



Downtown
Denver
Partnership

BALLOT 2025 GUIDE

More information:
downtowndenver.com/vote



Vote this November 4.

At the Downtown Denver Partnership, we know that elections - no matter the size or scale - have the power to significantly impact our city and state. We believe it is critically important to cast an educated vote - every time. The Partnership publishes this ballot guide to help you navigate the ballot questions and issues you'll be asked to vote on during this election.

Looking at each ballot measure through the lens of our Policy Priorities and potential impact on downtown and our economic competitiveness, the Partnership has taken seven positions this election cycle. We strongly encourage our members and the downtown community to carefully consider each and every issue before casting a vote.

Read on to learn more about the state and local ballot initiatives you'll be deciding on in the November 2025 Coordinated Election.

Summary of Positions

2A
BALLOT-ISSUE

Vibrant Denver Bond
SUPPORT

2B
BALLOT-ISSUE

Vibrant Denver Bond
SUPPORT

2C
BALLOT-ISSUE

Vibrant Denver Bond
SUPPORT

2D
BALLOT-ISSUE

Vibrant Denver Bond
SUPPORT

2E
BALLOT-ISSUE

Vibrant Denver Bond
SUPPORT

2F
REFERRED QUESTION

Excise & Licenses Name Change
SUPPORT

2G
REFERRED QUESTION

At-Large Elections
SUPPORT

310
REFERENDUM

Retaining the Flavored Tobacco Ban
NEUTRAL

LL
PROPOSITION

Healthy School Meals for All
Revenue Retention
NEUTRAL

MM
PROPOSITION

Increase State Taxes for the Healthy
School Meals for All Program
NEUTRAL

Ballot Issue 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D, 2E – Vibrant Denver Bond

SUPPORT

The Vibrant Denver Bond is a \$950 million infrastructure package that will fund more than 200 repairs, improvements and upgrades to the critical infrastructure Denver residents, businesses and visitors rely on daily – without increasing taxes. The funding will primarily go toward transportation improvements (47%), city facilities like libraries and community centers (26%), and parks and recreation infrastructure (18%), with remaining funds for housing, ADA improvements at shelters, and health facilities.

Why vote YES?

Bonds offer the opportunity to make critical infrastructure improvements, upgrades and additions, and this bond is no different. Particularly in a time of economic uncertainty and budget shortfalls, the investments made by the Vibrant Denver bond will keep the City moving forward.

Referred Question 2F – Excise & Licenses Name Change

SUPPORT

Denver voters will be asked to vote on a measure to rename the Department of Excise and Licenses (EXL) to the Department of Licensing and Consumer Protection (DLCP). The name change is intended to modernize and clarify the department's services for residents, and if approved by voters, corresponding updates would be made throughout the Denver Municipal Code

Why vote YES?

The Downtown Denver Partnership supports good governance and efforts that support stronger understanding of government functions among citizens. This name change seeks to create greater clarity into what the Department does to serve Denverites day-to-day, which we see as a worthy endeavor.

Referred Question 2G – At-Large Elections

SUPPORT

The November 2025 ballot will include a measure to change how Denver's two at-large City Council seats are elected. Currently, both at-large candidates run together on one ballot where voters can choose up to two candidates, and the top two vote-getters win regardless of whether they receive a majority. The proposed change would split this into two separate races - "At-Large A" and "At-Large B" - requiring each winning candidate to receive a majority of votes in their respective race.

Why vote YES?

At-large positions are meant to represent the entire city and, as such, we believe that they should be elected by a citywide majority. Today, at-large candidates have been elected with between 10 – 25% of the vote, while all other municipal candidates are required to achieve 50% + 1 to secure their seat. In addition to wanting to ensure that our at-large representatives truly represent the entire city, we also know that downtown benefits from citywide perspectives that can be brought by leaders in these seats.

Referendum 310 – Retaining the Flavored Tobacco Ban

NEUTRAL

This measure seeks to retain Denver's ban on the sale of all flavored nicotine and tobacco products (including vapes, chews, pouches and cigars). Denver City Council originally passed the ban in 2024 and it took effect in March 2025.

Proposition LL – Healthy School Meals for All Revenue Retention

NEUTRAL

Prop LL asks voters to let Colorado keep money the program has already collected to fund Healthy School Meals for All. As mandated by TABOR, a 'Yes' vote is required to retain the additional funds raised beyond the \$100.7 million that was referenced in Prop FF in 2022.

If Proposition LL passes, free school meals will continue to be available to all students through the 2025-26 school year. If Proposition LL does not pass, many schools will stop providing free meals for all in January, and the state will refund \$12.4 million to households earning \$300,000 or more.

Proposition MM – Increase State Taxes for the Healthy School Meals for All Program

NEUTRAL

Proposition MM asks voters to raise the additional funding needed (up to \$95 million) to continue offering free school meals for all students beyond the 25-26 school year. This measure also seeks to provide funding for districts to prepare more meals from scratch using local ingredients from Colorado farmers, ranchers and other food businesses and increases compensation for the front-line school nutrition professionals who prepare and serve meals.

Proposition MM allows any funds remaining after fully funding Healthy School Meals for All to be used to implement SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) — which helps more than 600,000 Coloradans afford groceries each month — in the face of federal cuts to the program. This measure proposes raising these funds by limiting state income tax deductions only for households making \$300,000/year or more (an average tax increase of \$486 per household). If Proposition MM does not pass, no additional taxes will be imposed on these households.

