

CALL FOR SPECIAL ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with O.C.G.A. § 21-2-540 and O.C.G.A. § 48-8-111, a Special Election shall be held in Catoosa County for the purpose of submitting to the voters the following question for approval or rejection:

“Whether a one percent County Special Purpose Local Option Sales and Use Tax (the “SPLOST”) shall be imposed on all sales and uses in the special district created in Catoosa County for a period of six (6) years and for the raising of approximately \$96,000,000 for the purpose of funding capital outlay projects (the “Projects”) specified in the form of the ballot set forth below.”

The Special Election will be held on: March 12, 2024.

All persons who are not registered to vote and desire to register to vote in the special election may register to vote through the close of business on Monday, Feb. 12, 2024.

Advance Voting will be held Monday through Friday from February 19, 2024, to March 8, 2024, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Saturday voting will be held on Feb. 24, 2024, and March 2, 2024, between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m.

Extended hours voting will take place on Thursday, March 7, 2024, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Advance voting poll locations (open for advance voting, extended hours, and Saturday Voting):

1. Freedom Center, 5238 Evitt Street, Ringgold, GA 30736.
2. Westside Voting Precinct, 3319 Lakeview Drive, Rossville, GA 30741.

Polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

This is the 13th day of December 2023.

BOARD OF ELECTIONS

By: Ricky Kittle
Its: Elections Superintendent

Publish dates: 12-13-23, 2-14-24, 2-21-24, 2-28-24, 3-6-24

“2024 Special Purpose Local Option Sales Tax (SPLOST) Referendum”

REFERENDUM FOR THE IMPOSITION OF ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX AS AUTHORIZED BY THE OFFICIAL CODE OF GEORGIA ANNOTATED SECTIONS 48-8-110 THROUGH 48-8-121; SPECIFYING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX ARE TO BE USED AND MAY BE EXPENDED; SPECIFYING THE ESTIMATED MAXIMUM PERIOD OF TIME FOR WHICH SUCH TAX MAY BE IMPOSED; AND SPECIFYING THE MAXIMUM COST OF THE PROJECTS TO BE FUNDED FROM THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX

Shall a special one percent (1%) Special Purpose Local Option Sales and use Tax (SPLOST) be imposed in Catoosa County for a period not to exceed six (6) calendar years beginning upon the termination of the existing SPLOST presently in effect, and for the purpose of raising not more than a total of \$96,000,000.00 of net proceeds by said tax, which shall go to the Catoosa County Board of Commissioners, of which 5.03% would go to the City of Ringgold, 14.83% would go to the City of Fort Oglethorpe, and the remainder would be spent by Catoosa County, with such expenditures to be spent for capital outlay projects and for paying for the expenses incident to accomplish the purposes for these monies which would be as follows: by Catoosa County for construction, replacement, improvement and expansion of selected sewer projects by the County, including the acquisition of all easements, real and personal property necessary therefore; construction, replacement, improvement and expansion of public sewer lines, pump stations and systems; construction, replacement, expansion and improvement of public roads and streets; construction, replacement, expansion and improvement of storm water capital facilities; construction, improvement, replacement, expansion and acquisition of capital improvements and equipment for fire protection, including land and improvements thereon for fire stations; construction, replacement, improvement and expansion of E911 capital facilities; capital equipment and vehicles for police protection; construction, improvement, replacement, expansion and acquisition of capital improvements for police protection, including land and improvements for detention facilities; capital equipment and vehicles for public works; public grounds, public building construction, replacement, expansion and improvement; capital expansion and improvement of County comprehensive recreation properties and facilities owned by the County; Global Information Systems workstations, software, improvements and mapping and other information technology; courthouse construction, replacement, expansion and improvement; legal services, engineering fees, design costs and incidental expenses incurred in connection therewith, in the total projected goal amount of \$76,934,400; by the City of Fort Oglethorpe for construction, replacement, improvement and expansion of capital outlay projects in the City of Fort Oglethorpe for sewer, street, storm water, water or other capital outlay projects, as well as appurtenances thereto; motor vehicles and equipment for police, public safety, public works and code enforcement; acquisition, construction improvement and expansion of buildings, grounds and renovations; Global Information Systems work stations, including software and mapping; construction, improvement and expansion of West Chickamauga Creek sewer interceptor system;

recreation improvements and enhancements; downtown enhancements, including sidewalks, construction, replacement, and renovation of public buildings and structures; land and equipment acquisitions including communications equipment; legal services, engineering studies, and services for design and construction of such improvements and projects as well as easement and land acquisition for the benefit of the citizens of Catoosa County, in the projected goal amount of \$14,236,800; by the City of Ringgold for construction, replacement, improvement and expansion of capital outlay projects in the City of Ringgold for sewer, street, sidewalks, storm water, water, recreation or other capital outlay projects, as well as appurtenances thereto; Global Information Systems work stations including software and mapping; other capital outlay projects for upgrading, replacement improvement and expansion of pump stations, sewer lines and facilities; downtown enhancements including sidewalks; renovations of public buildings; land and equipment acquisition; motor vehicles and equipment for police protection, public works and codes enforcement; legal services, engineering studies, and services for design and construction of such improvements and projects as well as easement and land acquisition for the benefit of the citizens of Catoosa County in the projected goal amount of \$4,828,800.

The amount set forth above shall also include retirement of existing capital indebtedness described as follows:

A. The amount set forth above shall also include retirement of new and existing capital indebtedness issued by the City of Fort Oglethorpe, and issued for the purposes of construction, expansion, replacement, improvements and other capital outlay projects owned and operated by the City of Fort Oglethorpe, together with attendant legal, engineering, property acquisition, and attendant administrative and other related costs. The retirement of the indebtedness described herein shall include any restructure or refinancing of said indebtedness during the life of the tax authorized herein.

B. The amount set forth above shall also include retirement of new and existing capital indebtedness issued by the City of Ringgold, and issued for the purposes of construction, expansion, replacement, improvements and other capital outlay projects owned and operated by the City of Ringgold, together with attendant legal, engineering, property acquisition, and attendant administrative and other related costs. The retirement of the indebtedness described herein shall include any restructure or refinancing of said indebtedness during the life of the tax authorized herein.

Yes

No