

A SHORT of KEY ISSUES for CHARTER COMMISSION WORK

1. **Debt Limitations:** All long-term debt (greater than 5 years) including Certificates of Participation and long term leases shall be approved by the affected electorate at a general election.
2. **Protection of all provisions of TABOR** by incorporating them into the Charter. Revenue, taxation, and debt provisions as specified in Article X, Section 20. The Taxpayer's Bill of Rights.
3. **County Budget and Spending Requirements including Fee limitations.** Douglas County spending shall be constrained to annual projected tax revenues and state funding. Enterprise funds and related fees and charges to be imposed by the County shall be approved by affected electors.
4. **Government Transparency**
 - Executive Sessions: must follow statutory limitations on topics to be discussed, the people admitted to an executive session, and limitations on policy discussion.
 - Records of the County are open pursuant to CORA.
 - Quasi-Judicial Process. No ex-parte communications with applicants, the public, or between decision makers outside of the public eye. communication.
 - Ethical Standards and Reporting Responsibilities.
5. **Maintain the Integrity of Voter Approved Revenue and Directed Spending:** The Charter must require that the voter directed spending (amounts, spending limitations and term of authority) be maintained.
 - Justice Center Sales Tax
 - Parks, Open Space, and Historic Preservation Sales Tax
6. **Property Tax Increase Limitations –** Limit increases in County property tax to a 10% increase in assessed value every two years.
7. **Water Supply:** Require a sustainable water supply economic plan for all new development at the time of initial approval.
8. **Elected Official Integrity**
 - Fiduciary Responsibility and Roles – Define for all elected officials and leadership level staff.
 - Official Misconduct: Define in the Charter.
9. **County Government Structure**
 - Mandatory & Discretionary Functions – described and as required by law.
 - Permissive Functions / Ordinances: Define expanded ordinance capability.
 - Election Rules – Comply with Colorado law.
 - Elected / Appointed Officer & Term Limits.
 - Elected Official