

Food Scraps Update

Final numbers, exit survey, and EPA grant

October 2019

How many pounds?



In general – in the ballpark of anticipated weight.

- August 2 – 1,060 pounds
- August 9 – 1,100 pounds
- August 16 – 980 pounds
- August 23 – 960 pounds
- August 30 – 980 pounds
- September 6 – 1,040 pounds
- September 13 – 1,000 pounds
- September 20 – 1,020 pounds

Total: 4.07 Tons

Weekly average: 1,017.50 pounds

Estimated tonnage: 4.32 tons

Estimated weekly average: 1,080 pounds

91% of people in the exit survey said they had the cart out every week.

Contamination?



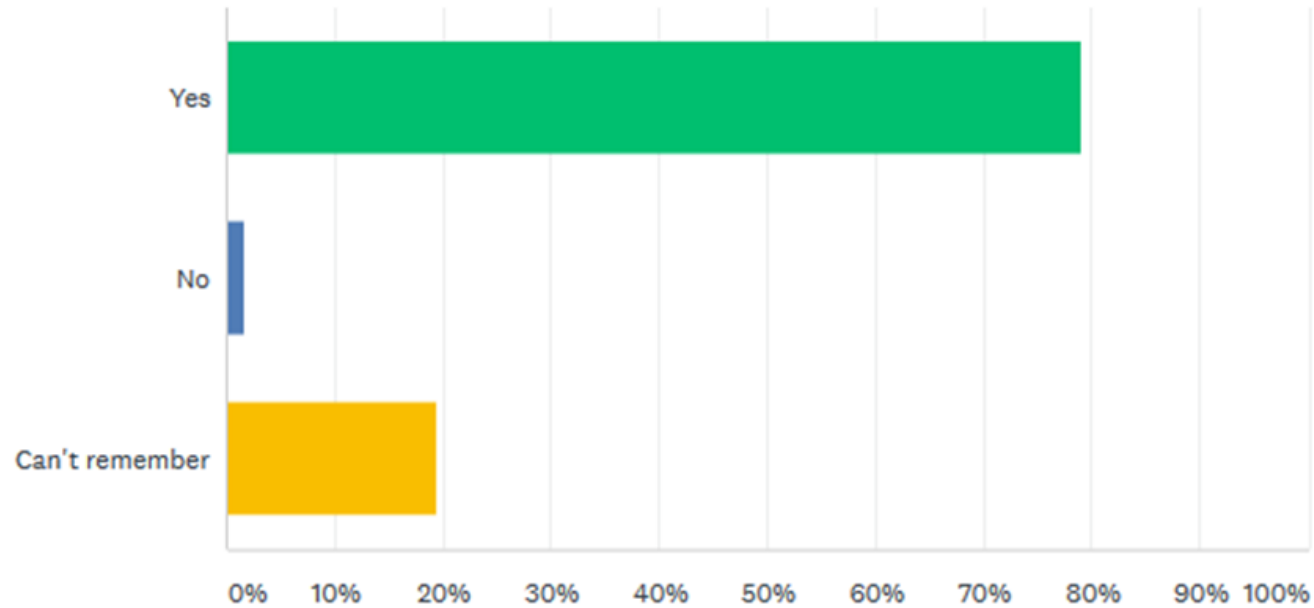
Only 3 carts total were left behind.

- ▶ August 2 – Three carts total tagged; two had very minor issues and one cart needed to be left behind
- ▶ August 9 – No carts tagged
- ▶ August 16 – No carts tagged
- ▶ August 23 – No carts tagged
- ▶ August 30 – One cart left behind (plastic bag)
- ▶ September 6 – No carts tagged
- ▶ September 13 – One cart left behind (egg shells)
- ▶ September 30 – No carts tagged

Aside: One week one of our workers had to pull a bag of recycling out of the food scraps, but they didn't leave an "Oh No!" note.

Did you fill out the introduction survey when you signed up for the food scraps recycling pilot?

Answered: 124 Skipped: 1



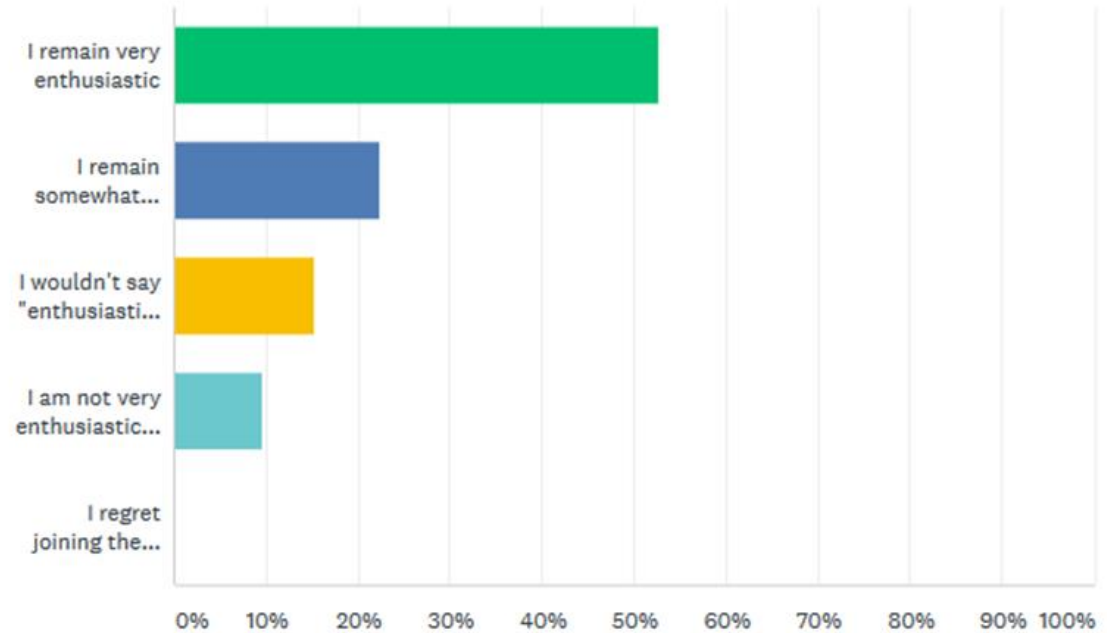
ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	79.03% 98
▼ No	1.61% 2
▼ Can't remember	19.35% 24
TOTAL	124

125 responses to most questions.

(165 volunteers)

How would you describe your enthusiasm for food scraps recycling after participating in this pilot?

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0

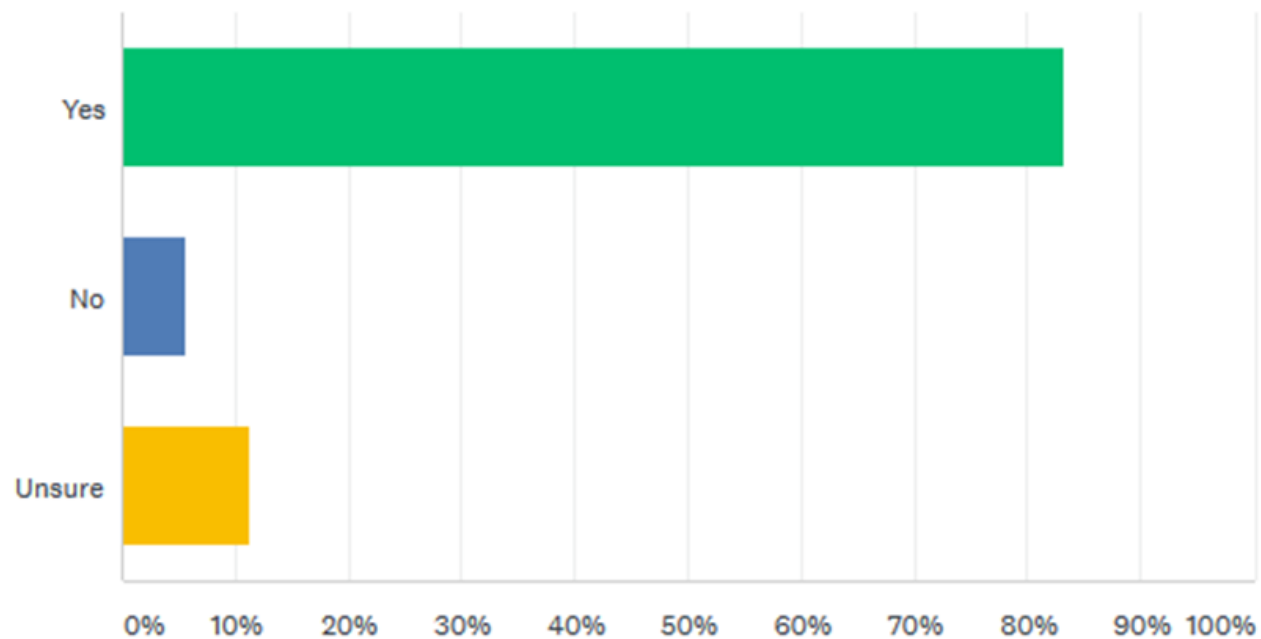


- Slight dip in enthusiasm.
 - Pre-trial: 96% was very or somewhat enthusiastic.
 - Post-trial: 75% remain very or somewhat enthusiastic

ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ I remain very enthusiastic	52.80% 66
▼ I remain somewhat enthusiastic	22.40% 28
▼ I wouldn't say "enthusiastic" but not disinterested either - so something close to average	15.20% 19
▼ I am not very enthusiastic about food scraps recycling anymore.	9.60% 12
▼ I regret joining the pilot program.	0.00% 0
TOTAL	125

If given a chance to participate in the pilot program again, would you?

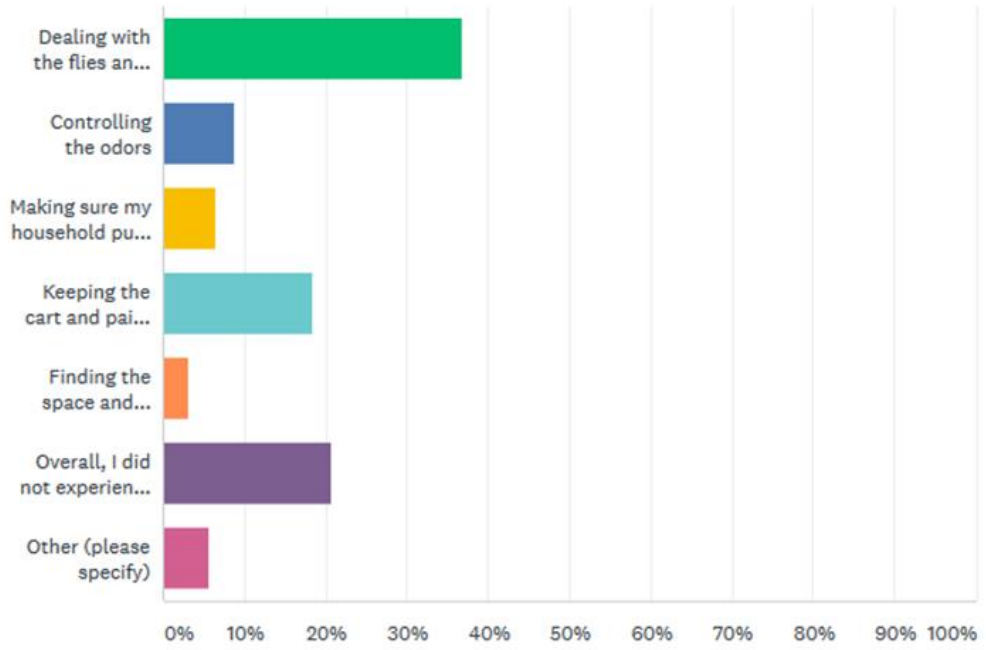
Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Yes	83.20% 104
▼ No	5.60% 7
▼ Unsure	11.20% 14
TOTAL	125

What was the biggest challenge/hurdle for your home when participating in the food scraps recycling program?

Answered: 125 Skipped: 0

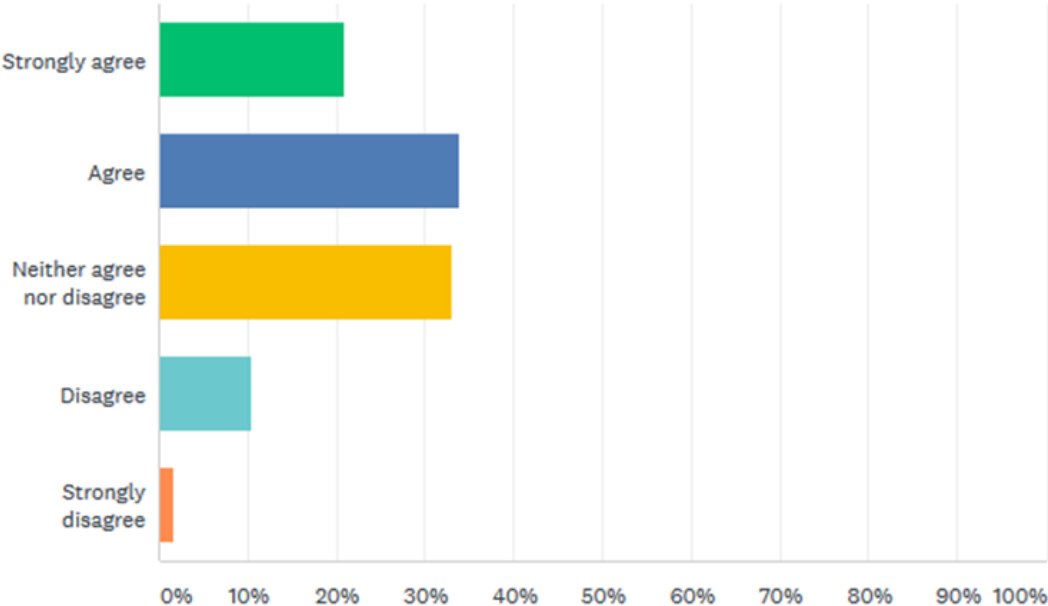


ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Dealing with the flies and other pests	36.80% 46
Controlling the odors	8.80% 11
Making sure my household put the correct material into the wasted food cart	6.40% 8
Keeping the cart and pail clean	18.40% 23
Finding the space and wheeling around another collection cart	3.20% 4
Overall, I did not experience challenges	20.80% 26
Other (please specify)	Responses 5.60% 7
TOTAL	125

- Other responses talked about trouble of keeping the cart clean.
- And one comment about how a dog walker put pet waste into the cart that the homeowner had to fish out.

AGREE OR DISAGREE. The pilot had too many items banned the food scraps cart. Bones, egg shells, corn cobs, and other hard or fibrous food items should be allowed in a food scraps cart to divert more material.

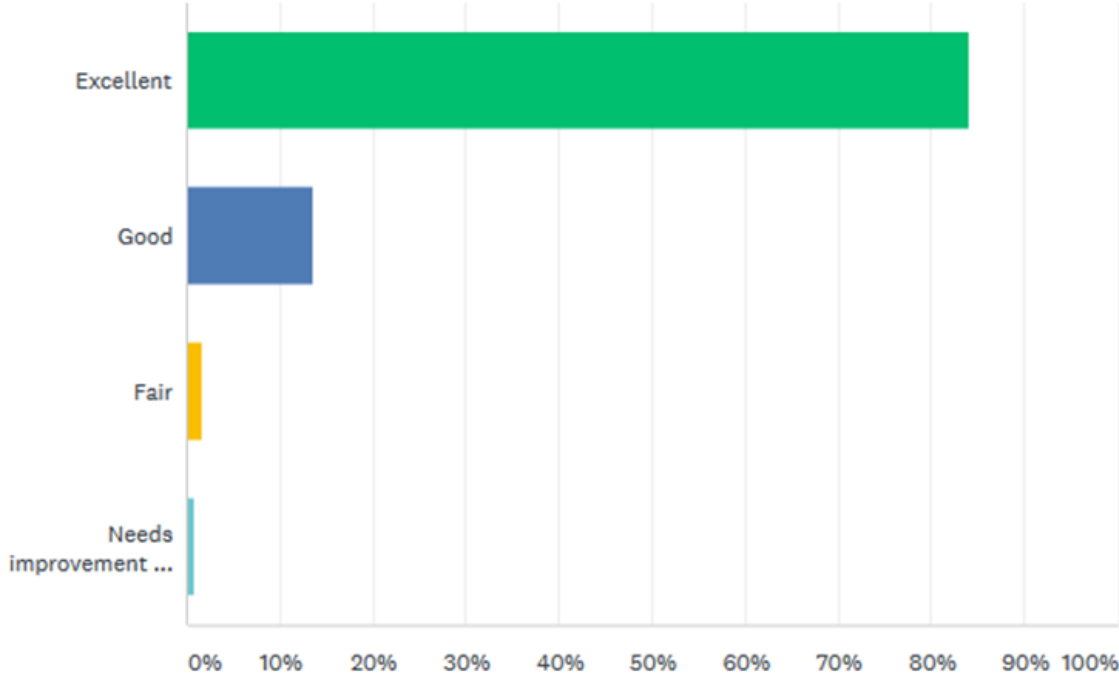
Answered: 124 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	20.97% 26
Agree	33.87% 42
Neither agree nor disagree	33.06% 41
Disagree	10.48% 13
Strongly disagree	1.61% 2
TOTAL	124

How would you describe the communication regarding what can go into the wasted food cart?

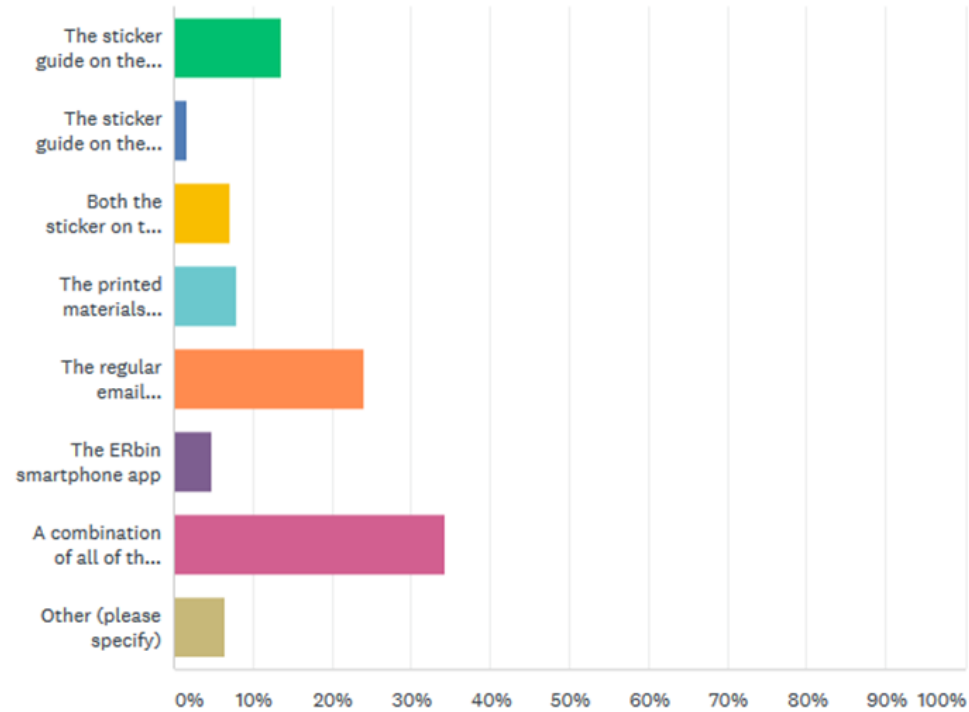
Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ Excellent	84.00% 105
▼ Good	13.60% 17
▼ Fair	1.60% 2
▼ Needs improvement - and please explain what can be improved. Responses	0.80% 1
TOTAL	125

What communication/education tool did you feel was the most useful for teaching you what can be placed into the wasted food cart?

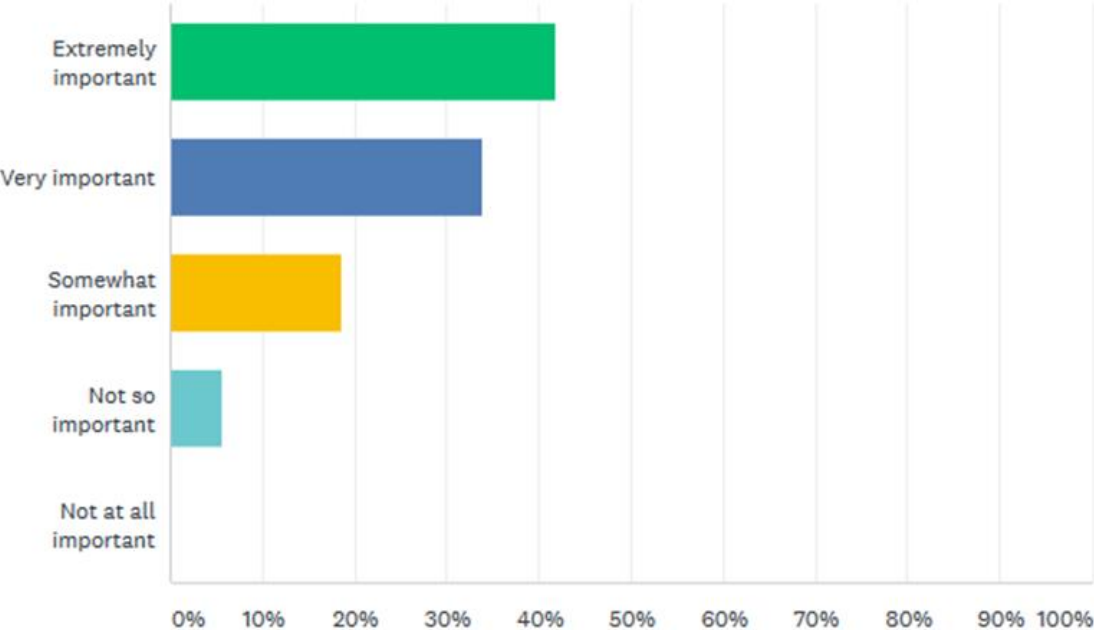
Answered: 125 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
▼ The sticker guide on the pail used to carry food from the home to the curbside cart	13.60% 17
▼ The sticker guide on the cart itself	1.60% 2
▼ Both the sticker on the cart and the sticker on the pail	7.20% 9
▼ The printed materials provided in the mailing	8.00% 10
▼ The regular email communication	24.00% 30
▼ The ERbin smartphone app	4.80% 6
▼ A combination of all of these tools was essential for my understanding	34.40% 43
▼ Other (please specify)	Responses 6.40% 8

Now that you have participated in the food scraps recycling program, how important do you feel a program like this is for the Madison's sustainability goals?

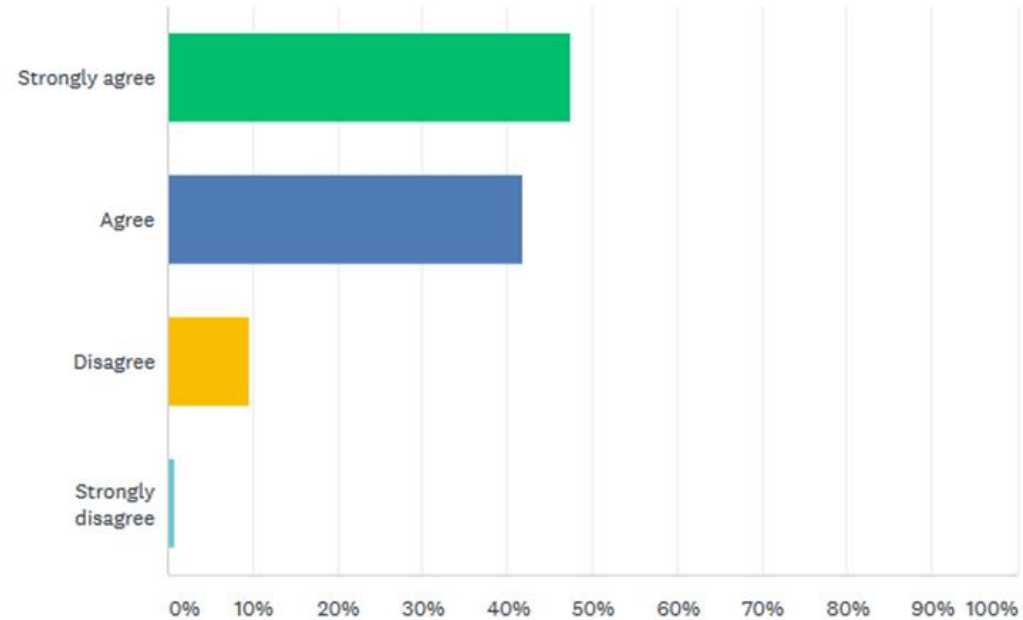
Answered: 124 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Extremely important	41.94% 52
Very important	33.87% 42
Somewhat important	18.55% 23
Not so important	5.65% 7
Not at all important	0.00% 0
TOTAL	124

AGREE OR DISAGREE The City of Madison, or Dane County, should invest in a facility specifically designed to accept and recycle food scraps into biogas and compost. This facility would be able to accept all food scraps, including bones, and other compostables, like pizza boxes. And will have the ability to sort out most contaminants, like plastic bags.

Answered: 124 Skipped: 1



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Strongly agree	47.58% 59
Agree	41.94% 52
Disagree	9.68% 12
Strongly disagree	0.81% 1
TOTAL	124

Feasibility Study Update

- Resolution introduced to accept the \$39K from the EPA on October 1.
- Resolution referred to Board of Public Works & Finance Committee.
- BPW approved it on October 2.

Study will examine the revenue potential of a regional digester producing gas that will be injected into natural gas pipeline via Dane County's Renewable Natural Gas Facility at the Rodefeld Landfill.

- Will also look at available feedstock within the region
- Will make equipment & site recommendations



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Questions?