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TOLLS ARE THE SOLUTION OF CHOICE

Most Americans and most drivers back tolls for making roads – even existing interstates – safer, less congested and more reliable. A new America THINKS survey from infrastructure solutions firm HNTB Corporation, highlights the expansion of U.S. tolls nationwide and in Texas, where the international tolling industry meets Sept. 14-17.

PEOPLE READY TO PAY FOR IMPROVEMENTS

More than 8 in 10 Americans (83 percent) would endorse tolling on existing highways, motivated by improving the safety of interstates (52 percent), local roads (51 percent) and the highway that's being tolled itself (42 percent). Others would approve tolls if the money went toward congestion-related improvements, including reducing bottlenecks on interstates in urban areas (45 percent) and adding capacity to improve a section of interstate (39 percent).



REGULAR USERS VALUE INTERSTATE QUALITY

Among interstate regular users, quality of pavement (93 percent), ease of access (92 percent), reliable travel time (89 percent) and clear signage (87 percent) are among the roadway aspects important to them. In fact, more than 3 in 4 (77 percent) regular interstate users would support tolls on existing interstates if it meant that these important conditions were improved.

Among interstate regular users, there are a range of aspects that are important to them.



HOW DRIVERS SHOULD BE CHARGED

Around one in four Americans believe that each of these are fair ways to toll: point-to-point, fares set for driving in certain types of lanes or specific times of the day, dynamic pricing and cordon pricing.

Which of the following if any, do you think are fair ways to toll? Select all that apply.



HNTB's America THINKS national tolling survey polled a random nationwide sample of 1,090 Americans Aug. 21-28, 2014. It was conducted by Kelton, which used an e-mail invitation and online survey. Quotas were set to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total U.S. population ages 18 and over. The margin of error is +/- 3 percent.



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ENCOURAGING TOLL ROAD USE

A top motivator for more than 7 in 10 Texans who could be influenced to use toll roads more is reaching their destination more quickly, such as if the toll road made their travel time faster and more reliable (73 percent) or if it helped them avoid traffic (71 percent).

Texans are more likely to use toll roads ...

PLEASED WITH THE PRODUCT

Close to 3 in 4 (73 percent) Texans who regularly drive on roads or bridges with tolls are pleased with the value they receive for the fare paid.

Texans are pleased with the value they receive for the fare paid.



PENALTIES FOR NOT PAYING

More than 7 in 10 (72 percent) Texans think toll agencies should put drivers on probation or fine them for skipping on the fares they are supposed to pay. In fact, more than half (55 percent) think toll authorities should collect fines from offenders, and on average, those who think fines should be collected say a fine of \$34 sounds about right.



HNTB's America THINKS Texas tolling survey polled a random sample of 1,046 Texans Aug. 22-29, 2014. It was conducted by Kelton, which used an e-mail invitation and online survey. Quotas were set to ensure reliable and accurate representation of the total U.S. population ages 18 and over. The margin of error is +/- 3 percent. For more information, visit www.hntb.com or contact John O'Connell, (816) 527-2383, joconnell@hntb.com.

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