

Great Game Huddle Notes
March 8, 2016

Commissioner Harold Bengsch welcomed huddle participants and introduced City of Springfield Public Work's Director and former Administrator of the Greene County Highway Department, Dan Smith to provide information on City ballot initiative items for the April election.

Mr. Smith began his presentation with a video regarding several pressing traffic issues produced by the City of Springfield. The April 5th referendum will ask voters to renew Springfield's 1/4-cent Capital Improvement and 1/8-cent Transportation Sales Tax programs. Having both tax proposals during the same year occurs once every 12 years and having them both on the same ballot is unique. The continuation of both programs will not create an additional cost to taxpayers. Mr. Smith graphically compared Springfield tax rates with several other surrounding jurisdictions to demonstrate that current rates fall within an average range.

Mr. Smith also explained a fortunate and beneficial situation that citizens in Greene County enjoy with the infrastructure collaborative between the City, County, State, Federal and private sectors. The current 2016 community focus to assist northwest city and county neighborhoods is an example of this cooperative.

Dan concluded with a summary of recently completed projects and the benefits it provides for traffic flow, pedestrians and bicyclists. The City has also conducted a resident survey to help determine and prioritize future projects and programs.