



City of Littleton 2022 Special Election Information Guide

Tuesday, November 8, 2022
Polls open 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

**Ballots will be mailed by counties
beginning October 17**

City of Littleton Designated Election Official:

Colleen Norton, City Clerk
2255 West Berry Avenue
Littleton, CO 80120
303-795-3780
cnorton@littletongov.org

littletongov.org



There may be multiple election information guides with information about the ballot. This pamphlet was produced by the **City of Littleton** to provide information about ballot questions that are not covered in the counties' voters guides.

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Arapahoe County
arapahoevotes.com
303-795-4511

Douglas County
douglasvotes.com
303-660-7444

Jefferson County
jeffco.us/elections
303-271-8111

What's in this guide?



Election Information

City council is asking voters to consider several ballot questions in November along with a citizen-initiated question. This guide is intended to provide details on each of the ballot questions and is for informational purposes only.

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Ballot Question 301 (Aspen Grove)

Shall Ordinance 22-2021 which approved a fourth amendment to the Newton Property General Planned Development Plan (Aspen Grove) be repealed?

YES NO

Explanation

This is a citizen-initiated ballot question on whether to repeal a 2021 council decision regarding zoning at Aspen Grove. Earlier this year, citizens submitted a petition with the number of signatures necessary to require city council to either repeal the decision or place it on the ballot for voters to decide. That plan would have allowed up to 2,000 new residential units.



Ballot Question 3B (Lodger's Tax)

Shall the City of Littleton taxes be increased up to \$975,000 annually beginning January 1, 2023, and by whatever amount is raised annually thereafter, through the adoption of a lodger's tax at the rate of five percent (5%) on the fee, price, or other consideration paid or charged for the use (less than 28 consecutive days) of any room or space in any hotel, motel, inn, bed and breakfast, or short term rental, within the City of Littleton, with such revenues to be spent promoting and supporting arts and culture, tourism, and visitor promotion within the City of Littleton such as, but not limited to: the support of Bemis Library, the Littleton Museum, the Town Hall Arts Center, Hudson Gardens, and other local non-profit organizations that advance, support, and enhance arts and culture within the City of Littleton and shall all revenues from such taxes and any earnings thereon be collected, retained and spent as a voter-approved revenue change without limitation or condition, and notwithstanding any revenue or expenditure limitations contained in Article X Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution or any other law?

YES NO

Explanation

This question would create a 5% Lodger's Tax on rooms at the city's five hotels and two motels, and short-term rentals occupied for fewer than 28 days. The proceeds would be directed towards supporting arts and culture organizations such as, but not limited to: Hudson Gardens, Town Hall Arts Center, Bemis Public Library, the Littleton Museum, and other non-profits, as well as grants for smaller arts organizations. A portion would also be directed to tourism initiatives to support Littleton businesses and attractions. If approved, the issue would generate approximately \$975,000 annually. Littleton is one of few cities in the metro area with hotels but no Lodger's Tax.



Ballot Question 3E (Charter Amendment)

Shall there be an amendment to Littleton City Charter sections 97, 100, and 103, allowing for the city council by way of ordinance after a public hearing to set the manner, amount, and best practices for the procurement of goods and services for the city?

YES NO

Explanation

A review of procurement policies of 17 home rule cities in Colorado revealed that Littleton's outdated purchasing regulations do not ensure that supplies, equipment, and capital assets the city buys provide the best value to taxpayers. Most notably, Littleton's procurement regulations, which date back to 1959, require that any capital asset over \$5,000 must be competitively bid. (A capital asset is defined as any item that's expected to last more than one year and costs more than \$5,000.) Further, Littleton is the only city that limits the length of a contract and is one of four cities that must accept the lowest price, without regard for product quality, vendor expertise, or timeliness of delivery. Each of the 17 cities updated their procurement rules within the past 20 years. No other city in the Denver metro area has a capital asset bidding threshold as low as Littleton's.



Ballot Questions 3F, 3C, 3D (DDA)

Ballot Question 3F

Shall the Littleton Downtown Development Authority be organized pursuant to Part 8 of Article 25 of Title 31, Colorado Revised Statutes, to exercise all powers authorized therein and in any approved plan of development within the boundaries of the Littleton Downtown Development Authority as described in Ordinance 16-2022 (<https://www.littletongov.org/dda-ordinance>)?

YES NO



* Only those living, leasing, or owning property within the above boundary may vote on the DDA questions.



Ballot Questions 3F, 3C, 3D (DDA)

Ballot Question 3C (DDA 2)

Shall the Littleton Downtown Development Authority (the "Authority"), or the City of Littleton (the "City") on behalf of and for use by the Authority, and as a voter-approved revenue change, be authorized to collect, retain, and expend the full amount of revenues received by the Authority or by the City on behalf of and for use by the Authority in 2023 and each year thereafter, including, without limitation, tax revenues, fees, rates, tolls, charges, grants, rents, loans, contributions, and any other revenues, without regard to any expenditure, revenue raising, or other limitation including those contained within Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, and without limiting in any year the amount of other revenues that may be collected, retained and expended by the Authority and the city on behalf of the Authority?

YES NO

Ballot Question 3D (DDA 3)

Shall the City of Littleton (the "City") taxes be increased \$200,000 in the first fiscal year (2023) and annually thereafter in such amounts as are received each year by the imposition of an ad valorem property tax rate of not more than 3.000 mills upon taxable real and personal property within the boundaries of the proposed Littleton Downtown Development Authority (the "Authority"), for the purposes set forth in Part 8 of Article 25 of Title 31 Colorado Revised Statutes; and shall the city and the Authority be authorized to collect, retain and expend the revenues collected from such total property tax rate and investment income thereon, as a voter-approved revenue change under Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and any other law?

YES NO



Ballot Questions 3F, 3C, 3D (DDA)

Explanation

Three questions that apply to a limited number of voters would organize a Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to finance improvements in Downtown Littleton focused on capital improvement and infrastructure projects. Only registered voters living, leasing, or owning property within the proposed DDA boundary can vote on these questions. A group of Downtown Littleton stakeholders, staff, and consultants have met for several years to consider the project. The first question would establish the DDA, the second would allow for the DDA to keep all revenues in excess of current expenditures for future use towards projects, and the third question would establish a mill levy or property tax to be paid exclusively by property owners within the district to fund operations such as public safety, maintenance, and marketing.

A DDA is a quasi-governmental entity that provides both financing and leadership for improving downtown business districts. DDAs have been in existence since the 1980s in more than two dozen Colorado cities including Castle Rock, Golden, Longmont, Greeley, Fort Collins, Crested Butte, and Grand Junction. Englewood formed the state's newest DDA in 2020. A DDA can utilize tax increment financing (TIF) which allows future growth in property and sales tax to be reinvested in a downtown. TIF is not a new tax, but allows incremental growth in existing taxes beyond a base year to remain invested in downtown. Any new tax revenue created by new investment is also available to finance improvements within the downtown. DDAs can also seek authorization from those affected for up to a five mill increase in property taxes to fund DDA operations, including public safety, maintenance, and marketing. Unlike urban renewal, DDAs do not have the power of eminent domain and do not require a finding of blight to utilize TIF. A DDA can only be formed by a vote of stakeholders within the proposed district - property owners, businesses, and residents. Once formed, a DDA is governed by a board of affected property and business owners.

Additional Election Information

Voter Registration

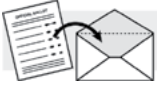
Colorado permits online voter registration with a Colorado driver's license or ID card. You can register to vote if you will be 18 years old by Election Day, are a citizen of the United States, and have lived in Colorado at least 22 days prior to Election Day. Colorado voters can register through Election Day, but must register at least eight days prior to Election Day to receive a ballot in the mail. Voters who register after that day may register and pick up a ballot in person at their county's Voter Service and Polling Center. Refer to your county's website for voter registration and information.

Important Dates

- October 17** Counties will start mailing ballots to all registered electors; ballot drop-off locations open
- October 31** Last day a voter may request a ballot be sent by mail
- November 8** General Election Day; polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m., drop-off locations close at 7 p.m.

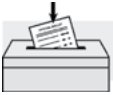
Additional Election Information

Returning Your Ballot



By mail

Ballots may be returned to the county by mail. Be sure to use adequate postage. Ballot postage details can be found in the voter instructions inside the ballot envelope. Mailed ballots must be received by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022. Postmarks will not count.



Drop-off Locations

Dropped off ballots must be sealed in the official return envelope and placed in a ballot box in the county where you live by 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2022.

Your nearest ballot drop-off location can be found on your county's website, listed below:

Arapahoe County
arapahoevotes.com
303-795-4511

Douglas County
douglasvotes.com
303-660-7444

Jefferson County
jeffco.us/elections
303-271-8111

The Littleton Center is not a ballot drop-off location for the 2022 election.



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