

## Jersey County Board

Gary Krueger, Chairman Mark Wagner, Vice-Chairman jerseycountyillinois.us

Public Safety Sales Tax

The Jersey County Board is asking for help from the voters of Jersey County to determine the path in maintaining the courthouse, sheriff's department, the government building, and all buildings and grounds owned by Jersey County. We have voted to put a public question on the ballot for voter consideration. To pay for public safety purposes, shall Jersey County be authorized to impose an increase on its share of local sales taxes by .05%?

The past six years, we have worked on identifying repairs needed before they become a major issue. After interviewing companies, we partnered with a company who assessed our buildings at no cost. They identified projects totaling 10 million dollars. We reduced the projects to the most important ones at a cost of 3.2 million dollars. We sold bonds to that amount, and we are making payments with interest of the money in savings accounts. Our intent was to work on the additional projects over the next several years, however more emergency projects have arisen. The entrance to the courthouse has started to sag and the elevator has failed inspection just to mention a couple.

What types of sales are not subject to this tax? Fuel, farm equipment used by farmers, qualifying food, drugs, and medical appliances are exempt. How does this effect you? For every \$100 dollars you spend, .50 cents will go to Public Safety Sales Tax. This tax is paid by not only Jersey County residents, but everyone who spends money in our county. This tax has no effect on property taxes. We will have a meeting at the Government Building in the Auditorium on February 15, 2024, from 6-8 PM to answer any questions you may have.