CITY OF JOPLIN'S
Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal

Dear Joplin Citizens,

On August 5, 2014, Joplin voters will answer a question whether or not to renew the 3/8 – cents sales tax designated for transportation improvements.

This brochure provides you with information regarding this renewal as well as addresses some of the questions you may have. Also included is a listing of the proposed projects of road improvements for the upcoming ten years, and an overview of projects completed with revenues from the past ten years.

We encourage you to read this brochure thoroughly. We thank you for taking your time in serious consideration of this proposal.

Sincerely,

The Joplin City Council

INTRODUCTION

As the City of Joplin continues to grow, so does the need for services. One of the most important elements in any city relates to transportation issues – specifically the roads that are traveled in moving from one location to another throughout the City.

In August, 2004, Joplin citizens voted in favor of initiating a Capital Improvement Sales Tax with a ten-year sunset provision to provide an additional funding source to complete major road improvements. Utilizing revenues generated from this sales tax over the past ten years, the City has accomplished a number of significant road projects that now provide a safer and more efficient system for ever-increasing volumes of traffic moving throughout Joplin. (See list of completed projects on page 5.) Within this ten-year period, more than $44 million of revenues were generated from the 3/8-cent sales tax, and provided funding for 19 projects. Under the sunset provision, the sales tax funding expires January 1, 2015.

In anticipation of this expiration, and recognizing the need for more major road improvements, the Joplin City Council created the 2014 Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal Committee on February 3, 2014. The focus of this citizens group was to:

- Review the status of the 2004 capital improvement sales tax program, noting the completed projects as well as the projects still underway;
- Evaluate and review the City's existing and future transportation needs (based on community's growth and redevelopment efforts);
- Prioritize the identified projects;
- Establish a strategy and action plan to educate and inform the residents of the ongoing transportation needs.

The first meeting of the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal Committee was held on February 19, 2014, with the group meeting numerous times in February and March. At these meetings, staff presented information on the 19 capital improvement projects that were included in the 2004 program. In addition, the group received information focusing on City revenues and expenditures relating to transportation needs; a list of identified needs for major road improvements compiled from unfunded projects in 2004 and the current Long Range Transportation Plan of the Joplin Area Transportation Study Organization (JATSO), and an update of future projects that will affect traffic patterns within Joplin.

With this information, the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal Committee identified 14 major road improvements and recommended to the City Council that a renewal of the 3/8–cent capital improvements sales tax with a sunset of a ten-year period be placed before the voters for consideration.

On May 5, 2014, the Joplin City Council voted to proceed with the Committee's recommendations and submit a ballot question to the electors of the City of Joplin at a Special Election to be held in the City on August 5, 2014.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal
Questions & Answers

Why are these projects needed?

As the City continues to grow, the demand for transportation services rises. Increased traffic volumes, changes in traffic patterns, new development activity and redevelopment of the community all contribute to the need to provide a safer and more efficient transportation system.

Why are sales taxes used to fund these projects?

Both City residents as well as those who are working, shopping, receiving medical care, dining, and visiting within the City limits use the roads in Joplin. Therefore, all who travel these roads and place an impact on the infrastructure of the City will help to fund these improvements.

If a sales tax has been in place for the past 10 years, why does the City need a renewal for another 10 years?

Joplin is experiencing growth in new areas and there are numerous roads throughout the community that are insufficient to handle the traffic volumes safely due to limited lane width, sight distance limitations, and inadequate intersection designs. The proposed projects address these types of issues not only in the new areas of development, but also in previously developed areas of the City that are experiencing substantial increases in traffic volume and congestion. This tax is the only revenue source available for major road improvements.

How was the list of projects determined?

The Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal Committee studied a list of approximately 43 identified transportation needs, comparing each project individually to every other project, which resulted in a score for each proposed project. The Committee and City staff discussed these results, as well as recent and future developments in the community. In the end, the Committee recommended the 14 projects listed on page 7 to address both public safety and the community's growth.

There are three projects on the list that do not include specific locations. Where will these be done?

The list does have three projects designated as "citywide projects", and are listed as *Neighborhood Transportation Improvements; Street Surface Repair; and Intersection Improvements.* Each will address needs throughout the City to enhance the transportation system with improved intersection design, as well as focus on street surface repairs throughout Joplin as needs are identified. Below are examples of the types of projects each category could include.

Neighborhood Transportation Improvements include safety improvements related to localized street flooding; sidewalk and ADA ramp improvements and additions; improved signage; possible addition of bike/pedestrian corridors, trail additions or improvements.

Street Surface Repair include areas that address the ride-ability of City streets, such as adjustments to manhole lids, utility valve covers, and/or utility cut grade differences; or in summary, anything that would improve the smoothness of the ride on our streets.

Intersection improvements are one of the best ways to improve traffic flow with a focus to address turning movements at intersections. These projects could include work to add left turn lanes, improve site distance at intersection, add signals if warranted, improve traffic flow by eliminating localized street flooding (could also be used in combination with our stormwater funds if associated with a larger project); make improvements to our current signals, and combine (if needed) with a Neighborhood Improvement project to add ADA ramps at intersections, address bike/pedestrian movements at intersections.

There are no projects listed for the area that was destroyed by the tornado. Don't these roads need improvements?

Yes, roads in the recovery area do need attention; however the City has received funding from U.S Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery program and will use those resources in this area. With this structure, the local tax dollars can be utilized for other important projects throughout the remainder of Joplin.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal
Questions & Answers

If this sales tax passes, what will be the total sales tax rate?

This is **a renewal** of an existing sale tax, **so there is no change to the sales tax rate.**

How much of the current sales tax does the City of Joplin receive?

The City receives 2.625% of the current sales tax, with the remainder going to the County and State.

Jasper County's current rate is 7.825%.

Newton County's current rate is 7.975%.

How long would this renewal of the capital improvement sales tax last?

The sales tax renewal would be in place for ten years, beginning on January 1, 2015, and ending on December 31, 2024.

How much money will be raised if this renewal passes?

Approximately $46 million will be raised over the ten-year period.

Will the City reduce the amount it currently spends on other services?

No, the proposed projects would be in addition to the services already provided by the City.

How can voters be assured that these newly generated funds are going toward the specific projects?

To ensure that funds are spent appropriately, the Joplin City Council utilizes a Capital Improvement Public Safety Tax Oversight Committee to review the progress and expenditures of this tax. The Committee meets quarterly and publicly reports the status of the sales tax revenues and the transportation projects' progress twice a year. This committee reviewed the projects in the 2004 capital improvement program throughout the past ten years, and will continue to serve in this role if the renewal passes on August 5.

Isn't there a state tax for transportation needs? Why does the City need a separate one?

At this time, there is not a state sales tax for transportation needs. The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT) is seeking a ¾-cent sales tax that would be effective statewide. If it passes, these dollars would be utilized by MoDOT on projects throughout the state of Missouri for state-owned roads.

The renewal of the City's Capital Improvement Sales Tax would continue to provide funds for local projects to be completed in Joplin that upgrade city roads to a safer and more efficient level in moving traffic throughout our City. (See recommended project list and map on page 6-7)

The City has no other source of funding for major transportation improvements.

What's the difference between the sales tax that MoDOT is seeking and this tax?

The Joplin sales tax is a renewal – it is a tax already in place. By renewing the tax, there is no increase to the consumer. All of the revenues from this renewed sales tax will remain in the community and be used to address local transportation related projects.

The proposed Missouri sales tax will be used to make improvements to the State transportation system, as determined by MoDOT.

Who was on the Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal Committee?

Each member of Council appointed a citizen to this Committee which was directed to review the transportation needs. These members include: Kathy Blood, Ron Darby, Aaron Doll, Krissi Gooch, Nancy Good, Harold McCoy, Nancy O'Connell, Fred Palmer and Henry Robertson.

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal
Questions & Answers

THE OFFICIAL BALLOT WILL READ AS FOLLOWS:

OFFICIAL BALLOT
Election - Tuesday, August 5, 2014

PROPOSITION "A"

"SHALL THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, EXTEND A SALES TAX OF THREE- EIGHTHS (3/8ths) OF ONE PERCENT (1 %) FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS?"

Yes. ☐
No. ☐

Instructions to Voters

TO vote IN FAVOR OF the proposition, complete the arrow next to the word "YES".

TO vote AGAINST the proposition, complete the arrow next to the word "NO".

If passed, the continued sales tax would commence at 12:01 a. m., on the first day of January, 2015.

Area Wide Sales Tax Comparison

Carthage, MO	7.638 %
Webb City, MO	7.7 %
Joplin (Jasper Co.)	**7.825 %**
Neosho, MO	7.85 %
Joplin (Newton Co.)	**7.975 %**
Pittsburg, KS	8.9 %
Bentonville, AR	9.5 %
Miami, OK	9.5 %

Statewide Sales Tax Comparison

St. Charles	7.45 %
Independence (Clay Co.)	7.475 %
Springfield	7.6 %
Jefferson City	7.725 %
Independence (Jackson Co.)	7.725 %
Joplin (Jasper Co.)	**7.825 %**
Joplin (Newton Co.)	**7.975 %**
Cape Girardeau	7.975 %
Columbia	7.975 %
Sedalia	8.1 %
St. Joseph	8.2 %

Zora and Main Street Interchange

Main Street View - Project **Project Cost = $15 Million**



Before



After

Capital Improvement Sales Tax Renewal
Questions & Answers

2004 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT SALES TAX PROJECT LIST

ROADWAY	ROADWAY DESCRIPTION	PROJECTED COST
City Wide	City Overlay Program	5,375,000
32nd Street^^^	32nd Street (Main to Jackson) & Jackson Realignment	2,569,515
32nd Street^^^	32nd Street & Main Intersection	6,158,463
Connecticut^^^	Connecticut Avenue from Murphy to 30th Street	9,029,191
Maiden Lane	Maiden Lane from 20th Street to 30th Street	2,150,000
Maiden Lane	Maiden Lane from 9th Street to 17th Street***	7,695,260
20th Street^^^	20th Street & Main Intersection	406,501
26th Street^^^	Connecticut Viaduct at 26th Street	5,356,890
Schifferdecker	Schifferdecker Avenue, 7th Street to 32nd Street***	4,547,298
Murphy^^^	Murphy Boulevard from North Main to 7th Street	152,681
Zora^^^	Zora & Main Interchange & Overpass	5,028,452
26th Street	26th Street, Maiden Lane to Schifferdecker***	4,281,025
Zora	Zora from Range Line Road to Main	2,150,000
Broadway^^^	Broadway/Buchanan Road from St. Louis to Florida	1,086,041
City Wide^^^	West Bypass Corridor Study	202,115
St. Louis	St. Louis from Broadway to Zora	1,827,500
City Wide	Existing Traffic Signal Upgrades	2,150,000
CR 190^^^	County Road 190, 32nd Street to Interstate 44	1,428,747
Tristate^^^	Tristate Road, 1st Street to Perkins	907,844
20th Street	20th Street Overpass***	7,376,000
20th Street	20th Street Transit***	468,192

^^^ = Project Complete *** = Projects are under TIGER Grant approved in 2012

*** Projects are under TIGER Grant received in 2012

The City commonly pursues additional funding for projects through possible grants and/or partnering with state and federal agencies to help the local sales tax dollar go further.

In 2012, the City received federal funding through the TIGER grant program from U.S. Department of Transportation. (TIGER = Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery, or TIGER Discretionary Grant program) This grant provided the resources for the City to expand the scope of projects being addressed with the 2004 revenues, allowing the capital road improvements previously identified to be completed, as well assist in funding a road overpass across the Kansas City Southern railroad line near 20th and Michigan Avenue.

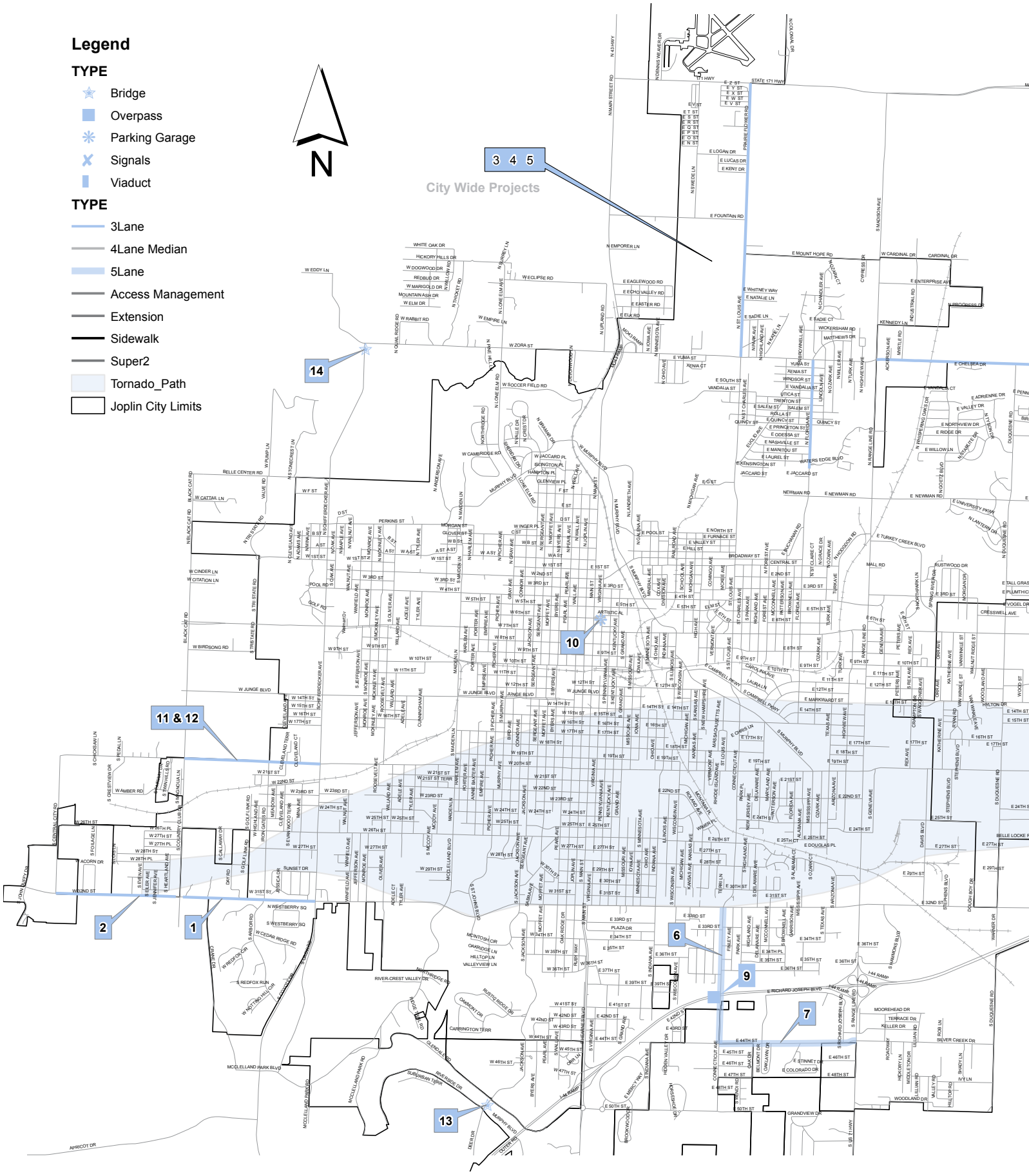
Railroad Overpass on Connecticut Avenue & 26th Street
Project Cost = $5.4 Million



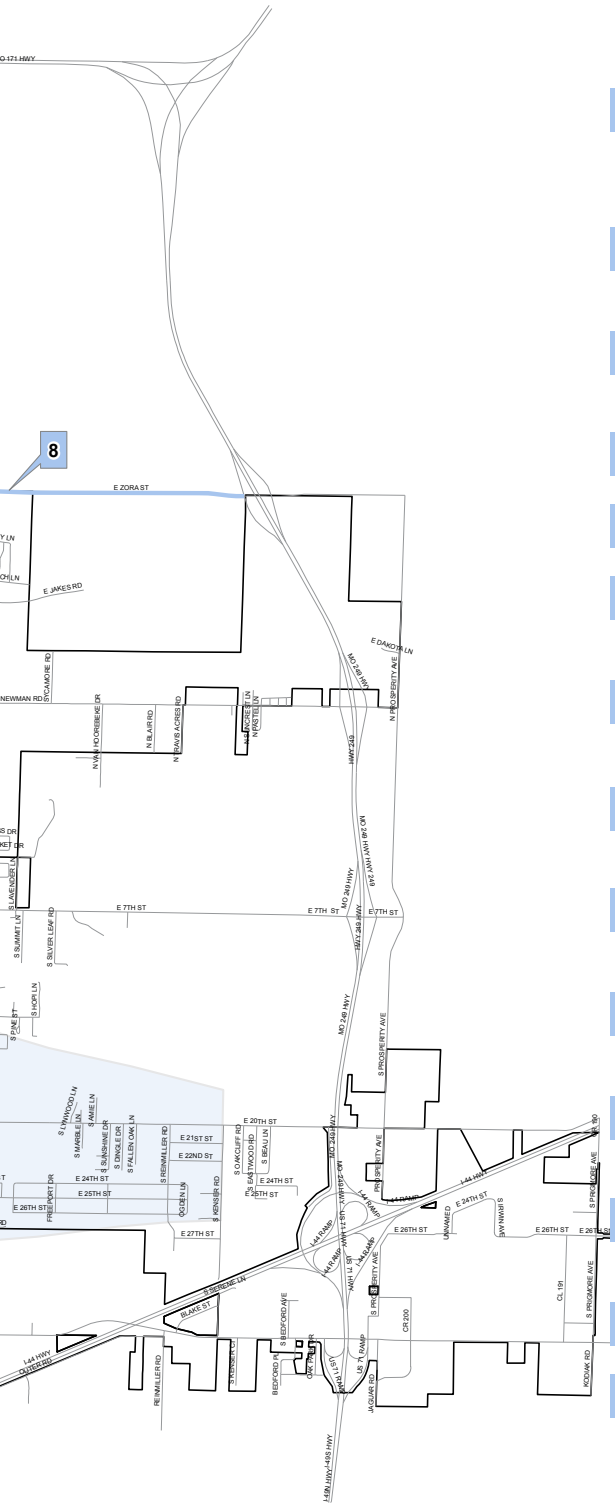
Before



After


Legend
TYPE
Bridge
Overpass
Parking Garage
Signals
Viaduct
TYPE
3Lane
4Lane Median
5Lane
Access Management
Extension
Sidewalk
Super2
Tornado_Path
Joplin City Limits
N
3 4 5
City Wide Projects
14
10
11 & 12
2
1
6
9
7
13

Impacted Project List



	ROADWAY	ROADWAY DESCRIPTION	PROJECTED COST
1	32nd Street	Schifferdecker to Country Club - Improve from 2 lane to 3 lane	5,939,000
2	32nd Street	Country Club to Central City Road - Improve from 2 lane to 3 lane	6,220,000
3	City Wide	Neighborhood Transportation Improvements	1,500,000
4	City Wide	Street Surface Repair	2,500,000
5	City Wide	Intersection Improvements	2,500,000
6	Connecticut	32nd to 44th - Improve from 2 lane to 5 lane	8,085,000
7	44th Street	Range Line to Connecticut - Improve from 2 lane to 5 lane	6,135,000
8	Zora	Range Line to MO 249 - Improve from 2 lane to 3 lane	3,308,000
9	Connecticut	Overpass at I-44 - Improve overpass to 4 lane	5,374,000
10	6th Street	6th Street & Virginia Parking Garage modifications	2,687,000
11	20th Street	20th - Schifferdecker to Country Club Road(Right of Way)	720,000
12	20th Street	20th - Schifferdecker to Country Club Road (3 Lane)	5,112,000
13	Jackson*	Bridge Replacement at Shoal Creek	973,000
14	Schifferdecker*	New bridge at Turkey Creek and connection with Zora	600,000
	TOTAL		**51,653,000**

*Shared project with County partner;
Projected Cost reflects City cost of total project

CITY OF JOPLIN MISSOURI
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JOPLIN RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

On August 5, 2014, Joplin voters will answer a question whether or not to renew the 3/8-cents sales tax to continue making improvements to Joplin roads.

This brochure provides you with information regarding this issue, as well as a listing and map of the proposed road improvement projects in Joplin. In addition, a listing of the19 capital improvement projects made during the past ten years is also included for your reference .
Thank you for your taking time to review this material.

Paid for by the City of Joplin
Samuel Anselm, Interim City Manager
602 South Main, Joplin, MO 64801