




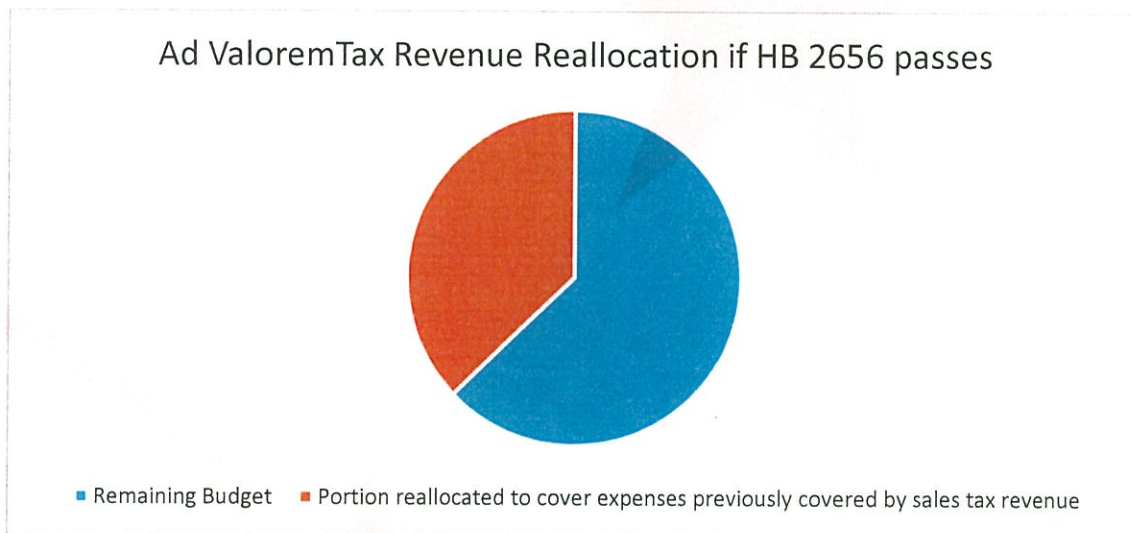
"Where Community Counts."

Date: March 9, 2020
To: Chairman Steven Johnson and House Taxation Committee Members
From: Richard LaMunyon, City Administrator 
Re: Testimony in Opposition to HB 2656

Committee Members, thank you for the opportunity to testify in opposition to HB 2656 on behalf of the City of Maize.

To be brief, the passage of this bill would have a catastrophic impact on our budget. To paint a quick picture:

- In 2019, the sales tax revenue from the County was \$870,000.
- These funds were allocated for capital improvement projects, street improvements, equipment purchases and debt service.
- To cover this loss of revenue, we would be forced to reallocate revenue received from property tax appraisals, as we do not have our own sales tax.
- The loss of \$870,000 equates to a full 16 mills or 37% of our entire ad valorem tax revenue.



- Passing HB 2656 would have a crippling impact to our ability to maintain services and infrastructure while maintaining our current mill levy.
 - Our capital improvement projects, street improvements and equipment purchases would be frozen completely in order to fund debt service obligations and operations.
 - The safety of our citizens would be seriously compromised.
 - Job security for our employees would no longer exist.

Budget cuts alone will not feasibly cover the proposed shortage and we would be forced to raise the mill levy in order to provide the services our constituents have come to expect and rely upon.

The City of Maize strongly requests that you not allow HB 2656 to pass out of the House.