

# NEWS RELEASE



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Building new link to DVP is preferred option for Gardiner**

### **Unless removal is cheaper**

TORONTO, MAY 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015 - In a random sampling of public opinion taken by the Forum Poll among 822 Toronto voters, the plurality, more than one third, want the Gardiner Expressway east of Jarvis Street removed and a new link built to the Don Valley Parkway (36%), while fewer than this, just more than a quarter, opt for removal and replacement by a street level boulevard (28%). The least popular of the three options presented is to continue repairing it (21%). Few suggest something else be done (5%) and one tenth don't have a preference (9%). These levels of preference are the same whether the respondent is a frequent or an infrequent user of the Gardiner.

### **Removal for a boulevard is also preferred if it is cheaper**

After being advised of the comparative cost of each option, voters are equally likely to prefer tearing it down and replacing it with a street level boulevard and building a new link to the DVP (34% each), while one quarter want to continue repairing it (the most expensive option - 24%). Boulevarding is especially popular in the downtown (47%) but not so much in Scarborough (22%) or Etobicoke (28%).

"While many Toronto voters are happy with the convenience offered by the Gardiner Expressway, the cost of repairing it constantly has finally impinged on the public consciousness, and they now favour disposing of it in the cheapest possible way," 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.

#### **MEDIA INQUIRIES:**

Lorne Bozinoff, President  
[lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)  
416.960.9603

#### **TORONTO**

**May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

#### **HIGHLIGHTS:**

- The plurality, more than one third, want the Gardiner Expressway east of Jarvis Street removed and a new link built to the Don Valley Parkway (36%).
- After being advised of the comparative cost of each option, voters are equally likely to prefer tearing it down.
- "While many Toronto voters are happy with the convenience offered by the Gardiner Expressway, the cost of repairing it constantly has finally impinged on the public consciousness, and they now favour disposing of it in the cheapest possible way," said Forum Research President, Dr. Lorne Bozinoff.

180 Bloor Street W., #1400  
Toronto, ON M5S 2V6  
T 416.960.9600  
F 416.960.9602  
[forumresearch.com](http://forumresearch.com)

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lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
416.960.9603

## **Methodology**

The Forum Poll™ was conducted by Forum Research with the results based on an interactive voice response telephone survey of 822 randomly selected voters in Toronto, Ontario. The poll was conducted on May 1-5<sup>th</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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 lbozinoff@forumresearch.com  
 416.960.9603

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**Gardiner Expressway Solutions**

*‘The city has proposed three solutions for the Gardiner Expressway continue repairing it, remove it east of Jarvis Street and replace it with a street level boulevard, or build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway. Which of these options do you prefer?’*

[All respondents]

**Age / Gender**

| %  | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 180   | 136   | 170   | 148   | 188 | 442  | 380    |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 28    | 28    | 32    | 17    | 30    | 33  | 27   | 28     |
| Continue repairing it                      | 21    | 27    | 13    | 26    | 19    | 17  | 21   | 21     |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 36    | 30    | 40    | 40    | 36    | 38  | 40   | 33     |
| Something else                             | 5     | 6     | 5     | 6     | 5     | 4   | 7    | 4      |
| Don't know                                 | 9     | 9     | 10    | 10    | 9     | 7   | 5    | 13     |

**Region**

| %  | Total | Toronto or East York | North York | Etobicoke or York | Scarborough |
|--|-------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 345                  | 165        | 160               | 152         |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 28    | 32                   | 28         | 27                | 22          |
| Continue repairing it                      | 21    | 25                   | 18         | 16                | 25          |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 36    | 31                   | 39         | 40                | 36          |
| Something else                             | 5     | 4                    | 4          | 7                 | 7           |
| Don't know                                 | 9     | 7                    | 11         | 10                | 10          |

**Household Income**

| %  | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|--|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 82     | 98         | 117        | 93         | 90          | 172          |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 28    | 22     | 29         | 21         | 35         | 28          | 29           |
| Continue repairing it                      | 21    | 23     | 23         | 21         | 16         | 27          | 19           |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 36    | 29     | 29         | 44         | 41         | 37          | 39           |
| Something else                             | 5     | 4      | 8          | 7          | 6          | 6           | 5            |
| Don't know                                 | 9     | 21     | 12         | 7          | 2          | 2           | 8            |

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[lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)

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## ***Last Mayoral Vote***

| %  | Total | Doug Ford | John Tory | Olivia Chow | Someone else |
|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 134       | 350       | 146         | 46           |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 28    | 22        | 34        | 40          | 16           |
| Continue repairing it                      | 21    | 31        | 18        | 15          | 23           |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 36    | 36        | 35        | 27          | 45           |
| Something else                             | 5     | 6         | 4         | 9           | 7            |
| Don't know                                 | 9     | 6         | 9         | 9           | 10           |

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**TORONTO**  
**May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

**Gardiner Expressway Solutions: Cost Consideration**

*‘The least expensive option is to remove and replace it, the next least expensive is to repair it and the most expensive is to build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway. Which option do you prefer?’*

[All respondents]

**Age / Gender**

| %  | Total | 18-34 | 35-44 | 45-54 | 55-64 | 65+ | Male | Female |
|--|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|------|--------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 180   | 136   | 170   | 148   | 188 | 442  | 380    |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 34    | 33    | 37    | 25    | 37    | 37  | 35   | 32     |
| Continue repairing it                      | 24    | 27    | 21    | 27    | 23    | 19  | 21   | 27     |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 34    | 33    | 33    | 39    | 33    | 34  | 37   | 32     |
| Something else                             | 3     | 3     | 2     | 6     | 1     | 3   | 3    | 3      |
| Don't know                                 | 5     | 4     | 6     | 4     | 5     | 7   | 4    | 6      |

**Region**

| %  | Total | Toronto or East York | North York | Etobicoke or York | Scarborough |
|--|-------|----------------------|------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 345                  | 165        | 160               | 152         |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 34    | 45                   | 35         | 29                | 22          |
| Continue repairing it                      | 24    | 17                   | 23         | 25                | 32          |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 34    | 27                   | 34         | 41                | 37          |
| Something else                             | 3     | 4                    | 1          | 2                 | 6           |
| Don't know                                 | 5     | 6                    | 6          | 4                 | 3           |

**Household Income**

| %  | Total | <\$20K | \$20-\$40K | \$40-\$60K | \$60-\$80K | \$80-\$100K | \$100-\$250K |
|--|-------|--------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Sample                                     | 822   | 82     | 98         | 117        | 93         | 90          | 172          |
| Remove it and replace it with a boulevard  | 34    | 32     | 30         | 26         | 39         | 37          | 36           |
| Continue repairing it                      | 24    | 31     | 27         | 29         | 19         | 20          | 20           |
| Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway | 34    | 28     | 28         | 40         | 36         | 36          | 38           |
| Something else                             | 3     | 4      | 2          | 2          | 4          | 3           | 1            |
| Don't know                                 | 5     | 5      | 12         | 2          | 2          | 3           | 4            |

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### ***Last Mayoral Vote***

| <b>%</b>  | <b>Total</b> | <b>Doug Ford</b> | <b>John Tory</b> | <b>Olivia Chow</b> | <b>Someone else</b> |
|---|--------------|------------------|------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Sample</b>                                     | <b>822</b>   | <b>134</b>       | <b>350</b>       | <b>146</b>         | <b>46</b>           |
| <b>Remove it and replace it with a boulevard</b>  | 34           | 21               | 42               | 48                 | 27                  |
| <b>Continue repairing it</b>                      | 24           | 38               | 17               | 20                 | 18                  |
| <b>Build a new link to the Don Valley Parkway</b> | 34           | 36               | 34               | 23                 | 40                  |
| <b>Something else</b>                             | 3            | 3                | 2                | 2                  | 11                  |
| <b>Don't know</b>                                 | 5            | 2                | 4                | 7                  | 4                   |

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**May 6<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

For more information:

Lorne Bozinoff, Ph.D.

President

Forum Research Inc.

Tel: (416) 960-9603

Fax: (416) 960-9602

E-mail: [lbozinoff@forumresearch.com](mailto:lbozinoff@forumresearch.com)

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