## North Tahoe Public Utility District Revenue Feasibility Survey Results



#### Presented by:

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### Survey Objectives

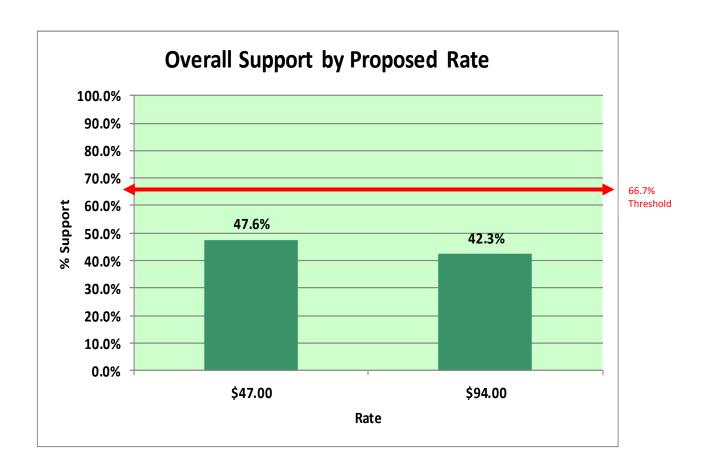
- Evaluate the <u>support and priorities</u> of property owners and registered voters within the District regarding current and proposed parks and recreation services
- Measure the <u>level of support</u> for a local funding measure to maintain or improve parks and recreation services:
  - Measure the level of support for a <u>Special Tax</u>
  - Measure the level of support for a <u>Benefit Assessment</u>

## Survey Scope of Work & Methodology

- Initial property and voter analysis
- Survey mailed to 6,692 property owners and voters using randomized, stratified samples
- Surveys mailed November 8, 2016
- 961 surveys returned (by mail and online)
  - 14% return rate
  - Overall margin of error of ± 2.98%
- The survey tested 2 proposed annual rates, representing 2 service levels:
  - \$47 per single family home, with tiered rates for other types of property
  - \$94 per single family home, with tiered rates for other types of property

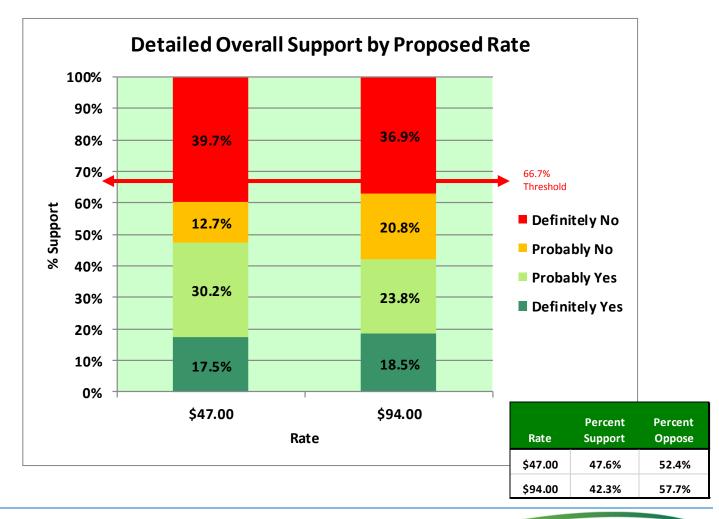


## Overall Support by Rate for a Special Tax

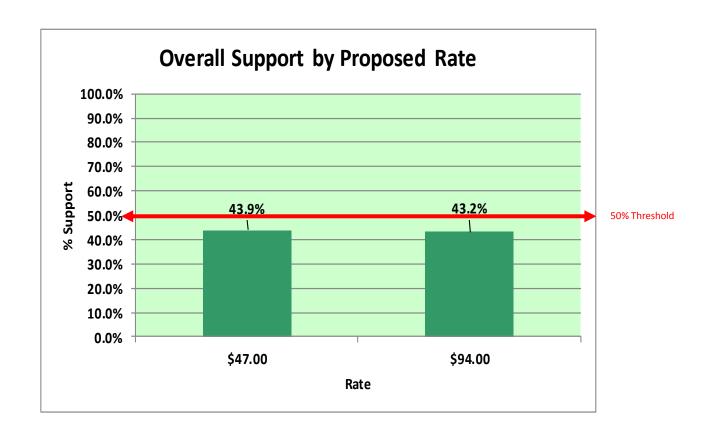




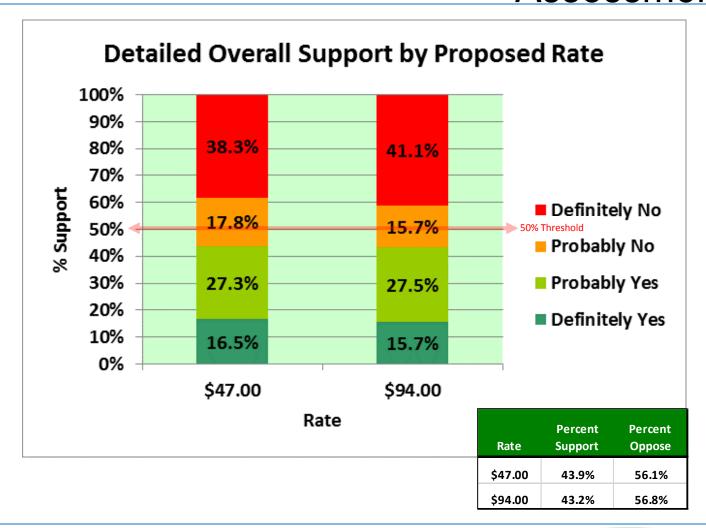
### Detailed Overall Support by Rate for Special Tax



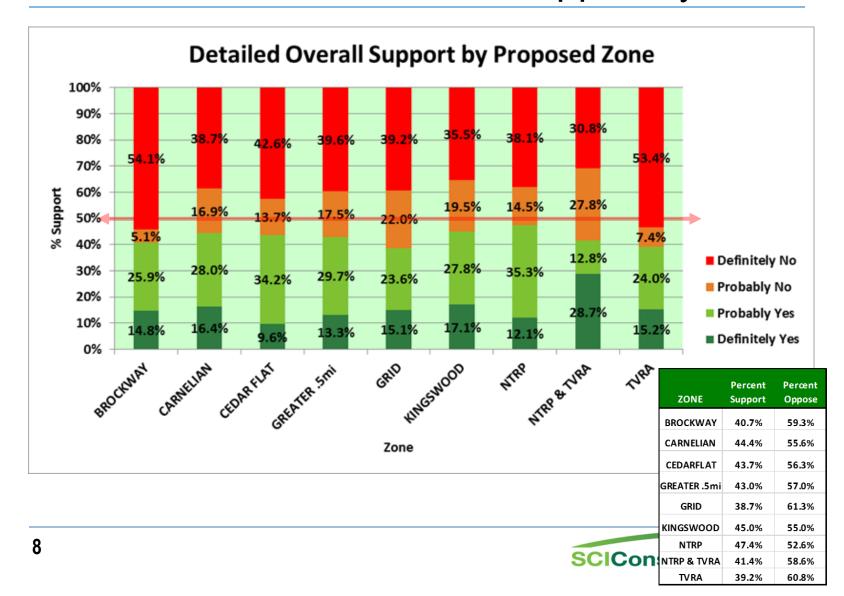
# Overall Support by Rate for a Benefit Assessment



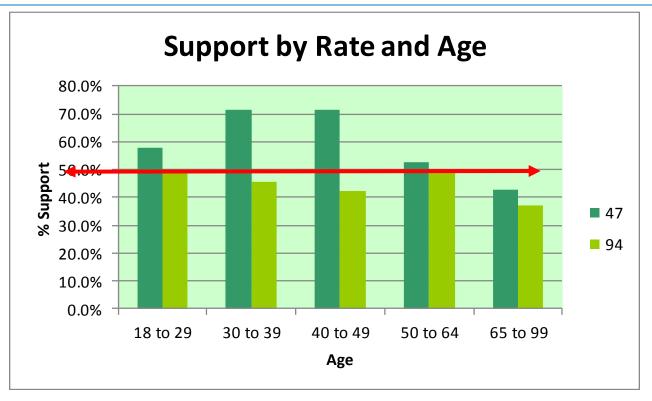
# Detailed Overall Support by Rate for Benefit Assessment



#### Detailed Overall Support by Zone



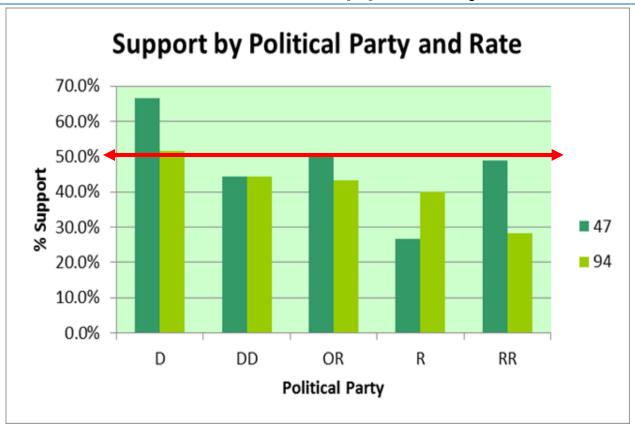
# Support by Rate and Age



Rate	18 to 29	30 to 39	40 to 49	50 to 64	65 to 99
\$47.00	57.6%	71.4%	71.4%	52.6%	42.9%
\$94.00	50.0%	45.5%	42.3%	50.0%	37.2%

Age Range	Number of Voters	Percent	
18 to 29	482	16.6%	
30 to 39	479	16.5%	
40 to 49	464	16.0%	
50 to 64	827	28.5%	
65 to 99	646	22.3%	
Total	2,898	100.0%	

#### Support by Political Party



#### Note:

D = One Democrat in residence

DD = Two Democrats in residence

OR = Neither Democrat nor Republican in residence (e.g. Green, Reform, Independent)

R = One Republican in residence

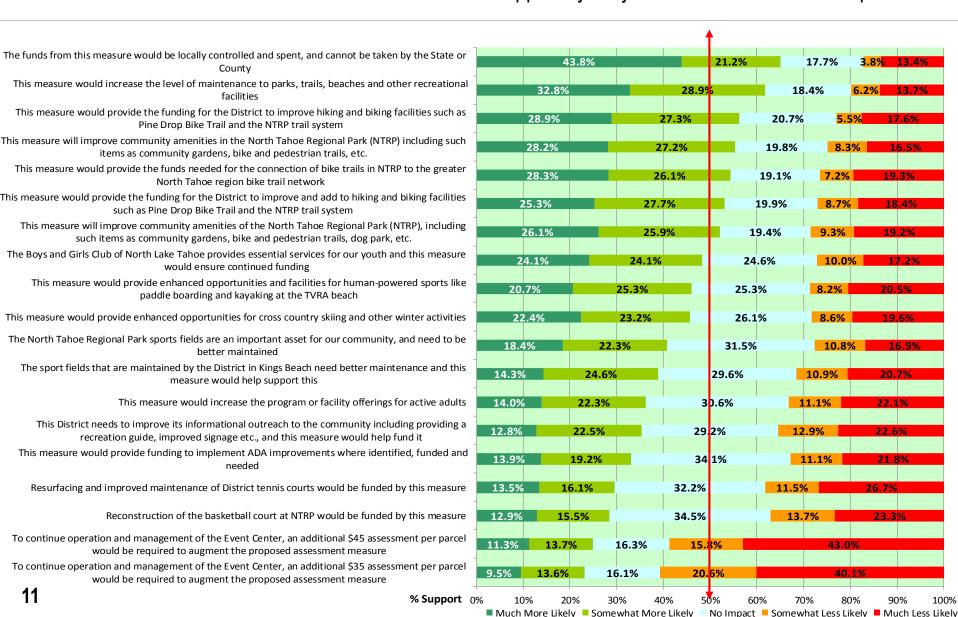
RR = Two Republicans in residence

Source: Placer County Registrar of Voters

Rate		D DD		OR	R	RR	
	\$47.00	66.7%	44.4%	50.0%	26.7%	49.0%	
	\$94.00	51.5%	44.4%	43.2%	40.0%	28.3%	

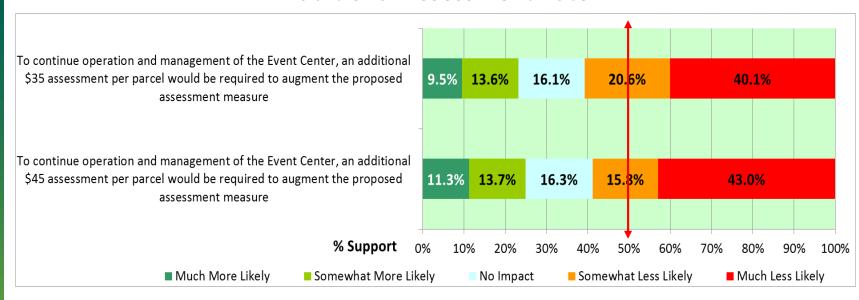
## Service Priorities – Most Popular Projects

Detailed Support by Projects and Issues for All Respondents



#### Support for North Tahoe Event Center Assessment

# Detailed Support for Additional Assessment for NTEC by Proposed Additional Assessment Rate



Rate	Much More Likely	Somewhat More Likely	Total Percent Support	No Impact	Somewhat Less Likely	Much Less Likely	Total Percent Oppose
\$35	9.5%	13.6%	23.2%	16.1%	20.6%	40.1%	60.7%
\$45	11.3%	13.7%	24.9%	16.3%	15.8%	43.0%	58.8%



## Summary of Findings

- Overall support is below both the 66.67% and 50% thresholds for both levels of service
  - Support levels for Benefit Assessment:
    - \$47 = 43.9% support margin of error 4.17%
    - \$94 = 43.2% support margin of error 4.25%
  - Very little price sensitivity between the two rates tested
  - The response rate was appropriate for a statistically valid result
- In particular, residents are concerned about:
  - Fiscal responsibility and organizational transparency
  - Making visitors and/or users pay for services
  - No new taxes
  - General mistrust of government



#### Recommendations

- The survey found insufficient support within the community for both a Special Tax measure and Benefit Assessment measure for parks and recreation services (6 to 7 percentage points below 50% support needed for a Benefit Assessment)
- We recommend you do not go forward with a measure in the next 2-4 years.
- Timing of future ballot election measure:
  - 2019-2021 after strong outreach do a tracker survey to test if support levels have improved



#### Recommendations

- Preferred option based on negative survey results:
  - Use District ad-valorem property tax revenue to fund recreation and parks
  - Adjust sewer rates accordingly to reflect actual expenses
- Possible options to consider for a funding measure in 2-4 years:
  - CPI: do not add a CPI to the proposed rate
  - Sunset: include a sunset of 5 to 9 years
- Consider a strong community outreach campaign to inform voters of:
  - Current parks and recreation services and offerings
  - District financial transparency
  - The District's strong accountability and oversight of funds, the solid foundational and forward planning
- Maintain transparency and clearly explain what new services will be provided with additional revenue
- Build a coalition of supporters, to include business owners, elected officials, taxpayers association, community leaders, senior community, and other stakeholders

