

RESOLUTION NO. 23

SERIES 2020

A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE COLORADO RIVER CONSERVATION DISTRICT'S
BALLOT ISSUE 7A

WHEREAS, the Colorado River Water Conservation District is a public entity with a mission to lead in the protection, conservation, use and development of the water resources of the Colorado River Basin for the welfare its residents, and to safeguard for Colorado all the waters of the Colorado River to which the State of Colorado is entitled; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Breckenridge works with the Colorado River District on both intrastate and interstate water matters of interest; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to the people of Western Colorado that the Colorado River District continue to be a strong and effective voice on water matters affecting Western Colorado water users, and

WHEREAS, the Colorado River District's revenues are declining due to reduced energy production and prices, impacts of the Article X, §§ 3 and 15 of the Colorado Constitution, known as the Gallagher Amendment, and the revenue limitations in the Article X, §20 of the Colorado Constitution, known as the Taxpayers Bill of Rights or TABOR, and

WHEREAS, it is important to provide for sufficient funding for necessary water projects to protect the quality of life in Summit County and on the Western Slope

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Colorado River District has certified and directed that the following ballot question (7A) be placed in the November 2020 election across the District's 15 counties:

- Shall Colorado River Water Conservation District, also known as the Colorado River District, taxes be increased by an amount up to \$4,969,041 in 2021 (which increases amounts to approximately \$1.90 in 2021 for every \$100,000 in residential property value), and such amounts as are generated annually thereafter from an additional property tax levy of .248 mills (for a total mill levy of 0.5 mills) to enable the Colorado River District to protect and safeguard Western Colorado by:
 - Fighting to keep water on the Western Slope;
 - Protecting adequate water supplies for West Slope Farmers and Ranchers;
 - Protecting sustainable drinking water supplies for West Slope communities; and
 - Protecting fish, wildlife, and recreation by maintaining river levels and water quantity;

Provided that the District will not utilize these additional funds for the purpose of paying to fallow irrigated agriculture; with such expenditures reported to the public in an annually published independent financial audit; and shall all revenues received by the District in 2021 and each subsequent year be collected retained and spent notwithstanding any limits provided by law?

; and

WHEREAS, the Town Council of the Town of Breckenridge believe that the revenues that will be raised if the above ballot question is approved by the voters are critical to the Colorado River District being able to continue its mission and be a strong and effective advocate on issues and importance to water users on the Western Slope of Colorado.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO, as follows:

Section 1. The Town Council of the Town of Breckenridge supports the passage of Ballot Issue 7A that will appear on the November 3, 2020 election ballot, and urges the electors of the Town to vote in favor of Ballot Issue 7A.

Section 2. Adoption of this resolution may be reported or distributed only through established, customary means, other than paid advertising, by which information about other proceedings of the Town Council is regularly provided to the public.

Section 3. This resolution shall become effective upon its adoption.

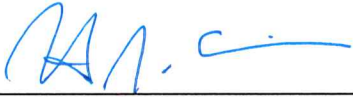
RESOLUTION APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 22nd day of September, 2020.

TOWN OF BRECKENRIDGE

By: _____

Eric S. Mamula, Mayor

ATTEST:



Helen Cospolich, CMC,
Town Clerk

APPROVED IN FORM

 9/22/20
Town Attorney Date