

**Information regarding ballot issues on the City of Salida special election ballot: September 25, 2018**

**Note:** Colorado law prohibits the use of public monies to urge voters to vote for or against any ballot issue. Accordingly, the following information is intended to assist public understanding of the issues on the upcoming special election ballot in a neutral manner, and is not intended to influence voters to vote for or against any issue.

**I. “Salida Crossings” Project: Referendum**

***Ballot question:***

SHALL THE CITY OF SALIDA ADOPT ORDINANCE 2018-04, AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF SALIDA, COLORADO APPROVING A MAJOR IMPACT REVIEW FOR A 3.15 ACRE PARCEL LOCATED AT 1520 HIGHWAY 50 CURRENTLY ZONED C-1 TO PLACE A PLANNED DEVELOPMENT OVERLAY ON THE PROPERTY AND APPROVE THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN FOR SALIDA CROSSINGS

***Explanation of ballot issue***

If approved by voters, this measure would permit a mixed-use development previously approved by the City Council to be built at the location set forth in the ballot question (above). After approval of the project by Council, several Salida citizens petitioned the City to place the question of approval of the project before voters.

**II. Restoring Broadband Authority**

***Ballot question:***

SHALL THE CITY OF SALIDA, WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES BY THIS MEASURE, AND TO RESTORE LOCAL AUTHORITY THAT WAS DENIED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS BY THE COLORADO GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND FOSTER A MORE COMPETITIVE MARKETPLACE, BE AUTHORIZED TO PROVIDE HIGH-SPEED INTERNET, INCLUDING IMPROVED HIGH BANDWIDTH SERVICES BASED ON NEW TECHNOLOGIES, TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, AND/OR CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES TO RESIDENTS, BUSINESSES, SCHOOLS, LIBRARIES, NON-PROFIT ENTITIES AND OTHER USERS OF SUCH SERVICES EITHER DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERS, AS EXPRESSLY PERMITTED BY ARTICLE 27, TITLE 29 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES?

***Explanation of ballot issue***

If voters approve this ballot item, Salida would be exempted from a state law commonly known as “[Senate Bill] SB-152,” which presently limits the City from actively participating in various efforts aimed at higher speed local broadband capabilities. With this exemption, the City would be permitted to establish business partnerships with private companies designed to increase access to high-speed broadband internet, opt to provide this service itself, or develop a combined strategy to serve residents and business users.

This ballot item would not increase taxes, nor would it prevent any private business from initiating or continuing to provide these services. Passage of this measure would allow the City to explore

a variety of options to make assets available to serve the broadband needs of residents, students and businesses.

Voters in 122 Colorado towns, cities and counties have exempted themselves from SB-152, passing measures that permit their local governments to take an active role in facilitating development of higher speed local broadband services. In several of these jurisdictions, projects aimed at increasing speed and capabilities of local broadband service are already well under way. Other communities are assessing needs or otherwise in the planning stages for local projects.

### **III. Appointed City Clerk**

#### ***Ballot question:***

WITHOUT AFFECTING THE TERMS OF THE CURRENT CITY CLERK, SHALL THE CITY OF SALIDA CHANGE THE OFFICE OF CITY CLERK TO BE AN APPOINTED RATHER THAN ELECTED POSITION, WITH APPOINTMENT TO BE MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO §C.R.S. 31-4-107(4)(a)?

#### ***Explanation of ballot issue***

If voters approve this ballot item, the Salida City Council will appoint the City Clerk rather than this being an elected position. This ballot issue will not affect the term of the current municipal clerk.

This question is being put to City voters by the City Council, because in recent elections for this position, there has been a lack of candidates interested in serving in this position. Permitting Council to appoint the City Clerk would avoid vacancies in this important municipal office and assure continuity in performance of the clerk's service to the City and the Salida community.

Colorado statutes permit the City Council to submit to the electorate at a regular or special election a proposal that the position of clerk be made appointive rather than elective. Voters in most of Colorado's statutory cities have already taken this step.

### **IV. Appointed City Treasurer**

#### ***Ballot question:***

WITHOUT AFFECTING THE TERMS OF THE CURRENT CITY TREASURER, SHALL THE CITY OF SALIDA CHANGE THE OFFICE OF CITY TREASURER TO BE AN APPOINTED RATHER THAN ELECTED POSITION, WITH APPOINTMENT TO BE MADE BY THE CITY COUNCIL PURSUANT TO §C.R.S. 31-4-107(4)(a)?

#### ***Explanation of ballot issue***

If voters approve this ballot item, Salida City Council will appoint the City Treasurer rather than this being an elected position. This ballot issue will not affect the term of the current municipal treasurer.

This question is being put to City voters because, in recent elections for this position, there has been a lack of candidates interested in serving in this position. Permitting Council to appoint the City Treasurer would avoid vacancies in this important office and assure continuity in performance of the Treasurer's duties to the City.

Colorado statutes permit the City Council to submit to the electorate at a regular or special election a proposal that the position of treasurer be made appointive rather than elective. Voters in most of Colorado's statutory cities have already taken this step.

## **V. Economic Development Funds**

### ***Ballot question:***

SHALL THE CITY OF SALIDA AMEND SECTION 4-3-50(c) OF THE SALIDA MUNICIPAL CODE CONCERNING THE DISPOSITION OF REVENUE TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

Section 4-3-Disposition of Revenue.

(c) Up to 10% of the proceeds received from the three percent (3%) sales tax imposed by the City of Salida shall be allocated to the Economic Development Fund to be used, as approved by City Council, for Economic Development purposes. "Economic Development purposes" includes, but is not limited to, the creation of affordable and sustainable housing and to the support of efforts to improve the standard of living of the community through the creation of jobs, the support of innovation and new ideas, the creation of greater net wealth; and the improvements to quality of life.

### ***Explanation of ballot issue***

Currently Salida Municipal Code allows for up to 2% of the proceeds from the 3% sales tax imposed by the City of Salida be allocated to the Economic Development Fund. If approved by voters, this measure will permit the City Council to allocate up to 10% of the proceeds of the City sales tax to this purpose.

With this authority, Council will have discretion to annually weigh designating additional revenues for economic development against other City needs and allocate funds as they determine best serves the interest of the City.

## **VI. Allowing Transfer of Retail Marijuana Licenses**

### ***Ballot question:***

SHALL THE SALIDA MUNICIPAL CODE BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF CITY MARIJUANA BUSINESS LICENSES ON AND AFTER NOVEMBER 1, 2018?

### ***Explanation of ballot issue***

If approved by voters, this measure will repeal a provision in the Salida Municipal Code that prohibits transfers of licenses for marijuana dispensaries. Such transfers could then take place, as permitted by Colorado law.