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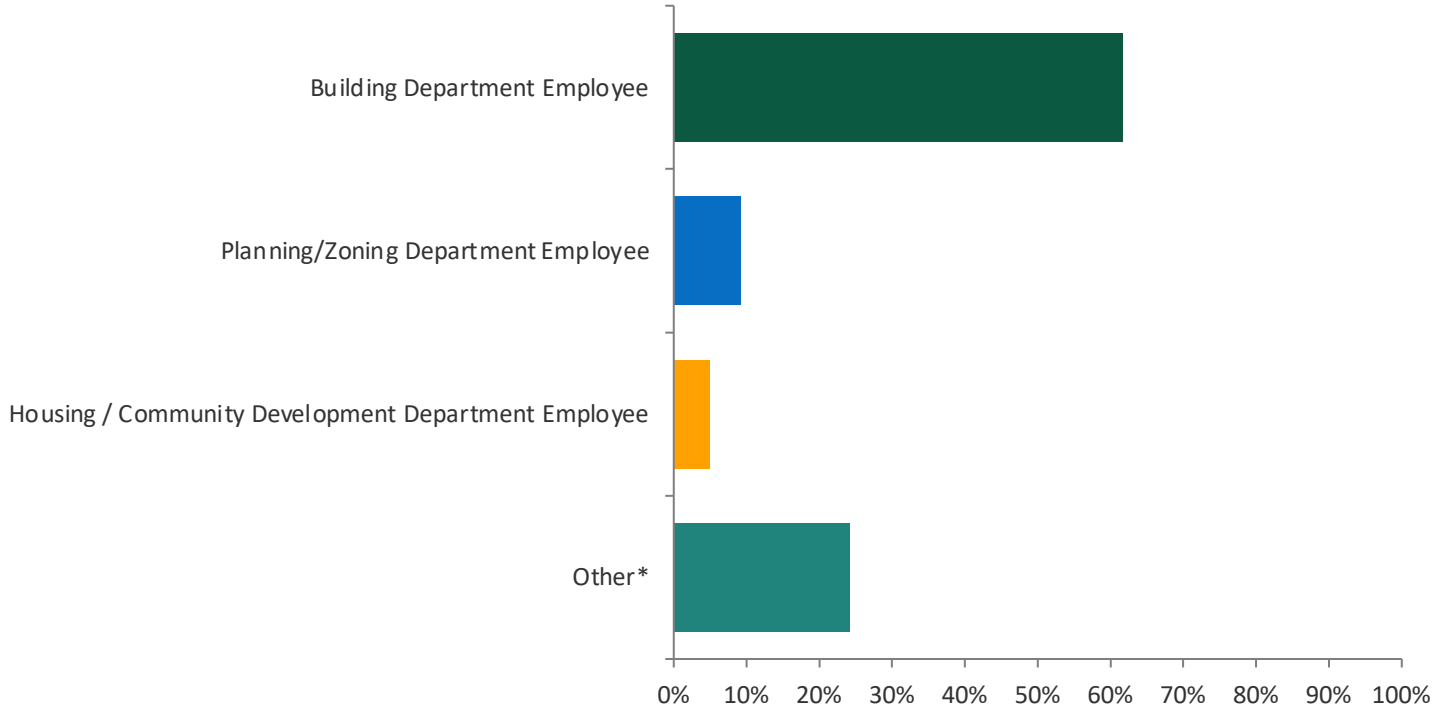
Building Permitting and Zoning: Opportunities, Challenges, and Best Practices Survey Results

November 24, 2025



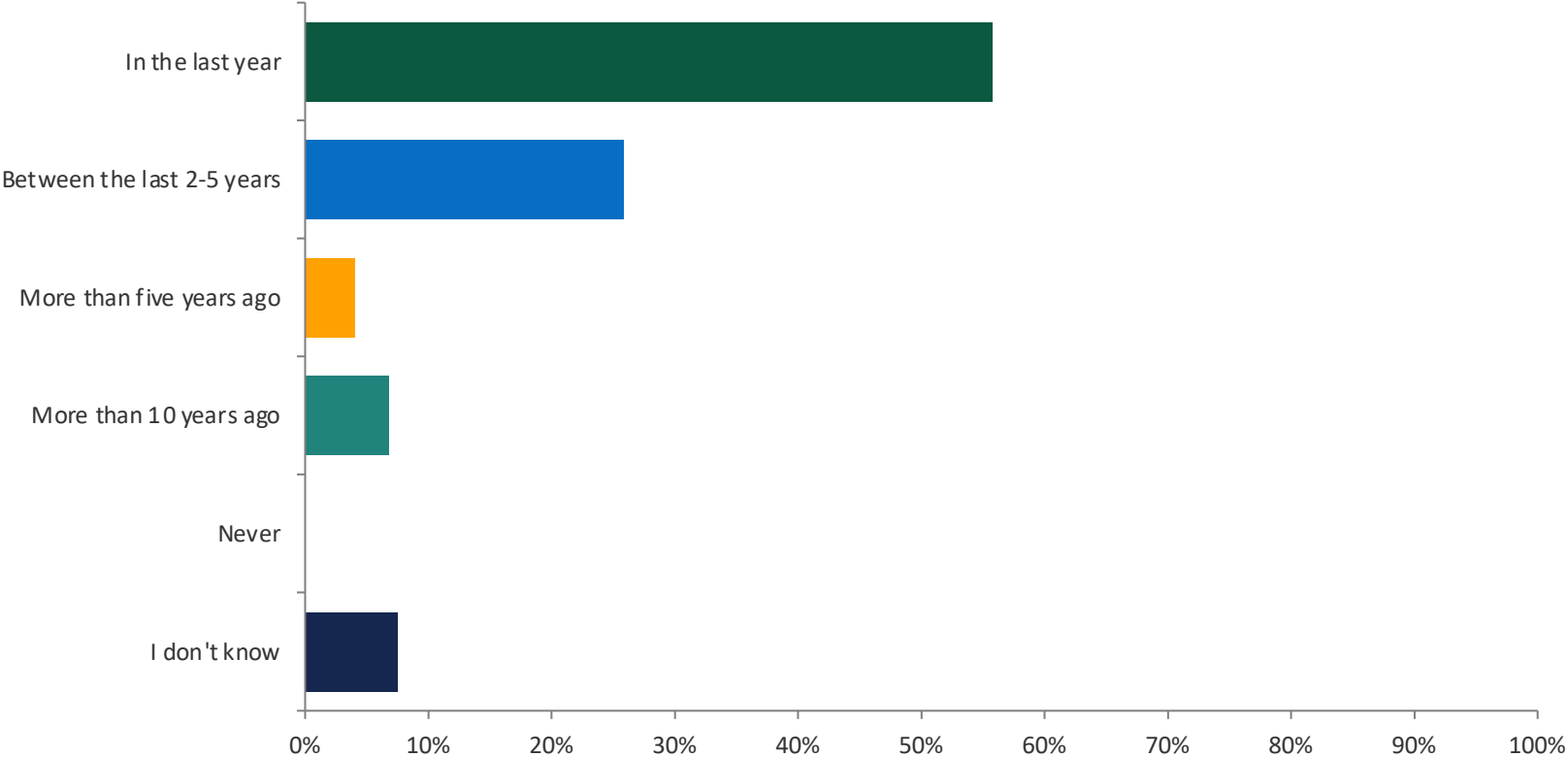
This powerpoint shows the results of survey that was conducted with Pew, the National League of Cities, American Planning Association and the International Code Council

What is your primary role?

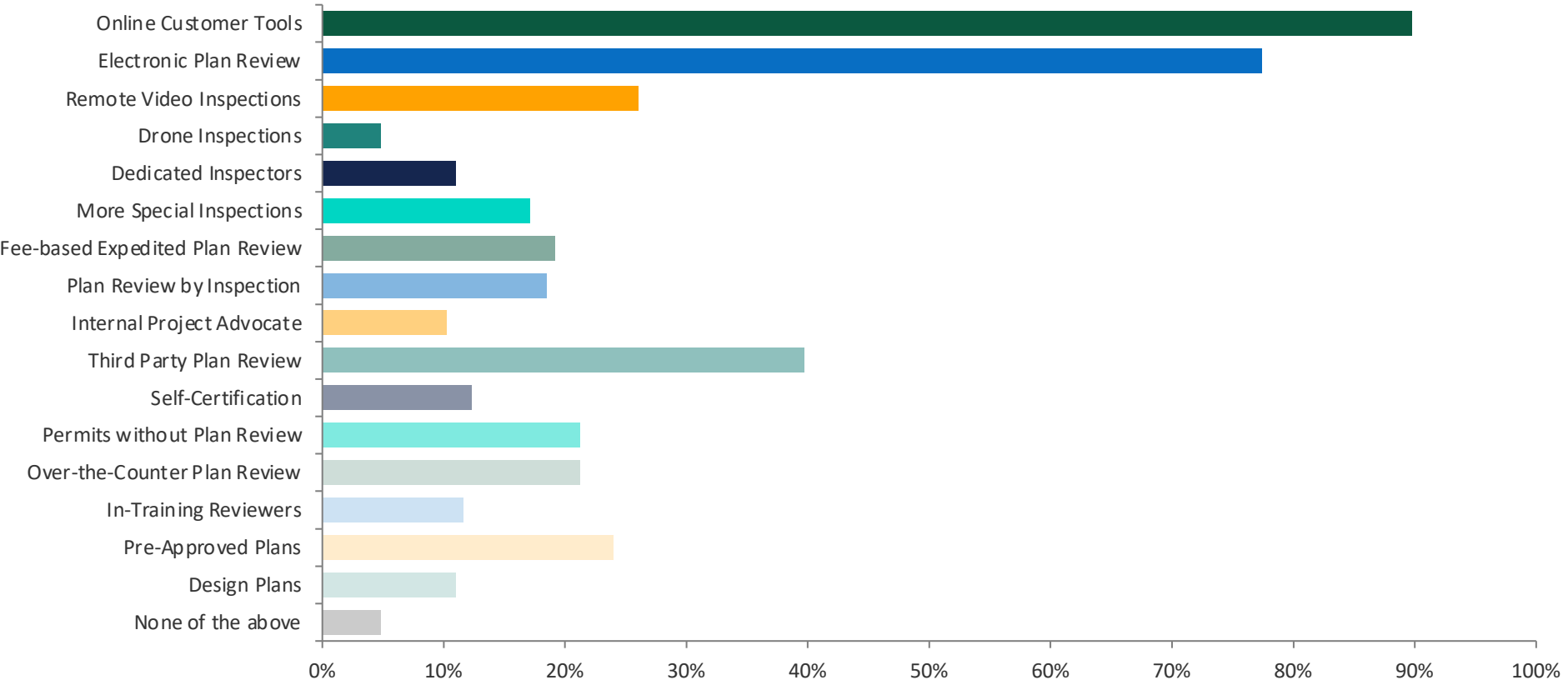


*Respondents citing 'other' most commonly reported having multiple roles that covered more than one of the listed categories

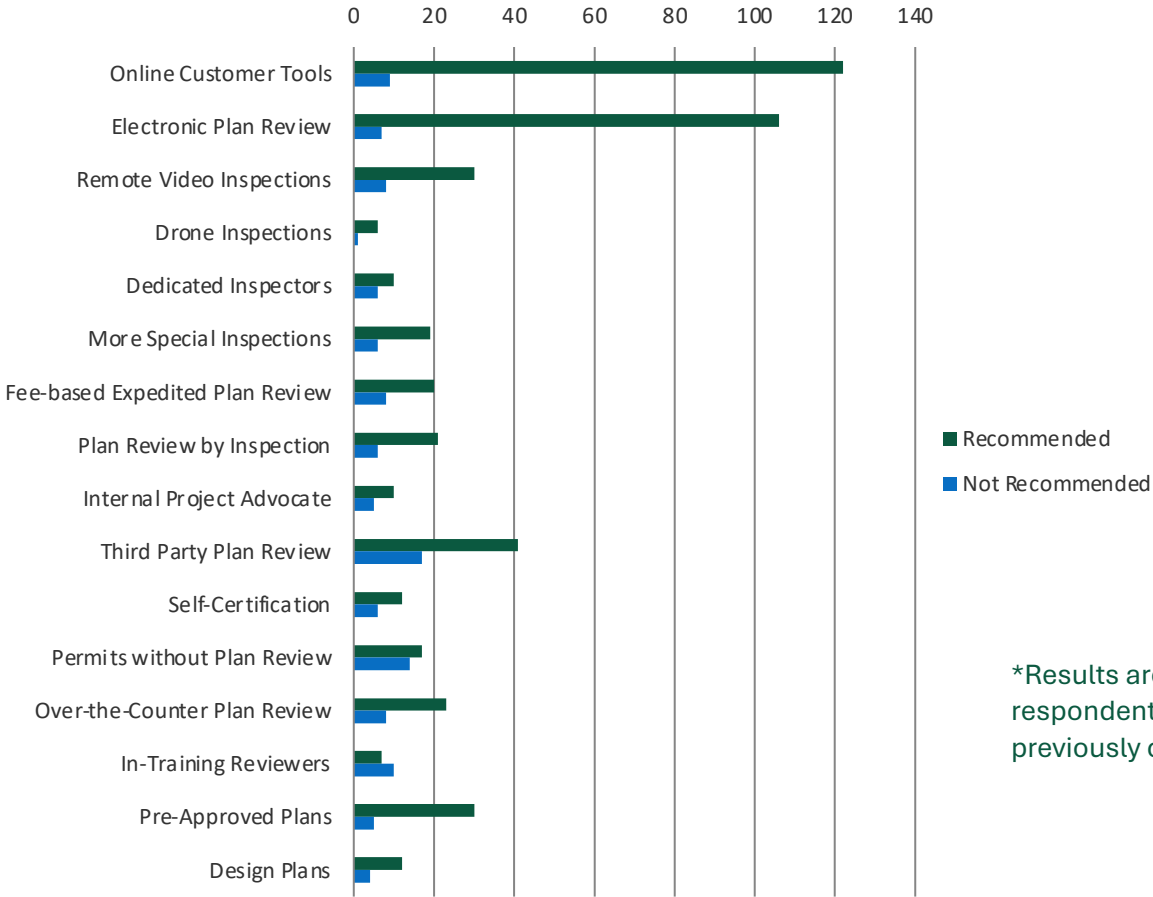
How recently has your community pursued zoning, land use, or permitting reforms?



Which of the following is your building department using to expedite permit processing? Select all that apply

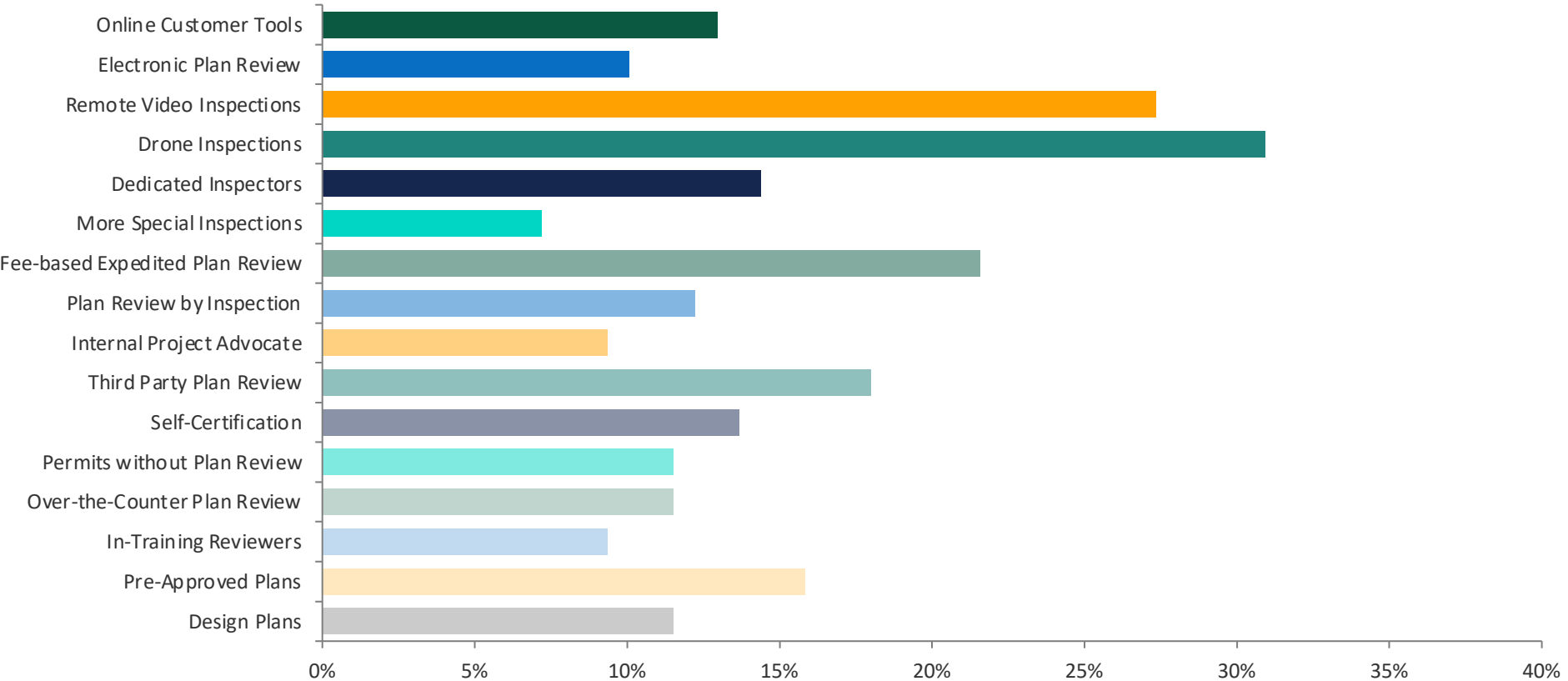


Which of the following would you recommend* other authorities having jurisdictions (AHJs) consider? Select all that apply

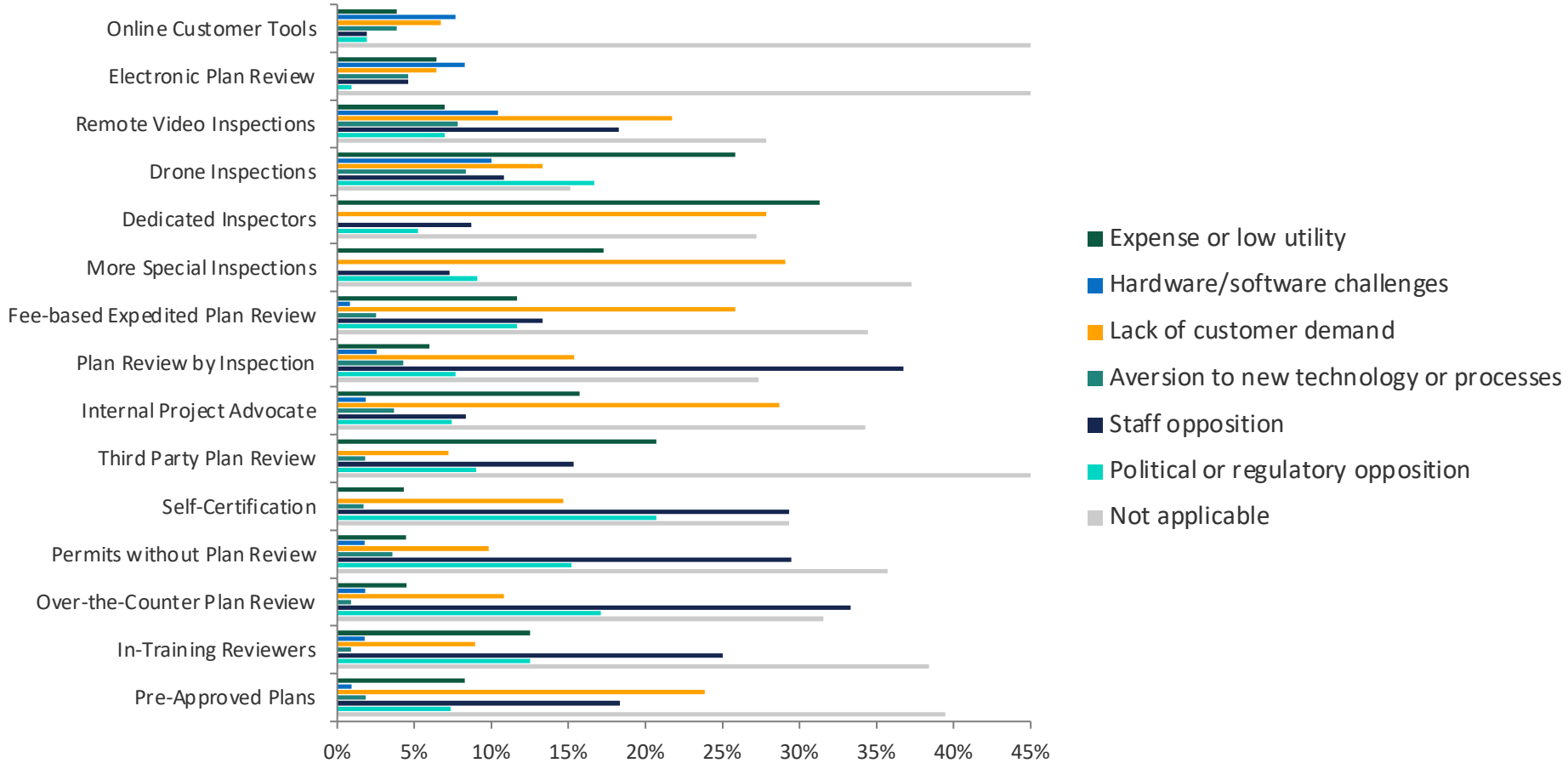


*Results are recommendations from respondents whose jurisdiction had previously considered the approach.

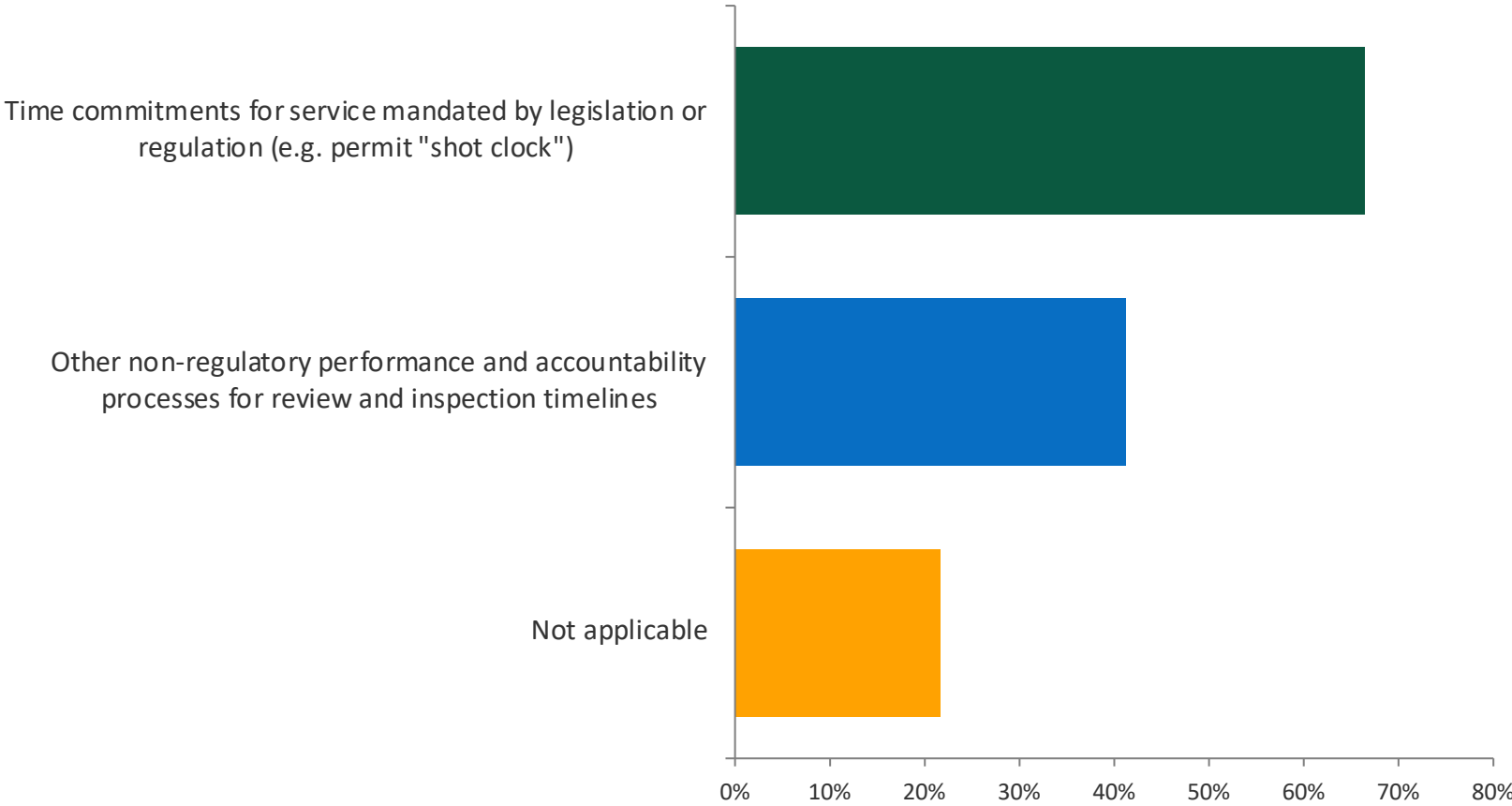
Which of the following has your building department considered but not used? Select all that apply



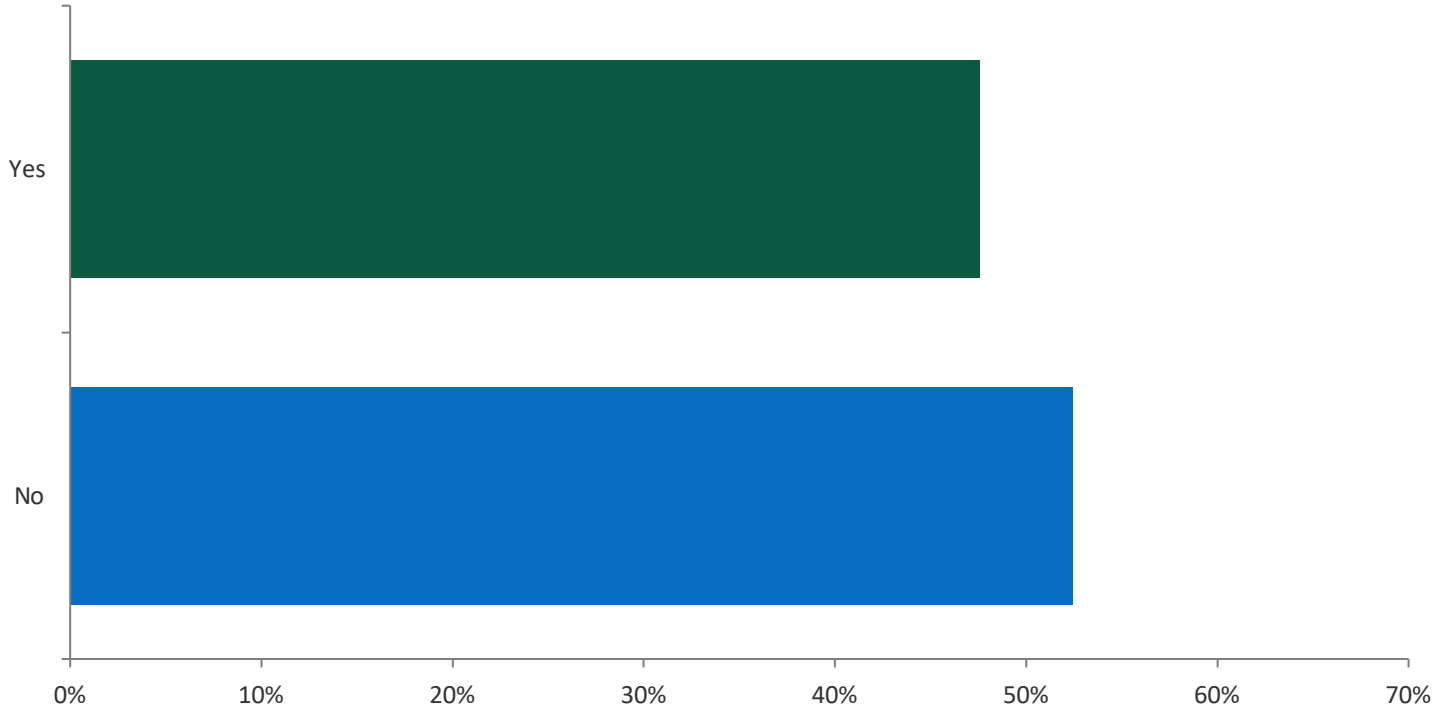
Is there a reason your department is not using one of these options?



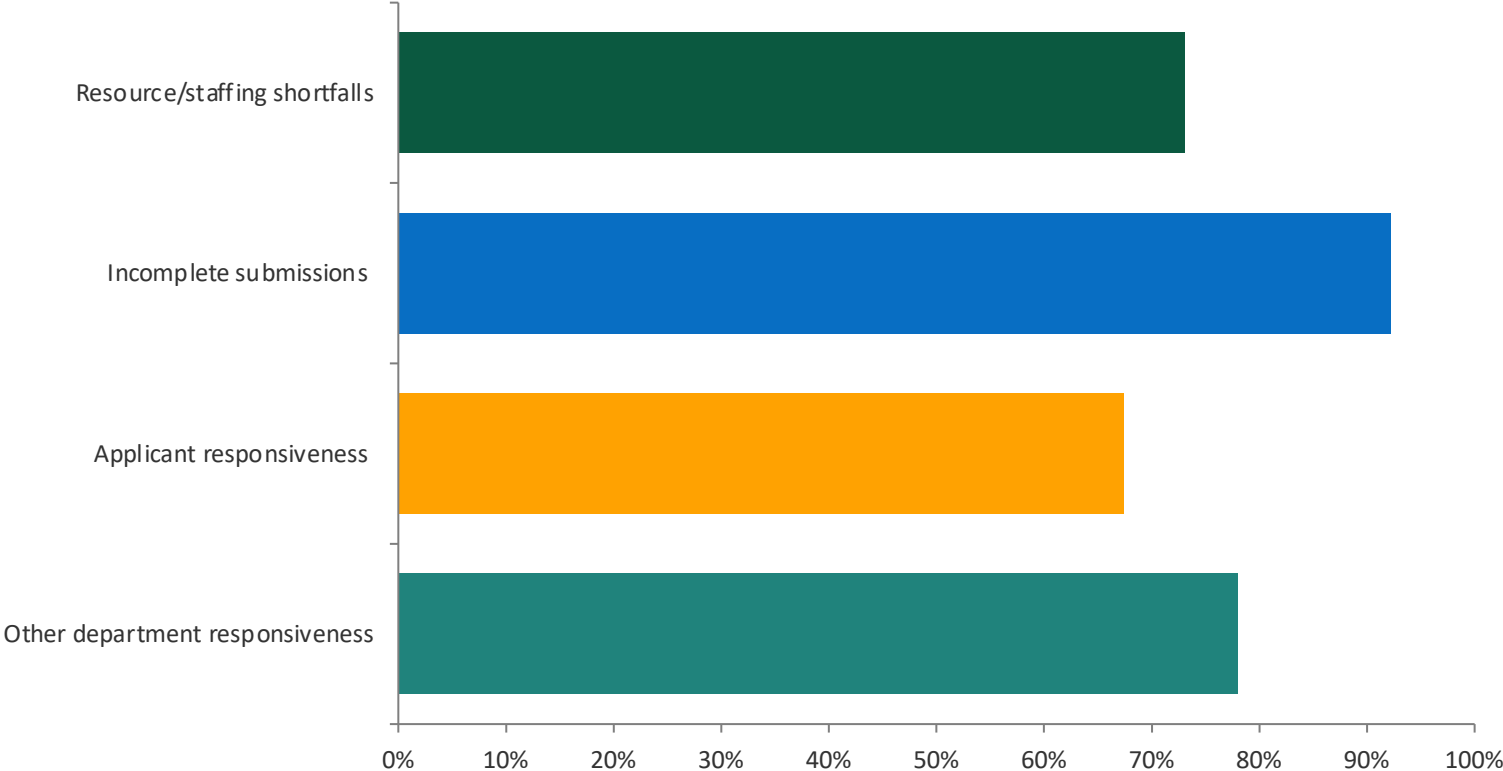
Does your state and/or jurisdiction have the following requirements?



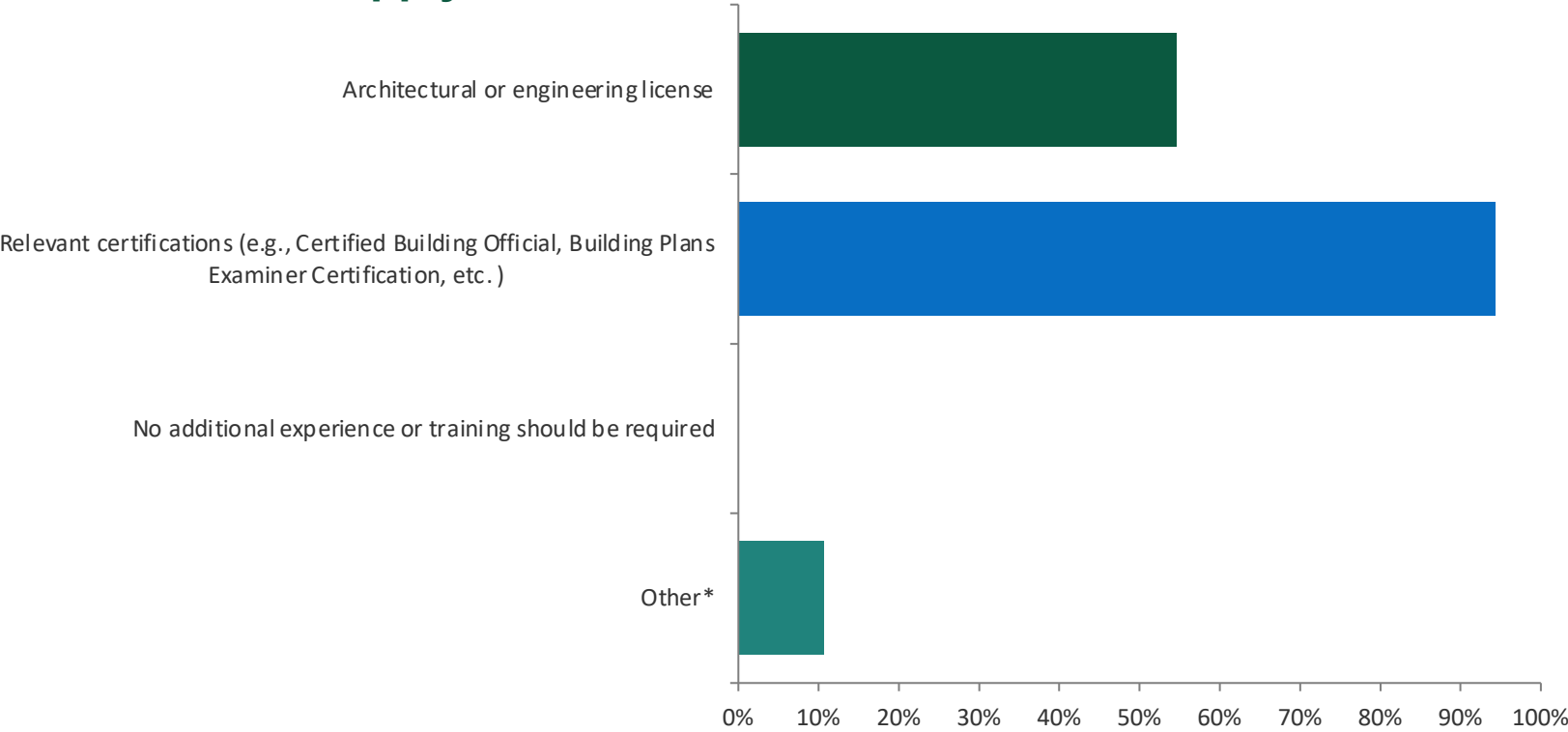
Do you believe mandated service timelines (e.g., a permitting shot clock) are appropriate/effective means to promote more efficient permit practices?



Should any of the following be accounted for within a proposal to mandate service turnaround times? Select all that apply

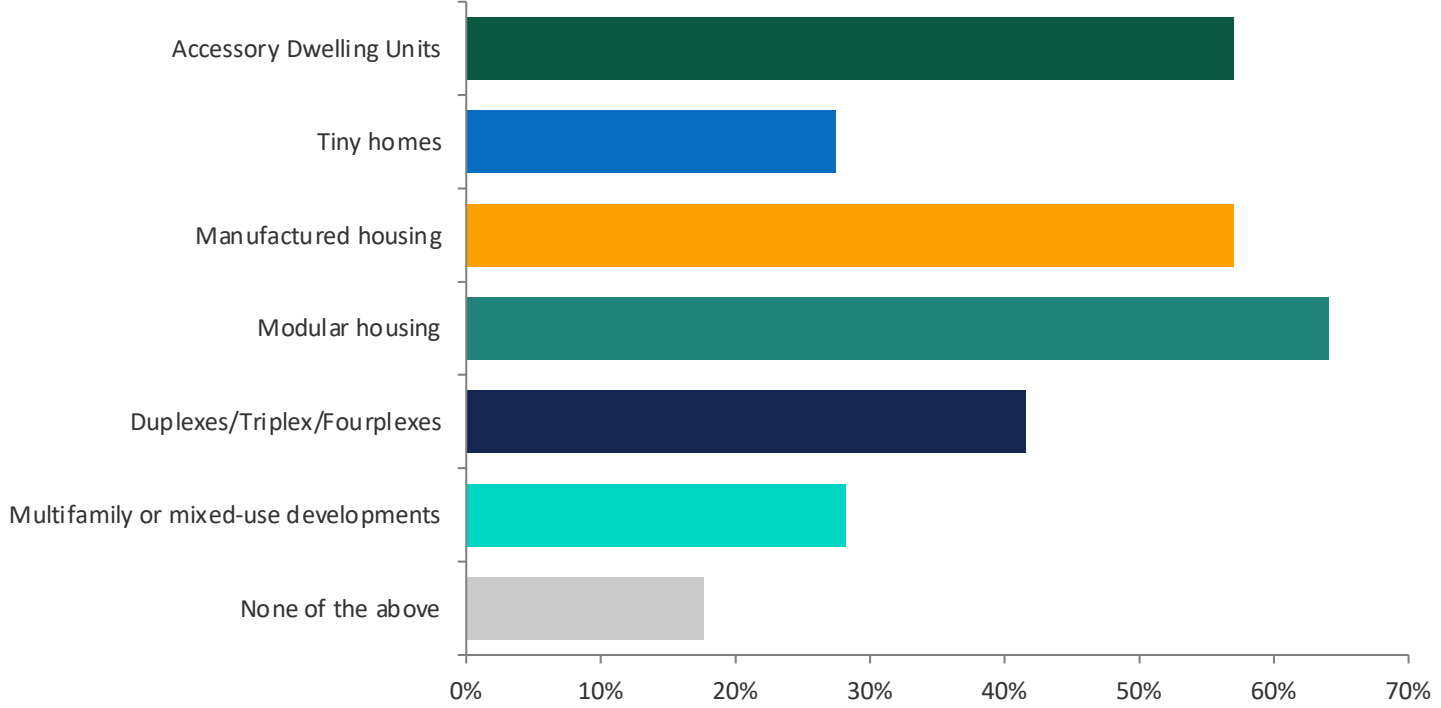


Where third parties are permitted to conduct plan review or inspection activities, what, if any, experience or training should such parties possess? Select all that apply

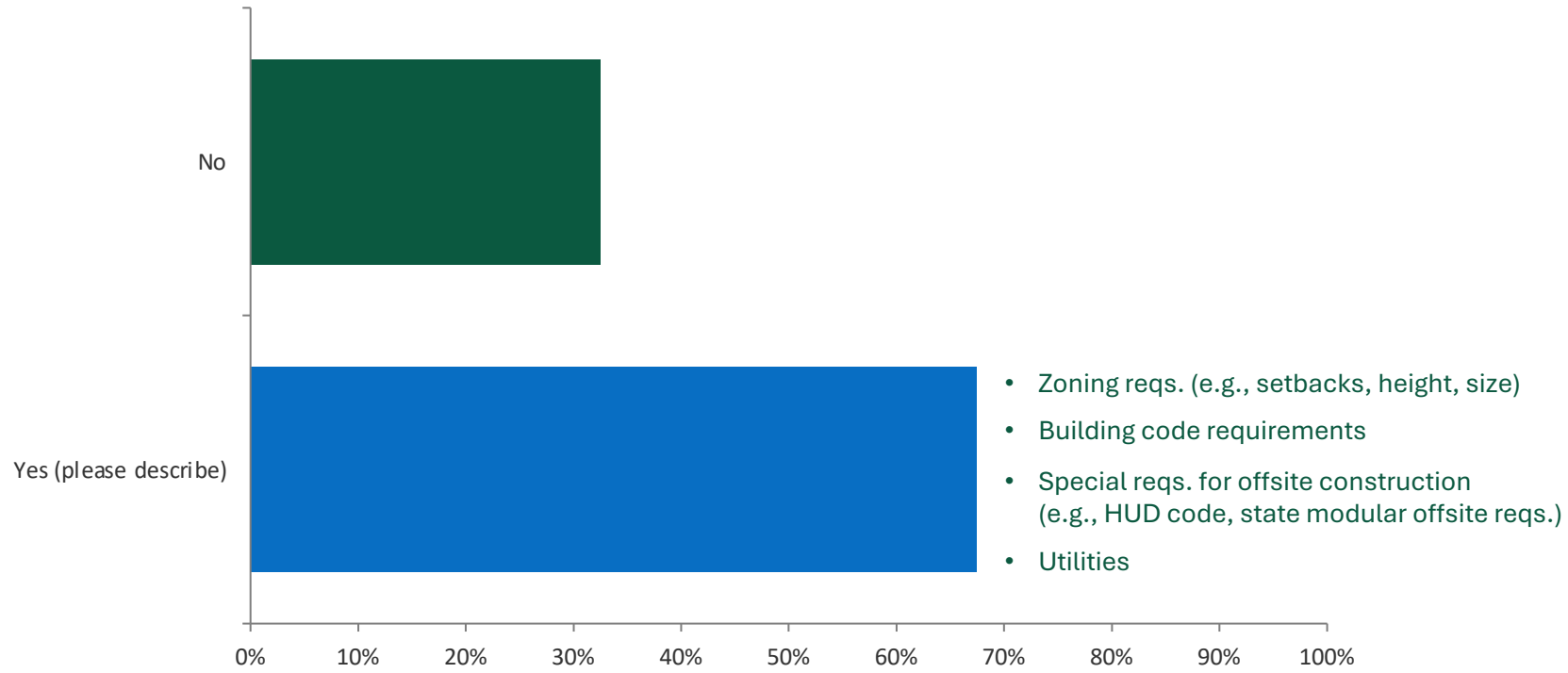


*Respondents citing 'other' most commonly pointed to years of practical experience

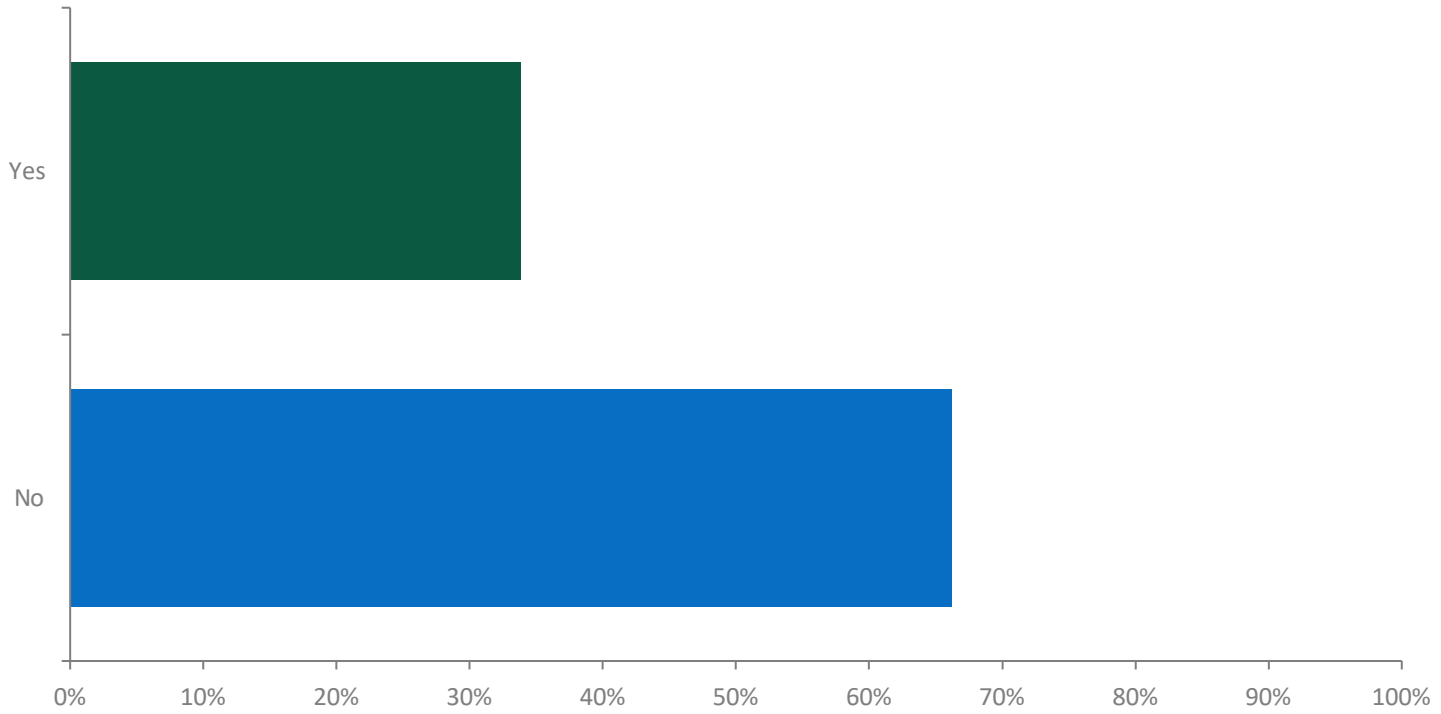
Which of the following does your jurisdiction's single-family zoning laws allow without variance or special approval? Select all that apply



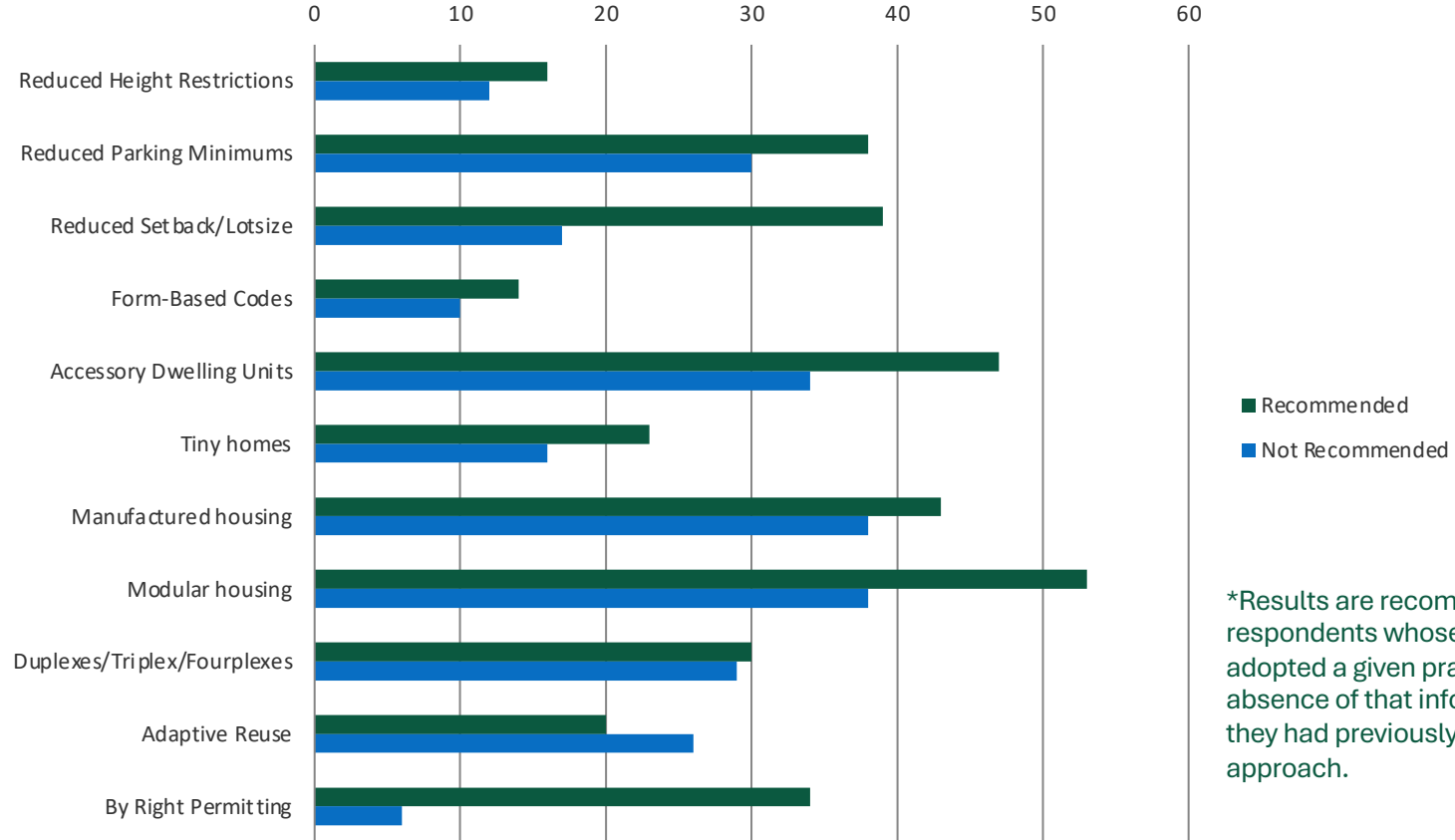
If these are allowed without a variance or special approval, are they subject to other regulatory requirements?



For retail, office, and industrial zoning, does your jurisdiction allow – without a variance or special approval – multifamily development (e.g., adaptive reuse of commercial buildings)?

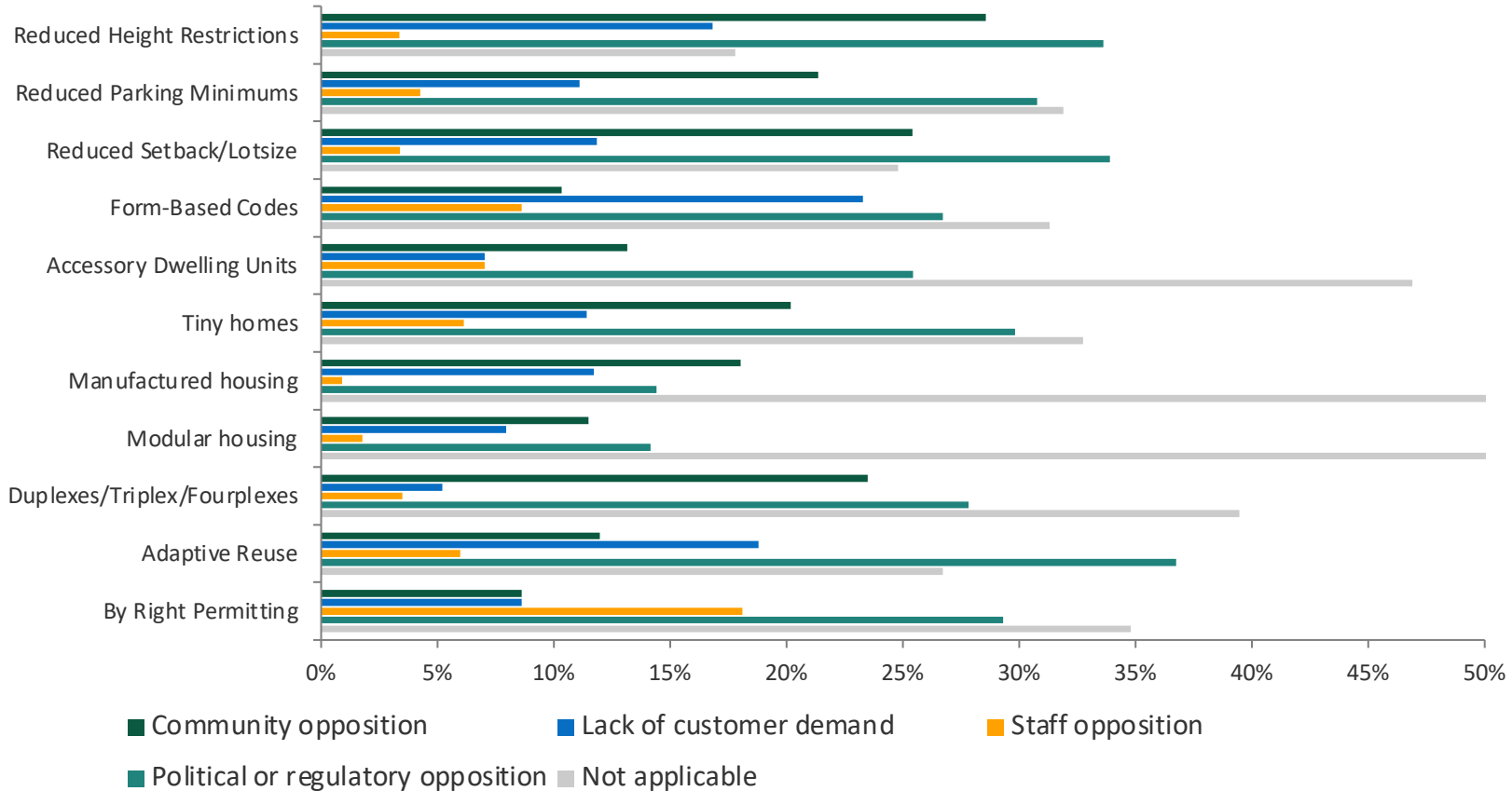


Which of the following would you recommend* other authorities having jurisdiction (AHJs) consider to promote housing affordability?



*Results are recommendations from respondents whose jurisdiction had adopted a given practice, or in the absence of that information, whether they had previously considered the approach.

Is there a reason your department is not using one of these options?



Would a model zoning code that provided consensus-based best practices that promote housing affordability through zoning codes be useful to your work?

