



The mission of the Raymore Chamber of Commerce is to enhance and sustain the economic environment and quality of life in our city. In the upcoming August 2nd election, the City of Raymore will be presenting *Question P*. This question will be asking you to implement a use tax across our city to make up for lost and continually dwindling funds from utility tax income and franchise fees. The money collected through online purchases will be used to subsidize funding for much needed police, parks, and public works personnel and resources.

As the Raymore Chamber of Commerce we find *Question P* to be aligned with our mission with the understanding funds will be used towards police, public works, and parks as presented. The economic future of our city has been hindered by the disappearance of land line phones and utilities that once brought in steady revenue for our city. This year alone, the City of Raymore will have lost out on more than \$400,000 in tax revenue and that number has been steadily increasing for many years. Based on our city data and needs, Raymore currently faces a staffing shortage of police officers needed to keep a city of our size safe. *Question P* will allow our businesses and citizens to operate and live in a safer community with the hiring of five additional police officers. Our public works department, compared to surrounding cities who have one employee for every five miles of road, our city currently has only one employee for every 23 miles of road. *Question P* will allow the public works to hire an additional four employees to maintain the roads that serve our businesses and homes. As a champion of our local businesses, we believe *Question P* will level the playing field for brick and mortar purchases that have been replaced more and more by online retailers.

Question P will provide the revenue needed to help our community to remain safe, grow into the future, and be on the same playing field as surrounding cities who have already passed their own *Use Tax* gaining useful city funding. For this reason, we fully endorse *Question P* to propel Raymore into the future.

Sincerely,

Sean Petrie
Raymore Chamber of Commerce
Board President