

2018 Local Ballot Measures

October 8, 2018 – City Council Study Session

Background

- The City Council Legislative Subcommittee met on September 10, 2018 to review Statewide ballot measures
- City Council directed staff to bring back local measures during a future study session for full city council review and discussion



Introduction

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There are 6 local ballot questions:

- 1. ANYTHINK (AKA RANGEVIEW LIBRARY DISTRICT) BALLOT ISSUE 6A
- 2. SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 6B Mill Levy Increase
- 3. GREATER BRIGHTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7F Mill Levy Increase
- 4. ABERDEEN METROPOLITAN DISTRICT NO. 2 BALLOT ISSUE 6C
- URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7G
- 6. CENTRAL COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT SUBDISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7E GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT SUBDISTRICT DEBT

Purpose

- Provide City Council an opportunity to discuss each ballot question and decide if the City Council wants to take a position in the form of a resolution of support or oppose
- If City Council decides to take a position on any of the ballot questions, the resolution(s) will be placed on the October 15, 2018 regular City Council meeting for adoption



ANYTHINK (AKA RANGEVIEW LIBRARY DISTRICT) BALLOT ISSUE 6A

The Anythink Board of Trustees has referred a ballot measure for additional funding that would expand opportunities for children and families in Adams County. This would take the form of additional programming for kids and teens, expanded access to technology and computer help for those who need it, expanded service hours, and new facilities to help keep up with the tremendous growth happening in Adams County.

Why is the library proposing this increase?

The library is currently experiencing capacity issues, with waitlists for programs, services and materials. Additionally, many branches have limited hours that can't meet the busy schedules of those in the community. The library system needs additional funding to sustain its current level of service and expand its capacity to keep pace with rapid population growth, and to serve residents across Adams County, including newly developed areas.

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The attached Factual Sheet provides a full summary.

SOUTH ADAMS COUNTY FIRE PROTECYION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 6B Mill Levy Increase

Increase mill levy to fund the hiring of firefighter/EMTs and capital needs allowing the District to staff another two stations 24 hours a day.

Authorize the District to stabilize revenue with an increased mill levy to keep property tax revenues it will lose if the Gallagher Amendment forces further reductions in the residential assessment rate. In the future, if the Gallagher Amendment requires the residential assessment rate to be increased, the District would be required to reduce its mill levy.

- For each \$100,000 in actual value the monthly tax impact of 4.85 mills is \$2.91 for residential property.
- For each \$100,000 in actual value the monthly tax impact of 4.85 mills is \$11.72 for commercial property.

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The attached Factual Sheet provides a full summary.

GREATER BRIGHTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7F Mill Levy Increase

The Fire District's population has increased 220% since 2000. Its call volume has increased 20% in the last 3 years. The Board has established a very specific plan for the next five years to address the significant increase in service demands and loss of tax revenue due to the effect of the Gallagher Amendment.

This plan includes the hiring of 15 firefighters, improvement of firefighter safety, replacement of vital equipment, and the construction of an additional fire station.

Based upon the Fire District's current assessed valuation, a property tax increase of 3.72 mills would result in the following projected increases in property taxes to homeowners:

- \$200,000 Residence = \$4.46 per month
- \$300,000 Residence = \$6.70 per month
- \$400,000 Residence = \$8.93 per month

The chart on the attached Factual Sheet summarizes the plan.



ABERDEEN METROPOLITAN DISTRICT NO. 2 BALLOT ISSUE 6C

SHALL ABERDEEN METROPOLITAN DISTRICT NO 2 TAXES BE INCREASED \$4,500,000 ANNUALLY OR BY SUCH LESSOR AMOUNT AS MAY BE DEEMED NECESSARY BY THE DISTRICT'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO FINANCIALLY ENABLE THE DISTRICT TO PAY FOR ITS OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATIONAL-RELATED EXPENSE OBLIGATIONS;

URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7G

URBAN DRAINAGE AND FLOOD CONTROL DISTRICT (UDFCD)

UDFCD's taxing mill levy, as set by the Colorado Legislature, is 1.0 mill. The authors of the bill intended for that taxing authority to eventually increase to 2.5 mills (32-11-217 CRS), but that didn't happen before the 1992 Colorado Tax Payer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) constitutional amendment took effect.

TABOR requires voter approval for any tax increase. This constitutional amendment creates a ratchet-down effect that has reduced UDFCD's current mill levy over time from 1.0 mill to 0.56 mills, a 44% reduction resulting in a current annual funding decrease of \$23 million when compared to the statutory 1.0 mill.

UDFCD's Board of Directors has looked at a number of ways to fill the funding gap. After careful consideration, the Board has elected to ask the voters to restore the mill levy, which will allow UDFCD to retain the funding from the original 1.0 mill as was the legislative intent.

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• For a \$400,000 home, the increase would be less than \$13 per year.

The attached Factual Sheet provides a full summary.

CENTRAL COLORADO WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT SUBDISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7E - GROUND WATER MANAGEMENT SUBDISTRICT DEBT

The Board of Directors of the Central Colorado Water Conservancy District placed a bond question for the Groundwater Management Subdistrict on to the 2018 ballot. Central's board and management stated this measure is important to start planning the next steps to secure water rights and build storage for the region.

- Increase water supplies necessary to support and maintain a viable farming and business community through development of water projects to capture water during times of high supply for use during times of need
- Lessen drought impact through the acquisition of senior water rights
- Replace leased municipal water resources that are being consumed by growth in area municipalities

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 Construct and improve water storage reservoirs and other facilities to more efficiently use water available to the subdistrict

Additional Information at: https://ccwcd.org/2018-bond-proposal/

Discussion

- City Council feedback:
 - Does the City Council wish to take a position on any of the local ballot questions?

