NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE
and Denver’s Municipal Ballot Information Booklet

Coordinated Election
Tuesday, November 2, 2021

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

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

¡Vea la información en español en la contraportada!
BOOKLET INFORMATION

This booklet is made available to each Denver voter and contains Ballot Measures and Coordinated Ballot information for the November 2nd, 2021 Coordinated Election

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 2, 2021. 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 2
All active Denver voters will be automatically mailed a ballot to vote in the November 2nd, 2021 Coordinated Election beginning October 8th.

BallotTRACE — Page 2
Want to track your mail ballot through the U.S. postal system? Sign up for BallotTRACE at BallotTRACE.org.

Ready To Vote? — Page 3
Voter Registration Form — Page 4
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 4 of this booklet, or call 311 for more information.

Voter Services and Ballot Drop-Off Information — Page 5-7
Voter Service and Polling Center locations, hours of operation and 24-hour ballot drop-off box locations.

TABOR Notice — Pages 8-22
Taxpayer Bill of Rights (TABOR) information includes summaries of ballot measures that affect debt or taxes.

Municipal Information Booklet — Pages 23-42
Information includes summaries of Ballot Measures that do not affect debt or taxes.

Sample Ballot — Page 43-46

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 8th.
☐ 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. 5)
   • Mail it back (return postage $0.58)
☐ 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

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 8. 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 18

Find locations at DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo or see page 5 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 8. Don’t wait to cast your vote!

Ballots must be received by 7 p.m. November 2.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW AND WHERE TO VOTE, OR TO SEE A SAMPLE BALLOT, GO TO DENVERVOTES.ORG/VOTERINFO.
# 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.  
   [ ] I have a valid CO Driver’s License or ID card. Write that number here:  
   MM DD YYYY

   [ ] I do not have a CO Driver’s License or ID card. Write the last four digits of your SSN here:  
   - - - - - -

## 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

    or  

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

---

**voter information:** [DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo](https://DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo)  
**voter registration & updates:** [GoVoteColorado.gov](https://GoVoteColorado.gov)
Voter Services and Ballot Drop-Off Information

Voter Service & Polling Centers (VSPCs) (11):

1. Barnum Recreation Center
   360 N Hooker St | Multipurpose Room
2. Blair-Caldwell Library
   2401 Welton St | Large 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. Harvard Gulch Recreation Center
   550 E I 1iff Ave | Multipurpose Room
6. Harvey Park Recreation Center
   2120 S Tennyson Way | Multipurpose Room
7. Hiawatha Davis Jr Recreation Center
   3334 N Holly St | Multipurpose Room
8. Highland Recreation Center
   2880 N Osceola St | Multipurpose Room
9. Montbello Recreation Center
   15555 E 53rd Ave | Multipurpose Room
10. Tivoli Student Union at Auraria
    900 Auraria Pkwy | Turnhalle
   * 11. Wellington Webb Municipal Building
    201 W Colfax Ave | Atrium

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

VSPC sites that have drive-through ballot drop-off available.

---

Voter Service & Polling Centers
Hours of Operation
Monday, October 25 – Friday, October 29
10 am – 6 pm
Saturday, October 30
10 am – 2 pm
Monday, November 1
10 am – 6 pm
**Tuesday, November 2
7 am – 7 pm

Wellington Webb Building
Expanded Hours of Operation
Monday, October 18 – Friday, October 22
8 am – 5 pm
Monday, October 25 – Friday, October 29
8 am – 6 pm
Saturday, October 30
10 am – 2 pm
Monday, November 1
8 am – 6 pm
**Tuesday, November 2
7 am – 7 pm

**We expect high turnout, plan to vote before November 2.

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo  
voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
**Haul-N-Votes Mobile Voting Unit Locations (4)**

- University of Denver Driscoll Student Center
  2055 E Evans Ave
  Monday, October 25 and Tuesday, October 26

- Washington Park Recreation Center
  701 S Franklin St
  Wednesday, October 27 and Thursday, October 28

- Scheitler Recreation Center
  5031 W 46th Ave
  Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30

- Denver Museum of Nature & Science
  2001 N Colorado Blvd - City Park,
  East 22nd Ave West of DMNS (Parking Lot)
  Monday, November 1 and Tuesday, November 2

**Voter Coach Mobile Voting Unit Locations (4)**

- Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales Library
  1498 N Irving St
  Monday, October 25 and Tuesday, October 26

- Montclair Recreation Center
  729 N Ulster Way
  Wednesday, October 27 and Thursday, October 28

- Central Park Recreation Center
  9651 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
  Friday, October 29 and Saturday, October 30

- Emily Griffith Technical College
  1860 N Lincoln St
  Monday, November 1 and Tuesday, November 2
24-Hour Ballot Drop-Off Box Locations (40)

1. Athmar Recreation Center  
   2680 W Mexico Ave
2. Aztlán Recreation Center  
   4435 N Navajo St
3. Barnum Recreation Center  
   360 N Hooker St
4. Bear Valley Branch Library  
   5171 W Dartmouth Ave
5. Blair-Caldwell Library  
   2401 Welton St
6. Carla Madison Recreation Center  
   2401 E Colfax Ave
7. Central Park Recreation Center  
   9651 E Martin Luther King Jr Blvd
8. Cook Park Recreation Center  
   7100 Cherry Creek South Dr
9. Denver Botanic Gardens  
   1007 N York St
10. Denver Elections Division  
    200 W 14th Ave - NE corner of building
11. Denver Elections Division  
    200 W 14th Ave - SW corner of building
12. Denver Human Services  
    1200 N Federal Blvd
    2001 N Colorado Blvd
14. Denver Police Department District 3  
    1625 S University Blvd
15. Eisenhower Recreation Center  
    4300 E Dartmouth Ave
16. Emily Griffith Technical College  
    1860 N Lincoln St
17. Glendale City Hall  
    950 S Birch St, Glendale
18. Green Valley Ranch Recreation Center  
    4890 N Arapohoe Way
19. Hampden Branch Library  
    9755 E Girard Ave
20. Harvey Park Recreation Center  
    2120 S Tennyson Way
21. Hiawatha Davis Jr Recreation Center  
    3334 N Holly St
22. Highland Recreation Center  
    2880 N Osceola St
23. La Familia Recreation Center  
    65 S Elati St
24. MCA Administrative Offices  
    8351 Northfield Blvd
25. Montbello Branch Library  
    12955 Albrook Dr
26. Montbello Recreation Center  
    15555 E 53rd Ave
27. Montclair Recreation Center  
    729 N Ulster Way
28. Rodolfo “Corky” Gonzales Branch Library  
    1498 N Irving St
29. Ross – Cherry Creek Branch Library  
    305 N Milwaukee St
30. RTD - I-25 and Broadway Station  
    901 S Broadway
31. RTD - Light Rail at Union Station  
    1601 Chestnut Pl
32. RTD - Southmoor Station  
    3737 S Monaco Street Pkwy
33. Scheitler Recreation Center  
    5031 W 46th Ave
34. Southwest Recreation Center  
    9200 W Saratoga Pl
35. Swansea Recreation Center  
    2650 E 49th Ave
36. Tivoli Student Center Auraria Campus  
    900 Auraria Pkwy
37. Washington Park Recreation Center  
    701 S Franklin St
38. Wellington Webb Municipal Building  
    201 W Colfax Ave
39. Westwood Community Center / SWIC  
    1000 S Lowell Blvd
40. Windsor Gardens  
    595 S Clinton St

Denver Elections Division Contact Information:

📞 720-913-VOTE (8683)  📧 voterregistration@denvergov.org  
📞 720-913-8600  📧 elections@denvergov.org  
🌐 DenverVotes.org  📧 #DenverVotes  
🔗 /DenverElections

voter information: DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo  
voter registration & updates: GoVoteColorado.gov
TABOR NOTICE

All Registered Voters

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE

November 2, 2021, 7Am-7Pm
Denver Elections Division, 200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100,
Denver, CO 80204 720-913-VOTE (8683)

A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote against changing current or existing circumstances. The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

Denver Facilities System Bonds
Ballot Measure 2A

SHALL THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEBT BE INCREASED $104,040,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF $179,175,000, WITH NO EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE CITY’S CURRENT RATE OF TAXATION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE BASED ON THE CITY’S PROJECTED ASSESSED VALUE, THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE USED FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DENVER FACILITIES SYSTEM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:
• CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, AND OTHER FACILITY REPAIRS AT DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS, BONFILS THEATER COMPLEX, DENVER MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE, AND DENVER ZOO; AND
• PRESERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE MAY BONFILS STANTON THEATER AT THE HISTORIC LORETTO HEIGHTS CAMPUS FOR USE AS A PERFORMING AND CULTURAL ARTS VENUE; AND
• RENOVATION OF AN EXISTING CITY-OWNED FACILITY INTO A YOUTH EMPOWERMENT CENTER; AND
• CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW LIBRARIES AND UPGRADING EXISTING LIBRARIES TO INCLUDE CHILDREN’S LEARNING AREAS, COMMUNITY SPACES, AND TECHNOLOGY LABS;
AND
• ACCESSIBILITY IMPROVEMENTS TO DENVER FACILITIES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES; BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES, LOAN AGREEMENTS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, WHICH SHALL BE ISSUED OR INCURRED IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS NOT INCONSISTENT HEREWITH AS THE CITY MAY DETERMINE (THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE PUBLICLY REPORTED BY THE CITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS); AND SHALL CITY AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE INCREASED WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE BUT BY NOT MORE THAN A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $19,250,000 ANNUALLY IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SAME; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO REFUND OR REFINANCE SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION, PROVIDED THAT SUCH REFUNDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS WHEN COMBINED WITH OTHER OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION DO NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL LIMITS OR REPAYMENT COSTS AUTHORIZED BY THIS QUESTION?

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>2021</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount,
in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2017 to 2021, inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673, respectively. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

**Information on taxes associated with the proposed bonded debt:**
Maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year (and all subsequent years): $19,250,000
Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,963,447,322

**Information on the proposed bonded debt:**
Principal amount: $104,040,000
Maximum annual repayment cost: $19,250,000
Total repayment cost: $179,175,000

**Information on total current City bonded debt:**
Principal amount: $737,460,500
Maximum annual repayment cost: $113,554,865
Total repayment cost: $958,006,861

**Written Comments FOR**
**Ballot Measure 2A**

Denver 2A through 2E will deliver infrastructure improvements that power our economic recovery and help the people who need it the most. Vote yes on 2A through 2E to create good paying jobs, provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and invest in historically underserved neighborhoods.

And we can do all of this while keeping your tax rates the same.

Measures 2A through 2E will address critical issues facing Denver and strengthen the city’s economy and sustain it for years to come. The ballot measures will fund 88 specific projects that target the most pressing concerns of Denver residents in the neighborhoods that need it most, as identified through a public input process that engaged thousands of Denver residents. By funding these projects, 2A-2E will create more than $1 billion in economic impact and 7,500 jobs and will save taxpayer money by repairing and improving Denver’s infrastructure before it breaks.

Measure 2A specifically will address needed improvements to existing city facilities, while also constructing new facilities in historically underserved communities. Measure 2A will:

- Construct libraries in Globeville and Westwood, two historically underserved communities, and expand the Hampden Branch Library, which serves immigrant communities in Southeast Denver.

- Upgrade city buildings to meet accessibility standards prescribed in the American with Disabilities Act.

- Improve the Youth Empowerment Center building to provide more space and resources for youths and families in Denver ranging from vocational and educational support, entrepreneurial training, and recreation activities.


- Jumpstart the redevelopment of the Loretto Heights campus with the renovation of the May Bonfils Stanton Theater, which would provide Southwest Denver with a historical, cultural and performing arts venue. Measure 2A will also fund renovations to the Buell Theater at the Denver Performing Arts Complex which include restrooms, ADA improvements and upgrades to the backstage area for the first time since its opening in 1991.

Measures 2A-2E are a result of input from residents across Denver, reflecting the need to address critical issues, create a more equitable city and jumpstart the economy, all without raising taxes.

**Written Comments AGAINST**
**Ballot Measure 2A**

Sticker-shock is coming our way in 2022 for the price of housing. Voting yes on 2A will further increase that cost.

Home sales over the last 24-months reached record levels and these jaw-dropping valuations drive up the property taxes.

In 2017 taxpayers approved “Elevate Denver” $937. million, nearly a BILLION, to pay for all the projects listed in 2A.
Additionally, voters were swayed to eliminate the Gallagher Amendment which limited residential property tax assessments. It is likely that many voters didn't understand just how much this will increase property taxes, but that time is coming.

Those factors mean you will now see the price jump on your property tax bill or mortgage escrow if you “own” property. If you’re renting, you can likely expect a dramatic jump in your lease price.

Can Denver residents afford higher housing costs? Lower income workers are being forced to move out of Denver due to high prices and then ironically having to travel longer distances to work in Denver.

Continually driving up the cost of living in Denver is a key factor in gentrification.

Vote NO on 2A. Do that for the young family down the street who is having a hard time paying the mortgage or rent.

Vote NO on 2A. Do it for the senior on fixed income who is having to choose between getting their wheelchair fixed or paying their rent.

Vote NO on 2A. Do it for the young adult who is drowning in college debt and not sure how to put food on the table.

Vote NO on 2A. Because housing is too expensive as it is and this measure will drive it higher.

---

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

November 2, 2021, 7AM-7PM
Denver Elections Division, 200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204 720-913-VOTE (8683)

A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote against changing current or existing circumstances. The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

**Denver Housing and Sheltering System Bonds**

**Ballot Measure 2B**

**SHALL THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEBT BE INCREASED $38,600,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF $66,476,000, WITH NO EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE CITY’S CURRENT RATE OF TAXATION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE BASED ON THE CITY’S PROJECTED ASSESSED VALUE, THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE USED FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DENVER HOUSING AND SHELTERING SYSTEM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:**

- Establishing and/or improving shelters and facilities to provide services to people experiencing homelessness by purchasing buildings, converting buildings and/or constructing facilities;
- By the issuance and payment of general obligation bonds, notes, loan agreements or other multiple fiscal year financial obligations, which shall be issued or incurred in such manner and containing such terms not inconsistent herewith as the city may determine (the expenditure of the proceeds thereof to be publicly reported by the city on an annual basis);
- And shall city ad valorem property taxes be increased without limitation as to rate but by not more than a maximum amount of $8,945,000 annually in amounts sufficient to pay the principal of, premium, if any, and interest on such financial obligations or to create a reserve for same; and shall the city be authorized to issue financial obligations to refund or refinance such financial obligations authorized in this
**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>2021</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City's fiscal year spending from 2017 to 2021, inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673, respectively. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

**Information on taxes associated with the proposed bonded debt:**
Maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year (and all subsequent years): $8,945,000
Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,963,447,322

**Information on the proposed bonded debt:**
Principal amount: $38,600,000
Maximum annual repayment cost: $8,945,000
Total repayment cost: $66,476,000

**Information on total current City bonded debt:**
Principal amount: $737,460,500
Maximum annual repayment cost: $113,554,865
Total repayment cost: $958,006,861

**Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2B**

Denver 2A through 2E will deliver infrastructure improvements that power our economic recovery and help the people who need it the most. Vote yes on 2A through 2E to create good paying jobs, provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and invest in historically underserved neighborhoods.

And we can do all of this while keeping your tax rates the same.

Measures 2A through 2E will address critical issues facing Denver and help get the city back to work. The ballot measures will fund 88 specific projects that target the most pressing concerns of Denver residents in the neighborhoods that need it most, as identified through a public input process that engaged thousands of Denver residents. By funding these projects, 2A-2E will create more than $1 billion of economic impact and 7,500 jobs and will save taxpayer money by repairing and improving Denver's infrastructure before it breaks.

Measure 2B will help address the homelessness crisis in Denver. Measure 2B will:

- Fund the purchase of the 48th Avenue shelter, which will keep the space operational for 24/7 shelter.
- Dedicate funds for the purchase, conversion or construction of up to 300 motel rooms in Denver to function as shelters.
- Fund needed improvements to shelters that are currently operational, which will address gaps in the current shelter system during emergency conditions.

Measures 2A-2E are a result of input from residents across Denver, reflecting the need to address critical issues, create a more equitable city, and jumpstart the economy, all without raising tax rates.

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2B**

2B asks for more bonds approved for the Denver Housing and Sheltering System. This issue deserves a NO vote. We have already put forth huge sums of money for this
issue without improvement. Homelessness and homeless camps are worse than they have ever been, in spite of the campaign to “end homelessness in Denver” more than a decade or two ago. That campaign backfired by more homeless people moving to Denver to take advantage of the programs here. A recent report from a public policy group here in Denver reports that between $42,000 to $104,000 is spent each year PER PERSON experiencing homelessness. Ballot issue 2B is asking for $38.6 million more of your money in property tax increases to be spent on homelessness. Where is the improvement with the money that has already been spent? Don’t drive up your property tax bill even higher! Vote NO on ballot issue 2B.

Denver Transportation and Mobility System Bonds

Ballot Measure 2C

SHALL THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEBT BE INCREASED $63,320,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF $109,048,000, WITH NO EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE CITY’S CURRENT RATE OF TAXATION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE BASED ON THE CITY’S PROJECTED ASSESSED VALUE, THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE USED FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DENVER TRANSPORTATION AND MOBILITY SYSTEM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- EXPANDING DENVER’S SIDEWALK NETWORK BY FILLING SIDEWALK COVERAGE GAPS; AND
- IMPROVING BICYCLE SAFETY AND MOBILITY BY RENOVATING EXISTING BIKE LANES AND CREATING NEW PROTECTED BIKE LANES AND NEIGHBORHOOD BIKEWAY LANES; AND
- IMPROVING PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE SAFETY BY INSTALLING ENHANCED CROSSWALKS, ADDING MEDIANS, IMPROVING AND INSTALLING NEW TRAFFIC SIGNALS, AND OTHER MOBILITY INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS; AND
- RECONSTRUCTING SECTIONS OF THE MORRISON ROAD CORRIDOR TO CREATE A CULTURAL AND ARTS DISTRICT; AND
- CONSTRUCTING A SEGMENT OF AN URBAN TRAIL AND PEDESTRIAN WALKWAY IN DOWNTOWN DENVER;

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES, LOAN AGREEMENTS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, WHICH SHALL BE ISSUED OR INCURRED IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS NOT INCONSISTENT HEREWITH AS THE CITY MAY DETERMINE (THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE PUBLICLY REPORTED BY THE CITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS); AND SHALL CITY AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE INCREASED WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE BUT BY NOT MORE THAN A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $11,716,000 ANNUALLY IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SAME; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO REFUND OR REFINANCE SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION, PROVIDED THAT SUCH REFUNDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS WHEN COMBINED WITH OTHER OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION DO NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL LIMITS OR REPAYMENT COSTS AUTHORIZED BY THIS QUESTION?
### Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2C:

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>2021</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2017 to 2021, inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673, respectively. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

### Information on taxes associated with the proposed bonded debt:

Maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year (and all subsequent years): $11,716,000  
Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,963,447,322

### Information on the proposed bonded debt:

Principal amount: $63,320,000  
Maximum annual repayment cost: $11,716,000  
Total repayment cost: $109,048,000

### Information on total current City bonded debt:

Principal amount: $737,460,500  
Maximum annual repayment cost: $113,554,865  
Total repayment cost: $958,006,861

### Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2C

Denver 2A through 2E will deliver infrastructure improvements that power our economic recovery and help the people who need it the most. Vote yes on 2A through 2E to create good paying jobs, provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and invest in historically underserved neighborhoods.

And we can do all of this while keeping your tax rates the same.

Measures 2A through 2E will address critical issues facing Denver and help get the city back to work. The ballot measures will fund 88 specific projects that target the most pressing concerns of Denver residents in the neighborhoods that need it most, as identified through a public input process that engaged thousands of Denver residents. By funding these projects, 2A-2E will create more than $1 billion of economic impact and 7,500 jobs and will save taxpayer money by repairing and improving Denver’s infrastructure before it breaks.

Measure 2C will address improvements to the city’s transportation and mobility network to help reach the objectives of Vision Zero. Measure 2C will:

- Build out Denver’s bicycle infrastructure in Globeville-Elyria-Swansea, South, and Central Denver neighborhoods to provide a more comfortable and safe experience for cyclists. Much of this new construction is in traditionally underserved neighborhoods.

- Address sidewalk construction, pedestrian, and transportation safety throughout the city. Denver currently has 300 miles of sidewalk gaps that 2C will address across the city with an emphasis on underserved neighborhoods. Similarly, 2C will improve access to public transportation, comfort and accessibility for pedestrians and cyclists, and improve intersections, signalized crossings, and safe routes to school.

- Fund the reconstruction of Morrison Road and multi-modal improvements along Peoria. These improvements will improve access to commercial and residential spaces for residents and workers, which will in turn increase economic output in these communities.

- Spur the development of the 5280 Urban Trail in the heart of Denver. The trail will provide residents and visitors alike a unique, accessible path through the many different neighborhoods in downtown Denver, creating a space for small businesses, local artists, and more to help link Denver’s urban life with its outdoor culture.

Measures 2A-2E are a result of input from residents across Denver, reflecting the need to address critical...
issues, create a more equitable city, and jumpstart the economy, all without raising taxes.

Written Comments AGAINST
Ballot Measure 2C

The main objection to the issue is that the present Department of Transportation and Infrastructure is spending money to provide services as they wish them to be, not as they are needed. A good example of this is the proliferation of bike lanes where people do not bicycle. This is best seen in the bike lanes that are along South Broadway. A recent study shows that .02% of the traveling public uses the lanes while the remaining users of the corridor, that is 99.98%, are privately owned vehicles, RTD riders, and commercial vehicles. The bike lanes obstruct the use of 99.98% of the public to serve a very small minority.

Secondly, the repair of expansion of Denver’s sidewalks has been a complete failure and is already years and years behind schedule. This money, $63,000,000, will be further tax dollars down the drain.

Until Denver gets the homeless issue under control, spending further tax dollars for any downtown venue will be money wasted.

All Registered Voters

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE
November 2, 2021, 7AM-7PM
Denver Elections Division, 200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204 720-913-VOTE (8683)

A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote against changing current or existing circumstances. The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

Denver Parks and Recreation System Bonds

Ballot Measure 2D

SHALL THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEBT BE INCREASED $54,070,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF $93,118,000, WITH NO EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE CITY’S CURRENT RATE OF TAXATION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE BASED ON THE CITY’S PROJECTED ASSESSED VALUE, THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE USED FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DENVER PARKS AND RECREATION SYSTEM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:
- DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO NEW PARKS IN NORTHEAST DENVER AND SOUTH DENVER, RESPECTIVELY; AND
- IMPROVEMENTS AT PARKS INCLUDING REPLACING PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION EQUIPMENT, REPLACING AND RESTORING ATHLETIC FIELDS AND COURTS; AND
- CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS, INCLUDING RENOVATING AND BUILDING RESTROOMS, AND REBUILDING THE SWIMMING POOL AT MESTIZO-CURTIS PARK;
BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES, LOAN AGREEMENTS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, WHICH SHALL BE ISSUED OR INCURRED IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS NOT INCONSISTENT HEREWITH AS THE CITY MAY DETERMINE (THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE PUBLICLY REPORTED BY THE CITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS); AND SHALL CITY AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE INCREASED WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE BUT BY NOT MORE THAN A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $10,005,000 ANNUALLY IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SAME; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO REFUND OR REFINANCE SUCH
FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION, PROVIDED THAT SUCH REFUNDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS WHEN COMBINED WITH OTHER OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS QUESTION DO NOT EXCEED THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL LIMITS OR REPAYMENT COSTS AUTHORIZED BY THIS QUESTION?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2D:

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>2021</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2017 to 2021, inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673, respectively. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

Information on taxes associated with the proposed bonded debt:
Maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year (and all subsequent years): $10,005,000
Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,963,447,322

Information on the proposed bonded debt:
Principal amount: $54,070,000
Maximum annual repayment cost: $10,005,000
Total repayment cost: $93,118,000

Information on total current City bonded debt:
Principal amount: $737,460,500
Maximum annual repayment cost: $113,554,865
Total repayment cost: $958,006,861

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2D

Denver 2A through 2E will deliver infrastructure improvements that power our economic recovery and help the people who need it the most. Vote yes on 2A through 2E to create good paying jobs, provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and invest in historically underserved neighborhoods.

And we can do all of this while keeping your tax rates the same.

Measures 2A through 2E will address critical issues facing Denver and help get the city back to work. The ballot measures will fund 88 specific projects that target the most pressing concerns of Denver residents in the neighborhoods that need it most, as identified through a public input process that engaged thousands of Denver residents. Voting yes on 2A through 2E will create more than $1 billion of economic impact and 7,500 jobs and will save taxpayer money by repairing and improving Denver’s infrastructure before it breaks.

Measure 2D will create new parks in underserved communities, replace and add new amenities to existing parks, and build the infrastructure needed to care for our open space going forward. Measure 2D will:

- Construct new parks at University Hills and 47th & Walden. The construction of these parks will move Denver closer to the goal of having every Denver resident live within a 10-minute walk or bike ride of a quality park.
- Rebuild the Mestizo-Curtis Pool, which is the oldest pool in the Denver parks system and serves thousands of children and their families in the Five Points area. This project will protect this community gathering space and provide enhanced amenities to meet the needs of the neighborhood.
- Replace existing playgrounds at Harvey Park, Huston Lake Park, Dailey Park, and Crestmoor Park with newer, more diverse, and accessible playground equipment and amenities. This will construct accessible playgrounds for children with disabilities.
- Replace basketball courts, tennis courts, and baseball fields at 12 parks around Denver. During the pandemic,
Denver’s outdoor spaces saw increased use, and 2D will fund new courts and fields to ensure that communities maintain access to recreational spaces and opportunities.

- Renovate the Sloan’s Lake Boat House. The 6,000 square foot historical venue will be transformed into a space for community events and public programs. The Boat House will also integrate with the recently redeveloped jetty and marina, restoring access to the historical site.

- Improve and build new public restrooms and park maintenance facilities. These new and upgraded facilities will increase the functionality and quality of the recreation spaces across Denver, from pocket parks to community parks.

Measures 2A-2E are a result of input from residents across Denver, reflecting the need to address critical issues, create a more equitable city, and jumpstart the economy, all without raising taxes.

Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2D

Vote NO on 2D. In 2017, “Elevate Denver” was approved by Denver voters which was intended in part to “revitalize our parks, playgrounds and recreation centers”. Elevate Denver’s cost was close to a billion dollars. The city’s 2020 report indicates that 40% of the money still hasn’t been spent. Over a 1/3 of a billion dollars still sitting unspent is a good reason to vote NO.

All Registered Voters

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE

November 2, 2021, 7AM-7PM
Denver Elections Division, 200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204 720-913-VOTE (8683)

A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote against changing current or existing circumstances. The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

National Western Campus Facilities System Bonds

Ballot Measure 2E

SHALL THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER DEBT BE INCREASED $190,000,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF $327,212,000, WITH NO EXPECTED INCREASE IN THE CITY’S CURRENT RATE OF TAXATION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION DEBT SERVICE BASED ON THE CITY’S PROJECTED ASSESSED VALUE, THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE USED FOR REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE NATIONAL WESTERN CAMPUS FACILITIES SYSTEM, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- CONSTRUCTION OF A MULTI-USE ARENA FOR CONCERTS, LOCAL AND HIGH SCHOOL SPORTING EVENTS, RODEO, AND OTHER ENTERTAINMENT EVENTS AT THE NATIONAL WESTERN CAMPUS; AND

- RENOVATION AND PRESERVATION OF AN HISTORIC BUILDING AT THE NATIONAL WESTERN CAMPUS TO CREATE A PUBLIC MARKET;

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, NOTES, LOAN AGREEMENTS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS, WHICH SHALL BE ISSUED OR INCURRED IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS NOT INCONSISTENT HEREWITH AS THE CITY MAY DETERMINE (THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE PUBLICLY REPORTED BY THE CITY ON AN ANNUAL BASIS); AND SHALL CITY AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE INCREASED WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE BUT BY NOT MORE THAN A MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF $35,155,000 ANNUALLY IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SAME; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO ISSUE FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO REFUND OR REFINANCE SUCH FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED IN THIS
**Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2E:**

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>2021</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746 (estimated)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

The overall increase, as a percentage and dollar amount, in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2017 to 2021, inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673, respectively. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

**Information on taxes associated with the proposed bonded debt:**

Maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year (and all subsequent years): $35,155,000

Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,963,447,322

**Information on the proposed bonded debt:**

- Principal amount: $190,000,000
- Maximum annual repayment cost: $35,155,000
- Total repayment cost: $327,212,000

**Information on total current City bonded debt:**

- Principal amount: $737,460,500
- Maximum annual repayment cost: $113,554,865
- Total repayment cost: $958,006,861

**Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2E**

Denver 2A through 2E will deliver infrastructure improvements that power our economic recovery and help the people who need it the most. Vote yes on 2A through 2E to create good paying jobs, provide shelter for people experiencing homelessness, and invest in historically underserved neighborhoods.

And we can do all of this while keeping your tax rates the same.

Measures 2A through 2E will address critical issues facing Denver and help get the city back to work. The ballot measures will fund 88 specific projects that target the most pressing concerns of Denver residents in the neighborhoods that need it most, as identified through a public input process that engaged thousands of Denver residents. By funding these projects, 2A-2E will create more than $1 billion of economic impact and 7,500 jobs and will save taxpayer money by repairing and improving Denver's infrastructure before it breaks. Measure 2E creates 3,500 jobs alone.

Measure 2E will fund Phase 3 of Development at the National Western Campus, continuing the work needed to complete the National Western Campus Master Plan. Measure 2E will:

- Transform the Historic 1909 Building into a Public Market, which was envisioned in the NWC Master Plan. The renovation will protect the historic landmark while providing the Globeville and Elyria-Swansea communities, a USDA recognized food desert, with fresh, healthy, and local foods that will help satisfy the everyday shopping needs of residents. The space will provide opportunities for local business owners, chefs, entrepreneurs, and community members with new economic opportunities, while providing year-round, living-wage jobs. The public market will ultimately account for 400 construction jobs and more than 1,000 new, full time jobs when construction is completed.

- Construct a year-round, 10,000-seat National Western Center Arena to replace the aging and outdated Denver Coliseum. The proposed arena will become the venue for seasonal events currently happening at the Coliseum, as well as provide a space for 200+ events a year. The arena
will host concerts, sporting events, expos, and other activities that do not currently have a year-round space in Denver. The arena will ultimately account for over 3,000 construction jobs. The construction of the arena will also free up the Coliseum for reuse/redevelopment.

Measure 2E funds another commitment made to the Globeville-Elyria-Swansea communities in the 2015 NWC Master Plan. The construction of the arena and the renovation of the Historic 1909 Building will provide revenue for the Community Investment Fund, while the Public Market will be the first mission-driven public market in the city, designed to address the food needs of the local community. The projects funded through 2A-2E address the top community needs as identified through hundreds of public meetings, events, and comments from RNO’s, HOA’s, the Citizens’ Advisory Committee, and local business associations.

Measures 2A-2E are a result of input from residents across Denver, reflecting the need to address critical issues, create a more equitable city, and jumpstart the economy, all without raising taxes.

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2E**

The National Western Bond burdens taxpayers with increased property taxes for a $190 million bond to fund a financially unsound and socially unjust development plan for a Rodeo Arena and Public Market. At a time when Denver needs investment in housing, infrastructure, and community businesses, we cannot afford to divert recovery funds to an Arena and Market.

Bonds can be funded in numerous ways, such as tourism taxes, but the City is rushing through a bond that forces taxpayers to shoulder the costs through increased property taxes. The City has until 2027 to secure funding for National Western, and there is no pressing need to secure the bond funds this year. Additionally, the City already issued a bond in 2015 for infrastructure improvements yet nearly 70% of those funds remain unspent.

The development plans for National Western were also found to be economically and financially unsound. The feasibility study commissioned by the City of Denver states that the public market “would likely fail because these neighborhoods alone don’t have the population density and resulting purchasing power to support a Public Market.” Similarly, the study finds that “the Arena may be viewed as “too small for top acts” and “too big for the majority of (smaller) acts.”

While supporters of 2E cite benefits for the local community such as job creation and food access, these claims are unfounded. The jobs created by the Arena and Market will likely be minimum wage, low-skill jobs, and contingent on the uncertain profitability of the Arena and Market. And the food offered at the Public Market will primarily be prepared foods sold by restaurants, not fresh produce or grocery offerings. The feasibility study states that the market is neither directly competitive with, nor comparable to, a grocery store, and as such does not meet the food access needs of the local community.

The investment of the bond in the Arena and Market ignores the priorities of Denver residents. In a survey conducted by the City of Denver on priorities for recovery dollars, residents’ overwhelmingly named housing, mental health services, and transportation as their priorities, not venues or entertainment. Yet the 2E bond would account for over 40% of all recovery funds raised through bonds in 2021.

Denver City Council raised numerous concerns about the development plans, citing the significant financial risk in funding these large projects at a time of economic uncertainty, as well as the rushed nature of the bond process that normally is conducted over an entire year. Numerous city council members have stated their intent to vote no on 2E for these reasons.

Beyond the faulty economics, the local community vehemently opposes the plans, calling for investments in community development such as the creation of a grocery store in the neighborhood food desert, repairs to local streets, and improved transportation.

When the City’s own feasibility study and Denver city council express severe concerns over the development plans for National Western, the need to vote no could not be clearer.
TABOR NOTICE

All Registered Voters

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE
November 2, 2021, 7AM-7PM
Denver Elections Division, 200 W 14th Ave, Ste 100, Denver, CO 80204 720-913-VOTE (8683)

A ‘yes/for’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances and a ‘no/against’ vote on any ballot measure is a vote against changing current or existing circumstances. The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

Pandemic Research Fund
Ballot Measure 300

SHALL DENVER RETAIL MARIJUANA SALES TAX BE INCREASED BY $7 MILLION ANNUALLY, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2022, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM A ONE AND ONE-HALF (1.5) PERCENT RETAIL MARIJUANA SALES TAX TO BE USED TO FUND:

• PANDEMIC RESEARCH FOR ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC FROM THE SPREAD OF PANDEMIC PATHOGENS, INCLUDING AT SCHOOLS, BUSINESSES, AND HOSPITALS;
• PANDEMIC RESEARCH FOR PANDEMIC PREPAREDNESS AND RECOVERY, INCLUDING URBAN, ECONOMIC, AND SCHOOL PLANNING; PROVIDED THAT THE FUNDS WILL BE DEDICATED ENTIRELY TO THE UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER CITYCENTER WHICH WILL BE REQUIRED TO EQUITABLY ALLOCATE THE FUNDS WHEREIN SEVENTY-FIVE (75) PERCENT OF THE FUNDS ARE LIMITED TO THE THREE RESEARCH CATEGORIES OF: PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT; DISINFECTION AND STERILIZATION TECHNOLOGY; AND DESIGN FEATURES OF PHYSICAL SPACES, AND THAT TWENTY-FIVE (25) PERCENT OF THE FUNDS ARE LIMITED TO RESEARCHING PUBLIC POLICY AND PLANNING, THAT NO MORE THAN EIGHT (8) PERCENT OF THE TAX REVENUE IN ANY YEAR SHALL BE SPENT ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, THAT AFTER TWENTY YEARS THE AREAS OF TECHNOLOGICAL RESEARCH TO REDUCE THE SPREAD OF PANDEMIC PATHOGENS MAY BE EXPANDED, THAT OVERSIGHT WILL REQUIRE ANNUAL AUDIT AND REPORTING REQUIREMENTS, 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 300:

Revenue Associated with a 1.5% Retail Marijuana Sales Tax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Proposed Rate</th>
<th>Tax Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>10,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>10,450,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>10,920,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>11,411,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
<td>11,925,186</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Current State: As of 2021, Denver’s retail marijuana sales tax rate totals 10.31 percent. The tax base off of which this existing tax rate is applied has grown significantly since Denver began taxing retail marijuana sales in 2014. Therefore, the 2022 tax revenue projection is estimated to be closer to $10 million. The financial impact associated with implementing an additional 1.5 percent retail marijuana sales tax rate factors in continued, though moderating growth in retail marijuana sales.
Methodology:

The estimated or actual total of the City’s fiscal year spending for the current year and the past four years is as follows:

### Fiscal Year Spending

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>Fiscal Year Spending</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021*</td>
<td>$3,418,205,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$2,947,971,695</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>
</tbody>
</table>

*Estimated

The overall increase, as a percentage of dollar amount in the City’s fiscal year spending from 2017-2021 inclusive, is 72% and $1,435,657,673. The increase in fiscal year spending is primarily due to increases in capital project spending on voter approved bond projects and special tax initiatives.

Estimated maximum annual dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first full fiscal year: $10,000,000.

Estimated 2022 City fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase: $3,953,447,322

As a city, we've faced--and are still dealing with--the loss of loved ones and neighbors, serious mental health impacts, major inequities, and significant economic harm from COVID-19. We weren't prepared for this pandemic. And, because there has been almost no investment into protecting us from the next pandemic, we remain unprepared. We need to do better.

Initiated Ordinance 300 will dedicate $7 million per year to fund locally-based, critical research into:

- advanced technologies to protect the public from the spread of pandemic pathogens, including at schools, businesses, and hospitals; and
- pandemic preparedness and recovery, including urban, economic, and school planning.

When Denver approved the sale of recreational marijuana, Denver voters also approved up to a fifteen percent sales tax on marijuana. The one and a half percent amount in Initiated Ordinance 300 is a small fraction of the unused pre-approved amount, and leaves plenty of room for other spending needs. Initiated Ordinance 300 will not take money away from any other programs or services.

For only 15 cents on a $10 recreational marijuana purchase (medical marijuana is exempt), we will be able to:

- innovate better masks and other personal protective equipment for health-care workers and the general public that are more effective and more comfortable;
- improve building ventilation and disinfectant systems to make schools, hospitals, assisted living homes and shelters safer for everyone; and
- create an evidence-based plan for implementing best practices when the next pandemic strikes.

Denverites have long taken charge of our own fate. Initiated Ordinance 300 helps us prepare for the next pandemic before it starts.

Vote YES on Initiated Ordinance 300 so that next time, we'll be ready.
Written Comments AGAINST
Ballot Measure 300

As one informed, savvy local politician stated, “This is “is a pointless tax grab, CU-Denver did not ask for it, yet the sponsors made it the beneficiary.” Right now marijuana sales are the commodity of choice for those who wish to gain more money for more government spending by instituting another “sin” tax. In fact, marijuana is over taxed at various levels, and this initiative just adds fuel to the fire. The unintended consequences of this tax, and others like it, are to drive more marijuana sales underground into the black market arena. This will mean ultimately that there will be a criminal element introduced further into present marijuana industry. And then more tax dollars fighting the crimes that will result.

Secondly, since CU Denver CityCenter did not ask for or want these funds, the stated goals of the initiative are in danger of never being achieved and the funds diverted to other purposes. This is not unheard of in the world of government.

Text of Measure

Be it enacted by the City and County of Denver:

Section 1. Chapter 53 Section 92, D.R.M.C. Imposition of Tax shall be amended by the addition of a new subsection (d):

Sec. 53-92.- Imposition of Tax.

(d) In addition to the sale tax imposed by division 1 of this Article II, the sale tax imposed by subsection (a) of this Section 53-92, beginning January 1, 2022, there is imposed upon all sales of retail marijuana and retail marijuana products to a consumer by a retail marijuana store a tax at the rate of one and one-half (1.5) percent of the amount of the sale. The one and one-half (1.5) percent tax described in this subsection 53-92(d) shall be dedicated to the Pandemic Research Fund for pandemic research by University of Colorado Denver CityCenter.

Section 2. Chapter 53, D.R.M.C. shall be amended by the addition of a new Section 95 to read as follows:

Sec. 53-95. - Pandemic Research Fund

The Pandemic Research Fund is created for the purpose of receiving revenues derived from the retail marijuana sale tax described in subsection 53-92(d) for research into the reduction of risks from pathogens of pandemic potential. All revenue collected by the city pursuant to section 53-92(d), less administrative costs incurred in the tax’s collection, not to exceed eight (8) percent of the total revenue, shall be remitted to the Pandemic Research Fund, the funds from which shall be dedicated entirely to the University of Colorado Denver CityCenter.

(a) Description of activities to be funded. Upon receipt of the funds from the Pandemic Research Fund, the University of Colorado Denver CityCenter shall establish equitable mechanisms to identify and select projects, and allocate the funds, less any administrative costs, which shall not be subject to any cap unless otherwise agreed upon by the city and the University, as follows:

(1) Three fourths of the funds shall be allocated to developing, implementing, and evaluating practical, step-change technological advances to protect the population from pathogens (whether known or potential) of pandemic potential.

(i) From the enactment of this ordinance until 20 years thereafter, the research to be funded under this subsection (a) (1) shall be limited to the pursuit of technological advances in the following categories:

(A) Personal protective equipment, particularly that which is (1) intuitive, readily accessible, and desirable to health care workers, other essential workers, and members of the public of all ages, (2) affords a high level of protection against infection to the wearer, and (3) provides exceptional source control (such as preventing a pathogen’s spread from infectious wearers to others).

(B) Disinfection and sterilization technology for quickly eliminating microbial threats from surfaces, air, hands, and the like without harming humans or animals.

(C) Design features of built and transport environments (such as offices, classrooms, buses, and hospitals, including ventilation systems, architectural layout, and antimicrobial surfaces) that complement other infection control technologies and sharply curtail the potential for the spread of microbial threats, without
harming humans or animals.

(ii) Beginning 20 years after the enactment of this ordinance, the research to be funded under this provision (a) (1) may be expanded to include any nonpharmaceutical technologies that enable infection control in healthcare and non-healthcare settings, with the goal of drastically reducing the risk of transmission of pathogens (whether known or potential) of pandemic potential.

(2) One fourth of the funds shall be allocated to research as to public policy and planning related to pandemic preparedness and recovery, including:

(i) The role of local, state and federal governments during a pandemic.

(ii) Public policy and strategic planning related to best practices for pandemic control, such as social distancing.

(iii) The potential role of urban planning and architecture in mitigating future pandemics.

(iv) The effects of pandemics on the economy.

(v) Scenario planning for public school systems before, during, and after a pandemic.

(b) Distribution of Funding. The three-fourths allocation described in section (a) (1) and the one-fourth allocation described in section (a) (2) shall be achieved over a five-year period, such that the overall allocation of funds distributed over the five-year period shall average, as closely as practicable, the ratios specified in section (a). The first five-year period shall begin on January 1, 2022 and a new five-year period shall begin every five years thereafter.

(c) Oversight and Reporting.

(1) The University of Colorado Denver CityCenter shall establish mechanisms by which each recipient of funding from the Pandemic Research Fund will submit to the University a report detailing the use of the funds received. The University shall require such report from each recipient not less than once annually, until the recipient has no further information to report.

(2) Expenditures pursuant to this section shall be made pursuant to an agreement between the city and the University of Colorado Denver CityCenter, which agreement shall define the obligations of the university in consideration of such funding. Such agreement shall not restrict the eligibility of funding recipients beyond those criteria described by this ordinance, except as required by municipal or state law. The agreement shall be administered on behalf of the city by the manager of revenue and any expenditure under the agreement shall be subject to audit by the auditor for compliance with the requirements of this section and of the agreement.

(3) Not less than once annually, the University of Colorado Denver CityCenter shall submit to the city auditor and council a report that lists each entity to which the university distributed funding pursuant to this ordinance and the amount of funding each entity received, as well as any administrative costs incurred by the University in the process of selecting recipients and disbursing funds. The auditor shall make such report available to the public.

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 Municipal Information Booklet

Coordinated Election
Tuesday, November 2, 2021

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

Hon. Paul D. López
Clerk and Recorder, City and County of Denver
Safe and Sound Denver
Ballot Measure 2F

The ballot title below was drafted by the proponents of the referendum for ballot purposes only. The ballot title will not appear in the Denver Revised Municipal Code. The referred measure is included on the ballot as a proposed repeal of an ordinance currently in the Denver Revised Municipal Code because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures. 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.

Shall the voters of the City and County of Denver repeal Ordinance No. 2020-0888, regulating residential care facilities, such as elderly residents and people experiencing homelessness, by size rather than use; allowing community corrections facilities to locate in commercial and mixed-use zoning districts and removing the buffer from residential zones and schools for such facilities; and increasing the number of unrelated adults who can live together in a household from two to five with up to one licensed car per adult plus one additional vehicle per household?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2F:

The repeal of this measure will lead to a reduction in available property for homeless shelters and community corrections facilities. The measure will limit the capacity in these facilities resulting in the city having to purchase more locations to serve the same number of individuals. It may make it more difficult for the city or a potential acceptable homeless shelter or community corrections vendor to identify property for these types of facilities due to increased property value which may increase future capital and operational costs if Denver must acquire and manage additional homeless shelters and/or community corrections facilities. The City and County of Denver cannot estimate the impact to the 2022 budget.

In February 2020, just before the COVID lockdown, the 180-page Group Living Zoning Code Amendment (GLA) was introduced.

As we struggled to keep our jobs, school our children, and manage our health, this massive amendment entered the legislative phase, grew to over 200 pages, and passed City Council in February 2021. Public record showed 88% opposition.

The GLA was marketed as “just a couple extra roommates.” It’s much more than that. DETAILS MATTER.

The GLA originated in the Mayor’s office and was sponsored by both at-large city councilpersons. The GLA committee was comprised of 40 service providers, who benefited from the ordinance, and 8 neighborhood representatives.

Here are some DETAILS:

- It allows a 150% increase to occupants in any single-family home
5 adults plus any minor children can occupy any single-family home. Our homes are not one-size-fits-all. Why isn't this number proportional to the size of the home?

- It uses single-family homes to increase density
Density = more congestion, trash, and parking issues. Why are we compromising the well-being of our neighborhoods?

- It allows new 1–10-person 24/7 homeless shelters in all single-family neighborhoods with no buffer zones
Shelters were previously sited in industrial and urban centers. Why are we injecting instability into our neighborhoods?

- It increases halfway house locations by 492% to 19,000 acres throughout the city in mixed-use, multi-unit and commercial corridor zones, which are often adjacent to single-family homes
Denver’s recidivism (re-offense) rate is 41%, which means 4 in 10 will likely re-offend. Shouldn’t improvements be made to rehabilitation programs first?

- It removes historical 1,500 foot buffer zones between schools, residences and halfway houses
Where is the protection for Denver’s children?

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2F

The Zoning Code governs every building in Denver and affects every neighborhood.
- It allows all family members to live together, intergenerationally
  The previous Zoning Code also allowed unlimited family members to live together, so a repeal would not affect families.

- It commercializes single-family neighborhoods as service providers and investors buy single-family housing
  There are 134,000 single-family homes in Denver and the current owner-occupant-to-investor rate is 50/50.

- It redefines housing uses
  These uses require services as a condition of residency: halfway houses and shelters;

  These uses do not require services: transitional/supportive housing (e.g., transitioning from camp, shelter or halfway house), tiny homes and sanctioned camps.

  All of these housing uses serve populations that need services to stabilize and be successful;

  Why are services only required for some and not others?

  There is no increased budget for neighborhood inspection, fire, and police resources. Currently, there are 24 inspectors for Denver’s 155 square miles.

  The GLA Committee charter stated zoning does not and cannot affect housing affordability. This is a huge experiment with our neighborhoods and our lives and no guarantee of affordability.

  Similar policies were implemented in Portland, Seattle, and San Francisco. Do we want that for Denver?

  Denver neighbors should have a voice and a choice about housing in our neighborhoods. **VOTE YES ON 2F!**

---

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2F**

Teachers. Nurses. Grocery Workers. These are the neighbors who would be affected by the repeal of the group living measure, by taking away housing options from those who give the most to our communities. Voting NO on 2F will keep Denver housed.

The group living ordinance was passed after a three-year process and had the support of 11 Denver City Council Members, over 50 organizations, and over 1,000 residents whose input helped shape the final package. The group living ordinance was a necessary update to our city’s housing zoning. Denver was a 21st century city adhering to housing codes from the 1950’s. After six months as law, most people continue to live as they did before, but the few households who need to share housing to get through Denver’s housing crisis can now do so without fear of being forced to leave their home in the middle of the on-going pandemic - unless 2F passes.

If it passes, the 2F repeal would make Denver’s housing laws among the most restrictive in the state. Cities like Colorado Springs, Arvada, and Lakewood all allow people to have more than one roommate – and Denver should keep doing so too (by rejecting 2F).

If 2F passes, it will also take away tools Denver needs to better serve those experiencing homelessness: it could result in having to cut the number of beds at existing shelters, and it would limit the ability of those shelters to renovate or expand services such as health, mental health or housing counseling.

Here are the facts on some misleading claims:
- The group living ordinance does NOT allow any community corrections facilities serving people coming out of prison in single-family residential areas.
- Denver’s zoning code has always allowed buildings like churches to provide emergency indoor shelters for those experiencing homelessness, even in residential areas and even if 2F passes.
- Not all families will be protected if 2F passes, Denver will go back to very outdated family definitions and married couples with one or more adopted adult children would be against the law because they aren’t “blood relatives”
- The group living ordinance actually expanded public notice of new residential care facilities and put more limits on how many could be in any one area to avoid concentration.
- The group housing ordinance does NOT govern any aspect of outdoor spaces or sanctioned camps

Denver needs affordable housing options now. We need to vote no on 2F to protect housing options for hardworking Coloradans, many of whom have struggled to pay their bills due to the pandemic. We can't build back better by taking away housing options. Vote NO of 2F.
Fill Future Vacancies for Independent Monitor

**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. 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.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to allow the citizen oversight board to appoint the independent monitor with consent of city council, providing the office of the monitor with independent legal counsel and establishing employment status of employees?

**Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2G:**

There is no fiscal impact from recognizing office of independent monitor employees within the city's civil service system, because the same salary scale and benefits apply to civil service and at-will employees. The Monitor would have the option of identifying existing employees or filling open positions that are already funded within the office with one or both of their allowed appointees for no fiscal impact, so the fiscal impact of keeping two employees as appointees is unknown at this time. Contracting or hiring independent legal counsel for legal advice on the monitor's powers or the ordinance governing the oversight system is estimated to cost $50,000 per year, based on analysis of the questions where such advice would have been sought by the previous Monitor in recent years.

**Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 2G**

Voting “yes” on the measure changes Denver’s Charter to increase the effectiveness of the Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM). The OIM provides independent oversight of investigations into wrongdoing by uniformed officers and deputies. First, the measure allows the Independent Monitor to seek independent legal advice when needed to fulfill their duties as a watchdog over other City of Denver Safety Agencies. Second, it gives the Citizen Oversight Board (COB) responsibility for appointing the Monitor, with confirmation by City Council, to ensure true independence from the agencies they monitor. The COB is appointed by the Mayor and Council to represent the community on issues of concern about law enforcement, and the Board currently works closely with and evaluates the performance of the Monitor. Third, employees under the Monitor will be part of the Career Service to ensure they are protected from retaliation for doing their job as watchdogs, with no changes to salaries or benefits, but retaining two appointed positions that serve at the pleasure of the Independent Monitor to help them carry out their duties. Together these changes reduce actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise and increase the independence of the office to reinforce public trust in law enforcement and any investigations into wrongdoing in Denver.

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 2G**

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 on November 2, 2021, 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:

Amend §2.6.7 by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined to read as follows:
§ 2.6.7
ARTICLE XII. - INDEPENDENT MONITOR
§ 12.1.1 Office of Independent Monitor.
(A) Office created.
   (i) There is hereby created the office of the independent monitor ("monitor's office") for the City and County of Denver. This office shall consist of a full-time monitor with appropriate professional and support staff. For purposes of this section, "monitor" means the head of the office of the independent monitor.
   (ii) The monitor's office shall actively monitor and participate in any investigations as may be prescribed in ordinance of uniformed personnel; make recommendations to the manager of safety regarding administrative action, including possible discipline, for such uniformed personnel; make recommendations regarding policy issues; and address any other issues of concern to the community, the members of the citizen oversight board ("board") created pursuant to subsection (B) of this section, the city council, the manager of safety, the chief of police, or the sheriff. For purposes of this article, "uniformed personnel" means all members of the classified service of the Denver police department, all sworn members of the Denver sheriff department, and members of the Denver fire department who are authorized to carry and use firearms on duty.
   (iii) The monitor shall establish standards of professional conduct and a comprehensive training program for its own staff in order to evaluate whether internal investigations have been properly conducted and to make recommendations as to the sustaining of rule violations, the imposition of disciplinary sanctions, and changes in policy and training.
   (iv) The monitor shall exercise such other powers and duties as may be provided by ordinance.
   (v) The monitor may employ or contract for services of an independent general counsel who must be a member of the Colorado Bar. Upon request of the monitor, independent general counsel may serve in lieu of the Department of Law in the following enumerated functions:
      (a) The monitor may retain independent general counsel to provide legal advice under § 6.1.3(B) to assist the monitor in the performance of its duties. Legal advice of the independent general counsel does not constitute a formal opinion under 6.1.3(B).
      (b) The monitor may use independent general counsel to serve as special counsel if a dispute arises under § 6.1.2. All amounts paid for services shall be from the appropriation to the monitor.
(B) The citizen oversight board. There is hereby created the citizen oversight board, the size, qualifications, composition and appointment of which shall be as provided by ordinance. The functions of the board shall be to:
   (i) Assess the effectiveness of the monitor's office;
   (ii) Make policy-level recommendations regarding discipline, use of force, and other policies; rules; hiring; training; community relations; and the complaint process;
   (iii) Address any other issues of concern to the community, members of the board, the monitor, the manager of safety, the chief of police, the sheriff, or the fire chief;
   (iv) Make recommendations as to specific cases as may be prescribed in ordinance; and,
   (v) Exercise such other powers and duties as may be provided by ordinance; and,
   (vi) In addition to executing the powers and duties assigned to the citizen oversight board, the citizen oversight board shall appoint, by and with the consent of city council, the monitor or any appointee who will serve as monitor in the interim. The monitor shall serve at the pleasure of the citizen oversight board.

Amend § 6.1.3 by deleting the language stricken to read:

§ 6.1.3 - Functions of the Department of Law.

(D) Drafting such legislation and rendering such formal opinions as specified in Section 3.3.5(D) and as may be requested by the Mayor, the City Council, the Auditor or any other officer of the City and County, acting in his or her official capacity;

Amend § 9.1.1 (E)(xiii) by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined to read as follows:

§ 9.1.1 Career Service personnel system.

(E)(xiii) any employee appointed to serve at the pleasure of the mayor for the purpose of monitoring internal investigations and disciplinary actions in the Department of Safety, and any employees appointed by the monitor to serve at the pleasure of the monitor. The appointment of any monitor by the mayor pursuant to this or any other provision of the charter shall require confirmation by the city council. The director of the office of independent
monitor ("monitor") shall serve at the pleasure of the citizen oversight board and up to two employees appointed by the monitor shall serve at the pleasure of the monitor. Prior to any removal of the monitor by the citizen oversight board, the board shall consult with the city council regarding its intention to remove the monitor.

Election Day Change

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 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. 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.

Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to move the general election for the City and County of Denver from the first Tuesday in May of odd-numbered years to the first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years to bring the City and County of Denver into compliance with federal and state laws for mailing June runoff election ballots to military and overseas citizens ballots forty-five days before Election Day?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 2H:

Changing the general election for the City and County of Denver from the first Tuesday in May of odd-numbered years to the first Tuesday in April of odd-numbered years to bring the City and County of Denver into compliance with federal and state laws for mailing June runoff election ballots to military and overseas citizens ballots forty-five days before Election Day will not result in a financial impact to the City and County of Denver.

Written Comments FOR

Ballot Measure 2H

This measure brings Denver’s municipal runoff election into compliance with federal and state laws that require ballots for military and overseas citizen voters be sent 45 days before an election.

Denver’s charter requires that the mayor, auditor, clerk and district council members be elected by “a majority of the votes cast.” This amendment is the only alternative that preserves the majority vote. Denver’s runoff system produces a majority winner every time, something no other system can guarantee.

A principal advantage of runoff elections is that they provide a more focused one-on-one race, after an initial election with a crowded field of candidates. And the runoff usually generates increased turnout. More than half of all Denver runoff elections since 1983 had higher voter turnout than the first round. The largest increase for a mayoral runoff was in 1995, when 20 percent more voters cast ballots in the runoff than in the general election. For a city council runoff, the largest increase in turnout was 24 percent. The runoff is the only system that can increase turnout in the final outcome.

The clerk made an alternative suggestion of adopting ranked-choice voting, in which voters can rank candidates in order of preference. For several reasons, the council chose to refer the simpler measure of putting sufficient time between the general and runoff elections. First, implementing ranked-choice voting would have required that we repeal the Charter’s requirement that officials be elected by majority vote. Ranked-choice voting very often fails to produce a majority winner, due to its “instant runoff” tabulation method that removes some voters’ ballots from the final count if they fail to select any remaining candidates. That frequently results in winners who get less than 50 percent of the vote. For instance, of the 28 San Francisco elections determined by ranked-choice voting, only once did a candidate surpass the 50-percent mark. In the most extreme case, a candidate was declared the victor with only 21 percent of the vote.

Second, in a period of time when many have been conditioned to distrust elections, the time is not right to overhaul to a confusing new voting system. The clerk’s analysis found that while it might save the cost of a runoff election, that savings would be offset by a nearly equal amount of recurring spending on voter education before each election. Denver used a form of ranked-choice voting from 1913 to 1935, when voters replaced it with the runoff. Denver should not go backward to a
complicated system that allows winners who don't get a majority of the vote.

Written Comments AGAINST
Ballot Measure 2H

Extending the runoff election for an extra month is the wrong move for civility in politics. Our typical one-month runoff is an opportunity for special interest money to buy off our elected officials. It is shameful that the Denver City Council would not even consider adopting Ranked Choice Voting and do away with the annoying runoff election (and save tax payers close to a million dollars). Broomfield’s City Council made the right choice, Denver’s City Council not so much.

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 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 2, 2021, 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:

Section 2. § 8.2.2 of the Charter of the City and County of Denver is amended by deleting the language stricken and adding the language underlined to read as follows:

§ 8.2.2 - General election.
(A) For general elections conducted before January 1, 2023, the general City and County election shall be held on the first Tuesday in May of every odd-numbered year. On the first Tuesday of May, 1995 and on the same day every four (4) years thereafter, the general election shall be held for the purpose of electing a Mayor, an Auditor, thirteen Councilmembers, and the Clerk and Recorder; and for the submission of any initiative, referendum, Charter amendment, or other referred measure to the voters. On the first Tuesday of May, 2005 and on the same day every four (4) years thereafter, the general election shall be held for the purpose of conducting vacancy elections in accordance with the requirements of this Charter and for the submission of any initiative, referendum, Charter amendment, or other referred measure to the voters.

B) Beginning with the 2023 general City and County election, the general election shall be held on the first Tuesday of April of every odd-numbered year. On the first Tuesday of April, 2023, and on the same day every four (4) years thereafter, the general election shall be held for the purpose of electing a Mayor, an Auditor, thirteen Councilmembers, and the Clerk and Recorder; and for the submission of any initiative, referendum, Charter amendment, or other referred measure to the voters. On the first Tuesday of April, 2025 and on the same day every four (4) years thereafter, the general election shall be held for the purpose of conducting vacancy elections in accordance with the requirements of this Charter and for the submission of any initiative, referendum, Charter amendment, or other referred measure to the voters.

Parks and Open Spaces
Ballot Measure 301

The ballot title below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative 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 drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures. 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.

Shall the voters of the City and County of Denver adopt a measure prohibiting the following without the approval of voters in a regularly scheduled municipal or special election:
• any commercial or residential development on land designated as a city park and land protected by a City-owned conservation easement except where consistent with park purposes, conservation easement purposes, or for cultural facilities, and
any partial or complete cancellation of a City-owned conservation easement unless for the purpose of creating a new park?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 301:

The nature of this initiative requires no financial obligations other than the potential for a special election. Holding a special election solely for the purpose of this initiative would be very rare - it is more likely any items requiring voter approval would be held until the next regularly scheduled election. In the rare case of a special election, the estimated cost breakdown would be as follows:

Expense Estimates for a small citywide election (11-13 voting sites):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballot printing vendor costs (ballots, freight, postage)</td>
<td>$450,000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs (election judges for voting sites, hotlines, training, and ballot processing)</td>
<td>$450,000*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional costs of election (voter mailings and postage, signage and supplies for voting sites, professional services, equipment moving vendor, costs to lease voting sites, etc.)</td>
<td>$100,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*A ballot with a second page can add up to $150,000 more in ballot printing costs plus ballot processing staff payroll.

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 301

Initiated Ordinance 301 is the “Green versus Concrete” ballot initiative. This citizen-initiated measure will protect our parks and open spaces from unchecked development by requiring Denver voter approval before real estate development can occur on designated park land and land protected by a City-owned conservation easement. The 155-acre Park Hill Golf Course land is currently protected by a City-owned conservation easement that Denver voters approved and paid for to permanently protect this green open space from development. This conservation easement allows this invaluable green space to be used for open space and recreational activities such as: athletic fields; walking trails; running tracks; tennis and pickle ball courts; basketball courts; baseball fields; a swimming pool; and urban gardens.

Now a real estate developer wants to eliminate the conservation easement to smother this irreplaceable green open space with concrete. This push to gentrify open space will leave a sea of luxury townhomes and apartments with a few mature trees, 25 acres of stormwater drainage land, and a smattering of pocket parks between buildings. We have heard the promises of developers in the past and have rarely seen those promises fulfilled.

Denver’s past visionary leaders committed to creating a “City within a Park.” As increased pollution and climate change affect our health and well-being, that vision is in jeopardy. Rampant real estate development is converting Denver into a city of concrete.

While Denver grows, we need to preserve and protect our parks and other green open spaces to provide recreational, public health, and environmental benefits for the entire community. Needs for additional housing and other desired built-environment projects must be met by construction on land outside of protected park and other green open space land—not on that invaluable land. Once we lose green space, we will never get it back. We need physical exercise and relief from noise, pollution, and scorching hardscape—not a mini-city built on legally protected green open space that is smothered with concrete.

Critical Facts Regarding Initiated Ordinance 301:

- Denver’s park land and green open space have not kept up with its dramatic population growth.
- Only 5% of Denver’s land is used for parks and recreation compared to 15%, the 2021 average for America’s 100 largest cities.
- Nearly 50% of Denver (except for DIA) is now paved or built up compared to about 19% in the mid-1970s.
- Denver is 8th worst out of large U.S. cities for ground level ozone pollution.
- In 2019 the EPA downgraded Denver’s ozone rating from “moderate” to “serious.”
• Climate change is real. “Parks, recreation, and the urban forest are vital infrastructure to our city’s health. Trees and vegetation in our parks...help clean the air we breathe and provide shade that decreases the cooling load on our energy infrastructure during our hot months.”

[Denver Parks and Recreation Game Plan for a Healthy City]

A “yes” vote on Initiated Ordinance 301 says we believe in the value of green space over concrete. Vote “yes” on Initiated Ordinance 301.

Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 301

Vote no on Initiative 301.

Initiative 301 is a confusing and misleading measure that seeks to silence the voice of an already marginalized community and erode local residents’ control of the future of their own neighborhoods. This is a direct attempt to make a local issue into a citywide issue at the expense of a diverse community and if this initiative passes it would set a dangerous precedent against local control for future planning processes. Initiative 301 is not, as it claims, about parks and open space.

Initiative 301 in truth only applies to one property – the defunct, privately-owned Park Hill Golf Course property and not to any other park or property in the city. It is a direct attempt to shut down the diverse and historically disenfranchised Northeast Park Hill community’s ability to determine what they want for this property and for the future of their neighborhood.

There is currently a land use restriction on the Park Hill Golf Course property, put in place by City Council, not voters that only allows the land to be used as an 18-hole golf course. If initiative 301 passes, rather than allowing the local community to work with the city government to create a shared vision for the property, the entire city of Denver will have veto power over the wishes of this diverse community.

The Northeast Park Hill community is facing serious challenges including a shortage of affordable housing, disinvestment and disenfranchisement, a lack of access to fresh foods, and a need for open space. If Initiative 301 passes, Northeast Park Hill’s voice will be silenced, and the land will remain a golf course, preventing the land from serving the community with a public park, affordable housing, or a needed grocery store.

While there are important public health benefits to open space, there are equally critical health benefits to affordable housing, access to fresh foods, and job opportunities, all of which local residents have said they want for this land in a recent city survey. The same survey showed that the Northeast Park Hill neighborhood had very different priorities than the rest of the city and is very different demographically, being a majority community of color and having an average income 30% below the city average.

True equity demands that we don’t allow the majority to silence the voice of any marginalized community. When this initiative was presented to Denver City Council last year, 10 out of 13 city council members voted not to refer this initiative to the ballot, because they determined it was confusing, misleading and because it created equity issues.

We don’t allow Cherry Creek to decide what’s best for Five Points and vice versa, and we shouldn’t allow the city to silence the voice of a local community. This initiative is about politics and power, not parks, and this is not how we should make policy in Denver. Protect local choices and local voices and vote no on 301.

Text of Measure

Be it enacted by the City and County of Denver:

Section 1. The Denver Revised Municipal Code is amended by the addition of a new Section 193 under Chapter 39 (Parks and Recreation), Article VIII (Natural Areas) to read as follows:

CHAPTER 39 (Parks and Recreation), ARTICLE VIII (Natural Areas)

§39-193 - Park and Open Space Preservation

(a) (1) Construction of any commercial or residential building on land designated as a city park or protected by a City-owned conservation easement and (2) any partial or complete termination, release, extinguishment, or abandonment of a City-owned conservation easement are prohibited without the approval of a majority of the
registered electors voting in a regularly scheduled or special municipal election.

(b) The prohibitions of this section 39-193 do not apply to: (1) construction of and/or improvements to buildings used for limited commercial purposes related to cultural facilities or for park or recreational purposes, and (2) construction of and/or improvements to infrastructure on land protected by a City-owned conservation easement for limited commercial purposes consistent with the conservation easement, and (3) conservation easement cancellation related to the City’s acquisition of the protected land for designated park purposes.

(c) If any section, paragraph, clause or other portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected.

Conservation Easement
Ballot Measure 302

The ballot title below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative 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 drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures. 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.

Shall the Voters of the City and County of Denver adopt a measure to do the following: 1) amend the definition of conservation easement to apply only to conservation easements which have been reviewed and approved by the Division of Conservation and for which an income tax credit certificate has been issued by the Division of Conservation pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 12-15-105 and 106; 2) require voter approval before the City allows residential or commercial construction on City park land or City property protected by a conservation easement with exceptions for limited construction related to recreational use, cultural facilities, or construction consistent with the terms of a conservation easement; and 3) require voter approval to extinguish a City-owned conservation easement?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 302:

The nature of this initiative requires no financial obligations since the ballot language does not reference the need for a special election. Items placed on the ballot requiring voter approval would be held until the next regularly scheduled election.

Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 302

Initiative 302 is fighting to protect the right of the diverse Northeast Park Hill neighborhood to have the power to determine what they would like to see in their own community – rather than letting the whole city decide for them. There is another measure on the ballot that gives the rest of the city veto power over Northeast Park Hill and what they want for their community. By voting yes on Initiative 302, you are returning that power to this local, historically marginalized community to determine what they want for their neighborhood.

We don’t let Cherry Creek decide what Five Points needs and vice versa, because local communities know best what their needs are. The Northeast Park Hill community is very different demographically than the larger city, being a majority community of color with an average income 30% below the rest of the city’s and has very different needs and priorities.

They are experiencing rapid displacement from the affordable housing crisis and have limited access to healthy foods and job opportunities. A recent City survey showed that the local community would like to use this land for a mix of uses to revitalize their neighborhood including a grocery store, affordable housing and recreation space. The same survey showed that the larger city had very different priorities.

Voting Yes on 302 protects local voices and local choices.

Within Northeast Park Hill, is the Park Hill Golf Course, a 155-acre, defunct, privately-owned golf course. An easement on the property prevents it from being used for anything other than a golf course. The surrounding
community is currently engaging in a city visioning process to decide if this land, adjacent to transit, should be used for anything other than a golf course, and if so, what are the community’s needs and priorities for its future. Initiative 302 doesn’t change the rigorous process and City Council approvals that would have to occur for any changes to happen on this property.

The competing initiative, sponsored by people that don’t live in the neighborhood, disregards the community’s visioning process and allows the entire city to decide what will happen with the property.

Specifically, Initiative 302 protects the voice of Northeast Park Hill by more clearly defining a conservation easement in Denver law. This measure doesn’t change state conservation easement laws or reduce land protections and doesn’t give the developer any rights to develop the property. In fact, all Denver parks are already protected by a governing agreement that cannot be modified without a citywide vote.

The Northeast Park Hill neighborhood has been disenfranchised and neglected for years, due to racist housing policies and disinvestment. Real equity demands that we not allow the majority to silence any marginalized communities.

Local residents know best what their community needs. If this measure does not pass, it sets a dangerous precedent for citywide voters to have veto power over any local neighborhood issue.

Protect local choices and local voices and vote yes on 302.

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 302**

This ballot initiative is financed and sponsored by a real estate developer who wants to tear up an existing perpetual conservation easement so that it can build mixed-use development on one of the last large pieces of open space that could be acquired for a Denver regional park, the 155-acre Park Hill Golf Course (PHGC) land. Today, this land is protected from development by a City-owned conservation easement.

The developer has launched this misleading and deliberately confusing ballot initiative for the sole purpose of undermining citizen-initiated Initiated Ordinance 301. Its proposed initiative dishonestly appears to be a “protect parks” measure by copying the exact language of Initiated Ordinance 301, but it sneaks in a poison pill that redefines the term “conservation easement” under Denver law to exclude the PHGC land conservation easement. This sneaky maneuver would eliminate the voter protections of Initiated Ordinance 301 for the PHGC land and support the developer’s plans to smother most of this pristine green open space with concrete for its sole profit.

The developer promises a grocery store, some “affordable” housing, and other “community amenities” on the PHGC land. First, there is a fine fresh food supermarket three blocks away and a recent City-commissioned report proves the developer cannot deliver another supermarket. Second, why build housing and other “community amenities” on protected green open space when there is significant undeveloped and underutilized industrial/commercial land west, north, and east of the PHGC land where such development should logically occur? Third, how can these pie-in-the-sky developer promises be effectively enforced? Once the conservation easement might be removed, there would be no limit to the amount of concrete that would cover these 155 acres of green open space.

The reality is that the real estate developer’s project would leave us with mostly a gentrified sea of luxury townhomes and apartments with a few mature trees, 25 acres of stormwater drainage land, and a smattering of pocket parks between buildings.

Denver’s past visionary leaders committed to create a “City within a Park.” As increased pollution and climate change affect our health and well-being, that vision is in jeopardy. Rampant real estate development is converting Denver into a city of concrete.

While Denver grows, we must preserve and protect our parks and other green open spaces to provide recreational, public health, and environmental benefits to the entire community. Additional housing and other built-environment projects must be constructed on land outside of protected park and other green open space land—not on that invaluable land. We need physical exercise and respite from noise, pollution, and scorching hardscape—not a mini-city of concrete built on legally protected green open space.

This is a city-wide issue involving a City-owned real
estate asset. Simply put, passage of this measure would increase traffic and pollution and would be a disaster for the environment and Denver citizens and a multi-million-dollar gift to this developer.

Vote “no” on Initiated Ordinance 302.

Text of Measure

Be it enacted by the City and County of Denver:

Section 1. The Denver Revised Municipal Code subsection (5) of Sec. 39-191 is amended by adding the language underlined and deleting the language stricken, to read as follows:

CHAPTER 39 (Parks and Recreation), ARTICLE VIII
(Natural Areas)

Sec. 39-191. - Definitions.

The following words and phrases, when used in this article, shall have the meanings respectively ascribed to them:

(5) Conservation easement. As defined and provided for in Article 30.5 of Title 38 of the Colorado Revised Statutes: An interest in real property as defined in C.R.S. § 38-30.5-101, et seq., for which a Colorado state income tax credit certificate has been issued by the Division of Conservation pursuant to C.R.S. §§ 12-15-105 and 106.

(Ord. No. 764-97, § 1, 11-3-97)

Section 2. The Denver Revised Municipal Code is amended by the addition of a new Section 193 under Chapter 39 (Parks and Recreation), Article VIII (Natural Areas) to read as follows:

CHAPTER 39 (Parks and Recreation), ARTICLE VIII
(Natural Areas)

§ 39-193. – Park and Open Space Preservation

(a) (1) Construction of any commercial or residential building on land designated as a city park or protected by a City-owned conservation easement and (2) any partial or complete termination, release, extinguishment, or abandonment of a City-owned conservation easement are prohibited without the approval of a majority of the registered electors voting in a regularly scheduled or special municipal election.

(b) The prohibitions of this section 39-193 do not apply to: (1) construction of and/or improvements to buildings used for limited commercial purposes related to cultural facilities or for park or recreational purposes, and (2) construction of and/or improvements to infrastructure on land protected by a City-owned conservation easement for limited commercial purposes consistent with the conservation easement, and (3) conservation easement cancellation related to the City’s acquisition of the protected land for designated park purposes.

(c) If any section, paragraph, clause or other portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected.

Homelessness, Compassion and Safety
Ballot Measure 303

The ballot title below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative 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 drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures. 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.

Shall the voters of the City and County of Denver adopt an ordinance requiring the City and County of Denver to enforce unauthorized camping, providing a process for private enforcement if the City fails to enforce unauthorized camping; allowing the City to establish up to four authorized camping locations on public property where the City must provide running water, restroom facilities and lighting; and funding such camping locations with city revenues to support the city’s homeless population?
Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 303:

Financial Impact:

Encampment Location Costs

The estimated annual cost for one designated camping location per the language of the “Homelessness, Compassion, and Safety” initiative will require the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>One-Time Cost Per Location</th>
<th>Ongoing Cost per Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Land Purchase (depending on size and location)</td>
<td>$0*-$1,500,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lighting</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$16,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handwashing stations</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$38,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Standard Portable Toilets with Hand Sanitizer</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$0-$1,500,000</td>
<td>$254,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If the city repurposes property currently owned for a Safe Outdoor Space

- Land Purchase: The City and County of Denver will have to allocate land currently owned or will have to purchase parcels of land. Real Estate is reviewing parcels currently owned by the city to determine if certain parcels are zoned and suitable for Safe Outdoor Space
- Lighting: Lighting will need to be purchased and powered to meet the minimum guidelines. This includes lighting for small areas and floodlights for the larger areas
- Handwashing stations: Non-potable handwashing stations will be provided to ensure the health of the population. The estimate includes daily servicing
- Standard Portable Toilets: Restrooms will be provided in the form of portable toilets. The estimate includes daily servicing

While not stated in the ballot language, the city will need to provide additional services to those residing in a designated camping site. Currently, the city partners with a not-for-profit to provide two Safe Outdoor Space (SOS). The average cost to provide an unhoused household a space at the current locations, is approximately $10,200. Each site can house up to 50 households (100 total households) for a total annual cost of $1,023,900. Below is the agreed to pricing with the current vendor to provide accommodations to those sites. The contract amount does not include parcels of land or lighting, handwashing stations, and portable toilets which the city procured.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Personnel</th>
<th>Number of Employees</th>
<th>Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Manager(s)</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Coordinator(s)</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>$236,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Assistants</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>$253,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fringe Benefits</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>$602,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other Direct Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Other Direct Costs</th>
<th>Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Start-up Costs</td>
<td>$90,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Program/Project Supplies</td>
<td>$15,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Client Support</td>
<td>$102,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$121,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>$328,700</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Indirect Costs

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indirect Costs</th>
<th>Costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$93,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subtotal</td>
<td>$93,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

TOTAL 16 $1,023,900

Cost per Safe Outdoor Space (SOS) per location at 100 households

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One-time Cost</th>
<th>Ongoing Cost</th>
<th>Total Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$0-$1,500,000</td>
<td>$1,277,900</td>
<td>$0-$2,777,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Address Complaints Within 72 Hour Costs

The ballot language also states, “The city must take enforcement action within 72-hours of the filing of a complaint.” Depending on the number of complaints, this will result in additional teams for safety and public health, to meet the 72-hour timeline to avoid civil action against the city. Using the current number of complaints, the City and County of Denver estimates the following.
ITEM | 2022 One Time Costs | 2022 Estimated Cost
--- | --- | ---
PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF | $6,000 | $202,400
SAFETY TEAM TO ADDRESS COMPLAINTS | $1,478,000 | $1,816,000
SAFETY OVERTIME | $0 | $300,000
TOTAL | $1,484,000 | $2,318,400

- Two Denver Department of Public Health and Environment employees to meet the demand of visiting more encampment locations per year.
- Four Street Enforcement Teams (SET) to address code violations and assist in directing unhoused individuals to the designated locations.
- Safety Overtime in case of emergency response services.
- At this time, the city is unable to estimate the potential litigation costs the city may encounter if the 72-hour enforcement period is implemented.
- If cleanup of sites are required, an additional $4.5m may be necessary for personnel, waste disposal contracts and equipment. Out of the $4.5m, approximately $1.5m of this is dedicated to one-time equipment costs. These costs are not included in the enforcement total because the ballot language does not explicitly require cleanup services.

Cost of Ballot Initiative for 2022 Enforcement Action within 72-Hours

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>One-time Cost</th>
<th>Ongoing Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$1,484,400</td>
<td>$2,318,400</td>
<td>$3,802,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total Estimated Cost for One Safe Outdoor Space and 72 Hour Enforcement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>One-time Cost</th>
<th>Ongoing Cost</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SOS per Location</td>
<td>$0 - $1,500,00</td>
<td>$1,277,900</td>
<td>$1,277,900 - $2,777,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>72 Hour Enforcement</td>
<td>$1,484,000</td>
<td>$2,318,400</td>
<td>$3,802,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$1,484,000 - $2,984,000</td>
<td>$3,596,300</td>
<td>$5,080,300 - $6,580,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A Compassionate, Common-Sense Approach to Denver Homeless Encampments

Denver is facing a continuing public health and safety emergency with homeless campsites being set up across the city in spaces that lack the facilities to humanely accommodate overnight stays. Improving accountability for, and requiring basic, humane services at, city-sponsored encampments for those experiencing homelessness is the aim of the Homelessness Compassion and Safety Initiative.

Compassionate
Tent cities with no services are not beneficial or respectful to anyone – especially those experiencing homelessness. The Homelessness Compassion & Safety Initiative requires the City, at a minimum, to provide running water, bathrooms, and safety lighting at all encampments it sponsors. The city can provide additional services if it chooses to do, but this is designed to require a compassionate, bedrock set of basic services.

Promotes Safety & Citizens’ Rights
Requirements for services at encampments and common-sense prohibitions on unauthorized camping need rock-solid enforcement mechanisms. The initiative allows for the filing of complaints with the city and then requires the city to take enforcement action within 72 hours.

Empowering
The measure does not alter the current ban on camping in unauthorized areas. It empowers citizens and property owners to enforce this section of the law in court if the city will not.

Manageable
To ensure that the City can effectively and thoroughly manage its responsibilities, including providing basic services at its encampments, the measure caps the number of city-sponsored encampments at four.

We who live and work in a great city such as Denver, imagine it as safe and livable. The need for homeless campsites, deepened by the COVID crisis, demands a reasonable, safe, and manageable approach that
will benefit city residents, property owners – and our unhoused population.

Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 303

Initiative 303 was filed and the signatures were all paid for by a dark money group so we will never know who is really behind this initiative due to their lack of transparency.

Initiative 303 would require the City of Denver to fund and establish up to four authorized neighborhood homeless camps. The measure provides no details or guidance about where these sites would be located or how the locations would be determined.

Additionally, Initiative 303 would require the city to clean and close unauthorized homeless encampments within 72 hours of receiving a complaint – in direct violation of a federal court order that requires 7 days’ notice for the removal of such camps. If the city does not address an encampment within 72 hours, a civil action could be filed against the city in court.

 Initiative 303 will likely cost tens of millions of dollars to implement:

1) Millions of dollars would be required for legal fees to determine the legality of Initiative 303 with the inconsistencies of the court order 7-day minimum notice and the 72-hour requirement under Initiative 303. Additionally, the city will have to defend itself in all of the civil actions that could be brought when the 72-hour deadline cannot be met.

2) Millions of dollars would have to be reallocated in the city budget out of areas like road maintenance, parks and recreation and into the Denver Police Department to meet the requirements of Initiative 303.

3) Millions of dollars would also have to be spent establishing and operating the four authorized neighborhood homeless camps.

Denver cannot afford the potentially illegal, misguided and costly Initiative 303. Instead, we should remain focused on funding the initiatives that are working to humanely help our unhoused neighbors in their time of need and during a pandemic.

Want to learn more about what the city is doing? Google the city’s Five-Year Strategic Plan on homelessness and affordable housing.

Please vote No on Initiative 303 – Denver cannot afford it!

Text of Measure

Be it enacted by the City and County of Denver:

Section 1. D.R.MC. Sec. 38-86.2 is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 38-86.2. - Unauthorized camping on public or private property prohibited.

(a) It shall be unlawful for any person to camp upon any private property without the express written consent of the property owner or the owner's agent, and only in such locations where camping may be conducted in accordance with any other applicable city law.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to camp upon any public property except in any location up to four designated locations where camping has been expressly allowed by the officer or agency having the control, management and supervision of the public property in question. The four designated locations shall provide running water, restroom facilities, and lighting and shall be funded by city revenues to support the city’s homeless population.

(c) Any person may file a complaint with the City to enforce this section. The City must take enforcement action within 72 hours of the filing of a complaint. Any person may bring a civil action against the City in County Court for failure to enforce this section. Any prevailing plaintiff in such action shall be awarded reasonable costs and attorney fees together with appropriate injunctive relief.

Denver Sales Tax Cap

Ballot Measure 304

The ballot title below was drafted by the proponents of the initiative 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 drafted by the proponents of the initiative. The initiated measure is included on the ballot as a proposed change to current law because the proponents gathered the required amount of petition signatures. 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.

Shall the voters of the City and County of Denver adopt an ordinance reducing the total sales and use tax levied in the City and County of Denver from 4.81% to 4.5%; setting the aggregate total sales and use tax levied at 4.5%; and requiring that if at any election the people of the City and County of Denver pass a special sales and use tax that exceeds the aggregate 4.5% the City must adjust the existing tax levy to comply with the 4.5% aggregate?

Fiscal information on Ballot Measure 304:

Revenue

Table 1. Projected Sales and Use Tax Revenue Loss by Tax Base

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year</th>
<th>General</th>
<th>Short-Term Car*</th>
<th>Food/ Beverage</th>
<th>Marijuana**</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>$48,998,900</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>($48,998,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>(50,675,700)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>(50,675,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2024</td>
<td>(52,356,500)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>(52,356,500)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2025</td>
<td>(54,043,100)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>(54,043,100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2026</td>
<td>(55,732,300)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>(55,732,300)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Denver’s short-term car rental sales tax is pledged to debt service and therefore, it cannot legally be reduced until the debt is paid off. If it were applicable, the short-term car rental revenue would result in an additional loss of $19,040,500 in 2022.

**The initiative is unclear whether the 4.5 percent cap applies to both the 4.81 percent General rate and the 10.31 percent Retail Marijuana special rate. If the cap does apply to the Retail Marijuana special rate, there would be an additional projected revenue loss of $32,748,800 for a total loss of $81,747,700 in 2022. This additional revenue loss would primarily impact regulation, education and enforcement investments related to the marijuana industry and investments in affordable housing based on the programming in the 2021 City budget. An overview of these programs can be found on page 50 in the 2021 budget book.

Revenue Impact

The City and County of Denver’s Treasury Division publishes a combined tax rate schedule showing the various sales and use tax rates that are applicable in Denver. As of 2021, these rates are:

- General Rate: 4.81%
- Short-Term Car Rental: 7.25%
- Food and Beverage: 4.00%
- Retail Marijuana: 10.31%.

To estimate the impact on the City’s General tax rate, shown in Table 1, the General tax base was quantified and forecasted through fiscal year 2026. The total rate reduction that would need to be enacted in order to achieve the 4.5 percent cap was then applied to the forecasted General sales tax base. The following table shows the calculated rate reduction that is factored into the modeling.

Table 2. Sales and Use Tax Rate Reduction by Tax Base

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tax Base</th>
<th>Existing Rate</th>
<th>Ordinance Cap</th>
<th>Rate Reduction</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>General</td>
<td>4.81%</td>
<td>4.5%</td>
<td>-0.31%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The City’s existing General sales tax rate of 4.81 percent is distributed across eight different funds, including the City’s General Fund and seven sales tax initiative special revenue funds. Were the City to distribute this ordinance’s required 0.31 percent General sales and use tax rate reduction across these 8 funds in proportion to their relative share of the overall 4.81 percent tax rate, each fund’s rate reduction and estimated revenue loss in 2022 dollars is estimated to total the amounts shown in the table below.
Table 3. General Sales Tax Rate Reduction and 2022 Projected Revenue Loss by Fund

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>Existing Tax Rate</th>
<th>Distribution</th>
<th>Rate Reduction</th>
<th>Revenue Loss</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4.81%</td>
<td>100.0%</td>
<td>-0.31%</td>
<td>($48,998,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General Fund</td>
<td>3.50%</td>
<td>72.8%</td>
<td>-0.23%</td>
<td>(35,654,100)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denver Preschool Program</td>
<td>0.15%</td>
<td>3.1%</td>
<td>-0.01%</td>
<td>(1,528,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College Affordability</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>-0.005%</td>
<td>(814,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Healthy Food</td>
<td>0.08%</td>
<td>1.7%</td>
<td>-0.005%</td>
<td>(814,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring for Denver</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-0.02%</td>
<td>(2,546,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-0.02%</td>
<td>(2,546,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Climate</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-0.02%</td>
<td>(2,546,700)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homelessness</td>
<td>0.25%</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
<td>-0.02%</td>
<td>(2,546,700)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

City Investment Impact

By law, the City and County of Denver must submit and adopt a balanced budget. If the ‘Denver Sales Tax Cap’ initiative passes, it will reduce the City and County of Denver’s General sales tax rate by 0.31 percent. In 2022, the City and County of Denver will have to reduce expenditures by approximately $48,998,900. The ballot initiative states, if passed, the new rate goes into effect once the election is certified. This will result in a projected loss in revenue of $4,716,200 in 2021. If the initiative applies to the Retail Marijuana special rate, the additional projected loss in revenue is $3,362,500 for a total of $8,078,700 in 2021.

The estimated $48,998,900 is the equivalent of the following.

Table 5. Number of Career Service Authority (CSA) and Uniform positions – estimates are 2021 median salary including benefits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Median Salary + Benefits</th>
<th>Number of Employees</th>
<th>% of Total Employee Count</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Career Service Authority (CSA)</td>
<td>$82,300</td>
<td>595</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>$48,998,900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform</td>
<td>$125,800</td>
<td>389</td>
<td>11%</td>
<td>$48,998,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If this measure were to pass, the city would need to revise the 2022 budget based on the revenue loss estimated. The city would enact permanent service cuts that would be a combination of new and current programming due to this permanent revenue loss. This would be conducted through a public process with input from City Council.

Previously Passed Ballot Initiatives

The City and County of Denver voters passed the below list of initiatives which dedicates sales tax revenue for expanded services and programming for specific outcomes. If the ‘Denver Sales Tax Cap’ initiative passes, 2022 services and programming will be reduced by an estimated $13,344,800.

Denver Preschool Program (Office of Children Affairs) - $1,528,000

Table 6-2. $48,998,900 is equivalent to the following departments 2021 budgets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>2021 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parks and Planning</td>
<td>$42,926,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human Rights and Community Partnership</td>
<td>$4,087,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$47,013,500</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 6-1. A reduction of $48,998,900 is equivalent to the following departments 2021 budgets

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department Name</th>
<th>2021 Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denver Public Library</td>
<td>$48,183,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>$48,183,800</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If this ballot measure were to pass, Denver Preschool Program would try to identify every possible alternative before reducing tuition credit for children and quality improvement funding for schools. Should alternatives not be sufficient to absorb the reduction, it is possible that a reduction of this magnitude could mean 161 fewer families receiving tuition credit.
College Affordability (Office of Children Affairs) - $814,900

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Average Allocation per Student</th>
<th>Number of Students Impacted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$2,800</td>
<td>291</td>
<td>$814,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prosperity Denver Fund and its Supported Organizations have a 10-year plan through our current authorization date of December 2030 to double the number of students we help enroll in postsecondary education and earn a degree, which strengthens our local workforce. This funding cut would equate to approximately 291 fewer students supported annually.

Healthy Foods (Public Health and Environment) - $814,900

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Average Cost of Service per Child</th>
<th>Number of Children Impacted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$162</td>
<td>5,000</td>
<td>$810,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

With less funding, Healthy Food for Denver’s Kids would fund fewer organizations and reach less of Denver’s most at-risk youth. Healthy Food for Denver’s Kids estimates the direct impact of this measure would result in serving approximately 5,000 less individual youth and serving almost 12,000 less meals through various youth programs.

Caring for Denver (Public Health and Environment) - $2,546,700

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Annual Average Cost of Service per Individual</th>
<th>Number of Individuals Impacted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$286</td>
<td>8,900</td>
<td>$2,545,400</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The impact of an estimated decrease of $2.5M in funding to Caring for Denver would be a reduction in funds going to Denver’s community – nonprofits, city agencies, and schools addressing mental health and substance misuse issues in the city at a time when trauma and need for mental health/substance misuse services are on the rise. That amount equates to an estimated 8,900 people no longer receiving mental health and substance misuse services, specifically in the areas of alternatives to jail, youth supports, and community centered and care provision supports.

Parks Legacy (Parks and Recreation) - $2,546,700

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Playground</th>
<th>Cost per Playground</th>
<th>Number of Playgrounds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighborhood Playground</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>$2,500,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Playground</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>$2,000,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

An expenditure reduction of $2,546,700 to Parks and Recreation’s Legacy fund would delay DPR from achieving its goal of ensuring all residents a 10-minute walk to a park. This reduction would limit the number of parks developed in 2022 and in future years. Above lists the number and types of parks that could go undeveloped if the ‘Denver Sales Tax Cap’ initiative is passed.

Climate Protection Fund (Office of Climate Action, Sustainability, and Resiliency) - $2,546,700

The Climate Protection Fund was created after Denver voters passed Ballot Initiative 2A to provide $40 million a year from dedicated sales tax to implement Denver’s Climate Action Plan. The Denver Climate Action Task Force recommended a revenue package for phase 1 (2021-2022) of approximately $87M per year to meet Denver’s “80 x 50 Climate Goal” (to achieve an 80% reduction in Green House Gas emissions by 2050) and to eliminate air pollution, support climate adaptation, and create new jobs for communities harmed by climate change. The estimated $2.5M annual reduction in Climate Protection Funds will negatively impact Denver’s ability to combat climate change and meet the science-based targets that have been established. This reduction would set Denver further back in implementing strategies necessary to achieve Denver’s 80 X 50 Climate Goal, as well as the goal to achieve 100% Renewable Electricity by 2030.

Homeless Resolution (Housing Stability - HOST) - $2,546,700

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cost per Congregate Shelter Bed</th>
<th>Number of Reduced Beds</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>$26,389</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>$2,533,300</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

These funds provide: 1) day shelter services for individuals experiencing homelessness in the community shelter system, including both city-owned and non-city-owned facilities; 2) shelter operations and services for the
new 48th Avenue facility, for which a lease was approved by City Council in August 2020; and 3) outreach, referral, and support services for individuals experiencing homelessness.

**Written Comments FOR Ballot Measure 304**

- As with any regressive tax, the sales tax is a tax on poverty. The higher the tax rate, the more the tax hurts the lowest earners. According to the Colorado Department of Revenue, Colorado residents making under $15,000 per year paid 6.5 times more in local sales taxes than those making over $200,000 per year, relative to income. Denver’s poor are even worse off than other low earners across the state, as Denver’s sales tax rate is currently 42.5 percent higher than the average local sales tax in the state.

This measure would cap the cumulative Denver sales tax rate at 4.5 percent, limiting how heavily the city can rely on this regressive tax on the poor to fund city services. We need to fund essential city services, but we do not need to do so on the backs of the city’s poorest residents. Tell the city of Denver to find another way by voting in favor of this measure.

- The Denver city sales tax rate has risen 32 percent in just 3 years, from 2018 to 2021. An average-priced new car purchased in Denver today would cost a taxpayer approximately $1,500 in Denver sales taxes at the 2018 rate. Instead, consumers will pay nearly $2,000 in Denver sales taxes on that same car due to increases in the Denver sales tax over the last 3 years – a $500 increase. This amount is added on top of the Colorado state sales tax.

- According to the 2021 Denver “Mayor’s Budget,” in addition to the 32 percent increase in the sales tax rate over the last 3 years, the city plans to increase sales tax revenue by another $14 million per year starting in 2021. Using a legal loophole created by a 2018 United States Supreme Court ruling, the city will increase sales tax revenues without voter consent. This ballot measure gives voters the opportunity to help offset that increase and reduce taxes on Denver’s poorest residents.

- If adopted, this measure would decrease the Denver sales tax rate by just 6.5 percent from the current rate – a very small decrease relative to the 32 percent increase since 2018. Over the same period during which Denver sales tax has risen 32 percent, the state sales tax has not changed.

**Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Measure 304**

Denver voters must say NO to Initiated Ordinance 304. This measure would require the immediate cut of up to $80 million from the city’s budget, threatening critical services and vital employee positions.

The $80 million reduction would not be for just one year. It would ratchet down the city’s budget for years to come, likely forcing the city to look for other revenue sources – such as increased fees or property taxes – to restore and maintain services. To understand the significant impact to Denver and its residents, $80 million represents the equivalent of the annual budgets for the entire Denver Public Library system, Planning Department and the Office of the Independent Monitor.

The initiative’s most draconian provision is a reduction of the city’s sales-tax rate from 4.81 percent to 4.5 percent. That reduction would defund essential services at a time when Denver is doing everything possible to recover from the pandemic. It would harm Denver’s ability to repair our roads, maintain our parks and protect people against crime, fires and other emergencies. To balance its budget, the city would have to reduce funding for dedicated programs for homelessness, mental health, preschool and college affordability that are funded through sales-tax dollars previously approved by Denver voters.

That’s not what Denver voters wanted when they authorized these critical services. Passing Initiative 304 would mean fewer kids being helped by our nationally recognized Denver Preschool Program. Fewer high schoolers going to college. And fewer people getting the behavioral health support they desperately need.

Additionally, Initiated Ordinance 304 was placed on this ballot without consulting with the Mayor, City Council, community and business leaders, or any other stakeholders working to strengthen Denver and serve our residents and neighborhoods. Clearly, 304 does not address any tax or policy concerns that have been identified by Denver’s elected leaders, senior city staff, business leaders or other citizen and nonprofit groups.
It’s simply unnecessary and deserves a No vote.

As Denver works to strengthen its post-pandemic economy and grapple with significant issues impacting residents and local businesses, we cannot afford to pass this unnecessary and dangerous ballot initiative. For the safety of our city, for the future of our children and families, and for our community members who need support and help, please vote No on 304.

**Text of Measure**

**Be it enacted by the City and County of Denver:**

**Section 1.** D.R.M.C. Sec. 53 is amended by the addition of 96.1 as follows:

**Sec. 53-96.1 – Maximum tax.**

(a) Aggregate sales and use tax levied, collected and paid shall not exceed 4.5 percent. For the purposes of this section aggregate includes all taxes rates, special rates and use taxes specified in article II and III of this chapter.

(b) If at any election the people of the City and County of Denver pass a special sales or use tax rate that would then exceed the aggregate, the City must adjust an existing levy to comply with subsection (a) of this section.

___________________________
This is the end of the Municipal Information Booklet
SAMPLE BALLOT

For complete 2021 Coordinated Election Sample Ballot please visit DenverVotes.org
SAMPLE BALLOT

For complete 2021 Coordinated Election Sample Ballot please visit DenverVotes.org
SAMPLE BALLOT

For complete 2021 Coordinated Election Sample Ballot please visit DenverVotes.org
SAMPLE BALLOT

For complete 2021 Coordinated Election Sample Ballot please visit DenverVotes.org
This page intentionally left blank.