

**TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON REFERRED MEASURES**

CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION  
Mesa County, Colorado

**Election Date:** Tuesday, April 4, 2023  
**Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:**

City Clerk's Office  
City of Grand Junction  
250 North 5th Street  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501  
Telephone: (970) 244-1509

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**Ballot Title and Text:**

**CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION REFERRED MEASURE 1A**

SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION TAXES BE INCREASED \$2,300,000 IN 2023 (BEGINNING IN JULY 2023) AND \$4,600,000 IN 2024 (THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR) AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS AS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2054 BY INCREASING THE CITY'S SALES AND USE TAX RATE FROM 3.25% TO 3.39% BEGINNING JULY 1, 2023 FOR THE PURPOSE OF GENERATING REVENUE TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF DEBT SERVICE, CONSTRUCTION, EQUIPPING, AND FURNISHING, AND IF AVAILABLE, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING, AN INDOOR COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER (CRC) AT MATCHETT PARK WHICH AS DESCRIBED IN THE ADOPTED 2022 CRC PLAN IS PROJECTED TO PROVIDE AND MAY INCLUDE BUT NOT NECESSARILY BE LIMITED TO A MULTI-GENERATIONAL AQUATIC CENTER WITH A WARM WATER LEISURE POOL CONSISTING OF A LAZY RIVER, ZERO DEPTH ENTRY, WATER PLAYGROUND AND SLIDES, A COOL WATER LAP POOL, AND A WARM WATER THERAPY POOL, A MULTI-SPORT GYMNASIUM, AN INDOOR WALK/JOG TRACK, A FITNESS AND WEIGHTS AREA, MULTI-PURPOSE MEETING ROOMS, AND OTHER COMMUNITY GATHERING AND RECREATION SPACES, AND SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION DEBT BE INCREASED \$70,000,000 WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$148,500,000 TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER (CRC) WITH THE

DEBT BEING PAYABLE FROM THE TAX INCREASE OR ANY OTHER GENERAL REVENUE OF THE CITY, PROVIDED THAT THE SPECIFIC TERMS OF THE DEBT, INCLUDING A PROVISION FOR EARLY REPAYMENT WITH OR WITHOUT A PREMIUM, AND THE PRICE AT WHICH IT WILL BE SOLD BEING DETERMINED BY THE CITY AS NECESSARY AND PRUDENT WITH THE CITY BEING AUTHORIZED TO IMPOSE, COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND SUCH REVENUES AND ANY INVESTMENT EARNINGS AND INTEREST ON SUCH REVENUES, AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

Yes  No

**Total City Fiscal Year Spending**

Fiscal Year

2023 (adopted)	\$90,935,663
2022 (unaudited)	\$80,119,340
2021 (actual)	\$77,158,368
2020 (actual)	\$66,658,277
2019 (actual)	\$65,967,940

Overall percentage change from 2019 - 2023	38%
Overall dollar change from 2019 - 2023	\$24,967,723

**Estimate of Maximum Dollar Amount of Increase of Fiscal Year Spending with the Proposed Tax Increase**

The City’s estimate of the maximum dollar amount of the proposed tax increase in 2023 (beginning July 2023) of the proposed tax increase: \$2,300,000

The City’s estimate of the maximum dollar amount of the proposed tax increase for the first fiscal year (2024) of the proposed tax increase: \$4,600,000

The City’s estimate of fiscal year spending in 2023 without the proposed tax increase: \$90,935,663

The City’s estimate of fiscal year spending in 2024 without the proposed tax increase: \$91,556,422

## Information on City's Proposed Debt

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$ 70,000,000
Maximum Annual City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$ 4,950,000
Total City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$148,500,000

## Information on City's Current Debt

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$51,310,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$ 5,327,000
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$124,662,469

## Summary of Written Comments FOR Referred Measure 1A:

Grand Junction voters have an opportunity to do something great. We can vote to build a Community Recreation Center to serve as a hub for residents to meet, recreate, and play. City leaders and proponents listened to residents' desire for a Community Recreation Center (CRC), as well as concerns regarding previous proposals. Measure 1A is a significantly improved plan, developed following resident surveys and focus group meetings.

### A Simple Plan

The 83,000 sq. foot facility will be located at Matchett Park, accessible off Patterson and 28 1/4 Road and located on a major GVT route. More than 50,000 residents live within a 5-minute drive. Two-thirds of the space in the concept plan creates amenities not offered by the private sector.

Those amenities include:

- Indoor walking/jogging track
- 3-court gymnasium for pickleball and court sports
- Aquatics
  - A pool, indoor slide, lap lanes, lazy river, warm-water therapy pool (absent since the closure of St. Mary's Life Center)

Additional amenities:

- Community meeting rooms with a catering kitchen
- Separate gathering spaces for seniors and youth
- Exercise rooms and a climbing wall (Designed to introduce residents to wellness activities with the intention that many will choose specialized training at private centers)

Reasonable daily entry & membership rates, plus Silver Sneakers and Renew Active for seniors, will make the CRC affordable and scholarships will be provided.

### **Smart Financing**

The \$70m cost is lower than the previous proposal and includes everything from roads and sewers to fixtures and furniture. Funding will come from two sources: already voter approved cannabis tax revenue, and a 0.14% sales tax. The tax sunsets after 30 years or as soon as the bond is paid off, whichever comes sooner, and to put this into perspective, this means 14-cents on a \$100 purchase. GJ's sales taxes DO NOT apply to groceries, gas, or medications, and two-thirds of city sales taxes are paid by out-of-city visitors.

### **The Time is Right**

For years residents have expressed a desire for a CRC but haven't had an opportunity to consider it on its own merits without competing against other community needs. Recently we approved funding for public safety, roads, and a new high school. With these priorities addressed, the time is right.

### **The Beginning of Something Bigger**

In 2022, Grand Junction celebrated the 25th anniversary of Canyon View Park, our city's 100+ acre outdoor treasure for baseball, softball, field sports, tennis courts, ponds, and a dog park. The complex bustles with activity nearly every day. Matchett Park, acquired for park purposes 25 years ago, is more than double the size of Canyon View. By approving Measure 1A, voters can add the beginning of a major outdoor park. A CRC would kick-start the necessary infrastructure and open up funding opportunities. Many large grants only fund outdoor amenities and wait until a community invests before supporting a build-out. A yes vote would not only initiate completion of a dream that began more than a quarter-century ago, it would be an investment in us.

### **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Referred Measure 1A:**

TEXT