



From: Anniken Williams, Public Policy Polling

To: Interested Parties

Subject: Large Majority Consider Air Pollution a Serious Problem; Regional Transportation Modernization Plan Attracts Bipartisan Support in Maryland

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that a large majority of voters in Maryland consider air pollution to be a serious problem, and regional action to reduce pollution from the transportation sector attracts bipartisan support. Air pollution is a concern for 74% of those polled in Maryland, with 33% considering air pollution a very serious problem and 41% considering it a somewhat serious problem. Only 5% of respondents do not consider it a problem at all. 81% think that cars and trucks contribute either a great deal (40%) or somewhat (41%) to air pollution, and there is significant bipartisan support for state and regional plans to address transportation-related air pollution.

- Nearly three-in-four Maryland voters (73%) support a regional plan for modernizing our transportation system and limiting air pollution by investing in electric vehicles, public transportation, and safer communities for walking and biking. This proposal attracts strong bipartisan support; 80% of Democrats, 68% of Republicans, and 61% of Independents support the plan.
- Nearly three-in-four voters (73%) support the Maryland state government acting to reduce air pollution from cars and trucks by investing in the state transportation system and relying more on fuel-efficient, electric cars and trucks, mass transit, and other public transportation options. There is strong bipartisan backing for action; 81% of Democrats, 64% of Republicans, and 57% of Independents support the state taking such steps to reduce air pollution from cars and trucks.

Other key findings from the survey include:

- A large majority (68%) of voters consider climate change to be a very serious (46%) or somewhat serious (22%) problem.
- A plurality of voters (40%) think the state government is doing too little to address air pollution from cars and trucks. Just 14% think the state is doing too much.
- 72% strongly (50%) or somewhat (22%) favor requiring the auto industry to continue to meet increased fuel efficiency standards.
- Maryland voters believe a regional transportation modernization plan will have a positive effect in the region. 48% say they think it would have a positive effect on jobs and 52% think it will have a positive effect on people's health.

PPP surveyed 437 Maryland voters from May 31-June 1, 2018. The margin of error is +/- 4.7%. 60% of interviews for the poll were conducted over the phone with 40% interviewed over the internet to reach respondents who don't have landline telephones.

