

City of St. Marys Countywide Sales Tax Fund Expenditures 2005 to 2009		
Building Maintenance	Amount	%
City Hall Roof	\$ 41,302	
Library Roof/Air Conditioners	\$ 39,042	
Museum Barn Roof	\$ 15,635	
Armory Ramp/Sidewalk, etc.	\$ 7,716	
Golf Clubhouse Roof/Fireplace	\$ 7,570	
SUB TOTAL	\$ 111,265	7.01%
Street Work	Amount	%
*KLINK Grant (Hwy 24 & 63)	\$ 50,000	
Mission St. (6th to 7th)	\$ 42,835	
Birchwood Court	\$ 36,979	
Library Sidewalk	\$ 7,205	
Repair Curbing	\$ 6,412	
SUB TOTAL	\$ 143,431	9.04%
Transfers to Other Funds	Amount	%
Transfers to General Fund	\$ 793,032	
Transfers to Golf Course	\$ 48,000	
SUB TOTAL	\$ 841,032	52.99%
Public Safety	Amount	%
Storm Siren Project	\$ 28,000	
**Lakeview Dam Repairs	\$ 9,231	
Fire Department Generator	\$ 9,500	
Lakeview Dam Inundation Map	\$ 7,414	
SUB TOTAL	\$ 54,145	3.41%
Park & Recreation	Amount	%
Ball Field Improvements	\$ 12,404	0.78%
Special Project	Amount	%
***Lakeview/Apache Drainage	\$ 26,243	1.65%
****Carryover/Reserve	\$ 398,720	25.12%
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,587,240	100.00%

During the general election on November 2, 2004, a one percent countywide retailers' sales tax question was on the ballot in Pottawatomie County. The measure passed 4,731 to 3,565 throughout the county, but failed in St. Marys 738 to 366. From its inception in early 2005 until December of 2009, the countywide sales and compensating use taxes have generated \$19,997,789 in revenue, with \$1,579,298 remitted to the City of St. Marys. Moreover, a smidgen of the city falls within Wabaunsee County and as a result the city receives a small amount of sales and compensating use tax revenue from Wabaunsee County. The Wabaunsee County remittance increased the city's total sales and compensating use tax revenue, from 2005 to 2009, to \$1,587,240.

The city's countywide sales tax revenues and expenditures are accounted for through a special revenue fund that was created on December 20, 2005. The ordinance creating the fund stipulates that the countywide sales tax revenue shall be used to "...minimize transfers from other funds to the General Fund, or other purposes deemed appropriate by the Governing Body." The chart below illustrates how the countywide sales tax revenue has been allocated:

Some of the sales tax expenditures have interesting stories connected to them. One of the more interesting stories involves the Storm Siren Project. It may seem odd, but the motivation to upgrade the storm sirens originated from a telephone billing dispute. At one time, all of the city's storm sirens were activated via telephone lines and part of the city's monthly telephone bill included a "mileage/toner" charge for each siren. The mileage charge was based upon the distance from the Embarq central office in the alley at 5th and Bertrand to each of the storm sirens, and the tone charge involved the number of tones the siren emitted. Since the late 1990's the sirens have only emitted a single tone, but prior to that there were distinct tones for fire, tornado, and nuclear attack/drill or air raid.

In 2007, the monthly mileage/toner charge was \$398 and deciphering the bill was quite an endeavor. The city's administrative staff identified "local loop circuits and tones" that were not being used anymore and as a result the mileage/toner charge was reduced to \$264 per month. The remaining \$264 monthly charge was eliminated when two new sirens were purchased and the remaining sirens were converted to wireless, which eliminated the need for telephone connections.

The Storm Siren Project cost \$31,000, with \$28,000 being charged to the Countywide Sales Tax Fund. The new system is better since all of the sirens are now radio controlled and can be set-off remotely, have battery back-up, and there are no monthly mileage/toner charges.

*Project has not started and will require additional funds

**Project is on-going and the total cost is unknown

***Project is on-going and some expenses were charged elsewhere

****Some of the balance is obligated for current projects