



**Deteriorating asphalt—  
Johnson Rd.**



**Left—new asphalt on  
Galvin Rd.  
Right —chip seal done  
by City summer of 2014**

## **Sales and Use Tax Levy**

# **City of Centralia**

**Voters' Guide – 2015  
Election**



# Sales and Use Tax Levy

The Governing Board of the Transportation Benefit District of the City of Centralia, Washington, adopted Resolution No. 2015-01 concerning a sales and use tax to finance transportation improvements. This proposition would authorize a sales and use tax of two-tenths of one percent (0.2%) to be collected, in addition to any other taxes authorized by law, within the District from all taxable retail sales in accordance with RCW 82.14.0455 for a term of ten years (2016-2025) to pay or finance a portion of the costs of transportation improvement projects identified in the six-year transportation improvement and/or comprehensive plans of the City of Centralia.

# Frequently Asked Questions

1. Why does the City need to raise additional funds for streets?
  - The City does not currently have sufficient funds to make needed street repairs and improvements and maintain existing service levels.

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

2. How much additional revenue is required to make needed repairs?
  - To repair all of Centralia's streets to "like new" condition would cost tens of millions of dollars. The projected \$650,000 this tax would generate every year would fund the most critical repairs.

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

### 3. Would the tax apply only to the residents of Centralia?

- No—the tax would apply to anyone who shops within the City limits and not just to residents.

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

4. Can the proposed sales tax increase be used for anything unrelated to streets?

➤ No. The funds could only be used to repair and improve Centralia streets.

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

5. Would the sales tax increase be permanent?
  - No. The additional tax would end in ten (10) years.

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

6. **What would Centralia's sales tax rate be? How would it compare to neighboring cities:**

➤ Centralia's sales tax rate would be 8.2% (up from 8%). Other cities include: Chehalis (8%); Tumwater (8.9%); Olympia (8.8%); Longview (8.0%) and Aberdeen (8.63%)

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

7. How much would the .2% sales tax increase a typical purchase?

➤ A \$5.00 premium coffee beverage would increase by 1 cent (20 cents on every \$100)

## Frequently Asked Questions (Cont.)

8. How much work could be done every year with the estimated revenues of \$650,000?

➤ The City could crack and chipseal 100 city blocks and have \$250,000 available for major construction projects every year.

Projects shown below paid for through a Federal grant



Above and right, Main  
& Yew Traffic Signal



Above, Gold Street  
Overlay

