

### Road Usage Charging Survey Oregon Dept of Transportation

PREPARED FOR

D'Artagnan Group & ODOT



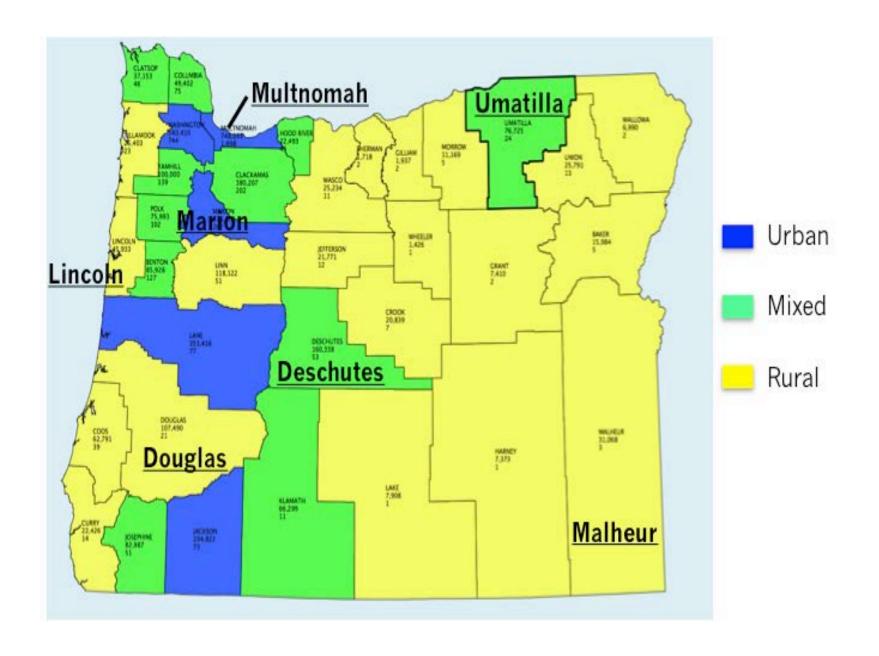
#### Myths of Urban vs. Rural

- Rural residents drive more
- Urban residents drive less

- Rural residents will pay more in RUC
- Urban residents will pay less in RUC



**Naked Bike Ride** 



### **Survey methodology**

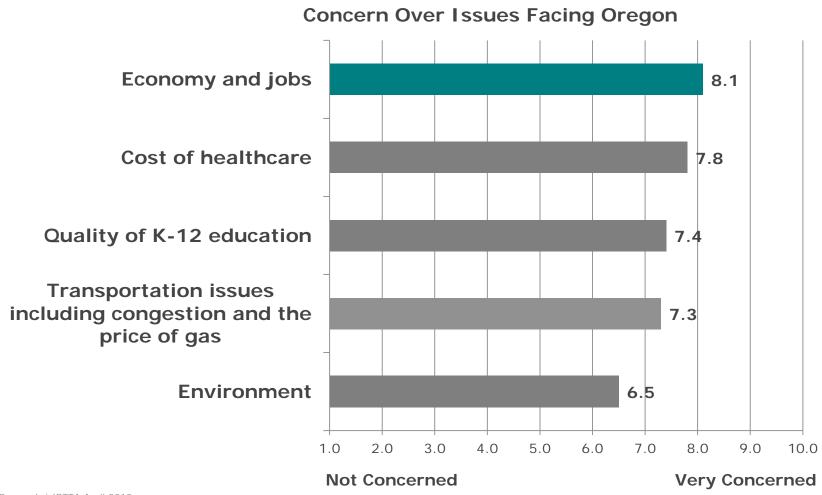
- Telephone survey of 900 registered voters
  - 300 Urban
  - 300 Mixed
  - 300 Rural
- List included land lines and cell phones
- Demographics to reflect each community
- Margin of error for 900; +/- 3.3%, at 95% confidence level
- Margin of error for 300; +/- 5.6%, at 95% confidence level

DHM Research | IBTTA April 2013

5

## Transportation Priorities In Oregon

# Like the rest of the country, top concern in Oregon is the economy. Transportation is above average in concern.



DHM Research | IBTTA April 2013

7

### Transportation is a higher concern in Rural areas.

#### **Urban**

- 1) Economy
- 2) Healthcare
- 3) Education

#### Rural

- 1) Economy
- 2) Healthcare
- 3) Transportation

### Key priority is maintenance.

- 1) Maintain existing system
- 2) Funding that is sustainable

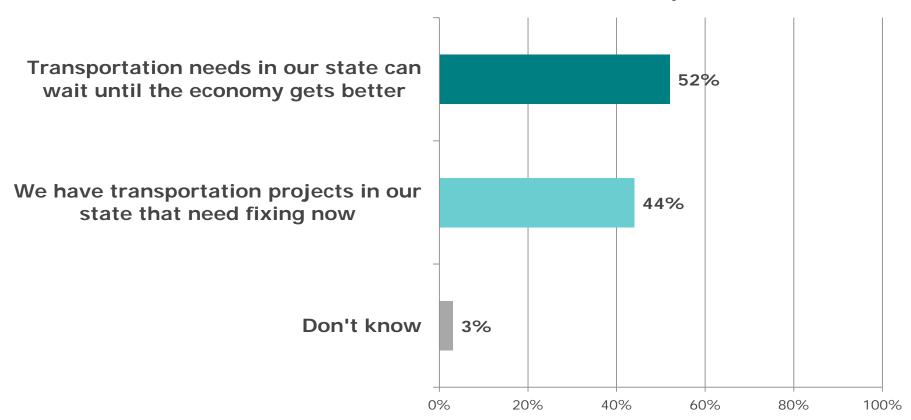
Safety

Technology

Congestion

### Voters are split on the urgency to address transportation needs.

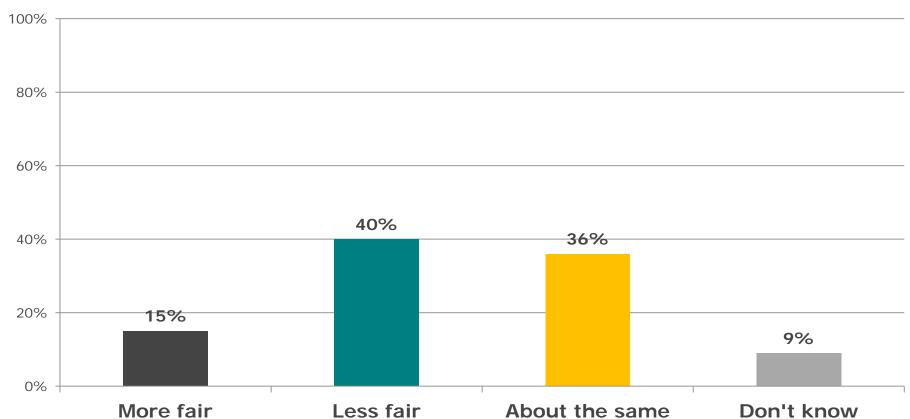
#### **Statement That Comes Closest To Viewpoint**



## Road Usage Charging In Oregon

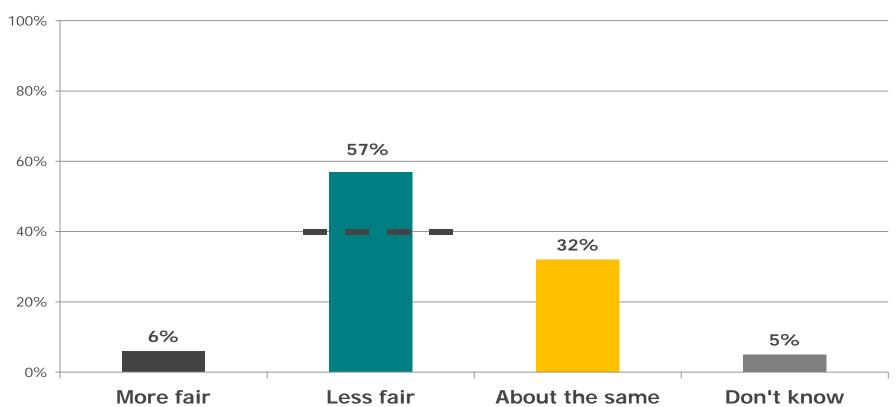
# 40% of voters believe RUC is less fair than the gas tax and about that many believe it's the same.





# Prompts to consider rural residents increases 'less fair' response by 17 points from 40% to 57%.

#### **Fairness For Rural Residents**



### Driving Habits Of Oregon Drivers

### Miles driven each year (self-reported).

|       | B.<br>Miles<br>off-road | C.<br>Miles<br>on-road | D.<br>Miles<br>driven<br>out-of-<br>state |
|-------|-------------------------|------------------------|---|
| Urban | 721                     | 12,122                 | 765                                       |
| Rural | 1,090                   | 11,421                 | 1,939                                     |

### Urban drivers on average drive more total miles (self-reported).

|       | Total<br>miles<br>driven<br>(B + C) | B.<br>Miles<br>off- road | C.<br>Miles<br>on-road | D.<br>Miles<br>driven<br>out-of-<br>state |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|--|
| Urban | 12,843                              | 721                      | 12,122                 | 765                                       |  |
| Rural | 12,511                              | 1,090                    | 11,421                 | 1,939                                     |  |

#### And on public roads (self-reported).

|       | Total<br>miles<br>driven<br>(B + C) | B.<br>Miles<br>off- road | C.<br>Miles<br>on-road | D.<br>Miles<br>driven<br>out-of-<br>state | Total miles on<br>Oregon public<br>roads<br>(C - D) |  |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------|---|---|--|
| Urban | 12,843                              | 721                      | 12,122                 | 765                                       | 11,357  |  |
| Rural | 12,511                              | 1,090                    | 11,421                 | 1,939                                     | 9,482   |  |

### Average miles driven for everyday activities (self reported).

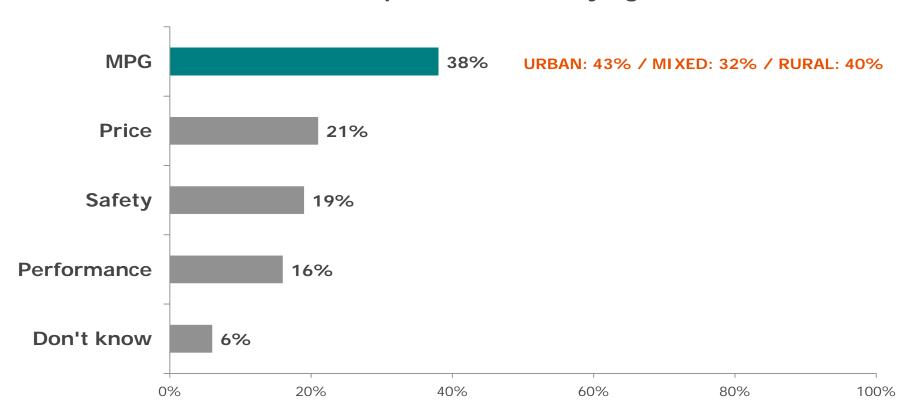
| Trip Purpose         | Urban | Rural |  |
|----------------------|-------|-------|--|
| Grocery shopping     | 4.0   | 14.8  |  |
| Work or school       | 11.1  | 16.0  |  |
| Restaurants          | 5.3   | 11.6  |  |
| Clothes shopping     | 7.9   | 22.5  |  |
| Medical appointments | 8.8   | 24.0  |  |

### Frequency of trips (self reported).

| Trin Durnaga         | Weekly<br>(%) |    | Monthly<br>(%) |    | Less than monthly (%) |    |
|----------------------|---------------|----|----------------|----|-----------------------|----|
| Trip Purpose         | U             | R  | U              | R  | U                     | R  |
| Grocery shopping     | 82            | 73 | 12             | 20 | 6                     | 7  |
| Work or school       | 61            | 49 | n/a            |    |                       |    |
| Restaurants          | 47            | 30 | 29             | 36 | 24                    | 34 |
| Clothes shopping     | 14            | 14 | 42             | 33 | 44                    | 53 |
| Medical appointments | 11            | 10 | 25             | 24 | 64                    | 66 |

### MPG is the highest priority for a future vehicle, even over price.

#### **Factors Most Important When Buying Next Vehicle**



## Growing market for "efficient" vehicles in Oregon.

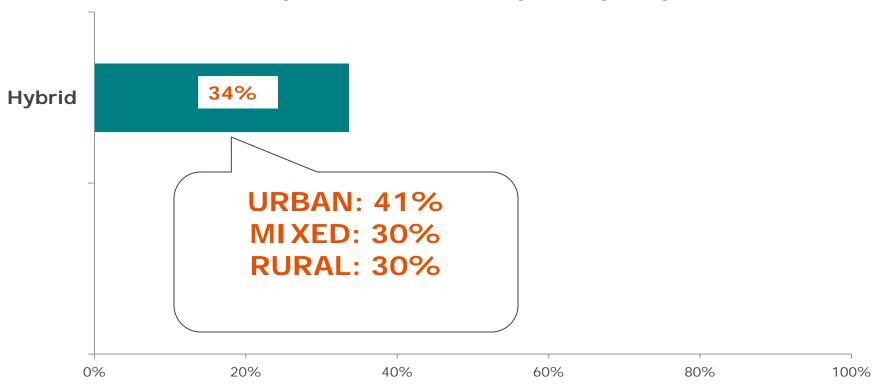
5.5% of all new vehicle registrations in Oregon are "efficient"

34% are likely to buy a hybrid

20% are likely to buy an electric vehicle

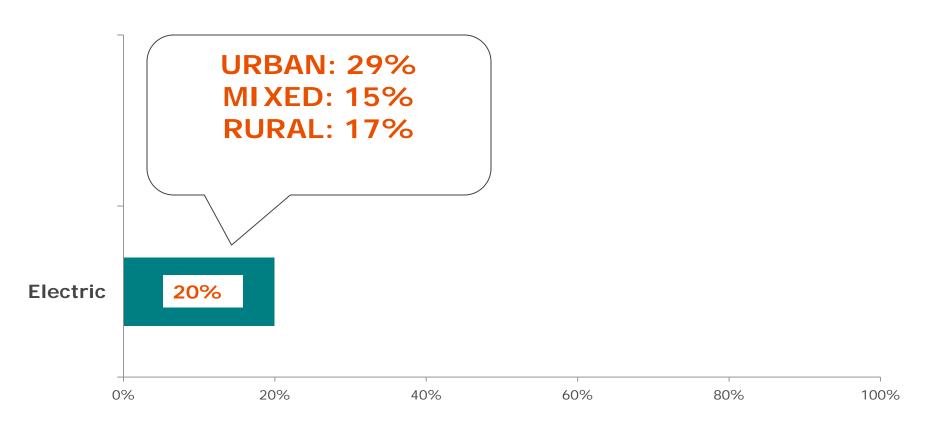
### Urban shows highest interest for Hybrids.





#### And for electric vehicles.

#### Very or somewhat likely to buy an Electric Vehicle



#### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

# Elevate transportation as a priority issue

Transportation is rated 7.3 as an area of concern, just below K-12 education

- rated higher in Rural

44% believe transportation issues need to be addressed now

- 55% in Urban

## Pre-empt rural vs. urban discussion on road use fees

60% combined opportunity to shift opinions

- 36% say RUC is as fair as gas tax
- 15% more fair
- 9% unsure

Only when prompted to consider rural residents do more voters consider RUC to be less fair (57% from 40%)

http://www.oregon.gov/ODOT/HWY/RUFPP/docs/FINAL\_Report\_Impacts\_RoadUserCharges\_Rural\_Urban\_Mixed\_Counties\_Jan\_2013.pdf



#### Su Midghall

smidghall@dhmresearch.com (503) 220-0575

www.dhmresearch.com



@DHMresearch