

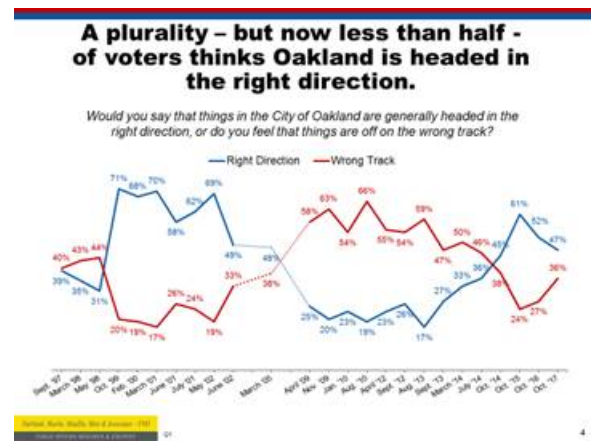
## Chamber poll shows Oakland voters support housing development, downtown ballpark

**Oakland, CA – November 8, 2017** – The Oakland Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce today announced the results of its survey of Oakland voters, conducted together with market opinion and research firm FM3.

The results were announced by Barbara Leslie, CEO, at the Chamber’s “Pulse of Oakland” breakfast at the Waterfront Hotel in Jack London Square. Event attendees, including more than 100 business leaders, government officials, and members of the Oakland community, learned the results of the Chamber’s comprehensive poll of public opinion, which includes voters’ perceptions on Oakland’s growth, public safety, and how voters feel about the rate of Oakland’s development, as well as the conduct and effectiveness of Oakland’s elected officials. This year voters also weighed in on building a new ballpark near downtown Oakland, and by a two to one margin, support the proposed location.

The 500-person telephone survey, conducted October 24-29, 2017, by FM3 Research, includes results weighted to reflect the demographic profile of likely November voters. The poll’s margin of error is +/- 4.4 percent. Key findings include:

- 75 percent of voters believe locating tech companies in Oakland, along with more jobs and tax revenue, is good for Oakland.
- 49 percent of voters believe the current rate of new housing development is too slow compared to 2016 in which only 36 percent believed the rate was too slow.
- Oakland voters continue to be optimistic about the city’s overall direction and its economy.
- Feelings of safety in Oakland have dramatically improved since last year.
- 90 percent of voters are proud to call Oakland home and overwhelming would recommend it as a place to visit and/or live.
- Voters have a positive attitude about the direction of the city, but the proportion who feel that way continues to decline. Voters recognize the City as going through a unique period of growth and change, which has both positive and negative impacts.



The poll found that Mayor Libby Schaaf enjoys a 61 percent favorable rating and remains strong.

“The release of the 2017 Oakland Voter Survey provides policymakers, business leaders, and Oakland residents with another set of data points to track economic growth and quality of life in Oakland,” said Leslie. Summing up survey takeaways, Leslie stated, “The survey underscores the fact that Oakland’s housing supply crisis is exacerbating an affordability crisis, Oaklanders are well versed on and support the idea of a downtown ballpark, and bottom line – 90 percent of survey participants are proud to live in and positively identify with Oakland,” Leslie concluded.

The survey’s findings were presented by Dave Metz, FM3 Associates. Vice Mayor Anne Campbell Washington gave opening remarks. The event was sponsored by Colliers International, OakPAC and BART. The 2017 Oakland Voter Survey marks another successful effort by the Chamber to provide decision-makers with actionable data to inform policy discussions. Other Chamber studies include an annual analysis of Oakland’s economy at the Council district level, an annual tech sector study, and an analysis of Oakland’s growing industries and occupations to prepare Oakland’s future workforce for Oakland jobs. The Chamber convenes programs around these and other issues through its programming, providing data and information for use by elected officials, community and business leaders to foster dialogue and in making policy decisions that impact the business community and those creating jobs in Oakland.