

City of Edina
Potential Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance
Community Engagement Summary Report
June 5, 2023

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Project Overview

In early 2023, the Edina City Council (Council) directed staff to draft an ordinance proposal requiring that all City of Edina merchants, including retail establishments and restaurants, charge a minimum \$0.05 fee to customers for all carryout bags. The potential ordinance is envisioned to:

- Require that merchants charge a minimum \$0.05 for all carryout bags, regardless of bag material
- Allow the retail establishment or restaurant to keep the fee for use at their discretion
- Require businesses to report to the City annually the quantity and type of carryout bags purchased and distributed customers as well as the fee amount collected

This initiative follows Council's 2022 approved work plan initiative for Edina's resident volunteer Energy & Environment Commission (EEC) to "Revise and update EEC's 2017 report on possible recommendations for a plastic bag ordinance" with a deliverable of an "updated report with recommendation." The potential carryout bag fee ordinance meets several goals established in the City's Climate Action Plan approved in December 2021, including:

- Strategy WM 1: Decrease total per-capita municipal solid waste handled 5% by 2030, *in part by:*
 - WM 1-5: Eliminate petroleum-based, single-use products through phasing out the use of single-use plastics, including plastic bags, by 2025

On February 7, 2023, the EEC recommended to Council that "...the City require that merchants charge a \$.05 fee to customers for carryout bags. EEC asks Council to direct staff to write an ordinance that updates City Code to include this requirement and implement an outreach plan to inform residents and businesses of this requirement." Council received this recommendation and directed staff to draft an ordinance and seek public feedback.

During April and May 2023, City staff sought broad-based public feedback from Edina residents and businesses regarding the potential carryout bag fee ordinance. This report provides a summary of the community engagement methods employed to elicit public feedback and the responses, opinions and suggestions received from the Edina community.

Community Engagement Outreach Methods and Promotion

City Sustainability Manager Grace Hancock and project consultant Ann Tennes, President, Ann Tennes Communications, LLC, employed the following public feedback outreach methods during April and May 2023:

- **Better Together Edina webpage** to share information on the potential carryout bag fee: <https://www.bettertogetheredina.org/carryout-bag-ordinance>
- **Online survey modules** created and linked from the Better Together Edina project webpage
 - Posted from April 14 through May 15
 - Initial survey question sorted respondents into either resident, visitor or business modules
- **Virtual roundtable discussions** scheduled on May 5, 10 and 11
- **One-on-one interviews** with Edina business leaders, owners, managers and corporate representatives

City staff promoted the availability of these public feedback opportunities through the following outreach platforms:

- Print ad featured on page two of the May 2023 *Edition: Edina*
- Virtual ads featured in the Edina Chamber of Commerce weekly e-newsletter and both the Edina Rotary and Morningside Rotary Club weekly e-newsletters
- CivicPlus email to Sustainability newsletter subscribers
- Video segment featured in the early May *Agenda: Edina* video
- Social media posts featured across City channels

Community Engagement Results

Following is a summary of the participation in and public feedback received from each community engagement method:

Better Together Edina site

Between April 14 and May 30, the project page received 994 views. 555 visitors interacted with some part of the project page (clicking on a link, downloading a document), and 215 visitors engaged with the survey tool.

Surveys

Between April 14 and May 15, a total of 201 residents, five business representatives and four visitors responded to the surveys linked from the Better Together Edina website. The responses are summarized in this report, and the entire data sets, with respondent identification information removed, are attached. (Exhibits 1, 2, 3)

Resident Responses - Executive Summary

In general, Edina residents responding to the online survey did not favor a carryout bag fee, with some support for a voluntary fee and less support for a mandatory carryout bag fee requirement. Residents expressed a desire for expansion to weekly recycling collection, concerns about a carryout bag fee being government overreach and the need for the City to focus more on waste reduction from apartments and schools. Of the three residents who signed up for the virtual roundtable discussions, two were generally in favor but had specific questions, and one was opposed. Clearly, the online survey was the most effective method of eliciting opinions from Edina residents.

Resident Responses - Online Survey

1. How Residents Currently Interact with Carryout Bags

- Survey question: How often do you reuse carryout bags, if at all? Examples include: plastic bags for trash liners, paper bags for recycling, etc.
 - Possible answers:
 - Never
 - Rarely
 - Sometimes
 - Very Often
 - Always
 - How Edina residents answered:
 - Highest incidence of reuse as indicated by 'Always' response
 - Brown paper bags - 47 percent
 - Plastic bags - 29 percent
 - Reusable bags - 28 percent
 - Lowest incidence of reuse as indicated by 'Never' response
 - Compostable bags - 29 percent
 - Reusable bags (plastic bags) - 15 percent
 - Reusable bags (cotton or fabric) - 13 percent
- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 1):

For what kind of trips do you use reusable bags? Check all that apply.

(Choose all that apply) (Required)

- ☐ I do not use reusable bags.
- ☐ Grocery store trips
- ☐ Errands to smaller stores like pharmacy trips, corner stores, etc.
- ☐ Errands to larger stores like Target
- ☐ Shopping at multiple stores like a shopping mall or shopping district (e.g. 50th and France)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

Figure 1

In response to this question, some 61 percent of residents reported using reusable bags most frequently for grocery store trips, least frequently when shopping at multiple locations, and some 19 percent indicated they never use reusable bags.

2. Resident Support for a Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance

- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 2):

What per-bag fee level would stop you from purchasing a carryout bag?

(Choose any one option) (Required)

☐ \$0.01

☐ \$0.05

☐ \$0.10

☐ \$0.25

☐ \$1.00

Figure 2

Nearly 27 percent of residents said that even a \$0.01 fee would preclude them from using a carryout bag. On the opposite end of the scale, more than 23 percent of residents said the carryout bag fee would need to reach \$1.00 per bag to stop them from purchasing a carryout bag.

- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 3)

Please rank the following options from most to least preferable.

(Rank each option) (Required)

_____ No carryout bag fee is implemented.

_____ A carryout bag fee is implemented where all merchants are required to charge customers per carryout bag

_____ A carryout bag fee is implemented that merchants can participate in voluntarily.

Figure 3

When residents were asked to rank three options from most to least preferable, with one being their most preferred option and three their least preferred, responses fell in this average-rank order:

- No carryout bag fee is implemented - 1.74 average ranking, meaning that this option was the most preferable to residents

- A carryout bag fee is implemented that merchants can participate in voluntarily - 2.04 average ranking, indicating that most residents ranked this their second choice
- A carryout bag fee is implemented with all merchants required to comply - 2.22 average ranking, placing this as the least preferred option by a small margin

- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 4)

Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.

(Required)

Questions	Yes	No	Maybe	I don't know enough to answer
plastic bags				
paper bags				
compostable bags				
reusable bags				

Figure 4

- When asked whether a per-bag fee should be implemented for various types of carryout bags, residents generally:
 - Favored a fee for plastic bags; while plastic bags received the highest number of yes responses regarding a potential fee, at 96, the number of no responses for requiring a fee per plastic bags was slightly lower at 88
 - Did not favor a fee for paper, compostable or reusable bags, with only 50, 29 and 50 affirmative responses, respectively

- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 5)

Would you prefer to shop at businesses that provide a credit or rebate for customers bringing their own bag or bags?

(Choose any one option) (Required)

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Other (please specify)

Figure 5

More than 56 percent of residents said they would prefer to patronize a business that provided a credit or rebate for customers bringing their own bag or bags, with nearly 38 percent saying they had no preference. In tandem with this, residents were asked to respond yes or no regarding their willingness to participate in a reusable bag supply or exchange program such as the Bull City Boomerang Bag initiative. Resident responses evidenced somewhat low interest, with just over 36 percent of residents saying they would participate and nearly 64 percent indicating they would not participate.

3. Resident Suggestions for City Education for a Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance

- Survey question and possible answers (Figure 6)

How can the City help you prepare if an ordinance is passed that requires merchants to charge customers a fee per carryout bag? Please rank these items in order of most to least helpful.

(Rank each option) (Required)

_____ Receive a free reusable bag from the City

_____ Receive a postcard in the mail notifying me that this change is coming

_____ signage at stores I frequent, like grocery stores and malls

_____ City presence at events I'm already attending, to share information on the coming change

_____ City offer a standalone event to inform residents of the coming change, that I can attend

Figure 6

When asked to rank five options on how the City might help them prepare if a carryout bag fee ordinance is passed, with one being their most preferred option and five their least preferred, responses fell in this average-rank order:

- Informational signage at grocery stores, malls and other stores - 1.94 average ranking, placing this as the most desired option
- Receive a postcard in the mail with notice of the coming change - 2.61 average ranking
- Receive a free reusable bag from the City - 2.61 average ranking
- City presence at events I'm already attending to provide information on the coming change - 3.44 average ranking
- City offer a standalone informational event on the coming change - 4.40 average ranking, placing this as the least preferred option

4. Resident Responses to Open-Ended Questions Regarding a Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance

In addition to the mandatory, multiple-choice or ranking questions, the survey also featured two open-ended questions, including: *How else could the City accomplish its goal of reducing waste in Edina?*

The 138 residents who responded to this question had varied opinions, both in support of and in opposition to the potential carryout bag fee ordinance, and provided numerous suggestions. Some of the predominant themes and percentages they were cited include:

- Potential ordinance is government overreach - 23 percent
- Expand to weekly recycling collection, expand recyclables accepted, enhance education - 23 percent
- Ban plastic bags completely - 12 percent
- Work with businesses on providing incentives for customers to bring their own bags - 10 percent
- Focus on business, school and apartment recycling programs - 8 percent

A brief selection of unedited comments received in response to the first open-ended question includes:

- “Banning plastic bags.”
- “Government over step on the bag issue. People create waste. Taxing bags is not the answer.”
- “Dedicate time, money, and resources to find innovative ways to reduce waste rather than simply charging residents more money for everyday activities.”
- “weekly recycling option or place to drop off overage. We fill our recycling each week b/c we get the paper and recycle everything we can. When we are out of town on a recycling week, no way can we fit 4 weeks of recycling into one bin.”
- “Recycling every week versus every other week.”
- “support a recycled bag program”

The second open-ended question asked *What other questions do you have about this proposal?* Some of the primary themes cited by the 95 residents who responded to this question includes:

- Government overreach; don’t favor the ordinance - 21 percent
- Concern about businesses retaining bag fees and using it at their sole discretion - 14 percent
- Should ban or impose fees on plastic bags only - 7 percent
- Support expressed for the carryout bag fee - 6 percent
- City should work with big box retailers and delivery services to reduce waste - 5 percent
- Equity concerns regarding impact on residents with lower incomes - 4 percent
- Concern for impact on businesses; will shop outside of Edina - 3 percent

A brief selection of unedited comments in response to the second open-ended question includes:

- “I do not feel the merchant should keep the bag fee, but that it should be donated to a local environmental resource. Put that money back into the city.”
- “If the per bag fee passes, it will only push me further to continue to shop in EP. Being in western Edina it is cheaper for us to shop there (tax levies, bag fees...)”
- “Since we are a first ring suburb, I suggest we adopt a bag ordinance that is the same as the one that Minneapolis has.”
- “Why not just eliminate plastic bags? Why charge for them and put that on the consumer? The stores should be responsible for the waste they create by offering poor choices.”
- “Why include paper bags?”

Visitor Responses

A total of four responses were received from individuals who indicated they do not live or work in Edina. Note: a total of five responses are included in the attached Visitor Survey Response Report, but one response was a project administrator survey test. The four visitor responses to the abbreviated survey module available to them generally evidenced support for the potential carryout bag fee ordinance, with one dissenting about applying the fee to paper bags and two

dissenting about its application to reusable bags. Two responses to the open-ended questions in the abbreviated survey module centered on equity, with respondents wondering if the fee would be assessed to individuals utilizing food assistance programs. Two comments stressed the need for additional education and one supported banning single-use carryout containers/utensils.

Virtual Roundtable Discussions

Three one-hour, virtual roundtable discussions were scheduled to begin with a brief, educational presentation followed by open discussion with several question prompts. Due to low enrollment, only one virtual roundtable discussion occurred, with a second modified to a one-on-one discussion:

- Business Roundtable, May 5, 7:30 a.m. - canceled due to no enrollment
- Resident Roundtable, May 10, 7 p.m. - two residents participated:
 - Concern about abundance of plastic bags used for carryout/curbside pick up orders, particularly from Target and grocery stores
 - Suggest the City work with these retailers toward reduced bag usage and possible pilot initiative
 - Concern about carryout bag fee burden on small businesses; suggested giving them additional time for compliance
 - Stressed importance of educating small retailers to track and code any bag fees received as 'other revenue' for tax reporting purposes
 - Concern about whether a carryout bag fee will shift consumer spending to other nearby communities without similar fees
 - Suggest the City increase recycling and composting
 - Suggest the City "get rid of plastic bags"
- Business and Resident Roundtable, May 11, 11:30 a.m. - one resident registered and participated in one-on-one discussion:
 - "Getting more and more concerned about the processes and excessive taxes."
 - Concern about the businesses retaining the carryout bag fee revenue: "...could be used for something not environmental..."
 - If the focus is to reduce, then impose a ban, not a fee
 - Sanitation concerns about bag reuse with carryout food
 - Concern with logistics required of businesses: "Will deter economic development. New businesses will look at other communities with less regulations."
 - Concern over required online survey registration compromising anonymity and questioned whether survey reached all socio-economic sectors of the community

One-on-One Business Interviews and Business Survey Module Responses

Two outreach methods were used to gain insights from the Edina business community regarding the potential carryout bag fee ordinance. The most successful method of gathering opinions took place during one-on-one conversations with select business representatives. In addition, opinions from five business representatives were gained through responses to a separate online survey module in the Better Together Edina project web page.

Business Outreach - Executive Summary

Edina businesses largely do not support implementation of a carryout bag fee. The one-on-one conversations with Edina business representatives proved the most productive and effective manner of gaining their insights on the potential ordinance. A few reflections on these conversations include:

- Large retail businesses, both chain and independent, tend to understand the City's interest in a carryout bag fee to further its sustainability goals, and are ready to gear up for compliance
- Small businesses, particularly upscale, independent retailers, were more likely to oppose the ordinance, citing reporting requirements as one of the main areas of concern.
- Both large and small businesses expressed concern about the impact of ordinance compliance on customer relations
- Small businesses in particular are expecting a robust community outreach and education effort from the City regarding the onset of a carryout bag fee requirement

Opinions received from business representatives through the online survey the largely mirrored those heard during the one-on-one interviews, with the exception that four out of the five survey respondents cited preferring a longer lead time of more than 12 months to prepare for compliance by contrast to shorter preferred lead times cited by interviewed business representatives as detailed in Figure 12.

The business representatives that participated in the one-on-one interviews were generally appreciative of the opportunity to express their thoughts and concerns about the potential carryout bag fee ordinance and its impact on their operations and customer relations efforts.

One-on-One Business Interviews and Business Survey Module Respondent Overview

A total of 24 one-on-one conversations were held with Edina business representatives; 21 of these conversations lasted between 20 and 40 minutes and three lasted five to 10 minutes. Five business representatives responded to the online survey module. Businesses and the representatives participating in the one-on-one interviews included:

- Respondent demographics - interviews
 - 16 women
 - Eight men
- Respondent demographics - online survey
 - Unknown
- Respondent position - interviews
 - Two shopping center managers
 - 10 business owners
 - Four minority business owners
 - Nine business managers
 - Four administrators/managers

- Respondent position - online survey
 - Four business owners
 - One business employee
- Business size and longevity in Edina - interviews
 - 15 independent retailers or restaurants
 - Six franchises (one of which included conversations with both local and corporate representatives)
 - Longevity in Edina ranged from one year to nearly 75 years in business
- Business size and longevity in Edina - online survey
 - Two independent retailers or restaurants
 - Two franchises
 - One institution
 - Longevity in Edina ranged from two years to more than 70 years in business
- Business type - interviews
 - 12 retail stores
 - Five restaurants
 - Four include both restaurant and retail
- Business type - online survey
 - Two retail stores
 - Two restaurants
 - One institution

A list of all businesses contacted for the one-on-one interviews is attached as Exhibit 4. Of the three very short conversations that took place in addition to the 21 longer interviews, two business representatives said their firm will comply with whatever the City requires and one was strongly opposed to a potential carryout bag fee but did not wish to be interviewed.

Managers of two restaurants, one each a franchise and independent, participated in one-on-one interviews and the owners of those restaurants subsequently took the online survey. The online survey data attached as Exhibit 2 is presented anonymously.

Amount and Types of Bags Used - Interviews and Online Survey

- **Businesses were asked to estimate the type and range of carryout bags distributed monthly (e.g., 1-100, 101-500, 501-1,000, etc.). Bag types included plastic, brown paper, paper bags (not brown), compostable bags, reusable bags (plastic) and reusable bags (cotton or other fabric).**

Both business representatives who were interviewed and who responded to the survey estimated a wide range on the number of bags distributed each month, from 50 to 150,000. Most of the businesses distribute between 500 and 1,000 per month.

A majority of businesses interviewed distribute paper bags, either exclusively or combined. (Figure 7A)

Type of Bag or Bags	Plastic only	Paper only	Paper and Plastic	Paper and Cloth	Plastic and Canvas	Canvas or Cloth Bags for Sale
Number of Businesses	2	8	6	1	1	3
Independent		6	5	1	1	1
Franchise	2	2	1			2

Figure 7A

A majority of businesses responding to the survey also distribute paper bags, either exclusively or combined. (Figure 7B)

Type of Bag or Bags	Plastic only	Paper only	Reusable Plastic and Reusable Cloth	Paper, Reusable Plastic and Reusable Cloth
Number of Businesses	1	2	1	1
Independent	1	1	1	
Franchise		1		1

Figure 7B

Estimated Seasonal Bag Distribution Increases

- **Does your business use more bags than indicated during the holiday months (November-December).**

Business representatives interviewed expressed a range of percentages by which their bag distribution increases during November and December, ranging from 20 to 75 percent. Of the 13 businesses citing an increase, most estimated 20 or 50 percentage increases, with only two citing a 75 percent increase and only one each for 25 and 30 percent increases. Several retailers noted that their seasonal increases occur at other times during the year, such as around Valentine's Day, Mother's Day, spring graduation season, etc. (Figure 8)

Estimated Seasonal Bag Distribution Increases

Type of Business	20 Percent	25 Percent	30 Percent	50 Percent	50 to 75 Percent	75 to 100 Percent
Independent	2	1		5	1	
Franchise	2		1 (mall)			1

Figure 8

Bag Sources and Costs

- **Where do you purchase your business's carryout bags?**

Of the retailers that were able to provide information on their bag supplier both during the interviews and in the online survey responses, the sources broke down as follows: (Figure 9)

Bag Sources by Business Type

Type of Business	Local Supplier	Domestic but not local	Imported
Independent	6	8	2
Franchise	2	1	2

Figure 9

Bag costs for both interviewed businesses and survey respondents varied widely, from \$0.05 for plastic bags to more than \$2.53 for custom, imported paper bags. Of those interviewed who were able to cite bag costs, 11 said they paid less than \$1 per bag for both the paper/plastic bags supplied. A total of six cited per-bag costs of \$1 or more.

Recycling Practices

- **Businesses were asked to describe any regular environmental or sustainability activities in which their business currently participates and whether they accept bags of any type for recycling.**

Nearly all of the businesses indicated that they do some measure of recycling on premises. Most participate in mixed materials recycling, and the larger retailers recycle corrugated cardboard. A total of four businesses, two interviewed and two survey respondents, accept bags back for recycling. None charge customers for this recycling opportunity. The two interviewed businesses include grocery stores (one each independent and franchise) that accept plastic bags for recycling. The plastic bags are taken back by the bag supplier; one grocery outlet indicated the bags are recycled into a lumber composite material. The online survey respondents were both restaurants that accept bags for recycling both distributed only paper bags, one is an independent and the other is a franchise.

Following are additional notes on interviewed business recycling and sustainability efforts:

- Four participate in composting (two each independent and franchise)
- Two donate unsold, prepared foods to Second Harvest (one each independent and franchise)
- One donates \$0.05 to Second Harvest each time a customer brings a reusable bag (franchise)
- Plastic bags distributed from one independent business are made from recovered ocean plastic waste
- One women's retail clothing store invites customers to bring back clothing with their label that is no longer wanted or useful; the clothes are shipped to a central location, repurposed as clothing items and returned to the retail outlet for sale at reduced prices (franchise)
- Another donates unsold prepared foods and scraps to a farming operation for hog feed (franchise)
- Two stated that in the past few years, they have trained employees to ask if customers want a bag which has reduced bag distribution (one each independent and franchise)
- In the late fall and winter, a craft store holds gatherings where customers bring in surplus yarn to knit hats, mittens and scarves for distribution through social service organizations (independent)

Following are additional notes on recycling and sustainability efforts of businesses responding to the online survey:

- One franchise composts fruit and vegetable waste
- One independent encourages customers to bring bottles of a cleaning product back for a low-cost refill
- One franchise reduces the store temperature during off hours, uses tissue paper sparingly for wrapping and cites a 25 percent reduction in bag use by talking to customers and promoting less bag usage on social media platforms

Experience with Carryout Bag Fee Requirements

- **Businesses were asked to detail any experience they had with transitioning to and complying with a carryout bag fee requirement in other communities.**

Three of the interviewed businesses were able to provide information on how they, or a related business, had complied with the carryout bag fee requirement in the City of Minneapolis:

- One independent restaurant manager indicated a sister location in Minneapolis had “no trouble whatsoever” complying with the requirement and that they would react consistently across the company should a requirement go into effect in Edina
- A retail franchise manager who managed a store for the same chain in Minneapolis when the ordinance went into effect offered these insights:
 - Cited no problem with rollout
 - Estimated 90 percent drop in bag usage
 - Staff trained to ask “Do you need a bag today for five cents?”

- When it was raining, staff just gave the bags without charging on a ‘don’t ask, don’t tell’ basis
- Was not aware of a reporting requirement to Minneapolis
- Another retail franchise manager received information from the chain’s Minneapolis store, reporting that:
 - While the chain was prepared to report information regarding carryout bag fees, the City of Minneapolis had not yet requested data
 - Plastic bag usage has gone down and reusable bag sales have increased, but the retail manager did not have specific data to cite for the trend

None of the businesses responding to the survey had experience with carryout bag fee requirements; the one affirmative response was part of the site administrator’s test.

Support From the City of Edina

- **What support would be helpful for the City of Edina to provide to assist with transitioning customers to the new per-bag fee?**

Business representatives were asked about their interest in/preference for several types of support the City could provide to help with transitioning customers and staff to a carryout bag fee ordinance requirement. The options of providing explanatory signage to post, fact sheets to provide both guidance for staff and information to customers all received similar positive reactions.

In response to this question, and at other times in the conversations, eight business representatives spoke to the need for a ‘robust’ education campaign on City’s part. Other comments received on this questions included:

- “It’s all about communication”
- “Anything to take the blame off of the business”
- “Provide messaging on all City platforms”
- “Market appropriately by City so customers know that small businesses don’t have a choice”
- “Most important that clerks aren’t first person to tell customer about the fee”
- “Outreach must say ‘why’ this is happening”
- “Fact sheets should provide the City’s phone number and website details for residents with questions”
- “It would be great if someone from the City could come train onsite employees”

Recommended Bag Exemptions

- **Certain bags, including those used for prescriptions, produce and dry cleaning are likely to be exempt from the requirements. Are there any other bags that you think should be considered for exemption? Please explain.**

Interviewed business representatives were asked what types of bags should be exempt, and many of them favored exempting reusable bags. Other suggestions included:

- Any bags for transactions in excess of \$1,000
- Food carryout bags after restaurant check is paid
- Paper and biodegradable bags
- Small bags for jewelry and other small purchases
- Wax bags for soup containers

In response to this question, online survey respondents suggested exempting:

- Food carryout bags, both for customer pick-up and third-party delivery services
- Reusable bags and gift bags

Tracking and Reporting Preferences

- **Businesses will likely be required to track and report information on bag distribution and purchasing changes. What information would be most useful for you to track the impact of the new requirement?**

Business representatives interviewed had strong opinions on potential tracking and reporting requirements to gauge the impact of a carryout bag fee. Approximately half of the business representatives said they understood the need for reporting, and equally preferred reporting fee revenues and/or the number of bags purchased and distributed annually. One corporate representative said they were unaware of any reporting requirements in other cities and locations with bag fee ordinances in effect.

While most larger businesses understood the need for reporting, six small retailers took great exception and consistently expressed that this would just add another 'stressor' to small businesses. One said that reporting was the biggest 'friction' for them and would be very difficult. Another said they already do so much reporting and this would just be another burden without any benefit to them. One business owner said, "Reporting will be difficult and we will never do a good job."

Business representatives responding to the online survey had similar strong opinions. One each independent and franchise business representatives indicated they would be willing to report the number of and type of bags purchased annually. The other three, including two independent and one franchise, said they would not comply as quoted:

- "Uninterested"
- "None. We always ask clients if they want a bag or not, and most, who are being environmentally conscious say no."
- "None of the above information will change how I conduct my business nor impact it."

Carryout Bag Fee Revenue Utilization

- **Please detail any initial thoughts on how your business will use the bag fee revenues.**

A majority of the interviewed business representatives said they expected they would simply utilize the revenue to support continued business operations. A few indicated they would likely use the revenue to purchase more bags, and two said they might donate the fees to charity.

One corporate representative said they were unaware of other jurisdictions with similar ordinances in which the retailer retained the revenue. Another merchant noted that the fees would not be considered as revenue. Utilizing correct accounting for carryout bag fee revenues also was referenced in the May 10 virtual roundtable discussion.

Of the online survey respondents who answered this question, one cited it as a ‘nuisance tax’ that they would not assess, one said they would use fee revenue to cover the point-of-sale system retrofit cost and another said they were not sure how they would use the revenue.

Possible Customer Refund or Credit

- **Would your business give a credit or refund to customers bringing their own bag or bags?**

Business representatives were asked if they would consider giving a credit or refund to customers bringing their own bag or bags. Of the online survey responses, four said no and one franchise business representative said it would be up to the corporate system. A number of interviewed merchants had no opinions on this, but approximately 10 of those interviewed said ‘yes’ or ‘maybe’, with only one indicating they absolutely would not do so. A few other comments and notes include:

- One merchant gives a \$5 to \$12 credit for a future purchase to customers bringing their own bag or bags; the variable credit depends on the initial purchase amount
- One specialty retail store owner said they did not want to encourage customers to bring their own bags, as their imported, branded bags are an important component of their marketing efforts

Support for Required or Voluntary Carryout Bag Fee

- **Are you in favor of a required bag fee?**
- **Are you in favor of a voluntary bag fee? Businesses could volunteer to implement a bag fee rather than being required by the City.**

Overall, both business representatives who were interviewed and those who chose to respond to the online survey were not in favor of a required or voluntary carryout bag fee, as illustrated: (Figure 10)

Support for a Required or Voluntary Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance

Carryout Bag Fee	Yes	No	Neutral/No Opinion	Plastic Bags Only
Required	3	16	7	1
Voluntary	8	11	10	

Figure 10

Additional comments on a required carryout bag fee include:

- “We are in the middle on this. We are a Green Business but are very concerned how it’s communicated to the community so it’s not punitive. It shouldn’t be done at the expense of small business; it will be hard for small business, easier for large business.”
- “We do have to think about alternate ways to get products home.”
- “I’m in favor of getting things out of the landfill. This could be important for retail users of many bags per week, per year, such as a grocery store.”
- “Super embarrassing to charge for a bag when a customer is making a \$500 jeans purchase. We are not a grocery store.”
- “We take pride in being generous with our customers, and this seems tacky, chintzy.”
- “Not all businesses are the same.”
- “This is a lose/lose situation; customers will view it as a tax and will think businesses are asking for the program.”
- “People are concerned about fees. It will help the environment but people don’t want to pay extra money.”
- “I understand the purpose, but am concerned customers will be annoyed.”
- “This will be difficult to implement fairly.”
- “Paper can be recycled.”
- “I invest in my bags and don’t want to push people away from using them.”

Relative to a possible voluntary fee, those who opposed it generally expressed concern over lack of consistency or a “level playing field” among businesses. One said, “A voluntary fee is just a stepping stone to a requirement.”

Compliance Concerns

- **The online survey module asked businesses to rank various aspects of compliance from easy to difficult:** (Figure 11)

Compliance Issues Ratings by Business Type

Compliance Issue	Very Difficult	Somewhat Difficult	Neutral	Easy	N/A
Employee Training	1 (Independent)	1 (Chain)	1 (Chain)	1 (Independent)	1 (Independent)
Systems Update	3 (1 Chain, 2 Independent)	2 (1 Chain, 1 Independent)			
Cost	1 (Independent)		1 (Chain)		2 (1 Chain, 1 Independent)
Customer Relations	4 (1 Chain, 3 Independent)	1 (Chain)			

Figure 11

Expected Impact of a Required Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance

- **What do you expect will be the impact of a required fee?**

During the interviews, business representatives expressed a variety of strong opinions about their expectations on how a required carryout bag fee would impact their business. (Figure 12)

Expected Impact of a Required Carryout Bag Fee Ordinance by Business Type

Type of Business	Communication Concerns	Concerns About Customer Relations	Expect Easy Customers Acceptance and Compliance
Independent	5	7	5
Franchise	3 (one mall)		3

Figure 12

Specific comments from business representatives include:

- “There will be a few complainers and then people will get used to it.”
- “This will aggravate consumers who are tired of being nickel and dimed.”
- “This will be harder with high-end purchases, but I expect a mixed bag on how people feel about it.”
- “There will be less bag usage and customers will understand.”
- “I will have to add a process to track this for little value.”
- “I fear that it’s not a state-wide standard and customers will shop in another town without a bag fee. We could lose business.”
- “I’m concerned that customers will take out their frustrations on employees. We hire people of all abilities and some might not be able to handle customer frustration.”
- “Most people will support it and it will be a non-issue after the initial adjustment.”
- “I don’t think this will impact consumer behavior.”
- “People won’t freak out, but this will take time for staff to explain and they have limited time when we are in a rush.”
- “No one will want bags anymore. The change was remarkable at the Minneapolis location.”
- “Customers will balk, and staff will not support the fee to avoid conflict.”
- “If there is great communication, it will temper concerns. I don’t expect pushback across all customers. Great marketing is needed.”
- “There will be a good impact. Ultimately, customers will come with their own bags and maybe we will have reusable bags for purchase.”
- “We will lose customers, and this will not be well received by new customers.”
- “People won’t mind, but I’m worried about how to incorporate this fee with the frequent DoorDash and Uber Eats orders.”
- “Seniors won’t like it and will be upset.”
- “There will be a certain amount of reduction of plastic bags, but I’m not sure about the impact if applied to paper bags.”

Preferred Amount of Lead Time for Ordinance Compliance

- **If a required carryout bag fee is approved, what amount of lead time would your business need to prepare for implementation?**

As with the online business survey module, business representatives were asked about the amount of time they would need to modify operations for ordinance compliance. Their responses are summarized as follows: (Figure 13)

Preferred Amount of Lead Time for Ordinance Compliance by Business Type

Amount of Lead Time	Less than 30 days	30 days	30 to 45 days	60 days	90 days	120 days +	Did Not Respond
Number of Businesses	5	6	1	2	6	4	5
Independent	3	5	1	1	3	3	
Franchise	2	1		1	3	1	

Figure 13

One interviewed business owner commented, “It should be easy if the City provides explanations and resources.”

Reusable Bag Exchange Interest

- **For businesses offering online order and/or curbside delivery, would you consider or be open to implementing a reusable bag exchange program?**

During the interviews, one franchise business representative expressed interest in a reusable bag exchange, with one independent saying they might be interested but noted that customers might be concerned about sanitation. Sanitation concerns were echoed by one independent business representative who said they would not be interested in a reusable bag exchange program. The remainder of the business representatives interviewed were not interested or the question did not apply. None of the businesses that responded to the online survey were interested in a bag exchange program.

Preferred City Communication Method

- **How do you prefer to learn about and stay in-the-know about related City of Edina policies and their associated processes?**

In response to a variety of possible City communications outreach methods to provide businesses with information on the potential carryout bag fee ordinance, business representatives interviewed and those who responded to the survey expressed the following preferences: (Figure 14)

Preferred City Communications Method by Business Type

Type of Business	In-Person Meeting	Virtual Meeting	Through a Business Group	Print Newsletter	E-Newsletter	Business-Specific Website
Franchise	2	3	3	7	7	4
Independent		6	6	11	15	7
Total	2	9	9	18	22	11

Figure 14

One business representative added that they are only interested in attending a meeting if feedback will truly be considered. During the interviews, three independent business representatives noted that electronic communications are preferred for sustainability reasons, one saying “due to the spirit of the initiative.” One independent business representative said, “Edina does a good job with emails.”

Additional Comments

- **How else could the City accomplish its goal of reducing waste in Edina?**
- **What other questions do you have about this proposal?**

At the conclusion of the interview, business representatives were asked for any final or additional thoughts:

- “I appreciate the explanation and don’t have issues. Business owners want to work with the City and protect the environment. We need information to show customers to help explain. I think customers will understand and it will be easy.”
- “It feels like you’re swimming upstream with some of these things. It doesn’t make sense for our business. We will likely eat the fee or just comp it.”
- “Use this only for [businesses] who use multiple plastic bags per purchase on a daily basis.”
- “The City of Edina missed the mark on this, as it’s a very difficult time for businesses with state consideration of paid family leave, sick and safe time and other multiple taxes.”
- “We didn’t know until a recent health inspection about the City ordinance requiring recycling utensils, no black plastics, etc.”

- “I am very perplexed by this initiative. I recognize the importance of reducing landfill waste. This is a lot of work for retailers to track. It’s been a tough year for retailers and this will make it tougher. Has it been a roaring success in Minneapolis?”
- “We will adapt.”
- “The City should approach small businesses separately and provide subsidies. The parking requirement is too strict for small businesses; it’s the same for Target. Use common sense. Incentivize sustainability for small businesses.”
- “Offer tax incentives or rebates for businesses that use reusable or compostable bags.”
- “Overall education and PSAs like they did in the 70s when I was growing up.”
- “Grocery/product packaging and Amazon boxes are a greater problem than bags that get reused.”
- “Ban straws.”
- “No other questions but our customers we’ve been talking to about this since January don’t like it and think it’s just another tax.”
- “A charge for paper bags would discourage recycling because it creates a cost to comply where there is no higher price to throw recycling items in the trash.”
- “I use reusable bags all the time but not for food service. It’s just not sanitary.”

Final Summary

Residents

In general, Edina residents responding to the online survey don’t support a required carryout bag fee, with some support for a voluntary carryout bag fee. Of the three residents who participated in the virtual roundtable discussions, two were generally in favor but had specific questions, and one was opposed. Clearly, the online survey was the most effective method of eliciting opinions from Edina residents.

Businesses

Edina businesses that both responded to the survey and participated in the one-on-one interviews largely do not support implementation of a carryout bag fee. The one-on-one conversations with Edina business representatives proved the most productive and effective manner of gaining their insights on the potential ordinance. A few reflections on these conversations and the survey responses include:

- During the interviews, large retail businesses, both chain and independent, tend to understand the City’s interest in a carryout bag fee to further its sustainability goals, and are ready to gear up for compliance. The chains responding to the online survey did not express similar understanding and willingness to comply.
- Small businesses, particularly upscale, independent retailers, were more likely to oppose the ordinance, citing reporting requirements as one of the main areas of concern. This was echoed in both the interviews and survey responses.
- Both large and small businesses expressed concern about the impact of ordinance compliance on customer relations, again, this was echoed during both outreach methods.
- Small businesses in particular are expecting a robust community outreach and education effort from the City regarding the onset of a carryout bag fee requirement.

The business representatives were generally appreciative of the opportunity to express their thoughts and concerns about the potential carryout bag fee ordinance and its impact on their operations and customer relations efforts.

In Conclusion

While Edina residents are somewhat split on their support of a carryout bag fee, businesses tend to oppose the initiative. Extensive community education and outreach, as well as support to Edina businesses - particularly small businesses - will prove essential to successful implementation should the carryout bag fee ordinance receive approval.

Special thanks to City of Edina staff Sustainability Manager Grace Hancock, Economic Development Manager Bill Neuendorf, Edina Police Department Community Engagement Officer Emily Jepson and Community Liaison Lulu Thompson as well as Edina Chamber of Commerce Vice-President Shelly Loberg, Galleria General Manager Wendy Eisenberg and Southdale Center General Manager Judy Tullius for their efforts to identify and provide contacts for the businesses interviewed during this process.

Exhibit 1

Edina Resident Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey Summary

(CLOSED) Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

13 April 2023 - 16 May 2023

PROJECT NAME:

Carryout Bag Ordinance

FILTER BY:

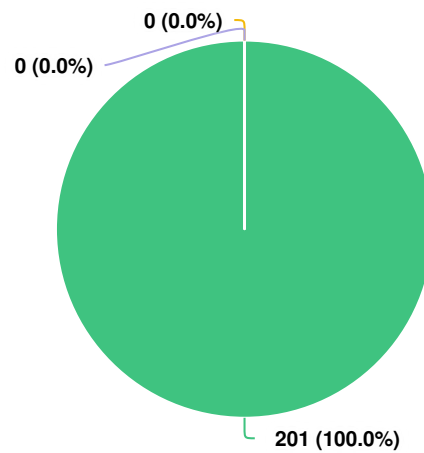
Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)

Answered : I-am-a-resident



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)



Question options

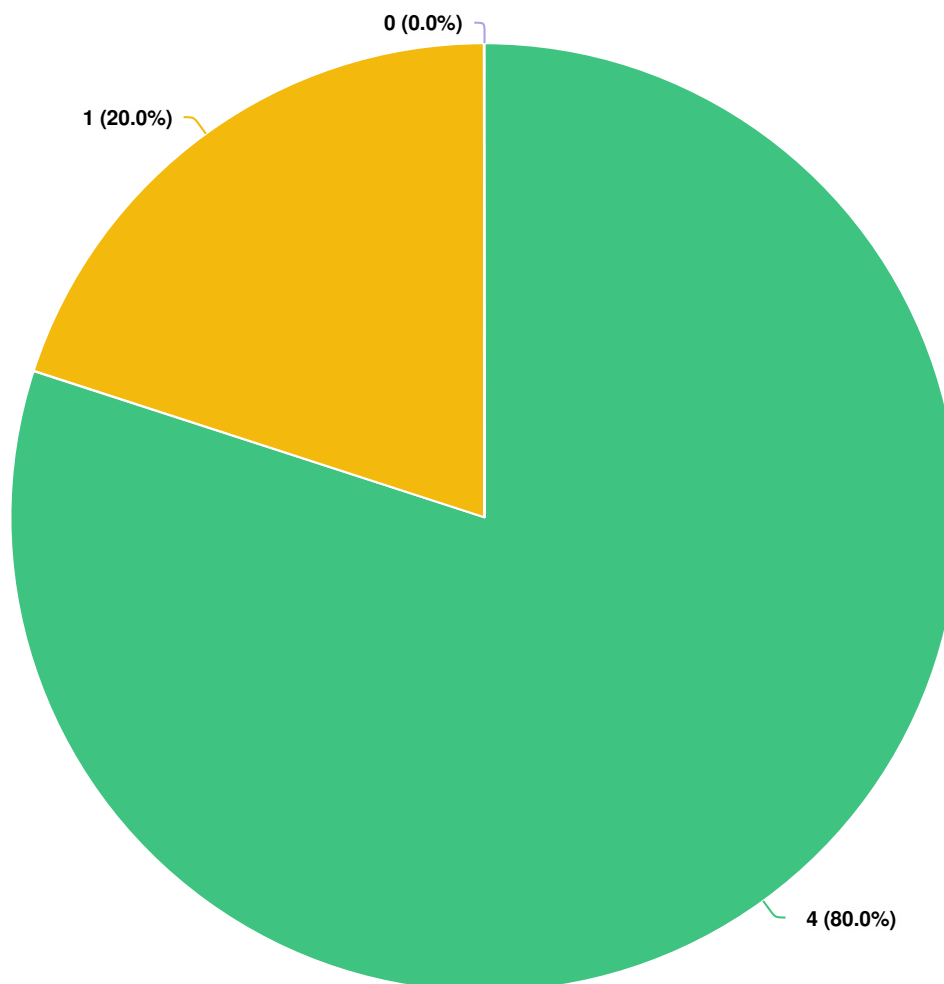
☒ I am a resident ☐ I own or work at a business in Edina ☐ I am not a resident or affiliated with a business in Edina

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q22 Are you in favor of a required bag fee?



Question options

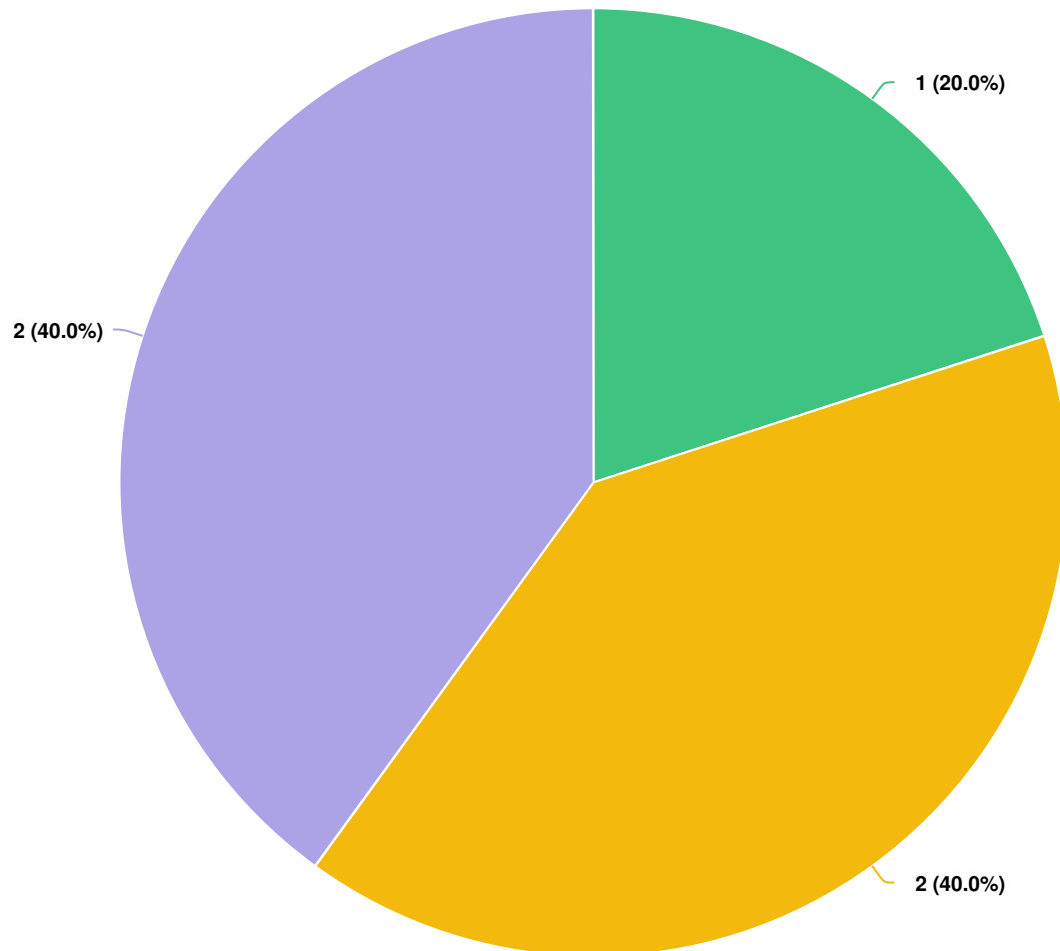
☐ No ☐ Other (please specify) ☒ Yes

Mandatory Question (5 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q23 Are you in favor of a voluntary bag fee? Businesses could volunteer to implement a bag fee, rather than being required by the City.



Question options

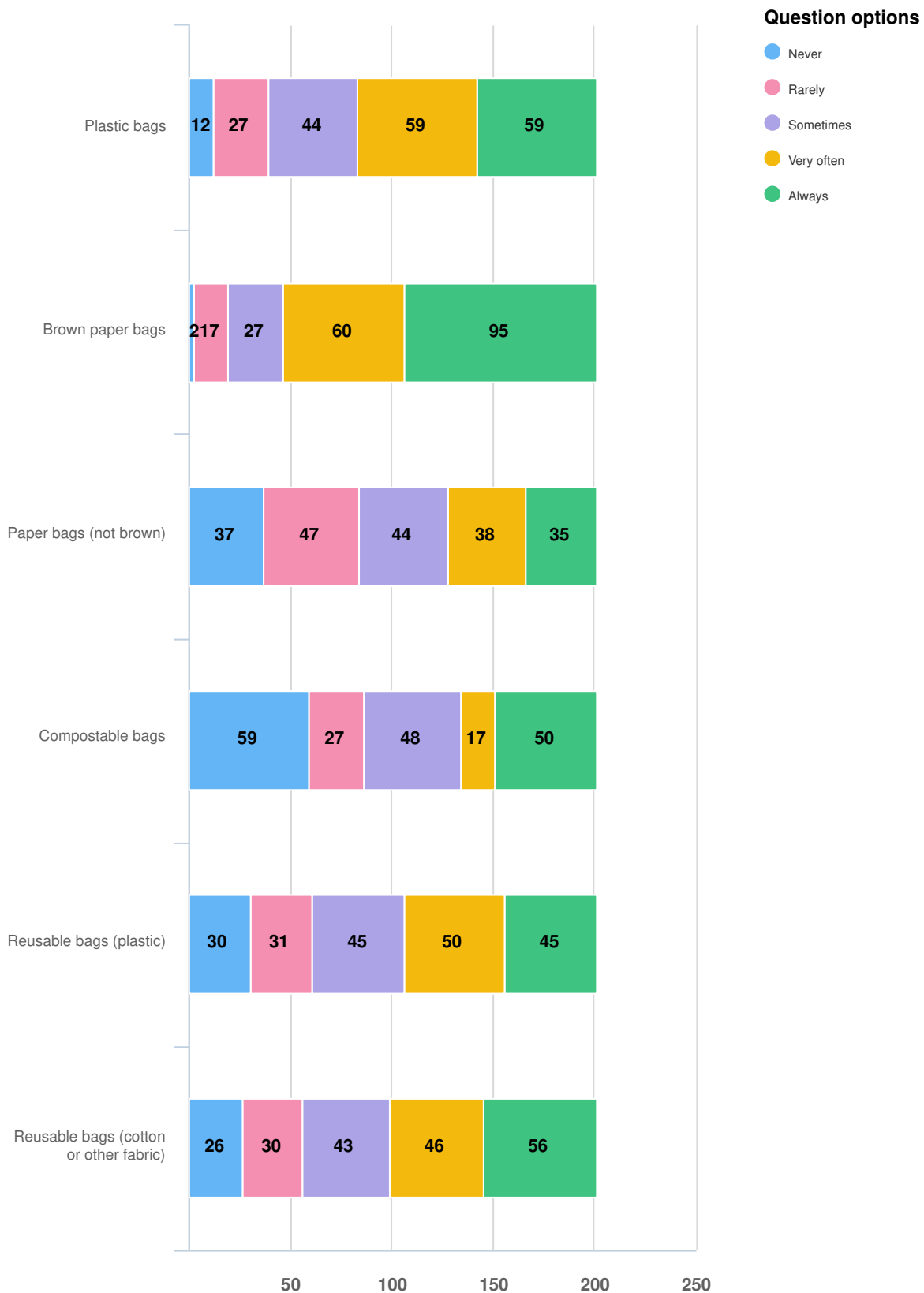
☐ Other (please specify) ☐ No ☐ Yes

Mandatory Question (5 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q24 How often do you reuse carryout bags, if at all? Examples include: plastic bags for trash liners, paper bags for recycling, etc.

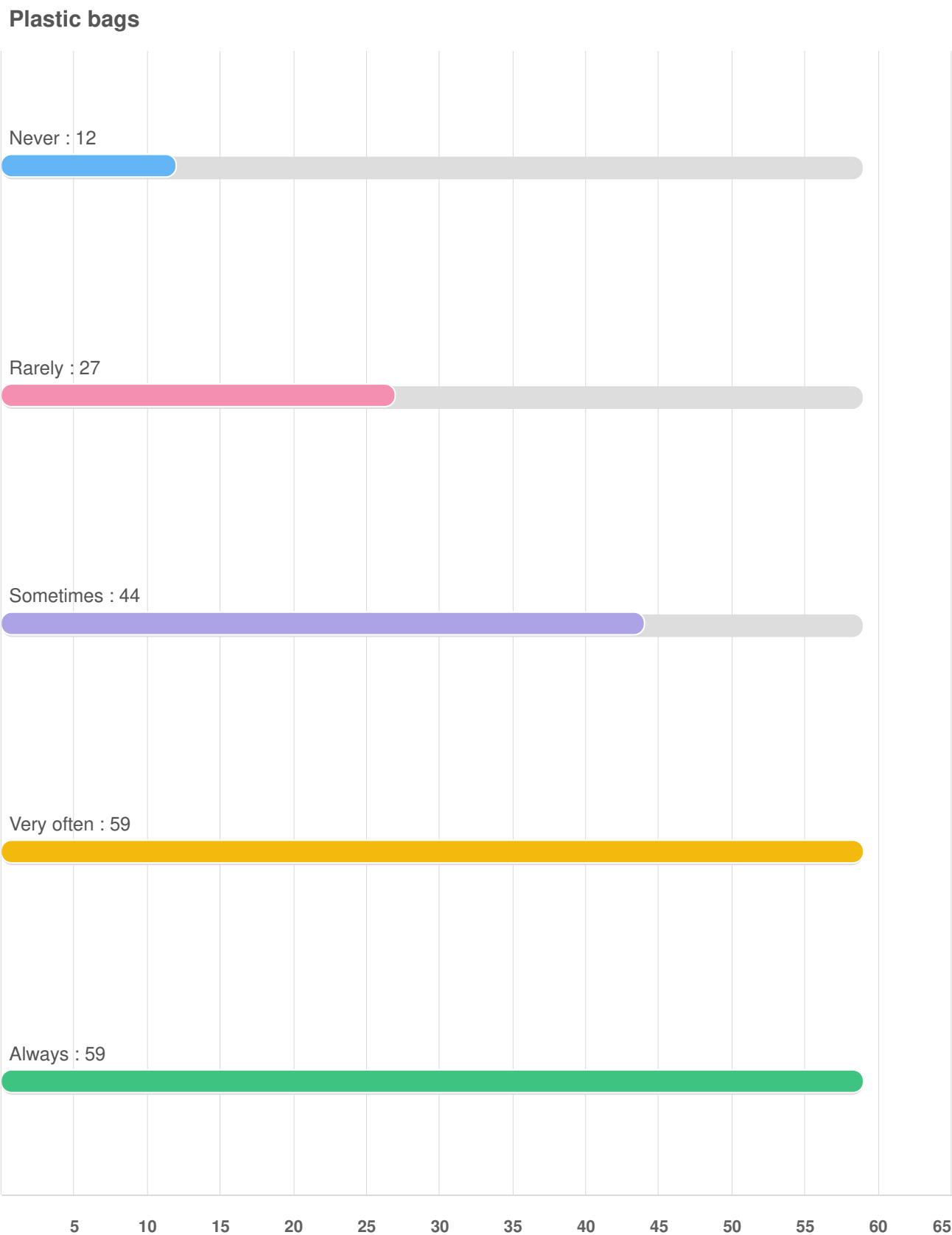


Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

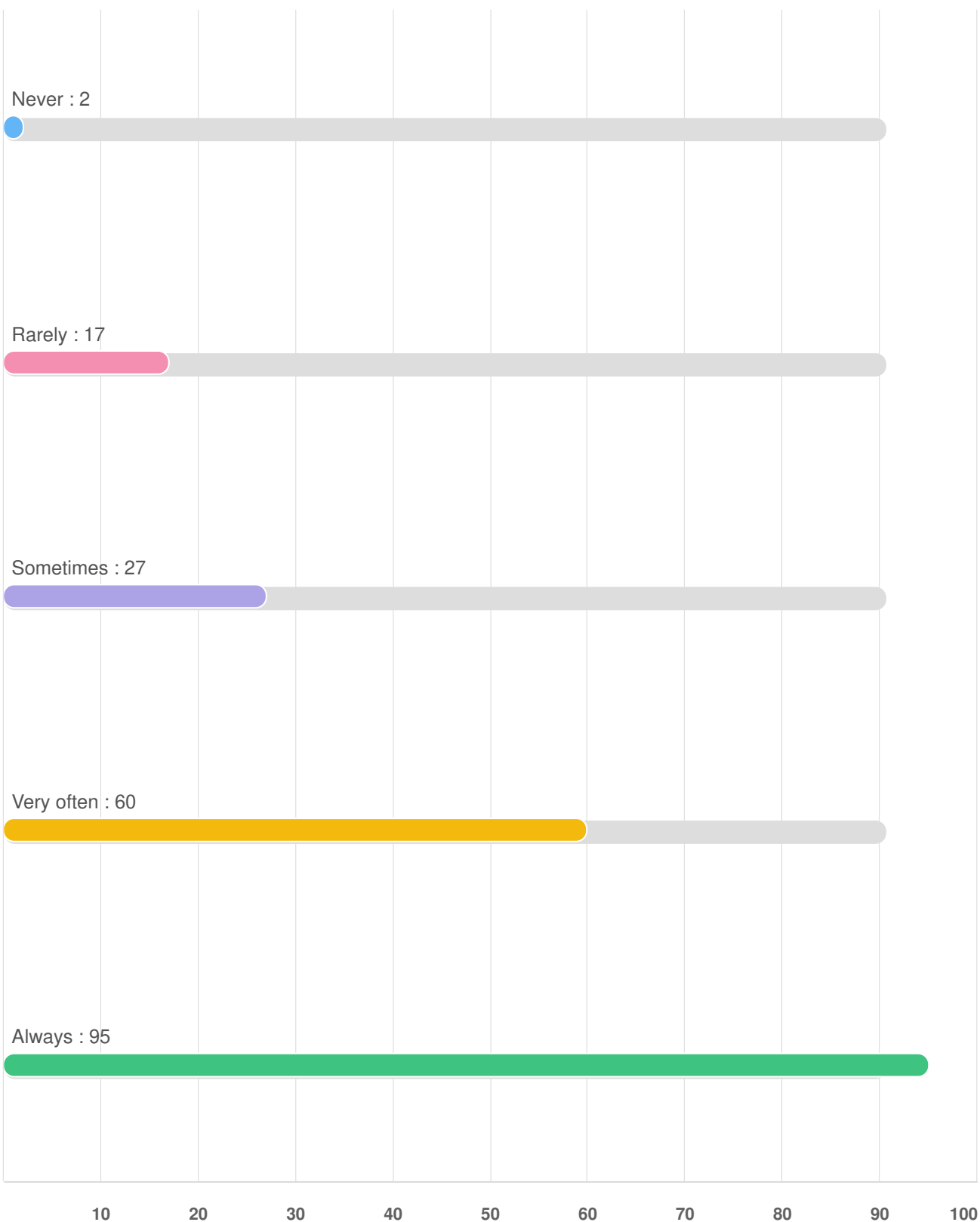
Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q24 | How often do you reuse carryout bags, if at all? Examples include: plastic bags for trash liners, paper bags for recycling, etc.

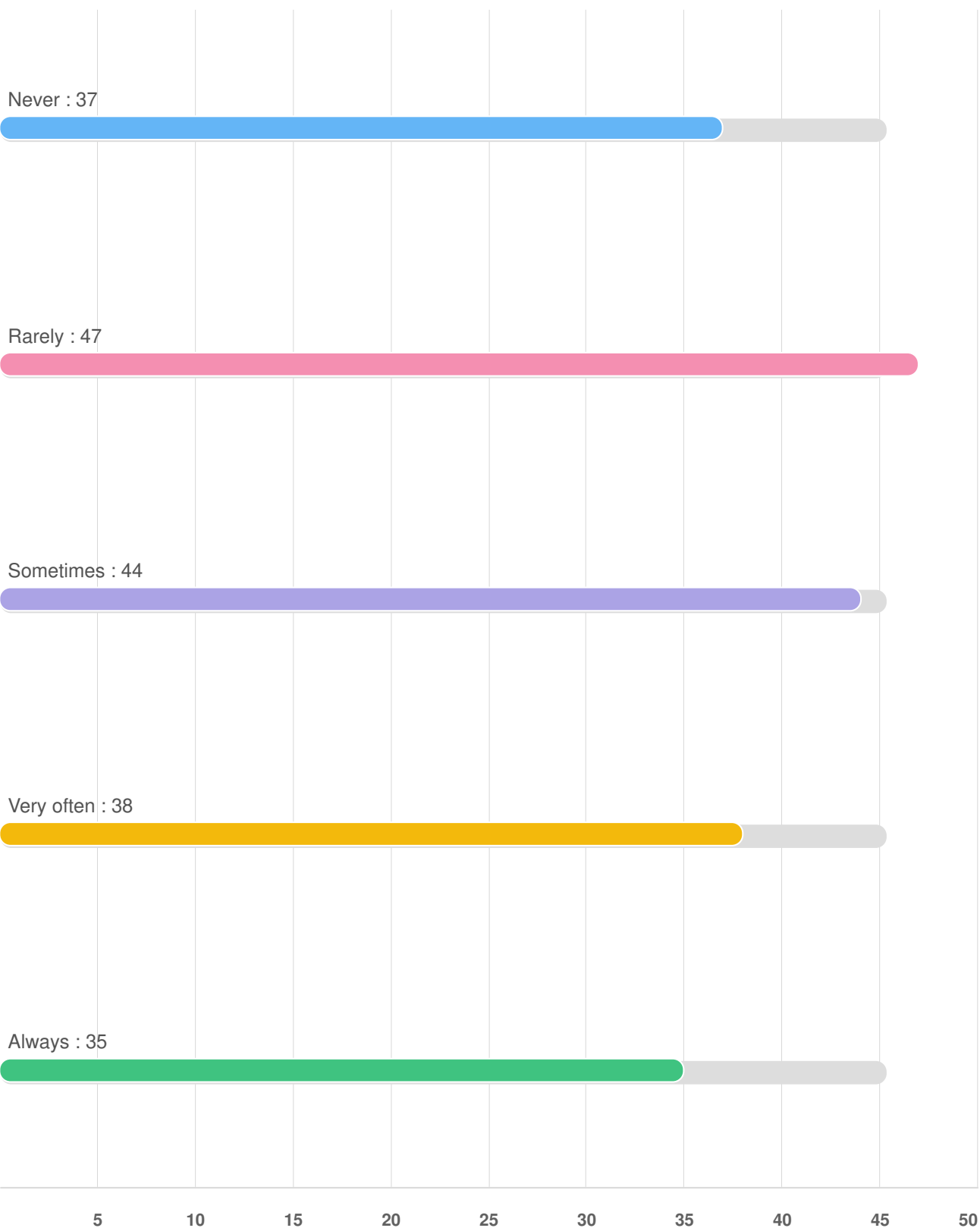


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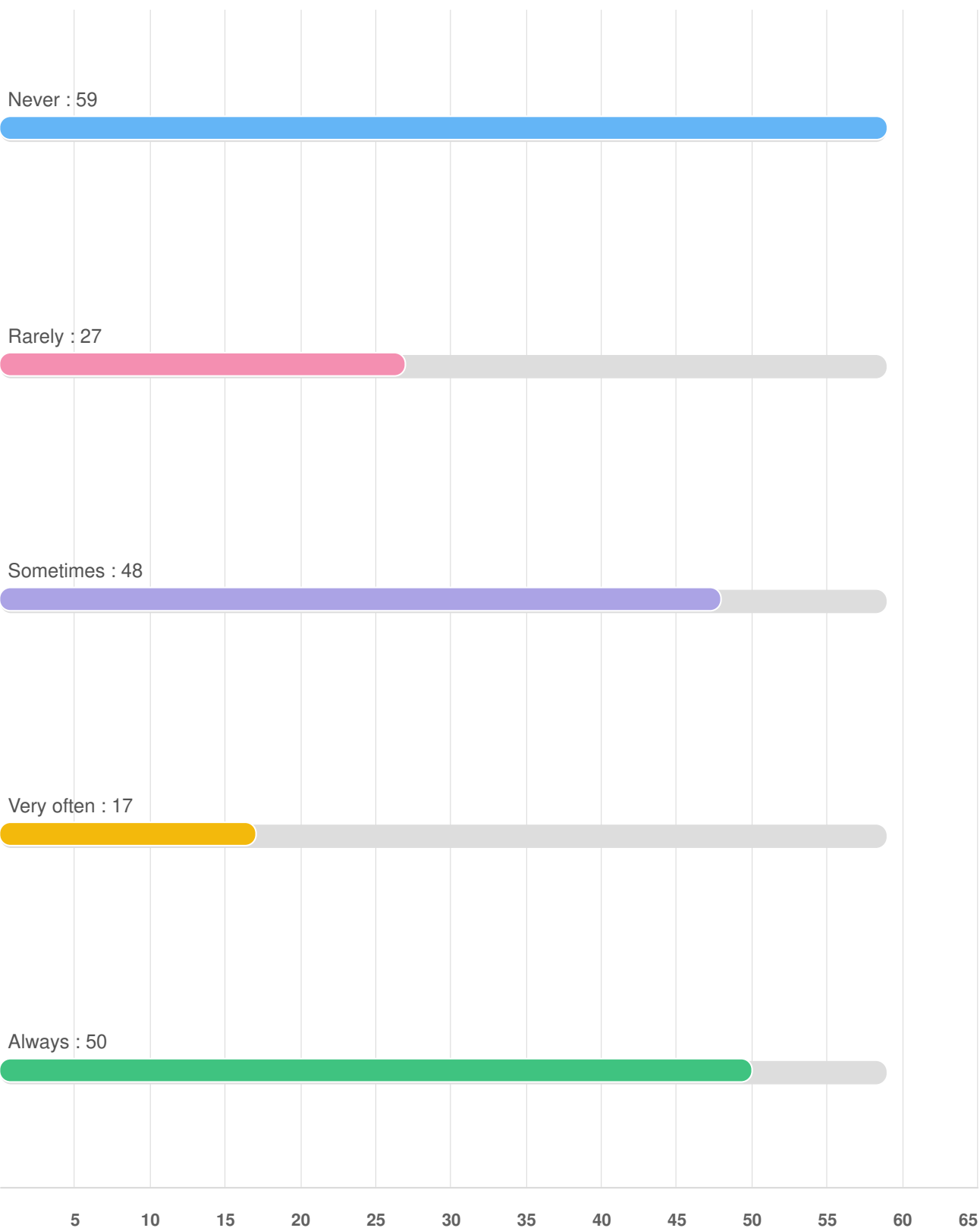
Brown paper bags

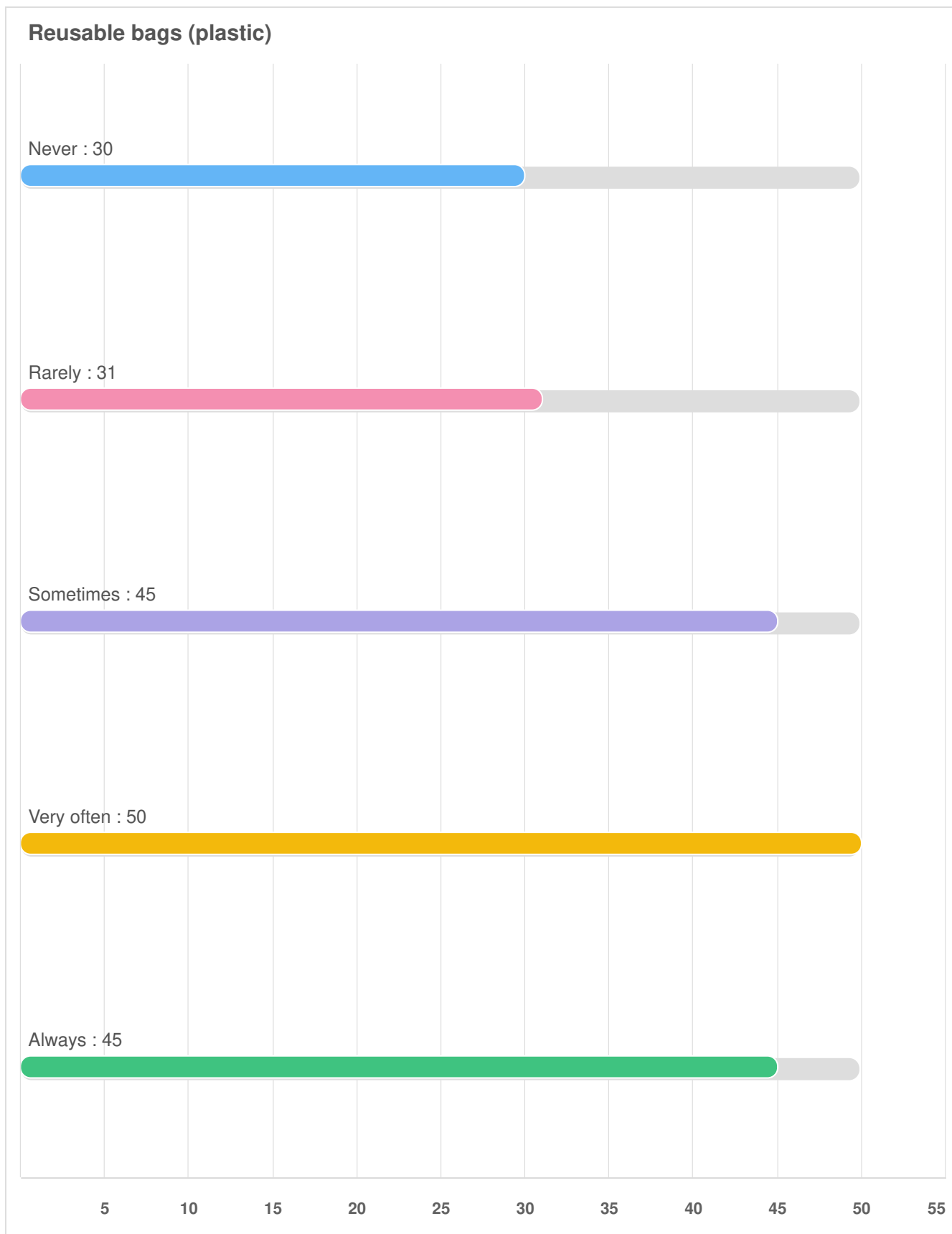


Paper bags (not brown)

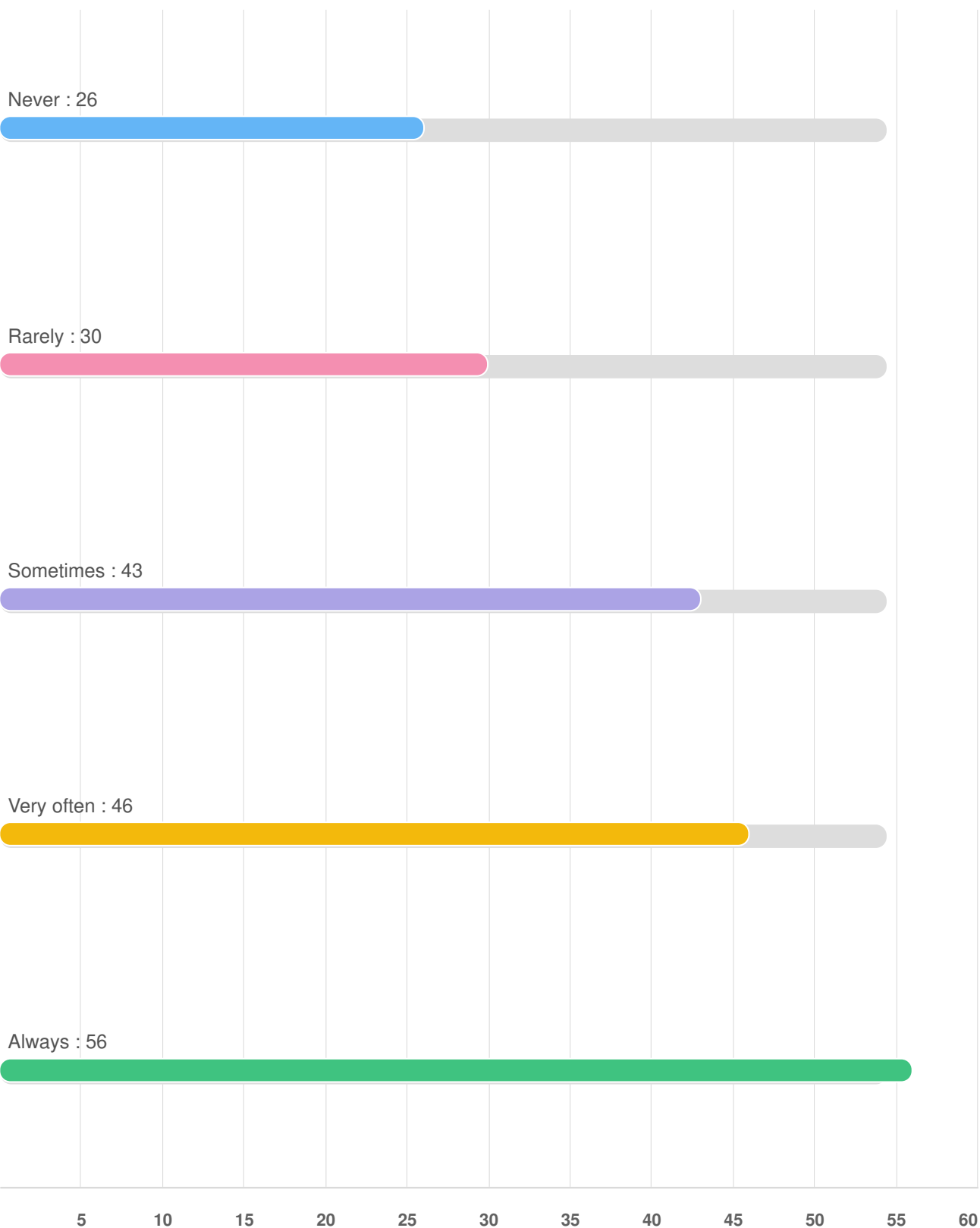


Compostable bags

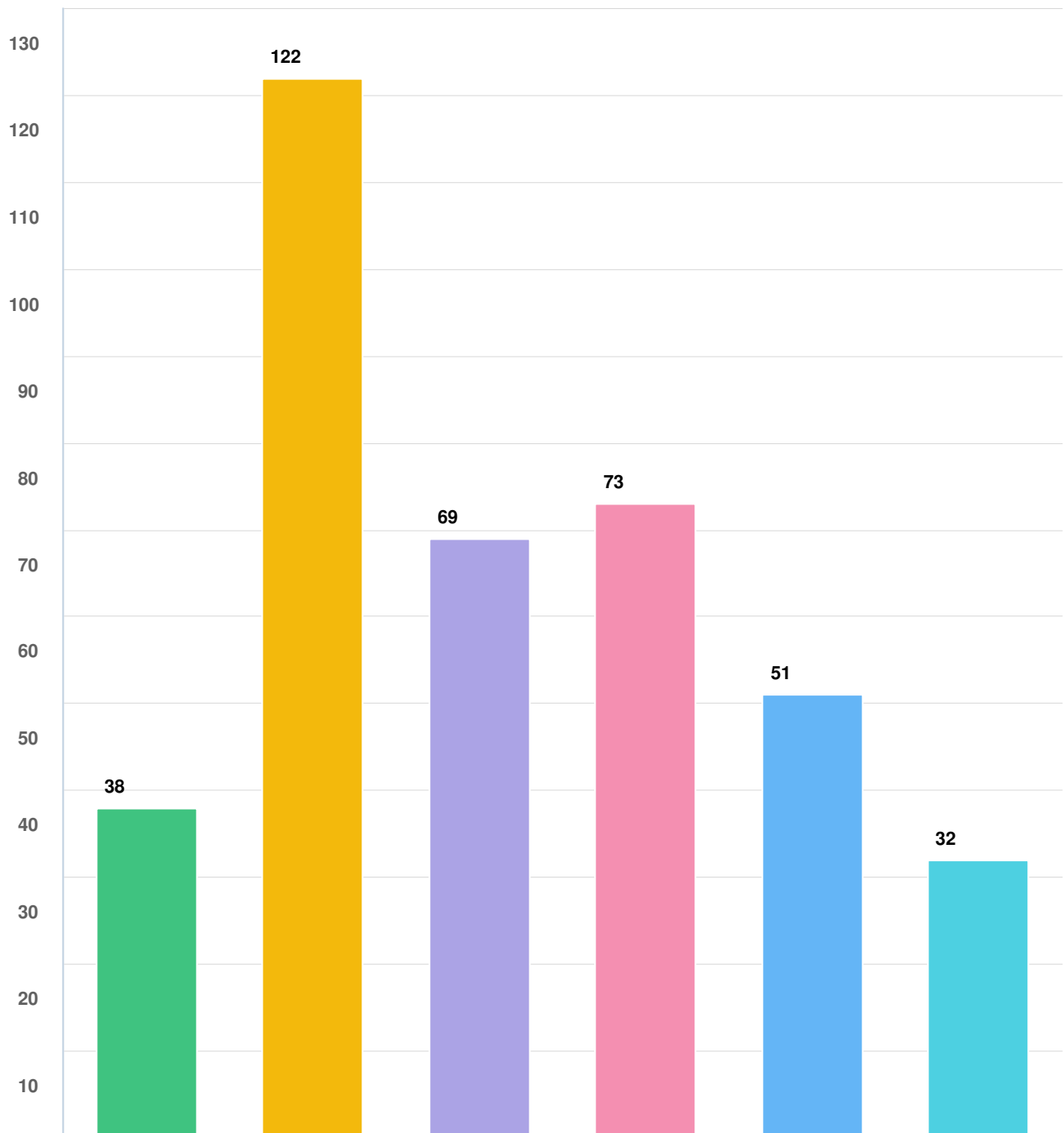




Reusable bags (cotton or other fabric)



Q25 For what kind of trips do you use reusable bags? Check all that apply.



Question options

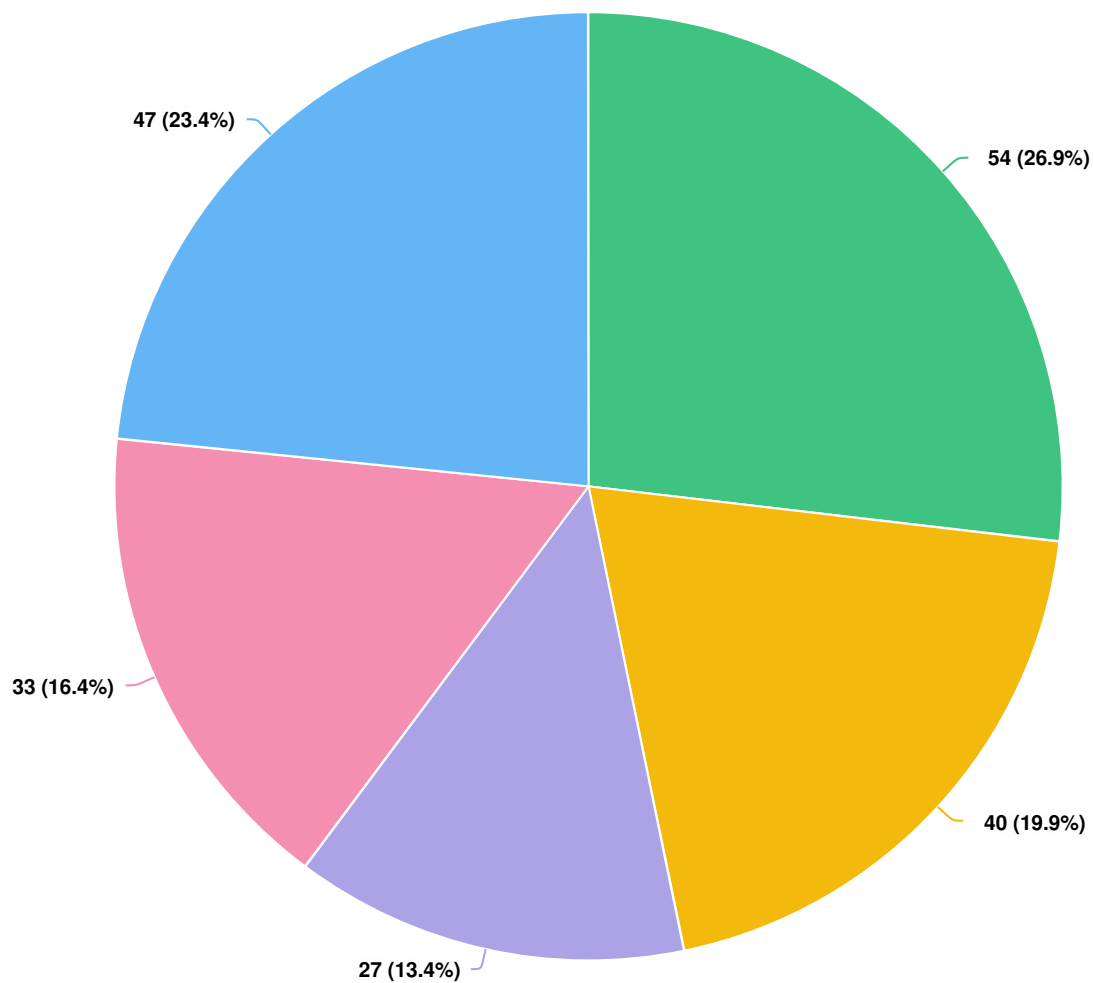
- Other (please specify)
- Shopping at multiple stores like a shopping mall or shopping district (e.g. 50th and France)
- Errands to larger stores like Target
- Errands to smaller stores like pharmacy trips, corner stores, etc.
- Grocery store trips
- I do not use reusable bags.

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q26 What per-bag fee level would stop you from purchasing a carryout bag?



Question options

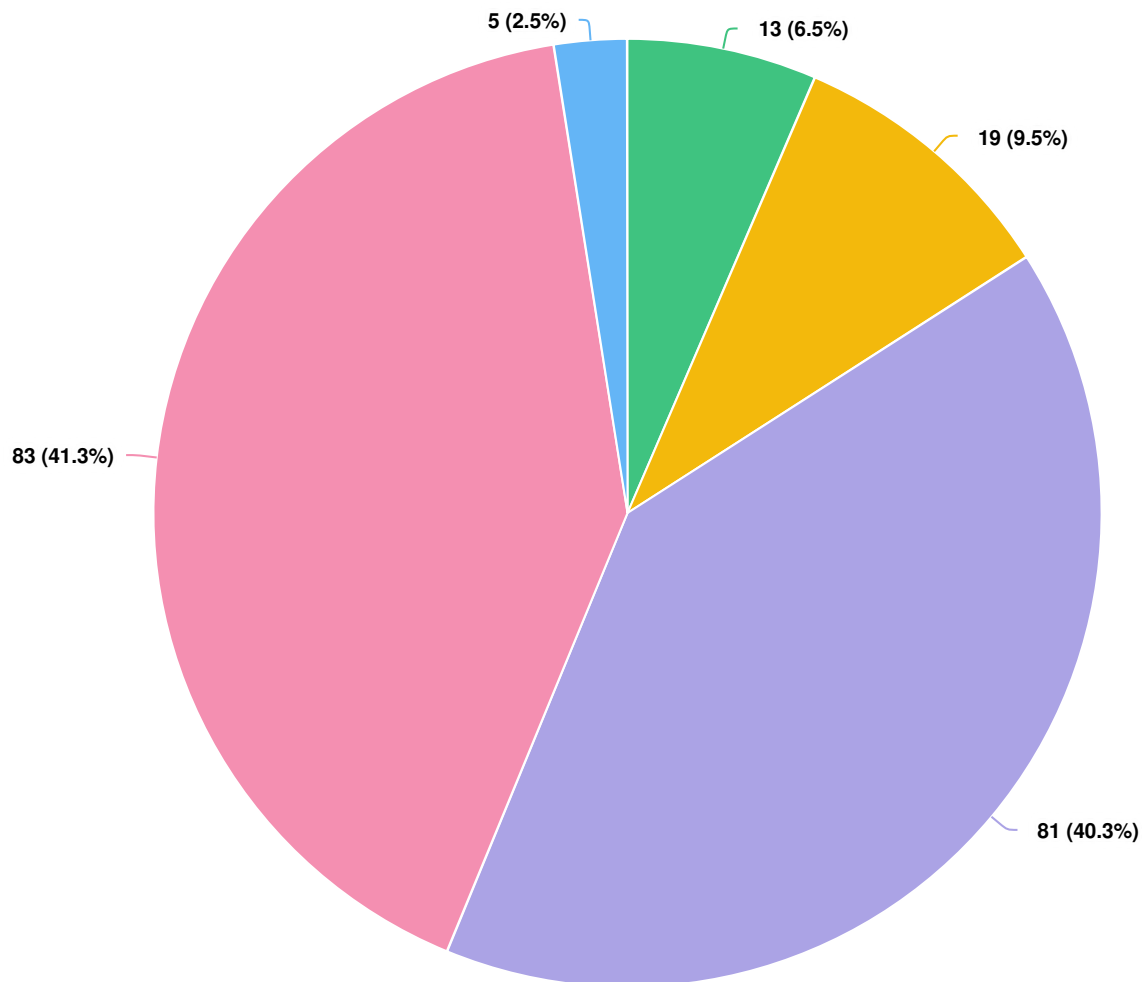
● \$1.00 ● \$0.25 ● \$0.10 ● \$0.05 ● \$0.01

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q27 | Are you in favor of requiring that paper bags be certified as coming from sustainable sources like Forestry Stewardship Council, or from recycled materials?



Question options

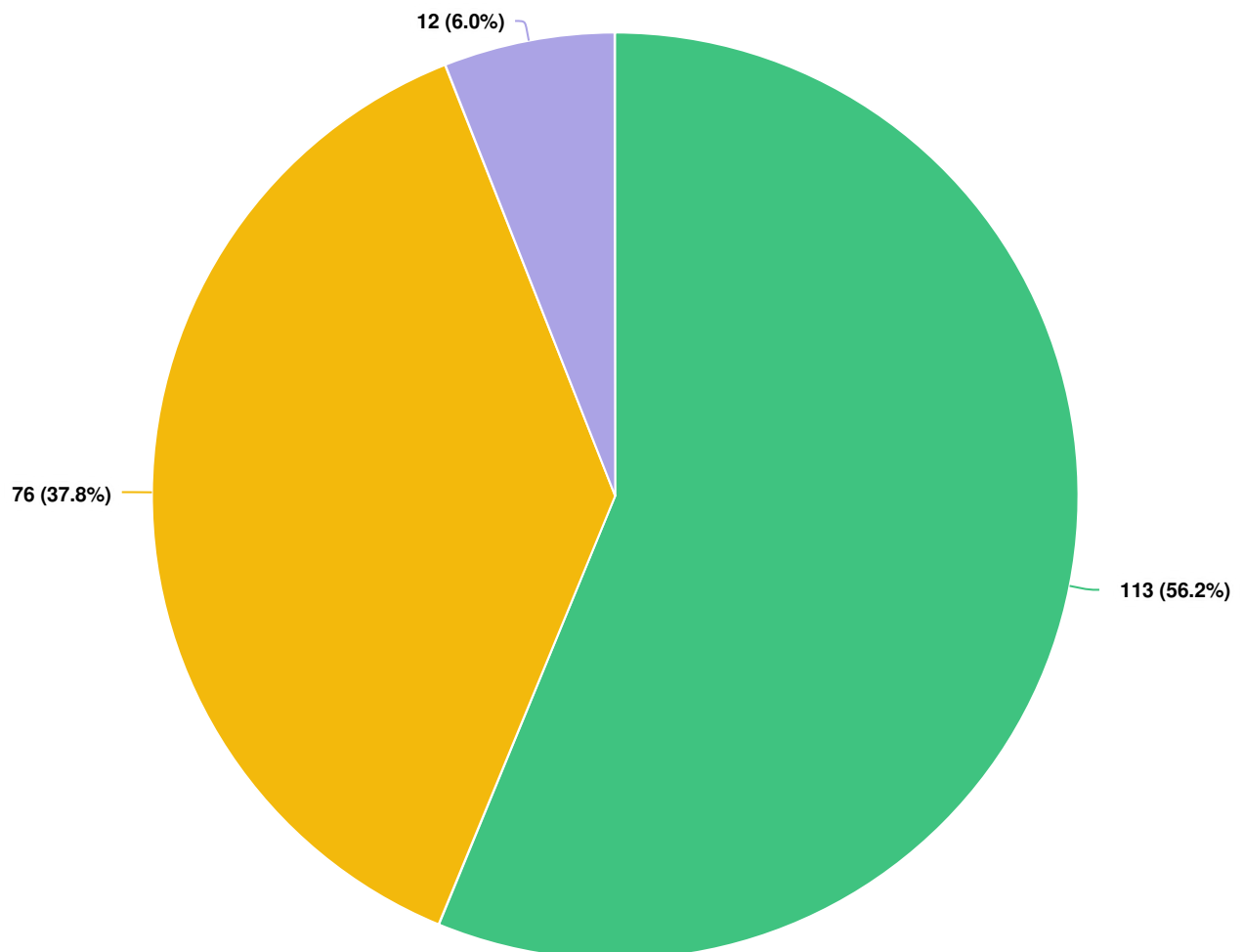
- ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ No ☐ Yes, either one ☐ Yes, from recycled materials
☐ Yes, Forestry Stewardship Council

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q28 | Would you prefer to shop at businesses that provide a credit or rebate for customers bringing their own bag or bags?



Question options

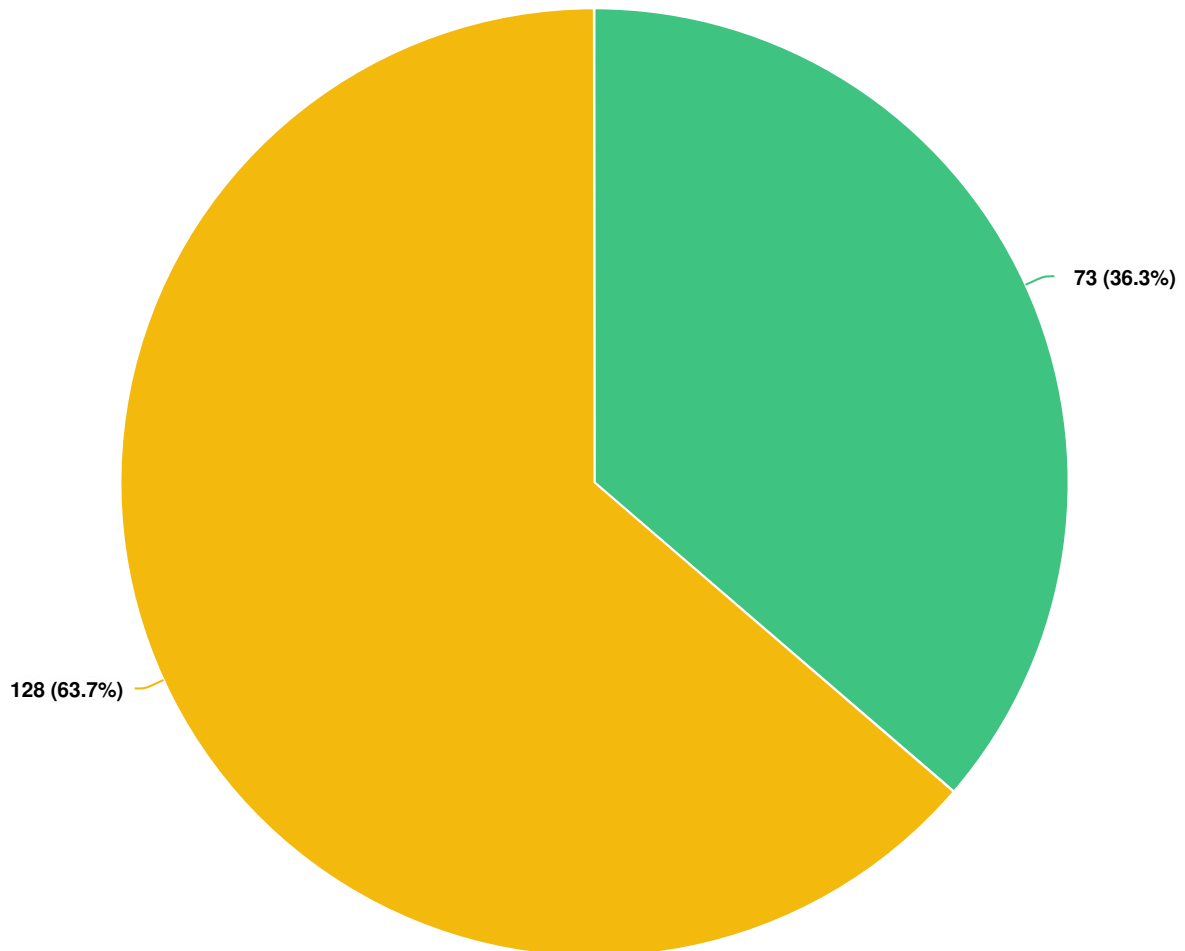
Other (please specify) No Yes

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q29 | Would you be willing to participate in a reusable bag supply or exchange program? See Bull City Boomerang Bag example.



Question options

☐ No ☐ Yes

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q30 Please rank the following options from most to least preferable.

OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
No carryout bag fee is implemented.	1.74
A carryout bag fee is implemented that merchants can participate in voluntarily.	2.04
A carryout bag fee is implemented where all merchants are required to charge customers per carryout bag	2.22

Mandatory Question (196 response(s))

Question type: Ranking Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q31 How can the City help you prepare if an ordinance is passed that requires merchants to charge customers a fee per carryout bag? Please rank these items in order of most to least helpful.

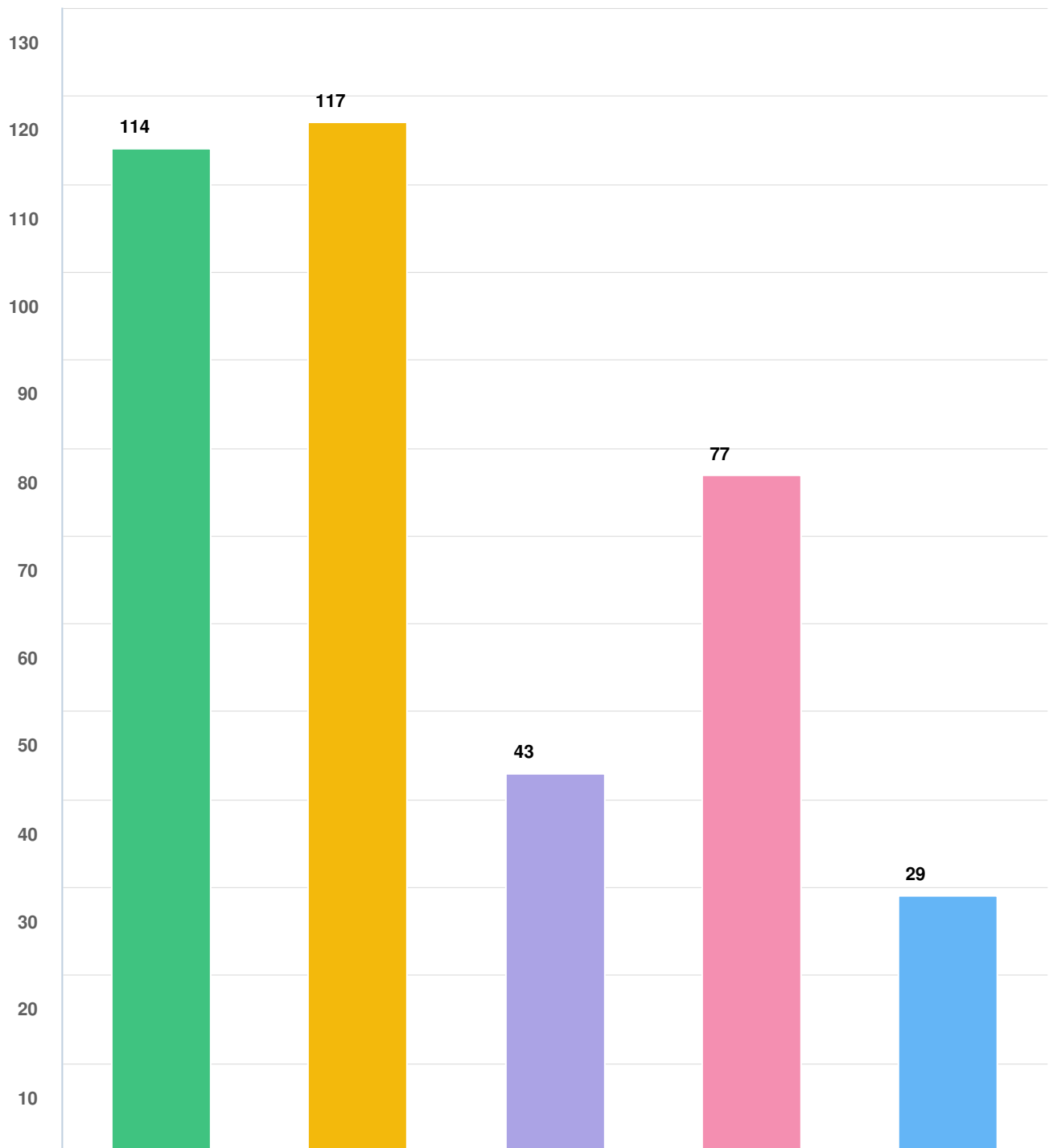
OPTIONS	AVG. RANK
signage at stores I frequent, like grocery stores and malls	1.94
Receive a free reusable bag from the City	2.61
Receive a postcard in the mail notifying me that this change is coming	2.61
City presence at events I'm already attending, to share information on the coming change	3.44
City offer a standalone event to inform residents of the coming change, that I can attend	4.40

Mandatory Question (183 response(s))

Question type: Ranking Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q32 How do you prefer to learn about and stay in-the-know about related City of Edina policies and their associated processes? Please check all that apply



Question options

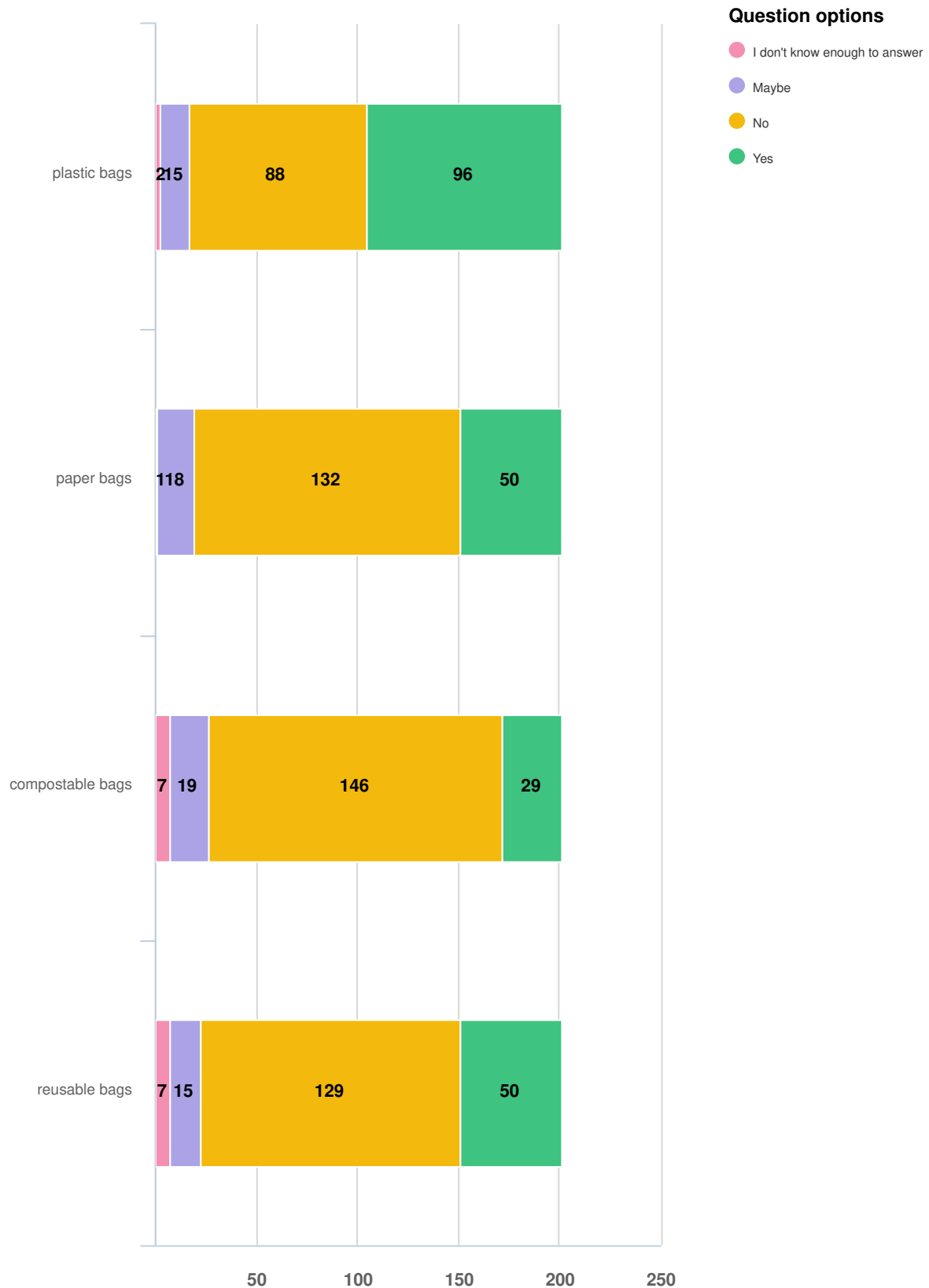
- Other (please specify) Targeted, issue-specific postcard mailings BetterTogetherEdina website
City e-newsletters Monthly City newsletter

Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q34 Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.



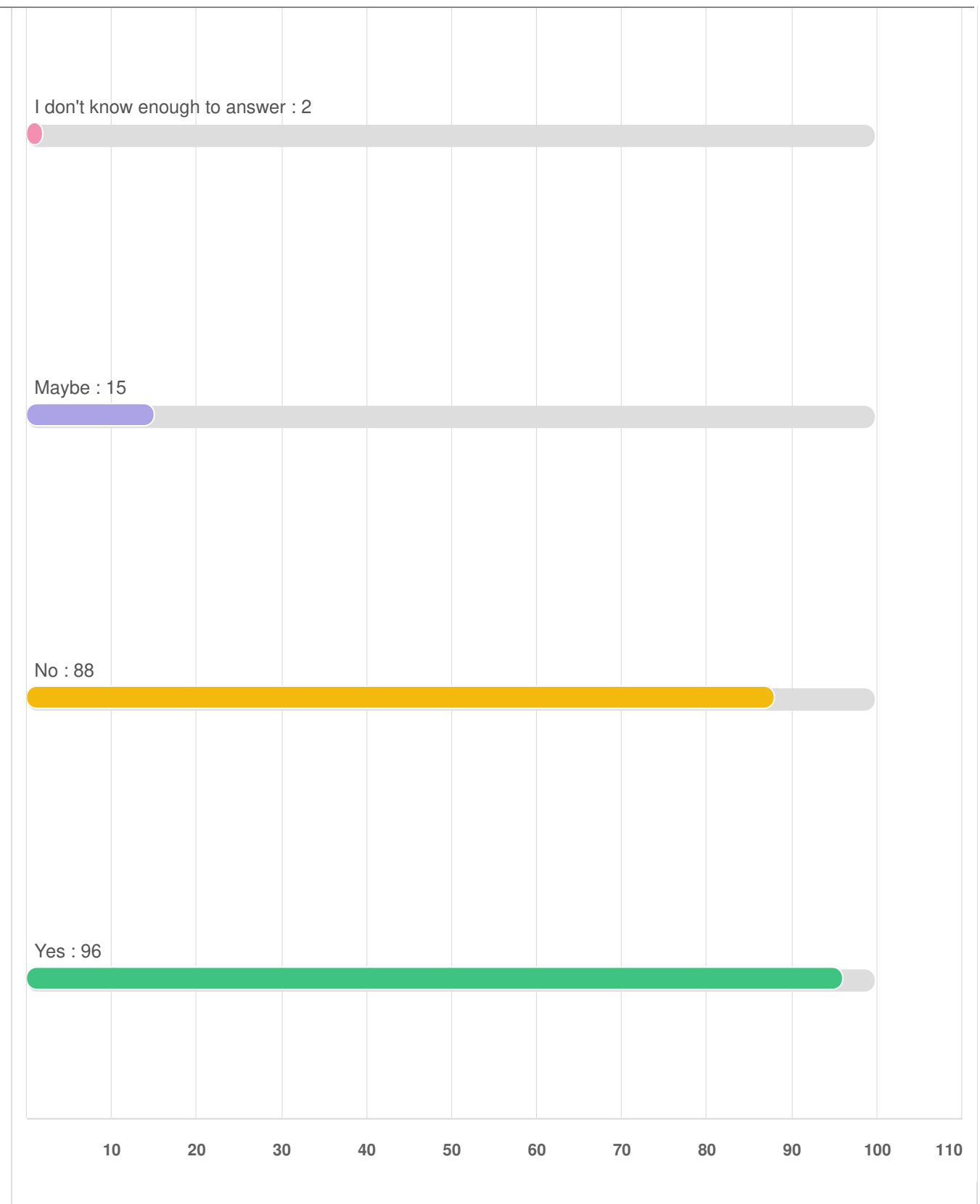
Mandatory Question (201 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q34 | Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.

plastic bags



paper bags

I don't know enough to answer : 1



Maybe : 18



No : 132



Yes : 50



20

40

60

80

100

120

140

compostable bags

I don't know enough to answer : 7



Maybe : 19



No : 146



Yes : 29



20 40 60 80 100 120 140 160

reusable bags

I don't know enough to answer : 7



Maybe : 15



No : 129



Yes : 50



20

40

60

80

100

120

140

Q35 | How else could the City accomplish its goal of reducing waste in Edina?

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 01:55 PM

Encourage/incentivize businesses to adopt Skip the Stuff policies; provide more resources to enforce ordinances, like Green-to-Go packaging; require that existing and new multi-family buildings provide easy, equitable access to organics recycling; promote and educate residents and businesses about second-hand use and gifting groups and habits (ways to think about less consumption); adhere to the goal of set out in the CAP of eliminating single-use plastics by 2025.

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:16 PM

Test comment

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 06:38 PM

Get every single EPS school building to properly recycle and compost. More enforcement of the compostable food carry out container rule. Get businesses (especially the larger businesses, including grocery store chains) to properly recycle and produce less waste.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] AM

No more plastic take out containers. Compostable utensils and straws.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 53 PM

More places/ways to recycle plastic bags - dropoffs or collections. I hear people all the time say they'd love to have weekly recycling. Our bins are always full. Now that I do organics, I could totally have garbage pickup every other week (I know garbage isn't you).

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 12:57 PM

A California relative visiting us was shocked at the waste Edinans have at the curb. What is CA doing? (Simi Valley) How can businesses be a part of this? How can contributing to the better good be a part of this? It's got to be more than fees (external motivation). Please think big picture. I have a light-weight yet strong reusable bag that folds to about 1.5" x 3" and since I easily carry it with me it's solved my problems of forgetting bags when shopping. I always have it, and it has changed my habit (internal motivation). What if Edinan's adopted that practice?

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 02:48 PM

Require multi-unit buildings to do organic recycling.

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 05:58 PM

Require bags and containers to be easily recyclable or compostible, and clearly marked as such

[REDACTED]
4/19/2023 07:56 AM

Continue to allow paper and plastic bags without a fee. We use the paper bags for recycling and the plastic bags for household needs. New law would make us simply buy bags.

[REDACTED]
4/19/2023 08:00 AM

More education about reusable options. Many residents in Edina do not like to be "forced" to do these things, they feel it's government overreach. I do think it's important to have sustainability goals and protect the environment, we just have to think of ways to encourage that behaviors versus mandating the behavior.

[REDACTED]
4/20/2023 09:10 AM

Make composting available to multi-family housing.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] PM

Get rid of the plastic bags, go with paper; recyclable or compostable. Don't charge for bags!

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Encourage businesses to not overpackage goods. Encourage residents to bring their own leftover containers to local restaurants

[REDACTED]
4/21/2023 05:46 PM

nothing - recycle and garbage is adequate

[REDACTED]
4/21/2023 07:26 PM

Is there a way businesses can turn off more lights when staff/customers are not in the buildings?

[REDACTED]
4/22/2023 08:58 AM

Offer plastic/film recycling pickup from residential homes. Similar to Ridwell's program.

[REDACTED]
4/22/2023 01:15 PM

Banning plastic bags

[REDACTED]
4/22/2023 03:56 PM

Government over step on the bag issue. People create waste. Taxing bags is not the answer.

[REDACTED]

1. Move recycling to weekly pickup instead of every other week. 2.

4/23/2023 08:39 AM

Open a drop off site for recycling and organics so that its local vs having to go to a Hennepin county facility, which is an additional burden on a consumer so they may not take the time to do that instead just put it in their trash and not recycle or put in organics....problem is many people have more recycling (largely due to Amazon and other ecom shipping boxes) than they can fit in one container for every two weeks and so end putting the extra in the trash as its too much of a hassle to drive it to Hennepin county facility - see it all over the city. 3. Educate residents about recycling - that its not really all that good - its more of a 'feel good' thing, but reducing and reusing is far more beneficial. Residents have a misperception that recycling is a very positive thing, so they have no problem using more and pushing more in recycling when in reality its not as good as they think. (e.g., someone goes and buys a case of plastic water bottles thinking, oh, this is good because I can just put them in recycling, when in reality the best thing to do would have been to obtain clean water somewhere else or put a water filtration system in at home and use a reusable container vs, getting plastic water bottles. Recycling really doesn't have much benefit in comparison to reducing and reusing. Most people don't understand that. This is a good article to refer to or to publish to educate people in Edina further about reducing and reusing vs. recycling: "Recycling Isn't Virtuous; It's Making Things Worse. On Earth Day and beyond, focus on reducing and reusing, not recycling" <https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/moral-boundaries/202304/recycling-isnt-virtuous-its-making-things-worse>

 4/23/2023 11:59 AM

reward people for using their own bags as well as no longer allowing plastic bags as an option. Since curbside recycling doesn't allow plastic bags to be turned in, a separate trip has to be made to continually drop off the collecting plastic bags. Target uses MANY plastic bags for grocery pick up- one for each different department shopped! If the merchant isn't allowed to have them, people won't use them. Don't always pass the buck to the consumer to cover costs - it's SO tiring when it keeps happening in every area.

 4/23/2023 06:30 PM

Work with retailers on charging THEM fees for not using paper/compostable/reusable bags. This cost should NOT shift to the consumer--that's the last thing consumers and this economy needs and all the inflation that has occurred.

 4/24/2023 06:11 AM

Dedicate time, money, and resources to find innovative ways to reduce waste rather than simply charging residents more money for everyday activities.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 07:35 AM

Focus on business waste, and not passing it on the end-user.

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 07:38 AM

Ask merchants to provide more food in bulk quantities, or packaging that is less wasteful. Instead of a plastic bag for apples, why not a cardboard box? Some of Costco's suppliers do it that way.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] AM

Borrow bag program would be a significant improvement for the movement. Too easy to forget your bag and having an option to borrow something will see a big jump in participation. Plastic bags should have larger fees than paper.

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 08:32 PM

Just tell the people and ask them. Why does government need to be in everything? Why over reach in this area. Of everything presented, the most favorable is the ring your own bag and get an instant store credit option. I would much rather see that then the city's hands in everything.

[REDACTED]
4/25/2023 04:20 PM

Stop managing things. As soon as something is mandated it makes me not want to do it. I'da bath charge is implemented, I' I'll simply shop in other suburbs. That will take taxes away from Edina and increase the number of miles I drive every day.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Partner with Edina Public School - esp lunchroom practices. Recycling and Compost bins next to all public trash cans - with labeling and examples. People are not good at knowing what goes where, which often defeats the purpose.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 31 PM

Moved from CT/NY where all plastic bags were banned and there was a fee for paper ones. Took a couple weeks to get used to, but it worked! Support banning plastic fully 100%.

[REDACTED]
4/26/2023 10:28 AM

Government should stay out of private businesses. All they do is add layers of costly regulation and costly government jobs and government is to big all ready like President Reagan said "Government is the problem"

[REDACTED]
4/26/2023 10:35 AM

Ensure merchants don't require customer to use a bag at all. Use boxes the store is already discarding.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 01 AM

If everyone recycles and composts, they would have little trash each week and it would be dry so the brown paper shopping bags could be used instead of plastic garbage bags.

[REDACTED]
4/26/2023 02:08 PM

allow recycling of plastic bags at the curb

[REDACTED]
4/26/2023 04:29 PM

Offer plastic bag and battery recycling with bi monthly recycling pickup without charging anymore fees.

[REDACTED]
4/26/2023 06:28 PM

Ban single use plastic. Impossible dream, I know....

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 04:56 AM

Encouraging residents to reuse, but not requiring and adding another fee to everything.

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 05:08 AM

Leave residents alone instead of borrowing unhelpful ordinances from our neighbor cities that are so poorly mismanaged.

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 07:48 AM

Require composting and recycling

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 07:53 AM

I'd love to see data about how much waste we are producing with specific and scientific goals of what it means to reduce waste. Are reusable bags always clean and don't contribute to preventable diseases by using a clean bag every time? When it is time to dispose of a reusable bag do they disintegrate or sit in a landfill without breaking down?

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 10:55 AM

Educating the people about the importance of these changes and how they will benefit from them. The ordinance could be promoted by having volunteers in grocery stores around the city, which I believe are the main vendor distributing carryout bags, and talking about the impacts of carryout bags and the benefits of reusable ones. Also a strategy has to be develop together with the different merchants (Target, Cub, Lunds, etc.) that can help in the promotion of the reusable bags.

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 12:28 PM

Multi unit housing and retail recycling/compost programs Discontinue unnecessary mailings ie quarterly newsletter with dated messaging. Continue efforts to reduce food and compost in all schools and

hospitals. Measure/dashboard for goals against actions. Latest clothing swap was a good communication example of telling, executing and reporting results and results against last year. (Go Twila!)



4/27/2023 12:43 PM

To me, it is ridiculous to charge for bags. We recycle all of the above and now are going to be penalized and inconvenienced because some can't/won't. Where's the incentive? People who don't recycle now, will just pay the fee. People who do recycle have to pay the fee as well..



4/27/2023 12:58 PM

weekly recycling option or place to drop off overage. We fill our recycling each week b/c we get the paper and recycle everything we can. When we are out of town on a recycling week, no way can we fit 4 weeks of recycling into one bin



4/27/2023 02:03 PM

Consolidate w/one garbage hauler to minimize truck traffic/damage/noise, and who would make garbage and recycling pick-up consistent throughout the city. Enforce or make stricter the rules for carryout food containers. Provide education at POS about reducing waste (e.g. bananas don't need to go into a plastic bag).



4/27/2023 03:32 PM

Recycling every week versus every other week



4/27/2023 03:33 PM

Stop the baloney this is a waste of time and effort



4/27/2023 04:13 PM

school district wide student focused education/ habit building campaign (habits are built at a young age; kids are better at separating trash) levy greater fees on construction waste



4/27/2023 05:00 PM

Don't send out postcards related to this. Spread word digitally and in normal city correspondence. Encourage composting.



4/27/2023 10:48 PM

Stop wasting money on this for instance. It's not the city's place to tell people what shopping bags to use. It's even worse that the arbitrary fee would be kept by the business, which is just the city implementing corporate welfare.

4/28/2023 06:06 AM

More comprehensive recycling program that includes a broader range of plastics and also fabric/textiles. Or offer quarterly recycling events for items like these.

4/28/2023 08:39 AM

The city of Edina should remove themselves from making decisions for business owners and residents in Edina. Feel free to offer information on reducing waste but stay out of the business and personal choices of others.

4/28/2023 08:43 AM

Let us decide for ourselves what we want to use.

4/28/2023 01:35 PM

I always bring a reusable bag wherever I go and often hear people say, Oh I have one in my car, I forgot it! I think we need to start charging for singly use bags so people get in the habit of bringing their own bags. I have many and don't need anymore. This is a great initiative for the community.

4/28/2023 02:47 PM

Who decided that this was a problem that needed fixing? We have weekly trash and compost waste collection, fortnightly recycling collection. If I look in those three bins, bags make up about 1% of my waste. The majority of my waste is food packaging, including paper containers, cans, glass jars, meat dept trays and wrappers, dairy product containers, etc. Bags make an insignificant amount of waste.

4/28/2023 08:37 PM

support a recycled bag program

4/28/2023 09:10 PM

If you give merchants the option to keep all the money and do what they want, they're going to choose the cheapest option for them. I strongly suggest you look into how Washington State is tackling this issue. We just got back from a trip to Seattle and its suburbs. No single use plastic bags are allowed. Merchants can charge 8 cents for 2 types of bags: large paper bags made with at least 40% recycled content, and/or thick reusable plastic carryout bags made with 40% recycled content and a minimum of 2.2mm thick film. In addition merchants have the OPTION to charge for a compostable plastic green or brown bag. For more information, the website for this policy is here <https://ecology.wa.gov/Waste-Toxics/Reducing-recycling-waste/Waste-reduction-programs/Plastics/Plastic-bag-ban> If you remember the Target plastic grocery bags from before the pandemic, those are the ones being used now in Seattle, Issaquah, Bellevue. They are good quality bags. Similarly, in Calgary, Canada, bags are


15 Canadian cents, which is about 5 American cents. Those bags must be regular plastic that can be used several times. Calgary Co-Op grocery stores did something more brilliant: their grocery bags are also compostable. They're like the green compost bags. For more information about those bags, you can see them and their specifications on Co-Op's website here:
<https://www.calgarycoop.com/community/here-for-our-planet/what-you-can-do/frequently-asked-questions/>


4/29/2023 08:54 AM

The intention behind this program is good, but what the city is proposing will, in effect, be a drop in the bucket for total energy and material waste and the effect on the environment. Bag fees have produced mixed results at other communities around the country (see: <https://www.cnn.com/2023/03/13/world/reusable-grocery-bags-cotton-plastic-scn/index.html>). Also I really don't want to carry a collection of containers or bags when I do bulk shopping. The city should give stores a deposit/return option. Instead of the fee, merchants would charge a refundable deposit for durable, reusable containers that customers can return at their convenience. This would keep the containers out of the environment while being less expensive and easier for customers and residents of Edina.


4/29/2023 08:56 AM

Require or incentivize restaurant carry out to use compostable containers. Coconut Thai is a decent example. I would pay a small fee if it were a choice I could make when placing my order.


4/29/2023 09:14 AM

Don't charge for paper grocery bags. We use them all the time in our kitchen for recycling and compost. Charge for plastic or even better ban plastic


4/29/2023 11:33 AM

More easily accessible places to recycle. If you do plan a bag fee, MOST or ALL of that fee should go towards education about reducing waste, not to businesses.


4/29/2023 11:56 AM

Find other solutions, such as a better recycling program with broader incorporation of products


4/29/2023 01:36 PM

I see no need to have plastic bags in stores! I take any I receive back to the stores for recycling but I feel that a lot of people just toss them since they can't go in the home recycling bin. Only paper bags should be offered at stores as they can be recycled.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 01:56 PM

Cut back in personnel especially in schools, eliminate any and all spending not related to security and roads.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Implement fees on one-time use shipping packages used by online retailers such as Amazon.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 05:33 PM

Give a credit to people who bring their own bags rather than a tax to those who don't?

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 05:26 AM

If you want to reduce the plastic waste, ban the plastic bags and don't put this burden on the businesses to monitor a bag fee.

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 06:39 AM

Please stop trying to micromanage us. We sold our house in linden hills and moved to Edina because we were so tired of all the virtue signaling being crammed down our throats over there and now you are trying to turn Edina into that place. Please stop.

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 08:44 AM

Reward people for bringing their own bags rather than increasing the cost on everyone.

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 01:15 PM

Options to recycle plastic bags.

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 08:29 PM

Let residents and businesses make their own decisions around waste. We are adults who can decide for ourselves.

[REDACTED]
5/01/2023 05:33 AM

Prohibit restaurants from using styrofoam take-out containers

[REDACTED]
5/01/2023 03:15 PM

Based on my street, I'd like to see higher participation in using the biodegradable bins and improved use of recycle bins (most people are putting too much non-recyclable materials in recycling).

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Encourage businesses to use paper rather than plastic bags.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Tell merchants to get rid of all plastic bags

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 05:18 AM

Ban all single use plastic. Add a deposit fee to plastic beverage bottles similar to glass bottles in 70s

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 07:38 AM

Instead of adding a fee, prompt merchants to provide a discount for customers who bring a reusable bag, like Target already does.

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 08:52 AM

Work with Galleria mall in Edina to install recycling bins throughout and outside the mall, that the public can use. Currently there are only trash cans, a very outmoded concept. Another bad location is the row of shops that adjoins the L&B store on W 50th St. An Edina Liquors is in the row. Recycling and trash bins outside the shops would be a great addition (Starbucks, Breadsmith, etc.) since the shops put out tables/chairs in the warm months, yet there's nowhere to put recycling or trash.

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 02:07 PM

You waste a lot of tax revenue with initiatives such as this. Stop half of what you're doing to stop wasting our money.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] :18 PM

make fruits and veggie containers compostable/ ban plastic water bottles/straws, give rewards for sustainable living, ie: coupons at stores

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 02:22 PM

Stop being paternalistic and let people decide for themselves what to do.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] :40 PM

Ban plastic bags or charge a fee for them. They are the most harmful.

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 07:03 PM

Reward innovative storm water absorbing landscaping techniques when installed. Promote these practices. Promote rain barrel usage and alternates to lawn landscaping

[REDACTED]
5/02/2023 08:05 PM

Educate residents how to reuse/repurpose the bags they already receive.

[REDACTED]
5/03/2023 04:26 AM

Make sure the new proposal passes this time.

[REDACTED]

There are much more meaningful ways to reduce waste and fight

5/03/2023 05:05 AM

climate change. This is a feel good measure that doesn't make that much of a difference. I already reuse or bring my own bags whenever I can. The fee just goes to the stores to use however they like. Think about not removing so many trees and finding real solutions.

5/03/2023 06:33 AM

Ban plastic bags and just charge for paper bags, there is no good use of plastic even for a feww

5/03/2023 07:19 AM

The fee collected for the bag fee should be used for further green initiatives. It could be used to continue recycling and composting education and efforts. Grocery stores could use the fee collected to invest in buying compostable produce bags that Edina residents can compost in their compost bins.

5/03/2023 10:06 AM

It seems best that the city encourage businesses to use the best possible recycled or efficient bags. Some incentive for businesses. A continued campaign for residents to use their own bags, but not required.

5/03/2023 08:18 PM

Hard to say. Maybe stop packing so many people into apartment buildings. High density living generates a lot of waste. I'm pretty sure the two or three grocery bags I use each week isn't going to make a difference in the overall waste in the city. So increasing my grocery bill will do nothing to change the waste issue and will only increase my frustration at the grocery store where prices are already outrageous. Seems like there is a lot of construction waste building so many apartment buildings. Maybe cut down on those!

5/03/2023 09:14 PM

Please ban stryrofoam and non-compostable or non-recyclable takeout containers!

5/04/2023 06:48 AM

Re-inform the citizens about the ease and benefits of composting, have inexpensive under the counter containers for sale.

5/05/2023 07:03 PM

Stop building apartment buildings.

5/07/2023 07:35 AM

Fees on paper bags are not a good way to reduce waste. The vast majority of brown paper bags are made from recycled material. A ban on plastic bags is the only effective tool.



5/07/2023 09:34 AM

Ban all single use plastic in Edina.



5/09/2023 07:25 AM

I think instead it pays if merchants give credit for bringing your own bag like Target or Lakewinds coop. I'm sorry I sometimes forget to bring mine but then I always go with paper and never with plastic.



5/09/2023 09:46 AM

Provide reusable bags to lower income residents who may be concerned about having to pay for bags at grocery stores. Create a donation/drop-off/pickup for reusable bags (I know I have plenty I'd be happy to donate).



5/09/2023 09:57 AM

Have fewer employees at the city hall...I understand plastic bags being an issue and if you want to make them have to be recyclable that would be fine. Or make all bags have to be paper. But getting rid of it makes no sense, and have no idea what a nickel or penny or dime a bag does if you are not using it for recycle purposes. What point is it to give that money to the store? I think this should be handled at the state level, why do we need people working for Edina doing involved in this. Why have redundancy of community after community doing this..it makes no fiscal or logical sense.



5/09/2023 10:13 AM

Fix roads that cause auto damage. Soften water at the city level (Richfield does it and reduces salt in water. Stop doing stupid surveys that you likely won't listen to. As it seems you have decided to tax us once again



5/09/2023 10:13 AM

offer a discount if you bring your own bag.



5/09/2023 11:03 AM

We have moved from Hawaii in which all bags except reusable bags were available. You would not have a fee for a bag, but would be required to buy a reusable bag. That seems to make more sense.



5/09/2023 11:14 AM

Stop charging for everything. We pay enough in property taxes here and this really seems like a money grubbing scheme vs a way of reducing waste. You already get like 5 bucks a month from us for the stupid compost bin we don't use. Instead, try educating people on how they can reduce waste and give ideas and resources and stats.

5/09/2023 11:35 AM

Don't allow businesses to use plastic bags! All should be paper or reusable

5/09/2023 12:24 PM

I like this, and is in practice in the state we used to live in. I just worry about the impact on low income customers, especially those who take public transportation. They likely need a bag and the financial impact is greater. If there was a way to exempt those with food stamps or other efforts so our low income residents aren't impacted that would be ideal.

5/09/2023 01:02 PM

This proposal is absurd. I recycle & compost everything I possibly can. Instead of wasting taxpayer dollars debating whether or not you should require shoppers to pay for bags, why don't you use that time to promote recycling & composting by Edina residents. You already have those programs in place, emphasize them instead of coming up with more ridiculous requirements & time-wasting busy work. Only about 30% of Edina residents compost using the Vierkant containers provided, which diverts approximately 70 tons of organics from going into landfills monthly. Every resident is charged for the service, but less than a third are using it. Multiply that by how much more would be diverted if the majority of residents compost. It's foolish for them not to compost, since they're paying for it. Why don't you point out that they're wasting their money & harming the environment? Start a campaign in Edina to recycle & compost. Stop wasting time & money coming up with MORE busy work & new programs! Concentrate & promote the programs you already have in place!

5/09/2023 01:18 PM

Allow recycling pick up every week. With Amazon packages piling up, half our cardboard winds up in the trash because the recycling cans are full.

Change recycling pick up to every week

5/09/2023 02:12 PM

The city could recognize that some goals, even good and admirable goals, are not always the role of a municipality.

5/09/2023 02:55 PM

Outlaw plastic bag use. Reusable only

5/09/2023 03:04 PM

Stop sending staff to out of town events.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 03:43 PM

I find plastic waste especially troublesome. I would like to see packing changes to reduce all plastic - produce boxes, take out food containers including styrofoam, and plastic film/bags.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 04:26 PM

Most of the restaurants around 50th and France are using compostable dishes and utensils but there are no compost bins outside in public places like the Plaza on Nolan Mains. Every time I go to a public even there I want to scream!

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 04:27 PM

I believe carry out bags would be such a small portion of the waste stream. 35% or more is food waste. You are better off making all take out containers compostable like SLP, Minneapolis, and St. Paul. Although some food containers do not hold well up to that. Also, you should provide more information on how to compost at home and avoid pests in the summer.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 05:08 PM

This seems a broad brush and doesn't address the bigger area impacting more of us with drive up. When I shop in a store I bring my own bags. Or no bag like Costco and I just load up my trunk. But a majority of my shopping is drive up which I can't imagine target could do with a different system unless someone partners with them to develop bins they dump in your trunk or something

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PM

no bag solution put on merchants for order pickup and order delivery. secondly, i use the paper bags for trash bags.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 05:40 PM

Discontinue the organics program that adds additional burden to the taxpayers via additional trucks every week and additional fees that are unwanted when not used.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 05:59 PM

These questions seem biased toward adding re-usable bags. Nd question 2 above didn't include "never" as an option which to me invalidates that question! From a larger standpoint, please focus on bigger issues such as energy efficiency in commercial buildings which are responsible for far more GHG emissions than any lack of recycling efforts! People like to pat themselves on the back for reusable bags - let's address real change in buildings.,

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 06:37 PM

If this is passed, I'll shop outside city limits and burn more fossil fuel in the process. Your call.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 08:08 PM

Please do not implement this policy. I completely disagree with it.

[REDACTED]

5/09/2023 08:37 PM

Include apartments in composting

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 05:35 AM

Encourage residents to use reusable bags—do NOT mandate our behaviors.

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 08:00 AM

A fee for bags increases store profits and and consumer expenses. It. does nothing to reduce waste because people will still buy them. This is a very shortsighted proposal that basically does nothing to help reduce waste. Plastic bags should be eliminated completely if you really want to make a difference. Please quit wasting tax dollars on things like this.

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 08:16 AM

Offer a credit for bringing in a reusable bag

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 08:56 AM

Getting rid of plastic altogether.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 09:56 AM

Let people live their lives. Responsible citizens already recycle, etc. and that includes bags.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Encourage better recycling

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 01:32 PM

Charge a fee (with proceeds going to city environmental causes) for single use beverage containers

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 04:14 PM

Stop forcing citizens to participate in programs. The organic s program is a joke

[REDACTED] h

5/10/2023 06:57 PM

Honestly this ordinance is just dumb. It wont reduce waste the way you think it'll reduce waste.

[REDACTED]

Help large apartments with recycling

5/11/2023 11:41 AM

[REDACTED]

5/11/2023 04:44 PM

Reducing waste in Edina could include so many other initiatives that benefit the residents, without harming them financially or otherwise. This is not the time to increase any type of extra taxes on Edina residents, that are already paying high taxes for living here in addition to all of the economic challenges we are also facing. How about focus more on improving the high crime throughout Edina and provide incentives to residents, business owners, and landlords for purchasing security cameras that could catch criminals and prevent more crime. And since Edina is focusing on adding rental properties throughout, the city needs to increase the frequency of inspecting rentals throughout the year to truly see how much waste and inefficiencies are contributing to the environment. You can walk through many neighborhoods and identify glaring issues on properties or buildings that require immediate attention, but instead they just get worse each year due to lack of enforcement. Implementing a carryout bag is low priority and hopefully you will reconsider this initiative and focus on more urgent items that the residents have been pleading for.

[REDACTED]

5/11/2023 06:20 PM

How about you focus on things that really matter to your citizens like Crime and Infrastructure? This is a ridiculous issue on which to be focusing city time and attention. Start enforcing the laws and stop pandering to the criminals. What is your policy on traffic control and paying police officers enough to be an employer of choice for the best recruits?

[REDACTED]

5/11/2023 07:58 PM

Please increase the frequency of recycling pickup! Our recycling is always overflowing and our trash never is. In fact, I'd love to see the city pick up recycling WEEKLY and trash every other week

[REDACTED]

5/11/2023 08:34 PM

See below. Focus on ways to encourage composting and make it easier. Our prior city in CA gave residents a countertop bin so it was easy to transfer to the city bin. Up recycling pick up to weekly. People can't recycle more if their bins are overflowing. Do not try to extract money from residents to line businesses' pockets.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AM

Stay out of peoples business. Let people think and decide for themselves. Make programs voluntary. Unlike your compost program where it i not voluntary, because you charge everyone for it. Voluntary means you only pay if you participate. Perhaps Edina should be focused on bigger issues, like crime uptick , instead of what grocery bags we use.

[REDACTED]
5/12/2023 05:47 AM

I like the idea of making this as easy as possible for residents and non-residents. Send out free bags, offer options for bag rentals (where you get your money back), and make sure those who are most affected financially do not pay (like you've already outlined). It would be great at some point to make businesses carry the load of this instead of residents but I get the issues at hand with doing that currently.

[REDACTED]
5/12/2023 06:34 AM

Recycling.

[REDACTED]
5/12/2023 06:42 AM

Giving a rebate for bringing your own bags city wide is more enticing than charging a fee for bags.

[REDACTED]
5/14/2023 06:47 PM

promote the use of reusable bags and reusing items more overall. For example, the clothing swap was a lot of fun and I was able to receive a reusable bag that I now use frequently. I also think a credit for reusable bags is much better than a cost for other bags. I always bring my own bags to Target to save the 5 cents per bag. Things are becoming much more expensive and budgets a lot tighter, we should reward people for making sustainable swaps rather than penalize those who don't or cannot afford to. In my opinion, the city hosting more events about reusing things and helping to educate the community is the way forward.

Optional question (138 response(s), 63 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Q36 What other questions do you have about this proposal?

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 01:55 PM

In conjunction with the ordinance, I would like to know how the City can work with big box stores, like Target, to get them to adopt different practices to their curbside pickup practices. Target currently offers NO option for me to opt out of bags, and the way that they pull their stock means I end up with many more bags than I would if I shopped in store. Target does have curbside pilot programs in other places with both reusable bags (like a boomerang bag program) and totes. This ordinance seems like an opportunity to explore a conversation with them, and perhaps other big box stores in our City, about changing the way they provide bags for curbside pickup. My efforts as an individual on this matter in working with Target have been unsuccessful to date. It's not really a question, but a concern to

consider... I can see how people who utilize grocery delivery programs might have objections to being charged a bag fee, especially in light of the proposed legislation at the state level that would mandate a 75 cent fee for delivery of taxable merchandise to homes and businesses.



4/14/2023 02:16 PM

Test comment



4/14/2023 06:38 PM

Quite frankly, I'm wondering why it's taking so long (and facing such push-back) for such a tiny step toward lessening our environmental impact



4/15/2023 06:40 AM

Thank you for your work on this critical effort!



4/17/2023 01:25 PM

Plastic only for bag fees.



4/19/2023 07:56 AM

Not necessary to charge for bags. Just one more layer of tax and bureaucracy for citizens. We should be doing the opposite of whatever Minneapolis does.



4/19/2023 08:00 AM

Please consider the impact to businesses with this proposal



4/21/2023 03:44 PM

Charging the same amount for all bags is not going to get rid of the plastic bags. Ban the plastic bags. Help the environment! Ban the plastic bags. Kerp It Simple. Got It? Thank You



4/21/2023 03:45 PM

The city should provide two cloth bags per household on request. Those with low income and no bags could be subject to income shaming, which Edina needs to try very hard to avoid.



4/21/2023 05:46 PM

Do you not think that people will shop outside Edina if this goes into effect? I t will hour the grocery stores in Edina.



4/22/2023 08:58 AM

I do not feel the merchant should keep the bag fee, but that it should be donated to a local environmental resource. Put that money back into the city.

[REDACTED]
4/22/2023 01:15 PM

Na

[REDACTED]
4/23/2023 08:39 AM

I nearly always use my own reusable bags when I am physically the person doing the shopping, but the problem is when the consumer uses a shopping service (Shipt, etc) or order pickup orders from Target, Cub, Lunds, Jerrys, or any retailers that offer order pickup or shopping services on behalf of the consumer. In that situation, the retailer will fulfill the order with plastic or paper bags or whatever bags the retailer wants and the consumer has no choice, so if you implement this new ordinance, for any order pickup order, you are just introducing an additional tax and burden on the consumer as they have no way to ask the retailer to use a reusable bag. If you move forward with this ordinance you should have an exclusion for order pickup orders where the consumer can't take action / has no choice on what bag is used to fulfill the order pickup, otherwise the ordinance should charge the retailer per bag, not the consumer, as an incentive for the retailer to change their bags to reusable for order pickup. I've written previously to Target and other retailers about various ways they could implement consumer choice on reusable bags or boxes for order pickup, but have received no response.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 11:59 AM

Look at Aldi and Trader Joe's as examples of reducing waste through it's programs. They seem balanced and doable and don't cost extra unless the customer chooses to purchase a bag. I like that at least Trader Joe's provides paper at no additional cost if I forget my reusable bag or have a different vehicle with me

[REDACTED]
4/23/2023 06:30 PM

Companies SHOULD be paying and changing their ways--incentified, taxed, credited for their actions. Target is a MN company--work with them. Consumers should NOT be charged for pull-up/carry-out services. The customer cannot control what bags are used when they do drive/up services and this is essential in a post-COVID world.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

I would like to see that the merchants that charge the .05 or whatever fee is, donate the funds back to a green initiative in the city or within Minneapolis / Twin Cities area. I do not like the lack of transparency the merchant has with the fee that is charged. If I was charged that fee, I would want to know where its going, how its being used, etc. This should have been a question on the survey.

[REDACTED]

If this per bag fee passes, it will only push me further to continue to

4/24/2023 08:32 PM

shop in EP. Being western Edina it is cheaper for us to shop there (tax levies, bag fees...)

4/25/2023 04:20 PM

I used 1 as most favorable. It was not specified which way you wanted it to go.

4/25/2023 04:28 PM

There are so many elderly people in edina who this would be an huge adjustment for. They are living on fixed incomes or do not read websites to get info.

4/26/2023 10:28 AM

Businesses will figure it out. Government is to costly all ready and all you do is add more cost to it. Stay out of trying to run the private sector

4/26/2023 11:01 AM

Comment, not a question. I think the plastic bags need to be discouraged. However, the brown ones can be very useful in reducing the use of plastic garbage bags and they can also be filled with compostables that are too big for the smaller compostable bags. I would not want to see a charge for the brown paper bags. We compost and recycle and it takes us 2 weeks or more to fill a paper bag with trash. We have no wet garbage.

4/26/2023 01:42 PM

Many's stores won't allow you to bring your own bags and will refuse to bag them in your bags. Most recently Target on York turned a resident away for bringing her own bags. Have you engaged any of the business community in this crazy decision!?! Charging people MORE money to do their basic daily "chores" is absolutely unacceptable.

4/26/2023 04:29 PM

I'll likely grocery shop more in Eden Prairie. I can't imagine Jerry's is happy about this. People will buy less if they forget to bring their own bags. This is a horrible idea. I never shop in Minneapolis because of this. Shame on you for punishing local businesses and the voters/taxpayers who live here.

4/27/2023 05:08 AM

None, don't do this.

4/27/2023 07:53 AM

I have always assumed that when you shop at a store, you are already paying for overhead items like the kind of bags a store uses. Why add a fee on top of the costs that are already a part of the fees?

Costs have been going up anyway, why burden the consumer more and reward the seller more (they won't lower their costs but will add another fee onto your total). This is pushing an agenda that rewards those that can afford reusable bags and punishes those that can't, don't you think?

██████████
██████████ AM

This idea creates separation of rich and poor. While the wealthy can afford an additional "tax" on goods on top of the already insanely high taxes that have come from the federal and state governments, there are many families in Edina who cannot afford additional costs, even minor costs like the cost of a bag for their groceries. If this proposed idea is put into place, my family and I will no longer be shopping in Edina. While supporting local businesses is very important to me, creating a wider chasm between rich and poor is where I draw the line. And also, don't we already pay for those bags in the cost of goods when we shop at grocery stores and other shopping places? I have a hard time believing companies haven't already adjusted prices to cover the cost of bags.

██████████
4/27/2023 12:28 PM

Request each merchant communicate at point of sale what they are doing with \$\$\$. Hint: community focus would be wise What problem are you trying to solve? Without knowing the starting point how will you know if you are changing behaviors or just monetizing and covering merchant costs. Start with plastic and then move beyond after measuring success/fail using benchmarks and feedback. Make sure .05 bag is not taxable item. Signage at point of sale mandatory. Nobody likes surprises...even 5 cents. What issues do merchants have in point of sale and accounting? Be nice if carrot (by bringing your own bag every week you...) could be tried before the stick (\$). Action has to be seen as a visible, measurable community benefit. Tell the story. So what? What's in it for me? Reinforce message and repeat, repeat, repeat.

██████████
4/27/2023 12:43 PM

Where is your data to show how this helps? My guess is that people's habits will not change. Paying a fee is not going to change habits. If there is good data to show what impact this will ultimately have (not guessing or saying "common sense says" (which I've heard expressed by staff). If you can't define a measurable outcome, this is just virtue signaling. BTW...question 9 I would answer none of the above. I'm not a fan of this survey. For example, a "free bag..." Someone is paying for it. If you go to the State Fair and many other events, you can get a free usable bag. I'm disappointed that we need a recycling/environment staff member. We were talking about eliminating plastic bags, 20+ years ago. If going electric is such a grand plan, again, where is the data? If going electric works,

consumers will elect to do it because of cost, well defined outcomes, etc. Mandates are government overreach. We've been recycling all of our lives as well as caring for the environment. What happened to turn down the heat, turn off lights, conserve water, collect rain water, organic fertilizer, etc.

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 03:33 PM

Total waste of time energy and effort

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 04:13 PM

comment: give people warnings at the point of sale at the beginning of the campaign (for the first 6 months or so) that they should be charged a fee but if they are surprised or forgetful, have the sales person make it a big deal that they are getting an "exception today". If they shop in Minneapolis, they should already be familiar with the bag fee. Also, tell stories of other cities and how they have learned/adjusted

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 08:59 PM

Since we are a first ring suburb, I suggest we adopt a bag ordinance that is the same as the one that Minneapolis has.

[REDACTED]
4/27/2023 10:48 PM

Don't approve this nonsense. It's stupid. And global warming is a hoax.

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 08:43 AM

If there are not plastic grocery bags at store, then I will have to PURCHASE GARBAGE BAGS. So what does this accomplish?

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 02:47 PM

Seems like Edina is trying to out-do Minneapolis in the silly ideas department. This is nothing more than a "feel good" proposal to make our "leaders" at City Hall think they have done something positive for the environment, when in reality it does nothing. I personally will shop at stores outside of Edina if this idea passes. There are grocery stores, liquor stores, clothing stores, Target stores, etc. that are minutes away from Edina. EP, SLP, Richfield, Bloomington, etc. You're going to end up hurting Edina businesses. Bags are not a big problem. Why don't you work on something more important, like making Edina more affordable for older residents on fixed incomes, or reducing the escalating crime and gunfire in Edina, or reducing the amount of money wasted by Edina government? Bags are NOT a problem!

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 09:10 PM

Since the merchant is able to keep the money from this initiative, I strongly suggest you have clear guidelines on what merchants should

provide to customers. It's frustrating for customers to have to pay for bags that can tear. Either the compostable ones like the ones from Co-Op that I mentioned above, or the plastic and paper options like I mentioned Washington State uses.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 08:54 AM

None

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 08:56 AM

This is great. Thank you for pursuing it.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 11:33 AM

Why are you so intent on a regressive tax that will only benefit merchants, most of whom are already doing fine? The money from such a tax should go towards a better Edina environment and educating the public on how they can reduce waste. I oppose this proposed ordinance as it now stands.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 11:56 AM

This is a terrible idea as consumers are already fighting high inflation. Adding to their expense and reducing their demand is a disadvantage for Edina residents and businesses.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 01:56 PM

Instead of automatically giving customers a bag for a single or a few items merchants could ask if a bag is wanted.

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 04:55 PM

Why would anyone in the City of Edina want to implement a flat tax that would have a disproportionately negative financial impact on people of lesser means?

[REDACTED]
4/29/2023 05:33 PM

When I have faced bag fees in other cities, I have found it to be a large inconvenience. I would ask that you're reconsider this proposal

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 05:26 AM

Why do you have people register to complete the survey. It should be an anonymous survey.

[REDACTED]
4/30/2023 06:39 AM

We also rely on the paper bags we get from the grocery stores to use for our recycling. Please stop this initiative and focus your attention on other things that matter like improving the schools.

[REDACTED]

No question but a comment. My real concern with this proposal is that

4/30/2023 08:44 AM

the merchant can use the money as they please. Why not put that money back into environmental efforts or the city's general fund.

2023 09:13 AM

I am opposed to this proposal.

4/30/2023 01:15 PM

None

4/30/2023 08:29 PM

Why does Edina insist on anti-consumer legislation such as this and the recent sales tax increase? Living in Edina is expensive enough as it is, if money is tight we should look to cut costs rather than raise more money. I work in Richfield and often drive to other cities like Eden Prairie and St. Louis Park, if a plastic bag tax passes I will move most of my grocery shopping to other cities without that tax. I have more than enough reusable bags but it is about the principal.

4/30/2023 09:07 PM

There are people like us who bring reusable bags for shopping or for going to the farmer's market but also like to occasionally get paper bags or plastic bags at the grocery store (more often paper) because we reuse them. For example, we use brown grocery bags to collect our recycling in and then put the recyclables in the recycle bag inside the brown bag so it is also recycled. There are no paper or plastic bags that we don't reuse in some way. I would prefer not to have to pay for these, but would pay rather than stop occasionally getting them.

:48 AM

This needs to be on a ballot

5/01/2023 03:45 PM

I want to be sure you have clearly stated goals and are prepared to evaluate the effectiveness of the policy. Need clear metrics - # of bags used before/after the policy, # of recyclable bags used before/after, amount of money generated, change in practice as a result of the money (using more recycled or recyclable products? What is done with the money generated by the merchant? Please don't do this unless you are going to evaluate whether you got the desired response.

5/01/2023 04:51 PM

Why push the cost of implementation on to the residents? Plastic bags are the problem. Have the merchants deal with it. I love using brown paper (recyclable) for merchandise and then reuse them for cans, bottles, newspapers.

[REDACTED]

5/02/2023 02:22 PM

Have you considered the studies that show people don't wash reusable bags and, as a result, increase the amount of bacteria and viruses that get passed along to the rest of the community? What about the fact that there are studies that show the total cost of energy to produce a reusable bag and its effective lifetime is less superior to that of a reusable plastic bag? It's mind-blowing we're even considering this -- I expected better of Edina leadership. This is an exceptionally bad idea. Perhaps you can tell us what percentage of Edina homes are actively utilizing the composting program that we're being charged for? Before engaging in another foray into 'feel-good' efforts that do little for their intended benefit, I'd like to see the economic justification of that program I also didn't want to be a part of.

[REDACTED]

5/02/2023 07:03 PM

The fee will raise consciousness of the issue of waste. Outlaw plastic bags in Edina. Mandate compostible carry out food containers in Edina.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] PM

Implement reusable bag requirement ASAP - several other cities/companies have already done this, no need to study it further. It's so easy to implement.

[REDACTED]

5/03/2023 07:19 AM

Why is the merchant retaining the fee money and able to use it at their discretion? It would be more effective if the city collected it and used it for other green initiatives such as solar panels, electric vehicle charging station, etc. If the merchant is keeping the money from the fee, it should be earmarked for sustainability initiatives not added to their profit.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Many stores are going the brown bag route with handles, discouraging plastics. Brown bags take energy to make, more than plastic? Cost and efficiency? Aren't some plastic resins now biodegradable? More research and data?

[REDACTED]

5/03/2023 08:18 PM

Why are we trying to be like California? We just passed a marijuana bill, people breaking into cars every night and we have homeless living on the streets while we build multi million dollar apartment buildings on every corner under the heading of "affordable housing". However, I don't know who thinks that \$2500/month for an apartment is affordable. We are paying outlandish prices at the grocery store and now we are going to force people to reuse bags or pay a fee for

paper bags. Seems like there are much bigger fish to fry in this city than dealing with a few grocery bags (ie, crime and homelessness). By the way...how is that forced composting plan working out? I don't see any of my neighbors using their food waste bins on trash day...yet we are all still paying a fee for that too. You see, the government cannot legislate the citizens to do what you think is the right thing to do. You charge us all for the green waste/composting disposal bins...yet we don't use them. So, it's a waste. You can charge us for paper bags at the grocery store...and people will pay for them rather than remember to bring in reusable bags. Still there will be waste. It won't solve the waste problem.

[REDACTED]
5/05/2023 07:03 PM

Why...why? Spend more time on solving crime

[REDACTED]
5/07/2023 07:35 AM

The opinion of Edina businesses, large and small, should be the key driver in on whether or not to implement this change. The businesses I have talked to at the 50th and France retail area think this is a ridiculous proposal.

[REDACTED]
5/08/2023 08:36 AM

My issue with charging of bags is not actually charging, it is who gets the money and how it is used. The cost of bags are just part of doing business. Having the business get the money from the bag sales doesn't seem like the best option, since their cost isn't going down. How about take the money from the bag sales and use it toward green/climate change programs.

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 07:25 AM

If we ever go back to a covid type problem, personal reusable bags weren't allowed for a while and then you could bring them but had to bag groceries yourself. What happens if this type of situation arises again? Also, I think this would be harder on our older citizens.

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 09:46 AM

No questions, but thank you for bringing this new ordinance forward, it feels overdue. Much appreciated.


[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 09:57 AM

I do not understand why our city is even involved at this level. We use our paper bags for recycling purposes. What would we put the cans bottles for recycling as well as newspapers and regular paper in etc etc in. We use all paper bags now, at they not compostable??

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 11:03 AM

We have moved from Hawaii in which all bags except reusable bags were available. You would not have a fee for a bag, but would be

required to buy a reusable bag. That seems to make more sense. That would eliminate the issue more quickly. It does not take long to start remembering. After a few visits, you do.


5/09/2023 11:14 AM

What are the stats on this policy showing that it actually works? How much money does the city anticipate making off of this and where will that money be going?


5/09/2023 11:35 AM

Why not just eliminate plastic bags? Why charge for them and put that onto consumers? The stores should be responsible for the waste they create by offering poor choices


5/09/2023 11:57 AM

This is a terrible idea. As a mom of young children, getting a stroller, diaper bag, kid, purse, kids toy, and everything else you need to go to a store in the dead of winter is enough to remember, now u want me to carry around reusable bags...


5/09/2023 01:02 PM

Already asked, but I'll ask again - Why are you trying to create more busy work, wasting time & taxpayer money by coming up with more programs, when you already have very good ones in place that you need to encourage more residents to participate in???


 PM

Is this an optics play? It seems like there are other ways, like a public recycling bin, so we don't need to drive to Bloomington to drop off recyclables like cardboard.


5/09/2023 01:24 PM

I dislike the idea of paper bags having an associated fee, as they are recyclable/compostable. It should be clarified where the funds from such a fee would actually go.


5/09/2023 01:31 PM

How will this impact instacart/grocery delivery?


5/09/2023 02:12 PM

Why include paper bags?


5/09/2023 03:04 PM

Stop forcing us to pay for initiatives that fit some council members political agenda. You are already forcing composting which is a waste of money.

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 04:26 PM

I would like to see plastic bags banned!

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 04:27 PM

What environmental impact does the city think this new bag proposal would have? Also, it wasn't an option but I think everyone will just pay for the bag.

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 05:08 PM

See above re what do stores think? I reuse all paper bags multiple times, plastic gets recycled each week. Perhaps adding plastic bag pick up as an option would help, we rarely have organic waste i would prefer for a plastic option Or please move to one trash hauler or one per neighborhood. That is far more impactful on our streets (especially if you paid for them!) and carbon emissions. That feels like the more impactful win and less daily nuisance environmental change than forgetting bags and being charged

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 05:40 PM

If this proposal is passed we will buy our groceries only at Costco and Trader Joe's. Jerry's and the other Edina grocery stores will lose our business. Like the organics program that was forced down our throats, we will boycott the bag ordinance, too.

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 06:37 PM

Why you think this will accomplish anything other than to make yourselves feel like you're doing something?

[REDACTED]
5/09/2023 08:08 PM

I do not agree with this proposal. I do not feel the city has any business regulating carryout bags.

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 05:35 AM

Please do not start down this road. The residents already feel that the staff has too much power; and that the council neither listens nor cares what the tax-paying residents think or want. Stop. Just stop. Please.

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 08:16 AM

This is not a question. It is a comment but your survey doesn't have a space for comments which is frustrating! My comment is that most, if not all of my neighbors use the brown grocery bags for their recycling. Second comment: I know several Edina residents who donate their brown grocery bags to VEAP. VEAP food-shelf is always asking for donations of grocery bags so they can fill them up with food donations for people in need of groceries. Last comment: Why can't Edina reward people for bringing in their own bags by offering 10 cents off? Or a similar amount? I think Whole Foods does this.

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 08:56 AM

I wish target pick up allowed for a bag exchange program or used another bag option to plastic. For me personally that would be huge. I think another area to focus on would be take out containers and use compostable ones. I think having the fee going to sustainable practices would be preferable over company discretion. Maybe it goes to a consult that can help move the company to being more sustainable.

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 09:56 AM

Why? You are already controlling our lives far too much. A car can barely idle at 25 mph. Just stop

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 12:53 PM

Not a fan of this. The resources it takes to have reusable bags for outweigh the resources for paper or plastic.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] PM

This is a horrible proposal

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] 2023 07:52 PM

I like the idea of a fee on bags, but my answers don't reflect that because: 1) What happens when people pay for grocery delivery or curbside pickup? Lots of these services pack very little in bags... which would make the person's bill higher. If it were me, I might think the store was trying to get extra money from me this way. 2) I don't like that the store gets to keep the money from this bag fee- I doubt that I will see prices drop and I might, again, think that they are packing my bags in such a way that gets me to have to pay more

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 04:44 PM

No questions, but please reconsider this proposal and focus on items that are more urgent for the residents, with the least amount of financial impact. thank you

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 06:20 PM

Why would this be a focus for the city at this time? There are so many more important priorities.

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 07:58 PM

My main comment on this proposal is: 1) great that people are being charged for not bringing their own bags but 2) I don't love that establishments can do whatever they want with the funds. It feels like stores are just getting a free revenue stream. I'd like to see 50-100% of the revenue made from charging for bags go back to environmental causes. Then it feels more like a win for the environment AND city environmental goals AND business.



5/11/2023 08:34 PM

This proposal is trash. If I'm going to be charged a tax for a "single use" bag, the STORE shouldn't get to keep the money AND get to use it however they wish. That's called PROFITS. What the heck, Edina?! Merchants don't need more of our money. Whose side are you on? I lived in the Bay Area for 10 years during which there were bag ordinances. 5 cents a bag is enough to change behavior, but at what environmental cost? A lot of the "reusable" bags are poorly made, break easily and end up in the landfill just like a plastic film bag. If you want to change habits, restrict the BUSINESSES from providing plastic bags at all. Switch people back to paper which is recyclable if clean and compostable if not. Don't tax customers to line merchants' pockets.



5/12/2023 04:47 AM

No questions- you need to focus on real issues. This is not one of them



5/12/2023 05:47 AM

What is the feedback from people with lower income? How can they be well supported in this process? Is there a way to eventually have businesses carry the tax instead of residents? What is being done to hold businesses even more accountable to environmental impacts?



5/12/2023 06:34 AM

This is ridiculous. Edina has a high tax rate already. Budget!



5/12/2023 06:42 AM

How will this hurt grocery stores that do drive up? Or stores like Jerry's where someone else is bagging your groceries for you? This will also impact places like VEAP who rely on donations of used paper bags so their clients can bring their groceries home. If people have to pay for bags or use reusable bags they will have less paper bags to donate to VEAP.

Optional question (95 response(s), 106 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-a-resident

Exhibit 2

Edina Visitors Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey Summary

(CLOSED) Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

13 April 2023 - 16 May 2023

PROJECT NAME:

Carryout Bag Ordinance

FILTER BY:

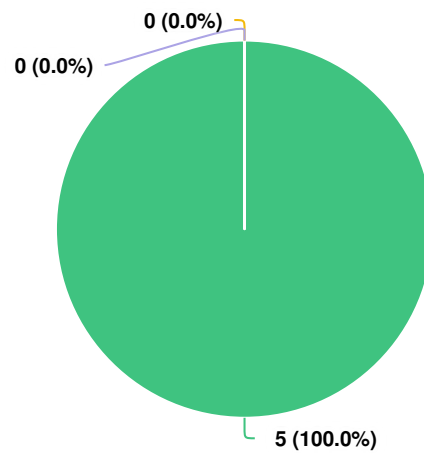
Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)

Answered : I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-Edina



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)



Question options

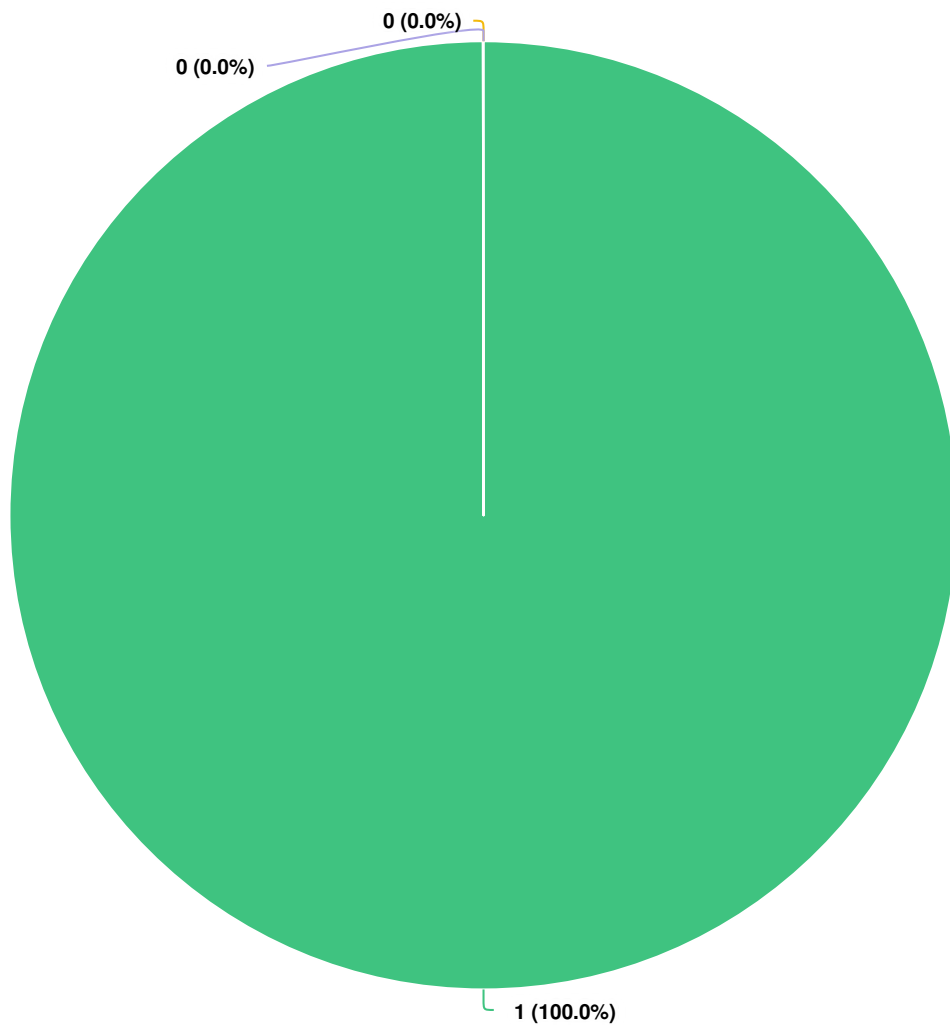
☒ I am not a resident or affiliated with a business in Edina ☐ I am a resident ☐ I own or work at a business in Edina

Mandatory Question (5 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-Edina

Q22 Are you in favor of a required bag fee?



Question options

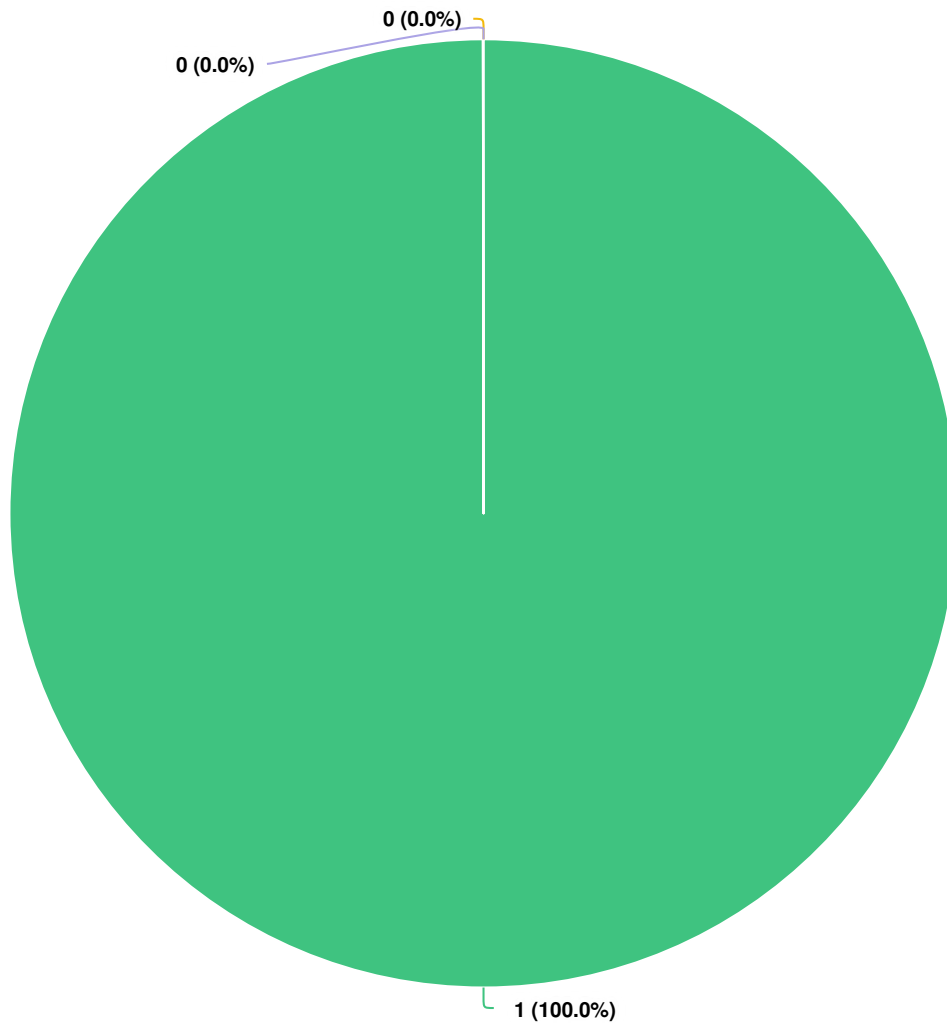
☐ No ☐ Yes ☒ Other (please specify)

Mandatory Question (1 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-Edina

Q23 Are you in favor of a voluntary bag fee? Businesses could volunteer to implement a bag fee, rather than being required by the City.



Question options

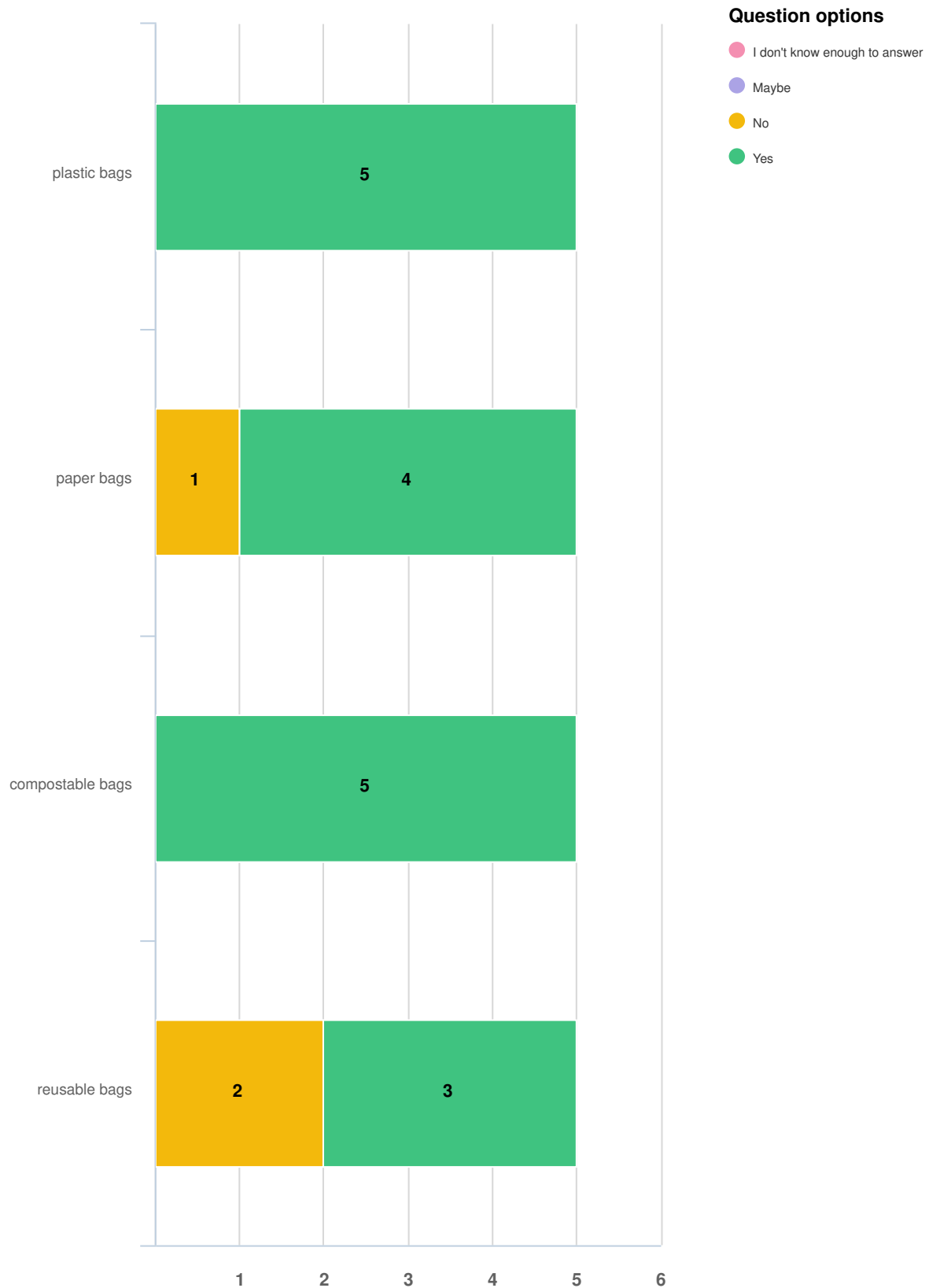
☐ Other (please specify) ☐ No ☒ Yes

Mandatory Question (1 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-

Q34 Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.



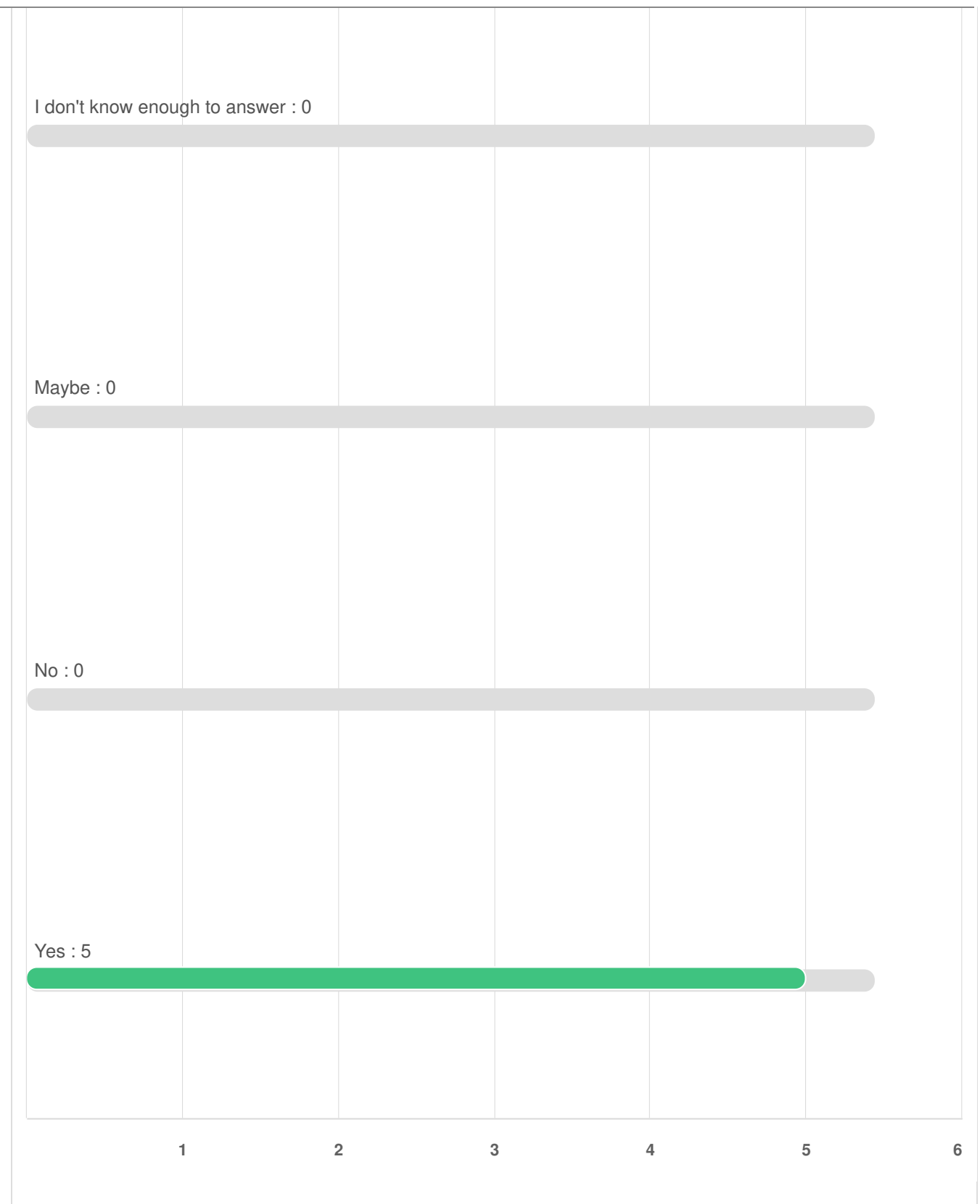
Mandatory Question (5 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-

Q34 | Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.

plastic bags



paper bags

I don't know enough to answer : 0



Maybe : 0



No : 1



Yes : 4



1

2

3

4

5

compostable bags

I don't know enough to answer : 0



Maybe : 0



No : 0



Yes : 5



1

2

3

4

5

6

reusable bags

I don't know enough to answer : 0



Maybe : 0



No : 2



Yes : 3



1

2

3

4

Q35 | How else could the City accomplish its goal of reducing waste in Edina?

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 01:46 PM

Again, testing the site.

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 06:43 AM

Have Zero Waste speakers come present to residents. Have an eco fair hosted by Edina

[REDACTED]
5/10/2023 07:38 AM

Banning single use take out containers and silverware and transition to reusable and or compostable products. Incentive the change and create easy to read signage for patrons and make it so businesses can actually follow the rules put in place. Recycling in plastic bags gets thrown, and compost in plastic bags gets thrown.

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 04:31 PM

More education/classes available to residents

Optional question (4 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-Edina

Q36 | What other questions do you have about this proposal?

[REDACTED]

4/14/2023 01:46 PM

One more test comment!

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 06:43 AM

If you're on government assistance would you be exempt like other cities that have passed an ordinance charging for bags?

[REDACTED]

5/10/2023 07:38 AM

.

[REDACTED]

5/11/2023 04:31 PM

Where do the funds from the bag charge go? Will people with food stamps be exempt from this charge?

Optional question (4 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-am-not-a-resident-or-affiliated-with-a-business-in-Edina

Exhibit 3

Edina Business Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey Summary

(CLOSED) Carryout Bag Ordinance Feedback Survey

SURVEY RESPONSE REPORT

13 April 2023 - 16 May 2023

PROJECT NAME:

Carryout Bag Ordinance

FILTER BY:

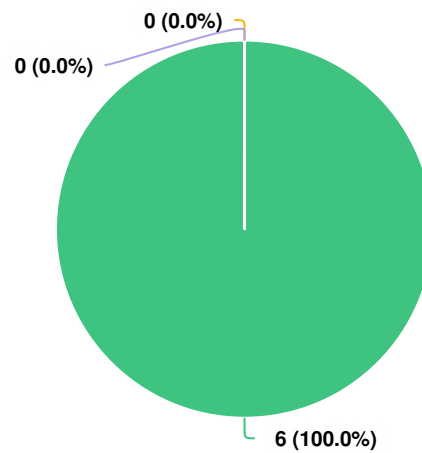
Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)

Answered : I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina



SURVEY QUESTIONS

Q1 Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one)



Question options

- ☒ I own or work at a business in Edina ☐ I am a resident ☐ I am not a resident or affiliated with a business in Edina

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q2 What is the name of the Edina business you are affiliated with?

ATen

4/14/2023 02:03 PM

Edina Dry Goods

SherriFink

4/17/2023 02:15 PM

Clean Juice

theoptical

4/24/2023 12:19 PM

The Optical at 50th and France

Carrie

4/28/2023 06:54 AM

Mainstream Boutique of Edina

St. Peter's - Edina

5/08/2023 09:16 AM

St. Peter's

Business

5/11/2023 01:43 PM

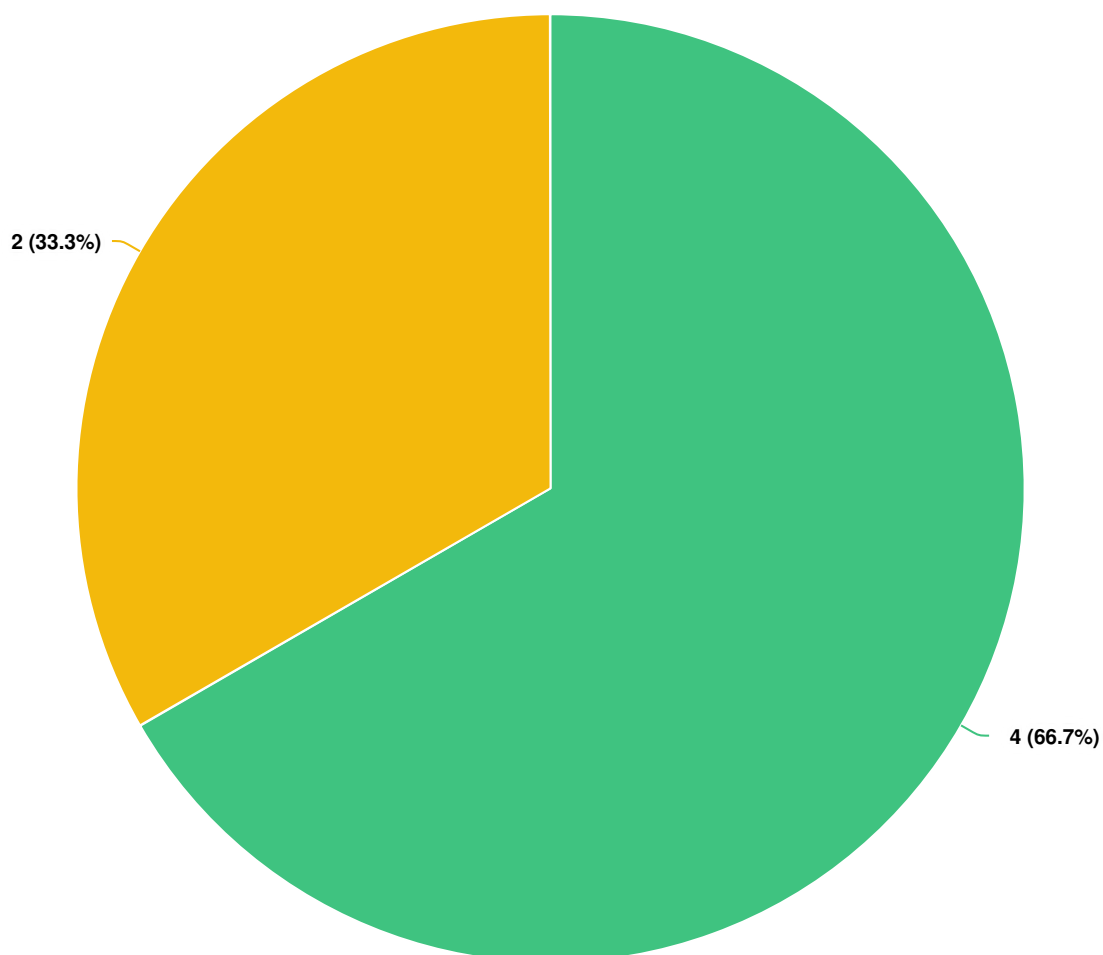
D'Amico

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Single Line Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q3 Do own this business or are you an employee



Question options

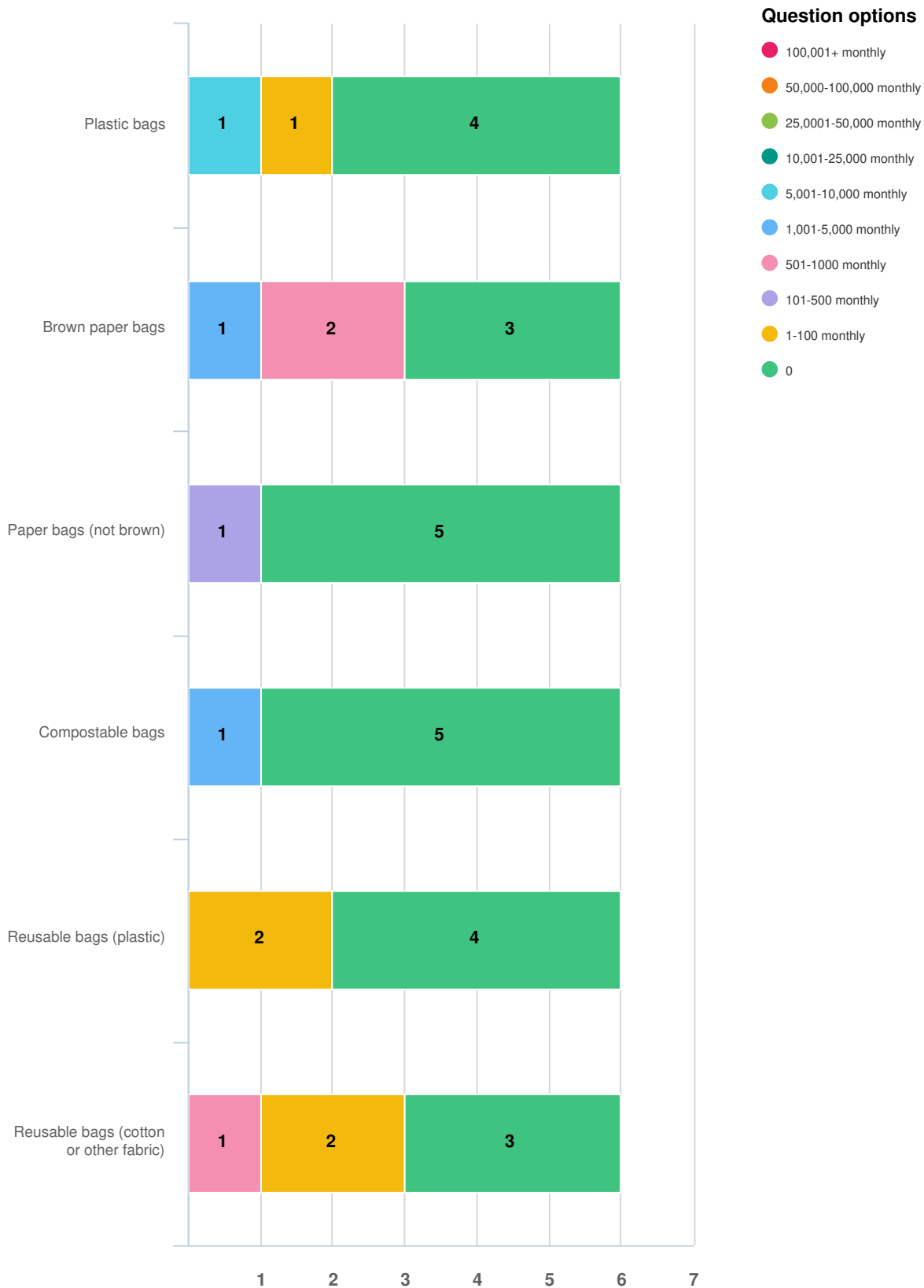
☒ I own this business ☐ I am an employee of this business

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q4 What kind, and how many, carryout bags does your business typically provide to customers on a monthly basis?



Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q4 | What kind, and how many, carryout bags does your business typically provide to customers on a monthly basis?

Plastic bags

100,001+ monthly : 0



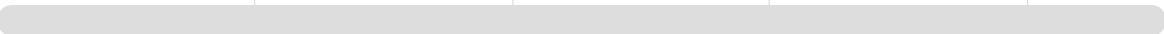
50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



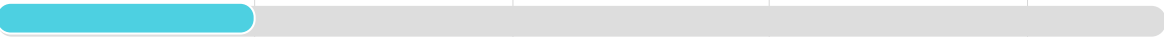
25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 1



1,001-5,000 monthly : 0



501-1000 monthly : 0



101-500 monthly : 0



1-100 monthly : 1



0 : 4



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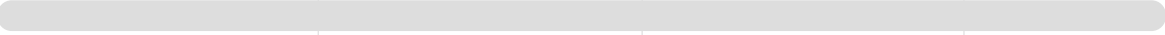
--

Brown paper bags

100,001+ monthly : 0



50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



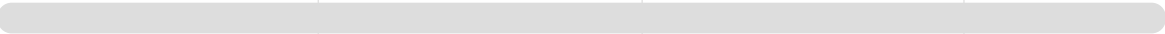
25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 0



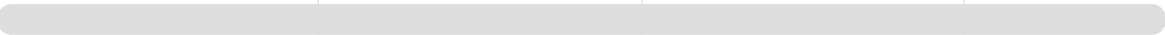
1,001-5,000 monthly : 1



501-1000 monthly : 2



101-500 monthly : 0



1-100 monthly : 0



0 : 3



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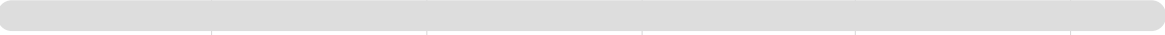
4

Paper bags (not brown)

100,001+ monthly : 0



50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



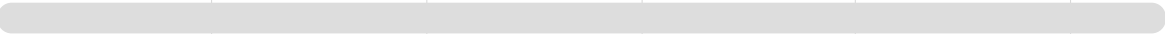
25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 0



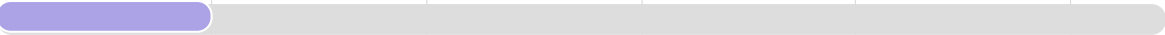
1,001-5,000 monthly : 0



501-1000 monthly : 0



101-500 monthly : 1



1-100 monthly : 0



0 : 5



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6

Compostable bags

100,001+ monthly : 0



50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 0



1,001-5,000 monthly : 1



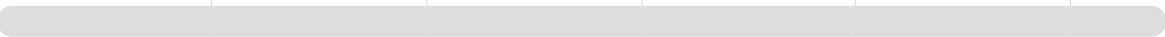
501-1000 monthly : 0



101-500 monthly : 0



1-100 monthly : 0



0 : 5



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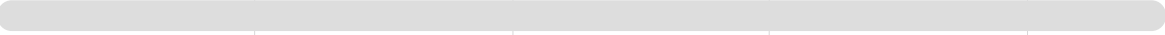
6

Reusable bags (plastic)

100,001+ monthly : 0



50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 0



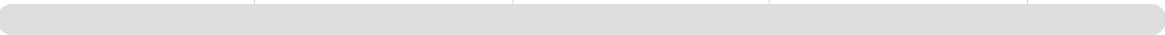
1,001-5,000 monthly : 0



501-1000 monthly : 0



101-500 monthly : 0



1-100 monthly : 2



0 : 4



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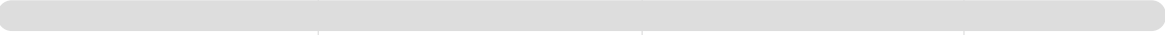
5

Reusable bags (cotton or other fabric)

100,001+ monthly : 0



50,000-100,000 monthly : 0



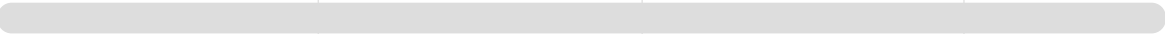
25,0001-50,000 monthly : 0



10,001-25,000 monthly : 0



5,001-10,000 monthly : 0



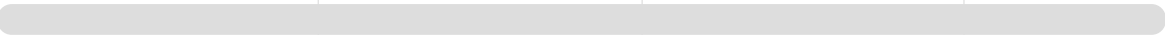
1,001-5,000 monthly : 0



501-1000 monthly : 1



101-500 monthly : 0



1-100 monthly : 2



0 : 3



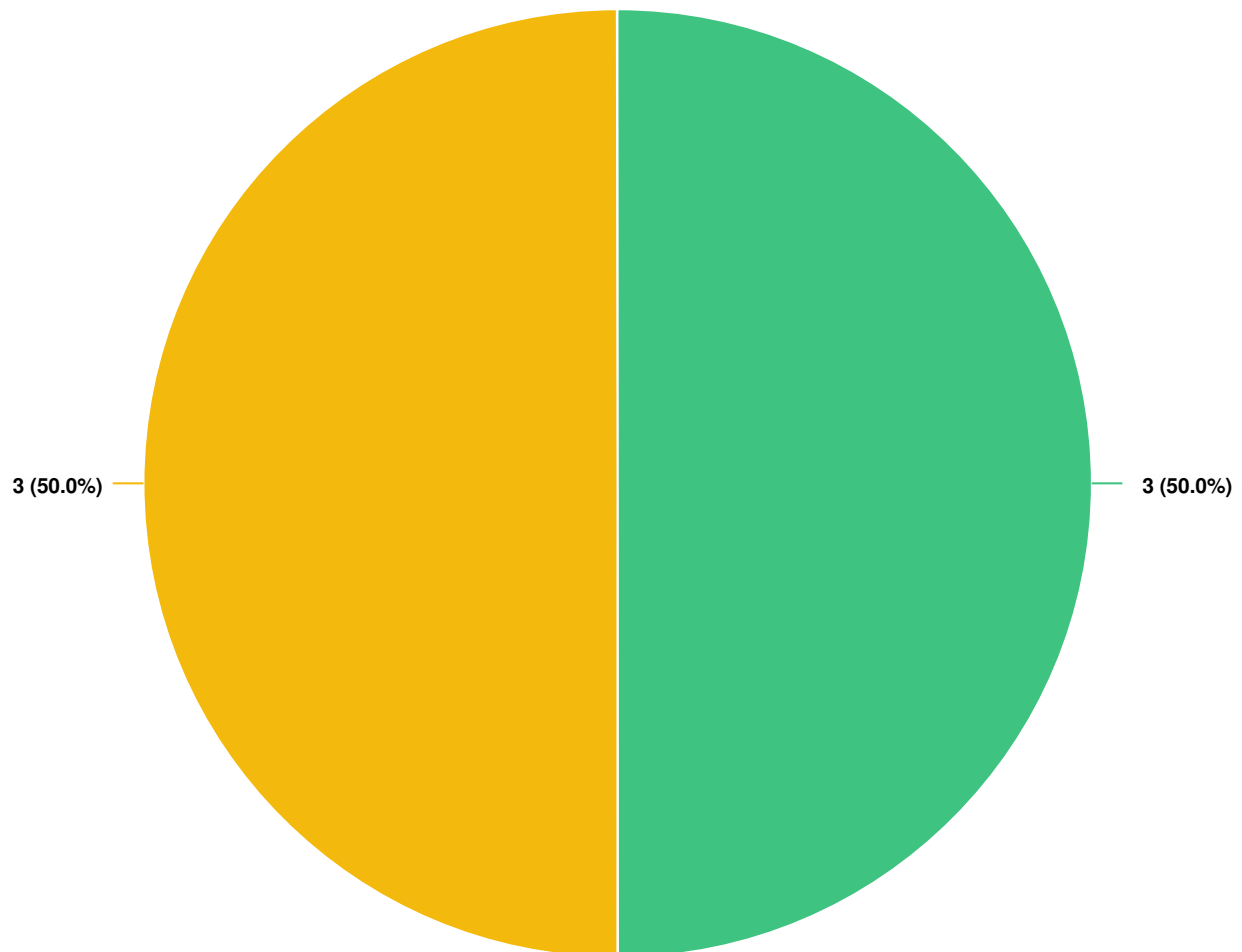
1

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Q5 Does your business offer carryout bags made of other materials to customers?



Question options

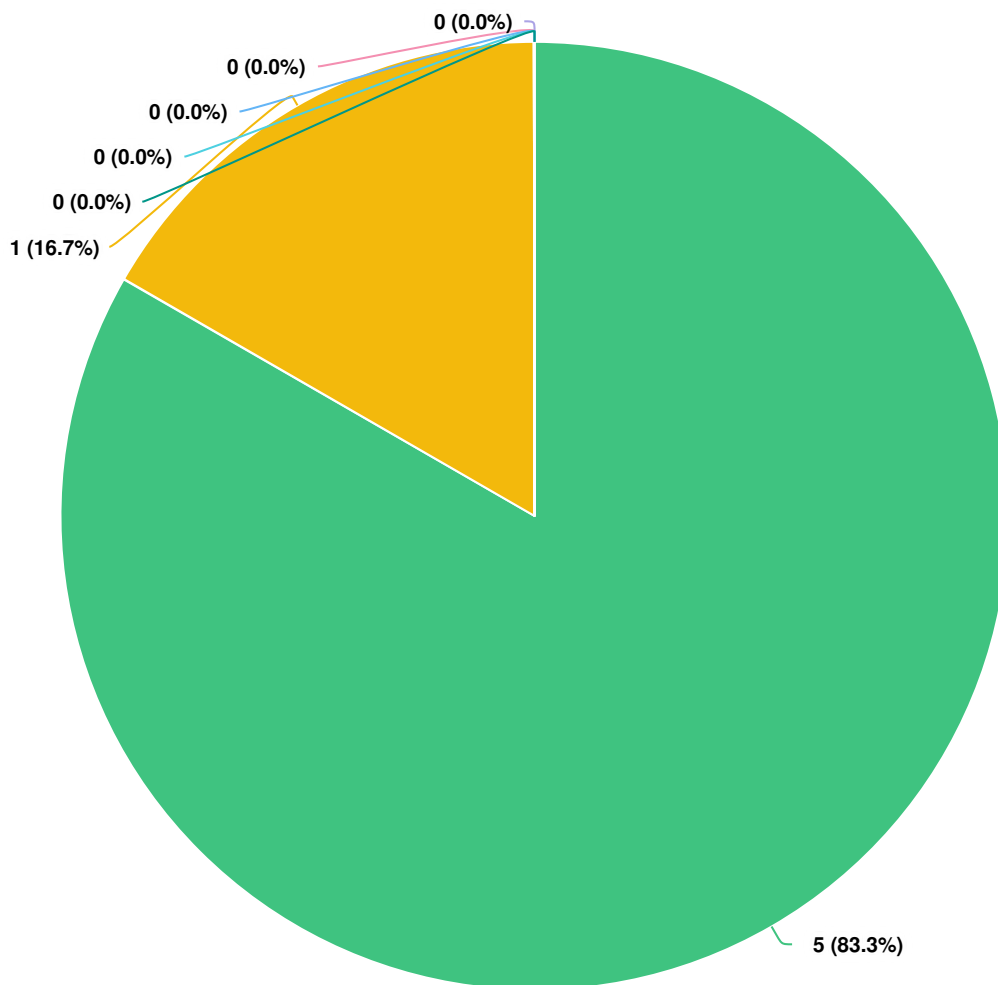
● Yes (please specify) ● No

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Dropdown Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q6 | Does your business use more bags than indicated above during the holiday months (November-December)?



Question options

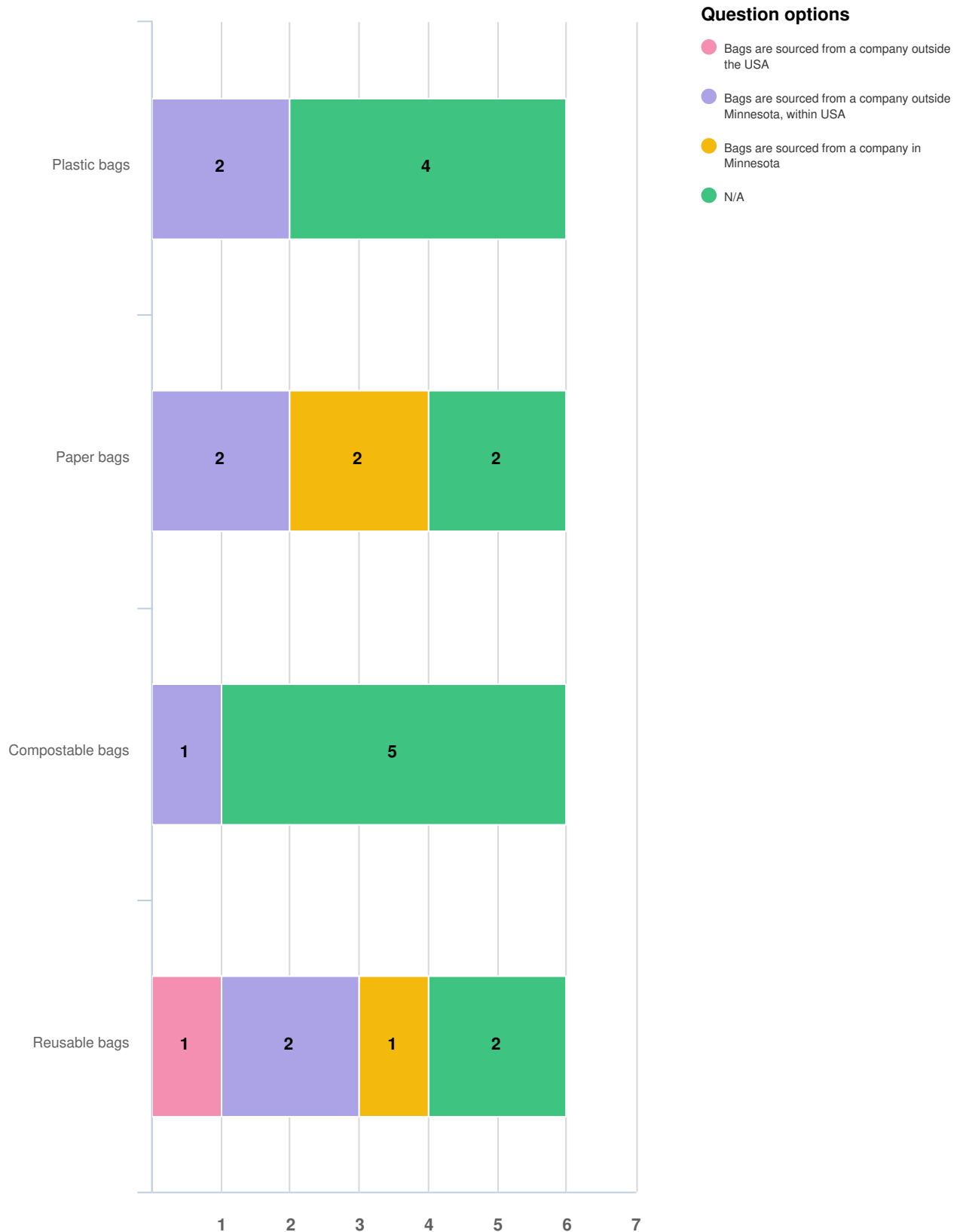
- Other (please specify) Yes, more than double Yes, 100% more Yes, 50% more Yes, 25% more
Yes, 10% more No

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Dropdown Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q7 Where do you purchase your business's carryout bags?



Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

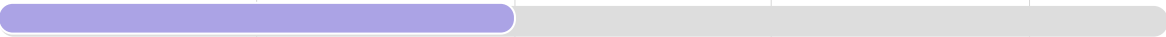
Q7 | Where do you purchase your business's carryout bags?

Plastic bags

Bags are sourced from a company outside the USA : 0



Bags are sourced from a company outside Minnesota, within USA : 2



Bags are sourced from a company in Minnesota : 0



N/A : 4



1

2

3

4

5

Paper bags

Bags are sourced from a company outside the USA : 0



Bags are sourced from a company outside Minnesota, within USA : 2



Bags are sourced from a company in Minnesota : 2



N/A : 2



1

2

3

Compostable bags

Bags are sourced from a company outside the USA : 0



Bags are sourced from a company outside Minnesota, within USA : 1



Bags are sourced from a company in Minnesota : 0



N/A : 5



1

2

3

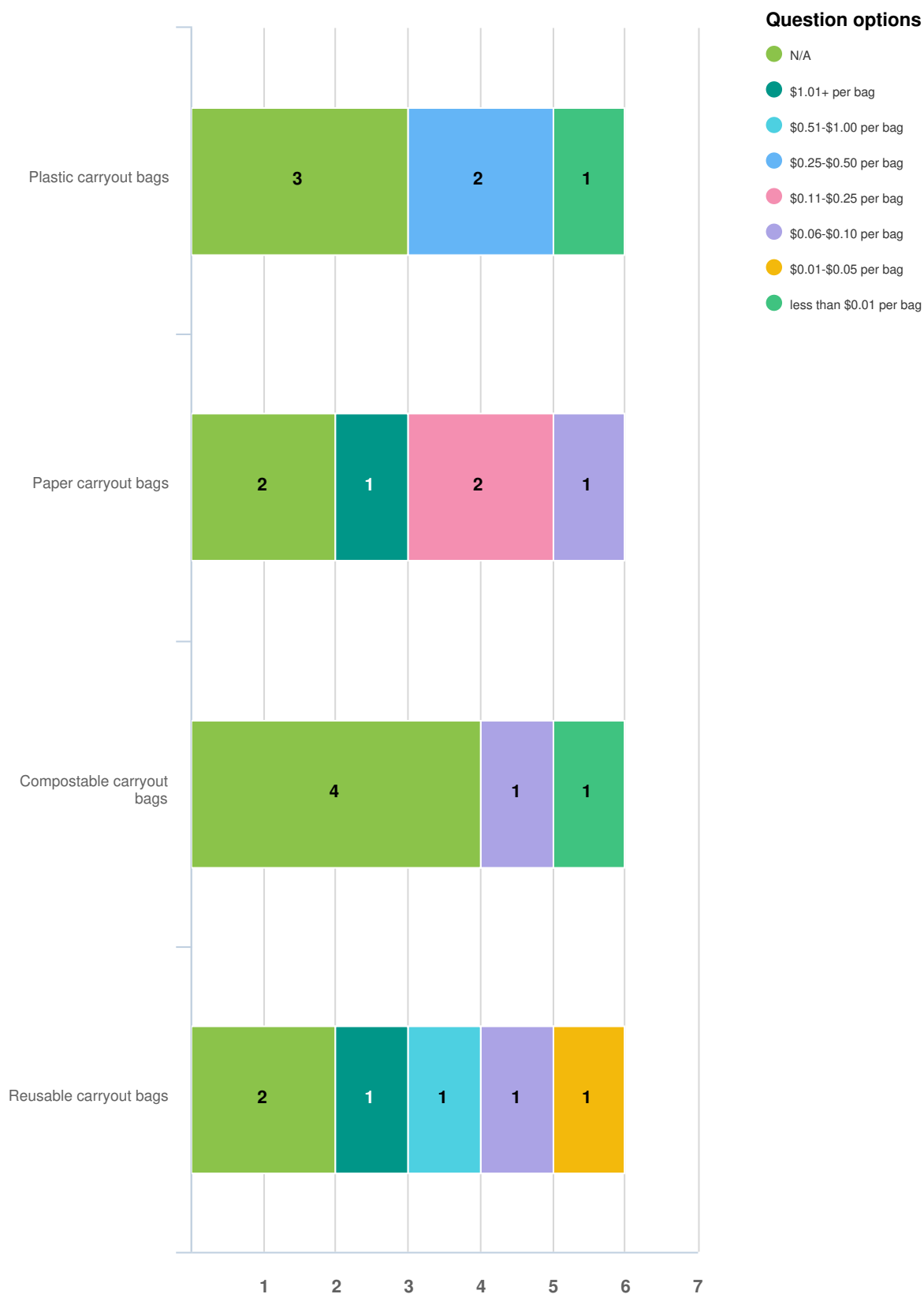
4

5

6



Q8 What was your average per bag cost in 2022?



Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q8 | What was your average per bag cost in 2022?

Plastic carryout bags

N/A : 3



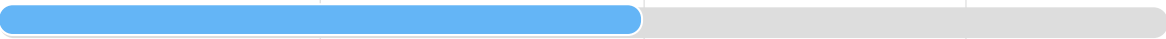
\$1.01+ per bag : 0



\$0.51-\$1.00 per bag : 0



\$0.25-\$0.50 per bag : 2



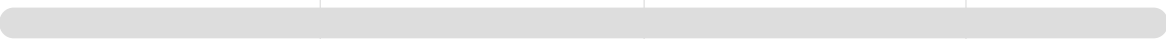
\$0.11-\$0.25 per bag : 0



\$0.06-\$0.10 per bag : 0



\$0.01-\$0.05 per bag : 0



less than \$0.01 per bag : 1



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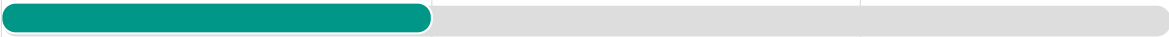
4

Paper carryout bags

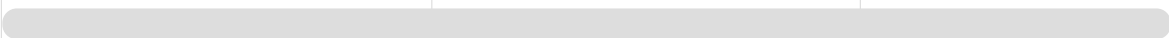
N/A : 2



\$1.01+ per bag : 1



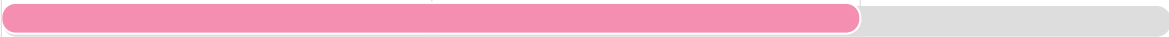
\$0.51-\$1.00 per bag : 0



\$0.25-\$0.50 per bag : 0



\$0.11-\$0.25 per bag : 2



\$0.06-\$0.10 per bag : 1



\$0.01-\$0.05 per bag : 0



less than \$0.01 per bag : 0



1

2

3

Compostable carryout bags

N/A : 4



\$1.01+ per bag : 0



\$0.51-\$1.00 per bag : 0



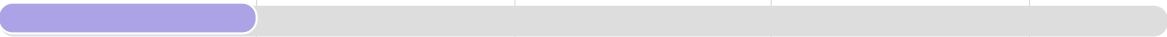
\$0.25-\$0.50 per bag : 0



\$0.11-\$0.25 per bag : 0



\$0.06-\$0.10 per bag : 1



\$0.01-\$0.05 per bag : 0



less than \$0.01 per bag : 1



1

2

3

4

5

Reusable carryout bags

N/A : 2



\$1.01+ per bag : 1



\$0.51-\$1.00 per bag : 1



\$0.25-\$0.50 per bag : 0



\$0.11-\$0.25 per bag : 0



\$0.06-\$0.10 per bag : 1



\$0.01-\$0.05 per bag : 1



less than \$0.01 per bag : 0

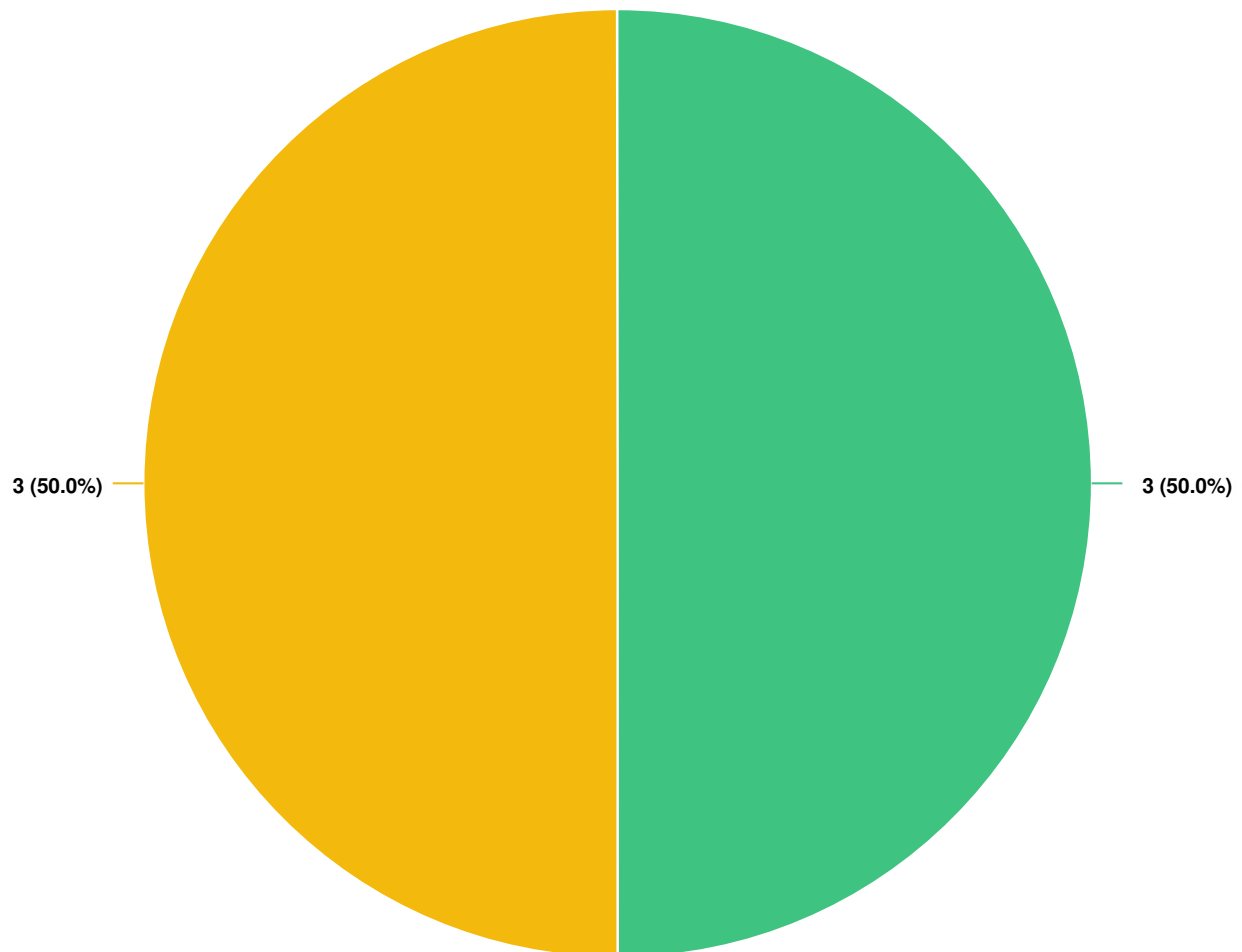


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Q9 Do you offer bag recycling on site to customers?



Question options

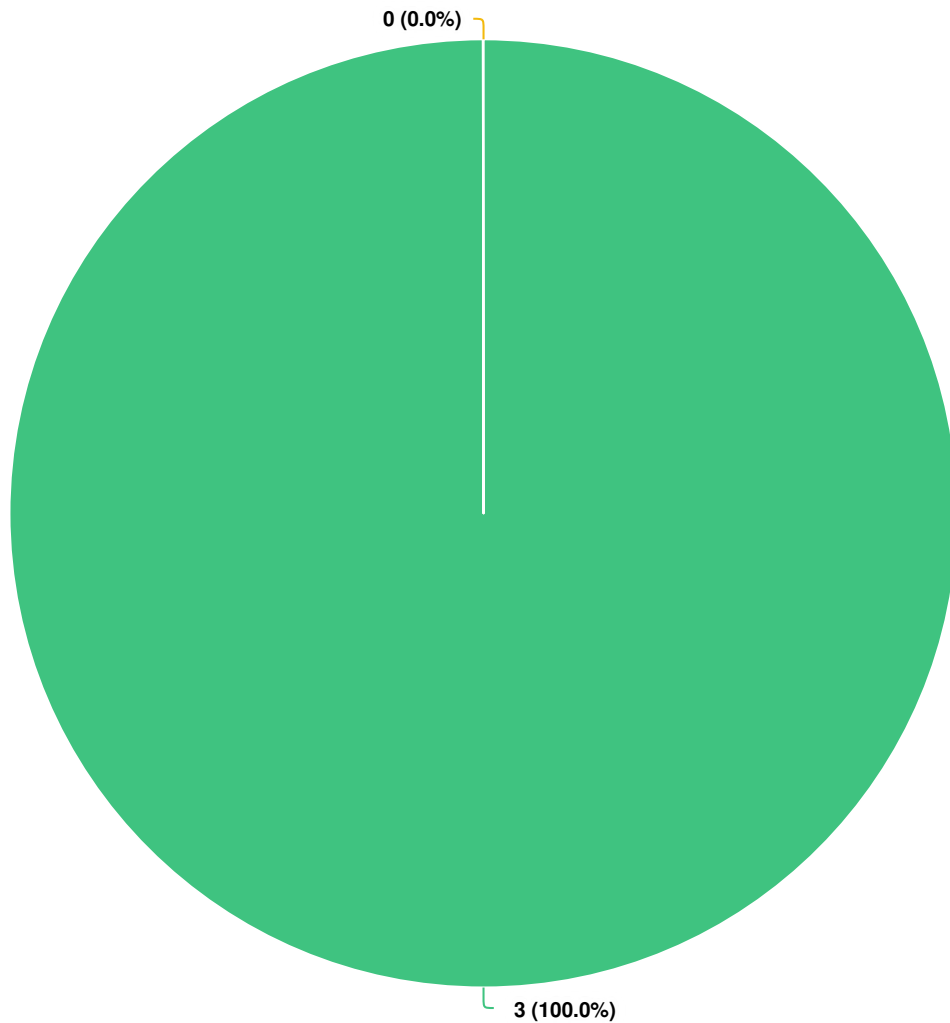
☐ No ☐ Yes

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q10 Are customers assessed a recycling fee to recycle carryout bags at your place of business?



Question options

● Yes ● No

Mandatory Question (3 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q11 Please describe any regular environmental or sustainability activities in which your business currently participates.

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:03 PM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 02:15 PM

Composting our fruits and veggies from juicing

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 12:19 PM

The plastic bags we purchase and give to those who don't want the fancy bags, are oxy-biodegradable. The fancy bags we give out, we encourage clients to re-use them. We provide low-cost refills of our lens cleaner when clients bring their bottles back. We encourage them to do this. We use LED lights whenever possible. We recycle our office paper products. We think twice before printing materials, and try to find every way we can to be good stewards of our planet and neighborhood.

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 06:54 AM

We do not use disposable floor cleaning products, we keep our temps below average and keep HVAC system on a schedule that reduces use when store isn't in use, we do not use artificial fragrances, we recycle all products possible, donation of all excess clothing, we do not use tissue paper when wrapping purchases unless delicate or breakable, we do not attach our on pricing tags if the manufacturer has a hang tag we can attach our pricing stickers to, we use different sizes of bags appropriate to purchase, for the last 16 months we have worked hard with our customers to have them bring in their own bags, not take a bag, or return our branded paper bags to be used for someone else, employee purchases, and donations. We've reduced the number of bags being used by our customers by 25% in the last 16 months just by talking to them about being responsible and reminding them via our social media.

St. Peter's - Edina
5/08/2023 09:16 AM

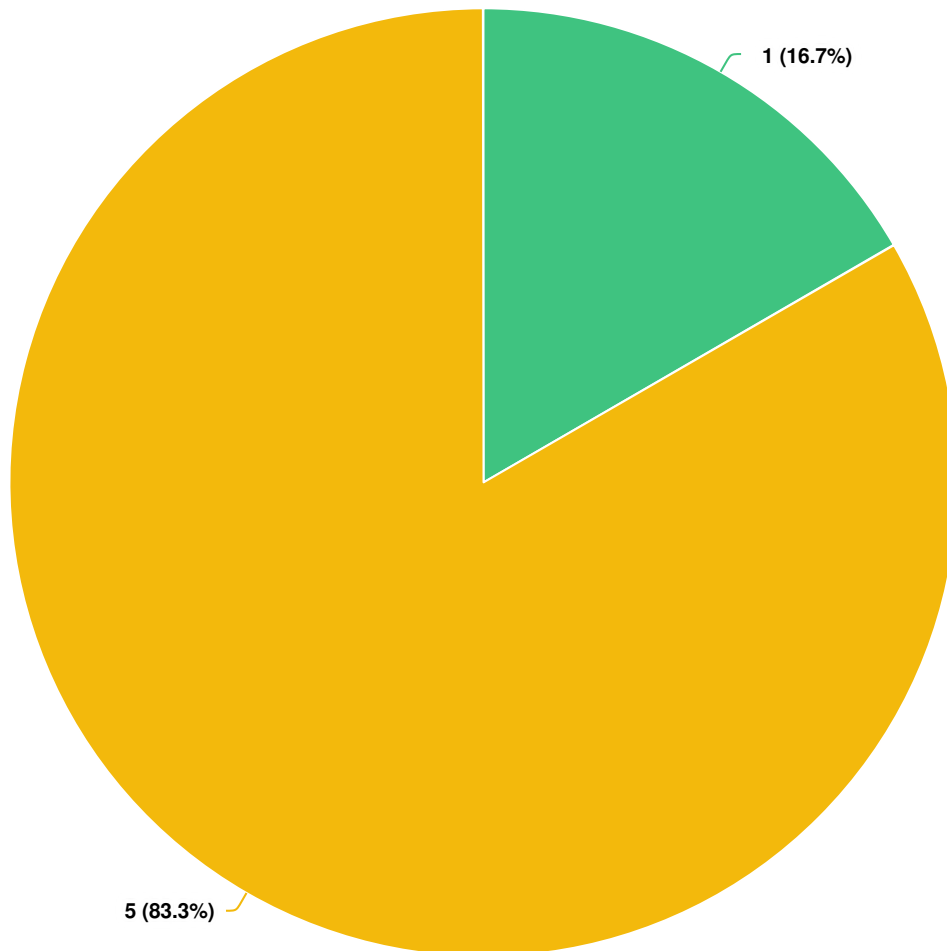
Recycling & cardboard/paper collecting

Optional question (5 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q12 | Has your business had experience with this kind of fee-per-bag requirement in other communities?



Question options

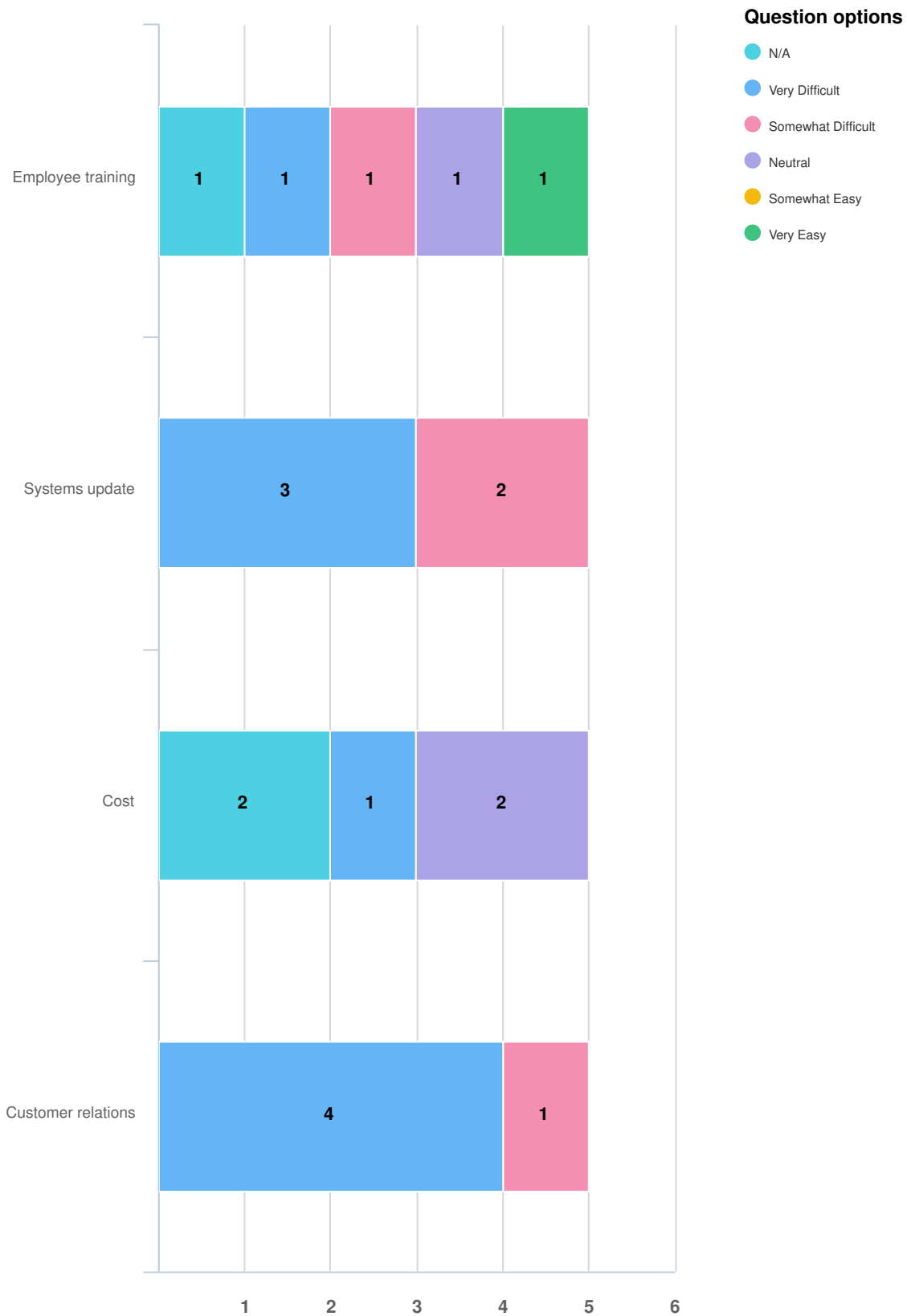
☐ No ☐ Yes

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q13 Please rank the following aspects of compliance from easy to difficult.



Mandatory Question (5 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

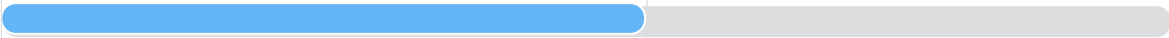
Q13 | Please rank the following aspects of compliance from easy to difficult.

Employee training

N/A : 1



Very Difficult : 1



Somewhat Difficult : 1



Neutral : 1



Somewhat Easy : 0



Very Easy : 1



1

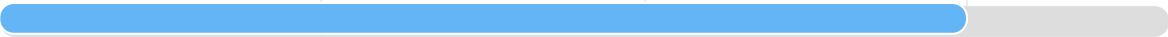
2

Systems update

N/A : 0



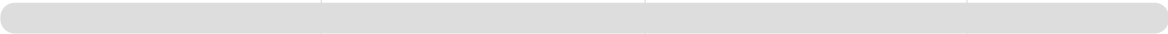
Very Difficult : 3



Somewhat Difficult : 2



Neutral : 0



Somewhat Easy : 0



Very Easy : 0

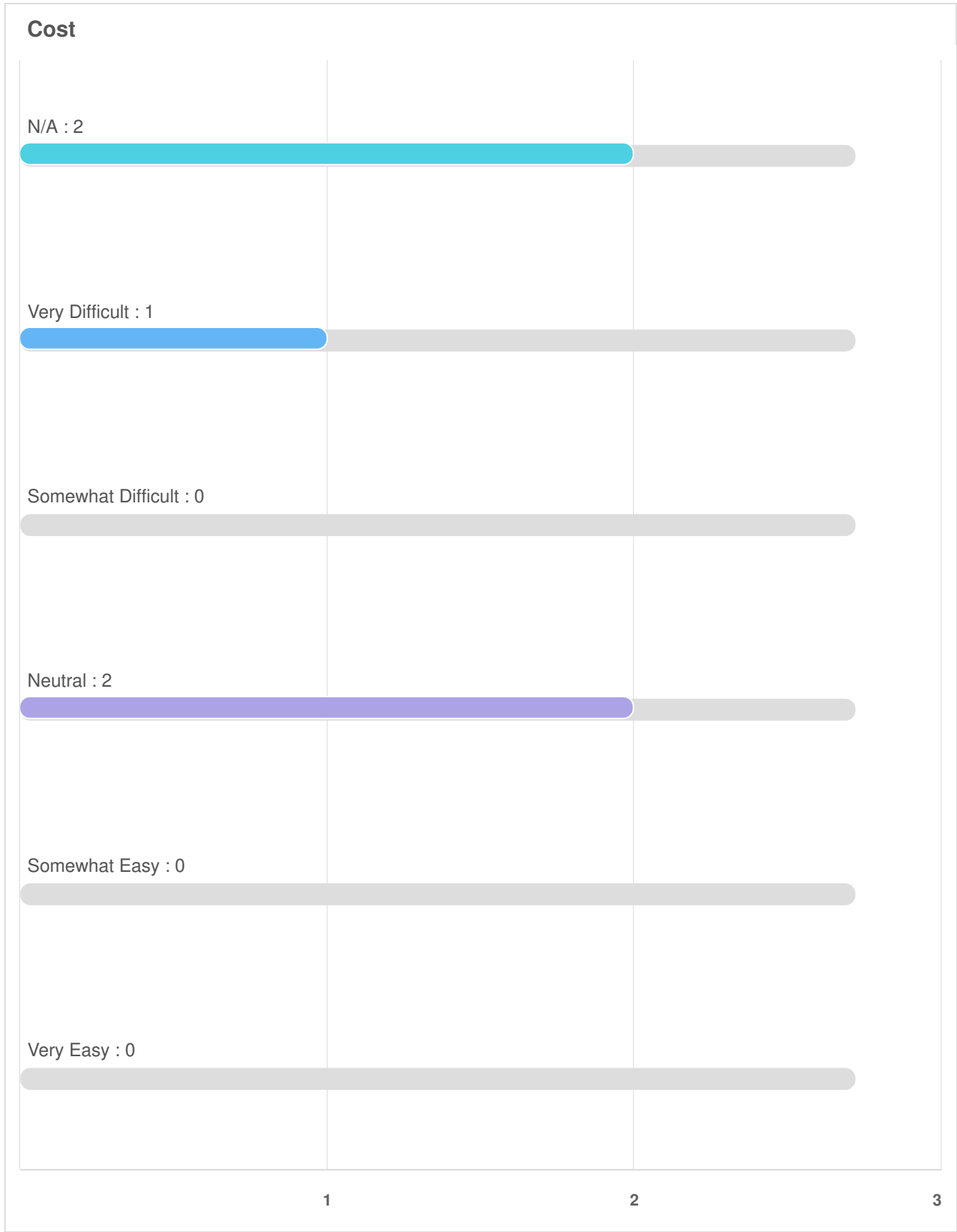


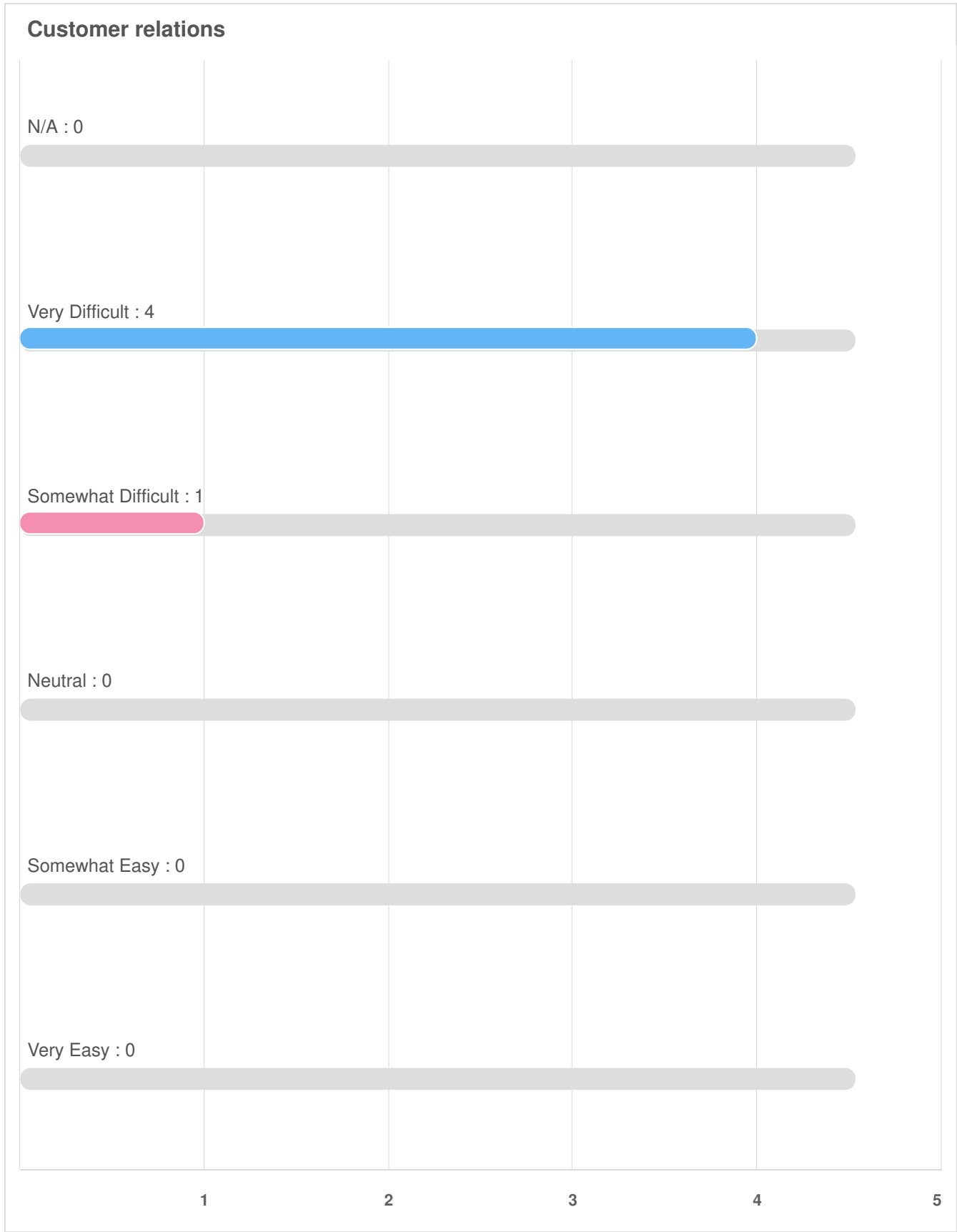
1

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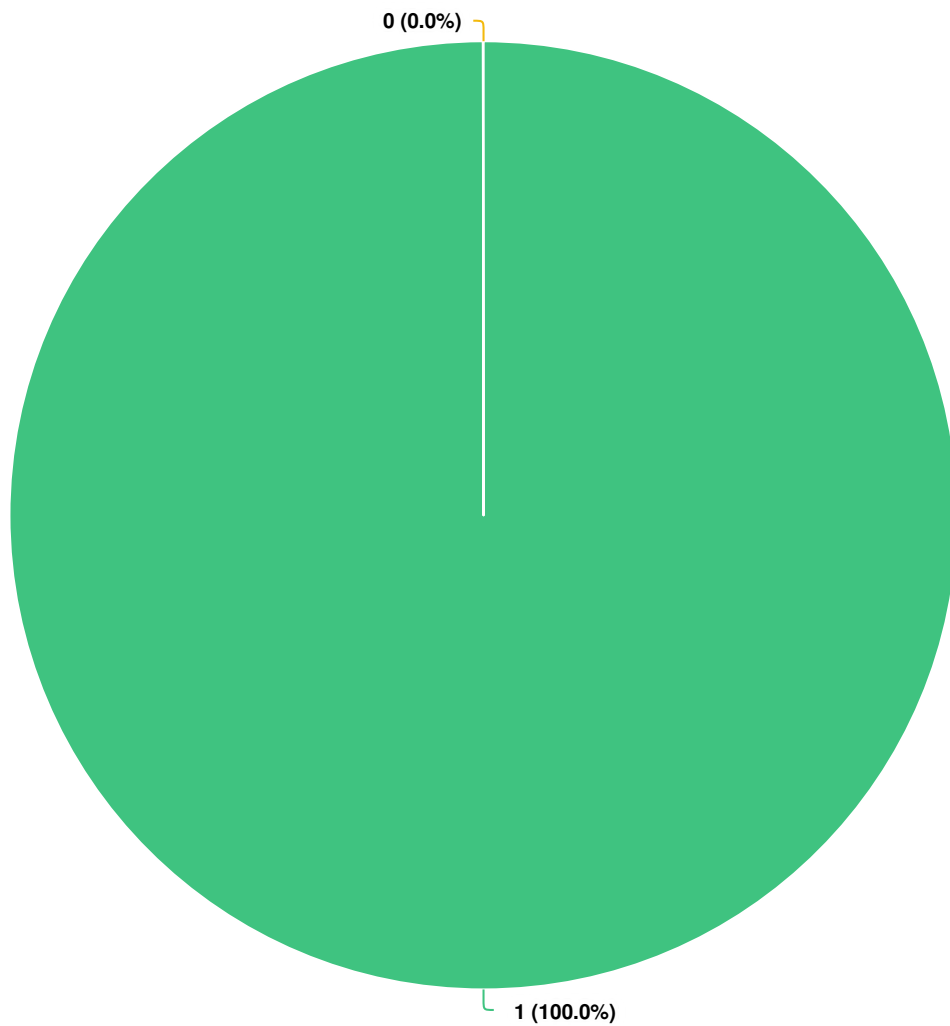
3

4





Q14 Did you encounter any other unexpected compliance issues? If so, please explain.



Question options

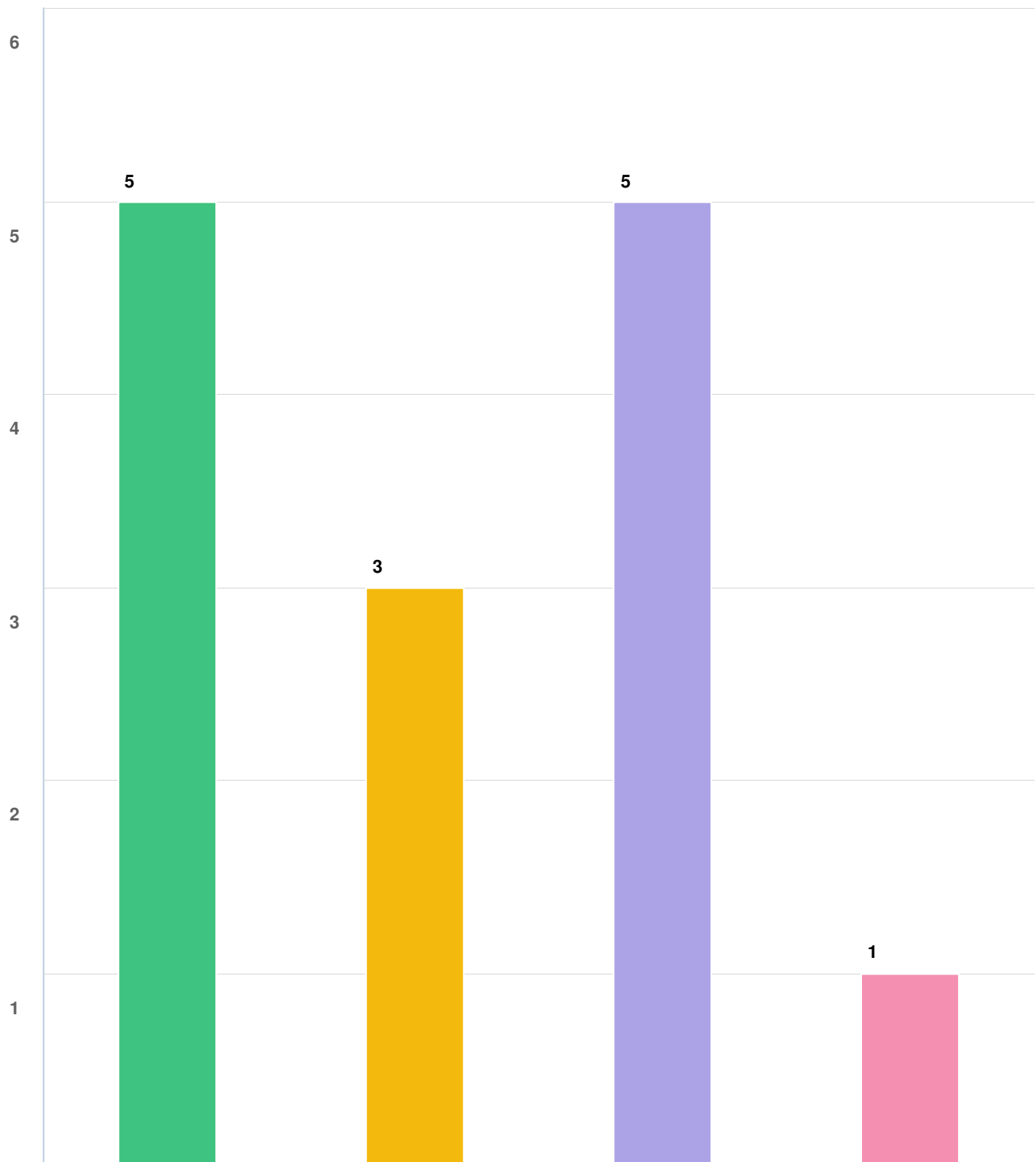
☐ No ☒ Yes (please specify)

Mandatory Question (1 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q15 What support would be helpful for the City of Edina provide to assist with transitioning customers to the new per-bag fee? Check all that apply.



Question options

Other (please specify) Fact sheet for distribution to customers Fact sheet with guidance for staff Signage

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q16 Certain bags, including those used for prescriptions, produce and dry cleaning are likely to be exempt from the requirements. Are there any other bags that you think should be considered for exemption? Please explain.

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:03 PM

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 02:15 PM

3rd party delivery on food. They need to be delivered in bags for driver and customer sanitation and safety.

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 12:19 PM

Bags that are indeed re-useable, even if they don't fit your definition.

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 06:54 AM

None that I can think of

[REDACTED]
5/08/2023 09:16 AM

Gift bags

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 01:43 PM

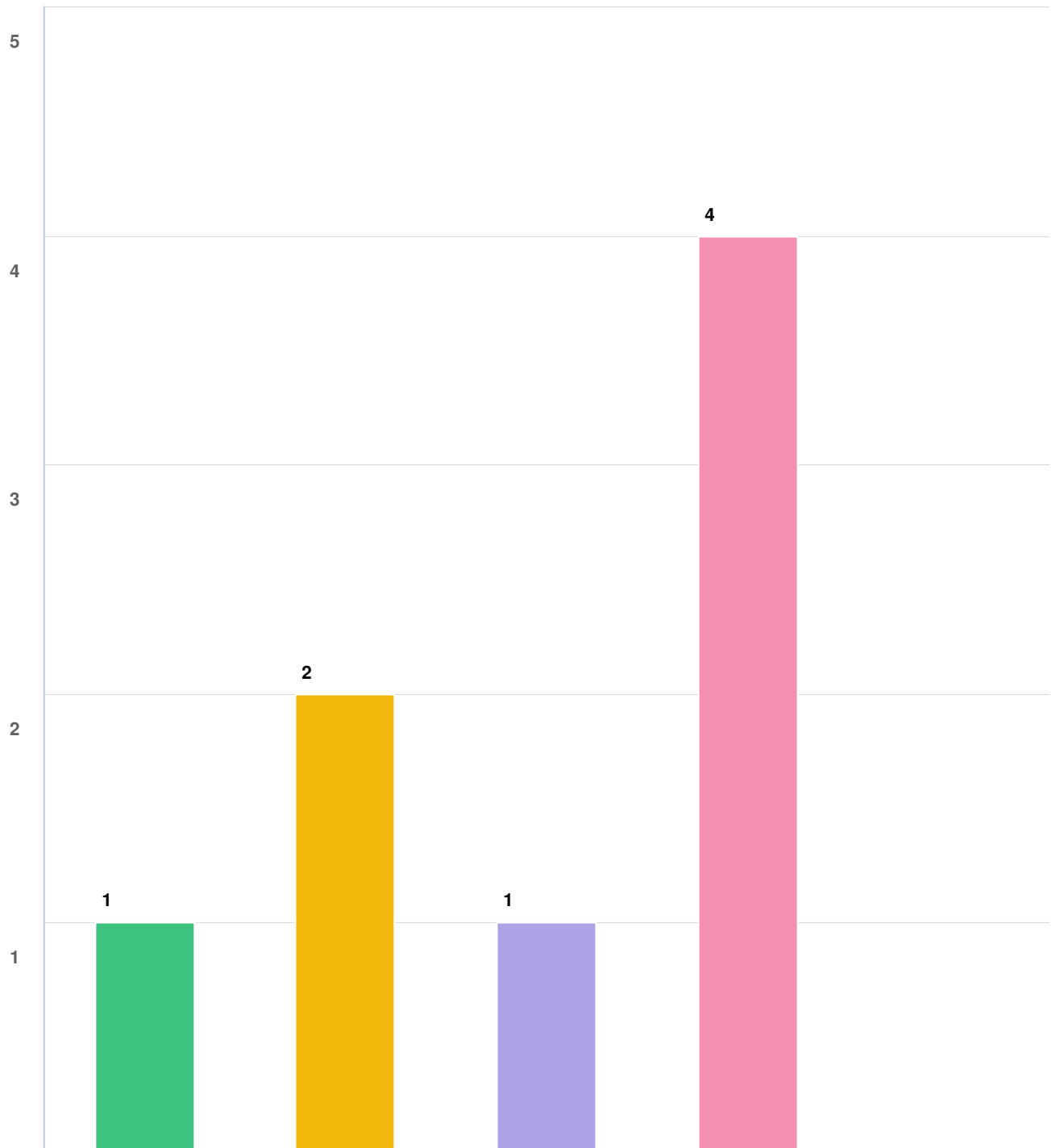
Food carry out bags should be exempt - It will be very difficult to wait for a customer to come to the restaurant before packaging their food order. Items need to be bagged as they are made and put up by the kitchen staff so items from different orders are not confused. We have 20-30 orders going at a time on a busy night. There is not enough space as it is with bags tightly packed on our counter. Also, we don't have time to ask every guest who calls in an order if they would like to, "pay for a bag or bring their own," and then explain why they are being charged. Also, asking employees to touch customers personal belongings(cloth bags especially) is not sanitary or practical in food service. We would have to wash hands and sanitize surfaces every time we touched a guests bag. Charging the guest for a bag is a point of sale nightmare. How do we charge a deliver service for their bag use? Is it taxed?

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q17 Businesses will likely be required to track and report information on bag distribution and purchasing changes. What information would be most useful for you to track the impact of the new requirement? Select all that apply.



Question options

- ☐ How fee revenues are used ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ Number and type of bags distributed annually
☐ Number and type of bags purchased annually ☐ Fee revenue

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Q18 Please detail any initial thoughts on how your business will use the bag fee revenues.

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:03 PM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 02:15 PM

Not sure yet

[REDACTED]
4/28/2023 06:54 AM

My bags expensive (\$1.65 for a large bag) and are a cost of doing business so the total annual cost is deducted in the tax process. The \$.05 per bag charge would need to be coded into our POS system and honestly slow down our cash wrap process in having us fully bag the merchandise before we fully tender the transaction. In our business, there are a lot of impulse, add on purchases at the cash wrap. I'm concerned it would be a complication in our process as I small business owner. I will need to spend a lot of time and money getting an option added to my POS system. \$.05 will not make a dent in my cost, a cost I already write off. Depending on the amount I could look at making an annual donation of the funds to a local non-profit. I'm not sure yet. At best it will work out to maybe \$150 a year for me in recovered cost. It will cost me more to implement a tracking process and system change. For the first couple of years I would use the money to cover the POS/system cost.

[REDACTED]
5/08/2023 09:16 AM

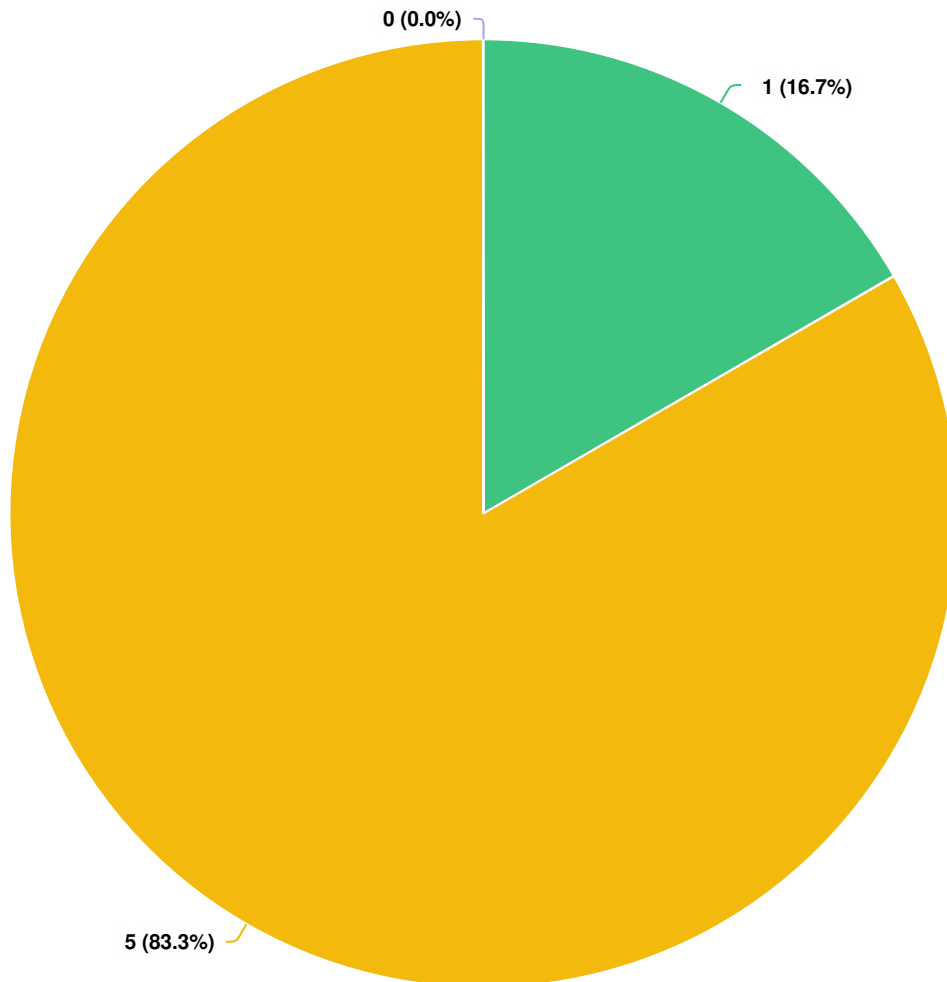
This is a nuisance tax. We don't charge our members for any items!

Optional question (4 response(s), 2 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q19 | Would your business give a credit or refund to customers bringing their own bag or bags?



Question options

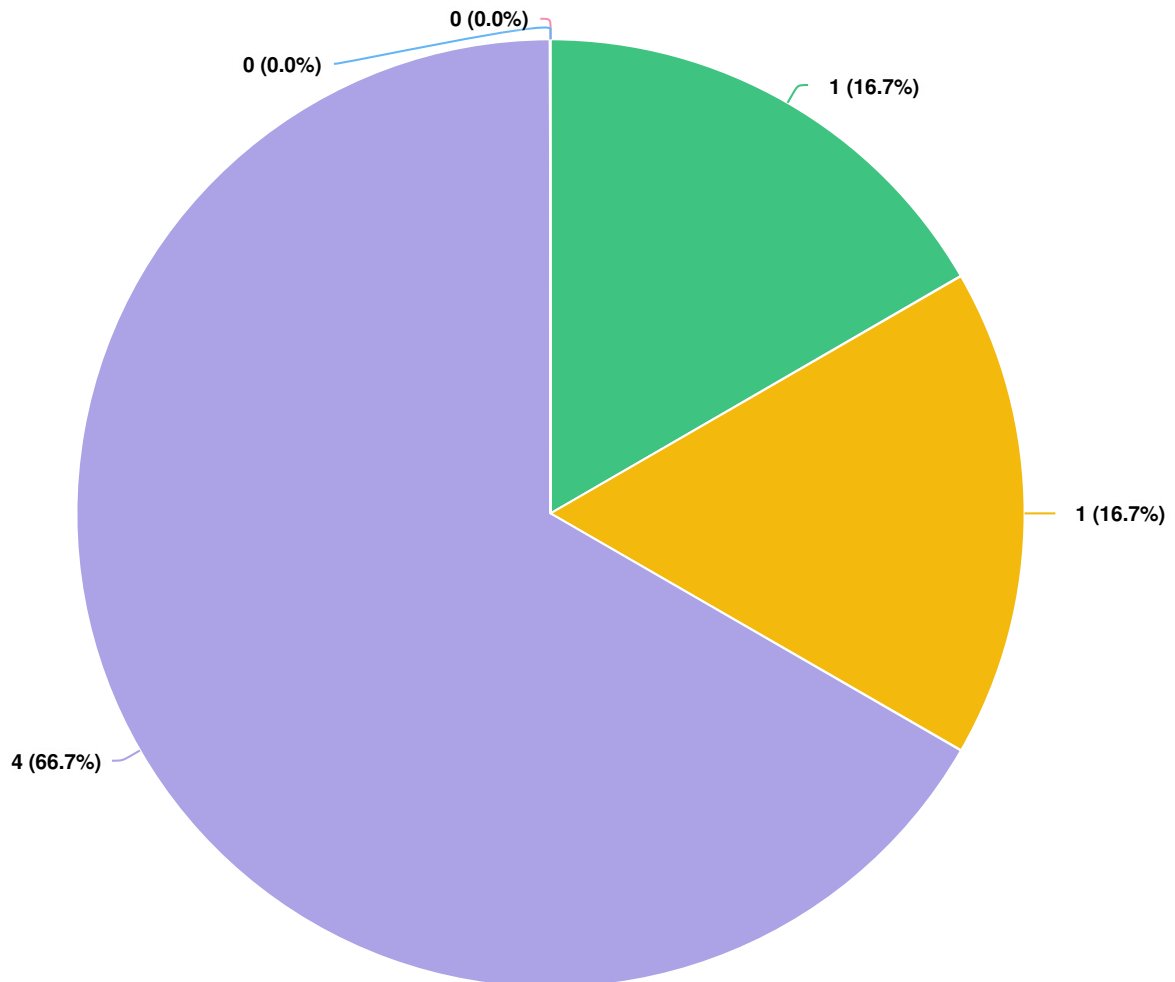
☐ Yes ☐ Other (please specify) ☐ No

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q20 | If a required carryout bag fee is approved, what amount of lead time your business would need to prepare for implementation?



Question options

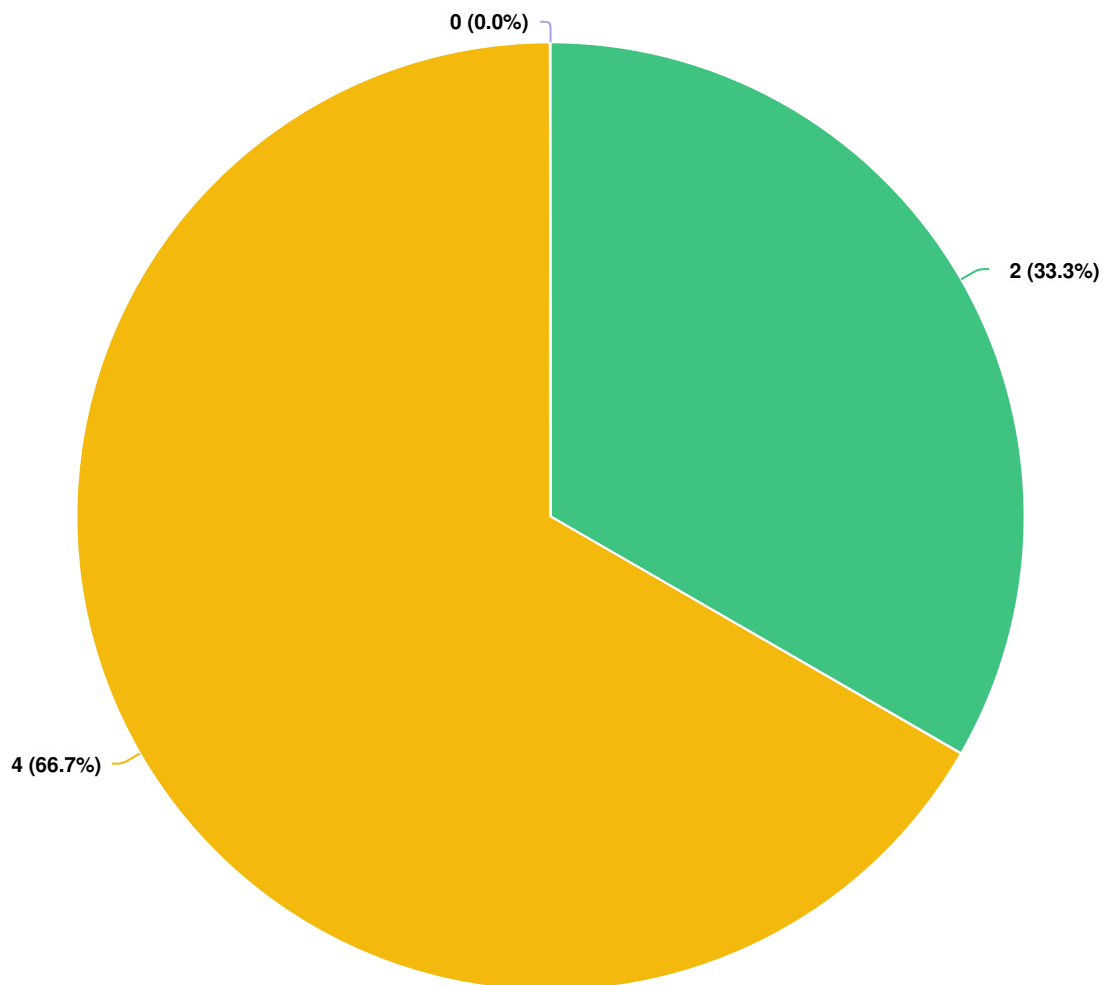
● 12 months ● 6 months ● more than 12 months ● 9 months ● 3 months

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q21 For businesses offering online order and/or curbside delivery, would you consider or be open to implementing a reusable bag exchange program? See Walmart example.



Question options

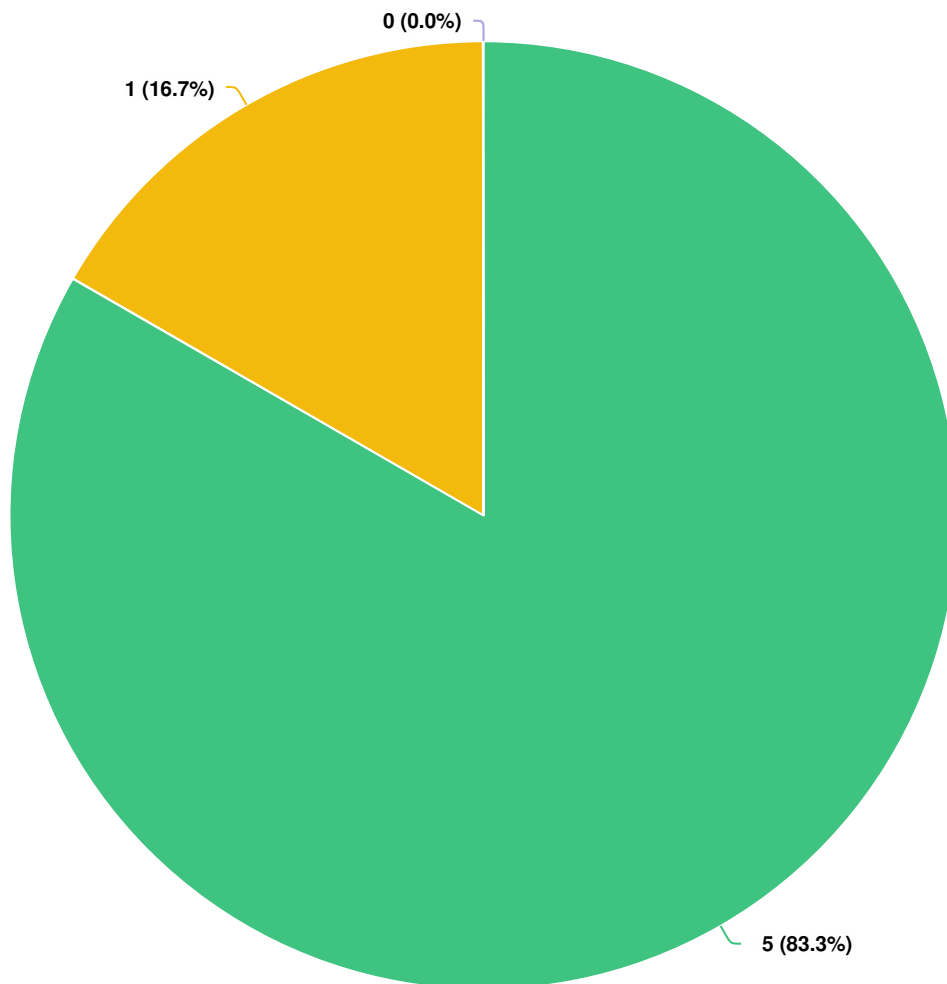
☐ Yes ☒ No (please explain) ☐ My business does not offer online order or curbside delivery

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q22 Are you in favor of a required bag fee?



Question options

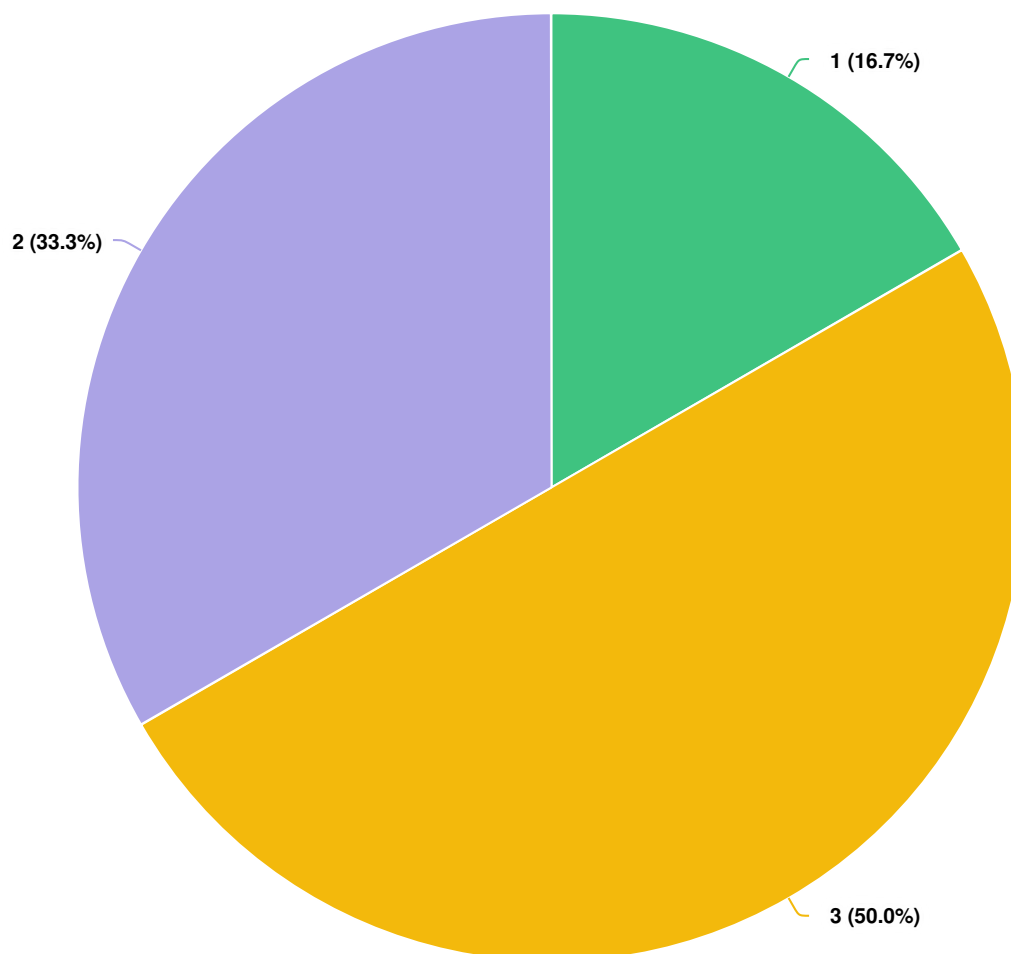
☐ Yes ☐ Other (please specify) ☒ No

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q23 Are you in favor of a voluntary bag fee? Businesses could volunteer to implement a bag fee, rather than being required by the City.



Question options

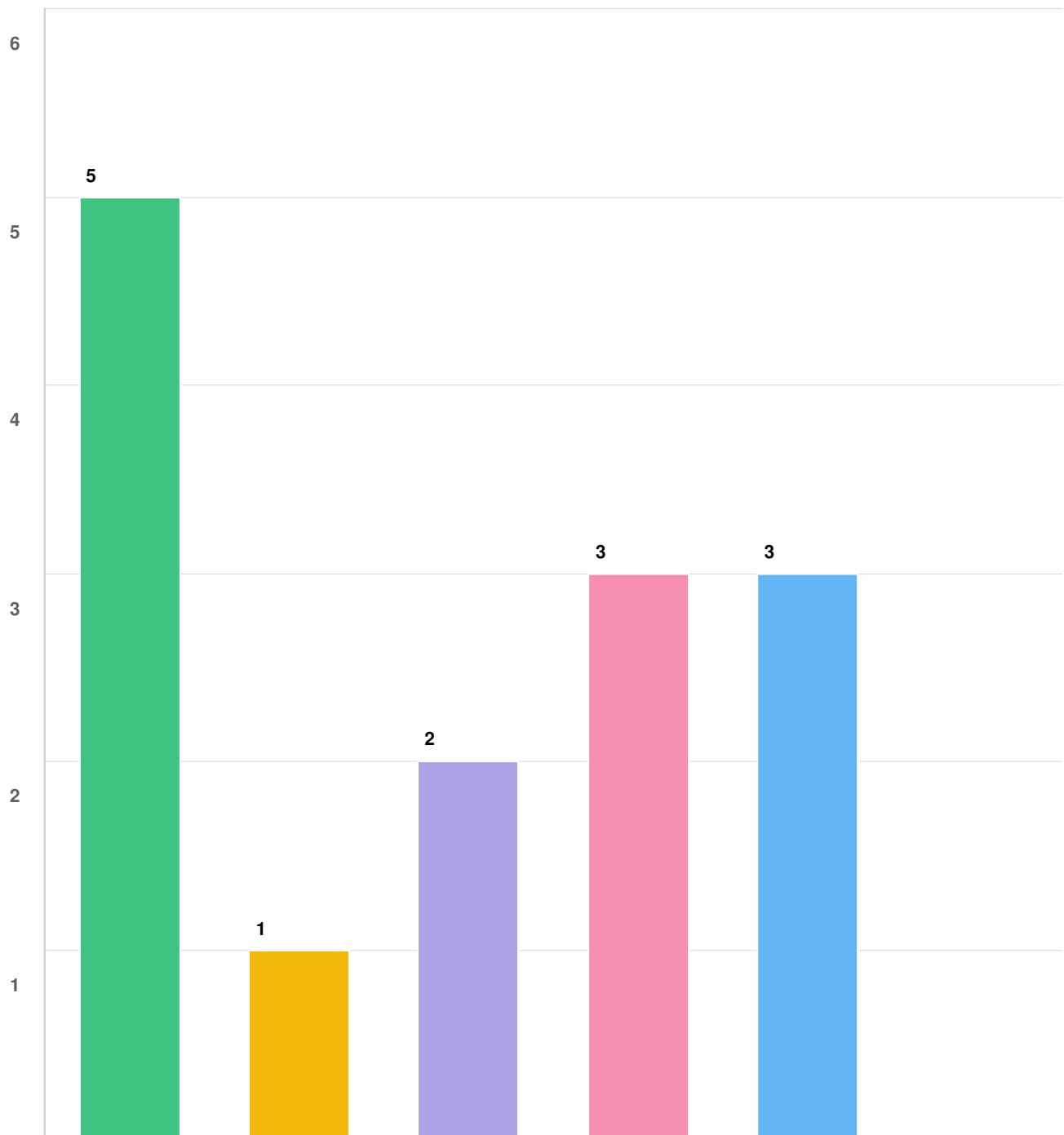
Other (please specify) No Yes

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Radio Button Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q33 How do you prefer to learn about and stay in-the-know about related City of Edina policies and their associated processes? Please check all that apply.



Question options

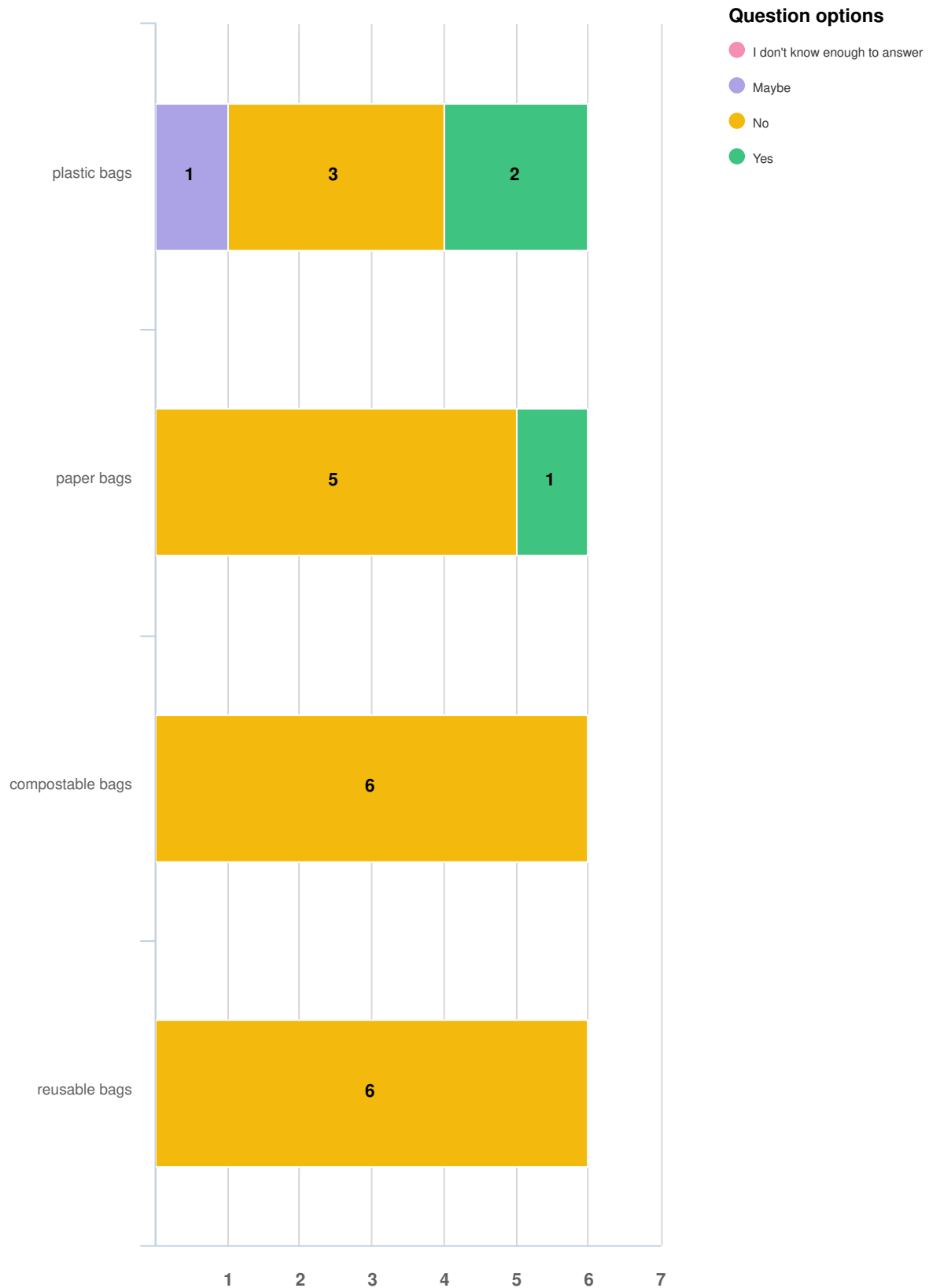
- Annual update meeting/training
- Other (please specify)
- Separate business section on City of Edina website
- Explanatory letter or newsletter
- Through a business group like a BID, Chamber of Commerce or Rotary
- City e-newsletters

Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Checkbox Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q34 Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.



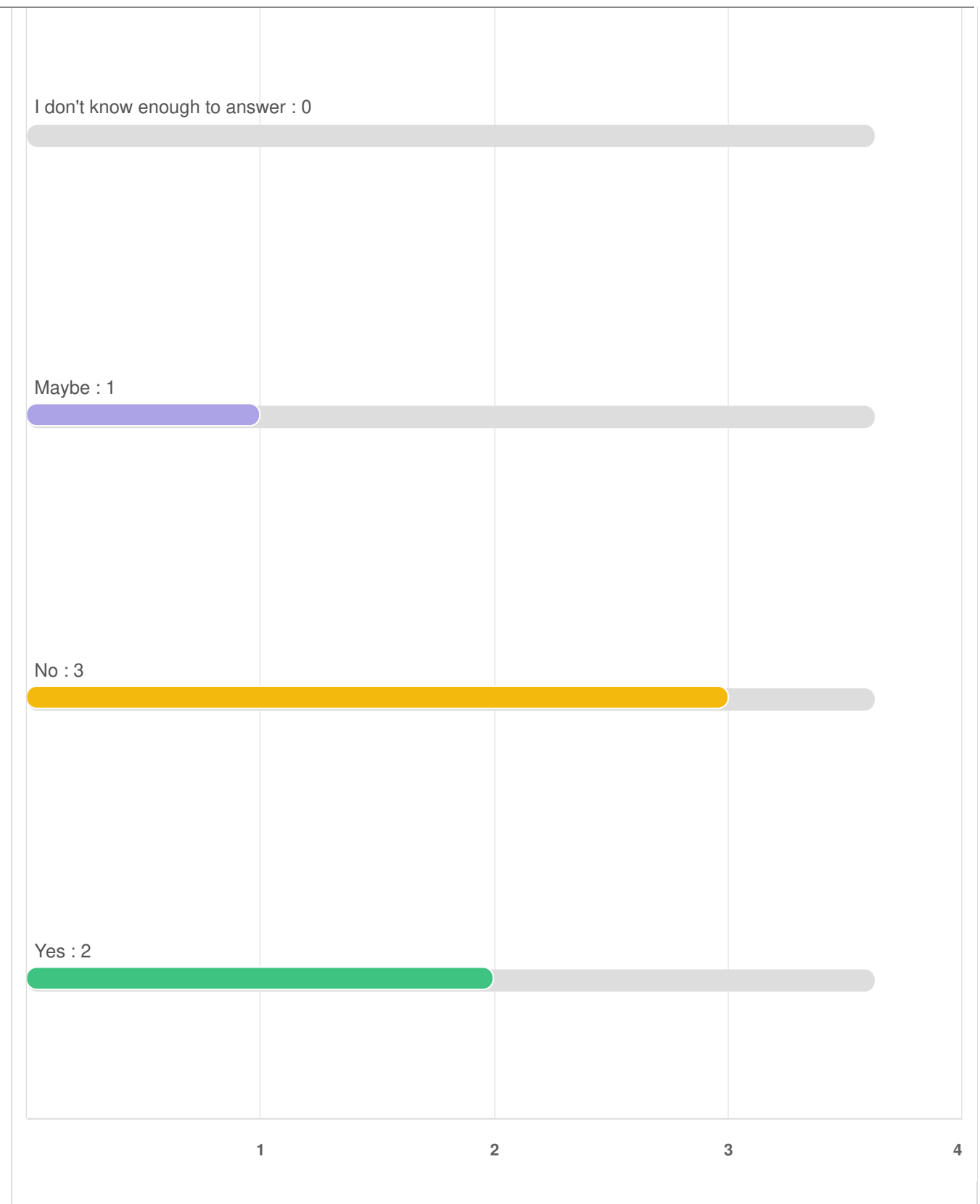
Mandatory Question (6 response(s))

Question type: Likert Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

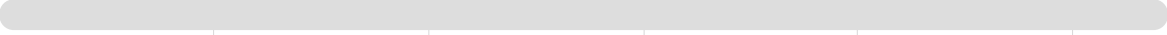
Q34 | Do you think the following bag types should include a fee to a customer to receive them when making a purchase? This does not include any bags the customer brings themselves.

plastic bags



paper bags

I don't know enough to answer : 0



Maybe : 0



No : 5



Yes : 1



1

2

3

4

5

6

compostable bags

I don't know enough to answer : 0



Maybe : 0



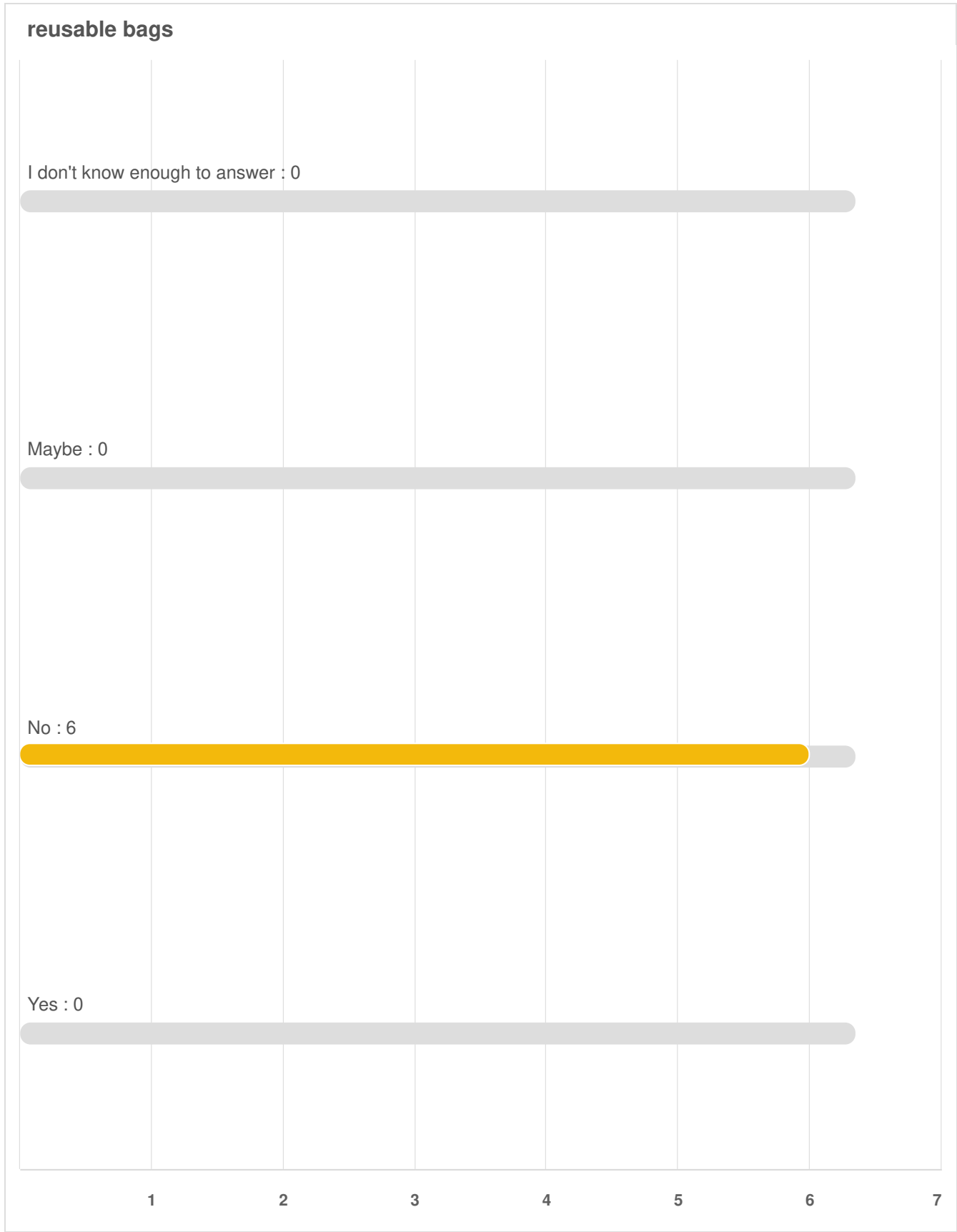
No : 6



Yes : 0



1 2 3 4 5 6 7



Q35 How else could the City accomplish its goal of reducing waste in Edina?

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:03 PM

Test comment

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 12:19 PM

Offer tax incentives or rebates for businesses that use re-useable or compostable bags.

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]:54 AM

Overall education and PSAs like they did in the 70s when I was growing up.

[REDACTED]
5/08/2023 09:16 AM

Grocery / product packaging and Amazon boxes are a greater problem than bags that get reused.

[REDACTED]
5/11/2023 01:43 PM

ban straws

Optional question (5 response(s), 1 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Q36 What other questions do you have about this proposal?

[REDACTED]
4/14/2023 02:03 PM

Test comment

[REDACTED]
4/17/2023 02:15 PM

When people order online and come in to pick up and then ask for a bag but transaction is complete it would make for a very difficult hand-off and frustrate customer. 3PD needs to be taken in bags for customer and driver sanitation and should be exempt from this program.

[REDACTED]
4/24/2023 12:19 PM

The vast majority of our clients pay for their items up-front since they are a customized eyewear product. If we have to charge them a separate fee when they come to pick them up, because they want a bag so they don't have to juggle, that causes more time and touches, and we believe most will consider it petty. Also, almost all of our payments are credit or debit card, so an additional bag fee at delivery

will require us to pay yet another transaction fee and percentage fee to the credit card processor. For FIFTY CENTS?!?!?! Most people do NOT carry cash these days!

06:54 AM

No other questions but our customers we've been talking to about this since January don't like it and think it's just another tax. Especially when they've learned that the collected funds are to be used at my discretion. I'm not thrilled that it makes the retailer look like the bad guy. The city has us collect the fees and then we decide what it's for. We've had much better behavior changes by working one on one with our customers. I don't think as a consumer I'm a good person to ask. I've been using reusable bags for over 10 years. I keep paper shopping bags and reusable bags in our cars at all times. If we do receive plastic bags because we've bought more than fits in our bags, we use those for garbage bags in our home and when we walk our dog. Without reusing the plastic shopping bags, we'll still be buying plastic can liners and bags for dog walks. Either way, the plastic bag is still being used. If this initiative is for the city to meet a certain ESG score, I understand it, I just think it's a lot of outlay in cost and extra work for the retailer to recapture a very small cost and will not change the amount of waste and garbage seen in the city. As Edina builds more housing to bring more people into the city, garbage levels will increase as more people make more purchases. There will be neutral impact. I don't mean to sound cranky about this. Writing vs in person is hard to discern. I'm really neutral in my feelings about this. I personally, don't see it making an impact on the "environment/climate of the city as it grows bigger. More people, more waste, more behaviors that may or may not align with the initiative. Thanks for this opportunity to respond. I can't attend the in person session as I have a meeting one morning and still at the store during the other.

5/08/2023 09:16 AM

We use paper bags to collect recycling as required. A charge for paper bags would discourage recycling because it creates a cost to comply where there is no higher price to throw recycling items in the trash.

5/11/2023 01:43 PM

I use reusable bags all the time but not for food service. It's just not sanitary.

Optional question (6 response(s), 0 skipped)

Question type: Essay Question

Filtering by: Are you an Edina resident or are you affiliated with a business? (Choose one) I-own-or-work-at-a-business-in-Edina

Exhibit 4

Edina Businesses Contacted and Interviewed

Exhibit 4
Businesses Contacted and Interviewed

Businesses Interviewed

Businesses Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Person Interviewed	Position
1	Lunds & Byerlys	7171 S. France Avenue South	Grocery	Chain	Brian Miller	Manager
2	Cub Foods	6775 York Avenue South	Grocery	Chain	Dawn Dailson	Assistant Manager
3	Southdale Center	10 Southdale Center	Retail Mall	Chain (Simon)	Judy Tullius	General Manager
4	Eileen Fisher - Retail	3480 Galleria	Retail	Chain	Jane Swanstrom	Manager
5	Eileen Fisher - Corporation	2 Bridge Street, Irvington, NY	Retail	Chain	Joanne Lossino	Director, Omni Operations, Eileen Fisher Corporation
6	CVS	6905 York Avenue South	Pharmacy	Chain	Jeff Hahn	General Manager
7	Barnes & Noble	Galleria	Retail/Cafe	Chain	Elizabeth	Store Manager
8	Jerry's Enterprises	5125 Vernon Avenue South	Grocery	Independent	Steve Troska	Manager

Businesses Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Person Interviewed	Position
9	Jerry's Do It Best Hardware	5115 Vernon Avenue South	Retail	Independent	Mike Rummel	Manager
10	Serge + Jane	4532 France Avenue South	Retail	Independent	Casey Carl	Owner
11	Jerry's Do It Best Hardware	5115 Vernon Avenue South	Retail	Independent	Mike Rummel	Manager
12	R.F. Moeller Jeweler	5020 France Avenue South	Retail	Independent	Bryan Moeller	Owner
13	Bluebird Boutique	3909 W. 50th Street	Retail	Independent	Sacha Martin	Owner
14	Harriet & Alice	3922 W. 50th Street, Suite 105	Retail	Independent	Kate Bispala	Owner
15	Truly Genuine Greetings & Gifts	10 Southdale Center	Retail	Independent	Carol Ann Stewart	Owner
16	Muna Beauty Cosmetics	10 Southdale Center	Retail	Independent	Hamdi Guled	Owner
17	Fit by Sha Sha	10 Southdale Center	Retail	Independent	Marie Fields	Owner
18	Parasole Restaurant Group	5032 France Avenue South	Restaurant	Independent	Donna Fahs	Chief Operations Officer
19	Coccinella	4946 France Avenue South	Restaurant	Independent	Umut Kaplan	Owner
20	Edina Grill	5028 France Avenue South	Restaurant	Independent	Stephanie Shimp	Marketing

Businesses Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Person Interviewed	Position
22	D'Amico & Sons	3948 West 50th Street C	Restaurant	Independent	Nino E'Andea	Manager
21	The Hilltop	5101 Arcadia Avenue	Restaurant	Independent	Tita	Manager

Businesses Contacted But Not Interviewed

Business Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Individual Contacted	Position	Status
1	Macy's Southdale Center	10 Southdale Center	Retail	Chain	Erin Demas	Manager	Repeated attempts via phone and email; no response
2	Macy's	7253 South France	Retail	Chain	Keri Jones	Manager	Email and phone calls; no response
3	Walgreen's	Corporate Offices in Deerfield, Illinois	Pharmacy	Chain	N/A	Corporate Offices in Deerfield, Illinois	Calls and email to corporate office; no response
4	Target	Corporate Offices in Minneapolis, Minnesota	Retail	Chain	N/A	N/A	Repeated phone calls and email messages to media relations and human resources; no response
5	Williams Sonoma	3512 Galleria	Retail	Chain	Mary Bandarek	Manager	Said she would have to check with corporate office before speaking; no response to several follow up calls

Business Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Individual Contacted	Position	Status
6	Jaxon Grey	3420 Galleria	Retail	Chain	Adam Bevis	Manager	No response to numerous messages left at store
7	Big Bowl	Lettuce Entertain You Corporate Offices in Chicago, Illinois	Restaurant	Chain	Ethan Samson	Deputy General Counsel	Repeated voicemail messages after referral from human resources; no response
8	Starbucks	3939 West 50th Street	Restaurant	Chain	Zachary Rothers	Manager	No response to messages left at store
9	Yumi Sushi	200 Southdale Center	Restaurant	Chain	Angelene Lee	Manager	Said she had to check with corporate and would call back if authorized to participate in an interview
10	Stalk & Spade	3925 West 50th Street	Restaurant	Chain	Lily	Co-Founder	No response to several voicemail messages
11	Coconut Thai	3948 West 50th Street	Restaurant	Independent	Joe	Owner	Could not be reached
12	Wooden Hill Brewery	7421 Bush Lake Road	Restaurant	Independent	Brittany	Marketing	Responded after two weeks when comment period had closed
13	Y&I Collection	Southdale Center	Retail	Independent	Nimo Osman	Owner	No response to messages

Business Number	Business Name	Address	Category	Type	Individual Contacted	Position	Status
14	East West Girl	3931 Market Street	Retail	Independent	Monica	Owner	No response to messages
15	Wooden Hill Brewery	7421 Bush Lake Road	Restaurant	Independent	Brittany	Marketing	Responded after two weeks when comment period had closed
16	50th & France Business Assoc	3902 West 50th Street, Suite C	Business Association	N/A	Max Musicant	Director	Emailed and declined to be interviewed; said they would support and promote to businesses