

2017 Transportation Benefit District Ballot Measure



On February 14, 2017 voters in the City of Chehalis are being asked to vote on a proposed .2% sales tax increase to fund transportation improvements within the City. This flyer is intended to provide information to voters, and address some of the questions that may come up.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q: Why does the City need to raise additional funds for streets?

A: The City does not have sufficient funds to make needed street repairs and improvements and maintain existing service levels.

Q: How much would a .2% sales tax increase revenues?

A: It is estimated the additional sales tax received would be \$850,000 annually.

Q: How much would a .2% sales tax increase a typical purchase?

A: The increase would be 20 cents for every \$100. A \$5.00 coffee drink or sandwich would increase 1 cent.

Q: Who would be affected by the tax increase?

A: The tax would apply to anyone who shops in the City limits, not just the residents of the City.

Q: Can the funds be used for anything other than streets?

A: No. The funds could only be used for transportation related repairs and improvements to Chehalis streets.

Q: How would the new sales tax rate compare to other cities?

A: The total sales tax rate would increase from 8.0% to 8.2%. Other surrounding cities are: Centralia 8.2%; Olympia 8.8%; Lacey 8.7% Aberdeen 8.63%; Longview/Kelso 8.0%; Tumwater 8.9%.

Q: Would the sales tax increase be permanent?

A: No. The additional tax would end in ten (10) years.

KEY POINTS

- \$5.00 purchase increases 1 cent
- 10-year term
- Transportation improvements only
- Affects all shoppers in town, not only residents of the City

Sales and Use Tax Levy

The Governing Board of the Transportation Benefit District of the City of Chehalis, Washington, adopted Resolution No. 17-2016 concerning a sales and use tax to finance transportation improvements. This proposition would authorize a sales and use tax of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) to be collected, in addition to any other taxes authorized by law, within the District from all taxable retail sales in accordance with RCW 82.14.0455 for a term of ten years (July 1, 2017 to July 1, 2027) to pay or finance a portion of the costs of transportation improvement projects identified in the six-year transportation improvement and /or comprehensive plans of the City of Chehalis



Wheel rutting on National Avenue



Concrete cracking/displacement on Chehalis Avenue