

**EPIC-MRA STATEWIDE POLL OF ACTIVE GENERAL ELECTION VOTERS – APRIL 2015**  
**[FREQUENCY REPORT OF SURVEY RESPONSES – 600 SAMPLE – ERROR ±4.0%]**  
*Polling Dates: April 25<sup>th</sup> through April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2015*  
*Conducted by live callers -- 20% cell phones*

\_\_02. Do you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of Rick Snyder? **[IF FAVORABLE/  
UNFAVORABLE, ASK: “Would that be very or generally?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

21%	Very favorable
27%	Somewhat favorable
<b>48%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVORABLE</b>
<b>36%</b>	<b>TOTAL UNFAVORABLE</b>
16%	Somewhat unfavorable
20%	Very unfavorable
16%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_03. Overall, how would you rate the job being done by Rick Snyder as Michigan’s Governor – would you give him a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

12%	Excellent
40%	Pretty good
<b>52%</b>	<b>TOTAL POSITIVE</b>
<b>47%</b>	<b>TOTAL NEGATIVE</b>
30%	Just fair
17%	Poor
1%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_04. How would you rate the job being done by the Michigan Legislature, including both the Michigan House of Representatives and Michigan Senate – would you offer a positive rating of excellent or pretty good, or a negative rating of just fair or poor?

1%	Excellent
26%	Pretty good
<b>27%</b>	<b>TOTAL POSITIVE</b>
<b>67%</b>	<b>TOTAL NEGATIVE</b>
34%	Just fair
33%	Poor
7%	Undecided/Refused

**Q's 06 THROUGH 09 WERE COMMISSIONED BY THE DETROIT FREE PRESS, WLNS TV 6, WXYZ TV 7, WOOD TV 8, AND WJRT TV 12 (ABC).**

\_\_06. If Proposal 1 is approved by voters, the state sales tax would be increased from 6 to 7 cents on the dollar and gasoline taxes will be increased to provide 1.3 billion dollars per year in increased funding for road improvements, along with 300 million dollars per year in additional funding for local public schools, 100 million for mass transit programs and 95 million dollars in new funding for local governments to provide services. Based on this description and what you may know or have heard or read about Proposal 1, if the election were held today and you were to vote, would you vote **YES** to adopt Proposal 1, or would you vote **NO** to reject it?

**[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: "Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting YES or NO?" AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

22%	Yes
7%	Lean toward Yes
<b>29%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE YES</b>
<b>61%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE NO</b>
56%	No
5%	Lean toward No
10%	Undecided/Refused

**AMONG VERY CERTAIN MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> VOTERS**

22%	Yes
6%	Lean toward Yes
<b>28%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE YES</b>
<b>64%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE NO</b>
59%	No
5%	Lean toward No
8%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_07. Now I would like to read the actual ballot language of Proposal 1. The title reads -- Amend the state constitution to increase the maximum sales tax rate from 6% to 7%, eliminate the sales and use taxes on gasoline and diesel fuel, dedicate a portion of the use tax revenue to the school aid fund, revise the permissible uses of the School Aid Fund, and trigger other laws that include dedicating revenue for roads and other transportation purposes.

The ballot language goes on to say the proposed constitutional amendment would: Set the maximum sales tax rate at 7% -- it is now 6%. Exempt gasoline and diesel fuel from sales and use taxes. Dedicate a portion of use tax to School Aid Fund. Allow the use of the School Aid Fund for community colleges and career and technical education and prohibit use for higher education. It would trigger laws that include, but are not limited to: an increase in the sales and use tax to 7%; increase the motor fuel tax on gasoline and diesel fuel and increase vehicle registration fees, and dedicate revenue for roads and other transportation purposes. Require competitive bidding and warranties for road projects; and increase the earned income tax credit. After hearing the ballot language, if the election were held today and you were to vote, would you vote YES to adopt Proposal 1, or, would you vote NO to reject it?

**[IF UNDECIDED, ASK]** Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting YES on Proposal 1, or, would you lean toward voting NO?

21%	Yes -----	<b>ASK Q.8</b>
6%	Lean toward Yes -----	<b>ASK Q.8</b>
<b>27%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE YES</b>	
<b>64%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE NO</b>	
59%	No -----	<b>GO TO Q.9</b>
5%	Lean toward No -----	<b>GO TO Q.9</b>
10%	Undecided/Refused -----	<b>ASK Q.10</b>

#### **AMONG VERY CERTAIN MAY 5<sup>TH</sup> VOTERS**

20%	Yes
6%	Lean toward Yes
<b>26%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE YES</b>
<b>67%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE NO</b>
63%	No
4%	Lean toward No
7%	Undecided/Refused

08. What is the main reason why you would vote “yes” to adopt Proposal 1? [**WRITE COMMENT AS STATED, THEN GO TO Q.10**]

**N=160**

53%	Road Repair is Needed
16%	Education Funding
6%	Funding is Needed
4%	All of the items described are needed
4%	Fair proposal; Everyone pays
3%	Fiscally responsible
3%	Only Plan Available; no Plan B
3%	Will Improve the Economy
2%	Approve in general
1%	Competitive bidding
1%	Higher education funding
1%	Pro-Sales tax increase
1%	Reasonable Cost
1%	Road Safety
0%	Earned Income Credit
2%	Undecided/Refused
0%	None

09. What is the main reason why you would vote “no” to reject Proposal 1? [**WRITE COMMENT AS STATED**]

**N=381**

31%	Too much in the proposal
22%	Against the tax increase – Taxes too high
13%	Wasteful Government spending
11%	Distrust Michigan Government – Governor Snyder
5%	Funding is Not Needed – Other ways to fund
5%	Roads will not get fixed
3%	It’s a tax on the Middle Class - Poor
2%	Hidden Agenda
1%	Education funding cuts have been made already
1%	Education will not get the money promised
1%	Need more information first
1%	Need Toll Roads to pay for roads
1%	Repeal Snyder’s business tax cuts
1%	Separate the Roads and Education funding
1%	Take the money from the General Fund
1%	Too much money
1%	Undecided/Refused
1%	Vehicle registration fees
0%	Trucks and transportation companies should pay
0%	None
0%	Should be gas tax only to fund roads

### Q. 9A WAS COMMISSIONED BY THE DETROIT FREE PRESS

\_\_09A. If Proposal 1 fails, there is currently no Plan B in place to adequately fund what nearly everyone agrees are necessary repairs and improvements to the state's roads and bridges. The Governor and the Legislature tried to come up with a purely legislative solution last session but they were unsuccessful. Knowing that the Michigan Legislature may not be able to come up with a new road funding plan both houses and the Governor can agree on, let me ask you a final time, if the election were held today, would you vote **YES** to adopt Proposal 1, or **NO** to reject it?

**[IF UNDECIDED, ASK: "Well, if the election were held today and you had to decide right now, would you lean toward voting YES or NO?" AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

21%	Yes
9%	Lean toward Yes
<b>30%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE YES</b>
<b>63%</b>	<b>TOTAL VOTE NO</b>
59%	No
4%	Lean toward No
7%	Undecided/Refused

### Q'S 10 THROUGH 24 WERE COMMISSIONED BY THE MICHIGAN HEALTH AND HOSPITAL ASSOCIATION, THE MICHIGAN MUNICIPAL LEAGUE, AND THE MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF HEALTH PLANS

\_\_10. Overall, how would you rate the condition of roads and bridges in Michigan – are they in excellent condition, pretty good condition, only fair condition or poor condition?

1%	Excellent condition
4%	Good condition
29%	Only fair condition
67%	Poor condition
0%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_11. If Proposal 1 is rejected by voters, should Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature begin to work immediately on an alternative plan to provide the funding needed to fix the roads, or, should they work on addressing other issues instead and do nothing on a road funding plan at this time?

87%	Immediately begin working on an alternative road funding plan
11%	Should work on other issues instead/do nothing on road funding at this time – <b>GO TO Q.13</b>
2%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_12. How important is it for Governor Snyder and the Michigan Legislature to develop an alternative road funding plan as soon as possible -- is it essential, very important but not essential, somewhat important or not important at all?

- 47% Essential
- 34% Very important but not essential
- 7% Somewhat important
- 1% Not important at all
- 11% Undecided/Refused

\_\_13. Because it is required by state law, Michigan uses about one of every 10 gasoline tax dollars to help pay for mass transit, local dial-a-ride services, maintenance of harbors, improving rail service and to pay for bike and hiking trails. Should Michigan continue using gas taxes to pay for these other transportation infrastructures, or should they not be paid for and allowed to deteriorate?

- 64% Yes, gasoline taxes should continue to be used to pay for all transportation infrastructure
- 21% No, Michigan cannot afford to spend gas tax dollars on these services
- 5% Combination (**VOLUNTEERED**)
- 0% Undecided/Refused

\_\_14. Governor Snyder, the Michigan Legislature, and experts in the field of road improvement planning estimate that Michigan needs to invest at least \$1.2 to \$1.3 billion dollars more per year to make needed repairs to Michigan's roads and bridges. To come up with that amount of additional funding for roads, do you think it will be necessary to raise state taxes, fees, or both as part of any road funding plan, or, do you think Governor Snyder and Michigan Legislature can raise the needed funding just by cutting existing state programs and services?

- 35% It will be necessary to raise state taxes, fees or both
- 37% Funding can be raised just by cutting existing state programs and services
- 10% Combination of both cuts and new taxes (**VOLUNTEERED**)
- 18% Undecided/Refused

**Q'S 15 AND 16 WERE NOT RELEASED AT THE REQUEST OF THE CLIENT**

Now I would like to describe several specific ideas and proposals that have been discussed as ways to raise the \$1.2 to \$1.3 billion dollars per year to fund transportation improvements. For each proposal I describe, please tell me if you favor or oppose each one. The **(First/Next)** proposal is...

**[ROTATE (Q.17/Q.18) AND (Q.19 TO Q.22)]**

\_\_17. [One/Another] possibility would be to increase the state sales tax by one penny (the first sales tax increase in 21 years) and specify in the constitution that all new revenues from the penny increase must go to roads, bridges and transportation. **IF FAVOR/OPOSE, ASK:** “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” **AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

37%	Strongly favor
27%	Somewhat favor
<b>64%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>32%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPOSE</b>
9%	Somewhat oppose
23%	Strongly oppose
4%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_18. [One/Another] way to fund transportation improvements would be to raise the 19-cents per gallon state gas tax for the first time in 18 years. Raise it by 11 cents a year for each of the next 3 years, and then tie its growth to inflation, and also raise annual vehicle registration fees for passenger and commercial vehicles, including heavy trucks. Would you favor or oppose this proposal? **[IF FAVOR/OPOSE, ASK:** “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” **AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

12%	Strongly favor
15%	Somewhat favor
<b>27%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>66%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPOSE</b>
15%	Somewhat oppose
51%	Strongly oppose
7%	Undecided/Refused

**INTRO TO Q.19 THROUGH Q.22** [One/Another] proposal to raise \$1.3 billion dollars more per year for Michigan’s roads and bridges would be for Governor Snyder and the Legislature to make deep spending cuts in other state programs and services. To raise that much revenue, deep cuts would have to be made to Michigan’s budget and there only a few areas where enough money can be found to make a difference. Would you favor or oppose . . . . **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

<b>[ROTATE Q.19 THROUGH Q.22]</b>		<b>STRG FAVOR</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>	<b>STRG OPPOSE</b>	<b>UND D/K</b>
19.	Major cuts in K-12 education and schools to pay for roads?	3%	9%	88%	74%	3%
20.	Major cuts in support for health care for low-income women, children, the disabled and senior citizens to pay for roads?	3%	11%	86%	74%	3%
21.	Major cuts in support for Michigan’s universities and community colleges to pay for roads?	11%	31%	63%	47%	6%
22.	Major cuts in state support for revenue sharing that local governments use to pay for local police and firefighters to pay for roads?	6%	20%	76%	59%	4%

\_\_23. Thinking about the four potential alternatives to funding road and bridge repair in Michigan that I just read to you, which one would you prefer the most? **[READ AND ROTATE 1 THROUGH 4]**

37%	Increasing the state sales tax by 1 penny, from 6 to 7 cents on the dollar, and guarantee in the constitution that all of the funding must go to transportation, roads and bridges
10%	Raising the gasoline tax by 11 cents a gallon per year for the next three years and limit future increases to the rate of inflation or 5%, whichever is less.
12%	Making deep budget cuts in other state programs, including funding for public schools, universities and community colleges, healthcare, and local police and firefighters
0%	A combination of the alternatives -- <b>VOLUNTEERED [ASK: “But if you could only choose just one of the alternatives I just read, which one would you choose?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]</b>
17%	Undecided/Refused

**NOTE: IN Q. 23, THE RESULTS OF ONE OPTION GARNERING 24% WAS NOT RELEASED AT THE REQUEST OF THE CLIENT.**

\_\_24. The state Legislature generally takes a summer recess and does not meet during most of the summer months. The Governor has the power to call a “special session” of the Legislature, keeping lawmakers at work and in session for a specified period of time to address a specific issue. If Governor Snyder called a special summer session of the Legislature to keep lawmakers at work until they pass a proposal to approve of a plan to fund road improvements, would you favor or oppose that action by the Governor? **[IF FAVOR/OPPOSE, ASK: “Would that be strongly or somewhat?” AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

70%	Strongly favor
15%	Somewhat favor
<b>85%</b>	<b>TOTAL FAVOR</b>
<b>12%</b>	<b>TOTAL OPPOSE</b>
5%	Somewhat oppose
7%	Strongly oppose
3%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_30. Based on your personal experience or what you know or have heard or read, do you support or oppose the efforts of the Tea Party movement? **[IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE, ASK: ‘Do you strongly or somewhat (SUPPORT/OPPOSE) the Tea Party movement?’ AND CODE BEST RESPONSE]**

12%	Strongly supports Tea Party movement
18%	Somewhat supports Tea Party movement
<b>30%</b>	<b>SUPPORTS TEA PARTY MOVEMENT</b>
<b>45%</b>	<b>OPPOSES TEA PARTY MOVEMENT</b>
11%	Somewhat opposes Tea Party movement
34%	Strongly opposes Tea Party movement
25%	Undecided/Refused

\_\_37. Generally speaking, do you consider yourself a Republican or a Democrat?

**(IF DEM)** Do you consider yourself a strong Democrat or a not very strong Democrat?

**(IF INDEP)** Do you consider yourself closer to the Republican or Democratic Party?

**(IF REP)** Do you consider yourself a strong Republican or not a very strong Republican?

20%	Strong Democrat	
8%	Not Strong Democrat	
12%	Independent-Lean Democrat	<b>40% DEMOCRAT</b>
20%	Independent	
12%	Independent-Lean Republican	
8%	Not Strong Republican	
18%	Strong Republican	<b>38% REPUBLICAN</b>
0%	Other	
2%	Undecided/Refused	<b>22% INDEPENDENT &amp; OTHER</b>