

Putting it to U\$e

LOCAL USE TAX • VOTE APRIL 3

what if I vote YES?

- Allows Belton to collect taxes lost when purchases are made online.
- Adds an estimated \$200,000-\$300,000 to revenue for vital city services like police and fire equipment, as well as public facilities and infrastructure.
- If you already pay a local sales tax, you will NOT pay a local use tax. You pay one or the other.

what if I vote NO?

- May eliminate up to \$300,000 annually from City budget.
- Possible reduction of equipment and services like public safety and public works.
- City continues to lose sales tax revenue to online sales.
- Sales volume at local retailers continues to decline as online sales increase, which could jeopardize the future of Belton retailers.

what can the City do with this revenue?

\$200,000-\$300,000 CAN HELP FUND:



CAPITAL ITEMS INCLUDING
NEW POLICE & FIRE EQUIPMENT



PUBLIC FACILITIES
& INFRASTRUCTURE

Your questions answered at www.belton.org

LOCAL USE TAX ELECTION **FAQs**

▶ **What is a Use Tax?**

The local use tax is a tax on the purchase of goods from out-of-state businesses that would normally not charge sales tax or from goods purchased online. If approved, the local use tax rate mirrors the local sales tax rate.

▶ **What's the difference between a sales tax and a use tax?**

The Missouri legislature requires every city to have voters approve a local use tax by November 2018 or lose local tax revenue on e-commerce purchases.

Sales and use taxes **WILL NOT** and **CAN NOT** be applied at the same time. Shoppers would pay 2.75% sales tax (Belton's rate) at local retailers **OR** pay 2.75% use tax on purchases made online from out-of-state businesses with a physical presence in Missouri (Target, Amazon, Walmart, etc.).

More info at www.belton.org

▶ **Is this a new tax?**

No. The local use tax is the legal mechanism to ensure taxes paid by Belton residents are returned to local government to maintain ongoing city services.

The tax collected from online sales would be the same as the local 2.75% sales tax rate already in place. You pay one or the other, but **NEVER** both.

**IF APPROVED, COULD ADD
\$200,000-\$300,000**

**TO ANNUAL BELTON
CITY REVENUE
FROM ONLINE SALES**

▶ **Do other cities have a use tax?**

More than 130, including:

- Grandview, MO
- Kansas City, MO
- Peculiar, MO
- Gladstone, MO
- Sedalia, MO
- St. Joseph, MO
- Clinton, MO
- Excelsior Springs, MO

Other Missouri cities are considering a use tax in 2018.

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Graphics courtesy: City of Grandview, MO