COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Oct 2 City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Broadcast live on Spanish Fork 17 and YouTube

Oct 3 Planning Commission meeting at 6:00 p.m.

Oct 8 & 9 Recycle pick up

Oct 16 City Council meeting at 6:00 p.m. Broadcast live on Spanish Fork 17 and YouTube

Oct 22 & 23 Recycle pick up

RECREATION CALENDAR

Oct 2 Fall session little hoopsters basketball early registration ends (grades 1–2)

Oct 2 Jr. wrestling registration ends (Pre-K–grade 6)

Oct 9 Jr. Jazz basketball registration ends (grades 3–8)

Oct 9 Little hoopsters basketball registration ends (grades 1–2)

Oct 11 Men’s basketball league early registration ends

Oct 11 Women’s volleyball early registration ends

Oct 16 Toys for Kids co-ed softball tournament registration ends

Oct 25 Jr. Jazz basketball registration ends (grades 3–8)

Register for youth sports at reconline.spanishfork.org

POLE CREEK & BALD MOUNTAIN FIRES

The Pole Creek and Bald Mountain Fires have significantly impacted our communities. Friends and families have been displaced due to evacuation orders in Elk Ridge, Woodland Hills, and Spanish Fork Canyon. Furthermore, the immense smoke caused by the fires has, at times, resulted in poor air quality, causing us to cancel or reschedule various events, recreation programs, and activities.

Despite the unfortunate circumstances, we are in awe of the tremendous community response. Likewise, fire crews have expressed to us their gratitude for the outpouring of community support. We are proud to have served as the Incident Command Post (ICP) at the Spanish Fork Fairgrounds as well as the Incident Helibase at the Spanish Fork Airport.

To learn more about what Spanish Fork City has done to help fight the fires, visit www.spanishfork.org/fireinfo.

PROPOSITION 7: RAP TAX

During the last month, we have distributed a lot of information regarding Proposition 7, which would enact a Recreation, Arts, & Parks (RAP) Tax in Spanish Fork. Included with this newsletter is a Voter Information Pamphlet which explains some of the basics of the proposed RAP Tax. We have added a FAQ section to the website to answer common questions. The City will also hold a Public Meeting regarding Proposition 7 on Tue. October 16 at 6 p.m. To learn more before the election, visit www.spanishfork.org/raptax.

www.spanishfork.org


LIBRARY CORNER

The children’s department invites you to come celebrate Star Wars Reads from October 1 to October 6. There will be a prize drawing to enter, coloring pages, bookmarks, and other fun ideas to entertain our young Star Wars fans!

Children of all ages love to attend our regular story times that we offer during the week. Check out all of the great details online, or visit us today!

Food for Fines Monday October 1, 2018 to Friday October 26, 2018. $1.00 will be waived on overdue fees for each non-perishable food item. Up to $10.00 of fines can be waived.

Fathering with Love and Logic: Wednesday October 10, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. Join us for a free four-session course that teaches fathers and father figures how to raise responsible children and enjoy parenting. Refreshments provided. Please register to attend at HealthyRelationshipsUtah.org

Food for Fines Monday October 1, 2018 to Friday October 26, 2018. $1.00 will be waived on overdue fees for each non-perishable food item. Up to $10.00 of fines can be waived.

Fathering with Love and Logic: Wednesday October 17, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

Fathering with Love and Logic: Wednesday October 24, 2018 at 6:00 p.m.

WHAT CAN’T I WASH AWAY?

Do you know what items you should not wash down the drain?

Please DO NOT wash the following items down the drain or flush them down the toilet. They harm the environment and cause problems to the sewer system and the treatment plant.

- Any type of wipes (even flushable wipes)
- Feminine products
- Disposable diapers
- Any type of cloth
- Fats, oils, and grease
- Any plastic or rubber products
- Any paper product (except toilet paper)
- Medicine (see below)
- Paints or solvents

There is a drop box for prescription medicine in the lobby of the Spanish Fork Police Department (789 W Center St.). Non-prescription medication should be placed in a garbage can.

MAIN STREET SCARECROW CONTEST

The Spanish Fork/Salem Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the 2018 Annual Scarecrow Contest on Main Street in Spanish Fork!

Throughout the month of October, vote for your favorite Main Street Scarecrow in the City Utility Office or online (www.spanishforkchamber.com).

CONTACT US

Send Questions or Comments for the Mayor & City Council to:
Spanish Fork City Attn: Dear Mayor
40 South Main, Spanish Fork, UT 84660

www.spanishfork.org
Mail-in Ballots must be postmarked by Monday, November 5, 2018

Register to Vote

Spanish Fork, UT 84660
(801) 804-4500
www spanishfork org

General Municipal Election
November 6, 2018

Proposition #7
Tax, Recreation, Arts

Important Information

Vote By Mail

Pamphlet
Voter Information

Registered Voters
Spanish Fork, UT 84660

Visit wwwSPANISHFORKGOVERNMENT ELECTIONS.CITY or call or visit the website the location of each polling place and election day voting center.

The Election Office will post on
mail spanishfork city Recorder at (801) 804-4520 or
for more information about voter registration visit:
PROPOSITION #7
Shall Spanish Fork City, Utah, enact a local sales and use tax of 0.1 percent (1 penny for every $10 spent) to help fund recreational amenities and cultural arts facilities and organizations in Spanish Fork City, said tax to be levied for ten years?

Funding may be used to support municipal or non-profit organizations providing programs such as but not limited to:
- Live theater
- Chorale groups
- Bands
- Festivals
- Youth Arts
- Theater groups
- Symphony groups
- Operas
- Museums

Funding may be used for capital improvements of publicly owned or operated amenities such as but not limited to:
- Parks
- Playing fields/courts
- Trails/Bike paths
- Splash pads
- Swimming pools
- Performing Arts Center

VOTE FOR ONE: _____ "FOR" THE RAP TAX _____ "AGAINST" THE RAP TAX

ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST THE RAP TAX

ARGUMENTS FOR THE RAP TAX
Recreation, arts, and parks are core components of Spanish Fork’s identity. Whether it be the river trail, the Sports Park, the Harvest Moon Hurrah, or a variety of recreation programs, we take pride in our recreation, arts, and parks -- they improve the quality of life of our residents. beautifying our wonderful community and provide opportunities for families and residents to interact and recreate. Historically, Spanish Fork City has provided great programs and amenities for our residents; however, as our community continues to grow, so do the needs of our residents. Furthermore, residents regularly request new or expanded programs and amenities from the City. To further expand what is currently available for our residents, the City Council has unanimously approved placing Proposition 7 on the ballot, which would enact a Recreation, Arts & Parks (RAP) Tax in Spanish Fork City.

The RAP Tax is a sales tax, not a property tax, and would be paid at the point of purchase for all sales-tax eligible purchases in Spanish Fork City. The RAP Tax would be a nominal increase of 0.1% to the sales tax rate, increasing the rate from 6.75% to 6.85%.-- this equates to 1 penny for every $10 spent. All funds generated by the RAP Tax could only be used to either expand or supplement RAP offerings in Spanish Fork City.

Because it’s a sales tax, Spanish Fork residents will not be the only ones who pay the RAP Tax. Anyone who shops in Spanish Fork City will be required to pay the tax. This is very important, especially considering how Spanish Fork is the retail hub in southern Utah County. Data from the Utah State Tax Commission suggests that between 41 and 52% of all sales in Spanish Fork City come from individuals who do not live here and this percentage increases every year.

This means that for every 50 cents you pay in RAP Tax you receive $1 in benefit. Furthermore, RAP Taxes are not new to the state or county. In fact, if you shop in Provo, Orem, Payson, American Fork, Salt Lake County, or Washington County (i.e., St. George), you are paying the RAP Tax and helping fund recreation, arts, and parks in those communities.

The RAP Tax will enable the City to do more than what has been done in the past. As a Council, we have a number of projects that could be funded by the RAP Tax including but not limited to:
- All-Abilities Park
- Dog Park Amenities
- Trail Connections
- Enhanced Arts Programs
- Community Theater
- Children’s Programs
- Amphitheater
- Senior Center Improvements

We unanimously support Proposition 7. We take pride in our recreation, arts, and parks, and are confident that the RAP Tax will progress RAP offerings in Spanish Fork City ultimately making Spanish Fork City an even better place to live.

Vote ‘Yes’ for Proposition 7.
Mayor Leifson & the Spanish Fork City Council

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE RAP TAX
No arguments against the RAP Tax were submitted

The arguments for or against a ballot proposition are the opinions of the authors

ARGUMENTS FOR THE RAP TAX

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE RAP TAX

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the RAP Tax?
RAP stands for Recreation, Arts & Parks. A RAP Tax is a sales tax that is added to the regular sales tax. Revenues generated from a RAP tax are reserved for specific projects including Parks, Cultural Arts Programs, and Recreation Programs.

The RAP Tax is 0.1%. This would increase the sales tax rate from 6.75% to 6.85%. This equals 1 penny for every $10 spent.

What could the RAP Tax funds be used for?
Projects eligible for RAP Tax funding must fall under one of the categories listed in the ballot language. The City has a variety of projects that could be funded by the RAP Tax.

Who decides what projects to fund with the proceeds of the RAP Tax?
To distribute funds, a citizens’ advisory committee will be formed. The committee will accept and review requests from any appropriate city department or any appropriate city organization, as well as any applicable non-profit organization. The committee will make a recommendation to the City Council and the City Council will make the final decision.

How much funding is expected and how long will it be available?
Based on sales tax revenues provided by the Utah State Tax Commission, a RAP tax in Spanish Fork would have generated $491,000 in 2017 and $568,000 in 2018. After 10 years by state law the RAP Tax automatically sunsets and goes away unless voted on again by the people.

Who pays the RAP Tax?
Anyone who makes a qualifying point-of-sale purchase in Spanish Fork City pays the tax, regardless of their place of residency.

What purchases would the RAP Tax apply to?
The RAP Tax would be applied to any purchase that is subject to sales tax. The Utah State Tax Commission has information regarding items that have a sales tax rate reduction, including certain grocery items (tax.utah.gov/sales/grocery-rate). These items would not be subject to the RAP Tax.

Can the RAP Tax be used to fund a recreation center?
Yes. RAP Tax funds could be used for a recreation center; however, this is very unlikely. For example, the 2015 Life Center proposal would have had a yearly debt service payment of $2.8 million. Utah State Tax Commission data suggests that the RAP Tax will generate about $75,000 in 2019; therefore, if all the RAP Tax funds were put toward a recreation center, they would not be sufficient to cover the full cost. Furthermore, in this scenario, no other funds would be available to fund any other new recreation, arts, and parks programs.

RAP TAX PUBLIC MEETING

When: October 16, 2018, 6:00 p.m.
Where: 40 S Main St, Spanish Fork, UT 84660