OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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# LEON

## SALES TAX REPORT MARCH 2023

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### Leon Valley March 2023 Sales Tax Report

#### Background

The sales tax information is provided monthly by the Texas Comptroller. The sales tax information is reported 2 months in arrears; therefore, this report reflects January actual sales tax figures.

The city collected \$344,203 for January 2023. This amount continues the trend of above average collections. This amount is \$15,193 or 4.61% higher compared to the same month last year. The collection for this month is also higher than the 3-year average of \$273,402.

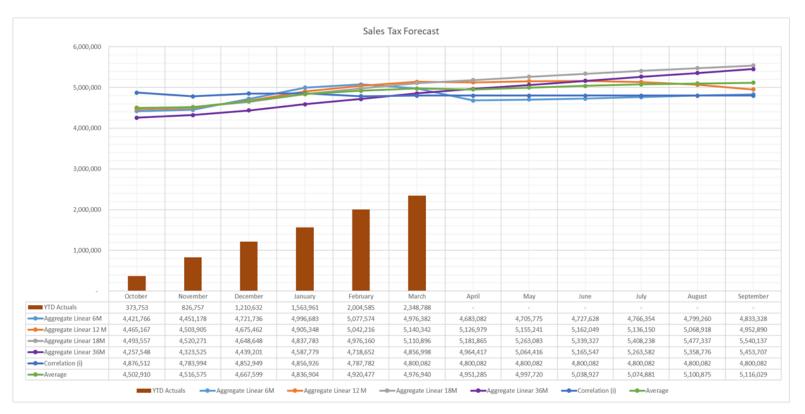
<b>.</b>	FY 23 Actuals	FY 22 Actuals	FY 21 Actuals	FY 20 Actuals	20-22 YEAR AVERAGE
Oct	373,753	324,722	270,370	267,005	287,366
Nov	453,005	384,247	364,694	317,139	355,360
Dec	383,875	298,129	278,923	280,913	285,988
Jan	353,328	355,181	257,417	240,578	284,392
Feb	440,625	406,894	363,397	323,643	364,645
Mar	344,203	329,009	266,104	225,092	273,402
Apr		306,435	231,728	311,336	283,166
May		468,537	414,388	304,385	395,770
Jun		347,265	317,991	216,148	293,801
Jul		350,937	315,754	246,914	304,535
Aug		448,002	396,131	342,355	395,496
Sep		351,492	346,136	268,634	322,087
Grand Total	2,348,788	4,370,851	3,823,032	\$ 3,344,143	\$3,846,009

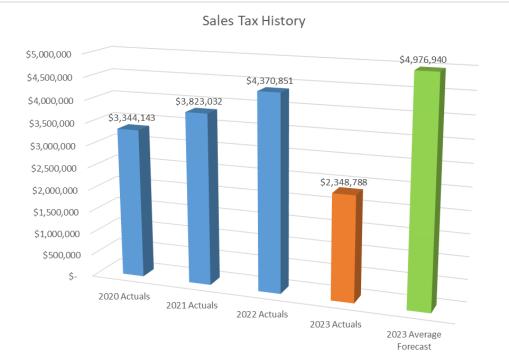




#### Forecast

As a result of the higher-than-average sales tax collections, the forecast model is showing a higher forecast than the previous year's collections. Currently the projection for Sales Tax for FY 23 is between 4.8 and 5.1 million dollars. As more data points are received the projection for the year will tighten. Other economic factors such as inflation and federal monetary policy will have a direct impact on sales tax activity.







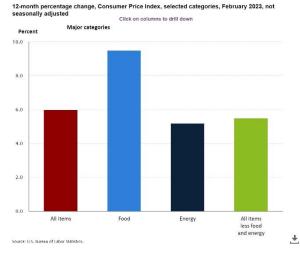
The City's core sectors of retail, general services, and food represent about 80% of collections in any given month. The graph shows the average distribution for the City of Leon Valley. Monthly, staff reviews the confidential report from the state to ensure there are no major variances in the City's core sales tax sectors and taxpayers.



#### **Major Economic Factors**

#### **US INFLATION**

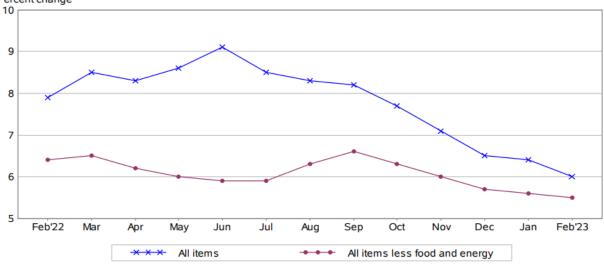
The all items index increased 6.0 percent for the 12 months ending February; this was the smallest 12-month increase since the period ending September 2021. The all items less food and energy index rose 5.5 percent over the last 12 months, its smallest 12-month increase since December 2021. The energy index increased 5.2 percent for the 12 months ending February, and the food index increased 9.5 percent over the last year.<sup>1</sup>

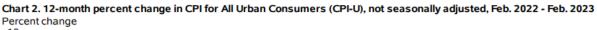




<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> https://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/cpi.pdf

If inflation in the overall economy continues to stay above the targeted 2% and wages do not increase, then spending on discretionary goods or non-essential products will decline. The city does not collect sales tax on most food and energy commodities, which are considered necessities. If prices continue to increase, it could lead to a lower number of visitors from outside the City or different purchasing patterns by residents.





#### **US Montney Policy**

At the start of the pandemic, the Federal Reserve lowered the interest rate banks pay to between 0.0% and 0.25%. This was done to make it easier and cheaper for banks to loan money out to the public and to avoid an economic recession or depression. However, as the country returned to pre pandemic activities the Federal Reserve increased interest rates, throughout 2022. They were interested by 0.25% in March, by 0.50% at the start of May, 0.75% in June, July, September, and November, and 0.50% in December. The Federal Reserve continued to raise rates into 2023 with an additional 0.25% in January and February to help lower the soaring inflation.<sup>2</sup>

Jerome Powell, the Chair of the Federal Reserve stated "The process of getting inflation back down to 2 percent has a long way to go and is likely to be bumpy. The latest economic data have come in stronger than expected, which suggests that the ultimate level of interest rates is likely to be higher than previously anticipated. If the totality of the data were to indicate that faster tightening is warranted, we would be prepared to increase the pace of rate hikes.<sup>3</sup>



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> https://tradingeconomics.com/united-states/interest-rate

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/07/business/economy/fed-powell-interest-rates.html

Federal Reserve rate increases will decrease the amount of money available to spend on discretionary items as consumers will pay more in interest payments. An increase in rates has a direct impact on

economic output, as increasing rates are meant to limit the amount of available money in the economy. Further, increases in rates cause businesses to reconsider capital investments and growth as borrowing costs rise.



#### Leon Valley and the San Antonio Metro Area

Leon Valley ranked 9<sup>th</sup> for collections for the month of January. Overall, the Metro area saw an increase of 5.90%.

City	Net Payment This Period	Comparable Payment Prior Year	% Change
San Antonio	\$35,476,020.39	\$33,161,153.47	6.98%
Schertz	\$1,484,418.14	\$1,260,933.72	17.72%
Live Oak	\$965,498.19	\$843 <i>,</i> 539.57	14.45%
Helotes	\$737,276.04	\$1,122,652.99	-34.32%
Selma	\$696,244.48	\$681,384.17	2.18%
Windcrest	\$518,891.72	\$665 <i>,</i> 448.41	-22.02%
Universal City	\$512,375.53	\$491,608.67	4.22%
Cibolo	\$471,151.14	\$367,539.80	28.19%
Leon Valley	\$344,202.55	\$329,009.34	4.61%
Alamo Heights	\$189,304.01	\$191,162.37	-0.97%
Castle Hills	\$150,667.08	\$129,344.54	16.48%
Balcones Heights	\$135,279.53	\$118,494.94	14.16%
Shavano Park	\$56,075.09	\$60,597.66	-7.46%
Kirby	\$48,638.49	\$35,118.31	38.49%
Total	\$41,786,042.38	\$39,457,987.96	5.90%

