

NEWS RELEASE



FORUM RESEARCH INC.

MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

June 29th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- More than 4-in-10, say a seven stop LRT funded by the province at about \$1.5 billion is best for Scarborough
- When presented with the cost increases and reduction in stops of the planned Scarborough subway, the plurality, more than 4-in-10 say the subway should be cancelled and something else built (44%)
- In Scarborough, approval for the LRT is at as much as 7-in-10 (71%).
- “It appears, after years of being pummeled by promises of transit, the citizens of Scarborough are no longer fixed on subways. At this point, they just want transit, and the sooner the better. Even east of Victoria Park, an LRT is seen to be preferred to a subway, if it actually goes somewhere”

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LRT Preferred to Subway in Scarborough

Most want to cancel subway and build something else

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 667 Toronto voters, the plurality, more than 4-in-10, say a seven stop LRT funded by the province at about \$1.5 billion is best for Scarborough (42%) as opposed to fewer than 3-in-10 who prefer the planned Scarborough subway, with one stop, costing more than \$3 billion (28%). In Scarborough, close to half choose the LRT (45%), while fewer than 4-in-10 opt for the planned subway (39%). In the city as a whole, as many as 3-in-10 have no opinion (30%), while half this many are undecided in Scarborough (16%).

Most want subway cancelled, something else built

When presented with the cost increases and reduction in stops of the planned Scarborough subway, the plurality, more than 4-in-10 say the subway should be cancelled and something else built (44%), while just more than a third think the subway should go ahead as planned (35%). One fifth do not venture an opinion (21%). In Scarborough, fewer than half opt for the subway as planned (47%), while more than a third think it should be cancelled and replaced by something else (37%). One sixth don't have an opinion (16%).

Much higher approval for LRT than subway, especially in Scarborough

When the subway is described as having one stop and costing more than \$3 billion, there is a relatively even split between approval (40%) and disapproval (43%), with less than a fifth unsure (17%). For the LRT option, however, described as having seven stops and being funded by the province at \$1.5 billion, more than two thirds approve (68%) and just a fifth disapprove (21%). In Scarborough, approval of the subway option is at more than half (56%), but approval for the LRT is at as much as 7-in-10 (71%).

“It appears, after years of being pummeled by promises of transit, the citizens of Scarborough are no longer fixated on subways. At this point, they just want transit, and the sooner the better. Even east of Victoria Park, an LRT is seen to be preferred to a subway, if it actually goes somewhere” said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D. is the president and founder of Forum Research. He can be reached at lbozinoff@forumresearch.com or at (416) 960-9603.

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Methodology

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 667 randomly selected Toronto adults. The poll was conducted on June 28th, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 4%, 19 times out of 20. Subsample results will be less accurate. Margins of error for subsample (such as age, gender) results are available at www.forumresearch.com/samplestim.asp

Where appropriate, the data has been statistically weighted by age, region, and other variables to ensure that the sample reflects the actual population according to the latest Census data.

This research is not necessarily predictive of future outcomes, but rather, captures opinion at one point in time. Forum Research conducted this poll as a public service and to demonstrate our survey research capabilities. Forum houses its poll results in the Data Library of the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto.

With offices across Canada and around the world, 100% Canadian-owned Forum Research is one of the country's leading survey research firms. This Forum Poll™ and other polls may be found at Forum's poll archive at www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp

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Scarborough Subway Approval

The planned Scarborough subway will have one stop, and will cost just more than three billion dollars. Do you approve or disapprove of the planned Scarborough subway?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	667	148	133	124	135	127	333	308
Approve	40	40	47	44	32	31	41	38
Disapprove	43	46	39	38	43	54	48	40
Don't know	17	15	14	18	26	15	10	22

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	667	85	104	99	70	68	132
Approve	40	47	39	38	41	38	36
Disapprove	43	35	39	40	47	48	48
Don't know	17	19	22	22	13	14	15

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	667	201	53	124	87	47	155
Approve	40	30	29	40	37	35	56
Disapprove	43	58	44	39	41	43	34
Don't know	17	12	28	21	22	23	10

Mode of Transportation

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	667	267	229	29	36	14	92
Approve	40	41	43	34	33	22	31
Disapprove	43	40	42	46	65	53	49
Don't know	17	19	16	20	2	24	20

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Scarborough LRT Approval

A Scarborough LRT along the route of the Scarborough RT would have 7 stops, and would be fully-funded by the province at one and a half billion dollars. Would you approve or disapprove of a Scarborough LRT like this?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	667	148	133	124	135	127	333	308
Approve	68	68	65	70	66	70	67	69
Disapprove	21	22	21	24	21	16	25	18
Don't know	11	9	13	6	13	14	8	13

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	667	85	104	99	70	68	132
Approve	68	61	61	77	64	73	69
Disapprove	21	22	23	12	29	21	24
Don't know	11	16	16	11	7	6	7

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	667	201	53	124	87	47	155
Approve	68	70	82	63	62	69	72
Disapprove	21	20	6	25	25	22	21
Don't know	11	10	13	13	13	9	8

Mode of Transportation

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	667	267	229	29	36	14	92
Approve	68	66	68	76	75	57	71
Disapprove	21	23	22	21	17	43	11
Don't know	11	10	11	3	8	0	18

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Best Transit Solution

Which of these two transit solutions would be best for Scarborough?

[All Respondents]

Age/Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	667	148	133	124	135	127	333	308
Planned Scarborough subway	28	29	25	34	28	21	29	26
Scarborough LRT	42	38	44	40	48	44	47	38
Don't know	30	33	31	26	24	35	24	36

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	667	85	104	99	70	68	132
Planned Scarborough subway	28	26	30	23	33	39	27
Scarborough LRT	42	38	31	46	47	46	44
Don't know	30	36	39	31	20	15	29

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	667	201	53	124	87	47	155
Planned Scarborough subway	28	22	24	21	34	30	39
Scarborough LRT	42	49	51	33	38	37	45
Don't know	30	29	25	46	28	34	16

Mode of Transportation

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	667	267	229	29	36	14	92
Planned Scarborough subway	28	28	31	27	16	25	23
Scarborough LRT	42	40	39	52	64	27	46
Don't know	30	31	31	20	20	47	32

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Planned Scarborough Subway – What Should Be Done?

Costs for the planned Scarborough subway recently increased from two billion dollars to just more than three billion dollars and three stops were reduced to one stop. What should be done with the planned Scarborough subway?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	667	148	133	124	135	127	333	308
Continue with building the subway as planned	35	33	35	50	30	24	38	33
Cancel the subway and build something else	44	49	47	34	44	45	50	40
Don't know	21	18	18	16	25	30	13	27

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	667	85	104	99	70	68	132
Continue with building the subway as planned	35	34	43	33	34	34	33
Cancel the subway and build something else	44	43	33	45	48	55	50
Don't know	21	23	23	22	18	11	17

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	667	201	53	124	87	47	155
Continue with building the subway as planned	35	25	30	32	45	28	47
Cancel the subway and build something else	44	55	52	42	35	49	37
Don't know	21	20	17	26	20	23	16

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Mode of Transportation

%	Total	Private vehicle	Public transit	Bicycle	Walking	Some other way	Don't travel to work or school
Sample	667	267	229	29	36	14	92
Continue with building the subway as planned	35	36	39	32	29	8	28
Cancel the subway and build something else	44	41	44	48	66	60	40
Don't know	21	23	16	21	6	32	32

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