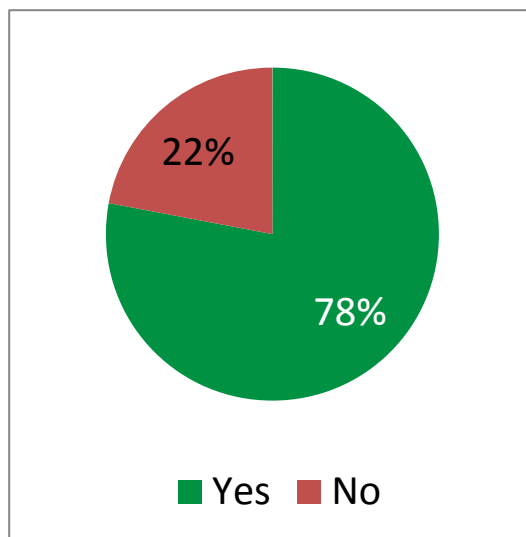


A survey was available on Open City Hall for a period of six weeks to gather resident opinions about the proposed food scraps program. Notice of the survey availability was provided to every household in Mountain View in the summer edition of the Recycling Resource newsletter, which also contained background information about the proposal and results of the pilot. The City received 333 responses through Open City Hall online, and 7 paper surveys were returned. In addition, another 28 residents submitted comments via email directly to the Council and/or staff. Responses to the survey questions are provided below, and a summary of all open-ended survey comments and email communications can be found at the end of this document:

### Open City Hall Survey

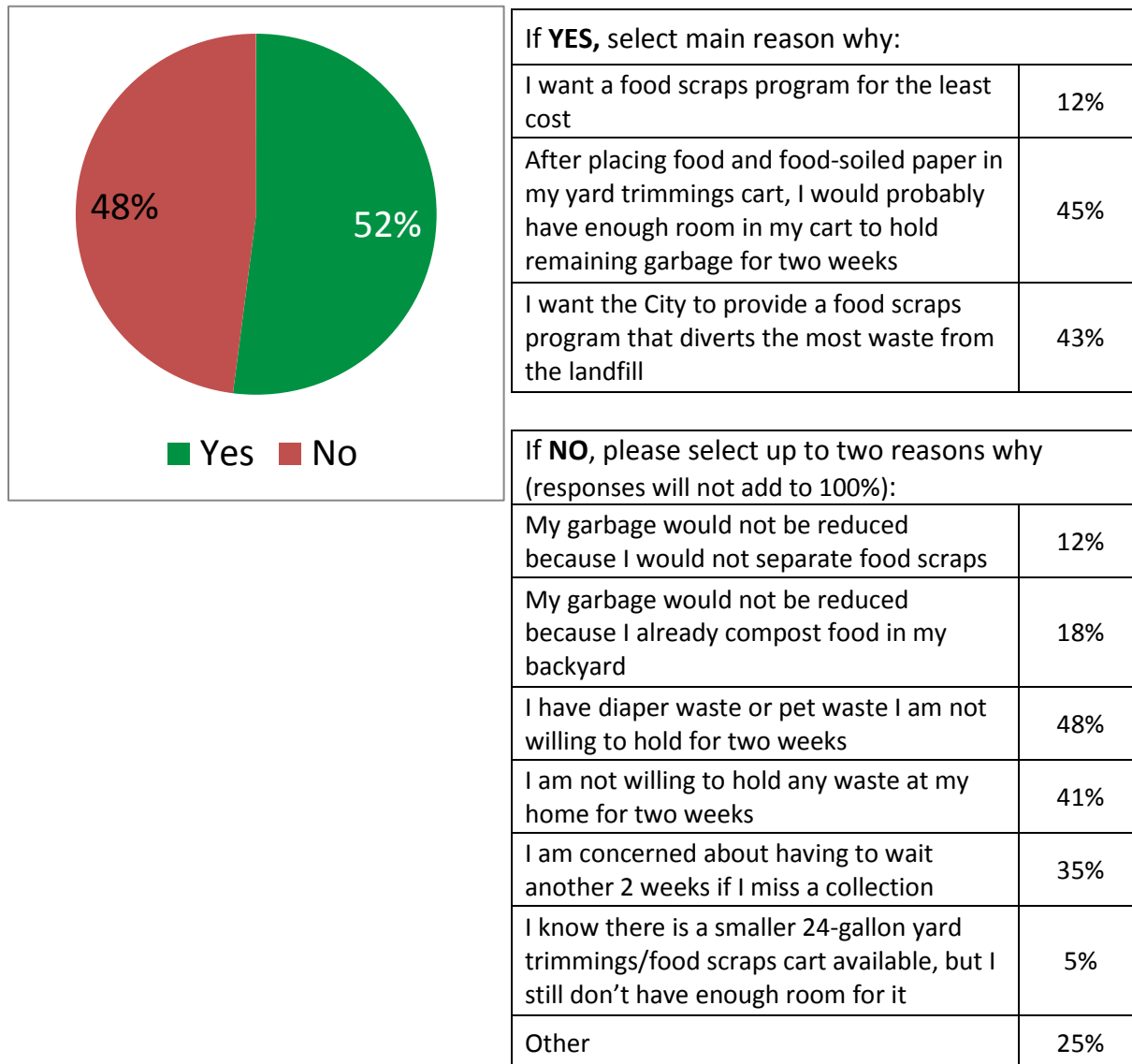
**Q.1:** Would you participate in a food scraps program (food and food-soiled paper placed in yard trimmings cart and collected weekly)?



If <b>YES</b> , select main reason why:	
I think it is easy to do	3%
I want to help divert as much waste as possible from the landfill	53%
I would feel like I am doing a good thing for my community	3%
It makes more sense to give food scraps a second life as soil amendments than to landfill them	41%

If <b>NO</b> , select main reason why:	
I have very little food and food-soiled paper	27%
I think it will be too smelly or messy or will attract pests	32%
I don't have time or room in my kitchen to separate food and food-soiled paper from the rest of my garbage	40%
I don't think keeping food scraps out of the landfill is important	1%

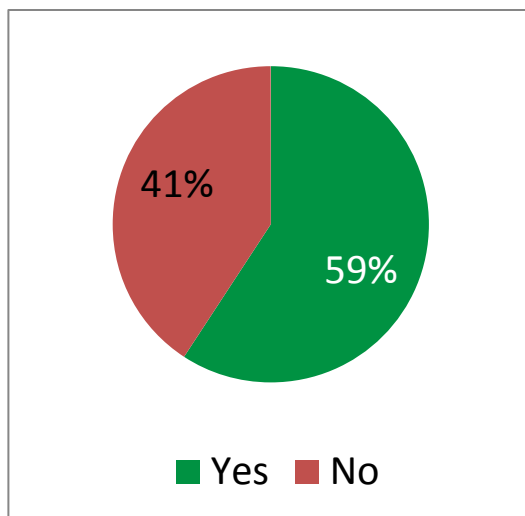
**Q.2:** Should the City change the garbage collection schedule to every other week to offset the costs associated with new weekly collection of the yard trimmings cart?



**Q.3:** Would you be more likely to support a food scraps program with every other week garbage collection if the program included:

Choose all that apply (responses will not add to 100%):	
Free off-week collections 2 or 3 times per year (when an additional collection is needed for any reason)	48%
A new 48-gallon garbage cart size (this is a more modest upsize option and cost for those needing a little more capacity)	25%
Opt-In to weekly garbage collection for an additional fee (subscription service)	30%
Replacement of existing garbage carts with a slightly larger size at the same rate residents pay now	58%

**Q.4:** To add the food scraps program and maintain weekly garbage collection, are you willing to support an increase on your garbage bill? For example, a 32-gallon garbage cart service would increase by about \$2.50 to \$3.50 per month.



**Q.5:** After placing food and food-soiled paper in your yard trimmings cart, if you don't think there would be enough room in your garbage cart to hold the remaining garbage for two weeks, please indicate why not?

Choose all that apply (responses will not add to 100%):	
I already compost food in my backyard	20%
I do not have food scraps or food-soiled paper like take-out food boxes, napkins, or pizza boxes	15%
I would not place any of my food and food-soiled paper in the yard trimmings cart	12%
I have a lot of waste other than food and food-soiled paper which is not recyclable or compostable	61%
Other	28%

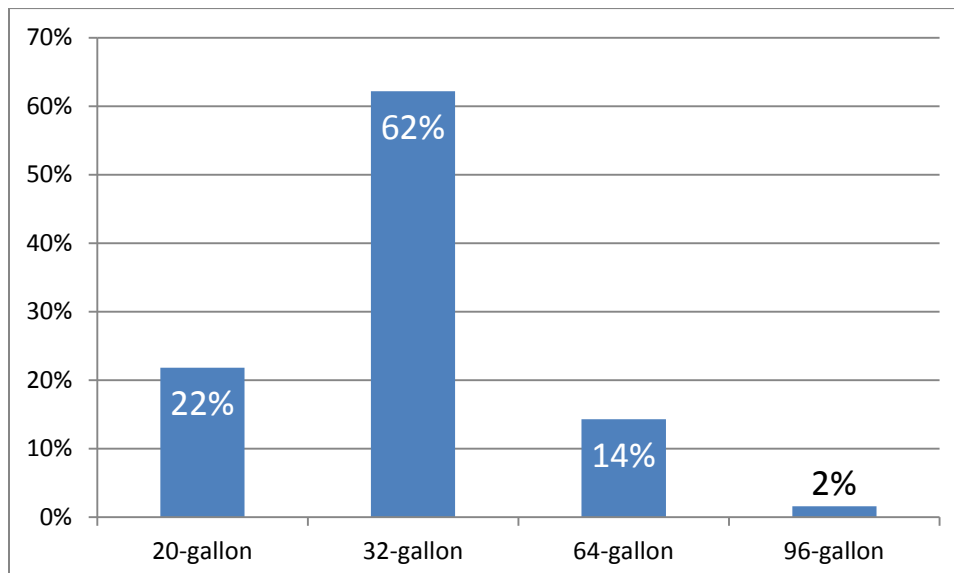
**Q.6:** After placing food and food-soiled paper in your yard trimmings cart, what options would you choose if you did not have enough room in your garbage cart to manage with every other week garbage collection?

Choose all that apply (responses will not add to 100%)	
If I occasionally had extra garbage, I would purchase Extra Garbage Tags (\$6 per 32-gallon bag) and set out the bags next to my garbage cart	30%
I would try and reduce the amount of garbage I put in my cart (e.g., purchase products with less packaging or, if applicable, subscribe to a diaper service instead of using disposables)	31%
I would pay to upsize my cart to the next size available (assume this is expensive than weekly garbage subscription)	51%
I would pay to subscribe to weekly garbage collection service	31%

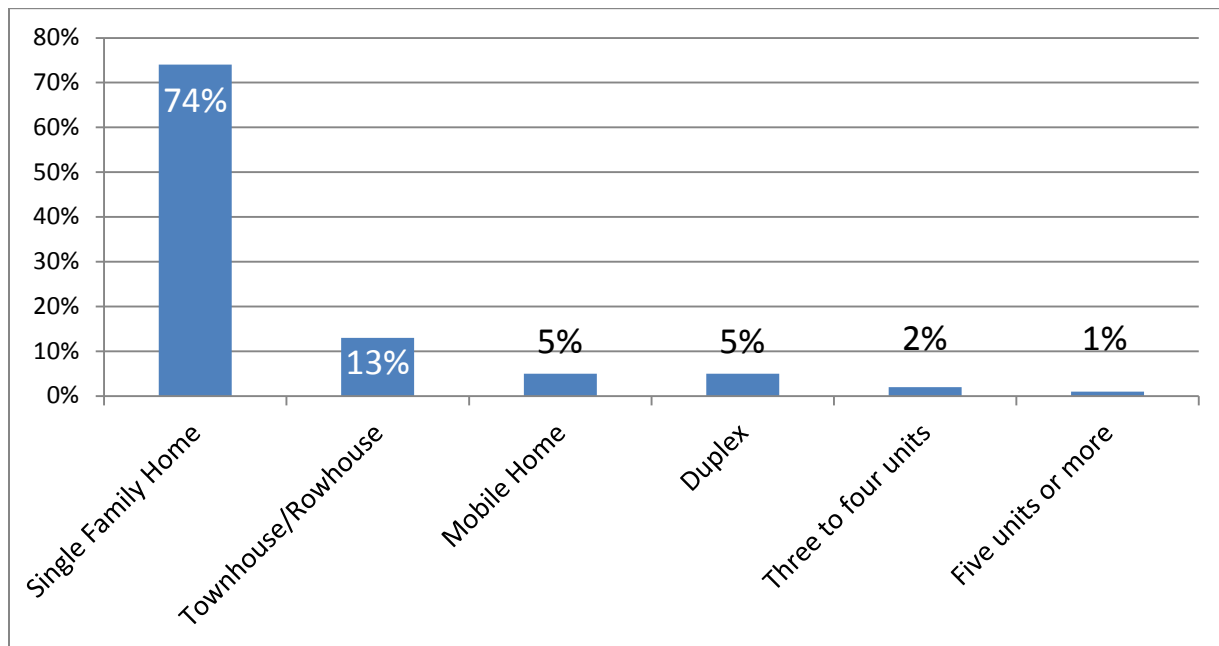
**Q.7:** If you answered the previous question “I would pay to subscribe to weekly garbage collection service”, please choose the main reason why:

I have diaper waste I don’t want to hold for two weeks	27%
I have pet waste I don’t want to hold for two weeks	15%
I don’t want to hold any garbage at my home for two weeks	43%
Other	15%

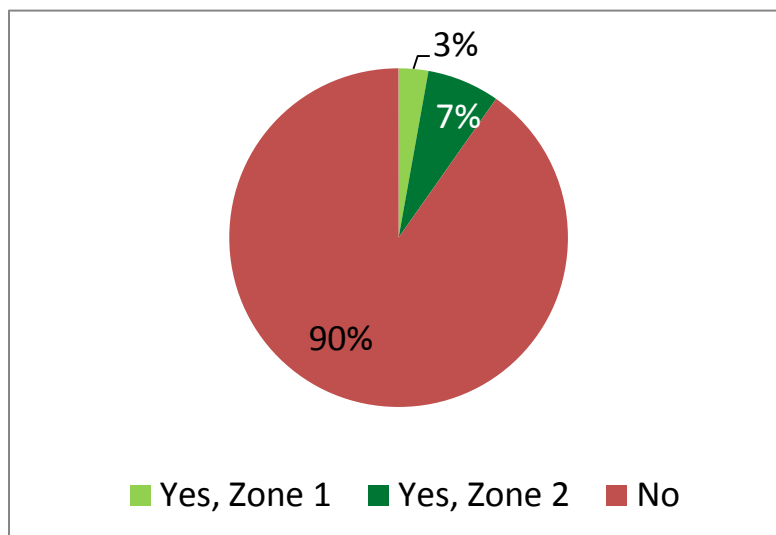
**Q.8:** What size garbage cart do you currently subscribe to:



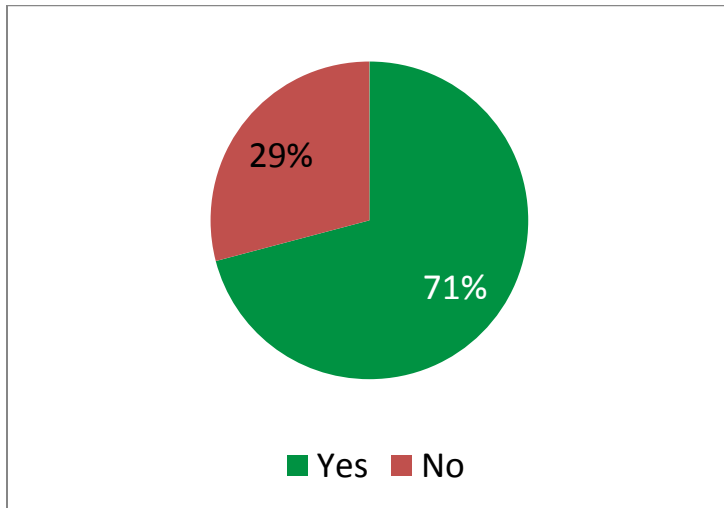
**Q.9:** What type of housing unit do you live in?



**Q.10:** Do you live in the food scraps collection pilot area in Old Mountain View?



**Q.11:** Would you be interested in receiving a 3-gallon kitchen counter-top pail to collect food scraps (at no direct charge)?



## Comments

Open-ended comments received from the Open City Hall respondents, as well as those received via email, are summarized below by general topic and the number of respondents that mentioned that topic in their comment. More than one topic may have been mentioned in a comment. The full text of the comments can be found at [www.mountainview.gov/foodscrapscomments](http://www.mountainview.gov/foodscrapscomments).

Topic	Number of times mentioned
Pleased that a food scraps program is being considered	76
Does not support/want an EOW garbage collection schedule	57
Does not see a need for a food scraps program/don't want to pay for it	26
Supports/could live with an every other week (EOW) garbage collection schedule	22
Recycling (wants: weekly/more items accepted/single-stream)	21
Specific concerns about EOW garbage collection:	
- Pet waste	9
- Diaper waste	16
- Nuisances (odors, rodents, flies)	24
- Accumulated garbage/improper disposal	5
- Missed collections	7
Questions about compostable bags or other program specifics	10
No space in my kitchen for more sorting/don't want food scraps on counter	9
Willing to pay for the program in order to retain weekly garbage collection	6
Interested in the split-garbage cart option	4
No space for/don't need a yard trimmings cart	4
Start program now and consider EOW garbage collection later	3
Provide a larger garbage cart to hold 2 weeks of garbage	3
I'm a renter with no control over my cart size/must share carts	3
Not enough room in my yard trimming cart for food scraps	3
Prefer food waste collected separate from yard trimmings (4 carts)	2
Yard trimming carts with food should be collected every other week instead of garbage	2
Pilot area does not represent City	2
Survey was biased against negative answers	1
Provide at least 6-8 free off-week collections per year	1
Difficult to remember varying collection schedules	1
Weekly yard trimmings collection would be good	1
Wastes water to clean out yard trimming cart	1
My yard trimmings cart has to be stored in an area that is not accessible for daily food scraps disposal	1
Program confusing for elderly	1
Need to be able to purchase extra garbage tags online	1
Neighbors leave carts where we have to see/smell them; need to educate/enforce	1