
Editorial

The Nov. 4 General Election is two months away, and preliminary indications are that the ballot will once again be very long, possibly two pages. Along with the candidate races for President, U.S. Senate, U.S. Congress, State Senate, State Representative, District Attorney, University of Colorado Regent and local County Commissioners for District One, Two and Three, there will be many (already 20) State Amendments and Referenda and 2 County issues.

This election will be a polling place election, and all locations will have paper ballots available along with the Hart Electronic voting machine many of you used in previous elections. Voters will be able to choose their method of voting at all locations. I encourage voters to consider the options available to them (early voting, voting by mail or at the polling locations on Election Day), taking into consideration the length of the ballot and time needed to vote. Please know that we are doing everything possible to staff and organize our Vote Centers for maximum efficiency to make sure wait times are minimized.

We will publish the official ballot content along with the Vote Center; information on voting options and deadlines in *The Flume* on Friday, Oct. 24 in the legal notices section. This information will also be available on our Web site at www.parkvotes.com as soon as the final ballot layout is complete, which typically occurs in early October. Please be aware that although all races and issues will be published, you may not be eligible to vote on everything depending on where you reside.

Monday, Oct. 6 is the last date to register to vote, or update your residence address if you've moved, to be eligible to participate in the Nov. 4 General Election. Voter registration application forms are available online at www.parkvotes.com, or at the Clerk and Recorder offices located in Bailey and Fairplay. Completed forms can be faxed, emailed or mailed, but must be received or **postmarked** on or before Oct. 6.

Regardless of a voter's home precinct, all voters will have the option of voting early at any of our offices in Bailey and Fairplay weekdays beginning Monday, Oct. 20 through Friday, Oct. 31, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Voters who prefer to vote by mail can request that a ballot be mailed to them by completing and returning a mail-in ballot application, also available at www.parkvotes.com the deadline for requesting a ballot by mail is Tuesday, Oct. 28. All mail ballots must be received in by 5:00 pm in the Bailey Clerks office and by 7:00 pm in the Fairplay office on Election night. Please be aware that ballots cannot be forwarded and ballots received after Nov. 4 cannot be counted.

Identification will be required for those choosing to vote in person early or on Election Day. There are many acceptable forms of identification, the most common of which are valid Colorado Driver's licenses, valid U. S. passports, Medicare cards and student IDs from accredited institutions of higher education in Colorado.

For questions about your Vote Center locations, other acceptable forms of identification, whether or not you have already signed up to receive a mail ballot, or anything else related to the election, please call our Election Department at 719-836-4223, or send me an email at pcclerk@parkco.us