

City of Stafford 112 W. Broadway Stafford, KS 67578

Municipally Owned Water and Light

www.staffordkansas.com

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City Email cityofstafford@gbta.net January 12, 2022

RE: Local Sales Tax

The City of Stafford, Kansas is a small city with very few retail stores. One of the main stores in our community is the grocery store which sells food and other items. We understand that the State of Kansas is considering reducing the sales tax on food items in the upcoming session. While we think all citizens deserve to have lower taxes if the State budget would allow it, there might be some unintended consequences if the sales tax is lowered for the local sales taxes which were voted and passed by the local taxing entities. Food sales represent a large volume of our local sales tax revenue. If the local sales tax on food is eliminated, then we have a substantial drop in our local sales tax receipts. We have passed two bond issues which rely mostly on the sales tax revenue that was voted on in local elections and approved. If our local sales tax revenue drops then the City could be violating the terms of our bond issues

The City of Stafford and I am sure other small cities that rely on food sales tax revenue will possibly be in violation of bond issues if the local sales tax on food is reduced or removed. We hope that you consider this when discussing this issue in the upcoming legislative session.

Sincerely.

Don Hardin

City of Stafford Mayor