
Public Service Announcement

1 message

Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce <info@cashiersareachamber.com>
Reply-To: Cashiers Area Chamber of Commerce <info@cashiersareachamber.com>
To: boycedeitz@jacksonnc.org

Wed, Jun 1, 2016 at 12:08 PM



PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT[View this email in your browser](#)**PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT**

Dear Member:

Following is a briefing document provided by Dr. Don Tomas, President of Southwestern Community College, and Dr. Mike Murray, Superintendent of Jackson County Schools, regarding the Jackson County sales tax referendum to be considered on the next week's June 7th second primary ballot.


In a recent presentation to the Cashiers Area Chamber Board of Directors, Drs. Tomas and Murray, urged the community's "yes" vote for the 1/4th of a penny sales tax increase to support repair, renovation and classroom construction in Jackson County, including improvements to Blue Ridge School.

Please review the following details of the upcoming referendum. For more information, visit <http://www.jacksonnc.org/sales-tax>.




JACKSON COUNTY
Public Schools

Southwestern
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



Jackson County One-Fourth of a Penny Referendum

On the Ballot June 7



The One-Fourth of a Penny referendum would allow SCC to start tackling the nearly \$32 million in vital construction, renovation and repair projects identified by the college's recent Jackson County master plan.

The referendum would allow Jackson County Public Schools to bridge the gap between the recent \$9 million infusion from County Commissioners and the more than \$20 million in estimated repair, renovation and classroom construction.

POTENTIAL PROJECTS

Southwestern Community College

- Construction of a new health sciences building to prepare next generation of healthcare workers in SCC's service area.
- STEM education classrooms/Balsam Center Renovations.
- Repair and Renovation of Oaks Hall, which is 45 years old and primarily houses classrooms and labs.

Jackson County Public Schools (JCPS)

- The critical needs of water supply upgrades.
- Many facility upgrades including new classroom construction and flooring as well as athletics needs.
- Improvement of safety and aesthetic issues at the entrance to Blue Ridge School.



MINIMAL INVESTMENT

- When you spend \$100, the additional cost will be \$0.25.
- \$500 = \$1.25
- Spending \$1,000 would mean just \$2.50 extra.
- As a sales tax, the referendum allows money spent by tourists and visitors to support Jackson County Education.

ENORMOUS RETURN

- Address vital infrastructure and facility needs in Jackson County Schools and Southwestern Community College.

Q&A

Q: Does the extra one-fourth of a penny apply to all purchases?

A: No, the tax will not be applied to gas or unprepared food.

Q: Have nearby counties adopted the one-fourth of a penny sales tax to support education?

A: Yes, Haywood and Buncombe.

Q: How much more revenue would the one-fourth of a penny sales tax generate for Jackson County?

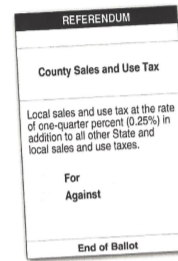
A: It would generate approximately \$1.2 million annually.

Q: Why can't the N.C. Education Lottery Funds be used for Jackson County Public Schools projects?

A: Jackson County receives approximately \$256,000 per year in lottery funds, which are used for debt payments on the Fairview Kindergarten Building.



Look for this on the June 7 Ballot.



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