

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

Monthly report to the Fort Collins City Council and community

November 10, 2011

ISSUES BEFORE COUNCIL

Downtown Hotel	2
Ebikes	2
Electric Rate Options.....	2
Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Update.....	3
Digital and Pole Sign Code Amendments	3

ECONOMY

Fort Collins Sales and Use Tax	4
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CAPITAL PROJECTS

I-25/SH 392 Interchange Construction.....	5
North College Roadway Improvements – Vine to Conifer	5
Linden Street Streetscape Project.....	6
South Shields Street Improvements.....	6
Drake & Lemay Intersection Turn Lane.....	6
Harmony & Lemay Intersection Turn Lane	7
Harmony Road Maintenance – College to Timberline.....	8
Downtown General Improvement District Sidewalk	8
Mason Corridor MAX Bus Rapid Transit Project.....	9
Railroad Crossing Improvement Program.....	10-11
Utilities Capital Projects.....	11-14

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Veteran's Day Breakfast	15
Public Open House: Two-Way Conversion of Mason Street	15
Holiday Artisan Market: Crafts & Foods	15

SPOTLIGHT 16

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

Fort Collins Police Services	17-19
Poudre Fire Authority.....	19-21

BUILDING ACTIVITY

Conceptual Reviews/Preliminary Design Reviews/Follow Up.....	21
Staff Reviews	21-24
Hearings.....	24-25
New Submittals	25-26
Monthly Community Development Building/Zoning Activity	27

ISSUES BEFORE COUNCIL

November 14 Joint Work Session

Downtown Hotel

- A history of the downtown hotel issue and why it is important will be presented.
- Identify what staff has learned through its market and feasibility research.
- Provide an overview of the preferred hotel and conference facility concept (rooms and square feet of meeting space).
- Will ask Council to consider taking next step with Downtown Development Authority (DDA) to issue a request for qualifications/request for proposal (RFQ/RFP) and advance a more in-depth partnership conversation with a hotel development team; understand the expectations of Council with regard to that partnership conversation so Council's expectations can be adequately conveyed to potential respondents of the RFQ/RFP at the front end of that process.

November 15 Regular Meeting

E-bikes

- City Council, at their June 28th work session, discussed the possibility of allowing electric assisted bicycles (e-bikes) on the City's paved trail system.
- After reviewing the results of a citizen survey (with over 200 responses) and the recommendations from six City boards and commissions and the City Manager, Council expressed interest in considering a one year trial period allowing e-bikes on paved trails.
- On November 15, Council will consider adoption of an ordinance to change the City Code to allow e-bikes on City paved trails from April 1, 2012 through March 31, 2013. If the trial period is implemented, City staff will conduct trail use surveys to determine the impact of e-bikes on other trail users and wildlife. Staff will also invite the public to provide feedback on their experiences with e-bikes on the trails through the City's web page.

Electric Rate Options

- City Council will consider adoption of one of two options for the residential rate structure or rate form:
 - a seasonal rate structure that will reflect a change in Platte River Power Authority's wholesale pricing with a higher charge for electricity in the summer months of June, July and August, and
 - a seasonal tiered rate structure that will reflect the Platte River wholesale pricing during the summer months **and** change from a flat rate for electricity to a rate that increases in blocks of electricity demand or use, similar to tiered water rates.
- City Council has discussed a change to the residential electric rate structure at three work sessions in 2011.
- If a rate structure change is adopted by City Council, the new rate would be effective in February.

November 29 Work Session

Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling Update

- Recycling volumes for the Fort Collins community have remained stable for three years, with an average 75,000 tons of fiber (paper) materials and commingled containers collected annually. At the same time, trash volumes dropped 15-20% each year, a trend reflected across the country that many attribute to the national economy. In 2010, the community's waste diversion rate was 43%, up from 38% in 2009.
- Installation of weigh scales at the Larimer County landfill one year ago allows the City to monitor hauling companies' actual weights now instead of calculating the weight of "cubic yards of trash," which has improved the accuracy of our data.
- The work session will also offer opportunity for the Council to discuss other issues concerning recycling activities (e.g., internal waste diversion efforts by City government; new KFCG-funded projects; composting opportunities/challenges; and current waste/recycling consulting projects) that are underway.

December 6 Regular Meeting

Digital and Pole Sign Code Amendments

- Staff presented issues and options regarding digital signs and pole signs to the City Council at the August 9, 2011 work session. Councilmembers preferred the option which continues to allow for digital signs, but with additional regulations. Councilmembers expressed that they were also in support of adding design criteria for pole signs.
- Since the work session, staff has had a series of meetings with representatives of the Fort Collins Sign Coalition and the Chamber of Commerce. A digital sign display took place on September 27, 2011 in the City Hall parking lot. Councilmembers, Planning and Zoning Board members, and everyone who attended a previous outreach meeting was sent an invitation.
- Recommended code changes will be presented to the Planning and Zoning Board at the November 17, 2011 regular board meeting and the Board will make a recommendation to City Council.
- The City Council will consider the recommended changes on First Reading at the December 6, 2011 Council meeting.

ECONOMY

FORT COLLINS SALES AND USE TAX

Net Taxable Amounts (amount of goods sold or purchased that are subject to sales or use tax)

September 2011:

- Net taxable subject to sales tax increased 10.6%
- Net taxable subject to use tax increased 23.4%
- Total net taxable increased 12.0%

2011 YTD:

- Net taxable subject to sales tax is up 5.2%
- Net taxable subject to use tax is down 1.7%
- Total net taxable is up 4.3%

Sales & Use Tax Amounts

September 2011:

- Total sales tax increased 38.4%
- Total use tax increased 58.4%
- Combined total collections increased 40.8%

2011 YTD:

- Total sales tax is up 27.6%
- Total use tax is up 23.2%
- Combined total collections are up 27.0%

CAPITAL PROJECTS

ENGINEERING (new information noted in blue text)

I-25/SH 392 INTERCHANGE CONSTRUCTION

Funding Source: CDOT, FHWA, Town of Windsor, Fort Collins

Estimated Project Budget: \$25 million

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- The goal of this project is to replace the failing interchange located at Interstate 25 and State Highway 392. The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), the North Front Range MPO, the Town of Windsor and the City of Fort Collins have collaborated on the planning, design and funding of this project.
- CDOT is using FASTER funding for right-of-way (ROW) acquisition. The ROW acquisition is complete.
- The Fort Collins City Council and the Windsor Town Board approved Intergovernmental Agreements between the City of Fort Collins, Town of Windsor and CDOT defining construction, maintenance and ownership of the interchange, and an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Fort Collins and the Town of Windsor that defines the process for review of development and redevelopment proposals, and identifies cost sharing and reimbursement through development impact fees.
- The project is under construction.

NORTH COLLEGE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS – VINE TO CONIFER

Funding Source: Building on Basics Funds, CDOT Funds, Truck Route Funds, and URA Funds

Estimated Project Budget: \$11,190,000

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- This voter approved project will construct complete outside edge improvements along North College Avenue from Vine Drive to Conifer. Improvements will include a 2-inch overlay, the construction of various urban design elements, an eight-foot on-street bike lane, a landscaped parkway, shared use paths, the definition and consolidation of accesses throughout the corridor, an updated storm system including water quality treatment ponds, and safety improvements at the Conifer/Hickory intersection. Medians and side street improvements are not included with this project.
- The overall project budget is \$11.19 million.
- The project team has secured the use of all property necessary to construct the project.
- City Stormwater approved floodplain use permits, plans and “no-rise” certifications for the project.
- The City has negotiated a crossing agreement with the Lake Canal Company enabling construction of improvements within and over the Lake Canal.
- The project team began the development of pre-construction documentation, including the development of a contract and initial project schedule, and coordination with the contractor. It is anticipated that utility construction associated with the project will begin in early December.

- Private utility relocation work began in late September and will continue into November. This work aims to relocate private utilities in conflict with the planned project improvements.
- Extensive public outreach, including coordination with the North Fort Collins Business Association, impacted property owners and other interested groups, will continue throughout the duration of the project.
- Additional project information is available to the public at <http://www.fcgov.com/engineering/ncollege.php>.

LINDEN STREET STREETSCAPE PROJECT

Funding sources: Building on Basics (BOB) – Pedestrian Plan, Transportation

Enhancement Federal Funds, Downtown Development Authority Funds, Utility Funds, and Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Funds

Estimated Project Budget: \$3 million

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- The project will improve the street infrastructure deficiencies on the section of Linden Street from Jefferson to the Poudre River.
- Planned improvements include curb and gutter, on-street parking, bike lanes, sidewalks, intersection improvements and streetscaping.
- The limits of the project are from Jefferson to the Poudre River including the Linden/Willow intersection.
- Construction of the underground utility improvements has been completed.
- [The streetscape has reached Substantial Completion, meaning the roadway and sidewalks are 100% complete.](#)
- [Remaining work includes irrigation, plantings, pedestrian lighting, benches and bike racks which will be installed in November.](#)
- [Final pieces of the project, including Art in Public Places and Historic Interpretive Signage, will follow.](#)
- Construction will be completed in the fall of 2011, with the final asphalt paving from Jefferson to Vine.

SOUTH SHIELDS STREET IMPROVEMENTS

Funding Sources: Regional Road Impact Fee

Estimated Project Budget: \$500,000

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- The main goals of this project are to relieve traffic congestion by adding a dedicated right turn lane from westbound Trilby Road to northbound Shields Street, and to improve vehicular safety by adding a dedicated left turn lane from northbound Shields Street into the Gulley Greenhouse property.
- [Construction began in late September and was completed in October.](#)

DRAKE AND LEMAY INTERSECTION TURN LANE

Funding Source: Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Grant along with City of Fort Collins contributions

Estimated Project Budget: \$325,000**Status: On Budget, On schedule**

- The goal of this project is to relieve traffic congestion and vehicle wait time by constructing a right turn lane from westbound Drake to northbound Lemay.
- The reduced vehicle wait time will lead to a measurable improvement in air quality by reducing carbon emissions.
- Two right-of-way (ROW) acquisitions were required at the northeast corner of the intersection. The City will take possession of the ROW on or before September 26, 2011.
- The design calls for construction of the right turn lane and replacement of the existing bike lane and sidewalk.
- The northeast corner of the intersection is heavily landscaped. The construction will require relocating six to eight large pine trees on-site along with the replacement of bushes and shrubs.
- City staff has met with the Parkwood Homeowners Board twice in the past year, and gave a presentation update in early September regarding the tree relocations at the northeast corner of the intersection.
- Construction bids were opened on September 22, 2011. The low bidder met the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal, and we have obtained Concurrence to Award the project from CDOT. [Construction began on October 24, 2011.](#)
- Public outreach has been completed adjacent to the project. All residents within one-quarter mile of the intersection were notified by mail. All businesses within one-quarter mile of the intersection were notified with a hand delivered flyer.

HARMONY AND LEMAY INTERSECTION TURN LANE**Funding Source: Federal Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) Grant along with City of Fort Collins contributions****Estimated Project Budget: \$325,000****Status: On Budget, On Schedule**

- The goal of this project is to relieve traffic congestion and vehicle wait time by constructing a second left turn lane from westbound Harmony to southbound Lemay.
- The reduced vehicle wait time will lead to a measurable improvement in air quality by reducing carbon emissions.
- No right-of-way (ROW) acquisition will be required since all of the construction work is within the existing City ROW.
- The design calls for the construction of a raised median on Harmony Road, east of the intersection, so that a new left turn lane can fit in south of the existing left turn lane.
- The median will be landscaped as part of the project.
- The traffic signal pole and mast arm will be replaced at the northwest corner due to the additional lane construction.
- Construction bids were opened on September 22, 2011. The low bidder met the Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) goal, and we have obtained Concurrence to Award the project from CDOT. [Construction began on October 24, 2011.](#)
- Public outreach has been completed adjacent to the project. All residents within one-quarter mile of the intersection were notified by mail. All businesses within one-quarter mile of the intersection were notified with a hand delivered flyer.

HARMONY ROAD MAINTENANCE – COLLEGE TO TIMBERLINE

Funding Source: Harmony Maintenance Fund

Estimated Project Budget: \$2,000,000

Status: On Budget, On schedule

- The goals of this project are to overlay and restripe this 1.8 mile stretch of Harmony Road from College Avenue to Timberline Road, widen the Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) crossing just west of Timberline to accommodate a full travel lane, bike lane and sidewalk, and construct various portions of missing sidewalk.
- College to Boardwalk will be restriped similar to the existing lane configuration. Boardwalk to Timberline will be restriped to a 6-lane configuration per the Master Street Plan.
- The Consultant completed the 30% plans, which have been reviewed by the City. We determined that one dedicated turn lane will be needed from eastbound Harmony Road to southbound Lemay Avenue. This turn lane will require approximately 3,000 square feet of right-of-way (ROW), and 7,000 square feet of temporary construction easement.
- A site diagnostic meeting was held in March of 2010 with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) and the UPRR. We are expecting a revised estimate from UPRR in October, and will submit our application to the PUC in November.
- A raised median (approximately 300' long) will be built on the west side of the UPRR tracks as a requirement from the railroad to eliminate the unsafe condition of “U-turning” vehicles. Our initial concept is to mirror the design of the existing median on the east side the railroad (near Timberline).
- We expect a 95% submittal in October 2011 and will begin the utility relocations at Harmony and Lemay over this coming winter.
- In addition to the above mentioned turn lane, we have determined that two other turn lanes will be constructed with this project as a result of the Arterial Intersection Priority Study. They are right turns from north bound Lemay to east bound Harmony, and east bound Harmony to south bound Timberline. Real Estate Services has started the process of notifying property owners for “license to enter” and alerting them to the potential need for ROW and/or temporary construction easements (TCE).

DOWNTOWN GENERAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (GID) SIDEWALK REHABILITATION PROJECT

Funding Source: General Improvement District Funding

Estimated Project Budget: \$421,000

Status: On Budget, On schedule

- The goal of this project is to identify, evaluate, and repair deteriorating pedestrian and sidewalk facilities within the defined boundary of the downtown improvement district.
- The project will complete repairs and improvements for the year in advance of the seasonal downtown shopping season.
- In achieving the first part of the seasonal goals, curb, gutter, and decorative sidewalk repairs on both sides of the 100 block of North College have been completed. The sidewalks along the east side of the 200 block of North College and Pine Street were the focus for rehabilitation during October.
- [In addition to upgrading pedestrian safety in the downtown district, there was also an environmentally conscious focus. Part of this focus is the addition of three 100% recycled](#)

structural plastic tree grates that were used on the 200 block of North College. The plastic tree grates also provided a project cost savings of over 80% from the standard steel tree grates.

- The current phase of construction included the installation of three new American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliant ramps with additional renovations to hazardous curb, gutter and sidewalk.
- Staff continues to work extensively with business owners in the heart of Old Town to accommodate their needs and customer needs, while focusing on the goal of enhancing the sidewalk facilities. An example of this is the façade renovation that is currently taking place at 146 North College. To accommodate the business owners' renovation schedule, sidewalk repairs are put on hold until façade repairs are complete. Due to weather restrictions, repairs identified for this phase of construction will be complete by November 11, 2011.

MASON CORRIDOR MAX BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) PROJECT

Funding Source: FTA 80%, Local Match 20% (CDOT SB-1 and FASTER, City, Downtown Development Authority, BOB, BCC and 292 Funds)

Estimate Project Budget: \$87 million

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- A draft application to enter into the Federal Transit Administration's (FTA) Project Construction Grant Agreement (PCGA) has been formally submitted. Once the City Staff and the FTA have reached consensus on the Agreement, we intend to process the Agreement through City Council similar to an Intergovernmental Agreement. At the conclusion of this application process, we expect to receive the remainder of the project funding from the FTA roughly in February 2012.
- The FTA's Project Management Oversight Consultant (PMOC) has reviewed the current project budgets, plans, risk potentials and various project management plans. The purpose of the oversight review is to provide the FTA with recommendations as to whether or not the project is ready to enter into the PCGA and, subsequently, the Construction Phase of the project. In late July, the PMOC provided comments regarding the PCGA, Project Management Plan and the Safety and Security Management Plan. Per the PCGA review process, the PMOC and FTA have recommended an overall Project Budget increase from \$82 million to \$87 million for additional contingency and additional budget allocations. The City has available Project Funds to cover the 20% match for the additional \$5 million project budget increase.
- As a function of recent budget planning with the FTA and the overall processing of the PCGA, the Project Schedule has been revised. We now expect the Award of the PCGA in February 2012, which reestablishes the overall Project Schedule baseline as the Award of PCGA initiates Construction Phase.
- The design team is finalizing the design of the BRT system-wide infrastructure based on final stakeholder comments. The Design Team anticipates a complete guideway and ancillary support infrastructure design to be finished in September 2011.
- Real-estate acquisitions, including appraisals and negotiations for Phases 1 through 4 of the private properties, which include 56 of the total 73 properties, are being continued. The final negotiation process for Phase 4 properties (8 Private Parcels and 2 CSU) has begun. The remaining parcels will be categorized into a new Phase (Phase 5) parcels. These new 17

parcels are required due to design evolution and the understood need for additional property rights to be acquired, including the shared parking lot facilities. The acquisition process for the new Phase 5 property acquisition is underway.

- Coordination continues with City Utilities on the relocation of water, wastewater and electric lines to accommodate the Project. Early utility work is underway near the Capstone Project for sewer connections and electric duct bank modifications that will serve both Capstone and the BRT.
- Preliminary activities associated with the two-way conversion of Mason Street began in September 2011. The design team combined the intersection improvements, primarily conduit and boring, with the expected BNSF signal conduit work to minimize street impacts and realize cost savings to the project. The installation of conduit for traffic and railroad signals and electric and fiber-optic systems are being constructed via underground borings. Conduit construction is expected to take approximately two months, and the downtown boring activities are scheduled for completion in the fall of 2011. The two-way Mason Street conversion and rail work is anticipated to be completed in the summer of 2012.
- [The FTA authorized the City to begin early tree transplant activities, as this needs to occur in the winter months, and allowed the BNSF to order the necessary railroad signal materials for the grade crossing improvements south of University Avenue.](#)
- [The Project's System Safety Program Plan was completed and signed this month.](#)

RAILROAD CROSSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Timberline Road crossing of the BNSF tracks at Vine Street - New Crossing Material

Funding sources: Railroad Crossing Replacement Program

Estimated Project Budget: \$75,000

Status: On Budget, On Schedule

- In May 2009, the City requested that the BNSF replace the crossing material in this double set of track crossing. We have gotten no response.
- In accordance with the PUC Rules, the City will pay the BNSF for the cost of the crossing materials. The City will also pay for the traffic control and the patching of the roadway to match the new crossing material. The railroad will pay for the installation of the new materials and the railroad flagging.

East Prospect Road crossing of the UPRR tracks west of Timberline Road – New Crossing Material

Funding sources: Railroad Crossing Replacement Program

Estimated Project Budget: \$45,000, Revised to \$62,000

Status: Complete

- The replacement of the crossing material was complete in January 2011. A temporary asphalt patch was installed to allow through-traffic flow until a permanent repair can be completed in the spring.
- In accordance with the PUC Rules, the City will pay the UPRR for the cost of the crossing materials. The City will also pay for the traffic control and the patching of the roadway to match the new crossing material. The railroad will pay for the installation of the new materials and the railroad flagging.

East Horsetooth Road crossing of the UPRR tracks west of Timberline Road – New Crossing Material

Funding sources: Railroad Crossing Replacement Program

Estimated Project Budget: \$65,000

Status: Complete

- The replacement of the crossing material was complete in February 2011. The permanent sidewalk and asphalt repairs were completed in June 2011.
- In accordance with the PUC Rules, the City will pay the UPRR for the cost of the crossing materials. The City will also pay for the traffic control and the patching of the roadway to match the new crossing material. The railroad will pay for the installation of the new materials and the railroad flagging.

East Drake Road crossing of the UPRR tracks west of Timberline Road – New Crossing Material

Funding sources: Railroad Crossing Replacement Program

Estimated Project Budget: \$12,000

Status: Complete

- The replacement of the crossing material was complete in January 2011. [A temporary asphalt patch was installed to allow through-traffic flow until a permanent repair can be completed in November.](#)
- In accordance with the PUC Rules, the City must pay the UPRR for the cost of the crossing materials. In this case, we will not. The City will pay for the traffic control and the patching of the roadway to match the new crossing material. The railroad will pay for the materials, installation, and the railroad flagging.

UTILITIES

CANAL IMPORTATION PONDS AND OUTFALL (CIPO)

Project Description: Joint Stormwater and Natural Areas Restoration project in the Canal Importation Basin and Red Fox Meadows Natural Area.

Project Budget: \$21,500,000

Budget Status: On Budget

Project Status: On Schedule

Anticipated Completion: Fall 2011

Highlights:

- [Production excavation and off-site hauling activities began in the Glenmoor Detention Basin. Excavated material is being hauled to the Larimer County Landfill to be used as capping material. Currently hauling with six end-dump trucks. Approximately 40,000 of 45,000 cubic yards have been hauled.](#)
- [Construction of the headwall for the future box culverts under Taft Hill was completed and the riprap stilling basin is nearly complete.](#)
- [Final restoration of Red Fox Meadows is underway and expected to be complete by the end of November. This work includes: removal of the construction trailers, removal of construction access road, construction of trail from Promenade Way to Taft Hill Road, and the construction of the trailhead parking lot.](#)

NORTH COLLEGE WESTSIDE SANITARY SEWER IMPROVEMENTS

Project Description: Preliminary design report completed. Design and construction of the replacement of the existing line on the west side of North College. Project will replace the existing sewer line due to age and size.

Project Budget: \$1,200,000

Budget Status: Beginning

Project Status: Design contract completed

Anticipated Completion: Design – summer 2011; Construction – fall and winter 2011

Highlights:

- Final design is complete.
- Continue to obtain both temporary and permanent construction easements. [Obtained temporary construction easements for staging areas.](#)
- Project schedule has been revised. All construction work will begin in the fall of 2011. Test section (approximately 13% of total project length, [500 lineal feet](#)) is complete. [Construction on the remainder of the project began October 24, 2011. Construction began in Pinon Street and is working north to Hemlock. Approximately 200 lineal feet of existing 10” sanitary sewer line has been replaced with new 12” PVC to date.](#)
- Met with the North College Business Association. Continue to work with Engineering to coordinate work along North College scheduled to begin construction in the fall of 2011.
- Potholing completed of existing utilities along alignment.
- Continue communication with the affected businesses and residents.

DOWNTOWN RIVER DISTRICT UTILITY REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Project Description: Design and construction of stormwater, water, and sewer lines in the Downtown River District area between Jefferson Street on the south, College Avenue on the west, the Poudre River on the north, and Lincoln Avenue on the east. The project will replace existing infrastructure that needs rehabilitation due to age; all three utilities currently cross under the UPRR. The first phase of the project will be completed in conjunction with the Downtown River District Linden Streetscape project being designed by the Engineering Department, which is along Linden Street from Jefferson to the Poudre River, approximately 1000 feet. Utilities will contribute \$130,000 for paving Linden Street between Jefferson Street and the Poudre River.

Project Budget: \$1,454,000

Budget Status: Under budget by \$135,000

Project Status: Utilities completed

Anticipated Completion: Construction began February 14, 2011 at the intersection of Jefferson and Linden followed by work in the Linden and Willow intersection. The Utilities portion of the project was completed April 29, 2011.

Highlights:

- Construction of the Utilities portion of the project was completed and the road opened back to traffic on Monday, May 2, 2011 with the Streets Department taking over maintenance.
- Project was completed ahead of schedule.
- Received Substantial Completion form.
- Final Retainage has been processed.
- [Provided Engineering Streetscape final asphalt funding, so Utilities work and funding is complete.](#)

CATHODIC PROTECTION OF WATER TREATMENT AND TRANSMISSION AND DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM WATER LINES

Project Description: Investigation of existing systems in place used to protect water lines from corrosion; design of rehabilitation of existing and new systems to prevent corrosion; and construction of the modified and new systems.

Project Budget: \$150,000

Budget Status: Within budget

Project Status: On schedule, this is an on-going project

Highlights:

- Working with consultant and contractor on testing current cathodic protection levels and locations; and installing modified and new systems where needed.

BUS RAPID TRANSIT (BRT) WATER AND SEWER RELOCATES

Project Description: Relocation and protection of major water and sewer utility lines due to the construction of the BRT.

Project Budget: Unknown at this time

Budget Status: Working on design for water and sewer crossings

Project Status: Potholing complete

Anticipated Completion: Winter 2011 – Spring 2012

Highlights:

- All Utilities impacted by the BRT have been identified and initial cost estimates were developed.
- Coordination with the BRT continues.
- Contract for design services completed.
- Working with Choice Center Development to relocate an existing 21” sanitary sewer from the west side of the BNRR/BRT to the east side through the development (and upsizing the main), as well as replacing an existing brick manhole northwest of the development for the BRT project.
- Incorporating potholing details into design.

RIGDEN MUNICIPAL STORAGE POND

Project Description: Feasibility review of developing Flatiron gravel pit east of Ziegler and north of Horsetooth as a municipal storage pond below the Drake Water Reclamation. Purpose of the storage is to retime flows to meet water rights return flow obligations and meet augmentation requirements. Project is a cooperative effort with Natural Areas and Parks.

Project Budget: Unknown at this time

Budget Status: Working on preliminary design for construction cost feasibility

Project Status: On schedule

Anticipated Completion: Preliminary study and feasibility of site to be completed this fall

Highlights:

- Working with Flatiron property owner, and coordinating with Natural Areas and Parks on feasibility review and design.
- Consultant currently developing preliminary conceptual design for review by pertinent interested parties.

LAPORTE AVENUE WATER TRANSMISSION SYSTEM MASTER PLAN

Project Description: Investigate and prepare master plan for the rehabilitation and replacement needs of the water transmission system in LaPorte Avenue. Study area includes reach from Overland Trail east to Loomis Street. Investigation includes the potential rehabilitation, replacement, or abandonment of all water transmission infrastructure including valves, vaults, and mains. The study will recommend and prioritize needed rehabilitation to the water system in this area.

Project Budget: \$480,000

Budget Status: \$18,000 Master Plan Design Contract

Project Status: Transmission System Master Plan Study complete

Anticipated Completion: Final Report – September 2011

Highlights:

- Final system modeling complete.
- Draft design report complete and under staff review.

1 1/2 INCH AND 2 INCH WATER METER CONVERSION OR REPLACEMENT (AMI PROJECT)

Project Description: Conversion or replacement of 1036 1½ inch and 2 inch commercial water meters as part of the AMI Project. Project includes the preparation of meter installation standards, organization and management of meter data base, and the installation or conversion of 1036 1½ inch and 2 inch meters.

Project Budget: \$1.5 million

Budget Status: On budget

Project Status: On schedule (816 meter installations completed by October 31, 2011)

Anticipated Completion: February 2012

Highlights:

- The project will result in the conversion or replacement of 1036 commercial water meters so that all meters of this size are compliant with AMI specifications. Organization of database is complete. Preparation of meter installation standards is complete. Meter installation contract in place. Meter conversion and replacement underway as of May 9, 2011. One crew at work averaging about 50 meters per week.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Veteran's Day Breakfast

Location: Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Drive

Date/Time: Friday November 11, 2011 7:00-10:00 AM

Web address: <http://www.fcgov.com/recreation/seniorcenter.php>

Details: The observance of Veterans Day not only preserves the historical significance of the date, but it helps focus attention on the important purpose of Veterans Day: a celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve and sacrifice for the common good. This year's celebration will feature Ms. Kelly Gallagher-Abbott, and her leadership in the national quilt challenge centering around the 100th anniversary of aviation. The Centennial will be celebrated throughout 2011 with over 400 Naval Aviation themed quilts traveling to as many air shows as possible. Age: 12 months & up.

Contact Information: Phone: 970-221-6644 / E-mail address: recreation@fcgov.com

Public Open House: Two-Way Conversion of Mason Street

Location: 281 N. College Ave, Conference Rooms A and B

Date/Time: Thursday November 17, 2011 4:00-6:00 PM

Web address: <http://www.fcgov.com/mason>

Details: The public is invited to attend an open house to learn more about the conversion of Mason Street to two-way operations. View informative maps and illustrations of construction impacts and speak to project staff. The conversion of Mason Street back to two-way traffic operation is a fundamental element of the Mason Corridor Master Plan adopted by City Council in October 2000 and the Downtown Strategic Plan adopted by City Council in 2004.

Contact Information: Claire Thomas: Phone: 970-221-6882 / E-mail address: cthomas@fcgov.com

Holiday Artisan Market: Crafts & Foods

Location: Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Drive

Date/Time: Friday November 25, 2011 10:00 AM

Web address: <http://www.fcgov.com/recreation/seniorcenter.php>

Details: Looking for that special gift for someone? Find it at the Holiday Artisan Market at the Senior Center. Over 100 vendors will be there to sell their handmade specialty items. Also included will be specialty foods and more! Cost is \$1 per person.

Contact Information: Phone: 970-221-6644 / E-mail address: recreation@fcgov.com

To view the full calendar of events, visit <http://www.fcgov.com/events/>.

SPOTLIGHT

STORMWATER UTILITY

Background

The City of Fort Collins is situated in an area prone to mountain snowmelt and stormwater runoff from the Poudre River, impairment of natural drainageways as result of urban development, and intense convective rainfall storm events common to the Front Range of Colorado during the spring and summer months. The City has experienced both localized and regional flooding, including the devastating flood in 1997 that resulted in the loss of five lives and over \$200 million in flood damages. Many citizens of Fort Collins are surprised to learn that the City's stormwater drainage system connects directly to the Poudre River. Protecting stormwater quality keeps our waterways healthy and preserves wildlife habitat. The Stormwater Utility, which was established over 30 years ago, is recognized as being in the top 1% of stormwater programs in the nation. The stormwater program is funded through a combination of system development fees (the "impact" fee typically associated with new development) and monthly stormwater service fees. The stormwater program:

- strives to protect people and structures from flooding;
- assists with emergency response through the Flood Warning System;
- develops master plans for drainage basins in the city;
- develops floodplain maps with specific information on flooding risk in each basin;
- manages and administers floodplain regulations that provide specifics on how existing and new developments are managed to protect people and structures;
- designs and oversees the construction of prioritized stormwater capital improvement projects to provide cost-effective flood protection for a 100-year rainfall event ; and
- works to protect and maintain the quality of streams, rivers and other vital water resources.

Stormwater Repurposing

In 2008, City Council directed staff to review the purpose and components of the City's Stormwater Program. Recognizing that this is a major undertaking, quarterly updates are provided to keep City Council informed of the status of each program component. The Stormwater Utility has completed or is nearing completion on 10 of the 14 major components.

Key Accomplishments

Key programs and accomplishments in 2010 and 2011 include:

- Completion of the \$21.5 million Canal Importation Ponds and Outfall (CIPO) project that relieves stormwater flooding, reduces the 100-year floodplain, balances detention and stormwater conveyance, and protects and enhances environmental, riparian and wildlife habitat areas;
- Evaluation of potential revisions to the Poudre River Floodplain Regulations to improve public life safety and reduce property damage for areas along this vital community resource;

- Adoption of a new stormwater criteria manual that maintains key hydrologic and hydraulic policies that are unique to the City of Fort Collins while incorporating aspects of the Urban Drainage and Flood Control (UDFCD) criteria manual. The UDFCD is nationally recognized as a leader in stormwater management and the incorporation of Best Management Practices (BMPs). The environmental benefits of moving towards a Low Impact Development (LID) approach will result in improved stormwater quality in our streams and water bodies, improved riparian health, less stream degradation due to the reduction in sustained flows in urban streams, and lower consumptive water use practices;
- Educational signage has been developed and installed at 4 BMP/LID sites including a new bio-retention cell (rain garden) constructed to remove pollutants from the parking lot for the Utility Service Center located at 700 Wood Street;
- The Stormwater Master Plans are being updated to address water quality considerations and to update stream restoration and stability projects that protect the City's urban watersheds and preserve natural and beneficial functions of floodplains;
- A requirement of our federally-mandated Municipal Separate Stormwater Sewer (MS4) Permit is to educate citizens on how pollutants entering storm sewers impact our creeks and waterways. Stormwater teamed with the City of Fort Collins Art in Public Places Program to develop a community contest to select drawings from residents and students to be cast in metal and used as storm drain markers or manhole covers around Fort Collins. In the next five years, more than 3,000 storm drain markers will be identified by new sustainable die-cast markers.

PUBLIC SAFETY UPDATE

FORT COLLINS POLICE SERVICES

Call Load

In October, officers responded to 8,183 incidents (calls for service) which resulted in 1,760 cases.

New Police Chief

John Hutto has been chosen as the new police chief for Fort Collins. Hutto, who brings more than 25 years of law enforcement experience, is currently serving as the Assistant Chief of Police in Austin, TX and replaces Dennis Harrison who resigned earlier this year. Hutto has spent his entire career with the Austin police department, working his way up from an officer in 1986 to assistant chief. According to City Manager Darin Atteberry, "John has an exceptionally strong mix of operational experience in a university community, proven strategic leadership skills, and a commitment to collaboration and community. We have an excellent Police Department, and I believe John is just the right guy to take us to an even higher level of community service." Hutto will begin work in Fort Collins on December 1.

Travis Forbes

Travis Forbes, who was given a life sentence without the possibility of parole in Denver for the 1st degree murder of 19-year-old Kenia Monge last spring, was also sentenced this month to 48 years in prison for the attempted murder of Lydia Tillman of Fort Collins. The sentence is to be served consecutively.

Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day

Fort Collins Police Services partnered with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) for National Prescription Drug Take-Back Day held on October 30. Over 521 pounds of unused and/or expired drugs were collected from citizens and will be incinerated according to federal and state environmental guidelines. The focus of the event is to bring national attention to the issue of pharmaceutical controlled substance abuse and proper disposal methods.

No Charges Filed in Fatal Fight

A Fort Collins woman who killed her ex-boyfriend by stabbing him in the neck with a broken beer bottle will not be charged with his death. Prosecutors reviewed the case and determined no charges would be filed against Azura Lakin, 21, for fatally stabbing Shaun Cassidy, 23, in the neck with a broken beer bottle after he attempted to force his way into her apartment following an altercation. Prosecutors say Lakin was defending herself under Colorado's "Make My Day Law."

Crime Prevention

During October, the Crime Prevention Specialist spoke to 541 people and handled 34 telephone calls on topics including landlord/property issues, in-service training for members of Partners (who do home visits for people in need), the annual Kruse Elementary Read-A-Thon and setting up police building tours for Cub Scout groups.

A breakdown of the month's Crime Prevention activities follows:

Liberty Commons after School - 33 attended
Scotch Pines Wellness Fair - 50 attended
RESTORE - 33 attended
Personal Safety, Partners - 12 attended
Safety Fair, Home Depot North - 75 attended
Lake Sherwood Neighborhood Watch - 30 attended
Landlord Class - 38 attended
Drug take-back - 270 motorists

Crime Prevention Tip

Representatives from eight northern Colorado law enforcement agencies are investigating more than 1100 reported cases of credit and debit card frauds that have occurred recently, many the result of a large scale computer hacking operation. Victims have also reported receiving "phishing" type calls or text messages through cellular services attempting to confirm sensitive data. Police urge you take the following steps if you find you are a victim of card fraud and/or identity theft:

- **Notify the police:** Contact your local police department to file a criminal report and provide specific information on what occurred such as bad checks, credit card abuse, name, etc. Keep a copy of the police report.
- **Notify Creditors:** If unauthorized charges have been made on your credit card accounts, cancel those cards and request replacement cards with new account numbers. Cancel all unauthorized credit cards and accounts and report fraudulent activity to the credit card issuers and credit reporting agencies.
- **Notify Your Bank:** Ask them to flag your account and contact you regarding any unusual activity. Close any unauthorized bank accounts.
- **Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) Cards:** If your ATM card was stolen, contact the issuing institution and request a new card, account number, and password. Be sure to change your old password.
- **Report the theft to one of the three major credit reporting agencies:**
Request that a fraud alert and a victim's statement be placed in your file. Also, request a FREE copy of your credit report to determine if any accounts were opened without your consent and request the agency remove inquiries and/or fraudulent accounts stemming from theft. Since these agencies share information, you need only notify one. Request a credit report or report fraud online at:

Equifax: www.equifax.com.
Experian: www.experian.com.
Trans Union: www.transunion.com
- **Contact the Social Security Administration (SSA):** Report unauthorized use of your personal information to SSA Fraud Hotline at 1-800-269-0271.

POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY

Notable Incidents/Items/Events:

- **Fire Chief Selection Process (due to high-profile, item posted one month early)**
On behalf of Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) Board Chairperson Lisa Poppaw, the PFA Board is pleased to announce three finalists chosen Tuesday, November 1 to proceed in the Fire Chief selection process. The finalists are Tom DeMint, Interim Fire Chief, Poudre Fire Authority, Fort Collins, CO; John Staley, Fire Chief, Thornton Fire Department, Thornton, CO; Ken Watkins, Fire Chief, Grand Junction Fire Department, Grand Junction, CO.

Candidates will continue to the next step of the selection process which will include a public reception on the evening of November 17 at 5:30 p.m. followed by additional interviews on November 18. Additional information will be forthcoming.

- **Major 3-Alarm Fire**

Firefighters responded to a call of a commercial building at 311 North Mason Street on fire just after 3:30 a.m. on Monday, October 24. Upon arrival of the first units, they found a four-story condominium building under construction with the 3rd and 4th floors fully involved in fire. Additionally, the fire was exposing an occupied four-story mixed-use building located at 204 Maple Street. Firefighters immediately called for a second alarm and attacked the main fire while protecting the exposed building. A third alarm was called shortly thereafter. Firefighters initially attacked the fire in the 204 Maple occupancy from the inside; however, they could not bring it under control. As the fire was being attacked from the interior, firefighters also searched for occupants to ensure nobody was trapped. All occupants escaped without injury. Firefighters had to be evacuated from the building as conditions became too dangerous. The fire was then attacked from the exterior using aerial ladder trucks. At one point, the ladder trucks were pouring on approximately 4,000 gallons of water per minute on the fire.

The fire completely destroyed the initial building. The exposure building suffered a large amount of fire damage to the roof along with smoke, heat and water damage to the fourth floor occupancies. The remainder of the building suffered heavy water damage related to extinguishment efforts.

PFA investigators, along with Fort Collins Police Services investigators and members of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF), are investigating the fire. No additional information is available at this time.

Assisting agencies included ATF, Fort Collins Light & Power, Police Services, Loveland Fire Rescue, Poudre Valley Hospital Ambulance and Red Cross.

- **Flame Out 5k**

For the 21st year, the Flame Out 5k Run/Walk was held to raise funds for the PFA Fire Safety Fund, a 501(c)3 fund administered by the Community Foundation of Northern Colorado. This fund is solely supported by donations and is used to purchase smoke alarms and carbon monoxide alarms for our customers who cannot afford them, educational supplies and child passenger safety program supplies. Turnout was moderate with the rain, however, everyone had a great time.

- **CSU Chili Challenge**

Firefighter Ray Gillan successfully coordinated the widely popular Chili Challenge again this year. This week-long event puts students to the test with good ol' Firehouse Chili. The event also is used to spread fire and life-safety messages to the college population. The challenge sees the maximum allowable participants every year.

- **Child Passenger Safety Program-Immediate Need**

PFA has inspected, installed and educated parents/caregivers on child car seat safety for many years. In conjunction with Safe Kids Larimer County, we have now started an 'Immediate Need' giveaway system which will allow firefighters access to seats stored in two fire stations just for this purpose. In the past, firefighters would donate their own money

to purchase a seat. This method was not sustainable as firefighters are inserted multiple times a year in situations that require a new car seat for a parent/caregiver.

The quick success of this program is evident, as just this month two opportunities have occurred: one seat was donated to a parent who was in a vehicle collision with firefighters recommending the seat not be used again, and the other was to replace a stolen seat. The Child Passenger Safety Program is a free and value-added program by PFA that aims to keep our customers of all ages safe.

BUILDING ACTIVITY

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES DEVELOPMENT REVIEW ACTIVITY

Staff received 7 Development Application/Minor Amendment submittals in October 2011. YTD, overall submittals are down 17% from 2010 (Development Applications are up 15% over 2010; however, Minor Amendment submittals are down 36% over 2010). Staff performed 9 Conceptual/ Staff reviews in October 2011. YTD, these reviews are down 5% over 2010.

SUMMARY ACTIVITY REPORT

CONCEPTUAL REVIEWS/PRELIMINARY DESIGN REVIEWS/FOLLOW UPS – OCTOBER 2011:

Project
Church development Fast food restaurant with drive through Apartment complex

STAFF REVIEWS – OCTOBER 2011:

Type	Project	Process	Description
Replat	Provincetowne 4 th Filing	LUC	Request to replat the former 8.3 acre Outlot A of Provincetowne Third Filing, into 11 single family lots. Location: The southwest side of Snowy Plain Road where it ends at Eden Ridge Lane. The Pelican Marsh Natural Area

			<p>borders this parcel to the south and the new City of Fort Collins Waterway Park to the east.</p> <p>Zoning: LMN – Low Density Mixed-Use Neighborhood</p>
FDP	Rollins Subdivision	LUC	<p>Request to replat Lot 5, Block 157 of Galligan's Subdivision, dividing the 9,004 square foot lot into two lots. Lot 1 would be 5,004 square feet and Lot 2 would be 4,000 square feet. A single family home exists on the future Lot 1. A second residence is proposed for Lot 2, which would front Whedbee Street. There is a request for Modification of Standards included in this proposal.</p> <p>Location: 431 E. Laurel Street</p> <p>Zoning: NCM – Neighborhood Conservation Medium Density</p>
Major Amendment	Union Place	LUC	<p>This is a request for a Major Amendment to the approved development plan for the Union Place affordable housing project. This request would modify the approved plan with the following amendments:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Increase the density from 89 to 158 dwelling units 2) Revise the plaza area between Lots 4 & 5 to include community gardens 3) Reduce the parking requirements from .075 to 1 per unit 4) Revise the bedroom counts 5) Increase the width of the sidewalk south of Lots 3 & 4; Block 5; and also along the parallel spaces north of Lot 2, Block 2 6) Remove the dumpster enclosure east of Lot 2 Block 5 <p>Location: 137 W. Willox Lane</p> <p>Zoning: CS – Service Commercial District</p>
Annexation	Leistikow Annexation & Zoning	LUC	<p>Request for annexation into the City of approximately 18 acres.</p>

			<p>Location: Southeast corner of Timberline Road and Trilby Road</p> <p>Zoning: UE – Urban Estate (proposed)</p>
FDP	Sherwood Forts	LUC	<p>This is a request to build two additional attached units on the rear of an existing dwelling. No changes to the existing detached garage are proposed except for removal of an attached greenhouse on the rear of the garage. The dwelling unit additions will create a tri-plex, which is permitted subject to a Type I review hearing. The total size of the added units will be 2,262 square feet; 1,012 square feet in each unit, plus a foyer with 238 square feet. Each added unit will have 3 bedrooms, 2 baths and living/kitchen areas. The two units will be attached to the existing structure by an enclosed foyer containing a common laundry facility for the new units. The initial application proposed 2 units to have 4 bedrooms, which was not in compliance with the Additional Occupancy requirements of the code.</p> <p>Location: 617 S. Sherwood Street</p> <p>Zoning: NCB – Neighborhood Conservation Buffer</p>
PDP	The Grove	LUC	<p>Request for a student housing project on a total of 31.32 acres with the project improvements contained on 13.4 acres. The multi-family project would consist of 218 dwelling units in twelve 3-story buildings and a mixed-use clubhouse building with 8 dwelling units on the 2nd and 3rd stories and a hospitality center, study lounge, café, game room and fitness center on the 1st floor. There will be 509 parking spaces provided along with 147 bike parking spaces. The realignment of the Rolland Moore Drive proposed extension is part of a request to amend the existing ODP (Overall Development Plan); CSURF Centre for Advanced Technology ODP.</p> <p>Location: South of West Prospect Road,</p>

			<p>west of Centre Avenue, north of and bordering the Larimer County Canal #2 and east bordering Care Housing at Windtrail Park PUD.</p> <p>Zoning: The project encompasses two zoning districts: MMN - Medium Density Mixed-Use Neighborhood and E - Employment.</p>
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HEARINGS – OCTOBER 2011:

Type	Project	Hearing Type Outcome	Description
PDP	Rigden Farm 16 th Filing	Admin Hearing Approved	<p>Request to plat a currently unplatted 2.02 acre site.</p> <p>Location: Southeast corner of East Drake Road and Illinois Drive</p> <p>Zoning: NC – Neighborhood Commercial District</p>
Annexation	Courtney Annexation & Zoning	P&Z Approved	<p>Request to annex and zone a 3.129 acre parcel known in Larimer County as Lot 3, Strobel M.R.D. There is one existing 2,664 square foot home on the parcel.</p> <p>Location: 3256 Nite Court; east of Ziegler Road where Charlie Lane meets Nite Court. The rear of the property borders the Fossil Creek Reservoir inlet canal.</p> <p>Zoning: UE – Urban Estate (proposed)</p>
Land Use Code Updates	Land Use Code Section 3.4.1(E)	P&Z Approved	<p>Request for a Recommendation to City Council regarding the annual update to the Land Use Code, specifically Section 3.4.1(E) that identifies where the buffer zone should begin with regard to rivers, streams, and irrigation ditches. There are proposed revisions, clarifications and additions to the sections of the Code that requires this point of measurement to be from “bankfull discharge.” Instead, the term “top of bank” is recommended as the</p>

			most appropriate term for this point of measurement.
Annexation	Leistikow Annexation & Zoning	P&Z Approved	See description under “Staff Review” section above.

NEW SUBMITTALS – OCTOBER 2011:

Type	Project	Process	Description
Basic Development Review	Extra Occupancy Rental House	LUC	Request for extra occupancy of up to 5 unrelated residents for single family home with finished basement. Location: 2260 W. Elizabeth Street Zoning: MMN -- Medium Density Mixed-Use Neighborhood

NEW SUBMITTALS (REVISED PLANS) – OCTOBER 2011:

Type	Project	Process	Description
None			

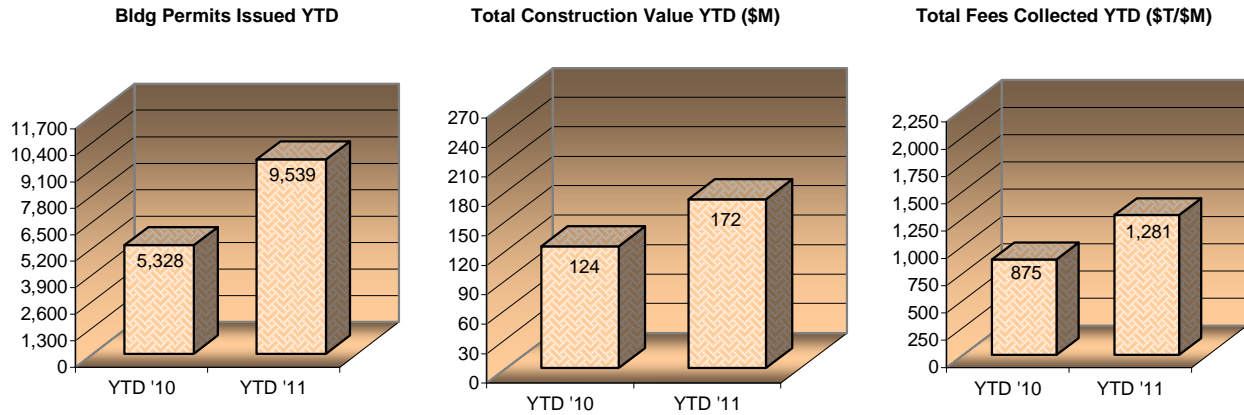
NEW SUBMITTALS (FINAL PLANS) – OCTOBER 2011:

Type	Project	Process	Description
FPD	Islamic Center of Fort Collins	LUC	This is a request for a new mosque (praying area), children playing area, gymnasium and elementary school for the Islamic Center of Fort Collins on 3.26 acres. The project will be constructed in phases, with the mosque being Phase One, the school being Phase Two, and the gymnasium being Phase Three. Phase one will consist of a two story, 11,600 square foot building with an approximate 6,900 square foot unfinished basement. The main prayer hall

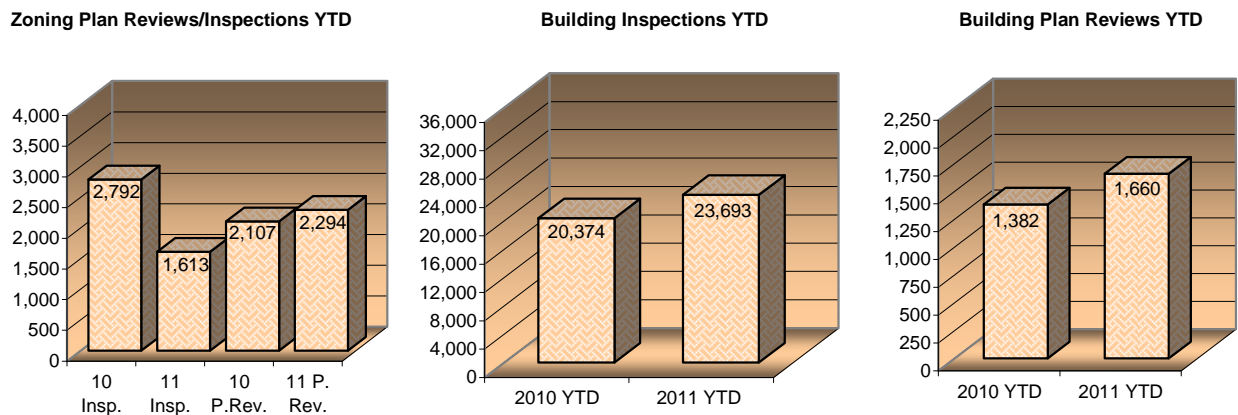
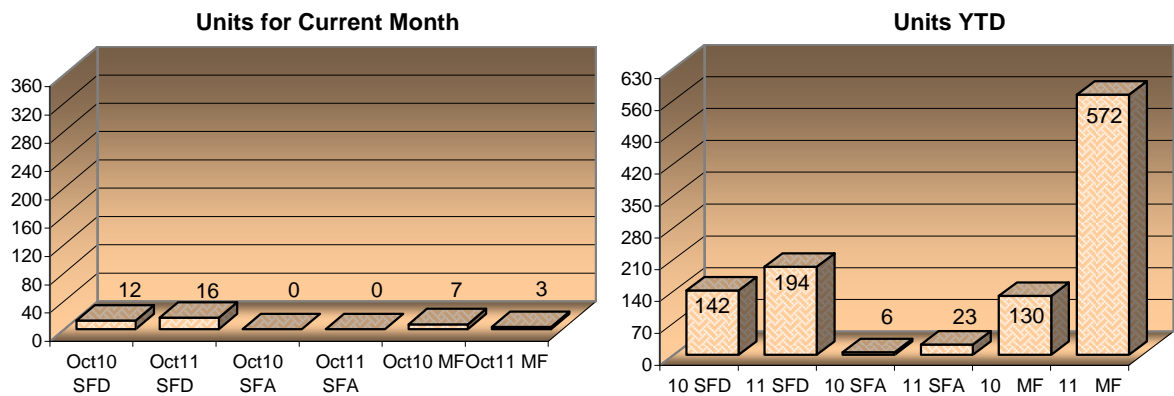
			will have a capacity of 340 persons and the mezzanine will have a capacity of 130 persons. Parking will be provided onsite and also in the existing parking lot of the Plymouth Congregational Church per a shared parking agreement, as the two congregations worship on different days (Fridays and Sundays). The building will not only represent Islamic architecture by including a dome and a minaret, but will also include an exterior in the Northern Colorado vernacular. In this respect, this building will be unique in its architecture and will add to the diverse cultural identity of Fort Collins.
FDP	Rigden Farm 16 th Filing	LUC	See description under “Hearing” section above.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES – BUILDING PERMIT, PLAN REVIEW AND INSPECTION DATA:

MONTHLY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BUILDING/ZONING ACTIVITY



Current vs. Previous Year New Housing Units by Current Month and YTD Totals



To provide the City Manager with your feedback about this report or its contents, please visit <http://fcgov.com/citymanager/cm-email-form.php>.