

Deadline for Submission of Ballot Arguments on City Transient Use Tax Measure Increasing Tax Rate by One Half Percent (0.5%)

On August 5, 2024 the City Council of the City of Gonzales adopted Resolution 2024-52 calling for an election at which it shall submit a tax ballot measure to the qualified voters of the City which, if approved, would establish a one-half percent (0.5%) increase to the City's current one percent (1.0%) Transactions and Use Tax ("TUT") rate, for a total TUT of one and one-half percent (1.5%) in the City of Gonzales. The election is to be consolidated with the November 5, 2024, Statewide election. In order to be passed, the ballot measure must be approved by a majority of the voters voting on the measure at the election. The entire text of Resolution 2024-52 and its accompanying ordinance is available online at www.gonzalesca.gov and at City Hall, 147 Fourth Street, Gonzales, CA 93926. All tax revenues collected by application of the new one-half percent (0.5%) TUT would be subject to independent audit and oversight of a new citizens' Transactions and Use Tax Advisory Committee. The new one-half percent (0.5%) TUT would be collected until ended by the voters.

Written arguments in favor or opposed to the one-half percent (0.5%) TUT ballot measure may be prepared by any individual voter who is eligible to vote on the measure, or any bona fide association of citizens, or any combination of voters and associations. All arguments must be submitted to the City Clerk by 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2024. No argument shall exceed three hundred (300) words in length. An argument may not be accepted unless accompanied by the printed name and signature or printed names and signatures of the author or authors submitting it, or if submitted on behalf of an organization, the name of the organization and the printed name and signature of at least one of its principal officers who is the author of the argument. All written arguments must be accompanied by the Form of Statement to be Filed by Author(s) of Argument as provided for in Elections Code Section 9600. No more than five signatures shall appear on any argument. If more than one argument is submitted for or against the measure, the City Clerk shall select the argument for printing and distribution in accordance with the provisions of Elections Code Section 9287. All written arguments may be changed or withdrawn up to 5:00 p.m. on August 15, 2024, after which time no arguments for or against the foregoing ballot measure may be submitted to the City Clerk. Pursuant to Section 9285 of the California Elections Code, when the City Clerk has selected the arguments for and against the ballot measure, which will be printed and distributed to the voters, the City Clerk shall send copies of the argument in favor of the measure to the authors of the argument against, and copies of the argument against to the authors of the argument in favor. Rebuttal arguments may thereafter be prepared in a length not exceeding two hundred and fifty (250) words and shall be filed with the City Clerk by no later than 5:00 p.m. on August 22, 2024. All rebuttal arguments must be accompanied by the Form of Statement to be Filed by Author(s) of Argument as provided for in Elections Code Section 9600. Rebuttal arguments shall be printed in the same manner as the direct arguments. Each rebuttal argument shall immediately follow the direct argument which it seeks to rebut.

You may contact the City Clerk at (831) 675-5000 if you have questions regarding this matter.