



COLORADO SPRINGS

2021 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

501c3-Compliant, Nonpartisan

VOTER GUIDE | DISTRICT 3

CITY COUNCIL ELECTION | April 6, 2021 | All Mail-In Ballot/Drop Off
Ballot Only Election



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**YOUR VOTE
MATTERS**

March 12 - April 6, 2021

CONTACT: Church Voter Guides | Email: info@ChurchVoterGuides.org | Updated 3/15/2021

For more information on the Colorado Springs City Council Election please go to our website.

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

The Voter Guide information contained in this document is being provided for informational purposes only. It was obtained directly from candidates and other sources, and we have done our best to convey it to you accurately, but nothing herein has been "fact checked". Utilize this Voter Guide at your own discretion. We take no responsibility for the factual nature of the content, or for publishing errors, etc. To the best of our knowledge, this Voter Guide is 501c3-compliant and officially nonpartisan, and thereby it does not support or oppose any candidate.

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Church Voter Guides, what is a 501c3-Compliant, Nonpartisan Guide



Church Voter Guides

Church Voter Guides is an independent 508c1a faith-based nonprofit organization. We serve the public by providing objective research and education on matters specifically of interest to Christians, primarily through the production and distribution of 501c3-compliant, nonpartisan Voter Guides.

Church Voter Guides does not endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

We are based in Colorado Springs, and the 2021 City Council election in our hometown is our inaugural project. Our Voter Guide for this election is being distributed electronically, both through our interactive website and by downloadable and printable PDF files, one for each electoral district. It is being promoted through a wide-ranging network of area churches, faith-based non-profit organizations, mainstream and social media, and other means.

What makes a Voter Guide 501c3-Compliant and Nonpartisan?

Federal tax law permits nonprofit 501c3 organizations to develop and distribute materials about political candidates' positions on issues, in order to educate voters impartially and on a nonpartisan basis, meaning that it is free from party affiliation, bias, or designation. The IRS states that 501c3 organizations may conduct any range of activities to promote voter participation and educate voters so long as it is nonpartisan. But, 501c3 organizations are explicitly prohibited from supporting or opposing candidates for public office.

501c3 nonprofits MAY:

- Conduct or Promote Voter Registration
- Educate Voters on the Voting Process
- Distribute Nonpartisan Sample Ballots, Candidate Questionnaires, or Voter Guides
- Organize Get-Out-the-Vote Activities
- Encourage and Help People to Vote
- Educate the Candidates on Issues Important to Your Organization
- Continue to do Issue Advocacy During an Election



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INTRODUCTION TO THE VOTER GUIDE

So, first and foremost: Church Voter Guides does NOT endorse or oppose any candidates for public office or any political party.

Second, all of our staff and volunteers are required to act in a nonpartisan manner when working for or representing the organization and the creation of the Voter Guide.

Third, we do not edit, revise, or editorialize candidate responses to our Questionnaire. We do not even correct typos. Candidate answers are published verbatim, ensuring that their responses accurately represent their positions and perspectives on these issues. We then simply share this information through the Voter Guide, and you decide whom you believe to be the best candidate.

The purpose of our Voter Guides is to educate and inform voters of each candidate's positions on a variety of policy issues that they are likely to address if elected. As a Voter Guide designed to be distributed through Churches, we ask the candidates questions on topics that are of utmost interest to the Christian voter.

To be fair and impartial, we reached out by email and phone to all 21 candidates running for City Council in the 2021 Colorado Springs Municipal Election to be held on April 6th, inviting them to answer our Questionnaire. Two never responded; of the rest, most chose to participate, while some did not. Candidate information is presented in the same order as the Candidates are listed on the ballot. If a Candidate did not respond at all, or did not choose to participate, or did not choose to respond to certain answers in the Questionnaire, then that is noted where applicable.

**Join Our Growing Grassroots Coalition of Citizens,
Churches/Nonprofit Organizations, and Media Partners
Committed to Promoting the Voter Guide**

Let's get the word out!

It's simple. Just share our website URL all around Colorado Springs:

www.ChurchVoterGuides.org

Tell your friends and neighbors. Post on social media. And ask your Pastors to promote it to your congregation

Please contact us for any reason, we'd love to colabor with you: Info@ChurchVoterGuides.org

The purpose of our Voter Guides is to educate and inform voters of each candidate's positions on a variety of policy issues that he or she are likely to address if elected. As a Voter Guide designed to be distributed through Churches, we ask the candidates questions on topics that are of utmost interest to the Christian voter.



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CITY COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITIES / DISTRICT CANDIDATES

As the legislative branch of government for the City of Colorado Springs, council members are elected to four-year terms and are paid an annual stipend of \$6,250. They are responsible for:

- Appointing the city auditor and the council administrator
- Approving the city budget
- Establishing tax rates
- Serving as the governing board of Colorado Springs Utilities
- In its role as Colorado Springs Utilities Board of Directors, appointing the Chief Executive Officer
- Setting policies and passing ordinances and resolutions to govern the city
- Performing the Mayor's duties in his/her absence (President of council)
- City Council Rules and Procedures

GENERAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION | APRIL 6, 2021

The City Clerk will be mailing ballot packets for the April 6, 2021 General Municipal Election to registered, active voters who reside within the corporate boundaries of the City of Colorado Springs on Friday, March 12, 2021. If you do not receive your ballot packet by March 17, 2021, please contact the City Clerk's Office. The April 6, 2021 election is an all-mail ballot election only. City elections have been mail ballot only since 2005.

WHAT'S ON THE APRIL 6, 2021 BALLOT?

The six (6) City Council District races are up for election this time. Each voters' ballot will contain the specific City Council District race for his or her area and one ballot issue question.

District 1	District 2	District 3	District 4	District 5	District 6
Michael Seeger	Jay Inman	Henry McCall	Regina English	Nancy Henjum	Garfield Johnson
Glenn Carlson	David Noblitt	Richard Skorman	Yolanda L. Avila	Matt Zelenok	Mike O'Malley
Dave Donelson	Dave Geislinger	Arthur Glynn		Karlie Van Arnam	
	Randy Helms	Olivia Lupia		Justin James-Fletcher Hermes	
				Mary Elizabeth Fabian	

Source: <https://coloradosprings.gov/city-council#:~:text=Council%20Responsibilities&text=Approving%20the%20city%20budget,appointing%20the%20Chief%20Executive%20Officer>

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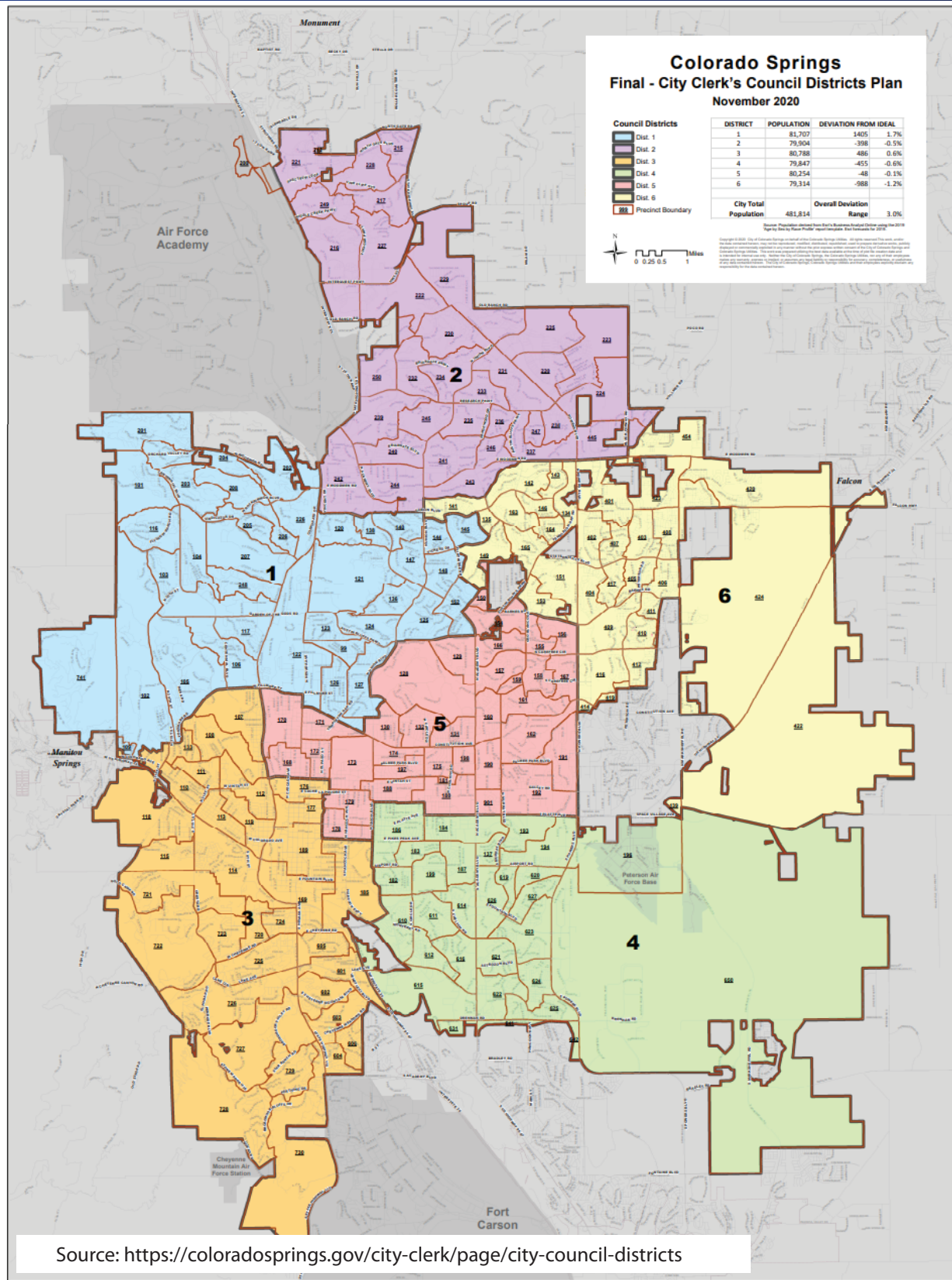


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COLORADO SPRINGS ELECTORAL DISTRICT MAP



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SAMPLE BALLOT FOR 2021 CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS GENERAL MUNICIPAL MAIL BALLOT ELECTION APRIL 6, 2021

Sarah B. Johnson
Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk
City of Colorado Springs

WARNING:

Any person who, by use of force or other means, unduly influences an eligible elector to vote in any particular manner or to refrain from voting, or who falsely makes, alters, forges, or counterfeits any mail ballot before or after it has been cast, or who destroys, defaces, mutilates, or tampers with a ballot is subject, upon conviction, to imprisonment, or to a fine, or both. 5.1.116(C) City Code

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS: Completely fill in the oval to the left of your choice like this: ● (Use a blue or black pen.)

MUNICIPAL OFFICES	MUNICIPAL OFFICES
City Council District 1 Vote for One	City Council District 5 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Jim Mason <input type="radio"/> Michael Seeger <input type="radio"/> Glenn Carlson <input type="radio"/> Dave Donelson	<input type="radio"/> Nancy Henjum <input type="radio"/> Matt Zelenok <input type="radio"/> Karlie Van Arnam <input type="radio"/> Justin James-Fletcher Hermes <input type="radio"/> Mary Elizabeth Fabian
City Council District 2 Vote for One	City Council District 6 Vote for One
<input type="radio"/> Jay Inman <input type="radio"/> David Noblitt <input type="radio"/> Dave Geislinger <input type="radio"/> Randy Helms	<input type="radio"/> Garfield Johnson <input type="radio"/> Mike O'Malley
City Council District 3 Vote for One	ISSUE
<input type="radio"/> Henry McCall <input type="radio"/> Richard Skorman <input type="radio"/> Arthur Glynn <input type="radio"/> Olivia Lupia	Issue 1
City Council District 4 Vote for One	Shall Section 7-90 (c) of the Charter of the City of Colorado Springs be amended to allow ballot titles for tax or bonded debt increases to exceed thirty (30) words?
<input type="radio"/> Regina English <input type="radio"/> Yolanda L. Avila	<input type="radio"/> Yes <input type="radio"/> No

Voters' ballots will only include the candidates for your specific City Council District. All voters' ballots will include the Issue question.

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BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

Ballots may be dropped off at all drop-off locations listed below beginning March 12, 2021. Ballots must be received (not just postmarked) by the City Clerk's Office or a designated drop-off location listed below by 7:00 p.m. on election night, Tuesday, April 6, 2021. We highly encourage you to drop-off your ballot in one of our many 27/7 ballot drop-off boxes across the City. However, if you choose to mail your ballot, please affix proper postage and allow at least 9 days transit time to be received by the City Clerk's Office by the deadline.

LOCATION	ADDRESS	HOURS OF OPERATION	ELECTION DAY HOURS
(Main Location) City Clerk's Office City Administration Building	30 South Nevada., Suite 101	Mon-Fri 8:00AM-5:00PM 24/7 Ballot Box	7:00AM - 7:00PM
Bear Creek Park, Community Garden	2002 Creek Crossing	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Black Forest Park-n-Ride	7530 Black Forest Rd	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Boot Barn Hall at Bourbon Brothers	13071 Bass Pro Dr.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Broadmoor Towne Center at Southgate	2007 Southgate Rd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Citadel Mall North side	50 Citadel Dr. E.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Colorado Springs Senior Center	1514 North Hancock Ave.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Cottonwood Creek Recreational Center	3920 Dublin Blvd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
El Paso County Citizens Service Center	1675 West Garden of the Gods Rd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
El Paso County Downtown-Centennial Hall	200 S. Cascade Ave.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
El Paso County Fort Carson Branch	200 South Cascade Ave.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
El Paso County Fort Carson Branch	6351 Wetzel Ave., Bldg.1525	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
El Paso County North-Union Town Center Branch	8830 North Union Blvd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM

Source: <https://coloradosprings.gov/voterinfo>

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BALLOT DROP-OFF LOCATIONS

LOCATION	ADDRESS	HOURS OF OPERATION	ELECTION DAY HOURS
El Paso County Southeast-Powers Branch	5650 Industrial Pl., Suite 100	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
First & Main	New Center Point	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Leon Young Sports Complex	1335 S. Chelton Rd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Pikes Peak Regional Development Center	2880 International Cir.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
PPCC (Rampart Range)	2070 Interquest Pkwy.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
PPLD-East Library	5550 North Union Blvd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
PPLD-Library 21c	1175 Chapel Hills Dr.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Rocky Mountain Calvary	4825 N. Academy Blvd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Tiffany Square U-Haul Moving & Storage	6805 Corporate Dr.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
UCCS - Kraemer Family Library	1420 Austin Bluffs Pkwy.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Vista Grand Baptist Church	5680 Stetson Hills Blvd.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM
Wilson Ranch Pool	2335 Allegheny Dr.	24/7 Ballot Box	Closes at 7:00PM

Source: <https://coloradosprings.gov/voterinfo>

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MILITARY / OVERSEAS BALLOTS

What does UOCAVA mean?

UOCAVA means Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act

Am I a UOCAVA voter?

UOCAVA electors are:

- A member of the Uniformed Services or Merchant Marines on active duty, absent from their place of residence;
- An eligible spouse or dependent of the member described above; or
- A U.S. citizen residing outside the U.S.

Can I receive my ballot by email or fax?

If you wish to register as a UOCAVA voter or request to vote electronically, please visit the El Paso County Elections(link is external) site for more information. UOCAVA Ballots will be sent out on February 15th.

<https://clerkandrecorder.elpasoco.com/elections/>

Source: <https://coloradosprings.gov/city-clerk/page/military-and-overseas-voting-uocava?mlid=9391>



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS A MAIL IN BALLOT?

A mail ballot election provides every eligible active voter, residing within the limits of the City of Colorado Springs, a ballot indicating the issues and candidates for their specific City Council District. The mail ballot packet is mailed to the address listed on voter registration records.

All active voters will receive a ballot mailed to the mailing address shown on the voter registration records unless a request for an absentee ballot is received (see information below). If you have moved or changed addresses and have not updated your voter registration, the ballot will not be forwarded and will be returned to the City Clerk's Office as undeliverable.

WHAT DOES THE MAIL BALLOT MEAN TO ME?

- There will be no voting at precinct polling places.
- There will be no early voting.

WHEN WILL YOU MAIL THE BALLOTS?

We anticipate mailing ballots on March 12, 2021. If you do not receive a ballot by Wednesday, March 17, 2021, and believe you are an eligible active voter within the City limits, contact the City Clerk's Office at (719) 385-5901, option 4 or email us at elections@coloradosprings.gov (link sends e-mail).

WHAT IS THE TYPICAL RETURN RATE FOR MAIL BALLOTS?

Historical voter turnout (the percentage of total votes counted divided by active registered voters) can be found on our Election Archives page coloradosprings.gov/election-history. Just look for the Results Summary. If you are curious about the daily volume of ballots scanned, you can review the Daily Reports for the last four municipal elections. Election Daily Reports.

The Daily Report indicates the number of ballots scanned each day of processing beginning, March 13, 2021.

Visit our Election Data, Reports and Fee Schedule page if you are interested in purchasing electronic data regarding current and past elections.

AM I AN ACTIVE VOTER?

To verify your current voter status, go to <http://www.govotecolorado.com/> (link is external).

Per City Code 5.1.102 we only mail to active registered electors. If you are inactive and wish to vote, see HOW DO I GET A BALLOT IF I AM INACTIVE? below.

HOW CAN I FIND OUT THE RESULTS OF THE ELECTION?

Unofficial results of the City Election will be posted on coloradosprings.gov/election. The initial unofficial results should be available by 7:30 PM. Additional updates to the unofficial results will be posted throughout the evening until all ballots have been counted.

A link from the City's Internet Home Page (coloradosprings.gov/), as well as links from the election pages will be available on Election Day.

FOR MORE FAQ (FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS) VISIT:

Source: <https://coloradosprings.gov/city-clerk/page/mail-ballot-frequently-asked-questions-faq?mliid=45986>

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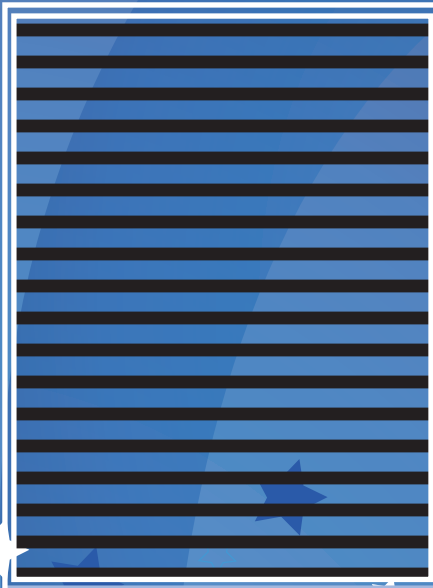
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CANDIDATES FOR DISTRICT 3



Henry McCall



Richard Skorman

Candidate chose not
to participate



Arthur Glynn



Olivia Lupia

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Candidate Name:	Henry McCall
City Council District #:	3
Email Address:	koringderff2872@gmail.com
Campaign Website URL	none
Phone Number:	512.939.6096
Occupation/Vocation:	Retired, CDC Counselor
Military Background/Status (if any):	None
Number of years as a Colorado Springs resident?	5-1/2 years

CITY COUNCIL'S PURPOSE

What do you view as the purpose and role of the Colorado Springs City Council?

ANSWER:

One hundred percent public service. Nothing more, nothing less. On January 8, 2021, I presented a cry for help to the Colorado Springs City Council. I asked this Council to enact a one year moratorium on all proposed residential rate increases. Residents were being served with eviction notices, their automobiles were being repossessed and towed away. The Broadmoor Hotel laid off 1,700 valued, long-term employees. Our cry for help was denied. Corporate America influences had silenced this Council. It was a sad day. As of today, Colorado Springs residents and businesses have all been assessed energy price increases.

CANDIDATE'S FOCUS/EXPERTISE/INITIATIVES:

What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise, and what initiatives would you like to undertake as a Colorado Springs City Councilperson?

ANSWER:

From 1979 to 1983, I was elected and served honorably as a city council member in Oroville, California. When elected, I will propose a one year moratorium on all residential rate increases, electrical increases and all city sales taxes. Propose a resolution to the Governor of Colorado, eliminating federal and state income tax requirements on gratuity income.

COVID RECOVERY:

Has the COVID situation created any problems in Colorado Springs that the City Council can mitigate; specifically regarding businesses, schools, healthcare systems, and other vital services?

ANSWER:

I have always felt that the less government is the best government. COVID issues, in my opinion, should be left to the professionals.

HOME RULE:

Colorado Springs has the status of a "Home Rule City" under the Colorado State Constitution. What are your views on Home Rule, and how would you suggest strengthening the Colorado Springs city charter to protect our residents from state and federal laws that are not in our best interest?

ANSWER:

I do not have any issues with Colorado Springs' Home Rule policies and I do not feel that there needs to be any charter amendments.

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CANDIDATE**HENRY MCCALL****DISTRICT 3****UTILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE:**

City Council members sit on the Utilities Board. What, if anything, should be done to address the city's current and future energy needs as Colorado Springs continues to grow?

ANSWER:

A long, long time ago, we were given an abundance of natural resources. We were directed to utilize, honor and respect these gifts.

RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA:

What are your views on permitting the sale of recreational marijuana within the city limits of Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

Follow the science. Everyone should be able to voice their view at the ballot box.

2ND AMENDMENT SANCTUARIES:

It has been suggested that Colorado Springs should become a 2nd Amendment "sanctuary city". What are your views on this issue?

ANSWER:

I do not see how making Colorado Springs a 2nd Amendment sanctuary would be of any helpful benefit.

PROTECTING LIFE:

What legal means, if any, would you support to protect the most vulnerable in our city, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, and the elderly?

ANSWER:

The lives of the unborn is a personal and private issue. Local government has no standing in this area. The elderly warrants 100% protection, and there should be no trafficking of any human being.

BUSINESS/JOB:

What specifically should the City Council do to bring more businesses/jobs to Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

In the next five years, the population of Colorado Springs is projected to double. I agree. Low utility rates, reasonable property taxes, clean water, clean air

HOMELESSNESS/VAGRANCY:

How can the City Council address the increase in the homeless/vagrant population in our city in ways that best serve all Colorado Springs residents?

ANSWER:

Enact a program designed to help the homeless help themselves. Outreach, job opportunities, education opportunities, parenting skills.

CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES:

As a City Councilperson, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Colorado Springs residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, and exercise of religion?

ANSWER:

These are gifts. What you do with them as an individual is left up to you.

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Candidate chose not to participate.

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Candidate Name:	Arthur Glynn
City Council District #:	3
Email Address:	art@artglynn.com
Campaign Website URL	artglynn.com
Phone Number:	719-238-4656
Occupation/Vocation:	Consultant
Military Background/Status (if any):	Retired Navy Captain
Number of years as a Colorado Springs resident?	15

CITY COUNCIL'S PURPOSE

What do you view as the purpose and role of the Colorado Springs City Council?

ANSWER:

City Council serves to set policy and make certain the policies, charters and ordinances are appropriately funded and enforced. Acting as a legislative body, City Council passes an annual budget subject to the Mayor's approval. City Council also serves as the Board of Directors for Colorado Springs Utilities to ensure reliable and economical energy, water, and sewage services. City council also serves as the voice of the people and should represent the needs of the community.

CANDIDATE'S FOCUS/EXPERTISE/INITIATIVES:

What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise, and what initiatives would you like to undertake as a Colorado Springs City Councilperson?

ANSWER:

As a 30 year military veteran, I have protected our Nation and most specifically protected our home front. I have worked closely with federal, state and local interagency partners with special attention to the Waldo Canyon, and Black Forest fires and the ensuing floods that followed. This required a diplomatic skill set to bring partners with divergent perspectives to focus key resources and personnel during the most stressful and challenging times. Pulling people together in times of strife to address the emergency at hand is a forte' of mine.

Most recently, I have served as the El Paso County District 3 representative to the Citizens Outreach Group (COG). It is here where I have learned community concerns and aspirations and I am determined to be their voice on City Council.

My top three areas of focus are:

PROSPERITY – Higher paying jobs create opportunities for everyone.
 ATTAINABLE HOUSING - The American dream is alive with smart city planning.

ENVIRONMENT – Let's work together to protect our homes and community from wildland fires.

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COVID RECOVERY:

Has the COVID situation created any problems in Colorado Springs that the City Council can mitigate; specifically regarding businesses, schools, healthcare systems, and other vital services?

ANSWER:

Many of the problems COVID has created have been perpetuated by government overreach and using COVID for political posturing. The impact on our city has been devastating and City Council should "follow the science" and listen to our El Paso County Department of Health for their expertise. This means leveraging our Home City Rule to reopen our businesses schools as soon as practicable and prioritize our healthcare systems/ vital services to focus on those who are most at risk. The key to the survival and prosperity of our city is to truly put our differences aside and pull together to reconnect. For when we are divided, all will suffer. When we are connected, we will help each other to work through these challenging times and be better for it.

HOME RULE:

Colorado Springs has the status of a "Home Rule City" under the Colorado State Constitution. What are your views on Home Rule, and how would you suggest strengthening the Colorado Springs city charter to protect our residents from state and federal laws that are not in our best interest?

ANSWER:

Colorado Springs residents (myself included) take great pride in adhering to their beliefs, values and self-governance. Were it not for Home City Rule, Colorado Springs would be subjugated to the whims of Denver and Boulder. The key is adherence to the freedoms embodied in our State Constitution and working through our State legislators and Senators to affirm our rights and challenge in court those who would impose their dominion over us. Our liberty is dependent upon our resolve to stand for our Christian values and challenge all who would deprive us of them. When elected, I commit to do just that!

UTILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE:

City Council members sit on the Utilities Board. What, if anything, should be done to address the city's current and future energy needs as Colorado Springs continues to grow?

ANSWER:

I stand resolute that we need resilient and economical energy. We have learned a great deal from the recent devastating snow storm in Texas and should take it as a warning of what can happen here in Colorado Springs. For the last several years, there has been a major push to make Colorado Springs carbon neutral. While on the surface this seems to be an admirable effort, it is fraught with risk to our energy reliability. Fortunately, Colorado Springs Utilities is forward thinking and is planning ways to diversify our energy sources and I support their efforts to include Gas turbine, hydroelectric as well as wind turbine and solar power generation. We are fortunate to have our own power generation and I will stridently work to ensure we keep it.

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RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA:

What are your views on permitting the sale of recreational marijuana within the city limits of Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

We live at the base of "America's Mountain", in "Olympic City USA" and surrounded by five military bases. We should be setting the standard for healthy living and drug avoidance. Marijuana use is diametrically opposed to the values our community should represent.

When marijuana was legalized in Colorado, it was a "Devil's Bargain". Promises of tax receipts going to support our schools was a fallacy, where most of the revenue goes to regulation and enforcement. Promises of putting the black market out of business and Keeping marijuana away from kids too was a fallacy.

On top of this, no one in their right mind anticipated the extremely high concentrated THC levels in some of the marijuana strains being offered. We are just starting to see the horrific effects of marijuana addiction and the psychosis being generated in our children.

I am vehemently opposed to recreational marijuana as the costs to our society greatly exceeds any potential tax revenue. I also oppose our local government being in the drug dealing business. Who would have thought we would find ourselves here?

2ND AMENDMENT SANCTUARIES:

It has been suggested that Colorado Springs should become a 2nd Amendment "sanctuary city". What are your views on this issue?

ANSWER:

As a life member of the NRA, I fully support Colorado Springs being a 2nd Amendment sanctuary city. With so many other cities violating federal law and becoming illegal alien sanctuary cities, it is important that we stand up for and protect our rights. For if we do not, our freedoms and liberties will be lost. The evidence is clear, an armed society is a protected society. With so much unrest, we are in need of protection more than ever. Remember, laws are for law abiding citizens and we need to protect ourselves when so many want to tear apart our nation.

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PROTECTING LIFE:

What legal means, if any, would you support to protect the most vulnerable in our city, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, and the elderly?

ANSWER:

Simply stated, I always have and always will hold dear, the SANCTITY OF LIFE! Life is a miracle and we need to treat all with the dignity and respect we ourselves desire.

My father taught me long ago "that with great responsibility, comes great privilege and vice versa". I have been privileged to serve for over 30 years in the U.S. Navy protecting all Americans regardless of status and I am committed with the responsibility to continue the fight and follow Christ's guidance in Mathew 25:45: "Truly, I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me."

If we fail to take care of our most vulnerable, we fail ourselves, our nation and society.

BUSINESS/JOB:

What specifically should the City Council do to bring more businesses/jobs to Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

Our City Council has made inroads to diversify and build economic opportunities. Making Colorado Springs the permanent home for USSPACECOM was a clear step in the right direction and contrary to reports, the decision to move to Huntsville, AL is not a done deal. The advantage of making Colorado Springs the permanent home is that in addition to the military jobs it would bring, it would spur an economic multiplier to provide advanced degrees and specialized technical training driving high paying jobs as well as the education provider opportunities that our city would need to provide. Bringing Amazon and Southwest Airlines here will continue to spur economic development and these are the types of businesses that will reinforce our social fabric.

On the other end of the spectrum, legalizing recreational marijuana would bring the types of businesses we do not want and would tear apart our social fabric. They would be counterproductive.

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HOMELESSNESS/VAGRANCY:

How can the City Council address the increase in the homeless/vagrant population in our city in ways that best serve all Colorado Springs residents?

ANSWER:

The Colorado Springs homelessness/vagrancy issue is complex and likely to get worse before it gets better. Rather than simply throwing more money at the problem, we need to understand the underlying issues which I see as follows:

- Some folks are homeless due to circumstances outside their control and truly need our help.
- Many of our military members are returning from four, five and sometimes six tours in combat zones and have difficulty reintegrating to society. Some find themselves on the street and feel abandoned.
- Some homeless folks have adopted a pure freedom perspective and do not want to be constrained by social norms and that includes not wanting to conform to homeless shelter requirements to include giving up on alcohol and their drugs of choice.
- Finally, we have a growing crisis of a mental health issues with a segment of our society where many find themselves suffering from addiction and bounce between the streets and jail. We are unlikely to build more jails or mental health facilities. We need to attack the problem at its root.

The underlying issues will not be easy to resolve, but if we fail, so too will our community.

CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES:

As a City Councilperson, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Colorado Springs residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, and exercise of religion?

ANSWER:

Part of the magic that brought my family and me to Colorado Springs was the adherence to traditional values and virtues. I took a solemn oath to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true allegiance to the same...". Though I am no longer in uniform, I still abide by that oath and will devote my energies to protect them to my dying breath.

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Candidate Name:	Olivia Lupia
City Council District #:	3
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Campaign Website URL	www.VoteOliviaLupia.com
Phone Number:	(719) 231-0943
Occupation/Vocation:	Performing Artist & Freelance Proofreader
Military Background/Status (if any):	N/A
Number of years as a Colorado Springs resident?	21

CITY COUNCIL'S PURPOSE

What do you view as the purpose and role of the Colorado Springs City Council?

ANSWER:

Using the US Constitution as our guide, the role of the government at all levels is to protect the rights of the people- life, liberty, and property. The city should focus on providing services constituents need to safely and productively live their lives, not impede on liberties. I believe in minimal taxation and government regulation/interference in conjunction with free markets and personal responsibility. As a Council member, my goal would be to promote and enact policies that reflect governance according to both the state and national Constitutions.

CANDIDATE'S FOCUS/EXPERTISE/INITIATIVES:

What are your areas of special focus and/or expertise, and what initiatives would you like to undertake as a Colorado Springs City Councilperson?

ANSWER:

- 1) Businesses require the opportunity to fully open and lead our city's recovery and revitalization. We achieve this by offering constituents freedom and authority over their businesses, personal property, and lives with less government regulation, especially when it becomes a burden for the people. I believe in personal responsibility and accountability.
- 2) Infrastructure and Energy- The people need a stronger voice concerning alternative transportation and cost-effective energy options, and City Council needs to be receptive by not implementing policies unilaterally. For example, I do not support the forced sacrifice of our existing thoroughfares for initiatives such as bike lane-dominant roadways. Additionally, current green energy initiatives (solar & wind) being implemented by City Council via CSU will come at heavy ratepayer expense and are being proven in other areas of the country to be expensive to implement, ineffective in meeting the energy needs of customers, and create increased rates for consumers.
- 3) Human/sex trafficking is a pervasive and growing but silent issue in our city. It is crucial that City Council partner with school districts, law enforcement, and specialized organizations to implement education programs that inform both youth and adults about how to protect themselves and others from these predators.

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COVID RECOVERY:

Has the COVID situation created any problems in Colorado Springs that the City Council can mitigate; specifically regarding businesses, schools, healthcare systems, and other vital services?

ANSWER:

The City Council and Mayor should have protected our businesses, schools, and other community organizations from the dictates of the Governor and non-legislative advisory bodies. They should have insisted that businesses and constituents, not the state or their designees, be empowered to determine how to best protect themselves, their businesses, and their patrons/customers. Now, the reality is that many businesses that were forced to close will not reopen, and our children will suffer long-term consequences in their academic and social lives. To reinvigorate our city, the City Council must advocate for our remaining businesses and community organizations to fully reopen and determine their own best practices for moving forward in 2021 and beyond. As a home rule municipality, Colorado Springs, via City Council, should be doing more to support and protect the rights of our citizens and the economy.

HOME RULE:

Colorado Springs has the status of a "Home Rule City" under the Colorado State Constitution. What are your views on Home Rule, and how would you suggest strengthening the Colorado Springs city charter to protect our residents from state and federal laws that are not in our best interest?

ANSWER:

Being a home rule municipality is a resource and unique power granted to Colorado Springs that goes largely underused. I am a strong advocate for the use of our home rule status to stand up against state or federal abuse of power. We need to strengthen our commitment to home rule and ensure that it is permanently enshrined in the city charter. Every City Council member should be familiar with and well-versed in the rights and privileges granted to our city under home rule. Every City Council member should also be a proponent of utilizing home rule when state or federal government enact unconstitutional legislation or edicts.

UTILITIES/INFRASTRUCTURE:

City Council members sit on the Utilities Board. What, if anything, should be done to address the city's current and future energy needs as Colorado Springs continues to grow?

ANSWER:

Current green energy initiatives being pursued by CSU, with City Council support, will come at heavy ratepayer expense. These initiatives, such as solar and wind power, are being proven in other areas of the country to be expensive to implement, ineffective in meeting the energy needs of customers (ex. Texas weekend of 2/14/21 and California since implementation) and will result in increased rates for ratepayers. Additionally, the required equipment is unreliable and once broken down or at the end of its useful life, the materials are non-recyclable, creating more landfill buildup and environmental damage. I believe CSU already provides the city of Colorado Springs with a reliable, responsible, and cost-effective power system that meets or exceeds all regulatory guidelines. If the updated and newly committed natural gas conversion is properly maintained and updated, the power system can last well into the future without diversifying into "green alternatives".

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RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA:

What are your views on permitting the sale of recreational marijuana within the city limits of Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

I am not in favor of permitting recreational marijuana within our city limits. In addition to the numerous studies linking marijuana use to having long-term negative effects for users and communities, it can also act as a trigger for some mental illnesses and violent tendencies. The poor regulation of the medical marijuana market, especially how tax revenue is utilized, is a precursor to the mismanagement the recreational marijuana market would encounter.

2ND AMENDMENT SANCTUARIES:

It has been suggested that Colorado Springs should become a 2nd Amendment "sanctuary city". What are your views on this issue?

ANSWER:

I believe in the US Constitution and the rights preserved within that document. It is unfortunate that a city must decide whether it will abide by the Constitution or side with those seeking to destroy the Constitution. I believe that declaring our city a 2nd Amendment sanctuary city would make known that Colorado Springs chooses to side with the protections of our Constitutional rights.

PROTECTING LIFE:

What legal means, if any, would you support to protect the most vulnerable in our city, including the lives of the unborn, the trafficked, and the elderly?

ANSWER:

Unfortunately, City Council does not have the jurisdiction to negate state or federal laws, however, under home rule we certainly should investigate how we can more directly influence authority concerning these issues. Personally, I believe that life begins at conception, and life is one of the most precious gifts that is a God-given, unalienable right. The Constitution protects this right with unquestionable authority, just as our Lord does. So though City Council may not directly vote on some of these issues, it is important that every elected voice stand in affirming life of both the unborn and the elderly, who should not be in peril for their lives just for the mere fact that they are old, they deserve respect and honor. As I stated in question number five, human/sex trafficking is one of my priority issues. I believe our city needs to transparently and vigorously inform our population about the very real dangers of these syndicates operating within our community. The right to life, without threat of execution or enslavement, is more than an election issue, it is a powers and principalities issue, and I am proud to boldly stand on the side of the Lord.

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BUSINESS/JOB:

What specifically should the City Council do to bring more businesses/jobs to Colorado Springs?

ANSWER:

The city should be incentivizing the creation or relocation of new businesses, to replace those lost to COVID, that can contribute to increasing the median income, thus offering more opportunities for raising workers' standard of living. Historically, we have been a military dependent town, which we need to continue to foster. It is important to continue to capitalize on what has made Colorado Springs what it is - our military academy, bases, and defense contractors, Olympic headquarters and facilities, two 4-year colleges, and a large community college network. We are seeing diversification (Amazon facility, technology startups, etc.), but rather than whole sale focus on diversification we need to focus on strengthening our ties with our historic and well established economic drivers and encourage diversification through other avenues, especially by inviting companies interested in supporting our traditional Colorado culture and lifestyle in lieu of changing it to be more like where they came from.

HOMELESSNESS/VAGRANCY:

How can the City Council address the increase in the homeless/vagrant population in our city in ways that best serve all Colorado Springs residents?

ANSWER:

Current studies/reports show that the majority of homeless choose that lifestyle even when offered work and housing alternatives. Legalizing marijuana in CO was a large contributor to the homeless-by-choice problem. A small percentage of homeless suffer from mental issues but caring for them requires a specialized plan of action and related resources which are already in place. While some citizens do experience unfortunate housing crises and need short-term help (usually the ones who pursue already available work and assistance programs) this minority group of homeless are not the primary cause of the problem. The city can help those who want it by continuing to make all available resources publicly known, but ultimately cannot help someone who does not want help. Espousing and enforcing personal responsibility and accountability, and ultimately consequences (which must be strong enough to deter the choice) for those who choose to flagrantly encamp, panhandle, and avoid assistance need to be the city council stance. Educating the public to not enable the lifestyle choice should play the largest role in addressing the homeless situation. Affordable housing is not the issue causing homelessness despite the two generally being linked together as cause and effect.

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CONSTITUTIONAL LIBERTIES:

As a City Councilperson, what measures will you champion to protect the individual Constitutional liberties of all Colorado Springs residents, such as freedom of speech, peaceable assembly, and exercise of religion?

ANSWER:

The Constitution, through which God guided our Founding Fathers and is the true framework for our Republic at every level, protects our rights with unquestionable authority. I will at all times promote policies and practices that align with the Constitution and champion to ensure the city charter enshrines those same principles and protections. No governmental body has the authority to subvert Constitutional rights, especially those listed in this question. The federal and state governments often work to enact laws/legislation without regard for the Constitution, and it is time that practice changes, beginning here on the most local level. The Constitution is the solution for all problems, most of which are created by our government. Expanded and overreaching government is not the proper solution to problems the government originally created.

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