On Nov. 5, electors in nearly 80 cities and towns across Colorado will have their say on a combined total of more than 100 municipal tax issues and other questions, in addition to the many decisions they will make regarding state, county, and district concerns. Voters in two-thirds of these municipalities will also vote on their elected officials.

Ballot questions being considered by voters include:

### Tax and bond issues

**Sales tax questions on the ballot include:**
- Center — for the general fund;
- Monte Vista and Westcliffe — for capital projects;
- Alamosa and Fountain — for roads;
- Mead — for roads, includes request for $21 million in debt authority;
- Loveland — one question to fund community improvement projects, and one question to fund a community recreation center;
- Longmont — for a new recreation center with pool and ice rink, includes request for $45.5 million in debt authority;
- Colorado Springs, Longmont, and Rocky Ford — for transportation improvements;
- Fort Lupton — for recreation facilities and park improvements;
- Nucla — for the provision of medical services; and
- Trinidad — for capital projects.

**Property tax questions on the ballot include:**
- New Castle — a mill levy extension for public safety and parks;
- Steamboat Springs — an increase for emergency services; and
- Rockvale — an increase for public safety needs.

Rico is requesting a property tax increase, along with $3 million in debt authority, to finance a wastewater treatment plant. Rico is also asking if the town should be included in the San Miguel Authority for Regional Transportation (SMART), which would entail adding both the property tax and the sales tax associated with inclusion in the authority.

In addition, Basalt is asking its voters to set the mill levy at a rate that matches its most recent amount levied.

Mountain View is seeking a tax on short-term rentals. Mt. Crested Butte and Telluride, whose question includes authorization for up to $9.9 million in debt, are asking for a short-term rental tax as well, in order to fund affordable housing programs.

Other tax requests include:
- Black Hawk — an increase to the device tax;
- Fort Lupton — lodging tax; and
- Parker — an excise tax on new residential development.

Debt authority is being requested by:
- Boulder — $10 million for a middle-income housing program;
- Grand Junction — $70 million for transportation improvements;
- Sterling — $37 million for wastewater system capital improvements; and
- Telluride — $7.4 million for wastewater treatment plant capital improvements.

### Tobacco tax questions will be on the ballot in Crested Butte, Glenwood Springs, New Castle, and Vail, while Boulder is requesting a tax on tobacco vaping products.

**Several municipalities are requesting sales tax extensions for a variety of uses, including:**
- Boulder — for open space;
- Colorado Springs, Longmont, and Rocky Ford — for transportation improvements;
- Fort Lupton — for recreation facilities and park improvements;
- Nucla — for the provision of medical services; and
- Trinidad — for capital projects.

### Debt authority is being requested by:
- Boulder — $10 million for a middle-income housing program;
- Grand Junction — $70 million for transportation improvements;
- Sterling — $37 million for wastewater system capital improvements; and
- Telluride — $7.4 million for wastewater treatment plant capital improvements.

### Revenue retention

Colorado Springs is requesting permission to retain excess revenue from the 2018 fiscal year for parks and recreation improvements. Aspen is asking to retain all revenues from their 2017 tobacco tax, provided the funds continue to be spent on voter-approved purposes, and Louisville is asking to retain all revenues from their 2016 sales and use tax increase, to use for operating and maintenance expenses at their recreation center. Manitou Springs is requesting permission to retain the excess revenue remaining in a fund for downtown public improvements, and expend it on prior-approved purposes.

Historically, municipalities have passed a majority of the TABOR-related questions that have been asked, with a 61% approval rate of tax questions, 69% approval rate for debt questions, and 86% approval rate for revenue retention questions since voter approval was first required in 1993.

### Sports betting

As stipulated by House Bill 19-1327, Black Hawk, Central City, and Cripple Creek each have a question on their ballot requesting authorization of sports betting, provided that sports betting is also concurrently authorized at the statewide election.

### Governance

Eagle voters will decide whether to form a home rule charter commission, as well as the commissioners that would serve if the voters approve the commission.

Nucla is asking to reduce the number of trustees from six to four. Iliff voters will consider eliminating term limits for their elected officials, and Parker voters have the option to implement a lifetime limit of four terms. Mountain View has a question that would implement a three-term limit on the mayor.
Grant Program
First Appearance
Defense Counsel

Defense Counsel First Appearance Grant Program

The Defense Counsel First Appearance Grant Program is now accepting applications for funding. This program launched with the purpose of reimbursing, in whole or in part, costs associated with the provision of defense counsel to defendants at their first appearance in municipal courts. All Colorado municipal courts are encouraged to apply. For information, please contact Shawn Marandi at 303-864-8479 or shawn.marandi@state.co.us.

"... fall municipal election preview" continued from page 1

Voters in Brighton will decide whether to recall the mayor.

Broadband
Municipalities seeking approval to provide broadband service or partner with the private sector to provide that service include Edgewood, Greenwood Village, Lakewood, Mead, Parker, and Rico.

Marijuana
Mead voters will decide whether to allow medical marijuana businesses and retail marijuana establishments, while Center and Loveland's questions include allowing cultivation, manufacturing, and testing in addition to sales.

Craig has split the decision about retail marijuana into two questions: the first would allow retail sales, and the second would allow cultivation, manufacturing, testing, and storage.

Alamosa has an initiative on the ballot that would ban outdoor growing of personal marijuana.

Louisville is asking voters to permit retail marijuana cultivation facilities within the city's industrial zones, as long as voters also approve a retail marijuana cultivation facility excise tax in a separate question.

Craig, Las Animas, and Loveland are also considering marijuana taxes.

Publication requirements
To save money on publication costs, Cripple Creek, Rockvale, and Williamsburg are requesting authorization to no longer publish the bills list or contracts awarded, with Cripple Creek also seeking permission to publish ordinances by title rather than in full.

Election changes
Holyoke is asking their voters to move their regular town elections to November of even-numbered years, while Craig is requesting a move to November of odd-numbered years.

Lafayette has two possible election changes on the ballot, with the first to adjust initiative and referendum procedures, and the other making changes to the city recall process, as well as a question about the process to fill vacancies on city council.

Charter amendments
Denver, Northglenn, and Parker are asking their voters to eliminate, clarify, or otherwise update various provisions of their home rule charter.

Other possible Denver charter amendments include creating a Department of Transportation and Infrastructure, making changes to fire department personnel, and adding residency requirements for elected officials.

Trinidad voters will decide whether to amend their charter to include the municipal landfill as an enterprise.

Other issues
Other issues to be decided include:

- Delta — grant a natural gas franchise to Black Hills Energy.
- Glendale — eliminate surety bond requirements for elected officials, and a second question to expand the radius within which the city manager must live.
- Grand Junction — allow for leases in business park for up to 99 years.
- Lakewood — authorization to contract with waste haulers.
- Longmont — allow for leases of city property for up to 30 years.
- Meeker — continuation of fluoridation of water.
- Mountain View — amend the process for increasing compensation of the mayor.
- Wheat Ridge — amend the process for rezoning.

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

Recognition
Several municipal leaders will be leaving office with the conclusion of their current terms. Among the longest tenured are Lamar Mayor Roger Stagner, with 18 years of municipal service, and Aurora Mayor Bob LeGare and Greenwood Village Mayor Ron Rakowsky, each with 16 years of municipal service.

Other long-serving municipal leaders include Arvada Councilmember Mark McGoff, Centennial Councilmember Ron Weidmann, Cripple Creek Mayor Bruce Brown, Littleton Mayor Debbie Brinkman and Councilmember Peggy Cole, and Louisville Mayor Bob Muckle.

Public service at the municipal level is the highest calling, and CML has been honored to know many of these individuals. We recognize and appreciate their work for their communities and their support of CML.
Comprehensive leadership training program

States Employers Council) is offering a

The Employers Council (formerly Mountain

participant in the 2016 Intentional Leadership

Kevin Bommer, CML executive director, was a

entire organization.

leaders. The benefits are not only for the

leadership potential in existing and future

education, innovative programs, and advocacy

of responsible policy and legislation.

Two positions will be open in December, both

representing local governmental entities that

operate public use airports — one position from

the western slope and one from the eastern

plains (as roughly delineated by the Continental

Divide). While candidates do not necessarily

have to be an elected official, appointed board

member, or employee of a local government,
those who are not will need to submit a letter

of recommendation from that local government

supporting the candidate's representation.

Interested in learning more or applying?

Contact Aeronautics Division Director

David Ulane at 303-512-5254 or
david.ulane@state.co.us.

More information about the Colorado
Aeronautical Board and the Division
of Aeronautics may be found at

www.colorado-aeronautics.org.

CML Oil and Gas Newsletter now available

Looking for the latest oil and gas information
of interest to municipalities? Look no further
than CML's new Oil and Gas Newsletter.
This newsletter contains updates from the
Air Quality Control Commission, updates
from the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation
Commission (COGCC), and the opportunity to
ask questions of the COGCC director.
To subscribe to the Oil and Gas Newsletter,
or other electronic CML publications, visit
www.cml.org/home/publications-news/cml-
newsletter and enter your information into the
periodicals subscription request.

What's happening at the COGCC?

On Sept. 23, the COGCC published a
Rulemaking Process Guidebook. The purpose
of this guidebook is to provide the public
information on the rulemaking process
including the requirements to provide notice
of an upcoming rulemaking hearing, information
regarding the effects of a proposed rule, the

opportunity to participate as a party to the
rulemaking proceeding, and the opportunity
to provide comments on proposed rules.
You can find the guidebook at cogcc.state.
co.us/documents/reg/Hearings/Rulemaking_
Process_Guidebook_20190923.pdf

Additionally, the COGCC has recently rolled out
a portal in which members of the public can
submit specific comments related to current
rulemaking topics (topics open now include:
alternative location analysis, cumulative
impacts, flowline, and mission change). All
comments are reviewed and published on the
COGCC website. To submit comments or view
comments received, visit cogcc.state.co.us/
sb19181.html#/public_comments.

Important dates to know

• Mission Change Stakeholder Meeting:
Oct. 29, 10 a.m.–noon, in the Wasatch
Room at the COGCC (1120 Lincoln St.,
Denver 80203)
• Flowline Rulemaking: Nov. 20

Ask the COGCC director!

Have you submitted your questions yet?
Don't miss out on the opportunity to ask
Director Jeff Robbins your questions about
the COGCC, rulemaking, or implementation of
SB19-181. Please submit your questions to
Brandy DeLange (bdelange@cml.org). Director
Robbins will answer your questions in the
following newsletter.

Intentional Leader Program offered by
Employers Council

The Employers Council (formerly Mountain
States Employers Council) is offering a
comprehensive leadership training program
in Denver in 2020. The Intentional Leader
Program (ILP) is a yearlong intensive program
composed of four mastery modules: strategic
mastery, results mastery, self-mastery, and
interpersonal mastery.

The program includes executive coaching
and other elements designed to maximize
leadership potential in existing and future
leaders. The benefits are not only for
the individual. The investment is also realized
through more effective leadership that
benefits the leader’s team, as well as the
entire organization.

Kevin Bommer, CML executive director, was a
participant in the 2016 Intentional Leadership
Program during his time as deputy director.
"It dramatically changed my perspective at a
critical time prior to my transition from deputy
director to executive director of CML," said
Bommer. "I learned as much about myself
as I did from others, and all of the skills have
already been practically applied or shaped my
awareness of the organization."

More information and the application packet
are available at www.employerscouncil.org/
intentional-leader. There is a discount on the
cost of the program if applications are received
by Dec. 13.

An upcoming preview webinar, Oct. 30,
noon–1 p.m., will describe more about the
program. Questions should be directed to
ilp@employerscouncil.org or 800-884-1328.

Applicants sought for upcoming
Colorado Aeronautical Board vacancies

Do you have a passion for aviation, airports,
and public service? If so, then serving as a
member of the Colorado Aeronautical Board
may be just the opportunity for you. This seven-
member board is appointed by the governor
and oversees the Colorado Department of
Transportation's Division of Aeronautics. The
mission of the board and division is to support
the state's multimodal transportation system
by advancing a safe, efficient, and effective
statewide air and space system through
collaboration with stakeholders, investment
in education, innovative programs, and advocacy
of responsible policy and legislation.

Two positions will be open in December, both
representing local governmental entities that
operate public use airports — one position from
the western slope and one from the eastern
plains (as roughly delineated by the Continental
Divide). While candidates do not necessarily
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of recommendation from that local government
supporting the candidate's representation.

Interested in learning more or applying?
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David Ulane at 303-512-5254 or
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More information about the Colorado
Aeronautical Board and the Division
of Aeronautics may be found at
www.colorado-aeronautics.org.
Low-interest water project loans are here

By Matt Stearns, Colorado Water Conservation Board project development engineer

Interest rates continue to surprise, dropping to the lowest rates in the history of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Water Project Loan Program. If you have a water supply project that has been planned for years, but thought you could not afford it, maybe now is the time to act. With interest rates for the program starting as low as 2% for municipal borrowers, this is the best time to finance new construction or rehabilitation of your raw water infrastructure.

Current interest rates can also bring big projects within reach. For municipal projects, the annual payment on a $1 million, 30-year loan at current rates could be less than $45,000 for low-income borrowers. Even for the highest income municipalities, the same project could be less than $48,000 a year. And if that is not good enough, there are interest rate reductions for 10- or 20-year loans that could reduce the interest rate by as much as 0.65%!

For more information, visit cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-project-loan-program/Pages/main.aspx or call Matt Stearns at 303-866-3441 ext. 3257 to discuss your needs.

Course notebook

Sustainable tourism
The Global Sustainable Tourism Council Sustainable Tourism Training Program, Oct. 28–29, in Vail, offers participants the opportunity to learn about global trends in sustainable tourism and sustainability best practices. The intensive and interactive learning experience is a valuable training opportunity for professionals in tourism, hospitality, destination management and marketing, and sustainability. For more details, visit walkingmountains.org/sttp.

Bicycle and pedestrian facilities
The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) is offering free design classes for bicycle facilities (Oct. 28 in Pueblo and Oct. 31 in Denver) and pedestrian facilities (Oct. 29 in Pueblo and Nov. 1 in Denver). Participants will learn how to apply new and existing standards for creating bicycle and pedestrian facilities. Information will be provided through hands-on exercises, on-street experiences, presentations, and discussions. For more information and to register, visit bit.ly/3323bvT.

Community development
Downtown Colorado, Inc., American Planning Association of Colorado, and the City of Lakewood are proud to bring Chuck Marohn, founder and president of Strong Towns, to Lakewood on Oct. 30 to kick off the Strong America Tour! Strong Towns is a national organization dedicated to community development. For more information and to register, visit bit.ly/31KNZTH.

Demography
This one-day conference on Nov. 1 offers attendees the opportunity to learn about the most current population and economic conditions and forecasts for the state and its regions. Plenary sessions will cover not only the data and information but also implications for planning, policy, business, and public services. Sessions will also cover the latest status of Census 2020. For more information and to register, visit demography.dola.colorado.gov/demography/demography-summit-2019.

Grant writing
The Grand Junction Police Department and Grant Writing USA will present a two-day grants workshop in Grand Junction, Nov. 12–13. This training is applicable to grant seekers across all disciplines. Attend this class and you will learn how to find grants and write winning grant proposals. Beginner and experienced grant writers from city, county, and state agencies as well as nonprofits, K–12, colleges, and universities are encouraged to attend. Area nonprofit agencies and community partners receive a special tuition rate of $425, which includes two days of instruction, a workbook, and access to an alumni forum that is full of tools, helpful discussions, and more than 200 sample grant proposals. Use discount code "CONPO" to receive this $30 discount off full price at registration. For more information and to register, visit bit.ly/2MrCD1T.

Community planning for economic recovery
The Colorado Resiliency Office, in partnership with the National Center for Disaster Preparedness, is holding a free FEMA Community Planning for Economic Recovery training in Salida on Nov. 14, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the SteamPlant Event Center. The Community Planning for Economic Recovery course will guide decision-makers to incorporate community planning for economic resilience and recovery from natural disasters. The curriculum includes practical tools to develop stronger partnerships between the public and private sectors, evaluate community hazard assessments through the lens of economic recovery, provide resources for public and private sector partners to use in a post-disaster environment, and offer planning templates for articulating these actions at the community level. For more information and to register, visit ncdpcourses.crlctraining.org.

CML Mayors’ Summit
CML is hosting its annual Colorado Mayors’ Summit on Nov. 15, in Denver, which brings mayors from across the state together to learn from and network with each other. For more information and to register, visit www.cml.org.

NLC City Summit
The National League of Cities (NLC) City Summit, Nov. 20–23, in San Antonio, is where local leaders convene and collaborate on solutions to the common challenges facing America’s cities and towns. The conference offers tangible and new best practices for government officials to improve their conditions back home. For more information and to register, visit citysummit.nlc.org.
CML wraps up 2019 district meetings

The CML team wrapped up district meetings on Oct. 3, after traveling more than 3,000 miles across the state. We enjoyed talking to officials from municipalities in every district and learning more about the projects you are undertaking as you shared your successes and challenges with each other. The amount of work taking place in municipalities of all sizes is impressive!

We especially want to thank our host municipalities Brighton, Woodland Park, Westcliffe/Silver Cliff, Parachute, Snowmass Village, Fleming, Rocky Ford, San Luis, Cortez, Montrose, Cheyenne Wells, Windsor, and Pueblo for their outstanding hospitality.
• CML wraps up 2019 district meetings
• Low-interest water project loans are here
• Research corner: NLC launches fiscal year 2020 budget tracker
• CML Oil & Gas Newsletter now available
• Colorado Municipal League releases Fall Municipal Election Preview

Featured in this Issue: