

The background image shows a wide river in the foreground, with a grassy bank on the left. In the distance, a city is visible, followed by rolling hills and a range of mountains under a clear sky. The text is overlaid on this scene.

Developing Riparian Protection Guidance for Municipalities Along the Jordan River

Importance, Intentions, and Implementation

Riparia: At the Transition Between Habitats & Shifting Human Needs

What

A tri-state study of existing attitudes and steps taken toward riparian protection

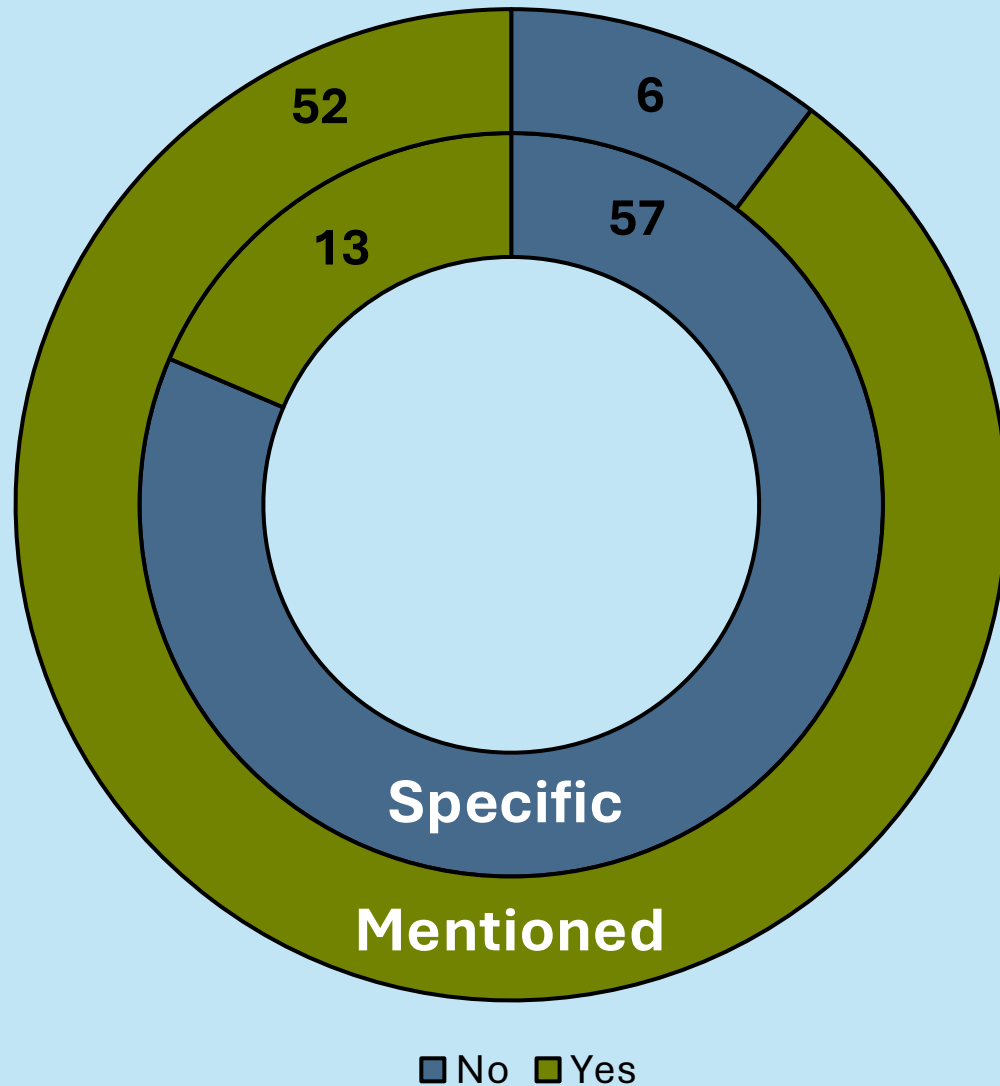
Where

Arizona, Nevada, and Utah cities with populations greater than 5,000

How

Identifying and analyzing the general plans/ordinances of municipalities

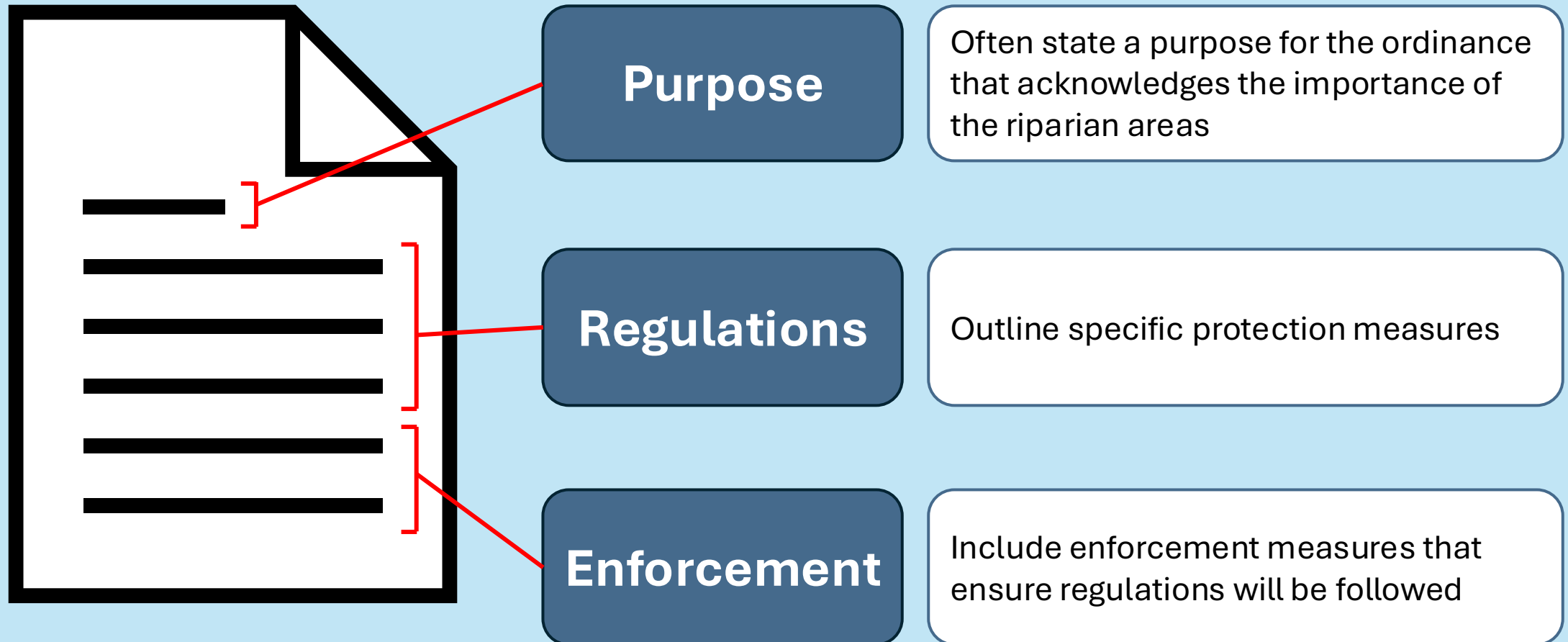
Utah – Protection in Municipal Codes



91% of the **65** surveyed Utah cities mentioned riparia, rivers, or streams in their codes, but only

20% had dedicated, riparian-specific protection.

Riparian-Specific Ordinances



Intentions vs. Action

Cities generally show an awareness of and desire to protect riparia, but there is room for improvement in accountability.

Although a majority of surveyed cities in Utah mention riparia in their general plans, this awareness did not translate to action.

While nearly every surveyed city mentioned riparian concerns in their codes, only 13 had specific, codified protection.

As the intensity of protection increases, fewer cities meet the mark.

Municipal Riparian Protection in the Jordan River Corridor

Eight cities along the Jordan River (**Salt Lake City, West Valley City, Lehi, Cottonwood Heights, Holladay, Millcreek, Saratoga Springs, and Riverton**) have adopted riparian protection ordinances.

Other cities have expressed interest in adopting riparian protection ordinances.

Cities need guidance and expertise to put policies into place.



Professional Project Work



Conduct background research



Interview municipal professionals



Create resources



JORDAN RIVER
COMMISSION

Interview Results

Overall, municipal professionals expressed a generally neutral view of riparian protection in their cities.

Average Satisfaction With Riparian Protection:



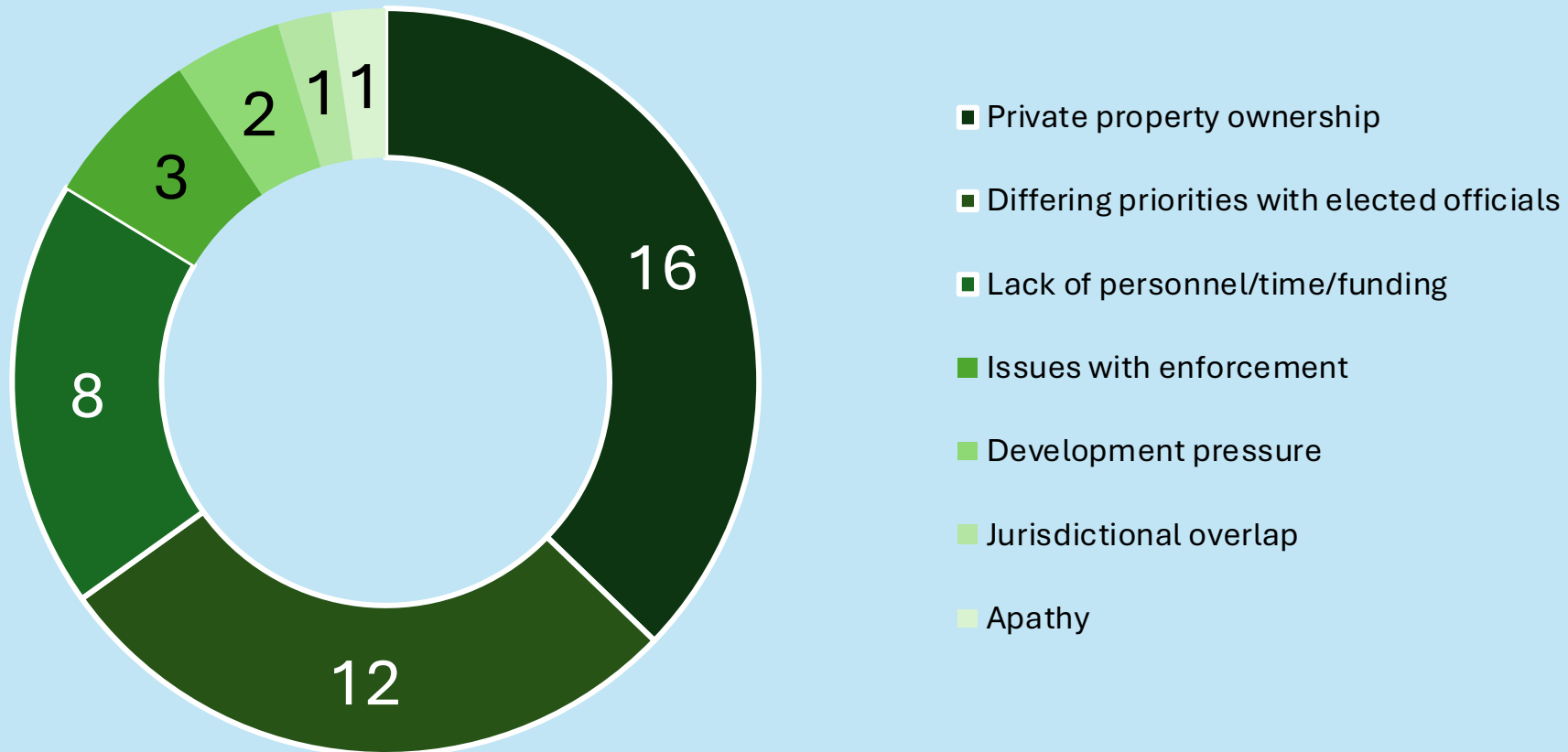
This contrasts with their high valuation of riparian areas.

Average Valuation of Riparia:

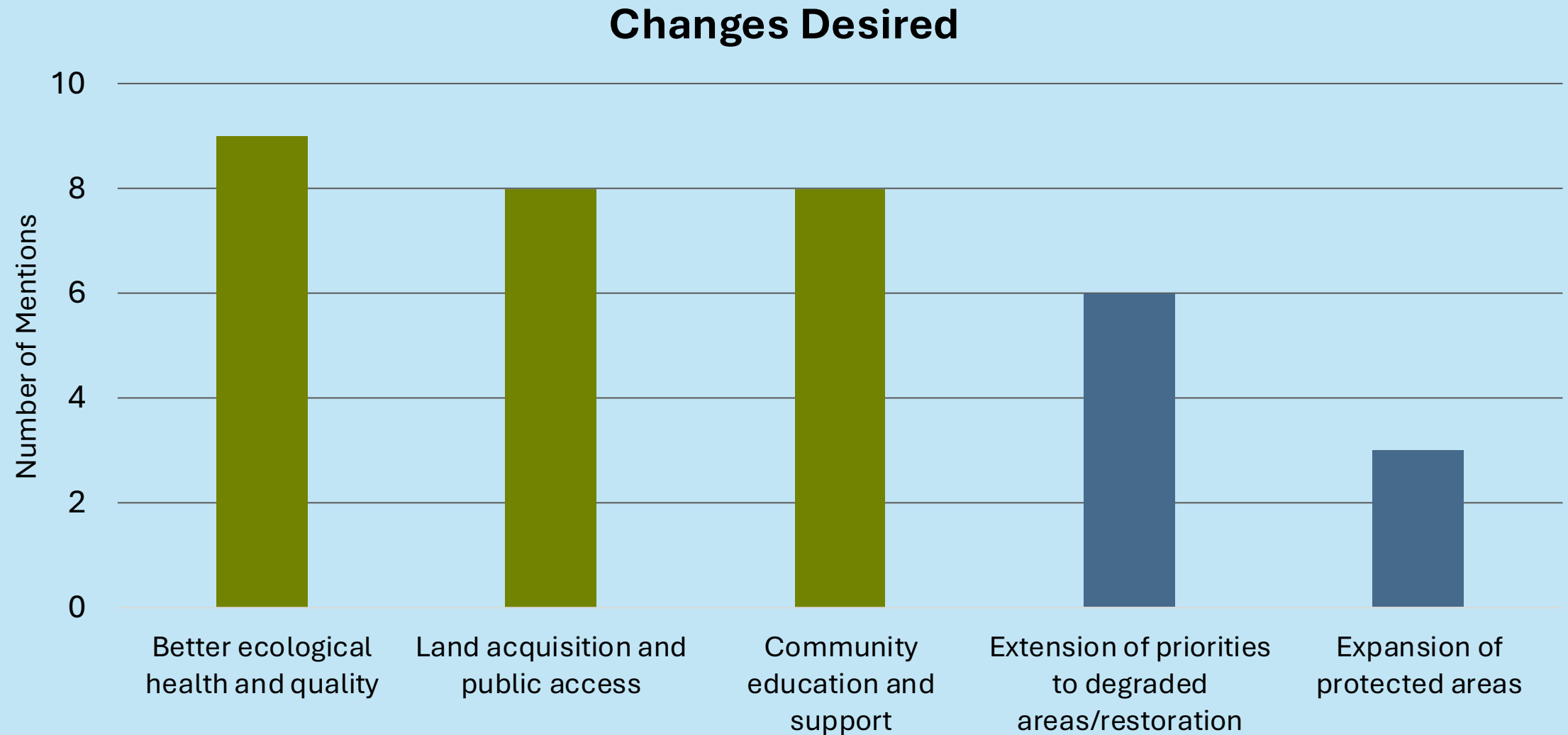


Interview Results

Three main issues completely dominated discussion of barriers.



Interview Results



Recommendations



Adopt a **riparian protection ordinance** and a **general plan element** detailing the city's intent to protect riparian areas.



Focus on **restoration** in addition to protection, especially in heavily developed cities.



Acquire land to improve public access and enable more comprehensive protection and restoration actions.



Apply for grants and seek alternative sources of funding for protection.

Deliverables



Model Ordinance Template



Guidance for Riparian Protection Strategies



Pitch Presentation for Interested Municipalities



Library of Existing Ordinances



Thank you!