

Summary of Odessa Police Facility Focus Group Recommendations:

- **Urgent Need for a New Police Facility:**
 - The current facility is inadequate and unsafe due to overcrowding, outdated infrastructure, lack of secure evidence storage, and officer/public safety hazards.
 - A new facility is essential for police effectiveness and community safety.
- **Recommended Location:**
 - City-owned property at Dryden and 1st Street.
 - Advantages: adequate size, central location, city ownership, accessibility, and future growth potential.
- **Facility Design and Cost-Effectiveness:**
 - Focused approach to programming, prioritizing core police operations and officer safety.
 - Reduction in initial facility footprint to align with budget.
 - Recommendation for cost-effective building materials.
 - Design to include plans for future expansion.
- **Funding Strategy: 3/8 Cent Public Safety Sales Tax:**
 - Estimated project cost: \$4.9 million.
 - Proposed funding: 3/8 cent public safety sales tax.
 - Debt repayment: 25 to 30 years (most favorable terms).
 - Dedicated revenue: exclusively for debt repayment and building maintenance.
- **Timeline for Tax Question:**
 - Ballot question: no earlier than April 2026.
 - Timeline allows for:
 - Site/conceptual plans and cost estimates.
 - Communication of revenue use.
 - Public information sessions.
 - Transparency and accountability.
- **Enhanced Community Engagement and Transparency:**
 - Utilize diverse media formats (beyond current efforts).
 - Host community events and facility open houses.
 - Engage with local news outlets.
 - Consider establishing an oversight board for tax dollar use.
 - All information to remain on the City of Odessa website under the police focus group section.
- **Key Recommendations:**
 - Design for long-term police needs.
 - Responsible use of sales tax revenue.
 - Maintain fiscal responsibility.
 - Prioritize community input and transparency.
- **Call to Action:**
 - Construction of a new facility and dedicated sales tax are critical investments.
 - Urge Board of Aldermen to consider recommendations and take action.
 - The Focus group is available for any questions.