

CITY OF LITTLETON, COLORADO

RESOLUTION No. 49

Series, 2021

**A RESOLUTION OF THE LITTLETON CITY COUNCIL SUPPORTING
A YES VOTE ON BALLOT ISSUE 3A SEEKING VOTER APPROVAL OF
A ¾ CENT SALES AND USE TAX INCREASE TO FUND THE COSTS OF
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS IN THE CITY**

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Taxpayer’s Bill of Rights, Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution (“TABOR”) governmental entities are required to seek voter approval for any new tax increase; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Colorado Fair Campaign Practices Act, (C.R.S. § 1-45-117) the Littleton City Council may pass a resolution taking a position on any ballot issue; and

WHEREAS, earlier this spring the City began a community research and engagement project to increase the level of voter understanding of the City's Capital Projects Fund revenue crisis and provided information and sought opinions concerning solutions; and

WHEREAS, polling suggested that many resident concerns related to the conditions of streets and traffic; and

WHEREAS, the City of Littleton has a list of nearly \$100 million dollars in unfunded capital and infrastructure projects over the next 15 years; and

WHEREAS, the City's Capital Projects Fund is currently expected to reach zero in the next couple of years without significant increases in revenue or drastic cuts in spending and services; and

WHEREAS, the projected annual deficit of the Capital Projects Fund is \$6.5 million dollars each and every year; and

WHEREAS, the rising costs of repairs, replacement costs, and maintenance make continuing to defer addressing these issues both unsafe and fiscally unwise; and

WHEREAS, almost 80% of the City's revenues come solely from sales tax; and

WHEREAS, the City of Littleton has not raised its sales tax rate in over 50 years and it is among the lowest in the Denver metro area; and

WHEREAS, a ¼ cent sales tax increase amounts to 75 cents on \$100.00 in eligible purchases excluding those items already exempted by the Littleton City Code from sales tax such as groceries and medicine for home or personal consumption; and

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50 **WHEREAS**, this sales tax increase would amount to approximately \$9,750,000 in
51 additional annual revenue that would be directed to the City's Capital Projects Fund to be
52 used to fund the cost of capital improvement projects such as major street maintenance and
53 reconstruction in neighborhoods and significant corridors; Mineral & Santa Fe intersection
54 improvements; downtown streetscape and parking improvements; public works facility
55 replacement; maintenance and improvement to city-owned facility at the Littleton
56 Museum, Bemis Library, the Municipal Courthouse, Littleton Police Department, and
57 others; and
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59 **WHEREAS**, the revenues generated from the sales tax increase would be subject
60 to annual reporting of the progress of the projects and expenditures to the public as well as
61 review by a citizen review committee;
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63 **WHEREAS**, an increase in the City's sales tax would allow the City to address
64 many of these unfunded projects and leverage federal dollars and grants to the benefit of
65 Littleton residents and their visitors.
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67 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF**
68 **THE CITY OF LITTLETON, COLORADO, THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY**
69 **OF LITTLETON HEREBY SUPPORTS A "YES" VOTE ON BALLOT ISSUE 3A AND**
70 **URGES THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LITTLETON TO VOTE IN**
71 **FAVOR OF THE PROPOSED ¾ CENT SALES AND USE TAX INCREASE TO FUND**
72 **THE CITY'S CAPITAL PROJECT FUND WHICH WILL BE USED TO PAY FOR THE**
73 **COSTS OF DEFERRED AND BACKLOGED CAPITAL IMPROVMENTS PROJECTS**
74 **THROUGHOUT THE CITY.**
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77 INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED at a regularly scheduled meeting of the
78 City Council of the City of Littleton, Colorado, on the 12th day of October, 2021, at 6:30 p.m. at
79 the Littleton Center, 2255 West Berry Avenue, Littleton, Colorado.

80 ATTEST:

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83 _____
84 Colleen Norton
85 CITY CLERK

Jerry Valdes
MAYOR

86 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

87
88 _____
89 Reid Betzing
90 CITY ATTORNEY
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