

PLAN PARK COUNTY



PROJECT UPDATE

Board of County Commissioners

May 17, 2022



STATUS UPDATE

PROJECT TIMELINE

2022

2023



YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT ENGAGEMENT



35 Students (7th grade – College)

Meeteetse MS/HS, Cody HS, Powell HS, and Northwest College students

- Interest in more activities for young adults and commercial services
- Keen awareness of growth (impacts and benefits)
- Value tight-knit community
- Desire to protect agriculture, open space, scenery
- Most not planning to stay in Park County
 - Many attending college outside of Park County
 - Interest in careers in agriculture and healthcare (among others)



PRELIMINARY SURVEY RESULTS

SUMMARY OF WHO PARTICIPATED

704

Total Respondents

666

Full-Time Residents

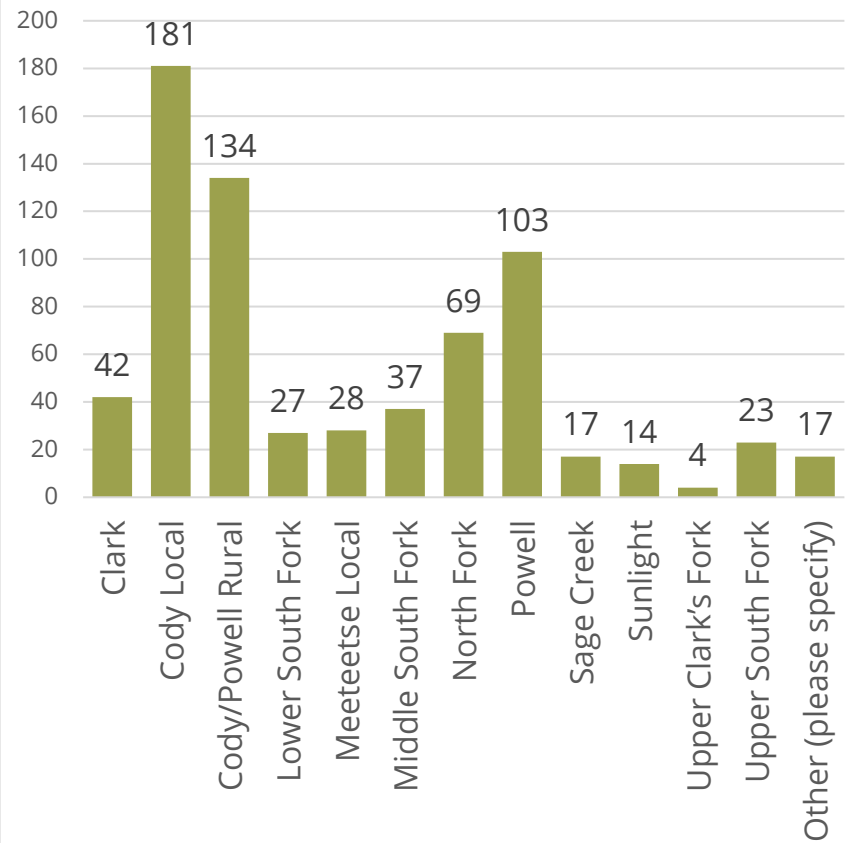
153

Own Property Outside
the Planning Area where
they Live

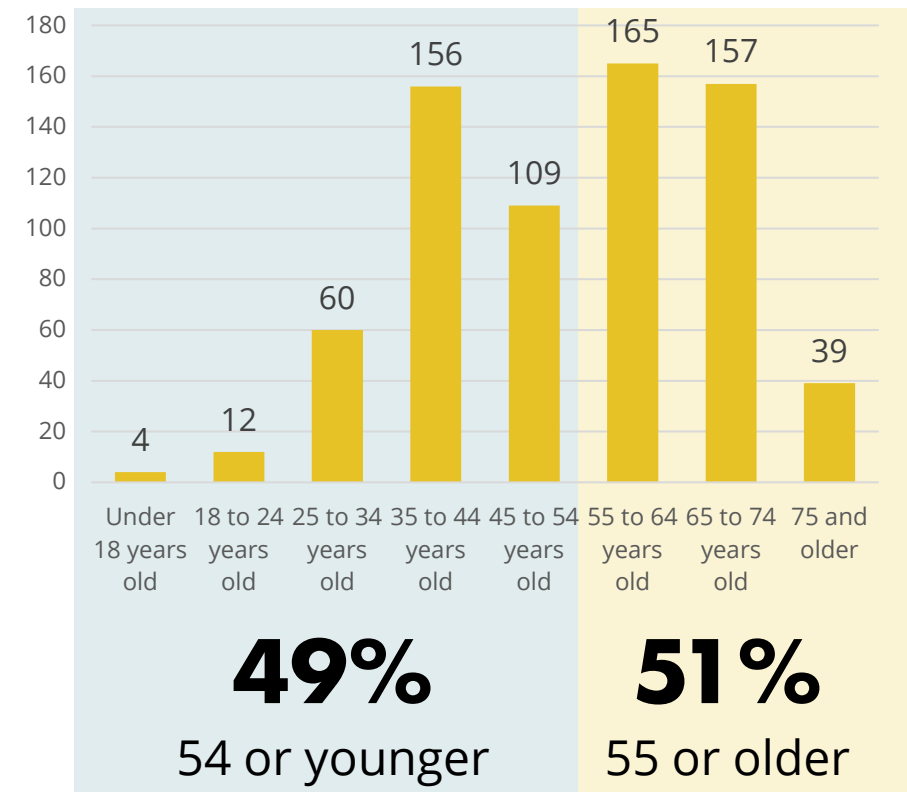
39

In more than one
additional planning area

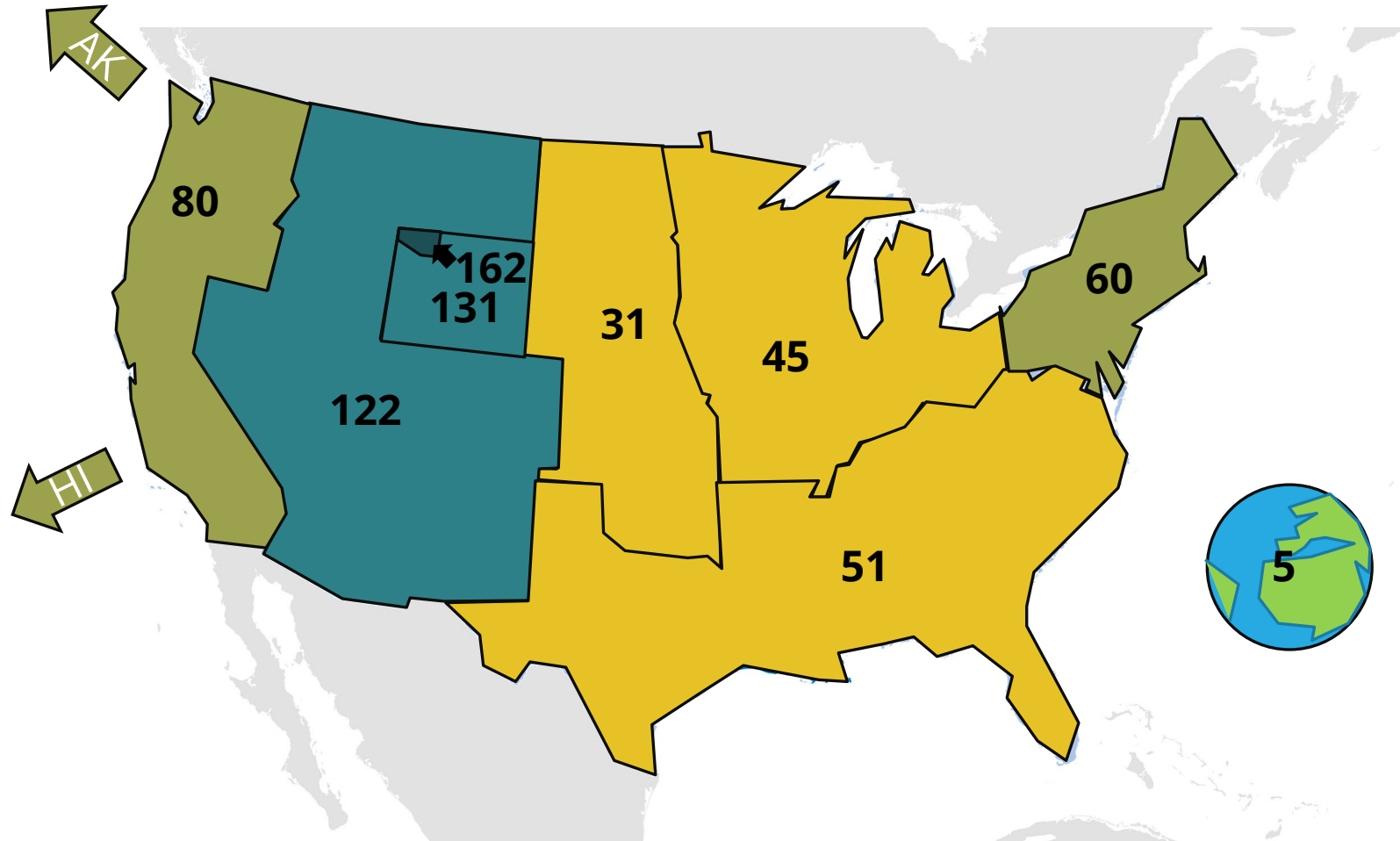
If you live in Park County (part-time or full-time) where do you live?



What is Your Age?

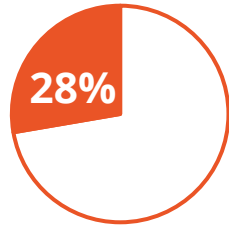


WHERE DID YOU MOVE TO PARK COUNTY FROM?

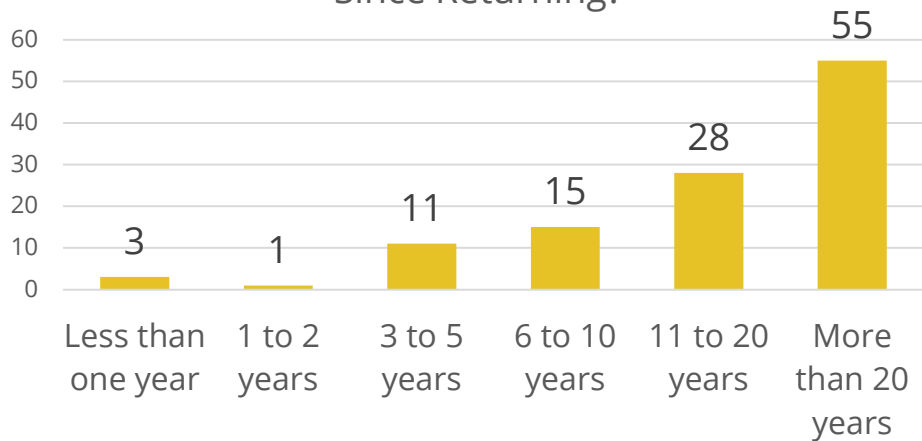


PARK COUNTY RETURNERS

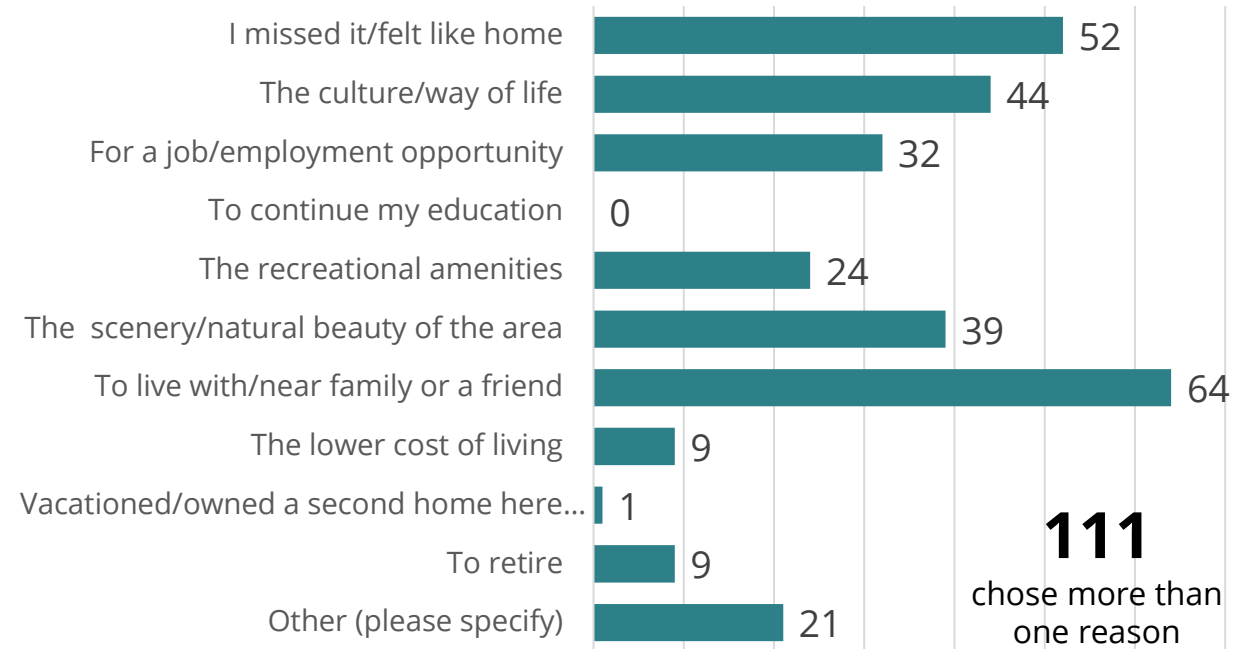
195
 Respondents
 Moved away and
 came back



How Long Have You Lived in Park County Since Returning?



Why Did You Move Back?



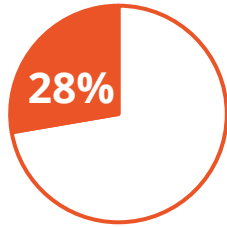
“Other” responses include owning property or a business, specific family circumstances, the original move away always intended to be temporary.

PARK COUNTY RETURNERS

195

Respondents

Moved away and
came back



What positive changes have you noticed in Park County since you've been back?

- **New industries & Economic Growth**
Includes both new opportunities and reinvestment in existing businesses and downtown
- **Growth of recreation opportunities**
Includes general comments on improved parks and specifics like Sleeping Giant reopening, recreation center, ice rink, fairgrounds improvement
- **More restaurants, shopping, and amenities**
Includes food trucks and downtown events
- **Improved services**
Roads, Emergency, Schools, Library

What not-so-positive changes have you noticed in Park County since you've been back?

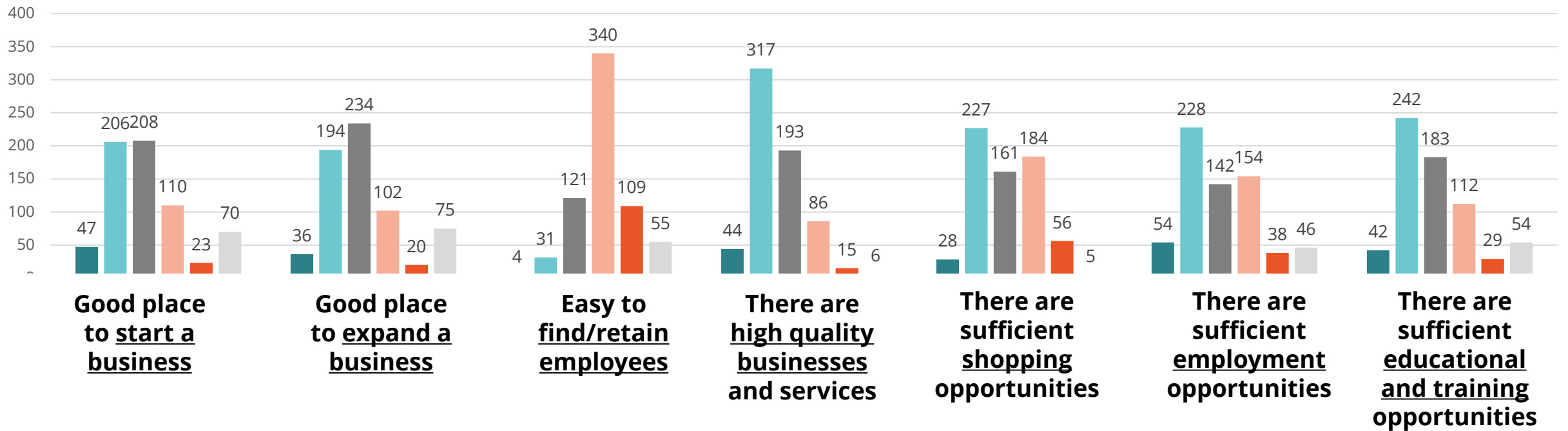
- **Increasing cost of living**
Includes housing cost rise, land cost rise, and wage stagnation
- **Growth of Population**
Includes overall growth and sense of concern of where new population is moving from
- **Resistance to Change**
Includes concerns of "protectionism" and lost opportunities for economic growth
- **Decreased Access to Nature**
Includes wildlife, recreation and open spaces.

- **Changing culture and values**

Open-ended comments Included positive and negative reactions to opinions both inside and outside the county; Included both desires and concerns for shifts in multiple political directions; Included opinions ascribed to long time residents and outsiders; included concerns for civility the evolving tone of civic discourse

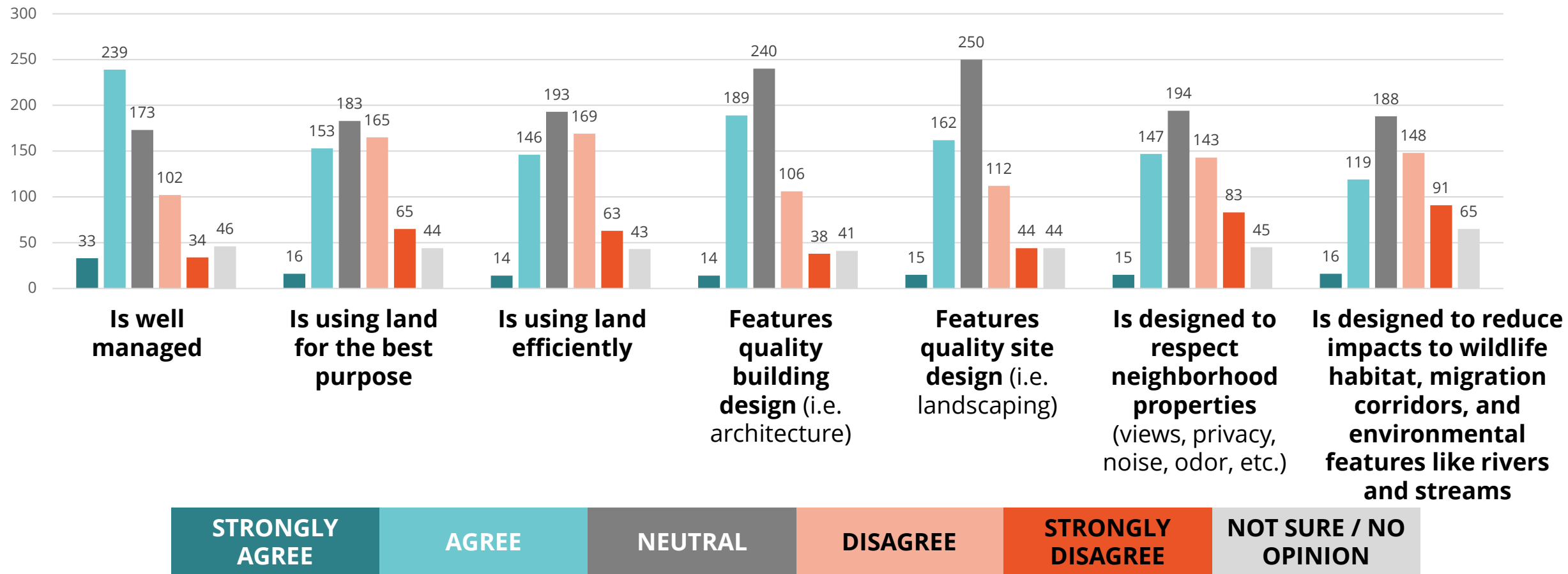
PLANNING AREA ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

How would you rate the following economic indicators in Park County?



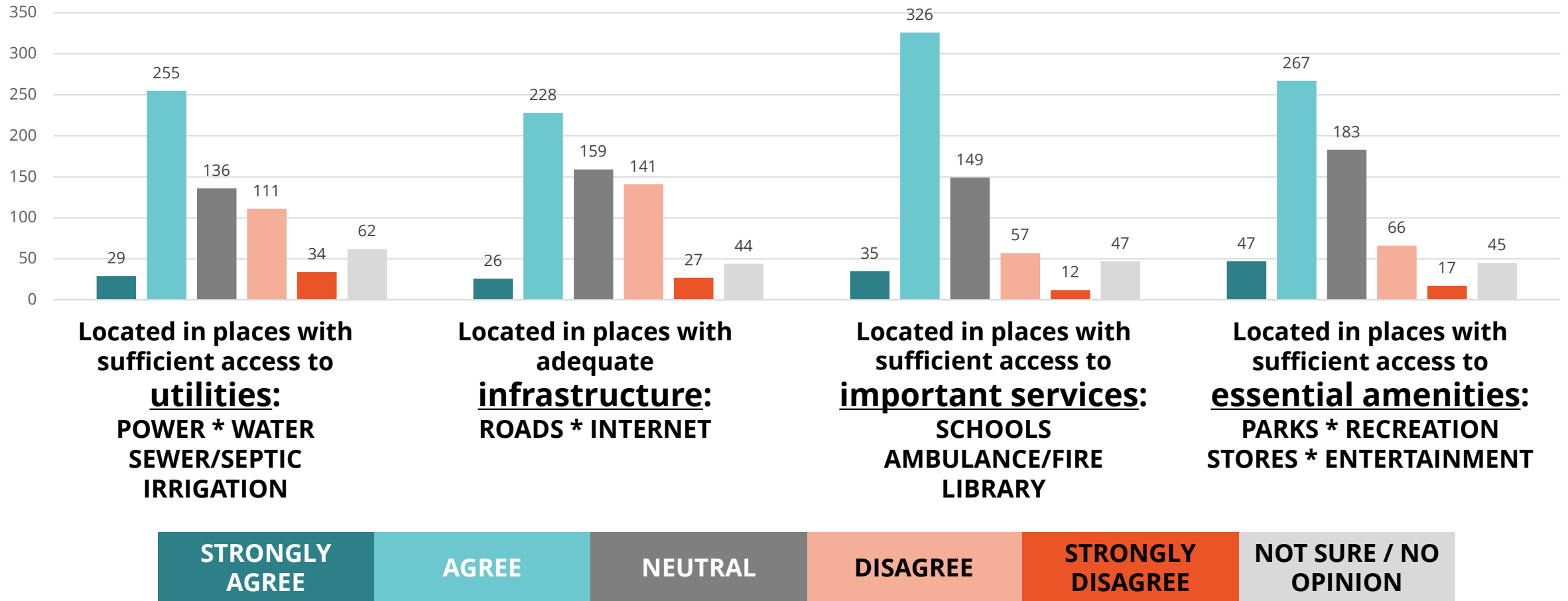
PLANNING AREA ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

New development (in the last 5-10 years) in my planning area...



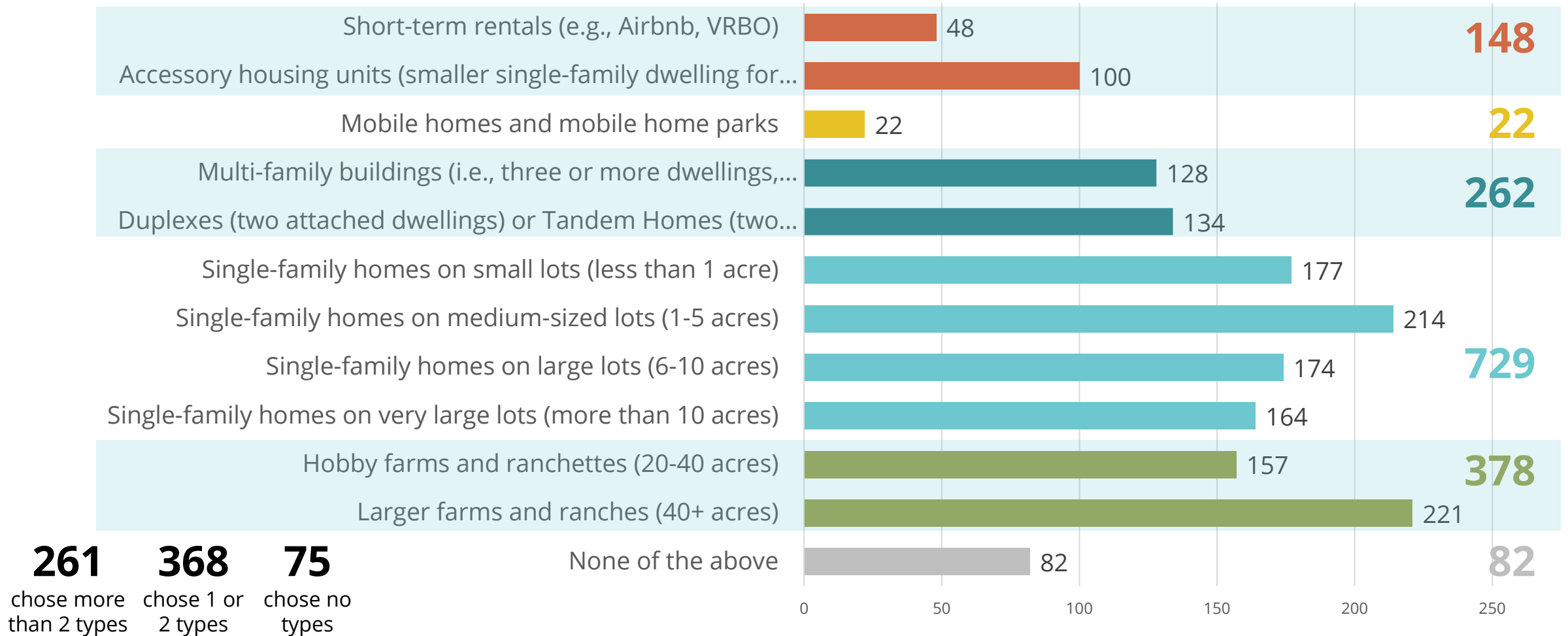
PLANNING AREA ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

New development (in the last 5-10 years) in my planning area is...



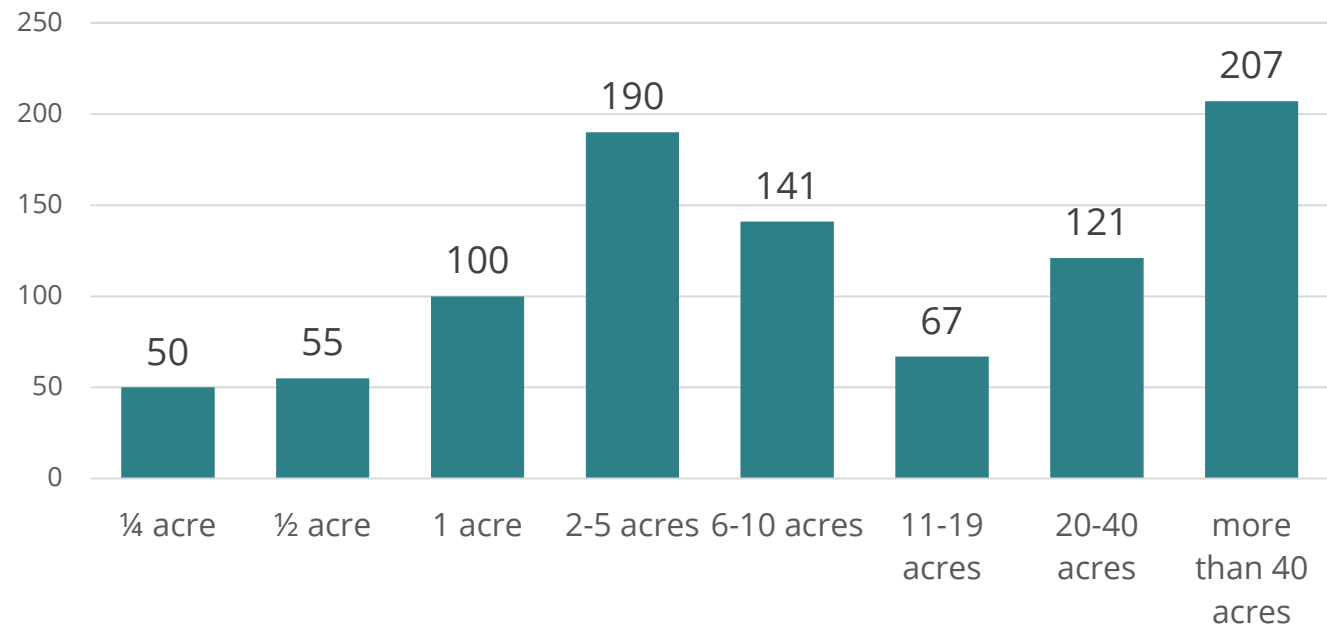
PLANNING AREA ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

What types of housing would you like to see more of in your planning area?



PLANNING AREA ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

How large would your ideal property be?



148 **476** **80**

chose more than 1 size chose 1 size chose no sizes

WHAT WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE STAY THE SAME?

Common Themes:

- Western heritage
- Open lands
- Access to nature and recreation
- Wildlife
- Sense of community
- Rural land including farming & ranching

Examples:

Park County's western heritage, scenery, fish and wildlife habitat, and pristine natural environment are unique and highly valued qualities which should be protected, nurtured, and allowed to thrive in the future.

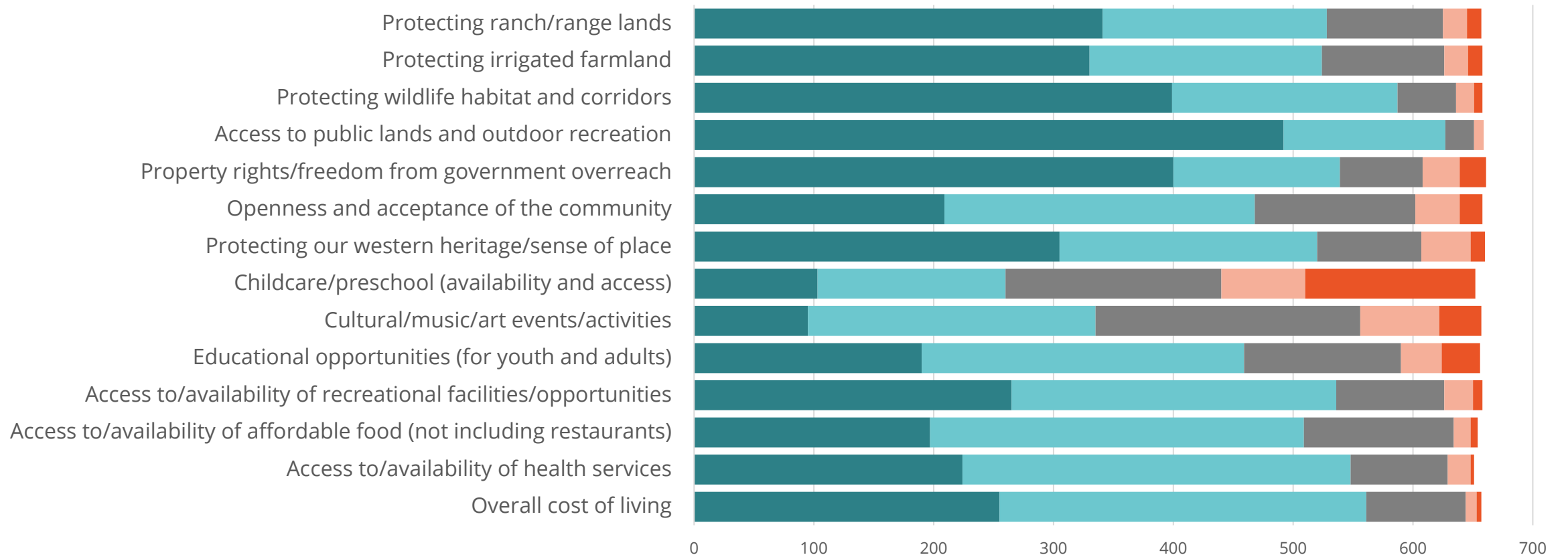
Keep small town feeling where families still mean something, and quality of life comes first.

Country living! I would also like to see a more diverse shopping experience close by instead of having to travel to Billings to buy things because there is much better selection of everything!

PARK COUNTY AS A WHOLE

QUALITY OF LIFE

What aspects of Park County are most important to your quality of life?



**STRONGLY
AGREE**

AGREE

NEUTRAL

DISAGREE

**STRONGLY
DISAGREE**

CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT CHALLENGES (THINGS THAT CONCERN YOU) DO YOU SEE FOR THE FUTURE OF PARK COUNTY?

- Property and home prices
- Need for opportunities for workforce and for next generation / young adults / young families
- Focus on residents and workers
- Population and development growth
- Changing values/culture

WHAT OPPORTUNITIES (THINGS THAT EXCITE YOU) DO YOU SEE FOR THE FUTURE OF PARK COUNTY?

- Outdoor recreation
- Preserving nature & wildlife
- Agricultural & tourism industries
- High quality jobs
- Improving amenities
- High quality of life
- New ideas from new businesses

VISION



GROWTH is on the community's mind more than any other topic, and 2/3 of the time it was a part of an idea or phrase:

- **Sustainable or Careful Growth**
Controlled Growth, Discourage Unrestricted Growth, Growth With Care, Responsible Productive Growth, Smart Growth, Wise Growth Decisions, Structured Controlled Growth, Manage Growth, Slow Smart Growth, Reasonable Growth Community, Carefully Planned Growth, Well Controlled Growth, Better Control Growth, Focused Areas of Growth, Quality of Growth, Sustained Growth, Sustainable Longterm Growth, Sustainable Growth, Sustainable Planned Growth, Modest Measured Growth, Growth With Planning
- **Slow Growth**
Slow Planned Growth, Very Limited Growth, Slow Sustainable Growth, Slower Population Growth, Slow the Growth
- **Expected Growth**
Rapid Growth, Embrace Alternative Growth
- **Specific Growth**
Economic Growth, Affordable Focused Growth, Recreational Growth



NEXT STEPS

NEXT STEPS

Ongoing work on Interim Work Products

- Existing Conditions and Land Suitability Analysis
- State of the County Report
- Vision and Values Survey Summary

Opportunities for Input

- Initial Technical Working Group Meeting – May 25
- Community Meetings - Round 1: Plan Framework
 - June 20: Powell Fair, 6:30-8:30pm
 - June 21: Meeteetse High School, 6:30-8:30pm (LOCATION PENDING)
 - June 22: Cody Library, 6:30-8:30pm
 - June 27: Virtual, 6:00-7:00pm (Zoom)



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