

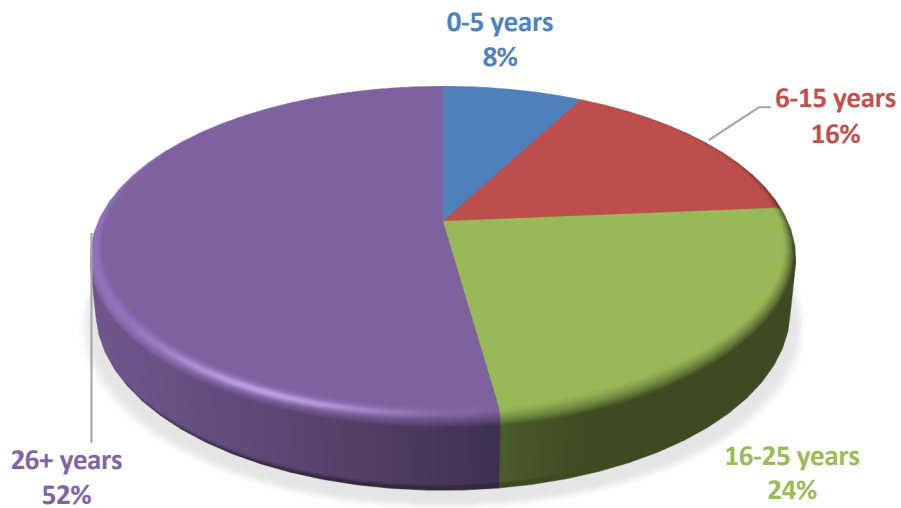
Palos Verdes Estates - Issues and Priorities Survey July 2020



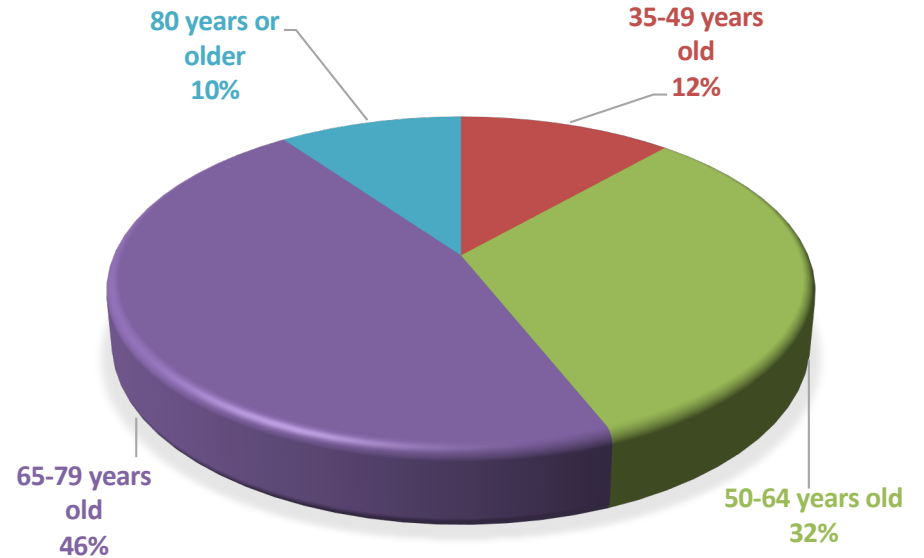
For more polls, see: <https://www.pvrrg.org/polls-current>

Survey Respondents

BY YEARS OF RESIDENCY IN PVE
182 RESPONDENTS



BY AGE OF HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD
182 RESPONDENTS

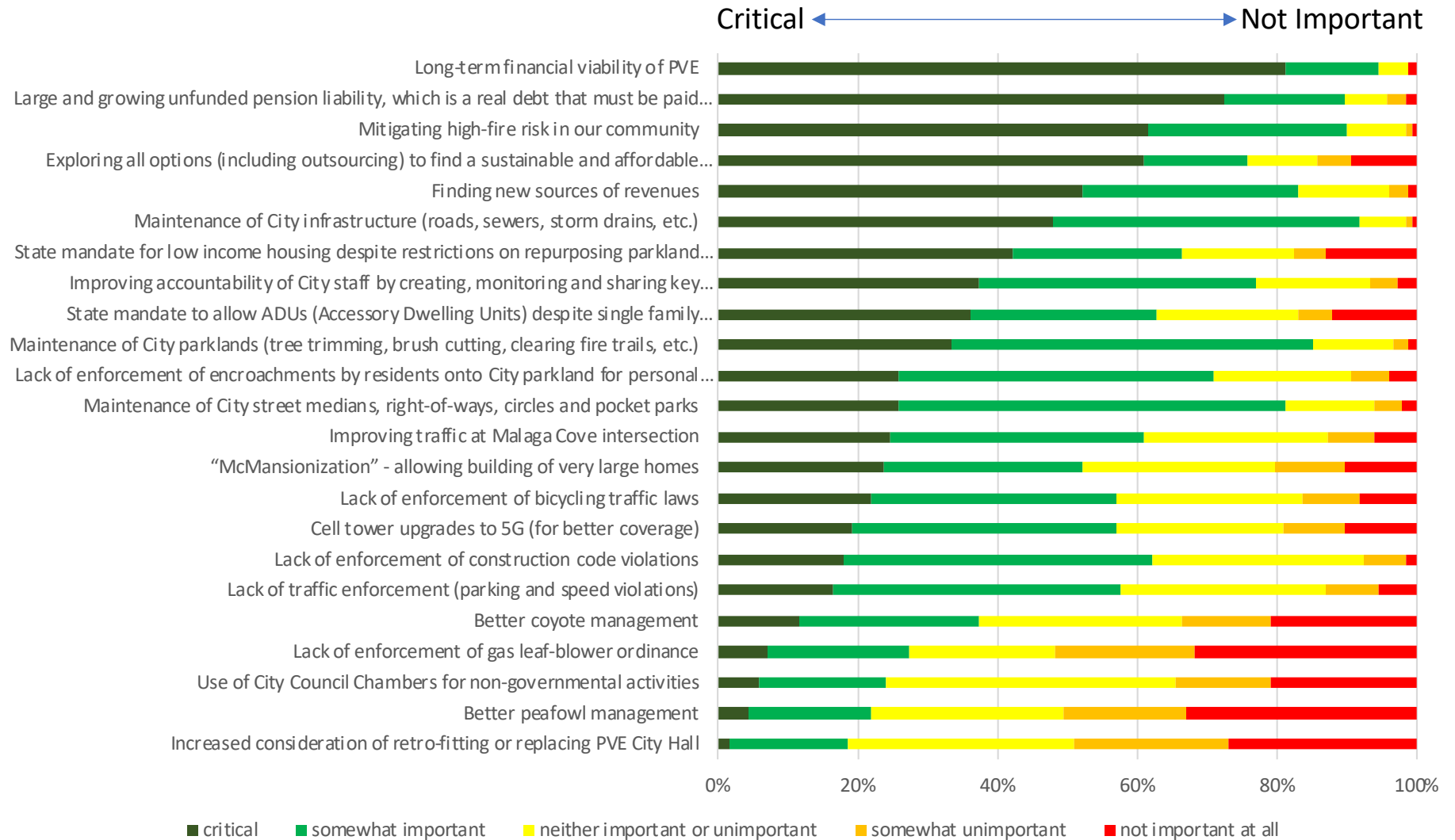


Issues Covered in Survey

Long-term financial viability of PVE
Large and growing unfunded pension liability, which is a real debt that must be paid at some point
Mitigating high-fire risk in our community
Exploring all options (including outsourcing) to find a sustainable and affordable model for our Police Department
Finding new sources of revenues
Maintenance of City infrastructure (roads, sewers, storm drains, etc.)
State mandate for low income housing despite restrictions on repurposing parkland in CC&Rs
Improving accountability of City staff by creating, monitoring and sharing key performance metrics
State mandate to allow ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units) despite single family restrictions in CC&Rs (Conditions, Covenants and Restrictions)
Maintenance of City parklands (tree trimming, brush cutting, clearing fire trails, etc.)
Lack of enforcement of encroachments by residents onto City parkland for personal use
Maintenance of City street medians, right-of-ways, circles and pocket parks
Improving traffic at Malaga Cove intersection
“McMansionization” - allowing building of very large homes
Lack of enforcement of bicycling traffic laws
Cell tower upgrades to 5G (for better coverage)
Lack of enforcement of construction code violations
Lack of traffic enforcement (parking and speed violations)
Better coyote management
Lack of enforcement of gas leaf-blower ordinance
Use of City Council Chambers for non-governmental activities
Better peafowl management
Increased consideration of retro-fitting or replacing PVE City Hall

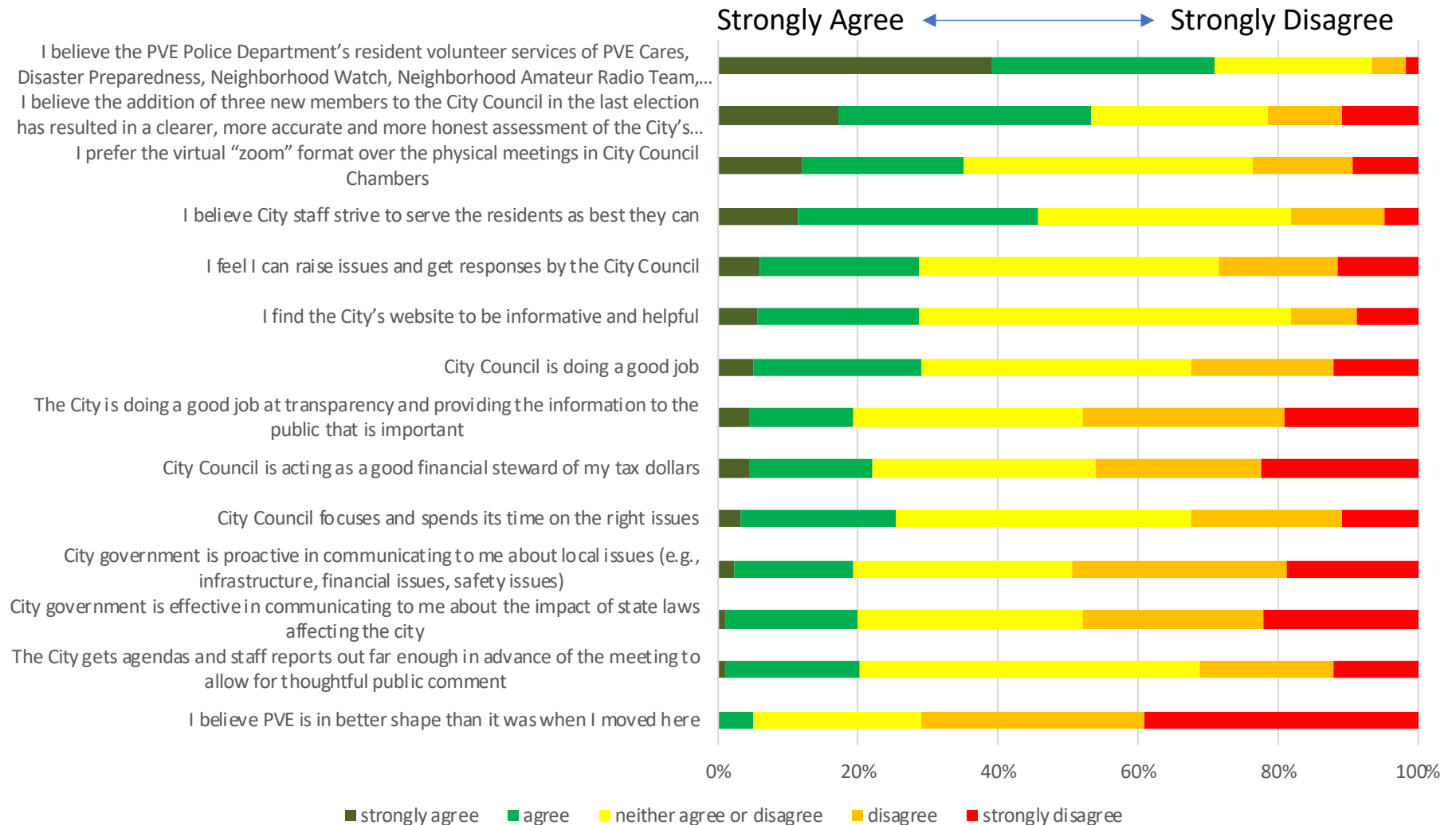
Which Issues are Most Important?

IMPORTANCE OF ISSUES



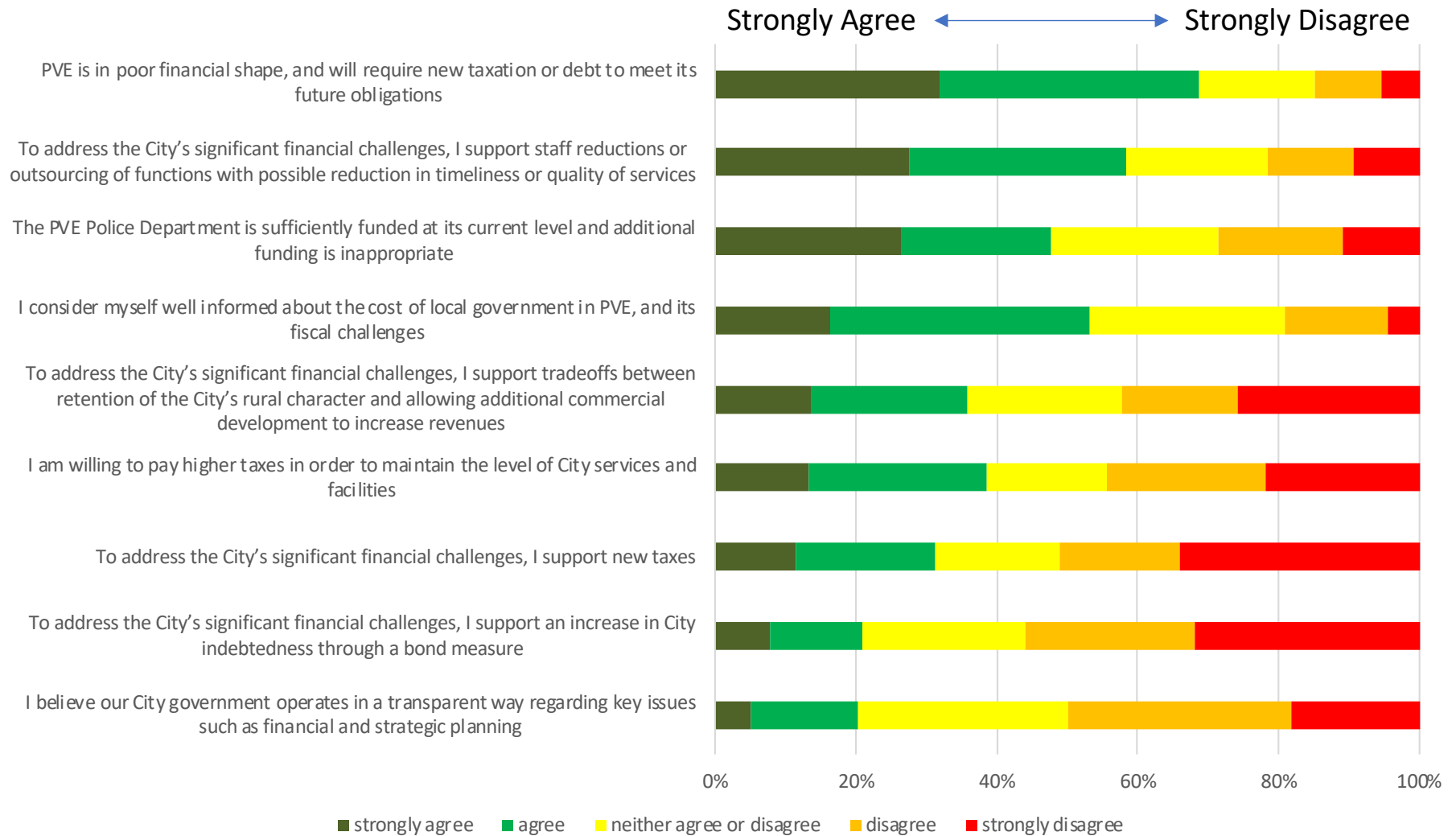
Satisfaction with City Government?

SATISFACTION WITH CITY GOVERNMENT



Perspective on PVE Fiscal Challenges?

PERSPECTIVE ON PVE FISCAL CHALLENGES



Other Issues Raised

(comments)

Other Issues Raised (page 1)

Financial Challenges

- Apparent lack of common sense by certain councilmembers who do not want to address city's financial situation and refuse to look at all options
- Art Jury and city finances
- Bringing in restaurants and other sales tax generating revenue that the residents can enjoy
- City financials are #1
- Finances
- Financial health of the city
- Financial stability, long term plan to reduce growing police pension debt, honesty and transparency by city council
- Financial stability, transparency/ethics, fighting forced density, stacked taxes and state overreach
- Financial viability of City WITHOUT Bonds and taxes or other liability.
- Fiscal responsibility is paramount. If we can't afford something without unacceptable taxes, we need to do without it
- Long-term financial plan that is honest and realistic
- Minimize government & tax burden
- Saving PVE from insolvency

Other Issues Raised (page 2)

Financial Challenges (continued)

- Staff salaries
- Stop spending money we don't have
- The one percent on property taxes based on sale price is not always consistent
- Transparency in City's expenditures
- We need to raise taxes. Just get over it. We all can afford it
- The "business as usual" attitude vs. a proactive and innovative solution to address city finances

Planning Process and Approvals/View Disputes

- Better predictability in the neighborhood compatibility & planning commission review processes. The process feels arbitrary and that has the effect of shunning away buyers from the area. This effectively creates a cap on real estate values relative to neighboring cities
- Can they do something about the runaway "art jury"??
- Also view restrictions from neighbors' trees are #2. If you put into effect rules, you have to be able to enforce them! Otherwise it's worthless!
- Another issue is looking the other way as new residents move to PVE and start cutting down our trees. They need to get the city as well as art jury approval. This should be part of a general HOA. If people live here then they should honor the natural beauty that the peninsula offers. I have seen people on Nextdoor comment that all trees on La Selva should be removed due to fire risks. I just want to scream. I would like to see an ordinance created and monitored. I am happy to be any part of this to protect this land for future generations. Plenty of treeless streets inland

Other Issues Raised (page 3)

Planning Process and Approvals/View Disputes (continued)

- Harmonization of Art Jury and planning commission overlap for replacement construction of single-family residences
- Improving City governance. Specifically remediating the problems with PVHA (self-dealing, lack of transparency, arbitrarily changing election rules to benefit incumbents) by making it accountable to the elected government at City Hall
- The separate Art Jury (with no accountability) and City Planning for remodeling/new construction makes not sense -- Art Jury approvals should be combined with City approval functions to streamline and eliminate conflicting mandates; proactive disaster planning to prepare for earthquakes and fire
- Maintaining views (enforcement of view CCRs)
- Maintenance of views by tree trimming city trees
- Protecting views. Pass a view ordinance with teeth!
- The city planning dept needs to set a very clear rule for hedge heights between neighbors unless agreed upon together. Eg. 8 ft or 10 ft if a wood fence can't be higher than 6-8 ft then hedges should be managed the same!!!
- View protection

Other Issues Raised (page 4)

ADU's/Low Income Housing

- No ADU's in our community - not useful
- Repurposing of School District properties to low income housing
- We would like to understand why Council voted to accept the ADU's, especially with no comments from residents whose property values will be affected. Big disappointment!
- Stop ADU's
- No ADUs, fight against high density, stand up to bullying and out of touch Sacramento, stop w inconsistent Art Jury rulings, one day a specific rule is enforced, the next day a Manhattan Beach sized, over height limit and lot coverage non neighborhood compatible house pops up; stop butchering trees

Police/Pensions

- Budget / Pension reform Replace police with county
- Keeping the municipal police force and NOT ever switching to subpar service from LA Sheriff
- Currently mainly the police pensions
- Disbanding the police department
- Cutting city employees and getting rid of our own city police so that we can be financially stable

Other Issues Raised (page 5)

Police/Pensions (continued)

- Most older residents feel if LA Sheriff contracted by the city, they will have to wait in emergencies for LA Sheriff to drive all the way from Lomita to PVE. If contracted, would LA Sheriffs be stationed in current PVE posts? How can residents understand that current Pensions have bankrupted our city and will continue to do so for a long time. Most do not read long explanations in this short attention span world. Thank you very much for caring and for your hard work! It is not easy information to dissect and explain.
- Finding staffing level WE CAN AFFORD for our PD. Finding ways to use our retired (25%+) residents
- I believe the resident volunteer services listed in a question below should be all volunteer - no paid police assistance. We have a huge financial problem and adding more police hours translates into more retirement funding which we already cannot afford. I was extremely shocked at the dishonesty in the Pro Measure E materials. I think the measure was sold as completely funding the PVEPD, and so it needs to completely fund the PVEPD
- Keep our PVE police department
- Keep PVE POLICE
- Keeping our police department our own is #1
- Keeping our Police dept.
- Keeping our police while we figure out a way to manage the pension debt
- I would like the city to get the Police department under control especially the expense. We don't need the jail and several officers to man it

Other Issues Raised (page 6)

Police/Pensions (continued)

- In general, enforcement of existing laws and codes, engendering respect for law and order. Police taking a knee in front of protesters was appalling
- Increase in crime
- Issue #1 by a million miles: WE MUST KEEP OUR PVEPD. Very simple. I know we have a lot penny-pinching short sighted types around here but our police must be saved
- Please do what voters overwhelmingly approved: keep police and fire; protect us
- Maintain police. Expand pve police to other cities in the hill and share the costs
- More police presence in our neighborhoods.
- Not undermining the police department. The city spoke loud with a 70% YES on Measure E. The residents want the police department, which includes dispatch and the jail
- Outsourcing of any/all department employees and negotiating better contract options
- Patrol and enforcement of our bluffs and beaches especially in the evening
- Personal and property safety. With the difficulty of recruiting and retaining police officers, whether our own Police Department or outsourcing, it is incumbent that our residents step up to fill the void, with organizations like Neighborhood Watch.
- Priority one is addressing cost-effective alternatives to legacy police pension issues, including the Sherriff department

Other Issues Raised (page 7)

Police/Pensions (continued)

- Protect and support our police. Stop city council overstepping boundaries and ignoring will of people. Be kind to one another and listen. Kudos to PVE Cares and continue protecting our dear elderly. Our kindness defines us. Don't give in to NextDoor bullying. Thank you for asking and trying to do your best for us
- Retaining our private police services no matter the costs
- Review PVE Police vs Sheriff Dept costs and make results known to all residents
- Saving the PVE PD - every week, we see how much of a bunch of incompetent clowns the Sheriff's Dept is across the entire county
- The city of Palos Verde Estates has been doing fine for many years. Stop trying to change things to make it better. Do not try to change our Police Department. The current department & the way it is funded is OK as it is
- Keeping our own police department and not becoming part of LASD
- Underfunded pension (i.e. Sacramento disaster)
- We need to outsource the police dept to LA County Sheriff. All of the medians, parks, baseball fields look terrible. Those are mentioned in your survey but just wanted to express my concern
- We want to KEEP our Palos Verdes Estates Police at all costs!!!

Other Issues Raised (page 8)

Traffic and Enforcement

- Get a traffic light for Malaga Cove Plaza/City Hall
- Get some kind of traffic signal in Malaga Cove or better yet traffic circles for both the gulley area and near the police station/ city hall. These work well in many cities in our country and throughout Europe without installing a traffic signal. they will also reduce need for part time police traffic management
- Enforcement of no parking of RV motor homes on City streets
- Stop w traffic circle. So people have to wait an extra 2 mins to get thru Malaga Cove? Privilege problems. Do not change the charm and unique entrance to and thoroughfare thru Malaga. No road diets
- Safer streets for bicycling. Dedicated bike lanes. Improving safety of crossing PV Drive with a bicycle for children, families and recreational cyclists. Improved playgrounds for our children to use off hours for recreation
- Speeding on Paseo del Mar, particularly around start of school and end of school at PVHS. It's not only the kids that are a problem. It's also the parents. Also, can we please educate walkers on streets without sidewalks to walk INTO the traffic so that they can see the oncoming traffic and be seen by the oncoming traffic? Also helps with social distancing because you will never be walking into oncoming foot traffic if everyone walking keeps to their left
- Traffic at entrance of PVE- PV Blvd into PV Dr N. Free for all with bicycles, pedestrians, cars driving 50mph+. A disaster will occur. PVE (especially Valmonte) is being invaded by Manhattan Beach. They are ruining it as they did MB. Electric bikes speeding on walking trail PV Dr North. Mostly kids who think they should have right of way

Other Issues Raised (page 9)

Covid-19

- Victoria need to obey laws and wear masks - they whiz by you within inches breathing heavily. No chance to move away and 85 -90 percent never wear masks. Sign should be at entrance to PVE permanently. They make walking a stressful experience
- Covid mask management and or social distancing
- Enforcement of COVID rules with respect to clifftop trail closures.

Infrastructure/Parkland

- Maintenance of infrastructure and parkland. Stop development of parkland
- Getting power lines underground. Additional internet providers aside from COX so there is competition
- Crime and criminal activity in our community
- Lunada Bay trail “beautification” is a waste - our pocket parks look trashy and we are spending money on Paseo Del Mar which is already naturally gorgeous
- Need to maintain open areas, use wood chips (i.e. RHE use along roadside and open areas)
- Removing grass from medians then record high rain. Grass trying to poke thru man made mess created unnecessarily. A mismanaged eyesore
- Our school fields are always in bad shape which makes running on the grass a hazard
- Beautifying the city both in terms of hardscape, infrastructure and landscaping is also something I would like to see more of. Maintaining and improving our urban forest/mature trees
- Would like the lawn in front of the City Hall and Police Department to be better maintained

Other Issues Raised (page 10)

PVE Character

- Councilmember commitment to maintaining the rural ambiance in a sustainable manner. They do not behave consistently
- Protecting the standard of living that was the original intention of the establishment and incorporation of Palos Verdes Estates
- Preserve original PVE-no McMansions
- Preserve our unique and rural city filled with kind, hard-working people. Obviously please protect us from fire but stop over cutting trees and changing entire landscape of city
- When the epidemic is over, more community events like concerts, art shows, etc that bring people together to celebrate life and our beautiful community of interesting and diverse individuals. Preserving historical structures and landscape design, including public walking trails, and when replacement is needed making it look like it would have back in the 1920's. I worry that some City leaders are pennywise and pound foolish. Do not throw the baby out with the bathwater since that will wreck our City and the reason most of us moved here! This was once a very special and unique place, hopefully it is not too late to turn back

Other Issues Raised (page 11)

Communications

- City council communication to the community has to be improved
- Direct communications with our residents about our city finances. We may not be able to afford mailing a city newsletter but we can email shorter messages. Keep residents up-to-date
- What is best way to educate residents on PVE's financial situation more clearly
- Honesty and fairness when discussion city issues
- Lack of clear and open communication of city issues to residents
- Giving residents unbiased clear information- somehow rising above the rancor displayed in social media. Promoting civic pride & having positive info & news communicated. Tapping into the younger generation- their ideas and support.

City Council Dynamics

- Disrespectful and strange behavior of Davidson to Lozzi (at the time City Treasurer)
- More accountability of city council. Need better, more experienced people like Michael Kemps
- More accountability at all levels
- Palos Verdes Estates should be a charter city
- The performance quality of current city council members and the adequacy transparency and competence of the Financial Advisory Committee

Other Issues Raised (page 12)

Morale on City Staff

- Happy city staff! We have lost our managers and public works to neighboring cities
- The loss of so many employees who worked in City Hall. I am so surprised this was not one of the above questions. Since Tony Dahlerbruch left it appears that employee morale has plummeted. We cannot have a well-functioning City if we cannot hire and keep the best people. I worry that PVE now has the reputation of being a bad place to work that does not value its City Hall staff. Again, why wasn't high turnover at City Hall listed as one of the above items? Shocking. This is absolutely fundamental

Noise

- Lack of enforcement of excessive noise violations by motorcycles and cars outfitted with noisy exhaust systems. They're illegal and destroy the tranquility of our city
- Leaf blowers
- Noise from low-flying aircraft in Valmonte evading Torrance Noise Abatement regimen

Miscellaneous

- Limiting the coyote population
- Creating better utilization of the PVGC and PVTC properties by giving the younger residents of PVE better option for aquatics (pool) and other Club offerings
- Being forced to use solar power
- I feel strongly that we should not add any new cell towers nor make any existing towers taller. PVE cares is important but a radio team? What is the point of that?

Other Issues Raised (page 13)

PVHA (Palos Verdes Homes Association)

- Critically important is that I would like to hear from the city council members why they (or whoever is responsible) will not allow the lowering of the quorum and why people who were not on the ballot were appointed . Accountability is critically important
- Decreasing the quorum required

Schools

- Funny that after having measure PV, you have no questions in here in regards to our schools. I was not for that measure but there are still smaller issues that need to be addressed. One of the most important especially with the impact of Covid 19 and the effects of radon on the peninsula, it is crucial to create a cross ventilated area in our classrooms. As of now, there are only doors and no windows in PVHS. It is one thing to not have ac and keep students' temperature regulated so they can retain focus but it is also another things to disregard the endangerment of their Heath with these two issues. We must do this
- I know the schools are a separate issue, but OPEN THE SCHOOLS!
- School infrastructure funding
- Schools

Other Issues Raised (page 14)

On this Survey

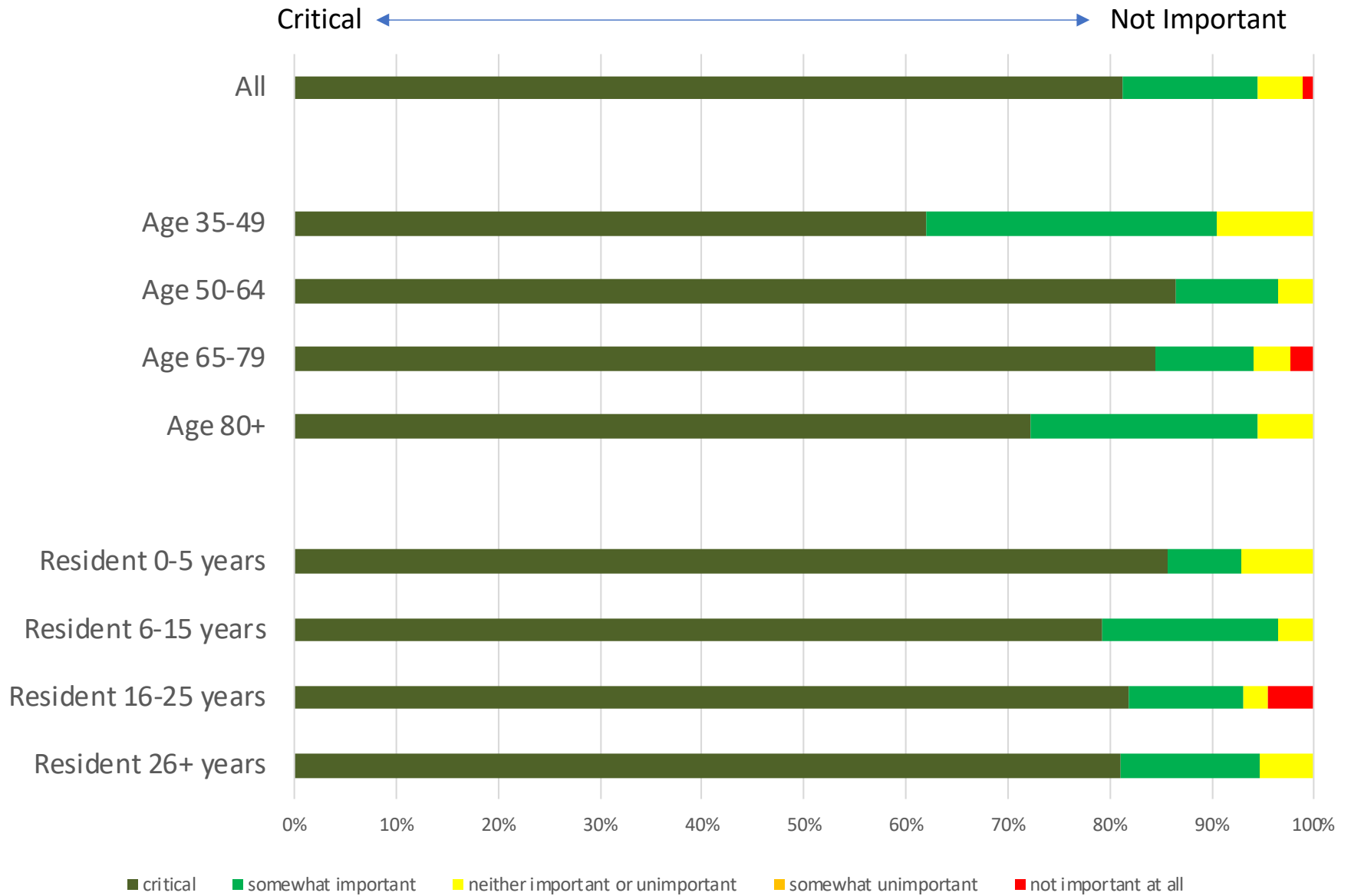
- Great poll!!
- Poorly worded survey to coax specific outcome
- You covered all
- You covered all of them
- You covered them
- You have included all of them
- You've covered them

Most Important Issues By Demographic

Age of Head of Household

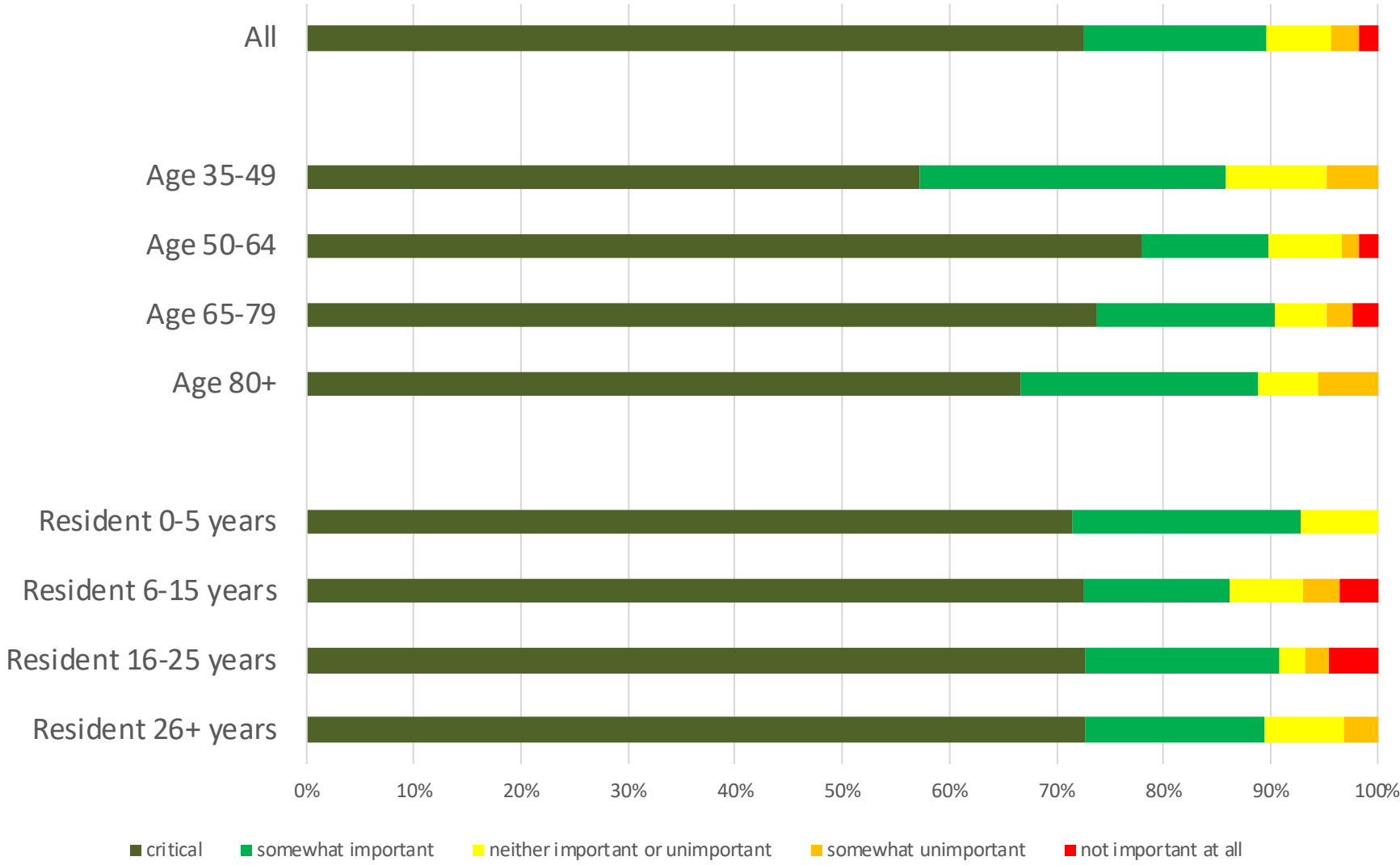
Years Residency in PVE

Long-term Financial Viability of PVE



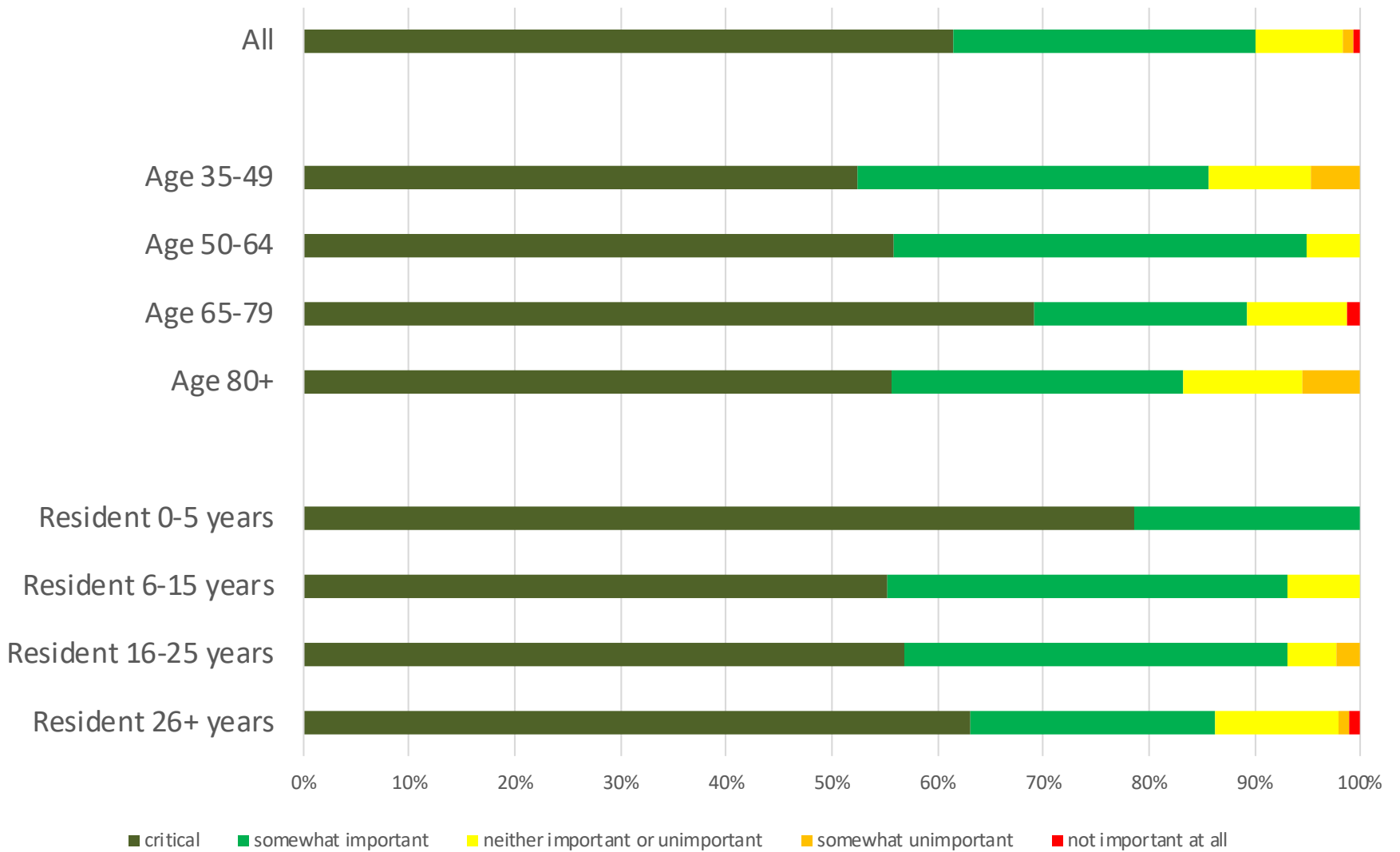
Large and growing unfunded pension liability, which is a real debt that must be paid at some point

Critical ←————→ Not Important



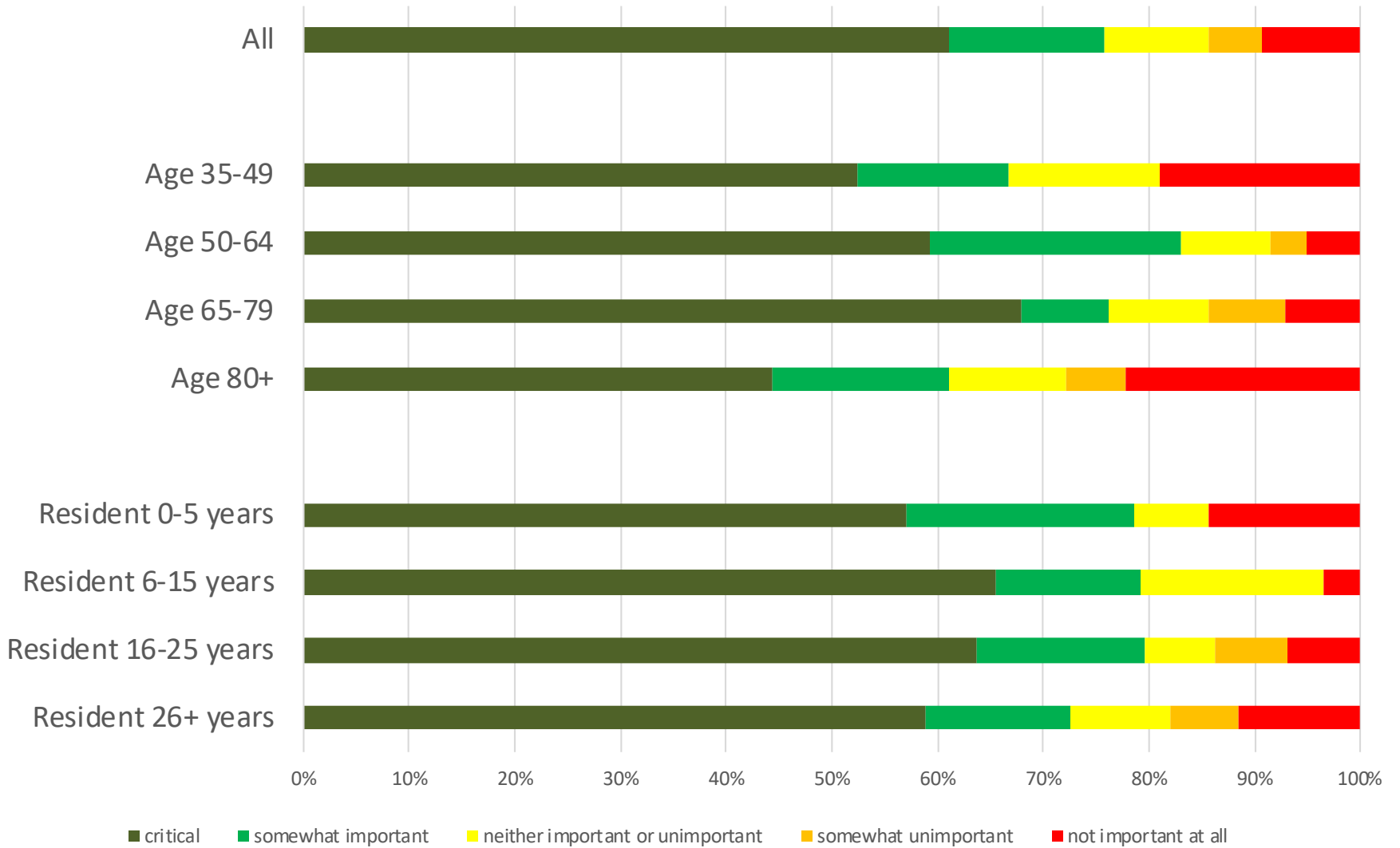
Mitigating high-fire risk in our community

Critical ← → Not Important



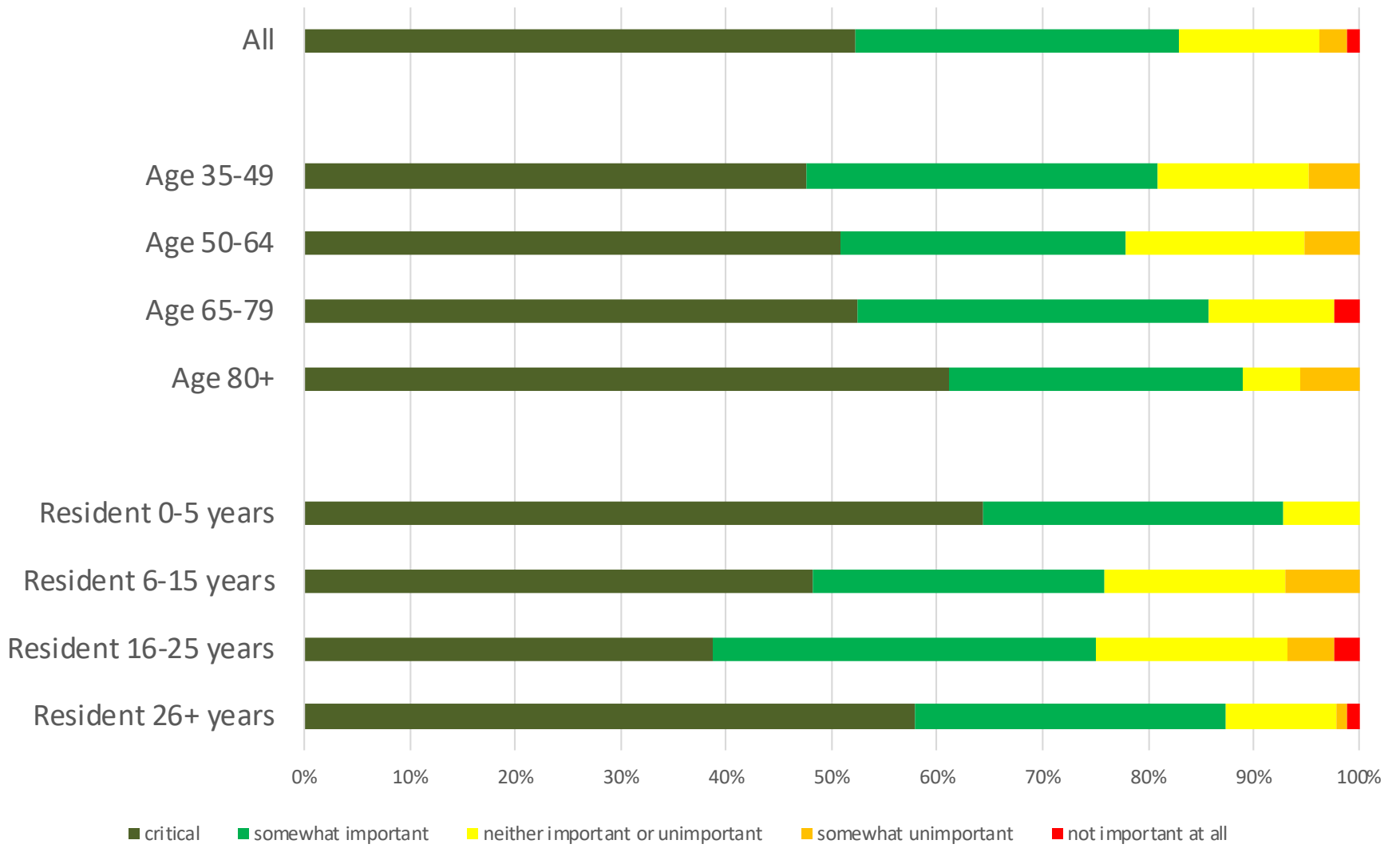
Exploring all options (including outsourcing) to find a sustainable and affordable model for our Police Department

Critical ←————→ Not Important

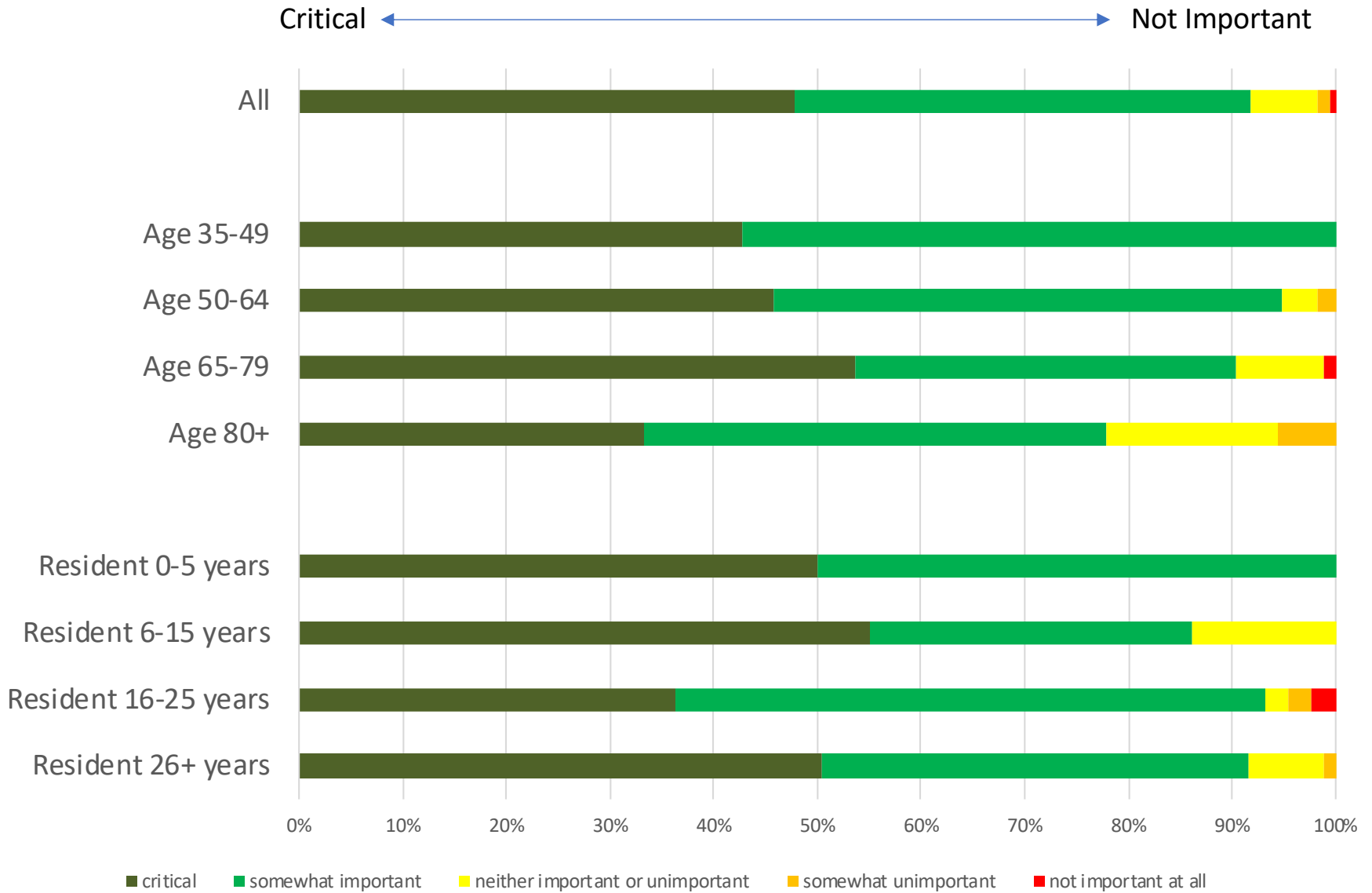


Finding new sources of revenues

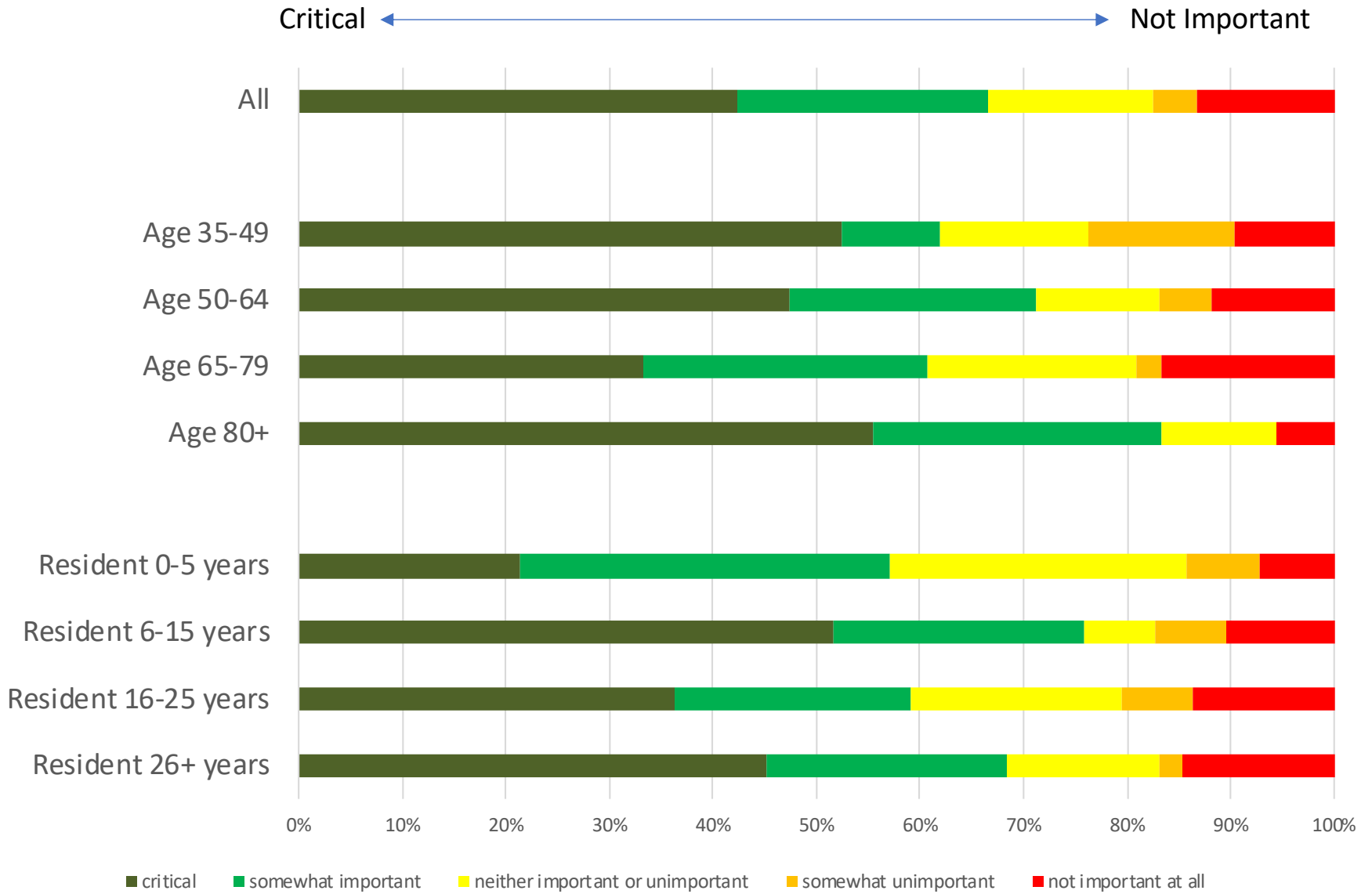
Critical ← → Not Important



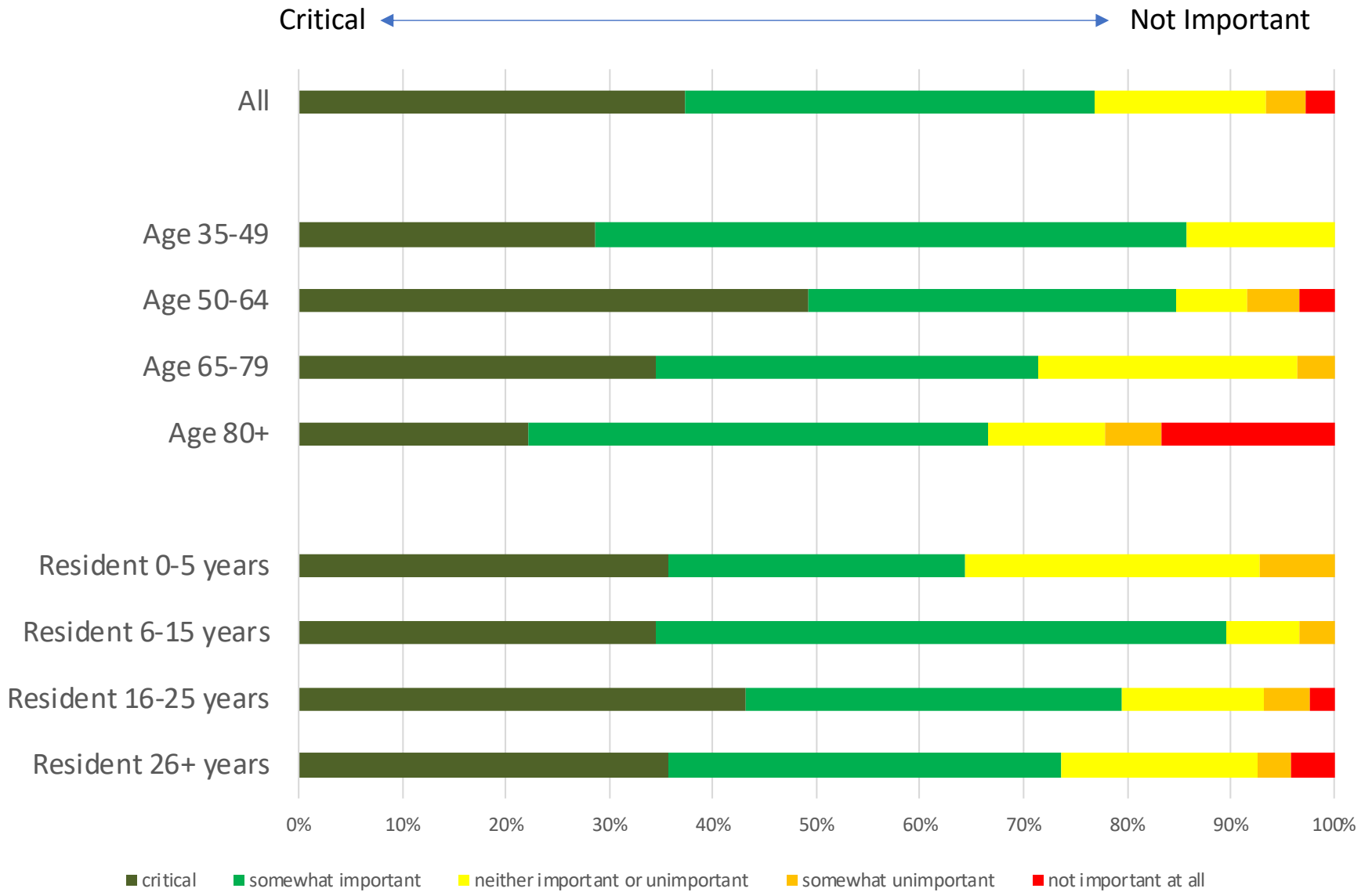
Maintenance of City infrastructure (roads, sewers, storm drains, etc.)



State mandate for low income housing despite restrictions on repurposing parkland in CC&Rs

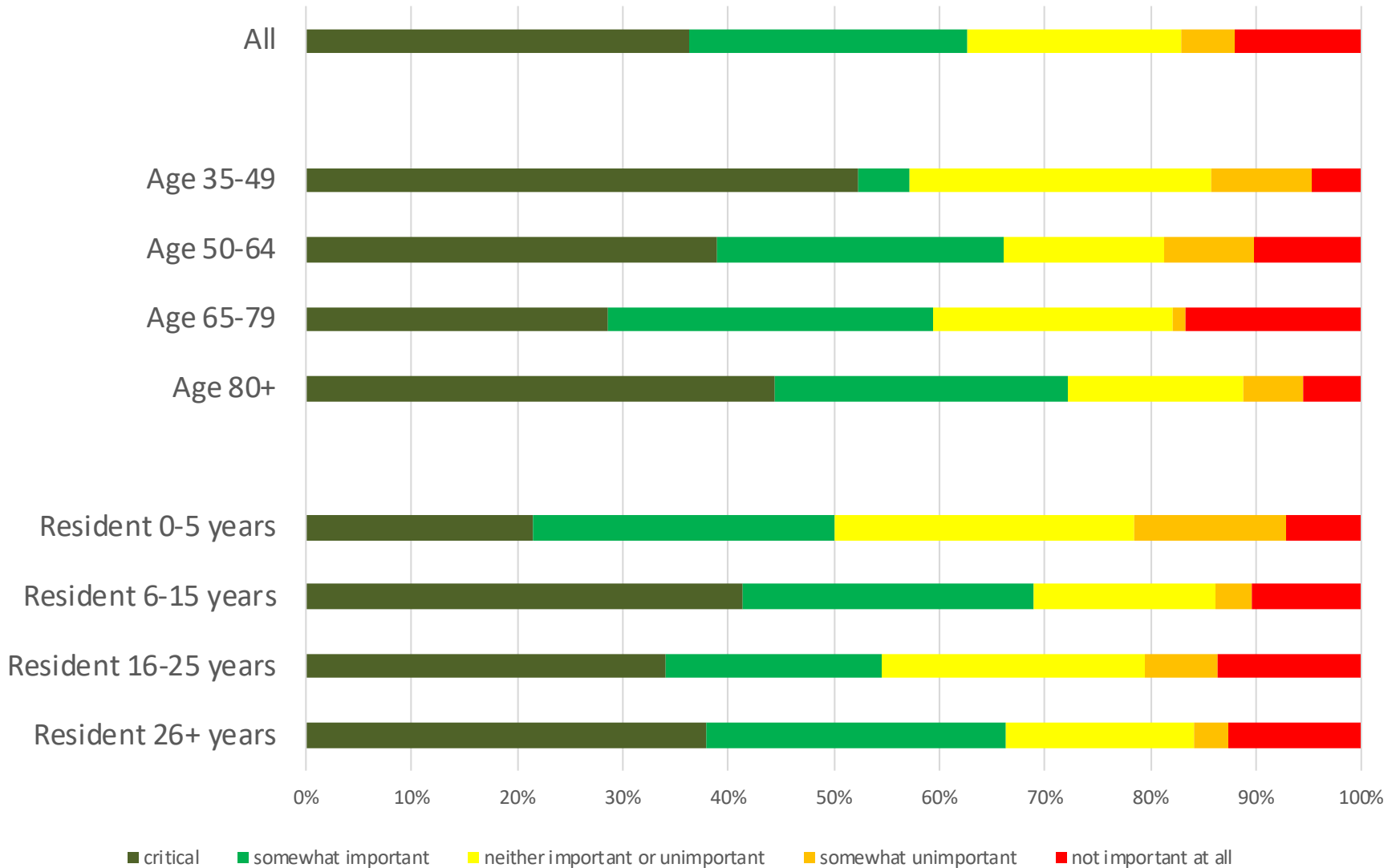


Improving accountability of City staff by creating, monitoring and sharing key performance metrics

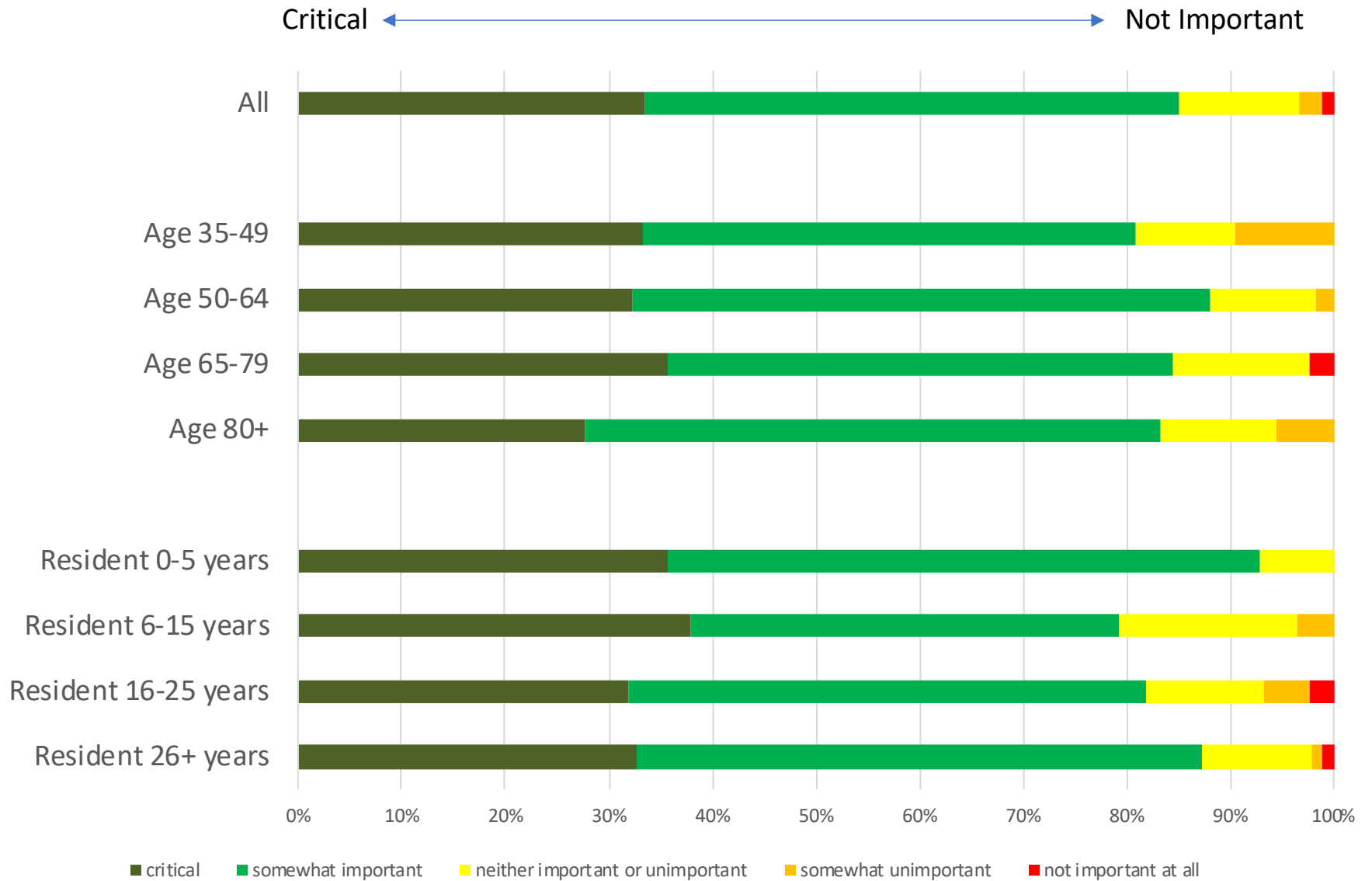


State mandate to allow ADUs (Accessory Dwelling Units) despite single family restrictions in CC&Rs (Conditions, Covenants and

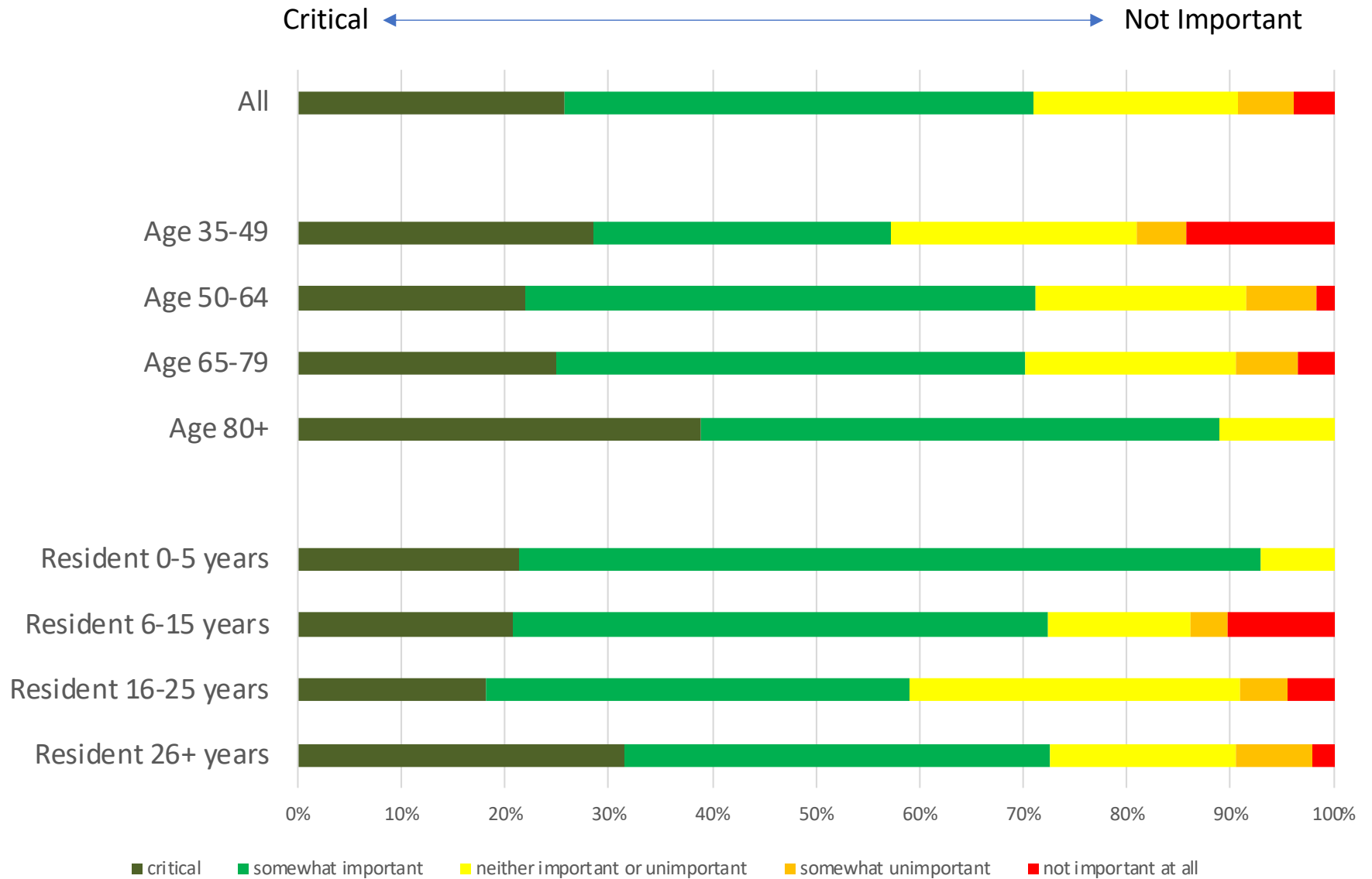
Restrictions) ← Critical → Not Important



Maintenance of City parklands (tree trimming, brush cutting, clearing fire trails, etc.)

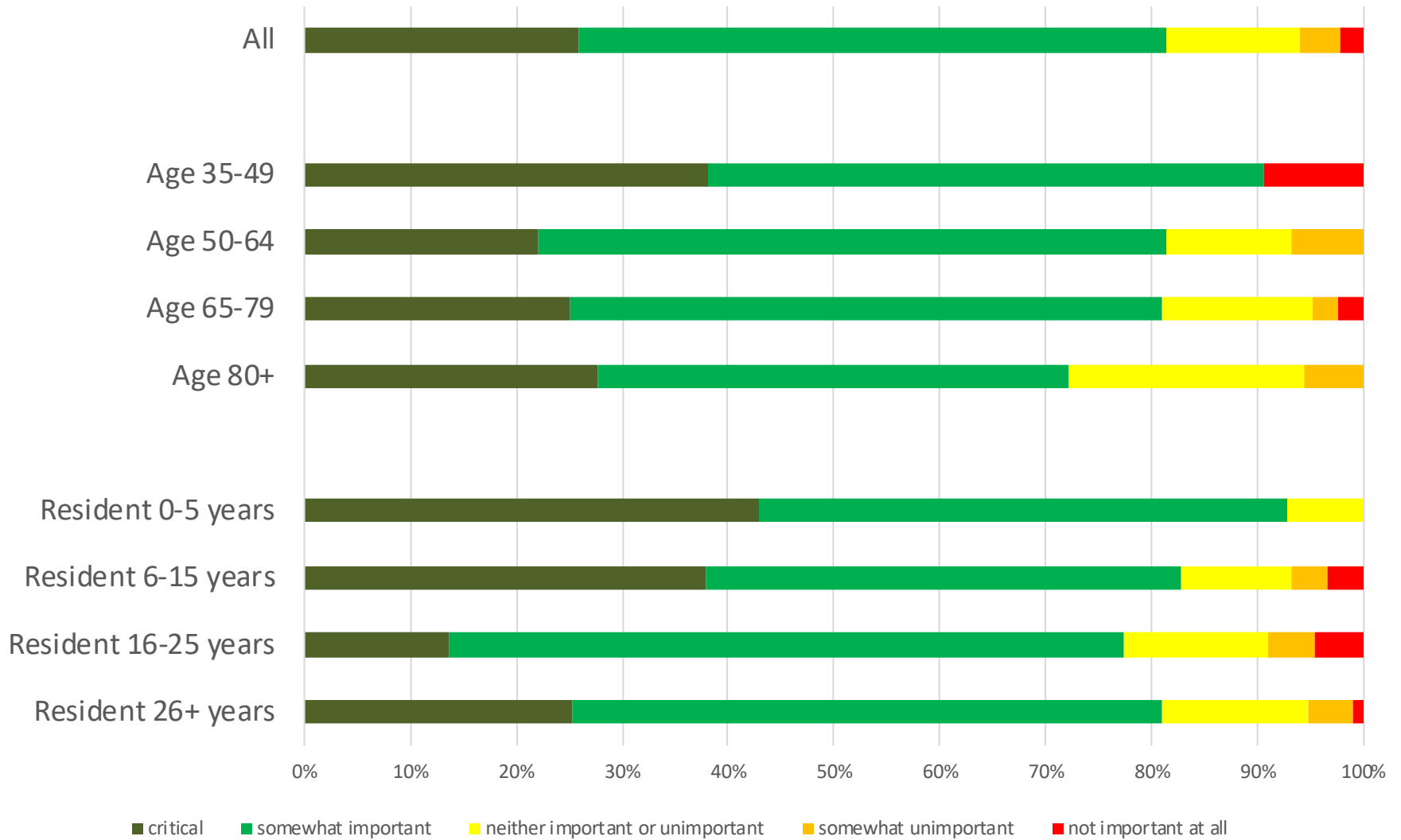


Lack of enforcement of encroachments by residents onto City parkland for personal use



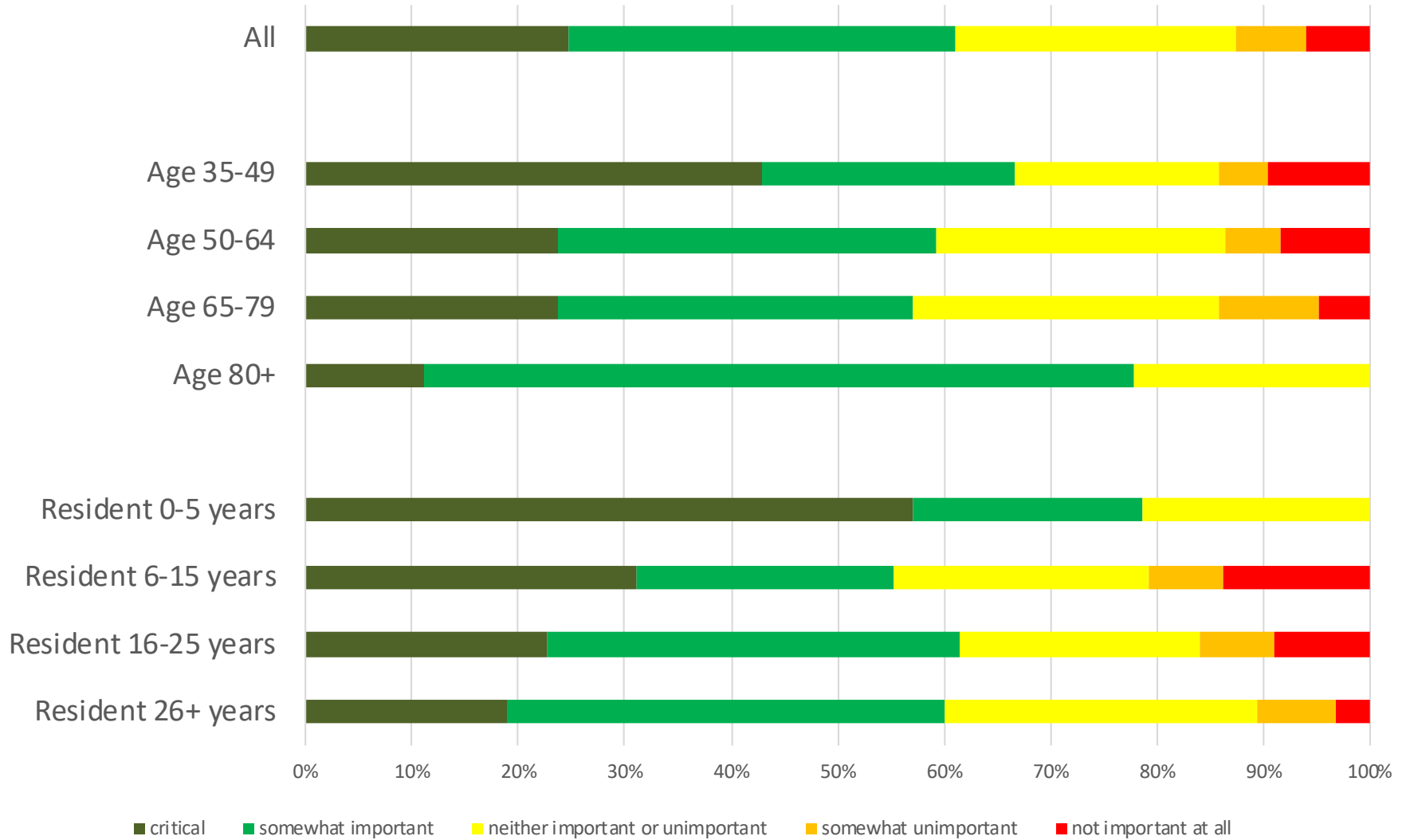
Maintenance of City street medians, right-of-ways, circles and pocket parks

Critical ← → Not Important

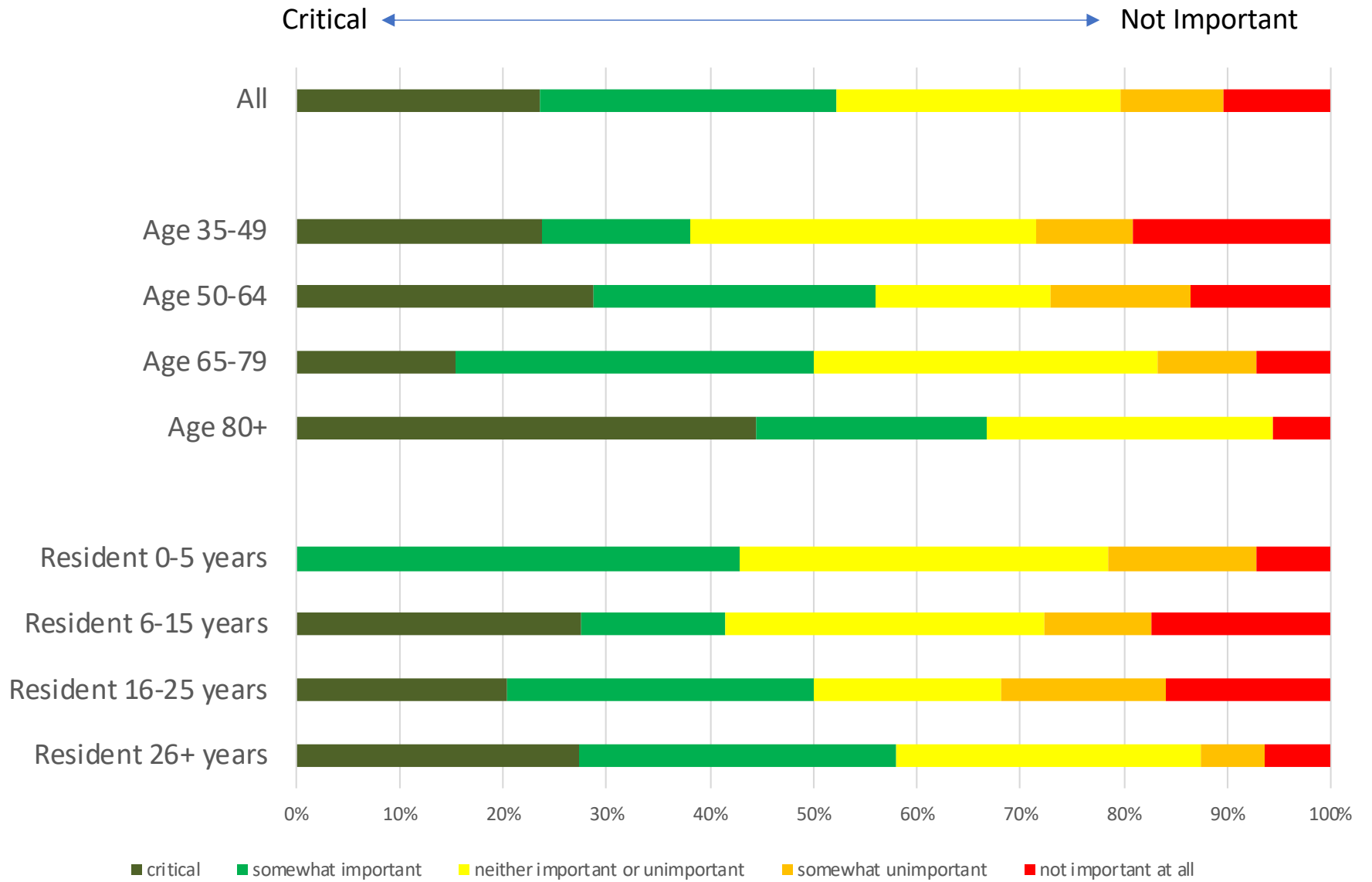


Improving traffic at Malaga Cove intersection

Critical ← → Not Important

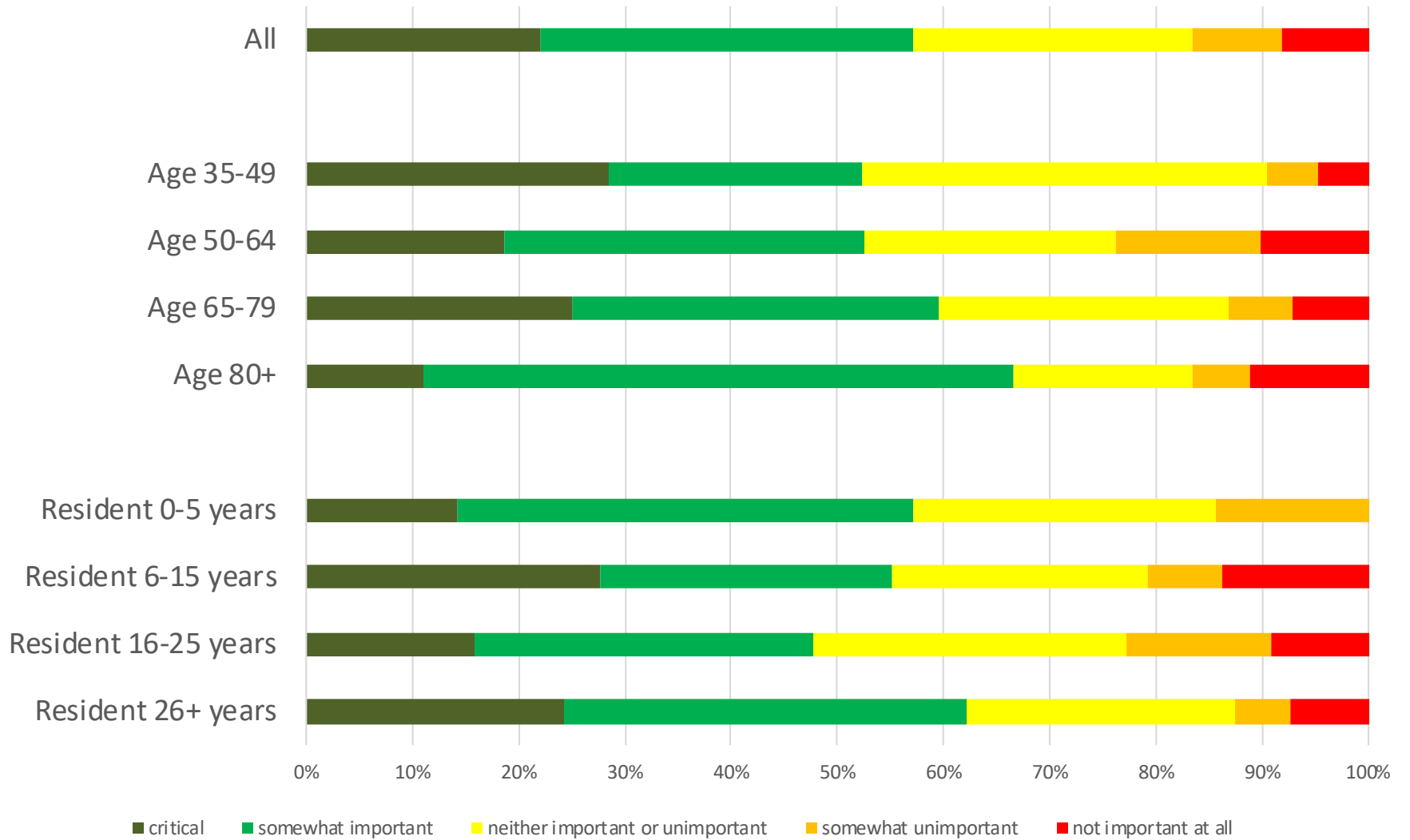


“McMansionization” - allowing building of very large homes



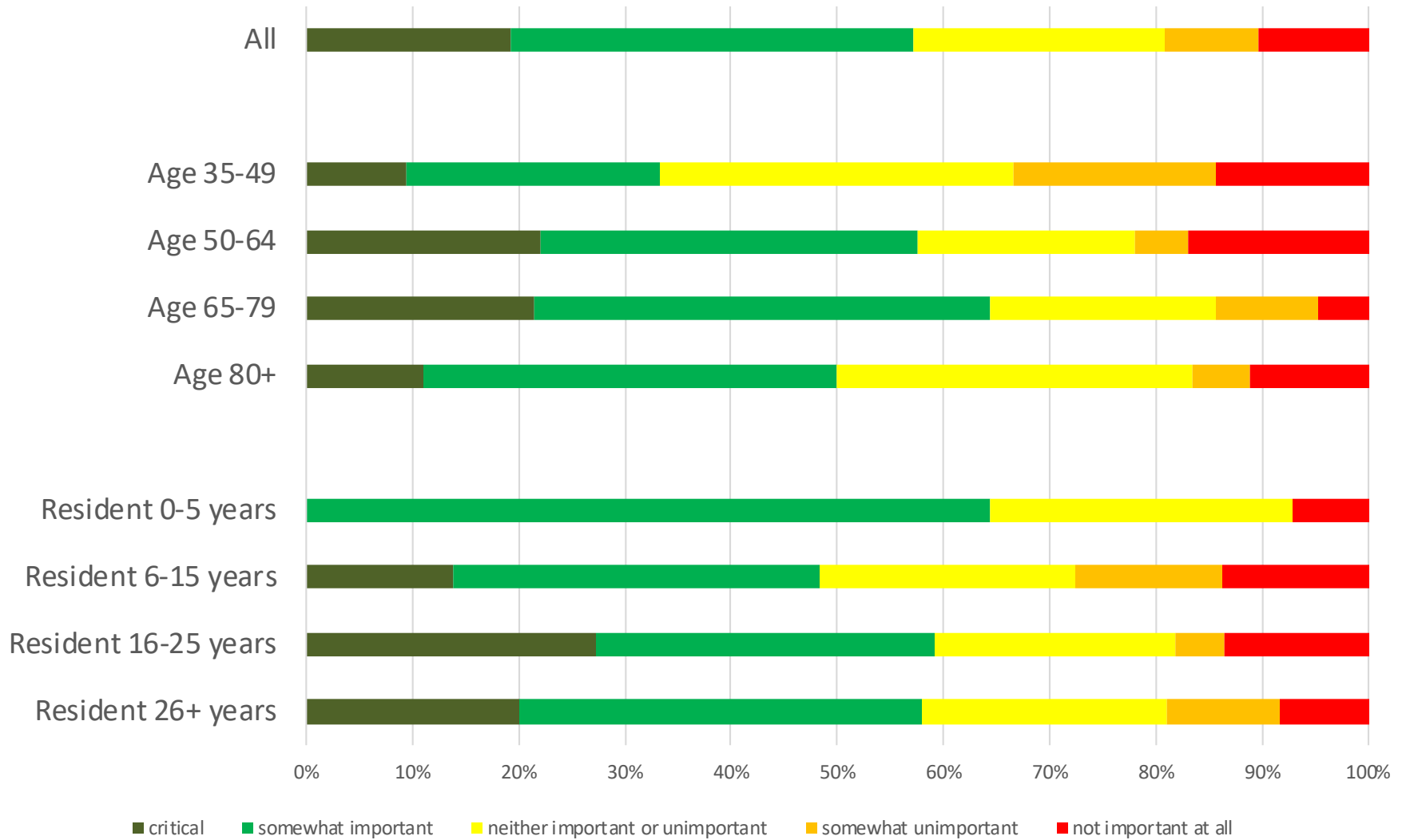
Lack of enforcement of bicycling traffic laws

Critical ← → Not Important

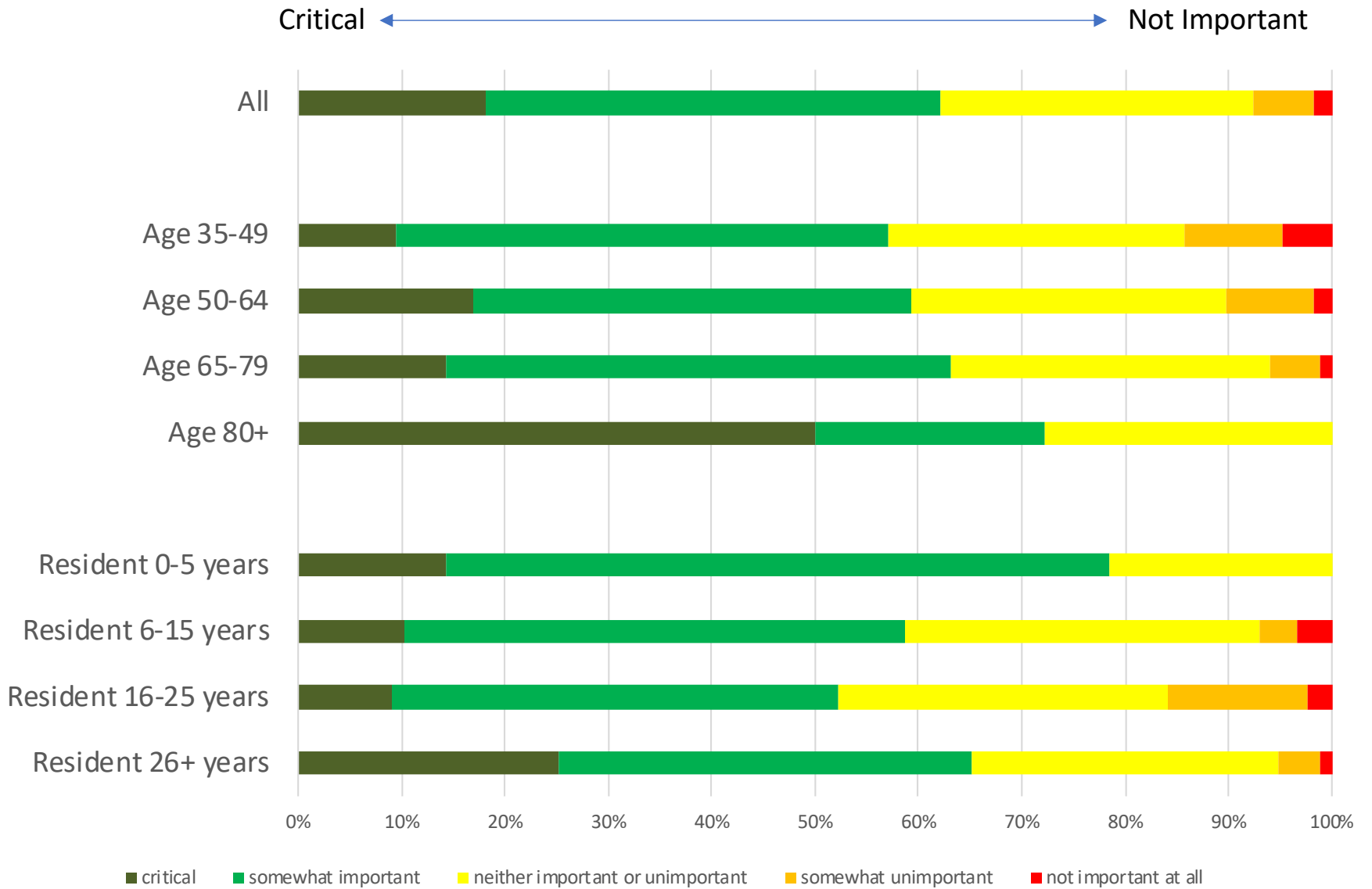


Cell tower upgrades to 5G (for better coverage)

Critical ← → Not Important

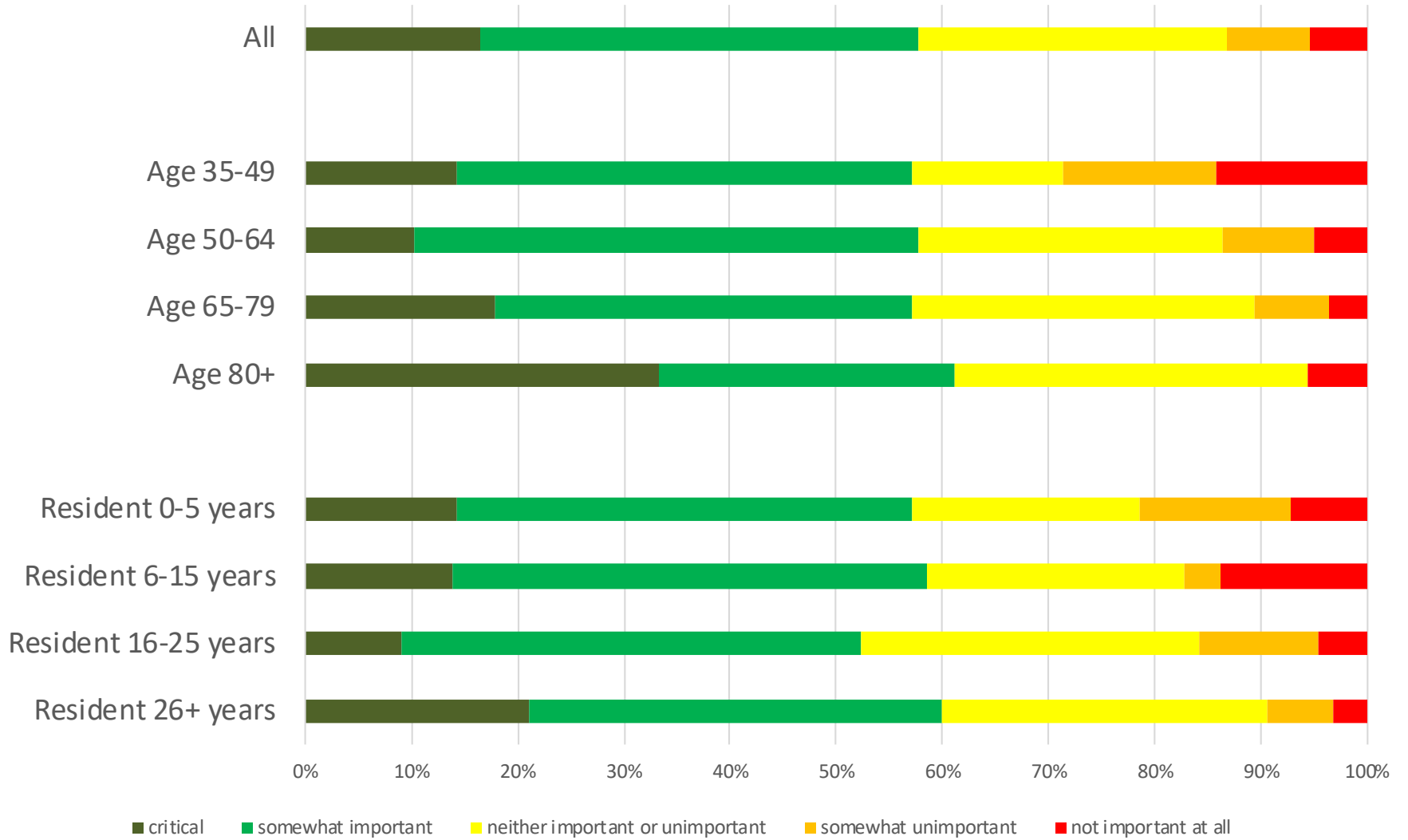


Lack of enforcement of construction code violations



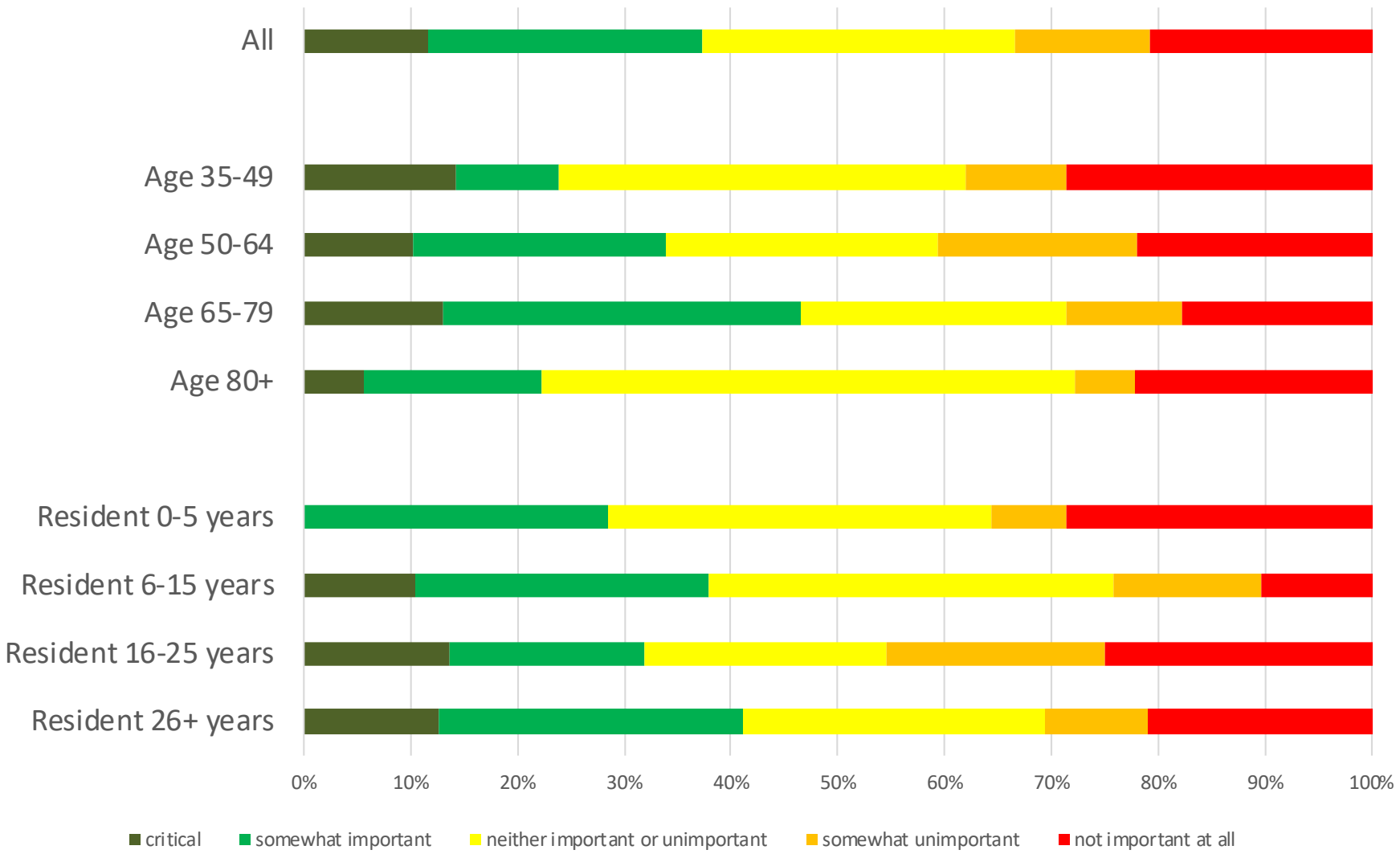
Lack of traffic enforcement (parking and speed violations)

Critical ← → Not Important

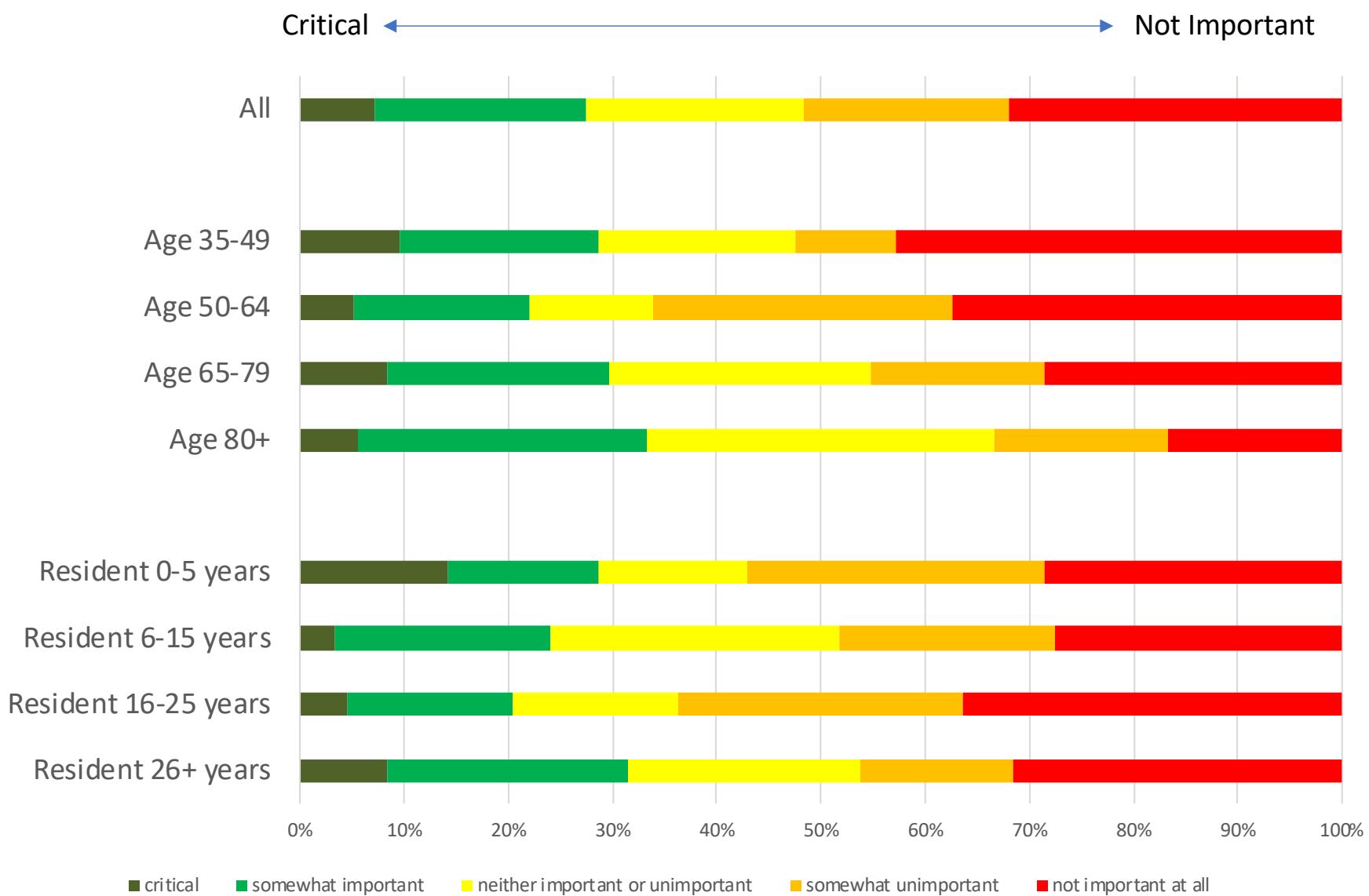


Better coyote management

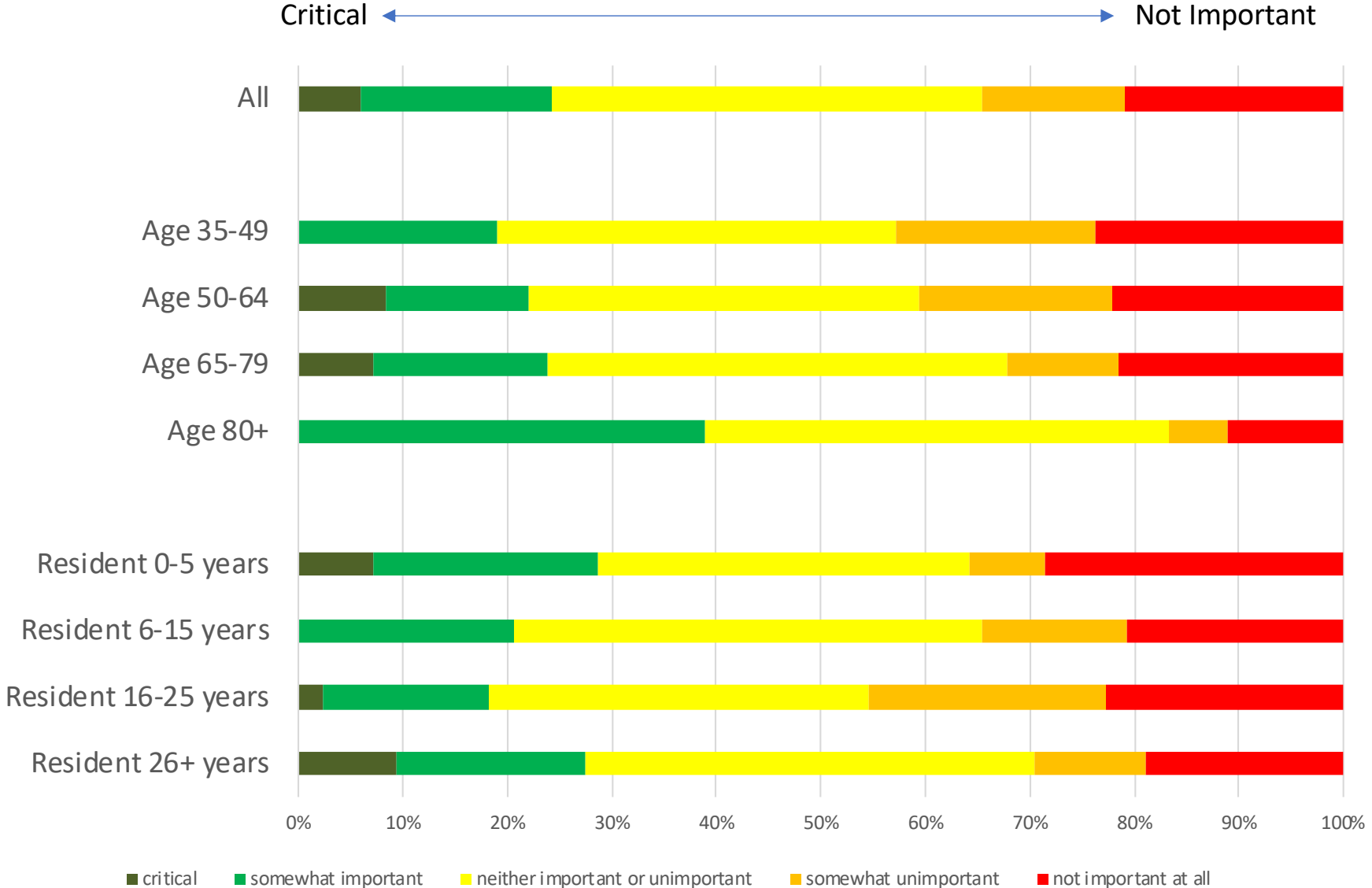
Critical ←————→ Not Important



Lack of enforcement of gas leaf-blower ordinance

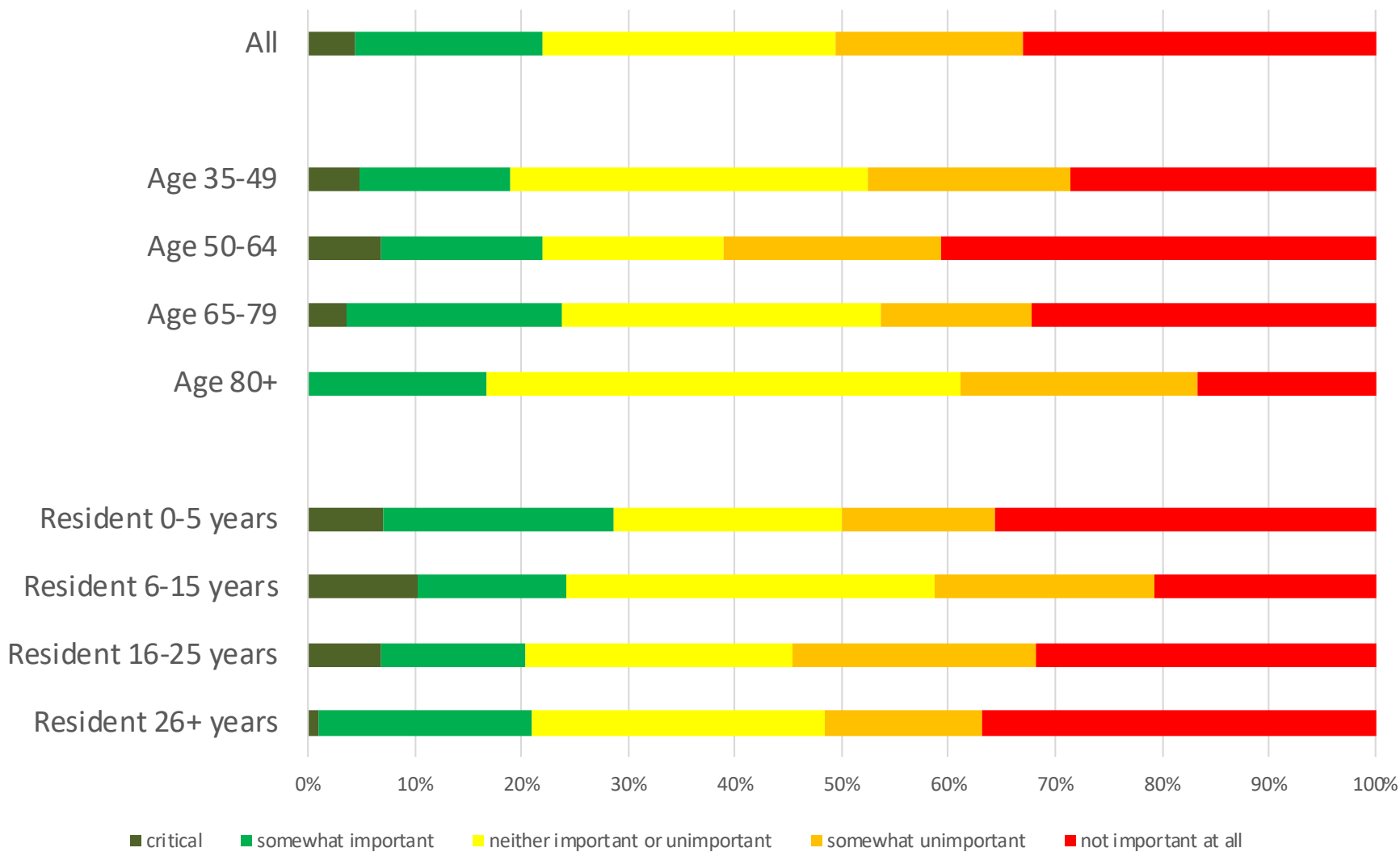


Use of City Council Chambers for non-governmental activities

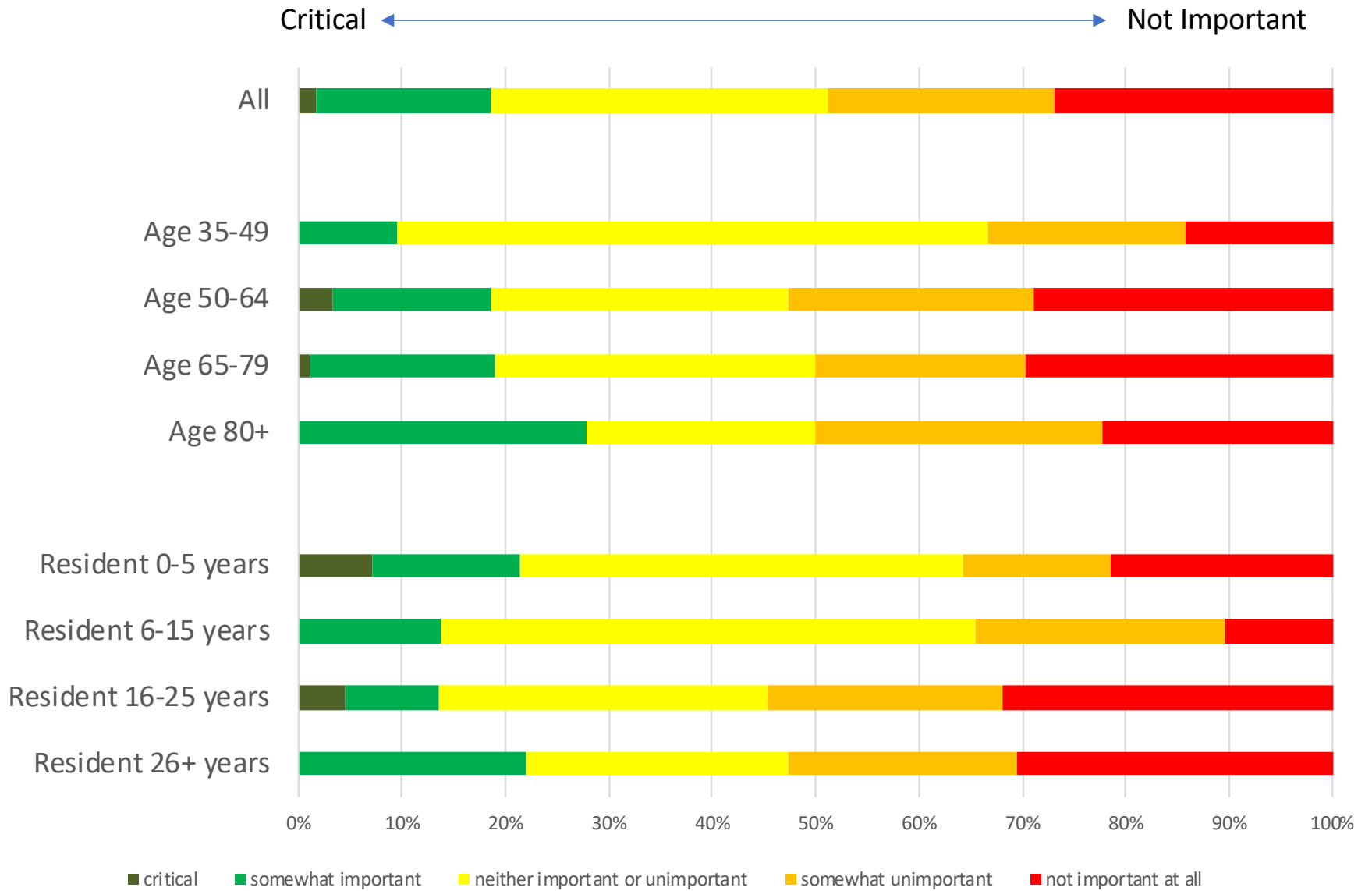


Better peafowl management

Critical ←————→ Not Important



Increased consideration of retro-fitting or replacing PVE City Hall



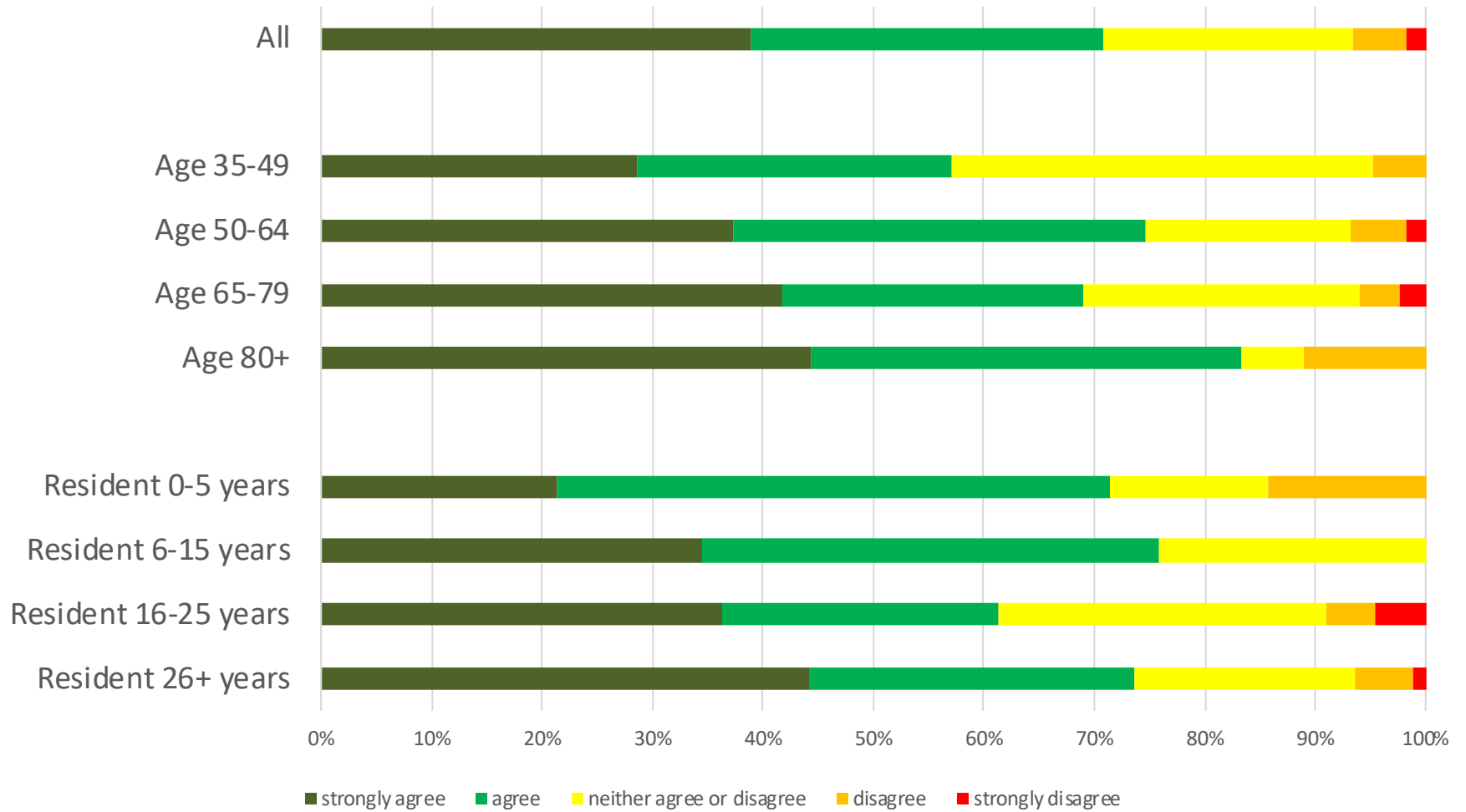
Satisfaction with City Government By Demographic

Age of Head of Household

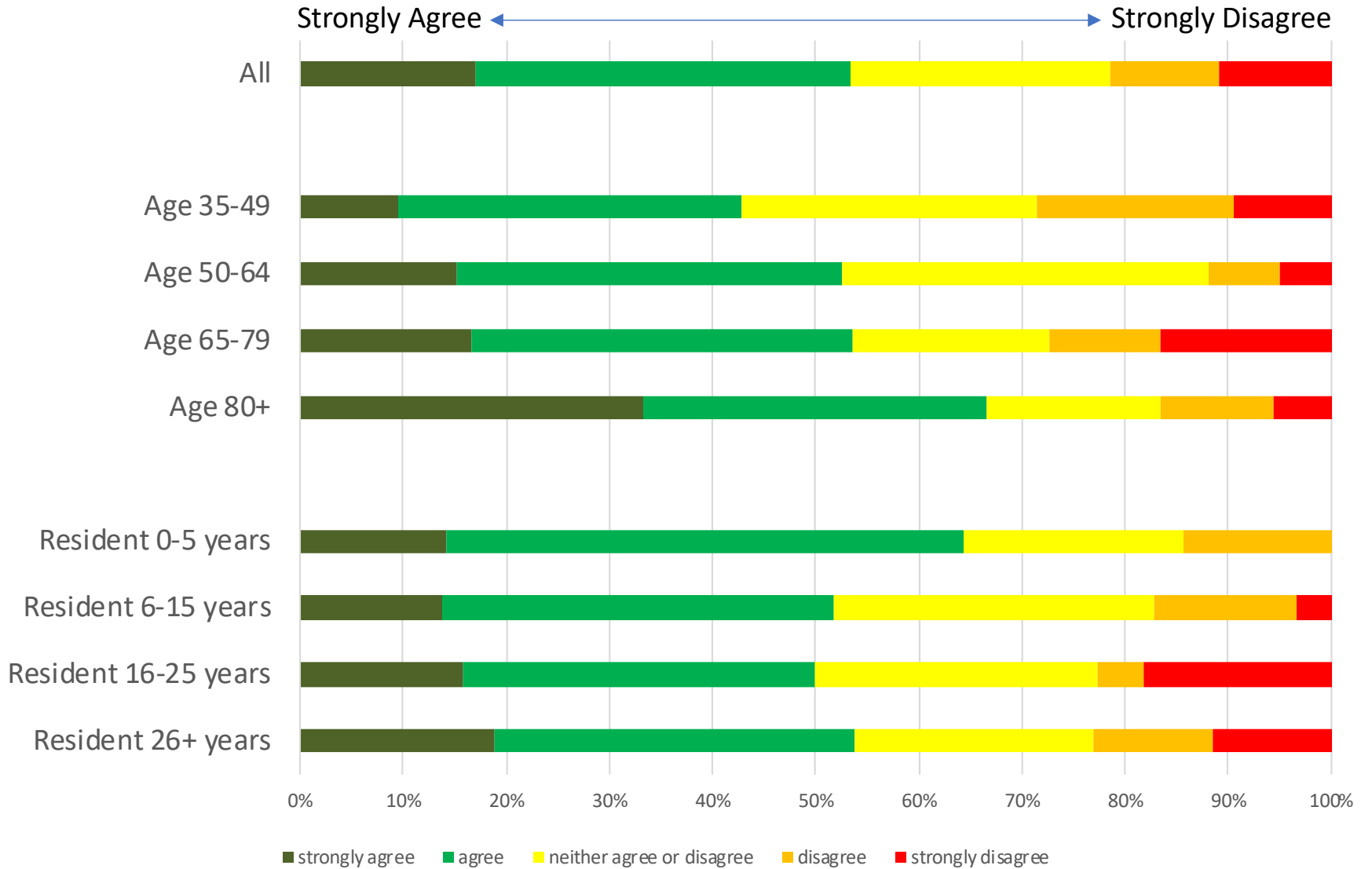
Years Residency in PVE

I believe the PVE Police Department's resident volunteer services of PVE Cares, Disaster Preparedness, Neighborhood Watch, Neighborhood Amateur Radio Team, etc. are valuable and should be continued

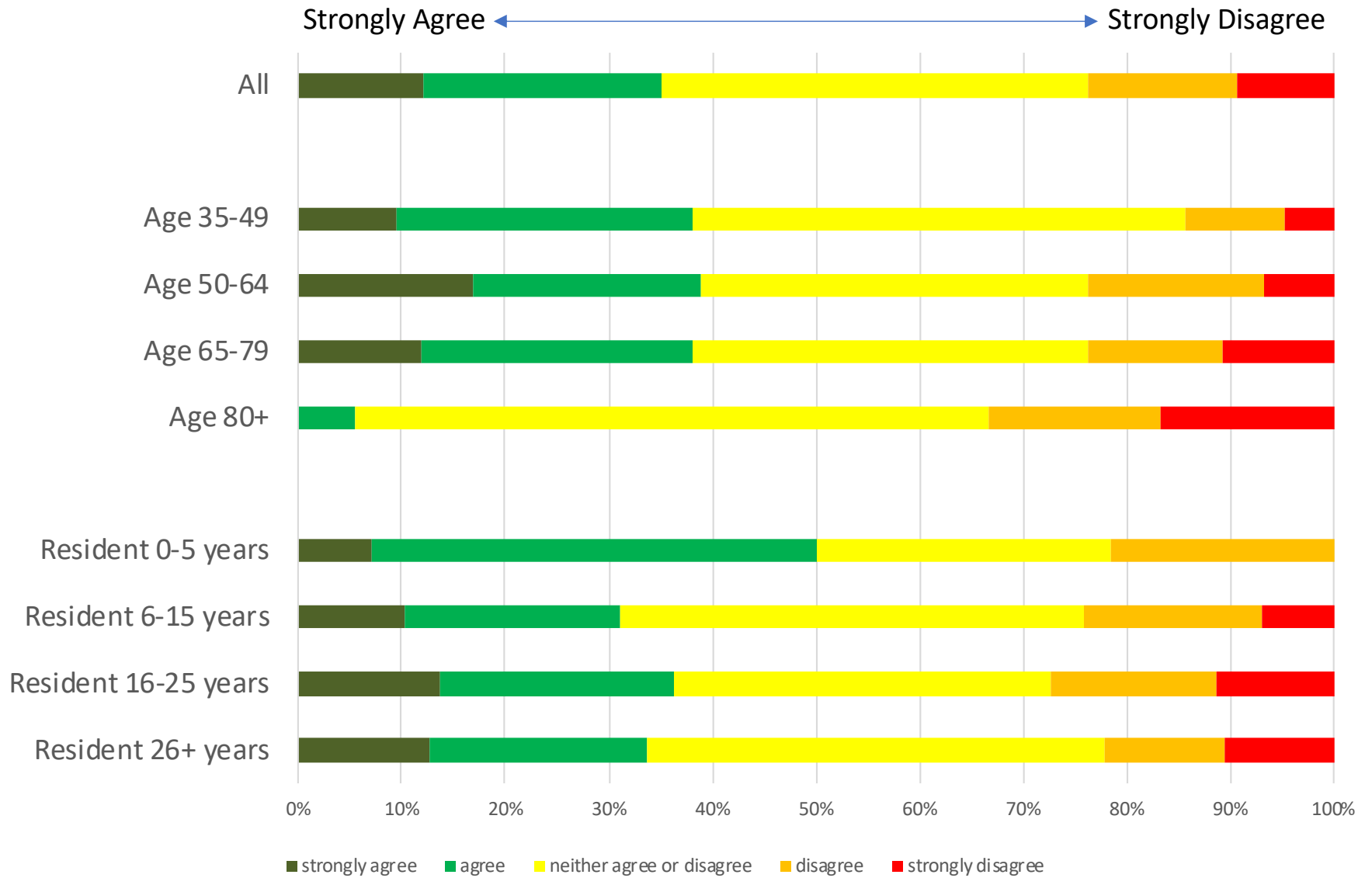
Strongly Agree ← → Strongly Disagree



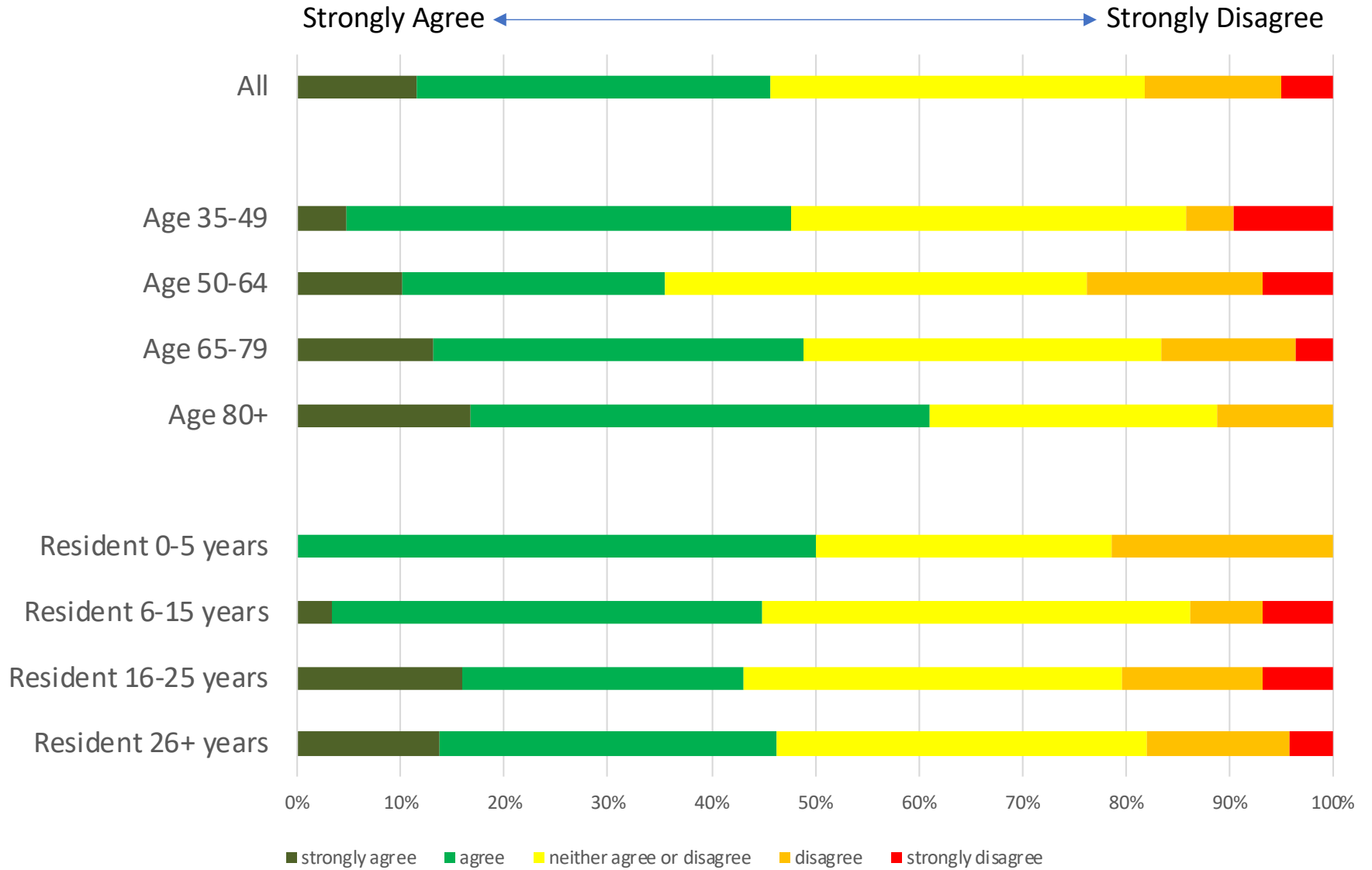
I believe the addition of three new members to the City Council in the last election has resulted in a clearer, more accurate and more honest assessment of the City's financial condition



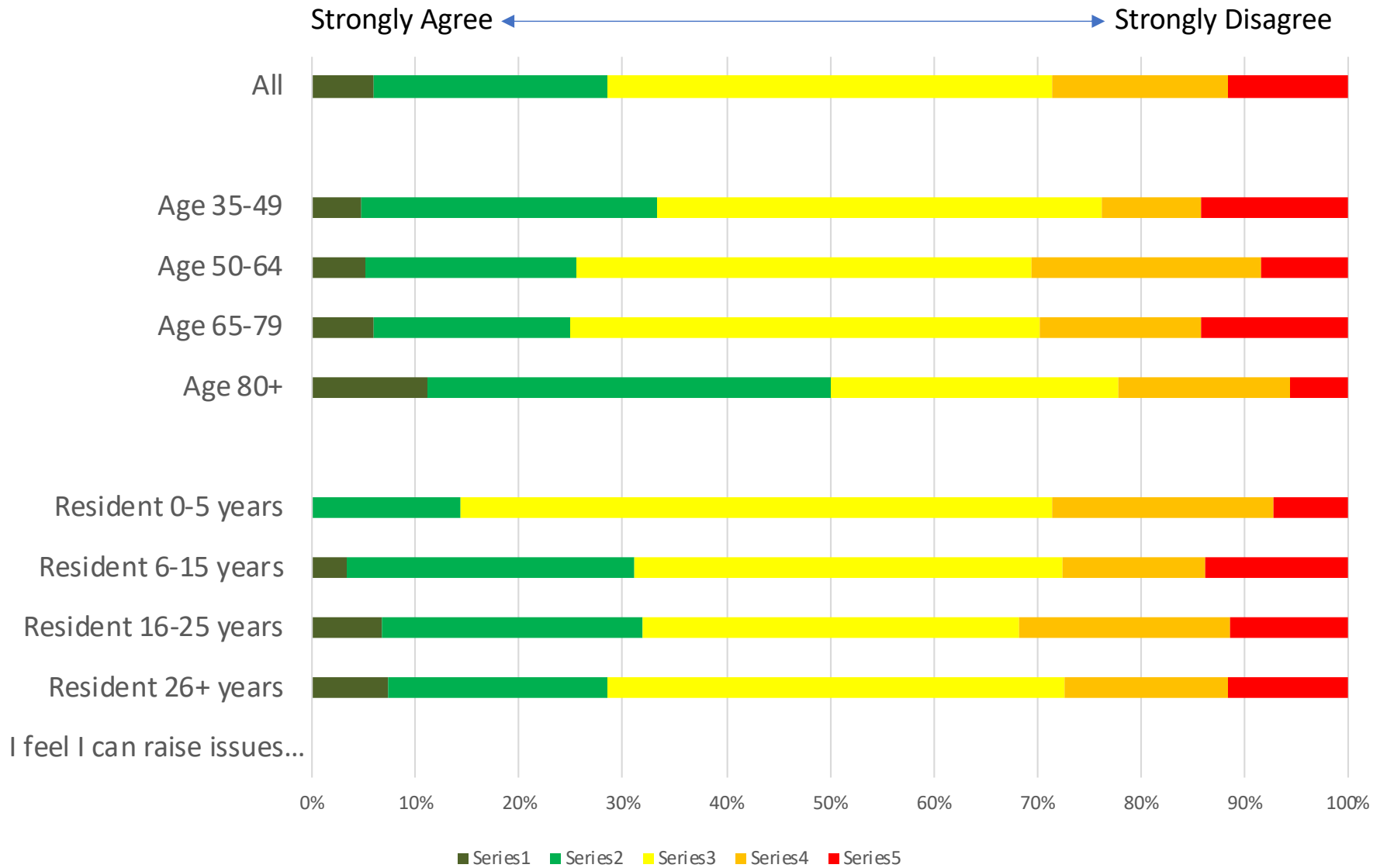
I prefer the virtual “zoom” format over the physical meetings in City Council Chambers



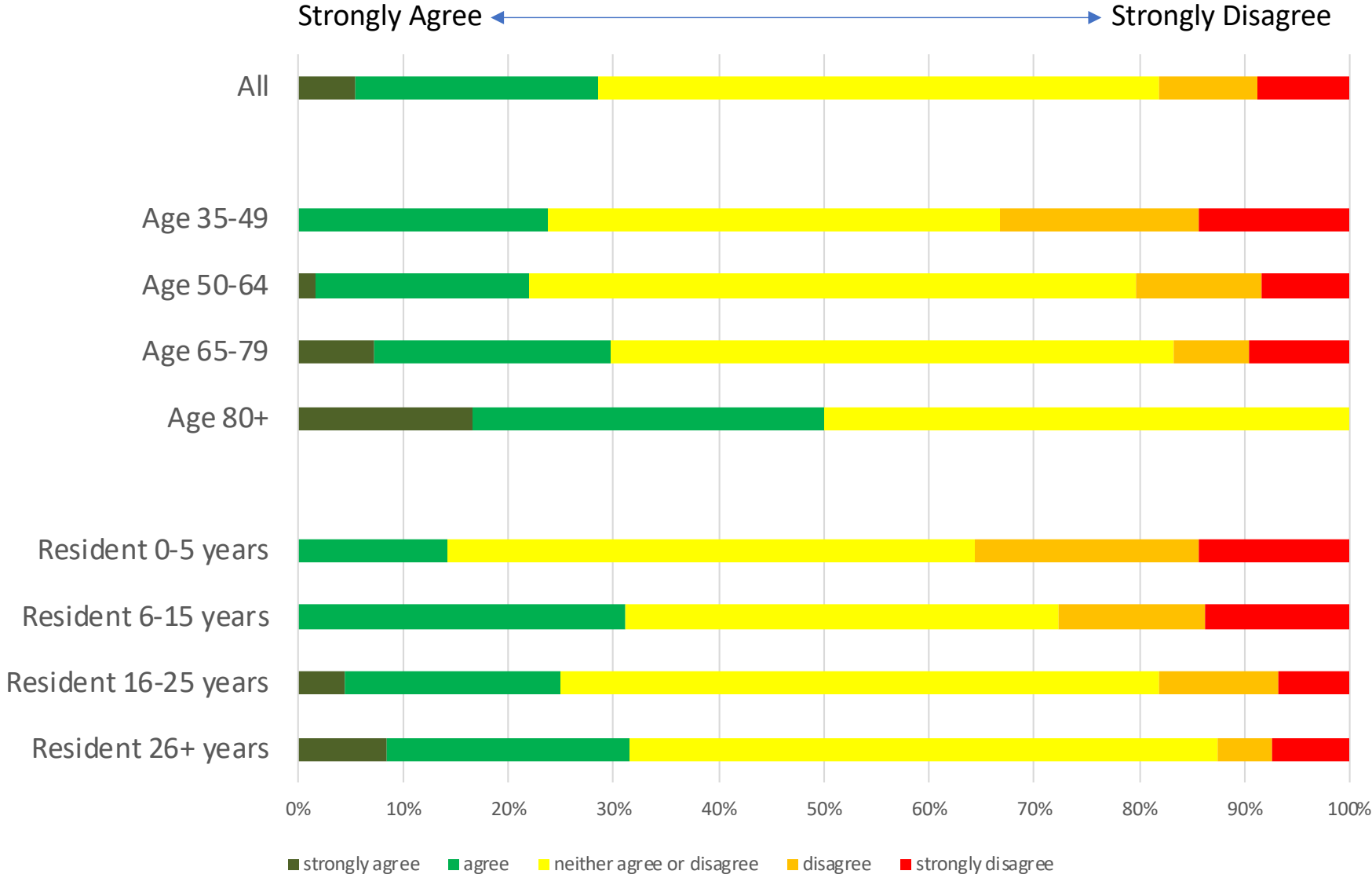
I believe City staff strive to serve the residents as best they can



I feel I can raise issues and get responses by the City Council

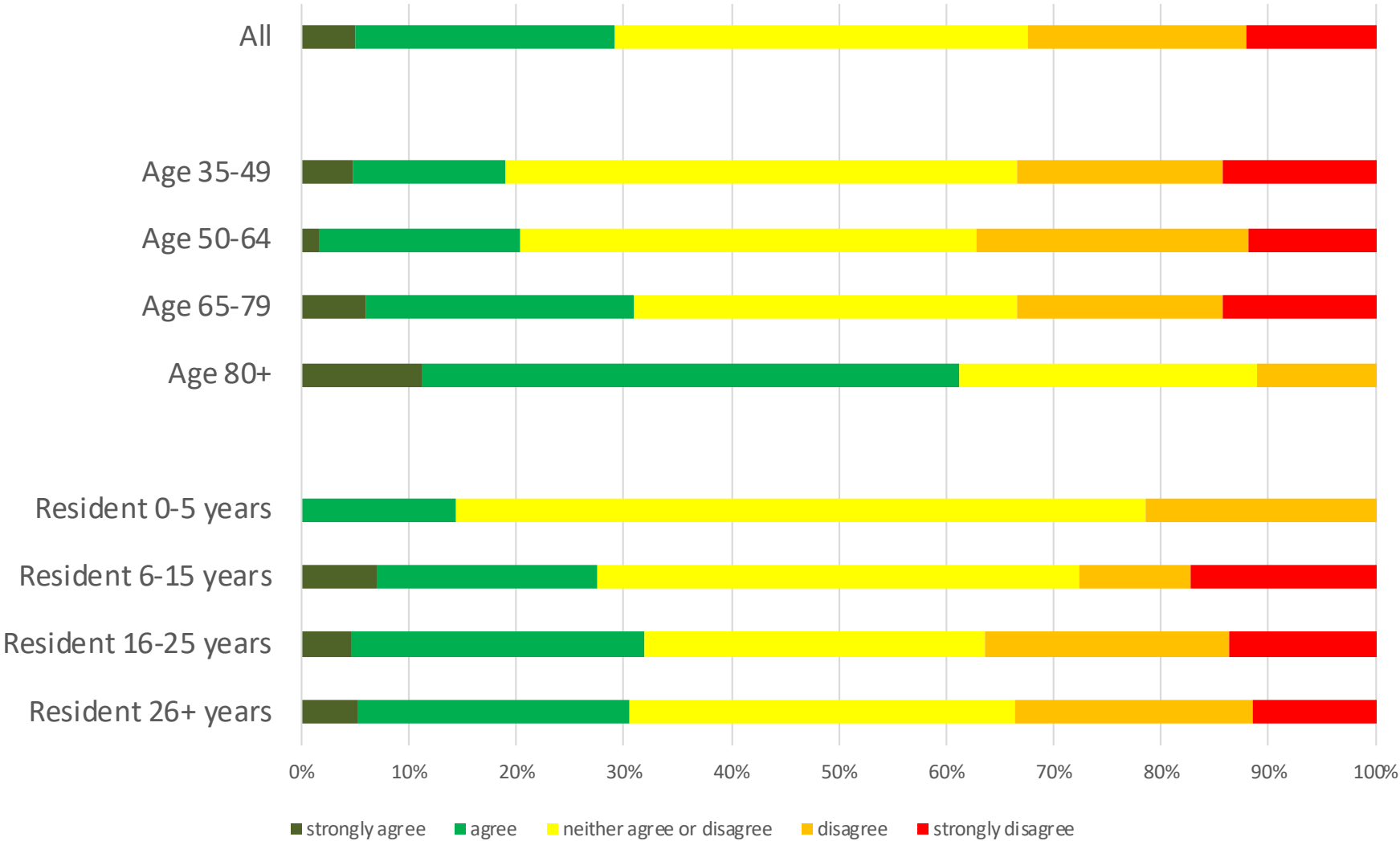


I find the City's website to be informative and helpful



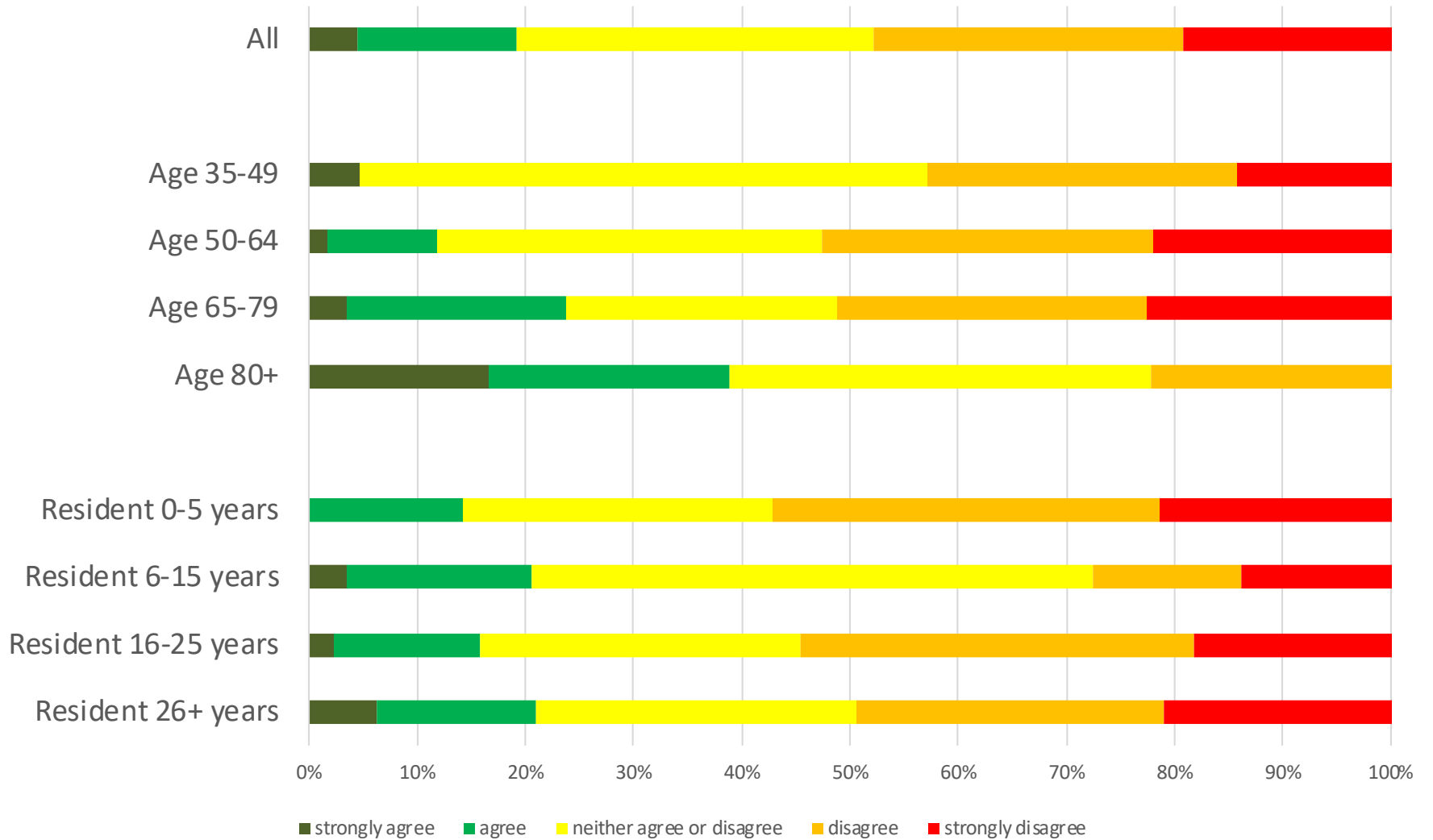
City Council is doing a good job

Strongly Agree ← → Strongly Disagree

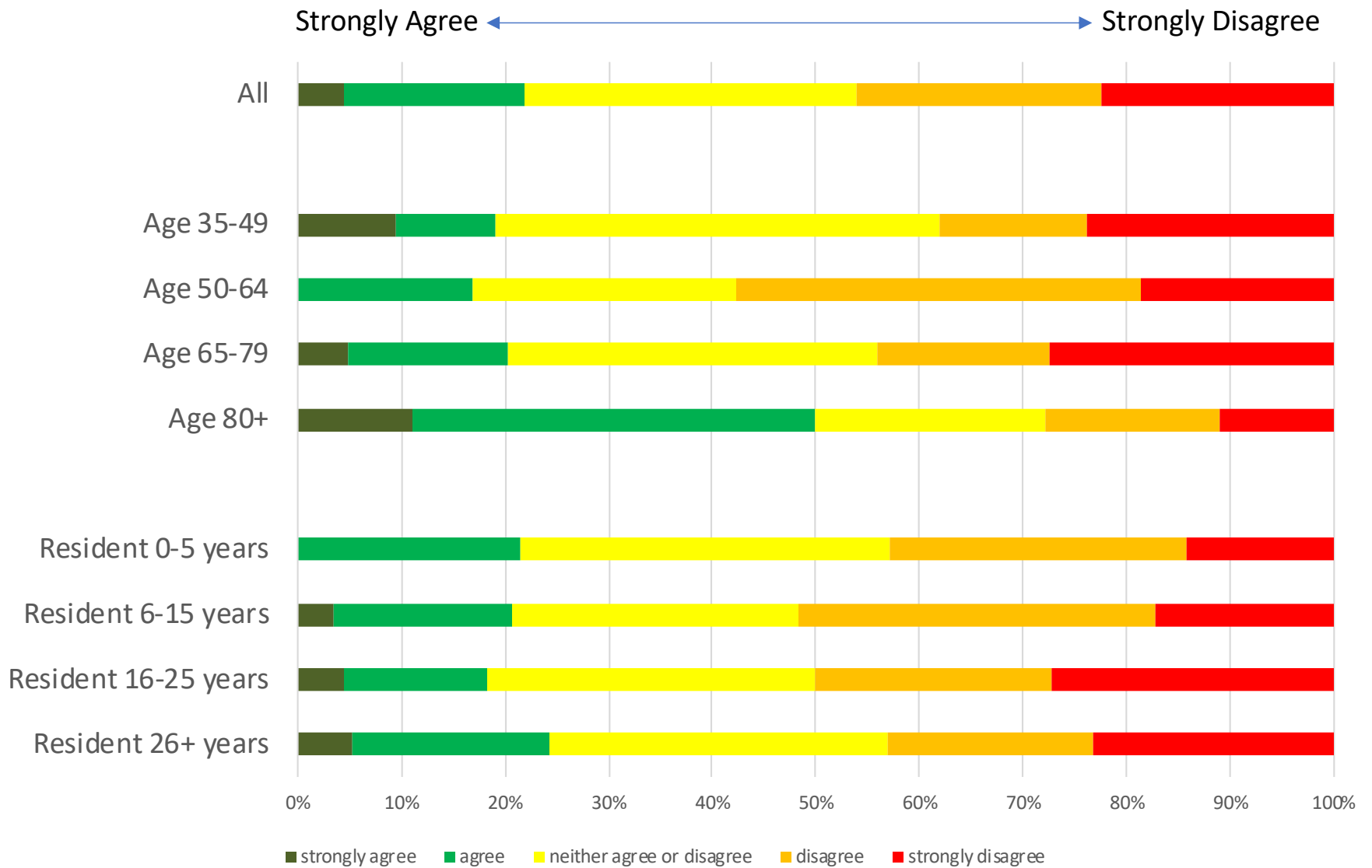


The City is doing a good job at transparency and providing the information to the public that is important

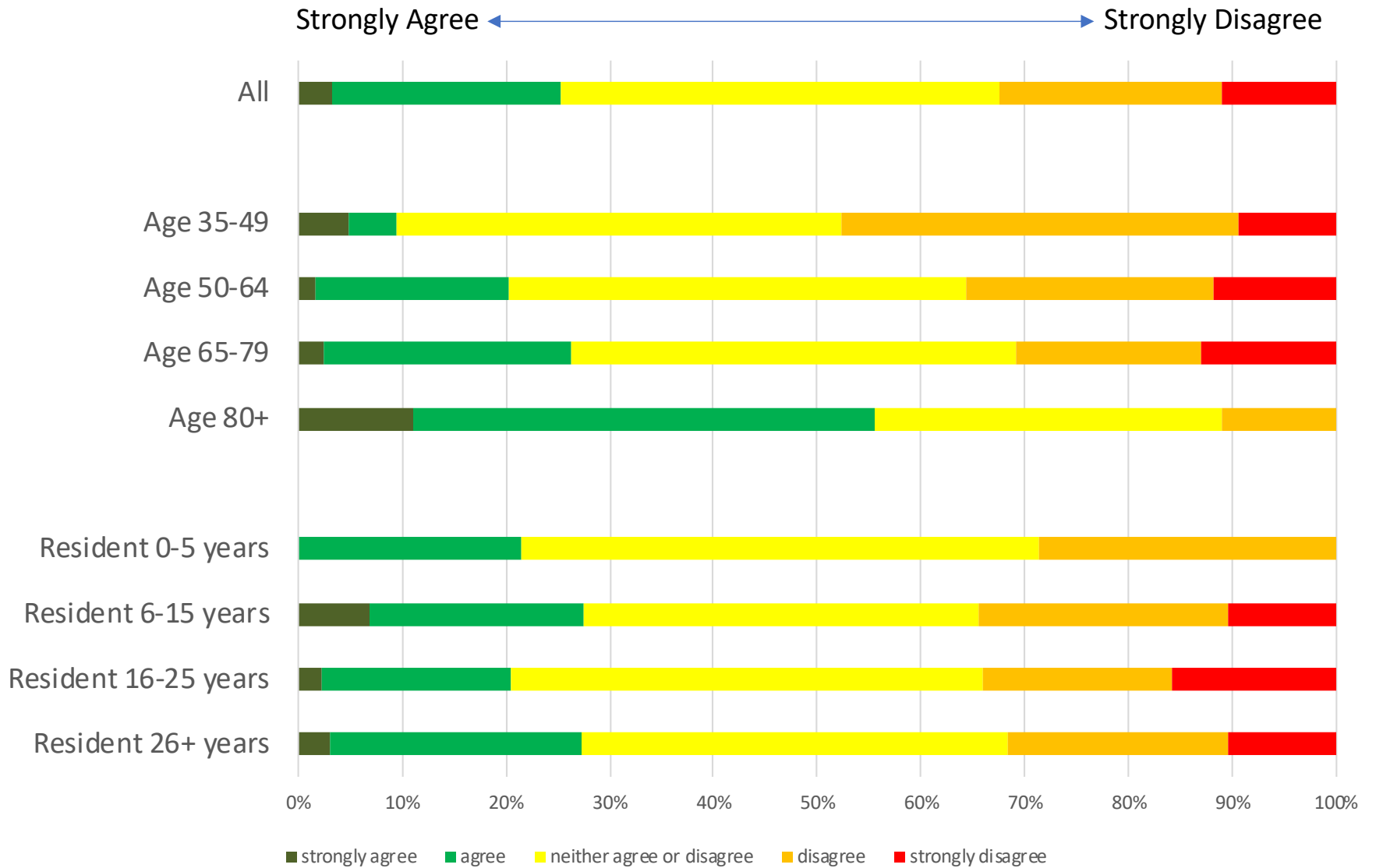
Strongly Agree ← → Strongly Disagree



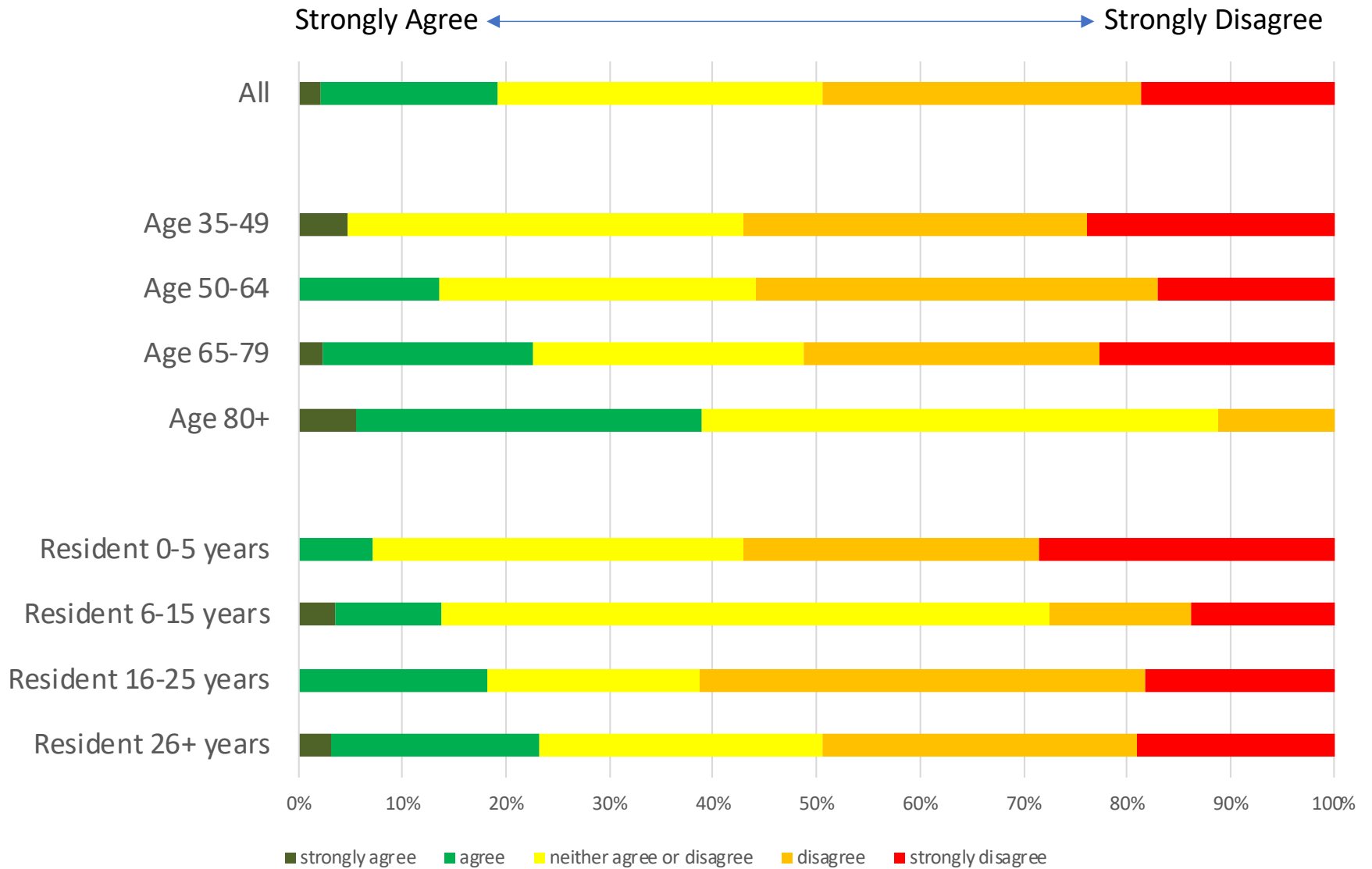
City Council is acting as a good financial steward of my tax dollars



City Council focuses and spends its time on the right issues

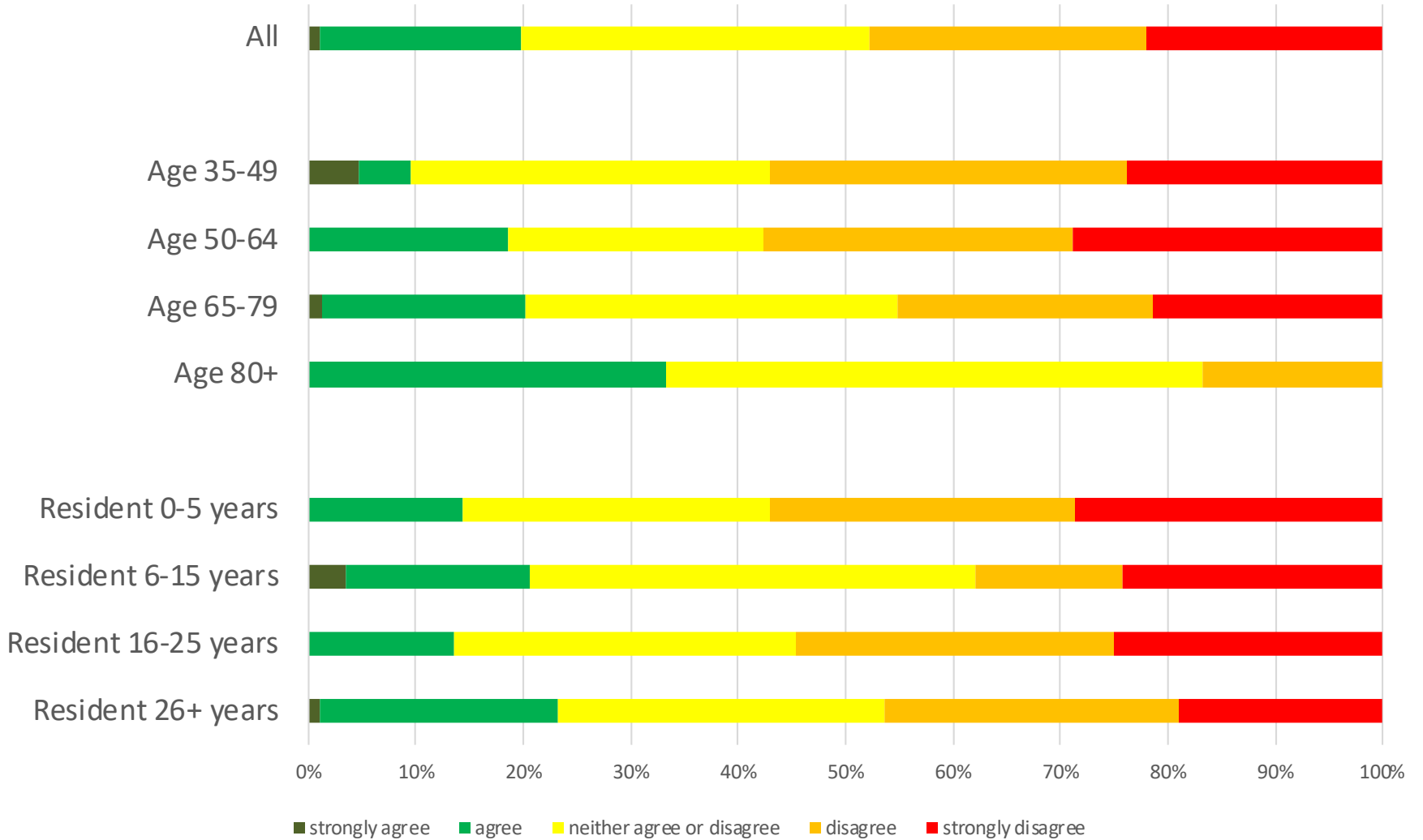


City government is proactive in communicating to me about local issues (e.g., infrastructure, financial issues, safety issues)



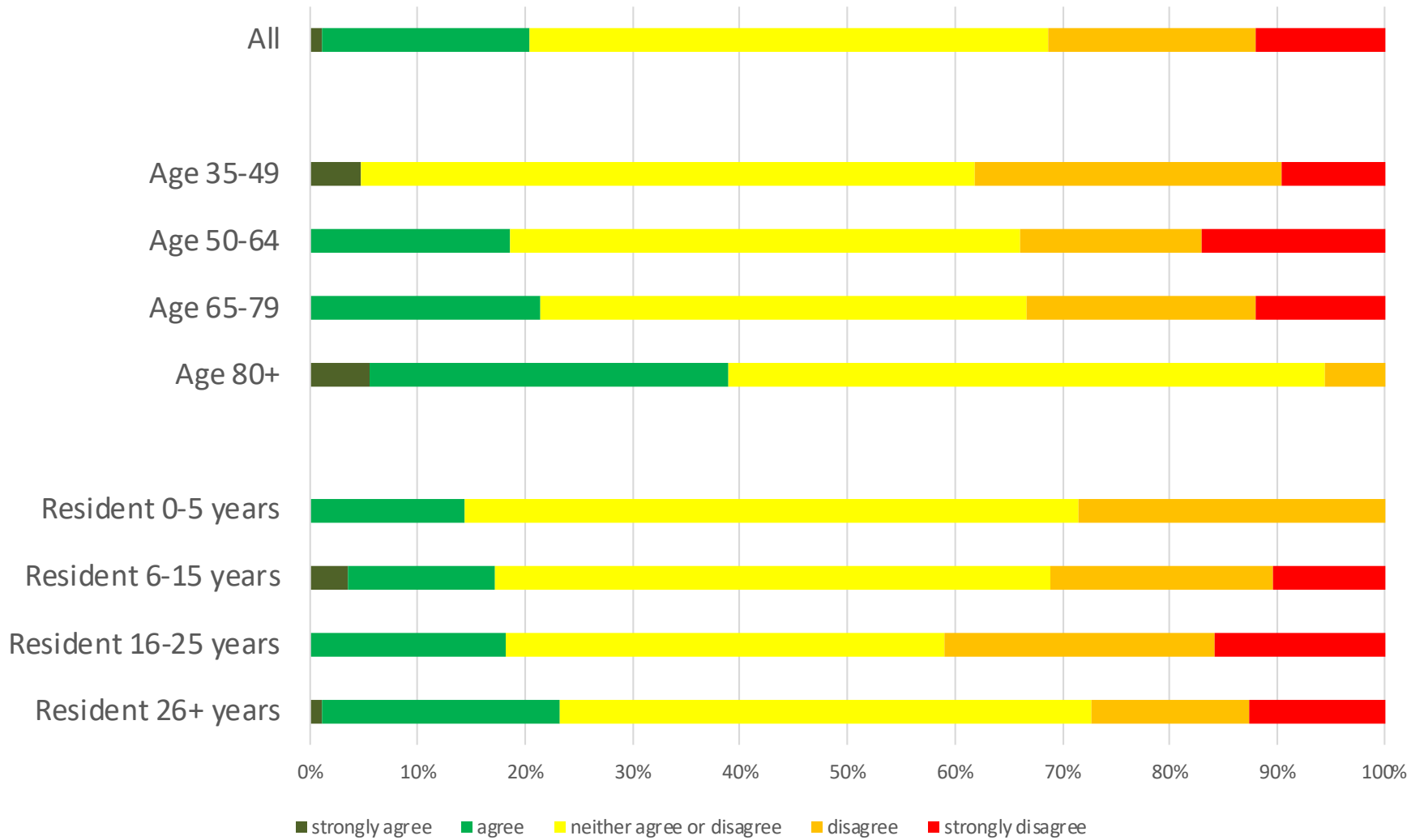
City government is effective in communicating to me about the impact of state laws affecting the city

Strongly Agree ← → Strongly Disagree

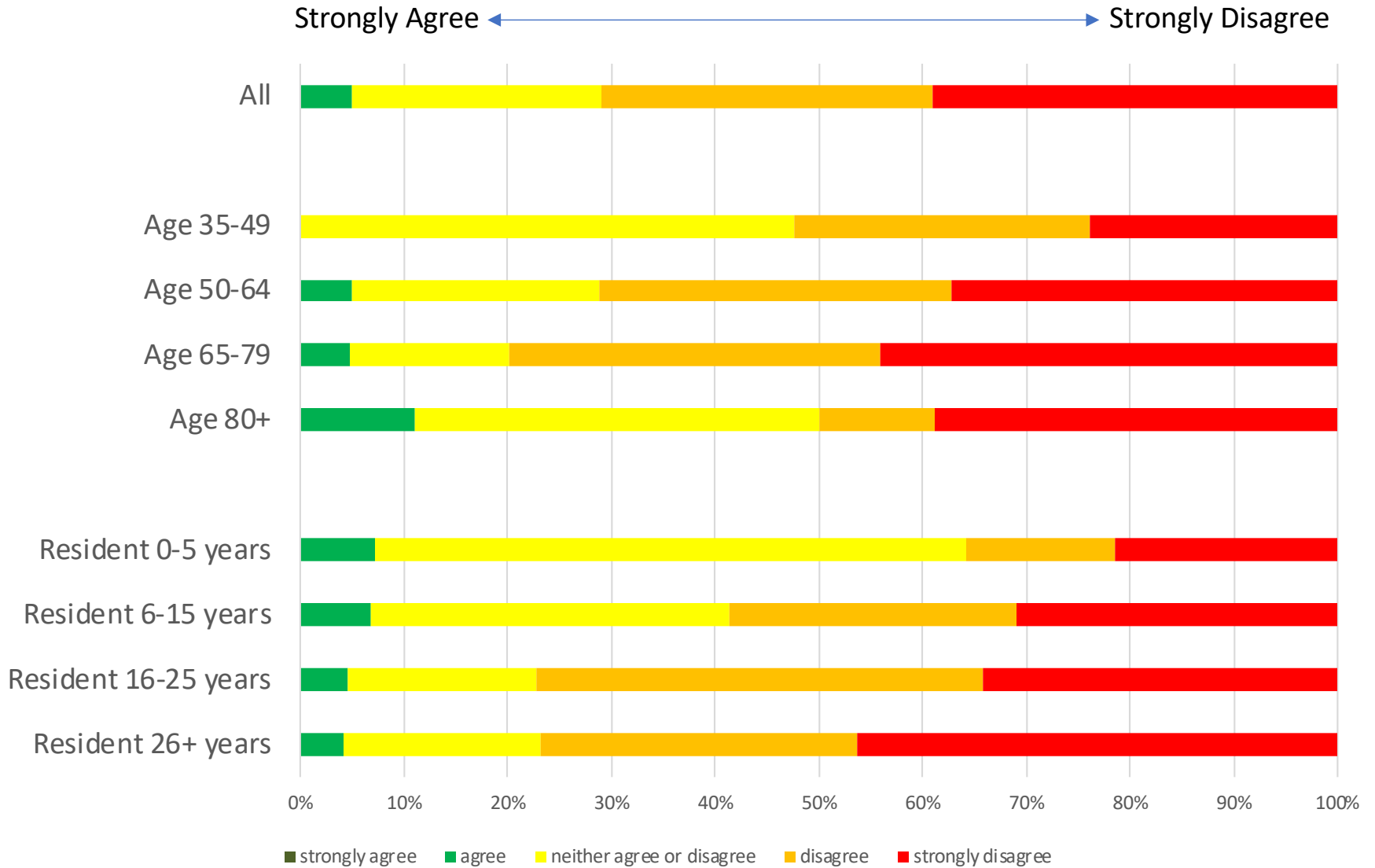


The City gets agendas and staff reports out far enough in advance of the meeting to allow for thoughtful public comment

Strongly Agree ← → Strongly Disagree



I believe PVE is in better shape than it was when I moved here

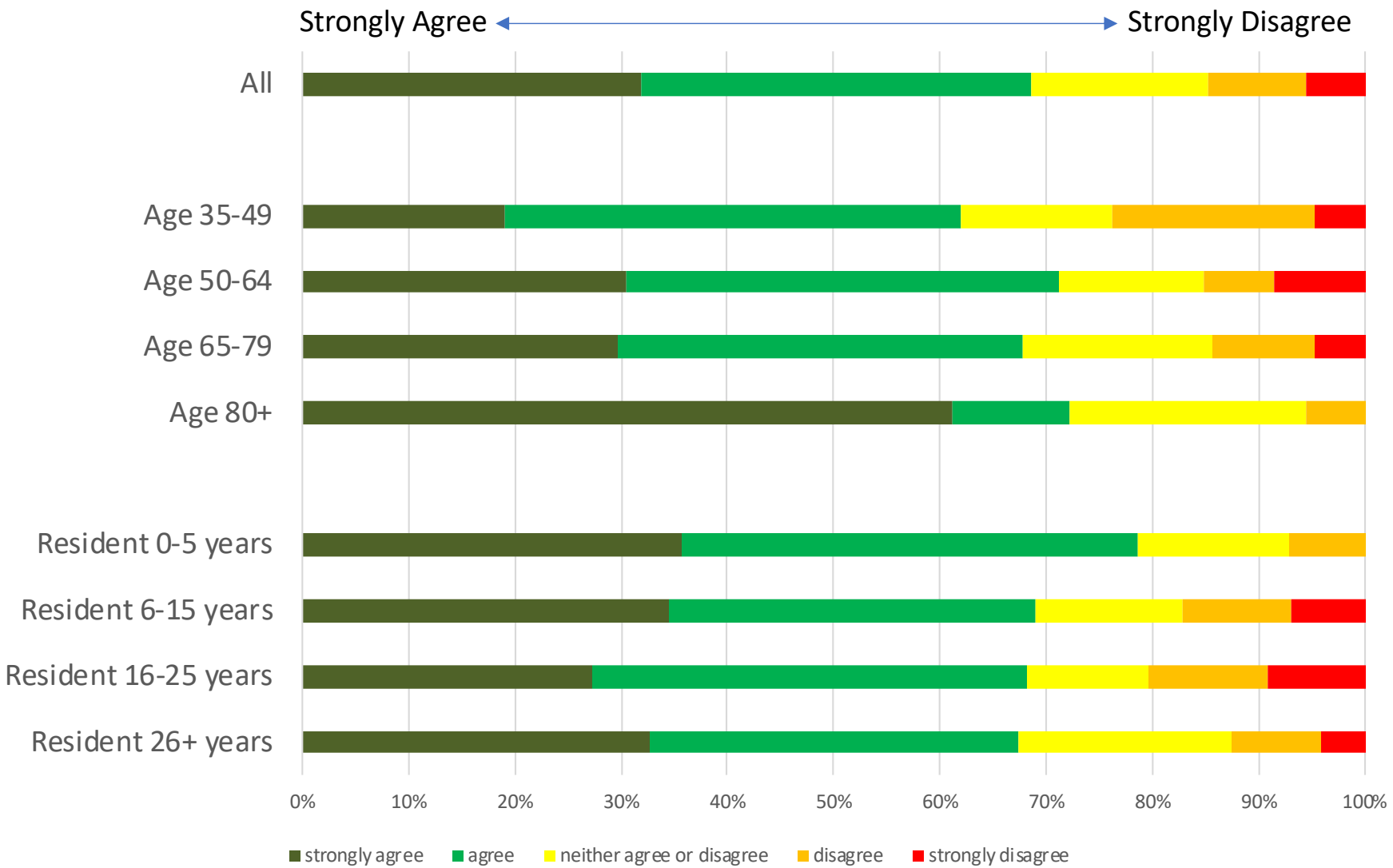


Perspective on PVE Fiscal Challenges By Demographic

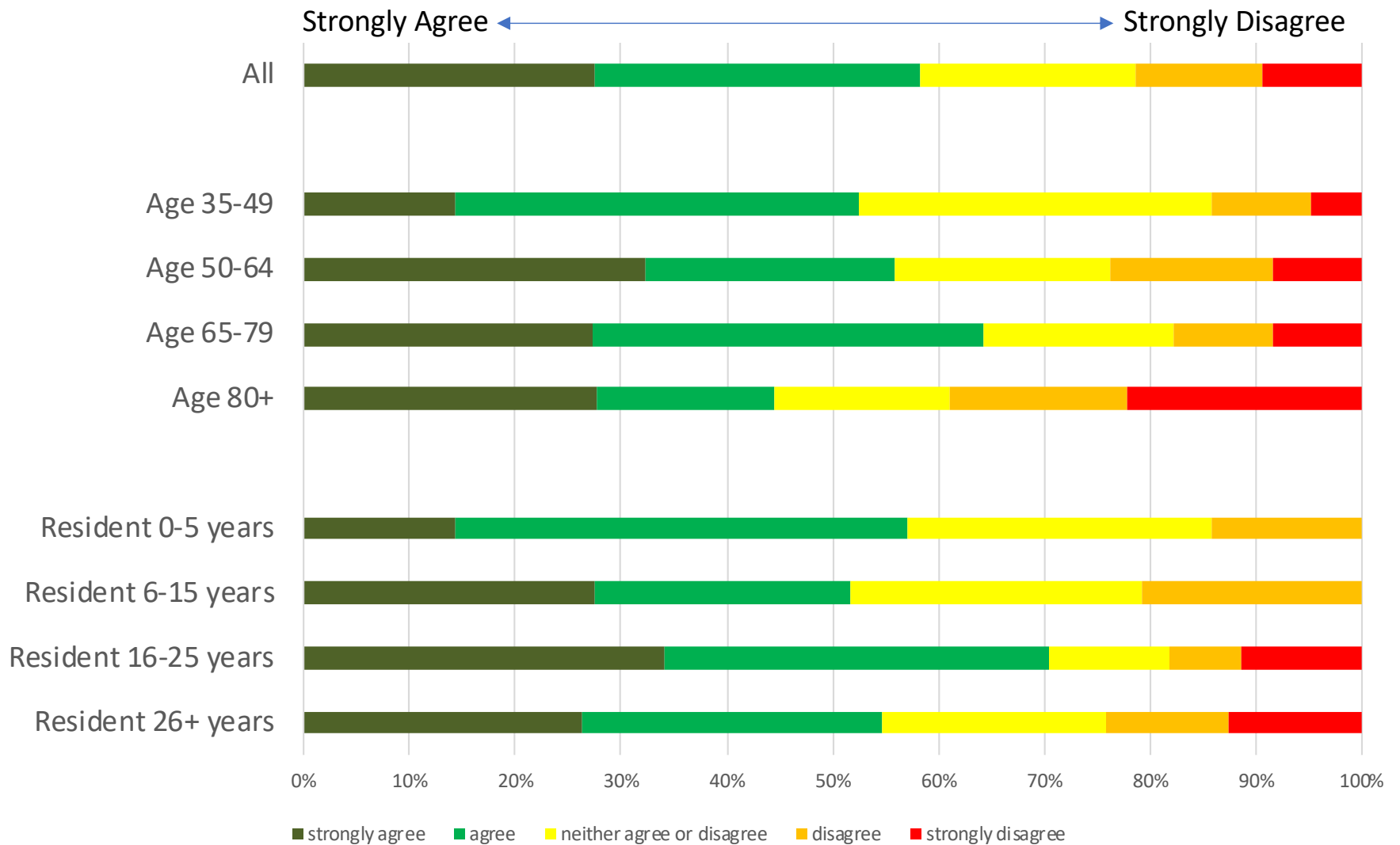
Age of Head of Household

Years Residency in PVE

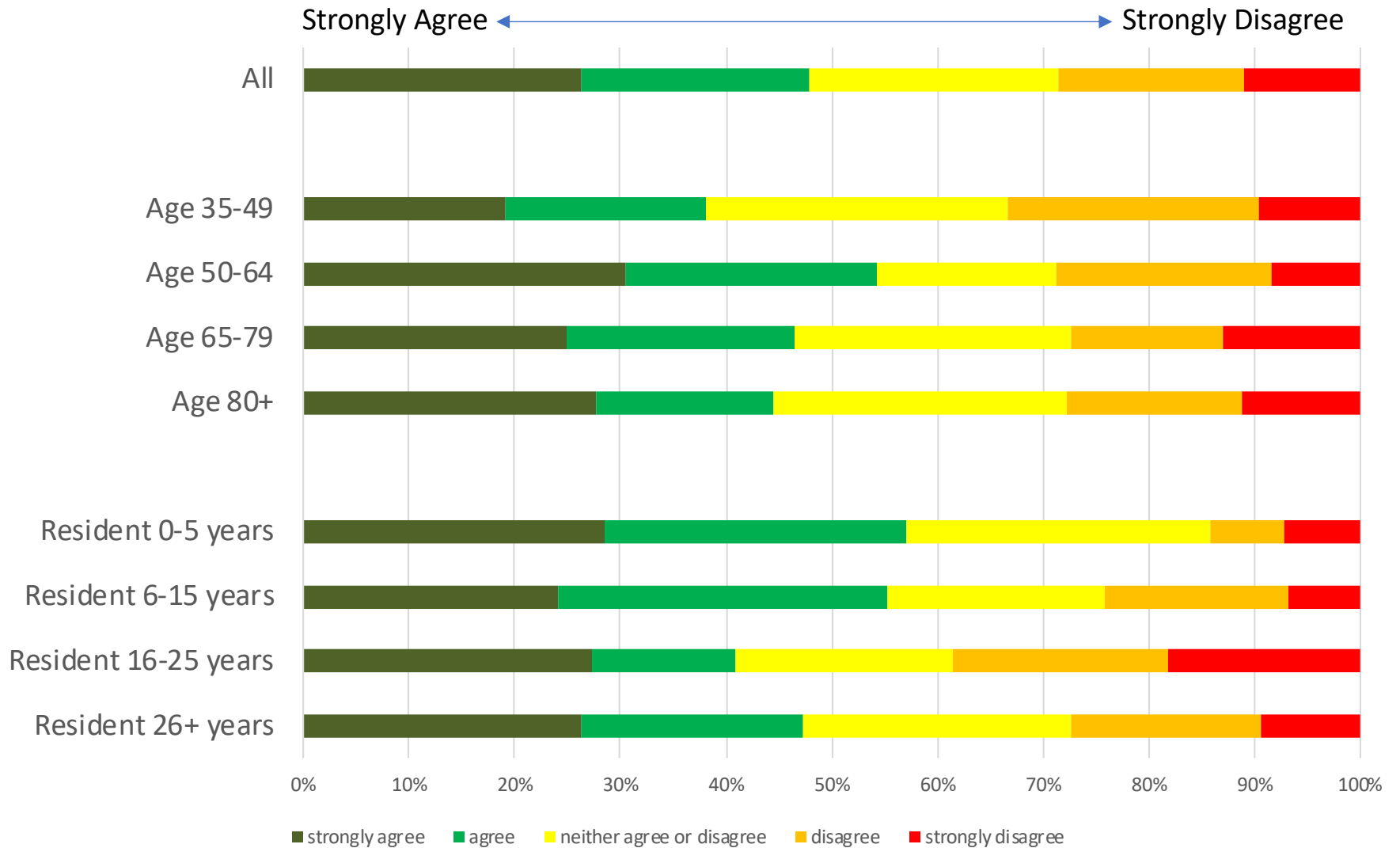
PVE is in poor financial shape, and will require new taxation or debt to meet its future obligations



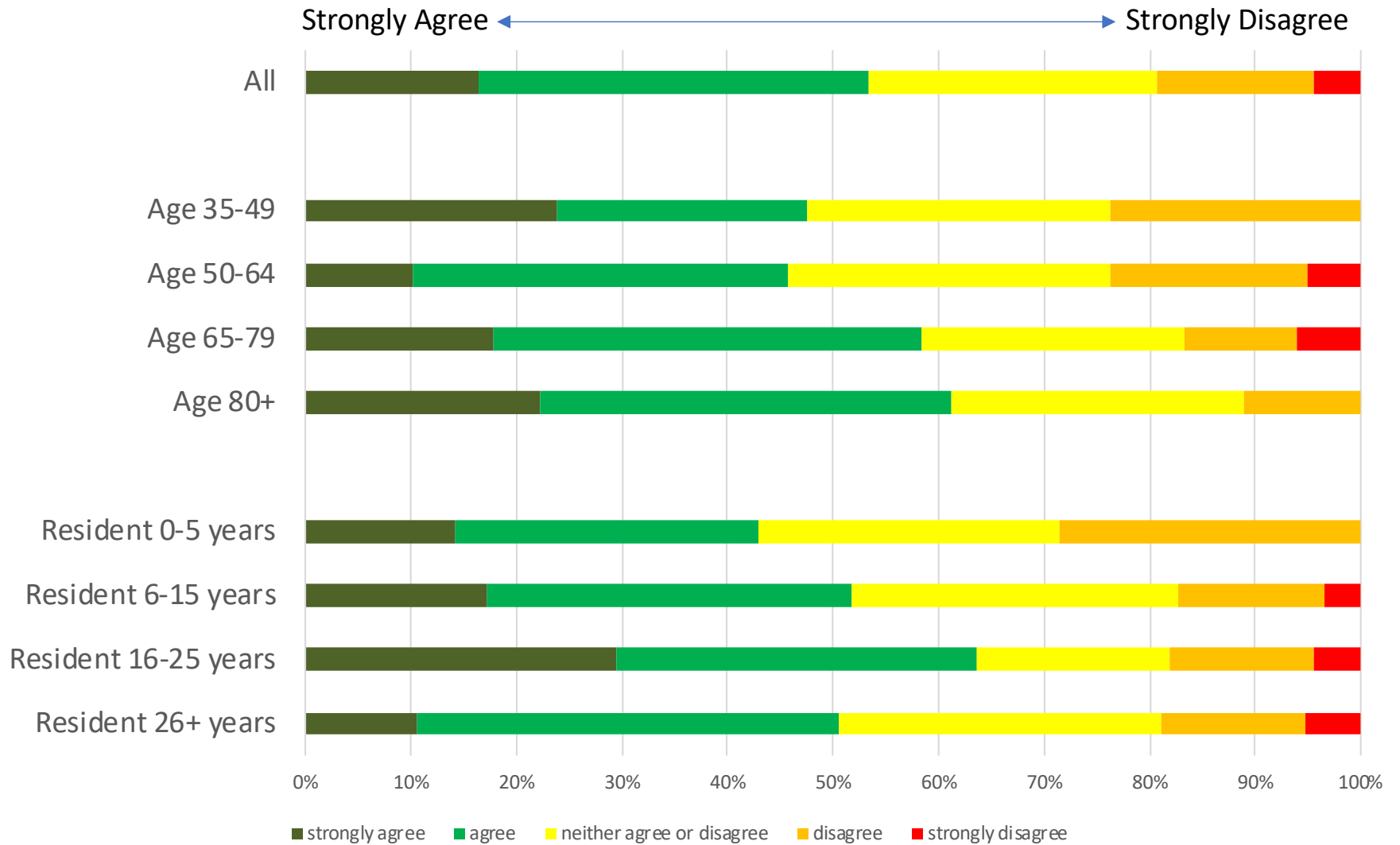
To address the City's significant financial challenges, I support staff reductions or outsourcing of functions with possible reduction in timeliness or quality of services



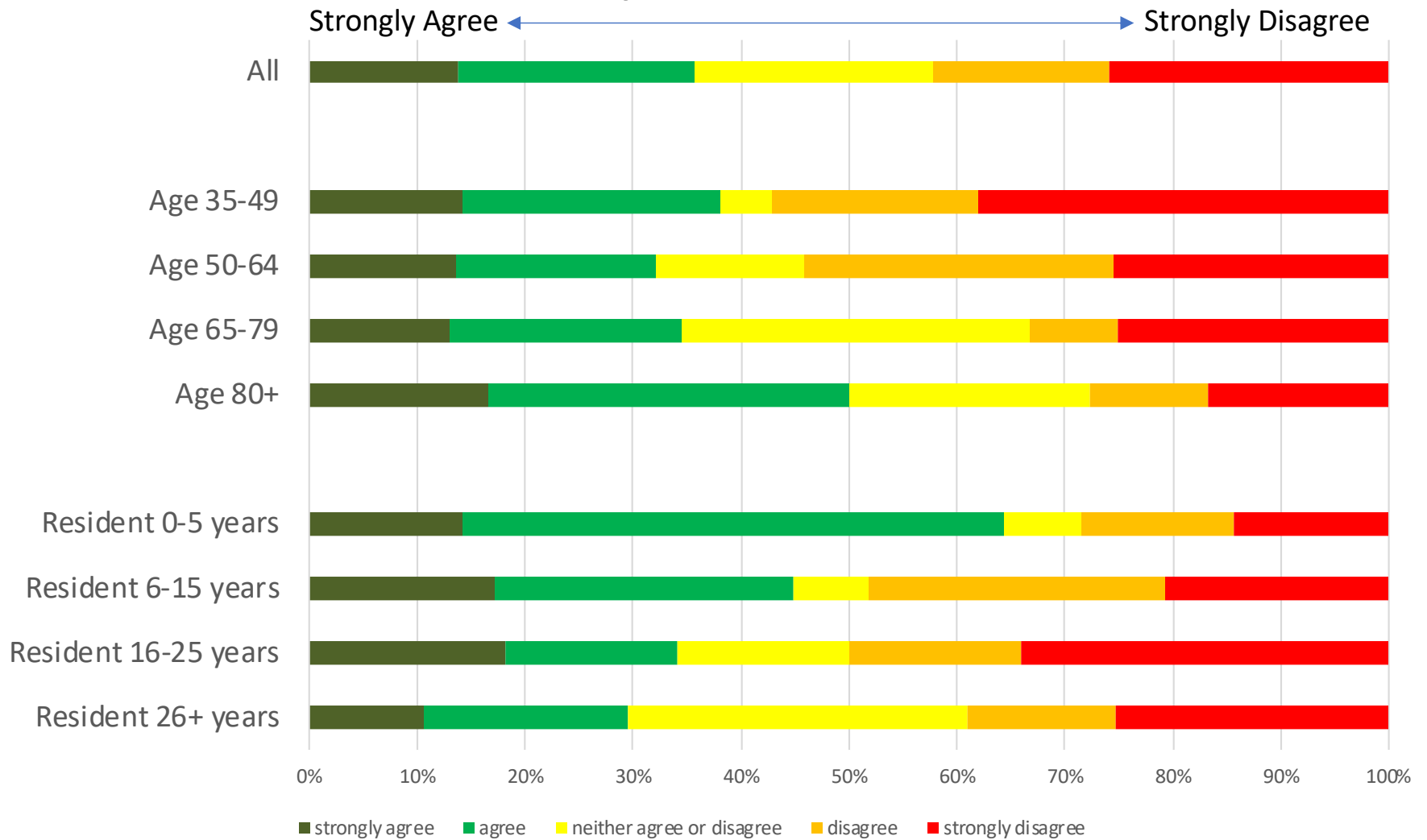
The PVE Police Department is sufficiently funded at its current level and additional funding is inappropriate



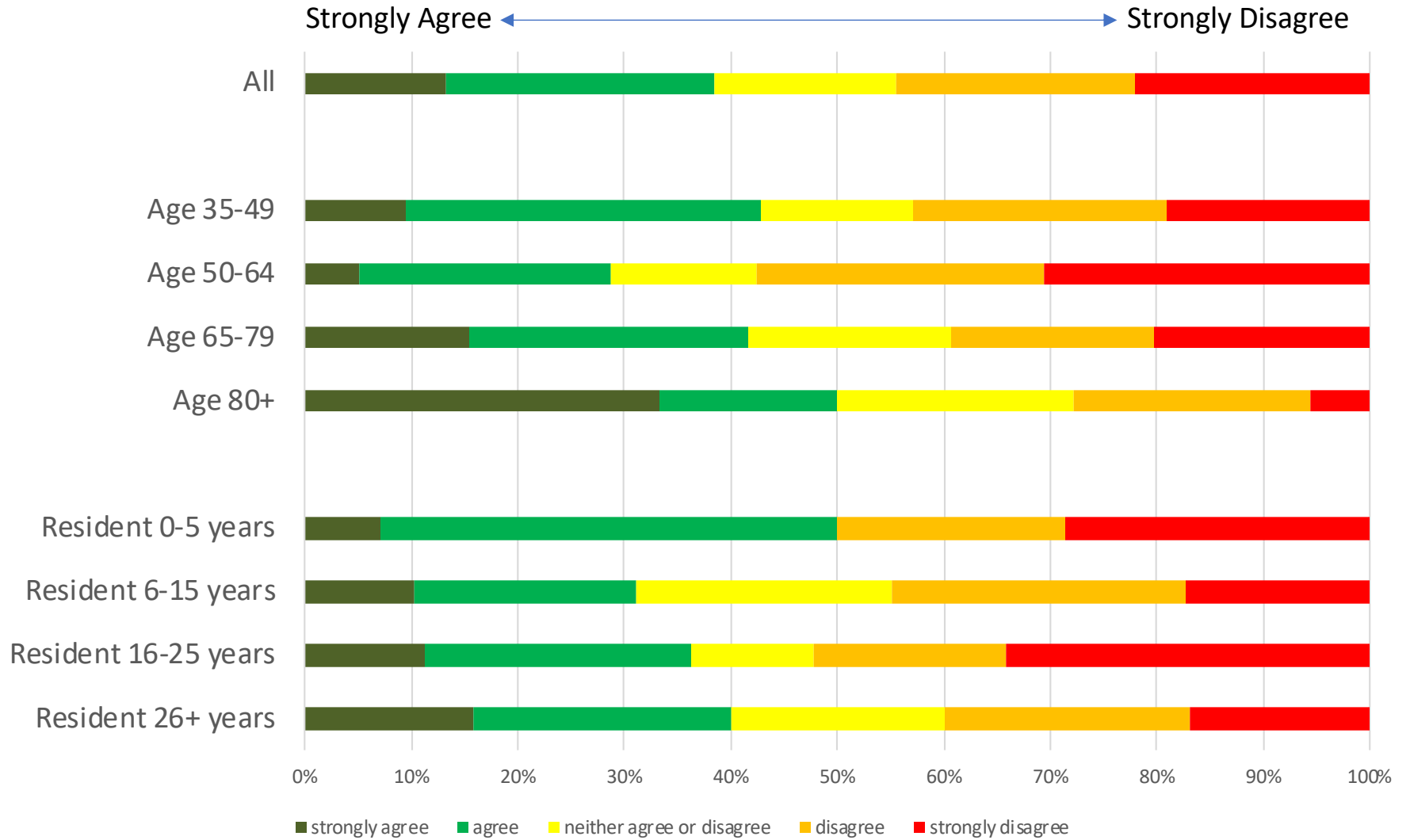
I consider myself well informed about the cost of local government in PVE, and its fiscal challenges



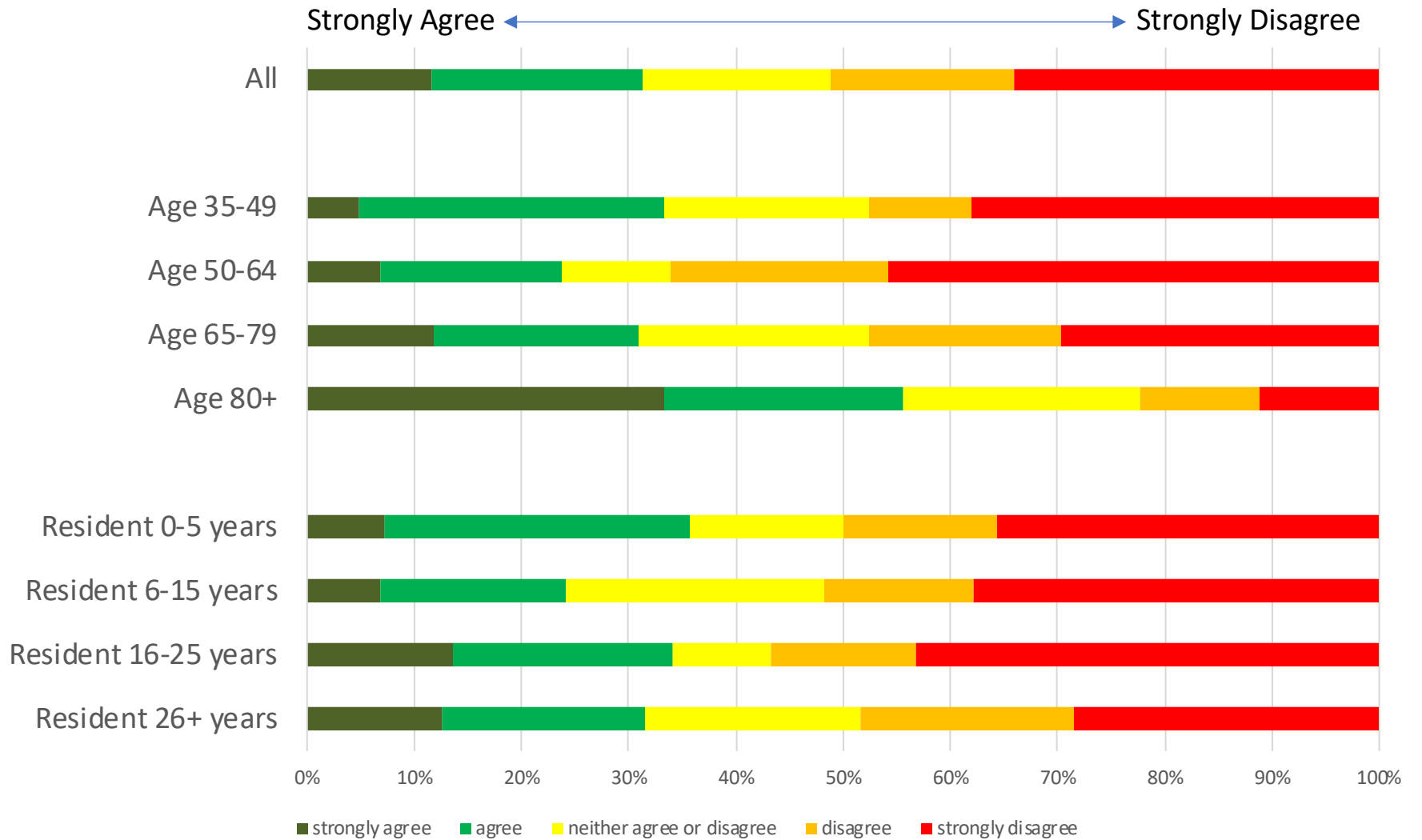
To address the City's significant financial challenges, I support tradeoffs between retention of the City's rural character and allowing additional commercial development to increase revenues



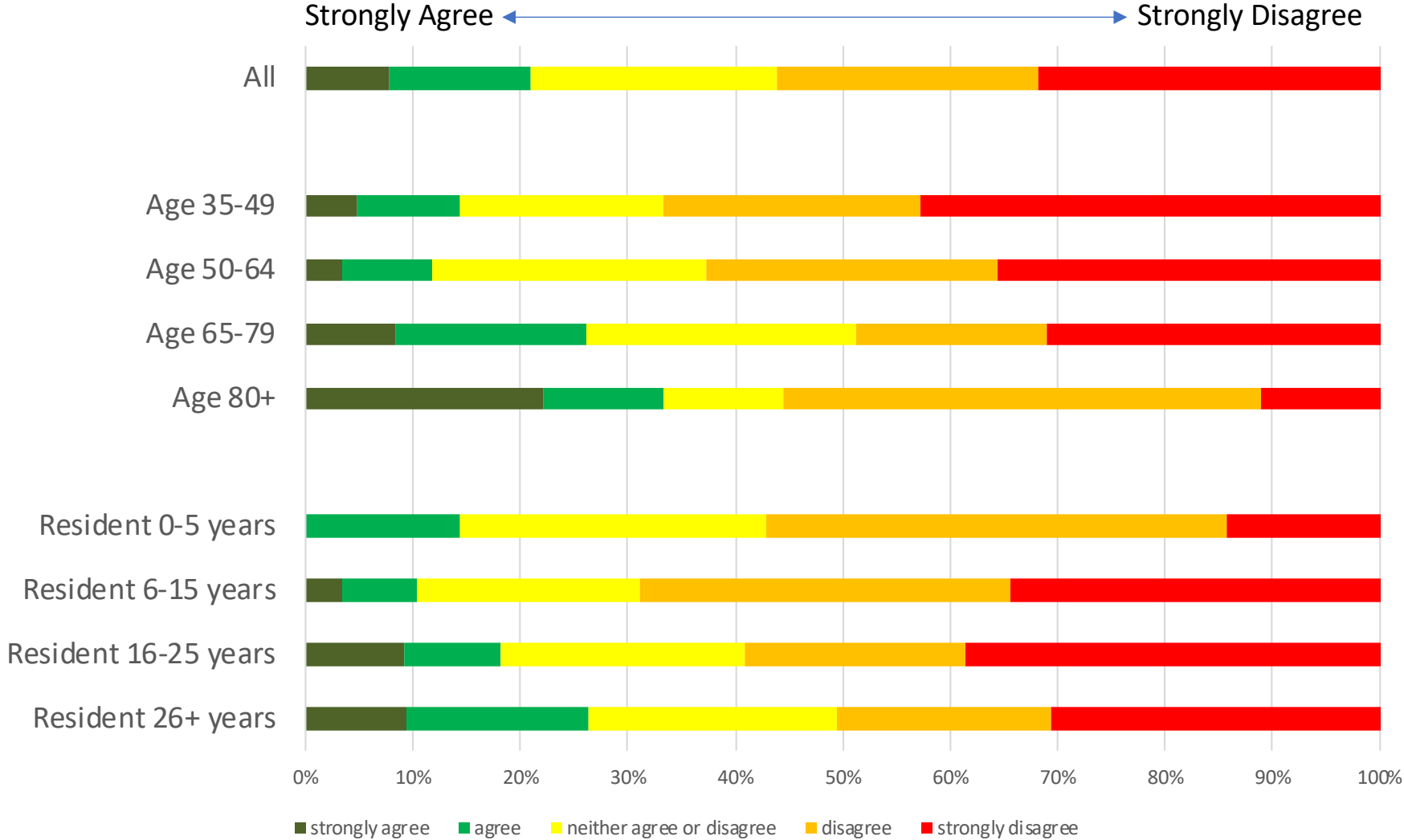
I am willing to pay higher taxes in order to maintain the level of City services and facilities



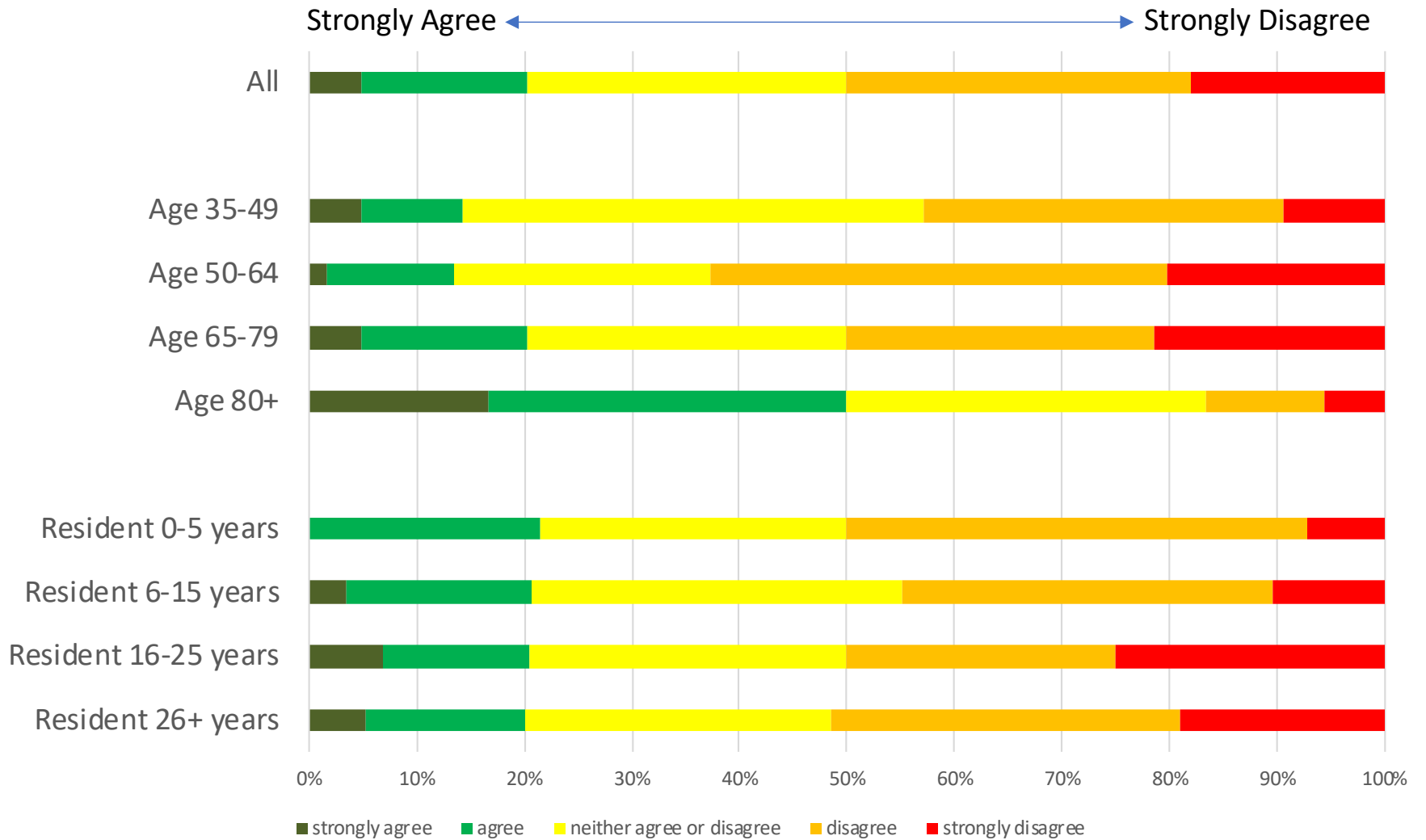
To address the City's significant financial challenges, I support new taxes



To address the City's significant financial challenges, I support an increase in City indebtedness through a bond measure



I believe our City government operates in a transparent way regarding key issues such as financial and strategic planning





**Palos Verdes Residents for
Responsible Government**

Thank You!

To review other surveys, see
<https://www.pvrrg.org/polls-current>

To participate in Future Surveys,
sign up for PVrrg's email
notifications at
<https://www.pvrrg.org/get-updates>