

# LISA CUNNINGHAM

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Anissa Hollingshead, City Clerk  
City of Fort Collins  
300 Laporte Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80522

REC'D BY CITY CLERK  
DEC 6 '23 PM 2:05

Dear Ms. Hollingshead,

I'm am writing to protest the validity of the petition submitted on November 28, 2023 to prevent Ordinance No. 136, 2023 (The Land Use Code) from going into effect next month. I am filing this protest on two grounds: 1) the petitioners did not follow the City's rules to provide a physical, bound copy of the Ordinance to the public at all signing events, and 2) this petition process duplicates an earlier petition that was already publicly vetted and decided upon by City Council, and is an abuse of the petition process in itself.

## 1. Bound Copy Requirement

Per the City Clerk's *Protest and Referendum Process Memo* dated October 27, 2023, the petitioners were required to exhibit a bound document of the Land Use Code whenever they solicit signatures for all potential signers to review for themselves. I was not given this opportunity the week before Thanksgiving, when a female Fort Collins Preserve petitioner came to my door at 612 Smith Street bearing only the petition on a clipboard for me to sign, with no bound Land Use Code document in hand. In addition, on Sunday November 26<sup>th</sup>, I was outside of the Old Town library where the Preserve Fort Collins solicitors had set up a petition table, with no copies of the Land Use Code ordinance available for me to review. I am also attaching several photos posted by Preserve Fort Collins on their own Facebook page showing similar tables around town with no ordinance copies visible. The absence of this document violates the rules of the petition process, as well as the spirit of providing accurate information and facts to citizens about the ordinance.

## 2. Duplication of a Previous, Almost Identical Petition

The petition made against the current Land Use Code, is a repeat of the one submitted a year ago by the same group on this very topic in November 2022.

After the City Council repealed the Land Use Code in January 2023 in response to the last petition, City staff spent over six months of time, resources, and money to solicit input from the community. Through this extensive process, City staff made concessions and incorporated changes that were raised from citizens via surveys, workshops, public meetings, and walking tours. On October 17, when the City Council re-adopted the Land Use Code with these changes, this petition process reached its natural conclusion

from a fully publicly vetted process. The City Council chose to adopt the Land Use Code, and it should stand.

As a citizen of Fort Collins, I am concerned that in this case the petition process is being used as a tactic to stonewall our City Council's decisions. The current petition is a manipulation of the City's democratic referendum process.

Certifying a petition which simply recycles identical grievances from a year ago, sets a dangerous precedent with dire implications for how our City can conduct its business in the future.

For these two reasons, I ask that you reject this petition.

Sincerely,

*Lisa Cunningham*  
Lisa Cunningham

*Lisa Cunningham*



State of Colorado

County of LARIMER

Signed and sworn to [or affirmed] before me on DECEMBER 6, 20 23  
by LISA MARIE CUNNINGHAM (name(s) of individual(s) making statement).

*Heather Hallberg*

(Notary's official signature)

PUBLIC NOTARY

(Title of office)

FEB. 16, 2027

(Commission Expiration)









