

Derby Difference Sales Tax

Overview

- Derby citizens will vote on the **Derby Difference Sales Tax** Sept. 25 through Oct. 8, 2013.
- This is not a tax increase. It would replace the existing Library Sales Tax and keep the total tax rate in Derby exactly the same.

Why does Derby need a sales tax?

The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** will enhance the quality of life for Derby residents and visitors by funding: 1. Construction of a new central park, a tournament-quality baseball/softball complex, and a dog park; 2. Additional emergency response personnel to improve response times in our growing community; and 3. Operating expenses for the library.



Is this a tax increase?

No, this is not a tax increase. The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** is a half-cent sales tax that would replace the current half-cent Library Sales Tax, passed in 2007, which paid for construction of the Derby Public Library and continues to pay library operating expenses.

Why a half-cent sales tax?

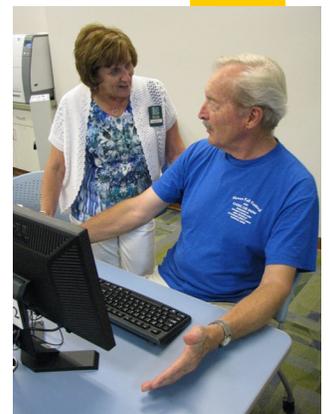
The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** is a fair way to share the expense of city improvements with visitors.



- Shopping and restaurant dining in Derby draw people from a 50-mile radius
- This sales tax ensures out-of-towners help pay for services that they use but are otherwise funded by Derby property taxes.
- Derby's sales tax has historically been the second-lowest in the region (and our property tax is third-lowest).
- Rather than just funding the library, this **same amount of tax** can also improve Derby Fire & Rescue services and Derby parks during the next 10 years.
- For every \$100 spent in Derby, 50 cents would go to improve Derby.
- This tax generates approximately \$2 million per year, which is the equivalent of 11 mills of property tax.

Good Track Record

- In Derby, we do what we say we are going to do. In 2003, residents decided a half-cent sales tax would be a good way to fund Rock River Rapids. It was built, and the tax ended in 2009.
- In 2007, citizens approved the half-cent Library Sales Tax to build and pay operating expenses of a new library. This tax began in 2010 and could end after 2014 because the building costs will be paid.



Learn more at www.derbyweb.com/salestax

Why does Derby Fire & Rescue need more personnel?

- Additional personnel will improve emergency response times and increase safety.
- The current staff of 17 is smaller than cities of similar size like Dodge City (25) and Hays (23).
- During the past five years, Derby has continued to grow, and Derby Fire & Rescue's workload has increased 38%. Medical emergencies comprise 67% of its workload.

Why do we need more parks in Derby?

- The proposed Madison Avenue Central Park would address many unmet needs in the Derby community, including creating a venue for events like weddings and meetings, a playground for children and adults of all abilities, an outdoor event space, an outdoor classroom, a lighted walking path, and a splash pad. The DRC also plans to move its art classes to this location.
- The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** would fund construction of a tournament-quality baseball/softball complex so Derby can provide quality facilities for both residents and visitors.



Why is the Derby Public Library important?

- Every day, 500 people visit the library, and it hosts more than 40 programs each month.
- People can use library computers for free, and groups can hold meetings at little or no cost.
- People can even go online to check out e-books and subscribe to magazines for free.

What happens after the election?

- If the **Derby Difference Sales Tax** passes, the current half-cent Library Sales Tax will end on Dec. 31, 2014, and it will be replaced by this tax on Jan. 1, 2015.
- If the proposed tax doesn't pass, the current Library Sales Tax will continue until Dec. 31, 2017. The City council will have to determine if it wants to cut other City services or increase property taxes to improve emergency services and fund additional parks.

HOW DO I VOTE?

Registration

- Derby citizens may register to vote **now through Sept. 17** at the Derby Public Library, 1600 E. Walnut Grove Rd. or the Derby Welcome Center, 611 Mulberry. Call 788-9003 if you have questions.
- Citizens must re-register to vote if they've had a name change, change of address or changed party affiliation since the last election.



Voting

- **VOTE BY MAIL: Now through Oct. 4** citizens may request an advance ballot be mailed to them by completing the form "Application for Advance Voting Ballot" at: www.sedgwickcounty.org/elections and mail or fax it to the Sedgwick County Election Office.
- **ADVANCE VOTING IN WICHITA: Sept. 25, 26, 27, 30** and **Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and **Oct. 7**, 8 a.m. to Noon at the Sedgwick County Election Office (historic courthouse), 510 N. Main in Wichita.
- **ADVANCE VOTING IN DERBY: Oct. 3 & 4**, from Noon to 7 p.m. and **Oct. 5** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Woodlawn United Methodist Church, 431 S. Woodlawn in Derby.
- **ELECTION DAY: Oct. 8** polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. On this day, voters must vote at their assigned polling site in Derby (Woodlawn United Methodist Church, Calvary Baptist Church or Pleasantview Baptist Church). Call 788-9003 for help in finding your polling site.

