



# Mendocino County

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** 16-731, **Version:** 1

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Transportation and County Counsel

**Meeting Date:** July 12, 2016

**Department Contact:** Howard N. Dashiell

**Phone:** 463-4363

**Department Contact:** Katharine Elliott

**Phone:** 234-6885

**Item Type:** Regular Agenda

**Time Allocated for Item:** 20 min.

**Agenda Title:**

Discussion and Possible Adoption of Resolution to Present to the Voters of the County a Measure Adding Chapter 5.160 of Title 5 to the Mendocino County Code Imposing a County Transportation Transactions (Sales) and Use Tax Collected in the Unincorporated Areas of the County and Ordering Consolidation of said Election with the Consolidated General Election Called for November 8, 2016, and Introduction and Waive Reading of an Ordinance Adding Chapter 5.160 of Title 5 to the Mendocino County Code Imposing a County Transportation Transactions (Sales) and Use Tax (Countywide)

**Recommended Action/Motion:**

Adopt Resolution presenting to the voters of the County a measure adding Chapter 5.160 of Title 5 to the Mendocino County Code imposing a County Transportation Transactions (Sales) and Use Tax collected in the unincorporated areas of the County and ordering consolidation of said election with the consolidated General Election called for November 8, 2016 and authorize Chair to sign same; and introduce and waive reading of an Ordinance adding Chapter 5.160 of Title 5 to the Mendocino County Code imposing a County Transportation Transactions (Sales) and Use Tax (Countywide).

**Previous Board/Board Committee Actions:**

The Board received updates from Mendocino County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) on the Statewide Needs Assessment at their year-end "look ahead" meetings in December 2009, 2010, 2013, and 2014. The Board appointed ad hoc committee members, Dan Gjerde and Tom Woodhouse, to explore funding opportunities for road needs in 2015. On March 1, 2016, Mendocino Council of Government and MCDOT, presented polling data on voter support for a potential sales tax initiative to fund pavement maintenance and rehabilitation on local roads.

**Summary of Request:**

Funding for local transportation projects is at an all-time low in California. The primary cause of the problem is related to the source of revenues for transportation. Historically, the state and federal gas taxes have made up the majority of funding for transportation. Unfortunately, as a result of inflation along with changes in tax structure, improved fuel economy, and lower gas prices, those revenue sources are now painfully inadequate. Meanwhile, our county maintained roads are deteriorating at an alarming rate. The most recent update to the County's Pavement Management Program showed that over 58% of County-maintained paved roads have either failed completely or are near failing.

The proposed Transportation Transaction (Sales) and Use Tax Ordinance by law must be submitted to the voters for approval. It is being presented as a special tax which will require a two-thirds vote of the electorate. It is estimated that the Transportation Transaction (Sales) and Use Tax could generate \$2.7 million in annual revenue.

The Ordinance includes as an attachment the “Mendocino County Transportation Sales Tax Expenditure Plan,” which is required by the Revenue and Taxation Code (Section 7285.5) to be included as part of the ordinance.

**Alternative Action/Motion:**

For the Board to not present to the voters of the County a measure adding Chapter 5.160 of Title 5 to the Mendocino County Code imposing a County Transportation Transaction (Sales) and Use Tax.

**Supplemental Information Available Online at:** N/A

**Fiscal Impact:**

**Source of Funding:** N/A

**Budgeted in Current F/Y:** N/A

**Current F/Y Cost:** Estimated \$2.7 million annual revenue

**Annual Recurring Cost:** N/A

**Supervisory District:** All

**Vote Requirement:** 4/5's

**Agreement/Resolution/Ordinance Approved by County Counsel:** Yes

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**CEO Liaison:** Christopher Shaver, Deputy CEO

**CEO Review:** Yes

**Comments:**