

Des Moines Water Works Poll Results

March 9 – 12, 2017

Q. How would you rate the quality of and access to water in your area?

Excellent	56%
Good	29%
Fair	8%
Poor	3%
Not sure	4%

Q. How would you rate the quality of service provided by the water utility in your area?

Excellent	57%
Good	29%
Fair	7%
Poor	3%
Not sure	4%

Q. As you may know, legislators in Des Moines are currently discussing House File 484, which would disband the independent governing boards of the Des Moines, Urbandale and West Des Moines water works, and turn over management of the water utility and its assets to local city councils. Do you favor or oppose this legislation?

Total Favor: 15%
Total Oppose: 68%

Strongly favor	8%
Somewhat favor	7%
Somewhat oppose	18%
Strongly oppose	50%
Not sure	18%

Q. Who do you believe is best qualified to manage your local water utility: City Council OR an Independent Board of Trustees?

City Council	23%
An Independent Board of Trustees	55%
Not sure	22%

Q. Iowa law states that a city may establish or remove an independent utility, such as the water board, and that this should be subject to a direct vote of the citizens of that community. House File 484 would give the Iowa Legislature the power to abolish municipal utilities. Who do you believe should have final say over whether to remove an independent utility: the state legislature or the people who live in the community?

State legislature	5%
People who live in the community	88%
Not sure	7%

Demographics:

Ideology

Very Conservative	13%
Somewhat Conservative	22%
Moderate	35%
Somewhat Liberal	18%
Very Liberal	9%
Not sure	3%

Community Type

Suburban	53%
Urban	31%
Rural	12%
Not sure	5%

Gender

Female	53%
Male	47%

Party Registration

Republican	32%
Democrat	39%
Independent or Other	29%

Age

18 to 39	15%
40 to 54	18%
55 to 64	26%
65 to 74	23%
75 or older	18%

County

DALLAS	11%
POLK	86%
WARREN	3%

Municipality

ALTOONA	4%
ANKENY	12%
CLIVE	4%
DES MOINES	38%
JOHNSTON	4%
URBANDALE	9%
WAUKEE	4%
WEST DES MOINES	13%
REST	12%

General Election Vote History

0	10%
1	12%
2	15%
3	20%
4	43%

METHODOLOGY:

The sample size for the survey is 600 registered voters in the Des Moines Water Works service area. The margin of error is +/-3.99%. Responses were gathered through land line interviews conducted using Interactive Voice Response (IVR). The survey was conducted March 9-12, 2017 by Harper Polling. The total percentages for responses may not equal 100% due to rounding.