



*La Plata County*  
Colorado

**To All Registered Voters:**

**Tiffany Parker**  
**La Plata County Clerk & Recorder**  
98 Everett St., Suite C, Durango, Colorado  
(970)382-6296  
[elections@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:elections@co.laplata.co.us)

**NOTICE OF ELECTION**  
**November 8, 2016 General Election**

**NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES/TO INCREASE DEBT/ON  
A CITIZEN PETITION/ON A REFERRED MEASURE.**

**This booklet contains summary statements for ballot propositions  
as required by the state of Colorado Constitution. You may not  
have all of these issues on your ballot.**

**This is not a ballot. It is election information only.**

This Notice of Election was prepared in accordance with Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution and the Colorado Uniform Election Code of 1992, as amended. The information contained in the Notice was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information. The La Plata County Clerk & Recorder does not warrant, verify, or confirm the accuracy or truth of the ballot titles, questions, text, and summaries of comments as presented, nor is the Clerk & Recorder responsible for errors in spelling, grammar, or punctuation of the materials presented.

**YOU MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON ALL ISSUES  
CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE.**

The following information is provided by the District under the provisions of the Colorado Constitution, Article X, Section 20(3) which requires the District to provide the following information:

## La Plata County

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1A:

SHALL LA PLATA COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED \$4,500,000 IN 2017 AND BY SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAY BE RAISED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER FROM A MILL LEVY OF UP TO 2.4 MILLS TO FUND COUNTY ROAD AND BRIDGE CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE, PROVIDED THAT THIS TAX INCREASE AUTHORIZATION SHALL BE FOR A 10 YEAR PERIOD ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2026; AND SHALL THE REVENUES, ANY RELATED SPECIFIC OWNERSHIP TAXES AND THE INVESTMENT EARNINGS BE COLLECTED AND SPENT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LIMITATIONS PROVIDED BY LAW?

### Total County Fiscal Year Spending

2016 (estimated)	\$ 68,071,062
2015 (actual)	\$ 53,350,320
2014 (actual)	\$ 52,104,605
2013 (actual)	\$ 50,657,841
2012 (actual)	\$ 50,157,744
Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016	35.71 %
Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016	\$ 17,913,318

### Proposed Tax Increase

County Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount  
of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2017  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1A: \$ 4,500,000

County Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$ 75,655,788\*

\*Does not include proceeds of bonded debt, lease purchase agreements or other borrowings which may occur in 2017.

## **Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 1A:**

Good, safe roads are important to all of us. They are vital to our daily lives and support our economy. La Plata County residents depend on our roads to provide safe and reliable access to schools, businesses, healthcare facilities, and residences.

Taking care of road and bridge infrastructure is an essential function of county government. Unfortunately, La Plata County's property tax revenue has fallen significantly in recent years due to declining revenue from oil and gas, preventing the Road and Bridge Department from doing needed maintenance and improvements. As a result, a growing percentage of La Plata County roads are falling into the "fair" or "poor" categories. This situation is unacceptable, especially because our community is growing, placing even greater demands on our transportation infrastructure.

Local ballot measure "1A" will address this problem and secure the safety of La Plata County roads and bridges by funding the county's 10-year Road and Bridge Capital Improvement Plan, allowing for needed improvements and ensuring that this vital infrastructure is well maintained for years to come.

In 2015, La Plata County convened a citizen advisory group called the "Fiscal Sustainability Committee." It was a diverse group charged with learning about the county's projected revenue shortfalls and making recommendations for filling the gaps. That group, by a large majority, recommended to the Board of County Commissioners that a mill levy increase be placed on the ballot.

Measure "1A" calls for a 2.4 mill levy increase that will sunset in 10 years and cannot be extended without another vote. The mill levy for La Plata County government operations is the 4th lowest among all counties in Colorado, and the average mill levy in the county when all property taxes are included (county, city, school, and special districts combined) is the 2nd lowest in the state. The proposed increase for roads and bridges means a residential property valued at \$400,000 will see an estimated tax increase of \$76 in 2017. That's only \$6.37 a month to ensure the future of our local roads and bridges.

In accordance with state law, the towns of Durango, Bayfield, and Ignacio will receive a portion of this new revenue for their local road and bridge departments.

Also, a citizen committee will be established to provide accountability and ensure that the funds are used to address critical projects across the county, including road reconstruction, paving, grading, and intersection and bridge maintenance as described in the 10-year Road and Bridge Capital Improvement Plan.

**Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 1A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1B:

SHALL LA PLATA COUNTY DEBT BE INCREASED \$40,400,000 WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF \$64,432,600 AND SHALL COUNTY TAXES BE INCREASED \$3,221,633 ANNUALLY TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF A NEW TERMINAL AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DURANGO-LA PLATA COUNTY AIRPORT TO IMPROVE SAFETY, CAPACITY AND FUNCTIONALITY; SUCH DEBT TO BE SOLD IN ONE SERIES OR MORE, FOR A PRICE ABOVE OR BELOW THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF SUCH SERIES, AND ON TERMS AND CONDITIONS AS DETERMINED BY THE COUNTY, INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR REDEMPTION OF THE DEBT PRIOR TO MATURITY WITH OR WITHOUT PAYMENT OF A PREMIUM AND A MATURITY OF NOT MORE THAN 20 YEARS FROM THE DATE OF ISSUANCE OF EACH SERIES; AND SHALL THE MILL LEVY BE SET IN EACH YEAR IN AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM, IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT OR ANY REFUNDING DEBT (OR TO CREATE A RESERVE FOR SUCH PAYMENT); AND SHALL SUCH TAX REVENUES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF THE PROCEEDS OF SUCH DEBT AND TAX REVENUES BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

## **Total County Fiscal Year Spending**

2016 (estimated)	\$ 68,071,062
2015 (actual)	\$ 53,350,320
2014 (actual)	\$ 52,104,605
2013 (actual)	\$ 50,657,841
2012 (actual)	\$ 50,157,744
Overall percentage change from 2012 to 2016	35.71 %
Overall dollar change from 2012 to 2016	\$ 17,913,318

## **Proposed Tax Increase**

County Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount  
of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2017  
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1B: \$ 3,221,633

County Estimate of 2017 Fiscal Year Spending  
Without Proposed Tax Increase: \$ 75,655,788\*

\*Does not include proceeds of bonded debt, lease purchase agreements or other borrowings which may occur in 2017.

## **Information on County's Proposed Debt**

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1B:

Principal Amount of Proposed Bonds:	Not to exceed \$40,400,000
Maximum Annual County Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$3,221,633
Total County Repayment Cost:	Not to exceed \$64,432,660

## **Information on County's Current Debt\*\***

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$ 254,215
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$ 16,888
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$ 303,969

\*\*As of December 31, 2016. Does not include enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

## **Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 1B:**

The Durango-La Plata County Airport (DRO) is a crucial element in the financial sustainability of our community, serving businesses, residents, and tourists alike. According to a recent economic impact study, it accounts directly or indirectly for about \$160 million in economic activity and 1,860 jobs in La Plata County, with additional positive impact beyond the county.

Ballot measure 1B seeks to raise funds to make needed terminal and other improvements to Durango-La Plata Airport. Built 30 years ago when 20 seat aircraft were the norm, the terminal at DRO was designed to handle a passenger load of 200,000 per year. Today the passenger load is double that. At peak times, more than a dozen locations in the facility, including apron space for aircraft, baggage handling areas, and passenger spaces, functions at deficient to failing service levels as measured by International Air Transport Association (IATA) standards. We can no longer bring in a third airline as TSA has taken over the space. Moreover, airlines are rapidly deploying 90+ seat aircraft that cannot fit on the tarmac. As a result, we are at risk of losing our current flight service and cannot add competition to help lower fares or expand destinations.

A new, larger terminal on the east side of the runway is designed to meet current passenger demand while also providing the space to grow. Renovating the existing terminal, or building next to it would cause much greater disruption during construction, would cost more over time to meet projected needs, and would fail to provide long-term flexibility. In addition, vacating the existing terminal will improve safety by separating commercial and general aviation and also provide space for redevelopment that would likely generate additional revenue for the airport.

DRO is in line for FAA grant money of \$35-\$40 million, nearly half the initial project cost. We could lose our place in line if this vote fails and have to compete for future funding with other regional airports. The remaining costs will be funded with smaller grants and borrowing of about \$40 million. Interest rates are at historically low levels, so the total repayment cost could well increase if the project is delayed.

A property tax in La Plata County is the best way to provide revenue needed to pay the debt for construction. The average homeowner will pay less than \$5 per month in additional property taxes. La Plata County has the 4th lowest county mill levy in Colorado. Businesses and second homeowners will pay more than two-thirds of the property taxes. Nevertheless, because of

the economic importance of DRO to the community, almost every major business organization and premier tourist destination strongly support this small property tax increase. By contrast, a sales tax would hurt low-income families that can least afford it. We urge you to support your community's most important asset and vote YES for Ballot measure 1B.

### **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 1B:**

The proposed new airport terminal is excessive in size, cost and scope for addressing existing problems. It is another "Bridge to Nowhere" project in the making! TSA, baggage, parking and passenger loading issues could be solved by renovation of the existing facility and expansion to the north and south ends as was envisioned in the original airport design and at a far lower cost. A realistic estimate for renovation/expansion would be \$10-\$15 million, instead of \$110 million, including interest, for phase one. The relative cost of the airport vs. other expenditures is extremely high, and the public has not been informed of cost for future planned phases.

Renovation of the current airport would be more cost effective and accomplish the major concerns outlined Ballot Proposal 1B. The Durango sewer plant (renovation and expansion at present site), County jail (remodel and construction at Redfield property in Bodo), District and Federal Courthouse (remodel of existing courthouse), main County offices (remodel of Vectra Bank property), Treasurer's Office (remodel of old Post Office) all successfully involved renovation and expansion at existing sites. This is the way to proceed at the current airport site.

There are higher priorities for La Plata County.

- Road & bridge maintenance
- School funding issues
- Bayfield – Durango corridor traffic congestion
- Durango Parking Garage
- Repair of older Durango Sewer lines

A New Airport will not solve existing problems:

- It won't generate more baggage personnel (airlines hire them).
- It won't give us more TSA personnel (Federal Govt. responsibility).
- It won't lower airline ticket prices (airlines & market set prices).
- It won't expand schedule choices (airlines & market make decision).
- It won't prevent flight delays/cancellations (demand & weather dictate this).
- It won't generate more sales tax revenue.

Most La Plata taxpayers will see no benefit. The real beneficiaries come from neighboring Colorado counties, Farmington & Aztec, FLC students, out of state tourists and the few local residents who travel frequently. The typical La Plata County property owner is asking – How much do I use the airport and was my experience that onerous? Paying increased taxes for 20+ years for a huge regional airport that benefits mostly non-county travelers is not a solution.

Cost overruns generally accompany construction projects, esp. larger projects. Few big projects come in under budget. It is likely the final price, including interest, will be over \$110 million. The airport commission should scale back their grandiose plans and propose a project addressing immediate needs, rather than asking La Plata County taxpayers to pay for exaggerated estimated needs 30 years from now. There are options to fix the parking, baggage handling and crowding only at certain times. It is worth noting Farmington's population has decreased by 8.8% from 2010 to 2015 and La Plata Airport's boardings were down 2.1 % in 2015 and 1.1% YTD in 2016. The cost is exorbitant and the uncertainty of connecting flights due to canceled local flights makes driving to Denver or Albuquerque a viable alternative.

## **Durango School District 9-R**

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A:

SHALL DURANGO SCHOOL DISTRICT 9-R TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$1.7 MILLION DOLLARS IN 2016 FOR COLLECTION IN THE 2017 CALENDAR YEAR, AND BY SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAY BE COLLECTED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY THE IMPOSITION OF A MILL LEVY WHICH GENERATES REVENUE, WHICH TOGETHER WITH THE REVENUES PRODUCED BY PREVIOUS VOTER AUTHORIZED TAX INCREASES OF THE DISTRICT UNDER 22-54-108, C.R.S., AS AMENDED, IS NOT GREATER THAN TWENTY-FIVE PERCENT OF THE DISTRICT'S TOTAL PROGRAM FUNDING PLUS SUPPLEMENTAL COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT, TO BE USED FOR GENERAL FUND PURPOSES, WHICH WILL ALLOW OUR SCHOOLS TO MAINTAIN AND INVEST IN COMMUNITY VALUED PROGRAMS WITHIN DURANGO SCHOOL DISTRICT 9-R, MOUNTAIN MIDDLE SCHOOL AND ANIMAS HIGH SCHOOL BY:

- INVESTING IN CRITICAL PROGRAMS THAT SUPPORT COLLEGE AND WORKFORCE READY GRADUATES;
- MINIMIZING INCREASED CLASS SIZES AND LOSS OF MORE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS;
- MAINTAINING OUR ABILITY TO ATTRACT, RETAIN, AND TRAIN HIGH QUALITY STAFF; AND
- ENSURING SAFE, EFFECTIVE, INNOVATIVE LEARNING ENVIRONMENTS AND INFRASTRUCTURE;

AND SHALL SUCH INCREASE BE AN ADDITIONAL PROPERTY TAX MILL LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LEVIES THE DISTRICT IS OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED BY LAW TO IMPOSE; AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN AND SPEND ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAXES AND THE EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

**Total District Fiscal Year Spending** (Not inclusive of Charter School spending)

2016-17 (Estimated)	<b>\$47,467,266</b>
2015-16 (Unaudited)	<b>\$45,745,820</b>
2014-15 (Audited)	<b>\$49,399,709</b>
2013-14 (Audited)	<b>\$49,347,698</b>
2012-13 (Audited)	<b>\$46,727,499</b>

Overall percentage change from 2012-13 to 2016-17 1.6%  
Overall dollar change from 2012-13 to 2016-17 \$739,767

**Proposed Tax Increase**

District Estimated Maximum Dollar Amount of Proposed Tax Increase for First Full Fiscal Year (2017):

BALLOT ISSUE NO. 3A: \$1,730,000

**Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 3A:**

On November 8, Durango School District 9-R voters will be able to make an important investment in our schools, our students, and our community that will pay dividends for years to come. By voting YES on 3A (mill levy override), voters will provide all our public schools (Durango School District 9-R, Mountain Middle School, and Animas High School) with much needed funding for high quality education through an investment in college and career ready programming for our students, minimizing increases in class size and further loss of programming, maintaining our ability to recruit, retain, and train our staff, and ensuring safe, effective and innovative learning environments for all our students. This can be done with a small increase in taxes paid through the "school district" portion of your property tax bill.

Since the recession began in 2010, the State of Colorado has been unable to keep up with school funding as directed by its Constitution and amendments relating to K-12 funding. This led to the creation of what is now called the "Negative Factor." This amount is an IOU to public schools that will likely never be paid. In 2016-17 alone, the school district is due \$4,748,597, based on current enrollment in the district. Among all of our public schools,

including our charter schools in Durango, this Negative Factor totals over \$37 million in lost funding since 2010 for our schools and our students.

Like all residents, the district has experienced higher costs in utilities, as well as typical inflation in costs of all products and services during this time. The district also has experienced growth in student body that has led to some growth in revenues, in addition to recent attempts by the State not to allow the annual Negative Factor to expand further. However, despite cuts in staffing and operating costs, the district is no longer able to keep up with increased costs of health insurance, retirement, special education needs of students, and goods/services. During the 2016-17 school year, through negotiations the district and its employees agreed to a salary freeze for all employees in the district to prevent further cuts.

The mill levy question (3A) will help provide Durango students with a high quality education in every school at a modest increase of approximately \$3.75 per month for a home valued at \$500,000. Our number one priority is to maintain a first class education for all students. A community's quality of education is a direct indicator on its quality of life. Durango prides itself on a wonderful community spirit, and we can help promote the quality of life for which we are known. Voting YES on 3A gives you an opportunity to make an investment in our children and our community.

### **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 3A:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

## **Bayfield School District No. 10 JT-R**

### **BALLOT ISSUE 3B:**

SHALL BAYFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 10 JT-R DEBT BE INCREASED BY \$28.7 MILLION, WITH A REPAYMENT COST OF UP TO \$51 MILLION, AND SHALL DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY UP TO \$2.1 MILLION ANNUALLY BY THE ISSUANCE AND PAYMENT OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO PROVIDE LOCAL MATCHING MONEY REQUIRED FOR THE DISTRICT TO RECEIVE APPROXIMATELY \$8.5 MILLION IN STATE GRANTS (WHICH ARE NOT REQUIRED TO BE REPAID) UNDER THE “BEST” PROGRAM TO FINANCE THE COSTS OF:

- CONSTRUCTING A NEW GRADES 3-5 ELEMENTARY SCHOOL ON DISTRICT-OWNED PROPERTY ADJACENT TO THE MIDDLE SCHOOL;
- RENOVATING AND UPDATING THE EXISTING ELEMENTARY SCHOOL TO BE USED AS A PRIMARY SCHOOL FOR GRADES K-2, INCLUDING IMPROVEMENTS TO SITE SAFETY, EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT FACILITIES, AND IMPROVEMENTS NECESSARY TO MEET THE EDUCATIONAL REQUIREMENTS OF PRIMARY AGE STUDENTS;
- IMPROVEMENTS TO SITE SAFETY AND SECURITY AT THE EXISTING MIDDLE SCHOOL; AND
- CONSTRUCTING AN ADDITION TO THE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE TO ACCOMMODATE THE DISTRICT’S TECHNOLOGY DEPARTMENT AND ADDITIONAL DISTRICT MEETING SPACE,

AND TO THE EXTENT REMAINING FUNDS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE PURPOSE OF ACQUIRING, CONSTRUCTING, REPAIRING AND IMPROVING DISTRICT CAPITAL ASSETS, WITH SUCH GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO BEAR INTEREST, MATURE, BE SUBJECT TO REDEMPTION, WITH OR WITHOUT PREMIUM, AND BE ISSUED AT SUCH TIME, AT SUCH PRICE (AT, ABOVE OR BELOW PAR) AND IN SUCH MANNER AND CONTAINING SUCH TERMS, NOT INCONSISTENT WITH THIS BALLOT ISSUE, AS THE BOARD OF EDUCATION MAY DETERMINE, WITH THE LIMITATION ON THE AMOUNT OF THE DISTRICT’S DEBT TO BE INCREASED UP TO 6%

OF THE ACTUAL VALUE OF THE TAXABLE PROPERTY IN THE DISTRICT AS ALLOWED BY §22-42-104(1)(b), C.R.S.; AND SHALL AD VALOREM PROPERTY TAXES BE LEVIED WITHOUT LIMIT AS TO THE MILL RATE TO GENERATE AN AMOUNT SUFFICIENT IN EACH YEAR TO PAY THE PRINCIPAL OF, PREMIUM IF ANY, AND INTEREST ON SUCH DEBT AND TO FUND ANY RESERVES FOR THE PAYMENT THEREOF?

**Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Fiscal Year Spending<sup>1</sup></b>
2012-2013 (actual)	\$13,400,409
2013-2014 (actual)	13,775,928
2014-2015 (actual)	13,844,986
2015-2016 (unaudited)	14,732,779
2016-2017 (current year estimated)	14,583,050

Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: 8.83%

Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five year period from 2012-2013 through 2016-2017: \$1,182,641

Estimated 2016-2017 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B: \$14,583,050

Estimated 2016-2017 tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 3B: \$2,100,000

Information regarding bonded debt proposed by Ballot Issue 3B:

Principal amount:	\$28,700,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$2,100,000
Maximum total repayment cost:	\$51,000,000

Information regarding current bonded debt:

Principal balance:	\$16,595,000
Maximum annual repayment cost:	\$1,420,750
Maximum remaining total repayment cost:	\$22,093,150

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<sup>1</sup> Fiscal year spending includes amounts expended by the District for bonded debt service.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 3B:**

The Bayfield School District has been awarded a Building Excellent Schools Today (BEST) grant in the amount of \$8.568 million from the Colorado Department of Education to address health and safety deficiencies, overcrowding and site issues, primarily at Bayfield Elementary Primary School (BEPS). Vote “YES” on Measure 3B to ensure the District can secure the local matching grant funds required for the contingent State grant. **The BEST Board recognized BEPS as the highest priority school replacement project this year in the State of Colorado.** This grant will pay for nearly one-quarter of the costs associated with Measure 3B.

Measure 3B is the result of diverse advisory and design committees, architectural firms and engineering firms, teachers and staff assembled by the District to address the following deficiencies:

BEPS was constructed from 1925-1972, is in disrepair and can no longer service the safety and educational needs. The campus is overcrowded, with a recommended capacity of 200 students and a projected enrollment of 220 students.

The Bayfield Elementary School was constructed in 1988, with an addition in 1996, and has significant safety issues and traffic issues, specifically related to the parent drop-off and pick-up. This campus is also overcrowded, with a recommended capacity of 400 students and projected enrollment of 450 students.

The Bayfield Middle School was constructed in 1977, with renovations in 2001, and does not have a dedicated parent drop-off and pick-up loop. The site has inadequate turn lanes and vehicular stacking capability on E. Oak Drive, which creates traffic and safety issues. The campus is also in need of a gymnasium for practices and competition, as well as other District and community use.

The contingent BEST grant allows the District to address all of these deficiencies for less than \$6 per month per \$100,000 of home value.

The District is at a tipping point where new elementary school facilities must be built, or additional modular classrooms and/or increased class sizes will be necessary to address our growing enrollment needs. These “stop-gap” measures are not the best use of the District’s scarce funds, will hinder

student learning, and will only postpone a more permanent and effective solution to the growing safety and educational deficiencies at these schools.

In addition to taking advantage of the \$8.568 million BEST grant and historically low interest rates, measure 3B provides the following benefits:

- Safe and secure buildings
- Alleviates overcrowding and educational deficiencies in the District's elementary grades
- Improved traffic and safety at BES and BMS
- Prepare for a growing student population

School improvements generate economic growth, infuse construction dollars into our community, improve businesses, and maintain and improve property values. These solutions represent the best long-term solution for the District. Measure 3B allows the District to take advantage of this contingent BEST grant and will decrease the burden on taxpayers, while addressing the significant needs of our students.

**The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 3B:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **What if my ballot doesn't come?**

If you have not received your ballot within a week after they are mailed, call the County Clerk's office at (970)382-6296.

### **What if I have moved and have not updated my registration?**

You may submit a paper voter registration to the County Clerk's office or update your registration online at [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com) until Oct. 31 to receive a ballot by mail or go to a Voter Service and Polling Center to update your registration and obtain a ballot through Election Day.

### **I will be out of town when the ballots are mailed. How do I get a ballot?**

Ballots are available on Sept. 26 in the County Clerk's office or you may complete a Voter Registration Application to have the ballot mailed to you at the out-of-area location.

### **What if I do not vote on all the candidates or measures?**

If you do not vote on all the candidates or measures, your ballot will still be counted for all voted races.

### **What if I make a mistake, damage or lose my ballot?**

You may call the County Clerk's office and request a replacement ballot. One will be mailed to you provided the request is received no later than Oct. 31. Otherwise, you may request a replacement ballot in person at a Voter Service and Polling Center until 7 p.m. on Election Day, Nov. 8.

### **What if I did not sign my return envelope?**

The County Clerk's office will contact you in writing to have you come into the office to sign your envelope. You have until Nov. 16 to sign your ballot in order for your vote to be counted.

### **When must the voted ballot be returned?**

The voted ballot must be **received** in any La Plata County designated dropsite location by 7 p.m. on election night. ***POSTMARKS DO NOT COUNT.***

## Voter Service & Polling Centers

<b>La Plata County Clerk &amp; Recorder</b>	<b>98 Everett St, Ste C, Durango</b>
Monday - Friday	Oct. 24 - 28 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	Oct. 29 8 a.m. - Noon
Monday - Friday	Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 7:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Saturday	Nov. 5 8 a.m. - Noon
Monday	Nov. 7 7 a.m. - 6 p.m.
Tuesday, <b>Election Day</b>	Nov. 8 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

<b>Bayfield Town Hall</b>	<b>1199 Bayfield Parkway, Bayfield</b>
Monday - Friday	Oct. 24 - 28 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.
Saturday	Oct. 29 8 a.m.- Noon
Monday - Friday	Oct. 31 - Nov. 4 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	Nov. 5 8 a.m. - Noon
Monday	Nov. 7 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday, <b>Election Day</b>	Nov. 8 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

<b>La Plata County Fairgrounds</b>	<b>2500 Main Ave, Durango</b>
Friday	Nov. 4 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday	Nov. 5 8 a.m. - Noon
Monday	Nov. 7 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Tuesday, <b>Election Day</b>	Nov. 8 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

## Ballot Drop-Off Locations 24-Hour Drop Boxes

**La Plata County Clerk & Recorder**      **98 Everett St, Ste C, Durango**  
Oct. 18 - Nov. 8

**Bayfield Town Hall**      **1199 Bayfield Parkway, Bayfield**  
Oct. 18 - Nov. 8

**La Plata County Administration Building**      **1101 E 2nd Ave, Durango**  
Oct. 18 - Nov. 8

**Farmer's Fresh Market**      **535 Goddard Ave, Ignacio**  
Oct. 18–Nov. 8

### Temporary Drop-Box

<b>Fort Lewis College, Student Union Building</b>	<b>1000 Rim Dr, Durango</b>
Friday	Nov. 4 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Monday	Nov. 7 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Tuesday, <b>Election Day</b>	Nov. 8 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

## Important Election Information from the La Plata County Clerk

- **Precinct polling places are no longer available** on Election Day in the state of Colorado. All active registered voters will automatically receive a ballot by mail the week of October 17th.
- Three Voter Service Center locations will be available to assist voters as needed. These locations will provide voter registration assistance, replacement ballots, ballot drop off boxes and ADA accessible voting machines.
- You may verify and update your voter registration or register to vote by going online to [www.govotecolorado.com](http://www.govotecolorado.com)
- For more information please:

Visit [www.laplatacountyclerk.org](http://www.laplatacountyclerk.org)

Email [elections@co.laplata.co.us](mailto:elections@co.laplata.co.us)

Call (970)382-6296

