

Back to Basics: Ballot Initiative 2A Fact Sheet

Election Day: Tuesday, November 6, 2018

Mail Ballots Arrive: Week of October 15th

Ballot Question:

QUESTION 2-A: AUTHORIZATION TO INCREASE CITY TAXES FOR 25 YEARS FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING POLICE, PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODE ENFORCEMENT, THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A POLICE STATION AND OTHER CITY BUILDINGS, AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS.

SHALL CITY OF DURANGO TAXES BE INCREASED NOT MORE THAN \$8,716,000 IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2019 AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY A MILL LEVY OF NOT MORE THAN 5.4 MILLS AND AN ADDITIONAL SALES AND USE TAX OF NOT MORE THAN 0.55% FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUNDING POLICE, PUBLIC SAFETY AND CODE ENFORCEMENT; THE CONSTRUCTION, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF A POLICE STATION AND OTHER CITY BUILDINGS AND FACILITIES; AND THE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF STREETS, ALLEYS, CURBS, GUTTERS, SIDEWALKS AND RELATED STREET IMPROVEMENTS; PROVIDED THAT THESE INCREASED TAXES SHALL NOT BE COLLECTED AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2043?

What types of City Services are authorized through 2-A?

Police and Public Safety Services
Code Enforcement
Street Maintenance
Complete Street, Alley, Sidewalk, and
ADA Improvements

What projects are authorized to receive funding if 2-A is passed?

Example projects* (including but not limited to) authorized to receive funding are subject to review and prioritization by City Council during the annual budget process:

*For a complete list of street projects based on pavement condition rating visit www.DurangoGov.org/StreetIndex

Complete Streets (This includes new curb and gutter, sidewalk, storm sewer improvements, and asphalt paving):

- Thomas Drive
- North College Drive
- Animas View Drive
- Junction Creek Road
- Clovis Drive
- Sawmill Road
- Forest Ave
- E 8th Avenue (College Drive to E 8th Street)

Reconstructions (This includes ADA ramps, may include sidewalk sections):

- Narrow Gauge Avenue
- Turner Drive
- Suttle Street
- Sanborn Place
- Weston Drive
- Alamo Drive
- Park Avenue
- Montview Parkway

Overlays (This includes ADA ramps):

- Junction Street
- 9th Street
- E 2nd Avenue
- Arroyo Drive
- 32nd Street
- Jenkins Ranch Road
- W 3rd Avenue
- 3rd Avenue
- Main Avenue

Surface Treatments:

- Florida Road
- Confluence Avenue

Alleys:

- No specific alleys have been selected. Plan to repair/replace one commercial alley based on condition.
- Establish a 50/50 residential alley program

Sidewalks:

- Reinstate the 50/50 sidewalk program

ADA Ramps:

- ADA ramps will be replaced in conjunction with reconstruction and overlay projects.
- 10-15 ramps based on bid pricing per year

Public Safety:

- Design and Construction of a New Police Station
- Durango Fire Protection District Contract
- Police Body Worn Cameras
- Code Enforcement

Other Facilities:

- Renovation of the Carnegie Building (Old Library)
- Capital Maintenance on the Durango Public Library
- Capital Maintenance on the 911 Communications Building
- Capital Maintenance on City Hall

City Streets: Did you know?

The most cost-effective way to maintain streets is through preventative maintenance, such as surface treatments and overlays. Surface treatment costs between \$2-7 per square yard, and overlays are approximately \$18 per square yard. If surface treatments and overlays are performed on a street with a pavement index of good/very good, the 15-20 year asphalt life can be extended to 40 years.

However, when a street reaches a marginal pavement index (or less) a reconstruction or complete street is required. Complete streets cost approximately \$80 per square yard. Reconstructions cost approximately \$40 per square yard.

To avoid a stranded investment and maintain City infrastructure in the most cost-effective manner, fixing the streets in the worst condition first and moving to proactive preventative maintenance on the “good” streets is the least costly approach.

A list of Street projects to be reviewed, based on the Pavement Condition Index, is available at www.DurangoGov.org/StreetIndex.

Police Station: Did you know?

The current police station was built in the early 1950's as a car dealership. By 1969, the building changed uses and began housing the fire and police departments. In 1985, the Fire Department moved to River City Hall. In 1985, the Police Department had 30.5 employees (25 officers) housed in the current location. Today, the Police Department has 66 employees (56 officers).

For more information, the City's Facility Master Plan can be found at www.durangogov.org/masterplans

Will my taxes increase if 2A is passed?

Yes, by 5.4 mills in property tax and .55% in sales tax. Here is what it might mean to you.

An increase of 5.4 mills in property tax equates to: **Residential Properties**

An increase of \$38.88 per year per \$100,000 actual value.

For example, on a \$400,000 home this equals an increase in property tax of \$153/year or \$12.75/month. You may be eligible to claim this as a deduction on your income taxes.

- **Formula:** \$100,000 (Actual Value) x .072 (Current Assessment Ratio) = \$7,200 (Assessed Value)
\$7,200 (Assessed Value) x .0054 (Proposed mill levy increase) = \$38.88 (increase in property tax per year).

Commercial Properties

An increase of \$156 per year per \$100,000 actual value.

For example, on a \$1,000,000 commercial property this equals an increase in property tax of \$1,560/year or \$130.50/month. Businesses may be eligible to claim this as a business expense on income taxes.

- **Formula:** \$100,000 (Actual Value) x .29 (Current Assessment Ratio) = \$29,000 (Assessed Value)
\$29,000 (Assessed Value) x .0054 (Proposed mill levy increase) = \$156 (increase in property tax per year).

An increase of 0.55% sales and use tax:

If Question 2A passes, the city tax for a taxable purchase in the City of Durango increases from 3.0% to 3.55% sales and use tax. When combined with state and county taxes the total tax rate is currently 7.9% and would increase by 0.55% to 8.45%.

If an average family of 4 spends approximately \$800/month on taxable items, the 0.55% sales tax increase equates to \$4.40 per month or an increase of \$52.80 over the course of a year.

Another way to look at this if a pair of shoes is purchased for \$100.00 the sales tax on this purchase would increase by \$0.55.



For more information, call 970-375-5005, email citycouncil@durangogov.org or citymanager@durangogov.org or visit www.durangogov.org/engage