



City of Pacific
300 Hoven Drive
Pacific, MO 63069



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City plans to put Transportation, Parks and Rec sales tax proposals before voters

The Pacific Board of Aldermen is planning to seek voter approval of two one-half cent sales tax proposals in the April, 2019 municipal election. The following is a basic overview of the issue, in Question & Answer format:

Q: What exactly is being proposed?

A: One proposal would seek a one-half cent sales tax for Transportation purposes. The other proposal would seek a one-half cent sales tax for Parks and Recreation / Storm-water purposes. Both proposals would require a simple majority for passage.

In addition, City officials have stated that if voters approve the sales taxes, the City would repeal the existing 1-cent sales tax in the City's three Community Improvement Districts (CIDs). This means that there would be no effective increase in the sales tax rate for purchases made at businesses now located in the CIDs. The proposal is being referred to as Operation Tax Swap, because it is intended to replace the existing 1-cent CID sales tax with the two half-cent sales taxes.

Q: How much funding would each sales tax generate, and what would the money be used for?

A: Each half-cent sales tax would generate approximately \$400,000 annually. The Transportation Sales Tax revenues would be restricted for transportation purposes, such as streets, sidewalks, curbs and gutters, storm drains, signage and similar purposes. The Parks and Recreation / Storm-water sales tax would be restricted for parks and recreation and stormwater purposes.

Q: Why are these taxes being proposed?

A: The City currently does not have dedicated sales tax revenue for either transportation or parks and recreation purposes. If citizens want upgraded transportation infrastructure, upgraded parks and recreation facilities and programs, and upgraded storm water control, it will take new revenues to fund these initiatives.

Q: What is the current City sales tax rate, and how does it compare to other cities?

A: Pacific's base sales tax rate is currently 8.475 percent, which is one of the lowest in the region. The base rate does not include the 1-cent CID tax. A table of area City sales tax rates is below.

Q: What happens next?

A: An ordinance to place the two measures on the April, 2019 ballot was scheduled for a first reading before the Board of Aldermen on Dec. 18, with a second and final reading anticipated for Jan. 15. Citizens who wish to speak on these proposals are welcome to attend either meeting.

Area Sales Tax comparisons	
City	Base Sales Tax Rate
Fenton	8.113%
Wildwood	8.113%
Pacific	8.475%
Valley Park	8.613%
Washington	8.850%
Ellisville	8.863%
Sullivan	8.975%
Eureka	9.113%
New Haven	9.225%
St. Clair	9.475%
Union	9.475%
St. Louis City	9.679%
* Base rate does not include CID sales taxes or other "overlay" sales taxes	
** Source--Missouri Dept. of Revenue	

Candidate filing runs through Jan. 15

Candidate filing for Pacific municipal office is now open and runs through January 15. One alderman seat in each of the three City wards will be up for election April 2, 2019. Aldermen must be at least 18 years old, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the ward in which they are seeking election for at least one year. Candidate filing is open during regular business hours at Pacific City Hall, 300 Hoven Drive.

Mark your calendars!

- Jan. 1, City Hall closed
- Jan. 8, Planning and Zoning Commission
- Jan. 15, Board of Aldermen
- Jan. 26, Pianos for a Purpose, Pacific Chamber of Commerce

Please go to pacificmissouri.com for a Calendar with City meeting dates and other event information

Get informed!

View meeting information, sign up for notifications through the new City website

The revamped City website is up and running, and citizens can sign up to receive notifications when certain new items are posted. For example, the full Board of Aldermen meeting packet is posted on the Friday before each meeting. Copies of proposed bills and resolutions, staff reports, and various other information is included in each packet. Citizens can view the packet online, and sign up to receive a notification when each new packet is posted. The City also posts Planning and Zoning Commission meeting packets, and agendas for other Boards and Commissions.

The City is in the process of uploading many other information items to the site, including annual Audited Financial Statements, budgets, planning documents, and much more. The goal is to provide public access to the City's documents and information in as thorough as a manner as possible. If you can't find the information you are looking for, please contact us as we will post it as readily as possible. Thank you.

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New location for Elite Massage

City and Chamber officials helped Elite Massage Therapy cut the ribbon on their new location Dec. 11. The business took over the spot previously occupied by the Chamber and Pacific License office.

Congratulations Elite Massage!

Trash rates to stay the same in 2019

The City has renewed its existing contract for residential waste hauling with Waste Connections. The contract calls for no increase in the rates for City residents in 2019.

Waste Connections also committed to maintaining its existing recycling service, also at no additional charge to residents. Many communities are changing their recycling service, or even eliminating it altogether, following recent changes in the international recycling markets. But Waste Connections and the City agreed on continuing the existing service, at no extra charge. New pricing is as follows:

2019: \$19.51 / month

2020: \$19.99 / month

2021: \$20.49 / month

Senior Discount: 10%

Extra Cart: \$5.00/month



Many new business openings in recent months

The following is a list of new business occupancies and / or new commercial building permits in the City in the past several months. **Welcome and good luck to all our new businesses!**

Airbed Pros - 550 East Osage * Medicine Shoppe - 2290 West Osage * Electric Tan & More - 308 Noonan Plaza C * Domino's Pizza - 2240 W. Osage * Pepper, Inc - 9 Capper Drive * First State Community Bank - 302 West St. Louis * Eclectic Trading Co. - 520 West Osage * Complete Care Landscaping - 564 East Osage * Healthy Balance Chiropractic - 220 North 7th * Franklin (Pacific) Family Restaurant - 250 Lamar Parkway #101 * Granite Heros - 552 East Osage * Scenic Regional Library - 111 Lamar Parkway * Meramec Valley R-3 Early Childhood Center - 228 Indian Pride Drive * C&P Services - 611 East Osage * Angels Elite - 305 East Osage #2 * Vero Fitness Two - 522 East Osage * American Family Insurance, Dennis Oliver - 428 E. Osage Street * ADB Companies, 18777 US Highway 66 * Expert Metal Fabricators, 2290 Country Club Estates Drive *

Did you know?

Free drop-off for prescription meds at Police Department

The Pacific Police Department has a drop box for people wanting to safely dispose of prescription medications. The box is located in the Police Department lobby area. Most types of medications are accepted, including pet medications. Illegal drugs and any needles / sharps are not accepted. A listing of acceptable items is on the box itself. There is no cost to use the service, which is operated in conjunction with several partner agencies. For more information, go to missourip2d2.org.



City hires firm to plan for Red Cedar project; public meetings in January

The City has hired the architectural firm Patterhn-Ives LLC to perform a "Phase 1" planning and programming study of the historic Red Cedar Inn building. The City acquired the building in late 2017, and conducted a search for architectural / planning firms to assist with the project this fall. Patterhn-Ives was selected for the project and began work in November, 2018.

The City is planning to renovate the building for use as a Welcome Center / Museum, with other possible uses as well. Public meetings will be held in January, 2019 to gather input for the project. The dates have not yet been set but will be posted on the City website as soon as they are scheduled. The intent of the "Phase 1" project is to evaluate the existing building and make recommendations for necessary improvements; develop preliminary floor plans for the recommended use of the building, and provide an overall Concept Plan for redevelopment of the building and site, including cost estimates. The Phase 1 will also identify possible grant funding sources and anticipated project budgets. The final report is due in May, 2019.

The City this fall also announced it has been awarded a \$189,950 grant through the St. Louis County Municipal Parks Grant Commission for certain improvements the Red Cedar site. Improvements generally include renovation of the site parking lot, extension of the existing pedestrian access across the Route 66 frontage of the property, and demolition of certain site features. This work is planned for later in the year, following completion of the Phase 1 planning project.



Candlewick Lane project slated for spring 2019

The City is awaiting final plan approval from MoDOT for the Candlewick Lane improvement project, slated to be constructed in spring, 2019. The \$350,000 project calls for concrete slab repair and reconstruction along a section of Candlewick from Highway N (Congress St.) to a point adjacent to the Aurora Technologies Inc. facility. Storm drainage improvements are also planned. The City is receiving \$214,000 in MoDOT funding, with remaining funds coming from Franklin County Transportation Grant funds and Capital Improvement Sales Tax funding.

Pacific—Eureka trail project underway

The cities of Pacific and Eureka are partnering in a joint project to study a recreational trail link between the two cities. The project is being funded primarily with St. Louis County Municipal Parks grant funding, with each city contributing \$1,000. The study goal is to determine a preferred trail route linking the two cities, with cost estimates. A public meeting is planned for sometime in January. Dates and times will be posted on the cities' websites.

Prop P police officer raises set for 2019

Pacific Police officers will see pay increases of up to \$4.35 per hour under a Prop P pay plan under consideration by the Board of Aldermen. The Board was expected to take final action on the plan in December. If approved, police entry level pay would go from \$15.18 per hour (\$31,574 annually) to \$19.53 per hour, (\$40,622 annually). The raises are made possible by Franklin County voter approval of the Prop P sales tax initiative in April, 2018.

Thank you Franklin County voters!