

NEWS RELEASE



MEDIA INQUIRIES:

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TORONTO

July 20th, 2016

HIGHLIGHTS:

- One half approve of city council's final decision to build the Scarborough subway over the Scarborough LRT (49%)
- One fifth of Toronto voters will not vote for a candidate in the 2018 municipal elections who supported the Scarborough subway (20%)
- Groups who would reward subway supporters are especially likely to be wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 25%), in Scarborough (27%) and Doug Ford voters (32%)
- "Well, city hall finally voted in favour of subways, subways, subways, and that's two more subways than this one has stops. Nevertheless, nearly half the voters are happy a decision was made, at least. It appears, however, those who don't like the idea now, won't like it in 2018, and they may be looking for revenge"

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

One Half Approve of Scarborough Subway Decision

One fifth will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway, however

In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll™ among 868 Toronto voters, one half approve of city council's final decision to build the Scarborough subway over the Scarborough LRT (49%). Just more than a third disapprove (35%), and one eighth don't venture an opinion (16%). Support for the subway is characteristic of the youngest (53%), the least wealthy (often a proxy for youth - 55%), in Scarborough, not surprisingly (63%), among mothers (57%), those with some college (56%), motorists (56%), but not cyclists (26%) nor pedestrians commuters (40%), among Doug Ford voters (66%), but not among Olivia Chow voters (26%).

One fifth will not vote for a candidate who supported subway

In total, one fifth of Toronto voters will not vote for a candidate in the 2018 municipal elections who supported the Scarborough subway (20%), while just fewer will not vote a candidate who opposed the subway (17%). Four-in-ten are not influenced in their vote by the subway decision (43%) and one fifth do not venture an opinion (20%). Among those who approve of the subway, about 3-in-10 will not vote for an opponent of the project (29%), whereas, among those who oppose the subway, the intention not to vote for a subway supporter is stronger (42%). It is clear the engagement level is higher among subway opponents; just 3-in-10 say the subway decision will not affect their vote (31%), whereas almost one half of those who support the subway say the decision will have no impact on their vote (47%).

Other groups who will use their vote to punish subway proponents are the wealthiest (25%), in the downtown (25%) and East York (26%), among the best educated (post grad - 26%), cyclists (36%) and Olivia Chow voters (38%).

Groups who would reward subway supporters are especially likely to be wealthy (\$80K to \$100K - 25%), in Scarborough (27%) and Doug Ford voters (32%).

"Well, city hall finally voted in favour of subways, subways, subways, and that's two more subways than this one has stops. Nevertheless, nearly half the voters are happy a decision was made, at least. It appears, however, those who don't like the idea now, won't like it in 2018, and they may be looking for revenge" 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 868 randomly selected Toronto adults. The poll was conducted on July 18th, 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 Vote Approval

City council voted to approve the Scarborough subway over the Scarborough LRT. Do you approve or disapprove of this decision?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	868	186	133	186	168	195	419	426
Approve	49	53	49	48	50	44	50	50
Disapprove	35	33	31	36	37	40	35	33
Don't know	16	15	19	16	13	16	14	17

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	868	86	110	125	102	99	171
Approve	49	55	56	45	52	52	41
Disapprove	35	28	28	29	35	34	41
Don't know	16	17	16	26	12	14	19

Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	868	301	65	158	117	67	160
Approve	49	36	40	49	56	47	63
Disapprove	35	49	51	35	21	28	26
Don't know	16	15	9	16	23	25	11

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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	868	319	272	46	60	29	142
Approve	49	56	48	26	40	53	42
Disapprove	35	28	35	61	40	26	44
Don't know	16	15	17	12	20	22	14

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Past Mayoral Vote Preference

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	868	142	353	143	52
Approve	49	66	45	26	56
Disapprove	35	21	40	65	26
Don't know	16	13	15	10	18

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Scarborough Subway Effect on 2018 Municipal Election Vote

What effect will this decision have on your vote in the next municipal election in 2018?

[All Respondents]

Age / Gender

%	Total	18-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+	Male	Female
Sample	868	186	133	186	168	195	419	426
Will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway	20	20	19	19	23	17	21	18
Will not vote for a candidate who opposed the subway	17	20	16	18	15	15	18	17
Subway decision will not affect your vote in 2018	43	40	46	39	44	51	44	43
Don't know	20	19	19	24	18	17	16	22

Income

%	Total	<20K	20-40K	40-60K	60-80K	80-100K	100-250K
Sample	868	86	110	125	102	99	171
Will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway	20	16	18	17	25	22	25
Will not vote for a candidate who opposed the subway	17	17	12	19	20	25	13
Subway decision will not affect your vote in 2018	43	43	49	41	43	41	43
Don't know	20	23	22	23	12	11	19

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Region

%	Total	Former City of Toronto	East York	North York	Etobicoke	York	Scarborough
Sample	868	301	65	158	117	67	160
Will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway	20	25	26	21	14	18	16
Will not vote for a candidate who opposed the subway	17	13	15	16	18	10	27
Subway decision will not affect your vote in 2018	43	45	43	38	52	47	39
Don't know	20	17	16	24	16	25	18

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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	868	319	272	46	60	29	142
Will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway	20	15	23	36	21	30	15
Will not vote for a candidate who opposed the subway	17	21	18	11	10	18	11
Subway decision will not affect your vote in 2018	43	46	37	37	58	27	52
Don't know	20	18	22	15	11	26	22

Past Mayoral Vote Preference

%	Total	Doug Ford	John Tory	Olivia Chow	Someone else
Sample	868	142	353	143	52
Will not vote for a candidate who supported the subway	20	13	20	38	15
Will not vote for a candidate who opposed the subway	17	32	16	7	17
Subway decision will not affect your vote in 2018	43	36	48	40	51
Don't know	20	20	16	16	18

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