



# FoodCycler™

## On-Site Organics Diversion Program

Prepared for:  
Municipal Innovation Council  
September 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023

Presented by:  
Food Cycle Science  
Jessica Taylor

# About Us

- 🌱 Canadian company based out of Ottawa, Ontario
- 🌱 100% focused on Food Waste Diversion Solutions
- 🌱 Official Canoe Procurement Group of Canada approved supplier
- 🌱 Recent Awards include:
  - 🌱 Finalists in Impact Canada's Food Waste Reduction Challenge
  - 🌱 Selected as one of the 2021 Deloitte Fast 50 CleanTech award winners
  - 🌱 #137 on Globe & Mail's Canada's Top Growing Companies for 2022



# Trusted Canadian Solution

From Coast to Coast to Coast



One Hundred Canadian Municipal Partners  
... and counting!

# Pilot Program Recap

- With support from Impact Canada's Food Waste Reduction Challenge, a pilot program was run in Bruce County that included 880 participating households, 420 of which were supported by the MIC.
- Net cost to the Municipal Innovation Council was \$42,000 + Shipping + HST
- Program ran from May - August 2023
  - Usage was tracked for 12 weeks to calculate total waste diversion.
  - Participants completed a survey to provide data and feedback.



# Pilot Program Recap

Municipality	MIC Funded FoodCyclers	Municipally Funded FoodCyclers	Total
Saugeen Shores	116	200	316
Northern Bruce Peninsula	70	60	130
Arran-Elderslie	62	0	62
Kincardine	70	140	210
Huron-Kinloss	70	60	130
South Bruce	32	0	32
<b>Total</b>	<b>420</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>880</b>

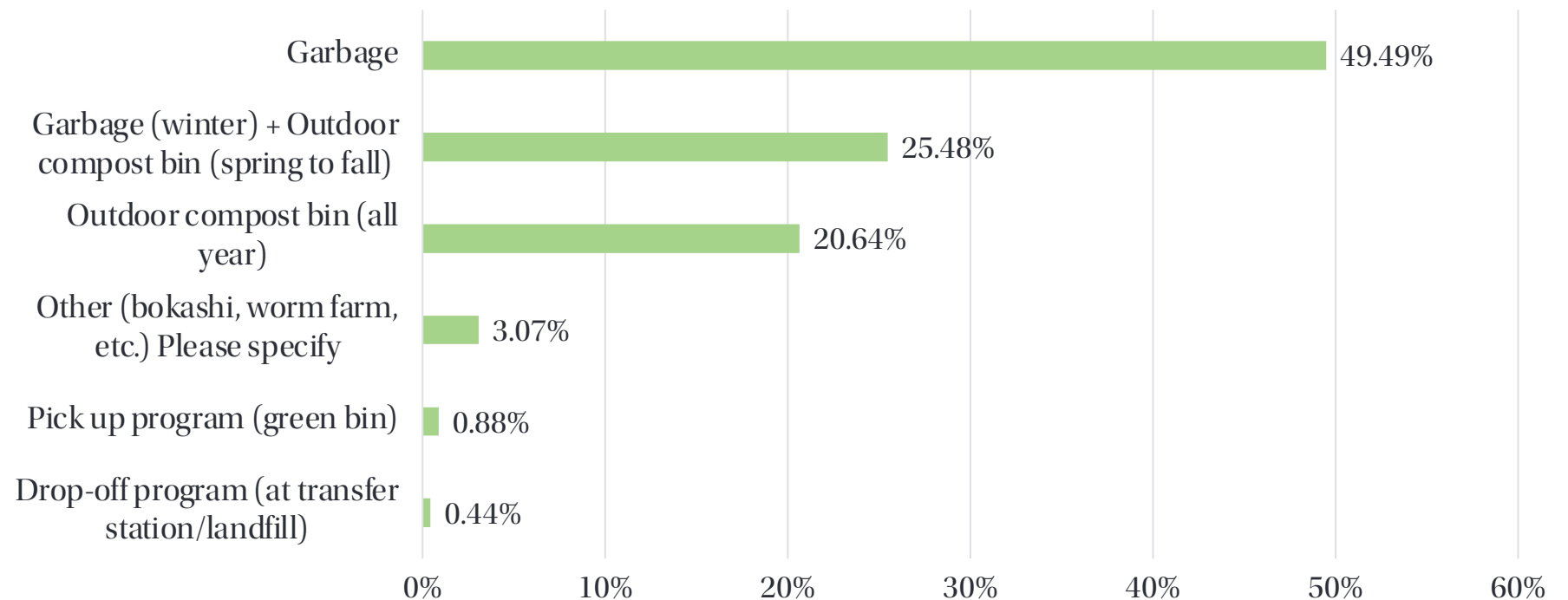


# Pilot Program Results

691 responses collected out of 880 participants (78.5%)

- How important is greenhouse gas reduction to you? 8.8/10
- How important is waste reduction to you? 9.3/10

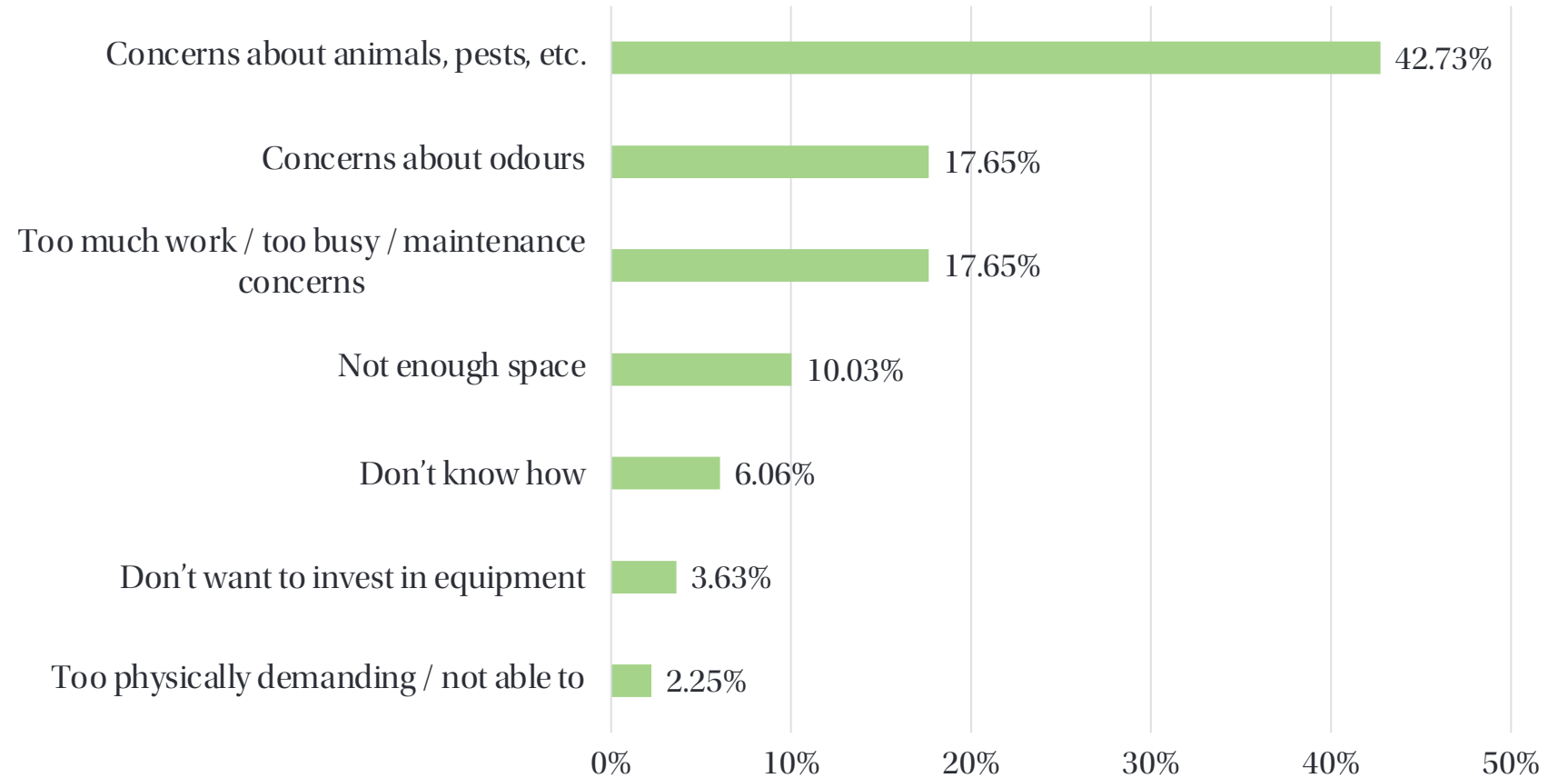
Prior to using the FoodCycler, how did you dispose of the majority of your food waste?





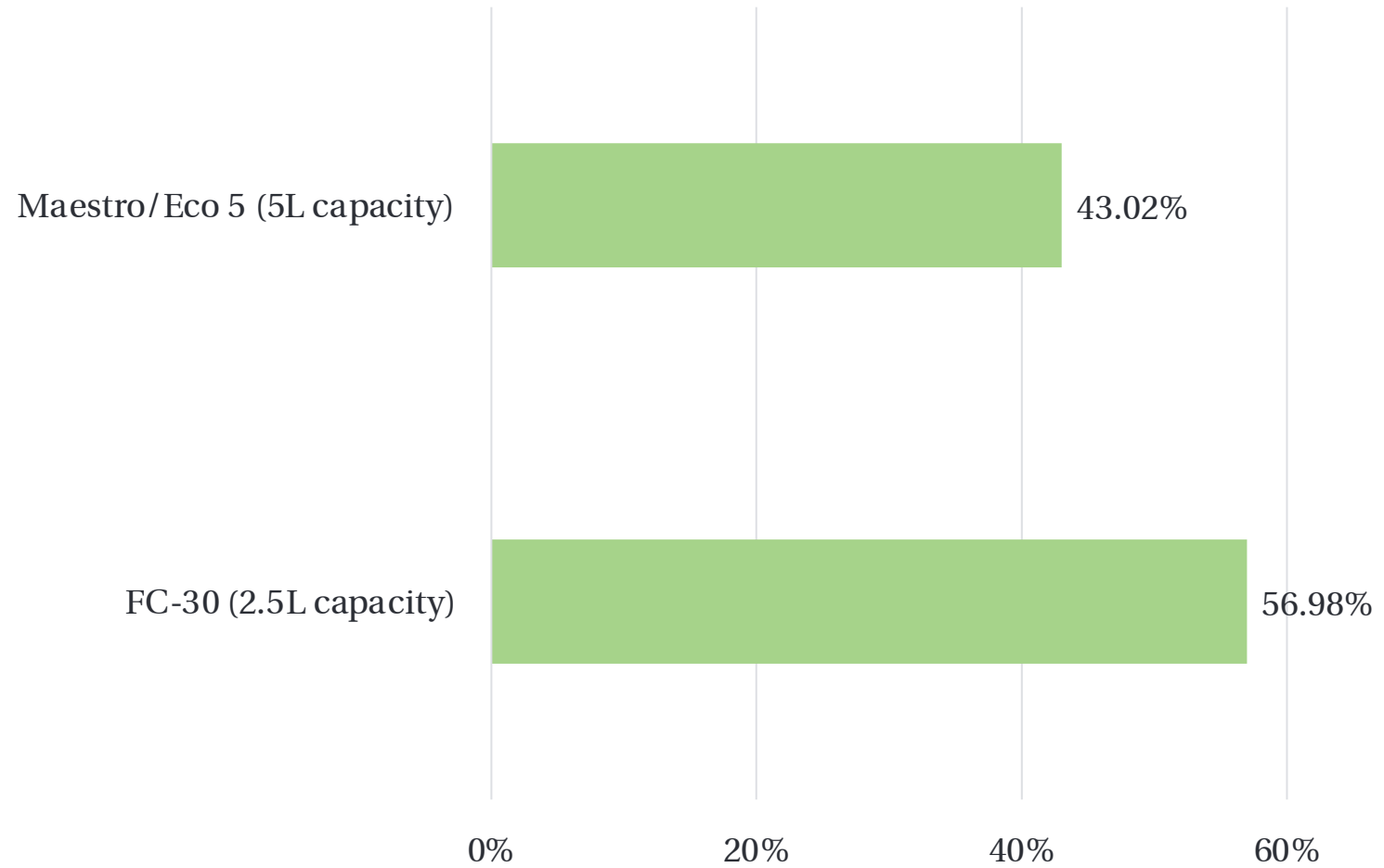
# Pilot Program Results

## Why don't you compost?



# Pilot Program Results

Which device do you have?





# Pilot Program Results

Average of **3.70 cycles/week** for FC-30 (2.5L)

Average of **3.78 cycles/week** for Maestro (5L)

Equivalent **~277 kg/year/household** or **~11.7lbs/week/household**

Municipality	Food waste diverted from the landfill per year (MT)	CO2e emissions avoided per year (MT)
Saugeen Shores	87.5	98.9
Northern Bruce Peninsula	36.0	40.7
Arran-Elderslie	17.2	19.4
Kincardine	58.2	65.7
Huron-Kinloss	36.0	40.7
South Bruce	8.9	10.0
<b>MIC Contribution</b>	<b>116.3</b>	<b>131.5</b>
<b>All of Bruce County</b>	<b>244.2</b>	<b>317.4</b>

# Pilot Program Results

Residents reported generating 0.42 fewer standard garbage bags per week, a reduction of 21.8 garbage bags per household per year being trucked to local landfills!



*"My garbage **reduced** to 1 regular bag every 3 weeks- I LOVED THIS MACHINE!"* - Resident from Saugeen Shores

*"So far it has cut down on my garbage dramatically. From one bag a week to one every two or three weeks. Providing these to permanent residents could be used to move to every two weeks collection for those with one. Or a break on taxes if you do."* – Resident from Northern Bruce Peninsula

# Pilot Program Results

420 FoodCyclers subsidized by the MIC will divert 116.3 MT of food waste from local landfills per year, the equivalent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of taking 29.3 gasoline-powered vehicles off the road every year!

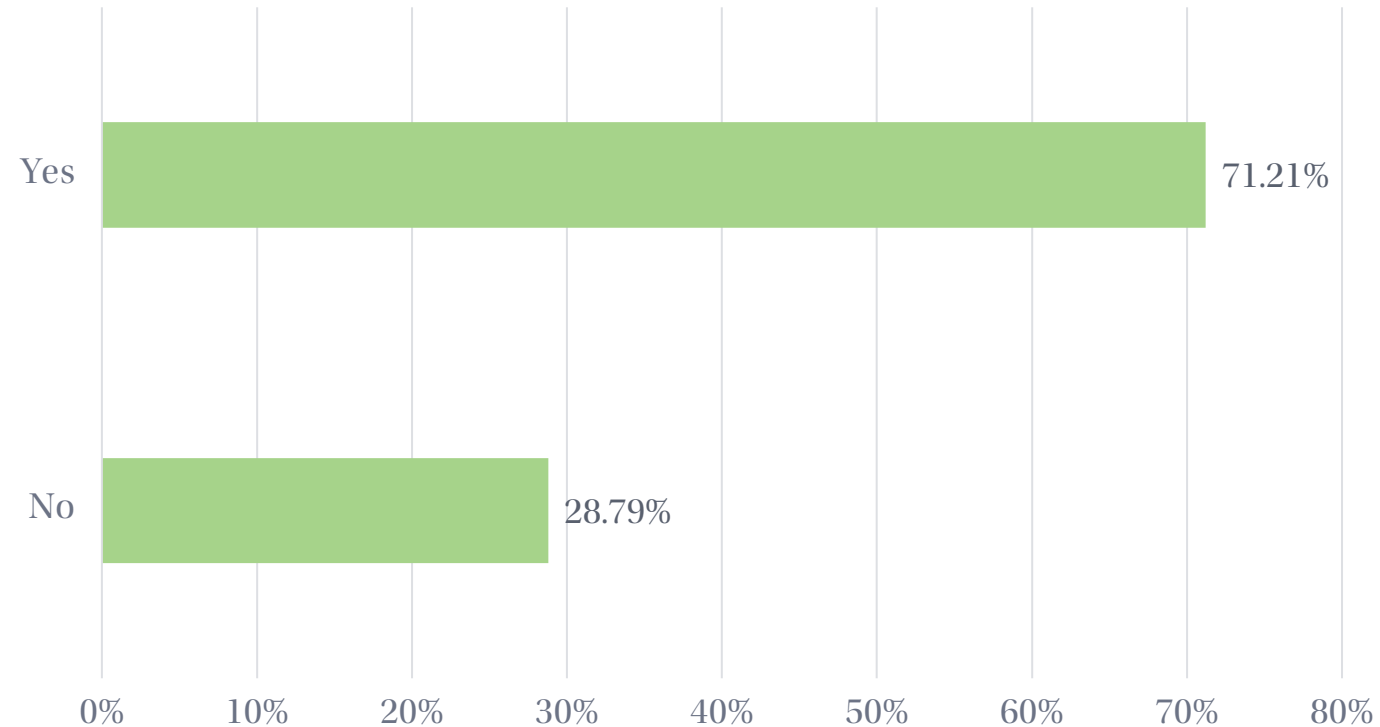


*"I love our FoodCycler! One of my goals this year was to be **more environmentally conscious** and the FoodCycler helps me do that!"* – Resident from Arran-Elderslie

*"I think this is a great program and can imagine it would be **much more environmentally friendly** than a green bin program."* – Resident from Huron-Kinloss

# Pilot Program Results

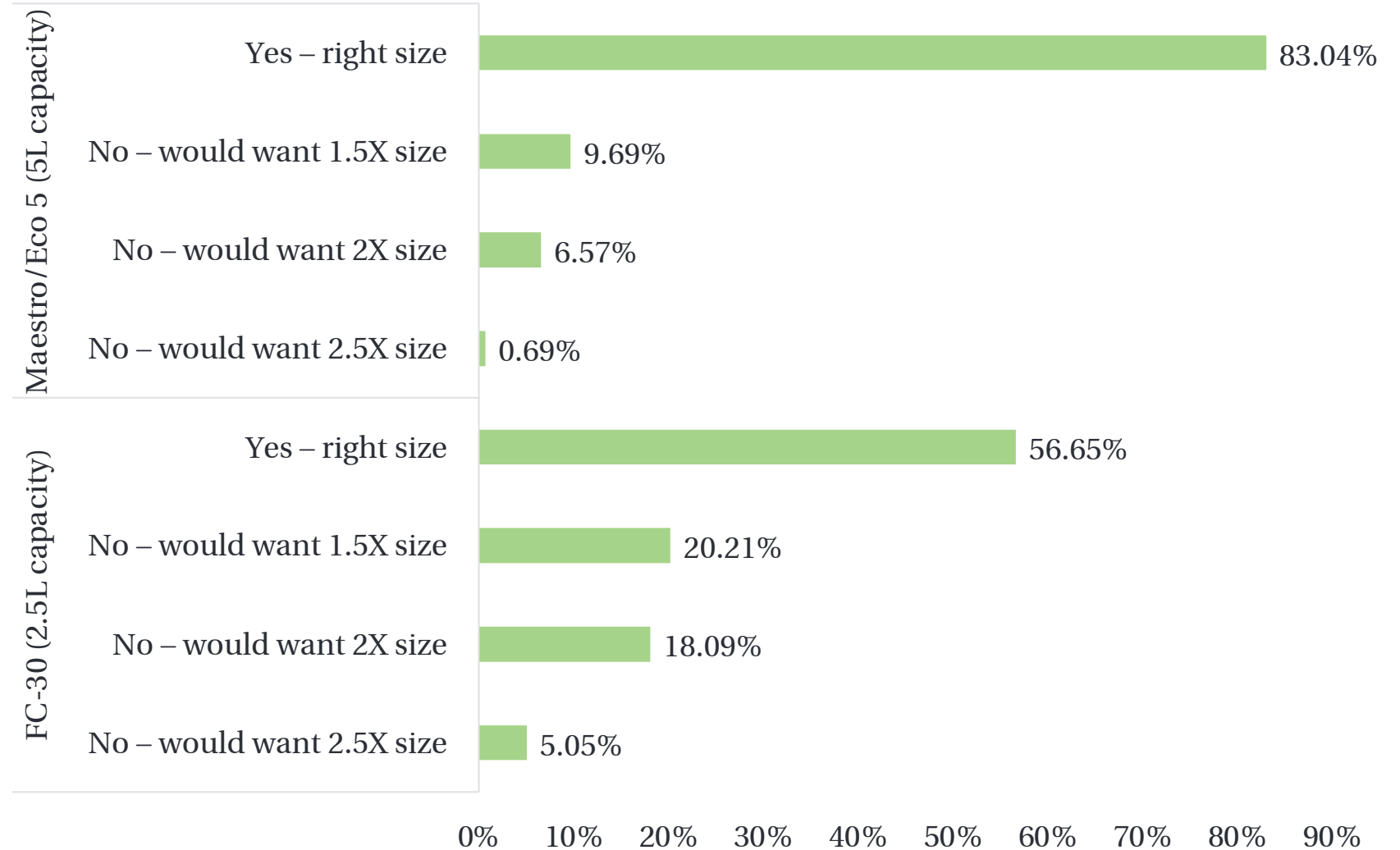
Did increased awareness of food waste motivate you to waste less food?



*“The FoodCycler definitely showed me how much food waste we have in our household. This awareness has motivated me to plan better to minimize food waste. The FoodCycler was a great size to handle waste like peels, cores, stems etc. however when food spoiled in fridge and had to be discarded the FoodCycler wasn’t of adequate size. This is how I realized how much waste comes from poor food management. Thank you.” – Resident from Kincardine*

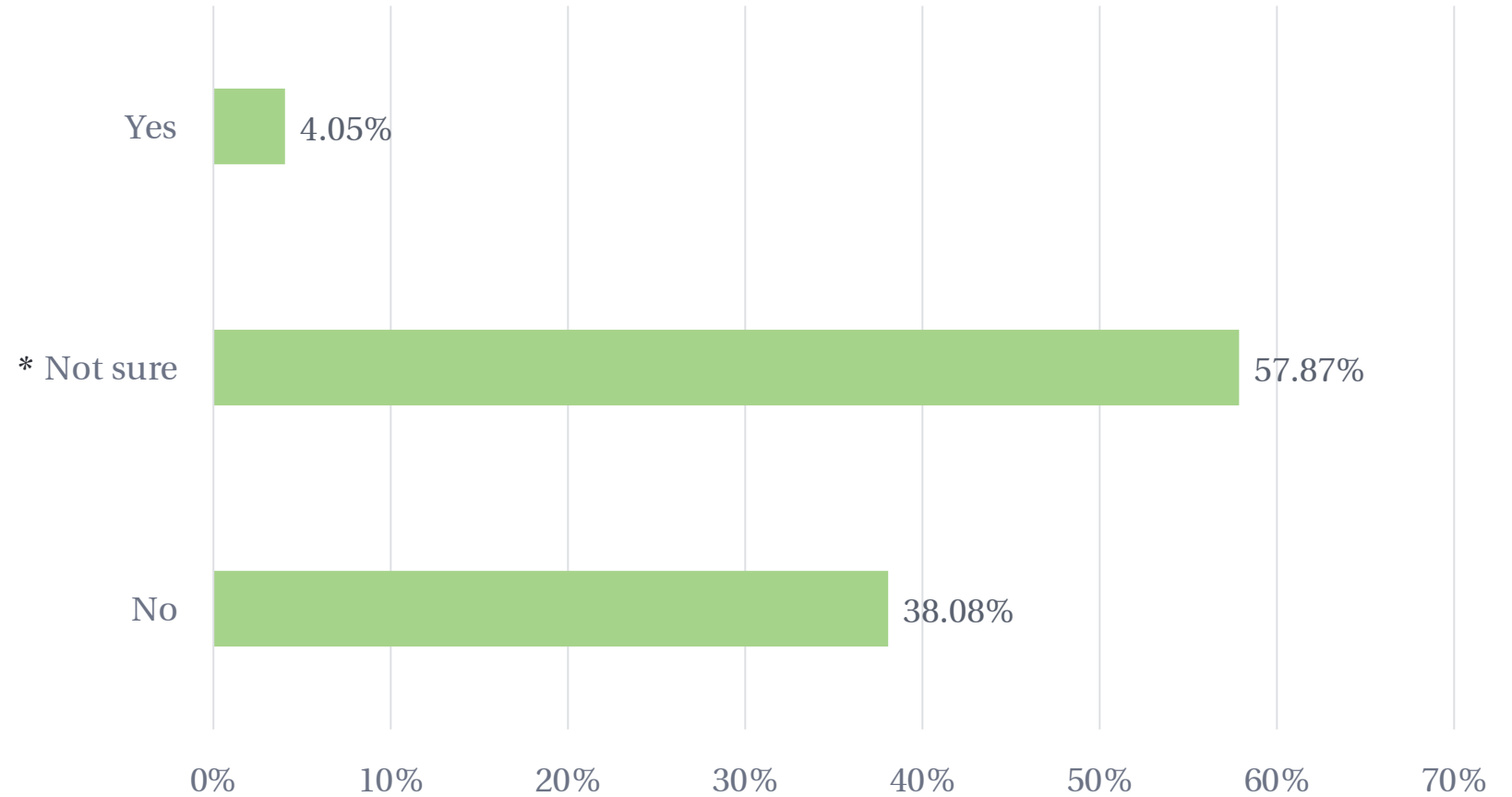
# Pilot Program Results

Was the FoodCycler sufficiently large for the quantity of daily food waste you generated?



# Pilot Program Results

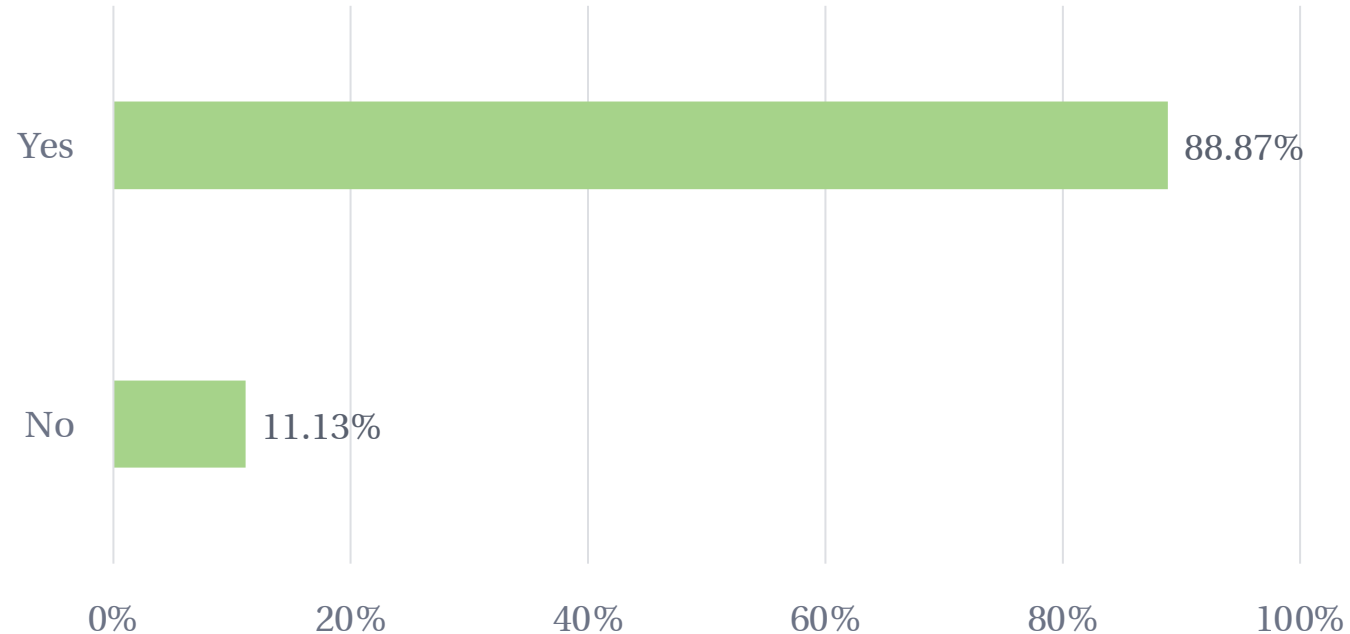
Did you see increased electricity costs during the time you used the FoodCycler?



\*Suggests that increased electricity costs are negligible/acceptable

# Pilot Program Results

If the municipality continued to offer a FoodCycler to residents at no or low cost as part of a diversion program, do you think your friends / neighbours in the community would participate?



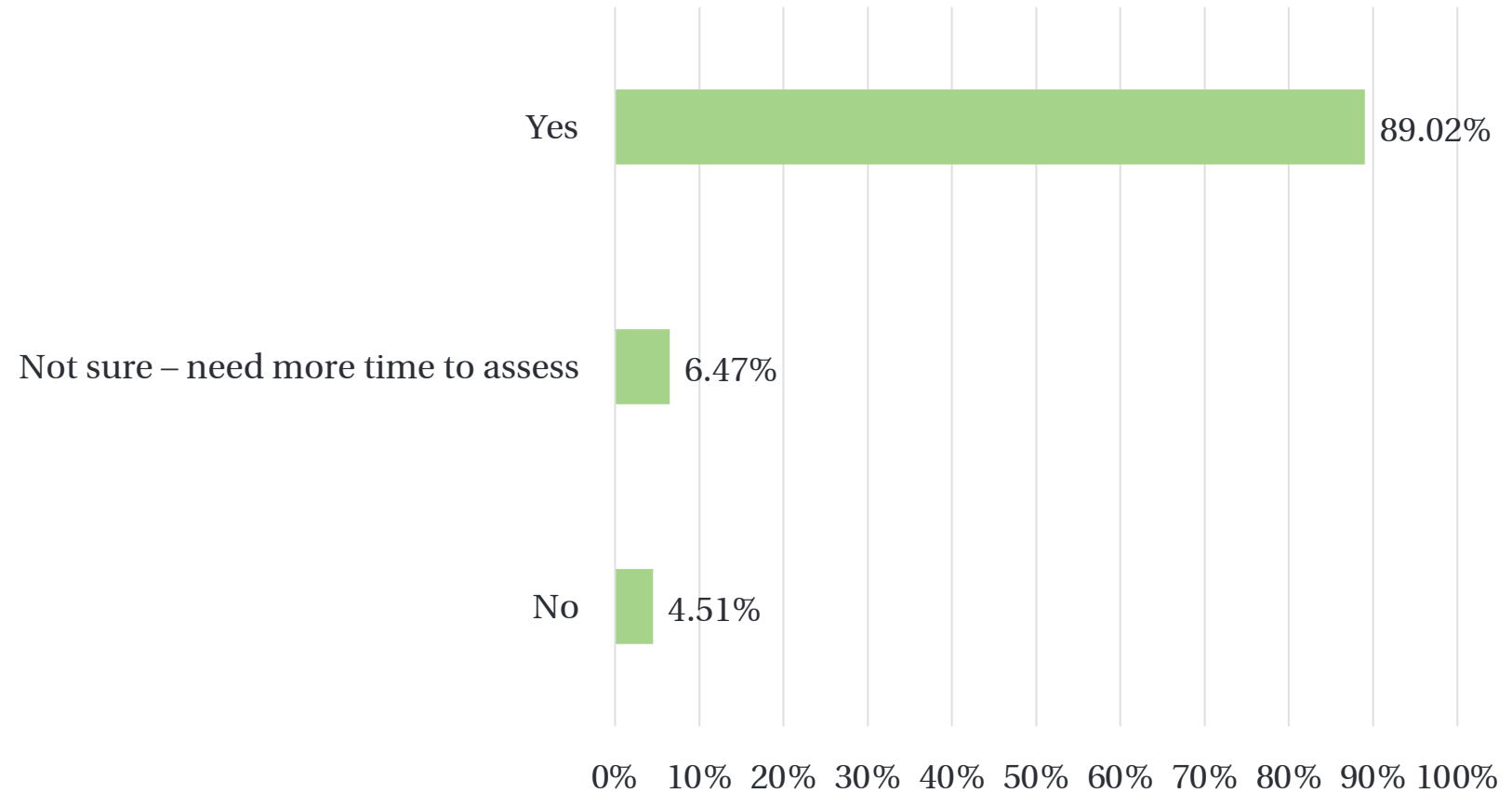
*“Highly recommend! I know of people that wanted one, but **none left at township to purchase.**” - Resident from Huron Kinloss*

*“Really appreciated the opportunity to be part of this program. I feel for me it was super successful and I know **many of my friends want their municipalities to do the same!** You made it viable for my household to test it out and I am really pleased with it.” - Resident from Saugeen Shores*



# Pilot Program Results

Would you recommend the FoodCycler to others?

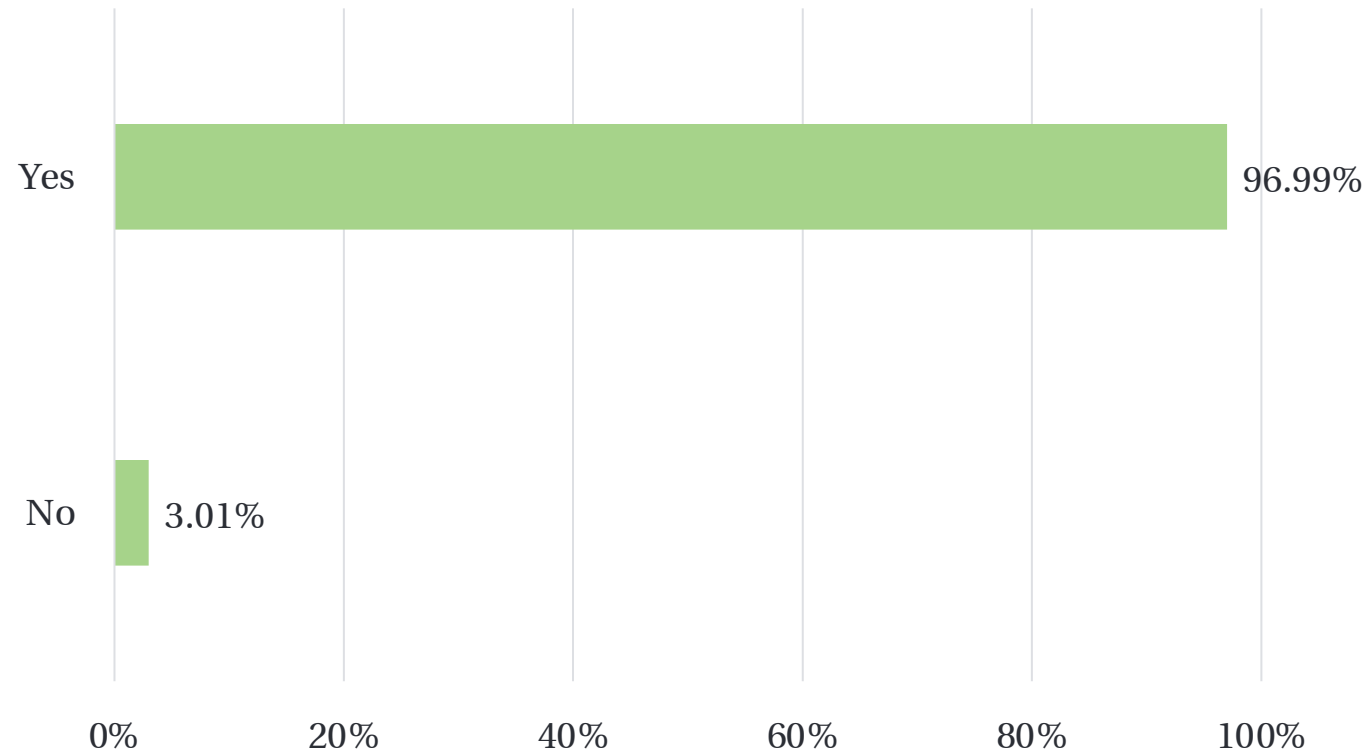


*“This is a remarkable program. I’m very happy using it and would recommend it be a requirement for all residents, seasonal or permanent”* – Resident from Saugeen Shores

*“We have really appreciated it and highly recommend!”* – Resident from Arran-Elderslie

# Pilot Program Results

Will you continue using the FoodCycler after this pilot?



*"I am very happy with this product and aim to continue using it daily. **Our family has made this a manageable habit to use, more so than separating our food waste for compost.**" – Resident from Arran-Elderslie*

# Pilot Program Results

Please rate the overall pilot project experience out of 5 stars.

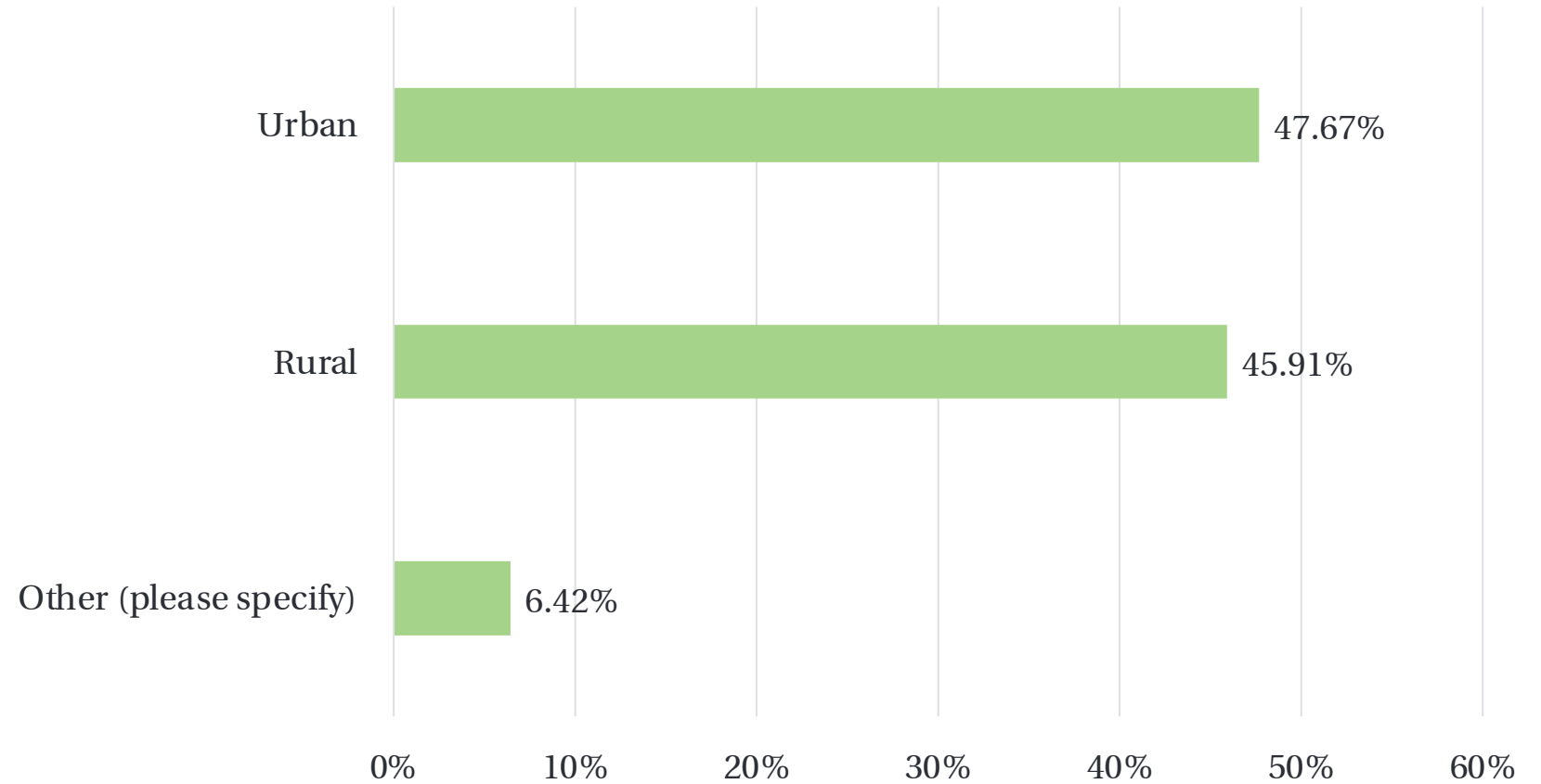
Average rating: 4.56/5 Stars



*“Thanks for the opportunity! I hope it’s offered again and more people can participate”* – Resident from Kincardine

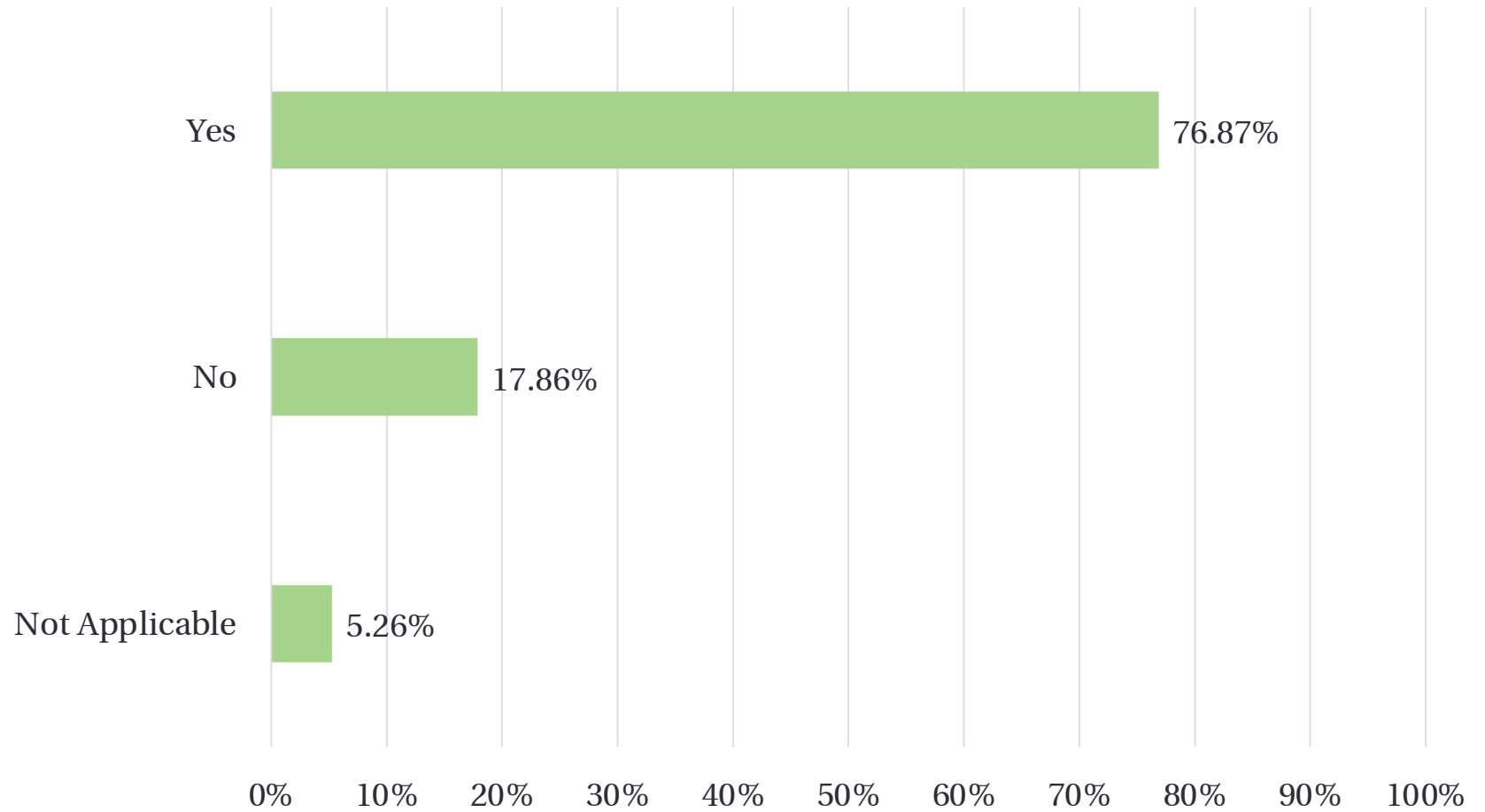
# Pilot Program Results MIC Questions

Do you live in an urban community or rural area?



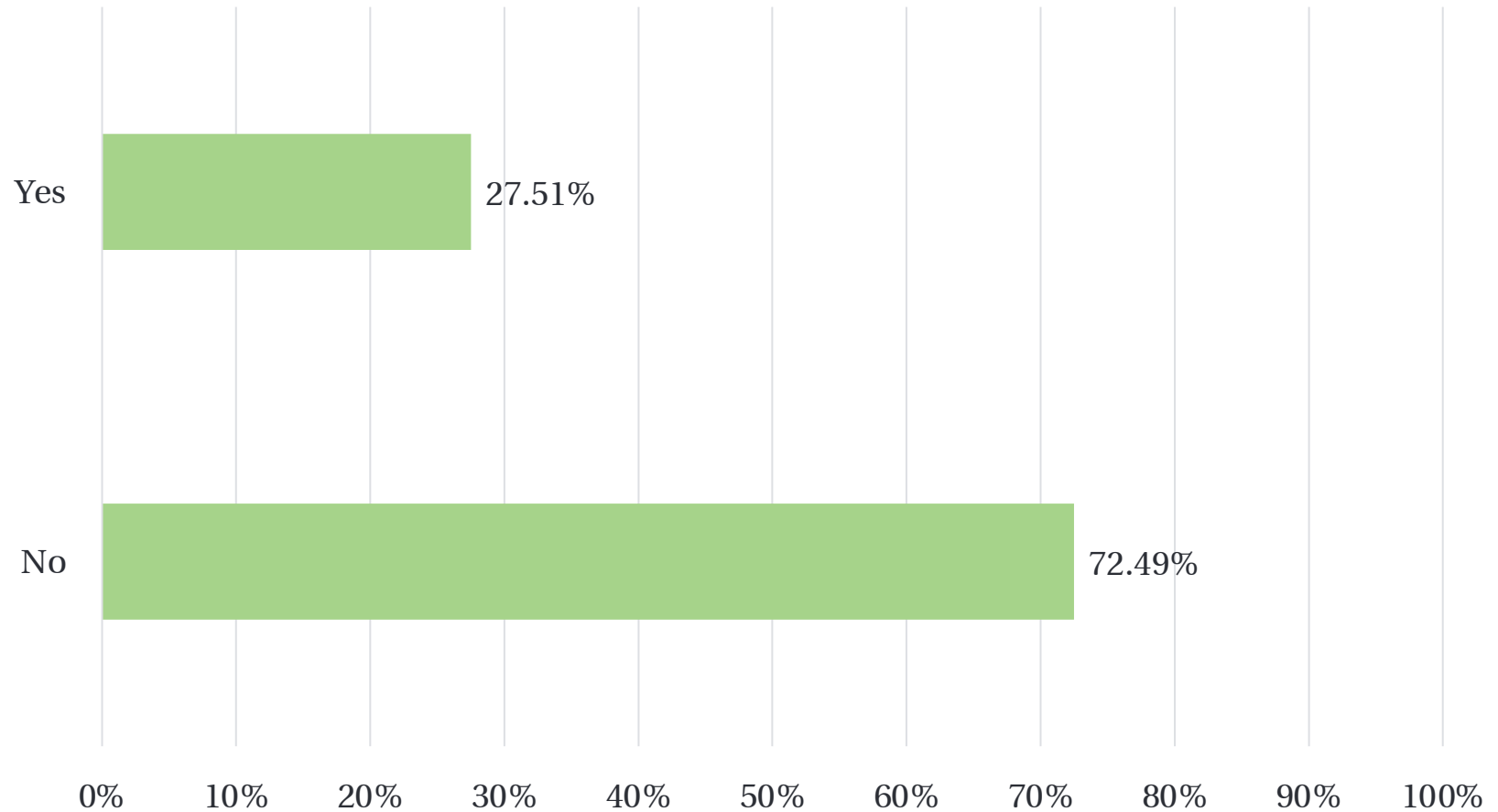
# Pilot Program Results MIC Questions

Do you currently use the 'pay as you throw' program of bag tags?



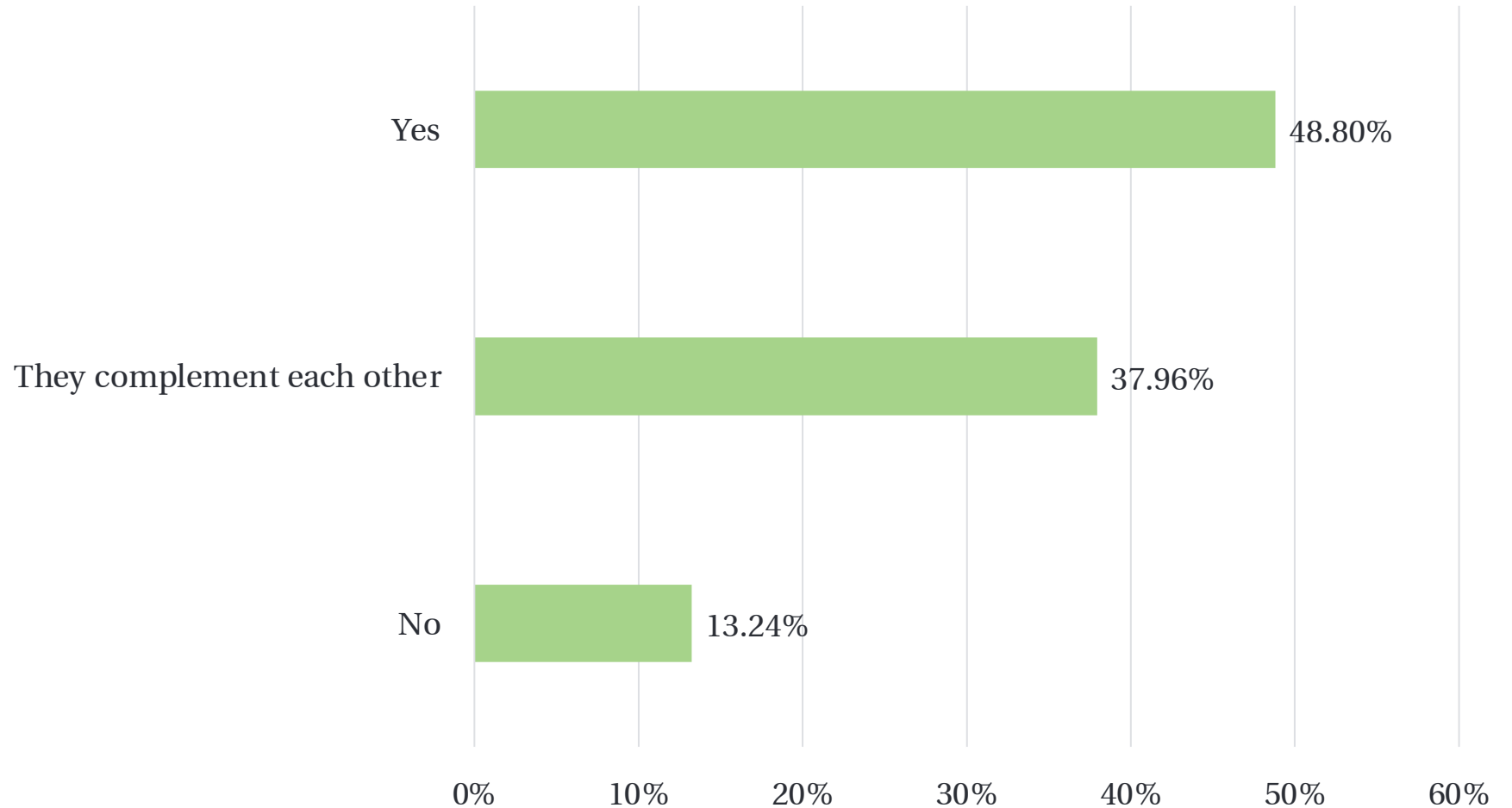
# Pilot Program Results MIC Questions

Would you pay for organic collection if it was at the end of your driveway?



# Pilot Program Results MIC Questions

Do you think the FoodCycler replaces the need for organic collection for your household?





# Pilot Participant Comments

“It is a good option, especially for households like ours that are already composting. May be more of an adjustment for those that currently don't compost”

“Recommend a municipal drop off for compost and yard waste”

“People just need time to get used to doing something new. I would rather cycle my food waste when it was convenient for me rather than have one more bin to take to the road each week. I would probably have used the FoodCycler more but I was away at least half of each week during this test period”

“I was pleased to get the FoodCycler at a reduced rate. However, I think low income families would be still find it an expensive option in the current economy.”

“Too many weekend/summer residents leave their garbage out already and animals get into it, so the green bins would increase this mess for permanent residents to deal with.

“I don't see curb side organic collection as feasible in this area due to wildlife. Containers would have to be bear-proof which would be cost-prohibitive, unless provided by the municipality.”



## Recap and Next Steps

### Recap

- **116.3 MT** of food waste diverted from landfill/year from 420 FoodCyclers subsidized by the MIC
- Average reduction of **21.8 garbage bags** per household per year being trucked to local landfills as a result of food waste.
- **97%** of participants will continue using the FoodCycler

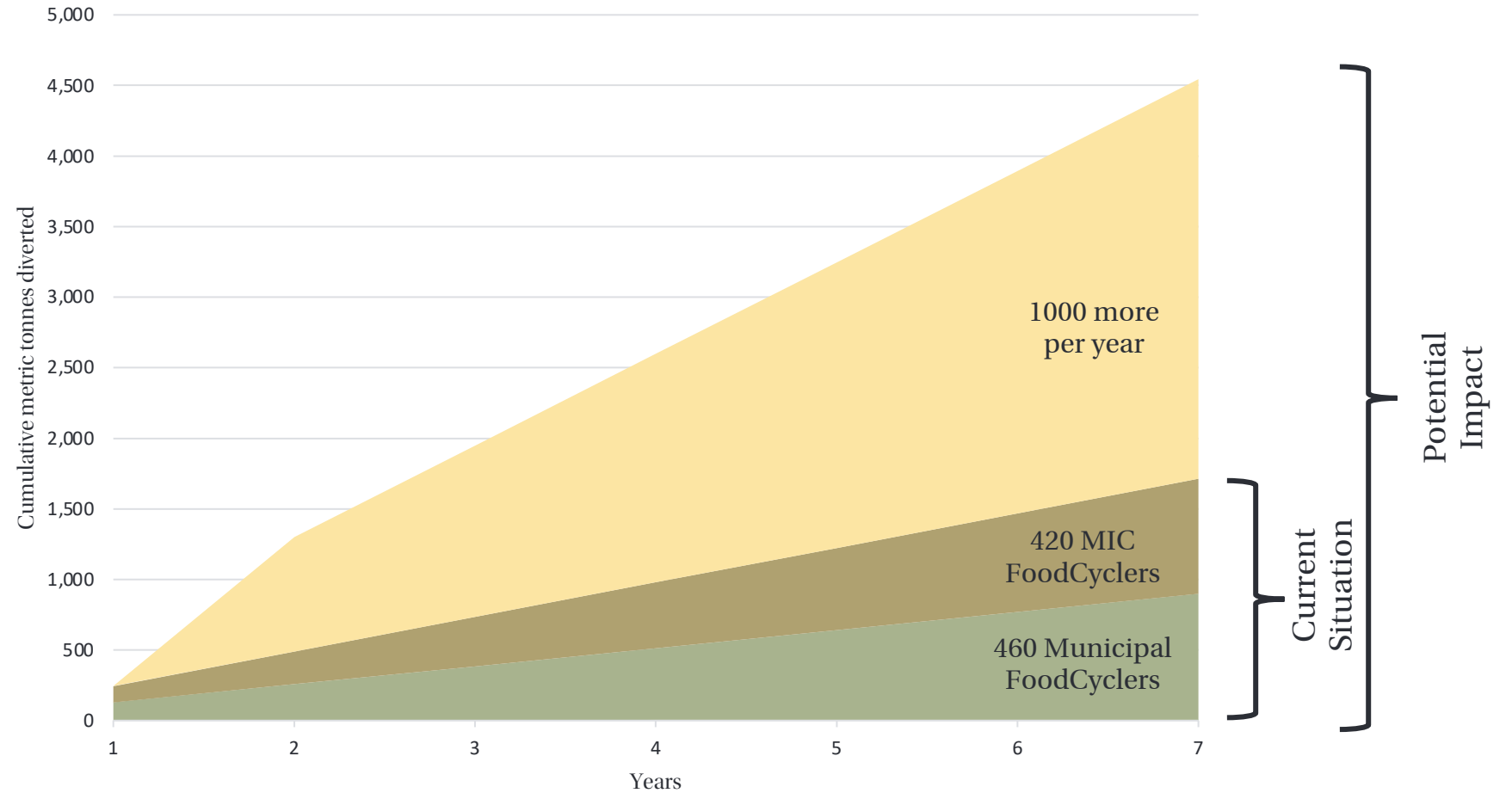
### Next Steps

- Now 880 FoodCyclers in Bruce County
- Expanded program in 2023/24
- Comprehensive program designed for you by Food Cycle Science



# Scaling Real Change

## Cumulative metric tonnes over average life of FoodCycler



# Scaling Real Change

## Nelson, British Columbia (5000 homes)

Citywide Pre-treated Organics Program program including:

- Free bulk carbon refill station in local Safeway grocery store
- Full warranty and local repair program
- Convenient, animal-proof soil amendment drop off locations
- Accessories sold by local businesses
- E-waste recycling programs established locally
- Resident education – guides, information sessions, and how-to videos



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**B.C. community expands home composting pilot project to divert more food waste from landfills**



**Thank you!**  
Any Questions?

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