

Town Council/Community Association

Rocky Ripple

E-News

JANUARY 2019

VOLUME 10, NUMBER 1

Rocky Ripple CALENDAR

Thur., Jan. 3
RREM/CERT Meeting
 (emergency management/
 rescue response team)
 7:00 pm Town Hall

Tues., Jan. 8
Rocky Ripple Town Board Meeting
 7:30 pm Town Hall

Thur., Feb. 7
RREM/CERT Meeting
 (emergency management/
 rescue response team)
 7:00 pm Town Hall

Tues., Feb. 12
Rocky Ripple Town Board Meeting
 7:30 pm Town Hall

Tues., Feb. 19
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting
 7:30 pm Town Hall

Thur., Mar. 7
RREM/CERT Meeting
 (emergency management/
 rescue response team)
 7:00 pm Town Hall

Tues., Mar. 12
Rocky Ripple Town Board Meeting
 7:30 pm Town Hall

Tues., Mar. 19
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting
 7:30 pm Town Hall

In this issue...

TOPIC	Page
Town Council 2018 Flood Protection Summary	1-3
Road Repairs	3
Rocky Ripple Community Association Needs YOU	3
Town Directory Update/RREM Updates	4
Festival Call for Volunteers/Lights Back On in Peace Park	5
Purchase at Amazon and Donate to Rocky Ripple	5
2019 Rocky Ripple Event Calendar	6
Recycling Reminder/Email List	7
Flood Protection Survey Result Charts	8

Rocky Ripple Town Council 2018 Flood Protection Summary

2017 Recap

In February 2017, the city of Indianapolis signed a \$10M Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Rocky Ripple for flood protection funding. The \$10M was to be used as seed-money for this project. The MOU states that Butler University has committed to additional funding for the project, so long as a design to secure 100-year+ flood protection is chosen. The MOU also includes the city's commitment to assisting with the long-term financial need of the project which may be done through various means including gleaning funds from the county storm-water district, or the creation of a TIFF district. An opinion survey on flood protection was distributed to town residents in June 2017. Of the 103 surveys returned, 59 respondents chose FEMA accredited flood protection, 25 chose restoration of the existing level, 7 chose "Other, 7 chose "Do Nothing," and 5 respondents did not answer.

Establishment of Tax Increment Financing District

In early 2018, Rocky Ripple town councilors worked with local and state legislators to ensure the passage of State Senate Bill 386, which was a way to fund local flood control improvement projects through use of a tax increment financing district for area specific flood control projects. This bill was passed in April 2018. This form of financing would not be a tax increase, but would take money from increased assessed values of homes in an area after completion of a flood control project. The funds allocated would only be able to be used for the assigned local project. This is one of the mechanisms that will be utilized to fund Rocky Ripple flood protection.

Final Option for Rocky Ripple Flood Protection

Throughout 2018, the Town Council continued work with the City of Indianapolis and with state legislators to secure flood protection for the town of Rocky Ripple. Based upon requests from Rocky Ripple and surrounding areas, the City of Indianapolis initiated an independent review of flood protection initiatives by a national engineering firm unaffiliated with the Army Corps of Engineers. This company, AECOM, completed a final report of protection options on July 31, 2018.

Rocky Ripple Town Officials

Town Councilors

Carla Gaff-Clark
(317) 441-5623
cgaff@indy.rr.com

Jill Morris
jmorris004@indy.rr.com
(317) 408-0524

Mandy Redmond
(317) 259-7512
redmond.mandy@gmail.com

Town Clerk/Treasurer

Kandy Kendall
(317) 255-8117

Town Marshal

Mike Kiefer
(317) 257-7962

Town Hall/Hohlt Park Rental/Scheduling

Cathy Hurt
cathhurt@gmail.com

Address:

930 West 54th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

We're on the Web:
www.rockyripple.com



[We're on Facebook](#)

Two of the potential options allowed for saving every house in Rocky Ripple and met FEMA certification requirements.

A special meeting, hosted by the Rocky Ripple Town Council, with Butler University, City of Indianapolis Department of Public Works (DPW) and AECOM representation present, was held on Thursday, September 6, 2018 at Butler University. The presentation showed the four options examined and why one of the options was recommended to be pursued by the City of Indianapolis. Two of the options were excluded as not feasible. Two were considered feasible, but one was cost-prohibitive. The option recommended by the City of Indianapolis DPW (Option 3) saves all Rocky Ripple homes and includes a new levee made up of a combination of earthen, T-walls and I-walls.

Due to estimated costs and because six homes furthest south on Riverview would possibly not be able to withstand the construction, these homes, along with the three homes furthest south on Riverview that were not included as part of the project would remain on the river side of the levee. The town council chose to support this option because all Rocky Ripple homes would be saved and it was the only option for which funding was supported by the City of Indianapolis.

Additional flood protection opinion forms were distributed at the September 6th meeting. Of the 56 completed forms received from town residents, 39 respondents were supportive of flood protection measures and 17 respondents were against levee improvement or had no opinion.

In September/October 2018, a third survey was distributed to all town residents to provide the opportunity to express opinions about the flood protection option (Option 3) supported by DPW and the City of Indianapolis. A total of 112 responses were received for this survey, with 82 respondents indicating support of Option 3, 26 not supporting Option 3 and 4 responses indicating No Opinion. (Special thanks to residents Katie and Derek Glass for tallying the survey responses and generating the attached charts detailing the results.)

Based on the ongoing majority support of flood protection for Rocky Ripple, the town council voted unanimously to pass two resolutions supporting it at the November 2018 Town Council meeting. One resolution was general support of the initiative; the other was for the financing of the initiative. Copies of the resolutions are available on the town's website for review.

What Comes Next?

As of the end of 2018, Rocky Ripple town councilors are awaiting a decision of how much Butler University will contribute to the proposed Option 3 flood protection plan. After this is decided upon, the plan must then be presented to the Indianapolis City County Council for approval. Final planning and project initiation will start after this approval is received. The RR Town Council anticipates that flood project meetings with the City and with Butler will start up again after the New Year to track progress.

Upcoming activities with specific dates and details will be provided as they become available. The Town Council discusses what has happened each month in relation to these flood control activities and what will be happening in the near future, during regular monthly board meetings. To stay up to date, you can attend the meetings, read the posted minutes or contact a board member. Background and supporting information for the flood protection initiatives can be found on the Rocky Ripple town website: www.rockyripple.com

What Does This Mean for Rocky Ripple?

The Town Council thanks residents for the thoughtful concerns expressed regarding such a massive endeavor. We understand that this will impact all of us and there is concern that this will forever change the small town that we all love. If the flood protection initiative is approved and built, yes, it will change Rocky Ripple. However, if we work together, these can be positive changes. Residents would be able to improve their homes without the current restrictions associated with being in a flood zone.

Rocky Ripple Community Association

Officers:

Open
President

Dhyana Raynor, Vice
President 414-5018

Mandy Redmond,
Treasurer 259-7512

Alex Redmond,
Secretary 340-5700

Megan Wright, Sergeant
at Arms
259-4352

Address:

930 West 54th Street
Indianapolis, IN 46208

E-mail:

rcomassoc@aol.com

We're on the Web:

www.rockyripple.org



[We're on Facebook](#)

RRCA Newsletter:

The Rocky Ripple ENews newsletter is published jointly by the Rocky Ripple Community Association, a not for profit 501 (c) (3) organization, which exists to provide social, cultural, recreational and educational services to the town of Rocky Ripple and its residents, and the Town Council of Rocky Ripple.

Editor: Mandy Redmond

Although trees will need to be taken down along the river, we have lots of public land that we can continue to keep as greenspace. Access to the river will be maintained by access points within town. Your opinions count and we encourage you to work with town councilors to determine what the future Rocky Ripple will look like.

Town Council Updates – 2019 Road Repairs



Thanks to town manager Mike Kiefer, Rocky Ripple again successfully obtained matching grant road repair funding from the state of Indiana Department of Transportation for 2019. The state will pay 75% of the costs, up to \$93,499.81 for the repair of the following streets, deemed most in need of repair by town manager/town council:

- 1) Canal Blvd. From: W54th St To: Ripple Rd
- 2) W53rd St From: Canal Blvd To: Lester St
- 3) W53rd St From: 835 W53rd St To: Riverview Dr
- 4) W52nd St From: Canal Towpath To: Lester St
- 5) Crown St From: W53rd St To: W54th St
- 6) Sunnymeade Ln From: W52nd St To: W53rd St
- 7) Annette St From: W53rd St To: 5326 Annette St
- 8) Clarendon Rd From: W51st St To: W52nd St
- 9) W54th St From: Karstadt Dr To: Canal Blvd
- 10) Ripple Rd From: 340 Ripple Rd To: Canal Blvd

The town of Rocky Ripple is responsible for the remaining 25% of the costs. Repaving efforts will begin in the spring once the weather has warmed enough.

Previously, the town of Rocky Ripple obtained \$10,000 in matching grant funds from the state of Indiana Department of Transportation, for a total of \$20,000 allocated to be spent for road repairs for the year 2016. During 2017 the following roads were repaired with the 2016 INDOT funds:

- Riverview Drive between 52nd and 53rd Street
- Annette St: 52nd to 53rd
- West 53rd St: Lester & 53rd to 853 W. 53rd
- Sunset: 5300 block

Editorial: HELP – Rocky Ripple Needs You to Volunteer in our Community

Hey All! Mandy Redmond here. I hear from many of you frequently asking why we don't do this and that in the neighborhood. Why didn't we have a garage sale this year? Why isn't there a newsletter that goes out regularly? Why don't we have a Euchre tournament? Why isn't someone doing something to improve the playground at Hohlt Park? Why are there weeds in the flower bed at the town hall? The reason is that there are not enough of us volunteering to keep all this going. Quite frankly, those of us that have done it for a long time are tired and need some of the rest of you to step up.

I am sending out a desperate call for HELP! As is happening in general, Rocky Ripple has experienced a severe shortage of volunteers to support our town in recent years. Although, we have an influx of new residents, they are not stepping up to volunteer. Community Association activities including Bingo, the Halloween Howl, and the neighborhood garage sale have been cancelled in recent years due to no one willing to assist with them. We are consistently short on neighborhood volunteers for the Rocky Ripple Festival and luckily have wonderful volunteers from outside of the town that have stepped up to assist.

I implore you to take action. It can be a little or a lot. We will take it.

The community association needs members – members to plan, members to be responsible for individual events, members to give a couple hours here or there for events and activities. The town needs you. Our emergency response team needs you to help them keep us safe. We need a parks committee to envision and carry out future park plans. Our festival coordinator needs your help with the festival. Tired of the current eNews look? Want a better town website? Are you good with web tools and/or have yearned to write? Take over maintenance of the community association website and/or the Rocky Ripple eNews. Please, please, won't you give time to your community in 2019? Its future is dependent on it.

Attend a town board or a community association meeting or contact any member of the town council or any community association officer to learn more about the mechanics of our town and determine where you want to contribute.

A heartfelt thank you goes to those that have and do volunteer – even though it is not often stated, your efforts are appreciated and what have made this town the wonderful small community it is!!

Rocky Ripple Emergency Management

RREM

Inform • Educate • Train

The Rocky Ripple Emergency Management committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at the town hall at 7pm. Anyone interested in being part of this effort are welcome. For more information, visit www.rockyripple.com or contact Andy Hazel at ajhaze77@gmail.com.

Visit the RREM Facebook Page

Find out the latest RREM news and safety updates at <https://www.facebook.com/RREMCERT/> . "Like" the page and receive automatic updates.

New Town Directories In the Works

Town residents Angela Herrmann, Julie Bleakley and Dhyana Raynor are working on a new edition of the Rocky Ripple Town Directory. Thanks to Angie, Dhyana, and Julie for taking this on once again!

The directory is distributed in hard copy form only to town residents and contains contact info for town residents that want to be included. It is a great way to find out if you have neighbors with certain skill sets that meet your needs or publish your own skills/interests for sharing, or just use it as a quick tool to look up a neighbor's info.



Only those residents that submit their info will be included. If you haven't already done so, print and complete the attached form and drop it off at the town hall mail slot, or if you prefer to submit your info electronically, send it to rcommassoc@aol.com and the info will be forward to Angie and Julie for inclusion in the directory.

2019 Rocky Ripple Festival to Be Held on Sat. September 28, 2019



2019 Rocky Ripple Festival – call for volunteers

Each year, the Rocky Ripple Festival brings in funding to support Rocky Ripple parks. In 2018, over \$6500 was raised, and the Hohlt Park Endowment fund reached a new high of \$110,000.

But to keep the festival going, we need your help with this 100% volunteer effort. Contact Festival Coordinator Dhyana Raynor at dhyana@sbcglobal.net or 317-414-5018 with ideas for the festival and/or to find out how you can assist with this year's Rocky Ripple Festival. Find out more about the festival at:

<http://www.rockyripple.org/rocky-ripple-festival.html>

Lights Back On in Peace Park Thanks to Donations

The cost of keeping the lights illuminating the flag in Peace Park, located at 53rd and Byram on has drastically risen in the past few years. Where it used to cost \$10 - \$15 per month, it now costs \$34 per month to keep them on. The town has looked for ways to reduce these costs, including the installation of solar lights donated and installed by resident Paul Redmond, but the lights just were not bright enough. The power was turned back on December 4, 2018, thanks to a \$500 donation from the American Legion, presented by resident Ely Hinkle. Town Councilor Jill Morris also donated. Due to the donations, we should be able to keep the lights on for at least the next year and a half. Thank you! It is nice to see that flag shining!!

The Amazon Smile logo is displayed within a yellow-bordered box. The word "amazon" is in black and "smile" is in orange, with the Amazon arrow logo underneath.

Don't forget, when shopping with Amazon.com, use Amazon Smile. It costs you nothing extra to shop this way and the Rocky Ripple Community Association receives a donation from every purchase made this way with

Rocky Ripple Community Association as your registered charitable organization.

For eligible purchases at AmazonSmile, the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to RRCA, which will be used for community initiatives. You must register and purchase through amazonsmile.org. Click on the link or amazonsmile logo to register. You will be prompted to select a charitable organization from eligible organizations the first time you use it. Please select the Rocky Ripple Community Association and shop away.

2019 ROCKY RIPPLE CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Event	Date/Time	Location
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 03-Jan-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 08-Jan-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 07-Feb-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 12-Feb-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 19-Feb-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 07-Mar-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 12-Mar-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 19-Mar-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 04-Apr-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 09-Apr-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Easter Egg Hunt/Cake Walk	Sat. 20-Apr-2019 12 – 2 pm	Meet at Town Hall at noon
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 02-May-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Plant Exchange	Sat. 04-May-2019 2 – 4 pm	Hohlt Park Community Garden
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 14-May-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting – RRCA Elections (Secretary)	Tues. 21-May-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 06-Jun-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Townwide Garage Sale	Sat. 01-Jun-2019 8 am – 1 pm	Various
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 11-Jun-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Festival Committee Meeting	Tues. 18-Jun-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 09-Jul-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 16-Jul-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 01-Aug-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 13-Aug-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Festival Committee Meeting	Tues. 20-Aug-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 05-Sep-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 10-Sep-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 17-Sep-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Festival	Sat. 28-Sep-2019 11 am – 6 pm	Hohlt Park
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 03-Oct-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 08-Oct-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 15-Oct-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 07-Nov-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 12-Nov-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Community Association Meeting	Tues. 19-Nov-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall
RREM/CERT Meeting	Thur. 05-Dec-2019 7:00 pm	Town Hall
Holiday Bazaar	Sat. 07-Dec-2019 10 am – 3 pm	Town Hall
Rocky Ripple Town Council Meeting	Tues. 10-Dec-2019 7:30 pm	Town Hall

Results from Rocky Ripple Flood Project Survey

September 2018

Total responses: 112

Own Property:

YES: 108

NO: 4

Familiar with Option 3:

YES: 111

NO: 1

Pay Flood Insurance:

YES: 82

NO: 29

Should Board Proceed
with Option 3:

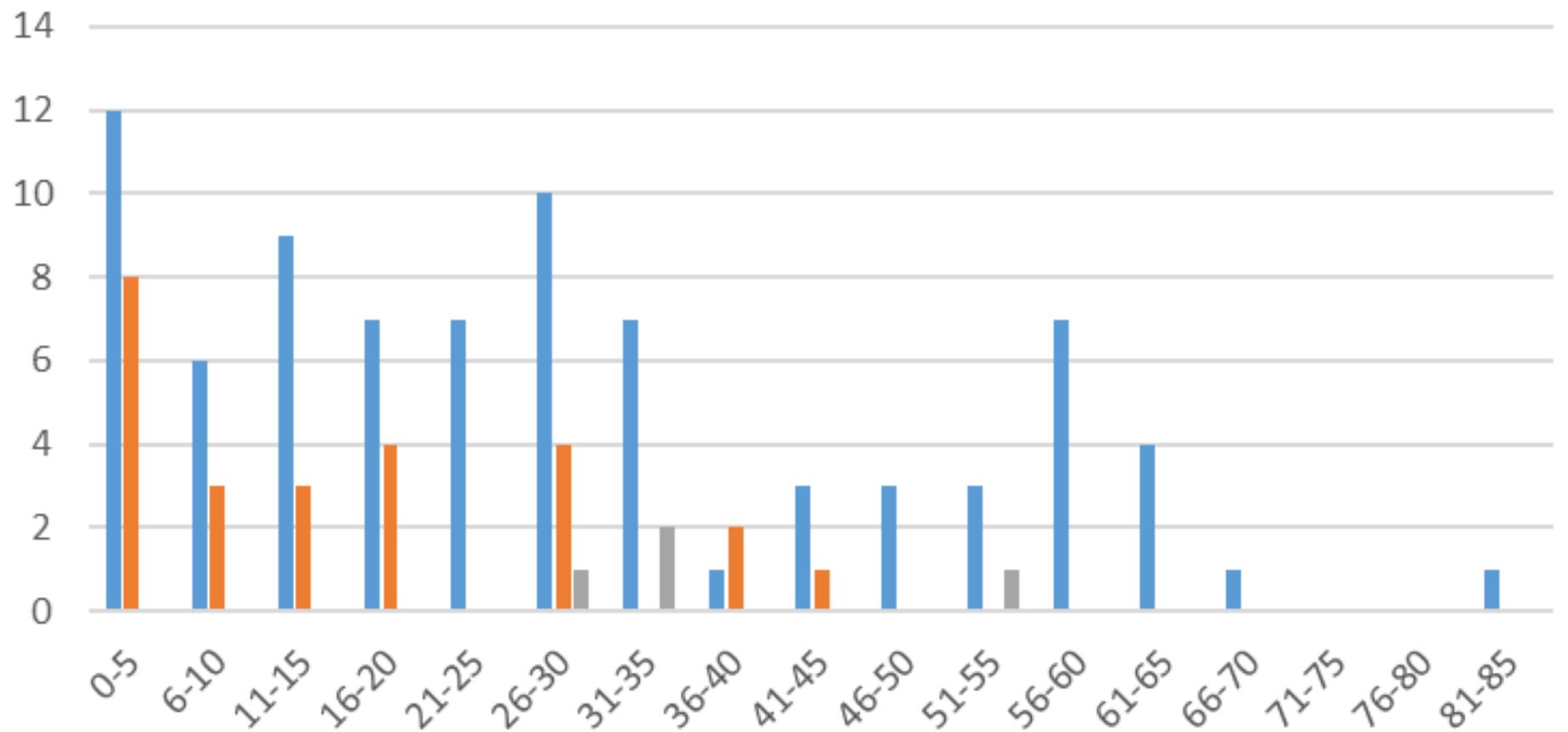
YES: 82

NO: 26

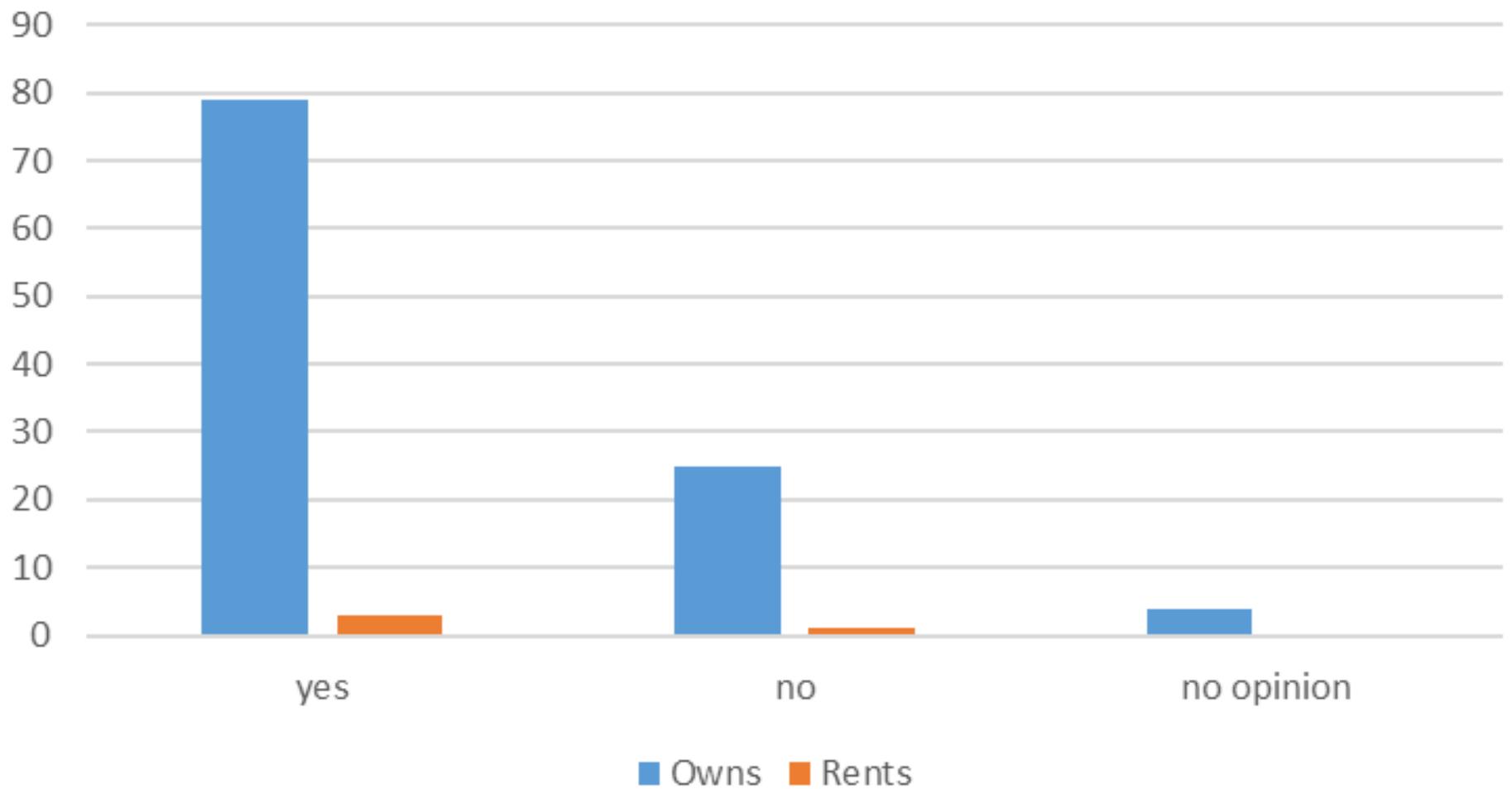
NO OPINION: 4

How Many Years in RR vs. Should Board Proceed

■ yes ■ no ■ no opinion



Owns Property vs. Should Board Proceed



Pay Flood Insurance vs. Should Board Proceed

