



GET THE MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT PERSPECTIVE

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NEWS RELEASE

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MUNICIPAL ELECTION RESULTS

April 4, 2018, Denver, CO – On April 3, voters in 120 cities and towns across Colorado selected their municipal elected officials and answered questions on a variety of topics, ranging from broadband to bond issues. The following results are unofficial and subject to change.

Broadband

Six municipalities requested and received permission to provide or partner to provide broadband services, including **Firestone, Frisco, Lake City, Limon, Lyons, and Severance**. This election brings the total of cities and towns who have received voter authorization to 92.

Marijuana

Voters in **Naturita** passed six separate questions relating to marijuana, voting to allow medical and retail marijuana sales, manufacturing, testing, and cultivation, as well as to implement a sales tax and an excise tax on retail marijuana. **Berthoud** voters approved allowing municipally licensed medical marijuana dispensaries to add retail sales.

Marijuana taxes passed in **Crawford, Delta, Ordway, and Yuma**. The lone marijuana tax to fail was in **Orchard City**.

Term limits

Pagosa Springs voters approved term limits of two consecutive four-year terms, while voters in **Glendale** approved term limits of three consecutive four-year terms. **Lyons** voters split the term limit questions, approving an increase to four two-year terms for a mayor, but keeping the limit for trustees at three. Voters in **Red Cliff** eliminated term limits for their elected officials.

Tax and bond issues

Fruita voters approved the city's retention of all revenues from 2019 through 2024.

Alma, Elizabeth, and Lyons voters passed lodging taxes.

Sales tax questions that passed around the state include:

- **Basalt** – new sales tax on tobacco and nicotine products
- **Cortez** – extension of sales tax for family recreation center
- **Glendale** – modification of current sales tax to remove earmark restricting use to water related purposes
- **Ignacio** – new sales tax for capital improvements
- **La Veta** – extension of current sales taxes for museum expenses and street improvements
- **Milliken** – extension of sales tax for capital improvements
- **Nederland** – new sales tax for roads
- **Paonia** – new sales tax for general operating expenses

The sales tax questions that did not pass include:

- **Arriba** – for capital improvements
- **Crestone** – for general operating expenses
- **Limon** – for capital improvements
- **Orchard City** – for roads and law enforcement services

Wiley voters approved a mill levy increase, and **Carbondale** voters approved the extension of a current mill levy, both to fund streets and related improvements. Mill levy increases did not pass in **Ault, Orchard City, and Pitkin**.

Eckley voters approved \$165,000 of debt for sanitation system improvements, **Limon** voters authorized \$8.68 million of debt for capital improvements, and **Nederland** voters authorized \$2 million of debt for wastewater improvements. **Erie's** request for debt authority of \$13.75 million for a town hall expansion did not pass.

Publication Requirements

Voters approved the publication of ordinances by titles only in **Hugo, Kersey, Lake City, Milliken,** and **Springfield.** **Pitkin** received authorization to no longer publish the bills list or contracts awarded.

Election Date

Morrison and **Palmer Lake** voters approved moving their regular town elections to November of even-numbered years.

Administrative Charter Amendments

Glendale and **Morrison** voters approved updates to obsolete provisions of their home rule charter.

Other issues

Other issues that were decided include:

- **Antonito** – approved the sale of a public building
- **Berthoud** – approved a 32.44 acre annexation
- **Erie** – approved the sale of 0.65 acres of town land
- **Frisco** – did not approve the sale or lease of a community park for residential use
- **Pagosa Springs** – approved the elimination of council districts and for council members to be elected at large

CML wishes to thank the city and town clerks who assisted CML staff in compiling this election data.

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