

RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO ADDITIONAL MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES AS
SET FORTH IN ORDINANCE 2023-4 (PASSED IN THE FALL OF 2023)

WHEREAS, the Residents, Business Owners, and Niwot Organizational Leaders that were appointed to serve on the Niwot Local Improvement District Advisory Committee (“Niwot LID”) are deeply concerned about the effects of Ordinance 2023-4 Passed in the Fall of 2023 on our community.

WHEREAS, we acknowledge the delicate balance between ensuring a livable wage for our residents and mitigating the adverse effects of policy decisions on our local family-owned businesses.

WHEREAS, Niwot lacks large corporate businesses within our business district, and we are largely comprised of family-run establishments, such as the Niwot Market, Love Ice Cream, and Wise Buys Antiques store.

WHEREAS having small family-run businesses contributes to the unique charm of our town.

WHEREAS, Niwot experiences lower foot traffic compared to Boulder and other surrounding areas, and Niwot’s small family-run businesses lack the economies of scale necessary to absorb a minimum wage significantly higher than that of neighboring cities with large corporate companies.

WHEREAS, many Niwot residents have children in high school and college who reside at home and work in these remarkable establishments. This is a cherished aspect of life in Niwot.

WHEREAS, Niwot is experiencing closures of businesses at a worrisome rate including our treasured children’s bookstore, the Wandering Jelly Fish, and most recently, 1914 House. For further information on the substantial challenges we are encountering, please refer to the article in the [Left Hand Valley Courier](#).

WHEREAS, the Boulder County-wide uniform minimum wage increase plan has not been adopted by our neighboring cities and puts Niwot at a competitive disadvantage.

NOW THEREFORE, we urge the Boulder County Commissioners to implement a moratorium on the remaining wage increases.

FURTHERMORE, the Niwot LID proposes linking the minimum wage in unincorporated Boulder County with the lowest minimum wage among the municipalities within the county and removing unemancipated minors from the purview of the ordinance, thereby aligning their wages with the state minimum wage.

