

## Derby Difference Sales Tax

### Derby Difference Sales Tax

On October 8 Derby voters will get an opportunity to vote on a sales tax proposal that has the potential to make a big difference for the community. Is it a tax increase? No.

It is a half-cent sales tax to replace the current half-cent library sales tax. The Derby Difference sales tax would be used for improvements at several Derby parks and operations at the Derby Fire & Rescue Department and Derby Public Library.

In 2003, Derby voters decided that a half-cent sales tax would be a good way to pay for a new aquatic park. Rock River Rapids was built, and the tax ended in 2009.

### LIBRARY

In 2009, Derby voters overwhelmingly approved a half-cent sales tax to build and pay the operational expenses of a new library. Since an estimated 45% of library patrons live outside of Derby, the best way for them to financially support the library is through the sales tax. That tax has been collected since 2010 and could end after 2014 because it is projected to have raised enough to pay for the building.

Such early payment would leave the city short of funding annual operating expenses of the library unless a new funding source is approved. So, the City Council likely will only end this tax if the voters pass the proposed Derby Difference sales tax.



### FIRE & RESCUE

The Derby Difference sales tax would last 10 years and would provide funding for much-needed firefighters and equipment. Demand for first responder medical calls has increased in Derby as traffic and retail trade have increased. Medical calls comprise 67% of the workload. Currently, the primary funding source is property taxes, meaning that only those who live or own businesses in Derby pay for fire, medical and rescue services.

### PARK DEVELOPMENT

The Derby Difference sales tax also would fund a new Central Park at the former site of St. Mary's school on Madison Avenue. While the City bought the land and razed most of the buildings, the park master plan calls for an accessible playground, a splash pad, lighted walking path, and indoor space for weddings and events. Such extensive park development, plus new ball fields and a dog park at other sites, would be paid by the Derby Difference sales tax.

See the column to the right to see when and where you can vote. For more information, visit [www.derbyweb.com/salestax](http://www.derbyweb.com/salestax).



## Voting Information

Register to vote through Sept. 17 at the Derby Public Library, 1600 E. Walnut Grove Rd., or the Derby Welcome Center, 611 Mulberry Rd. You must re-register if you have changed your name, address, or party affiliation.



### Advance Voting By Mail

Request an advance ballot to be mailed to you by completing an *Application for Advance Voting Ballot*. Mail or fax it to the Sedgwick County Election Office.

### Vote in Wichita

Sept. 25, 26, 27, 30 and Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4  
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Oct. 7, 8 a.m. to noon

Sedgwick County Election Office  
510 N. Main

### Vote in Derby

Oct. 3 & 4, noon to 7 p.m.

Oct. 5, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Woodlawn United Methodist Church  
431 S. Woodlawn

### Vote on Election Day: October 8

6 a.m. to 7 p.m.

On Election Day, voters must vote at their assigned polling site in Derby (Woodlawn United Methodist Church, Calvary Baptist Church or Pleasantview Baptist Church). Call the Derby Welcome Center at 788-9003 for help in finding your polling site.

For more voter information, visit [www.sedgwickcounty.org/elections](http://www.sedgwickcounty.org/elections).

## Spring Creek Watershed Public Meeting

Sept. 18, 4:00-6:00 p.m.

Derby Welcome Center

611 Mulberry Rd.

Presentations will be made at 4:30  
and 5:30 p.m. at this open house.

Sponsored by the Sedgwick County Storm Water  
Management Advisory Board

## Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day

October 10 is *Put the Brakes on Fatalities Day*.

This event, sponsored by the Kansas Department of Transportation, includes education about safe driving and a poster art contest for Kansas kids ages 5 through 13.



Mailed contest entries must be postmarked by September 20. For contest rules and information, visit [www.ksdot.org](http://www.ksdot.org).

There are regional prizes (new bicycle and

helmet) and statewide prizes (family packages to Great Wolf Lodge Water Park Resort and QT fuel cards). Statewide winners will be chosen from the 18 regional winners in three age categories (5-7, 8-10, 11-13).

Some topics kids may choose to focus on when creating a poster include:

- + Seat belt use/child safety seat use
- + Distracted driving/texting while driving
- + “No Zones” such as blind spots and behind semi trucks and buses
- + Headlights - required when windshield wipers are on
- + Kansas Move Over Law - slow down and move over for stopped emergency and maintenance vehicles

## Send Us Your Events

The City of Derby has an improved resource available to residents, visitors, and potential Derbyites. The city redesigned its [www.derbyks.com](http://www.derbyks.com) community portal website. This website features links to community partners and attractions as well as a community calendar.

Derby residents are invited to submit community events for the calendar. Events eligible for the calendar are held in Derby, open to the public and sponsored by a Derby group or organization. Submit your event at [calendar@derbyweb.com](mailto:calendar@derbyweb.com).

The website will advertise upcoming community events and feature a Google map with popular places marked on it. Check it out and share it with your friends and family - [www.derbyks.com](http://www.derbyks.com).



## Firefighters Focus on Prevention in October

During the week of October 6-12, Derby firefighters will visit Derby elementary schools to teach children age pre-K to second grade about fire safety as part of Fire Prevention Week.

While the theme of fire prevention week is preventing kitchen fires, Derby firefighters will focus on three areas:

- 1) Demonstrate to children what firefighters look like in their gear and teach them not to be scared.
- 2) Teach students how to safely escape from their homes during a fire using the Fire Safety House and how to have a pre-determined meeting place outside.
- 3) Show students fire tools and fire trucks that Derby firefighters use to do their jobs.

In 2011, U.S. fire departments responded to 370,000 home structure fires. These fires caused 13,910 injuries and 2,520 deaths. On average, seven people die in home fires per day, and cooking is the leading cause of fire injuries.

Find more information and resources about fire prevention week at [www.fpw.org](http://www.fpw.org).



## Go Derby Green!

The Derby community is known for its spirit and community pride. Derbyites can show their pride by wearing green every Friday.



Derby Schools encourage everyone in the community to show their Derby pride by wearing green on Fridays for the entire school year - not just game days.

New logo apparel is available for purchase at [www.goderbygreen.com](http://www.goderbygreen.com). Orders can be submitted through September 30.

## DHS Football Schedule

Sept. 6	vs. Salina South
Sept. 13	@ Andover Central
Sept. 20	vs. Maize
Sept. 27	@ Salina Central
Oct. 4	@ Campus
Oct. 11	vs. Hutchinson
Oct. 18	vs. Wichita South
Oct. 25	@ Wichita East
Nov. 1	vs. Heights

All games begin at 7:00 p.m.

## Art Exhibit

The Derby Arts Council’s September exhibit features artist Amy Finchum. Her exhibit is called “Color my World.”

Finchum is a watercolor artist. You can see examples of her art at [www.facebook.com/amyfinchumart](http://www.facebook.com/amyfinchumart). The Gathering Space Gallery is open during regular library hours.

## Connect With Us!

Derby, Kansas City Hall  
 Derby Police Department  
 Derby Fire & Rescue  
 @DerbyKS

