Mary River

Coastal Adaptation Strategies Survey Responses (July/August 2020)

Respondent characteristics:

30 responses	**75%** of respondents are residents of Maryborough/ Mary River/ Susan River	One quarter (**25%**) of respondents live on a coastal Esplanade	**19%** of respondents were either a business owner or worker	**19%** of respondents were part of a community group
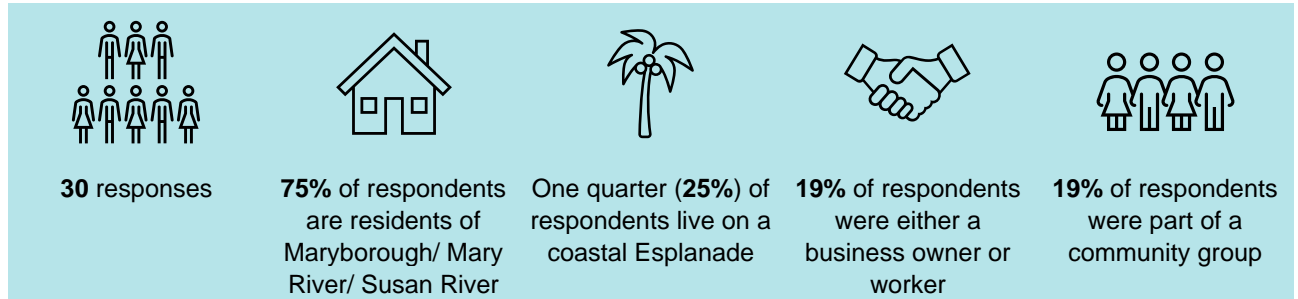
Guiding strategy preferences for Mary River:

Enhance, build, avoid and adapt responses were the most supported adaptation strategies. Protect/defend and retreat responses, were less preferred strategies. Although the enhance strategy also had the highest number strongly agree responses, it also had the highest number of strongly disagree responses.
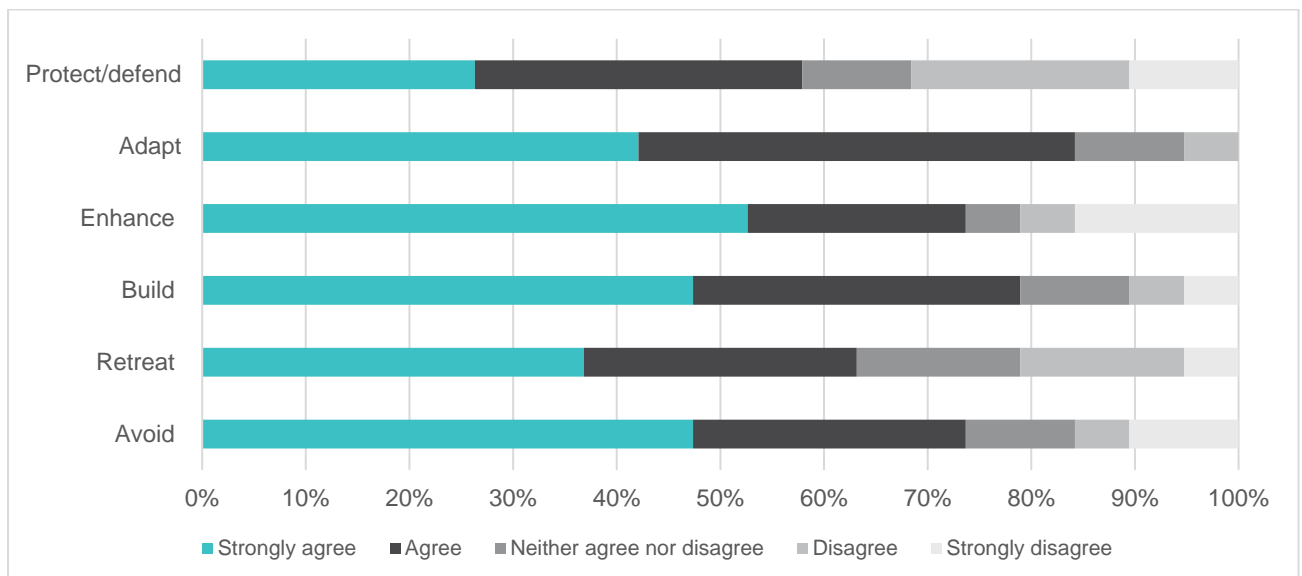

Figure 1: Preferred response strategies for Mary River

Key feedback:

1. Preference for natural responses such as the protection of existing vegetation and revegetation of foreshore areas. The protection of natural assets should be prioritised over built assets, man-made interventions should only be implemented where risk and impact cannot be avoided.
2. Need for better education on the modelling undertaken through the Coastal Futures project, in addition to the sustainability principles of the Great Sandy Biosphere, to build community resilience and buy-in.
3. Avoid new development through planning controls in areas at-risk areas.
4. Man-made and hard infrastructure interventions should be implemented to prioritise protection of key community facilities, public assets and places of cultural significance, given their community importance and cost of relocation.
5. Convert CBD areas subject to inundation to lower intensity and risk-tolerant land uses, such as car parking.

How would you like to be involved or support coastal adaptation?

Most respondents indicated that they did not want to contribute time or funds to coastal adaptation works. Only 15 people answered this question.
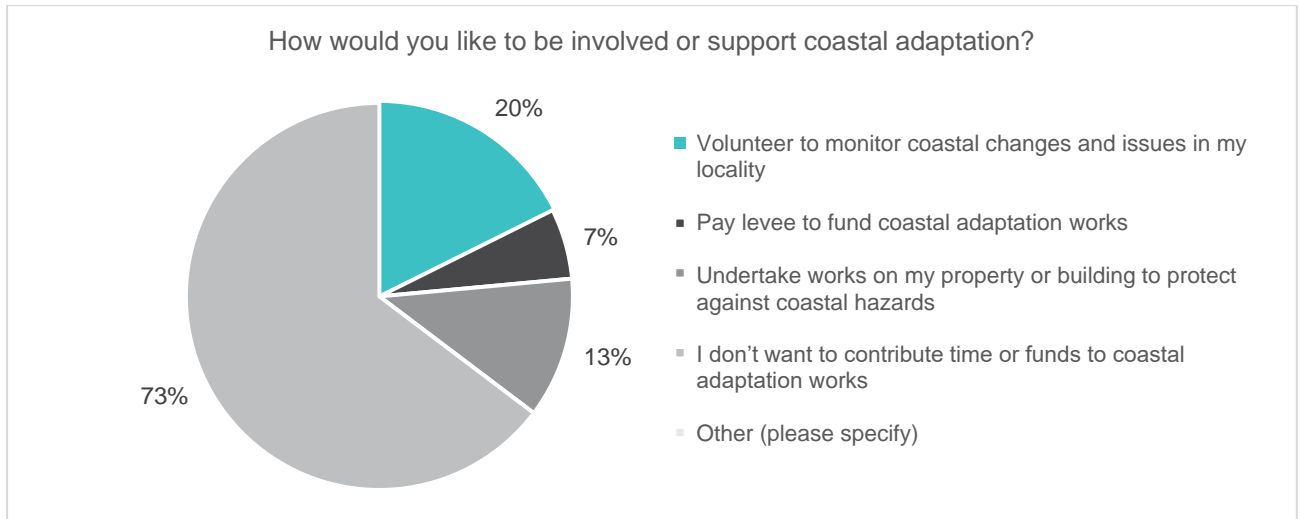

Figure 2: Preferred involvement in coastal adaption in Mary River