

**Stonegate Village Poll  
Water Issues  
August 2011**

Respondent's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number: \_\_\_\_\_

Interviewer's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time of interview: Began \_\_\_\_\_ Ended \_\_\_\_\_

8-4 .....1

8-5 .....2

Validated by: \_\_\_\_\_

8-6 .....3

8-7 .....4

Call-Backs

8-10 ..... Topline data

Attempt #1 \_\_\_\_\_

Attempt #2 \_\_\_\_\_

Attempt #3 \_\_\_\_\_

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Hello, I'm \_\_\_\_\_ with \_\_\_\_\_ in Colorado. We are a public opinion polling firm. This is not a sales call. We've been asked to conduct a poll with registered voters and \_\_\_\_\_ name is on my list. May I ask (you/him/her) some questions please? (IF ASKED What is the poll (survey) about, **SAY:** Current issues in Douglas County.)

**SPEAK TO ADULT (18 YEARS OLD OR OLDER) LISTED ON THE REGISTERED VOTER PRINTOUT.**

**INTERVIEW CORRECT RESPONDENT, MAKE APPOINTMENT OR TERMINATE IF NOT AVAILABLE.  
MAKE THREE CALL-BACKS.**

**(STATEMENT CONCERNING IMPORTANCE OF INFORMATION, VOLUNTARY NATURE OF  
INTERVIEW, RANDOM SELECTION AND CONFIDENTIALITY)**

**SCREEN QUESTIONS**

1S. Does anyone in your household work for a radio or television station, newspaper or an advertising agency?

Yes..... THANK AND TERMINATE

No ..... 1 CONTINUE

Don't know/refused..... THANK AND TERMINATE

2S. Are you a registered voter in Douglas County?

Yes..... 1 CONTINUE

No ..... THANK AND TERMINATE

Don't know/refused..... THANK AND TERMINATE

3S. Does this household receive its water service from Stonegate Village Metropolitan District?

Yes..... CONTINUE

No ..... 1 THANK AND TERMINATE

Don't know ..... THANK AND TERMINATE

4S. Do you or a member of your family work for the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District?

Yes.....		THANK AND TERMINATE
No.....	1	CONTINUE
Don't know.....		THANK AND TERMINATE

5S. How often would you say you vote...always, nearly always, part of the time or seldom?

Always .....	1	CONTINUE
Nearly always.....	2	CONTINUE
Part of the time.....		THANK AND TERMINATE
Seldom .....		THANK AND TERMINATE
Don't know .....		THANK AND TERMINATE

6S. In November of this year there will be what is called an off-year election. On the ballot will be elections for local and statewide ballot issues, and possibly a few local offices. Please rate your chances of voting in that election on a scale of 1 to 10 where 1 represents definitely will not vote, and 10 represents definitely will vote. Where on this scale of 1 to 10 would you place yourself?

10 .....	1	CONTINUE
9 .....	2	CONTINUE
8 .....	3	CONTINUE
7-1 .....		THANK AND TERMINATE
Don't know .....		THANK AND TERMINATE

**STONEGATE VILLAGE  
WATER ISSUES**

**Direction**

Let me ask you a few questions about how you believe things are going in Douglas County.

1. Generally, would you say things in Douglas County are going in the right direction, or do you feel things here have gotten pretty seriously off on the wrong track?

Right direction .....	1
Wrong track .....	2
Don't know/refused .....	3

**Rate Organizations and Services**

As I read the following list of divisions of government, please tell me your impression of each one as either very favorable, somewhat favorable, somewhat unfavorable or very unfavorable. If you aren't familiar with an organization or don't have an opinion, just say so.

<b>BEGIN AT MARK AND ROTATE</b>	<b>Very Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Favorable</b>	<b>Somewhat Unfavorable</b>	<b>Very Unfavorable</b>	<b>Not Applicable</b>	<b>Don't Know</b>
2. Douglas County government .....	1	2	3	4	5	6
3. Your local public school district .....	1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Parker Water and Sanitation District.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
5. Stonegate Village Metropolitan District.....	1	2	3	4	5	6
6. Town of Parker .....	1	2	3	4	5	6

**REPEAT ANSWER CATEGORIES AS NEEDED**

**Water Issues**

7. Turning our attention to water issues, what do you think are the most important water issues in this area of North Douglas County? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. MULTIPLE ANSWERS OKAY.]**

**Pre-codes**

Water shortage .....	1
Water conservation/saving supplies.....	2
SVMD water treatment plant.....	3
Drinking water quality/good-tasting water .....	4
Cost of SVMD water .....	5
Hooking up to Parker Water (PWSD) .....	6
Too much debt .....	7
Rising cost of water .....	8
Keeping rates low/lowering rates .....	9
Making sure rates are fair .....	10
Need for replacement/renewable water/replace aquifer water .....	11
Drought .....	12
Depletion of aquifer/loss of groundwater .....	13
Protecting the security of water supplies .....	14
Growth in area .....	15
Making sure growth pays for water .....	16
Losing water to other areas.....	17
Water for agriculture/maintaining agriculture .....	18
More storage .....	19
Water for recreation.....	20
None.....	21
Other .....	98
Don't know/refused .....	99

**Water Supply**

8. In the next 10 years, do you believe the supply of water to residents in the area of North Douglas County will be adequate or do you believe there will be a shortage of water?

Adequate .....	1
Shortage .....	2
Don't know/refused .....	3

9. Do you believe finding, buying and hooking up to a renewable source of water, such as surface water from a stream or river, to replace the aquifer that is currently depended on is a top priority, an important priority or not an important priority for the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District? **[ALTERNATE ORDER TOP AND BOTTOM. DON'T READ "DON'T KNOW."]**

Top priority.....	1
Important priority .....	2
Not important priority.....	3
Don't know/refused .....	4

**Cost of Water**

10. Would you describe the cost of your water as very high, high, about right, low or very low? **[ALTERNATE ORDER TOP AND BOTTOM. DON'T READ "DON'T KNOW."]**

- Very high ..... 1
- High ..... 2
- About right..... 3
- Low ..... 4
- Very low ..... 5
- Don't know/refused ..... 6

**Quality**

11. Considering water quality, would you describe the overall quality of your drinking water as excellent, good, fair or poor? **[ALTERNATE ORDER TOP AND BOTTOM. DON'T READ "DON'T KNOW."]**

- Excellent ..... 1
- Good ..... 2
- Fair..... 3
- Poor..... 4
- Don't know/refused ..... 5

**Concern**

The Stonegate Village Metropolitan District is dedicated to providing a reliable supply of high quality water. The District is considering a different approach to improving its wastewater treatment plant and securing a supply of renewable water.

12. Would you say you are very concerned about the District dealing with water related issues, such as the treatment plant and renewable water, somewhat concerned, not very concerned or not at all concerned?

- Very concerned..... 1
- Somewhat concerned..... 2
- Not very concerned..... 3
- Not at all concerned..... 4
- Don't know/refused ..... 5

**Heard of Connection With PWSD**

13. How much would you say you have heard or seen about the plans for Stonegate Village Metropolitan District to join the Parker Water and Sanitation District and other neighboring districts to supply water and sewer services to the area: a great deal, some information, very little or almost nothing? **[ALTERNATE ORDER TOP AND BOTTOM. DON'T READ "DON'T KNOW."]**

- A great deal..... 1
- Some information ..... 2
- Very little ..... 3
- Almost nothing ..... 4
- Don't know/refused ..... 5

**Support Regionalization**

14. A proposal to unite Stonegate Village Metropolitan District with three other water districts in the North Douglas County area to be joined to the Parker Water and Sanitation District is being considered. The Stonegate Village Board must have public hearings and residents could vote on the issue.

The potential regionalization would bring Stonegate and the three districts it currently serves – Dove Ridge, also called E-470 Potomac; Compark Business Campus; and Lincoln Park metropolitan districts – under one unifying body, Parker Water and Sanitation District. The regionalization would add about 3,300 more water connections to Parker Water’s current 16,000.

Based on what you know at this time, would you say you strongly favor Stonegate Village Metropolitan District participating in the regionalization of the five water districts, somewhat favor, somewhat oppose or strongly oppose the project to participate in a regional water district? **[ALTERNATE ORDER TOP AND BOTTOM. DON’T READ “NEUTRAL” OR “DON’T KNOW.”]**

- |                                 |   |            |
|---------------------------------|---|------------|
| Strongly favor.....             | 1 | GO TO Q15A |
| Somewhat favor.....             | 2 | GO TO Q15A |
| Somewhat oppose.....            | 3 | GO TO Q15B |
| Strongly oppose.....            | 4 | GO TO Q15B |
| Claim to be neutral (vol) ..... | 5 | GO TO Q16  |
| Don’t know/refused.....         | 6 | GO TO Q16  |

- 15A & B. **IF A PERSON FAVORS OR IS OPPOSED, ASK:** Why do you (favor/oppose) the participation in a regional water district? **[RECORD VERBATIM RESPONSE. MULTIPLE ANSWERS OKAY.]**

<u><b>15A. Favor</b></u>		<u><b>15B. Oppose</b></u>	
Need the water .....	1	Regionalization expensive .....	1
Shortage/drought.....	2	Very expensive/how to pay for it...	2
Economies-of-scale should lower cost...	3	Rates too high/higher rates .....	3
Replace/protect aquifer .....	4	Too much debt .....	4
Good idea/project.....	5	Parker Water rates too expensive...	5
Regionalism good idea/makes sense.....	6	Parker Water taxes too high.....	6
Parker Water has renewable water.....	7	Don’t trust/like Parker Water.....	7
Parker Water has most of supply .....	8	SVMD is fine, why change.....	8
SVMD has treatment plant problems.....	9	Conservation/reuse first .....	9
Need for economy .....	10	What will it cost? .....	10
Area growing .....	11	Will encourage growth.....	11
Water supply must be managed .....	12	Other .....	98
Other .....	98	Don’t know/refused .....	99
Don’t know/refused .....	99		

**GO TO Q16**

**Policy Choice Question**

The Board of Stonegate Village Metropolitan District has been holding public meetings on the proposed regionalization of the five districts. The following statements contain pro and con information on the proposal.

As I read the following statements, please tell me which statement comes closest to your personal views on the topic. [ROTATE]

[READ FOLLOW-UP UNLESS ANSWER IS "DON'T KNOW": And would you say that the statement is much closer to your personal views than the other statement or only somewhat closer?].

16. Statement A: A majority of the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District Board has recommended the joining together of five neighboring districts. The Board believes combining Compark Business Campus Metropolitan District, E-470 Potomac Metropolitan District, Lincoln Park Metropolitan District, Parker Water and Sanitation District, and Stonegate Village Metropolitan District will prove to be a cost-effective and efficient plan for providing water and wastewater services.

The primary reason for combining is to minimize the rising costs of water and wastewater services by spreading them out over more customers. The idea is one water and wastewater service provider would reduce the duplication of efforts. Also, having 20,000 customers working collectively would carry more negotiating and buying power in replacing our groundwater with renewable water.

The overall amount of taxes paid by Stonegate's residents is projected to be lower. Parker Water's taxes would come to Stonegate, but it is estimated that by Stonegate paying down a portion of its current debt, the overall effect is that the amount of taxes would be lower.

Also, Stonegate, in particular, will be able to resolve its need to upgrade its sewage treatment plant. Over the long-term, capital costs and water and wastewater rates will be lower when compared with continuing to remaining small and have two independently operated districts. Rate increases will be lower together than if five districts remain separate.

or

- Statement B: Two Stonegate Village Metropolitan District Board members recommend against joining four districts with Parker Water and Sanitation District. They state Parker Water is over \$200 million in debt. If the election is successful, Stonegate residents will pay Parker Water's mill levy, which will be a property tax increase for Stonegate homeowners.

Depending on usage, Parker Water's rates are currently higher than Stonegate's. Parker Water has in its plans an increase effective January 2012. This will make Parker's rates as much as 50 percent higher than Stonegate's current rates, depending on your usage to your water and sewer bill.

Since Parker Water is only proposing to take over the water and wastewater services, Stonegate Village will have separate management and billing costs related to our parks and open space.

Stonegate Village is in great shape financially and has already made several large investments related to a renewable water plan. Stonegate Village has already purchased and paid for capacity in Rueter-Hess Reservoir.

- Much closer to Statement A ..... 1
- Somewhat closer to Statement A..... 2
- Somewhat closer to Statement B..... 3
- Much closer to Statement B ..... 4
- Don't know/refused..... 5

**Stonegate Village Metropolitan District Policy**

The following are some policy issues discussed about the water supply in Stonegate Village. As I read the statements, please tell me if you strongly agree, somewhat agree, somewhat disagree or strongly disagree with the idea.

<b>BEGIN AT MARK AND ROTATE</b>		<u>Strongly Agree</u>	<u>Somewhat Agree</u>	<u>Somewhat Disagree</u>	<u>Strongly Disagree</u>	<u>Don't Know</u>
17.	Stonegate Village should work with other water providers in Douglas County to bring a reliable supply of water to our area ..	1	2	3	4	5
18.	The area will have another drought. It is important to find additional supply of reliable water.....	1	2	3	4	5
19.	A water-pricing program should be continued that encourages water conservation by setting water rates that increase based on the amount of water used .....	1	2	3	4	5
20.	A dependable water supply is important for long-term real estate values.....	1	2	3	4	5
21.	Buying space in Rueter-Hess Reservoir was a good idea for Stonegate Village. We need storage.....	1	2	3	4	5
22.	Irrigation water, along with household and commercial wastewater, should be treated and reused for irrigation of landscaping .....	1	2	3	4	5
23.	The Stonegate Village swimming pool is a very important recreational facility for the community .....	1	2	3	4	5
24.	Stonegate Village should work with Denver and Aurora to treat and reuse water to help extend supplies in Douglas County and Parker area.....	1	2	3	4	5
25.	If Stonegate Village residents join with Parker Water, local residents should be on the District Board.....	1	2	3	4	5

**REPEAT ANSWER CATEGORIES AS REQUIRED**

**Final Question**

As I read the following final statement on the water and consolidation issue, please tell me which statement comes closest to your personal views on the topic. [ROTATE]

[READ FOLLOW-UP UNLESS ANSWER IS "DON'T KNOW": And would you say that the statement is much closer to your personal views than the other statement or only somewhat closer?].

26. Statement A: It is important for Stonegate Village Metropolitan District to join with its neighboring water districts to control costs and find renewable water.

or

Statement B: It is important for Stonegate Village Metropolitan District to maintain control of its own water and sewage system by remaining independent from neighboring water districts.

- |                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Much closer to Statement A .....    | 1 |
| Somewhat closer to Statement A..... | 2 |
| Somewhat closer to Statement B..... | 3 |
| Much closer to Statement B .....    | 4 |
| Don't know/refused.....             | 5 |

**Demographics**

The final questions are for background information only. The answers to these questions help us to understand the results.

Your answers to these questions, like all the survey questions, are confidential and used only when combined with all other persons who are interviewed.

27. What was the last grade or degree you completed at school?

Grade 1-11 .....	1
High school graduate .....	2
Some college/business/vocational school .....	3
College graduate .....	4
Post grad work/professional graduate .....	5
Refused .....	6

28. How old are you?

(18-24) .....	1
(25-34) .....	2
(35-44) .....	3
(45-54) .....	4
(55-64) .....	5
(65-74) .....	6
(75 and over) .....	7
Refused .....	8

29. How long have you lived in the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District?

Native (born in county) .....	1
Less than 5 years .....	2
5 to 10 years .....	3
11 to 20 years .....	4
More than 20 years .....	5
Don't know/refused .....	6

30. What, if any, newspaper do you read regularly? **[READ LIST IF PROMPT NEEDED. MULTIPLE ANSWERS OKAY]**

<i>Castle Rock News-Press</i> .....	1
<i>Denver Post</i> .....	2
<i>Douglas County News-Press</i> .....	3
<i>Englewood Herald</i> .....	4
<i>Highlands Ranch Herald</i> .....	5
<i>Littleton Independent</i> .....	6
<i>Lone Tree Voice</i> .....	7
<i>Parker Chronicle</i> .....	8
None .....	9
Other (list) .....	98
.....	
Don't know/refused .....	99

31. Stonegate Village Metropolitan District just sent out a letter and a newsletter. Did you have a chance to read either of them or not?

- Read both ..... 1
- Read one ..... 2
- Didn't read either ..... 3
- Don't know/refused ..... 3

32. Stonegate Village Metropolitan District has a website at [www.stonegatelife.org](http://www.stonegatelife.org). Have you used the Stonegate Village Metropolitan District website in the last year?

- Yes, used it ..... 1
- No, haven't used it ..... 2
- Don't know/refused ..... 3

33. For statistical purposes only, as I read the following income groups, please stop me when the figure includes an approximation of your total income for you and members of your household for last year, 2010, before taxes? **[ROTATE]**

- Less than \$40,000 ..... 1
- From \$40,000 to \$79,999 ..... 2
- From \$80,000 to \$99,999 ..... 3
- From \$100,000 to \$150,000 ..... 4
- More than \$150,000 ..... 5
- Don't know/refused ..... 6

34. Is this interview being conducted on a cell phone (not mobile landline) or a landline telephone?

- Cell phone ..... 1
- Landline ..... 2
- Don't know/refused ..... 3

35. RECORD RESPONDENT'S SEX

- Male ..... 1
- Female ..... 2

36. RECORD POLITICAL PARTY FROM LIST

- Republican ..... 1
- Democrat ..... 2
- Unaffiliated ..... 3
- Other ..... 4

37. REGISTRATION DATE

- 2010-2011 ..... 1
- 2000-2009 ..... 2
- 1990-1999 ..... 3
- Pre 1990 ..... 4

38. LANGUAGE

- Completed survey entirely in English ..... 1
- Completed survey in mix of English and Spanish ..... 2
- Completed survey entirely in Spanish ..... 3

39. Length of interview

Under 5 minutes.....	1
5-7 minutes .....	2
8-10 minutes .....	3
11-12 minutes .....	4
13-15 minutes .....	5
16-17 minutes .....	6
18-20 minutes .....	7
21-23 minutes .....	8
24-26 minutes .....	9
27-29 minutes .....	10
30 minutes or more .....	11

Thank you for your time.