



CITY OF ROCHESTER

LOCAL SALES TAX

RENEWAL

Renewal of Existing 0.5% Authority

The City of Rochester is requesting an extension of the existing 0.5% local sales tax to fund four projects over a projected time frame of 16.4 years. The City of Rochester has a history of fiscal responsibility. The City has had a local sales tax providing regional benefit since the first legislative approval in 1983. The most recent general local option sales tax was enacted in 2013, and is projected to meet all of its funding obligations by 2024. Rochester is one of few cities in the state with AAA bond rating and has achieved that rating for 50 straight years. The City of Rochester is committed to consistently engage and clearly communicate news, opportunities, and information to community members in an inclusive, transparent, and thoughtful way that allows their voices to be heard and incorporated into the work of the City of Rochester.

Regional Impact

The projects will result in regional impact and benefits to both the residents and businesses of the City of Rochester and to non-resident visitors and businesses in the region, state, and beyond. The City of Rochester is an established regional center and a city of the first class in greater Minnesota. Over 30,000 commuters come into Rochester each day. Over 3 million visitors a year come to Rochester. Economic activity in Rochester is a significant tax contributor to the state of Minnesota particularly through sales, income, and provider tax revenues. Over the next 20 years, 36,000 additional residents and 22,000 additional jobs are expected in Rochester.



HOUSING VITALITY PROJECT - \$50 MILLION

Housing development is a priority in Rochester and a component of the council's adopted strategic priorities related to Affordable Living, Economic Vibrancy and Growth Management. Additional resources from sales tax could focus on missing middle housing, rehab/renovation, naturally occurring affordable housing, and housing innovation.



STREET RECONSTRUCTION - \$50 MILLION

More than 100 miles (24%) of the City's 394 miles of streets are at least 50 years or older. Over 23% of the City's streets are rated poor or fair. The City's Capital Improvement Plan includes a list of annual Pavement Preservation Projects that address the deficiencies identified in the Pavement Management Plan. The 2019 Pavement Management Plan states if no action is taken over the next 50 years, there will be 354 miles of roadways in "poor" condition and requiring reconstruction.



FLOOD CONTROL & WATER QUALITY - \$40 MILLION

The City has an extensive flood control system that was constructed in the 1980's that provides protection to Rochester residents as well as people and property in the region. The system is designed to reduce the peak floodwater discharge by over 16% positively mitigating flood potential in and downstream of Rochester. It's now necessary to reinvest in the existing system, improve performance & mitigate sediment coming into the system so flooding capacity is not diminished.



REGIONAL COMMUNITY & RECREATION COMPLEX - \$65 MILLION

To further align our strengths as a community, a Regional Community and Recreation complex is envisioned. Specific project elements will be further defined through substantial community and stakeholder engagement and an equity focused codesign team. Initial concepts include a synthetic turf field complex, a tournament quality pickleball complex, outdoor recreation features, supportive indoor recreation features, and related community focused elements.

Letters of Support:

Current as of April 19, 2022

- ROCHESTER AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- ROCHESTER HOUSING COALITION
- ROCHESTER DIVERSITY COUNCIL
- WSB & ASSOCIATES
- BOLTON & MENK
- WHKS & CO.
- THE TAP HOUSE ON HISTORIC THIRD AND THE TAP HOUSE WEST END*
- ROCHESTER SPORTS FOUNDATION*
- ASPEN SUITES*
- NORTHROCK HOSPITALITY GROUP*
- EMPIRE HOTELS*
- HAMILTON REAL ESTATE GROUP*
- TOM MELIANDER REALTOR (EDINA REALTY)

*Letter focuses on support for Regional Community & Recreation Complex project as part of the renewal of sales tax