



## **SUBURBAN VOTERS SPENDING MORE TIME IN TRAFFIC, FEEL IT IS HURTING THEIR QUALITY OF LIFE**

A majority of Suburban Miami-Dade County voters say they are spending more time in traffic than they were a year ago, say it is a major factor in their day-to-day time management choices and feel it is hurting their family life. Voters also feel that elected officials are not giving enough consideration to area traffic problems.

Overall, 55% of suburban voters indicated they were spending more time in traffic, 31% said it was “about the same”, and just 11% said they were spending less time in traffic. An even larger majority (77%) say that traffic has gotten “a lot worse” since they first moved to the area, while just 15% said it was only “a little worse” and 6% said it was “the same.” Among those who commute to work, 54% said they spend at least 30 minutes each day driving one-way to their job.

Asked how much traffic affected the choices they made each day on how to spend their time, 63% said it was a “major factor”, 16% indicated it was only a “minor factor” and 19% stated it was “not a factor.” An overwhelming 76% said they believe the increased amount of time spent in traffic is harmful to their family life. A majority (63%) also thinks the traffic situation is harmful to the local economy and economic development efforts.

Voters are also frustrated with local government’s efforts to control traffic. Overall, 63% said elected officials are not giving enough consideration to area traffic problems and 56% do not believe existing regulations protect their quality of life and the environment. Less than half (44%) feel county government is trying to protect their quality of life.

This poll was commissioned by the Urban Environment League of Greater Miami. It was conducted by Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, Inc. of Washington, D.C. from January 17 through January 20, 2005. A total of 400 registered voters in suburban areas of Miami-Dade County were interviewed by telephone. Interviews were conducted in both English and Spanish. The margin for error is plus or minus 5%.