



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 Vermont

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A new Public Policy Polling survey finds that a large majority of voters in Vermont 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 71% of those polled in Vermont, with 30% considering air pollution a very serious problem and 41% considering it a somewhat serious problem. Only 4% of respondents do not consider it a problem at all. 85% think that cars and trucks contribute either a great deal (43%) or somewhat (42%) to air pollution, and there is significant bipartisan support for state and regional plans to address transportation-related air pollution.

- Three-in-four Vermont voters (75%) 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; 86% of Democrats, 59% of Republicans, and 76% of Independents support the regional plan.
- Nearly seven-in-ten voters (68%) support the Vermont 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. This includes backing from 87% of Democrats and 67% of Independents.

Other key findings from the survey include:

- A large majority (77%) of voters consider climate change to be a very serious (52%) or somewhat serious (25%) problem. 88% of Democrats, 60% of Republicans, and 77% of Independents consider it a serious problem.
- 76% strongly (52%) or somewhat (24%) favor requiring the auto industry to continue to meet increased fuel efficiency standards.
- Overall, voters believe a regional transportation modernization plan will have a positive impact in the area. 41% say they think it would have a positive effect on jobs and 50% think it will have a positive effect on people's health.

PPP surveyed 409 Vermont voters from May 31-June 1, 2018. The margin of error is +/- 4.8%. 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.

