

April 12, 2021

Mayor Weir and Council Members
City of Independence
111 E Maple
Independence, MO 64051

RE: Public Safety Tax Oversight Committee Report

Dear Mayor and Council Members:

First of all, my apologies for our committee not reporting on April 5th. There was some miscommunication resulting in us not knowing the date of the next report. I trust this report will suffice. Please feel free to contact me if I can provide any additional information.

Since our last report, the committee has met on January 13, 2021 and March 24, 2021 to receive and discuss reports from Fire and Police for the Public Safety Sales Tax and from Police for the Use Tax. These reports include a detailed review of both completed and planned for uses of the funds collected. We monitor the progress of planned activities in all three funds. We have found that the use of these funds are in compliance with the purpose of these taxes and have been used appropriately and in accordance with the intent of the respective voter approved taxes.

We are most pleased to see the Use Tax received has quickly surpassed the expected revenue and is anticipated to reach the point where it begins to waterfall to other city funds. We note that the hiring of Police Officers as expected using the Use Tax is progressing, but that progress is challenged by a number of issues in the hiring process including finding qualified candidates.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service to you and to our citizens through serving on this committee. Please contact me if I can be of additional service.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Jared A. Fears". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jared A. Fears
Chairperson
Public Safety Tax Oversight Committee