

OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO – 2019 COUNTYWIDE COORDINATED ELECTION

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT, ON A CITIZEN PETITION AND/OR ON REFERRED MEASURE

ANALYSIS OF THE 2019 BALLOT PROPOSALS

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS INFORMATION ON BALLOT ISSUES AS REQUIRED BY THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 FOR LOCAL ISSUES.

The title and text of each referenda/initiative is printed in full, and may be accompanied by two summaries of up to 500 words each, one for and one against the measure. For some measures, current and recent fiscal year spending figures are included. For others, tax increase estimates or bonded debt repayment costs within a particular district have been submitted.

(The information contained in this notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information. The political subdivision providing this information does not warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the summaries, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation of submitted statements.)

Coordinated Election Official: Michelle Nauer, Ouray County Clerk & Recorder, at 112 Village Square West, Suite 206, Ridgway, Colorado 81432, mailing address is P O Box C, Ouray, Colorado 81427. Hours of Operation: Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

VOTING INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning voting procedures, 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 or to verify your voter registration information go to: www.govotecolorado.com

Elections within Ouray County will be conducted by MAIL BALLOT;

The following locations will be able to assist you with your election needs:

Voter Service Polling Center: **112 Village Square West, Suite 206, Ridgway, CO 81432**

Monday through Friday, Oct 28, 2019 to Nov 1, 2019, 9:00am to 5:00pm
Saturday, November 2, 2019, 9:00am to 1:00pm
Closed on Sunday, November 3, 2019
Monday, November 4, 2019, 9:00am to 5:00pm
Tuesday, November 5 2019, 7:00am to 7:00pm (ELECTION DAY)

Drop-off Box (only) Locations: (Available 24/7):

Ouray County 4H Event Center, 22739 Hwy 550, Ridgway, CO 81432

(NE side of Event Center)

Ouray Community Center, 320 Sixth Ave, Ouray, CO 81427

(Near the Flag Pole)

YOUR BALLOT MUST BE RECEIVED BY YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICE BY 7 PM ON ELECTION DAY (NOV 5, 2019) IN ORDER FOR YOUR VOTE TO BE COUNTED.

ATTEST: THE AFFOREMENTIONED BALLOT ISSUE NOTICE IS COMPLETE AS SUBMITTED BY THE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS.



Michelle Nauer, Ouray County Clerk & Recorder

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

To "ALL REGISTERED VOTERS" OF THE COUNTY OF OURAY

Designated Election Official: Connie Hunt, 112 Village Square West, PO Box C, Ouray, Co. 81427 Phone: (970) 325-7263

Coordinated Election Official: Michelle Nauer, Ouray County Clerk, 112 Village Square West, Suite 206, Ridgway, Co. 81432

Mail: PO Box C, Ouray, Co. 81427 Phone: (970)325-4961

COUNTY OF OURAY (Ballot Referendum 1A)

SHALL OURAY COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$655,339.00 ANNUALLY BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND BY SUCH ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS RAISED THEREAFTER BY AN INCREASE OF 2.6 MILLS LEVIED UPON THE TAXABLE REAL AND PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN OURAY COUNTY; WHICH IS A TAX INCREASE OF \$467,187.00; AND BY A ONE TIME 1.0% USE TAX ON THE INITIAL PURCHASE PRICE OF ANY NEW AND USED MOTOR OR OTHER VEHICLES REGISTERED IN OURAY COUNTY, WHICH IS A TAX INCREASE OF \$188,152.00 AND SUCH USE TAX SHALL SUNSET ON DECEMBER 31, 2045; THE INCREASED REVENUES FROM WHICH SHALL BE PLACED IN THE ROAD & BRIDGE FUND TO BE USED SOLELY FOR THE OPERATION, MAINTENANCE, AND CAPITAL EXPENSES FOR ROADS AND BRIDGES WITHIN THE UNINCORPORATED COUNTY; AND FOR THE ACQUISITION OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT, VEHICLES, ROAD MATERIALS, TOOLS, SUPPLIES, CONTRACTUAL SERVICES, ADMINISTRATION, AND PERSONNEL NECESSARY FOR SUCH WORK; AND SHALL THE COUNTY BE ALLOWED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND THE FULL AMOUNT OF THESE REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND COLORADO REVISED STATUTES SECTION 29-1-301, AS AMENDED, OR ANY OTHER LAW? _____ YES _____ NO

Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending¹
2015 (actual)	\$ 8,877,185
2016 (actual)	\$ 9,305,154
2017 (actual)	\$ 9,385,329
2018 (actual)	\$ 9,961,892
2019 (current year estimated)	\$10,567,051
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2015 through 2019:	16%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2015 through 2019:	\$1,689,865
Estimated 2020 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Referendum <u>1A</u> :	\$10,567,051
Estimated 2020 tax increase authorized by Ballot Referendum <u>1A</u> :	\$655,339

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR ballot Referendum 1A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST ballot Referendum 1A:

The proposed tax is based on the costs of a comprehensive well defined set of projects but instead of full sunset provision the 71% majority (property tax mil levy) is continued forever after the projects' presumed completion. The defined projects' cost estimates include engineering, supervision, technical administration and maintenance of completed project segments, but do not include service charges levied by the county annually for the privilege of being supervised by county administration. The ballot language does not insulate these "dedicated" funds from additional general administration service charges on top of those already paid by Road and Bridge. The proposed measure does not ensure that existing Road and Bridge revenues are not diverted to other uses.

TABOR requires taxpayer refunds for revenue over the requested \$655,339. Hidden in the ballot is language removing any restriction on tax revenue actually collected. As the economy improves and the county collects more, Ouray County will retain the excess and spend it.

The ballot measure will tax based on the value of your home and vehicle. This bears no relationship to how much anyone actually uses county roads.

Compare Person A who lives alone with a single vehicle to Person B with a family and a less expensive home with 4 vehicles. Person B and family will use county roads more than Person A, yet Person A will pay a higher property tax increase than Person B.

Compare Person A and Person B who both own the same model truck with the same weight and similar road usage. Person A trades every 2 years while Person B keeps a vehicle for 10 years. Person A will pay 1% in the new "use tax" every 2 years while Person B will pay it once. If the truck is \$70,000, Person A will pay \$3500 compared to Person B who will pay \$700 over 10 years.

The BOCC has rejected a proposed sales tax to charge tourists for their road use and a new fee on every registered vehicle based on the weight/class. For example, a heavy truck would pay more than a motorcycle.

Issuing bonds would allow hiring professional contractors to improve roads now; "pay as you go" using county staff means today's elderly population pays now for benefits that may or may not be realized for 25 years.

Upon completion of the projects the county's administration and voters should have the opportunity to assess county needs and priorities at that time. Refusal to sunset the entire tax assumes today's county administration knows the county's future needs and priorities in 2045 better than the voters of 2045, and doesn't trust the voters to make informed judgments. The county's history justifies voter skepticism. Vote NO and let your Ouray County Commissioners know you want a usage based funding method for roads and a way to charge tourists for their road use. The roads do need improvement; this is not the way to do it.

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES

To “ALL REGISTERED VOTERS” OF THE CEDAR HILL CEMETERY DISTRICT

Designated Election Official: Margaret Henderson, P O Box 1123 Ouray, Co. 81427 Margaretcemetary@gmail.com
Coordinated Election Official: Michelle Nauer, Ouray County Clerk, 112 Village Square West, Suite 206, Ridgway, Co. 81432,
Mail: P O Box C, Ouray, Co. 81427 Phone: (970)325-4961

CEDAR HILL CEMETERY DISTRICT (BALLOT ISSUE 6A)

WITH NO INCREASE IN THE PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY, SHALL CEDAR HILL CEMETERY DISTRICT, OURAY COUNTY, COLORADO STARTING JANUARY 1, 2020 AND EACH FISCAL YEAR THEREAFTER, BE AUTHORIZED, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND ALL REVENUES AND OTHER FUNDS COLLECTED FROM CEDAR HILL CEMETERY PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY WITHOUT FURTHER VOTER APPROVAL, NOTWITHSTANDING THE REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE LIMITATIONS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF COLORADO, INCLUDING THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 ET SEQ., PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT NO PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY SHALL BE INCREASED AT ANY TIME, NOR SHALL ANY NEW TAX BE IMPOSED, WITHOUT THE CONSENT OF THE VOTERS OF CEDAR HILL CEMETERY DISTRICT APPROVING ANY SUCH INCREASE OR NEW TAX? _____ YES _____ NO

Required financial information for Cedar Hill Cemetery District Issue 6A:

Proposed Tax Increase:

Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2020 (the First Full Year of the Proposed Tax Increase) with Ballot Issue No. 6A: \$ 1,318

Estimated 2020 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Increase: \$41,565

Total Entity Fiscal Year Spending:

2019 (estimated)	\$42,989
Actual Spending 2018	\$65,503
Actual Spending 2017	\$35,206
Actual Spending 2016	\$41,078
Actual Spending 2015	\$36,085

Overall percentage change from 2015 to 2019: 16%

Overall dollar change from 2015 to 2019: \$ 6,904

Summary of written comments FOR Cedar Hill Cemetery District Ballot Issue 6A:

Cedar Hill Cemetery ballot question 6A does not raise taxes; a “YES” vote will allow the cemetery to keep and utilize all of the revenue generated from the existing mill levy each year. A “YES” vote removes the confines of the TABOR amendment and protects the funding for the cemetery. As an example, this year the cemetery would be able to retain an additional \$1,318 if the TABOR restrictions are removed. Cedar Hill Cemetery is a vital component to the history of Ouray County and in particular the City of Ouray. The district and its employees have made great strides to maintain the integrity and improve upon the beauty of Cedar Hill Cemetery and would like to continue to invest in the preservation of its historic significance and providing a serene and hallowed location for our dearly departed family, friends and forefathers. Please vote “YES” on this important issue.

Summary of written comments AGAINST Cedar Hill Cemetery District Ballot Issue 6A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

End of Tabor Notice

To Verify Voter Information:

Go to www.govotecolorado.com