

Atchison Co voters asked to "Repeal and Replace" sales tax

(KAIR)--The long controversial Atchison County-wide 1-percent sales tax to fund solid waste and joint communications could become a past issue depending on how voters choose November 8.

During the approaching general election, Atchison County voters are being asked "shall Atchison County be authorized to impose three-fourths of one percent sales tax countywide," which would replace the current sales tax in funding joint communications and solid waste disposal.

If approved, the .75-percent sales tax would expire in 10-years, as required by state statute.

According to County estimates, the proposal would lower the sales tax in incorporated cities from 8.75-percent to 8.5-percent.

The current sales tax in unincorporated areas of Atchison County stands at 7.75-percent, but would drop to 7.5 percent if yes votes are the majority outcome.

The current sales tax, approved in 1993 by voters, has long been a point of contention between the City and County of Atchison, with the two sides, since passage, unable to come to terms on the handling of the generated funds.

The City of Atchison has taken to social media in opposition to the "Repeal and Replace" ballot measure, with the City claiming that if the new sales tax is approved, City of Atchison residents would need to pay an additional fee on Atchison water bills, meaning residents would pay an additional \$19.25 a month, or \$231 annually, to fund the collection of trash and recycling.

That's because the City, the social media post says, "uses it's portion of the [current] one-cent sales tax to fund curbside trash and recycling collections."

meanwhile, in person, advance voting, continues in Atchison County.

That's according to a release from the Atchison County Clerk's Office, which says daily hours to vote at the Atchison County Courthouse Clerk's Office are 8:30 to 5 pm weekdays.

Extended hours are also planned for advanced voting in person, with that to happen Wednesday until 7 pm and Saturday, November 5 from 10 until 2:00.

In person advance voting will end at noon Monday, November 7.

Many Signals Communications