

**INVEST IN OUR PARKS  
VOTE YES ON 1A**

The Board of El Paso County Commissioners has referred a TABOR ballot question that will ask voters to consider retaining approximately \$2 million in excess 2013 revenue to invest in critical maintenance and improvements at our regional parks, trails, open space, nature centers, and fairgrounds.

Over the past decade, El Paso County has struggled with providing sufficient resources to effectively maintain our County park system due to a challenging economy and other critical needs. General Fund support for county parks plunged from \$1.8 million in 2003 to \$300,000 in 2008. In 2015 it will be approximately \$1 million. 1A will be used to “take care of what we have” by restoring Black Forest Regional Park and the Pinerias Open Space that were heavily damaged in the Black Forest Fire and complete a variety of needed maintenance projects in our regional parks, County Fairgrounds, Bear Creek Nature Center, and the county-wide trail system. The funds will also be used to support the development of Falcon Regional Park and purchasing Elephant Rock and Wedgewood Farms open space sites. The complete project list can be found at [www.voteeyesforparks.com](http://www.voteeyesforparks.com).

Because County Parks has an excellent track record of leveraging funds through other grants and donations, by approving 1A, we will likely see this investment significantly expand in size and scope.

Supporting 1A benefits us by improving our citizen’s health by encouraging an active lifestyle, providing additional community recreation opportunities, enhancing tourism, promoting economic development, providing multi-modal transportation opportunities, enhancing our neighborhoods, and providing positive alternatives for our free time.

The Citizens Budget Oversight Committee (CBOC) reviews the budgets of all County offices and prioritizes the competing needs of each. Support 1A for Parks.

If 1A is not approved, property owners will only receive an \$8 credit on our 2014 property tax statement. This will be the best \$8 community investment that you will never miss.

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