

# **New Approaches to Transportation Finance: A Survey of Public Preferences**

Asha Weinstein Agrawal  
Jennifer Dill



# Presentation Outline

- Study background
- Findings
  - Tolling
  - PPPs
  - “Green” vehicle registration fees
- Conclusions



# **Larger study: *Transportation Financing Opportunities for the State of California***

- Evaluated taxes/fees, tolls, PPPs
- Applied 5 evaluation criteria
  - Revenue generation
  - Ease of implementation
  - Transportation system performance
  - Equity
  - Political feasibility



# Survey Methodology

- Survey 1: Taxes, fees, tolls
  - 2,705 respondents



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- Survey 1: Taxes, fees, tolls
  - 2,705 respondents
  
- Survey 2: Tolling and PPPs
  - 815 respondents



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# Tolling Options

- Majority support: Truck-only toll lanes, HOT lanes
- Support in 40s: toll roads, tolls on new lanes



# Tolling: Women More Supportive

	Men	Women
Toll roads	43%	<b>50%</b>
HOT lanes	52%	<b>57%</b>
Truck-only toll lanes	60%	<b>69%</b>

All differences significant,  $p < 0.05$



# Tolling: Young More Supportive

	<b>18-34</b>	<b>35-54</b>	<b>55+</b>
Express toll lanes	<b>54%</b>	44%	37%
Toll roads	<b>53%</b>	45%	44%
HOT lanes	<b>64%</b>	57%	49%
Truck-only toll lanes	<b>75%</b>	62%	60%



# Tolling: Prior Experience Matters

- Los Angeles and Southern California more positive on most toll facilities



# Tolling: Few Income Influences

	<\$50k	\$50-99	\$100k+
Tolls on new lanes	<b>36%</b>	41%	46%
Express toll lanes	47%	42%	51%
Toll roads	53%	<b>39%</b>	51%
HOT lanes	56%	59%	53%
Truck-only toll lanes	70%	63%	63%

All bold/blue figures significantly different from others,  $p < 0.05$



# Tolling: Race/Ethnicity

- No consistent pattern of support or opposition by any group



# Tolling: Summary

Stronger support from:

- Women
- Younger people
- Regions with existing toll roads

Very little variation in support by:

- Income
- Race/ethnicity



# PPPs: Attitudes

1. Preference: 37% PPP v. 48% state
2. Acceptability of a PPP
  - 11% opposed
  - 72% “not opposed”



# PPPs: Variation by Demographics

- Almost no variation
- 18-34 year olds oppose less



# “Green” Vehicle Registration Fees

- Definition
- Support for concept: 63%
- Support for actual increase: 44%
- Flat v. variable increase: 12% spread



# “Green” Vehicle Registration Fees

Adding variable option increases support for:

- Women
- Lower income people
- Younger people
- Non-white
- College graduates



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  - Experience matters
  - No clear pattern of support/opposition by race/ethnicity or income



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- With tolling:
  - Experience matters
  - No clear pattern of support/opposition by race/ethnicity or income
- Young more supportive of all options
  - Cohort effect?
- Potential for “green” taxes

