

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE
TOWN OF RICO

Dolores County, Colorado

Election Date:
Election Hours:

Tuesday, November 4, 2025
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Anna Wolf, Town Clerk
Designated Election Official
2 Commercial St., P.O. Box 9
Rico, Colorado
Telephone: (970) 967-2861

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT ISSUE [1B], MILL LEVY INCREASE:

SHALL TOWN OF RICO TAXES BE INCREASED BY NOT MORE THAN \$75,000 IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2026 (SUCH AMOUNT BEING THE ESTIMATED FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR INCREASE) AND BY WHATEVER ADDITIONAL AMOUNTS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER, THROUGH AN INCREASE IN THE MILL LEVY FOR THE STREET RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FUND BY SIX (6.000) MILLS—FROM 1.785 MILLS TO NOT MORE THAN 7.785 MILLS—FOR THE PURPOSE OF FUNDING THE RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING STREETS AND ALLEYS, INCLUDING SIDEWALKS, DRAINAGE, AND UTILITIES; AND SHALL THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES BE AUTHORIZED TO ADJUST THIS MILL LEVY FROM YEAR TO YEAR SO LONG AS IT DOES NOT EXCEED A MAXIMUM RATE OF 7.785 MILLS; AND SHALL THE TOWN BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Yes: _____

No: _____

Total Town Fiscal Year Spending

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
2025 (estimated)	\$ <u>2,386,165</u>
2024 (actual)	\$ <u>3,054,937</u>
2023 (actual)	\$ <u>1,327,428</u>
2022 (actual)	\$ <u>1,292,788</u>
2021 (actual)	\$ <u>1,052,443</u>

Overall percentage change from 2021 to 2025	<u>44.11%</u>
Overall dollar change from 2021 to 2025	<u>\$1,333,722</u>

Proposed Tax Increase

Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2026 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

\$75,000

Estimate of 2026 Fiscal Year Spending Without Proposed Tax Increase:

\$2,400,000

BALLOT ISSUE [1C] REALLOCATION OF EXISTING MILLS:

WITHOUT INCREASING THE MILL LEVY, SHALL THE TOWN OF RICO BE AUTHORIZED TO TRANSFER AN ADDITIONAL THREE AND THREE HUNDRED NINETY-THREE THOUSANDTHS (3.939) OF THE EXISTING MILLS CURRENTLY LEVIED FOR THE SEWER FUND TO THE STREET RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE FUND, TO BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE RECONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE OF EXISTING STREETS AND ALLEYS, INCLUDING SIDEWALKS, DRAINAGE, AND UTILITIES; AND SHALL THE TOWN BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND SUCH REVENUES AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, NOTWITHSTANDING ANY REVENUE OR EXPENDITURE LIMITATION CONTAINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Yes: _____

No: _____

Summary of Written comments filed with the Designated Election Official

Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 1B:

The Town of Rico's portion of the property taxes assessed each year is only 31% of each property owner's tax bill, this Mill Levy Increase only applies to the Town's mill levy, it does not increase, County, School District, Fire Protection District or other components of your tax bill. The Town of Rico's fund for street reconstruction and maintenance ("Street Fund") has been underfunded for many years. The Town currently cannot afford to perform dust suppression or effectively address runoff and drainage issues. Also, the Town struggles to retain an adequate amount of public works staffing and to pay for other aspects of its road/alley general operations. The Town has secured grant funding for the Street Fund where available (to pay for the new Town Shop facility for example), however grant funding opportunities for general operations are very limited and are not a reliable source of revenue. The proposed Mill Levy Increase will allow the Town to: properly fund and staff its general road maintenance and snow removal operations; replace aging graders, snowplows and other large equipment; and make necessary road, alley, sidewalk and related infrastructure improvements/replacements in accordance with an equipment and capital improvement plan.

Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 1B:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline

Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 1C:

The proposed Reallocation of Existing Mills is not a tax increase. Instead, it allocates a portion of the tax revenue received by the sewer fund to the Town's fund for street reconstruction and maintenance ("Street Fund"). This offsets the need for a higher mill levy (property tax) increase for Street Fund. The Street Fund has been under funded for many years.

Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 1C:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline