

The following Ordinance placing a proposed Charter amendment on the November 8, 2022 Special City Election ballot was adopted by the Council on final reading on July 5, 2022. Proposed amendments to the current language in the Charter are shown on the next page. Text with a line through the middle indicates language that will be deleted if the amendment is approved by the voters. Text that is highlighted in yellow indicates new language that will be added to the Charter if the amendment is approved by the voters.

ORDINANCE NO. 082, 2022
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
SUBMITTING TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF FORT
COLLINS A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II OF THE CITY CHARTER
CONCERNING COMPENSATION OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBERS OF THE
CITY OF FORT COLLINS

WHEREAS, Article IV, Section 8 of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins (the “Charter”) provides that the Charter may be amended as provided by the laws of the State of Colorado; and

WHEREAS, Section 31-2-210, Colorado Revised Statutes, provides that Charter amendments may be initiated by the adoption of an ordinance by the City Council submitting a proposed amendment to a vote of the registered electors of the City of Fort Collins; and

WHEREAS, on May 17, 2022, the City Council adopted on second reading Ordinance No. 056, 2022, calling a special municipal election (“November Election”) to be held in conjunction with the November 8, 2022, Larimer County General Election; and

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Article II of the Charter concerns the compensation for the mayor and members of City Council and was last updated in 1997; and

WHEREAS, City Council has prioritized increasing participation by the Fort Collins community in City government, and particularly increasing opportunities to influence City policy such as through City boards and commissions and through service on City Council; and

WHEREAS, the increasing size of Fort Collins and the growing complexity of matters coming before the City Council have resulted in gradual growth in the time required to fulfill the role of Councilmember; and

WHEREAS, the City Council is of the opinion that the substantial time commitment required to carry out the roles of mayor, mayor pro tem and councilmember could pose a barrier for many in the community and that adequate compensation for service on Council will enable more members of the Fort Collins community to afford to serve in elective office on Council; and

WHEREAS, the objective of the City Council is to make the opportunity to serve on Council more practically available for those for whom the demands of the role would exact too great a cost, and to minimize compensation as a barrier to service on the City Council; and

WHEREAS, the Council’s intent in adopting this Ordinance is to present to the City’s electorate at the November Election, through the ballot title set in Section 3 of this Ordinance, a proposed amendment to Article II of the City Charter that would, if adopted, increase the compensation for the mayor and city councilmembers effective January 1, 2023; and

WHEREAS, accordingly, the City Council desires to submit to the Fort Collins electors the Charter amendment below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That the following proposed changes to Section 3 of Article II of the City Charter, modifying the compensation for the mayor and councilmembers, shall be submitted to the registered electors of the City as “Proposed Charter Amendment No. 1” at the November Election:

ARTICLE II. CITY COUNCIL

Section 3. Compensation of members.

(a) For the purpose of this Section, *Area Median Income* shall mean Area Median Income for a single-person household for the Fort Collins/Loveland Metropolitan Statistical Area, as determined and adjusted annually by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

(b) Commencing in 2023, the compensation for members of the City Council shall be five hundred dollars (\$500.) per month and the compensation of the Mayor shall be seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750.) per month. These amounts shall be adjusted annually thereafter for inflation in accordance with the Denver/Boulder Consumer Price Index. shall be paid biweekly and adjusted annually as follows:

(1) For the Mayor: seventy-five percent (75%) of Area Median Income.

(2) For the Mayor Pro Tem: sixty percent (60%) of Area Median Income.

(3) For all other Councilmembers: fifty percent (50%) of Area Median Income.

(c) Although members of City Council are generally not considered City employees, compensation for service on City Council shall include the option to participate in the City organization’s healthcare-related benefits, on the same terms those benefits are available to City employees.

Section 3. That the following ballot title, with its title and submission clause, is hereby adopted for submitting Proposed Charter Amendment No. 1 to the voters at the November Election:

**CITY-INITIATED
PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENT NO. 1
(Council Compensation)**

Shall Section 3 of Article II of the Charter of the City of Fort Collins, regarding compensation for the Mayor and City Councilmembers, be amended to provide:

- the Mayor will receive seventy-five percent (75%),
- the Mayor Pro Tem will receive sixty percent (60%), and
- all other Councilmembers will receive fifty percent (50%),

of the Area Median Income for the Fort Collins/Loveland area for a single-person household, adjusted annually;

And to further provide that all Councilmembers, while not employees, will be entitled to opt into the City organization's healthcare-related benefits, on the same terms those benefits are available to City employees?

____ Yes/For
____ No/Against

Section 4. That pursuant to Section 31-2-210(4) of the Colorado Revised Statutes, the City Clerk is directed to publish in the *Coloradoan* a notice of the City's November 8, 2022, special election coordinated with Larimer County and to include in that notice the full text of the proposed amendments to Charter Article II, Section 3, as stated in this Ordinance. Such notice is to be published within thirty (30) days of the adoption of this Ordinance and not less than sixty (60) days nor more than one hundred twenty (120) days before said election.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading and ordered published this 21st day of June, A.D. 2022, and to be presented for final passage on the 5th day of July, A.D. 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading this 5th day of July, A.D. 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk