

## A Community Investment



### Past projects funded by the 1% Local Option Sales Tax include:

- ◆ Charlotte Harbor Event and Conference Center
- ◆ Englewood Beach Park
- ◆ Charlotte County Jail
- ◆ Charlotte County Justice Center
- ◆ Winchester Boulevard Hurricane Evacuation Route
- ◆ 30+ miles of sidewalks
- ◆ Mid-County Regional Library
- ◆ Cultural Center Expansion & Renovation
- ◆ 911 Equipment/Dispatch
- ◆ Veterans Boulevard
- ◆ Regional Water Interconnections
- ◆ South County Regional Park
- ◆ Boat Ramps
- ◆ Emergency Operations Center
- ◆ U.S. 41 Revitalization
- ◆ Burnt Store Road
- ◆ Edgewater Corridor
- ◆ Midway Boulevard

For a complete list of projects funded by past 1% local option sales tax, visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov)

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is this a new tax?

No, this is NOT a new tax. There will be no increase in the amount of sales tax you currently pay. This is a continuation of the existing 1% local option sales tax that was first approved in 1994. The referendum on the Nov. 4 ballot, if approved by voters, would extend the tax for an additional six years. The 1% local option sales tax is applied to transactions subject to state sales tax—not food, medicine or certain services—and only to the first \$5,000 of large purchases.

### What are the advantages of using a sales tax?

It is a funding source paid by everyone, not just local property owners. Tourists and visitors contribute towards projects that improve the quality of life for everyone.

### What did the County do with sales tax funds already collected?

In 1994, voters approved the 1% local option sales tax for a four-year period for two specific projects, the construction of a new justice center and jail. In 1998, 2002 and 2008, voters approved extensions that funded over 80 projects.

### What does the City of Punta Gorda receive?

Under Florida Statute, Punta Gorda receives approx. 10% of the 1% local option sales tax revenue.

### When would the extension of the existing 1% local option sales tax begin, and how much would be collected?

If approved by voters, the extension would begin Jan. 1, 2015 and continue for six years until Dec. 31, 2020, with conservative estimates placing collections at \$20 million per year (with the county's and city's portions \$18 million and \$2 million, respectively).

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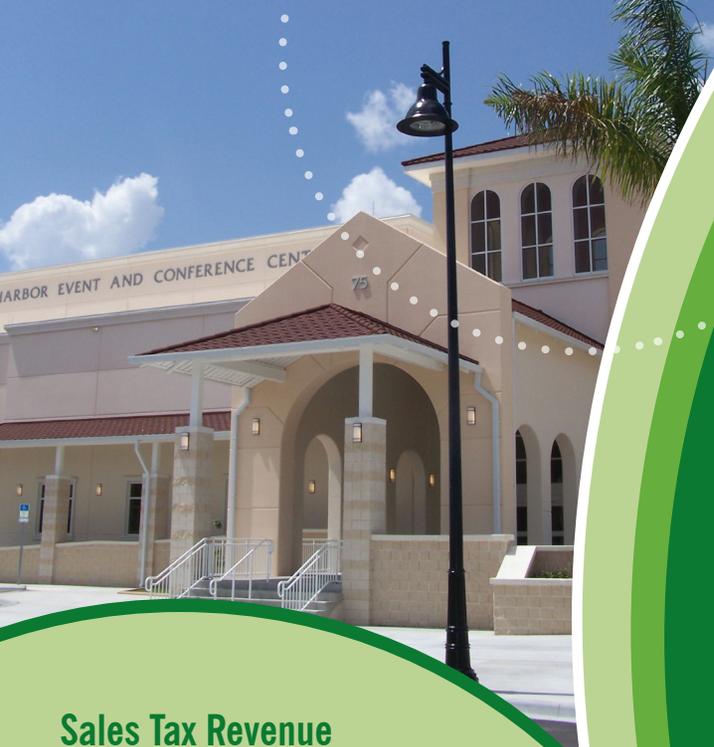
## 1% Local Option Sales Tax A Community Investment

**ONE** makes a DIFFERENCE

**VOTE NOVEMBER 4**



[www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov)



## Sales Tax Revenue Funds Critical Projects

With voter approval, counties can increase the statewide six percent sales tax to seven percent for infrastructure needs. These monies can be used for a wide range of capital infrastructure expenses. Charlotte County and its residents have benefitted from four prior 1% local option sales tax programs. The programs, started in 1994, and three extensions in 1998, 2002, and 2008, have produced a total of approximately \$346 million in revenue. Funds from the 1% local option sales tax have been used to complete 50 projects in Charlotte County and 18 projects in the City of Punta Gorda.

The 1% local option sales tax provides an alternative to raising property taxes for funding projects that improve the quality of life of Charlotte County residents.

For a list of all past projects, visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov).

If approved by voters in November, the 1% local option sales tax will be extended for six more years. From 2015 to 2020, one-cent on each dollar spent in Charlotte County will fund the following projects:

### Quality of Life

- ◆ Family Services Center Expansion and Remodeling
- ◆ Harbor Walk/Gateway Project Phase II
- ◆ McGuire Park Phase I
- ◆ Multi-use Trails and On-road Bicycle Lanes
- ◆ Oyster Creek Pool Splash Pad
- ◆ North Charlotte Regional Park Recreation Center
- ◆ Ann Dever Memorial Regional Park Recreation Center
- ◆ Recreation Center Renovations
- ◆ South County Library and Archive
- ◆ Veterans Memorial Park

### Public Safety

- ◆ Sheriff District 1 (West County) Headquarters
- ◆ Fiber to Fire Stations
- ◆ Jail Expansion—Medical Wing
- ◆ Public Safety Digital Radio System
- ◆ West County Annex Replacement

### Transportation/Infrastructure

- ◆ Olean Boulevard Widening
- ◆ Piper Road North Improvements

### Schools

- ◆ School Security Initiatives
- ◆ School Wireless Technology Upgrade

Visit [www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov](http://www.CharlotteCountyFL.gov) for more information.

**VOTE  
NOVEMBER 4**

The City of Punta Gorda will fund projects such as Punta Gorda Pathways/Harborwalk, infrastructure and technology upgrades, and public facilities improvements with their approximately 10% portion of the sales tax revenues. For more information, visit [www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us](http://www.ci.punta-gorda.fl.us).