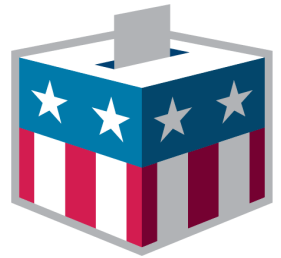




City of Port Neches

November 5, 2019 Election

Frequently Asked Questions



1. *What is on the ballot?*

The City of Port Neches currently collects a half cent sales tax that funds the City's Economic Development Corporation. The City is asking residents to approve a reallocation of one-half of the existing half cent sales tax for a new Street Maintenance fund.

2. *If the proposal is approved, will my home's property taxes increase?*

No. This election only affects how sales taxes already being collected are allocated. A vote for this reallocation of sales taxes will not have any effect on your property taxes.

3. *Will I pay more sales tax when I buy items at the store?*

No. The City is not asking to increase the sales tax for goods purchased at any store. The City is asking for permission to take the half cent already being collected and allocate half to the Economic Development Corporation and the other half to a new Street Maintenance fund.

4. *What is a Street Maintenance fund and how will the money be used?*

If approved, the Street Maintenance fund will be created to provide funding for the City to repair and improve existing streets within the City. Money collected from the sales tax would be held in a separate account and can only be used for street improvements. It cannot be used for any other purpose.

5. *Will the Street Maintenance fund be used to build new streets?*

No. State law requires the sales tax collected for a Street Maintenance fund to be used for the repair and improvement of existing streets only. Tax collected for this fund cannot be used for streets not already constructed.

6. *How soon will streets begin to be repaired?*

If voters approve the creation of the Street Maintenance fund, reallocation of the sales tax will begin April 1, 2020 with the first amounts received from the State of Texas in June 2020. The City will need to accumulate a reasonable amount of funds before work actually begins. It is anticipated the first projects would begin in the summer of 2021.

7. *If approved, will the sales tax ever go away?*

It depends. Allocation of sales taxes for Street Maintenance funds must be reapproved by the voters every four years. In four years, if the voters approve the continuation of the tax, nothing will change and the tax will continue being collected. If voters do not approve the continuation of the tax, the tax amount dedicated to Street Maintenance will end and no additional funds will be collected for street maintenance and repairs.

