



# GROWING COASTAL RESILIENCE

Southern Delaware Coastal Resilience Project



# WE ASKED – WHAT DO YOU THINK?

- Resilience Survey
- Coast Forward Summit
- Community Open Houses/Tabling Events
- Community Conversations



# THE PEOPLE WE TALKED TO WERE GREAT -

- But there weren't that many people
- Many factors contributed to low turnout
- Still managed to reach over 150 individuals (the target)



# WHAT STRESSOR SHOULD CIB ADDRESS?

- 20 Stressors Identified in 11 Surveys
- Issues like Erosion were multi-faceted

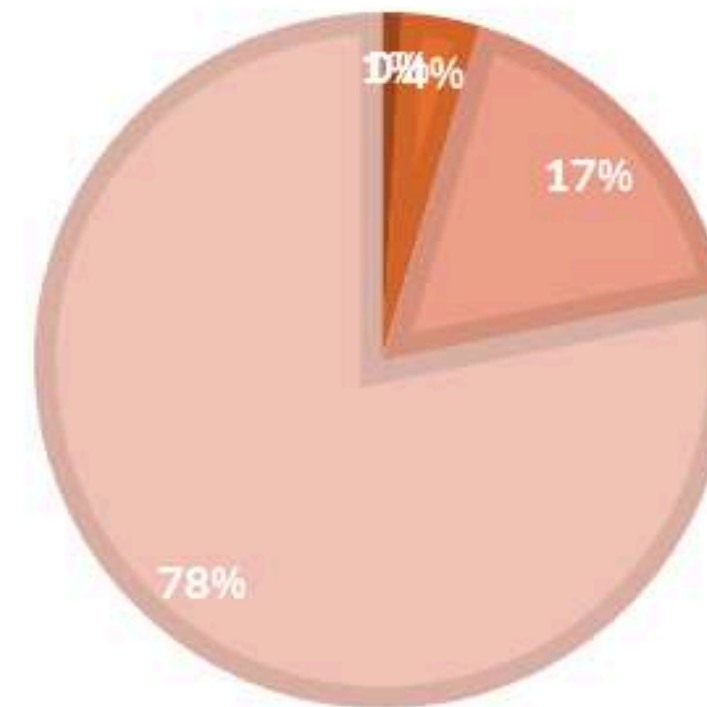
<b>Habitat Loss</b>	4.00	3.00	3.00		1.00				
<b>Water Quality</b>	3.00	4.00	2.00	1.00		1.00			
<b>Flooding</b>	1.00	2.00	3.00	3.00		1.00	1.00		
<b>Erosion</b>	1.00	1.00	2.00	4.00				1.00	
<b>Storms</b>	1.00				2.00	4.00	3.00	1.00	
<b>Air Quality</b>		1.00			4.00	1.00	4.00	1.00	1.00
<b>Soil Quality</b>				2.00	1.00	4.00	1.00	3.00	
<b>Extreme Temperatures</b>					1.00	1.00	3.00	3.00	2.00

# THE PEOPLE WE TALKED TO WERE CONCERNED –

- We mostly did not gather associated data like demographics, bias'
- However in one survey form we asked - 95% were concerned or very concerned with climate change

## WHAT IS YOUR LEVEL OF CONCERN WITH CLIMATE CHANGE?

■ Very unconcerned ■ Unconcerned ■ Neither ■ Concerned ■ Very concerned



# WHAT STRESSOR SHOULD CIB ADDRESS?

- Online Survey 108 out of 111 responded
- 26% of responses placed Flooding, Habitat Quality and Water Quality in the top four issues
- Notably Erosion did not score as high.

<b>Flooding</b>	32	19	16	7	7	7	16	4
<b>Habitat</b>	28	21	12	19	12	9	5	2
<b>Water Quality</b>	26	14	20	14	11	15	7	1
Storms/Hurricanes	9	20	18	13	17	15	10	6
Erosion	2	11	13	20	14	17	13	18
Extreme Temperatures	7	8	11	11	18	13	10	30
Air Quality	4	13	9	13	11	17	22	19
Soil Quality	0	2	9	11	18	15	25	28



# WE ASKED- WILL NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS WILL WORK?

- There was a good match for nature based solutions for the stressors
- There was a lot of confusion over what nature based solutions were



# WHAT IS COASTAL RESILIENCE?

- No federal definition
- There was some confusion over whether the Inland Bays is coastal





- **THE ABILITY TO PREPARE FOR THREATS AND HAZARDS IN A WAY THAT BUILDS ECOSYSTEM SERVICES,**
- **RESPECTS THE INTEGRITY OF INTERCONNECTED SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND ECOLOGICAL SYSTEMS,**
- **ADAPTS TO CHANGING CONDITIONS,**
- **AND WITHSTANDS AND RESPONDS OR REORGANIZES IN WAYS THAT MAINTAIN OUR COMMUNITY'S ESSENTIAL FUNCTION, IDENTITY, AND STRUCTURE.**



# ACTION HAS 4 LEVELS

- Self
- Organization/Community
- Governance
- Holistic

**WHAT ARE YOU GOOD AT?**

**WHAT WORK NEEDS DOING?**

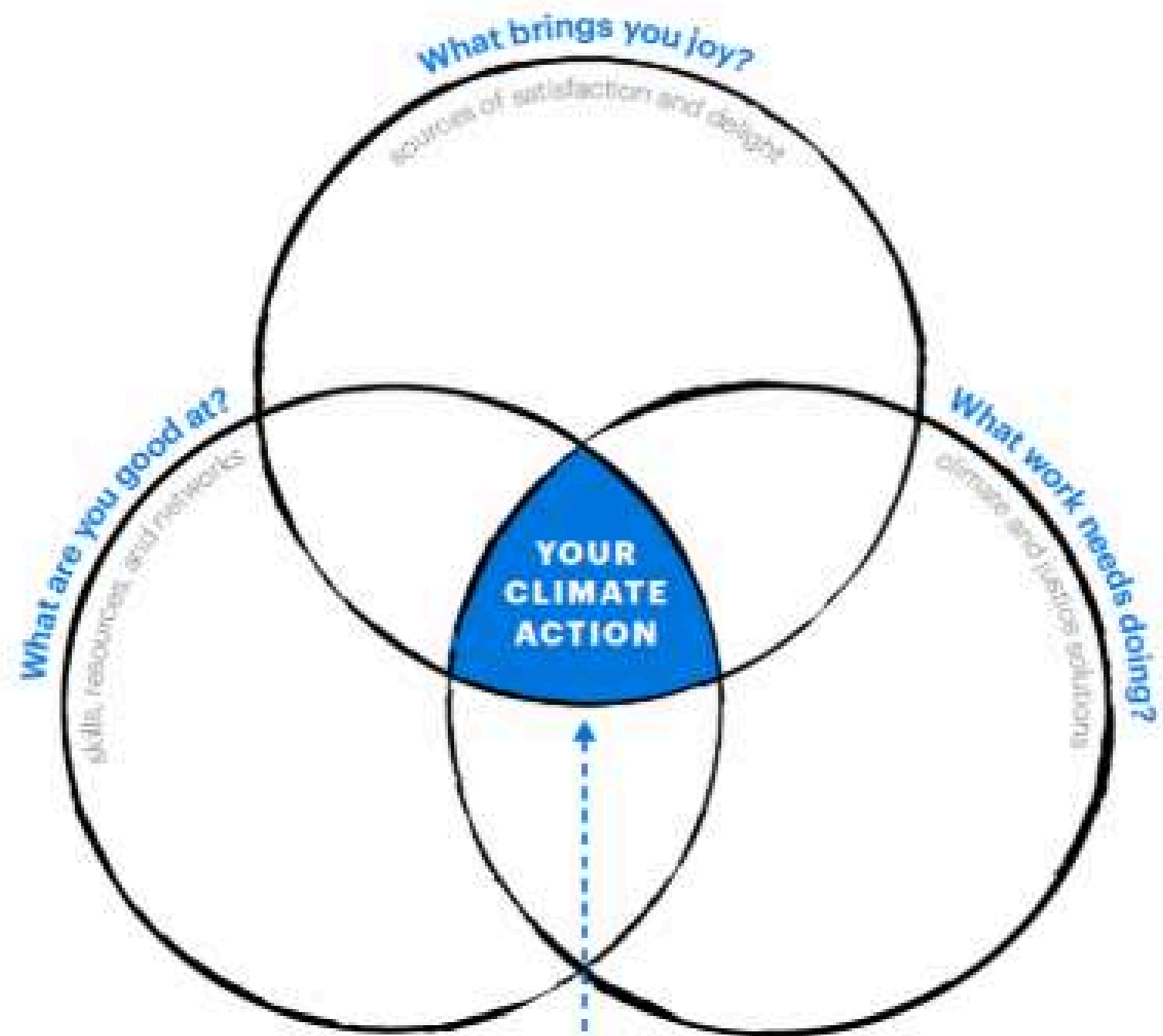
**WHAT BRINGS YOU JOY?**



**AYANA ELIZABETH JOHNSON TED TALK  
2023:**

**[HTTPS://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/WATCH?  
V=VS09R40MOAS&T=4S](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VS09R40MOAS&t=4s)**





**CLIMATE ACTION:**

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FOR INSPIRATION:  
VISIT @CLIMATEYENR  
OR CLIMATEYENR.INFO

# WHAT ARE SOME RECOMMENDATIONS?

**“PURSUE MORE FEDERAL FUNDS”/FUNDS**

**“IMPACT FEES”**

**“ENLIGHTENED PLANNING AND ZONING”**

**“MORE LIVING SHORELINES”**

**“INCREASE BUFFER ZONES”**

**“PUBLIC AWARENESS”/EDUCATION**

**MORE EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES**

**MORE FUNDING RESOURCES**

**HOA COVENANTS LANGUAGE AND GUIDANCE**

**NATIVE SEED SWAP**

**LIVING SHORELINE PROJECTS – SPECIFIC LOCATIONS**

**FLOOD ABATEMENT**

**MORE REFORESTATION PROJECTS**



## **NEXT STEPS**

- **UPDATE THE SDCR WEBPAGE - JUNE 1, 2026**
- **REFINE THE VISION - IS THIS ALL WE CAN/SHOULD BE DOING**
- **WHAT IS THE MEASURABLE IMPACT OF PROPOSED SOLUTIONS?**
- **DEVELOP RECOMMENDED SOLUTIONS**