

Women's Voices Raised for Social Justice

College District of St. Louis, Missouri, Proposition R

July 22, 2021

Women's Voices position: Support Proposition R (Vote YES!)

Proposition R IS a tax levy proposal that would provide much-needed funding for St. Louis Community College (STLCC) and its students.

The proposition will be on the August 3 ballot in St. Louis and St. Louis County and parts of Franklin and Jefferson counties covered by the district.

Ballot Language:

For the purposes of updating career training programs to enable job growth in critical industries including healthcare, information technology, financial services, biotechnology and manufacturing, providing safe and secure learning environments for students and employees, investing in technology and infrastructure needs, constructing and repurposing, renovating and eliminating, equipping and furnishing new and existing facilities, and furthering the college's regional impact, shall the Board of Trustees of The Community College District of St. Louis, St. Louis County, Missouri be authorized to increase the operating tax levy by \$0.08 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation? If this proposition is approved, the adjusted operating levy of the district is estimated to be \$0.2787 per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation.

Reasons we SUPPORT Prop R:

- Prop. R would be STLCC's first operating tax rate increase in *more than 40 years*. And while the College has made improvements to its facilities as limited funding has allowed, to keep pace with the demands of students and employers, more investment is needed.
- If approved, the funding would have a direct impact on our local economy, allowing us to spend \$350 million in four to five years on construction. Updating our campuses will improve access to job training programs to prepare local residents for thousands of healthcare, IT, skilled labor, biotech and other jobs.
- Prop R will ensure the community college programs, facilities are up to date to meet demands for job training and people would obtain good-paying jobs that will benefit our local community.

A YES vote on Prop R is supported by the [Women's Voices 2019 Position Paper – Post-Secondary Education and Workforce Development](#), which states, "We support access to affordable, high-quality post-secondary education and training programs to prepare individuals for current and future employment opportunities. Educational institutions, workforce development programs, and employers must improve coordination to implement changes to meet the needs of students and the labor market. State and federal governments must increase funding to make education and training affordable."

Read the full position paper here: <https://womensvoicesraised.org/post-secondary-education-and-workforce-development/>

More information on Prop R is available at: <https://stlcc.edu/news/2021/prop-r.aspx>