

Facts about Proposition 9

The rapid growth in our valley has created an urgent need to invest in emergency medical services. This means more stations, equipment, and trainer personnel. The legislature passed House Bill 392, which allows modifications to the Rural Health Care facilities tax. Wasatch County is proposing a 0.5% (half a penny for every dollar) sales tax on goods and services, excluding groceries (unprepared food), prescription medicine, and fuel.



Wasatch County Ballot:

Proposition 9: Shall Wasatch County, Utah, be authorized to impose a 0.5% sales and use tax to fund emergency medical services in Wasatch County?

This ballot initiative allows Wasatch County to increase sales tax by 0.5% on many taxable purchases made in the county to improve the emergency response capabilities of the Wasatch Fire District.

How much money will the EMS tax generate?

The 5/10 of 1% will generate approximately \$5.2 million in the first year. The revenue is anticipated to grow over time as the population and tourism increase in Wasatch County.

What does this mean for my budget?

The best way to calculate it is to look at a \$10 purchase and add .05 cents to that purchase. If your favorite drink costs \$2.50, it will increase the cost of your drink by \$0.01.

Who pays this tax?

This sales tax levies goods and services, not essentials, like groceries, medicine, or gas. This includes purchases made by residents, tourists, and visitors. It applies to greeting cards, dining out, televisions, and cars. Approximately 50% of the sales tax revenue would come from non-county residents.

How this sales tax increase benefit Wasatch County residents?

- Allows non-residents visitors and tourists to help pay for services they use
- Decrease response times
- Increased EMS personnel, and more resources available in your time of need
- Reducing future property tax increases
- Additional stations
- Upgrading equipment
- Improving facilities
- Enhancing public safety
- Advanced medical training
- Meeting growth and demand



How will this impact our ISO Rating?

An Insurance Services Office creates rating for fire departments and their surrounding communities. The rating calculate how well-equipped fire departments are to respond to fires in that community. When fire stations are located within a certain radius of a home, it can decrease insurance premiums. Right now, we have communities within Wasatch County that don't have a fire station close to their homes, impacting the cost of their homeowner's insurance.

This sales tax pertains to EMS operations, and one of the key advantages is that our team is trained in multiple disciplines. The presence of stations within a 5-mile radius enhances our response capabilities and contributes to proper improvement. As a fire district, we provide both fire and emergency medical services. This adds significant value by streamlining administration and offering twice the benefit.

What about property taxes?

- Wasatch Fire District will continue to receive a portion of the property taxes. This additional tax will help us improve EMS services in the county.
- 70-80% of the services provided by Wasatch Fire District are Emergency Medical Services related.
- This tax revenue is anticipated to significantly reduce the need for the Fire District to increase property tax in the foreseeable future.

What are Wasatch County Sales Taxes compared to surrounding counties?

Location	Combined Sales Tax -Current	Rural Hospital (EMS)	Proposed Adjusted
Wasatch Co	6.45%	.5%	6.95%
Heber	6.75%	.5%	7.25%
Independence	7.55%	.5%	8.05%
Midway	7.85%	.5%	8.35%
Park City East	8.35%	.5%	8.85%
MIDA - All	7.55%	.5%	8.05%
Summit Co	7.15%	TBD	7.15%
Park City	9.05%	TBD	9.05%
Snyderville Bas.	7.45%	TBD	7.45%
Utah County	7.15%	N/A	7.15%
Provo / Orem	7.25%	N/A	7.25%
Salt Lake Co	7.25%	N/A	7.25%

What is the goal of Prop 9?

- Decrease the financial burden on local property owners.
- Offset costs to providing EMS services to non-residents, visitors, and guests of Wasatch County.
- Enhance the availability of adequate resources to provide services to Wasatch County.
- Promote a well-prepared and safe community.