













2023 EYE ON THE BALLOT

The results are in! After a thoughtful and complicated election season, this is how we scored. The voters carefully weighed in and stood with the vast majority of our positions. We take a grace of 5 extra points for our score for our increased activity and participation in communicating these ballot measures to our business community, as well as adding an additional framework to our policy statement, further emphasizing the importance of affordability and safety to our members.

	 HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS FRAMEWORK	 PROPOSITION HH PROPERTY TAXES	 REIMAGINE POLICING PLAN	 2024 MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE TIMELINE	 2025 MINIMUM WAGE INCREASE TIMELINE	 SENATE BILL 213 HOUSING DEVELOPMENT	 PERMITTING AND DEVELOPMENT REVIEW	 WEST PEARL ST. REOPENING TO AUTOMOBILES	 LIBRARY DISTRICT TAXATION	 BOULDER COUNTY ISSUE 1B AFFORDABLE HOUSING TAX	 CITY OF BOULDER ISSUE 2A ARTS AND CULTURE TAX	 ECONOMIC VITALITY AND JOB GROWTH
MAYOR												
Aaron Brockett	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
CITY COUNCIL												
Taishya Adams	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗	✓
Tina Marquis	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ryan Schuchard	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Tara Winer	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	—	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

OUR APPRECIATION TO ALL THE CANDIDATES FOR THEIR AVAILABILITY, COLLEGIALLY, AND SHARED DESIRE FOR AN EVEN BRIGHTER FUTURE FOR OUR COMMUNITY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO FUTURE COLLABORATION AND CONSTRUCTIVE DISCOURSE WITH EACH OF THEM IN SERVICE TO SHARED GOALS!

POSITION	ISSUE	SUMMARY	PASS/FAIL	OUTCOME
✓	Colorado Proposition HH Property Tax Cuts and TABOR Refund Changes	With property taxes on a dramatic rise, and businesses bearing the brunt, this initiative will reduce the estimated property tax burden by up to \$847 this year and up to \$1550 next year on a \$1,000,000 in property value with the passage of Proposition HH.	✗	With the failure of Prop HH at the Ballot Box, the State Legislature conducted a special session that reduced taxes for residential property, among other relief measures. The Boulder Chamber will be advocating directly to local taxing districts for immediate short-term relief, while also seeking long-term state-wide solutions.
✓	Boulder County Issue 1B Affordable Housing Tax Extension	The need for affordable housing is abundantly clear in our community and this ballot item creates an ongoing \$18.5 million housing fund without raising taxes. Estimates state that we need to triple our 2018 number of affordable homes by 2035 to have enough housing for our workforce and aging population. The extension and repurposing of this 0.185% sales tax will fund: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low and moderate income housing development and maintenance • Supportive Services, such as mental health support for formerly unhoused individuals • Grants to non-profits and local governments 	✓	The Boulder Chamber sees the passage of issue 1B as a win for the Boulder community. The \$18.5 million accumulated, without raising current taxes, will provide additional housing for the Boulder County workforce, while also allocating funds for supportive mental health services.
✓	City of Boulder Issue 2A Arts and Culture Tax Extension	This extension of an existing 0.15% sales tax allows 50% of the revenue to continue funding critical services in Boulder's general fund while creating a dedicated stream of funding for arts and culture programming.	✓	With the passage of issue 2A, arts organizations will secure more funding to provide enrichment to the Boulder community, while also increasing the budget for local artists and arts and culture organizations. The Arts and Culture Tax Extension will improve the quality of life for Boulder residents and potentially provide a boost to our economy by making space for more arts-focused businesses. The Boulder Chamber is excited about the economic benefits of this investment in our arts and culture ecosystem.
✓	City of Boulder Ballot Issue 302 Safe Zones for Kids	In light of the recent <u>propane tank explosion</u> near Boulder High School, our the Boulder Chamber's Board of Directors believes we must encourage the City of Boulder to prioritize safety in sensitive areas of our community by supporting Ballot Issue 302. Our Community Affairs Council deeply appreciated that proponent and opponents of 302 quoting our <u>Homeless Solutions Policy Framework</u> in their arguments, demonstrating the relevance of this issue to addressing our identified public safety concerns.	✓	While Boulder Chamber appreciated hearing from both the opponents and proponents of Ballot Issue 302, Safe Zones for Kids, safety for businesses and residents is a top priority. We will continue to advocate for balanced policies that make Boulder a safe place to live and work, and address the needs of those in our community who are less fortunate.

HOW THE BOULDER CHAMBER ARRIVED AT THESE POSITIONS: The Boulder Chamber determines its positions on ballot measures after obtaining input from our diverse membership, receiving information from representatives on all sides of each issue, and through analysis of relevant background materials. Each ballot measure was subject to thoughtful scrutiny by the Boulder Chamber's Community Affairs Council (CAC) before final review and position adoption by the Boulder Chamber Board of Directors. For more information on the Boulder Chamber's ballot positions please contact Senior Director of Policy Programs, Jonathan Singer, at jonathan.singer@boulderchamber.com or Policy Programs Specialist, Devin Edgley, at devin.edgley@boulderchamber.com.