



April 25, 2024

TO: Interested Parties  
FROM: Hans Kaiser, Peak Insights  
RE: New Poll in Portland

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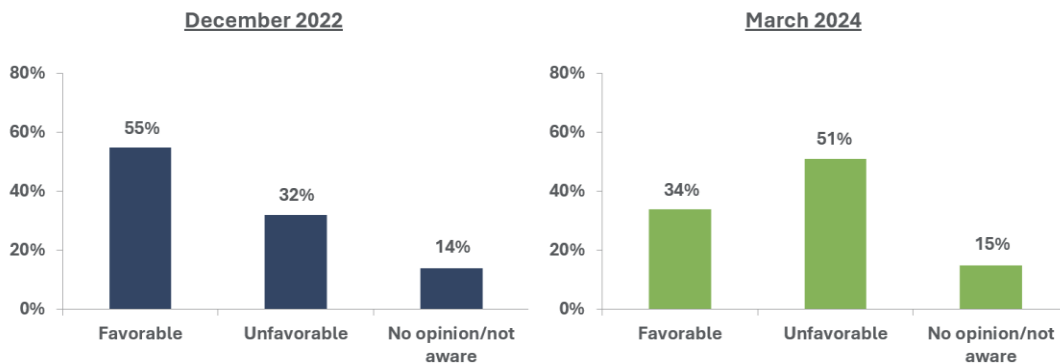
## **POLL: PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL'S IMAGE PLUMMETS** *Community Strongly Opposes Permanent Encampments*

A public opinion survey of registered Portland voters conducted in late March by Peak Insights reveals three key takeaways on voter opinions on local Portland issues.

### **1) The Portland City Council has seen a dramatic decline in net support over the past 15 months and is now underwater.**

A new poll, conducted March 21-26 by Peak Insights, shows only 34% of Portland voters now have a favorable opinion of the Portland City Council, while 51% view them unfavorably, that's a net favorability of -17%. This is in stark contrast to a December 2022 poll conducted by Peak Insights when the City Council was viewed favorably by 55% of Portland voters, and unfavorably by 32% -- a net favorability of +23%. This is a net shift of 40 points to the negative in just 15 months.

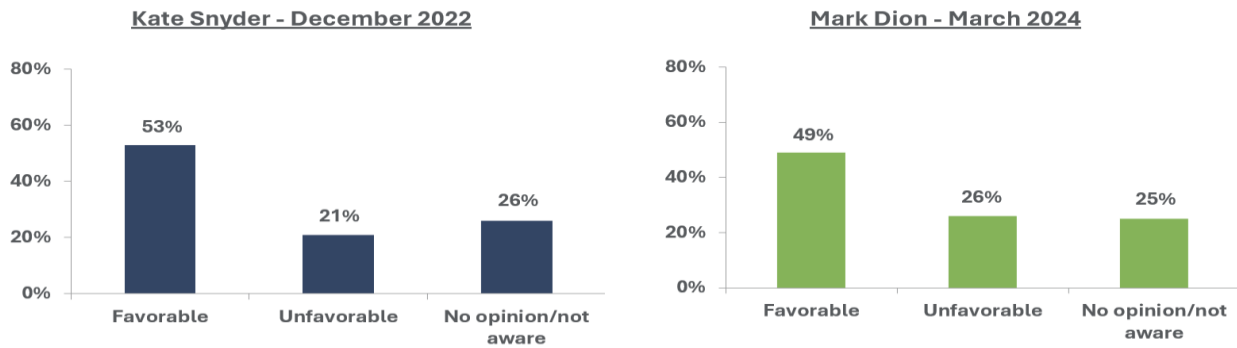
## VOTER OPINION OF PORTLAND CITY COUNCIL



- 2) **While the City Council suffers from quite a negative image, Mayor Mark Dion enjoys a roughly 2:1 positive image (49% favorable/26% unfavorable) among these very same voters.**

The strong positive image of Mayor Dion is not very different from the positive image we found for former mayor Kate Snyder in December of 2022, when 53% of Portland voters viewed her favorably and 21% viewed her unfavorably.

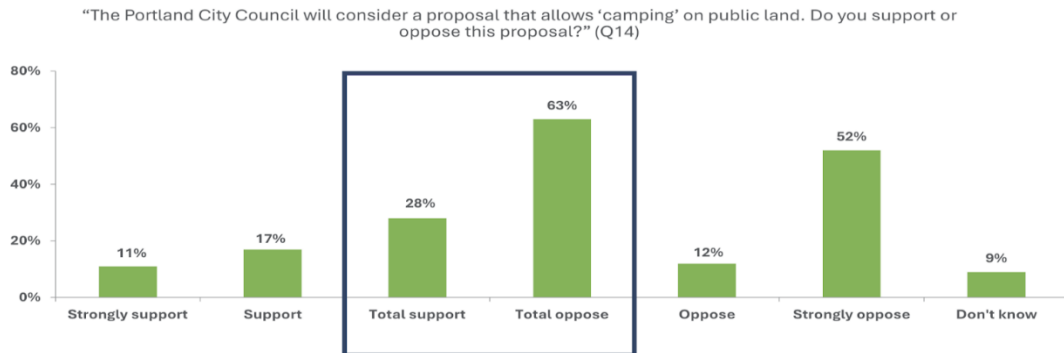
## VOTER OPINION OF PORTLAND MAYOR



- 3) **Portland voters’ strong opposition to the City Council proposal allowing camping on public lands is widespread.**

Survey respondents are strongly opposed to a Council proposal that would allow camping on public land in Portland. Voters oppose this proposal by more than a 2 to 1 margin (63% oppose/28% support), with a majority (52%) of voters “strongly” opposed. Opposition comes from most all demographic groups. Camping on public lands in Portland does not appear to be an idea whose time has come.

## MORE THAN 2:1 OPPOSITION TO A CITY COUNCIL PROPOSAL TO ALLOW CAMPING ON PUBLIC LANDS



This survey was conducted March 21-26, 2024, by Peak Insights. A total of 250 live and online interviews were conducted among registered voters in the city of Portland, Maine. The potential sampling error is plus or minus 6% at the 95% confidence level.