

LAKEWAY MUD SURVEY

BASELICE & ASSOCIATES, INC.
CONFIDENTIAL DOCUMENT
N = 206 respondents

STUDY # 09417MUD.Q%

Hello, I am _____ of Baselice & Associates, a national survey research firm, and we're listening to people in your area today to get their opinions and advice on water issues. We would like to include your responses to this survey, which will be kept confidential, with the responses of several hundred other people such as yourself.

A. First, are you registered to vote in Travis County?

If No, ask: Is there someone else at home who is registered to vote in Travis County?
(If Yes, ask: May I speak with him/her? And return to introduction)

Yes **(continue)**
No **(thank & terminate)**

B. Are you, or is anyone in your household, employed in the news media, a market research firm, or an elected official of the City of Lakeway?

Yes **(thank & terminate)**
No **(continue)**

ROTATE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS

1. Which of the following best describes how you would rate your electric service?
(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

33%	Excellent
50%	Good
12%	Fair
4%	Poor
0%	Unsure / refused (vol)

2. Which of the following best describes how you would rate your water and wastewater service?
(Read top-to-bottom / bottom-to-top)

34%	Excellent
47%	Good
16%	Fair
3%	Poor
*	Unsure / refused (vol)

(End rotation)

NOTE: ALL CLOSE-ENDED RESULTS ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST WHOLE PERCENTAGE

* DENOTES LESS THAN ONE-HALF PERCENT

ROTATE NEXT TWO QUESTIONS

3. Please tell me which one of the following bills you for your household's water?
(Read and randomize choices 1-4, then read 5)

- 70% The Lakeway MUD or Municipal Utility District
- 12% The City of Lakeway
- 1% LCRA - Lower Colorado River Authority
- 6% City of Austin
- 7% Or some other name (**specify**) _____ (8 mentions (4%) were Dist#17)
- 3% Unsure / refused (**vol**)

4. Please tell me which one of the following bills you for your household's wastewater?
(Read and randomize choices 1-4, then read 5)

- 61% The Lakeway MUD or Municipal Utility District
- 13% The City of Lakeway
- 3% LCRA - Lower Colorado River Authority
- 7% City of Austin
- 9% Or some other name (**specify**) _____ (10 mentions (5%) were septic) / (4 mentions (2%) were Dist#17)
- 7% Unsure / refused (**vol**)

(End rotation)

5. The Lakeway Municipal Utility District, also known as the Lakeway MUD (mud), is an organization that operates separate and independent of the City of Lakeway. It has a board of directors elected by a majority of its customers, and the purpose of the Lakeway MUD is to provide water and / or wastewater services to residents and businesses in a designated area in and around Lakeway. Would you prefer... **(rotate and read choice)**

- that the Lakeway MUD continue to operate as an independent organization
- or
- that the City of Lakeway (**Ver X**: annex / **Ver Y**: take over) the Lakeway MUD?

If choice made, ask: Do you feel strongly about that?

<u>Ver X</u>	<u>Ver Y</u>	<u>Total</u>	
31%	44%	37%	Stay independent / Strongly
14%	12%	13%	Stay independent / Somewhat
45%	57%	50%	TOTAL STAY INDEPENDENT
5%	5%	5%	Get (Ver X : annexed / Ver Y : taken over) / Somewhat
14%	15%	15%	Get (Ver X : annexed / Ver Y : taken over) / Strongly
19%	20%	19%	TOTAL GET(Ver X : ANNEXED / Ver Y : TAKEN OVER)
10%	5%	8%	Depends / other (vol)
26%	18%	22%	Unsure / refused (vol)

For each item I read, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with that statement. Here is the first statement... **(Randomize questions)**

	AGREE			DISAGREE			Depends / Neutral (vol)	Unsure (vol)	Net Agree	
	Strong	Smwht	Total	Smwht	Strong	Total				
6. The Lakeway MUD has operated on its own and served its customers well since 1972, and the Lakeway MUD should be allowed to continue to operate as an independent organization as long as it continues to meet the needs of its customers.	53%	23%	76%	6%	9%	16%	2%	6%	+60%	
7. The possible (Ver X: annexation / Ver Y: takeover) of the Lakeway MUD by the City of Lakeway is just another example of government not being able to - quote - leave well enough alone - end quote.	Ver X:	39%	20%	59%	15%	15%	30%	6%	6%	+29%
	Ver Y:	42%	15%	58%	13%	18%	31%	4%	7%	+26%
	Total:	41%	17%	58%	14%	17%	31%	5%	6%	+28%
8. The Lakeway MUD is widely admired for its innovation and efficiency. When people ask the state environmental quality officials about how to run a MUD, the state agency refers them to Lakeway MUD. This shows that the Lakeway MUD is operating well as an independent organization.	42%	32%	73%	5%	7%	12%	1%	13%	+61%	
9. Lakeway MUD customers' water and wastewater service will not be as good as it is now if the MUD gets (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) by the City of Lakeway.	Ver X:	11%	21%	32%	15%	15%	30%	7%	31%	+2%
	Ver Y:	23%	17%	40%	22%	10%	32%	8%	19%	+8%
	Total:	17%	19%	36%	18%	13%	31%	8%	25%	+5%
10. The mere fact the Lakeway City Council is requesting legislation to be authored so it can (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: takeover) the MUD is reason enough to be concerned.	Ver X:	40%	29%	69%	14%	7%	21%	2%	7%	+48%
	Ver Y:	47%	21%	69%	9%	15%	24%	1%	6%	+44%
	Total:	44%	25%	69%	12%	11%	23%	1%	7%	+46%
11. The City of Lakeway's proposal to (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: take over) the Lakeway MUD's operations but not the other five water systems within the city makes me question what is going on here.	Ver X:	45%	29%	74%	13%	6%	19%	2%	6%	+55%
	Ver Y:	53%	22%	75%	7%	12%	19%	2%	4%	+56%
	Total:	49%	26%	74%	10%	9%	19%	2%	5%	+55%
12. The proposal designed by the City of Lakeway to (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: take over) the Lakeway MUD is undemocratic. The MUD's customers should at least have a say in this through a local election.	Ver X:	67%	21%	89%	3%	6%	8%	1%	2%	+80%
	Ver Y:	70%	14%	84%	7%	5%	12%	1%	3%	+72%
	Total:	68%	18%	86%	5%	5%	10%	1%	2%	+76%

(End randomization)

Now I would like to read you some information about the possible (**Ver X:** annexation / **Ver Y:** takeover) of the Lakeway MUD by the City of Lakeway. For each item I read, please tell me if that information makes you strongly favor, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the (**Ver X:** annexation / **Ver Y:** takeover) of the Lakeway MUD by the City of Lakeway. Here is the first statement... (Randomize questions)

	FAVOR			OPPOSE			No Diff. (vol)	Unsure (vol)	Net Favor	
	Strong	Smwht	Total	Smwht	Strong	Total				
13. When cities (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: takeover) MUDs, they integrate the district's utilities with their own. However, the City of Lakeway does not have its own water utility, no experience managing a water utility, nor a long range plan for a water utility.	Ver X:	7%	8%	16%	23%	49%	72%	7%	6%	-56%
	Ver Y:	6%	3%	9%	16%	61%	77%	3%	11%	-68%
	Total:	7%	6%	13%	20%	54%	74%	5%	8%	-62%
14. The geographic territory served by the Lakeway MUD includes some parts of the City of Lakeway and a few areas outside the City of Lakeway. Because of this, legislation would have to be drafted and passed by the Texas State Legislature in order for the City of Lakeway to (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: takeover) the Lakeway MUD.	Ver X:	7%	21%	29%	21%	37%	59%	5%	7%	-30%
	Ver Y:	10%	7%	17%	15%	45%	61%	11%	11%	-43%
	Total:	9%	15%	23%	18%	41%	60%	8%	9%	-36%
15. The Lakeway MUD is a non-profit organization designed to provide water utility services to its customers. But if the MUD is (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over), then the Lakeway city council will be able to increase taxes and fees on all customers currently served by the MUD to pay for services that are not even water related.	Ver X:	4%	7%	10%	19%	64%	82%	2%	6%	-72%
	Ver Y:	8%	4%	12%	12%	66%	78%	4%	6%	-66%
	Total:	6%	5%	11%	16%	65%	80%	3%	6%	-69%
16. If the Lakeway MUD were to be (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) by the City of Lakeway, then nearly two million dollars in customer costs paid for by property tax would no longer be tax-deductible.	Ver X:	3%	4%	7%	19%	61%	79%	4%	10%	-73%
	Ver Y:	3%	5%	8%	11%	63%	74%	5%	13%	-66%
	Total:	3%	4%	7%	15%	62%	77%	4%	12%	-69%
17. If the Lakeway MUD were to be (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) by the City of Lakeway, then over four hundred and fifty thousand dollars in tax deductions will be lost to the local economy.	Ver X:	6%	7%	13%	21%	54%	76%	3%	8%	-63%
	Ver Y:	5%	1%	6%	15%	59%	74%	5%	15%	-68%
	Total:	5%	4%	10%	18%	56%	75%	4%	12%	-65%
18. Because of its independent and non-profit status, Lakeway MUD customers enjoy the lowest water rate in the area. If (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) by the City of Lakeway, customers' water rates will increase.	Ver X:	7%	7%	15%	10%	63%	73%	1%	11%	-58%
	Ver Y:	6%	3%	9%	8%	72%	80%	3%	8%	-71%
	Total:	7%	5%	12%	9%	67%	76%	2%	10%	-64%
19. The City of Lakeway has stated publicly that (Ver X: annexing/ Ver Y: taking over) the Lakeway MUD will impact those with below average property values the most.	Ver X:	3%	10%	13%	24%	38%	63%	5%	20%	-50%
	Ver Y:	5%	5%	10%	18%	46%	65%	6%	19%	-55%
	Total:	4%	8%	12%	21%	42%	64%	5%	19%	-52%

	FAVOR			OPPOSE			No Diff. (vol)	Unsure (vol)	Net Favor
	Strong	Smwht	Total	Smwht	Strong	Total			
20. The (Ver X: annexing / Ver Y: taking over) of the Lakeway MUD by the City of Lakeway would add a layer of bureaucracy which will result in longer response times and slower service.	Ver X: 8%	13%	21%	18%	48%	65%	5%	8%	-44%
	Ver Y: 8%	6%	14%	14%	60%	74%	3%	9%	-60%
	Total: 8%	10%	18%	16%	53%	69%	4%	9%	-51%
21. If the Lakeway MUD were to be (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) by the City of Lakeway, then the city could use the MUD's assets - paid for by the MUD's customers - to benefit the larger number of Lakeway residents who have never contributed.	Ver X: 5%	9%	14%	26%	56%	82%	2%	2%	-68%
	Ver Y: 8%	9%	17%	14%	58%	72%	6%	5%	-55%
	Total: 6%	9%	16%	20%	57%	77%	4%	3%	-62%
22. Currently, no City of Lakeway department operates within its own revenue. And in all cases, one department or revenue source subsidizes another. The proposed (Ver X: annexing / Ver Y: taking over) of the MUD would allow the City of Lakeway to fund other non-water operations that are running budget deficits.	Ver X: 5%	10%	15%	25%	53%	79%	3%	4%	-64%
	Ver Y: 4%	12%	16%	11%	60%	71%	4%	9%	-55%
	Total: 4%	11%	16%	18%	56%	75%	3%	6%	-59%
23. If the City of Lakeway (Ver X: annexes / Ver Y: takes over) the Lakeway MUD, then any MUD-owned land that the City wants to sell will turn into revenue that benefits the City of Lakeway, and not the customers of the MUD who currently own that land.	Ver X: 8%	10%	19%	22%	55%	78%	2%	2%	-59%
	Ver Y: 11%	9%	20%	9%	60%	69%	3%	8%	-48%
	Total: 10%	10%	19%	16%	57%	73%	2%	5%	-54%
24. About a quarter of the Lakeway MUD water customers do not live within the district and therefore, can not vote in MUD elections. The (Ver X: annexing / Ver Y: taking over) of the MUD by the City of Lakeway would allow these customers to have their voices heard through the Lakeway City Council.	Ver X: 16%	22%	38%	18%	27%	45%	7%	9%	-7%
	Ver Y: 17%	23%	40%	7%	32%	39%	9%	11%	+1%
	Total: 17%	23%	39%	13%	30%	42%	8%	10%	-3%

(End randomization)

25. Having heard more about it, would you prefer (rotate and read choices) that the Lakeway MUD continue to operate as an independent organization
or
that the City of Lakeway (Ver X: annex / Ver Y: takeover) the Lakeway MUD?
If choice made, ask: Do you feel strongly about that?

Ver X	Ver Y	Total	
61%	70%	65%	Stay independent / Strongly
13%	8%	11%	Stay independent / Somewhat
74%	78%	76%	TOTAL STAY INDEPENDENT
9%	5%	7%	Get (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) / Somewhat
6%	11%	8%	Get (Ver X: annexed / Ver Y: taken over) / Strongly
15%	16%	16%	TOTAL GET (Ver X: ANNEXED / Ver Y: TAKEN OVER)
3%	4%	3%	Depends / other (vol)
8%	2%	5%	Unsure / refused (vol)

26. **Version A:** Regardless of your last response, would you favor or oppose the formation of a legislative panel to study this issue before any legislation is crafted?

Version B: Knowing this is a situation that would require state legislative action in order for (**Ver X:** annexation / **Ver Y:** a take over) to occur because parts of the MUD are not inside the Lakeway city limits, would you favor or oppose the formation of a legislative panel to study this issue before any legislation is crafted?

If choice made, ask: Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

Having heard this description, do you favor or oppose this plan?

If choice made, ask: Is that strongly or somewhat (favor / oppose)?

TOTALS FOR VERSION A (n=95)

<u>Ver AX</u>	<u>Ver AY</u>	<u>Total A</u>	
29%	32%	31%	Favor / Strongly
27%	20%	24%	Favor / Somewhat
57%	52%	55%	TOTAL FAVOR
4%	9%	6%	Oppose / Somewhat
31%	30%	31%	Oppose / Strongly
35%	39%	37%	TOTAL OPPOSE
8%	2%	5%	Depends / other (vol)
0%	7%	3%	Unsure / refused (vol)

TOTALS FOR VERSION B (n=111)

<u>Ver BX</u>	<u>Ver BY</u>	<u>Total B</u>	
38%	25%	32%	Favor / Strongly
16%	16%	16%	Favor / Somewhat
54%	42%	48%	TOTAL FAVOR
7%	7%	7%	Oppose / Somewhat
38%	38%	38%	Oppose / Strongly
45%	45%	45%	TOTAL OPPOSE
0%	4%	2%	Depends / other (vol)
2%	9%	5%	Unsure / refused (vol)

TOTAL SAMPLE (n=206)

<u>Ver X</u>	<u>Ver Y</u>	<u>Total</u>	
34%	28%	31%	Favor / Strongly
21%	18%	20%	Favor / Somewhat
55%	46%	51%	TOTAL FAVOR
6%	8%	7%	Oppose / Somewhat
35%	34%	34%	Oppose / Strongly
40%	42%	41%	TOTAL OPPOSE
4%	3%	3%	Depends / other (vol)
1%	8%	4%	Unsure / refused (vol)

Now just a few questions to make sure we have a representative sample...

D1. What is your age, please? (i.e. Record 48 years old as 0 4 8)
(Record Unsure/Refused as 9 9 9)

1%	18-24
1%	25-29
3%	30-34
6%	35-39
9%	40-44
11%	45-49
17%	50-54
12%	55-59
11%	60-64
5%	65-69
8%	70-74
6%	75-79
6%	80-84
2%	85-89
1%	90 or over
2%	Unsure / Refused

D3.A Thinking about past November general elections for a moment -- which party's candidates have you tended to vote for most often...
(Rotate first two choices) [Note: Record libertarian, reform party or other parties as value 3]

55%	Republican (to D3B)
20%	Democrat (to D3B)
18%	Or do you vote independent of party (to D3C)
7%	Unsure / Refused (vol) (to D4)

IF VALUE 1 or 2 (Republican or Democrat) IN QUESTION D3A, ASK:

D3.B And do you tend to vote straight or mostly... [if D3A is 1, then Republican] or [if D3A is 2, then Democrat]?

20%	Straight
53%	Mostly
2%	Unsure / Refused (vol)
25%	Not asked

IF VALUE 3 (Independent) IN QUESTION D3A, ASK:

D3.C Although you vote for the person and not one of the major parties -- when you have had to choose between two candidates of whom you knew little about, have you tended to vote for... **(Rotate choices)**

8%	The Republican candidate
5%	The Democrat candidate
4%	Other / won't vote for either (vol)
1%	Unsure / Refused (vol)
82%	Not asked

The combination of the A, B, and C questions on the previous page are displayed below:

13%	Straight Republican
42%	Mostly Republican
8%	A few more Republicans than Democrats
63%	TOTAL REPUBLICAN
5%	Independent / Undecided
5%	A few more Democrats than Republicans
13%	Mostly Democrat
7%	Straight Democrat
25%	TOTAL DEMOCRAT
7%	Unsure / Refused

D4. Do you own or rent your place of residence? **(Do not read, record only)**

89%	Own
11%	Rent
0%	Unsure
*	Refused

D9. Sex **(By observation)** Ask of everyone: Are you employed outside the house, self-employed, not employed, a homemaker, or retired?

28%	Male / employed
18%	Male / not-employed
0%	Male / unsure - refused to say
26%	Female / employed
28%	Female / not-employed
*	Female / unsure - refused to say
