

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Transit plan like Rob Ford's most popular**

### **Soknacki-style plan least popular**

TORONTO AUGUST 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 1945 Toronto voters, one half approved of a transit plan incorporating most of Mayor Ford's proposals ("Replacing the east end of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT with a subway, building the Scarborough subway and then building the Downtown Relief Line, paid for by public-private partnerships, the province and the federal government" - 50%). After this plan, equal proportions, just more than 4-in-10, approved of a plan similar to John Tory's ("Giving priority to the Scarborough subway, followed by running subway trains on existing GO Transit track, paid for with development charges on new development along the GO Transit routes" - 45%) and one similar to Olivia Chow's plan ("Giving priority to adding more buses to existing routes, followed by building an LRT in Scarborough, then the Downtown Relief Line, paid for with the Scarborough subway tax" - 45%). Just 4-in-10 approve of David Soknacki's adherence to the city's original LRT-based transit plan ("Following the original Transit City plan, including LRTs in Scarborough, on Finch and Sheppard and on the Eglinton Crosstown, paid for by a combination of development charges, private-public partnerships and tax increases" - 39%).

"Subways, subways, subways still steal the limelight, and it doesn't help that Soknacki's plan doesn't shy away from discussing taxation as a way of paying for it. Subways are bright shiny objects, especially when they're offered for free," 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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- One half approved of a transit plan incorporating most of Mayor Ford's proposals ("Replacing the east end of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT with a subway, building the Scarborough subway and then building the Downtown Relief Line, paid for by public-private partnerships, the province and the federal government" - 50%).
- "Subways, subways, subways still steal the limelight, and it doesn't help that Soknacki's plan doesn't shy away from discussing taxation as a way of paying for it. Subways are bright shiny objects, especially when they're offered for free," 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 1945 randomly selected Torontonians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on August 25-26<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Results based on the total sample are considered accurate  $\pm 2\%$ , 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)

### ***Transit Plan Priority Approval – Summary Table***

%	Approve	Disapprove	Don't Know
Replace Eglinton LRT with Subway	50	32	18
Scarborough Subway	45	32	23
Adding Bus Routes	45	37	19
Follow original Transit City plan	39	41	20

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**Transit Plan – Scarborough Subway**

*‘Giving priority to the Scarborough subway, followed by running subway trains on existing GO Transit track, paid for with development charges on new development along the GO Transit routes’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1945	136	185	373	517	734	850	1095
Approve	45	41	48	47	46	47	49	42
Disapprove	32	37	27	30	34	28	34	30
Don't know	23	22	25	24	20	25	18	28

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1945	665	452	401	427
Approve	45	38	42	46	59
Disapprove	32	42	28	29	25
Don't know	23	20	30	26	16

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1945	154	314	281	244	190	340	65
Approve	45	52	48	45	47	53	48	38
Disapprove	32	19	31	26	34	29	41	41
Don't know	23	29	21	30	20	18	11	21

**Was Voting for Karen Stintz**

%	Total	Yes	No	Don't know
Sample	1945	145	1688	112
Approve	45	45	44	58
Disapprove	32	40	32	13
Don't know	23	15	24	29

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**Transit Plan – Adding Bus Routes**

*‘Giving priority to adding more buses to existing routes, followed by building an LRT in Scarborough, then the Downtown Relief Line, paid for with the Scarborough subway tax’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1945	136	185	373	517	734	850	1095
Approve	45	51	42	37	46	46	42	47
Disapprove	37	35	38	42	36	32	43	31
Don't know	19	14	20	21	18	23	15	21

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1945	665	452	401	427
Approve	45	53	46	36	40
Disapprove	37	30	32	41	48
Don't know	19	17	23	23	12

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1945	154	314	281	244	190	340	65
Approve	45	62	53	47	43	40	42	34
Disapprove	37	16	28	36	38	45	45	45
Don't know	19	22	18	17	19	14	13	22

**Was Voting for Karen Stintz**

%	Total	Yes	No	Don't know
Sample	1945	145	1688	112
Approve	45	49	44	47
Disapprove	37	39	37	31
Don't know	19	12	19	21

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***Transit Plan – Replace Eglinton LRT with Subway***

*‘Replacing the east end of the Eglinton Crosstown LRT with a subway, building the Scarborough subway and then building the Downtown Relief Line, paid for by public-private partnerships, the province and the federal government’*

[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1945	136	185	373	517	734	850	1095
Approve	50	46	49	52	54	53	53	47
Disapprove	32	35	36	27	33	28	34	30
Don't know	18	19	15	21	14	18	12	23

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1945	665	452	401	427
Approve	50	38	45	52	71
Disapprove	32	45	33	28	17
Don't know	18	17	22	20	11

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1945	154	314	281	244	190	340	65
Approve	50	53	56	59	46	50	45	46
Disapprove	32	23	25	20	32	39	43	40
Don't know	18	24	19	21	22	11	13	13

**Was Voting for Karen Stintz**

%	Total	Yes	No	Don't know
Sample	1945	145	1688	112
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Don't know	18	14	17	29

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**Transit Plan – Follow Original Transit City Plan**

*‘Following the original Transit City plan, including LRTs in Scarborough, on Finch and Sheppard and on the Eglinton Crosstown, paid for by a combination of development charges, private-public partnerships and tax increases’*

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[All Respondents]

**Age / Gender**

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	1945	136	185	373	517	734	850	1095
Approve	39	39	43	31	41	42	43	35
Disapprove	41	43	38	45	39	38	44	39
Don't know	20	18	19	23	20	20	13	26

**Region**

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	1945	665	452	401	427
Approve	39	51	34	34	33
Disapprove	41	30	42	45	51
Don't know	20	20	24	20	15

**Household Income**

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	1945	154	314	281	244	190	340	65
Approve	39	46	39	26	37	49	45	49
Disapprove	41	31	40	45	43	41	40	36
Don't know	20	23	21	29	19	11	14	16

**Was Voting for Karen Stintz**

%	Total	Yes	No	Don't know
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