



# LARIMER COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

## NOTICE OF ELECTION

**GENERAL ELECTION  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2016  
7:00 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.**

**Angela Myers, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder**

Election Office  
200 W. Oak Street, Suite 5100  
PO Box 1547 Fort Collins, CO 80522  
Phone: (970) 498-7820  
Fax: (970) 498-7847  
Website: [www.votelarimer.org](http://www.votelarimer.org)

Normal Business Hours: Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

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### LOCAL BALLOT ISSUES

This Notice of Election 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 ballot issues and fiscal information.

This notice is mailed to each address with one or more active, registered electors. You may not be eligible to vote on all issues presented in this notice.

The Larimer County Clerk and Recorder does not warrant, verify or confirm the accuracy or truth of the ballot titles, issues, text, and summaries of comments as presented, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation in the materials presented.

For information or clarification concerning any of the following ballot issues, contact the respective Designated Election Official as indicated herein.

Ballot issues for the State will be mailed separately via the State's "Blue Book."

Further, 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 or polling place. Voters may receive additional materials from other jurisdictions conducting independent elections.

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A General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

The election will be conducted as a mail ballot election. A mail ballot packet will be mailed during the week of October 17, 2016, to every active registered voter.

Voted ballots may be returned by mail (postage is 68 cents) or hand delivered to a Designated Ballot Drop-off Location or a Voter Service and Polling Center.

Ballots must be RECEIVED at the Larimer County Elections Office or a Designated Ballot Drop-off Location or a Voter Service and Polling Center by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

Ballots received after 7:00 p.m. on Election Day will not be counted. **Postmarks do not count as a received date.**

Visit our website at [www.votelarimer.org](http://www.votelarimer.org) or call (970) 498-7820 to verify your ballot was received by the Larimer County Elections Office.

## **24 HOUR BALLOT BOX LOCATIONS (open October 17 – November 8)**

**Voters may drop off their voted ballots 24 hours a day at the following ballot drop box locations. Ballots will be accepted in these boxes until 7:00 p.m. Election Night:**

### **Fort Collins**

Larimer County Courthouse, 200 W. Oak St.

### **Loveland**

Loveland Vehicle Licensing Branch Office, 205 E. 6<sup>th</sup> St.

### **Estes Park**

Estes Park Vehicle Licensing Branch Office, 1601 Brodie Ave.

## **ADDITIONAL BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS**

### **Fort Collins**

King Soopers, 2602 S. Timberline Rd.

King Soopers, 1842 N. College Ave.

Safeway, 2160 W. Drake Rd.

Safeway, 1426 E. Harmony Rd.

### **Loveland**

King Soopers, 1275 Eagle Dr.

The grocery stores listed above will accept ballots only during the following times:

**Friday**, November 4 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Saturday**, November 5 (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

**Monday**, November 7 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Tuesday**, *Election Day*, November 8 (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

## **VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS**

### **Fort Collins**

Larimer County Courthouse, 200 W. Oak St., 1<sup>st</sup> Fl., Carter/Boyd Room  
Colorado State University, Lory Student Center, North Ballroom  
Council Tree Covenant Church, 4825 S. Lemay Ave.  
Christ Center Community Church, 2700 S. Lemay Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Fl.  
Elks Lodge, 1424 E. Mulberry Ave.

### **Loveland**

Loveland Police & Courts Building, 810 E. 10<sup>th</sup> St.

### **Estes Park**

Estes Park Municipal Building, 170 MacGregor Ave.

**Voters may drop off their voted ballot, obtain a replacement ballot, change their address or register to vote at the above Voter Service and Polling Centers only during the following times:**

**Monday thru Friday**, October 24 – October 28 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Saturday**, October 29 (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

**Monday thru Friday**, October 31 – November 4 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Saturday**, November 5 (9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.)

**Monday**, November 7 (8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)

**Tuesday**, *Election Day*, November 8 (7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m.)

## **ELECTION DAY ONLY VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS**

(Tuesday, November 8, 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.)

### **Berthoud**

Brookside Gardens, 619 E. State Highway 56

### **Fort Collins**

Drake Centre, 802 W. Drake Ave.

### **LaPorte**

American Legion, 2124 W. County Rd. 54G

### **Loveland**

King of Glory Lutheran Church, 2919 N. Wilson Ave.

The Ranch Events Complex, 5280 Arena Cir.

### **Red Feather Lakes**

Red Feather Lakes POA, 58 Firehouse Ln.

### **Wellington**

River of Life Fellowship, 3161 E. County Rd. 62E

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO  
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election Date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election office address: Angela Myers, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder; 200 West Oak Street, PO Box 1547, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522

Telephone Number: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 1A**

**MENTAL HEALTH, DETOX/SUBSTANCE ABUSE FACILITY AND SERVICES**

SHALL LARIMER COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED \$16,500,000.00 DOLLARS ANNUALLY (ESTIMATED FIRST FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE IN 2017), AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNT IS RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FOR A PERIOD OF 25 YEARS BY THE IMPOSITION OF A .25% (25 CENTS ON 100 DOLLARS) SALES AND USE TAX WITH ALL REVENUE RESULTING FROM SUCH TAX TO BE USED TO CONSTRUCT, IMPROVE, MAINTAIN, AND OPERATE A TREATMENT AND DETOX FACILITY FOR MENTAL HEALTH, SUBSTANCE ABUSE, AND ALCOHOL ABUSE AND TO OPERATE OUT-PATIENT AND SUPPORT SERVICES IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; AND SHALL THE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT AND SPEND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX WITHOUT LIMITATION BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

**Year Fiscal Year Spending**

2016 (Estimate)	\$192,022,124
2015	\$176,637,213
2014	\$162,001,418
2013	\$123,023,001
2012	\$142,709,226

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016 (estimated): 35%

Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016 (estimated): \$49,312,898

Estimated 2017 fiscal year spending without proposed tax increase: \$209,304,116

Estimated 2017 maximum tax increase authorized by the Ballot Issue: \$16,500,000

**Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 1A:**

We have the opportunity Nov. 8, to change the conversation about, and the treatment of, mental health and substance abuse in Larimer County. One in 4 people in Larimer County suffers from a mental illness and/or substance use disorder.

A mental health and detox/substance abuse facility has been discussed for years with the same outcome: while the number of people in need continues to rise, we cobble together services.

Behavioral health services in Larimer County have been woefully unfunded for long enough. People are dying and lives are being destroyed. The lack of appropriate behavioral health services is costing this community millions of dollars every year. We overuse the jail and emergency room for the wrong reasons-mental health and substance abuse crisis situations. Our community, family, friends, neighbors and coworkers deserve better. Larimer County is offering a viable solution to this problem: Ballot Issue 1A, to build a centrally-located mental health and detox/substance abuse facility. The proposed facility will provide services that are currently unavailable or have little capacity.

The need is documented, and the size and cost justified. A community summit of subject matter experts was convened in March 2015. Next, a consortium of experts called the Guidance Team commissioned a study by the recognized national consultants, NIATx, to formulate a plan that included a comprehensive compilation on national best practices, trends and current community needs.

Last November, NIATx delivered "The Recommendations for Development of Critical Behavioral Health Services in Larimer County." The recommendation: an integrated model of care would have significant impacts on mental illness and substance abuse in our community. The report discussed a continuum of care, a system of service models not unlike what is offered for people with chronic conditions, such as cancer, heart disease or diabetes.

The width and depth of the behavioral health problems in our communities is complex. If there were a simple, cheap or quick fix to this epidemic, it would have been done by now. The fact that it hasn't been fixed, in a county of this caliber, and the reason it has taken decades to come to this point of realization, is an indicator of the breadth of the issue.

The proposed plan is an efficient use of public dollars. This proposal creates treatment bridges, builds on existing community relationships and local agency partners.

The synergy around behavioral health that has been created is unlike anything before. No existing program includes all the components included in this proposal. With this project, Larimer County is developing a model for mental health and detox services that can be used elsewhere across the country. Treatment costs, but NOT treating costs more.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 1A:**

A new, large addiction treatment and detox facility might be useful in many respects, but it is not a priority for most Larimer residents, nor is the proposed funding by universal taxation fair and appropriate. Smaller facilities of this type already exist in Fort Collins. Treatment of drug addictions and alcoholism should be funded by taxes imposed on vendors of alcohol and other addictive substances. Colorado residents already pay 9.1% of their annual income in sales, property and state taxes. Most county residents have more important expenses, like providing for their children, paying rent or mortgage, health care expenses, saving for retirement or family vacation. Other illnesses can have devastating impacts on families, yet sales taxes are not used to defray the cost of required medical treatments.

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This ballot issue asks the Larimer County voters to pay a .25% sales tax to fund the operations of a Behavior Health Care Facility until 2041. The County should figure out how to pay the \$16 Million dollars themselves if this facility is so important. Twenty-five years is too long for a tax with such a specialized purpose. We don't have to vote yes for a sales tax to help fill the critical gaps in behavioral health services in Larimer County. There are higher priorities in our community like open space and economic development. The detox in Weld County is good enough. We are going to need more jail beds regardless if this issue is dealt with or not. A sales tax is the wrong way to pay for these public services. Do we even know if these programs work? If they do then why do we have such a drug problem in our country? Let people take care of themselves.

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Vote AGAINST because there is not enough money to do everything. In terms of community priorities, save this money and protect the future of 30,000 innocent kids by addressing the \$568 million shortfall in school maintenance. Vote AGAINST because the Affordable Care Act is supposed to make this affordable without further government intervention. Say NO to endless patches and endless tax increases that only keep a broken system on life support. Vote NO to fix the system.

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There are already new private facilities built and operating that in sum are larger than the proposed facility, serving both in-patients and out-patients. The proposed county mental health facility is projected to cost \$20 million, yet the total tax bill for taxpayers would be at least \$16 million each year for 25 years (\$400 million total). No explanations are forthcoming about why this should be given a priority over traditional responsibilities for county government, such as roads and other infrastructure. This proposal takes all the sales tax authorized to be collected by the county and earmarks it for mental health for a generation. This taxation would prohibit citizens from using this funding source for any other project for the next 25 years and allows the mental health program to run on automatic.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO  
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A CITIZEN PETITION**

Election Date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election office address: Angela Myers, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder; 200 West Oak Street, PO Box 1547, Fort Collins, Colorado 80522

Telephone Number: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 200**

SHALL TAXES BE INCREASED \$6,646,028 ANNUALLY (ESTIMATED IN THE FIRST YEAR) OR SUCH GREATER AMOUNT AS IS RAISED IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS WITHIN LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO BY AN INCREASE OF A ONE-TENTH OF A CENT SALES AND USE TAX GENERATED ON ALL TAXABLE ITEMS; SAID TAX INCREASE TO COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2017 AND TO EXPIRE ON DECEMBER 31, 2026; AND SHALL THE LARIMER COUNTY SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL FACILITIES DISTRICT ("DISTRICT") BE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 32-13-101 AND FOLLOWING, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, WHICH DISTRICT SHALL RECEIVE PROCEEDS FROM SAID TAX, AND SHALL SAID DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND SUCH ADDITIONAL REVENUE GENERATED BY SAID TAX, ALONG WITH ALL OTHER AVAILABLE REVENUE, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY APPLICABLE LIMITATIONS ON REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES, INCLUDING THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, THE LIMITATIONS IN SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES OR ANY OTHER LAW IN YEARS 2017 THROUGH 2026?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Spending</b>
2016 (Estimated)	\$0
2015	\$0
2014	\$0
2013	\$0
2012	\$0

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016 (estimated): 0%

Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016 (estimated): \$0

Estimated 2017 fiscal year spending without proposed tax increase: \$0

Estimated 2017 maximum tax increase authorized by the Ballot Issue: \$6,646,028

**Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 200:**

Ballot measure 200 is good for our community and will touch our lives. Science & Cultural offerings in Larimer County are as important to our quality of life as mountains and open spaces. The SCFD is a small investment for a big payoff and will ensure for just 1 penny on every \$10 spent (excluding the sale of gas, groceries, pharmaceuticals, machinery, sales by charitable organizations, farm equipment, low-emitting motor vehicles or pesticides) increased access for people and families of Larimer County to enriching experiences that contribute to our quality of life, making Larimer County a greater place than ever before to live, work, and play. The SCFD will generate \$6.6 million for Science & Cultural Arts programs and generate an ADDITIONAL estimated \$70 million of economic activity in Larimer County annually. Young people engaged in arts and cultural activities are nearly twice as likely to earn a college degree, find job opportunities with higher pay, have more

responsibility, and greater job satisfaction. Employers cite access to cultural activity as a key consideration in locating their businesses. Research shows that a greater concentration of scientific and cultural activities leads to higher civic engagement, and lower poverty rates.

**Analysis:**

- Ballot measure 200 would increase Larimer County taxes by an estimated \$6.6 million annually via a 0.1 percent sales and use tax (1 penny on every \$10 spent).
- The tax would exclude the sale of gas, groceries, pharmaceuticals, machinery, sales by charitable organizations, farm equipment, low-emitting motor vehicles or pesticides.
- Revenue would be distributed to nonprofits in Larimer County that enlighten and entertain the public through the production, presentation, exhibition, or preservation of natural history or natural sciences, visual arts, performing arts or cultural history.
- The tax cannot fund an agency of the state, a capital construction project, educational institution, school district, radio or television network or station, a cable communications system, newspaper, magazine or library program.
- The funds will be distributed by a board of directors appointed by Larimer County commissioners.

**Arguments in favor:**

- The dedicated revenue created by the SCFD will generate an estimated \$6.6 million for Science & Cultural Arts programs and generate an additional estimated \$70 million of economic activity within Larimer County annually.
- Increased revenue would keep admission prices low for arts, science, nature, history and cultural organizations.
- Revenue would allow selected nonprofits to increase programming and provide more free public offerings.
- The dedicated revenue stream would provide financial stability for arts, science and cultural organizations, helping them increase the quality of their offerings. **Access to these activities stimulates the local economy and effectively drives tourism.**
- The SCFD is a small investment for a big payoff and will ensure for just 1 penny on every \$10 spent (excluding groceries, gas and pharmaceuticals) increased access for people and families of Larimer County to enriching experiences that contribute to our quality of life, making Larimer County a greater place than ever before to live, work and play.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 200:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE  
CITY OF FORT COLLINS**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:**

Larimer County Clerk and Recorder  
200 West Oak Street  
P.O. Box 1547  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522  
Telephone: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 2A**

**City-Initiated Question Concerning Whether the City May Keep and Spend All Revenues Related to the “Keep Fort Collins Great” Sales and Use Tax City Voters Approved in 2010**

MAY THE CITY KEEP ALL REVENUES FROM THE 2010 VOTER-APPROVED “KEEP FORT COLLINS GREAT” .85% SALES AND USE TAX, AND CONTINUE TO COLLECT THE TAX AT THE .85% RATE AND SPEND ALL REVENUES IN THE FOLLOWING WAYS DIRECTED BY THE VOTERS IN 2010:

- 33% FOR STREET MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR;
- 17% FOR OTHER STREET AND TRANSPORTATION NEEDS;
- 17% FOR POLICE SERVICES;
- 11% FOR FIRE PROTECTION AND OTHER EMERGENCY SERVICES;
- 11% FOR PARKS MAINTENANCE AND RECREATION SERVICES; AND
- 11% FOR COMMUNITY PRIORITIES OTHER THAN THOSE LISTED ABOVE, AS DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL;

WITHOUT REFUNDING ANY AMOUNT FOR EXCEEDING THE REVENUE ESTIMATES IN THE ELECTION NOTICE MAILED TO VOTERS IN 2010?

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 2A:**

Vote Yes on 2A

This is not a tax increase. This vote reaffirms a tax measure that voters approved in 2010. The voters approved a 10 year sales tax increase of 0.85% to fund basic services in Fort Collins. In addition to setting the rate at 85 cents per \$100 purchase, the original ballot language says: “...the full revenue derived from the tax and investment earnings may be retained and expended.”

New questions about how to apply the state-wide tax limitation law (TABOR) could threaten this Fort Collins voter approved tax program and force the City to return already-spent funds to taxpayers. Since Fort Collins voters approved “De-Brucing” in 1997 to override portions of the TABOR state tax limitation that action should have made it clear that voters approved keeping all revenues for these kinds of programs. To avoid problems with interpreting the TABOR amendment and the possibility of a costly lawsuit, City Council decided to ask voters to reaffirm the “Keep Fort Collins Great” program with a Yes vote on 2A on November 8, 2016.

This tax money has been collected since 2011 and spent in 6 areas (just as approved by the voters):

- 34% Street Maintenance and Repair—300 lane miles of improvements already!
- 17% Other Transportation Needs—intersections, bridges, and bike and pedestrian safety all over town
- 11% Police Officers and new police services for community safety—30 new positions total for downtown patrols, neighborhood enforcement, investigations, and more

- 11% Firefighters and fire safety education—better response times, more firefighters, school programs, and firefighter safety
- 11% Parks and Recreation—improvements to parks and recreation programs and facilities for kids, adults and seniors, plus recreation scholarships, Senior Center expansion, Gardens on Spring Creek programs and equipment needs
- 11% Other Community Priorities—Downtown landscaping, environmental programs, affordable housing programs, homelessness initiatives and much more!

Voters approved this tax by a wide margin and the City has spent the funds just as the voters approved. The City wants to continue to uphold the will of the voters. If a citizen sues over this TABOR interpretation, it will put those services at risk while the City goes through a costly lawsuit that could span several years. Asking voters to vote Yes on 2A will decide the issue on November 8 and allow the City to keep using the funds as directed by voters.

For a complete report on how these funds have been spent so far, go to [www.fcgov.com/kfcg](http://www.fcgov.com/kfcg)

Reaffirm the voter approved “Keep Fort Collins Great” funding program and keep supporting existing services that make Fort Collins a high quality place to live, work and play. Vote Yes on 2A!

### **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 2A:**

Vote against because there is no such thing as the “Keep Fort Collins Great Tax.” Per Resolution 2010-047, Ordinance 2010-126, many other public records, and even the City Attorney’s own statements show the legal name of the tax is the “Resourcing Our Future Tax.” Vote No to stop tax dollars from being wasted on unnecessary litigation to declare the issue null and void because it refers to a nonexistent tax.

Vote against to protect your excess food tax refund. As written, the “Resourcing Our Future Tax” exempted all from the 3.85% new rate, not just food for home consumption from the 0.85% increase. Vote No to start the process of getting your hard earned money back.

Voters approved a 2010 ballot question increasing the City’s sales tax from 3.0% to 3.85% to collect a first year increase of \$18.7M. The first year revenues from this tax increase were \$19.9M. The Colorado Constitution requires that revenue collected in excess of the estimated first year revenues must be refunded and the tax rate reduced proportionally thereafter. Because it refused to abide by the Constitution, the City of Fort Collins is now obligated to refund all over-collected taxes to taxpayers. However, the Constitution provides that voters may approve an exception to the refund requirements.

This ballot question seeks such voter approval. However, the City brought this question forward without explanation of the refund amount owed or the refund method. This means that voters considering this question have no idea what they are voting for. For example, the refund might be applied by eliminating or reducing the sales tax on food. Yet, voters have no idea if such idea would be considered or if any refund will be granted.

Consider the following when voting:

- The City collected more tax than requested and then refused to provide a refund or request voter approval to retain the excess for the last 5 years. The threat of a lawsuit is the reason voters now have the opportunity to weigh in on this subject. Voting ‘no’ sends the clear message that we expect the City to comply with laws and respect taxpayers.
- The City has a large reserve fund (\$18M+) generated, in part, by the over-collected taxes. Honoring the refund owed will not create a financial hardship for the City and will not cause significant disruption of services. Since the sales tax increase was approved, City spending has exploded, characterized by lavish salaries, unproductive programs and tax dollar giveaways.
- Taxpayers have no idea if the City is accounting for this tax revenue according to the original ballot question, because audited financial statements on how revenues have been spent have never been prepared.
- Because the City has not budgeted for a refund or provided a basic idea what the refund will be, there is no guaranty a ‘no’ vote will lead to a refund. A ‘no’ vote sends a signal that citizens prefer rule of law and fiscal responsibility over the alternative.

**TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**  
**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES**  
**ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

***Town of Timnath***  
Larimer County, Colorado

**Election Date:**  
**Election Hours:**

Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:**

Ms. Angela Myers  
County Clerk and Recorder  
Larimer County, Colorado  
200 W. Oak Street  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80521  
Telephone: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 2B**

SHALL TOWN OF TIMNATH TAXES BE INCREASED \$4,128,500 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2017, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY:

- INCREASING THE CURRENT TOWN SALES TAX RATE ON THE SALE OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY AT RETAIL OR THE FURNISHING OF SERVICES AND THE CURRENT TOWN USE TAX RATE FROM 3.00% TO 4.35% AND EXPANDING THE TRANSACTIONS TO WHICH THE USE TAX APPLIES BY IMPOSING THE USE TAX ON THE PRIVILEGE OF STORING, USING, OR CONSUMING IN THE TOWN ANY ARTICLES OF TANGIBLE PERSONAL PROPERTY PURCHASED AT RETAIL AND FOR WHICH THE TOWN SALES TAX WAS NOT PAID; AND
- INCREASING THE CURRENT TOWN SALES TAX RATE ON THE PURCHASE OF FOOD FOR HOME CONSUMPTION FROM 2.25% TO 3.60%,

FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING (1) CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO STREETS, PARKS AND RECREATION, STORMWATER AND MUNICIPAL FACILITIES, (2) THE COSTS OF OPERATING AND MAINTAINING SUCH PROJECTS, AND (3) GENERAL MUNICIPAL PURPOSES; AND SHALL THE REVENUES GENERATED BY SUCH TAX INCREASE AND ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE TOWN AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Total Town Fiscal Year Spending**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2016 (estimated)	\$ <u>16,562,729</u> (See Note 1)
2015 (actual)	\$ <u>11,268,275</u>
2014 (actual)	\$ <u>8,669,229</u>
2013 (actual)	\$ <u>7,020,956</u>
2012 (actual)	\$ <u>5,867,115</u>
Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016	<u>182.3%</u> (See Note 1)
Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016	<u>\$10,695,614</u> (See Note 1)

*Note 1: a large percentage of the Town's budget spending in 2016 has been attributable to large-scale capital improvement projects such as the Summerfields Crossing, Old Town Sewer Project, and Harmony Road Expansion.*

## Proposed Tax Increase

Town Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount  
of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2017  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2:           \$ 4,128,500

Town Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase:                           \$12,907,381 (See Note 2)

*Note 2: Fiscal year spending without the proposed tax increase does not include proceeds of bonded debt, lease purchase agreements or other borrowings which may occur in such fiscal years.*

### Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2B:

Town of Timnath Ballot Question 2B will provide much needed revenue for our town's long-term and short-term goals. Timnath residents are often invited to open house meetings to provide inputs for our town's future investments. The Comprehensive Plan is an output of these sessions, and without your vote of approval for 2B, the town will not have enough revenue to fund the Town's comprehensive plan. The funds collected will be used for capital projects such as street additions and improvements, parks and other recreation, storm water management and right-sizing our municipal facilities. After investing in these capital projects, the funds will also ensure a healthy budget to maintain these investments. For example, the comprehensive plan includes Harmony Road traffic improvements, expanded phases of our community park, and extending the Poudre Trail. The growth in Timnath has been exciting to see over the last several years, but with growth comes the need for investment in infrastructure, safety services, as well as funding larger community events and recreation locations. Ballot Question 2B will align our sales tax rate with the average of surrounding North Front Range I-25 communities. A YES vote is a vote for our Town's future.

### Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

**St. Vrain Valley School District RE-1J**

Boulder, Larimer and Weld Counties and the City and County of Broomfield,  
Colorado

**Election Date:** Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
**Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:**

Larimer County Clerk & Recorder  
200 West Oak Street  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

Telephone: 970-498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 3A**

SHALL ST. VRAIN VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1J DEBT BE INCREASED \$260.34 MILLION, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF NOT TO EXCEED \$413,514,275 AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED NOT MORE THAN \$45,583,025 ANNUALLY, AND SHALL THE EXPENDITURE OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH DEBT BE LIMITED TO THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- REPAIR AND RENOVATE EXISTING SCHOOL BUILDINGS DISTRICT-WIDE TO EXTEND THEIR USEFUL LIFE, ADDRESS SAFETY AND SECURITY ISSUES, AND MAKE FACILITIES MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT;
- CLASSROOM ADDITIONS, INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS AND CONSTRUCTING AND EQUIPPING THREE NEW SCHOOL BUILDINGS TO ADDRESS STUDENT GROWTH AND CAPACITY NEEDS DISTRICT-WIDE;
- ACQUIRE AND EQUIP SCHOOL BUILDINGS WITH ENHANCED EDUCATIONAL, INNOVATIVE, SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH (STEM) PROGRAM OPTIONS FOR STUDENTS DISTRICT-WIDE;

SUCH DEBT TO BE EVIDENCED BY THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, 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 AND AS THE DISTRICT MAY DETERMINE, AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE INCREASED IN ANY YEAR, WITHOUT LIMITATION OF RATE AND 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)?

**Total District Fiscal Year Spending**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2016-17 (estimated)	\$338,953,438
2015-16 (estimated actual)	\$343,750,281
2014-15 (actual)	\$315,344,807
2013-14 (actual)	\$303,277,384
2012-13 (actual)	\$284,236,200

Overall percentage change from 2012-13 to 2016-17	19.3%
Overall dollar change from 2012-13 to 2016-17	\$54,717,238

**Proposed Tax Increase**

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount  
of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2017-18  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A: \$22,795,000

District Estimate of 2017-18 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$382,632,749\*

\* Does not include proceeds of bonded debt, lease purchase agreements or other borrowings which may occur in 2017-18 fiscal year.

**Information on District’s Proposed Debt**

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds: \$260,340,000  
Maximum Annual District Repayment Cost: \$ 45,583,025  
Total District Repayment Cost: \$413,514,275

**Information on District’s Current Debt<sup>1</sup>**

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt: \$375,995,000  
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost: \$ 35,306,777  
Remaining Total Repayment Cost: \$545,905,312

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 3A:**

St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD) is experiencing rapid enrollment growth. In fact, the hundreds of new students who enroll in the district each year could fill an entire elementary school. If we do nothing, one-half of SVVSD’s schools will be operating beyond capacity, with some schools operating at 140% capacity within the next three to five years if no action is taken.

To address the need for additional instructional space – as well as other high priority facility needs – the district is placing a bond measure (3A) on the November ballot. Proceeds of 3A will fund many critical improvements, including:

- Adding classrooms and science labs in 29 schools district-wide
- Replacing outdated heating and ventilation systems, electrical systems, roofing and plumbing
- Improving safety and security of school buildings with interior and exterior cameras and secure entrances (at schools not already equipped)
- Constructing three new schools in areas with rapid enrollment growth as well as a Longmont-based Innovation Center available to all SVVSD students

The estimated monthly tax impact of 3A is \$1.82 per \$100,000 of a home’s actual value. This is a modest investment with significant benefits for our students, local schools and communities, including:

- Addressing rapid enrollment growth, providing students with the room to learn
- Extending the useful life of existing school buildings
- Reducing costly emergency repairs and improving energy efficiency
- Enhancing core programs and rigorous curriculum, including science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) offerings
- Strengthening property values
- Generating additional local economic development
- Saving taxpayer dollars

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<sup>1</sup> Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

3A is about keeping a great thing going. In just the past five years, SVVSD has received 88 state and/or national awards, and district students have outperformed the state average on 94% of assessments. In fact, 78% of the district's schools are accredited with CDE's Distinction of Performance. Students are also earning Associate degrees (at no cost) through the P-TECH program. The district has worked hard to establish relationships with corporate sponsors.

SVVSD has a strong track record of completing bond projects on time and within budget, and continues to look for refinancing opportunities to save taxpayer dollars.

With borrowing costs at historic lows, and construction costs continuing to increase, now is the right time to address our highest priority facility needs. The longer we wait, the more it will cost.

As was the case with the successful 2008 bond measure, there will be strong oversight in place. All spending associated with the bond measure will be publically disclosed. Project updates will also be provided on the District's website as well as through community outreach meetings.

Your YES vote on 3A will benefit every school in our district and the district's 32,000 students. Your YES vote will allow SVVSD to continue to make significant strides in preparing students for college and the workforce.

Your YES vote on 3A will keep our schools strong, and in turn keep our communities moving forward, protect property values, and attract new businesses and well-paying jobs to our area.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 3A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Tessa Oppenheimer, Poudre School District R-1, 2407 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521; telephone number (970) 490-3607

Coordinated Election Official: Angela Myers, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder, 200 West Oak Street, Fifth Floor, Fort Collins, CO 80521; telephone number (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 3B**

SHALL POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$8 MILLION ANNUALLY (PHASED IN FROM INITIAL FISCAL YEAR (2017-18) AMOUNT OF \$2.6 MILLION) FOR THE PAYMENT OF DISTRICT OPERATING COSTS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- OPERATING COSTS FOR NEW BUILDINGS
- NEW AND EXISTING SCHOOL STAFF AND SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO TEACHERS, PRINCIPALS, PARAPROFESSIONALS, SPECIAL EDUCATION, ENGLISH LANGUAGE, MENTAL HEALTH, SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS, CUSTODIAL, TRANSPORTATION, AND FACILITIES)
- NEW AND EXISTING SCHOOL MATERIALS, EQUIPMENT, AND TECHNOLOGY
- FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO EXISTING SCHOOLS FOR GROWTH

BY AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX LEVY AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE AMOUNTS SPECIFIED ABOVE, WHICH TAXES SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE DISTRICT AND SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES THAT OTHERWISE WOULD BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND; AND SHALL ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH TAXES BE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE THAT THE DISTRICT MAY COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND WITHOUT LIMITATION UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION (TABOR) OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Spending<sup>1</sup></b>
2012-2013 (actual)	\$285,326,773
2013-2014 (actual)	283,603,200
2014-2015 (actual)	306,381,286
2015-2016 (actual)	299,113,192
2016-2017 (current year estimated)	335,600,696
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: 17.62%	
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: \$50,273,923	

<sup>1</sup> Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

Estimated fiscal year spending for first full fiscal year<sup>2</sup> of full tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B: \$476,109,436

Estimated tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B for first full fiscal year of full tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B: \$8,000,000

**Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3B:**

Parents, community members, and taxpayers alike urge you to vote YES on 3B, the mill levy override that will provide much needed operating funds to our Poudre School District (PSD) schools without raising the tax rate.

3B is the result of an 18 month facilities planning process which included more than 175 community meetings involving thousands of community members.

ALL residents who own property in PSD boundaries pay the same tax rate of 52.63 mills to support PSD. PSD includes all of some, and parts of many communities: Fort Collins, Laporte, Wellington, Timnath, Livermore, Bellevue, Stove Prairie, Red Feather Lakes, Virginia Dale, Waverly and even small pieces of Windsor and Loveland. If passed, the mill levy override and bond issue will both be accomplished with no increase to the mill levy (tax rate).

Due to state funding reductions, PSD has lost more than \$164 million since the recession. This year alone, the reduction in state revenue is \$26 million.

PSD's student population has increased by more than 10% since 2010 and continues to grow. This Mill Levy Override will help to cover the operational costs associated with this growth.

This mill levy override will provide the necessary school start up and operating funds to ensure PSD can provide adequate school staffing and help with other financial needs associated with opening new schools and to handle the increasing number of students in PSD (such as teachers, principals, mental health counselors, and school resource officers). It will also provide for the initial equipment, furniture and technology needed in the new schools (such as desks, chairs, and computers).

The Mill Levy Override will be phased-in over four years, collecting \$2 million in 2018 and gradually increasing to \$8 million in 2022. Due to the payoff and refinancing of existing debt, passing both the mill levy override and bond will not raise the tax rate.

PSD is transparent and accountable regarding the expenditure of money received in past mill levy overrides.

Your vote counts! Please remember to vote YES for 3B and help our kids continue to thrive in this great community!

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3B:**

The promise of a "fixed mill levy" (52.63 mills) has been stated by the proponents of this tax increase as the principle reason why it should be supported. This is a hollow and meaningless promise that is more likely to increase the amount of tax paid (if the promise is kept) than limit the amount paid. The amount of tax paid is a function of the market value of real property. In recent years, rapid increases in property values has driven up the amount of tax paid, not the mill levy rates. The increases have

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<sup>2</sup> Amount presented reflects the District's estimate of fiscal year spending for fiscal year 2021-22, which is the fiscal year currently projected by the District as the first full fiscal year in which the full phased-in tax increase of \$8,000,000 authorized by Ballot Issue 3B will be collected. Such estimate is based in part on projections made by the District regarding inflation, student growth and potential state legislative action on school district funding. Due to factors including the growth in assessed valuation of property within the District and such potential state legislative action, such full phased-in tax increase may occur in a fiscal year earlier or later than 2021-22.

been so substantial that we should have seen a decrease in the mill levy charged the taxpayers in this year (2016) of 2 mills. However, in order to keep the sham of a 'fixed mill levy', the district violated the promises made to the voters in previous elections and set the tax rate at a level that is higher than what was disclosed in previous TABOR notices. In other words, PSD has simply gone in for oversimplified electioneering tricks in order to induce support for a tax increase and violated the Colorado Constitution in the process. This problem is characteristic of the PSD's approach to public school finance.

This tax increase requires the long term residents and businesses in the district to subsidize growth. Although it can not be disputed that funding k-12 education is an important responsibility of everyone in our community, it is also our responsibility to ensure that our systems of taxation evolve, are fair and meet the changes that come with times. The district has done nothing whatsoever to explore ways to require growth to pay its own way. Unless the voters reject this ballot question with a 'no' vote, the district never will pursue due diligence towards basic tax fairness.

Tax increment financing (TIF) swindles will take 4.2% of this tax increase in the same way that the same percentage is already being diverted from all the property taxes currently collected in the name of the school district. This money will NOT be used for education. Rather, it is most accurately described as corporate welfare. Most of these swindles are constitutionally questionable. However, the most important fact that voters must remember is that PSD has done absolutely nothing to challenge or object to this situation. That is to say, it has done absolutely nothing to represent the interests of the students and taxpayers as tens of millions of dollars have been diverted from education to very questionable uses. To make matters worse, the Town of Timnath, which is the worst abuser of TIF, will get an enormous share of the revenues from this tax increase if it is passed and a new high school/middle school as well!

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND TO INCREASE DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Tessa Oppenheimer, Poudre School District R-1, 2407 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521; telephone number (970) 490-3607

Coordinated Election Official: Angela Myers, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder, 200 West Oak Street, Fifth Floor, Fort Collins, CO 80521; telephone number (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 3C**

SHALL POUDRE SCHOOL DISTRICT R-1 DEBT BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$375 MILLION, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$629 MILLION, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$34.9 MILLION ANNUALLY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING DISTRICT BUILDINGS AND OTHER PROPERTY, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- NEW SCHOOLS AND ADDITIONS TO EXISTING SCHOOLS
- ONGOING FACILITIES IMPROVEMENTS
- A NEW TRANSPORTATION FACILITY
- A NEW ATHLETIC COMPLEX

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR OBLIGATIONS WHICH MAY BE USED AS MATCHING MONEYS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE UNDER THE BUILDING EXCELLENT SCHOOLS TODAY ACT, WHICH DEBT SHALL BEAR INTEREST, MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED, DATED AND SOLD AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES, AT SUCH PRICES (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE; SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED IN ANY YEAR, WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE AND IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND SHALL ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH DEBT AND SUCH TAXES BE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE THAT THE DISTRICT MAY COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND WITHOUT LIMITATION UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION (TABOR) OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Spending<sup>1</sup></b>
2012-2013 (actual)	\$285,326,773
2013-2014 (actual)	283,603,200
2014-2015 (actual)	306,381,286
2015-2016 (actual)	299,113,192
2016-2017 (current year estimated)	335,600,696

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<sup>1</sup> 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 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: 17.62%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending  
over the five year period from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: \$50,273,923

Estimated fiscal year spending for first full fiscal year<sup>2</sup> of tax increase  
authorized by Ballot Issue 3C without taking into account the tax increase  
authorized by Ballot Issue 3C: \$335,600,696

Estimated tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C for first full fiscal year  
of tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C: \$34,900,000

Information regarding bonded debt proposed by Ballot Issue 3C

Principal amount:	\$375,000,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$34,900,000
Maximum total repayment cost:	\$629,000,000

Information regarding current bonded debt:

Principal balance:	\$203,995,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$32,807,671
Maximum remaining total repayment cost:	\$266,748,113

**Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3C:**

Parents, community members, and taxpayers alike urge you to vote YES on 3C, the bond issue that will provide much needed funds to all 50 Poudre School District (PSD) schools, and build new schools and related facilities without raising the tax rate.

3C is the result of an 18 month facilities planning process which included more than 175 community meetings involving thousands of community members.

ALL residents who own property in PSD boundaries pay the same tax rate of 52.63 mills to support PSD. PSD includes all of some, and parts of many communities: Fort Collins, Laporte, Wellington, Timnath, Livermore, Bellevue, Stove Prairie, Red Feather Lakes, Virginia Dale, Waverly and even small pieces of Windsor and Loveland. If passed, the mill levy override and bond issue will both be accomplished with no increase to the tax rate.

Due to state funding reductions, PSD has lost more than \$164 million since the recession. This year alone, the reduction in state revenue is \$26 million.

PSD's student population has increased by more than 10% since 2010 and continues to grow. This bond issue will pay for construction costs to accommodate this growth as well as maintain, repair and improve all of PSD's existing schools.

PSD provides high-quality education that contributes to our community's quality of life, but PSD's rapid growth of about 500 new students annually for the last three years is pushing our schools beyond capacity. To ensure our schools are the right size for learning in 21st century classrooms, we need to build additional capacity and update facilities.

The bond funds would be used to provide for at least \$40 million in maintenance and improvements to ALL 50 existing schools and PSD's 4 charter schools, build three new schools (an elementary and two middle/high schools), build a new athletic complex for all PSD students and replace the current transportation maintenance facility. Due to the payoff and refinancing of existing debt, passing the mill levy override and bond will not raise the tax rate.

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<sup>2</sup> Amount presented reflects the District's estimate of fiscal year spending for fiscal year 2016-17.

Construction costs in Larimer County have more than doubled in the past 10 years and continue to rise. PSD will be able to build schools at a lower cost if they are built sooner rather than later. Interest rates are at all-time lows, borrowing now will reduce the overall cost to the taxpayer.

If the bond does not pass, PSD will need to spend money on temporary solutions such as modular classrooms. Money to alleviate the over-crowding of PSD schools comes out of the PSD's general fund, meaning failure to pass the bond means less money for items such as teachers and textbooks.

PSD is transparent and accountable regarding the expenditure of money received in past bonds.

Your vote counts! Please remember to vote YES for 3C and help our kids continue to thrive in this great community!

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3C:**

A "no" vote is necessary to:

- Create accountability and improvement in public school financing.
- Dismiss a flawed long range plan that prioritizes new schools upon questionable forecasts for population growth over maintaining our existing schools. (Existing schools have a maintenance backlog measured in the hundreds of millions of dollars.)
- Signal opposition to corporate welfare paid for by diverting millions of dollars of school district tax dollars away from education.
- Signal opposition to higher taxes for the purposes of subsidizing development and rapid growth in our area.

Proponents of this tax increase have stated that it would be "irresponsible" to reject this massive tax and debt increase. In truth, the irresponsibility falls on the school district for ignoring basic concepts of tax fairness and good management.

The population forecasts that Poudre School District (PSD) has used to justify new schools are riddled with fraudulent assumptions. PSD has been spending millions of dollars installing temporary (modular) classrooms, but has done nothing to reduce the number of out-of-district students enrolled in local schools.

PSD has failed to acknowledge systemic problems in public school finance. For example, PSD has made no effort to collect impact fees from the increase in new residential construction that is driving the need to build new schools. At the same time, the cost of building new schools has more than doubled in the past 10 years. Other governmental services such as roads and public safety have utilized impact fees to finance capital construction costs for decades. The k-12 community has been asleep throughout this evolution. As a consequence, this tax increase is nothing more than a way to make the long term residents and businesses of the area pay the entire costs of growth and subsidize developers of residential property that rely on an unfair and outmoded paradigm.

4.2% of all the money raised by this new tax won't even go to the school district or be used for education. Instead, it will be diverted from the tax rolls to stimulate growth through the ethically and legally questionable practice of tax increment financing (TIF). For example, only 14% of all the property tax collected in Timnath will go to PSD. The rest will be diverted to pay subsidies to corporations. And yet, Timnath will be the primary beneficiary of a new high school east of 1-25. Ironically, if the voters approve this ballot question, Timnath will receive even more tax increment dollars with which to accelerate growth. In other words, this tax increase will not just build a new school for a community that does not support the school district financially, it will accelerate the need for more schools! To add to our injury, the Town of Timnath is not even paying for the acquisition of school lands when new development occurs the way every other jurisdiction in the district does!

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT**

**THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. R2-J  
(LARIMER, WELD AND BOULDER COUNTIES, COLORADO)**

Local Election Office:  
800 South Taft Avenue, Loveland, Colorado 80537  
Telephone: (970) 613-5015

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Election Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 3D**

SHALL THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT R2-J'S TAXES BE INCREASED \$11 MILLION ANNUALLY BY A LEVY OF 6.5 MILLS IN THE 2016-2017 BUDGET YEAR AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNT IS RAISED BY A LEVY OF 6.5 MILLS IN EACH BUDGET YEAR THEREAFTER BY THE COLLECTION OF PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE FOLLOWING EDUCATIONAL PURPOSES:

- ESTABLISHING THE DISTRICT AS A COMPETITIVE EMPLOYER BY INCREASING COMPENSATION TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN HIGH QUALITY EMPLOYEES;
- UPDATING TEXTBOOKS, CURRICULUM, MATERIALS AND INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAMS; AND
- PURCHASING AND REPLACING SCHOOL BUSES;

WITH A PORTION OF SUCH TAXES TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE DISTRICT'S CHARTER SCHOOLS EXISTING ON THE DATE OF THIS ELECTION BASED ON ENROLLMENT; AND WITH SUCH TAXES TO BE IN EXCESS OF PROPERTY TAX REVENUES THAT WOULD BE PROVIDED BY THE GENERAL FUND MILL LEVY PERMITTED UNDER STATE LAW WITHOUT SUCH INCREASE, BUT IN NO EVENT SHALL SUCH TAX INCREASE BE GREATER THAN THE AMOUNT PERMITTED UNDER SECTION 22-54-108, C.R.S., OR ANY SUCCESSOR STATUTE, AND, TOGETHER WITH REVENUES FROM SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES ATTRIBUTABLE THERETO AND THE EARNINGS ON SUCH TAXES AND REVENUES, TO CONSTITUTE A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND SPENDING CHANGE UNDER, TO BE COLLECTED AND SPENT EACH YEAR WITHOUT LIMITATION BY THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF, AND WITHOUT AFFECTING THE DISTRICT'S ABILITY TO COLLECT AND SPEND OTHER REVENUES OR FUNDS UNDER, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Fiscal Year Spending Information**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Spending (FYS)*</b>
2012-13 (Actual)	\$ 121,749,010
2013-14 (Actual)	126,140,635
2014-15 (Actual)	133,426,455
2015-16 (Actual)	143,515,283
2016-17 (Current Year Estimated)	145,788,254
Overall FYS percentage change through 5 years (2012-13 – 2016-17):	19.7%
Overall FYS dollar change through 5 years (2012-13 – 2016-17):	\$24,039,244

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Does not include payments on bonded debt of \$10,447,282 in fiscal year 2012-13; \$10,515,797 in fiscal year 2013-14; \$10,603,081 in fiscal year 2014-15; \$10,697,803 in fiscal year 2015-16; and \$10,823,055 in fiscal year 2016-17.

Fiscal year spending without the tax increase in the ballot proposal is estimated to be up to \$145,788,254 in the 2016-17 Fiscal Year, not including payment of bonded debt shown above and assuming no other tax increase is approved. The proposed maximum dollar tax increase in the ballot proposal is \$11,000,000 in such Fiscal Year.

## **SUMMARIES OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FILED WITH THE ELECTION OFFICER**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR the proposal:**

**A YES vote on Issue 3D** ensures the District's operational costs will be adequately funded by focusing on...

### **Key Needs**

- Restarting replacement of textbooks, curriculum materials and instructional programs that has stalled due to \$14,000,000 in cuts enacted under the Negative Factor in the Colorado School Finance Act.
- Restarting our bus replacement program that has also stalled due to the Negative Factor. Today 36 buses are past due for replacement.
- Closing an average salary and compensation gap of 14% with our nearest competitors. The bulk of the money would pay for very modest salary increases to improve competitiveness, phased in over three years at the rate of 1% per year.
- Investing in the children of our community, ensuring quality learning and teaching conditions, and attracting businesses to build a stronger local economy.

### **Property Values**

- One of the most significant factors in local property values is the neighborhood schools.
- Well-maintained schools with solid instructional programs are the lifeblood of any neighborhood.
- Strong schools produce a well-educated workforce, which draws jobs and improves the economy of our community.

### **Tax Relief for Seniors**

- Property tax relief for senior citizens is available in the form of the Senior Property Tax Exemption, which allows qualifying seniors an exemption from paying 50% of the taxes on the first \$200,000 in actual value of their home.
- The District also provides the Senior Tax Work-Off Program for qualifying seniors.

### **Tax Impact**

- 3D is a mill levy override of about 6.5 mills, which translates to approximately \$4.31 per month per \$100,000 of a home's actual value.
- Property taxes remain deductible for homeowners itemizing deductions.

Your YES vote on Issue 3D will fund the District's highest-priority operating needs:

- Attracting and retaining high-quality teachers and staff, saving taxpayer dollars by reducing costly teacher turnover
- Better preparing students for college and careers by expanding and enhancing rigorous curriculum and programming
- Keeping students safe when being bused to and from school
- Protecting property values and strengthening local economic development by improving the quality of our local schools

The estimated tax impact of \$4.31 per month per \$100,000 of a home's actual value will provide \$11 million annually to:

- Close the 14% wage gap to retain our best and brightest teachers and staff so that neighboring districts don't attract them with higher salaries
- Update woefully outdated textbooks, curriculum and materials
- Enhance instructional programs
- Replace school buses, many of which are more than 20 years old and have more than 200,000 miles on them

More than \$14.2 million in state funding was cut from the District's budget the past four years. It is unlikely that the State will change its level of support.

We're on our own. It's going to take local investment to create high-performing schools, giving kids in our community a fighting chance to compete and succeed in a global economy. It's going to take local investment in our schools to protect property values and strengthen our local economy.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST the proposal:**

At the school board meeting to approve the mill levy override and bond issue, a board member explained that he had questioned the superintendent about why, on a \$176.9 million annual budget, the district didn't maintain school equipment, replace buses as needed, and deferred all types of building maintenance—things a normal school district administration would do to keep the school facilities and equipment running successfully.

The superintendent said he chose to spend the money on the school kids—an answer the school board member applauded. Now the district wants \$11 million to fix neglected school facilities, acquire needed equipment, do necessary maintenance, and provide annual pay raises. When it comes to having spent the money on the kids, the district did a poor job of educating the district's students according to test scores.

According to a local newspaper, Thompson increased its scores in five levels of statewide assessment tests since last year, while the results decreased in eight categories. At most levels, Thompson's scores were lower in 2016 than they were in 2015.

If you think the district should be bailed out for its poor operational management of their \$176.9 million annual budget, vote YES,

If you believe the district should be rewarded financially for the poor student test scores, vote YES.

If you think the district should be given more money even though it is budgeting for flat student growth numbers, vote YES.

If you favor merit salary increases for good teacher performance over seniority raises, vote NO on the mill levy override as a school board member did.

If you think there is too much political correctness, and too little real teaching, vote NO.

In our stagnant economy, when seniors and most workers aren't getting annual raises, if you think teachers making \$48,629 (median salaries for elementary and middle schools) to \$72,000 for 8.6 month's work (169 teaching days), and school administrators making \$75,000 to \$152,000 plus benefits, shouldn't be getting automatic annual raises, vote NO.

If you cannot afford the coming substantial 2017 property tax increase plus this additional mill levy override tax of \$198 per year (average Loveland \$347,000 home) or condo tax increase of \$128 to \$160, vote NO.

Because of an agreement with the Centerra urban renewal authority, the school district will only collect about \$10,000,000 annually from this mill-levy override (MLO). Centerra does not pay its fair share to support the schools. There should be no more mill-levy overrides until TSD corrects this situation.

MLOs are supposed to be for general-fund spending to further the education of the children. Earmarking, as is done here, kowtows to special-interests within the Thompson community. The money actually pays for things that poor TSD fiscal management has been unable properly to prioritize within the present budget. None of it will actually go to improve the educational performance of TSD. No tax increases should be given to a failing administration; they should wait until TSD puts its house in order.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT**

**THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. R2-J  
(LARIMER, WELD AND BOULDER COUNTIES, COLORADO)**

Local Election Office:  
800 South Taft Avenue, Loveland, Colorado 80537  
Telephone: (970) 613-5015

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Election Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 3E**

SHALL THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT R2-J'S DEBT BE INCREASED \$288 MILLION WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$535.5 MILLION OR SUCH LESSER AMOUNT AS MAY BE NECESSARY, AND SHALL THOMPSON SCHOOL DISTRICT R2-J'S TAXES BE INCREASED \$26.7 MILLION ANNUALLY OR SUCH LESSER AMOUNT AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE PAYMENT OF SUCH DEBT, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DISTRICT STUDENTS TO DEVELOP THE NECESSARY SKILLS TO COMPETE FOR THE JOBS OF THE FUTURE BY:

- UPGRADING SCHOOL BUILDING SAFETY, SECURITY AND FIRE ALARM SYSTEMS;
- EXTENDING THE USEFUL LIFE OF AGING SCHOOL BUILDINGS BY REPLACING, REPAIRING, AND UPGRADING HEATING, VENTILATION AND COOLING SYSTEMS AND MECHANICAL CONTROLS, PLUMBING, ROOFS, WINDOWS AND DOORS, REMOVING ASBESTOS AND MAKING BUILDING EXTERIOR IMPROVEMENTS;
- CONSTRUCTING, FURNISHING AND EQUIPPING A NEW HIGH SCHOOL AND A NEW K-8 SCHOOL, AND SCHOOL ADDITIONS AND FACILITIES, INCLUDING ADDITIONS TO BERTHOUD HIGH SCHOOL AND BERTHOUD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AND THOMPSON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL;
- RENOVATING AND REMODELING BILL REED MIDDLE SCHOOL AND THOMPSON VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL AND REMODELING THE EXISTING LOVELAND HIGH SCHOOL TO A K-8 SCHOOL;

AND ALSO IMPROVING, CONSTRUCTING, EXPANDING, REPAIRING, REMODELING, EQUIPPING AND FURNISHING DISTRICT AND CHARTER SCHOOL BUILDINGS, ADDITIONS, FACILITIES AND GROUNDS; AND WITH SUCH DEBT TO MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED, DATED AND SOLD AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR, AND AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE, WITH THE LIMITATION ON THE AMOUNT OF THE DISTRICT'S DEBT TO BE INCREASED UP TO 6% OF THE ACTUAL VALUE OF THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE DISTRICT AS ALLOWED BY §22-42-104(1)(b), C.R.S.; AND IN CONNECTION THEREWITH (I) TO INCREASE THE DISTRICT'S PROPERTY TAXES IN ANY YEAR AS STATED ABOVE IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT WHEN DUE AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF, AND (II) TO COLLECT AND SPEND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH DEBT AND THE REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES ATTRIBUTABLE THERETO AND ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH PROCEEDS AND REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND SPENDING CHANGE WITHOUT LIMITATION BY THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF, AND WITHOUT AFFECTING THE DISTRICT'S ABILITY TO COLLECT AND SPEND ANY OTHER REVENUES OR FUNDS UNDER, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

## Fiscal Year Spending Information

Year	Fiscal Year Spending (FYS)
2012-13 (Actual)	\$ 121,749,010
2013-14 (Actual)	126,140,635
2014-15 (Actual)	133,426,455
2015-16 (Actual)	143,515,283
2016-17 (Current Year Estimated)	145,788,254
Overall FYS percentage change through 5 years (2012-13 – 2016-17):	19.7%
Overall FYS dollar change through 5 years (2012-13 – 2016-17):	\$24,039,244

Does not include payments on bonded debt of \$10,447,282 in fiscal year 2012-13; \$10,515,797 in fiscal year 2013-14; \$10,603,081 in fiscal year 2014-15; \$10,697,803 in fiscal year 2015-16; and \$10,823,055 in fiscal year 2016-17.

Fiscal year spending without the tax increase in the ballot proposal is estimated to be up to \$145,788,254 in the 2016-17 Fiscal Year, not including payment of bonded debt shown above and assuming no other tax increase is approved. The proposed maximum dollar tax increase in the ballot proposal is up to \$26,700,000 in any Fiscal Year.

### The ballot proposal for bonded debt includes the following:

Principal Amount:	\$288,000,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	up to \$26,700,000 in any fiscal year
Maximum Total Repayment Cost:	up to \$535,500,000 (maximum principal and interest over the life of the debt)

### The current bonded debt for the District is as follows:

Principal Balance:	\$89,085,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$11,707,500
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$110,463,156

## SUMMARIES OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FILED WITH THE ELECTION OFFICER

### The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR the proposal:

**Voting YES on 3E** ensures the District can provide our community's children with infrastructure allowing them to "develop the necessary skills to compete for jobs of the future" by focusing on...

#### **3 R's**

- **Repair:** \$72,000,000 in maintenance needs have accumulated since the State dropped the Capital Reserve Fund within the School Finance Act to 0% in 2010. Serious building condition and maintenance needs must be addressed to ensure safety and security.
- **Renovate:** The average Thompson school is more than 46 years old with some approaching a century of service. Renovating Thompson Valley High School, Bill Reed Middle School and Berthoud High School and converting Loveland High School into a K-8 school will help modernize our schools.

- **Reinvent:** Over 1800 students from Thompson enroll in other school districts; parents cite these districts' superior facilities as an important reason why they send their children to school outside Thompson. Building two new schools, consolidating smaller schools and offering more choices of neighborhood K-5 and K-8 schools across the district will position the district for growth, which we know is coming.

### **Property Values**

- One of the most significant factors in local property values is the neighborhood schools.
- Well-maintained schools are the lifeblood of any neighborhood.
- Strong schools produce a well-educated workforce, which draws jobs and improves our community's economy.

### **Tax Relief for Seniors**

- Property tax relief for senior citizens is available in the form of the Senior Property Tax Exemption.
- Thompson also provides the Senior Tax Work-Off Program for qualifying seniors.

### **Tax Impact**

- 3E will cost about \$6.00 per month per \$100,000 of a home's actual value.
- Property taxes remain deductible for homeowners itemizing deductions.

Voting YES on 3E will address Thompson's most pressing school facility needs:

- Making every school safer and more secure
- Saving taxpayer dollars by reducing expensive emergency repairs and improving energy efficiency
- Extending the useful life of existing school buildings
- Addressing overcrowding and updating instructional spaces to leverage media-rich instructional technology and taking advantage of 21st century learning strategies
- Giving every student, especially those in underserved areas, equal access to a safe, quality learning environment

Investing \$6 per month per \$100,000 of a home's actual value will fund \$288 million in school facility improvements, including:

- Upgrading building safety, security and fire alarm systems
- Removing asbestos and replacing, repairing and upgrading mechanical systems, plumbing, and roofs
- Building new schools and additions to Berthoud High, Berthoud Elementary and Thompson Valley High School
- Renovating and remodeling Bill Reed Middle School and Thompson Valley High School and repurposing Loveland High School to a K-8 school

With interest rates at historic lows and construction costs rising, it makes sense to address these improvements sooner rather than later. The longer we wait, the more it will cost.

All spending associated with 3E will be publicly disclosed.

We've seen the incredible transformations in Longmont, Fort Collins and other neighboring areas where citizens have invested in and created safe, quality, high-performing schools. Our kids and our community deserve the same.

### **The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST the proposal:**

One must ask—Do we reward the school district with more money to build new buildings and to annually raise teacher and administrators salaries when they are doing such a poor job of educating the district's students. According to a local newspaper, the Thompson School District increased its scores in five levels of statewide assessment tests since last year, while the results decreased in eight categories. At most levels, Thompson's scores were lower in 2016 than they were in 2015.

One must further ask—If Thompson schools can't produce high performing test assessment students on a \$176.9 million annual budget, why should taxpayers expect better outcomes by giving the district another \$288 million? Since when do we reward failure, instead of successful outcomes? Furthermore, how is more money justified when the district is budgeting for flat student growth numbers?

With the coming substantial assessor tax increase already scheduled to hit in 2017, the bond issue alone—*not taking into account the requested mill levy override tax increase*—will increase the average Loveland \$347,000 home taxes by \$272 per year for 25 years. On condos, the tax increase would be \$176 to \$219. On \$200,000 of commercial property, the additional taxes would be \$570.

The 2017 assessor tax, the mill levy override (average home tax increase of \$198 per year), and the bond issue are three taxes that will put an overwhelming burden on taxpayers as well as the community. Here's how these taxes can adversely impact a community!

- (1)** Retirees on fixed incomes will not be able to afford these massive tax increases. Many retired seniors may be forced to sell their home as their fixed income has remained stagnant.
- (2)** Some moderate and low income struggling families will have to sell their home, and some will need to go on public housing assistance and food stamps—another taxpayer burden.
- (3)** The taxes on rental condos and apartments will cause landlords to raise monthly rents from \$50 to \$150 in order to cover their additional tax expense.
- (4)** Others won't be able to buy a home as they won't be able to afford the increased property taxes.
- (5)** It will also severely impact efforts to provide affordable housing for the homeless.
- (6)** Many struggling mom and pop businesses will have to close their doors.
- (7)** There may be more crime—shoplifting in grocery stores and clothing stores by kids and parents just to make ends meet.
- (8)** The overall local economy will be affected when people have to scarp to pay excessive school taxes which will limit their spending in other areas.

It's time for the school district to do a better job on their current budget. The district needs to focus on educating kids again to bring up the test scores...and come back with a more bare bones realistic bond issue at a future election.

**TO ALL REGISTERED ELECTORS  
NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE  
ST. VRAIN & LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO**

Election date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election official address and phone number: Sean Cronin, 9595 Nelson Road, Suite 203, Longmont, CO 80501. Telephone: 303-772-4060

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 4A**

WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES, SHALL THE ST. VRAIN AND LEFT HAND WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND ALL REVENUES AND OTHER FUNDS COLLECTED FROM ANY AND ALL REVENUE SOURCES, SUCH AS GRANTS, FEES, AND TAXES, STARTING IN 2017, TO ENABLE THE DISTRICT TO FULLY ACCOMPLISH ITS MISSION TO ENSURE SUFFICIENT WATER FOR LOCAL FOOD PRODUCTION, RIVER RECREATION, THE STREAM ENVIRONMENT, AND HUMAN CONSUMPTION; AND SHALL THE REVENUES FROM ALL SUCH SOURCES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED, OR SPENT AS VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGES AND AS AN EXEMPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY?

**Summaries of written comments on ballot issue 4A filed with the election officer:**

**The following summary was prepared from comments filed by persons for the issue:**

4A does not raise your taxes; it simply retains a refund that would amount to less than two dollars a year for every \$150,000 your property is worth. The St. Vrain & Left Hand Water Conservancy District has a long record of fiscal accountability. In most years the District has returned money to the taxpayers by living within their means, but the flood of 2013 has created an unexpected cash shortfall and has made it difficult to obtain some funding grants.

The St. Vrain and Left Hand Water Conservancy District has been preserving and protecting water since 1971. The District was formed to develop, manage and protect water resources in the Longmont area. The District:

- provides cutting edge water education
- acts as stewards for a very precious natural resource - our water
- helps people and governmental agencies find creative solutions to meet their water needs
- fights threats to our water supply and protects existing water rights
- ensures high quality water is available for future generations

A yes vote for 4A will ensure the St. Vrain Left Hand Water Conservancy District is able to continue its vital mission.

**The following summary was prepared from comments filed by persons against the issue:**

No comments were received by the constitutional deadline.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**  
**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE**  
**LARIMER COUNTY LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2016-1 (WONDERVIEW)**  
Larimer County, Colorado

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Larimer County Clerk and Recorder  
200 W. Oak St.  
P.O. Box 1547  
Fort Collins, Colorado 80522  
Telephone: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5A**

SHALL LARIMER COUNTY DEBT BE INCREASED BY THE AMOUNT OF \$380,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF NOT MORE THAN \$775,000; AND SHALL LARIMER COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED NOT MORE THAN \$775,000 ANNUALLY OR BY SUCH LESSER ANNUAL AMOUNT AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO PAY THE AFOREMENTIONED DEBT, BY IMPOSING SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS UPON PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY'S LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 2016-1 (WONDERVIEW), WHICH ASSESSMENTS ARE SUBJECT TO PREPAYMENT AT THE OPTION OF THE PROPERTY OWNER: SUCH DEBT TO CONSIST OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS OR OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS BEARING INTEREST AT A NET EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE NOT TO EXCEED 5.0%; SUCH SPECIAL ASSESSMENT BONDS OR OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS SHALL BE ISSUED TO PAY THE COSTS OF PROVIDING CERTAIN LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS IN SUCH DISTRICT, TO BE REPAYED FROM THE PROCEEDS OF SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS TO BE IMPOSED UPON THE PROPERTY INCLUDED WITHIN SUCH DISTRICT; SUCH TAXES TO CONSIST OF THE AFOREMENTIONED SPECIAL ASSESSMENTS IMPOSED UPON THE PROPERTY IN THE DISTRICT BENEFITED BY THE LOCAL IMPROVEMENTS; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH BONDS OR OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS AND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH ASSESSMENTS, AND INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON CONSTITUTE VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGES AND BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE COUNTY WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY EXPENDITURE, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, AND WITHOUT LIMITING IN ANY YEAR THE AMOUNT OF OTHER REVENUES THAT MAY BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE COUNTY?

**Total County Fiscal Year Spending:**

Fiscal Year

2016 (estimated)	\$ 192,022,124
2015 (actual)	\$ 176,637,213
2014 (actual)	\$ 162,001,418
2013 (actual)	\$ 123,023,001
2012 (actual)	\$ 142,709,226

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016:	35%
Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016:	\$49,312,898

**Proposed Tax Increase**

County Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2017 (the first full year of the proposed tax increase): \$775,000

County Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$ 209,304,115

**Information on County’s Proposed Debt**

**BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5A:**

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$380,000
Maximum Annual County Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$775,000
Total County Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$775,000

**Information on County’s Current Debt<sup>1</sup>**

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$22,573,454
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$5,967,955
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$24,520,822

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue NO. 5A:**

Please vote **YES** on this ballot measure which authorizes the formation of a Local Improvement District (“LID”) and the borrowing of funds to cover the sewer line improvements needed by the 17 affected properties (the “Properties”). The current sewer lines serving the Properties are shared service lines and due to the age of the lines, require (at least) annual maintenance for removal of roots (and other obstructions) in the lines. There are also locations in the lines that are low spots (improper grading) resulting in common back-ups requiring maintenance. The proposed project provides for the extension of the Upper Thompson Sanitation District (“UTSD”) main lines (to be taken over and operated by UTSD), as well as replacement of individual service lines to the Properties. In the required public meeting in June 2016 and through the subsequent petition process, the owners of the Properties overwhelmingly recommended the proposed project go forward. The formation of the LID is necessary to receive loan funds and was approved by the Larimer County Commissioners in August 2016. Voting **YES** for this ballot measure will enable the owners of the Properties (through the LID) to effectively finance this project via a 20-year loan at a historically low (approximately 2 %) interest rate with management of the LID and loan by Larimer County. Please take the time to vote **YES** on this important measure to help us all enhance the value of the Properties and provide reliable sewer service for the foreseeable future at a time when the financing costs are extremely favorable.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue NO. 5A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

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<sup>1</sup> Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
 NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE  
 LARIMER COUNTY GREEN ACRES  
 PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 61**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
 Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Larimer County Clerk and Recorder  
 200 W. Oak St.  
 P.O. Box 1547  
 Fort Collins, Colorado 80522  
 Telephone: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5B**

SHALL TAXES BE INCREASED \$76,000 ANNUALLY (IN THE FIRST YEAR) OR SUCH GREATER AMOUNT AS IS RAISED IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED GREEN ACRES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 61 BY THE IMPOSITION OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES AT A MILL LEVY RATE NOT TO EXCEED 50.863 MILLS, THE REVENUES OF WHICH WILL BE COLLECTED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, SUCH REVENUES TO BE USED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AS REQUESTED IN THE PETITION FOR CREATION OF THE DISTRICT AND FOR THE GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES; SHALL GREEN ACRES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 61 BE CREATED; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES, THE SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICT AND INVESTMENT EARNINGS ON BOTH CONSTITUTE VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND/OR SPENDING CHANGES AND BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE RAISING OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT AND EXPEND FROM ITS MILL LEVY ANY SUCH AMOUNT WHICH IS MORE THAN THE AMOUNT WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE PERMITTED UNDER THE 5½% LIMIT IMPOSED BY SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES IN 2016 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER?

**BALLOT ISSUE 5B:**

**Financial Information:**

Fiscal Year

2016 (estimated)	\$ 0
2015 (actual)	\$ 0
2014 (actual)	\$ 0
2013 (actual)	\$ 0
2012 (actual)	\$ 0

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016:	0%
Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016:	\$0

**Estimate of the maximum dollar amount of increase for fiscal year 2017:** \$76,000

**Estimate of the spending for fiscal year 2017 without the increase:** \$0

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 5B:**

The sooner the PID takes effect, the sooner streets can get repaved and maintained. Property values will increase. It is estimated by real estate professionals that property values (upon sale) are currently underpriced by at least @ \$12,000 – \$15,000 each. Without the hope of street maintenance or the rebuilding of heavily damaged streets, property values will continue to be undervalued. Poudre Fire Authority will continue to service the neighborhood without question. Safer streets will be realized sooner. Eventually there will be less wear and tear on vehicles. It is more pleasurable to drive on good streets. The neighborhoods will thrive with new streets that will be rebuilt and/or maintained. Degradation of neighborhoods occurs when the infrastructure is neglected and falls into disrepair. Blight looms as an eventual possibility. Sociology studies have documented that with the renewal of infrastructure, neighborhoods become revitalized and continue to thrive. With the advent of a PID, a proper rebuild and maintenance plan will ensure a strong future for the area. Citizens within the neighborhood will have a “buy-in” to the PID and the reconstruction of the neighborhood streets. The higher costs of the PID tax during the first four years will drop off to about 25% of that tax imposed after four years. Citizens in the PID have control over the mill levy as a group.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 5B:**

No comments were received by the constitutional deadline.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
 NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE  
 LARIMER COUNTY RIDGEWOOD MEADOWS  
 PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 62**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 8, 2016  
 Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Larimer County Clerk and Recorder  
 200 W. Oak St.  
 P.O. Box 1547  
 Fort Collins, Colorado 80522  
 Telephone: (970) 498-7820

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5C**

SHALL TAXES BE INCREASED \$33,500 ANNUALLY (IN THE FIRST YEAR) OR SUCH GREATER AMOUNT AS IS RAISED IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PROPOSED RIDGEWOOD MEADOWS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 62 BY THE IMPOSITION OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES AT A MILL LEVY RATE NOT TO EXCEED 38.892 MILLS, THE REVENUES OF WHICH WILL BE COLLECTED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, SUCH REVENUES TO BE USED FOR THE IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF ROADS AS REQUESTED IN THE PETITION FOR CREATION OF THE DISTRICT AND FOR THE GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES; SHALL RIDGEWOOD MEADOWS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 62 BE CREATED; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES, THE SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICT AND INVESTMENT EARNINGS ON BOTH CONSTITUTE VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND/OR SPENDING CHANGES AND BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE RAISING OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT AND EXPEND FROM ITS MILL LEVY ANY SUCH AMOUNT WHICH IS MORE THAN THE AMOUNT WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE BE PERMITTED UNDER THE 5½% LIMIT IMPOSED BY SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES IN 2016 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER?

**BALLOT ISSUE 5C**

**Financial Information:**

Fiscal Year

2016 (estimated)	\$ 0
2015 (actual)	\$ 0
2014 (actual)	\$ 0
2013 (actual)	\$ 0
2012 (actual)	\$ 0

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016:	0%
Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016:	\$0

**Estimate of the maximum dollar amount of increase for fiscal year 2017:** \$33,500

**Estimate of the spending for fiscal year 2017 without the increase:** \$0

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 5C:**

No comments were received by the constitutional deadline.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 5C:**

No comments were received by the constitutional deadline.

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT**

**Election Date:** November 8, 2016  
**Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.  
**Local Election Office:** City Clerk's Office  
500 E. 3rd St., Ste. 230  
Loveland, CO 80537  
(970) 962-2000

**CITY OF LOVELAND  
REFERRED ISSUE 5D  
CITY- INITIATED MEASURE TO AUTHORIZE  
THE INCREASE OF TAXES AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5D**

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY TO INCREASE PROPERTY TAXES IN THE DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY BY NOT MORE THAN 5.00 MILLS AND OF A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AS AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW.

SHALL CITY OF LOVELAND TAXES BE INCREASED \$198,000 IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2017 AND BY SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX RATE OF NOT MORE THAN 5.00 MILLS ON TAXABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE LOVELAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN TITLE 31, ARTICLE 25, PART 8, C.R.S., INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, MAINTENANCE PROJECTS FOR SIDEWALKS, STREET CLEANING, LITTER PICKUP, AND LANDSCAPE MAINTENANCE; AND SHALL THE CITY AND THE AUTHORITY BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND THE REVENUES COLLECTED FROM SUCH TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE, INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON AND ANY OTHER LAWFUL SOURCE AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Total City Fiscal Year Spending:**

Fiscal Year

2016 (estimated)	\$100,883,873
2015 (actual)	\$ 94,792,684
2014 (actual)	\$ 93,133,319
2013 (actual)	\$ 82,281,166
2012 (actual)	\$ 82,755,522

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016	21.9%
Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016	\$18,128,351

**Proposed Tax Increase**

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2017 (the first full year of the proposed tax increase):

BALLOT ISSUE 5D: \$ 198,000

City Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$106,936,906\*

\* Does not include proceeds of bonded debt, lease purchase agreements or other borrowings which may occur in 2017 fiscal year.

## **Summary of Written Comments FOR Referred Ballot Issue NO. 5D:**

The DDA was passed in 2015 by businesses, property owners and residents in the downtown area to address deteriorating property values and structures within the central business district and assist in the redevelopment efforts of downtown. The DDA serves as a making body, planning and managing the downtown area in conjunction with the City. DDAs have been successful in revitalizing downtowns, and the statutory funding mechanisms are key to ensuring that downtown Loveland has the funding to bring about redevelopment and economic development of the central business district. By creating a focused organization with a comprehensive and long-term view of downtown, the DDA will promote physical and economic improvements, and ultimately avoid the lost opportunity from neglect.

The mission of the DDA is to grow, strengthen and promote the economic health and vitality of the downtown area. The DDA is an advocate for the downtown, and helps facilitate plans for business development. Over the last 1½ years, the DDA has fulfilled its mission collaboratively, ethically, professionally, and consistent with public purpose. It is imperative we support the critical funding of initiatives 5d & 5e, and give the DDA financing tools necessary to complete the plans we all have set out.

Recent efforts to revitalize downtown Loveland have made great strides. With the creation of the Downtown Development Authority and the Loveland Downtown Partnership, we are starting to see improvements in downtown. New storefronts, new and exciting business are coming, and there is an exciting energy from those working, living, and visiting downtown. Next we have to ensure continued funding for downtown, which means voting YES! This will ensure funding for critical things like parking, street and sidewalk improvements, safety improvements and public utilities.

5d creates a special mill levy that will cost residents who own a \$200K home approximately \$.20 a day, businesses worth \$500K approximately \$2.00 a day. 5e authorizes the DDA to incur debt of up to \$75 million plus repayment costs associated development and redevelopment projects. The DDA has adopted a Plan of Development which includes projects for downtown and addresses the critical need for more parking options in downtown.

Passing 5d & 5e will mean we are investing in the future of downtown, and creating a strong functioning DDA – with the appropriate financing mechanisms to accomplish our long term vision for downtown. The Downtown Development Authority is as much about the economic reengineering of public spaces, as it is about preserving a strong sense of community. Downtown is the heart and soul of Loveland, and I ask that you join me in supporting the critical funding initiatives needed to ensure it continues to thrive.

By supporting these two critical funding initiatives, we as downtown businesses, property owners, and residents are insuring that we are investing in downtown, and creating the funding needed to ensure our downtown continues to thrive for years to come.

Voting YES! to support an economically successful, vibrant and inviting downtown.

## **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Referred Ballot Issue NO. 5D:**

The City of Loveland has an economic development department which is funded by all taxpayers inside the City limits. There is no reason for a new overlapping position that this tax would fund for a specific area of the City.

The City of Loveland is responsible for maintaining all public improvements and infrastructure. The downtown area should not be required to pay an additional tax to maintain the public areas that is the entire City's responsibility.

The use of a DDA bonding provision is a back door approach to circumventing the provisions of TABOR. This debt would put property owners in the area at risk in the case of a repayment default.

The proposed mill levy was voted down in 2015. Again in 2016, this proposal would have little or no positive impact for the residents of the Downtown Development Authority. People who own or rent homes in this area do so because the cost is less than in other Loveland neighborhoods. This area, as evidenced by the high percentage of free and reduced lunches at the neighborhood schools, is not among the wealthiest in Loveland. Asking this population to bear the tax burden for downtown revitalization is not justified. It has been suggested that the downtown revitalization would increase the property value of homes in the area. This is not probable. Most of the homes in this area are small, older, many without garages, and near the railroad tracks. These are the issues that affect property values not the beautification of the downtown area. Additionally, if the downtown revitalization projects are designed to benefit the entire city of Loveland, one small district of people should not be responsible for financing the project.

If the first year of tax collection is proposed to raise \$198,000, asking to borrow \$75,000,000 with a maximum repayment of \$200,000,000 is absurd. It seems that this proposal is designed to help developers and current business property owners in the Downtown Development Authority boundaries reap maximum profit with minimal investment. This proposal is not in the best interest of all the residents within the boundaries of the DDA. The DDA board of directors, who will have the ability to decide how the tax money will be spent, are not elected officials. This creates a very serious issue of taxation without representation.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT**

**Election Date:** November 8, 2016  
**Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Local Election Office:** City Clerk's Office  
500 E. 3rd St., Ste. 230  
Loveland, CO 80537  
(970) 962-2000

**CITY OF LOVELAND  
REFERRED ISSUE 5E  
CITY- INITIATED MEASURE TO AUTHORIZE  
THE INCREASE OF TAXES AND THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS FOR  
DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PROJECTS**

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5E**

AUTHORIZATION FOR THE CITY TO INCUR DEBT OF UP TO \$75,000,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE LOVELAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LOVELAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT, WITH SUCH DEBT PAYABLE FROM AND SECURED BY A PLEDGE OF THE SPECIAL FUND OF THE CITY WHICH SHALL CONTAIN TAX INCREMENT REVENUES LEVIED AND COLLECTED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE AUTHORITY.

SHALL CITY OF LOVELAND DEBT BE INCREASED \$75,000,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF NO MORE THAN \$200,000,000, FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY OR ON BEHALF OF THE LOVELAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PURSUANT TO THE LOVELAND DOWNTOWN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PLAN OF DEVELOPMENT, AS IT MAY BE AMENDED FROM TIME TO TIME, INCLUDING WITHOUT LIMITATION, PARKING, UTILITIES, STREETS, SIDEWALKS, ALLEYWAYS AND BEAUTIFICATION, AND APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF COLORADO LAW; SUCH DEBT AND THE INTEREST THEREON TO BE PAYABLE FROM AND SECURED BY A PLEDGE OF THE SPECIAL FUND OF THE CITY WHICH SHALL CONTAIN TAX INCREMENT REVENUES LEVIED AND COLLECTED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE AUTHORITY; AND SHALL SUCH DEBT BE EVIDENCED BY BONDS, NOTES, CONTRACTS OR OTHER FINANCIAL OBLIGATIONS TO BE SOLD IN ONE SERIES OR MORE FOR A PRICE ABOVE OR BELOW THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT THEREOF, ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS, AND WITH SUCH MATURITIES AS PERMITTED BY LAW AND AS THE CITY MAY DETERMINE, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR REDEMPTION OF THE DEBT PRIOR TO MATURITY WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT OF THE PREMIUM OF NOT MORE THAN 3% OF THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT SO REDEEMED; AND SHALL THE CITY AND THE AUTHORITY BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND THE TAX INCREMENT REVENUES, THE BOND PROCEEDS AND INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, AND EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Total City Fiscal Year Spending:**

Fiscal Year

2016 (estimated)	\$100,883,873
2015 (actual)	\$ 94,792,684
2014 (actual)	\$ 93,133,319
2013 (actual)	\$ 82,281,166
2012 (actual)	\$ 82,755,522

Overall percentage change from 2012 through 2016	21.9%
Overall dollar change from 2012 through 2016	\$18,128,351

**Information on City's Proposed Debt**

**BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5E:**

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$ 75,000,000
Maximum Annual City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$200,000,000
Total City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$200,000,000

**Information on City's Current Debt\***

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$4,750,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$5,039,598
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$6,115,710

\*Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Referred Ballot Issue NO. 5E:**

The DDA was passed in 2015 by businesses, property owners and residents in the downtown area to address deteriorating property values and structures within the central business district and assist in the redevelopment efforts of downtown. The DDA serves as a making body, planning and managing the downtown area in conjunction with the City. DDAs have been successful in revitalizing downtowns, and the statutory funding mechanisms are key to ensuring that downtown Loveland has the funding to bring about redevelopment and economic development of the central business district. By creating a focused organization with a comprehensive and long-term view of downtown, the DDA will promote physical and economic improvements, and ultimately avoid the lost opportunity from neglect.

The mission of the DDA is to grow, strengthen and promote the economic health and vitality of the downtown area. The DDA is an advocate for the downtown, and helps facilitate plans for business development. Over the last 1½ years, the DDA has fulfilled its mission collaboratively, ethically, professionally, and consistent with public purpose. It is imperative we support the critical funding of initiatives 5d & 5e, and give the DDA financing tools necessary to complete the plans we all have set out.

Recent efforts to revitalize downtown Loveland have made great strides. With the creation of the Downtown Development Authority and the Loveland Downtown Partnership, we are starting to see improvements in downtown. New storefronts, new and exciting business are coming, and there is an exciting energy from those working, living, and visiting downtown. Next we have to ensure continued funding for downtown, which means voting YES! This will ensure funding for critical things like parking, street and sidewalk improvements, safety improvements and public utilities.

5d creates a special mill levy that will cost residents who own a \$200K home approximately \$.20 a day, businesses worth \$500K approximately \$2.00 a day. 5e authorizes the DDA to incur debt of up to \$75 million plus repayment costs associated development and redevelopment projects. The DDA has adopted a Plan of Development which includes projects for downtown and addresses the critical need for more parking options in downtown.

Passing 5d & 5e will mean we are investing in the future of downtown, and creating a strong functioning DDA – with the appropriate financing mechanisms to accomplish our long term vision for downtown. The Downtown Development Authority is as much about the economic reengineering of public spaces, as it is about preserving a strong sense of community. Downtown is the heart and soul of Loveland, and I ask that you join me in supporting the critical funding initiatives needed to ensure it continues to thrive.

By supporting these two critical funding initiatives, we as downtown businesses, property owners, and residents are insuring that we are investing in downtown, and creating the funding needed to ensure our downtown continues to thrive for years to come.

Voting YES! to support an economically successful, vibrant and inviting downtown.

## Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Referred Ballot Issue NO. 5E:

The City of Loveland has an economic development department funded by all taxpayers inside the City limits. There is no reason for a new overlapping position to fund for a specific area of the City.

The City is responsible for maintaining public improvements and infrastructure. The downtown area shouldn't be required to pay additional taxes to maintain public areas that are City responsibility.

Using DDA bonding provisions is a back door approach to circumvent TABOR. This debt puts property owners at risk in case of payment default.

Voters rejected a mill levy increase in 2015. 5E has little or no positive impact for DDA residents. People who own or rent homes in this area do so because it costs less than in other Loveland neighborhoods. This area, as evidenced by the high percentage of free and reduced lunches at neighborhood schools, is not among the wealthiest in Loveland. Asking them to bear this tax burden is not justified. Some say that downtown revitalization would increase the property value of homes in the area. This is not probable. Most homes in this area are small, older, many without garages, and near the railroad tracks. These are the issues that affect property values not the beautification of the downtown. Additionally, if the revitalization projects are designed to benefit the entire City, one small area should not be responsible for financing the project.

If the first year of tax collection raises \$198,000, asking to borrow \$75,000,000 with a maximum repayment of \$200,000,000 is absurd. It seems that this proposal is designed to help developers and current business property owners in the DDA boundaries reap maximum profit with minimal investment. It is not in the best interest of all the residents within the boundaries of the DDA. The DDA board of directors, who has the ability to decide how the tax money is spent, are not elected officials. This creates a very serious issue of taxation without representation.

This "authorization" for an additional \$75,000,000 in City debt (\$200,000,000 in repayment) already faces a lawsuit, and perhaps another post-election, as potentially unlawful by asking people within the DDA to incur additional debt upon all property taxpayers in the City, where the constitution requires that all city voters must be allowed to vote thereon. Fewer than 3% of the city voters (probably closer to 1%) are being allowed to vote on this massive obligation.

This \$200,000,000 in repayment is not paid for solely by taxpayers within the DDA, but with tax increases on taxpayers outside the DDA in Thompson School District, the City and Larimer County. Yet, those taxpayers are not permitted to vote on the tax increases. It takes tax revenue intended for schools, city capital projects outside of downtown, and county services, such as roads. This is what "tax increment revenues" means. Yet, taxpayers generally are not allowed to make that choice.

Those real people allowed to vote on 5E should consider the effects on the neighbors who can't vote, when casting their ballots.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

POUDRE RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON BALLOT ISSUE

Election date: November 8, 2016

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

Local election office address and phone number: Catherine T. Bright, Designated Election Official,  
7400 East Orchard Road, Suite 3300, Greenwood Village, Colorado 80111 (303) 770-2700

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**Ballot Issue 5F**

MAY THE POUDRE RIVER PUBLIC LIBRARY DISTRICT F/K/A FORT COLLINS REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT KEEP ALL REVENUES FROM THE 3 MILL PROPERTY TAX LEVY APPROVED BY THE VOTERS IN 2006 WITHOUT REFUNDING ANY AMOUNT AS A CONSEQUENCE OF EXCEEDING THE REVENUE ESTIMATES CONTAINED IN THE ELECTION NOTICE MAILED TO VOTERS IN 2006 AND CONTINUE TO COLLECT AND SPEND THE TAX REVENUE AT THE APPROVED 3 MILL RATE AUTHORIZED IN 2006 WITHOUT INCREASE OR DECREASE?

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2012 (actual)	\$ 10,886,844
2013 (actual)	\$ 8,661,102
2014 (actual)	\$ 8,192,870
2015 (actual)	\$ 9,255,631
2016 (current year estimated)	\$ 9,518,275

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012 through 2016:  
negative 12.6%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012 through 2016:  
negative \$1,368,569

Estimate of the maximum dollar amount of proposed tax increase for  
fiscal year 2017: \$0

Estimate of spending for fiscal year 2017 without increase in taxes: \$9,581,700

**The following is a summary of written comments IN FAVOR OF BALLOT ISSUE 5F filed with the Designated Election Official:**

A YES vote on 5F reaffirms the voter-approved Poudre River Public Library District mill levy of 2006, resolves potential legal threats, prevents substantial legal expenses, and protects future library services.

This is not a new or increased tax and it is not a change to an existing tax. 5F simply reaffirms authorization for the citizen-created Poudre River Public Library District—per the original ballot language—to “...collect, retain and spend the additional revenue along with all other revenues, notwithstanding any limitation or restriction...” for the continued improvement and expansion of library services and facilities.

New questions about how to apply the statewide tax limitation law (TABOR) threaten library services, hours, programs, staffing and facilities. We do not believe a funding reduction was, or is the intent of our community. If future funding is reduced, it will negatively impact the depth and quality of library services in our community—collections, staffing, operations, maintenance, and the care of your facilities.

Poudre River Public Library District fully complied with its understanding of TABOR, Colorado tax law and the 2006 voter-approved tax measure. However, recent interpretations raise questions about money raised in excess of original projections. Voters approved this tax by a wide margin and the Library District has spent every dollar to serve our community.

- More than 1,025,000 visitors in 2015
- 160,455 library card holders in 2015
- 2,354 library programs (such as story time, summer reading & outreach) in 2015 serving over 74,000 residents
- Circulation grew from 1,100,000 items in 2006 to more than 3,225,000 items in 2015

Revenue collection and spending has been in good faith and with complete transparency. Revenues in excess of original ballot estimates have already been collected and spent on behalf of our libraries, as fully disclosed in public meetings. Annual financials can be found at <http://www.poudrelibraries.org/about/budget.php>.

In 2006, voters authorized the creation of the Poudre River Public Library District that has used tax dollars to:

- Open Council Tree Library in Front Range Village.
- Complete a major renovation and expansion of the Old Town Library.
- Increase hours of operation at Harmony and Old Town Library.
- Establish outreach programs for underserved populations.
- And, add programs for tens of thousands of children, teens and adults.

To avoid fiscal uncertainty and the threat of costly litigation that will take years to resolve, please vote YES on 5F to resolve this issue, reaffirm original voter intent, and protect the future of the Poudre River Public Library District.

**The following is a summary of written comments IN OPPOSITION TO BALLOT ISSUE 5F filed with the Designated Election Official:**

Prior to 2007, library services were funded by City of Fort Collins tax dollars. In November 2006, voters in what eventually became the Poudre River Public Library District (PRPLD) approved a ballot question that requested the levy of 3 mills on taxable property for a first year total \$5.8 million. The actual first year revenues were \$6.6 million. The Colorado Constitution requires that any revenue collected in excess of the estimated first year revenues must be refunded and the tax rate reduced proportionally thereafter. PRPLD is now obligated to refund all over-collected taxes to the taxpayers. However, the Colorado Constitution also provides that voters may approve an exception to the refund requirements.

This ballot question attempts to obtain such voter approval. However, PRPLD brought this ballot question forward without any explanation of the amount of refund that is owed nor the method by which the money would be refunded. This means, of course, that voters considering this ballot question really have no idea what they are voting for. For example, a possibility exists that the refund might be applied by reducing the mill levy taxed in future years. Yet, the voters have no idea if such an idea would be considered. In fact, we have no idea whatsoever if ANY refund will be granted at all.

The following points should be considered:

- PRPLD collected more tax than it had requested. The library district then refused to provide a refund or request voter approval to retain the excess. The threat of a lawsuit to enforce the Constitution is the only reason that voters have been provided the opportunity to weigh in on this subject. A 'no' vote will send the clear message that we expect the taxing entities to comply with our laws and respect taxpayers.

- Significant increases in property values have created a windfall of tax revenue for PRPLD in the past two years. Even greater increases in assessed values are forecast for the future. At the same time, the library district has no plans for any large capital expenses such as those that consumed tax revenues in previous years. The combination of these two facts means that PRPLD could EASILY afford to cut its mill levy rate in all future years without sacrificing any of the services it provides.

- To compound the injury, PRPLD has begun taxing at a rate greater than the 3 mills originally authorized! There is absolutely no legal or financial basis for this tax policy change. This was a shameful action.

- PRPLD has done nothing to arrest the loss of 5% of its tax revenues to TIF swindles.

- Because PRPLD has not budgeted for a refund or even provided a basic idea what the refund will be, there is no guaranty that a 'no' vote will actually lead to a refund. However, a 'no' vote will send a signal that the citizens of Fort Collins prefer rule of law and fiscal responsibility over the alternative.

## **END OF BALLOT ISSUE NOTICE**

As required by Colorado Statutes (C.R.S. 1-7-905), I hereby certify the ballot issue notices are complete as submitted by the political subdivisions.

Angela Myers  
Larimer County Clerk & Recorder

**ANGELA MYERS**  
Lairimer County Clerk & Recorder  
PO Box 1547  
Fort Collins CO 80522-1547



NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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Lairimer County Clerk  
& Recorder