

## RESOLUTION NO. 16-19

### A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF BALLOT QUESTION 2B

**A MEASURE SUBMITTED TO THE ELECTORATE ON APRIL 2, 2019 TO AUTHORIZE AN ADDITIONAL CITY SALES AND USE TAX OF .50% AND TO RETAIN AND SPEND REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AS DEFINED BY ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION AND EXPEND THE REVENUE FOR POLICE, FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES, EMPLOYEES, STATIONS AND FIRST RESPONDER SERVICES**

#### RECITALS:

In the upcoming election, City voters will decide whether to approve an additional sales and use tax of .50% to fund police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS). If approved, the money from the tax proposed in question 2B will:

- Build, equip and staff new fire stations to improve response times/delivery of emergency medical, fire and rescue services; and,
- Hire, employ, train and equip police officers, firefighters and EMS personnel (collectively First Responders) and employees such as 9-1-1 emergency dispatch, code enforcement and forensic laboratory personnel that support First Responders and delivery of First Responder services.

If ballot measure 2B is approved, the city-wide sales and use tax will increase from two and three quarter percent (2.75%) to three and one quarter percent (3.25%).

Because of continued growth in the community and the increasing demands growth has placed on the City's First Responders, the City Council supports ballot question 2B and believes that passage of 2B is vital to the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Grand Junction and the greater community.

Police and Fire/EMS are important aspects for community strength and well-being; with passage of ballot measure 2B the community will benefit by having improved staffing and facilities to offer essential services people need and want.

The City, and the services it provides, are principally funded by sales tax, a significant portion of which is derived from sales tax paid by visitors, out of area shoppers/non-City residents. Because Grand Junction is a regional hub, the tax burden on City residents is reduced by the out of area shoppers/non-City residents sharing the cost of the delivery of services to all potential users.

While the City Council understands that tax increases are not popular, the need for this increase is here and now and as such the City Council finds and determines that the

passage of measure 2B will significantly benefit our community.  
The Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act authorizes the City Council to take a position of advocacy and pass a resolution concerning a ballot issue. Consistent with that authority and after due and careful consideration the City Council has determined that the passage of question 2B will significantly benefit our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the City Council of the City of Grand Junction does hereby state its support for ballot measure 2B and urges voters to approve the measure.

Dated this 6<sup>th</sup> day of March 2019.

GRAND JUNCTION CITY COUNCIL



Barbara Traylor Smith  
President of the Council

ATTEST:



Wanda Winkelmann  
City Clerk

