

Proposition A on the upcoming May 4th election ballot asks Friendswood voters to reauthorize the 0.375% street maintenance sales and use tax to continue providing revenue for the maintenance and repair of existing city streets and sidewalks.

The street maintenance sales and use tax is not new, it does not increase the sales and use tax rate in Friendswood, nor does it affect the property tax rate. The street maintenance sales and use tax expires on November 3, 2024, unless reauthorized by Friendswood voters.

## **STREET MAINTENANCE SALES AND USE TAX FAQs**

### **What is the street maintenance sales and use tax?**

The sales and use tax for street maintenance is a dedicated city sales and use tax, the revenue of which may be spent only on the maintenance and repair of existing municipal streets and sidewalks.

### **What is its purpose?**

The funds collected provide cost-effective rehabilitation and preventive maintenance of municipal streets and sidewalks within the city. The goal is to improve mobility infrastructure and maintain roadways to prevent deterioration and costly rebuilds.

### **How many miles of streets does the city maintain?**

The city maintains approximately 186.1 miles of municipal streets.

### **When was the street maintenance sales and use tax adopted?**

On May 7, 2016, in a special election, the citizens of the City of Friendswood voted for the imposition of a street maintenance sales and use tax at the rate of three-eighths ( $3/8$ ) of one percent (1%). This tax must be reauthorized every four years by voters, or it will expire. The street maintenance sales and use tax was reauthorized by voters on November 3, 2020, and will expire on November 3, 2024, unless reauthorized by the voters.

### **Does the street maintenance sales and use tax raise my property taxes?**

No, the street maintenance tax is a sales and use tax, not a property tax. It is levied on qualifying purchases within the city limits. Therefore, visitors, who do not pay property taxes to the city but utilize city streets, contribute to their maintenance and repair costs when they make taxable purchases within the city.

### **When can I vote on the street maintenance sales and use tax?**

The City of Friendswood's reauthorization election for the street maintenance sales and use tax is scheduled for May 4, 2024. For more information on the election, voting locations, and hours visit [www.ci.friendswood.tx.us](http://www.ci.friendswood.tx.us).

### **What is the street maintenance sales and use tax ballot question?**

Voters will be able to vote "FOR" or "AGAINST" the following proposition:

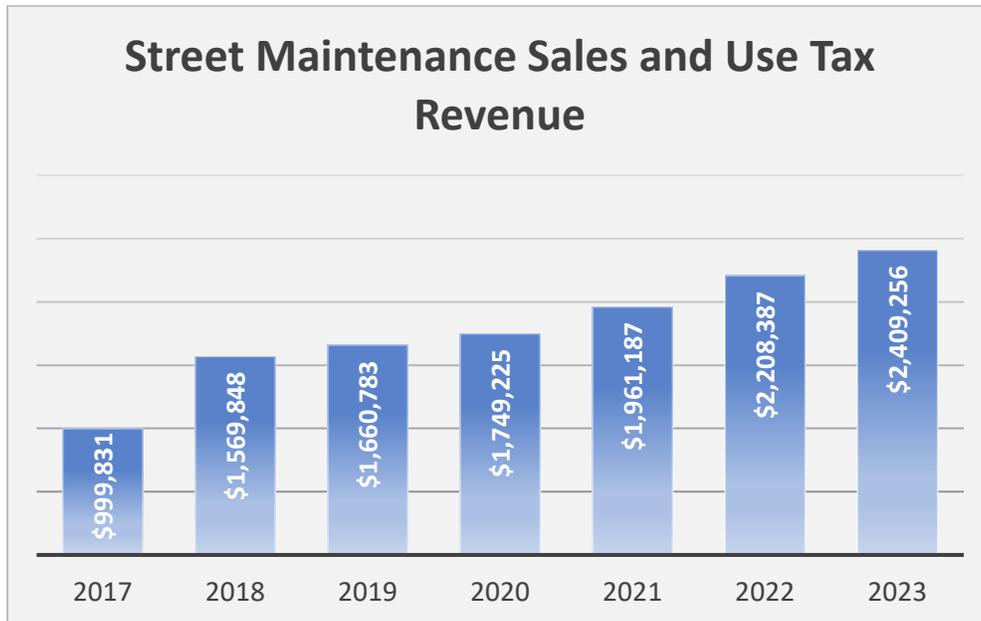
THE REAUTHORIZATION OF THE LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX IN THE CITY OF FRIENDSWOOD AT THE RATE OF THREE-EIGHTHS OF ONE PERCENT TO CONTINUE PROVIDING REVENUE FOR MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF MUNICIPAL STREETS. THE TAX EXPIRES ON THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE DATE OF THIS ELECTION UNLESS THE IMPOSITION OF THE TAX IS REAUTHORIZED.

### **Can anyone vote on the street maintenance sales and use tax?**

No, only registered voters of the City of Friendswood can vote on the reauthorization of the street maintenance sales and use tax. For this May 4, 2024, election, residents must register to vote no later than April 4, 2024.

**How much revenue is collected with the street maintenance sales and use tax?**

In the past seven years, the city’s street maintenance sales and use tax revenue has averaged approximately \$149,506 per month or approximately \$1.8M a year in revenue for use on city streets and sidewalks.



**What street and/or sidewalk maintenance and repair projects have been completed or are in progress using this revenue?**

Some of the street maintenance and repair projects supported by the street maintenance sales and use tax include:

- Blackhawk Boulevard Phase 2-B,
- Blackhawk Boulevard Phase 2-C,
- Cowards Creek Drive,
- Garden Drive,
- Murphy Lane,
- Greenbriar Drive,
- Bay Area Boulevard,
- River Side Court,
- Whittier Oaks Drive,
- Pennystone Way, and many others.

**How does the city decide which streets and sidewalks to repair and when my street is going to be fixed?**

The city uses a pavement condition index ("PCI") to inventory conditions of all city streets. All streets will be prioritized so that the worst-scoring streets are targeted for maintenance or repair first.

**What happens if the street maintenance sales and use tax is not reauthorized?**

If the reauthorization of the street maintenance sales and use tax is disapproved, the city may not be able to maintain or repair municipal streets and sidewalks in the same manner as it has in the past because this funding source would no longer be available. To raise the same amount of revenues that the city has collected over the past four years (~\$2.1M annually) from property taxes instead of these sales and use taxes, a homeowner, whose net taxable property value (after applicable exemptions) is \$300,000, will have to pay approximately \$126 more in property taxes annually.

**Where else can I find information?**

Access the [Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts Tax Guide on Street Maintenance Sales Tax](#).