

The Guide

Becky & Pinky Vote 2025: No, YOU'RE an Odd Year Election!!!

Weelllllll, we're still here. If you're reading this, that means you're still here and trying to make your community and state better by voting in this odd year election!

We also bet you're feeling overwhelmed right now and that checks out. We don't have enough pages to get into why everything is so bad right now and you probably came here to get some information about what is on your ballot, so we'll try to keep it short (sure, Jan). Luckily, if you're just here for the ballot recommendations, we have a little outline you can click on to the left to go explore wherever you want to go!

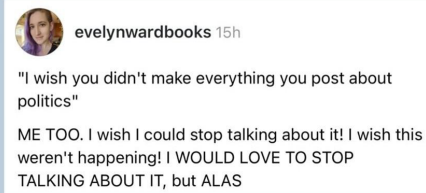
Vibe Check, Rant, and Thoughts on WTF is Going on in the U.S. Right Now

Get ready to get down (emotionally): Public and private institutions are being gutted or not standing up to attacks on our democracy and freedom while important laws are being rolled back, overturned, or plain out ignored. Trump and his goons are trying to leverage the moment to do serious harm by targeting as many people and things as they can (late night hosts, organizations trying to support their communities, science, colleges, people of color, LGBTQ people, disabled kids) since they know it's going to be very hard to re-build after they're gone. These goons and ghouls are targeting our transgender neighbors by trying to cut off access to critical care and resources. There is a climate crisis. They continue to accept people dying from preventable pregnancy complications while trying to claim they aren't actually trying to ban abortion – or maybe they are – depending on who is asking. RFK Jr. has taken a break from eating roadkill to listen to the worm in his brain who convinced him to use the government to crusade against vaccines, research, science, Tylenol (?), circumcision (???). and anything that will keep us healthy (but please buy non-regulated health supplements from an influencer on the internet. Please please please). This seems like a good time to remind you to go get your COVID booster and flu vaccine this fall if you haven't yet! [Governor Polis and Colorado's Division of Insurance worked to make sure anyone over 6 months old](#) can get their COVID vaccine at a pharmacy (and it's covered by insurance!) after RFK tried to take away your freedom to do so in September. Yay vaccines!

And the rest of the sex pests, Fox News rejects, wild-eyed conspiracy theorists, insurrectionists, couch lovers, and full blown racists in his administration are actively trying to re-segregate the government, military, corporate boards, C-suites, arts organizations, universities, and anywhere else they think they can get away with it.

The Elongated Muskrat got run out of the White House (for the time being), but not before he started gnawing through the wires of federal agencies and working to harvest our data for Big, Bad Tech. He peaced out and left Big Balls and three reply guys in a trenchcoat in charge, so

the attacks on our federal agencies and workers who make this county run can continue on and on and on and on and on (or at least until we all fucking vote to take control of Congress away from them in 2026).



While they are weakening the parts of the federal government that work for us, they've decided to radically expand one very specific part of the federal government and are trying to give it the authority to act as an outside-the-law secret police who have the right to occupy U.S. cities and pick up and detain anyone and everyone they want to. We don't need to regale all of you with the hundreds of acts of violence, rights violations, and kidnappings that ICE is involved in every day, and we'll just ask you to please use your voice and power and money to help fight against that shit wherever you can until it stops.

That shit isn't just happening in Portland, D.C., Chicago or LA, but is [happening in Colorado](#) and everywhere. We recommend donating and/or volunteering with the [Colorado Rapid Response Network](#), donating to the [National Immigrant Justice Center](#), and being aware of what's going on around you so you can record or intervene if and when you need to (and you feel safe doing so). And don't forget they are doing all this while [throwing 15 million Americans off their health care](#) to pay for tax cuts for billionaires who, definitely, need more money to throw into AI slop, or to send Katy Perry to space again, or whatever the fuck.

AND RIGHT NOW, we're mid-government shutdown and federal workers, troops, air traffic controllers, and things and places we care about are being jerked around AGAIN. This is the culmination of a decades-long effort to lay the groundwork to fuck hardworking Americans over and the implementation of their plan has gone frighteningly fast. It sucks. It sucks for so many reasons and we've literally only scratched the surface of things that suck.



Living in the middle of this shit show might make it feel pointless to believe we'll vote our way out of it. If you're new here, you need to know that we believe voting is the first civic responsibility we have, but not the last. We aren't getting out of it with only our ballots, but they are going to play a big part! We're gonna have to show up for each other, to organize, and to build stronger communities. And yeah we're gonna vote real hard. This guide isn't meant to be an overly-rosy pep talk since it's the hard work some of us do every day and some more of us are going to have to do more of.

Resistance and progress aren't linear and tend to take a long time, but the only way good things have happened is because a lot of people did a lot of good things and those things added up to something bigger (HAVE YOU EVEN WATCHED ANDOR, BRO?).

You are gonna have to go to some meetings, some protests, spend your precious time and money, and deal with some shit you'd rather pretend isn't happening. There's not one key moment or one key person who changes it all (HAVE YOU EVEN WATCHED ANDOR, BRO?).



The truth is, our country is no stranger to violence, repression, and oppression (in fact, it was founded on it and has found new ways to replicate it since 1776). We've been in places similar to this before, it's been worse than this before, and it's been better than this before. The good news is AI hasn't totally taken over the internet yet and Donald Trump hasn't banned all the books, so we can learn from that history to stand up and fight the fuckery and live to see a better day.

Ok so this shit sucks for now, but does that mean we're gonna let the walking polyp that is Stephen Miller get his way? Or Trump, or Juicy Dingleberry Vance? H-E-Double-Hockey-Sticks no, we are not.

If it overwhelms you to think about the State of our Country ™ here are some reminders...

- Colorado rejected Donald Trump's shitty agenda. Harris won 54% of CO voters, CO also voted to protect abortion with nearly 62% of the vote. A majority of your friends and neighbors do not want this and Colorado was one of the only states that went in the blue direction in 2024 (Praise Blucifer!)
- Trump and JD are unpopular as hell.
 - Trump's [disapproval rating](#) is around 54 to 55%, meaning a majority of Americans think he sucks. [He hasn't had an approval rating above 50% approval since March and it's steadily declined since then and the big tariffs haven't even hit consumers yet.](#)
 - He is losing support with groups who helped fuel his 2024 win. [A recent Marist survey showed big declines in support from Gen Z, Latino and Black voters since June.](#)
 - If you listened to team Trump on election night (or a lot of the reporting) you heard he won in a landslide, [but that's not true.](#) Trump didn't even win a majority of the vote (he got 49.9% to Harris' 48.3%). He also won by less than Biden did in 2020 (51.3%) so if you think that's a "mandate" then we're also pretty sure you think Portland is burning to the ground.
 - Trump and Congressional Republicans would rather shut the government down and use federal workers as pawns than make sure healthcare is affordable – even though a majority of Americans – including [57% of MAGA republicans](#) want

them to keep the Affordable Care Act health care subsidies. A move that is so bad [even Marorie Taylor Greene thinks that shit is cooked.](#)

- We don't need to remind you that JD Vance is also very unpopular but Becky wanted a chance to refer to him as an offbrand Chucky doll.
- Stephen Miller is an unelected hack who has been attaching himself to those with "personalities" like the leech he is for years. That undead thumbelina knows he's unpopular – enough so that he's made sure to pick jobs that don't have to be confirmed by the Senate to avoid public scrutiny. Now he's trying to reach new heights with his racism, but that little diseased sapling needs others to do his bidding. Unfortunately, he's realized that being the last person to talk to Donald Trump is a good way to get him to do your bidding. We're not sure why the mean streets of Santa Monica turned him into such a twerp but now he's our problem. But he's not popular, no one elected him, and he's not accountable in the way others are. So let's call out these hateful ideas for what they are: Trash. Then we can work to make it so when this admin is sent packing this vampire intern gets lots of ~~charges~~-credit for all his work.



- **2026 is NOT far away**, we're just over a year out (gulp) and with that election we can flip the US House! CO can play a role in that when we make Gabe Evans a future one-term member of congress!
 - See the Statewide ballot section below for some info on what's coming for the 2026 ballot. SPOILER: some bad shit.

What can you do beyond voting and stay ready for the marathon we are running right now?

1. Find something political and put your time and money into it.
 - For Becky this looks like giving \$ to orgs and candidates when she can, volunteering with campaigns and candidates and writing unhinged voter guides.
 - For Pinky this looks like volunteering and being a monthly donor to organizations she cares about. Need place to put your money monthly? [She suggests One Colorado, which](#) is the state's leading LGBTQ advocacy organization and is going to have to defend transgender kids at the ballot next year. (Spoiler: Pinky is on the board).

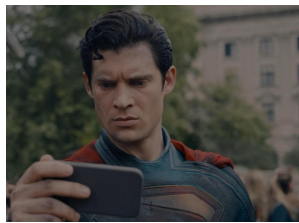


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2. Find something non-political and put your time and money into it

- For Becky this looks like driving her dog to California so she can see the ocean (I mean dogs can't drive themselves). It also looks like cooking, going out with friends, crocheting, traveling and evangelizing on how Nerd Gummy Clusters are truly the best candy.
- Pinky plays Dungeons & Dragons and World of Warcraft and plans trips to Disney World.

If you all saw the new Superman movie, you'll know that kindness is the real punk rock. Pinky doesn't know why she liked that quote so much, but she supposes it's because – in our current moment – it's easy to stop caring because it feels like everything sucks, or to get on the internet and just be angry all the time, which makes us forget that it's fucking cool not to be a fascist, cruel, nihilistic, dipshit.



Pinky every time she reads the news

Do what you can to help end the structures that are hurting us all, but don't forget to be good to your friends and neighbors, help them when you can, and be ready to protect them and yourselves if the time comes. Kindness is the real punk rock.

OK! Now, voting guide things. As is the case every year, there's info on how to vote down below. Use our handy tabs on the left to navigate around this guide. We're also sticking our perennial rant about CO voting being great down [below](#).

About this guide

For those returning to this guide, **thank you so much!** We cannot tell you how much we love and appreciate you all for showing up again and again. Thank you for sharing our guide with your networks and for doing the damn thing and voting. We also love seeing you out in the wild and in our DMS! For those of you who are new - **WELCOME we are so glad to have you here.** You probably have a super rad friend in your life, or oddly specific google search terms but either way we are glad you found us.

You should know a couple things:

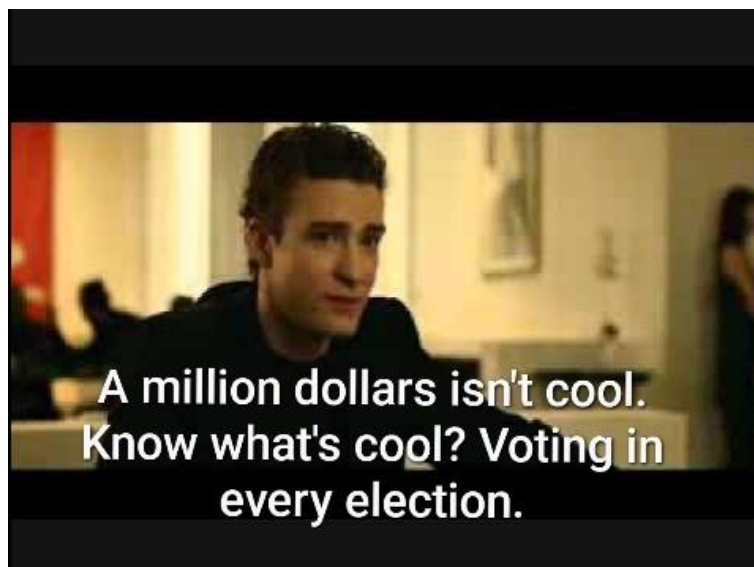
1. Becky & Pinky love you for being a voter;
2. This is not an unbiased "both sides" guide, this is a biased voter guide that is biased in the direction of our opinions. We have wild takes like feeding children at school is good actually and investing in things like housing, health care, and education is neat. We will

give you clear explanations and info on ballot measures, but we are not gonna make the case against our beliefs;

3. We work in political advocacy so often we've worked on the issues, or with candidates, we're telling you about. We pride ourselves in our work and work on stuff we believe in, so we're not gonna try to hide the ball there. For example, we're really proud of our work this year on Propositions LL & MM. One of the perks of this guide is that – in addition to our commitment to silly gifs and very dumb jokes – you also get the benefit of our professional experience and connections. That said, this guide is a thing we do as people and not in our professional capacities;
4. We try to include as many recommendations as possible. Unfortunately, there are limits to how much we can include each year, so we'll try to include other guides, places to find info, and some suggestions for how to figure out items/people on your ballot. You are always welcome to reach out to us and we can try to help further;
5. Finally, if this guide isn't for you, that's fine. You can agree with us on some but not all of the stuff. We have had folks tell us they valued our explanation even when they reached a different conclusion. Sometimes we even disagree with each other!

For Real tho you all are showing up to vote in an odd year election and that's so damn cool. You know that every year is an election year. You know that national elections aren't the whole ballgame. In fact you know that city council races and school board races and bond measures have a big damn impact on your daily life.

We've made special 2025 stickers just for you! We will have them soon so Email, DM, or find us in the wild to get one!



We are also sad to tell you all that our reach may not extend to Maine (yet). Despite our encouragement in 2024, the Pine Tree state didn't have the self respect to change their state flag to be pine tree centric (sad!). That won't stop us from making some 2025 out-of-state

recommendations, though! **If you live in California you should vote yes on Prop 50.** This is an effort to curb Trump's Power grab wherein he's asking states like Texas to gerrymander the fuck out of their state to try and stop voters from being able to vote the GOP out of power in Congress. Prop 50 is an effort to check that. [Learn more here.](#) If you're a CO voter but have friends or family in CA call them and make sure they vote yes and get their ballots in! Becky and Pinky would also be voting for Zohran Mamdani if they lived in New York, but luckily Pinky's sister and brother-in-law (and Lindsey who used to live in Denver) will get to do that in honor of us.

★ **Yes, share this guide! Even if you don't know us, if you liked the guide and think it'd be helpful to other voters you know, just copy and paste www.beckyandpinkyvote.com**



To the voting!

XOXO,
Becky & Pinky

Below is our contact info if you have questions, wanna tag us on social media as you share this, wanna watch the special content we're making for you on insta, connect otherwise, or if you wanna leave us a tip.

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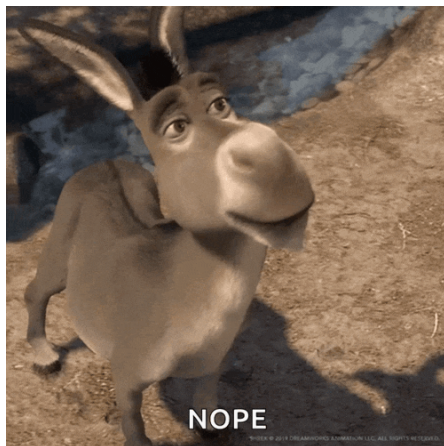


Statewide ballot measures

This year we have a blessedly short statewide ballot, so it hopefully will not take you 20,000,000 years to vote (this may depend on your local ballot). However, we have some bad news about what you may see in 2026. As of early October of 2025, there have been more than 169 (noice)

titles filed for potential 2026 measures (not notice). It's important to know two things: A LOT more are gonna get filed in the coming months (PUKE) and most of these measures are filed by dark money groups who have time and money to throw spaghetti at the wall and most will not come to be, but we can guarantee there is gonna be some stupid shit on your ballot next year.

Here in Colorado, the people have the ability to initiate a change to the Constitution or state laws. There are a lot of reasons that's good since ballot measures are how we got our first major laws for renewable energy, for legalizing weed, giving paid family and medical leave to every Coloradan, and for protecting abortion (just last year)! BUT it's also how we got TABOR (BOOOOOOO) and most ballot measures in this decade are pushed by right wing ghouls who can't win any other elections, so they are trying to muck with our state budget, push for mandatory minimum sentences again (why?), and targeting transgenders kids and their families who are just out here living free and happy lives.



The process of getting on the ballot through a citizen initiative includes getting enough signatures to qualify. AS OF RIGHT NOW, only stupid and bad shit has made it to the point of asking for your signature for next year's ballot. **So one of our strongest recommendations this year is that you decline to sign any petition for statewide ballot measures.** Some of the lowlights include: Fear-mongering criminal justice shit, confusing budget measures aimed at making sure we can't spend money on lowering costs, efforts to defund transit & bike lanes, and measures taking away the freedom of transgender young people to get health care or live their lives. You will see people collecting signatures on a whole range of stuff in the coming months.

There may be some good things we'd suggest you sign eventually, but right now there aren't any. So play it safe out there and say NOPE to signature gatherers for now.

We said there's a short ballot, we didn't say we weren't still gonna rant some – but here's what you need to know for the only two measures on the statewide ballot. The other good news is these two go together so think of them as a package deal.

GET OUT THE VOTE & BALLOT DROP RALLY FOR PROPS LL & MM

WHEN: Nov. 3rd 12-1 P.M.

WHERE: Colorado Capitol
200 E Colfax Ave, Denver, CO 80203
(on the West steps!)

We'll hear from speakers and walk together to the Denver Elections Ballot Drop Box at the corner of 14th and Bannock. Wear green and bring your completed ballot to drop off if you are a Denver voter! Please RSVP.

#KEEP KIDS FED
Yes on LL & MM
VOTE!

RSVP
QR Code
bit.ly/GOTVLLMM

YesonLLandMM.com

Wanna see us IRL and support healthy school meals? Cool come meet us at the capitol! Bring your ballot and vote with us!

✓VOTE YES on Props LL and MM: Healthy School Meals for All

You may remember supporting a similar measure Prop FF in 2022, good news that program has been really successful in feeding a lot of Colorado kids. We are able to feed 600,000 kids each year, that means kids can go to class with full tummies and focus better. It's stopped food stigma in schools and it is saving Colorado families money at a time when food prices have never been higher.

So how come if it's going well we have to vote on it again? Great question, glad you asked and there's a few reasons. Like us schools are also paying record high food prices, we also saw the program grow faster than anticipated and the money has not gone as far as originally anticipated. There's also some weird TABOR stuff in there which means this is back in front of voters this year. If these measures fail, CO will lose our universal meal program and that will be sad. That means we're voting for both of these and you should too!

Vote yes on Prop LL 🍏 This will allow the state to keep money raised over what was estimated by FF- this is about \$12 million. If you vote yes, we'll keep the money we already collected and put it into the HSMA program and feed kids. If you vote NO on this measure, people who made over \$300,000 will get an increased tax return.

Vote Yes on Prop MM 🍏 This will create sustainable long-term funding for the program by increasing revenue. The measure will also allow CO to raise some funds that support SNAP in Colorado. These funds are raised by limiting state income tax deductions only for people making \$300,000 per year or more.

If you make less than \$300,000 per year, your taxes will not be affected by either of these ballot measures. These ballot measures do not affect federal taxes of any kind for any Colorado households, regardless of income.

Changes in Income Taxes Owed by Income Category

Income Category	Proposed Change in Average Income Tax Owed
\$299,999 or less	\$0
\$300,000 or more	+\$486

Colorado tax policy is closely linked with federal tax policy, and it has made for chaos recently with the passage of HR 1 aka Trump's budget bill. We use federal taxable income as a basis for a lot of our calculations which means it's a bigger share of our base. We also use a system called "rolling conformity" which basically means our tax policy shadows the fed policy. [These factors collided in a big way around Trump's garbage fire bill and was a big reason why legislators have been working to close a \\$750 Million hole in our budget.](#) In a weird quirk, this combination could allow prop MM to bring in more money than originally anticipated. So folks who have been supporting the Healthy School Meals program, worked with legislators to make sure that if we end up with more money we can use it to fund some of the shortfalls created by the federal bill related to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). This budget

bill is going to have HUGE impacts on CO's budget including pending cuts to SNAP and an immediate cut to the money states get to administer SNAP.

Now some ~~Barbara Kirkmeyer~~—Republicans are trying to argue that the Trump bill didn't really cut SNAP, all it did was set a standard for getting reimbursed that can only be met with disenrolling hundreds of thousands of people from their nutrition benefits. We don't think you're an idiot so we're here to tell you that big cuts to SNAP are on their way and while CO may be able to reduce the blow of the federal bill you should not be fooled by claims to the contrary.

Wanna know more? [Go here](#). Vote yes on LL and MM, much like the Wu-Tang Clan, it's for the children.



Local Ballot Measures

Denver Ballot Measures

FYI the printed Denver Blue Book you got in the mail only includes info on the bond package and not all the measures on your ballot, so you have to find the second online-only version that has the other measures yourself. Don't worry! Becky called Denver Elections to check about this because she is cool, hip, and fun at parties. We're linking them both here because our guide includes all the Denver ballot measures in one place. [Denver Blue Book you got in the mail](#) | [The online-only version for three bonuses? measures](#)

Denver is running what they are calling the [Vibrant Denver Bond](#), which are measures 2A-2E on your ballot. We will be considering each bond on its own in this guide because they each do a different thing and you might want to consider each on its own merits!!!

The main thing to note about these bonds is that a yes vote will not raise taxes and opposing them will not lower taxes! Eventually, if voters never approved any purpose for the money collected by the city for bonds like these, the city could maybe kinda sorta consider cutting property taxes by some amount. If you want to know more about the nuance here, read this Denverite article called ["What actually happens if voters reject the Vibrant Denver bond?"](#)

The biggest opposition point on these measures has been that the city will take on more debt – and we all do have to pay that off – that's not nothing. Here's the thing though, bonds are a very responsible and affordable way to leverage more capital for city investments – and bond rates are VERY affordable at the moment, so it is a very good time to issue these bonds to maximize dollars we can raise for the lowest cost.

✓ **Vote YES on Denver 2A to Upgrade Transportation and Mobility Infrastructure**

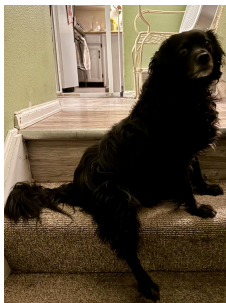
2A allocates money to making transportation (by bike, feet, mobility device, and car) better across the city. Don't want Becky to accidentally hit a wall, an abandoned pile of scooters or collide with other bikes and pedestrians while riding her bike on the underpass at 38th and Blake? Then vote yes.

For those asking, we have some things we want to see more investments in, so we hope you're reading this, CITY OF DENVER: Dedicated bike lanes that are protected from traffic and go in the correct direction so Becky doesn't have to yell "wrong way!" at scooter riders going the wrong way in bike lanes as part of her personal campaign for people to use bike lanes correctly, and requiring the scooter companies to geofence where you're allowed to leave a scooter when a ride is done so they are just fucking everywhere blocking sidewalks and places people need to walk and roll and shit.

✓ **VOTE YES on Denver 2B for Our Parks!**

Do you fucking like that our city has spaces like parks, recreation centers, playgrounds, and other other shit that is free or – if it isn't free – it isn't price gouging you to be able to participate? Then vote yes. The adults, children, dogs, and cats or guinea pigs on leashes yearn for recreation. Also, Rita and Khufu need good parks to sniff around and poop in (please ignore the fact Khufu lives in Colorado Springs, Pinky just wants an

excuse to put his picture in the voter guide). Please pick up after your animals (and children) after they enjoy a poop in a Denver park and obey relevant leash laws (currently, those don't apply to children). This won't raise taxes on anyone, it'll issue bonds to generate dollars to invest in our much loved parks. We appreciate that the bond committee and council outlined specific projects this will invest in and we like that it includes upgrading/updating existing stuff alongside building new things.





✓VOTE YES on Denver 2C for Expanding Healthcare Access

President Trump and GOP leaders at the federal level really want to make sure your health care is more expensive, less good, and hard to even fucking use or get. They are ghouls. We have the power to help increase access to health care regardless of the republican ghouls by voting yes on 2C. This measure will also issue bonds and invest the dollars into new health services and centers. The dollars will be focused on a new Denver Health Westside family health and on an expansion of mental health, victim assistance, treatment and trauma.

vs SPLIT on 2D for Funding Wonderful and Joyous Things Plus a “First Responder Training Center”

In general, this bond goes to awesome things like museums, libraries, the Zoo, the city’s animal shelter, theaters, and Red Rocks (which Pinky is mad she hasn’t been to in a few years) BUT they snuck building a new “first responder and public safety training center” into this one and the Vibrant Denver campaign is strategically putting out information from firefighters supporting this part of the bond, which is a bit sus.

Clumping a potential police (and other first responders) training center with things we are 4,000x excited for is an annoying strategic choice that makes us a little grumpy because we don’t know that Denverites do not think all these types of facilities have the same vibe. We also tend to be reticent to fund facilities that could help cops operate more like a military force, especially in this moment and in light of cities like Atlanta trying to build “cop city” training centers where they train police to see the people as enemies instead of committing to keeping people safe and serving and protecting them.

After some debate, Becky has decided she is still going to vote yes on this, but she understands that some of you may not want to do that.



Pinky is leaning no because she doesn’t really feel comfortable building a state-of-the-art facility for police training when the federal government is overreaching so hard right now. Pinky’s not sure we should give them a

potential place to “collaborate” with local cops to train their kidnapping secret police force. It probably won’t be built before Trump is out of office, but that assumes Trump is ever out of office.

On the other hand, the current training facility is out of date and our first responders often need to train to coordinate when bad shit happens and, unfortunately, we live in a time where bad, violent shit happens and requires a response and is often a crime.

If Limp Bizkit were writing a song for those voting yes on 2D, it would be called “I did it all for the stuff I like and the firefighters and EMTs.” Gen Z, [please see this link](#) if you don’t understand the reference...and yes, there used to be a whole TV station that showed music videos 24 hours a day. If you did understand the reference, have you scheduled a colonoscopy yet?

✓Vote YES on Denver 2E to Build and Improve Housing

Last year Denver voters rejected a tax increase to build more housing in the city, but did vote to increase taxes to help keep Denver Health open. Given how everything costs 1 billion dollars lately, we get how folks weren’t into it, which leads us to. We think it’s smart that this year’s effort to build more much-needed housing in Denver can happen without raising taxes.

This measure will issue bonds to fund building more housing, working to keep and build housing near city facilities like libraries, and making housing and shelters more accessible to folks with disabilities. Easy yes.

✓VOTE YES and Be Annoyed This is a Thing We Have to Vote About for Denver 2F

This measure will change the name of the Department of Excise & Licensing to the Department of Licensing & Consumer Protection. We know..we know...you all have been sitting around wanting to know why the city hasn’t taken on this big, pressing issue. That, or you’re sitting here wondering why the shit we have to vote on this. The answer is THE CITY CHARTER. We named a bunch of stuff in the city charter when it was written, which now means we have to amend the city charter to change the names of shit. This is the office that licenses stuff like liquor and pot. The goal is to make their role more transparent and clear to the public. We think that is a fine and worthy goal and the city says it won’t cost anything to make the change. So Becky is fine voting for this, she doesn’t think it is gonna be the end of the world if it fails, and she once again wishes we didn’t have to vote for things like this. Pinky is tempted to vote NO because she just really hates chartered things (lol not really), but she’s actually going to vote YES. Pinky does wish we had the option to write-in our preferred name for the Department.



✗VOTE FUCK NO on Denver 2G Which Changes to How At-Large Councilmembers are Elected

In Denver, we have city council members who represent individual districts plus two at-large council members who are elected by the entire city, or the city “at large,” if you will. Currently, we put all the candidates who want to represent the entire city into a pool and the two people who get the most votes become the city’s at-large council members. It makes it so you can just pick



your top two people and the two candidates who work the hardest to win, earn their seats. 2G would change that by separating the seats individually into At-Large A and At-Large B.

If this passes, we'll all have half the choices we had before, which seems anti-democratic. Also, we have no idea why the perfectly fine way that we elect at-large council members needs to change.

Instead of picking your top two candidates, you will have to vote for one person in each seat, so if the two people you like best are running for seat A, you are screwed. Also, now candidates will have to decide if they are running for seat A or B and might have to run against someone they could actually run a campaign with instead. OH AND, a candidate would have to win a majority of the votes in the first election for the seat and if no one gets over 50% of the vote, we'd have to go to a run-off election, which is traditionally where all the dark corporate money gets funneled to in Denver elections (see every fucking race for mayor since we've been old enough to vote). It's harder for wealthy special interests to destroy good candidates when there are lots of people running for two spots and no run-off election. Also, running a subsequent election costs fucking money. We literally can't send out a blue book in the mail to talk about this measure because of fucking city budget cuts, are you for real?

We think this measure is confusing and unnecessary. We also think it's not a coincidence that we currently have strong, progressive At-Large council members who are doing great work for our city and NOW the concerned trolls insist it's the time the rules need to be changed. The council BARELY voted to put this on the ballot by a narrow 7-6 vote because it's a meh idea.

It was pretty controversial among the council members and yet it's entirely possible you haven't heard anything about it. Maybe that's because this is not a problem that needs solving in our city (outside of Councilmember Flynn's personal worldview)? Councilmember Lewis stated “We aren't fixing anything here. We're gaming the system in order to have a specific result for folks who are used to having power in our city, and that could potentially go away. That's wrong.” We heartily agree with that!

We are worried this measure could sound appealing on its surface...kinda like a more fair process and “good government” thing, but it's actually the opposite. Please be sure to flag the

potential harm of this with your friends and family. [Here's a good write up from Denverite if you want more info.](#)

Also, Denver should move our city elections to November so more people participate and we would have rather had that be the change put on the ballot by council!

✓VOTE YES on 310 Keep the City's Ban on Selling Flavored Tobacco

The Denver City Council voted to ban flavored tobacco products a year ago and Mike Johnston signed that measure. Then an effort to collect signatures and send this to voters happened and now Denver voters will weigh in. A YES Vote means you would keep the ordinance, a NO vote overturns the council ordinance. We are voting YES.

When we were teenagers, we had to smoke clove cigarettes (or Sweet Dreams Cherry cigarettes), which burned a little bit when you smoked them and still tasted like cigarettes aka gross (also RIP Paris on the Platte). DISCLAIMER: Pinky's mom reads this voter guide and therefore Pinky has never smoked a cigarette before and especially never did so as a teenager.

Kids these days don't have to push through the disgust of tasting tobacco if you want to smoke before you're the right age because they can just pick up a vape that looks like an iPod nano (oh, does that reference make us old?) and choose from hundreds of flavors like cotton candy, root beer, and gummy bear. It's hard to think those vapes and flavors aren't specifically designed to appeal to literal children. There's a LOT of research that shows when kids get hooked on tobacco they become adults who use it and smoking is, like, really bad for you when you do it all the time because you got addicted as a child. We all have literal decades of research (lots of it coming from the fucking tobacco industry) documenting the harms of nicotine and tobacco use.



Modern vapes may smell better than tobacco, but vapes aren't harmless. In addition to the nicotine, you're sometimes inhaling stuff like lead and formaldehyde!!!!!! [Research shows that vaping is not safe.](#) 8 in 10 kids say they have tried vaping, and just like old fashioned cigarettes, we know that when kids try these products they often continue that use into adulthood.

Denver City Council took a lot of public comments, researched this issue, talked to experts, and then took a vote. [Here is more background on how the city got here.](#) We think this was a long and thoughtful process and a number of other local governments around Colorado have since followed suit.

We do think it's worth noting that a number of small businesses oppose 310 and that's not lost on us. We love a corner store, they sell us our beloved Nerds Gummy Clusters afterall, but we start to feel some kind of way when we weigh losing out on these sales against the clear

benefits to public health. The council didn't act out of an effort to fuck small businesses. They did this because they are worried about the rapidly increasing rates of tobacco use amongst kids, which had been going down until vapes became a thing. Often, in policy making, hard decisions are made and interests have to be balanced. At the end of the day we don't think that the health of our kids (or adults) should come second here. If the ordinance stays in place the sale of flavored tobacco like menthol cigarettes, and candy flavored vapes will remain banned in Denver.

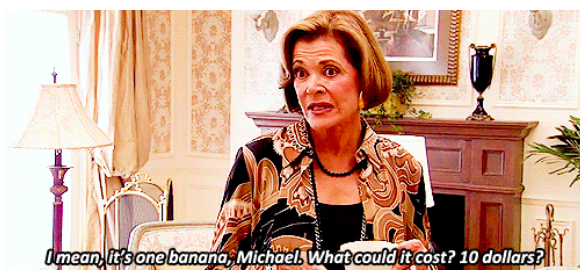
✗VOTE NO on Littleton 3A Because Housing That is Affordable is Good Actually

Over the last few years we've gotten the chance to work on policy to help build more housing in Colorado. One of the hardest parts of this work is overcoming the opposition of suburban NIMBYs who frankly only want SOME kinds of housing for SOME kinds of residents. 3A is a great example of why the legislature had to take action to support local governments in doing more better. The measure would repeal actions the Littleton City Council took earlier this year to comply with state law and this measure would make it so you can't build duplexes, triplexes and fourplexes in Littleton (the horror!). It probably puts Littleton out of compliance with state law and makes it harder – if not basically impossible – for property owners to even build ADUs. The city attorney, staff, and some folks on council are worried about the ban and there is [an active legal question about these measures in front of Arapahoe County courts this week](#).

According to Becky's personal friend [Zillow.com](#), the average home price in Littleton is nearly \$630k. That's probably great news if you're about to retire and sell your house, but not so rad if you're trying to buy a home at a reasonable price. Increasing the housing supply drives costs down for all of us (including renters!) and multi-family units are some of the most affordable homes on the housing market and they're fucking cool as fuck. Also if you find yourself worried about too many duplexes (first, off how did you end up reading this guide?), we would encourage you to walk through an established neighborhood and count the mailboxes you see on houses. We bet you live near more multi family houses than you think and it hasn't been ruining your life. Also, if you don't want to live in society with people, then there are caves available somewhere. Vote no.

✓VOTE YES on Larimer County 1B to Support Early Childhood Education

Larimer County voters will be asked to vote on a .25 percent (one-quarter of a penny) sales tax increase, which doesn't apply to essential items, to support early childhood education in their county.



Did you know parents in Colorado are spending at least \$10,000 per year, per child for early childhood education until their kids are old enough for free preschool? That is, like, a lot of money. Since the Republicans aren't going to make anything get more affordable at the federal level and the state can't do

anything because we have to cut almost \$1 billion from the state budget next year (thanks to the same Republicans mentioned at the beginning of this sentence and TABOR), we feel like it's time to take on some of these challenges at the local level. It's cool to make child care more affordable in Larimer County, increase wages for early childhood education workers, and make sure there are enough facilities to support kids!

✔Vote YES on Roaring Fork Valley 7A to Support Early Childhood Education

Oh you thought child care was expensive and hard to get in Larimer County??? Well, let us introduce you to the Roaring Fork Valley! Measure 7A is pretty similar to the above measure except it will also create what's called a "special district" for early childhood education across Garfield, Pitkin, and some of the southwest side of Eagle County where the .25 percent (one-quarter a penny) sales tax will apply.

From the campaign website:

- From Parachute to Aspen, only 44% of kids under the age of five have access to a licensed child care spot.
- Families [in the Roaring Fork Valley] pay an average of \$1,400 per month (\$17,000 per year) for one kid.

They said it better than us. Vote YES!

Local Candidate Elections

Local city, county, and school board races have big impacts on our communities and are generally non-partisan races, which only means someone doesn't have to put a party affiliation next to their name regardless of if they are conservative, moderate, a vampire, or progressive.



A key part of the conservative playbook in the last 20-30 years is to recruit and run candidates in these races who can start putting bullshit policies in place that will eventually be replicated at the federal level and that's, honestly, why more than half of Project 2025 has been implemented since Trump took office (Did anyone warn us this would happen if he won? I can't recall...). We've included some races that we know about and highlighted them, but there's a whole bunch we have not included because we are but two tired white ladies. We have included some general guidance on how to figure out who/what you should support locally in hopes it will help if your races aren't included here.

We also put some links to a few organizations who have made endorsements in more races below. These are organizations who we generally agree with, but we were not involved in their recommendations and haven't vetted each individual endorsements. Occasionally, some real goofy people make it on these lists, so please understand that we link to them more as a

guidepost and not because we'd lie down on the train tracks for any of these candidates o issues.

Still can't find recommendations for a race you need to make a call about? Here are some questions you could think about asking them/about them? Did you know you can probably pretty easily find an email address for a candidate or campaign and just send them a friendly note asking about them?



- Will this candidate work to make it more affordable to live in your community? Do they want to build more housing? Are they making fewer barriers to build housing at the local level or do they talk a lot about “neighborhood character”?
- Are they supportive of folks making a liveable wage in your community?
- Does this candidate speak up about ICE in your community? Are they showing up to protect you and your neighbors?
- Are they generally a normal human???

The links include recommendations for Arvada, Aurora, Boulder, Centennial, Commerce City, Ft. Collins, Greeley, Littleton, Longmont, Pueblo, Thornton, Westminster, and Wheat Ridge, so hopefully that will help more of you!

Links to org endorsements in local races who we tend to be aligned with a decent amount of the time:

[Boulder Progressives 2025 Election Voter Guide](#)

[Conservation Colorado's City Council Endorsements](#)

[Denver Area Labor Federation City Council, School Board, and Mayoral Endorsements](#)

[New Era Colorado City Council and Mayoral Endorsements](#)

[Planned Parenthood of the Rocky Mountain's Approved Mayoral, City Council, and School Board Candidates](#)

[Working Families Party Statewide and Local Ballot Measures, and Mayoral, City Council, and School Board Endorsements](#)

Aurora City Council

Aurora!! You have the chance to send a really toxic council member packing this year by replacing Danielle Jurinsky. Remember last year when there was a terrible council member on Fox News ~~lying~~ talking about tren de agua eating pets in Aurora? That was Jurinsky! There are 13 folks running for 5 seats. This election has drawn a lot of attention and money. Here's who we would vote for (pay special attention on At-Large):

Ward 1: Gianna Horton

Ward 2: Amy Wiles

Ward 3: Ruben Medina

At-Large: Alli Jackson & Rob Andrews – there are 5 folks running for 2 seats - this includes Jurinski so you gotta make sure she's not on your list.

Boulder City Council

Boulder City Council has 4 seats up for grabs this election. There are a lot more than four running. Boulder approved rank-choice voting ONLY for Mayoral candidates which isn't happening until 2026. For this race the 4 candidates with the highest total votes win. So vote for up to 4.

[Here's a write up of all the things about this race and a comparison of others running if you wanna learn more.](#)

Our suggestion is to vote for these two for sure:

Nicole Speer
Lauren Folkerts

We would also like to give a big fucking shoutout to Lauren Folkerts and Nicole Speer who joined with other local elected officials to oppose the bill some Democrats in the state legislature ran [to cut the wages of tipped workers in Boulder, Denver, and Edgewater](#). They used their seats as sitting council members to stand up for workers and they were instrumental in getting the bill amended to leave decisions about the local minimum wage to local governments and remove the wage cut. They deserve your vote. Let us know who else you're voting for here!

Westminster City Council & Mayor

If you live in Westminster you know that the city has been going through it over the last few years, it's seen big swings in the politics of the mayor and council and this year there's an opportunity to shift back to more progressive leaders! Westminster council members all run at-large. This year the city can elect a new mayor and 3 council members. There's a whole bunch of folks running and these are non-partisan races so it may be hard to tell who most aligns with your values.

Here is who we would vote for:

Mayor: Clarie Carmelia

Council: Pick up to 3! Our recommendations are: Jack Johnson, Obi Ezeadi & Sara Nurmela

School Board Races & Mill Levy Elections

General School Board Candidate Red Flags - It's autumn, so you might be more open to communing with the ghouls, but we don't think that means your vote should be communing with

any of the goofy-ass ghouls running for school board who want to dismantle the public education system, exclude kids of color, LGBTQ, and disabled kids from getting a quality education, and would rather focus on niche, idiotic culture war issues over student success.

However, the ghouls are good at hiding in corners behind the mist of neutral-sounding language, so you could have a hard time determining if there's a creepy conservative ghost on the ballot or if it's just the creaking of your floorboards. Here are some red flags that someone on your ballot might be an anti-education ghoul when you go to research them.

- 🚩 Really wants you to know about their support for “parental rights,” but uses vague phrases to describe these rights instead of saying “I think children are the property of their parents, aren’t people, and should not be allowed to think for themselves or figure out who they want to be.”
- 🚩 Supports school choice - aka diverting the money from the public schools they’re running to lead into private religious schools and vouchers.
- 🚩 Any nod to not teaching controversial subjects before high school, which actually means not wanting age-appropriate sex education, pretending LGBTQ people don’t exist, banning books, pretending racism doesn’t exist, and not teaching American history unless it’s whitewashed (aka made up).
- 🚩 Any candidate doubling down on protecting girls' sports or gender-segregated facilities is the code for not supporting transgender students and making it unsafe for them to get an education like any other kid in our state.
- 🚩 Are supported by an organization called Moms For Liberty or [Colorado Leaders for Academic Success](#).
- 🚩 Do they have a photo with their family that looks like children of the corn grew up and had more children of the corn? Maybe do some more research.

Want to know some districts where it’s likely the ghouls will be haunting your ballot? [Check out this article by Logan M. Davis in the Colorado Times Recorder](#). But we know there are ghouls everywhere (even in Denver)!

[Here’s a helpful resource from the ACLU of Colorado that outlines why these races are so critical and how to be informed about them.](#)

✅ **Vote YES on Any School Bonds or Mill Levy Overrides** - When we started writing this guide, the federal Department of Education hadn’t fired nearly all the staff in the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, which helps students who need accommodations or accessibility at school, but when we were finishing it up, that had happened. We wonder what fresh new horrors are going to happen between now and Election Day.....anyway.

That means you should really support our schools right now and a wonderful and easy way to do that is to vote YES on any bonds or mill levy overrides on your ballot to make sure we have

funding to teach our fucking kids in Colorado.

Aurora School Board

We recommend supporting the Aurora Education Association slate of candidates. That includes:

Gayla Charrier

Tramaine Duncan

Dr. Anne Keke

Kristin Mallory

Colorado Springs District 11 School Board

This is the school district where Pinky and her much cooler siblings went to school and they all graduated from William J. Palmer High School (Go Terrors!), so she is personally invested in this district not going to shit.

In 2022, the ghouls we warned you about took over the school board and have been enacting as much fuckery as they can. Most recently, they voted to get rid of the decades-old policy that let teachers have a union, but have also scapegoated and alienated transgender students instead of focusing on things that matter. This reign of terror has resulted in the district failing at educating students and it's time to restore some normalcy, for the love of cheese. If you live here you get to select up to 3 at-large candidates. Please vote for:

LeeAnn Baca Bartlett

Charles Johnson

Michael Carsten

Denver School Board

We tend to stick with [Denver Classroom Teacher Association recommendations](#) for the Denver School Board races, but Pinky wants to note they did not endorse two incumbents – Scott Esserman (running for District 3 but is currently in an At-Large seat) and Michelle Quattlebaum (District 4) – that they supported in 2021. If you want to know more, [here is a Chalkbeat article](#) explaining why DCTA didn't endorse Esserman and Quattlebaum. Pinky lives in District 3 and hasn't decided who she is voting for yet and your mileage may vary on who you support if you're in District 3 or 4 (as long as you don't vote for a GHOUL). Here is who DCTA endorsed:

At-Large - Amy Klein Molk

District 2 - Xóchitl "Sochi" Gaytán

District 3 - DJ Torres

District 4 - Monica Hunter

- 🧛 GHOUL ALERT 🧛: Jeremy Harris. He's waving the red flags around on his website by banning the teaching of "ideologically charged topics" of "sexuality, racism, and gender identity" before high school and is focused on "teaching American values," which we all know is a dog whistle to teach the worst lies and shit to kids. That's a no from us,

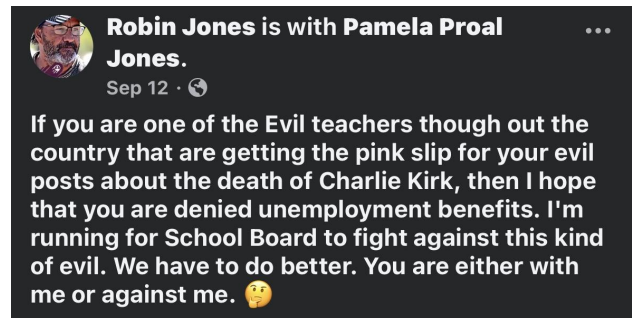
my dude.

Widefield District 3 School Board

A little bird asked us to weigh in on this one and we want to note Widefield District 3 is full of ghouls running for school board!

The first ghouls you want to avoid are Robin & Pamela Jones, who are running as a married couple (cringe!). They probably share an email address and they definitely post very reasonable things like this on the internet ➡

Then there is ghoul #3, Luis Ybarra. He is endorsed by ~~Karens~~ Moms for Liberty and pretty much waves every red flag we listed above. While his extreme views should appall all of us, the extreme lack of proper capitalization and grammar on his website might be as appalling as his views.



We recommend voting for the two normies on the ballot:

William Dolphin

Michelle Hubbard

...And then write in Donald Duck?

✅Vote YES on Widefield School District 4A and 4B

Why is Widefield in here again, you ask? It's because Pinky's grandma had a storied career in the District 3 Admin building and was named the District's support person of the year in 1991, OK?!?! Shoutout to Marj!

[Here is a good overview of what voting yes on 4A and 4B will do](#), but if you don't want to read that, let's just say there are termites in the preschool and voting YES will make sure those termites go bye-bye.



Other Resources

[League of Women Voters Ballot Information](#)

[Progress Now CO- Progressive Voter Guide](#)

[Colorado Health Foundation Local Ballot Measure Tracker](#): A great one stop shop to see what's going on local ballots across the state.

[Chalkbeat Voter Guide](#)

[Colorado Public Radio Voter Guide](#)

[Soul 2 Soul Sisters' Digital Black Voter Guide](#)

Did you know that CO voting laws are cool as hell?

Colorado has the most secure and modern election system in the whole country. Voting in Colorado is incredibly safe and easy. Like, really easy. You can register and vote on the same day, which means any Coloradan can register up until election day every year. If you register to vote earlier you get a ballot sent to you in the mail. You don't have to do anything other than thank ye old mail carriers. Oh but you like to vote in person?



THAT IS ALSO VERY EASY TO DO. All counties will open Voter Service and Polling Centers (VSPC's if you're in the biz). These centers open before election day so you can go in and have a person help you with things like, getting a new ballot, or figuring out why you didn't get a mail ballot. Maybe you just like to vote in person- they do that too. There is A LOT more information down below 📌 in the [Voting Information](#) section of this guide and available on the internet. Or email us –we got you. [Also, check out this voting FAQ from CPR.](#)

We continue to see Republicans trying to erode voters' faith in democracy. Trump continues to talk shit on mail in ballots while also casting mail in ballots. [A majority of Republican candidates for CO Gov recently said they would or would consider pardoning Tina Peters. Tina is still trying to re-write her role in election interference](#) (from jail). We will see continued attacks on our voting process and CO may be targeted for having such an accessible model. That's why it's worth continuing to talk with your friends and family about why the system is good, why it works and why we need to protect it.

Voting information

Check out the links on our website for more information about how to vote, where to vote, what to do if you lose a ballot, etc. [This stuff happens and there are a whole bunch of resources to help right here.](#)

How to get ready to vote: [Register to vote online](#) or [if you're already registered, check your voter registration status here](#), make sure your address is correct and up to date. You must live in Colorado by October 13th in order to vote on Nov 4th (you can register and vote on Election day). You do not need to have a fixed address, and students are eligible to vote [JustVoteColorado.org](#) for more information.

If you want to know everything that's going to be on your ballot, you can see your "[sample ballot](#)" here. This is handy if you need a guide to remember how to vote when you get your real ballot OR if you want to take notes/bug people about races/issues you don't know about.

How to vote a mail ballot: Every voter who has registered before October 27th will be mailed a ballot automatically starting October 10th (or earlier if you're an overseas voter). Once it arrives you can fill that mail-in ballot out at your leisure and drop it off at a drop box in your county (all counties have to have drop boxes open by Oct 21 some may start them sooner), or put it back in the mail (make sure to add postage). **If you want to mail it back make sure you do it by Oct 27th.** After that, you should drop it off. Your ballot must be returned by 7 PM on Election Day, not postmarked by that day -- returned by that day. We recommend dropping it off in person this year due to the risk of delays and uncertainty. Find a drop-off box [here](#). If you need someone to come pick up your ballot let us know, we will help!

You can check the status of your ballot, find out when it was mailed to you, and [confirm it was received by the county clerk at this link](#).

How to vote in-person: If you prefer to vote in-person, if you need assistance voting, if you want to go register and vote at the same time, or if your dog ate your ballot and you need a new one at the last minute -- go to a Voting Service and Polling Center in your county to vote early or get help. **Colorado will be opening hundreds of voting centers starting October 27th!** If you plan to vote in person, we recommend doing so before Election Day. Sure, procrastination is cool, but have you tried exercising your right to vote early? A perk to voting early (in person or by mail) is that your friends who work for/with campaigns will stop texting and calling you sooner. That will free up extra time for you to text others to make sure they're voting. Also, you won't have to worry about the stress of getting to the polling place or waiting in line on Election Day.

How to make sure your vote was counted: You can check the status of your ballot, find out when it was mailed to you, and [confirm it was received by the county clerk at this link on the Secretary of State's website](#). We highly recommend using ballot trace if your county has it since a little peace of mind to ensure your ballot makes it back to the clerk is really nice to have.



If you need help voting: You have the Constitutionally protected right to vote and there are people and resources who can help you navigate any obstacle you encounter. Visit [Just Vote Colorado](#) for lots of information or call 866-687-8683 (English) or 888-839-8682 (Español).

Scroll for Becky's obligatory creepy hot dog gif

