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Tulsa County Sheriff, unexpired term: Republican Vic Regalado.

- Election due to Stanley Glanz resignation; term ends after until the November election.
- I have some serious concerns about the appearance that straw donors were used to fund Regalado's primary campaign and about his choice to respond to those concerns by playing the race card.
- Democrat nominee, Rex Berry, is far-left, anti-gun rights, pro-abortion extremist.
- Vote for Regalado today, support better conservative candidate in June primary for full four-year term.

**Sales tax propositions:
General advice**

- Sales taxes on today's ballot are intended to replace Vision 2025 0.6 cent sales tax which doesn't expire until December 31, 2016.
- If there's something in a package that you think is foolish or wasteful, if the rate is too high or the duration of the tax is too long for your liking (or permanent) **vote NO**, and then tell your elected officials why.
- Sales taxes for projects should be limited to 5 years and pay as you go, with well-defined list of projects.
- Commissioners, councilors, and mayors have plenty of time to propose better packages for a vote in the June primary, August runoff, or November general election.

Tulsa County sales tax: NO.

- 0.05%, 15-year sales tax.
- Projects on Tulsa County's tentative list seem modest and reasonable, but list is not set in stone, and tax is for 15 years with plans to borrow against future revenues.

City of Tulsa, Prop. 1: NO.

- Permanent increase in city's sales tax rate, to fund police, fire, and 911.
- Rate starts 0.16% and after July 1, 2021, permanently increases to 0.26%.
- Doesn't fix causes of runaway increases in police and fire spending. Tulsa's police and fire budget consumes entire permanent 2% sales tax for operations, plus a little. (107% in Fiscal Year 2014).

- Since 1980, Police and Fire operating budget has doubled in inflation-adjusted dollars, but number of Police and Fire personnel has only increased by 4%.
- Permanent increase is not acceptable until there is an investigation into this dramatic increase in cost without a corresponding increase in service.

City of Tulsa, Prop. 2: NO.

- Permanent increase in the city's sales tax rate by 0.085 cents on the dollar, earmarked to fund street maintenance and public transit.
- No official project list in the ordinance that controls spending for the tax.
- No guarantee of spending split between street maintenance, public transit operations, and public transit vehicles and infrastructure.
- City should investigate Uber-style, private-sector approach to meet the public transit needs of Tulsa citizens with lower cost and greater comfort and convenience.
- A temporary tax, targeted to specific spending plans, and a plan to research innovative new approaches to transit would be worth voting for; this vaguely defined permanent tax is not.

City of Tulsa, Prop. 3: NO. This is the dam tax package.

- 15-year increase in the city's sales tax rate by 0.305 cents on the dollar for 4.5 years, up by a half-penny to 0.805 cents for 4 years, and back down to 0.305 cents for 6.5 more years.
- Four-year, half-penny bump is just enough to pay for the low-water dams, and it means that we can't renew our traditional Third Penny sales tax for streets and other basic infrastructure in 2021 without raising overall tax rate.
- \$127 million for low-water dams in the Arkansas River, with south Tulsa dam contingent on agreement with the Muscogee (Creek) Nation & City of Jenks.
- Muscogee (Creek) Nation has not offered or committed any financial support).
- City of Jenks support which is contingent on Jenks sales tax vote.

- Dams will disrupt habitat for endangered bald eagle and other species.
- Dams will damage and deplete fisheries.
- Dams are for the sake of aesthetics, even though we have no protection in place against ugly, inappropriate riverfront development.
- We'd be building new low-water dams as many cities are removing them as hazards.

Beyond the dams, this package has numerous other wasteful and often ill-defined projects:

- \$55 million for convention center and arena (where we've already spent \$228.5 million).
- \$27.3 million for corporate welfare deal-closing fund at the airport -- something we voted down in Vision2 in 2012.
- \$30 million given to county for Expo Square; one city councilor called it a bribe.
- \$15 million for national headquarters for Bicycle Motocross (BMX).
- \$5,320,000 for Tulsa Community College, already lavishly funded through our property taxes.
- \$9,400,000 for 119,000 sq. ft. Air National Guard simulator building which may never have simulators.
- \$10 million for teacher retention and attraction not enough to buy a daily cup of coffee for each teacher; the money is there to trick voters concerned about school funding to vote for the dams.

Suburban sales tax propositions: NO.

- All proposed taxes are minimum 15-years or permanent. Voters can say NO and ask for a maximum five-year, pay-as-you-go package with a very specific list of projects.
- Jenks: Includes funds for a low-water dam.
- Glenpool: Passing all three propositions will increase their already-high tax rate by another 0.55 cents.
- Sapulpa: Funds for land acquisition may target historic Route 66 motels
- Owasso and Collinsville: Why can't growing cities fund improvements without a higher city sales tax rate?