

ARGUMENT IN FAVOR PROPOSITION #4 RAP TAX

Recreation, Arts, and Parks are valued aspects of the daily lives of Saratoga Springs residents. Each provides opportunities for children, individuals, families, and seniors to build relationships and community, as well as spur creativity, health, and well-being.

As our population approaches and surpasses 50,000 residents, it is common to see residents denied opportunities in recreation, arts, and cultural programming because we do not have the facilities for them to participate. Many recreation programs do not meet the needs of residents each year with participants being turned away or program sizes capped. The funding provided by the RAP tax may be used to fund elements of library and senior programming related to recreation, arts, and cultural events. Current and past leaders have shown great foresight in acquiring recreation property while it was readily available and affordable. The City has multiple undeveloped parks throughout the city waiting to be developed. Visitors to our city often use our sports and leisure facilities without contributing to their creation or enhancement.

So, the question is this: How do we want to fund our parks, arts, and recreation, and how long do we want their development to take? The Recreation, Arts, and Parks (RAP) tax will collect one penny from every ten dollars spent in Saratoga Springs from any consumer that chooses to shop in Saratoga Springs including non-residents. By implementing the RAP tax, any person who shops in Saratoga Springs contributes to the RAP fund, therefore providing a benefit to Saratoga Springs residents and visitors.

Many cities in our area collect this tax, including American Fork, Lehi, Cedar Hills, Spanish Fork, Orem, and Salt Lake County. When you shop in these communities you are paying for their recreation arts and park. Let's bring this revenue to our community. We urge you to become educated, visionary, and engaged in preparing for the future of Saratoga Springs by voting in favor of the RAP tax.

City Council of Saratoga Springs, Utah

The City shall conduct a public meeting on October 4, 2022, beginning at the hour of 6:00 p.m. at 1307 North Commerce Drive, Saratoga Springs, Utah. The purpose of the meeting is to hear arguments for and against the RAP Tax.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION #4 RAP TAX

I am opposed to the proposed RAP sales tax increase.

We are in an inflationary crisis. When basics like school lunch dues have been a hardship, a sales tax increase for recreation is not needful.

Outsiders may shop here sometimes, but we shop here every day, and will have to pay for this burden at all businesses here.

Other city governments may prey on their residents; it should NOT give our city government cause to do the same.

Please vote NO on the RAP tax.

Leah Hansen
Saratoga Springs Taxpayer