

LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX REFERENDUM

What Can
1/2 A PENNY
Do For You?

March 17, 2015

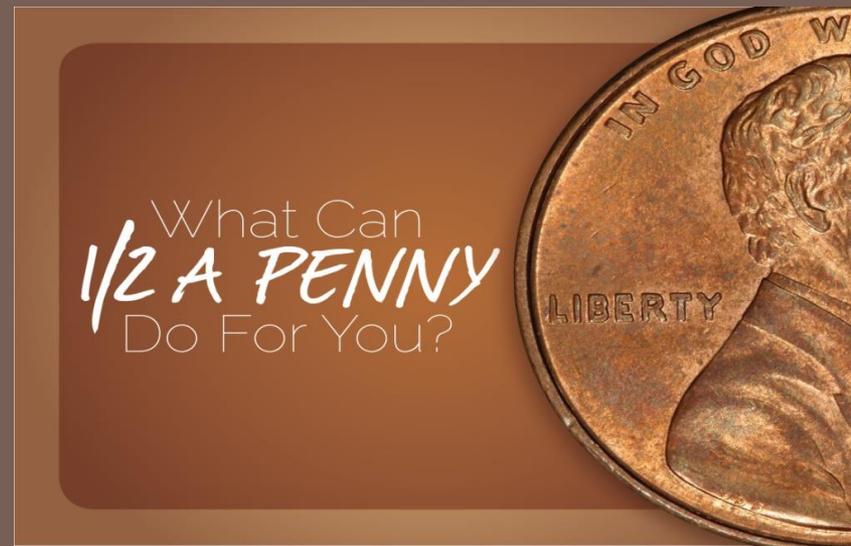


Paris and Henry County are facing A serious revenue shortfall

- A YES VOTE on March 17 would:
 - 1. Avoid property tax increases.
 - 2. Avoid further cuts to education and improve school safety.
 - 3. Share the burden with our out-of-town guests.

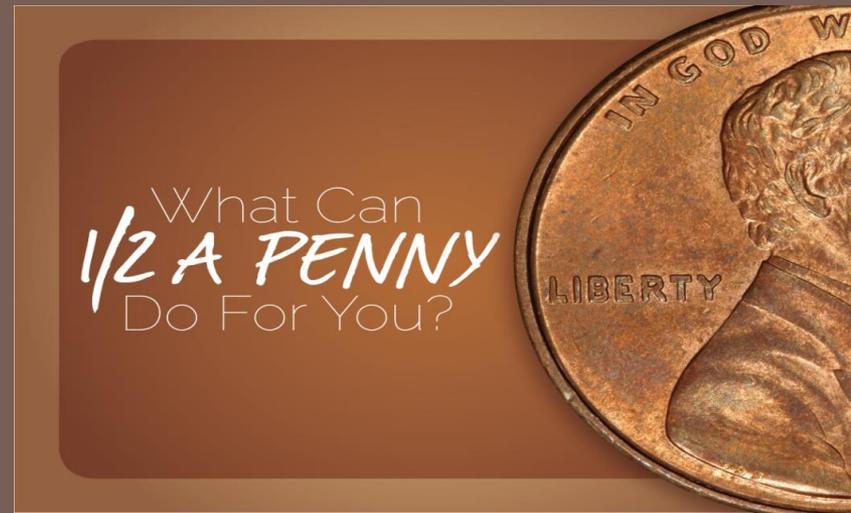
How did we get here?

- Inflation (2.2%) is growing almost three times faster than revenues (.8%).
- We expect revenues to decline an additional \$315,000 from liquor sales in other communities.



We have taken several steps to reduce costs and balance our budgets.

- City Property Tax Increase
- Reduced Employee Benefits
- No Salary Increases
- Postponed Capital Projects and Equipment Purchases
- Deferred Technology Upgrades
- Used Rainy Day Funds



Who gets sales tax revenue?
Henry County Board of Education
Paris Special School District
County of Henry
City of Paris

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A half cent sales tax increase will generate \$1.8 million annually.

\$900,000 to Paris and Henry County Schools (Equals a 17.25 cent property tax increase for Henry County schools and a 17 cent PSSD tax increase.)

\$758,000 to the City of Paris (Equals a 43 cent property tax increase.)

\$137,000 to Henry County (Equals a 2.6 cent property tax increase.)

It's our choice....

Sales Tax or Property Tax

The options are clear:

SALES TAX

40% paid by out-of-town visitors and shoppers

Enables rollback of City Property Tax Increase

Sound financial decision

PROPERTY TAX

Detrimental to retiree recruitment

Increased burden on home owners, commercial property owners and farmers

Discourages investment

We have few choices left.

- Deplete our fund balances.
- Increase our debt. City and County each attempt to maintain less than 5% debt.
- Reduce services and employees.

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Revenues will be spent on priorities, not new programs.

- School operations, safety improvements and needed renovations
- Overdue technology upgrades
- Stronger rainy day fund
- Infrastructure repairs

What Can
1/2 A PENNY
Do For You?



VOTE YES ON MARCH 17TH

FOR

OUR COMMUNITY

AND

OUR CHILDREN

Questions?

What Can
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