

City of Cedar Hills  
10246 N Canyon Road  
Cedar Hills, UT 84062

---



City of Cedar Hills  
**VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET**  
**for Proposition #7**  
**to be voted on in the November 7, 2017**  
**General Election**

---

**THE OFFICIAL TEXT OF THE CITY OF CEDAR HILLS  
PROPOSITION #7 IS AS FOLLOWS:**

Shall the City of Cedar Hills, Utah, be authorized to impose a 0.1% sales and use tax within the city to fund cultural, recreational and botanical organizations or facilities in the city?

- FOR the Imposition of the 0.1% Sales and Use Tax
- AGAINST the Imposition of the 0.1% Sales and Use Tax
- 

*The arguments for or against a ballot proposition are the opinions of the authors*

October 2, 2017

Dear Cedar Hills Resident:

On November 7, 2017, Cedar Hills voters will have the responsibility to vote on an opinion question entitled Proposition #7, which asks whether or not the city should impose a sales and use tax for cultural arts, recreational, and botanical organizations or facilities (PARC Tax).

This Voter Information Pamphlet has been prepared to help you better understand the issue. It contains arguments for and against the proposition, along with the official text and initial fiscal impact statement. This pamphlet also contains information regarding voter registration, voting by mail, and the voter service center.

Please take the opportunity to study this pamphlet, so that when you vote you will be able to make a sound, intelligent and informed choice on the issue.

Sincerely,

Colleen A. Mulvey, MMC  
City Recorder

---

**VOTER REGISTRATION - VOTE BY MAIL INFORMATION  
VOTER SERVICE CENTER**

You may register to vote by submitting a voter registration form either in person at the Utah County Elections Office, 100 E Center Street, Rm 3100, Provo, Utah 84606, or you can register online at [vote.utah.gov](http://vote.utah.gov) or at [www.utahcounty.gov](http://www.utahcounty.gov).

**Vote by Mail** – The 2017 Municipal General Election will be administered entirely by mail. Ballots will be mailed out to each registered voter beginning on October 17, 2017. Ballots must be clearly postmarked before Election Day, or placed in the ballot box at the City Office Building by 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**Voter Service Center** – A Voter Service Center will be open on Election Day (November 7, 2017) from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the City Office Building, 10246 N Canyon Road. This service center is to assist voters who did not receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Voters may also bring in their ballots up until 8:00 p.m. on Election Day.

---

**INITIAL FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR PROPOSITION #7**

The city budget officer estimates the fiscal impact will increase revenues of \$40,000 annually to fund an off-setting expense of the same amount.

---

# ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION #7

## Vote FOR the PARC Tax

The City Council of the City of Cedar Hills, Utah has approved the provision of placing the opinion question of a Parks, Arts, Recreation, and Cultural (PARC) Tax on the November 7, 2017, ballot.

If approved, the PARC Tax would add an additional 0.1% tax on all retail items sold in Cedar Hills, which means that for every \$10 spent in a retail establishment within Cedar Hills, the city would assess a tax of one penny. By collecting this small sales tax, residents and non-residents who shop in Cedar Hills assist in generating funds for parks, arts, and recreational opportunities within the city. While this tax is minimal, it has the ability to have a large positive impact on our community and quality life, making Cedar Hills an even more desirable place to live.

Our city still has three potential parks listed in the General Plan, including the 11.5 acres of land recently purchased next to Deerfield Elementary. PARC tax funds can be used to help with the completion of these parks, as well as the trail system that connects them. This tax would go into effect on January 1, 2018, and be in place for 10 years.

Up until last year, the city had collected this tax, then known as a CARE tax. The funds collected from this tax averaged about \$40,000 per year of revenue for the city. These funds were used to:

- Install a basketball court at Heritage Park
- Help with the completion of the Community Center basement, which added two rooms used for activities such as karate classes, theater and singing classes, and art classes
- Install a restroom at Mesquite Park
- Coordinate community events hosted by the Arts Committee, such as the children's art contest annual date night, and the Concert in the Park series.
- Complete Bayhill Park

These funds are not used to subsidize city recreation programs, such as soccer or basketball. Cedar Hills' recreation programs are funded through fees charged to participants, and are not subsidized through PARC tax, or any other tax.

Instituting this small retail tax, with a sunset provision, is a wise way to raise revenue needed for our parks, trails, recreational facilities, and community events, and to maintain the open space enjoyed by Cedar Hills residents. We hope you will support these efforts and vote YES on the PARC tax.

Jenney Rees  
10258 Bayhill Drive  
Cedar Hills, UT 84062  
801-358-8730  
jenneyrees@gmail.com

## REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT IN FAVOR OF PROPOSITION #7

**Cedar Hills Citizens for Responsible Government** are surprised that Councilwoman & Candidate for Mayor Jenney Rees (*elected 2011*) is willing to publicly expose that she and many City officials are in FAVOR of raising your taxes – when we already voted NO!

Regrettably, City Officials have proven incapable of wise spending, keeping promises and quickly paying off City debt – and have tried to hide financial facts from Cedar Hills voters for years.

Home-builders were forced by the City to collect \$2.9 million in Impact Fees for ten years, promising to build a “Rec Center / Pool.” When the City Council instead built a Golf Club House / Grill / Wedding Reception Center, – the Utah Home Builders Association sued the City. The City knew it was wrong, as proven by the lawsuit it “settled out of court.” This cost Cedar Hills taxpayers an additional \$190,000, not to mention wasted staff time, legal fees – and still NO Rec Center or Pool. (*See our November 19, 2012 posting, and other articles at [www.CedarHillsCitizens.org](http://www.CedarHillsCitizens.org).)*

Friends, there is no end to the “good” this City Council can do with YOUR money. It’s time to Just Say NO!

It’s time they tighten their own belts, and stop asking for more money. Let’s not fall for more broken promises. Let’s replace tax & spend politicians, and get out of debt. VOTE AGAINST the NEW PARC TAX.

# ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION #7

## Vote AGAINST the proposed new PARC Tax

It is not the proper role of City government to tax and spend money on programs that are not necessary for its residents.

Most people enjoy the arts. We do too, but this vote is not about “arts” or parks. It’s about a City that has wasted funds – already entrusted to them – asking for more money. Last year Cedar Hills residents voted AGAINST a similar “CARE” arts tax increase. City officials didn’t take “no” for an answer.

Some questions CH voters should ask about the City’s proposed new “arts” (PARC) tax:

1. What reasonable person would vote to raise their own taxes for non-essential services?
2. What good neighbor would vote to force unnecessary new taxes on his neighbors (widows, retirees, people on a fixed income, or those financially challenged)?
3. Why give more money to City officials who have not kept past promises on other taxes and fees?

For example: The City collected \$2.9 million in impact fees over 10 years to build a “Rec Center / Pool.” Instead, the City built a golf clubhouse and wedding reception center. The city touts small wedding profits, while glossing over the \$581,000 per year average in golf course losses.

Despite false claims published in the City Newsletter that got some current and recent officials elected, saying the golf course was “cash flow positive” (profitable), it is not. The City persuaded residents to vote for \$6.437 million golf bond, promising voters it would make \$400K per year in profits to “lower taxes,” be closed on Sunday and not allow alcohol. These promises were broken. We are buried in debt!

The truth? The golf course is a financial failure, and NEVER once has the golf course made \$1 of profit – in any year. This helps explain why the City “needs” a new tax. In fact, the golf course has averaged \$581,000 in losses (subsidization) every year, sacrificing possible new parks, the Rec Center / Pool, library, etc., we might all have enjoyed, – not just golfers.

Despite numerous requests, the City has NEVER provided a year-by-year loss table in the Newsletter, to correct the false claims that helped get them elected. Our “public servants” Mayor and Council continue to allow themselves and staff unlimited FREE golf – while the residents must pay. A conflict of interest?

Our high taxes are also hidden in the form of “free food” breakfasts, Easter Egg hunts, and many other fun but unneeded “services.”

The City proposed PARC tax is NOT for essential core public services. For those people who want government “arts,” no problem, please feel free to write out a personal check and donate it to the City. But please don’t vote to take money from your unwilling neighbor’s pocket by using your vote to impose an unnecessary new tax.

Please VOTE AGAINST the City’s proposed new PARC “arts” tax.  
Cedar Hills for Responsible Government / [www.CedarHillsCitizens.org](http://www.CedarHillsCitizens.org)

Jerry Dearing & Friends  
4211 W. Manila Creek Drive  
Cedar Hills, UT 84062  
801-796-1777  
[Jerry@CedarHillsCitizens.org](mailto:Jerry@CedarHillsCitizens.org)

## REBUTTAL TO ARGUMENT AGAINST PROPOSITION #7

Local government exists to provide services and to develop and preserve a sense of community. In several surveys conducted over the years, Cedar Hills residents have consistently indicated that, for some, the top reasons for choosing to live in Cedar Hills include its family-friendly environment and the access to open space and trails. Our parks, trails, and community events are highly valued and provide the sense of community that makes Cedar Hills a place where people want to raise families and enjoy time together as friends and neighbors. It's a place we can be proud to call our hometown.

The PARC tax provides revenue for those things-parks, trails, and community events-most desired by our residents, by adding one penny to every ten dollars spent in a retail establishment in Cedar Hills. Because it is a tax added to retail sales, residents from other cities that shop in Cedar Hills also contribute to the revenue generated for these services. Our commercial district, adjacent to Walmart, is now on the verge of expanding. As these retail opportunities expand in our city, the PARC tax will provide funding for such things as the completion of our trails system, completion of our newly-acquired 12-acre park near Deerfield Elementary, and the provision of community services. Please support these services by voting YES for the PARC tax. For information regarding statements made in the opposing argument that are unrelated to the PARC tax, please email me at [jennyrees@gmail.com](mailto:jennyrees@gmail.com).