

ORDINANCE O-2026-46

A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE SUBMITTING TO THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO, AT A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026, AMENDMENTS TO THE CITY OF LONGMONT HOME RULE CHARTER CONCERNING THE USE OF CERTAIN FORMS OF RANKED CHOICE VOTING TO ELECT FUTURE MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS

WHEREAS section 13.12 of the City of Longmont Home Rule Charter ("Charter") provides that the Charter may be amended at any time in the manner provided by the Constitution; and

WHEREAS section 9 of Article XX of the Colorado Constitution provides that the Colorado General Assembly shall provide, by statute, procedures under which the registered electors of any city may adopt, amend and repeal a municipal home rule charter; and

WHEREAS the Colorado General Assembly has adopted Part 2 of Article 2 of Title 31 of the Colorado Revised Statutes ("C.R.S.") to implement section 9 of Article XX of the Colorado Constitution, by providing statutory procedures to facilitate adoption and amendment of municipal home rule charters; and

WHEREAS C.R.S. section 31-2-210(1)(b) provides that proceedings to amend a home rule charter may be initiated by an ordinance adopted by the governing body, including a ballot title for the proposed amendment, submitting the proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the municipality; and

1 WHEREAS C.R.S. section 31-10-617 provides the authority to municipalities to choose to
2 use certain ranked voting methods, commonly known as forms of ranked choice voting, to elect
3 the mayor or the members of the governing body of the municipality; and

4 WHEREAS the Longmont City Council is of the opinion that the use of certain forms of
5 ranked choice voting could offer more expressive voting for Longmont electors, encourage
6 participation in the electoral process, and result in representation in municipal government that is
7 more reflective of the preferences of Longmont electors; and

8 WHEREAS the Longmont City Council has determined that it is in the best interests of the
9 City to submit to the registered electors of Longmont these proposed Charter amendments.

10 NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LONGMONT, COLORADO,
11 ORDAINS:

12 CHARTER AMENDMENT 1: RANKED CHOICE VOTING

13 Section 1

14 Under section 13.12 of the Charter, Article XX, section 9 of the Colorado Constitution,
15 and C.R.S. section 31-2-210, at a special municipal election to be held on November 3, 2026, there
16 shall appear on the ballot the question of approving the following proposed Charter amendment to
17 adopt a new section 2.10 of the Charter to provide for the use of certain ranked voting methods to
18 elect future mayors and councilmembers, as follows:

19 Section 2.10 – Voting Method.

20 Beginning in November 2029, the mayor and councilmembers of the City of Longmont
21 shall be elected using a ranked voting method as defined in the Colorado Revised Statutes
22 as long as certified equipment is available and final rules have been published by the
23 Colorado Secretary of State and are currently in effect for said ranked voting method. In

1 the absence of equipment certified by the Colorado Secretary of State, or applicable
2 currently effective final rules published by the Colorado Secretary of State, any contest
3 may be conducted using the plurality voting method.

4 Section 2

5 The ballot title for the proposed Charter amendment concerning ranked choice voting shall
6 read as follows:

7 SHALL THE CITY OF LONGMONT HOME RULE CHARTER BE AMENDED BY
8 ADOPTING A NEW SECTION 2.10 OF THE CHARTER TO PROVIDE FOR THE USE OF
9 RANKED CHOICE VOTING (RANKED VOTING METHODS) WHERE POSSIBLE TO
10 ELECT FUTURE MAYORS AND COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE CITY OF LONGMONT
11 STARTING IN NOVEMBER 2029?

12 YES _____

13 NO _____

14 Section 3

15 Pursuant to C.R.S. section 31-2-210(4), the governing body shall, within 30 days of the
16 adoption of this Ordinance, publish notice of an election on the proposed Charter amendments.
17 The notice shall contain the full text of the proposed Charter amendments set forth in section 1 of
18 this Ordinance. The election shall be held not less than 60 nor more than 120 days after publication
19 of the notice. If a majority of the registered electors voting thereon approves the amendment, it
20 shall be deemed approved.

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Pursuant to C.R.S. section 31-2-211, the election shall be held as nearly as practicable in compliance with the Colorado Municipal Election Code of 1965.

The provisions of this ordinance are severable, and invalidity of any part shall not affect the validity or effectiveness of the rest of this ordinance.

Passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2026.

ATTEST:

NOTICE: THE COUNCIL WILL HOLD A PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS ORDINANCE AT 7:00 P.M. ON THE 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2026, AT THE LONGMONT CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

1 APPROVED AS TO FORM:

2
3
4 /s/ Tim Hole 7/28/2026
5 SENIOR ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY DATE

6
7
8 /s/ Cristi Campbell 7/28/2026
9 PROOFREAD DATE

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11
12 APPROVED AS TO FORM AND SUBSTANCE:

13
14
15 /s/ Dawn E. Quintana 7/28/2026
16 ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT DATE

17
18 CA File: 26-003998