

CITY OF WOODLAND PARK NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1480, Series, 2024, will be held on September 5, 2024 at 6:30pm. The aforesaid Ordinance was posted on the City's website August 20, 2024 prior to the City Council meeting, passed on first reading August 15, 2024 ordered published, as required by Section 7.6 of the Charter of the City of Woodland Park

**CITY OF WOODLAND PARK , COLORADO  
ORDINANCE NO. 1480  
(Series of 202 4)**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND PARK ,  
COLORADO, SUBMITTING A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE  
CITY ASKING WHETHER THE 1.09% SALES TAX ADOPTED BY CITY VOTERS IN  
2016 TO BENEFIT THE SC HOOL DISTRICT OUGHT TO BE REPEALED.**

**WHEREAS** , Woodland Park voters in 2016 approved a 1.09% increase in the City sales tax, with the proceeds pledged to the Woodland Park School District for “educational purposes,” and

**WHEREAS** , the population and the nature of the leadership at both the City and at the School District have changed substantially since 2016, and

**WHEREAS** , the school tax obliges Woodland Park retail merchants to collect tax at a higher rate than their competitors in surrounding jurisdictions, so that the City can transfer approximately \$3.2 million dollars annually over to the school district, and

**WHEREAS** , voters in only a very few Colorado municipalities have taken the unusual step of adopting a City tax and pledging the proceeds to the local school district, and

**WHEREAS** , most Colorado school districts must impose their own taxes, and the local school board is thus answerable to its own voters, rather than to a local City Council, for how such local tax dollars are spent, and

**WHEREAS** , the attenuated and indirect accountability of the School District to District (and City) taxpayers as to how the School District spends the proceeds of this tax is contrary to the public interest. and

**WHEREAS** , the 2016 tax places the Woodland Park City Council in the awkward and novel position of having to oversee School District expenditure of City tax revenues, a function the City would not have to perform if the School Board went directly to their own voters for their funding needs.

**WHEREAS**, in light of the unusual nature of this tax and changes in the Woodland Park School District and in the City of Woodland Park since 2016,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND PARK, COLORADO, AS FOLLOWS:**

**Section 1. Referral to voters; effective date.** Pursuant to the Charter, the Colorado Constitution, and C.R.S. § 31-11-111, this ordinance shall be submitted to the electors of the City and shall become effective if approved by the majority of the voters at the municipal special election to be held on November 5, 2024:

**Section 2.** Effective June 30, 2025, Section 3.08.030(A) of the Woodland Park Code shall be amended as follows:

A. There is levied a tax or excise upon all sales of tangible personal property and services specified in **Section 3.08.050.** Except as provided in this subparagraph, the rate levied shall be ~~four and nine hundredths (4.09)~~ three (3.00) percent.

**Section 3.** The ballot title for the proposal shall be as follows:

<p><b>SHALL THE CITY'S 1.09% SALES TAX, THE PROCEEDS OF WHICH ARE ANNUALLY TURNED OVER TO THE WOODLAND PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT, BE REPEALED, WHERE THE EFFECT OF A "YES" VOTE IS TO REPEAL THE TAX, AND THE EFFECT OF A "NO" VOTE IS TO CONTINUE THE TAX?</b></p>	<p><b>YES</b> _____</p> <p><b>NO</b> _____</p>
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PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF AUGUST 2024.

City of Woodland Park

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Kellie Case, Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk, Suzanne Leclercq