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Sales tax initiative passes in Little Rock

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LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (KTHV) -- Voters have cast their ballots and the results are in for the city of Little Rock and its one-cent sales tax increase proposal on the ballot Tuesday.

Voters actually had a pair of questions on the sales tax issue, making up the full penny increase.

Numbers from the Pulaski County Election Commission show 54 percent in favor of the 5/8th sales tax increase to support city operational needs with 46 percent against it.

Then 54 percent supporting the 3/8th sales tax increase for capital improvements with 46 percent voting no; that part of the tax would sunset in 2021.

Mayor Mark Stodola says the additional funding would finance everything from a

beefed-up police and fire force to support for the struggling zoo.

And also allow for larger capital projects, like a Research Park for new business.

The mayor says this is all about building a stronger, promising future for Little Rock.

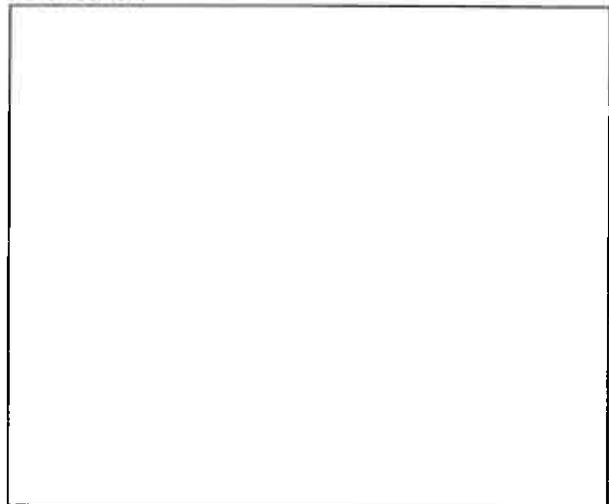
But opponents have said the city doesn't need all this money and it's a bad time to ask families for a tax hike.

Here's the results from the Pulaski County Election Commission:

PRECINCTS COUNTED (OF 71)	71
100.00	
REGISTERED VOTERS - TOTAL	111,855
BALLOTS CAST - TOTAL	22,346
BALLOTS CAST - BLANK	3 .01
VOTER TURNOUT - TOTAL	19.98
VOTER TURNOUT - BLANK	

Little Rock Tax 3/8 %
VOTE FOR 1

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(WITH 71 OF 71 PRECINCTS COUNTED)
FOR 12,007 53.88
AGAINST 10,277 46.12
Total 22,284
Over Votes 3
Under Votes 59

Little Rock Tax 5/8 %

VOTE FOR 1

(WITH 71 OF 71 PRECINCTS COUNTED)
FOR 12,033 53.98
AGAINST 10,257 46.02
Total 22,290
Over Votes 2
Under Votes 54

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