# QUESTIONNAIRE WITH DATA

**E**R ELWAY RESEARCH, INC. This summary presents response frequency distributions for the survey of Olympia residents on behalf of the City of Olympia.

Telephone interviews were completed with 400 Olympia utility customers between Nov 9-12, 2006. The overall margin of sampling error is  $\pm 4.5\%$ . That means, in theory, there is a 95% probability that the results of this survey are within  $\pm 4.5\%$  of the results that would have been obtained by interviewing all Olympia utility customers.

The data are presented here in the same order the questions were asked in the interview.

The figures in bold type are percentages of respondents who gave each answer.

Percentages may not add to 100% due to rounding.

Average ratings are based on the total number of respondents who answered the question.

**GENDER:** 

MALE..51 FEMALE...49

Hello. My name is \_\_\_\_. I'm calling from Elway Research, an independent research firm here in Washington state. We are conducting a public opinion survey for the City of Olympia to learn how people are thinking about **city programs and services.** We are not selling anything, and no one will call as a result of this interview. You are one of 400 persons — selected at random — who is being interviewed. We are trying to keep our sample in balance, so my instructions are to talk to the [MALE / FEMALE] over the age of 18 who had the most recent birthday..

\$1> Would that be you?

YES → START Q1

OR> Is that person available?

NO → GO TO S2

S2> Then my instructions are to interview you. Are you 18 or older?

YES → START Q1

NO → THANK &

### **TERM**

1 First, how long have you lived in Olympia?

LESS THAN 1 yr..5

1 to 5 yrs...**16** 

5 to 10 yrs... 15

10 to 20 yrs.. 23

MORE THAN 20 yrs...42

DK/NA...-

2 How would you rate Olympia as a place to live? Would you say...

Excellent...41

Very Good...43

Satisfactory...11

Only Fair...4

Poor...1

[DK/NA...1]

**3** What is the main reason you rate Olympia as a/an [Q2] place to live?

83% had a positive comment about Olympia: Only 5% had a negative comment; 7% had a neutral comment.

<b>Comment Category</b>	Percent	Comment Category	Percent
Size	14	Public Services	6
Sense of Cmty	13	Location	6
Atmosphere	13	Economy	4
Family	10	City Govt	2
Amenities	7	Non-specific	2
Physical Environment	7	Traffic not bad	1

**4** The next question is about safety. Do you feel personally safe in Olympia? Would you say you feel...

Very Safe...63

Somewhat Safe...31

Somewhat Unsafe...4

Unsafe...1

[DK/NA]...1

5 Now let's talk about City Government. Thinking about Olympia City government, would you say that it is effective? That is, how well does it accomplish what it is supposed to? Would you say that Olympia City government is...

Very Effective...13

Mostly Effective...54

Mostly Ineffective...17

Very Ineffective...6

[DK/NA...11]

6 I'm going to read you a list of services and facilities provided by the city. As I read each one, I would like you to tell me how well you think the city is doing in that area We'll use a scale from 1 to 7 where 1 means Poor and 7 means Excellent. The first one is...

ROTATE	<u>POOR</u>				<u>E</u>	XCELL	ENT	<u>DK</u>	<u>Avg</u>
a. Police Services	1	2	4	13	28	27	19	[6]	5.4
<b>b.</b> Fire Services	0	1	1	5	14	30	41	[8]	6.1
c. City Streets	2	6	10 .	23	33	19	.8	[-]	4.7
d. City Sidewalks								[3]	4.4
e. Bike Lanes	5	7	7	17	22	20	16	[7]	4.8
f. Parks & Recreational Facilities,	1	2	5	11	24	32	23	[2]	5.5
g. Recreation Programs & Classes	1	2	3	11	23	28	16	[16]	5.4
h. Arts & Community Events	1	2	3	10	19	36	25	[6]	5.6
i. City Utilities, like water, sewer, & gar	rbage <b>2</b> .	3	5	12	22	31	23	[3]	5.4

### INFORMATION / COMMUNICATIONS

7 In terms of keeping citizens informed about what is happening in city government -- How good a job do you think Olympia City Government does at that? Would you say...

SKIP TO Q9←Excellent...11

SKIP TO Q9←Good...46

Only Fair...28

Poor...11

SKIP TO Q9←DK/NA...5

8 IF ONLY FAIR OR POOR: In your opinion, what are some ways Olympia City Government could do a better job of keeping citizens informed? [N=155]

Category label	Percent of Cases	Category label	Percent of Cases
DK/NA	23	Town Meetings	5
Mail	20	Public Service Announcements	4
Local Paper	19	Contact With Council Members	4
Newsletter	14	Radio	2
TV	8	More Honest	2
More Transparency	8	Email	1
Website	6	By Being Up Front with Decision	1
Listen To People	5	Put Info In Utility Bills	1
		Less Arrogance	1

**9** How would you rate the city's performance in providing residents the opportunity to be involved in decisions that affect city government? How good a job do you think Olympia City Government does at that? Would you say...

Excellent...12

Good...42

Only Fair...30

Poor...9

DK/NA...7

**10** Have you ever watched an Olympia City Council meeting on TCTV – the local government channel 3 on cable?

YES...62 NO...37 NA...2

**10.1** IF YES: In the last month, how many times have you watched an Olympia City Government meeting on TCTV Channel 3? [N=247]

0.....1....2....3....4....5....6....7+

36....28....16....7....6... .- ....3.....5

11 Do you have access to the Internet, either at home or at work?

HOME ONLY...30

WORK ONLY...3

**BOTH WORK & HOME...53** 

SKIP TO Q14 ← NO ACCESS...14

SKIP TO Q14 ← DK/NA...1

12 Have you ever visited the Website for Olympia City Government? [N=344]

SKIP TO Q13 ← YES...50

ASK Q12.1. ← NO...47

SKIP TO Q12.2← DK/NA...3

**12.1** IF NO: Were you aware that Olympia City Government had a Website? [N=162]

YES...40 NO...57 DK/NA...3

How likely are you to visit the Olympia City Government Website? Would you say you are...[N=171]

Very Likely...9

Somewhat Likely...35

Not Too Likely...30

Not At All Likely...19

DK/NA...8

13 IF YES TO Q12: What information were you looking for on the Website? [N=173]

Catagory Jahol	of Cases
Category label	
DK/NA/RF	14
Employment	10
Everything / General Information	9
Parks And Recreation	8
Surfing	6
Utilities	6
City Ordinance	5
Planning/Development Information	5
Schedule For Garbage Pick Up	5
Building Code laws	5
City Council Meeting	4
Cultural Events	3
All others (less than 3% each)	41

**13.1** Were you able to find what you were looking for? [N=173]

YES...82 NO...10 DK/NA...8

14 When it comes to getting information about the programs and services offered by the city, how would you prefer to receive that information.[N=400]

BILLBOARDS3	UTILITY BILL INSERTS27
STREAM TEAM NEWSLETTER11	NEWSPAPER ARTICLES30
WORD OF MOUTH6	TV <b>15</b>
BUS SIGNS3	RADIO <b>9</b>
VIA THE INTERNET21	MAIL <b>36</b>
OTHER4	NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS16
[DK/NA2]	

## **PARKS**

15 The [next] / [first] few questions are about Olympia city parks. In the past 12 months how many times – if at all – did you, or any member of your household visit a city park in Olympia? (Average number of visits = 7)

15.1 Which city parks have you visited in the last year or so? [N=348]

	Percent
Category label	of Cases
Priest Point Park	32
Watershed Park	20
Heritage park	11
LBA Park	10
Sylvester Park	10
NA/RF/DK	10
Yeagar Park	9
Percival Landing	8
Capital Lake	8
Lyons Park	7
Pioneer Park	6
Decatur Woods	4
Downtown Park	3
All Others (less than 3% each)	36

16 In thinking about the parks in Olympia you have visited, how would you rate your overall satisfaction with your park experience? Use the same scale where 7 means Extremely Satisfied and 1 means Not At All Satisfied. (Avg. Score = 5.8)

17 What could the city do to improve your park experience?

Category label	Percent of Cases
Nothing	26
DK/NA/RF	20
More/ Better Amenities (benches, pools, tennis courts, rain shelters, water fountains, picnic areas, bike paths, night	
lighting, trash cans)	12
Other (less than 2% each)	9
More Parks To Be Open/ Finish Construction	6
Restrooms: need more; unlocked; stocked better	6
Cleaner / Better Quality	6
More Off Leash Dog Trails/ Dog Parks	5
Better Maintenance	4
Acquire More Park Space	4
Playground Equipment	4
Better Security	3
Better Job of Keeping Trails	3
More Parking	3
Get Rid Of The Homeless	3

18 The City would like to know how far people travel to visit a park. For example, Olympia is roughly six miles across. How likely would you be to travel up to six miles to get to [READ OPTION]? Would you Definitely travel up to six miles to get to that kind of park? Probably? Probably Not? Or Definitely Not?

RC	ROTATE	DEFINI	TELY		<u>NO I</u>			
		1	2	3	4	[9]		
a.	a community park with multiple ameni including sports fields, such as Yauger		20	17	Ω	[2]		
	Park)	.44	25			[∠]		
b	An open space area with nature trails – such as Priest Point or							
	Watershed Park	.59	27	6	6	[2]		
c.	A Special Use Parks such as Heritage I Fountain, Percival Landing, or the	Park						
	Japanese gardens	52	.28	11.	6	[3]		

- 19 The prior question was about travel to Regional parks. This question is about Neighborhood parks. How likely would you be to travel up to three miles to get to a Neighborhood park, such as Decatur Woods park or Friendly Grove park, that is located outside your immediate neighborhood area? Would you: Definitely travel up to three miles to get to a Neighborhood park? Probably? Probably Not? Or Definitely Not?
  - DEFINITELY...36
  - PROBABLY...25
  - PROBABLY NOT...24
  - **DEFINITLEY NOT...11** 
    - DK/NA...5
- 20 The city also operates a variety of recreational and leisure activities for people of all ages. These include fitness programs, camps, trips, classes, after-school programs and sports leagues. Have you, or anyone in your household, participated in an Olympia Parks and Recreation program in the last year?
  - YES, SELF...14
  - YES, OTHER IN HOUSEHOLD...15
  - YES, BOTH SELF AND OTHER...6
    - NO...62
    - [DK/NA]...4
  - **20.1** IF NO: Are there any specific reasons why you have not participated in any of these programs? [N=247]

Category abel	Percent of Cases
Not Enough Time	30
No reasons	11
Children Grown	9
Too Old	9
Rather Do Other Activities	9
Not Interested	8
DK/NA/RF	7
No Activities Appropriate For Me	5
Lack Of Information (general)	5
Disabled / Health Reasons	3
Belong To Health Club	3
All other reasons (less than 3% each)	14

21 Olympia city government also sponsors a number of Arts events. As I read a list of these events, tell me whether you have ever heard of this event or not, and whether you have ever attended this event. The first one is...

ROTATE	<u>HEARD</u> <u>ATTEND</u> (all respondents)
a. Spring Arts Walk	89 63
b. Ethnic Celebration	56 23
c. Annual Artist Studio Tour	52 21
d. Percival Play Day	4116
e. Fall Arts Walk	8858

22 In your opinion, are arts events like these ...

Very Valuable to the Quality of Life in the City...60

Somewhat Valuable...29

Not Too Valuable...6

Not Valuable to the Quality of Life in the City...1

[DK/NA]...**5** 

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

23 Next, I am going to read a list of utility services provided by the City of Olympia. As I do, I would like you to rate your satisfaction with each service. We will use a 7-point scale – where 7 means you are extremely satisfied and 1 means you are not at all satisfied. How satisfied are you with [ROTATE LIST]? Would you rate this a "1" – meaning you are not at all satisfied? A "7" – meaning you are extremely satisfied? Or somewhere in between?

	ROTATE	<u>NOT</u> .				<u>SA</u>	TISFI	ED DK	<u>AVG</u>
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7[9]	
a.	Your garbage and recycling service	2	3	2	7	15	25	<b>44</b> [3]	5.9
b.	Your sewer service	3	2	5	7	11	18	<b>39</b> [15]	5.7
c.	Your water service	2	2	3	8	14	24	44[3]	5.9
d.	The City's storm & surface water service	4	4	7	14.	19.	19	<b>25</b> [10]	5.2

24 If you wanted to find out whom to contact for information about your city utilities, where would you look for that information?

PHONE BOOK...86

FRIENDS...15

25 In the past year, have you contacted the City of Olympia with a question or complaint about your utility bill?

YES...23

SKIP TO Q27← NO...72 [DK/NA...5]

26 Let's talk about your contact with utility billing. When you contacted the City about your bill, how satisfied were you with [ROTATE LIST]? Use the 7-point scale—where 7 means you were extremely satisfied and 1 means you were not at all satisfied. [N=93]

ROTATE	NOT					SATISE	IED	<u>DK</u>	<u>AVG.</u>
	1	2	.3	4	5	6	7	[9]	
a. Getting through to a person who could help you with your question or complaint	8	3	8	3	16	19	43	[-]	5.5
b. The responsiveness and follow-through of service representative with whom you sp		5	4	12	12	22	42	[-]	5.6

27 For these next questions, I would like you to think about all the utility services you receive from the City of Olympia. That is, garbage and recycling, water, sewer, and storm and surface water services.

In the past year, have you contacted the City of Olympia with a question or complaint about any of these utility services? Please do not include any questions or complaints you may have had about your bill.

YES...**27** SKIP TO Q31← NO...**69** [DK/NA...**4**]

28 About which Utility services have you called with a question or complaint in the last year? Have you called about [N=109]

RC	TATE	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>NA</u>
a.	Your garbage or recycling service?	65	<b>34</b>	1
b.	Your water service	35	62	3
c.	Your sewer service	25	68	·····7
d.	The City's storm & surface water management service	<b>26</b>	67	<b>7</b>

☐ IF "NO" OR "NA" TO ALL, CLARIFY ANSWER TO Q26

29 IF MORE THAN ONE CALL (Q27) ASK: Thinking about the most recent time you called with a question or complaint, did you call about your...[N=28]

Garbage or Recycling service...29

Water service...57

Sewer Service...-

Storm Water & Surface water...7

[DK/NA... 7]

5.5

**30** Thinking about the most recent time you called about one of your utility services, how satisfied were you with [ROTATE LIST]? Use the 7-point scale—where 7 means you were extremely satisfied and 1 means you were not at all satisfied. [N=109]

**ROTATE** 

NOT.....SATISFIED DK AVG

a. Getting through to a person who could help you with your question or complaint

4....3....6....8....11...19...43 [6] 5.7

- b. The responsiveness and follow-through of the service representative with whom you spoke 7....3....11...11...17...40 [7]
- 31 During the past year, do you recall receiving a pamphlet with your utility bill called "In The Zone" that features the public works employees?

YES...36 NO...51 [DK/NA...13]

32 IF YES: How useful are these pamphlets in helping you to learn about public utility services? Use the 7-point scale—where 7 means they were extremely useful and 1 means they were not at all useful. (Avg. Score = 5.0)

NOT> 1....2....3....4....5....6....7 < USEFUL [DK/NA...9]

4....5....7....17...29....16....22 [DK/NA...1]

### STORM & SURFACE WATER

33 The city is responsible for management of storm water and surface water. Using the 7-point scale, where "7" means the city is doing an Excellent job and "1" means a Poor job, How would you rate the job city government is doing at protecting streams and wetlands inside the city limits? (Avg. Score = 5.0)

POOR> 1....2....3....4.....5.....6.....7 < EXCELLENT [DK/NA...9]

**3....5....7....11....26....19....15** [DK/NA...14]

34 Thinking about the way in which the city manages surface and storm water, do you think the city is doing [ READ & ROTATE LIST ] it was doing 5 years ago (or when you first moved into the city of Olympia)?

BETTER THAN...30

ABOUT THE SAME... 45

WORSE THAN...7

[DK/NA... 18]

35 Continuing to think about management of storm and surface water, we would like to know how well you think the city is doing in each of the following areas. We'll use the 7-point scale, where "7" means the city is doing an Excellent job and "1" means a Poor job. The first one is...

RC	DTATE <u>F</u>	<u> 200R</u>				<u>EXC</u>	LLEN	Γ	<u>DK</u>	<u>AVG</u>
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	[9]	
a.	Correcting and preventing water pollut	ion2	.4	.7	.15	.24	.20	.12	[9]	4.9
b.	Correcting and preventing problems arising from floods	2	5	8	15.	24	21	.11	[14]	4.9
c.	Protecting and enhancing the habitat in local streams, lakes and wetlands		3	7	13.	23	23	.13	[17]	5.1

36 In your opinion, which one of these programs is the most important?

Correcting and preventing water pollution...33

Correcting and preventing problems arising from floods...18

Protecting and enhancing the habitat in local streams, lakes and wetlands...21

DO NOT READ: ALL EQUAL...21

NONE...2

[DK/NA...**5**]

### **TRANSPORTATION**

37 These next few questions are about transportation services in Olympia. We are interested to know how easy it is to get around in Olympia. Using the 7-point scale where "1" means extremely easy and "7" means extremely difficult, how easy is it to get around Olympia...

RC	DTATE	<u>EASY</u> <u>DIFFICUL</u>	T DK	<u>AVG</u>
a.	On foot	. 30 15 12 11 11 9 8	[4]	3.2
b.	In a car	. 27 12 14 12 14 14 7	[1]	3.4
c.	On a bicycle	. 13 13 10 15 14 8 7	[22]	3.7
d.	Using Mass transit	. 13 13 11 11 12 8 7	[26]	3.7

38 Thinking about the condition of streets and sidewalks in Olympia, I would like you to rate the following items, using the same 7-point scale we have been using, where "7" means excellent, and "1" means Poor. First, how would you rate.

$\mathbf{r}$	ite							
ROTATE		<u>POOF</u>	3			<u>EXC</u>	CELLENT DK	<u>AVG</u>
a.	The condition of the sidewalks in Olympia	5	6	11 .	18 2	918	. 11[3]	4.6
b.	The condition of the pavement on city streets	3	5	9	183	422	<b> 8</b> [1]	4.7

- **39** Do you ride a bicycle regularly? YES...**24** NO...**74** [DK/NA...2]
  - **39.1** IF YES: How would you rate facilities for bicycles in Olympia, using the same 7-point scale. [N=97] (Avg. Score = 4.7)

POOR> 1...2...3...4...5...6...7 <EXCELLENT [DK/NA...9] 3...6...12...17...29...17...14 [DK/NA...2]

**40** Have you ever contacted anyone at the City of Olympia with a question or complaint about a traffic signal, pothole, sidewalk or other street-related issues? YES...25

SKIP TO Q42← NO...71 [DK/NA...4]

41 Thinking about the most recent time you called the city about a street or sidewalk issue, how satisfied were you with [ROTATE LIST]? Use the 7-point scale—where 7 means you were extremely satisfied and 1 means you were not at all satisfied. [N=99]

ROTATE NOT......SATISFIED DK AVG

- a. Getting through to a person who could help you with your question or complaint ..... 10..... 5...... 7..... 11 .... 18 ... 16... 29 [3] 4.9

# **WATER**

42 As you may know, the City of Olympia Public Works Department is also responsible for providing you drinking water. Compared to five years ago (or when you first moved into Olympia]. Do you think the quality of the drinking water is...

Worse Now Than It Used To Be...12

About The Same...67

Better Now Than It Used To Be?...8

[DK/NA...14]

When it comes to the quality of the city's drinking water supply, do you think there is a risk of contamination? Would you rate the risk of contamination as "7" - meaning there is an extremely serious risk? Or "1" - meaning that the risk of contamination is not at all serious? Or would your rate the risk at some number in between? (Avg. Score = 3.3)

44 What do you think are the greatest risks of contamination to the drinking water?

Category label	Percent of Cases
DK/NA/RF	26
Pollution (general)	10
Flooding	8
No Risk /None	7
Ground Water	5
Terrorism	5
Run Off (non-specific)	4
Bacteria	4
Septic Systems	4
Storm Water Run Off	4
Industry Pollution	4
Chemical Run off/ Spill	3
Animal Waste / Livestock Contamination	3
Over Building	3
Sewage	3
Population Growth	3
Open Reservoirs	3
All other responses (less than 3% each)	25

45 Which of the following best describes the drinking water at your home:

We drink the water out of the tap...50

We have a treatment device installed on one or more taps...17

We purchase bottled water for drinking...14

We have a water filtering container...17

[DK/NA...3]

**46** If you were to guess, about how many gallons of water do you think are used inside your home each day – not counting garden use? Would you say that the amount is...

ROTATE TOP/BOTTOM
Less Than 25 Gallons a Day...26
About 25 to 50 Gallons a Day...31
50 to 75 Gallons...10
75 to 100 Gallons...8
More Than 100 Gallons a Day...4
[DK/NA...22]

47 Olympia has a rate structure for water which charges customers more money when they use larger amounts of water during the summer months. How much influence – if any – has this rate structure had on the amount of water that your household uses? Would you say you use...

**ROTATE TOP/BOTTOM** 

A Lot Less Water Now Than We Used To...18

Somewhat Less Water Now...26

About The Same As We Used To...40

More Water Now Than We Used To... 6

[DK/NA...11]

**48** Do you have a lawn that you maintain yourself?

YES...77

SKIP TO Q50← NO...20 [DK/NA...3]

49 How important is to you to have a green lawn? Where would you be on a scale of 1 to 7, where "1" means "I don't care at all about having a green lawn" to "7" meaning "having a green lawn is very important to me"? [N=309] (Avg. Score = 3.7)

**49.1** IF RATING = 4-5-6-7: your water rates go up as you use more water, are you more likely to...[N=152]

Continue to water to keep it green...32

Cut back on watering...49

Consider other types of landscape that do not require as much water...16

[DK/NA...3]

50 We have been talking about some of the services that city government provides. As a citizen of Olympia, you support City government services and facilities with property tax, sales, and other taxes. Considering all the things we have talked about, do you think that your tax dollars are being well spent here? Or not?

WELL SPENT...61 NOT WELL SPENT...26

[DK/NA]...13

### **DEMOGRAPHICS**

**51** I have just a few last questions for our statistical analysis. How old are you?

18-35...**17** 

36-50...**28** 

51-64...**27** 

65+...**25** 

[NO ANSWER].....3

**52** What is the last year of schooling you completed?

HIGH SCHOOL...13

BUSINESS/VOCATIONAL SCHOOL...2

SOME COLLEGE...20

COLLEGE DEGREE...40

GRAD/PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL...25

NA...1

**53** Which of these the following best describes you at this time? Are you...

Self Employed or a business owner...16

Employed In Private Business...19

Employed In The Public Sector, Like a Governmental Agency or Educational Institution...27

Employed in the health care industry...4

Not Working Right Now...5

Retired...29

No Answer....1

**53.1** IF WORKING: How do you typically get to work? Do you...[N=261]

Drive Alone...77

Car Pool or Van Pool...8

Take the Bus...2

Walk...4

Bicycle...3

[DK/NA...6]

**54** Which of the following best describes your household:

Single with no children at home...28

Couple with no children at home...32

Single with children at home...7

Couple with children at home...32

**DK/NA...2** 

55 Do you own or rent the place in which you live? OWN...87 RENT...10 [DK/NA...4]

56 What is your race or ethnicity? Would you say you are...

African American / Black...1

Asian / Pacific Islander...3

Caucasian / White...88

Hispanic / Latino...1

Native American...1

[OTHER...2]

[DK/NA]...4

57 Finally, just for classification purposes only, I am going to list four broad categories. Stop me when I get to the category that best describes your approximate household income - before taxes - for last year.

**ROTATE TOP/BOTTOM** 

\$25,000 or Less...**7** 

\$25 to 50,000...**22** 

\$50 to 75,000...**21** 

Over \$75,000...**27** 

[NO ANSWER...24]

Thank you very much. You have been very helpful. RECORD GENDER ON PAGE 1