



**Notice of Election to Increase Taxes and Debt
on a Referred Measure**

**2026 Montezuma County Ballot
Information Booklet**

ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 2026

THIS IS NOT A BALLOT

This Notice is addressed to “All Registered Voters” and is mailed to households with at least one active registered elector.



MONTEZUMA COUNTY

Kim Percell, County Clerk and Recorder
140 W. Main St. Suite 1, Cortez, CO 81321
Phone 970-565-3728 • <http://montezumacounty.gov>

**2026 NOTICE OF GENERAL ELECTION by MAIL BALLOT —
NOVEMBER 3, 2026**

**“NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES / TO RETAIN EXCESS
REVENUES / TO INCREASE DEBT ON A CITIZEN PETITION / ON A
REFERRED MEASURE”**

“NOTICE OF ELECTION TO EXTEND MILL LEVY”

This Notice is addressed to “All Registered Voters” and is mailed to households with
at least one active registered elector.

**RECEIPT OF THIS NOTICE DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN THAT
EVERY RESIDENT OF THE HOUSEHOLD IS ELIGIBLE TO VOTE.
YOU MAY NOT BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE ON EVERY ISSUE
CONTAINED IN THIS NOTICE**

THIS PAMPHLET CONTAINS SUMMARY STATEMENTS FOR BALLOT PROPOSITIONS AS REQUIRED BY THE STATE OF COLORADO CONSTITUTION, ARTICLE X, SECTION 20. The information contained in this booklet was prepared by persons required by law to provide summaries of ballot issues and fiscal information. The political subdivision providing this Voters’ Notice does not warrant the accuracy or truth of any statement made in the summaries as submitted by other political subdivisions, nor is it responsible for errors in spelling, grammar or punctuation of the submitted statements. A “YES/FOR” vote on any ballot question is a vote IN FAVOR OF changing current law or existing circumstances, and a “NO/AGAINST” vote on any ballot question is a vote AGAINST changing current law or existing circumstances.

ATTENTION: THIS IS NOT A BALLOT – This book contains information only.

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2026

ELECTION DAY OFFICE HOURS: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

ELECTION BY MAIL BALLOT: Mail ballots for the General Election must be received by the Montezuma County Clerk & Recorder’s Office by 7:00 p.m. on Election Day.

ELECTION OFFICE: Montezuma County Clerk & Recorder, 140 W. Main St. Suite 1, Cortez, Colorado 81321

TELEPHONE: (970) 565-3728

INTERNET ADDRESS: <http://montezumacounty.gov>

VOTER SERVICE AND POLLING CENTERS (VSPCs)

Montezuma County Annex 1

107 N. Chestnut, Cortez, CO 81321

Mon – Fri, Oct. 19 – Nov. 2: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Saturday, October 31: 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3 (Election Day): 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Dolores Public Library

1002 Railroad Ave, Dolores, CO 81323

Tuesday, Nov. 3 (Election Day): 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Mancos Public Library

211 W. 1st Street, Mancos, CO 81328

Tuesday, Nov. 3 (Election Day): 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Ute Mountain Ute Community Center

485 Sunset Blvd, Towaoc, CO 81334

Monday, Nov. 2: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, Nov. 3 (Election Day): 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

At a VSPC, voters may: register to vote; surrender a mail ballot and vote in person; replace a spoiled, defaced, or lost ballot; or drop off a voted mail ballot.

SECURE BALLOT DROP BOXES

Open Monday, October 12 – November 3 until 7:00 p.m.:

- Montezuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office: 140 W. Main St. Ste 1, Cortez, CO 81321
- Dolores Town Hall: 601 Central Avenue, Dolores, CO 81323
- Mancos Town Hall: 117 N. Main Street, Mancos, CO 81328
- Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Headquarters: 125 Mike Wash Road, Towaoc, CO 81334
- Cortez City Hall: 123 Roger Smith Avenue, Cortez, CO 81321
- Lewis Post Office: 18794 Hwy 491, Lewis, CO 81327

Postmarks do not count as a received date.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ENTITY	BALLOT ISSUE #	PAGE
Montezuma County	[1B]	4
City of Cortez	[2A]	5
Town of Mancos	[2B]	7

MONTEZUMA COUNTY — BALLOT ISSUE 1B

TO ALL REGISTERED VOTERS NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE COUNTY OF MONTEZUMA, STATE OF COLORADO

ELECTION DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 • **HOURS:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

LOCAL ELECTION OFFICE: 140 West Main St., Suite 1, Cortez, Colorado 81321; (970) 565-3728

DESIGNATED ELECTION OFFICIAL: Travis Anderson, County Administrator

BALLOT TITLE AND TEXT — BALLOT ISSUE NO. 1B:

SHALL MONTEZUMA COUNTY LODGING TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$404,598 IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2027 AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY INCREASING THE COUNTY LODGING TAX FROM 2% TO 5% EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027, EXCLUDING THE MUNICIPALITY OF CORTEZ WHICH HAS ITS OWN LODGING TAX, AND SHALL THE LODGING TAX REVENUES RECEIVED BY THE COUNTY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- TOURISM PROMOTION AND MARKETING;
- RECREATION, OUTDOOR RECREATION, AND VISITOR-RELATED INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS;
- DESTINATION DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND VISITOR EXPERIENCE ENHANCEMENTS;
- TOURISM RESILIENCY, EMERGENCY RESPONSE, AND RECOVERY EFFORTS RELATED TO EVENTS AFFECTING VISITATION;
- ADMINISTRATION, OVERSIGHT, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTHORIZED LODGING TAX PROGRAMS;

AND SHALL THE COUNTY BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND ALL REVENUES GENERATED BY SUCH TAX AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, OR ANY OTHER LAW?

☐ YES/FOR	☐ NO/AGAINST
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TOTAL GOVERNMENT EXPENSES

Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2026 (Estimated)	\$53,077,520
2025 (Actual)	\$43,292,072
2024 (Actual)	\$39,530,771
2023 (Actual)	\$48,155,920
2022 (Actual)	\$50,304,936

Overall change from 2022 to 2026: 5.5% / \$2,772,584

Estimated Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase for Fiscal Year 2027 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

\$404,598

Estimated 2027 Full Fiscal Year Spending without proposed increase:

\$53,077,520

COMMENTS: No comments were submitted that met the statutory criteria for inclusion, for or against the ballot measure.

CITY OF CORTEZ — BALLOT ISSUE 2A

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS
Notice of Election to Increase Taxes on a Referred Measure
City of Cortez, Montezuma County, Colorado

Election Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 • **Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Danielle Wells, Designated Election Official
123 Roger Smith Ave., Cortez, Colorado 81321 • (970) 565-3402

Ballot Title and Text — BALLOT ISSUE NO. 2A:

SHALL CITY OF CORTEZ TAXES BE INCREASED NOT MORE THAN \$900,000.00 IN TAX COLLECTION YEAR 2027 AND BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS AS ARE GENERATED ANNUALLY THEREAFTER BY INCREASING THE CITY LODGERS' TAX FROM 2% TO 6% EFFECTIVE JANUARY 1, 2027, AND SHALL THE LODGERS' TAX REVENUES RECEIVED BY THE CITY BE USED FOR THE FOLLOWING PURPOSES:

- INVESTING IN TOURISM MARKETING, INCLUDING ADVERTISING THE COMMUNITY;
- ATTRACTING AND FACILITATING ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REDEVELOPMENT OF PROPERTIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE WITHIN THE CITY, INCLUDING IMPROVING WALKABILITY, LANDSCAPING, STRUCTURES, AND OTHER IMPROVEMENTS; AND
- INVESTING IN ARTS AND CULTURAL EVENTS, PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES;

PROVIDED THAT THE COUNCIL SHALL ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO IMPLEMENT THE TAX INCREASE AS PROVIDED IN THIS QUESTION (INCLUDING PROVISIONS FOR THE METHOD OF COLLECTION AND ENFORCEMENT, ANY EXEMPTIONS FROM THE TAX, AND OTHER DETAILS) AND MAY ADJUST THE RATE OF THE LODGERS' TAX FROM TIME TO TIME SO LONG AS IT DOES NOT EXCEED 6%; AND SHALL ALL AMOUNTS RECEIVED BY THE CITY FROM SUCH TAX AND THE EARNINGS THEREON BE COLLECTED AND SPENT WITHOUT LIMITATION OR CONDITION AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE UNDER ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, OR ANY OTHER LAW?

☐ YES/FOR	☐ NO/AGAINST
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CITY OF CORTEZ — BALLOT ISSUE 2A (continued)

TOTAL CITY FISCAL YEAR SPENDING

Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2026 (estimated)	\$15,929,747
2025 (actual)	\$14,775,456
2024 (actual)	\$15,723,310
2023 (actual)	\$17,246,028
2022 (actual)	\$12,195,245

Overall change from 2022 to 2026: 31% / \$3,734,502

City Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2027 (the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

\$900,000

City Estimate of 2027 Fiscal Year Spending Without the Proposed Tax Increase:

\$16,314,604

SUMMARY OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The following summary was prepared from materials filed by persons in favor of the ballot issue.

Comments FOR Ballot Issue No. 2A:

The Lodgers' Tax has not been raised in many years and remains lower than comparable municipalities in the region. Importantly, it is paid by overnight visitors, not Cortez residents. The permitted uses in this measure directly address the need to attract and retain visitors. Tourism marketing brings people to Cortez, while investment in walkability and downtown improvements gives them encouragement to stay longer and spend more locally. Funding for arts and cultural programs supports the musicians, artists, and small venues that make Cortez a destination rather than a drive through. This revenue could expand on drawing visitors to Cortez by supporting local organizations, special events, and free family friendly gatherings such as the balloon glow and Third Thursday. It could also strengthen sporting and community organizations working to promote Cortez as an affordable place to stay, shop, and dine, and help boost larger regional events like the Ute Mountain Rodeo and 12 Hours of Mesa Verde. Together, these investments generate more tourism, which benefits local businesses, hotels, and restaurants. Additional funding could support development and improvements in areas like South Broadway and enable new community events and opportunities. Funds could go to support downtown walkability and improve transportation across the Cortez area. Voters are encouraged to approve this measure.

Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue No. 2A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

TOWN OF MANCOS — BALLOT ISSUE 2B

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS NOTICE OF AN ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE TOWN OF MANCOS

Election Date: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 • **Hours:** 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Election by Mail Ballot — deadline for receipt of ballots: November 3, 2026, 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Designated Election Official: Mercedes Granados, 117 N. Main St., Mancos, CO 81328; (970) 533-7725

Coordinated Election Official: Kim Percell, Montezuma County Clerk and Recorder, 140 West Main Street, Suite 1, Cortez, Colorado 81321; (970) 565-3728

Ballot Title and Text — Town of Mancos Ballot Issue 2B:

SHALL TOWN OF MANCOS TAXES BE INCREASED \$325,000 IN 2027 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR) BY SUCH AMOUNTS AS MAY BE GENERATED THROUGH THE IMPOSITION OF AN ADDITIONAL TOWN-WIDE SALES TAX OF .40% (FOR A TOTAL SALES TAX OF 4.4%) TO BE UTILIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR STREET IMPROVEMENTS, BROADBAND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, EQUIPMENT AND OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE RELATING TO THE SAME; SUCH TAX INCREASES TO COMMENCE JANUARY 1, 2027 AND CONTINUE ANNUALLY THEREAFTER; AND SHALL SUCH TAX REVENUES AND INVESTMENT EARNINGS THEREON BE COLLECTED, RETAINED AND SPENT 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 OR ANY OTHER LAW?

_____ YES/FOR	_____ NO/AGAINST
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Comments FOR Ballot Issue 2B: No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 2B: No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this booklet contains all notices as provided by the various governmental entities pursuant to Article X, Section 20 of the Colorado Constitution.

Kim Percell
Montezuma County Clerk and Recorder



Kim Percell
County Clerk and Recorder
140 W. Main St. Suite 1
Cortez, CO 81321
Phone 970-565-3728
<http://montezumacounty.gov>

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