



NOVEMBER 5, 2024 WHITESIDE COUNTY REFERENDUM

INFORMATIONAL FLYER – WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT THE PUBLIC SAFETY TAX

DID YOU KNOW?

Rock Falls & Sterling residents are the only residents in Whiteside County who currently must pay for Whiteside County 911 Dispatch Service. Rock Falls paid Whiteside County \$305,000 in FY 2024 for 911 Dispatch Service.

DID YOU KNOW?

Rock Falls & Sterling property owners pay three times for 911 Dispatch Service:

- ✓ Whiteside County property tax
- ✓ Rock Falls/Sterling property tax
- ✓ SSA property tax

DID YOU KNOW?

The Whiteside County Board has placed a tax referendum on the November 2024 ballot asking for approval to levy and collect a Public Safety Tax **COUNTY WIDE**, namely a 0.5% sales tax on non-exempt sales. This tax, if passed, will generate sufficient sales tax to fully fund 911 Dispatch services without contribution from the City of Rock Falls. Taxes would be paid by all shoppers, not just the residents of Rock Falls, Sterling & Whiteside County.



TO PAY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY COSTS SHALL WHITESIDE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO IMPOSE AN INCREASE ON ITS SHARE OF LOCAL SALES TAXES BY ONE HALF OF A PERCENT (0.5%).

- Yes
- No

This would mean that a consumer would pay an additional \$0.50 in sales tax for every \$100 of taxable retail purchases. If imposed, the additional tax would not be terminated unless by a vote of the county board.