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**Final Top Line Survey Results
Eastern Shore Land Conservancy – August 2008 Survey
Sample Size 180 Queen Anne’s 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	67	37%	40%	-3
2. Wrong track	88	49%	46%	+3
3. Undecided	25	14%	14%	--

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	5	03%	03%	--
2. Drugs/crime/violence	2	01%	01%	--
3. Economy/jobs/employment	12	07%	05%	+2
4. Growth/development/sprawl	53	29%	46%	-17
5. Transportation/Streets/roads	30	17%	03%	+14
6. Politicians/government	4	02%	03%	-1
7. Open space/farmland preservation	3	02%	01%	+1
8. Healthcare/prescription drugs	0	00%	00%	--
9. Medicare/social security	0	00%	00%	--
10. Education/schools	4	02%	05%	-3
11. Morality/family values	1	01%	01%	--
12. Traffic/parking	29	16%	09%	+7
13. Environment/pollution	16	09%	11%	-2
14. Hospital issue/closing	2	01%	--	--
15. Undecided/none	5	03%	04%	-1
16. Other	14	08%	08%	--

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	04%	07%	-3
2. Drugs/crime/violence	4	02%	04%	-2
3. Economy/jobs/employment	13	07%	04%	+3
4. Growth/development/sprawl	73	40%	51%	-11
5. Transportation/Streets/roads	19	10%	02%	+8
6. Politicians/government	4	02%	04%	-2
7. Open space/farmland preservation	1	00%	01%	-1
8. Healthcare/prescription drugs	1	00%	00%	--
9. Medicare/social security	0	00%	00%	--
10. Education/schools	7	04%	05%	-1
11. Morality/family values	0	00%	01%	-1
12. Traffic/parking	17	10%	05%	+5
13. Environment/pollution	8	04%	05%	-1
14. Hospital issue/closing	0	00%	--	--
15. Undecided/none	16	09%	05%	+4
16. Other	10	06%	06%	--

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	44%	Total Excellent/Good: 90%	90%	--
2. Good	83	46%		Total Fair/Poor: 10%	09%
3. Fair	12	07%			
4. Poor	6	03%			

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	57	32%	22%	+10
2. Worse	56	31%	31%	--
3. Remained same	64	36%	44%	-8
4. Undecided	3	02%	02%	--

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>
58 (32%)	1. Holding the line on taxes			24%	+8
21 (12%)	2. Fighting crime, violence and drugs			19%	-7
41 (23%)	3. Creating new jobs and economic development opportunities			15%	+8
65 (36%)	4. Reducing traffic and solving the area's transportation needs			23%	+13
84 (47%)	5. Better managing growth, development and sprawl			52%	-5
49 (27%)	6. Preserving open space including farmland, parks, and other habitat areas			29%	-2
31 (17%)	7. Improving education			34%	-17
7 (04%)	8. Undecided (DO NOT READ)			00%	+4

(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	104	58%	Total Very/Somewhat: 86%	90%	-4
2. Somewhat	50	28%		Total Not Very/Not At All: 13%	09%
3. Not very	16	09%			
4. Not at all	6	04%			
5. Undecided	3	02%		01%	+1

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	110	61%	Total Very/Somewhat: 86%	89%	-3
2. Somewhat	46	25%		10%	+3
3. Not very	12	07%	Total Not Very/Not At All: 13%		
4. Not at all	11	06%			

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	134	74%	70%	+4
2. Decrease	8	05%	05%	--
3. Remain the same	34	19%	21%	-2
4. Undecided	4	02%	04%	-2

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	91	50%	Total Support: 76%	60%	+16
2. Somewhat support	47	26%		Total Oppose: 15%	30%
3. Strongly oppose	19	10%			
4. Somewhat oppose	9	05%			
5. Undecided	15	08%		10%	-2

(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=138]

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Up to \$25	30	22%	32%	-10
2. Up to \$50	14	10%	18%	-8
3. Up to \$100	25	18%	22%	-4
4. Up to \$200	17	12%	07%	+5
5. More than \$200	17	12%	04%	+8
6. Undecided	9	07%	06%	+1
7. Not willing to pay	26	19%	11%	+8

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	65	36%	Total Support: 59%	64%	-5
2. Somewhat support	42	23%	Total Oppose: 29%	27%	+2
3. Strongly oppose	32	18%			
4. Somewhat oppose	19	11%			
5. Undecided	21	12%		07%	+5

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	90	50%
2. Minor	66	37%
3. No Impact	18	10%
4. Undecided	6	03%

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

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Yes	130	72%	46%	+26
2. No	48	27%	52%	-25
3. Undecided	2	01%	02%	-1

(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=130]

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Favorable	51	39%	45%	-6
2. Unfavorable	15	11%	10%	+1
3. No opinion	64	49%	45%	+4

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?

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Very	6	03%	Total Very/Somewhat: 19%	14%	+5
2. Somewhat	30	16%		86%	-7
3. Not very	52	29%	Total Not Very/Not At All: 79%		
4. Not at all	90	50%			
5. Undecided	2	01%		00%	+1

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)

- 39 (22%) 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...
- 103 (57%) 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...
- 36 (20%) 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.

				<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Strongly agree	95	53%	Total Agree: 78%	79%	-1
2. Somewhat agree	45	25%		Total Disagree: 17%	18%
3. Strongly disagree	18	10%			
4. Somewhat disagree	13	07%			
5. Undecided	8	04%		02%	+2

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	41	23%	Total Agree: 49%	61%	-12
2. Somewhat agree	46	26%		Total Disagree: 49%	32%
3. Strongly disagree	56	31%			
4. Somewhat disagree	32	18%			
5. Undecided	5	03%		05%	-2

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	98	54%	Total Agree: 82%	79%	+3
2. Somewhat agree	51	28%		Total Disagree: 13%	18%
3. Strongly disagree	11	06%			
4. Somewhat disagree	12	07%			
5. Undecided	7	04%		01%	+3
6. Refuse	1	01%		01%	--

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	32	18%	Total Agree: 42%	20%	+22
2. Somewhat agree	44	24%		Total Disagree: 54%	75%
3. Strongly disagree	64	36%			
4. Somewhat disagree	32	18%			
5. Undecided	5	03%		04%	-1
6. Refuse	3	02%		01%	+1

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	122	68%
2. No	35	19%
3. Undecided	22	12%

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	24	14%
2. Somewhat	73	40%
3. Not at all	81	45%
4. Undecided	1	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	56	31%
2. Minor	39	21%
3. No need	83	46%
4. Undecided	1	01%

Q26. ...Ferry service?

1. Major	53	29%
2. Minor	43	24%
3. No need	79	44%
4. Undecided	5	03%

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

1. Major	93	52%
2. Minor	50	28%
3. No need	29	16%
4. Undecided	7	04%

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

1. Major	42	23%
2. Minor	63	35%
3. No need	72	40%
4. Undecided	2	01%

Q29. ...Increased bus service?

1. Major	91	50%
2. Minor	49	27%
3. No need	33	18%
4. Undecided	7	04%

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

1. Major	70	39%
2. Minor	47	26%
3. No need	58	32%
4. Undecided	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)

19	(11%)	1. The size of your house or lot?
79	(44%)	2. Close proximity to services such as the local post office, parks or retail shops?
31	(17%)	3. The ability to walk or bicycle where you want to go?
58	(32%)	4. Being in a good school district?
24	(13%)	5. Closeness to your job?
56	(31%)	6. A rural setting far away from towns and villages?
77	(43%)	7. The neighborhood or neighbors?
4	(02%)	8. Undecided (DO NOT READ)
2	(01%)	9. None/other (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	45	25%	21%	+4
2. Town center	111	62%	61%	+1
3. Undecided	18	10%	15%	-5
4. Neither	5	03%	02%	+1
5. Refuse	2	01%	01%	--

(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	138	76%
2. Inadequate	38	21%
3. Undecided	2	01%
4. None/other	1	01%
5. Refuse	2	01%

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

1. Adequate	146	81%
2. Inadequate	26	14%
3. Undecided	7	04%
4. Refuse	2	01%

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	85	47%	Total Support: 77%
2. Somewhat support	55	30%	
3. Strongly oppose	15	08%	
4. Somewhat oppose	8	04%	
5. Undecided	16	09%	
6. Refuse	2	01%	

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	104	58%
2. No	58	32%
3. Undecided	12	07%
4. Not applicable	5	03%
5. Refuse	2	01%

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?

1. 18-29	7	04%	2004	%Ch
			04%	--

2. 30-44	33	18%	20%	-2
3. 45-59	66	36%	39%	-3
4. 60+	73	40%	35%	+5
5. Refuse	3	01%	02%	-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	17	10%	18%	-8
2. 5-10 years	51	28%	33%	-5
3. 11-20 years	38	21%	26%	-5
4. More than 20 years	70	39%	22%	+17
5. Refuse	4	02%	01%	+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	6	03%	04%	-1
2. Town	27	15%	14%	+1
3. Suburb	59	32%	32%	--
4. Rural	80	45%	49%	-4
5. None/other	5	03%	00%	+3
6. Refuse	4	02%	01%	+1

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

1. Caroline	1	00%
2. Cecil	0	00%
3. Dorchester	0	00%
4. Kent	6	03%
5. Queen Anne's	68	38%
6. Talbot	5	03%
7. Western Shore	8	05%
8. Other	32	18%
9. Don't work	69	38%
10. Refuse	3	01%

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	15	08%	07%	+1
2. \$31,000 - \$50,000	22	12%	15%	-3
3. \$51,000 - \$75,000	25	14%	21%	-7
4. \$76,000 - \$100,000	28	16%	20%	-4
5. Over \$100,000	48	27%	21%	+6

6. Undecided	6	03%	00%	+3
7. Refuse	37	20%	16%	+4

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

Gender:

			<u>2004</u>	<u>%Ch</u>
1. Male	71	39%	48%	-9
2. Female	110	61%	52%	+9

The margin of error for a sample size of 180 is +/-7.28%
