

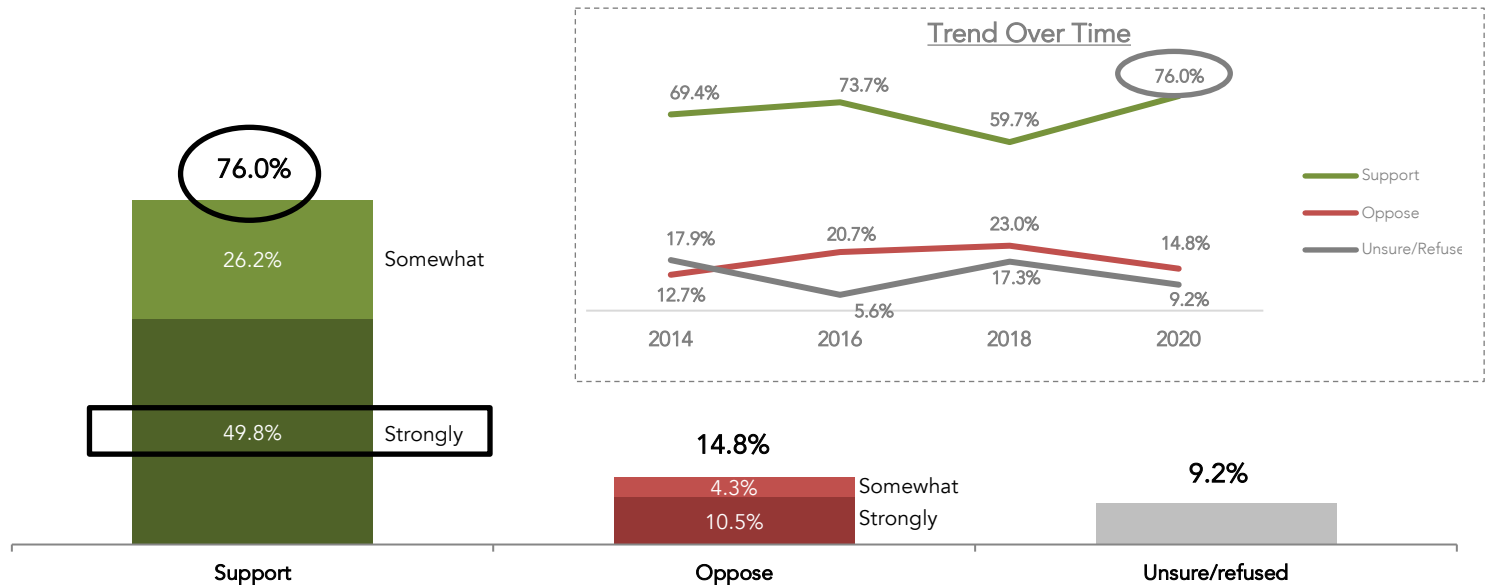
Strategic Memorandum

TO: Interested Parties
 FROM: Justin Wallin, J. Wallin Opinion Research
 DATE: May 25, 2020
 RE: City of Huntington Beach Voter Survey

From Thursday, May 7, 2020, through Monday, May 11, 2020 J. Wallin Opinion Research conducted a telephone survey of likely voters throughout the City of Huntington Beach.

Our research revealed that the Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility enjoys slightly over three-quarters support of the City’s likely voters. Moreover, that support is intense – nearly one-half (49.8%) *strongly* support the Facility, which has enjoyed well over majority support for six years (see tracking graph):

Three-Quarters (76.0%) Support The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility



Question: "The Huntington Beach City Council has approved the construction and operation of a seawater desalination facility in the city called "The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility". The facility will provide a new, local source of high-quality drinking water that is drought-proof, reducing the amount of water the City and Orange County must import from Northern California. Development of the desalination facility poses no financial risk for taxpayers and the 50 million gallons per day of drinking water that is produced will serve Orange County residents, including those in Huntington Beach. In general, do you support or oppose The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility?"

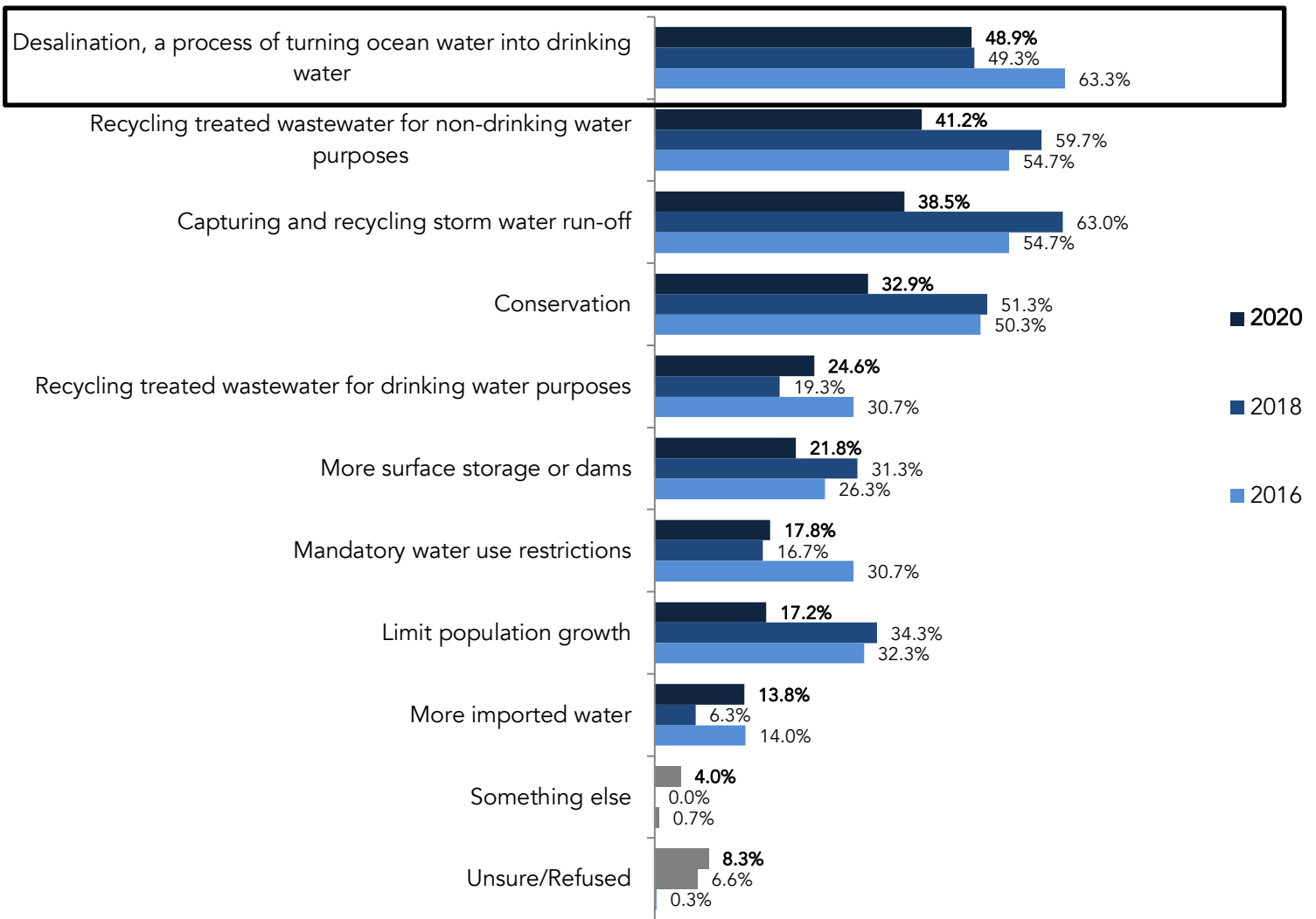


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While this graph demonstrates the strong support for the facility, it also demonstrates that the more local voters have learned about the facility, the more that support grows and becomes stronger.

Moreover, Huntington Beach voters say that desalination the best way for local water agencies to ensure clean, local and drought-proof water supply (choosing desalination over a variety of options, including the relatively popular capturing rainwater runoff and treating wastewater for non-drinking water purposes):

Huntington Beach Voters Say that Desalination is the Best Way for Local Water Agencies to Ensure a Clean/Safe/Local/Drought-Proof Water Supply



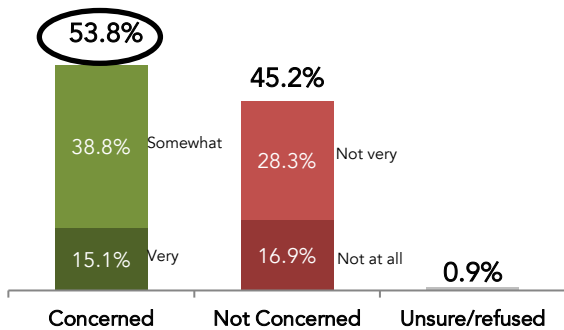
Question: "What, in your opinion, is the best way for local water agencies to ensure clean, local and drought-proof water supply? Choose as many as you like, or none at all."



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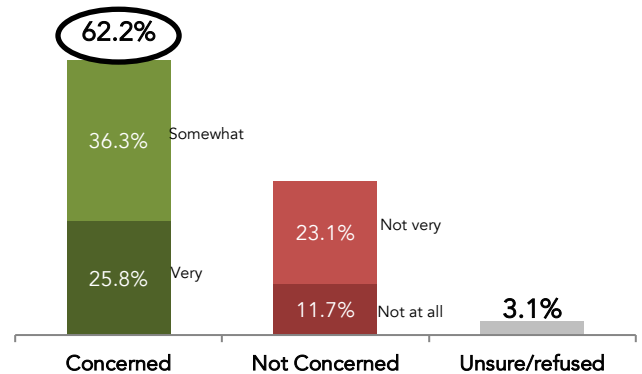
This remarkably high degree of support is perhaps unsurprising given that (1) a majority of Huntington Beach voters are concerned about a shortage of water available to their community within the coming five years and (2) a majority of Huntington Beach voters are concerned about water supply and water safety in the event of a disaster:

A Majority (53.8%) is Concerned About a Possible Water Shortage Within the Next Five Years



Question: "How concerned are you about a possible shortage of water that is available to your community for use in the next five years? Would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned?"

A Majority (62.2%) Is Concerned About Water Supply and Water Supply Safety During a Disaster



Question: "How concerned are you about water supply and the safety of water supply during a disaster, such as an earthquake or wildfire? Would you say that you are very concerned, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned?"

Messages: Our research revealed two messages that dramatically increased (the already high) support for the Facility:

- **75.7% became more likely** to support the Facility knowing: "The Bolsa Chica Lowlands are the last remaining large-scale wetlands in California south of Monterey. While much work has been done to restore and maintain the wetlands, there is no long-term source of maintenance funding beyond 2021. The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility is supported by the Bolsa Chica Conservancy because it protects the Bolsa Chica wetlands, taking on responsibility for maintaining long-term and effective tidal action to support bird wildlife and coastal fish populations there."

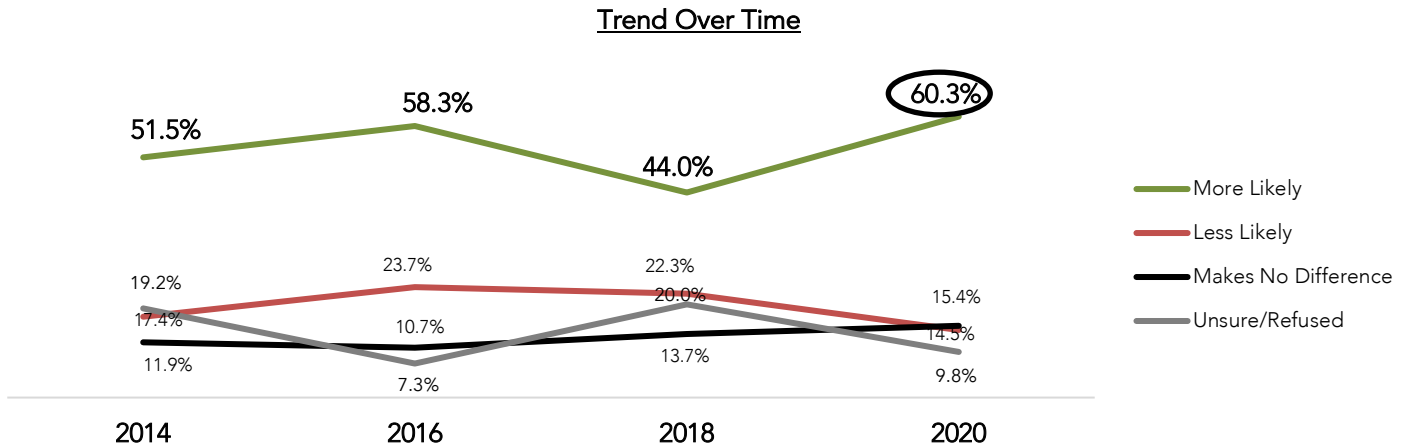
72.6% became more likely to support the Facility knowing: "The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility will create over 3,000 jobs during its construction, and once it is operating it will create over 280 full-time direct, indirect and induced jobs and generate over \$7 million dollars annually in property tax for the City of Huntington Beach's general fund and City high school and elementary school districts."



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Ultimately, support of the Facility has a highly positive political effect on candidates who may be running for office:

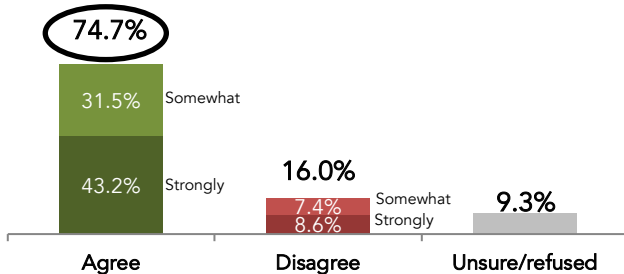
60.3% Would be More Likely to Vote for a Candidate
Knowing that Candidate Supported the Huntington Beach Desalination Facility



Question: " Would you be more likely or less likely to vote for a candidate for office if you knew that candidate supported the Huntington Beach Desalination facility?"

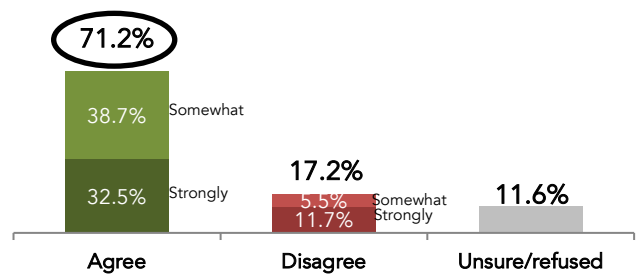
In fact, Huntington Beach voters say that a political candidate who supports the Facility is a candidate who is fighting to give Huntington Beach a better future AND fighting to improve the lives of Huntington Beach children and families:

Nearly Three-Quarters (74.7%) Agrees That a Candidate Who Supports the Facility is Fighting to Give our Community a Better Future



Question: "Do you agree or disagree that a candidate for City Council who supports The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility is a candidate who is fighting to give our community a better future by helping to ensure a clean, drought-proof supply of water?"

71.2% Agrees That a Candidate Who supports the Facility is Fighting to improve the Lives of Children and Families



Question: "Do you agree or disagree that a candidate for City Council who supports The Huntington Beach Seawater Desalination Facility is a candidate who is fighting to improve the lives of our City's children and families?"

Methodology: We interviewed 325 respondents using live, professional interviewers, speaking Spanish and English languages and calling both mobile and landlines (76.3% of this survey was completed on mobile phones). A survey of this size yields a margin of error of +/-5.4% (95% confidence interval). Our sample is stratified, meaning that the demographic composition of our results matches the demographic composition of the region we surveyed. We have provided "call-outs" wherein we track the results of certain questions over time. Note that past projects performed by different firms may have utilized different methodologies with different statistic validities.

J. Wallin Opinion Research specializes in opinion research on behalf of government, business, special interest and media clients.



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