



# THE PIPELINE

City of Grand Prairie Monthly Citizen Newsletter  April 2014 Vol. 15 No. 4

## Sales Tax Election for Mega Recreation Center and Indoor/Outdoor Water Park

In 2015, the city will pay off the debt to build QuikTrip Park and The Summit. This means that the 1/8 cent sales tax for each of these venues can go away or be continued for another project with voter approval.

### MAY 10, 2014 BALLOT:

The city is proposing the two 1/8 cent sales taxes be combined into a 1/4 cent sales tax to build a mega recreation center, library, indoor/outdoor water park, Central Park amphitheater, trails and gigantic playground. The center would be located in west Central Park west of State Highway 161 and adjacent to the future extension of Waterwood Drive, across the lake from The Summit and Public Safety Building.

### WHY DO WE HAVE TO HAVE AN ELECTION FOR THIS?

Because the debt to build QuikTrip Park and The Summit was backed by a 1/8 cent sales tax for each venue. When the debt is paid off, the sales tax goes away unless voters approve other uses for the tax. The debt for QuikTrip Park and The Summit will be paid off on Sept. 30, 2015. If the Central Park project is approved, the existing sales tax will continue uninterrupted. People who make purchases and merchants who charge sales tax would not see a difference. Otherwise, the sales tax will be reduced by 1/4 cent after the debt on QuikTrip Park and The Summit retires.

### WHAT HAPPENS IF THE PROPOSITION FAILS?

If this referendum is not approved, the city would retire the 1/8 cent sales tax for QuikTrip Park and 1/8 cent sales tax for The Summit, the city would not build the recreation center and water park, and the city's sales tax portion would be reduced from 2% to 1 3/4%. The combined 1/4 cent sales tax could then be devoted to another municipal use if approved by voters.

### WHAT WILL WE GET?

The proposed site of the mega recreation center and water park would be in Central Park at SH 161 between Arkansas Lane and Warrior Trail, across the lake from The Summit and Public Safety Building, but connected by park land and trails.

The new recreation center would be available for all ages and is proposed to include racquetball courts, basketball courts, multipurpose courts for volleyball and pickle ball, indoor playground, indoor running/walking track, classrooms, a library, computer lab, exercise rooms, workout equipment, zip line, spa, stage with flexible seating, and cafe.

The indoor/outdoor water park could include slides, chutes, a lazy river, hot jets, swim lanes, zero edge entry, spray fountains and children's play pool.

The water park would serve Grand Prairie residents and be designed as an entertainment attraction to pull guests from out of town.

New Central Park development around the recreation center could include an amphitheater, trails, giant all-accessible indoor/outdoor playground and parking lot.

If approved, design would begin in the summer of 2014, and opening would be scheduled for mid-to-late 2017.

### NO SALES TAX INCREASE

If the 1/4 cent sales tax referendum for Central Park project passes, the sales tax will remain the same. If the referendum fails, the sales tax will be reduced by 1/4 cent.

**QUESTIONS?** For information about voting in the May 10, 2014 Sales Tax Election, contact Cathy DiMaggio, City Secretary, at 972-237-8035 or [cdimaggio@gptx.org](mailto:cdimaggio@gptx.org). For information about the Central Park project, contact Rick Herold, Grand Prairie Parks, Arts and Recreation Department Director, at 972-237-8375 or [rherold@gptx.org](mailto:rherold@gptx.org).

**Election day is Saturday, May 10, 7 a.m.-7 p.m. For more voting information and a complete list of polling locations, go to [gptx.org/election](http://gptx.org/election). Or call 972-237-8035.**

# Elección con respecto al impuesto sobre las ventas Para megacentro de recreación y parque acuático interior/externo

En 2015, la ciudad saldará la deuda por la construcción de los estadios QuikTrip Park y The Summit. Esto significa que se puede eliminar el impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/8 de centavo que se aplicaba a cada uno de estos locales o bien se puede utilizar para financiar otro proyecto con la aprobación de los votantes.

## VOTACIÓN DEL 10 DE MAYO DE 2014:

La ciudad propone que los dos impuestos sobre las ventas de 1/8 de centavo sean fusionados en un impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/4 de centavo para construir un megacentro de recreación, biblioteca, parque acuático interior/externo, anfiteatro de Central Park, senderos y patio de juegos gigante. El centro estaría ubicado en Central Park oeste, al oeste de la carretera State Highway 161 y adyacente a la futura extensión de Waterwood Drive, al otro lado del lago desde The Summit y el Edificio de Seguridad Pública.

## ¿POR QUÉ TENEMOS QUE SOMETER ESTO A VOTACIÓN?

Porque la deuda para construir QuikTrip Park y The Summit fue respaldada por un impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/8 de centavo para cada local. Al cancelarse la deuda, el impuesto sobre las ventas se elimina, a menos que los votantes aprueben que dicho impuesto se destine a otros usos. La deuda por QuikTrip Park y The Summit se liquidará el 30 de septiembre de 2015. Si se aprueba el proyecto de Central Park, se continuará con dicho impuesto sobre las ventas de forma ininterrumpida. Las personas que efectúan compras, así como los comerciantes que cobran un impuesto sobre las ventas, no notarán ninguna diferencia. De lo contrario, el impuesto sobre las ventas se reducirá en 1/4 de centavo después de que se elimine la deuda de QuikTrip Park y The Summit.

## ¿QUÉ SUCEDE SI LA PROPUESTA FRACASA?

Si no se aprueba este referéndum, la ciudad eliminaría el impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/8 de centavo por QuikTrip Park y el impuesto sobre las ventas de 1/8 de centavo por The Summit, la ciudad no construiría el centro de recreación y parque acuático, y el impuesto sobre las ventas de la ciudad se reduciría de 2% a 1¾%. El impuesto a las ventas combinado de 1/4 de centavo se podría emplear entonces para otros usos municipales si lo aprueban los votantes.

## ¿QUÉ OBTENDREMOS?

El megacentro de recreación y parque acuático se construiría en Central Park en SH 161 y Warrior, al otro lado del lago desde The Summit y el Edificio de Seguridad Pública, pero conectado por medio de parques y senderos.

El nuevo centro de recreación estará disponible para todas las edades y conforme a la propuesta incluiría canchas de raquetbol, canchas de baloncesto, canchas para fines múltiples para voleibol y pickleball, aulas, una biblioteca, sala de informática, salas para gimnasia, equipo para entrenamiento, tirolesa, spa, escenario con asientos flexibles y restaurante.

El parque acuático interior/externo podía incluir deslizadores, toboganes, un río lento, baños con chorros de agua caliente, calles de natación, piscinas con borde infinito, fuentes de chorro y piscina para juegos infantiles.

El parque acuático estaría diseñado como una atracción de entretenimiento para captar visitantes de otras ciudades.

El nuevo desarrollo de Central Park alrededor del centro de recreación podría incluir un anfiteatro, senderos, patio de juego interior/externo gigante y estacionamiento.

**¿TIENE PREGUNTAS?** Para obtener más información sobre la votación que se realizará el 10 de mayo de 2014 para la elección con respecto al impuesto sobre las ventas, comuníquese con Cathy DiMaggio, Secretaria de la Ciudad, llamando al 972-237-8035 o enviando un correo electrónico a [cdimaggio@gptx.org](mailto:cdimaggio@gptx.org).

Para obtener información sobre el proyecto de Central Park, comuníquese con Rick Herold, Director del Departamento de Recreación, Arte y Parques de Grand Prairie, llamando al 972-237-8375 o enviando un correo electrónico a [rherold@gptx.org](mailto:rherold@gptx.org).

**El día de la votación es el sábado 10 de mayo de 7 a.m. a 7 p.m.**

**Para obtener más información sobre la votación y una lista completa de los lugares de votación, visite [gptx.org/election](http://gptx.org/election) o llame al 972-237-8035.**

## COMING SOON TO THE UPTOWN THEATER



Enjoy spectacular shows at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. **For the latest Uptown Theater news and offers, text "UPTN" to 90210.** For tickets, visit [uptowntheatergp.com](http://uptowntheatergp.com) or call 972-237-8786.

*Wizard of Oz* Marionette Show

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council May 10-11

DSM Academy - *Little Mermaid Jr.* May 17-18

*USO Swingtime Review*

Presented by Texas Family Musicals May 23-24

*Hello Dolly*

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council June 13-15

June 20-22

## MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, May 26 • 10 a.m. • Veterans Memorial, 925 W. Conover Dr.

Join the Parks, Arts and Recreation Department at the Veterans Memorial as we pay tribute to the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve our freedom. This year's event will include:

Bagpiper • 21-gun salute • Flyover • Photo display • Musical entertainment  
Free All-American hot dog lunch • Free trees • Military memorabilia for sale

The Memorial Day Service is presented by the Grand Prairie Parks and Recreation Department, the Metro Rotary Club of Grand Prairie, the Grand Prairie Rotary Club and the Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens and Mausoleum. For more information call 972-237-8100.

## SUMMER READING CHALLENGE KICKOFF JUNE 7

Combat summer slide by enrolling in the Summer Reading Challenge for children and adults. Summer activities for kids start off with a bang at the Kick-off Party at Bowles Park outside the Tony Shotwell Life Center, 2750 Graham St., 10 a.m.-noon on Saturday, June 7. Kids can sign up for the Summer Reading Challenge as they enjoy fun games and activities like a DJ, face painting and more. See the Animal Shelter's Waggin' Wagon.

During the Summer Reading Challenge, teens and adults will have the chance to win a Kindle Fire in our grand prize drawing at the end of the summer. For more information about the Summer Reading Challenge and Grand Prairie libraries, call 972-237-5700 or visit [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library). Brought to you by Friends of the Library.

## LIBRARY FINES DUE

Library users who owe a Grand Prairie public library System fine or fee, or have extremely overdue materials should immediately pay their fines and/or return the materials before delinquent accounts are turned over to a collection agency. Pay at any library location or online at [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library).

- Check your account online at [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library). Choose "Search/Renew," and log in using your library card and PIN (the last four digits of your phone number)
- Call the Library at 972-237-5700
- Email the Library at [gplibrary@gptx.org](mailto:gplibrary@gptx.org)
- Stop by any of our locations

## FARMERS MARKET

Grand Prairie's Farmers Market in Market Square, 120 W. Main St., is open Saturdays 8 a.m.-1 p.m. and features locally grown produce, plants, breads, baked goods, cooking demonstrations and educational workshops. Here's what's coming:

**May 10** 9 a.m., Composting with Susan Henson

**May 17** 10:30 a.m., Cooking demo

**May 24** 9 a.m., Gardening with Susan Henson

10:30 a.m., Cooking demo

**May 31** Craft vendors, Adopt-a-Pet Waggin' Wagon

**June 7** Crawfish Boil

**June 14** 10:30 a.m., Cooking demo

For more information, call 972-237-4599, email [farmersmarket@gptx.org](mailto:farmersmarket@gptx.org) or visit [gptx.org/farmersmarket](http://gptx.org/farmersmarket).

## CRAWFISH BOIL

Saturday, June 7 • 11 a.m.-2 p.m.  
Market Square, 120 W. Main St.

The Crawfish Boil will feature a beer, water and soda garden, Zydeco band, gift market, bounce house and games. Tasty authentic crawfish prepared by Dustin Clement's Heads or Tails Cajun Crawfish will be sold for \$10 a pound and will be accompanied with potatoes and corn. For more information, visit [GrandFunGP.com](http://GrandFunGP.com)

## MARTY PARTY

Saturday, May 10 • 10 a.m.-3 p.m.  
The Summit, 2975 Esplanade

Celebrating World Migratory Bird Day—featuring the Purple Martin. This event will have a Purple Martin housing exhibit, kids and crafts zone, Purple Martin educational programs, live entertainment, bounce houses, face painting, a stilt walker and concessions. Sponsored by The Summit, Parks, Arts and Recreation and the Purple Martin Landlords of North Texas. For info., call 972-237-4141.

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## GET FIT GRAND PRAIRIE

Get Fit GP celebrates National Physical Fitness and Sports Month during the month of May. Getting regular physical activity can benefit everyone. No matter what shape you are in, together we can rise to the challenge to get more active during the month of May! Learn more and enter to win prizes at [gptx.org/GetFitGP](http://gptx.org/GetFitGP).



### **Family Zumba at Tony Shotwell Recreation Center, 2750 Graham St. • Saturday, May 10, 9:30-10 a.m. and 10-10:30 a.m.**

If you are looking for something fun, free, and healthy to do with your family, come join us for Family Zumba! Kids and parents of all ages will enjoy this easy to follow class routine paired up with fun cool music. If your little ones have lots of energy to burn and love to wiggle and giggle, then bring them to the Shotwell Recreation Center. There will also be health information and activities for kids.

### **Splash & Dash - Memorial Day Swim and Fun Run The Summit, 2975 Esplanade • Monday, May 26, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.**

Join the excitement with a swim and fun run at The Summit and around the Central Park Trail. You choose the length to swim between 25-200 yards and the run between 1/2 mile and 1 mile. Prizes will be awarded by age group. Compete against your friends or family members or participate untimed for fun. All participants will receive a swim cap and other goodies in the race packet. Kick off the summer by committing to exercise! Note: All participants must be able to swim at least 25 yards unassisted in order to participate.

Registration is available at The Summit, 2975 Esplanade. You can also register over the phone with a Visa or MasterCard at 972-237-4141.

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## HOUSEHOLD HAZ WASTE EVENT MAY 17

Did you know that you can now put aerosol cans in your household recycling bin? We will continue to accept them at household hazardous waste events as well. Our next events will be held on Saturday, May 17, and Saturday, June 7, from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. at the Development Center, 206 W. Church (next to City Hall). Registration is required. Please call 972-237-8055 or register online at [gptx.org/WQ/HHW](http://gptx.org/WQ/HHW).

We will accept household and automotive batteries, pharmaceuticals, motor oil, cooking oil, paint, aerosol cans, fluorescent bulbs, and household, landscape, and pool chemicals. We will not accept explosives, gas cylinders, fireworks, medical waste, radioactive materials, or municipal trash. No commercial waste will be accepted.

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## TECH CAFE AT THE LIBRARY

Drop by the Tech Cafe for answers and assistance. Bring your own wireless device (ereader, tablet, laptop or phone) to your Grand Prairie Library and learn how to access our newest apps and electronic services. Enjoy coffee and cookies while library staff answer your questions.

We'll meet the first Wednesday of each month at all Grand Prairie Library locations. Drop by 10 a.m.-noon, through June 2014.

Want to get a head start? Visit us at [gptx.org/library](http://gptx.org/library) and click on Everything Electronic! You will need your library card number and PIN (the last 4 digits of your phone number). Access ebooks, digital magazines and a variety of helpful databases and online services.

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## FIGHT THE BITE

Warm weather is approaching fast and along with it comes mosquito season. Protect yourself and your family. Grand Prairie will ground spray every Thursday and Friday night, weather permitting, from April-October in neighborhoods testing positive for mosquitoes. For more information, visit [gptx.org/FightTheBite](http://gptx.org/FightTheBite) or call 972-237-8055. Sign up for spraying notifications in your area at <https://gptx.onthealert.com>.

Here are a few tips for protection from mosquito bites and mosquito-borne diseases:

- Use EPA approved insect repellent.
- Wear long-sleeves, long pants and socks outdoors.
- Avoid the outdoors at dawn and dusk.
- Remove water holding containers from your yard.
- Keep pools clean and chlorinated.
- Dispose of any tires.
- Change the water in bird baths, dog bowls, and plant pots at least once a week.

Remember, you can prevent the transmission of West Nile virus by keeping mosquitoes under control!

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## WESTCHESTER CAR SHOW

Saturday, May 17 • 10 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Parkhill Park and Pavilion  
5100 Robinson Road

For more information, call 214-738-2161, email: [webmaster@gpwaho.org](mailto:webmaster@gpwaho.org) or visit [gpwaho.org](http://gpwaho.org)

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## RUN FOR THE WALL

Greet motorcycle riders as they stop on their way to the Vietnam Memorial Wall in Washington D.C.  
May 17, 5:30 p.m. - Dubiski High School  
May 18 - 7:30 a.m. - Fish Creek Bridge  
For more info., call 214-577-9974.