

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Garin-Hart-Yang Research Group

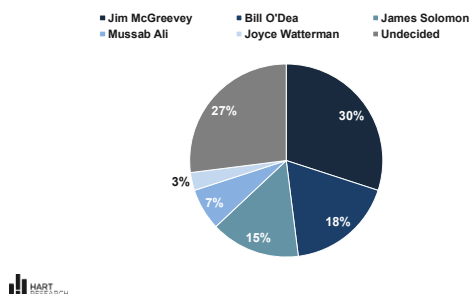
DATE: August 20, 2025

RE: Recent Jersey City poll shows O'Dea coming second in a crowded field with a clear path to a runoff against McGreevey

Between August 6 and 9, 2025, Garin-Hart Yang conducted a representative sample of 401 likely Jersey City voters. The survey, which has a margin of error of $\pm 4.9\%$, is fully representative of a November 2025 Jersey City electorate by ward, race, age, and other demographic factors, with 75% of our sample having voted in past mayoral elections.

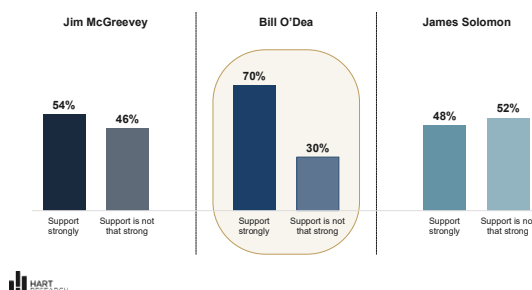
The following are the key findings.

Not surprisingly, former Governor McGreevey currently leads the field with 30% of the vote, while Bill O'Dea slightly outpaces Councilman Solomon for the all-important 2nd slot for the runoff – with a notable 27% of Jersey City voters undecided.



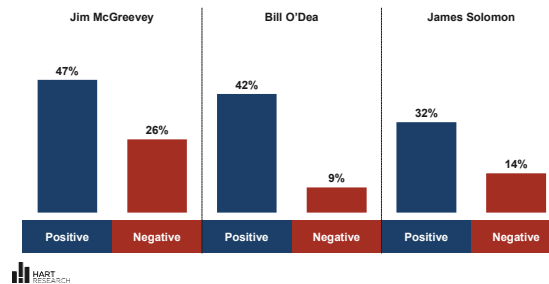
There are several important survey findings that indicate (A) Governor McGreevey's vote growth is likely capped to a certain degree because he has much higher name recognition than the other candidates, AND (B) that Bill O'Dea is the best-positioned alternative.

First, O'Dea has the most INTENSE support of the three leading mayoral candidates, which is an important advantage in an off-year election.



In fact, McGreevey's lead in the initial trial heat narrows among survey respondents with past mayoral vote history: McGreevey 29%, O'Dea 22%, Solomon 18%.

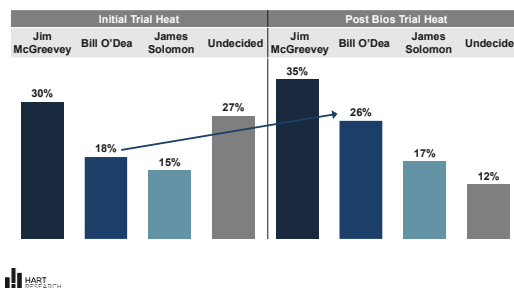
Second, Bill O’Dea’s “feeling thermometer” ratio that is better than four-to-one positive is substantially better than the images of McGreevey and Solomon – with the former suffering from relatively high negatives (26%). O’Dea also has better ratings among the important group of Undecided voters.



Finally, Commissioner O’Dea is the **ONLY** candidate among the major contenders whose biography/profile significantly moves voters.

We provided survey respondents with short, POSITIVE background information about James Solomon (adjunct college professor, cancer survivor, Master’s in Public Policy, Jersey City Councilman), Jim McGreevey (born in Jersey City, former Woodbridge Mayor and Governor, head of non-profit that works with ex-prisoners re-entering society), and Bill O’Dea (lifelong Jersey City resident, Hudson County Commissioner and former Councilman, director of non-profit economic development association).

After survey respondents hear the (randomized) positive information about the 3 major candidates, Bill O’Dea gains notable support and markedly improves his position for the November election.



Finally, after hearing additional positive messages about O’Dea’s record and plans for Jersey City, he jumps into first place with 35% of the vote. This increase in support comes without any negative messaging on the other candidates, once again showing O’Dea’s strong position in the race and ability to grow his support.

In summary, Bill O’Dea begins the sprint to November already in a solid position to make the runoff. But our polling makes clear that O’Dea gains with voters as they hear more about his background and his plans for Jersey City, leaving him well-positioned to make the runoff as voters become more familiar with him.