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Los Osos -- You Paid for It, You Should See It

Unlike the 2001 Los Osos Community Services District Board, *SewerWatch* believes that taxpayers in Los Osos should be privy to public documents, especially since those same taxpayers shelled out damn near $28,000 for said documents.

It took awhile, but I finally broke down and scanned in that amazing public opinion survey that the LOCSD commissioned in 2001 to gauge support for their sewer project (attached below). It's great, and very interesting.

Among many, many things, it shows a community that strongly supports a sewer system in Los Osos, and a community that was worried about fines from the Regional Water Quality Control Board. In short, a community that wanted to do the right thing.

It also shows a confused community -- a community that was still largely under the impression that the Solution Group's "better, cheaper, faster" Community Plan was still on the table, even though that project crashed and burned months before the survey was conducted. But the confusion was understandable. According to the survey, Los Osos's main source of information at the time was the *Tribune*, and that was unfortunate, because the *Trib* did not write one story on the intensely newsworthy demise of the Community Plan in 2000, even though I had just written a *New Times* cover story chronicling it (linked at *SewerWatch*). (Hey *Trib*, quick question -- why didn't you do a public information request for *this* document? Ohhhhhhh yea, that's right, because it reveals that you guys had no idea what you were talking about last year when you were popping out editorials on Los Osos, including one on election day. So, I can understand why you wouldn't want to request *this* document. In fact, it makes perfect sense.)

Throughout the survey, there are leading and misleading questions and statements everywhere. So much so, that when you read through it, it gets blurry on whether the survey was commissioned to gauge public opinion on the sewer project, or whether it was used as campaign material (funded by Los Osos taxpayers) in an effort to sway an election.

"This measure is our last chance to approve a wastewater system for Los Osos."

"It builds a treatment facility that is completely covered and equipped with odor removal equipment."

"This measure includes funds to build a large park for the citizens of Los Osos. The park would include ballfields, a picnic area, gardens, walking paths, and amphitheater, and even constructed wetlands."

Even constructed wetlands? Wow. That's one sweet sewer plant!

'coupla questions on that one:

Why did they leave out the minor details that those "funds" would amount to $2.3 million just for the amenities, like the "constructed wetlands," and about $3 million, at least, in operation and maintenance costs over the next 20 years?

And another thing -- why didn't they follow-up their lovely description of the park with, "Oh, and by the way, that "large park" is also going to require a large piece of expensive land, and that large piece of expensive land is going to have to be in the middle of town so people can get to the "large park," so we're also going to have to add tens of millions of dollars to the project for expensive environmental mitigation, massive odor control, land costs, and lots of expensive visual mitigation *because* of the central location to accommodate the park."?

Why didn't the early CSD Board add that to their survey? I'll take a stab at the answer -- because if they had, 100-percent of the respondents would have said, *"Are you out of your freaking mind!?"*

Just curious... what percentage of the 53-percent of respondents that said they would be "much more inclined" to support the measure because it creates a park, would still have supported that idea if they had been apprised of those minor details?

There are so many notable items in the survey. Things will jump out at you that I haven't even touched upon -- things like attaching "special loans" to mortgages. Huh? Did that mean if a homeowner couldn't keep up with the $35 a month added to their mortgage by the "special loan," they would no longer be a homeowner? Just a thought.

But, without a doubt, my favorite part of the survey is where it asks:

"What is the most important issue that you would like to see local governments in the Los Osos area do something about?"

And from a list of answers, respondents said:
"Open space/park protections -- 1%"

That thin number was tucked away in that dusty document at the exact same time that the LOCSD was telling the California Coastal Commission, *and printing in their Final Project Report*, that there was a "strongly held community value" that any sewer plant in Los Osos must also double as a centrally located "recreational asset."

Naturally, the Coastal Commission recently told *SewerWatch* that they were not aware of the survey, and that's too bad, because the Coastal Commission believed the CSD, and in 2002, reluctantly signed-off on the ESHA-filled, Tri-W site based solely on that "community value." And, of course, again, the *Tribune* did not cover any of that, even though I wrote another *New Times* cover story (linked at *SewerWatch*) chronicling all of it. (Nice job, *Trib*... you're one hell of a "watchdog.")

However, the survey does show some good news for the ladies in Los Osos. The town has 6-percent more men than women, at least that was the case in 2001.

# # #

SINGLETON•TACKET and ASSOCIATES

Invoice # 01
Business ID Number: 77-0485621

600

January 31, 2001

Submitted to: **Los Osos Community Services District**
Billing period: **January 15-31, 2001**

Activities and Task

- < Meet with Stan, Rose and Bruce re Planning
- < Follow-up with Bruce Buel
- < Discussion with David Metz re scheduling call to discuss survey
- < Meeting with Associate Pat Harris re: planning.
- < Pat Harris attend LOCSD agency meeting on 1/21
- < Meeting with the Taylors
- < Meeting with Pandora Nash Karner
- < Attend LOCSD workshop 1/23
- < Meeting with Bruce and conference call with Dave Metz and Richard Maslin
- < Staff meeting with Bruce

Project Management 12.25 hrs @ $100.00		**$1,225.00**
ST&A Associate Fee(s) 2.5 hrs @ $60.00		**$150.00**
Clerical		**$ -0-**
	Subtotal	**$1375.00**
Indirect Costs		
FMMA SURVEY		$12, 000.00
INDIRECT COSTS -		
*Phone Costs		$60.00
*Faxing		$30.00
*Xeroxing		$-0-
*Mileage		$50.00
*Postage		$15.00
*Supplies		$-0-
	Subtotal	$12,155.00

Amount Due This Invoice: $ 13,530.00

Please submit payment to:
Singleton-Tacket & Associates
PO Box 12638
San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

All payments are due upon receipt of invoice. All balances over 30 days past due have service charges added of 1.5% per month.

SINGLETON•TACKET and ASSOCIATES

Invoice # 03 **April 2, 2001**
Business ID Number: 77-0485621

Submitted to: **Los Osos Community Services District**
Billing period: **March 1-31, 2001**

Activities and Task

- Follow-up re LOCSD – survey, materials
- Assist with layout and format of newsletter with graphic designer
- Follow-up on miscellaneous items with Bruce Buel
- Follow-up conversation re: preliminary survey results with FMMA
- Follow-up re Comments on survey
- Review survey information
- Meeting with Pavo Ogren re: cost recovery information
- Follow-up on discussion with Pavo re: subcommittee
- Preparation for planning session and LOCSD Board meeting to be held 3/15/01
- Planning session on 3/15
- Meeting with FMMA re assessment ballot
- Follow-up with Greg Haas
- Discussion with Betsy Umhoffer re media coordination
- Attend LOCSD meeting on 3/15
- Follow-up with Rose Bowker
- Follow-up with FMMA re materials for Washington trip
- Follow-up with FMMA re ballot language and communication series
- Conversation with Greg Haas – Capp's office re coordination and media issues related to Washington
- Conversation with Bruce Buel re: communication plan
- Planning with ST&A re communication plan
- Develop expanded budget plan and activities for LOCSD
- Begin designing plan
- Meeting Pat Harris and Jean DeCosta re planning and design for information workshop
- Follow-up with Bruce re : outcomes from Washington trip
- Completion of strategic communications plan
- Meeting with Bruce, Rose and Stan re : planning
- Meeting with Greg Haas/Lois Capp's office re: discussion of next steps
- Phone discussion with Sun Bulletin reporter
- Follow-up with Bruce Buel

Project Management 38.75 hrs @ $100.00	**$3875.00**
ST&A Associate Fee(s) ..... **(Completion of FMMA survey)**	**$10,000.00**
Clerical	**$ 275.00**
Subtotal	**$14,150.00**

LOS OSOS COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT WASTEWATER SURVEY
220-1093UT
FINAL
NOT WEIGHTED BY ASSESSMENT

Interviewer _____ Station _____

Time Began_____ Time Finished_____ Total Time_____

(IF OWNER IS A PERSON, ASK THE FOLLOWING:)

Hello, may I speak with _____? **(MUST SPEAK WITH PROPERTY OWNER LISTED)** I'm calling from FMA, a public opinion research company. I am not trying to sell you anything, but I would like to have you take a few minutes to answer a brief survey about issues that are important to property owners in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**. May I begin...?

(IF OWNER IS A BUSINESS, LEGAL TRUST, OR SIMILAR ENTITY, ASK THE FOLLOWING:)

Hello, I'm calling from FMA, a public opinion research company. We are not attempting to sell anything, but we would like to ask a few questions that could be important to owners of property in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**, California. It will only take a few minutes to complete the survey. Could you connect me with or give the name of the person who makes decisions regarding the management of your property in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**? **(RECORD NAME, THEN ASK TO SPEAK TO THAT PERSON AND REPEAT INTRODUCTION)**

1. First, just to confirm, do you own property in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**?

Yes	100%
No	**TERMINATE**
(DON'T KNOW/NA)	**TERMINATE**

2. From time to time, local governments send property owners ballots and ask them to vote by mail on issues that concern their property. If such an election were held in the Los Osos **(OH-sos)** area, would you definitely vote in the election, probably vote in the election, are the chances 50-50 that you will vote, would you probably not vote, or would you definitely not vote?

Definitely vote	69%
Probably vote	21%
50-50	4%
Probably not vote	2%
Definitely not vote	2%
(DON'T KNOW/NA)	1%

3. What is the most important issue that you would like to see local governments in the Los Osos (OH-sos) area do something about? **(OPEN-END, DO NOT READ CHOICES)**

Air quality/air pollution/smog	0%
Crime	0%
Drugs	0%
Education/public schools	0%
Gangs/juvenile violence	0%
Government spending/budget	0%
Growth and development/urban sprawl	3%
Land use/zoning	1%
Jobs/unemployment/the economy	0%
Open space/park protections	1%
Pollution generally/the environment	2%
Public transportation	0%
Racial divisions	0%
Roads/highways	7%
Taxes	2%
Traffic and congestion	1%
Violence	0%
Wastewater treatment/septic tanks	64%
Water quality/nitrate pollution in water	3%
Other **(SPECIFY)**	10%
(DON'T KNOW/NA)	5%

4. Now I would like to read you a list of issues some people say may be problems in the Los Osos **(OH-sos)** area. After I read each one, please tell me whether you think it is a problem in the Los Osos **(OH-sos)** area or not. **(IF PROBLEM, ASK:** "Is that a serious problem or just somewhat of a problem?") **(ROTATE)**

		SERIOUS PROB.	S.W. PROB.	NOT A PROB.	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a.	Unemployment	5%	14%	57%	23%
[ ]b.	Crime	2%	24%	67%	8%
[ ]c.	The quality of local drinking water	16%	31%	46%	6%
[ ]d.	Traffic and congestion	9%	24%	64%	3%
[ ]e.	The quality of public education	5%	12%	59%	25%
[ ]f.	The amount of money people have to pay in property taxes	20%	30%	44%	6%
[ ]g.	The lack of a safe and efficient system to dispose of wastewater	63%	17%	14%	6%
[ ]h.	Government waste and inefficiency	27%	24%	36%	13%
[ ]i.	The rate of growth and development	20%	23%	54%	4%
[ ]j.	The amount of park space and recreational areas in Los Osos	22%	27%	45%	5%

5. Now let me mention a few local government agencies that are active in the Los Osos (OH-sos) area. After I mention each one, please tell me if you have a favorable or unfavorable opinion of that agency. If you have never heard of the agency I ask you about, or don't know enough about it to have an opinion, you can tell me that too. **(IF FAVORABLE/UNFAVORABLE, ASK:** "Is that very or just somewhat?") **(ROTATE)**

		VERY FAV.	S.W. FAV.	S.W. UNFAV.	VERY UNFAV.	NEVER HEARD OF	DK/ NO OPIN.
[ ]a.	The Los Osos (OH-sos) Community Services District	40%	30%	7%	4%	6%	14%
[ ]b.	The County of San Luis (LEWIS) Obispo	14%	37%	20%	17%	1%	12%
[ ]c.	The California Regional Water Quality Control Board	7%	23%	23%	17%	3%	28%

6. Do you recall seeing or hearing anything recently about plans to build a new wastewater treatment system in the Los Osos (OH-sos) area? **(IF YES, ASK:** Have you heard a great deal or just a little?)

Yes, a great deal	**(ASK Q7-Q8)**--65%
Yes, a little	**(ASK Q7-Q8)**--26%
No, haven't heard anything	**(SKIP TO Q8)**--8%
(DK/REFUSED/NA)	**(SKIP TO Q8)**--1%

(IF YES IN Q6, ASK Q7-Q8)

7. In a few words of your own, can you tell me what you saw or heard? **(OPEN END, RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE BELOW)**

New system proposed/Trying to find alternative plan	26%
How to fund the project/costs too much	14%
Location	14%
Proposal to build underground with park over it	8%
Community growing, needs new sewer system	5%
Putting in sediment ponds/Holding tanks	5%
Local advertising/Pamphlets/Brochures	4%
Cost each household $100/using our money	4%
Citizens don't want it built near them/Middle of town	4%
Length of time to completion	4%
Have seen the plans	3%
Some of the plans & permits have been approved	3%
Need more information	1%
No answer	2%
Misc.	2%
Don't know/Refused	2%

8. From what you have heard, would your property fall into the area served by the new wastewater treatment system?

Yes	91%
No	4%
(DK/REFUSED/NA)	5%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

NOW I AM GOING TO ASK YOU ABOUT SOME OTHER ISSUES.

9. Would you support or oppose the construction of a new wastewater treatment system that would remove and treat wastewater from all homes and businesses in the Los Osos **(OH-sos)** area? **(IF SUPPORT/ OPPOSE, ASK:** "Is that strongly **SUPPORT/OPPOSE** or just somewhat?")

Strongly support	52%
Somewhat support	21%
Somewhat oppose	3%
Strongly oppose	8%
(DON'T READ) Need more info	11%
(DON'T READ) Don't know	4%

10. There will be a special election in a few months that will give property owners the opportunity to vote by mail on a wastewater treatment project for Los Osos **(OH-sos)**. Let me explain a little bit more about it:

The project would replace septic tanks in Los Osos **(OH-sos)** with a sewer system and wastewater treatment facility. The treatment facility, located at next to the library on Palisades Avenue, will be completely covered and equipped with odor-removal equipment. It will be surrounded by a new community park complete with trails, gardens, a dog park, ballfields, and an amphitheater. Treated wastewater will be recycled for use in irrigation, and sludge will be removed to a site outside of Los Osos **(OH-sos)**. Once the system is complete, it will protect drinking water supplies from contamination and prevent Los Osos **(OH-sos)** property owners from being fined by the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The assessment to fund the wastewater treatment system would be calculated individually for every property based on the proportionate amount of wastewater produced by that property. The average single-family residential property would pay a monthly assessment of nineteen dollars to help pay back the cost of municipal bonds that will fund part of the construction.

If the vote on this measure were held today, would you vote <u>yes</u> to support the construction of the wastewater treatment system or <u>no</u> to oppose it? **(IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

Definitely Yes to support	52%
Probably Yes to support	20%
Probably No to oppose	3%
Definitely No to oppose	8%
(DON'T READ) Need more info **(SKIP TO Q12)**	15%

(DON'T READ) Don't know ---------- (SKIP TO Q12)--3%

(IF YES/NO IN Q10, ASK Q11)

11. In a few words of your own, why would you vote **YES/NO** on this measure? **(OPEN END, RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE BELOW)**

Yes

We need a sewer system in the worst way	31%
Whole package sounds good/good for the community	18%
We need to protect the water resources	10%
It seems very affordable at $19 a month	10%
Being forced to or will have to pay fines	8%
This should've happened when the city reached a certain size	8%
It's a matter of public health	6%
It will allow people to start building again	5%
If it were less than $100/concerned about the cost	3%
Tired of them not using money the way they should	2%
Misc.	2%
Don't know	1%

No

It's too costly	42%
It's not needed	26%
Because of its location	16%
Should find another alternative	16%
Don't know/NA/Misc.	0%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

12. In addition to the nineteen-dollar monthly assessment I just mentioned, the wastewater treatment project would have some other costs that would be billed to area property owners. These include the cost of paying back a loan from the state that will help finance the project, and the cost of the ongoing operation and maintenance of the system.

The total amount of these costs has not yet been finalized. I'm going to read a range of possible total average monthly costs for single-family homeowners; after I read each one, please tell me whether you would vote yes or no on the project at that monthly cost.

Remember, I am asking about the total cost. Would you vote yes or no on this measure if you knew the total average monthly cost for you would be. . . **(READ FIRST NUMBER)** What if it were . . . ? **(READ NEXT NUMBER IN ORDER AND CONTINUE THROUGH THE LIST) (IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

(SPLIT SAMPLE A: READ IN LISTED ORDER)
(SPLIT SAMPLE B: READ IN REVERSE OF LISTED ORDER)

	DEFINITELY YES	PROBABLY YES	PROBABLY NO	DEFINITELY NO	(NEED MORE INFO)	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a. Eighty dollars	28%	22%	9%	30%	6%	3%
[ ]b. Ninety dollars	21%	18%	11%	39%	7%	3%
[ ]c. One hundred dollars	16%	15%	16%	45%	6%	3%

[ ]d. One hundred and ten dollars--------11%---------- 10% ---------- 18% ---------- 52% --------- 6% ---- 3%
[ ]e. One hundred and twenty dollars --10%---------- 10% ---------- 16% ---------- 55% --------- 6% ---- 3%

13. In order to take advantage of the new wastewater treatment system, property owners will have to pay to have their property connected to the main sewer lines that will take wastewater away for treatment. The cost of these connections will vary widely, depending on the location and type of buildings on each property. The average single-family residential property owner will have to pay a one-time fee of roughly seventeen hundred dollars to connect to the wastewater treatment system.

Having heard this, if the vote on this measure were held today, would you vote yes to support the construction of the wastewater treatment system or no to oppose it? **(IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

Definitely Yes to support	37%
Probably Yes to support	19%
Probably No to oppose	8%
Definitely No to oppose	18%
(DON'T READ) Need more info	12%
(DON'T READ) Don't know	6%

14. Local banks have already agreed to make low-cost loans available to help people pay the costs of the connection charge I just described. The loans can be arranged by adding onto existing mortgages, or through a new special loan program. By taking these loans, property owners would not have to pay an up-front connection charge, but would pay an average of between ten and 35 dollars per month, depending upon the length of the loan or mortgage. If you knew that these loans were available, would you vote yes to support the construction of the wastewater treatment system or no to oppose it? **(IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

Definitely Yes to support	40%
Probably Yes to support	28%
Probably No to oppose	4%
Definitely No to oppose	12%
(DON'T READ) Need more info	11%
(DON'T READ) Don't know	5%

15. Next, I am going to read you a list of specific features of the proposed wastewater treatment project. After I read each one, please tell me whether including that feature makes you more likely or less likely to vote for the measure approving the project. **(IF MORE/LESS LIKELY, ASK:** Is that much **MORE/LESS** likely or just somewhat?) **(ROTATE)**

		MUCH MORE LIKELY	S.W. MORE LIKELY	S.W. LESS LIKELY	MUCH LESS LIKELY	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a.	It limits further contamination of Los Osos **(OH-sos)** drinking water supplies	55%	22%	3%	7%	12%
[ ]b.	It eliminates the use of septic tanks	48%	20%	9%	13%	11%
[ ]c.	It reduces the rate at which Los Osos **(OH-sos)** will use up its groundwater	50%	26%	3%	9%	11%
[ ]d.	It builds a sewer system to remove wastewater from all properties in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**	52%	26%	4%	8%	9%
[ ]e.	It prevents Los Osos **(OH-sos)** property owners from being liable for fines of ten thousand dollars per day due to the community's lack of a wastewater treatment system	54%	17%	6%	11%	13%
[ ]f.	It does not use ponds as a way of removing treated wastewater	34%	17%	8%	12%	29%
]g.	It creates a new park for the use of schoolchildren and local community members, complete with trails, gardens, a dog park, ball fields, and an amphitheater	53%	23%	4%	9%	11%
[ ]h.	It provides recycled water for use in irrigation	56%	27%	3%	6%	8%
[ ]i.	It maintains local control of the community's water resources	60%	23%	2%	6%	9%
[ ]j.	It eliminates the need to import expensive water	59%	19%	4%	8%	10%
[ ]k.	It prevents sea water from further draining into the community's drinking water supplies	58%	18%	3%	7%	13%
[ ]l.	It builds a treatment facility that is completely covered and equipped with odor-removal equipment	60%	20%	3%	7%	9%
[ ]m.	It protects Morro Bay and the Estuary from contamination with nitrates and bacteria	63%	18%	3%	6%	10%
[ ]n.	It removes all collected sludge to a site outside of Los Osos **(OH-sos)**	51%	22%	4%	8%	15%
[ ]o.	It offsets costs with grants and loans from the state and federal governments	64%	20%	1%	5%	10%

(SPLIT SAMPLE A ONLY)

]p.	It eliminates the current ban on new development in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**	40%	20%	11%	20%	10%

(SPLIT SAMPLE B ONLY)

[ ]q. It returns control over local growth and land-use decisions to local officials ---------- 50% ------ 19% --------- 5% -------- 8% ------- 19%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

16. The election on this wastewater treatment measure will be held through the mail. In addition to a ballot, all affected property owners will be sent some information about the wastewater treatment projects that will be funded, the amount of their assessment, and the way that the assessment was calculated. Property owners will have 45 days to fill out their ballots and mail them back.

Based on what I have said, do you think definitely vote in the election, probably vote in the election, are the chances 50-50 that you will vote, will you probably not vote, or will you definitely not vote?

Definitely vote	87%
Probably vote	8%
50-50	3%
Probably not vote	0%
Definitely not vote	2%
(DON'T KNOW/NA)	1%

17. Let me read you some statements we have heard from various people about the wastewater treatment measure on which you will be asked to vote. After hearing each statement, please tell me if it makes you more inclined to vote yes to support the measure. If you do not believe the statement, or if it has no effect on your thinking one way or the other, please tell me that too. **(IF MORE INCLINED, ASK:** "Is that much more or just somewhat?")

(ROTATE)

	MUCH MORE INCL.	SMWHT MORE INCL.	(LESS INCL.)	DON'T BELIEVE	NO EFFECT	(NO OPIN.)
[ ]a. Unless we pass this measure, our drinking water is at risk of biological contamination. Our septic systems have contaminated our water supplies with dangerously high levels of nitrates. We need to pass this measure now to ensure that we have safe, clean drinking water for the future.	37%	11%	4%	32%	10%	6%
[ ]b. This measure is the result of years of careful planning and research by some of the best engineers and planners in our area. We will not be able to come up with a wastewater treatment plan that offers a better balance of effectiveness, safety, and affordability.	32%	25%	6%	19%	10%	8%

[ ]c. This measure is our last chance to approve a wastewater system for Los Osos **(OH-sos)**. The Regional Water Quality Control Board has set a firm deadline by which we have to approve a new system; unless this measure passes, property owners could be subject to fines of as much as ten thousand dollars per day. --------37%----- 13% -------7%--------25%----- 10% -------7%

		MUCH MORE INCL.	SMWHT MORE INCL.	(LESS INCL.)	DON'T BELIEVE	NO EFFECT	(NO OPIN.)
[ ]d.	Building in Los Osos (OH-sos) is prohibited until a wastewater treatment system is put in place. People who bought land to retire here have been unable to improve their property. By approving this measure, we can allow this kind of reasonable, managed growth in Los Osos (OH-sos).	33%	21%	15%	11%	15%	5%
[ ]e.	This measure includes funds to build a large park for the citizens of Los Osos (OH-sos). The park would include ballfields, a picnic area, gardens, walking paths, an amphitheater, and even constructed wetlands.	42%	22%	10%	5%	16%	6%
[ ]f.	This measure was developed with extensive public input: last year alone, the Los Osos (OH-sos) Community Services District Board had 39 public meetings to gather public comments; the District's wastewater committee held an additional 24 public meetings. Using that public input measure was developed to meet the needs and concerns of Los Osos (OH-sos) property owners.	39%	26%	5%	6%	15%	9%

- ~$2-3 million worth of funds?
- where did that word come from?

18. No matter which way you might be leaning on the wastewater treatment vote, of the statements I just read which one stands out as the best reason why someone should vote FOR this measure? **(DO NOT RE-READ RESPONSES)**

* a. Drinking water contamination ------- 32%
b. Engineers' best plan/balanced approach ---------- 6%
c. Last chance/fines from govt. -------- 17%
d. Remove building restrictions ---------- 9%
e. Will create park ---------- 7%
f. Plan from public input ---------- 6%
(DON'T READ) All of these ---------- 5%
(DON'T READ) None of these ---------- 12%
(DON'T READ) DK/NA ---------- 6%

19. Now that you have heard more about it, let me ask you one more time: if you had to vote today, would you vote YES to support the wastewater treatment measure, or would you vote NO to oppose it? **(IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

Definitely Yes to support	48%
Probably Yes to support	23%
Probably No to oppose	4%
Definitely No to oppose	8%
(DON'T READ) Need more info	12%
(DON'T READ) Don't know	5%

20. Here are some more statements we have heard from various people about the wastewater treatment measure on which you will be asked to vote. After hearing each statement, please tell me if it makes you more inclined to vote no to oppose the measure. If you do not believe the statement, or if it has no effect on your thinking one way or the other, please tell me that too. **(IF MORE INCLINED, ASK:** "Is that much more or just somewhat?")

(ROTATE)

	MUCH MORE INCL.	SMWHT MORE INCL.	(LESS INCL.)	DON'T BELIEVE	NO EFFECT	(NO OPIN.)
[ ]a. People just can't afford to pay any more taxes, no matter what the government says about groundwater contamination.	17%	11%	10%	23%	33%	7%
[ ]b. The ban on development in Los Osos **(OH-sos)** has allowed our community to retain its small-town feel. If we vote for this measure, the ban will be lifted and rapid development will destroy the character of Los Osos **(OH-sos)**.	20%	15%	10%	27%	23%	6%
[ ]c. There's nothing wrong with our current system of removing wastewater. The pollution of our water supplies comes from natural sources, not septic tanks.	18%	11%	6%	35%	17%	13%
[ ]d. This plan is far too expensive. Seniors and people with limited incomes can't afford to pay thousands of dollars up front and over 100 dollars per month. There must be a way to treat our wastewater that does not cost so much.	35%	17%	8%	12%	22%	6%
[ ]e. We just cannot trust local government to handle our water treatment problems. Every solution they have proposed so far has turned out to have serious problems.	18%	11%	6%	28%	25%	12%

21. Sometimes over the course of a survey like this, people change their minds. Let me ask you one more time: if you had to vote today, would you vote YES to support the wastewater treatment measure, or would you vote NO to oppose it? **(IF YES/NO, ASK:** "Is that definitely or just probably?")

Definitely Yes to support	47%
Probably Yes to support	24%
Probably No to oppose	6%
Definitely No to oppose	9%
(DON'T READ) Need more info	10%
(DON'T READ) Don't know	4%

22. I'm going to read the names of some people and organizations that might speak out about the wastewater treatment measure I have been asking about. After you hear each name, please tell me if you would consider that person or organization to be a reliable source of information or not about this measure. If you have never heard of the person or organization, or have no opinion about it, please tell me that too. **(IF RELIABLE/NOT RELIABLE, ASK):** "Is that very or somewhat/not too or not at all?") **(READ LIST AND ROTATE NAMES)**

		NEVER HEARD OF	VERY REL	SMWT REL	NOT TOO REL	NOT AT ALL REL	DK/ NO OPIN.
(SPLIT SAMPLE A ONLY)							
[ ]a.	Congresswoman Lois Capps	3%	43%	25%	6%	9%	14%
[ ]b.	State Senator Jack O'Connell	7%	37%	26%	3%	6%	20%
[ ]c.	The Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District	3%	48%	30%	2%	4%	13%
[ ]d.	Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District Board Member Rosemary Bowker **(BOW [as in "wow"]-ker)**	20%	34%	13%	2%	2%	29%
[ ]e.	Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District Board Member Frank Freiler **(FRY-ler)**	19%	31%	16%	2%	3%	30%
[ ]f.	The National Estuary Program	14%	34%	17%	3%	3%	29%
[ ]g.	Mary Ellen Simkins	47%	7%	8%	2%	2%	34%
[ ]h.	Homeowners who have recently bought or sold homes in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**	6%	13%	20%	10%	12%	39%
[ ]i.	Gary Karner	42%	18%	8%	3%	3%	25%
[ ]j.	The Morro Coast Audubon Society	11%	29%	22%	5%	7%	25%
[ ]k.	The Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association	14%	20%	11%	9%	17%	29%
(SPLIT SAMPLE B ONLY)							
[ ]l.	State Assemblyman Abel Maldonado	2%	19%	32%	5%	13%	30%
[ ]m.	County Supervisor Shirley Bianchi **(bee-ON-kee)**	7%	23%	25%	3%	14%	28%
[ ]n.	The League of Women Voters	4%	28%	25%	4%	12%	28%
[ ]o.	Pandora Nash-Karner	17%	27%	14%	1%	8%	32%
[ ]p.	Your local neighborhood association	13%	18%	22%	4%	4%	40%
[ ]q.	Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District Board Member Stan Gustafson	12%	23%	26%	5%	4%	30%
[ ]r.	Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District Board Member Gordon Hensley	17%	19%	21%	3%	4%	35%
[ ]s.	Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District Board Member Sylvia Smith	14%	28%	18%	4%	2%	34%
[ ]t.	Ray Bracken	32%	9%	11%	2%	2%	43%
[ ]u.	Tom Neve **(NEEV)**	28%	13%	13%	2%	4%	40%
[ ]v.	The Morro Estuary Greenbelt Alliance, or MEGA	18%	16%	20%	4%	10%	34%

(RESUME ASKING ALL RESPONDENTS)

NOW I WOULD LIKE TO ASK YOU A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PLACES YOU TURN FOR NEWS AND INFORMATION.

23. I'm going to read you a list of sources from which people get information about community issues in Los Osos. For each, I'd like you to tell me how often you use it to get information about community issues: frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never. **(ROTATE)**

		FREQ.	OCCAS.	RARELY	NEVER	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a.	Local television news programs	50%	17%	14%	18%	0%
[ ]b.	Cable television news programs	30%	18%	12%	38%	1%
[ ]c.	Radio	28%	21%	16%	35%	1%
[ ]d.	The Sun-Bulletin newspaper	26%	24%	11%	38%	1%
[ ]e.	The Tribune newspaper	50%	22%	8%	19%	1%
[ ]f.	The Los Angeles Times	7%	9%	12%	70%	1%
[ ]g.	The San Francisco Chronicle	3%	5%	12%	79%	1%
[ ]h.	The Gazette newspaper	12%	18%	13%	54%	3%
[ ]i.	E-mail	13%	12%	11%	64%	1%
[ ]j.	Mail you receive from organizations of which you are a member	20%	22%	14%	43%	1%
[ ]k.	The Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District website	6%	8%	9%	75%	2%

24. I'm going to read you a list of television stations that serve Los Osos. For each, I'd like you to tell me how often you use it to get information about community issues: frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never. **(ROTATE)**

		FREQ.	OCCAS.	RARELY	NEVER	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a.	KSBY-TV, the local NBC station	56%	15%	7%	22%	1%
[ ]b.	KCOY-TV, the local CBS station	20%	17%	15%	47%	1%

25. I'm going to read you a list of radio stations that serve Los Osos. For each, I'd like you to tell me how often you use it to get information about community issues: frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never. **(ROTATE)**

		FREQ.	OCCAS.	RARELY	NEVER	(DK/ NA)
[ ]a.	KVEC, FM 92 point zero	13%	10%	11%	64%	1%
[ ]b.	KGLO, AM 1340	7%	9%	6%	77%	1%
[ ]c.	KCBX, FM 90 point one	17%	16%	8%	58%	1%

26. Do you subscribe to cable television? **(IF YES, ASK:** How often do you watch the coverage of Los Osos **(OH-sos)** Community Services District meetings on Public Access Channel 59: frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never?)

Frequently	15%
Occasionally	20%
Rarely	14%
Never	27%

Do not subscribe to cable TV ----------23%
(DON'T READ) Don't know ----------0%

WE'RE JUST ABOUT DONE. I'M ONLY GOING TO ASK YOU A FEW MORE QUESTIONS FOR CLASSIFICATION PURPOSES.

27. Do you drink the tap water at your property in Los Osos **(OH-sos)**?

Yes ----------62%
No ----------38%
(DK/REFUSED/NA) ----------0%

28. How long have you owned property in the Los Osos **(OH-sos)** area? **(OPEN-END—CODE IN APPROPRIATE CATEGORY)**

Five years or less ----------25%
6-10 years ----------16%
11-15 years ----------22%
16-20 years ----------9%
21-25 years ----------11%
26 years or more ----------18%
(DK/REFUSED/NA) ----------0%

29. Are you registered to vote? **(IF YES, ASK:** Are you registered as a Democrat, a Republican, a member of some other party, or do you decline to state a party affiliation?)

Yes, Democrat----------39%
Yes, Republican----------32%
Yes, other party----------13%
Yes, decline to state ----------10%
No, not registered to vote----------4%
(DON'T KNOW/NA)----------2%

30. Which of the following best describes your place of residence: an apartment, a condominium, a house, or a mobile home?

Apartment----------1%
Condominium ----------3%
House----------95%
Mobile home ----------1%
(DK/REFUSED/NA) ----------0%

31. In what year were you born?

1983-1977 (18-24) ----------1%
1976-1972 (25-29) ----------1%
1971-1967 (30-34) ----------2%
1966-1962 (35-39) ----------5%
1961-1957 (40-44) ----------10%
1956-1952 (45-49) ----------11%
1951-1947 (50-54) ----------14%
1946-1942 (55-59) ----------13%

1941-1937 (60-64) ----------6%
1936 or earlier (65+)----------31%
(REFUSED)----------6%

32. With which racial or ethnic group do you identify yourself: White or European, Black or African-American, Hispanic or Latino, Filipino, Asian, or some other ethnic or racial background?

White ----------91%
Black ----------0%
Hispanic/Latino ----------2%
Filipino----------0%
Asian----------1%
OTHER(SPECIFY)_____ 2%
(DON'T READ) DK/NA/REFUSED --------4%

33. I don't need to know the exact amount, but I'm going to read you some categories for household income. Would you please stop me when I have read the category indicating the total combined income for all the people in your household before taxes in 2000?

$10,000 and under----------2%
$10,001 - $20,000 ----------4%
$20,001 - $30,000 ----------11%
$30,001 - $60,000 ----------33%
$60,001 - $75,000 ----------13%
$75,001 - $100,000----------10%
More than $100,000----------7%
(DON'T READ) Refused ----------21%

THANK AND TERMINATE

GENDER (By Observation):

Male ----------53%
Female ----------47%

ZONING CODE:

CR ----------0%
CS ----------1%
OP ----------1%
RMF ----------5%
RSF----------91%
Blank----------1%