



Board of County Commissioners

BOULDER COUNTY RESOLUTION 2023-081

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF COUNTY ISSUE 1B: AFFORDABLE HOUSING SALES AND USE TAX

WHEREAS, the Boulder County Commissioners support County Issue 1B: Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax, a proposal to extend for fifteen years the existing 0.185% countywide sales and use tax for the purposes of funding existing and additional affordable and attainable housing and related supportive services within Boulder County; and

WHEREAS, the Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax Extension does not represent a new tax or a tax increase, but rather the extension and repurposing of an existing tax; and

WHEREAS, Boulder County supports efforts at both the state and local level to increase available housing and home ownership opportunities in Colorado, and is committed to maintaining and increasing safe, secure, and affordable housing for residents; and

WHEREAS, the Boulder County Commissioners' annual opinion polling consistently reveals that the rising cost of housing is a significant concern for residents with this year's polling revealing that 90% of voters felt that housing prices are so high in Boulder County that many workers cannot afford to live here and that 70% of renters felt that in the next 12 months, they might have to move out of Boulder County because of rent increases; and

WHEREAS, more than half of voters polled said they were in favor of local governments increasing the availability of reasonably priced housing for people with a lower income who live or work in Boulder County; and

WHEREAS, housing data and economic conditions mirror the sentiments of the polled voters and indicate an increasing lack of affordability and opportunities for housing and home ownership opportunities in Boulder County; and

WHEREAS, the Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership estimates \$25 million per year in additional funding from local sources is needed to meet the goal of 12% of all Boulder County homes being permanently affordable by 2035; and

Claire Levy *County Commissioner* **Marta Loachamin** *County Commissioner* **Ashley Stolzmann** *County Commissioner*

WHEREAS, providing opportunities for affordable and attainable housing is a matter of racial equity as recent data shows that Hispanic/Latinx families make up a disproportionate share of families experiencing homelessness for the first time, and Black, Indigenous, and People of Color make up a disproportionate share of Boulder County Housing Authority's residents relative to their overall population in the county; and

WHEREAS, if passed, the Affordable Housing Tax Extension could fund housing acquisition, development and construction, mechanisms for preserving affordable housing, support for residents at risk of losing their housing, and services for residents seeking housing and/or home ownership.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Boulder County Commissioners support County Issue 1B Affordable Housing Tax Extension and Revenue Change and urge voters to vote yes on November 7.

ADOPTED and approved this 19th day of September 2023

Claire Levy
Commissioner

Marta Loachamin
Commissioner

Ashley Stolzmann
Commissioner