

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**CITY OF FRIEND, SALINE COUNTY, NEBRASKA**

Public notice is hereby given to all the legal voters of the City of Friend, Saline County, Nebraska, that the following proposition will be submitted to all legal voters of the City of Friend at the general election to be held within the City on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2024:

**OFFICIAL BALLOT**  
**CITY OF FRIEND, NEBRASKA**  
**PROPOSAL TO INCREASE LOCAL SALES AND USE TAX RATE**

Shall the governing body of the incorporated municipality - the City of Friend - increase the local sales and use tax rate by an additional one-half of one percent ( $\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) from the current rate of one and one-half percent ( $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) to a rate of two percent ( $2\%$ ) and impose a sales and use tax at the increased rate upon the same transactions within such municipality on which the State of Nebraska is authorized to impose a tax?

\_\_\_ Yes

\_\_\_ No

A "Yes" Vote: If a majority of the votes cast upon such question shall be in favor of increasing such local sales and use tax rate by an additional one-half of one percent ( $\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) to a rate of two percent ( $2\%$ ), then the governing body of such incorporated municipality - the City of Friend - shall be empowered as provided by Section 77-27,142 of the Nebraska Revised Statutes and shall forthwith proceed to increase the local sales and use tax rate from one and one-half percent ( $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ ) to two percent ( $2\%$ ) and impose a sales and use tax at the increased rate upon the same transactions within such municipality on which the State of Nebraska is authorized to impose a tax, pursuant to the Local Option Revenue Act.

A "No" Vote: If a majority of those voting on the question shall be opposed to such an increase of the local sales and use tax rate by an additional one-half of one percent ( $\frac{1}{2}\%$ ), then the governing body of the incorporated municipality shall not impose such a tax increase and the local sales and use tax rate will remain unchanged at one and one-half percent ( $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ ).

Additional Information Regarding Proposed Local Sales and Use Tax Rate Increase:

List of reductions or elimination of other taxes or fees, if any: There is not contemplated at this time to be any elimination of other taxes or fees should a majority of those voting on such question be in favor of increasing the local sales and use tax rate.

Projects to be funded, in whole or in part, from the revenue collected, along with any savings or efficiencies resulting from the projects: Revenues from the increased sales and use tax are to be used for such public infrastructure projects as are allowed pursuant to the Local Option Revenue Act. If approved, the revenues will be available to fund debt service on bonds issued to pay the costs of constructing a fire station in and for the City, if the construction of such fire station is approved by the voters of the City. Pursuant to the Local Option Revenue Act, the public infrastructure projects that may be funded with the increase in sales and use tax include public highways and bridges and municipal roads, streets, bridges, and sidewalks; solid waste management facilities; wastewater, storm water, and water treatment works and systems, water distribution facilities, and water resources projects, including, but not limited to, pumping stations, transmission lines, and mains and their appurtenances; hazardous waste disposal systems; resource recovery systems; airports; port facilities; buildings and capital equipment used in the operation of municipal government; convention and tourism facilities; redevelopment projects as defined in Neb. Rev. Stat. § 18-2103; mass transit and other transportation systems, including parking facilities; and equipment necessary for the provision of municipal services. Savings and efficiencies may be realized through the completion of such public infrastructure projects.

Years within which the revenue will be collected; payment of bonds: The increase in the sales and use tax shall terminate no more than ten years after the effective date of the increased sales and use tax or, if bonds are issued and the local option sales and use tax revenue is pledged for payment of such bonds, upon payment of such bonds and any refunding bonds, whichever date is later, provided that the portion of the rate greater than one and one-half percent imposed for the purpose of the interlocal agreement between the City of Friend and the Friend Rural Fire District, which interlocal agreement is related to public infrastructure projects, shall not terminate until further action of the City.

Interlocal Agreement: The City of Friend and the Friend Rural Fire District have entered into an interlocal agreement that created a separate administrative entity for purposes of the agreement. The interlocal agreement provides for the construction and operation of a fire station in and for the City which will be used by the City and the Friend Rural Fire District. Such interlocal agreement contains provisions relating to the long-term development of unified governance of the fire station project and other potential public infrastructure projects in the City with respect to the parties, including but not limited to any such infrastructure projects as may be funded by revenues from the increased sales and use tax as noted above. A portion of the rate greater than one and one-half percent, such portion being at least one-eighth percent ( $1/8\%$ ), shall be imposed for the purpose of the interlocal agreement.