

**NOTICE OF ELECTION
TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON A CITIZEN
PETITION OR REFERRED MEASURE
NOVEMBER 6, 2018 GENERAL ELECTION**



**ANALYSIS OF THE 2018
BALLOT PROPOSALS**

A YES vote on any ballot issue is a vote IN FAVOR OF changing current law or existing circumstances, and a NO vote on any ballot issue is a vote AGAINST changing current law or existing circumstances.

Conduct of Election:

This election will be conducted as a mail ballot election. Ballots will be delivered by U.S. Mail and sent to voters beginning October 15, 2018. Voted mail ballots must be returned to the Douglas County Elections Office, a designated ballot drop-off location (ballot box), or a Voter Service and Polling Center by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2018. Postmarks do not count.

Coordinated Election Official:

Merlin Klotz, Douglas County Clerk and Recorder
301 Wilcox Street
P.O. Box 1360
Castle Rock, CO 80104
303-660-7444

FOR ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THIS HOUSEHOLD:

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.

VOTED MAIL BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED TO THE DOUGLAS COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER'S OFFICE – ELECTIONS DIVISION (125 Stephanie Place, Castle Rock), A DESIGNATED BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATION, OR A VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER BY 7:00 P.M. ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2018 TO BE COUNTED.

For additional voter information or to view a composite sample ballot, please visit www.DouglasVotes.com.

24-HOUR BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS (OPEN OCTOBER 15 – NOVEMBER 6, 2018)

You may drop off your voted ballot 24 hours a day at the following ballot drop box locations. Ballots will be accepted in these boxes until 7pm on Election Night, November 6, 2018:

Castle Pines

Castle Pines Library, 360 Village Square Lane, 80108

Castle Rock

Douglas County Elections Office, 125 Stephanie Place, 80109
Town of Castle Rock (parking lot), 100 N. Wilcox Street, 80104

Highlands Ranch

Highlands Ranch Motor Vehicle, 2223 W. Wildcat Reserve Parkway,
80129
Highlands Ranch Sheriff's Substation, 9250 Zotos Drive, 80129

Larkspur

Town of Larkspur, 8720 Spruce Mountain Road, Larkspur, 80118

Lone Tree

Lone Tree Motor Vehicle, Park Meadows Center, 9350 Heritage Hills
Circle, 80124

Parker

Parker Police Department, 18600 Lincoln Meadows Parkway, 80134
Parker Town Hall, 20120 E. Mainstreet, 80138

ADDITIONAL BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATION

Littleton – Roxborough Library, 8357 N. Rampart Range Road, Ste. 200, 80125

This ballot drop-off location will accept ballots only during the following times:

- Monday through Friday (October 15 – November 5, 2018), Library business hours
Saturday (October 20, 27 and November 3, 2018), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Election Day (Tuesday, November 6, 2018) 7:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m.

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS (VSPCs) OPEN FOR EARLY VOTING

Castle Rock

Douglas County Elections Office, 125 Stephanie Place, 80109

Highlands Ranch

Highlands Ranch Sheriff's Substation, 9250 Zotos Drive, 80129

Larkspur

Larkspur Fire Protection District, 9414 Spruce Mountain Road, 80118

Roxborough

Roxborough Sheriff's Substation, 8361 N. Rampart Range Road, Ste. 212, 80125

Lone Tree

Lone Tree Motor Vehicle, Park Meadows Center (lower level) 9350 Heritage Hills Circle, 80124

Parker

Parker Fieldhouse, 18700 E. Plaza Drive, 80134

Parker Town Hall, 20120 E. Mainstreet, 80138

You may drop off your voted ballot, obtain a replacement ballot, change your address, or register to vote at the Voter Service and Polling Centers listed only during the following times:

- Monday through Friday (October 22 through November 6, 2018), 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
- Saturday (October 27 and November 3, 2018), 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
- Election Day (Tuesday, November 6, 2018), 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION DAY-ONLY VSPCs
(open November 6, 2018, 7 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.)

Castle Rock

Castle View High School, 5254 Meadows Drive, 80109
Douglas County High School, 2842 Front St., 80104

Highlands Ranch

Highlands Ranch High School, 9375 Cresthill Lane, 80130
Mountain Vista High School, 10585 Mountain Vista Ridge, 80126
Rock Canyon High School, 5810 McArthur Ranch Road, 80124
ThunderRidge High School, 1991 W. Wildcat Reserve Parkway, 80129

Parker

Chaparral High School, 15655 Brookstone Drive, 80134
Ponderosa High School, 7007 Bayou Gulch Road, 80134
Legend High School, 22219 Hilltop Road, 80134

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This Ballot Issue Notice was prepared in accordance with Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and the Colorado Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended. The information contained in this Notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of the comments and the fiscal information.

The Douglas County Clerk & Recorder's Office does not warrant, verify or confirmation the accuracy or truth of the ballot issue language, fiscal information or comment summaries as presented below, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation of the materials presented below. For further information or clarification concerning any of the following ballot issues, please contact the respective Designated Election Official as indicated below.

The Coordinated Election Official is not responsible for failure to meet the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution if the political subdivision fails to submit the notice and summaries within the mandatory deadlines and in the prescribed format as required by the Colorado Constitution. The ballot issue notice for the State measures will be mailed separately via the "Blue Book".

The ballot issue(s) contained in this notice will only be on your ballot if you reside within that jurisdiction. Visit www.govotecolorado.com to check the jurisdictions in which you reside.

To: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES

CITY OF AURORA

Election Date: November 6, 2018

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

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

CITY OF AURORA

15151 E. ALAMEDA PARKWAY
AURORA, CO 80012

KAREN GOLDMAN, DEO
303-739-7094; 303-739-7637

CITY OF AURORA REFERRED BALLOT ISSUE 3G

MEDICAL MARIJUANA SALES AND USE TAX

SHALL AURORA TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$1,800,000.00 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR OF SUCH INCREASE, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY AUTHORIZING THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL 4.0% SALES AND USE TAX ON MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND MEDICAL MARIJUANA-INFUSED PRODUCTS; PROVIDED THAT (I) THE RATE OF SUCH TAX MAY BE INCREASED OR DECREASED WITHOUT FURTHER VOTER APPROVAL SO LONG AS THE RATE DOES NOT EXCEED 10%, AND (II) THE REVENUES FROM SUCH TAX SHALL BE COLLECTED, RETAINED, AND SPENT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, SECTION 11-27 OF THE AURORA CHARTER, OR ANY OTHER LAW WHICH PURPORTS TO LIMIT AURORA'S REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES?

YES _____

NO _____

FISCAL INFORMATION

Actual Historical and Current Estimated Fiscal Year Spending

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2018 (estimated)	\$390,495,241
2017 (actual)	\$371,602,947
2016 (actual)	\$356,621,287
2015 (actual)	\$348,266,377
2014 (actual)	\$334,408,489
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2014 to 2018	16.8%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2014 through 2018:	\$56,086,752

Proposed District Tax Increase

Estimated maximum dollar amount of proposed tax increase in first full fiscal year:	\$1,800,000
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase:	\$420,000,000

COMMENTS IN FAVOR OF BALLOT ISSUE 3G

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline

COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO BALLOT ISSUE 3G

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT
ON A REFERRED MEASURE
DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT, NUMBER RE-1
COUNTIES OF DOUGLAS AND ELBERT, CO**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Tamra Taylor, Designated Election Official

Douglas County School District, Number Re1

620 Wilcox Street

Castle Rock, CO 80104

Telephone: (303) 387-0100

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5A:

SHALL DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$40,000,000 ANNUALLY COMMENCING IN COLLECTION YEAR 2019 AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER FOR GENERAL FUND PURPOSES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALITY TEACHERS AND STAFF BY INCREASING DISTRICT SALARIES;

PROVIDING ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMMING FOR STUDENTS AND ENHANCING SAFETY AND SECURITY

RESOURCES;

PROVIDING CAREER FOCUSED LEARNING AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION FOR MORE STUDENTS SO THAT STUDENTS GAIN THE SKILLS THEY NEED FOR JOBS AND CAREERS;

CONTINUING THE DISTRICT'S COMMITMENT TO HIGH ACADEMIC STANDARDS BY ENSURING ALL STUDENTS HAVE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES AND PERSONALIZED PROGRAMMING;

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

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5B:

SHALL DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT DEBT BE INCREASED \$249,975,000 WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$399,000,700, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$34,440,150 ANNUALLY TO PAY SUCH DEBT, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

ENHANCING SAFETY AND SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE AT ALL SCHOOL BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES;

PROVIDING EQUIPMENT, CLASSROOM MATERIALS AND TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES IN ACADEMICS AND CAREER-BASED SKILLS;

UPDATING SCHOOL BUILDINGS TO CONTINUE PROVIDING SAFE, EFFICIENT, QUALITY LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF;

AND FOR ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING OR IMPROVING ANY CAPITAL ASSETS THAT THE DISTRICT IS AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO OWN; AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE INCREASED IN ANY YEAR WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE AND 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) PROVIDED THAT ANY REVENUE PRODUCED BY SUCH MILL LEVY SHALL NOT EXCEED \$34,440,150 ANNUALLY; 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, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR REDEMPTION OF THE BONDS PRIOR TO MATURITY WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT OF THE PREMIUM OF NOT TO EXCEED ONE PERCENT; AND SHALL SUCH TAX REVENUES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH BOND PROCEEDS AND TAX REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Fiscal Year Spending Information

2018-2019 (estimated)	\$776,681,834
2017-2018 (unaudited actual)	\$739,603,505
2016-2017 (actual)	\$719,390,189
2015-2016 (actual)	\$706,376,828
2014-2015 (actual)	\$691,515,422
Overall percentage change from 2014-15 to 2018-19	12.32%
Overall dollar change from 2014-15 to 2018-19	\$85,166,412

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2019-20

(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):	5A	\$40,000,000
	5B	\$34,440,150

District Estimate of 2019-20 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase:
\$940,081,834*

*This number is a good faith estimate only and assumes the passage of Amendment 73, which will be considered by the voters of the State on November 6, 2018, and is based on information and projections received by the District from other sources. The District estimates that its fiscal year spending if Amendment 73 is not approved by the voters is \$835,081,834.

Information on District’s Proposed Bonded Debt

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5B:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$249,975,000
Maximum Annual District Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$ 34,440,150
Total District Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$399,000,700

Information on District’s Current Debt¹

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$272,435,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$44,665,763
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$333,112,269

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 5A:

Vote Yes on 5A. Douglas County is a great place to raise a family and our schools are preparing students to contribute to Colorado’s growing economy. To continue to

¹ Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

challenge our students, the schools need to have excellent teachers, adequate learning spaces and updated technology. Currently, our schools are doing the best they can with the resources they have, but things are tight. Douglas county schools have the lowest mill levy funding throughout competitive districts in the metro area and have not received a funding increase from the community in 12 years. While the District has been stretching its dollars as far as possible, it now needs the necessary funds to retain quality teachers and provide safe and efficient schools and classrooms. We are asking our community members to support a mill levy override and a bond measure on the November ballot. This revenue measure will allow us to continue our serious commitment to high academic standards by increasing teacher pay so that we can attract and retain the best, most experienced teachers possible. These resources will also help us provide STEM education resources and access to career focused learning and technical education so more students gain the skills they need for the jobs and careers of the future. Finally, this funding will help provide additional mental health support and prevention programming for students.

5A works best in conjunction with 5B to ensure that all kids in Douglas County School District have equitable access to excellent educational resources. This revenue can be used to update our aging buildings and make them more efficient. It will also allow us to improve the safety and security of our schools.

Great schools increase property values, contribute to safe communities, and are good for jobs and the local economy. Let's come together as a proud community to ensure a bright future for all Douglas County kids. Vote Yes on 5A&B.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 5A:

No on 5A

The ballot language indicates a number of purposes for which the increased taxes will be spent, but the language specifically states that the purposes of the tax increase are not limited to those items. This means the tax increase may be spent on anything, including increasing the number of administrative

employees not directly involved in the classroom or bailing out the district's extremely generous retirement benefits that most taxpayers do not have. The tax increase effectively be a slush fund that will be dumped into the general fund to be spent any way the Board of Education chooses.

The current Superintendent has only been in Douglas County School District since July 1, 2018. Almost 60% of the Board of Education has been in their role for less than 1 year. They have not yet shown they are maximizing the current annual \$715 million budget. Administrators and the Board of Education should be encouraged to find the inefficiencies within the current system and maximize the use of existing revenue, before asking voters for tax increases.

The tax increase is a permanent increase with no sunset date and no opportunity for the taxpayers to evaluate and vote on the effectiveness of the new spending in the future.

The hundreds of dollars per year in new taxes that the District proposes is a nearly 20% increase in district property taxes, and is a significant amount of money for those whose income has not risen as quickly as property values, especially for elderly citizens living on a fixed income facing increasing health care costs, and younger families struggling to work multiple jobs to make ends meet.

Douglas County School District is already a high-performing district with excellent student outcomes, and there is no evidence that throwing more money at the district will increase performance or student outcomes. The ballot language does not attach any metrics by which the taxpayers may evaluate any performance improvements as a result of the tax increase, and the tax increase is perpetual even if there are no improvements. Increased funding does not guarantee increased results as demonstrated by schools in cities such as Denver, Chicago, and Washington, D.C.

If 5A, 5B, and Amendment 73 all pass, Douglas County citizens would be

subject to a massive combined tax increase of hundreds or even thousands of dollars per year depending on property values and individual income.

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

Vote Yes on 5B. Douglas County is a great place to raise a family and our schools are preparing students to contribute to Colorado's growing economy. To continue to challenge our students, the schools need to have excellent teachers, adequate learning spaces and updated technology. This revenue can be used to update our aging buildings and make them more efficient. It will also allow us to improve the safety and security of our schools.

5B works best in conjunction with 5A. Currently, our schools are doing the best they can with the resources they have, but things are tight. Douglas county schools have the lowest mill levy funding throughout competitive districts in the metro area and have not received a funding increase from the community in 12 years. While the District has been stretching its dollars as far as possible, it now needs the necessary funds to retain quality teachers and provide safe and efficient schools and classrooms. We are asking our community members to support a mill levy override and a bond measure to the November ballot. This revenue measure will allow us to continue our serious commitment to high academic standards by increasing teacher pay so that we can attract and retain the best, most experienced teachers possible. These resources will also help us provide STEM education resources and access to career focused learning and technical education so more students gain the skills they need for the jobs and careers of the future. Finally, this funding will help provide additional mental health support and prevention programming for students.

Great schools increase property values, contribute to safe communities, and are good for jobs and the local economy. Let's come together as a proud community to ensure a bright future for all Douglas County kids. Vote Yes on 5A&B.

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

No on 5B

The ballot language requests taxpayers authorize the District to acquire new debt of nearly a quarter of a billion dollars.

The last time the district asked the taxpayers for a bond, the Blue Book comments in favor of the bond indicated that the failure to pass that bond would “undoubtedly” result in a “dramatic increase in class size” and “loss of electives and specials.” Despite Douglas County taxpayers rejecting that bond, the promised dire consequences have not occurred and the district today continues to employ the “best and brightest educators.”

The district has made no assurances that the proposed bond would be paid in its entirety prior to the district asking the taxpayers for additional debt. Given the vagueness of the ballot language, the borrowed money could be used largely to fund what should be current expenses, only to ask taxpayers in the future to borrow more money for then current expenses. Borrowing money from the future to pay current expenses is not a sustainable approach to funding.

The district has not demonstrated that the bond is necessary and the district's past appeals to taxpayers have given us reason to doubt the sincerity or urgency of their request.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE
LOUVIERS WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Sarah H. Luetjen, Designated Election Official
390 Union Boulevard, Suite 400
Lakewood, CO 80228
(303)218-7207

Ballot Title and Text:

LOUVIERS WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE NO. 6A:

SHALL LOUVIERS WATER AND SANITATION DISTRICT DEBT BE INCREASED UP TO \$1.5 MILLION, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$2 MILLION, BUT WITH NO INCREASE IN TAXES, SUCH DEBT TO CONSIST OF A LOAN AGREEMENT, BOND, NOTE, OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR FINANCIAL OBLIGATION ENTERED INTO WITH A STATE AUTHORITY OR OTHER ENTITY, OR COMBINATION THEREOF, FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING, REIMBURSING, OR FINANCING ALL OR ANY PART OF THE COSTS OF THE REPLACEMENT AND OR RELOCATION OF SEWER LINES AND OTHER SEWER COLLECTION SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS, WITH SUCH DEBT, WHICH WILL BE PAID FROM THE REVENUES, FEES AND CHARGES DERIVED FROM THE OPERATION OF THE DISTRICT'S SEWER FACILITIES OR PROPERTIES, TO BEAR INTEREST AT A MAXIMUM NET EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE NOT TO EXCEED 3.5% PER ANNUM AND BE ISSUED AT SUCH TIME AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MAY DETERMINE?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending:

2018 (estimated)	\$257,642
2017 (actual)	\$46,681
2016 (actual)	\$58,504
2015 (actual)	\$33,242
2014 (actual)	\$760,071

Overall percentage change from 2014 to 2018: (66)%

Overall dollar change from 2014 to 2018: \$(502,429)

Proposed District Tax Increase:

Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase: \$0

Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase: \$48,081

Summary of Written Comments For the Proposal:

Vote “YES” on Louviers Water and Sanitation District Ballot Issue 6

The Village of Louviers, represented by the Louviers Water and Sanitation District (LWSD), can repair a portion of the sewage collection system using federal funds that have been granted to LWSD in the form of a zero (0) interest loan. LWSD applied for, and was recently awarded, a \$1.100.000 zero interest project loan and a \$113.200 grant to cover design and engineering for the project. Below we are providing a listing of existing problems with the sewage system and the proposed solutions to address these problems.

Problems:

1. The current sewage collection system is nearly 70 years old and severely damaged in numerous locations.
2. Pipes have numerous cracks, breaks, and root intrusions that limit the ability of the system to work properly.
3. Settling, offset pipes and inadequate grades impede flows.
4. Location of the sewer is often in the middle of residential lots and dangerously close to residences and other structures.

5. Sewer lines are less than 10-feet from water lines creating a potential risk of contamination of drinking water.
6. Frequent breaks and repairs erode LWSD funds just to provide temporary “band-aid” fixes.
7. A complete break or failure of the pipes could lead to sewage back-up into yards and homes.

Solutions Provided by the Loan and Sewage Replacement Project

1. Reduced risk of system failures by replacing the sewer in phases with new modern materials resistant to breaks and root intrusion.
2. Moving the sewer lines out of yards and into the alleys and roadways.
3. Increasing grades to improve system functioning.
4. Increasing the distance between sewer and water lines to remove the risk of contamination of drinking water.
5. Long-term solution and system stability

Economic Impact

No rate increase is needed to secure the loan. As part of the loan approval process the Colorado Water Resources and Power Development Authority did an in-depth analysis of LWSD finances and rate structure. Their conclusion was that the loan is good to proceed without the need for a rate increase prior to loan execution. As initiated in 2017, LWSD annually re-evaluates our financials and determines the need for any rate increase based on multiple variables, including operations and maintenance needs, capital projects, building reserves to take advantage of future grant opportunities, emergency funds for unforeseen system breakdowns and debt service. Any additional rate increases needed will be evaluated on an annual basis and presented to the community. The LWSD Board of Directors are all residents of the community and, as always, seek to keep rate increases as low as possible.

Summary of Written Comments Against the Proposal:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO ADJUST MILL LEVY ON A REFERRED MEASURE
LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO**

Election date: November 6, 2018

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

Local election office address and phone number:

Jodi Warner, Designated Election Official
9414 Spruce Mtn Rd Larkspur CO 80118
303-681-3284

Ballot Title and Text:

LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 6B:

IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN ADEQUATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND ONLY IN THE EVENT THAT THE RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATE IS REDUCED BELOW THE CURRENT RATE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, SHALL THE LARKSPUR FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (DISTRICT) BE PERMITTED TO ADJUST ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY TO OFFSET ANY RESULTING DECREASE IN REVENUE, AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE PERMITTED TO ADJUST ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY TO MATCH AND BE CAPPED BY COLORADO'S STATUTORY RATE STUDY RECOMMENDATION; AND SHALL SUCH TAX PROCEEDS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT AS VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND SPENDING CHANGES IN EACH YEAR, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY SPENDING OR REVENUE LIMITATIONS INCLUDING THOSE CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO

CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2014 (actual)	\$ 2,732,930
2015 (actual)	\$ 2,519,411
2016 (actual)	\$ 2,518,741
2017 (actual)	\$ 3,148,025
2018 (estimated)	\$ 2,529,092

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2014 through 2018:
-8.1%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2014 through 2018: \$ 203,838

Estimated 2019 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax extension authorized by ballot issue 6B: \$ 2,753,264

Estimated 2019 maximum tax extension authorized by ballot issue 6B: \$0

Summaries of written comments on ballot issue 6B filed with the election officer:

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 6B:

Ballot Measure 6B was formulated to ensure the continuation of vital fire and emergency medical services (EMS) in the Larkspur Fire Protection District (LFPD) by stabilizing tax revenue. This is not a tax increase, but rather a measure to offset projected decreases in revenue because of the Gallagher amendment.

A YES vote will help to maintain current staffing with firefighters, EMTs and paramedics who protect the lives of our families. A YES vote will help to contain insurances costs by maintaining ISO ratings. A YES vote will sustain critical fire equipment. A YES vote will mitigate the risks of losing a neighborhood to a devastating wildfire and preserve property values. A YES vote will maintain response times when minutes matter. LFPD must compete statewide for qualified emergency services personnel and be able to retain current employees. Fires double in size every 2-4 minutes. Lack of oxygen destroys cardiac and brain tissue within minutes.

A NO vote will limit the feasibility of staffing two stations. A NO vote will put life, property values and a way of life at risk.

The Gallagher amendment was enacted into law in 1982. Its intent was to maintain the tax burden at 45% for residential properties and 55% for commercial properties by adjusting the residential assessment rate (RAR). The problem is that the RAR is mandated on a one-size-fits-all, statewide basis and the housing boom in Colorado's metropolitan areas is the primary factor driving it down. LFPD now faces the negative impact of a rapidly decreasing RAR. Ballot Measure 6B stops the financial crises without raising taxes.

Since LFPD is predominantly a rural residential district with minimal tax funding from commercial properties or sales tax, its funding will decrease to unsustainable levels in direct proportion to the RAR. By 2019, the RAR is

projected to decrease 23% from 2015 levels when LFPD voters last approved a mill levy increase. In the last year alone, the district experienced a decrease of over 6% of projected tax revenue, which will not be recouped by this measure. Without passage of Ballot Measure 6B, the accelerated erosion of tax revenue will severely degrade the emergency services in LFPD.

LFPD is a combination career/volunteer department and currently provides 24/7 fire protection and Advanced Life Support and medical transport to more than 6,500 residents in a 109-square mile service area with two staffed stations and a reserve station. Call volume has increased over 50% in the last 15 years, a trend which is expected to continue with our growing and aging population.

Vote yes on Ballot Measure 6B. In view of current and projected growth in the Larkspur Fire District area, Ballot Measure 6B is a fair and reasonable solution focused on protecting our residents, businesses and first responders, keeping the quality and speed of emergency response excellent and keeping property insurance premiums low -all without increasing taxes.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 6B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
UTE PASS REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

Local Election (DEO) Office Address, Telephone Number and Contact Person:

Address: 785 Red Feather Lane, Woodland Park, Colorado 80866

Telephone number: (719) 687-2291

Contact person: Teresa Weiss

Ballot Title and Text:

UTE PASS REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7A:

SHALL UTE PASS REGIONAL HEALTH SERVICE DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$665,000 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR, OR BY SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF A UNIFORM SALES TAX, BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019, AT A RATE OF ONE-HALF PERCENT (.5%) THROUGHOUT THE ENTIRE GEOGRAPHIC AREA OF THE DISTRICT UPON EVERY TRANSACTION OR OTHER INCIDENT WITH RESPECT TO WHICH A SALES TAX IS LEVIED BY THE STATE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 26 OF TITLE 39, C.R.S., SUBJECT TO THE EXCLUSIONS PROVIDED IN SECTION 32-1-1003(5), C.R.S., SUCH SALES TAX TO BE LEIVED AND COLLECTED AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 32-19-112, C.R.S.; AND SHALL ALL DISTRICT REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE LIMITS PROVIDED BY LAW TO FUND, SUSTAIN AND IMPROVE AMBULANCE SERVICES, INCLUDING IMPROVING AMBULANCE SERVICES, REDUCING RESPONSE TIMES, FUNDING THE DISTRICT RESIDENT INSURANCE ONLY BILLING PROGRAM, ADDITIONAL PARAMEDICS AND AMBULANCES, PURCHASING MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES, AND FUNDING FUTURE FACILITY AND OTHER CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS?

Total District Fiscal Year Spending:

2018 (estimated)	\$ <u>2,658,191</u>
2017 (actual)	\$ <u>2,638,863</u>
2016 (actual)	\$ <u>2,274,184</u>
2015 (actual)	\$ <u>2,227,675</u>
2014 (actual)	\$ <u>2,194,711</u>

Overall percentage change from 2014 to 2018: 21 %
Overall dollar change from 2014 to 2018: \$463,480

Proposed District Tax Increase:

Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase: \$665,000
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase: \$2,700,000

Summary of Written Comments For the Proposal:

**Support and Improve Your Ambulance District with a Half-Cent Sales Tax.
Please Vote Yes on 7A!**

Your emergency services are the heart of every community! Every day, your paramedics, firefighters, law enforcement officers, and dispatchers are ready to respond to your emergencies when you need them. However, increasing demand for services and costs associated with emergency response are rising and there are insufficient resources to answer your emergency calls. Your ambulance is no different.

Your Ambulance District is experiencing higher demands for service and the number of staffed ambulances in our fleet is inadequate to meet that demand creating unacceptable response times and putting lives at risk. Additionally, operating costs are rising so ambulance services have been cut. Ambulance bills are rising but payments, especially from Medicare and Medicaid, are declining. Moreover, non-residents consume ambulance services without paying at an ever-increasing rate. Last year alone, visitors consumed \$500,000 worth of unreimbursed ambulance services. Between 2008-2017 visitors consumed over \$4,000,000 (3.5 years' worth of property taxes) paid by you in taxes of unpaid

ambulance service **costs**. So not only do they consume ambulance services without paying, they also tie up ambulances when others need them. This decreases your access to emergency services and increases your costs, truly jeopardizing you, the local property taxpayer.

Your Ambulance District is no longer able to keep up with rising demands and escalating costs, your community is without ambulance coverage on average of 8 hours every day!

Competition for paramedics, the men and women who care for you, is rising. Your Ambulance District has not been able to provide them with meaningful raises in nearly five years, which worsens recruitment and retention of quality care providers. As competition for paramedics rises along the Front Range, your paramedics are leaving for higher paying jobs in those areas. This lessens care you need when you call for an ambulance.

There is a better way to fund your Ambulance District to ensure there are enough ambulances when you need them and that you receive quality care when you need it. **This proposed solution also eliminates your out-of-pocket costs when you call 911 for an ambulance!**

A yes vote on 7A for a half-cent sales tax:

- **Funds the District Resident Insurance Only Billing Program. This means no out-of-pocket costs** when you call 911 for an ambulance. You will not be balance billed for amounts not paid by your insurance;
- **Adds more on-duty ambulances** every day when you need them;
- **Shortens response times** when every second counts;
- **Improves paramedics' wages** ensuring quality care when you need it;
- **Prolongs and improves paramedic recruitment and retention** when you need them;
- **Provides long-term consistent funding** for ambulances and medical equipment;

- **Ensures that visitors pay more for what they actually consume**, visitors pay sales taxes, sales taxes pay for services they use but do not otherwise pay for, thus improving your ambulance services.

Please Support Your Ambulance District and vote yes on 7A to improve your ambulance services!

Summary of Written Comments Against the Proposal:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO ADJUST MILL LEVY ON A REFERRED MEASURE
WEST METRO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
JEFFERSON AND DOUGLAS COUNTIES, COLORADO**

Election date: November 6, 2018

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

Local election office address and phone number: Kim Brewer, West Metro Fire Protection District, 433 S. Allison Parkway, Lakewood, CO 80226; 303-989-4307

West Metro Fire Protection District Ballot Issue 7C:

IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN ADEQUATE FIRE, RESCUE, AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, AND ONLY IN THE EVENT THAT THE RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATE IS REDUCED BELOW THE CURRENT RATE ESTABLISHED PURSUANT TO SECTION 3 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, SHALL THE WEST METRO FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT (DISTRICT) BE PERMITTED TO ADJUST ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY TO OFFSET ANY RESULTING DECREASE IN REVENUE, AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE PERMITTED TO ADJUST ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY TO MATCH AND BE CAPPED BY THE REVENUE THAT WOULD HAVE BEEN COLLECTED BASED ON COLORADO'S STATUTORY RATE STUDY RECOMMENDATION, IF THE RECOMMENDATION IS ABOVE THE CURRENT RATE, FOR THE PURPOSES OF, BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

MAINTAINING EMERGENCY RESPONSE TIMES;

MEETING INCREASED DEMAND FOR VITAL EMERGENCY SERVICES;

PROVIDING SAFETY GEAR FOR FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDICS, SUCH AS AIR PACKS;

MAINTAINING ADEQUATE NUMBERS OF FIRST RESPONDERS AND FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDICS; AND,

PROVIDING TRAINING AND EQUIPMENT FOR LIFE-SAVING MEDICAL RESPONSE, WATER RESCUES, WILDFIRE RESPONSE, MASS CASUALTY INCIDENTS, AND OTHER

EMERGENCY RESPONSE SERVICES;

WITH OVERSIGHT BY THE ELECTED BOARD OF LOCAL RESIDENTS, AND ALL FUNDS SUBJECT TO INDEPENDENT AUDITS PUBLISHED ON THE DISTRICT WEBSITE;

AND SHALL SUCH TAX PROCEEDS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT AS VOTER APPROVED REVENUE AND SPENDING CHANGES IN EACH YEAR, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY SPENDING OR REVENUE LIMITATIONS INCLUDING THOSE CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2014 (actual)	\$ 49,314,181
2015 (actual)	\$ 48,068,012
2016 (actual)	\$ 61,216,023
2017 (actual)	\$ 62,917,353
2018 (estimated)	\$ 68,238,631

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending
over the five-year period from 2014 through 2018: 28%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending
over the five-year period from 2014 through 2018: \$ 18,924,450

Estimated 2019 fiscal year spending without taking into account the
tax extension authorized by Ballot Issue 7C: \$ 68,750,421

Estimated 2019 maximum tax extension
authorized by Ballot Issue 7C: \$ 0

Summaries of written comments on ballot issue 7C filed with the election

officer:

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 7C:

A “YES” vote on ballot issue 7C will provide financial stability to the District by maintaining the current residential property tax assessment rate. With a steady, predictable budget, West Metro can maintain quick response times, as well as critical emergency medical services and fire protection for District residents. A “YES” vote on 7C is not a tax increase.

West Metro’s revenue is based on residential and commercial property taxes. Property taxes are derived from the assessed value of a residential or commercial property. The assessed value is a percentage of the actual value of the property, which is set by the state and called the Residential Assessment Rate (RAR).

Nearly 70% of West Metro’s budget comes from property taxes. Last year, the RAR dropped from 7.96% to 7.2%. Next year, the RAR is again expected to plummet from the current rate of 7.2% to 6.1%. A decrease in the RAR means a significant decrease in the District’s budget, even while the demand for emergency and lifesaving services continues to grow. These cuts are caused by the Gallagher Amendment, a constitutional measure adopted in 1982, that limits the growth of residential property taxes.

In the last decade, calls have increased 50%. Last year alone, West Metro received 34,427 fire-related calls, which equates to one call every 15 ½ minutes. Without a “YES” vote on 7C, West Metro will face difficult budget decisions due to an anticipated \$5 million budget shortfall. The District may be forced to close at least one of its firehouses, which would take as many as eight firefighters and paramedics out of commission each day. Fewer firefighters and paramedics translates to longer response times, which often means the difference between life and death. There will be significant delays in purchasing new safety equipment for firefighters and lifesaving medical equipment for District residents.

Voters have not approved any budget increases for West Metro in 12 years, and, in the face of a growing and aging population, the District has responsibly and transparently managed its resources to do more with less. In fact, West Metro has

received multiple awards from international and national organizations for its financial stewardship. However, West Metro has now hit a crisis point.

To be clear, this is not a tax increase. Essentially, this measure simply asks voters to maintain the current assessment formula for its funding by asking voters to establish a base or a “floor” of the current 7.2%, even if the RAR decreases. If the RAR study recommendation from the state were to increase, West Metro could then float its mill levy to match that assessment rate, allowing it to continue responding to the increasing needs of the community.

It is imperative that we keep West Metro financially strong to provide the public with critical, life-saving services.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 7C:

As the so-called ‘De-Gallagher’ efforts are a statewide problem, shouldn’t this issue be addressed by the Legislature, which is presently working on this problem rather than on a piecemeal, local basis?

Since there is disagreement between the Fire District and the Assessor’s Office as to the percentage amount of change in assessed property values and the fiscal impact, if any, on the District, should not voters opt to wait for the final revenue results which will be published only after November’s election, before deciding on this matter?

Therefore should we the voters vote NO on 7C at this time?

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Micki L. Mills, Designated Election Official

390 Union Boulevard, Suite 400

Lakewood, Colorado 80228

303-218-7206

Ballot Title and Text:

URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7G:

SHALL URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$14.9 MILLION IN 2019 (RESULTING IN AN ANNUAL TAX INCREASE NOT TO EXCEED \$1.97 IN 2019 FOR EACH \$100,000 OF ACTUAL RESIDENTIAL VALUATION) AND BY SUCH AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER FROM A LEVY NOT TO EXCEED 1.0 MILLS TO PAY FOR DISTRICT WORK IN COORDINATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, INCLUDING:

1. MAINTAINING EARLY FLOOD WARNING GAUGES TO PROVIDE POTENTIAL EVACUATION WARNINGS,
2. PROVIDING TRAILS, WILDLIFE HABITAT, AND RECREATIONAL ACCESS TO RESIDENTS BY PRESERVING THOUSANDS OF ACRES OF PARKS AND OPEN SPACE IN FLOODPLAIN AREAS WHICH PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT AND PRIVATE PROPERTY, AND
3. REMOVING DEBRIS, GARBAGE AND OBSTRUCTIONS FROM STREAMS, CREEKS AND RIVERS RESULTING IN REDUCED RISK TO THE HEALTH AND

SAFETY OF RESIDENTS, PROTECTING PROPERTY, AND RESTORING NATURAL BEAUTY;

WITH THE DISTRICT’S ENTIRE MILL LEVY RATE SUBJECT TO STATUTORY CAPS AND TO ADJUSTMENT TO OFFSET REFUNDS, ABATEMENTS AND CHANGES TO THE PERCENTAGE OF ACTUAL VALUATION USED TO DETERMINE ASSESSED VALUATION; AND SHALL ALL DISTRICT REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LIMITS PROVIDED BY LAW?

<u>Total District Fiscal Year Spending</u>	<u>Government</u>	<u>Non-Government</u>	<u>Total</u>
2018 (estimated)	\$31,804,022	\$700,000*	\$32,504,022
2017 (actual)	\$30,594,495	\$0	\$30,594,495
2016 (actual)	\$29,375,465	\$0	\$29,375,465
2015 (actual)	\$28,405,608	\$0	\$28,405,608
2014 (actual)	\$26,624,268	\$0	\$26,624,268
<u>Overall percentage change from 2014 to 2018:</u>	19.46%	N/A	22.08%
<u>Overall dollar change from 2014 to 2018:</u>	\$5,179,754	\$700,000*	\$5,879,754
<u>Proposed District Tax Increase:</u>			
Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase:			
	\$14,900,000	\$0	\$0
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase:			
	\$33,000,000	\$16,000,000*	\$49,000,000

*Non-Government Spending consists of 100% voluntary land development fees through the District's Development Services Enterprise to guide responsible development and preserve floodplains.

**If the District were to certify the maximum mill levy authorized by statute, the 2019 tax increase would be estimated as \$24,900,000.

Summary of Written Comments For Ballot Issue 7G:

We All Agree...Vote Yes on 7G

The Metro Area is at risk of severe flooding, unchecked development, and contamination of our water. YES on 7G protects people, property and the environment. The measure restores funding to prevent flooding and provide flood warnings, preserve open space, create trails and recreation, and keep our waterways clean.

Why 7G?

The Flood Control District's current mill levy has been reduced over time from 1.0 mill authorized by the Legislature to 0.56 mills. That 44% reduction in revenue means a current annual funding decrease of \$23 million.

Almost \$300 million has been deferred on vital infrastructure construction and maintenance needed to protect lives and property, and to preserve open space and trails in floodplains.

Because Anywhere it Rains...it can Flood

What the District Does for You

The District partners with metro cities and counties to design and construct flood

control and early warning measures, open space and trails, and debris removal.

Flood Prevention

- Maintains a system of Early Flood Warning gauges to provide alerts for evacuations to keep your family safe.
- Coordinates alerts with NOAA, first responders and the media so you are first to know.
- Works with FEMA and local governments to develop Flood Maps for the community.

Open Space & Trail Development

- For almost 50 years, the District has been providing families and people the ability to enjoy Colorado's beautiful open spaces and amazing trails.
- The District has been the leading force preventing unwise growth in low-lying floodplains in the Metro Area; so instead of housing and industrial growth, those areas are now open space for public use and enjoyment while providing a safe buffer from high water.

Debris & Garbage Removal

- Removes debris and garbage from streams, creeks and rivers making them not only safer and more beautiful but also allowing for recreational use.
- Works with local governments to clear out and clean-up encampments and illegal activity along waterways. The District pays for 100% of clean-up costs.

The District is a very lean agency, utilizing a staff of only 32 to cover a 1,600 square mile area that includes almost 60% of Colorado's population. Contracting

out the work keeps overhead low, costs down and ensures all the jobs stay local.

What will YES on 7G cost me?

That's the best part. Tabor requires the ballot to say 'tax increase' but by passing this de-Bruce measure the District will simply restore their mill levy to the statutory cap set by the Legislature at 1 mill.

By law the mill levy cannot exceed 1.0 mill set by the Legislature

In its 50-year existence the District has NEVER asked voters for a tax increase. Restoring the mill levy means the cost to taxpayers is just "Two Bucks" a year (\$1.97) for each \$100,000 of actual home value. So a \$400,000 home would pay \$8/year or 66 cents per month.

We All Agree...Vote Yes on 7G

Summary of Written Comments Against Ballot Issue 7G:

Ballot Issue 7G asks you to give up your rights under TABOR. TABOR protects your right to vote on tax increases before it happens. UDFCD doesn't mention TABOR in the ballot language because they know voters like it.

Ballot Issue 7G allows UDFCD to double the mill levy for Boulder and Broomfield Counties from .5 to 1.0. In the other five metro area counties, the rate would increase from .557 to 1.0. UDFCD's tax revenues have increased more than \$3.7 million since 2014. Now they want to increase their revenues by 50% in the first year. The ballot issue mentions a \$14.9 million tax increase but fails to clarify that without the protection of TABOR the Board can increase the property tax up

to \$24 million, without having to ask you again.

There is no accountability to voters for how UDFCD would spend the revenue. They are the one rare special district where the Board members are not elected. That is taxation without representation. They have already wasted money on an advertising campaign trying to approve the tax increase.

Most voters will experience no benefit. Local cities and counties contribute your tax dollars to half of the cost of all drainage and flood-control projects. Trails, wildlife habitat and recreation are handled by your local government. Higher property tax will increase the cost of homeownership and rent. This tax increase would make housing even more unaffordable.

UDFCD's mill levy has been reduced from 1.0 mills authorized by the Legislature to .56 mills. That means an annual decrease of \$23 million. That's exactly what we wanted TABOR to do when we voted it in – cut their budget.

UDFCD claims “almost \$300 million has been deferred on vital infrastructure construction and maintenance needed to protect lives and property, and to preserve open space and trails in floodplains.” UDFCD has been doing just fine with the budget they have.

Those who live near flood zones can buy flood insurance from FEMA and we can save tax dollars. The Early Flood Warning gauges are a waste of tax dollars. Flooding is rare and you'd never have time to evacuate. People in flood zones can just listen to the news like the rest of us.

UDFCD says they have been the leading force in preventing unwise growth in low-

lying floodplains. Preventing growth shouldn't be their job, that should be left to local zoning authorities. If people want to build homes and businesses in low-lying areas, they should be on their own.

UDFCD removes debris and garbage from streams, creeks and rivers making them safer and more beautiful but we should just find and fine people who pollute and dump in our rivers. I'm upset our tax dollars go to clean up encampment and illegal activity along waterways. These homeless camps should be illegal.

UDFCD claims this simply restores their mill levy. It is a tax increase and \$.66 a month per \$100,000 of home value is just too much to pay.

Vote NO on 7G.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

**NOTICE TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS OF A COORDINATED
MAIL BALLOT ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
NORTH FORK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT
DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

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

Local election office address and phone number:

Jon S. Pelegrin, Designated Election Official
P.O. Box 183
Buffalo Creek, CO 80425
Telephone: (303) 838-2270
e-mail: jspelegrin@yahoo.com

North Fork Fire Protection District
Douglas County, Colorado

BALLOT ISSUE 7D

SHALL NORTH FORK FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES INCREASE BY ZERO DOLLARS (\$0.00) IN 2019 AND THEREAFTER, AS IS NECESSARY TO OFFSET DECREASES IN THE GALLAGHER RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATE, SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED ANNUALLY TO CONTINUE TO COLLECT SUCH REVENUE AS IS GENERATED BY THE CURRENT TAX RATE (2018 MILL LEVY MULTIPLIED BY 2018 RESIDENTIAL ASSESSMENT RATE, EXCLUSIVE OF REFUNDS, ABATEMENTS OR DEBT SERVICE) BY ADJUSTING THE MILL LEVY TO GENERATE THAT SAME TAX RATE, ALLOWING SUCH REVENUE TO BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT AS

VOTER APPROVED FOR THE DISTRICT’S GENERAL OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENSES RELATED TO FIRE PROTECTION, AMBULANCE, EMERGENCY MEDICAL AND RESCUE SERVICES, WITHOUT REGARD TO CONSTITUTIONAL OR STATUTORY LIMITATIONS INCLUDING THOSE CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTIONS 3, 5, AND 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

District Fiscal Year Spending:

2018 (estimated)	\$487,430
2017 (audited)	\$623,731 (includes \$148,069 in one-time grants)
2016 (actual)	\$450,864
2015 (actual)	\$552,960
2014 (actual)	\$431,135

Overall percentage change in spending from 2014 to 2018:	13.05%
Overall dollar change in spending from 2014 to 2018:	\$56,295

Proposed District Tax Increase:

Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase:	\$0.00
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without increase:	\$487,430

Summary of Written Comments “FOR” the Proposal:

Ballot Issue 7D tries to balance the needs of the fire, ambulance, rescue and search volunteers to have the equipment and supplies they need to be safe and to competently care for our community, its guests, and visitors while minimizing the tax impact on our residents and property owners in a fair manner. Because Ballot Issue 7D holds the tax collection rate steady at the 2018 level against all property, it permits an increase in tax revenues only when residential properties increase in value or are newly constructed and added to the tax rolls. Most of us expect inflation in all other financial aspects of our life and the Fire Department is entitled to receive revenues which keep up with inflation as this proposal allows. Our volunteers are highly qualified, if unpaid, professionals entitled to be appropriately supported.

Our forests are part of the treasure of Colorado. We must do all we can to

help the fire departments protecting the forest. This measure says “yes” to raising the amount dedicated to firefighting when property values go up. The value of your property will increase even more with the slight increase in your tax bill. As a former member of a fire protection board I know fire departments use the money they get well. Training Emergency Medical Technicians, developing advanced location systems to help with rescues, finding ways to provide protection equipment for increasingly hot fires, improving communication between fire departments and buying equipment to help firefighters find and reach fires faster. Firefighters need funds to continue to protect the wildlands and rivers of Colorado. Please vote for Fire Ballot 7D to give firefighters the money they need. By voting “yes” you are helping protect your own home as well as the treasures of our state.

VOTE YES ON 7D.

Summary of Written Comments “AGAINST” the Proposal:

No comments against the proposal were filed by the Constitutional deadline.



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