



El Paso County

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON REFERRED MEASURES

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS INFORMATION ON BALLOT ISSUES AS REQUIRED BY THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 FOR LOCAL ISSUES.

A "YES" vote on any ballot issue is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a "NO" vote on any ballot issue is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.

**The last day for voting is
November 7, 2017.**

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COLORADO SPRINGS, CO
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Chuck Broerman
El Paso County Clerk and Recorder's Office
Election Department
1675 Garden of the Gods Road, Suite 2202
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80907

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON REFERRED MEASURES

COORDINATED ELECTION OFFICIAL: Chuck Broerman, El Paso County Clerk & Recorder

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, November 7, 2017

ELECTION DAY HOURS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION BY MAIL BALLOT: Mail ballots for the Coordinated Election must be received by the El Paso County Clerk & Recorder's Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

ELECTION OFFICE: El Paso County Clerk & Recorder (Citizens Service Center), 1675 West Garden of the Gods Road, Suite 2202, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

TELEPHONE: (719) 575-VOTE (8683)

WEBSITE: www.epcvotes.com

E-MAIL ADDRESS: elections@elpasoco.com

This Ballot Issue Notice was prepared in accordance with Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and the Colorado Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended. The information contained in this Notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of the comments and the fiscal information. The El Paso County Clerk & Recorder's Office does not warrant, verify or confirm the accuracy or truth of the ballot issue language, fiscal information or comment summaries as presented below, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation of the materials presented below. For further information or clarification concerning any of the following ballot issues, please contact the respective Designated Election Official as indicated.

The Coordinated Election Official is not responsible for failure to meet the Article X, Section 20 constraints if the political subdivision fails to submit the notice and summaries within the deadline and in the form required by the Coordinated Election Official.

Most of the following ballot issues will not be on your ballot. Ballot issue(s) will only be on your ballot if you reside within that jurisdiction. Visit www.govotecolorado.com to check the jurisdictions in which you reside.

For a list of voter service and polling center locations and ballot drop off locations visit www.epcvotes.com.

EL PASO COUNTY - 1A

Designated Election Official:

Chuck Broerman

1675 Garden of the Gods Road

Colorado Springs, CO 80907

Telephone: (719) 575-8683

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE TO RETAIN AND EXPEND EXCESS REVENUE EL PASO COUNTY EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

Election Date: November 7, 2017

Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

EL PASO COUNTY - 1A

WITHOUT IMPOSING NEW TAXES OR RAISING TAX RATES, SHALL EL PASO COUNTY BE PERMITTED TO RETAIN AND SPEND \$14,548,000 IN EXCESS 2016 REVENUE AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE PURSUANT TO TABOR (ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION) TO INVEST ONLY IN THE FOLLOWING INFRASTRUCTURE:

- THE I-25 CORRIDOR GAP LOCAL SHARE AND OTHER ROADWAY SAFETY AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS, UP TO \$12 MILLION;
- DISASTER RECOVERY PROJECTS; AND
- PARKS, TRAILS AND OPEN SPACE PROJECTS,

WITH THE UNDERSTANDING THAT SUCH EXCESS REVENUE WOULD OTHERWISE BE REFUNDED ONLY TO TAXABLE REAL PROPERTY OWNERS AS A ONE-TIME TAX CREDIT (EXAMPLE: APPROXIMATELY \$40 FOR A TYPICAL SINGLE-FAMILY HOME VALUED AT \$250,000), AND TO RETAIN AND SPEND IN THE 2017 FISCAL YEAR AND THEREAFTER AN AMOUNT OF REVENUE THAT EXCEEDS CURRENT TABOR LIMITATIONS BUT IS NO GREATER THAN THE COUNTY REVENUE CAP, WHICH CONTINUES TO LIMIT FUTURE REVENUE GROWTH AS PROVIDED IN RESOLUTION NO. 17-244?

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 1A:

From 2008 to 2012 the local economy was held down by the impact of the Great Recession. Unemployment spiked and local government revenues fell far short of requirements to maintain both services and infrastructure. With insufficient revenues during the economic downturn, critical road and bridge maintenance and repair projects were put on hold.

Fires and floods depleted county emergency funds, and important transportation improvements that were postponed, including the unsafe I-25 Gap area, have now become urgent.

Fortunately, our local economy has now recovered. A substantial increase in tourism and visitor traffic has been an important factor in this recovery, so an important feature of this plan is that tourists and visitors will be contributing a substantial portion of the funding required to begin work on these long-deferred road projects.

This issue is truly a unique opportunity to address the most important transportation and infrastructure problems in our region and to do it with no increase in taxes.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 1A:

Taxpayers should vote "no" on this request. Although it is legal for the County to use the language, "Without imposing new taxes or raising tax rates," it will undoubtedly lead many voters to believe that none of their money is at stake. If 1A does not pass, the money would be returned to property tax payers as a one-time tax credit of, "approximately \$40 for a typical single family home." Voters should ask themselves, "who is more likely to spend this money wisely, the County or themselves?"

EL PASO COUNTY - 1A (continued)

The County intends to use most of the TABOR overage money for the I-25 Corridor Gap project. Paying for I-25 (\$12 million of the \$14 million) is not the County's responsibility. Interstate costs correctly belong to the State.

The County has all the money it needs. In the past 7 years, County revenue has increased from \$242,221,645 in 2010 to \$322,410,278 in 2017. That is an increase of over \$80 million, or 33%. If the County is serving 10% more population than 7 years ago, and their expected revenue is 33% more, why do they need more of our hard-earned money?

Tell El Paso County politicians to sharpen their pencils and work within the record budget they already have. Vote no on 1A.

The county jail is nearing capacity and there are many other problems facing El Paso County that deserve funding. Many roads are in bad shape and I-25 is a federal highway. All available county road money should be used on county roads and leave I-25 up to the Feds.

This proposal establishes 2017 County revenues as the base line for future tax limit calculations.

They overtaxed us \$14,918,040, but ask "only" for \$14,538,000 (98%), a \$380,040 MISTAKE in counting their bloated revenue! They already received revenue increases for inflation and local growth; the \$15 MILLION is "excess revenue". They think they are generous in letting us keep about 2% of the excess, when all 100% is OUR MONEY.

Their resolution says they can hold your money for 10 years, trying to locate enough money to do that job; if not, they will spend that \$12 MILLION I-25 money on anything they want!

Don't be tricked by their mention of I-25. The amount they would put aside may be 2% of the real cost of ending the bottleneck. Politicians are playing on your road frustrations. They are worse than con artists at a cheap carnival.

They falsely say 1A is not a tax hike, but if 1A wins, we pay \$15 million more in yearly taxes, not just for 2016, but FOREVER! There will be NO MORE VOTING on revenue retention because they will say TABOR was repealed by this local vote. It's bad enough politicians have put your children and grandchildren into debt for over \$20 TRILLION, but taking away our right to vote is un-American!

1A is the worst, most dangerous ballot issue. Don't reward their tricks. Just say "NO."

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS - 2B

Designated Election Official:

City of Manitou Springs

Office of the City Clerk

606 Manitou Avenue

Manitou Springs, CO 80829

Telephone: (719) 685-2554

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

Election Date: November 7, 2017

Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS - 2B

SHALL CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS DEBT BE INCREASED \$3.9 MILLION, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$7,000,000; AND SHALL CITY TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$400,000 ANNUALLY TO PAY SUCH DEBT, WITH THE PROCEEDS TO BE USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING FIRE PROTECTION IMPROVEMENTS AND OTHER

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS - 2B (continued)

IMPROVEMENTS FOR CITY PURPOSES, WHICH MAY INCLUDE BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

- CONSTRUCTING AND EQUIPPING A MUNICIPAL PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITY TO BE UTILIZED AS A TRAINING AND EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER FOR THE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS, AND FOR USE DURING TIMES OF FLOOD OR OTHER NATURAL DISASTERS TO MAINTAIN CONTINUITY OF GOVERNMENT, AND AS A STORAGE FACILITY FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES;

AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE INCREASED IN ANY YEAR WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE BUT ONLY IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT OR ANY REFUNDING DEBT (OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SUCH PAYMENT); SUCH DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS; TO BE SOLD IN ONE SERIES OR MORE, FOR A PRICE ABOVE OR BELOW THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SUCH SERIES, ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND WITH SUCH MATURITIES AS PERMITTED BY LAW, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR REDEMPTION OF THE BONDS PRIOR TO MATURITY WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT OF THE PREMIUM OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE PERCENT; AND SHALL SUCH TAX REVENUES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH BOND PROCEEDS AND TAX REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Total City Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2017 (estimated)	<u>\$11,908,390</u>
2016 (actual)	<u>\$11,039,369*</u>
2015 (actual)	<u>\$ 7,755,308</u>
2014 (actual)	<u>\$ 7,237,167</u>
2013 (actual)	<u>\$ 7,148,671</u>
Overall percentage change from 2013 to 2017	<u>66.6%</u>
Overall dollar change from 2013 to 2017	<u>\$ 4,759,719</u>

* Includes higher than anticipated sales tax revenues.

Proposed Tax Increase

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2018 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2B: \$400,000

City Estimate of 2018 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$14,504,400

Information on City's Proposed Debt

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2B:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed	\$ 3,900,000
Maximum Annual City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed	\$ 400,000
Total City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed	\$ 7,000,000

Information on City's Current Debt*

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$ 645,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$ 150,000
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$ 711,794

* Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations. As of December 31, 2016.

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 2B:

This question supports your local volunteer firefighters as well as the citizens, businesses, and visitors of Manitou Springs.

Our community is subject to numerous and varied threats that could and have affected our local community both physically and economically. Natural hazards such as wildfires and floods to man-made hazards such as our 19th Century construction enhance the need for local firefighters to be especially prepared and available for emergency response.

Currently firefighters as well as apparatus leave the city as far away as 17 miles, or 32 minutes, to conduct training exercises in an environment similar to those experienced during real fire incidents. When doing this, the city is left with an ineffective firefighting force and reduced equipment. The Fire Department has always attempted to backfill its force from other agencies when training out of town, but this is difficult or non-existent, as it leaves other agencies without an effective force in their communities. Counting on mutual aid resources during these trainings will delay a timely response to a community that already requires immediate, efficient and effective initial response resources. Aside from not having an effective firefighting force for the community and its properties when firefighters are out of town training, the firefighters that remain in town are limited to the tactics that they can perform safely without proper resources. When conducting training locally that doesn't involve live fire, fire fighters have difficulty finding appropriate occupancies and space to conduct necessary drills. These things all combine to make it difficult for fire fighters to develop and reinforce their skills to build "muscle memory" to efficiently perform their duties and react appropriately.

Voting YES for the Municipal Public Safety Facility will create a local environment that will provide all of the needed space and props required to train a modern fire fighting force that meets National Standards, and which keeps our firefighters and equipment in the community where they are needed.

It's important to point out/note that the facility design also provides space for:

CITY OF MANITOU SPRINGS - 2B (continued)

- The Police Department to conduct scenario based training, classroom instruction, Peace Officers Standards and Training skill validation, Arrest control and defensive skills and new opportunities to coordinate with other agencies for training.
- Storage for historical and legal documents held by the City Clerk's Office.
- Use as an Emergency Operations Center and staging area for large apparatus.
- Use as the city's defined location for Continuity of Government should a city facility suffer long term disruption due to disasters such as fires or flooding, and general office space for employees when evacuated during weather warning events.

By voting YES to support the construction of this facility, the city will explore a grant of up to \$1,000,000 from the Department of local Affairs (DOLA) which in turn lowers the facility cost as well as the amount of general obligation debt needed.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 2B:

Every Manitou resident is rightfully proud and very supportive of our Fire Department and Volunteers. Recently the City took out \$1,500,000 in capital lease debt for two fire engines and safety equipment. The additional \$7,000,000 taxpayer obligation to build a public safety facility is not justified.

This project was fast-tracked avoiding the necessary Council and Public review process. There was no dedicated Council work session to evaluate this facility's plan including usage, cost and schedule. Instead, the Mayor scheduled a combined open house and work session that overviewed five facility projects. A week later, Council reserved ballot space for this project without an in-depth review. The project was further fast-tracked by sole sourcing remaining work, including drafting the ballot measure, to a Denver-based team whose fee is solely contingent on voters approving the ballot measure. Of additional concern, the ballot language gives Council flexibility to use the proceeds for purposes other than facility and requires the City to pay the financiers an undefined premium fee.

Critical Fire Department needs are adequately met now at no cost. Structure fires and wildfires trigger a no cost mutual aid agreement with outside agencies bringing in major resources. Live fire training is available at three advanced training sites within 10-15 miles at no cost. Whether Manitou's crew is called out for emergency or training, outside agencies man our station at no cost, a county-wide practice. Our emergency services have technology to disconnect, move, and reestablish full communication capability within four hours. Emergency communication and staging area space is provided by our school district at no cost.

This facility does not improve public safety. The project consists of a new building for storage and meeting rooms with an adjacent fire training tower. The vast majority of Fire Department calls is for medical and rescue operations, not fires. We can improve fire protection using current budgets for consistent public building fire inspections and wildfire mitigation.

The project is too expensive compared to critical needs. The \$3,900,000 facility will obligate taxpayers to pay \$7,000,000. This tax will cost homeowners \$100 annually and businesses \$400 annually for assessed property values of \$300,000. Essential needs including neighborhood street paving and repair, water and sewer line upgrades, bridge improvements, and existing facility and parking upgrades will cost approximately \$20,000,000 in the near term. Standard practice is to have a five-year capital plan allocating funds for critical infrastructure catch-up maintenance and improvements. We don't have a plan.

The bond obligation limits funding for essential items. The cost for the facility financing, maintenance and utilities exceeds \$400,000 annually. Therefore the Fire Department's annual \$800,000 budget will increase by 50% for the next twenty years. The more we borrow and pay in debt, there is less cash reserve and borrowing capacity for high priority infrastructure and emergency needs. The unfounded urgency of putting this initiative on the ballot is inconsistent with the City's overall public safety and infrastructure priorities.

Vote NO on this ballot measure.

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A & 3B

Designated Election Official:

Tammy Medina
1820 Main Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80911
Telephone: (719) 391-3001

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A

SHALL WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3 TAXES BE INCREASED \$3.5 MILLION IN 2018 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY AN AMOUNT THAT, WHEN COMBINED WITH OTHER TAXES PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY DISTRICT VOTERS IN 2002 FOR THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND, EQUALS TEN PERCENT OF THE DISTRICT'S TOTAL PROGRAM AS PROVIDED BY STATE LAW (AS SUCH TERM IS DEFINED IN STATE LAW OR ANY SIMILAR TERMS PROVIDED IN ANY SUCCESSOR PROVISION OF STATE LAW), BY THE LEVY OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND AT A RATE THAT WILL PRODUCE

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A & 3B (continued)

AN AMOUNT EQUAL TO TEN PERCENT OF THE DISTRICT'S TOTAL PROGRAM, TO FUND DISTRICT OPERATIONS INCLUDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS:

- RECOVERING A PORTION OF CUTS IN STATE FUNDING TO ENHANCE DISTRICT STEM, READING, WRITING, AND MATH PROGRAMS,
- RECRUITING AND RETAINING HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS AND STAFF,
- REDUCING CLASS SIZES AND SUSTAINING INNOVATIVE ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING,
- COVERING OPERATING COSTS RELATED TO A NEW SCHOOL FACILITY FOR PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE, AND
- ENSURING THAT STUDENTS HAVE ACCESS TO EXPANDING TECHNOLOGY?

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A & 3B

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE
WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3B

SHALL WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 3 DEBT BE INCREASED \$49.5 MILLION, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$89 MILLION, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$3.6 MILLION ANNUALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, REFINANCING, REPAIRING AND IMPROVING DISTRICT CAPITAL ASSETS INCLUDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS:

- MAKING DISTRICT-WIDE REPAIRS AND IMPROVEMENTS TO SCHOOL BUILDINGS TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION COMMUNITY INPUT AT EACH SCHOOL,
- BUILDING A NEW PRE-K THROUGH 8TH GRADE SCHOOL IN THE EASTERN PART OF THE DISTRICT,
- UPGRADING COMPUTER AND INTERNET TECHNOLOGY AT ALL SCHOOLS,
- ADDING SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AND LIFE-SAFETY SYSTEMS TO ENHANCE STUDENT SECURITY,
- REDUCING THE NUMBER OF STUDENTS IN TRAILER-LIKE PORTABLE CLASSROOMS,
- RENOVATING AUDITORIUMS AT WIDEFIELD HIGH SCHOOL AND MESA RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL,
- REPAIRING OR REPLACING OUTDATED ELECTRICAL COMPONENTS AND SYSTEMS IN SCHOOLS,
- UPGRADING THE DISTRICT'S AGING SCHOOL BUS FLEET, AND
- REFINANCING EXISTING DISTRICT LEASE OBLIGATIONS,

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS WHICH SHALL BEAR INTEREST, MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED AT SUCH TIME, AT SUCH PRICE (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS BALLOT ISSUE, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE; AND SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO THE MILL RATE TO GENERATE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT IN EACH YEAR TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending ¹
2013-2014 (actual)	\$77,017,535
2014-2015 (actual)	79,813,068
2015-2016 (actual)	79,659,108
2016-2017 (actual)	84,417,166
2017-2018 (current year estimated)	85,762,140

¹ Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2013-2014 through 2017-2018: 11.35%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2013-2014 through 2017-2018: \$8,744,605

Estimated 2017-2018 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by the ballot issues: \$85,762,140

Estimated 2017-2018 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3A: \$ 3,500,000

Estimated 2017-2018 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B: \$ 3,600,000

Information regarding bonded debt proposed by Ballot Issue 3B (on a calendar year basis):

Principal amount:	\$49,500,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$ 3,600,000
Maximum total repayment cost:	\$89,000,000

Information regarding current bonded debt (on a fiscal year basis):

Principal balance:	\$ 6,900,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$ 1,763,800
Maximum remaining total repayment cost:	\$ 7,485,119

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A & 3B (continued)

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3A:

We need to vote YES on 3A because Widefield School District 3 (WSD3) is all about providing quality for our community, value to taxpayers, and results for our students and parents.

- Several other El Paso County school districts are also asking their voters for revenue dollars this November. If they are successful in passing their bond issues, and we are unsuccessful in passing our mill levy override issue, those school districts would begin to attract the best educators and have superior academic programs, putting our students and our local economy at a disadvantage. Well-funded schools equal competitive home values!
- Since the legalization of marijuana, WSD3 has received none of the Colorado marijuana revenue for capital improvements.
- WSD3 schools provide a great value for the price. It's all about being FRUGAL in Widefield! It's been more than 15 years since we've asked our voters for operational dollars!
- Currently, WSD3 is one of three Colorado school districts that do not charge our student's program fees for art, music, athletics, and transportation. Should this initiative fail, the District may have to implement a fee structure for these programs thus putting an economic burden on our families.

- Student performance is strong: Widefield kids are learning!

Your YES vote on 3A will:

- Keep our property values strong
- Keep the best teachers here in Widefield
- Keep our schools safe
- Invest in jobs and a strong economy right here in our backyard!
- Helps us attract and retain quality teachers and staff

Here's what YES on 3A means to YOU!

- Recover a portion of cuts in state funding to enhance District STEM, reading, writing, and math programs
- Recruit and retain high-quality teachers and staff
- Reduce class sizes and sustain innovative academic programming
- Cover operating costs related to a new school facility for Pre-K through 8th grade
- Ensure that Widefield students have access to expanding technology

Important! Seniors 65 and over benefit from the Homestead Exemption Act for some property tax relief.

If we don't pass 3A, our best teachers may be forced to look for higher paying jobs in other school districts resulting in larger class size and a reduction in some of our innovative academic programs as early as next school year!

Now is the time to invest in our children, our community, and our economy! YES on 3A & 3B combined will accomplish this for only \$9.25 per month for each \$100,000 of actual home value. YES on 3A & 3B is the right investment.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3B:

Our Future Starts with "YES on 3B"!

It has been more than 22 years since Widefield School District 3 (WSD3) asked our voters to improve our facilities. Over the last two decades, the District has been excellent stewards of those tax dollars by frugally managing these funds, resulting in improved test scores, higher academic standards, and solid results in the classroom. Additionally, District funding has been cut a combined \$70 million since 2010. Now is the time to show our pride in Widefield!

Voting YES on the 3B bond election will tackle the challenges of growth in our diverse community and the needs of our growing schools. YES on 3B is a smart investment in Widefield's future and economy, benefitting students throughout our community by relieving classroom overcrowding, repairing our facilities, and modernizing aging technology. Your YES vote will make our schools safer, while enhancing the opportunity for our children to learn, making the future brighter for our students.

In addition:

- During the last twenty-two years, WSD3 enrollment has increased by 1,300 students.
- Several other El Paso County school districts are also asking their voters for revenue dollars this November. If they are successful in passing their ballot issues, and we are unsuccessful in passing our bond issue, those school districts would begin to have superior academic facilities, putting our students and our local economy at a disadvantage. Well-funded schools equal competitive home values!
- Since the legalization of marijuana, Widefield has received none of the Colorado marijuana revenue for capital improvements.

YES on 3B – A frugal \$49.5 million bond measure addresses critical needs throughout WSD3

Including:

- Make District-wide repairs and improvements to school buildings taking into consideration community input at each school
- Build a new Pre-K through 8th-grade school in the eastern part of the District
- Upgrade computer and internet technology at all schools
- Add surveillance cameras and life-safety systems to enhance student security

WIDEFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT 3 - 3A & 3B (continued)

- Reduce the number of students in trailer-like portable classrooms
- Renovate auditoriums at Widefield High School and Mesa Ridge High School
- Repair or replacing outdated electrical components and systems in schools
- Upgrade the District's aging school bus fleet
- Refinance existing District lease obligations

Widefield is on an upswing and WSD3 is a central part of that economic movement because we have a strong history of INVESTING in ourselves. YES on 3A & 3B combined will accomplish this for only \$9.25/month for each \$100,000 of actual home value.

Important! Seniors 65 and over benefit from the Homestead Exemption Act for some property tax relief.

Please join us in voting "YES on 3A & 3B". This is NOT a wish list; these are MUST HAVE improvements for our kids and our future!

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 12 - 3D

Designated Election Official:
 Pamela Cox
 1775 LaClede Street
 Colorado Springs, CO 80905
 Telephone: (719) 475-6100

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
 CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 12
 EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

CHEYENNE MOUNTAIN SCHOOL DISTRICT 12 - 3D

MAY THE DISTRICT COLLECT THE PROPERTY TAX REVENUES PERMITTED BY C.R.S. 22-54-108 AS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED BY DISTRICT VOTERS IN 2011 NOTWITHSTANDING ANY MILL LEVY LIMITATION?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2017-2018 (estimated)	\$41,543,808
2016-2017 (estimated actual)	\$41,216,728
2015-2016 (actual)	\$40,523,673
2014-2015 (actual)	\$38,790,285
2013-2014 (actual)	\$36,654,830
Overall percentage change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018	13.33%
Overall dollar change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018	\$4,888,978

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3D: \$ 768,646

District Estimate of 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increases: \$43,927,216

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3D:

Issue 3D will fix an unintended consequence of a change in state law will cause District 12 to lose local funding already approved by District 12 voters.

Issue 3D creates no new taxes but continues the local tax support voters promised the Cheyenne Mountain School District in 2011.

The Cheyenne Mountain School District is the highest ranked large school district in Colorado and a big reason for that is the local support from the District 12 community, including local financial support. We can't afford to let our school district lose over \$750,000 of local tax support each year. A "yes" vote on 3D preserves our local funding.

Issue 3D is good for both the District 12 schools and for District 12 taxpayers.

Local control over local taxes going to our local schools should be important to all of us. Issue 3D gives back this local control to our locally elected school board.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3D:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 - 3E

Designated Election Official:
 Dr. Mary Thurman
 Colorado Springs School District 11
 1115 N. El Paso Street
 Colorado Springs, CO 80903
 Telephone: (719) 520-2017

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
 COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11
 EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 - 3E

SHALL SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 TAXES BE INCREASED \$42 MILLION DOLLARS ANNUALLY WHICH SHALL BE USED TO FUND EDUCATIONAL NEEDS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF, NOT TO INCLUDE ADMINISTRATORS, BY OFFERING SALARIES AND BENEFITS THAT ARE COMPETITIVE WITH OTHER SCHOOL DISTRICTS;
- EXTENDING THE LIFE OF EXISTING SCHOOLS BY REPAIRING, MAINTAINING, AND MODERNIZING AGING BUILDINGS;
- EXPANDING TECHNOLOGY ACCESS TO MORE STUDENTS BY UPGRADING AND REPLACING OUTDATED COMPUTERS AND EQUIPMENT;
- IMPROVING STUDENT SAFETY AND SECURITY BY ADDING A SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER AT EVERY MIDDLE SCHOOL;
- SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS BY PROVIDING MORE SCHOOL COUNSELORS, NURSES, PSYCHOLOGISTS, OR SOCIAL WORKERS; AND
- REDUCING LONG-TERM INTEREST COSTS BY PAYING OFF EXISTING DEBT SOONER;

THE DISTRICT SHALL ENSURE ACCOUNTABILITY WITH A CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE WHICH SHALL ANNUALLY REVIEW AND REPORT TO THE PUBLIC ON THE USE OF FUNDS;

FOR 2019 AND THEREAFTER SHALL SUCH REVENUES BE ADJUSTED ANNUALLY FOR INFLATION; AND

SHALL THE DISTRICT BE ALLOWED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND THE FULL AMOUNT OF THESE REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY AUTHORIZED BY THIS QUESTION BE EXCLUDED FROM PREVIOUS LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending:

2017-18 (projected)	\$337,000,000
2016-17 (estimated actual)	\$327,000,000
2015-16 (Actual)	\$325,655,153
2014-15 (Actual)	\$308,347,513
2013-14 (Actual)	\$297,030,796

Overall estimated percentage change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018: 13.5%

Overall estimated dollar amount change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018: \$39,969,204

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2018-19 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3E: \$42,000,000

District Estimate of 2018-19 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$348,795,000

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3E:

District 11 is Colorado Springs' largest and oldest School District. It's home to some of the best teachers in Colorado, including the Colorado Teacher of the Year, History Teacher of the Year, and the Colorado ProStart Teacher of the Year. For all its successes, District 11 faces many challenges in providing an excellent education for our kids. Voting YES on 3E will directly address those challenges and set District 11 up for another generation of success in the classroom.

Competing for the best teachers
 Colorado has a shortage of 3,000 teachers. Competition for great teachers is at an all-time high. To compete for great teachers, District 11 must be able to provide a salary which is competitive with neighboring Districts. This funding will allow the District to provide a salary on par with other Districts, ensuring we retain the great teachers already in District 11 and recruit the best teachers for our students.

Maintaining and modernizing our schools
 The average school building in District 11 is over 50 years old and isn't equipped to handle the needs of a modern classroom. Many classrooms aren't wifi-enabled, wired with up-to-date electrical components, or air-conditioned. This funding will ensure the

COLORADO SPRINGS SCHOOL DISTRICT 11 - 3E (continued)

District is able to keep up with maintenance needs, while responsibly modernizing aging classrooms. Giving our kids a comfortable learning environment is essential to maximizing their potential in the classroom.

Expanding technology access to more students

The last time this type of funding was approved was the year 2000. The world has changed a lot since then and our kids need access to the tools they will encounter in the workforce. Expanding technology access is a critical piece of this mill levy, ensuring our classrooms are giving our kids practical experience with real world technology.

Keeping our schools safe and secure

Our schools must be a safe place for our kids to learn. Safe learning environments require personnel to keep our schools safe and wrap-around services to guide the academic and personal development of our kids. This funding will provide additional resource officers at our schools and ensure that our kids have more access to the counselors who are important to their academic, emotional, and professional success.

Fulfilling its promise to the community

District 11 is a State leader when it comes to accountable spending. It's the ONLY large school district in Colorado to place mill levy funds in a separate account to track spending, have a citizen's oversight committee for public accountability, and to conduct a yearly audit of spending. District 11 is nationally recognized for its fiscal accountability. This plan will also pay down existing debts ahead of schedule and return the savings back to tax payers, saving D-11 tax payers millions of dollars. Mill levy funding will be spent as promised and deliver an excellent education to our kids.

Vote YES on 3E to a better education for our kids

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3E:

D-11 lost its 2016 election for a \$15 million tax increase, and more later. It also lost its demand for a \$390 million debt repayment plan for "safety concerns." Have they fixed their phony "safety" issues? No. D-11 now wants a \$42 million yearly tax hike for pay raises, growing in future years! They didn't get the voter's message in 2016 and want to badger us each year, to wear us down. They want more money from struggling families. They get 70% of the average property tax bill, but it's "not enough." It's never enough.

Most government school employees are NOT certified teachers. The average total yearly cost per student is over \$12,000; with 25 per classroom, that's over \$300,000 in taxpayer spending per classroom. If average teacher pay is \$50,000 (for about nine months work and shorter work days), where does the other \$250,000 go? Bureaucrats, pensions, pay hikes, waste, bonuses, vehicles, debt service, field trips, etc. That spells "bad priorities."

Student enrollment? Stagnant for decades. D-11 is closing schools, not building them. Why? Student flight. We have multiple school districts in Colorado Springs (D-20, D-49, D-2, etc.) with multiple layers of administration, because people don't want their children to go to D-11. The main problem with D-11 is it thinks educational quality is just a matter of employee pay raises and greater pensions. Education is not a commodity that can be bought by throwing more money at it. We are sending to college many graduates who need remedial reading, writing, and math. Paying more does not mean getting better.

D-11 wastes our tax money on TV ads telling us how great it is, though only a small percentage of viewers have children of school age. Its union opposes parental choice, so students are stuck in failing schools. They spend their time lobbying for more state aid, more state and local ballot issues, and one-party state and national political choices.

Their current near-monopoly will never provide choice and competition. D-11's only idea is millions more in taxes to benefit their system, but not children, parents, and taxpayers. We need to start over with a system that sees students as people to educate, not a source of tax dollars. Saying everything D-11 does is "for the children" is not only false, but cynical. D-11 holds little children captive for the purposes of enriching D-11.

Vote NO on 3E.

HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 28 - 3F

Designated Election Official:

Irene Owens
17050 S. Peyton Hwy
Colorado Springs, CO 80928
Telephone: (719) 382-1260

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 28
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 28 - 3F

SHALL HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 28 TAXES BE INCREASED \$285,500 IN 2017 AND BY SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAY BE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL MILL LEVY OF 8.348 MILLS, TO BE DEPOSITED IN THE GENERAL FUND OF THE DISTRICT FOR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES AS APPROVED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION WITH EXPENDITURES REPORTED TO THE PUBLIC ANNUALLY, WHICH PURPOSES SHALL BE:

- SUPPORTING THE RENEWAL OF THE TRANSPORTATION FLEET FOR THE SAFETY OF STUDENTS AND REDUCTION IN MAINTENANCE AND UPKEEP;

HANOVER SCHOOL DISTRICT 28 - 3F (continued)

- SUPPORTING QUALITY INSTRUCTION AND EXPANDING COURSE OFFERINGS WITH THE NECESSARY TEXTBOOKS AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS;
- PROVIDING STUDENTS AND STAFF WITH ADEQUATE ACCESS TO CURRENT TECHNOLOGY;
- RESTORING SOME OF THE NEEDED FACILITIES DEFERRED MAINTENANCE AND OPERATING FUNDS;
- GROWING THE CAPACITY OF STAFF THROUGH HIGH QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT;

AND SHALL SUCH TAX INCREASE BE AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LEVY AUTHORIZED FOR THE DISTRICT'S GENERAL FUND, PURSUANT TO AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108, C.R.S.; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2017-18 (estimated)	\$3,593,567
2016-17 (unaudited)	\$3,668,920
2015-16 (actual)	\$3,458,856
2014-15 (actual)	\$3,785,283
2013-14 (actual)	\$3,889,903
2012-13 (actual)	\$3,680,854
Overall percentage change from 2012-13 to 2017-18:	-2.37%
Overall dollar change from 2012-13 to 2017-18:	-\$87,287

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2016-2017 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3F: \$285,500

District Estimate of 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$3,593,567

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3F:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3F:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

PEYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 23JT - 3G

Designated Election Official:

Melissa Kirchner
13990 Bradshaw Rd
Peyton, CO 80831
Telephone: (719) 749-2330

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
PEYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 23JT
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PEYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 23JT - 3G

WITHOUT INCREASING THE CURRENT TAX RATE OF 30.469 MILLS CURRENTLY IMPOSED FOR DEBT SERVICE ON BONDS, SHALL JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 23JT TAXES BE INCREASED \$183,000 IN 2018, AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE COLLECTED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2023, BY IMPOSING A MILL LEVY, WHICH WHEN COMBINED WITH THE MILL LEVY FOR BONDS, DOES NOT EXCEED 30.469 MILLS, TO PROVIDE FUNDING TO:

- RETAIN AND RECRUIT HIGH QUALITY TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF, AND
- RENOVATE AND REMODEL EXISTING EDUCATIONAL FACILITIES TO EXTEND ITS USEFUL LIFE;

BUT IN NO EVENT SHALL THE REVENUES FROM SUCH TAX INCREASE BE GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT PERMITTED BY STATE LAW; AND SHALL SUCH TAX INCREASE CONSTITUTE A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE TO BE COLLECTED AND SPENT EACH YEAR WITHOUT REGARD TO THE LIMITS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

PEYTON SCHOOL DISTRICT 23JT - 3G (continued)

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year

2017-2018 (estimated)	\$5,833,020
2016-2017 (estimated actual)	\$6,381,811
2015-2016 (actual)	\$5,628,996
2014-2015 (actual)	\$5,213,174
2013-2014 (actual)	\$5,359,548

Overall percentage change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018	8%
Overall dollar change from 2013-2014 to 2017-2018	\$473,472

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2018-2019 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3G: \$183,000

District Estimate of 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increases:	\$6,000,000
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Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 3G:

The Mill Levy Override monies will go directly to the Peyton School District and not to the state coffers

The Mill Levy Override monies will go to help staff with salaries and to help with much needed capital projects

The Mill Levy Override will not increase your current tax bill. This is an exchange of monies from the current Bond payments to help with salaries and capital projects

The Mill Levy Override is not a permanent tax. The Mill Levy Override will end at the same time the Bond ends in 2023.

The wording for the Mill Levy Override states it will Sunset in 2023. This is the same time the Bond for the high school will end.

75% of the monies collected will go to help staff salaries and the other 25% will go directly to a specific list of capital projects within the District.

The Peyton School District's state supported monies has been decrease by over \$7,000,000 (7 Million) over the past nine years because of the negative factor.

The District has worked hard to keep the decreased funding away from the classroom, but is a point to where it will start affecting the classroom unless we can do something to help

There is a teacher shortage in Colorado and ALL districts are having a difficult time retaining and hiring teachers. The Mill Levy Override will help us attract qualified teachers and retain the great staff we have.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 3G:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS - CHIPITA PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 4A

Designated Election Official:

Jeff Idleman
Secretary of the Board
10380 Ute Pass Ave.
Green Mountain Falls, CO 80819
Telephone: (719) 684-2293

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE
GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS - CHIPITA PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS - CHIPITA PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 4A

WITHOUT INCREASING ANY TAX RATE OR IMPOSING ANY NEW TAX, SHALL GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS/CHIPITA PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BE PERMITTED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL REVENUE IT RECEIVES IN GRANTS FROM THE STATE OF COLORADO OR ANY OTHER SOURCE IN FISCAL YEAR 2017 AND ANY YEAR THEREAFTER, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING OR OTHER LIMITATION UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OR LAWS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO NOW OR HEREAFTER IN EFFECT, AND WITHOUT LIMITING IN ANY YEAR THE AMOUNT OF OTHER REVENUE THAT MAY BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT?

**GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS - CHIPITA PARK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 4A
(continued)**

Fiscal Year Spending Information:

2017 - \$212,415
2016 - \$203,249
2015 - \$194,492
2014 - \$190,445
2013 - \$181,611

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending is 16%

Overall dollar amount change is \$5,804

Overall maximum dollar amount of tax increase for 2017 is \$9,166

Estimated no fiscal year spending without tax increase.

Information on Current Bonded Debt:

No current bond debt
Principal amount
Maximum annual repayment cost
Total repayment cost

Information on Proposed debt:

Principal amount - \$3,500,000
Maximum annual repayment cost - \$233,537.50
Total repayment cost - \$4,596,287.50

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 4A:

The Green Mountain Falls Fire Protection District is seeking grants and gift money from various sources. Any funds received from such sources would be used before taxpayer's money. Important to this process is the need for a ballot issue in November 2017 to "de-tabor" any grants, other money or services in kind received in support of this project.

The Fire District is not asking for money from the taxpayers, in fact, just the opposite. They are asking to be allowed to receive money from outside sources such as gifts, grants, and matching grants to help pay for the new fire station and not see it have a negative impact on the normal operating budget. Every dollar the fire department receives from the above sources is dollar that does not have to be borrowed. Any dollar that does not have to be borrowed is a dollar we, the taxpayers, do not have to provide or payback with interest.

A Yes vote will allow the citizens in the fire department to have a better equipped and modern station to meet our emergency needs today and the future.

A YES VOTE WILL ALLOW THE FIRE DISTRICT TO RECEIVE MONEY FROM VARIOUS SOURCES WITHOUT IMPACTING THE TABOR LIMIT FOR THE DISTRICT BUDGET. A NO VOTE WILL NOT ALLOW THE DISTRICT TO ACCEPT FUNDS WITHOUT IMPACTING THE DISTRICT TABOR LIMIT

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 4A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 5A

Designated Election Official:

Chris Truty
Fire Chief
15455 Gleneagle Dr, Suite 230
Colorado Springs, CO 80921
Telephone: (719) 484-0911

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 5A

SHALL TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$2,900,000 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR OR BY SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX RATE INCREASE OF 6.9 MILLS, BEING AN INCREASE FROM 11.50 MILLS TO 18.40 MILLS, TO BE CERTIFIED IN 2017 AND COLLECTED IN 2018, AND CONTINUING EACH YEAR THEREAFTER AS OTHERWISE ALLOWED BY LAW, WHICH INCREASE SHALL BE FOR FUNDING THE OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT TO PROVIDE PROPER FIRE PROTECTION, EMERGENCY RESPONSE, AND SAFETY FOR THE RESIDENTS, PROPERTY OWNERS AND BUSINESSES OF THE DISTRICT, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- MAINTAINING TIMELY EMERGENCY SERVICES AND 911 RESPONSE TIMES;
- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING EXPERIENCED FIRST RESPONDERS, AND MITIGATING COSTLY TURNOVER RATES;
- REPLACING OUTDATED EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT, SUCH AS AIR PACKS, JAWS OF LIFE, AND HEART MONITORS;
- REPLACING OBSOLETE, FRONT-LINE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AND OUTDATED, UNRELIABLE EMERGENCY RESPONSE VEHICLES;

TRI-LAKES MONUMENT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT - 5A (continued)

- IMPROVING ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND HEALTH/LIFE SAFETY ISSUES AT EXISTING FIRE STATIONS; AND
- STRATEGICALLY ADDING PARAMEDICS AS WELL AS INSPECTION PERSONNEL TO ADDRESS AN INCREASE IN EMERGENCY SERVICES AND PREVENTION DEMAND;

AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND ANY INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATIONS CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, OR SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

2017 (estimated)	\$6,021,416
2016 (actual)	\$6,064,450
2015 (actual)	\$5,536,457
2014 (actual)	\$5,264,204
2013 (actual)	\$4,891,362

Total Dollar Change from 2013 to 2017:	\$1,130,054
Percent Change from 2013 to 2017:	23%

Estimated 2018 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 5A:	\$2,750,000
Estimated 2018 fiscal year spending without increase:	\$6,250,000

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 5A:

Your YES vote on Issue 5A will ensure that emergency services and 911 response times are protected in the Tri-Lakes Monument Fire Protection District.

Passage of Issue 5A will address TLMFPD's highest priority operating needs, including: Attracting and retaining experienced emergency responders

- Mitigating costly turnover rates
- Replacing outdated emergency equipment, including air packs, Jaws of Life, heart monitors and mobile dispatch computers
- Replacing obsolete firefighter portable radios
- Replacing outdated, unreliable front-line emergency response vehicles
- Strategically adding paramedics and wildfire prevention personnel to maintain emergency services
- Addressing health/life safety issues and inefficiencies at TLMFPD's existing fire stations

Emergency call volume in our service area is increasing, especially EMS calls. This is driven in large part by our growing—and aging—population. TLMFPD's total service population has already grown to 33,000 residents, and is projected to surpass 40,000 in just the next five years. There are simply not enough paramedics to address the growing call volume.

Wildfire risk is also on the rise. It's not a matter of "if" but "when" another wildfire will occur. Having wildfire prevention personnel and other first responders and equipment in place is critical to limiting a wildfire's impact.

Another major challenge facing your fire district is employee turnover. In the past four years alone, TLMFPD has lost 25% of its firefighters, many to other fire districts. These professionals had more than 100 years of experience.

And at the same time that the fire district is losing some of its most experienced first responders, emergency vehicles and equipment are reaching the end of their useful service life and local fire stations are plagued by health/life safety issues and inefficiencies.

Unfortunately, tax dollars from new development do not come close to what is needed to address rising operating costs and maintain emergency services. And emergency reserves have been drawn down to a bare minimum.

It is the "perfect storm" in terms of growing demand versus a lack of resources to respond.

For an investment of \$3.41 per month per \$100,000 of a home's market value, TLMFPD will be able to add much-needed personnel, update equipment and vehicles, make fire stations safe and efficient, and protect your emergency services and 911 response times. It's a modest tax impact with significant benefits for our entire community.

The first responders of TLMFPD deserve our support. They are with us 24-7, 365 days a year saving lives and protecting property.

In view of current and projected growth in Tri-Lakes area, Issue 5A is a fair and reasonable proposal focused on protecting our residents, businesses and first responders.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 5A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY - 5BDesignated Election Official:

Rick Sonnenburg
15 S. 7th Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905
Telephone: (719) 471-7080 ex. 101

**NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE
PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017

Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY - 5B

WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES, SHALL THE 2012 VOTER-APPROVED LIST OF SPECIFIC REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS FUNDED BY THE EXISTING 0.55% (FIFTY-FIVE ONE HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PENNY PER DOLLAR) PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY (PPRTA) SALES AND USE TAX, WHICH SUNSETS ON DECEMBER 31, 2024, BE AMENDED TO INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING PROJECT:

REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

- CDOT I-25 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS - LOCAL CONTRIBUTION: STATE HIGHWAY 105 NORTH TO COUNTY LINE ROAD

WITH THIS PROJECT BEING ELIGIBLE FOR FUNDING, IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$10,000,000.00 IN PPRTA CONTRIBUTIONS, AT ANY TIME REGARDLESS OF THE STATUS OF THE PREVIOUSLY APPROVED PRIORITY "A" PROJECTS AND PRIORITY "B" PROJECTS?

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 5B:

This proposal simply adds the long overdue widening of the so-called I-25 Gap to the list of voter-approved road projects eligible to receive excess funding available through the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA). It would allow PPRTA to contribute a portion of the extra revenue above current budgeted priorities to a pool of local funding to help jump start the Gap project.

The segment of I-25 that is two-lanes in each direction between Monument and Castle Rock The I-25 bottleneck has been identified as the most urgent transportation need facing our region. Traffic jams and accidents through this segment are impacting tourism, economic development and even our national security.

This is truly the most urgent transportation infrastructure problem facing the citizens of El Paso County today and it is rapidly becoming a critical public safety concern.

Thanks to strong local economic recovery PPRTA has received revenues above its current budgeted project requirements and this proposal simply designates that portion of those excess revenues can used for I-25 as local match.

We have been assured that the commitment of funding from local jurisdictions will accelerate the allocation of state and federal funding for this urgent project and this proposal allows us to do it with no increase in taxes and with no impact on currently budgeted voter-approved high priority projects.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 5B:

Vote NO. Don't be misled. Contrary to proponent statements, PPRTA does NOT have surplus funds.

To have surplus, all of the A and B-list projects approved in 2012 would have to be funded. This is not the case.

If PPRTA gives \$10 million to CDOT, the projects you approved will lose \$10 million.

There will be other impacts:

1. The start of new projects will be delayed.
2. Rising construction costs further reduce the number of projects that can be completed.

CDOT does not have \$290 to \$570 million to widen 17 miles of I-25. The two new lanes will likely be toll lanes.

You will pay twice – once with your PPRTA money and again when you pay tolls. I-25 will be widened. Denver cannot afford to live with the traffic bottleneck.

Don't throw your PPRTA tax money away.

The ballot title says the existing RTA tax is 0.55%; it's 1.00%, 80% higher. RTA offers to "fix" I-25 north. Our \$10 MILLION may be 2% of the total cost of this state/federal job. It's \$10 MILLION "at any time;" does that mean every year? Does it mean \$10 MILLION of the yearly budgets isn't spent for many years to come, until the state/federal governments start widening I-25? This is a shady justification for \$10 MILLION of "maybe" spending; it depends on 98% or more of the money coming from state/federal governments. It seeks voter approval to break a prior promise to voters as to what roads would be fixed with your \$70 million in taxes.

RTA said in 2004 it was a "temporary" \$70 million yearly tax for specific, named local roads. Our \$260 million city road tax for five years was more of the same. If RTA is running out of roads to fix, it should lower its tax rate 0.25% NOW to get our sales tax rate down to 8% in Colorado Springs, which now has the highest big city sales tax in Colorado—8.25%.

Letting RTA water down and divert its promise made to voters is a form of "bait and switch" politics. Vote NO on issue 5B.

PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY - 5B (continued)

The widening of I-25 through the "Gap" is an urgent problem but it's a state and federal problem.

If economic recovery means that PPRTA has revenues above its budget, there's a second tier of voter-approved priorities rather than adding the I-25 Gap.

This proposal to provide so-called local matching funds to jump start the I-25 project will only generate a small portion of the money required for this project. The biggest share of the cost will come from state/federal highway dollars and we have no guarantee that those funds will be available. Just because that plan worked for expanding I-25 in the northern part of the state doesn't mean that it will work here.

PPRTA is a success because it only does projects approved by the voters and it should stay with that model.

DONALD WESCOTT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NORTHERN SUBDISTRICT - 5C

Designated Election Official:
Kammy K. Tinney
550 W. Eisenhower Boulevard
Loveland, CO 80537
Telephone: (970) 669-3611

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
DONALD WESCOTT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NORTHERN SUBDISTRICT
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO**

Election Date: November 7, 2017
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

DONALD WESCOTT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NORTHERN SUBDISTRICT - 5C

SHALL DONALD WESCOTT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NORTHERN SUBDISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$1,418,411 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) ANNUALLY BEGINNING IN LEVY YEAR 2017 (FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2018) BY INCREASING THE SUBDISTRICT'S EXISTING PROPERTY TAX OF 7.000 MILLS BY 14.900 MILLS TO BE USED FOR THE CONTINUING PROVISION OF SERVICES, PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES WITHIN THE SUBDISTRICT, ALL REVENUE AND EARNINGS FROM THIS TAX CONSTITUTING A PERMANENT VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AND ANY OTHER LAW?

Fiscal Year Spending Information for the Donald Wescott Fire Protection District:

2017 (estimated)	\$2,679,800
2016 (actual)	\$2,366,201
2015 (actual)	\$2,203,840
2014 (actual)	\$2,160,207
2013 (actual)	\$1,974,671
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending:	35.71%
Overall dollar amount of change:	\$705,129
Estimated maximum dollar amount of tax increase for 2018:	\$1,418,411
Estimated 2018 fiscal year spending without tax increase:	\$2,211,676

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 5C:

Donald Wescott Fire Protection District is currently facing a financial crisis: how to continue to provide fire and Emergency Medical Services while facing the loss of over 66% of its budget. This shortfall and loss of two-thirds of its territory is a direct result of annexation by the City of Colorado Springs. Revenue currently generated from these commercial and residential properties will now be collected by the city and Wescott's remaining residents will absorb the cost of fire and EMS service if current community safety levels are to be maintained.

The most significant impact of this revenue shortfall is *decreased* ability to respond with adequate resources. DWFD would reduce staffing to a single, full-time firefighter each day and limit the equipment available to respond to 911 calls. The district would release 80% of its firefighters. That means DWFD will not have the appropriate staffing required to care for residents experiencing cardiac and respiratory emergencies, strokes and other medical and trauma-related emergencies. The one firefighter on duty will also be responsible for fires within the district which results in *increased* response times for residents.

There is no alternative source of funding. Fire Districts rely entirely on property taxes from the area they serve. DWFD can exist as a fire district, but with severely reduced service capabilities until it exhausts its reserves in 2019. Once reserves are depleted, DWFD also must consider which of the two firehouses to permanently close.

Wescott enjoys great ISO (Insurance Services Office) ratings within its district. The ISO rating is designated 10 - 1, with 1 being the best. It currently has a 3 Rating in most areas of the district, and a 3Y in rural areas without hydrants. Reducing personnel will increase the rating, and may increase homeowner insurance rates as well.

DONALD WESCOTT FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NORTHERN SUBDISTRICT - 5C (continued)

Donald Wescott Fire Protection District has identified a path that allows residents to maintain the quality of service they receive. Wescott has proposed a mill levy increase of 14.9, to create a total mill levy of 21.9. This will allow the district to maintain its current level of staffing and keep both firehouses open as it continues to provide efficient fire and emergency medical protection. Failure to secure a mill levy increase will cause the reduction in staffing and severely impact district residents.

For more than 35 years, Wescott has provided fire and emergency medical protection to northern Colorado Springs and El Paso County. Wescott firefighters answer the call when we need them. It's time for this community to respond in kind. This year's November election is by mail ballot, so watch for your election envelope after October 16, vote **YES on 5C**, and return it promptly.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 5C:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

END OF BALLOT ISSUE NOTICE

As required by Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S. § 1-7-905), I hereby certify the ballot issue notices are complete as submitted by the political subdivisions.
Chuck Broerman
El Paso County Clerk & Recorder

MAIL YOUR BALLOT: The 2017 Coordinated Election is a mail ballot election. Ballots will be mailed to all active registered voters beginning October 16, 2017. If mailing your ballot back, it is recommended you do so no later than November 1, 2017. You may also drop your ballot at any of the following Voter Service and Polling Centers until 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 7, 2017.

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS (VSPC)

Voter Service and Polling Centers (VSPC) will be available to register to vote, update voter registration, request a replacement ballot, vote on an ADA accessible voting machine, or drop off your ballot.


Beginning Monday October 16, 2017, the location below is open the following days and hours:


Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (not open Sundays)
Saturday, November 4, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Monday, November 6 and Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.


  **Main Office (EPC Clerk's Office)**
1675 W. Garden of the Gods Rd., Ste. 2202, Colo. Springs, CO 80907

The locations below are open the following days and hours:

Monday, October 30, 2017 – November 3, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 4, 2017, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Monday, November 6 and Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

 **North Branch (EPC Clerk's Office)** - NW corner of Union Blvd. & Research Pkwy.
8830 N. Union Blvd., Colo. Springs, CO 80920

 **Downtown Branch (EPC Clerk's Office)** - NW corner of Cascade Ave. & Vermijo St.
200 S. Cascade Ave., Colo. Springs, CO 80903


 **Southeast Branch (EPC Clerk's Office)** - SE corner of Powers Blvd. & Airport Rd.
5650 Industrial Pl., Colo. Springs, CO 80916

Fort Carson (EPC Clerk's Office) - Enter at Gate 1
6351 Wetzell Ave., Bldg. 1525, Ft. Carson, CO 80913

The locations below are open the following days and hours:

Monday, November 6, and Election Day Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

 **Fountain Police Department** - SE corner of Santa Fe Ave. & Alabama Ave.
Community Room, 222 N. Santa Fe Ave., Fountain, CO 80817



 **Town of Monument Town Hall** - SW corner of Beacon Lite Rd. & Highway 105
645 Beacon Lite Rd., Monument, CO 80132

 **City of Manitou Springs City Hall** - NW corner of Manitou Ave. & El Paso Blvd.
606 Manitou Ave., Manitou Springs, CO 80829



The Independence Center - NE corner of E. Las Animas St. & S. Tejon St.
729 S. Tejon St., Colo. Springs, CO 80903

24/7 MAIL BALLOT DROP-OFF ONLY LOCATIONS



The locations below provide no indoor registration or ballot drop-off services.
The outdoor 24 hour ballot drop-off boxes open October 16, 2017 and close November 7, 2017 at 7:00 p.m.:


  **East Library** - W of Union Blvd between Montebello Dr. & Vickers Dr.
5550 N. Union Blvd., Colo. Springs, CO 80918

  **Falcon Fire Department Station 3 - Headquarters** - corner of Old Meridian Rd. & U.S. Highway 24
7030 Old Meridian Rd., Falcon, CO 80831


  **Library 21c** - NW corner of Chapel Hills Dr. & Jamboree Dr.
1175 Chapel Hills Dr., Colo. Springs, CO 80920


  **Ellicott School District Admin Building** - N of Handle Rd. & E of Ellicott Hwy.
322 S. Ellicott Hwy., Calhan, CO 80808


  **Black Forest Park-n-Ride** - NW corner of Black Forest Rd. & Woodmen Rd.
7503 Black Forest Rd., Colo. Springs, CO 80908

 **EPC Public Services Department** - SE corner of 10th St. & Golden St.
1010 Golden St., Calhan, CO 80808

 **Charles C. "Chuck" Brown Transportation & Environmental Complex** - between Constitution Ave. & N Carefree Cir.
3275 Akers Dr., Colo. Springs, CO 80922

 **City of Colorado Springs** - NW corner of Nevada Ave. & Colorado Ave.
30 S. Nevada Ave., Ste. 101, Colo. Springs, CO 80903

 Indicates locations with a 24/7 ballot drop-off box. Drop-off boxes will be open 24 hours starting October 16, 2017 through 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, November 7, 2017.

 Indicates locations with a 24/7 drive-up ballot drop-off box.

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