RESOLUTION NO. 2024-9

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT IN OPPOSITION TO THE STATEWIDE PROPOSALS, INITIATIVES 50 & 108

WHEREAS, the vast majority of governments in Colorado, but not the State, levy a property tax to support essential public services and infrastructure;

WHEREAS, special districts and business improvement districts (BIDS) are more dependent on property tax revenue than any other type of local government, as it is often their primary or even sole source of revenue;

WHEREAS, special districts and BIDS have worked with their local voters to propose and approve property taxes, or to retain and spend revenues therefrom, to support services, facilities and infrastructure needed and desired by the community and, more generally, to support public health, welfare, and safety;

WHEREAS, both Initiative 50 and Initiative 108 will nullify prior local budgeting and revenue decisions by their officials and voters, replacing local control of their community with a statewide calculation that will result in billions of dollars of locally lost revenue without any reduction in service or legal obligations;

WHEREAS, Initiatives 50 and 108 will substantially impair the ability of special districts and BIDS to provide the public services and infrastructure that their constituent communities expect because resources will not keep pace with the factors that drive costs, including: general inflation, population growth, aging infrastructure, materials and labor for capital projects, or increased demands during and recovery from economic downturns;

WHEREAS, Initiative 50 fundamentally converts the local government property tax system, which can be tailored to meet local needs, into a statewide calculation that will hurt communities throughout the State, in particular, slower growing areas of the State whose revenues may be reduced to offset overall increases driven by growth in urban and resort communities:

WHEREAS, the text of Initiative 50, which amends the Colorado Constitution, is so ambiguous that experts are confounded about how it can be implemented, including its impact on current and future governmental obligations, which will lead to years of politicking and legal challenges, making property tax an unpredictable and unreliable resource for local governments;

WHEREAS, Initiative 108 states that local governments will be reimbursed from state funds for lost property tax revenue, but that statement is an empty promise because those reductions are too large for the State's budget to sustain reimbursements, and further, the General Assembly has already indicated its disinclination in its recent property tax proposals and laws to provide reimbursements for lost revenue to non-school local governments; and

WHEREAS, Initiatives 50 and 108, individually and together, will destroy the short- and long-range planning efforts of Colorado's special districts and BIDs that are necessary to absorb inflationary pressures, to employ public servants, to support existing and grow new public programs, to construct and maintain government infrastructure, and to respond to the needs and emergencies of Colorado's communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. It is the position of the Board of Directors of the *ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT* that special districts and BIDS and their constituents are best suited to determine the revenues necessary to meet the needs, expectations, and demands of the communities they serve.
- 2. The Board of Directors recognizes that special districts and BIDS are accountable to their local voters, who may take action if the taxes they pay are not warranted for the services, facilities, and infrastructure provided.
- 3. Initiatives 50 and 108 will impair the ability of the ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT to engage in short- and long-term planning for the needs of the taxpayers of the district. All services provided by the district will be impacted including landscape maintenance, crime prevention, blight remediation, and economic development. These specific services of the district will be impaired:
 - a. Planning for sustainable landscape maintenance which conserves water, prevents the spread of noxious weeds, reduces fire danger, and helps to cool the urban environment.
 - b. Planning for crime prevention and deterrence including business security infrastructure grants, informational campaigns, and funding for community organizations serving youth such as the Jefferson County Boys and Girls Clubs.
 - c. Planning for blight remediation grants and infrastructure projects to prevent the physical deterioration of commercial properties within the district.
 - d. Economic development programs including business energy efficiency and façade improvement grants.

4. For the reasons set forth above, the Board of Directors concludes that both Initiative 50 and Initiative 108 diminish the ability of the *ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT* to provide the vital services, facilities, and infrastructure that the public needs, expects, and demands; and, therefore, the Board strongly urges a NO vote on Propositions 50 and 108 at the statewide election on November 5, 2024.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of August, 2024, by the Board of Directors of the ALAMEDA CORRIDOR BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT.

By: Yally Denny Board Officer

ATTEST:

Clare Johnson, Secretary