Cordry Sweetwater Conservancy
Wake Committee Minutes
August 9, 2023
CSCD Office

**** The minutes are not official until approved by the Wake Commission****

B Clancy announced recording of the meeting for note purposes

These minutes are not meant to be a full transcription.

Present: A. Parris, M. Harper, B. Clancy, S. Casey, B. Bowers, S. Leerkamp

Absent: J. Robinson.

Guests: None

Call it order: A. Parris called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM

Agenda Modifications:

- None

Free Holder Concerns: (Limited to 3 mins)

- Tommy Quill – Was interested to see survey results
- Kurt Wanninger – Stated he thought survey was bias, and wanted to know how the committee was selected due to him applying and being selected.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from 7/12/23 from Harper, second by Leerkamp. Vote passed 6-0.

Old Business:

- Freeholder Wake Survey Results 559 accepted submissions (3 surveys were not counted as CSCD Office Staff was unable to verify if survey was taken by a freeholder, 73 surveys were removed after review by CSCD staff due to multiple submissions from same lot/home (only one vote was allowed per freeholder property)
    - Question 1. Should boats that are manufactured to create an enhanced and/or large wakes, or watercraft that have been modified to create a large wake be: Ban these boats, Use these boats with current rule restrictions, Use these boats with full surfing ballast/wedge/surf tab/surf gates/flaps/etc (#1 first preference, #2 second preference, #3 last preference).
        - Ban Boats #1 preference 276 votes (50%)
        - Ban Boats #2 preference 117 votes (20%)
        - Ban Boats #3 preference 166 votes (30%)
        - Use these boats with current rule restrictions #1 preference 244 votes (44%)

- Use these boats with current rule restrictions #2 preference 264 votes (47%)
- Use these boats with current rule restrictions #3 preference 51 votes (9%)
- Use these boats with full surfing ballast/wedge/surf tab/surf gates/flaps/etc #1 preference 66 votes (12%)
- Use these boats with full surfing ballast/wedge/surf tab/surf gates/flaps/etc #2 preference 105 votes (19%)
- Use these boats with full surfing ballast/wedge/surf tab/surf gates/flaps/etc #3 preference 388 (69%)

- Question 2. In your opinion, should wake surfing continue to be an approved activity allowed at CSCD with current rules?
  - 319 votes for No (57%) to 240 votes for Yes (43%)

- Question 3. Do you believe there should be more severe consequences (more than a single ticket) to freeholders who signed a wake boat affidavit, and are found in violation of those rules?
  - 119 votes for No (21%) to 440 votes for Yes (79%)

- Question 4. Do you feel the lakes have become more dangerous in recent years with the addition of 64 wake surfing boats, which can facilitate the activity of wake surfing?
  - 202 votes for No (36%) to 357 votes for Yes (64%)

- Question 5. Have you, as a freeholder, ever passed on water activities because you feel the lake was too rough or dangerous due to wake surfing?
  - 213 votes for No (38%) to 346 votes for Yes (62%)

- Question 6. Do you believe wake surfing should be required to be done near the middle of the lake (approximately 400' away from the shore and dams)?
  - 180 votes for No (32%) to 379 votes for Yes (68%)

- Question 7. If wake surfing continues to be allowed at CSCD, should the activity be allowed near or hugging the "no wake" buoys? (Buoys around the lake are approximately 100 feet from the dams, 50 feet from the shoreline, 25 feet from the docks.)
  - 449 votes for No (80%) to 110 votes for Yes (20%)

- Question 8. Do you believe current CSCD wake surfing boating rules are being followed?

- 410 votes for No (73%) to 149 votes for Yes (27%)

- Question 9. Do you believe current CSCD wake surfing boating rules are being enforced?
  - 403 votes for No (72%) to 156 votes for Yes (28%)

- Question 10. Do you believe, if wake boats and wake surfing are NOT allowed at CSCD, our lakes would be less desirable?
  - 399 votes for No (71%) to 160 votes for Yes (29%)

- Question 11a. Since wake boats have been allowed at CSCD since 2015, have you experienced damage or danger to your person, shoreline, property, or boats due to boats that are manufactured to create an enhanced and/or larger more powerful wave?
  - 412 votes for No (74%) to 147 votes for Yes (26%)
  - Comments for 11b provided to Wake Committee and to Executive Board

- Question 12. Open comments - provided to Wake Committee and to Executive Board

- Member takeaways related to survey results.
  - Harper – Was not surprised that people are against wake surfing. Not surprised about the results related to questions 8 and 9. Thought question 10 shows the large majority of freeholders believe that there is no correlation of the allowing wake boats on the lakes and the desirability of our community. Stated 165 people commented in the area of question 11b, which was for freeholders, that have experienced damage or danger to your person, shoreline, property, or boats due to wake boats. Harper believes if there is that many people that have experience this issue that speaks volumes against this activity. Why should any freeholder have to experience personal property damage or danger to self or other persons for someone else's enjoyment?

  - Clancy - Surprised by answer of question 2, that there was 240 who stated yes in support for the activity. Stated in his opinion the people for the activity came out with a strong representation to support the activity, thus leading his opinion to be that possibly the large majority of freeholders who did not take time to vote are possibly on the opposing side and with the majority of votes in question 2 (319 votes) stating the activity of wake surfing should not be allow. Question 2 is tied to Clancy's main recommendation

from months early proposing the removing the activity of wake surfing and plowing, but allowing freeholders with wake surfing boats to continue to own and use any and all other approved activities.
Highlighted question 4, which asked about if freeholders thought the lakes were more dangerous due to the addition of wake boats since 2015, which (64%) 357 out of 559 said yes. Safety to those on the water always has been Clancy's main issue with the activity of wake surfing.
Highlighted from the meetings in the past and the survey comment section generally the people for this activity state the reason the activity needs to stay is for personal interest with comments that involve statements of "me", "my family" "my child" while often the people against this activity are more worried about everyone's safety as a whole, the lake overall, the dams, the future of the lake while bringing up negative effects they have seen or experienced but those are generally always dismissed by the few who do this activity or blamed on the bad apples. Clancy noted when very important decisions are made by leaders of the public or if community decisions are made based off of a minority of people opinion who say " Me and I" when defending a topic, often those persons are not seeking what is best for the overall greater good. When more than half of the community who took the survey says they believe this activity is not a good idea and have personal experiences to back what they felt as safety issues or dangerous situations on the water, that should speak volumes to the board. It's better to err on the side of caution and safety.

- Bowers – Was happy that the board agreed to let the survey take place. Disappointed that more freeholders did not vote. Was worried older or less tech savvy freeholders may have been missed and wanted to make sure all had an input. Stated she worries the lakes are going to be ruined. Worried about the future of the lakes and dams. Stated she noticed how many freeholders stated they put money into their shorelines since 2015 and she read a lot of comments about boats being swamped and kids being thrown around boats due to wake surfing. Closed with where does pleasure of few compare to the safety of all? Would hate to see anyone hurt due to this activity and boats being swamped.

- Casey – Was surprised by question number 6 and how many people agreed that the middle of the lakes was a good idea. (379 yes votes (68%)). Thought question number 9 results were

interesting, if rules are being enforced (72% said no). Noted that so many comments stating tubing is dangerous and comments that mentioned a possibility of certain hours for boating activities. Stated over a past weekend he only saw 2 wake surfers.
Read one comment aloud, in summary freeholder stated they lived on Cordry since 2006 and can count on two hands how often they have even seen anyone wake surfing, believed this is all a targeted things against certain people, stated they do have a wake boat, stated rules are not being enforced. Casey closed with stating he wondered how many people who stated they have experienced damage would not have commented if the activity was in the middle of the lake.

- Clancy replied to Casey takeway of question number 6 of how so many people voted that wake surfing in the middle of the lake is a good idea, Clancy stated after stepping back and seeing the question, it was a flawed question because of those 319 people in question 2 who stated the activity shouldn't even be allowed, they were still forced to select an answer (if they simple didn't answer the question the survey would be submitted), it did not give them a good option to reiterate being against the activity, so people were forced to select the lesser of the two evils in the question and selected yes for making the activity be 400 feet from shore.
- Harper replied to Casey takeway on the comment he read aloud. Stating there is a good reason the freeholder on Cordry never sees the activity, CSCD provided the Wake Committee with how many wake boats are at CSCD and a break down per each lake and Cordry only has 3 total wake boats while Sweetwater has 61. Also noted that since that freeholder stated they have a wake boat that means only 2 other freeholders on Cordry would have them thus explaining why they don't see it happening.

- Leerkamp- believes the survey general comment area reveals how many people believe the lakes are just too small lakes for this activity and freeholders are worried about many factors that are related to wake boats and wake surfing. Stated she is worried about the future of the lakes and moved here due to the smallness of the lakes and the overall community. Believes we need to revisit all lake rules for better enforcement, believes a boating test could be a good idea for all freeholders, similar to the zebra mussel test.

- Parris – main takeway is this community is very divide on the topic. Was very happy with overall turnout, as this is the most responded vote or survey he has even seen. Believes that since the community divide no wide sweeping changes should be made. Parris also read a comment from question 12, in summary the freeholder stated, freeholders should be allowed to enjoy the lake within reasonable limits, wake boats are currently popular and are likely to continue their increase in popularity. And the freeholder finds it annoying people complaining about the leisure practice of others. Believes rules need to be enforced and people should live with more tolerance and grace.

- Committee Recommendations

    - Recommendation that all lake rules be enforced. Motion by Bowers, second by Parris, 6-0 vote
    - Recommendation that the wake surfing activity be banned from any outboard or i/O boat configuration where the prop is located behind the transom. Motion by Parris, second by Clancy, 6-0 vote (This is not a vote on the overall approval of the activity of wake surfing by the committee, this is a recommendation to the CSCD board, which if the activity of wake surfing is continued to be allowed pending their final decision and vote, this is than a recommendation.)
    - New affidavit stating that boat patrol can board and inspect any boat under reasonable suspicion of breaking the rules. (in the same fashion that fishing boat live wells are inspected.) Motion by Clancy, second by Harper, 6-0 vote
    - Additional and final recommendations are going to be discussed at upcoming meetings. Upcoming meetings will work off excel sheet Harper made laying out all members recommendations.

New Business: N/A

Member Concern/Comments:

- Email from freeholder attached.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Clancy, second by Casey at 8:01 PM. Motion passed 6-0

Next Meeting: September 13, 2023, at 6 PM at CSCD Office

Respectfully Submitted by: Brian Clancy

CSCD Board and Wake Committee,

Please share with the entire board and wake committee! Please take the time to view attached information. Thank you in advance!

There are freeholders in this community that are still not aware of the wake survey or other issues regarding water lines. Especially our elderly and non tech savvy freeholders. We are not reaching even a small portion of this community and therefore leaving them out of the decision process in their own community.

How can we rectify that problem? Can we add these kind of things in the water bill or do a separate mailing? Would that be equal to or less than a online survey cost?

Regarding the wake survey and my thoughts on this issue.

The first survey question should have been yes or no, not rate per preference. What if those are not a preference at all? We do not have the option of not marking them. We feel that this was done on purpose for the graft presentation at the board meeting. So the committee is basically forcing freeholders to answer the questions they may not want to answer. Comments don't make it to your grafts so.....that is disappointing.

After reviewing the first question and backing out of the survey to review and complete at another time, we found that we can no longer enter the survey from the link. It takes us straight to the CSCD website with no link to the survey. Not sure if it says we have already completed and submitted but we definitely have not done so and we are wondering if anyone else is having these issues. Or if they are, are they assuming it's too late to complete. This can't be just us. We will come into the office so hopefully someone can help us complete and submit the survey.

Regarding wake boats and the future of our lake resource.

Bottom line, these lakes are too small. The ski areas is even smaller. These lakes are just not big enough for this kind of activity. The damage from the excessive wake is proven to cause erosion (shoreline and dam), lake floor damage therefore damage to the ecosystem and fishery, as well as personal injury.

The lakes have become unenjoyable most days. We can't even enjoy the lakes on the weekends anymore. It's dangerous and a safety concern so we just don't go out anymore on the weekends. As more and more wake boats are added, the excessive waves on the lakes are impossible to ignore or enjoy. It's like a washing machine, now just think if we have 200 of them! It is dfficult for other boaters, kayaks, paddle boarders and swimmers to enjoy. We

feel the committee and the board should really consider the other thousand plus registered freeholders on our lakes, NOT the 64, and climbing, wake boat owners.

This has been mishandled from the beginning, when these boats were introduced. "Delaying, denying and deceiving" the freeholders on what is scientific fact. These boats are engineered and designed to create large surfable waves. The folks that own them bought them for that very reason. Some are even breaking the previous rules set by using their enhancing equipment with no consequences.

How do we inspect a closed ballast for mussels when it holds seven times the amount of water as a bass boat live well after it's removed from the water? Gallons are retained. How do we insure the wake boats arent using their enhancing devices? WE CAN'T and WE DON'T!

We are all about having fun on the lake but when the minority ruins it for the majority how is that fair or just? We ban jet ski's for wave, wake and safety reasons but this is ok?

The million dollar dam issues are said to be caused by "age and PRESSURE" per Aaron. I would assume that is water pressure from the lake water.

Do excessive wakes and waves increase the water pressure on the dam and perhaps now we are now not seeing the affects of that increase water pressure? Absolutely! Do excessive waves and water outflow causes spillway failure? Yes!
What effect do these boats have on our lake ecosystem? Will we have more dam issues or even algae blooms in the future if these activities are allowed to continue? The science is there!

Hearing the comments at the committee meeting are very telling. There is an extreme conflict of interest going on here.

Herb speaks about no damage to his shoreline but doesn't he lives on Cordry where there are only a few wake boats and doesn't someone in his family work for our community real estate company?

The head of this committee, Aaron of Sweetwater Realty, tells us his involvement with this committee AND on the CSCD board is not a conflict of interest. Although, he is directly making decisions about the community he does the majority of his real estate bussiness dealings in and that's not a conflict of interest? Ever decision the board makes affects the home values here. That is another issue that should and will be addressed in the future. It's come up enough and denying that it isn't a conflict of interest is absurd. Had a neighbor show me the Facebook post on the refurbishing the basketball courts. Nice advertising we are allowing on our CSCD page! If it was out of the kindness of his own heart, he wouldn't

have wore that shirt or put up a sign. It is obvious to the community what going on here and it needs to be addressed appropriately.

So we can delay, deny and deceive our freeholders for self-serving reasons or we can do the right thing for the majority of the paying registered freeholders. Which will it be?

Please review the attached material.

Thank you for your time and consideration!

Greg and Shawn Rexroth
OES260

https://youtu.be/GXF9vTPQw0Y

https://www.kare11.com/amp/article/news/local/kare11-sunrise/wake-boat-study-university-of-minnesota-st-anthony-falls/89-f3b53537-78a0-49b0-a5c1-9363000b5fbb

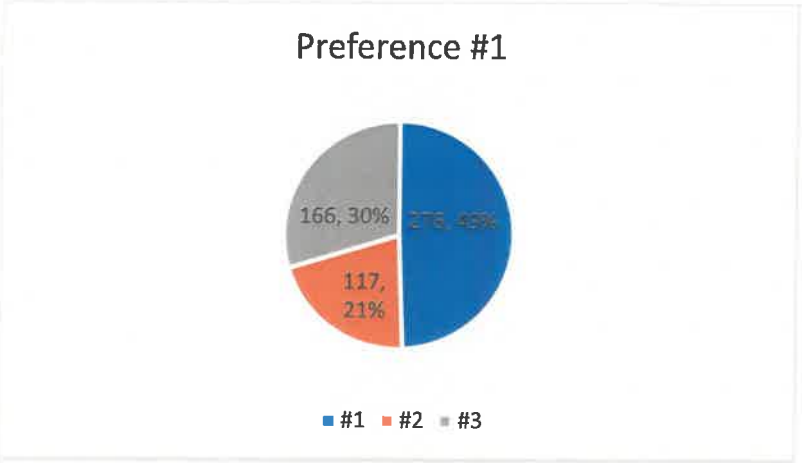
https://theconstructor.org/structures/common-causes-failures-dam-structures/20858/?amp=1

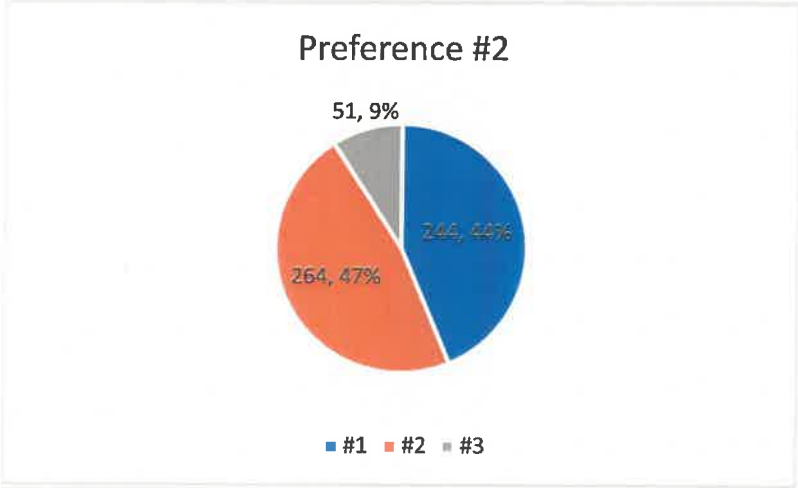
https://www.sierraclub.org/minnesota/blog/2023/03/wake-boats-land-10000-lakes

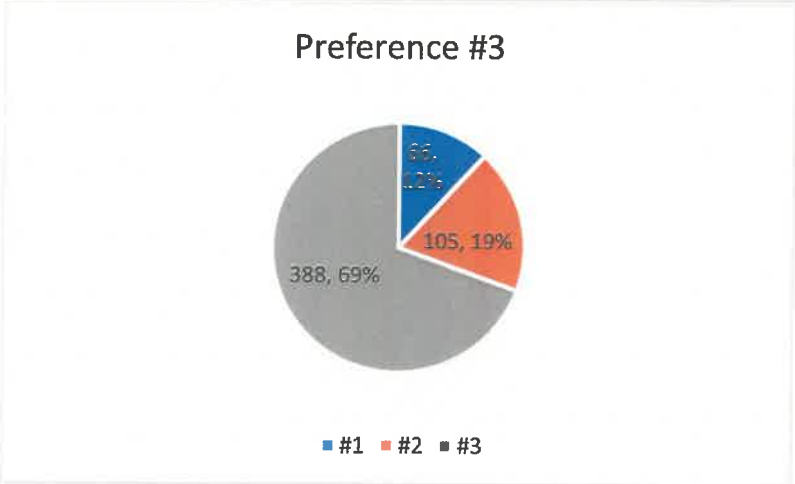
Sent from Shawn Rexroth

1. Should boats that are manufactured to create an enhanced and/or large wakes, or watercraft that have been modified to create a large wake be:

   #1 Ban these boats
   #2 Use these boats w/ current rule restrictions
   #3 Use these boats with full surfing ballast/wedge/surf tab/surf gates/flaps/etc







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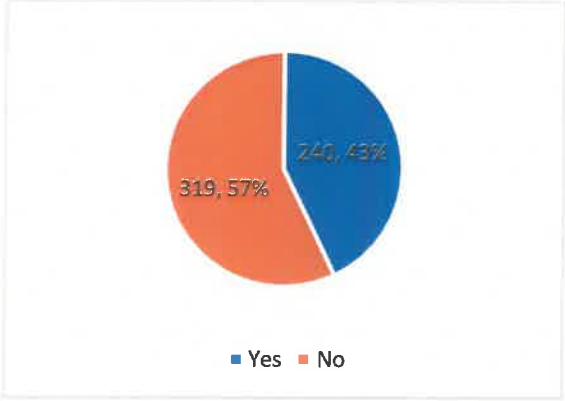

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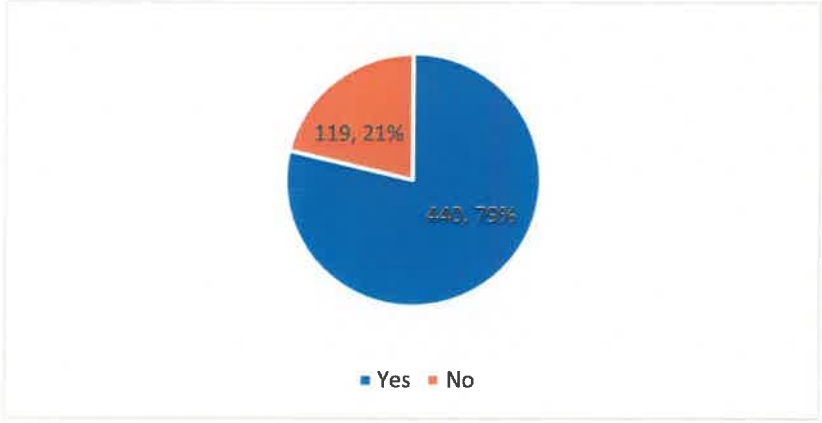

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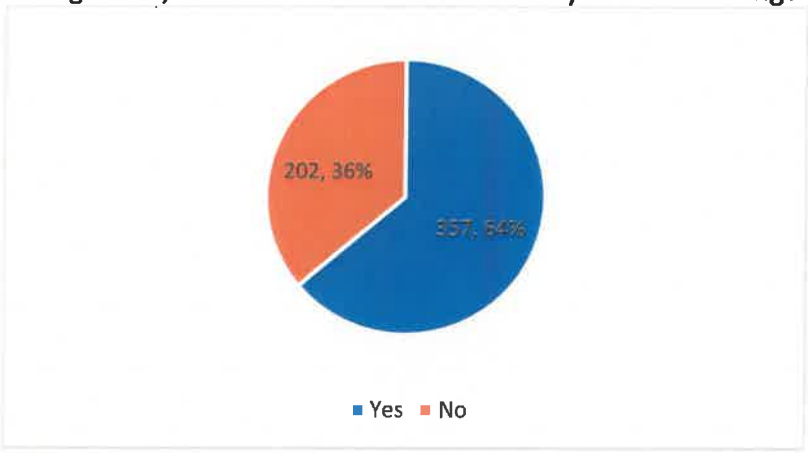

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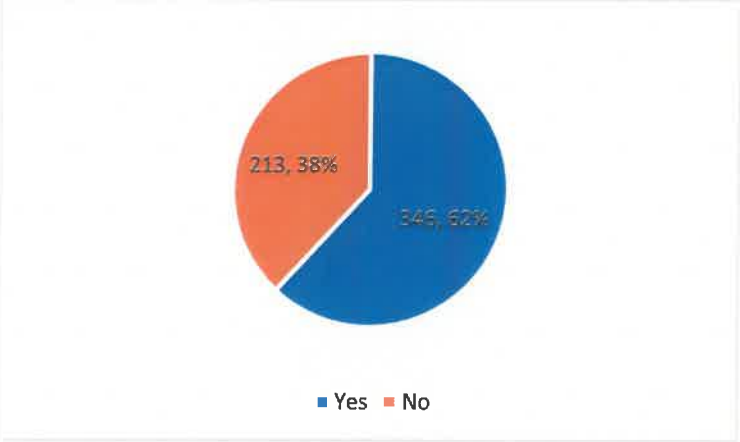

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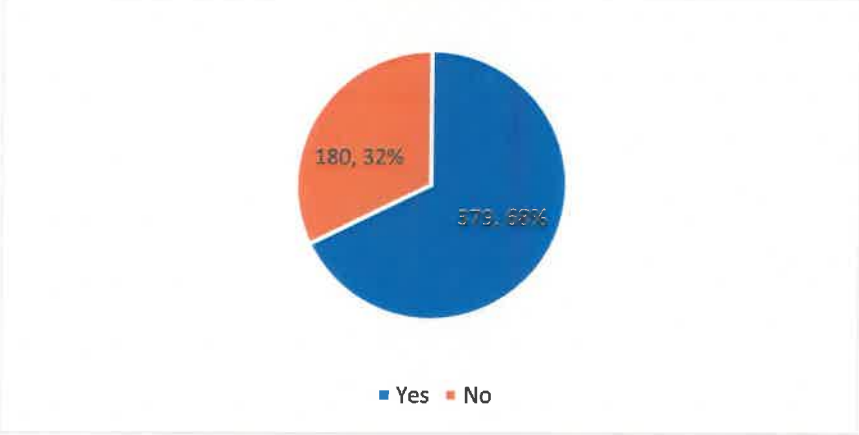

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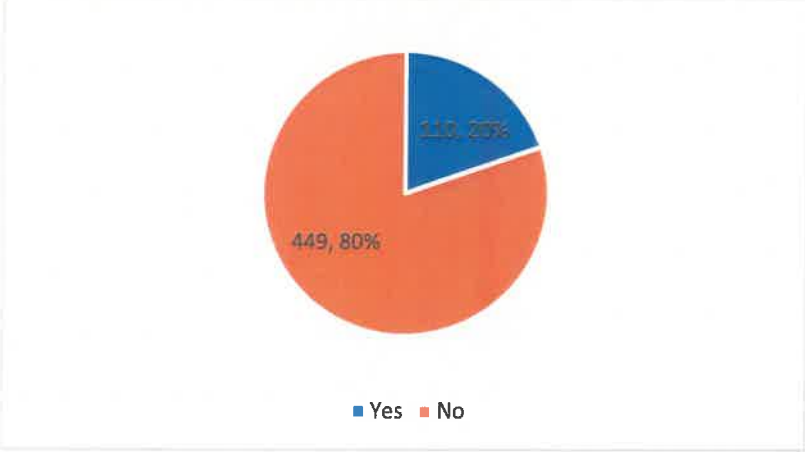

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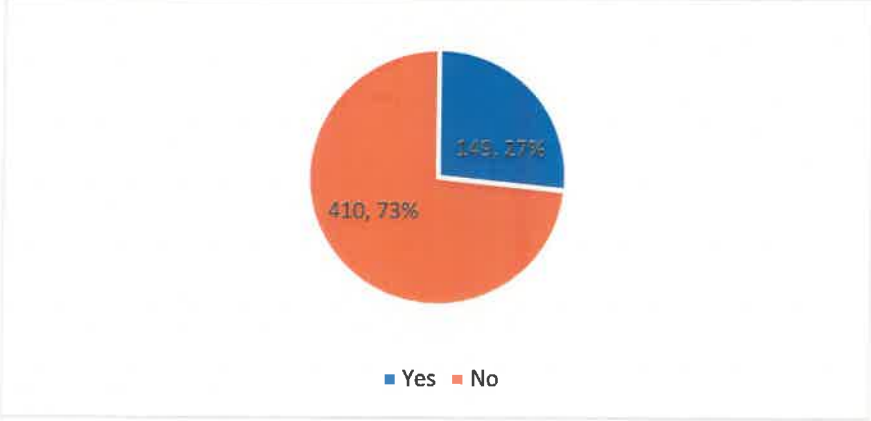

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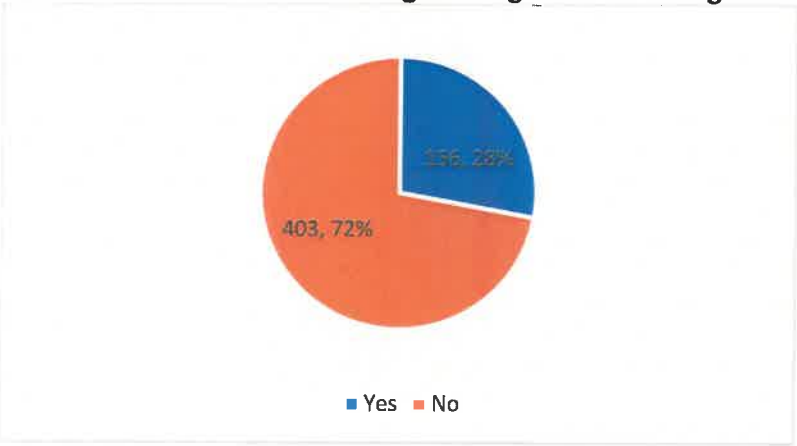

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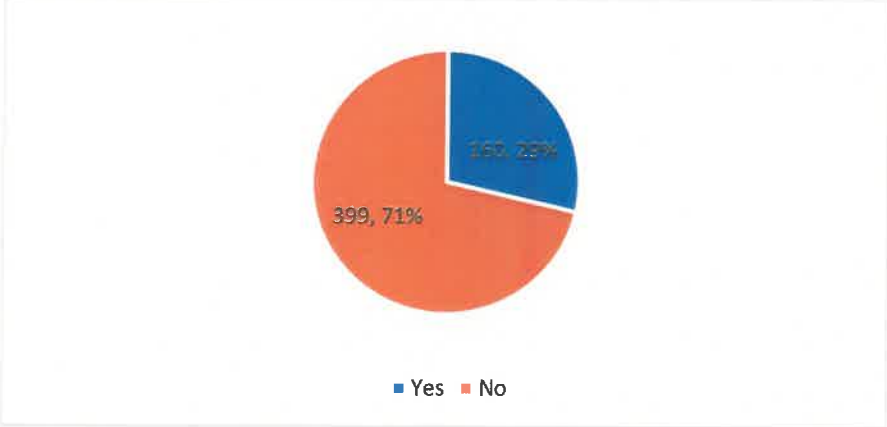

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