



## **Poll finds incumbents with tenuous leads**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – Large numbers of undecided voters give incumbents on the Raleigh City Council tenuous leads over their challengers three weeks from Election Day, according to a Public Policy Polling survey of likely Raleigh municipal election voters.

In the at-large race there are two seats up for election and voters can choose two of the six candidates. Incumbent Russ Stephenson leads among voters' first choices with 20% and he receives 7% of second choices. Mary Anne Baldwin is close behind with 16% of first choices and 10% of second choices. Paul Anderson is third with 12% and 6%. No other candidate received more than 5% of combined first and second choices.

Among 245 respondents from Raleigh's District A, incumbent Tommy Craven leads challenger Nancy McFarlane, 38%-25%. Thirty-seven percent are undecided.

Among 184 respondents in District B, incumbent Jessie Taliaferro (35%) leads over challengers Rodger Koopman (21%) and Angel Menendez (8%), with 36% undecided.

"The incumbents are far from reaching the necessary 25% in the at-large race and 50% in the district races to secure reelection," said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling.

The survey also tested key issues in the municipal campaigns. Sixty percent of Raleigh voters plan on voting for the \$88.6 million city parks bond, while only 27% will vote against.

Sixty percent of respondents support raising the impact fee on newly built homes and business closer to the statewide average. Likewise, 54% said that they would be more likely to vote for a candidate that supports raising impact fees.

Eighty-one percent of voters said they would be less likely to vote for a candidate that received large campaign donations from developers. There was a more mixed reaction to the Sierra Club; 41% of voters are more likely to vote for a candidate endorsed by the Sierra Club, 30% are less likely, and 29% say it makes no difference.

PPP surveyed 875 likely municipal voters in Raleigh on September 17. The survey has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.25\%$ . Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Complete results are attached and can be found at PPP's blog, [publicpolicypolling.blogspot.com](http://publicpolicypolling.blogspot.com). If you have questions about this release or would like an interview regarding this release, please contact Dean Debnam at (888) 621-6988 or 919-880-4888.

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## Raleigh Survey: September 17, 2007

**Q1** In October you will be voting on an 88.6 million dollar city parks bond, that will help pay for new parkland, park facilities and greenways including along the Neuse River. If the election were today would you vote for or against the parks bond? If for, press 1 on your keypad now. If against, press 2. If you are undecided, press 3.

*For* .....60% *Undecided*.....13%  
*Against*.....27%

**Q2** In October you can vote for 2 of the 6 candidates for the two city-wide at-large seats on the Raleigh city council. If the election were held today, which of these six candidates would be your first choice? Paul Anderson, Mary Ann Baldwin, Will Best, Russ Stephenson, Helen Tart or David Williams? If Paul Anderson, press 1. If Mary Ann Baldwin, press 2. If Will Best, press 3. If Russ Stephenson, press 4. If Helen Tart, press 5. If David Williams, press 6. If you are undecided, press 7.

*Anderson*..... 12% *Tart*..... 2%  
*Baldwin* ..... 16% *Williams*..... 3%  
*Best*..... 2% *Undecided*..... 46%  
*Stephenson*..... 20%

**Q3** Which candidate would be your second choice? If Paul Anderson, press 1. If Mary Ann Baldwin, press 2. If Will Best, press 3. If Russ Stephenson, press 4. If Helen Tart, press 5. If David Williams, press 6. If you are undecided, press 7.

*Anderson*..... 6% *Tart*..... 3%  
*Baldwin* ..... 10% *Williams*..... 2%  
*Best*..... 2% *Undecided*..... 69%  
*Stephenson*..... 7%

**Q4** [Asked of only District A residents: 245 respondents] In your city council district, District A, there are two candidates, Tommy Craven and Nancy McFarlane. If the election were today which candidate would you vote for? If for Tommy Craven, press 1. If for Nancy McFarlane, press 2. If you are undecided, press 3.

*Craven* ..... 38% *Undecided*..... 37%  
*McFarlane*..... 25%

**Q5** [Asked of only District B residents: 184 respondents] In your city council district, District B, there are three candidates, Rodger Koopman, Angel Menendez and Jessie Taliaferro. If the election were today which candidate would you vote for? If for Rodger Koopman, press 1. If for Angel Menendez, press 2. If for Jessie Taliaferro, press 3. If you are undecided, press 4.

*Koopman*..... 21% *Taliaferro*..... 35%  
*Menendez* ..... 8% *Undecided*..... 36%

**Q6** Last year Raleigh raised the impact fee on newly built homes and businesses, taking the fee for a single-family home from 682 dollars to 1,170 dollars. Yet impact fees still pay for only 20 percent of new roads and parks projects required to support the new development, while the rest of Raleigh property taxpayers pay the other 80 percent. Do you think Raleigh should raise the impact fee on newly built homes and businesses closer to the statewide average of 4,038 dollars per single family home? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you don't know, press 3.

*Support raise*..... 60% *Don't know* ..... 12%  
*Do not support*..... 27%



**Q7** Would you be more or less likely to vote for a city council candidate that supports raising the impact fee? If more likely, press 1. If less likely, press 2. If it would make no difference, press 3.

*More likely*..... 54%    *Makes no difference* ..... 18%  
*Less likely* ..... 28%

**Q8** Would you be more or less likely to vote for a city council candidate that received large donations from developers? If more likely, press 1. If less likely, press 2. If it would make no difference, press 3.

*More likely*..... 5%    *Makes no difference* ..... 14%  
*Less likely* ..... 81%

**Q9** Would you be more or less likely to vote for a city council candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club? If more likely, press 1. If less likely, press 2. If it would make no difference, press 3.

*More likely*..... 41%    *Makes no difference* ..... 29%  
*Less likely* ..... 30%

**Q10** If you are a woman, press 1, if a man, press 2.

*Women* .....54%    *Men*.....46%

**Q11** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

*Democrat*.....55%    *Other*.....15%  
*Republican*.....29%

**Q12** If you are white, press 1. If African-American, press 2. If other, press 3.

*White* .....80%    *Other*..... 5%  
*Black*.....15%

**Q13** If you are less than 29 years old, press 1. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If 46 to 65, press 3. If more than 65, press 4.

*Less than 29* ..... 3%    *46-65*.....43%  
*30-45*.....15%    *Older than 65*.....38%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Raleigh Parks Bond</b>			
<b>For</b>	<b>60%</b>	61%	59%
<b>Against</b>	<b>28%</b>	25%	31%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>13%</b>	14%	11%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>At-large first choice</b>			
<b>Anderson</b>	<b>12%</b>	11%	13%
<b>Baldwin</b>	<b>16%</b>	20%	11%
<b>Best</b>	<b>2%</b>	1%	2%
<b>Stephenson</b>	<b>20%</b>	18%	22%
<b>Tart</b>	<b>2%</b>	2%	2%
<b>Williams</b>	<b>3%</b>	2%	4%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>46%</b>	46%	45%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>At-large second choice</b>			
<b>Anderson</b>	<b>6%</b>	6%	6%
<b>Baldwin</b>	<b>10%</b>	10%	11%
<b>Best</b>	<b>2%</b>	2%	2%
<b>Stephenson</b>	<b>7%</b>	6%	8%
<b>Tart</b>	<b>4%</b>	4%	3%
<b>Williams</b>	<b>2%</b>	1%	3%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>69%</b>	71%	67%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>District A</b>			
<b>Craven</b>	<b>38%</b>	33%	46%
<b>McFarlane</b>	<b>25%</b>	26%	24%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>37%</b>	41%	31%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>District B</b>			
<b>Koopman</b>	<b>21%</b>	21%	22%
<b>Menendez</b>	<b>8%</b>	7%	8%
<b>Taliaferro</b>	<b>35%</b>	34%	36%
<b>Undecided</b>	<b>36%</b>	37%	34%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Impact Fees</b>			
<b>Support raise</b>	<b>60%</b>	58%	63%
<b>Do not support</b>	<b>27%</b>	26%	29%
<b>Don't know</b>	<b>12%</b>	15%	9%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Vote for candidate that supports raising impact fees</b>			
<b>More likely</b>	<b>54%</b>	51%	57%
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>28%</b>	28%	28%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	<b>18%</b>	21%	15%

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Vote for candidate that received donations from developers</b>			
<b>More likely</b>	<b>5%</b>	6%	4%
<b>Less likely</b>	<b>82%</b>	83%	81%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	<b>13%</b>	12%	15%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Women	Men
<b>Vote for candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club</b>			
<b>More likely</b>	41%	42%	40%
<b>Less likely</b>	30%	28%	32%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	29%	30%	28%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Raleigh Parks Bond</b>				
<b>For</b>	60%	72%	39%	57%
<b>Against</b>	27%	16%	49%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	13%	13%	14%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>At-large first choice</b>				
<b>Anderson</b>	12%	16%	8%	5%
<b>Baldwin</b>	16%	16%	18%	13%
<b>Best</b>	2%	1%	3%	2%
<b>Stephenson</b>	20%	24%	14%	14%
<b>Tart</b>	2%	2%	2%	1%
<b>Williams</b>	3%	1%	6%	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	46%	41%	47%	61%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>At-large second choice</b>				
<b>Anderson</b>	6%	7%	6%	4%
<b>Baldwin</b>	10%	13%	7%	8%
<b>Best</b>	2%	2%	3%	1%
<b>Stephenson</b>	7%	7%	7%	6%
<b>Tart</b>	3%	4%	3%	2%
<b>Williams</b>	2%	2%	4%	1%
<b>Undecided</b>	69%	66%	70%	78%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>District A</b>				
<b>Craven</b>	38%	29%	45%	50%
<b>McFarlane</b>	25%	34%	18%	11%
<b>Undecided</b>	37%	37%	36%	40%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>District B</b>				
<b>Koopman</b>	21%	25%	20%	13%
<b>Menendez</b>	8%	3%	11%	10%
<b>Taliaferro</b>	35%	40%	28%	41%
<b>Undecided</b>	36%	32%	41%	36%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Impact Fees</b>				
<b>Support raise</b>	60%	67%	49%	56%
<b>Do not support</b>	27%	22%	39%	25%
<b>Don't know</b>	12%	11%	12%	19%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that supports raising impact fees</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	54%	60%	41%	56%
<b>Less likely</b>	28%	22%	43%	23%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	18%	18%	16%	21%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that recieved donations from developers</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	5%	4%	7%	4%
<b>Less likely</b>	81%	84%	75%	84%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	14%	12%	18%	12%

	Base	Party affiliation		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	41%	55%	19%	33%
<b>Less likely</b>	30%	20%	49%	29%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	29%	26%	32%	38%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Raleigh Parks Bond</b>				
<b>For</b>	60%	63%	46%	55%
<b>Against</b>	27%	28%	28%	25%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	10%	26%	20%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>At-large first choice</b>				
<b>Anderson</b>	12%	8%	32%	14%
<b>Baldwin</b>	16%	17%	13%	7%
<b>Best</b>	2%	1%	3%	9%
<b>Stephenson</b>	20%	23%	4%	16%
<b>Tart</b>	2%	2%	2%	2%
<b>Williams</b>	3%	3%	-	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	46%	45%	46%	50%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>At-large second choice</b>				
<b>Anderson</b>	6%	7%	3%	2%
<b>Baldwin</b>	10%	8%	20%	14%
<b>Best</b>	2%	2%	3%	-
<b>Stephenson</b>	7%	7%	3%	5%
<b>Tart</b>	3%	4%	1%	9%
<b>Williams</b>	2%	2%	2%	2%
<b>Undecided</b>	69%	69%	68%	68%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>District A</b>				
<b>Craven</b>	38%	38%	50%	14%
<b>McFarlane</b>	25%	26%	21%	14%
<b>Undecided</b>	37%	37%	29%	71%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>District B</b>				
<b>Koopman</b>	21%	23%	-	-
<b>Menendez</b>	8%	6%	40%	-
<b>Taliaferro</b>	35%	36%	20%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	36%	34%	40%	71%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Impact Fees</b>				
<b>Support raise</b>	60%	66%	30%	55%
<b>Do not support</b>	27%	23%	50%	25%
<b>Don't know</b>	12%	11%	19%	20%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that supports raising impact fees</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	54%	59%	28%	45%
<b>Less likely</b>	28%	25%	43%	32%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	18%	16%	29%	23%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that recieved donations from developers</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	5%	4%	9%	5%
<b>Less likely</b>	81%	84%	71%	80%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	14%	12%	20%	16%

	Base	Race		
		White	Black	Other
<b>Vote for candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club</b>				
<b>More likely</b>	41%	46%	13%	39%
<b>Less likely</b>	30%	27%	48%	18%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	29%	27%	39%	43%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>Raleigh Parks Bond</b>					
<b>For</b>	60%	60%	64%	66%	51%
<b>Against</b>	27%	22%	26%	22%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	18%	10%	12%	15%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>At-large first choice</b>					
<b>Anderson</b>	12%	11%	6%	13%	13%
<b>Baldwin</b>	16%	19%	17%	13%	19%
<b>Best</b>	2%	7%	1%	2%	2%
<b>Stephenson</b>	20%	22%	21%	20%	19%
<b>Tart</b>	2%	-	2%	2%	2%
<b>Williams</b>	3%	-	5%	3%	1%
<b>Undecided</b>	46%	42%	49%	46%	45%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>At-large second choice</b>					
<b>Anderson</b>	6%	7%	7%	4%	8%
<b>Baldwin</b>	10%	4%	9%	12%	10%
<b>Best</b>	2%	7%	1%	1%	3%
<b>Stephenson</b>	7%	4%	6%	8%	6%
<b>Tart</b>	3%	-	3%	4%	3%
<b>Williams</b>	2%	7%	4%	1%	3%
<b>Undecided</b>	69%	71%	70%	70%	68%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>District A</b>					
<b>Craven</b>	38%	51%	26%	40%	38%
<b>McFarlane</b>	25%	33%	31%	26%	20%
<b>Undecided</b>	37%	15%	43%	34%	42%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>District B</b>					
<b>Koopman</b>	22%	-	20%	22%	24%
<b>Menendez</b>	8%	25%	4%	11%	4%
<b>Taliaferro</b>	35%	25%	32%	36%	37%
<b>Undecided</b>	35%	50%	44%	32%	34%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>Impact Fees</b>					
<b>Support raise</b>	60%	40%	62%	67%	54%
<b>Do not support</b>	28%	50%	29%	22%	31%
<b>Don't know</b>	12%	11%	9%	11%	15%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>Vote for candidate that supports raising impact fees</b>					
<b>More likely</b>	54%	25%	55%	61%	48%
<b>Less likely</b>	28%	45%	30%	23%	31%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	18%	30%	14%	16%	21%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>Vote for candidate that recieved donations from developers</b>					
<b>More likely</b>	5%	12%	6%	3%	5%
<b>Less likely</b>	82%	66%	77%	83%	83%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	14%	22%	17%	14%	12%

	Base	Age			
		Less than 29	30-45	46-65	Older than 65
<b>Vote for candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club</b>					
<b>More likely</b>	41%	14%	40%	47%	37%
<b>Less likely</b>	30%	29%	30%	26%	34%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	29%	56%	31%	27%	28%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>Raleigh Parks Bond</b>						
<b>For</b>	60%	51%	51%	58%	77%	62%
<b>Against</b>	27%	36%	32%	21%	16%	29%
<b>Undecided</b>	13%	13%	16%	21%	8%	9%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>At-large first choice</b>						
<b>Anderson</b>	12%	11%	7%	26%	8%	10%
<b>Baldwin</b>	16%	15%	10%	16%	17%	19%
<b>Best</b>	2%	2%	1%	2%	1%	2%
<b>Stephenson</b>	20%	17%	17%	14%	29%	21%
<b>Tart</b>	2%	3%	1%	3%	2%	1%
<b>Williams</b>	3%	2%	5%	1%	3%	3%
<b>Undecided</b>	46%	50%	58%	38%	40%	44%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>At-large second choice</b>						
<b>Anderson</b>	6%	8%	7%	4%	5%	7%
<b>Baldwin</b>	10%	10%	7%	20%	10%	8%
<b>Best</b>	2%	1%	1%	4%	4%	1%
<b>Stephenson</b>	7%	7%	4%	4%	10%	8%
<b>Tart</b>	3%	2%	4%	1%	5%	4%
<b>Williams</b>	2%	2%	1%	1%	2%	3%
<b>Undecided</b>	69%	70%	76%	67%	64%	68%

	Base	District
		A
<b>District A</b>		
<b>Craven</b>	38%	38%
<b>McFarlane</b>	25%	25%
<b>Undecided</b>	37%	37%







**Crosstabs**

	Base	District
		B
<b>District B</b>		
<b>Koopman</b>	21%	21%
<b>Menendez</b>	8%	8%
<b>Taliaferro</b>	35%	35%
<b>Undecided</b>	36%	36%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>Impact Fees</b>						
<b>Support raise</b>	60%	60%	63%	38%	73%	64%
<b>Do not support</b>	27%	28%	22%	43%	20%	25%
<b>Don't know</b>	12%	12%	16%	18%	6%	11%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>Vote for candidate that supports raising impact fees</b>						
<b>More likely</b>	54%	48%	56%	40%	68%	57%
<b>Less likely</b>	28%	31%	24%	38%	22%	26%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	18%	21%	19%	22%	10%	17%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>Vote for candidate that recieved donations from developers</b>						
<b>More likely</b>	5%	5%	4%	5%	4%	5%
<b>Less likely</b>	81%	77%	76%	80%	90%	84%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	14%	18%	19%	16%	6%	11%

	Base	District				
		A	B	C	D	E
<b>Vote for candidate that was endorsed by the Sierra Club</b>						
<b>More likely</b>	41%	36%	37%	25%	68%	40%
<b>Less likely</b>	30%	33%	26%	39%	14%	33%
<b>Makes no difference</b>	29%	30%	37%	36%	17%	27%

