

VIEWS

Water District Notice of Public Hearing on Tax Rate

The FORT BEND COUNTY MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT NO. 119 will hold a public hearing on a proposed tax rate for the tax year 2021 on September 1, 2021 @ 12:30 PM. The meeting will be held at 3200 Southwest Freeway Suite 2600, Houston, Texas 77027. Your individual taxes may increase at a greater or lesser rate, or even decrease, depending on the tax rate that is adopted and on the change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in taxable value of all other property. The change in the taxable value of your property in relation to the change in the taxable value of all other property determines the distribution of the tax burden among all property owners.

FOR the proposal: **ALAN SHELBY, BRIAN KEITH JOSEPH AND MICHAEL GARZA**

AGAINST the proposal: None

PRESENT and not voting: None

ABSENT: **CAROL RICHARDSON AND JEANETTE SPINKS**

The following table compares taxes on an average residence homestead in this taxing unit last year to taxes proposed on the average residence homestead this year.

	Last Year	This Year
Total tax rate (per \$100 of value)	\$0.53/\$100	\$ 0.53/\$100
	Adopted	Proposed
Difference in rates per \$100 of value	\$-0-/\$100	
Percentage increase/decrease in rates(+/-)	- 0-%	
Average appraised value	\$283,799	\$285,970
General exemptions available (excluding senior citizen's or disabled person's exemptions)	\$0	\$0
Average taxable value	\$283,799	\$285,970
Tax on average residence homestead	\$1,504.13	\$1,515.64
Annual increase/decrease in taxes if proposed tax rate is adopted (+/-)	\$+11.51	
and percentage of increase (+/-)	+0.7652%	

NOTICE OF VOTE ON TAX RATE

If the district adopts a combined debt service, operation and maintenance and contract tax rate that would result in the taxes on the average residence homestead increasing by more than 3.5 percent, an election must be held to determine whether to approve the operation and maintenance tax rate under Section 49.23602, Water Code.

The 86th Texas Legislature modified the manner in which the voter approval tax rate

Fort Bend litigation : A tr the A

By **SESHADRI KUMAR**

As politicians and attorneys sought to save the lives of children in a closed door court drama and staged a parallel public performance for the television, in the name of a press conference, in Fort Bend County Courthouse, the grim facts of the COVID-19 pandemic morphed into a polemics against the state's governor.

Fort Bend County Judge KP George and County Attorney Bridgette Lawson-Smith repeatedly said their action was not "political," but their complaint is that Governor Greg Abbott took away the "tool" necessary to save the lives of children and adults in schools and public buildings.

In other words, the governor denied the county judge, city mayors and local school districts their right to imposing a "mask mandate."

The governor's order prohibited local elected officials from imposing a mandate, but it did not ban masks in schools or public places. Yet, if some children don't wear masks, is it the governor's fault? Inquiring journalists could have asked, but no one did.

The medical advice that masks help mitigate the pandemic is not being disputed, but the convoluted logic here is that only a "mask mandate" will help mitigate the problem. Voluntary masking of the kindergarten children is not good enough. Also, the emphasis on vaccination got diluted with the mask mania.

The structure of an "absurd" theater is its finishing point is

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