

THE ALBANY COUNTY 5TH PENNY

A 1% GENERAL PURPOSE EXCISE TAX

Funding essential local services across Albany County since 1986.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR ELECTION DAY

TUESDAY NOVEMBER 3, 2026

7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

WHAT IS IT?

A 1% GENERAL PURPOSE EXCISE TAX, UP FOR RENEWAL EVERY FOUR YEARS.

Albany County voters initially approved the "5th Penny" (1% General Purpose Excise Tax) in 1986. The most recent term will expire December 31, 2026 and renewal is on the November 3rd General Election ballot.

Unlike the 6th Penny, which funds specific ballot approved projects, the 5th Penny is a 1% General Purpose Excise Tax used for general operations that keep Albany County safe, strong, and vibrant. Revenue is distributed to the City of Laramie, Town of Rock River, and Albany County as it is collected.

SAFE, STRONG, VIBRANT

SAFE

Public safety, funded every day.

The 5th Penny supports personnel and equipment in the operations residents count on when seconds matter — police, fire, and emergency medical services.

- Police officers/Sheriff deputies and patrol operations
- Firefighter / EMT and paramedic staffing
- Ambulance services and fire response equipment
- County Attorney & Coroner offices

STRONG

The infrastructure beneath everyday life.

5th Penny revenue keeps both city and county streets, public facilities, and other infrastructure systems functioning.

- Streets, alleys, and road materials
- Rock River town hall and water/sewer operations
- Election laptops and administrative operations
- 7,754 potholes filled in Laramie in FY27

VIBRANT

The programs that make Laramie, Laradise.

From parks and recreation to the Laramie River Restoration Project and over 30 partner agencies, the 5th Penny reinvests in the cultural and community life of Albany County.

- Parks, trails, and park irrigation systems
- The Laramie River Restoration Project
- \$3M+ paid forward to 30+ partner agencies since FY2015
- Parks & Recreation staff

BY THE NUMBERS

1986

In Place Since

Renewed by voters every four years.

1%

Optional Excise Tax

A single cent, or 1%, on taxable sales. Groceries and prescriptions are exempt.

20%

of Laramie's General Fund Operations

Supported by the 5th Penny.

7%

of Albany County's General Fund

Supported by the 5th Penny.

3

Local Governments

City of Laramie, Town of Rock River, Albany County.

99%

Returned Locally

The State deducts only a 1% administrative fee.

HOW TO VOTE

- Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 3, 2026.
- Albany County uses vote centers — find yours at co.albany.wy.us/1591/Polling-Places.
- Request an absentee ballot at co.albany.wy.us/166/Absentee-Ballot-Requests.
- You can register to vote at the polls on Election Day.

