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

**TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS
(IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF
ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION)
NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/INCREASE DEBT/INCREASE
REVENUE SPENDING LIMITS ON REFERRED MEASURES
COORDINATED ELECTION - NOVEMBER 6, 2001
COUNTY OF MESA - STATE OF COLORADO**

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, November 6, 2001
ELECTION HOURS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
BALLOTS MAILED: October 12th through October 22nd, 2001
(See back of insert for ballot return information)
COUNTY ELECTIONS OFFICE: 2424 Highway 6 & 50 - Unit #414 (Mesa Mall east wing)
Grand Junction, CO 81505
(970) 244-1662
Monika Todd, County Clerk and Recorder
Amy Storm-Farley, Elections Division Director

**NOTICE TO ALL ELECTORS:
NOT ALL ELECTORS WILL VOTE ON ALL CANDIDATES AND/OR REFERRED MEASURES. THE**

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS RESIDING IN MESA COUNTY WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING
REFERRED MEASURE 1A - PRO/CON STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF MESA**

Designated Election Official:
Monika Todd, Mesa County Clerk and Recorder
P.O. Box 20000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5009
(970) 244-1662

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT - REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUE

In compliance with the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (Amendment #1) it is necessary to seek voter approval in order for the County of Mesa to receive and spend the following funds:

MESA COUNTY REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUES - REFERRED MEASURE 1A

WITHOUT INCREASING SALES TAX OR ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY, SHALL MESA COUNTY, COLORADO, BEGINNING IN 2001 AND FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS THEREAFTER, BE ALLOWED TO RETAIN ALL RAILROAD COST SHARES, PRISONER PAYMENTS AND FEES, CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES STATE GRANTS, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND FOSTER CARE FUNDS, AND STATE MEDICAID RELATED FUNDS IT RECEIVES, AND TO SPEND SUCH MONIES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES AND SERVICES, AND TO INCREASE ITS REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITATIONS EACH YEAR (IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TAXPAYERS' BILL OF RIGHTS) BY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUCH REVENUES?

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF REFERRED MEASURE 1A

This Measure is presented to the voters of Mesa County in accordance with the letter and spirit of the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR). The purpose of this Measure is to provide a solution to an unintended consequence of the TABOR Amendment which requires that certain revenues received from sources outside Mesa County are to be counted under the spending limits imposed upon Mesa County. Passage of this Measure will give Mesa County and its Commissioners the flexibility to meet current and future needs without being penalized for bringing in these outside revenues.

For instance, we have a chance to receive between \$2 and \$3 million dollars from a railroad grant to assist in the construction of the 30 Road underpass. If the county accepts this grant, and common sense says that we should, the money would count against our overall TABOR limits. Accepting this money means we would have to cut spending by the same amount, reducing the amount of money available for the operation of other county government functions.

The same applies to prisoner payments and fees. The State requires the county to house state prisoners and pays the county for this service. But every time the state pays us, the county must reduce spending in other areas vital to the county's efforts to meet the needs of our growing community. Likewise, the county believes strongly that prisoners who are allowed to work should pay the cost of their room and board when they are in jail. As a result collection of inmate fees has grown from \$100,000 to \$1 million dollars in the past five years. Yet, because of the TABOR limits, every increase in inmate fees must be met with a decrease in county spending elsewhere.

State mandated programs, those programs that the state pays the county to operate, also count against our TABOR limit and must be met by reduction in our budget. Again, every time the state increases the monies needed to administer these valuable programs, the county must reduce spending in other areas such as emergency services.

If passed by the voters of Mesa County, the Measure will stay in effect for this year and five additional years. At the end of this time period, the voters can reevaluate the Measure and determine whether or not to extend for additional years the flexibility afforded by this Measure.

The recent events in our country's history have demonstrated how quickly and unexpectedly our economic fortunes can change. Our commissioners ought to have the flexibility to adjust spending to meet our changing needs. Fifty-eight of our sixty-three counties or special districts therein, have already voted for a variety of measures to provide relief from TABOR restrictions. It is only common sense for Mesa County residents to do the same. Help keep "local government local" support referred measure 1A.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO REFERRED MEASURE 1A

- This TAX INCREASE is a DOUBLE HIT to the taxpayer. It not only eliminates the possibility of a lower property tax to return the surplus (as required by State law), but it also gives the County more money to spend by increasing the base amount used in calculating future years' spending limits. Vote NO on 1A.
- Despite what politicians say, the County can already accept railroad funds WITHOUT impacting the spending limits. Any contributing entity, like the railroad, is free to make payments into a trust fund or directly to contractors, as other counties have done. Why has Mesa County not been taking advantage of these tax savings?
- The county may also apply for and receive all the federal and private monies it wants without exceeding its spending limits under the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR), and without increasing our tax burden.
- This request is TOO VAGUE. "To spend cash monies for county purposes and services" is open-ended. It does not guarantee more spending in any area of need and allows revenues to be diverted to a "slush fund."
- The County has presented no good reason for this tax increase. Under TABOR, County revenue automatically increases each year, based on inflation and local growth, plus provisions for emergency reserves. Why should County revenues increase any more than this without even one specific project being accomplished?
- This proposal is in violation of constitution. Article X, Section 20, Paragraph 7D requires a dollar amount of requested revenue, yet no dollar amount is stated. According to Paragraph 3A, 4 years is the maximum term allowable, yet this proposal request the tax increase for 6 years. Why not comply with the laws and request a specific dollar amount for a specific purpose for one to four years?
- Mesa County has been on a spending and hiring binge. County employees enjoy automatic pay raises each year, in addition to merit-based pay raises. Voting NO on 1A will force the County to be more responsible and accountable for its finances than it has been.
- This request reduces or eliminates county tax refunds for 6 years, which means a TAX INCREASE for 6 years. It also takes away your right to vote on county spending for 6 years, and you cannot petition to remove it. Who can spend your hard-earned money better-you or the County commissioners?
- Taxes are almost 50% of income now; saving one tax dollar equals a \$2 pay raise. Continue to reject unlimited spending without accountability to taxpayers. Make Mesa County live on a budget, not a blank check. ENOUGH is still ENOUGH.
Vote NO on 1A.

FISCAL YEAR SPENDING ANALYSIS

Referred Measure # 1A will not change the existing Mesa County sales tax rate nor will the measure increase County property tax rates, therefore, the analysis is not required by Article X Section 20 (b) (ii) or (iii) but is being provided for information purposes only.

	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Projected
Fiscal Year Spending	\$51,492,052	\$55,508,242	\$60,321,607	\$62,059,268	\$68,722,452

**ONLY REGISTERED VOTERS RESIDING WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GRAND JUNCTION WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING INITIATIVE 206
PRO/CON STATEMENT FOR THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION**

Designated Election Official:
Stephanie Tuin, City Clerk
250 N 5th Street
Grand Junction, CO 81501
(970) 244-1511

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT - NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT

In compliance with the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (Amendment #1) it is necessary to seek voter approval in order for the City of Grand Junction to receive and spend the following funds:

CITY DEBT QUESTION: INITIATIVE 206

SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION DEBT BE INCREASED \$25,500,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$34,000,000, AND SHALL CITY TAXES BE INCREASED \$2,900,000 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM THE LEVY AND COLLECTION BY THE CITY OF AN ADDITIONAL ONE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, WITH THE REVENUES FROM THE PROPOSED DEBT AND TAX BEING EXPENDED TO ACQUIRE, IMPROVE AND OPERATE A COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER IN MATCHETT PARK SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS:

THE INCREASE IN SALES AND USE TAX SHALL START JANUARY 1, 2002, AND SHALL CONTINUE AT THAT RATE UNTIL THE FULL PAYMENT OF SUCH DEBT OR ON DECEMBER 31, 2013, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST AT WHICH POINT THE TAX RATE INCREASE SHALL DECREASE TO ONE SIXTEENTH OF ONE PERCENT FOR USE IN PERPETUITY FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CENTER.

THE CITY MAY PLEDGE TO THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT MONIES RAISED BY THE TAX INCREASE, INVESTMENT INCOME, AND OTHER CITY REVENUES AS THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE;

THE SPECIFIC TERMS OF THE DEBT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AS NECESSARY AND PRUDENT AND MAY INCLUDE A PROVISION FOR EARLY REPAYMENT WITH OR WITHOUT A PREMIUM;

AND SHALL THE FUNDS FROM SUCH DEBT AND TAXES AND ANY INVESTMENT INCOME EARNED FROM SUCH FUNDS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

TOTAL CITY FISCAL YEAR SPENDING

<u>Fiscal Year</u>		
2001 (estimated)	\$ 51,028,329	
2000 (actual)	\$ 47,187,284	
1999 (actual)	\$ 44,116,758	
1998 (actual)	\$ 41,399,226	
1997 (actual)	\$ 38,863,704	
Overall percentage change from 1997 to 2001		31 %
Overall dollar change from 1997 to 2001	\$ 12,164,625	
Proposed Tax Increase		
City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2002 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):		
BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206	\$ 2,900,000	
City Estimate of 2002 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase:	\$ 53,894,923	

Information on City's Proposed Debt

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206:	
Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$25,500,000
Maximum Annual City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$ 6,000,000
Total City Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$ 34,000,000

Information on City's Current Outstanding Debt*

Principal Balance of City's Current Bonded Debt:	\$ 0
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$ 0
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$ 0

*Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS FOR BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206

True Facts in Support of the Community Recreation Facility:

- The ¼ of 1% Sales Tax Increase requested will pay for this facility in as few as 7 years, but in no event longer than 12 years (December 31, 2013).
- The average Grand Junction household (U.S. Census-2000) will experience a \$32.00 per year increase in sales tax paid per household. (Source: Grand Junction City Tax Dept.)
- In return for their \$32.00 per year household investment, the citizens of Grand Junction will be provided with a completed 75,000 SF recreation center, site improvements for the entire 15 acre parcel that includes indoor and outdoor swimming, gyms, senior activities, family-friendly recreation, teen function, on-site daycare for users, zero level entry pool for handicapped, indoor jogging track, centralized classrooms, on-site catering kitchen, meeting rooms, dance floors and aerobics.
- The site (15 acres) is already owned by the City as part of the 208 acre Matchett parcel on Patterson Road, and this project has been in the City Parks Master Plan since 1993.
- The population has increased nearly 40% in the past 10 years, and there has been NO increase in year-round recreational facilities. The Grand Junction Recreation Department is currently using the full capacity of all available gyms, pools, play fields, classrooms, and meeting rooms.
- The Recreation Department cannot program any new events, leagues, instructional programs, and training or leisure activities. **THERE IS NO SPACE—WE MUST EXPAND.**
- Grand Junction is a vibrant, growing, and economically sound community. It is the business and financial center of Western Colorado. Grand Junction is the only city of its size in Colorado without a community recreation facility.
- A City of Grand Junction survey shows that 30% of the population will use the facility and that 50% of those will never have been to a private health club. A whole new community of active customers will be raised up for whom private businesses can market their services.
- User fees will be charged by the City Recreation Department on a similar basis as current fees. These will be used to offset the operational costs for the facility. Scholarships and work programs are available for those not able to afford the fees.
- User fees are currently estimated to cost from \$3.50 for a daily drop-in and begin at \$160.00 for an annual pass. Family rates will also be available.
- If approved, this facility will be completed and open for use, by all citizens of the Grand Valley, within approximately 14 months from commencement of construction.
- By voting for this initiative, you will be improving the lifestyle and well-being of seniors, families, and young people. What better legacy can we leave to those that follow us!

VOTE YES ON INITIATIVE 206

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS AGAINST BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206

- This initiative is a PERMANENT TAX INCREASE that will greatly damage our local economy. Vote NO on INITIATIVE 206.
- The tax increase just to build the recreation center is over \$34 million, with almost \$9 million going to interest. Isn't there a BETTER WAY to meet the recreational needs of the Grand Valley without such excessive deficit spending?
- The City should not USE TAXES to compete with private businesses that pay taxes. This proposal will shift the loss of tax base from private fitness centers to the taxpayer.
- We are entering a recession. This is NOT the time to burden the economy with frivolous spending.
- City government's role should be small, controlled and limited to public safety and public works.
- The average family of four will pay \$1,511 just to build this recreation center, whether they use the facility or not. In addition to the taxation, anyone using the facility will also pay a membership fee of \$400 to \$600 per family per year.
- Only 7% of the Grand Valley population is expected to use the proposed facility, but ALL of us will be paying for it.
- The recent "Vision 2020" survey showed that citizens would prefer to have more neighborhood parks and facilities, not one huge center. Locating several smaller centers near schools would better serve ALL children and reduce the transportation problems that one centralized facility creates.
- This proposal creates unfair competition. Because private recreation centers must pay taxes, they cannot afford to offer employees the generous wages and fringe benefits that the City can.

ONLY COLORADO REGISTERED VOTERS WHO RESIDE OR WHO OWN PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING REFERRED MEASURES 1B

(Mesa County registered voters who own property within the proposed boundaries of the Mesa Community Center 1159 District, but who do not reside within those boundaries, and property owners that are registered voters in the State of Colorado who reside outside of Mesa County, must contact the Mesa County Clerk's Office to apply for a ballot on Referred Measures 1B.)

Designated Election Official:
Monika Todd, Mesa County Clerk and Recorder
P.O. Box 20000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5009
(970) 244-1662

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT - REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUE

In compliance with the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (Amendment #1) it is necessary to seek voter approval in order for the Proposed Mesa Community Center 1159 District to receive and spend the following funds:

MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT - REFERRED MEASURE 1B

SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BE FORMED TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER, CONSISTENT WITH THE PETITION FOR FORMATION OF THE DISTRICT AND RESOLUTION MCM 2001-90, PURSUANT TO C.R.S. 30-20-501 ET SEQ., AND SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY UP TO 1 MIL TO FUND THE DISTRICT?

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF REFERRED MEASURE 1B

Six statements were received in support of this measure. The following is a summary of those statements:

The Mesa Community Club is responsible for utilities, lawn and grounds upkeep, cleaning and furnishings including tables, chairs, and kitchen equipment, etc. The method that has been used in the past years to meet these responsibilities has been from fund raising, membership and rental income. However, the Mesa Community Club is experiencing increased expenses with the income stream remaining stagnant.

With a reliable, consistent income which would be generated by this modest one mill levied on all property within the specified district, the Mesa Community Club could shift its focus from struggling to make ends meet with numerous fund raisers, to providing a variety of educational, social and recreational activities for all community residents. Any funds in excess of the operational budget will be earmarked for Community Center improvements and the renovation of the Old Mesa Gymnasium & Auditorium.

With the creation of the Mesa Community Center Public Improvement District, the Mesa Community Center would be managed by a local advisory board appointed by the Mesa County Commissioners. Mesa County, the owner of the Mesa Community Center building, would continue to be responsible for all major repairs to the structure.

All funds generated by this proposed mill levy would remain in local control for local programs and improvements.

The proposed one mill levy cannot increase without voter approval.

The proposed Mesa Community Center Public Improvement District would be eligible to apply for grants for Mesa Community Center improvements and restoration of historic structures.

The Mesa/Molina area needs funding to continue to keep this facility open, keep up with the cost of operations, funding for upgrades as they develop and for the recreational and social needs of this area.

The Mesa Community Club is used by many different groups of people for adult and children sports, dances, voting, and all kinds of different meetings.

There will be money to deal with the utility bills and therefore give the board members more time to do more creative things and projects that will benefit the community. At the present time it is a constant struggle by so few people to do all the benefits to raise money just to pay the ongoing utility bills.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO REFERRED MEASURE 1B

●No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Our estimated budget for the proposed District: \$16,250/year

ONLY COLORADO REGISTERED VOTERS WHO RESIDE OR WHO OWN PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED BOUNDARIES OF THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING

REFERRED MEASURES 1C

(Mesa County registered voters who own property within the proposed boundaries of the Mesa Community Center 1159 District, but who do not reside within those boundaries, and property owners that are registered voters in the State of Colorado who reside outside of Mesa County, must contact the Mesa County Clerk's Office to apply for a ballot on Referred Measures 1C.)

Designated Election Official:
Monika Todd, Mesa County Clerk and Recorder
P.O. Box 20000
Grand Junction, CO 81502-5009
(970) 244-1662

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT- REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUE

In compliance with the requirements of Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (Amendment #1) it is necessary to seek voter approval in order for the Mesa Community Center 1159 District to receive and spend the following funds:

MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUE - REFERRED MEASURE 1C

IF THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT IS FORMED, SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, WITHOUT IMPOSING ANY ADDITIONAL TAX OR INCREASE IN TAX RATES, BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND ALL REVENUES, AND OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY SOURCE DURING 2001 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE NOTWITHSTANDING THE LIMITATIONS IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN SUPPORT OF REFERRED MEASURE 1C

If the district is approved, no more than one mill will be levied to property owners within this district. If additional properties are built in this district, the actual amount collected could increase. It would be in the best interest of the Mesa Community Center to keep these additional dollars and spend the money to further improve the Mesa Community Center and its activities.

Support of this measure does not mean that the mill levy would increase. A no vote would not lower property tax or provide a refund.

Without passage of this ballot question, accepting future grants would be jeopardized. TABOR limits the amount of money a district can take in from any source. It would be in our best interest to retain the funds collected and to have the opportunity to apply for and accept additional funds through state and federal grants.

SUMMARY OF COMMENTS IN OPPOSITION TO REFERRED MEASURE 1C

•No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Total District Fiscal Year Spending:	
2002 (estimated)	\$16,250
2001 (actual)	N/A
2000 (actual)	N/A
1999 (actual)	N/A
1998 (actual)	N/A

Overall percentage change from 1998 to 2002	N/A
Overall dollar change from 1998 to 2002	N/A

District Estimates of Maximum dollar Amount of Tax Increase and of District Fiscal year Spending without the increase for first full fiscal year of proposed tax increase:

Estimated Maximum dollar Amount of Tax Increase for 2002 based on a \$100,000 home is approximately: \$9.15

Estimated 2002 Fiscal Year Spending without proposed tax increase
\$0.00

SAMPLE BALLOT
COORDINATED ELECTION - NOVEMBER 6, 2001
STATE OF COLORADO - COUNTY OF MESA

**ONLY VOTERS REGISTERED IN
MESA COUNTY VALLEY SCHOOL
DISTRICT #51 WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE
FOR THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 51
DIRECTOR DISTRICT C
(FOUR YEAR TERM)
VOTE FOR ONE**

Marcia Neal

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 51
DIRECTOR DISTRICT D
(FOUR YEAR TERM)
VOTE FOR ONE**

- Kathy McKinley
- Leslie Kiesler
- Larry Cackler

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 51
DIRECTOR DISTRICT E
(FOUR YEAR TERM)
VOTE FOR ONE**

- Ronnie D. Rowley
- Dennis Dittman

**ONLY VOTERS REGISTERED IN
DE BEQUE SCHOOL DISTRICT #49JT
(PRECINCT 64) WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO
VOTE FOR THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 49JT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
(FOUR YEAR TERMS)
VOTE FOR THREE**

- James W. Giese
- Cynthia D. Graham
- "Butch" Victor C. Kline
- Kim R. Latham

**SCHOOL DISTRICT 49JT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
(VACANCY - TWO YEAR TERM)
VOTE FOR ONE**

Connie M. Prather

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS ARE ELIGIBLE
TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES**

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE STATE OF COLORADO INITIATED, REFERRED AND SUBMITTED TO BE VOTED ON
"Ballot issues referred by the general assembly or any political subdivision are listed by letter, and ballot issues initiated by the people are listed numerically. A 'yes' vote on any ballot issue is a vote in favor of changing current law or existing circumstances, and a 'no' vote on any ballot issue is a vote against changing current law or existing circumstances."

AMENDMENT 26:
SHALL THERE BE AN AMENDMENT TO THE COLORADO REVISED STATUTES CONCERNING THE FUNDING OF A TESTING AND PLANNING PROGRAM FOR A HIGH-SPEED FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, REQUIRING \$50 MILLION OF EXCESS STATE REVENUES COLLECTED DURING THE 2000-2001 STATE FISCAL YEAR TO BE CREDITED TO A NEWLY CREATED FIXED GUIDEWAY TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FUND; AUTHORIZING THE COLORADO INTERMOUNTAIN FIXED GUIDEWAY AUTHORITY TO EXPEND MONEYS FROM THE FUND UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2004, TO DESIGN AND TEST A HIGH-SPEED FIXED GUIDEWAY TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM, INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO A MONORAIL SYSTEM, TO ENSURE REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE SYSTEM UNDER FEDERAL SAFETY STANDARDS, AND TO CONDUCT PLANNING STUDIES, INCLUDING STUDIES OF THE DESIGN, FINANCE, CONSTRUCTION, AND OPERATION OF A FIXED GUIDEWAY SYSTEM CONNECTING DENVER INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND EAGLE COUNTY AIRPORT; REQUIRING ANY MONEYS IN THE FUND NOT EXPENDED BY THE AUTHORITY TO BE REFUNDED TO THE STATE ON JANUARY 1, 2005; EXEMPTING THE AUTHORITY FROM CONSTITUTIONAL REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITATIONS; AUTHORIZING THE AUTHORITY TO EXPEND ANY STATE FUNDS THAT IT MAY RECEIVE; AND DELAYING THE TERMINATION OF THE AUTHORITY FROM JANUARY 1, 2004 UNTIL JANUARY 1, 2005?

- YES
- NO

**ALL REGISTERED VOTERS ARE ELIGIBLE
TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES**

REFERENDUM A:
SHALL THE STATE BOARD OF THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND DEBT BE INCREASED \$115,000,000, WITH A MAXIMUM REPAYMENT COST OF \$180,000,000, WITH NO INCREASE IN ANY TAXES, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ENHANCING THE GREAT OUTDOORS COLORADO TRUST FUND'S ABILITY TO ADDRESS URGENT AND PERMANENT LAND ACQUISITION PRIORITIES, INCLUDING THE ACQUISITION OF PERPETUAL CONSERVATION EASEMENTS, IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE STATE'S WILDLIFE, PARK, RIVER, TRAIL, AND OPEN SPACE HERITAGE THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF BONDS, AND SHALL EARNINGS ON THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH BONDS CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

- YES
- NO

MESA COUNTY REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUES
REFERRED MEASURE 1A
WITHOUT INCREASING SALES TAX OR ITS PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY, SHALL MESA COUNTY, COLORADO, BEGINNING IN 2001 AND, FOR FIVE CONSECUTIVE YEARS THEREAFTER, BE ALLOWED TO RETAIN ALL RAILROAD COST SHARES, PRISONER PAYMENTS AND FEES, CRIMINAL JUSTICE SERVICES STATE GRANTS, CHILD PROTECTIVE SERVICES AND FOSTER CARE FUNDS, AND STATE MEDICAID RELATED FUNDS IT RECEIVES, AND TO SPEND SUCH MONIES FOR COUNTY PURPOSES AND SERVICES, AND TO INCREASE ITS REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITATIONS EACH YEAR (IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE TAXPAYERS' BILL OF RIGHTS) BY THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF SUCH REVENUES?

- YES
- NO

ONLY REGISTERED VOTERS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF GRAND JUNCTION WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUE

CITY DEBT QUESTION:

INITIATIVE 206

SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION DEBT BE INCREASED \$25,500,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$34,000,000, AND SHALL CITY TAXES BE INCREASED \$2,900,000 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM THE LEVY AND COLLECTION BY THE CITY OF AN ADDITIONAL ONE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, WITH THE REVENUES FROM THE PROPOSED DEBT AND TAX BEING EXPENDED TO ACQUIRE, IMPROVE AND OPERATE A COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER IN MATCHETT PARK SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS:

THE INCREASE IN SALES AND USE TAX SHALL START JANUARY 1, 2002, AND SHALL CONTINUE AT THAT RATE UNTIL THE FULL PAYMENT OF SUCH DEBT OR ON DECEMBER 31, 2013, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST AT WHICH POINT THE TAX RATE INCREASE SHALL DECREASE TO ONE SIXTEENTH OF ONE PERCENT FOR USE IN PERPETUITY FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CENTER;

THE CITY MAY PLEDGE TO THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT MONIES RAISED BY THE TAX INCREASE, INVESTMENT INCOME, AND OTHER CITY REVENUES AS THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE;

THE SPECIFIC TERMS OF THE DEBT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AS NECESSARY AND PRUDENT AND MAY INCLUDE A PROVISION FOR EARLY REPAYMENT WITH OR WITHOUT A PREMIUM;

AND SHALL THE FUNDS FROM SUCH DEBT AND TAXES AND ANY INVESTMENT INCOME EARNED FROM SUCH FUNDS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

YES

NO

ONLY REGISTERED VOTERS WHO RESIDE OR OWN PROPERTY WITHIN THE PROPOSED LIMITS OF THE MESA COMMUNITY 1159 DISTRICT ARE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON THE FOLLOWING ISSUES

MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT

REFERRED MEASURE 1B

SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BE FORMED TO PROVIDE OPERATIONAL SERVICES AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER, CONSISTENT WITH THE PETITION FOR FORMATION OF THE DISTRICT AND RESOLUTION MCM 2001-90, PURSUANT TO C.R.S. 30-20-501 ET SEQ., AND SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO LEVY UP TO 1 MIL TO FUND THE DISTRICT?

YES

NO

MESA COMMUNITY CENTER 1159 DISTRICT REVENUE AND SPENDING ISSUE

REFERRED MEASURE 1C

IF THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT IS FORMED, SHALL THE MESA COMMUNITY CENTER PUBLIC IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT, WITHOUT IMPOSING ANY ADDITIONAL TAX OR INCREASE IN TAX RATES, BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND ALL REVENUES, AND OTHER FUNDS FROM ANY SOURCE DURING 2001 AND EACH SUBSEQUENT YEAR AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE NOTWITHSTANDING THE LIMITATIONS IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

YES

NO

END OF BALLOT

"WARNING:

Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both."

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:

1. You may return your voted ballot by mail; or
2. In person to any branch office of the Clerk and Recorder located at the following addresses:

Mesa Mall
2424 Hwy 6 & 50, Unit 414

PeachTree Shopping Center
3225 I-70 Bus Loop, Unit A2

Fairgrounds
2775 Hwy 50, Orchard Mesa

Fruita Civic Center
325 E. Aspen, Fruita

Courthouse
544 Rood Ave, Grand Junction

THE 2001 COORDINATED ELECTION IS MAIL IN BALLOT ELECTION

ALL ACTIVE REGISTERED VOTERS IN MESA COUNTY WILL BE MAILED A BALLOT TO THE ADDRESS LISTED ON YOUR VOTER REGISTRATION RECORD

BALLOTS WILL BE MAILED THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 15TH, 2001

IF YOU ARE A REGISTERED VOTER AND HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR BALLOT IN THE MAIL BY MONDAY, OCTOBER 22ND, 2001, PLEASE CALL OR VISIT THE ELECTIONS DIVISION OFFICE AT MESA MALL (970) 244-1662

TO RECEIVE YOUR MAIL IN BALLOT AT AN ADDRESS OTHER THAN YOUR REGISTERED RESIDENCE OR MAILING ADDRESS, YOU WILL NEED TO COMPLETE AN ABSENTEE APPLICATION. ABSENTEE APPLICATIONS ARE AVAILABLE AT ALL COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICES AND ON THE MESA COUNTY WEB SITE: www.co.mesa.co.us/clerk&recorder/elections



BALLOTS MAY BE RETURNED BY U.S. MAIL

(affix 34 cent stamp)

OR MAY BE DEPOSITED IN BALLOT BOXES AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

**FRUITA CIVIC CENTER
MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION**
325 E. Aspen, Fruita
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and
Tuesday, November 6th - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**COUNTY COURTHOUSE
RECORDING DIVISION OFFICE**
544 Rood Ave, downtown Grand Junction
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and
Tuesday, November 6th - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**PEACHTREE SHOPPING CENTER
MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OFFICE**
3225 I-70 Business Loop, Unit A2
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and
Tuesday, November 6th - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

**MESA COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
MOTOR VEHICLE DIVISION OFFICE**
2775 Highway 50, Orchard Mesa
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and
Tuesday, November 6th - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

MESA MALL ELECTIONS DIVISION OFFICE
2424 Highway 6 & 50, Grand Junction
Monday - Friday 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Saturday, November 3rd - 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and
Tuesday, November 6th - 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT

City of Grand Junction
Mesa County, Colorado

Election Date: Tuesday, November 6, 2001
Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Mesa County Clerk and Recorder
750 Main Street
Box 20,000
Grand Junction, Colorado 81501
Telephone: (970) 244-1896

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206

SHALL CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION DEBT BE INCREASED \$25,500,000, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$34,000,000, AND SHALL CITY TAXES BE INCREASED \$2,900,000 ANNUALLY IN THE FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, FROM THE LEVY AND COLLECTION BY THE CITY OF AN ADDITIONAL ONE-QUARTER OF ONE PERCENT SALES AND USE TAX, WITH THE REVENUES FROM THE PROPOSED DEBT AND TAX BEING EXPENDED TO ACQUIRE, IMPROVE AND OPERATE A COMMUNITY RECREATION CENTER IN MATCHETT PARK SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING LIMITATIONS:

THE INCREASE IN SALES AND USE TAX SHALL START JANUARY 1, 2002, AND SHALL CONTINUE AT THAT RATE UNTIL THE FULL PAYMENT OF SUCH DEBT OR ON DECEMBER 31, 2013, WHICHEVER COMES FIRST AT WHICH POINT THE TAX RATE INCREASE SHALL DECREASE TO ONE SIXTEENTH OF ONE PERCENT FOR USE IN PERPETUITY FOR THE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF THE CENTER;

THE CITY MAY PLEDGE TO THE PAYMENT OF THE DEBT MONIES RAISED BY THE TAX INCREASE, INVESTMENT INCOME, AND OTHER CITY REVENUES AS THE CITY COUNCIL MAY DETERMINE;

THE SPECIFIC TERMS OF THE DEBT SHALL BE DETERMINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AS NECESSARY AND PRUDENT AND MAY INCLUDE A PROVISION FOR EARLY REPAYMENT WITH OR WITHOUT A PREMIUM;

AND SHALL THE FUNDS FROM SUCH DEBT AND TAXES AND ANY INVESTMENT INCOME EARNED FROM SUCH FUNDS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER SECTION 20 OF ARTICLE X OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Total City Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>		
2001 (estimated)	\$	<u>51,028,329</u>
2000 (actual)	\$	<u>47,187,284</u>
1999 (actual)	\$	<u>44,116,758</u>
1998 (actual)	\$	<u>41,399,226</u>
1997 (actual)	\$	<u>38,863,704</u>
Overall percentage change from 1997 to 2001		<u>31 %</u>
Overall dollar change from 1997 to 2001		<u>\$ 12,164,625</u>

Proposed Tax Increase

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2002 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206 \$ 2,900,000

City Estimate of 2002 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$ 53,894,923

Information on City's Proposed Debt

BALLOT QUESTION NO. 206:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds: Not to exceed \$25,500,000
 Maximum Annual City Repayment Cost: Not to exceed \$ 6,000,000
 Total City Repayment Cost: Not to exceed \$ 34,000,000

Information on City's Current Outstanding Debt*

Principal Balance of City's Current Bonded Debt: \$ 0
 Maximum Annual Repayment Cost: \$ 0
 Remaining Total Repayment Cost: \$ 0

*Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Question No. 206:

True Facts in Support of the Community Recreation Facility:

1. The $\frac{1}{4}$ of 1% Sales Tax Increase requested will pay for this facility in as few as 7 years, but in no event longer than 12 years (December 31, 2013).
2. The average Grand Junction household (U.S. Census-2000) will experience a \$32.00 per year increase in sales tax paid per household. (Source: Grand Junction City Tax Dept.)
3. In return for their \$32.00 per year household investment, the citizens of Grand Junction will be provided with a completed 75,000 SF recreation center, site improvements for the entire 15 acre parcel that includes indoor and outdoor swimming, gyms, senior activities, family-friendly recreation, teen function, on-site daycare for users, zero level entry pool for handicapped, indoor jogging track, centralized classrooms, on-site catering kitchen, meeting rooms, dance floors and aerobics.
4. The site (15 acres) is already owned by the City as part of the 208 acre Matchett parcel on Patterson Road, and this project has been in the City Parks Master Plan since 1993.
5. The population has increased nearly 40% in the past 10 years, and there has been NO increase in year-round recreational facilities. The Grand Junction Recreation Department is currently using the full capacity of all available gyms, pools, play fields, classrooms, and meeting rooms.
6. The Recreation Department cannot program any new events, leagues, instructional programs, and training or leisure activities. THERE IS NO SPACE—WE MUST EXPAND.
7. Grand Junction is a vibrant, growing, and economically sound community. It is the business and financial center of Western Colorado. Grand Junction is the only city of its size in Colorado without a community recreation facility.
8. A City of Grand Junction survey shows that 30% of the population will use the facility and that 50% of those will never have been to a private health club. A whole new community of active customers will be raised up for whom private businesses can market their services.
9. User fees will be charged by the City Recreation Department on a similar basis as current fees. These will be used to offset the operational costs for the facility. Scholarships and work programs are available for those not able to afford the fees.

10. User fees are currently estimated to cost from \$3.50 for a daily drop-in and begin at \$160.00 for an annual pass. Family rates will also be available.
11. If approved, this facility will be completed and open for use, by all citizens of the Grand Valley, within approximately 14 months from commencement of construction.
12. By voting for this initiative, you will be improving the lifestyle and well-being of seniors, families, and young people. What better legacy can we leave to those that follow us!

VOTE YES ON INITIATIVE 206

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Question No. 206

- This initiative is a PERMANENT TAX INCREASE that will greatly damage our local economy. Vote NO on INITIATIVE 206.
- The tax increase just to build the recreation center is over \$34 million, with almost \$9 million going to interest. Isn't there a BETTER WAY to meet the recreational needs of the Grand Valley without such excessive deficit spending?
- The City should not USE TAXES to compete with private businesses that pay taxes. This proposal will shift the loss of tax base from private fitness centers to the taxpayer.
- We are entering a recession. This is NOT the time to burden the economy with frivolous spending.
- City government's role should be small, controlled and limited to public safety and public works.
- The average family of four will pay \$1,511 just to build this recreation center, whether they use the facility or not. In addition to the taxation, anyone using the facility will also pay a membership fee of \$400 to \$600 per family per year.
- Only 7% of the Grand Valley population is expected to use the proposed facility, but ALL of us will be paying for it.
- The recent "Vision 2020" survey showed that citizens would prefer to have more neighborhood parks and facilities, not one huge center. Locating several smaller centers near schools would better serve ALL children and reduce the transportation problems that one centralized facility creates.
- This proposal creates unfair competition. Because private recreation centers must pay taxes, they cannot afford to offer employees the generous wages and fringe benefits that the City can.
- An increase in sales tax impacts people at lower income levels more than those at higher income levels. The poor will be paying for a recreation center that will be used by the rich. This is not fair.
- A recreation center of this magnitude will take several years to complete, and does not meet the immediate needs of the citizens.
- This proposed recreation center would add even MORE workers to the government ranks. How can tax-generating businesses continue to afford this increasing liability?

- This recreation center is NOT the events center. That is yet another proposal being considered that will impose an additional \$25 million or more.
- The city's study shows that the recreation center will lose money every year. All of us will pay for those deficits.
- This expensive facility is not the answer to our community's recreational needs. This tax increase is FOREVER. It will give you less to spend on your children, and it will pile more debt on the future generations. Just say NO to 206. ENOUGH is still ENOUGH.