

**CITY AND COUNTY OF BROOMFIELD
LEGAL NOTICE**

ORDINANCE NO. 2280

An ordinance submitting to a vote of the registered electors of the City and County of Broomfield at the coordinated election to be held on November 4, 2025, a proposed amendment to Section 6.8 of the Broomfield Charter that would make emergency ordinances effective immediately

Recitals.

Whereas, Broomfield became a City and County in November 2001, but the Home Rule Charter has been in effect since 1974. Home rule charters detail the structure and powers of a local government; and

Whereas, Council established a Charter Review Committee (CRC) to do a comprehensive review of and recommend changes to the Charter; and

Whereas, Council also discussed and gave consideration to changes to the Charter that it would like the voters to consider; and

Whereas Section 6.8 of the Charter sets forth the requirements for emergency ordinances, which are ordinances enacted to address immediate threats to public health, safety, or welfare that require swift action; and

Whereas, emergency ordinances have a higher standard for introduction and can only be introduced by a unanimous minus one vote of councilmembers present at a meeting; and

Whereas, ordinances on taxes, debt, and utility rates cannot be passed as an emergency ordinance except as set forth in Charter Section 12.10(b), Emergency Appropriations, and Charter Section 14.2, Short Term Notes; and

Whereas, under the current Charter pursuant to a provision approved in 1976, emergency ordinances take effect eight days from passage; and

Whereas, without changing that higher standard for introduction and the restrictions on the use of emergency ordinances, this proposed ballot question would make the effective date of an emergency ordinance immediately upon passage, rather than eight-days; and

Whereas, an immediate threat to the community, such as a natural disaster or a public health crisis, may require swift and decisive legal action to mitigate harm and ensure safety; and

Whereas, in certain circumstances, delaying the implementation of an ordinance could undermine its effectiveness or create further problems; and

Whereas, emergency ordinances are designed to protect the public interest in situations where standard ordinance procedures, which can take between 30-60 days, might be too slow; and

Whereas, this change of the effective date from 8 days from passage to immediately is consistent with the protection of the public interest; and

Whereas, Charter amendments are permitted by Broomfield's Constitutional Amendment and Section 18.6 of the Charter, and may be referred to the voters via an ordinance adopted by Council.

Now therefore, be it ordained by the City Council of the City and County of Broomfield, Colorado:

Section 1.

That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2.

Subject to the approval of the registered electors of the City and County of Broomfield, Chapter VI, Section 6.8 of the Broomfield Charter shall be amended with the addition shown in **bold** or deletion shown stricken below, which ballot question shall be submitted to the registered electors of the City as "Proposed Charter Amendment No.1E", or with the number as set forth in Section 4 below, at the November 2025 election:

Section 6.8 - Emergency Ordinances.

- (a) An ordinance which is declared therein to be an emergency ordinance, and which is immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, safety or welfare may be enacted at the regular or special meeting at which it is introduced by unanimous minus one vote of councilmembers present and without any requirement of publication and without any requirement of a second reading and passage. The purpose of the emergency must be clearly stated in the ordinance. Such emergency ordinances, after passage, shall take effect ~~immediately eight days therefrom~~ **immediately**, but shall for information purposes, be published as required in this Charter for ordinances after final passage.

- (b) No ordinance granting any special privilege, levying taxes, incurring indebtedness, authorizing borrowing money or fixing rates charged by any City and County-owned utility shall ever be passed as an emergency measure, except as provided by Section 12.10(b), Emergency Appropriations, and Section 14.2, Short-Term Notes.
- (c) The Mayor shall not have veto power on an emergency ordinance.

Section 3.

The following ballot title and question shall be placed on the ballot of the November 4, 2025 election for the City and County of Broomfield for consideration by the registered electors:

**Proposed Charter Amendment No. 1E
(Emergency Ordinances)**

With no change to the high standard, specific reasons, and publication requirements required by Charter to approve emergency ordinances, shall Section 6.8 of the Broomfield Home Rule Charter be amended to provide that emergency ordinances take effect immediately after passage instead of eight days after passage?

_____ Yes/For
_____ No/Against

Section 4.

It is Council's intent that the numbers for the Broomfield ballot questions be as low as possible. Council authorizes staff to modify the ballot number if needed so that the Broomfield Charter change ballot questions are sequential and with the lowest numbers possible.

Section 5.

Publication of this ordinance in full after final approval constitutes publication of notice of an election upon the proposed amendment pursuant to Section 31-2-210(4) of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

Section 6.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of this Ordinance or the application thereof to any person or circumstances shall for any reason be adjudged by a court of competent jurisdiction invalid, such judgment shall not affect application to other persons or circumstances.

Section 7.

This ordinance is effective seven days after publication following final passage.

Introduced and approved after first reading on July 8, 2025, and ordered published in full.

Introduced a second time and approved on August 12, 2025, and ordered published in full.

Finally adopted and ordered published on August 12, 2025.

THE CITY AND COUNTY OF
BROOMFIELD, COLORADO
/s/ Guyleen Castriotta
Mayor

ATTEST:
/s/ Tasha Reynolds
City and County Clerk Administrator

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
/s/ Nancy Rodgers
City & County Attorney

Published by title in the Broomfield Enterprise on Sunday, August 17, 2025
Published in full on the Broomfield Website Thursday, August 14, 2025