

**ORDINANCE NO. 18
SERIES OF 2019**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE
TOWN OF CARBONDALE, COLORADO CHANGING ELECTION
BOUNDARIES WITHIN THE TOWN OF CARBONDALE**

WHEREAS, Section 6-6 of the Town of Carbondale's Home Rule Charter presently reads as follows:

Section 6-6. Election Precincts. The Town shall consist of three (3) voting precincts, provided that the Board of Trustees may by ordinance establish more precincts and/or change precinct boundaries at least thirty (30) days or more prior to any election. Any precincts so established shall remain for subsequent elections until otherwise provided by ordinance; and

WHEREAS, when the Home Rule Charter was adopted, the Town conducted polling place elections with multiple polling places, one in each of three precincts, to eliminate large lines and overcrowding; however, since that time, state election laws have changed such that elections are by mail ballot, and because most ballots are submitted by mail, there is no overcrowding, and Town Hall is the only polling place; and

WHEREAS, the continued use of three precincts is expensive, as three separate ballots must be created, resulting in larger printing costs; and

WHEREAS, the use of multiple precincts are also more difficult for the election judges; three separate polling books must be created and the judges must constantly shift from one polling book to another when recording received ballots; this is more time-consuming and enhances the likelihood of mistakes in the polling books; and

WHEREAS, there are no separate voting issues by precinct, as all Town election issues are Town-wide, and all elected officials run at large, they do not run by precinct; and

WHEREAS, Garfield County, which administers coordinated elections within the Town, has recently purchased new election counting equipment, and at this time that equipment is not calibrated to count by precincts; and

WHEREAS, as of the date of adoption of this Ordinance, there are more than thirty (30) days prior to the next Town election (scheduled to occur in April 2020); and

WHEREAS, for the reasons set forth above, the Board of Trustees of the Town of Carbondale has determined that it is in the best interests of, and will promote the health, welfare and safety of, the citizens of the Town of Carbondale to exercise its authority pursuant to Section 6-6 of the Home Rule Charter to change election boundaries within the Town of Carbondale as set forth below.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE TOWN OF CARBONDALE, COLORADO that:

1. Pursuant to Section 6-6 of the Home Rule Charter, the boundaries of Election Precinct 1 within the Town of Carbondale shall be and are hereby changed to include all properties presently within the municipal limits of the Town of Carbondale. Until further notice, all registered electors within the Town of Carbondale shall vote as part of Precinct 1. Precincts 2 and 3 shall be and are hereby reserved for future use as the Board of Trustees may ordain by future ordinance.

2. The Town Clerk is hereby directed and authorized to prepare for the 2020 election in accordance with this Ordinance, including to use one single form of ballot for all electors within the Town of Carbondale, and to continue to have one physical polling place to be located at Carbondale Town Hall, 511 Colorado Avenue, Carbondale, Colorado.

3. This Ordinance shall become effective thirty (30) days after posting and publication in accordance with the Town's Home Rule Charter.

INTRODUCED, READ, APPROVED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this 10thth day of December, 2019.

TOWN OF CARBONDALE


Dan Richardson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Cathy Derby, Town Clerk

