

eliminating racism
empowering women

ywca

Boulder County

YOUR VOICE.

YOUR VOTE.

YOUR FUTURE.

YWCA BOULDER COUNTY 2018 BALLOT POSITIONS

The following ballot positions support our mission is to empower women and eliminate racism. We know that voting is critical to ensuring a healthy, safe, empowered future for us, our families, and our communities. Make sure you, your friends and loved ones are registered to vote, be sure to double-check your registration, and make sure to vote!

COLORADO STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES

YES on Amendment A: Removal of exception to slavery prohibition for criminals.

A yes vote supports this proposal to remove part of the Colorado Constitution that says slavery and involuntary servitude are allowable for the punishment of a crime, for instance those serving sentences in jail or prison. People of color are disproportionately incarcerated and criminalized. A yes vote would ban slavery and involuntary servitude as punishment for a crime. It's past time we banned slavery without exception.

YES on Amendment 73: Establish Income Tax Brackets and Raise Taxes for Education Initiative.

A yes vote supports the ballot initiative to establish a tax bracket system rather than a flat tax rate and raise taxes for individuals earning more than \$150,000 per year, raise the corporate income tax rate, and create the Quality Public Education Fund for preschool through 12th grade. Quality affordable preschool closes the achievement gap and economically empowers women who are often the primary caretakers for young children.

YES on Proposition 111: Limits on Payday Loan Charges Initiative.

A yes vote restricts the charges lenders make on payday loans to a yearly rate of 36% and eliminates all other finance charges and fees associated with payday lending. Women and people of color are more likely to be living in poverty and find themselves the targets of predatory lenders. With excessively high interest rates and fees, they can easily become trapped in a cycle of debt. Prop 111 provides needed limits.

BOULDER COUNTY BALLOT ISSUES

YES on County Issue 1A: Alternative Sentencing Facility and Jail Modernization Countywide Sales and Use Tax Extension

A yes vote extends an existing 0.185% countywide sales and use tax and repurposes the revenue for constructing an alternative sentencing facility at the Boulder County Jail, expanding alternative sentencing and offender management programs and inmate services, and other jail modernization projects. Men and women of color are disproportionately incarcerated at the Boulder County Jail, as they are nationwide. This five year tax extension would improve their conditions, provide needed services, offer more just and appropriate sentencing options and make better use of tax dollars.

CITY OF BOULDER BALLOT ISSUES

YES on Ballot Issue 2D: Authorize Retention of All Sugar-Sweetened Beverage Tax Revenue

A yes vote allows the City of Boulder to retain all revenues from the 2016 voter-approved sugar-sweetened beverage tax and spend them for the previously approved health equity purposes. TABOR requires that all new taxes include a stated revenue estimate, in this case provided by the citizen group that championed the original tax. TABOR also requires that any revenues exceeding the estimate must be returned to the tax paying entity, in this case the beverage distributors, unless voters authorize the taxing entity to keep it. Voting for 2D would allow the money to continue funding programs that improve nutrition education, enhance physical activity opportunities, and encourage our community to make healthier choices, especially among low-income families and children. Funding from 2D helps the YWCA Boulder County provide better nutrition and health education at Children's Alley, Boulder County's only drop-in sliding scale childcare center for 40 years.

YES on Ballot Question 2H: Charter Amendment Related to Advisory Commissions

A yes vote makes changes to the section of the City Charter that establishes the requirements for city advisory commissions. It would allow Boulder City Council to set the number of any new advisory commission as five or seven when forming the commission, as well as increasing the size of the existing Housing Advisory Board from five to seven members. It also changes the criteria for what constitutes a majority to accommodate boards of different sizes. The original charter language states that members of a commission must be "not all of one sex," thus ensuring women's participation around the turn of the century. Voting yes changes the word "sex" to "gender identity" in keeping with a modern sense of progressive inclusion. Increasing the number of members on advisory commission boards also increases the opportunity for a more diverse representation of the community at large.

CITY OF LONGMONT BALLOT ISSUES

YES on Ballot Issue 3C: Revenue for Bonds for Funding Recreation Improvements

A yes vote allows the City of Longmont to sell bonds backed by the existing sales tax rate to fund needed renovations, including ADA compliance, to the Centennial Pool as well as funding irrigation replacement and maintenance of city golf courses. Public recreational facilities are important to promoting the health of women and families in our communities. Supporting this bond measure authorizes Longmont to bond for funds without a new tax.
