

Midway City Council
3 October 2023
Regular Meeting

Wasatch County Fire District /
New Tax

Proposition 9

“EMS Sales Tax”



HB 392 – RURAL COUNTY HEALTH CARE FACILITIES TAX AMENDMENTS

- **General Description:**
 - This bill modifies provisions related to the rural county health care facilities tax.
- **Highlighted Provisions:**
 - This bill:
 - defines terms;
 - clarifies that a third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class county may use revenue from a rural county health care facilities tax to fund rural emergency medical services;
- **Administrative charge:**
 - A county legislative body of a county of the third, fourth, fifth, or sixth class, may impose a sales and use tax of up to 1% on the transactions described in Subsection 59-12-103 of Utah State Code, located within the county.



What is Prop 9?

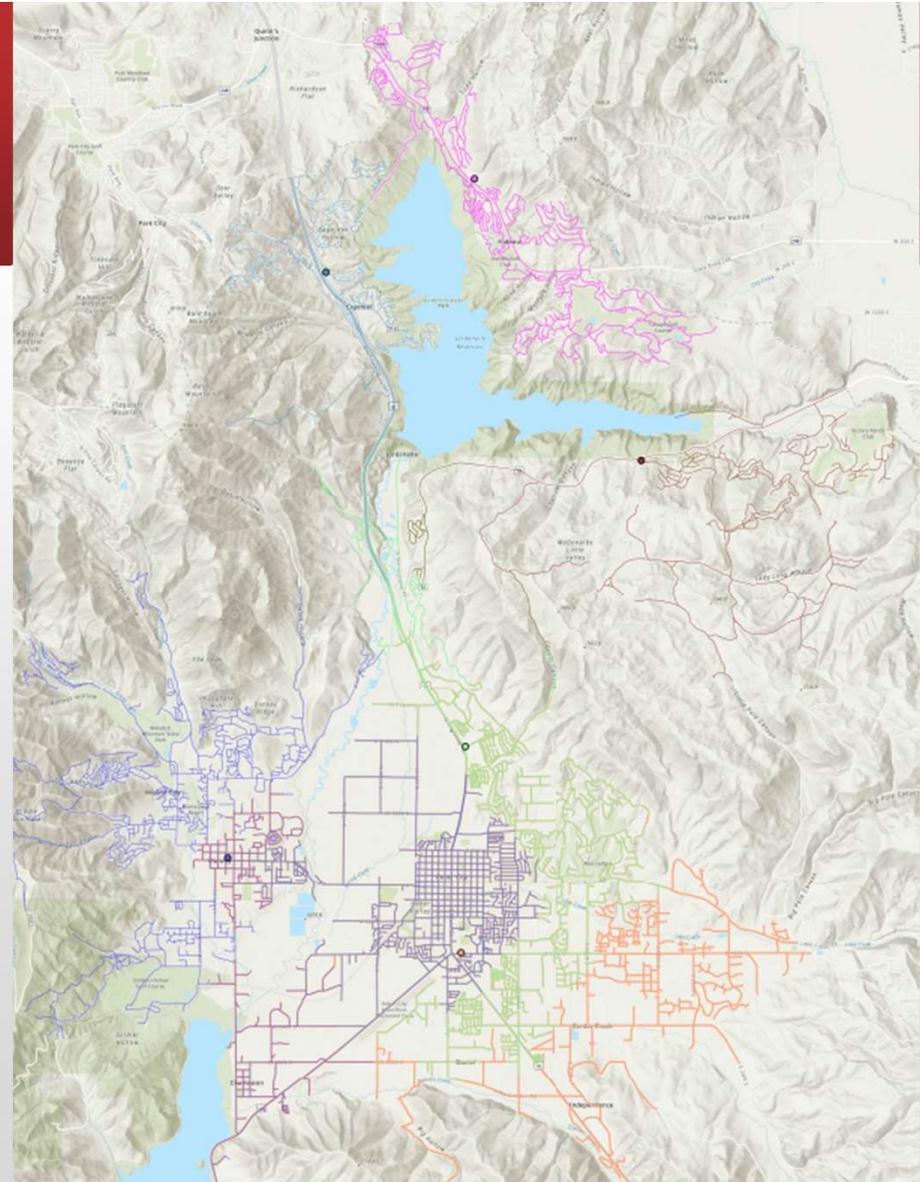
It is an upcoming 2023 Proposition that asks, “Shall Wasatch County, Utah be authorized to impose a 0.5% sales and use tax for the purpose of funding emergency medical services in Wasatch County.

This Ballot initiative gives Wasatch County residents the option of placing a charge on many taxable purchase made in the county for the purpose of enhancing the emergency response capabilities of the Wasatch Fire District.



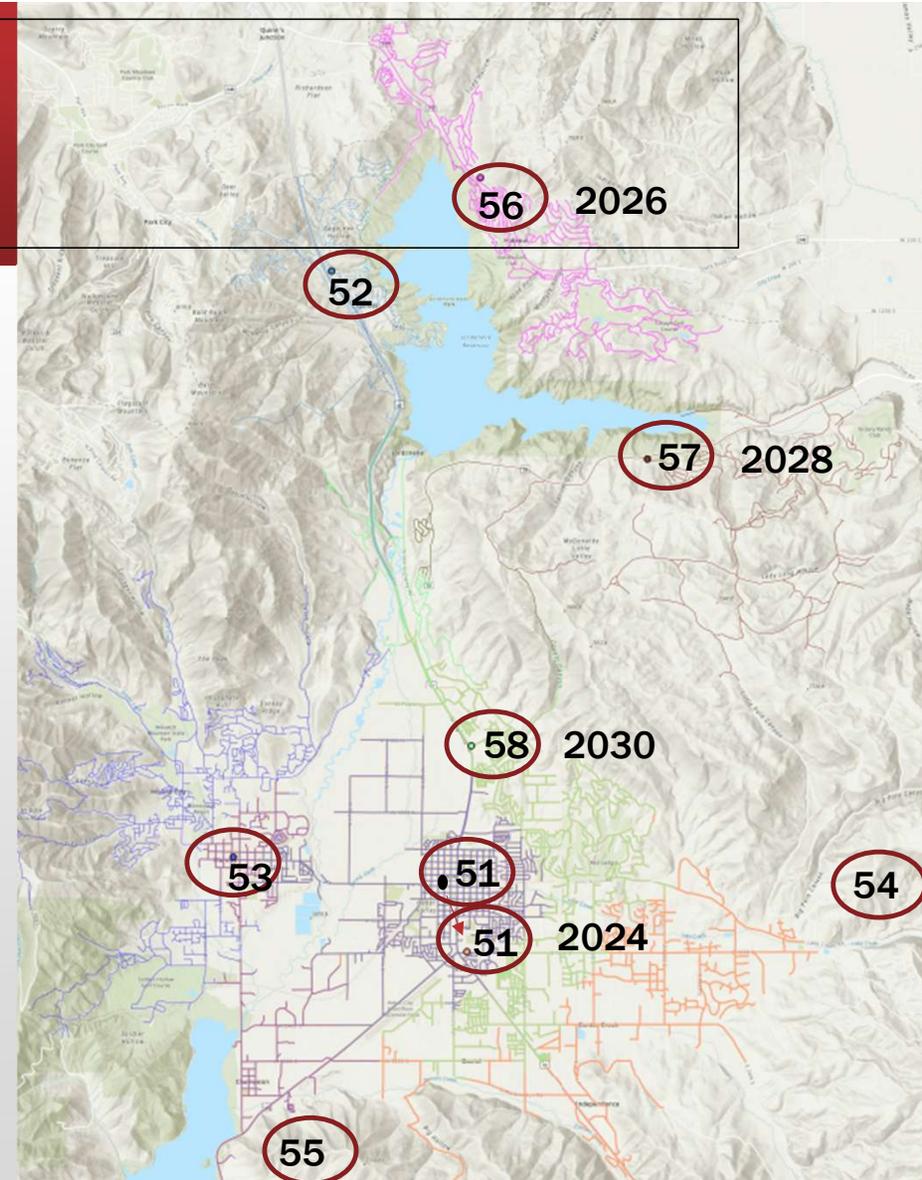
What is the current the funding mechanism?

- Funding –
 - Property Tax – 80% of operating budget
 - Impact fees (2019) – Specific Capital Projects
 - Fees for Service
 - Ambulance Transport
 - Fire Plan Review and Inspection Fees
 - Grants
 - Limited
 - Not Sustainable



Strategic Plan – Plan for the future.

- **Facilities**
 - Strategically Located
 - 6 to 8 Million a piece (2023 dollars)
 - In the next 10 years - Over \$25 million
- **Staffing**
 - To Meet Minimum National Standards
 - Adequate coverage
 - Competitive Pay
 - Growth Opportunities
- **Training**
 - Professional Development
 - Career Paths
- **Equipment**
 - Approximately \$10 million in Apparatus
 - Appoximently \$3 million in Equipment.



Who pays the tax?

- Most taxable purchase for goods and Services
- This would include purchases made by residents, tourist, visitors and non-residents.
- It is estimated that at **50 %** of the sales tax revenue would come from non-county residents.



How much money would an EMS tax generate?

- The 5/10 of 1% will generate approximately \$5,200,000.00 in the first year. It is anticipated the revenue would grow over time as the population and tourism increase throughout the County.



What does this mean to me and my budget?

- Every family is different but the best way to calculate it is to take a purchase of \$10 and add 5 cents to it.



- Favorite Beverage - \$2.50
 - Increase cost of \$0.01



What about property taxes?



- The Fire District will continue to collect property taxes, as this tax applies to EMS Services.
- However, since 70% to 80 % of the services provided by the Fire District are EMS related,
- It is anticipated that this tax revenue will significantly reduce the need for the Fire District to increase property tax in the foreseeable future.

Sales Tax Comparisons

Location	Combined Sales Tax -Current	Rural Hospital (EMS)	Proposed Adjusted
Wasatch Co	6.45%	.5%	6.95%
Heber	6.75%	.5%	7.25%
Independence	7.55%	.5%	8.05%
Midway	7.85%	.5%	8.35%
Park City East	8.35%	.5%	8.85%
MIDA – All	7.55%	.5%	8.05%
Summit Co	7.15%	TBD	7.15%
Park City	9.05%	TBD	9.05%
Snyderville Bas.	7.45%	TBD	7.45%
Utah County	7.15%	N/A	7.15%
Provo / Orem	7.25%	N/A	7.25%
Salt Lake Co	7.25%	N/A	7.25%



Goal – Proposition 9 – EMS Sales Tax

Decrease	Decrease financial burden primarily on local property owners.
Offset	Offset costs to providing EMS service to Non-residents, Visitors and Guest of Wasatch County
Enhance	Enhance availability of adequate resources to provide service to community
Promote	Promote a well prepared and safe community.



Questions

- **Contact Information**
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