Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee Public Hearing

December 14, 2017
Kirk-Bear Canyon Library
8959 E. Tanque Verde Road
6 PM

Summary

Attendees
Norie Nelson
David Bishop
Hyatt Simpson
Beverly Ichobanin
Deb Peyer
John Huizenga
Scott Thomas
Douglas Barrett
Faith Peppler
Ann Prevelone
Carol Cook
5 or more other people attended by did not provide names
4 Committee members
Pima County staff
Pima County Supervisor Steve Christy

The hearing began at 6 p.m. with an introductory presentation by Chairman Wendell Long. The hearing included comments, questions and answers, and involved members of the public, committee members, county staff and Supervisory Christy.

Main themes from speakers

- Support for sales tax if for road repair only and if temporary
- No on sales tax because of past misspending
- Concern about how to get the statutorily required unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors

Norie Nelson (also see attached comment card)

- Attended Dec. 12 Board meeting and is concerned that it will be impossible to get a unanimous vote.
- Surveyed her neighbors and the majority prefer a sales tax for 10 years for road repair only; no one surveyed thought the roads were great; fear is that their roads will never make the list to repair.
- She supports a sales tax as the most fair way, and likes the idea of a sunset clause.
- Not enough funding currently for road repair

John Huizenga (also see attached comment card)

- Concerned about history of misspending by the County Administrator
- Thinks the quality of county road repair projects are poor.

Ann Prevelone

- Asked about the amount of sales tax to be levied on utilities and other items.
- Concerned about misspending
- Thinks the County should use existing funding sources.

- Lack of population density, so doesn't support bike lanes and pedestrian improvements.
- Property tax is too high.

David Bishop (also see attached comment card)
- Favors a sales tax for road repair only and a sunset clause
- Asked if the ½ cent amount is negotiable.
- Asked for advice on how to unite the Board on this issue.

Hyatt Simpson (also see attached comment card)
- Undecided on the sales tax, undecided on whether it should go to road repair or property tax reduction, but feels strongly that the tax should be temporary.
- Blames the State for sweeping HURF funds, not the County.
- State gives tax breaks to wealthy businesses and then has to cut back funding for basic services.
- Urges local electorate to put pressure on the State.
- The roads need more than just repairs; we need to consider how to make them safer and more user friendly for pedestrians and bicyclists and those in wheelchairs.
- Supports preference for women and minority owned businesses in contracting.

Beverly Ichobanin (also see attached comment card)
- Supports sales tax if it's the only way, all for roads and only temporary.

Scott Thomas (also see attached comment card)
- No way on sales tax; County will misspend it.

Douglas Barrett (also see attached comment card)
- Roads are terrible compared to northern Arizona counties
- Quality of the roads impacts tourism and may deter people from moving here
- Yes supports sales tax only for road repair

Carol Cook
- Asked if the County has ever used general funds for road repair and about the role of the RTA.

Faith Peppler (also see attached comment card)
- How can we keep the State from accessing our tax dollars?
- Yes supports a permanent sales tax for road repair only

Supervisor Steve Christy spoke about his Just Fix the Roads proposal and took questions.

Norie Nelson
- How can we move the Board off of party lines?

Carol King
- If the Board doesn't approve a sales tax, with the property tax continue?

David Bishop
- Supervisor Christy is the newest Board member and is hoping he brings fresh ideas.
- The big problem is getting to 5 yes's

Hearing ended at 7:10 p.m.
Comment cards attached.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   (YES) / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: ONLY IF THE $ is used FOR ROAD repairs

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   (Road Repair ONLY) / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   Temporary / (Permanent) (circle one)
   Comment: ONLY IF THE money will always be used FOR ROAD ~~Repairs~~ ONLY.

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: DAvid Bishop
Address: 8180 E. Ocotillo Dr. City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85750
Email Address: drbishop07@gmail.com

*See back for additional space to write comments.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   (YES) / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   (Road Repair ONLY) / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   (Temporary) / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: 10 years

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Rosie Nelson

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   (YES) / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   (Road Repair ONLY) / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   (Temporary) / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: 5 YEARS

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Beverly Schobanian
Address: 3784 N Vista Cordoba City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85749
Email Address: BEVERLYSCH@GMAIL.COM

*See back for additional space to write comments.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   YES / NO / (NOT SURE) (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: Not sure!

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   (Temporary) / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: _____

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: [illegible]

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   YES / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   Temporary / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: _____

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Deb Peyer
Address: 4563 N. Mountain Dual City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85750
Email Address: lequme53@aol.com

*See back for additional space to write comments.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   YES / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   Temporary / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: _____

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: JOHN HUIZENGA

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   YES / (NO) / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: Neither

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   Temporary / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: NO Sale Tax !!

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Scott Thomas
Address: 7215 E Vuelta Ranchero City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85715
Email Address: Cas4.notes@gmail.com

*See back for additional space to write comments.

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

(B)

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   (YES) / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   (Road Repair ONLY) / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   (Temporary) / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: _____

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: DOUGLAS BARRETT
Address: 13029 E LANARK LN City: TUCSON State: AZ Zip Code: 85747

Pima County Sales Tax Advisory Committee

We Want to Hear from YOU!

1. **Should the Pima County Board of Supervisors adopt a half-cent general sales tax?**
   YES / NO / NOT SURE (circle one)
   Comment: _____

2. **Should the sales tax revenue be spent on road repair, property tax reduction or some combination of both?**
   Road Repair ONLY / Property Tax Reduction ONLY / Combination of Both (circle one)
   Comment: _____

3. **Should the sales tax be temporary or permanent?**
   Temporary / Permanent (circle one)
   Comment: _____

For additional information or to provide comments electronically please visit www.pima.gov/salestax or County Administrator's Office at (520) 724-8661.

Name: Faith Peppler
Address: 4227 E Hawthorne St. City: Tucson State: AZ Zip Code: 85711
Email Address: AZpeppers@msn.com

*See back for additional space to write comments.

From:	nelson2772@comcast.net
To:	Nicole Fyffe
Cc:	Cinquemani, Pete; larkin, penny; bob larkin; Carole Fee; William B Fee; Brian Baumer; coy, Tod&Rene; Richard Holladay; Anne Catren; catren, gary
Subject:	Sales Tax Advisory Meeting
Date:	Sunday, December 17, 2017 12:55:36 PM

Dear Nicole: I met you at Thursday's meeting at the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library. I mentioned the survey conducted in our neighborhood re: the Christy sales tax proprosal for roads. Following is information about our community and the survey results.
Hidden Valley is a community of 368 homes, 21 roads and hundreds of potholes. We are a voluntary HOA and membership is usually about 150 paid members. I sent a survey to all members of record on 10/24/17 and asked the following questions:
Do you support a sales tax to raise revenue for road repairs in Pima County?
Do you support an increase in property taxes for road repairs?
Do you think the roads are ok the way they are?

The majority of those responding favored a sales tax if there was a 10 year limit and it was restricted to road repairs only.
A very small number favored a property tax increase; no one thought the roads were ok. Two responsdents felt there should be an increase in gas tax. A very small number thought there should be no increase in any tax for anything.

Some of the comments I received can be summarized as follows: "there are third world countries with better roads"; I've lived all over the world, Pima County roads are the worst'"; "why can't the county solve this problem?".

Since I usually get very little response to any requests directed to our members it is quite telling that I received a response from approximately 30% of our members.

While our neighborhood has numerous pot holes on every street, the Transportation Department is very responsive to requests to fill pot holes when either made directly or when directed first to Supervisor Miller's staff . However, the "treatment" never lasts, and the quality of the repairs varies considerably. It seems that follow up from the Transportation Department is in order when crews are deployed to assure the jobs are being done effectively. I'm certainly not an expert on either application or treatment, just an observer and the recipient of the complaints from neighbors.

I appreciate how volatile this issue has become and how professional staff acts in response to some very negative input. However, it would be nice if this volunteer could spend time on other matters of importance to me personally and our community in general. One can only hope!

Please feel free to call me if you need more information.

Norie Nelson
President, Hidden Valley Homeowner Association
520-760-7989, cell 520-668-4745

8258 E Big Horn Trail
85750