

PARKS

Overview

- Derby citizens will vote on the **Derby Difference Sales Tax** Sept. 25 through Oct. 8, 2013.
- This is not a tax increase. It would replace the existing Library Sales Tax and keep the total tax rate in Derby exactly the same.

Why does Derby need a sales tax?

The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** will enhance the quality of life for Derby residents and visitors by funding: 1. Construction of a new central park, a tournament-quality baseball/softball complex, and a dog park; 2. Additional emergency response personnel to improve response times in our growing community; and 3. Operating expenses for the Derby Public Library.

How much of the proposed half-cent tax will go to parks?

- When \$100 is spent in Derby, 50 cents would go to improve Derby, and half would fund parks.
- Without this tax, the only viable way to create a central park or additional ball fields is to increase property taxes or significantly reduce spending on street maintenance or other important services.

Why do we need more parks in Derby?

- Derby's green spaces, bike paths, and parks set us apart from other communities and motivate people to visit or consider living in Derby.
- The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** would fund the proposed Madison Avenue Central Park located at the former site of St. Mary Catholic School.
- Central Park will create a central meeting spot, something residents have wanted for a long time. (Watch a 5-minute video at www.derbyweb.com.)

How is Madison Avenue Central Park different from High Park or other parks in Derby?

Central Park would address many unmet needs in the Derby community including:

- A venue for events like weddings and meetings.
- A playground for children and adults of all abilities.
- Space for a farmer's market or other small events.
- A lighted walking path.
- A splash pad for young children (like one near the Warren Theater in Wichita's Old Town).
- The Derby Recreation Commission plans to move its art classes to this location.



Grand Pavilion



All-Access Playground



Splash Pad

We have high-quality softball fields at High Park. Why do we need more?

- The **Derby Difference Sales Tax** would fund construction of a tournament-quality baseball/softball complex so Derby can provide quality facilities for both residents and visitors. Fields at Garrett and High Park will continue to be used as well.
- Hosting tournaments brings visitors into Derby, which means more retail shoppers and restaurant customers. Hosting more regional tournaments is not possible at this time due to limited facilities in Derby.
- Even with Derby's growing population, no new fields have been built in more than a decade.
- Currently, many Derby parents find it necessary to travel out of town to find leagues for their children. More fields in Derby will help keep Derby families here.



Why does Derby need a dog park?

- A dog park is public space where dog owners can let their pets exercise off leash in a fenced area with supervision of their owners. For the past several years, a dog park has been the most requested park enhancement in Derby, followed closely by a splash pad.
- An off-leash dog area provides a community space for people with common interests to gather and socialize.
- Off-leash activity contributes to pet health and often reduces barking and other problem behaviors.



HOW DO I VOTE?

Registration

- Derby citizens may register to vote **now through Sept. 17** at the Derby Public Library, 1600 E. Walnut Grove Rd. or the Derby Welcome Center, 611 Mulberry Rd. Call 788-9003 if you have questions.
- Citizens must re-register to vote if they have had a name change, change of address or changed party affiliation since the last election.



Voting

- **VOTE BY MAIL: Now through Oct. 4** citizens may request an advance ballot be mailed to them by completing the form "Application for Advance Voting Ballot" at: www.sedgwickcounty.org/elections and mail or fax it to the Sedgwick County Election Office.
- **ADVANCE VOTING IN WICHITA: Sept. 25, 26, 27, 30** and **Oct. 1, 2, 3, 4** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and **Oct. 7**, 8 a.m. to Noon at the Sedgwick County Election Office (historic courthouse), 510 N. Main in Wichita.
- **ADVANCE VOTING IN DERBY: Oct. 3 & 4**, from Noon to 7 p.m. and **Oct. 5** from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Woodlawn United Methodist Church, 431 S. Woodlawn in Derby.
- **ELECTION DAY: Oct. 8** polls are open 6 a.m. to 7 p.m. On this day, voters must vote at their assigned polling site in Derby (Woodlawn United Methodist Church, Calvary Baptist Church or Pleasantview Baptist Church). Call 788-9003 for help in finding your polling site.

