



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**January 16, 2008**

**CONTACT: DEAN DEBNAM**  
**888-621-6988 / 919-880-4888**

## **Vast majority of Raleigh voters want doubling of impact fees**

**Raleigh, N.C.** – 71% of likely Raleigh voters support the concept of doubling the city’s impact fees, according to Public Policy Polling’s newest survey.

The issue is popular across party lines. 77% of Democrats and 60% of Republicans are in favor of the increase.

“Our surveys have shown time and time again that making developers pay for their fair share of growth is a popular issue with the citizens of Raleigh,” said Dean Debnam, President of Public Policy Polling. “It’s time for the city to stop studying this issue and start acting on it.”

The poll also shows that 52% of Raleigh voters are in support of an interim moratorium on teardowns while the city’s Planning Department works on coming up with a long term solution to the issue. Just 38% of those answering the survey are opposed.

“Teardowns have been one of the most contentious issues in Raleigh in recent months,” said Debnam. “Our poll shows that the citizens would be in support of the Council taking some steps to prevent teardowns while the issue is studied in more depth.”

Many Raleigh citizens have expressed opposition to Mayor Meeker’s proposal to increase water rates, and this survey shows that most of the city’s likely voters are with them. Only 27% of respondents favor the increase with 64% opposed.

There also isn’t much support for an increase in property taxes to upgrade the city of Raleigh’s bus system. 57% of those surveyed are opposed. Although Democrats are evenly split on the issue, 80% of Republicans are not in favor of increasing funding for the bus system in that manner.

PPP surveyed 683 likely municipal voters in Raleigh on January 15. The survey has a margin of error of  $\pm 3.6\%$ . Other factors, such as refusal to be interviewed and weighting, may introduce additional error that is more difficult to quantify.

Discussion of this poll 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.

###





## Raleigh Issues Poll

**Q1** Mayor Meeker has proposed a temporary 50% increase in water rates to help encourage people to conserve water during our drought conditions. Do you support his plan? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes .....27% Not sure ..... 9%  
No .....64%

**Q2** A coalition of neighborhoods in Raleigh has proposed an interim moratorium on teardowns, the practice of tearing down an existing house and replacing it with a new one, while the Planning Department comes up with a long term approach for solving the issue. Would you support an interim moratorium on teardowns? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes.....52% Not sure ..... 10%  
No ..... 38%

**Q3** Mayor Meeker has proposed doubling impact fees that developers of new homes and businesses pay to cover costs incurred by growth like new streets and parks to bring them closer to the state average. Would you support a doubling in impact fees? If yes, press 1. If no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes.....71% Not sure ..... 8%  
No ..... 21%

**Q4** Would you support a half cent increase in property taxes to make improvements to the City of Raleigh's bus system? If yes, press 1. if no, press 2. If you're not sure, press 3.

Yes.....32% Not sure ..... 10%  
No .....57%

**Q5** If you are a woman, press 1. If a man, press 2.

Woman .....52% Man.....48%

**Q6** If you are a Democrat, press 1. If a Republican, press 2. If other, press 3.

Democrat .....56% Other.....13%  
Republican.....31%

**Q7** If you are white, press one now. If you are African-American, press two now. If other, press 3.

White ..... 83%  
African-American ..... 12%  
Other..... 5%

**Q8** If you are 18 to 29 years old, press 1 now. If you are 30 to 45, press 2. If you are 46 to 65, press 3. If older, press 4.

18 to 29..... 4%  
30 to 45..... 17%  
46 to 65..... 48%  
65 and older..... 32%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Water Rate Increase</b>			
Yes	27%	26%	28%
No	64%	61%	66%
Not sure	9%	12%	6%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Teardown Moratorium</b>			
Yes	52%	58%	46%
No	38%	29%	47%
Not sure	10%	13%	7%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Doubling Impact Fees</b>			
Yes	71%	72%	71%
No	21%	17%	26%
Not sure	8%	11%	4%

	Base	Gender	
		Woman	Man
<b>Money for Bus System</b>			
Yes	32%	36%	29%
No	57%	51%	64%
Not sure	10%	13%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Water Rate Increase</b>				
Yes	27%	34%	16%	26%
No	64%	56%	76%	68%
Not sure	9%	10%	8%	6%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Teardown Moratorium</b>				
Yes	52%	61%	35%	56%
No	38%	29%	54%	36%
Not sure	10%	10%	11%	8%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Doubling Impact Fees</b>				
Yes	71%	77%	60%	74%
No	21%	15%	33%	19%
Not sure	8%	8%	7%	7%

	Base	Party		
		Democrat	Republican	Other
<b>Money for Bus System</b>				
Yes	32%	44%	14%	27%
No	57%	44%	80%	59%
Not sure	10%	12%	6%	13%





**Crosstabs**

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Water Rate Increase</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	27%	27%	29%	26%
<b>No</b>	64%	63%	68%	63%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	10%	3%	11%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Teardown Moratorium</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	52%	52%	48%	56%
<b>No</b>	38%	38%	35%	36%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	9%	16%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Doubling Impact Fees</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	71%	74%	55%	69%
<b>No</b>	21%	20%	32%	23%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	7%	13%	8%

	Base	Race		
		White	African-American	Other
<b>Money for Bus System</b>				
<b>Yes</b>	32%	35%	19%	26%
<b>No</b>	57%	56%	68%	64%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	10%	13%	10%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	65 and older
<b>Water Rate Increase</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	27%	26%	29%	29%	24%
<b>No</b>	64%	67%	61%	64%	64%
<b>Not sure</b>	9%	8%	10%	7%	12%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	65 and older
<b>Teardown Moratorium</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	52%	44%	43%	55%	54%
<b>No</b>	38%	52%	42%	37%	35%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	4%	15%	8%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	65 and older
<b>Doubling Impact Fees</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	71%	66%	70%	75%	66%
<b>No</b>	21%	22%	24%	19%	22%
<b>Not sure</b>	8%	11%	5%	5%	11%

	Base	Age			
		18 to 29	30 to 45	46 to 65	65 and older
<b>Money for Bus System</b>					
<b>Yes</b>	32%	11%	27%	35%	34%
<b>No</b>	57%	70%	61%	56%	56%
<b>Not sure</b>	10%	18%	13%	9%	9%

