

Citizens Make Your Voices Heard!

On August 6th the Hamilton County Commissioners will make a choice whether a quarter cent sales tax should be placed on November's ballot for the purpose of renovating Music Hall and Union Terminal. Those advocating increasing taxes have adopted the "emergency" tactics of those who successfully increased the sales tax to pay for two stadiums without adequate debate, planning or transparency.

Advocates of higher taxes have failed to provide critical information before a decision to increase taxes is made.

- Ownership: It seems pretty certain the City owns these buildings but the debate continues as to financial responsibility. Pointing to Hamilton County is understandable as the City confronts decades of multi-million dollars streetcar operating deficits.
- Why Music Hall and Union Terminal together? Many describe improvements to Music Hall as "cosmetic" while Union Terminal's need for repair is described as more critical.
- Why taxpayers? Citizens increasingly hand over more property taxes, sewer fees and suffer higher costs for healthcare, food and fuel. A significant financial commitment (i.e., user fees) should be made from those who use these buildings.
- Bankruptcy? The expense of the Stadiums caused massive county employee layoffs to avoid bankruptcy. At more than 40% the cost of the stadium project is this something the county can afford?

There are two public hearings before Commissioners make the decision to place a sales tax increase on the November ballot:

July 23rd at 6:30 PM at the Sharonville Convention Center

July 28th at 11 AM Hamilton County Administrating Building, 138 E. Court Street Room 603

We urge citizens attend this meeting to make their voices heard. If unable to attend the meeting, contact information for the county commissioners can be found at www.empoweruohio.org.

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Our Turning Point of Northwest Hamilton