

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Prioritize DRL over Scarborough Subway – majority**

### **One half want subway decision reopened**

TORONTO AUGUST 2<sup>nd</sup> - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 892 Toronto voters, the majority, 6-in-10, want the Downtown Relief Line (DRL) built before the Scarborough Subway (61%), where just more than a quarter opt for the Scarborough project (28%). One twentieth think neither should be built first (6%) or don't have an opinion (5%). It is only in Scarborough itself that a majority of voters want the subway prioritized (52%), although as many as one third want a DRL (35%). Doug Ford mayoral voters are more enthusiastic about a Scarborough subway (44%) than are Tory (23%) or Chow voters (18%).

### **One half want Scarborough subway decision reopened**

One half of Toronto voters want council to reconsider the decision to build the Scarborough subway (48%), while one third disagree (34%). As many as one fifth don't know (18%). Wanting the decision reopened is common to mid age groups (45 to 54 - 54%), Chow voters (60%) and, surprisingly, in Scarborough (58%).

### **Scarborough needs subway, not LRT – plurality**

The plurality of Toronto voters say Scarborough's transit needs are best met with a subway (44%), rather than an LRT (39%), while about one tenth think neither is the answer (7%) or don't know (9%). The subway choice is especially popular among males (49%), the less wealthy (\$20K to \$60K - 50%), among Doug Ford voters (72%), in North York (53%) and, to a lesser extent, in Scarborough (50%).

"It's clear the city as a whole sees the need to unburden the spine of our transit network, the Yonge-University line, while residents of Scarborough want to see the promise of their subway fulfilled. Despite this, many Scarborough residents want to see the subway decision reopened by council, but I doubt it is because they want it cancelled," 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](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com) or at (416) 960-9603.

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### **TORONTO**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The majority, 6-in-10, want the Downtown Relief Line (DRL) built before the Scarborough Subway (61%).
- One half of Toronto voters want council to reconsider the decision to build the Scarborough subway (48%).
- The plurality of Toronto voters say Scarborough's transit needs are best met with a subway (44%), rather than an LRT (39%).
- "It's clear the city as a whole sees the need to unburden the spine of our transit network, the Yonge-University line, while residents of Scarborough want to see the promise of their subway fulfilled. Despite this, many Scarborough residents want to see the subway decision reopened by council, but I doubt it is because they want it cancelled," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

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## **TORONTO**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

### **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 892 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on August 1-2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015.

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](http://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](http://www.forumresearch.com/polls.asp)

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**TORONTO**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

**Priority: Scarborough Subway or the Downtown Relief Line**

*‘Which transit project should have priority and be built first, the Scarborough subway or the Downtown Relief Line?’*

[All respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
<b>Sample</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>203</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>479</b>	<b>413</b>
Scarborough subway	28	28	25	30	31	27	29	27
Downtown Relief Line	61	62	64	63	57	56	60	62
Neither	6	7	7	3	7	7	6	7
Don't know	5	2	4	4	5	10	5	4

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
<b>Sample</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>132</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>164</b>
Scarborough subway	28	21	38	33	40	18	26
Downtown Relief Line	61	58	52	57	55	77	66
Neither	6	12	7	5	5	4	4
Don't know	5	8	3	6	1	1	5

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
<b>Sample</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>144</b>
Scarborough subway	28	17	27	21	52
Downtown Relief Line	61	74	60	69	35
Neither	6	5	7	7	6
Don't know	5	3	5	4	6

**Last Mayoral Vote**

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
<b>Sample</b>	<b>892</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>43</b>
Scarborough subway	28	44	23	18	32
Downtown Relief Line	61	46	70	72	56
Neither	6	5	2	7	5
Don't know	5	6	5	2	7

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## TORONTO

August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015

### **Council to Reconsider Scarborough Subway**

*'Do you agree or disagree council should reconsider the decision to build the Scarborough subway?'*

[All Respondents]

#### **Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	892	203	145	150	194	200	479	413
Agree	48	43	48	54	52	49	49	47
Disagree	34	40	38	29	30	26	35	33
Don't know.	18	18	14	17	18	25	16	20

#### **Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	892	100	132	112	97	100	164
Agree	48	50	53	42	46	51	52
Disagree	34	30	30	39	35	34	31
Don't know.	18	20	17	19	19	15	16

#### **Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	892	387	174	187	144
Agree	48	51	45	39	58
Disagree	34	30	36	37	34
Don't know.	18	19	20	24	8

#### **Last Mayoral Vote**

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	892	131	399	167	43
Agree	48	40	48	60	48
Disagree	34	47	36	23	41
Don't know.	18	13	17	17	11

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**TORONTO**

**August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015**

**Scarborough Transit: Subway or LRT**

*‘Do you think Scarborough’s transit needs are best served by a subway or an LRT?’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	892	203	145	150	194	200	479	413
Subway	44	44	48	46	45	35	49	39
LRT	39	36	40	38	45	41	40	39
Neither	7	11	6	5	3	6	4	9
Don't know	9	8	5	12	6	18	6	12

**Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K
Sample	892	100	132	112	97	100	164
Subway	44	35	50	50	46	40	40
LRT	39	37	33	34	41	52	46
Neither	7	16	5	6	6	3	5
Don't know	9	13	12	11	6	5	9

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	892	387	174	187	144
Subway	44	35	53	40	50
LRT	39	48	30	38	42
Neither	7	8	6	10	4
Don't know	9	9	11	12	5

**Last Mayoral Vote**

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	892	131	399	167	43
Subway	44	72	39	26	39
LRT	39	20	43	60	43
Neither	7	2	8	7	7
Don't know	9	5	10	7	11

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