

Election
May 9, 2015

**Street
Maintenance Sales
Tax
Reauthorization**



**What is the Street
Maintenance Sales Tax?**

In 2001, the State Legislature authorized a bill that allows cities to levy a ¼ of one-cent sales tax, with voter authorization, for four years to be used exclusively on repairing and reconstructing existing streets. Dickinson residents approved the ¼ of one-cent sales tax in 2011, which has provided a dedicated funding source for street repair, maintenance, and reconstruction that the City did not have prior to 2011.

The 2001 legislation included a “sunset clause” that says the tax will disappear if not reapproved by the voters every 4 years.

On May 9, 2015, Dickinson voters are being asked to vote FOR or AGAINST the continued allocation of 1/4 of one cent of sales tax to the City’s Street Maintenance Sales Tax. If the dedicated street maintenance sales tax is not reapproved, it will end.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED
QUESTIONS**

Q: How much money has been dedicated to street maintenance and repair since the sales tax was approved in 2011?

A: *Since being approved by voters in May, 2011, the ¼ of one cent street maintenance sales tax has provided \$3,613,908.27 through December 31 2014, or an average of slightly over \$1,000,000 each year, dedicated to the reconstruction, repair and maintenance of Dickinson’s streets. During this time, 11 streets have been designed, engineered and reconstructed in concrete with more planned or underway.*



MARTIN LUTHER KING AVENUE
A recently reconstructed residential street funded by the 1/4 cent Street Maintenance Sales Tax.

Q: Will reauthorizing the street maintenance sales tax raise the local sales tax rate?

A: *No. The City's portion of the current sales tax levied will remain at 2%.*

- ◆ *Total sales tax levied is 8.25% 6.25% goes to the State; 2% remains in the City. Street Maintenance is 1/4 of one penny. State law prohibits cities from collecting more than 2% of sales tax levied.*

Q: Which streets and roadways may street maintenance sales tax be used to reconstruct, repair or maintain?

A: *Revenue from this sales tax may only be spent on City streets existing at the time of the election, and not on State or Federal highways such as FM 517, Highway 3, FM 1266, FM 646, or I-45.*

Q: Can Street Maintenance Tax be used on drainage projects?

A: *No. The Street Maintenance Sales Tax is a dedicated sales tax for streets only. State law ensures that money from the tax may only be used for the reconstruction, repair and maintenance of streets in existence at the time the sales tax is approved by the voters.*

Considerations:

- Voting on this proposition will not increase the sales tax rate.
- City's portion of the sales tax will remain at 2 cents of the total 8.25 cents collected for every dollar spent in Dickinson; 6.25 cents goes to the State.
- The current ¼ of one cent sales tax has created a dedicated revenue stream for street repair and maintenance in Dickinson.
- Street Maintenance Sales Tax Legislation includes a sunset clause, requiring Voter approval to reauthorize the sales tax every 4 years.
- On May 9, 2015, the ¼ cent sales tax dedicated to street maintenance will go away unless voters vote to reauthorize the tax.
- If voters approve reauthorizing the Street Maintenance Sales Tax, approximately \$1,000,000 will continue to be dedicated each year to street reconstruction, maintenance and repair in Dickinson.
- By using sales tax, visitors shopping in Dickinson, contribute to street reconstruction, repair, and maintenance.

If you have questions about the sales tax election, please:

**Contact Julie Robinson
City Administrator**
281-337-6204
jrobinson@ci.dickinson.tx.us

or

Mayor or City Councilmembers
Log on to
www.ci.dickinson.tx.us
For contact information

EARLY VOTING

MONDAY, April 27 through Friday,
May 1, 2015

8:00am until 5:00pm

MONDAY, May 4 and Tuesday,
May 5, 2015

7:00am until 7:00pm

At Dickinson Community Center
2714 Hwy 3, Dickinson

ELECTION DAY

SATURDAY, MAY 9, 2015

7:00am until 7:00pm

At Dickinson City Hall
4403 Highway 3, Dickinson