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City of Shoreline

May 2012 Telephone Survey
Presentation of Results

Methodology



- ▶ Telephone survey in the City of Shoreline
- ▶ 501 total interviews
- ▶ Overall Margin of Error + 4.4 points at the 95% confidence interval
- ▶ Conducted May 9 17, 2012
- Trained, professional interviewers

Please note that due to rounding, some percentages may not add up to exactly 100%.

Key Findings



- 1. Shoreline residents continue to be very optimistic about the direction of the City and the City receives very strong performance ratings on a number of measures.
 - Three-fourths (75%) of residents feel things in the City of Shoreline are generally going in the right direction, while only 13% think things are on the wrong track.
 - Nearly three-fourths (70%) give the City of Shoreline a positive rating ("Excellent" 13% / "Good" 57%) for the overall job it does.
 - Two-thirds (69%) give the City a positive rating for the job it does keeping citizens informed and for the job it does delivering services efficiently (68% positive).
 - By a 51% to 31% margin, residents give the City a positive rating for the job it does focusing on the priorities that matter most to residents, although 18% are not sure.
 - By a 44% to 32% margin the job the City is doing managing the public's money, with 26% who are unable to rate the City.

Key Findings



- 2. A majority of residents initially support the proposed acquisition of SPU's services, but there is considerable uncertainty. Details about the proposed acquisition reassure residents and dramatically increase support.
 - Initially, residents support the SPU purchase by a 3-to-1 margin (51% Support / 17% Oppose). However, a third of respondents (32%) are uncertain about the purchase.
 - After hearing details about the proposed purchase, eight in ten residents (79% Support) the proposal and only 10% are opposed.
 - Residents are most interested in information about the fact that no increase in taxes or water rates will be required to purchase the system (55% "Extremely important") and that Shoreline ratepayers would no longer pay a tax to the City of Seattle (54%).
 - Increased costs and taxes, mentioned by 32% of those who are initially opposed to the purchase, is the top concern.

City Ratings



City Direction



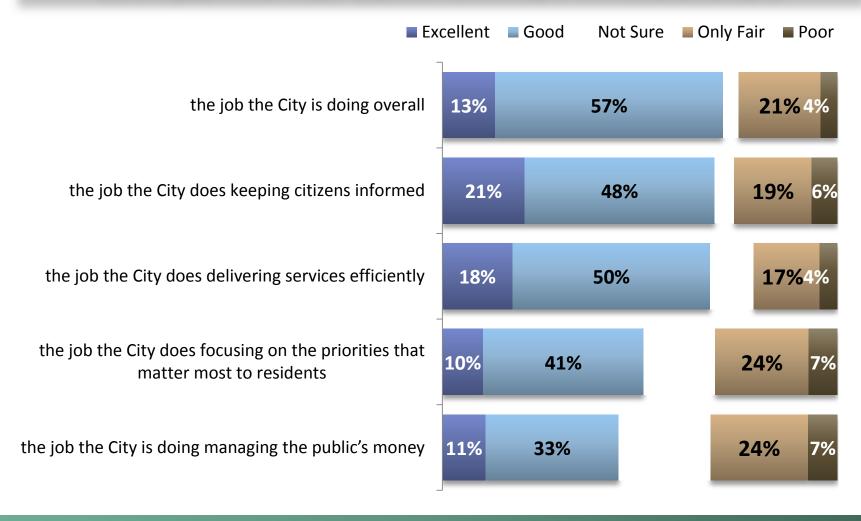
Q3. Do you feel things in the City of Shoreline are generally going in the right direction, or do you feel things have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?



City Job Ratings



Q4-8. Please rate the job Shoreline City government is doing in each of the following areas. Use a scale of excellent, good, only fair or poor. If you aren't sure one way or the other, please just say so.



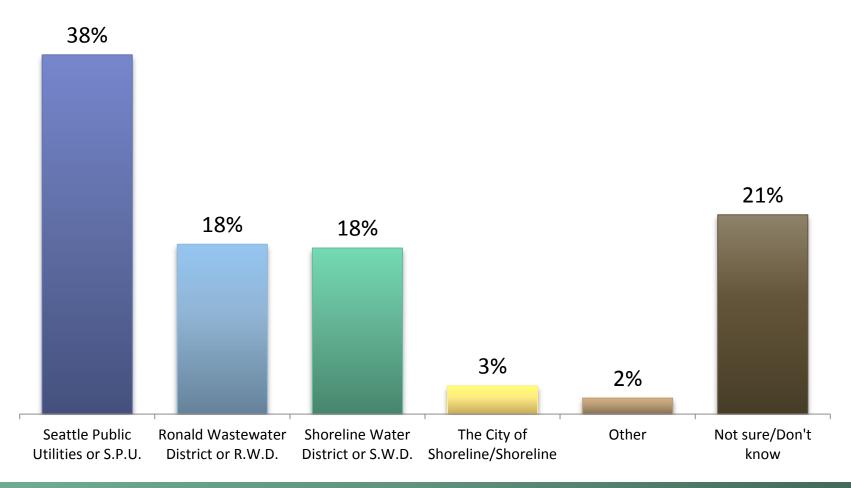
Utilities Ratings



Water Service Provider



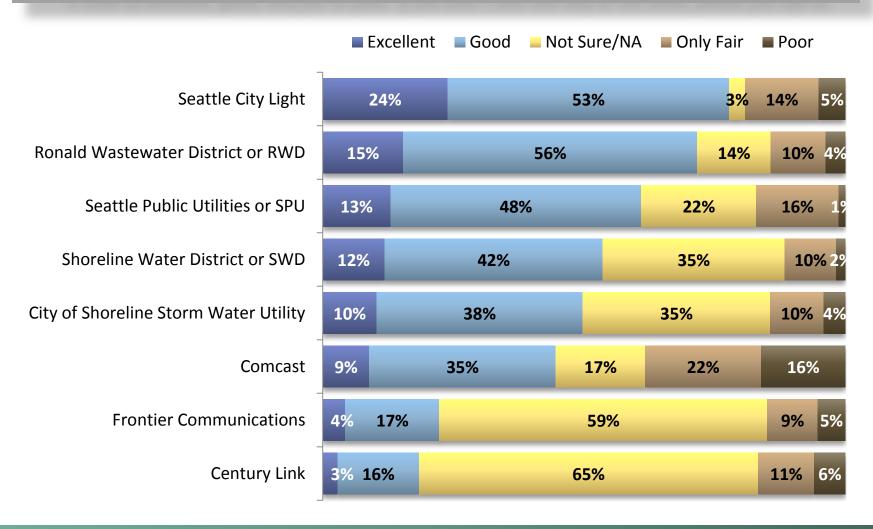
Q9. From what you know, who provides your water service?



Utilities Job Ratings



Q10-17.. I'm going to read you a list of utilities and I'd like you to rate the job they do providing services. Use a scale of excellent, good, only fair or poor. If you aren't sure one way or the other, please just say so.



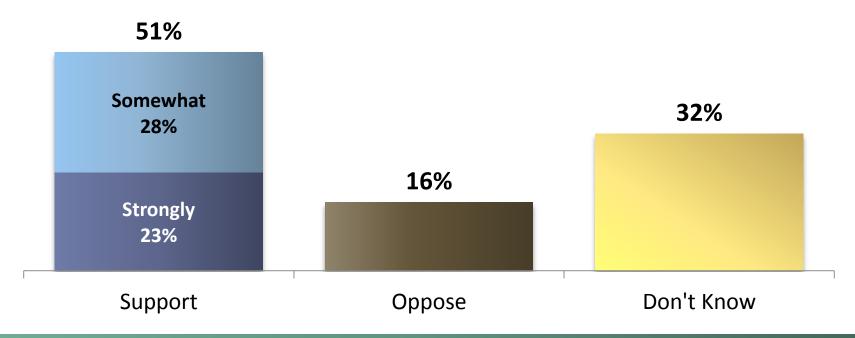
SPU Purchase



Initial Support for Purchase



Q18. S.P.U., or Seattle Public Utilities, currently provides water service to Shoreline residents who live in the area west of I-5, which is about two thirds of the City. Shoreline has reached a tentative agreement to purchase the Seattle Public Utilities Water System. Under the agreement, the city would own and operate the SPU water system for customers in Shoreline. In general, do you support or oppose having the City of Shoreline purchase the SPU water system in Shoreline? (IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) And would that be strongly (support/oppose) or somewhat (support/oppose)?



Reasons for Support & Opposition



Q19. What is the main reason you <u>SUPPORT</u> the purchase? (TAKE ONE RESPONSE)

Local Control/City Control/Accountability 34% Cost/Rates go down/Taxes 19% Better Job/Service 12% Good Idea 9% Independence 3% Economical/Efficient 2% **Better Maintenance** 1% Other 9% No/None/Nothing 2% Don't Know/Not Sure 8%

Q20. What is the main reason you **OPPOSE** the purchase? (TAKE ONE RESPONSE)

Cost/Taxes	32%
Like it the way it is	24%
Better Service/Quality	14%
Don't trust Shoreline/Government	9%
Spend Money Else Where	4%
Other	11%
No/None/Nothing	3%
Don't Know/Not Sure	4%

Importance of Information



Q21-28. Now I am going to tell you a little more about the City's proposed purchase of S.P.U's water system. For each statement, please tell me how important it is to know that information. Use a scale of 1 to 7, where 1 means that information is not at all important and 7 means that information is extremely important. You can use any number from 1 to 7. (REPEAT AFTER EACH UNTIL UNDERSTOOD: How important do you think it is to know that information, with 1 being not at all important and 7 being extremely important?)

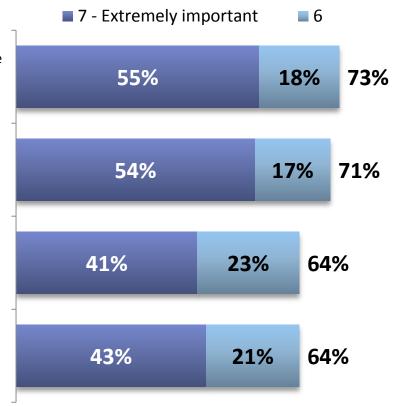
No increase in taxes or water rates will be required to purchase the system. It will be paid by bonds, which are repaid by the revenue generated from providing water service...

Shoreline customers of S.P.U. currently pay a 14 percent water rate surcharge for living outside Seattle's city limits as well as a 15 percent utility tax, which goes to the City of Seattle's general fund.

If the City of Shoreline operated...

Owning the water system means Shoreline can use revenues to reinvest in the system for things that Seattle Public Utilities isn't focused on, like infrastructure improvements to help improve Shoreline's commercial districts...

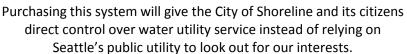
Future decisions about water rates will be made by Shoreline's elected officials instead of elected officials in Seattle.



Importance of Information (continued)



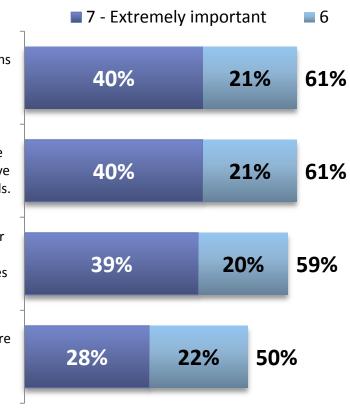
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Owning the water system locally means the City will pay more attention to maintaining it than SPU does now. We can improve the longevity and quality of our system based on our own needs.

Owning the water utility would make permitting easier, cheaper and quicker. People will be able to work just with the City of Shoreline instead of having to go to multiple government entities for permits.

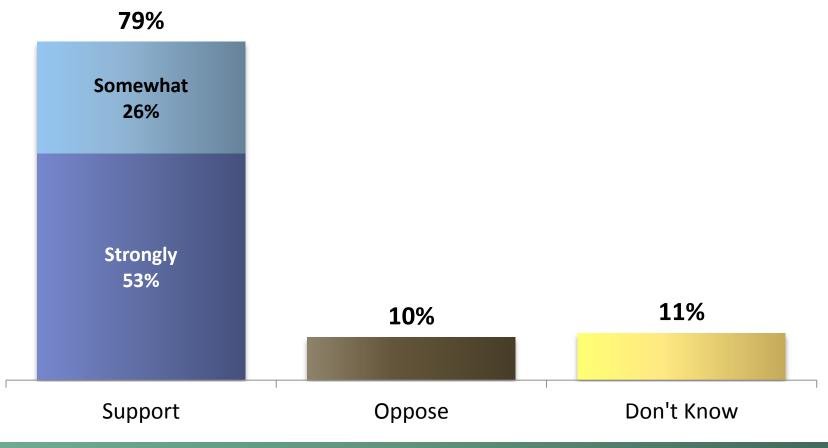
The City of Shoreline would be able to run the Water Utility more efficiently by sharing the City's existing equipment and administration functions.



Informed Support for Purchase



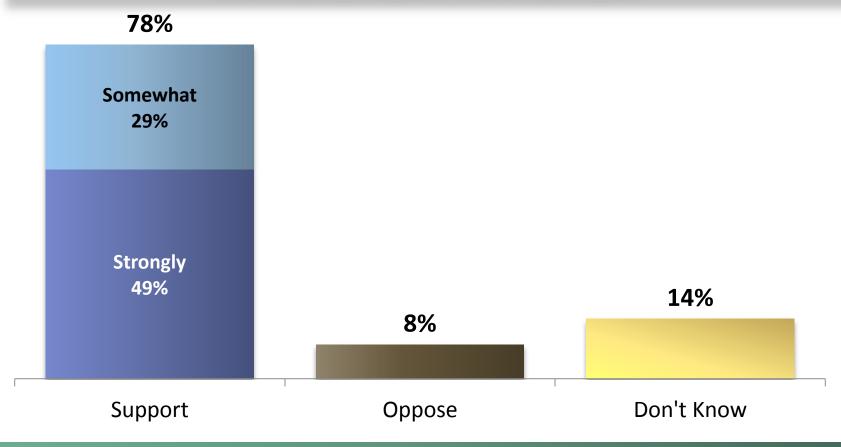
Q29. Given what you have heard, would you support or oppose having the City of Shoreline purchase the S.P.U. water system in Shoreline? (IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) And would that be strongly (support/oppose) or somewhat (support/oppose)?



Support: Sewer Service Acquisition



Q30. As you may know Ronald Wastewater District or R.W.D. provides one hundred percent of the sewer service for Shoreline residents. The City has an agreement in place with R.W.D. to acquire sewer services in 2017 so the City is already planning to create the capacity to manage and operate the wastewater system. This means that if the City acquires the SPU water system, many of the resources necessary to manage and operate the water system will already be in place. Knowing this, would you support or oppose having the City of Shoreline purchase the S.P.U. water system in Shoreline? (IF SUPPORT/OPPOSE) And would that be strongly (support/oppose) or somewhat (support/oppose)?

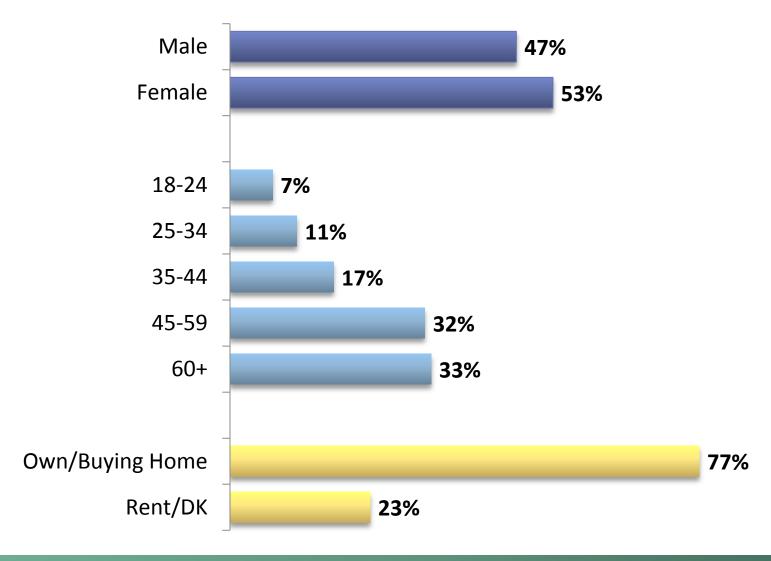


Demographics



Demographic Information





Length of Residency



Q32. How many years have you lived in the City of Shoreline?

