

## THE ASSEMBLY STATE OF NEW YORK ALBANY



February 10, 2017

Thank you for taking the time to respond to my community survey. Understanding the feedback I receive from our community is an important part of my decision-making process.

I am happy to announce that about 1,000 people completed and returned their survey to my office, so thank you for your participation in making your voice heard. Your thoughtful responses give me hope for our community and our future. I will be taking the survey results into account as I travel to Albany over the coming months to vote on legislation and participate in budget negotiations.

To encourage and promote more community engagement in our democratic process, I am sharing the survey results with the public. If you have further questions regarding the survey, or any other community issue, feel free to contact my office at 315-452-1115.

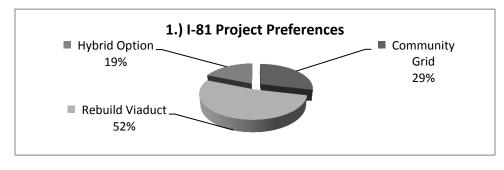
Regards,

Albert A. Stirpe, Jr. Member, NYS Assembly

127<sup>th</sup> District

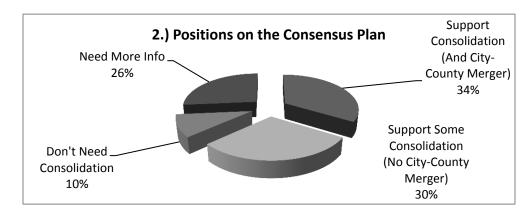
## **2017 Community Survey Results**

1. The State Department of Transportation and the Federal Highway Administration are making plans to address the aging I-81 viaduct in the city of Syracuse. Two main ideas have been presented, including a plan to create a community grid in Syracuse and reroute I-81 around the city, and another to rebuild I-81 to existing federal specifications. Both plans will require multi-year construction projects. Which option do you prefer?



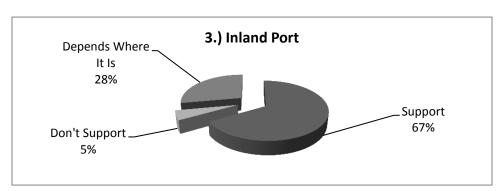
Just over half of respondents, 52%, favor rebuilding the viaduct through the city; 29% prefer the community grid option; and 19% want a hybrid option such as a depressed highway or tunnel.

2. Consensus, an organization made up of local community leaders, has put forth a plan to encourage government mergers and consolidation. While much attention has been given to the city-county merger (which would not force towns to join), the plan also includes many other suggestions to streamline local government. What is your position on the Consensus plan?



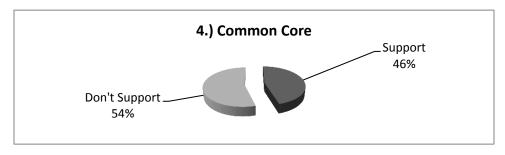
The majority, 64%, of respondents support some form of consolidation; 34% support the city-county merger, while 30% oppose it; One in four people; 26%, want more information; and 10% did not feel the need for any consolidation.

3. Working with local business and community leaders, New York State is assessing plans to develop an inland port in Central New York to take advantage of our proximity to large consumer markets and to create local jobs. Several locations are being considered. Do you support this effort?



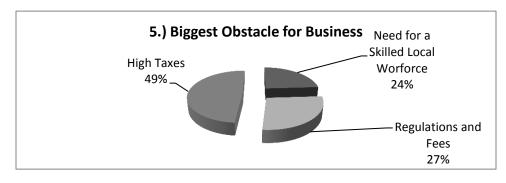
About 67% of respondents favor the inland port regardless of location; Another 28% said they would support the construction of an inland port only in certain locations; the remaining 5% oppose the creation of an inland port in CNY.

4. The state Legislature has adopted several reforms to Common Core in recent sessions. Some of the changes include reducing the amount of test days and test questions, eliminating time limits on test and changing how student assessments impact teacher evaluations. A State Education Department committee has also made new recommendations to ensure standards are grade-level appropriate. Following these reforms, do you now support the use of the Common Core standards in public schools?



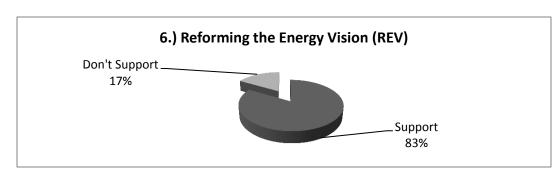
With the most recent reforms, 46% of people responded that they support Common Core after; while 54% remain opposed.

5. What do you feel is the biggest obstacle facing businesses in our community?



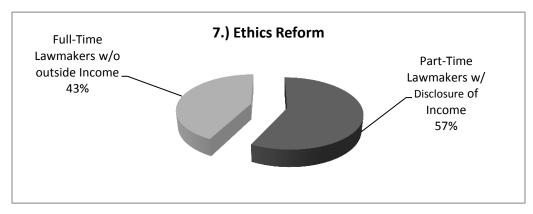
Many respondents selected multiple answers to this question: 49% of people note high taxes as an obstacle for business; 27% say regulations and fees; and 24% chose the need for a skilled local workforce.

6. Reforming the Energy Vision (REV) is a statewide plan to build a cleaner and more affordable energy system that will promote energy efficiency and the use of renewable sources like wind, solar and other small-scale, localized power sources. Do you support this proposal?



A vast majority, 83%, of survey respondents support the state's "Reforming the Energy Vision" proposal; while only 17% don't support it.

7. As part of state ethics reform, would you rather a system that provides for greater disclosure of outside incomes while keeping lawmakers part time, or requiring the Legislature to serve full time, with a ban on outside incomes?



The majority of survey respondents prefer to keep legislators as part-time lawmakers, with more disclosure of outside income; 43% of respondents would rather have lawmakers serve full-time, with a ban on all outside income.