

City Council

Agenda

**Tuesday, July 14, 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. Presentation on Superior's Marshall Fire Remembrance Project and Consideration of a Louisville Community Survey
- B. Joint Meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission and Historic Museum Advisory Board - Historic Preservation Tax

- C. Ordinance No. 1928, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Extending the City's 0.125% Historic Preservation Sales Tax for an Additional Ten-year Period; Expanding the Purposes for Which the Historic Preservation Sales and Use Tax May be Spent to Include City Programs and Capital Projects that Promote and Preserve the City's History and Cultural Heritage; Increasing the Portion of Such Tax Allocated to the Louisville Museum Campus from 20% to 30%; and Providing for the Submission of this Ordinance to a Vote of the City's Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election

1st Reading includes the Staff Presentation and questions from Council. There is no opportunity for public comment. The Public Hearing (2nd Reading) will be set on this item for a later date. The Public Hearing will allow 2 rounds of public comment.

- D. Proposed Charter Amendment Ordinances — 1st Reading

1st Reading includes the Staff Presentation and questions from Council. There is no opportunity for public comment. The Public Hearing (2nd Reading) will be set on this item for a later date. The Public Hearing will allow 2 rounds of public comment.

- i. Ordinance No. 1929, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Concerning the Authorized Topics for Executive Sessions and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election
- ii. Ordinance No. 1930, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Concerning the Date on Which the Mayor and Councilmembers Take Office Following an Election and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election.
- iii. Ordinance No. 1931, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Changing the Number of Signatures Required for Initiatives and Referendums and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election
- iv. Ordinance No. 1932, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Concerning Locations for Public Meetings and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election.
- v. Ordinance No. 1933, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter to Require a Review and Comment Period for Initiated Ordinances and Charter Amendments and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election
- vi. Ordinance No. 1934, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter to Update and Clarify Terminology and Providing for the Submission of the Ordinance to a Vote of the Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election

- E. Upcoming Agenda Items & Identification of New Ones — July 15, 2026 to October 31, 2026

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 2 business day 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: Presentation on Superior's Marshall Fire Remembrance Project and Consideration of a Louisville Community Survey

Date: July 14, 2026

Prepared By: Brandi Cummings, Director

Presented By: Brandi Cummings, Director

Summary:

Receive a presentation from Lupe Cantu, Principal, with Davis Partnership Architects and Julie Meenan Eck, Director, with Land Design of the Superior Remembrance Project Design. Review and approve a community survey for the Louisville Marshall Fire Remembrance Project to receive community input related to five-year remembrance activities for Louisville.

Background / Prior Discussions:

May 2025

Louisville City Council dedicated \$35,000 to support the development of a 2026 Five-Year Marshall Fire Remembrance Project and related programming, directing the Cultural Advisory Board to work with Arts & Events staff to design a community-informed approach. This funding allocation is referenced in internal materials prepared for Council and community engagement.

November 2025

Council reviewed a draft community survey—developed by Cultural Services staff in partnership with the Cultural Advisory Board—seeking public input on project concepts and programming preferences.

December 2025

Community members requested that City Staff and City Council consider contributing to and/or collaborating on the Town of Superior's Marshall Fire Memorial Project.

May 2026

Louisville City Council and the Superior Town Council held a joint meeting and expressed mutual interest in collaborating on both the Remembrance Project and related community programming.

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

Five-Year Marshall Fire Remembrance Project

Lupe Cantu, Principal, with Davis Partnership Architects and Julie Mennan Eck, Director, with Land Design will provide a presentation on Superior's Remembrance Project Design. The presentation will provide an opportunity for Council to understand the concept and scope of Superior's proposed project, and provide Louisville residents with the opportunity to view the proposed project.

Community Survey

As noted above, staff originally shared a draft community survey with the City Council in November 2025 that focused on a remembrance project in Louisville. However, in December 2025, community members requested that Louisville consider contributing to or collaborating on the Town of Superior's Marshall Fire Memorial Project. Staff delayed the survey while Council and staff explored the option of working with Superior. The Louisville City Council and the Superior Town Council discussed a collaboration opportunity at the May 2026 joint meeting.

The survey has been modified to also collect sentiment regarding Louisville's participation in Superior's Marshall Fire Memorial Project. Once the survey is approved, it will be released on Engage Louisville for community engagement. After 30 days, survey results will be shared on Engage Louisville and the Cultural Advisory Board, in partnership with City Staff, will begin planning next steps based on community input. If Council action is required for follow-up after the survey, staff will coordinate accordingly.

Should the survey results indicate a Louisville-based project, planning will commence and the scope of the project will be determined. Should a project not be able to be completed by the Marshall Fire 5-Year Anniversary date, a presentation to the community about the process and anticipated timeline will be made available. Marshall Together is planning to continue their tradition of hosting a community event on the anniversary date. Cultural Services staff is working with community groups and Superior staff to cross-promote events community-wide.

Council Work Plan:

While this item is not specifically listed in Council's Work Plan, Council has supported the five-year remembrance of the Marshall Fire in Louisville.

Fiscal Impact:

Funds of \$35,000 have been budgeted for Marshall Fire Five Year Remembrance projects and programming.

Alternatives:

Council can recommend changes to the survey.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that Council approve launching the community survey to begin the next phase of public engagement.

Attachments:

1. Superior Marshall Fire Remembrance Presentation
2. Marshall Fire 5 Year Remembrance SURVEY UPDATED 72026
3. Suggestion for Marshall Fire Remembrance Project - Ann Brennan - 2026.06.05

Superior Marshall Fire Remembrance

July 14, 2026





Design Inspiration



Photo courtesy of: Carly Philpott, Union Street Journal



Photo courtesy of: Helen H. Richardson, The Denver Post



Design Inspiration



Photo courtesy of: Jack Dempsey, AP Photos

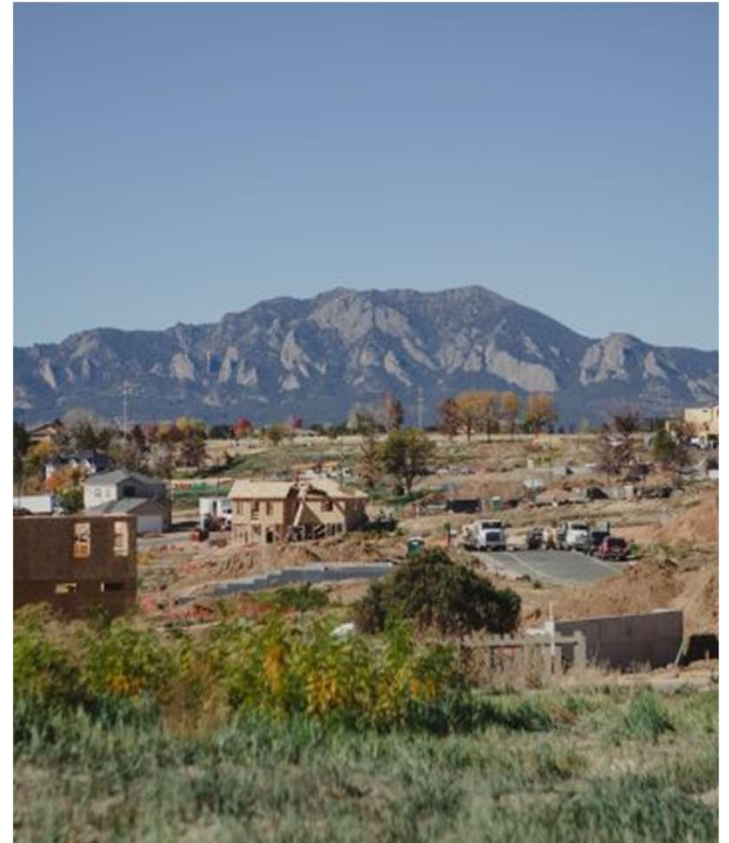
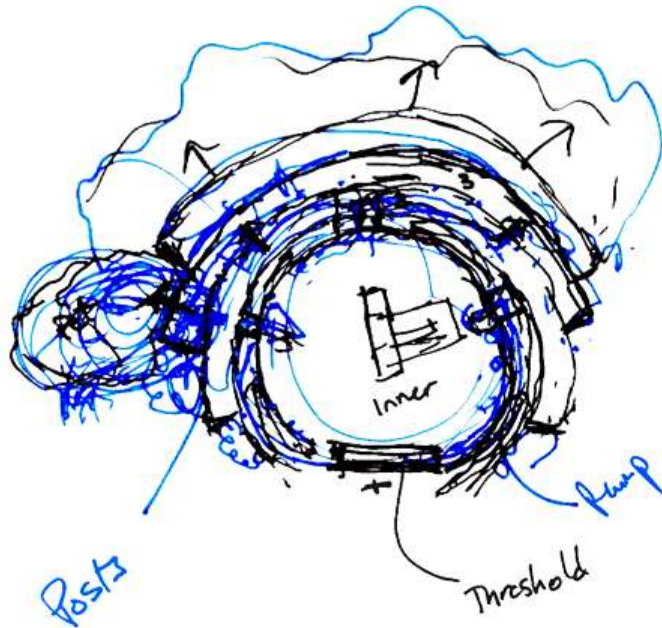


Photo courtesy of: Big Heart Film



Design Inspiration



- **Grounded in Fact & Narrative**
We drew inspiration from the raw numbers of the event - the number of days, the structures impacted, the astrological alignment.
- **The Story Arc**
The design is structured around the formal narrative of the fire:
Event → Response → Aftermath → Recovery.
- **Artistic Style**
Influenced by the colorful, quilt-like, and minimalist style of the New Mexico landscape.



Open Space Location

Concept 1

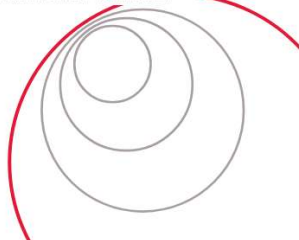
An outdoor place for individual reflection, but also with the ability for people to gather and remember the Marshall Fire.

The memorial design from Davis Partnership and LandDesign is organized as a sequence of four concentric rings, each one representing a stage in the physical and emotional arc of the Marshall Fire, which raged across Boulder County from December 30, 2021, to January 3, 2022. These rings are not just spatial divisions, they are a temporal and symbolic journey, guiding visitors through the evolving experience of trauma, loss, reflection, and renewal. The progression mirrors the four days of the fire: from the moment of ignition, when chaos overwhelmed the community; through the displacement and grief of the days that followed; the endurance of community responders; to the moment the snow fell, a symbol of mercy and stillness that marked the fire's end and the beginning of healing. As visitors move outward from the center, the landscape softens, opens, and gradually gives way to gestures of resilience and regeneration.

Each ring holds its own meaning, material language, and emotional tone, forming a layered narrative rooted in the land shaped by memory. Together, the rings tell the story not only of what was lost, but also of what remains, and what continues to be built.

"The rings allow for the movement and inclusion of all abilities to experience grade transitions within the spaces. This memorial will be open to all, no exclusions, and focuses on universal design."

FOUR RINGS CONCEPT - NOT FINAL DESIGN



First Inner Ring: Destruction (The Fire Itself)

At the heart of the memorial lies the inner ring, a visceral landscape embodying the moment the fire took hold. This ring serves as the initial gathering area, grounding visitors in the raw emotion of destruction. Anchoring the plaza is a granite stone monolith, modeled after a masonry chimney, the hearth of a household, and often, the only remnant left in the wake of the fire's destruction. A symbolic ruin, the "chimney" captures the sun on December 30th, at 11:09 am, the time of the first 911 call, where a shadow is cast, defining a void in the landscape, a scorched zone, where nothing grows, a symbolic scar rendered in blackened rock and charred wood, evoking the lifelessness left behind. At this moment, however, light is strained through the "chimney's firebox" enveloping a horizontal resin plane glowing within the void. Similarly, two rectangular holes, once a means of holding a family "mantel" are now void, allowing the sun to pierce the mass with light, perfectly outlining two raised monuments, representing the passing of Robert Sharpe and Nadine Turnbull.

This is a space to confront loss, hold silence, and stand at the edge of fire, a crucible where the journey from destruction to redemption begins.

Materials:

- Charred Wood
- Basalt/decomposed granite
- Honed Granite Block "Chimney" with exposed cleft face
- Granite stone benches
- Low Voltage Solar Powered Lighting
- Composite gravel
- Concrete pavers
- Minimal plantings - red toned
- Drip irrigation

Second Ring: Displacement & Absence

Moving outward from the fire's core, the second ring marks a shift, from destruction to displacement, from chaos to disorientation. This ring represents the moments as residents fled, often with no warning, no clear path, and no way to know what had been lost behind them. Visitors weave through a series of 398-angled steel posts, evoking the sensation of fleeing through wind-blown trees and fractured landscapes. Sculptural and experiential paths within this ring are arranged to disrupt

orientation, but are uplifted softly, creating shadows and visual tension, especially as the day turns to night.

At one end of the arc, is a framed portal featuring a cut steel image of Willie the horse, a symbol of survival amid devastation, quietly leading the way toward the Pet Memorial (Add Alternate Concept B). The path is flanked by bare gravel and low, dormant plantings, evoking a landscape paused in grief. House numbers and family names may be etched into pavers or low walls, while stone benches shaped from negative space create places to sit, remember, and reflect on what was suddenly absent. In this ring, we also begin to hear the story of the wind cutting between the angled posts allowing a haunting sound to resonate, capturing the eerie presence of the gusts that carried the fire forward. These escape routes, narrow, uncertain, necessary, and remind us of the impossible decisions made in the face of disaster.

Materials:

- Perforated Steel Plate
- Painted Steel Posts
- Granite stone benches
- Up lights
- Composite gravel
- Concrete pavers
- Granite mulch
- Minimal plantings - structural forms, non-blooming
- Drip irrigation

Third Ring: Snowfall & Recognition (The Turning Point)

The third ring represents the moment the fire stopped, not by human force, but by nature's grace. Here, the landscape becomes still, pale, and open: a space of reflection and healing, inspired by the snowfall that blanketed the ashes on December 31, 2021. This ring introduces a striking contrast to the chaos and disorientation of the previous rings. Roughly honed white granite benches, lying in beds white stone refines, will form fractured surfaces with subtle voids and crevices that capture drifting snow, allowing the site to visibly transform in winter. The ground becomes a canvas of redemption, where the cold does not bite, but blesses. Between the stones, carefully chosen white and silver-toned plantings, such as snowdrop anemone, white prairie clover, and silver Artemisia, soften the edges and catch the light. This ring is a place to pause, to begin to breathe again. It invites quiet contemplation. Subtle stainless steel QR codes are embedded in the stone benches, allowing visitors to explore individual stories, not just of loss, but of first steps toward rebuilding (Dispersed Components, Add Alternate C). The space circle is a threshold between mourning and renewal, using light,

snow, and tenderness to honor the sacred moment when the land and the people began to heal.

Materials:

- White limestone aggregate
- White granite stone benches
- Up lights/Down lights, pavement lights
- Pale washed metals
- Plantings - whites, silver and blues, blanket snowfall
- Drip irrigation

Outer Ring: Redemption (Forward Motion)

The outer ring marks the beginning of return, an open, expansive landscape where the tone shifts fully toward regeneration, renewal, and reconnection. Unlike the inner rings, which are inwardly focused and emotionally contained, this ring is open to the land, engaging the hillside's natural grade to look outward, toward the town, toward the mountains, toward life continuing. This space represents the rebirth of the land and the community, where soil is healed, native systems re-established and hope re-rooted. The landscape is not passive ground, it is a living witness. It holds the memory of what was lost and the potential for what may yet return. In the outermost ring of the Marshall Fire Memorial, the land begins to breathe again. Here, the emotional weight of chaos and grief gives way to a quiet resilience, a landscape that welcomes, restores, and reaches outward.

This ring is not only the physical edge of the memorial but the threshold to renewal. QR-coded markers that link to stories of rebuilding, survival, and new beginnings, encouraging visitors to move beyond the memorial and rediscover the larger community. Designed to foster agency, grounding, and forward momentum this last ring is a place not just to reflect on what was lost, but to imagine what can grow in its place.

Materials:

- Crushed Granite
- Flagstone
- Concrete
- Granite stone benches
- Metal inlays
- Pavement lights
- Rock Mulch
- Plantings - grasses, native fire-wise
- Drip irrigation
- Signage

- **Remembrance Goals**
- **Main Concept**
 - A Place to Gather
- **Add/Alternates**
 - Pet Remembrance
 - Dispersed Components
- **Concept - Rings**
- **Inner Ring - Destruction**
- **Second Ring - Displacement & Absence (non-concentric)**
- **Third Ring - Snowfall (the Turning Point)**
- **Outer Ring - Redemption**



+ Suggested materials for the concept

1

First Inner Ring: Destruction

- Memorial plaza with various edge seating
- Chimney firebox memorial with raised elements for Robert Sharpe and Nadine Turnball
- Red paving, mulch and benches
- Minimal planting with reds and yellows

2

Second Ring: Displacement & Absence

- Tumbles dark paving, mulch and benches
- Single exit point with no clear path
- Limited plantings, varied walkway, fractured landscapes
- Steel posts reminder of trees and leading to confusion
- Wind element / sound
- Entrance to pet memorial

3

Third Ring: Snowfall & Recognition

- The snowfall
- White and silver native plant materials
- Snowbank/reminder of the turning point
- White pavement, benches and gravel mulch

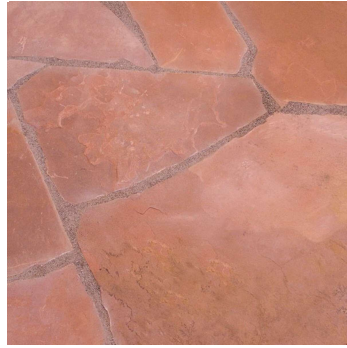
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Outer Ring: Redemption

- Order of succession
- Back to natural regenerative earth
- Butterfly & bee pollinators
- Firewise shortgrass seed
- Firebreak education
- Introduction of QR Code oral testimony



Paving



Benches



Mulch



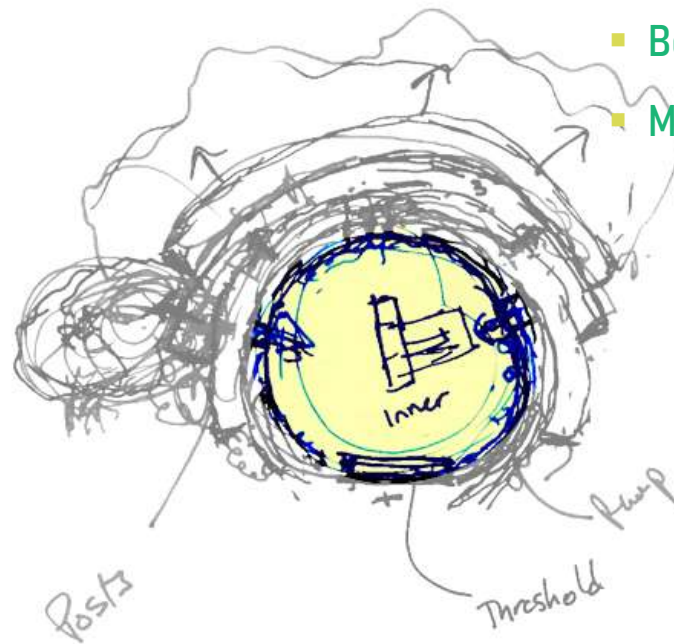
Boulder



Plinth or wood

First Inner Ring: Destruction

- Paving
- Benches
- Mulch
- Boulders
- Memorial Elements
 - Chimney
 - Scorched earth
 - Plinth





Paving



Benches



Mulch



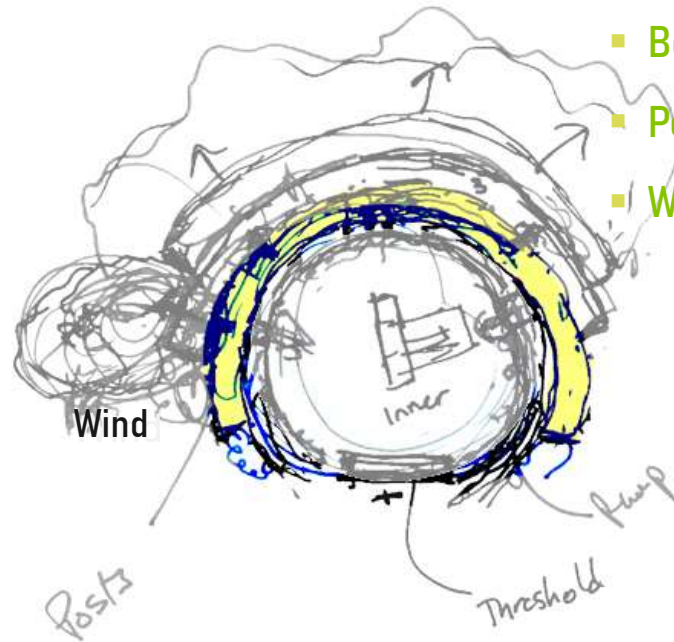
Boulder



Posts

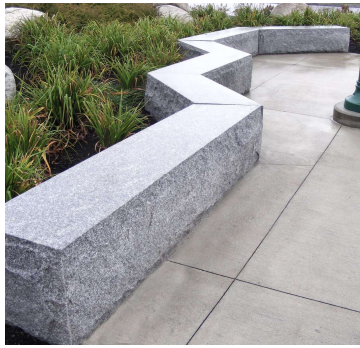
Second Ring: Displacement & Absence

- Paving
- Benches
- Mulch
- Boulders
- Posts
- Wind





Paving



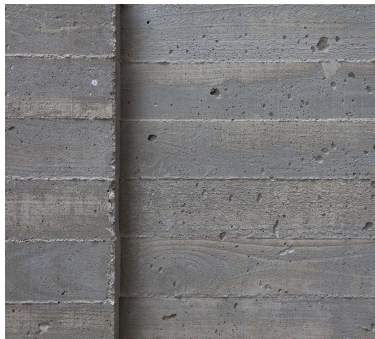
Benches



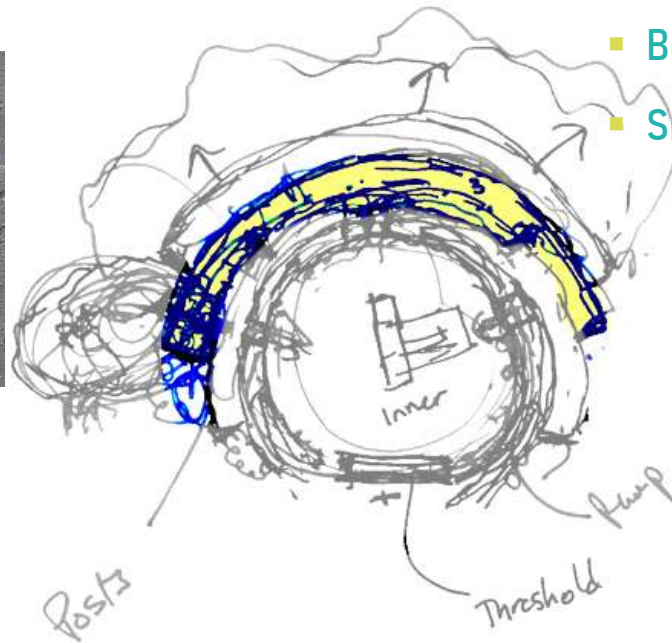
Mulch



Boulder



Snow break



Third Ring: Snowfall & Recognition

- Paving
- Benches
- Mulch
- Boulders
- Snow break



Paving



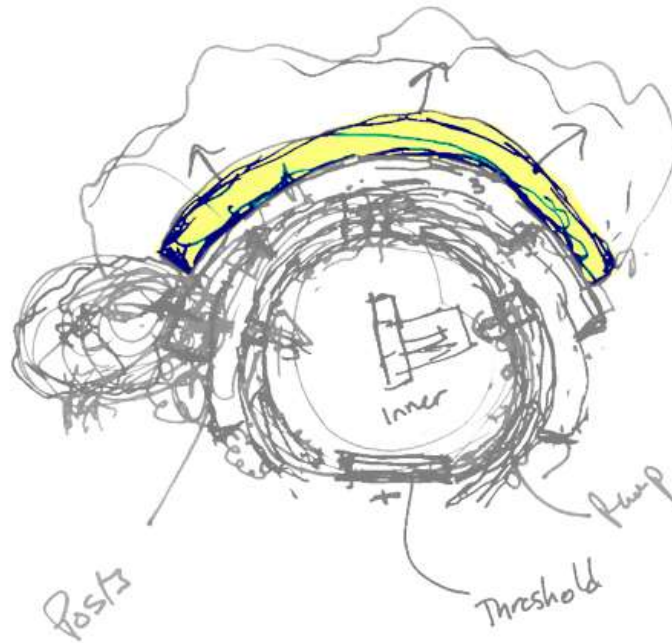
Benches

Outer Ring: Redemption

- Paving
- Benches
- Firebreak



Regeneration





Open Space Location



- **Site Constraints**
 - Native Open Space
 - No Utilities
 - Significant Slope
- **Proposed Solutions**
 - Planting Strategy
 - Lighting
 - Future Utilities
 - Slope Mitigation



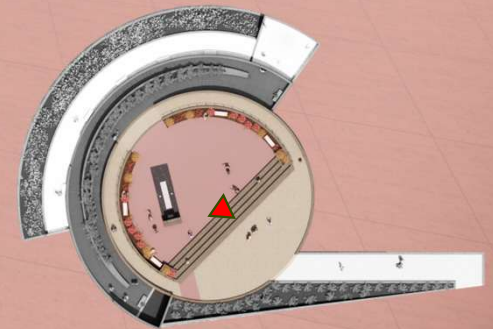






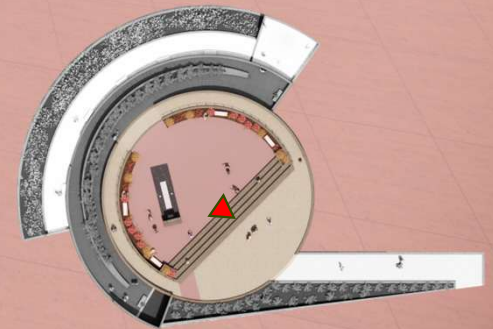


• DECEMBER 30TH @ 10:49



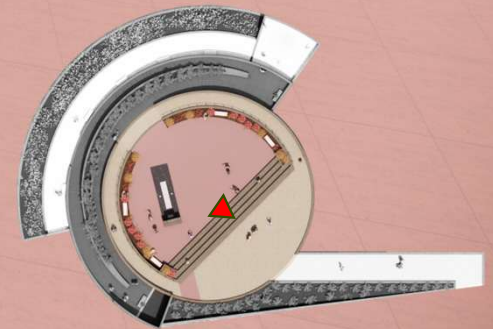


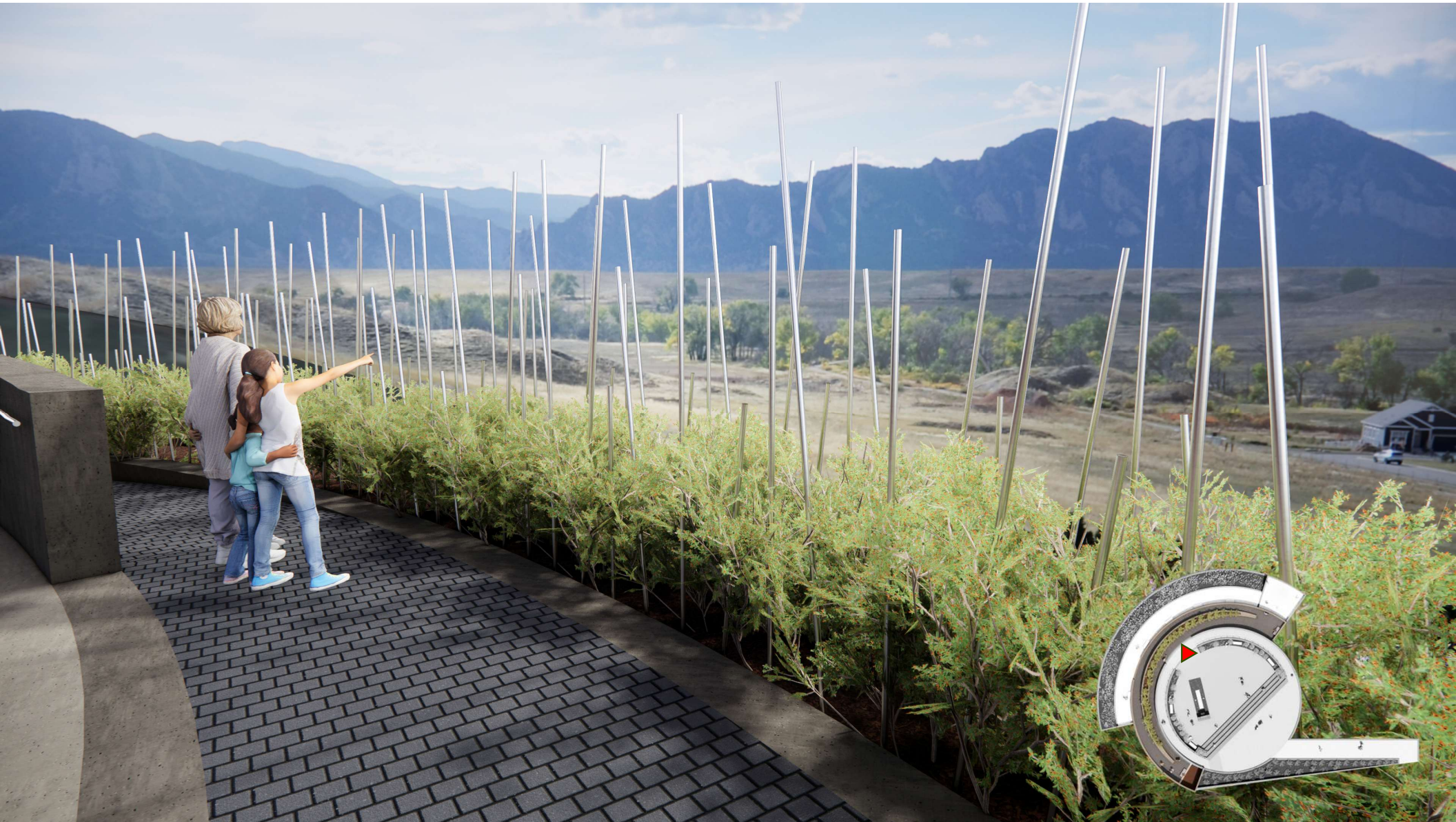
• DECEMBER 30TH @ 11:09





• DECEMBER 30TH @ 11:29



















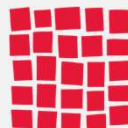












DAVIS
PARTNERSHIP
ARCHITECTS

Marshall Fire 5 Year Remembrance DRAFT SURVEY

On December 30, 2021, the Marshall Fire swept through the City of Louisville, the Town of Superior, and unincorporated Boulder County, destroying and damaging more than 1,000 homes and over 30 commercial structures. December 2026 will mark the five-year anniversary of this disaster, which had a profound and lasting impact on our region.

To support community healing and reflection, the City of Louisville has allocated \$35,000 toward a Remembrance Project and related programming for the anniversary year. We want this project—and any investments we make on behalf of the community—to reflect the values and desires of Louisville residents. This survey will help guide the initial planning phase.

At the same time, the Town of Superior is developing an outdoor gathering and remembrance space designed to honor the shared experience of the Marshall Fire and to symbolize recovery and renewal. Louisville has been invited to consider participating in this regional project. Council has expressed support for including a survey prompt about this potential partnership so the Louisville community can help guide the decision.

Through this survey, we hope to understand your preferences regarding both Louisville-based remembrance options and the possibility of directing some or all of our dedicated funds toward Superior's project. Your responses will help us shape an approach that best serves the community's needs for remembrance, healing, and connection.

1. Were you living in Louisville at the time of the Marshall Fire?

- a. Yes
- b. No

2. How has the Marshall Fire impacted you?

- a. Directly, my home was lost (home owner)
- b. Directly, my home was lost (home renter)
- c. Directly, my home was damaged (home owner)
- d. Directly, my home was damaged (home renter)

- e. Indirectly, my home was not lost or damaged, but it affected me as a community member
 - f. I have not been affected by the Marshall Fire/I moved here after the fire
 - g. Other (please specify)
- 3. How important, in your opinion, is it for the City of Louisville to develop and realize a remembrance project for the five-year anniversary of the Marshall Fire in 2026?**
- a. *Scale from 1-5 where 1 is 'not at all important' and 5 is 'very important'*
- 4. Would you support directing Louisville's dedicated Marshall Fire remembrance funds—either in whole or in part—toward Superior's planned remembrance and outdoor gathering project ([link to project in both digital and print surveys](#))?**
- a. Yes, I would support directing the full amount to the Superior project
 - b. Yes, I would support directing *part* of the funds to the Superior project while reserving some for a Louisville based- effort
 - c. I am unsure and would like more information
 - d. No, I prefer Louisville allocate its funds exclusively to a Louisville based- remembrance project
 - e. No opinion
- 5. To date, we have been referring to Louisville's effort to commemorate the Marshall Fire as a "remembrance". What words should be used for the commemoration of the Marshall Fire event?**
- a. Memorial
 - b. Marker
 - c. Reflection
 - d. Remembrance
 - e. Tribute
 - f. Other (please specify)
- 6. What purpose/effect(s) do you hope this project will serve for the Louisville community?**
- a. Document history
 - b. Offer a place for reflection
 - c. Remember loss
 - d. Honor actions taken during and after the event

- e. Recognize the community healing, closeness, and support that was fostered in the aftermath of the fire
 - f. Other (please specify)
 - g. *Multiple answer checkboxes*
- 7. A few primary ideas have emerged for what a Louisville-based project could be. Please select all the ideas that resonate with you.**
- a. A peace garden
 - b. A labyrinth walk (learn more [here](#))
 - c. A mosaic
 - d. Other (please specify)
- 8. Assuming an outdoor installation for the project is desired, where should it be located?**
- a. The Arboretum
 - b. Community Park
 - c. Parks Space
 - d. Other (please specify)
- 9. If you have an alternative idea for a project, describe it here.**
- a. *Text box for open ended answer*
- 10. If you have a visual example for a project, upload it here.**
- a. *Option to upload photo or include link*

Survey Closing: Thank you for taking the time to share your thoughts and opinions. Survey results will be shared publicly on EngageLouisvilleCO.org and will directly inform the next steps in planning for the Marshall Fire 5-Year Remembrance project and programming.

From: [Ann](#)
To: [Diana Langley](#); [Christopher Leh](#)
Subject: Suggestion for Marshall Fire Remembrance Project
Date: Friday, June 5, 2026 3:30:27 PM

[EXTERNAL EMAIL] From outside of City of Louisville DO NOT CLICK links or attachments unless you validate the sender and know the content is safe.

Hi Diana. Mayor Leh and I talked briefly today about the planning for the Marshall Fire Remembrance Project. As I've seen this project roll out in City Council info and in the press, I have been impressed with the conceptual design's beauty and storytelling, but also stunned at the price tag. If we think there's \$4-5 million of donor funds out there, I sure wish we were putting together a \$5 million fund to help property owners and residents with mitigation and risk reduction.

But since that's not what's on the table, I would like to see the education portion of the design beefed up, so there is a strong message about lessons learned and shared responsibility for risk reduction to protect us all from the next wind and ember situation. The design shows that the Outer Ring: Redemption will include "Firewise shortgrass seed and Firebreak education". But as you know, "fire break education" isn't really the same concept as risk reduction in suburban neighborhoods through structure hardening and defensible space. That should really be the lasting impact of the Marshall Fire--how to learn from it and reduce the risk of its happening again.

Chris was supportive of the idea of strengthening this aspect of the memorial's purpose and suggested I pass this on to you as well. Do you know if there's an additional way I can provide input to the design committee?

Thanks much,
Ann

Subject: Joint Meeting with the Historic Preservation Commission and
Historic Museum Advisory Board - Historic Preservation Tax

Date: July 14, 2026

Prepared By: Brandi Cummings, Director
Rob Zuccaro, Director

Presented By: Brandi Cummings, Director
Rob Zuccaro, Director

Summary:

To gather feedback from the Historical Museum Advisory Board (HMAB) and Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) on the Historic Preservation Tax Extension and Historic Preservation Task Force recommendations on the ballot language.

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 and City Charter amendments. 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.

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 .125% sales tax, to be collected for a ten-year period commencing January 1, 2019, and directed that proceeds from sales and use tax be 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.

Historic Preservation Tax Task Force

On April 28, 2026 Council provided direction to staff to create and complete the Historic Preservation Tax Task Force (Task Force) for a recommendation to City Council by their June 16, 2026 meeting, in order to make the deadlines to consider placing an item on the 2026 ballot. Staff then built a timeline based off of this extremely tight schedule, and solicited candidates for the Task Force from Council members. There were thirteen potential members put forward, and eight originally requested. Staff confirmed availability of each potential member and Council chose to add an additional community member to the task force. On May 12, 2026, City Council approved the task force with nine members and the below purpose.

Members:

- 2 Council Members: Mayor Leh and Council Member Fahey
- 1 HPC Member: Sloane Whidden
- 1HMAB Member: Barbara Taylor

- 1 Architect: Peter Stewart
- 1 Chamber Member: Mike Deborski
- 3 Community Members: Denise Montagu, Lee Scriggins. Kristi Gitkind

Purpose

The purpose of the Historic Preservation Tax (HPT) Task Force is to consider and advise Council on possible extension of, use of, and future amount of the City's Historic Preservation Tax. With the goal of providing City Council a recommendation regarding:

- Extension of the Historic Preservation Tax – Should this be placed on the 2026 ballot for voter consideration?
- Use of the Historic Preservation Tax – Should adjustments be made to the allocation of revenues from this tax?
- Amount of the Historic Preservation Tax

Prior Meetings:

- April 28 - City Council - Direction to Create Task Force: [City Council Meeting • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- May 12 - City Council - Creates Task Force: [City Council Meeting • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- May 13 - Task Force 1st Meeting: [Revitalization Commission • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- May 28 - Task Force 2nd Meeting: [Historic Preservation Tax Task Force • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- June 16 - City Council - Direction to draft ordinance for ballot language for first reading, matching Task Recommendations with 30% allocation to Museum operations

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

N/A

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.

Fiscal Impact:

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. 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 sales 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.

Alternatives:

As this tax does not expire until 2028, Council may choose 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.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends that HMAB, HPC, and Council review the Task Force Recommendations for discussion and comment.

- The Task Force provided the following recommendations on the ballot language and timing:
 - Placing the extension on the November 2026 ballot.
 - Allocating 30% of tax revenues for Museum operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus, which is a 10% increase over the current allocation.
 - Add language that provides flexibility in use of HPT revenues for city programs and capital projects that promote and preserve the city's history and cultural heritage. This allows additional funding for Historic Preservation and/or Museum programs to promote the city's history and cultural resources.
 - Extending the HPT for an additional 10 years starting in 2029 with the change in allocations starting in 2027.

Attachments:

None

Subject: Ordinance No. 1928, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Extending the City's 0.125% Historic Preservation Sales Tax for an Additional Ten-year Period; Expanding the Purposes for Which the Historic Preservation Sales and Use Tax May be Spent to Include City Programs and Capital Projects that Promote and Preserve the City's History and Cultural Heritage; Increasing the Portion of Such Tax Allocated to the Louisville Museum Campus from 20% to 30%; and Providing for the Submission of this Ordinance to a Vote of the City's Registered Electors at the November 3, 2026 Special Election

1st Reading includes the Staff Presentation and questions from Council. There is no opportunity for public comment. The Public Hearing (2nd Reading) will be set on this item for a later date. The Public Hearing will allow 2 rounds of public comment.

Date: July 14, 2026

Prepared By: Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney
Genny Kline, City Clerk
Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Presented By: Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager
Rob Zuccaro, Director

Summary:

To consider an ordinance to refer a ballot question to the voters to extend the 0.125% Historic Preservation Sales Tax, set to expire in 2028, from 2029-2039 and expand the purposes for which the Historic Preservation Sales and Use Tax may be spent, including increasing the percentage allocated to the museum and allowing use on capital and City projects, within the context of historic preservation.

Background / Prior Discussions:

The General Election is scheduled for November 3, 2026. The City Council has expressed a desire to consider a potential ballot question related to the Historic Preservation 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.

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

Original Sales 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.

Historic Preservation Use Tax - Approved in 2010

In November 2010, voters approved Ballot Issue 2D which levied a permanent use tax of 3.50% to supersede the City's then-current use tax, with the net proceeds of such tax to be allocated such that revenues from a rate of 0.125% are used for historic preservation purposes consistent with Ballot Issue 2A approved in November 2008. The Historic Preservation Use Tax does not have an expiration date.

Continuation of Sales Tax – Extended in 2017

In November 2017, voters approved the continuation of the .125% sales tax, to be collected for a ten-year period commencing January 1, 2019, with proceeds of the sales and use tax to be 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.

Historic Preservation Tax Task Force

On April 28, 2026 Council provided direction to staff to create and complete the Historic Preservation Tax Task Force (Task Force) for a recommendation to City Council by their June 16, 2026 meeting, in order to make the deadlines to consider placing an item on the 2026 ballot. Staff then built a timeline based off of this extremely tight schedule, and solicited candidates for the Task Force from Council members. There were thirteen potential members put forward, and eight originally requested. Staff confirmed availability of each potential member and Council chose to add an additional community member to the task force. On May 12, 2026, City Council approved the task force with nine members and the below purpose.

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Purpose

The purpose of the Historic Preservation Tax (HPT) Task Force is to consider and advise Council on possible extension of, use of, and future amount of the City's Historic Preservation Tax. With the goal of providing City Council a recommendation regarding:

- Extension of the Historic Preservation Tax – Should this be placed on the 2026 ballot for voter consideration?
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Prior Meetings:

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- May 13 - Task Force 1st Meeting: [Revitalization Commission • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- May 28 - Task Force 2nd Meeting: [Historic Preservation Tax Task Force • Agendas & Minutes • CivicClerk](#)
- June 16 - City Council - Direction to bring forward an ordinance for consideration:

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 includes election provisions such as language requirements for ballot questions and limitation to a single subject.

GENERAL BALLOT INFORMATION

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 sales tax slated to expire on December 31, 2028, the City Council has expressed interest in exploring placing a sales tax extension on the November 2026 Ballot. Council created a Historical Preservation Tax Task Force to consider this.

The task force held two meetings, and completed this task in just six hours of meetings. The first meeting, May 13, 2026, focused on introductions, information about the sales tax, prior uses, and City programs it supports, to build a baseline for the new group. The second meeting, May 28, 2026, focused on getting to the questions Council asked for the Task Force's recommendations on and included significant discussion over the three hours about the use of the sales tax and the amount of the sales tax. Task force members in general supported the sales tax, but had thoughtful conversation about equity and public benefit, as well as priorities and other opportunities. By the end of the meeting, the Task Force recommended Council bring the extension question before voters (and confirmed a 10 year extension), at the same level as before, and recommended the following adjustments to the allocation of revenues.

- No less than 30-40% for Museum
- Add flexibility beyond use for incentives (including programs, staffing, and/or capital/city-owned facilities, that can be used by the Museum or other areas)

The ballot language should speak to effective dates for the sales tax, for example, if placed on the 2026 ballot, the language can specify it is effective 2029, after the current sales tax expires.

At the June 16, 2026 Council meeting, Council directed staff to prepare an ordinance for voter consideration to extend the current 0.125% Historic Preservation Sales Tax for 10 years, to start upon termination of the current tax, increase the allocation to the Museum from 20% to 30%, and include language that allows flexibility beyond incentives including city programs and capital projects. Staff worked with the City Attorney's Office to prepare the attached draft Ordinance and Ballot Title.

Proposed Ordinance

The proposed ordinance was drafted by the City's legal team, reviewed by staff, and reviewed by Kim Crawford of Butler Snow LLP who refined the proposed ballot language. The ordinance and ballot language: (1) continue the City's temporary sales tax for an additional ten years; (2) expand the purposes for which the historic preservation sales and use tax may be used to include programs and capital improvements that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage; and (3) increase the portion of the historic preservation sales and use tax allocated to operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus from 20 percent to 30 percent per year. The revenue expected from this is \$1.5 million. The Historic Preservation Commission will still review and provide recommendations to council regarding use for programs and capital. Council will have final approval and will still need to approve any use of funds outside of Old Town.

Proposed Ballot Title

"Shall City of Louisville taxes be increased \$1.5 million in 2029 and then annually thereafter by whatever amounts are generated from the continuation of the City's Historic Preservation Sales Tax of 0.125% beginning January 1, 2029, and expiring December 31, 2038; with the net proceeds of such sales tax, along with the City's existing 0.125% Historic Preservation Use Tax, to be utilized for historic preservation purposes consistent with ballot issues approved by the voters in 2008 and 2017, and commencing on January 1, 2027, shall the City be authorized to: (1) expend any funds from such historic preservation tax on city programs and capital projects that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage, and (2) increase the portion of such tax allocated to operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus from 20% to 30% per year; and shall the City be permitted to collect, retain and expend all revenues derived from such tax as a voter-approved revenue change and an exception to limits which would otherwise apply under Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution or any other law?"

Council Work Plan:

Under the Core Services priority, the 2026 Louisville City Council Work Plan includes consideration of potential next steps ahead of the Historic Preservation Tax's 2028 expiration.

Fiscal Impact:

At a high level, the cost to place items on the coordinated ballot is dependent on the length of the question. 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

for a TABOR (tax related) question. There is \$110,000 in the 2026 budget for elections.

Historic Preservation Sales Tax Extension

The Historical Preservation Sales 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 sales tax is set to expire on December 31, 2028. The sales tax generates approximately \$900,000 annually, of which 20% is allocated to fund the Louisville Historical Museum Campus.

It should be noted that while the Historic Preservation Sales Tax generally generates approximately \$900,000 annually, the proposed Ordinance and Ballot Title reflect the generation of up to \$1.5 million annually. The number is overestimated to avoid TABOR refunds. If the City were to use \$900,000 in the ballot title and then collect \$1 million in 2029, the City would have to refund the excess revenue or go back to the voters and ask that the City be allowed to retain excess revenue. There aren't any legal repercussions if the number is overestimated.

Alternatives:

As this tax does not expire until 2028, Council may choose 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.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Ordinance No. 1928, Series 2026, an ordinance extending the City's 0.125% historic preservation sales tax for an additional ten-year period; expanding the purposes for which the historic preservation sales and use tax may be spent to include city programs and capital projects that promote and preserve the city's history and cultural heritage; increasing the portion of such tax allocated to the Louisville Museum Campus from 20% to 30%; and providing for the submission of this ordinance to a vote of the city's registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special election.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance No. 1928, Series 2026
2. Historic Preservation Tax Extension Presentation 2026.07.14

**ORDINANCE NO. 1928
SERIES 2026**

AN ORDINANCE EXTENDING THE CITY'S 0.125% HISTORIC PRESERVATION SALES TAX FOR AN ADDITIONAL TEN-YEAR PERIOD; EXPANDING THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION SALES AND USE TAX MAY BE SPENT TO INCLUDE CITY PROGRAMS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS THAT PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE CITY'S HISTORY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE; INCREASING THE PORTION OF SUCH TAX ALLOCATED TO THE LOUISVILLE MUSEUM CAMPUS FROM 20% TO 30%; AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THIS ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE CITY'S REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, the City of Louisville ("City") is a Colorado home rule municipal corporation duly organized and existing under laws of the State of Colorado and the Louisville City Charter ("City Charter"); and

WHEREAS, the members of the Louisville City Council ("City Council") have been duly elected and qualified; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution, also referred to as the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights ("TABOR"), requires voter approval for any new tax, any increase in any tax rate, the creation of any debt, and the spending of certain funds above limits established by TABOR; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Article 12 and Section 4-8 of the City Charter, the City may authorize the imposition of new taxes and the increase of a tax rate by ordinance upon approval of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, TABOR requires that the City submit ballot issues, as defined in TABOR, to the City's registered electors on specified election days before action can be taken on such ballot issues; and

WHEREAS, November 3, 2026, is one of the election dates at which TABOR ballot issues may be submitted to the registered electors of the City pursuant to TABOR; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has adopted a resolution calling a special election for November 3, 2026, which will be conducted as a coordinated election pursuant to the Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended; and

WHEREAS, by Ballot Issue 2A, approved at the November 4, 2008 election, the voters of the City approved the levy of a 0.125% sales tax, collected for a ten-year period commencing January 1, 2009, with the net proceeds of such 0.125% percent sales tax to be collected, retained and spent exclusively for historic preservation purposes within

historic Old Town Louisville; and

WHEREAS, by Ballot Issue 2D, approved at the November 2, 2010 election, the voters of the City approved the levy of a permanent use tax of 3.50% to supersede the City's then-current use tax, with the net proceeds of such tax to be allocated such that revenues from a rate of 0.125% are used for historic preservation purposes consistent with said Ballot Issue 2A approved at the November 4, 2008 election; and

WHEREAS, by Ballot Issue 2F, approved at the November 7, 2017 election, the voters of the City approved the continuation of the temporary 0.125% sales tax for an additional ten-year period and expanded the purposes for which the historic preservation sales and use tax may be spent, including authorizing the expenditure of up to 20% of the funds on operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus and authorizing expenditures of the historic preservation sales and use tax outside historic Old Town Louisville if approved by the affirmative vote of not less than five members of the entire City Council; and

WHEREAS, the temporary 0.125% sales tax will expire on December 31, 2028, unless it is continued by approval of the City's voters; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a TABOR ballot issue to: (1) continue the City's temporary sales tax for an additional ten years; (2) expand the purposes for which the historic preservation sales and use tax may be used to include programs and capital improvements that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage; and (3) increase the portion the historic preservation sales and use tax allocated to operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus from 20 percent to 30 percent per year.

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

Section 1. A special municipal election will be held in the City of Louisville, County of Boulder, State of Colorado on Tuesday, November 3, 2026, as part of a coordinated election (the "**Election**").

Section 2. Pursuant to the applicable provisions of the laws of the State of Colorado and the City Charter, the City Council hereby submits to the registered electors of the City at the Election the ballot issue specified in Section 3 of this ordinance.

Section 3. The following ballot issue, certified in substantially the form set forth below, is hereby referred to the registered electors of the City and shall appear on the ballot of the Election:

BALLOT ISSUE_____

SHALL CITY OF LOUISVILLE TAXES BE INCREASED \$1.5 MILLION IN 2029 AND THEN ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE GENERATED FROM THE CONTINUATION OF THE CITY'S HISTORIC PRESERVATION SALES TAX OF 0.125% BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 2029, AND EXPIRING DECEMBER 31, 2038; WITH THE NET PROCEEDS OF SUCH SALES TAX, ALONG WITH THE CITY'S EXISTING 0.125% HISTORIC PRESERVATION USE TAX, TO BE UTILIZED FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION PURPOSES CONSISTENT WITH BALLOT ISSUES APPROVED BY THE VOTERS IN 2008 AND 2017, AND, COMMENCING ON JANUARY 1, 2027, SHALL THE CITY ALSO BE AUTHORIZED TO: (1) EXPEND ANY FUNDS FROM SUCH HISTORIC PRESERVATION TAX ON CITY PROGRAMS AND CAPITAL PROJECTS, AND (2) INCREASE THE PORTION OF SUCH TAX ALLOCATED TO OPERATING AND MAINTAINING THE LOUISVILLE MUSEUM CAMPUS FROM 20% TO 30% PER; AND SHALL THE CITY BE PERMITTED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND EXPEND ALL REVENUES DERIVED FROM SUCH TAX AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Section 4. If a majority of the registered electors voting at the Election vote “yes” in response to the ballot issue specified in Section 3 of this ordinance, the issue shall be deemed to have passed and the Louisville Municipal Code shall be amended as set forth in this Section:

a. Effective January 1, 2029, Subsection A of Section 3.20.200 of the Louisville Municipal Code, regarding the sales tax levy, is hereby amended to read as follows (words added are underlined; words deleted are ~~stricken through~~):

Sec. 3.20.200. Levy of tax; rate.

A. There is hereby levied, and there shall be collected and paid, a sales tax equal to 3.15 percent of the purchase price of tangible personal property at retail or the furnishing of services, except that:

1. For the ten-year period beginning on January 1, 2024, there is hereby levied, and there shall be collected and paid, an additional sales tax of three-eighths of one percent of the purchase price of tangible personal property at retail or the furnishing of services, as authorized at the November 7, 2023 election, and

2. For the ten-year period beginning on January 1, ~~2029~~ 2019, there is hereby levied, and there shall be collected and paid, an additional sales tax of one-eighth of one percent of the purchase price of tangible personal property at retail or the furnishing of services, as authorized at the ~~November 7, 2017~~ November 3, 2026 election, and

3. For the ten-year period beginning on January 1, 2024, there is hereby levied, and there shall be collected and paid, an additional sales tax of one-eighths of one percent of the purchase price of tangible personal property at retail or the furnishing of services, as authorized at the November 7, 2023 election.

b. Effective January 1, 2027, Sections 3.20.605.A, B, and F of the Louisville Municipal Code are hereby amended to read as follows (words added are underlined; words deleted are ~~stricken through~~):

Sec. 3.20.605. Historic preservation tax and fund.

A. The historic preservation fund is established as a special revenue fund to account for revenues derived from the temporary one-eighth of one percent sales tax for historic preservation purposes ~~imposed for the ten-year period beginning on January 1, 2019~~, and from the one-eighth of one percent rate of use tax allocated to such fund.

B. Revenues from such temporary one-eighth percent sales tax and such one-eighth percent rate of use tax shall be deposited into the historic preservation fund and the net proceeds of such one-eighth percent rate of sales and use tax shall be collected, retained and spent exclusively for the following purposes; provided, that prior to January 1, 2019, such funds shall be spent exclusively within historic Old Town Louisville, which area includes the "Historic Old Town Overlay District" and "Downtown Louisville" as defined by the city zoning map and ordinances, in order to preserve the unique charm and character of historic Old Town Louisville; and provided, further, that on and after January 1, 2019, any funds within the historic preservation fund may be spent within historic Old Town Louisville or within any other area within the boundaries of the City, as existing from time to time, provided that any expenditure of such funds outside historic Old Town Louisville is approved by the affirmative vote of not less than five members of the entire city council:

1. Provide incentives to preserve historic resources, including funding of programs to identify and attempt to preserve buildings which qualify for listing on the Louisville Register of Historic Places;
2. Provide incentives to preserve buildings that contribute to the historic

character of Louisville but do not qualify for listing on the Louisville Register of Historic Places, with such buildings to be treated the same as historic buildings but with lower priority;

3. Provide incentives for new buildings and developments within Louisville to limit mass, scale, and number of stories; to preserve setbacks; to preserve pedestrian walkways between buildings; and to utilize materials typical of historic buildings, above mandatory requirements;
4. For city staff time to administer these programs; and
5. For operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus, subject to the limitation that, on the city's annual fiscal year basis, no more than thirty percent (30%) ~~twenty percent (20%)~~ of the net proceeds of such one-eighth of one percent rate of tax shall be used for such operation and maintenance purposes; and
6. For City programs and capital projects that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage.

F. Following a recommendation by the Historic Preservation Commission, All ~~all~~ incentive funding decisions and expenditures described in subsection B of this Section shall be approved by the City Council. Incentive programs and the procedures applicable to the administration and receipt of such incentives shall be as provided by City Council ordinance or resolution, the provisions of which shall not be inconsistent with the provisions of this section and applicable ballot issues ~~2A approved at the November 4, 2008.~~

Section 5. Total City tax revenues are estimated to increase by up to \$1.5 million in the first full year in which the sales tax provided for in this ordinance is in effect. However, the revenues from said sales tax may be collected and spent, regardless of whether said revenues, in any year after the first full year in which said sales tax is in effect, exceed the estimated dollar amount stated above, and without any other limitation or condition, and without limiting the collection or spending of any other revenues or funds by the City of Louisville, under Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution or any other law.

Section 6. The provisions of this ordinance relating to the amendment to Section 3.20.200.A of the Louisville Municipal Code shall take effect following passage and approval thereof as provided in Section 4, on January 1, 2029. The amendment to Sections 3.20.605.A, B, and F of the Municipal Code of the City of Louisville shall take effect following passage and approval thereof as provided in Section 4, on January 1, 2027.

Section 7. If any portion of this ordinance is held to be invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council and the registered voters of the City hereby declare that they would have passed and approved this ordinance and each part hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part be declared invalid.

Section 8. The repeal or modification of any provision of the Municipal Code of the City of Louisville by this ordinance shall not release, extinguish, alter, modify, or change in whole or in part any penalty, forfeiture, or liability, either civil or criminal, which shall have been incurred under such provision, and each provision shall be treated and held as still remaining in force for the purpose of sustaining any and all proper actions, suits, proceedings, and prosecutions for the enforcement of the penalty, forfeiture, or liability, as well as for the purpose of sustaining any judgment, decree, or order which can or may be rendered, entered, or made in such actions, suits, proceedings, or prosecutions.

Section 9. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this ordinance or any portion hereof are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED
THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS ____ DAY
OF _____, 2026.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney



Historic Preservation Sales Tax Extension

July 14, 2026

Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Rob Zuccaro, Community Development Director



Historic Preservation Sales Tax 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

Historic Preservation Use Tax Background

- Approved via Ballot Issue 2D in 2010
- 0.125% of the City's 3.50% permanent use tax is allocated for historic preservation purposes consistent with Ballot Issue 2A approved in 2008
- Does not have an expiration date

Task Force Recommendation

- Does the HPT Task Force recommend to Council that voters be asked to approve an extension of the expiring Historic Preservation Tax? Yes
- Does the HPT Task Force recommend the same amount for the Historic Preservation tax? Same %
- Does the HPT Task Force recommend adjustments to the allocation of revenues from this tax? Yes
 - No less than 30-40% for Museum
 - Add flexibility beyond incentives (a fourth item - including programs and/or capital/city owned facilities, that can be used by Museum or other areas)
- 10 Years – Confirmed by group

City Council Direction

- Extend the current 0.125% Historic Preservation Sales Tax for 10 years, to start upon termination of the current tax
- Increase the allocation to the Museum from 20% to 30%
- Include language that allows flexibility beyond incentives including city programs and capital projects

Proposed Ordinance

- The proposed ordinance was drafted by the City's legal team, reviewed by staff, and reviewed by Kim Crawford of Butler Snow LLP who refined the proposed ballot language. The ordinance and ballot language:
 - Continue the City's temporary sales tax for an additional ten years;
 - Effective January 1, 2029
 - Expand the purposes for which the historic preservation sales and use tax may be used to include programs and capital improvements that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage; and
 - Effective January 1, 2027
 - Increase the portion of the historic preservation sales and use tax allocated to operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus from 20 percent to 30 percent per year.
 - Effective January 1, 2027
 - The Historic Preservation Commission will still review and provide recommendations to council regarding use for programs and capital. Council will have final approval and will still need to approve any use of funds outside of Old Town.

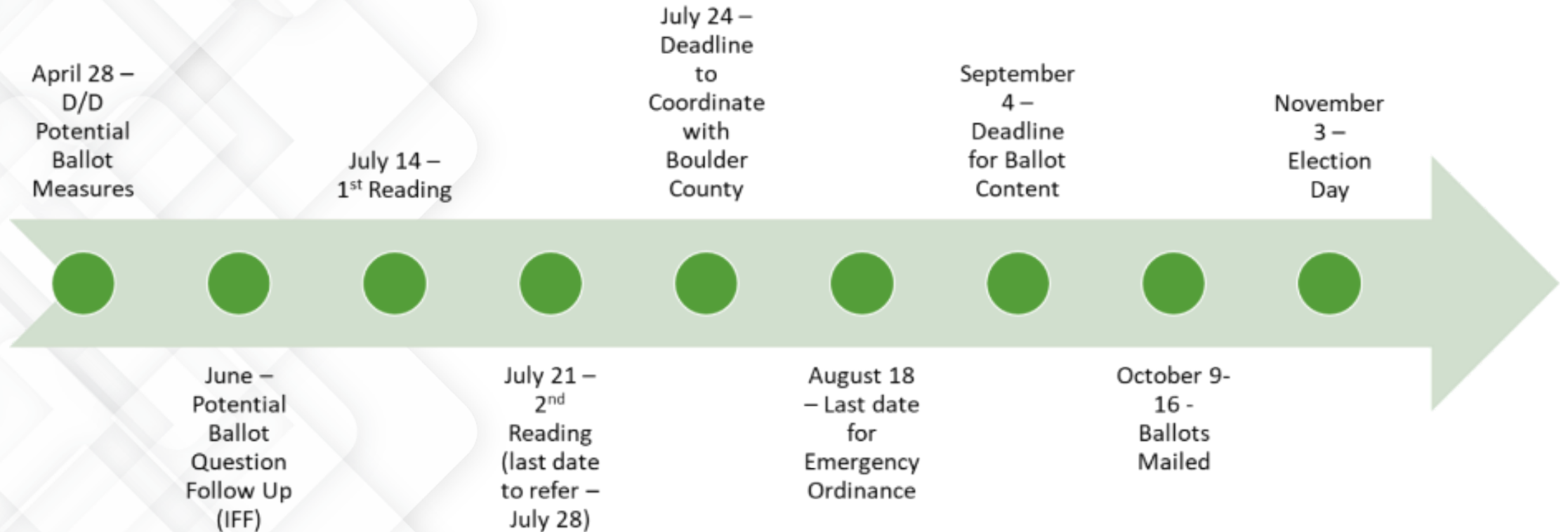
Proposed Ballot Title

"Shall City of Louisville taxes be increased \$1.5 million in 2029 and then annually thereafter by whatever amounts are generated from the continuation of the City's Historic Preservation Sales Tax of 0.125% beginning January 1, 2029, and expiring December 31, 2038; with the net proceeds of such sales tax, along with the City's existing 0.125% Historic Preservation Use Tax, to be utilized for historic preservation purposes consistent with ballot issues approved by the voters in 2008 and 2017, and commencing on January 1, 2027, shall the City be authorized to: (1) expend any funds from such historic preservation tax on city programs and capital projects that promote and preserve the City's history and cultural heritage, and (2) increase the portion of such tax allocated to operating and maintaining the Louisville Museum Campus from 20% to 30% per year; and shall the City be permitted to collect, retain and expend all revenues derived from such tax as a voter-approved revenue change and an exception to limits which would otherwise apply under Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution or any other law?"

Fiscal Impact

- Election Cost
 - TABOR Question – Anticipated Cost > \$32,000
- Sales Tax Extension
 - The Historic Preservation Sales Tax currently generates approximately \$900,000 annually, of which 20% is allocated to fund the Historical Museum Campus.
 - While approximately \$900,000 is generated annually, the proposed Ordinance and Ballot Title reflect the generation of up to \$1.5M annually. The number is overestimated to avoid TABOR refunds.

Election Timeline



Recommendation

- Staff recommends approval of the Ordinance and set a public hearing and second reading for July 21, 2026

Subject: Proposed Charter Amendment Ordinances — 1st Reading
1st Reading includes the Staff Presentation and questions from Council. There is no opportunity for public comment. The Public Hearing (2nd Reading) will be set on this item for a later date. The Public Hearing will allow 2 rounds of public comment.

Date: July 14, 2026

Prepared By: Genny Kline, City Clerk
Samma Fox, Deputy City Manager

Presented By: Genny Kline, City Clerk

Summary:

Refer to the registered electors of the City of Louisville via 2026 ballot questions the following proposed Charter Amendments:

- Align authorized topics for Executive Sessions with State Open Meetings Law
- Align when Council takes office with current election procedures
- Align initiative and referendum signature requirements with surveyed municipalities
- Update meeting locations
- Add a review and comment requirement for initiatives
- Update outdated language (citizen to resident, he/she to they) and add clarifying language (document availability / location)

Background / Prior Discussions:

The statewide General Election is scheduled for November 3, 2026. The City Council has expressed a desire to consider potential ballot questions related to the City Charter. Staff received direction during the [June 16, 2026](#) Council meeting to bring forward ordinances related to six potential ballot questions.

A special election was held on May 1, 2001, to elect Home Rule Charter Commission members. On August 21, 2001, the Commission submitted a home rule Charter to 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 (study sessions, records, and agendas) and November 3, 2009 (definition of "public body", electronic delivery of meeting notices and allowing Council to enter into lease-purchase agreements).

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

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 proposed amendments below are based on Council's direction and priorities, and Staff's expertise.

Ordinance No. 1929, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter
Concerning the Authorized Topics for Executive Sessions

Section 5-2 of the Charter includes a limited scope of authorized topics for the Council to meet in executive session.

Current authorized topics include:

- Matters where the information being discussed is required to be kept confidential by federal or state law;
- Personnel matters involving the dismissal, demotion or review of the performance of employees directly appointed by the Council, consideration of complaints or charges against employees appointed directly by the Council, and other personnel matters only upon request of the City Manager or Mayor for informational purposes only;
- Consideration of water rights and real property acquisitions and dispositions by the City, but only as to appraisals and other value estimates and strategy for the acquisition or disposition of such rights or property; and
- Consultation with an attorney representing the City with respect to pending litigation. Pending litigation shall include cases in which a lawsuit is actually commenced, and any situations where the person requesting the executive session believes in good faith that a lawsuit may result. The Council may discuss settlement strategies in an executive session.

The topics allowed under Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4) include:

- The purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale of any real, personal, or other property interest; except that no executive session shall be held for the purpose of concealing the fact that a member of the local public body has a personal interest in such purchase, acquisition, lease, transfer, or sale;
- Conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice on specific legal questions. Mere presence or participation of an attorney at the executive session of the local public body is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements;
- Matters required to be kept confidential by federal or state law or rules and regulations. The local public body shall announce the specific citations of the statutes or rules that are the basis for such confidentiality before holding the

executive session;

- Specialized details of security arrangements or investigations, including defenses against terrorism, both domestic and foreign, and including where disclosure of the matters discussed might reveal information that could be used for the purposes of committing, or avoiding persecutions for, a violation of the law;
- Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators;
- Personnel matters except if the employee who is the subject of the session has requested an open meeting, or if the personnel matter involves more than one employee, all of the employees have requested an open meeting. This section does not apply to discussions concerning any member of the local public body, any elected official, or the appointment of a person to fill the office of a member of the local public body or an elected official or to discussions of personnel policies that do not require the discussion of matters personal to particular employees.;
- Consideration of any documents protected by the mandatory nondisclosure provisions of the "Colorado Open Records Act", part 2 of article 72 of this title; except that all consideration of documents or records that are work product as defined in section 24-72-202(6.5) or that are subject to the governmental or deliberative process privilege shall occur in a public meeting unless and executive session is otherwise allowed pursuant to this subsection [24-6-402].

Ordinance No. 1929, Series 2026 proposes amending the Charter to align Executive Session topics with the State's topics.

Ordinance No. 1930, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Concerning the Date on Which the Mayor and Council members Take Office Following an Election

Section 3-4(b) of the Charter currently states, "The Mayor and each Council member shall take office at the first regular meeting of the Council following their election..." This is prior to results being certified and may be problematic for races that may be too tight to immediately call. Staff surveyed 17 other municipalities based on their proximity to Louisville, their similar population size, and/or their utilization for guidance during the Comprehensive Plan Process. Those municipalities are: Superior, Fruita, Frederick, Firestone, Durango, Golden, Johnstown, Montrose, Evans, Fountain, Lafayette, Wheat Ridge, Erie, Broomfield, Longmont, Boulder, and Ft. Collins. Of those municipalities surveyed, 11 of the 17 wait until after election certification, or longer, to seat elected officials.

Ordinance No. 1930, Series 2026 proposes amending the Charter to state that the Mayor and each council member shall take office at the first regular meeting following certification of municipal election results.

Ordinance No. 1931, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Changing the Number of Signatures Required for Initiatives and Referendums

Section 7-1(c) — Initiatives — currently requires petitioners to obtain signatures equal to 5% of the total number of electors of the City's registered voters. Staff surveyed 17 other municipalities based on their proximity to Louisville, their similar population size, and/or their utilization for guidance during the Comprehensive Plan Process. Those municipalities are: Superior, Fruita, Frederick, Firestone, Durango, Golden, Johnstown, Montrose, Evans, Fountain, Lafayette, Wheat Ridge, Erie, Broomfield, Longmont, Boulder, and Ft. Collins. The average percentage of signatures needed for an initiative is 10%.

Section 7-2(c) — Referendums — currently requires petitioners to obtain signatures equal to 2.5% of the total number of electors of the City's registered voters. Staff surveyed the 17 previously noted municipalities and the average percentage of signatures needed for an initiative is 8.5%.

As of July 6, 2026, there were 16,203 Active Registered Voters in the City of Louisville. The table below shows how the proposed increase would impact the number of signatures required.

	Current Signatures Required	Proposed Signatures Required	Difference
Initiative	810 (5%)	1215 (7.5%)	405
Referendum	405 (2.5%)	810 (5%)	405

Ordinance No. 1931, Series 2026 proposes amending the Charter to increase the number of signatures needed for an initiative to 7.5% and the number of signatures needed for a referendum to 5%.

Ordinance No. 1932, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter Concerning Locations for Public Meetings

At Council's direction, staff researched possible changes to City meeting locations. Section 4-5(d) states that "all meetings of any public body shall occur in public buildings and public facilities accessible to all members of the public." This addition was added by the approved Initiative on 11/02/2004. While well-intentioned, this has been problematic as it restricts public meetings from being held in other accessible venues or allowing Council to have joint meetings in neighboring municipalities. Staff surveyed 17 other municipalities based on their proximity to Louisville, their similar population size, and/or their utilization for guidance during the Comprehensive Plan Process. Those municipalities are: Superior, Fruita, Frederick, Firestone, Durango, Golden, Johnstown, Montrose, Evans, Fountain, Lafayette, Wheat Ridge, Erie, Broomfield, Longmont, Boulder, and Ft. Collins.

Of those municipalities surveyed, the location of meetings are set by ordinance,

resolution, or some other means.

Ordinance No. 1932, Series 2026 proposes amending the Charter to allow public bodies to approve additional locations for meetings.

Ordinance No. 1933, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter to Require a Review and Comment Period for Initiated Ordinances and Charter Amendments

The change will require petitioners to attend a session with the City Manager and Staff, in a public meeting, concerning the proposed submission as to format and/or contents — prior to submission to the City Clerk. Petitioners may revise the text in response to the questions / comments posed by the City, but are not required to. If revisions are made, the revised draft with changes highlighted or otherwise noted, and a "clean" version will be submitted to the City Clerk for consideration of approval as to form. This will not guarantee approval of the 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. For reference, please see the City and County of Denver [Charter](#) and [Municipal Code](#) regarding their Review and Comment Process.

Ordinance No. 1933, Series 2026 proposes submitting initiative or Charter amendment language to the City Manager for Review and Comment at a public meeting.

Ordinance No. 1934, Series 2026 — An Ordinance Amending the City Charter to Update and Clarify Terminology

- Update language in Sections 4-14(b) and 11-4(b) to remove references to "city offices" and replace them with "the City's Website and in the City Clerk's Office."
- Staff recommends changing "Citizen" to "Resident" throughout the Charter (15 occurrences)
- Staff recommends changing "he/she" to "they" (4 occurrences) and "his/her" with "their" (9 occurrences)

The table below shows the Charter Amendment topic and the corresponding Proposed Ballot Title that voters would see on the November 2026 Ballot.

Charter Amendment Topic	Proposed Ballot Title
Executive Session Topics	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Authorize the City Council and Other Public Bodies to Convene Executive Sessions for the Purpose of Considering any Matter Authorized by the Colorado Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. § 24-6-401, et

	seq., as Amended, Thereby Expanding the Topics for Executive Session Currently permitted Under the Charter?
Concerning the Date the Mayor and Council members Take Office	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Provide that the Mayor and Each Council member Shall Take Office at the First Regular Council Meeting Following Certification of the Election Results, as Opposed to the First Meeting Following the Election?
Signatures Required for Initiatives & Referendums	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Increase the Number of Signatures Required for Initiative Petitions from 5 Percent to 7.5 Percent of Registered Electors and to Increase the Number of Signatures Required for Referendum Petitions from 2.5 Percent to 5 Percent of Registered Electors?
Locations for Public Meetings	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Allow the City's Public Bodies to Hold Public Meetings in Locations Other Than Public Buildings and Public Facilities?
Review and Comment Period for Initiatives & Charter Amendments	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter be Amended to Require Proponents of an Initiated Ordinance or Charter Amendment to First Submit the Text of the Initiated Measure to the City Manager for Review and Comment at a Public Meeting, Subject to the Limitation that City Staff Shall Not Have the Authority to Require any Amendment, Modification, or Other Alteration to the Text of the Proposed Measure, or to Impose Additional Procedural Requirements on the Proponent?
Update and Clarify Terminology	Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter be Amended to Remove Gendered Pronouns, to Replace References to "Citizen" with "Resident", and to Replace References to "City Offices" with "City Clerk's Office and City Website"?

Council Work Plan:

Potential ballot questions are part of Council's 2026 Work Plan under Core Services.

Fiscal Impact:

Funding / resources for this item have been fully budgeted, and no amendment is required.

The Election budget for 2026 is \$110,000.

The number of questions included on the November 3, 2026 ballot will determine the fiscal impact of this Special Election. Staff estimates the cost to be between \$7,500 and \$80,000.

Alternatives:

1. Council may pass on first reading all or some of the proposed Charter amendments, as written.
2. Council may also amend and pass on first reading all or some of the proposed Charter amendments.
3. Council may decide not to pass some or all of the Charter amendments on first reading.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends passing Ordinance Nos. 1929, 1930, 1931, 1932, 1933, and 1934 on first reading and set the public hearing for July 21, 2026.

Attachments:

1. Ordinance No. 1929, Series 2026 - Executive Sessions
2. Ordinance No. 1930, Series 2026 - Take Office Timing
3. Ordinance No. 1931, Series 2026 - Initiative and Referendum Signatures
4. Ordinance No. 1932, Series 2026 - Meeting locations
5. Ordinance No. 1933, Series 2026 - Review and Comment Period
6. Ordinance No. 1934, Series 2026 - Language
7. Charter Amendment Presentation

**ORDINANCE NO. 1929
SERIES 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER CONCERNING THE
AUTHORIZED TOPICS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSIONS AND PROVIDING FOR THE
SUBMISSION OF THE ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS
AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, Sections 5-2 and 10-2(g) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter provide a list of authorized topics that may be discussed in executive session, which is substantially narrower than the list of authorized topics allowed to be discussed in executive session pursuant to the State open meetings law; and

WHEREAS, these limitations have, at times, led to significant challenges to City staff in properly advising and informing City Council on topics that may be premature to discuss in an open meeting; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment to change the list of authorized topics for executive sessions to align with State open meetings law.

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

Section 1. Section 5-2 of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-2. Executive Sessions - Authorized Topics.

An executive session may be convened for the purpose of considering any matter authorized by the Colorado Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. § 24-6-401, et seq., as amended.

~~Topics which may be discussed in an executive session shall be limited to the following:~~

~~(a) Matters where the information being discussed is required to be kept confidential by federal or state law;~~

~~(b) Personnel matters involving the dismissal, demotion, discipline or review of the performance of employees directly appointed by the Council,~~

~~consideration of complaints or charges against employees appointed directly by the Council, and other personnel matters only upon request of the City Manager or Mayor for informational purposes only;~~

~~(c) Consideration of water rights and real property acquisitions and dispositions by the City, but only as to appraisals and other value estimates and strategy for the acquisition or disposition of such rights or property; and~~

~~(d) Consultation with an attorney representing the City with respect to pending litigation. Pending litigation shall include cases in which a lawsuit is actually commenced, and any situation where the person requesting the executive session believes in good faith that a lawsuit may result. The Council may discuss settlement strategies in an executive session.~~

Section 2. Section 10-2(g) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted stricken):

Section 10-2. Boards and Commissions - General.

(g) No board or commission, or task force or committee, shall hold any executive session except in accordance with procedures which shall be consistent with those established in Section 5-3, ~~and only for pending litigation, as described in Section 5-2(d).~~ An executive session may be convened for the purpose of considering any matter authorized by the Colorado Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. § 24-6-401, et seq., as amended.

Section 3. The Charter amendments provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 4. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote "yes" in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY COUNCIL AND OTHER PUBLIC BODIES TO CONVENE EXECUTIVE SESSIONS FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONSIDERING ANY MATTER AUTHORIZED BY THE COLORADO OPEN MEETINGS LAW, C.R.S. § 24-6-401, ET SEQ., AS AMENDED, THEREBY EXPANDING THE TOPICS FOR EXECUTIVE SESSIONS CURRENTLY PERMITTED UNDER THE CHARTER?

Section 5. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City

Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 6. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED
PUBLISHED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY
COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 1930
SERIES 2026**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER CONCERNING THE DATE ON WHICH THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS TAKE OFFICE FOLLOWING AN ELECTION AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, Section 3-4(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter provides that the Mayor and Councilmembers shall take office at the first meeting following their elections; and

WHEREAS, election results are not final until they have been certified in accordance with State law, which shall occur no later than twenty-two days after the election pursuant to the Uniform Election Code of 1992; and

WHEREAS, it is increasingly taking longer for election results to be certified for reasons related to increased voter turnout, the use of mail ballots, and requirements relating to military and overseas voting; and

WHEREAS, in many circumstances, the election results will not be certified by Council's first meeting following the election; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment providing that the Mayor and Councilmembers shall take office following certification of election results, as opposed to the first meeting following the election.

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

Section 1. Section 3-4(b) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 3-4. Term of Office; Time of Taking Office; Oath.

(b) The Mayor and each Councilmember shall take office at the first regular meeting of the Council following their election certification of the election results, and shall continue in office until their successors have been elected and

take office, or a vacancy is earlier established.

Section 2. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 3. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote “yes” in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO PROVIDE THAT THE MAYOR AND EACH COUNCILMEMBER SHALL TAKE OFFICE AT THE FIRST REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS, AS OPPOSED TO THE FIRST MEETING FOLLOWING THE ELECTION?

Section 4. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 5. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED
PUBLISHED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 1931
SERIES 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER CHANGING THE NUMBER OF
SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR INITIATIVES AND REFERENDUMS AND
PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE
REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, Section 7-1(c) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter requires an initiative petition to be signed by 5 percent of City's registered electors; and

WHEREAS, Section 7-2(c) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter requires a referendum petition to be signed by 2.5 percent of City's registered electors; and

WHEREAS, these signature requirements are lower than the signature requirements in many other Colorado municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment that would increase the signature requirements to 7.5 percent for initiative petitions and 5 percent for referendum petitions.

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

Section 1. Section 7-1(c) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 7-1. Initiative.

(c) An initiative petition shall be signed by registered electors of the City equal in number to at least seven and one-half (7.5) percent ~~five (5) percent~~ of the total number of electors of the City registered to vote as of the date established by the State statutes for determining such percentage.

Section 2. Section 7-2(c) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 7-2. Referendum.

(c) A referendum petition shall be signed by registered electors of the City equal in number to at least five (5) percent ~~two and one-half (2-1/2) percent~~ of the total number of electors of the City registered to vote as of the date established by the State statutes for determining such percentage.

Section 3. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 4. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote “yes” in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR INITIATIVE PETITIONS FROM 5 PERCENT TO 7.5 PERCENT OF REGISTERED ELECTORS AND TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED FOR REFERENDUM PETITIONS FROM 2.5 PERCENT TO 5 PERCENT OF REGISTERED ELECTORS?

Section 5. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 6. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED
PUBLISHED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 1932
SERIES 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER CONCERNING LOCATIONS
FOR PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE
ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER
3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, Section 4-5(d) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter was amended in 2004 to provide that all meetings of any public body shall occur in public buildings and public facilities accessible to members of the public; and

WHEREAS, while the amendment was well-intentioned, it has restricted public meetings from being held in other accessible venues and has made it difficult for City Council and other public bodies to have joint meetings in neighboring municipalities; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment that would allow public bodies to approve additional locations at which public meetings may be held.

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

Section 1. Section 4-5(d) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined):

Section 4-5. Meetings to be Public.

(d) All meetings of any public body shall occur in public buildings and public facilities accessible to all members of the public or in such other locations approved by the public body.

Section 2. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 3. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote "yes" in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO ALLOW THE CITY'S PUBLIC BODIES TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS IN LOCATIONS OTHER THAN PUBLIC BUILDINGS AND PUBLIC FACILITIES?

Section 4. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 5. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED PUBLISHED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF _____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET, LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 1933
SERIES 2026**

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER TO REQUIRE A REVIEW AND COMMENT PERIOD FOR INITIATED ORDINANCES AND CHARTER AMENDMENTS AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE ORDINANCE TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026 SPECIAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, Article 7 and Section 2-5 of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter, respectively, set forth procedures for submitting an initiated ordinance and Charter amendment; and

WHEREAS, City staff has recommended the addition of an additional procedural step requiring the proponents of an initiated ordinance or Charter amendment to first submit the text of the initiated measure to the City Manager for review and comment at a public meeting; and

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment to require a review and comment period for initiated ordinances and Charter amendments.

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

Section 1. Article 7 of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended by the addition of a new Section 7-10 to read as follows:

Section 7-10. Review and comment procedures for initiated ordinances and Charter amendments.

Prior to submitting the form of petition for an initiated ordinance or Charter amendment to the City Clerk, the proponents of the initiated measure shall submit the text of the proposed initiated ordinance or Charter amendment to the City Manager for review and comment. No later than ten (10) business days after submission of the draft text, unless withdrawn by the proponents, the City Manager, the Manager's designee, or other City staff designated by the City Manager shall provide their comments on the proposed measure to the proponents at a meeting open to the public. Where appropriate, such comments may contain suggested editorial changes concerning the format or substance of the draft text, but City staff shall not have the authority to require any amendment,

modification, or other alteration to the text of the proposed measure, or to impose additional procedural requirements on the proponents.

Section 2. Section 2-5 of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined):

Section 2-5. Amendments to the Charter.

This Charter may be amended in the manner provided in the State Constitution and the State statutes pertaining to home rule charter amendments. Proceedings to amend the Charter may be initiated by:

(a) A petition meeting the requirements of the State statutes; provided however, the petition proponents shall first comply with the review and comment procedures provided for in Section 7-10 of this Charter; or

(b) An ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City.

Section 3. The Charter amendments provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 4. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote "yes" in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO REQUIRE PROPONENTS OF AN INITIATED ORDINANCE OR CHARTER AMENDMENT TO FIRST SUBMIT THE TEXT OF THE INITIATED MEASURE TO THE CITY MANAGER FOR REVIEW AND COMMENT AT A PUBLIC MEETING, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATION THAT CITY STAFF SHALL NOT HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE ANY AMENDMENT, MODIFICATION, OR OTHER ALTERATION TO THE TEXT OF THE PROPOSED MEASURE, OR TO IMPOSE ADDITIONAL PROCEDURAL REQUIREMENTS ON THE PROPONENT?

Section 5. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 6. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED
PUBLISHED THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE ____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY
COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS ____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney

**ORDINANCE NO. 1934
SERIES 2026**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CITY CHARTER TO UPDATE AND CLARIFY
TERMINOLOGY AND PROVIDING FOR THE SUBMISSION OF THE ORDINANCE
TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026
SPECIAL ELECTION**

WHEREAS, Section 2-5(b) of the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter allows the City Council to initiate a Charter amendment by ordinance, approved by at least two-thirds (2/3) of the entire Council, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that it should refer to the voters at the November 3, 2026 special election a Charter amendment that would remove gendered pronouns, replace references to “citizen” with “resident,” and replace references to “City offices” with “City Clerk’s office and City website.”

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

Section 1. Section 3-3(b) of the City’s Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 3-3. Mayor and Councilmembers—Qualifications.

(b) Each Councilmember shall be a registered elector of the City who has resided in their ~~his or her~~ respective ward for at least twelve (12) consecutive months immediately preceding the election. If the boundaries of the ward are changed pursuant to Section 6-4 or as a result of annexation, residence for the prescribed time period, within territory added to the ward, shall be deemed to meet the residency requirements for the ward to which the territory was added.

Section 2. Section 4-3(d) of the City’s Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 4-3. Study Sessions.

(d) At any study session, any member of the public who in good faith believes that a study session is proceeding in violation of subsection (c) of this Section shall be entitled to submit a brief written objection to the official presiding over the study session; the written objection shall specify the ground for the objection. The presiding official shall exercise their ~~his or her~~ discretion in determining whether the study session is in compliance with this Section, and shall conduct the study session in accordance with that determination. The City may

adopt laws or regulations, consistent with this Section, to prevent the abuse of this subsection (d).

Section 3. Section 4-11(g) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 4-11. Non-Emergency Ordinances—Adoption Procedure.

The following procedure shall be followed in adopting any ordinance except an emergency ordinance:

(g) Upon final adoption, the ordinance shall be published either in full or by title only, as the Council may direct; however, if the ordinance is amended prior to final adoption and is published by title only, the amendment shall be published in full. If published by title, the ordinance shall contain a notice that copies of the full ordinance are available at the City Clerk's office and on the City website City offices.

Section 4. Section 4-14(b) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 4-14. Adoption of Codes by Reference.

(b) Every ordinance adopting a code by reference shall contain a notice that copies of the code are available at the City Clerk's office and on the City website City offices.

Section 5. Section 4-16 of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 4-16. Open Government Policy.

(a) Each Councilmember and each member of a permanent board or commission shall participate in at least one City-sponsored open government-related seminar, workshop or other program at least once every two years. Such program shall 14 provide information on at least these topics relating to municipal government: the theories and policies underlying and laws relating to ethics, open government, open meetings, open records, and promoting resident ~~citizen~~ participation in municipal government.

(b) The City shall publish and update a pamphlet or other summary of Articles 4 and 5 of this Charter, and other laws relating to resident ~~citizen~~ participation in municipal government. The pamphlet or summary shall be provided to each member of a public body at its first meeting of the calendar year, and shall be made freely available to residents ~~citizens~~ on the City's web site, City Hall, City Library and other public places, and at meetings of public bodies.

Section 6. Section 5-3(b) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-3. Executive Sessions - Procedures.

(b) The request to go into an executive session shall be made in an open session at a regular or special meeting of the Council. The requesting party shall give as detailed and specific a statement as possible, using their ~~his or her~~ best judgment to avoid disclosure of any confidential matters, as to the topic or topics to be discussed and the reasons for requesting an executive session.

Section 7. Sections 5-5(a) and (f) of the City's Home Rule Charter are hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-5. Public Records.

(a) The provisions of this Charter relating to open records shall be liberally construed with State open records laws to promote the prompt disclosure of City records to residents ~~citizens~~ at no cost or no greater than the actual cost to the City. The City shall strictly construe exceptions provided under the State statutes authorizing certain public records to be exempt from disclosure to the public.

(f) Any letter, memo, map, drawing, plan or other document that is not an agenda-related material or contained in a communications file and that is submitted to the City Council or Planning Commission during a meeting shall be immediately made available to the public either by making copies available to the public at the meeting or by displaying the document at the meeting so that the public can view the document. No discussion or consideration of such a document by the public body shall occur unless the document has been made available to the public as provided in this subsection (f). Whenever feasible, the City shall cause such documents to be displayed so that residents ~~citizens~~ observing Council or Planning Commission meetings on television can view the documents.

Section 8. Sections 5-9(f), (i), (n), and (p) of the City's Home Rule Charter are hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-9. Code of Ethics - Standards.

(f) No officer, public body member, or employee shall use for personal or private gain, or for any other personal or private purposes, any information which is not available to the public and which is obtained by reason of their ~~his or her~~ position with the City, or disclose any such information except as required by law or for City purposes.

(i) No officer, public body member, or employee shall request or direct the use of an employee's working time for the City, and no employee shall use their ~~his or her~~ working time for the City, for personal or private purposes.

(n) A member of a public body may appear on behalf of a business entity before the City Council or before a public body other than the public body of which ~~he or she is~~ they are a member, so long as the appearance does not concern any matter that has or may come before the public body of which ~~he or she is~~ they are a member.

(p) No officer or public body member shall offer or promise to give their ~~his or her~~ vote or influence in favor of or against any proposed official action in consideration or upon condition that any other officer, public body member, will promise or assent to give their ~~his or her~~ vote or influence in favor of or against any other proposed official action.

Section 9. Section 5-11(a)(4) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-11. Code of Ethics - Filing of Financial Disclosure Statement.

(a)(4) A sworn or verified statement signed by the person, under penalty of perjury, stating that to the best of the person's knowledge, information, and belief, the person has provided, accurately and completely, all of the information required by the disclosure form in compliance with the Code of Ethics. The statement shall contain:

(A) An acknowledgment that, for the purposes of Sections 5-9 and 5-10, the person is deemed to have an interest in their ~~his or her~~ own financial affairs, and in that of the person's spouse and other relatives as specified in the Code of Ethics; and

(B) An acknowledgment that, for the purposes of Sections 5-9 and 5-10, the person understands that they ~~he or she~~ must disclose such an interest pursuant to Section 5-10 and comply with the non-participation provisions thereof, and that it is a violation of the Code of Ethics to fail to file the statement within the time required herein; and

(C) Such additional information as the person making the disclosure desires.

Section 10. Section 5-12(b)(2) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-12. Code of Ethics - Enforcement.

(b)(2) The person makes a complaint or knowingly causes the transmission of a complaint to the City Prosecutor pretending to furnish information relating to a violation of Sections 5-9 through 5-11 when the person knows that they have ~~he or she has~~ no such information or knows that the information is false.

Section 11. Section 5-18(e) of the City's Home Rule Charter is hereby amended to read as follows (words to be added underlined; words to be deleted ~~stricken~~):

Section 5-18. Notices and Agendas

(e) At any non-emergency meeting of a public body, any member of the public who in good faith believes that a meeting is proceeding in violation of subsection (c) of this Section shall be entitled to submit a brief written objection to the official presiding over the meeting; the written objection shall specify the ground for the objection. The presiding official shall exercise their ~~his or her~~ discretion in determining whether the meeting is in compliance with this Section, and shall conduct the meeting in accordance with that determination. The written objection shall be retained permanently in the records of the City. The City may adopt laws or regulations, consistent with this Section, to prevent the abuse of this subsection (e).

Section 12. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors at the November 3, 2026 special municipal election to determine whether the amendment shall take effect.

Section 13. The Charter amendment provided for herein shall not take effect unless and until a majority of the registered voters voting at the November 3, 2026 special election vote "yes" in response to the following ballot title, in substantially the form set forth below:

SHALL THE CITY OF LOUISVILLE HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED TO REMOVE GENDERED PRONOUNS, TO REPLACE REFERENCES TO "CITIZEN" WITH "RESIDENT," AND TO REPLACE REFERENCES TO "CITY OFFICES" WITH "CITY CLERK'S OFFICE AND CITY WEBSITE?"

Section 14. If any article, section, paragraph, sentence, clause, or phrase of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of the remaining portions of this ordinance. The City Council hereby declares that it would have passed this ordinance and each part or parts hereof irrespective of the fact that any one part or parts be declared unconstitutional or invalid.

Section 15. All other ordinances or portions thereof inconsistent or conflicting with this Ordinance, or any portion hereof, are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency or conflict.

**INTRODUCED, READ, PASSED ON FIRST READING AND ORDERED
PUBLISHED THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

**PUBLIC HEARING AND SECOND READING WILL BE THE _____ DAY OF
_____, 2026, AT 6:00 P.M. AT LOUISVILLE CITY HALL, 749 MAIN STREET,
LOUISVILLE, CO 80027.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

**PASSED AND ADOPTED, BY AT LEAST TWO-THIRDS OF THE ENTIRE CITY
COUNCIL, ON SECOND AND FINAL READING, THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2026.**

Christopher M. Leh, Mayor

ATTEST:

Genny Kline, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

KELLY PC

By: _____
Melinda Culley, Deputy City Attorney



Potential Ballot Questions – Charter Amendments 1st Reading

July 14, 2026

Genny Kline, City Clerk

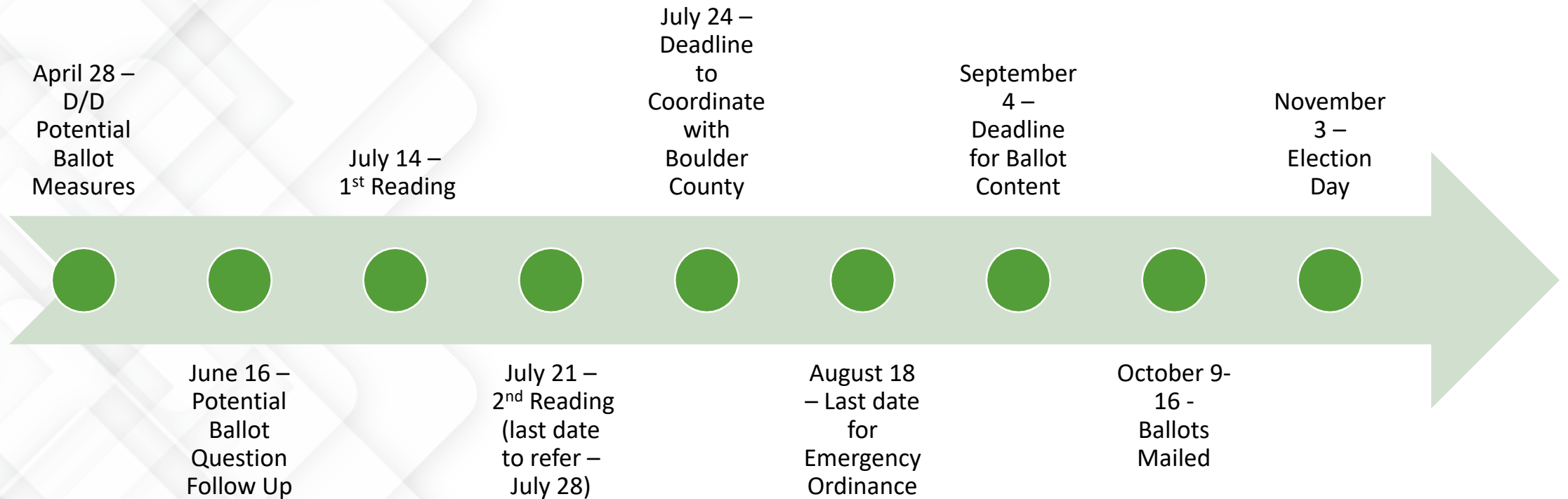
Purpose

To provide direction to staff on potential 2026 ballot questions amending the City of Louisville's Home Rule Charter.

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
- April 28, 2026 – Council gave Staff direction to return to with proposed ballot measures (Historic Preservation Tax, Charter Amendments)
- June 16, 2026 – Council instructed Staff to return with Ordinances for all six proposed Charter Amendments

Timeline – Ballot Measures



Ballot Considerations

- 2026 Election
 - Propose coordinating with Boulder County
 - At the June 16 meeting Council asked about the number of ballot questions from the State and the County
 - As of July 8, there will be 7 state ballot measures (6 initiated and 1 referred)
 - There is one additional measure in signature review with a deadline of 8/31
 - There are 21 petitions authorized to circulate with a deadline of 8/3
 - Boulder County – possibly 2 questions
 - Increasing the number of commissioners from 3 to 5 – deadline of 7/16 to submit petition
 - Childcare District (a property tax to fund childcare) – Public Hearing 7/23

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

Municipalities Surveyed

- At Council's request from the April 28, 2026 meeting, the Clerk expanded the scope of surveyed municipalities from those neighboring Louisville to include those of similar size. Municipalities that were used as reference for the Comprehensive Plan were also included.
- Those municipalities include: Superior, Fruita, Frederick, Firestone, Durango, Golden, Johnstown, Montrose, Evans, Fountain, Lafayette, Wheat Ridge, Erie, Broomfield, Longmont, Boulder and Ft. Collins.
- These responses were used to frame the recommendations for the following proposed Charter amendments:
 - Timing of when newly elected council members / mayor take office
 - Initiative / referendum signature requirements
 - Meeting locations

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1929 - Executive Session Authorized Topics
 - Align the City's Executive Session Topics with those allowed under Colorado State Statute 24-6-402(4)
 - Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter be Amended to Authorize the City Council and Other Public Bodies to Convene Executive Sessions for the Purposed of Considering Any Matter Authorized by the Colorado Open Meetings Law, C.R.S. § 24-6-401, et seq., as Amended, Thereby Expanding the Topics for Executive Sessions Currently Permitted Under the Charter?

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1930 - The Date on Which the Mayor and Council Members Take Office
 - Currently the Charter states members shall take office the first regular meeting following their election.
 - 11 of the 17 survey municipalities wait until after the election is certified, or longer, to seat elected officials.
- Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Provide that the Mayor and Each Council member Shall Take Office at the First Regular Council Meeting Following Certification of the Election Results, as Opposed to the First Meeting Following the Election?

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1931 - Initiative and Referendum Signature Requirements

- Current - 5% of voters for an initiative and 2.5% for a referendum
- Average of surveyed municipalities – 10% for initiative & 8.5% for referendum

	Current Signatures Required	Proposed Signatures Required	Difference
Initiative	810 (5%)	1215 (7.5%)	405
Referendum	405 (2.5%)	810 (5%)	405

- Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Increase the Number of Signatures for Initiative Petitions from 5 Percent to 7.5 Percent of Registered Electors and to Increase the Number of Signatures Required for Referendum Petitions from 2.5 Percent to 5 Percent of Registered Electors?

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1932 - Locations for Public Meetings
 - Currently Council and boards / commissions are limited to holding meetings in public buildings and public facilities.
 - This restricts Council and boards from holding meetings in other accessible venues or to have joint meetings in neighboring municipalities.
- Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Allow the City's Public Bodies to Hold Public Meetings in Locations other than Public Buildings and Public Facilities?

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1933 - Review and Comment Period for Resident Initiatives
 - Will require petitioners to attend a session with the City Manager and staff concerning the proposed initiative as to form and/or contents prior to submission to the City Clerk.
 - Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter Be Amended to Require Proponents of an Initiated Ordinance or Charter Amendment to First Submit the Text of the Initiated Measure to the City Manager for Review and Comment at a Public Meeting, Subject to the Limitation that City Staff Shall Not Have the Authority to Require Any Amendment, Modification, or Other Alteration to the Text of the Proposed Measure, or to Impose Additional Procedural Requirements on the Proponent?

Proposed Amendments

- Ordinance No. 1934 - Update and Clarify Terminology
 - This proposal will update language and make clarifications to locations in the Charter.
 - Proposed Ballot Title: Shall the City of Louisville Home Rule Charter be Amended to Remove Gendered Pronouns, to Replace References to “Citizen” with Resident”, and to Replace References to “City Offices” with “City Clerk’s Office and City Website”?

Recommendations

- Consider prioritizing
 - Executive Session alignment with Colorado Open Meetings Law
 - Elected Officials taking office to align with current election practices
 - Initiative and referendum requirements

Alternatives:

- Council may progress with some or all for the 2026 ballot
- Council may delay for future ballots



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Subject: Upcoming Agenda Items & Identification of New Ones — July 15, 2026 to October 31, 2026
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: July 14, 2026

Prepared By: Genny Kline, City Clerk

Presented By: Diana Langley, City Manager

Summary:

Staff requests the City Council review the upcoming Council agenda items for the next three months, provide feedback, and suggest any additional topics for consideration.

Background / Prior Discussions:

This item is one of the results of a 2025 City Council Workshop. Council has reviewed the next three-month agenda items on a monthly basis since October 14, 2025.

Development Proposal:

N/A

Analysis:

The attached list details upcoming agenda items forecasted by staff for the Council meetings scheduled through the end of September. This list includes the name of the agenda item, presenter, a brief description of the item, high-level budget impact, board / commission involvement, and if the item is quasi-judicial. While the timing of items may shift, the list reflects staff's best current estimate of when topics will be presented to Council.

Council Work Plan:

This item supports Council's Work Plan by enhancing transparency, improving meeting preparation, and fostering proactive agenda planning.

Fiscal Impact:

Not applicable. There is no fiscal / budget impact for this item.

Alternatives:

1. Change the frequency of how often the list is reviewed by Council (e.g., quarterly instead of monthly). This may reduce administrative workload, but limit responsiveness.
2. Change how far out the list forecasts agenda items.

Recommendation:

Review upcoming Council agenda items for the next three months, provide feedback and suggest any additional topics for consideration.

Attachments:

1. Agenda Forecast

City Council Agenda Forecast

*All dates and items are tentative and subject to change.
This is not a comprehensive list of all items that will be on a Council Agenda.*

DATE		DEPT.	ITEM	DESCRIPTION	BUDGET	STAFF
July 21 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent	CMO	Development Code CEO Impact Grant	A grant from the Colorado Energy Office in the amount of \$340K to align the Development Code update with the State's Climate Action Plan.		Hannah Miller
		Public Works	Generator Replacement	Emergency Backup Generator Implementation Project		Taylor McCauley Kurt Kowar
		CMO	Joint Agreement Between City of Louisville and Boulder ODM	IGA to join Boulder ODM	Budgeted \$214,000	Diana Langley
		CMO	Marshall Fire Fee Refund Program – Wildfire Mitigation Fund			Diana Langley
		Public Works	Revocable License Agreement	Revocable License Agreement on Tract I at Redtail Ridge Filing 1	N/A	Cameron Fowlkes
		Public Works	Agreement Approval	Recreation Center Family Locker Room Flooring Replacement – Project scheduled 8/17-23	Budgeted	Kevin Frey Kurt Kowar
		PROS	Parks and Recreation Month Proclamation		N/A	
	Regular	PROS	2026 Colorado Lottery Starburst Award Presentation	Award presentation from the Colorado Lottery for the Sunflower Park and Enclave Park rebuilds.	N/A	Bryon Weber Adam Blackmore CO Lottery Rep
		CMO	Tentative: Historic Preservation Sales Tax – 2 nd Reading	Refer ballot measure regarding the Historic Preservation Sales Tax	N/A	Diana Langley Samma Fox
		CMO / Clerk's Office	Tentative: Charter Amendments – 2 nd Reading	Refer ballot measures regarding Charter amendments	Budgeted \$110,000	Genny Kline Samma Fox
		Clerk's Office	Tentative: Calling a Special Election	Necessary if questions are being referred to the Nov. 3 ballot	N/A	Genny Kline
		Community Development	AdventHealth PUD		N/A	Matt Post

Bold Items are Quasi-Judicial

Items Highlighted in Yellow Were Added this Week

		Community Development	Centennial Valley GDP Amendment – 1 st Reading	Affordable Housing Parcel	N/A	Jeff Hirt
July 22 Special Meeting NOON		Finance	Budget Retreat			Ryder Bailey Diana Langley
July 28 Regular Meeting 6pm		Executive Session	Personnel Matter – CM and CA Reviews			
	Consent	Public Works	2026 Water Main Replacement Project			Tyler Trojan Kurt Kowar
		PROS	Toro DXi Agreement	Sole Source Agreement for Toro DXi Irrigation Controllers and Components	Budgeted	Chris Davis Adam Blackmore
		Public Works	Approve Agreement	Library Lighting – Project start 9/1	Budgeted	Kevin Frey Kurt Kowar
		Community Development	BAP Agreement with Louisville Cyclery	Amendment to original BAP agreement		Vanessa Zarate
		IT	Energov Permitting Report Conversion	Crystal Reports is retiring and it is necessary to convert all current reports to SSRS in Energov. This is critical for permits, notices, etc.	\$65,000 budget increase	Paulina Bennett
		IT	DVR Replacement - Budget Amendment	Replace servers that host video recordings from City Cameras. Required by law to keep 30 days of recordings.	\$55,000 budget increase	Paulina Bennett
		IT	VMWare 5-year Software Agreement	Software necessary for virtual servers on physical servers. This is now a subscription services with recurring annual fees – Budget Amendment	\$27,500 budget increase	Paulina Bennett
	Regular	Community Development	Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Update – 1 st Reading • Planning Commission 5/14/26	Amendments to improve effectiveness and increase the likelihood of affordable housing units being built.	N/A	Jeff Hirt Rob Zuccaro
Aug 4 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent	CMO	Private Activity Bonds Carryforward Resolution (PAB Amount - \$1,355,091)	Carryforward City's PAB allocation for an affordable housing project	N/A	Diana Langley
		CMO	Fire Smart Louisville	Budget Amendment		Diana Langley

Bold Items are Quasi-Judicial

Items Highlighted in Yellow Were Added this Week

	Regular	Community Development	Centennial Valley – 2nd Reading	GDP Amendment		
		Community Development	1008-1006 Honeysuckle – 1st Reading	Final Plat		Jess Daniels
		Community Development	Landmark Designation for 1101 Main St.			Jess Daniels
		Community Development	HP Grant Request for 700 Pine Street			Jess Daniels
		PROS	Discussion / Direction: PROS Guidebook (Long-Range Plan & Trails Plan)	Review of the DRAFT PROS Guidebook (the Long-Range Plan and Trail System Plan)		Bryon Weber Adam Blackmore
		Community Development	Trestle Strategy Final Presentation on Housing Strategic Framework			Rob Zuccaro
Aug 11 Special Meeting 6pm						
		CMO	Joint Meeting with Sustainability Advisory Board			Hannah Miller
		CMO	Upcoming Agenda Items & Identification of New Ones	Review upcoming agenda items and identify new ones for the period August 12, 2026 through November 30, 2026	N/A	Samma Fox
Aug 18 Regular Meeting 6pm (DL out)	Consent					
	Regular	Community Development	Inclusionary Housing Ordinance Update – 2 nd Reading Planning Commission 5/14/26	Amendments to improve effectiveness and increase the likelihood of affordable housing units being built.	N/A	Jeff Hirt Rob Zuccaro
		Community Development	1008-1006 Honeysuckle – 2nd Reading	Final Plat		
		Community Development	DELO Boom PUD and Plat		N/A	Matt Post
		Community Development	Award Development Code Update Contract			Jeff Hirt
Aug 25 Special Meeting 6pm		Cultural Services	Joint Meeting with Library Board of Trustees			
		Cultural Services	Resident Art Program			Brandi Cummings

Bold Items are Quasi-Judicial

Items Highlighted in Yellow Were Added this Week

Sept 1 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent	IT	Agreement with ETG Systems	Second Amendment to the Agreement – Phase 2 of door and access control devices on City Buildings	Budgeted \$372,000	Paulina Bennett
	Regular	Finance	Budget			Ryder Bailey Diana Langley
Sept 8 Special Meeting 6pm						
		Cultural Services	Joint meeting with Cultural Advisory Board		N/A	Iris Belensky Brandi Cummings
		CMO	Upcoming Agenda Items & Identification of New Ones	Review upcoming agenda items and identify new ones for the period September 9, 2026 through December 31, 2026	N/A	Samma Fox
Sept 15 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent					
	Regular					
Sept 22 Special Meeting 6pm		CMO	Discussion / Direction: Board and Commission Handbook	Council discussion and direction on the proposed Board and Commission Handbook	N/A	Samma Fox
		Cultural Services	Joint Meeting with Historic Museum Advisory Board		N/A	Gigi Yang Brandi Cummings
Oct 6 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent					
	Regular	PROS	PROS Guidebook	Adoption of the PROS Guidebook (Long-Range Plan and Trails System Plan)		Bryon Weber Adam Blackmore
		Community Development	Discussion / Direction: Short Term Rentals – Citywide		N/A	Vanessa Zarate Rob Zuccaro

Bold Items are Quasi-Judicial

Items Highlighted in Yellow Were Added this Week

Oct 13 Special Meeting 6pm		PROS	Joint Meeting with Open Space Advisory Board			
		CMO	Upcoming Agenda Items & Identification of New Ones	Review upcoming agenda items and identify new ones for the period October 14, 2026 through January 31, 2027	N/A	Samma Fox
Oct 20 Regular Meeting 6pm	Consent					
	Regular	Finance	Budget Public Hearing			Ryder Bailey Diana Langely
Oct 27 Special Meeting 6pm		Community Development	Workshop with Planning Commission		N/A	Jeff Hirt Rob Zuccaro