Finance Department
602 S Main Street
Joplin, Missouri 64801
417-624-6654

MEMORANDUM

TO: **City Manager, Nick Edwards**
Mayor Keenan Cortez and Members of the City Council

FROM: **Leslie Haase**
Director of Finance

DATE: **July 14, 2025**

RE: **Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee Semi-Annual Report**

The Oversight Committee Chairman, Nathan Mordica, will be attending Monday night's City Council meeting to publicly present the oversight report to Council.

As you know, the Oversight Committee is required to meet at least quarterly to review collection and expenditure of revenue from the ¼-cent parks and stormwater sales tax, the 3/8-cent capital improvements sales tax, the ½-cent public safety sales tax, the ½-cent pension sales tax, the action plans under the use tax, as well as the progress towards completion of the voter-approved projects funded by these taxes. Additionally, the Oversight Committee is required to make a written, public report to the Council twice each year.

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Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee
Semi-Annual Public Report
July 21, 2025

Introduction

On November 6, 2001, the voters approved "Proposition B" for the purpose of funding stormwater controls and city park improvements.

The City Council, in response to voter approval of "Proposition B," appointed seven (7) Joplin residents to serve on the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Oversight Committee. The City Council felt it would be in the public's interest to establish a citizen oversight committee to monitor the expenditure of proceeds from the Parks/Stormwater Sales Tax.

The Oversight Committee is to meet at least quarterly to review the collections and expenditures from the sales tax; monitor progress toward completing the voter-approved projects funded therefrom, and make a written, semi-annual public report to the City Council.

On August 3, 2004, the voters approved "Proposition A" for the purpose of funding capital improvements.

On November 7, 2006, the voters approved "Proposition A" for the purpose of improving public safety.

On July 2, 2007, the City Council directed the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Oversight Committee to review collections and expenditures from the one-half cent Public Safety Improvement Sales Tax. The membership was increased from seven (7) to nine (9) members.

On October 15, 2007, the City Council amended the name of the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Oversight Committee to the Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee and amended the mission thereof.

In 2020, the City Council directed the Oversight Committee to review collections and expenditures of the one-half cent Pension Sales Tax.

In 2021, the City Council directed the Oversight Committee to hear updates on the action plans funded by the Use Tax.

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Oversight Committee Members

The current Capital Improvement and Public Safety Sales Tax Oversight Committee membership includes the following:

Jamie Booker-Norman	Ken Copeland
Trevor Frerer	LeeAnn Luebber
Erik Lynch	Bethany McKinzie
Nathan Mordica	Fred Osborn
Todd Patterson	

Review of Oversight Committee Meetings

February 19, 2025

The meeting set for this date was canceled due to weather.

May 21, 2025

The Oversight Committee began this meeting by reviewing the collections and expenditures of the ¼-cent parks and stormwater sales tax, the 3/8-cent capital improvement sales tax, and the ½-cent public safety sales tax as presented by Leslie Haase. Dan Johnson updated the committee on the FY 2025 stormwater improvements and maintenance activities. Paul Bloomberg updated the committee on the park's activities. Dan Johnson updated the committee on the capital improvements street program. Brian Lewis and Gerald Ezell updated the committee on the public safety sales tax activities. The Committee discussed the semi-annual report that is to be presented to Council and decided that the Oversight Committee Chairman, Nathan Mordica, will present this report on Monday, July 21, 2025.

Committee Observations

As of the Oversight Committee's last meeting on July 21, 2025, it is agreed that the revenues from the ¼-cent parks and stormwater sales tax, the 3/8 cent capital improvements sales tax, and the ½-cent public safety sales tax are being collected at or above the projected level for the 2025 fiscal year.

The projects under Phase I of the Parks/Stormwater Sales Tax have been completed as promised. The projects under Phase II of the Parks/Stormwater Sales Tax are in progress as set forth to the voters.

The projects under Phase I of the Capital Improvements Sales Tax are all complete as promised, except one which is the Traffic Signal Upgrades. This project is expected to be completed during the 2025 fiscal year. The projects under Phase II of the Capital Improvements Sales Tax are in progress as set forth to the voters.

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For the public safety sales tax, all capital items have been completed as promised. All operational items have been completed. The remaining streetlights are underway.

The pension sales tax is funding the closed pension plan and will fund any remaining required gap payments in 2025. The LAGERS rate buy down has been completed for both police and fire.

Action plans are underway as promised and use tax funding is being collected at a rate higher than anticipated.