

Public Safety Trust Fund 2014 Fire Sales Tax Renewal

Official Ballot Language

For a full sample ballot with all candidates and issues, please visit the Cape Girardeau County website at www.capecounty.us

PROPOSITION

Shall the City of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, extend the imposition of the City's existing fire sales tax of one-eighth of one percent (1/8 of 1%) beyond its current expiration date for the purpose of providing revenues for the operation of the Cape Girardeau Municipal Fire Department? This one-eighth of one percent (1/8 of 1%) sales tax extension shall expire on December 31, 2035. YES [] NO []

PUBLIC SAFETY TRUST FUND

The Public Safety Trust Fund was established to track the use of the Fire Tax. All revenue generated by the Fire Sales Tax is used for the Fire Department. Some General Fund Revenue otherwise designated for the Fire Department will be made available to fund needs in the Police Department via the Public Safety Trust Fund.



Find more information and contact methods on our website at:
www.cityofcapegirardeau.org



Subscribe to public safety announcements
and find social media at cityofcape.org/news

Fire Department
1 S. Sprigg
573-339-6330
cityofcape.org/fire
fire@cityofcape.org

Police Department
40 S. Sprigg
573-339-6621
cityofcape.org/police
police@cityofcape.org

CITY of CAPE GIRARDEAU



Fire Sales Tax Renewal 2014 Vote November 4



Cape Girardeau is fortunate to have outstanding public safety personnel helping to protect its more than 38,000 residents and estimated 100,000-person daytime population. As our city grows, the number of reported crime incidents and accidents can grow. To maintain critical services for our citizens, we need to provide public safety personnel with adequate facilities and vehicles through the Fire Tax and Public Safety Trust Fund.

The Fire Tax Renewal: Critical Needs for Critical Services

- Keep Cape Safe
- Keep the Tax the Same
- Keep the Facilities and Vehicles Up-to-Date

Keep Cape Safe



Your Fire and Police Departments are working hard to provide the best services possible with limited resources. All firefighters respond to a variety of rescue calls and are additionally trained as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT). Some firefighters are also paramedics. Their response times are typically under six minutes, which is under the national average and required county ambulance service response times. This fast first response is a factor in lowering home and business insurance rates. Fast, professional first response requires that all of our fire stations are appropriately located, staffed and equipped.

Any call for service could become dangerous. Our police officers and firefighters train frequently so they can protect people and preserve property as effectively as possible. See video: youtube.com/cityofcape



Before the Fire Tax, fire and police vehicles were frequently out of service due to their age and high mileage.

The Police Department responds to a tremendous call volume, including nearly 52,000 calls for services in 2013 alone. Their recently-formed Street and Violent Crimes task forces have already been removing weapons and criminals from your streets. Small and outdated, their current headquarters is simply not functional for the needs of a high-performance department.

To do the best possible job in keeping citizens safe, the 168 men and women of the Fire and

Police Departments need adequate facilities and vehicles. Their operating budgets do not cover facility, vehicle or special equipment needs. Large portions – 90 percent of the Fire Department and 83 percent of the Police Department budgets – are spent on personnel. Staff continues to seek grant funding, partnerships and new ways to stretch budget dollars.



Serving the northwest quadrant of the city, Fire Station 4 is the last of the quaint neighborhood fire houses. Once a “quiet” station when it opened in 1974, Station 4’s district has expanded significantly over the years. In addition to protecting a growing number of commercial and residential developments, and much of Interstate 55, Station 4 responds through an automatic-aid agreement to all incidents in Cape Girardeau County involving potential rescues and extrications.

Keep the Tax the Same

Voting YES to renew the Fire Tax will not increase the current tax rate. The first Fire Tax approved by voters in 2004 was a one-quarter of one percent sales tax to fund fire and police department expenses. Half of that revenue source, which is one-eighth of one percent, is permanent and used for operating expenses. The other half will expire Dec. 31, 2014 and has been used for capital improvements associated with the fire and police departments.

Keep Facilities & Vehicles Up-to-Date

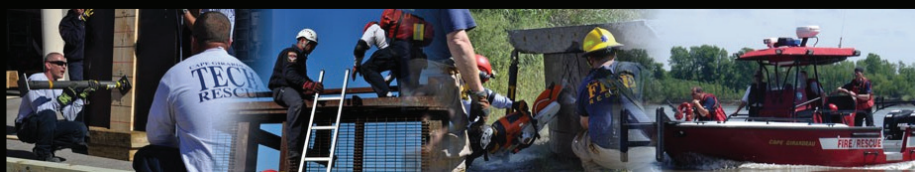
The revenue generated from this one-eighth of one percent sales tax is expected to be \$1.2 million per year through 2035.

Vehicles and Apparatus (\$600,000 per year)

Keep public safety vehicle replacement aligned with industry standards: Fire apparatus every 10-15 years, Police vehicles every 7-10 years.

Facilities (\$600,000 per year)

Covers necessary renovations to Fire Stations 1 and 2 and replaces Fire Station 4. The Police Station would also be replaced with additional funding from the restaurant tax and casino funds.



CITY of CAPE GIRARDEAU
Fire and Police Departments

