



mch

75
YEARS

mch

mch

ADMITTING & REGISTRATION

WHY THIS MATTERS

Current State

- **City's Responsibility**
The city of Odessa is providing fire and EMS costs for residents living inside city limits, the county, and unincorporated areas of Ector County.

Future State

- **Service Management**
The city of Odessa will continue to manage fire and EMS services.
- **Funding Pipeline**
ECHD will collect and appropriate the funds.

Implications

- **City Residents**
Benefit from a tax reduction.
- **County Residents**
Gain improved fire and EMS services through increased funding.
- **New Contribution**
With the tax change, ECHD will appropriate the fire and EMS funding.

WHY THIS MATTERS

Enhanced Fire & EMS Services

- Improves fire and EMS services for both city and county residents.

Fair Distribution

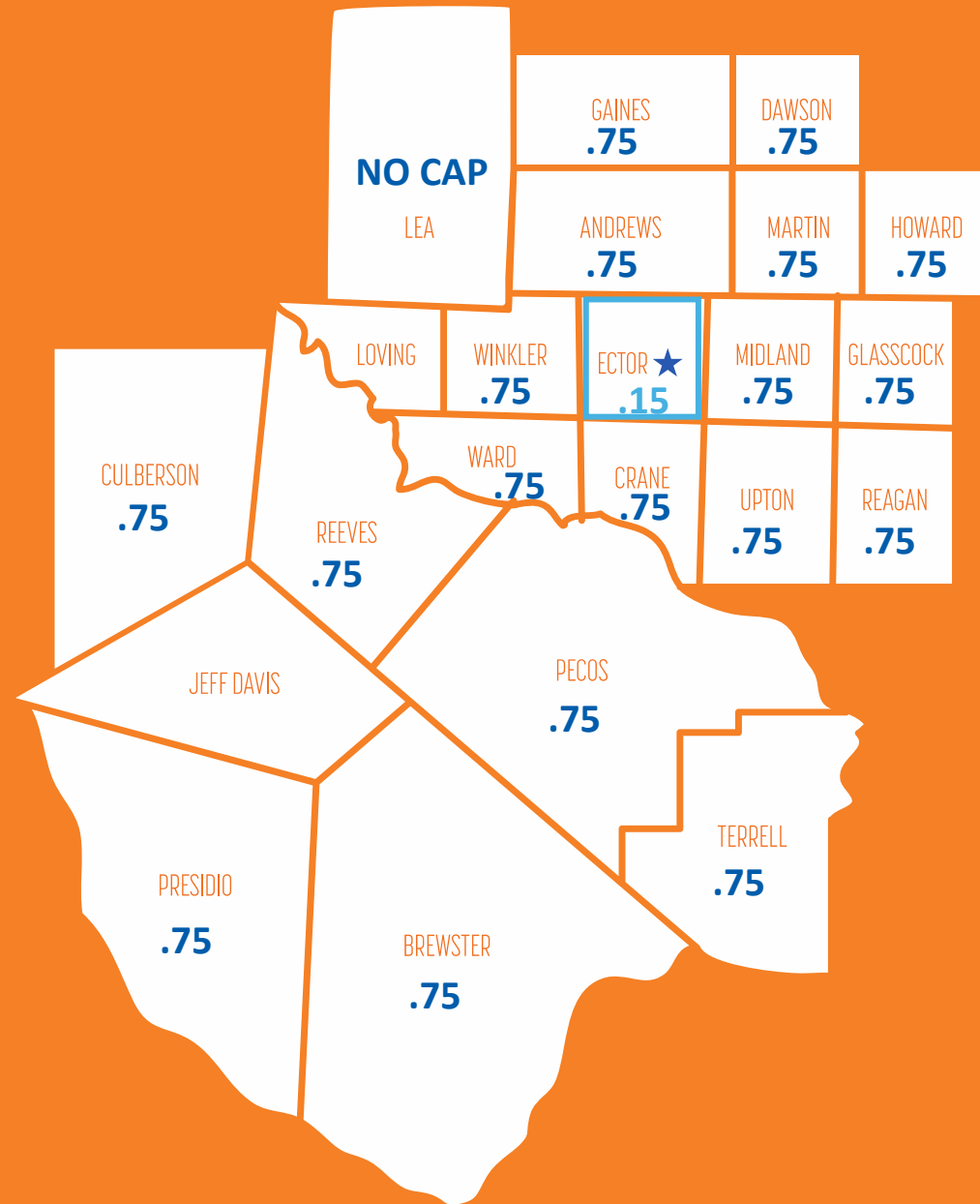
- Provides equitable distribution of the financial burden for fire and EMS services for all city and county residents.

Community Benefit

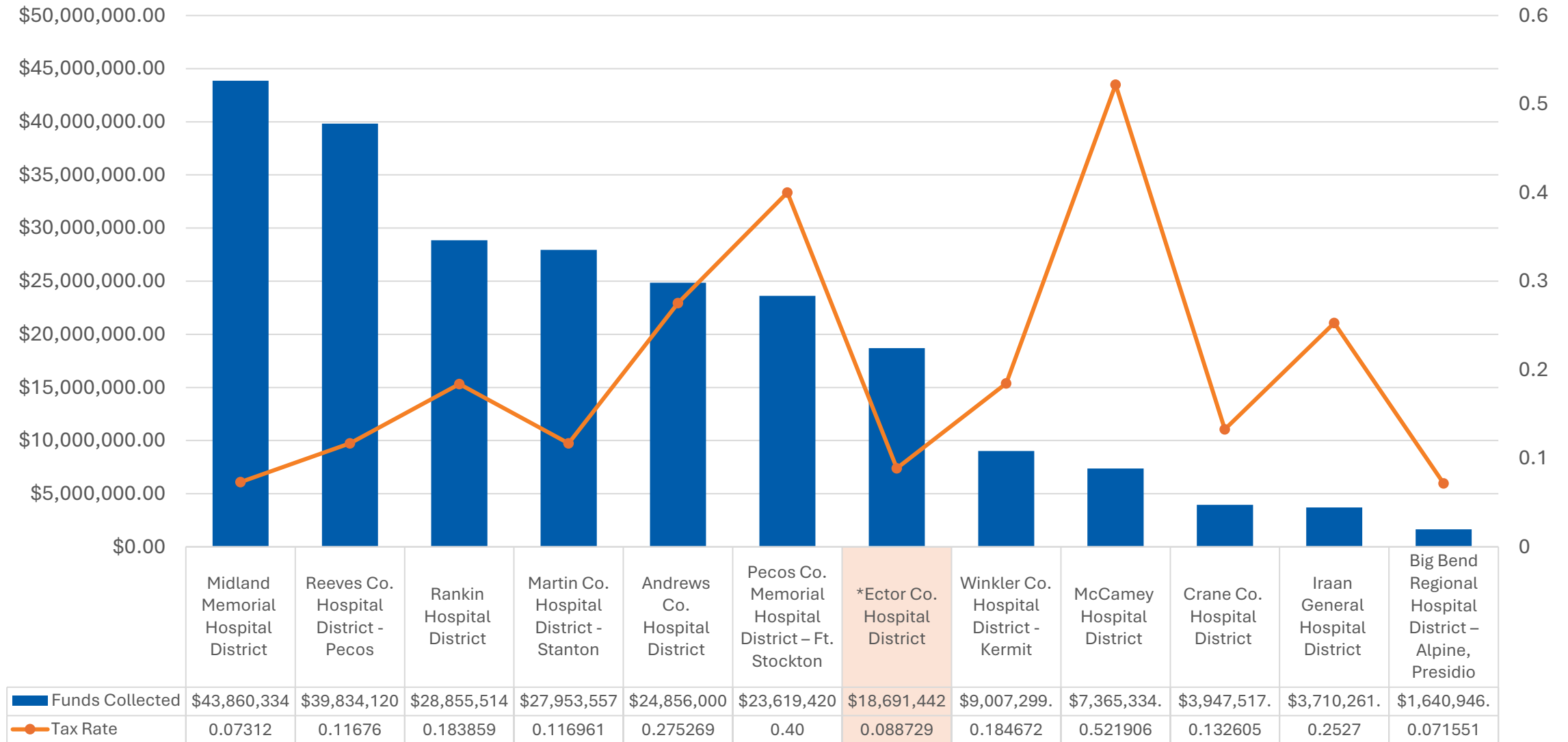
- Supports an effective fire and EMS service and sustains a healthcare system for all city and county residents.

Tax Cap for Regional Hospitals

Regional Hospitals that send patients to MCH regardless of their ability to pay



Hospital Districts Within Region



*Second lowest tax rate among our regional hospital districts & collect the 6th fewest funds from that rate

ECHD Tax Collections

Fiscal Year 2023

Sales Tax	\$56,315,327
Property Tax	\$18,691,442
Total Tax Collections	\$75,006,769

Total Spend on Uninsured / Underinsured / Indigent Care	\$95,000,000*
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*Approximate for FY2023

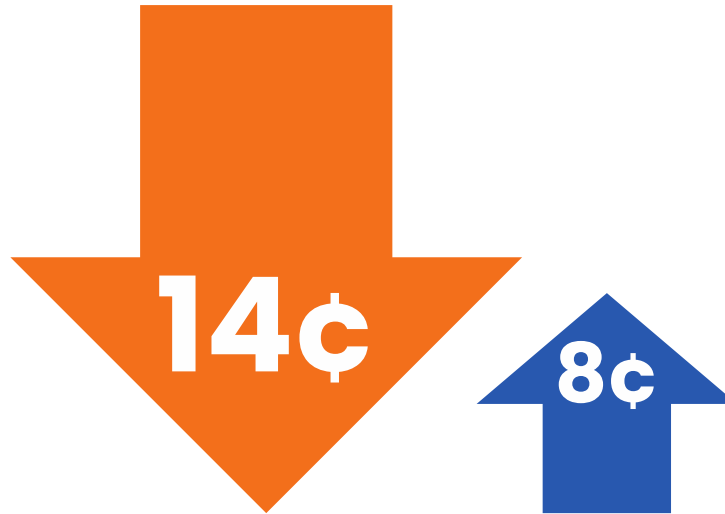
Effect on Property Taxes

**CITY OF ODESSA
TAX DECREASE**

**ECHD
TAX INCREASE**

Reduction Amount

City of Odessa taxes will decrease by 14 cents.



Increase Amount

ECHD taxes will increase by 8 cents.

Benefits

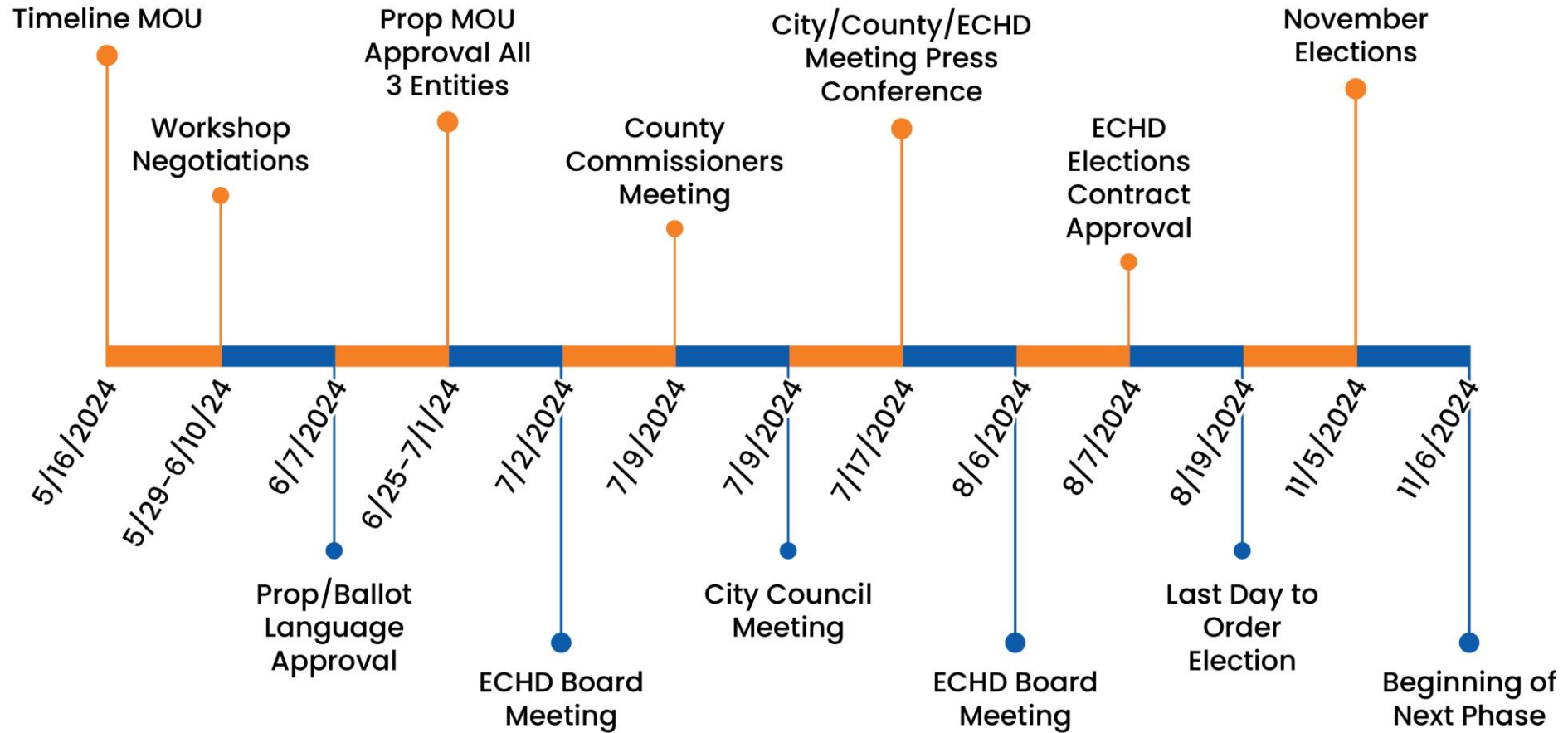
This proposal will be less expensive than if a new Emergency Services District was created.

ECHD Board will monitor the funds generated by the proposal for the future expansion of fire and EMS.

*ECHD – Ector County Hospital District

*Numbers approximate based on current evaluation

ELECTION TIMELINE



Weekly check-in calls with County Judge, City Manager, and MCHS CEO.

*ECHD - Ector County Hospital District

*MOU - Memorandum of Understanding

FAQ

1. What is the proposition on the ballot for November 2024?

We are asking voters to increase the Ector County Hospital District's tax cap from 15 cents to 75 cents.

2. Why is there a need to raise the tax cap? Is this related to the expansion of Fire/EMS services by MCH, the city of Odessa, and Ector County?

Yes, it is. To properly fund the expansion of Fire/EMS services, the city of Odessa will reduce their tax rate by 14 cents, and ECHD will need to increase their tax rate by 8 cents. ECHD currently has a tax rate of just over 8 cents and a tax cap at 15 cents. Legally, ECHD can not go over a 15-cent cap unless the cap is raised by voter approval. This proposition would need to be approved by voters first, before moving on to the next phase of the agreement between the three entities.

3. What are the next steps for Fire/EMS expansion if the proposition passes?

This is step one of the process as part of the agreement with the three entities. Should this proposition pass, it would allow for ECHD to ask the voters to increase the tax rate by 8 cents in a future election (which can't legally be done unless the cap raise is approved by voters) to help fund the beginning of expansion of Fire/EMS services in Ector County. In addition, the ECHD sales tax structured would need to be altered via voter approval as well – and then passed through legislation.

4. How does the proposition on this election impact my taxes for 2025?

This will not impact taxes for 2025. This is simply asking to raise the tax cap to allow ECHD to raise taxes in the future, while the city will decrease its taxes, to expand Fire/EMS services in Ector County, as agreed upon by the three entities.

5. Will raising the tax cap automatically raise the tax rate?

No. The ECHD Board of Directors votes every year to approve a tax rate for the following year. Taxpayers are protected by a maximum tax raise of 7.99% from the previous year's tax rate, and can only be set above that limit by voter approval.

6. What are the benefits of the proposal?

It will allow ECHD to ask voters to increase the tax rate above the current cap in a future election, to help fund the expansion of Fire/EMS services in Ector County, as agreed upon by the three entities, while allowing the city of Odessa to lower their tax rate by 14 cents.

7. How can residents stay informed and involved in this process?

Residents can participate in stakeholder meetings and public hearings. They can also access more information at mchodessa.com/fireemsinfo.

