

City of Memphis

2019 Sales Tax
Referendum

November 5, 2019

Presented by
Mayor Jim Strickland



The Referendum: Where do we go from here?

- Sales tax increase recently passed, and it is our responsibility and intention to implement the will of the voters.
- To put things into perspective, the transition process of comprehensive pension and healthcare reform took nearly two years from 2014-2016.
- Proposed to fund three things:
 - Public safety
 - Pre-k
 - Road improvements

Who is included?

- Police Officers
- Firefighters
- Paramedics
- Police and Fire Dispatchers

What benefits will change?

- Pension—limited number (less than 750).
 - Police officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, and Police and Fire dispatchers hired January 1, 2009—July 1, 2016.
- Insurance—all current, future, and retired Police officers, Firefighters, Paramedics, and Police and Fire dispatchers.
 - Pre-65 retirees
 - Elimination of spousal carve-out

When will they take effect?

- Pension—estimated time to implementation by January 1, 2021—**subject to State approval (State Treasurer).**
- Medical insurance—RFP will be issued in Spring of 2020. Open enrollment will begin Fall of 2020 with benefits taking effect January 2021.

Challenge

- Currently, approximately 600 police and firefighters are eligible for retirement today.