

## **ORDINANCE NO. 1501, SERIES 2025**

### **AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND PARK, COLORADO, SUBMITTING A BALLOT QUESTION TO THE ELECTORS OF THE CITY TO AMEND THE CITY CHARTER TO CHANGE THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION TO THE OFFICE OF MAYOR OR COUNCILMEMBER.**

**WHEREAS**, Charter Section 3.4 provides that any person appointed or elected to the office of Mayor or Councilmember shall“ have been a resident of the City of Woodland Park not less than one (1) year immediately preceding such election or appointment.” ; and

**WHEREAS**, a modest increase in the residency requirement will help assure that candidates and appointees have a greater knowledge of City and community issues and priorities than those with a mere 12 months of residence ; and

**WHEREAS**, a residency requirement of two years for Mayoral and Council candidates and appointees, would in no way prevent citizens with less than two years residency in the City from serving on various boards or commissions in the City, in order to become acquainted with City issues; and,

**WHEREAS**, the City Council has determined that Woodland Park voters should be asked whether increasing said residency requirement to two years would serve the public interest.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE CITY OF WOODLAND PARK, COLORADO, ORDAINS:**

**Section 1:** Pursuant to the Charter of the City of Woodland Park, and the Constitution of the State of Colorado, all action heretofore taken (not inconsistent with the provisions of this ordinance) by the City and the officers thereof, directed towards the election and the objects and purposes herein stated is hereby ratified, approved and confirmed. This proposal shall hereby be submitted to the electors of the City, shall become effective if, and only if, it is approved by the majority of the voters at the regular municipal election to be held November 4, 2025.

**Section 2:** That the following ballot language is hereby referred to the voters at said election:

**PROPOSED BALLOT QUESTION REGARDING ADOPTING A TWO YEAR RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR MAYORAL OR COUNCIL CANDIDATES OR APPOINTMENTS**

<p><b>SHALL SECTION 3.4 OF THE CITY OF WOODLAND PARK CHARTER BE AMENDED TO INCREASE FROM ONE YEAR TO TWO YEARS THE RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OR APPOINTMENT AS MAYOR OR CITY COUNCILMEMBER?</b></p>	<p>YES _____</p> <p>NO _____</p>
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**Section 3:** Should the above question become ratified by the electorate of the City of Woodland Park at the regular election, the Woodland Park Charter section 3.4 shall be amended as follows:

**Section 3.4 - Qualifications**

No person shall be eligible to be elected or appointed to the office of Mayor or Councilman unless he has been a citizen of the United States for not less than one (1) year, is at least eighteen (18) years of age, and shall have been a resident of the City of Woodland Park not less than ~~one (1) year~~ TWO (2) YEARS immediately preceding such election or appointment. Any person who is a resident of the City and/or any area annexed or consolidated with the City for the required length of time, as herein provided, shall be deemed to meet the resident requirements of this section. Each elected official shall maintain his residency in the City throughout his term of office. If an elected official shall move from the City during his term of office, his seat shall be vacant and such vacancy shall be filled as provided by this Charter. No elected official shall be a salaried employee of the City during his term of office, nor perform personal services for the City for which he is compensated, other than as provided in this Charter. A person who has been convicted of a felony shall not be eligible to become a candidate for a City office.

**Section 4.** No amendments are proposed by this ordinance to those sections, subsections, paragraphs, or subparagraphs of the Charter which do not appear in Section 3 of this ordinance.

**Section 5.** Within twenty (20) days after approval of any of the Charter amendments, the City Clerk shall file with the Secretary of State a certified copy of each amendment. The amendments shall take effect on the date of such filing.

**Section 6.** All acts, orders, resolutions, ordinances, or parts thereof, in conflict herewith shall be repealed at the time the amendments provided for herein take effect. However, no such repeal shall be construed to destroy any property right, contract right, or right of action of any nature or kind, vested in or against the City by virtue of any such act, order, resolution, ordinance, or part thereof, theretofore existing or otherwise accruing to the City.

**Section 7.** If any portion of this ordinance is held to be unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of this ordinance.

**Section 8.** The officers of the City are authorized to take all action necessary or appropriate to effectuate the provisions of this Ordinance.

**Section 9.** This Ordinance shall take effect pursuant to the home rule Charter of the City of Woodland Park, Colorado.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 21<sup>st</sup> day of Aug 2025, the vote upon roll call being as follows:

Ayes: 6

Nays: 0

Absent /Abstain:

PASSED BY CITY COUNCIL ON SECOND AND FINAL READING FOLLOWING PUBLIC HEARING THIS 4<sup>th</sup> DAY OF September, 2025.

Ayes: 5

Nays: 0

Absent /Abstain: (1 absent Coer)

Kellie Case  
Honorable Mayor Kellie Case

ATTEST:  
Suzanne Leclercq  
Suzanne Leclercq, City Clerk

Approved as to Form:  
Geoff Wilson  
Geoff Wilson, City Attorney