2026-69

A RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD TO VOTE "YES" ON LOCAL BALLOT QUESTION 2H AT THE NOVEMBER 3, 2026, COORDINATED GENERAL AND SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION, TO APPROVE AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 2.6 OF THE CITY OF LAKEWOOD HOME RULE CHARTER TO ESTABLISH THAT THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR A NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR OR CITY COUNCILMEMBER BEGINS AT THE FIRST MEETING FOLLOWING CERTIFICATION OF THE ELECTION RESULTS

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.54.060(A)(2)(b)(iii)(A) of the Lakewood Municipal Code, the City Council for the City of Lakewood (the "City") is expressly authorized to pass a Resolution taking a position of advocacy in regard to a local ballot question;

WHEREAS, the Lakewood Home Rule Charter (Charter) was adopted on November 1, 1983, to serve as the primary document establishing the governance of the City;

WHEREAS, Charter Section 14.9 allows for the Charter to be amended in the manner provided by Article XX of the Colorado Constitution and any statute enacted by the Colorado General Assembly;

WHEREAS, C.R.S. § 31-2-210(1)(b) authorizes the City Council to adopt an ordinance submitting a proposed charter amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City, and on August 10, 2026, the City Council adopted Ordinance 2026-25 to send a ballot question to the voters regarding an amendment to Charter Section 2.6;

WHEREAS, Charter Section 2.6 currently mandates that the term of office of a newly elected Mayor or City Councilmember begins at the first regular City Council meeting following the regular municipal election, even though the first regular City Council meeting is routinely scheduled to occur before official election results are certified ten (10) to fourteen (14) days after the date of the election;

WHEREAS, because a newly elected Mayor or City Councilmember cannot begin serving until election results are certified, compliance with Charter Section 2.6 requires canceling what would otherwise be the first regular City Council meeting in November, routinely preventing the City Council from conducting regular City business for up to thirty (30) days following the election;

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to Charter Section 2.6 will not change the longstanding practice of a newly elected Mayor or City Councilmember taking the

oath of office and beginning their service on the date of what would be the second regular meeting in November if the first meeting were not canceled, as that meeting occurs after certification of the election results; and

WHEREAS, the proposed amendment to Charter Section 2.6 is being submitted to the voters so they may decide whether to allow the City Council to hold, rather than cancel, its first regular November meeting following the regular election, thereby preventing interruptions or delays in the conduct of City business.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Lakewood, Colorado, that:

SECTION 1. The recitals set forth above are incorporated herein.

SECTION 2. The Lakewood City Council hereby encourages the registered electors of the City to Vote "YES" on ballot question 2H at the November 3, 2026 coordinated General and Special Municipal Election, which seeks voter approval to amend Section 2.6(a) of the City's Home Rule Charter to provide that the terms of office of the Mayor and City Councilmembers shall commence at the first regular meeting following certification of the results of the regular municipal election.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ADOPTED by a vote of 11 for and 0 against at a hybrid regular meeting of the City Council on October 12, 2026, at 7 o'clock p.m., at the Lakewood Civic Center, 480 South Allison Parkway, Lakewood, Colorado.

Wendi Strom, Mayor

CITY OF LAKEWOOD ★ SEAL ★ COLORADO

ATTEST:

Jay Robb, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Alison McKenney Brown, City Attorney