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# **PLATTE COUNTY SALES TAX STRUCTURE**

LOCAL PARKS, STORM WATER CONTROL & LAW ENFORCEMENT.

## BACKGROUND

- Platte County's one-half cent sales tax for local parks and storm water control is set to expire on December 31, 2020.
- A [Platte County Sales Tax Structure Advisory Committee](#) was established in 2019 to address the future of sales taxes in the county.
- The [committee's 9-page report](#) outlines a need to continue sales taxes for local parks and storm water while also creating a dedicated revenue stream for law enforcement.
- Any reduction in sales taxes in Platte County will trigger reductions in use taxes that fund general revenue.
- Due to COVID-19, General Revenue in Platte County is already at risk of significant downward pressure.

## PLATTE COUNTY SALES TAX STRUCTURE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sandra  
Thomas,  
Chair

Shane  
Bartee

Gordon Cook

Rick Easley

David  
Ketchmark

Jim Kunce

Jim McCall

Wes Minder

Angie Mutti

Aaron  
Schmidt

The committee's **unanimous** recommendation to the Commission was to place before the voters a  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent retail tax for law enforcement and a  $\frac{1}{4}$  cent retail sales tax for Parks/Stormwater.



## BALLOT LANGUAGE

### Local Parks & Storm Water Control:

Shall the County of Platte, Missouri, impose a renewal of the existing county-wide retail sales tax at the reduced rate of one-quarter of one percent (0.0025) on all sales made in the County for the purpose of providing dedicated funding for local parks and storm water control for the County for a period of ten (10) years?

### Law Enforcement:

Shall the County of Platte, Missouri, impose a county-wide retail sales tax at the rate of one-quarter of one percent (0.0025) on all retail sales made in the County for the purpose of providing dedicated funding for the operation of Platte County law enforcement for a period of ten (10) years? The proceeds of this sales tax shall not be used for construction of a new jail facility.

**\*Both sales taxes include a sunset clause, meaning when it expires it will not be renewed without voter approval.**



## CURRENT SALES TAXES

### Local Parks & Storm Water Control:

Expires December 31, 2020

Currently: One-half cent

Proposed: One-quarter cent

### Law Enforcement:

Does not exist.

Currently: Zero

Proposed: One-quarter cent

## **NO SALES TAX INCREASE**

- Combined, the two propositions appearing on the ballot represent no tax increase in Platte County.
- These two propositions would replace an existing sales tax.
- In short, Platte Countians will pay the same sales tax rate, but law enforcement and parks/stormwater will both have dedicated funding.

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## LAW ENFORCEMENT

- The Sheriff's Department is responsible for deputies, school resource officers, training, equipment, emergency vehicles, 911 emergency services and housing inmates.
- Platte County is responsible for the expenses related to jailing and prosecuting all individuals who committed a felony anywhere in Platte County, including the Kansas City portion of Platte County.
- Platte County has the same number of prosecutors it had in 2008. During that time, the number of felonies prosecuted has increased 75%, meaning prosecutor caseloads have nearly doubled.
- These funds cannot be used for construction of a new jail.

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## LOCAL PARKS & STORM WATER CONTROL

- Continues development and construction of trails.
- Enhances existing parks per [the master plan](#).
- Continues major storm water infrastructure projects.
- Continues community outreach grants for parks and for storm water projects.





## BY THE NUMBERS

**\$9,576,109**

2019 One-Half Cent Sales Revenue for Parks and Storm Water Control

**\$1,656,200**

Estimated Use Tax corresponding with current Parks & Storm Water Control Sales Tax. Use Tax Revenue goes to the County's General Fund. Total county use tax is \$4,557,327.

**0.01375**

Current Sales Tax for Parks & Storm Water Control (0.0050), General Revenue (0.0050) and County Road and Bridges (0.00375).

# THE PLATTE COUNTY WAY

- Platte County is the home of award-winning parks and law enforcement.
- Currently, there is no dedicated funding stream for law enforcement in Platte County.
- Good parks bring people to Platte County.
- Good law enforcement keeps people here.
- Good parks and safe communities make for a great quality of life for everyone.