

## NOVEMBER 10 SPECIAL ELECTION FOR PUBLIC SAFETY, STREETS

On November 10, Broken Arrow voters will be asked to renew a majority of the Vision 2025 sales tax in Tulsa County. It's important to know that sales tax revenue collected in Broken Arrow from the Vision 2025 renewal will be used specifically to hire police officers, firefighters, purchase public safety equipment and improve streets and sidewalks in the City of Broken Arrow.

Broken Arrow residents are benefiting from the many positive changes Vision 2025 has made in our community. In 2003, Tulsa County voters approved a 13-year, 6/10 of one penny sales tax increase to fund regional economic development and capital improvement throughout Tulsa County. In Broken Arrow, Vision 2025 funded significant economic, educational and quality of life projects, such as expansion of NSU Broken Arrow, the Rose District, the Nienhuis Aquatic Center and more.

Vision 2025 is set to expire at the end of 2016, unless voters authorize its extension. In March 2015, city leaders from Bixby, Broken Arrow, Collinsville, Jenks, Owasso, Sand Springs, Skiatook and Tulsa announced plans to renew Vision 2025 and restructure the program so that projects are decided on and managed at the city, rather than the county level. The City of Broken Arrow proposes to extend 55 hundredths of a penny (\$0.0055) of the existing Vision 2025 sales tax. This would be a permanent tax to fund public safety and street improvements.

### Why Does the City Want to Renew Vision 2025?

- Increases to the City's population have significantly outpaced the growth of the Police Department. Additionally, the increasing complexity of responses, such as mental health and domestic violence calls, increased community policing efforts, and more in depth training requirements require more time and resources. Responses by the Fire Department grew by 88 percent in the last 10 years, while full-time firefighter/paramedics increased only 22 percent.
- The City of Broken Arrow has 347 subdivisions. More than two-third need major road repairs. Visit [www.brokenarrowok.gov/visionalive](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov/visionalive) to view the Streets Maintenance 5-Year Plan map.
- A citizen-led committee, which was formed to identify opportunities for cost savings and increased revenues for the City of Broken Arrow, recommended renewing the expiring Vision 2025 sales tax.

### VISION 2025 RENEWAL HIGHLIGHTS

#### PUBLIC SAFETY

- Hire 20 new firefighters
- Hire 20 new police officers

#### STREETS

- Improve streets and sidewalks
- Alleviate traffic congestion



### FAQs

#### Q: Will this raise our taxes?

A: No, for Tulsa County residents, taxes will not go up as a result of extending Vision 2025. The Tulsa County sales tax rate will remain the same, because voters will be renewing an existing tax. There will be a slight sales tax increase for the Wagoner County portion of Broken Arrow.

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#### Stay in touch!

[www.brokenarrowok.gov](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov)

City Hall  
220 S. First Street  
918-251-5311

Action Center 258-3587  
One Stop Center 259-2411  
LifeRide 259-6595

[www.youtube.com/CityofBA](http://www.youtube.com/CityofBA)  
[www.facebook.com/CityofBA](http://www.facebook.com/CityofBA)  
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*Vision FAQs, From page 1***Q: How will the sales tax revenue be spent?**

A: The revenue generated from the renewed Vision 2025 sales tax will remain in Broken Arrow to benefit Broken Arrow residents. If both propositions pass, the City will hire 20 new police officers and 20 new firefighters/paramedics, purchase public safety equipment and improve streets and sidewalks. The annual estimated revenue is \$7.2 million.

**Q: What will happen if voters do not approve the propositions?**

A: Currently, a police officer responds to almost every call for help. If the public safety proposition does not pass, the police department would have to prioritize which calls officers would respond to, resulting in a cut to services. The Fire Department plans to build a new Fire Station No. 7. Staffing that new fire station would be delayed. If the streets proposition fails, the Streets Department would continue to fall behind on maintenance and repairs to existing roads. Currently, there is a back log of repairs to streets that need to be made. With continued growth, Broken Arrow's streets will deteriorate, if repairs are not made in a timely manner.

The current revenue generated by sales taxes is not enough to sustain the level of services the City provides, because the rate at which Broken Arrow is adding citizens far outpaces the revenue generated by sales taxes. Broken Arrow, like all municipalities in Oklahoma, relies on sales taxes as its primary source of operating revenue.

**Q: When is the election?**

A: The Broken Arrow election will be held November 10, 2015.

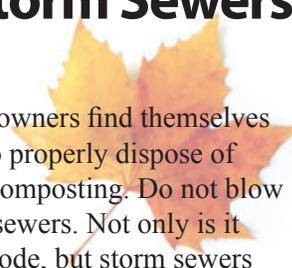
**Q: Do other cities in Tulsa County plan to extend Vision 2025?**

A: Yes. Bixby, Collinsville, Jenks, Owasso, Sand Springs, Skiatook and Tulsa are all planning to extend Vision 2025.

**Q: Where can I get more information?**

A: Visit [www.brokenarrowok.gov/visionalive](http://www.brokenarrowok.gov/visionalive) to view the propositions and download documents. You may also talk to City staff by calling 918-251-5311.

## Keep Streets and Storm Sewers Free of Leaves



It's that time of year when property owners find themselves inundated by fall leaves. Remember to properly dispose of your leaves by bagging, mulching or composting. Do not blow or rake leaves into the street or storm sewers. Not only is it a violation of City of Broken Arrow Code, but storm sewers clogged with leaves, grass clippings and other debris create flooding hazards.

Section 12-6 of the Code of Ordinances addresses unlawful deposits:

"It shall be unlawful for any person to throw, sweep or otherwise deposit, into or upon the streets, alleys, parkings, sidewalks or other public places of the city, any garbage, trash, paper, rubbish, grass, weeds, tree trimmings, dirt, crates, boxes or other refuse of any kind. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to deposit any garbage, trash or other refuse upon private property, whether owned by such person or not, within the limits of the city, unless the same shall be enclosed in a suitable container."

The City's Sanitation Division will remove up to ten 30-gallon size or smaller bags during regular trash pickup at no additional cost. Each additional bag beyond ten will be charged \$1.25 per bag. (Note: Bags sized over 30 gallons are counted as two bags.)

For composting tips, visit <http://metrecycle.com/composting-2/>.

### Shop Local for the Holidays

#### *Buy Broken Arrow*

Each year during the holidays, the Broken Arrow Area Chamber of Commerce holds an annual *Buy Broken Arrow* Campaign that promotes the many wonderful businesses that are a part of our community. This year's campaign will begin on Nov. 1 and continue through mid-December.

When you shop or dine with participating Broken Arrow merchants, you receive tickets for your chance to win part of \$15,000 in cash and additional prizes! For more information, check these websites: [www.bachamber.com](http://www.bachamber.com), [www.fb.com/buybrokenarrow](http://www.fb.com/buybrokenarrow) or [www.BrokenArrowOK.gov](http://www.BrokenArrowOK.gov).

Remember to Buy Broken Arrow!

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**November 1 — Buy Broken Arrow kicks off** (see related story)

**November 3 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**November 5 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**November 5 to December 12 — 2015 Christmas Tree Exhibit**, BA History Museum. For hours and more details, call 918-258-2616 or visit [www.bahistoricalsociety.com](http://www.bahistoricalsociety.com).

**November 7 — United Methodist Women's Heart of the Crafter Show**, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., FUMC Activity Building, 112 E. College Rd. For details call 918-251-5898.

**November 10 — Special Election Day** (see related story)

**November 11 — City offices closed for Veterans Day Holiday.**

**November 12 — Annual Holiday Tea Off**, Rose District Open House with drawings, refreshments, and local

entertainment, 6 to 9 p.m., Main Street. For more information, call 918-251-7484.

**November 12 — Spotlight Series: Liza Minnelli** 7:30 p.m., BAPAC, 701 S. Main Street. Call 918-259-5778 for details.

**November 17 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**November 19 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**November 21 — Basketball Turkey Shoot**, 10 a.m., Central Park Community Center. Call 918-259-8437 for details.

**November 26-27 — City offices closed for Thanksgiving Holiday.**

**December 1 — Broken Arrow City Council** 6:30 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.

**December 3 — Planning Commission** 5 p.m., City Hall Council Chambers, 220 S. First St.