

ALL REGISTERED VOTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTION ON A REFERRED MEASURE

PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
EL PASO COUNTY, STATE OF COLORADO

Election Date: November 8, 2022
Election Hours: 7:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M.
Local Election Office Address and Telephone Number: 15 S. 7th Street
Colorado Springs, Colorado 80905
(719) 471-7080 ex. 138

Ballot Title and Text:

BALLOT ISSUE 7A

WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES, SHALL THE EXISTING 0.55% (FIFTY-FIVE ONE HUNDREDTHS OF ONE PENNY PER DOLLAR) PIKES PEAK RURAL TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY'S (PPRTA) SALES AND USE TAX, WHICH SUNSETS ON DECEMBER 31, 2024, BE EXTENDED TO SUNSET DECEMBER 31, 2034 FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUNDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (100% OF NET REVENUE) AS SPECIFIED IN THE FOLLOWING VOTER-APPROVED LIST OF SPECIFIC REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PROJECTS AS HEREBY AMENDED:

PRIORITY "A" PROJECTS

REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

- MARKSHEFFEL RD IMPROVEMENTS - WOODMEN RD TO N CAREFREE CIR
- MIDLAND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- POWERS BLVD EXTENSION - MESA RIDGE PKWY TO I-25 (DESIGN AND RIGHT-OF-WAY ACQUISITION ONLY)
- POWERS BLVD EXTENSION - STATE HIGHWAY 83 TO VOYAGER PKWY
- STAPLETON DR/BRIARGATE PKWY IMPROVEMENTS - BLACK FOREST RD TO VOLLMER RD
- STATE AND FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY GRANT MATCH FUND - PHASE I
- WOODMEN RD IMPROVEMENTS - POWERS BLVD TO US 24

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS:

- 30TH ST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - MESA RD TO GARDEN OF THE GODS RD
- BAPTIST RD/HODGEN RD/ROLLER COASTER RD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
- BRADLEY RD FROM GOLDFIELD DR TO POWERS BLVD
- CASCADE AVE - MARK DABLING BLVD CONNECTION (DESIGN ONLY)
- COLORADO AVE IMPROVEMENTS - 21ST ST TO LIMIT ST
- COLORADO AVE IMPROVEMENTS - 28TH ST TO 21ST ST
- COMPANION DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS FOR ROADWAY PROJECTS (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- CONGESTION AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- CURTIS RD FROM FALCON HWY TO GARRETT RD IMPROVEMENTS AND DESIGN TO HIGHWAY 94
- DRENNAN RD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER JIMMY CAMP CREEK
- DUBLIN BLVD IMPROVEMENTS - PETERSON RD TO MARKSHEFFEL RD
- EASTONVILLE RD FROM MCLAUGHLIN RD TO BANDANERO DR IMPROVEMENTS
- EL PASO AVE BRIDGE REPLACEMENT (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- EL PASO TRAIL AND IONA AVE ROADS IMPROVEMENT (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- EMERGENCY BRIDGE FUND - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- FILLMORE ST AND BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS AND TRAIL CONNECTIONS - I-25 TO MONUMENT CREEK

- FOOTHILLS TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- HIGHWAY 105 FROM FURROW RD TO ARROWWOOD DR IMPROVEMENTS
- HODGEN RD FROM WINSOME WAY WEST LEG TO MERIDIAN RD IMPROVEMENTS
- HOMESTEAD TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- IMPROVEMENTS TO BRUSH DUMP RD (RAMAH)
- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- LORRAINE ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE RUN
- MAJOR ROAD AND BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION - PHASE I (EL PASO COUNTY)
- MANITOU AVE SAFETY AND MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS – PHASE I
- MANITOU ST SYSTEM SAFETY AND MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS – CITY WIDE – PHASE I
- MARKSHEFFEL RD NEW BRIDGE AT COTTONWOOD CREEK
- MIDLAND TRAIL COMPLETION (21ST ST TO 25TH ST)
- NEVADA AVE RECONSTRUCTION - COMMERCE ST TO TEMPLETON GAP FLOODWAY
- NEVADA AVE RECONSTRUCTION - LEE ST TO UNIVERSITY VILLAGE
- NEVADA AVE RECONSTRUCTION - ROCK ISLAND RAILROAD TO COMMERCE ST
- NEVADA AVE RECONSTRUCTION - TEMPLETON GAP FLOODWAY TO LEE ST
- NEVADA AVE/GARDEN OF THE GODS RD/AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY INTERSECTION STUDY
- NORTH CALHAN HWY FROM US 24 TO PAINT MINE RD IMPROVEMENTS
- NORTHEAST SUB-AREA STUDY - BOUNDED BY UNION BLVD/AUSTIN BLUFFS PKWY/ BRIARGATE PKWY
- OLD RANCH RD IMPROVEMENTS - VOYAGER PKWY TO LEXINGTON DR
- OLD STAGE RD FROM MILEPOST 0.75 TO MILEPOST 4.157
- ON-STREET BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- PALMER-MESA TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- PEYTON AREA ROADS - RAILROAD, FRONT AND MAIN STREETS IMPROVEMENTS
- PIKES PEAK GREENWAY IMPROVEMENTS
- PLATTE AVE IMPROVEMENTS - WAHSATCH AVE TO CIRCLE DR
- PRECONSTRUCTION FUNDING - PHASE I (EL PASO COUNTY)
- REHABILITATION OF 8TH ST FROM BOULDER ST TO COLORADO AVE (CALHAN)
- ROADWAY SAFETY AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- ROCK ISLAND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- SAFETY AND MULTIMODAL PROGRAM - PHASE I (EL PASO COUNTY)
- SERPENTINE DR ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS
- SHOOKS RUN TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- SIDEWALK INFILL IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- SINTON TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- TEMPLETON GAP TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS
- TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEMS UPGRADES (CITY WIDE) - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT FLEET SUPPLEMENT - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT STOP AND STATION IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE I (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- US 24 FUNCTIONALITY AND ROUTING STUDY - I-25 TO FALCON
- UTE PASS AVE (DOWNTOWN) IMPROVEMENTS (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- UTE PASS AVE PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE SAFETY IMPROVEMENT (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)

PRIORITY "B" PROJECTS

REGIONAL COLLABORATIVE PROJECTS:

- STATE AND FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY GRANT MATCH FUND - PHASE 2

INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS:

- 21ST ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER BEAR CREEK
- 2ND ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SPRING RUN
- 31ST ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CAMP CREEK - BIJOU ST TO FOUNTAIN CREEK
- 31ST ST/CAMP CREEK ROADWAY AND TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS - KIOWA ST TO FONTANERO ST
- 8TH ST/CHEYENNE BLVD INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS

- 8TH ST IMPROVEMENTS - US 24 TO FOUNTAIN CREEK
- ACADEMY BLVD AND PALMER PARK BLVD PEDESTRIAN CONNECTIONS
- BAPTIST RD FROM DESIREE DR TO ROLLER COASTER RD IMPROVEMENTS
- BIJOU ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SHOOKS RUN
- BLACK FOREST RD IMPROVEMENTS - RESEARCH PKWY TO SHOUP RD
- BRADLEY RD FROM ACADEMY BLVD TO GOLDFIELD DR IMPROVEMENTS
- BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- BURGESS RD FROM MILAM RD TO MERIDIAN RD IMPROVEMENTS (VIA GOODSON/REX)
- CACHE LA POUDE ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER MONUMENT CREEK
- CACHE LA POUDE ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SHOOKS RUN
- CASCADE AVE - MARK DABLING BLVD CONNECTION - CONSTRUCTION ONLY
- CHELTON RD BIKE LANES - GALLEY RD TO PIKES PEAK AVE
- CHEYENNE RD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE CREEK
- CIRCLE DR/PLATTE AVE INTERSECTION ENHANCEMENTS
- COLORADO AVE IMPROVEMENTS - LIMIT ST TO I-25
- CONGESTION AND INCIDENT MANAGEMENT - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- COSTILLA ST IMPROVEMENTS - NEVADA AVE TO EL PASO ST
- COTTONWOOD CREEK TRAIL CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - UNION BLVD CROSSING
- CRESTA RD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE CREEK
- CUCHARRAS ST IMPROVEMENTS - NEVADA AVE TO HANCOCK AVE
- CURB AND GUTTER - TOWN WIDE (RAMAH)
- CURTIS RD FROM JUDGE ORR RD TO FALCON HWY AND GARRETT RD TO HIGHWAY 94 IMPROVEMENTS
- DAWSON DR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER DRY CREEK
- EMERGENCY BRIDGE FUND - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- FILLMORE ST PEDESTRIAN SAFETY STUDY - CASCADE AVE TO UNION BLVD
- FILLMORE ST WIDENING - MONUMENT CREEK TO CASCADE AVE
- FONTAINE BLVD IMPROVEMENTS - ROLLING VIEW DR TO SLEEPY MEADOW DR
- FOUNTAIN MESA RD FROM CABALLERO AVE TO FONTAINE BLVD IMPROVEMENTS
- GARDEN LN BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER FOUNTAIN CREEK TRIBUTARY
- GARDEN OF GODS RD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER MONUMENT CREEK
- GOLD CAMP RD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER BEAR CREEK
- HANCOCK CORRIDOR STUDY – COLORADO SPRINGS DOWNTOWN TO POWERS BLVD
- HANCOCK EXPY EXTENSION - CLARENDON DR TO CHELTON RD
- HANCOCK EXPY/DELTA DR/CIRCLE DR INTERSECTION SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS
- HIGHWAY 105 FROM ARROWWOOD DR TO STATE HIGHWAY 83 IMPROVEMENTS
- HODGEN RD FROM BLACK FOREST RD TO BAR X RD IMPROVEMENTS
- HODGEN RD FROM WINSOME WAY EAST LEG TO GOSHAWK RD IMPROVEMENTS
- HOLLY ST NEW BRIDGE OVER COLUMBIA DRAINAGE
- INTERCHANGE AT ACADEMY BLVD AND PPCC DESIGN
- INTERQUEST PKWY MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS - I-25 TO E FEDERAL DR
- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS – PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- LAS VEGAS ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SHOOKS RUN
- LAS VEGAS ST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - FT CARSON SPUR TO 1,200' SOUTH OF JANITELL RD
- LAS VEGAS ST CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - STATE HIGHWAY 85/87 TO FT CARSON SPUR
- MAJOR ROAD AND BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION - PHASE 2 (EL PASO COUNTY)
- MANITOU AVE SAFETY AND MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS – PHASE 2
- MANITOU ST SYSTEM SAFETY AND MOBILITY IMPROVEMENTS – CITY WIDE – PHASE 2
- MAYHURST AVE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE CREEK
- MERIDIAN RD FROM HODGEN RD TO REX RD IMPROVEMENTS
- MERIDIAN RD FROM WOODMEN RD TO WOODMEN HILLS DR IMPROVEMENTS
- MESA RD IMPROVEMENTS - FILLMORE ST TO UINTAH ST
- MILAM RD FROM SHOUP RD TO OLD RANCH RD IMPROVEMENTS
- MURRAY BLVD AND BIJOU ST INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS
- NEVADA ROADWAY SAFETY STUDY - UINTAH ST TO FILLMORE ST

- NEW TRAIL CONNECTION –SHOOKS RUN TRAIL TO ROCK ISLAND TRAIL EAST OF PATTY JEWETT GOLF COURSE
- OLD PUEBLO RD FROM LINK TO I 25 IMPROVEMENTS
- OLD RANCH RD SHOULDERS AND SIDEWALK IMPROVEMENTS - KETTLE CREEK TO LEXINGTON DR
- OLD RANCH RD IMPROVEMENTS - CORDERA CREST AVE TO UNION BLVD/MILAM RD
- ON-STREET BIKEWAY IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CACHE LA POUDDRE ST
- PETERSON RD MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS - DUBLIN BLVD TO STETSON HILLS RD
- PINE CREEK TRAIL CONNECTION - PIKES PEAK GREENWAY TO RESEARCH PKWY
- PLATTE AVE RECONSTRUCTION - WAHSATCH AVE TO CASCADE AVE
- PLATTE AVE WIDENING AND SHARED USE PATH - CHELTON RD TO POWERS BLVD
- PLATTE AVE/ACADEMY BLVD INTERCHANGE CONVERSION
- PRECONSTRUCTION FUNDING - PHASE 2 (EL PASO COUNTY)
- RAMPART RANGE RD FROM MILEPOST 18.8 TO MILEPOST 21.1 AND LOY CREEK IMPROVEMENTS
- RANGEWOOD DR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER COTTONWOOD CREEK TRIBUTARY
- RE-PAVING OF 8TH ST NORTH OF US 24 (CALHAN)
- RIDGE RD/MIDLAND TRAIL GRADE SEPARATION AT US24
- ROADWAY SAFETY AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS (GREEN MOUNTAIN FALLS)
- ROADWAY SAFETY AND TRAFFIC OPERATIONS - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- ROCK ISLAND TRAIL CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - ACADEMY BLVD GRADE SEPARATION
- SAFETY AND MULTIMODAL PROGRAM - PHASE 2 (EL PASO COUNTY)
- SAINT ELMO AVE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE CREEK
- SAINT VRAIN ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SHOOKS RUN
- SAND CREEK TRAIL CORRIDOR IMPROVEMENTS - PALMER PARK BLVD TO AIRPORT RD
- SHOUP RD FROM STATE HIGHWAY 83 TO VOLLMER RD IMPROVEMENTS
- SIDEWALK INFILL IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- SINTON TRAIL UNDERPASS IMPROVEMENTS AT CENTENNIAL BLVD
- STETSON HILLS BLVD IMPROVEMENTS - MARKSHEFFEL RD TO LUTHER RD
- STRATTON AVE BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CHEYENNE CREEK
- TECH CENTER DR/RUSINA RD/PRO RODEO DR SHARED USE PATH - GARDEN OF THE GODS RD TO ROCKRIMMON BLVD
- TEMPLETON GAP TRAIL CONNECTION - TEMPLETON GAP RD TO TEMPLETON GAP TRAIL
- TRAFFIC SIGNAL SYSTEMS UPGRADES (CITY WIDE) - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT FLEET SUPPLEMENT - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT SERVICE ENHANCEMENTS - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- TRANSIT STOP AND STATION IMPROVEMENTS - PHASE 2 (COLORADO SPRINGS)
- UINTAH ST MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS - EL PASO ST TO INSTITUTE ST
- UNION BLVD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER COTTONWOOD CREEK TRIBUTARY
- UNION BLVD/CIRCLE DR BIKE IMPROVEMENTS - MONTEREY RD TO FOUNTAIN BLVD
- UPRR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER NEVADA AVE
- UPRR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER SHOOKS RUN
- UPRR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER TEJON ST
- UPRR BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER UINTAH ST
- VERMIJO ST STREETScape IMPROVEMENTS - TEJON ST TO SHOOKS RUN
- VINCENT DR BRIDGE REPURPOSING OVER COTTONWOOD CREEK
- VOLLMER RD FROM STAPLETON RD TO SHOUP RD IMPROVEMENTS
- WALKER RD FROM STEPPLER RD TO BLACK FOREST RD IMPROVEMENTS
- WATER ST BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER CAMP CREEK
- WESTWOOD BLVD BRIDGE RECONSTRUCTION OVER TEMPLETON GAP BASIN
- WOODMEN RD MULTIMODAL IMPROVEMENTS - ORCHARD VALLEY RD TO ROCKRIMMON BLVD
- WOODMEN RD/I-25 INTERCHANGE CONGESTION MANAGEMENT

WITH PRIORITY "A" PROJECTS BEING COMPLETELY FUNDED PRIOR TO USE OF FUNDING ON PRIORITY "B" PROJECTS, PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT PRIORITY "A" PROJECTS SHALL NOT BE REQUIRED TO BE COMPLETELY FUNDED PRIOR TO USE OF FUNDING ON PRIORITY "B" PROJECTS FOR THE PROJECTS LISTED ABOVE IN THE EVENT THAT ANY PROJECTS ARE PROHIBITED DUE TO STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATIONS, ACTS OF OR FAILURES TO TAKE ACTION BY JUDICIAL, LEGISLATIVE, OR REGULATORY AUTHORITIES, OR OTHER FORCE MAJEURE EVENTS, AND WITH NO MORE THAN 1% OF TOTAL REVENUE TO

BE EXPENDED FOR ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES, WHICH EXTENSION CONSTITUTES NO CHANGE FROM THAT APPROVED BY THE VOTERS AT THE NOVEMBER 2, 2004 AND NOVEMBER 6, 2012 GENERAL ELECTIONS EXCEPT AN EXTENSION FROM THE EXPIRATION DATE OF THE SALES AND USE TAX FOR THE PURPOSES OF FUNDING REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY "A" AND "B" PROJECT LISTS TO BE FUNDED DURING THE EXTENSION PERIOD, WITH ALL REVENUES FROM SUCH TAX AND OTHER REVENUES OF PPRTA BEING COLLECTED AND SPENT EACH YEAR WITHOUT LIMITATION BY THE REVENUE AND SPENDING LIMITS OF ARTICLE X, SECTION 20 OF THE COLORADO CONSTITUTION?

Summary of Written Comments For Ballot Issue 7A:

Since its creation by voters in 2004, the Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority (PPRTA) has become the most important, consistent, and reliable source of funding for major capacity expansions to ease congestion and intersection realignments in El Paso County.

PPRTA is a local government authority in which six local governments participate: Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs, Green Mountain Falls, Ramah, Calhan, and unincorporated El Paso County.

In 2012, the voters approved PPRTA's reauthorization for a second 10-year period with 79.5% of the vote. On this November's ballot, we have the opportunity to extend PPRTA for another 10 years. The ballot question is not asking for a tax increase. Instead it simply proposes to extend the existing .55 one-hundredths of one cent sales tax.

PPRTA is totally transparent. The November ballot question lists the exact projects PPRTA will complete over the next 10 years if the voters choose to reauthorize it. 100% of the funds are spent on these designated projects, which ensures that our hard-earned tax dollars go directly to transportation improvements. With this approach, PPRTA is completely transparent and voters know exactly where our tax dollars are going. The projects are developed by the PPRTA's member governments and vetted by a Citizens Advisory Committee, not by politicians. That's to ensure PPRTA is focused on the projects that will make the biggest difference to the people of the Pikes Peak Region.

I can't think of a better way to spend one cent of my tax money than on the tremendous improvements in transportation infrastructure and transit improvement the PPRTA has made in our region over the past 18 years. The PPRTA has distributed more than \$762.7 million between 2015 and 2021; \$1.460 billion since 2005!

Some of the major projects (completed and/or under design/construction) funded by the PPRTA since 2005 are: Union/Austin Bluffs interchange, Baptist Road Widening and Railroad Crossing Bridge, Struthers Extension, Woodmen Rd Widening and Interchange, Marksheffel widening, Hodgen Rd Arterial Upgrade, Pikes Peak Greenway Improvements, Black Forest Road Improvements between Woodmen to Research, W. Colorado Ave. Reconstruction, Centennial Boulevard extension from Fillmore to Fontanero relieving Fillmore-I-25 intersection pressure, Highway 105, Mesa Ridge Pkwy improvements, replacing four Circle Avenue Bridges over Fountain Creek, numerous trail and bikeway improvements, replacing the Union Pacific Railroad bridge over Fontanero, and many Signal Upgrades/Improvements. A more complete list of projects can be found at www.pprta.com.

Some of the projects projected for the extension that is on the ballot are: widening Marksheffel from N. Carefree to Woodmen, extending Powers from Highway 83 to Voyager Parkway, Baptist Rd/Hodgen Rd/Roller Coaster Rd Intersection Improvements, Fillmore St Bridge Improvements over Fountain Creek, multiple Nevada Ave Improvements between Fillmore and Austin Bluffs, and many transit, pedestrian, bikeway, safety, and trail improvements. There's something for people in every part of town. A complete listing of the proposed projects can be found at: www.extendpprta.com.

I encourage you to please vote YES for the PPRTA extension—Ballot Issue 7A.

Summary of Written Comments Against Ballot Issue 7A:

El Paso County citizens are experiencing tough financial times. We need tax relief—not government with its hands out yet again.

Inflation is reported to be 8.3%. Most families know it's much higher. Gasoline prices are up 81% since January 2021. Natural gas prices for electricity and home heating are up 150% since December 2021.

Government never tightens its belts the way the citizens have to, as they have an endless supply of our money. That needs to stop. If approved, this .55% sales tax would last through 2034. That's a 10-year commitment during uncertain financial times! As the price of goods, services, and utilities climb, that puts an astronomical amount of money into the pockets of politicians. That's because the PPRTA tax is a sales tax on all taxable purchases.

Southern Colorado was recently awarded \$2 billion of federal taxpayer money for infrastructure projects. If an infrastructure project is necessary, politicians should use that money, not continue the PPRTA sales tax.

Politicians and bureaucrats have a history of using PPRTA funds to pay for projects neighborhoods don't even want. They touted the Research Parkway Bike Lane project, which removed vehicular traffic lanes as "only" costing \$10,000 of PPRTA tax funds back in 2016. That project cost more than 9 times that amount. They spent \$16,000 of our hard-earned money to remove the lanes. Neighbors also had to rise up over potential projects on Constitution Avenue and Platte Avenue. It took those neighbors countless hours to fight to reverse those projects or project plans. Think about that...this PPRTA tax gives politicians your money to do projects that you may have to fight to have them remove or adjust. Over \$2.5 million was spent for on-street bike lane "improvements" with the previous PPRTA tax money. Not all projects are disclosed in the ballot language, so you don't know what may be coming to your neighborhood.

Let's not commit and burden ourselves with a long-term tax. A government with too much of our money will only waste what they have.