

November 2025 Bowling Green City Income Tax Proposal

Here is the ballot language:

PROPOSED MUNICIPAL INCOME TAX CITY OF BOWLING GREEN

Ballot Language:

Shall the ordinance providing for a 0.15 percent levy increase on income for the purpose of providing funds to pay certain costs of the city's department of safety and the payment of securities issued therefore be passed?

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

The ballot language doesn't really say what's going on. Here's the information:

The City of Bowling Green currently has two fire stations, located on Court Street and Pearl Street, from which Fire and EMS services are dispatched. Several years ago, the design and condition of the Court Street station was evaluated and determined to be substandard. The City conducted an analysis, based primarily on reducing response times, to determine the ideal location to replace the Court Street Station. The analysis, conducted by the Ohio Fire Chief's Association, concluded that two additional stations would yield the lowest response rates and recommended one station be built in the northside of the City and one in the southeast with the Pearl Street Station remaining. Current personnel numbers are adequate to staff three stations.

The issue places before voters a 0.15% income tax increase to fund the construction of two fire stations, an aerial ladder truck, and fire equipment. The Main Station is proposed for Newton Road, next to the Community Center, and the southeast station on Campbell Hill Road, at Carter Park, in the vicinity of the water tower. All offerings at Carter Park would remain.

BG Fire and EMS strives for a 4-minute response time in the City. Moving to a three-station model improves response times significantly. While there is not currently a concern with response times, the City seeks to act now before there are diminishing response times.