

Nov. 7, 2023 Election Fact Sheet

Ballot Issue 3G: *Sales Tax Extension*

Ballot Text

WITHOUT RAISING ADDITIONAL TAXES, SHALL THE CITY OF NORTHGLENN'S EXISTING ONE-HALF PERCENT (1/2%) SALES AND USE TAX BE EXTENDED AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE WITHOUT A SUNSET CLAUSE, THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH SALES AND USE TAX EXTENSION TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR PUBLIC SAFETY OPERATIONS, CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO RESIDENTIAL STREETS AND PARK AMENITIES, AND OTHER GENERAL OPERATIONS; PROVIDED THAT SUCH SALES AND USE TAX SHALL CONTINUE NOT TO APPLY TO SALES OF FOOD FOR HOME CONSUMPTION?

Explanation

The ballot question asks voters if they want to extend the sales and use tax on non-food purchases without a sunset clause. In 2001, voters approved a one-half percent (or 50 cents per \$100 purchase) sales and use tax increase on non-food sales, whereby revenue collected would be used first to reduce debt service and excess funds were to enhance the city's water supply.

Ballot question 3G asks voters if they want to extend the existing City of Northglenn sales and use tax rate of ½% on all non-food sales with the money generated dedicated to supporting public safety, capital improvements including residential streets and park amenities, and other general operations, without a scheduled sunset.

Proponents in favor say:

- The tax extension will be specifically used for the enhancement of public safety, residential road maintenance, parks, and other operational needs.
- This is not a tax increase, but a continuation of a current tax in place since 2001.
- Sales and use taxes spread the cost out to all who visit, shop, or work in Northglenn.
- Existing city revenues do not provide adequate funding to support the long-term needs of public safety and road maintenance.

Opponents against say:

- Sales and use tax have a greater impact on people who have lower income and/or are unemployed.
- Money in the city budget should be reallocated rather than extending the current tax.
- A decrease in sales tax is a benefit to everyone.
- The tax funds should be limited to capital improvements.

Ballot Question 3H on Next Page

Ballot Question 3H: *Updating the Charter Language to be Gender-Silent*

Ballot Text

Shall the City of Northglenn Home Rule Charter be amended to update the language throughout the Charter to be gender-silent, meaning that gender-specific references such as “he,” “Councilmen,” and “Policemen” shall be replaced with the use of position titles such as “Mayor,” “Council members,” and “Police Officers”?

Explanation

This City Charter amendment would replace gender-specific pronouns and terms throughout the Charter with gender-silent position titles. For example, the existing City Charter language uses terms such as “he” and “his” when referring to the Mayor or City Manager, “Councilman,” and “policemen.” The proposed amendment would replace such terms with “Mayor,” “City Manager,” “Council member,” and “police officers” without changing the meaning of the Charter sections.

Proponents in favor say:

- Language evolves over time, and it is necessary to revise outdated terms to reflect current norms.
- The proposed amendment will further eliminate gender-based pronouns and titles that seem to assume only males occupy leadership positions defined in the Charter, even though such assumptions have not been accurate for many years.
- Gender silent language, specifically the use of position titles such as Mayor, Council member, City Manager, and Police Officer, includes everyone who may serve in those roles.
- City Charters should be accurate, clear, and accessible, and replacing gender-specific language with gender-silent terms will help achieve those goals.

Opponents against say:

- The use of gender-specific language such as “he,” “Councilmen,” and “Policemen” have been used historically, and it is implied that women and other genders are included.
- Making this change is of little consequence and simply reflects a move toward political correctness.
- The City Charter is a historical document, and such changes are unnecessary.
- City resources should not be used to promote inclusion.