

UTC Project Information	
Project Title	What Do Americans Think About Public Transit? A Review of U.S. Public Opinion Polling Survey Questions (Former title: What Do Americans Think About Public Transit? A Review of the U.S. Survey Literature)
University	San José State University Mineta National Transit Research Consortium
Principal Investigator	Asha Weinstein Agrawal, Ph.D.
PI Contact Information	Department of Urban & Regional Planning San Jose State University One Washington Square San Jose, CA 95192 Asha.weinstein.agrawal@sjsu.edu 408-924-5853
Funding Source(s) and Amounts Provided (by each agency or organization)	Research and Innovative Technology Administration University Transportation Centers Program (\$2,145) California Department of Transportation Office of Research—MS42 (\$2,145)
Total Project Cost	\$4,290
Agency ID or Contract Number	DTRT12-G-UTC21
Start and End Dates	August 2012 – July 2015
Brief Description of Research Project	<p>This “seed grant” research project compiled a set of 56 US public opinion polls that asked respondents their opinions about public transit. The first and primary goal of the project was to assemble a large set of transit-related survey questions that can be used to inspire the design of future surveys on the topic of public transit. The report presents the specific wording of every relevant question identified.</p> <p>A second objective of the project was to identify general patterns in public opinion about transit that emerge across multiple surveys. Reviewing the entire set of polling questions related to public transit revealed that the surveys commonly address the following themes: the reasons people support public transit; opinions about transit service quality; the extent to which people support improving transit as a general concept; and support levels for raising additional revenues to support transit. The analysis of the poll questions on these topics shows that strong majorities of people believe that transit brings a number of specific benefits to their community, especially congestion relief and accessibility to vulnerable residents. Strong majorities also support improvements to transit as a general concept. However,</p>

	fewer people support the general concept of increased spending on transit, and considerably fewer than half support raising any specific tax to increase transit funding, except for sales taxes, which usually enjoy majority support.
Describe Implementation of Research Outcomes (or why not implemented)	Research in progress.
Place Any Photos Here	
Impacts/Benefits of Implementation (actual, not anticipated)	
Web Links <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reports • Project Website 	Final report (MNTRC Website): http://transweb.sjsu.edu/project/1132.html Final report (TRB Website): http://trid.trb.org/view/2015/M/1364258

