



# LARIMER COUNTY CLERK AND RECORDER

## NOTICE OF ELECTION

**COORDINATED ELECTION  
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2023  
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM**

**Tina Harris, Larimer County Clerk and Recorder**

Elections Office  
200 W Oak Street, Suite 5100  
PO Box 1547, Fort Collins, CO 80522  
Phone: (970) 498-7820  
Fax: (970) 498-7847  
Website: [vote.larimer.gov](http://vote.larimer.gov)

Normal Business Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

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### LOCAL BALLOT ISSUES

This Notice of Election was prepared in accordance with Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and the Colorado Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended. The information contained in this Notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information.

This Notice is mailed to each address with one or more active registered electors eligible to vote on this question.

**The Larimer County Clerk and Recorder does not warrant, verify, or confirm the accuracy or truth of the ballot titles, issues, text, and summaries of comments as presented, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation in the materials presented.**

**For information or clarification concerning any of the following ballot issues, contact the respective Designated Election Official as indicated herein.**

Ballot issues for the State will be mailed separately via the State's "Blue Book."

Further, this Notice does not contain ballot issues for those jurisdictions conducting separate elections. A separate Notice will be mailed to the appropriate voters within the jurisdictions conducting an election by mail or polling place. Voters may receive additional materials from other jurisdictions conducting independent elections.

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A Coordinated Election will be held on Tuesday, November 7, 2023, between the hours of 7 AM and 7 PM.

The election will be conducted as a mail ballot election. Ballot materials will be mailed during the week of October 16, 2023, to every active, registered voter.

Voted ballots may be returned by mail (postage is 66 cents) or hand delivered to a designated ballot drop box location or a Voter Service and Polling Center.

After October 30, 2023, it is recommended that voters personally deliver their ballot to any of the drop box or Voter Service and Polling Center locations listed in the following pages of this Notice.

Ballots must be RECEIVED at the Larimer County Elections Office, a designated ballot drop box location or a Voter Service and Polling Center by 7 PM on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, 2023.

Ballots received after 7 PM on Election Day will not be counted. **Postmarks do not count as a received date.**

Visit our website at [vote.larimer.gov](https://vote.larimer.gov) or call (970) 498-7820 to verify your ballot was received by the Larimer County Elections Office.

## **BALLOT DROP BOX LOCATIONS**

(Open October 16 - November 7)

**Drop off your voted ballot 24 hours a day at a ballot drop box location listed below. Ballots will be accepted in these boxes until 7 PM Election Night:**

### **Bellvue Area**

Ted's Place (Hwy 14/287), 92 Poudre Canyon Rd

### **Berthoud Area**

Berthoud Community Library, 236 Welch Ave

### **Estes Park Area**

Estes Park Municipal Building, 170 MacGregor Ave

Estes Park Vehicle Licensing Office, 1601 Brodie Ave

### **Fort Collins Area**

Colorado State University, Lory Student Center

Elks Lodge, 1424 E Mulberry St

Fort Collins Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 4001 S Taft Hill Rd

Fort Collins Police Services, 2221 S Timberline Rd

Fort Collins Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Dr

Fort Collins Traffic Operations, 626 Linden St

Harmony Library, 4616 S Shields St

Larimer County Administrative Services, 200 W Oak St

Larimer County Human Services, 1501 Blue Spruce Dr

Northside Aztlan Community Center, 112 E Willow St

South Transit Center, 4915 Fossil Blvd

### **Laporte Area**

Overland Foods, 3333 County Road 54G

### **Loveland Area**

Loveland Habitat for Humanity ReStore, 5250 N Garfield Ave

Loveland Police & Courts, 810 E 10th St

Loveland Public Library, 300 N Adams Ave

Loveland Vehicle Licensing Office, 200 Peridot Ave

### **Red Feather Lakes Area**

Red Feather Lakes Community Library, 71 Fire House Ln

### **Timnath Area**

Timnath Public Works Building, 4800 Goodman St

### **Wellington Area**

Wellington Public Library, 3800 Wilson Ave

## **VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS (VSPC)**

**Drop off your voted ballot, obtain a replacement ballot, change your address, register to vote, or vote on an ADA accessible voting machine at a Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC).**

***Visit any VSPC only during dates and times listed below.***

### **VSPCs Open Beginning: Oct 30**

**Monday thru Friday, Oct 30 – Nov 3 (8 AM - 5 PM)**

**Saturday, Nov 4 (9 AM - 1 PM)**

**Monday, Nov 6 (8 AM - 5 PM)**

**Tuesday, Nov 7, Election Day (7 AM - 7 PM)**

**Colorado State University, Lory Student Center, Fort Collins**

**Larimer County Administrative Services, 200 W Oak St, Fort Collins**

**Loveland Police & Courts, 810 E 10th St, Loveland**

### **VSPCs Open Beginning: Nov 6**

**Monday, Nov 6 (8 AM - 5 PM)**

**Tuesday, Nov 7, Election Day (7 AM - 7 PM)**

**Estes Valley Community Center, 660 Community Dr, Estes Park**

**Drake Centre, 802 W Drake Rd, Fort Collins**

**Front Range Community College, 4616 S Shields St, Fort Collins**

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
CITY OF LOVELAND  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO  
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election Date: November 7, 2023  
Election Hours: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM  
Local Election Office Address: Delynn Coldiron, Designated Election Official,  
City of Loveland, City Clerk's Office, 500 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Suite 230, Loveland, CO 80537  
Telephone Number: (970) 962-2322

**Ballot Title and Text:**

BALLOT ISSUE 2F

**AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LOVELAND TO IMPOSE AN ADDITIONAL 0.37% SALES TAX  
TO FUND FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE LOVELAND FIRE  
RESCUE AUTHORITY**

SHALL CITY OF LOVELAND TAXES BE INCREASED \$10.0 MILLION ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY IN EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR FROM THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL 0.37% SALES TAX WITH THE REVENUE GENERATED BY SUCH ADDITIONAL SALES TAX TO BE USED SOLELY FOR THE FUNDING OF FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES PROVIDED THROUGH THE LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY, INCLUDING:

- PROVIDING STAFFING, EQUIPMENT AND TRAINING TO ADDRESS WILDFIRES AND REDUCE WILDFIRE RISK ACROSS THE AUTHORITY'S SERVICE AREA,
- HIRING NEW FIREFIGHTERS, AND
- FUNDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO THE LOVELAND FIRE RESCUE AUTHORITY TRAINING CENTER,

PROVIDED THAT ALL EXPENDITURES WILL BE SUBJECT TO AN ANNUAL INDEPENDENT AUDIT PUBLISHED ON THE CITY'S WEBSITE, OVERSEEN BY A COMMITTEE OF CITY RESIDENTS AND REVIEWED PUBLICLY;

AND, IN THE EVENT THAT THE AUTHORITY BECOMES A FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT, SHALL SUCH ADDITIONAL SALES TAX TERMINATE ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE SEVENTH MONTH AFTER THE FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT CERTIFIES ITS FIRST MILL LEVY; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND INVESTMENT INCOME THERON BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE CITY AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Actual Historical and Current Estimated Fiscal Year Spending Information:**

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2023 (Estimated)	\$ 350,000,000.00
2022	\$ 312,897,894.00
2021	\$ 306,325,480.00
2020	\$ 265,449,695.00
2019	\$ 244,381,054.00
Overall percentage change from 2019 through 2023:	43.2%
Overall dollar change from 2019 through 2023:	\$ 105,618,946.00
Estimated 2024 fiscal year spending without proposed tax increase:	\$ 400,000,000.00
Estimated 2024 maximum tax increase authorized by the Ballot Issue:	\$ 10,000,000.00

## **Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

### **The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 2F:**

Please Vote Yes on Issue 2F on the November ballot to support the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority (LFRA). This measure will support LFRA's efforts to keep our community safe and support our firefighters by reducing wildfire risk, hiring additional staff, and improving aging training facilities.

The Loveland Fire Rescue Authority combines leadership and funding from two different jurisdictions—the City of Loveland and the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District. The rural coverage area stretches from the Big Thompson Canyon in the west to east of Interstate 25 and the Johnstown area.

The city's Issue 2F is paired with Issue 68 in the Loveland Rural Fire Protection District, which also seeks a tax increase to fund the same priorities for the LFRA. It's critical that both city and rural voters approve issues 2F and 68 so that LFRA can protect our communities and support its firefighters.

The LFRA serves more than 109,000 residents in the city and rural areas, which swells during the year with tourists and outdoor enthusiasts. As Loveland and the surrounding region experiences significant growth, the employees, volunteers, and staff at LFRA continue to provide exceptional emergency response and fire mitigation and prevention services, however it is becoming increasingly difficult to keep up with the growing need. Since 2012 the full-time population of the region served has increased 18% and call volume has increased by 66%. With more people in our city, threats from fire and other emergencies are growing. The dedicated employees of LFRA are depended on and are continually asked to do more.

A strategic plan was completed by LFRA to identify and address numerous challenges: population growth, increased threats from wildfires, staffing for emergencies and prevention, and equipment and facility needs. Based on feedback from internal and external stakeholders, Issue 2F was developed to address necessary improvements to general operations including:

- Providing staffing, equipment and training to address wildfires and reduce wildfire risk;
- Hiring new firefighters to address staffing shortages; and
- Funding capital improvements across the LFRA, including the firefighter training center.

By continuing to invest in community fire protection, LFRA will be able to maintain the high levels of service experienced today. Issue 2F is a 0.37% sales tax dedicated specifically to prevention, operations, and training. This sales tax would cost 37 cents on a \$100 purchase made in the City of Loveland. If approved by voters, the City of Loveland's sales tax would be 7.07 percent—still far lower than our neighboring cities like Longmont at 8.715 percent and Fort Collins at 7.55 percent. This will make sure that Loveland's retailers and small businesses will remain competitive while the city improves its fire service.

Voting Yes on Issue 2F will allow the City of Loveland and Loveland Fire Rescue Authority to ensure that it continues to meet or exceed your expectations of service, that their staff and volunteers are kept safe through proper training and equipment, and that our community is prepared for the future. Please vote yes on Issue 2F.

### **The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 2F:**

2F is a \$10,000,000 grab for City Hall, while pretending to be just a fire-protection measure. The demanded increase represents a 10% jump over the City's entire tax-funded and fee-funded expenditures for 2022. This rate increase in itself will cause overall sales taxes paid by Lovelanders to rise by over 12%.

The new tax revenue, if spent only on the fire department, would permanently increase its budget by 55% over that planned for 2024, for a department some believe is already at full capacity in fire-fighting capability. Such a departmental increase will likely never happen, and City Hall will simply budget \$10 million less for fire-protection, spending that reduction elsewhere.

This sales tax increase is only “temporary” until Loveland homeowners agree to increase their property taxes by \$18,000,000 (current budget in 2024 dollars). So, one way or another, it is a permanent huge increase in all taxes paid. (And taxpayers can count on City Hall asking future voters to not let this increase expire when the time comes.)

An unspoken part of this proposal is City Hall’s plan eventually to offload fire protection to a separately funded “authority” (but still managed in City Hall). This would divest itself of the fire department’s 20% of City Hall’s tax-funded expenditures and prioritize those tax collections elsewhere.

Regarding the mention of “wildfire prevention,” wildfire fighting and prevention are primarily county and state obligations (maybe even federal, given RMNP and national forests). All taxpayers in Larimer County, Colorado, and the US, should share in the cost of those obligations.

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS  
CITY OF LOVELAND  
LARIMER COUNTY, COLORADO  
NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

Election Date: November 7, 2023

Election Hours: 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

Local Election Office Address: Delynn Coldiron, Designated Election Official,  
City of Loveland, City Clerk's Office, 500 E 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Suite 230, Loveland, CO 80537

Telephone Number: (970) 962-2322

**Ballot Title and Text:**

BALLOT ISSUE 2G

**AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF LOVELAND TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND FOR A TWELVE-YEAR PERIOD FOR THE PURPOSES OF POLICE AND FIRE, STREET CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, PARKS CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, ALL CITY REVENUES IN EXCESS OF THE SPENDING, REVENUE AND OTHER LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION.**

WITHOUT CREATING OR IMPOSING ANY NEW TAX OR INCREASING THE RATE OF ANY EXISTING TAX, SHALL THE CITY OF LOVELAND, COLORADO BE PERMITTED FOR A TWELVE-YEAR PERIOD BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2025, THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2036, TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND ALL CITY REVENUES IN EXCESS OF THE SPENDING, REVENUE AND OTHER LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, WITH SUCH EXCESS REVENUES TO BE USED FOR POLICE AND FIRE, STREET CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, PARKS CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE?

**Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:**

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 2G:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 2G:**

Proposition 2G will keep Lovelanders from receiving the tax refunds they are due at year's end whenever City Hall collects more revenue than it needs to pay the City's expenses (figuring in growth and inflation). This proposition, commonly called "De-Brucing," will allow City Hall to keep all excess revenue for 12 years. (In previous years, the City of Loveland has kept a total excess of over \$51 million.)

While the City says it will only spend the excess on a few popular services, funds are fungible and can be moved around to suit whims. This doesn't encourage good government. With less voter oversight, if 2G succeeds, a city isn't motivated to have a leaner, more responsible fiscal policy; but instead will encourage building up revenue from fees and fines.

City Hall likes to cry poor, but it is flush with money. In just three years, the City's investment portfolio grew from \$100 million to over \$300 million. And at the end of 2022, Loveland's General Fund had a \$26.9 million surplus. (It should have been \$4.4 million higher, but the City only collects 60% of the 3.0% city sales tax from customers at Centerra. We can expect more revenue giveaways if 2G passes).

Passing 2G means City Hall will get to spend the property tax windfall of \$4 million resulting from these heart-stopping high home assessments we've all seen, when City Hall should be adjusting



the mill levy down 18%, as the Colorado Constitution requires. City Hall would rather keep the money than give taxpayers some relief in this difficult economy where the price of food, housing, utilities, childcare -- really everything -- has gone sky high.

A vote "no" on 2G is a vote for more responsive government, and for a government that is more responsible with the citizenry's money.

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## END OF BALLOT ISSUE NOTICE

As required by Colorado Statutes (C.R.S. 1-7-905), I hereby certify the ballot issue notices are complete as submitted by the political subdivisions.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tina Harris". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Tina Harris  
Larimer County Clerk & Recorder

**TINA HARRIS**

Larimer County Clerk & Recorder  
PO Box 1547  
Fort Collins CO 80522-1547



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