

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit grandcountyutah.net/612/Elections for election details; go to moabcity.org/Proposition8 for additional information about the RAP Tax; or call the Grand County Clerk's Office at 435-259-1321.

VOTE BY MAIL

All voting is by mail-in ballot. Ballots will be mailed to registered voters on Oct. 13, 2020. To vote, simply complete the ballot, sign the affidavit on the envelope, and drop the envelope in the mail. Ballots must be postmarked no later than Monday, Nov. 2, 2020.

Registered voters may also vote in-person or submit their ballot at the Grand County Clerk's Office at 125 E. Center Street on Oct. 28, Oct. 29, Oct. 30, and Nov. 2 from 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Ballot drop off and in-person voting may be done at the Grand County Clerk's Office on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 3, 2020, from 7:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.

Ballots may be placed in the drop box at the West Entrance of the Courthouse, by the Grand County Clerk's Office, from Oct. 19 through Oct. 30, 2020. Weather permitting, the drop box will be located on the front lawn of the Grand County Courthouse from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. on Nov. 2 and from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 3.

REGISTER TO VOTE

Residents may register to vote in one of the following ways:

- 1. Register in person:**
Grand County Clerk's Office,
125 E. Center Street, Moab, Utah
- 2. Mail a registration form to:**
Grand County Clerk's Office,
125 E. Center Street, Moab, UT 84532
- 3. Register online** through the state's secure site at voter.utah.gov
(Registration Deadline: Oct. 23, 2020)

For more information about voter registration or to verify your registration status, visit voteinfo.utah.gov

Election Official
Office of the Grand County Clerk
125 E. Center Street
Moab, UT 84532

www.grandcountyutah.net/612/Elections

Mail-in ballots must be postmarked by Monday, November 2, 2020.

VOTER INFORMATION PAMPHLET

November 3, 2020
General Election

IMPORTANT INFORMATION
REGARDING THE PROPOSED

RECREATION, ARTS, & PARKS (RAP) TAX

Proposition #8

CITY OF

MOAB
UTAH

TITLE AND BALLOT LANGUAGE

RECREATION, ARTS, & PARKS (RAP) TAX

PROPOSITION #8

Shall the City of Moab, Utah, be authorized to impose a .1% sales and use tax to fund cultural facilities, recreational facilities, and zoological facilities and botanical organizations, cultural organizations, and zoological organizations in the City?

VOTE FOR ONE:

____ "FOR" THE RAP TAX

____ "AGAINST" THE RAP TAX

Funding may be used to support municipal or non-profit organizations providing programs such as, but not limited to:

- Arts and cultural programs
- Live theater
- Festivals
- Youth Arts
- Theater groups
- Museums

Funding may be used for capital improvements of publicly owned and operated amenities such as, but not limited to:

- Parks
- Playing fields/courts
- Pedestrian trails/Bike paths
- Splash pads
- Sports programming
- Swimming pools

ARGUMENTS FOR AND AGAINST THE RAP TAX

ARGUMENTS FOR THE RAP TAX

Parks, recreation, and arts are valued and cherished aspects of the daily lives of Moab's citizens. Each provides opportunities for children, individuals, families, and seniors to build relationships and community as well as spur creativity, health and wellbeing. The City of Moab has a long history of creating open space, parks, developing youth and adult sports programming, and providing arts and recreation facilities for the benefit of our valley's residents as well as for our visitors.

To maintain these programs, as well as to add new possibilities for local residents, the Moab City Council voted unanimously to place Proposition 8 on the November 3rd ballot, which will create a funding mechanism needed for our programs and activities in Moab. This is called the Recreation, Arts, and Parks (RAP) tax. This would only increase our sales tax rate by one-tenth of one percent (0.1%), which amounts to one penny for every \$10 spent downtown at a local shop, a restaurant, or for an overnight accommodation. Unprepared food and gasoline are EXEMPT from this tax.

Prop 8 could raise between \$300-400k in funds each year for our parks, recreation, and arts, and the vast majority would be raised from visitor purchases...as our visitors enjoy many of our amenities.

Why is the City Council looking at this tax now? For many years, the City's programs and facilities including

the Moab Recreation and Aquatics Center (MRAC), youth sports, and the Moab Arts and Recreation Center (MARC) have been heavily subsidized by the general fund totaling almost \$1 million annually. Prop 8 would offset this subsidy for 10 years and would only be renewed with voter approval.

What Prop 8 isn't – Prop 8 is NOT a property tax! As a reminder, Moab City is one of the only cities in our state that does not levy a property tax. The property tax you pay goes directly to Grand County and is not shared with Moab City.

Residents of the City of Moab will have the opportunity to give feedback and input on how these funds are distributed. Every spring, the City Council goes through a budget process. Residents have the opportunity to provide the City Council with feedback, and the City Council will make the final decision on Prop 8 spending. This fund will be ours to spend based on our community's needs and priorities for our parks, recreation, and arts.

Proposition 8 will be on your November ballot. We encourage everyone to stay engaged and vote on Election Day!

Mayor Emily Niehaus and the Moab City Council

ARGUMENTS AGAINST THE RAP TAX

No arguments against the RAP Tax were submitted.

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

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the RAP Tax?

The Recreation, Arts & Parks (RAP) tax is a one-tenth (1/10) of 1% (0.1%) sales tax that would be included on sales and uses within Moab City limits. It is one cent for every \$10 spent. It is not a property tax. It is not levied on unprepared food items or gasoline.

Who pays the RAP Tax?

The tax is collected on sales and uses within the City of Moab, therefore, it is not a tax solely on Moab residents. Because it is a tax on purchases of goods or services (except groceries and gasoline) within Moab City boundaries, a visitor or tourist who shops in Moab stores, attends events, stays in overnight lodging, or eats in a restaurant in Moab will also contribute to the RAP tax. Based on 2019 tax revenues, at least 79% of the tax revenues will come from visitors.

Why ask voters to approve a tax when COVID-19 has impacted our community so much this year?

Investing in the arts, recreation, parks, and trails has been found to improve the quality of life in Utah communities that have a RAP tax. This very small tax will primarily be generated through tourism spending (at least 79%).

These tax revenues will help the City sustain funding for community programs and facilities – such as parks, the Moab Recreation and Aquatic Center (MRAC), and Moab Arts Center as well as arts, sports, and recreation programs for local youth – and can also be used to provide funding to local qualifying nonprofit groups. So while locals who shop in the City will pay a portion of the tax, it is one way visitors to our community will help pay for amenities/programs that benefit local residents.

How would the RAP Tax revenues be allocated?

According to State Code, the Recreation, Arts & Parks tax revenues can only be used for recreational, cultural, arts and parks facilities and programs provided by the city or qualifying nonprofit groups. State law prohibits the use of RAP Tax revenue for any other purpose, including general administrative expenses.

What are the City's priorities for RAP tax revenue?

In the first two years or so, most of the revenue would be used for City of Moab recreation, arts, and parks programs and facilities. Some funding would also be set aside for programs developed by qualifying non-profit organizations.