

TO: ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

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

TOWN OF MILLIKEN
Weld Counties, Colorado

Election Date:
Election Hours:

Tuesday, November 3, 2015
7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number:

Weld County Clerk & Recorder
1401 North 17th Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631
Telephone: 970-304-6525 ext. 3070

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT ISSUE 2H:

SHALL SALES AND USE TAXES FOR MILLIKEN BE INCREASED \$450,000 ANNUALLY IN FISCAL 2016, TO BE USED ONLY FOR PUBLIC STREET IMPROVEMENTS, MAINTENANCE AND REPAIRS, SIDEWALKS, AND STREET LIGHTING, AND FOR CAPITAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND IMPROVEMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, AND THE PURCHASE OF LAND AND BUILDINGS, AS DETERMINED BY THE TOWN BOARD, BY INCREASING THE SALES AND USE TAXES FROM 2.5 PERCENT TO 3.5 PERCENT TO CONTINUE FOR TEN YEARS WHEN THE TAX RATE SHALL RETURN TO 2.5 PERCENT WITH ALL TAX REVENUES GENERATED FROM THE INCREASED TAX AUTHORIZED HEREIN AND FROM ANY EARNINGS FROM THE INVESTMENT OF SUCH REVENUES TO CONSTITUTE A VOTER-APPROVED REVENUE CHANGE, AND AN EXCEPTION TO THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION OR ANY OTHER LAW?

Total Town Fiscal Year Spending

Fiscal Year

2015 (budgeted, includes flood recovery, federal & state grants)	\$13,431,924
2014 (estimated actual)	\$ 7,160,457
2013 (actual)	\$ 6,240,802
2012 (actual)	\$ 4,901,259
2011 (actual)	\$ 4,982,754

Overall percentage change from 2011 to 2015	169.57%
Overall dollar change from 2011 to 2015	\$ 8,449,170

Proposed Tax Increase

Town Estimate of the Maximum Dollar Amount of the Proposed Tax Increase For Fiscal Year 2016
(the First Full Fiscal Year of the Proposed Tax Increase):

BALLOT ISSUE: \$453,760

Information on Town's Current Debt*

Principal Amount Outstanding Debt:	\$2,560,000
Maximum Annual Repayment Cost:	\$294,212
Remaining Total Repayment Cost:	\$3,387,813

* Excluded from debt are enterprise and annual appropriation obligations.

Summary of Written Comments FOR Ballot Issue 2H:

Your YES vote on a one cent sales tax increase:

Envision Your Hometown with

- Properly Maintained Streets
- Additional stoplight/traffic controls
- Pedestrian Trails that Connect Our Community
- A New Milliken Activities Complex

Why the sales tax?

- 1) The combination of property values and a smaller percentage of commercial and industrial properties in Milliken make Milliken's property tax rate and proportion of property tax revenue among the highest in Weld County.
- 2) Milliken's valuation is heavily dependent on oil & gas valuation – which can have wild swings (high variability) from year to year. Revenue from property taxes on oil & gas properties will be significantly reduced in the near future.
- 3) Milliken's sales tax rate is among the lowest for all Weld County cities and similar size cities statewide.
- 4) The 2015 Budget includes a number of projects related to grants. Grants that resulted from the 2013 flood and other various projects and opportunities that became available. Future budgets will not include grant funding at the same level.

Your YES vote on the one cent sales tax increase will make Milliken an even better place to live, work and play including:

- Street Improvement/Maintenance--
\$225K will equal another street project with about the same number of blocks that will be milled and over-layered and the same number of slurry sealed or cracked sealed. Currently HUTF is the only funding source for road improvement and additional revenue generated from excess property tax from oil and gas receipt (increase capped by TABOR); Town has over 80 lane miles of streets to maintain. There will be more needs.

- Capital Improvements

Field House-- \$150K would address a portion of the annual payment

- Traffic Control

With the construction of the TRPR Field House, additional traffic will necessitate an additional stop light on Hwy 60

- Trail Connections/Pedestrian Pathways

Completion of connectivity to The Field House from central part of town; as part of a recent study, the RR crossing at Alice Av. alone will be in the neighborhood of \$150-\$200K.

Other Advantages:

- Downtown capital improvements
- Diversification of revenue source
- Potential reduction in municipal mill levy
- Tax proposal will sunset in 10 years without another vote.

Summary of Written Comments AGAINST Ballot Issue 2H:

Any increased amount should be used against debt reduction such as the Field House. The dedication for Capital Improvement Funds throws these funds into a pool and the vast majority of residents may not understand. The sales tax should be completely dedicated to debt reduction.