Clear Creek County

BRENDA L. CORBETT
COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER
405 ARGENTINE ST, PO BOX 2000
GEORGETOWN, CO 80444

2026 GENERAL ELECTION

This Election will be a Mail Ballot Election.
There will be one (1) Voter Service and Polling Center

Election Day is November 3, 2026

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION

ON REFERRED MEASURES

THIS IS NOT A BALLOT

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS SUMMARY STATEMENTS FOR BALLOT PROPOSITIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF COLORADO CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20.

"A 'YES' VOTE ON ANY BALLOT ISSUE IS A VOTE IN FAVOR OF CHANGING CURRENT LAW OR EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCES, AND A 'NO' VOTE ON ANY BALLOT ISSUE IS A VOTE AGAINST CHANGING CURRENT LAW OR EXISTING CIRCUMSTANCE."

YOUR LOCAL ELECTION OFFICE IS:

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER
Clear Creek County Courthouse

OFFICE HOURS Monday – Thursday
7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
405 Argentine St., PO Box 2000
Georgetown, CO 80444
PH: (303) 679-2339
FAX: (303) 679-2416

Web Site: www.clearcreekcounty.us
Email Address: clerk@clearcreekcounty.us

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTER

Ballot drop off, replacement ballots, voter registration, in-person voting and accessible voting equipment will be available at this location:

Clear Creek County Courthouse
405 Argentine St., Georgetown, CO 80444
Monday-Friday, (10/19/2026 – 11/03/2026)
8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday, (10/31/2026) 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Tuesday, ELECTION DAY (11/03/2026)
7:00 am - 7:00 pm

24 Hour Ballot Drop-Box Locations

These 24-hour monitored mail ballot drop boxes will be open Monday, October 5th through Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm (Election Day).

- **Clear Creek County Courthouse**
  405 Argentine St., Georgetown
- **CommonSpirit Primary Care**
  1969 Miner St., Idaho Springs
- **Clear Creek High School**
  185 Beaver Brook Canyon Rd, Evergreen

The 2026 General Election will be conducted as a mail ballot election.

Mail Ballots will be sent to each "Active" voter in Clear Creek County in the applicable jurisdiction(s). We will begin mailing ballots out October 5, 2026. If you do not receive a ballot – please call the Clear Creek County Election Office at (303) 679-2339. Deadline for receipt of voted ballots is 7:00 PM, November 3, 2026. Postmarks *do not* count as receipt.

GENERAL INFORMATION

This voter information pamphlet contains referendum and/or initiatives appearing on your 2026 General Election Ballot. The mailing and content of this notice is mandated by an amendment to Article X, Section 20 (the TABOR Amendment) of the Colorado Constitution.

The political subdivision providing this Voter's Information Notice 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.

Receipt of this voters' information pamphlet does not necessarily mean that every resident of your household is eligible to vote. You may not be eligible to vote on all issues presented.

If you have questions concerning voting procedures, drop box 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.

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Designated Election Official:
Brenda L. Corbett
Clear Creek County Clerk and Recorder
405 Argentine St.
Georgetown, CO 80444-2000

CLEAR CREEK COUNTY BALLOT ISSUE 1A
Lodging Tax Revenue – Additional Allowable Uses and Allocations

SHALL CLEAR CREEK COUNTY LODGING TAXES BE INCREASED BY $800,000.00 ANNUALLY COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2027, AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, BY INCREASING THE LODGING TAX RATE FROM TWO PERCENT (2%) TO SIX PERCENT (6%) ON THE RENTAL FEE, PRICE, OR OTHER CONSIDERATION PAID OR CHARGED FOR THE LEASING, RENTAL, SALE OR FURNISHING OF A ROOM OR ACCOMMODATION FOR A SHORT-TERM PERIOD OF LESS THAN THIRTY (30) CONSECUTIVE DAYS IN CLEAR CREEK COUNTY, EXCLUDING THE MUNICIPALITY OF THE TOWN OF GEORGETOWN THAT CURRENTLY HAS ITS OWN ADOPTED LODGING TAX, AND SHALL THE ALLOCATION OF COUNTY LODGING TAX REVENUE BE MODIFIED SO THAT THE REVENUE COLLECTED FROM THE SIX PERCENT (6%) COUNTY LODGING TAX SHALL BE USED AS FOLLOWS:

- UP TO 60% OF THE REVENUE FOR PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE OR

IMPROVEMENTS; AND ENHANCING PUBLIC SAFETY MEASURES;

- AT LEAST TWENTY PERCENT (20%) OF THE REVENUE TO PROVIDE CHILDCARE FOR THE TOURISM-RELATED WORKFORCE, INCLUDING SEASONAL WORKERS, AND FOR OTHER WORKERS IN THE COMMUNITY;
- AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE REVENUE TO PROVIDE HOUSING FOR THE TOURISM-RELATED WORKFORCE, INCLUDING SEASONAL WORKERS, AND FOR OTHER WORKERS IN THE COMMUNITY;
- AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THE REVENUE FOR ADVERTISING AND MARKETING OF LOCAL TOURISM, AS REQUIRED BY STATE LAW; AND

WITH ALL SUCH EXPENDITURES SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT AND SPENT IN COMPLIANCE WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENT BUDGET LAWS, AND SHALL THE FIRST-YEAR REVENUE, AND WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, BE COLLECTED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LIMITATION OR CONDITION UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER PROVISION OF LAW?

YES □ FOR APPROVAL

NO □ AGAINST APPROVAL

Total Fiscal Year Spending:

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2026 (estimated)	$26,166,700
2025 (actual)	$27,877,387
2024 (actual)	$29,000,000
2023 (actual)	$28,689,038
2022 (actual)	$30,731,000

Overall percentage change from 2022 to 2026: -14.9%
Overall dollar change from 2022 to 2026: -$4,564,300

Proposed County Tax Increase:
Estimated year 2027 maximum dollar increase in County revenue: $800,000

Estimated year 2027 fiscal year spending without the proposed lodging tax increase: $26,166,700

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 1A:

Issue 1A ensures that overnight visitors to Clear Creek County help pay for public safety, infrastructure, child care, and housing - the community resources that help keep Clear Creek working. Residents and visitors do not all use the same community resources, but they all depend on a community with enough capacity to function and thrive. Clear Creek welcomes travelers who recreate and enjoy the adventures and amenities that local mountain communities have to offer. Those visitors also add traffic to the county's roads, increase calls for emergency response, use public facilities, and contribute to the demand placed on a county that must be prepared for wildfire, severe weather, highway incidents, and 1- 70 closures. Issue 1A will increase the county lodging tax from 2% to 6% on hotel, motel, and short-term rental stays of fewer than 30 days. The tax would be paid primarily by overnight visitors, not by residents. The increase amounts to $4 for every $100 charged for a stay. Short-term-rental operators would collect the tax from their guests rather than pay it from their rental income. A recent community survey identified public safety and infrastructure as residents' highest priorities. Issue 1A reflects those priorities by directing up to 60% of the revenue, the measure's largest allocation, to public safety and public infrastructure. That funding can help maintain roads and public facilities and strengthen the Sheriff's Office, Emergency Medical Services, ambulance service, and other emergency-response capabilities.

The measure also recognizes that public safety and infrastructure do not operate in isolation. At least 20% of the revenue would support early childhood care and education, and at least 10% would support housing for the tourism-related workforce and other employees in the community. These priorities may not rank equally for every voter, but they are connected. Emergency services, schools, health care, public agencies, and local businesses all need people who can afford to live here. Families cannot reliably participate in the workforce if they cannot find dependable care for their young children. A community that cannot retain essential workers will eventually struggle to provide the public safety and services residents value most. Issue 1A is an investment in keeping Clear Creek a thriving, year-round community. The measure is expected to raise approximately $800,000 annually beginning in 2027. State law requires at least 10% of lodging-tax revenue to remain dedicated to tourism advertising and marketing, and the ballot measure directs the balance toward the community needs that result from tourism. Expenditures would be subject to an annual independent audit and local-government budget laws. Issue 1A offers a practical and accountable way for the people who stay overnight in Clear Creek to help maintain the place they have come to enjoy.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 1A:

Clear Creek County wants voter authority to triple its lodging-tax rate from 2% to 6%, the full rate now permitted by state law! This is not a modest adjustment. It is a 200% rate increase, requested without an independent local economic-impact study, without a sunset date. It's handing a check to the county to spend more while hurting local businesses.

Overnight guests do more than rent rooms. They eat in local restaurants, tip servers and bartenders, buy groceries and

fuel, shop in local stores, visit attractions, and hire local cleaners, contractors, and service providers. The county calls tourism its largest current industry. Even a small decline in overnight stays can mean fewer tables filled, fewer purchases, fewer tips, fewer work hours, and less sales-tax revenue for public services.

Why should voters let the County gamble with local jobs, tips, small-business sales, and existing tax revenue without first studying the consequences? The County has not shown voters a Clear Creek-specific analysis of how tripling the rate could affect bookings, visitor spending, jobs, tips, or existing tax collections. Asking voters to approve the full rate first and study the fallout later gets the order backwards.

No Blank Check for a 200% Tax Increase.

The County wants broad authority to spend this new money across multiple categories, which do not match voters' stated priorities in the County's own survey. Infrastructure ranked first and public safety second, while tourism marketing ranked last. Yet tourism is the primary driver of Clear Creek's local economy, supporting local businesses, jobs, and sales-tax revenue.

The same survey found voters nearly evenly divided over whether the County spends taxpayer money wisely. Yet instead of first publishing documented visitor-service costs, results from current lodging-tax spending, and a detailed plan for every new dollar, the County is asking for a permanent tripling of the rate!

An annual audit is not enough. An audit reviews spending after the money is gone. It does not guarantee better roads, faster emergency response, lower administrative costs, or measurable results. Without a sunset or renewal vote, the County does not have to return to voters and prove the increase worked.

Vote NO and require a smaller or phased proposal, an independent economic-impact study, public performance benchmarks, and a sunset requiring voter approval.

A NO vote is not against public safety, housing, childcare, or making visitors contribute. It is a vote against tripling a tax without first protecting Clear Creek's workers, small businesses, local economy, and taxpayers.

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

CITY OF IDAHO SPRINGS

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Designated Election Official:

Jennie Kim, City Clerk
1711 Miner St, Idaho Springs, CO 80452
Email: cityclerk@idahospringsco.com
Phone: (303)567-4421

CITY OF IDAHO SPRINGS BALLOT ISSUE 2A

SHALL THE CITY OF IDAHO SPRINGS' TAXES BE INCREASED BY $1.1 MILLION IN 2027 AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, BY IMPOSING, EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027, AN OCCUPATION TAX OF THREE DOLLARS ($3.00) PER CUSTOMER PER EXPERIENCE UPON THE OCCUPATION OF PROVIDING OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES FOR COMPENSATION WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO GONDOLA, TRAMWAY, OR AERIAL LIFT OPERATIONS; RIVER RAFTING, KAYAKING, OR TUBING GUIDE OR OUTFITTER SERVICES; BICYCLE OR E-BIKE RENTAL; ZIPLINE OR AERIAL ADVENTURE OPERATIONS; JEEP AND FOUR-WHEELING VENTURES; AND SIMILAR ACTIVITIES WHERE THE OPERATOR PROVIDES FACILITATED OUTDOOR RECREATION FOR COMPENSATION;
WITH THE IDAHO SPRINGS CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZED TO ADJUST SAID TAX BY ORDINANCE, SO LONG AS THE RATE DOES NOT EXCEED FIVE DOLLARS ($5.00) PER CUSTOMER PER EXPERIENCE AND MAY ADJUST ONLY ON JANUARY 1ST OF ANY GIVEN YEAR;
AND SHALL ALL TAX REVENUES GENERATED THEREBY BE DEDICATED TO PURPOSES RELATED TO THE IMPACTS OF COMMERCIAL OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL EXPERIENCES ON CITY RESOURCES SUCH AS PARKING FACILITIES, CITY STREETS AND SIDEWALKS, MOBILITY AND TRANSPORTATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY RESOURCES (POLICE AND OTHER FIRST RESPONDERS), CITY WATER AND WASTEWATER FACILITIES AND SERVICES, AND CITY PARKS AND OPEN SPACES;
AND SHALL ALL SUCH TAX REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

YES □ FOR APPROVAL

NO □ AGAINST APPROVAL

Total City Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year	Total Expenditures
2026 Estimated	$14,011,640
2025 Actual	$16,481,126
2024 Actual	$14,246,746
2023 Actual	$11,468,088
2022 Actual	$5,121,799

Overall percentage change from 2022 to 2026: 173.6%

Overall dollar change from 2022 to 2026: $8,889,861

Proposed Tax Increase

City estimate of the maximum dollar amount of the proposed new tax for the first fiscal year (2027): $1,100,000

City estimate of 2027 fiscal year spending *without* the proposed new tax revenue: $14,712,222

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 2A:

Tourism is our main industry now, it comes with costs. This is a way to address those costs. Currently, any of these costs are being paid by the local taxpayer. This new tax would put the cost on the people using the services, local or visitor, allowing local taxes to be used for other badly needed services. Recreation services are currently sales tax free. This new tax would be in place of sales tax, not in addition to it. Having money means improvements, not just maintenance. Improving the facilities & grounds around these businesses may lead to even more business. People like coming back when adventure spaces are well maintained and have amenities (picnic tables, water fountains, bike racks, etc.) Tourism is one of the few cases where a sales tax affects the wealthier more than the local working folks. A family of four can easily pay over $500 for a single adventure outing. A $12 tax on top of that will barely even be noticed. BUT, even a small tax can bring in a large amount of money to the town.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 2A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

CLEAR CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Designated Election Official:
Jennifer Behring, DEO
Clear Creek School District No. RE-1
320 Hwy 103, Idaho Springs, CO 80452
Email: jennifer.behring@ccsdre1.org
Phone: (303)567-3853

CLEAR CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1
BALLOT ISSUE 4A

IN ORDER TO MAKE MORE GENERAL FUND REVENUES AVAILABLE FOR ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALITY TEACHERS AND STAFF, AND PROVIDING CAREER, TECHNOLOGY, AND SKILLED TRADES CLASSES THAT PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH REAL WORLD JOB SKILLS, SHALL CLEAR CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. RE-1 TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO $4,000,000 ANNUALLY COMMENCING IN 2026 FOR COLLECTION IN 2027, AND INCREASING ANNUALLY BY THE RATE OF INFLATION BASED ON THE DENVER/AURORA/LAKEWOOD CPI, TO BE UTILIZED FOR ONGOING MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT COSTS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO:

- ALLOWING THE DISTRICT TO INCREASE ITS CAPITAL RESERVES FOR FUTURE MAINTENANCE NEEDS; AND
- MAINTAINING CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY, STUDENT AND STAFF DEVICES, INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT AND UPGRADING SOFTWARE;

WITH SUCH REVENUE COLLECTED FROM THE IMPOSITION OF A MILL LEVY AT A RATE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE SUCH AMOUNT SPECIFIED ABOVE, TO PROVIDE REVENUE TO BE UTILIZED FOR ONGOING CASH FUNDING FOR CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION, NEW INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY, EXISTING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES, AND MAINTENANCE NEEDS OF THE DISTRICT AUTHORIZED AND IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 22-54-108.7, C.R.S., (THE DEBT FREE SCHOOLS ACT);
PROVIDED THAT THE EXPENDITURE OF SUCH REVENUE SHALL BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL AUDIT AND REVIEW BY A BOARD SELECTED CITIZENS OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE;

AND SHALL THE DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY NOT MORE THAN $80,000 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR) AND SUCH AMOUNT ANNUALLY THEREAFTER THAT WILL BE SUFFICIENT, WHEN COMBINED WITH PREVIOUSLY APPROVED MILL LEVY OVERRIDES, WILL BE SUFFICIENT TO PRODUCE THE FULL AMOUNT OF REVENUE AUTHORIZED BY SECTION 22-54-108(3)(B)(VI), C.R.S. (I.E., 31% OF TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING); AND SHALL THE REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES BE COLLECTED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER
ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND ANY OTHER LAW?

YES □ **FOR APPROVAL**

NO □ **AGAINST APPROVAL**

Total District Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year	
2026-2027 (estimated)	$17,877,508
2025-2026 (actual unaudited)	$16,505,170
2024-2025 (actual)	$16,299,541
2023-2024 (actual)	$16,441,611
2022-2023 (actual)	$15,221,338

Overall percentage change from 2022-2023 to 2026-2027: 17.45%
Overall dollar change from 2022-2023 to 2026-2027: $2,656,170

Proposed Tax Increase

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2026-2027
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increases):

BALLOT ISSUE 4A: $4,080,000

District Estimate of 2026-2027 Fiscal Year Spending Without the Proposed Tax Increases: $17,877,508

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 4A:

I am writing you to let you know about how the Mill Levy would help GCS. We have such a solid group of dedicated teachers and staff at GCS who have chosen to make their lives and raise their families in our community. The fact that many of them have been at our school for years shows their dedication and impact on student learning. The Mill Levy would allow GCS to have more competitive teacher pay to keep our teachers and staff at our school and living in our community with their families.
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Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 4A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Designated Election Official:
Micki L. Mills
44 Cook Street, Suite 620, Denver, Colorado 80206
Email: mmills@cegrlaw.com
Phone: (303)218-7206

EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 7B

SHALL EVERGREEN FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY $5,440,000 ANNUALLY COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2027, AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM A 0.89 PERCENT SALES TAX, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAINTAINING HIGH LEVELS OF FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES, INCLUDING RECRUITING VOLUNTEER AND PAID FIREFIGHTER AND PARAMEDIC STAFF, AND ENHANCING REVENUE SOURCES FOR WILDFIRE MITIGATION, COMMUNITY EDUCATION, AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE CAPABILITY AND NECESSARY CAPITAL UPGRADES, REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE IMPROVEMENTS, SUCH SALES TAX TO BE IN ADDITION TO ALL OTHER TAXES LEVIED BY THE DISTRICT AND NOT TO SUPPLANT ANY FUNDING THAT THE DISTRICT VOTERS PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED OR WHICH IT IS ENTITLED TO RECEIVE BY LAW?

YES □ FOR APPROVAL

NO □ AGAINST APPROVAL

Fiscal Information

Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2026 (estimated)	$11,750,356
2025 (actual)	$12,201,304
2024 (actual)	$12,224,155
2023 (actual)	$10,556,611
2022 (actual)	$ 9,257,087

Overall percentage change from 2022 to 2026: 26.9%
Overall dollar change from 2022 to 2026: $2,493,269

Proposed District Tax Increase:
Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase: $5,440,000
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase: $12,108,018

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 7B:

Vote Yes on 7B
The Need for the Evergreen Fire/Rescue Sales Tax

Rising Equipment Costs. Fire engine costs have more than doubled, from approximately $650,000 in 2020 to $1.4 million in 2025. The rising costs of equipment, protective gear, medical supplies, and other resources have reduced the purchasing power of existing revenue.
Increasing Incident Volume. Calls for service increased 107% over the last 10 years, from 2,097 in 2016 to 4,340 in 2025. This increase has placed greater demands on paramedics

and firefighters and increased the need for mutual aid when multiple emergencies occur simultaneously. The sales tax would provide funding for additional paramedic, EMT, and firefighter staffing to improve response capability. EMS transports to hospitals in the Denver metro area can require crews to be away from the district for hours. Increased use of parks, trails, restaurants, and other recreational areas also contributes to backcountry rescues and other emergency responses. ECARES, the district's in-home paramedic program, has also experienced substantial growth due to the aging population.

Wildfire Prevention and Mitigation. Funding would expand the wildland crew to seven-day staffing, providing weekend interaction with homeowners and seven-day coverage for wildland incidents. The Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP) identified increased mitigation planning and operations as needs, with making Evergreen evacuation routes more survivable as a priority.

Modernization of Facilities. Station 1, built in 1965, has been identified for replacement in two Master Plans and three Strategic Plans. Its replacement has repeatedly been deferred as the district addressed other critical needs, including wildland mitigation, expanded staffing, and other operational priorities. Other stations were also built for volunteer staffing and will eventually need modernization to accommodate the staffing of career firefighters and larger, more modern engines.

Other areas of investment include volunteer recruitment and retention, community education, and staffing levels consistent with national emergency response time standards and industry best practices.

Advantages of a Sales Tax vs. Mil Levy Increase. Diversifying revenue can provide greater financial stability by reducing reliance on property taxes and broadening the contribution base, while also allowing visitors to invest in Evergreen's emergency response services through their local purchases. A diversified revenue source can help the district plan for staffing, equipment, facilities, and other long-term needs while keeping pace with rising costs.

The current sales tax rate in the Evergreen Fire Protection District is 4.5%, with most of that revenue going to the state and county. Even with the proposed 0.89% sales tax, the total rate would be 5.39%—lower than the total sales tax rate in each of the 12 Colorado fire protection districts that currently have a sales tax. Examples include Cortez Fire/Rescue at 7.67% (7.13% base rate + 0.54% fire district sales tax) and La Veta Fire/Rescue at 9.4% (8.4% base rate + 1.0% fire district sales tax).

Sales tax exemptions would also apply to groceries, prescriptions, diapers, medical supplies, school activities, energy and fuel for residential purposes, and other items exempt under state sales tax law.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 7B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Brenda L. Corbett, Clear Creek County Clerk and Recorder

ATTEST: THE FOREGOING BALLOT ISSUE

FROM: BRENDA L. CORBETT
CLEAR CREEK COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER
PO BOX 2000
GEORGETOWN, CO 80444-2000
TELEPHONE: (303) 679-2339

ELECTION MAILING INSIGNIA GOES HERE (ON FILE)

OFFICIAL ELECTION MATERIAL

FOR ALL REGISTERED VOTERS IN THIS HOUSEHOLD:

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.

POSTMASTER, DELIVER TO

Notice of Election

ON REFERRED MEASURES

THIS IS <u>NOT</u> A BALLOT!

Mail Ballots must be returned to the County Clerk's Office by 7:00 PM on Tuesday, November 3, 2026 to be counted.

A Publication of Clear Creek County
October, 2026