

Park Sales Tax Fact Sheet for Columbia Youth Basketball Association



1. Q: When is the 1/8-cent temporary Park Sales Tax up for renewal?

A: The temporary 1/8-cent sales tax expires March 31, 2016. Voters will decide whether or not to extend the Park Sales Tax for six more years on the **November 3, 2015 ballot**.

2. Q: What is the 1/8-cent temporary Park Sales Tax used for?

A: It is the main funding source for Parks and Recreation capital improvement projects. Capital projects are maintenance, renovation, improvement, development, and acquisition projects that cost \$5,000 and greater. This would include funding for a new indoor Sports Field House. It is also used as matching funds for federal and state grants, which supplement Parks and Recreation capital projects.

3. Q: If the Park Sales Tax is renewed, will this change Columbia's current sales tax rate?

A: No. If renewed, Columbia sales tax rate will remain the same, it will NOT increase.

4. Q: Will the renewal of the Park Sales Tax benefit the Columbia Youth Basketball Association?

A: Yes! The Columbia City Council approved a list of projects that will be accomplished should Columbia voters elect to extend the Park Sales Tax. Included in that list is \$2,700,000 for a Sports Field House that will have four basketball/volleyball courts built in the the first phase. Future expansion of this field house also depends on funding from the Park Sales Tax. *(Note: All projects will go through the City Council and public input process as they move forward. The project scope may be adjusted during this process.)*

New Indoor Sports Field House

- **\$2,700,000 - Sports Field House:** Phase I construction of four indoor basketball/volleyball courts with support areas. (Has future potential to add four more courts, for a total of eight courts.)

5. Q: Is a continuous funding source (Park Sales Tax) needed to maintain Columbia's park system?

A: Yes. Columbia Parks and Recreation maintains 67 parks and 7 major trails. The parks are like mini-cities located throughout Columbia, each with infrastructure that needs to be renovated or replaced at the end of its life cycle. A continuous funding source is needed to prevent our parks, trails, and athletic facilities from falling into disrepair.

