CITY OF JOPLIN
COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

ITEM
Council Bill 2024-501 – Authorizes submittal to the electors of the City of Joplin, at a Special Election on Tuesday, April 2, 2024, the question of whether the City shall extend a Capital Improvement Sales Tax of three-eighths (3/8ths) of one percent (1%) for a period of twelve (12) years for the purpose of funding capital improvements.

MEETING DATE
January 16, 2024

ORIGINATING DEPT
Finance

ATTACHMENTS
CB 2024-501 Ordinance; Exhibit "A" Final Capital Improvement Project List; Exhibit "B" Overall Capital Improvement Prioritization List

REVIEWED BY
Department Head: Leslie Haase; Public Works Director: Dan Johnson; City Attorney: Peter Edwards; City Manager: Nick Edwards

SUMMARY
This Council Bill calls for an election to place the renewal of the three eighths ($3/8^{th}$) cent capital improvement sales tax, called "Proposition Progress", before the voters on April 2, 2024.

BACKGROUND
In 2004, the voters of the City of Joplin approved a three-eighths ($3/8^{th}$) cent capital improvements sales tax with a ten-year sunset to fund major transportation improvements and other capital improvements. The tax was renewed by the voters of Joplin in 2014 to complete a new set of capital improvements. The current tax will sunset on December 31, 2024. This sales tax is the only revenue source available to fund large capital improvements, including major transportation improvements.

Following the past framework, the City Council appointed a citizens task force to review the narrowed down list of proposed capital improvement projects in December of 2023. The unfunded needs list totaled approximately $263 million in various projects. After discussion by the City Council and Committee, it was determined to present to the voters a twelve-year renewal in order to complete the top priority projects. After the committee and council reviewed the projects, the final overall project prioritization is shown in the attached Exhibit "B" list.

Based upon the projected twelve-year revenue of about $95.1 million, the Final Capital Improvement Project List is attached as Exhibit "A" to advance to the voters for this twelve-year cycle. In the event that additional revenue is generated through grants, cost-sharing opportunities or additional sales tax, and/or expenditures are less than projected, the Final Overall Capital Improvement Prioritization List (Exhibit "B"), along with current needs, will be used as a foundation for possible additional projects.

City Council previously voted to place the renewal of the three-eighths (3/8th) cent capital improvement sales tax for a period of twelve years on the April 2, 2024 ballot. The August ballot, which will be a presidential primary, is the last available election to submit this item as a renewal and ensure an uninterrupted flow of sales tax proceeds. Missouri State Statute allows for a capital improvements sales tax up to one-half (1/2) cent for capital improvement related needs, if approved by voters. If this tax is approved by the voters, it will go into effect on January 1, 2025 and sunset on December 31, 2036.

FUNDING SOURCE

This item is not applicable for an election call.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends approval of this council bill on an emergency basis.