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Washington State Transportation Commission

Voice of Washington

Statewide Panel Survey

Fall 2012



Washington State
Transportation Commission



General Attitudes About the Transportation System

- **Performance**: How do voters think the Transportation System is performing right now
 - *(TRACK) How would you rate Washington's Transportation system overall?*
 - *(TRACK) How would you rate the Transportation system in your local area?*
- **Making it Better**: What can be done to improve the transportation system
 - *(TRACK) What transportation changes or improvements would impact your life in a positive way?*

General Attitudes About Transportation Funding

- **Funding**: Is there a funding problem
 - *(TRACK) Does the State have enough revenue to keep our transportation system safe, effective and properly maintained?*
 - *(TRACK) In general, would you support or oppose raising some transportation taxes and fees to increase funding for transportation?*

- **Fairness**: How do voters various in different RTPOs feel about funding fairness
 - *(TRACK) Does your area of the state get a fair share of transportation funding?*

Support for Increasing Transportation Funding

- **Raising Fees/Taxes**: are voters willing to invest in the transportation system
 - *Would you support or oppose raising some transportation taxes and fees to increase funding for transportation if it would cost the average Washington family about \$xx a year?*

Transportation Budget Exercises

- **Spending**: How would voters allocate new (additional) revenue across high level budget categories
 - **Existing Needs Scenario**: funding required to maintain the existing components of the transportation system. Does **not** include funding to make improvements
 - **Transportation Improvements Scenario**: funding to relieve congestion, improve freight mobility, replace obsolete roads, bridges, ferry terminals, and transit vehicles and increase transit service to meet demand
- **Revenue**: What revenue sources would voters support as a way to fund additional transportation revenue needs

Sample Spending Exercise

This Budget Exercise deals with the \$xx billion in **Existing Needs**. This \$xx billion works out to \$y billion a year and would cost the average Washington family about \$zz a year in new taxes and/or fees. In the table below, please indicate how much of funding, if any, you would assign to each of the x categories for **Existing Needs**.

Categories	Cost to Fully Fund <u>Existing Needs</u>	Amount you would spend on <u>Existing Needs</u>
Category 1	\$200 Million	
Category 2	\$300 Million	
Category 3	\$150 Million	[Respondent
Category 4	\$200 Million	Provided]
Category 5	\$100 Million	
Category 6	\$50 Million	
TOTAL	\$1.0 Billion per year	\$0.0 Billion per year
Cost for the Average Washington Family	\$40.00 per year	\$0.00 per year

Sample Revenue Exercise



The table below shows a variety of potential revenue sources for new transportation funding and it indicates how much revenue each tax or fee would raise and how much it would cost the average homeowner per year. For this Budget Exercise, please indicate whether or not you support or oppose each tax or fee increase listed.

Support	Oppose	Not Sure	Revenue Source	Amount Raised	Cost to Average Household
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	a 2 cent a gallon Gas Tax increase	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	charging sales tax on all gas purchases	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	a 1% annual license fee based on a vehicle's value	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	a vehicle emissions fee - vehicles that pollute more pay more	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	a fee based on the fuel efficiency of a vehicle - less efficient vehicles pay more	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	a fee based on the number of miles driven - people who drive more pay more	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	having the gas tax increase with the rate of inflation	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	having the gas tax increase as the average fuel efficiency of vehicles increases	\$xx M	\$xx.00
<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	having transportation fees like vehicle licenses/permits rise with rate of inflation	\$xx M	\$xx.00
Total Unmet Funding Needs:				\$5.0 B	\$200.00
Total from Your Selections:				\$0.0 B	\$0.00
Remaining Unfunded Needs:				\$5.0 B	\$200.00

Vehicle Miles Traveled

- **VMT**: How do voters react to the concept after hearing an explanation?
- **VMT Options**: What do voters think about using the VMT to replace the gas tax? What about to supplement the gas tax?

Tolling

- **New Projects**: Do voters support tolling to help pay for major transportation projects ?
- **Existing Roads**: Do voters support tolling on existing state roads to help fund ongoing maintenance and improvements?
- **Using Toll Money**: Do voters want the state to spend toll money just on the specific facility, in the corridor, or use it for general transportation funding?