

# Falls City City Council to consider tax on marijuana sales



**By Jolene Guzman**  
The Itemizer-Observer

FALLS CITY — The Falls City City Council will consider an ordinance that would allow it to change tax rates charged on marijuana sales at its meeting Thursday.

Now the tax rates are set at 5 percent for medical mari-

juana sales and 10 percent for recreational sales. Possession and consumption of certain amounts of marijuana will be legal July 1. Falls City set its rates in October 2014, before Oregon voters approved Measure 91 in November.

The problem is that the legislation making recre-

ational use legal contains a prohibition on local jurisdictions taxing sales.

While cities and counties are challenging that provision, the fear is if the ban on local taxes is upheld in court, any taxes collected would have to be refunded.

On Thursday, the council will vote on an ordinance that

would allow the city to establish tax rates by resolution.

Ross Williamson, the city's attorney, then suggested the city should set the rates at zero until all legal challenges have been resolved.

Councilors voted on the ordinance at its May meeting, but, per the city's charter, to approve an ordinance

in one meeting, the vote has to be unanimous.

Councilor Jenn Drill abstained to vote on the issue, so a second vote is slated for Thursday.

If passed, the ordinance would take effect in 30 days, and city staff would draft a resolution setting new rates for the council to consider in July.

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Gynecological care is available in Dallas at the West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic. **Gynecologist Keita Sakon, MD**, specializes in gynecology exams and procedures, including hysteroscopy and laparoscopy, as well as family planning, abnormal Pap evaluation, treatment of pelvic pain, symptom control for menopause and abnormal periods. Dr. Sakon works in Dallas on Friday afternoons from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. seeing patients at the clinic and performing gynecological procedures in the West Valley Hospital surgical suites. New patients are welcome! West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic is located at 591 SE Clay St., Dallas. Call 503-831-0784 for an appointment. Visit [westvalleyhospital.org/specialtyclinic](http://westvalleyhospital.org/specialtyclinic).

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## PODIATRY SERVICES

• **WEST VALLEY SURGICAL SPECIALTY CLINIC** podiatrists **Dr. Ruben Pollak** and **Dr. Scott Berg** see patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic and provide procedures and surgeries for feet, ankle, bunions and plantar fasciitis at nearby West Valley Hospital's state-of-the-art surgery suites. Request one of these podiatrists and get your surgical care done locally. Dr. Berg sees patients at West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic on Wednesdays, 8 a.m.-noon. Dr. Pollak sees patients on Wednesdays, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. West Valley Surgical Specialty Clinic is located at 591 SE Clay St., Dallas. Visit [salemhealth.org/specialty](http://salemhealth.org/specialty).

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