



## Fact Sheet

### 0.08% Sales Tax for Open Space

Shall the City of Prescott adopt a transaction privilege tax of eight one-hundredths of one percent (0.08%), the revenue of which shall be dedicated to the acquisition, maintenance, and improvement of open space by the City, with not more than 50% of the accumulated revenue from said tax to be used for maintenance and improvements, to take effect on January 1, 2016, and remain in effect until December 31, 2035; and, if adopted, the accumulation of such tax proceeds shall be in accordance with Article IX, Section 20 of the Arizona State Constitution?

- ✓ The current 1.00% Streets and Open Space sales tax expires December 31, 2015, after which there will be no City revenue source earmarked for open space.
- ✓ The average household will pay approximately \$18 annually for this 0.08% sales tax increment
- ✓ Use of revenue from the 0.08% sales tax will be restricted to two purposes:
  1. **Acquisition** of open space
  2. **Maintenance and Improvement** of open space (limited to not more than 50% of accumulated revenue)—these are not permitted uses of the current 1.00% Streets and Open Space sales tax
- ✓ Maintenance activities will include projects that promote forest health, keep trails in serviceable shape, improve drainage, and other operational efforts essential to assuring proper stewardship of City-owned open space
- ✓ Since 2000, funding from the existing 1.00% combined Streets and Open Space sales tax preserved over \$16 million of property by acquiring tracts of land identified in open space plans; revenue from the 0.08% sales tax will provide a means for managing these tracts and others to be acquired, and improving access to them
- ✓ Reinforces Prescott as a desirable outdoor recreation location for residents and visitors
- ✓ Provides the capital for strategic open space investments, both for preservation and connectivity to existing trails and recreation areas
- ✓ The City will continue to pursue public-private partnerships, property donations, and low or no-cost conservation and trail easements and leases in addition to utilizing the dedicated funds for acquisition of lands identified in the Open Space Master Plan

- ✓ The General Plan identifies goals and strategies to help guide expenditures, including public participation, expansion of trails connectivity, and linkages between public and private open space, to better serve the community