

# OUR COASTAL CITY

Round 1 Engagement Summary

April 2026



## Acknowledgments

The City of Nanaimo is located on the Traditional Territory of the Snuneymuxw First Nation. This project is led by the City of Nanaimo as part of the *Sea Level Rise Management Plan (SLRMP)* initiative. Technical work is being led by Northwest Hydraulics Consultants Ltd. (NHC) with engagement and planning support from Lanarc 2015 Consultants Ltd. (Lanarc). We would like to extend our gratitude to all parties and people who have provided time, knowledge and information to assist in this work.

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# What We Heard ...



## ROUND 1 COMMUNITY VALUES

181

Survey  
Respondents

5

Focus Group  
Meetings

+640

Get Involved  
Page Visitors

## ➤ SUMMARY HIGHLIGHTS:

**Most respondents (94%)** have at least a basic knowledge of sea level rise (SLR).

**30% of respondents** live on or own property that they think is at risk of being impacted by sea level rise.



### AREAS WITH NOTABLE IMPACTS

- Departure Bay
- Protection Island
- Downtown
- Duke Point

### RESPONDENT CONCERNS



- » Loss of beaches, shoreline habitat, and public access
- » Too much short term focus and not enough planning for the future
- » Public cost and taxes to fund adaptation projects



### COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR ADAPTING TO SLR

- » Preserve shorelines and natural areas
- » Plan with consideration for future generations
- » Protect homes and infrastructure
- » Maintain safe public access to the shoreline

**(93%) of respondents** prioritize solutions that mimic the natural coast



### ACCESS TO THE COAST

Top ways respondents access the coast are:

- Visiting public spaces (parks, beaches, etc.)
- Enjoying scenic views (from home or public locations)

### HOME OWNER FEEDBACK



#### HOMEOWNER CONCERNS ABOUT SLR

- » Loss of the shoreline and beaches
- » Impacts to homes and property
- » Too much short term focus and not enough planning for the future

#### HOMEOWNER PRIORITIES FOR ADAPTING TO SLR

- » Preserve the shoreline
- » Protect homes and property
- » Include long term planning for future generations





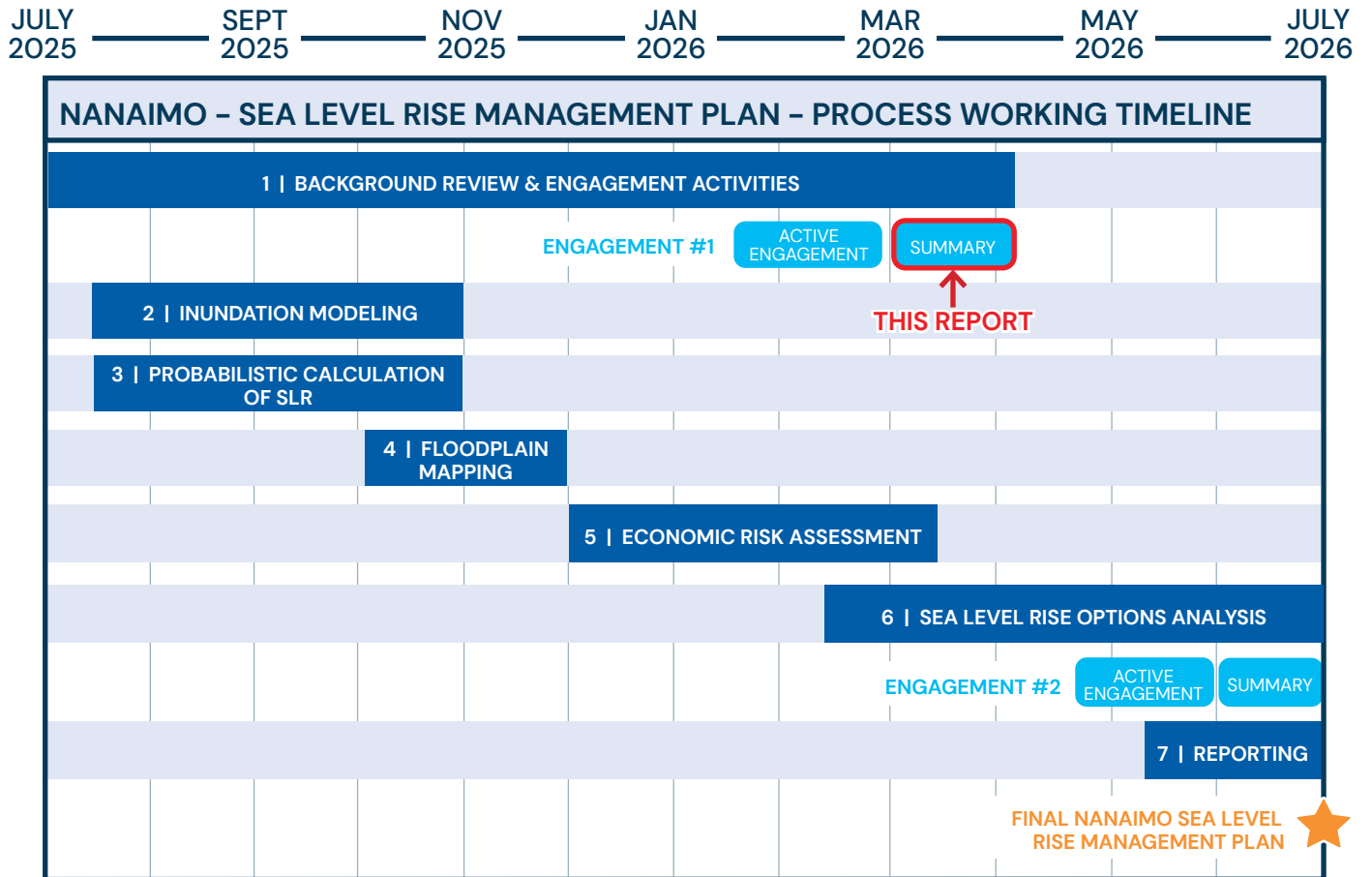
# What's inside?

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# Process Diagram

The diagram below illustrates the process for the **Our Changing City** project, the City of Nanaimo's sea level rise management plan.



## SECTION 1

# Engagement Overview

## 1.1 Process Overview

The City of Nanaimo, working with Snuneymuxw First Nation, is developing a Sea Level Rise (SLR) Management Plan to guide coastal adaptation solutions for areas of Nanaimo at risk of coastal flooding. This project builds upon the Sea Level Rise Study completed in 2018, which identified the study areas that are the focus of this project.


The process diagram on the adjacent page show the overall timeline and process for the project.

- In Round 1 engagement information was gathered about community awareness of sea level rise and values related to assets and approach to sea level rise adaptation.
- Coming up in Round 2 engagement, sea level rise adaptation options will be brought to the community for consideration and prioritization.
- This document summarizes what we heard in Round 1.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR INPUT!**



## 1.2 Outreach



Outreach helps us reach and gather input from a diversity of people

The following outreach tools were used to inform community members about engagement opportunities:

- **City of Nanaimo Website:** A project page was launched on the City's website. The project page can be found at: [nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan](https://nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan)
- **Get Involved Project Page:** A project page was launched on the City's engagement platform to share information about the process and opportunities for involvement. The project page can be found at: [getinvolvednanaimo.ca/sea-level-rise](https://getinvolvednanaimo.ca/sea-level-rise)
- **News Release:** The City published a news release to advertise the process and opportunities for input in Round 1.
- **News Article:** An article was published by the Nanaimo News Bulletin, Chek News, Nanaimo News Now, and My Coast Now advertising the process and opportunities for input in Round 1.
- **Direct Email:** The City distributed an email with the survey link to Get Involved subscribers, identified interest holders, key neighbourhood associations, and a local school.
- **Social Media Posts:** Posts were shared to the City of Nanaimo's Facebook, Instagram, and X accounts providing a link to the online survey.
- **Word of Mouth:** Interest holders and community members shared information about the process with their neighbours and friends.

## 1.3 Who We Engaged

In Round 1 the City and project engaged with interest holders, under represented populations, and the general public.

Key interest holders included the Snuneymuxw First Nation, City of Nanaimo working group, technical interest holders, Port of Nanaimo representative, and neighbourhood groups. Interest holders provided input on detailed shoreline analysis and mapping work and their organizations interests and values relating to sea level rise.

Under represented populations and the general public provided input on their knowledge, values, and priorities related to sea level rise. The public process aimed to gather input from a diverse and representative sample of the community.

To gather input from youth the survey was shared with a local school who circulated it within a classroom and the school's 'EcoClub'.

# 1.4 Engagement Activities

The following engagement activities were hosted in Round 1.



## Values Survey

- DATES** February 16th - March 13th, 2026
- LOCATION** Online at: [www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/sea-level-rise/sea-level-rise-values-survey](http://www.getinvolvednanaimo.ca/sea-level-rise/sea-level-rise-values-survey)
- DETAILS** The values survey was available online through the City's engagement page and through outreach materials. The focus of the values survey was to gather information on the community's general awareness and knowledge of sea level rise and identify what assets are valued most.



## Focus Group Meeting #1 - CoN Working Group

- DATES** February 12th, 2026
- LOCATION** Virtual through Microsoft Teams
- DETAILS** The project team met with the internal City of Nanaimo staff working group to provide information about the process and review detailed shoreline analysis and mapping for future scenarios.



## Focus Group Meeting #2 - Technical Interest Holders

- DATES** February 13th, 2026
- LOCATION** Virtual through Microsoft Teams
- DETAILS** The project team met with technical interest holders to provide information about the process and review detailed shoreline analysis and mapping for future scenarios.

## Participation Highlights

**181**

Survey Responses

**5**

Focus Group Meetings

**+640**

Get Involved Page Visitors



### Focus Group Meeting #3 - Nanaimo Family Life Association

**DATES** February 19th, 2026

**LOCATION** Navy League of Canada - Nanaimo Branch  
750, Fifth Street, Nanaimo, BC

**DETAILS** The project team met with a group of older adults to provide information about the process and gather input on their knowledge and values related to sea level rise impacts.



### Focus Group Meeting #4 - Neighbourhood Groups

**DATES** February 24th, 2026

**LOCATION** Vancouver Island Conference Centre,  
101 Gordon Street, Nanaimo BC

**DETAILS** The project team met with neighbourhood groups, elected officials, and representatives from the Port of Nanaimo. The meeting aimed to provide information about the process, share detailed technical analysis and mapping materials, and discuss community values with participants.



### Focus Group Meeting #5 - Snuneymuxw First Nation

**DATES** February 27th, 2026

**LOCATION** Snuneymuxw First Nation Offices

**DETAILS** The project team met with the Snuneymuxw First Nation marine division to provide information about the process, share detailed technical analysis and mapping materials, gather input on areas of significance or concern, and learn about community values related to sea level rise.

## SECTION 2

# What We Learned

The following pages summarize the feedback that was received from the Values Survey.

This information is summarized as follows:

- About You (Demographics)
- Your Knowledge & Experiences
- What Are Your Values?
- Communications

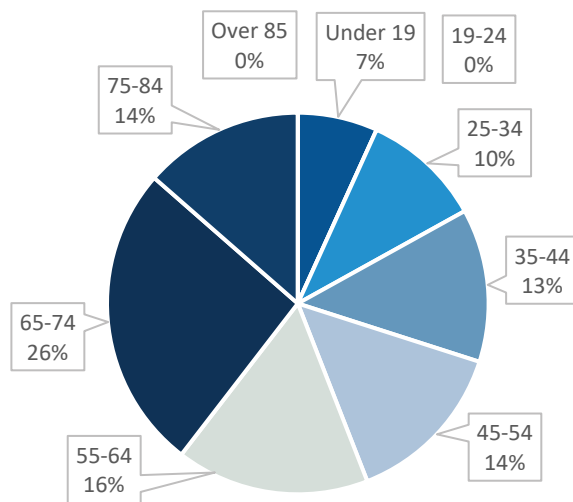
# 2.1 About You (Demographics)

The following demographics questions have been brought to the front of this summary to first show who we heard from before diving into what was learned from the survey respondents.

*Note: demographics questions were asked in the latter half of the online and hard copy surveys.*

## Age of Respondents

Q. What age are respondents?

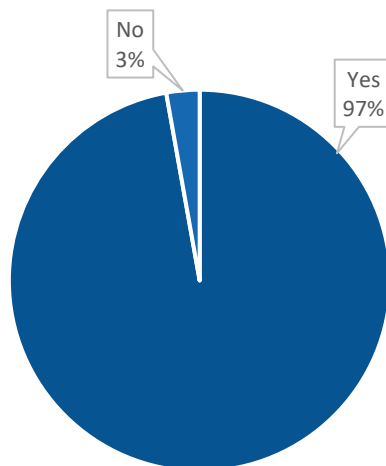


### KEY FINDINGS:

- There is limited representation of the younger demographic (under 35) among survey respondents.
- More than half of respondents are the age of 55 and up.

## Geographic Representation

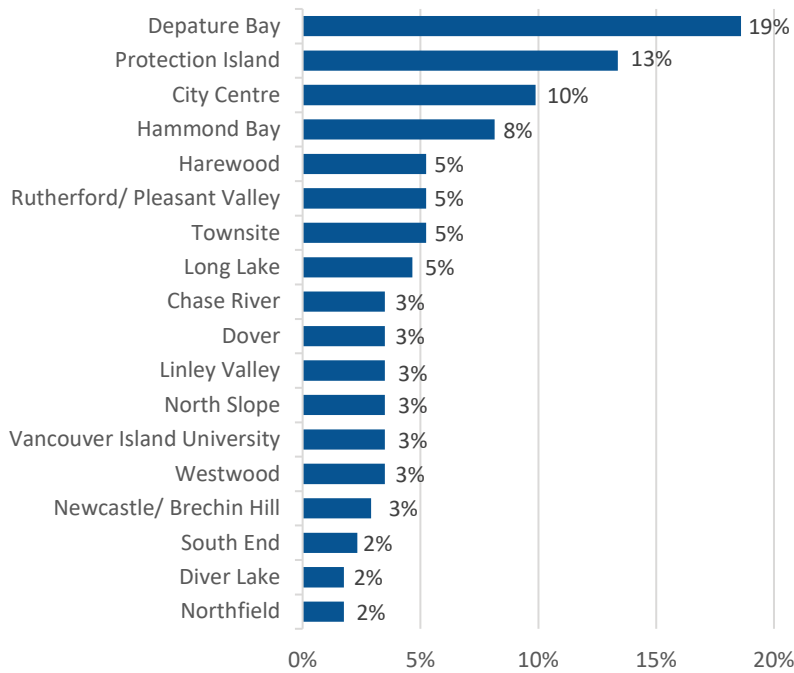
Q. Are you a resident of Nanaimo?



### KEY FINDINGS:

- The majority of respondents live in the City of Nanaimo (97%).

**Q. What neighbourhood do you live in?**

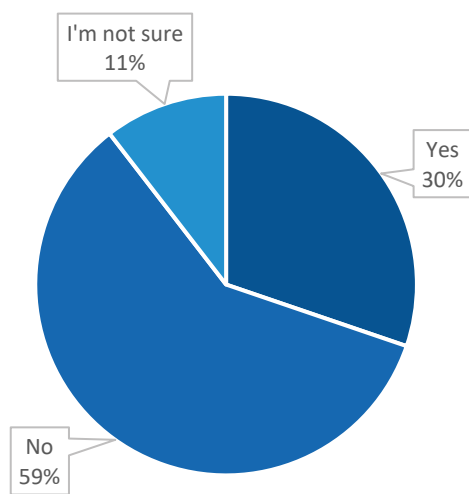


**KEY FINDINGS:**

- (50%) of respondents live in areas that either have or are predicted to experience impacts of sea level rise.
- All neighbourhoods in Nanaimo are represented to some extent through resident survey input.

**Perception of Future Risk / Impact**

**Q. Do you live on or own property that you think may be at risk from coastal flooding, coastal erosion, sea level rise, or other coastal hazards?**



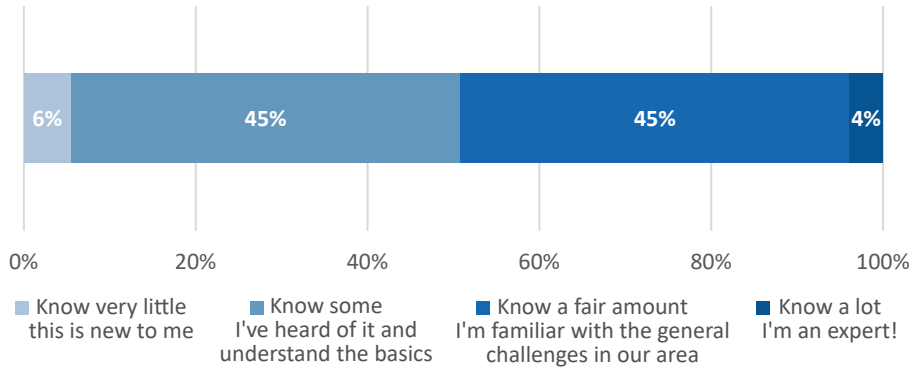
**KEY FINDINGS:**

- (30%) of respondents expect to be impacted by coastal flooding, erosion, sea level rise and/or other coastal hazards.

## 2.2 Your Knowledge & Experiences

### Knowledge & Understanding of Sea Level Rise

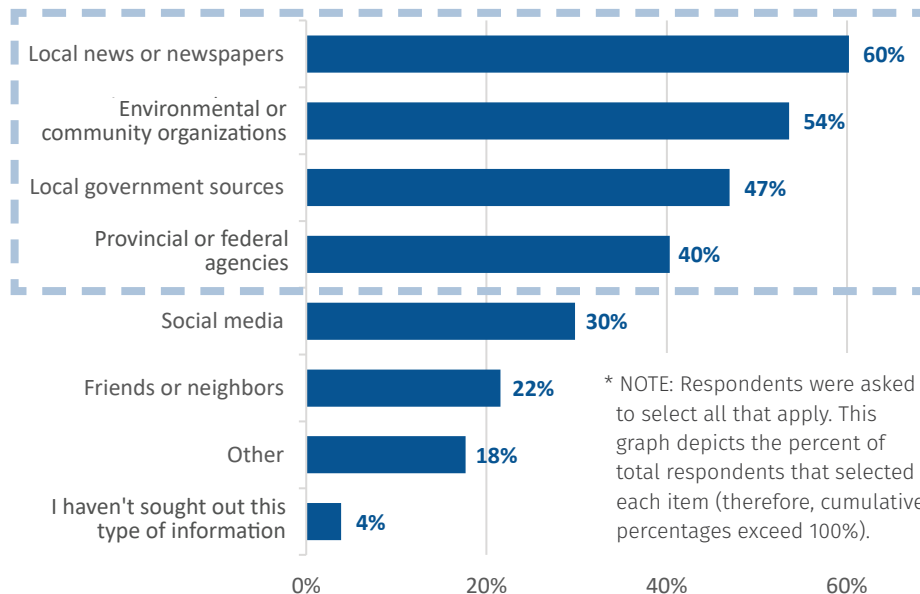
Q1: How would you describe your current understanding of sea level rise?



#### KEY FINDINGS:

- Most respondents (94%) are aware of sea level rise and have at least a basic understanding of what it is.

Q2: Where do you currently get most of your information about coastal issues (flooding, erosion, or climate impacts)?



#### KEY FINDINGS:

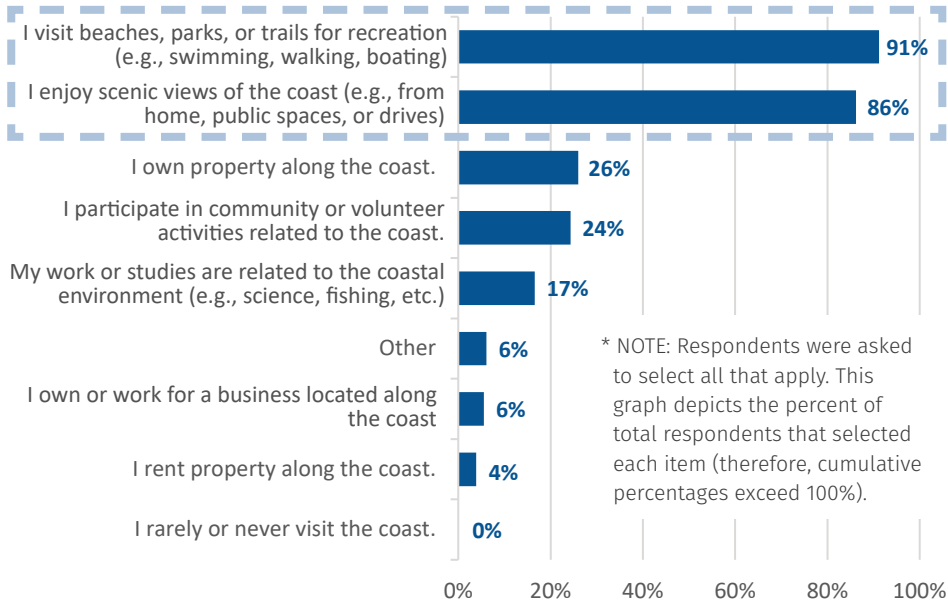
- Top sources for respondents to acquire information about coastal issues are **local news or newspapers, environmental or community organizations, local government sources, and provincial or federal agencies.**

#### OTHER RESPONSES:

- Respondents who selected other specified first hand observation, books, personal research, academic literature, academic schooling, books, online resources, videos / documentaries, and news broadcasting.

## Coastal Interaction

### Q3: In what ways do you currently interact with the coast?



#### KEY FINDINGS:

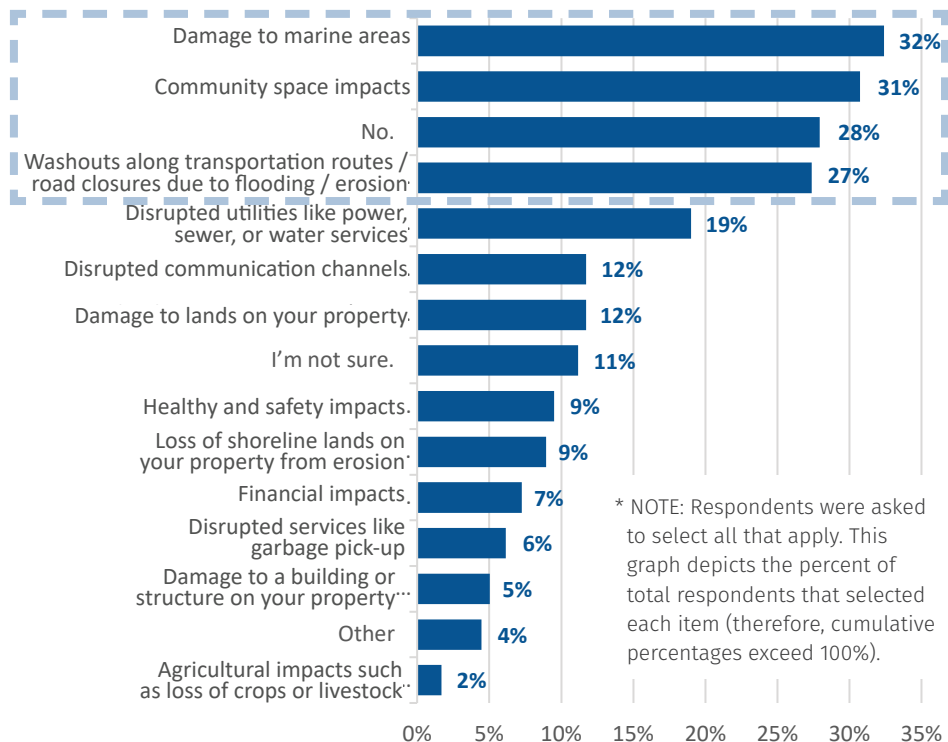
- The top ways respondents currently interact with the coast are **visiting beaches, parks, or trails for recreation**, and **enjoying scenic views**.
- (26%) of respondents own property on the coast.

#### OTHER RESPONSES:

- Respondents who selected other specified, live(d) by the ocean, boating (e.g., kayak, motor), and fishing.

## Coastal Hazard Impacts

### Q4: How have you been impacted by coastal hazards (e.g., flooding, erosion)?



#### KEY FINDINGS:

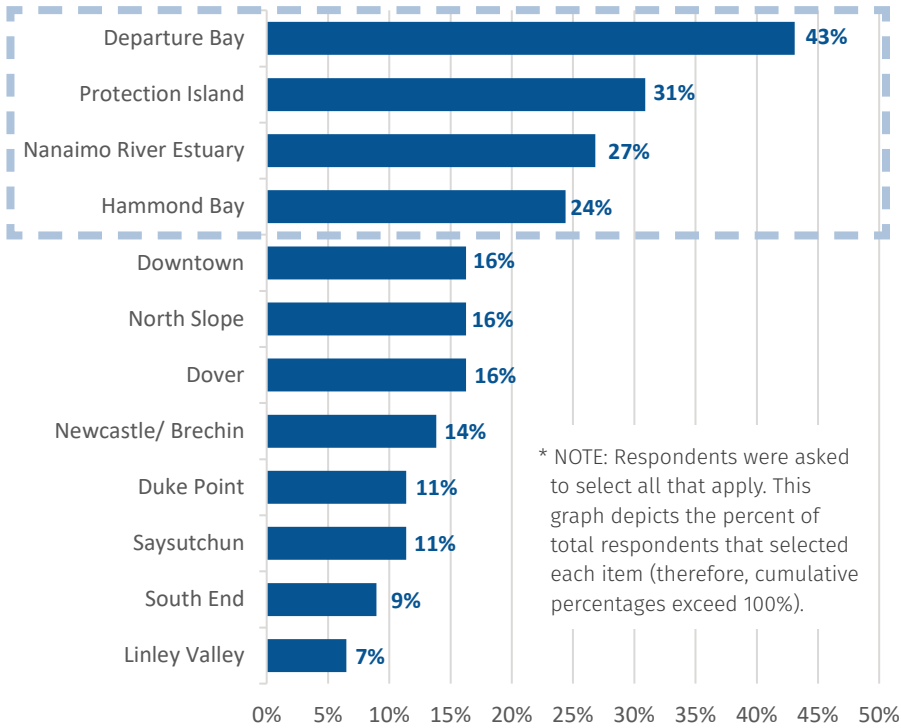
- Respondents have been most impacted by damage to **marine areas, community space impacts**, and **washouts along transportation routes / road closures due to flooding / erosion**.
- (28%) of respondents said they have not been impacted.

#### OTHER RESPONSES:

- Respondents who selected other specified work related impacts and other considerations.

## Coastal Hazard Impact Locations

Q5: In what areas of the City (if any) have impacts been most noticeable?



### KEY FINDINGS:

- Respondents most noted impacts in **Departure Bay, Protection Island, Nanaimo River Estuary, and Hammond Bay.**

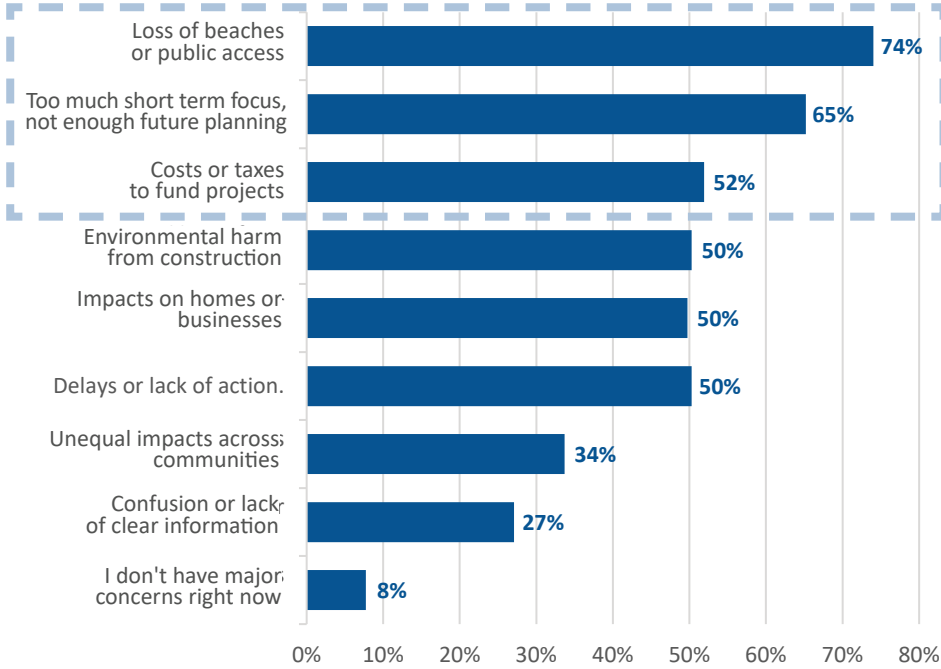


*An example nature-based adaptation at Beach Creek Estuary, Qualicum Beach, BC.*

# 2.3 What Are Your Values?

## Coastal Management Concerns

Q6. What are your concerns related to managing sea level rise?



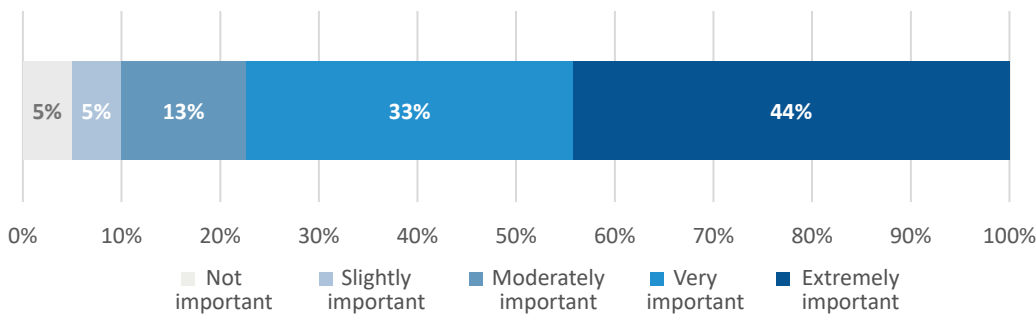
### KEY FINDINGS:

- Top concerns identified by respondents are **loss of beaches or public access**, **too much short term focus, not enough future planning**, and **costs or taxes to fund projects**.

\* NOTE: Respondents were asked to select all that apply. This graph depicts the percent of total respondents that selected each item (therefore, cumulative percentages exceed 100%).

## Planning Priorities

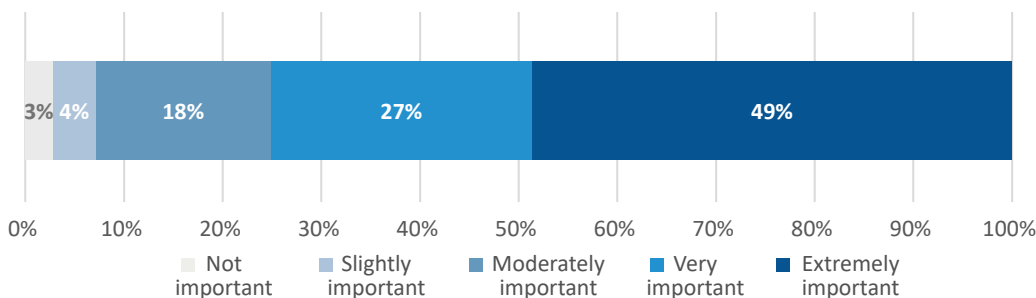
Q7. How important is it to you that planning considers impacts on future generations (beyond 30-50 years)?



### KEY FINDINGS:

- (90%) of respondents think planning for future generations is important.

Q8. How important is it to you that planning prioritizes nature-based solutions?



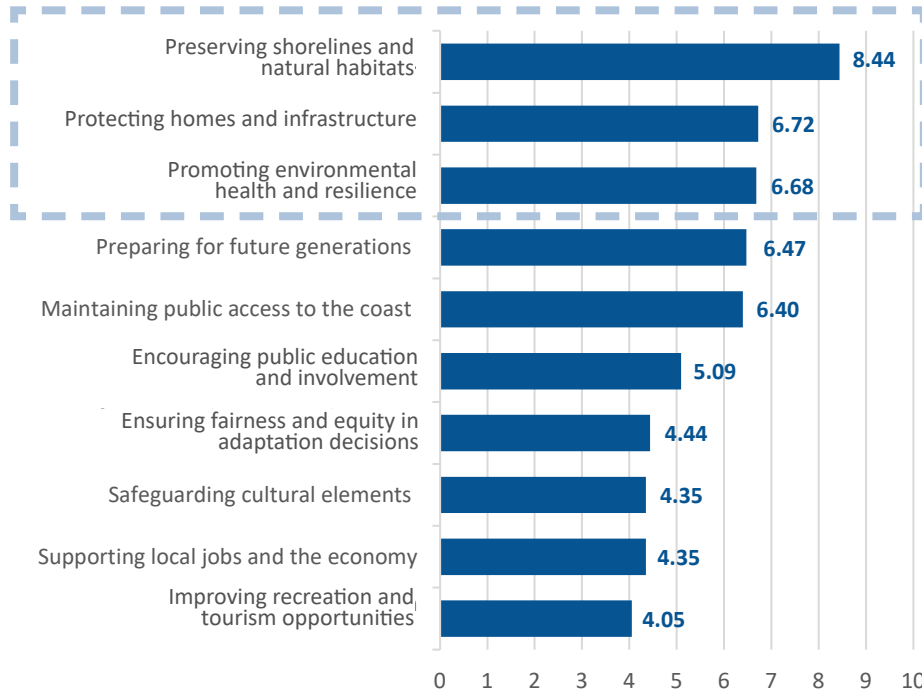
### KEY FINDINGS:

- (93%) of respondents think it's important to prioritize nature-based solutions.

\* NOTE: Due to rounding cumulative percentage is slightly less than 100%.

## Values

Q9. Please rank the following coastal values in order of most to least importance.



### KEY FINDINGS:

- Top 3 values identified by respondents are preserving **shorelines and natural habitats**, **protecting homes and infrastructure**, and **promoting environmental health and resilience**.

\* NOTE: Values were ranked on a scale of 1-10. Each selection was attributed a score corresponding with the selected position. Scores were averaged based on the number of responses.

Q10. Are there any values missing from the list?

### OTHER VALUES SPECIFIED BY RESPONDENTS:

- Some respondents shared specific revisions to the to listed values
- Monitor and adapt to a changing environment
- Educated planning, decision making, and sustainable construction practices
- Public education about climate change
- Wildlife protection and management
- Concerns of fiscal responsibility
- Reservations regarding governance efficacy

## Comments

### Q11. Do you have any other comments you would like to share?

The themes below capture feedback gathered.

#### Planning for the Future

- Many respondents shared encouragement for the process and expressed the importance of early planning.
- Respondents identified the importance of regional and provincial partnerships to develop a collaborative approach to coastal adaptation.
- Some respondents emphasized the importance of planning for future generations.
- Some respondents identified creeks, rivers, and watersheds as other waterbodies important to include in coastal planning.

#### Adaption Tools, Projects, and Priorities

- Many respondents expressed a desire to prioritize protection of shoreline habitat.
- Many respondents identified a desire to prioritize retreat of buildings from flood plains.
- Some respondents want to prioritize safe public access to the waterfront.
- Some respondents indicated interest in converting coastal land to public park.
- Respondents expressed the urgency of taking action now to protect the environment and critical infrastructure at risk.
- Respondents shared their priorities for coastal adaptation tools and impact mitigation in general and for specific locations.

#### Fiscal Management

- Respondents shared that homeowners should be responsible for the cost of their own coastal adaptation needs, choices for how to act, and be provided with information about options they could pursue.
- Respondents shared concerns about the implication of projects on tax payers.



*This is a great initiative and hope the project expands to all areas throughout the city not just the four identified areas.*



*I would focus more on our water shed infrastructure to withstand higher amounts of precipitation.*



*Let's stop building in flood plains and then being surprised when there is a flood. The earth is dynamic so our approach needs to be dynamic. We can't expect coastlines to remain unchanged when weather changes. Let's build systems that grow and adapt.*



*I think it's very important that governments identify at-risk areas and start investing now to mitigate the affects of rising sea levels*



*Will there be new obligations for real estate sales of waterfront properties? Will costs of infrastructure protection/ replacement in a specific neighbourhood be shared over the whole City or paid for only by the affected neighbourhood?*



## Public Engagement

- Some respondents expressed the need for more public education and engagement opportunities (e.g., with Protection Island residents).

## Governance

- Some respondents shared reservations about governance objectives.



*I'd love more straightforward information about how rising sea levels may impact the downtown core, since this is where I live. Maybe more resources, maps, etc to better understand if my home / community is at risk over the next 50 years.*

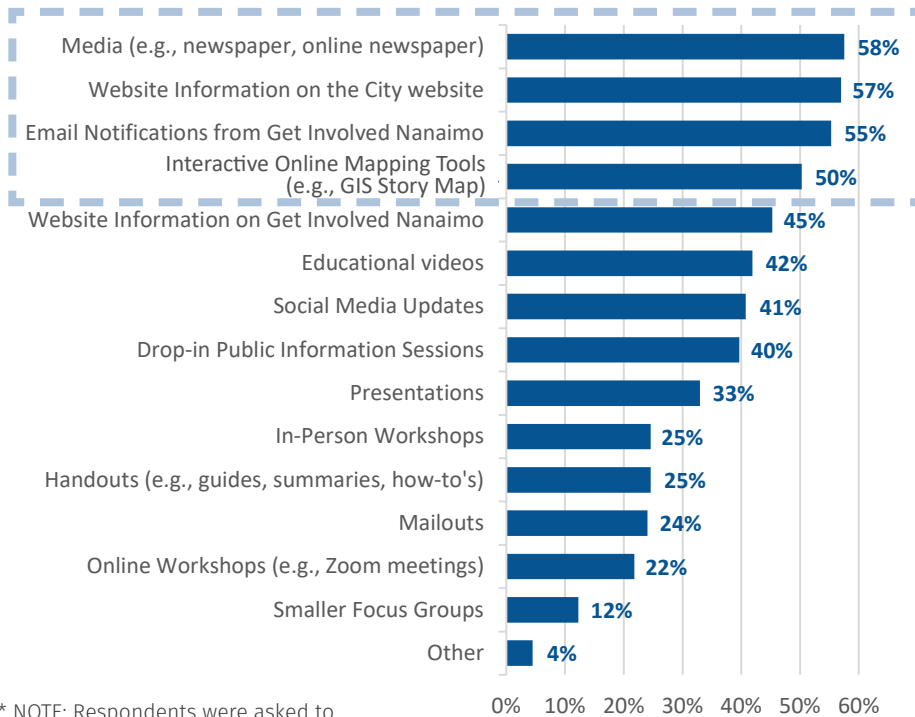


Neck Point Park, Nanaimo

# 2.4 Communications

## Future Communications

**Q12. What types of communications materials would you find most useful for sharing information and engaging on coastal risks in the City in the future?**



\* NOTE: Respondents were asked to select all that apply. This graph depicts the percent of total respondents that selected each item (therefore, cumulative percentages exceed 100%).

### KEY FINDINGS:

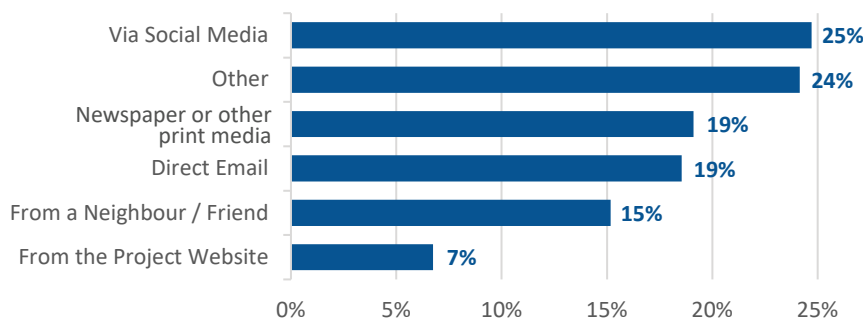
- Preferred communication materials across respondents include media, website information on the City website, Email notifications from Get Involved Nanaimo, and interactive online mapping tools.

### OTHER COMMUNICATION METHODS SHARED:

- A variety of other communication methods (e.g., information inserts with publicly distributed notices, pop-up presentations, training groups)
- Fiscal concerns

## Round 1 Outreach

**Q13. How did you learn about the survey.**



\* NOTE: Respondents were asked to select all that apply. This graph depicts the percent of total respondents that selected each item (therefore, cumulative percentages exceed 100%).

### KEY FINDINGS:

- Respondents learned about the survey through a variety of avenues.
- Top ways respondents learned about the survey include **social media**, **"other"**, **newspaper or other print method**, and **direct email**.

## SECTION 3

# Next Steps

The feedback heard in Round 1 Engagement will inform coastal adaptation options development.

Next steps in the public process include:

- Update about what we learned during Round 1 Engagement process (this summary).
- Round 2 Engagement (coastal adaption options review) proposed in Spring / Summer 2026.
- Continued updates posted to the Project webpage: [www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan](http://www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan)

**Thank you for your participation in this process!**



# APPENDIX A

# VERBATIM COMMENTS

The following pages list the verbatim comment responses for:

- A.1 "Other" Survey Selections
- A.2 Comments

*Please note: Some comments have been removed that do not align with standards for respectful community conversation.*

*Thank you for your understanding.*

# APPENDIX A

## Verbatim Comments

### A.1 "Other" Selections (from questions within the Online Survey)

The following verbatim comments were specified by respondents who selected "Other" for the indicated survey question.

#### Q2: Where do you currently get most of your information about coastal issues (such as flooding, erosion, or climate impacts)?

- ▶ Books
- ▶ Discussion and written reports by concerned scientists.
- ▶ Educational youtube videos
- ▶ First hand observation - boat the a section of coast 5 days a week
- ▶ Have done research on it.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island. I observe my surroundings
- ▶ I live on the waterfront - 56 years
- ▶ I live on water front property with a cabin from 1933 on piles on the seashore so watch water levels closely.
- ▶ I live within 15 m of the ocean. I have been familiar with the site since 1960
- ▶ I lived on the beach for several years in Ladysmith
- ▶ Looking things up on my own out of interest
- ▶ Many generations living in the area
- ▶ My own formal science education
- ▶ My science teacher
- ▶ Newspapers, TV news
- ▶ Observational experience
- ▶ online sources
- ▶ professional articles, journals, international agencies
- ▶ Reading books on the subject
- ▶ Research
- ▶ Research institutions, for example the University of Victoria
- ▶ School
- ▶ Science
- ▶ self-study, university courses, etc.
- ▶ specifically read about the matter and its impact to Vanc Is- Nanaimo coastal areas
- ▶ Steven Earle's (PhD) "Brief History of the Earth's Climate," (2021)
- ▶ Studies and papers on the subject
- ▶ University
- ▶ websites
- ▶ Work
- ▶ National news, documentaries

#### Q3: In what ways do you currently interact with the coast?

- ▶ Fishing
- ▶ I kayaked on the coast for years.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island
- ▶ I often use Hullo and BC Ferries.
- ▶ Live on the ocean front
- ▶ I own property within 200m of the ocean
- ▶ I've lost homes to natural disasters: flood (also fire, earthquake). I live high up now.
- ▶ landscape design of coastal properties
- ▶ Many generations of living here
- ▶ My boat is kept in Nanaimo and interacts with the coast..;)

# APPENDIX A

## Verbatim Comments

### Q4: Below is a list of impacts that could result from coastal hazards like flooding and erosion. Have you ever been affected by any of these?

- ▶ As a first responder to local, annual flooding event
- ▶ I have observed no abnormal impacts as a result of a rising sea
- ▶ Interruptions to daily commutes
- ▶ Only during winter storms or wind storms
- ▶ Strong consideration when purchasing property
- ▶ This all a pile of crap. Of course there is going to be change.! It is nature. It has always change. When you pay engineers to give you an opinion, they will always give you what you want to hear and what makes them the most money. Come on, open your eyes!
- ▶ This is a scam.

### Q10: Are there any values missing from the previous list?

- ▶ ...seriously? Yes, a lot.
- ▶ Accept that historical evidence needs to be considered
- ▶ Accountability; ensuring mechanisms to enforce decisions that are in the best interest of the overall community
- ▶ Adapting to changes in the environment
- ▶ Because climate impacts are uncertain, adaptive planning should emphasize flexible policies and monitoring. Key aspects: Monitoring shoreline change and environmental conditions Adjusting policies and designs over time Using pilot projects and innovative
- ▶ Biodiversity / food sources (preserving natural areas is very general, but might include these)
- ▶ Clarify that environment health includes preservation of drinking water quality/ supply and protection of sewerage systems
- ▶ Cost issues often become an issue for governments acting on projects
- ▶ Costs
- ▶ I have no clue
- ▶ Incompetent government need to be checked before they waste money.
- ▶ Might want to plan for more sea level rise then your research indicates. New research is coming out that we underestimated the potential increase and rate at which it will rise.
- ▶ Recognizing the impact sea level rise will have on archaeology sites, traditional village sites, and other areas that are important to First Nations
- ▶ no
- ▶ No, not that I can think of right now. To whoever is reading this. Have a nice day! :)
- ▶ Not acting out of fear, mainly based on inaccurate modeling and predictions from international agencies.
- ▶ Promoting Sustainability and awareness on Risk Assessment
- ▶ protecting taxpayers from paying for property improvements for an elite few who live on the waterfront
- ▶ Proven current science models
- ▶ Reducing fossil fuel emissions asap
- ▶ Solutions with cost based implications, are choosing solutions with the financial impacts in mind
- ▶ Some formula to provide government support/ financial compensation where properties cannot be protected that includes a cutoff date for property owners to make a decision to comply with planning decisions or lose their eligibility for compensation .
- ▶ Stop spending my money I don't have.
- ▶ There is way too much misinformation on climate change. The science has been replaced with hysteria and activism.
- ▶ They're all important!!!!

# APPENDIX A

## Verbatim Comments

### **(CONTINUED) Q10: Are there any values missing from the previous list?**

- ▶ unsure
- ▶ Using construction materials that do not end up adding more pollution by leaching into ocean.
- ▶ values listed are important but their integration across the list will have the most impact
- ▶ Wildlife maintenance & protection.
- ▶ wildlife, shellfish
- ▶ You have a job that you want to protect, so promoting this manner of thinking benefits you. You will not want to discuss this in an honest manner because you want to protect your job. This is another government industry, an excuse to justify your job!

### **Q12: What types of communication materials would you find most useful for sharing information and engaging on coastal risks in the City in the future?**

- ▶ Don't waste time and money on this, focus on crime and homelessness instead
- ▶ Information inserts with bill/tax/misc notices.
- ▶ It is not going to matter. Eventually we have to realize we are on one planet with finite resources. On a local level we can do little. We need all levels of government and our citizens to face the truth.
- ▶ Keeping the cost under control
- ▶ Presentations at the sites where anyone can walk up and listen or take pamphlet
- ▶ say nothing
- ▶ Training and mentoring groups with action plans/ ideas

### **Q13: How did you find out about this survey?**

- ▶ Check news article on web.
- ▶ CHEK news
- ▶ CHEK News website
- ▶ Comment on social media
- ▶ Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association
- ▶ Direct email, via Departure Bay Neighbourhood Association?
- ▶ Email from Departure bay neighbourhood association
- ▶ From a community organisation
- ▶ from the city directly
- ▶ Google Alert "Protection Island"
- ▶ Harbour City Scoop
- ▶ Local online news
- ▶ I attended the Our Coastal City: Neighbourhood Association & Residents Meeting.
- ▶ LinkedIn
- ▶ My earth science teacher
- ▶ my nanaimo this week - e news
- ▶ My Nanaimo This Week direct email
- ▶ My science teacher
- ▶ My teacher.
- ▶ Nanaimo Family Life Association
- ▶ neighbourhood association
- ▶ Neighbourhood Association involvement
- ▶ news outlet website
- ▶ Notice from Protection Island Neighbourhood Association via ProIsle
- ▶ Online news site
- ▶ Protection Island email information.
- ▶ Rocky Point Neighbourhood Association
- ▶ School
- ▶ Speakers
- ▶ Through eco club at my school
- ▶ Through work
- ▶ Twitter/X
- ▶ Update from City of Nanaimo News -- I subscribe to this for updates
- ▶ Your city personnel visiting Nanaimo Family Life Association to speak.
- ▶ NFLA
- ▶ TAPS Nanaimo Family Life Association
- ▶ At a "TAPS" meeting

# APPENDIX A

## Verbatim Comments

### A.2 Comments (Q11 long form answer in the survey)

- ▶ Action is not optional. We are well into of an environmental crisis and species collapse.
- ▶ Coastal flooding can affect our creeks and rivers as well, so it's good if those areas are included in planning.
- ▶ Creating a walking, riding seawall from Departure Bay to Downtown, and beyond is worth keeping in mind through this process
- ▶ Firesmart ran to ensure communities could decrease fire risks - City could work with province +other sectors to introduce OceanH20Smart communities program to help individuals prepare homes/biz for water rise/protection
- ▶ Glad to see this happening
- ▶ Government inefficient when attempting to change the natural order of the environment
- ▶ Green Shores approach!!
- ▶ I agree that its important in built-up areas to protect shoreline in a local scale, but leave it at that.
- ▶ I am a volunteer with BC Marine Trails and we work to ensure continued respectful, safe public access to coastal recreation and sites. I am pleased to see this survey and recognize its importance for 27K km of BC coastline
- ▶ I applaud your effort to think forward on this subject. Areas of concern in Nanaimo have spent a lot of money making improvements to the area with little forethought for the impacts of sea levels. I'm glad it's being considered going forward.
- ▶ I believe a map of properties that will be affected by sea level rise up to 3 meters needs to be created and those properties need to require a plan for mitigation or obsolescence and it be title and not have tax payers foot the bill
- ▶ I hope sea level rise will happen slowly enough to enable buildings to retreat over time, rather than building sea walls
- ▶ I don't want regulations that interfere with property owners rights to make decisions about how they use their property and what risks they are willing to take as long as it doesn't impact public use of the foreshore.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island, as Lots become unfeasible to build on due to sea level rise, salt water intrusion, and higher ground water table, , declare these lots sterile and return them to parkland.
- ▶ I live on Protection Island. It would be great if someone would come and talk with our community to inform us about the problem, to listen to our ideas, and to engage us in the solutions
- ▶ I think it's very important that governments identify at-risk areas and start investing now to mitigate the affects of rising sea levels
- ▶ I think more fishing opportunities should be available.
- ▶ I would definitely want this plan to address the grassroots problems and focus on real-time risks. Thank you
- ▶ I would focus more on our water shed infrastructure to withstand higher amounts of precipitation.
- ▶ I'd love more straightforward information about how rising sea levels may impact the downtown core, since this is where I live. Maybe more resources, maps, etc to better understand if my home / community is at risk over the next 50 years.
- ▶ Insurance rates go up due to cities allowing construction in flood zones. Building permits should require both a setback which accounts for 100years of erosion, and an elevation requirement to ensure against flooding.
- ▶ International agencies and organizations have been predicting catastrophic sea level rise for over five decades, none of their predictions have thus far come true. Hundreds of years of historical record show sea level essentially unchanged to date.
- ▶ Keep Nanaimo Green!

## APPENDIX A

# Verbatim Comments

- ▶ Let's stop building in flood plains and then being surprised when there is a flood. The earth is dynamic so our approach needs to be dynamic. We can't expect coastlines to remain unchanged when weather changes. Let's build systems that grow and adapt.
- ▶ Long term homeowners on the waterfront have much knowledge gained by experience
- ▶ Mitigating impacts to critical infrastructure, and identifying/ mitigating potential harmful leaching into the coastal environment are probably some of the highest priorities for the overall public good
- ▶ More communication with the public is needed
- ▶ No
- ▶ No, well not that I can think of. To whoever is reading this, Have a nice day! :), If you already read this, have a REALLY good day!!! :)
- ▶ not at this time
- ▶ Nuh uh
- ▶ Please do not allow variances for builds near the shoreline and instead create more parks on and around the shoreline. If a disaster strikes, it will be much cheaper to clean up the park than an insurance claim on a demolished house.
- ▶ Please do not diminish access to beaches and stream for animals like otter by building concrete structures that are not absolutely necessary to prevent erosion. Thanks for being pro-active on this.
- ▶ Please reconsider an expansion of the Harbourfront Walkway to Departure Bay. It may be a waste of money due to the likelihood of erosion from storms.
- ▶ Please think about the future of the people who can't make decisions because of their age
- ▶ protect the shorelines, not possible with plants etc.... must be stronger measures
- ▶ Should Nanaimo and the RDN have a moratorium on new builds and replacement buildings in areas that will flood or suffer damage from storm surges in the next 50 years?
- ▶ So many. After this survey is done in 5 ish years, is there going to be the least likely survey as well? Congrats on scamming Nanaimo though.
- ▶ Suggest drawing from international examples, such as Australia Q Coast 2100 and local work such as the RDN Coastal Climate Adaptation Program. Focus should be broader/regional emphasis collaboration between all levels of government.
- ▶ Thank you for creating this survey
- ▶ Thank you so much for having foresight and planning ahead!!!!
- ▶ The world is changing as it always has. Short term views and thinking without objectively looking at history has us where we are today. Protect the environment. People next, honesty.
- ▶ This is a great initiative and hope the project expands to all areas throughout the city not just the four identified areas.
- ▶ We've modified our shorelines ... where is the natural shoreline?
- ▶ Where has our democracy gone?
- ▶ Who will bear the financial cost of rising sea levels? The science is clear. The increase in carbon dioxide in our atmosphere due to the burning of fossil fuels is a major contributing factor. Fossil fuel companies need to pay their fair share.
- ▶ Why is Newcastle not included as a high risk area?
- ▶ Will there be new obligations for real estate sales of waterfront properties? Will costs of infrastructure protection/replacement in a specific neighbourhood be shared over the whole City or paid for only by the affected neighbourhood?



*Departure Bay, Nanaimo*



For project updates and ongoing information about the project please visit:  
[www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan](http://www.nanaimo.ca/your-government/projects/sea-level-rise-management-plan)