



5-YEAR DEDICATED PARKS MAINTENANCE

SALES TAX INITIATIVE

TUESDAY, APRIL 4, 2017 | WWW.BLUESPRINGSGOV.COM/PARKSSALESTAX

THERE ARE APPROXIMATELY 35 MILLION DOLLARS OF UNFUNDED DEFERRED MAINTENANCE NEEDS IN BLUE SPRINGS PARKS.

IF APPROVED, THIS SALES TAX WOULD FUND APPROXIMATELY **40 PERCENT** – 15 MILLION DOLLARS – OF THE PARKS DEFERRED MAINTENANCE NEEDS OVER THE **5-YEAR SUNSET PERIOD**.

The proposed 5-year dedicated parks maintenance ½ cent sales tax initiative will be funded by residents and non-residents making retail purchases in Blue Springs. The ½ cent sales tax adds 25 cents for every \$50 spent in Blue Springs and would raise approximately \$3 million dollars annually.

Revenues from the dedicated parks sales tax are only to be used for deferred parks maintenance and renovation purposes.



WARD PARK PLAYGROUND

PARKS MAINTENANCE

PROPOSED PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Major Renovation of Burrus Old Mill Park
 - Construction of a new Splash Pad
 - Renovations to the: playground, basketball court, baseball field, volleyball court, skate park, shelters and restrooms.
- Major Renovation of Wilbur Young Park
 - Renovations to the: playground, basketball courts, softball field, tennis courts, volleyball courts, shelters and restrooms.
- Deferred maintenance repairs at every park in Blue Springs.

TRAILS MAINTENANCE

PROPOSED PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Repairs to segments of Adams Dairy Parkway Trail
- Repairs to segments of Duncan Road Trail
- Repairs to Woods Chapel Park Trail
- Replacement of Rotary Park Trail
- Repairs to 5 additional trail sections in Blue Springs.



WOODS CHAPEL PARK TRAIL

FACILITIES MAINTENANCE

VESPER HALL REPAIRS INCLUDE:

- Replacement of the original roof
- Flooring replacement, building repair and repainting

ADAMS POINTE GOLF COURSE REPAIRS INCLUDE:

- Replacement of the original roof
- Cart path replacement, bunker repair and replacement



VESPER HALL EXTERIOR

The following list of projects would be funded by the 5-year dedicated parks maintenance sales tax initiative if approved by voters:

PROJECTS	PROJECT AMOUNT
Burrus Old Mill Park Improvements (with contingency)	\$2,500,000
Wilbur Young Park Improvements (with contingency)	\$3,500,000
Other Park Improvements (with contingency)	\$5,750,000
Baumgardner Baseball Field	\$30,000
Baumgardner Park South Parking Lot	\$285,000
Blue Springs Park Parking Lot	\$260,000
Blue Springs Park Restrooms	\$75,000
Blue Springs Park Tennis Courts	\$265,000
Hidden Valley Playground	\$440,000
Hidden Valley Park Signs	\$100,000
Keystone Park Shelter House	\$160,000
Keystone Parking Drive/Parking Lot	\$390,000
Pink Hill Park Parking Lots and Drive Roads	\$1,015,000
Pink Hill Park Shelter Houses	\$540,000
Pink Hill Park Tennis Courts	\$255,000
Rotary Park Gazebo	\$150,000
Rotary Park Parking Lots	\$270,000
Rotary Park Small Playground	\$330,000
Ward Park Basketball Court	\$120,000
Ward Park Playground	\$315,000
Woods Chapel Basketball Court	\$120,000
Woods Chapel Park Parking Lot	\$70,000
Trail Improvements (with contingency)	\$1,250,000
Adams Dairy Pkwy Trail – Coronado to R.D. Mize	\$35,000
Adams Dairy Pkwy Trail – Ryan to SE Pine Gate Drive	\$83,500
Adams Dairy Pkwy Trail – SE Pine Gate Dr. to Moreland School Rd.	\$109,000
Adams Dairy Pkwy Trail –Duncan Road to Jefferson St.	\$105,000
Baumgardner Park Trail	\$12,000
Duncan Rd. Trail – 11th St. to 18th St.	\$73,000
Duncan Rd. Trail – 18th to Deer Run Trail	\$40,000
Duncan Rd. Trail – Highway 7 to 11th St.	\$47,000
Duncan Road Trail – Adams Dairy Pkwy to 23rd St.	\$140,000
Keystone Park	\$50,000
Moreland School Rd. Trail - 12th St. to 19th St.	\$58,000
Moreland School Rd. Trail – 8th St. to 12th St.	\$60,000
Rotary Park Trail – 36,540 sq. ft.	\$135,000
James Walker School Park Trail	\$72,000
Woods Chapel Park Trail	\$150,000
Adams Pointe Golf Course Improvements (with contingency)	\$1,500,000
Vesper Hall Senior Center Improvements (with contingency)	\$500,000
Project Totals	\$15,000,000



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PARKS

MAINTENANCE

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INITIATIVE OVERVIEW

The proposed 5-year dedicated parks maintenance sales tax initiative will be funded by residents and non-residents making retail purchases in Blue Springs.

The ½ cent sales tax adds 25 cents for every \$50 spent in Blue Springs and would raise approximately \$3 million dollars annually.

BALLOT QUESTION LANGUAGE

Shall the City of Blue Springs, Missouri impose a sales tax of one-half of one percent (1/2 of 1%) for five (5) years, for the purpose of providing funds for local parks for the City?

RESIDENT OVERSIGHT

Revenues from the 5-year dedicated parks maintenance sales tax are only to be used for deferred parks maintenance purposes. This proposed funding would not replace current General Fund allocations for parks and cannot be used for parks operations. No funding will be directed to the Blue Springs Fieldhouse.

The Parks Commission, made up of Blue Springs residents and business owners, will be charged with oversight of the tax. If approved, the commission will make regularly scheduled reports to the City Council and all tax expenditure reports will be available on the City's website.

WHAT IS THE PARKS SALES TAX?

The Blue Springs Parks Sales Tax would be a dedicated sales tax for local parks applied to all retail sales made within the city of Blue Springs that are subject to taxation under the provision of Section 144.010 to 144.525 RSMo. All revenue received from the local Park Sales Tax is used:

“solely for local parks for the City, in order to purchase, improve and manage parks, trails and natural lands for water quality, wildlife, tree preservation and recreation purposes.”

WHAT IS THE PARK SALES TAX RATE IN BLUE SPRINGS AND HOW MUCH REVENUE DOES IT GENERATE?

The current Park Sales tax rate in Blue Springs is 0%. If passed it will provide ½ of 1% of one penny for deferred park maintenance.

HOW DID WE GET HERE AND CAN'T THESE RENOVATIONS BE FUNDED WITH CURRENT TAX DOLLARS?

Addressing parks and recreation needs, especially deferred maintenance, without a dedicated funding source can create budget challenges; especially if the parks have to compete with other community priorities such as public safety, infrastructure, transportation, and ever increasing unfunded federal mandates.

Because the parks operation and maintenance budgets are funded through City general revenues it is subject to economic volatility as well as changing citizen expectations and priorities that may place less importance on parks.

Historically, some park improvements have been funded through Federal and State grants. Recently however, grant funds have been on the decline and opportunities to use these for park needs is no longer a reliable option available to the City.

Finally, many funds currently allocated in the City's Capital Improvement Program are dedicated and restricted for other uses such as the water and sewer fund, streets, sidewalks, and Community Development Block Grants. These funds cannot be used to support parks maintenance.

WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF THE TAX IS NOT PASSED?

If the issue fails, Parks & Recreation will continue to deliver residents the best possible facilities and programs with the resources available. However, there will be challenges and changes are likely.

Parks staff would make ongoing assessments of the most critical areas of need and deferred maintenance. To ensure the safety of our residents, some parks and/or pieces of playground equipment would need to be closed to the public.

Current park amenities that would meet criteria for immediate closure would include the following: Blue Springs Park Tennis Courts.

Future park amenities where closures could occur include the following:

- Baumgardner Park Trail
- Pink Hill Park Tennis Courts
- Rotary Park Playground #2
- Ward Park Playground
- Woods Chapel Park Trail

For a complete list of current and potential park closures visit www.bluespringsgov.com/parkssalestax.