

CALENDAR

Martin Luther King Day Celebration

Monday, January 21, noon-2 p.m.

Linden Street - Downtown

Honor the legacy and dream of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. March from the CSU Oval to Old Town Square. Join hundreds of community members in support of King's vision of equality, justice, peace and service. downtownfortcollins.com

Residential Environmental Program Series

Free Public Programs

Fort Collins Senior Center, 1200 Raintree Dr.

Wednesdays, 7-9 p.m.

January 23

'Greening' Your Home: Reducing Your Environmental Footprint

Make your household more efficient and reduce your environmental footprint.

January 30

Improving Comfort, Safety and Energy Efficiency in Existing Homes

Learn the root causes for cold rooms, high utility bills, AC that does not cool, icy windows and where to turn for solutions.

City Works 101 Application Deadline

February 29

City Works 101 is an eight-week program, which will give residents a behind the scenes look at running a city. Space is limited, apply online at fcgov.com/cityworks or call 221-6207.

Due to the structure of the billing cycle, some events may take place before you receive your monthly newsletter. For timely information regarding upcoming events, visit the City's online calendar at fcgov.com.

Character Quality of the Month "Thriftiness"

Allowing myself and others to spend only what is necessary.

For more information about Character Fort Collins, visit characterfortcollins.org or call 266-2671.

JANUARY 2008



news



SPOTLIGHT:

MASON CORRIDOR
MOVES FORWARD

OTHER FEATURES:

- Libraries Revitalized
- State of the City
- Snow Shoveling
- Culture Corner
- Protect Your Identity
- Calendar




CITY COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER

Doug Hutchinson, Mayor
Ben Manvel, District 1
Lisa Poppaw, District 2
Diggs Brown, District 3
Wade Troxell, District 4
Kelly Ohlson, District 5
David Roy, District 6
Darin Atteberry, City Manager

CITY HALL

300 LaPorte Ave. • P.O. Box 580 • Fort Collins, CO 80522-0580
221-6505 • TDD: 224-6001 • www.fcgov.com

This publication is available in large print, audio and on the web. 

COMMUNITY NEWS

mason corridor moves forward

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND ENHANCED PUBLIC transit in the Mason Corridor are one step closer to becoming a reality. The City of Fort Collins received notification from the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) stating that the Mason Corridor Project is among a handful of proposals that will be included in the FTA's annual report to Congress. Final approval of funds, totaling 80 percent of the overall cost of the Mason Corridor project, will take place in the spring of 2008.

The Mason Corridor was selected through a very competitive nation-wide grant application process. Numerous projects were competing for FTA Small Starts grant dollars. Now, City staff will work closely with the FTA to demonstrate our capability to implement this project.

"FTA approval of the Mason Corridor was the largest hurdle we needed to overcome to move forward," explained Mark Jackson, Interim Transportation Director. "We look forward to working with the FTA in navigating the congressional process to finalize funding."

The Mason Corridor project has evolved over the years to include elements of transit, economic development, and community building. Portions of the Mason Corridor Project are already moving forward.

TRAIL EXPANSION

The Mason Corridor Plan includes the expansion of the Mason Trail. The 3.5-mile section of the trail that connects the Spring Creek Trail to the Fossil Creek Trail is currently open. In 2008, the Mason Trail will extend north from the Spring Creek Trail to Colorado State University.

THE MAX, BUS RAPID TRANSIT SYSTEM

The Corridor will feature the MAX, or Mason Express, Fort Collins' first Bus Rapid Transit System. The MAX is similar to light rail transit and uses environmentally-friendly, modern rubber-tired vehicles.

MAX is designed to emphasize speed and conve-



nience with an exclusive guideway and easy boarding. The new MAX stations will incorporate high-quality passenger amenities including real-time bus arrival information and ticket vending machines.

"FTA approval of the Mason Corridor was the largest hurdle we needed to overcome to move forward."

Pending final funding from the FTA, the City will finalize the many various design details necessary to offer a BRT system from downtown to CSU. From environmental assessments to purchasing vehicles, project progress updates will appear on fcgov.com/mason.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

With this recent progress comes redevelopment interest in the Mason Corridor. Property owners are busy generating ideas and concepts. It's still too early to provide details, but watch fcgov.com/business for future updates.

State of the City

Tuesday, Jan. 29
5:30 p.m.
City Hall, 300 LaPorte Ave.

Join Mayor Doug Hutchinson and City Manager Darin Atteberry for a re-cap of 2007 and a look ahead to the future of Fort Collins. The event is open to the public and includes a live presentation, question and answer period, and a short reception afterward where attendees can mingle with the City Manager, Mayor and other Council members. You can also view the live TV broadcast on Cable 14, or online at fcgov.com/video.

Snow Shoveling

You don't need a cape to be a hero! Heroes come in all shapes and sizes; this winter, all you need to be a hero is a shovel and a caring attitude. Many folks in this community have a hard time clearing their sidewalks and driveways when it snows. Get to know your neighbors, and find out who might need a little help this winter. You may not have a cape, but by shoveling a neighbor's snowy walk, they'll definitely see you as a hero.

Culture Corner

Hairspray

Feb. 26-29
Lincoln Center
417 West Magnolia

Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical-comedy phenomenon takes you back to 1962 Baltimore, as 16-year-old Tracy Turnblad sets out to dance her way onto TV's most popular show. Can a big girl with big dreams - and even bigger hair - change the world . . . and still have time to win the boy she loves?

Lctix.com or 221-6730 for ticket information.

LOCAL NEWS

libraries revitalized

ENJOY ENHANCED LIBRARY SERVICES FOR MANY years to come. In December, the Fort Collins City Council and the Fort Collins Regional Library District entered into an intergovernmental agreement designed to finalize the public library's transition from city library to library district. The formation of the library district provided the libraries with dedicated funding and has since improved the public library's ability to serve the community.

RESTORED HOURS OF OPERATION

Both the Main and Harmony Libraries have restored hours of operation.

Main Library

201 Peterson St.

Monday-Thursday : 9:30 a.m.-9 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

Harmony Library

4616 S. Shields

Monday – Thursday: 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Friday: 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Saturday: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.

Sunday: 1-5 p.m.

RESTORED BOOK DROPS

You can once again return materials to the public library via convenient book drops placed around the community.

■ Albertsons

1636 N. College Avenue

■ Cache La Poudre Elementary/Junior High School

3511 W. County Road 54G

■ Laporte

First National Bank (drive-up)

155 E. Boardwalk Drive

■ Fort Collins Senior Center (drive-up)

1200 Raintree Drive

■ King Soopers at Rigden Farms

2602 Timberline Road



■ Preston Junior High School

4901 Corbett Drive

NEW LOCATION

The District plans to open and operate a new Southeast Branch of the library to serve residents in this growing area. The library is being built as part of the Front Range Village development. Already under construction, Front Range Village will include a new 900,000-square-foot shopping center located at the northwest corner of Ziegler and Harmony roads. The development will combine elements of a "lifestyle center" with big-box stores such as Lowe's and Super Target. The center is expected to open in July 2008.

OTHER SERVICES

With the formation of the Fort Collins Regional Library District, you'll also experience improved programs for children, teens and adults and have access to additional library materials.

For more information about the Fort Collins Regional Library District, visit fcgov.com/library or call 221-6526.

Protect Your Identity

Identity theft is becoming one of the fastest-growing crimes. Last year, the Federal Trade Commission received more than 680,000 complaints of identity theft. Despite your best efforts to manage your personal information, skilled identity thieves may still gain access to your personal data. Fort Collins Police Services provide these tips to help you protect your identity and avoid becoming a victim of identity theft.

TIPS TO PROTECT YOUR IDENTITY

- Never give your credit card number or other personal information on the phone, through the mail, or over the Internet unless you have initiated the contact or you are sure you know who you are dealing with.
- When you order new checks, consider removing extra information such as your social security number, drivers license number, middle name and telephone number.
- Check your credit history and bank records frequently. Look for signs of inaccurate or suspicious activity.
- Keep detailed and accurate records of your banking, check writing, credit card and ATM usage.
- Ensure that carbons on credit card receipts are destroyed.
- Shred or completely destroy any items with personal information or identifiers, such as address, date of birth, social security number, drivers license or identification card number and account number(s), rather than discarding them in the trash.
- Do not carry extra credit cards, your social security card, birth certificate or passport in your wallet or purse, except when needed.
- Cancel your cellular phone account or long distance calling card if it has been stolen or you discover fraudulent charges in your bills.