



## 2021 Municipal Ballot Positions & Statements

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*Vote No on Ballot Question 2F 'Safe and Sound'*

Until 2020, a long-standing City & County of Denver regulation on group living prohibited three or more unrelated persons from living together, a policy that was particularly harmful and used discriminately against marginalized people in our local community, and isolated group housing in industrial areas. The ordinance also prevented our most vulnerable neighbors--such as the formerly unhoused, the formerly incarcerated, and people recovering from abuse or addiction--from re-establishing their lives and reintegrating into the community. After more than two years of research, policy formation and citywide community engagement, this antiquated ordinance was finally amended in February 2021.

All In Denver was a vocal member of the diverse coalition that rallied together to overturn these restrictions on group living, and City Council approved a new group living ordinance for the city in an 11-2 vote. The new group living ordinance expanded the number of unrelated parties legally allowed to cohabitate from two to five unrelated persons, and expanded the permitted area for designated group living facilities, such as transitional housing.

On this year's municipal election ballot you'll see Question 2F, the attempt to overturn the City Council's 2021 Group Living Ordinance and return to the harmful status quo. The new ordinance adopted by City Council is a step in the right direction for our city by providing more affordable housing alternatives for working people without additional public subsidy, and permitting group living solutions to exist in more places within our community. This ballot initiative would halt desperately needed housing options, and is a clear and obvious step backwards. All In urges Denver voters to vote no on Question 2F.

**VOTE NO ON BALLOT QUESTION 2F!**

Find More Information at: [www.KeepDenverHoused.com](http://www.KeepDenverHoused.com)



*Vote No on Ballot Initiative 303 'Let's Do Better'*

Despite its hopeful name, Ballot Initiative 303 'Let's Do Better' is a damaging and counterproductive proposal to offer legal cover to individuals seeking to harm our city's most vulnerable residents. Urban camping bans are policies that broadly empower police and other enforcement agencies to remove individuals seen as public nuisances from public properties or public right-of-ways.

These laws are on the books in many major U.S. cities, and target people experiencing homelessness and criminalize their poverty when their behavior is otherwise lawful and unthreatening. Denver's camping ban ordinance was adopted in 2012, and All In Denver has consistently objected to the policy.

Throughout 2021, in the middle of the COVID-19 pandemic and an intensifying housing crisis, neighborhood sweeps by Denver police and other agencies forcibly removed and displaced hundreds of unhoused people across Denver. Unsurprisingly, these sweeps do not alleviate the problem of homelessness, but merely disperse its victims and remove them from public view--at great cost to city taxpayers.

Ballot Initiative 303 'Let's Do Better' seeks to deputize private citizens to personally enforce the urban camping ban when state enforcement agents do not immediately respond to a complaint. It also creates significant legal conflicts and costly legal exposure for the City that would leave the people of Denver to foot the bill.

In spite of its flowery language supporting the right to access basic utilities, this initiative does not expand access or funding to water, warmth, or electricity for the unhoused. 'Let's Do Better' seeks to normalize brutality against our unhoused residents and neighbors through forcible removal and disposal of their lives, livelihoods, and belongings. All In Denver seeks to alleviate homelessness through innovative, proactive public policy and housing solutions, not regressive, punitive action. All In Denver stands firmly against 'Let's Do Better' and urges all Denverites to stand and vote with us against Initiative 303.

**VOTE NO ON BALLOT INITIATIVE 303!**



***Vote No on Ballot Initiative 304 'Enough Taxes Already'***

The City & County of Denver, much like many municipalities in this country, funds our public amenities, services, and programs through a combination of property and sales taxes. The biggest revenue source for Denver's local government is sales taxes paid by everyone who makes purchases in Denver--residents, workers and visitors alike.

Ballot Initiative 304 'Enough Taxes Already' would reduce the municipal sales tax rate from 4.81% to 4.5%, but importantly, this initiative would permanently cap the sales tax rate at 4.5% in perpetuity. Under this measure, any future City and County of Denver expenditure must come out of the tax base, including the 4.5% sales tax; the municipal government would be prohibited from raising sales taxes for special purposes. If approved, Initiative 304 would fiscally handicap Denver's municipal government from conducting basic operating functions that we depend on and from advancing improvements to city infrastructure. The decrease in Denver's current sales tax rate--which Denver voters have approved at the ballot box--would decimate city services and programs ranging from street infrastructure, parks, transportation and affordable housing to homelessness prevention, pre-K and post-secondary education, and climate change programs.

Austerity measures have long been touted as a panacea for society's problems, promising to balance government budgets, reduce wasteful spending, and put more money in the pockets of average citizens. These policies have not only failed to balance government budgets, they've hollowed out critical public services from schools to public works, and exacerbated income inequality, putting more of the tax burden on average working people. Ballot Initiative 304 is no exception; this proposal (launched with the backing from the Denver Republican Party) seeks to further financially hamper the municipal government while offering a benefit of 0.31 cents in tax savings--less than one half of a penny--to consumers. This initiative would force citizens to give up vital city services, while also limiting the ability of the city to make any and all future improvements to our community. All In Denver opposes Ballot Initiative 304 and asks you to vote no with us.

**VOTE NO ON BALLOT INITIATIVE 304!**



## *Initiative 301 & 302 (The Future of Park Hill Golf Course)*

All In Denver believes that there's room for all uses on the 155-acre Park Hill Golf Course, a once in a generation opportunity for multi-use urban development, adjacent to regional transit.

A summary of the two ballot questions:

***Initiative 301** is designed to prohibit "any commercial and residential development" on property in Denver covered by a conservation easement, of which there is only one, Park Hill Golf Course in North Park Hill, one of Denver's most racially diverse neighborhoods. The property has never been a Denver park, and has operated as a privately-owned golf course since 1932.*

***Initiative 302** would specify that a conservation easement in Denver only has legal status if it is registered with the State of Colorado; Park Hill Golf Course is not registered as a conservation easement with the State. If passed by voters, Initiative 302 would neutralize Initiative 301 (if 301 passes), ultimately enabling development on the Park Hill Golf Course property. Any development which ensues would still require an extensive community planning and rezoning process that eventually must be approved by Denver City Council.*

These two ballot questions are not just about land use--they are about equity. Nearly 70% of the residents surrounding the golf course are people of color, with average household incomes 30% below the City average. These North Park Hill residents have spoken, through surveys and neighborhood engagement, an overwhelming number of community members support multi-use redevelopment over single-use open space. Neighbors have expressed their desire for increasing housing options and community services, and easier access to resources such as fresh food grocers in what is now a food desert. All In Denver believes that this 155-acre property can be transformed to provide many resources to the underserved North Park Hill neighborhood--including new parks. The owner of the golf course property has committed to 60 acres of parks--about the size of Cheesman Park or Central Park. Initiative 301 reinforces the status quo and would perpetuate discriminatory housing and neighborhood patterns.

If Denver is to become a more equitable city where all people have the opportunity to prosper and thrive, we must elevate voices that have been marginalized. The residents of North Park Hill should be at the center of the process, and Initiative 301 effectively silences them. Voting No on 301 ensures that the majority non-white neighborhoods surrounding the golf course have a chance at a planning process to determine what they want, and not leave the property's future in the hands of a citywide election. Also, a more equitable Denver requires us to look for all opportunities to push for more income-restricted housing development--and Park Hill Golf Course, right next to regional transit, is an extraordinary opportunity.



*Initiative 301 & 302  
(The Future of Park Hill Golf Course)*

Initiative 301

Initiative 301 would prohibit any development on property protected by a conservation easement in Denver. The initiative also proposes that amendments to or cancellation of a conservation easement require approval from voters. In practice, this initiative only applies to the Park Hill GC site redevelopment, and would prevent the current plans for redevelopment on this site.

*Vote No on Initiative 301!*

Initiative 302

Initiative 302 would clarify that a conservation easement must be registered with the State of Colorado's Division of Conservation to be considered legally binding. The conservation easement on the Park Hill GC property is not registered with the Division of Conservation. If passed by voters, Initiative 302 would neutralize Initiative 301, ultimately permitting development on the Park Hill GC, which would only happen after extensive planning and rezoning processes, and subsequent approval by Denver City Council.

*Vote Yes on Initiative 302!*

[Learn More at: www.YesOn302Denver.com](http://www.YesOn302Denver.com)



## Bond Questions

### Question 2B

Question 2B asks voters to approve \$38.6 million to fund expansion and upgrade of shelters and facilities for people experiencing homelessness. All In Denver believes that all people should have access to warm, dry shelter, clean water, and electricity--2B funds will support those needs.

Vote Yes on Question 2B!

### Question 2C

Question 2C asks voters to approve \$63.2 million to expand and improve existing multi-modal transportation infrastructure. This bond proposal is an investment in making commuting and traveling within the City & County of Denver without a motor vehicle more practical, safe, and accessible to residents and visitors alike.

Vote Yes on Question 2C!

### Question 2E

Question 2E asks voters to approve another \$190 million for additional construction at the National Western Center (NWC). The taxpayers of Denver have already paid hundreds of millions of dollars for the redevelopment of the National Western Center, and this proposal asks Denverites to foot the bill again. Unlike Questions 2B and 2C, where all citizens benefit from sharing the cost of a citywide project, Question 2E asks taxpayers to further fund a project with minimal community benefits; in fact, most community organizations for neighborhoods surrounding the NWC oppose the construction. Most citizens will not reap the benefits of additional construction at the NWC. All In Denver believes that Denver residents and businesses have paid more than our fair share of the NWC redevelopment project--let's focus on housing, transportation and other quality-of-life priorities.

Vote No on Question 2E!