

Election — November 3, 2015

**City of Lafayette  
Ballot Questions**



**League of Women Voters®  
of Boulder County**

*The League of Women Voters is not responsible for the accuracy or fairness of the arguments of either side.*

**BALLOT QUESTION 2J  
BOARDS AND  
COMMISSIONS**

Shall Sections 4.1 7 and 5.1 of the City of Lafayette, Colorado, Home Rule Charter be amended to eliminate the requirement that, with the exception of Planning Commission, all board and commission members be residents and electors of the city, provided that the chair and all but two members reside in the city?

A vote *YES* means two (2) non-residents may serve on each City Board or Commission, except the Planning Commission and non-electors who are residents, may serve on each Board or Commission, except the Planning Commission.

A vote *NO* means all members of City Boards or Commissions, including the Planning Commission must be residents and qualified registered electors of the City.

**Major Provisions**

The requirements of residency for up to two members of each City Board and Commission, except the Planning Commission would be eliminated. The chair of any Board or Commission must be a resident. Non-electors could serve on Boards and Commissions as long as they are residents.

**Background**

This question was referred to the voters by the Lafayette City Council because current eligibility requirements restrict the appointment of non-residents or non-electors who hold specific qualifications or skills needed by the City and who share the best interests of Lafayette. The Council believes that people who work in Lafayette but don't live in the city as well as those who live in unincorporated sections of the county but who care enough about Lafayette to volunteer their time and talent should be able to serve on the City's boards and commissions.

**Those IN FAVOR say**

Lafayette should be able to benefit from the experience and talents of individuals willing to volunteer their service to the City's Boards and Commissions.

**Those OPPOSED say**

Lafayette volunteer boards should have Lafayette residents serving on them. Other cities in Boulder County only allow their residents to serve on their boards. Lafayette does not need nonresidents making decisions for its citizens.

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**BALLOT QUESTION 2K  
COLLECTIVE BARGAIN-  
ING FOR LAFAYETTE  
FIREFIGHTERS**

Shall the City Council of the City of Lafayette enact an ordinance by April 1, 2016, obligating the City to engage in collective bargaining with the designated exclusive representative of the Lafayette firefighters, including provisions for non-binding arbitration with impasses to be submitted to the electors of the city for final resolution?

**Major Provisions**

The City of Lafayette would enact an ordinance agreeing to negotiate a contract through collective bargaining with the local chapter of firefighters. Formal negotiating would give firefighters a voice in decisions impacting the fire department. Impasses in the negotiations would be referred to the city's voters.

**Background**

Lafayette firefighters have been working for several years for the right to negotiate with the city over several topics, including safety issues, compensation, and workplace policy.

**Those IN FAVOR say**

Formal negotiating of contracts will provide the City of Lafayette with the best tools to attract and keep the best firefighters in the service of the city.

**Those OPPOSED say**

Formal negotiating of contracts will tie the hands of the City Council when considering the firefighters in the big picture of the city's budget and may require elections, delaying the decisions.