

City Council

Agenda

**Tuesday, April 28, 2026
Special Meeting
Council Chambers
749 Main Street
6:00 PM**

Members of the public are welcome to attend and give comments remotely. However, the in-person meeting may continue even if technology issues prevent remote participation.

- You can call in to +1 719 359 4580 or 877 853 5247 (toll free) Webinar ID #876 9127 0986.
- You can log in via your computer. Please visit the [City's website](#) to link to the meeting.

City Council considers written and oral comments equally. [Email comments to the Council](#) received after the packet is posted online and before 3pm the day of the meeting will be included in the Council addendum and provided to each Council member prior to the meeting. If you prefer to address Council in person, you may attend the meeting either in person or virtually.

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Regular Business

A. Joint Meeting with the Recreation Advisory Board

There will be one round of public comment.

B. Resolution No. 42, Series 2026 — A Resolution Setting Certain Water, Wastewater, Stormwater and Other Fees, Rates and Charges for the City of Louisville, Colorado

This will be the only reading of this item and final action may be taken. There will be one round of public comment.

C. Discussion / Direction: Potential 2026 Ballot Questions

Discussion / Direction provides Council with the opportunity to learn about an item, ask questions, and provide feedback to staff. There will be one round of public comment. There will be no final decisions made on this item, and it may return at a later date for action by Council.

4. Adjourn

Resident Information

If you wish to speak at the City Council meeting in person, please fill out a sign-up card and present it to the City Clerk at the meeting. If you are attending remotely, please use the “raise hand” icon to show you wish to speak in appropriate public comments section.

Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or other accommodation should [email the City Clerk's Office](#) or call at 303.335.4574

A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión del Consejo, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4574 o [email](#)

Subject: Joint Meeting with the Recreation Advisory Board
There will be one round of public comment.

Date: April 28, 2026

Prepared By: Kathy Martin, Recreation Superintendent
Adam Blackmore, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Director

Presented By: Adam Blackmore, Parks, Recreation and Open Space Director
Kathy Martin, Recreation Superintendent

Summary:

The City Council tries to meet annually with each of the City's advisory boards to discuss Council's Work Plan, the board's work plan, and alignment of the two, provide direction and discuss matters of mutual interest.

Current members of RAB include: President Lisa Norgard, VP Michele Van Pelt, Secretary Dan Brenner, Everett Weis, Carla Rapp & Mike Knapp

Background / Prior Discussions:

Development Proposal:

Analysis:

Council Work Plan:

Fiscal Impact:

Alternatives:

Recommendation:

The Recreation Advisory Board asks for City Council's feedback and guidance related to the 2026 board work plan and goals as well as alignment with the adopted 2026 City

Council Work Plan

Attachments:

1. RAB Presentation to Council 4.28.26



Recreation Advisory Board 2026 Joint Meeting April 28, 2026

Board Members

Lisa Norgard – Chair, Michele Van Pelt- Vice Chair,
Douglas Minter – Secretary, Dan Brenner, Everett Weis,
Carla Rapp & Mike Knapp

Highlights and Successes for this Board

- Support the City's Comprehensive Plan.
 - Aligning with the long-term and community priorities.
- Actively engaged in the review and implementation of the PROS plan.
- Conversion of the outdoor inline skate rink to 5 pickleball courts.
- Facilitated communication between the golfing community and council regarding the Coal Creek 2026 golf passes.
- Provided input on the F&B Task Force in evaluating and recommending a new restaurateur for the Coal Creek Golf Course.
- Completed RAB's 2025 years goals.
- Committed to the continued maintenance of our tennis courts.

RAB's Highest Priorities

- Build a new clubhouse at the golf course.
- Add a fifth tennis court adjacent to the existing courts at Centennial Courts. Renovate and reconstruct the two east courts.
- Continue to identify land for Soccer/Multi-Purpose Fields.
- Continue to support all maintenance projects. Recommend maintaining what we currently have.
- Integrate sustainable practices into park maintenance, future facility upgrades, and long-term infrastructure planning.

Recreational City Assets

Recreation/Senior Center
Coal Creek Golf Course
Memory Square
Centennial Tennis Courts
Mission Green Tennis Court
Pirate Park Tennis Court
Inline Skating Rink/Pickleball Court
Sports Complex

Miners Baseball Park
Pirates Park
Lawrence Enrietto Park
Heritage Park
Meadows Park Disc Golf
Cleo Mudrock Park
Community Park

Recreation & Senior Center

Recreation Center

- Completed a \$28.6 million dollar expansion renovation in 2019.
- Provides daily use for the community. With 477,317 paid visits in 2025.
- Extensive programming in Aquatics, Fitness & Wellness. Offering over 120 drop-in fitness classes per week.
- Provides programming for many youth sports and activities.
- Provide a state licensed pre-school and summer day camp.
- Special Events

Senior Center

- Provides a gathering spot for our senior community.
- Drop-in and Organized Programming
- Offers many amenities-
 - Day Trips
 - Special Events & Programs
 - Classes and Seminars
 - Daily congregate meal site
 - Medical Equipment Loan Closet

Coal Creek Golf Course

- Is a nationally recognized award-winning golf course.
- Reopened in 2015 upon completion of renovation due to the 2013 flood with 18 holes of golf, 9 holes of golf.
- Completed 70% of the Audubon Certified Wildlife Sanctuary accreditation.
- Produces over 42,000 golf starts and another 5,000 individual range uses.
- Continues to produce the largest junior programming in the state of Colorado

Memory Square

- A new bathhouse and splash pool were constructed in 2018 as part of the \$28.6 bond.
- Community Park Space with Playground and Pavilion
- 6 Lane 25-meter swimming pool, wading pool & bathhouse.
- Home to competitive swim events, fitness programming and Dolphins Swim team.
- Expanded Recreational drop-in swim times for citizens.
- Facility Rental Revenue.

Areas in Which the Board Would like City Council Input/Feedback

- Request Council guidance on priority capital projects.
- Seek direction on funding strategies for the Club House at Coal Creek.
- Request Council input on sustainability priorities within Parks & Rec.
- Give direction on what items City Council would like the RAB to work on in 2026.
- How would you like to hear feedback from RAB on an ongoing basis?

Thank you!

- Thank you for your time and continued support of the RAB Board. We appreciate your partnership!

Subject: Resolution No. 42, Series 2026 — A Resolution Setting Certain Water, Wastewater, Stormwater and Other Fees, Rates and Charges for the City of Louisville, Colorado
This will be the only reading of this item and final action may be taken. There will be one round of public comment.

Date: April 28, 2026

Prepared By: Cory Peterson, Deputy Director of Utilities

Presented By: Kurt Kowar, Director
Cory Peterson, Deputy Director of Utilities

Summary:

Staff recommends increasing utility rates for the 2026 calendar year in the amount of 10% for water, 18% for wastewater and 13% for stormwater.

Background / Prior Discussions:

Annually, City staff complete a rate assessment for the water, wastewater, and stormwater funds. This annual process ensures the rates and fees continue to generate sufficient revenue to sustain utility operations and facilitate future planning and budgeting. This process of analysis, findings, and recommendations was discussed at the Finance Committee on July 17, 2025 and February 19, 2026.

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

Rates are currently influenced by Capital Improvement Projects with planned upgrades to water supply infrastructure, wastewater plant solids handling process and future stormwater floodplain improvements. Similar to the prior rate analysis, adjustments were presented with two options, a “Just-in-Time” scenario where required increases are initiated in the year they are needed regardless of amount, and a “Smoothing” scenario where required increases are averaged out to minimize large jumps in increases which distributes increases over time. The City has historically utilized rate smoothing. The Finance Committee has recommended that the Smoothing scenario continue to be utilized.

A significant amount of work is planned over the next year to take a more in-depth look at the utility rate structure, including how well it aligns with cost of service. There is also a fair amount of uncertainty tied to several major capital projects, particularly around

scope, timing, and costs, which could affect future rate decisions. Given that, moving forward with the proposed rate adjustments now provides a reasonable path while staff continues this work and key assumptions become clearer before bringing forward any larger structural changes.

The table below shows the 3-year increases based upon financial rate modeling with the strike through text representing the proposed increases from last year’s April 1, 2025 council meeting.

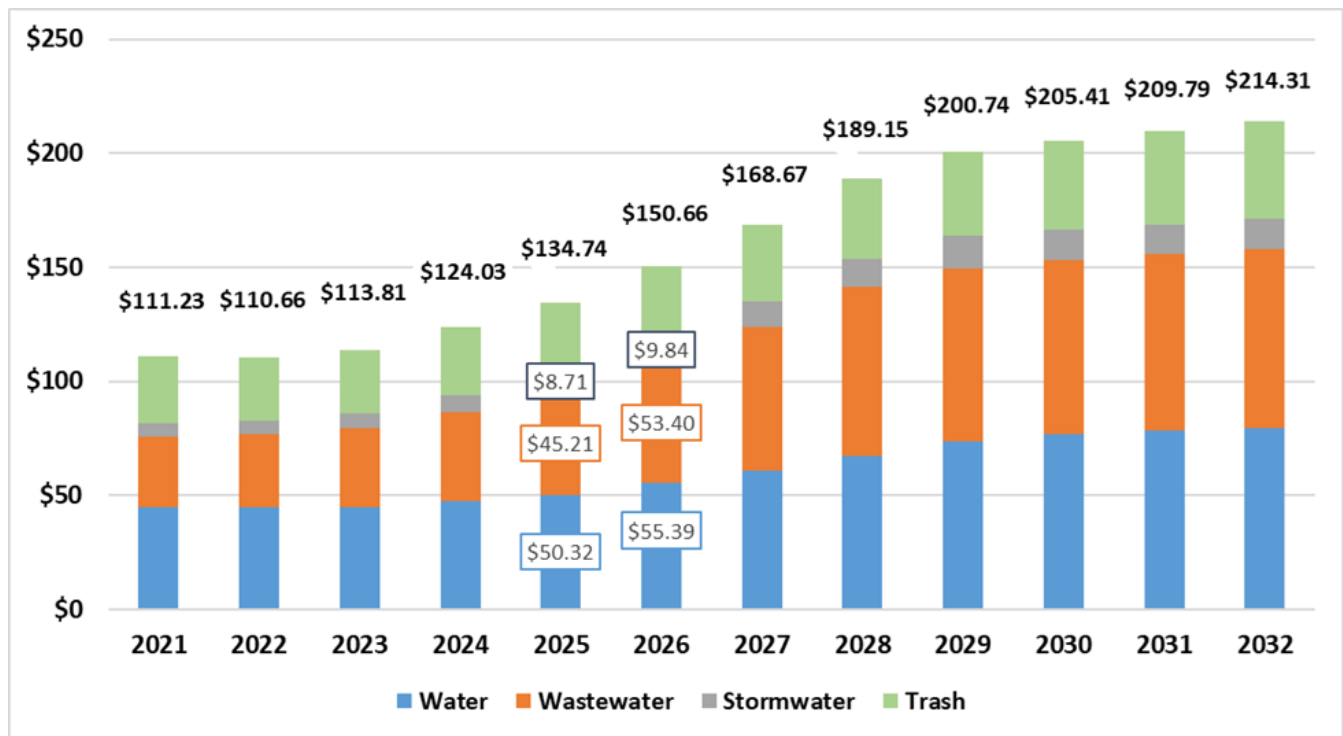
Utility	2026 Recommendation	2027 Projection	2028 Projection
Water	10% 6%	10% 6%	10% 6%
Wastewater	18% 16%	18% 16%	18% 9%
Stormwater	13% 13%	13% 13%	13% 13%

Council Work Plan:

The program goal for Utilities is to ensure safe, reliable, great tasting water; properly treated wastewater; effective stormwater control; successfully managed solid waste; and competitive prices for all services. These annual utility rate evaluations and adjustments are essential in the administration of reasonable and justifiable prices and the responsible management of the utility system.

Fiscal Impact:

The recommended increases will continue the process of matching Utility revenue with projected expenses for operations and capital improvement needs. The average residential water, wastewater, stormwater, and trash utility bill will see an anticipated increase from \$134.74 per month to \$150.66 per month.



Alternatives:

Alternative 1: Maintain or Reduce Rate Increases with Limited Flexibility

Council could elect to maintain current rates or implement a reduced or phased in increase to lessen near term impacts to ratepayers with deferral of planned capital investments. The rate analysis already attempts to optimize this approach; further deferral would likely negatively impact critical Capital Improvement Program CIP projects and increase long term costs and infrastructure risk.

Alternative 2: Offset Rate Increases through Reserves

Council could direct the use of utility fund reserves to limit or avoid rate increases. However reserves are currently at target minimum levels and this approach would require drawing them below policy thresholds and reducing financial flexibility and resilience.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval to increase utility rates for the 2026 calendar year in the amount of 10% for water, 18% for wastewater and 13% for stormwater.

Attachments:

1. Resolution No. 42, Series 2026
2. 2026 04 28 2026 Utility Rate Increase 02 (presentation)
3. 2026 04 28 2026 Utility Rate Increase 03 - Rate Tables
4. 2026 04 28 2026 Utility Rate Increase 04 - Utility Billing Insert Draft

**RESOLUTION NO. 42
SERIES 2026**

**A RESOLUTION SETTING CERTAIN WATER, WASTEWATER, STORMWATER AND
OTHER FEES, RATES, AND CHARGES FOR THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE,
COLORADO.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Louisville Municipal Code, the City Council is authorized to establish certain fees, rates, and charges by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to establish by this resolution the amounts of certain fees, rates, and charges commencing with the effective date set forth in Section 2 of this resolution.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY
OF LOUISVILLE, COLORADO:**

Section 1. Pursuant to authorization in the Louisville Municipal Code, the Louisville City Council hereby establishes certain water, wastewater, stormwater and other fees, rates, and charges in accordance with the schedules and tables attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Section 2. The fees, rates, and charges set by this resolution shall be effective on May 1, 2026, and may thereafter be amended from time to time by resolution of the City Council.

Section 3. The fees, rates, and charges set by this resolution shall supersede and replace any fees, rates, or charges previously set or adopted by the City Council for the same purpose. However, the same shall not be deemed to release, extinguish, alter, modify, or change in whole or in part any liability which shall have been previously incurred, and the superseded or replaced provision shall be treated and held as still remaining in force for the purpose of sustaining any judgment, decree, or order.

Section 4. If any portion of this resolution is held to be invalid for any reason, such decisions shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 28th day of April, 2026.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk



2026 Recommended Utility Rates

City Council

April 28, 2026

2025 Review:

- **Water revenue \$480,000 below estimate (7%)**
 - Related to wet weather
(Future revenue projections are based on average water use)
- **Water tap fees \$200,000 above estimate (14%)**
- **Interest earned (all 3 funds) \$457,000 above estimate (57%)**

Past and Proposed Utility Rate

Utility	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026
Water	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	6.5%	6%	10%
Wastewater	7%	7%	7%	0%	4%	4%	8%	12.1%	16%	18%
Stormwater	4%	7%	18.5%	0%	5%	5%	9%	14%	14%	13%

Average⁽¹⁾ Monthly Residential Bill:

	Current 2025	Proposed 2026	Difference	Percent Increase
Water	\$50.32	\$55.39	\$5.08	10.1% ⁽²⁾
Wastewater	\$45.21	\$53.40	\$8.18	18.1%
Stormwater	\$8.71	\$9.84	\$1.13	13.0%
Total	\$104.24	\$118.63	\$14.39	13.8%

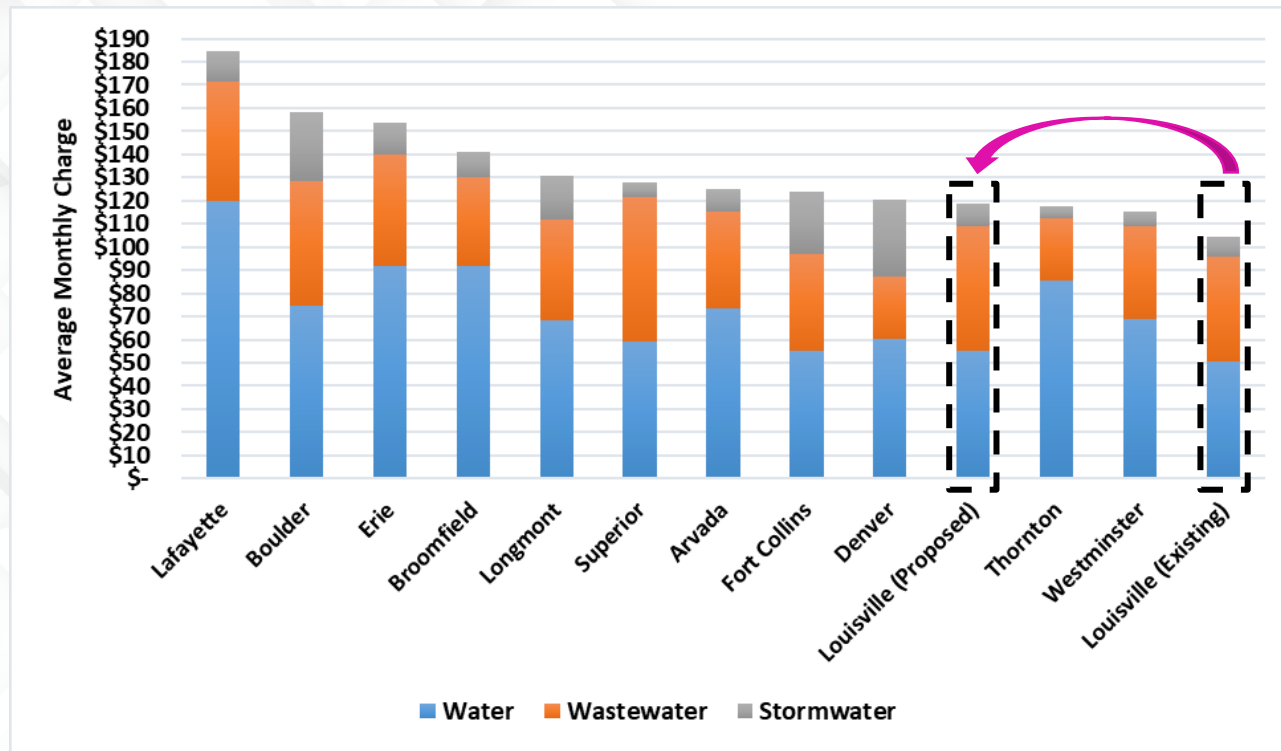
(1) Based on average usage of approx. 9,220 gallons. Actual bills will be dependent on usage and will vary with seasonal fluctuation.

(2) Percentage difference result from rounding error

Overview

1. Surrounding Community Rate Comparison
2. Background
3. Risks
 - A. Drought
 - B. Revenue
 - C. Tap Fees
 - D. Capital Projects
4. 2026/2027 Work Plan
5. 2026 Recommended Rates

1. Average Monthly Water, Wastewater & Storm Rates (Louisville Single Family Residential)



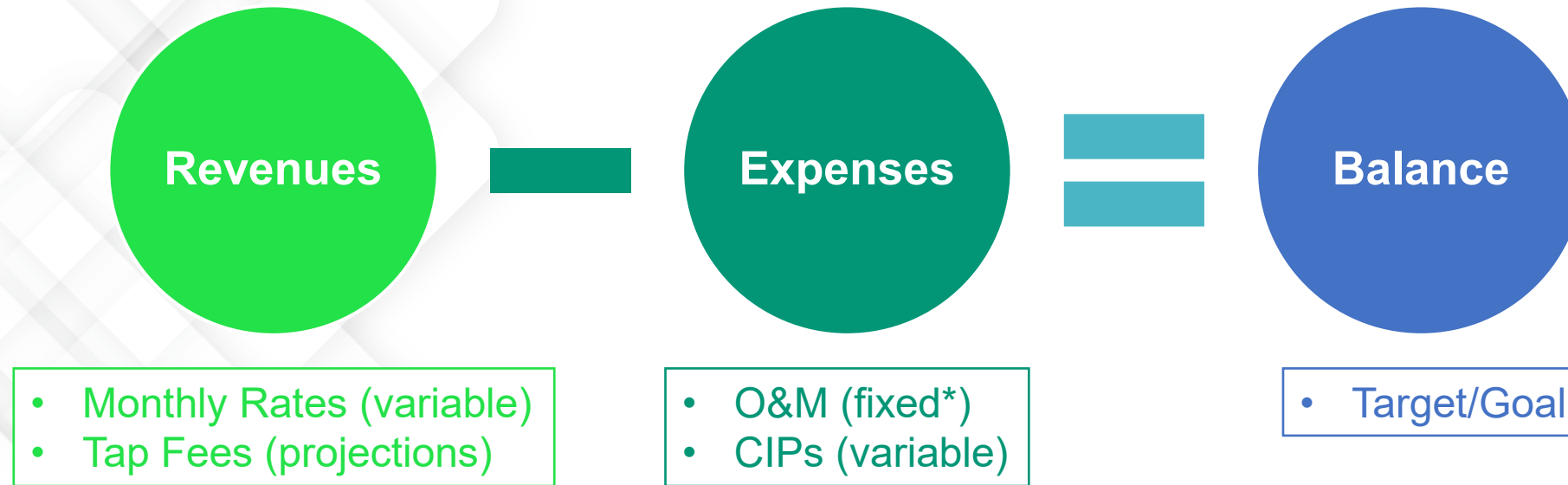
Utility	Percentage Increase	Avg. Monthly Bill Increase
Water	10%	\$5.08
Wastewater	18%	\$8.18
Stormwater	13%	\$1.13

- Based on average usage of approx. 9,220 gallons. Actual bills will be dependent on usage and will vary based on seasonal fluctuation.

2. Background (no changes)

Timeline	Financial Rate Model	Rate Planning	Debt Service Ratio	Reserves	O&M Turnback	Tap Fees	Long Term Planning
Pre 2013	No	Just in Time	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	N/A	0%	Minimal	Reactive
2013 to 2016	Yes (consultant)	Smoothing	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	120 days	0%	Development Projections (1 yr. delay)	10 yr
2016 to 2020	Yes (internal)	Smoothing	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	120 days	0%	Development Projections (1 yr. delay)	10 yr
2020 to 2023	Yes (internal)	Smoothing	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	90 days	0%	Development Projections (current yr.)	10 yr
2023 to 2024	Yes (internal)	Smoothing	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	90 days + Capital Reserve	10%	Development Projections (current yr.)	10+ yr (asset depreciation)
2025 to Present	Yes (internal)	Smoothing	water: 1.2 sewer: 1.2 storm: 1.3	90 days + Capital Reserve	0%	Development Projections (current yr.)	10+ yr (asset depreciation)

2. Baseline Financial Equation



** Majority of Utility O&M costs (chemicals, electricity, repairs, staffing, etc.) are fixed.*

2. Rate Planning

Smoothing (recommended and used since 2013)

Revenue increases are gradually imposed over several years to establish reserves to fund expenses.

Just in Time:

Revenue increases are aligned for each utility fund to maintain immediate financial self-sufficiency in the year when the expense is budgeted

2. Debt Service Coverage

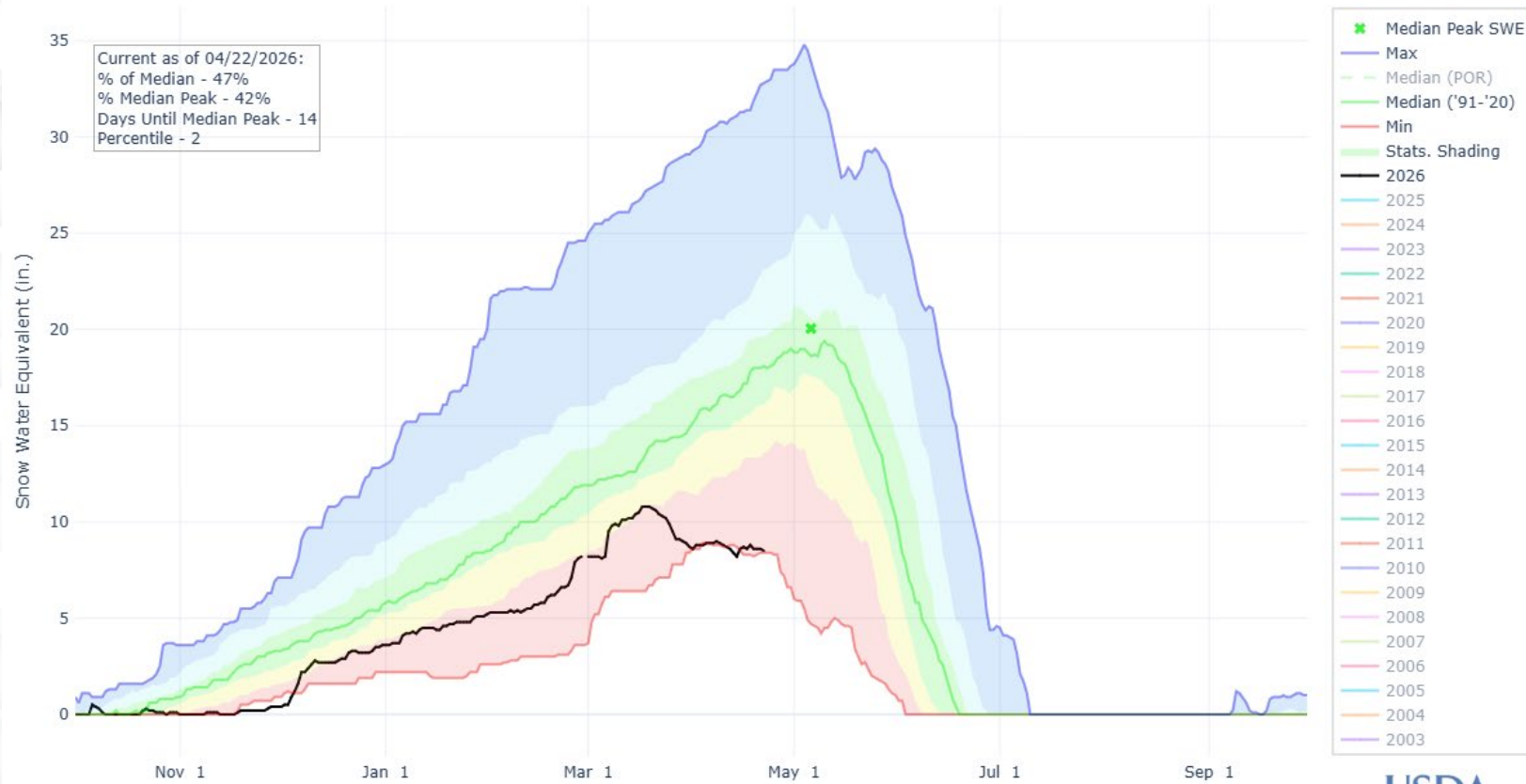
The Debt Service Coverage (DSC) has been stable for several years and is not a driver for rates for the foreseeable future.

DSC will be removed until Debt reemerges as relevant.

3. Risks to Rates

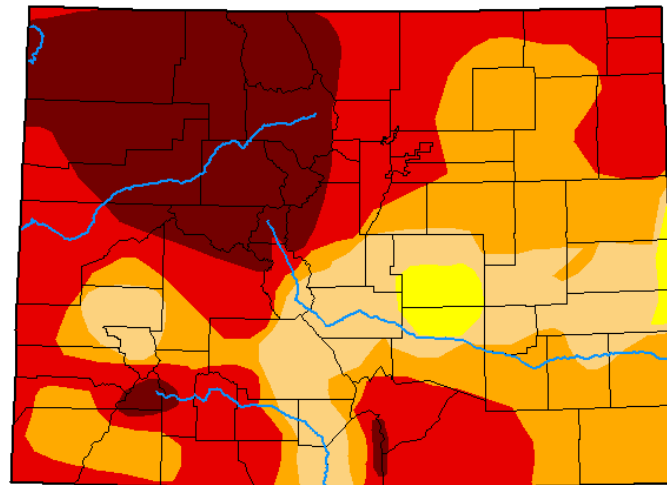
- A. Drought
- B. Revenue Budgets vs Actuals
- C. Tap Fees
- D. Capital Projects

3A. Drought



3A. Drought

U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado



April 14, 2026

(Released Thursday, Apr. 16, 2026)

Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	0.00	100.00	97.79	82.84	54.42	21.59
Last Week <small>04-07-2026</small>	0.00	100.00	95.49	66.81	46.51	21.59
3 Months Ago <small>01-13-2026</small>	29.60	70.40	47.38	15.18	4.54	0.83
Start of Calendar Year <small>01-06-2026</small>	25.96	74.04	46.22	15.77	4.35	0.67
Start of Water Year <small>09-30-2025</small>	45.82	54.18	45.19	35.88	14.34	0.00
One Year Ago <small>04-15-2025</small>	44.14	55.86	37.18	15.89	0.77	0.00

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

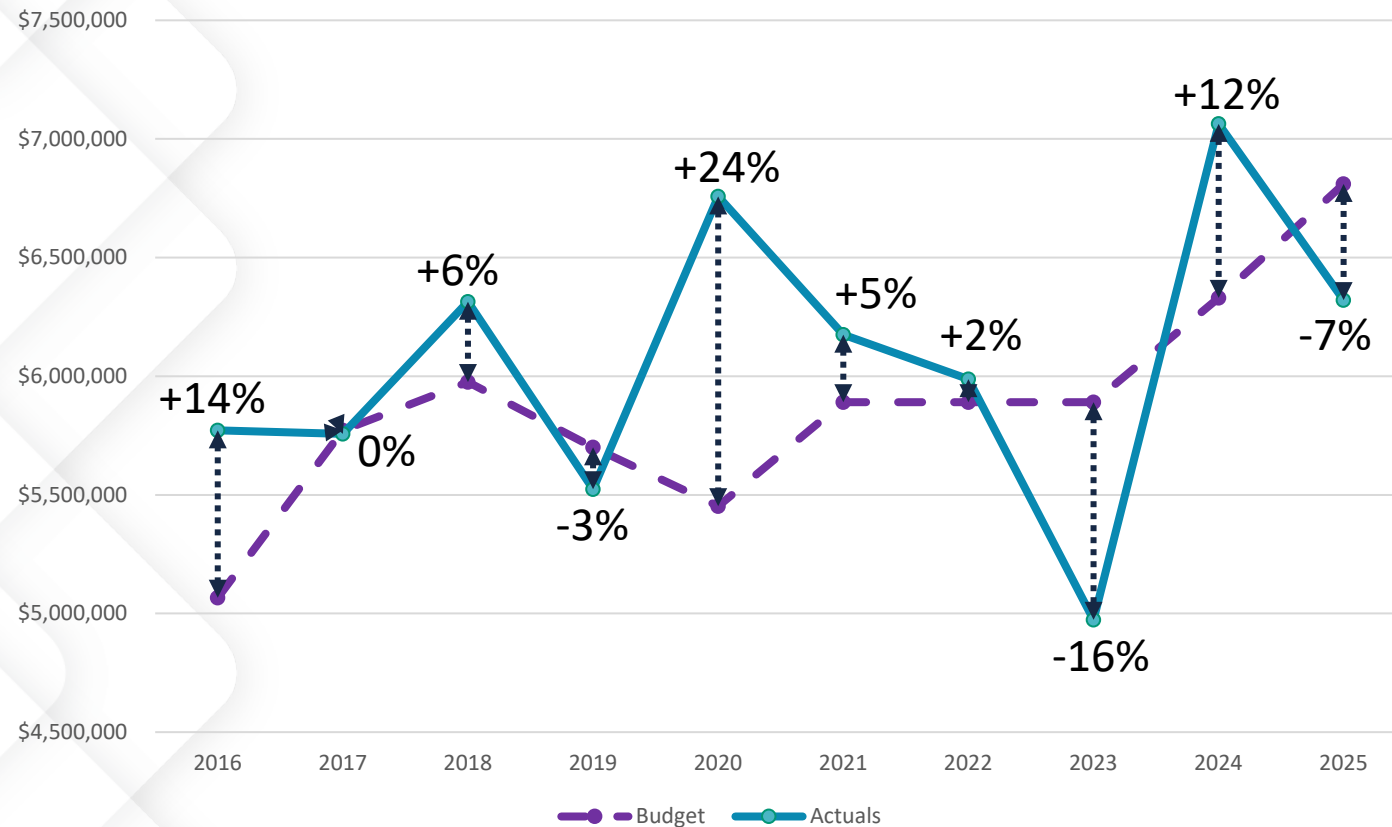
Author:

Brian Fuchs
National Drought Mitigation Center



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

3B. Water Revenue Budget vs Actual



Wastewater and Stormwater are not weather dependent and consistently meet or exceed budgets

3C. Modeled Tap Fee

Utility	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029	2030	Total
Water (2026 est.)	-	\$3.7M	\$5.0M	\$3.9M	\$2.8M	\$1.5M	\$18.3M
Water (2025)	\$1.4M	\$5.3M	\$5.0M	\$2.3M	\$2.8M	\$1.5M	\$18.3M
Water (2024)	\$1.8M	\$6.0M	\$4.5M	\$2.0M	\$2.3M	\$2.1M	\$18.7M
Change	-\$0.4M	-\$0.7M	\$0.5M	\$0.3M	\$0.5M	-\$0.6M	-\$0.4M
Wastewater (2025)	\$175k	\$480k	\$500k	\$333k	\$400k	\$224k	\$2.11M
Wastewater (2024)	\$184k	\$616k	\$474k	\$184k	\$224k	\$206k	\$1.89M
Change	-\$9k	-\$136k	\$26k	\$149k	\$176k	\$18k	\$0.22M

- *Redtail Ridge Development is a significant portion*
- *Delay only for 2026 Water*
- *2026 Revision During the budget process Q2 - Q3*

3D. Capital Projects:

Water Adjusted CIPs	2024/25 Budget	Proposed	Increase	Project Year
Telemetry Upgrade and Replacement	\$0	\$1.5M	\$1.5M	2027
WTP Sed Basin Repair	\$0	\$1.1M	\$1.1M	2030
Raw water Integration Project	\$5.2M	\$6.0M	\$800k	2028 & 2029
Waterline System Loops	\$800k	\$1.5M	\$700k	2027
PRV Replacement	\$0	\$450k	\$450k	2030 & 2031
Windy Gap Firming Project	\$6.6M	\$7.0M	\$400k	2026-2030
Marshall Lake Sediment Control	\$0	\$350k	\$350k	2032
Waterline Replacement	\$5.4M	\$5.7M	\$300k	2026-2030
Interconnect Upgrade	\$0	\$300k	\$300k	2026 & 2027
WTP Roof Repairs	\$400k	\$600k	\$200k	2026
WTP HVAC	\$80k	\$270k	\$190k	2026
HBWTP Generator Replacement	\$0	\$150k	\$150k	2026
Server Replacement (WIMS)	\$0	\$150k	\$150k	2027
Reservoir Outlet Repairs	\$500k	\$625k	\$125k	2027
HBWTP Recycle System	\$560k	\$680k	\$120k	2027
WTP Decarb (Solar)	\$2.3M	\$0	-\$2.3M	2028
Water Total	\$21.8M	\$26.3M	\$4.5M	

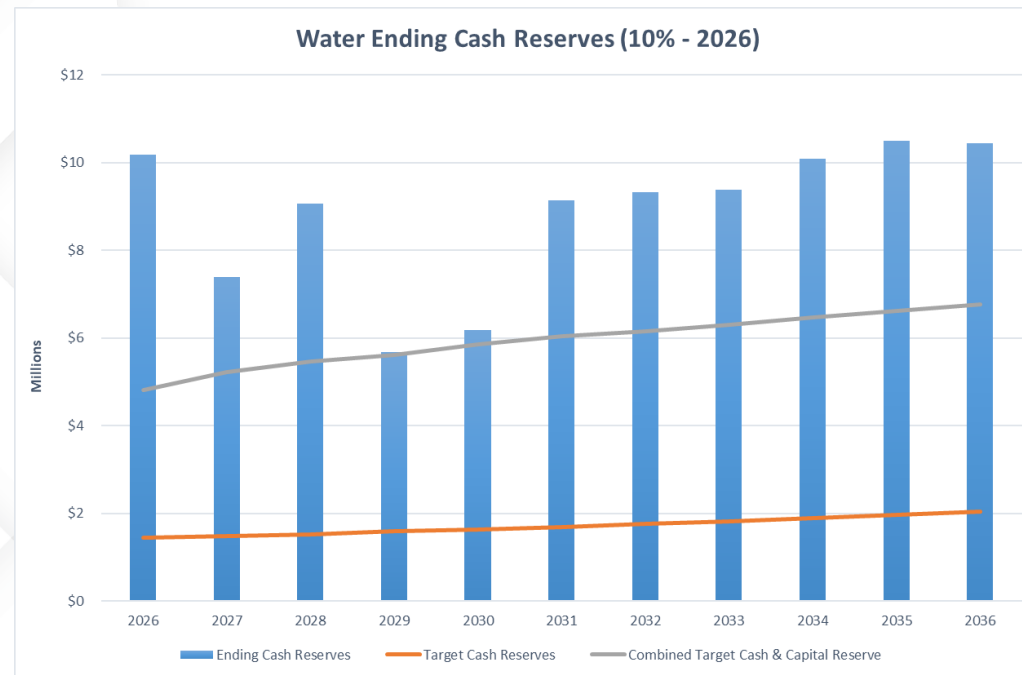
Wastewater Adjusted CIPs	2024/25 Budget	Proposed	Increase	Project Year
Additional WWTP Upgrades	\$0	\$2M	\$2M	2027/2028
CTC Lift Station	\$0	\$400k	\$400k	2026 & 2027
Sewerline Replacement	\$3.5M	\$3.9M	\$400k	2026-2030
Utility Billing (*missed in initial 2026 Rate Model)	\$0*	\$275k	\$275k	2026-2030
Portable Lift Station Pump Replacement	\$0	\$190k	\$190k	2029
Wastewater Total	\$3.5M	\$6.8M	\$3.3M	

4. 2026/2027 Work Plan

- Rate Structure
 - Cost of Service Review
 - Revenue Risk Mitigation Evaluation
- Tap Fee Revision
- Capital Projections

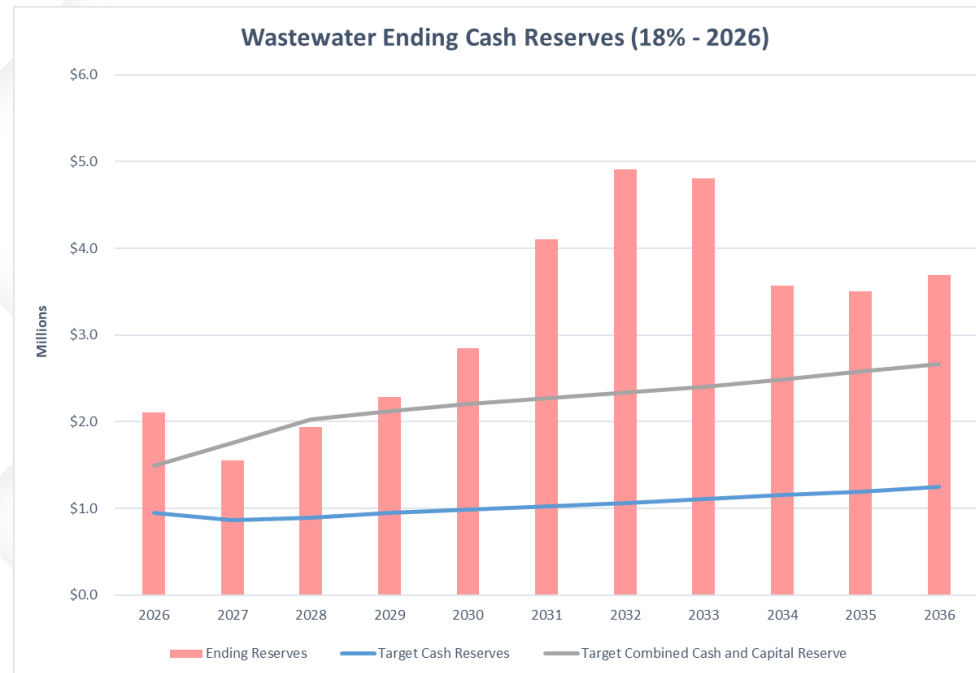
5. WATER RATES

04/01/25 2025 Rate Approval Council Meeting	07/17/25 Preliminary Rates Finance Committee	02/19/26 Draft Rates Finance Committee	Today 2026 Recommended Rate Council Meeting
6%	8.5%	10%	10%



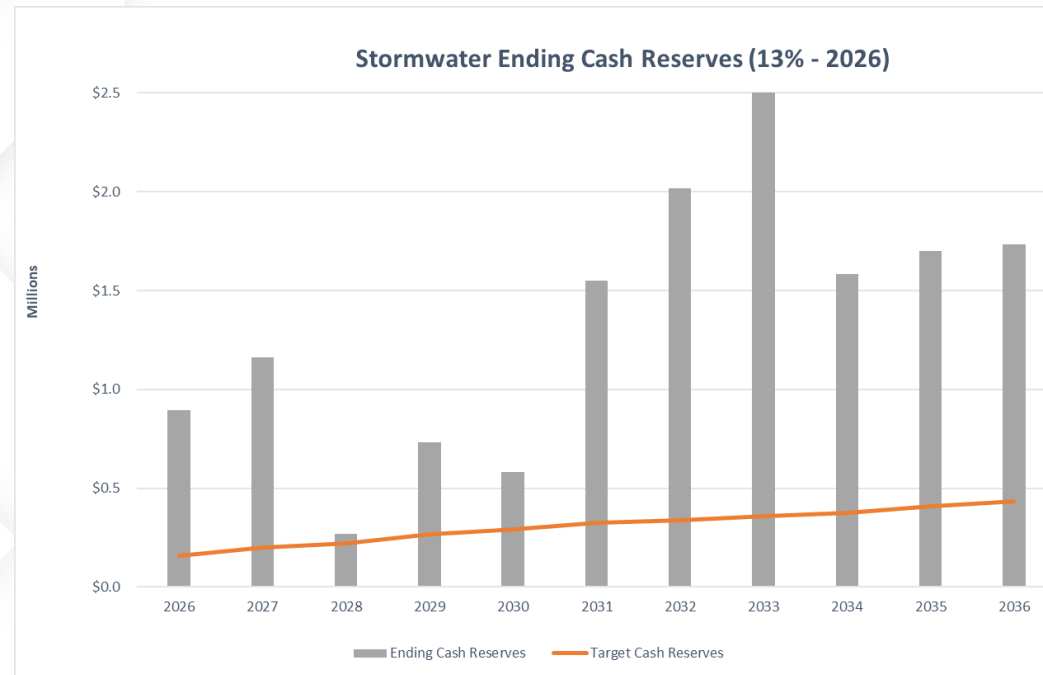
5. WASTEWATER RATES

04/01/25 2025 Rate Approval Council Meeting	07/17/25 Preliminary Rates Finance Committee	02/19/26 Draft Rates Finance Committee	Today 2026 Recommended Rate Council Meeting
16%	14%	18%	18%



5. STORMWATER RATES

04/01/25 2025 Rate Approval Council Meeting	07/17/25 Preliminary Rates Finance Committee	02/19/26 Draft Rates Finance Committee	Today 2026 Recommended Rate Council Meeting
13%	13%	13%	13%

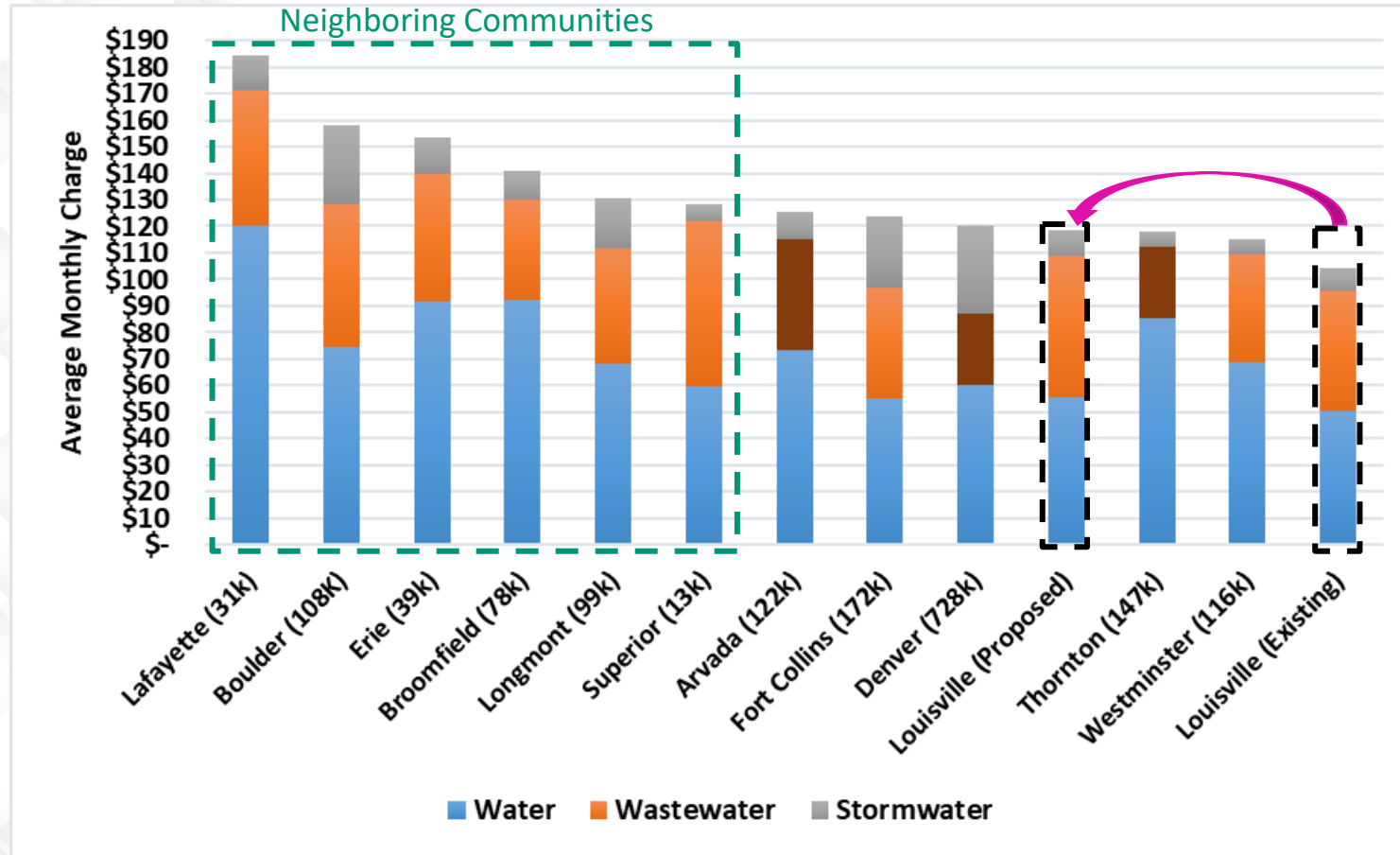


5. Past and Proposed Utility Rate

Utility	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Water	13%	0%	3%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%	6.5%	6%
Wastewater	13%	7%	7%	7%	0%	4%	4%	8%	12.1%	16%
Stormwater	0%	4%	7%	18.5%	0%	5%	5%	9%	14%	14%

Utility	2026
Water	10%
Wastewater	18%
Stormwater	13%

5. Average Monthly Water, Wastewater & Storm Rates (Louisville Single Family Residential)



- Based on average usage of approx. 9,220 gallons. Actual bills will be dependent on usage and will vary with seasonal fluctuation.



WATER RATES

Effective May 1, 2026, water rates for all accounts inside city limits are as follows (outside city limits = double these rates):

May 1, 2026 RESIDENTIAL WATER RATES

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 5,000	\$24.06 (minimum monthly charge)
5,001 - 20,000	\$24.06 for the first 5,000 gallons, plus \$6.95 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
20,001 - 30,000	\$128.31 for the first 20,000 gallons, plus \$17.26 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
30,001 - 40,000	\$300.91 for the first 30,000 gallons, plus \$18.64 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
40,001 - 50,000	\$487.31 for the first 40,000 gallons, plus \$19.93 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
50,001 and over	\$686.61 for the first 50,000 gallons, plus \$21.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 3/4" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 20,000	\$13.26 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
20,001 - 30,000	\$90.06 for the first 20,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
30,001 - 40,000	\$185.16 for the first 30,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
40,001 - 50,000	\$287.86 for the first 40,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
50,001 and over	\$397.66 for the first 50,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 1" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 40,000	\$26.49 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
40,001 - 60,000	\$180.09 for the first 40,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
60,001 - 80,000	\$370.29 for the first 60,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
80,001 - 100,000	\$575.69 for the first 80,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
100,001 and over	\$795.29 for the first 100,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 1-1/2" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 80,000	\$39.73 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
80,001 - 120,000	\$346.93 for the first 80,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
120,001 - 160,000	\$727.33 for the first 120,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
160,001 - 200,000	\$1138.13 for the first 160,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
200,001 and over	\$1,577.33 for the first 200,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 2" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 160,000	\$52.90 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
160,001 - 240,000	\$667.30 for the first 160,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
240,001 - 320,000	\$1,428.10 for the first 240,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
320,001 - 400,000	\$2,249.70 for the first 320,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
400,001 and over	\$3,128.10 for the first 400,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 3" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 320,000	\$105.95 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
320,001 - 480,000	\$1,334.75 for the first 320,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
480,001 - 640,000	\$2,856.35 for the first 480,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
640,001 - 800,000	\$4,499.55 for the first 640,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
800,001 and over	\$6,256.35 for the first 800,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 4" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 640,000	\$211.84 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
640,001 - 960,000	\$2,669.44 for the first 640,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
960,001 - 1,280,000	\$5,712.64 for the first 960,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
1,280,001 - 1,600,000	\$8,999.04 for the first 1,280,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
1,600,001 and over	\$12,512.64 for the first 1,600,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL, IRRIGATION, AND MULTIFAMILY
WATER RATES - 6" METER**

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 1,280,000	\$423.70 (minimum monthly charge), plus \$3.84 for each 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
1,280,001 - 1,920,000	\$5,338.90 for the first 1,280,000 gallons, plus \$9.51 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
1,920,001 - 2,560,000	\$11,425.30 for the first 1,920,000 gallons, plus \$10.27 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
2,560,001 - 3,200,000	\$17,998.10 for the first 2,560,000 gallons, plus \$10.98 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)
3,200,001 and over	\$25,025.30 for the first 3,200,000 gallons, plus \$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)



SEWER RATES

Effective May 1, 2026, sewer rates for all accounts inside city limits are as follows (outside city limits = double these rates):

May 1, 2026 SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL SEWER RATES	
RATE	DESCRIPTION
\$8.61	Monthly Volume Charge, \$ per 1,000 gallons of Average Winter Consumption (AWC). AWC =
\$4.95	Monthly Billing Charge, \$ per Bill
\$11.71	Monthly Readiness to Serve Charge, \$ per Bill

**May 1, 2026 MULTI FAMILY RESIDENTIAL
SEWER RATES**

RATE	DESCRIPTION
\$8.61	Monthly Volume Charge, \$ per 1,000 gallons of Average Winter Consumption (AWC). AWC =
\$4.95	Monthly Billing Charge, \$ per Bill
\$11.71	Monthly Readiness to Serve Charge, \$ per Dwelling Unit

**May 1, 2026 COMMERCIAL
SEWER RATES**

RATE	DESCRIPTION
\$8.61	Monthly Volume Charge, \$ per 1,000 gallons
\$4.95	Monthly Billing Charge, \$ per Bill
	Monthly Readiness to Serve Charge, \$ per Bill
\$11.71	3/4" Meter
\$20.41	1" Meter
\$44.70	1-1/2" Meter
\$79.12	2" Meter
\$176.65	3" Meter
\$313.07	4" Meter
\$458.27	6" Meter



City of Louisville

STORMWATER RATES

Effective May 1, 2026, stormwater rates for all accounts inside city limits are as follows (outside city limits = double these rates):

May 1, 2026 STORMWATER UTILITY RATES

<u>RATE</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>
\$9.84	Monthly Billing Charge, \$ per Bill



REUSE RATES

Effective May 1, 2026, reuse water rates for all accounts inside city limits are as follows (outside city limits = double these rates):

May 1, 2026 REUSE WATER UTILITY RATES

RATE	DESCRIPTION
75% of Residential Rate (\$5.21)	All Non-City Customer Classes - Monthly Volume Charge, \$ per 1,000 gallons
\$1.09	City Customer Class - Monthly Volume Charge, \$ per 1,000 gallons



BULK RATES

Effective May 1, 2026, bulk water rates for all permits are as follows:

May 1, 2026 BULK WATER UTILITY RATES

GALLONS	RATE
Zero - 10,000	(included in rental rate)
10,001 and over	\$11.71 for each additional 1,000 gallons (or fraction thereof)

New water, wastewater, and stormwater rates

The City Council recently approved rate adjustments for water, wastewater, and stormwater utility service. The new rates are needed primarily to continue to fund major reconstruction projects, to ensure the City can properly maintain our utility systems, and to meet all clean water regulations. If you have questions, please contact Utility Billing at **303.335.4501** or **CustomerService@LouisvilleCO.gov**.

What does this mean for my utility bill?

Service	2025	2026
Water	\$50.32	\$55.39
Wastewater	\$45.21	\$53.40
Stormwater	\$8.71	\$9.84
Combined	\$104.24	\$118.63
\$ Increase		\$14.39
% Increase		13.8%

The new rates are effective in May, and you'll see the new charges on your June bill. The table to the left reflects the anticipated monthly impact for an average residential customer. This is just an example based on average water use — the exact impact to your bill will depend on how much water your household uses.

This table does not include monthly charges for refuse, recycling and compost, which varies by home based on the sizes of your containers.

What is the basis for these rate adjustments?

We've all experienced inflation in the form of increased costs for the goods and services we buy. Similarly, the City of Louisville has also experienced significant increases in our costs to provide and maintain service as well as the cost of constructing capital improvements. In many cases, these increases have outpaced estimates, necessitating a rate adjustment.

How are rate adjustments determined?

We don't take rate adjustments lightly. While City staff is always working to contain and reduce costs, we utilize a Utility Financial Model during the annual budget process to determine the rates necessary to collect enough revenue to meet each of the respective services' operations, maintenance, debt obligations, and improvements expenses.



Convenient ways to receive and pay your bill

RECEIVE YOUR BILL:

- ① **By mail** (default)
- ② **By email** — Log into your online account to sign up to receive bills by email. Help the City save paper and reduce postage, printing, and labor costs!

PAY YOUR BILL:

- ① **Online** — Log into your online account to pay by credit/debit card or from your bank account
- ② **By mail** — Send to City of Louisville, PO Box 173883, Denver, CO 80217-3883
- ③ **Drop off** — Visit us at City Hall, located at 749 Main Street in Downtown Louisville

Visit LouisvilleCO.gov/UtilityBilling for more information or to log into your account.

Do you need help paying your utility bill?

We understand — financial hardships can happen to anyone. If you're having difficulty paying your City of Louisville utility bill, there may be assistance available.

City of Louisville Payment Extension Plans

Customers with a satisfactory payment history who are experiencing a financial hardship may be eligible for a payment extension plan. Contact the City of Louisville Utility Billing at **303.335.4501** to discuss.

Sister Carmen Community Center Financial Assistance

For Louisville residents experiencing financial hardships, Sister Carmen may be able to help with emergency financial assistance for rent or mortgage, utility bills, and other essential expenses. Contact **303.665.4342** for more info.

Ways to save on your water bill

In partnership with Resource Central, the City offers several programs to help you save on your bill by reducing water usage, including the Lawn Replacement Program, Slow the Flow sprinkler assessments, Waterwise Yard Seminars, and more.

To learn more about these programs, visit LouisvilleCO.gov/Sustainability.

Subject: Discussion / Direction: Potential 2026 Ballot Questions
Discussion / Direction provides Council with the opportunity to learn about an item, ask questions, and provide feedback to staff. There will be one round of public comment. There will be no final decisions made on this item, and it may return at a later date for action by Council.

Date: April 28, 2026

Prepared By: Diana Langley, City Manager
Ryder Bailey, CPA, Finance Director
Genny Kline, City Clerk
Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Presented By: Diana Langley, City Manager
Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Summary:

Provide direction to staff on potential 2026 ballot questions related to the following:

- Historic Preservation Tax Extension
- City Charter Amendments
- Local Marketing District Tax

Background / Prior Discussions:

The General Election is scheduled for November 3, 2026. The City Council has expressed a desire to consider potential ballot questions related to the Historic Preservation Tax, City Charter, and a Local Marketing District Tax. Currently, the City has no ballot questions or Council races for the 2026 ballot. If Council decides to move ahead with any potential ballot questions, the following deadlines must be maintained:

- July 21 — the last City Council meeting at which to pass (on 2nd reading) any non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters.
- July 24 — Boulder County Elections must receive, in writing, our intent to participate in the 2026 coordinated election.
- August 18 — the last City Council meeting at which to pass an emergency ordinance or resolution referring ballot questions to the voters.
- September 4 — the last day for ballot content to be submitted to the Boulder County Elections Office.

Historic Preservation Tax

The City's Historical Preservation Tax is a one-eighth of one percent (0.125%) tax for the purpose of preserving the historic character of Louisville. The existing temporary tax is set to expire on December 31, 2028.

Original Tax – Approved in 2008

In November 2008, voters approved Ballot Issue 2A which levied a .125% sales tax, collected for a ten-year period commencing January 1, 2009, with proceeds spent exclusively for historic preservation purposes within the historic Old Town and Downtown Louisville. Measure passed — Yes 55% / 6,037 votes and No 45% / 4,890 votes.

Continuation of Tax – Extended in 2017

In November 2017, voters approved the continuation of the tax which levied a .125% sales and use tax, to be collected for a ten-year period commencing January 1, 2019, with proceeds spent for historic preservation purposes within the historic Old Town and Downtown Louisville, with updated provisions to include funding of the Historical Museum Campus (20% of the annual tax revenues) and citywide expansion of the boundaries with a super majority of Council (no less than 5 council members). Measure passed — Yes 64% / 4,460 votes and No 36% / 2,558 votes.

Awards and Accomplishments

Dating back to 2016, the City has awarded over \$3.8M in Grants to 40 unique recipients. Over \$405,000 in Pre-Landmarking assessments to 73 recipients. From 2019-2025, provided over \$1.1M in total funding for the Historical Museum.

City's Voluntary Local Landmark Program

The City started its local landmark program in 2005 and since that time has designated 67 residential and commercial properties as local landmarks. The landmark program is voluntary, utilizing grants and low-interest loans for preservation and rehabilitation of historic properties as an incentive to designate the property as a local landmark and to make such projects financially attractive to property owners. The City periodically updates the grant program to ensure that the grant and loan program account for inflation and to strengthen the available financial incentives. The grant program was recently updated by Resolution No. 102, Series 2025 to increase available grant amounts. The program also includes zoning incentives for landmark properties, allowing building additions to the historic properties that may exceed the maximum lot coverage and floor area allowances.

City Charter Amendments

In 1902, Colorado voters authorized home rule governance for cities and towns by amending the state constitution. Home rule empowers local governments to act and legislate on local matters. A petition, signed by 5% of the registered voters in a municipality, or the adoption of an ordinance by the municipal governing body begins the process to establish home rule governance. Then, the municipality must hold an

election to decide if a charter commission will be formed. If approved by voters and after electing the charter members, the commission must create a charter and submit it to the governing body within 180 days after election. The municipality must then hold another election to consider the adoption of the proposed charter.

For the City of Louisville, a special election was held on May 1, 2001, to elect Home Rule Charter Commission members. On August 21, 2001, the Home Rule Charter Commission submitted a home rule Charter to the City Council. The Charter was submitted to the registered electors at the regular municipal election held on November 6, 2001, and was approved. Since then, amendments have been approved by the registered electors on November 2, 2004 (topics included study sessions, records, and agendas) and November 3, 2009 (topics included definition of "public body," electronic delivery of meeting notices, and to allow Council to enter into lease-purchase agreements).

Local Marketing District Tax

In 2002, Louisville voters approved the creation of a 3% excise tax on the leasing or renting of any lodging, with the net proceeds of such tax to be collected, retained, and spent for operating and maintaining recreational and cultural facilities and for any lawful municipal purpose. Between 2003 - 2025, the City has collected \$8,509,678.41 in short-term lodging excise tax revenues.

In Colorado, in addition to a short-term lodging excise tax, agencies may create a Local Marketing District (LMD), with the approval of the voters, and impose a marketing and promotion tax on the rental of rooms and accommodations subject to Colorado sales tax, subject to the same exemptions as the state sales tax. Lodging owners who rent or lease rooms and accommodations for less than 30 days, must collect and remit the local marketing district tax. Revenue is to be used for advertising, marketing, promoting tourism, workforce recruitment, and visitor experience enhancements.

There are six (6) agencies in Colorado that currently have a LMD tax.

LMD	Boundaries	LMD Tax Rate
Alamosa County	Alamosa County limits	4%
Estes Park	Estes Park and it surrounding area including Drake and Glen Haven	5.5%
Gunnison County	Gunnison County limits	4%
Moffat County	Moffat County limits	4%

Steamboat Springs	Steamboat Springs City located in the mountain community north of Walton Creek Rd and along Hwy 40 corridor inside the city limits	2%
Vail	Vail town limits	1.4%

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

Ballot Considerations

TABOR

The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) Amendment, or Article X, Section 20, was approved by voters in 1992. This amendment to the Constitution of the State of Colorado generally limits the amount of revenue governments in the state can retain and spend. Absent voter approval, it requires excess revenue to be refunded to taxpayers. TABOR also requires voter approval for certain tax increases (including the potential Historic Preservation Tax Extension and potential Lodgers Tax associated with a Local Marketing District) and includes election provisions such as language requirements for ballot questions and limitation to a single subject.

GENERAL BALLOT INFORMATION

Each of the items below would require one or more ballot questions. Historic Preservation Tax extension would be one question, the Local Marketing District would also be one question (for the tax portion), and potential Charter Amendments would each be proposed as a ballot question. While the City could place any number of questions on the ballot, and success can vary across communities, in Staff's experience, 10 is the absolute maximum, any more than six questions can be too many, and three or four seems to be the sweet spot. Additionally, City staff is proposing to coordinate the election with Boulder County. This is significantly more affordable than running a City-specific special election.

Historic Preservation Tax

With the temporary tax slated to expire on December 31, 2028, the City Council has expressed interest in exploring placing a tax extension on the November 2026 Ballot. If Council would like to do so, staff suggests creating an Historical Preservation Tax Task Force comprised of the following, with City staff in a supportive role:

- City Council Member, or members
- Community Development Director & Cultural Services Director
- Historical Preservation Committee Member(s)
- Historical Museum Board Member(s)
- A member of the public or a local architect with familiarity of the program

- Other stakeholders

City Charter Amendments

Charter amendments should be presented as ballot questions that address single subjects, even if the ballot question would affect multiple sections of the Charter. The below proposed amendments are not an exhaustive list of all possible Charter amendments, but a short list of possible 2026 amendments based on Council's direction and priorities, and Staff's expertise.

Recommended Charter Amendments:

- **Align when Council takes office to current election procedures** - Section 3-4(b) currently requires Council to take office prior to election results being certified. This is especially problematic for races that may be too tight to immediately call. Staff proposes revising to: "Mayor and each council member shall take office at the first regular meeting following certification of municipal election results"
- **Consider aligning executive session authorized topics with State** - Section 5-2 of the Louisville Charter includes a limited scope of authorized topics for the City Council to meet in executive session. The City Council may wish to consider proposing aligning the list of authorized topics with the [State](#), which allows for broader topics related to property, consultation with an attorney, security, and negotiations.
- **Align Initiative and Referendum signature requirements with surrounding communities-**
 - Section 7-1(c) - Initiatives - change from 5% to 7.5% to align with surrounding municipalities (Boulder, Longmont, Broomfield)
 - Section 7-2(c) - Referendums - change from 2.5% to 5% to align with surrounding municipalities (Lafayette, Boulder, Erie, Superior, Broomfield and Longmont)
- **Amend Article 7 to allow for a "Review and Comment" for resident initiatives and referendums** - The change could require petitioners attend a session with city representatives concerning their proposed submission as to format and/or contents. Petitioners may revise the text in response to the questions/comments posed by the City, but would not be required to. If revisions are made, the revised draft with changes highlighted or otherwise noted, and a "clean" version would be resubmitted to the City Clerk for consideration of approval as to form. This will not guarantee approval of petition submission or replace the approval / disapproval requirement by the City Clerk. This would help the City understand the petitioners' position as well as alleviate some of the petition edits that are needed prior to final petition approval by the City Clerk.
- **Update outdated language throughout the Charter** - Change instances of "Citizen" to "Resident" (15 occurrences) and "he/she" to "they" (4 occurrences)
- **Revise language to include website and provide clarity on document locations** - Some sections (4-14(b) and 11-4(b)) of the Charter refer to the

availability of physical copies of the City Code and budgets at "city offices." Staff proposes amendments to clarify these documents are available on the City's website and in the City Clerk's Office

Local Marketing District Tax

Local Marketing Districts are established under Colorado Revised Statutes Title 29, Article 25 to promote tourism and economic activity. Formation starts with a petition submitted to the City Council signed by persons owning commercial real property in the service area of the proposed district having a valuation for assessment of not less than fifty percent of the valuation for assessment of all commercial real property in the service area of the proposed district. The petition includes a description of the boundaries and service area, types of proposed marketing services, names of three representatives to represent the petitioners, and a formal request to establish the district. City Council is then required to hold two public hearings and may establish the district by ordinance or resolution, which ordinance or resolution would not become effective until approved by a majority of registered electors residing within the boundaries of the proposed district. If approved by the voters, the district is established as a separate political subdivision. Unless the City Council provides otherwise by resolution or ordinance, the City Council serves as the board of directors of the district.

The district must register with the Colorado Department of Revenue to handle any tax collection and submit a map of district boundaries to the Colorado Department of Local Affairs.

Local Marketing Districts often impose a tax on short-term accommodation (lodging) to fund their activities. Tax rates for other agencies that have Local Marketing Districts range from 1.4% to 5.5%. Louisville currently has a 3% lodging tax that generates approximately \$400,000 a year.

Council Work Plan:

The 2026 Louisville City Council Work Plan includes consideration of potential charter amendments and consideration of alternatives and potential next steps ahead of the Historic Preservation Tax's 2028 expiration. Both of these are under the Core Services priority. In addition, the Economic Vitality priority includes work related to the Sundance Film Festival, as well as the importance of fiscal sustainability, which are both important considerations for the potential Local Marketing District.

Fiscal Impact:

If Council chooses to pursue one or more of the below items, staff will provide a more detailed fiscal analysis.

At a high level, the cost to place items on the coordinated ballot is dependent on the length of the question. In 2025 regular ballot questions, like the potential charter amendments, cost ~\$6,000 each and in 2023 the TABOR related question was ~\$15,000, while in 2021 a TABOR question was ~\$32,000. Staff anticipates costs in 2026 to be >\$32,000 per TABOR (tax related) question and >\$6,000 for potential

charter amendments. There is \$110,000 in the 2026 budget for elections.

Historic Preservation Tax Extension

The Historical Preservation Tax, is a one-eighth of one percent (0.125%) tax for the purpose of preserving the historic character of Louisville. This amounts to a little over \$0.01 for every \$10 spent. The existing temporary tax is set to expire on December 31, 2028. The tax generates approximately \$1M annually, of which 20% is allocated to fund the Louisville Historical Museum Campus.

City Charter Amendments

The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have a fiscal impact.

Local Marketing District Tax

Based on current returns for the 3% lodging tax, the City anticipates ~\$133,000 per each percent increase in lodging tax. The allowance of short-term rentals during the Sundance Film Festival and the impact of the festival itself could increase these numbers. The petition for organization of the district must also be accompanied by a bond with security approved by the governing body or a cash deposit to cover all expenses connected with organization and creation of the district, including any elections. The amount of this is dependent on the district proposed.

Alternatives:

Historic Preservation Tax Extension

As this tax does not expire until 2028, Council may chose to delay consideration for a future ballot cycle. It is important to consider what may also occur on future ballots. In 2027 Council seats will be up for election and 2028 is a presidential election year.

City Charter Amendments

Council may choose to place some or all proposed amendments on the ballot, may choose to adjust proposals, or may make additional recommendations beyond what is included in the current list.

Local Marketing District Tax

Council may choose to delay consideration of a Local Marketing District to allow for further development of a district proposal or may choose to pursue additional lodging tax without a Local Marketing District.

Recommendation:

Historic Preservation Tax Extension

Staff recommends Council provide direction on interest in pursuing a 2026 ballot question and, if interested, provide direction to staff to initiate the process to create a task force. (Note - Due to the tight timeline staff would propose direct appointment of members, ideally in an early May meeting of Council, then two meetings of the group before they present recommendations to Council in June. This would allow Council to still meet the

July deadline of referring a ballot question. This creates a tight timeline for staff who will need to be drafting language through the process.)

City Charter Amendments

Staff recommends Council consider prioritizing revisions to when Council takes office that align with current election procedures, initiative and referendum alignment with neighboring communities, and if supported by Council, executive session amendments.

Local Marketing District Tax

Staff recommends Council delay consideration of a Local Marketing District Tax. This will allow staff to work with community stakeholders on the topic and develop a proposal that is well coordinated with community partners.

Attachments:

- 1. 2026-04-21 Election Calendar 2026
- 2. D.D Potential Ballot Questions_2026.04.28

**CITY OF LOUISVILLE REGULAR ELECTION CALENDAR FOR
NOVEMBER 3, 2026 ELECTION
CONDUCTED AS A COORDINATED MAIL BALLOT ELECTION**

The following is a timeline for a regular municipal election to be held on November 3, 2026, to be conducted as a coordinated mail ballot election with Boulder County, in accordance with the Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended. Deadlines required under Colo. Const. Art. X, Sec. 20 (TABOR) are included. Citations provided are to the Colorado Revised Statutes, as amended through 2026.

- July 14, 2026** City Council meeting at which to pass on first reading any non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters. **[Note: Ordinances referring ballot questions to voters must be effective by no later than September 4, the last day for the City to certify the ballot content to the County Clerk. Section 4-9(b) of the Charter provides ordinances are effective 30 days after publication following final adoption.]**
- July 21, 2026** City Council meeting at which to pass on second reading any non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters.
- July 24, 2026** Last day to notify Boulder County Clerk and Recorder (“County Clerk”), in writing, of the City’s intent to participate in the November 3, 2026 Coordinated Election. [1-7-116(5)] (100 days prior to election – shifts to the Friday before).
- July 28, 2026** If needed, last City Council meeting to pass on second reading any non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters.
- August 3, 2026** Last day for City Clerk to have prepared the petition forms for nominations for municipal officers. [1-4-805] (92 days prior to election).
- August 4, 2026** First day Municipal Candidates may circulate nominating petitions. [1-4-805] (91 days prior to election).

August 5, 2026 Last day to publish non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters.

August 18, 2026 Last regular City Council meeting at which to pass a resolution approving the coordinated election IGA with County Clerk for coordinated election. [1-7-116(2)] (IGA must be signed by August 25, not less than 70 days prior to election).

Last City Council meeting at which to pass an emergency ordinance or resolution referring ballot questions to the voters.

August 24, 2026 Last day Municipal Candidates may file nominating petitions with the City Clerk. [1-4-805] (71 days prior to the election).

August 25, 2026 Last day to sign IGA with County Clerk for conducting coordinated election. [1-7-116(2)] (70 days prior to election).

August 27, 2026 Last day nomination petitions may be amended to correct or replace signatures that the City Clerk finds are not in apparent conformity. [1-4-805] (before the 67th day before election).

August 31, 2026 Last day affidavit of intent to accept write-in candidacy may be filed with the City Clerk. Provide County Clerk with copies of affidavits received. [1-4-1102(2)] (64 days prior to election).

September 4, 2026 Last day for City Clerk to establish by lot the order of ballot names. [1-5-406] (Prior to the certification of the ballot).

Last day for City Clerk to certify the ballot content to the County Clerk; including ballot issues, questions and all TABOR ballot issue notice information except pro/con summaries. The certification shall be delivered to the County Clerk. [1-5-203(3)(a)] (60 days prior to the election).

September 14, 2026 1st deadline for filing of Contribution and Expenditures Reports for municipal candidates and committees active in 2026

Coordinated Election. Reporting Period: beginning of campaign–9/14/26. [LMC 2.17.030 and CRS 1-45-108] (50 days prior to the election by the close of business; reports are also required to be filed 25 days prior to the election; the Friday before the election; and 30 days after the election).

September 18, 2026 Deadline to send mail-in ballots to overseas military voters. To be performed by election official in each jurisdiction charged with distributing balloting materials. [1-8.3-110] (Must be mailed no later than 45 days prior to the election, which is Saturday, September 19. If ballot application is received after September 18, 2026, send balloting materials within 72 hours after receipt of application).

Written comments for or against ballot issue must be filed with City Clerk. [Const. Art. X, Sec. 20(3)(b)(v); 1-7-901(4)] (By Friday before the 45th day before the election).

September 21, 2026 City Clerk prepares summaries of comments filed in favor of and in opposition to any referred TABOR ballot issue. Last day to transmit TABOR Notice, including pro/con summaries, to County Clerk. [1-7-903(1) and 1-7-904] (No later than 43 days before the election).

October 2, 2026 County clerk mails TABOR Notice. [Const. Art. X, Sec. 20(3)(b); 1-7-906] (At least 30 days before election – shifts to Friday before).

October 9, 2026 2nd deadline for filing of Contribution and Expenditures Reports for municipal candidates and committees active in 2026 Coordinated Election. Reporting Period: 9/14/26 – 10/9/26. [LMC 2.17.030 and CRS 1-45-108] (25 days prior to the election; also required the Friday before the election and 30 days after the election).

October 9–16, 2026 County Clerk mails mail ballot packets to electors [1-7.5-107(3)(a)(I)] (No earlier than 22 days before election and no later than 18 days before election).

- October 14, 2026** For TABOR ballot questions concerning the creation of debt or other financial obligation, last day to post specified financial information on City’s website. [1-7-908(1)] (Not later than 20 days before the election).
- Last day for designated election official, or coordinated election official if so provided in IGA, to provide notice by publication of the election stating information required by C.R.S. § 1-5-205(1). If completed by the City Clerk, a copy of the notice shall be mailed to the County Clerk. If notice is to be published in the *Boulder Daily Camera*, it must be submitted several days in advance. [1-5-205] (Not later than 20 days before the election).
- October 19, 2026** Counting of mail-in ballots may begin and continue until counting is complete. No results to be released until after 7 p.m. on Election Day. [1-7.5-107.5] (15 days prior to election).
- October 23, 2026** Coordinated election official to provide notice of election by posting. Posting shall be at a conspicuous place in the office of the county clerk and recorder if the election is coordinated by the county and shall be posted until two days after the election. [1-5-205(1.3)] (at least 10 days before election – shifts to Friday before).
- October 26, 2026** Last day to register to vote if voter wants to receive ballot by mail. [1-2-201(4)] (8 days before the election). A person may register to vote up to and including Election Day at a voter service and polling center. [1-2-201(3)(a)].
- Last day for voter to change address if using on-line voter registration system. [1-2-216(4)(a)(II)] (8 days before the election). A voter can change his or her address up to and

including Election Day at a voter service and polling center [1-2-216(4)(a)(I)].

October 30, 2026 3rd deadline for filing of Contribution and Expenditures Reports for municipal candidates and committees active in 2026 Coordinated Election. Reporting Period 10/9/26 to 10/30/26. [LMC 2.17.030 and 1-45-108] (Friday preceding the election by the close of business; also required 30 days after the election).

November 3, 2026 Election Day.

Emergency or replacement mail-in ballot requests must be made before 5:00 p.m. and returned no later than 7:00 p.m. [1-7.5-115].

All ballots, including emergency or replacement ballots must be returned to the County Clerk by 7:00 p.m. when polls close. [1-7.5-115].

Voters may register to vote or make a change of address up to and including Election Day at a voting service and polling center. [1-2-201 and 1-2-217.7].

November 25, 2026 Last day to canvass the votes. The County Clerk conducts the canvass, but the City may participate. Canvass board shall certify the official abstract of votes cast to the designated election official. [1-10-203(1)] (no later than 22 days after election).

December 3, 2026 Final Contribution and Expenditures report due for filed municipal candidates and committees active in 2026 Coordinated Election. Reporting Period 10/30/26 to 12/3/26. [LMC 2.17.030 and 1-45-108] (30 days after the election).



Discussion & Direction

Potential Ballot Questions

April 28, 2026

Diana Langley, City Manager
Ryder Bailey, CPA, Finance Director
Genny Kline, City Clerk
Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Purpose

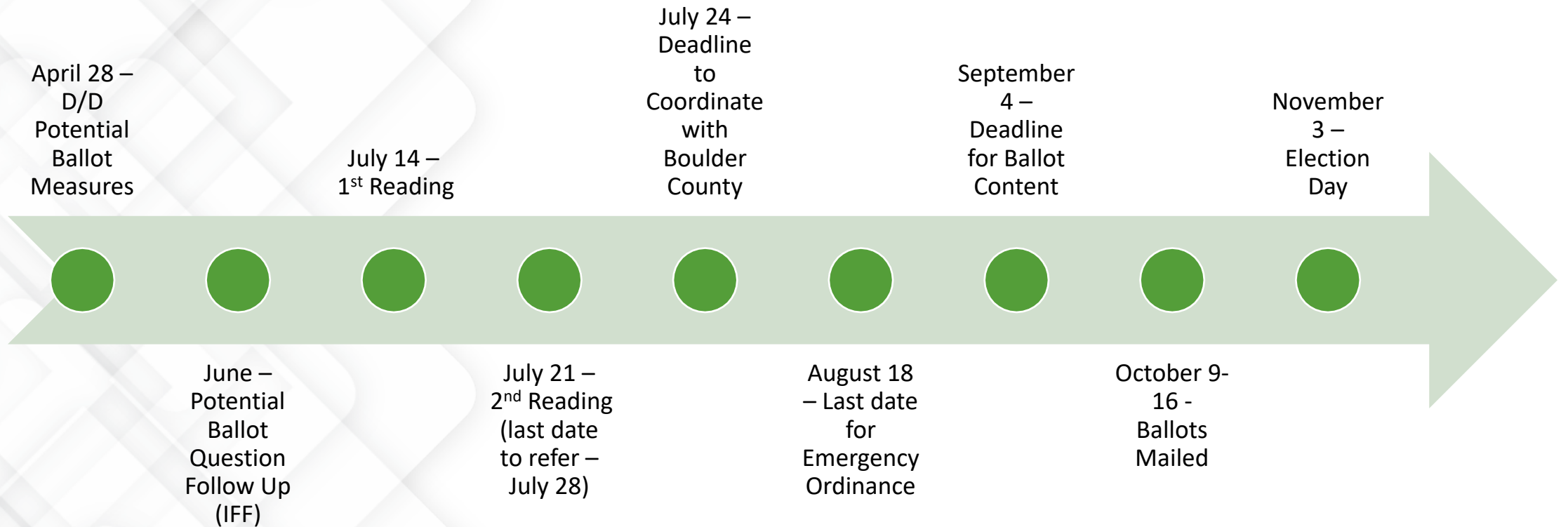
To provide direction to staff on potential 2026 ballot questions:

- Historic Preservation Tax Extension
- City Charter Documents
- Local Marketing District Tax

Background & Prior Discussions

- During the February 2026 Council Workshop Council expressed desire to consider potential ballot questions
- Currently, the City has no ballot questions or Council races on the 2026 ballot
- July 21, 2026 is the last meeting Council can pass (on second reading) any non-emergency ordinances referring ballot questions to the voters
- Note – Limited to 10 ballot questions (recommended we do less)

Timeline – Ballot Measures



Ballot & TABOR Considerations

- TABOR
 - Requires voter approval for certain tax increases
 - Requires specific ballot language
 - Sets single subject requirement for ballot
- 2026 Election
 - Propose coordinating with Boulder County
 - Recommend:
 - 10 questions max
 - 6 may be too many
 - 3-4 typically the sweet spot

Historic Preservation Tax

HPT Background

- 1/8% (0.125%) tax for the purpose of preserving the historic character of Louisville in Old Town and Downtown
- Approved via Ballot Issue 2A in 2008 (Yes 55%, No 45%)
- Effective January 1, 2009 for 10 years
- Extended by voters in 2017, use expanded to include Historical Museum Campus (20%) and citywide boundaries (with Council super majority) (Yes 64%, No 36%)
- Existing temporary tax expires December 31, 2028

HPT Program

Since 2016:

- Awarded over \$3.8M in grants (40 unique recipients)
- >\$405,000 in Pre-Landmarking assessments (73 recipients)
- >\$1.1M in funding for Historical Museum (2019-2025)
- Voluntary Local Landmark Program (67 residential and commercial properties)

Recommendation

If Council is interested in pursuing a potential ballot question for Historic Preservation Tax extension, staff recommends Council create an Historical Preservation Task Force, including:

- City Council member, or members
- Historical Preservation Committee Member(s)
- Historical Museum Board Member(s)
- A member of the public or a local architect familiar with the program
- Other stakeholders
- Community Development & Cultural Services Director

Direction Needed

- Does Council wish to proceed with consideration of a potential Historic Preservation Tax extension ballot question?
- Does Council support creation of a task force?
- If yes, as recommended?
- Next Steps

City Charter Amendments

Background

- 1902 – CO Authorizes home rule governance
- May 2001– Louisville special election for Home Rule Charter Commission members
- August 2001 – Commission presents Home Rule Charter to City Council
- November 2001 – Louisville Home Rule Charter approved by voters
- November 2004 – Voters approve amendments
- November 2009 – Voters approve amendments

Possible Amendments

- Align when Council takes office with current election procedures
- Align authorized topics for Executive Sessions with State Open Meetings Law
- Align initiative and referendum signature requirements with surrounding communities
- Add a review and comment requirement for initiatives and referendums
- Update outdated language (citizen-resident, he/she-they)
- Clarify document availability/locations (website, Clerk's Office)

Recommendations

Recommendation:

- Consider prioritizing alignment with current election practices, initiative and referendum alignment with neighboring communities, and executive session alignment with state Open Meetings Law

Alternatives:

- Council may progress with some or all for the 2026 ballot
- Council may delay for future ballots
- Council may identify different amendments for consideration

Direction Needed

Does Council wish to pursue potential Charter Amendments in 2026?

If yes, which ones?

Local Marketing District Tax

Background

- Authorized under C.R.S. Title 29, Article 25
- Local marketing districts may impose a marketing and promotion tax on the rental of rooms and accommodations subject to Colorado sales tax
- Would apply to lodging owners who rent or lease rooms and accommodations for less than 30 days
- Revenue to be used for advertising, marketing, promoting tourism, workforce recruitment, and visitor experience enhancements

Formation

- Requires petition signed by commercial property owners owning more than 50% of valuation for assessment in proposed district
- Upon receipt of petition, City Council holds two public hearings and establishes the district by resolution or ordinance
- Council resolution or ordinance establishing the district is not effective until approved by a majority of the registered electors residing within the boundaries of the proposed district
- District is a separate political subdivision of the state
- Unless City Council establishes otherwise, City Council serves as board of directors of the district

City Lodging Tax - Background

- The City has an existing lodging tax (3%) outlined and defined in the Municipal Code – Chapter 3.22 – Lodging Tax
 - Applies to accommodations that are rented to persons for a period of less than one month or 30 consecutive days
- In November 2002, residents passed the 3% lodging tax
 - (56% Yes, 44% No)
- Since January 1, 2003, the tax has generated ~\$8.5M, or approximately \$370K annually.
 - In 2025, the amount collected was \$407K.
- Note: this is an addition to Sales/Use Tax (3.775%)

Recommendation

- If Council is interested in a Local Marketing District, staff recommends delaying consideration of the tax to a later ballot to allow staff to work with community stakeholders on the topic and develop a district proposal.



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