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**Final Top Line Survey Results
 Eastern Shore Land Conservancy – August 2008 Survey
 Sample Size 225 Dorchester County Residents
 Conducted August 25 - September 2, 2008
 With Comparisons to 2004 Survey**

INTRODUCTION: We are conducting a survey of attitudes and opinions concerning some important issues facing the Eastern Shore today. May we have a few minutes of your time to complete the survey? (Give range of time if asked)

For the purposes of this survey when we refer to the Eastern Shore we are talking specifically about the Upper and Mid Shore counties of Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Anne's, Cecil [See-sil] and Talbot [Tall-bit]....

Q1. Generally speaking, do you think things in the Eastern Shore are going in the right direction, or do you think things have gotten on the wrong track?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Right direction	72	32%	50%	-18
2. Wrong track	100	44%	33%	+11
3. Undecided	53	24%	17%	+7

Q2. What would you say is the single most important problem facing the Eastern Shore today? That is, the one you would like to see resolved by your state or local elected officials? (DO NOT READ CHOICES – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Taxes	8	04%	02%	+2
2. Drugs/crime/violence	3	01%	01%	--
3. Economy/jobs/employment	83	37%	26%	+11
4. Growth/development/sprawl	33	15%	18%	-3
5. Transportation/Streets/roads	9	04%	01%	+3
6. Politicians/government	5	02%	04%	-2
7. Open space/farmland preservation	2	01%	00%	+1
8. Healthcare/prescription drugs	6	03%	03%	--
9. Medicare/social security	0	00%	00%	--
10. Education/schools	10	04%	10%	-6
11. Morality/family values	1	00%	03%	-3
12. Traffic/parking	12	05%	03%	+2
13. Environment/pollution	18	08%	11%	-3
14. Hospital issue/closing	0	00%	--	--
15. Undecided/none	14	06%	08%	-2
16. Other	21	09%	10%	-1

Q3. What would you say is the single most important problem facing your local area today? That is, the one you would like to see resolved by your local elected officials? (DO NOT READ CHOICES – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Taxes	7	03%	02%	+1
2. Drugs/crime/violence	7	03%	02%	+1
3. Economy/jobs/employment	89	40%	33%	+7
4. Growth/development/sprawl	29	13%	18%	-5
5. Transportation/Streets/roads	3	01%	04%	-3
6. Politicians/government	8	04%	04%	--
7. Open space/farmland preservation	1	00%	00%	--
8. Healthcare/prescription drugs	4	02%	01%	+1
9. Medicare/social security	1	00%	00%	--
10. Education/schools	9	04%	09%	-5
11. Morality/family values	3	01%	02%	-1
12. Traffic/parking	2	01%	00%	+1
13. Environment/pollution	14	06%	08%	-2
14. Hospital issue/closing	0	00%	--	--
15. Undecided/none	24	11%	06%	+5
16. Other	24	11%	11%	--

Q4. Generally speaking, would you rate your quality of life in the Eastern Shore as excellent, good, fair or poor?

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Excellent	79	35%	Total Excellent/Good: 79%	74%	+5
2. Good	99	44%		26%	-5
3. Fair	43	19%	Total Fair/Poor: 21%		
4. Poor	4	02%			

Q5. When you think about your quality of life today compared to 10 years ago, do you think it has gotten better, gotten worse or remained about the same?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Better	72	32%	29%	+3
2. Worse	78	35%	26%	+9
3. Remained same	70	31%	43%	-12
4. Undecided	3	01%	02%	-1
5. Refuse	2	01%	00%	+1

Q6. Which two of the following seven issues do you believe should be the top priorities for your local elected officials? [**ROTATE CHOICES - PROBE FOR TWO ANSWERS**]

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
47 (21%)	1. Holding the line on taxes		21%	--
55 (24%)	2. Fighting crime, violence and drugs		25%	-1
124 (55%)	3. Creating new jobs and economic development opportunities		49%	+6
23 (10%)	4. Reducing traffic and solving the area's transportation needs		06%	+4
70 (31%)	5. Better managing growth, development and sprawl		26%	+5
32 (14%)	6. Preserving open space including farmland, parks, and other habitat areas		24%	-10
72 (32%)	7. Improving education		42%	-10
2 (01%)	8. None/other (DO NOT READ)		03%	-2
8 (04%)	9. Undecided (DO NOT READ)		01%	+3

(Rotate Q7-Q8)

Q7. How concerned are you about the pace of growth and development in the Eastern Shore over the next 5 to 10 years – very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Very	122	54%	Total Very/Somewhat: 86%	85% +1
2. Somewhat	71	32%		
3. Not very	23	10%		
4. Not at all	7	03%		
5. Undecided	2	01%		01% --

Q8. How concerned are you about the loss of farmland and habitat areas in the Eastern Shore – very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned?

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Very	120	53%	Total Very/Somewhat: 87%	85%	+2
2. Somewhat	77	34%		15%	-3
3. Not very	23	10%	Total Not Very/Not At All: 12%		
4. Not at all	4	02%			

Q9. Do you believe local elected officials should increase or decrease their efforts to preserve open space such as farmland, habitat areas and parks, or should their role remain the same?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Increase	148	66%	59%	+7
2. Decrease	11	05%	03%	+2
3. Remain the same	54	24%	32%	-8
4. Undecided	12	05%	06%	-1

Q10. Do you support or oppose your county's use of public funds for open space preservation, recreation and the protection of natural wildlife habitats in towns, villages and rural areas? (Test intensity – strongly/somewhat support or oppose)

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly support	89	40%	Total Support: 68%	57%	+11
2. Somewhat support	64	28%		Total Oppose: 21%	29%
3. Strongly oppose	29	13%			
4. Somewhat oppose	18	08%			
5. Undecided	25	11%		14%	-3

(IF SUPPORT IN Q10, ASK Q11; IF OPPOSE OR UNDECIDED, SKIP TO Q12)

Q11. Since the use of public funds for these purposes requires an investment of tax dollars, how much would you be willing to pay on an annual basis to support these programs – up to \$25 per year, up to \$50, up to \$100, up to \$200 or more than \$200 per year?

[N=153]

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Up to \$25	44	29%	41%	-12
2. Up to \$50	19	12%	18%	-6
3. Up to \$100	28	18%	12%	+6
4. Up to \$200	10	07%	07%	--
5. More than \$200	7	05%	04%	+1
6. Undecided	13	08%	05%	+3
7. Not willing to pay	31	20%	10%	+10
8. Refuse	1	01%	03%	-2

Q12. Do you favor or oppose policies in the Eastern Shore designed to both encourage new development in and around existing towns and villages, as well as discourage development in the countryside? (Test intensity – strongly/somewhat favor or oppose)

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly support	81	36%	Total Support: 66%	71%	-5
2. Somewhat support	67	30%	Total Oppose: 26%	19%	+7
3. Strongly oppose	31	14%			
4. Somewhat oppose	28	12%			
5. Undecided	18	08%		10%	-2

Q13. What impact does promoting the region's agriculture, forestry, fisheries and other natural resources have on jobs and the local economy - a major impact, a minor impact or no impact at all?

1. Major	135	60%
2. Minor	68	30%
3. No Impact	12	05%
4. Undecided	9	04%

Q14. Have you ever heard of the "Eastern Shore Land Conservancy"?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Yes	138	61%	40%	+21
2. No	82	36%	58%	-22
3. Undecided	5	02%	02%	--

(IF "YES" IN Q14 ASK Q15; IF NO OR UNDECIDED SKIP TO Q17)

Q15. Do you have an opinion of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy as favorable, unfavorable or do you have no opinion of the organization?

[N=138]

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Favorable	56	41%	43%	-2
2. Unfavorable	16	12%	04%	+8
3. No opinion	66	48%	53%	-5

Q16a. You just indicated you had a favorable opinion of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. In your own words, could you please tell me why? **Verbatim**

Q16b. You just indicated you had an unfavorable opinion of the Eastern Shore Land Conservancy. In your own words, could you please tell me why? **Verbatim**

Q17. As you may or may not know, the "Eastern Shore 2010 Agreement" is a pact between the six counties in the Middle and Upper Shore and was created to set land use goals on things like the preservation of farmland, controlling growth and development, protecting the environment and improving both transportation alternatives and economic development in the region. How familiar are you with this agreement – very familiar, somewhat familiar, not very familiar or not at all familiar?

1. Very	9	04%	Total Very/Somewhat: 24%	<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
2. Somewhat	45	20%		12%	+12
3. Not very	74	33%	Total Not Very/Not At All: 76%	88%	-12
4. Not at all	97	43%			

Q18. Thinking more specifically about future growth and development in the Eastern Shore....which of the following three statements best represents your viewpoint on this issue? (ROTATE CHOICES)

34	(15%)	1. We need to enact a temporary freeze on any new development so the Eastern Shore can have time to adjust, even if it means no new jobs or economic development projects are created, Or...
132	(59%)	2. We need to implement better land use plans that allow for limited development, as well as jobs and economic benefits, but restrict it to appropriate areas that minimize the use of undeveloped land, Or...
57	(25%)	3. We need to ease restrictions on new development and encourage even more commercial or retail development to help create jobs and keep the economy moving, Or...
2	(01%)	4. Undecided (DO NOT READ)

Now, I would like to read you a series of statements which represent some of the arguments in the debate about how to manage growth and development. After each statement, please tell me if you agree or disagree with each statement? (Test intensity – strongly/somewhat agree or disagree...)

(Q19 – Q22 WILL BE ROTATED)

Q19. Town and county governments should do more to provide public open space for people and to protect large tracts of rural land to keep this land from being developed.

1. Strongly agree	102	45%	Total Agree: 70%	<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
2. Somewhat agree	57	25%		68%	+2
3. Strongly disagree	23	10%	Total Disagree: 22%	25%	-3
4. Somewhat disagree	26	12%			
5. Undecided	17	08%		04%	+4

Q20. Additional residential, commercial and retail development is necessary in the Eastern Shore in order to keep both taxes down and the economy growing in the region.

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly agree	84	37%	Total Agree: 70%	83%	-13
2. Somewhat agree	74	33%	Total Disagree: 27%	12%	+15
3. Strongly disagree	35	16%			
4. Somewhat disagree	24	11%			
5. Undecided	7	03%		03%	--

Q21. Further preservation of additional farmland, habitat areas and additional public access to land and water will help improve the quality of life in the region.

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly agree	117	52%	Total Agree: 83%	71%	+12
2. Somewhat agree	69	31%	Total Disagree: 15%	24%	-9
3. Strongly disagree	17	08%			
4. Somewhat disagree	15	07%			
5. Undecided	6	03%		04%	-1

Q22. Developers have the same private property rights as everyone else to develop the land they own. Therefore, government does not have the right to apply unreasonable restrictions on them.

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly agree	47	21%	Total Agree: 41%	23%	+18
2. Somewhat agree	46	20%	Total Disagree: 55%	70%	-15
3. Strongly disagree	89	40%			
4. Somewhat disagree	33	15%			
5. Undecided	9	04%		04%	--

Q23. Should towns have the right to refuse to accommodate more growth and development, even if it means other parts of the state may then be expected to absorb the increase?

1. Yes	132	59%
2. No	61	27%
3. Undecided	30	13%
4. Refuse	2	01%

Thinking more specifically about transportation and land use planning in the Eastern Shore...

Q24. How satisfied are you with your ability to easily get to your destinations when you think about daily commuting either for business or personal reasons – very satisfied, somewhat satisfied or not at all satisfied?

1. Very	89	40%
2. Somewhat	102	45%
3. Not at all	30	13%
4. Undecided	3	01%

When you think about commuting for business or personal reasons on a daily basis, for each of the following please tell me if you think there is a major need, minor need or no need at all as a way to increase the ease of getting in and around towns on the Eastern Shore?

(Rotate Q25-Q30)

Q25. ...Light rail or train service?

1. Major	66	29%
2. Minor	57	25%
3. No need	93	41%
4. Undecided	4	02%
5. Refuse	5	02%

Q26. ...Ferry service?

1. Major	73	32%
2. Minor	58	26%
3. No need	82	36%
4. Undecided	7	03%
5. Refuse	5	02%

Q27. ...Increased use of car or van pools?

1. Major	99	44%
2. Minor	71	32%
3. No need	42	19%
4. Undecided	8	04%
5. Refuse	5	02%

Q28. ...More bike trails or walking paths?

1. Major	87	39%
2. Minor	78	35%
3. No need	53	24%
4. Undecided	2	01%
5. Refuse	5	02%

Q29. ...Increased bus service?

1. Major	124	55%
2. Minor	57	25%
3. No need	35	16%
4. Undecided	5	02%
5. Refuse	4	02%

Q30. ...Build new roads and highways including the expansion of existing roads?

1. Major	58	26%
2. Minor	83	37%
3. No need	77	34%
4. Undecided	3	01%
5. Refuse	4	02%

Q31. When you think about the factors that influence the type of neighborhood you want to live in, which TWO of the following seven are most important? (ROTATE CHOICES – PROBE FOR TWO ANSWERS)

18	(08%)	1. The size of your house or lot?
83	(37%)	2. Close proximity to services such as the local post office, parks or retail shops?
44	(20%)	3. The ability to walk or bicycle where you want to go?
48	(21%)	4. Being in a good school district?
43	(19%)	5. Closeness to your job?
71	(32%)	6. A rural setting far away from towns and villages?
107	(48%)	7. The neighborhood or neighbors?
10	(04%)	8. Undecided (DO NOT READ)
5	(02%)	9. None/other (DO NOT READ)
3	(01%)	10. Refuse (DO NOT READ)

Q32. When thinking about your preference for shopping venues, provided the stores were the same would you prefer to shop in a "strip mall" or a "town center"? (ROTATE CHOICES – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strip mall	65	29%	21%	+8
2. Town center	129	57%	68%	-11
3. Undecided	21	09%	06%	+3

4. Neither	6	03%	02%	+1
5. Refuse	4	02%	03%	-1

(Rotate Q33-Q35)

Q33. Do you think the access you have to the water front on the Eastern Shore for fishing, boating, swimming or other recreational activities is adequate or inadequate?

1. Adequate	179	80%
2. Inadequate	33	15%
3. Undecided	7	03%
4. Refuse	6	03%

Q34. Do you think the public access you have to natural lands, hiking trails and parks is adequate or inadequate?

1. Adequate	156	69%
2. Inadequate	57	25%
3. Undecided	6	03%
4. None/other	2	01%
5. Refuse	4	02%

Q35. Do you support or oppose creation of so-called "green belts" which are protected lands around the outside rim of existing towns and villages to help define the ultimate lines for growth?

1. Strongly support	113	50%	Total Support: 76%
2. Somewhat support	58	26%	
3. Strongly oppose	11	05%	
4. Somewhat oppose	12	05%	
5. Undecided	27	12%	
6. Refuse	4	02%	

Q36. When you think about the future planning of your town, are you provided with adequate opportunities to offer input to your local elected officials?

1. Yes	155	69%
2. No	46	20%
3. Undecided	11	05%
4. Not applicable	6	03%
5. Refuse	7	03%

Now, I just have a few more questions for demographic purposes and then we'll be through...

Q37. What is your age according to the following brackets: 18 – 29, 30 – 44, 45 – 59, or sixty and over?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. 18-29	7	03%	07%	-4
2. 30-44	29	13%	11%	+2
3. 45-59	87	39%	32%	+7
4. 60+	94	42%	47%	-5
5. Refuse	8	04%	03%	+1

Q38. How long have you lived at your primary place of residence – less than 5 years, 5 to 10 years, 11 to 20 years or more than twenty years?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Less than 5 years	38	17%	15%	+2
2. 5-10 years	54	24%	24%	--
3. 11-20 years	46	20%	19%	+1
4. More than 20 years	77	34%	39%	-5
5. Refuse	8	04%	03%	+1

Q39. And would you describe your primary residence as being in a village, town, suburban community or rural area? (ONE ANSWER ONLY)

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Village	15	07%	07%	--
2. Town	57	25%	27%	-2
3. Suburb	24	11%	15%	-4
4. Rural	119	53%	48%	+5
5. Refuse	9	04%	03%	+1

Q40. In which county do you work? (Check all that apply)

1. Caroline	6	03%
2. Cecil	1	00%
3. Dorchester	95	42%
4. Kent	3	01%
5. Queen Anne's	4	02%
6. Talbot	23	10%
7. Western Shore	1	00%
8. Other	15	07%
9. Don't work	85	38%
10. Refuse	9	04%

Q41. What was your total household income for 2007 according to the following income brackets – less than \$30,000, \$31 to \$50,000, \$51 to \$75,000, \$76,000 - \$100,000 or over \$100,000?

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Less than \$30,000	34	15%	18%	-3
2. \$31,000 - \$50,000	38	17%	20%	-3

3. \$51,000 - \$75,000	40	18%	16%	+2
4. \$76,000 - \$100,000	27	12%	11%	+1
5. Over \$100,000	27	12%	10%	+2
6. Undecided	9	04%	02%	+4
7. Refuse	50	22%	23%	-1

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION IN THE SURVEY. HAVE A GOOD DAY/EVENING

Gender:

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Male	97	43%	47%	-4
2. Female	128	57%	53%	+4

The margin of error for a sample size of 225 is +/-6.49%
