

# what makes you think the voters picked "neither"?

Danny Westneat

To: theshark

Wed, Mar 14, 2007 at 1:29 PM

And so ... what? By your own reasoning the elevated is just the most popular of the options that we don't want. What matters is that we don't want it.

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**From:** [Stefan Sharkansky](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 14, 2007 1:08 PM  
**To:** Danny Westneat  
**Subject:** Re: what makes you think the voters picked "neither"?

Of course there's no way of knowing. That's my point. But it does matter. Realistically, unless you also believe that a large number of people also voted YES on both tunnel and elevated, the NO-NOs were only 25 - 30% of the vote, which is less than either the tunnel or the elevated.

On 3/14/07, [Danny Westneat](#) wrote:

There's no way of knowing. It doesn't matter. The point is there isn't a majority for either. It takes a majority to approve something. A majority said no to the elevated, and a majority said no to the tunnel. That means we're looking for something else -- I don't know what that is, maybe a boulevard, maybe a retrofit.

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**From:** [Stefan Sharkansky](#)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 14, 2007 12:34 PM  
**To:** Danny Westneat  
**Subject:** Re: what makes you think the voters picked "neither"?

How many people voted on NO on both?

On 3/14/07, [Danny Westneat](#) wrote:

The point is, neither got 50 plus one. Put the elevated on the ballot by itself, up or down, and it would lose. That means we don't want it. Same with the tunnel.

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**From:** [Stefan Sharkansky](#)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 13, 2007 11:32 PM  
**To:** Danny Westneat  
**Subject:** what makes you think the voters picked "neither"?

You wrote:

The choices were A or B. You picked "neither."

I don't think your reasoning is correct. The choices were A or B or "A and B" or "neither". "Picking 'neither'" means voting NO on both in a higher percentage than voting YES for one of the other two options. What percentage voted No on both? We don't know for sure, because it wasn't tabulated that way. What percentage do you *think* voted No on both? Your column doesn't say. But it's impossible to assert that the voters "picked neither" unless you have an estimate of the number who voted NO on both which is logically consistent with the numbers that have been reported.