



# MAPS

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**Vote December 8**



**“MAPS is about creating jobs, improving our quality of life and continuing our momentum.”**

**– Mayor Mick Cornett**

## MAPS Facts



The new MAPS proposal calls for a seven-year, nine-month one-cent sales tax that maintains the Oklahoma City sales tax rate where it currently stands.

If approved, the sales tax collection will begin on April 1, 2010, the day after the end of the sports facilities sales tax vote approved by the voters in March 2008.

The initiative will fund eight projects and is estimated to raise \$777 million, including \$17 million in contingency funds. A citizen oversight board will be appointed to review financing and make recommendations to City Council.



## MAPS Projects

- A NEW, APPROXIMATELY 70-ACRE PARK. \$130 MILLION

This new world-class park will be a place the community can gather to play, picnic, enjoy concerts, exercise and attend festivals. The park will link the core of downtown to the Oklahoma River. It will begin at the future boulevard (the current Interstate 40) between Hudson and Robinson, proceed south to the future Interstate 40, and continue to the Oklahoma River. The upper park will include a cafe, lake and other amenities. SkyDance Bridge will connect the upper and lower park.



- RAIL-BASED TRANSIT PACKAGE. \$130 MILLION

The transit package includes a five to six mile rail-based streetcar. The streetcar will link major employers, businesses, attractions and residents in the downtown area. A streetcar, commuter rail and hub are part of the package which is called for in Central Oklahoma’s Fixed Guideway Transit Study. The study provides a blueprint for transit needs in central Oklahoma over the coming decades.



- A NEW DOWNTOWN CONVENTION CENTER. \$280 MILLION

The new convention center will replace the aging Cox Business Services Convention Center – a necessary component to attracting larger conventions and bringing new money into our economy. Tourism in central Oklahoma has a \$2.1 billion impact on our economy. A recent study funded by the Greater Oklahoma City Chamber of Commerce found that Oklahoma City is losing business to cities with larger, more updated Convention Centers. Oklahoma City ranks 142nd in size among convention centers in the U.S. The Cox Center will be almost 50 years old before a new convention center could be built.



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# Projects continued

- **SIDEWALKS TO BE PLACED ON MAJOR STREETS AND NEAR PUBLIC FACILITIES. \$10 MILLION**

More than 70 miles of sidewalks will be strategically constructed along major streets throughout the City and connect public buildings such as schools and libraries. This continues the City's efforts to create a more walkable community.

- **MORE THAN 50 MILES OF NEW TRAILS. \$40 MILLION**

This project will construct more than 50 new miles of trails ideal for walking, bicycling and running. The expansion will connect the Oklahoma River, Lake Overholser, Lake Stanley Draper and Lake Hefner and builds a healthier community. The blueprint for the trails system is outlined in the City's Trails Master Plan.

- **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OKLAHOMA RIVER AND CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW WHITEWATER COURSE. \$60 MILLION**

This project will provide improvements to the Oklahoma River, including a public whitewater facility, and upgrades intended to achieve the finest rowing racecourse in the world. The whitewater course can be used by everyone from families to Olympic athletes. The river improvements will include grandstands, a floating stage, lighting, parking and course improvements. The infrastructure will help attract more events and will support ongoing community and university rowing programs.

- **HEALTH AND WELLNESS AQUATIC CENTERS FOR SENIORS. \$50 MILLION**

Four to five state-of-the-art health and wellness aquatic centers are planned to encourage healthy lifestyles and serve as a gathering place for active seniors. Each center will be programmed to reflect the needs of the surrounding community.

- **IMPROVEMENTS TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE FAIRGROUNDS. \$60 MILLION**

This project will replace aging public event buildings at the Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, particularly those used year-round by the public for antique shows, gun shows, craft fairs and the State Fair. The improvements are expected to attract local, regional and national events to the Fairgrounds.

## Q & A

### What is MAPS?

MAPS stands for Metropolitan Area Projects and was first launched in 1993. The first MAPS project was a penny sales tax that lasted five-and-a-half years and raised \$363 million. The tax raised money to build the Ford Center, Bricktown Ballpark, Bricktown Canal, Oklahoma River, Oklahoma Spirit Trolleys, Norick Downtown Library and make renovations to the Myriad Convention Center, Civic Center Music Hall and the State Fairgrounds. The penny sales tax elapsed in 1999. The last project was completed 11 years after the vote was held. A 21-member citizen oversight board reviewed financing and site location and made recommendations to City Council.

Oklahoma City voters returned to the polls two years later and approved a public school initiative called MAPS for Kids. The initiative was funded through the collection of a one-penny sales tax for seven years, along with a school bond issue that was passed on the same day. The sales tax collection took effect on January 1, 2002. Combined, the two initiatives raised approximately \$714 million. All 75 buildings in the Oklahoma City Public School District will be rebuilt or renovated as a result of the initiative. Over \$153 million in City sales tax will also be invested in over 400 projects in the 23 suburban school districts. The last project is slated to open in 2012, 11 years after the vote was held.

### Will sales taxes increase?

No. The tax rate will remain the same.

### How long will the MAPS sales tax last? When would it begin?

The temporary tax will last seven years and nine months. The tax would begin on April 1, 2010.

### How much money would be raised by MAPS sales tax?

Approximately \$777 million.

### Who votes to approve this initiative?

Oklahoma City residents only.

### What percentage of the voters is required to approve MAPS?

Fifty percent, plus one.