



# CLIMATE SMART LARIMER COUNTY INITIATIVE COMMUNITY OUTREACH SUMMARY

APRIL 08, 2022

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS...

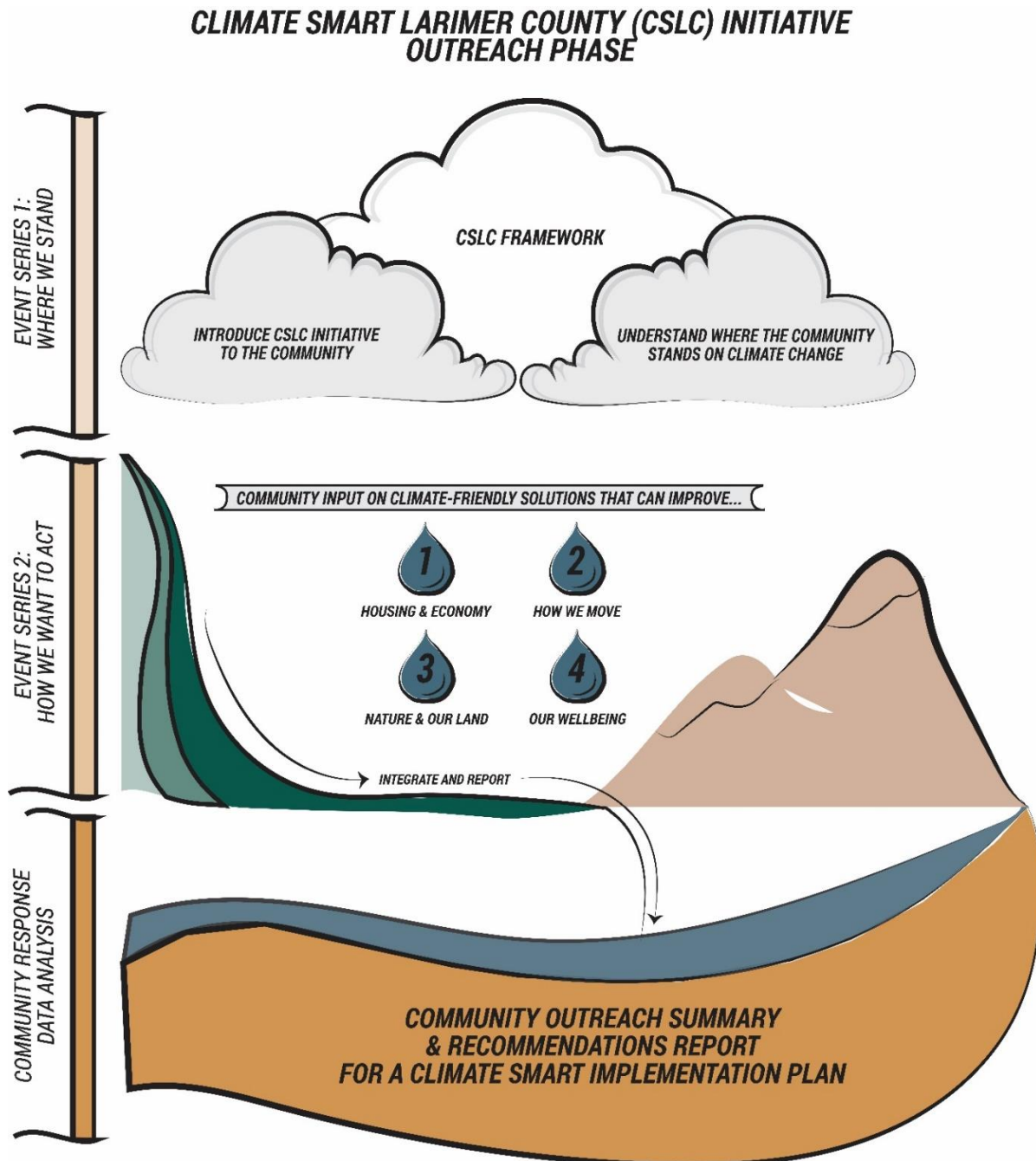
Special thanks to the **Larimer County Board of Commissioners: Jody Shadduck-McNally, John Kefalas, and Kristin Stephens** for starting and championing the Climate Smart Larimer County Initiative.

This Outreach Phase was made possible thanks to the invaluable participation of the **Larimer County community** and the oversight of the community-representative **Climate Smart Task Force** (below).

Designee	Organization	Representing
<b>Aaron Adams</b>	Town of Timnath	Municipality
<b>Alex Gordon</b>	North Front Range Metropolitan Planning Organization	Transportation
<b>Ann Hutchison</b>	Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce	Economic
<b>Amy Roiser</b>	Poudre Valley REA	Energy
<b>Brian Rutledge</b>	Santee Rising Ranch	Agriculture
<b>Chris Kirk</b>	Town of Berthoud	Municipality
<b>Christian Ferguson</b>	Larimer County Equity Advisory Board/ CSU Partnership Relations & Development	Community Mobilization Experts
<b>Darlene Kilpatrick</b>	Larimer County Healthy Larimer Committee	Community Mobilization Experts
<b>Dawn Paepke</b>	Larimer County Equity Advisory Board / Kaiser Permanente	Community Mobilization Experts
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<b>Hallie Sheldon</b>	Town of Wellington	Municipality
<b>Honore Depew</b>	City of Fort Collins	Municipality
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<b>Karen Crumbaker</b>	Colorado State University Extension	Outreach
<b>Katie Donahue</b>	USFS, Canyon Lakes Ranger District	Forestry
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<b>Louise Creager</b>	Rist Canyon Volunteer Fire Department	Emergency Management
<b>Marcie Willard</b>	Lightning eMotors	Transportation & Local Business
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<b>Megan Thorburn</b>	Poudre Canyon Sierra Club Group	Environmental Organization
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<b>Shelby Sommer</b>	Larimer County Environmental & Science Advisory Board	Environment
<b>Steve VanderMeer</b>	Larimer County Open Lands Advisory Board	Natural Resources
<b>Sue McFaddin</b>	Seven Generations, LLC	Economic and Building
<b>Wade Willis</b>	Town of Windsor	Municipality

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH PHASE AT-A-GLANCE

The below image illustrates the rationale and process for the Climate Smart Larimer County Initiative Outreach Phase.



## INTRODUCTION

### What is the Climate Smart Larimer County (CSLC) Initiative?

The CSLC is a county-led effort that seeks to find collective solutions to adapt to climate impacts already underway (adaptation) and to reduce future climate impacts (mitigation).

#### CSLC Initiative Timeline



### What has been done to date?

The CSLC Initiative started with the development of the **Climate Smart Larimer County Framework (Phase 1)**. This document was developed by technical staff from different County departments and identified existing and desired internal processes to address the changing climate. A key recommendation within the framework was **to consult the community (Phase 2)** to understand how the community perceives climate change and what they see as climate-friendly solutions for a county-level plan.

### How was the community outreach phase designed?

The Public Engagement Plan was produced in consultation with County staff and the community representative Task Force. The outreach phase was designed to include two series of events (below).

#### EVENT SERIES #1 // KNOWING WHERE THE COMMUNITY STANDS ON CLIMATE CHANGE

**Goal:** To inform the public about the CSLC Initiative; gather initial input on the communitywide understanding of climate change impacts (both current and projected); and secure the public’s involvement for Event Series #2

**Timeframe:** November 12 to December 31 (6 weeks)

**Outreach events:** Community presentations and Questionnaire #1

#### EVENT SERIES #2 // KNOWING HOW THE COMMUNITY WANTS TO ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

**Goal:** To report back on Event Series #1 feedback and solicit input on climate-friendly solutions to be considered for the development of the future Climate Smart Implementation Plan. Outreach events

**Timeframe:** February 8 to March 15 (5 weeks)

**Outreach events:** Community workshops and Questionnaire #2

**Note:** While Event Series #2 was going to be framed around the [CSLC Framework](#)’s Seven Planning Areas, upon reviewing results from Event Series #1 and as part of designing the public workshops for Event Series #2, the following four *overarching areas* were identified to present the information in a more approachable manner:



## What tools were used?

### CSLC Initiative Outreach Tools

**Task Force:** A Task Force (TF) of 24 individuals representing different community interests was formed to provide connections to the community for outreach activities; review and comment on strategic priorities and outcomes; and make recommendations to the Larimer County Board of Commissioners regarding next steps. The TF met five times during the outreach phase to review and comment on priorities and outcomes resulting from community outreach. For a list of all TF members, see the acknowledgements page.



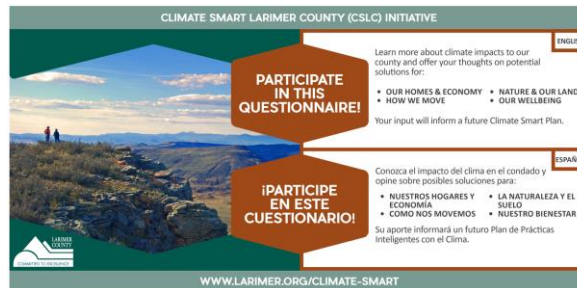
**Engagement amplifiers:** Efforts were made to identify and work with other groups who could amplify outreach, such as, Tigre FM Radio Station, Latinx Community Advisory Board, Public Libraries, and the Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce.



**Coordination with other planning efforts:** Given other recent and concurrent projects taking place in Larimer County, efforts were made to ensure alignment and avoid duplication of efforts. Recent questionnaires from the City of Fort Collins' 'Our Climate Future' were reviewed to prevent asking similar questions and to guide demographic questions. Additional promotion and coordination was undertaken with the Estes Forward Comprehensive Plan and Code Update and the Larimer County Waster Master Plan processes.



**Branding and translation:** All communication and event materials were branded in a consistent manner and produced in English and Spanish.



**Printed communication:** In addition to distributing traditional materials including *information cards, posters, and questionnaires*, unique products were created to draw attention to the CSLC Initiative. These included *coasters* (distributed at the Mishawaka in Bellvue, and Berthoud Brewing Company and City Star Brewing in Berthoud), and *bookmarks* (distributed at Berthoud, Loveland, and Fort Collins libraries).



**Online communication:** Information was produced for the project *website, social media platforms, the Climate Smart Newsletter, and press releases* to advertise events and community feedback opportunities.

**Larimer County's Climate Smart initiative needs community feedback**

Isabel Rivera, News Reporter  
 2022/01/26 10:30 AM  
 Larimer County is seeking feedback from the community on the Climate Smart Initiative. The county is currently in the process of developing a Climate Smart Implementation Plan. The county is seeking feedback from the community on the Climate Smart Initiative. The county is currently in the process of developing a Climate Smart Implementation Plan.



**Trail Gazette**  
 Together We Build: Local Government Sustainability Initiatives

By THOMAS BECK, AIA, NCARB |  
 PUBLISHED: January 26, 2022 at 11:29 a.m. | UPDATED: January 26, 2022 at 11:38 a.m.

**North Forty News**  
 The Climate Smart Larimer County Initiative (CSLC) Keeps on Going!

February 13, 2022 | Jason Kuhn | News



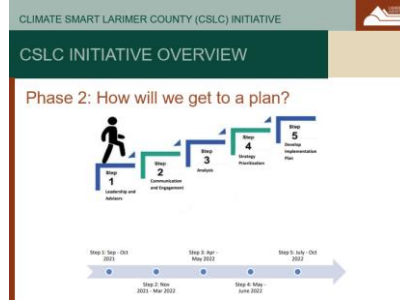
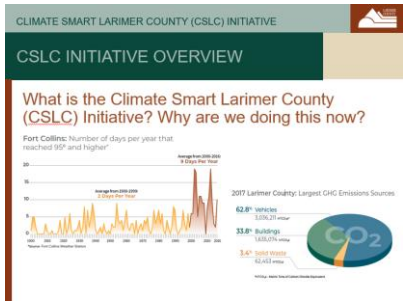
**Climate Smart Larimer County**  
 March 2022 Update

**Cellular communication:** Materials were produced for distribution via SMS (text message) and WhatsApp. Engagement amplifiers and Task Force members further distributed communication through their networks.

*WhatsApp Message sent to members of the Casa del Padre Church in Loveland*



**Presentations:** Presentations introduces the CSLC Initiative to the public and secured participation in the online questionnaires and the workshops. Presentations included small groups sessions and Community Conversations hosted by the County Commissioners.



**Workshops:** A series of twelve virtual workshops were hosted (8 in English and 4 in Spanish) to involve the community in identifying potential climate-friendly solutions to be considered for the future Climate Smart Implementation Plan. Additional small group workshops (some in person, as shown below) were conducted upon request to reach a diverse range of groups and demographics.



**If any 'Homes & Economy' ideas come to mind when you think of 'advocacy', please share your input here:**

**HOMES & ECONOMY INCLUDES:**

- Housing
- Jobs
- Energy
- Waste management

Bring site for ideas to be shared between experts and general population.	Encouraging specific what people can do more responsible for and better actions in residential (generally) and that focus energy change.	Making sure of groups from a stake and are supported.
Advocate by not allowing oil and gas to exit Larimer County.	Encouraging composting food waste (multitude of side program that include compost).	Empowering people to make changes through education and support. Teaching them to make climate smart choices and making environmental policies on an organizational level.
Providing robust solar leaders.	Advocacy for use of these "flex" responses to building materials.	Increasing public transportation or non-motorized form of transportation.

*Community responses received via the Menti.com platform during the Homes & Economy Workshop*

**Questionnaires:** Two questionnaires were developed in English and Spanish. **Event Series #1 Questionnaire** informed the public about the CSLC Initiative; gathered initial input on the communitywide understanding of climate change impacts (both current and projected); and secured the public's involvement for the workshops. This questionnaire also included an event request form for people to request an information session. **Event Series #2 Questionnaire** solicited input on climate friendly solutions to be considered for the development of the future Climate Smart Implementation Plan. Questionnaire #2 was setup to mimic the community workshops. This questionnaire also included a youth version as well as a general comment form.

**Climate Smart Larimer County Questionnaire #1**

**Project Description:**  
 This short, 10-minute questionnaire is part of the Climate Smart Larimer County (CSLC) Initiative. It County staff effort to understand how the community perceives climate change and what they see as potential strategies for adapting to climate impacts already underway (adaptation) and for reducing future climate impacts (mitigation).

Being a Climate Smart County is a collective effort that includes daily actions we take as individuals and actions we take collaboratively as a community. No single person or organization would be able to affect climate change on its own, but through collaboration, communication, and innovation we can make a difference on complex challenges, and be a model for others to follow.

**Questionnaire Description:**  
 This questionnaire aims to introduce the initiative to the community, to understand where we all stand on climate, and to recruit participants for workshops in February 2022. Community feedback will inform the development of the County's first Climate Smart Plan. Thank you in advance for your time and interest in helping shape a Climate Smart future for Larimer County!

Understanding where the Larimer County community stands on climate:

1. Have you, your family, or business been impacted by severe weather (e.g., floods, wildfires, drought, etc.) or insects (e.g., fire, mosquitoes, or ticks) that may be related to changing climate in Larimer County?

Yes  No

I've never been impacted, but I don't know if the events were related to climate change.

**Climate Smart Questionnaire #2**

This short, 10-minute questionnaire is part of the **Climate Smart Larimer County (CSLC) Initiative**, a County-led effort to understand how the community perceives climate change and what they see as collective solutions for addressing climate impacts already underway (adaptation) and for reducing future climate impacts (mitigation).

Note that the questionnaire has an introductory section (below), followed by a series of questions (below).

**Questionnaire Goals:**

- Learn more about the CSLC Initiative.
- Suggest opportunities for a County-level Plan.
- Comment on ways to ensure approaches are just and fair to all.
- Help shape recommendations for a future Climate Smart Plan.

**INTRODUCTION: WHY CLIMATE SMART?**

Long-term variations in average weather patterns for a region

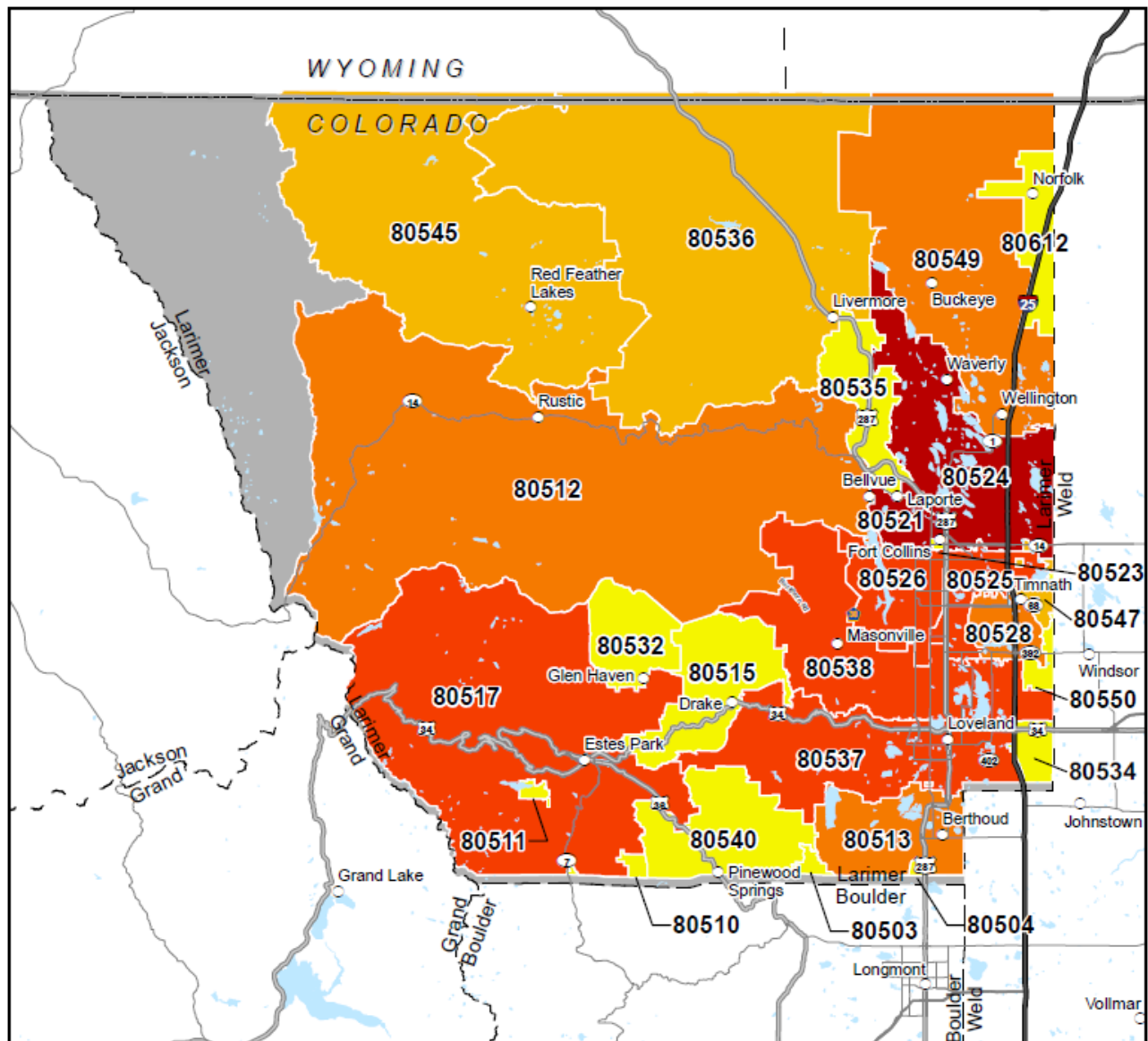
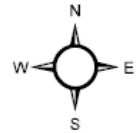
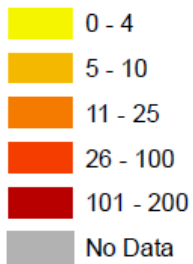
**SINCE 1981 LARIMER COUNTY HAS EXPERIENCED THE FOLLOWING DISASTER DECLARATIONS:** (https://dnr.co.us21)

- 15 WILDFIRES
- 7 FLOODS
- 2 SEVERE STORMS
- 1 TORNADO
- 2 SEVERE SNOW FALLS

# WHO WE HAVE HEARD FROM

## Zip Code Representation:

### Number of Responses

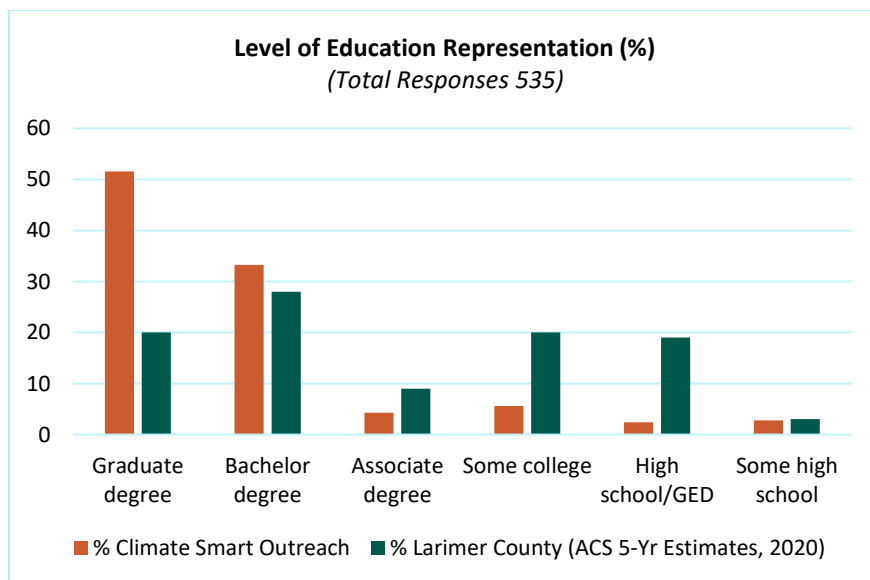
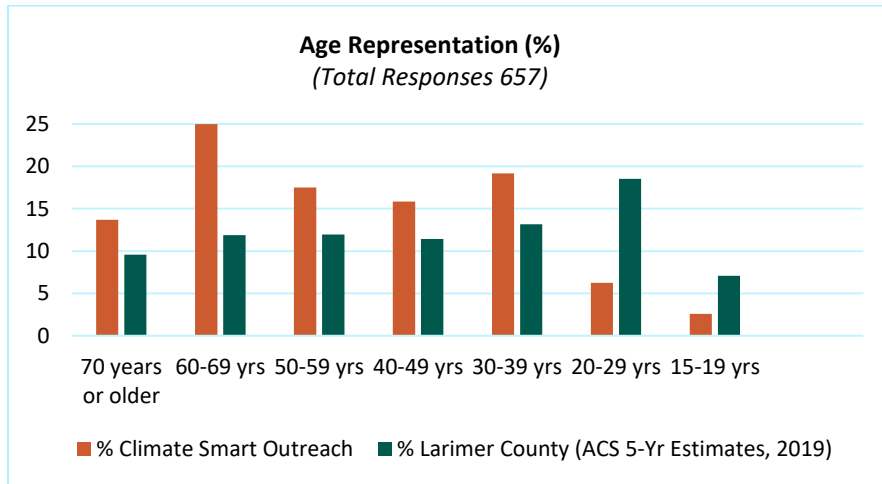


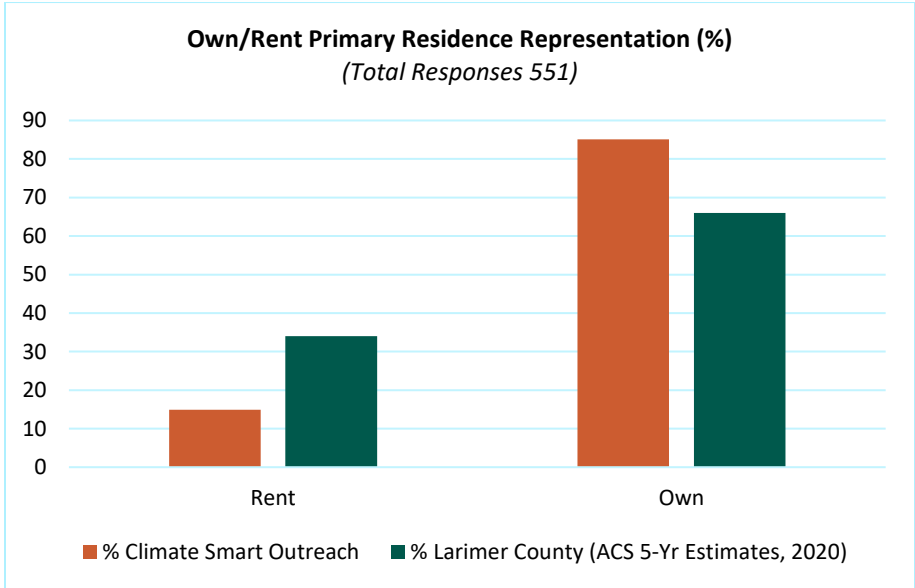
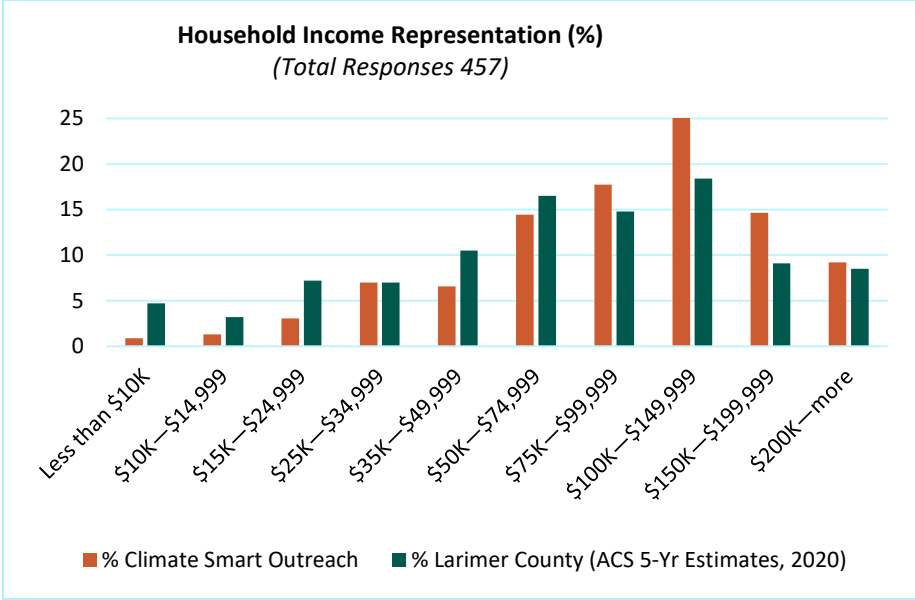


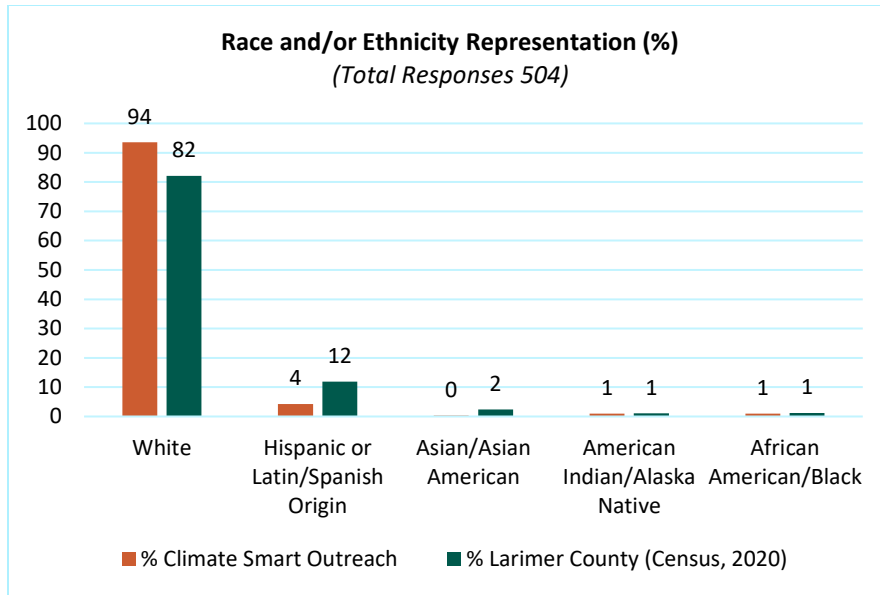
## Demographic Composition

All questionnaires and the workshop registration forms included ‘optional’ demographic questions. The intent behind these demographic questions was to assess the level of participation from the County's diverse voices, particularly those that have been historically under-resourced or may be disproportionately impacted by a changing climate.

The charts below illustrate the comparison of respondent-entered demographic data to the Larimer County demographic composition as per the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-Year Estimates. As shown in the graphs below, despite targeted efforts to reach under-represented groups, responses were not representative of the County as a whole. Engagement during the Climate Smart Implementation Plan should continue and expand the effort of reaching these groups. Refer to What We Have Learned (page 26) for future outreach recommendations.







## Takeaways

- Efforts should be made to plan outreach events during the warmer months to provide more in-person events, particularly with underrepresented groups who cannot as easily participate in virtual events. Additionally, efforts should be made to plan events during the school year and around ongoing community events.
- Targeted efforts begun during this Outreach Phase should be continued to strengthen outreach relationships with schools who may be an ideal bridge to a more engaged community, particularly youth, low-income, and Hispanic groups. In the words of a Hispanic participant, “we learn from our kids.” Continuing coordination with the school districts and individual schools should be undertaken as part of the Climate Smart Implementation Plan process.
- Engage a member from the newly formed Larimer County Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee in the Climate Smart Implementation Plan process. Additionally, expand the Task Force to include representatives from lower income and Hispanic communities.

## WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, EVENT SERIES #1

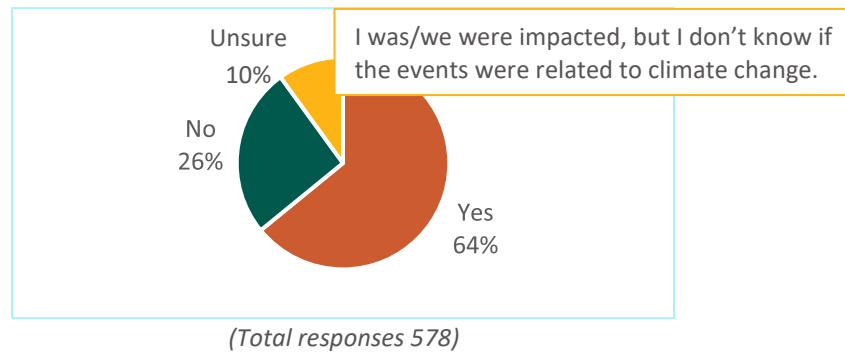
Event Series #1 sought to understand **where the community stands on climate change**. Events were designed to inform the public about the CSLC Initiative; gather initial input on the communitywide understanding of climate change impacts (both current and projected); and secure the public’s involvement for Event Series #2.

### Event Series #1 by the numbers:

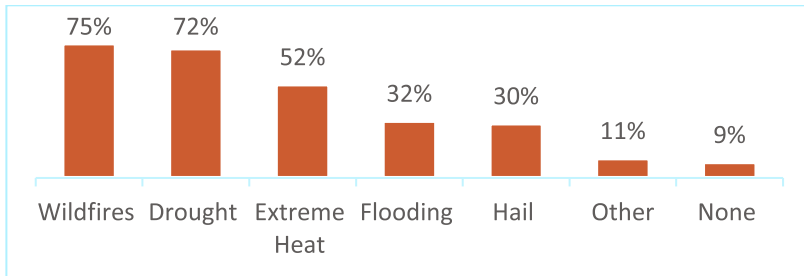


### Responses to questions...

1. Have you, your family, or business been impacted by severe weather (e.g., floods, wildfires, drought, etc.) or insects (e.g., flies, mosquitoes, or ticks) that may be related to changing climate in Larimer County?

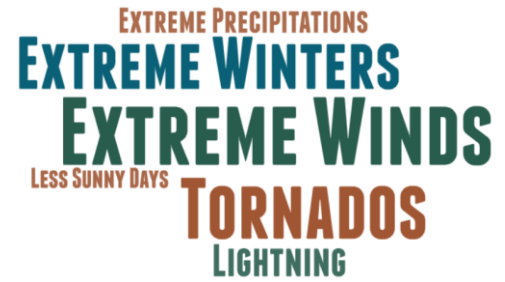


**2. Which of these severe weather events is most of a concern for you, your family, and/or business?**

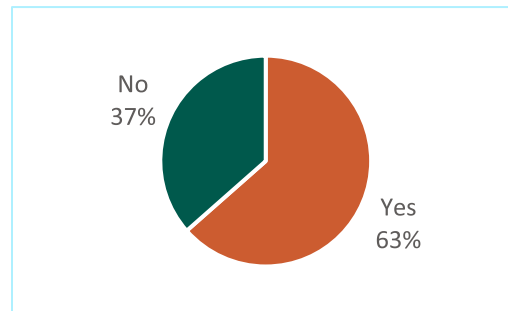


*(Total responses 578). The percentage indicates the number of times each option was selected based on the respondents' choices. Respondents were able to select all that applied.*

Responses to the "Other" option included:

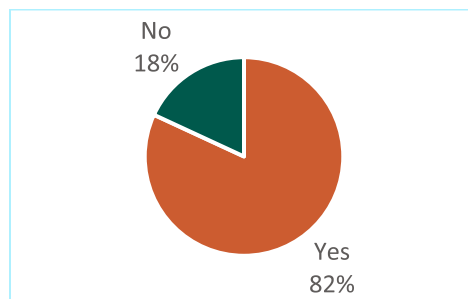


**3. Do you feel you are informed about the actions you can take to reduce your risk from any of these severe weather events?**



*(Total responses 531)*

**4a. Are there any actions that you are taking or would like to take to reduce our collective impact on climate change?**



*(Total responses 578)*

**4b. Participants were given the option to share additional comments.**

Additional comments (529 responses) revealed potential opportunities and challenges for collective community action. Comments were analyzed by how they responded to whether or not they were taking action to reduce impact on climate change. Affirmative comments (82%) are presented on pages 11-13, and negative comments (18%) are presented on pages 13-14.

Responses were organized by overarching area (right) and word clouds were created to highlight key topics identified through the response analysis. The larger the font, the more times the topic was repeated.

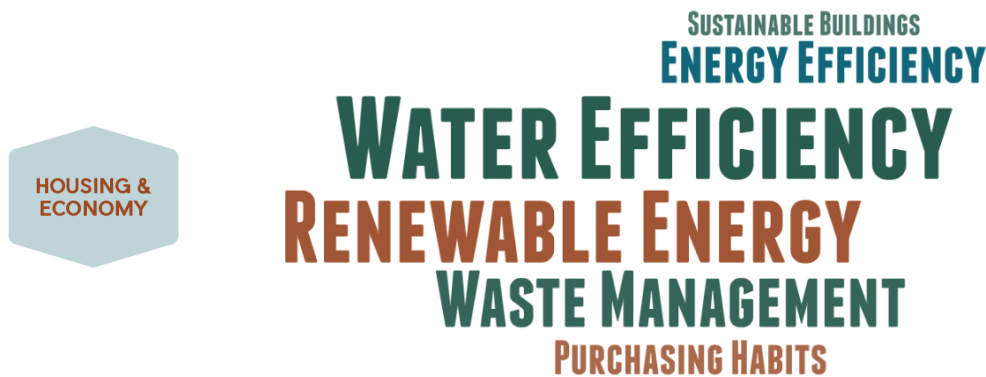
*Note: while efforts were made to categorize comments by topic and overarching area, there is overlap between some of these. Therefore, the word clouds should be interpreted as a whole and not individually.*

**Overarching Areas**



**AFFIRMATIVE COMMENTS (82%) ASSOCIATED WITH QUESTION 4**

Comments received under the overarching area of **Housing & Economy** included the following key topics:



**Examples of comments received under each topic [# of times topics were repeated]:**

**Water efficiency [136]:** "...approximately two gallons of water are wasted while waiting for hot water to get to the showerhead - we collect much of that water in a bucket for other uses."

**Renewable energy [125]:** "I belong to the Northern Colorado Partners for Clean Energy group. Our goal is to push the Platte River Power Authority to move towards non-carbon sources of electricity production."

**Waste management [104]:** "I would like to be able to have a compost program in Estes Park... I do all the other

recycling and energy conservation currently available for my household."

**Energy efficiency [57]:** "...there's a disconnect/friction about energy positive actions between commercial building owners and their tenants... Finding a way to bridge this gap would be helpful."

**Purchasing habits [38]:** "We try to buy locally when we can and shop predominantly reused goods"

**Sustainable buildings [19]:** "...update building codes to include grey water recycling, improved insulation, and heat pumps."

Comments received under the area of **How We Move** included the following key topics:



PUBLIC TRANSIT  
**BIKE/WALK MORE**  
**ELECTRIC/HYBRID VEHICLES**  
**LESS DRIVING**  
FUEL EFFICIENCY

**Examples of comments received under each topic [# of times topics were repeated]:**

**Electric/hybrid vehicles [96]:** "...I hope to make my next vehicle a hybrid if we can afford it."

**Less driving [94]:** "...we consolidate errands to use less fossil fuels; work from home."

**Bike/walk more [60]:** "...we ride e-bikes, bikes, or walk instead of driving whenever possible."

**Public transit [9]:** "Would decrease dependence on gasoline if option costs were reasonable and public transportation was easily available."

**Fuel efficiency [5]:** "Buying vehicles with better gas mileage."

Comments received under the area of **Nature & Our Land** included the following key topics:



**LANDSCAPING PRACTICES**  
**FOOD/EATING HABITS**  
FARMLAND PRESERVATION/SUSTAINABILITY

**Examples of comments received under each topic [# of times topics were repeated]:**

**Landscaping practices [77]:** "...planning to slowly convert sections of our lawn into more pollinator-friendly and low-water landscape."

**Food/eating habits [47]:** "...buy from local farms and eat less animal-based foods (it'd be easier if that option wasn't so expensive)."

**Farmland preservation/sustainability [8\*]:** "...I work to preserve farmland and open space from urban sprawl."

*\*While the number of comments that directly related to Farmland Preservation/Sustainability were only 7, comments categorized under the topics of Food/Eating Habits and Landscaping Practices indirectly relate to the topic of Farmland Preservation/Sustainability.*

Comments received under the area of **Our Wellbeing** included the following key topics:



# EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS WILDFIRE MITIGATION DROUGHT MITIGATION AIR POLLUTION MITIGATION

Examples of comments received under each key topic [# of times topics were repeated]:

**Wildfire mitigation [27]:** "...property wildfire mitigation work. Trying to influence neighbors to do the same. Trying to find out how to influence governmental agencies to do actual wildfire mitigation work on public lands."

**Emergency preparedness [6]:** "... just replaced my roof with Class IV shingles and metal."

**Air pollution mitigation [2]:** "...figuring out how to leave the community for the summer when the air quality is toxic for our children."

**Drought mitigation [15]:** "...limited/ nighttime yard and garden watering during drought."

## NEGATIVE COMMENTS (18%) ASSOCIATED WITH QUESTION 4

These comments were categorized using the Global Warming Six Americas, a framework developed by the [Yale Program on Climate Change Communication](#) to depict how audiences within the American public respond to the issue of climate change and how different communication efforts may be developed depending on the audience.

### Global Warming Six Americas according to the Yale Program on Climate Change Communication

1. **Alarmed:** Convinced global warming is happening, human caused, an urgent threat, and strongly support climate policy, but many aren't sure how to solve the problem.
2. **Concerned:** Think that human-caused global warming is happening, is a serious threat, and support climate policy but believe climate impacts are distant in time and space.
3. **Cautious:** Have not made up their minds if global warming is happening, human-caused, and serious.
4. **Disengaged:** Know little about global warming and rarely or never hear about it in the media.
5. **Doubtful:** Don't believe global warming is happening or believe it is natural cycle and don't consider it a serious risk.
6. **Dismissive:** Believe global warming is not happening, human-caused, or a threat and most consider it a hoax.



*Word cloud of the comments shared by those not taking action to reduce our collective impact on climate change*



**Examples of comments received under each key topic [# of times topics were repeated]:**

**Dismissive [36]**

“Climate change predictions have been made for 100 years and all have proven wrong.”  
 “Climate change is a farce that makes government-supported businesses rich and private enterprises poor.”

**Alarmed [18]**

“Not sure what to do, where to start.”  
 “I do not think I know enough to act.”

**Doubtful [17]**

“I do try to minimize energy use, but mostly to reduce my costs. I don't believe that drastically changing our energy usage at the local level will change much with the climate...”  
 “The Earth has cycles and weather happens worldwide. There is no reason to blame weather or bugs for a climate issue.”

**Cautious [4]**

“While humans have some impact and should be responsible to care for our earth and resources, I do not believe we entirely control climate change with adjustments to human aspects.”  
 “I have not felt the need to take actions. I watch the news to see what we need to do...”

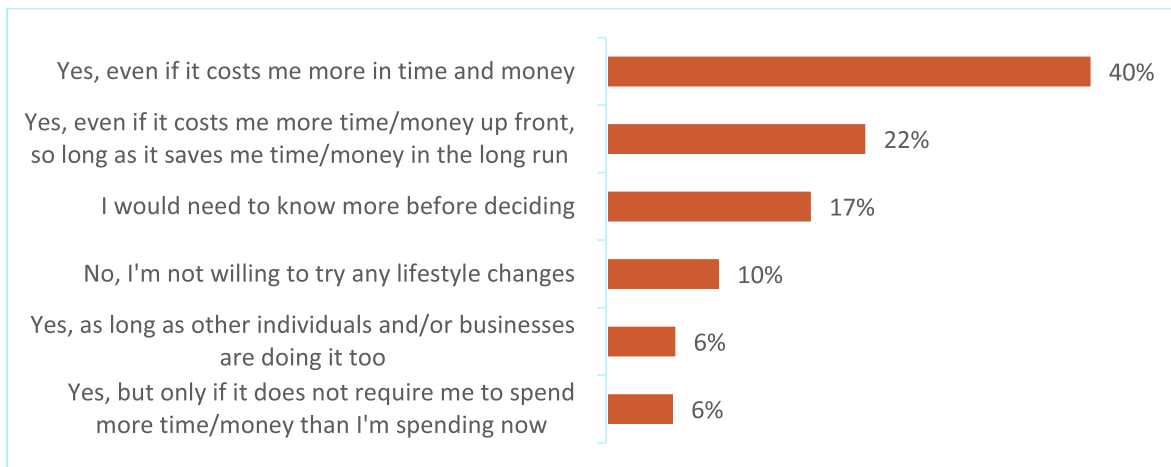
**Disengaged [3]**

“I don't know. I don't really think about it that much.”  
 “...we have kept to ourselves and have sustainably farmed our land for over a hundred years. Leave us alone.”

**Concerned [1]**

“It doesn't seem like anything I can do helps.”

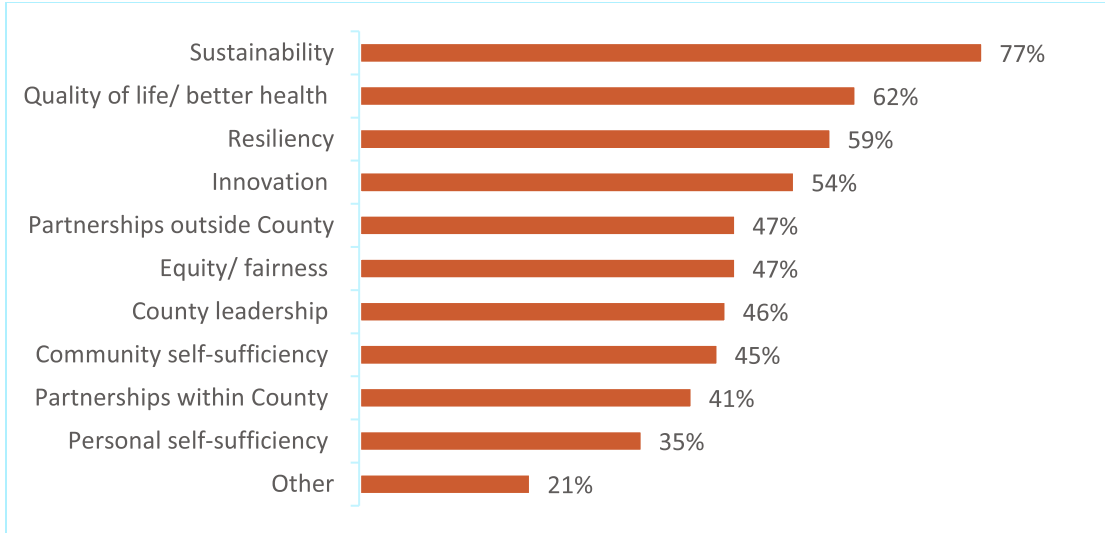
**5. Some of our daily activities like vehicle use, powering buildings, waste management, water use, and shopping choices can affect climate change. Would you be willing to try lifestyle changes in any of these activities?**



*(Total responses 578). The percentage indicates the number of times each option was selected based on the respondents' choices. Respondents were able to select all that applied.*

**6. When you imagine a Climate Smart Larimer County, what comes to mind?**

Note: Within the questionnaire, the following words were defined as: (1) Sustainability: meeting today's needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs (2) Resiliency: for our community to recover from shocks to the society, environment, economy. (3) Partnerships outside County: i.e., with the public/private sector.

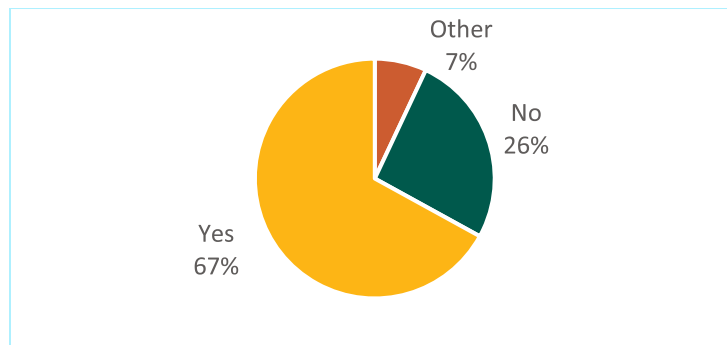


(Total responses 578) The percentage indicates the number of times each option was selected based on the respondents' choices. Respondents were able to select all that applied.

Select comments provided under the "Other" category:

- "Holding corporate entities like oil and gas companies liable for their climate actions"*
- "Raising awareness about the personal and economic costs of not taking action"*
- "Setting targets; urging state leaders to move toward 100% renewables"*
- "Implementing innovative water conservation programs"*

**7. Do you feel you and/or others around you need more information to understand the impacts climate change may have on your life and community?**



(Total responses 578)

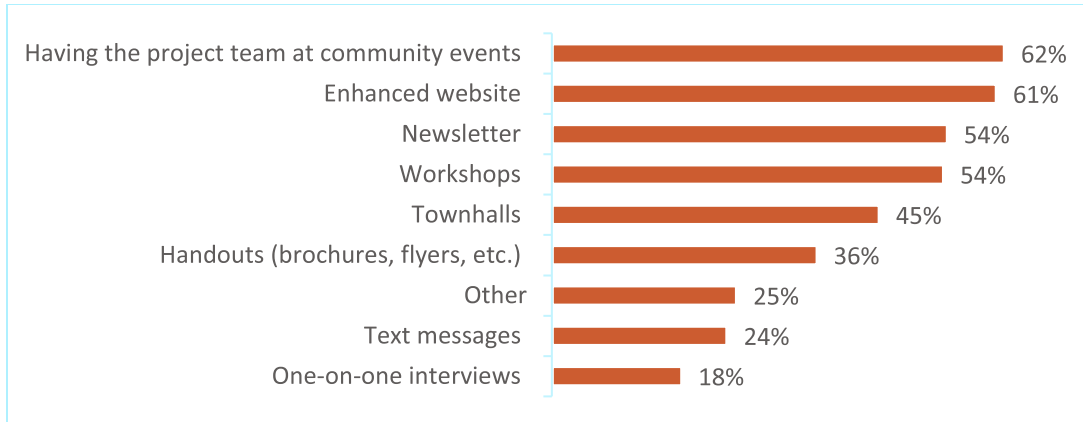
Select comments provided under the “Other” category:

---

*“Educate through action. Show the people what a healthy watershed looks like!”*  
*“...messaging should encourage urgency of action.”*  
*“This may be more about good environmental education, not specifically climate change.”*

---

**8. What would be the best way to share this information with you and/or people you know?**



*(Total responses 387) The percentage indicates the number of times each option was selected based on the respondents’ choices. Respondents were able to select all that applied.*

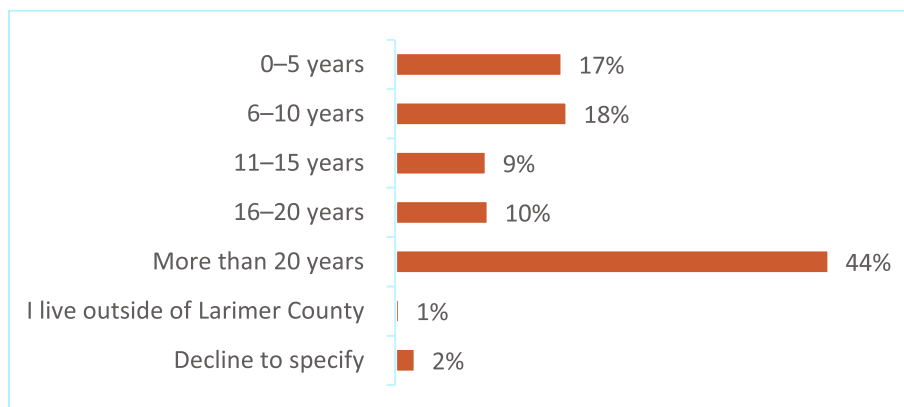
Select comments provided under the “Other” category:

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*Social Media - Multi-level Partnerships - Digital Communication - Public Media – In-Person Events - Billboards - Utility Bills - Leverage County Departments – Community-Based Groups - Consider Engagement Fatigue - Text Messages - More Dialogue*

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**9A. Length of residence in Larimer County**



*(Total responses 578)*

9B. Are there any particular weather changes that you've noticed over all these years that you'd like to share with us? (This question was only available to those indicating residence in Larimer County for 11+ years.)



(Total responses 362)

## WHAT WE HAVE HEARD, EVENT SERIES #2

Event Series #2 sought to understand how the community wants to address climate change and strived to solicit input on climate-friendly solutions to be considered for the development of the future Climate Smart Implementation Plan.

### Event Series #2 by the numbers:

 150 WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS\*

 3 NEWSLETTERS

 1 NEWS ARTICLE

 80 CLIMATE SMART NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

 42 SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS (FACEBOOK & TWITTER)

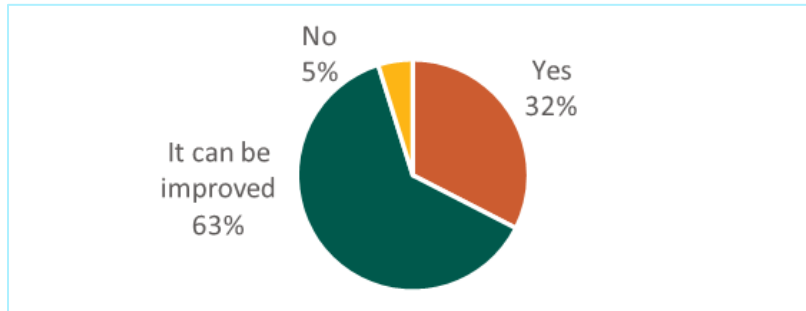
 185 QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

\* Some participants attended multiple sessions

### Responses to questions...

Note: Unless otherwise specified, the results below are a combination of responses received via the workshops and Questionnaire #2.

#### 1. Do you agree with the current name for the initiative, 'Climate Smart Larimer County'?



(Total responses 206)

#### 2. Do you have any suggestions for improving the initiative name? (This question was only available to those indicating 'no' or 'it can be improved' to the previous question.)

##### KEYWORDS SUGGESTED:



**TAGLINES SUGGESTED:**

- A Better Future
- Acting On Climate
- Better Tomorrow
- Better World Initiative
- Caring Generations
- Climate Able
- Climate Change Initiative
- Climate Ready
- Common Good
- County Aware Climate Care
- County Strong
- Earth Care
- Energy Smart Larimer County
- Environment Smart
- Forward Larimer
- Future Care
- Future Community
- Future Generations
- Future NOCO
- Generational Commitment
- Good Community
- Healthy Community
- Healthy County
- Healthy Future
- Healthy Outcomes
- Larimer County Climate First
- Larimer Environmental Action Plan (LEAP)
- Let’s Work Together
- One Health One Planet
- Our Climate
- Our Future
- Our Sustainable Future
- Responsible Action
- Responsible Futures
- Restorative Community
- Save The Planet
- Strong Towns
- Wellbeing For Everyone

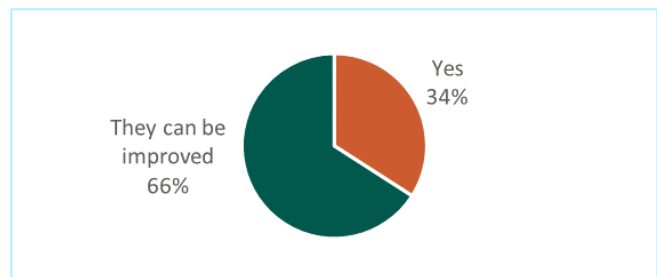
**3a. Do you find the overarching areas (below, left) appropriate for a future Climate Smart Implementation Plan?**

**HOMES & ECONOMY** (housing, jobs, energy, and waste management)

**HOW WE MOVE** (transporting people and goods)

**NATURE & LAND** (agriculture/food, natural resources, land use, and green infrastructure)

**WELLBEING** (environmental health and natural disaster planning and response)



*(Total responses 135)*

**3b. How can we improve these areas (i.e., should there be other topics included)?**

74 suggestions were shared. Of these, 41 were already included in the existing overarching areas and topics shown above. The word cloud below indicates the new areas/topics suggested. The larger the font, the more a word was repeated.



**4. During the workshops and questionnaire, participants were asked to share climate-friendly solutions for each of the four overarching areas identified in Engagement Series #1.**

Responses shown over the following pages are organized by overarching area and include:

**A) Word cloud showing key themes identified**

**B) Examples of submitted comments by different approaches (below) typically found in a county-level plan**

- **Advocacy:** Urging residents to make certain choices or behave in certain ways
- **Education:** Providing information on what to choose and why
- **Expenditure:** Paying for public infrastructure, service, or program
- **Incentive:** Encouraging or motivating the public to do or not do something
- **Partnership:** Joining efforts with other public/private partners
- **Rule change:** Creating or updating a rule like the land use code



**WORD CLOUD SHOWING KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED**



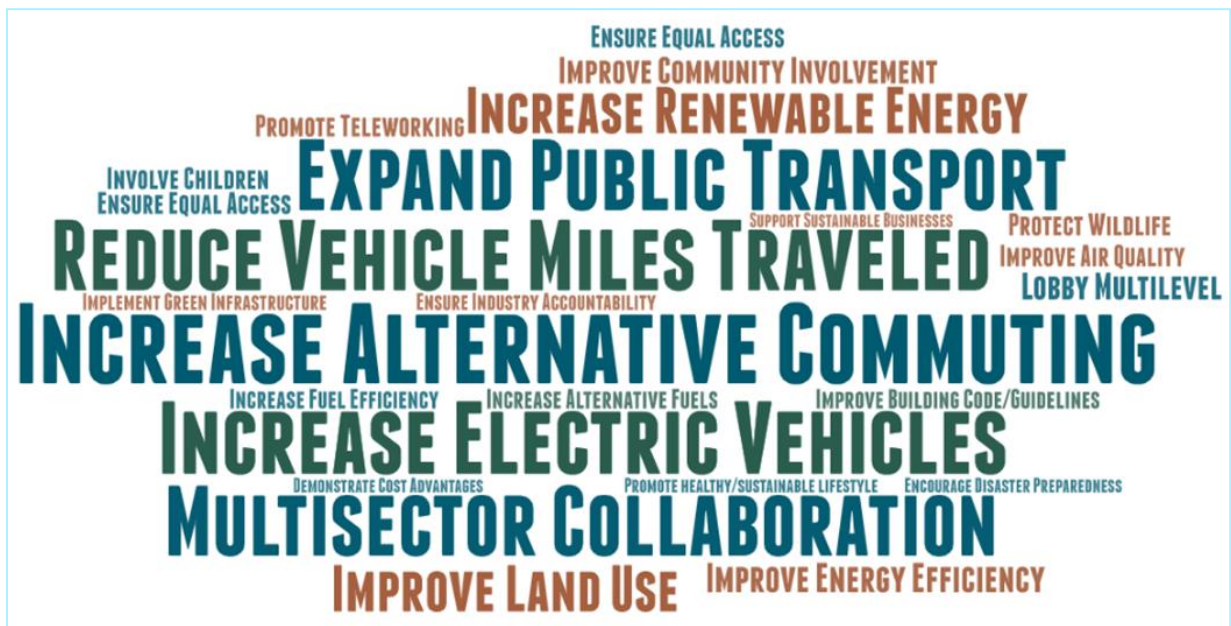
**EXAMPLES OF SUBMITTED COMMENTS BY APPROACH [# OF COMMENTS RECEIVED]**

Advocacy [91]	Education [67]	Expenditure [79]
<p>“Advocate for buying local.”                      “Advocacy for more energy-efficient homes.”                      “Advocate for renewable energy use.”</p>	<p>“Educate on the negative health impacts of gas stoves.”                      “Educate about hazard and emergency preparedness.”                      “Education on food waste and composting.”</p>	<p>“More funds for renewable energy sources.”                      “Fire mitigation incentives on private property.”                      “Implementing a county-wide composting program.”</p>

<p><b>Incentive [76]</b></p> <p>“Incentivize developers to use low impact landscaping.”          “Incentivize the energy efficiency of long-term rental properties by landowners.”          “Incentivize creating less waste by charging for trash by weight.”</p>	<p><b>Partnership [69]</b></p> <p>“Partner with the companies that create products to make sure that they are responsible for the recycling.”          “Partnerships with energy utilities”          “Partner with local, community-led organizations.”</p>	<p><b>Rule Change [62]</b></p> <p>“Require low-water landscaping (partnered with incentives).”          “Zoning that allows more diverse usage so that people don’t have to travel in car to access basic shopping and services.”          “Require new buildings both residential and commercial to meet minimum sustainable standards.”</p>
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**WORD CLOUD SHOWING KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED**



**EXAMPLES OF SUBMITTED COMMENTS BY APPROACH [# OF COMMENTS RECEIVED]**

<p><b>Advocacy [63]</b></p> <p>“Advocacy to prioritize alternative transportation over cars.”          “Advocate for intercity mass transit.”          “Make it easier and safer to bike and walk.”</p>	<p><b>Education [57]</b></p> <p>“Educate about co-benefits of walking and cycling to kids and adults!”          “Courses on food transportation and teaching people the value of buying local goods that don't travel as far.”          “Start an educational campaign to educate people on how to repair their bikes.”</p>	<p><b>Expenditure [61]</b></p> <p>“More bike and pedestrian infrastructure.”          “County EV chargers with signage and fair rates at locations with things to do (e.g., shopping, library, etc.)”          “Making sure the county fleet is all electric or CNG/alternative fuel.”</p>
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<p><b>Incentive [72]</b></p> <p>“Incentivize four-day workweeks and working from home; incentivize using public transit - like our bike to work days!”</p> <p>“Incentives to businesses to install charging stations.”</p> <p>“Incentives to grocers to reduce transportation miles.”</p>	<p><b>Partnership [56]</b></p> <p>“Businesses, nonprofits, and local governments, to work regionally on policy, planning and infrastructure.”</p> <p>“Partner with state and national parks to access parks and open spaces by public transport and bikes.”</p> <p>“Partner with builders to create communities where we don't need to drive so far just to live.”</p>	<p><b>Rule Change [55]</b></p> <p>“Requiring new developments to build a local supermarket.”</p> <p>“Setting minimum fuel efficiencies that auto dealers can sell.”</p> <p>“Require multifamily/commercial buildings to have EV charging”</p> <p>“Require any new development to purchase an electric bus for a local route.”</p>
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**WORD CLOUD SHOWING KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED**



**EXAMPLES OF SUBMITTED COMMENTS BY APPROACH**

<p><b>Advocacy [87]</b></p> <p>“Moving to protect the diversity of landscapes, limit growth, and develop creative housing options.”</p> <p>“Advocate for water, food, and air quality with campaigns, emails, etc.”</p> <p>“Advocate for using native plants in landscaping.”</p>	<p><b>Education [77]</b></p> <p>“Encourage students to get involved in educating friends, family about importance of water usage, natural disasters, etc.”</p> <p>“Provide more education to community about water usage, sustainable building, gardening with native plants.”</p> <p>“Education on growing food on small lots (in town).”</p>	<p><b>Expenditure [61]</b></p> <p>“Provide more funds to expand local farmers' markets and make them more accessible.”</p> <p>“Provide funding for local community groups, nonprofits, and similar that are already doing good work in these areas.”</p> <p>“Expenditures on wildfire mitigation on public lands and in the wildland-urban interface.”</p>
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<p><b>Incentive [83]</b></p> <p>“Incentives for restaurants and other food providers for using arid-adapted, low-water ingredients.”</p> <p>“Incentivize low-water native plants and low-impact landscaping practices that can be combined with fire mitigation landscaping.”</p> <p>“Incentivize local farmers to switch to rotational, regenerative agriculture.”</p>	<p><b>Partnership [61]</b></p> <p>“Partner with water partners to pull together an easy-to-understand dashboard of water metrics (inflow, usage, quality).”</p> <p>“Partner with nurseries to provide native plants and education.”</p> <p>“Partner with schools to educate students and their families.”</p>	<p><b>Rule Change [87]</b></p> <p>“Prohibit HOAs from penalizing homeowners who remove lawns for low-impact landscaping.”</p> <p>“Zoning regulations to limit building in fire-prone areas.”</p> <p>“Higher penalties for industrial activities that degrade the land.”</p>
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**WORD CLOUD SHOWING KEY THEMES IDENTIFIED**



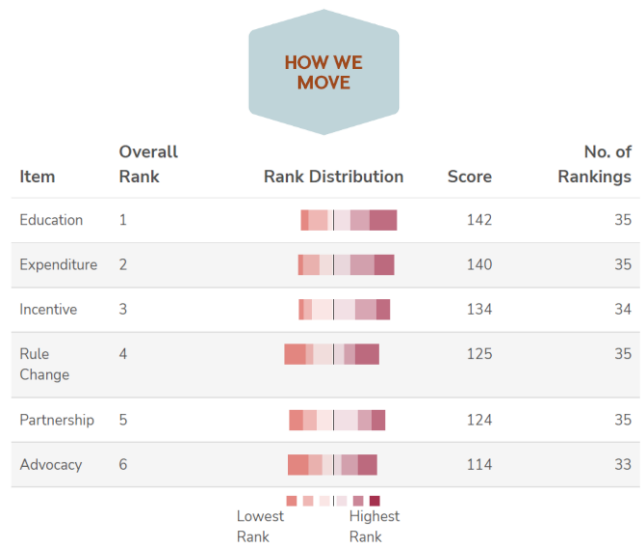
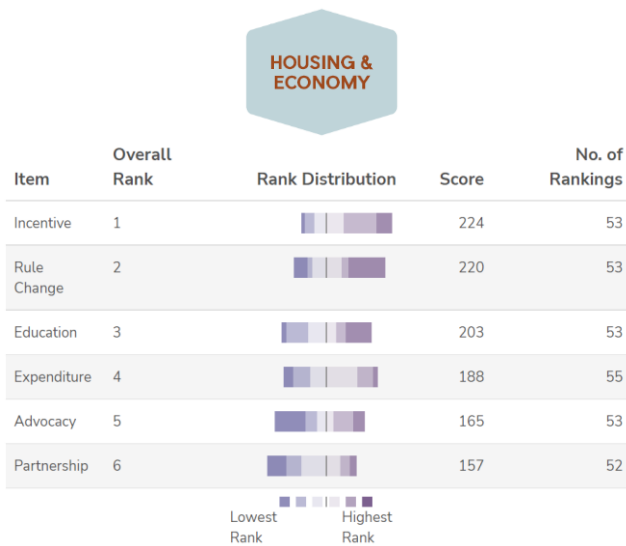
**EXAMPLES OF SUBMITTED COMMENTS BY APPROACH**

<p><b>Advocacy [41]</b></p> <p>“Neighborhood gatherings or presentations on fire protection and how to handle natural disasters.”</p> <p>“Advocating for more parks and open spaces.”</p> <p>“Advocating for more air quality data collection/reporting.”</p>	<p><b>Education [54]</b></p> <p>“Community outreach for disaster management and response.”</p> <p>“Educate the public on our current air and water quality and where pollution is coming from.”</p> <p>“Teach K-12 classes about what they can do to help mitigate climate change to foster hope!”</p>	<p><b>Expenditure [45]</b></p> <p>“Invest in air quality monitoring.”</p> <p>“Increase funding for wildfire mitigation.”</p> <p>“Funding for restoring wildlands, improving air quality, preserving natural areas and using native vegetation in new landscaping.”</p>
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Incentive [40]	Partnership [40]	Rule Change [42]
<p>“Incentives for low income, rural households to ensure they get their homes fire ready.”</p> <p>“Incentives to reduce the cost of recycling for businesses.”</p> <p>“Incentives to use less water for lawns.”</p>	<p>“Partner with Loveland Fire Rescue Authority, Poudre Fire Authority, other fire authorities and departments in the County.”</p> <p>“Partner with HOAs.”</p> <p>“City and country partnerships—shared costs between counties.”</p>	<p>“Stricter land use code and environmental standards.”</p> <p>“Progressively increase building codes to require more insulation, electric heating/cooking and fire and flood resilience.”</p> <p>“Eliminate the use of pesticides, PFAs, and other environmental contaminants.”</p>

**5. Participants were asked to rank the approaches they would prefer to see the County implement for each overarching area.** *The tables below are only indicative of questionnaire responses.*

- The **Rank** is assigned by the Score.
- The **Score** is a weighted calculation. Items ranked first are given a higher value or "weight." The score, computed for each answer option/row header, is the sum of all the weighted values.
- The **No. of Rankings** is the number of respondents that ranked that item.
- Finally, the **Distribution** is a diverging stacked bar where a shade is assigned to each possible rank



**NATURE & OUR LAND**

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Rule Change	1		201	44
Education	2		183	45
Incentive	3		160	41
Advocacy	4		155	44
Partnership	5		123	39
Expenditure	6		122	40

Lowest Rank      Highest Rank

**OUR WELLBEING**

Item	Overall Rank	Rank Distribution	Score	No. of Rankings
Education	1		140	30
Advocacy	2		93	26
Partnership	3		91	27
Rule Change	4		91	24
Incentive	5		86	24
Expenditure	6		85	26

Lowest Rank      Highest Rank

6. Larimer County is interested in mitigating and adapting to climate impacts while identifying community conditions that will increase equity, diversity, and inclusion. If you have suggestions on how to ensure approaches are accessible and fair, please share:

CREATE AN EQUITY FUND      INCREASE TRANSPARENCY

**PRIORITIZE MARGINALIZED COMMUNITIES**  
**ENSURE ACCESSIBLE COMMUNICATION**  
**OFFER INCENTIVES**  
**INCREASE REPRESENTATION**  
**IMPROVE COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**  
**STRENGTHEN MULTISECTOR COLLABORATION**

DIVERSIFY EVENT TYPES

Responses to the previous question were further synthesized to identify the key groups that the community feedback were referring to...



## CLOSING REMARKS

- Information in this engagement summary will be further synthesized and reflected on during the Recommendations Workshop to be held with the Climate Smart Task Force and Larimer County Staff on May 2022.
- Final reflections of this engagement summary will be included in the CSLC Phase 2 Recommendations Report which will be available on the project website: <https://www.larimer.org/climate-smart>