### NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES AND DEBT ON A REFERRED MEASURE

# 2025 MONTEZUMA COUNTY BALLOT INFORMATION BOOKLET

**ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2025** 



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.org

### 2025 NOTICE OF COORDINATED ELECTION by MAIL BALLOT NOVEMBER 4, 2025

"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 4, 2025

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

ELECTION BY MAIL BALLOT: Mail ballots for the Coordinated 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.org/web/

## BALLOT DROP OFF LOCATION, VOTER SERVICE & POLLING CENTERS and EARLY VOTING: Montezuma County Annex I

107 N Chestnut, Cortez, CO 81321

Monday through Friday (Oct. 27 - Nov. 3) 8:00 AM to 5:00PM

Saturday Nov. 1 9:00AM to 1:00PM

Tuesday, Nov. 4 (Election Day) 7:00AM to 7:00PM

#### **Secure Ballot Drop Boxes:**

Open Monday Oct. 13 - Nov. 4 at 7:00PM

 Montezuma County Clerk and Recorder's Office: 140 W. Main St. Ste 1 Cortez, CO 81321

Open Oct. 28 - Nov. 4 at 7:00pm

- Dolores Town Hall: 420 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 Ave Cortez, CO 81321
- Cox's Corner: 18794 Hwy 491 Lewis, CO 81327

#### Voters may:

- Register to vote
- Surrender mail ballot and vote in person
- Replace spoiled, defaced, or lost ballots
- Drop off voted mail ballots

#### Postmarks do not count as a received date

### **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

ENTITY	BALLOT ISSUE#	PAGE
Mancos School District Re-6	[4A]	4-5
Cortez Cemetery District	[6A]	6
Montezuma Water District 1	[6B]	7

#### **ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

### MANCOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-6 MONTEZUMA COUNTY, COLORADO

#### NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election date: November 4, 2025

Election hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 4, 2025 7:00 p.m.

Local election office address and phone number:

Designated Election Official: Tiffany Aspromonte, Mancos School District RE-6, 355 W. Grand Avenue, Mancos, Colorado 81328; telephone number (970) 533-7746

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

#### Ballot title and text:

Mancos School District RE-6 Ballot Issue 4A

SHALL MANCOS SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-6 TAXES BE INCREASED BY \$600,000 FOR COLLECTION IN 2026, AND GROW ANNUALLY BY INFLATION THEREAFTER, BY WHATEVER AMOUNTS ARE RAISED FROM AN OVERRIDE MILL LEVY IMPOSED AT A RATE NECESSARY TO GENERATE SUCH AUTHORIZED AMOUNTS, FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING STUDENT EDUCATION BY INCREASING THE SALARIES OF ALL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES INCLUDING:

- ATTRACTING AND RETAINING QUALIFIED STAFF BY RAISING BASE SALARIES CLOSER TO THE MARKET AVERAGES FOR SURROUNDING SCHOOL DISTRICTS; AND
- ESTABLISHING AN INDEPENDENT CITIZEN REVIEW COMMITTEE TO MONITOR AND REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY TO ENSURE THE TAXES ARE USED FOR THE PURPOSES IDENTIFIED IN THIS BALLOT MEASURE;

WHICH TAXES (I) SHALL BE USED SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSES IDENTIFIED IN THIS BALLOT MEASURE, (II) SHALL BE IN ADDITION TO THE PROPERTY TAXES OTHERWISE AUTHORIZED TO BE LEVIED FOR THE GENERAL FUND, (III) SHALL BE CALCULATED BASED UPON INFLATION, AS DEFINED IN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE STATE CONSTITUTION, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR PRECEDING THE DATE ON WHICH THE TAXES ARE LEVIED; (IV) SHALL BE SUBJECT TO STATE LAWS, REGULATIONS AND DISTRICT POLICIES FOR ACCOUNTABILITY AND

TRANSPARENCY, AND (V) SHALL CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE?

#### Actual historical and current estimated fiscal year spending information:

Fiscal Year	Fiscal Year Spending
2021-2022 (actual)	\$6,546,292
2022-2023 (actual)	6,887,603
2023-2024 (actual)	8,002,901
2024-2025 (actual)	9,500,383
2025-2026 (current year estimated)	8,306,548
Overall percentage change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2021-2022 through 2025-2026:	26.89%
Overall dollar change in fiscal year spending over the five-year period from 2021-2022 through 2025-2026:	\$1,760,256
Estimated 2025-2026 fiscal year spending without taking into account the tax increase authorized by Ballot Issue 4A:	\$8,306,548
Estimated 2026 tax increase authorized Ballot Issue 4A:	\$600,000

#### Summaries of written comments filed with the election officer:

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons FOR Ballot Issue 4A:

#### Vote YES on 4A! A YES vote will:

Attract and Retain Educators with salaries that are competitive with neighboring districts. We are the lowest paying district in our region and at risk of losing staff to neighboring districts every year. Recruiting quality teachers is always difficult in a rural area, especially when educators can work in nearby districts with higher pay.

Improve Outcomes for Students by ensuring experienced and effective educators remain in our district. Staff longevity builds a stronger community and brings better outcomes for students. Mancos students deserve the best!

Ensure Financial Stability with local mill levy funds that stay in our community and go directly to staff salaries. Passing the mill levy gives our rural district and staff salaries much-needed security from ever-changing state and federal allocations. A mill levy override is the only way to bring in ongoing funding to our district for salaries aside from a sales-tax increase.

The following summaries were prepared from comments filed by persons AGAINST Ballot Issue 4A:

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

#### TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

#### NOTICE OF ELECTION TO INCREASE TAXES ON A REFERRED MEASURE

Election Date: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 <u>Election Hours</u>: 7:00 A.M. to

7:00 P.M.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

140 West Main Street, Cortez, Colorado 81321; 970-5653728

Ballot Title and Text:

#### **CORTEZ CEMETERY DISTRICT BALLOT ISSUE 6A:**

SHALL THE CORTEZ CEMETERY DISTRICT TAXES BE INCREASED BY INCREASING THE DISTRICT'S EXISTING TAX BY .539 MILLS RESULTING IN A TOTAL DISTRICT MILL LEVY RATE, EXCLUSIVE OF REFUNDS, ABATEMENTS, OR DEBT SERVICE, NOT TO EXCEED .890 MILLS. THE REQUESTED INCREASE WILL PRODUCE AN ADDITIONAL ESTIMATED \$90,228 (FIRST FULL FISCAL YEAR DOLLAR INCREASE) BEGINNING IN LEVY YEAR 2025 FOR COLLECTION IN CALENDAR YEAR 2026. FUNDS RESULTING FROM THE REQUESTED MILL INCREASE SHALL BE EXPENDED FOR:

- CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS TO DISTRICT PROPERTY;
- GENERAL DISTRICT MAINTENANCE NEEDS; AND
- DISTRICT EQUIPMENT NEEDS.

AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND SPEND ALL TAX REVENUE COLLECTED FROM SUCH TOTAL PROPERTY TAX RATE AND ALL REVENUE RECEIVED FROM ANY SOURCE, COMMENCING JANUARY 1, 2026, AND CONTINUING THEREAFTER, AS A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, OFFSET AND EXCEPTION TO THE LIMITS WHICH WOULD OTHERWISE APPLY UNDER TABOR (ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION) OR AND AS A PERMANENT WAIVER OF THE 5.5% LIMITATION UNDER §29-1-301, C.R.S. AND §29-1-1702, C.R.S. AND ALL OTHER LAWS?

#### Total District Fiscal Year Spending:

2025 (estimated)	\$ <u>150,560.00</u>
2024 (actual)	\$ <u>150,604.00</u>
2023 (actual)	\$ <u>160,071.00</u>
2022 (actual)	\$170,037.00
2021 (actual)	\$136,062.00

Overall percentage change from 2021 to 2025: 10.62%
Overall dollar change from 2021 to 2025: \$14,444.00

#### Proposed District Tax Increase:

Estimated first full fiscal year maximum dollar amount of increase: \$90,228.00
Estimated first full fiscal year spending without the increase: \$152,000.00

<u>Summary of Written Comments For Ballot Issue 6A</u>: The increase in funds is needed for the District to serve District constituents more effectively and keep up with increasing costs.

<u>Summary of Written Comments Against Ballot Issue 6A</u>: None received.

#### **TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS**

#### **NOTICE OF AN ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE**

#### **MONTEZUMA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT No. 1**

Election Date: Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Election Hours: 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Election by Mail Ballot

Deadline for receipt of ballots: November 5, 2024 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Designated Election Official: David Lamke, Montezuma County Water District No. 1, 6821 Highway 160-491, Cortez, CO 81321, Telephone number (970) 565-3343

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

#### **Ballot Title and Text:**

#### Montezuma County Water District No. 1 Ballot Issue 6B

SHALL MONTEZUMA COUNTY WATER DISTRICT #1 ("DISTRICT") WAIVE THE 5.25% PROPERTY TAX LIMIT FOR ALL FUTURE PROPERTY TAX YEARS, AS SUCH PROPERTY TAX LIMIT IS CREATED BY HOUSE BILL 24B-1001 AND SET FORTH IN C.R.S. 29-1-1702, AND SHALL THE DISTRICT BE AUTHORIZED TO COLLECT, RETAIN, AND EXPEND THE FULL AMOUNT OF ALL REVENUES RECEIVED IN 2026 AND EACH YEAR THEREAFTER, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, TAX REVENUES, GRANTS, LOANS, CONTRIBUTIONS, ASSESSMENTS, AND ANY OTHER REVENUES IMPOSED, COLLECTED OR AUTHORIZED BY LAW AND ANY INTEREST THERON AS A VOTER APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, WITHOUT REGARD TO ANY SPENDING, REVENUE-RAISING, OR OTHER LIMITATION CONTAINED WITHIN ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION, C.R.S. 29-1-301 AND C.R.S. 29-1-1702, OR ANY OTHER LAW?

YES/FOR NO/AGAINST

#### **Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 6B:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

#### **Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 6B:**

No comments were filed by the constitutional deadline.

I hereby certify that this booklet contains all the 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