

**MAY 18 SPECIAL ELECTION
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ON
BALLOT MEASURE 6-188
CONTINUATION OF THE LOCAL OPTION STREET TAX**



Last year –Seabird Drive.

What is the local option Street Tax?

Bandon’s local option street tax pays for construction and maintenance of city streets. The tax rate is 84.5 cents per thousand dollars of assessed value on real property. Local option taxes for capital items like streets must be renewed every 10 years.

Will this raise my taxes? No, this is an extension of the existing tax that was approved by voters in 2000, and again in 2010. The rate has not been increased since then.

How was the rate determined? Voters approved the local option street tax in 2000. At that time most city streets were gravel. The 84.5 cents per thousand dollars of value was sufficient to overlay the old gravel streets with asphalt. Constructing full streets with new bases, curbs and sidewalk would have been much more expensive. The tradeoff is that the gravel overlay requires more ongoing maintenance.



11th St. Overlay --last year.

What does the local option street tax cover?

The local option street tax pays mostly for repair and overlays of existing city streets but can be used for other street and pedestrian projects. Last year the city completed pavement overlay and repairs to the two-block area between Highway 101 and Baltimore, along with associated ADA ramps and corner sidewalk repairs.

How does the City decide which projects to do? City staff and engineers evaluate pavement throughout the city and come up with a “paving package” that consolidates projects into a single bid package to save money. The City also carries a reserve for unexpected issues or major projects.

2020-21 projects.

This year the local option street tax will pay for 6 projects on Beach Loop Drive, 3rd Street, Oregon Avenue, 9th Street, Riverside Drive and Rosa Road (in-city only). Here are pictures of three of the project areas.



3rd Street



Riverside Drive



Filmore/Rosa

You can see more pictures of this year's projects on the City of Bandon Facebook Page.

How much does the local option street tax generate?

In 2020-21, the local option tax should generate around \$420,000. As the city's assessed value goes up, that amount will rise slowly over time.

Doesn't our normal property tax cover streets?

At 46 cents per thousand dollars, Bandon has one of the lowest permanent property tax rates in Oregon. The City's base tax rate does not cover the full cost of city services like fire and law enforcement, leaving nothing for streets.

What happens if the Local Option Tax does not pass? Two things. First, there will be fewer funds to do road repair projects. In a sense, the road surface acts like a roof; repairs become much more expensive if the pavement is not maintained and the road base degrades. Second, the City would have the ability to assess an Urban Renewal Special Levy, of up to \$1.23 per thousand dollars of value, based on the latest assessed valuation figures. The Urban Renewal Special Levy could be imposed city-wide but could only be spent within the Urban Renewal Districts.