



Property Taxes

***TallahasseeVoices* is a pro bono internet survey panel sponsored by Kerr & Downs Research with special media support of WCTV. Survey was conducted July 12th through August 7th, 2012. 312 of the 5,000 panel members responded.**

**TallahasseeVoices – brought to you by:
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Residents say “NO” to property tax rate increase

- By a 62% to 27% margin, Leon County residents are against increasing the property tax rate from \$7.85 to \$8.31 per \$1,000 of taxable property value.

Why residents are against a property tax increase

- Up to about 2005 residents of Leon County favored tax increases to maintain or increase the levels of services they received from local governments,” states Phillip Downs, Ph.D., Senior Partner of Kerr & Downs Research, which has surveyed local residents since 1976.
- Downs adds, “Governments at all 3 levels lost voter support for tax increases during the first half of the last decade as government budgets expanded well beyond increases in residents’ own budgets. Now only about 1 in 4 local residents supports a tax increase.”

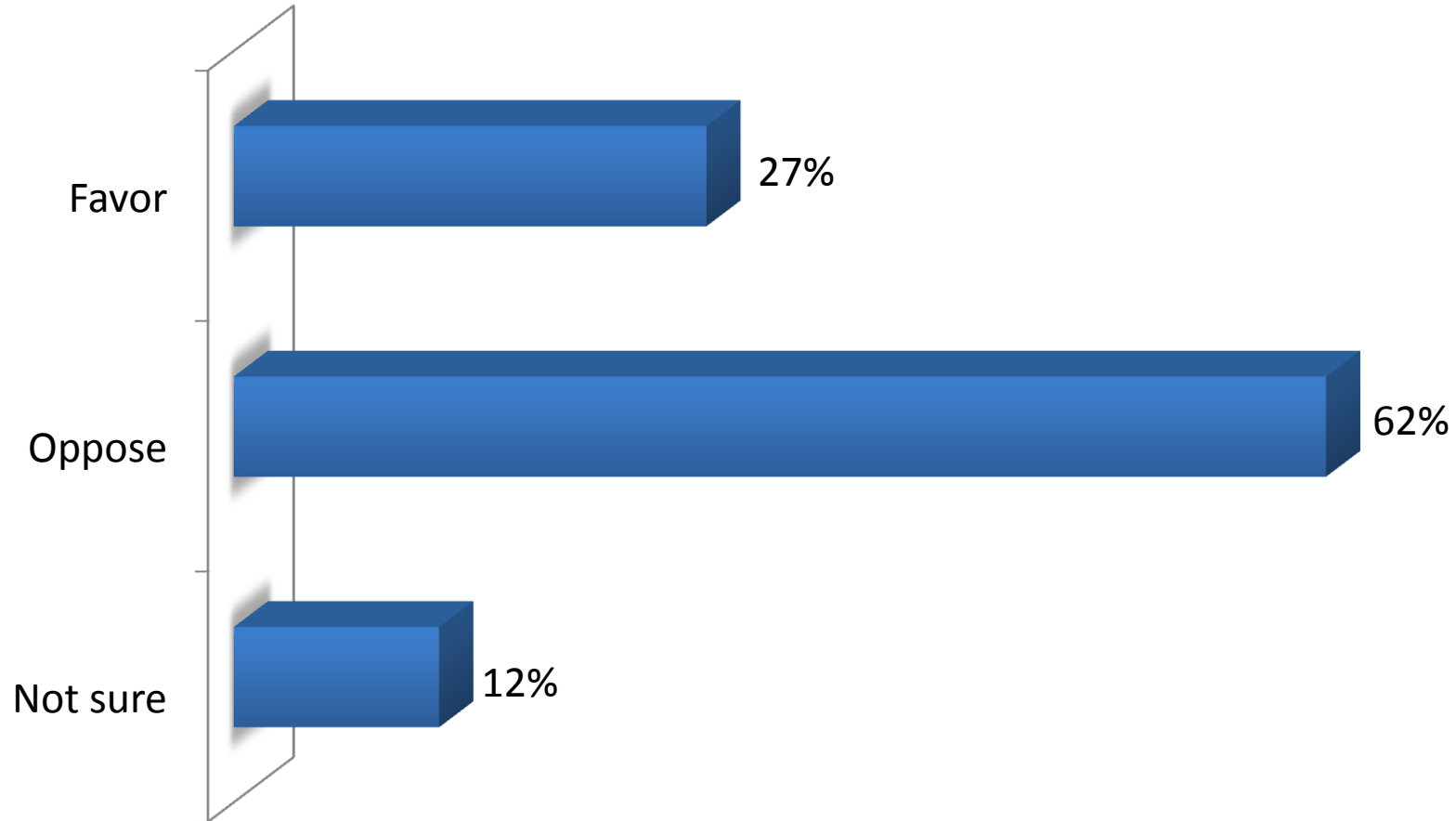
Why residents are against a property tax increase

- Opponents of the property tax increase say the amount of property taxes collected from 2000 to 2006 increased dramatically – now it's time for the amount to decrease.

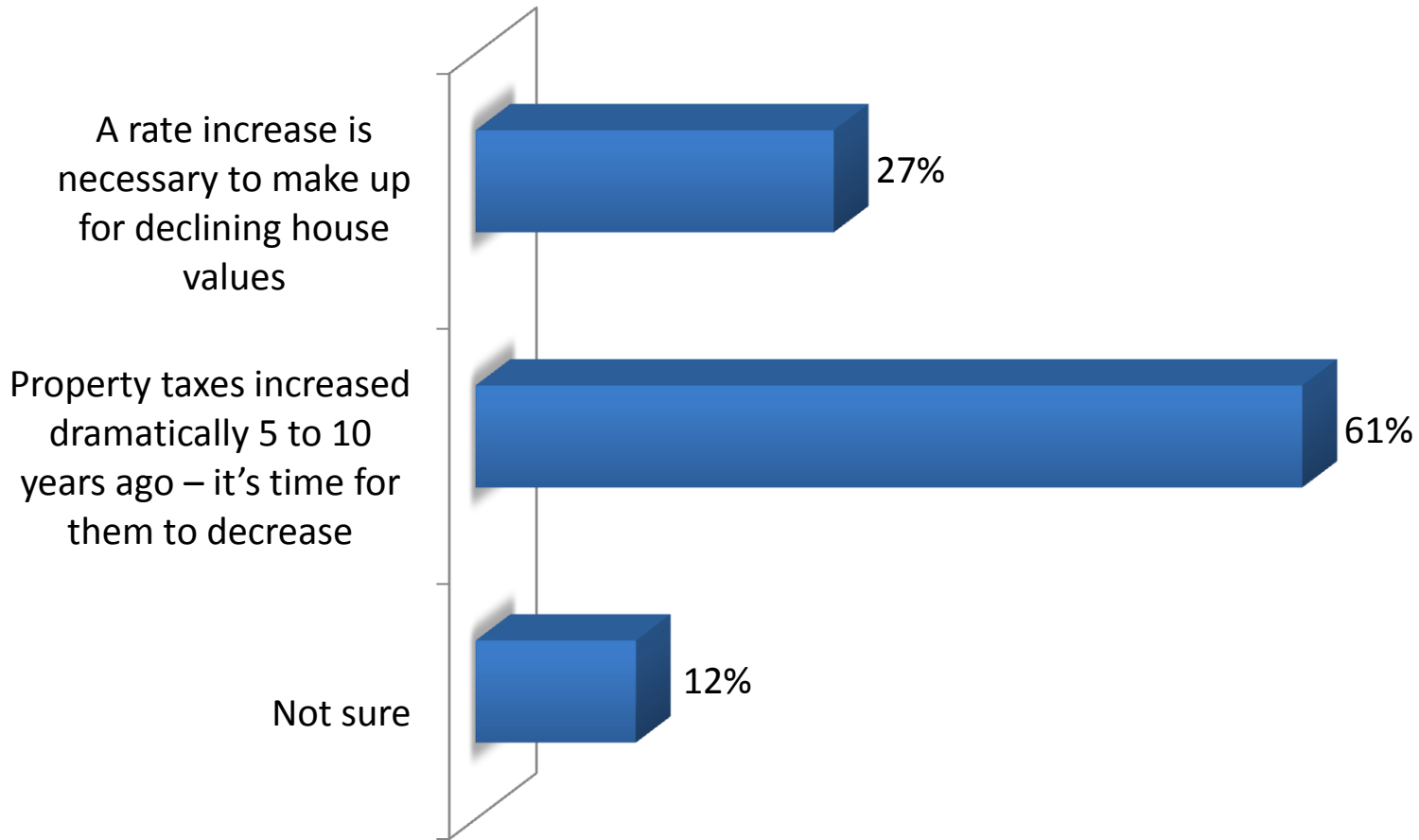
Residents' Views on Taxes

- Residents would rather cut “non essential” services instead of raising taxes
- By a to 3-1 margin, Leon County residents do not trust politicians to effectively spend their tax dollars
- Most residents of Leon County and Tallahassee are satisfied with the value of services they receive given the amount they pay in taxes
- Only 28% of residents favor a tax increase

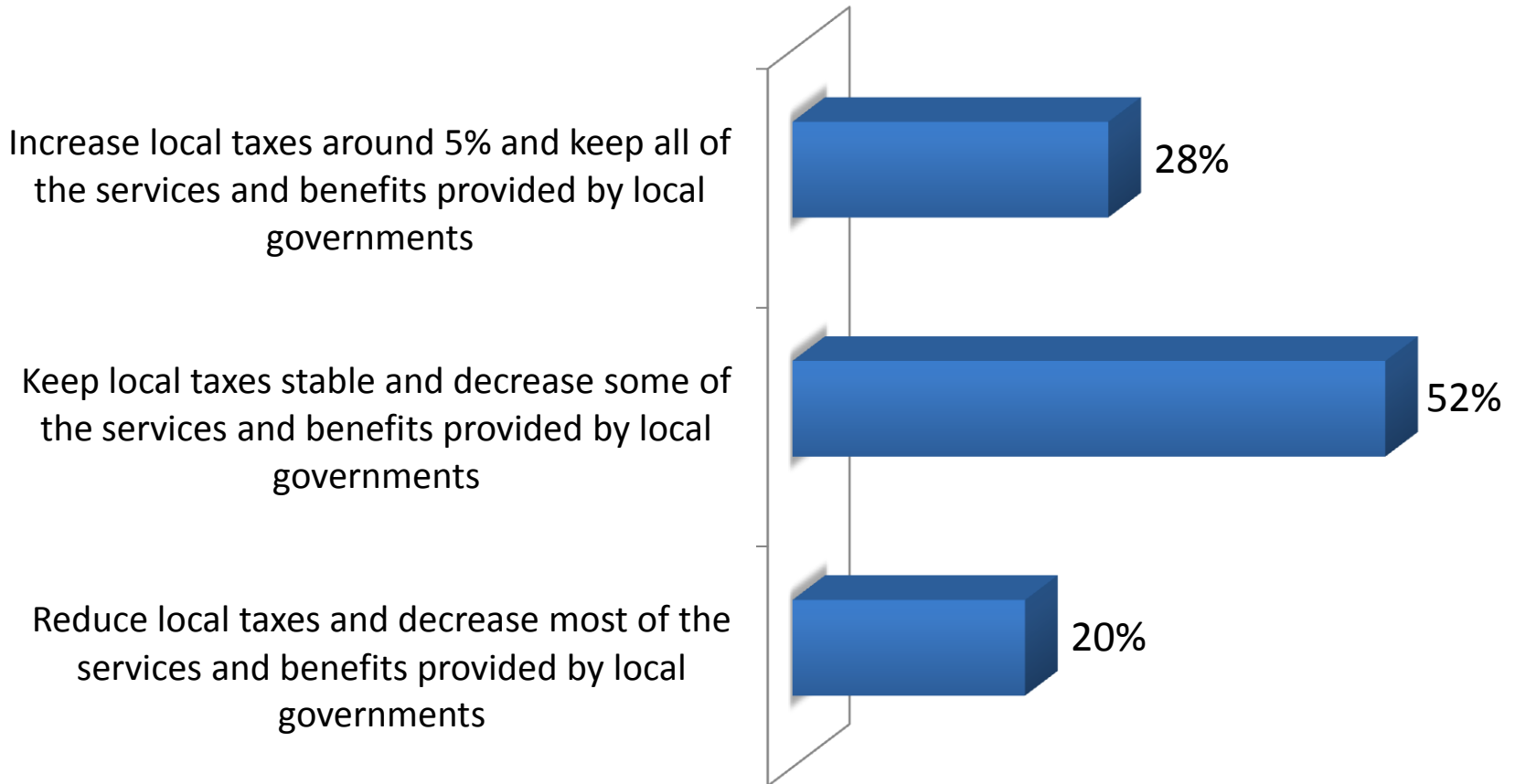
Leon County Commission on July 9 proposed increasing the property tax rate from \$7.85 to \$8.31 per \$1,000 of taxable property value – this is a 5.9% increase. Do you favor or oppose this increase?



Proponents of the property tax increase say property values are going down and the increase in the rate is necessary to offset the decline in property values. Opponents of the property tax increase say the amount of property taxes collected in the first half of the last decade increased dramatically – now it’s time for the amount to decrease. With which group do you agree?



Which of the following is more acceptable to you?



I trust local politicians to spend my tax dollars efficiently and effectively.

