

# Spring 2023 Solar Survey Results

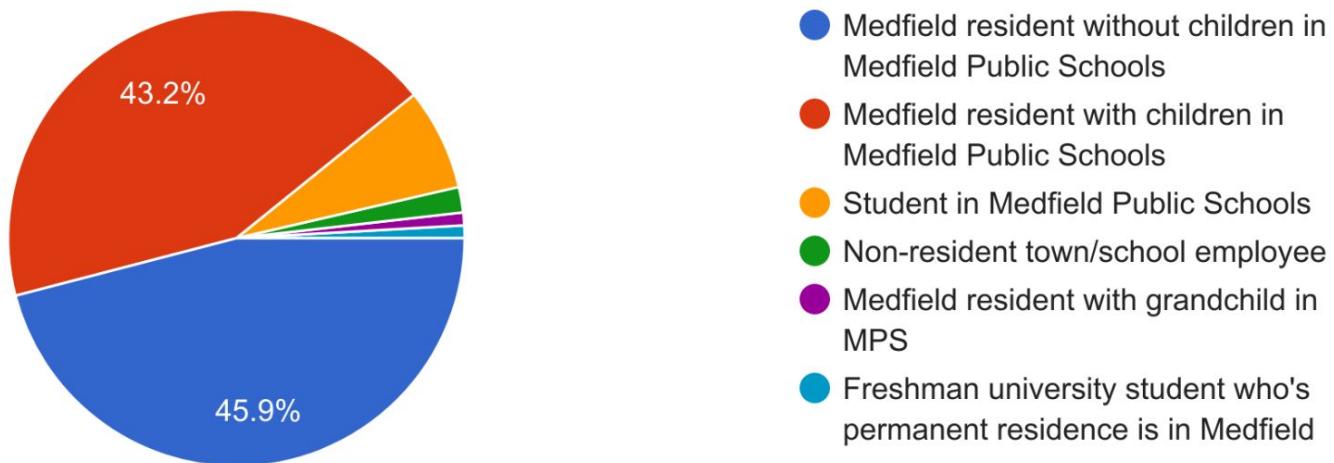
As of April 26

# Key Take-aways

- 111 participants
- Medfielders (89%) are supportive of solar canopies
  - 66% (supportive) & 23% (generally supportive but want more information)
  - Support for roof-top solar is 94%; 69% (supportive) and 25% (generally supportive but want more information)
- Medfielders note the climate as their primary concern/reason for their support
- Financial details and energy/climate benefits are the areas most residents want more information on
- Many residents would like more information about aesthetics (details will be available in renderings soon) but very few residents (7/111) noted outright concern about the aesthetic of canopies
- Check out the follow-up Q&A for more information. It can be found on the Solar Projects section of the town's website, <http://www.town.medfield.net/2182/Solar-Projects>

## Which of these options best describes you?

111 responses



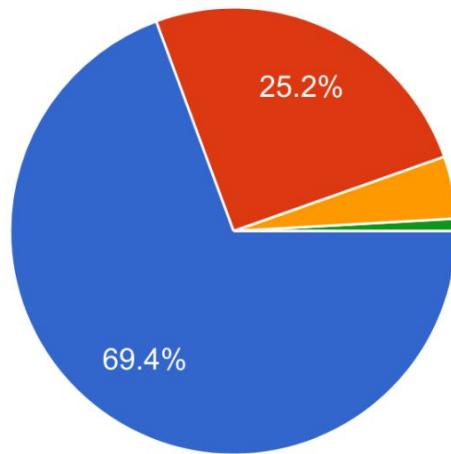
## Where in Medfield do you live?

111 responses



Do you support the installation of rooftop solar arrays at our schools that will generate electricity for the schools?

111 responses

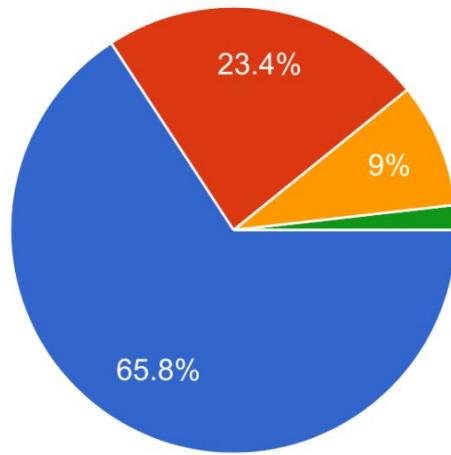


- Yes, I support this idea.
- I am generally supportive, but would like to know more.
- No, I am opposed to this idea.
- I have no opinion.

**Over 94% of respondents support or are generally supportive of rooftop solar arrays.**

Do you support the installation of solar canopies on parking lots at our schools that will generate electricity for the schools?

111 responses

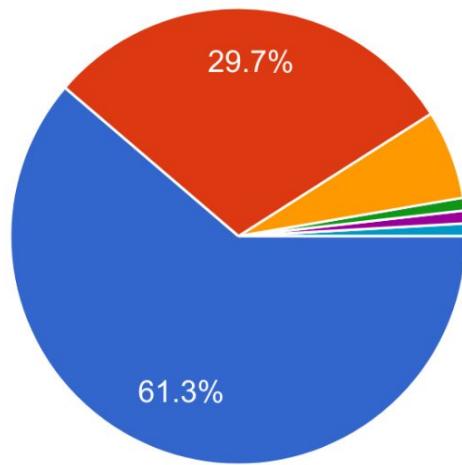


- Yes, I support this idea.
- I am generally supportive, but would like to know more.
- No, I am opposed to this idea.
- I have no opinion.

**Over 89% of residents support or generally support solar canopies on parking lots at our schools.**

Which topic most influenced your choice (above) about solar canopies at the schools?

111 responses

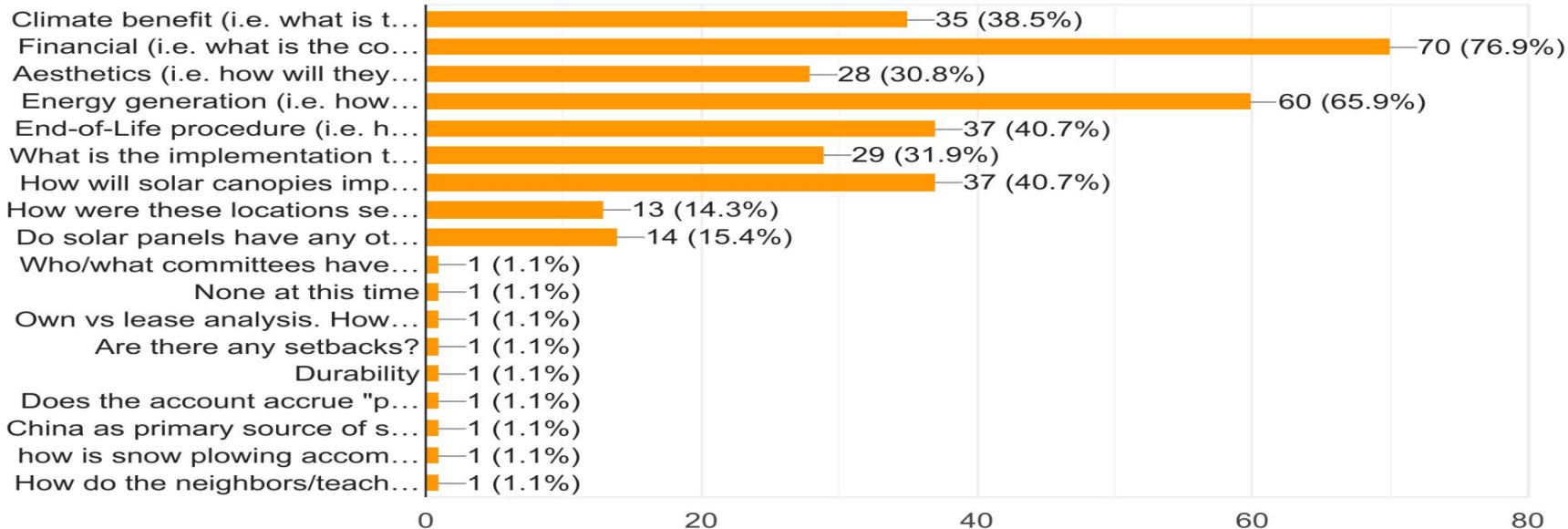


- Impact on the climate/generating renewable energy in Medfield
- Financial Information/Cost-benefit etc.
- Aesthetics - what will they look like
- Canopies in Parking Lots makes perfect sense as they not only provide shade...
- All of the above, but also shade effect to cool cars in hot weather and also shiel...
- I support solar energy but am concerned about the visuals if a large parking lot...

**The impact on the climate/generating renewable energy is the main reason for supporting solar canopies at the schools.**

Please let us know what topics you would like to learn more about (Please check all that apply)

91 responses



Residents want more information on financials and energy generation.

# Survey Comments

The following comments were received.

No. I like this idea!

If possible in the future, a tilt style ground mounted array should be considered, mostly for getting town experience

It is, literally, pointless to ask if people "support" without a legitimate and sensitized cost-benefit analysis. Absent such is simply cultish.

cost of steel has made canopies for the time being too expensive

Great idea - both for the renewable energy and to teach our children! Keep 'em coming!

I worry greatly about getting over our skis with this push for green energy. Mining for rare earths is disastrous from both a human and ecological perspective, and we haven't fully figured out disposal of spent materials. I will continue to support a gradual move to green energy, but if we start to shoehorn it, I will become very vocally against it.

Strong support

No other comments

Why doesn't the Public Safety building have solar panels on its roofs? Assume the town hall roof may not be ideal?

The basic idea of looking at this is a good one, but the course of action that is adopted needs to take a full range of issues into consideration, not just the energy considerations.

Solar films will make canopy installation even more cost-effective.

I think this project should proceed as rapidly as is sensible.

There are better solutions for clean energy generation than solar/wind (i.e. nuclear & natural gas) than covering our landscape with unsightly and inefficient solar panels. Roof tops are fine if they make economic sense.

this step is long overdue

I'm ecstatic to see Medfield pursuing renewable energy for our schools. It's a tangible way to show that we take our children's futures seriously by taking the Earth they will inherit seriously.

If there is a cost to taxpayers for the installation, there should be a savings to taxpayers from the electricity generated.

These are not necessary

Love the idea! Thanks!

A request to take into account when designing the canopies for the Blake parking lot that the spaces where the proposed arrays are going are used by inexperienced and not necessarily careful high school teenage drivers.

I am very familiar with the solar canopies at Ashland High School and think it is a genius use of the space.

Any "net zero" solutions should be financially beneficial to the town.

What will the cost be to relocate or replace installations upon the (hopefully) eventual new school being built?

What is the immediate cost to tax payers and over time. Is there a budget for repairs, long term maintenance. How many years is it usable for and what is the cost to replace/ take down. Can the panels on roofs damage them? If so how are they repaired and how costly are said repairs to the town. Will the roofs be replaced prior to placing them on school roofs? Will lacement of these items at schools, take into consideration that a site and scope of a new elementary school have not yet been completed.

Nice job, thank you for doing this!! Fred is still interested in lead a small group looking at the math of how much PV it will take to net-zero-out the complete electrification of all municipal HVAC plus all charging vehicles

This would set a great example for our children.

Thanks for all of your hard working researching and pursuing this worthwhile improvement for Medfield

The town has a leadership obligation in regard to renewable energy. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate the competence of our selectmen.

Solar canopies are a no-brainer at the high school. With declining enrollment, the loss of parking spaces wouldn't be a big deal, and the community would benefit during events. Also, the isn't easily seen from the road, so aesthetics aren't an issue. I also think a canopy would look fine at Memorial. The sites that concern me, re: aesthetics, are Wheelock and Dale, and to a certain degree, Blake, since the lot is not very big and it sits close to a neighborhood whose character will be further compromised by the Tilden project.

As stated earlier, roofs and parking areas shall take precedent over natural/green space. For example: I do not support a solar array on the former landfill! That space provides habitat for bird of prey, pollinators and beyond. WE must be mindful that solar arrays are not pretty, they reflect, and can tarnish a landscape significantly if not done in the right area. Roofs and Canopies in parking areas works great, and I fully support that. Thanks for your efforts.