## Minnesota Department of Transportation Mn/DOT Statewide Omnibus Study 2003/2004

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### Omnibus Study 2003/2004

### **Background/Objectives**

Since 1987, Mn/DOT has annually sought public opinion about transportation through an omnibus project. Historical data exists for issues such as satisfaction with services, safety perceptions, trip predictability, public involvement and other transportation related issues.

For this 2003/2004 wave of the Omnibus survey five Mn/DOT offices participated in this shared-cost study. The variety of issues addressed is seen below:

- > perception of Mn/DOT's capabilities to perform selected tasks/activities,
- > perception of Mn/DOT's performance in providing selected services,
- > perception of the reliability of various Mn/DOT communications,
- ➤ trips to work,
- biking and walking,
- > attitudes regarding revenue enhancement ideas, and
- > rest area commercialization and sponsorship by private business.

### Who We Talked To/Methodology

A total of 800 telephone interviews were conducted with households throughout the state of Minnesota -400 in the 8-county Twin Cities Metro area and 400 in Greater Minnesota. The 8-county Twin Cities Metro area included the counties of:

Anoka	Carver	Chisago	Dakota
Hennepin	Ramsey	Scott	Washington

Respondents were screened to be 18 years of age or older and not work in a profession where knowledge of the research process or topic may present biased responses. For purposes of this study, these professions included anyone in the family working for The Minnesota Department of Transportation, a marketing research firm, a newspaper, radio or TV station.

A random digit dial calling sample was used to ensure that all households, including those with unlisted telephone numbers or those who recently moved, had the chance to participate. The calling sample was created to be proportionate to county population.

All interviews were conducted using a computer-assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) system at MarketLine Research's facility located in Dinkytown USA, next to the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis campus. Pretesting was done in November of 2003 and the majority of the data collection occurred in December of 2003.

The margin of error due to sampling for an ending total sample of 800 is +/-3.5% and for the ending area samples of 400 is +/-4.9%. All statistical testing was conducted at the 95% confidence level.

A brief summary of call results is presented in the table below.

	Statewide	Call Result Summary Twin Cities Metro area	Greater MN
Number of interviews	800	400	400
Number of milerviews	800	400	400
Incidence of qualified			
respondents		96%	94%
-			
Average interview length	21 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> minutes		

A copy of the questionnaire is included in the appendix of this report.

### **Executive Summary**

This omnibus study provided the opportunity for Mn/DOT to efficiently and effectively combine issues raised by various offices within the Department.

### **Overall Trend Information**

Trend information (identically worded questions for tracking performance) collected in this year's survey when compared to the previous tracking survey (2002/2003) showed a consistency in public perceptions of Department performance. The one exception was Mn/DOT's clearing roads of snow and ice. For this service the public's perception of Mn/DOT performance declined significantly this year compared to last year.

### **Service Perceptions**

The public has the highest confidence in Mn/DOT's most visible services – building and maintaining roads and bridges. This is followed by confidence in the ability to communicate accurate information about plans and projects. The lowest confidence ratings are associated with future delivery of service – developing long-term transportation plans followed by providing alternative transportation options.

A close examination of customer feedback indicates that the proportion of Greater Minnesota residents giving Mn/DOT high ratings (7-10) exceeds that of the Twin Cities Metro area for all services evaluated. Confidence ratings for persons in Greater Minnesota are significantly higher than for persons living in the Twin Cities Metro area when it comes to Mn/DOT's ability to build roads and bridges and develop long-term transportation planning.

### **Mn/DOT** Communications

Reliability of communications was addressed in two ways: *confidence in Mn/DOT's ability* to provide reliable communications and perceived reliability of the communications themselves. Confidence was rated in terms of: 'confidence that Mn/DOT can do a good job at providing reliable communications'; with three-quarters rating confident or very confident. On the second question, half (52%) perceive Mn/DOT's communications as *being* reliable, with one-third (31%) neutral on this issue.

- Confidence ratings for persons in Greater Minnesota are significantly higher than for persons living in the Twin Cities Metro area when it comes to Mn/DOT's ability to provide reliable communications.
- Performance ratings of Mn/DOT communications reliability are consistent across the state.
- As seen in the previous assessment period, females hold significantly higher opinions of communications reliability than do males.
- Perceptions of reliability are also significantly higher among persons living in households with annual incomes less than \$50,000.

Nearly a quarter of all respondents were unable to recall a topic associated with Mn/DOT that was communicated in the past year. Of the remaining three-quarters, 1 in 5 recalled construction and road construction *planning* communications.

Other topics mentioned (by frequency) included:

- Light rail,
- Money, costs and budget stories,
- Road closings,
- Road maintenance,
- Weather and snow reports, and
- Traffic congestion and updates.

Nearly one in 5 (statewide) have visited Mn/DOT's website in the past year. Site access is highest in the Twin Cities Metro area. Visitors to the site are primarily seeking construction and traffic congestion information, and nearly all find what they are seeking. Ability to find site information varies little demographically.

### Maintenance

Statewide, on a 10-point scale, half or more of all customers rated performance of all the Mn/DOT maintenance services seven or greater. Highest ratings are associated with making highway signs clearly readable, clearing roads of snow and ice and making road stripes and markings clearly visible. Satisfaction with all services is correlated to age – the younger the person the higher the performance rating.

Performance ratings for snow and ice removal declined significantly this year compared to last year. While this is the only rating that changed significantly in the past year, it should be cautioned that this particular measure shows the least stability; the average performance ratings have fluctuated to a similar degree since 1996. Being the measure that most heavily relies on weather conditions, it is **possible** that the fluctuation over the years has as much to do with variability in snowfall as it has to do with service performance.

#### **Trips to Work**

For the first time, the question for commute departure time (in order to distinguish peak period commuters) was asked as an open-ended question. This means we have more specific departure times, and they are characterized by the following:

- More than half the commuters depart for work or school in the morning between 6:30 a.m. and 8:14 a.m.,
- An equal number depart for home in the afternoon between 4:00 p.m. and 5:44 p.m.,
- The largest exit in the morning occurs around 7:00 a.m. over one in 10 departing (13%), and
- The largest exit in the afternoon occurs around 5:00 p.m. nearly one in 5 departing (18%).

Statewide the single occupant vehicle continues to be the dominant means of travel to and from work, while nonwork-related travel encompasses a broader use of alternative modes of transportation.

Telecommuting is engaged in by nearly one in 5 commuters, for an average of about nine days a month per person.

#### **Biking & Walking**

One in 10 regular commuters have used a bicycle to get to work or school in the past year. One in 5 non-cycling commuters would consider bicycling even if only a few days a year.

Eight in 10 commuters see distance as an impediment to bicycling to work or school. For most a distance of more than 10 miles becomes a limiting factor.

For both current and potential cyclists, infrastructure (shoulders, lighting, signage, bike paths, trails and connecting routes) is of higher importance than post-cycling amenities (storage, showers, lockers and bus racks), as enticements to cycle to work or school.

Three-quarters of those surveyed perceived Minnesota to be *Somewhat* or *Very safe* for bicycling. More than eight in 10 feel Minnesota is *Somewhat* or *Very safe* for walking. Drivers are viewed as the primary contributors to unsafe conditions for pedestrians; ignoring crosswalks, speeding and preoccupation with things such as cell phones are the most frequently cited behaviors that contribute to unsafe conditions.

Narrow bike trails and paths that are too close to roadways are most-frequently mentioned as contributing to unsafe cycling conditions, followed by mention of unsafe driving behaviors of motorists as well as of cyclists themselves.

#### **Revenue Enhancement**

Several revenue enhancement ideas were presented. All ideas were positively received by at least one half of those surveyed. Sense of appropriateness or support did not vary significantly by geography.

Eight ideas were evaluated for the sale or leasing of advertising rights on Mn/DOT property. Properties included: state cars, state maintenance vehicles, facilities such as office buildings, truck stations and parking ramps, ramp entrances, changeable message signs, publications, and Mn/DOT sponsored website, radio and TV programs. For selling or leasing advertising rights on Mn/DOT property, media formats such as Mn/DOT publications, sponsored radio programs and website were viewed as the most appropriate venues – by more than eight in 10 persons. **Revenue Enhancement** – continued

- Perceived appropriateness diminished as venues changed to transportation infrastructure-related elements such as snowplows, changeable message signs and freeway entrance ramps.
- Sense of appropriateness was correlated to age. With increasing age, persons were less likely to find each of the eight ideas appropriate.

When asked about the funding of road improvements for new commercial or industrial development, more than half the persons surveyed felt the funding should be the responsibility of the business doing the developing. Nearly onequarter would have road users cover the development cost by way of state tax dollars.

Sale of Mn/DOT specialty license plates is seen as an appropriate means of revenue enhancement by nearly nine in 10 persons statewide. Females and younger persons are significantly more likely to find this form of revenue enhancement appropriate. More than half of the persons statewide stated they would be interested in purchasing these plates if it resulted in extra revenue.

More than eight in 10 persons statewide find appropriate the leasing or selling of space for development of small businesses having value to commuters at Park & Ride lots. Nearly half rated this proposal "Very appropriate".

#### **Rest Area Operations**

## Two proposals were described for customer evaluation: sponsorship of rest areas by private business and commercialization of rest areas with various types of services. Both proposals received support by 8 out of 10 respondents.

More than half surveyed statewide have used out-of-state rest stops with commercial services. On average, Minnesotans have made nearly nineteen stops in the past two years at such rest areas.

- Individuals who have visited other state rest areas with commercial services are significantly more supportive of commercialization of Minnesota rest areas.
- Other state rest area experience does not influence attitudes regarding appropriateness or support for business sponsorship at Minnesota rest areas.

#### Rest area commercialization (8 out of 10 supporting)

Persons without college degrees are significantly more likely to be supportive of rest area commercialization. Level of support is also correlated to age. With decreasing age, persons are more likely to support commercialization.

- Types of services were approved for implementation at rest areas in the following order:
  - o services geared for truckers
  - o gasoline service stations
  - o tourism-related gift shops
  - o convenience stores
  - o fast food restaurants

### Business sponsorship of rest areas (8 out of 10 supporting)

Again, level of support is correlated to age. With decreasing age, persons are more likely to support business sponsorship of rest areas

Sponsor appropriateness is viewed very open-mindedly except when it comes to potential sponsors from gambling, special interest groups, religious/political organizations or adult oriented businesses.

When asked if they would be supportive if rest areas had to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, nine in 10 would be supportive of commercialization activities at rest areas and/or businesses sponsoring the rest areas.

### Note to reader

On the following pages, a few commonalities will be seen as described below:

- Due to multiple responses and to rounding of decimals, total columns in tables will not always be equal to 100%
- Where questions allowed for multiple responses tables make reference.
- The following notation appears with the first chart having significant differences. Thereafter all charts with gray shaded cells are indicating the statistical difference.

Indicates significant difference 95% +/- 5%	
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Testing for statistical significance was conducted wherever appropriate to do so. Where there is a noticeable difference between two numbers, if no significant difference is noted, please assume that there is none.

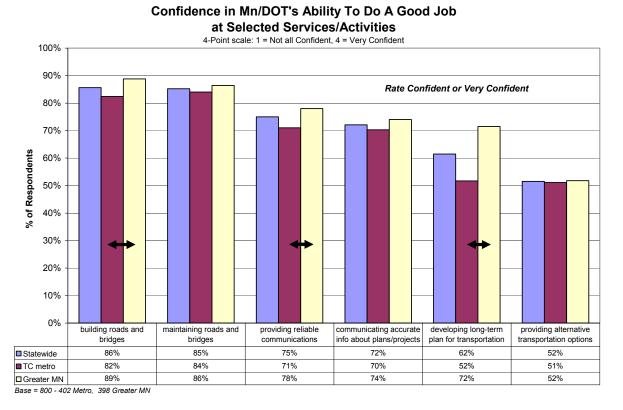
### **Summary of Detailed Findings**

### **Service Perceptions**

- Q. This survey is about several things that Mn/DOT is responsible for; but to begin, we would like you to think about some of the different services and activities that Mn/DOT does.
- Q1. Please think first about your <u>confidence</u> in Mn/DOT. For each of the following activities, please tell me how confident you are that Mn/DOT can do a good job at each of these tasks. Please respond with: Very confident, confident, not very confident or not at all confident.

*How confident are you in Mn/DOT's ability to do a good job at...?* 

### Confidence in Mn/DOT continues to be highest for tasks that are most visible. Persons who live in Greater Minnesota rate all services and activities higher than Twin Cities Metro area residents.



A majority of respondents are confident in Mn/DOT's ability to do a good job at each of the activities described. As seen in the previous tracking period, the highest confidence ratings continue to be associated with the most visible Mn/DOT activities - building and maintaining roads and bridges. The lowest confidence ratings are for services and activities that relate to future delivery of service. Respondents in Greater Minnesota are significantly more confident in Mn/DOT ability to build good roads and bridges, provide reliable communications and develop a longterm plan for transportation than those in the metro area. Female and metro area subgroups have significantly higher confidence in Mn/DOT's ability to develop long-term plans. Also respondents rating the reliability of Mn/DOT communications as high (7-10) are significantly more confident regarding all Mn/DOT services and activities.



### **Trend Information Summary**

### Confidence in Mn/DOT's Abilities

Please think first about your **confidence** in Mn/DOT. For each of the following activities, please tell me how confident you are that Mn/DOT can do a good job at each of these tasks. Please respond with: very confident, confident, not very confident or not at all confident.

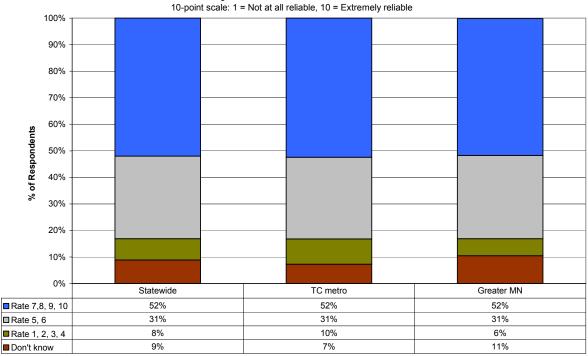
How confident are you in Mn/DOT's ability to do a good job at:	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>'02/03</b>	<b>'01/02</b>	2000
Percent Confident/Very confident				
Building roads and bridges	86%	82%	85%	87%
Maintaining roads and bridges	85%	83%	85%	84%
Developing a long-term plan for transportation priorities	62%	62%	63%	60%
Communicating accurate information about their transportation plans and projects to Minnesota citizens	72%	68%	71%	70%
Providing alternative transportation options for the future such as commuter rail, high speed rail, non-stop coaches, and so on	52%	50%		
Providing reliable communications	75%	73%		

There are no statistically significant differences in the ratings between 2003/2004 and 2002/2003.

### Communications

Q4. We will now focus on Mn/DOT's communications efforts. Thinking about <u>all</u> of the different communications provided by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, how reliable are these communications, in your opinion?

### Half of all respondents rate Mn/DOT's communications as reliable, one- third hold neutral opinions.



Reliability of Mn/DOT's Communications

Base = 800, - 402 Metro, 398 Greater MN

The average rating by all respondents of Mn/DOT communications efforts was between 6 and 7 (6.7) on the 10point scale. Females hold significantly higher opinions of communications reliability than do males (6.9 versus 6.5 average rating, respectively). Opinions are also significantly higher among respondents in households with annual incomes less than \$50,000 than those in households with annual incomes of \$50,000 or greater (6.9 versus 6.5 average rating, respectively).

### Communications - continued

- *Q5.* When you think of all the communications you've heard relating to Mn/DOT over this past year, what information or stories come to mind for you?
- Q5b. What else do you recall hearing about Mn/DOT?

### Nearly one-quarter of all respondents stated there is no top-of-mind story from the past year that they can recall that is associated with Mn/DOT.

<b>Recalled Stories/Information</b>	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Nothing	24	20	29
Construction, road construction plans	20	21	18
Light rail	12	18	5
Money, costs & budget stories	11	13	8
Road closings & maintenance reports	11	11	11
Weather, snow related reports & events	9	9	9
Traffic - congestion/reports & updates	7	10	4
Illegal, questionable Mn/DOT activities	2	3	1
Metered lights	1	1	1
Don't know	12	8	17
Base	800	402	398
Added probe for recalled stories			
	%	%	%
Construction, road construction plans	8	9	7
Money, costs & budget stories	8	8	7
Light rail – cost/location	5	7	3
Weather, snow related reports & events	4	3	5
Road closings & maintenance reports	4	3	4
Traffic related – congestion/carpool lanes	3	4	2
Safety related – messages / construction zone safety	1	2	1
Illegal, questionable Mn/DOT activities	1	2	1
None, not much, nothing else	64	61	66
Don't know	4	3	5
Base	800	402	398

Note: multiple responses accepted

Construction and road construction plans were the most commonly cited stories (statewide). Recall of information or stories related to Mn/DOT is significantly less in Greater Minnesota. Twin Cities Metro area respondents are more likely to recall information or stories associated with light rail than those in Greater Minnesota. But there is half as much mention this year as last. Recall of stories relating to money or the budget is nearly twice what it was in the previous 2002/2003 survey – rising from 6% to the current 11%. Recall of stories dealing with road closings and maintenance increased a similar amount.

### Mn/DOT Website

- *Q6. Do you have access to the Internet?*
- *Q7.* Have you visited Mn/DOT's website over the past year?

Internet access		Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
		%	%	%
At home		66	73	59
At work		46	54	39
Neither		25	18	32
Refused		0	0	0
	Base	800	402	398
Note: multiple responses accepted				

### Access to the Internet at work <u>and</u> at home is significantly higher in the Twin Cities Metro area than it is in Greater Minnesota.

Notably, more educated and affluent households (\$50K) are significantly more likely to have access to the Internet at either work or home or both.

### *Mn/DOT* website use is greatest in the Twin Cities Metro area.

Mn/DOT website visited in past year.	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Yes	18	23	12
No	82	77	88
Base	602	330	272

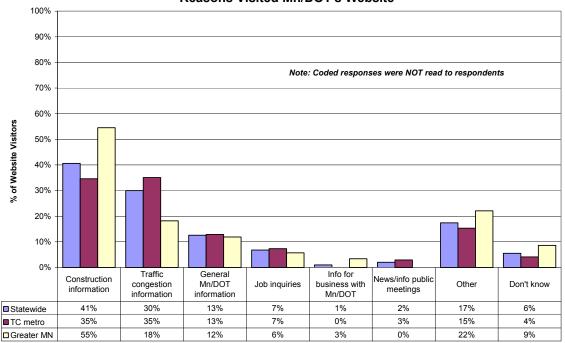
Nearly one in 5 (statewide) has accessed Mn/DOT's website in the past year. Mn/DOT website access is significantly higher in the Twin Cities Metro area than it is in Greater Minnesota.

Despite higher access levels among the more educated and affluent, those less educated and with lower household incomes (<\$50K) are significantly more likely to have accessed the Mn/DOT website in the past year. This is consistent with the previous 2002/2003 survey.

### Mn/DOT Website - continued

*Q8.* For what reason or reasons did you visit *Mn/DOT*'s website?

Construction information and traffic congestion information are the most mentioned reasons for visiting the Mn/DOT website.



#### Reasons Visited Mn/DOT's Website

*Q9. Did you find what you were looking for at this Mn/DOT website?* 

Q50. Found what was searched for.	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Yes	91	88	97
No	7	10	0
Don't know / don't recall	3	3	3
Base	108	75	32

Nine in 10 website visitors find what they are looking for on Mn/DOT's website. Ability to find information on the website does not vary significantly by age, gender, education, income level or geographic area.

Base = 108 - 75 Metro, 32 Greater MN

### **Trend Information Summary**

### **Mn/DOT Communications**

We will now focus on Mn/DOT's communications efforts. Thinking about all of the different communications provided by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, how reliable are these communications, in your opinion? Again, use a scale of 1-10 with 10 being extremely reliable and 1 being not at all reliable.

	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>'02/03</b>	<b>'01/02</b>	1999	
Mean rating					
Statewide	6.69	6.63	6.50	6.84	
Twin Cities Metro area	6.61	6.54	6.47	6.75	
Greater MN	6.77	6.71	6.52	6.92	
Percent rate 7, 8, 9, or 10 on 10-point scale	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>'02/03</b>	<b>'01/02</b>	1999	
Statewide	52%	51%	49%	56%	
Twin Cities Metro area	52%	49%	49%	55%	
Greater MN	52%	53%	49%	56%	

There are no statistically significant differences in the ratings between 2003/2004 and 2002/2003.

### Mn/DOT Web Site

*Q7. Have you visited Mn/DOT's website over the past year?* 

	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>`02/03</b>
Percent having accessed		
Statewide	18%	19%
Twin Cities Metro area	23%	23%
Greater MN	12%	14%

*Q9. Did you find what you were looking for at this Mn/DOT website?* 

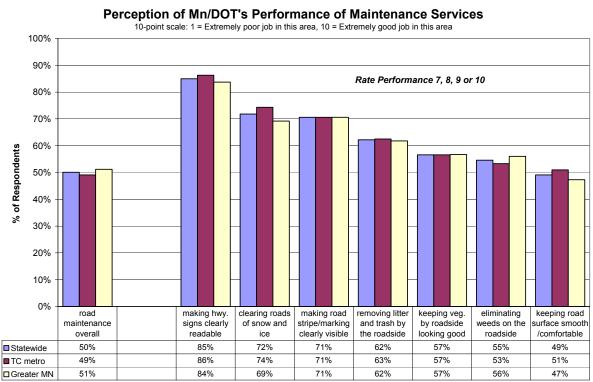
Percent successful	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>`02/03</b>
Statewide	91%	82%
Twin Cities Metro area	88%	85%
Greater MN	97%	78%

There are no statistically significant differences in the ratings between 2003/2004 and 2002/2003.

### Maintenance

Q2. The next question is about Mn/DOT's performance. For each service I read, I want to know how well you think Mn/DOT is doing in that area. This time use any number from 1 to 10; a 10 means they are doing an "extremely good" job in this area, and 1 means they are doing an "extremely poor" job in this area. A score of 5 means they are doing an average job in this area. Overall, how well has Mn/DOT been doing at...?

Performance ratings are highest for: signage, snow/ice removal and striping.



Base = 800 - 402 Metro, 398 Greater MN

Mean Ratings:

Statewid	e 6.4	8.1	7.4	7.4	6.9	6.7	6.6	6.4
Twin Cit Metro	ies 6.4	8.1	7.5	7.4	6.8	6.6	6.4	6.5
Greater N	AN 6.4	8.1	7.3	7.4	6.9	6.7	6.7	6.3

Road users (statewide) continue to give high performance ratings for services associated with the safe navigation of Minnesota's roads – highway signage, clearing roads of snow and ice and making road stripes visible. All garner a high level of performance from 70% or more of the respondents.

More than eight in 10 respondents are satisfied with making highway signs clearly readable (scoring a 7, 8, 9, or 10). The performance rating for clearing roads of snow and ice declined significantly when compared to the prior tracking period ratings. Currently, 72% of respondents are satisfied with this service (scoring a 7, 8, 9, or 10). This compares with 81% of respondents in the 2002/2003 survey.

Respondents who view Mn/DOT communications as highly reliable (7-10) are significantly more satisfied with performance on all services except for clearing roads of snow and ice. Satisfaction with all services is correlated to age - the younger the respondent the higher the satisfaction rating.

### Maintenance - continued

Q3. For what reason, or reasons, did you give "road maintenance overall" a rating of [INSERT RATING FROM Q2a.]

Reasons for Overall Rating	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Rating 7, 8, 9, 10			
Positive remarks general maintenance	46	49	42
- maintained well, good job, proactive	21	21	21
- snowplowing seen positively	11	11	12
- drivable/no complaints	10	12	8
- good or above average overall	9	7	11
- great compared to other states	8	9	6
- good use of budget dollars	7	7	7
Rating of 7, 8, 9, 10 Base	401	197	203
Rating 1, 2, 3, 4	%	%	%
Negative remarks general maintenance	46	43	49
- pothole repairs needed, slow fix	49	57	41
- roads not smooth - bumpy, cracked	31	34	28
- snowplowing – missed roads/icy	14	12	16
- roadside trash/litter	8	10	6
Rating of 1, 2, 3, 4 Base	88	42	46
Note: multiple responses accepted			

### Road surface has the greatest influence on shaping performance perceptions relating to overall road maintenance.

How the road surfaces are perceived to be maintained has the greatest influence on a respondent's view of Mn/DOT road maintenance, overall. Response to potholes and road surface are the most frequently mentioned specific roadway features associated with negative performance impressions.

Males are significantly more likely to cite satisfaction with 'general maintenance' than are females (60% versus 50%, respectively).

### **Trend Information Summary**

### **Evaluation of Mn/DOT's Performance**

The next question is about Mn/DOT's performance. For each service I read, I want to know how well you think Mn/DOT is doing in that area. This time use any number from 1 to 10; a 10 means they are doing an "extremely good" job in this area, and 1 means they are doing an "extremely poor" job in this area. A score of 5 means they are doing an average job in this area.

Overall, how well has Mn/DOT been doing at ...?

			<u>Sta</u>	<u>tewide</u> (mear	15 <u>)</u>	
	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>'02/03</b>	<b>'01/02</b>	2000	1996	1994
Road maintenance	6.4	6.3	6.3	7.1	7.0	7.3
Clearing roads of snow and ice	7.4	7.8	7.4	8.0	7.6	7.6
Keeping road surfaces smooth and comfortable (to drive on)	6.4	6.3	6.2	6.5	6.6	6.7
Eliminating weeds on the roadside	6.6	6.7	6.7	6.8	6.8	7.1
Making highway signs clearly readable	8.1	8.0	8.0	8.1	8.2	8.3
Making road stripes and markings clearly visible	7.4	7.2	7.2	7.3	7.7	7.5
Removing litter and trash by the roadside	6.9	6.9	6.9	7.2	7.3	7.6
Keeping the plants, grasses and flowers by the roadside looking good	6.7	6.8	6.7	6.8	6.8	7.2

There is a statistically significant difference in ratings between the 2003/2004 and 2002/2003 surveys for clearing roads of snow and ice. The statewide rating is significantly lower than the previous year.

### **Trips to Work**

### *Q25. Do you commute either to work or school?*

#### Twin Cities Statewide Metro **Greater MN** % % % Work 68 60 64 School 3 3 2 29 No 34 38 Base 800 402 398

Two-thirds of respondents commute to work or school.

# Males were significantly more likely say they commute than were females (71% versus 56%, respectively). Respondents in households having annual incomes of \$50k or more were significantly more likely to say they commute than were respondents in households with annual incomes less than \$50,000 (60% versus 50%, respectively).

### [ASKED OF THOSE RESPONDING 'NO' TO COMMUTING TO EITHER WORK OR SCHOOL IN Q25] *Q25a. Have you commuted to work or school in the last year?*

[IF BOTH ASK: Which have you done most often?]

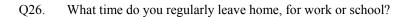
	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Work	12	13	11
School	2	3	1
No	86	84	88
Base	269	117	152

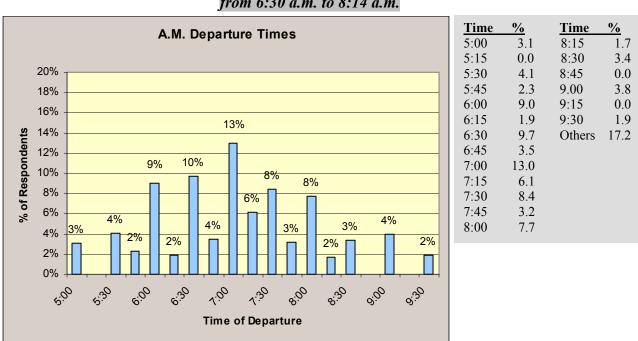
### [COMBINED RESPONSE OF CURRENT COMMUTING AND COMMUTING IN PAST YEAR Q25 & Q25a]

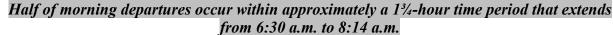
### Twin Cities Metro respondents were significantly more likely to be current or past year commuters than were respondents from Greater Minnesota.

	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Work	68	72	64
School	3	4	2
Don't know / don't recall	29	24	34
Base	800	402	398

### Trips to Work - continued

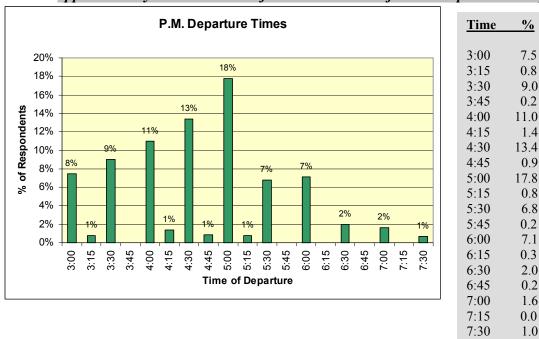






Q27. And what time do you regularly leave work or school, to go home?

There is less flexibility in afternoon departure times. Departures are staggered more to the half hour than are departures in the a.m. Like morning departures, a majority occurs within approximately a 1<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub>-hour time frame that extends from 4:00 p.m. to 5:44 p.m.



Others

18.0

### Trips to Work - continued

- *Q.* I am going to read a list of <u>most</u> of the methods people use to get around in Minnesota.
- *Q28a. Please tell me if you have used any of the following of travel in the past year for getting to or from work or school. In the past, did you...?*

### Alternatives to commuting in SOV's are utilized on a very limited basis throughout the year.

Travel Mode	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Drive by yourself	97	97	97
Go in a carpool or vanpool	21	22	20
Take the bus	13	20	4
Walk	16	16	17
Bicycle	10	10	10
Motorcycle	7	7	7
Some other way (rollerblades & snowmobiles)	2	2	3
Base	568	304	264
Note: multiple responses accepted			

Females were significantly more likely to car or vanpool than were males (26% versus 18%, respectively).

Q28b. Please tell me if you have used any of the following methods of travel for making non-work or non-school trips in the past year? In the past, did you...?

### Non-work related travel encompasses broader use of alternative modes of transportation. This is significantly truer in the Twin Cities Metro region.

Travel Mode	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Drive by yourself	96	95	98
Go in a carpool or vanpool	41	44	38
Take the bus	19	27	11
Walk	52	56	48
Bicycle	30	36	25
Motorcycle	10	12	8
Ride as a passenger in a car	92	93	91
Some other way	8	8	8
Base	800	402	398
Others specified			
	%	%	%
Airplane	4	4	4
Train	1	2	<1
Taxi	1	2	<1
Note: multiple responses accepted			

### Trips to Work - continued

*Q29. Which of those do you consider to be your primary means of traveling to work or school?* 

### Statewide the personal vehicle with a single occupant continues to be the dominant means of travel when commuting to and from work or school.

Travel Mode	Statewide %	Twin Cities Metro %	Greater MN* %
Drive by yourself	89	86	91
Go in a carpool or vanpool	5	5	5
Take the bus	4	7	1
Walk	2	2	2
Bicycle	<1	<1	<1
Motorcycle	<1	<1	<1
Base	568	304	264

*Q55.* Do you work at home some days, instead of commuting to your normal workplace?

### *Nearly one in 5 respondents who work full or part time telecommutes some days.*

Q55. Work at home some days	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
(Asked of employed persons)	%	%	%
Yes	19	22	17
No	77	75	79
Normally work in office at home	4	4	4
Refused	<1	<1	0
Base	590	310	279

*Q56.* How many days in a typical month, would you say you work from home instead of traveling to your normal workplace?

On average, respondents who telecommute do so about nine days a month.

<b>Q56.</b> Days/month work from home (Asked of those working at home some day)	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Mean	8.6	8.1	9.4
Base	110	65	45

Q56b. From your home, do you have access to your computer files at the office?

### More than one-third of respondents who have home Internet access are able to access computer files at the office.

Q56b. Access to office computer files	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
from home	%	%	%
Yes	36	38	35
No	62	61	65
Refused	1	2	1
Base	417	237	180

### **Trend Information Summary**

### Travel

Do you work at home some days instead of commuting to your normal workplace?

Yes No

Normally work in office at home 100%

	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>`02/03</b>
Percent telecommuting some days		
Statewide	19%	18%
Twin Cities Metro area	22%	18%
Greater MN	17%	18%

How many days, in a typical month, would you say you work from home INSTEAD of traveling to your normal workplace?

Mean number days telecommuting	<b>'03/04</b>	<b>`02/03</b>
Statewide	8.62	8.93
Twin Cities Metro area	8.08	7.52
Greater MN	9.42	10.57

There are no statistically significant differences in the ratings between 2003/2004 and 2002/2003.

### **Biking and Walking**

Q30. Would you consider bicycling to or from work or school even if only a few days a year?

### One in 5 would consider bicycling to or from work or school a few days a year or more.

	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Consideration	%	%	%
Yes	20	22	18
No	80	78	82
Base	513	275	238

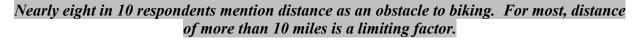
Respondents from households with annual incomes less than \$50,000 are significantly more likely to consider occasional biking than are respondents from households with annual incomes of \$50,000 or more (26% versus 18%, respectively).

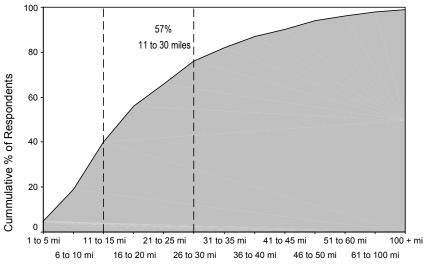
*Q31.* What is the <u>main</u> reason you would not consider bicycling to work or school?

## Distance is by far the greatest impediment to more people bicycling to or from work. Few other obstacles are perceived to stand in the way of commuting to work or school using a bicycle.

Main Reason Not Consider Bicycling	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Distance – too far / take too long	69	64	73
Job requires vehicle	8	8	9
Physical condition / health reasons	5	4	6
Safety – route / traffic	5	7	2
Route - not conducive/ interstate/no paths	5	7	2
Not motivated – no bike/ don't want to	4	3	4
Others	5	6	4
Refused	<1	<1	0
Bas	se 411	215	196

Q31c. How far a distance is it?





#### Travel Distance to Work or School

### Current Cyclist

Q32a. We want to learn how important, overall, any of the following are, to either keeping you as a commuting cyclist or to increasing the number of times you would cycle to work or school.

### For current cyclists, biking trail infrastructure with its paved shoulders, lighting and network of interconnecting routes is of greater importance than trail system maintenance or information issues.

Factors	Very & Somewhat Important (3/4)	Not very & Not at all Important (1/2)	Don't know
Base = 55	%	%	%
Paved shoulders	91	9	
Lighting on paths	90	10	
System of connected bicycle routes	89	11	
Bike lanes on roads	85	15	
Separate bike paths & trails	85	15	
Snow / ice removal on paved shoulders	79	21	
Information on bike routes	79	21	
Share-the-road signs	70	26	4
Information on bike commuting	69	31	
Snow / ice removal on bike lanes	68	32	
Snow / ice removal on bike paths	67	33	
Secure storage at work or school	66	34	
Showers & lockers at work or school	43	57	
Bike racks on buses	39	57	4

Mention of distance is

Mention of distance is

correlated to age.

more likely with

younger aged respondents.

### **Potential Cyclist**

*Q32b.* We want to learn how important any of the following are, in increasing the likelihood that you might commute by bicycle.

### Potential cyclists have similar priorities to those of current cyclists. Namely, they too put basic biking route infrastructure ahead of maintenance or other non-trail amenities.

Factors	Very & Somewhat Important (3/4)	Not very & Not at all Important (1/2)	Don't know	Significantly more likely to be important to
Base = 102	%	%	%	
Paved shoulders	94	6		
Separate bike paths & trails	89	11		Metro cyclists
Bike lanes on roads	87	11	2	HH incomes > \$50k
Secure storage at work or school	85	14	1	
System of connected bicycle routes	82	18		Metro cyclists
Information on bike routes	81	19		HH incomes <\$50k
Lighting on paths	79	20	1	Female cyclists
Snow / ice removal on paved shoulders	74	26		
Information on bike commuting	72	28		
Snow / ice removal on bike paths	72	28		
Snow / ice removal on bike lanes	71	27	2	
Share-the-road signs	69	30	1	Metro cyclists
Showers & lockers at work or school	50	48	2	
Bike racks on buses	36	60	4	

Current Cyclist & Potential Cyclist Combined Response

Paved shoulders are of top importance to both current and potential cyclists. Lighting on paths is of much lesser importance to potential cyclists than current cyclists (79% vs. 90%).

Factors	Very and Somewhat Important(3/4)	Not very and Not at all Important (1/2)	Don't know	Significantly more likely to be important to
Base = 157	%	%	%	
Paved shoulders	93	7		
Separate bike paths & trails	88	12		Metro cyclists
Bike lanes on roads	86	12	2	Metro cyclists, degreed
System of connected bicycle routes	84	16		Metro cyclists
Lighting on paths	83	17		Female cyclists
Information on bike routes	80	19	1	HH incomes <\$50k
Secure storage at work or school	78	21	1	Metro cyclists
Snow / ice removal on paved shoulders	76	24		HH incomes <\$50k
Information on bike commuting	71	29		Metro cyclists
Share-the-road signs	69	28	3	
Snow / ice removal on bike lanes	70	29	1	HH incomes <\$50k
Snow / ice removal on bike paths	70	30		
Showers & lockers at work or school	50	48	2	Metro cyclists
Bike racks on buses	37	59	4	Metro cyclists

*Q33. Please tell me if you do any of the following outdoor activities to improve or maintain your health:* 

Activities to Improve or Maintain health	Statewi	Twin Cities ide Metro	
	%	%	%
Walking	89	91	87
Bicycling	50	55	45
Running	24	27	20
In-line skating	11	14	8
Other	31	37	25
None of these	6	4	9
Others specified			
	%	%	%
Weight lifting	4	6	2
Swim / water aerobics	4	5	3
Health club / gym	4	4	4
Ski / cross country skiing	3	5	2
Exercise Class/At home exercise	3	2	4
Workout machines	3	4	2
Ba	se 800	402	398
Note: multiple responses accepted			

Walking is the predominant form of activity to improve or maintain health.

### The following are significantly more likely to walk to improve or maintain health:

- females
- degreed individuals
- individuals living in households with annual incomes of \$50k or more

#### The following are significantly more likely to run to improve or maintain health:

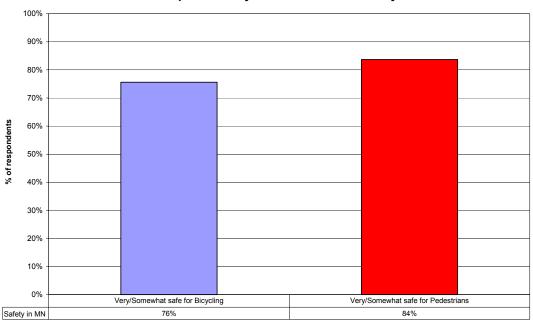
- males
- individuals ages 18 to 39 (correlated to age activity participation declines with increasing age)
- degreed individuals
- individuals living in households with annual incomes of \$50k or more

### The following are significantly more likely to bicycle to improve or maintain health:

- individuals ages 18 to 39 (correlated to age activity participation declines with increasing age)
- degreed individuals
- individuals living in households with annual incomes of \$50k or more

- *Q34.* How safe do you think Minnesota is for pedestrians?
- Q36. How safe do you think Minnesota is for bicycling?

### Minnesota is perceived to be a safe environment for both cyclists and pedestrians.



#### Perception of Bicycle and Pedestrian Safety

n = 800

Rating	Biking %	Walking %
Very safe	28	34
Somewhat safe	48	50
Somewhat unsafe	16	10
Very unsafe	4	5
Don't know	4	2

### The following are more likely to perceive Minnesota as a safe environment for pedestrians:

- Persons living in Greater Minnesota
- Males
- Persons who view commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas as appropriate are significantly more likely to perceive Minnesota as a safe environment for pedestrians

### The following are more likely to perceive Minnesota as a safe environment for biking:

- Perception of bike safety is correlated to age. Perception of a safe biking environment declines with age
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 to 10)

### There are no statistically significant differences in ratings of safety for walking and cycling in Minnesota.

*Q35. In what way is it less than safe for walking?* 

D '		. • 1	C	1	· · ·
Drivers are seen as t	he nrimary	o contributors to	unsate c	rondifions f	or nedestrians
Drivers are seen us i	<i>ne primary</i>	contributors to	misuje e	Junine J	or peacontains.

Ways Unsafe	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Net - Unsafe driving behavior	54	55	53
drivers ignoring crosswalks	17	21	13
lack of respect for pedestrian	9	9	9
drivers speeding / in a hurry	9	7	10
drivers preoccupied – cell phones	8	8	9
Net - Inadequate infrastructure – sidewalks not maintained/lack of paths/bridges over roads	24	24	24
Net - Pedestrian behavior - watch out/use crosswalks	14	13	15
Net - Lighting – poor night lighting/quick stop lights	7	7	7
Net - Crosswalks – poor markings & signs/lack of	6	6	5
Other reasons	5	4	6
Don't know	3	4	3
Base	519	279	240
Note: multiple responses accepted			

*Q37.* In what way is it less than safe for cycling?

### *Mixture of bike trails and paths along with vehicular drivers were most frequently mentioned* as reasons for unsafe conditions.

Ways Unsafe	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Net - Trails/paths/bike lanes	37	38	37
lack of trails and paths/too narrow	20	21	20
lack of bike lanes/narrow/too close to road	11	10	13
Net - Unsafe driver behavior	34	40	27
drivers not cautious	10	13	7
drivers inattentive/drive unsafe	8	10	6
high speed drivers	7	4	8
Net - Cyclist unsafe behavior	26	27	26
disregard rules/not knowledgeable of rules	6	5	8
misuse car lane / ride in middle of road	5	7	3
Net – Roads and shoulders – lacking/narrow/shared	14	8	20
Other reasons	4	3	4
Don't know	2	2	2
Base	546	277	269
Note: multiple responses accepted			

### **Revenue Enhancement**

*Mn/DOT is considering new ways to increase the amount of money it has available for spending on your transportation system. Some possible ways include selling or leasing advertising rights on its property, and/or working with businesses to supplement operating costs for highway rest areas.* 

*Mn/DOT* would like to know if you think these ideas are an appropriate way for a government agency to try and earn additional funds. If *Mn/DOT* decides to pursue any of these ideas, it may require legislative approval to do so.

Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is: Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

The following list of possibilities was rotated for presentation:

- On state cars (would you say it is very appropriate to advertise on these, somewhat appropriate, not very appropriate or not at all appropriate?)
- On state maintenance vehicles and equipment such as snow plows and highway helper trucks
- On and in facilities such as office buildings, truck stations, parking ramps, and the like
- On highway/freeway entrance ramps
- On changeable message signs posted over or along highways and freeways
- In publications like state highway maps, and other Mn/DOT documents
- On the Mn/DOT website
- Over radio or TV programs that are Mn/DOT-sponsored

# Media (print/electronic) is most widely viewed as appropriate property for selling or leasing advertising rights. Perceived appropriateness diminishes as the sale or lease of advertising rights nears the transportation infrastructure – such as CMS's or entrance ramps.

Summary of Statewide Views of Appropriateness of Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights on Mn/DOT Property Base = 800	Total Percent Appropriate	Total Percent Not Appropriate	Ratio: Appropriate to Not Appropriate	Mean Appropriateness Rating
In publications e.g. state highway maps and other Mn/DOT documents	93	7	13:1	3.51
Over Mn/DOT sponsored radio or TV programs	87	11	8:1	3.36
On the Mn/DOT website	86	9	10:1	3.47
On and in facilities such as office buildings, truck stations, parking ramps	72	27	3:1	2.85
On state cars	58	40	1:1	2.65
On state maintenance vehicles and equipment such as snow plows	56	43	1:1	2.62
On changeable message signs	55	45	1:1	2.54
On highway/freeway entrance ramps	53	47	1:1	2.48
Note: Five percent or less responded 'don't know' for some items (differences to 100%)				·

**Omnibus Study** 

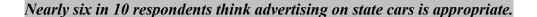
### Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights on Mn/DOT Property

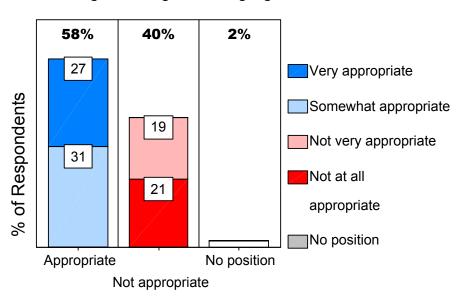
My first questions are about selling or leasing advertising rights on Mn/DOT property.

Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

a. On state cars





Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights on State Cars

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

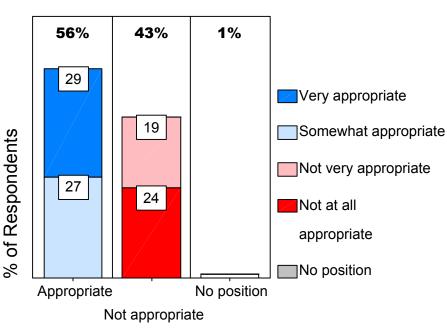
Persons that are not degreed

*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

b. On state maintenance vehicles and equipment such as snow plows and highway helper trucks

### A little over half of the respondents think advertising on state maintenance vehicles and equipment is appropriate.



Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights On State Maintenance Vehicles and Equipment

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

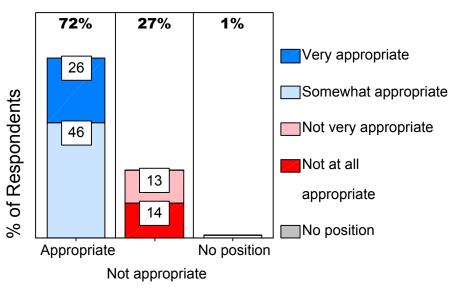
- Females
- Persons that are not degreed

*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

c. On and in facilities such as office buildings, truck stations, parking ramps, and the like.

### Nearly three-quarters of the respondents find advertising placement on and in state facilities appropriate.



Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights On Mn/DOT Facilities Such as Office Buildings & Truck Stations

n = 800

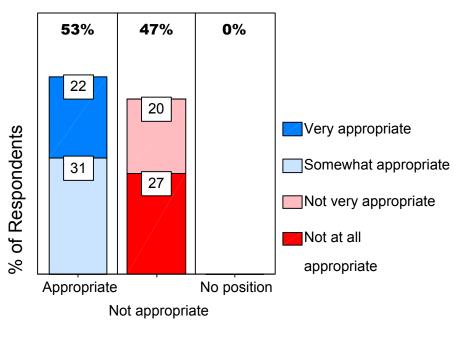
Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

d. On highway/freeway entrance ramps

More than half of the respondents feel advertising on entrance ramps is appropriate.



Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights On Highway/Freeway Entrance Ramps

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

Persons that are not degreed

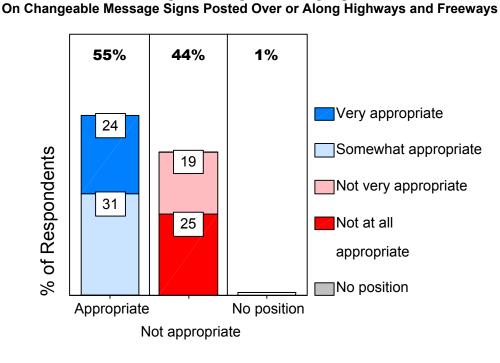
*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

e. On changeable message signs posted over or along highways and freeways

### More respondents find advertising on Changeable Message Signs appropriate rather than not appropriate.

Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights



n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

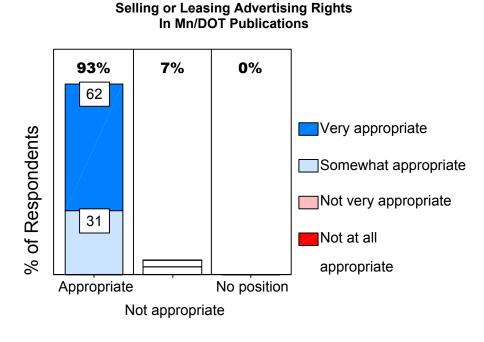
- Persons that are not degreed
- Persons in households with annual incomes under \$50,000
- Persons living in Greater Minnesota

Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

f. In publications like state highway maps, and other Mn/DOT documents

### More than nine in 10 respondents find advertising in Mn/DOT publications appropriate. Nearly two-thirds of respondents consider it very appropriate.



n = 800

### Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

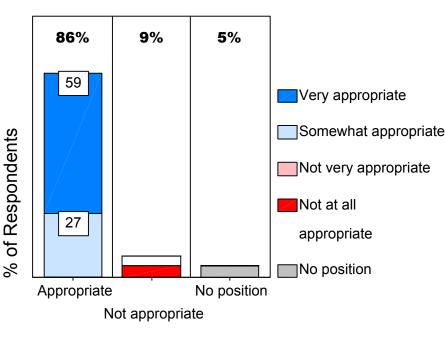
Persons living in Greater Minnesota

*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

g. On the Mn/DOT website

Nearly nine in 10 respondents view advertising on the Mn/DOT website as appropriate.



Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights On the Mn/DOT Website

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

- Persons that are not degreed
- Females
- Persons living in Greater Minnesota

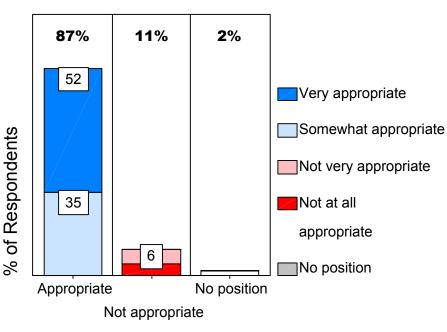
Sense of appropriateness is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to find the idea appropriate.

*Q10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:* 

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system.

h. Over radio or TV programs that are Mn/DOT-sponsored

## Nearly nine in 10 respondents consider advertising on Mn/DOT sponsored radio and TV programming appropriate.



Selling or Leasing Advertising Rights On Mn/DOT-sponsored Radio or TV Programming

n = 800

### Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

- Females
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 to 10)

Sense of appropriateness is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to find the idea appropriate.

### Funding Road Improvements for New Commercial or Industrial Development

Q11. Road improvements are often required on State highways when there is a new commercial or industrial development. Who do you think should pay for state highway improvements such as signals, turn lanes and so on, that are needed to accommodate new commercial or industrial development? I'm going to read you four choices.

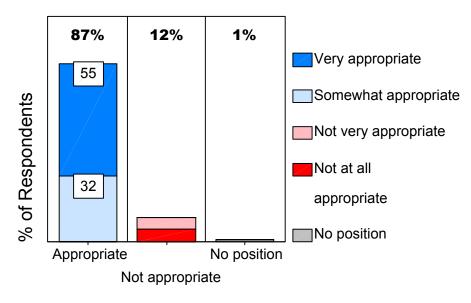
## Many believe funding for new road improvements supporting commercial or industrial development should be the responsibility of the developer.

Funding Source	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
_	%	%	%
Commercial / industrial business doing developing	58	61	56
Road users by way of state tax dollars	24	23	24
City/county residents where development occurs	13	12	14
Some other group (casinos)	1	1	1
Don't know	5	3	6
Base	800	402	398

### Sale of Specialty License Plates

Q12a. You may know there are some auto license plates which are offered to raise money for certain activities; these typically promote a cause or an organization, and an extra fee becomes a donation. If Mn/DOT were to offer such license plates for the purpose of earning extra revenue, only from those who choose to buy them, how appropriate do you think that would be?

## Sale of Mn/DOT specialty license plates is viewed as an appropriate means of generating extra revenue by nearly nine in 10 respondents statewide.



### Appropriateness of Selling Mn/DOT Specialty License Plates

n = 800

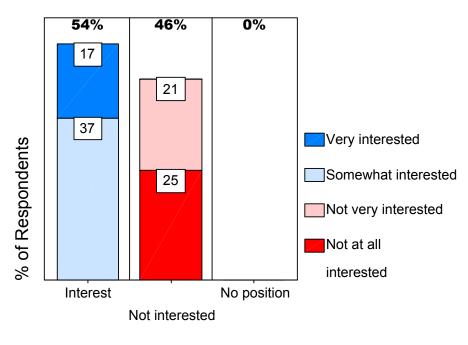
### Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

- Females
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 -10)
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

Sense of appropriateness is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to find the idea appropriate.

*Q12b.* Assuming a design was attractive to you, on this license plate, how interested would you be in purchasing one, knowing that the extra revenue would promote an improved transportation system?

## More than half of statewide respondents expressed an interest in special purchase license plates as a revenue generator to fund transportation system improvements.



### Potential Interest in Purchase of Mn/DOT Specialty License Plates



### Significantly more likely to appeal to:

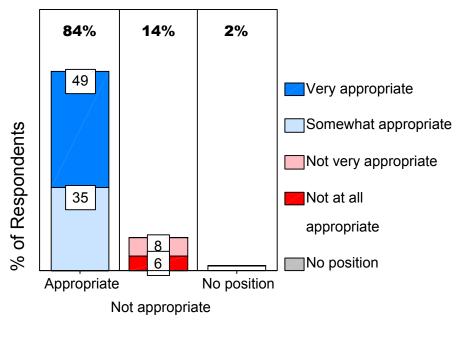
- Persons that are not degreed
- Persons in households with annual incomes under \$50,000
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 to 10)
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

Level of appeal is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is likely to find the idea less appealing.

### Lease or Sale of Park & Ride Space for Small Business Development

Q13. I want you to think now about the Park and Ride lots, which many commuters use to park their cars and take buses. Mn/DOT could lease or sell space at these Park and Ride lots for the development of small businesses that may be valuable to some commuters. These could include coffee shops, dry cleaner drop-off/pick-up booths, oil change drop-off/pick-up booths, newsstands and the like. If Mn/DOT were to do this, that is, lease the space at Park and Ride lots to developers in an effort to increase revenue, how appropriate do you think that would be?

## Half of all statewide respondents view the lease or sale of Park & Ride space as a Very appropriate means of revenue enhancement.



Appropriateness of Lease or Sale of Park & Ride Space

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find appropriate:

- Persons that are degreed
- Persons in households with annual incomes of \$50,000 or more
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

Sense of appropriateness is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to find the idea appropriate.

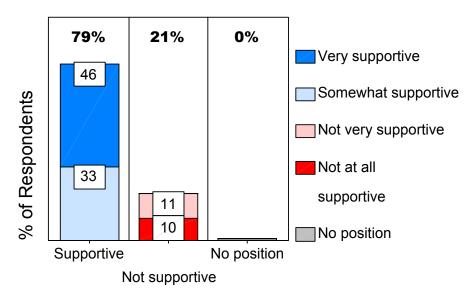
### **Rest Area Operations**

The next questions are about rest areas along MN highways and freeways. Mn/DOT is <u>considering</u> two ideas to offset the costs of maintaining and operating state rest areas.

### Addition of Commercial Services to Rest Stop Areas

Q16. One idea considers adding commercial services to MN rest areas. The types of services that could be added include fast food restaurants, gas service stations, convenience stores, tourism related gift shops, or services geared specifically to truckers (such as overnight parking and showers). Considering the possibility of <u>adding commercial services</u> to MN rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this idea?

## Four out of 5 Minnesotans support adding commercial services to Minnesota rest areas.



Support for Commercial Services at Rest Stop Areas

n = 800

### Significantly more likely to be supportive:

Persons that are not degreed

Level of support is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to support the idea.

*Q17. Have you, personally, stopped at a rest area in another state where food, gifts, gasoline or other services were offered?* 

### More than half of respondents had used out of state rest stops with commercial services.

Stopped at Rest Area in another State	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Yes	56	62	50
No	42	36	48
Refused	2	2	2
Base	800	402	398

Respondents who visited other state rest areas are significantly more positive toward commercialization of Minnesota rest areas versus those who had not visited other state rest areas (85% vs. 70%). If the respondents visited other state rest areas they were significantly more likely to support commercialization in face of budget cutbacks.

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is. For each item please respond with Very acceptable, Somewhat acceptable, Not very acceptable, or Not at all acceptable: The list below was rotated:
  - Fast Food Restaurants
  - Gasoline Service Stations
  - Convenience Stores
  - Tourism-related Gift Shops
  - Services geared for Truckers (showers/overnight parking)

### Respondents support travel-related commercial activity in the state's rest areas.

Summary of Statewide Acceptability Base = 800	Total Percent Acceptable	Total Percent Not Acceptable	Ratio: Acceptable to Not Acceptable	Mean Acceptability Rating
Services geared for Truckers (showers/overnight parking)	87	11	8:1	3.45
Gasoline Service Stations	84	16	5:1	3.36
Tourism-related Gift Shops	80	20	4:1	3.16
Convenience Stores	76	24	3:1	3.10
Fast Food Restaurants	75	24	3:1	3.06

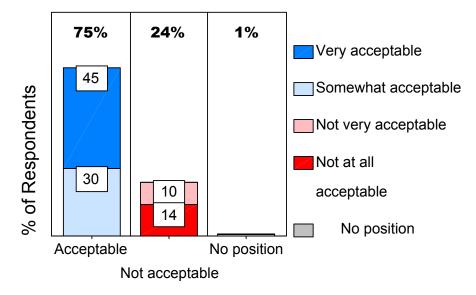
Note: One percent or less responded 'don't know' for some items

The group visiting other states is significantly more likely to find acceptable all assessed commercial business ideas than were those respondents who had not visited other state rest areas:

- fast food restaurants (82% vs. 64%)
- gasoline service stations (90% vs. 76%)
- convenience stores (84% vs. 65%)
- tourism-related gift shops (84% vs. 73%)
- services for truckers (90% vs. 84%)

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is.
- a. Fast Food Restaurants

## Three-quarters of respondents view fast food restaurants acceptable in rest areas. Three times as many find this commercial activity very acceptable as opposed to not at all acceptable.



### Acceptability of Fast Food Restaurants at Rest Stop Areas

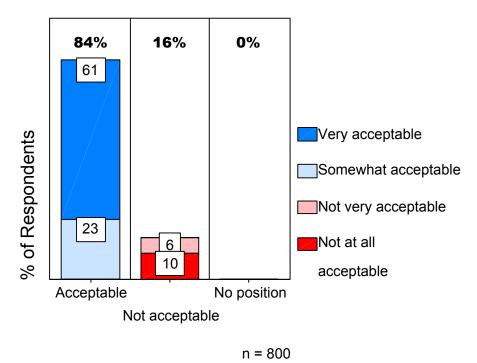
n = 800

Significantly more likely to find acceptable:

Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is.
- b. Gasoline Service Stations

## *Eight in 10 respondents view the presence of gasoline service stations as acceptable commercial activity in rest areas.*



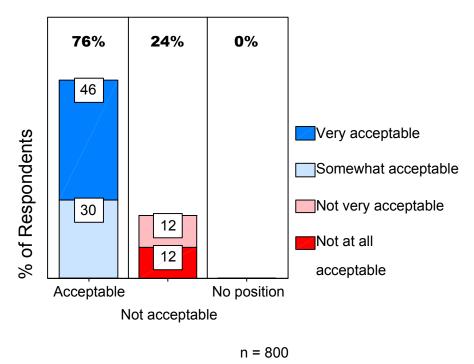
### Acceptability of Gasoline Service Stations at Rest Stop Areas

Significantly more likely to find acceptable:

- Females
- Persons living in the Twin Cities Metro area
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is.
- c. Convenience Stores

## Three-quarters of respondents would find the placement of convenience stores in rest areas an acceptable means of revenue enhancement.



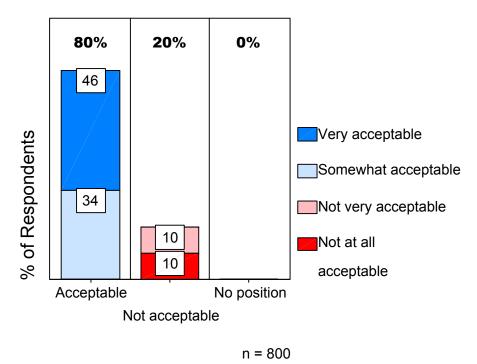
### Acceptability of Convenience Stores at Rest Stop Areas

Significantly more likely to find acceptable:

- Females
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is.
- d. Tourism-related Gift Shops

## *Eight in 10 respondents consider tourism-related commercial activity in rest areas as an acceptable means of revenue enhancement.*



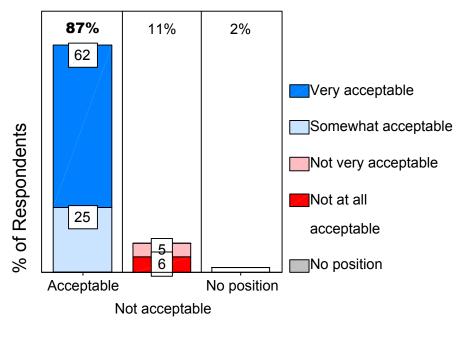
### Acceptability of Tourism-related Gift Shops at Rest Stop Areas

Significantly more likely to find acceptable:

- Persons living in the Twin Cities Metro area
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

- *Q18.* Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas.... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is.
- e. Services geared for Truckers (showers/overnight parking)

### *Nearly nine in 10 respondents feel services geared for truckers are acceptable in a rest area.*



### Acceptability of Services Geared for Truckers at Rest Stop Areas

n = 800

Significantly more likely to find acceptable:

Females

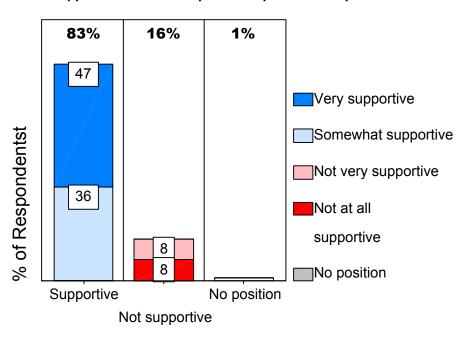
Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas

### **Business Sponsorship of Rest Stop Areas**

Q19. One idea considers letting businesses sponsor Minnesota rest areas. A business would pay money to help fund rest area operations. In exchange, Mn/DOT would display the sponsor's name and logo at the rest area and on the highway as motorists approach and leave the rest area.

Considering the possibility of this sponsorship program for Minnesota rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this proposal? Would you say you are...?

### More than eight in 10 respondents support business sponsorship of rest stop areas.



Support for Business Sponsorship of Rest Stop Areas

n = 800

Significantly more likely to be supportive:

Persons that are not degreed

Level of support is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to support the idea.

Q20. Still thinking about this program, and understanding that Mn/DOT will acknowledge a sponsor on signs at the rest area and on the highway, please tell me which, if any, of the following types of businesses you believe are appropriate sponsors for rest areas?

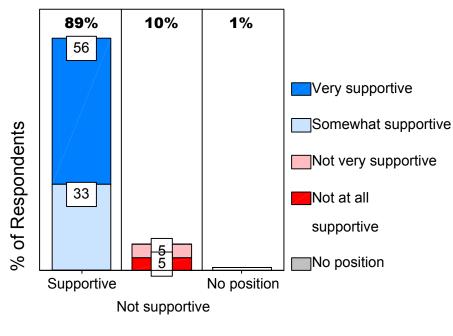
# Sponsor appropriateness is viewed very open-mindedly except when it comes to potential sponsors from gambling, special interest groups, religious or political organizations and adult oriented businesses.

		ewide ⁄o	Me	Cities etro 6	Greate %	
Potential Types of Sponsors	Appropriate	Not appropriate	Appropriate	Not appropriate	Appropriate	Not appropriate
Motorist Services Restaurants, campgrounds, gas stations, hotels	89	11	90	10	88	12
Community Organizations Lions, VFW or Chambers of Commerce	85	15	86	14	84	16
<b>Family Attractions</b> Zoos, fairs, amusement parks, museums	83	16	87	12	79	20
Service Institutions Hospitals, clinics, colleges, Universities	81	19	83	16	78	22
Manufacturers or Distributors, in general Food or clothing manufacturers and distributors, newspapers, recreational equipment	72	27	74	25	69	30
<b>Retail Services</b> Department stores, convenience stores, shopping malls	70	30	74	26	65	34
Gambling Related Businesses Minnesota lottery, casinos	37	62	37	62	36	63
Special Interest Groups* Groups concerned with single issues such as life, the environment or cultural topics.	31	50	32	53	30	48
Religious or Political Organizations Faith based organizations, political groups, parties or candidates	21	79	22	79	20	80
Adult Oriented Businesses Adult bookstores and magazines, alcohol manufacturers, tobacco manufacturers	9	91	10	89	7	93
Base * Added after survey had begun – not asked of 134 statewide	80	00	40	02	39	8

Next, as you may have heard, some Minnesota rest areas may be shut down due to loss of operating dollars. Considering this possibility, how does this information affect your opinion, if at all, of the two rest area ideas we described?

*Q21.* First, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, what is your opinion of the idea to add acceptable commercial services, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

## Nine in 10 respondents would support commercial activities in rest areas if faced with the possibility of the areas closing because of lack of operating funds.



Support for Commercial Activities in Rest Stop Areas in Face of Lost Operating Dollars

n = 800

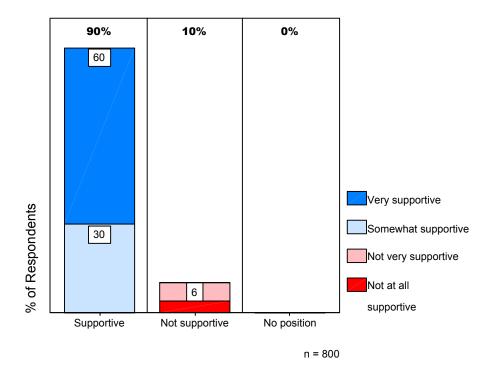
Significantly more likely to be supportive:

- Persons that are not degreed
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 to 10)
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas
- Persons visiting other state rest areas

Level of support is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to support the idea.

Q22. Next, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, how would you describe your opinion of the idea to have appropriate businesses sponsor rest areas, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

*Again, nine in 10 respondents would support business sponsorship of rest areas if faced with the possibility of the areas closing because of lack of operating fund.* 



### Support for Business Sponsorship of Rest Stop Areas in Face of Lost Operating Dollars

Significantly more likely to be supportive:

- Females
- Persons rating Mn/DOT communications reliability high (7 to 10)
- Persons who are supportive of both commercialization and sponsorship of rest areas
- Persons visiting other state rest areas

Level of support is correlated to age. With increasing age, respondent is less likely to support the idea.

Q14. During the past two years, how many trips, 75 miles or more in length one-way, have you taken on Minnesota highways and freeways? Include both business and leisure trips.

## On average, respondents statewide take nearly 30 trips of 75 miles or more in length one-way in a year.

Trips	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Mean number of trips 75 miles or more in length	58.11	51.16	65.34
Base	774	395	397

### Half of the respondents making trips in the past two years, stopped 1 to 10 times at a rest area.

*Q15.* Still thinking of these trips, approximately how many times in the past two years would you estimate that you've stopped at a rest area in Minnesota, or another state?

Stops at Rest Stop Areas	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Past Two Years	%	%	%
None	11	9	13
1 to 5	29	29	29
6 to 10	22	22	23
11 to 15	10	10	11
16 to 20	8	9	6
21 to 25	4	3	4
26 to 50	10	13	8
More than 50	5	4	6
Don't know	2	2	2
Base	772	385	386

## On average, respondents made nearly ten stops a year at rest stops for trips taken in the past 2 years.

Stops at Rest Stop Areas Past Two Years	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Mean number of rest area stops	18.96	20.07	17.86
Base	759	379	379

### Demographics

Q29.	Which of the following methods of travel do you consider to be your primary means of traveling to work or
school?	

Primary Travel Mode	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Drive by yourself	89	86	91
Go in a carpool or vanpool	5	5	5
Take the bus	4	7	1
Walk	2	2	2
Bicycle	<1	<1	<1
Motorcycle	<1	<1	<1
Base	568	304	264

Q52. Number of licensed drivers in household	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
None	1	1	0
One	22	22	23
Two	60	60	60
Three	12	11	14
Four	2	3	1
Five or more	1	2	1
Mean number of licensed drivers in household	1.98	2.00	1.95
Base	795	400	394

Q53. Number of vehicles owned/used in household	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Mean number of vehicles in household	2.32	2.23	2.40
Base	796	401	394

Q6. Location of Internet access	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
At home	66	73	59
At work	46	54	39
Neither	25	18	32
Refused	0	0	0
Base	e 800	402	398
Note: multiple responses accepted			

### **Demographics** - continued

Q54. Employment Status	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Full time	59	62	56
Part time	15	15	14
Not employed	26	23	29
Refused	1	<1	1
Base	800	402	398

Q54b. Occupation	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Professional	27	32	22
Clerical	13	12	14
Service worker	11	9	13
Manager/administrator	9	12	7
Sales	7	8	6
Other laborers	7	5	9
Craft/precision production	6	4	7
Operators/fabricators	5	4	6
Proprietor, owner	4	3	5
Technician	2	3	2
Not employed outside home/homemaker	2	1	3
Farmer/rancher/laborer	2	<1	3
Student	1	2	<1
Retired	<1	<1	0
No answer	<1	0	<1
Others	3	4	2
Don't know/Refused	2	2	2
Base	800	402	398

### **Demographics** - continued

Q55. Work at home some days	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
(Asked of employed persons)	%	%	%
Yes	19	22	17
No	77	75	79
Normally work in office at home	4	4	4
Refused	<1	<1	0
Base	590	310	279

Q56. Days/month work from home (Asked of those working at home some day)	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
Mean	8.6	8.1	9.4
Base	110	65	45

Q56b. Access to office computer files from home	Statewide %	Twin Cities Metro %	Greater MN %
Yes	36	38	35
No	62	61	65
Refused	1	2	1
Base	417	237	180

Q57. Age	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
18 to 29 years old	12	12	12
30 to 39	19	25	14
40 to 49	26	27	24
50 to 59	20	19	22
60 to 69	13	10	15
70 or more	10	7	12
Refused	1	1	1
Mean	47.2	45.3	49.0
Base	792	399	393

### **Demographics** - continued

Q58. Education	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
High School or less	27	17	36
Technical or vocational school	16	14	18
Some college	17	20	14
College graduate	24	28	20
Post graduate work or advanced degree	16	21	11
Refused	1	1	1
Base	800	402	398

Q59. 2002 Household Income	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Under \$20,000	7	5	8
\$20,000 to \$35,000	15	12	18
\$35,000 to \$50,000	17	16	18
\$50,000 to \$65,000	13	11	15
\$65,000 to \$75,000	9	11	7
\$75,000 to \$100,000	11	14	8
\$100,000 or more	12	14	9
Refused	16	16	16
Mean	\$57,470	\$62,080	\$52,790
Base	671	337	333

Q61. Gender	Statewide	Twin Cities Metro	Greater MN
	%	%	%
Female	50	47	54
Male	50	53	46
Base	800	402	398

### **Ouestionnaire**

Enter sample:		
Metro	Quota:	400
Greater Minnesota	Quota:	400

### **Introduction and Screener**

Hello, this is [YOUR NAME] from MarketLine Research. We are calling on behalf of the Minnesota Department of Transportation. We are conducting a study on various services Mn/DOT provides; and would like to include your opinions. We are not selling anything; this is strictly for research purposes.

### **Qualification**

Are you 18 years of age or older? QA.

> Yes [CONTINUE] [IF "NO" ASK FOR SOMEONE IN HOUSEHOLD WHO IS. No IF NONE, THANK AND TERMINATE]

QB. Do you or does anyone in your family work for...? [READ LIST, PAUSE FOR EACH RESPONSE]

The Minnesota Department of Transportation	yes no	
A marketing research firm	yes no	IF "YES" TO ANY @ OB
A newspaper, radio or TV station	yes no	DISCONTINUE
None	CONTINUE	DISCONTINCE

CONTINUE

OC. To make sure we talk with a variety of people, in what county do you live? [RECORD NAME OF COUNTY] [IF 'DON'T KNOW' OR 'REFUSED', THANK AND TERMINATE]

Metro Counties	s include:	
Anoka	Hennepin	Carver
Ramsey	Chisago	Scott
Dakota	Washington	

### ASK ALL RESPONDENTS

This survey is about several things that Mn/DOT is responsible for; but to begin, we would like you to think about some of the different services and activities that Mn/DOT does.

Please think first about your CONFIDENCE in Mn/DOT. For each of the following activities, please tell 1. me how confident you are that Mn/DOT can do a good job at each of these tasks. Please respond with "Very confident", "Confident", "Not very confident", or "Not at all confident".

How confident are you in Mn/DOT's ability to do a good job at [READ FIRST ACTIVITY]? [REPEAT THIS LEAD-IN STATEMENT AS NEEDED] [REPEAT SCALE AS NEEDED] [ROTATE ENTIRE LIST OF ACTIVITIES]

- a. building roads and bridges
- b. maintaining roads and bridges
- c. developing a long-term plan for transportation priorities
- d. communicating accurate information about their transportation plans and projects to Minnesota citizens
- e. providing alternative transportation options for the future such as commuter rail, high speed rail, non-stop coaches, and so on.
- f. providing reliable communications

2. The next question is about Mn/DOT's PERFORMANCE. For each service I read, I want to know how well you think Mn/DOT is doing in that area. This time, use any number from 1 to 10; a "10" means they are doing an "Extremely good" job in this area, and "1" means they are doing an "Extremely poor" job in this area. A score of "5" means they are doing an average job in this area.

Overall, how well has Mn/DOT been doing at...? a. road maintenance [ALWAYS READ THIS SERVICE FIRST]

Overall, how well has Mn/DOT been doing at...? [READ LIST] [REPEAT THIS LEAD-IN STATEMENT AS NEEDED] [REPEAT SCALE AS NEEDED]

[ROTATE THIS LIST OF SERVICES]

- b. clearing roads of snow and ice
- c. keeping road surfaces smooth and comfortable
- d. eliminating weeds on the roadside
- e. making highway signs clearly readable
- f. making road stripes and markings clearly visible
- g. removing litter and trash by the roadside
- h. keeping the plants, grasses and flowers by the roadside looking good

### ASK Q3. AFTER ALL SERVICES IN Q2. HAVE BEEN RATED

- 3. For what reason, or reasons, did you give "road maintenance overall" a rating of [INSERT RATING FROM Q2a.] [CLARIFY ONLY; DO NOT PROBE]
- 4. We will now focus on Mn/DOT's communications efforts. Thinking about ALL of the different communications provided by the Minnesota Department of Transportation, how reliable are these communications, in your opinion? Use a scale of 1 to 10 with "10" being "Extremely reliable" and "1" being "Not at all reliable".

Not at all reliable						Ext	remely re	eliable	DK	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	12

- 5. When you think of all the communications you've heard relating to Mn/DOT over this past year, what information or stories come to mind for you? [CLARIFY RESPONSE] [PROBE ONCE WITH: What else do you recall hearing about Mn/DOT?]
- 6. Do you have access to the Internet...? [READ LIST]

at home	[CHECK IF APPLY]
at work, or	[CHECK IF APPLY]
neither	[SKIP TO Q25.]

7. Have you visited Mn/DOT's website over the past year?

Yes	[CONTINUE]
No	[SKIP TO Q25.]

### ASK Q8. IF "YES" TO Q7.

- 8. For what reason or reasons did you visit Mn/DOT's website?
  - [DO NOT READ, SELECT APPROPRIATE PRE-CODED RESPONSE]
  - a. Get construction information (when or where construction is planned)
  - b. Traffic congestion information/Web traffic cameras
  - c. General information about Mn/DOT
  - d. News or information about public meetings/area
  - e. Information to do business with Mn/DOT
  - f. Job related inquiries
  - g. Other Specify

9. Did you find what you were looking for at this Mn/DOT website?

Yes	[SKIP TO Q25.]
No	[CONTINUE]
Don't know/Don't recall	[SKIP TO Q25.]

### IF "NO" TO Q9, ASK Q9a.

9a. Would you tell me again, specifically, what you did not find? RECORD VERBATIM/ DO NOT PROBE OR CLARIFY

### Trip to Work and TRANSIT, BIKE, WALK

I have some questions now about the way you travel.

25.	5. Do you commute either to work or school?			
	[IF BOTH ASK:	Which do you do most often?]		
	work	[SKIP TO Q26.]		
	school	[SKIP TO Q26.]		
	No	[CONTINUE]		

25.	Have you commuted to work or school in the past year?				
	[IF BOTH ASK:	Which did you do most often?]			
	work	[CONTINUE]			
	school	[CONTINUE]			
	No	[SKIP TO Q28., THEN ASK Q28b.]			

- 26. What time do you regularly leave home, for work or school? (SPECIFY AM OR PM) [CLARIFY WITH: Would that be AM or PM?]
- 27. And what time do you regularly leave work or school, to go home? (SPECIFY AM OR PM)
- 28. I am going to read a list of <u>most</u> of the methods people use to get around in Minnesota.

ASK Q28a. IF "WORK" OR "SCHOOL" SELECTED IN Q25. DO NOT ASK Q28a. IF "NO" SELECTED IN Q25.

28a. Please tell me if you have used any of the following of travel in the past year for getting to or from work or school. In the past, did you...? [READ LIST]?

### ASK Q28b. OF ALL RESPONDENTS ASKED Q25.

28b. Please tell me if you have used any of the following methods of travel for making **non-work or non-school** trips in the past year? In the past, did you...? [READ LIST]?

### [READ LIST; CIRCLE ALL THAT APPLY]

Drive (a car) by yourself Ride as a passenger in a car Go in a carpool or vanpool Take the Bus Walk Bicycle Motorcycle Or, some other way (SPECIFY)

Used for work/school	Used for non-w/s
1	2
1	2
1	2
1	2
1	2
1	2
1	2

### SKIP TO Q33. IF "NO" IN Q25. AUTO-FILL IF ONLY ONE SELECTED FOR Q28a

- 29. Which of those do you consider to be your primary means of traveling to work or school? SINGLE RESPONSE
- 30. (IF "NO BIKE" IN Q28) Would you consider bicycling to or from work or school even if only a few days a year?

Yes No

### *IF "NO" TO Q30., ASK Q31.*

31. What is the <u>main</u> reason you would not consider bicycling to work or school? [RECORD VERBATIM] [DON'T PROBE, DON'T CLARIFY] USE LIST TO SET UP CODES

Lack of safety Personal health issues Age Distance too great Bike facilities not available (trails, shoulders, bike lanes) Weather, climate No bike, no working bike, no equipment Schedule doesn't accommodate (night shift, several trips at end of work day) No interest Not in condition (i.e. haven't exercised in a while) Other mode better for whatever reason (bus, car, carpool

31b. Did respondent mention distance as a main reason they would not consider bicycling to work or school?

Yes	[CONTINUE]
No	[SKIP TO Q32.]

31c. How far a distance is it? [RECORD DISTANCE IN MILES]

### ASK Q32a. ONLY IF "YES" TO "BICYCLING" AT Q28a "Current Cyclist"

32a. We want to learn how important, overall, any of the following are, to either keeping you as a commuting cyclist or to increasing the number of times you would cycle to work or school. Would (**READ LIST**) be Very important, Somewhat important, Not very important, or Not at all important, in keeping you a commuting cyclist or increasing the times that you commute as a cyclist? DO NOT ROTATE LIST

### ASK Q32a. ONLY IF "YES" TO Q30 : "Potential Cyclist"

- 32b. We want to learn how important any of the following are, in increasing the likelihood that you might commute by bicycle. Would (**READ LIST**) be Very important, Somewhat important, Not very important, or Not at all important, in increasing the likelihood that you would commute at all to work or school by bicycle? ROTATE LIST
  - secure bike storage at work or school showers and lockers at work or school bike lanes on roads paved shoulders separate bike paths or trails share-the-road signs bike racks on buses information on bike commuting snow and ice removal on bike paths or trails snow and ice removal on paved shoulders snow and ice removal on bike lanes information on the location of bicycle routes lighting on bike paths or trails a system of connected bicycle routes
- Please tell me if you do any of the following outdoor activities to improve or maintain your health: (READ LIST)

walking	[IF MENTION WALK AT WORK, ASK: Do you consider that to be walking to improve or maintain your health?)
running bicycling	
in-line skating other. (specify)	

- 34. How safe do you think Minnesota is for pedestrians? Very safe, Somewhat safe, Somewhat unsafe or Very unsafe?
- 35. (IF ANYTHING BUT VERY SAFE IN Q34 ASK): In what way is it less than safe? (P & C FULLY)
- 36. How safe do you think Minnesota is for bicycling? Very safe, Somewhat safe, Somewhat unsafe or Very unsafe?
- 37. (IF ANYTHING BUT VERY SAFE IN Q36, ASK): In what way is it less than safe? (P & C FULLY))

### **READ TO EVERYONE AT THE END OF PREVIOUS SECTION**

Mn/DOT is considering new ways to increase the amount of money it has available for spending on your transportation system. Some possible ways include selling or leasing advertising rights on its property, and/or working with businesses to supplement operating costs for highway rest areas.

Mn/DOT would like to know if you think these ideas are an appropriate way for a government agency to try and earn additional funds. If Mn/DOT decides to pursue any of these ideas, it may require legislative approval to do so.

### Questions 10 – 22 are rotated as follows. (Revenue Enhancement and Rest Area Sections)

### **ROTATION 1**

### (DO NOT READ) : Revenue Enhancement

READ: My first questions are about selling or leasing advertising rights on Mn/DOT property.

10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system. (READ EACH STATEMENT, REPEATING SCALE AS OFTEN AS NEEDED) **ROTATE STATEMENTS** 

a. on state cars (would you say it is very appropriate to advertise on these, somewhat appropriate, not very appropriate or not at all appropriate?)

A – Rotation 1

- b. on state maintenance vehicles and equipment such as snow plows and highway helper trucks
- c. on and in facilities such as office buildings, truck stations, parking ramps, and the like
- d. on highway/freeway entrance ramps
- e. on changeable message signs posted over or along highways and freeways
- f. in publications like state highway maps, and other Mn/DOT documents
- g. on the Mn/DOT website
- h. over radio or TV programs that are Mn/DOT-sponsored
- 11. Road improvements are often required on State highways when there is a new commercial or industrial development. Who do you think should pay for state highway improvements such as signals, turn lanes and so on, that are needed to accommodate new commercial or industrial development? I'm going to read you four choices. Would you say: [SELECT ONE RESPONSE ONLY] [ROTATE CHOICES]
  - a. all road users, that is, state gas tax dollars through Mn/DOT
  - b. the commercial or industrial business that is doing the developing,
  - c. residents in the city or county where the development is to occur, through property and other types of taxes or
  - d. some other group? (specify)
- 12. A. You may know there are some auto license plates which are offered to raise money for certain activities; these typically promote a cause or an organization, and an extra fee becomes a donation. If Mn/DOT were to offer such license plates for the purpose of earning extra revenue, only from those who choose to buy them, how appropriate do you think that would be? : [READ LIST]

Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate

- 12. B. Assuming a design was attractive to you, on this license plate, how interested would you be in purchasing one, knowing that the extra revenue would promote an improved transportation system? Would you be...? [READ LIST] Very interested, Somewhat interested, Not very interested or Not at all interested?
- 13. I want you to think now about the Park and Ride lots, which many commuters use to park their cars and take buses. Mn/DOT could lease or sell space at these Park and Ride lots for the development of small businesses that may be valuable to some commuters. These could include coffee shops, dry cleaner drop-off/pick-up booths, oil change drop-off/pick-up booths, newsstands and the like. If Mn/DOT were to do this, that is, lease the space at Park and Ride lots to developers in an effort to increase revenue, how appropriate do you think that would be? Would you say...? [READ LIST] Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate

### (DO NOT READ) : Rest Areas B – Rotation 1

READ: The next questions are about rest areas along MN highways and freeways.

Mn/DOT is <u>considering</u> two ideas to offset the costs of maintaining and operating state rest areas.

### ROTATE MAJOR SECTIONS (Q16 - 18 and Q19 - 20)

16. One idea considers adding commercial services to MN rest areas. The types of services that could be added include fast food restaurants, gas service stations, convenience stores, tourism related gift shops, or services geared specifically to truckers (such as overnight parking and showers). Considering the possibility of <u>adding commercial services</u> to MN rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this idea? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ

- 17. Have you, personally, stopped at a rest area in another state where food, gifts, gasoline or other services were offered?
  - Yes No Don't know – DO NOT READ
- 18. Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is. For each item please respond with Very acceptable, Somewhat acceptable, Not very acceptable, or Not at all acceptable:

	Very	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all		
	Acc.	Acc.	Acc.	Acc.	DK	
ROTATE LIST:	•					
Fast Food Restar	urants					
Gasoline Service	Gasoline Service Stations					
Convenience Sto	ores					
Tourism-related Gift Shops						
Services geared	for Truck	kers (showers/or	vernight parking)			
Tourism-related	Gift Sho	1	vernight parking)			

19. One idea considers letting businesses sponsor **Minnesota** rest areas. A business would pay money to help fund rest area operations. In exchange, Mn/DOT would display the sponsor's name and logo at the rest area and on the highway as motorists approach and leave the rest area.

Considering the possibility of this <u>sponsorship program</u> for Minnesota rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this proposal? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ 20. Still thinking about this program, **and** understanding that Mn/DOT will acknowledge a sponsor on signs at the rest area and on the highway, **please tell me** which, if any, **of the following types of businesses** you believe are <u>appropriate sponsors for rest areas</u>? For each business type I read, please tell me if you believe this type of potential sponsor is Appropriate or NOT appropriate.

### **ROTATE LIST:**

Appropriate NOT appropriate DK

**Motorist Services** Such as: restaurants, campgrounds, gas stations, hotels

### Family Attractions

such as: zoos, fairs, amusement parks, museums

### **Retail Services**

Such as: department stores, convenience stores, shopping malls

### Adult Oriented Businesses

Such as: adult bookstores and magazines, alcohol manufacturers, tobacco manufacturers

### **Religious or Political Organizations**

Such as: faith based organizations, political groups, parties or candidates

### Manufacturers or Distributors, in general

Such as: food or clothing manufacturers and distributors, newspapers, recreational equipment

### Gambling Related Businesses

Such as: Minnesota lottery, casinos

### Service Institutions

Such as: hospitals, clinics, colleges, Universities

### **Community Organizations**

Such as: lions club, VFW, Mothers Against Drunk Driving or MADD

### **Special Interest Groups**

That is, groups that are concerned with single issues such as life, the environment or cultural topics.

Next, as you may have heard, some Minnesota rest areas may be shut down due to **loss of operating dollars**. Considering this possibility, how does this information affect your opinion, if at all, of the two rest area ideas **we** described?

21. First, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, what is your opinion of the idea to add **acceptable** commercial services, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? [DO NOT READ] Don't Know 22. Next, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, how would you describe your opinion of the idea to have <u>appropriate businesses</u> sponsor rest areas, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ

### **ROTATION 2**

### **READ TO EVERYONE AT THE END OF PREVIOUS SECTION**

Mn/DOT is considering new ways to increase the amount of money it has available for spending on your transportation system. Some possible ways include selling or leasing advertising rights on its property, and/or working with businesses to supplement operating costs for highway rest areas.

Mn/DOT would like to know if you think these ideas are an appropriate way for a government agency to try and earn additional funds. If Mn/DOT decides to pursue any of these ideas, it may require legislative approval to do so.

### (DO NOT READ) : Rest Areas A – Rotation 2

READ: My first questions are about rest areas along MN highways and freeways. Mn/DOT is <u>considering</u> two ideas to offset the costs of maintaining and operating state rest areas.

### ROTATE MAJOR SECTIONS (Q16 - 18 and Q19 - 20)

16. One idea considers adding commercial services to MN rest areas. The types of services that could be added include fast food restaurants, gas service stations, convenience stores, tourism related gift shops, or services geared specifically to truckers (such as overnight parking and showers). Considering the possibility of <u>adding commercial services</u> to MN rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this idea? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ

17. Have you, personally, stopped at a rest area in another state where food, gifts, gasoline or other services were offered?

Yes No Don't know – DO NOT READ 18. Still thinking about the idea of adding commercial businesses at Minnesota rest areas... as a motorist, please tell me how acceptable you think each of the following <u>services</u> is. For each item please respond with Very acceptable, Somewhat acceptable, Not very acceptable, or Not at all acceptable:

Very	Somewhat	Not Very	Not at all		
Acc.	Acc.	Acc.	Acc.	<u>DK</u>	
ROTATE LIST:					
Fast Food Restaurants					
Gasoline Service Stations					
Convenience Stores					
Tourism-related Gift Shops					
Services geared for True	ekers (showers/ov	vernight parking)			

19. One idea considers letting businesses sponsor **Minnesota** rest areas. A business would pay money to help fund rest area operations. In exchange, Mn/DOT would display the sponsor's name and logo at the rest area and on the highway as motorists approach and leave the rest area.

Considering the possibility of this <u>sponsorship program</u> for Minnesota rest areas, how would you describe your opinion of this proposal? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ

20. Still thinking about this program, **and** understanding that Mn/DOT will acknowledge a sponsor on signs at the rest area and on the highway, **please tell me** which, if any, **of the following types of businesses** you believe are <u>appropriate sponsors for rest areas</u>? For each business type I read, please tell me if you believe this type of potential sponsor is Appropriate or NOT appropriate.

### **ROTATE LIST:**

<u>Appropriate NOT appropriate DK</u>

**Motorist Services** Such as: restaurants, campgrounds, gas stations, hotels

Family Attractions such as: zoos, fairs, amusement parks, museums

Retail Services

Such as: department stores, convenience stores, shopping malls

### Adult Oriented Businesses

Such as: adult bookstores and magazines, alcohol manufacturers, tobacco manufacturers

### **Religious or Political Organizations**

Such as: faith based organizations, political groups, parties or candidates

### Manufacturers or Distributors, in general

Such as: food or clothing manufacturers and distributors, newspapers, recreational equipment

### Gambling Related Businesses

Such as: Minnesota lottery, casinos

### Service Institutions

Such as: hospitals, clinics, colleges, Universities

### **Community or National Organizations**

Such as: lions club, VFW, Mothers Against Drunk Driving or MADD

### **Special Interest Groups**

That is, groups that are concerned with single issues such as life, the environment or cultural topics.

Next, as you may have heard, some Minnesota rest areas may be shut down due to **loss of operating dollars**. Considering this possibility, how does this information affect your opinion, if at all, of the two rest area ideas **we** described?

21. First, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, what is your opinion of the idea to add acceptable commercial services, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? [DO NOT READ] Don't Know

22. Next, if a rest area were to be shut down due to loss of operating dollars, how would you describe your opinion of the idea to have <u>appropriate businesses</u> sponsor rest areas, as a means of keeping them open? Would you say you are...?

Very supportive Somewhat supportive Not very supportive, or Not at all supportive? Don't know - DO NOT READ

### (DO NOT READ): Revenue Enhancement B – Rotation 2

READ: The next questions are about selling or leasing advertising rights on Mn/DOT property.

10. I would like you to use a scale of: Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate, and tell me how appropriate you think each of the following is:

Please tell me how appropriate you think it is, for Mn/DOT to sell or lease advertising space for each of the following types of property, for the purpose of increasing funding for your transportation system. (READ EACH STATEMENT, REPEATING SCALE AS OFTEN AS NEEDED) <u>ROTATE STATEMENTS</u>

- i. on state cars (would you say it is very appropriate to advertise on these, somewhat appropriate, not very appropriate or not at all appropriate?)
- j. on state maintenance vehicles and equipment such as snow plows and highway helper trucks
- k. on and in facilities such as office buildings, truck stations, parking ramps, and the like
- 1. on highway/freeway entrance ramps
- m. on changeable message signs posted over or along highways and freeways
- n. in publications like state highway maps, and other Mn/DOT documents
- o. on the Mn/DOT website
- p. over radio or TV programs that are Mn/DOT-sponsored
- 11. Road improvements are often required on State highways when there is a new commercial or industrial development. Who do you think should pay for state highway improvements such as signals, turn lanes and so on, that are needed to accommodate new commercial or industrial development? I'm going to read you four choices. Would you say: [SELECT ONE RESPONSE ONLY] [ROTATE CHOICES]
  - a. all road users, that is, state gas tax dollars through Mn/DOT
  - b. the commercial or industrial business that is doing the developing,
  - c. residents in the city or county where the development is to occur, through property and other types of taxes or
  - d. some other group ? (specify)
- 12. A. You may know there are some auto license plates which are offered to raise money for certain activities; these typically promote a cause or an organization, and an extra fee becomes a donation. If Mn/DOT were to offer such license plates for the purpose of earning extra revenue, only from those who choose to buy them, how appropriate do you think that would be? : [READ LIST]

Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate

- 12. B. Assuming a design was attractive to you, on this license plate, how interested would you be in purchasing one, knowing that the extra revenue would promote an improved transportation system? Would you be...? [READ LIST] Very interested, Somewhat interested, Not very interested or Not at all interested?
- 13. I want you to think now about the Park and Ride lots, which many commuters use to park their cars and take buses. Mn/DOT could lease or sell space at these Park and Ride lots for the development of small businesses that may be valuable to some commuters. These could include coffee shops, dry cleaner drop-off/pick-up booths, oil change drop-off/pick-up booths, newsstands and the like. If Mn/DOT were to do this, that is, lease the space at Park and Ride lots to developers in an effort to increase revenue, how appropriate do you think that would be? Would you say...? [READ LIST] Very appropriate, Somewhat appropriate, Not very appropriate, or Not at all appropriate

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

Now I'm going to read some questions for classification purposes only. Your answers will be kept confidential.

- 52.How many licensed drivers currently live in your household?[DO NOT READ]12345678 or moreNoneRefused
- 53. How many motor vehicles are owned and used by members of your household? [RECORD NUMBER] Refused
- During the past two years, how many trips, 75 miles or more in length one-way, have you taken on Minnesota highways and freeways? Include both business and leisure trips.
  # trips (driven/as passenger)

None - DO NOT READ Don't know – DO NOT READ

### SKIP Q15 IF "0" TO Q14

15. Still thinking of these trips, approximately how many times in the past two years would you estimate that you've stopped at a rest area in Minnesota, or another state?

# stops at rest areas

None – DO NOT READ Don't know – DO NOT READ

- 54. Are you employed full time or part time, or not employed? Full time Part time Not employed
- 54b. What is your current or last occupation?

(Codes will be consistent with Traveler Information Study)

### ASK Q55. If "Full time" or "Part time" SELECTED IN Q54.

55. Do you work at home some days <u>instead of commuting to your normal workplace?</u>

Yes No [DO NOT READ] Normally work in office at home 100%

### ASK Q56. IF "YES" SELECTED IN Q55.

56. How many days, in a typical month, would you say you work from home INSTEAD of traveling to your normal workplace? # Days/mo: \_\_\_\_\_\_

IF "YES" TO Q6. "AT HOME" ASK Q56b.

Q56b. From your home, do you have access to your computer files at the office?

Yes No 57. Which of the following ranges does your age fall into? Please stop me when I get to the right range. [READ LIST]

18 to 29	60 to 69
30 to 39	70 or more
40 to 49	[DO NOT READ] Refused
50 to 59	

58. What is the last grade or level of education that you completed? Was it...? [READ LIST]

High School or less Technical or vocational school Some college College graduate, or Post graduate work or advanced degree [DO NOT READ] Refused

59. Can you tell me what your year 2002 total household income before taxes was? Please stop me when I get to the right range. [READ LIST]

Under \$20,000	\$65,000 to \$75,000
\$20,000 to \$35,000	\$75,000 to \$100,000
\$35,000 to \$50,000	\$100,000 or more
\$50,000 to \$65,000	Refused

NOTE: Also tabulate with "Net \$65,000 or more" to be consistent with previous studies.

- 60. What is your zip code? [RECORD ZIP CODE]
- 61. [DO NOT READ] Record gender

Male Female