

**From:** Daren Holter <darenholter@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 9, 2024 12:04 PM  
**To:** City Clerk's Office  
**Subject:** Community Forum  
**Attachments:** proposition-a-flyer.pdf; Total Lane Miles for Street Operations.pdf; Council Meeting 4.9.2024.docx

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Please included my comments for tonight's Council Meeting 4/9/2024 to be part of the record. I will be speaking tonight on the street initiative.

Daren H. Holter



# TACOMA TRANSPORTATION BENEFIT DISTRICT PROPOSITION A

## Sales Tax for Street Improvements

### WHAT WILL PROPOSITION A DO?

Proposition A provides additional funding for transportation projects outlined in the Comprehensive Transportation Program. Additional funds are restricted to pay for; permanent pothole repair, street resurfacing, maintenance and improvements to arterials and freight access roads, installation of school crossing beacons, and building missing sidewalks.

### HOW WILL THE CITY OF TACOMA BENEFIT FROM PROPOSITION A?

The Transportation Benefit District (TBD) is a separate taxing district established for the purpose of funding specific transportation projects within the City of Tacoma. In 2014, TBD funded projects included 39 blocks of residential chip seal, 30 lane miles of arterial chip seal, installation of 56 ADA compliant curb ramps, and permanent repair of 1,978 potholes. Proposition A will more than double the funding for these types of projects in the City.

### HOW WILL PROPOSITION A WORK?

Proposition A will raise the sales tax by 1/10 of 1% for a period of 10 years. Sales tax in Tacoma will go from 9.5% to 9.6%. The increase will amount to one cent on a \$10 purchase.

### HOW MUCH REVENUE WILL PROPOSITION A GENERATE?

Proposition A is projected to generate \$4.5 million per year, or \$45 million over the 10 year period. This will more than double the funding available for TBD transportation projects by increasing TBD revenue from \$2.5 million per year to \$7 million per year over the next over 10 years.

### HOW CAN I KNOW HOW PROPOSITION A REVENUES ARE SPENT?

The TBD is required by state law to issue annual reports specifying the status of TBD revenues, expenditures and construction schedules. These reports are available to the public.

### WHEN WILL THE PROPOSITION A SALES TAX INCREASE END?

The sales tax authorized by Proposition A will expire after 10 years (January 2026).

[cityoftacoma.org/PropositionA](http://cityoftacoma.org/PropositionA)

Year	Arterial Chip Seal Lane Miles	Arterial Pavement Repair Lane Miles	Arterial Crack Sealing Lane Miles	Residential Chip Seal Lane Miles	Residential Street Paving Lane Miles	Residential Crack Sealing Lane Miles	Total Lane Miles per Year
2001	33.59	2.41					36.00
2002	42.48	2.92					45.40
2003		6.79	23.34				30.13
2004	55.69	9.47	22.38				87.53
2005	58.52	8.25	10.81				77.59
2006	10.39	5.41	23.06		3.75		42.61
2007	23.78	5.13	34.75		14.53		78.19
2008	1.54	5.70	16.94		18.13		42.31
2009	42.39	2.79	42.06		14.22		101.47
2010	42.74	0			16.02		58.76
2015	15.70	3.03	7.4		6.48	13.28	45.89
2016	0.40	0.91		16.88	10.47	15.16	43.81
2017		0.41		35.94	13.75	28.75	78.85
2018		1.41		36.09	12.50	40.31	90.31
2019		0.29		32.50	11.72	21.09	65.60
2020		0.67		8.75	4.69	30.00	44.11
2021		0.05		30.16	10.78	10.00	50.98
2022		0.60		28.13	10.47	20.31	59.51
2023		0.43		30.63	13.28	42.34	86.68
Total Lane Miles per Maintenance Type	371.56	57.63	212.98	234.84	183.67	221.25	1281.92

April 9, 2024

To whom it may concern:

Good evening Mayor and Members of the City Council. My name is Daren Holter, and a lifelong resident of the City of Tacoma. Last time I was here I started to go over the two Propositions that the City wanted voters to approve in 2015 to improve both residential and arterial streets in Tacoma. Tonight I want to focus on Proposition A

Contained in Proposition A, second paragraph states the following: ***“The Transportation Benefit District (TBD) is a separate taxing district established for the purpose of funding specific transportation projects within the City of Tacoma. In 2014, TBD funded projects included 39 blocks of residential chip seal, 30 lane miles of arterial chip seal, installation of 56 ADA compliant curb ramps, and permanent repair of 1,978 potholes. Proposition A will more than double the funding for these types of projects in the City.”***

After the Citizens approved this proposition since 2016 the City performed only:

0.4 Lane Miles of Arterial Chip Seal  
4.77 Lane Miles of Arterial Pavement Repair  
7.4 Lane Miles of Arterial Crack Sealing

It is also noted since 2014 the Street Operations Division completed 39 Lane Miles of Residential Chip Seal but since that time not once have they been able to complete that same level of work.

If the funding doubled than why did the work for arterial streets just almost stop. Where is the 70 million dollars going? All of you on the council should be shocked. The citizens of Tacoma put you as stewards of their money. If tax money is not being used in the manner in what it was intended then where. I ask you to put information explaining to the citizens what is going on with these tax dollars. We deserve the right to know.

Daren H. Holter  
1823 S Visscher St  
Tacoma WA 98465  
253-677-0800  
[darenholter@gmail.com](mailto:darenholter@gmail.com)

Attachments: Proposition A, Copy of Lane Miles Report from Street Operations  
2000 to 2023