

NOVEMBER 2026 ELECTION

CITIZENS PROJECT BALLOT MEASURES VOTER GUIDE

Election Day is Tuesday, November 3, 2026
Early in-person voting begins Monday, October 19

Ballots must be RECEIVED by November 3, 2026 by 7 p.m.

Ways to turn in your ballot:

1. Mail your ballot by following the instructions given on the ballot/envelope provided. To ensure your vote gets counted, mail your ballot by **Friday, October 23**!
2. Drop off your completed ballot at a ballot drop box or a Voter Service and Polling Center (VSPC) before **7 p.m. on November 3**. To find a drop-off or voting location, visit t.ly/cosdropoff2026. You do not need a stamp for ballots dropped in a drop box or at a VSPC.
3. Turn in your ballot by voting in person at a VSPC before the end of Election Day. If you are in line to vote before **7 p.m.** on Election Day, you can complete your vote. Do not get out of line.

If you forget to bring an identification card to vote in person, you can still cast your ballot. Valid forms of ID can be found under Resources on govotecolorado.com.

Voter Registration: To register or update your registration online, visit govotecolorado.com.

For further assistance: Contact the County Clerk's Office at (719) 575-VOTE (8683) or visit epcvotes.com.

Citizens Project's mission is to empower the people of Colorado Springs to create a city that is equitable, just and inclusive through civic engagement, voter education and local advocacy.

Our Vision: We envision a city where human rights are protected, diversity is respected, and people are empowered to participate in civic life fully.

We publish our voters' guide to help community members like you make confident, informed decisions when you vote. Use this resource to understand how these ballot measures will affect our community, and share it with your friends, family, and neighbors.

For a more in-depth analysis and additional background on ballot measures in **English** and **Español**/**Spanish**, please visit **citizensproject.org.**

Citizens Project

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BALLOT MEASURES EXPLAINED WITH CITIZENS PROJECT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Amendment 81 (Constitutional): Law Enforcement Reporting Requirements to Federal Authorities **NO**

This amendment would change the state's constitution to require state and local law enforcement agencies to notify DHS and ICE when charging someone **whose immigration status cannot be determined, even before a court has determined their guilt or innocence.** It would also apply to anyone with a prior felony conviction, regardless of when it occurred. This amendment would undermine current laws, which protect our local community from federal overreach.

Amendment 82 (Constitutional): Constitutional Right to Purchase and Sell Natural Gas **NO**

This amendment would establish a constitutional right for Coloradans to purchase natural gas and for distributors and utilities to sell it. Passing this amendment could interfere with local decision-making on public health priorities, energy needs, and climate goals, especially since Colorado has committed to net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050.

Amendment 83 (Constitutional): Constitutional Right to Hunt and Fish **NO**

Hunting and fishing are already legal, regulated, and treated as core wildlife management tools under Colorado law. Instead of providing further protections for those activities, this amendment would lock a ranking of management tools into the state constitution, add undefined terms like "traditional methods," and subject every future wildlife rule to court challenges over whether it's "reasonable and necessary." Wildlife policy would be determined by lawsuits instead of by scientists and citizens. Colorado voters can support hunters and while keeping their options open by voting against this amendment.

Amendment 84 (Constitutional): Mail Ballot Voter Identification **NO**

This amendment would require voters to provide the last four digits of their Social Security number, their Colorado driver's license number, or their state identification card number on the outside of their mail ballot for any federal or state election. This amendment would add to the signature already required for verification, and any ballot returned without one of these ID numbers would not be counted until the voter provides it. Annual audits show that our elections are safe and secure. This unnecessary step would lower turnout among eligible voters.

Amendment 85 (Constitutional): Plain Language Ballot Titles **NO**

This amendment would require all ballot questions to be written in plain English, which is defined in the amendment's text as "an 8th-grade reading level." Colorado has already taken steps on this issue. Earlier this year, the Governor signed a new law requiring "all state and local ballot questions to be written in plain language." Amendment 85 is written without room for any nuance, and would make it much harder to communicate certain laws. This amendment could also prevent the Colorado state legislature from adding language, context, or information to ballot questions that could be crucial to voters' decision-making.

Amendment 86 (Constitutional): Requirements for Off-Cycle Congressional Redistricting **NO RECOMMENDATION**

A "yes" vote would limit congressional redistricting outside of the typical redistricting cycle (once every 10 years), unless it goes through a slow, nonpartisan process with court approval. A "no" vote keeps the status quo, which requires changing congressional districts every 10 years, but allows for the flexibility to redraw congressional districts before then (as many other states have been doing.)

Amendment 87 (Constitutional): Graduated Income Tax **YES**

Colorado's current income tax system is a flat 4.4% for all taxpayers, regardless of income. This amendment would replace that system with a graduated one in which the more an individual earns, the more they pay; similar to how the federal income tax system works. Should Amendment 87 pass, households making up to $500,000 would pay 4.4% or less. Households making more than $500,000 would pay between 7.4% and 8.4%. This change would generate an additional $2 billion in revenue for the state, and these retained funds would be spent on critically underfunded programs, such as K-12 education, healthcare, and early childcare/education.

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Proposition 132 (Statutory): Increase Penalties for Fentanyl Crimes **NO**

This proposition would substantially increase prison sentences for drug offenses where fentanyl has been detected, making possession of any amount of fentanyl a felony, requiring a minimum 8-year prison sentence for **any** quantity of distribution. It would eliminate **any** possibility of reduced penalties or discretion in certain possession or distribution offenses, including for first-time offenders. Increasing penalties for drug convictions has never been proven to reduce drug usage, and this measure would only put users in need of help into an overpopulated prison.

Proposition 133 (Statutory): Penalties for Human Trafficking of a Minor **NO**

This proposition would mandate that anyone convicted of felony child sex trafficking be sentenced to life in prison without parole or release. Victim advocacy organizations have expressed concerns that passing this measure could lead to increased risks for victims, making them more likely to be criminalized for actions they were coerced or forced to take part in and less likely to report. They also note that passing this measure would remove existing protections and limit legal defenses for youth victims. Currently, those convicted of felony child sex trafficking are sentenced to 8 to 48 years in prison, plus a mandatory parole period.

Proposition 134 (Statutory): Male and Female Participation in School and Collegiate Sports **NO**

This proposition would require that all K-12 and collegiate school sports teams be officially designated as male, female, or coeducational based on biological sex. It would also require schools and districts to implement policies to ensure that students are assigned to gender-designated teams that align with their biological sex, rather than the gender they live in their everyday lives. Currently, school districts and athletic associations set their own policies in alignment with current state and federal law about who is eligible to participate on a team or in a sport. Passage of this proposition would also require transgender students to compete on teams matching their sex assigned at birth; however, birth certificates **will not** be the major determinant of a person's sex assigned at birth. This proposition defines biological sex in terms of reproductive cell production.

The measure also does not require a specific method for determining or demonstrating biological sex, instead placing the burden on individual schools or school districts to develop their own verification procedures. It does not clearly define how the policy would be enforced, opening the door to invasive inspections of students' bodies and harmful practices that risk the safety and well-being of **all** Colorado children.

Proposition 135 (Statutory): Prohibit Surgery on Minors in Response to Perception of Sex and Gender **NO**

This proposition would prohibit healthcare professionals from performing any surgery on a minor that would alter their biological sex characteristics. Colorado law currently protects access to medical surgical procedures that may alter biological sex characteristics and allows public and private health insurance to pay for this care. This proposition would instead restrict access to certain health care for minors (including life-saving and medically necessary procedures that may alter any aspect of a child's sex characteristics), taking decisions about a child's healthcare away from their families and the doctors they trust, and instead putting it into the hands of politicians. Inserting politicians into these deeply personal medical decisions represents significant government overreach.

Proposition 136 (Statutory): Income Tax Rate Limit **NO**

This proposition would cap Colorado's individual income tax rate at the current 4.4%, regardless of income. This system has left many of Colorado's most crucial programs, such as education, healthcare and food assistance programs like SNAP and WIC, critically underfunded, as millionaires currently pay the same tax rate as working-class Coloradans.

Citizens Project

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BALLOT MEASURES EXPLAINED WITH CITIZENS PROJECT'S RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposition 137 (Statutory): Direct Sporting Goods Sales Tax Revenue for Conservation **YES**

This proposition would increase water and land conservation funding without raising taxes by allowing the state to keep and spend revenue from the existing state sales tax on sporting goods and equipment. This revenue would also support wildfire prevention, conservation efforts and outdoor recreation.

Proposition NN (Statutory): Keep and Send Money for Education and Other Purposes **YES**

This proposition would allow Colorado's investment in K-12 public education to increase by 2 percent each year for the next 10 years, without raising taxes. Should Proposition NN pass, the state could keep some or all of the retained revenue that would otherwise be refunded to taxpayers. Colorado's education system is critically underfunded, and our state ranks at the bottom in both teacher pay competitiveness and retention. This proposition allows Colorado to invest in our students without collecting new funding.

Front Range Passenger Rail District Ballot Issue 7A: YES

Colorado Connector (CoCo) is a planned intercity passenger train for Colorado's Front Range. It would connect 12 Front Range communities, with daily service at 12 stations between Fort Collins and Pueblo. Expanded public transit reduces emissions, reduces traffic congestion, and increases accessibility and social equity.

Colorado Springs District 11 Ballot Issue 4A: NO RECOMMENDATION

The ballot asks voters whether D11 should be authorized to issue up to $775 million in general obligation bonds for capital improvements across the district. If approved, the measure would fund eligible capital work at every D11 school, with larger investments directed to campuses with the greatest identified facility needs. The estimated cost for the average District 11 homeowner is about $250 a year.

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