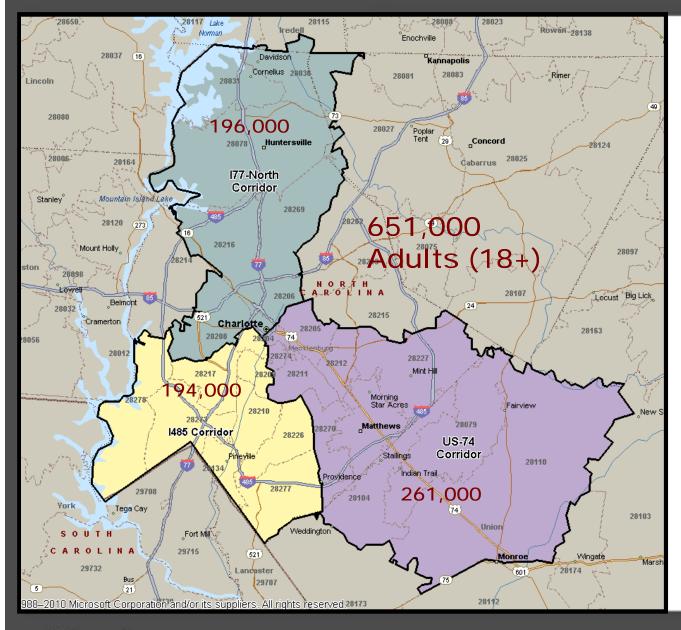
# Fast Lanes Study Phase III Telephone Survey Results











- Areas in Mecklenburg & Union Counties defined by ZIP Code, surrounding each of 3 corridors
- However, all respondents were asked about their use of any of the three corridors.



# Sample vs. Corridors



Purpose of this survey - estimate how the larger population of 651,000 adults in the area would respond if we surveyed them all



- 911 Telephone interviews
  - April 18 to May 2, 2012
  - 300+ Interviews in each corridor area
- Landline RDD (n=317), Landline Targeted (n=317) & RDD Wireless (n=277) Sampling
- A minimum of four attempts
- Leads to sample representing adults living in these three corridor areas



# Census vs. Sample

Parental Decision-makers	*Survey <u>Area</u>	Unweighted <u>Interviews</u>
• Race		
- White-Caucasian	62%	66%
<ul> <li>Black-African-American</li> </ul>	25%	23%
- Asian	4%	3%
- Other	9%	8%
• Age		
- 18 to 24	11%	6%
- 25 to 34	22%	16%
- 35 to 44	22%	22%
- 45 to 54	19%	26%
- 55 to 64	14%	14%
- 65+	12%	16%



<sup>\*</sup>Based on 2010 U.S. Census

- Data weighted by # adults in household, ZIP code, area, sex, age, ethnicity, race & landline vs. wireless phone use
  - Based on U.S. Census data and NHIS
  - Ensures any group is represented based on its actual proportion of the population
- Maximum Sampling Error for overall findings is plus-or-minus 3.3% at a 95% level of confidence



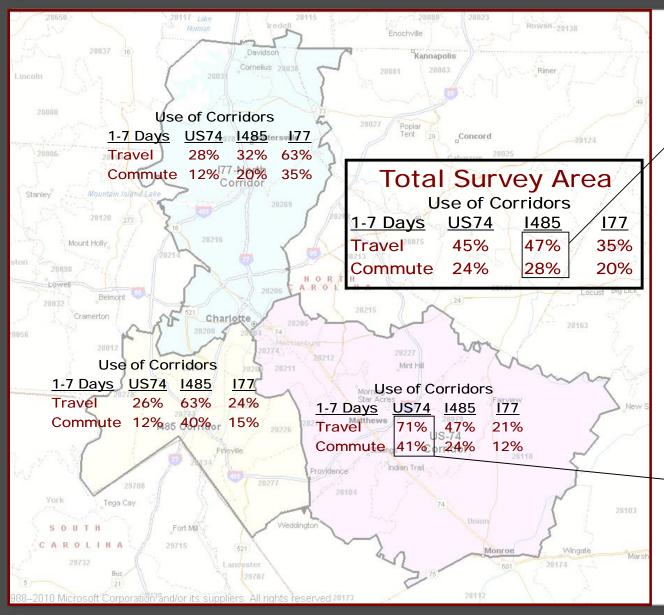
Travel in the





Three Corridors



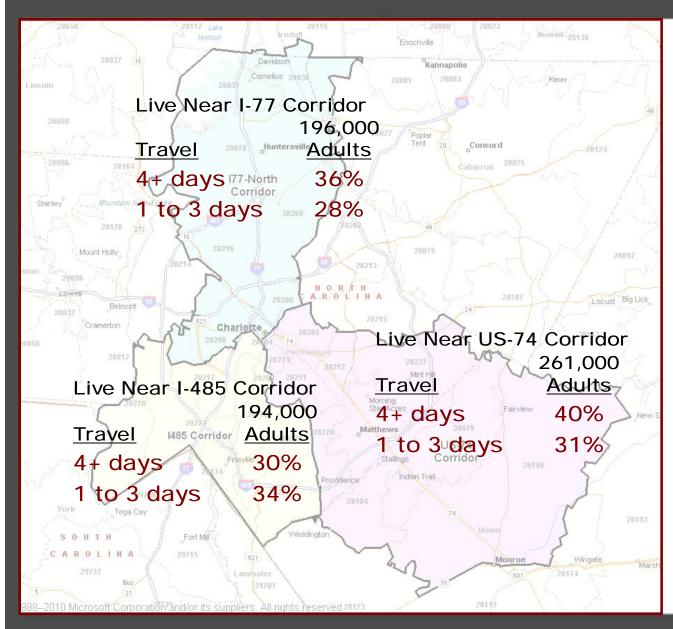


#### Traveling and Commuting

**Interpretative Examples:** 

- 47% of the adults living in the total survey area typically travel at least 1 day/ week on the section of I-485 between US-74 and I-77; 28% commute at least 1 day/ week on this corridor.
- 71% of the adults living in the survey area around US-74 travel at least 1 day/ week on the section of I-74 between I-485 and I-277; 41% commute at least 1 day/ week on this corridor.

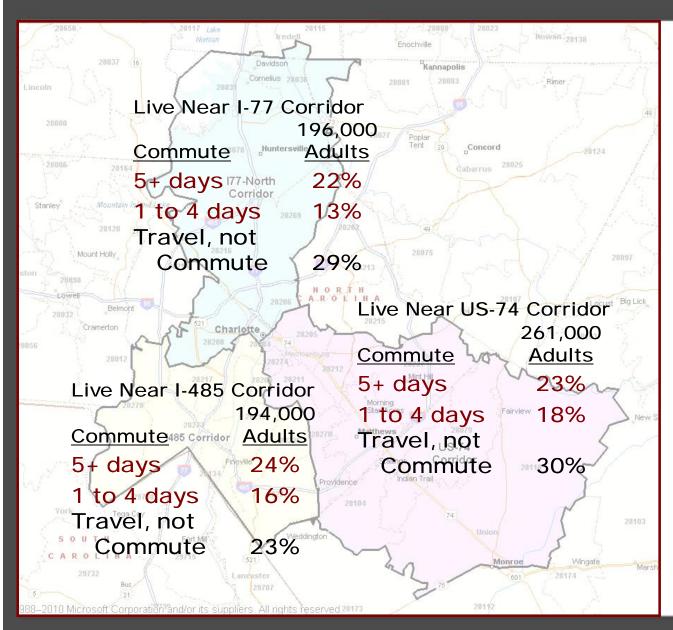




# Traveling

- A minority of adults who living near each corridor frequently travel on that corridor.
- Depending on the corridor, three to four of every ten adults typically travel four or more days a week on the corridor near their home.





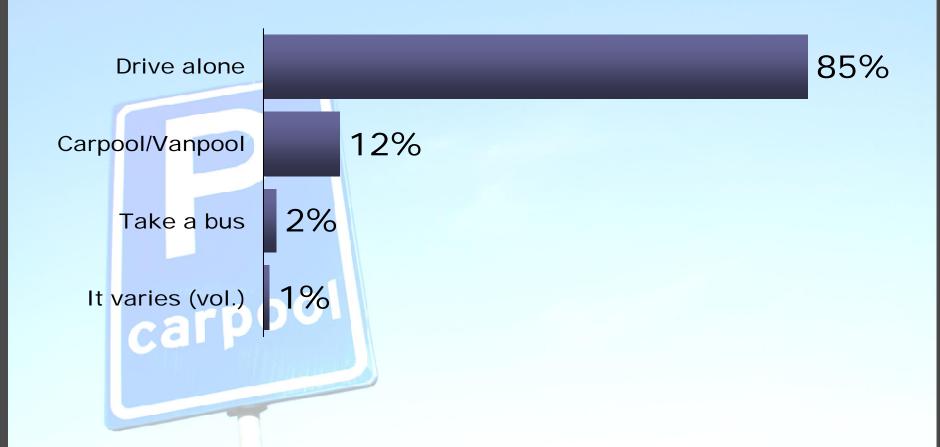
# Commuting

- A minority of adults who live near each corridor commute 5+ days a week on that corridor.
- Depending on the corridor, approximately one of every four adults commute 5+ days a week on the corridor near their home.



# Transportation Currently Use

"Currently, when you travel to work or school, do you typically . . . .?"





## **Transportation Currently Use**

Commuters

"Currently, when you travel to work or school, do you typically . . . .?"

	US-74	I-485	1-77
Commuters (000)	<u>154.7</u>	<u>180.7</u>	<u>127.3</u>
Drive Alone	86%	84%	79%
Carpool/ Vanpool	9%	13%	16%
Bus	3%	1%	4%
It Varies (vol.)	2%	1%	-
Refused	_	<.5%	1%



#### **Travel Characteristics**

# While On Corridor . . . . Average Speed, Distance & Time

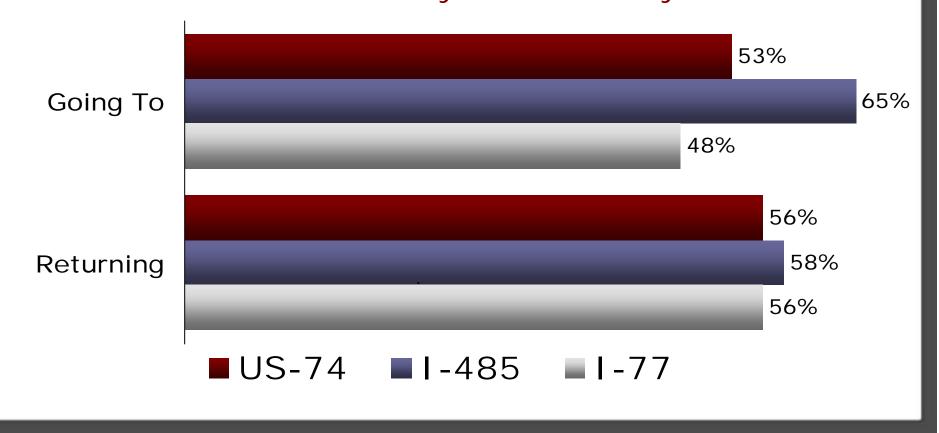
	US-74	I-485	I-77
Commuters (000):	<u> 154.7</u>	<u> 180.7</u>	<u>127.3</u>
Speed (mph)	21.9	31.7	33.8
Distance (miles)	7.2	11.5	12.6
Est. Time Typically Spend			
To Work/School (mins)	24.4	25.7	25.7
Returning Home (mins)	26.8	27.1	28.8

And when thinking about time . . .



## Consistency of Commuting Time

Time Spent Going to Work/School & Returning Home Percent Who Said "Very Consistent" by Corridor

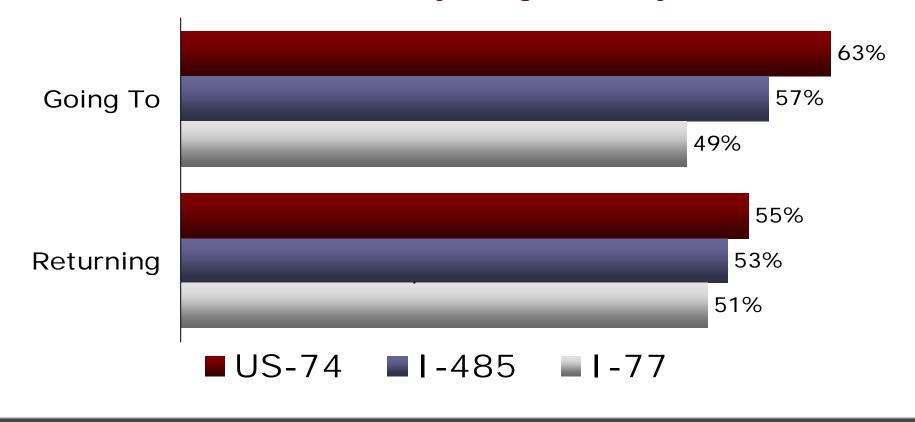




**Perceived Congestion** 

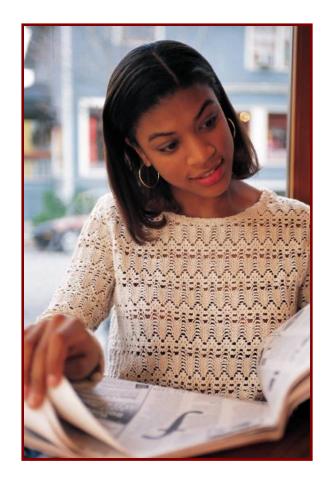
Congestion When Going to Work/School?

Percent Who Said "Very Congested" by Corridor





Those Who Travel on Corridor: Heard of Changes Being Considered?



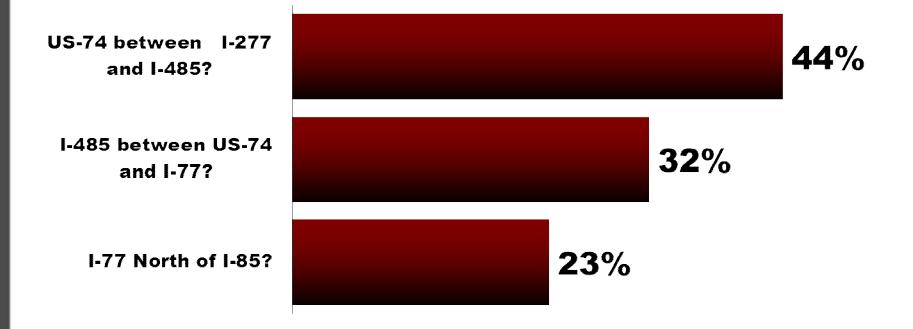


### Travelers

### Changes to the Corridors

"Have you heard about any changes . . . being considered to the section of . . . ?"

Percent Who Said "Yes"





# **US-74**

# US-74 Travelers Who Heard of Changes (n=185) "What possible changes have you heard about?"

<ul> <li>Widening road/ Adding more lanes</li> </ul>	35%
<ul> <li>Making it into a freeway</li> </ul>	30%
Toll Lanes	9%
<ul> <li>New Roads/ Bypasses/ Intersections</li> </ul>	5%
Toll Road	4%
Businesses closing	4%
Rapid Transit	3%
<ul> <li>Limited access</li> </ul>	3%
<ul> <li>Miscellaneous road work being done</li> </ul>	1%
• Don't Know	12%
<ul> <li>Refused</li> </ul>	1%



# I-485

# I-485 Travelers Who Heard of Changes (n=160) "What possible changes have you heard about?"

<ul> <li>Adding more lanes</li> </ul>	77%
Toll Lanes	11%
<ul> <li>Completing existing loop</li> </ul>	5%
<ul> <li>New ramps to be built</li> </ul>	4%
Toll Road	2%
• Don't Know	8%
Refused	<.5%



# **I-77**

# I-77 Travelers Who Heard of Changes (n=97) "What possible changes have you heard about?"

<ul> <li>Adding more lanes</li> </ul>	57%
• Toll Lanes	16%
<ul> <li>HOV Lanes will become toll lanes</li> </ul>	9%
<ul> <li>Adding intersections/ more exits</li> </ul>	6%
Toll Road	4%
<ul> <li>Carpools will no longer drive HOV lanes for free</li> </ul>	3%
<ul> <li>Adding HOV/HOT lanes</li> </ul>	2%
• Rapid Transit	2%
Adding bridge	1%
<ul> <li>HOV lanes will be eliminated</li> </ul>	1%
<ul> <li>Don't Know</li> </ul>	4%



**Attitudes Toward** 





# Tolled Express Lanes (TEL)

All Respondents (N=911) were read the following . . .

"I am going to read a short description about a possible change.

If travel US-74 and/or I-485:

[US-74/I-485] would add one additional lane in each direction.

If travel I-77:

I-77 would extend and convert the current HOV lane.

If do <u>not</u> travel any corridor:

Highways like the ones we have been discussing would provide one additional lane in each direction.

In order to use this express lane, you would have to pay a toll. If you were in a carpool you could use the lane for free. There would be entrances and exits onto this lane every three to five miles. Toll rates for this express lane would go up and down throughout the day to ensure it is never congested."



# Agree/Disagree with this statement?

<u>Agree</u>	
• Once the new lanes are paid for, the tolls should be removed	
• Tolled express lanes (TEL) will reduce commuting time for those using them	
• TEL will decrease congestion for those using them	
• Using express lanes will give me a more predictable travel time	
• Our tax money is enough to pay for new highway lanes without having to also pay tolls 62%	
<ul> <li>Paying for new lanes with tolls is better than waiting for construction funds to become</li> </ul>	
available years later64%	
• TEL will also decrease congestion for those using the regular lanes	Continued



# Agree/Disagree with this statement?

	<u>Agree</u>
• TEL will also decrease commuting time for those using the regular lanes	60%
• TEL are fair because the person who benefits more, pays more	59%
TEL will help increase the number of people carpooling because carpools use these lanes for free	58%
TEL are unfair to those who cannot afford to use them	57%
I would pay to use the express lanes in order to avoid congestion	52%
Carpools will have slower speeds because of tolls in the I-77 HOV lane (I-77 only)	48%
• TEL will help increase the number of people riding buses because buses use for free	46%



# Percent Who Agree With Statement by # of Days Typically Travel US-74 Corridor

Days Travel US-74

	<u>4+</u>	1 to 3	<u>O</u>
Once paid for, tolls should be removed	87%	79%	78%
<ul> <li>TEL will reduce commuting time - those using them</li> </ul>	73%	80%	75%
<ul> <li>TEL will decrease congestion - those using them</li> </ul>	69%	66%	72%
TEL will give me a more predictable travel time	65%	71%	65%
<ul> <li>Tax money is enough to pay for new highway lanes</li> </ul>	70%	62%	60%
<ul> <li>Paying w/ tolls better than waiting for funds years later</li> </ul>	66%	64%	63%
<ul> <li>TEL decrease congestion - those using regular lanes</li> </ul>	63%	61%	65%
• TEL decrease commuting time - those using regular lanes	62%	57%	61%
<ul> <li>TEL are fair because person who benefits more, pays more</li> </ul>	53%	62%	60%
<ul> <li>TEL will increase number of people carpooling</li> </ul>	63%	59%	56%
<ul> <li>TEL are unfair to those who cannot afford to use them</li> </ul>	62%	57%	54%
<ul> <li>I'd pay to use express lanes to avoid congestion</li> </ul>	47%	57%	52%
<ul> <li>Carpools will have slower speeds with tolls in HOV lane</li> </ul>	na	na	na
<ul> <li>TEL will increase # of people riding buses</li> </ul>	50%	49%	44%



# Percent Who Agree With Statement by # of Days Typically Travel I-485 Corridor

		Days Travel I-485		85
		<u>4+</u>	1 to 3	<u>O</u>
•	Once paid for, tolls should be removed	89%	81%	76%
•	TEL will reduce commuting time - those using them	74%	79%	76%
•	TEL will decrease congestion - those using them	68%	73%	70%
•	TEL will give me a more predictable travel time	62%	73%	66%
•	Tax money is enough to pay for new highway lanes	73%	68%	55%
•	Paying w/ tolls better than waiting for funds years later	61%	63%	65%
•	TEL decrease congestion - those using regular lanes	60%	65%	64%
•	TEL decrease commuting time - those using regular lanes	67%	62%	56%
•	TEL are fair because person who benefits more, pays more	46%	64%	62%
•	TEL will increase number of people carpooling	60%	56%	58%
•	TEL are unfair to those who cannot afford to use them	62%	62%	51%
•	I'd pay to use express lanes to avoid congestion	48%	64%	47%
•	Carpools will have slower speeds with tolls in HOV lane	na	na	na
•	TEL will increase # of people riding buses	47%	52%	43%



# Percent Who Agree With Statement by # of Days Typically Travel I-77 Corridor

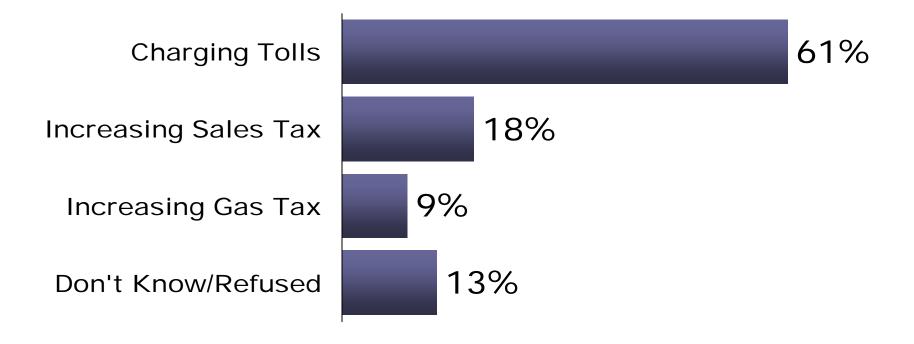
		Days Travel I-77		7
		<u>4+</u>	1 to 3	<u>O</u>
•	Once paid for, tolls should be removed	85%	82%	79%
•	TEL will reduce commuting time - those using them	66%	77%	78%
•	TEL will decrease congestion - those using them	57%	70%	72%
•	TEL will give me a more predictable travel time	62%	64%	68%
•	Tax money is enough to pay for new highway lanes	61%	68%	61%
•	Paying w/ tolls better than waiting for funds years later	54%	68%	65%
•	TEL decrease congestion - those using regular lanes	55%	63%	65%
•	TEL decrease commuting time - those using regular lanes	57%	58%	61%
•	TEL are fair because person who benefits more, pays more	59%	55%	60%
•	TEL will increase number of people carpooling	51%	57%	60%
•	TEL are unfair to those who cannot afford to use them	58%	58%	56%
•	I'd pay to use express lanes to avoid congestion	54%	52%	51%
•	Carpools will have slower speeds with tolls in HOV lane	55%	43%	na
•	TEL will increase # of people riding buses	45%	47%	47%



### **Total Adults**

### Paying for Addition of New Lanes

"For the roads we have been discussing, if money needs to be raised for adding new lanes, how would you prefer to pay for those new lanes?"





### **Travelers**

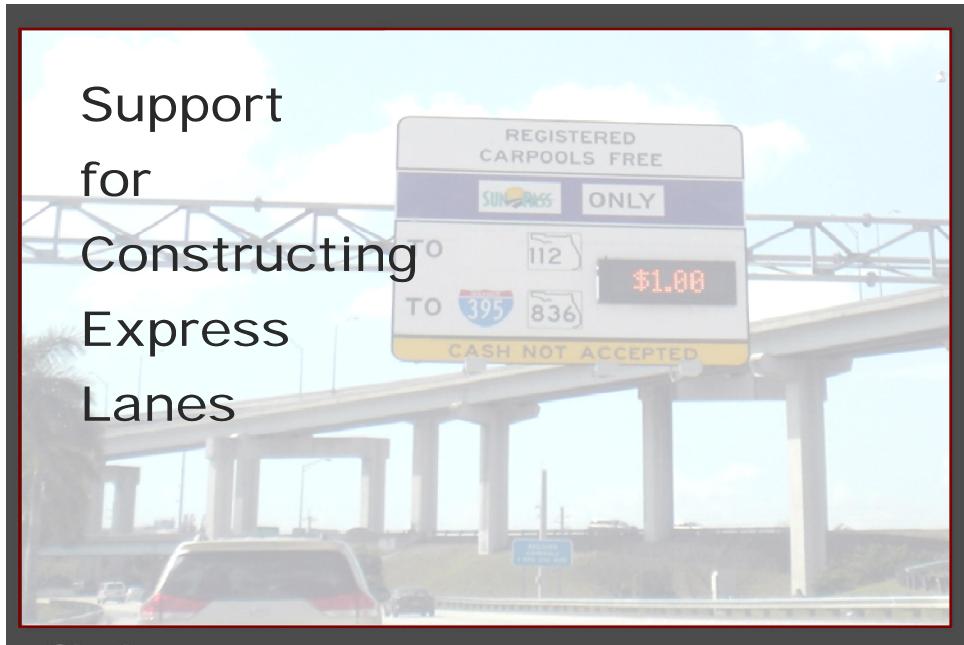
# Paying for Addition of New Lanes

"For the roads we have been discussing, if money needs to be raised for adding new lanes, how would you prefer to pay for those new lanes?"

Travel	l on	Any	Corr	idor
--------	------	-----	------	------

	4+Days	1-3 Days	0 days
# of Adults (000):	<u>293.4</u>	<u>211.1</u>	<u>145.9</u>
Charging Tolls	53%	71%	64%
Increasing Sales Tax	21%	13%	16%
Increasing Gas Tax	8%	8%	9%
Don't Know/Refused	17%	7%	11%



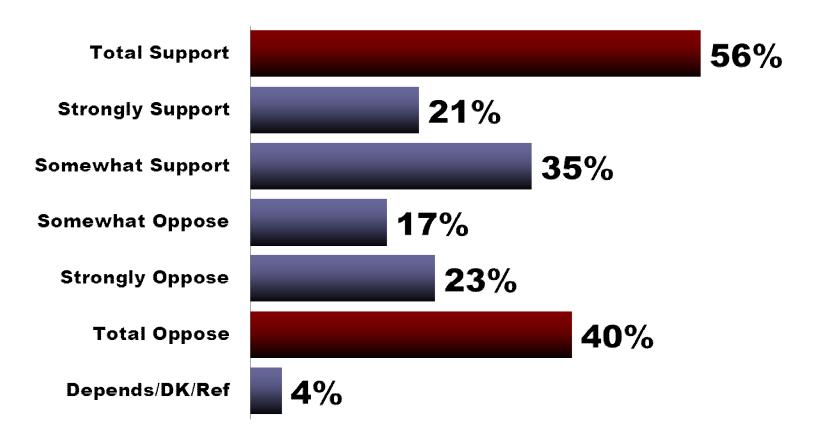




#### **Total Adults**

#### Construction of Toll Lanes

"Based on what you know at this point, do you [support/oppose] the construction of new tolled express lanes for roads we have been discussing?"





### **US-74 Travelers**

### Construction of Toll Lanes

"Based on what you know at this point, do you [support/oppose] the construction of new tolled express lanes for roads we have been discussing?"

	Days Travel US-74			
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>130.9</u>	<u>158.8</u>	<u>359.0</u>
Total Support	56%	47%	60%	58%
Strongly Support	21%	20%	22%	21%
Somewhat Support	35%	27%	38%	37%
Somewhat Oppose	17%	19%	15%	18%
Strongly Oppose	23%	31%	20%	21%
Total Oppose	40%	50%	35%	28%
It Depends	2%	2%	4%	2%
DK/Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%



### I-485 Travelers

### Construction of Toll Lanes

"Based on what you know at this point, do you [support/oppose] the construction of new tolled express lanes for roads we have been discussing?"

	Days Travel I-485			
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>141.3</u>	<u>167.0</u>	<u>329.9</u>
Total Support	56%	51%	61%	56%
Strongly Support	21%	21%	30%	17%
Somewhat Support	35%	30%	31%	39%
Somewhat Oppose	17%	19%	16%	18%
Strongly Oppose	23%	29%	19%	21%
Total Oppose	40%	48%	35%	39%
It Depends	2%	<.5%	3%	3%
DK/Refused	1%	1%	1%	2%



### **I-77 Travelers**

### Construction of Toll Lanes

"Based on what you know at this point, do you [support/oppose] the construction of new tolled express lanes for roads we have been discussing?"

		Days Travel I-77		
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>96.6</u>	<u>129.8</u>	<u>417.2</u>
Total Support	56%	54%	60%	56%
Strongly Support	21%	21%	22%	21%
Somewhat Support	35%	33%	38%	35%
Somewhat Oppose	17%	11%	12%	20%
Strongly Oppose	23%	32%	26%	19%
Total Oppose	40%	43%	38%	40%
It Depends	2%	1%	1%	3%
DK/Refused	1%	2%	1%	1%



### Construction of Toll Lanes

"Based on what you know at this point, do you [support/oppose] the construction of new tolled express lanes for roads we have been discussing?"

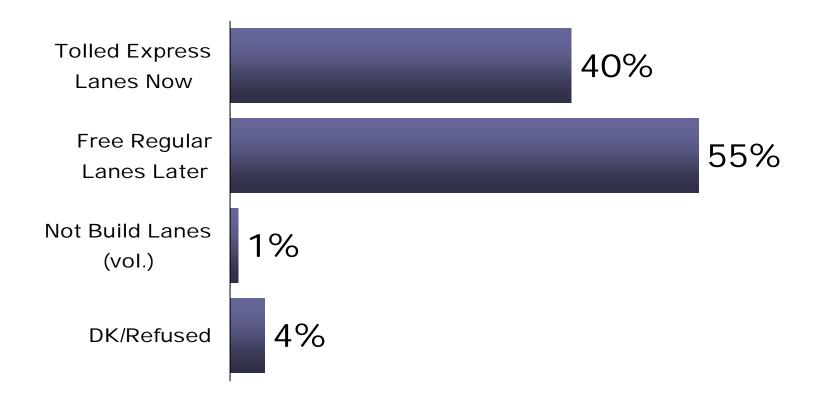
	Go	Going to		Returning	
	Very	<very< td=""><td>Ver</td><td>y <very< td=""></very<></td></very<>	Ver	y <very< td=""></very<>	
Commuters (000)	<u>196.6</u>	<u>106.4</u>	<u>188.</u>	<u>4</u> <u>113.3</u>	
Total Support	55%	52%	<mark>58</mark> %	<mark>6</mark> 46%	
Strongly Support	26%	17%	28%	<mark>6</mark> 13%	
Somewhat Support	29%	35%	30%	<mark>6</mark> 34%	
Somewhat Oppose	13%	22%	<mark>10</mark> %	<mark>6</mark> 29%	
Strongly Oppose	28%	21%	<mark>27</mark> %	<mark>6</mark> 23%	
Total Oppose	42%	44%	<mark>38</mark> %	<mark>6</mark> 52%	
It Depends	2%	4%	3%	1%	
DK/Refused	1%	1%	1%	1%	



#### **Total Adults**

## Toll Lanes vs. Regular Lanes Later

"If you had a choice between adding tolled express lanes now or adding free regular lanes later when public money is available, which would you choose?"





#### **US-74 Travelers**

## Toll Lanes vs. Regular Lanes Later

"If you had a choice between adding tolled express lanes now or adding free regular lanes later when public money is available . . . . "

		Days Travel US-74			
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0	
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>130.9</u>	<u>158.8</u>	<u>359.0</u>	
<b>Tolled Lanes Now</b>	40%	30%	41%	44%	
Regular Lanes Later	55%	63%	56%	52%	
Voluntary/Not Read					
Not Build Any Lanes	1%	2%	<.5%	1%	
Don't know/Refused	4%	5%	3%	4%	



#### I-485 Travelers

## Toll Lanes vs. Regular Lanes Later

"If you had a choice between adding tolled express lanes now or adding free regular lanes later when public money is available . . . . "

		Days Travel I-485		
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>141.3</u>	<u>167.0</u>	<u>329.9</u>
<b>Tolled Lanes Now</b>	40%	32%	49%	40%
Regular Lanes Later	55%	65%	48%	54%
Voluntary/Not Read				
Not Build Any Lanes	1%	1%	<.5%	1%
Don't know/Refused	4%	2%	4%	5%



#### **I-77 Travelers**

## Toll Lanes vs. Regular Lanes Later

"If you had a choice between adding tolled express lanes now or adding free regular lanes later when public money is available . . . ."

	Days Travel I-77			-77
	<b>Total Adults</b>	4+	1-3	0
Projected Adults (000)	<u>650.5</u>	<u>96.6</u>	<u>129.8</u>	<u>417.2</u>
<b>Tolled Lanes Now</b>	40%	43%	43%	39%
Regular Lanes Later	55%	52%	53%	56%
Voluntary/Not Read				
Not Build Any Lanes	1%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know/Refused	4%	5%	3%	4%



# Commuters: What would you do?



"When traveling on [highway], if you could save [minutes calculated based on their commute] on your commute by using an express lane and paying [toll calculated based on current distance @ 15 cents/mile] or carpool for free, would you use the express lane or continue using the regular lanes?"



#### Commuters

## What would you do?

Scenario: Would you use the express lane or continue using the regular lanes?

	Commute 1+ Days			
	US-74	I-485	1-77	
# of Commuters (000):	<u>154.7</u>	<u>180.7</u>	<u>127.3</u>	
Express Lanes	40%	36%	38%	
Pay Toll	22%	23%	22%	
Carpool	16%	13%	13%	
Don't know - car vs. toll	1%	<.5%	2%	
Regular Lanes	53%	52%	47%	
Don't Know/Refused	2%	3%	3%	
Not save enough time (< 2 mins.)	5%	9%	12%	



#### Commuters

## Those Who Would Not Pay Toll

"What is the main reason you would not pay the toll?"

	Commute on		on
	<u>US-74</u>	<u>I-485</u>	<u>1-77</u>
<ul> <li>Cost/ too much money/ Can't afford it</li> </ul>	25%	20%	21%
<ul> <li>Taxes/ gas prices should pay for it</li> </ul>	23%	28%	26%
<ul> <li>Just would not pay toll as a matter of principle</li> </ul>	12%	10%	7%
<ul> <li>Toll option not necessary/ commute not bad</li> </ul>	13%	16%	11%
<ul> <li>Toll system does not work</li> </ul>	13%	4%	3%
<ul> <li>Not enough savings for cost</li> </ul>	6%	8%	16%
<ul> <li>Would take alternate route</li> </ul>	2%	1%	1%
• Other	6%	5%	4%
Don't Know/Refused	1%	8%	12%



## **Proposed Carpooling Change**

In order to make more money to help pay for the construction of new express lanes, two-person carpools may also have to pay the toll. In this situation, only carpools with three or more people could use the express lanes for free.

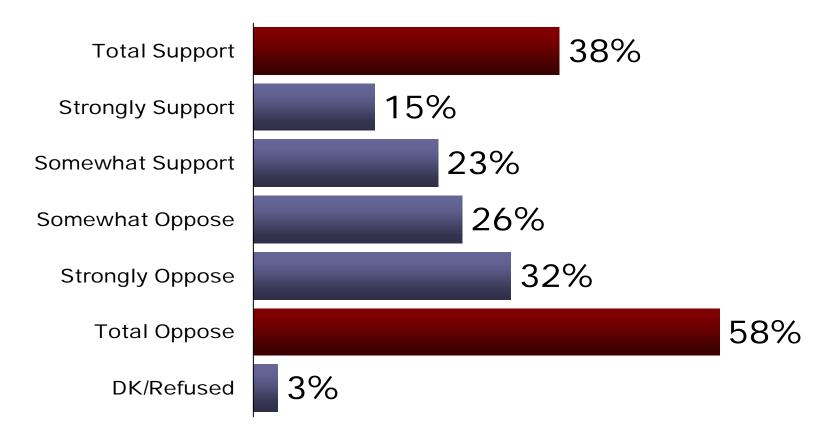
Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose having two-person carpools pay a toll?



#### **Total Adults**

### Two-Person Carpools

"Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose having two-person carpools pay a toll?"





#### **Total Adults**

**Strongly Oppose** 

**Total Oppose** 

#### Two-Person Carpools

29%

70%

67%

81%

Construction of new tolled Express Lanes?

"Do you strongly support, somewhat support, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose having two-person carpools pay a toll?"

	Strongly Support 100%	Somewhat Support 100%	Somewhat Oppose 100%	Strongly Oppose 100%
Total Support	63%	42%	30%	19%
Strongly Support	38%	10%	5%	10%
Somewhat Support	25%	32%	25%	9%
Somewhat Oppose	17%	36%	42%	14%

22%

58%

Note: Based on the 94% of the total sample (n=853) who took a position on both questions

20%

37%







## Thank You

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