



## About the Lose-A-Watt Energy Prize

By competing in Georgetown University's energy efficiency competition, Fort Collins aimed to double its community energy savings through efficiency – based on 2013-2014 baseline numbers – by the end of 2016.

Using a revamped website for FortZED, social media marketing and a focus on K-12 education and engagement, the city focused on efficiency through electricity and natural gas for residential, municipal buildings and K-12 sector.



### ***How did it help?***

Through competition efforts, the participating sectors reduced overall energy use by 5.4% over the two years - enough to power 9,800 homes for one year. Increased energy efficiency helps the Fort Collins community in many ways including saving \$2.9 million in energy cost, reduced resource demand, and improving comfort for building occupants.

### ***How did Fort Collins do?***

Fort Collins was awarded second place among the competing 50 U.S. communities with Fargo, N.D. coming in 1st place. Top-10 competitors were evaluated on community engagement and program replicability.

### ***Why did Fort Collins compete?***

Fort Collins has always loved a challenge, especially when it comes to paving the way to a better future. Competing for \$5 million by reducing our energy use through efficiency aligned very well with many of our community's goals and benefits our citizens. Advancing energy efficiency practices helps our community save money, reduce overall energy use and demand on the generation system and live in more comfortable homes.

### ***How was this competition judged?***

To reach the finalist round, Fort Collins had to be one of the top performing communities for energy use reduction. The metric for the competition was overall electricity and natural gas use for 2015 and 2016 for the residential, municipal and education (K-12) sectors, based on 2013-2014 baseline years.

### ***FortZED is mentioned on the website and other materials.***

#### ***What is FortZED and what is the connection to the competition?***

FortZED was a community-based initiative that is a collaboration of the city of Fort Collins, Colorado State University and the Colorado Clean Energy Cluster. FortZED began in 2008, initially formed through UniverCity Connections, to develop a zero-energy district in Fort Collins. It grew to be a city-wide effort to pioneer energy solutions to help meet our community's economic and environmental goals. Having its roots in community engagement, the energy prize competition was well suited as a FortZED project. FortZED objectives focused on promoting energy efficiency, innovation and replicable approaches that can be scaled in communities around the world. After many years of successful collaboration, the FortZED partnership dissolved in 2017. Its partners continue to work together in other ways to promote the Fort Collins Climate Action Plan and progress toward a carbon neutral community.



## Available Resources

While the competition is over, residents can still use its resources to reduce their energy consumption and improve energy efficiency:

- Register for Monitor My Use, a free online tool to manage your electric use at [fcgov.com/monitor-my-use](http://fcgov.com/monitor-my-use)
- Sign up for a free energy assessment through Larimer County at [larimerworkforce.org/energy](http://larimerworkforce.org/energy)
- Fort Collins Utilities electric customers can participate in efficiency and rebate programs to help pay for upgrades for insulation, lighting, heating and cooling, refrigeration and more. Find more information at [fcgov.com/utilities/residential/conserve](http://fcgov.com/utilities/residential/conserve)

For general inquiries about FortZED, please contact Katy McLaren at 970.221.6317 or send an email to [kmclaren@fcgov.com](mailto:kmclaren@fcgov.com).

To learn more about Georgetown University's energy efficiency competition, please click [HERE](#).

