

DURHAM • CHAPEL HILL • CARRBORO

DCHC

METROPOLITAN PLANNING ORGANIZATION

PLANNING TOMORROW'S TRANSPORTATION

Return to In-person MPO Board Meetings

Anne Phillips, LPA Staff

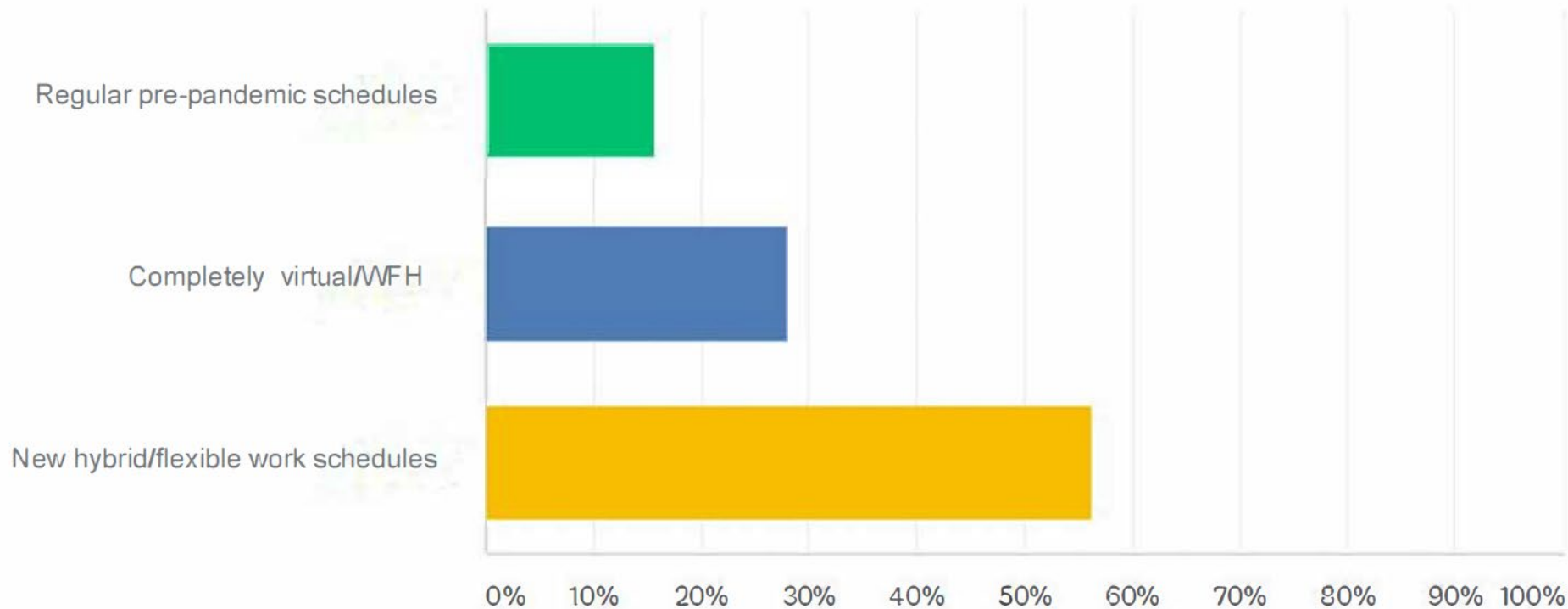
Survey Overview

- Survey distributed to members and alternates of the MPO Board and TC (78 people)
- 34 people took the survey
 - 9 Board members
 - 23 TC members
 - 2 staff (not a member of Board or TC)
- Survey distributed before City of Durham and CDC recommended masking indoors for vaccinated individuals due to new information and concerns about the Delta variant of COVID-19

Many agencies are now offering hybrid/flex work schedules...

Please select the option that best represents the work schedules of staff in your jurisdiction.

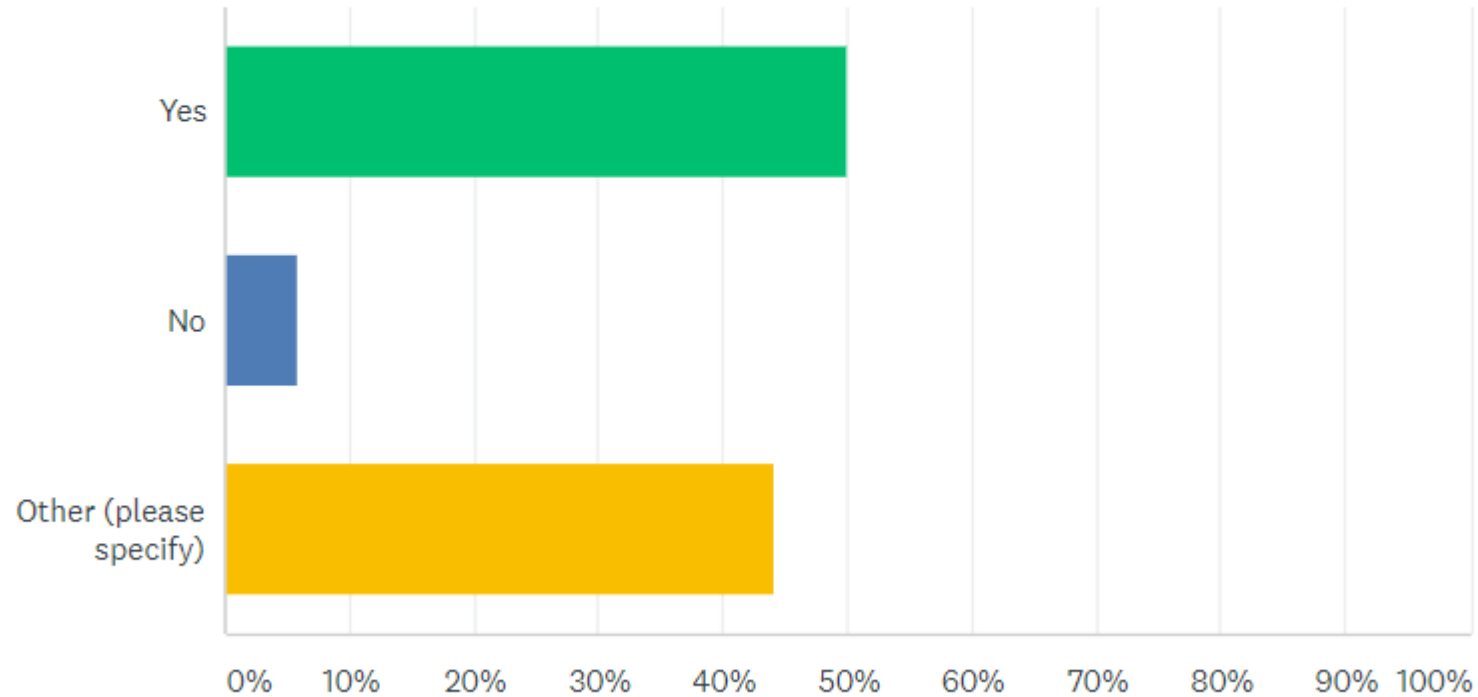
Answered: 32 Skipped: 2



Many Councils/Commissions are meeting in person or offering hybrid meeting options...

Is your jurisdiction holding Council/Commissioner meetings in person this fall?

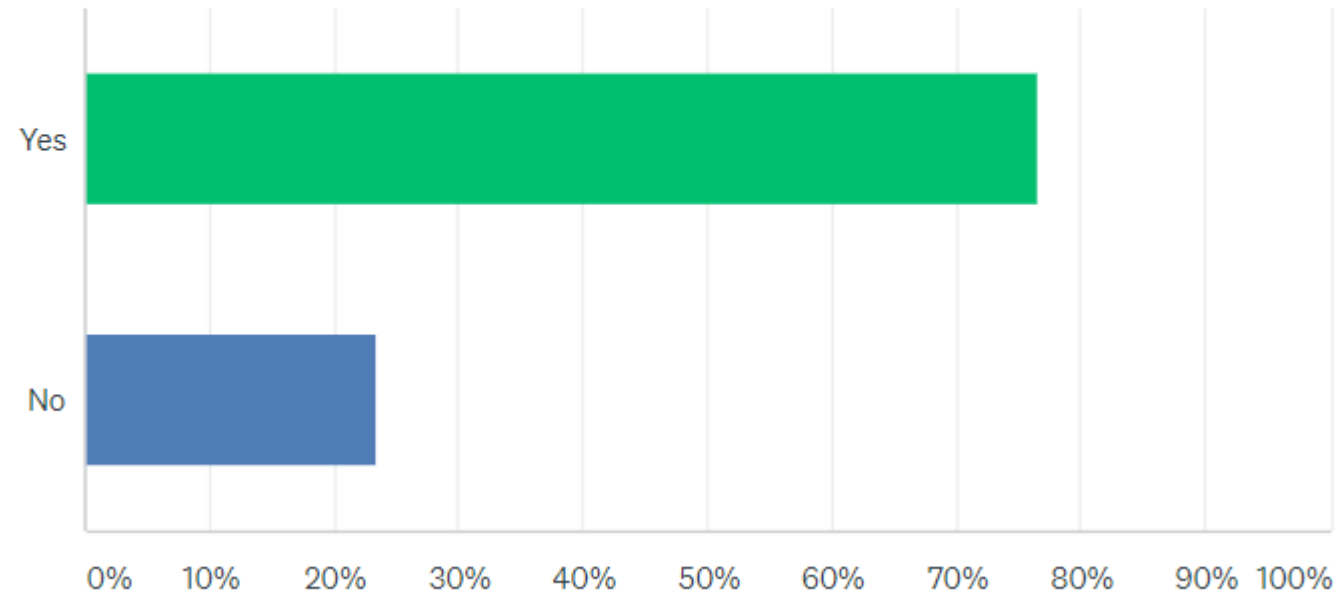
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



Most people were willing to attend an in-person meeting...

Are you willing and/or able to attend an MPO Board meeting in person starting in September?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



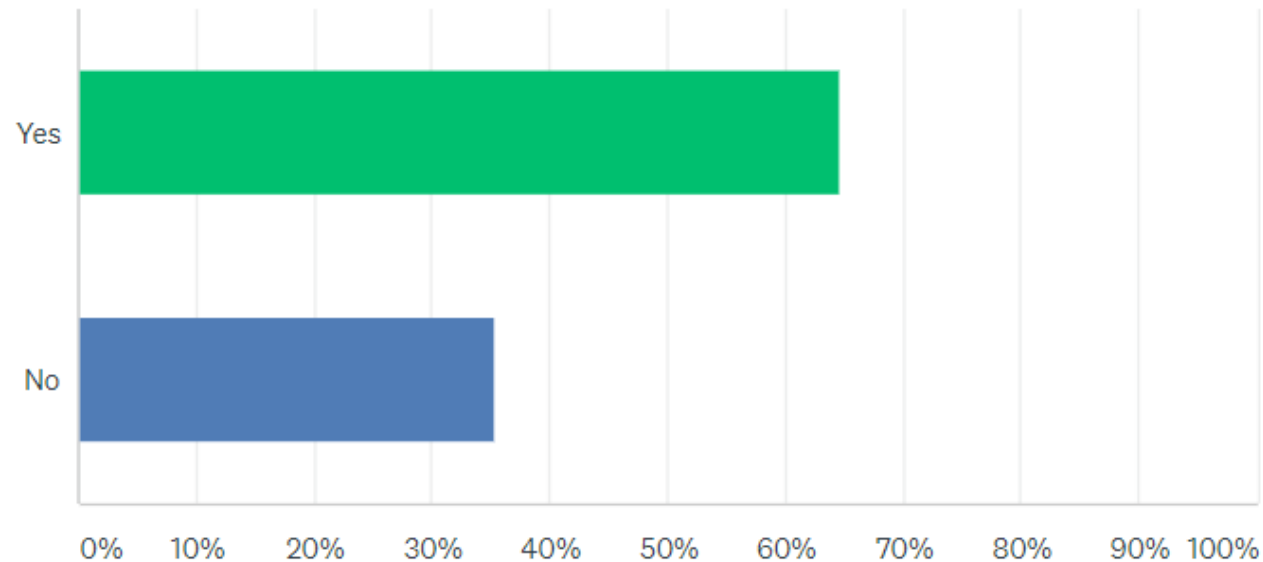
But also raised concerns about meeting in person

- There were 10 comments related to the question of whether people felt comfortable meeting in person
 - Six respondents expressed a preference for hybrid meetings because they are more efficient
 - “Provided there is enough room to accommodate social distancing”
 - “Unless there is an uptick in the Delta variant”
 - Two respondents suggested holding off on the decision of whether to hold meetings in person

Most people were comfortable meeting in the Committee Room...

MPO Board meetings were held in the Durham City Hall Committee Room before the pandemic. The room has limited capacity for social distancing. If you answered yes to question 4, do you feel comfortable using the Durham City Hall Committee Room for Board meetings as has been done in the past?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



Others raised concerns about meeting in the Committee Room

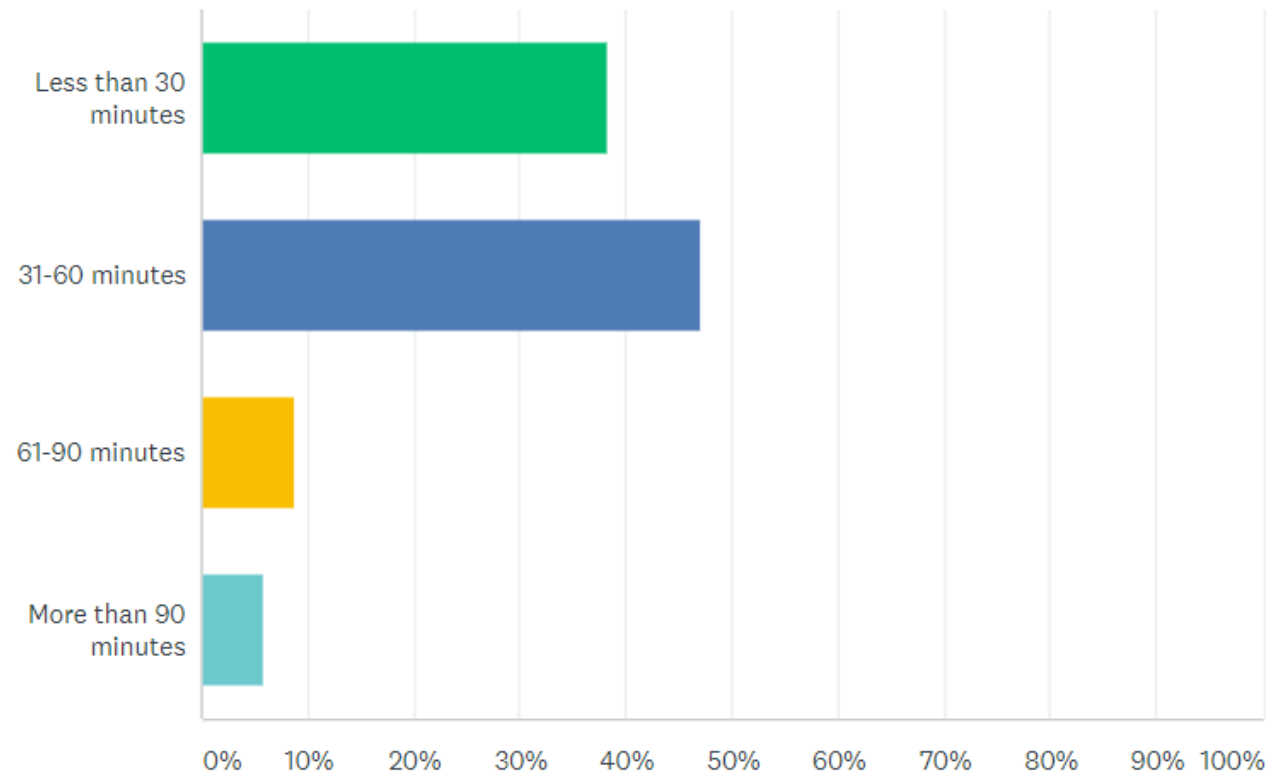


- Three comments emphasized the importance of mask wearing and social distancing if meetings were to be held in the Committee Room
- Two people stated they would prefer to meet in the Council Chambers
- One person raised a question about whether the HVAC has been adjusted to allow for additional filtration/air flow

Time Spent Commuting to Durham City Hall

What is the length of your commute to Durham City Hall in minutes (both ways)?

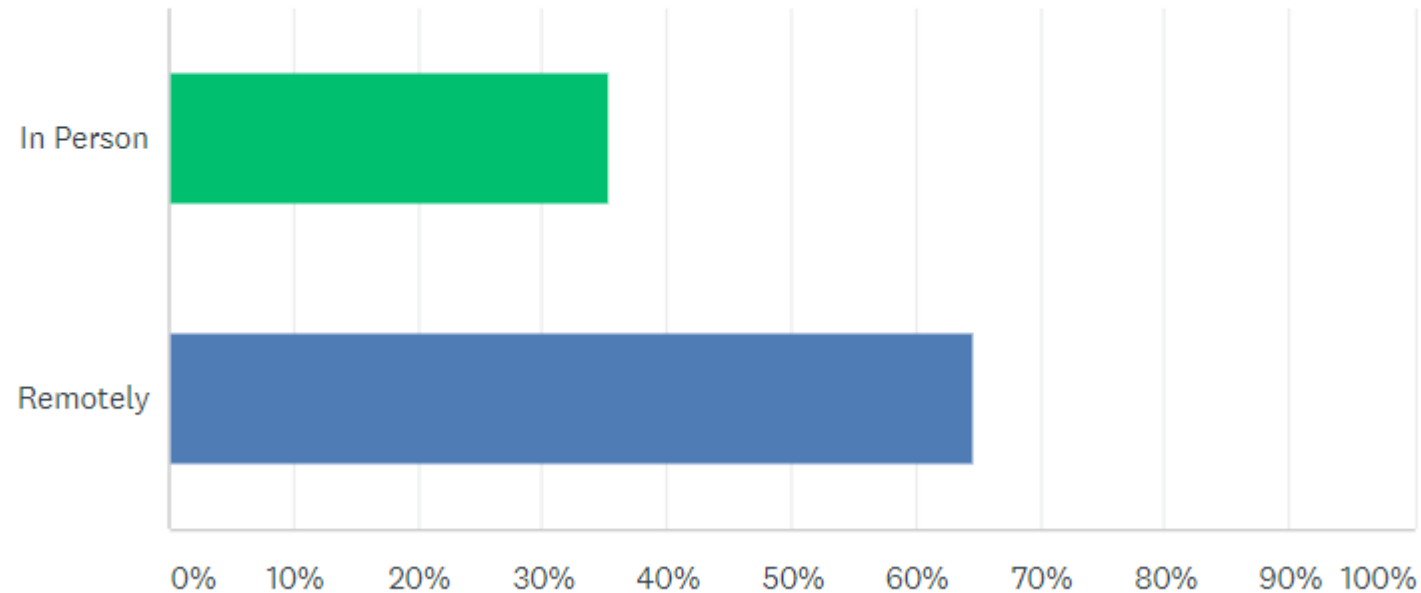
Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



Most people want to be able to attend meetings remotely...

If a meeting was held in person with an option to participate remotely, how would you attend the majority of meetings?

Answered: 34 Skipped: 0



Other thoughts/Comments (20 Comments)

- Importance of hybrid option (8 comments)
- Interest in knowing vaccination status of others (3 comments)
- Need for a better location that would allow social distancing (3 comments)
- “We are working on some higher tech 'Zoom rooms' where people can virtually be seen, heard and participate while 'seeing' the others”
- “TDM strategies, include teleconferencing, can extend the lifespan of our significantly expensive transportation improvements, and reduce carbon emissions, among other things. Seems that would be a good thing for the MPO to model. Perhaps a mix of all -present, and all-remote meetings would work so everyone always has the same experience, rather than a mixed bag at each (if that was being considered).”
- “Remotely until the pandemic has no issues, now the numbers are not stable.”
- One respondent raised concerns about the legality of virtual meetings for public bodies once the Governor’s State of Emergency expires