

HOW WILL THE REVENUE FROM THE SALES TAX BE USED?

The City of Winfield wants everyone to be informed of efforts to construct a new public safety facility, maintain the level of street improvements currently in place, and provide for aging facilities maintenance and repair. Following is information regarding the proposed one-cent sales tax election question.

HOW WILL THE PROPOSED ONE-CENT SALES TAX AFFECT THE CURRENT SALES TAX?

Currently, citizens shopping in Winfield pay a total sales tax of 7.9%. This includes a 6.5% tax for the state of Kansas; a general sales tax for the city of 1%, and .4 percent sales tax provides for local street work.

The residents of the City passed a sales tax question back in 2014 to provide for up to \$900,000 to be used for Winfield Public Library improvements with the remainder to be used for local street improvements. This .4% sales tax will sunset in year 2021.

Even though the ballot question is for a 1% sales tax, this one-percent will replace the .4% sales tax currently in place for a net increase of .6% in sales tax.

HOW LONG WILL THE ONE-PERCENT SALES TAX LAST?

The proposed 1% sales tax would be in effect from 2019 until 2044.

WHY SALES TAX?

Sales Tax is the most equitable means of distributing the costs of these services to the actual users which extend beyond the residents and property owners within the City limits. Sales tax is collected from consumers making purchases in Winfield, including outlying county residents and all visitors to the community. These visitors and non-residents also drive city streets and have law-enforcement and EMS services available for their use. It is also important to note that Winfield EMS serves a 750 square mile area that makes up 2/3 of Cowley County.

WHY IS THE CITY ASKING FOR 25 YEARS?

The estimated bond payment for the proposed public safety facility is \$995,000 over 25years. Sales tax collections exceeding the bond payment will be used to continue the current plans for street improvements over the next 25 years as well as provide for repairs and upgrades of current aging city facilities.

HOW MUCH MONEY WILL THE PROPOSED SALES TAX GENERATE ANNUALLY?

Current information shows that the expected annual revenue will be approximately \$1,850,000.

HOW CAN I BE SURE THAT THE MONEY RAISED WILL BE USED FOR THE PROJECTS STATED IN THE BALLOT?

The money will be segregated in the City's financial system, so a full accounting can be provided to the public upon request.

All allocations for use of these funds will be approved in advance by the Governing Body.

WHAT IS THE IMPACT IF THE 1-CENT SALES TAX QUESTION FAILS?

Property taxes for residents who own property within the City Limits would increase by an estimated 23%, *AND*, Street improvement funding would no longer exist.

WHAT IS THE EXACT BALLOT LANGUAGE?

Shall the City of Winfield, Kansas be authorized to impose a one percent (1%) City-wide retailers' sales tax (the "2019 Capital Improvements Sales Tax"), the proceeds of which shall be used to finance the costs of police, fire, and public safety buildings and facilities, streets, and other capital improvements throughout the City, including the payment of financing costs related thereto; the collection of the 2019 Capital Improvements Sales Tax to commence on October 1, 2019, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law, and to terminate 25 years after its commencement; and upon the effective date of collection of the 2019 Capital Improvements Sales Tax, the collection of the existing four-tenths of one percent (0.40%) City-wide retailers' sales tax imposed to finance the costs of library, street and other capital improvements throughout the City shall be terminated; all pursuant to the provisions of K.S.A. 12-187 *et seq.* and K.S.A. 25-431 *et seq.*, as amended?

HOW CAN I VOTE ON THE 1-CENT SALES TAX?

To participate in the mail-in election, you must be a registered voter and a resident of the City of Winfield. To have a ballot mailed to your residence, you must be registered on or before Tuesday May 14, 2019.

The mail-in ballot is due by noon on Tuesday June 4, 2019 to the Cowley County Election Office.

If you have moved or changed your name since you last registered to vote, you must re-register.

If you would like more information about registering or voting, contact the Cowley County Election Office at 620-221-5400.

HOW DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

More information can be found at www.winfieldks.org/1_cent, or e-mail 1_cent@winfieldks.org. You can also call 620-221-5500.