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## Raytown Levy Increase Fails

*Questions 1 & 2 addressing failing roads, storm sewers received simple majority but lacked required votes to be adopted*

**(Raytown, Mo.)**— Measures to repair the City of Raytown’s failing roads and storm sewers failed to pass following the results of yesterday’s primary election. Although Questions 1 and 2 received a simple majority of passing votes (over 51%), a 4/7th vote (57.14 %) was required to move the initiative forward. Estimates show that more than 5,000 Raytown residents showed up at the polls.

Questions 1 and 2 would have allowed the City to begin the repair and replacement of much of its failing streets and infrastructure through the issuance of bonds. The maximum value of the bonds would have totaled \$53.2 million and been repaid incrementally over 20 years.

“Although these measures did not pass, the support of the ballot questions shows progress,” said Raytown Mayor Mike McDonough. “We will continue to work to gain more trust from our citizens to ultimately revisit a solution that the greater majority of our residents will support in the future.”

More than 3,200 residents weighed in to voice their disapproval of ballot Question 3, which would have provided the City with a long-term means to maintain and repair its roads. Raytown residents indicated they were not ready for a mil (tax) levy increase from \$0.0527 cents (a nickel) to \$0.0827 (eight pennies) per \$100 of assessed valuation.

“We were hopeful that the residents of Raytown would accept the bonds as a viable option to catch up on the much-needed repair and reconstruction of our roads and storm sewers,” said Raytown Alderman of Ward 3 Ryan Myers. “With more than 40% of our roads in need of replacement or repair, we felt it was our responsibility not to ‘kick the can down the road.’ We respect the decision made by our voters and will do what we can within our existing budget to make the necessary improvements to our roads and infrastructure over time.”

Myers, in his second term, has been a passionate voice for economic development and infrastructure revitalization for the City of Raytown.

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