



# CENT ONE makes a DIFFERENCE

## 1% Local Option Sales Tax *A Community Investment*

**VOTE**  
**NOVEMBER 4**

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

### Schools

- ◆ School Security Initiatives
- ◆ School Wireless Technology Upgrade

### 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

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).



# 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 approximately 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).



## 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)*

# VOTE NOVEMBER 4

