

**JANICE RICH**  
**Mesa County Clerk & Recorder**  
**Elections Division**  
**P.O. Box 20000**  
**Grand Junction, CO 81502-5009**

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## ECRWSS POSTAL CUSTOMER

<p><b>TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS</b></p> <p>(IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION)  <b>NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT OR TO INCREASE REVENUE SPENDING LIMITS ON REFERRED MEASURES.</b></p>	<p><b>COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE:</b> 544 Rood Avenue, third floor,        (Old Courthouse Annex)        Grand Junction, CO 81501        (970) 244-1662        Janice Rich, Mesa County Clerk &amp; Recorder        Amy Storm, Chief Deputy Clerk</p>
<p><b>GENERAL ELECTION - NOVEMBER 4, 2008</b>  <b>COUNTY OF MESA - STATE OF COLORADO</b></p> <p><b>ELECTION DATE:</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>Tuesday, November 4, 2008</b></span>  <b>ELECTION HOURS:</b> <span style="float: right;">7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.</span></p> <p><b>BALLOTS MAILED BY APPLICATION:</b>        October 6, 2008 through October 28, 2008</p> <p><b>EARLY VOTING:</b> Monday thru Friday, October 20 – 31, 2008</p> <p><b>ELECTION DAY VOTING:</b>        Tuesday November 4, 2008 at one of twenty five locations  <b>Voting locations are listed on the back of this notice.</b></p>	<p><b>PROPERTY OWNER VOTING:</b>        If you own property but do not reside within Battlement Mesa Water Conservancy District, Fruitvale Water and Sanitation District, Clifton Fire District or Panorama Public Improvement District's boundaries, you may apply for a property owner ballot to be mailed to you by calling (970)244-1662.</p> <p><b>NOTICE TO ALL ELECTORS:</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>THIS NOTICE IS MAILED TO EACH ADDRESS WITH ONE OR MORE ACTIVE, REGISTERED ELECTORS. YOU MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ALL ISSUES PRESENTED IN THIS NOTICE.</b></p> <p><b>THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE WAS PREPARED BY PERSONS REQUIRED BY LAW TO PROVIDE SUMMARIES OF BALLOT ISSUES AND FISCAL INFORMATION.</b></p>

Coordinated Election Official for all issues in this notice is: Janice Rich, Mesa County Clerk and Recorder, P.O. Box 20000, 544 Rood Ave., Ste. 301, Grand Junction, CO 81502; telephone number 970-244-1607

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUES 2A AND 2B

Designated Election Official: Stephanie Tuin MMC, City Clerk and Designated Election Official, City of Grand Junction, Colorado

Ballot Title and Text:

**QUESTION 2A**

SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION TAXES BE INCREASED \$5,129,091 IN 2009 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY SUCH ADDITIONAL AMOUNT AS IS GENERATED BY INCREASING THE CITY'S SALES AND USE TAX FROM 2.75% TO 3.00% FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING AND OPERATING PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES AND ACQUIRING EQUIPMENT FOR THE FACILITIES PROVIDED THAT SUCH TAX INCREASE SHALL TERMINATE IF QUESTION 2B PASSES AT THIS ELECTION AND WHEN THE RIVERSIDE PARKWAY BONDS HAVE BEEN DEFEASED OR ARE OTHERWISE LEGALLY PAID IN FULL; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO 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?

**QUESTION 2B**

COMMENCING NO LATER THAN THE 90<sup>TH</sup> DAY AFTER THE CITY HAS DEFEASED OR OTHERWISE LEGALLY PAID IN FULL ALL CITY DEBT ISSUED FOR RIVERSIDE PARKWAY SHALL THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL CITY REVENUES FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20, OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

**Total City Fiscal Year Spending**

Fiscal Year	
2008 (estimated)	\$ 112,855,525
2007 (actual)	\$ 115,859,649
2006 (actual)	\$ 100,146,584
2005 (actual)	\$ 74,139,233
2004 (actual)	\$ 65,586,103
Overall percentage change from 2004 to 2008	72%
Overall dollar change from 2004 to 2008	\$ 47,269,422

- (1) The increase in spending between 2004 and 2008 was due in part to significant capital projects including the construction of the voter approved Riverside Parkway project, the re-construction of 7th Street and Colorado Avenue, and the Ranchman's Ditch Flood protection project. During the five years between 2004 and 2008, capital spending averaged \$37,981,515 and 39% of total spending per year.
- (2) Total City Fiscal Year Spending includes expenditure of voter approved 2004 and 2007 Riverside Parkway bond proceeds.

**Proposed Tax Increase**

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2009 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase): BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2A: \$5,129,091

City Estimate of 2009 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$99,457,693

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2A:**

2A provides a bond issue for the financing of badly needed public safety facilities: a new police and fire headquarters building including a municipal court and housing for the 911 system; a parking garage for employees and police vehicles; a storage/utility building for equipment and other things currently inadequately stored; a new Fire Station #1 and three new, fully-equipped fire stations in under-served parts of town. The quarter percent sales tax, which is about 75 cents per week for the average local household, is necessary until the Riverside Parkway bonds are retired because having two bonds at the same time to service will inordinately impact city finances. Our dedicated and talented police and fire employees are very poorly served in their current aged and crowded facilities and public safety is impacted negatively. This measure must pass because it will cost citizens much more in the future in taxes and public safety service levels. These are serviceable facilities for the next twenty to thirty years

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2B:**

Question 2B will simultaneously remove the quarter percent sales tax when the Parkway bonds are retired, probably by 2016, and remove the revenue restrictions of the TABOR amendment. There are four important facts relative the TABOR change:

- 1) TABOR requirement for citizen votes on any tax increase or indebtedness WILL REMAIN in force
- 2) TABOR revenue restrictions are based on economic and geographic conditions in the Denver-Boulder areas. The growth in our area and the need for infrastructure and services additions and improvements are far beyond anything in the areas from which the restrictions were derived.
- 3) Some 240-plus tax based service municipalities in Colorado have already done what 2B proposes. Of the only five remaining Grand Junction is by far the largest, the next in size being Idaho Springs and the others much smaller. The TABOR restrictions are counter-productive to the well-being of the state's citizens as is widely recognized.
- 4) Grand Junction is a heavily sales tax based community. Out-of-towners pay by far the largest part of sales tax revenue which is intended to cover the impact they have on our infrastructure and services. What is considered "excess" revenue by the TABOR formula has to be returned to taxpayers, which means property tax payers, because it would be impossible to keep track of all who pay sales taxes. A large part of such rebates are to large businesses with out-of-town headquarters.

The City's operational and capital needs exceed its current tax revenues because they cannot keep pace with our growth under TABOR restrictions. Citizens want public safety, one of the largest parts of the city's budgets, to not only keep pace with our growth but be able to acquire new technologies as they become available. We need to keep pace and still be able to pay off this Public Safety bond as soon as possible to save on interest costs. Without removal of the constricting restrictions, services and capital needs will suffer.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2B:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CITY OF FRUITA ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUE 2C

Designated Election Official: Margaret Steelman, 325 E Aspen, Suite 155, Fruita, CO 81521; telephone number 970-858-3663

Ballot title and text:  
**Referred Measure 2C**

SHALL THE CITY OF FRUITA TAXES BE INCREASED \$1,760,400 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) ANNUALLY AND SHALL THE CITY OF FRUITA DEBT BE INCREASED BY AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$15,000,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF \$36,239,400; SUCH TAXES TO CONSIST OF ALL REVENUES GENERATED FROM A RATE INCREASE OF 1.0% IN THE CITY SALES AND USE TAX (WHICH REPRESENTS A ONE CENT INCREASE ON EACH DOLLAR) WHICH SHALL BE DEPOSITED INTO A CITY COMMUNITY CENTER FUND AND USED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSTRUCTING, IMPROVING, EQUIPPING, OPERATING AND MAINTAINING A COMMUNITY CENTER AND PROVIDING FOR THE PAYMENT OF REVENUE BONDS ISSUED FOR SUCH PURPOSES; SUCH DEBT TO CONSIST OF REVENUE BONDS PAYABLE FROM THE CITY COMMUNITY CENTER FUND AND ISSUED FOR THE PURPOSE OF:

•CONSTRUCTING AND EQUIPPING A COMMUNITY CENTER, TO INCLUDE AMONG OTHER THINGS, AQUATICS FACILITIES, POOL PARTY ROOMS, A GYMNASIUM, A SENIOR MEETING ROOM, MULTI-USE MEETING ROOMS, A GROUP EXERCISE STUDIO, FITNESS / WELLNESS AREAS, CHILD CARE FACILITIES, LOCKER ROOMS, FAMILY CHANGING ROOMS, UPDATING OF THE EXISTING FRUITA OUTDOOR POOL, LOBBY SPACES, AND STAFF OFFICE SPACES

SUCH BONDS TO BE DATED AND SOLD AT SUCH TIME, AND AT SUCH PRICES (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE; SUCH TAX RATE INCREASE TO COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2009, AND BE REDUCED FROM A RATE OF 1.0% TO A RATE OF 0.4% ON JANUARY 1ST FOLLOWING THE DATE ON WHICH THE REVENUE BONDS APPROVED HEREBY ARE PAID IN FULL (BUT IN NO EVENT SHALL SUCH REDUCTION OCCUR LATER THAN JANUARY 1, 2039) TO CONTINUE TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT, EQUIPPING, OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE COMMUNITY CENTER; AND SHALL THE TAX REVENUES DEPOSITED IN THE CITY COMMUNITY CENTER FUND AND ALL EARNINGS THEREON (REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT) CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2004 (actual)	\$5,320,435
2005 (actual)	6,130,635
2006 (actual)	7,928,186
2007 (actual)	9,678,970
2008 (current year estimated)	10,404,600
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2004 through 2008:	95.6%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2004 through 2008:	\$5,084,165
Estimated 2009 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Referred Measure 2C:	\$10,924,830
Estimated 2009 tax increase authorized by Referred Measure 2C:	\$1,760,400

Information regarding bonded debt proposed by Referred Measure 2C:

Principal amount:	\$15,000,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$1,760,400
Maximum total repayment cost:	\$36,239,400

Information regarding current bonded debt:

Principal balance:	\$0
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$0
Maximum remaining total repayment cost:	\$0

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Referred Measure 2C:

A YES vote on Referred Measure 2C will give the City of Fruita permission to construct, operate, and maintain a new Community Center in our town. The Community Center is not JUST about exercise. Construction of a new Community Center will provide a Senior Center, a library, community meeting rooms, a gymnasium, an indoor pool, a refurbished outdoor pool, and many other amenities.

The proposed Community Center is approximately 47,000 square feet. The facility will have a large warm water pool with many features including: easy walk-in access, a large 18-inch depth toddler section, an adjacent climbing wall, a slide with an eight-foot drop, several lap lanes, a diving board, a lazy river for resistance walking or floating, and a hot tub. These and many other features are designed for all ages, from the very young to the more mature.

A Senior Center will also be constructed within the facility. The Senior Center will be free of charge and provide much needed services to the senior community, including a Senior lunch program and Senior fitness programs. The facility will become a resource and activity center for Seniors. In addition, the community center will have a large gymnasium, indoor track, meeting rooms, exercise and fitness rooms, and short-term child care facilities.

A YES vote on Referred Measure 2C will also allow for the construction of a new, state-of-the art library; quadrupling the size of the existing space. The new library will be connected to the community center, and will be built at no additional cost to Fruita residents. A new library will only be constructed if Referred Measure 2C passes.

A comprehensive business plan and fiscal analysis prove that a one percent sales tax (one penny on every dollar) will generate enough revenue to pay for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the new facility. Extremely conservative cost estimates were used throughout the planning process and confirm the one cent sales tax will pay for the facility.

- This measure will NOT increase property tax rates. The facility will be paid strictly by sales tax, with funding earmarked for use solely by the Community Center.
- This facility will be affordable. A family annual pass will cost as little as \$2.00 per day for the entire family to utilize the facility.
- It will cost \$12.8 million dollars to construct the Community Center.
- A full 60% of the sales tax will be eliminated (sunset) once the building is paid for.
- The new Community Center will allow recreational programs such as gymnastics to move out of the Police building, providing space for the Police Department to expand as needed.
- The facility will be an anchor that will help attract more retail and commercial businesses.

A YES vote on Referred Measure 2C will provide all these amenities to the Fruita community by increasing the sales tax one penny on the dollar. One penny pays for it. Our community is clearly worth the penny.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Referred Measure 2C:  
 No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUES 3A AND 3B  
 Designated Election Official: Jamie Sidanycz, 2115 Grand Ave, Grand Junction, CO 81501; telephone number: (970)254-5193

**REFERRED MEASURE 3A**

SHALL MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51'S TAXES BE INCREASED \$6,000,000 ANNUALLY, BY AUTHORIZING AN ADDITIONAL LEVY OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE 2010-2011 BUDGET YEAR AND EACH BUDGET YEAR THEREAFTER, IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO RAISE SUCH DOLLAR AMOUNT, FOR THE PURPOSE OF OPERATING AND STAFFING THE DISTRICT'S NEW OR EXPANDED INSTRUCTIONAL FACILITIES, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT VOTER APPROVAL HEREOF SHALL ONLY BE EFFECTIVE IF BALLOT QUESTION 3B IS APPROVED; SUCH INCREASED REVENUES AND THE EARNINGS THEREON TO CONSTITUTE VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGES UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS?

ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT  
 ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR SPENDING*</u>
2004-2005 (ACTUAL)	\$ 123,536,193
2005-2006 (ACTUAL)	132,737,098
2006-2007 (ACTUAL)	146,268,646
2007-2008 (ACTUAL)	151,012,524
2008-2009 (ESTIMATED)	156,844,925

\* Does not include payments on bonded debt of \$6,272,256 for fiscal year ending 06/30/05; \$9,329,364 for fiscal year ending 6/30/06; \$9,319,228 for fiscal year ending 6/30/07; \$11,337,153 for fiscal year ending 6/30/08; and \$11,362,734 for fiscal year ending 6/30/09.

OVERALL PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2004-2005 THROUGH 2008-2009: 26.96%

OVERALL DOLLAR CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2004-2005 THROUGH 2008-2009: \$ 33,308,732

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR SPENDING WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY ANY BALLOT ISSUE: \$ 156,844,925

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY BALLOT ISSUE 3A: \$ 0

**SUMMARIES OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FILED WITH THE ELECTION OFFICER:**

**THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY WAS PREPARED FROM COMMENTS FILED BY PERSONS FOR THE PROPOSAL:**

- A no-frills bond (3B) and supporting mill levy override (3A) is needed to address rapid enrollment increases and overcrowding. At the end of last school year, the school district had almost 1,000 more students than seats for them to sit in. When classes started earlier this month, the District had more than 600 new students. Within the next five years, 2,000 more students are predicted. We need to stay ahead of this growth, and not struggle to catch up in the future. Due to rising construction costs, the longer the district waits to address overcrowding, the more it will cost.
- Using modular classrooms and teaching in cafeterias is not a permanent solution to providing comfortable and safe instructional space.
- Passage of Issue 3B (the bond measure) will provide: 1) two new elementary schools, one in North Grand Junction and one in Fruita; 2) replacement of the 38-year-old Orchard Mesa Middle School with a new building; and 3) two new high schools, one on Orchard Mesa and one in the Appleton area. Passage of Issue 3A will allow the District to open and operate these new schools, including hiring new teachers for these schools.
- Strong schools are essential to a healthy community. They help retain employers, attract new companies, diversify our local economy, train our future workforce and strengthen our property values.
- For every \$250,000 of market value, homeowners will pay no more than \$17.26 per month for the combined ballot questions (3A & 3B). This is a good investment for the present and long term benefit of District students and the community.
- Without additional schools to alleviate overcrowding, students will suffer and test scores will drop.
- The school district does not receive adequate education funding from the state, so it is our responsibility as a community to support our schools in every way we can.
- Our community has always stood up for its children, and this is what has helped it retain its small town feel, even as it grows. Now is not the time to give up on the children and our community's economic future.
- The District has established programs to further address student advancement and growth, including charter schools and other choice schools such as New Emerson and Vision school. Such programs will fail if students do not have sufficient room to learn.

**THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY WAS PREPARED FROM COMMENTS FILED BY A PERSON AGAINST THE PROPOSAL:**

- The District has not introduced any new programs and has resisted charter schools, vouchers and other changes to increase competition. Businesses cannot demand a perpetual price increase. Unlike in the private sector, where successful firms can easily obtain capital for expansion and unsuccessful, inefficient firms go out of business, in government there is no mechanism to insure that successful programs expand and unsuccessful ones disappear. This is in part why government must raise capital by compulsory payment of taxes.
- As the tax base increases, school district revenue automatically increases.
- In proposing this measure, the District hopes voters will not remember that it gave \$1,000,000 to Mesa State College and that its students received unimpressive CSAP test scores.
- Taxpayers are not motivated to pay more taxes by threats to cut sports and music programs if the tax increase fails.
- District 51 already collects 59% of the total property tax paid for its general fund levy, previous bond issues and TABOR overrides. The proposed measure will increase this percentage.
- Given the recent national financial shocks and uncertainty it is irresponsible to burden local taxpayers with additional taxes at this time. There is no guarantee that the local economy will be unaffected. In fact, 2008 building revenues are noticeably down.
- If passed, Question 3A would be a permanent tax increase that would generate approximately \$125,000,000 over the first 25 years alone. It would be more responsible for the school district to ask voters to pass a temporary levy increase over TABOR as needed.

**REFERRED MEASURE 3B**

**SHALL MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51'S DEBT BE INCREASED UP TO \$184,935,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$385,000,000, AND SHALL MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51'S TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$25,000,000 ANNUALLY, IN ORDER TO:**

- REPAIR AND RENOVATE EXISTING SCHOOL FACILITIES TO ENHANCE STUDENT SAFETY, MEET BUILDING CODES, IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND FUNCTIONALITY, AND EXTEND THE USEFUL LIFE OF CLASSROOMS AND OTHER SPACES;
- REPLACE ORCHARD MESA MIDDLE SCHOOL;
- CONSTRUCT TWO NEW ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS, ONE IN NORTH GRAND JUNCTION AND ONE IN FRUITA, TO RELIEVE OVERCROWDING;

- CONSTRUCT TWO NEW HIGH SCHOOLS, ONE IN ORCHARD MESA AND ONE IN NORTHWEST GRAND JUNCTION TO INCREASE SPACE FOR GROWING HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT AND RELIEVE OVERCROWDING;
- ADD ADDITIONAL INSTRUCTIONAL SPACE NEEDED IN EXISTING SCHOOLS IN THE PALISADE, GRAND JUNCTION, ORCHARD MESA, AND FRUITA AREAS;
- ACQUIRE AND PURCHASE LAND FOR FUTURE SCHOOL SITES;

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS AT A NET EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE NOT TO EXCEED 6.00% PER ANNUM AND WITH SUCH MATURITIES AS ALLOWED BY LAW, SUCH BONDS TO BE ISSUED, DATED AND SOLD AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES AND IN SUCH MANNER AND TO CONTAIN SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE DISTRICT MAY DETERMINE; AND IN CONNECTION HERewith (I) SHALL MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51'S AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED IN ANY YEAR IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF AND PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH BONDS WHEN DUE, WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE OR AMOUNT AND (II) SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH BONDS AND THE REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH PROCEEDS AND REVENUES BE COLLECTED AND SPENT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT  
ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR SPENDING*</u>
2004-2005 (ACTUAL)	\$ 123,536,193
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\* Does not include payments on bonded debt of \$6,272,256 for fiscal year ending 06/30/05; \$9,329,364 for fiscal year ending 6/30/06; \$9,319,228 for fiscal year ending 6/30/07; \$11,337,153 for fiscal year ending 6/30/08; and \$11,362,734 for fiscal year ending 6/30/09.

OVERALL PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2003-2004 THROUGH 2007-2008: 26.96%

OVERALL DOLLAR CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2003-2004 THROUGH 2007-2008: \$ 33,308,732

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR SPENDING WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY ANY BALLOT ISSUE: \$ 156,844,925

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY BALLOT ISSUE 3B: \$ 25,000,000

INFORMATION REGARDING BONDED DEBT PROPOSED BY THE BALLOT PROPOSAL:

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT: \$ 184,935,000  
 MAXIMUM ANNUAL REPAYMENT COST: 25,000,000  
 MAXIMUM TOTAL REPAYMENT COST: 385,000,000

INFORMATION REGARDING CURRENT BONDED DEBT:

PRINCIPAL AMOUNT: \$ 130,470,000.00  
 MAXIMUM ANNUAL REPAYMENT COST: 11,362,733.76  
 MAXIMUM TOTAL REPAYMENT COST: 191,862,073.17

SUMMARIES OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FILED WITH THE ELECTION OFFICER:

THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY WAS PREPARED FROM COMMENTS FILED BY PERSONS FOR THE PROPOSAL:

- A no-frills bond (3B) and supporting mill levy override (3A) is needed to address rapid enrollment increases and overcrowding. At the end of last school year, the school district had almost 1,000 more students than seats for them to sit in. When classes started earlier this month, the District had more than 600 new students. Within the next five years, 2,000 more students are predicted. We need to stay ahead of this growth, and not struggle to catch up in the future. Due to rising construction costs, the longer the district waits to address overcrowding, the more it will cost.
- Issue 3B will fund major maintenance and repairs needed to extend the useful life of existing school buildings, reduce future operating and maintenance costs through increased energy efficiency, improve handicap accessibility, and purchase land for future school sites.

- Passage of Issue 3B (the bond measure) will provide: 1) two new elementary schools, one in North Grand Junction and one in Fruita; 2) replacement of the 38-year-old Orchard Mesa Middle School with a new building; and 3) two new high schools, one on Orchard Mesa and one in the Appleton area.
- Strong schools are essential to a healthy community. They help retain employers, attract new companies, diversify our local economy, train our future workforce and strengthen our property values.
- A citizen-led oversight committee will oversee the expenditure of all bond dollars and will hold the school board accountable to their promises. The district will prepare and post an annual bond status report on its web site and updates will be presented at regularly scheduled community meetings. This oversight helped allow the recently completed bond projects to come in on time and under budget.
- For every \$250,000 of market value, homeowners will pay no more than \$17.26 per month for the combined ballot questions (3A & 3B). This is a good investment for the present and long term benefit of District students and the community.
- Without additional schools to alleviate overcrowding, students will suffer and test scores will drop.
- The school district does not receive adequate education funding from the state, so it is our responsibility as a community to support our schools in every way we can.
- Our community has always stood up for its children, and this is what has helped it retain its small town feel, even as it grows. Now is not the time to give up on the children and our community's economic future.
- The District has put in place programs to further address student advancement and growth, including choice for students through charter schools and other choice schools such as New Emerson and Vision school programs. Such programs will fail if students do not have sufficient room to learn.

**THE FOLLOWING SUMMARY WAS PREPARED FROM COMMENTS FILED BY A PERSON AGAINST THE PROPOSAL:**

- The District has not introduced any new programs and has resisted charter schools, vouchers and other changes to increase competition. Businesses cannot demand a perpetual price increase. Unlike in the private sector, where successful firms can easily obtain capital for expansion and unsuccessful, inefficient firms go out of business, in government there is no mechanism to insure that successful programs expand and unsuccessful ones disappear. This is in part why government must raise capital by compulsory payment of taxes.
- As the tax base increases, school district revenue automatically increases.
- In proposing this measure, the District hopes voters will not remember that it gave \$1,000,000 to Mesa State College and that its students received unimpressive CSAP test scores.
- Taxpayers are not motivated to pay more taxes by threats to cut sports and music programs if the tax increase fails.
- District 51 already collects 59% of the total property tax paid for its general fund levy, previous bond issues and TABOR overrides. Question 3B would add to this percentage and continue to 2034 with a total repayment obligation approximating \$400,000,000. If property values fall, the District must still collect enough tax revenue to make annual bond payments.
- The District's predictions for student growth are grossly overstated. The District predicts high school growth in excess of 1,000 students for the next 3 years whereas the actual high school student growth over the past 10 years has been only 300 students. Similarly, the District's overall student enrollment has only increased by 800 students in the previous 10 years, yet it predicts an increase of 4,000 students District-wide in the next 10 years.
- In 1996 the District promised the taxpayer its high schools would have a capacity of 1,800 students in order to meet expected growth through 2005. That capacity would handle growth through 2010, even using the District's exaggerated predictions. However, it has changed its philosophy toward smaller high schools with enrollment capped at approximately 1,400 students, and that explains its need for new high schools.
- In light of current national financial issues and uncertainty the District should look at using split sessions, year-round school and modulars rather than burdening local taxpayers with additional taxes. Given that the District claims to prepare students for global competitiveness, it is irresponsible to believe that these national financial issues will not adversely affect local taxpayers.
- The District claims to want growth to pay for itself, but it has not attempted to substantially increase the school land dedication fees collected on new development in the city and county. In 2007, approximately \$430,000 was collected from such fees.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DELTA COUNTY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT 50 ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUE 3C  
 Designated Election Official: Aaron Clay, 415 Palmer Street, Delta, CO 81416; telephone number 970-874-9777

**Ballot title and text:**

**Referred Measure 3C**

SHALL DELTA COUNTY JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT 50 DEBT BE INCREASED \$49,900,000 WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$111,000,000, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$5,600,000 ANNUALLY, FOR THE PURPOSE OF MAKING NECESSARY CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO EXTEND THE USEFUL LIFE OF SCHOOL FACILITIES, AND TO ENHANCE STUDENT SAFETY, LEARNING AND WELFARE, BY:

- REPAIRING AND REPLACING SCHOOL ROOFS,
- UPGRADING AND/OR REPLACING MECHANICAL AND HVAC SYSTEMS IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS TO, AMONG OTHER THINGS, IMPROVE ENERGY EFFICIENCY,
- CONSTRUCTING A MAJOR ADDITION TO, AND RENOVATING THE EXISTING BUILDING AT, CEDAREEDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL,
- RESTRUCTURING AND REFINANCING EXISTING ANNUAL LEASE-PURCHASE OBLIGATIONS OF THE DISTRICT,
- RENOVATING THE SIXTH GRADE BUILDING AT DELTA MIDDLE SCHOOL,
- CONSTRUCTING ADDITIONAL CLASSROOMS, A MULTIPURPOSE GYMNASIUM AND STADIUM IMPROVEMENTS AT DELTA HIGH SCHOOL,
- REPAIRING AND IMPROVING HOTCHKISS HIGH SCHOOL INCLUDING, AMONG OTHER THINGS, REINFORCING THE FOUNDATION, REPLACING THE GYM FLOOR, AND REMOVING/REPLACING CONCRETE,
- REPAIRING AND IMPROVING PARKING LOTS AND OUTDOOR FACILITIES AT VARIOUS SCHOOLS,
- MAKING IMPROVEMENTS TO CLASSROOMS, AND
- TO THE EXTENT FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE, EQUIPPING, IMPROVING OR REPAIRING ANY SCHOOL FACILITY OR PROPERTY.

BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, INSTALLMENT OR LEASE PURCHASE AGREEMENTS, OR OTHER MULTIPLE FISCAL YEAR OBLIGATIONS WHICH MAY BE USED AS MATCHING MONEYS FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE STATE UNDER THE BUILDING EXCELLENT SCHOOLS TODAY ACT, WHICH DEBT SHALL BEAR INTEREST AT A MAXIMUM NET EFFECTIVE INTEREST RATE NOT TO EXCEED 6.5% AND MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED, DATED AND SOLD AT SUCH TIME OR TIMES, AT SUCH PRICES (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT HERewith, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE; SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED IN ANY YEAR, WITHOUT LIMITATION AS TO RATE AND IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF; AND SHALL ANY EARNINGS (REGARDLESS OF AMOUNT) FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND DEBT CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

Year	Fiscal Year Spending <sup>1</sup>	
2004-2005 (actual)	\$50,787,528	
2005-2006 (actual)	45,907,210	
2006-2007 (actual)	51,545,786	
2007-2008 (estimated)	55,000,000	
2008-2009 (current year estimated)	57,200,000	
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2004-2005 through 2008-2009 <sup>1</sup> :		12.63%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2004-2005 through 2008-2009:		\$6,412,472
Estimated 2008-2009 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C:		\$57,200,000
Estimated 2008-2009 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3C:		\$5,600,000
<u>Information regarding bonded debt proposed by Ballot Issue 3C:</u>		
Principal amount:		\$49,900,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:		\$5,600,000
Maximum total repayment cost:		\$111,000,000

<sup>1</sup> Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service and voter-approved revenue changes.



Information regarding current bonded debt:

Principal balance:	\$20,450,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$2,056,480
Maximum remaining total repayment cost:	\$31,620,076

Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3C:

Like all of us, our schools are facing challenging times. Education is the foundation for securing the economic future of our community. Ballot Issue 3C will enable us to exercise local control and make necessary improvements to existing school buildings in Cedaredge, Crawford, Delta, Hotchkiss, and Paonia.

Ballot Issue 3C will allow the District to create a safe environment in our schools and will help us support our growing student population by providing \$49.9 million of necessary financing. Understanding the seriousness of our economic situation and the significance of every dollar, it is important that we make responsible fiscal decisions. Ballot Issue 3C is the best value for our community. We can't afford to wait because the condition of our schools continues to deteriorate while inflation and construction costs soar.

- Yes on 3C will ensure the safety of our children by upgrading outdated fire alarm systems and replacing aging roofs.
- Yes on 3C will save money and conserve energy by replacing windows, installing insulation, and upgrading mechanical and electrical systems.
- Yes on 3C will support the growth of our student population by expanding the number of classrooms.
- Yes on 3C will allow our schools to meet ADA and modern safety standards.
- Yes on 3C will save taxpayers over \$30 million than if the same improvements were made 5 years from now.
- Yes on 3C is a vote for our students, our schools, and our future.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3C:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

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**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE REVENUE ON A REFERRED MEASURE CLIFTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT  
BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT - REFERRED MEASURE 5A**

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OR WHO OR WHOSE SPOUSE OWNS REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE CLIFTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUE 5A

Designated Election Official: Kent Holsan, 3254 F Rd, Clifton, CO 81520; telephone number 970-434-5448

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5A:**

SHALL CLIFTON FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED UP TO \$250,000 ANNUALLY IN 2009 AND BY SUCH OTHER AMOUNT AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL MILL LEVY OF 1.244 MILLS FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- ONE-HALF OF THE REVENUE OF WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED BY THE DISTRICT SOLELY FOR CAPITAL ACQUISITION, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS TO DISTRICT FACILITIES, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO THE ACQUISITION OF ADDITIONAL LADDER TRUCKS, RESCUE VEHICLES, FIRE APPARATUS EQUIPMENT AND REPLACEMENT OF EXISTING EQUIPMENT; AND
- ONE-HALF OF THE REVENUE OF WHICH SHALL BE UTILIZED FOR OPERATION OF THE DISTRICT AND ROUTINE UPKEEP OF DISTRICT FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT,

AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES AND INVESTMENT INCOME THEREON AND ALL OTHER REVENUES OF THE DISTRICT BE COLLECTED AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE IN 2009 AND IN EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES AND ANY OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED IN THE LAWS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO?

**Total District Fiscal Year Spending**

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2008 (estimated)	\$ 1,860,015
2007 (actual)	\$ 1,176,676
2006 (actual)	\$ 1,068,144
2005 (actual)	\$ 905,889
2004 (actual)	\$ 881,184

Overall percentage change from 2004 to 2008	111.0%
Overall dollar change from 2004 to 2008	\$978,831

**Proposed Tax Increase**

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2009  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase): \$ 250,000

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 5A: \$ 250,000

District Estimate of 2009 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$ 1,938,080

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 5A:**

The Clifton Fire District is seeking a mill levy tax issue measure on November 4, 2008. The vote will be on the November coordinated elections. The District seeks to get approval for a 1.244 mill increase in the mill levy. Even with the tax issue winning, the cost for Clifton Fire services will remain as one of the lowest in Mesa County.

The Clifton Fire District currently covers approximately 15 square miles and consists of 13 paid employees and 35 volunteer firefighters. The District has seen a 436% increase in EMS services and 122% increase in fire services the past 10 years. Tremendous growth in the residential development has put a strain on the Fire District's day-to-day operations.

The Clifton Fire District has not asked for a mill levy increase since the year 2000. This increase was for 6 years and ended in 2007. This mill levy increase is critical for the replacement of existing aging equipment to sustain its ISO class 4 rating for residential and commercial areas within the District.

The TOTAL cost increase of this issue would be approximately \$9.00 per year for a \$100,000 home and \$19.80 a year for a \$200,000 home.

Please Vote "YES" November 4, 2008, for this tax measure.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 5A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE REVENUE ON A REFERRED MEASURE PANORAMA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT A  
BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT - REFERRED MEASURE 5D**

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OR WHO OR WHOSE SPOUSE OWNS REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PANORAMA PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT A ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING BALLOT ISSUE 5D

Designated Election Official: Charles Stevenson, President, Board of Directors, 2118 Zion Road, Grand Junction, CO 81507, (970)243-9373

**REFERRED MEASURE 5D:**

SHALL PANORAMA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT A TAXES BE INCREASED \$33,737.00 (ESTIMATED FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) ANNUALLY OR BY SUCH AMOUNT AS IS RAISED IN SUBSEQUENT YEARS WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF PANORAMA IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT A, BY THE IMPOSITION OF AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES AT AN ADDITIONAL MILL LEVY OF 4.57 MILLS, FOR A TOTAL MILL LEVY OF 14.000 MILLS, THE REVENUES OF WHICH WILL BE COLLECTED BEGINNING IN 2009 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, SUCH REVENUES TO BE USED FOR WATER SHARE ASSESSMENTS FROM REDLANDS WATER AND POWER COMPANY, FOR IMPROVEMENT AND MAINTENANCE OF THE IRRIGATION SYSTEM, AND FOR GENERAL DISTRICT OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE EXPENSES; AND SHALL THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH TAXES, THE SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICT AND INVESTMENT EARNINGS ON BOTH, CONSTITUTE VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGES, SPENDING CHANGES, OR BOTH, AND BE COLLECTED, RETAINED, AND SPENT BY THE DISTRICT WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE RAISING OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND AS AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITATIONS SET FORTH IN SECTION 29-1-301 OF THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AND ANY OTHER LAW?

**ACTUAL HISTORICAL AND CURRENT ESTIMATED FISCAL YEAR SPENDING INFORMATION:**

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>FISCAL YEAR SPENDING</u>
2004-2005(ACTUAL)	\$ 94,395.
2005-2006(ACTUAL)	\$ 96,143.
2006-2007(ACTUAL)	\$ 97,315.
2007-2008(ACTUAL)	\$106,745.
2008-2009(ESTIMATED)	\$108,481.

OVERALL PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2004-2005 through 2008-2009: 14.92%

OVERALL DOLLAR CHANGE IN FISCAL YEAR SPENDING OVER THE FIVE YEAR PERIOD FROM 2004-2005 THROUGH 2008-2009: \$14,086

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 FISCAL YEAR SPENDING WITHOUT TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY ANY BALLOT: \$108,481.

ESTIMATED 2008-2009 TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZED BY REFERRED MEASURE 5D: \$33,737.

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Referred Measure 5D:**

At the present time, the mill levy is not sufficient to pay for irrigation water shares, upkeep of lines, and the personnel to do the work. A yes vote to increase the mill levy assures the taxpayers of Panorama A adequate irrigation water and maintenance of the lines that deliver that water. Redlands Water and Power is a private company and not subject to Tabor regulations. They will increase the cost of irrigation shares as they have done every two years since 2004. Without additional money, the District will be forced to sell shares, and everyone will have to make do with less water.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Referred Measure 5D:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE STATE OF COLORADO WHO RESIDE WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OR WHO OR WHOSE SPOUSE OWNS REAL OR PERSONAL PROPERTY WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE Mesa County Whitewater Urban Services Public Improvement District. Referred Measures ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING REFERRED MEASURES 5E, 5F, 5G and 5H  
 Designated Election Official: Janice Rich, Mesa County Clerk and Recorder, PO Box 20000, 544 Rood Ave., Grand Junction, CO 81502; telephone number 970-244-1607

**REFERRED MEASURE 5E - IMPLEMENT SALES TAX:**

IF THE RELIEF FROM REVENUE AND SPENDING RESTRICTIONS QUESTION IS PASSED, SHALL THE LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE MESA COUNTY WHITEWATER URBAN SERVICES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT ESTABLISH A ONE PERCENT (1%) SALES TAX ON ELIGIBLE COMMERCIAL TRANSACTIONS, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING, REIMBURSING, OR FINANCING ALL OR ANY PART OF THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING, COMPLETING, OPERATING, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING URBAN SERVICES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, AND SHALL THE DISTRICT COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND SUCH TAXES AND INCOME THEREON AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND PROPERTY TAX REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND TO EXCEED THE 5.5% PROPERTY TAX REVENUE GROWTH LIMITATION CONTAINED IN SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AND ANY OTHER REVENUE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN THE LAWS OF THE STATE?

**REFERRED MEASURE 5F - TABOR EXCEPTION:**

IF THE SALES TAX IS APPROVED, SHALL THE MESA COUNTY WHITEWATER URBAN SERVICES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, WITHOUT IMPOSING ANY ADDITIONAL TAX OR INCREASE IN TAX RATES, BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND EACH YEAR ALL REVENUES, AND OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY SOURCE DURING 2009 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, THE 5.5% PROPERTY TAX REVENUE LIMIT OF SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, OR ANY OTHER LAWS OF THE STATE?

**REFERRED MEASURE 5G - MILL LEVY INCREASE:**

IF THE RELIEF FROM REVENUE AND SPENDING RESTRICTIONS QUESTION IS PASSED, SHALL THE MESA COUNTY WHITEWATER URBAN SERVICES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED \$471.52 AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RECEIVED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER FROM THE LEVY OF A PROPERTY TAX AT A RATE OF 4 MILLS, AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE INCREASED TO 12 MILLS WHEN THE DISTRICT CONTAINS AT LEAST 81 RESIDENTIAL DWELLING UNITS, ALL FOR THE PURPOSE OF PAYING, REIMBURSING, OR FINANCING ALL OR ANY PART OF THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING, COMPLETING, OPERATING, AND OTHERWISE PROVIDING URBAN SERVICES WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT, AND SHALL THE DISTRICT COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND SUCH TAXES AND INCOME THEREON AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND PROPERTY TAX REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND TO EXCEED THE 5.5% PROPERTY TAX REVENUE GROWTH LIMITATION CONTAINED IN SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, AND ANY OTHER REVENUE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN THE LAWS OF THE STATE?

**REFERRED MEASURE 5H - TABOR EXCEPTION:**

IF THE MILL LEVY INCREASE IS PASSED, SHALL THE MESA COUNTY WHITEWATER URBAN SERVICES PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, WITHOUT IMPOSING ANY ADDITIONAL TAX OR INCREASE IN TAX RATES, BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND EACH YEAR ALL REVENUES, AND OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY SOURCE DURING 2009 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, THE 5.5% PROPERTY TAX REVENUE LIMIT OF SECTION 29-1-301, COLORADO REVISED STATUTES, OR ANY OTHER LAW?

**Total District Fiscal Year Spending**

Fiscal Year	
2004 (actual)	\$0
2005 (actual)	\$0
2006 (actual)	\$0
2007 (actual)	\$0
2008 (actual)	\$0

Overall percentage change from 2004 to 2008: 0%  
 Overall dollar change from 2004 to 2008: \$0

**Proposed Tax Increase**

District Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2009 (the First Full Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):  
 Referred Measure 5E, 5F, 5G and 5H: \$471.52  
 The fiscal impact of the mill levy on the Public Improvement District is \$471.52, the fiscal impact of the sales tax in the Local Improvement District is zero dollars until commercial development occurs.

District Estimate of 2009 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$0

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Referred Measures 5E, 5F, 5G and 5H:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Referred Measures 5E, 5F, 5G and 5H:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to §1-7-805, C.R.S., I hereby certify that the above ballot issue notices are complete as submitted by the political subdivisions.



*Janice Rich*

Mesa County Clerk and Recorder, Janice Rich

**THREE WAYS TO VOTE!**

**1. MAIL-IN VOTING:**

Applications are being accepted now. If you have applied for a mail-in ballot, your ballot will be mailed beginning the week of October 6, 2008.

\*Returned postage to mail in your ballot will be \$0.59. If you prefer to drop off your ballot you may do so at any DMV branch office or the Elections office prior to Election Day. For an application, go to: [vote.mesacounty.us](http://vote.mesacounty.us)

**2. EARLY VOTING:**

Simply arrive during the hours posted below, Sign-in and vote.

**October 20, 2008 — October 31, 2008**  
Mesa Mall-Southern Corridor—8:00 a.m.—7:00 p.m.  
(Across from Grand Junction Police Substation)

(Old) Mesa County Courthouse—8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Clifton Community Hall—8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Fruita Police Dept—8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

Mesa County Fairgrounds, --8:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m.

**October 25, 2008 (Saturday)**  
(Old) Mesa County Courthouse—10:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m.

**3. ELECTION DAY VOTING:**

Go to any Vote Center on Election Day November 4, 2008. Go to [vote.mesacounty.us](http://vote.mesacounty.us) for a list of locations or call 244-1662

Election Day voting is conducted on our *iVotronic* touch screen voting units.

Elections Division, PO Box 20000, Grand Junction, CO 81502-5009, (970)244-1662, [vote.mesacounty.us](http://vote.mesacounty.us)

*All Motor Vehicle Offices will be closed Tuesday, November 4, 2008 – these Clerk and Recorder staff members will be assisting with the General Election!*

Vote at the Vote Center of your choice. Your ID will be required when you vote!	
<b>FRUITA/LOMA AREA:</b>	<b>FRUITVALE/PEAR PARK AREA:</b>
Fruita 8/9 School 1835 J Road	Department of Human Services
Fruita Middle School 239 N Maple	Grand Mesa Middle School 585 31 ½ Road
Loma Elementary 1360 13 Road	Pear Park Baptist Church 3102 E Road
<b>REDLANDS AREA:</b>	<b>ORCHARD MESA AREA:</b>
Redlands Community Church 2327 Broadway	Mesa County Fairgrounds 2785 Highway 50
Redlands Middle School 2200 Broadway	<b>CLIFTON AREA:</b>
Two Rivers Winery 2087 Broadway	Midlands Village Comm. Building 435 32 Road #500
<b>GRAND JUNCTION AREA:</b>	<b>CLIFTON AREA:</b>
Two Rivers Convention Center 159 Main St	Clifton Community Hall 126 2nd Street
<b>Mesa State College</b> 12th Street & Orchard Avenue	<b>PALISADE AREA:</b>
First Christian Church 1326 N 1 <sup>st</sup>	Palisade Veterans Memorial Building 120 E 8th Street
Mesa Mall 2424 Highway 6 & 50 (Across from the G.J. Police Substation)	<b>OUTLYING AREA:</b>
<b>NORTH AREA:</b>	DeBeque Comm. Center 381 Minter Avenue
Northeast Christian Church 2001 Patterson Road	Mesa Community Center 48973 KE Road
The Atrium of Grand Valley 3260 N 12th Street	Collbran-Plateau Valley School 56600 Hwy 330
Immaculate Heart of Mary Church 790 26 ½ Road	Gateway Community Center 42700 Highway 141
Fellowship Church 765 24 Road	



September 22, 2008

Janice Rich, Mesa County Clerk & Recorder  
P.O. Box 20,000  
Grand Junction, Co. 81502

Re: November 4, 2008 election, Ballot Issues 2A and 2B

Dear Ms. Rich:

Please find attached the ballot issue notice (TABOR notice) as required by 1-7-904 C.R.S. and in accordance with the intergovernmental agreement, section 6. I am also transmitting it to you via email in MS Word format. If you have any difficulty reading the file, please let me know.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stephanie Tuin".

Stephanie Tuin, MMC  
City Clerk and Designated Election Official  
City of Grand Junction, Colorado

**TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

City of Grand Junction  
Mesa County, Colorado

**Election Date:** Tuesday, November 4, 2008  
**Election Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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

Janice Rich  
Mesa County Clerk and Recorder  
Old Courthouse Annex, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
544 Rood Avenue  
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501  
Telephone: (970) 244-1662

**Ballot Title and Text:**

**QUESTION 2A**

**SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION TAXES BE INCREASED \$5,129,091 IN 2009 AND ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY SUCH ADDITIONAL AMOUNT AS IS GENERATED BY INCREASING THE CITY'S SALES AND USE TAX FROM 2.75% TO 3.00% FOR THE PURPOSE OF FINANCING THE COSTS OF CONSTRUCTING AND OPERATING PUBLIC SAFETY FACILITIES AND ACQUIRING EQUIPMENT FOR THE FACILITIES PROVIDED THAT SUCH TAX INCREASE SHALL TERMINATE IF QUESTION 2B PASSES AT THIS ELECTION AND WHEN THE RIVERSIDE PARKWAY BONDS HAVE BEEN DEFEASED OR ARE OTHERWISE LEGALLY PAID IN FULL; AND SHALL THE CITY BE AUTHORIZED TO 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?**

**QUESTION 2B**

**COMMENCING NO LATER THAN THE 90<sup>TH</sup> DAY AFTER THE CITY HAS DEFEASED OR OTHERWISE LEGALLY PAID IN FULL ALL CITY DEBT ISSUED FOR RIVERSIDE PARKWAY SHALL THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL CITY REVENUES FROM WHATEVER SOURCE, AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20, OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?**

## Total City Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2008 (estimated)	\$ <u>112,855,525</u>
2007 (actual)	\$ <u>115,859,649</u>
2006 (actual)	\$ <u>100,146,584</u>
2005 (actual)	\$ <u>74,139,233</u>
2004 (actual)	\$ <u>65,586,103</u>

Overall percentage change from 2004 to 2008	<u>72 %</u>
Overall dollar change from 2004 to 2008	\$ <u>47,269,422</u>

- (1) The increase in spending between 2004 and 2008 was due in part to significant capital projects including the construction of the voter approved Riverside Parkway project, the re-construction of 7th Street and Colorado Avenue, and the Ranchman's Ditch Flood protection project. During the five years between 2004 and 2008, capital spending averaged \$37,981,515 and 39% of total spending per year.
- (2) Total City Fiscal Year Spending includes expenditure of voter approved 2004 and 2007 Riverside Parkway bond proceeds.

## Proposed Tax Increase

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount  
of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2009  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2A: \$5,129,091

City Estimate of 2009 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$99,457,693

## Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2A:

2A provides a bond issue for the financing of badly needed public safety facilities: a new police and fire headquarters building including a municipal court and housing for the 911 system; a parking garage for employees and police vehicles; a storage/utility building for equipment and other things currently inadequately stored; a new Fire Station #1 and three new, fully-equipped fire stations in under-served parts of town. The quarter percent sales tax, which is about 75 cents per week for the average local household, is necessary until the Riverside Parkway bonds are retired because having two bonds at the same time to service will inordinately impact city finances. Our dedicated and talented police and fire employees are very poorly served in their current aged and crowded facilities and public safety is impacted negatively. This measure must

pass because it will cost citizens much more in the future in taxes and public safety service levels. These are serviceable facilities for the next twenty to thirty years

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2B:**

Question 2B will simultaneously remove the quarter percent sales tax when the Parkway bonds are retired, probably by 2016, and remove the revenue restrictions of the TABOR amendment. There are four important facts relative the TABOR change:

1) TABOR requirement for citizen votes on any tax increase or indebtedness WILL REMAIN in force

2) TABOR revenue restrictions are based on economic and geographic conditions in the Denver-Boulder areas. The growth in our area and the need for infrastructure and services additions and improvements are far beyond anything in the areas from which the restrictions were derived.

3) Some 240-plus tax based service municipalities in Colorado have already done what 2B proposes. Of the only five remaining Grand Junction is by far the largest, the next in size being Idaho Springs and the others much smaller. The TABOR restrictions are counter-productive to the well-being of the state's citizens as is widely recognized.

4) Grand Junction is a heavily sales tax based community. Out-of-towners pay by far the largest part of sales tax revenue which is intended to cover the impact they have on our infrastructure and services. What is considered "excess" revenue by the TABOR formula has to be returned to taxpayers, which means property tax payers, because it would be impossible to keep track of all who pay sales taxes. A large part of such rebates are to large businesses with out-of-town headquarters.

The City's operational and capital needs exceed its current tax revenues because they cannot keep pace with our growth under TABOR restrictions. Citizens want public safety, one of the largest parts of the city's budgets, to not only keep pace with our growth but be able to acquire new technologies as they become available. We need to keep pace and still be able to pay off this Public Safety bond as soon as possible to save on interest costs. Without removal of the constricting restrictions, services and capital needs will suffer.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2B:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.