



JOBS, INFRASTRUCTURE, AND THE ECONOMY: **WHAT VOTERS ARE SAYING**

77% of Americans believe the infrastructure in their state and throughout America “is in serious need of rebuilding and modernizing.”

Modernizing infrastructure is seen as “both a safety and economic issue” by 90% of voters nationwide.

A solid majority (61%) say the best way to pay for infrastructure improvements is to “use a combination of funding sources such as some additional tax revenues, user fees and private investment.”

A strong 64% majority of voters believe that “when government doesn’t have enough available tax dollars to fund infrastructure improvements, public-private partnerships and private investment should be used as part of a financing solution.”

CAUTION: When the imposition of tolls and user fees are connected to the use of private investment, support falls 14 points, from 64% to 50%.

A majority of voters nationwide (54%) say that, regardless of what they think about proposals to raise taxes on incomes above \$250,000, they would support dedicating most of the additional revenue generated to modernizing infrastructure.

60% of voters nationwide say they did not know that “if Congress doesn’t take action, the national Highway Trust Fund will no longer be able to meet its obligations and funding for highways, roads and bridges will go down by 30 percent.” Also, a majority of voters (54%) believe Congress “should immediately dedicate additional revenues sources to the national Highway Trust Fund” to make sure it has enough money to meet its obligations.

A majority of voters, 56%, believe that “government should enter into public-private partnerships and use private investment to finance infrastructure improvements.”

CAUTION: When making this point, do NOT use the term “leverage” private investment.

84% of voters believe that “If the United States can afford to spend billions of dollars rebuilding the infrastructure in foreign countries such as Iraq and Afghanistan, we can afford to do the same here at home.”

68% of voters nationwide say that the United States needs to make investments to build up our infrastructure to compete with foreign countries that are doing so.

These results are based on a survey conducted by Clarus Research Group, a nonpartisan survey research firm based in Washington, D.C. (for more information, go to ClarusRG.com). The survey was conducted for the Association of Equipment Manufacturers by live telephone (land line and cell) interviewers December 5 - 7, 2012. Sample size: 1,000 registered voters nationwide. The poll's margin of error was +/- 3.1 percent.

