

RESOLUTION NO. 7409

A RESOLUTION introduced by Deputy Mayor Duane Pomeroy concerning the imposition of a one-quarter percent (.25%) retailers sales tax to finance the rebuilding of the Topeka Boulevard bridge.

WHEREAS, the Topeka Boulevard bridge is a critical link between north and south Topeka, and is used daily by residents of Shawnee County as they go about their daily activities; and

WHEREAS, the Topeka Boulevard bridge is in need of rebuilding, a project which will cost an estimated \$41 million; and

WHEREAS, the City of Topeka has received approximately \$9,800,000 in grant commitments from the Federal government to assist the City of Topeka in financing the design and construction of a new Topeka Boulevard bridge; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is committed to avoiding the use of debt and property tax to finance the remaining cost of rebuilding of the Topeka Boulevard bridge; and

WHEREAS, if twenty year general obligation bonds are issued for this project, the estimated cost to the taxpayers of the City of Topeka is approximately \$48,000,000; and

WHEREAS, a one-quarter percent countywide sales tax would generate approximately \$7,100,000 each year, allowing the bridge project to be financed over an approximately five year time period, and saving the taxpayers of the City of Topeka approximately \$12,000,000 when compared with the costs associated with a general obligation bond issue; and

WHEREAS, to assist the City of Topeka with the costs of financing the rebuilding of the Topeka Boulevard bridge, the Kansas State Legislature has authorized the placement

of a question before the electors of Shawnee County on whether there should be imposed a one-quarter percent (.25%) countywide sales tax with revenues to be pledged to the City of Topeka for the purpose of financing this project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS:

1. That pursuant to the provisions of 2002 Supp. K.S.A. 12-187 (as amended at L. 2003, ch. 147, sec. 32) the City of Topeka requests that the Shawnee County Board of Commissioners call and hold an election submitting the following question to the electors of Shawnee County:

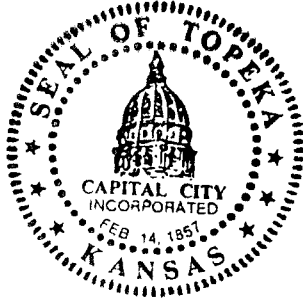
“Shall a countywide retailers sales tax at the rate of one-quarter percent (.25%) be levied in Shawnee County, with the revenues received therefrom being pledged to the City of Topeka for the purpose of financing the costs of rebuilding the Topeka Boulevard bridge and other public infrastructure improvements associated with such projects, to take effect January 1, 2005 and to continue until all costs associated with such project have been paid?”

2. Further, the Council of the City of Topeka requests of the Shawnee County Board of Commissioners that the question provided for in Section 1 above be submitted to the electors of the county at the general election to be held in November, 2004.

3. That this resolution shall take effect upon adoption.

46 ADOPTED and APPROVED by the City Council NOV 04 2003.

47 CITY OF TOPEKA, KANSAS  
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54 ATTEST:

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58 Iris E. Walker  
59 Iris E. Walker, City Clerk  
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Duane F. Pomeroy  
Duane F. Pomeroy, Deputy Mayor

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY DATE <u>11/5/03</u> BY <u>EA</u>
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