

Cupertino Climate Action Plan (CAP) 2.0

Stakeholder Engagement Workshop #3 Summary

May 2 & 3, 2022 | 3:00 – 5:00 pm | Zoom

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Background

Cupertino is currently near the end of its Climate Action Plan update planning process. To date, the City has conducted a greenhouse gas (GHG) analysis, identified ambitious climate action goals, and engaged with community and stakeholder groups to help develop and refine mitigation measures and actions. The purpose of this meeting is to continue fostering and nurturing relationships with key partners and stakeholders—especially those who provide critical perspectives (e.g., community-based organizations,

marginalized communities, faith-based organizations)—and to create space for their voices in the process and leverage their expertise.

Meeting Objectives

- Review the draft Climate Action Plan and its associated mitigation measures and actions.
- Gather ideas, priorities, and concerns on the proposed mitigation measures and actions.

Agenda Overview

| Time | Item |
|--------|---|
| 15 min | Introduction |
| 15 min | CAP Overview Presentation and Q&A |
| 75 min | Discussion of CAP Mitigation Measures and Actions |
| 10 min | Conclusion and Next Steps |

Participants

Workshop Participants

| Name | Affiliation |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Lisa Talbott | Recology Cupertino - Waste Zero Specialist |
| Michael Strahs | Kimco Realty/Cupertino Village Shopping Center |
| Shyam “Sean” Panchal | First Maganson Holdings, Inc. |
| Ursula Syrova | City of Cupertino (Environmental Programs) |
| Amy Dao | BAAQMD |
| Dashiell Leeds | Sierra Club |
| Jennifer Shearin | Resident of Cupertino, Walk-Bike Cupertino Board Member |
| Emily Alvarez | Program Manager for StopWaste |
| Micqi Scott | Future Cupertino resident |
| Rick Kitson | Cupertino Chamber of Commerce |
| Rebecca Tolentino | Apple Inc. |
| Hoi Poon | Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action Parent |
| Gwyn Azar | Student Silicon Valley Youth Climate Action |
| Priya Vytla | Apple Inc. |
| Alan Leventhal | Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Archaeologist and Ethnohistorian |

Project Staff

| Name | Affiliation |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| Andre Duurvoort | City of Cupertino |
| Victoria Morin | City of Cupertino |
| Rina Horie | City of Cupertino |
| Karen Chen | City of Cupertino |
| Mike Chang | Cascadia Consulting Group |

Introduction

City staff and the consultant team provided a brief introduction of the CAP project team and welcomed all the participants to the stakeholder meeting. City staff provided an overview of the meeting’s agenda and goals.

As an icebreaker at the beginning of the workshop, participants were asked to share their name, organization, and favorite summer activity in the Zoom chat. Below are the answers to the favorite summer activity icebreaker question.

- Open water swimming
- Family trip to Montana
- Sitting on our back porch with the fans on with our puppies
- High Sierra hiking/swimming in rivers and lakes
- Ride my bike to our local library!
- Summer camping
- Road bike, mountain bike, motorcycle, and camping!
- Trips to the ocean—but just to walk and enjoy, not swim
- Hiking, going to the beach, and outdoor parks

CAP 2.0 Overview and Q&A

City staff presented an overview of the CAP 2.0, the climate action planning process, the City’s progress so far, and how previous feedback has been integrated. City staff reminded participants of the emissions reduction targets and the largest emissions sources and reviewed the five sectors addressed in the CAP 2.0.

Question & Answer

| Question | Answer |
|---|---|
| Was there input to this plan from organizations that are focused on equity? I can see that eliminating any use of natural gas will be very expensive for those living in apartments or rental homes (40% of Cupertino) that cannot use solar power, as they are at the mercy of their landlords and PG&E. | Andre will address this question during Energy Section in the presentation. |

Discussion of CAP Mitigation Measures and Actions

After the initial presentation by City staff, the meeting focused on proposed mitigation measures and actions in each of the five CAP focus areas. City staff presented on mitigation measures and actions and then asked participants, “What questions do you have?” and “What other considerations or changes would you like to see to increase your support?” Meeting participants shared questions and comments verbally and in the Zoom chat. At the end of each focus area section, participants were asked to respond to a Zoom poll, which asked, “On a scale of 1–5, how supportive are you of these measures and actions?”

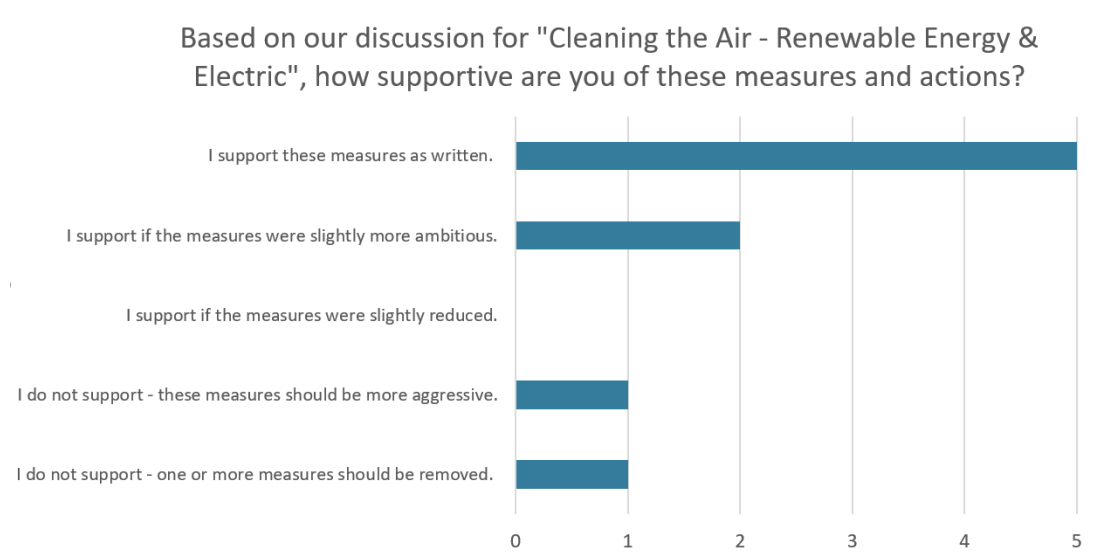
Cleaning the Air – Renewable Energy and Electrification

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|---|--|
| What considerations have been given to the lack of reliable infrastructure that PG&E has in our state? Especially in the summer, the entire state is subject to power cuts and brownouts. Will we be exacerbating this issue as we are increasing the load? | PG&E came to a few of our public meetings and let us know that there's no immediate issues with electric capacity in Cupertino, but we are still subject to public safety power shutoffs. This remains a challenge. The CAP 2.0 does not have a clear answer, but it says that before we adopt ordinance, we will perform public outreach to study these actions prior to developing an ordinance. We do not want to require someone to electrify their AC unless we're confident they'll be able to use their appliances. All electric homes are safer, but how do we support this infrastructure? We don't have clear answers, but we'll seek those answers out. |
| By requiring new buildings to be "All Electric", are we including exceptions for commercial restaurants, who need gas service for cooking certain cuisines where electric and induction heating sources aren't suitable replacements? | The existing ordinance provides exemptions for essential services and institutions like hospitals and emergency services. Another exemption is available for certain types of cuisine. The burden is on the applicant (the person who is building out new building) to communicate when there is no feasible alternative. This is built into our ordinance today. |
| Are the Energy Measures evaluated based on their economic costs? | Yes, we are including economic evaluations with each measure. |
| Also, does this mean if a home is renovated, then will that home need to be modified to be electrical-only? | With Measure BE-2, we think the rule will be based on some kind of point in time or milestone in a building's lifespan. Some examples we've seen in neighboring jurisdictions is the development of a rule that requires you to electrify that appliance when it dies or to set a date (by this date, we're going to have all appliances in the building to be electric); or encourage by promoting/incentivizing electrification. Later this summer, we have a budget request to conduct the study and creating our approach for electrifying existing buildings. As these progress from adoption to implementation, that's how we would proceed. We will get into the details, ask the public what works for them, and we'll put that together as a proposal for City Council. |
| Sierra Club Loma Prieta Chapter, excited to see the measures, one thing I'd love to see is explicit | When we get into the details of creating that ordinance, we will develop that specific framework |

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|--|--|
| <p>mention potentially adding renter protection ordinances (exists in SJ draft plan); framework for equity probably has that but should be explicitly written that those programs are on the table and studied by the city. Otherwise, I need to digest adjustments to GHG targets, some metrics have changes from simple percentage to specific. I will have more comments on that in the future.</p> | <p>(economic activity, DAC, offset those communities and comply with ordinances). Regarding the GHG emissions – we did modify our inventory (Appendices B and C). We came up with a pathway to the goal (the goal is the same), but we need to revise at around the 5 year mark, when the technology is available to get us to that 2040 date. This is a similar approach to other Cities such as San Jose.</p> |
| <p>How would the city work with ABAG power to encourage market development of natural gas alternatives?</p> | <p>ABAG POWER is a unique publicly owned energy purchasing organization. They are in a unique position to take on this task and let us know if there are market alternatives. We'd like to explore if biofuels or renewable natural gas are possible as a way to reduce emissions while we also pursue electrification. The organization just released an RFP out for natural gas alternatives that also help all 40 purchasing member agencies comply with the California Short-Lived Climate Pollutants Act, or SB 1383.</p> |
| <p>Model ordinances Andre, you'll be looking at – what's going to be very important is models are great, reality always wins. We're very supportive of the process, but must see where the models come from and where they are adopted to the extent possible. We want to see how the wheel is moving along, not trying to invent the wheel.</p> | |
| <p>San Jose, Menlo Park and 100 EU cities set goal for 100% carbon neutral by 2030. Any reason why Cupertino going for 2040, 10 years behind?</p> | |
| <p>Thank you. Menlo Park in SJ (difficult to aim aggressive goals) and they've already passed 2030 carbon neutral. Why does Cupertino not go for that? My household is achieving 100% carbon neutral. We believe we'll get CN in 2 years; Cupertino families have resources. What I've heard from students, neighbors are lack of EV chargers, SVCE (program this year to address issue). Why aren't you aiming for a higher goal?</p> | <p>This is an important question because many cities and companies are making bold climate action plans. The difference between the Menlo Park plan and the Cupertino CAP 2.0 is that ours is designed to meet the stringent guidelines for CEQA qualification. That means the Cupertino CAP 2.0 includes a detailed calculation for each measure which shows how we meet the target to reduce emissions. Aligning the CAP with CEQA is one policy in Cupertino's General Plan that directs us to incorporate sustainability into all future projects.</p> <p>It is important to note that Cupertino is free to make additional statements or proclamations such as carbon-free by 2030. These statements serve an important purpose as a signal, but they just will not be usable for CEQA streamlining purposes.</p> |

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|---|--|
| Resources coming in from State, let's tap into those resources/funding. | We can justify this approach to any funding agency (federal and state) and show them our numbers to get funding for pilot programs. Therefore, it is important we take a rigorous analysis. I will look at SJ's methodology and study. |
| Getting to carbon neutral by 2030 is unfortunately not likely to be feasible. The useful life of hot water heaters and HVAC are more than 10 years, so unless we are able to stop all new installs today they will still exist in 2030. I support being aggressive but acknowledging the current state of the market. Hopefully we will get there before 2040 but a lot has to change before we can get to market saturation of electric appliances. Also happy to see energy efficiency still acknowledged in partnership with electrification as it is critical to do both. | Thank you for this comment. Energy efficiency must remain the first policy step because it reduces resource demand and cost of decarbonization. |
| It may not be known, but Cupertino is 40% renters that do not have the ability to install solar panels on their home. The vast majority live in market-rate apartments and homes, and will bear the burden of purchasing all their electricity at market rates from PG&E. | Thank you for this comment. We designed these measures to be responsive to the high number of renters, elders, and others who may be at risk of higher energy burden. This is an important consideration of our Equity pillar. |



As a follow-up, one person identified the following context for their "I do not support answer":

- To follow up to that comment, I would support BE-1, BE-3, BE-4, and BE-5. I have great concerns about requiring replacement appliances to be electric and any changes made to an existing structure also require going completely to electricity.

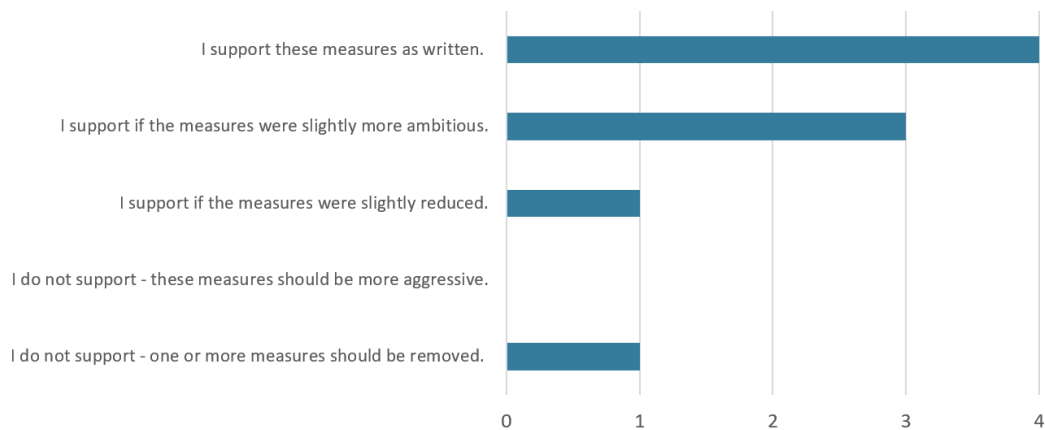
Connecting Communities – Transportation, Land Use

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|--|---|
| How does slowing down traffic with slow streets reduce emissions? | Without slow streets, many people won't use bikes or other "active" transportation. It's just too dangerous. |
| Cities such as San Jose, Menlo Park, flagstaff AZ, Ithaca NY have set the goal, we can look at cities for best practices. Ithaca already working on implementation, 2030 is 8 years away. Hoi P., additional comment: New EV models are already cheaper than combustion with federal and state rebates, and can go 300 miles. Hoi P., additional Comment: Technology is already there and will get better. Low income communities get extra rebates, can buy used EV for free. | |
| How can measure TR-1 have "teeth"? Right now, whether any infrastructure projects out of the city Bicycle and city Pedestrian Plans are at the mercy of whether individual council members are supportive. *whether they are implemented is at the mercy of whether the individual council members are supportive. | I don't have a perfect answer, but I will acknowledge that all these actions are subject to public feedback, budget constraints, and whatever the City Council identifies as priorities. The CAP raises it up to say it is a priority of the community, we have robust calculations that it's an effective thing to do, and we have a good plan of action addressing multiple pillars of action to get it implemented. None of this is guaranteed unless we can make the case to City Council when the project gets started. That's the normal public process we have to go through for all of these. It won't be easy, but we think that by putting it in the CAP and showing all of your support, when staff bring it to the Sustainability Commission, the Commission can reiterate that it's an important action item for the City to take. We rely on that feedback at our milestones as well as your continued participation at public hearings and at budget sessions. |
| Seattle, WA and Riverside, CA both recently implemented an ordinance that any street that is touched—even for minor repairs/maintenance—must have a Complete Streets plan to allow for safe and easy car, bike and pedestrian traffic. Why can't we have that as part of our plan? | |
| How were e-bikes and bike sharing considered in developing plan measures? | We will be bringing this back to City Council. Several years ago, "shared scooters and short term bike rentals" were not what we wanted see in Cupertino, but we want to re-visit that. We think micro-mobility solutions will be an important part of this plan. |
| Additional comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scooters would be great! ▪ I agree— would love more options for rental! | |
| Public transit elements of the plan, TR-2 as it relates to connecting to other cities throughout | This is a massive challenge. We do say in the CAP that we want to continue to partner with VTA (our |

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|--|---|
| the Bay, creating better more efficient network, talking to someone at school about it (public transit doesn't work because it takes so long), the bus would take too long. In relation to partnering with nearby cities, regarding public transit beyond Via Shuttle. | regional transit agency) as one of the partnership actions we have. We want to move forward to try things out. Via shuttle is a perfect example of that. Once that's established and serving folks, Measure TR-2 talks about expanding upon those pilot programs. We're working with the City of San Jose to get grants and expand services into San Jose with the Via Shuttle. We see there is a need to continue partnering with VTA, but also a need to try different things through pilot programs. |
| I'm concerned that slow streets won't be well received by the community when it seems to boil down at least in part to intentionally making traffic worse to advantage alternative modes of transportation. Complete Streets sounds better than Slow Streets. | Thank you for this comment. We want to explore pilot streets and see what the data tells us about how it affects everyday life and commerce in the City. |

Based on our discussion for "Connecting Communities: Transportation & Land Use", how supportive are you of these measures and actions?

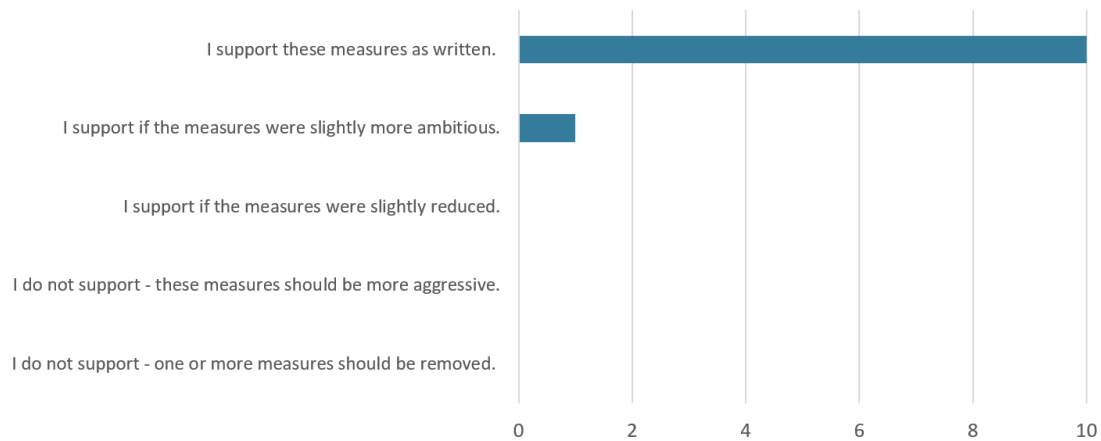


Getting to Zero Waste

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|--|--|
| The headline language of W-2 seems to suggest that recycling and composting should be reduced which doesn't seem to be what is intended. | We will amend this to make this clearer. |

Based on our discussion for "Getting to Zero Waste", how supportive are you of these measures and actions?

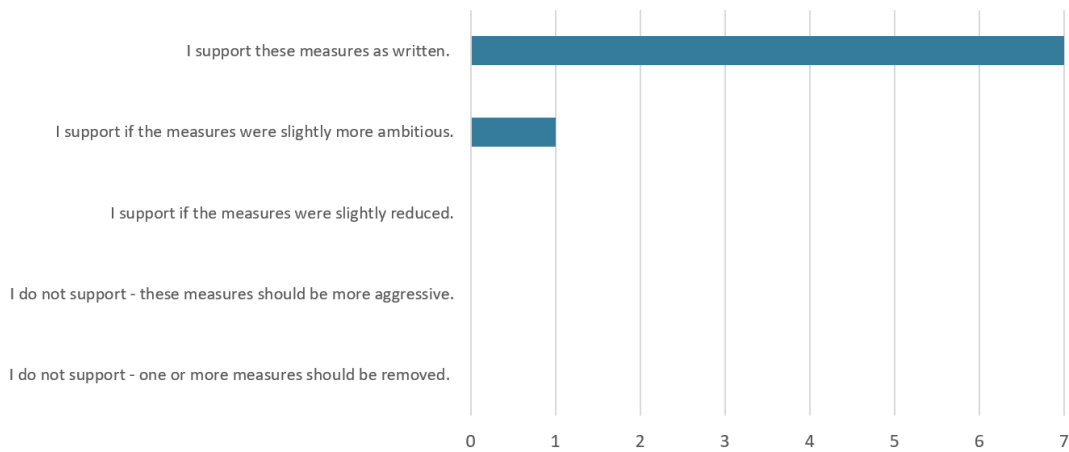


Working with Nature

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

| Question/Comment | Answer |
|--|---|
| <p>Kudos to the City for doing an amazing job in this area. I think something that can be done to speed up effort is engage youths and partner with school districts. I see parents and a lot of people are interested in lawn conversions. I think if there's a way to set up – youth program where the students can be engaged, perhaps work with nonprofits and get them trained and send them out for implementation. Educate residents (retired folks) who want their lawn more interesting, but they might not have the knowledge. Add workshops for different groups. People are already there on the subject matter.</p> | <p>There are fees with changes to landscaping, so whether it is providing direct support to residents or whole HOAs, we're in the process of figuring out the best way to accelerate that. We are finishing up the pilot program now.</p> |
| <p>There are a lot of great ideas in this category.</p> <p>Additional comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Yes, the victory garden is an awesome idea. | |

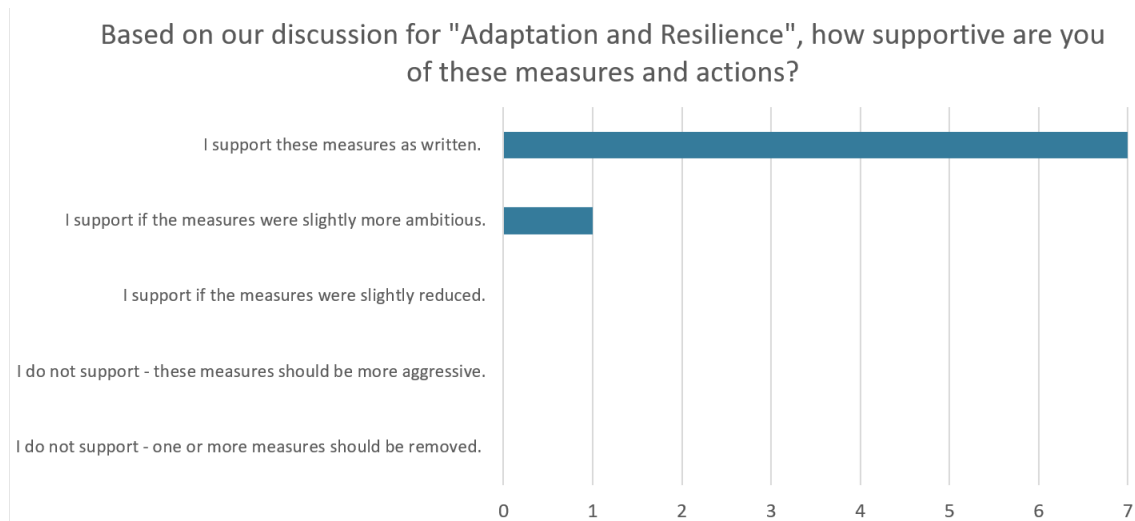
Based on our discussion for "Working with Nature: Carbon sequestration, biodiversity, and water", how supportive are you of these measures and actions?



Adaptation and Resilience

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

No questions asked.



Conclusion & Next Steps

City and consultant staff reviewed key themes from the discussion and discussed next steps with public review and finalizing the CAP. Staff reviewed upcoming dates, including the close of the online survey, Sustainability Commission voting on CAP 2.0, City Council study session, and City Council adoption. At the end of the meeting, participants were given the choice to answer optional demographic questions.

Question & Answer & Chat Comments

| Question | Answer |
|--------------------------------|--|
| How long does the survey take? | Rick- The survey is only 2 questions about Climate Action. There are a few optional demographic questions. The length of time depends on how much detail you want to add in the open-ended question. All questions are optional. |

Demographic Polling

- Which of the following best represents your race/ethnicity? Please select all that apply.

| Race | Number of Participants | Percentage |
|--|------------------------|------------|
| White or Caucasian | 5/9 | 56% |
| Other | 3/9 | 33% |
| Asian or Asian American | 1/9 | 11% |
| Latino, Latina, or Latinx | 0/9 | 0% |
| Middle Eastern, North African, or Arab American | 0/9 | 0% |
| Black or African American | 0/9 | 0% |
| Native American, American Indian, or Alaska Native | 0/9 | 0% |
| Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander | 0/9 | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 0/9 | 0% |

- What is your gender identity?

| Gender Identity | Number of Participants | Percentage |
|---------------------------|------------------------|------------|
| Man | 4/9 | 44% |
| Woman | 4/9 | 44% |
| Other | 1/9 | 11% |
| Non-binary/non-conforming | 0/24 | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 0/24 | 0% |

- What is your age?

| Age | Number of Participants | Percentage |
|----------|------------------------|------------|
| Under 18 | 1/9 | 11% |
| 18–24 | 0/9 | 0% |
| 25–34 | 2/9 | 22% |

| Age | Number of Participants | Percentage |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------|
| 35–44 | 1/9 | 11% |
| 45–54 | 4/9 | 44% |
| 55–64 | 0/9 | 0% |
| 65–74 | 0/9 | 0% |
| 75+ | 0/9 | 0% |
| Prefer not to say | 1/9 | 11% |