

Wade O. Troxell
City Council, District 4
Biosketch

A lifelong resident of Fort Collins, Wade used to ride his bike to City Hall to watch his father on City Council. He served as “Mayor for the Day” when he was 15 years old. Now he continues that tradition in serving the citizens of Fort Collins looking to provide the leadership necessary that has made Fort Collins the “choice city.” Wade was elected to City Council in April 2007 representing District 4.

Wade and Jean, his wife of 27 years, have two children; his son is a freshman at Colorado State University and his daughter is a junior at Rocky Mountain High School. He is a proud graduate of Poudre School District attending Dunn Elementary, Lincoln Junior High, and Poudre High School. Wade was named “honor alum” at Poudre High School in 1993. Wade went to CSU on a football scholarship majoring in Engineering Science, was starting offensive center for three years, and was voted co-captain his senior year.

As a true student athlete Wade went on to earn his BS, MS and Ph.D. degrees in engineering from Colorado State University. He was a NATO Post Doctoral Fellow at Edinburgh University and has been on the faculty in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at CSU since 1985.

This past year, he received Oliver P. Pennock Distinguished Service Awards recognizing meritorious and outstanding achievement over a five-year period by members of the academic faculty at CSU. His research interests include autonomous robotics, intelligent control of distributed energy systems, and the product realization process. For his professional and academic contributions to society, Wade was elected a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, a recognition bestowed on less than two percent of ASME members. Also this past year, he received his second ASME Distinguishing Service Award at the conclusion of his term as Senior Vice President of the 120,000 member professional organization.

Today, Wade is at the heart of the public-private partnerships that are bringing the high-paying, clean jobs of the future to Fort Collins. As Associate Dean for Research and Economic Development at CSU in the College of Engineering, he is responsible for the college’s research, workforce development, and economic development initiatives.

Wade co-founded the Northern Colorado Clean Energy Cluster, an economic development partnership between the university and community leaders in Northern Colorado to create and promote clean, renewable energy opportunities that can help increase the region’s energy independence. He represents CSU as the institutional coordinator to the Colorado Renewable Energy Collaboratory. Being involved since its inception, the Collaboratory brings together the enormous capabilities and resources at Colorado’s research institutions and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory to provide clean and renewable energy resources for future generations.

Wade has actually started successful companies and created high tech jobs in the clean energy technology sector. Wade has forged ties between the research laboratories at CSU and the opportunity to be entrepreneurial in the private sector in providing solutions that can have a global impact.

Fort Collins is not an island; issues such as transportation, air quality, land use, water storage and the overall economic health of Fort Collins all depend upon regional solutions and cooperation. We will need to work cooperatively with our neighboring communities so we can affect the best long term outcome for Fort Collins.

In partnership with Colorado State University, Wade sees our future depends on our ability to create and attract financial investment and sustainable growth in the clean energy, health care, environmental, and information technology industries. These technology-based industries will be the economic driver for Fort Collins and Northern Colorado in the future.

Updated September 15, 2008