



For Immediate Release

Cordell Whitlock
Communications Director
(314) 615-0524

Allison Blood
Communications Coordinator
(314) 615-4654

St. Louis County Executive to Introduce Law Enforcement Tax Legislation

Clayton, MO - St. Louis County Executive Steve Stenger is asking the County Council to place a proposition on the April, 2017 ballot authorizing a Countywide sales tax to fund improved police and other public safety services across St. Louis County, in both unincorporated areas and all municipalities.

“Our law enforcement officers face difficult and dangerous situations on a daily basis,” County Executive Stenger said. “We need to provide officers with the tools and resources necessary for them to stay safe in the line of duty. The additional funds this tax will generate will ensure that no matter where officers patrol, they would have additional resources to safely and effectively protect the residents of St. Louis County now and in the future.”

If approved by voters in April, this proposal will generate approximately \$80 million annually. The County will receive approximately \$46 million. The municipalities will receive in total approximately \$34 million, with the amount distributed to each city, town, or village through a population-based formula. (The attached chart shows the estimated distribution for each municipality).

County Executive Stenger said if approved by voters, the County’s portion of the revenue generated by the tax would enable:

- Hiring more officers
- Having a second police officer in patrol cars when necessary
- Increasing police salaries
- Expanding officer training on topics like peaceful conflict resolution
- Providing body cameras for every officer
- Installing dashboard cameras in every police vehicle, and
- Developing a computerized crime reporting system.

“My administration is committed to the safety of County residents and vibrant neighborhoods,” County Executive Stenger said. “Improved public safety will make life better not just for current County residents, but will also help attract new business and make the County a great place to live and work for generations to come.”

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