HANFORD
CALIFORNIA

🔍 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) ✕

💬 Why is the City exploring a revenue measure?

A: To ensure Hanford continues to meet the needs of our growing community, the City must continue investing in essential services, maintaining streets and parks, and enhancing public safety.

In late 2023, the Hanford City Council agreed to explore the possibility of a revenue measure that would support necessary infrastructure and maintenance costs. This process began by creating an advisory body to provide recommendations on whether a measure should be placed on the November 2024 General Election ballot.

💬 What is the Revenue Measure Committee (RMC)?

A: The RMC advisory body consists of 15 community members. The role of the RMC is to evaluate the needs of the City's departments funded by the General Fund and to make recommendations regarding the potential revenue measure including police, fire, street maintenance, parks, community services and code enforcement.

💬 What was the outcome of the RMC's review?

A: On April 17, 2024, the RMC unanimously adopted a draft 10-year Expenditure Plan. This plan outlines their recommendations for how potential City revenue should be spent, with more than 90% allocated to police, fire, and streets. **On April 24, the majority of the committee voted to recommend to the City Council that a revenue measure is needed to meet the community's growing essential service needs.**

💬 What projects could a successful revenue measure fund?

A: Specific funding allocations would only be made if the measure were to be passed by voters, and Hanford City Council would be required to approve a policy guiding the specific expenditure of funds.

Funding could support:
- More police patrol officers and vehicles
- More firefighters and an additional fire engine
- A new public safety building
- A new fire station
- Road repairs
- Additional maintenance and improvements to existing parks
- More parks maintenance employees
- More code enforcement officers

💬 How is accountability ensured for revenue measures approved by voters?

A: If a revenue measure is approved by voters, it will be overseen by a Citizens' Oversight Committee and a third-party auditor must review and audit all expenditures annually. This includes ensuring all expenditures are made in accordance with the Expenditure Plan. Annual reports will be published on the City's website. Projects completed with funding from an approved measure would be eligible for state or federal matching funds, should they be available.

Still have questions?
Visit our website for more information.

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💬 **Does the City Hanford currently have a district sales tax?**

A: No, Hanford is one of approximately 30 cities in California without a district sales tax. Surrounding cities in the area with district taxes include Avenal, Corcoran, Visalia, Tulare, and Porterville.

💬 **What is the estimated amount of deferred capital projects in Hanford?**

A: Hanford has approximately $60 million in deferred capital projects over the next five years, illustrating the need for additional revenue to meet the City's budget demands.

💬 **How much revenue would a 1 percent (one cent per dollar) sales tax generate annually?**

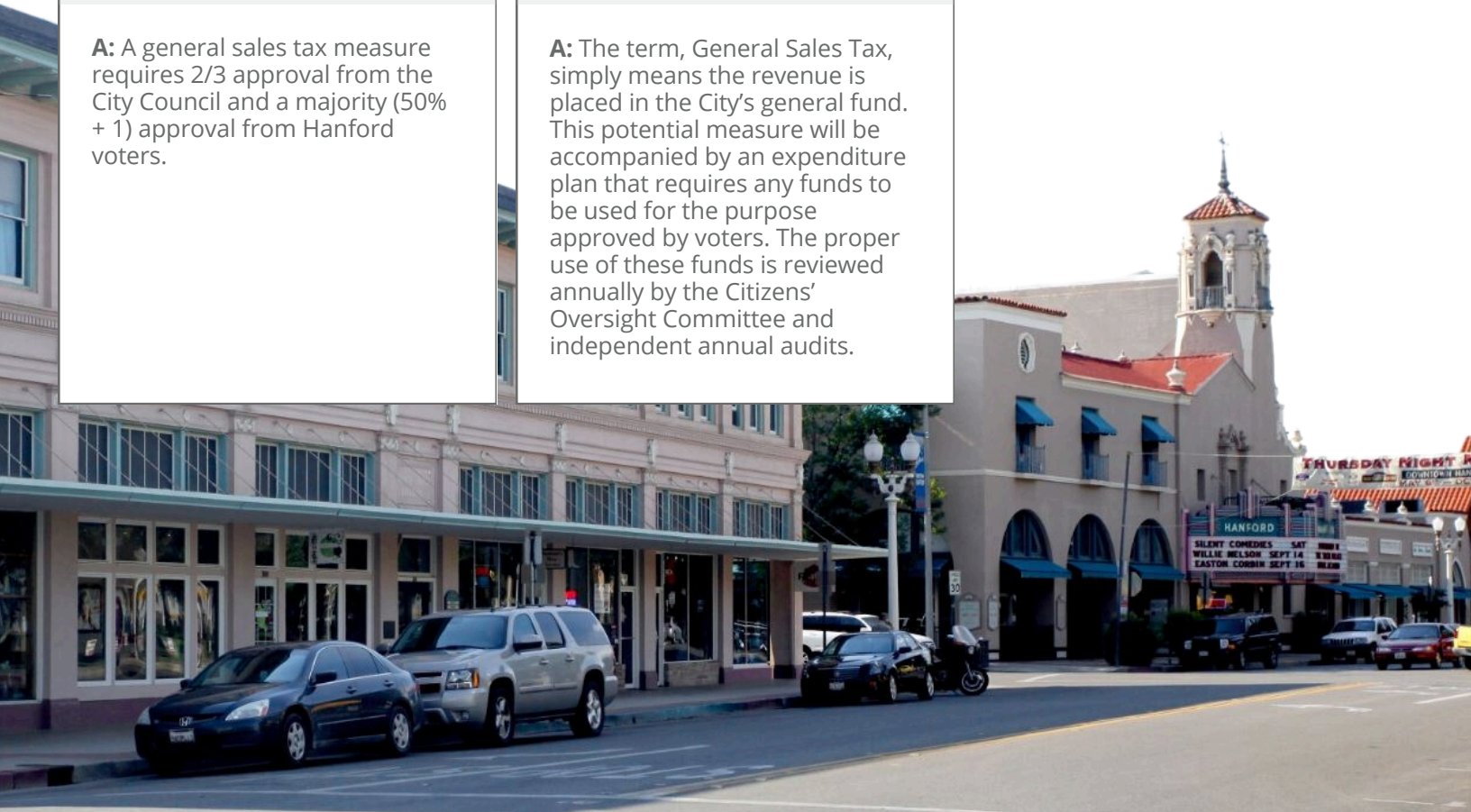**A:** A 1 percent sales tax is estimated to generate $19 million in annual revenue annually.

💬 **What approval is needed for a general sales tax measure to pass?**

A: A general sales tax measure requires 2/3 approval from the City Council and a majority (50% + 1) approval from Hanford voters.

💬 **Doesn't a general sales tax mean the funds can be used for anything?**

A: The term, General Sales Tax, simply means the revenue is placed in the City's general fund. This potential measure will be accompanied by an expenditure plan that requires any funds to be used for the purpose approved by voters. The proper use of these funds is reviewed annually by the Citizens' Oversight Committee and independent annual audits.

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