

2024 Referendum Questions and Answers

<u>Date</u>	<u>Question</u>	<u>Answer</u>
October 23, 2024	How soon will the results of the Referendum be known?	<i>Results are anticipated to be announced and posted shortly after the polls close at 7:00 PM</i>
October 23, 2024	Where can I get additional information?	<i>Contact the Town Offices at (302) 856-7391 Via the Town's website (georgetowndel.com > News & Notices > 2024 Referendum)</i>
October 23, 2024	How do I vote in person?	<i>In person voting will be on Monday, November 18, 2024, at Town Hall, 39 The Circle. The polling location will be open from 12:00 PM until 7:00 PM.</i>
October 23, 2024	How do I vote absentee?	<i>Absentee ballots will be available beginning Monday, October 28, 2024. Absentee ballots can either be picked up at the Town Administrative Offices or mailed. The deadline for voting by absentee ballot is Monday, November 18, at 12:00 (noon).</i>
October 14, 2024	Can the Town afford this project?	<i>As stated in all of the presentations, the bond is backed by revenue. So the Town would raise rates (property tax, utility) to cover the cost, along with other funding sources that were presented, or mix thereof.</i>
October 14, 2024	What are the current debt balance?	<i>Per the FY 2025 Budget presentation, the Total Town Indebtedness was \$5,426,571. The breakdown is as follows: Sewer - 63.30%; Town Hall 32.57%, and Water - 4.13%</i>
October 14, 2024	How much has been transferred from Water and Sewer funds to supplement General Fund needs?	<i>Outside of normal transfer of revenues and expenses between the Government and Business type funds - none.</i>
October 14, 2024	When will the Special Election (Referendum) be held?	<i>The Referendum will take place on Monday, November 18, 2024 at Town Hall, 39 The Circle. Polls will be open from 12:00 PM to 7:00 PM</i>

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September 23, 2024	What costs has the Town incurred to date?	<p><i>Appraisal - \$1,600</i></p> <p><i>Initial Feasibility Study - \$70,000</i></p> <p><i>Not yet billed: Bond Counsel, Financial Advisor, and Underwriting (Payment for these items will be covered by the borrowed funds)</i></p>
September 18, 2024	Have construction documents for the proposed buildings been prepared?	<p>No. <i>What has been prepared is the programmatic needs assessment - based on site-tours, analysis, and documentation of the existing space and facilities; characterization of existing workspace environments, and interviews with staff to define goals and objectives of the project and to understand future employment growth, current deficiencies and space needs.</i></p>
September 17, 2024	Why is this being rushed?	<p><i>The Town Council has been aware of and supported moving forward with this project:</i></p> <p>May 22, 2023 - <i>Executive Session (Barlow, Townsend, Barrett, West)</i></p> <p>January 8, 2024 - <i>Executive Session (Diaz-Malone, Neal, Townsend, Barrett, West)</i></p> <p>January 8, 2024 - <i>Regular Meeting (Diaz-Malone, Neal, Townsend, Barrett, West)</i></p> <p>April 22, 2024 - <i>Executive Session (Diaz-Malone, Neal, Townsend, Barrett, West)</i></p>
September 17, 2024	Has the land already been purchased or is there an agreement to purchase the land?	<p><i>The land has not been purchased. There is not an agreement to purchase the land. The land purchase will only take place if the referendum is approved.</i></p>
September 12, 2024	How are we funding the cost?	<p><i>The proposed funding for this project is a General Obligation (G.O.) Bond issued by the Town of Georgetown.</i></p>

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September 12, 2024	How will this affect your taxes?	<i>Information of the potential tax impact is discussed in the August 26, 2024 Public Hearing presentation - slides 24, 25, and 26</i>
September 12, 2024	Is the proposed location the only location option? (Town has many already owned acres)	<i>Information on Town owned properties was discussed at the September 9, 2024 Town Council Meeting - see Site Selection Decision presentation - slide 6.</i>
September 12, 2024	\$18 million- how much of that is cost of land vs buildings?	<i>The requested authorization is not to exceed \$18 Million - once the independent appraisal is completed this will be shared. Efforts are underway to prepare a reasonable estimate of the construction cost.</i>
September 12, 2024	What benefits are there to having these facilities outside of town? (Located west side of 113, not knowing how new upcoming bypass will effect this location)	<i>The proposed location is within the Town Limits. This is also where the growth in population, residential construction, and commercial development, is taking place. The planned Grade Separated Intersection at 18/404 and US 113 will improve access (especially related to crossing over US 113.</i>
September 12, 2024	Why is this being rushed so quickly with no committee being formed for discussion?	<i>There have been several discussions by the Town Council starting in May 2023. This was presented at the September 9, 2024 Town Council Meeting.</i>
September 12, 2024	Has a new date been set for the Special Election?	<i>A new date is anticipated to be set via formal resolution at the October 14, 2024 Town Council Meeting.</i>
September 12, 2024	How can we vote in the Special Election?	<i>Votes can be cast in person or by absentee ballot.</i>
September 12, 2024	How many employees make up the current Public Works Department?	<i>The current Public Works Department is comprised of 12 Employees: Streets & Grounds (3 FT - 1 vacancy) Water (3) Wastewater (5)</i>

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September 9, 2024	Won't it be unsafe for Public Works personnel to cross US 113 for performing tasks?	<i>Public Works is currently crossing US 113 for purposes of maintaining Town properties - this includes the Circle at Carmean Way/University Boulevard/College Park Drive and the Vietnam Veterans Memorial.</i>
September 7, 2024	How was the location selected?	<i>Please refer to the September 9, 2024 Town Council Meeting - this was addressed as Agenda Item number 7 - view on YouTube:</i>
September 7, 2024	How much grant funding is included to offset the cost?	<i>Currently none - the Town will apply for funds and grant opportunities are identified. Please keep in mind grant funds are not guaranteed - many are competitive and based on available funding from the grantor.</i>
September 7, 2024	Can more detail on the financial impact be provided?	<i>Please see the information posted under "Potential Property Tax Implication"</i>
August 26, 2024	What will happen to the existing facilities?	<i>The public works facility will continue to be used (vehicle storage, sand, salt, cold patch, etc.) The police building will need to be evaluated as to remediation (water intrusion, mold, etc.) prior to a final determination being made.</i>
August 26, 2024	When are Informational Sessions being held?	<i>Saturday, September 7, 2024 – 10:00 AM Thursday, September 12, 2024 – 5:00 PM Tuesday, September 17, 2024 – 6:00 PM All sessions will be at Town Hall, 39 The Circle</i>
August 26, 2024	Why can't the Town use Layton-Thompson Park?	<i>This land was acquired through the Land and Water Conservation Trust Fund and subject to State rules and regulations with respect to removing acreage from active recreation use.</i>
August 26, 2024	What is the cost of the land?	<i>The Town is in the process of having an independent appraisal completed.</i>