



SPECIAL ELECTION — AUGUST 28

In June, the City Council unanimously approved a resolution calling for a special election on August 28 to consider approval of General Obligation bonds to fund some important needs in different categories of essential City services. There will be four propositions on the ballot and you will vote on each separately. Below is some information that may be helpful about the 2018 Bond Election.

PROPOSITION #1

Proposition #1 is to repair or repave 249 residential streets. Our residents noted repair of residential streets was a priority in our last Citizen Survey. If this proposition is approved, we will invest \$15,965,000 in repairing these streets throughout our city.

PROPOSITION #2

Proposition #2 will fund the Phase I reconstruction of a 60 year old water booster station and replace a 70 year old underground storage tank with an above-ground storage tank. If this proposition is approved, we will invest \$5,560,000 in improving our water storage and distribution system.

PROPOSITION #3

Proposition #3 is for renovating four park and recreation facilities including the John Conrad Golf Course, the Reed Baseball Complex, the Mid-America Park, and the Town Center Park.

Two new soccer fields, and a new multi-purpose athletic facility would also be constructed. If this proposition is approved, we will invest \$21,635,000 in parks, sports and recreational facilities in our community.

PROPOSITION #4

Proposition #4 is for 11 Public Safety projects including a new Animal Services Center (animal shelter). It also includes new training facilities, remodeling Fire Station No. 1, new fire trucks and new equipment such as breathing apparatus and exhaust removal systems.

Other projects are public safety radio replacement, new tornado sirens, and improvements to the 9-1-1 Call Center. If this proposition is approved, we will invest \$10,490,000 in animal welfare and public safety in our city.

VOTING INFORMATION

You can find a list of polling places, a sample ballot, and other voter information on the website of the Oklahoma County Election Board at <https://www.oklahomacounty.org/388/Election-Board>.

To get started, click **Online Voter Tool** on the left side of the page.



HOW THE GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS WORK

A General Obligation (GO) Bond is a low-risk loan that cities frequently use to fund capital improvement projects. GO Bonds give cities a tool to raise funds for projects that don't provide direct sources of revenue – such as roads, parks, and equipment. These bonds typically fund projects that serve the entire community.

The City Council views G. O. Bond projects as an investment in the future of our community. Many of these projects don't have fees or other revenue associated with them so it is difficult to fund development, replacement and maintenance. *(For example, if you call when you need our police department or fire department, we don't send you an invoice for the personal and equipment that respond to help you.)*

Without using bonds, funding for these projects would have to come from our general fund revenues, which rely heavily on sales taxes.

Unfortunately, our sales tax revenues have been essentially flat for a number of years. After we meet our operational needs each year, there is very little left for these types of quality of life projects.

The 25 year GO bonds would be repaid by raising property taxes for residential and non-residential properties in our city. The increases are based on the property's market value. For example, if all four propositions are approved, a homeowner with a net assessed home value of \$100,000 would see an increase of about \$8 to \$9 per month, or about \$100 per year. *(There may be additional tax benefits for those who qualify. You can check with your tax consultant for more information.)*

MORE INFORMATION

You can find more information on the 2018 Bond Election at MovingForward2018.org