

TOPLINE

**OPINION DYNAMICS CORPORATION
ODC # 6618**

**LANCASTER COUNTY
OCTOBER 2005**

***RESULTS OF 500 TELEPHONE INTERVIEWS WITH LANCASTER COUNTY
RESIDENTS***

1. Have you heard, seen or read anything about a proposal to build a new hotel and convention center on Penn Square in downtown Lancaster?

| | |
|----------|-----|
| Yes | 79% |
| No | 20 |
| Not sure | 1 |

(IF YES:)

2. From what you know, do you support or oppose the construction of the hotel and convention center?

(IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE:) Is that strongly or just somewhat (support/oppose)?

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Strongly support | 17% |
| Somewhat support | 18 |
| Somewhat oppose | 13 |
| Strongly oppose | 24 |
| Not sure/refused | 28 |

(ALL:)

3. In fact, the proposal is to build a hotel and convention center in Lancaster City at the location of the former Watt & Shand department store building. The cost of the project is estimated to be 134 million dollars. Most of the funding for the project would come from state and local grants, and loans guaranteed by Lancaster County or Lancaster City. The loans are to be paid back by revenues from the countywide hotel sales tax and from revenues from the convention center and convention hotel. Knowing this information, do you support or oppose the construction of the hotel and convention center?

(IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE:) Is that strongly or just somewhat (support /oppose)?

| | |
|-----------------------|-----|
| 1. Strongly support | 14% |
| 2. Somewhat support | 22 |
| 3. Somewhat oppose | 12 |
| 4. Strongly oppose | 29 |
| 5. (Not sure/refused) | 22 |

4. How confident are you that a new downtown hotel and convention center in Lancaster will be successful enough to repay the over 76 million dollars in City and County guaranteed loans that will be required to build it? Are you:

| | |
|----------------------|----|
| Very confident | 8% |
| Somewhat confident | 24 |
| Not very confident | 20 |
| Not confident at all | 34 |
| Not sure/refused | 13 |

Now I'm going to mention three specific aspects of the proposed project and I would like you to tell me if you support or oppose each one. (IF SUPPORT OR OPPOSE:) Is that strongly or just somewhat (support /oppose)?

SCALE:

1. Strongly support
2. Somewhat support
3. Somewhat oppose
4. Strongly oppose
5. (Not sure/refused)

5. Under the proposed plan, the County of Lancaster will be responsible for paying up to one and a half million dollars each year for forty years, if the Lancaster County Convention Center Authority is unable to pay its debts.

| Strongly Support | Somewhat support | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose | Not sure/Refused |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 8% | 11 | 17 | 51 | 13 |

6. The proposed convention center in downtown Lancaster will be owned and operated by a City-County Government Authority. The hotel will be owned by the City Redevelopment Authority and leased to private investors.

| Strongly Support | Somewhat support | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose | Not sure/Refused |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 15% | 21 | 13 | 33 | 18 |

7. Of the estimated 134 million dollars required for the project, 10 million dollars will come from a private company, 35 million will come from state and local grants, and 76 million will come from loans guaranteed by Lancaster County or City.

| Strongly Support | Somewhat support | Somewhat oppose | Strongly oppose | Not sure/Refused |
|------------------|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| 13% | 17 | 12 | 42 | 16 |

8. Please tell me which of the following two statements is closer to how you feel about the convention center project:

| | |
|---|-----|
| 1. The convention center project is a good investment of state and local dollars that will help revitalize downtown Lancaster and stimulate the economy; | 30% |
| 2. It is too risky to spend over one hundred and eleven million dollars of taxpayer money in grants, loans and loan guarantees for the convention center project when there is no certainty it will be a success; | 55 |
| 3. (Neither) | 3 |
| 4. (Not sure/refused) | 12 |

Now, I'd like to ask you a few final questions for statistical purposes only.

9. What is your age?

| | |
|---------|----|
| 18-25 | 8% |
| 26-35 | 14 |
| 36-45 | 18 |
| 46-55 | 18 |
| 56-65 | 16 |
| Over 65 | 24 |
| Refused | 2 |

10. What was the last grade you completed in school?

| | |
|------------------------------|----|
| Less than high school (1-11) | 8% |
| Graduated high school | 41 |
| Some college/Tech.Voc. | 14 |
| Graduated college | 24 |
| Graduate/professional school | 9 |
| Refused | 3 |

11. Are you currently registered to vote?

| | |
|------------------|-----|
| Yes | 84% |
| No | 14 |
| Not sure/refused | 2 |

12. Politically, do you consider yourself a Democrat, a Republican, an Independent or something else?

| | |
|----------------|-----|
| Democrat | 18% |
| Republican | 47 |
| Independent | 20 |
| Something else | 4 |
| Not sure | 4 |
| Refused | 7 |

13. Would you please tell me in which of the following categories I read is your total household income--that is, of everyone living in your family household?

| | |
|--------------------|----|
| Less than \$15,000 | 3% |
| \$15-24,999 | 3 |
| \$25-34,999 | 8 |
| \$35-49,999 | 13 |
| \$50,000-\$74,999 | 13 |
| \$75,000-\$100,000 | 7 |
| Over \$100,000 | 7 |
| Refused/Don't know | 46 |

- 14.

| | |
|--------|-----|
| Female | 53% |
| Male | 47 |