

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Majority approve of new Scarborough transit plan

Even in Scarborough, subway/LRT plan is a winner

TORONTO March 23rd - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 908 Toronto voters, the majority, well more than half, approve of the revised plan for the Scarborough subway, involving eliminating two of three stops and using the money to build an LRT to Malvern Town Centre (58%). Fewer than 3-in-10 disapprove (27%) and about one seventh have no opinion (14%).

Approval of the revised plan is especially common to lower income groups (\$20K to \$40K - 65%), in the downtown (64%), among John Tory voters from the last mayoral election (72%) and among the best educated (post grad - 65%). Even in Scarborough, the plan is as popular as it is across the city (59%).

Downtown Relief Line seen as highest transit priority

The plurality of voters think the Downtown Relief Line is the transit project which should be given the highest priority and finished first (28%), and this is followed by the Eglinton Crosstown (22%), and the Scarborough subway and Malvern LRT (17%). Seen as less pressing is Smart Track (10%), or some other transit project (10%). The DRL is seen as especially important by the youngest (35%), the wealthiest (\$80K+ - 36%), in the downtown (40%), among Olivia Chow voters (43%) and the best educated (post grad - 33%).

"It appears the very fact of a decision, any decision, on the much discussed Scarborough subway, has had the effect of creating consensus where none existed before. When we see Scarborough agreeing with the rest of the city on its transit needs, an important milestone has been achieved. Meanwhile, the DRL is still seen to be the most urgent transit priority we have, and that has been the case for several years," 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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TORONTO

March 23rd, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- The majority, well more than half, approve of the revised plan for the Scarborough subway.
- The plurality of voters think the Downtown Relief Line is the transit project which should be given the highest priority and finished first (28%).
- "It appears the very fact of a decision, any decision, on the much discussed Scarborough subway, has had the effect of creating consensus where none existed before. When we see Scarborough agreeing with the rest of the city on its transit needs, an important milestone has been achieved. Meanwhile, the DRL is still seen to be the most urgent transit priority we have, and that has been the case for several years," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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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 908 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on March 22nd, 2016.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate +/- 3%, 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

'Mayor Tory has proposed changes to the Scarborough subway. Two of the three proposed stops will be eliminated, it will run directly from Kennedy station to Scarborough Town Center, and the money saved will be used to build a multi-stop LRT from the Eglinton Crosstown to Malvern Town Centre. Do you approve or disapprove of this plan?'

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	908	189	158	184	155	222	470	438
Approve	58	57	61	59	52	61	59	58
Disapprove	27	28	29	27	31	21	29	26
Don't know	14	14	10	14	17	18	12	16

Region

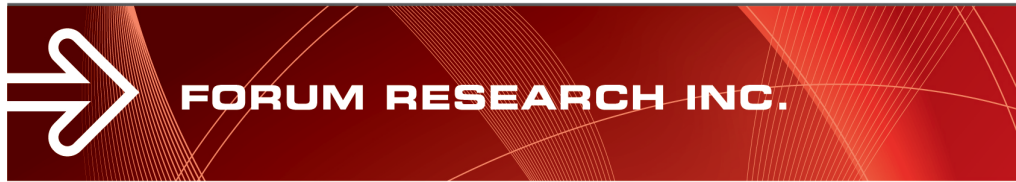
%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	908	364	208	181	155
Approve	58	63	58	53	59
Disapprove	27	21	28	29	33
Don't know	14	16	14	18	8

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	908	154	385	127	60
Approve	58	38	72	68	50
Disapprove	27	54	14	17	33
Don't know	14	8	14	15	17

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Transit Projects

'Which transit project should be prioritized and finished first?'

[All respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	908	189	158	184	155	222	470	438
The Scarborough subway and Malvern LRT	17	11	20	21	18	18	20	15
The downtown relief line	28	35	29	20	23	29	27	29
Smart Track	10	12	10	8	13	4	10	9
The Eglinton Crosstown	22	20	20	22	26	24	23	21
Some other transit project	10	11	14	11	5	4	9	10
Don't know	13	11	7	17	15	21	11	15

Region

%	Total	The former City of Toronto + East York	North York	Etobicoke + York	Scarborough
Sample	908	364	208	181	155
The Scarborough subway and Malvern LRT	17	9	15	8	40
The downtown relief line	28	39	26	30	14
Smart Track	10	8	8	11	12
The Eglinton Crosstown	22	25	22	26	13
Some other transit project	10	6	13	12	9
Don't know	13	13	15	13	12

Last Mayoral Vote

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	908	154	385	127	60
The Scarborough subway and Malvern LRT	17	24	16	15	9
The downtown relief line	28	22	31	43	20
Smart Track	10	6	10	9	6
The Eglinton Crosstown	22	21	27	18	29
Some other transit project	10	15	4	6	22
Don't know	13	11	12	8	14

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