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Raytown voters pass Parks/Storm Sales Tax

Raytown Parks and the stormwater fund will split the quarter of a cent sales tax 80/20

(RAYTOWN, Mo.) – Raytown voters approved a parks/storm sales tax increase Tuesday that will help pay for repairs and improvements to Raytown’s parks and stormwater system.

The unofficial results for the Aug. 5 Special Election according to the Jackson County Election Board, 73.99% of voters approved a seven-year sales tax at a ¼ of a cent for parks and stormwater and 26.01% voted no. The ballot language included specific language on how the funds would be split: 80% for parks and 20% for stormwater. The current 1/8 of a cent sales tax is collected 75% for parks and 25% for stormwater and sunsets March 31, 2026.

“I want to sincerely thank our residents for voting to support the sales tax measure,” said Raytown Mayor Michael McDonough. “This tool will help us to improve our parks system and to continue to work on our storm water projects. It will assist us in updating our shelter houses, playground equipment, lighting, and security in our parks. This is a small investment by our taxpayers, that will make a huge difference in our future.”

The City estimates that the quarter of a cent sales tax will generate \$724,000 for the park fund and \$240,000 for the storm fund annually. Tentative projects planned at the top of the Parks list include: repair the Colman shelter and playground (\$1.1 million estimated), Kenagy Pond wall (estimated \$850,000), phase 3 of Terry Copeland Park (\$600,000), and update the Kenagy brick restroom (\$475,000).

Public Works has a long list of projects that need funding. Over the next few months, this department will prioritize the list based upon flood history, number of properties affected and potential flood damage. In 2022, voters approved a \$7.2 million Storm GO Bond – those funds will be used for new storm sewer pipes in seven neighborhoods. Work is anticipated to start fall/winter 2025. To view the location map of the selected projects, go to www.oneraytown.com.

The Jackson County Election Board will certify the results on Aug. 12, 2025. The Raytown Board of Aldermen will vote to accept the election results at the Aug. 19, 2025 Board of Aldermen meeting.

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