

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS
November 8, 2016 General Election
Grand County, Colorado

THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE WAS PREPARED BY PERSONS REQUIRED BY LAW TO PROVIDE SUMMARIES OF BALLOT ISSUES AND FISCAL INFORMATION. THIS NOTICE IS MAILED TO EACH ADDRESS WITH ONE OR MORE ACTIVE, REGISTERED ELECTORS. YOU MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ALL ISSUES PRESENTED IN THIS NOTICE.

Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC):

Grand County Administration Building
308 Byers Avenue
Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado

October 19, 2016 through November 7, 2016
8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday
Saturday October 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Saturday November 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The Voter Service and Polling Center will be open to allow voters to:

Drop off a ballot *Cast a ballot in person* *Request a replacement ballot* *Vote using ADA equipment* *Register to vote* *Update voter record*

Please note that identification is required to vote in person.

ADA accessible voting machines are available at the VSPC.

24-Hour Ballot Drop-off location open from October 7, 2016 through November 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.:

Grand County Administration Building
308 Byers Avenue
Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado

24-Hour Ballot Drop-off locations open from October 19, 2016 through November 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.:

CSU Extension Hall
Grand County Fairgrounds
Kremmling, Colorado

Granby Town Hall
Zero Jasper Avenue
Granby, Colorado

Grand Lake Town Hall
1026 Park Avenue
Grand Lake, Colorado

Grand Park Community Recreation Center
1 Main Street
Fraser, Colorado

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS CONCERNING VOTING PROCEDURES, VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER OR DROP OFF LOCATIONS, OR YOUR ELIGIBILITY TO VOTE, REFER INITIALLY TO THE INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS NOTICE. FURTHER DETAILS MAY BE OBTAINED BY CONTACTING YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICE LISTED BELOW.

ELECTION DATE: NOVEMBER 8, 2016
HOURS OF OPERATION: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
ELECTION OFFICE: Grand County Clerk and Recorder, Sara L. Rosene
308 Byers Avenue, P O Box 120
Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451
Phone: (970) 725-3065; Fax: (970) 725-0100; e-mail: grandelections@co.grand.co.us

OFFICE HOURS: 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. MONDAY - FRIDAY (except legal holidays) Note: **Office is open October 10, 2016**

EARLY VOTING: Grand County Administration Building, 308 Byers Avenue, Hot Sulphur Springs, Colorado
October 19 through November 8 – Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Saturday, October 29 and Saturday, November 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
Tuesday, November 8, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

VOTING: Ballots will be mailed to all active registered voters on October 17, 2016. For other voters, applications may be made to Grand County Clerk, 308 Byers Avenue, P O Box 120, Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451, or faxed to 970-725-0100, or e-mailed to grandelections@co.grand.co.us. Ballots and replacement ballots will be mailed from October 17, 2016 through October 31, 2016. Ballots may be picked up through November 8 2016, at 7:00 p.m. Voted ballots must be returned to the Voter Service and Polling Center or a drop-off location by 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, in order to be counted. In-person voting is available at the Voter Service and Polling Center beginning October 19, 2016 through November 7, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday; Saturday, October 29 and Saturday, November 5, 2016, 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Tuesday, November 8, 2016, 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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.

Referred Issue 1A

SHALL GRAND COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED SEVEN-HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS RAISED ANNUALLY, BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2017, AND AUTOMATICALLY EXPIRING AFTER TEN YEARS, FROM A THREE TENTHS OF ONE PERCENT (0.3%) SALES TAX LEVY, WHICH WILL NOT BE COLLECTED ON SALES OF PRESCRIPTION DRUGS, TO BE USED SOLELY FOR:

- * KEEPING WATER IN THE COLORADO RIVER AND OTHER RIVERS, LIKE THE FRASER RIVER, AVAILABLE FOR AGRICULTURE, RANCHING, AND OUTDOOR RECREATION;
- * CONSERVING AGRICULTURAL LANDS, NATURAL AREAS, SCENIC OPEN LANDS, WILD-LIFE HABITAT, WETLANDS, AND RIVER ACCESS THROUGH ACQUISITION; AND
- * MAINTAINING HIKING AND BIKING TRAILS

WITH ALL EXPENDITURES SUBJECT TO THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF A CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AN ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT, AND A CAP ON ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES OF FIVE PERCENT; AND SHALL THE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND THE PROCEEDS OF THE REVENUE FROM SUCH TAXES AND ANY EARNINGS THEREON WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Total Fiscal Year Spending:

Fiscal Year	
2016 (estimated)	\$ 23,266,000
2015 (actual)	\$ 24,762,990
2014 (actual)	\$ 21,961,304
2013 (actual)	\$ 21,515,475
2012 (actual)	\$ 20,386,289

Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016: 14%
Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016: \$2,879,711

Proposed Tax Increase:

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

Ballot Issue No. 1A: \$750,000

Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending without Proposed Tax Increases: \$ 23,846,000

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

Yes to Open Lands, Rivers and Trails! Yes to Issue 1A!
Grand County, home to the headwaters of the Colorado River and its tributaries, is a place defined by its beautiful views, agricultural heritage, and outdoor recreation. As our population continues to grow – predicted to double, in fact, by 2050 – we must act now to ensure that our water, our land, our quality of life is protected. For many years, dedicated landowners, non-profits, and advocates for recreation have worked hard to protect our rivers, conserve agricultural lands, and maintain trails throughout the county's lands. And they have done so without any source of dedicated funding, putting pressure on our general fund and often times leaving money and partnerships on the table.

By voting Yes to Open Lands, Rivers and Trails, Issue 1A, you will:

- Conserve lands that enhance water resources in the upper Colorado River watershed
- Protect and preserve agricultural land, keeping farmers and ranchers on the land
- Preserve our wetlands
- Protect views, vistas, and ridgelines
- Provide necessary maintenance for multi-use trails
- Protect our quality of life
- Generate revenue to obtain matching grant funds from organizations like Great Outdoors Colorado

Agriculture, recreation, and natural beauty are at the heart of the character of Grand County, accounting for our high quality of life and attracting tourists. Spending on taxable goods by visitors and commercial interests generate a full 58% of the estimated sales tax revenue collections. This measure fairly and responsibly spreads the responsibilities of paying for the county's open lands, rivers and trails to visitors and residents alike, and has solid accountability measures:

- Funds must be spent solely on enhancing water resources in the upper Colorado watershed; conserving agricultural lands, natural areas, scenic open lands, wildlife habitat and wetlands; and maintaining multi-use trails
- An independent citizen Open Lands Advisory Committee, with representatives from each part of the county, is charged with making recommendations to the Grand County Board of Commissioners
- No more than 5% of the funds can be used for administration of the program
- Revenues and expenditures are subject to an annual, independent audit available for public review
- This temporary tax will expire in 10 years

A YES vote to Open Lands, Rivers and Trails, Issue 1A, is an investment in Grand County's future. By voting YES, you can join your neighbors in creating a fiscally responsible program that allows Grand County to access its fair share of state monies for open lands. This measure allows for visitors and residents both to pay for the land and water conservation, and recreation that benefits us all. Revenue generated will grow with the needs of our county, taking a burden off our general fund, and will open opportunities for new partnerships and leverage new pots of money that will benefit Grand County. This is a highly accountable, temporary measure, with strong oversight. Let's act now to ensure our county remains beautiful, full of character, and maintains its high quality of life, for our generation and the next.

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

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

County Ballot Measures

Referred Issue 1B

SHALL GRAND COUNTY TAXES FOR THE SUPPORT OF THE GRAND COUNTY LIBRARY DISTRICT BE INCREASED \$627,770 ANNUALLY IN 2017 (THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR), AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED IN EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER THROUGH AND INCLUDING TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2026 BY AN INCREASE IN THE MILL LEVY TO 3.36 MILLS (AN INCREASE OF 0.95 MILLS) IN ORDER TO: PAY OFF THE DISTRICT'S OUTSTANDING LEASE-PURCHASE FINANCING AND TO OPERATE, MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE LIBRARY FACILITIES AND LIBRARY SERVICES; AND SHALL THE COUNTY AND THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER REVENUE LIMITATION OR RESTRICTION SET FORTH IN THE LAWS OF THE STATE, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, C.R.S. SECTION 29-1-302?

Total Fiscal Year Spending:

Fiscal Year	County	District
2016 (estimated)	\$ 23,266,000	\$ 2,087,001
2015 (actual)	24,762,990	1,712,682
2014 (actual)	21,961,304	6,542,963*
2013 (actual)	21,515,475	2,202,754
2012 (actual)	20,386,289	2,654,963

Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016:

	County	District
	14%	-21.3925%

Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016:
\$2,879,711 \$ -567,962

*Increase due to refinancing the debt on two buildings

Proposed Tax Increase:

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

BALLOT ISSUE NO 1B: \$627,770

Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending without Proposed Tax Increases:

	County	District
	\$ 23,846,000	\$ 1,719,841

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

The Grand County Library District (GCLD) relies on property taxes for the majority of its revenues. Since 2011 property taxes have fallen annually. This has resulted in a total loss of \$793,633 for the years 2011-2015. Further losses to GCLD revenues are expected in 2017. The GCLD has been running a deficit budget since 2012 in order to maintain open hours at all five branches. In 2010 and 2014 GCLD restructured to reduce expenses but still sustain services. Deficit spending is not sustainable. Property values have not rebounded and the reserves will be exhausted in 2019. To remedy this situation and reduce the financial burden on the district, the GCLD is asking for an increase to their mill levy.

When the District was created 19 years ago, votes provided for a mill of 2.41. This mill has never been raised. The GCLD is asking for an increase of 0.95 mills, which will sunset in 10 years (2026). This increase will bring the total mill levy to 3.36. The additional cost to an individual taxpayer will equal \$8 per year on a \$100,000 residential property, or 0.66 per month. The funds raised by this increase will be used to pay the annual debt payments on the Granby and Grand Lake libraries with the goal of paying off the \$4.5 million dollar debt ten years early and saving taxpayers \$1.2 million dollars in interest payments over the life of the debt. When property values rise, money raised above and beyond the yearly debt payments can go towards operating costs for the branches. In the event the mill levy increase passes, it is the intention of the Board of Trustees to keep all five Grand County branches operating.

Libraries are much more than a place to check out a book. Visitors come to libraries to find out information on a community. Grand County children come to the library to access literacy programs. Non-traditional students and job seeking adults come to the library to access the internet. People who have not grown up with digital technology come to the library to learn how to use their smart devices. Free access to information supports equality.

Voting YES means:

- ◆ GCLD will pay off the \$4.5 million dollar debt on the district libraries in 2026, thereby saving \$1.2 million dollars in interest payments.
- ◆ The GCLD can move closer to a balanced budget over the next ten years.
- ◆ Grand County residents and visitors will continue to have access to library services such as printing, copying, wifi, and one-on-one reference services in all five branches.

Voting NO means:

- ◆ Public use equipment will no longer be maintained at its current level: Computers, printers, copiers, projectors etc. will not be replaced when broken or when they become obsolete.
- ◆ Programming for adults and children will be reduced.
- ◆ The library district will be restructured: Branches will be closed and open hours will be reduced.
- ◆ Staff will be reduced: Grand County residents will lose jobs.

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

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Town of Grand Lake
Referred Issue 2A

SHALL TOWN OF GRAND LAKE TAXES BE INCREASED \$387 THOUSAND IN 2017 AND THEN ANNUALLY BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL SALES AND USE TAX AT THE RATE OF 1.0 PERCENT; AND SHALL TOWN OF GRAND LAKE DEBT BE INCREASED \$4.3 MILLION, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$7.625 MILLION (MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST) SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING:

ALL OR ANY PORTION OF THE NET PROCEEDS OF THE TOWN SALES TAX, AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, MAY BE DEPOSITED TO THE TOWN'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND, WHICH IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO BE CREATED, TO BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT TO FINANCE IMPROVEMENTS TO STREETS, BOARDWALKS, SIDEWALKS, MULTI-USE PATHWAYS, STREETSCAPES, SIGNAGE, AND DRAINAGE OR TO PAY DEBT SERVICE ON DEBT ISSUED FOR SUCH PURPOSES OR TO PAY THE COSTS OF OPERATING OR MAINTAINING IMPROVEMENTS FINANCED FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND;

ANY SUCH DEBT SHALL BE PAYABLE FROM THAT PORTION OF THE TOWN SALES TAXES DEPOSITED TO THE TOWN'S CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND;

ANY SUCH DEBT MAY BE SOLD IN ONE SERIES OR MORE, ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MAY DETERMINE, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR THE REDEMPTION OF THE BONDS PRIOR TO MATURITY WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT OF A PREMIUM;

SUCH TAX INCREASE SHALL COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2017 AND BE COLLECTED IN ADDITION TO THE TOWN'S SALES AND USE TAX OF 4.0 PERCENT UPON THE SAME TRANSACTIONS AS THE TOWN'S EXISTING SALES AND USE TAX AND SHALL THE TAX TERMINATE AS SOON AS PRACTICABLE AFTER THE DEBT IS PAID IN FULL ; AND

SHALL ORDINANCE NO. 11 PROVIDING FOR SUCH TAX INCREASE BE APPROVED; AND SHALL THE REVENUES GENERATED BY SUCH TAX INCREASE AND THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH DEBT AND ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AND PROCEEDS MAY BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE TOWN AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Total Town Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2016 (estimated)	\$1,937,530
2015 (unaudited actual)	\$1,777,550
2014 (actual)	\$1,675,068
2013 (actual)	\$1,487,450
2012 (actual)	\$1,363,882
Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016	42%
Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016	\$573,648

Proposed Tax Increase

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

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2A: \$387,000

Town Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending

Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$2,111,908 *

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

Information on Town's Proposed Debt

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2A:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$4,300,000
Total Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$ 387,000
Total Town Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$7,625,000
Information on Town's Current Debt	
Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$0
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$0
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$0

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Grand County Clerk and Recorder

P.O Box 120

Hot Sulphur Springs, CO 80451



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YOU MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ALL ISSUES PRESENTED IN THIS NOTICE.