



## Civic Conversations To Go

Earlier this year, the Fort Collins Chamber launched a monthly engagement series known as CIVIC Conversations. This initiative grows from concern that discussion of important community issues is being increasingly driven by the often anonymous and vitriolic nature of social media and personal grandstanding intended to draw eyes and ears – not feedback.

That environment does not lend itself to deeper understanding of issues, nor does it foster a common bond for improving our social and economic wellbeing.

CIVIC Conversations is best described as an opportunity for individuals to share perspective and learn from others. Importantly, the conversation takes place in a comfortable atmosphere where participants introduce themselves to other community members with whom they might not otherwise interact. Prior to each conversation, registered participants are introduced to the topic of discussion along with objective source material that may spark further investigation and thought on the issue. Subject matter expertise and preparation are not required.

At the event, participants self-select a table at which to sit, introduce themselves to each other, and review the rules of engagement: Everyone gets the opportunity to speak; there are no “right” or “wrong” statements; all participants are worthy of respect; and, enjoy the experience! Just before the conversations get started, Chamber staff once again reviews the topic and offers a few “starter questions” to get the ball rolling. From there, each table dives right into the topic.

At the end of the allotted time, tables are asked to briefly summarize perspectives and share any key ideas or information that might benefit the full assembly.

CIVIC Conversations have been very well received, so now we invite you to take the program home or on the road during this fall election season!

The following material provides background information on all statewide and Fort Collins-specific issues that will appear on the November ballot, a copy of which is included for further reference. We invite you to organize your own CIVIC Conversation utilizing this material. Share it with those you have invited and encourage all to bring their own perspective to the dialogue.

After your event, please let us know how it went, what worked well, what didn't, and how we might expand this initiative across the region.



[www.FortCollinsChamber.com](http://www.FortCollinsChamber.com)

(970) 482-3746

## CIVIC Conversation: November 2022 Election Issues

[sample invite letter]

Dear Neighbor/Colleague:

This November, there will be a number of issues to be considered by the voters of Fort Collins and across the state. If you're like me, there are some I'm familiar with, others I've not given much thought, and a few I find confusing. Either way, I find it difficult to make good decisions before I understand the good, bad and indifferent effects of my decision.

If this sounds familiar, I invite you to join me and fellow neighbors/colleagues in a CIVIC Conversation at which we can all benefit from the perspective of each other. The conversation is scheduled to take place at *[enter location]* from *[time and date]*.

To help get the mental juices flowing, I've attached background material on all **eleven** issues that will be considered statewide and **three** issues that will be decided by the voters of Fort Collins. Candidates for office will not be discussed at this time to allow a fuller dialogue regarding the issues up for consideration.

A few ground rules will be observed:

- Subject matter expertise is not required
- Everyone will be treated with dignity and respect
- There are no 'right' or 'wrong' perspectives
- Enjoy this opportunity to hear and be heard

Should you be unable to join this conversation, please consider organizing your own. Elections do matter while the ability to discuss difficult issues in a civil, face-to-face setting is a fantastic demonstration of our democratic values.

I hope you are able to join us! Please RSVP no later than *[insert date]* at *[email and/or phone number]*.

Thank you for your consideration!

*[Your name]*

REMINDER: Official ballots are expected to be mailed to all active voters the week of October 17. Completed ballots are due in the Office of the Clerk & Recorder of Larimer County no later than **7:00 pm** on **November 8, 2022**. Special dates apply to overseas voters and military personnel.



**Official Ballot for  
General Election  
Larimer County, Colorado  
Tuesday, November 8, 2022**

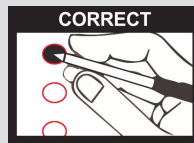
*Angela Myers*

**Angela Myers  
Clerk and Recorder**

**Instructions to Voters**

**To vote your ballot:**

- 1** Use black ink.
- 2** Fill in the oval completely.



**!** Do not mark in any of the incorrect ways shown below.



**!** If you make a mistake, ask for a new ballot.

**Federal Offices**

**United States Senator  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Michael Bennet  
Democratic
- ☐ Joe O'Dea  
Republican
- ☐ T.J. Cole  
Unity
- ☐ Brian Peotter  
Libertarian
- ☐ Frank Atwood  
Approval Voting  
(Signed declaration to limit service to no more than 2 terms)
- ☐
- Write-In

**Representative to the 118th United States  
Congress - District 2  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Joe Neguse  
Democratic
- ☐ Marshall Dawson  
Republican
- ☐ Gary L. Nation  
American Constitution
- ☐ Tim Wolf  
Unity
- ☐ Steve Yurash  
Center

**Federal Offices**

**Representative to the 118th United States  
Congress - District 4  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Ike McCorkle  
Democratic
- ☐ Ken Buck  
Republican
- ☐ Ryan McGonigal  
American Constitution  
(Signed declaration to limit service to no more than 3 terms)

**Representative to the 118th United States  
Congress - District 8  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Yadira Caraveo  
Democratic
- ☐ Barbara Kirkmeyer  
Republican
- ☐ Richard Ward  
Libertarian
- ☐
- Write-In

**State Offices**

**Governor/Lieutenant Governor  
(Vote for One Pair)**

- ☐ Heidi Ganahl / Danny Moore  
Republican
- ☐ Jared Polis / Dianne Primavera  
Democratic
- ☐ Paul Noel Fiorino / Cynthia Munhos de Aquino Sirianni  
Unity
- ☐ Danielle Neuschwanger / Darryl Gibbs  
American Constitution
- ☐ Kevin Ruskusky / Michele Poague  
Libertarian
- ☐
- Write-In

**Secretary of State  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Pam Anderson  
Republican
- ☐ Jena Griswold  
Democratic
- ☐ Gary Swing  
Unity
- ☐ Jan Kok  
Approval Voting
- ☐ Amanda Campbell  
American Constitution
- ☐ Bennett Rutledge  
Libertarian

**State Treasurer  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Dave Young  
Democratic
- ☐ Lang Sias  
Republican
- ☐ Anthony J. Delgado  
Libertarian

**Attorney General  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ John Kellner  
Republican
- ☐ Phil Weiser  
Democratic
- ☐ William F. Robinson III  
Libertarian
- ☐
- Write-In

**State Board of Education Member - At Large  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Kathy Plomer  
Democratic
- ☐ Dan Maloit  
Republican
- ☐ Ryan Van Gundy  
Libertarian
- ☐ Eric Bodenstab  
Unity

**State Offices**

**State Board of Education Member -  
Congressional District 8  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Peggy Propst  
Republican
- ☐ Rhonda Solis  
Democratic
- ☐ James K Treibert  
American Constitution

**Regent of the University of Colorado -  
Congressional District 4  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Jack Barrington  
Democratic
- ☐ Frank McNulty  
Republican

**Regent of the University of Colorado -  
Congressional District 8  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Mark VanDriel  
Republican
- ☐ Yolanda Ortega  
Democratic

**State Senator - District 15  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Rob Woodward  
Republican
- ☐ Janice Marchman  
Democratic

**State Representative - District 49  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Judy Amabile  
Democratic
- ☐ Kathryn Lehr  
Republican
- ☐ Daniel Lutz  
Libertarian

**State Representative - District 51  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Hugh McKean  
Republican

**State Representative - District 52  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Cathy Kipp  
Democratic
- ☐ Deborah "Dee Dee" Vicino  
Republican

**State Representative - District 53  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Andrew Boesenecker  
Democratic
- ☐ Donna Walker  
Republican

**State Representative - District 64  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Richard Webster  
Democratic
- ☐ Ryan Armagost  
Republican

**State Representative - District 65  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Lisa Chollet  
Democratic
- ☐ Mike Lynch  
Republican

**County Offices**

**County Commissioner - District 1  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Justin Smith  
Republican
- ☐ John Kefalas  
Democratic

**County Clerk and Recorder  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Toni Baker  
Democratic
- ☐ Angela Myers  
Republican

**County Treasurer  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Irene Josey  
Republican

**County Assessor  
(Vote for One)**

- ☐ Bob Overbeck  
Democratic
- ☐ David Eisenbraun  
Republican

**SAMPLE BALLOT**

County Offices	Judicial	State of Colorado
<b>County Sheriff</b> (Vote for One) <input type="radio"/> John J. Feyen Republican	<b>County Court Judge - Larimer</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Katharine "Jenny" Ellison of the Larimer County Court be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<b>Proposition 121 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes reducing the state income tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40%? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
<b>County Surveyor</b> (Vote for One) <input type="radio"/> Tom Donnelly Republican	<b>County Court Judge - Larimer</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Thomas L. Lynch of the Larimer County Court be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<b>Proposition 122 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning legal regulated access to natural medicine for persons 21 years of age or older, and, in connection therewith, defining natural medicine as certain plants or fungi that affect a person's mental health and are controlled substances under state law, establishing a natural medicine regulated access program for supervised care, and requiring the department of regulatory agencies to implement the program and comprehensively regulate natural medicine to protect public health and safety; creating an advisory board to advise the department as to the implementation of the program; granting a local government limited authority to regulate the time, place, and manner of providing natural medicine services; allowing limited personal possession, use, and uncompensated sharing of natural medicine; providing specified protections under state law, including criminal and civil immunity, for authorized providers and users of natural medicine; and, in limited circumstances, allowing the retroactive removal and reduction of criminal penalties related to the possession, use, and sale of natural medicine? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
<b>County Coroner</b> (Vote for One) <input type="radio"/> Stephen Hanks Democratic <input type="radio"/> Matt Canaga Republican	<b>Judicial</b> <b>Colorado Court of Appeals Judge</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Jacyln Casey Brown of the Colorado Court of Appeals be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
	Ballot questions referred by the general assembly or any political subdivision are listed by letter, and ballot questions initiated by the people are listed numerically. A ballot question listed as an "amendment" proposes a change to the Colorado constitution, and a ballot question listed as a "proposition" proposes a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes. A "yes/for" vote on any ballot question is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a "no/against" vote on any ballot question is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances.	
	<b>State of Colorado</b> <b>Amendment D (CONSTITUTIONAL)</b> Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning judges of the newly created twenty-third judicial district, and, in connection therewith, directing the governor to designate judges from the eighteenth judicial district to serve the remainder of their terms in the twenty-third judicial district and requiring a judge so designated to establish residency within the twenty-third judicial district? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Proposition 123 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning statewide funding for additional affordable housing, and, in connection therewith, dedicating state revenues collected from an existing tax of one-tenth of one percent on federal taxable income of every individual, estate, trust, and corporation, as defined in law, for affordable housing and exempting the dedicated revenues from the constitutional limitation on state fiscal year spending; allocating 60% of the dedicated revenues to affordable housing financing programs that will reduce rents, purchase land for affordable housing development, and build assets for renters; allocating 40% of the dedicated revenues to programs that support affordable home ownership, serve persons experiencing homelessness, and support local planning capacity; requiring local governments that seek additional affordable housing funding to expedite development approvals for affordable housing projects and commit to increasing the number of affordable housing units by 3% annually; and specifying that the dedicated revenues shall not supplant existing appropriations for affordable housing programs? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
	<b>Amendment E (CONSTITUTIONAL)</b> Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the extension of the property tax exemption for qualifying seniors and disabled veterans to the surviving spouse of a United States armed forces service member who died in the line of duty or veteran whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	
	<b>Amendment F (CONSTITUTIONAL)</b> Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the conduct of charitable gaming activities, and, in connection therewith, allowing managers and operators to be paid and repealing the required period of a charitable organization's continuous existence before obtaining a charitable gaming license? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Proposition 124 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning increasing the number of retail liquor store licenses in which a person may hold an interest, and, in connection therewith, phasing in the increase by allowing up to 8 licenses by December 31, 2026, up to 13 licenses by December 31, 2031, up to 20 licenses by December 31, 2036, and an unlimited number of licenses on or after January 1, 2037? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
	<b>Proposition FF (STATUTORY)</b> SHALL STATE TAXES BE INCREASED \$100,727,820 ANNUALLY BY A CHANGE TO THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES THAT, TO SUPPORT HEALTHY MEALS FOR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS, INCREASES STATE TAXABLE INCOME ONLY FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE FEDERAL TAXABLE INCOME OF \$300,000 OR MORE BY LIMITING ITEMIZED OR STANDARD STATE INCOME TAX DEDUCTIONS TO \$12,000 FOR SINGLE TAX RETURN FILERS AND \$16,000 FOR JOINT TAX RETURN FILERS, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CREATING THE HEALTHY SCHOOL MEALS FOR ALL PROGRAM TO PROVIDE FREE SCHOOL MEALS TO STUDENTS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS; PROVIDING GRANTS FOR PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS TO PURCHASE COLORADO GROWN, RAISED, OR PROCESSED PRODUCTS, TO INCREASE WAGES OR PROVIDE STIPENDS FOR EMPLOYEES WHO PREPARE AND SERVE SCHOOL MEALS, AND TO CREATE PARENT AND STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEES TO PROVIDE ADVICE TO ENSURE SCHOOL MEALS ARE HEALTHY AND APPEALING TO ALL STUDENTS; AND CREATING A PROGRAM TO ASSIST IN PROMOTING COLORADO FOOD PRODUCTS AND PREPARING SCHOOL MEALS USING BASIC NUTRITIOUS INGREDIENTS WITH MINIMAL RELIANCE ON PROCESSED PRODUCTS? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Proposition 125 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the expansion of retail sale of alcohol beverages, and, in connection therewith, establishing a new fermented malt beverage and wine retailer license for off-site consumption to allow grocery stores, convenience stores, and other business establishments licensed to sell fermented malt beverages, such as beer, for off-site consumption to also sell wine; automatically converting such a fermented malt beverage retailer license to the new license; and allowing fermented malt beverage and wine retailer licensees to conduct tastings if approved by the local licensing authority? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
	<b>District Court Judge - 8th Judicial District</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Carroll Michelle Brinegar of the 8th Judicial District be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	<b>Proposition 126 (STATUTORY)</b> Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning authorization for the third-party delivery of alcohol beverages, and, in connection therewith, allowing retail establishments licensed to sell alcohol beverages for on-site or off-site consumption to deliver all types of alcohol beverages to a person twenty-one years of age or older through a third-party delivery service that obtains a delivery service permit; prohibiting the delivery of alcohol beverages to a person who is under 21 years of age, is intoxicated, or fails to provide proof of identification; removing the limit on the percentage of gross sales revenues a licensee may receive from alcohol beverage deliveries; and allowing a technology services company, without obtaining a third-party delivery service permit, to provide software or a digital network application that connects consumers and licensed retailers for the delivery of alcohol beverages? <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
	<b>District Court Judge - 8th Judicial District</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Gregory M. Lammons of the 8th Judicial District be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
	<b>District Court Judge - 8th Judicial District</b> (Vote YES or NO) Shall Judge Daniel McDonald of the 8th Judicial District be retained in office? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	
	<input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST

SAMPLE BALLOT

City of Fort Collins	Town of Windsor	Town of Timnath
<b>Ballot Question 2A</b>  <b>CITY-INITIATED PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 1 (Council Compensation)</b>  Shall Section 3 of Article II of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding compensation for the Mayor and City Councilmembers, be amended to provide: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>the Mayor will receive seventy-five percent (75%),</li><li>the Mayor Pro Tem will receive sixty percent (60%), and</li><li>all other Councilmembers will receive fifty percent (50%).</li></ul> of the Area Median Income for the Fort Collins/Love land area for a single-person household, adjusted annually;  and to further provide that all Councilmembers will be entitled to opt into the City organization's healthcare-related benefits, on the same terms those benefits are available to City employees?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Ballot Issue 3F</b>  SHALL TOWN OF WINDSOR TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$1.62 MILLION ANNUALLY BEGINNING IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2023, AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS THAT MAY BE GENERATED THEREAFTER, BY INCREASING THE TOWN SALES AND USE TAX RATE BY 0.25% (2.5 CENTS ON A TEN-DOLLAR PURCHASE) FROM THE CURRENT RATE OF 3.95% TO A NEW RATE OF 4.2% ON JANUARY 1, 2023, WITH TAX REVENUE TO BE USED FOR THE CREATION OF A DEDICATED FUNDING SOURCE FOR OPEN SPACE LAND ACQUISITION, STEWARDSHIP, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE THAT WILL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>PURCHASE AND MAINTAIN OPEN SPACE FROM WILLING LANDOWNERS THAT ACHIEVES THE FOLLOWING:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ENSURING ACQUIRED OPEN SPACE LAND WILL REMAIN UNDEVELOPED AND LESSEN THE IMPACT OF RESIDENTIAL HOUSING GROWTH, THEREBY REDUCING COMMUNITY IMPACTS SUCH AS TRAFFIC, THE COST OF MAINTAINING ROADS, SEWER, STORMWATER AND ACQUIRING AND TREATING WATER</li><li>ENABLE THE TOWN TO DEVELOP AND MAINTAIN OPEN SPACE THAT WILL INCREASE PUBLIC RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES</li><li>OBTAIN, MANAGE AND PRESERVE WORKING FARMS AND COMMUNITY SEPARATORS THAT WILL KEEP WINDSOR UNIQUE FROM NEIGHBORING CITIES AND TOWNS</li><li>PROMOTE AND PERPETUATE OPEN SPACE THAT CONSERVES VALUABLE WILDLIFE HABITATS, PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT AND CREATES GREEN SPACES AND WATERFRONT ACCESS TO LAKES, STREAMS, AND THE CACHE LA POUDE RIVER</li></ul></li></ul> ALL REVENUE FROM THIS TAX CONSTITUTING A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Ballot Question 3I</b>  Changing Timnath Town Elections to November of Even Years and Amending the Town Home Rule Charter to Reflect the Change  Shall the Town of Timnath regular elections be changed from April of even years to the Tuesday succeeding the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year, commencing on November of 2028, and shall Sections 4.3, 5.1, 5.9, 5.11 of the Town of Timnath Home Rule Charter be amended to incorporate such change, update redistricting deadlines to correspond to a November election date, and to extend terms of office as needed to accomplish the change in election dates?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
<b>Ballot Question 2B</b>  <b>CITY-INITIATED PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 2 (November Elections)</b>  Shall Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding the conduct of City elections, be amended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>make the regular city election date the first Tuesday in November of every odd-numbered year, instead of the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April of every odd-numbered year;</li><li>transition to the new election schedule by extending the current term of the Mayor and of each Councilmember from April to November of the appropriate odd-numbered year, without altering the number of terms each may serve;</li><li>allow for coordinated elections to be conducted by the County Clerk and Recorder and clarify the applicable law for coordinated elections;</li><li>allow Council to adjust the time frame for candidate nominations and withdrawals up to 180 days prior to an election; and</li><li>make minor conforming edits; and</li></ul> shall Article II of the Charter, regarding membership, terms and organization of the City Council, be amended to provide that City officers elected in a November election shall be sworn in and take office, and a Mayor Pro Tem shall be elected, at a special Council meeting on the second Tuesday of January after such election?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Town of Berthoud</b>  <b>Ballot Question 3G</b>  <b>Annexation of Handy Reservoirs and Properties</b>  Shall the Town of Berthoud be authorized to annex property, more particularly described as:  Handy Ditch Company Reservoirs and Property:  Reservoirs at their high-water mark located in Sections 3, 4, 9 and 10 of Township 4 North, Range 69 West of the 6th Principal Meridian, commonly referred to as Welch Reservoir and McNeil Reservoir, and adjacent lands owned by the Handy Ditch Company.  Provided that the Board of Trustees, after considering the annexation application and holding a public hearing, as required by law, determines that such annexation is in the best interests of the Town?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Glacier View Fire Protection District</b>  <b>Ballot Issue 6A</b>  WITHOUT RAISING ADDITIONAL TAXES, SHALL THE EXISTING GLACIER VIEW FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT 1.15 MILL PROPERTY TAX DESIGNATED FOR BUILDING A NEW FIRE STATION, DEBT RETIREMENT, AND ONGOING OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES BE EXTENDED INDEFINITELY FROM ITS CURRENT EXPIRATION OF DECEMBER 31, 2024, ALL REVENUE AND EARNINGS FROM THIS TAX CONSTITUTING A PERMANENT VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHIN THE MEANING OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AND ANY OTHER LAW?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
<b>Ballot Question 2C</b>  <b>CITY-INITIATED PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 3 (Ranked Voting)</b>  Shall Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding the conduct of City elections, be amended to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>require that for all regular city elections after January 1, 2025, the offices of Mayor and of each District Councilmember shall be elected using a "ranked voting method," pursuant to the applicable Colorado statutes or, for City-conducted elections, procedures and deadlines adopted by the City Council by ordinance;</li><li>clarify the applicable law for coordinated elections; and</li><li>make minor conforming edits; and</li></ul> shall Article IX of the Charter, regarding recall, be amended to incorporate the ranked voting method set out in Article VIII?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Town of Timnath</b>  <b>Ballot Question 3H</b>  Amending the Town of Timnath Home Rule Charter to Increase the Threshold Number of Registered Electors to 15,000 Registered Electors, for Expansion of the Town Council to Six Councilmembers and Commencement of Redistricting  Shall Sections 2.2.1, 4.5.2, and 5.1 of the Town of Timnath Home Rule Charter be amended to increase the threshold number of registered electors at which the Town Council is expanded from Four Councilmembers to Six Councilmembers and at which redistricting is commenced from eight thousand (8,000) to fifteen thousand (15,000) registered electors?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST	<b>Parkside Metropolitan District</b>  <b>Ballot Issue 6B</b>  SHALL PARKSIDE METROPOLITAN DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED ANNUALLY BY ANY AMOUNT DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE DISTRICT AS LONG AS TOTAL TAXES LEVIED BY THE DISTRICT DOES NOT EXCEED \$136,000 ANNUALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE MAINTENANCE OF THE DISTRICT'S PARKS AND OPEN SPACES, GENERAL OPERATIONS OF THE DISTRICT AND PUBLIC SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE DISTRICT; SUCH ANNUAL TAX LIMIT TO BE ADJUSTED ANNUALLY FOR INFLATION PER THE COLORADO CONSUMER PRICE INDEX AS TRACKED BY THE UNITED STATES BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS; SUCH TAXES TO CONSIST OF AN AD VALOREM MILL LEVY IMPOSED WITHOUT LIMITATION OF RATE OR WITH SUCH LIMITATIONS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, AND IN AMOUNTS SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE PROPERTY TAX REVENUE THAT DOES NOT EXCEED \$136,000 ANNUALLY (AS ADJUSTED FOR INFLATION); AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE IN 2023 AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, OR SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST
		<b>Livermore Fire Protection District</b>  <b>Ballot Issue 6C</b>  SHALL LIVERMORE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$155,000 ANNUALLY, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE ANNUALLY RAISED THEREAFTER, BY AN ADDITIONAL TAX LEVY OF 6 MILLS, COMMENCING IN TAX YEAR 2022 (FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2023), AND CONTINUING THEREAFTER AS PROVIDED BY LAW, WITH SUCH TAX PROCEEDS TO BE USED FOR DISTRICT OPERATIONS AND CAPITAL EXPENSES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE MAINTENANCE AND REPLACEMENT OF DISTRICT APPARATUS AND FACILITIES; 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 SPENDING OR REVENUE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?  <input type="radio"/> YES/FOR <input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST



<b>Larimer County Koral Heights Public Improvement District No. 46</b>	<b>North Weld County Water District</b>
<b>Ballot Issue 6D</b>	<b>Ballot Issue 7A</b>
<p>SHALL THE KORAL HEIGHTS PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NO. 46 TAXES BE INCREASED \$8,000,00 DOLLARS ANNUALLY (ESTIMATED FIRST FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE IN 2023), AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, BY INCREASING THE DISTRICT'S PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY BY NOT MORE THAN 4.948 MILLS (FOR A TOTAL MILL LEVY OF NOT MORE THAN 15.707), THE REVENUES OF WHICH WILL BE COLLECTED BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2023 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER AND USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENT AND CONTINUED MAINTENANCE OF ROADS IN THE DISTRICT AND FOR THE GENERAL OPERATING EXPENSES OF THE DISTRICT ALL AS SET FORTH IN THE 2010 PETITION FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND CREATION OF THE DISTRICT, AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAX, 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 5.5% LIMIT IMPOSED BY SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, IN 2023 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER?</p> <div><div><input type="radio"/> YES/FOR</div><div><input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST</div></div>	<p>SHALL NORTH WELD COUNTY WATER DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$5,000,000 ANNUALLY AND BY THE AMOUNTS, WHETHER MORE OR LESS THAN \$5,000,000, RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAX LEVY OF 5 MILLS, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IF, AFTER NOVEMBER 8, 2022, THERE IS A CHANGE IN THE RATIO OF ACTUAL VALUATION TO ASSESSED VALUATION OR OTHER CHANGE IN THE METHOD OF CALCULATING ASSESSED VALUATION, SUCH LEVY OF 5 MILLS MAY BE INCREASED OR DECREASED TO REFLECT SUCH CHANGES, SUCH INCREASES OR DECREASES TO BE DETERMINED BY THE DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS IN GOOD FAITH (SUCH DETERMINATION TO BE BINDING AND FINAL), SO THAT TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE, THE ACTUAL TAX REVENUES GENERATED BY THE MILL LEVY, AS ADJUSTED, ARE NEITHER DIMINISHED NOR ENHANCED AS A RESULT OF SUCH CHANGES; OR BY SUCH LESSER AMOUNT AS NECESSARY TO PAY THE DISTRICT'S ADMINISTRATION, OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS COSTS, AND OTHER SIMILAR EXPENSES; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND ANY INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT IN FISCAL YEAR 2022 AND IN EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER 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, THE LIMITS IMPOSED ON INCREASES IN PROPERTY TAXATION BY SECTION 29-1-301, C.R.S., IN ANY YEAR, OR ANY OTHER LAW WHICH PURPORTS TO LIMIT THE DISTRICT'S REVENUES OR EXPENDITURES AS IT CURRENTLY EXISTS OR AS IT MAY BE AMENDED IN THE FUTURE, ALL WITHOUT LIMITING IN ANY YEAR THE AMOUNT OF OTHER REVENUES THAT MAY BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT?</p> <div><div><input type="radio"/> YES/FOR</div><div><input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST</div></div>
<b>Estes Park Local Marketing District</b>	
<b>Ballot Issue 6E</b>	
<p>SHALL THE ESTES PARK LOCAL MARKETING DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$6.3 MILLION ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR BY THE LEVYING OF AN ADDITIONAL 3.5% LODGING TAX ON THE PURCHASE PRICE PAID OR CHARGED FOR ROOMS OR ACCOMMODATIONS WITHIN THE DISTRICT, COMMENCING IN 2023 AND CONTINUING THEREAFTER, WITH SUCH REVENUE TO BE COLLECTED AND USED, TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT PERMITTED BY THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AS AMENDED, FOR:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>CONSTRUCTION OR PURCHASE OF WORKFORCE HOUSING OR THE PURCHASE OF LAND TO PROVIDE SITES FOR WORKFORCE HOUSING;</li><li>DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT WORKFORCE ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE HOUSING; AND</li><li>DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT AFFORDABLE WORKFORCE CHILDCARE SERVICES;</li></ul> <p>WITH SUCH FUNDS TO BE COLLECTED BY THE DISTRICT AND TRANSFERRED TO THE TOWN OF ESTES PARK FOR EXPENDITURE OR INVESTMENT TO SUPPORT THE ABOVE USES; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT AND TOWN BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, KEEP, TRANSFER AND SPEND ALL REVENUES RECEIVED IN 2023 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE, OR OTHER LIMITATION IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER STATUTORY LAWS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO?</p> <div><div><input type="radio"/> YES/FOR</div><div><input type="radio"/> NO/AGAINST</div></div>	

END OF BALLOT

WARNING: Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both, Section 1-7.5-107(3)(b), C.R.S.

SAMPLE BALLOT



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Amendment D (Twenty-Third Judicial District Amendment)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be an <u>amendment to the Colorado constitution</u> concerning judges of the newly created twenty-third judicial district, and, in connection therewith, directing the governor to designate judges from the eighteenth judicial district to serve the remainder of their terms in the twenty-third judicial district and requiring a judge so designated to establish residency within the twenty-third judicial district?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Amendment can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>In 2020, the Colorado State Legislature passed and Governor Jared Polis (D) signed House Bill 1026, which was set to remove Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln counties from the 18th Judicial District and create a new 23rd Judicial District for those counties, effective January 7, 2025. Under the bill, the 23rd District was set to be comprised of eight judges while the 18th Judicial District was set to have seven judges removed.<sup>[1]</sup></p> <p>The constitutional amendment was introduced as House Concurrent Resolution 22-1005. It was approved in the House on April 18, 2022, by a vote of 60-2 with three members excused. The amendment was passed unanimously by the Senate on April 26, 2022.</p> <p>A simple majority vote is required in both the Colorado State Senate and the Colorado House of Representatives to refer a legislatively referred item to the ballot. A bill that is referred to the voters does not require the governor's signature and cannot be vetoed.</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position.
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>As of 2022, the 18th Judicial District was comprised of Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties. In 2020, the Colorado State Legislature passed House Bill 1026 (HB 1026), which was designed to remove Douglas, Elbert and Lincoln Counties from the 18th Judicial District and create a new create a new 23rd Judicial District for the three counties on January 7, 2025. Under the bill, the 23rd Judicial District was set to be comprised of eight judges while the 18th Judicial District was set to have seven judges removed, meaning the number of district court judges in the state was set to increase by one.</p> <p>Amendment D would require the governor, by November 30, 2024, to designate judges from the 18th Judicial District to serve in the newly created 23rd Judicial District. Judges would be required to establish residence in the 23rd district by January 7, 2025.</p> <p>Colorado has had 22 judicial districts since 1964. The 18th Judicial District court was established in 1964 to serve Arapahoe and Douglas counties. Twenty days after the</p>

	<p>district was established, Elbert County was added to the district. In 1969, Lincoln County was added to the district. As of 2022, the 18th judicial district was comprised of 24 judges and one chief judge: 16 in Arapahoe County (including the chief judge), seven in Douglas County, and one each in Lincoln and Elbert counties.</p> <p>Legislative sponsors wrote, "The number of judicial districts has remained at twenty-two for more than fifty years, although Colorado's population has increased by 3.5 million people during that time. The eighteenth judicial district ... has grown more than any other Colorado judicial district during that time and now has a population exceeding one million people. No other judicial district has a population exceeding 750,000 people, and no other judicial district has approached the rate of growth of the 18th judicial district."</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This Amendment merely formalizes the assignment of judges to a new judicial district that has already been created, while providing a clear timeline for making the district functional.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No statements of opposition have been identified.</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A





November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Amendment E</b> <b>(Homestead Exemption to Surviving Spouses of U.S. Armed Forces Members and Veterans Amendment)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the extension of the property tax exemption for qualifying seniors and disabled veterans to the surviving spouse of a United States armed forces service member who died in the line of duty or veteran whose death resulted from a service-related injury or disease?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Amendment can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>The amendment was introduced as House Concurrent Resolution 22-1003. It was approved in the House on April 25, 2022, by a vote of 63-0 with two members excused. On May 6, 2022, the state Senate approved the amendment by a vote of 32-0, with three excused.</p> <p>A simple majority vote is required in both the Colorado State Senate and the Colorado House of Representatives to refer a legislatively referred item to the ballot. A bill that is referred to the voters does not require the governor's signature and cannot be vetoed.</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	Support
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>Currently, veterans in Colorado who are rated as 100% permanently disabled qualify for a property tax exemption that exempts 50% of the first \$200,000 of a property's actual value from property taxes. The amendment would extend the tax exemption to the surviving spouse of a member of the U.S. Armed Forces who died in the line of duty or the spouse of a veteran who died from a service-related injury or disease. The exemption would be extended to surviving spouses who receive dependency indemnity compensation from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.</p> <p>The state is required to reimburse local governments for reductions in revenue from property tax exemptions given to seniors and veterans with a disability. The Legislative Council Staff estimated that approval of the amendment would increase state expenditures by approximately \$525,000 per year starting in fiscal year 2023-24 for local government reimbursements. The LCS estimated 883 surviving spouses would be able to claim the exemption under the amendment.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At minimal expense to the taxpayer, the spouse of veterans that have died as result of their active duty should not bear financial hardship in addition to the loss of the emotional, social and psychological support of a loved one.</li> </ul>

<b>Arguments <i>against</i> the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regardless of its merits, constitutional amendments cannot be altered by the Legislature should technical or functional deficiencies be later discovered.</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Amendment F (Charitable Gaming Amendment)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be an amendment to the Colorado constitution concerning the conduct of charitable gaming activities, and, in connection therewith, allowing managers and operators to be paid and repealing the required period of a charitable organization's continuous existence before obtaining a charitable gaming license?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Amendment can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>The amendment was introduced as House Concurrent Resolution 22-1006. It was approved in the House on May 2, 2022, by a vote of 57-8. On May 10, 2022, the Senate approved the amendment by a vote of 33-1.</p> <p>A simple majority vote is required in both the Colorado State Senate and the Colorado House of Representatives to refer a legislatively referred item to the ballot. A bill that is referred to the voters does not require the governor's signature and cannot be vetoed.</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>Currently, under the Colorado Constitution, a charitable organization must exist for five years before applying for a charitable gaming license, and managers or operators are prohibited from receiving payment for operating a charitable game.</p> <p>The amendment would lower the number of years an organization must have existed before obtaining a charitable gaming license from five years to three years until January 1, 2025. After January 1, 2025, the amendment would allow the legislature to set in statute the length of time an organization must exist to obtain a charitable gaming license. Under the measure, managers and operators of gaming activities would be limited to earning minimum wage until July 1, 2024, at which time the provision limiting the compensation of managers and operators to the applicable minimum wage would be automatically removed.</p> <p>According to an analysis by the Legislative Council Staff, approval of the measure was expected to increase state revenue by \$18,000 in FY 2022-23 and \$22,200 in FY 2023-24 assuming an additional 188 and 222 licensees with the current \$100 license fee. Approval of the measure was expected to increase state expenditures by \$293,995 in FY 2022-23 and \$420,109 in FY 2023-24 due to increased costs associated with implementing the new law.</p> <p>Charitable gaming was legalized in Colorado through voter approval of a 1958 citizen initiative.</p>

	<p><i>Charitable gaming</i> is defined as bingo, pull-tab games, and raffles that are operated by charitable organizations. <i>Charitable organization</i> is defined as "any organization, not for pecuniary profit, that is operated for the relief of poverty, distress, or other condition of public concern" within Colorado. Qualified organizations that may conduct charitable gaming include chartered branches, lodges, or chapters of national or state organizations, and religious, charitable, labor, fraternal, educational, voluntary firefighters', or veterans' organizations. Organizations must apply for and receive a license to conduct charitable gaming from the Colorado Secretary of State's office. All net proceeds of charitable gaming must be used exclusively for lawful purposes of the organizations conducting the games.</p> <p>In 2021, there were 890 licensed charitable gaming organizations in Colorado. In 2021, \$104.58 million was wagered on charitable games, and charitable organizations received \$24.05 million in net profits.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowing professional management of gaming activities on behalf of charitable organizations relieves the burden and inefficiency of relying upon volunteers that may not hold the capacity to conduct fair and equitable gaming experiences.</li> <li>• Professionally managed gaming activities will improve the number, size and quality of charitable gaming activities to the advantage of beneficiaries of the charitable organization.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowing charitable organizations to contract with third parties to conduct gaming activities erodes the connection between charitable organizations and gaming participants.</li> <li>• The Amendment further expands the commercial interests of the gaming industry, which produces adverse societal effects.</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition FF (Reduce Income Tax Deduction Amounts to Fund School Meals Program Measure)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>“Shall state taxes be increased \$100,727,820 annually by a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes that, to support healthy meals for public school students, increases state taxable income only for individuals who have federal taxable income of \$300,000 or more by limiting itemized or standard state income tax deductions to \$12,000 for single tax return filers and \$16,000 for joint tax return filers, and, in connection therewith, creating the healthy school meals for all program to provide free school meals to students in public schools; providing grants for participating schools to purchase Colorado grown, raised, or processed products, to increase wages or provide stipends for employees who prepare and serve school meals, and to create parent and student advisory committees to provide advice to ensure school meals are healthy and appealing to all students; and creating a program to assist in promoting Colorado food products and preparing school meals using basic nutritious ingredients with minimal reliance on processed products?”</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>The Colorado State Legislature referred this measure to the ballot through House Bill 1414. The Colorado House of Representatives approved HB 1414 on May 6, 2022, by a 43-22 vote. on May 10, 2022, the Colorado State Senate approved the bill by a vote of 23-12. The bill was passed largely along partisan lines, with all Democrats in favor and 87% of Republicans opposed.</p> <p>A simple majority vote is required in both the Colorado State Senate and the Colorado House of Representatives to refer a legislatively referred state statute to the ballot. A bill that is referred to the voters does not require the governor's signature and cannot be vetoed.</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>The state's flat tax rate (4.55% as of 2022) is applied to an individual's federal taxable income. Federal taxable income is calculated by taking a filer's adjusted gross income minus a standard deduction or itemized deduction. As of 2022, the standard deduction was \$12,950 for single filers or married filing separately and \$25,900 for married filing jointly. Colorado House Bill 1311, enacted in 2021, created a limit on federal itemized deduction amounts that could be used to reduce state taxable income. Beginning in 2022, filers with adjusted gross incomes of \$400,000 or more were limited to claiming itemized deductions of up to \$30,000 for single filers or \$60,000 for joint filers when</p>

	<p>calculating state taxable income.</p> <p>Under Proposition FF, those with a taxable income of \$300,000 or more (rather than the current law under which deduction limits apply to those with a taxable income of \$400,000 or more) would be limited to an itemized <b>or</b> standard deduction of \$12,000 for single filers and \$16,000 for joint filers.</p> <p>State officials estimated these changes would increase state revenue by \$100.7 million per year.</p> <p>The measure would create and fund the <i>Healthy School Meals for All Program</i> under the Department of Education to provide free school meals to all students in Colorado public schools, provide local food purchasing grants, and increase wages for employees that prepare and serve food.</p> <p>The National School Lunch Program (NSLP) was established in 1946. Schools participating in the program receive reimbursements from the federal government for providing free or reduced-priced meals to eligible students based on the student's household income level. For families with an income of 185% of the federal poverty level (FPL), children are eligible for reduced-priced meals. For families with an income of 130% of the federal poverty level (FPL), children are eligible for free meals. For the 2021-2022 school year, the federal government reimbursed schools participating in the National School Lunch Program between \$3.66 and \$3.90 for free lunches and between \$1.97 and \$2.35 for free breakfasts.</p> <p>As of October 2021, there were 886,517 students in Colorado's public schools in pre-school through 12th grade. According to the Colorado Department of Education, as of 2019, 42% of public school students were eligible for either free or reduced-priced school meals under the National School Lunch Program. During the 2017-18 school year, Colorado public schools served approximately 60 million school lunches, of which 64% went to students that were eligible for free or reduced-price meals. In Colorado, school food authorities may not charge students a co-pay for reduced-price school meals. Rather, the school food authorities are reimbursed by the Colorado Department of Education School Nutrition Unit with state funding.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal free lunch for students attending public school allows students that now qualify for free or reduced lunch cost to shed the stigma associated with economic status. It assures all students have access to healthy meals while at school.</li> <li>• Assuring cafeteria workers are paid a competitive wage will help attract and retain the most qualified candidates.</li> <li>• The Proposition represents an investment in public education and our children while allowing families to redirect school meal costs to other important expenditures such as housing, transportation, and healthcare.</li> <li>• Healthy School Meals for All engages parents with school administrators in developing menus that reflect the needs and cultural preferences of individual schools.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raising taxes to feed all students effectively subsidizes households that don't require financial assistance. In fact, households making over \$300,000 per year</li> </ul>



<b>proposal</b>	<p>would not recognize the full value of increased taxes paid as bureaucratic overhead of the program reduces the amount available for providing actual meals.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing income tax collections to fund wage increases for cafeteria workers effectively rewards poor management practices at school districts that are not paying a fair wage to those workers.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	Participating school food authorities (i.e. school districts) that participate in the national school breakfast/lunch program are eligible. Charter schools that operate under agreement with a public school district are considered “public schools”.
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition GG</b> <b>(Include Income Tax Effects in Initiative Ballot Language Measure)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes requiring that the ballot title and fiscal summary for any ballot initiative that increases or decreases state income tax rates include a table showing the average tax change for tax filers in different income categories?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>The bill was introduced as Senate Bill 222. It was approved in the Senate on May 2, 2022, by a vote of 20-15. On May 11, 2022, the House approved the measure by a vote of 40-22. The bill passed largely along partisan lines with all voting Democrats in favor and 95% of Republicans opposed.</p> <p>Senate Bill 222 sponsors decided to refer it to the voters so that it would not require Gov. Jared Polis' (D) signature. State Rep. Chris Kennedy (D) said, "There are a number of components (last year) where we reached agreement with the governor. But he expressed some concern about the idea of printing a table where it breaks down the value of the tax benefit or the tax increase to different income brackets ... on the ballot itself. So, this year, what we've introduced is a bill that's going to refer this question to the voters so that the governor doesn't have to weigh in on it." A spokesperson for Governor Polis said he believes that "voters should decide how issues are presented on the people's ballot because it is their ballot, not the state legislature's ballot."</p> <p>A simple majority vote is required in both the Colorado State Senate and the Colorado House of Representatives to refer a legislatively referred state statute to the ballot. A bill that is referred to the voters does not require the governor's signature and cannot be vetoed.</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>This measure would require ballot titles and fiscal impact summaries for initiatives that increase or decrease the individual income tax rate to include a table showing the potential tax changes for those in different income categories under the proposed initiative. Changes would be expressed by a dollar amount and a plus sign (+) if taxes owed would be increased or a negative sign (-) if the taxes owed would be decreased.</p> <p>The Colorado Title Board provides ballot titles (the question that appears on the ballot) for ballot initiatives in Colorado. The Director of Research of the Legislative Council, a nonpartisan service for the Colorado State Legislature, prepares fiscal summaries for ballot initiatives when the initiative is heard by the title board. Once an initiative has been approved for signature gathering, a full fiscal impact statement is prepared, which</p>

	<p>must be displayed on each section of the petition form during signature gathering. Additionally, the Legislative Council Staff prepares fiscal impact statements for <i>all</i> statewide ballot measures, which are published on the Legislative Council Staff website and summarized in the Colorado Blue Book, the state's voter guide.</p> <p>Currently, measures increasing or decreasing the income tax rate or the sales tax rate to include a table showing the average tax change for taxpayers in 12 specified income categories. As of 2022, fiscal impact statements included the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• an estimate of the effect the proposed measure would have on state and local government revenues, expenditures, taxes, and fiscal liabilities;</li> <li>• an estimate of state and local government expenditures or liabilities; and</li> <li>• an estimate of the impact to the average taxpayer for measures that change state tax laws.</li> </ul> <p>Currently, ballot titles for Colorado initiatives do not include a table showing potential tax changes, however, ballot measures that would increase taxes requiring voter approval under the Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) require ballot titles to be printed in capital letters beginning with, "<i>SHALL (DISTRICT) TAXES BE INCREASED (first, or if phased in, final, full fiscal year dollar increase) ANNUALLY...?</i>"</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Requiring the illustration of tax implications allows voters the opportunity see how their decision impacts the taxes they will pay. This will greatly improve transparency while educating the public as to trade-offs they must accept for a given decision.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Proposition will further increase the length and complexity of the ballot. A Blue Book, which contains much of the same detail, is provided to voters in advance of elections.</li> </ul>
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	<p>Taxes are part of the obligation we all must pay for services we collectively use and need as citizens. Tax policy of the State of Colorado should promote a healthy business and economic climate. In particular, tax policy should promote investment in physical, economic and human capital. As a vibrant business environment depends upon adequate public infrastructure and oversight systems, the business community is willing to participate in the funding of the public sector provided fees, taxes and other exactions are transparent, appropriate to the level of service delivered and equitable across all sectors of our economy.</p> <p><u>Characteristics of a 'Good Tax'</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make taxes transparent and visible. Taxpayers should know the tax exists, why the tax is levied, who is responsible for paying the tax and how it is calculated. When taxes are visible, citizens are permitted to make informed judgements about the relationship between their tax burden and expectations of the level of government services provided to them. This principle is of particular concern to business as the implementation of tax policy most heavily falls on customers through higher prices and lower wages. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Educate the public on all linkages between each tax and how the funds are spent.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #121 (Reduction of State Income Tax)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes reducing the state income tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40%?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jon Caldara and Jerry Sonnenberg filed the initiative on April 9, 2021. Ballot language was provided for the initiative on April 21, 2021.</li> <li>• The measure was cleared for signature gathering on June 21, 2021, with a signature due date of October 29, 2021.</li> <li>• Proponents submitted 215,365 signatures on October 29, 2021. On November 18, 2021, the Colorado Secretary of State found through a random-sample method that 148,189 signatures were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>Proposition 121 would decrease the state income tax rate from 4.55% to 4.40% for tax years commencing on or after January 1, 2022. Proposition 121 would also reduce the tax rate for domestic and foreign C corporations operating in Colorado from 4.55% of Colorado net income to 4.40%.</p> <p>Prior to 1987, the individual income tax rates were <i>graduated</i>, a tax system in which different rates are applied to different levels of income. The Colorado individual income tax rate has been a flat tax rate since 1987. The flat tax was 5% from 1987 to 1998. It was lowered to 4.75% in 1999. The rate was 4.63% until voters approved <a href="#">Proposition 116 in 2020</a>, which reduced the rate to 4.55%. According to the Colorado Legislative Council Staff, the rates were lowered to reduce the TABOR surplus.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lowering the tax rate provides economic relief to <i>all</i> taxpayers rather than allowing State government to determine how any TABOR surplus is to be distributed.</li> <li>• Lowering the tax rate incents government to seek efficiencies, identify expenditures that do not provide clear and tangible benefits to residents of Colorado, and slow the growth of government activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lowering the tax rate at a time of budget surplus is irresponsible as economic conditions are cyclical. A lower rate hinders the ability of the State to provide consistent funding and responsive activities in times of downward economic conditions.</li> <li>• Lowering state tax revenue poses a direct threat to our ability to adequately</li> </ul>

	fund education, healthcare and public safety.
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	<p>“The fundamental purpose of any tax is to raise funds for the administration of government. Therefore, tax proposals must be assessed through the objective achieving a good public finance system. Good tax policy should not change during times of budget deficits or surplus, but rather based upon well-defined principles that will inform the process of assessing how the system can best raise revenue adequate to meet the demand for public services and assets.”</p>



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #122</b> <b>(NATURAL MEDICINE HEALTH ACT of 2022)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning legal regulated access to natural medicine for persons 21 years of age or older, and, in connection therewith, defining natural medicine as certain plants or fungi that affect a person's mental health and are controlled substances under state law; establishing a natural medicine regulated access program for supervised care, and requiring the department of regulatory agencies to implement the program and comprehensively regulate natural medicine to protect public health and safety; creating an advisory board to advise the department as to the implementation of the program; granting a local government limited authority to regulate the time, place, and manner of providing natural medicine services; allowing limited personal possession, use, and uncompensated sharing of natural medicine; providing specified protections under state law, including criminal and civil immunity, for authorized providers and users of natural medicine; and, in limited circumstances, allowing the retroactive removal and reduction of criminal penalties related to the possession, use, and sale of natural medicine?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veronica Perez and Kevin Thomas Matthews filed the initiative on February 4, 2022. Ballot language was set for the initiative on February 16, 2022.</li> <li>• The initiative was cleared for signature gathering on March 22, 2022, with signatures due on August 8, 2022.</li> <li>• On May 11, 2022, Kevin Matthews, a chief petitioner for the initiative, said that the campaign had collected 40% of the required signatures after about six weeks of signature gathering.</li> <li>• On June 27, 2022, the Natural Medicine Colorado campaign submitted signatures to the Colorado Secretary of State's office.</li> <li>• The Colorado Secretary of State's office announced that the measure qualified for the ballot on July 21, 2022. Of the 225,140 signatures submitted, 138,760 were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	Opposed
<b>Some Basics</b>	The Food and Drug Administration allowed for research on psychedelic agents in 1992. Clinical research has explored potential treatment effects of psilocybin on conditions such as depression, anxiety disorders, suicidality, obsessive-compulsive disorder, and



addiction. The authors of the meta-analysis concluded that "it appears psilocybin may have some efficacy as an alternative agent to manage mental health conditions." They also stated that "there are multiple limitations to these studies. Many of them are small and are not able to be applied to larger populations. Additionally, because of the CSA Schedule I nature of psilocybin, it was administered under very controlled conditions."

In 2019, the FDA designated psilocybin therapy as *breakthrough therapy* for two clinical trials being facilitated by Compass Pathways and Usona Institute studying the effects of psilocybin on severe depression and major depressive disorder. The FDA defines the designation, *breakthrough therapy*, as "a process designed to expedite the development and review of drugs that are intended to treat a serious condition and preliminary clinical evidence indicates that the drug may demonstrate substantial improvement over available therapy on a clinically significant endpoint(s)."

As of 2022, psilocybin was classified as a Schedule I drug by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). According to the DEA, Schedule I drugs are not approved for medical use and have a high potential for abuse and dependence. The DEA's website listed the following as effects caused by psilocybin use:

- Hallucinations
- Large amounts can cause panic attacks and psychosis
- Nausea and vomiting
- Muscle weakness, lack of coordination
- Overdose may result in psychosis or death

#### **Colorado:**

Leading up to the election, the use and possession of psilocybin was illegal and penalized in Colorado, except in certain cases allowed under the state's [right-to-try law](#). Right-to-try laws aim to allow terminally ill patients to gain access to experimental drugs without the permission of the [FDA](#). Colorado was the first state to adopt a right-to-try law in 2014.

The approval of [Initiated Ordinance 301](#) in 2019 made the adult possession and use of psilocybin mushrooms the lowest law enforcement priority in Denver and prohibited the city and county of Denver from spending resources on enforcing related penalties.

#### **Statewide:**

In [November of 2020](#), Oregon voters approved a ballot initiative, [Measure 109](#), that authorized the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) to create a program to permit licensed service providers to administer psilocybin-producing mushroom and fungi products to individuals 21 years of age or older. Measure 109 allowed cities and counties to place referendums on local ballots to prohibit or allow psilocybin-product manufacturers or psilocybin service centers in unincorporated areas within their jurisdictions. At the same election, Oregon voters approved [Measure 110](#), which removed criminal penalties for the possession of LSD (less than 40 units) and psilocybin (less than 12 grams), as well as other specified quantities of certain controlled substances.

	<p><b>Local:</b></p> <p>As of June 2022, 15 local jurisdictions had <b>decriminalized</b> psilocybin possession or, more frequently, <b>deprioritized</b> policing, prosecution, and arrest for possession of psilocybin. Three jurisdictions did so through the citizen initiative process and 11 did so through local government resolutions.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado’s current approach to mental health is severely lacking and an extensive body of research is advancing to support the efficacy of natural medicines combined with psychotherapy as treatment for depression, anxiety, substance abuse, end-of-life distress, and other conditions.</li> <li>• Colorado can better promote health and healing by reducing its focus on criminal punishments for persons who suffer mental health issues and by establishing regulated access to natural medicines through a humane, cost-effective, and responsible approach.</li> <li>• The federal government provides no indication of reclassifying natural medicines that would allow broader research and integration of natural medicines within our healthcare system. Colorado should not be held back from advancing the benefits these medicines provide.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Legalizing hallucinogenic substances further erodes stigma associated with the use and proliferation of unproven and potentially dangerous substances.</li> <li>• Unlike the legalization of cannabis, local jurisdictions may not opt out of statewide legalization.</li> <li>• Possession, consumption and sharing of covered substances for recreational use is not limited to a healthcare regimen. This presents significant challenges to public health and safety officials, as well as the larger community, who will need to respond to people experiencing hallucinogenic episodes without benefit of qualified supervision.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	<p>The Colorado Department of Regulatory Agencies would be directed to establish a Natural Medicines Advisory Board, develop rules, establishing licensure requirements, monitor activities of licensed healthcare facilities, and conduct enforcement actions. There would not be a direct role assigned to the Department of Health &amp; Environment.</p> <p>Localities may define the time, place and manner of the operation of licensed healing center, though it may not prohibit the physical presence of a licensed operation or the transport of natural medicines within its jurisdiction.</p> <p>Cultivation, possession, consumption, and sharing of natural medicines would become legal and not limited to supervised treatment through licensed facilities. The sale of natural medicines is limited to licensed facilities.</p>
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #123 (State Housing Fund)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>“Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning statewide funding for additional affordable housing, and, in connection therewith, dedicating state revenues collected from an existing tax of one-tenth of one percent on federal taxable income of every individual, estate, trust, and corporation, as defined in law, for affordable housing and exempting the dedicated revenues from the constitutional limitation on state fiscal year spending; allocating 60% of the dedicated revenues to affordable housing financing programs that will reduce rents, purchase land for affordable housing development, and build assets for renters; allocating 40% of the dedicated revenues to programs that support affordable home ownership, serve persons experiencing homelessness, and support local planning capacity; requiring local governments that seek additional affordable housing funding to expedite development approvals for affordable housing projects and commit to increasing the number of affordable housing units by 3% annually; and specifying that the dedicated revenues shall not supplant existing appropriations for affordable housing programs?”</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Vilan Odekar and Luke Teater filed the initiative on April 8, 2022. Ballot language was given for the measure on April 21, 2022.</li> <li>• The initiative was cleared for signature gathering on May 13, 2022, with petitions due by August 8, 2022.</li> <li>• Proponents submitted 230,748 signatures for the measure on August 4, 2022.</li> <li>• On August 19, 2022, the Colorado Secretary of State's office announced that the initiative qualified for the ballot. Through random sample verification, 149,072 were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	<p>Support.</p> <p>Housing affordability poses a significant threat to economic vitality within Northern Colorado and across the state. Proposed structure and use of the fund provides an efficient and effective mechanism to address both needs and root causes of housing instability.</p>
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>The proposition would create the State Affordable Housing Fund (SAHF) and dedicate one-tenth of one percent (0.01%) of state income tax revenue to fund <i>affordable housing</i> programs and projects. The proposition would create the Affordable Housing Support Fund to receive 40% of funds in the SAHF and the Affordable Housing Financing Fund to receive 60% of funds in the SAHF (collectively referred to as the “Fund”).</p>

	<p>Under the proposition, <i>affordable housing</i> would be defined as rental housing that is "affordable to a household with an annual income of at or below 60% of the area median income, and that costs the household less than 30% of its monthly income," and "for-sale housing that could be purchased by a household with an annual income of at or below 100% of the area median income, for which the mortgage payment costs the household less than 30% of its monthly income."</p> <p>Funds would be used to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide grants to local governments and loans to nonprofit organizations to acquire and maintain land for the development of affordable housing;</li> <li>• create an <i>affordable housing equity program</i> to make equity investments in multi-family rental units to ensure that rent is no more than 30% of a household's income;</li> <li>• create a concessionary debt program to provide debt financing for low- and middle-income multi-family rental developments and existing affordable housing projects;</li> <li>• create an <i>affordable home ownership program</i> providing down-payment assistance for homebuyers meeting certain income requirements (120% AMI);</li> <li>• create a grant program for local governments to increase capacity to process land use, permitting, and zoning applications for housing projects; and</li> <li>• create a program to provide rental assistance, housing vouchers, and other case management for persons experiencing homelessness</li> </ul> <p>The Colorado Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) requires voter approval for all new taxes, tax rate increases, extensions of expiring taxes, mill levy increases, valuation for property assessment increases, or tax policy changes resulting in increased tax revenue. TABOR limits the amount of money the state of Colorado can take in and spend. It limits the annual increase for some state revenue to inflation plus the percentage change in state population. Any money collected above this limit is refunded to taxpayers unless the voters allow the state to spend it.</p> <p>For fiscal year 2022-23, \$135 million was estimated to be allocated to the State Affordable Housing Fund. For the first full fiscal year, FY 2023-24, the Colorado Legislative Council Staff estimated that \$270 million would be transferred from the state general fund to the State Affordable Housing Fund.</p> <p>The proposition would authorize the state to retain and spend these funds as a voter-approved revenue change above the state's TABOR limits, which it would otherwise be required to refund to taxpayers.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has never been a dedicated source of funding for housing development and related initiatives at the State level. This has led to inconsistent and tightly controlled investment through federal programs.</li> <li>• The two proposed funds provide support for an array of services, housing developments, regulatory reform incentives and resident support across the spectrum of need from homelessness to home ownership.</li> <li>• Fund implementation does not necessarily require expansion of bureaucracy as</li> </ul>

	<p>the Colorado Office of Economic Development is tasked with identifying up to two fund administrators that reside outside that department, which may include non-governmental entities.</p>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dedicating a portion of state income tax revenue effectively shields those funds from TABOR limitations. This would reduce potential excess revenue in future years.</li> <li>• Local control is diminished as communities must demonstrate a commitment to increase affordable housing inventory and expedite the development review process for eligible projects in order to benefit from lending and investment activity of the Fund.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	<p>Through the Office of Economic Development, the State will select an Administrator of the two funds created under the proposal. The Administrator may be a political subdivision created by the Office, though the Office may select a qualified third party at its discretion.</p> <p>The Fund is allowed to make equity investments into multifamily rental properties that provide permanent affordability to households at or below 90% of area median income. Residents who reside at such property for a minimum of 12 months would become eligible to benefit (pro rata) from any appreciation in the value of the property in the form of down payment assistance to purchase a home.</p> <p>Local governments wishing to receive benefits of the Fund, directly or through third-party activities supported by the Fund, must file a 3-year commitment to increasing the overall inventory of affordable housing options within its jurisdiction by 3% annually <i>and</i> develop a process for fast-tracking affordable housing development proposals. Communities that fail to achieve these objectives are deemed ineligible for further investment through the following calendar year.</p>
<b>Where We Stand</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All citizens should have access to safe, adequate housing opportunities that are affordable according to their income level, physical needs and lifestyle.</li> <li>• The community is best served when a diverse housing stock exists and the Chamber supports a market-driven approach to fulfilling the needs of the community, free of mandated or overly prescriptive regulation.</li> <li>• The lack of attainable housing stock in the region is limiting the ability for income earners to live in the City. This has numerous consequences including: traffic congestion, lack of qualified (and willing) employees to fill service-level jobs and air quality concerns.</li> <li>• Local land use regulations and processes should be streamlined where possible to reduce housing cost and remove barriers to creative affordable housing strategies.</li> <li>• There should be a limitation of local ordinances that mandate an inclusionary zoning requirement as a contingency for project approval as such mandates ultimately shift the subsidy to all others. The Chamber supports an incentive-based approach to affordable housing that would include higher capacity, easing of certain design standards, expedited review and subsidized sale pricing of land</li> </ul>

	<p>bank properties for development of “For-Sale” residential development, without any option for payment in lieu.</p> <p>The Chamber supports the concept of ‘housing first’, whereby scarce resources are focused upon the rapid re-housing of transitional and episodic individuals and families supplemented by supportive services that effectively address the triggering conditions. This approach not only seeks to benefit the person and/or family, but also minimize the significant functional and financial impacts to schools, police, fire, correctional system and healthcare providers that too often serve as default service providers. The Chamber further supports initiatives to prepare and train homeless individuals to re-enter the work force.</p>
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November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #124</b> <b>(Retail Liquor Store Licenses Initiative)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning increasing the number of retail liquor store licenses in which a person may hold an interest, and, in connection therewith, phasing in the increase by allowing up to 8 licenses by December 31, 2026, up to 13 licenses by December 31, 2031, up to 20 licenses by December 31, 2036, and an unlimited number of licenses on or after January 1, 2037?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Robert Schraeder and Joel Allen Cathey filed the initiative on April 8, 2022. It was approved for signature gathering on June 7, 2022, with signatures due by August 8, 2022.</li> <li>• Proponents submitted signatures for the measure on August 4, 2022.</li> <li>• On August 26, 2022, the Colorado Secretary of State announced that the initiative qualified for the ballot. Proponents submitted 225,440 signatures and 149,799 were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	Opposed
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>Currently, retailers can open a maximum of three liquor stores in Colorado.</p> <p>Proposition 124 would incrementally increase the number of retail liquor store licenses an individual may own or hold a share in, as follows:<sup>[1]</sup></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• up to eight licenses by December 31, 2026;</li> <li>• up to 13 licenses by December 31, 2031;</li> <li>• up to 20 licenses by December 31, 2036; and</li> <li>• an unlimited number of licenses on or after January 1, 2037.</li> </ul> <p>The Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division of the Department of Revenue oversees Colorado liquor licensing and compliance with state liquor laws. The state licensing authority is responsible for processing liquor licenses and determining rules for regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcohol.</p> <p>As of 2022, Colorado had three alcohol licenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RLS:</b> retail liquor store (RLS) licenses as licensed under the Colorado Liquor Code for retailers to sell malt liquor (beer), wine, and spirits;</li> <li>• <b>FMB:</b> fermented malt beverage (FMB) off-premises retailers licenses as</li> </ul>

	<p>licensed under the Colorado Beer Code for retailers (including grocery stores and convenience stores) to sell fermented malt beverages (beer); and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LLD:</b> liquor-licensed drugstore (LLD) licenses as licensed under the Colorado Liquor Code for pharmacies to sell beer, wine, and spirits.</li> </ul> <p>Retailers are allowed to deliver alcohol using a store-owned vehicle by an employee who is at least 21 years old.</p> <p>RLSs and LLDs are allowed to offer tastings on the premises if approved by the local government and the local licensing authority.</p> <p>As of 2022, distancing requirements do not allow new RLS locations to be within 1,500 feet of another RLS or LLD, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS or LLD if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer. New LLD locations may not be within 1,500 feet of another RLS, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expanding the footprint of large retailers within the retail marketplace will help lower costs and increase convenience for consumers.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Colorado enjoys a reputation for supporting small business owners that are more responsive to the local market and highly supportive of local breweries, distilleries and wineries that generate and spend sales proceeds locally.</li> <li>• Over 60% of Colorado liquor stores are owned by minorities and women. Permitting the expansion of corporate licenses will jeopardize opportunities for under-represented entrepreneurs while depriving local communities of the variety and unique character of these businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	Three related propositions will appear on the November ballot.
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #125 (Colorado Beer Code)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning the expansion of retail sale of alcohol beverages, and, in connection therewith, establishing a new fermented malt beverage and wine retailer license for off-site consumption to allow grocery stores, convenience stores, and other business establishments licensed to sell fermented malt beverages, such as beer, for off-site consumption to also sell wine; automatically converting such a fermented malt beverage retailer license to the new license; and allowing fermented malt beverage and wine retailer licensees to conduct tastings if approved by the local licensing authority?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steven Ward and Levi Mendyk filed the initiative on April 8, 2022. It was approved for signature gathering on May 20, 2022, with signatures due by August 8, 2022.</li> <li>• Proponents submitted signatures for the measure on August 8, 2022.</li> <li>• On August 26, 2022, the Colorado Secretary of State announced that the initiative qualified for the ballot. Proponents submitted 192,017 signatures and 142,697 were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	Opposed
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>The initiative would create a new <i>fermented malt beverage and wine</i> retailer license to allow grocery stores, convenience stores, and other businesses that are licensed to sell beer to also sell wine and conduct wine tastings.</p> <p>The Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division of the Department of Revenue oversees Colorado liquor licensing and compliance with state liquor laws. The state licensing authority is responsible for processing liquor licenses and determining rules for regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcohol.</p> <p>As of 2022, Colorado had three alcohol licenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RLS:</b> retail liquor store (RLS) licenses as licensed under the Colorado Liquor Code for retailers to sell malt liquor (beer), wine, and spirits;</li> <li>• <b>FMB:</b> fermented malt beverage (FMB) off-premises retailers licenses as licensed under the Colorado Beer Code for retailers (including grocery stores and convenience stores) to sell fermented malt beverages (beer); and</li> <li>• <b>LLD:</b> liquor-licensed drugstore (LLD) licenses as licensed under the Colorado</li> </ul>

	<p>Liquor Code for pharmacies to sell beer, wine, and spirits.</p> <p>Retailers are allowed to deliver alcohol using a store-owned vehicle by an employee who is at least 21 years old.</p> <p>RLSs and LLDs are allowed to offer tastings on the premises if approved by the local government and the local licensing authority.</p> <p>As of 2022, distancing requirements do not allow new RLS locations to be within 1,500 feet of another RLS or LLD, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS or LLD if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer. New LLD locations may not be within 1,500 feet of another RLS, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expanding the categories of alcohol beverages that can be sold by retailers currently limited to the sale of beer will help lower costs and increase convenience for consumers.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This initiative will immediately allow current holders of a beer retail license to sell wine and vinous liquor without prior input or restrictions by the local jurisdiction and surrounding neighbors.</li> <li>The initiative all but assures the 700 liquor stores across the state that are directly adjacent to grocery and convenience stores will be put out of business.</li> <li>Colorado enjoys a reputation for supporting small business owners that are more responsive to the local market and highly supportive of local breweries, distilleries and wineries that generate and spend sales proceeds locally.</li> <li>Over 60% of Colorado liquor stores are owned by minorities and women. Permitting the expansion of corporate licenses will jeopardize opportunities for under-represented entrepreneurs while depriving local communities of the variety and unique character of these businesses.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	Three related propositions sponsored by large retailers will appear on the November ballot.
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A



November 8, 2022 General Election	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Proposition #126 (Alcohol Delivery Service Initiative)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p><i>"Shall there be a change to the Colorado Revised Statutes concerning authorization for the third-party delivery of alcohol beverages, and, in connection therewith, allowing retail establishments licensed to sell alcohol beverages for on-site or off-site consumption to deliver all types of alcohol beverages to a person twenty-one years of age or older through a third-party delivery service that obtains a delivery service permit; prohibiting the delivery of alcohol beverages to a person who is under 21 years of age, is intoxicated, or fails to provide proof of identification; removing the limit on the percentage of gross sales revenues a licensee may receive from alcohol beverage deliveries; and allowing a technology services company, without obtaining a third-party delivery service permit, to provide software or a digital network application that connects consumers and licensed retailers for the delivery of alcohol beverages?"</i></p> <p>Full text of the Proposition can be found <a href="#">here</a>.</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Steven Ward and Levi Mendyk filed the initiative on April 8, 2022. It was approved for signature gathering on May 20, 2022, with signatures due by August 8, 2022.<sup>[1]</sup></li> <li>• Proponents submitted signatures for the measure on August 8, 2022.<sup>[1]</sup></li> <li>• On August 26, 2022, the Colorado Secretary of State announced that the initiative qualified for the ballot. Proponents submitted 185,790 signatures and 139,312 were projected to be valid.</li> </ul>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	Opposed
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>Proposition 126 would allow alcohol retailers and liquor-licensed businesses such as grocery stores, convenience stores, liquor stores, bars, and restaurants to offer third-party delivery services for alcohol deliveries beginning March 1, 2023. Proposition 126 would permanently allow bars and restaurants to offer alcohol takeout and delivery.</p> <p>Currently, retailers are allowed to deliver alcohol using a store-owned vehicle by an employee who is at least 21 years old. Alcohol delivery has been allowed by liquor stores since 1994, by wineries since 1997, and by grocery and convenience stores since 2019. In 2020, Colorado allowed takeout and delivery of alcohol by bars and restaurants through July 1, 2025.</p> <p>The Colorado Liquor Enforcement Division of the Department of Revenue oversees Colorado liquor licensing and compliance with state liquor laws. The state licensing</p>

	<p>authority is responsible for processing liquor licenses and determining rules for regulating the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcohol.</p> <p>As of 2022, Colorado had three alcohol licenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>RLS:</b> retail liquor store (RLS) licenses as licensed under the Colorado Liquor Code for retailers to sell malt liquor (beer), wine, and spirits;</li> <li>• <b>FMB:</b> fermented malt beverage (FMB) off-premises retailers licenses as licensed under the Colorado Beer Code for retailers (including grocery stores and convenience stores) to sell fermented malt beverages (beer); and</li> <li>• <b>LLD:</b> liquor-licensed drugstore (LLD) licenses as licensed under the Colorado Liquor Code for pharmacies to sell beer, wine, and spirits.</li> </ul> <p>Retailers are allowed to deliver alcohol using a store-owned vehicle by an employee who is at least 21 years old.</p> <p>RLSs and LLDs are allowed to offer tastings on the premises if approved by the local government and the local licensing authority.</p> <p>As of 2022, distancing requirements do not allow new RLS locations to be within 1,500 feet of another RLS or LLD, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS or LLD if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer. New LLD locations may not be within 1,500 feet of another RLS, or within 3,000 feet of another RLS if in a city with a population of 10,000 or fewer.</p>
<b>Arguments in support of the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Allowing third parties that specialize in off-site delivery of consumer products is more cost-efficient for retailers, delivery services, and consumers, while making it possible for small retailers that lack resources for establishing their own proprietary delivery service to offer this option.</li> <li>• Enhanced convenience of delivery options will result in increased sales, which in turn increases local sales tax collections.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments against the proposal</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, delivery of alcohol beverages is tied directly to a retail liquor license, which is then held liable for deliveries to a minor or intoxicated person. The Proposition removes liability for both the retailer and delivery service.</li> <li>• Independent, locally-owned retailers have invested in the time and training necessary to perform delivery function safely and effective for the community they serve.</li> </ul>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	Three related propositions sponsored by large retailers will appear on the November ballot.
<b>Where We Stand (NCLA)</b>	N/A





<b>November 8, 2022 Coordinated Election</b>	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Ballot Question #2A</b> <b>City-Initiated Charter Amendment No. 1</b> <b>(Council Compensation)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p>Shall Section 3 of Article II of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding compensation for the Mayor and City Councilmembers, be amended to provide:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the Mayor will receive seventy-five percent (75%),</li> <li>• the Mayor Pro Tem will receive sixty percent (60%), and</li> <li>• all other Councilmembers will receive fifty percent (50%),</li> </ul> <p>of the Area Median Income for the Fort Collins/Loveland area for a single-person household, adjusted annually;</p> <p>And to further provide that all Councilmembers will be entitled to opt into the City organization's healthcare-related benefits, on the same terms those benefits are available to City employees?</p> <p>_____ Yes/For          _____ No/Against</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>May 24, 2022: Presentation at Council Work Session</p> <p>June 21, 2022: Council considers Ordinance NO. 082, 2022 on first reading</p> <p>July 5, 2022: Council adopts Ordinance NO. 082, 2022 on second reading and places item on the ballot</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Currently, members of Council receive \$853 per month (\$10,236/yr) and the Mayor receives \$1,280/month (\$15,360/yr). This compensation level was placed into the City Charter in 1998 and raises over time and is attached to the Consumer Price Index.</li> <li>• Council members estimate 20 hours per week or more devoted to official duties.</li> <li>• The referred ballot language would increase annual Council compensation to 50% of the Area Median Income for a single-person household, 60% for Mayor Pro Tem and 75% for the Mayor. This equates to \$37,600, \$45,120 and \$56,400, respectively. The resulting impact to the City Budget would be \$289,520/year.</li> <li>• The stated purpose of this ballot item is to more fairly compensate elected officials for their time while potentially increasing the pool of prospective candidates for public office.</li> <li>• Council members would not be recognized as employees, but this change would</li> </ul>

	make Council members eligible for City Health-Related Benefits. In 2022, benefits would cost \$13,600 per Council Member resulting in a City Budget impact of \$95,200. Council members then would be eligible to pay a premium for the benefits ranging from \$1,351-\$7,722.
<b>Arguments in <i>support</i> of the Amendment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Council members report an average of 20 hours per week is dedicated to official duties and preparation. The proposal represents a justifiable compensation level for elected leaders.</li> <li>• Current compensation levels discourage working adults from considering a role in public office, resulting candidate pools that skew toward retired individuals, those with a working partner, and employees of institutions willing/able to provide tremendous flexibility.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments in <i>opposition</i> to the Amendment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed compensation levels far exceed what is offered in other NoCo and peer cities from across the country.</li> <li>• The proposal is the first step toward professionalizing City Council, which leads to expanded bureaucracy and entrenched partisanship without any assurance future candidates will be better qualified or even competent in their role.</li> </ul>



<b>November 8, 2022 Coordinated Election</b>	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Ballot Item #2B</b> <b>City-Initiated Charter Amendment No. 2</b> <b>(November Elections)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p>Shall Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding the conduct of City elections, be amended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• make the regular city election date the first Tuesday in November of every odd-numbered year, instead of the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April of every odd-numbered year;</li> <li>• transition to the new election schedule by extending the current term of the Mayor and of each Councilmember from April to November of the appropriate odd-numbered year, without altering the number of terms each may serve;</li> <li>• allow for coordinated elections to be conducted by the County Clerk and Recorder and clarify the applicable law for coordinated elections;</li> <li>• allow Council to adjust the time frame for candidate nominations and withdrawals up to 180 days prior to an election; and</li> <li>• make minor conforming edits; and</li> </ul> <p>shall Article II of the Charter, regarding membership, terms and organization of the City Council, be amended to provide that City officers elected in a November election shall be sworn in and take office, and a Mayor Pro Tem shall be elected, at a special Council meeting on the second Tuesday of January after such election?</p> <p>_____ Yes/For</p> <p>_____ No/Against</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>September 2021-May 2022: Conversations with Election Code Committee</p> <p>March 22, 2022: Presentation at Council Work Session</p> <p>June 21, 2022: Council considers Ordinance NO. 081, 2022 on first reading</p> <p>July 5, 2022: Council adopts Ordinance NO. 081, 2022 on second reading and places item on the ballot</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	No Position
<b>Some Basics</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This change to the City Charter would allow all municipal elections to be held on the first Tuesday following the first Monday of November in odd-numbered years.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• This would replace the current schedule in which candidate elections are held in April of odd-numbered years.</li><li>• This item is proposed to raise voter participation and lower voter fatigue.</li><li>• By moving to a November election, the City can coordinate elections with the County General Election. Costs for the election would not change dramatically.</li><li>• In 2021 the City of Fort Collins saw a 37% voter turnout. In comparison, Larimer County saw a 43% voter turnout in their last odd-number coordinated election.</li></ul>
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<b>November 8, 2022 Coordinated Election</b>	
<b>Ballot Issue:</b>	<b>Ballot Item #2C</b> <b>City-Initiated Charter Amendment No. 3</b> <b>(Ranked Voting)</b>
<b>Ballot Question</b>	<p>Shall Article VIII of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding the conduct of City elections, be amended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• require that for all regular city elections after January 1, 2025, the offices of Mayor and of each District Councilmember shall be elected using a “ranked voting method,” pursuant to the applicable Colorado statutes or, for City-conducted elections, procedures and deadlines adopted by the City Council by ordinance;</li> <li>• clarify the applicable law for coordinated elections; and</li> <li>• make minor conforming edits; and</li> <li>• shall Article IX of the Charter, regarding recall, be amended to incorporate the ranked voting method set out in Article VIII?</li> </ul> <p>____ Yes/Support</p> <p>____ No/Oppose</p>
<b>Timeline</b>	<p>September 2021-May 2022: Conversations with Election Code Committee</p> <p>March 22, 2022: Presentation at Council Work Session</p> <p>June 21, 2022: Council considers Ordinance NO. 080, 2022 on first reading</p> <p>July 5, 2022: Council adopts Ordinance NO. 080, 2022 on second reading and places item on the ballot</p>
<b>Chamber Position</b>	<p>Opposed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The system has not proven to increase voter participation, which is one of the primary objectives of the proposal.</li> <li>• Compared to our current plurality system (“first passed the wire”) RCV introduces a great deal more complexity, cost and political gamesmanship without providing clear benefits to the community.</li> <li>• Although not always successful in promoting business-friendly candidates, the Chamber believes our current system is simple, transparent and clear. It works.</li> </ul>
<b>Some Basics</b>	<p>The electoral system currently employed for local, state and federal elections is known as a plurality system, or “first past the wire”, wherein a candidate that garners the most votes is declared the winner.</p> <p>A ranked-choice voting system (RCV) is an electoral system in which voters rank candidates by preference on their ballots. If a candidate wins a majority (50% +1) of</p>

	<p>first-preference votes, he or she is declared the winner. If no candidate wins a majority of first-preference votes, the candidate with the fewest first-preference votes is eliminated. First-preference votes cast for the failed candidate are eliminated, lifting the second-preference choices indicated on those ballots. A new tally is conducted to determine whether any candidate has won a majority of the adjusted votes. The process is repeated until a candidate wins an outright majority. This is also known as “instant run-off”, as it eliminates the need for subsequent elections in those jurisdictions that require a run-off among the top vote getters if no candidate receives a majority of votes.</p> <p>As of June 2022, two states (Alaska and Maine) had implemented ranked-choice voting federal and/or state-level elections. One state (Hawaii) had adopted but not yet implemented RCV in federal special elections and special elections to fill vacancies on county councils. Another eight states contained jurisdictions that had implemented RCV at the local level, including Colorado. Another four states contained jurisdictions that had adopted but not yet implemented RCV in local elections.</p>
<b>Other Considerations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is not yet clear what costs are associated with the implementation of Ranked Voting, nor is it clear whether Larimer County is able to fully manage the election and recount process utilizing this voting method.</li> <li>• Should a change to November Elections (Item #2B) be unsuccessful, it is unlikely in the near term that Larimer County would agree to manage elections on behalf of the City. The City does not currently have a department or staff dedicated to managing the election process.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments in support of the Amendment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCV assures that candidates that are <i>opposed</i> by a majority of voters cannot be elected, but rather the candidate that is <i>supported</i> by the majority will win.</li> <li>• RCV promotes more moderate candidates that can appeal to the majority of voters, if not outright, than as a secondary preference in the event of subsequent ballot tallies.</li> <li>• RCV promotes a more diverse candidate field and drive greater participation from under-represented populations as candidates are incited to appeal to voters beyond a political base of support and focus on issues rather than personalities.</li> </ul>
<b>Arguments in opposition to the Amendment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RCV introduces significant cost and complexity without demonstrating ability to produce a different outcome from a plurality system in the vast majority of elections in which it has been implemented.</li> <li>• To achieve its lofty promise, RCV requires voters to understand the positions of <i>all</i> candidates with ability to distinguish and assign relative support of each candidate in relation to all others. This effectively discourages participation among less sophisticated, new, and over-stretched voters.</li> <li>• The claim that RCV delivers a winner that garners the majority of votes is inaccurate. The winner is determined from the majority of ballots that remain in subsequent rounds, which falls well short of a majority of ballots cast.</li> <li>• RCV encourages political gamesmanship, whereby a slate of like-minded candidates run for office under the assumption one will emerge victorious over a candidate opposed by that slate.</li> </ul>