

Summary of Results from Polling

(See Poll PDF for poll questions, see Poll Results PDF for full results, Excel sheet available upon request.)

Days out, in front of Thrifty's Plaza, by Dave Shishkoff and volunteer:

- July 6, 11am-1pm, 53 people
- July 10, 11am-1pm, 57 people
- 110 people total
- 3 people polled admitted employed by carriage company
- 67% (74) reside in James Bay
- 72% (53) of James Bay residents have horses ride by homes on a regular basis
- 29% (32) have witnessed an accident or mishap
- 2% (2) have been involved in accidents
- 55% (61) unaware of the hours the horses work
- Q1 results: 1=31, 2=13, 3=34, 4=12, 5=20
- Q2 results: 1=21, 2=17, 3=36, 4=23, 5=13
- Q3 results: 1=22, 2=10, 3=40, 4=15, 5=23
- Q4 results: 1=21, 2=28, 3=31, 4=20, 5=30
- Q5 results: 1=19, 2=14, 3=21, 4=15, 5=41

Question Summary:

- Q1, 40% (44) happy or extremely happy about having horse carriages in James Bay, 29% (32) unhappy or extremely discontent
- Q2, 35% (38) happy or extremely happy about the treatment of the horse by these companies, 33% (36) unhappy or extremely discontent
- Q3, 29% (32) happy or extremely happy about the congestion caused by slow moving horse carriages in James Bay, 35% (38) unhappy or extremely discontent
- Q4, 45% (49) happy or extremely happy about having horse excrement in the streets, 45% (50) unhappy or extremely discontent
- Q5, 30% (33) happy or extremely would be happy about having horse carriages banned from James Bay, 51% (56) unhappy or extremely discontent

Authors Thoughts

The results from Question 4 really puzzle me – why would such a large number of people be 'happy' or 'extremely happy' about finding horse manure in the streets? Due to the extreme slant in the Day 2 results, I am suspicious of 'coaching' from carriage companies, encouraging a number of people to participate and to respond positively to any question relating to the carriages. Of course, this may be unfounded, and people simply enjoy horse manure.

Recorded Comments

| Date | Initials | Thoughts / Comments |
|----------|----------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 6/7/2006 | EG | A different route, tourists like them |
| 6/7/2006 | FT | Believes horse carriages add safety to community, says poll has slanted view |
| 6/7/2006 | AA | Buses cause congestion |
| 6/7/2006 | WF | Feels sorry for the horses, pavement bad for horses |
| 6/7/2006 | SS | HC good for tourism |
| 6/7/2006 | CG | Involved in accident - horse head through car window at night, \$300 no ICBC, shouldn't be DT, shouldn't be in traffic, too hot and not enough water, dangerous |
| 6/7/2006 | AL | Keep horse out of downtown |
| 6/7/2006 | GH | Mentioned has heard they put horses on pain pills |
| 6/7/2006 | SD | Necessary evil |
| 6/7/2006 | XC | Okay if just in James Bay |
| 6/7/2006 | HC* | Owens Tally-Ho |
| 6/7/2006 | JG | Says Victoria Carriages great company, v. good for tourists, shouldn't go on Douglas tho |
| 6/7/2006 | AB | Should be kept on side streets |
| 6/7/2006 | RH | Thinks horses look tired, manure in streets as bad as human feces in streets, disease concern |
| 6/7/2006 | KG | Traffic is v. stressful to horses, horses should not be breathing exhaust |
| 6/7/2006 | DA | Witnessed horse running free, feels they're part of our heritage |

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| 6/7/2006 | PB | Witnessed a horse who looked unhealthy, heaving, distressed, concerned about what is in the 'urine spray' |
| 6/7/2006 | MC | Witnessed accident, okay to call |
| 6/7/2006 | LB | Witnessed driver beating horse late at night a few years ago |
| 6/7/2006 | HE | Witnessed horse backing carriage into traffic |
| 6/7/2006 | MM | Witnessed horse carriage running off |
| 6/7/2006 | HP | Witnessed horse lose control |
| 6/7/2006 | MF | Witnessed horses running loose 2mos ago, okay to contact |
| 6/7/2006 | SM | Works for VCT |
| 10/7/2006 | R | 8hrs too much, good for tourists, need to pick up excrement more |
| 10/7/2006 | HL | Belong here |
| 10/7/2006 | J | Doesn't agree with having carriages, horses enslaved |
| 10/7/2006 | B | Has no opinion for the most part |
| 10/7/2006 | B | HC a neat thing, don't want them gone |
| 10/7/2006 | D | Heard car screeching, saw horse running up the street, 1yr ago, doesn't think mistreated, good for biz, heritage |
| 10/7/2006 | LL | Horses should work so long |
| 10/7/2006 | C | Horses shouldn't be out in winter, congestion is dangerous |
| 10/7/2006 | AH | Involved in accident - horse smashed into car, no ICBC they threw \$\$ at her, Porsche, has also witnessed poor handling of horse on several occasions |
| 10/7/2006 | DB | It's time to retire the horses |
| 10/7/2006 | P | Lacking something if no horse carriages |
| 10/7/2006 | AB | Make them cheaper for locals |
| 10/7/2006 | M | No strong feelings |
| 10/7/2006 | G | Not a good idea having horses in the street |
| 10/7/2006 | PH | Prices are ridiculous |
| 10/7/2006 | F | Sad thing if gone, congestion goes with the territory |
| 10/7/2006 | DR | She has a dog and has to pick up after..more strict guidelines and controls, 4hrs is long enough, appreciates being asked to think about this issue |
| 10/7/2006 | P | Smell bad, traffic is a bother |
| 10/7/2006 | DDN | Tourist attraction, nice to see, treatment could be better |
| 10/7/2006 | MS | Unhappy if horse is worked 5 days |
| 10/7/2006 | DW | Witnessed a car cutting in front of a horse, horse went up on sidewalk |
| 10/7/2006 | TVL | Witnessed a horse acting up |
| 10/7/2006 | KL | Witnessed a horse get spooked, heard that a horse was hit last summer, is sure they're over-worked, and work too late into the night |
| 10/7/2006 | R | Witnessed a horse getting stuck between two poles (?), had to be dislodged by carriage driver, horses like to work, less cars more carriages |
| 10/7/2006 | H | Witnessed a horse jumping up, part of charm, nice to look at |
| 10/7/2006 | MD | Witnessed a horse take off, abuse of animals for tourists |
| 10/7/2006 | S | Witnessed horse crashing into a car, seen horses looking traumatized, not 19th century, find alternatives |
| 10/7/2006 | T* | Witnessed horse getting spooked, ran off, carriage busted up |
| 10/7/2006 | GP | Witnessed horse gouged on bus, then slipped and fell, also witnessed a horse that ran loose on the streets |
| 10/7/2006 | BC | Witnessed horse running down street, horse shoe fell off, still has |
| 10/7/2006 | AA* | Witnessed horses running across the Legislature, carriage rear-ended, carriage driver injured, says carriages are alt. Transport for |
| 10/7/2006 | DC | Witnessed several horses running loose in the park by Fisherman's Wharf last summer, tho says banning unnecessary |
| 10/7/2006 | AM | Witnessed Tally-Ho horse break loose 15yrs ago, lives across from stable on Dallas, concerned about unhealthy odours coming from there, can't open windows in summer because of smell, companies say it's just the drainage |
| 10/7/2006 | N | Witnessed while working at Empress, horses running loose on grounds, endangered picnicing kids (last year), shouldn't be downtown, not the 19th century, they need better management |
| 10/7/2006 | A | Work too long, excrement annoying, sad if they go |
| | | NOTES: * indicates employed by carriage company, HC=Horse Carriages, DT = Down Town |