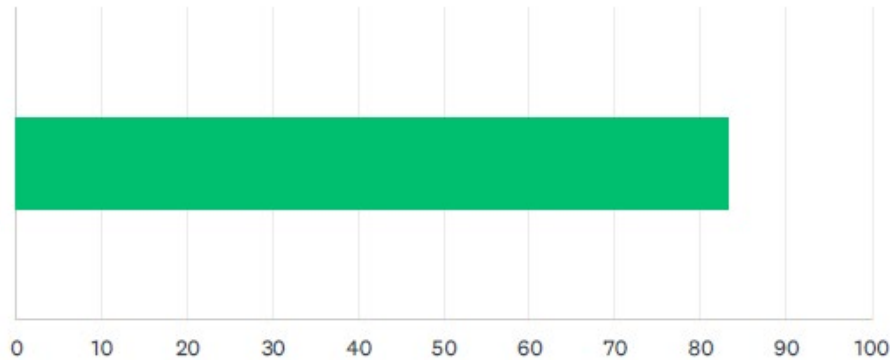
**Other answers for Q13 include:** open emergency room and get more doctors, bus/van service within municipal limits, availability of potable water, more small businesses in downtown core, swimming pool, local food production and availability, public sani-dump, bowling alley, more businesses, maintain highway frontage, develop trail networks.

Q14. In the last year, what modes of transportation have you used to travel around/through Barriere?



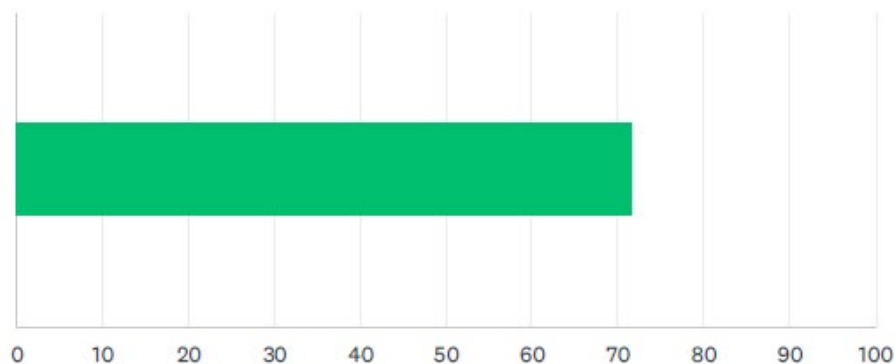
| ANSWER CHOICES                                                        | RESPONSES |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Driving                                                               | 99.05%    |
| Walking                                                               | 75.24%    |
| Biking or e-biking                                                    | 29.52%    |
| Other wheel options (eg. strollers, skateboards, push scooters, etc.) | 2.86%     |
| Mobility device (eg. wheelchair, walker, guide dog, etc.)             | 2.86%     |

Q15. An Asset Management Plan ensures all assets (e.g. watermain, hydrants, light poles) and their condition are reviewed by the District. This is the first step to creating a long-term plan to fund their operation, maintenance and replacement. How important is it to you that the District develop an Asset Management Plan?



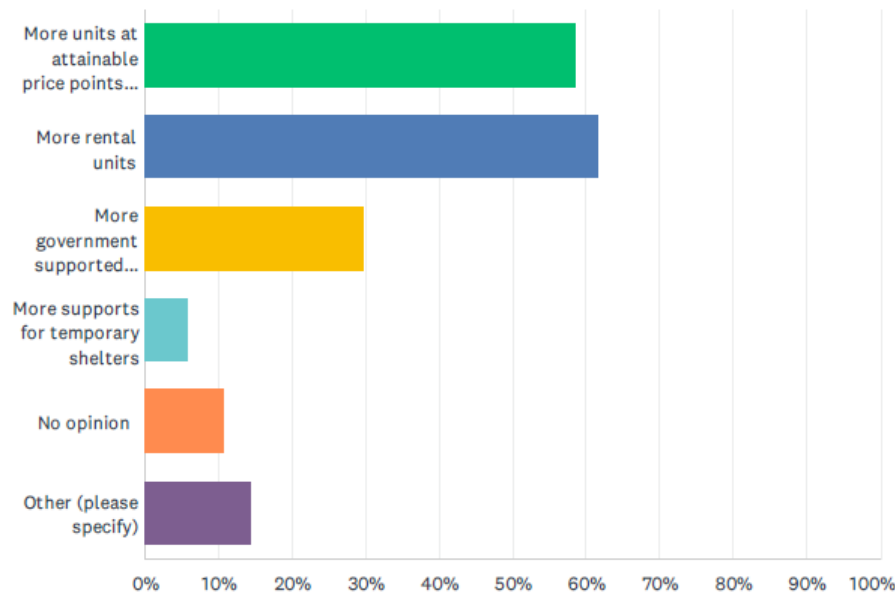
83% of respondents feel it is important to develop an Asset Management Plan.

Q16. How important is it that infrastructure (water/sewer) be extended throughout the town to ensure less reliance on wells and septic systems?



72% of respondents feel it is important to extend infrastructure throughout the town.

## Q17. How can we ensure there is housing that meets the needs of everyone?



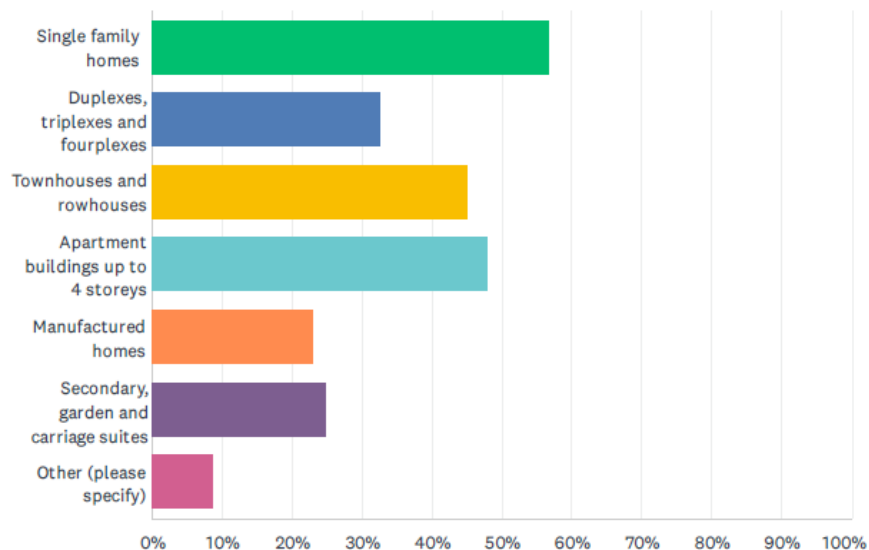
| ANSWER CHOICES                                     | RESPONSES |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| More units at attainable price points for purchase | 58.65%    |
| More rental units                                  | 61.54%    |
| More government supported housing units            | 29.81%    |
| More supports for temporary shelters               | 5.77%     |
| No opinion                                         | 10.58%    |
| Other (please specify)                             | 14.42%    |

### Other answers include:

- Please pay due attention to water system infrastructure to ensure enough potable water for all before building more housing.
- Public transportation.
- Free up red tape and let the market decide.
- All of the above.
- Some sort of senior housing.
- Bring minimum lot size down to 1/4 acre when no community sewer system present. No need whatsoever for the minimum lot size to be 1 acre. present.
- Natural gas.
- Prefab / modular.

- Less travel trailers used as permanent housing.
- Apartments and town houses.
- Allowing additional housing options on properties.
- We need some affordable housing based on income.
- Make community more desirable.

Q18. What types of housing forms would you like to see more of in Barriere to meet the need for housing?



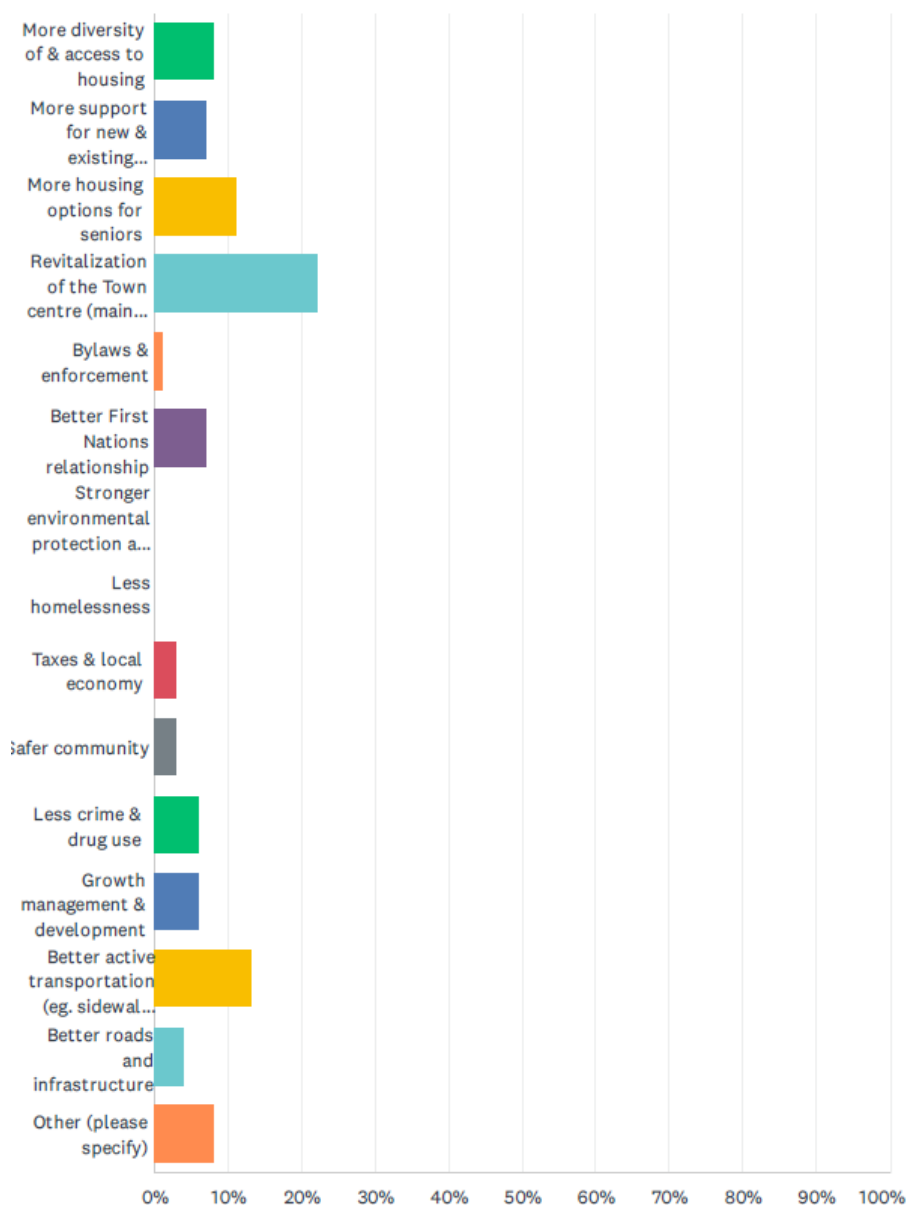
| ANSWER CHOICES                        | RESPONSES |
|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| Single family homes                   | 56.73%    |
| Duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes    | 32.69%    |
| Townhouses and rowhouses              | 45.19%    |
| Apartment buildings up to 4 storeys   | 48.08%    |
| Manufactured homes                    | 23.08%    |
| Secondary, garden and carriage suites | 25.00%    |
| Other (please specify)                | 8.65%     |

Other answers include:

- Please improve water system infrastructure to have enough potable water available for all before building more housing.

- Basement suite.
- Multiple family dwellings with an eye to those strictly with disabilities and their caregivers.
- Eco friendly mini home community (e.g. sea can, prefab.).
- Area for tiny homes.
- Level entry, bare land stratas would be excellent option for seniors downsizing from acreages.

Q19. What is one thing you would change about Barriere?



| ANSWER CHOICES                                                     | RESPONSES |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| More diversity of & access to housing                              | 8.08%     |
| More support for new & existing businesses                         | 7.07%     |
| More housing options for seniors                                   | 11.11%    |
| Revitalization of the Town centre (main street)                    | 22.22%    |
| Bylaws & enforcement                                               | 1.01%     |
| Better First Nations relationship                                  | 7.07%     |
| Stronger environmental protection and preservation                 | 0.00%     |
| Less homelessness                                                  | 0.00%     |
| Taxes & local economy                                              | 3.03%     |
| Safer community                                                    | 3.03%     |
| Less crime & drug use                                              | 6.06%     |
| Growth management & development                                    | 6.06%     |
| Better active transportation (eg. sidewalks, pathways, bike lanes) | 13.13%    |
| Better roads and infrastructure                                    | 4.04%     |
| Other (please specify)                                             | 8.08%     |

Q20. What is the one big move that the District could do to encourage the revitalization of the Town Centre (Main Street)?

Many ideas were given in response to this question. A smaller list has been included below to capture “big moves” presented by the community, whereas more general answers have been captured in previous questions.

#### **Support active transportation and beautification of Town Centre**

- Support active transportation: improve lighting, sidewalks, bike lanes, larger shoulders on both sides of the road.
- More plants, planters, street trees, benches along the main corridor.
- Support all local businesses through funding/grants to develop store fronts into a theme (e.g. mountain peaks, natural wood beams, western, country, farming, etc.)
- Have better signage / banners on streetlights which can be themed seasonally. Have ambiance lighting and District signage/logo, event advertising.
- Require esthetic exterior renovation every 10 years.

### **Incentivize business**

- Incentivize employment opportunities.
- Pursue grants to revitalise buildings, provide landscaping, etc.
- Provide tax breaks for new businesses and access to suitable retail space.
- Controlled rent for businesses.
- Add commercial space with lease incentives.
- Promote tax revitalization program.
- Attract chain stores.

### **Encourage population growth**

- Provide amenities for people to move to Barriere.
- Bus service so people can live in Barriere and commute to Kamloops for work.
- Addition of an indoor recreation centre.
- Support employment opportunities.

Q21. Please complete the sentence: In 20 years, Barriere will be...

- The same.
- Better.
- A thriving community for all ages.
- Still here.
- A bustling city with small town charm.
- A beautiful town.
- Similar to today.
- Hopefully not very different
- A highly sort after town from which to retire, raise a family or to commute to the big smoke & come home to the peace & quiet of a well planned & cared for community.
- More diversified.
- A thriving independent community that tourists will visit and stay.
- Affordable.
- A friendly rural community anyone would love to visit or call home.
- Needing more housing.
- A thriving community for young families.
- A subdivision of an ever-growing Kamloops
- Home to those who are currently our children, or it will be only "where they grew up."
- Still a great place to live.

- Much the same!
- A place I'd like to call home.
- An entertaining place to live.
- A place where people can raise their families without having to forfeit opportunities for their kids.
- Fiscally sustainable and we know the true costs, values, and live expectancy of our assets (including the natural ones).
- Hopefully still a small town.
- A densified and revitalized downtown core surrounded by small farms connected by walking paths.
- Hopefully better than today. More diverse in community and political opinion.
- A smaller, safe community that will attract new families who enjoy the seasonal activities and community setting.
- The hub for many Provincial, National and International competitions in as many sports as possible.
- Overpopulated
- Bigger
- A lot more crime and people from big cities.
- Resilient.
- Hopefully still a clean and safe small town.
- A safe place to bring up a family or retire, with strong community supports for a diverse and thriving community.
- A quaint little town to visit. Not over-populated.
- Revitalized.
- Growing slowly without economic development.
- Thriving.
- Hopefully pretty close to the same it is now!
- Still a wonderful place to grow up and live in.
- Home in a small town.
- The same if no one steps up and actually changes anything.
- Still a bedroom community of Kamloops.
- Thriving.
- In a better place with good healthcare.
- Still be awesome!
- An ok place to live
- A gem of a town to live and a great place to camp while travelling through our valley.



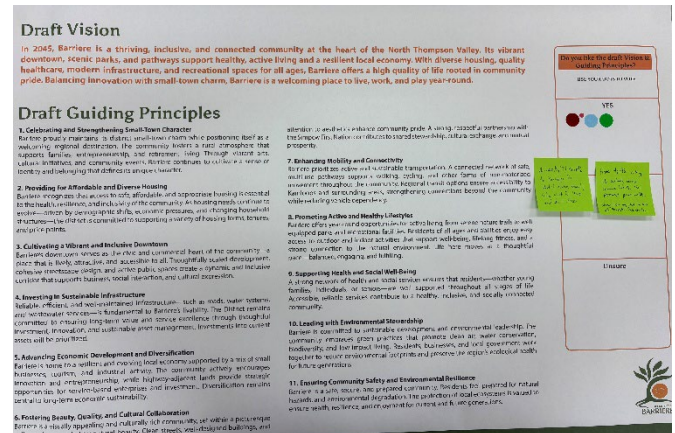
- Thriving with better sewage infrastructure and better/more housing.
- A beautiful place to live where people can enjoy the outdoors and find local jobs while living a quieter lifestyle.
- Thriving!
- Still here. Hopefully.
- A thriving but small community with friendly and sincere people.
- Safely accessible off a double lane highway #5.
- A welcoming hub for the tourism sector.
- More of a bedroom community.
- Safe and friendly.
- A destination area to live in safety, work and play.
- A friendly and active community, with affordable housing and a vast array of businesses.
- A destination
- A place to raise kids, have an artsy or forest-based business and enjoy nature.
- Still a rural, family centred community.
- In a similar place as we are now... A good one.
- A small thriving community with very little industry but a bedroom community for those working in Kamloops and Sun Peaks.
- Obsolete unless young families are able to live here.
- A destination for active transportation with arts and culture.
- A small vibrant community.
- A thriving rural community with affordable housing, a vibrant town centre and recreational and cultural opportunities that residents are proud to call home - live, work, play.
- The community I retire on and am still proud to call home.

## 5.4 Draft Directions Open House – Phase 2

### Draft Vision & Guiding Principles

#### Do you like the draft Vision & Guiding Principles?

- Four participants voted “yes”
- A weekly shuttle to Kamloops for dentist, doctor, specialty store visit for those who don't drive
- Have traffic calming like bollards, cones, concrete blocks. Non-permanent, quick install. Strong Towns has lots of examples / case studies.

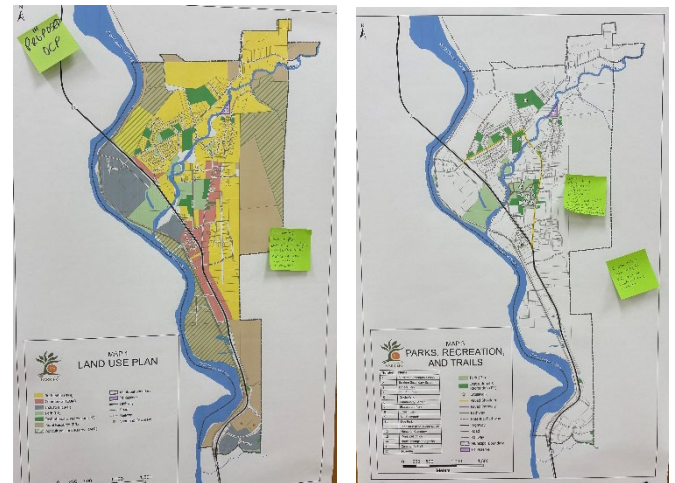


### Map 1: Land Use Plan

- Misleading, having P2 blending institutional with recreational makes it look a lot like green space

### Map 3: Parks, Recreation, and Trails

- Cannot adequately measure walkability on these maps. Need heat maps with high-volume traffic – these areas mapped properly would make sense to have sidewalks
- Increase feeling of safe walking for kids, seniors, etc. in downtown and connecting recreation areas.



### Downtown Core Development Permit Area (DPA)

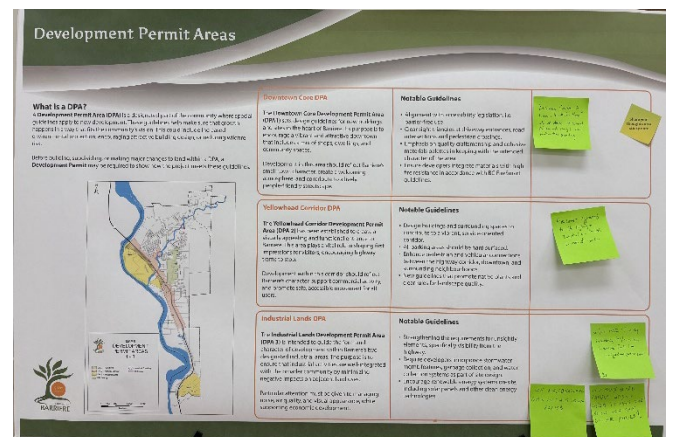
- Business centre to have a “work from home” day or desks to connect professionals living in town rather than commuting

### Yellowhead Corridor Development Permit Area (DPA)

- Firesmart requirements for the highway + industrial too. Possible source of ignition.

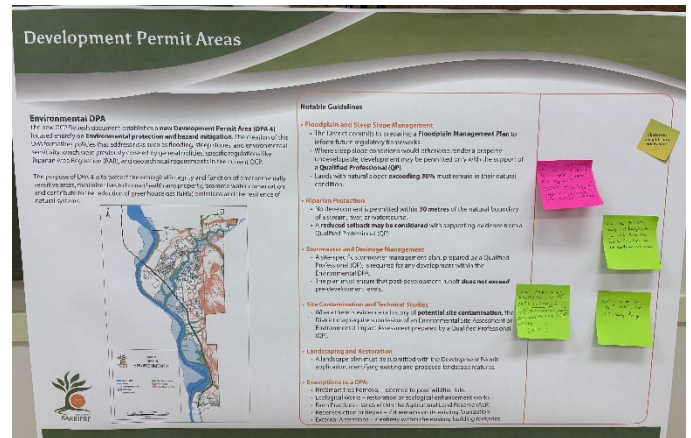
### Industrial Lands Development Permit Area (DPA)

- A lot less if we keep increasing high carbon intensive fuels like gas (and we get less snow).
- We need natural gas in this town.
- How many solar panels do you need to melt the snow off the solar panels?



## Environmental Development Permit Area (DPA)

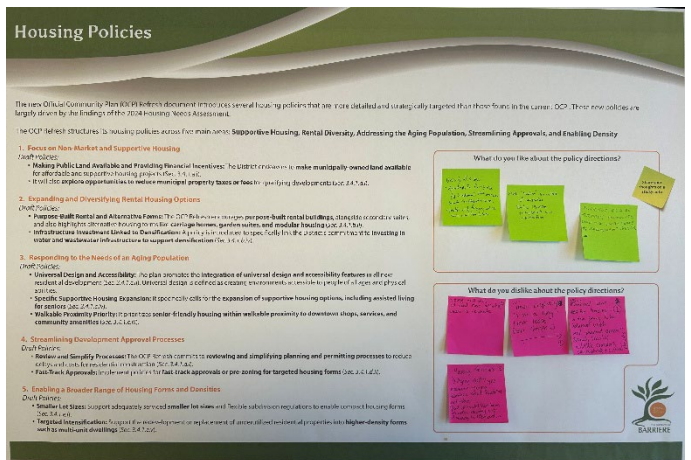
- Which flood modeling did you use to determine 30 m – 100 year flood regime? Up slope fires, logging? Beavers, wetlands help, natural buffers.
- Great idea. The slopes, creeks, pong, flood plain, etc. give habitat for non-humans and benefit for humans too. Adds beauty and variety to views.
- All parking areas should be hard surfaced. Post development runoff does not exceed pre-development levels. Both?
- Parking can use hex tiles for stability while still allowing drainage.



## Housing Policies

### What do you like about the policy directions?

- Variety of sizes. Apartments for family size (e.g. 3 bedrooms). Not everyone wants the upkeep of a house. Smaller units for young adults moving out of family home.
- Note "modular" is a method of construction. Point 2 (expanding and diversifying rental housing options) likely means trailers/mobile as an alternative form.
- Barriere as a retirement community. Growing workforce as employment permits.



### What do you dislike about the policy directions?

- Aging population, yes, however young families need healthy activities. Pool (private) has been on offer recently, but with nobody to lifeguard.
- Young and old, people need more activities and places to recreate.
- Town property is on a long-term lease from Simpcw. Using municipal land for housing – is this going to be balanced with well-planned green spaces, trails, wildlife corridors, species at risk, and cultural interests?





## 5.5 Feedback Frames – Phase 2

Several questions were asked using Feedback Frames to confirm overall agreement/support for the key themes of the draft OCP. Overall, most respondents were in agreement/supportive of each questions asked.

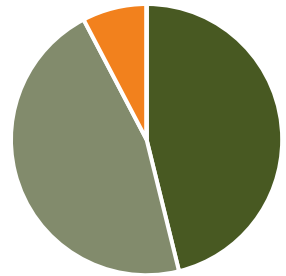
### Overall, how supportive are you of the draft Official Community Plan (OCP)?

- Strong agreement (46%)
- Agreement (31%)
- Neutral (8%)
- Disagreement (8%)
- Strong disagreement (8%)
- Not sure (0%)



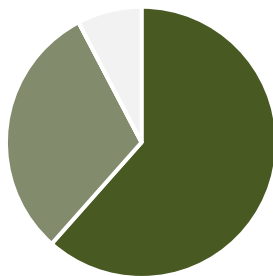
### The OCP's focus on volunteerism, youth engagement, and community participation reflects local values.

- Strong agreement (46%)
- Agreement (46%)
- Neutral (8%)
- Disagreement (0%)
- Strong disagreement (0%)



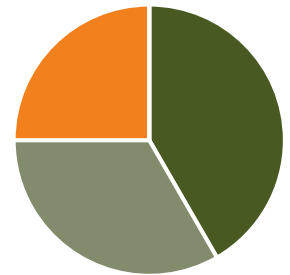
### Maintaining Barriere's small-town character while supporting growth is important to me.

- Extremely important (62%)
- Very important (31%)
- Somewhat important (0%)
- Not so important (0%)
- Not at all important (8%)



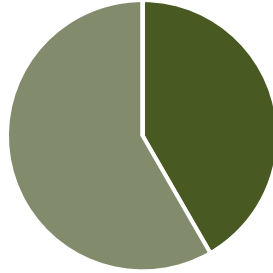
### Expanding Barriere's water and wastewater systems is important to support future housing and business growth.

- Extremely important (42%)
- Very important (33%)
- Somewhat important (25%)
- No so important (0%)
- Not at all important (0%)



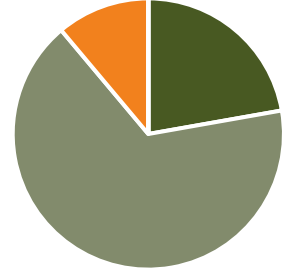
**Protecting rivers, creeks, and natural areas is a key community priority.**

- Strong agreement (42%)
- Agreement (58%)
- Neutral (0%)
- Disagreement (0%)



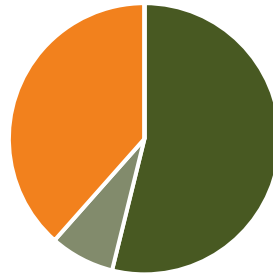
**I support the OCP's goals for climate adaptation - helping the community prepare for wildfire, flooding, and extreme weather.**

- Strong agreement (22%)
- Agreement (67%)
- Neutral (11%)
- Disagreement (0%)
- Strong disagreement (0%)
- Not sure (0%)



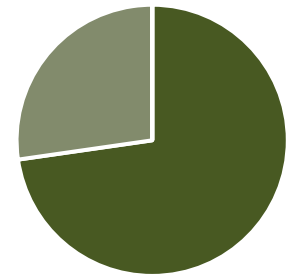
**Revitalizing the downtown as Barriere's social and economic heart is an important community priority.**

- Extremely important (54%)
- Very important (8%)
- Somewhat important (38%)
- Not so important (0%)
- Not at all important (8%)



**I support compact, mixed-use development in or near the downtown core.**

- Strong agreement (73%)
- Agreement (27%)
- Neutral (0%)
- Disagreement (0%)
- Strong disagreement (0%)
- Not sure (0%)



**It is important that new development contributes to a more walkable, connected community.**

- Extremely important (50%)
- Very important (25%)
- Somewhat important (25%)
- Not so important (0%)
- Not at all important (0%)



## 6 Next Steps

Throughout each phase of engagement, the project team has reviewed all community feedback, which is a key part of updating the Official Community Plan (OCP). With the completion of the second phase of engagement, the District will finalize the draft OCP, incorporating the input received.

Next steps include the formal adoption process and public hearing, which is another opportunity for further community input before the OCP is officially adopted. Once adopted, the OCP will guide land use decisions, development applications, and long-term planning in the District of Barriere.

The District remains committed to ongoing engagement and will continue to share updates on OCP implementation through its website and other communication channels. To stay informed about the OCP Refresh, please visit the [OCP Refresh website](#).