



BUILDING COMMUNITY

THE MERRIAM WAY

MAIL-IN VOTE

Merriam voters will determine the future of recreation in our community. Voters will decide if the City should replace the current 100+ year-old Irene B. French Community Center and 30+ year-old Merriam Aquatic Center with a new community center at Vavra Park.

NEW COMMUNITY CENTER

The City asked the community what recreation amenities they wanted. The top items are incorporated into the proposed 66,000 square foot community center at Vavra Park.

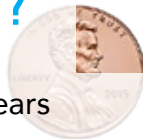
Proposed amenities include:

- » Indoor walking and jogging track
- » Fitness center and aerobics room
- » Indoor pool with lap lanes, leisure pool, and therapeutic water
- » Outdoor pool with spray pad, lap lanes, and leisure pool (lazy river, slides, etc.)
- » Full size gymnasium
- » Art gallery and senior lounge
- » Classrooms
- » Party room
- » Meeting and event space
- » Catering kitchen
- » Child watch
- » Free social gathering space with WiFi



HOW WILL WE PAY FOR IT?

- » **USING SALES TAX:**
A quarter-cent tax for 10 years
- » About **82%** of sales tax revenue comes from non-residents
- » **NO PROPERTY TAX INCREASE**
- » Balance will come from budgeted Capital Improvement Program (CIP) funds



WHO WOULD PAY THE SALES TAX?



- MERRIAM RESIDENTS
- NON-MERRIAM RESIDENTS

LEARN MORE AT MERRIAM.ORG/BUILDINGCOMMUNITY

VOTE

REGISTER TO VOTE BY **Aug. 25**
 BALLOTS MAILED ON **Aug. 25**
 BALLOTS DUE BY **Sept. 15 at noon**

HOW DOES A 1/4-CENT SALES TAX AFFECT YOU?

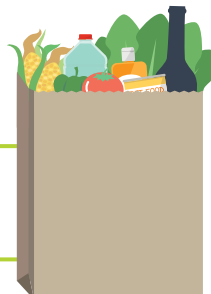


Add 10¢ to a
\$40 pair of jeans

Add 2¢ to an
\$8 fast food meal



Add 25¢ to
\$100 of groceries



A YES VOTE MEANS

- » City will build a new \$30 million community center at Vavra Park with indoor and outdoor pools
- » \$24 million will be paid in bonds; \$6 million is already budgeted
- » A new one-quarter percent sales tax will take effect on Jan. 1, 2018, for 10 years to help cover the bond payment

A NO VOTE MEANS

- » City plans to repair/renovate the Irene B. French Community Center and Merriam Aquatic Center for an estimated \$20 million
- » City will likely use \$10 million in bonds; remaining balance paid with CIP fund
- » Absence of new revenue source (sales tax) means higher annual bond payment for City
- » Still have 100+ year-old building that doesn't meet our community's needs

DROP-IN TOURS

The City will offer guided tours highlighting maintenance and repair issues at the Irene B. French Community Center and Merriam Aquatic Center throughout the summer.

IRENE B. FRENCH COMMUNITY CENTER

Wednesday, Aug. 2 5–8 p.m.
 Saturday, Aug. 19 9 a.m.–noon
 Thursday, Aug. 31 5–8 p.m.
 Tuesday, Sept. 12 5–8 p.m.

MERRIAM AQUATIC CENTER

Monday, July 24 5:30–8 p.m.
 Tuesday, Aug. 8 5–8 p.m.



The City has prepared this education piece to provide you with information about this initiative and remind you to vote.

MERRIAM.ORG/BUILDINGCOMMUNITY

City of Merriam, Kansas // 913-322-5500 // merriam.org

