

FINAL REPORT



**CORONADO COMMUNITY
CONFERENCE 2023**

OCTOBER 11, 2023



EMERALD KEEPERS

EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The second annual Coronado Community Conference (CCC) was a community gathering organized by local nonprofit Emerald Keepers to explore individual and community actions to build climate resilience for an environmentally sustainable Coronado. The event brought together a diverse group of expert speakers; community representatives from businesses and service groups; city leaders; first responders; the Navy; and interested parties from Coronado schools, faith organizations and the community at large, totaling 104 people. Throughout the day, ideas and responses to surveys were solicited and curated via Slido, a web-based survey app. This report synthesizes survey results and ideas generated during the CCC.



Additionally, it focuses on executable actions the community can take to mitigate the impacts of climate change, pollution, and air/water quality in Coronado... all with the goal of making Coronado a model city of sustainability.

BACKGROUND

Emerald Keepers is the only civic nonprofit organization in Coronado whose sole purpose is to address local needs related to environmental stewardship and sustainability. Emerald Keepers provides ecologically focused leadership to educate, foster awareness, provide a forum for discussion and debate, and promote achievable public-private, community-driven initiatives and solutions to achieve the goal of a sustainable Coronado for current and future generations.

DISCUSSION

With climate change in the forefront of mainstream media, calls for action are growing increasingly louder. As a community, we can no longer be mute or irresponsible caretakers of Coronado and her boundary waters. CCC speakers were selected on the basis of their subject matter expertise and ability to infuse a call to action, present implementable ideas to reduce local greenhouse gas emissions, and explain and reinforce some of the initiatives included in the City's Climate Action Plan (such as mini-shuttles and Community Choice Aggregate power). By inviting a broad spectrum of community members, Emerald Keepers sought to educate and inform attendees with the aim of (1) them becoming ambassadors and advocates for change and (2) advancing the goal of Coronado becoming a model city.





AREAS OF FOCUS

The call to action by keynote speaker and UCSD professor, Dr. Adam Aron, reinforced the urgency of reducing carbon emissions. Learning about existing sustainable communities and community power initiatives across the bridge provided the framework for discussion of community change in Coronado. Suggested individual actions, as well as more detailed CCC information, can be found in the Appendices.

KEY TAKE-AWAYS

- The interactive survey responses reflect 87 out of 98 participants engaged with polls and Q&A.
- 91% feel it is very important for people in Coronado to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.
 - 92% think Coronado can – and must – reduce its significant greenhouse gas emissions footprint.
 - 90% if given the option, would buy energy from community choice energy instead of SDG&E.
 - 100% support Coronado banning the sale or distribution of single-use plastics.

RECOMMENDATION

Based on principal take-aways cited above, it is recommended the City of Coronado hire a qualified sustainability officer to act on constituents’ calls for action.

APPENDICES

A. CCC Agenda Page 3

B. CCC Guest Speakers..... Page 4

C. Community Survey Data..... Page 6

D. Videos/Pocket Guide Links Page 11

E. Community Input and Actions Page 12

F. Emerald Keepers CCC Committee..... Page 13





APPENDIX A – Agenda

- 8:20 am** Arrival and check-in | Coffee and pastries
- 8:45 am** **Welcome**
- 8:50 am** **Keynote Presentation:** The Essential Role of Social Mobilization in Confronting the Climate Crisis
Speaker: Adam Aron, PhD., Department of Psychology, University of California, San Diego
- 9:30 am** **Video:** Coronado Emissions Video
- 9:35 am** **Darbi Berry**, Director, San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative Climate. *Innovation in San Diego*
- 10:05 am** **Sean Armstrong**, Managing Principal, Redwood Energy. *Climate Friendly Buildings*
- 10:35 am** **Break**
- 10:45 am** **Lee Friedman**, Senior Manager of Strategic Partnerships, San Diego Community Power. *Community Choice Energy Solutions*
- 11:15 am** **Mark Iannoni**, Partner Success Manager Circuit. *Follow the Yellow Brick Road with OZ*
- 11:45 am** **Zero Waste Lunch** | Videos
- 12:25 pm** **Melissa Morris**, Oceana: Rise Above Plastics, *Impacts of Plastics on Coronado*
- 12:45 pm** **Emerald Keepers Interns** Zero Waste, Compost & Garden
- 1:05 pm** **Andrew Meyer**, San Diego Audubon Society. *Native Plants for Native Birds & San Diego Audubon*
- 1:30pm** **Evaluation/Closing**





APPENDIX B – Guest Speakers



ADAM ARON, PhD

Adam Aron is a climate activist and professor of psychology at the University of California, San Diego.

Adam Aron's research and teaching focus on the social science of collective action on the climate crisis. His climate activism has been through the Green New Deal at UC San Diego where he has volunteered on several campaigns such as fossil fuel divestment and also campus decarbonization via ElectrifyUC. He has also produced the documentary *Coming Clean* and recently authored the book *The Climate Crisis*.

Before switching his focus to the climate crisis, Aron had a successful career in cognitive neuroscience. He earned his Ph.D. from the University of Cambridge and was a postdoctoral fellow at UCLA.



DARBI BERRY, Director of San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative

Darbi Berry specializes in building partnerships, climate resilience and capacity building. Through the Climate Collaborative, Berry leads work that supports regional projects implementing climate adaptation, coastal resilience, energy efficiency, and climate-smart water resource management.

Berry is also the co-regional coordinator for the National Ocean Sciences Bowl and serves as the chair for the Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation. Berry has a background in environmental science, specializing in hydrology, geomorphology, and geospatial systems.

She received her B.S. in Environmental Science and Policy from the University of South Florida and her M.S. in Environmental and Ocean Sciences from the University of San Diego.



SEAN ARMSTRONG, Managing Principal of Redwood Energy.

Sean Armstrong has led the design of more than half the all-electric residences built in California between 2011 and 2020; co-authored six practical guides to building electrification; and provided legal and technical support to dozens of municipal gas bans nationwide

Armstrong has received Grand Prize design awards from the California Building Industry Association and the United Nations.

He was inducted into California's Clean Energy Hall of Fame in 2022, and was asked in 2023 to represent the United States as a global speaker for the State Department on Zero Net Energy policy development.



EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



MARK IANNON, Partner Success Manager at Circuit.

Mark Iannon works with Circuit's existing clients to ensure electric transportation services are exceeding expectations. He has extensive experience delivering creative and innovative solutions to foster long-term client relationships.

Iannon has a master's degree in organizational management and over 12 years of operations leadership. Before moving to Circuit, Iannon was a Senior Operations Manager and then an Operations Manager at Wheels.



LEE FRIEDMAN, Senior Manager of Strategic Partnerships for San Diego Community Power.

Lee Friedman works closely with regional businesses, organizations, and civic leaders to build meaningful partnerships within the community.

Prior to joining San Diego Community Power, Friedman spent more than nine years with the City of San Diego, working on infrastructure, mobility, and sustainability policy. He was the energy policy lead in the Faulconer administration during the time SDCP was being formed.



MELISSA MORRIS, Oceana Field Representative, Southern California.

Melissa Morris builds support for Oceana's U.S. campaigns to pass policies to reduce single-use plastics at the local, state, and national level, and to oppose the expansion of offshore drilling in Southern California.

Prior to joining Oceana, Morris founded the nonprofit Service to Sea, providing active-duty military personnel with opportunities to connect with ocean conservation in San Diego.

She has also worked for nonprofits and private companies spreading the word about preventing plastic pollution and encouraging sustainable seafood. She has been a passionate conservationist and water enthusiast since childhood. Her master's thesis focused on bridging

the gap between local fishermen, restaurant owners, and the public on utilizing the entire fish and sourcing locally.



ANDREW MEYER, San Diego Audubon Society Director of Conservation

Andrew Meyer earned an undergraduate degree from State University New York, Binghamton, then wandered the country for a few years doing biological field work before earning a master's in geography from the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Meyer worked for the Hudson River Estuary Program on scenery preservation and reconnecting aquatic habitat through culvert mitigation and dam removal projects. He now is honored to work with the San Diego Audubon Society's fantastic staff and volunteers protecting birds, other wildlife and their habitat.

His favorite bird memories involve oystercatchers on Anacapa Island, auklets and albatrosses on the Aleutian Islands and short-eared owls at Shawangunk Grasslands National Wildlife Refuge.



EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

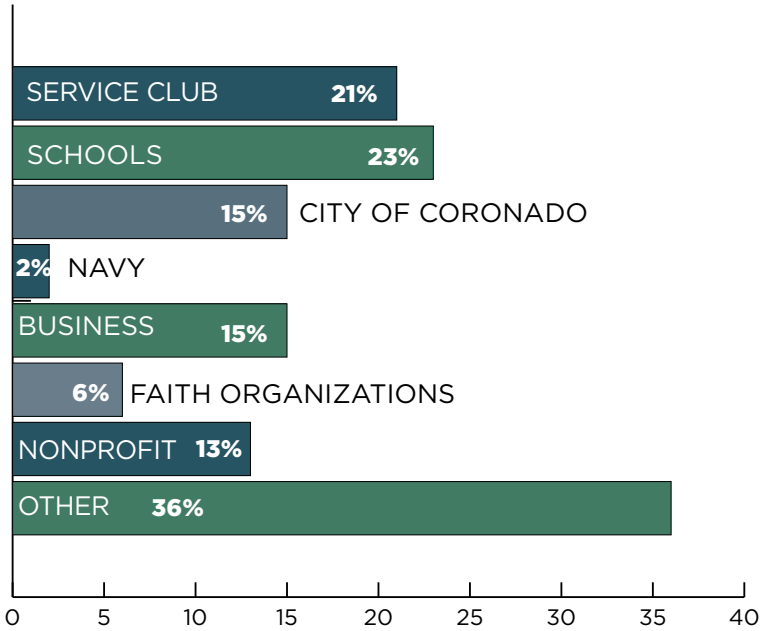
Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



APPENDIX C -Community Survey Data

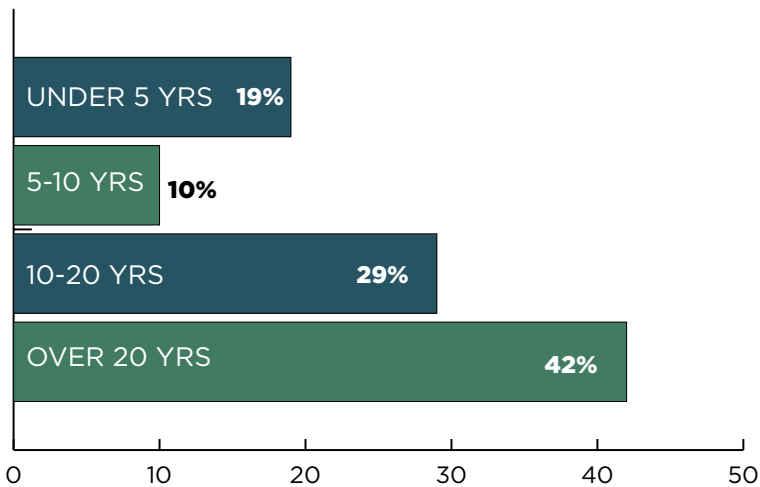
WHAT SECTOR OF THE COMMUNITY DO YOU REPRESENT?

(CHOOSE ALL THAT APPLY) 53 responses



HOW LONG HAVE YOU LIVED IN CORONADO?

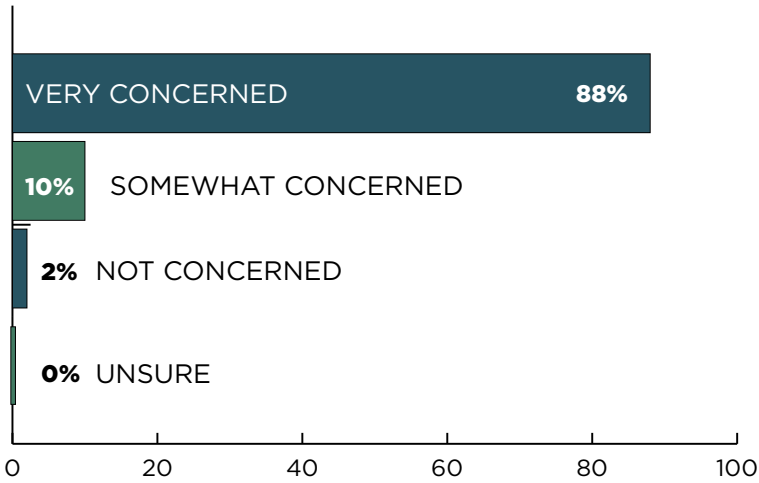
52 responses





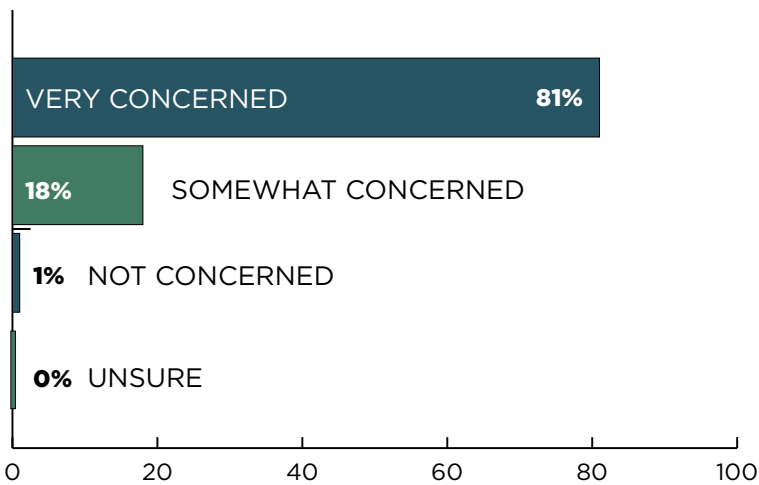
HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU ABOUT THE GLOBAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

49 responses



HOW CONCERNED ARE YOU ABOUT THE LOCAL IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE?

57 responses



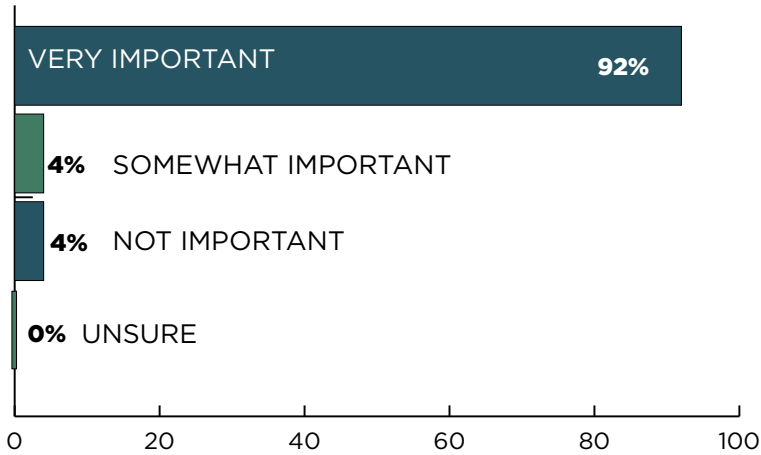
EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



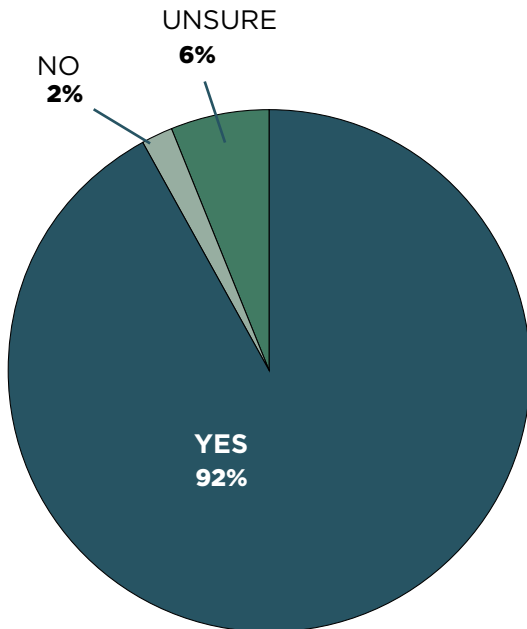
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR PEOPLE IN CORONADO TO REDUCE THEIR GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS?

46 responses



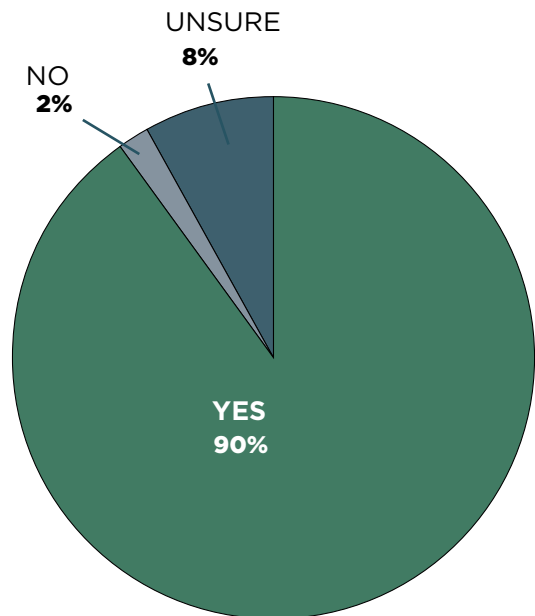
DO YOU THINK CORONADO CREATES SIGNIFICANT GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS?

52 responses



GIVEN THE OPTION, WOULD YOU BUY YOUR ENERGY FROM COMMUNITY CHOICE ENERGY INSTEAD OF SDG&E?

50 responses



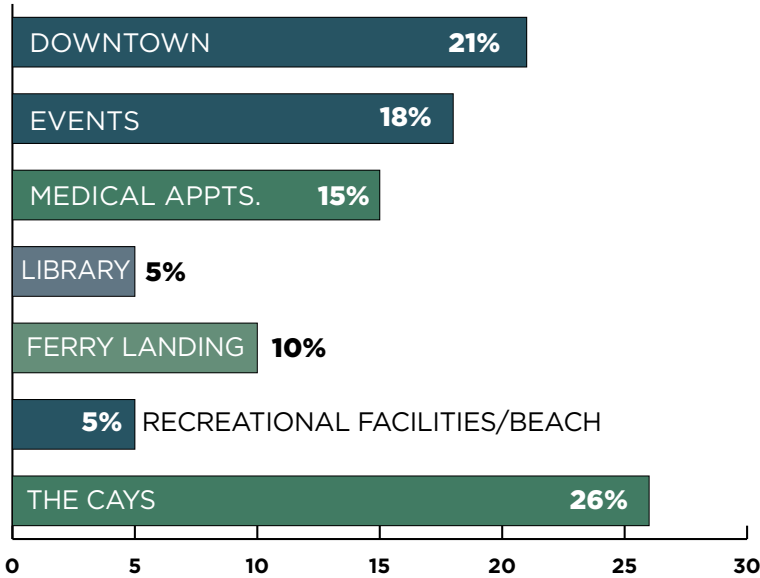
EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.

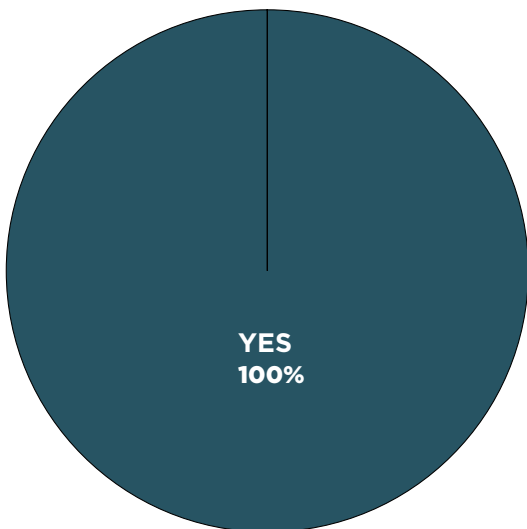


WHERE WOULD YOU TAKE THE OZ IN CORONADO?

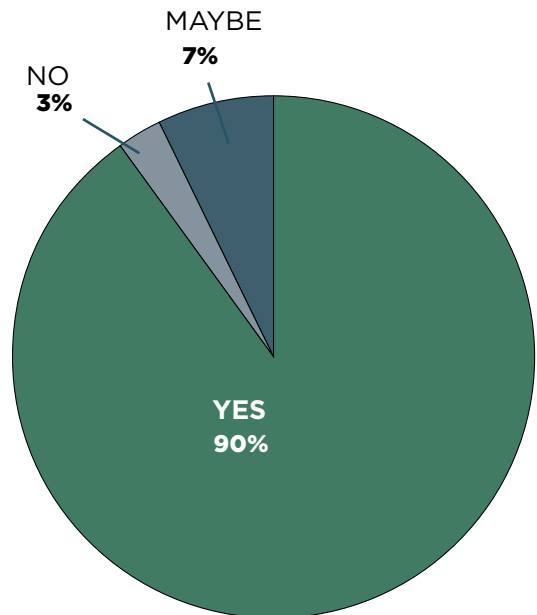
39 responses



WOULD YOU SUPPORT CORONADO BANNING THE SALE OR DISTRIBUTION OF SINGLE-USE PLASTICS? 45 responses



WILL YOU PLANT ONE OR MORE NATIVE PLANTS IN YOUR YARD, PATIO, OR BALCONY TO ATTRACT BIRDS AND POLLINATORS? 32 responses



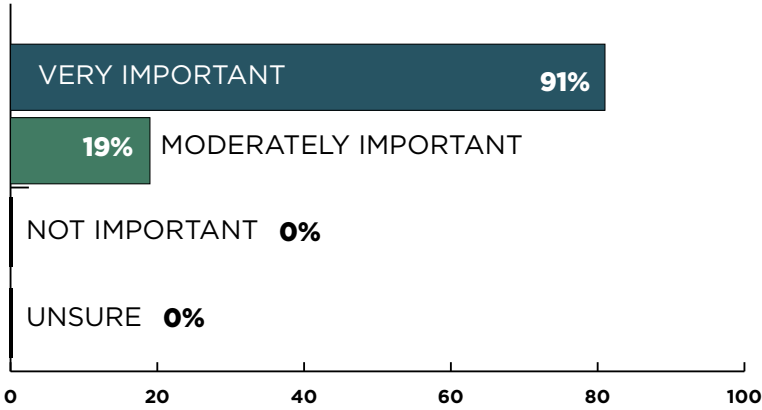
EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



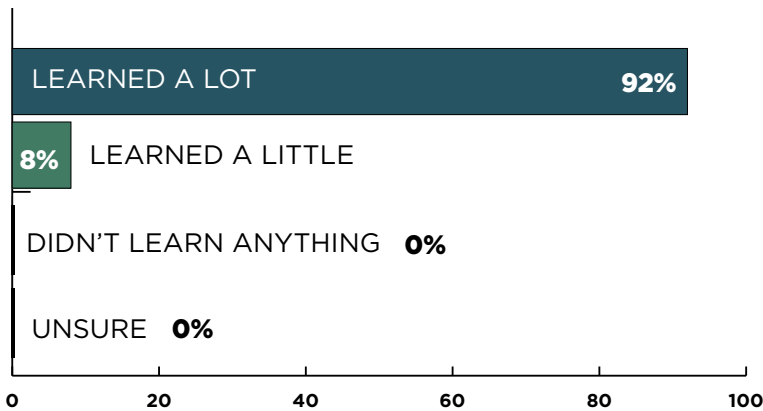
HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR CORONADO TO PLANT MORE TREES?

21 responses



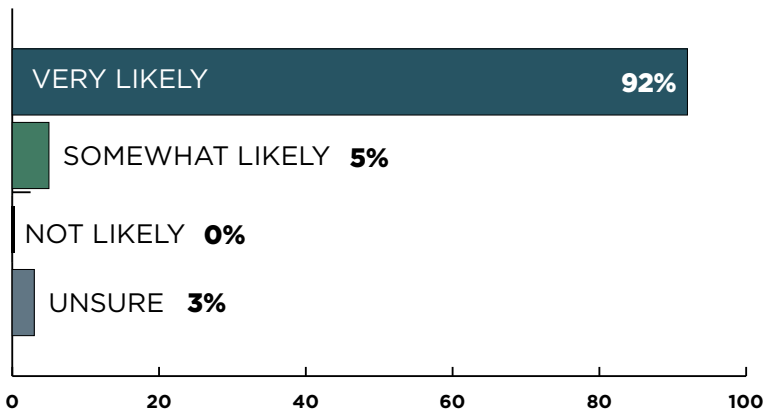
HOW MUCH DID YOU LEARN FROM TODAY'S CORONADO COMMUNITY CONFERENCE?

37 responses



HOW LIKELY ARE YOU TO TAKE POSITIVE CLIMATE ACTION AS A RESULT OF TODAY'S CONFERENCE?

37 responses



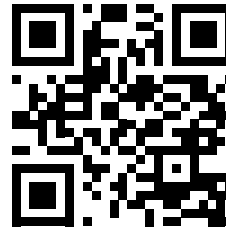
EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



APPENDIX D - Videos

CORONADO'S EMISSIONS



WHAT GOES IN EACH BIN (WASTE, RECYCLING, ORGANICS)?



POCKET GUIDES TO ALL ELECTRIC HOMES AND TRANSPORTATION



EMERALD KEEPERS
EMERALDKEEPERS.ORG

Emerald Keepers is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation.



APPENDIX E – Community input and actions

- Convert to electric hot water heater.
- Encourage use of native plants.
- Combine electrification with fossil free power
- Explore collective actions to retire fossil fuel infrastructure.
- Incentivize sustainable energy.
- I'd like to see the city go solar in its buildings to get away from fossil fuels and set an example for residents
- Sustainable public transport solutions to reduce emissions & fossil fuel usage.
- Airport terminal sustainability is impressive
- Gardening and what each person can do in their own yard to grow food.
- Trees for shade...composting...working on my footprint just in my home and neighborhood.
- Go solar.
- Expansion of solar power, particularly on homes and businesses!
- Taking over the power grid vs. SDGE.
- Solar power electric vehicles
- Tool kits
- Scaling up solar and wind and taking over the distribution lines
- Fossil fuel free air travel community power generation (not SDGE), for example
- Electric school buses!
- Solar
- The OZ program!
- Access to education of how we as individuals can do our part
- Expanding renewable energy sources.
- Plastic alternatives
- The library tool kits
- Rooftop solar
- Solar and battery power EVs and solar!
- Solar implementation
- Electric public transportation
- Micro grid
- Solarization!
- Add more solar panels.
- Change landscape with drought tolerate landscape with indigenous plants
- Change to induction range and oven, replace gas BBQ.
- Add storage for solar panels.
- Electricity as much as possible
- Compost!
- Induction cook top! Water pump! Electric dryer! I have solar!
- Add solar and storage batteries
- We already have solar batteries, heat pump and electric cars. We will replace our stove next.
- Replace my gas and get solar
- Get/use an electric grill
- Heat pump
- Electrify.
- Talk to my apartment complex about adding solar panels Remove lawn
- Add solar





APPENDIX F — Emerald Keepers Coronado Community Conference Committee

Organizing Committee

Amy Steward
Abby Berk
Christina Slentz

Registration

Janet Thoms

Event Check-in Table

Janet Thoms
Sharon Raffer

Hospitality

Karen Rodgers
Julia Elssaad

Set Up / Break Down

Tim Rush
Dan'l Steward

Slido Surveys and Graphic Design

Martina Schimitschek

Social Media

DaniRose Hill

