

5/12/2020

From: Mike Southerland Bryan City Council SMD 4
To: Bryan City Council and Charter Review Committee



PROPOSITION 1 --Housing

Background: Proposition A is for \$2 million for affordable housing. If voters approve it, the city would borrow money for a range of things related to building and maintaining housing, specifically for lower-income residents.

Here's the language on the ballot:

The issuance of \$2,000,000 in tax-supported general obligation bonds and notes for planning, constructing, renovating, improving, and equipping affordable housing facilities for low income and moderate income persons and families, and acquiring land and interests in land and property necessary to do so, funding loans and grants for affordable housing, and funding affordable housing programs, as may be permitted by law; and no levy of any new tax to pay for the debt.

PROPOSITION 2 --Senior Center

Background: The second bond proposition is aimed at the city's senior center totals \$7 million.

Here's the language on the ballot:

The issuance of up to \$7,000,000 in tax-supported general obligation bonds and notes for planning, acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving, and equipping community senior center facility and acquiring land and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and no levy of any new tax to pay for the debt.

PROPOSITION 3--- Parks and Recreation

Background: This bond asks voters to approve borrowing \$5 million for parks and recreation projects.

Here's the language on the ballot:

The issuance of \$5,000,000 in tax-supported general obligation bonds and notes for existing parks, constructed before Calendar Year 2016, for planning, acquiring, constructing, renovating, improving and equipping public parks, recreation centers, natural areas, and other related facilities, including, without limitation, Bryan Regional Athletic Complex (BRAC), playgrounds, hike and bike trails, sports courts, and swimming pools, and acquiring land and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and no levy of any new tax to pay for the debt.

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PROPOSITION 4—Flood Mitigation

Background: This bond measure would borrow \$10 million for flood mitigation, drainage, open space and water quality protection.

Here's the language on the ballot:

The issuance of \$10,000,000 in tax supported general obligation bonds and notes for flood mitigation, open space and water quality and quantity for planning, designing, acquiring, constructing, and installing improvements and facilities for flood control, erosion control, water quality, water quantity, and storm- water drainage, and acquiring land, open spaces, and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and the levy of a tax sufficient to pay for the bonds and notes. These bonds shall be used for additional projects not in the current 5-year Capital Improvement Program and in priority by the Capital Improvement Program scoring system.

No levy of any new tax to pay for the debt.

PROPOSITION 5—Roads and Streets upgrade and repair

Background: This bond measure would borrow \$15 million for roads and streets construction and repair.

Here's the language on the ballot:

The issuance of \$15,000,000 in tax supported general obligation bonds and notes for roads and street repairs for planning, designing, acquiring, constructing, and installing improvements and facilities for roads and street repairs and upgrades, and acquiring land, open spaces, and interests in land and property necessary to do so; and the levy of a tax sufficient to pay for the bonds and notes. These bonds shall be used for additional projects not in the current 5-year Capital Improvement Program and in priority by the Capital Improvement Program scoring system.

No levy of any new tax to pay for the debt.

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Proposition 6 --LIMITATIONS ON INDEBTEDNESS PAYABLE FROM Property TAXES.

The city may not issue general obligation bonds or property-tax-supported certificates of obligation, or any other form of indebtedness other than refunding bonds, with a maturity in excess of 7 years unless the bonds have first been authorized by a majority vote of the participating voters at an election held for that purpose.

Or

Shall Section 13 of the Bryan City Charter entitled "Finance, taxation and fees." be amended by adding:

(f) Voter Election to Incur Debt and to Issue Bonds.

Except for the refunding of bonds previously issued and any debt to fund housing, roads, railways, bridges, tunnels, water supply, waste water, refuse collection, electrical grids, power generation, telecommunications, including Internet connectivity and broadband speeds, law enforcement agencies, emergency services and declared emergency by the City Council, any proposition to borrow money and any proposition to issue bonds or certificates of obligation, shall first be approved by a majority of the qualified voters voting at an election called for the purpose of authorizing the incurrence of such debt and authorizing the issuance of such indebtedness.

Proposition 7 – Cable TV and Internet by BTU

Sec. 16. - Utilities; streets, avenues, alleys and highways; public works.

(a) *Power to own.* The city, at this time owning and operating its water, electric, and sewer systems, shall have the power to own, maintain, extend, construct, and reconstruct its water, electric, and sewer systems, within or outside the city limits.

Add:

The "electric System" means all properties, rights and interests now or hereafter owned in whole or in part by the City and used in connection with the generation, transmission, or distribution of electric power, including customer and energy services, the provision of cable or wireless television service internet access and service, cell phone services or other purposes permitted by law, including all present and future additions or new technology that may replace them, extensions, replacements, and improvements thereto.

The television internet services shall be added immediately upon approval of this amendment.