

TOPEKA SALES TAX AND BOND ISSUE VOTE HISTORY

1971 -- Topeka became one of the first 3 cities in Kansas, along with Lawrence and Manhattan, to levy a local sales tax. The .5% tax went into effect on July 1.

1973 -- April -- Forbes AFB will be closed.

1978 -- Civic Center bond issue vote defeated by 2-1 margin.

1981 -- Bond issue to build new air terminal defeated.

1982 -- Voted bond issue to build new airport terminal.

1983 -- Voted bond issue to build new Civic Center vote.

1987 -- \$19.7 million Civic Center opened.

1984 -- November -- voted to change to Mayor/Council government.

1985 -- New air terminal completed.

1988 -- January. Hypermart opened.

1988 -- March 3. West Ridge Mall opened.

1989 -- Voted \$7.5 million bond issue for Heartland Park -- provided another \$2.5 million for entrance. Opened Aug. 11, 1989.

1991 -- Topeka Performing Arts Center opened.

1994 -- Voted ¼% sales tax for 4 years for law enforcement center. Began 1/1/95.

1996 -- Voted to extend the ¼% sales tax for the East Topeka Turnpike Interchanges for another 4 years, beginning 1/1/99.

1998 -- August 4. An attempt to extend the ¼% sales tax for another 4 years -- 1/1/03 to 1/1/07 for unspecified streets and other items FAILED.

1999 -- Joan Wagon got a .65% sales tax passed by the Kansas legislature, dedicated entirely to Washburn University. Citizens did not get to vote on this increase. The tax has no sunset date.

2000 -- Extended the ¼% sales tax for another four years, 1/1/03 until 1/1/07, for JEDO. *Chamber sponsored and supported. According to GO! Topeka, this*

would produce an increase of population of 14,000 and 14,000 new jobs by 2005.

2003 – New local use taxes passed by the legislature, equal to about .3% in Topeka. No sunset date, no vote by the citizens. This was sneaked into another bill by the League of Kansas Municipalities at the very end of the regular legislative session. Topeka pays about \$30,000 per year to belong to LKM, which is no less than a heavily staffed lobbying group. *Chamber supported.*

2004 – August. Enacted a new ½%, 12-year sales tax to begin 1/1/05 and last 12 years, to replace the ¼% JEDO sales tax. JEDO to get about \$5 million per year, rest to go for a list of new or replacement roads and bridges. *The Chamber sponsored and led this effort. The measure passed with only 51.5% of the vote. After many had voted by absentee ballot, it was revealed that six of the nine city council members and all three county commissioners had already agreed on how the money would be spent.*

2005 – The Chamber, through its “Citizens for Unity and Growth” group, sponsored the failed the city-county consolidation effort with \$180,000 in monetary and in-kind contributions. The Capital-Journal contributed \$10,000 cash and more than \$21,000 in in-kind contributions.

STATE SALES TAX

1965 3%
1986 4%
1989 4.25%
1992 4.90%
2000 5.30%

PULL FACTORS -- TOPEKA

1995 – 1.65
FY03 – 1.55
FY04 -- 1.51
FY05 – 1.49
FY06 – 1.49
FY07 – 1.47