

Growth Policy Referendum R-001 and Referendum R-002

Frequently Asked Questions

April 9, 2024

Referendum R-001 to Repeal the Park County Growth Policy: The purpose of this referendum is to repeal the Park County Growth Policy Update, Adopted April 20, 2017, pursuant to Resolution No. 1243, and the addendum adopted November 29, 2022. The growth policy is a nonregulatory document used by Park County as a guide for making decisions about its future, particularly with regard to land use. The growth policy can provide the legal basis for the adoption or updating of zoning or subdivision regulations. Park County is not required to have a growth policy unless the Board of County Commissioners wishes to adopt or amend zoning regulations.

Question	Answer
Is Park County, Montana required to have a Growth Policy?	No, Park County is not required to have a Growth Policy
Did Park County follow the required process when considering/adopting the current Growth Policy?	Yes, Park County followed the Statutory process, and added a variety of additional meetings and opportunities for members of the public to participate and provide comment.
Will voting to eliminate the current Growth Policy cost the County any money?	Not directly, however, creating a New Growth Policy may cost the County additional funds. See also the section on grant funding.
Does the current Growth Policy comply with State Statute?	Yes, the current Growth Policy includes all required information and is consistent with the requirements set forth in State Statute.

If Park County no longer has a Growth Policy, will grant funding for other projects be impacted?	Potentially; some funding sources require consideration of Planning Documents, which may include an officially approved Growth Policy.
Will my vote impact the ability of the County to Create a New Growth Policy?	No. Park County has the authority to consider creating a new Growth Policy regardless of on the results of Referendum 1.
When will I have the opportunity to vote on this referendum?	June 4, 2024
If I live in the City of Livingston, will I be able to vote on Referendum R-001?	No, only qualified electors residing outside the City of Livingston and Town of Clyde Park can vote on Referendum R-001.
If the current Growth Policy is repealed, can Park County consider Part 2 Zoning?	No, Park County cannot consider Part 2 Zoning without an officially adopted Growth Policy
If the current Growth Policy is not repealed, does Park County have to consider Part 2 Zoning?	No, Part 2 Zoning is not required if the County has an officially adopted Growth Policy
If the current Growth Policy is repealed, what will happen to the <i>US HWY 89 South – East River Road – Old Yellowstone Trail Zoning District, which was created as a Part 2 zoning district?</i>	The <i>US HWY 89 South – East River Road – Old Yellowstone Trail Zoning District</i> will remain regardless of whether Referendum R-001 passes.

Referendum R-002 To Require a Vote to Adopt a Growth Policy: If the County Commission adopts a resolution of intention to adopt a growth policy, the County Commission must submit to the qualified electors of the area covered by the growth policy proposed by the County Commission at the next primary or general election or at a special election the referendum question of whether or not the growth policy should be adopted. Whether to put the adoption of a growth policy to a vote of qualified electors is currently within the discretion of the County Commission.

Question	Answer
Would Referendum R-002 apply to all future growth policies, and require a vote no matter what?	Yes, Referendum R-002 would require all future growth policies to be voted on by the qualified electors residing within the area covered by the Growth Policy.
Would Referendum R-002 apply to growth policy updates?	Yes, all (future) growth policy updates would require adoption by resolution of intent by the Board of County Commissioners, and therefore would require a vote of the qualified electors

<p>Is requiring a vote of the qualified electors already something the Board of County Commissioners can implement?</p>	<p>Yes, current State Statute allows the Board of County Commissioners the choice to submit to the qualified electors whether or not a growth policy should be adopted, after the adoption of a growth policy by resolution of intent.</p>
<p>How would the process of creating a growth policy differ if Referendum R-002 is approved?</p>	<p>Currently, the Board of County Commissioners can adopt a growth policy after following the process outlined in State Statute, which includes the discretion to submit to the qualified electors the question of whether or not to adopt the growth policy. Referendum R-002 would remove the Commissioners discretion and make the vote mandatory.</p>
<p>If I live in the City of Livingston, will I be able to vote on Referendum R-002?</p>	<p>No, only qualified electors residing outside the City of Livingston and Town of Clyde Park can vote on Referendum R-002.</p>