
IBR: COMMUNITY OPINION SURVEY

April 22, 2022

Description

The program conducted 1,005 interviews with registered voters in Clark, Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington counties (within Metro boundaries in Clackamas and Washington counties). This included 192 voters of color. The survey was conducted April 13-22, 2022, via landline and cell phones, and online via text-to-web and email-to-web invitations. Voters in the City of Vancouver and BIPOC voters in the Portland Metro area were oversampled. Overall margin of sampling error was $\pm 4\%$ at the 95% confidence level.

The opinion survey included questions about specific design options relating to lane capacity and transit on the bridge, light rail extension options in Clark County, and Hayden Island interchange interest. The opinion survey results help illuminate voter opinion, values, and priorities regarding the IBR program. This opinion survey is one additional tool to collect feedback as part of the program's ongoing efforts to engage with and consider input from the community. Targeted community engagement efforts to gather feedback around design options included a variety of tools, including an online community survey with over 9,600 responses, over 300 listening session participants across multiple sessions, four Community Working Groups, and over two dozen public meetings of the program's steering and advisory groups between October 2021 and April 2022.



**Survey of Voters in Portland Metro Area and Clark County
Mixed Mode Live Telephone/Email-to-Web/Text-to-Web Survey
Conducted April 13-22, 2022**

1,005 completed interviews; including oversamples in City of Vancouver & BIPOC voters in Portland Metro

Overall MoE	±4.0 (600 Interviews)
Portland Metro Area MoE	±4.5 (474 Interviews)
City of Portland MoE	±6.8 (206 Interviews)
Clark County MoE	±5.7 (292 Interviews)
City of Vancouver MoE	±5.8 (290 Interviews)
Clark County Outside Van MoE	±7.1 (190 Interviews)

EMC Research #22-8322

***All numbers in this document represent percentage (%) values, unless otherwise noted.
Please note that due to rounding, percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.***

INTRO: Hello, my name is _____, and I'm conducting a survey for _____ to find out how people feel about issues in your area. We are not trying to sell anything and are collecting this information on a scientific and completely confidential basis.

1. SEX (SELF ID + OBSERVED)

Male	43
Female	48
Non-binary	2
Prefer not to respond	8

2. Do you feel that things in your area are generally going in the right direction or do you feel things are off on the wrong track?

Right direction	25
Wrong track	74
(Don't know/Refused)	1

3. What is the most important problem facing your area today? **(OPEN-ENDED QUESTION, VERBATIM RESPONSES CODED INTO CATEGORIES BELOW)**

Homelessness	36
Crime/Drugs	27
Affordable housing	11
Politicians/Government	5
Cost of living	4
Political division/Partisanship	2
Road repairs/Infrastructure	2
Traffic/Congestion	2
Education	2
Climate change/Environment	2
Jobs/Economy	2
Other	5
None/Don't know/No opinion	0

4. And what do you think is the biggest transportation problem facing your area today? **(OPEN-ENDED QUESTION, VERBATIM RESPONSES CODED INTO CATEGORIES BELOW)**

Traffic/Too many cars	17
Need more roads/lanes	12
Crime/Safety	11
Lack of public transit	10
Road repairs	9
Gas prices	9
I-5/Bridge replacement	6
Infrastructure	5
Need Light Rail	2
Car emissions/dependency	2
Investment in bike lanes	2
Other	7
None/Don't know/No opinion	8

5INT. I'm going to read you a list of issues relating to transportation in the area. For each, I would like to know how important that is to you on a scale of one to seven, where one means that issue is not important at all and seven means it is extremely important. You can use any number on the scale.

SCALE:	Not urgent at all			Extremely urgent			(Don't know)	Mean	
	1	2	3	4	5	6			7
5.	Building more road capacity								
	15	6	11	15	14	9	30	0	4.6
6.	Expanding and adding more high-capacity transit to get people out of their cars								
	24	9	12	11	9	8	26	0	4.0
(RANDOMIZE)									
7.	Dramatically cutting pollution and carbon emissions from our transportation system								
	17	7	8	13	10	10	34	-	4.6
8.	Making improvements to bottlenecks and choke points on our roads and highways to reduce congestion								
	5	3	6	10	14	19	42	0	5.6
9.	Expanding Max Light Rail								
	30	6	7	13	12	9	23	0	3.9
10.	Replacing crumbling bridges that are long past their useful life								
	2	1	5	9	17	17	49	0	5.9
11.	Expanding high-capacity transit in its own right of way so the trip is fast, separated from traffic, and predictable								
	19	6	9	15	13	11	27	0	4.4
12.	Expanding of bus and rapid bus service to give people choices to get around throughout the day								
	20	7	9	17	15	11	20	0	4.1
13.	Expanding protected bike lanes and pedestrian walkways to separate bikes and people from vehicles to encourage people to leave their cars behind								
	26	12	9	13	11	8	21	0	3.8
14.	Ensuring that communities who have been left out of past decision making, especially people of color, have a say on major regional transportation projects								
	19	6	7	14	14	10	31	0	4.5
15.	Ensuring that people of color and businesses they own have an equal opportunity for contracting and career opportunities on major infrastructure projects in our region								
	18	5	7	13	13	11	33	0	4.6

(END RANDOMIZE)

16INT. Now I'd like to ask more about high-capacity transit. Think about the features that high-capacity transit might have. For each, please tell me if that is very important, somewhat important, not very important, or not important at all to you.

SCALE:	Very important	Somewhat important	Not too important	Not important at all	(Don't know/Not sure)
(RANDOMIZE)					
16.	The fastest travel time between Vancouver and Portland				
	20	30	24	26	0
17.	A service that runs in its own right of way, meaning the trip is reliable and predictable, it isn't stopped by congestion and isn't impacted by traffic accidents				
	42	34	12	13	0
18.	A service that is eligible for the most money from the federal government				
	26	37	17	19	0
19.	A fast and frequent service that entices the most people out of their cars and off the road				
	37	27	15	22	-
20.	A service that is flexible so we can make changes to its route later				
	26	42	19	13	-
21.	A service that allows me to travel between Portland and Vancouver without transferring				
	21	26	23	30	-
22.	A service that lets me leave my car behind				
	30	29	16	25	0
23.	A service that allows people to drive and park to ride it				
	25	41	18	16	0
24.	A service that helps deal with climate change by releasing the least amount of carbon into the air				
	45	24	11	20	-
25.	A service that has the lowest operating cost in the long term, even if it's more expensive to build initially				
	31	38	17	14	0
26.	A service that does the most to bring transportation options to historically underserved communities				
	35	34	14	16	-
27.	A service that gives us the best options to meet our future transportation needs as our region grows in population, jobs, and density				
	48	31	12	9	0

(END RANDOMIZE)

28. In a typical month, how many times do you use a bus, car, bike, or walk to travel between Oregon and Washington on the I-5 bridge?
- | | | |
|-----------------------|----|--|
| 4 or more days a week | 5 | |
| A few times a week | 6 | |
| A few times a month | 19 | |
| A few times a year | 40 | |
| Never | 29 | |
| (Don't know/Not sure) | 0 | |
29. As you may know, the states of Washington and Oregon have been working together on a plan to replace the I-5 bridge between Washington and Oregon. In general, do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose replacing the I-5 bridge between Washington and Oregon with a new bridge?
- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|----|------|
| Strongly support | 48 | → 85 |
| Somewhat support | 37 | |
| Somewhat oppose | 8 | → 15 |
| Strongly oppose | 7 | |
| (Don't know/Not sure/Something else) | 0 | |
30. When the I-5 bridge gets replaced, there will be improvements to safety and road capacity, and high-capacity transit will be added. For addressing traffic congestion in this corridor, which one of the following comes closest to your opinion even if none is exactly right? **(STATEMENTS 1, 2, 3 ROTATED)**
- | | |
|--|----|
| We should prioritize expanding transit as much as we can to give people more alternatives to driving and get cars off the road | 30 |
| We should prioritize expanding road capacity as much as we can to handle more vehicles | 41 |
| We should include some expanded road capacity and more transit | 29 |
| (Don't know/Not sure) | 0 |
31. When the I-5 bridge gets replaced there will be a toll when individual vehicles cross the bridge. The toll will help pay for construction and maintenance of the bridge. It is possible to vary the toll by time of day to help manage congestion by incentivizing people to travel when tolls are lower. Which of the following is closest to your opinion about tolling on the new I-5 bridge even if none is exactly right?
- | | |
|--|----|
| Tolls should vary significantly, lowest at off peak and highest at rush hour, so that it does the most to manage traffic congestion by encouraging people to make trips that aren't time sensitive at off peak times | 28 |
| Tolls should vary a bit, but the gap between the highest and lowest tolls shouldn't be very big, so that it somewhat manages traffic congestion | 18 |
| The toll should be the same no matter what time of day you cross the bridge because some people don't have flexibility in their schedules and that is unfair | 52 |
| (Don't know/Not sure) | 2 |

There are some design options for the I-5 bridge replacement that are being considered. I'd like to ask you about these options to better understand your priorities, starting with **transit options on the bridge**.

32. There will be dedicated space on the new bridge where Light Rail can be built. To do this, the existing Max Yellow line from Expo Station in North Portland would be extended across the bridge into Vancouver. You could travel between downtown Portland and Vancouver on Light Rail with no transfers. The extension would be paid for by a combination of funds from the states of Oregon, Washington, and the federal government. Would you say you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose having Light Rail on the bridge?

Strongly support	53	→ 79
Somewhat support	26	
Somewhat oppose	6	→ 21
Strongly oppose	15	
(Don't know/Not sure)	0	

33. Light Rail costs quite a bit more to build than other high-capacity transit options, but it lasts longer, costs less to operate, and can carry two and a half times more people per day than other transit options. Would you say you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose having Light Rail on the bridge?

Strongly support	52	→ 77
Somewhat support	25	
Somewhat oppose	7	→ 23
Strongly oppose	16	
(Don't know/Not sure)	-	

34. The waterfront in Vancouver has been expanding with more restaurants, shops, and businesses, and more is on the way. If Light Rail is extended to Vancouver, a Light Rail station could be built at the downtown Waterfront. This station might be more difficult to build than other options which means it might cost more. Assuming Light Rail is extended to Vancouver, how important do you think it would be to build a Light Rail station at the downtown Waterfront in Vancouver? Would you say it is...

Very important	27	→ 60
Somewhat important	34	
Not that important	19	→ 40
Not important at all	21	
(Don't know/ Refused)	0	

35. There are options for more stations in addition to the Waterfront station in the City of Vancouver. One station could be added at Evergreen and I-5 near the Vancouver Library. Adding this station would allow people to easily access downtown Vancouver without a car, but adding this station will also increase the cost of the whole project. How important do you think it would be to build this Light Rail station near the Vancouver Library? Would you say it is...

Very important	21	→ 56
Somewhat important	35	
Not that important	20	→ 44
Not important at all	23	
(Don't know/ Refused)	0	

36. In the future, Light Rail could be extended further into Clark County to connect more people to transit. While expanding Light Rail gives people more options and takes cars off the road, extending Light Rail beyond the Library will require more money to buy land, build stations, the track, and operate the trains. How important do you think it is to further expand Light Rail into Clark County in the future? Would you say it is...

Very important	24	→ 53
Somewhat important	29	
Not that important	21	→ 47
Not important at all	26	
(Don't know/ Refused)	0	

Now I'd like to ask you about....

The number of lanes on the bridge. The current I-5 bridge has three lanes of traffic going in both directions, six total lanes, with all lanes open to all vehicles. The new bridge will have space for vehicles, high-capacity transit, bikes, and pedestrians. The new bridge will add one or two lanes for vehicles in each direction. The purpose of any added lanes is to reduce the amount of merging and weaving people have to do with so many closely spaced exits and entrances, they are not through lanes. But adding these lanes helps congestion and improves safety.

(Q37-38 ROTATED)

37. In general, do you support or oppose having four lanes on the bridge in each direction, for a total of eight lanes?

Strongly support	44	→ 85
Somewhat support	41	
Somewhat oppose	7	→ 15
Strongly oppose	7	
(Don't know/Not sure)	0	

38. In general, do you support or oppose having five lanes on the bridge in each direction, for a total of ten lanes?

Strongly support	48	→ 74
Somewhat support	27	
Somewhat oppose	16	→ 25
Strongly oppose	9	
(Don't know/Not sure)	0	

(END ROTATE)

39. The benefits of the 4-lane option are that it might mean less land is needed. It also reduces how much merging and weaving happens, which is projected to reduce accidents. The 4-lane option is slightly cheaper.

While the 5-lane option might need more land to be built, it reduces merging and weaving even more, and is projected to reduce accidents by at least 20% more than the 4-lane option.

Having heard this, which one of the following is closer to your opinion?

I am strongly in favor of the 4-lane option	11	→ 36
I lean toward the 4-lane option	25	
I lean toward the 5-lane option	27	→ 54
I am strongly in favor of the 5-lane option	27	
It doesn't really matter to me	9	
(Neither/Not sure/Don't know)	1	

40. The downside of the 4-lane option is that, with only one additional lane for merging and weaving, the hours the bridge is expected to be congested every day is higher than with the 5-lane option. At the same time, this means that the 4-lane option will help manage demand by restricting it.

The downside of the 5-lane option is that because the daily hours of congestion are projected to be significantly lower, some people say that building more lanes means more people are likely to drive, resulting in higher greenhouse gas emissions.

Having heard this, which one of the following is closer to your opinion?

I am strongly in favor of the 4-lane option	13	→ 39
I lean toward the 4-lane option	26	
I lean toward the 5-lane option	21	→ 50
I am strongly in favor of the 5-lane option	29	
It doesn't really matter to me	10	
(Neither/Not sure/Don't know)	1	

Now I'd like to ask you about....

The interchange options planned for Hayden Island.

41. In a typical month, how often do you drive to or from Hayden Island? Is it...

4 or more days a week	2
A few times a week	6
A few times a month	16
A few times a year	46
Never	30
(Don't know/Not sure)	-

42. There are some design options for the interchange at Hayden Island interchange. Which best describes your opinion on the new proposed interchange options at Hayden Island? Would you say you...

Have no interest or opinion on what happens	39
Are only a little interested in what happens	41
Are very interested in what happens	20
(Don't know/Not sure)	0



My last questions are for statistical purposes only.

43.	In what year were you born? (YEARS CODED INTO CATEGORIES BELOW)	
	18-29	17
	30-39	19
	40-49	17
	50-64	23
	65 or over	22
	(Refused)	2
44.	Do you consider yourself to be white or Caucasian, African American or Black, Hispanic or Latino, Asian or Pacific Islander, more than one of those I just read, or something I didn't mention?	
	White or Caucasian	67
	African American or Black	2
	Hispanic or Latino	4
	Asian or Pacific Islander	3
	Multiple	4
	Something else	2
	(Refused)	17
45.	What is the last grade you completed in school?	
	Some grade school	0
	Some high school	1
	Graduated high school	6
	Technical/Vocational	6
	Some college/Less than 4-year degree	25
	Graduated college/4-year degree	34
	Graduate/Professional degree	22
	(Refused)	6

Thank you!

COUNTY (FROM SAMPLE)

Clark	21
Clackamas	15
Multnomah	40
Washington	25