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Sound Transit Telephone Survey

February 22 – 28, 2008

N = 819

Overall Results Margin of Error, ± 4.0 percentage points

A minimum quota of 160 interviews per subdistrict was set.

The overall margin of error is calculated on 589 interviews, equaling a ± 4.0 percentage point margin of error at the 95% confidence interval.

This confidence interval means that if the survey were repeated 100 times, the results shown would be the same 95 times out of 100 to within ± 4.0 percentage points.

Overall results were weighted to reflect subdistrict proportions of the Sound Transit District.

ST/RTID DISTRICT

	<u>Weighted</u>
Snohomish (N = 160, ± 7.7 points)	14%
North King (N = 165, ± 7.6 points)	28%
East King (N = 173, ± 7.5 points)	20%
South King (N = 161, ± 7.7 points)	15%
Pierce (N = 160, ± 7.7 points)	22%

All numbers are reported as percentages unless otherwise noted.
Some questions may add up to more/less than 100% due to rounding.

GENDER

Male	46%
Female	54%

Hello, my name is _____. May I speak to **(NAME ON LIST)**.

Hello, my name is _____ and I'm taking a survey for EMC Research. We're trying to find out how the people in the Puget ("PYEW-jet") Sound region feel about some of the issues facing them. I'd like to ask you a few questions on a strictly confidential basis.

3. Are you registered to vote at this address?
- | | |
|----------------------|------|
| Yes----->CONTINUE | 100% |
| No-----> (TERMINATE) | |

4. Do you feel things in the Puget Sound region are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?
- | | |
|-----------------|-----|
| Right direction | 49% |
| Wrong track | 36% |
| (Don't know) | 15% |
5. What do you think is the most important problem facing the Puget Sound region today? (ONE RESPONSE)
- | | |
|--|-----|
| Transportation/Mass Transit | 24% |
| Traffic congestion | 23% |
| Environment/Pollution | 6% |
| Roads/Highways | 5% |
| Economy | 5% |
| Housing/Housing Cost | 4% |
| Population Growth | 3% |
| High Taxes | 3% |
| Politics/Government Management (Public Funds, Legislation) | 3% |
| Education/Educational Fund | 3% |
| High Price(Gas)/High Cost of living | 3% |
| Jobs/Employment | 2% |
| Crime | 2% |
| Healthcare | 2% |
| None | 1% |
| Others | 6% |
| Don't know/Refused | 5% |

I'm going to read you a list of public organizations. Please tell me if you have a strongly favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or strongly unfavorable opinion of each one. If you have never heard of one please just say so.

SCALE: 1. Strongly Favorable 2. Somewhat Favorable 3. Somewhat Unfavorable
 4. Strongly Unfavorable 5. (Can't Rate) 6. Never Heard

(RANDOMIZE)

	Strong Fav	Some Fav	Some Unfav	Strong Unfav	Can't Rate	Never Heard	Fav	Unfav	Ratio
6. (Piers) Pierce Transit	11%	22%	5%	3%	35%	24%	33%	8%	3.8 to 1
7. Sound Transit	20%	44%	14%	10%	11%	2%	63%	24%	2.6 to 1
8. King County Metro Transit	21%	42%	13%	6%	14%	4%	63%	19%	3.3 to 1
9. the Washington State Ferry System	17%	40%	19%	13%	9%	2%	57%	32%	1.8 to 1
10. Community Transit	15%	35%	8%	5%	19%	18%	50%	13%	3.8 to 1
11. The Washington State Department of Transportation	10%	45%	22%	13%	7%	1%	56%	36%	1.6 to 1
12. The Washington State Legislature	7%	46%	23%	14%	9%	1%	54%	37%	1.5 to 1

(END RANDOMIZE)

As you may know Sound Transit was created by voters in nineteen ninety six to build a mass transit system that connects regional population centers in King, Pierce, and (sno-HOH'-mish) Snohomish counties. Sound Transit currently operates Sounder commuter trains between Everett and Seattle and Tacoma and Seattle, ST Express regional buses that connect Seattle, Bellevue, Everett, and Tacoma with largest urban centers in the region, and Link light rail in downtown Tacoma. Light rail service between Downtown Seattle and Sea-Tac Airport will be completed in two thousand nine.

20. In general, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose continued expansion of this mass transit system of commuter rail, express buses, and light rail?
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|
| Strongly Favor | 57% | |
| Somewhat Favor | 25% | => 82% |
| Somewhat Oppose | 6% | => 17% |
| Strongly Oppose | 10% | |
| (Need More Info/Undecided) | 1% | |
21. The Sound Transit Board of Directors will soon decide whether or not to put a transit expansion measure on the ballot in November of this year. In general, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose putting a transit expansion measure on the ballot in November of two thousand eight?
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|
| Strongly Favor | 47% | |
| Somewhat Favor | 28% | => 75% |
| Somewhat Oppose | 9% | => 22% |
| Strongly Oppose | 13% | |
| (Need More Info/Undecided) | 3% | |

(IF Q21 = 3 OR 4, ASK Q22; ELSE SKIP TO Q23)

22. Do you think the Sound Transit Board should put a transit expansion measure on the ballot sometime after two thousand eight or not at all?
- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| After 2008 | 26% |
| Not at all | 71% |
| (Don't know) | 3% |

(RESUME ASKING EVERYONE)

23. Which comes closer to your opinion, even if neither one is exactly right:
- We should:
- | | |
|--|-----------|
| A. Vote on a measure to expand
mass transit options as soon as possible | 54% |
| (Lean A) | 1% => 55% |
| OR | |
| B. Wait two years before expanding mass
transit so a new directly elected agency
can be created to coordinate and
plan roads and transit projects | 38% |
| (Lean B) | 1% => 39% |
| Neither | 4% |
| Refused | 3% |

There are a variety of services or projects that could be funded by a future transit measure. For each of the following, please tell me how important you personally think it is to include that service or project in a future transit measure. Use a scale of one to seven where one means including that service or project is not at all important and seven means including that project or service is extremely important. You can use any number from one to seven.

SCALE: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 8
 Not at all important | Extremely important | (Don't know)

(RANDOMIZE)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	DK	Mean
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	------

(BEFORE EACH UNTIL UNDERSTOOD): How important is...

- | | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|----|------|
| 24. | Almost doubling commuter rail service, from eighteen trips a day to thirty, between Tacoma and Seattle, with new trips throughout the day especially during rush hours. | 8% | 5% | 7% | 10% | 20% | 18% | 28% | 2% | 5.04 |
| 25. | Funding a demonstration commuter rail service connecting Snohomish, Woodinville, Kirkland, Bellevue, and Renton in East King County, by using existing BNSF railroad tracks. | 10% | 4% | 7% | 12% | 20% | 20% | 22% | 4% | 4.86 |
| 26. | Extending light rail service from the University of Washington to Northgate. | 15% | 7% | 10% | 14% | 17% | 15% | 18% | 4% | 4.34 |
| 27. | Extending light rail from downtown Seattle across eye ninety to connect to [SPLIT SAMPLE: "Bellevue and the Redmond/Overlake area" / "Bellevue and Redmond's Microsoft area]. | 13% | 5% | 6% | 11% | 17% | 19% | 28% | 2% | 4.86 |
| 28. | Extending light rail from the airport further southward to South two hundredth Street or the Kent/Des Moines area. | 16% | 8% | 12% | 11% | 16% | 16% | 17% | 4% | 4.22 |
| 29. | Building a streetcar line to connect Seattle's Capitol Hill, First Hill and International District areas. | 22% | 10% | 12% | 18% | 14% | 11% | 10% | 4% | 3.68 |
| 30. | Adding park-and-ride capacity at Snohomish County's (MUHK'-il-TEE'-oh) Mukilteo, Edmonds and Everett Sounder stations | 10% | 5% | 11% | 16% | 19% | 15% | 17% | 8% | 4.53 |
| 31. | Adding Sounder commuter rail stations at Ballard or Broad Street in Seattle | 14% | 7% | 10% | 17% | 22% | 11% | 12% | 6% | 4.13 |
| 32. | Adding park-and-ride capacity at the (pyoo-AL'-uhp) Puyallup and Sumner Sounder commuter rail stations. | 10% | 6% | 13% | 15% | 20% | 14% | 15% | 8% | 4.41 |

SCALE: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 | 8
 Not at all important | Extremely important | (Don't know)
(RANDOMIZE)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	DK	Mean
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	------

(BEFORE EACH UNTIL UNDERSTOOD): How important is...

33.	Extending Sounder commuter rail from Lakewood to DuPont.								3.55
	19%	11%	14%	14%	12%	8%	9%	12%	
34.	Adding park-and-ride capacity at Auburn, Renton, Bothell, Burien, Lynnwood and South Everett.								4.74
	8%	4%	11%	14%	22%	15%	20%	5%	
35.	Adding bus rapid transit service across Lake Washington on State Route five twenty								4.77
	11%	6%	8%	11%	22%	16%	24%	3%	
36.	Extending Tacoma Link light rail service to Tacoma General Hospital.								3.98
	15%	9%	12%	13%	17%	11%	12%	11%	
37.	Building new direct access ramps in South Everett and Northgate enabling buses to move quickly between H oh vee lanes and transit centers.								4.74
	7%	6%	10%	13%	21%	19%	19%	5%	
38.	Providing funding to expand the frequency of service on the ST Express regional bus rapid transit system.								4.41
	11%	5%	10%	16%	24%	15%	12%	7%	

(END RANDOMIZE)

39.	Are there other transit services or elements you would like to see included in a transit expansion measure? (MAXIMUM TWO RESPONSES)							
	Transit system (Buses, Trains)							15%
	Light rail extension							8%
	Roads/Express ways/Bridges							7%
	Ferry boats							2%
	Traffic issues							1%
	No/None/Can't think of any							57%
	Other							4%
	Don't know/Not sure							5%

I'm going to read you a series of statements, and I want you to choose which statement is closest to your opinion.

SCALE: 1. A 2. (Lean A) 3. B 4. (Lean B) 5. (Neither) 6. (Both) 7. (Refused)
 (AFTER EACH UNTIL UNDERSTOOD: Do you prefer A or B? (IF UNDECIDED) Well, which way do you lean, towards A or B?
 (RANDOMIZE)

40. We should:
 A: build a bigger light rail system OR
 B: build a smaller light rail system and focus more on express bus service and commuter rail

Statement A	49%		
(Lean Statement A)	1%	=>	50%
Statement B	44%	=>	45%
(Lean Statement B)	0%		
(Neither)	4%		
(Refused)	2%		

41. We should:
 A: build light rail in segments with multiple public votes on series of smaller light rail packages OR
 B: have a single vote on a larger light rail package

Statement A	50%		
(Lean Statement A)	1%	=>	51%
Statement B	44%	=>	44%
(Lean Statement B)	0%		
(Neither)	3%		
(Refused)	2%		

42. We should:
 A: vote on light rail expansion as soon as possible, so funding is in place and planning can begin so we can keep moving forward OR
 B: wait for light rail from the airport to downtown to open and begin operating before we decided whether or not to move forward with the next phase of light rail

Statement A	51%		
(Lean Statement A)	1%	=>	52%
Statement B	44%	=>	44%
(Lean Statement B)	0%		
(Neither)	3%		
(Refused)	1%		

(END RANDOMIZE)

43. In East King County, one issue is whether to provide funds to develop passenger rail service on the BNSF rail corridor between Renton and Woodinville. Which option do you prefer:

Option A would make building light rail across Lake Washington and expanding Eastside express bus service along state route five twenty the main funding priorities through twenty twenty. This option calls for waiting until a future phase to consider rail service on the BNSF corridor.

Option B would be to leave express bus service close to what it is now, and instead build light rail along eye ninety from Seattle to Bellevue or Redmond, and invest in a demonstration commuter rail line on the BNSF corridor on existing track between Snohomish, Woodinville, Kirkland, Bellevue, and Renton.

Do you prefer A or B? (IF UNDECIDED) Well, which way do you lean, towards A or B?

Option A	22%		
(Lean Option A)	0%	=>	22%
Option B	64%	=>	65%
(Lean Option B)	1%		
(Neither)	8%		
(Refused)	5%		

There are a number of factors that affect the design of a transit plan. I'd like to ask you about three of them – the cost of the plan, the time it takes to implement the plan, and where it goes. (IF “Neither/Don’t know” Well, if you had to pick one or the other...[RECORD as “Lean”])

44. In general would you prefer a transit measure that:
- | | | | |
|---|-----|----|-----|
| A. Costs more – \$125 a year - but is completed sooner – in 12 years | 73% | | |
| (Lean Statement A) | 0% | => | 73% |
| B. Costs less – \$75 a year - but takes longer to complete – 20 years instead of 12 | 21% | | |
| (Lean Statement B) | 0% | => | 21% |
| (Neither) | 4% | | |
| (Don't know) | 1% | | |
-
45. In general would you prefer a transit measure that:
- | | | | |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| A. takes longer to complete – 20 years -- but expands light rail further – building 50 miles connecting Lynnwood, Redmond, and Tacoma through Seattle - as well as additional commuter rail and express bus service. | 44% | | |
| (Lean Statement A) | 0% | => | 44% |
| B. is completed sooner – in 12 years -- but has less new light rail - 16 miles connecting Northgate and Bellevue through Seattle, as well as additional commuter rail and express bus service. | 44% | | |
| (Lean Statement B) | 1% | => | 45% |
| (Neither) | 7% | | |
| (Don't know) | 4% | | |
-
46. In general would you prefer a transit measure that:
- | | | | |
|--|-----|----|-----|
| A. Costs more - \$125 a year - but expands light rail further – 50 miles connecting Lynnwood, Redmond, and Tacoma through Seattle - as well as additional commuter rail and express bus service. | 59% | | |
| (Lean Statement A) | 1% | => | 60% |
| B. Costs less - \$75 a year - but has less new light rail - 16 miles connecting Northgate and Bellevue through Seattle, as well as additional commuter rail and express bus service. | 32% | | |
| (Lean Statement B) | 0% | => | 33% |
| (Neither) | 5% | | |
| (Don't know) | 3% | | |
-
47. If you had to choose one, which is the most important thing to you – the cost, the time, or where it goes? (IF “Neither/Don’t know”: Well, if you had to pick one?)
- | | |
|---------------|-----|
| Cost | 20% |
| Time | 22% |
| Where it goes | 55% |
| (Don't know) | 2% |

Now I'd like to ask you about transit measures that could be on the ballot in the future.

(RANDOMIZE BLOCKS)

[BEGIN BLOCK A]

48. (One/Another) option is a twelve year mass transit package that would fund twenty miles of light rail expansions. Light rail would reach the Northgate, Bellevue, Redmond and Kent-Des Moines Road. Corridors not served by light rail lines would receive expanded commuter rail and/or express bus service. This twelve year package would cost approximately nine billion dollars which is an additional one hundred twenty five dollars a year in sales taxes for the typical household. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

Strongly Support	20%	
Somewhat Support	39% =>	59%
Somewhat Oppose	19% =>	39%
Strongly Oppose	20%	
(Need More Info/Undecided)	1%	
(Refused)	2%	

(IF Q48 = 3 or 4, ASK Q49; ELSE SKIP TO Q50)

49. What is the main reason you are opposed to this proposal?

Cost too high/Expensive/Spend lots of money	42%
Doesn't benefit me/Service is not in my area	16%
Tax increase	12%
Does not use it	7%
Not interested with light rail or mass transit/Not necessary	6%
Haven't proven the efficiency/Mistrust on government spending	5%
Doesn't solve the problem/traffic	3%
Roads, freeways and lanes are better idea.	2%
Other	6%
Don't Know	1%

[END BLOCK A]

[BEGIN BLOCK B]

50. (One/Another) option is a twelve year mass transit package that would fund twenty miles of light rail expansions and at the same time put significant focus on commuter rail and express bus improvements. Light rail would extend to Northgate, Bellevue, and southward from the airport to South two hundredth Street. Corridors not served by light rail lines would receive expanded commuter rail and/or express bus service. This twelve year package would cost approximately eight billion dollars which is an additional one hundred dollars a year in sales taxes for the typical household. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

Strongly Support	19%	
Somewhat Support	44% =>	63%
Somewhat Oppose	15% =>	32%
Strongly Oppose	18%	
(Need More Info/Undecided)	2%	
(Refused)	2%	

(IF Q50 = 3 or 4, ASK Q51; ELSE SKIP TO Q52)

51. What is the main reason you are opposed to this proposal?	
Expensive / Cost too much	24%
Taxes / Don't want to pay more taxes / Taxes are already high	15%
I am out of the area / Doesn't affect me	10%
Doesn't cover enough area (general)	7%
Money not spent wisely / Waste of money	7%
Not necessary / Not the solution (general)	6%
Don't use light rail / Don't need it	6%
Don't like light rail / Don't like the concept	5%
Money must be used to other problems (e.g. roads, freeways)	4%
There going in the wrong area	3%
Long time frame	3%
I have no confidence in the people managing it	2%
Support other proposal or other means of transportation	1%
Need to know more information or details about the project	1%
Others	4%
Don't know/refused	1%

[END BLOCK B]

[BEGIN BLOCK C]

52. (One/Another) option is a twelve year mass transit package that would fund sixteen miles of light rail expansions and at the same time put significant focus on commuter rail and express bus improvements. Light rail would extend to Northgate and Bellevue but would not expand south from the airport. Corridors not served by light rail lines would receive expanded commuter rail and/or express bus service. This twelve year package would cost approximately six billion dollars which is an additional seventy five dollars a year in sales taxes for the typical household. Would you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose, or strongly oppose this proposal?

Strongly Support	17%	
Somewhat Support	42% =>	59%
Somewhat Oppose	19% =>	38%
Strongly Oppose	19%	
(Need More Info/Undecided)	2%	
(Refused)	1%	

(IF Q52 = 3 or 4, ASK Q53; ELSE SKIP TO Q54)

53. What is the main reason you are opposed to this proposal?

I do not live there/Does not go South	23%
Waste of money/High cost	20%
Additional tax/Fees	12%
It does not go far enough	12%
It won't solve the problem/Need to do more	10%
People won't be using it/ No need	6%
I oppose the light rail	5%
Because nothing gets done	3%
The money won't be spent wisely	2%
Other	7%
Don't know/Refused	1%

[END BLOCK C]

(END RANDOMIZE BLOCKS)

54. In general, do you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose putting a transit expansion measure on the ballot in November of two thousand eight?
- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----|--------|
| Strongly Favor | 42% | |
| Somewhat Favor | 32% | => 74% |
| Somewhat Oppose | 10% | => 25% |
| Strongly Oppose | 15% | |
| (Need More Info/Undecided) | 2% | |
| (Refused) | 1% | |
55. What other issues do you think the Sound Transit Board should take into account as they consider a plan to expand mass transit in the Puget Sound Region?
- (TAKE ONE RESPONSE)**
- | | |
|---|-----|
| The cost that people pay | 8% |
| Expand services to other areas | 6% |
| Provide other options | 5% |
| Time/They need to get it done as soon as possible | 5% |
| More planning | 5% |
| Population/the number of people who will be using the service | 4% |
| Fixed roads and bridges | 3% |
| Improve bus service | 3% |
| Negative comments (e.g. they should disband) | 2% |
| Be able to utilize existing services (general) | 2% |
| Traffic or road congestion | 2% |
| Consider more mass transit in the south | 2% |
| Consider a light rail | 2% |
| The need of car parks and bike lanes | 2% |
| Better people to manage | 2% |
| Less tax | 2% |
| Environmental issues or alternative energy | 1% |
| The survey could have been better | 1% |
| Government funding | 1% |
| Communicate to people about issues | 1% |
| Can't think of anything | 21% |
| Other | 7% |
| Don't know | 15% |

And finally, I'd like to ask you a few questions for statistical purposes only.

56. In terms of your job status, are you employed, unemployed but looking for work, retired, a homemaker or a student?
- | | |
|--------------|-----|
| Employed | 57% |
| Unemployed | 6% |
| Retired | 25% |
| Student | 3% |
| Homemaker | 7% |
| Other | 2% |
| (Don't know) | 1% |
57. How long have you lived in the Puget Sound region?
- | | |
|----------------------|-----|
| Less than 2 years | 1% |
| 2 to 4 years | 5% |
| 5 to 9 years | 8% |
| 10 to 14 years | 9% |
| More than 15 years | 75% |
| (Don't Know/Refused) | 1% |
58. What is your age? (**READ CODES IF NECESSARY**)
- | | |
|-----------|-----|
| 18-24 | 4% |
| 25-29 | 4% |
| 30-34 | 5% |
| 35-39 | 7% |
| 40-44 | 12% |
| 45-49 | 12% |
| 50-54 | 13% |
| 55-59 | 12% |
| 60-64 | 9% |
| Over 65 | 19% |
| (Refused) | 2% |

THANK YOU!!