Local Ballot Issue Notice

TO INCREASE TAXES/DEBT ON REFERRED MEASURES and Denver’s Municipal Ballot Information Booklet

General Election
Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Denver Elections Division
200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204

Hon. Paul D. López
Clerk and Recorder, City and County of Denver
Who is Eligible to Register
In order to vote in the City and County of Denver you must reside in Denver, be registered to vote, and be 18 on or before November 3, 2020. In order to register to vote, you must be:
- A United States citizen
- 16 years of age
- A Colorado resident at least 22 days immediately prior to Election Day

Election Model — Page 1
All active Denver voters will be automatically mailed a ballot to vote in the November 3rd, 2020 General Election beginning October 9th.

BallotTRACE — Page 1
Want to track your mail ballot through the U.S. postal system? Sign up for BallotTRACE at BallotTRACE.org.

Ready To Vote? — Page 2
Voter Registration Form — Page 3
To register to vote or to update your voter registration information, please go to GoVoteColorado.gov, or fill out the Voter Registration Form found on page 2 of this booklet, or call 311 for more information.

Voter Services and Ballot Drop-Off Information — Page 4-7
Voter Service and Polling Center locations, hours of operation and 24-hour ballot drop-off box locations.

TABOR Information — Pages 8-24
Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) information includes summaries of ballot issues that affect debt or taxes.

Local Ballot Question Notice Content — Pages 25-49
Information includes summaries of Ballot Measures.

Sample Ballot — Page 50-55

ELECTION MODEL
Voter Checklist

- Visit GoVoteColorado.org to verify your registration status and update your voter information.
- Track your ballot with BallotTRACE. Sign up at BallotTRACE.org or text “trace” to 5-6003.
- Ballots will begin mailing on October 9th.
- Return your ballot:
  - Drop it off at a 24-Hour Ballot Drop-Off Box location (see pg. 7)
  - Deliver it to a Voter Service & Polling Center (see pg. 4)
  - Mail it back (return postage $0.55)
- Need a new ballot? Ballot not arrive? Visit DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo to request a ballot for curbside pick up. Or call us at 311 (or 720-913-8683), option 8, to request a new one.

Track your ballot through the entire process using BallotTRACE.

Text “trace” to 5-6003
Or visit DenverVotes.org to sign up to receive text or email notifications about your mail ballot

Text “vspc” for the nearest ballot drop-off. 5-6003
READY TO VOTE?

1. REGISTER OR UPDATE YOUR ADDRESS NOW AT
   GOVOTECOLORADO.GOV
   or fill out the form on the following page and return it to the Denver Elections Division

2. TRACK YOUR BALLOT.
   Your ballot will automatically be mailed to you beginning October 9. Casting your mail ballot is safe and secure. Track your ballot and make sure your vote is counted!
   Sign up at BallotTRACE.org.

3. RETURN YOUR BALLOT
   at a 24-hour drop box, drive-through, or by mail
   OR VOTE IN PERSON
   beginning October 19

Find locations at DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo or see page 4 of this booklet
Need a new ballot? Use our new curbside pick-up service or contact us

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD.
Drop boxes open October 9. Don’t wait to cast your vote!
Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. November 3.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW AND WHERE TO VOTE, OR TO SEE A SAMPLE BALLOT, GO TO DENVERVOTES.ORG/VOTERINFO.

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo   voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
# Colorado Voter Registration Form

Fill out all fields marked with an asterisk (*)

## Eligibility

1. Are you a citizen of the United States?  
   - Yes  
   - No  
   If you answered "No", do not complete this form.

## Name

2.  
   - Last Name  
   - First Name  
   - Middle Name  
   - Suffix

## Identification

3.  
   Remember to write your birth date below.  
   - MM  
   - DD  
   - YYYY  
   - I have a valid CO Driver’s License or ID card.  
     **Write that number here:**  
     - - - - - - - - - 
   - I do not have a CO Driver’s License or ID card.  
     **Write the last four digits of your SSN here:**  
     X X X X  
     - - - - 
   - I do not have a Colorado Driver’s License, ID card, or a Social Security Number.

## The address where you live

4.  
   - Address (no P.O. Boxes)  
   - Unit Number  
   - City or Town  
   - State  
   - Zip Code  
   - Colorado County  
   - I am homeless. This is a location I regularly return to. I have also provided a mailing address in Section 5.

## The address where you receive mail

5.  
   - Same as above  
   - Address  
   - City or Town  
   - State  
   - Zip Code

## The address to mail your ballot

6.  
   - Same as above  
   - Address  
   - City or Town  
   - State  
   - Zip Code

## Political affiliation

7a. I would like to be a member of the following political party:  
   - American Constitution  
   - Approval Voting  
   - Democratic  
   - Green  
   - Libertarian  
   - Republican  
   - Unity

7b. I would like to be Unaffiliated, but I want to receive the following party’s ballot in the next primary election:  
   - All Major Parties' Ballots  
   - American Constitution  
   - Approval Voting  
   - Democratic  
   - Green  
   - Libertarian  
   - Republican  
   - Unity

## Updating a current record?

8.  
   - I am not updating a current record  
   - I am no longer overseas  
   - I am no longer absent from Colorado due to military service

   - Previous home address  
   - Previous legal name  
   - Previous mailing address  
   - Previous party affiliation

## Declaration

9. **Warning:** It is a Class 1 misdemeanor to swear or affirm falsely as to your qualifications to register to vote.  
   **Self-Affirmation:** I affirm that I am a citizen of the United States; I have been a resident of Colorado for at least twenty-two days immediately before an election; I intend to vote in; I am at least sixteen years old; and I understand that I must be at least seventeen and turning eighteen on or before the date of the next general election to be eligible to vote in a primary election, and at least eighteen to be eligible to vote in any other election. I further affirm that the residence address I provided is my sole legal place of residence. I certify under penalty of perjury that the information I have provided on this application is true to the best of my knowledge and belief; and that I have not, nor will I, cast more than one ballot in any election.

   - Signature or mark  
   - Date  
   - Witness Signature  
   - Date

   If you are unable to sign, you must make a mark and have the mark witnessed by another person.

## Optional information

10. Phone number with area code  
    - Gender Identity  
    - I would like to be an election judge

    I want to receive election information by email:  
    (You will not receive a ballot by email)  
    Email address

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Secretary of State Approved 01-10-20

Form 100

[Article 2, Title 1, C.R.S.]

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo  
voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
Phase 1 Voter Service & Polling Centers (VSPCs) (11):

1. Barnum Recreation Center
   360 N Hooker St | Multipurpose Room/Gym
2. Blair-Caldwell Library
   2401 Welton St | Conference Room
3. Calvary Baptist Church of Denver
   6500 E Girard Ave | Gym
4. Christ Church United Methodist
   690 N Colorado Blvd | Fellowship Hall
5. Harvey Park Recreation Center
   2120 S Tennyson Way | Multipurpose Room/Gym
6. Hiawatha Davis Jr Recreation Center
   3334 N Holly St | Multipurpose Room/Gym
7. Highland Recreation Center
   2880 N Osceola St | Multipurpose Room
* 8. McNichols Civic Center Building
   144 W Colfax Ave | 2nd Floor
9. Montbello Recreation Center
   15555 E 53rd Ave | Multipurpose Room
10. Montclair Recreation Center
    729 N Ulster Way | Multipurpose Room
11. Tivoli Student Union at Auraria
    900 Auraria Pkwy | Multicultural Lounge Rm 261

* Drive-through ballot drop-off location on Bannock between 13th Ave and 14th Ave

These VSPC sites have drive-through ballot drop-off and curbside ballot pick-up services.

**Voter Service & Polling Centers**

**Hours of Operation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 12 – Friday, October 16</td>
<td>8 am – 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23</td>
<td>8 am – 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 26 – Friday, October 30</td>
<td>8 am – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, October 31</td>
<td>8 am – 5 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday, November 2</td>
<td>8 am – 6 pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, November 3</strong></td>
<td>7 am – 7 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**McNichols Civic Center Building**

**Expanded Hours of Operation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date Range</th>
<th>Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Tuesday, November 3</strong></td>
<td>7 am – 7 pm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.**
Phase 2 Voter Service & Polling Centers (7):

1. Central Park Recreation Center
   9651 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd  |  Multipurpose Rm
2. Green Valley Ranch Recreation Center
   4890 N Argonne Way  |  Multipurpose Room
3. Harvard Gulch Recreation Center
   550 E Iliff Ave  |  Gym
4. Kirk of Bonnie Brae
   1201 S Steele St  |  Multipurpose Room
5. Southwest Recreation Center
   9200 W Saratoga Pl  |  Multipurpose Room
6. Swansea Recreation Center
   2650 E 49th Ave  |  Multipurpose Room
7. Windsor Gardens
   595 S Clinton St  |  Auditorium

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.

Phase 3 Voter Service & Polling Centers (5):

1. Athmar Recreation Center
   2680 W Mexico Ave  |  Gym
2. Cook Park Recreation Center
   7100 Cherry Creek South Dr  |  Multipurpose Room
3. Eisenhower Recreation Center
   4300 E Dartmouth Ave  |  Multipurpose Room/Gym
4. La Familia Recreation Center
   65 S Elati St  |  Gym
5. Pepsi Center
   1000 Chopper Cir  |  Grand Atrium

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.

Phase 4 Voter Service & Polling Centers (12):

1. Abraham Lincoln High School
   2285 S Federal Blvd  |  Gym/Cafeteria
2. Corona Church
   1205 E 8th Ave  |  Multipurpose Room
3. East High School
   1600 City Park Esplanade  |  Gym/Common Room
4. EXDO Event Center
   1399 35th St  |  Main Ballroom

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.

These VSPC sites have drive-through ballot drop-off and curbside ballot pick-up services.
Phase 4 Voter Service & Polling Centers (12): (continued)

5. George Washington High School
   655 S Monaco Pkwy | Gym/Cafeteria
6. Glenarm Recreation Center
   2800 Glenarm Pl | Gym
7. Hamilton Middle School
   8600 E Dartmouth Ave | Gym/Cafeteria
8. Montbello Campus
   5000 Crown Blvd | Gym/Cafeteria
9. Morey Middle School
   840 E 14th Ave | Gym/Cafeteria
10. Scheitler Recreation Center
    5031 W 46th Ave | Gym
11. South High School
    1700 E Louisiana Ave | Gym/Cafeteria
12. Union Station
    1701 Wynkoop St | Great Hall/ McWhinney Room

Haul-N-Votes Mobile Voting Unit Locations (6):

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.

- University of Denver Driscoll Student Center
  2055 E Evans Ave
  Monday, October 19 and Tuesday, October 20

- Washington Park Recreation Center
  701 S Franklin St
  Wednesday, October 21 through Friday, October 23

- Conservatory Green Park
  8350 E 49th Pl
  Monday, October 26 and Tuesday, October 27

- Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales Library
  1498 N Irving St
  Wednesday, October 28 and Thursday, October 29

- Denver Museum of Nature & Science
  2001 N Colorado Blvd - City Park,
  East 22nd Ave West of DMNS (Parking Lot)
  Friday, October 30 and Saturday, October 31

- Emily Griffith Technical College
  1860 Lincoln St
  Monday, November 2 and Tuesday, November 3

Phase 4 VSPCs

Voter Service & Polling Centers
Hours of Operation
Monday, November 2
8 am – 6 pm
** Tuesday, November 3
7 am – 7 pm

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 3.

Mobile VSPC

Hours of Operation
Monday, October 19 – Friday, October 23
8 am – 5 pm
Monday, October 26 – Friday, October 30
8 am – 6 pm
Saturday, October 31
8 am – 5 pm
Monday, November 2
8 am – 6 pm
** Tuesday, November 3
7 am – 7 pm

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
24-Hour Ballot Drop-Off Box Locations (38)

1. Athmar Recreation Center
   2680 W. Mexico Ave
2. Barnum Recreation Center
   360 N Hooker St
3. Bear Valley Branch Library
   5171 W. Dartmouth Ave
4. Blair-Caldwell Library
   2401 Welton St
5. Carla Madison Recreation Center
   2401 E. Colfax Ave
6. Central Park Recreation Center
   9651 E. Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
7. Cook Park Recreation Center
   7100 Cherry Creek South Dr
8. Denver Botanic Gardens
   1007 N York St
9. Denver Elections Division
   200 W. 14th Ave
10. Denver Human Services
    1200 N Federal Blvd
11. Denver Museum of Nature & Science
    2001 N. Colorado Blvd
12. Denver Police Department District 1
    1311 W. 46th Ave
13. Denver Police Department District 3
    1625 S University Blvd
14. Eisenhower Recreation Center
    4300 E. Dartmouth Ave
15. Emily Griffith Technical College
    1860 Lincoln St
16. Glendale City Hall
    950 S. Birch St, Glendale
17. Green Valley Ranch Recreation Center
    4890 N. Argonne Way
18. Harvey Park Recreation Center
    2120 S. Tennyson Way
19. Hiawatha Davis Jr Recreation Center
    3334 N. Holly St
20. Highland Recreation Center
    2880 N. Osceola St
21. La Familia Recreation Center
    65 S. Elati St

22. Montbello Branch Library
    12955 Albrook Dr
23. Montbello Recreation Center
    15555 E. 53rd Ave
24. Montclair Recreation Center
    729 N. Ulster Way
25. Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales Branch Library
    1498 N. Irving St
26. Ross – Cherry Creek Branch Library
    305 N. Milwaukee St
27. RTD - I-25 and Broadway Station
    901 S. Broadway
28. RTD - Light Rail at Union Station
    1601 Chestnut Pl
29. RTD - Southmoor Station
    3737 S. Monaco Street Pkwy
30. Scheitler Recreation Center
    5031 W. 46th Ave
31. Southwest Recreation Center
    9200 W. Saratoga Pl
32. Stapleton MCA Administrative Offices
    8351 Northfield Blvd
33. Swansea Recreation Center
    2650 E. 49th Ave
34. Tivoli Student Center Auraria Campus
    900 Auraria Pkwy
35. Washington Park Recreation Center
    701 S. Franklin St
36. Wellington Webb Municipal Building
    201 W. Colfax Ave
37. Westwood Community Center / SWIC
    1000 S. Lowell Blvd
38. Windsor Gardens
    595 S. Clinton St

Denver Elections Division Contact Information:

📞 720-913-VOTE (8683)
📞 720-913-8600
📧 DenverVotes.org
📧 /DenverElections
📧 /DenverElections #DenverVotes

☑️ voterregistration@denvergov.org
☑️ (for voter registration inquiries)
☑️ elections@denvergov.org
☑️ (for general office information)

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo 🌟 voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

SHALL CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER SALES AND USE TAXES BE INCREASED BY $40 MILLION ANNUALLY, COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM A TWENTY-FIVE ONE-HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.25%) SALES AND USE TAX RATE (2.5 CENTS ON A TEN-DOLLAR PURCHASE) WITH EXEMPTIONS FOR FOOD, WATER, FUEL, MEDICAL SUPPLIES, AND FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS, TO BE USED TO FUND PROGRAMS TO ELIMINATE GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS AND AIR POLLUTION, AND ADAPT TO CLIMATE CHANGE, INCLUDING:

- NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED ENVIRONMENTAL AND CLIMATE JUSTICE PROGRAMS;
- ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCY PROGRAMS THAT HELP VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES PREPARE FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE;
- PROGRAMS AND SERVICES THAT PROVIDE AFFORDABLE, CLEAN, SAFE AND RELIABLE TRANSPORTATION CHOICES, LIKE WALKING, BIKING, TRANSIT, ELECTRIC VEHICLES, AND NEIGHBORHOOD-SCALE TRANSIT; AND
- UPGRADE THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY OF HOMES, OFFICES AND INDUSTRY TO REDUCE THEIR CARBON FOOTPRINT, UTILITY BILLS, AND INDOOR AIR POLLUTION;

THIS DEDICATED FUNDING SHOULD MAXIMIZE INVESTMENTS IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR, UNDER RESOURCED COMMUNITIES, AND COMMUNITIES MOST VULNERABLE TO CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENDEAVOR TO INVEST 50% OF THE DEDICATED FUNDS DIRECTLY IN COMMUNITY WITH A STRONG LENS TOWARD EQUITY AND RACE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE; THE SPENDING OF FUNDS WILL BE OVERSEEN BY THE OFFICE OF CLIMATE ACTION, SUSTAINABILITY AND RESILIENCY COMMITTEE; ALL FUNDS WILL BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL REPORT AVAILABLE FOR PUBLIC REVIEW; AND REQUIRING THAT REVENUES FROM THESE INCREASED TAXES SHALL BE COLLECTED AND SPENT WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY EXPENDITURE,
REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2A

Methodology:
Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2A
The estimated or actual total of the City’s fiscal year spending for the current year and each of the past four years is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Fiscal Year spending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$3,344,500,000 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$2,857,531,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$3,017,686,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,982,548,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$1,606,028,695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2016 to 2020, inclusive, is 108% and $1,738,477,525 respectively.

Estimated maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year: $40,000,000

Estimated 2021 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,874,470,000

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2A

We have a basic responsibility to leave a better world for our kids, but unchecked pollution is harming our health and our children today. Denver cannot wait. We must address climate change now and lead the nation in protecting our land and air. Low income communities and people of color are disproportionately harmed by climate change, with higher rates of asthma, more pollution and homes, streets, and landscapes that are less prepared for the impacts of climate change. Over the life of the fund, measure 2A would target 50% of the revenue raised back into these communities with a lens towards equity, race, and social justice. 2A would cost twenty-five cents on a $100 purchase and nearly 70% of the money raised will come from people who visit Denver. This is a very small price to pay to help Denver reduce air pollution and adapt to climate change, and many staples are exempt from the tax, including food, fuel, and hygiene products. The cost of inaction on climate change is far greater. Experts say that failing to act now to address climate change could cost Denver $20 billion over the next 30 years. 2A has strict financial accountability safeguards to ensure that all funds are spent as promised, including citizen oversight and a public financial and performance audit done annually. Now is the time to act to protect our air, water, land, and climate. Future generations of Denverites are counting on us, vote YES on 2A.

Cities Must Lead the Way to Minimize Climate Change Impacts. With the 2A Climate Protection Fund, Denver will retain its leadership role with other responsible cites to support actions and innovations needed to address the climate crisis. Charged by Mayor Hancock and Denver City Council to develop recommendations and funding options, a Climate Action Task Force with representatives from diverse communities and interests, submitted a consensus, in-depth analysis of the significant effects of climate change on the economy, human health and disparities to people of color and under-resourced communities. The recommendations in the report propose to build Denver back better from the trifecta of crises caused by racial inequality, climate change and the coronavirus pandemic by interlacing recovery across these crises. The recommendations that would be supported by the 2A Climate Protection Fund would strengthen Denver’s efforts to address
climate change equitably in these critical areas: Buildings, Transportation, Electricity Generation, Industrial Energy Use, Consumption Emissions and Resiliency/Climate Adaptation. The analysis and recommendations can be found by searching denvergov.org for “Climate Action Stakeholder Process.” Revenue is predicted to be about $36 million and will be managed by the Denver Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency. The Office will submit a five-year plan for the uses of the revenues within one year of adoption of this initiative. Costs of Climate Change Are Increasing and Should Not Be Kicked to the Next Generation. Climate Change is here. Without action now, the climate crisis impacts will be nearly unmanageable in just a few years.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2A

- The city currently spends $40 million across its agencies on climate change programs. It is important to review how effectively the already-collected tax money is being spent before doubling the amount by increasing the sales tax rate.
- A sales tax increase impacts people who can least afford to pay higher taxes. Many of our neighbors are currently furloughed or unemployed.
- This fund will be a slush fund for, as the ballot proposal says, “climate justice programs.” What exactly do these programs include?
- Other uses are also badly defined. The language in the proposal calls for dedicating funds to “maximizing investments in communities of color...endeavoring to invest 50% of the dedicated funds directly in communities with a strong lens toward equity and race and social justice.” These are social justice programs, not measures to stop climate change.
- Other language authorizes expenditures on “adaptation and resilience programs that help vulnerable communities prepare for a changing climate.” Again, more language that is vague and broad. What specifically are voters approving?

- This tax goes on forever. It has no ending (“sunset”) date.

BALLOT MEASURE 2A CLIMATE FUNDING

As a Denver citizen, do you consider the following City services important?
1. Public safety – Police and fire
2. Road and bridge maintenance
3. Recreation centers
4. Libraries

Denver elected officials are asking to increase your sales taxes for a new limited City program while cutting essential services like those noted above. Ballot Measure 2A would raise $40 million annually for programs to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution, and adapt to climate change. While these programs may be meritorious, the benefits are decades in the future and their success is dependent upon massive decreases in greenhouse gas emissions by China and other nations. A tax increase for climate change programs should wait until we have adequately restored funding for vital City public services such as those noted above. Ballot measure 2A makes neither sense nor cents. Vote no on Ballot Measure 2A

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. Subject to voter approval as specified in Section 7 of this ordinance, Account Number 97000-282110 of the Fund Plan, Section 20-18, D.R.M.C., concerning apportionment of the sales, use, and lodger’s tax, is amended by the addition of a new subsection (m), to read as follows (with existing
subsection (m) being re-designated as subsection (n)):

§ 20-18. Fund Plan

Account No. 97000-282110

m. Monthly allocation apportionment and transfer of only those revenues raised at the rate of twenty-five one-hundredths of one (0.25) percent of gross taxable sales from sales and use taxes levied to the Climate Protection Fund in the General Government Special Revenue Fund.

Section 2. Subject to the approval of the voters as specified in Section 7 of this ordinance, Section 53-27, D.R.M.C., concerning sales taxes is amended by adding a new subsection (l) to read as follows:

(l) Sales tax increment to fund the Climate Protection Fund. In addition to the sales tax otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of twenty-five one-hundredths of one (.25) percent must be paid on all taxable sales of tangible personal property, products, or services, except on tangible personal property, products, or services specified in subsection (b) of this section, beginning January 1, 2021. The revenue from such additional tax shall be used for the sole purpose of funding the Climate Action Program created in division 2, article XIX of chapter 2.

Section 3. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, subsection (a) of section 53-28, D.R.M.C., concerning collection of sales is amended by adding the language underlined and deleting the language stricken, to read as follows:

Sec. 53-28. - Retailer responsible for payment of tax.

(a) Amount. Every retailer shall, irrespective of other provisions of this article, be liable and responsible for the payment of an amount equivalent to four and thirty-one one-hundredths (4.31) four and fifty-six one-hundredths (4.56) percent of the retailer’s taxable sales of tangible personal property, products, or services specified in this article, except:

(1) Aviation and railway fuel, as to which the rate of four cents ($0.04) for each gallon purchased shall apply;

(2) Automotive vehicles when they are for any term of thirty (30) days or less hired for use, rented, leased or transferred under a grant of a license to use, as to which a rate of taxation as set forth in subsection 53-27(b)(2) shall apply;

(3) Food and beverages not exempted from taxation under subsection 53-26(8) of this article, as to which the rate of four (4) percent shall apply;

(4) For each of which respective rates aforesaid the retailer shall be liable for an equivalent amount;

(5) Every retailer shall, on its return, round each calculation, as directed on such form as the manager may require, to the nearest whole dollar and remit the rounded amount. In rounding under this section, any amount of forty-nine cents ($0.49) or less shall be rounded down, and any amount of fifty cents ($0.50) or higher shall be rounded up.

Section 4. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, Section 53-98, D.R.M.C., concerning use taxes is amended by the addition of a new subsection (p) to read as follows:

(p) Use tax increment to fund the Climate Protection Fund. In addition to the use tax otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of twenty-five one-hundredths of one (.25) percent must be paid on all taxable sales of tangible personal property, products, or services, except on tangible personal property, products, or services specified in subsection (b) of this section, beginning January 1, 2021. The revenue from such additional tax shall...
be used for the sole purpose of funding the Climate Action Program created in division 2, article XIX of chapter 2.

Section 5. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, subsection (a) of section 53-99, D.R.M.C., concerning collection of use taxes, is amended by the addition of the language underlined and the deletion of the language stricken, to read as follows:

Sec. 53-99. - Retailer responsible for payment of tax.

(a) Amount. Every retailer shall, irrespective of other provisions of this article, be liable and responsible for the payment of an amount equivalent to four and thirty-one one-hundredths (4.31) four and fifty-six one-hundredths (4.56) percent of taxable sales made by him of tangible personal property, products, and services, except:

(1) Aviation and railway fuel, as to which the rate of four cents ($0.04) for each gallon purchased shall apply;

(2) Automotive vehicles when they are for any term of thirty (30) days or less hired for use, rented, leased or transferred under a grant of a license to use, as to which a rate of taxation as set forth in subsection 53-98(b)(2) shall apply;

(3) Food and beverages not exempted from taxation under subsection 53-26(8) of the city retail sales tax article, as to which the rate of four (4) percent shall apply;

(4) For each of which respective rates aforesaid the retailer shall be liable for an equivalent amount; and

(5) Every retailer shall, on its return, round each calculation, as directed on such form as the manager may require, to the nearest whole dollar and remit the rounded amount. In rounding under this section, any amount of forty-nine cents ($0.49) or less shall be rounded down, and any amount of fifty cents ($0.50) or higher shall be rounded up.

Section 6. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, Chapter 2, D.R.M.C., concerning the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency, is amended by the addition of a new Division 2, to read as follows:

DIVISION 2 – CLIMATE ACTION PROGRAM

Sec. 2-404. - Legislative Declaration.

(a) The city council finds, determines, and declares:

(1) For nearly 20 years, the city has endeavored to reduce its impact on the environment, conserve natural resources, and protect its residents and thriving business community from the perils of climate change;

(2) The damage to people, business continuity, and the natural systems that sustain life caused by climate change demands swift and meaningful action, including steep reductions in fossil fuel consumption and significant improvements in air and water quality;

(3) The disproportionate health, social, and economic impacts of climate change is falling on under-resourced communities;

(4) The lack of leadership at the national level leaves cities to combat climate change on their own. The city’s sustainability accomplishments to date have garnered national attention and respect and with this act the city will propel to the highest ranks of cities developing innovative solutions that address not only climate change, but also improve public health and dismantle racist systems;

(5) Dedicated funding for climate action, sustainability, and resiliency will help ensure that future generations will be able to live, work, and thrive in the city without an omnipresent climate crisis.

(6) This dedicated funding should maximize investments in under resourced communities, and communities most vulnerable to climate change.
effects to ensure equity and help these communities prepare for a changing climate through innovative mechanisms such as community-based grants and partnerships with community-based environmental and climate justice organizations.

(7) Funds should be expended on the permitted uses listed below while allowing for the flexibility to take advantage of one-time opportunities and catalytic projects but should, over the long term, endeavor to invest fifty percent (50\%) of the dedicated funds directly in the community with a strong lens toward equity, race and social justice.

(b) Therefore, the city council has determined that the question of whether the city shall be authorized to impose a 0.25 percent sales tax for the purposes and in the manner set forth in this ordinance should be submitted to the registered electors of the city at the special municipal election to be conducted in coordination with the state general election on November 3, 2020.

Sec. 2-405. - Permitted Uses of Revenue in the Climate Protection Fund

(a) All monies derived from the sales and use taxes in the Climate Protection Fund (“Fund”) must be expended on:

(1) Job creation through local workforce training and new careers for under-resourced individuals in renewable and clean energy technology and management of natural resources;

(2) Increased investments in solar power, battery storage and other renewable energy technology;

(3) Neighborhood-based environmental and climate justice programs;

(4) Adaptation and resiliency programs that help vulnerable communities prepare for a changing climate;

(5) Programs and services that provide affordable, clean, safe and reliable transportation choices, like walking, biking, transit, electric vehicles, and neighborhood-scale transit; and

(6) Upgrade the energy efficiency of homes, offices and industry to reduce their carbon footprint, utility bills, and indoor air pollution.

(b) Cap on administrative costs. Monies in the Fund may be expended to pay the costs incurred by the city associated directly with the administration of the funds; except that, in no event may the amount expended from the funds for administrative expenses in any year exceed eight percent (8\%) of the amount of revenue received in the fund in that year.

(c) Fund earnings. Any interest earned on the balance of the Fund accrues to the Fund.

(d) Administration of funds. The Executive Director of the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency will manage the Fund.

(e) Permanency. If the monies in the Fund are not expended at the end of the fiscal year, such monies must remain in the fund to be expended in subsequent fiscal years.

(f) Maintenance of Effort. All monies in the Fund must be used in accordance with this section and may not replace nor supplant any general fund appropriations allocated each year to the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency.

(g) Rulemaking. The Executive Director of the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency may promulgate any rules necessary for the proper administration of the Climate Action Program.

(h) Reporting. A report of Fund expenditures and performance plan must be submitted annually to the mayor, city council, city auditor, and the Sustainability Advisory Council, or any successor body.

(i) Planning. Within one year of the adoption of this Division 2 and every five years thereafter, the Executive Director of the Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency shall submit a five-year plan to the city council and the Sustainability Advisory Council on the planned revenue uses in the Climate Protection Fund.
The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

SHALL CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER SALES AND USE TAXES BE INCREASED BY $40 MILLION ANNUALLY, COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2021, AND BY WHATSOEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM A TWENTY-FIVE ONE-HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.25%) SALES AND USE TAX RATE (2.5 CENTS ON A TEN-DOLLAR PURCHASE), THAT WILL NOT BE COLLECTED ON FOOD FOR HOME CONSUMPTION, WATER, FUEL, MEDICAL SUPPLIES OR FEMININE HYGIENE PRODUCTS, TO BE USED TO FUND HOUSING, SHELTER OR SERVICES FOR PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:
- BUILDING HOUSING, EXPANDING RENTAL ASSISTANCE OR PROVIDING SUPPORTIVE SERVICES OR OTHER SUPPORTS TO HOUSE PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS;
- EXPANDING THE NUMBER OF SHELTER BEDS, IMPROVING ACCESS FOR UNDERSERVED POPULATIONS, AND PROVIDING BETTER HEALTH AND HOUSING OUTCOMES THROUGH 24-HOUR SHELTER AND DROP-IN DAY SERVICES SUCH AS CORONAVIRUS PREVENTION, MENTAL HEALTH CARE, SUBSTANCE TREATMENT,
- PROVIDING MORE HOUSING REFERRALS AND OTHER SERVICES TO PEOPLE LIVING ON THE STREETS OR IN CARS TO HELP THEM EXIT HOMELESSNESS;
AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, SHALL NO MORE THAN EIGHT PERCENT (8%) OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE INCREASE IN SALES AND USE TAX BE SPENT ON CITY ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS RELATED TO THE ABOVE PURPOSES; AND SHALL THE MONIES Derived FROM THE INCREASE IN SALES AND USE TAX NOT BE USED TO OFFSET ANY CURRENT REVENUE EXPENDITURES FROM THE GENERAL FUND; AND SHALL THE REVENUES FROM THESE INCREASED TAXES BE COLLECTED AND SPENT IN EACH FISCAL YEAR BY DENVER WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY EXPENDITURE, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2B

Methodology:
Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2B
The estimated or actual total of the City’s fiscal year spending for the current year and each of the past four years is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Fiscal Year spending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$3,344,500,000 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$2,857,531,603</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$3,017,686,356</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>$1,982,548,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>$1,606,028,695</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2016 to 2020, inclusive, is 108% and $1,738,477,525 respectively.

Estimated maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year: $40,000,000

Estimated 2021 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,874,470,000

Written Comments
FOR Ballot Measure 2B

Ballot measure 2B is Denver’s plan to reduce homelessness.

Ballot measure 2B will make critical investments to help individuals experiencing homelessness get back on their feet, find housing and employment, and access critical medical, behavioral and drug treatment programs. This ballot measure will advance Denver’s goals for a healthy, safe, and equitable city.

Ballot measure 2B will fund resources, support services, and housing for individuals and families who have experienced a loss of stable housing. This ballot measure will fund three primary strategies to reduce homelessness:

- Build supportive housing and expand rental assistance in Denver. This funding will allow Denver to build 1,800 homes with supportive services over the next ten years. This housing will help transition people into housing from shelters or unsheltered living situations, and provide services like employment counseling or behavioral health care.
- Increase the number of available shelter beds in Denver. Additional shelters will improve access for underserved populations and provide services such as coronavirus prevention, mental health care, housing and employment counseling, and substance misuse treatment.
- Provide funding for innovative programs. These services include expanding the use of tiny homes, hiring street outreach workers, providing medical, behavioral, and drug treatment programs, and services to reach and help individuals who are unsheltered.

The need for dedicated, additional funding to address homelessness has become more critical due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Existing shelter capacity in Denver has been reduced by 1,200 beds since March 2020 due to social distancing guidance. As our economy remains in a recession, tens of thousands of Denver residents are out of work or at risk of unemployment and vulnerable to eviction due to rent burden.

Ballot measure 2B will provide sustainable funding for these interventions through an increase in the city’s sales tax of 0.25%, or 2.5 cents on a $10 dollar purchase. The sales tax increase will not be collected on food for home consumption, water, fuel, medical supplies or feminine hygiene products.

Ballot measure 2B is expected to raise up to $40 million in the first year, which will be administered by the Denver Department of Housing Stability and invested in community-based providers. This ballot measure requires transparent and inclusive planning and public reporting, including oversight from an advisory board and City Council approval of budgets and plans.

Summary of Written Comments
AGAINST Ballot Measure 2B

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo
voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
• Even those who oppose this sales tax increase can agree that homelessness can be devastating to all who experience it – families and individuals. It’s a big problem that requires a broad based solution with multiple funding sources. Volunteers, nonprofits, private foundations, businesses and all levels of government should and do provide help for people to get back their dignity and independence and have a roof over their head.

• **What makes little sense is to increase Denver’s sales tax rate, a regressive tax seriously impacting those who can least afford it.** That includes the homeless themselves, people on the verge of homelessness, and those now unemployed trying to provide for their families the best they can.

• If both sales tax increase measures on Denver’s ballot pass, our sales tax rate (including state and regional taxes) will be in the upper tier of taxes in the region, a total of 8.81%.

• An increase in Denver’s sales tax makes our businesses less competitive and requires our residents to pay more, reducing employment opportunities and pushing more people into homelessness.

• Denver already spends $110 million on homeless services and affordable housing. We should be sure the money is spent well and targets the highest needs.

• As part of examining the prudent expenditure of existing tax dollars, are we getting the most “bang for the buck” when one nonprofit service provider that contracts with Denver reports paying the executive director more than $250,000 total annual compensation and 11 other key employees range from $152,000 to $266,000.*

• (*Colorado Coalition for the Homeless federally required public disclosure for 2018, Form 990). They also report significant lobbying expenditures. All government and nonprofit providers should be scrutinized before taxpayers are asked to pay more.

• This tax increase is a “forever” tax increase. There is no “sunset” date for it to expire or be reexamined.

Ballot Measure 2B is a sales tax increase of $40 million annually to fund housing, shelter, or services for people experiencing homelessness. Homelessness is undoubtedly a real and continuing problem in Denver, but simply increasing the current funding for homeless services will undoubtedly fail without effective programs to encourage the homeless to become self-sufficient. The current programs clearly are not working and increasing taxes for new programs while cutting critical City services such as police and fire, recreation centers, and libraries makes no sense. Separate from the tax increase, the City is proposing additional spending of $6.5 million for homeless services and shelters on top of the approximately $15 million (plus $12 million in Federal funds) already being spent on homelessness services. Let’s not raise sales taxes before Denver can demonstrate it will spend effectively the money it has budgeted for the homeless.

Vote no on Ballot Measure 2B

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**Text of Measure**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

*Section 1.* Subject to voter approval as specified in Section 7 of this ordinance, Account Number 97000-282110 of the Fund Plan, Section 20-18, D.R.M.C., concerning apportionment of the sales, use and lodger’s tax, is amended by the addition of a new subsection (m), to read as follows (with existing subsections (m) and (n) being re-designated as subsections (n) and (o)):

**Sec. 20-18. - Fund Plan.**

*Account No. 97000-282110*
Name of account: Unapportioned sales, use and lodger’s tax

Source of funds: City retail sales taxes, city use taxes and city lodger’s taxes that have been collected, returned, and await apportionment.

Disposition of funds:

m. Monthly, (1) allocation apportionment and transfer of only those revenues raised at the rate of 0.25 percent of gross taxable sales from sales and use taxes levied to the Homelessness Resolution Fund.

Section 2. Subject to the approval of the voters as specified in Section 7 of this ordinance, Section 53-27, D.R.M.C., concerning sales taxes is amended by the addition of a new subsection (l) to read as follows:

(l) Sales tax increment to fund the Homelessness Resolution Program. In addition to the sales tax otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of twenty-five one-hundredths of one percent (.25%) must be paid on all taxable sales of commodities or services, except on commodities or services specified in subsection (b) of this section, beginning January 1, 2021. The revenue from such additional tax must be used for the sole purpose of funding the Homelessness Resolution Program created in article VII of chapter 27.

Section 3. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this Ordinance, subsection (a) of section 53-28, D.R.M.C., concerning collection of sales is amended by adding the language underlined and deleting the language stricken, to read as follows:

Sec. 53-28. Retailer responsible for payment of tax.

(a) Amount. Every retailer shall, irrespective of other provisions of this article, be liable and responsible for the payment of an amount equivalent to four and thirty-one one-hundredths (4.31) percent four and fifty-six one hundredths (4.56) percent of the retailer’s taxable sales of tangible personal property, products, or services specified in this article, except:

(1) Aviation and railway fuel, as to which the rate of four cents ($0.04) for each gallon purchased shall apply;

(2) Automotive vehicles when they are for any term of thirty (30) days or less hired for use, rented, leased or transferred under a grant of a license to use, as to which a rate of taxation as set forth in subsection 53-27(b)(2) shall apply;

(3) Food and beverages not exempted from taxation under subsection 53-26(8) of this article, as to which the rate of four (4) percent shall apply;

(4) For each of which respective rates aforesaid the retailer shall be liable for an equivalent amount;

(5) Every retailer shall, on its return, round each calculation, as directed on such form as the manager may require, to the nearest whole dollar and remit the rounded amount. In rounding under this section, any amount of forty-nine cents ($0.49) or less shall be rounded down, and any amount of fifty cents ($0.50) or higher shall be rounded up.

Section 4. Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, Section 53-98, D.R.M.C., concerning use taxes is amended by the addition of a new subsection (p) to read as follows:
(p) **Use tax increment to fund the Homelessness Resolution Program.** In addition to the use tax otherwise imposed by this section, a tax of twenty-five one-hundredths of one percent (.25%) must be paid on all taxable uses, consumptions, distributions, and storages of commodities and services, except on commodities and services specified in subsection (b) of this section, beginning January 1, 2021. The Homelessness Resolution Fund created in article VII of chapter 27.

**Section 5.** Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 8 of this ordinance, subsection (a) of section 53-99, D.R.M.C., concerning collection of use taxes, is amended by the addition of the language underlined and the deletion of the language stricken, to read as follows:

Sec. 53-99. Retailer responsible for payment of tax.

(a) **Amount.** Every retailer shall, irrespective of other provisions of this article, be liable and responsible for the payment of an amount equivalent to four and thirty-one one-hundredths (4.31) percent of taxable sales made by him of tangible personal property, products, and services, except:

(1) Aviation and railway fuel, as to which the rate of four cents ($0.04) for each gallon purchased shall apply;

(2) Automotive vehicles when they are for any term of thirty (30) days or less hired for use, rented, leased or transferred under a grant of a license to use, as to which a rate of taxation as set forth in subsection 53-98(b)(2) shall apply;

(3) Food and beverages not exempted from taxation under subsection 53-26(8) of the city retail sales tax article, as to which the rate of four (4) percent shall apply;

(4) For each of which respective rates aforesaid the retailer shall be liable for an equivalent amount; and

(5) Every retailer shall, on its return, round each calculation, as directed on such form as the manager may require, to the nearest whole dollar and remit the rounded amount. In rounding under this section, any amount of forty-nine cents ($0.49) or less shall be rounded down, and any amount of fifty cents ($0.50) or higher shall be rounded up.

**Section 6.** Subject to the approval of the voters as provided in Section 7 of this ordinance, Chapter 27, D.R.M.C., concerning Housing, is amended by the addition of a new Article VII, to read as follows:

**ARTICLE VII. HOMELESSNESS RESOLUTION PROGRAM**

Sec. 27-189. Legislative Declaration. (a) The City Council finds, determines, and declares:

(1) According to the 2020 Point in Time (“PIT”) study by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative, there are more than 4000 people experiencing homelessness in the City – up 6 percent from 2019 – including 1,200 people experiencing chronic homelessness;

(2) According to the Colorado Department of Education, there were 1,762 children experiencing homelessness in the City’s K-12 schools during the 2018-2019 school year;
(3) The 2020 PIT survey counted 996 unsheltered people in Denver on one night in January, a growth over previous years averaging around 530 unsheltered people on one night in January between 2014 and 2019. According to findings from the PIT survey, challenges also exist regarding shelter access for certain populations.

(4) According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, there is a deficit of homes for the lowest-income families in the Denver metro area, with only 30 affordable homes available for every 100 households in need, and among the lowest-income families who are housed, 74% are cost burdened;

(5) Denver City Council approved an affordable housing fund in 2016 that was doubled in 2018 and is estimated to create or preserve 6,000 affordable homes for low- to moderate-income families in approximately five years, but the affordable housing fund is charged with expanding affordable housing across the full income spectrum and the need for housing among those experiencing homelessness far exceeds the portion of the fund that is available for this population, and there is currently no dedicated source of local funding that can be used to fund shelter or services unconnected to housing;

(6) An increase in housing, shelter, and service options for Denver’s most vulnerable populations are priorities identified in Denver’s Comprehensive Plan 2040, adopted by Denver City Council in May of 2019, and investments in these areas will advance the plan’s goals for a healthy, safe, and equitable, affordable and inclusive city;

(7) Denver’s Three-Year Shelter Expansion Plan identifies five areas of needed investment – permanent housing expansion, coordinated entry, shelter and services funding, crisis service operations, and real estate and capital expenditures – and new funding is needed to enable implementation of the plan;

(8) Denver’s Social Impact Bond program has demonstrated that supportive services can be provided in a housing setting for approximately $13,400 per person annually, compared to an average yearly cost to taxpayers of $29,000 per individual experiencing homelessness for medical care, incarceration, detox services, and shelter services, with a typical retention rate around 80%, and more investment into this form of cost-effective and successful housing is needed in Denver;

(9) The need for dedicated, additional funding to address homelessness has become more acute due to the COVID-19 pandemic, with tens of thousands of Denver residents vulnerable to eviction due to rent burden and risk of unemployment, and modeling based on correlations between unemployment and homelessness in the past by economists with Colombia University predicts a steep rise in homelessness nationwide as a result of the economic fallout from the virus;

(10) Denver’s response to the pandemic required establishment of auxiliary shelter for up to 765 men and 300 women and more than 800 motel/hotel rooms, along with reduced capacity and conversion of existing shelters to 24-hour, seven-days-a-week operations, to provide for social distancing and/or isolation of people with symptoms who were experiencing homelessness, all of which have been heavily-utilized and funded through time-limited, one-time emergency funding sources, which risks leaving hundreds of people without
shelter or housing options when emergency funds are no longer available;

(11) A dedicated, additional funding source to address housing, shelter, and services for those experiencing homelessness is necessary to protect the health and safety of the City and County of Denver.

(b) Therefore, the City Council has determined that the question of whether the City shall be authorized to impose a 0.25 percent sales tax for the purposes and in the manner set forth in this ordinance should be submitted to the registered electors of the City at the special municipal election to be conducted in coordination with the state general election on November 3, 2020.

Sec. 27-190. Permitted Uses of Revenue in the Homelessness Resolution Fund.

(a) All monies derived from the sales and use taxes in the Homelessness Resolution Fund must be expended on housing, shelter, and services for those experiencing or having exited from homelessness, including, but not limited to:

(1) capital improvements, operations and maintenance, and services;

(2) new or renovated housing, rental assistance, or supportive services;

(3) new or existing shelter capacity, improvement, operations, services and accessibility for those experiencing homelessness including underserved populations; and

(4) other services or supports for those experiencing homelessness, including for those who are unsheltered.

(b) Cap on administrative costs. Monies in the Homelessness Resolution Fund may be expended to pay the costs incurred by the city associated directly with the administration of the funds; except that, in no event may the amount expended from the funds for city administrative expenses in any year exceed eight percent of the amount of revenue received in the fund in that year.

(c) Fund earnings. Any interest earned on the balance of the Fund accrues to the Fund.

(d) Administration of funds. The executive director of the Department of Housing Stability will manage the Homelessness Resolution Fund.

(e) Permanency. If the monies in the Fund are not expended at the end of the fiscal year, such monies must remain in the fund to be expended in subsequent fiscal years.

(f) Maintenance of Effort. All monies in the Fund must be used in accordance with this section and may not replace nor supplant any general fund appropriations allocated each year to the Department of Housing Stability.

(g) Rulemaking. The executive director of the Department of Housing Stability may promulgate any rules necessary for the proper administration of this section.

(h) Planning. No later than January 31, 2021, the Department of Housing Stability shall prepare, and the housing stability strategic advisors shall take public input on, review, and recommend, a first year-plan for use of the funds in 2021. Subsequently, intended uses of the fund shall be included in annual action...
plans and three- to five-year strategic plans for city housing and homeless expenditures which include requirements for public input and consideration of equity as outlined in Sec. 27-164 of the D.R.M.C.

(i) Reporting. Providing publicly accessible reports on actual uses of the Homelessness Resolution Fund, outcomes, and evaluation compared to the relevant goals outlined in annual or strategic plans shall be incorporated into annual progress reports and intermittent reports on housing and homelessness provided by the executive director of the Department of Housing Stability to the housing stability strategic advisors and the City Council pursuant to Sec. 27-164(c) of the D.R.M.C.

Denver Public Schools (School District No. 1) Ballot Questions

DPS Mill Levy Ballot Measure 4A & Text of Measure

SHALL DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO $32 MILLION IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2021 AND BY THE AMOUNTS IN ANY YEAR THEREAFTER AS ARE RAISED FROM A MILL LEVY OF UP TO 4 MILLS PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108.7, C.R.S., PROVIDED THAT THE MILL LEVY FOR THE FIRST YEAR SHALL NOT EXCEED 1.55 MILLS AND NO MILL LEVY INCREASE FROM YEAR TO YEAR SHALL EXCEED 1 MILL, WITH THE EFFECT THAT MORE GENERAL FUND REVENUES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURPOSES SUCH AS:

• ADDING AND MAINTAINING MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND SCHOOL COUNSELORS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS;
• ADDING AND MAINTAINING SCHOOL NURSES TO SUPPORT COVID-19 MONITORING AND PREVENTION AS WELL AS OTHER HEALTH EDUCATION;
• INCREASING MINIMUM WAGES FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF; AND
• ADDING COST OF LIVING FUNDS TO PAY EDUCATORS A LIVING WAGE; AND
SHALL SUCH ADDITIONAL REVENUES FROM THIS TAX INCREASE BE DEPOSITED INTO THE SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND MAINTENANCE FUND AND USED FOR ONGOING CASH FUNDING FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, NEW INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY, EXISTING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES, AND MAINTENANCE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE SUCH MILL LEVY BEGINNING IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2022 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER TO OFFSET PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS OR ABATEMENTS OR REDUCTIONS IN THE PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL VALUATION USED TO DETERMINE ASSESSED VALUATION; AND SHALL DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS PUBLISH AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EXPENDITURES OF THESE FREED UP GENERAL FUNDS?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 4A

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year
2020-2021 (estimated) $1,279,380,461
TABOR NOTICE

2019-2020 (unaudited actual) $1,243,245,368
2018-2019 (actual) $1,197,112,833
2017-2018 (actual) $1,123,057,222
2016-2017 (actual) $1,060,059,535

Overall percentage change from 2016-17 to 2020-21 20.68%
Overall dollar change from 2016-17 to 2020-21 $219,320,926

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2021-22 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 4A: $32,000,000

District Estimate of 2021-22 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: $1,391,555,679

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 4A

By approving 4A, Denver voters will make public education a priority this year, ensure every student receives a high-quality education, increase graduation rates, reduce class sizes and help Denver’s kids get the education they deserve in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic. Denver’s schools have made a lot of progress, but we have seen that some of our students are being left behind, especially our most vulnerable during COVID-19. This year you have an opportunity to vote YES on 4A to ensure Denver invests in our students, teachers, and community.

Revenue from 4A will free up funds in the general fund in order to invest in the following:

- Add additional school nurses to support COVID-19 monitoring and prevention as well as other health education.
- Expand investments in the classroom.
- Increase wages for educators so they receive a living wage and expand a program to recruit strong, diverse teachers.
- Add and maintain mental health support, allowing teachers to better focus on teaching and offering additional resources for students.
- Expand special education services and alternate learning environments across the district for students with specific needs including paraprofessionals, and speech language pathologists.
- Increase funding for Early Childhood Education.

Every child in our city deserves an equal chance to succeed academically, and each teacher deserves the tools to make that happen. Support Denver’s teachers and students by voting YES on 4A, the Denver Public Schools Dept-Free Schools Mill Levy.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 4A

No comments were filed by the deadline.

DPS Bond

Ballot Measure 4B & Text of Measure

WITHOUT IMPOSING ANY NEW TAX, SHALL DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS DEBT BE INCREASED $795 MILLION, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF NOT MORE
THAN $1,500 MILLION FOR THE PURPOSES OF:

• MAINTAINING AND RENOVATING EXISTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS BY REPLACING LEAKING ROOFS, MAKING CRITICAL REPAIRS AND ADDRESSING STRUCTURAL PROBLEMS;

• PROVIDING COOLING SYSTEMS FOR HIGH TEMPERATURE CLASSROOMS AND SCHOOLS THAT LACK AIR CONDITIONING;

• ADDING NEW SCHOOLS AND ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS AND MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING SCHOOLS TO ADDRESS OVERCROWDING AND REDUCE CLASS SIZES;

• PURCHASING ADDITIONAL COMPUTERS SO THAT STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO TECHNOLOGY THEY NEED DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND THEREAFTER;

• IMPROVING LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS IN OLDER SCHOOL BUILDINGS BY UPGRADING SCIENCE AND COMPUTER LABS AND MODERNIZING CLASSROOM INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY;

• IMPROVING STUDENT SAFETY IN SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND IMPROVING SECURITY AT SCHOOL ENTRYWAYS;

• IMPROVING AND EXPANDING EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS;

AND OTHER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS; AND SHALL THE TAXES AUTHORIZED AT THE DISTRICT’S BOND ELECTIONS IN 1998, 2003, 2008, 2012, AND 2016 BE EXTENDED AND AUTHORIZED TO BE USED TO PAY THE DEBT AUTHORIZED AT THIS ELECTION IN ADDITION TO THE DEBT AUTHORIZED AT SUCH PRIOR ELECTIONS; SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE INCREASED IN ANY YEAR, WITHOUT LIMITATION OF RATE BUT ONLY IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT OR ANY REFUNDING DEBT (OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SUCH PAYMENT); AND MAY SUCH DEBT BE EVIDENCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR OBLIGATIONS THAT BE SOLD IN ONE SERIES OR MORE, FOR A PRICE ABOVE OR BELOW THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT THEREOF, ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND WITH SUCH MATURITIES AS PERMITTED BY LAW AND AS THE DISTRICT MAY DETERMINE?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 4B

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year

2020-2021 (estimated) $ 1,279,380,461
2019-2020 (unaudited actual) $ 1,243,245,368
2018-2019 (actual) $ 1,197,112,833
2017-2018 (actual) $ 1,123,057,222
2016-2017 (actual) $ 1,060,059,535

Overall percentage change from 2016-17 to 2020-21
20.68%
Overall dollar change from 2016-17 to 2020-21
$219,320,926

Information on District’s Proposed Debt

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 4B:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:
Not to exceed $ 795,000,000

Maximum Annual District Repayment Cost:
Not to exceed $ 74,000,000

Total District Repayment Cost:
Not to exceed $1,500,000,000
Information on District’s Current Debt*

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt: $1,590,847,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost: $151,936,232
Remaining Total Repayment Cost: $2,270,523,108

* Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

Written Comments
FOR Ballot Measure 4B

Over the past decade, Denver’s population has grown by more than 20 percent. Denver Public Schools has seen an increase in over 15,000 students in that time. With this unprecedented growth comes additional needs, and our schools have taken another major hit during the COVID-19 pandemic. The average age of Denver Public Schools owned buildings is over 50 years old.

This year, Denver’s voters have an opportunity to modernize and provide public schools with the resources needed to succeed in the current education environment, all without raising taxes, by voting Yes on 4B.

Revenue from 4B will:

- Ensure that schools are fit for 21st century learning by investing in updated technology and renovating outdated infrastructure.
- Invest in maintenance for existing schools.
- Rebuild or renovate the Montbello campus.
- Install air conditioning in Denver Public Schools’ hottest buildings to mitigate dangerous heat levels that are not conducive to a learning or work environment.
- Expand student access to at-home internet technology, including computers for each student so they have access to the technology they need during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Add new schools, and additional classrooms to keep class sizes down and keep up with population growth.

Help set up Denver Public Schools’ teachers and students for success, and strengthen our Denver community, by voting yes on measure 4B, the Denver Public Schools Bond.

Summary of Written Comments
AGAINST Ballot Measure 4B

No comments were filed by the deadline.

The Clerk and Recorder hereby certifies that the ballot issue notice contained herein is complete as submitted by the political subdivision.

THIS CONCLUDES THE BALLOT ISSUE NOTICE REQUIRED BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.
Denver’s Local Ballot Question Notice Booklet

General Election
Tuesday, November 3, 2020

Denver Elections Division
200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204

Hon. Paul D. López
Clerk and Recorder, City and County of Denver

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot issue is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot issue is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.”

**Professional Services**

**Ballot Measure 2C**

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to give City Council the authority to procure for professional services without executive branch approval?

**Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2C**

**Methodology:**
Referred measure 2C is meant to give City Council the authority to procure for professional services without executive branch approval. Due to the scope of the initiative, the City and County of Denver does not assume this new authority will incur additional costs to the city budget.

**Assumptions**
The fiscal note assumes this authority would not assume any new costs relative to the city’s annual budget but will use existing budget authority initiate any contractor work. There may be additional costs borne by the General Services Purchasing team if dedicated staffing is needed for additional procurement processes.

**Departmental Impacts**

**City Council**
Council will have the ability to initiate professional services contracts using City Council’s budget appropriation provided for in the annual budget.

**Written Comments**

**FOR Ballot Measure 2C**

This measure amends the Charter of the City and County of Denver to provide city council with authority to procure professional services without executive branch approval. This amendment clarifies city council can procure professional services necessary to fulfill their charter duties. It codifies the practice of city council in procuring the assistance of independent professionals (engineers, attorneys, financial analysts, etc.) to carry out its duties.

The measure is needed because the Denver Charter currently is silent on city council’s ability to hire staff or professional services. This amendment explicitly provides city council authority to obtain independent professional services to fulfill its duties without approval by the administration. City council no longer will be reliant on the good will of a city attorney appointed by the mayor or upon the mayor to engage staff support to do their job.

Issues coming before city council are increasingly complex and council often is required to act quickly. Council is required to review and approve complex contracts and projects. In recent years the city attorney and mayor blocked council members from hiring professionals to review the DEN Great Hall contract. In addition, city council may need independent legal and investigatory expertise to exercise council investigative and subpoena powers.
When considering the council’s response to sexual harassment complaints against the mayor it was not clear that council could hire outside legal expertise or enter into a contract with investigators or other professionals to assist in developing its response. City Council was put in the position of relying for guidance on the Office of the City Attorney, which reports to the mayor. This places the city attorney in the position of advising entities with conflicting interests.

Passage of this measure will not interfere with or create confusion about who represents the City in legal matters.

It does not alter Charter provisions stating that the Department of Law is responsible for representing the City in legal matters.

This measure simply recognizes there are instances when City Council must engage experts to fulfillment of its Charter responsibilities independent of the mayor.

**Summary of Written Comments**

**AGAINST Ballot Measure 2C**

No comments were filed by the deadline.

**Text of Measure**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election held in conjunction with the coordinated election on November 3, 2020, a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and County of Denver, as follows:

**Effective upon publication and filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado, the following sections of the Charter of the City and County of Denver are amended to read as follows:**

§ 3.2.10 – Independent professional services.

(A) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, City Council as a whole may, from time to time and without executive branch approval, contract for professional services that City Council determines necessary to aid City Council in carrying out its duties and responsibilities under the Charter and the Denver Revised Municipal Code.

(B) City Council shall develop and provide by ordinance the process by which this section may be implemented for individual contracts.

**DOTI Advisory Board**

**Ballot Measure 2D**

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to create the Board of Transportation and Infrastructure to advise the Manager with respect to the policy and operation of the Department and shall review and comment on the proposed annual budget for the Department?

**Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2D**

**Methodology:**
Referred measure 2D is meant to create the Board of Transportation and Infrastructure to advise the Manager with respect to the policy and operation of the Department and shall review and comment on the proposed annual budget for the Department. Due to the scope of the initiative, the City and County of Denver does not assume this new board will incur additional costs to the city budget.

**Assumptions**
The fiscal note assumes the board will leverage the time of existing budgeted staff and contract resources. Board members do not receive any compensation as a result of serving on the board.

**Departmental Impacts**
**DOTI**
No fiscal impact identified. Minimal operational costs for the board once in-person public meetings resume (supplies, existing employee time, materials).

Written Comments

**FOR Ballot Measure 2D**

In 2019 the voters in Denver amended the City Charter to create the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DOTI). The new department was created to advance an efficient multi-modal transportation system in Denver. The Department focuses on the planning, design, construction, maintenance, and operation of the city’s transportation network.

This measure creates a 19-member Board of Transportation and Infrastructure. The mayor will appoint six members of the board. City council will appoint 13 members. The members of the board are required to represent a variety of interests, backgrounds and geographic areas of the City.

Requiring appointments by city council, as well as the mayor, assures diverse citizen representation from throughout the City and creates accountability to constituents. Denver requires broad-based representation to achieve its goal of a modern, safe transportation system that improves connectivity, economic opportunity and quality of life, while reducing congestion, hazards and negative impacts on our climate. The diversity of the committee allows the City to address infrastructure and transportation solutions that overcome past inequities by providing citizens with many opportunities for input.

Establishing the board in the Charter emphasizes the high priority the people of Denver place on the transportation network by providing for community participation in its planning, construction and operations. It will assure that the board has high-quality access to DOTI leadership and can significantly impact the department’s annual budget, work plans and priorities. The board will advise the manager of DOTI on policy and operation of the department, and review and comment on the proposed annual budget for the department. The advisory body cannot be abolished or its mission changed in the future without a vote of the people.
Summary of Written Comments
AGAINST Ballot Measure 2D

No comments were filed by the deadline.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE
CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted
to the registered electors of the City and County of
Denver for their approval or rejection at a special
municipal election held in conjunction with the
coordinated election on November 3, 2020, a
proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and
County of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon publication and filing
with the Secretary of State pursuant to the
Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado,
the following sections of Article II of the 2002
Charter of the City and County of Denver shall be
and are hereby amended to read as follows:

Part 3 of Article II shall be amended to add a new
section to read as follows:

Part 3. – Transportation and
Infrastructure

§2.3.5 – Board of Transportation and
Infrastructure

There is hereby created a Board of
Transportation and Infrastructure (hereinafter called
the “Board”) consisting of nineteen members. Six
members of the Board shall be appointed by the
Mayor. Thirteen of the members shall be appointed
by City Council. Members shall serve at the pleasure
of their respective appointing authorities. Members
of the Board should represent a variety of interests,
backgrounds and geography. Members of the Board
shall serve without pay. The Board shall advise the
Manager with respect to the policy and operation of
the Department and shall review and comment on
the proposed annual budget for the Department.

Council Approve
Mayoral Appointments
Ballot Measure 2E

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional
legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot
purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in
the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of
the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised
Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by
the Denver City Council.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of
Denver be amended to give City Council authority
to consent to certain mayoral appointments?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2E

Methodology:
Referred measure 2E is meant to give City
Council authority to consent to certain mayoral
appointments. Due to the scope of the initiative,
the City and County of Denver does not assume this
modernization language will incur additional costs
to the city budget.

Assumptions
The fiscal note assumes that council would utilize
existing resources and staff to conduct their review
any candidate. There may be additional costs to
the city if a national candidate needs to be present
for multiple sessions as part of the nominee vetting process.

**Departmental Impacts**
No agency impacts were received.

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**Written Comments**
FOR Ballot Measure 2E

This referred measure, if approved, will give City Council appointment authority of certain Mayoral appointees. While it is not a cure-all for the issues that face Denver, it brings transparency and accountability back to our local government. In addition to the Chiefs of Police and Fire, and the Denver Sheriff, a majority of City Councilmembers would have to approve the Executive Directors of: Aviation, City Attorney, Community Planning & Development, Public Health & Environment, Transportation & Infrastructure, Excise & License, Finance, General Services, Human Services, Parks & Recreation, and the Manager of Safety.

This proposal brings meaningful change to our community in several ways:

1. **Is Rooted in Research, Best Practices, and Good Governance.**

   City Councilmembers in the majority of Denver’s strong-mayor “sister” cities have some form of approval power over the Mayor’s appointees. Denver is the only strong-mayor system in the State of Colorado that does not follow this practice. After hundreds of hours of research, including conversations with leaders in other cities, it is clear that this is considered a good governance standard that has been successful in cities across the country and in other layers of Government, including the Federal level.

2. **Gives Denver Residents Better Balance to Their Government.**

   This proposal is respectful of Denver’s Strong-Mayor system. The Mayor is free to choose his or her appointee in whatever manner they want, using a process of their own design, and also retains sole dismissal authority over the appointments. But by establishing this additional layer of oversight, Denver residents have a more powerful voice in their local government through their independently elected City Council representatives.

3. **Builds Community Consensus Around Denver’s Public Safety Positions**

   This proposal builds consensus among the community by including all of the heads of Denver’s Safety departments. It offers a middle ground for those who would like to see an elected Sheriff or Police Chief, and those who have concerns about the unintended consequences of electing Denver’s Public Safety heads.

4. **Safeguards Against Nepotism and Unqualified Appointees.**

   By requiring City Council approval of these appointees, this process ensures that every candidate demonstrate their ability to effectively communicate with the 13 members of City Council before they are appointed to one of the most powerful positions in the City of Denver.

5. **Creates Collaborative Partnerships Between Councilmembers and Agencies.**

   This process creates a situation where Councilmembers have buy-in with the heads of City agencies, which means they also have incentive to create successful working partnerships with those appointees. Establishing those collaborative working relationships from the beginning of the appointment will help ensure our city runs more smoothly, which only benefits the entire community.
Instituting a process that brings more balance, transparency and accountability to our strong-mayor form of government makes sense. It is good governance. It is a policy that many other strong-mayor cities follow successfully. It is what the people want, and it is time to bring it to Denver.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2E

- The current city council that is asking for the power of confirmation has yet to establish its own credibility. It has acted without thought of consequences, such as unexpectedly rejecting contracts for halfway houses with no subsequent plans in place for hundreds of people counting on a phased reentry to society. This type of impulsive approach to governing undermines council’s credibility.
- Finding the right person to apply for a cabinet position can be difficult under normal circumstances. Members of this council have launched public personal attacks on applicants for volunteer boards. Does this behavior lend itself to attracting highly professional applicants for jobs within the city?
- Adopting this amendment could create unique timing problems. This amendment would require confirmation of all existing department heads should the current mayor leave office for any reason and a NEW mayor who wishes to retain the current line-up be sworn in. This disruption would apply even if time is too short for an election and the current deputy mayor is elevated to mayor, which happened with former Mayor Hickenlooper and his deputy Bill Vidal.
- This Charter amendment calls for the confirmation of each individual safety department head (fire, police, and sheriff) as well as the cabinet-level Director of Public Safety. It will be hard to hold the mayor accountable if the nominee has to please council members who advocate defunding and encourage protests and lawsuits.
- While the concept of council confirmation has pros and cons, it would be wise to reject the Charter amendment at this time and refile it for a public vote when city council has established its own stability and credibility.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election held in conjunction with the coordinated election on November 3, 2020, a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and County of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon publication and filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado, the following sections of the Charter of the City and County of Denver are amended to read as follows:

§ 2.2.6 - Administrative appointments.
(A) Except for as provided in subsections (D), (E), and (F) of this section, the Mayor shall appoint the heads of all administrative departments, and shall appoint all commissions, boards and officers, under the Mayor’s control; and the appointees shall hold said appointments so long as their services are satisfactory to the Mayor.
(B) Reserved.

(C) The heads of all departments, all officers and employees not transferred or assigned to a department or office herein created, and not by this Charter expressly provided for, shall be appointed and their duties fixed by the Mayor; and the Mayor may assign them or transfer, them from or to any department, or office.

(D) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, the Mayor shall nominate in a reasonable and timely manner, and, by and with the consent of City Council, appoint the following officers:

(i) The Manager of Transportation and Infrastructure, as described in section 2.3.2 of this Charter;
(ii) The Manager of Parks and Recreation, as described in section 2.4.2 of this Charter;
(iii) The Manager of Finance, as described in section 2.5.2 of this Charter;
(iv) The Manager of Safety, as described in section 2.6.2 of this Charter;
(v) The Sheriff, as described in section 2.6.4 of this Charter;
(vi) The Chief of Police, as described in section 2.6.5 of this Charter;
(vii) The Chief of the Fire Department, as described in section 2.6.6 of this Charter;
(viii) The Director of Excise and Licenses, as described in section 2.7.2 of this Charter;
(ix) The Manager of General Services, as described in section 2.9.2 of this Charter;
(x) The Manager of Human Services, as described in section 2.10.2 of this Charter;
(xi) The Manager of Aviation, as described in section 2.11.2 of this Charter;
(xii) The Manager of the Department of Public Health and Environment, as described in section 2.12.2 of this Charter;
(xiii) The Manager of Community Planning and Development, as described in section 2.13.2 of this Charter; and,
(xiv) The City Attorney, as described in section 6.1.1 of this Charter.

(E) In consenting to the appointment of the officers listed in subsection (D) of this section, City Council must take action on the nomination within thirty days from the time the resolution is filed for action by City Council. If City Council fails to take action on the nomination during this period, the person nominated is appointed as though City Council consented. If City Council, by a majority vote and within the prescribed time period, refuses to consent to a nomination, the Mayor shall nominate another person for the office, who shall be subject to City Council consent in accordance with this section.

(F) Any incumbent officer listed in subsection (D) serving at the time a new Mayor is sworn into the Office of Mayor shall be subject to the consent of City Council.

§ 2.3.2 - Manager of Transportation and Infrastructure.
The Manager of Transportation and Infrastructure (hereinafter called the “Manager”) shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department and shall devote full time to the duties of the office. The Manager shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor. The Manager shall be a member of the Mayor’s cabinet and shall be a member of the Board of Equalization.

§ 2.4.2 - Manager of Parks and Recreation.
The Manager of Parks and Recreation (hereinafter called the “Manager”) shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department, shall devote full time to the duties of the office, shall be a member of the Mayor’s Cabinet, shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.
§ 2.5.2 - Manager of Finance.

The Manager of Finance, acting as the chief financial officer of the City and County, shall be in full charge and control of the department, and shall devote full time to the duties of the office. The Manager of Finance shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.

§ 2.6.2 - Manager of Safety.

The Manager of Safety shall be the officer in full charge of said department, subject to the supervision and control of the Mayor, shall devote full time to the duties of the office, and may appoint a Deputy Manager of Safety, who shall in addition to any other duties assigned perform such functions and exercise such powers of the Manager as the Manager may specifically assign to such Deputy. The Manager of Safety shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.

§ 2.6.4 - Sheriff Department.

The Sheriff Department shall be composed of the Sheriff, who shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor; Deputy Sheriff Division Chiefs and Deputy Sheriff Majors, all of whom shall be appointed by the Sheriff with the approval of the Manager of Safety; and Deputy Sheriffs and other employees, as may be necessary to perform the duties of the department, all of whom shall be appointed by the Manager of Safety pursuant to Career Service requirements. The salary, benefits and other compensation of the Sheriff, Deputy Sheriff Division Chiefs, and Deputy Sheriff Majors shall be established by ordinance. The Sheriff shall, subject to the supervision of the Manager of Safety, have full charge and custody of the jails of the city and county and the prisoners in the jails, transport prisoners, and execute writs and attend the several courts of record held in the city and county. In addition thereto, the Sheriff and the Sheriff Department shall exercise and perform the powers and duties now required or that may hereafter be required by the Constitution or the general laws of the state to be performed by the county sheriff, to the extent any such powers or duties are approved by the Manager of Safety. The Manager of Safety shall be deemed the appointing authority pursuant to Career Service requirements for purposes of hiring, discipline and termination of Deputy Sheriffs and other employees within the Sheriff Department.

§ 2.6.5 - Police Department.

(A) Who constitutes. The Police Department shall be composed of the Chief of Police, who shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor, and such subordinate police officers appointed pursuant to Civil Service requirements and employees appointed pursuant to Career Service requirements, as may be necessary to preserve the peace, protect persons and property, and enforce laws and ordinances.

(B) Duties. It shall be the duty of the police force to suppress all riots, disturbances and breaches of the peace and apprehend any and all persons in the act of committing any offense against the laws of the State or of the ordinances, and forthwith bring such persons before the proper court or other competent authority for examination, and at all times diligently and faithfully enforce all such laws, ordinances and regulations for the preservation of good order and the public welfare as the Council may enact, and upon due and reasonable suspicion arrest any person or persons who may be guilty of a breach of any of the ordinances or of any crime against the State or the United States.

§ 2.6.6 - Fire Department.

The Fire Department shall be composed of the Chief of the Fire Department, who shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and such other subordinates appointed pursuant to Civil Service
requirements and employees appointed pursuant to Career Service requirements, as may be necessary to protect the City and County against fire and to provide other emergency services as designated by the Manager of Safety.

§ 2.7.2 - Director of Excise and Licenses.

The Director of Excise and Licenses shall be in full charge and control of the Department, shall devote full time to the duties of the office, shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.

§ 2.9.2 - Manager of General Services.

The Manager of General Services (hereinafter called the “Manager”) shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department and shall devote full time to the duties of the office. The Manager shall be a member of the Mayor’s Cabinet, shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.

§ 2.10.2 - Manager of Human Services.

The Manager of Human Services shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department, shall devote full time to the duties of the office, shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor, and shall hold office at the pleasure of the Mayor.

§ 2.11.2 - Manager of Aviation.

The Manager of Aviation, hereinafter called the “Manager,” shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department and shall devote full and entire time to the duties of the Office of Manager. The Manager shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor and shall hold that office at the pleasure of the Mayor and shall be a member of the Mayor’s cabinet.

§ 2.12.2 - Manager of Department of Public Health and Environment; appointment, powers and duties.

The Manager of Public Health and Environment shall administer the functions of the department, devoting the Manager’s entire time to the duties of the office. The Manager shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor with the advice of the Board but shall be subject to dismissal by the Mayor without the consent of the Board.

A) Coroner. The Manager shall appoint a coroner with the advice of the Board of Public Health and Environment to perform the duties required by law of a County coroner. The coroner may not be dismissed by the Manager without the consent of the Board.

B) Budget. The annual budget for the Department of Public Health and Environment shall be prepared by the Manager in consultation with the Board and shall be transmitted by the Manager to the Mayor.

C) Authority to enter dwellings and structures. Upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, a warrant may be issued by any Denver County Court Judge authorizing the Manager or his or her designee to enter any dwelling for public health reasons that do not constitute an emergency. The Manager may if the public health is endangered by environmental or other hazards constituting an emergency enter dwellings and other structures in accordance with the law in such case provided.

D) Contracts with Denver Health and Hospital Authority. The Manager may through intergovernmental agreement contract with the Denver Health and Hospital Authority created by and operating pursuant to Article 29, title 25, of the Colorado Revised Statutes for health and medical services under such terms and conditions as the City may by ordinance or resolution of the Council approve.

§ 2.13.2 - Manager of Community Planning and Development—Appointment.

The Manager of Community Planning and Development shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department and shall devote full time to the duties of the Office of Manager. The
Manager shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor, shall hold that Office at the pleasure of the Mayor and shall be a member of the Mayor's cabinet.

§ 6.1.1 - Attorney of the City and County of Denver.

The Attorney of the City and County of Denver shall be the officer in full charge and control of the Department of Law. The City Attorney shall be an attorney-at-law admitted to practice in the State of Colorado and shall have a minimum of five years' experience in the active practice of law. The City Attorney shall be nominated and, by and with the consent of City Council, appointed by the Mayor. The City Attorney shall be the appointing authority for all employees of the Department of Law.

### Council Meetings
**Ballot Measure 2F**

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

**Shall Article III, Part 3, Of The Charter Of The City And County Of Denver Be Updated To Remove Outdated Language And Allow For Modernization Of The Conduct Of City Business?**

**Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2F**

**Overview:**
Referred measure 2F is meant to remove outdated language and allow for modernization of the conduct of city business. Due to the scope of the initiative, the City and County of Denver does not assume this modernization language will incur additional costs to the city budget.

**Assumptions**
The fiscal note assumes the City Council will leverage the time of existing budgeted staff and resources. Special meetings are currently authorized under the Charter.

**Departmental Impacts**

**City Council**

Council will continue to meet at a regularly scheduled time in a manner prescribed by city laws using the funds appropriated annually through the city budget.

**Written Comments**

**FOR Ballot Measure 2F**

The Denver Charter was first adopted in 1904 and saw its first significant amendment in 1916. Many provisions in the current Charter have not been updated since these earliest versions and Denver has made an ongoing effort to modernize the Charter where appropriate, and where the Charter is overly prescriptive.

During the COVID-19 emergency, it became clear that some of the language in the Denver Charter could potentially restrict Council’s ability to do business during times of emergency. This proposal would remove that prescriptive language from the Charter, providing Council more flexibility to modernize the conduct of public business, while still respecting and maintaining all of the rights of the public to participate in Council meetings. City Council has proposed to move a companion ordinance with this referred measure that would simply move the current language from the Charter.
and put it into ordinance. By doing this, the relevant law remains exactly the same. The only legal change that results from this Charter amendment is that it creates the ability for City Council to make a change to the ordinance at some point in the future, without having to go to another vote of the people to do so.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2F
No comments were filed by the deadline.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the properly qualified and registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election to be conducted at the same time and in conjunction with the coordinated election to be held in the City and County of Denver on November 3, 2020, a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and County of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon certification to and publication by the designated election official, the 2002 Charter of the City and County of Denver is amended by deleting the language as follows:

§ 3.3.2 – Council meetings. All City Council meetings to conduct public business shall be held at a regularly scheduled time, shall be open to the public, except that council may recess for executive sessions, and shall be held in the manner prescribed by city laws. Special meetings The Council shall meet in the Council chambers each Monday in regular session except as otherwise may be provided by ordinance, and at such other times as it may be called together by the Mayor or any three members upon twenty-four hours written notice; shall sit with open doors; make rules governing its procedure; keep a public record of all its proceedings, in which every vote shall be entered by roll call.

Expand Council Budgeting Authority Ballot Measure 2G

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to give the city council authority to initiate a supplemental appropriation or transfer, following consultation with the Manager of Finance?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2G

Methodology: This charter amendment would not raise taxes. It would permit City Council to propose changes in how city funds already allocated in the current year’s city budget will be used, or to propose how to use any new, unexpected funds that were not accounted for in the budget because they came into the city after the annual budget was adopted (such as after passage of a new voter-approved tax). The Mayor already has the power to initiate such changes. Expanding authority for who can initiate supplemental appropriations to accept new funds or transfers of funds between budget priorities does...
not have any impact on the total actual funding the city collects from taxes, fees or other sources.

Financial Impact:
While this charter amendment could impact how funds are spent within city budgets depending on which proposals are adopted, there is estimated to be no net financial impact to the City from the proposed City Council charter change allowing Council to initiate supplemental appropriations or transfers.

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2G

Approval of this charter amendment would not raise taxes. It would improve checks and balances on city spending and allow the Denver City Council to be more accountable and responsive to taxpayers when the city is faced with unanticipated needs. It does so by authorizing the Council to propose mid-year changes to the city’s budget in the same way the Mayor is already allowed to propose such changes. Any changes to the budget would be transparent, subject to public notice on the council agenda, and require approval by a majority of the City Council, subject to a mayoral veto that could only be overridden by a super-majority of Council (nine of thirteen votes). Proposals would have to be consistent with any use restrictions on the original funds, compliant with city fiscal rules such as requirements to maintain a 15% reserve in good times and restrictions on how those reserves can be used during economic downturns, and under no circumstances could a proposed budget change create a deficit. The city budget must remain balanced in spite of any changes in how funds may be spent, regardless of who proposes the change, the Mayor or the City Council. Under this charter change, City Council could propose a spending change to address the city’s needs only after consulting with Denver’s Manager of Finance regarding the performance of the annual budget and any unanticipated consequences. The proposed charter change is very similar to Council’s current authority to initiate amendments once a year to the Mayor’s proposed city budget, before it is adopted each fall for the upcoming calendar year. The city budget and an ordinance authorizing the spending outlined in the budget are used to estimate how much money the city is expected to receive from taxes, fees and other sources for the upcoming calendar year and to allocate how much funding goes to each city service. Once the new year begins, actual revenues may vary from estimates and unexpected circumstances or needs may arise. On average in recent years, Denver’s Mayor has proposed more than twenty adjustments to the current year’s budget to respond to these changing circumstances in real time, but Council is not able to propose similar changes to the current year’s spending. This charter change would allow City Council to play a more proactive role in addressing pressing city needs that might not have been known or possible to address during the prior budget process, rather than having to wait up to a year for the next budget cycle to initiate any spending changes. And because any council-initiated budget change proposals must receive majority approval from the City Council, or supermajority in the case of a veto, this proposal comes with the same transparency and democratic checks and balances as other City Council budget and legislative decisions outlined in the Charter.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2G

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo
voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
2G con statement council budgeting authority

- Having council members introduce supplemental appropriations or transfers at any time for their pet projects could be highly disruptive to funding of basic services
- This is a solution in search of a problem. During budget deliberations, council members can and do initiate financial changes through a cooperative procedure. In addition, formal Council amendments are voted on in an open council session prior to the budget’s adoption.
- What issue led to this proposal at this time? Outside the annual budget cycle, certain council members wanted the city to establish and appropriate money for an eviction legal defense fund. The administration needed time to research and negotiate. It is this type of legitimate pushback from the administration that council members are trying to quickly circumvent.
- During the year, the mayor and budget director customarily work with council concerning the use of settlement dollars and unexpected revenues such as Covid-19 federal monies. Any larger contract for the use of these monies must receive council approval under current law.

**Text of Measure**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

**Section 1.** There is hereby submitted to the registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election held in conjunction with the coordinated election on November 3, 2020, a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and County of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon publication and filing with the Secretary of State in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado, the following sections of the Charter of the City and County of Denver are amended to read as follows:

§ 7.3.2 – Recommendation by Mayor and cabinet to transfer funds; action by Council; Council initiated supplemental appropriation or transfer.

The Mayor and the cabinet may recommend an ordinance to the City Council transferring funds from one administrative department or office to another, when in their judgment the public service requires it, and the City Council shall act thereon in the same manner as provided in the Charter for the Mayor’s annual appropriation ordinance.

During the fiscal year, the City Council, following consultation with the Manager of Finance, may authorize an ordinance appropriating new revenue or revenue in excess of those estimated in the budget, or may authorize a transfer of an unencumbered balance in whole or in part from a specified non-enterprise fund, provided the supplemental appropriation or transfer does not conflict with any uses for which such revenue specifically accrued. In no case may such supplemental appropriation cause total estimated expenditures, including an accrued deficit, to exceed total estimated revenues, including an unappropriated surplus. The City Council shall act on such supplemental appropriation or transfer in the same manner as provided in Section 3.3.5 of the Charter.

**Municipal Broadband**

**Ballot Measure 2H**

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in
Shall the City and County of Denver, without increasing taxes by this measure, reestablish the city’s right to provide all services restricted since 2005 by the Colorado General Assembly with their passage of Senate Bill 05-152, including the authority but not obligation to provide high-speed Internet (advanced services), telecommunication services, and cable television services, including any new and improved high bandwidth services based on future technologies, to residents, businesses, schools, libraries, non-profit entities and other users of such services either directly or indirectly with public or private sector partners, as expressly permitted by Article 27, Title 29 of the Colorado Revised Statutes?

**Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2H**

**Methodology:**
Referred measure 2H is meant to provide the authority but not obligation to provide high-speed Internet (advanced services), telecommunication services, and cable television services, including any new and improved high bandwidth services based on future technologies, to residents, businesses, schools, libraries, non-profit entities and other users of such services either directly or indirectly with public or private sector partners. Due to the scope of the initiative, the Department of Finance does not assume this measure will result in additional costs to the city budget.

**Assumptions**
The language of the ordinance is permissible. Opting out of SB-152 does not carry a fiscal impact, but future actions, such as action to provide widespread municipal broadband directly to constituents, could result in substantial infrastructure costs.

**Departmental Impacts**
No immediate fiscal impact was identified by any agency.

**Written Comments**

**FOR Ballot Measure 2H**

Where once brick and mortar libraries were the repository of the information students, businesses and individuals sought in the course of their daily pursuits, today the internet is the gateway to knowledge. With a proper connection to the digital world, and a few clicks on a phone, tablet or computer, men, women and children can quickly access an endless universe of data that once required a dogged search through card catalogues, library stacks and endless volumes in hopes of uncovering a single missing piece of data needed for a recipe, dissertation or business plan. But while the doors of our country’s libraries have always been free, and open equally to all regardless of station in life, access to the internet is not so egalitarian. Connecting to the internet comes with a financial cost. And the higher connection speeds that facilitate needed research can come with a yet higher cost. Those not sufficiently connected are at a competitive disadvantage in their education and work lives.

The U.S. Census’s American Community Survey indicates that thousands of Denver homes are still without broadband connectivity, mostly affecting traditionally underserved communities. Denver Public Schools has struggled to connect many students with on-line learning, and numerous health providers, including Mental Health Center of Denver, have had challenges connecting with clients for tel-e-health visits.

Bridging the digital divide between haves and have nots is impeded by Colorado Senate Bill 05-152, which prevents municipalities from considering all
options to building that bridge. SB 152 requires that an election be held before a local government may “engage or offer to engage in providing” various telecommunication services on its own, thus stifling discussion of that option.

While much of Denver is well-served by a roster of commercial broadband providers, the remaining gaps must be filled. We do not deny some families library access and we should not deny some families internet access. It is a moral imperative. If the commercial providers cannot find a way to honor that imperative, then we must be free as a city, as a last resort, to step into the gap ourselves if that is what is required.

The vast majority of the 100+ Colorado cities and dozens of counties who have passed SB 152 questions have not been interested in hooking up homes and businesses and providing actual broadband services themselves but have sought more flexibility in negotiating with existing commercial relationships.

It is critical to understand that seeking an exemption from SB-152 does not obligate any public dollars, and does not infer city construction of broadband infrastructure. It merely enables a more complete discussion of options to solving the critical problems that disconnectedness may cause.

CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election held in conjunction with the coordinated election on November 3, 2020, the following question:

Shall the City and County of Denver, without increasing taxes by this measure, reestablish the city’s right to provide all services restricted since 2005 by the Colorado General Assembly with their passage of Senate Bill 05-152, including the authority but not obligation to provide high-speed Internet (advanced services), telecommunication services, and cable television services, including any new and improved high bandwidth services based on future technologies, to residents, businesses, schools, libraries, non-profit entities and other users of such services either directly or indirectly with public or private sector partners, as expressly permitted by Article 27, Title 29 of the Colorado Revised Statutes?

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2H

No comments were filed by the deadline.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to clarify that the Clerk and Recorder may appoint four at-will employees in addition to the Deputy, all of whom shall be
Fiscal Information on Referred Question 2I

Methodology:
Referred measure 2I is meant to clarify that the Clerk and Recorder may appoint five at-will employees in addition to the Deputy, all of whom shall be exempt from the career service personnel system. Due to the scope of the initiative, the City and County of Denver does not assume these positions will incur additional costs to the city budget.

Assumptions
The ballot measure is intended to clarify the current number of positions that the clerk is able to appoint. The positions are all currently budgeted and therefore there will not be an increase in the positions or budget of the Clerk and Recorder.

Departmental Impacts
Clerk and Recorder’s Office
The measure would clarify the staffing structure in the Clerk and Recorders Office.

Summary of Written Comments
AGAINST Ballot Measure 2I

Vote against this deceitfully omissive ballot question that disguises the hidden consequence of a vote to approve. Though it is not clearly stated, a vote for the ballot question will strike from Denver city charter the duty of the Clerk and Recorder to employ a Director of Elections - a position that voters have already TWICE affirmed is an essential role that must be accounted for by being purposefully called out and included in the governing document of the city. This deceptively written ballot question is exactly why voter confidence is so low with politicians. After the voting chaos of 2006, Denver held a special election where voters approved a change to city law to make an elected Clerk and Recorder answerable to voters responsible for overseeing elections, including appointing a Director of Elections.

written comments
FOR Ballot Measure 2I

This amendment clarifies the number of employees that the Clerk and Recorder may appoint in his office. The last amendment on this topic had a conflicting legislative history, which led to differing interpretations on the Charter's language. This amendment will make the legislative intent explicitly clear.

Additionally, this amendment will ensure that the office and its employees are accountable to the Clerk. When the Clerk took office last year, he inherited numerous high-level employees that reported directly to him, but some of these employees were appointed while others were career service. The Clerk wants high-level positions to be appointed instead of career service because he is ultimately responsible to the voters for how the office runs, so he wants high-level employees to be responsible to him. If the voters pass this amendment, the Clerk will have the ability to ensure that the Office’s leadership is working together for a successful and responsible office.

Lastly, this will be a budget-neutral charter amendment because the Clerk will use these appointments on positions that already exist in the City's budget.

We encourage voters to vote “yes” on this measure.
In 2018 voters approved, in a question that plainly asked to do so, granting more appointee positions to the Clerk and Recorder AND to change the wording of “appoint” to “employ” to the critical role of Director of Elections. Once again confirming by voter choice the essential nature of that position.

Now in 2020, under the guise of and poor economic timing of asking for even more unnamed appointee positions, this ballot question omits asking the voters to strike “employ a Director of Elections” from charter, an action that will happen with a vote approving the ballot question that is only revealed by examining the full bill. Denver has a charter to outline what is essential in the running of our city government. What is more essential to democracy than the elections process? Why are previous voter decisions, made in a fair democratic process, being disregarded and eliminated from city rule under the deceptive guise of half of a question?

Fellow voters, this critical position of Director of Elections has been our safeguard that the voting chaos of 2006 would never happen again! And the voters chose wisely because for the past 13 years it never has. Since that time, Denver voters have enjoyed the most accessible, accurate and accountable voting experience. Don’t let this misleading question and action take away that progress. Shame on any city officers responsible for writing and signing off on this attempt to take previous voters’ choices away by asking a deliberately incomplete question.

The misrepresentative nature of this ballot question prevents voters from asking important questions: Why are they being asked during an economic and unemployment crisis to approve the city fund even more unspecified appointee positions? Why is the existing career service personnel system not sufficient for any additional positions that are truly needed? And why should an essential position, one that has played a key role in transforming Denver into one of the best cities in the nation to vote, be stricken from Denver’s charter promise to its citizens?

Vote NO on this poorly timed and misleading ballot question deceptively removing the elections protection we have previously chosen twice to have and to keep.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. There is hereby submitted to the properly qualified and registered electors of the City and County of Denver for their approval or rejection at a special municipal election to be conducted at the same time and in conjunction with the general election to be held in the City and County of Denver on November 3, 2020, a proposed amendment to the Charter of the City and County of Denver, as follows:

Effective upon publication and filing with the Secretary of State pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Colorado, subsection (D) of section 8.1.2 and paragraph (xiv) of subsection (E) of section 9.1.1 of the 2002 Charter of the City and County of Denver shall be and are hereby amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

§ 8.1.2 - Powers and duties of Clerk and Recorder.

“(D) Appointment and employment of deputies and assistants.

(1) The Clerk and Recorder shall appoint a Deputy, to serve at the pleasure of the Clerk and Recorder, who shall have power to perform the duties of the Clerk. The Clerk and Recorder may also employ such other assistants within his or her appropriation as are now or hereafter may be authorized by ordinance.

(2) The Clerk and Recorder shall employ a Director
of Elections to assist the Clerk and Recorder in exercising the powers and duties set forth in Parts 2 and 3 of this Article VIII.

(32) The Clerk and Recorder may appoint two additional four persons, in addition to the Deputy, to serve at the pleasure of the Clerk and Recorder, who shall exercise such powers of the Clerk as the Clerk may specifically assign to such appointees.

(43) The Clerk and Recorder shall, without additional compensation, perform all the acts and duties now required or hereafter required by the general laws of this state to be exercised or performed by the public trustee for the City and County of Denver, or may employ a deputy to perform such acts and duties.”

§ 9.1.1 - Career Service personnel system.

“(xiv) the Deputy Clerk and Recorder and no more than two four other employees in positions specifically designated or created by the Clerk and Recorder, appointed to serve at the pleasure of the Clerk and Recorder. Any employee of the Denver Election Commission as of July 16, 2007 and formerly excepted from the Career Service pursuant to this section shall retain his or her position as an employee of the Clerk and Recorder if the employee qualifies to retain the position in accordance with the rules of the Career Service Board.”

Pit Bull
Ballot Measure 2J

The ballot title below was drafted by the professional legal staff for the Denver City Council for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The text of the measure that will appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code below was referred to the voters by the Denver City Council.

Shall the voters for the City and County of Denver adopt an ordinance authorizing the city to grant a provisional permit to owners or keepers of a pit bull, provided the owner microchips the animal and complies with additional requirements set by Denver Animal Protection?

Fiscal Information on Ballot Measure 2J

Methodology:
Referred measure 2J is meant to grant a provisional permit to owners or keepers of a pit bull, provided the owner microchips the animal and complies with additional requirements set by Denver Animal Protection. Due to the scope of the initiative, the City and County of Denver assumes the initiative will result in both additional revenues and additional costs to the city budget.

Assumptions
The city anticipates some increased workload due to additional requests for breed assessments required as a condition of the new permit; additional calls to Denver Animal Protection regarding pit bulls over current levels while people become familiar with the new law; additional license charges for animal licensure; increased workload due to an increase in permit applications; and increased fee revenues as a result of more animals being introduced into Denver through permit, licensing, and breed evaluation fees.

Departmental Impacts
Denver Department of Public Health and Environment Animal Protection

Expenses
### Expense Description

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Expense</th>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Additional Animal Protection Officer</td>
<td>$107,000</td>
<td>Manage increased evaluations and calls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operations Assistant</td>
<td>$66,600</td>
<td>Perform pet evaluations, manage expanded administrative transactions and requirements, manage increased hearings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniforms/Computers/Equipment</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
<td>Two computers, radio, uniforms</td>
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<tr>
<td>Community Engagement</td>
<td>$15,000</td>
<td>Inform and educate public of changes in law</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pet Data Licensing Vendor</td>
<td>$4.25/license annual</td>
<td>Average per license cost</td>
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### Revenues

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<td>Annual special permit cost</td>
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<tr>
<td>Annual License</td>
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<td>Annual animal license requirement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walk-in Evaluations</td>
<td>$25/dog</td>
<td>Required assessment to determine breed</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Written Comments

**FOR Ballot Measure 2J**

Breed-specific bans do not work, they don’t make Denver safer and they don’t encourage responsible dog ownership. 30 years ago Denver implemented a ban on all dogs that look like pit bulls and it has cost the City of Denver more than $5.8 million to enforce. There are better uses for those millions of dollars.

Denver is the largest city in America to have a breed-specific ban. A dog’s breed is not an indicator of whether or not a dog will bite, responsible ownership is. There are no controlled studies that show pit bulls are any more dangerous than any other breed. The American Veterinary Medical Association has done the definitive study on dog bite risk and comes to the conclusion, “owners of pit bull-type dogs deal with a strong breed stigma, however controlled studies have not identified this breed group as disproportionately dangerous.” They also found that, “breed-specific bans do not reduce the rate or severity of bite injuries.” Pit bull bans and any laws specific to breed are opposed by, among other groups, the Humane Society of the United States, the American Veterinary Medicine Association, the ASPCA, and the American Bar Association.

2J will end the ban on pit bulls in Denver and put into place a breed-restricted permit which will require dogs looking like pit bulls to be microchipped and neutered or spayed. Owners will be required to notify animal control if their dog escapes or bites anyone and only two permitted dogs will be allowed in a home. These measures will encourage responsible dog ownership and allow Denverites to stay safe while still allowing responsible dog owners to enjoy their best friends within our city limits.
LocaL Ballot QuesTion nOtiCe

Visit www.DenverLovesDogs.org to learn more about 2J and ending the ban on pit bulls in Denver and encouraging responsible dog ownership.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2J

- Denver’s pit bull ban was enacted in 1989 after 20 people had been attacked by pit bulls in the previous five years. One was a 3-year old who was fatally attacked in 1986.
- The ban, considered a safety issue, was upheld by the Colorado Supreme Court in 1991.
- The Denver City Council narrowly voted to repeal the ban earlier this year. Mayor Hancock successfully vetoed the attempt. Previous city councils considered and rejected a repeal.
- Ironically, according to news media in Illinois, Florida, and California, the day Denver City Council tried to repeal the ban, a 25 year old Plainfield, Illinois, man died from a pit bull attack that also injured three other people. A five year old boy died in California after the family’s pit bull attacked him. In Florida, a 64 year old woman and her small dog were mauled in her own home when pit bulls forced their way through a partially open sliding door.
- The pit bull ban has worked in Denver. No pit bull fatalities have been reported since the ban’s enactment.
- At least four other Colorado cities have similar pit bull bans – Aurora, Commerce City, Lone Tree, and Louisville. There may be others.
- The ordinance that banned pit bulls continues to meet its safety goal. We do not want to end a 30 year success story.

Text of Measure

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That section 8-67, D.R.M.C. shall be amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined, to read as follows:

Sec. 8-67. – Pit bulls prohibited without breed-restricted permit.
(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to own or keep any pit bull within the city without first obtaining a breed-restricted permit satisfying the conditions set forth in this section. “Breed-restricted permit” under this section shall mean a permit granted by animal protection to owners or keepers of a pit bull in accordance with certain conditions.
(b) Exceptions. The prohibition in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply in the following enumerated circumstances. Exceptions. The prohibition in subsection (a) of this section shall not apply in the following enumerated circumstances. Failure by the owner to comply and remain in compliance with all of the terms of any applicable exception shall subject the pit bull to immediate impoundment and disposal pursuant to subsection (d) of this section, and shall operate to prevent the owner from asserting such exception as a defense in any prosecution under subsection (a).
(1) The owner of a pit bull, who has applied for and received a dog license for such pit bull at the Denver Animal Shelter on or before the date of publication of the ordinance enacting this section [August 7, 1989], who has applied for and received a pit bull license in accordance with subsection (c) of this section, and who maintains the pit bull at all times in compliance with the pit bull license requirements of subsection (c) of this section and all other applicable requirements of this chapter, may keep a pit bull within the city.
(21) Denver Animal Protection, the Denver Police Department, or a licensed Colorado veterinarian may temporarily harbor, and transport, adopt, and/or disposition any pit bull for purposes of enforcing the provisions of this chapter under the conditions set forth in this section.

(32) Any humane society operating an animal shelter which is registered and licensed by the city may temporarily hold any pit bull that it has received or otherwise recovered, but only for so long as it takes to contact Denver Animal Protection and either turn the pit bull over to Denver Animal Protection employees or receive permission to destroy or have destroyed the pit bull pursuant to the provisions of subsection (d): harbor and disposition any animal that it has determined to be a pit bull breed. Any pit bull breed assessment not done by Denver animal protection is non-binding and it is the responsibility of any new owner of an adopted animal to contact Denver animal protection and follow the breed-restricted licensing process. Adopters intending to own or keep any such animals within Denver must comply with all requirements set forth in this section.

(4) A person may temporarily transport into and hold in the city a pit bull only for the purpose of showing such pit bull in a place of public exhibition, contest or show sponsored by a dog club association or similar organization. However, the sponsor of the exhibition, contest, or show must receive written permission from the executive director, must obtain any other permits or licenses required by city ordinance, and must provide protective measures adequate to prevent pit bulls from escaping or injuring the public. The person who transports and holds a pit bull for showing shall, at all times when the pit bull is being transported within the city to and from the place of exhibition, contest, or show, keep the pit bull confined in a secure temporary enclosure as defined in section 8-2(x).

(5) Except as provided in subdivision (b)(4), above, the owner of a pit bull may temporarily transport through the city a pit bull only if such owner has obtained a valid transport permit from the executive director. Upon request, the executive director shall issue such permits only upon a showing by the owner that the pit bull is being transported either from a point outside the city to a destination outside the city, or from a point outside the city to an airport, train station or bus station within the city. In the latter case, such owner must provide evidence of an intent to send or take the pit bull outside of the city by producing an airline, train or bus ticket, or other equivalent document, showing a departure time within six (6) hours of the time of the transport. All times when the pit bull is being transported within the city, it must be kept confined in a secure temporary enclosure as defined in section 8-2(x) of this section. In all cases before issuing a transport permit, the executive director must find that the transport would not constitute an unnecessary or undue danger to the public health, welfare or safety, and shall not issue the permit where the executive director cannot so find. All transport permits issued shall only be valid for the time, date and pit bull specified on the permit, and shall not be construed to permit any activity otherwise prohibited.

(c) The owner of any pit bull which had been licensed pursuant to section 8-46 on or before the date of publication of the ordinance enacting this section (Ordinance No. 404, Series of 1989) shall be allowed to keep such pit bull within the city upon compliance with the terms of the exception contained in subdivision (b)(1) of this section only if the owner applies for and receives an annual pit bull license on or before January 1, 1990. As a condition of issuance of a pit bull license, the owner shall at the time of application comply with or otherwise provide sufficient evidence that the owner is in compliance with all of the following regulations:

(1) The owner of the pit bull shall provide proof of rabies vaccination and shall pay the annual pit bull license fee of fifty dollars ($50.00).

(2) The owner of the pit bull shall keep current
the license for such pit bull through annual renewal. Such license is not transferable and shall be renewable only by the holder of the license or by a member of the immediate family of such licensee. A pit bull license tag will be issued to the owner at the time of issuance of the license. Such license tag shall be attached to the pit bull by means of a collar or harness and shall not be attached to any pit bull other than the pit bull for which the license was issued. If the pit bull tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate tag may be issued upon the payment of a two-dollar ($2.00) fee.

(2) The owner must be at least twenty-one (21) years of age as of January 1, 1990.

(4) The owner shall present to the executive director proof that the owner has procured liability insurance in the amount of at least one hundred thousand dollars ($100,000.00), covering any damage or injury which may be caused by a pit bull during the twelve-month period covered by the pit bull license. The policy shall contain a provision requiring the insurance company to provide written notice to the executive director not less than fifteen (15) days prior to any cancellation, termination, or expiration of the policy.

(5) The owner shall, at the owner’s own expense, have the pit bull spayed or neutered and shall present to the executive director documentary proof from a licensed veterinarian that this sterilization has been performed.

(6) The owner shall bring the pit bull to the Denver Animal Shelter where a person authorized by the executive director shall cause a registration number assigned by the department to be tattooed or otherwise marked on the pit bull. The executive director shall maintain a file containing the registration numbers and names of the pit bulls and the names and addresses of the owners. The owner shall notify the executive director of any change of address.

(7) At all times when a pit bull is at the property of the owner, the owner shall keep the pit bull securely confined indoors or confined in a secure enclosure as defined in section 8-2(w). At all times when a pit bull is away from the property of the owner, the owner shall keep the pit bull either securely leashed and muzzled or in a secure temporary enclosure as that term is defined in section 8-2(s).

(8) The owner shall not sell or otherwise transfer the pit bull to any person except a member of the owner’s immediate family who will then become the owner and will be subject to all of the provisions of this section. The owner shall notify the executive director within five (5) days in the event that the pit bull is lost, stolen, dies, or has a litter. In the event of a litter, the owner must deliver the puppies to the Denver Animal Shelter for destruction or permanently remove the puppies from Denver and provide sufficient evidence of such removal by the time the puppies are weaned, but in no event shall the owner be allowed to keep in Denver a pit bull puppy born after the date of publication of Ordinance No. 404, Series 1989, that is more than eight (8) weeks old. Any pit bull puppies kept contrary to the provisions of this subdivision are subject to immediate impoundment and disposal pursuant to subsection (d) of this section.

(9) The owner shall have posted at each possible entrance to the owner’s property where the pit bull is kept a conspicuous and clearly legible pit bull sign. Such pit bull sign must be at least eight (8) inches by ten (10) inches in rectangular dimensions and shall contain only the words “PIT BULL DOG” in lettering not less than two (2) inches in height.

(d) Notwithstanding the provisions of Article VII of this chapter, the executive director is authorized to immediately impound any pit bull found in the City and County of Denver which does not fall within the exceptions listed in subsection (b), above, and the Denver Animal Shelter may house or dispose of such pit bull in such manner as the executive director may deem appropriate, except as the procedures in subsection (c), below, otherwise require.
(c) When the executive director has impounded any pit bull dog pursuant to this section, and the owner of such dog disputes the classification of such dog as a pit bull, the owner of such dog may file a written petition with the executive director for a hearing concerning such classification no later than five (5) days after impoundment. Such petition shall include the name and address, including mailing address, of the petitioner. The executive director will then issue a notice of hearing date by mailing a copy to the petitioner’s address no later than ten (10) days prior to the date of the hearing. Where no written request from the owner for a hearing is received by the executive director within five (5) days of impoundment, the pit bull shall be destroyed.

The hearing, if any, will be held before the executive director or a hearing officer designated by the executive director. Any facts which the petitioners wishes to be considered shall be submitted under oath or affirmation either in writing or orally at the hearing. The executive director or hearing officer shall make a final determination whether the dog is a pit bull as defined in section 8-2(u). Such final determination shall be considered a final order of the executive director subject to review under Rule 106(a)(4) of the state rules of civil procedure.

If the dog is found to be a pit bull, it shall be destroyed, unless the owner produces evidence deemed sufficient by the executive director that the pit bull is to be permanently taken out of Denver and the owner pays the cost of impoundment. If the dog is not not to be a pit bull, the dog shall be released to the owner. The procedures in this subsection shall not apply and the owner is not entitled to such a hearing with respect to any dog which was impounded as the immediate result of an attack or bite as defined in section 8-61. In those instances, the dog shall be handled and the procedures governed by the provisions of article VII of this chapter.

(b) Application for a breed-restricted permit to own or keep a pit bull shall include:
(1) The name and address of the owner or keeper where the pit bull will be located;
(2) The names and addresses of two (2) persons who may be contacted to take responsibility in the case of emergency;
(3) An accurate description of the pit bull and recent photograph for which the breed-restricted permit is requested;
(4) An annual fee for a breed-restricted permit or for any renewal or modification of such permit. The permit tag shall be attached to each permitted dog at all times when it is off the property of the owner or keeper by means of a collar or harness, and it shall be unlawful to place this tag on any animal other than the dog for which the breed-restricted permit was issued;
(5) Proof that the animal has had a registered microchip implanted;
(6) Proof that the animal has a current rabies vaccination pursuant to section 8-31; and,
(7) Such other information as animal protection may reasonably require.

(c) Conditions of a breed-restricted permit to own or keep a pit bull:
(1) Any owner or keeper of a pit bull shall be jointly and severally responsible with all other owners or keepers of such pit bull for compliance with the requirements of a breed-restricted permit;
(2) Any owner or keeper of any pit bull may not own or keep more than two (2) pit bulls per household or harbor more than two (2) pit bulls at any time.
(3) The owner or keeper of a pit bull shall notify animal protection in person or by telephone of any of the following occurrences within the scheduled time frames as set forth in this subsection:
   a. Within eight (8) hours after the pit bull has escaped or has otherwise ceased to be in the custody of the owner or keeper for any reason, unless the owner or keeper knows such animal to be physically secured, restrained, or confined and to be in the custody of a

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b. Within eight (8) hours after the pit bull has attacked or bitten a person or another domestic animal;
c. If the pit bull has died, or if the owner or keeper of the pit bull or the address of the pit bull has changed to a person or location outside of the city, the owner or keeper listed on the breed-restricted permit shall notify animal protection within twenty-four (24) hours of such change, including the name, address, and telephone number of the new owner or keeper. If the owner or keeper of the pit bull changes to a person or location at a different address within the city, the owner or keeper listed on the breed-restricted permit shall notify animal protection within twenty-four (24) hours of the change, including the name, address, and telephone number of the new owner, and the new owner or keeper may be permitted to modify the breed-restricted permit to reflect the new owner’s name in the discretion of animal protection, but such modification must be obtained within five (5) days of the change.

(4) Notwithstanding section 8-4(c), animal protection officers shall be permitted access at reasonable times, upon reasonable notice, and in a reasonable manner to inspect the pit bull and/or the premise where the pit bull is located for sanitary and health conditions, including, without limitation, conditions in Article VI of this Chapter.

(d) After a period of thirty-six (36) consecutive months with no violations of any provisions of Chapter 8, animal protection may remove the requirements of this section by issuing a written notice to the owner or keeper that the conditions of the breed-restricted permit period have been satisfied for the requisite period. Upon receipt of written notice, the owner or keeper is required to license their pit bull under section 8-46, D.R.M.C. and maintain compliance with all other license requirements of Division 3 of this Chapter.

(e) Violation by an owner or keeper of the conditions of the breed-restricted permit may impact the permit and may result in other criminal or administrative penalties allowed by the code.

(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed in any manner as altering any owner or keeper’s duties, responsibilities and/or liabilities under Chapter 8.

(g) Animal protection will collect, maintain, and review data and findings from inspections and violations and shall report findings and make recommendations to city council after the initial three (3) year period of the program.

Section 2. Section 24-5(a), D.R.M.C., is amended by adding the language underlined and deleting the language stricken as follows:

(a) Any person who violates any provision of chapter 8 (animals), excluding the provisions of sections 8-74 (damaging property), 8-61 (dog attack or bite), 8-62 (dangerous dogs), 8-67 (pit bulls prohibited without a breed-restricted permit), 8-131(a) (cruelty to animals prohibited), 8-133 (abandonment), and 8-134 (keeping place for fighting animals); chapter 11 (child care); chapter 17 (emergency vehicles); article X (body art) of chapter 24 (health and sanitation); chapter 26 (boarding homes, personal care boarding homes, and nongovernmental residential facilities for the treatment or supervision of offenders); article II of chapter 27 (housing code); chapter 33 (lodging); chapter 35 (mobile homes and trailers); chapter 36 (noise control); article I of chapter 37 (health nuisances); chapter 51 (pools); or any retail store who violates article IX of chapter 48 (disposable bags), is also subject to a civil penalty of not more than nine hundred ninety-nine dollars ($999.00) per violation.

This is the end of the Local Ballot Question Notice Booklet.
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State Offices - Oficinas estatales

County Court Judge - Denver

Shall Judge Beth Ann Faragher of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Isabel Pauillac of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Nicole M. Rodarte of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Andrea L. Rudolph of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Barry A. Schwartz of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Frances E. Simonet of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

Shall Judge Theresa Spanh of the Denver County Court be retained in office?

Yes/No

State of Colorado Ballot Questions - Preguntas sobre bolitas del Estado de Colorado

Amendment C (CONSTITUTIONAL)

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the conduct of charitable gaming activities, and, in connection therewith, allowing bingo rooms located on the premises of managers and operators of gaming and reducing the required period of a charitable organization’s continuous existence before obtaining a charitable gaming license?

Yes/No

Amendment 76 (CONSTITUTIONAL)

Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution requiring that no individual must be a United States citizen to have a license to vote at an election?

Yes/No

Amendment 77 (STATUTORY)

Shall state taxes be increased by $24,000,000 annually by imposing a tax on nicotine liquids used in e-cigarettes and other vapor products that equal to the total state tax on cigarette products if fully phased in, incrementally increasing the tobacco products tax by up to 22% of the manufacturer’s list price, incrementally increasing the cigarette tax by up to 9 cents per cigarette, expanding the existing cigarette and tobacco products tax to apply to consumers from outside of the state, establishing a minimum tax for moist snuff, tobacco products, cigar products, and nicotine products, and applies for future cigarette tax increases, and not using the tax revenue primarily for public school tuition and to provide tax revenue that has been lost as a result of the [[outbreak]] impacts related to COVID-19 and then for programs that reduce tobacco and nicotine products, enhance the Volunteer, Prevent, Preschool program and make it more available for free, and maintain the funding for programs that currently receive revenue from tobacco taxes, with the state keeping and spending all of the new tax revenue as a voter-approved revenue source?

Yes/No

Province 113 (STATUTORY)

Shall the following act of the General Assembly be approved: An Act concerning adoption of an agreement among the states to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote, being Senate Bill 19, No. 19-042?

Yes/No

Proposition 113 (STATUTORY)

Shall the following act of the General Assembly be approved: An Act concerning adoption of an agreement among the states to elect the President of the United States by national popular vote, being Senate Bill 19, No. 19-042?

Yes/No

Vote All Cards & All Sides
Votar Todas las Tarjetas y Todos los Lados
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State of Colorado Ballot Questions
Preguntas sobre boletas del Estado de Colorado

Proposition 114 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the restoration of gray wolves through their reintroduction on designated lands in Colorado located west of the continental divide, and, in connection therewith, requiring the Colorado parks and wildlife commission, after holding statewide hearings and using scientific data, to implement a plan to restore and manage gray wolves, prohibiting the commission from imposing any land, water, or resource use restrictions on private landowners to further the plan; and requiring the commission to fairly compensate owners for losses of livestock caused by gray wolves?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 115 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning prohibiting an abortion when the probable gestational age of the fetus is at least twenty-two weeks, and, in connection therewith, making it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of up to $500 to attempt to perform a prohibited abortion, except when the abortion is immediately required to save the life of the pregnant woman or when physically threatened, but not solely by a psychological or emotional condition; defining terms related to the measures; requiring a “notice of gestational age” and “abortion”; and, excepting from the definition of “abortion” medical procedures relating to miscarriage or ectopic pregnancy, specifying that a woman may have an abortion performed by a provider in a hospital whose medical board has suspended for at least three years the license of a licensee who was found to have performed an abortion prohibited by this measure?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 116 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes requiring state income tax returns of tax-exempt organizations and corporations which receive or spend $100 million or more in the state to be audited by the state auditor or a qualified public accountant?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 117 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes requiring state income tax returns of tax-exempt organizations and corporations which receive or spend $100 million or more in the state to be audited by the state auditor or a qualified public accountant, in addition to the new requirements of Proposition 116, requiring the state auditor to file an audit report within one year of the conclusion of the audit?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 118 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of a paid family and medical leave program in Colorado, and, in connection therewith, requiring paid family and medical leave for a covered employee who has a serious health condition, is caring for a family member, or is caring for a child, to be provided by a public or private employer, at a rate not to exceed $729 for 13 weeks?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 119 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning increases in the Denver minimum wage and sick paid leave in Denver, including an amendment to the Denver Minimum Wage Act of 2019, raising the minimum wage to $17.00 per hour by 2025, increasing paid sick leave to 12 days per year, and requiring employers to provide paid preparation leave for employees who provide care for family members in need of care, with the proceeds to fund workforce development programs in the city of Denver?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 120 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes requiring the state to establish a veterans’ affairs department and fund programs for veterans in the state of Colorado, including the establishment of a veterans’ benefits management system and the creation of a veterans’ benefits assistance program?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 121 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 122 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Colorado Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) and the regulation of public utilities in the state of Colorado, including the expansion of the CPUC’s jurisdiction to include the regulation of telecommunications and energy tariffs, and the establishment of a new, independent consumer protection agency within the CPUC?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 123 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of a new, independent consumer protection agency within the CPUC, with the power to investigate and remediate violations of the CPUC’s rules and regulations, and the authority to impose civil penalties on entities that violate the CPUC’s rules and regulations?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 124 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 125 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 126 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 127 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○

Proposition 128 (STATUTORY)
Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the creation of the Office of the State Auditor to conduct audits of state government agencies and programs, including the Department of Personnel and Administration, the Department of Revenue, and the Department of Education, and to review the adequacy and effectiveness of the state’s budgeting and financial management processes, including the implementation of a new budgeting system for the state?

Yes For - Sí Favor de ○
No Against - No Contra de ○
SAMPLE BALLOT

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Ballot Measure 2A


Yes For | Site Favor of ☐
No Against | No Position ☐

Ballot Measure 2B


Yes For | Site Favor of ☐
No Against | No Position ☐
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City and County of Denver Ballot Questions
Preguntas sobre boletas de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver

Ballot Measure 2C
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to give City Council the authority to procure for professional services without executive branch approval?

Medida de la boleta 2C: ¿Se deberían amendar los Estatutos de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para otorgar al ayuntamiento la autoridad para contratar servicios profesionales sin la aprobación del poder ejecutivo?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2D
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to create the Board of Transportation and Infrastructure or advise the Manager with respect to the policy and operation of the Department and shall review and comment on the proposed annual budget for the Department?

Medida de la boleta 2D: ¿Se deberían amendar los Estatutos de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para crear la Junta de Transporte e Infraestructura para asesorar al administrador con respecto a la política y operación del Departamento y debería revisarse y comentarse el presupuesto anual de la propuesta para el Departamento?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2E
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to give City Council authority to approve a supplemental appropriation or transfer, following consultation with the Manager of Finance?

Medida de la boleta 2E: ¿Se debía amendar el Estatuto de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para otorgar al ayuntamiento el poder de aprobar una asignación adicional o transferir, después de consultar con el gerente de finanzas?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2F
Shall Article III, Part 3, of the Charter of the City and County of Denver be updated to remove outdated language and allow for modernization of the conduct of city business?

Medida de la boleta 2F: ¿Debía actualizarse el Artículo III, Parte 3, de los Estatutos de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para eliminar el lenguaje obsoleto y permitir la modernización de la administración de los negocios de la ciudad?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2G
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to give the city council authority to approve a supplemental appropriation or transfer, following consultation with the Manager of Finance?

Medida de la boleta 2G: ¿Debía amendar el Estatuto de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para otorgar al ayuntamiento el poder de aprobar una asignación adicional o transferir, después de consultar con el gerente de finanzas?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2H
Shall the City and County of Denver, without increasing taxes by this measure, reestablish the city’s right to provide all services restricted since 2005 by the Colorado General Assembly with their passage of Senate Bill 46-152, including the authority but not obligation to provide high-speed internet (advanced services), telephone service, and cable television services, including any new and improved high-speed internet (advanced services); use of future technologies, such as mini-cells, businesses, schools, libraries, non-profit entities, and other users of such services, directly or indirectly with public or private sector entities, as expressly permitted by Article 27, Title 29 of the Colorado Revised Statutes?

Medida de la boleta 2H: ¿Debería la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver, sin aumentar impuestos con esta medida, restablecer el derecho de la ciudad a proporcionar todos los servicios restringidos desde 2005 por la Asamblea General de Colorado con la aprobación de la Ley del Senado 46-152, incluyendo la autoridad pero no obligación de proporcionar internet de alta velocidad (servicios avanzados), servicios de telecomunicaciones y servicios de televisión por cable; el uso de nuevas y mejoras de tecnologías de internet de alta velocidad, empresas, escuelas, bibliotecas, entidades no lucrativas, y otros usuarios de dichos servicios, directa o indirectamente con entidades del sector público o privado, como lo autoriza expresamente el Artículo 27, Título 29 de los Estatutos Revistos de Colorado?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2I
Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to clarify that the Clerk and Recorder may appoint four at-will employees in addition to the Deputy, all of whom shall be exempt from the career service personnel system?

Medida de la boleta 2I: ¿Se deberían amendar los Estatutos de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver para especificar que el secretario y registrador podrá nombrar cuatro empleados a voluntad adicional al adjunto, quienes estarán exentos del sistema de personal de carrera?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

Ballot Measure 2J
Shall the voters for the City and County of Denver adopt an ordinance authorizing the city to grant a provisional permit to owners or keepers of a pit bull, provided the owner complies with the animal and health code?

Medida de la boleta 2J: ¿Los votantes de la Ciudad y el Condado de Denver deberán adoptar una ordenanza que autorice a la ciudad a otorgar un permiso temporal a los propietarios o cuidadores de un perro de raza pit bull, siempre que el propietario cumpla con el código de animales y salud?

Yes/For - Sílen Favor de ☐
No/Against - Nolen Contra de ☐

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Ballot Measure 4A

SHALL DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO $2 MILLION IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2021 AND BY THE AMOUNTS IN ANY YEAR THEREAFTER AS ARE RAISED FROM A MILL LEVY OF UP TO 4 MILLS PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108.7, C.R.S., PROVIDED THAT THE MILL LEVY FOR THE FIRST YEAR SHALL NOT EXCEED 1.5 MILLS AND NO MILL LEVY INCREASE FROM YEAR TO YEAR SHALL EXCEED 1 MILL, WITH THE EFFECT THAT MORE GENERA L FUND REVENUES WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PURPOSES SUCH AS:

- ADDING AND MAINTAINING MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS AND SCHOOL COUNSELORS TO SUPPORT STUDENTS;
- ADDING AND MAINTAINING SCHOOL NURSES TO SUPPORT COVID-19 MONITORING AND PREVENTION AS WELL AS OTHER HEALTH EDUCATION;
- INCREASING MINIMUM WAGES FOR SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF; AND
- ADDING COST OF LIVING FUNDS TO PAY EDUCATORS A LIVING WAGE.

SHALL SUCH ADDITIONAL REVENUES FROM THIS TAX INCREASE BE DEPOSITED INTO THE SUPPLEMENTAL CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, TECHNOLOGY AND MAINTENANCE FUND AND USED FOR ONGOING CASH FUNDING FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, NEW INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY, EXISTING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES, AND MAINTENANCE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO INCREASE SUCH MILL LEVY BEGINNING TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2022 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER TO OFFSET PROPERTY TAX REFUNDS OR ABATEMENTS OR REDUCTIONS IN THE PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL VALUATION USED TO DETERMINE ASSESSED VALUATION, AND SHALL DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS PUBLISH AN ANNUAL REPORT ON THE EXPENDITURES OF THESE RISES UP GENERAL FUNDS?

Medida de la boleta 4a - ¿DEBÉRÍA AUMENTAR LOS IMPUESTOS DE LAS ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE DENVER HASTA $2 MILLONES EN LA RECAUDACIÓN DE IMPUESTOS DEL AÑO 2021 Y POR LAS CANTIDADES QUE EN CUALQUIER AÑO SUBVENCIONEN EL IMPUESTO SOBRE BIENES INMUEBLES DE HASTA 4 MILS DE CONFORMIDAD CON LA SECCIÓN 22-54-108.7, C.R.S., PROVISO QUE EL IMPUESTO SOBRE BIENES INMUEBLES NO EXCEDERÁ LAS 1.5 MILS Y NINGÚN AUMENTO DEL IMPUESTO SOBRE BIENES INMUEBLES DE AÑO A AÑO EXCEDERÁ 1 MIL, CON EL EFECTO QUE MAQUERGOS DEL FONDO GENERAL ESTARÁN DISPONIBLES PARA FINES COMO:

- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER PROFESIONALES DE LA SALUD MENTAL Y CONSEJEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR A LOS ESTUDIANTES;
- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER ENFERMEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR EL MONITOREO Y LA PREVENCIÓN DEL COVID-19 Y OTRO ALCANCE PARA LA SALUD;
- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER PROFESIONALES DE LA SALUD MENTAL Y CONSEJEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR A LOS ESTUDIANTES;
- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER ENFERMEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR EL MONITOREO Y LA PREVENCIÓN DEL COVID-19 Y OTRO ALCANCE PARA LA SALUD;
- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER PROFESIONALES DE LA SALUD MENTAL Y CONSEJEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR A LOS ESTUDIANTES;
- AGREGAR Y MANTEÑER ENFERMEROS ESCOLARES PARA APOYAR EL MONITOREO Y LA PREVENCIÓN DEL COVID-19 Y OTRO ALCANCE PARA LA SALUD;

Medida de la boleta 4b - ¿SE DEBERÍA AUMENTAR LA DEUDA DE LAS ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE DENVER EN $179 MILLONES, CON UN MÁXIMO DE $205 MILLONES PARA FINES COMO:

- MANTEÑER Y RECONSTRUIR ESCUELAS EXISTENTES, REEMPLAZANDO LOS TECNOLOGÍAS CON VETERAS, HACIENDO REPARACIONES URGENTES, ABORDANDO PROBLEMAS ESTRUCTURALES;
- PROPORCIONAR SISTEMAS DE REFRIGERACIÓN PARA ALAS DE ALTA TEMPERATURA Y ESCUELAS SIN AIRE ACONDICIONADO;
- AGREGAR NUEVAS NUCLEOS Y ALAS ADICIONALES Y HACER MEJORES EN LAS ESCUELAS EXISTENTES PARA CONTRIBUIR A LA SEGURIDAD Y HACENDA MEDIANTE EL TAMAÑO DE LAS CLASES;
- MODERNIZAR LAS ESCUELAS EXISTENTES QUE LOS ESTUDIANTES TENGA ACCESO A LA TECNOLOGÍA QUE NECESITANDO DURANTE LA PANDEMIA COVID-19 Y EL FUTURO;
- MECANISMO DE ENTORNOS DE APRENDIZAJE EN EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES ANTIGUOS MEJORANDO LOS LABORATORIOS DE CIENCIAS Y COMPUTACIÓN Y MODERNIZANDO LA TECNOLOGÍA EDUCATIVA EN EL AYUNTA;
- MEJORANDO LA SEGURIDAD DE LOS ESTUDIANTES EN LOS EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES Y MEJORAR LA SEGURIDAD EN LAS ENTRADAS DE LAS ESCUELAS;

Medida de la boleta 4b - ¿SE DEBERÍA AUMENTAR LA DEUDA DE LAS ESCUELAS PÚBLICAS DE DENVER EN $179 MILLONES, CON UN MÁXIMO DE $205 MILLONES PARA FINES COMO:

- MANTEÑER Y RECONSTRUIR ESCUELAS EXISTENTES, REEMPLAZANDO LOS TECNOLOGÍAS CON VETERAS, HACIENDO REPARACIONES URGENTES, ABORDANDO PROBLEMAS ESTRUCTURALES;
- PROPORCIONAR SISTEMAS DE REFRIGERACIÓN PARA ALAS DE ALTA TEMPERATURA Y ESCUELAS SIN AIRE ACONDICIONADO;
- AGREGAR NUEVAS NUCLEOS Y ALAS ADICIONALES Y HACER MEJORES EN LAS ESCUELAS EXISTENTES PARA CONTRIBUIR A LA SEGURIDAD Y HACENDA MEDIANTE EL TAMAÑO DE LAS CLASES;
- MODERNIZAR LAS ESCUELAS EXISTENTES QUE LOS ESTUDIANTES TENGA ACCESO A LA TECNOLOGÍA QUE NECESITANDO DURANTE LA PANDEMIA COVID-19 Y EL FUTURO;
- MECANISMO DE ENTORNOS DE APRENDIZAJE EN EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES ANTIGUOS MEJORANDO LOS LABORATORIOS DE CIENCIAS Y COMPUTACIÓN Y MODERNIZANDO LA TECNOLOGÍA EDUCATIVA EN EL AYUNTA;
- MEJORANDO LA SEGURIDAD DE LOS ESTUDIANTES EN LOS EDIFICIOS ESCOLARES Y MEJORAR LA SEGURIDAD EN LAS ENTRADAS DE LAS ESCUELAS;