

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA, TO SUBMIT TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF MESA, ARIZONA AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 6, 2018, THE QUESTION OF INCREASING THE CITY'S TRANSIENT LODGING (BED) TAX TO PROMOTE TOURISM IN MESA THROUGH THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND RELATED COSTS OF THE MESA PLAYS YOUTH SPORTS & EVENTS COMPLEX ON CITY-OWNED LAND.

WHEREAS, Section 602 of the Mesa City Charter requires that if the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax shall be levied at a rate in excess of one percent (1%), such rate must be approved by a majority of the qualified electors voting on the question at a general or special election;

WHEREAS, a component of the City's transaction privilege (sales) tax is the transient lodging (bed) tax as defined herein;

WHEREAS, the Mesa City Tax Code (City Code Title 5, Chapter 10) authorizes the City to impose and collect a transaction privilege (sales) tax on the business activity of engaging or continuing in the business of operating a hotel charging for lodging and/or lodging space furnished to any person (City Code Section 5-10-444);

WHEREAS, in addition to the transaction privilege tax levied in City Code Section 5-10-444, any hotel engaging or continuing within the City in the business of charging for lodging and/or lodging space furnished to any transient must pay an added transaction privilege tax imposed by City Code Section 5-10-447 (commonly referred to as the "transient lodging (bed) tax");

WHEREAS, the transient lodging (bed) tax currently in effect is five percent (5%);

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines that tourism creates visitor expenditures that provide local economic benefits, job creation, and significant revenues for the City, as well as important regional and state economic benefits;

WHEREAS, Visit Mesa, a non-profit organization promoting tourism for business and leisure travel in Mesa, Arizona, approached the City regarding the City constructing, operating, and maintaining a sports and events complex on City-owned land, which may include a multi-purpose facility, lighted multi-purpose fields with seating, and related improvements ("Mesa Plays Youth Sports & Events Complex"), designed to attract numerous sporting and non-sporting events to the complex, including enhanced youth and amateur recreational sporting opportunities for residents and non-residents, and provide significant tourism revenues to the City;

WHEREAS, Visit Mesa and the City's hotel industry support and request asking the qualified electors of Mesa, Arizona to increase the transient lodging (bed) tax to fund the promotion of tourism;

WHEREAS, the City Council finds and determines the Mesa Plays Youth Sports & Events Complex will promote tourism and provide additional tourism revenues to the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council hereby submits to the qualified electors of Mesa, Arizona, the question of increasing the transient lodging (bed) tax by one percent (1.00%), from five percent (5.00%) to six percent (6.00%), as set forth substantially in the form of the ballot language included within this resolution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MESA, MARICOPA COUNTY, ARIZONA AS FOLLOWS:

The following question, as set forth substantially in the form of the ballot language below, shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the City at the November 6, 2018 General Election:

Shall the City of Mesa, for the purpose of promoting tourism in Mesa, Arizona, which may include funding for construction, operation, maintenance, and related costs for the Mesa Plays Youth Sports & Events Complex on City-owned land, be authorized to increase the City's transient lodging (bed) tax by 1.00%, from 5.00% to 6.00%, beginning on March 1, 2019?

YES _____

NO _____

"Tag Line" Language:

Shall Mesa, to provide funding to promote tourism, which may include funding for the Mesa Plays Youth Sports & Events Complex, be authorized to impose and collect an additional 1.00% transient lodging (bed) tax, increasing the transient lodging (bed) tax from 5.00% to 6.00%, beginning on March 1, 2019?

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the City Council of the City of Mesa, Maricopa County, Arizona, this 2nd day of July, 2018.

APPROVED:

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk