

CITY MANAGER'S UPDATE

Quarterly Report to the Fort Collins City Council and Community



Construction of the Vine and Lemay overpass

2023 - Spring Edition (February-April)

MAY 4, 2023

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LETTER FROM CITY MANAGER

Spring has officially sprung! The warmer weather also means that it's road construction season. In 2023, we will have approximately \$21.6M of road work underway, including major capital and ongoing street maintenance projects.

We recently launched [FCGOV.com/DIG](https://www.fcgov.com/DIG), a one-stop-shop for all things City construction. It currently contains Engineering and Utilities Capital Projects that are both under construction and in design, as well as hosting links to the Street's Maintenance Program and FC Moves projects. In the near future, we will be adding Parks and Natural Areas projects to the site so that the community has broad understanding of all the major construction projects across the City departments.

Major projects scheduled this season include the Laporte Bridge replacement, improvements to the South Timberline Corridor, and intersection improvements at Vine and Timberline and City Park and Mulberry. Our goal is to minimize traffic impacts and to provide a safe environment for both travelers and crews who are working on site. Be sure to visit [FCGOV.com/DIG](https://www.fcgov.com/DIG) for up-to-date information on road closures. We know some disruption is inevitable, so please be patient and plan ahead to allow adequate travel time.

The warmer weather also means more events outdoors! The recent Kids in the Park event at Twin Silo Park had a great turnout so it seems like we're all looking forward to the return of outdoor activities.

I hope to see you out and about enjoying our beautiful community!



Kelly DiMartino

ISSUES BEFORE CITY COUNCIL

Below are highlights from Council meetings from February – April and a preview of some items to come. To view full agendas and recordings of past meetings, use this [link](#).

Future items are subject to change. Please call the City Clerk's Office at 970-416-2774 for up-to-date information.

February 28 – **2023 Fort Fund grants** recommended by the Cultural Resources Board were approved by Council totaling \$65,000. The program distributes lodging tax revenues from the Cultural Development and Programming Account and the Tourism Programming Account.

March 7 – The **North College MAX BRT Plan** was adopted unanimously on second reading. The plan provides recommendations for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), local transit routes, bicycle and pedestrian facilities, future development, and affordability.

March 14 – Work session was conducted to provide findings from recent outreach and potential next steps as the City gets closer to acquiring the **former Hughes Property**. More information about the project can be found [here](#).

April 4 – **Vision Zero Action Plan** was adopted unanimously on second reading. It identifies key opportunities to significantly improve and expand the City's traffic safety efforts with a vision of zero traffic deaths and serious injuries by 2032.

Also on April 4, Council adopted on second reading updates to the Land Use Code to **regulate new oil and gas** facilities and pipelines within City Limits.

On April 4, The **proposed rental housing program**, which started with registration and added proactive rental inspections after one year of full implementation and an appropriation of \$1.1 million over a 2-year period, was passed on first reading by Council 4-3.

- On April 18, this item on second reading was postponed indefinitely. Council will consider a revised option this summer that does not include proactive inspections.

May 2 – **1041 regulations** give local governments the ability to regulate particular development projects occurring within their jurisdiction, even when the project has broader impacts. The proposed amended Land Use Code passed on first reading and allows for the review and permitting of two designated areas and activities of statewide interest - (1) major domestic water, sewage treatment and (2) highway projects.

No Council meetings will be held on June 27, July 4, and July 11 for summer recess.

In May, June, July some items Council will discuss and consider include:

- Occupancy Regulations (May 9 Work Session)
- Possible Ballot Questions (May 9 Work Session)
- Local Minimum Wage first reading (May 16 Regular meeting)
- Sustainable Funding discussion (June 13 Special Meeting)
- Land Use Code (May 23 Work Session)

For the most up-to-date information on upcoming Council agenda items, please view the six-month planning calendar [here](#).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Engagement Opportunities

Land Use Code: The community is encouraged to learn more, join the conversation and share input about proposed housing-related changes to the Fort Collins Land Use Code - rules for zoning, land use, building design, and more. Input will help ensure the code reflects our community's values and priorities.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming engagement opportunities:

- Neighborhood Walking Tours | Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays in May
- Community Open House | May 8, 2-7 pm



Learn more at www.fcgov.com/LUCupdates.

Community Survey: It's time for the annual Community Survey. Surveys were mailed to randomly selected households across Fort Collins beginning in late April. Residents who receive the survey are encouraged to complete it and return by mail or online using the unique link code provided. Survey responses are completely confidential and allow residents the opportunity to rate City services and amenities and provide input on what priorities the City should focus on in the future. In addition, this is a statistically valid survey.

The annual Community Survey helps inform the City's Strategic Plan and Budget, and helps the City:

- Prioritize programs and projects
- Improve existing services
- Identify disparities in perceptions of service across various demographics
- Create communication outreach efforts

Residents who do not receive a random survey can still weigh in and share their input online between May 19 - 31 using the link that will be available here: <https://www.fcgov.com/communitysurvey/>

CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Election Day is Tuesday, November 7, 2023

There is a regular City election this year. For the first time, these regular elections have moved from April to November and will be coordinated with Larimer County.

What's on the Ballot

City offices on the ballot in this election include:

- Mayor
- City Councilmembers for Districts 2, 4 and 6

Ballot questions and initiatives are also possible. At this time, City Council has placed one Charter amendment question on the ballot regarding candidate qualifications to comport with the Colorado

Constitution. Additional Charter amendments as well as potential ballot initiatives are being considered by City Council in May, with all ballot content required to be set by the beginning of September.

Because this will be a coordinated election, Fort Collins voters will also see other offices and questions on their ballots. For most city voters, this will include Poudre School District board member seats as well as any ballot questions placed by the County or State.

Key Election Dates for 2023:

- August 8-28: Period for candidates for City offices to circulate nomination petitions to get on the ballot
- September 5: Deadline for write-in candidates to file an affidavit of intent in order to have any votes cast for them counted
- September 8: Deadline for the City Clerk to certify ballot content to the County
- Campaign Report Deadlines:
 - October 3
 - October 17
 - October 24
 - November 3
 - December 12
- October 16: First day ballots can be mailed to registered voters by Larimer County
- October 30: Last day residents can register to vote and still be sent a mail ballot – eligible voters can still register when voting in person
- November 7: Election Day
- November 29: Deadline to complete canvass and certification of the election
- January 9, 2024: Council Organizational Meeting where new Councilmembers are sworn in

Please check fcgov.com/vote for more information as it gets updated.

Renew your Liquor License Online!

Have you visited the City Clerk’s [Liquor Licensing page](#) recently? It is full of information, including how to renew a liquor license online for a quicker turnaround time. If you are new to the process, check out the Frequently Asked Questions section to get started.

FINANCE

Sales Tax

Monthly Reports on Our Website

This report reflects Sales and Use Tax collected in March for economic activity that occurred in February. Please note the sales and use tax collected in March is predominately from February sales but also includes delinquent collections from prior periods.

MARCH SUMMARY OVER PRIOR YEAR

	Month	Year to Date
Net Sales Tax Collected:	11.4%	6.4%
Net Use Tax Collected:	-24.6%	-12.5%
Net Sales and Use Tax Collected:	5.7%	3.9%

Year to date, sales and use tax collections excluding rebates are up 3.9% and total \$44.3M.

MARCH SUMMARY OVER BUDGET

	Month	Year to Date
Net Sales Tax Collected:	3.3%	2.5%
Net Use Tax Collected:	-13.5%	0.2%
Net Sales and Use Tax Collected:	1.1%	2.2%

Year to date, the City has collected 2.2% more sales and use tax revenue, totaling \$958K over budget.

Read the complete reports here: <https://www.fcgov.com/salestax/salesreport>

Sustainable Funding

Over the past 14 months, staff has been working with Council Finance Committee (CFC) and the full Council to seek ways to address identified funding needs in the areas of parks and recreation, transit, and housing. Along with these needs, the criticality of advancing City climate action goals has also been identified as an area of need.

Through masterplans, the gaps below have been identified:

- Parks & Recreation - \$8 to \$12M annual shortfall (Parks & Recreation Master Plan)
- Transit - \$8M to \$14.7M annual shortfall (Transit Master Plan)
- Housing - \$8M to \$9.5M annual shortfall (Housing Strategic Plan)
- Climate - \$9.5M+ annual shortfall (Our Climate Future Plan)

As different funding mechanisms are considered, Council has reiterated a desire to:

- Clearly define and articulate revenue needs
- Thoroughly research funding options including impacts to residents
- Work to keep overall resident impact and tax burden as low as possible
- Consider existing dedicated tax renewals and associated election timelines in a strategic manner
- Develop clear understanding of how funds will be utilized

Through discussion, analysis and Council work sessions, sales tax, property tax and additional sales taxes, such as a dedicated ¼ cent tax on substances (alcohol, marijuana, and/or nicotine) have emerged as the most feasible mechanisms. Staff has also researched an added increase to the Xcel franchise fee. Any new tax measure would have to be approved by voters. Per the recent ballot initiative, City elections will now be in November so any ballot referral would need to happen in August.

Council will discuss this topic again at the **June 13, 2023** work session.

TRAFFIC HIGHLIGHTS

Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation Program

Traffic in neighborhoods can affect the quality of life for residents, bicycles, pedestrians, as well as drivers. Throughout Fort Collins, citizens are asking the City to reduce speeding traffic in their neighborhoods. For this reason, the [Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation Program](#) (NTMP) was created. Through education, engineering and enforcement, the goal of calmer, safer streets is achievable.

Goals:

- Improve compliance to posted speed limits, stop signs, and other traffic control devices
- Improve neighborhood livability and promote safe and pleasant conditions for residents, motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians by mitigating the impact of vehicular traffic on local and collector streets. Educate citizens about traffic safety problems occurring in neighborhoods
- Implement traffic calming techniques that will improve neighborhood livability without jeopardizing emergency response needs, creating hazards, or reducing mobility. Modify travel behavior through planning, design, respectful communication, and participation to accurately reflect the City's overall transportation policies and values
- Make efficient use of City resources by prioritizing NTMP projects

Work Area Traffic Control - 433 permits issued 1/1/2023-3/31/2023 (excluding Date extensions/or changes)

Work area traffic control is an essential part of roadway construction, utility work, maintenance operations and the management of traffic incidents. Traffic Operations is responsible for the approval of all work area traffic control plans. This approval process ensures when the normal function of a roadway is suspended, the traffic control plan established will provide for the continuity of movement of motor vehicles, pedestrians, bicyclists, property access, emergency vehicles, and transit usage.

Another key element of a traffic control plan is to protect the workers performing a variety of tasks within the workspace. Work zones present constantly changing conditions that are unexpected by the road user. This creates an even higher degree of vulnerability for the workers and incident management responders on or near the roadway.

Traffic Operations Service Requests from Public - 226

This can include sign damage, signal questions, concerns, requests and neighborhood safety.

Traffic Signal Timing Updates

Traffic operations is currently updating all pedestrian, yellow and red clearance intervals at every signalized intersection in Fort Collins. While doing this work, we are also making progress towards implementing the recently adopted Vision Zero Action Plan by changing left turn operations where there is a safety benefit to pedestrians, vehicles, or both. One of the more noticeable impacts of this work will be that the left turn green arrow may not be the first green indication you see when driving (lag vs leading left turn).

Tour the Traffic Operations Center!

Traffic Operations is resuming public tours of the Traffic Operations Center! Learn about the work we do and the systems we use to keep traffic moving and safe in Fort Collins. We've held one public evening tour with great success in February, and a couple of daytime tours for other departments and organizations. Additional tours are planned throughout the year. If you would like to schedule a tour, please contact 970-221-6630 or email Lauri Talbot at ltalbot@fcgov.com.

PUBLIC SAFETY HIGHLIGHTS

FORT COLLINS POLICE SERVICES

On April 21st, Fort Collins Police Services celebrated 110 years of service to the community, and its rich history unfolds as a reflection of each era and the demands of the time. As Fort Collins and the agency continues to change, the department continues to adapt, and the staff remain dedicated to serving and protecting the Fort Collins community.



Police Psychologist



Dr. Rob Seals is the most recent addition to Fort Collins Police Services. He will serve as the 3rd on-staff Police Psychologist in the 30-year history of FCPS' in-house mental health program. Dr. Seals is an active duty veteran and now a Lieutenant Colonel in the USAF Reserves. Most recently, Dr. Seals was the first in-house Director of the Behavioral Health Division at the Harris County (TX) Sheriff's Office, where he led a team of multidisciplinary professionals in providing comprehensive mental health services and peer support to over 5,000 law enforcement employees and their families. FCPS is honored to have him as a part of the team. Welcome to the team, Dr. Seals!

Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE)



In Q1 2023, FCPS established the Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement (HOPE) team to assist unhoused residents. FCPS routinely looks for ways to improve the way they can serve the community and the HOPE team will use problem oriented policing strategies to address issues surrounding homelessness in the City. The team works with community partnerships to provide compassionate services to the homeless population while promoting public health and safety for all residents. This team is led by Sergeant Annie Hill who has been with FCPS since 2009. Sergeant Hill is a CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Certified Instructor and a Certified Addiction Counselor. Sergeant Hill oversees three (eventually four) officers, providing individuals with

services/resources, promoting safety, and addressing environmental concerns which are all priorities of this team.

2022 Fort Collins Police Services



On behalf of the more than 300 professionals inside Fort Collins Police Services, I am honored to present our 2022 Annual Report. While it was a busy year, we made it a priority to strengthen our relationships with all of you, our community. As you will see from the number of community events, we are never too busy to engage with all of you. This Annual Report is a short summary and if anyone wants additional information, please let us know. We believe that the best defense against crime is a well-informed community, and we welcome any additional inquiries. Our goal of being the safest city in the country will never come to fruition without your help. Thank you for your interest in Fort Collins Police Services; it is my honor to be your Chief of Police.

TOTAL CALLS

Initiated	2020	2021	2022
Citizen	53,061	45,866	45,782
Officer	32,384	30,538	29,172

Total 85,445 76,404 74,954



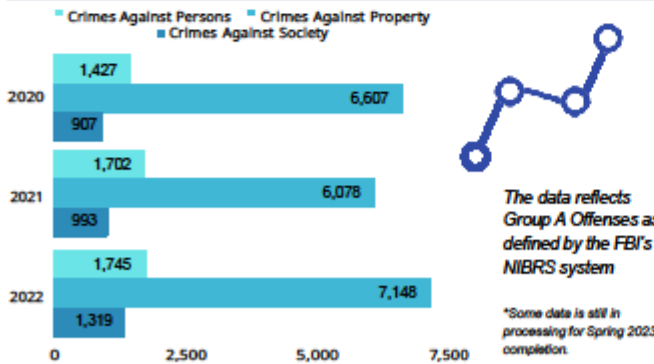
Data collection tools changed in September 2020 with CRISP (Combined Regional Information Systems Project) activation. This contributed to the shift in total call numbers. Despite this difference, the ratio of citizen and officer-initiated calls has remained consistent.

174 Priority 1 Calls in 2022

Average Response Time **4:28**

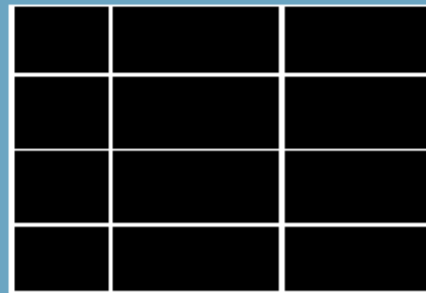
Priority 1 calls are the emergency, life-and-death situations that require an immediate response from first responders. In 2022, our goal was 5 minutes, 15 seconds or less from the time dispatch received the call until an officer arrived on scene.

CRIME DATA: NATIONAL INCIDENT BASED REPORTING SYSTEM (NIBRS)



2022 ONLINE REPORTS

Online reporting provides a convenient way for community members to file a police report and saves hundreds of officer hours each year.



RELEASE OF RECORDS

In 2022, FCPS implemented the online JustFOIA platform as a simple and convenient way for our citizens to request criminal justice records.

3,177 Requests Received
2,567 Requests Completed



Safety and Service for ALL

Read the full report [here](#).

POUDRE FIRE AUTHORITY

Smoke and Carbon Monoxide Alarm Installation Events



In April, Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) and the Red Cross installed nearly 200 smoke and carbon monoxide alarms as part of a community event at Poudre Valley Mobile Home Community (PVMHC).

Nineteen Poudre Fire Authority staff members and six Red Cross volunteers joined PVMHC residents for a block party celebration and alarm installation. The team made 58 homes and 228 residents safer. This installation event, combined with previous visits, has resulted in the increased safety of 136 homes and 533 residents.

Free Monthly American Heart Association Friends and Family CPF and AED Courses

The course, offered through a partnership with PFA and UCHHealth, teaches CPR and AED use to increase the ability of bystanders to provide lifesaving CPR within the first few minutes of cardiac arrest.

Skills are taught in a dynamic group environment using the American Heart Association's research-proven practice-while-watching technique, which provides students with the most hands-on CPR practice time possible.

Skills taught include:

- Adult Hands-Only CPR
- Adult CPR with breaths
- Child CPR with breaths
- Adult and child AED use
- Infant CPR
- Mild and severe airway block for adults, children, and infants

When: Monthly [SIGN UP HERE](#) Please sign up in advance to ensure sufficient materials.

Where: Poudre Fire Authority Headquarters, 102 Remington Street, Fort Collins

Red X Program Implementation

PFA implemented a new program to help keep responders safe as they respond to calls throughout the community. The Red X Program labels buildings that have interior hazards, are structurally

compromised, or abandoned. This information will help firefighters as they plan their response to an emergency.

We are thankful to serve a community where this is not an incredibly prevalent issue but this labeling system will help keep all responders, not just firefighters, and hopefully community members safe by alerting people when a structure may be unsafe.

The signs indicate varying degrees of potential risk:

1. Solid red box = Normal structure conditions
2. Red box with white slash = Structural or interior hazards exist, and interior firefighting or rescue operations should be conducted with extreme caution
3. Red box with white X = Do not enter - structural or interior hazards exist to a degree that consideration should be given to limit firefighting to exterior operations only, entry only for known risks to life

Learn more here: <http://www.poudre-fire.org/.../code.../red-x-program>

Budget Tool Launch

A new online budget platform, powered by ClearGov, is live on the PFA website. This tool increases transparency and access to data for the community. It provides an easy to navigate and comprehensive view of PFA's funding sources, long-range financial plans, and budget process. The site provides a definitive list of PFA's programs shown through expenditures and even historical and demographic information about the Authority. [Take a look here.](#)

Lithium-ion Batteries Charging and Storage

Lithium-ion batteries have received quite a bit of media coverage lately and they are ubiquitous to many of our lives. PFA has not seen an increase in these fires but we have implemented more detailed tracking to learn more moving forward. Please use these safety tips to ensure you are charging and storing your batteries correctly:

- Only charge devices with the approved cords and/or stations they came with and unplug them as they finish charging
- Never charge devices on a soft surface such as a bed, couch, or blanket
- Keep batteries at room temperature (not in sunlight or a hot vehicle)
- Stop using if you notice an odor, change in color or shape, unusual heat, leakage, or odd noise
- Only buy batteries from a reputable source
- When disposing of lithium-ion batteries, never stack them in piles. Tape the ends with clear or electrical tape and take them to a recycling center. Do not throw them in the trash or curbside recycling. The Timberline Recycling Center offers a free and easy to use drop-off location

COMMUNITY SERVICES

RECREATION

Recreation teams have been working diligently to hire the seasonal staff necessary to run programming this summer, including pools and day camps for youth. To date, numbers are looking positive which will allow critical programming to run efficiently this summer!

Springtime at The Farm at Lee Martinez Park means baby animals are arriving! Most recently, the team has added several new goats, sheep, and a cow. The babies will be onsite and ready for visitors to The Farm as the weather continues to warm up. [Plan your visit today!](#)

The Adaptive Recreation Opportunities (ARO) program recently hosted a day of Special Olympics basketball games at Webber Middle School. The Fort Collins Storm team played a scrimmage team comprised of City staff in preparation for the State Championship game which occurred later in the month. After a win against the City team, the Storm went on to win the State Championship game at the Special Olympics for the 8th year in a row! Additional programs being



Baby goats at The Farm at Lee Martinez Farm.

run by ARO this quarter include an Adaptive Fencing Clinic and an Adaptive Martial Arts Clinic.



Fort Collins Storm playing scrimmage with City Staff.

During spring break week, the youth team ran day camps for more than 45 children! Activities during the week included field trips, outdoor play, and an ultimate frisbee clinic.

PARKS

Highlights:

- Holiday lights came down in February
- Rolland Moore ballfield light replacement project was completed
- Repairs completed in the streetscapes from vehicle damage at Elizabeth/Shields, College/Columbia and Lincoln/Cordova
- Library Park irrigation renovation is under construction
- Forestry Strategic Plan RFP was completed and released for submittals.
- Southridge irrigation replacement is underway with an anticipated May completion date



Pond dredging at Southridge Golf Course

PARK PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Dovetail Park

Construction of the new Dovetail Park is ongoing with concrete flatwork within the park and the paving for the spur trail is in progress. PPD staff is coordinating with the contractor on construction schedules with the park opening anticipated Summer 2023. Park amenities will include a picnic shelter, playground, multi-purpose field, basketball court, seasonal restroom, bocce ball court, table tennis, corn hole, and a space designated for daytime hammocking and slacklining.

Oak Street Plaza

The Parks and Park Planning and Development teams are continuing work on the next phase of refurbishments for Oak Street Plaza. New furnishings and plantings are being designed with anticipated installation in Spring 2023. Continued coordination with the Engineering Department is ongoing to address drainage concerns and overall site improvements.



Play structure installed at Dovetail Park.

East Park District Maintenance Facility

The City's first all-electric facility has reached substantial completion and on budget of \$7M. It includes both solar and a geo-thermal field. Crews are now able to save on emissions and operate more efficiently as they are closer to the parks they serve.

CULTURAL SERVICES

Cultural Community Programs worked with Boys and Girls Club of Larimer County on a near-weekly basis from November 2022 through April 2023 to integrate arts programming into the two Fort Collins-specific clubs. Weekly programming included performing arts (singing, dancing, and acting), visual arts, and multi-media arts facilitated by various local artists. The goal was to allow club members an opportunity to experience and experiment with various art forms during facilitated programming in opportunities they may not have otherwise experienced through routine school curricula.

The Lincoln Center has wrapped their 2022/2023 Lincoln Center Live Season with a successful line up of shows, including three school shows offered to Poudre School District students with each show reaching almost 1,200 students!

Information and tickets for the upcoming Summer Concert Series, in collaboration with The Gardens on Spring Creek, can be found at [lctix.com](https://www.lctix.com).

The Museum of Discovery hosted The Human Library on February 26th in collaboration with the City of Fort Collins Office of Equity and Inclusion and the Poudre River Public Library District. The Human Library allowed over 150 participants - or "Readers" - to borrow a human "Book" and engage in conversations about their unique stories, particularly their experiences in Fort Collins regarding their identity/identities. The program created a safe and non-judgmental environment for curious and often taboo conversations that challenged prejudices and promoted understanding of differences.



Michael Gormley, Executive Director of Blast N Scrap, leading multimedia instruction for Boys and Girls Club of Larimer County

NATURAL AREAS

Anniversary Celebrations Continue

In January, a special Natural Areas Bingo/La Lotería event held at Horse and Dragon Brewing featured northern Colorado native plant and wildlife terms in English and Spanish and their conservation stories.

In February, a Natural Areas Trivia Night quizzed the audience about natural area facts and statistics, and it even included a round of wildlife-sound identification!

In March, Lightening Talks (enjoyable, entertaining, and informative five-minute talks by subject matter experts), at the Lyric Cinema, were popular with over 100 people participating. Topics included fireflies, a virtual tour of urban natural areas, black-footed ferrets, saw-whet owls, the interdependence of nature and culture, and the benefits of native plants in landscaping.

Tote bags, travel mugs, and pins celebrating the Natural Areas 30th Anniversary are now available at the [Fort Collins Museum of Discovery's](#) gift shop.

The 30th Anniversary celebration continues through October, learn more at <https://www.fcgov.com/naturalareas/30-anniversary>

Rangers Meet the Community Where They Are

Natural Areas Rangers patrol trails year-round; they made 1,072 public contacts in the first quarter, 85% of which were cordial or informational/educational. Only 15% of the contacts were regulation-related, which is typical given their emphasis on outreach.

Rangers are supported by Volunteer Ranger Assistants who provided 353 hours of service and made 1,186 public contacts in the first quarter. Eighteen new Volunteer Ranger Assistants were trained in partnership with Larimer County Department of Natural Resources.

One New Land Acquisition in the First Quarter

Natural Areas acquired 261 acres adjacent to Bobcat Ridge Natural Area. The acquisition secures additional wildlife habitat and may provide additional trail connections as appropriate.



Land Conservation Life to Date	Acreage	Cost
Acres of Land Purchased	40,244	
Acres of Land Leased	87	
Acres of Land in Conservation Easements	17,649	
Total Conserved – Life to Date	57,980	\$ 119,218,755

2023 Total Acquisitions (fee and conservation easement)	Acreage	Cost
Total Conserved - Year to Date	261	\$ 2,668,016

Property Under Contract	Acreage	Cost
Fee Acquisition Local Closing Second Quarter 2023	8	\$ 120,000
Total Under Contract	8	\$ 120,000

Land Conservation Funds Budgeted for 2023	\$4,300,000 + Re-appropriation \$10,100,000	\$ 14,400,000
Land Conservation Funds Expended in 2023 to Date		\$ 2,668,016
Acquisitions Under Contract		\$ 120,000
Net Land Conservation Funds Remaining for 2023		\$ 11,611,984

HISTORIC PRESERVATION

May is National Preservation Month!

Since 1973, communities across the United States have joined the National Trust for Historic Preservation in the celebration of Preservation Month, which consists of planned events to promote awareness of historic places and highlight their social and economic benefits. This year, the City of Fort Collins will recognize Preservation Month with several special activities that begin in May and spill over into early June.

Saturday, May 20, 9:00 am to 4:00 pm: Attend the hybrid 2023 Dearfield Conference, “Celebrating the Women and Families of Dearfield,” in the Bernard Rollin Knowledge Well Classroom at the Nutrien Agricultural Science Building, Colorado State University. This free conference is about the history and preservation of Dearfield, a Black agricultural settlement founded in Weld County in the early 20th century. It includes plenary sessions and individual topic presentations, including a presentation at 10:40 am by City staff on the life of Jennie Goodall, a Black resident of Fort Collins who became an influential member of the Dearfield community. For more information on attending in person or via Zoom, contact PreserveDearfield@gmail.com

Wednesday, May 24, 6:30 pm City staff presents “Think Again! A Historic Preservation Myth-Busting Workshop” in the Colorado River Community Room (222 Laporte Avenue). If you have considered “There’s no way this old building can work for my needs!,” “I can’t change ANYTHING about my designated historic property!” or “Old buildings are the worst energy hogs!” please join us as we debunk these myths and more and share the true facts about how historic preservation works in Fort Collins. To register, contact City staff at preservation@fcgov.com.

Tuesday, June 6, 9:00 am The City of Fort Collins will co-sponsor an educational workshop with the Fort Collins Board of Realtors, “Historic Preservation Basics for Realtors” that will educate attendees about how to look up information about historic properties, how properties are designated and what that status means for sellers and buyers, the responsibilities and benefits of owning historic properties, and the resources City staff offers to realtors, sellers, and prospective buyers for older properties in the community. Fort Collins Board of Realtors members are invited to attend the workshop, which will be held at 826 West Drake Road, Unit #1. Visit <https://fcbr.org/> for more information or contact City staff at preservation@fcgov.com.

SUSTAINABILITY SERVICES

ECONOMIC HEALTH OFFICE

Upcoming Regional Job Fair - May 16

Thursday, May 16 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm
AIMS Community College Windsor Campus
1130 Southgate Drive, Windsor, CO

This event is FREE for employers and prospective employees.

Are you seeking quality employees to fulfill your staffing needs? Feature your business at the Regional Job Fair! Register your business at: <https://snapappointments.com/listing/5yd>. Registration closes on Thursday, May 11th. For more information or questions email Susie Larson, slarson@windsorgov.com

Changes Coming to Businesses: Plastic Pollution Act Breakdown



The State of Colorado Plastic Pollution Reduction Act was passed in 2021 to reduce and mitigate plastic pollution in Colorado. This two-phased law became effective on January 1, 2023, and placed a 10-cent fee on paper and plastic carryout bags used at checkout and for pickup and delivery orders at large retail stores. On January 1, 2024, plastic carryout bags will be banned at large retail stores, and paper carryout bags will continue to be offered for the 10-cent fee.

Polystyrene (brand name Styrofoam) food containers (i.e., cups, bowls, trays, and hinged clamshells) will also be banned in 2024 at retail food establishments such as restaurants, fast-food chains, grocery stores, and convenience stores. Other retail food establishments include business cafeterias, hospitals, schools/universities, and prisons.

BIPOC Business Directory



The BIPOC Alliance has developed a directory of BIPOC-owned businesses in Larimer County. To be featured in the directory, send your business name, contact information, and a brief business description to communications@bipocalliance.org. You can find the directory [here](#).

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Citywide Contract for Trash

Fort Collins City Council approved a contract with Republic Services for residential trash and recycling collection with the goal of increasing opportunities for composting and recycling providing equitable, consistent pricing across the community, as well as increasing safety and reducing emissions.

For a price similar to what most households paid in 2022 for only trash and every-other-week recycling, the contracted program will include weekly collection of trash, recycling and seasonal yard trimmings (April- November) and two bulky item collections per year.

The contracted program will also include an option for households with a very small amount of trash (XS cart service) and those with a large amount of trash (XL cart service).

Contracted prices for monthly service for weekly collection of trash, recycling, yard trimmings, and two bulky item collections per year will be:

- XS cart service (16 gallons): \$11.10
- S cart service (35 gallons): \$19.10
- M cart service (65 gallons): \$37.10
- L cart service (95 gallons): \$55.10
- XL cart service (2 x 95 gallons carts): \$109.10

These prices include a \$1.35 monthly administrative fee to recover the City's contract administration cost. If a household chooses not to receive yard trimmings collection, their monthly service price will be reduced by \$5.00 per month unless they have the XS cart service. Households with the XS cart service will not be eligible for the \$5.00 discount.

The new service will begin on September 30, 2024. This allows the hauler enough time to purchase trucks, hire staff and prepare for the new service. It also allows the hauler, in partnership with the City, to conduct an extensive outreach campaign to ensure community members can prepare for the service change.

Until then, households will continue using the licensed hauler of their choosing.

Households wanting to start or change service before September 30, 2024, may contact Republic Services, Ram Waste/Waste Connections, or Waste Management.

All households enrolled in the City contracted program will be contacted in the first half of 2024 to set up billing with the hauler, select their cart sizes, request a variance, or choose to opt out of the program and pay the opt-out fee. Households will receive bills for service directly from the hauler and have dedicated local [customer service](#) representatives.

Enrolled households will receive new trash, recycling, and yard trimmings carts with the City logo in the fall of 2024. These carts will stay with households even if the City chooses a different hauler later.

Spring Clean and Green

Spring blooms and warmer temperatures are finally within reach and, with the new season, you may be feeling the urge to declutter and green up your living space. Here are some tips to make your annual spring cleaning more eco-friendly:

- Reusable and refillable cleaning supplies: Consider shifting to reusable when choosing cleaning supplies. Use unwanted clothes or fabric scraps for rags, or purchase cleaning cloths that can be washed and reused multiple times instead of single-use paper towels. You can also reuse empty spray bottles and refill them with a mixture of vinegar and water for an easy, eco-friendly cleaning solution.
- Pruning and gardening: Spring is a great time to prune away overgrown tree limbs and bushes and remove dead leaves. For an additional fee, residential trash haulers offer seasonal yard trimmings collection from April-November. [Contact your hauler](#) to set up curbside yard trimmings collection.
- Recycle unwanted items: Use the [A to Z Recycling List](#) to learn what items can and cannot go in your curbside recycling bin. This interactive tool also includes items that can be donated or reused rather than thrown away. Explore and share this resource to answer all your burning recycling questions!
- Hard-to-recycle items: Bring used antifreeze, batteries, motor oil, and paint to the Timberline Recycling Center [Hard-to-Recycle Materials Yard](#) free of charge!
- Wash your Reusable Bags: State and local laws are now in place to reduce plastic pollution, starting with single-use plastic bags. If you've already [shifted to reusable bags](#), remember that these bags require regular cleaning. Use some of your spring cleaning energy to ensure your reusable bags are as fresh as the spring day.

SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Fair Housing Month 2023 - April

What is Fair Housing? All persons are entitled to equal access to housing. Fair housing laws were enacted to provide equal housing opportunities. It is illegal to discriminate on the basis of a person's protected class in the sale, rental, or financing of housing. Protected classes include sex, national origin, familial status, race, ancestry, disability, sexual orientation, color, creed, marital status, or retaliation for opposing a discriminatory practice. The Act covers most housing.

“Choices for all voices: Building an equitable future” This year, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is commemorating the 55th anniversary of the passage of the Fair Housing Act, the landmark civil rights law signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on April 11, 1968, that made discrimination in housing transactions unlawful. In April, HUD held an online Opening Ceremony and an online National Event on building an equitable future.

Landlord & Tenant Support Program

The Landlord & Tenant Support Program recognizes the key role landlords have in providing stable homes to households in need. The program offers participating landlords reimbursement for minor unit repairs to units rented to tenants referred by CAHPS, the Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placing System.



The program also provides short term assistance to renters in CAHPS to cover move-in expenses. The effort helps preserve the investment of participating landlords while ensuring safe, affordable housing for Fort Collins neighbors in need. The goal of the Landlord and Tenant Support Program is to reduce barriers for landlords and residents in achieving stable rental housing. For more information, please click this [link](#).

DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION OFFICE

Equity Plan Summary

The Equity & Inclusion Office shares responsibility with all departments to develop and apply an equity lens to its work. Everyone has a role to play, so it is vital that there is a shared understanding of why equity is important and how everyday decision-making can work toward providing equitable, supportive experiences for all community members.

The Equity Office strives to represent community voices, but especially those voices most excluded and oppressed, and weave their ideas, needs, and hopes into program, project, and policy decision-making. Investing time to hear from all voices in the community is critical so open and honest conversations can take place and trust is felt between community members and local government representatives. Trust leads to equitable and inclusive community development where the community sees their needs heard and met.

The 2023-2026 Equity & Inclusion Plan will help define the collective work to implement the shared vision toward building a more equitable Fort Collins. Here the three common goals staff prioritized to move the City forward in this work:

Goal 1: Commitment & Common Language in the Workplace

We will normalize and operationalize a Citywide understanding of equity and inclusion principles and provide development opportunities for staff across all levels.

Goal 2: Inclusive & Equitable Engagement

We will build organizational capacity to engage and partner with community groups to co-create how we advance equity for all, emphasizing participation of demographic and geographic groups most impacted by identified disparities and inequities.

Goal 3: Data Accountability

We will systematically collect, analyze, and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, disaggregated by race data, to remain accountable and transparent to the city organization and community. Data will inform updates to policies, programs, and services to increase access for those most impacted by social, economic, environmental inequities.

Native American Relations

The Native American community recently convened two events at the invitation of Dr. Jennifer Barfield, who cares for the local Bison relatives. Each year, Dr. Barfield works with the Intertribal Buffalo Council (IBC) to provide bison to Tribal Nations within the United States.

With calving season about to begin, a traditional blessing was sought by Mr. Ron Hall (Arikara) who is the consulting attorney for the City of Fort Collins Equity Office. Mr. Hall engaged local Elders Mr. Lessert Moore (Lakota) and Dr. Alice Moore (Arapaho) to conduct a workshop on traditional bison

stories. Mr. Moore is a traditional spiritual adviser and Dr. Alice Moore is a therapist at the CSU Health Center.

The first event took place at the Museum of Discovery the evening of April 6th where Mr. Moore provided a presentation on the Lakota relationship with bison and the meaning of holding a traditional Lakota blessing. Dr. Alice Moore and Phillip Chavez each sang a buffalo song. Dinner was provided following the presentation with approximately 70 people attending!

The second event was held at the enchanting Soapstone Natural Areas on Saturday, April 8th where Mr. Moore and Dr. Alice Moore held a traditional ceremony to welcome the new “relatives.” The participants were again blessed with traditional songs and drumming from Mr. Chavez, Dr. Alice Moore, Mr. Moore and Cody Davenport. A box lunch and beverages were provided for the more than 80 community members who attended this special event.



Karalyn Radford Photography (April 8th, 2023: Soapstone Natural Areas)

UTILITIES

WATER OPERATIONS

Larimer County Conservation Corps’ Home Efficiency Assessments began January 2023 and will run until May 2023. This program is in its 14th year and is a partnership between Fort Collins Utilities, Loveland Water and Power, and Larimer County. It provides free home energy and water efficiency assessments and installation of efficient products and fixtures, including toilets, LED lights bulbs, and shower heads.

Program goals for 2023 include:

- 250-300 home assessments for Fort Collins Utilities customers
- Equity goals: 10-20% of assessments are income qualified assistance program customers, 10% of assessments are Black, indigenous, people of color customers
- Installation of 125-150 high efficiency toilets (high water saving action)
- As a pilot to evaluate participant interest and need, distribute hose timers and shutoff nozzles with self-installation instructions to customers with manual irrigation or outdoor water uses.

As of February 7th, 78 home assessments were completed and 29 high efficiency toilets were installed. For more information or to sign up, visit fcgov.com/LCCC

Water Efficiency Plan update - Staff is finalizing the Water Efficiency Plan (WEP) update Project Plan and building internal and external teams to implement work towards completing an updated WEP and efficiency goals by the end of 2024. Major tasks include (1) quantitative modeling of water demand and conservation/efficiency tactics effectiveness, incorporating climate and growth projections; (2) diverse public engagement to foster equitable approaches to water conservation and efficiency; (3) internal staff engagement following a collaborative One Water approach; and (4) equity evaluation of current and potential future water conservation/efficiency programs.

To support this update, Utilities posted RFP 9720 Water Demand Model Update on February 2nd to request proposals from qualified professionals to provide consulting services for updates to an existing water demand estimation model that integrates with existing supply and distribution system models.

Garden in a Box went on sale on March 1st. Utilities and Nature in the City offered 170 \$25 discounts on mostly native garden kits to Utilities residential water customers. Utilities is also offered 25 \$100 discounts to income-qualified water customers or mobile home park residents in the water district.

Xeriscape Highlights:

- The Xeriscape Garden Party will be Saturday, June 17 from 9am-12pm in the Xeriscape Demonstration Graden (300 Laporte Ave). Learn about water-wise landscaping from the experts enjoy live art demonstrations, live music, a prize drawing, and a coffee truck! There will also be a pollinator plant swap. Learn more about this event [here](#).
- On February 25th, during Seed Starting Volunteer Day, 15 volunteers helped start 30 varieties of native plants to be given away at the Xeriscape Garden Party.
- March 4 – Tabled at the High Plains Landscape Workshop: Xeriscape Incentive Program with 300 attendees
- March 11 & March 18: 35 volunteers helped transplant 1,400 plants which will be given away at the Xeriscape Garden Party on June 17
- March 25 - Xeriscape Incentive Program hosted a free Landscape Design workshop for 100 participants to help residential customers reimagine and redesign their landscapes to be more sustainable
- March 23, 28 & 30 - Xeriscape and Soil Amendment Code Workshops: Staff hosted sessions to gather stakeholder feedback to help shape proposed landscape standards. Each session focused on a specific topic proposed for update: turf limits for residential and commercial new/re-development, irrigation efficiency, and soil amendment compliance.

LIGHT & POWER OPERATIONS

Light & Power Joint Training Field with Poudre Fire Authority



Estimated Project Budget: \$110,000 (\$55,000 each in 2021 and 2022)

Phase: Design

Project Details:

Poudre Fire Authority (PFA) and Utilities staff have been coordinating a plan to collaborate on training services that will benefit both agencies at the PFA Training Center on West Vine Drive. The development of these props will benefit the City's Utilities Service Area by eliminating the need to purchase land on which to erect the props, and PFA benefits through the partnership by adding new dimensions to special rescue training, as well as partnering with Utilities to facilitate other site improvements. In this arrangement, PFA staff is working with Utilities staff to develop the construction drawings, surveys, and any excavation and installation work that is necessary for the project. PFA's cost is expected to be minimal, and Utilities has existing and future offers in the City's budgeting process to cover their portion of the expenses.

Project Status:

- Initial poles for climbing and pole rescue training have been set.
- First vaults are scheduled to be set April/May 2023.
- Worked in cooperation with Streets to build an area of crushed concrete in the vehicle extrication training area to minimize mud and mud tracking.
- Working through technical rescue props and plans using water/sewer props and various trench scenarios.

Ami Equipment & Technology Upgrade

Estimated Project Budget: \$300,000 (2021), \$932,000 (2022)

Phase: Proof-of-Concept Installation Complete

Project Details:

This is the third and final year of a replacement program of data collecting devices called Gatekeepers with the next generation of technology.

It also includes a transition in the data backhaul architecture and construction standard. For infrastructure within city limits, the Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) network will use Connexion fiber as the data backhaul mechanism to replace the existing wireless router system.

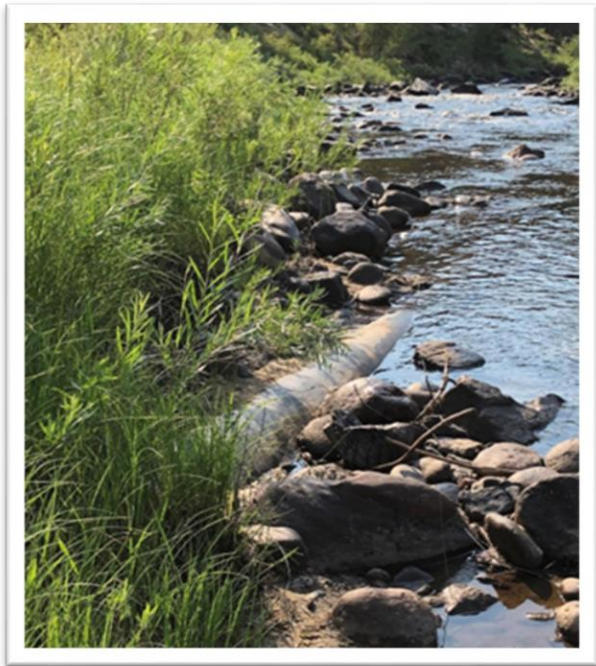
Project Status:

- Connexion has completed construction at 13 of the 85 Gatekeeper sites.
- Two sites are currently under design/construction.
- AMI partner Honeywell has manufactured 22 of the next generation Gatekeepers and they are awaiting shipment.



Install of a Gatekeeper and wireless router mounted on a streetlight.

CAPITAL PROJECTS



Poudre River Raw Waterline Replacement

Budget: \$3,200,000

Project Phase: Design Complete, Construction in Fall 2023

Project Details: The existing 27" Steel Raw Waterline is one of two pipelines that transport the City's water supply down the Poudre Canyon. A portion of the pipeline downstream of Gateway Natural Area is exposed due to erosion of the river. This portion of the pipeline will be relocated and buried at a depth to protect it from future erosion. The relocated section of the waterline will also be enlarged to allow for future operational flexibility.

Project Status: Final design, cost estimates, and permitting complete. Temporary and permanent easements secured. Early procurement of materials and procurement of construction contraction ongoing.



Environmental Learning Center (ELC) Flow Restoration Project

Budget: \$6,321,139

Project Phase: Construction Complete

Project Details: The ELC Flow Restoration Project is a partnership project involving Fort Collins Utilities, Natural Areas, and Colorado State University. The purpose of the project is to replace a damaged diversion structure at the ELC to keep water flowing through a small side channel of the Cache La Poudre River. The main project goals are focused around constructing a new low-impact diversion, re-establishing floodplain connection, and restoration of the main river channel and overbank floodplain. Completion of the project will

protect the point of diversion for an instream water right acquired by the City which keeps flows in the Poudre River for fish, habitat, and recreation. The instream water right prevents approximately 10,000 acre-feet of water from being diverted off the river by other users. The new diversion will improve fish passage and allow for sediment transport which is key to a healthy river system. Proposed grading improvements will allow the river to spread out naturally across the floodplain. Re-establishing the floodplain connection will allow for regeneration of natural cottonwood trees and willows that provide important wildlife along the river corridor.

Project Status: Construction of the project began in late 2022. The new diversion structure and all in-stream improvements were completed in late March.

MARCH 2023 NUMBERS



Treated Water

Gallons of water treated: 465.7M
Gallons delivered to storage: 456.3M
Peak production (3/8): 18M
Peak demand (3/9): 15.2M



Outages

Unplanned outages: 6
Restoration time (12-month rolling average):
69.56 minutes
Planned outages: 65



Water Reclamation

Drake
Gallons of water treated: 277.5M
Peak production (3/31): 12.2M

Mulberry
Gallons of water treated: 57.1M
Peak production (3/3): 2.2M



Water Quality Lab

Number of samples tested: 220
Number of tests performed: 943



Customer Connections

Total calls: ~9,911
Manual meter reads: 260
Residential solar inspections: 39
Community engagement opportunities: 18
Event reach: 334



Water Engineer/Field Ops

Total main breaks: 5
Afterhours main breaks: 2

BROADBAND – FORT COLLINS CONNEXION

2022 Highlights:

- Finished the year at 94% of the main buildout complete
- Launched [My Bundle TV tool](#).
- Hired multiple new staff members, resulting in a full team
- The Connexion residential take rate was 33% as of January 1st
- Signed contract with CSU Athletics for 2023 community engagement
- Determined internet price changes for Q1 2023
- Continuing to make significant progress with construction of multi-dwelling units (MDUs). There is still a high demand from those in the community who live in apartments, condos, townhomes and certain HOAs

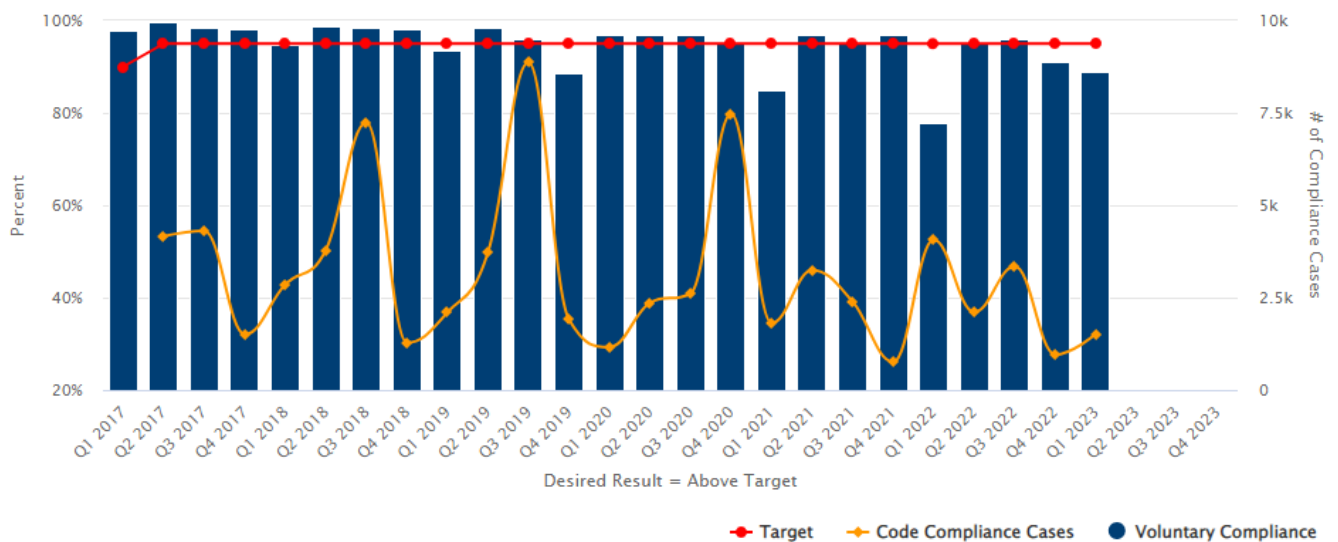
- Hired the City's first commission-based sales representative who started April 17th and will focus on residential sales.

COMMUNITY DASHBOARD HIGHLIGHT

The Community Dashboard features performance data and information that highlights how the City is doing in achieving its seven Outcome areas: Neighborhood Livability and Social Health, Culture and Recreation, Economic Health, Environmental Health, Safe Community, Transportation and Mobility, and High Performing Government. The Dashboard is made up of 37 total metrics that are published quarterly and demonstrate where the City is doing well and where there are opportunities to improve. The color status of performance for each metric is determined based on the actual result for the quarter compared with the target. The color status of performance for the Outcome is determined based on the average calculation of the performance of each metric within that Outcome.

This report contains a metric from the Neighborhood Livability and Social Health Outcome.

Voluntary Code Compliance



Analysis of Performance

Snow accumulation is addressed with a shorter timeline to correct than a majority of the Code sections managed by Code Inspectors. Because snow/ice accumulation is an immediate safety issue, it is one of the Codes that does not have the typical seven-day notification, re-inspection, courtesy door posting, and then a possible abatement. It is also an opportunity for the residents to work directly with the Code Compliance Inspector specifically for a time extension to correct the issue.

Code compliance frequently sees yellow or red metrics in Q1 due to the quick turnaround on abatements for sidewalk snow removal which provides less time for voluntary compliance.

Metric Definition

This metric tracks the percentage of voluntary compliance with nuisance code violations issued by the City of Fort Collins. Voluntary compliance is defined as violations corrected by the property owner or tenant.

Why is this important?

Code compliance contributes to the preservation, maintenance, and enhancement of neighborhoods. Voluntary compliance of nuisance codes is an indicator of the City's attractiveness and feeling of safety in neighborhoods. It is also an indication of whether a neighborhood is deteriorating and may need additional services.

City Organization Impact on Performance

High - The City affects the metric in the following ways: 1) violation notices sent to property owner and tenant explaining the violation and giving a deadline to correct the problem; 2) final notice – this is a posting on the door explaining that the deadline has come, what the violation is, and that they need to correct the violation by the next day in order to avoid abatement or citation; 3) encouragement of residents to call if they need an extension – the City's violation notices state that they should call us if they have a need for a little more time to correct the violation; 4) Adopt-a-Neighbor program - volunteer program to help elderly or disabled residents with shoveling their sidewalks; and 5) door hangers - for codes that do not require notice be given (i.e. sidewalk snow removal) – the City provides a courtesy door hanger on the first offense explaining the code requirement and gives them until the following day to correct the violation.

Benchmark Information

Benchmarking in process

To review all the metrics on the Community Dashboard, go to <https://fortcollins.clearpointstrategy.com/>