

## WHAT IS THE BALLOT QUESTION?

Registered voters in Helotes will be able to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the following proposition:

"The reauthorization of the local sales and use tax in the City of Helotes, Texas, at the rate of one-fourth of one percent to continue providing revenue for maintenance and repair of municipal streets. The tax expires on the fourth anniversary of the date of this election unless the imposition of the tax is reauthorized."

**THE CITY OF HELOTES WILL HOLD AN ELECTION ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023, ASKING VOTERS TO REAUTHORIZE THE 0.25% STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE REVENUE FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF EXISTING CITY STREETS.**

The street maintenance sales tax expires on March 31, 2024. The tax is not new, it does not increase the sales tax rate in Helotes, nor does it affect the property tax rate.



## VOTER RESOURCES

### IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES



October 10, 2023  
Last day to register to vote



October 23, 2023  
Early voting begins



November 3, 2023  
Early voting ends



November 7, 2023  
Election day

## VOTER REGISTRATION QUESTIONS?

Visit Bexar County Elections Website at:  
[www.bexar.org/1568/Elections-Department](http://www.bexar.org/1568/Elections-Department)



## ELECTION 2023 REAUTHORIZATION OF STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX



The purpose of this FAQ brochure is to provide factual information.



## WHAT IS A STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX?

Texas Tax Code, Chapter 327, authorizes all cities to establish a special sales tax rate of up to 1/4th of one percent (0.25%) for the repair and maintenance of existing city streets. The establishment or continuation of the tax has a four-year term unless it is reauthorized through an election by city's voters.

Currently, a 0.25 cent sales tax is collected from all sales transactions occurring within the City of Helotes that are subject to sales tax. This equals 2.5 cents on a \$10 purchase or 25 cents on a \$100 purchase. Non-residents who purchase goods in Helotes and utilize the city streets share the cost of maintaining/repairing the streets through the sales tax.

## WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF A STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX?

The taxes collected provide funds for rehabilitation and preventive maintenance of public streets within the city limits of Helotes. The goal is to improve mobility infrastructure and maintain roadways to prevent deterioration and costly rebuilds.



### HOW IS THE MONEY SPENT?

Funds collected from the street maintenance sales tax are dedicated to the maintenance or repair of municipal streets and sidewalks in existence on the date of the election to adopt or reauthorize the tax. Funds collected may not be legally used to build new roads.



### HOW LONG HAS HELOTES BEEN COLLECTING A STREET MAINTENANCE SALES TAX?

Helotes voters initially approved the street maintenance sales tax in November 2015 and the City began collecting the dedicated tax revenue in April 2016. Most recently, voters reauthorized the tax in May 2019.



### HOW MANY PUBLIC STREETS DOES HELOTES HAVE?

Helotes has approximately 45.65 miles of City-owned streets. Included within these roadways are 31 miles of curbs and over 100 storm water structures such as inlets, bridges, outflows, and culverts.



### HOW DOES THE CITY DETERMINE WHAT STREETS WILL BE MAINTAINED OR REPAIRED FIRST?

In 2018, Public Works established a street maintenance program, which schedules the maintenance and repair of all city-owned streets. After staff prepares their recommendation, a Street Maintenance Plan is presented to the City Council to finalize the streets program.



### WHAT WOULD BE THE EFFECT IF THE REAUTHORIZATION IS DISAPPROVED BY HELOTES VOTERS?

If the reauthorization of the street maintenance sales tax is disapproved, the City would not be able to maintain or repair municipal streets and sidewalks as it has in the past.



### WHAT IS THE CURRENT SALES AND USE TAX RATE IN HELOTES?

The current total sales and use tax rate in the City of Helotes is 8.25%. The rate breakdown is:

- 6.25% – State of Texas;
- 0.50% – City of Helotes Economic Development Corporation (approved by voters in February 2003);
- 1.25% – City of Helotes General Fund used for general operating purposes; and
- 0.25% – City of Helotes Street Maintenance Fund (expiring March 31, 2024).



### WILL MY PROPERTY TAX RATE CHANGE?

No, this election has nothing to do with property tax rates in Helotes.