

# Eight Out of Eleven Colorado Library Ballot Measures Win Voter Approval

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The results of the elections finalized on November 1, 2005, included good news for several Colorado public libraries.

- East Routt Library District, serving the Steamboat Springs area, and the Ignacio and Mancos Library Districts all won voter approval for funding to improve and operate public library facilities. Ignacio also won a mill levy increase for operation.
- Nederland Community Library District won exemption from revenue-and-spending limitations imposed by the so-called Taxpayers' Bill of Rights, or TABOR.
- Fort Collins Public Library benefited from passage of a multi-purpose city measure, "Building on Basics" (or BOB), which is expected to generate an additional \$6 million of support for library technology.
- Residents of the Boulder County portion of Erie voted to join the city's Weld County residents in being provided public library service by Weld Library District.



## Ballot Measures Involving Public Libraries in Colorado, November 2005

Library	Ballot Measure	Percent Voting for Ballot Measure
East Routt Library District (Steamboat Springs)	Mill levy increase (1 mill for operation)	57%
East Routt Library District (Steamboat Springs)	\$11.4 million bond (for library building expansion)	55%
Fort Collins Public Library	"Building on Basics"—10-year continuation of ¼ cent sales tax for municipal projects (including est. \$5.95 million for library technology)	72%
Ignacio Library District	Mill levy increase (additional .5 mill for operation)	53%
Ignacio Library District	\$2 million bond (for library building)	50% (49.57% --decided by 8 votes)
Mancos Library District	Mill levy increase (2.5 mills to construct & operate new & larger facility)	66%
Montrose Regional Library District	Creation of library capital facility district (Naturita area)	32% (failed)
Nederland Community Library District	Exemption from TABOR limits	71%
Rangeview Library District (Adams County)	Mill levy increase (3.494 mills to construct & operate expanded library facilities)	45% (failed)
Weld Library District	Residents of Boulder County portion of Erie vote on joining Weld Library District	60%
Weld Library District	Dacono residents vote on joining Weld Library District	41.5% (failed)

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The bad news for libraries and their patrons on November 1 included the failure of measures to expand and operate library facilities in both Montrose Regional and Rangeview Library Districts.

Overall, eight out of 11 library issues (73%) passed—a substantially higher success rate than school or special district ballot issues. Nine out of 16 school bond requests (56%) and nine out of 17 special district override requests (53%) were approved by voters during the elections concluded last week.

**CONTACT ABOUT THIS ISSUE**

Keith Curry Lance • Director

Library Research Service • 201 East Colfax Avenue, Suite 309 • Denver, Colorado 80203-1799

Phone 303.866.6900 • E-mail: lance\_K@cde.state.co.us • Web site: www.LRS.org

Layout and production by Fabian R. Maes • Phone: 303.866.6906 • E-mail: Maes\_F@cde.state.co.us

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