

NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Downtown relief line seen as highest transit priority

Scarborough subway a priority only in Scarborough

TORONTO APRIL 15th, 2014 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 882 Toronto voters, one half agree the highest transit priority for the city is the Downtown Relief Line (DRL - 48%). Just one quarter see the Scarborough subway as the higher priority (27%), while one fifth favour another project (18%) and few have no opinion (7%).

The DRL is favoured especially in the downtown (63%), and in Etobicoke/York (57%) and especially among John Tory supporters (64%). The Scarborough subway is preferred by residents of that community (63%) and those who will vote Rob Ford in the mayoral election (48%). Olivia Chow's supporters prefer the DRL to other options (48%), but as many as a quarter says something else has a higher priority (25%).

More subways seen to be best answer to congestion; Chow voters favour LRT

Close to half of voters agree the best solution to congestion on the TTC is more subways (45%), while about half this proportion says the answer is more LRT (20%) or more bus service (18%). Few think more streetcars are the answer (5%). More subways are especially popular in North York (52%) and Scarborough (54%), while more LRT is most popular downtown (28%). Etobicoke/York is especially likely to want more bus service (29%). Streetcars reach their highest popularity downtown (11%). Rob Ford voters are all about subways first (62%) with a bit of bus (19%). Chow voters lead with LRT (35%), followed by bus and subway (21% each). Tory voters support subways (59%), and a little bit of bus (11%) and LRT (13%).

"There is obviously a lot of support out there across the city for a mayoral candidate who puts the DRL on the front burner, and risks the heat from Scarborough. While residents of that community see their subway as their entitlement, the rest of the city know the Yonge line needs to be relieved of crowding. It is interesting to note that candidate Chow's idea for increased bus service will be especially popular on the mayor's home turf in Etobicoke," 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

April 15th, 2014

HIGHLIGHTS:

- One half agree the highest transit priority for the city is the Downtown Relief Line (DRL - 48%).
- Close to half of voters agree the best solution to congestion on the TTC is more subways (45%), while about half this proportion says the answer is more LRT (20%) or more bus service (18%).
- "There is obviously a lot of support out there across the city for a mayoral candidate who puts the DRL on the front burner, and risks the heat from Scarborough. While residents of that community see their subway as their entitlement, the rest of the city know the Yonge line needs to be relieved of crowding. It is interesting to note that candidate Chow's idea for increased bus service will be especially popular on the mayor's home turf in Etobicoke," 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 882 randomly selected Torontonians 18 years of age and older. The poll was conducted on April 14th, 2014.

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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Priority for Transit Projects

'Which of these transit projects should have the highest priority?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	882	55	101	228	212	286	380	502
Scarborough subway	27	25	25	30	31	24	30	24
Downtown Relief line	48	46	56	46	45	43	44	50
Something else	18	26	10	16	13	20	19	17
Don't know	7	2	9	8	11	12	6	9

Region

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	882	319	173	165	225
Scarborough subway	27	12	24	16	63
Downtown Relief line	48	63	42	57	22
Something else	18	18	29	13	10
Don't know	7	7	5	14	4

Transportation / Own Property

%	Total	Drive	TTC or other public transit	Other	Yes	No
Sample	882	313	282	77	634	248
Scarborough subway	27	34	24	12	27	27
Downtown Relief line	48	46	50	56	51	43
Something else	18	15	19	24	16	21
Don't know	7	5	7	9	6	10

Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	>\$250K+
Sample	882	72	126	143	107	106	146	19
Scarborough subway	27	19	26	35	28	30	18	5
Downtown Relief line	48	48	34	35	53	48	67	61
Something else	18	23	18	27	16	17	12	34
Don't know	7	9	22	4	3	6	3	0

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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	882	147	202	334	199
Scarborough subway	27	34	27	28	19
Downtown Relief line	48	40	45	47	57
Something else	18	11	18	20	20
Don't know	7	16	10	5	4

Have Children / Are Mothers

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	882	209	673	108
Scarborough subway	27	29	26	34
Downtown Relief line	48	49	47	48
Something else	18	13	20	9
Don't know	7	9	7	9

Rob Ford Approval

%	Total	Approve	Disapprove
Sample	882	391	491
Scarborough subway	27	46	10
Downtown Relief line	48	32	60
Something else	18	14	21
Don't know	7	7	8

Mayoral Vote Preference

%	Total	Rob Ford	Karen Stintz	John Tory	Olivia Chow	David Soknacki	Don't know
Sample	882	256	36	254	276	25	35
Scarborough subway	27	48	20	21	15	21	30
Downtown Relief line	48	29	59	64	49	70	33
Something else	18	18	17	11	25	6	19
Don't know	7	5	4	4	11	2	18

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TORONTO**April 15th, 2014*****Past Provincial Vote***

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	882	210	351	174	37	28
Scarborough subway	27	44	23	19	20	10
Downtown Relief line	48	39	56	51	45	48
Something else	18	13	15	21	22	31
Don't know	7	5	5	9	13	12

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Relieving Congestion on the TTC

'Which is the best way to relieve congestion on the TTC?'

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	882	55	101	228	212	286	380	502
More subways	45	36	51	54	43	43	42	47
More streetcars	5	4	4	8	8	4	6	4
More LRT	20	18	21	19	20	26	23	18
More bus service	18	31	14	11	14	12	14	22
Something else	7	6	7	5	11	9	10	5
Don't know	5	6	4	3	4	6	5	5

Region

%	Total	Toronto or East York	North York	Etobicoke or York	Scarborough
Sample	882	319	173	165	225
More subways	45	37	52	37	54
More streetcars	5	11	2	4	3
More LRT	20	28	13	17	21
More bus service	18	9	20	29	16
Something else	7	10	8	7	3
Don't know	5	5	4	7	2

Transportation / Own Property

%	Total	Drive	TTC or other public transit	Other	Yes	No
Sample	882	313	282	77	634	248
More subways	45	58	37	34	46	42
More streetcars	5	4	5	13	5	6
More LRT	20	16	20	27	24	14
More bus service	18	9	30	10	12	28
Something else	7	8	5	12	9	5
Don't know	5	5	4	4	4	6

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Household Income

%	Total	<\$20K	\$20-\$40K	\$40-\$60K	\$60-\$80K	\$80-\$100K	\$100-\$250K	\$250K+
Sample	882	72	126	143	107	106	146	19
More subways	45	21	47	43	51	50	49	42
More streetcars	5	13	8	4	4	8	3	3
More LRT	20	17	14	22	20	21	26	9
More bus service	18	44	15	22	12	15	12	2
Something else	7	2	4	6	8	3	6	32
Don't know	5	3	13	3	4	3	4	12

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Education

%	Total	Secondary school or less	Some college or university	Completed college or university	Post graduate studies
Sample	882	147	202	334	199
More subways	45	34	55	46	39
More streetcars	5	4	6	6	4
More LRT	20	21	9	21	28
More bus service	18	25	16	18	15
Something else	7	10	9	5	9
Don't know	5	7	5	4	4

Have Children / Are Mothers

%	Total	Yes	No	Moms
Sample	882	209	673	108
More subways	45	44	45	45
More streetcars	5	5	5	3
More LRT	20	23	19	17
More bus service	18	19	18	24
Something else	7	4	9	5
Don't know	5	5	5	5

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Rob Ford Approval

%	Total	Approve	Disapprove
Sample	882	391	491
More subways	45	60	32
More streetcars	5	3	7
More LRT	20	7	31
More bus service	18	20	17
Something else	7	5	9
Don't know	5	5	5

Mayoral Vote Preference

%	Total	Rob Ford	Karen Stintz	John Tory	Olivia Chow	David Soknacki	Don't know
Sample	882	256	36	254	276	25	35
More subways	45	62	46	59	21	45	36
More streetcars	5	3	4	3	10	0	4
More LRT	20	7	23	13	35	16	29
More bus service	18	19	19	11	21	29	15
Something else	7	6	8	6	9	8	6
Don't know	5	2	0	9	5	2	10

Past Provincial Vote

%	Total	Conservative	Liberal	NDP	Green	Other
Sample	882	210	351	174	37	28
More subways	45	73	34	28	38	40
More streetcars	5	2	5	11	9	4
More LRT	20	7	27	27	14	20
More bus service	18	9	20	23	21	26
Something else	7	5	10	9	2	7
Don't know	5	3	5	2	16	3

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