

ATTENTION:

IDENTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

If you are required to provide ID, the back of your official return envelope will include the following: ID REQUIRED PLACE COPY IN RETURN ENVELOPE. If your return envelope includes this statement, place a photocopy of one of the following ACCEPTABLE FORMS OF IDENTIFICATION into the Official Return Envelope. **(Do not place the photocopied identification in the Secrecy Sleeve with your voted ballot.)** Additional postage may be required on the return envelope if you are required to submit a photocopy of your ID.

- A valid Colorado driver's license;
- A valid identification card issued by the Department of Revenue;
- A valid U.S. passport;
- A valid employee identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the United States government or of this state, or by any county, municipality, board, authority, or other political subdivision of this state;
- A valid pilot's license issued by the federal aviation administration or other authorized agency of the United States;
- A valid United States military identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector;
- A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, government check, government paycheck, or other government document that shows the name and address of the elector;
- A valid Medicare or Medicaid card issued by the United States Health Care Financing Administration;
- A certified copy of a United States birth certificate for the elector issued in the United States;
- Certified documentation of naturalization;
- A valid student identification card with a photograph of the eligible elector issued by an institution of higher education in Colorado.

Any form of identification that shows the address of the eligible elector shall be considered identification only if the address is in the State of Colorado.



El Paso County

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

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.

Date: November 3, 2009  
Mail Ballot Election

REVISED: 10/02/2009

ELECTION INFORMATION

**DESIGNATED BALLOT DROP OFF SITE INFORMATION:** You may return your voted ballot by mail or you may hand deliver your ballot to a designated Drop Off Site. Postage of \$.44 will be required to return the November 3, 2009 ballot by mail. Additional postage may be required on the return envelope if you are required to submit a photocopy of your ID. All sites are open weekdays as specified below and 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

**REPLACEMENT BALLOT INFORMATION:** If you spoil, deface or lose your ballot, you may obtain a replacement ballot, one at a time, not to exceed three ballots in all. You may contact the Election Department to obtain instructions for requesting a replacement ballot by calling (719) 575-VOTE (8683) during regular business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., or on Election Day from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**DEADLINE FOR RETURNING BALLOTS:** Ballots must be received by the El Paso County Clerk & Recorder’s Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day in order for your vote to be counted. Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. will not be counted. Postmarks do not count as received.

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:** Contact the Election Department at (719) 575-VOTE (8683) or visit our website at: *http://car.elpasoco.com/election*

El Paso County Clerk & Recorder’s Office  
Centennial Hall  
200 South Cascade Avenue  
(Downtown)  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon-Thur  
Beginning 10/12/09 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri

El Paso County Clerk & Recorder’s Office  
Chapel Hills Branch  
Chapel Hills Mall  
(On north side next to JCPenney)  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon-Fri

EL Paso County Clerk & Recorder’s Office  
Powers Branch  
5650 Industrial Place  
(Southeast corner of Powers Blvd. and Airport Rd.)  
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Mon-Thur

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO  
PERMIT NO. 3

El Paso County Clerk and Recorder’s Office  
Election Department  
200 South Cascade Avenue  
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80903

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

**ELECTION DATE:** November 3, 2009  
**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 Clerk & Recorder’s Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.  
**ELECTION OFFICE:** El Paso County Clerk & Recorder (Centennial Hall), 200 South Cascade Avenue, Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
**TELEPHONE:** (719) 575-VOTE (8683)  
**INTERNET ADDRESS:** <http://car.elpasoco.com/election>  
**EMAIL ADDRESS:** [carweb@elpasoco.com](mailto:carweb@elpasoco.com)

This Notice of Election was prepared in accordance with Section 20 of Article X 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 ballot issues and fiscal information. The El Paso County Clerk & Recorder’s Office does not warrant, verify or confirm the accuracy or truth of the ballot titles, questions, text, and summaries of comments 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 questions, please contact the respective Designated Election Official as indicated below. This Notice does not contain issues for those jurisdictions conducting separate elections. A separate TABOR Notice will be mailed to the appropriate voters within the jurisdictions conducting an election by mail/poll place. Voters may receive additional materials from other jurisdictions conducting independent elections.

CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS  
QUESTION 2C

Designated Election Official:  
Kathryn M. Young, CMC/CERA  
City Clerk  
P. O. Box 1575, MC 110  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-1575  
(719) 385-5901

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

“SHALL CITY TAXES BE INCREASED \$46,000,000 ANNUALLY BY INCREASING 2009 GENERAL PROPERTY TAX 6.00 MILLS, 1.00 ADDITIONAL MILL PER YEAR FOR FOUR YEARS, CONTINUING THEREAFTER, CONSTITUTING VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?”

FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending (FYS)	Federal Funds
2005 Actual	\$215,483,762	\$25,302,695
2006 Actual	\$251,505,244	\$53,557,162
2007 Actual	\$231,569,394	\$33,829,626
2008 Actual	\$221,627,126	\$32,150,198
2009 Estimate	\$212,165,661	\$32,000,000
Overall dollar change to FYS (2005-2009)		(\$3,318,101)
Overall percentage change to FYS (2005-2009)		-1.54%
Overall dollar change to FYS plus federal funds (2005-2009)		\$3,379,204
Overall percentage change to FYS plus federal funds (2005-2009)		1.40%
Estimated annual dollar amount of new tax increase		\$27,600,000
Estimated FYS without tax increase		\$212,165,661

Summary of written comments for 2C:

- Colorado Springs is facing a crisis. The projected budget shortfall in 2010 is \$25.4 million which will include significant cuts in all City departments including Fire and Police, parks, transit, and street maintenance.
- 2C is a measure designed to “stop the bleeding” rather than try to solve all problems, with the intent to keep City departments at 2009 funding levels.
- Without this initiative, Colorado Springs will see a significant decline in our quality of life. Strong fire and police departments and well-maintained parks and streets protect property values and ensure Colorado Springs remains a great city for families; strong property values are directly related to the city’s ability to keep neighborhoods safe, maintain parks and streets, keep recreation centers open and our transit system moving. Pass 2C to ensure Colorado Springs continues to be a place citizens can safely raise a family.
- The ballot initiative is for 10 mills over five years, six mills in year one, and one additional mill each of the next four years. The cost the first year will be \$126, less than \$2.50 a week for the owner of an average-priced home of \$262,000. At the end of five years, the average homeowner will pay \$210 a year or \$4 a week. This modest increase will allow the city to continue to fund city services at the 2009 level while council and staff work on the recommendations of the Sustainability Funding Committee to provide a long term solution.
- Even when 2C is fully implemented in 2014, we will continue to have one of the lowest tax burdens per capita when compared to other similar size cities on the Front Range, passing this increase will not change that.
- Understanding the contribution the business community makes to this city, this initiative removes the Business Personal Property Tax, saving business \$2.2 million per year.
- The Colorado Springs Fire and Police departments have already endured significant cuts over the past two years. The Fire Department filled voids by eliminating 24-hour staffing of the HAZMAT unit. Police filled voids in street patrols by eliminating special crime units. As a result, both agencies’ ability to handle serious incidents has been severely diminished, and service you expect is not there.
- Should this increase fail, the resulting service cuts will be deep and drastic. The cuts will include laying off over 50 frontline Fire Fighters and Police. Other city departments will suffer; the projected cuts include closing five community centers: Hillside, Meadows Park, Otis Park, Deerfield Hills, West Center; all 7 city pools; minimal maintenance for 128 neighborhood parks, possible closure of Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site and Pioneers Museum, and the elimination of general fund support for Mountain Metro Transit.
- This small increase in property taxes will help balance the city’s revenue between sales and property taxes reducing our over dependence on sales taxes. Our quality of life and public safety depends on the passage of Issue 2C.
- Vote yes on 2C.

Summary of written comments against 2C:

- Issue 2C asks voters for \$46 million yearly. That’s \$460 a year in direct and indirect taxes on an average family of four. Are they kidding? Vote no.
- Do they think the economic depression is over and we’re now all rich? That we’ve forgotten their \$53+ million headquarters giveaway in August? Their \$4 million corporate handout in May? Millions in bonuses and boondoggles? Hundreds of millions in unsold assets? Their phony budget “cuts,” like the \$9+ million in planned city pay raises? Vote “no” in November.
- The council refuses to economize the way citizens have. The council demands a bigger share of a shrinking pie. They think they can spend our money better than we can. Issue 2C reflects sheer arrogance.
- Page 7 of the city’s 2009 Budget in Brief reports their true budget (excluding enterprises) is now \$405 million. That’s \$1,000 for every man, woman, and child—\$4,000 per average family of four. That is almost twice what they claim they have now (“general fund”). They insist \$405 million is still “not enough”.
- They want a 234% property tax increase. 234%. To last forever.
- Their hypocrisy is laughable.
- A councilman voted for this 234% tax increase ballot issue because he “loves” this city. He announced a week later that he is moving next month to Tennessee, which has lower taxes. He won’t be paying this tax.
- This money grab will hurt senior citizens and others on fixed incomes. It will burden struggling small businesses. It will be a hardship on all families. It will kill jobs and ruin our economic recovery. Does the council care? No.
- Issue 2C has no specifics on where the taxes will go. Why? Remember their 2001 promise that issue B-4 would add \$27 million to current spending on police and fire, “which we will never cut?” They lied. Remember their 2004 promise that the \$70 million RTA tax would add \$7 million to current bus spending, “which we will never cut?” They lied, again. Their pitch: “Forget our broken promises. Give us \$46 million more yearly for ... whatever.”
- Another version: “Give us this tax increase, and we promise to stop breaking those promises we made to get you to vote for those prior tax increases.” Yet the council still makes budget cut threats they made before. Will their scare tactics work again? Are we that gullible?
- Vote “no” on issue 2C. No more blank checks.