

RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE EDWARDS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT OPPOSING BALLOT QUESTION 1A – LODGING TAX INCREASE FOR UNINCORPORATED EAGLE COUNTY

WHEREAS, the Edwards Metropolitan District ("District") recognizes the importance of addressing critical community needs such as childcare, wildfire mitigation, workforce housing, and public safety; and

WHEREAS, the District acknowledges that additional dedicated revenues are necessary to support these initiatives; however, it has significant concerns regarding Ballot Question 1A, which proposes to increase the lodging tax in unincorporated Eagle County from 2% to 4%; and

WHEREAS, this proposed increase follows the 2023 implementation of the original 2% lodging tax in unincorporated Eagle County and would effectively double the tax burden on lodging and short-term rental properties in areas such as Beaver Creek, Arrowhead, Bachelor Gulch, EagleVail, Edwards, Gypsum, and El Jebel; and

WHEREAS, the proposed tax would not apply to incorporated municipalities such as Avon, Eagle, and Vail, which already levy a municipal lodging tax, thereby creating an uneven and potentially inequitable tax environment within Eagle County; and

WHEREAS, based on independent tourism research presented by the Colorado Tourism Office and Inntopia, lodging and short-term rental demand across Colorado has declined in 2025, with hotel occupancy, revenue, and bookings all trending downward; and

WHEREAS, the same research demonstrates that similar lodging tax increases in resort communities have historically led to an approximate 10% decrease in lodging revenues over a two-year period, as property owners and businesses absorb the financial burden in an effort to maintain occupancy levels; and

WHEREAS, Eagle County's and Edwards' tourism economy—including restaurants, outfitters, retail shops, and other small businesses—rely heavily on maintaining visitor traffic and occupancy, especially during off-peak seasons; and

WHEREAS, a further increase in lodging taxes will discourage overnight stays, reduce visitor spending, and negatively impact local employment opportunities in tourism-dependent sectors; and

WHEREAS, the District believes that community-wide challenges such as childcare and wildfire mitigation should be addressed collaboratively and funded through a variety of sources, rather than placing a disproportionate financial burden on one industry and a limited geographic segment of Eagle County; and

WHEREAS, the Edwards Metropolitan District values and supports sustainable approaches to revenue generation that promote the economic vitality of Eagle County and its communities without discouraging tourism or harming the hospitality industry;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Edwards Metropolitan District Board of Directors formally opposes Ballot Question 1A – Lodging Tax Increase for Unincorporated Eagle County, as it will place undue strain on the local lodging industry, reduce competitiveness, and negatively impact the broader Eagle County economy.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District encourages the Eagle County Board of Commissioners to pursue a comprehensive, collaborative approach to addressing countywide funding needs through balanced and inclusive solutions.

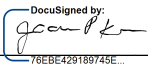
ADOPTED this 16th day of October, 2025.

EDWARDS METROPOLITAN DISTRICT

By  _____
Signed by: FBFC052170E9480...

Title Vice President

ATTEST:

By  _____
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Title Secretary