

2013 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



City Hall Workers, 1957
Fort Collins Local History Archive H05379

#1 place to work
on the Front Range

97%

rated Fort Collins
as a good or very
good place to live.

92%

rated the overall
quality of life in
Fort Collins as good
or very good.

87%

rated the overall quality
of City services as good
or very good.

(Much higher than national
and Front Range benchmarks)

City Government rated much above national
and Front Range benchmarks in the following areas:
Safe City • Welcome Community Involvement
Business Friendly • Accepting of all Citizens

– All data taken from the 2013 Citizen Survey



Letter from the Mayor and City Manager

Dear Citizens,

Fort Collins is a fantastic place to live, work and play. Nearly everyone can agree on that. But what makes Fort Collins uniquely “Fort Collins?” Is it the endless sunny days, the Rocky Mountains as a backdrop, the miles of trails or perhaps the history of innovation?

While the answer is “yes” to all of the above, the real reason our town is so great is you! In the past 15 decades our community has cared enough to intentionally create a place that’s vibrant and thriving and yet retains a refreshing charm.

Fort Collins has much to celebrate. This year marks the 150th anniversary of our town. Following a flood in 1864, what was known as Camp Collins, a military outpost, moved down river to higher ground. Now, 150 years later we celebrate that historical event, our rich heritage and our successful accomplishments as a community.

It is notable that our town was shaped out of a flood 150 years ago, as we also faced and overcame historic rains and floods this past year. Like our forefathers, our caring community joined together to rise above the natural challenges and help our neighbors.

As a City and as a community, we’ve made great strides throughout our history and we can certainly be proud of what we’ve accomplished this past year. We also recognize that there is always more to do. Like the flowing water of the Poudre River that energizes and sustains Fort Collins, our city is in constant motion. Together, we will continue to show the citizens of today as well as future generations that we are a community that cares about our history, our surroundings and our people.

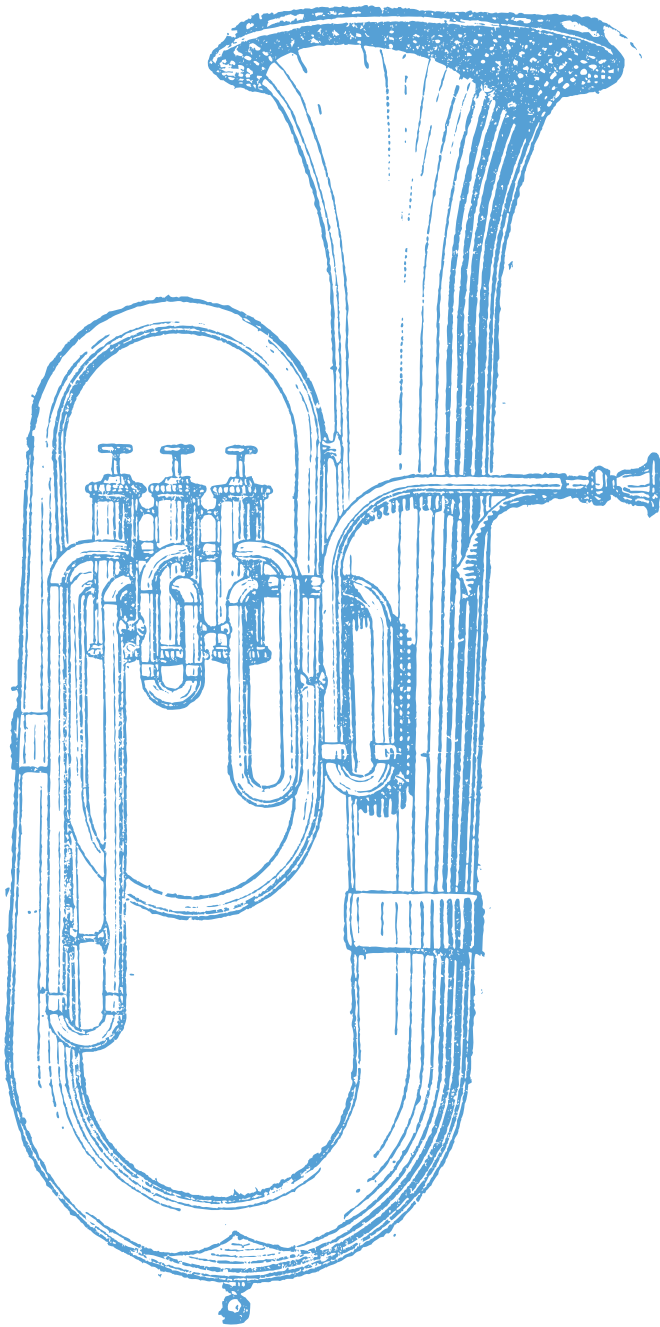
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Karen Weiskunst".

Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "D. M.", with a stylized flourish at the end.

City Manager



The quality of cultural and recreational opportunities in Fort Collins is much above the national and Front Range comparisons.

Nine in 10 rated the quality of recreational opportunities as good or very good.

Culture & Recreation

FC 150 In honor of Fort Collins' sesquicentennial, the Museum of Discovery is planning a special exhibit that presents the stories that have shaped Fort Collins. A "living time capsule" will be curated throughout 2014 so future

generations can know what makes Fort Collins unique in 2014.

Senior Center The Senior Center is expanding to accommodate our active adult population. The expansion will create an additional 17,000

square feet, adding multi-purpose rooms, a cardio-fitness room, a dance and exercise studio, additional storage space, a larger lobby and social cafe, a wellness center, new administration space, and more parking.

Fort Collins Museum of Discovery In its first year the museum was a resounding success, as more than 114,000 residents and visitors took in the array of exhibits from The Music Garage to the Otterbox Digital Dome Theatre.

Fort Collins has a healthy, sustainable economy reflecting community values.

Out of 30 Front Range communities Fort Collins ranks **first as a place to work.**

72% of residents say that Fort Collins supports businesses (up from 65% last year).



Economic Health

Foothills Mall Redevelopment

Construction on the Foothills Mall is underway now that the City of Fort Collins and Walton Foothills Holdings VI LLC have signed a redevelopment agreement to clean up blight and improve the property's public infrastructure.

Midtown Fort Collins In

October, City Council adopted the Midtown Plan, which will help establish guidelines for future redevelopment of a major economic engine in the city. Midtown promises to be a bustling, vibrant core of the community.

Woodward Construction of

the new 101-acre Woodward Technology Center campus began in the fall of 2013 on the site of the former Link-N-Greens golf course. The legacy project supports the City's desire to retain and grow primary employers.

Environmental Health

Climate Preparedness and Resilience Task Force

President Barack Obama named Fort Collins Mayor Karen Weitkunat to the Task Force on Climate Preparedness and Resilience. The Task Force is advising about how to best prepare communities for the

impacts of climate change, including modernizing federal grant and loan programs to more effectively support local efforts.

Road to Zero Waste In October 2013, civic and industry leaders from around the world converged in Fort Collins to

promote the creation of net zero energy, carbon and water communities at the Net Zero Cities conference.

Advanced Meter Fort Collins

The Advanced Meter Fort Collins project leverages new technology and communications systems

to allow customers to manage their electric consumption, and Fort Collins Utilities to optimize system operations. Meter installation was completed in 2013, and the customer web portal will be available in early 2014.

92% of residents say that Fort Collins has a good or very good quality of the environment.

90% of residents say that Fort Collins has good or very good air quality (up from 84% last year).



Neighborhood & Community Livability

Adopt-A-Neighbor Program

The program, which matches volunteers with disabled or elderly neighbors who need assistance with snow shoveling, had 57 matches and 11 pending requests in 2013.

Fall Clean-Up Program This collaboration between the City

of Fort Collins' Neighborhood Services and CSU's Off-Campus Life had record numbers of volunteers and projects again in 2013. United Way and Faith E. Free Church also partnered with this event. Roughly 1,200 student and staff volunteers assisted with

210 yard clean-up projects, focusing on elderly and disabled residents, resulting in nearly 3,300 bags of leaves composted.

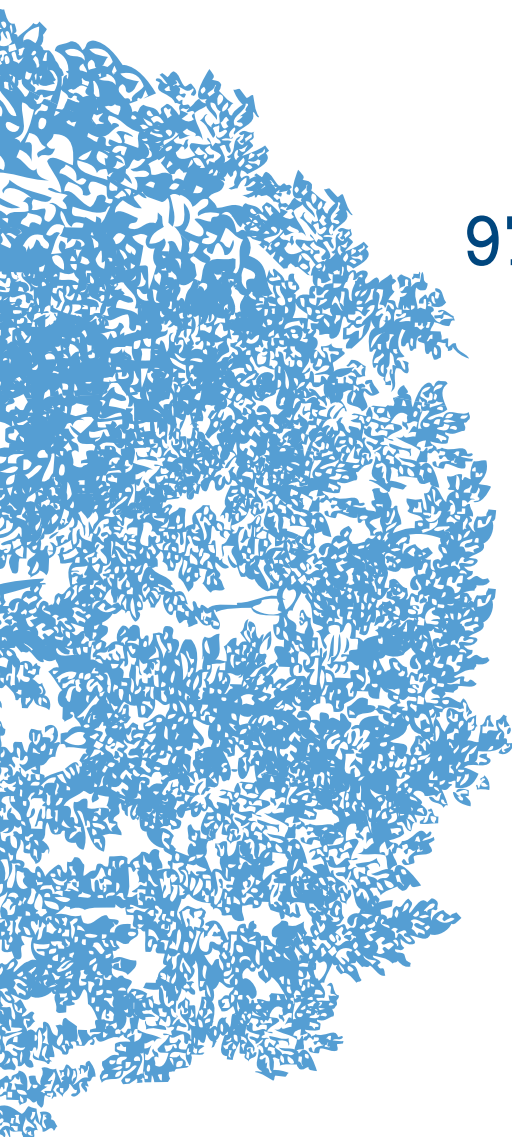
Community Welcome Fort Collins Police Services and Neighborhood Services visited more than 1,700 homes close

to the CSU campus welcoming students. They checked in with residents, provided useful information about the Fort Collins community and encouraged good neighboring.

92% of residents say that Fort Collins is a good or very good place to raise children.

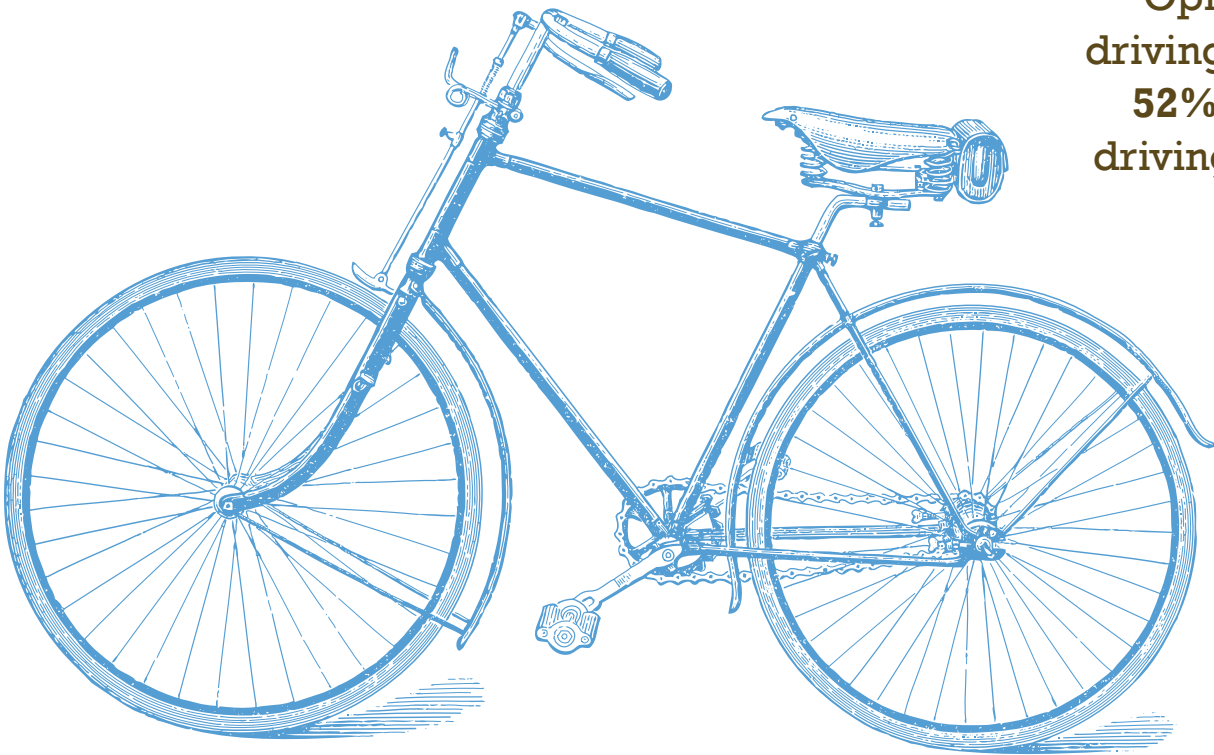
97% rated Fort Collins as a good or very good place to live.

Nine in 10 residents give positive reviews to the community's visual attractiveness.



83% of residents say
that traveling by bike
in Fort Collins is
good or very good.

Opinions about
driving are mixed;
52% say ease of
driving is good or
very good.



Transportation

MAX Bus Rapid Transit A new era of public transportation will commence this spring along the Mason Corridor as MAX starts rolling. The new arterial that is already spurring business through the core of the city extends from Harmony Road to Downtown Fort

Collins, offering service every 10 minutes.

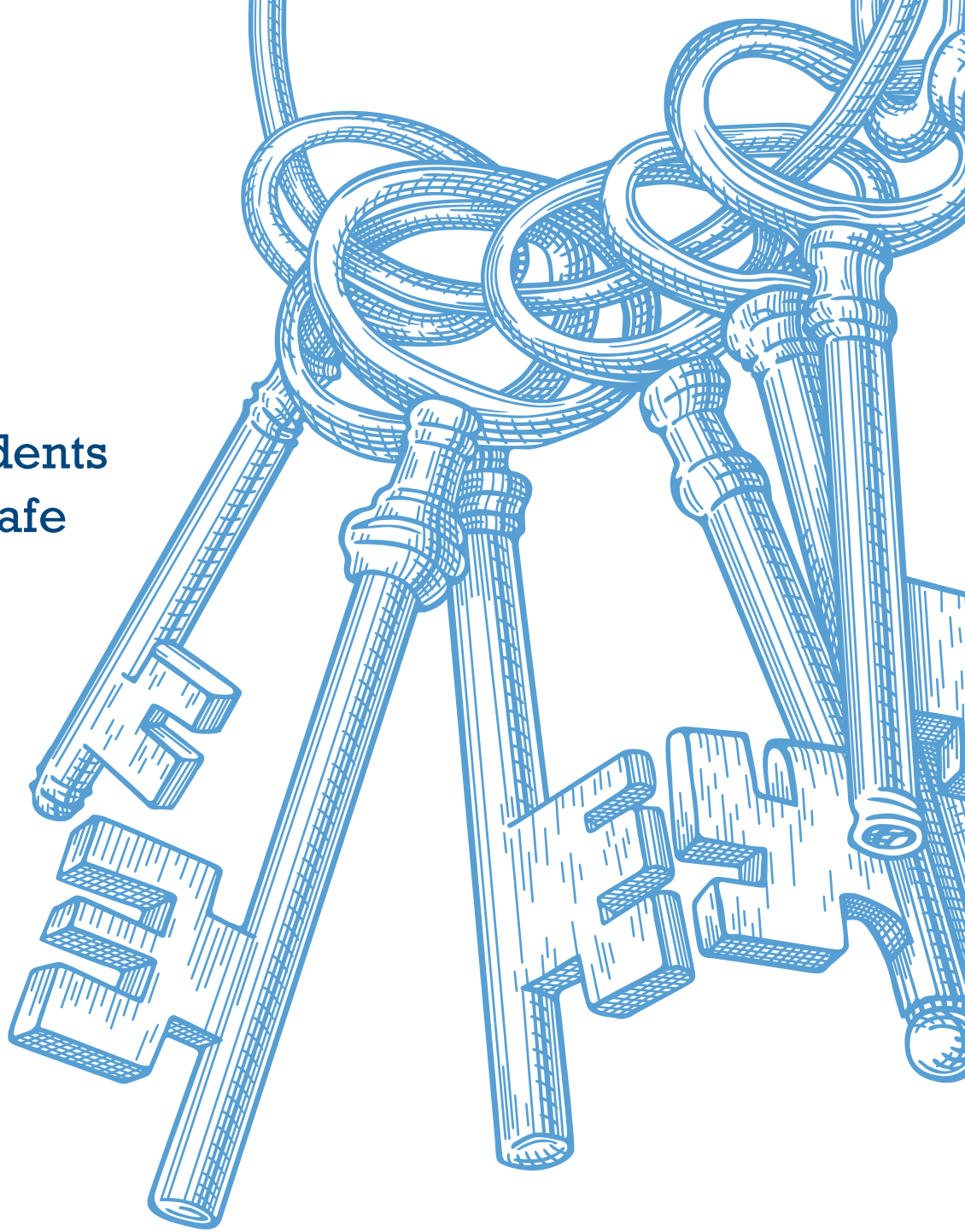
Street Maintenance Program (SMP) The SMP performed maintenance on 38 miles of streets in 2013; repaired more than 19,000 linear feet of concrete curb, gutter and

sidewalk; and installed 120 pedestrian access ramps.

Platinum Bicycle Friendly Community The League of American Bicyclists announced Fort Collins as a Bicycle Friendly Community with Platinum designation.

Nine in 10 residents said they feel safe in Fort Collins.

(Well above national and Front Range benchmarks)



Safety

100-Year Anniversary The community joined Fort Collins Police Services in celebrating its 100-Year Anniversary. A variety of activities commemorated this historic event. The legacy of Fort Collins Police Services was honored in the City's 4th of July parade with Police Chief John Hutto as the Grand Marshall.

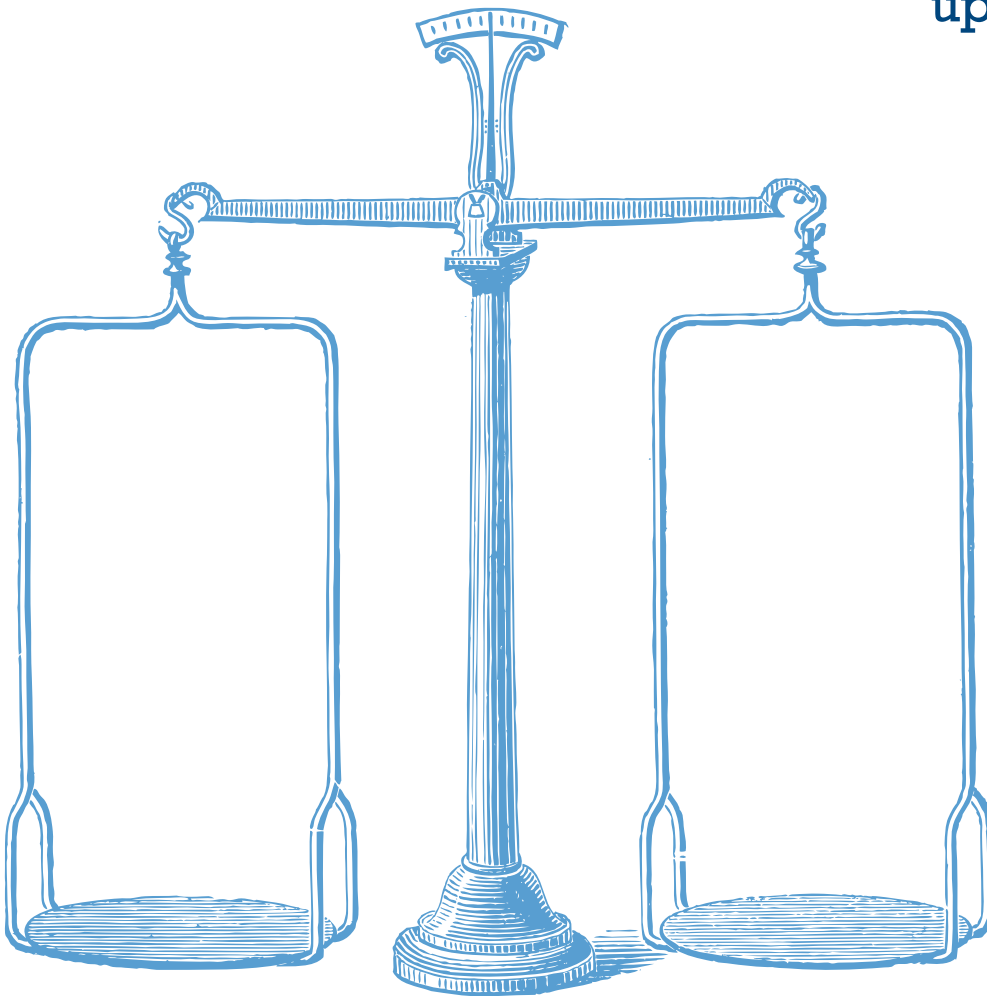
September Flooding Heavy rains in early September led to unprecedented flooding in 17 Colorado counties. During and after the flood, staff from Utilities, Police Services, Poudre Fire Authority, Streets, Engineering, Parks, Communications and others responded quickly to keep residents safe and informed,

and to monitor water quality. In addition, the City provided assistance to neighboring communities who sustained greater damage.

National Prescription Drug Take-Back Police partnered with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration twice in 2013 for the National Prescription

Drug Take-Back Day event. They collected nearly 1,967 pounds of unneeded and expired over-the-counter and prescription medications.

70% of residents say the overall direction of the city is good or very good, up from 54% in 2008.



High Performing Government

Strategic Plan The City conducted outreach to the community through the 2013 Citizen Survey, community conversations and online dialogue, gathering information to help update the City's strategic plan.

Performance Measurement The City, using its innovative online Community Performance Measurement Dashboard, is providing transparency about the progress of its objectives.

Budgeting for Outcomes The City is preparing for its 2014–2015 biennial budget by ensuring that we put the citizens and their priorities first, rather than the status quo.



Community Awards 2013

Timberline Award

Rocky Mountain Performance Excellence – December 2013

2nd Best Place for Job Seekers in Colorado

NerdWallet – December 2013

2013 Best Towns in America

Outside Magazine – October 2013

Gold Level Certification

for Utilities' Water Treatment Plant and Drake Water Reclamation Facility: State of Colorado's Environmental Leadership Program – October 2013

Safest Driving City in America

Allstate America's Best Drivers Report:
Allstate Insurance Company – August 2013

#7 Best Places for Business and Careers

Forbes – August 2013

#2 of Top 10 Metro Areas for High-Tech Startup Density

Kauffman Foundation – August 2013

Platinum Bicycle Friendly Community

League of American Bicyclists – May 2013

Gold Level Certification

Solar Friendly Communities – April 2013

2012 Tree City USA

The Arbor Day Foundation – April 2013

Robert Havlick Award for Innovation in Local Government

Alliance For Innovation – March 2013

4th Healthiest Mid-Size City in the U.S.

2012 Gallup-Healthways Survey – February 2013



Horsetooth Rock, Circa 1930
Fort Collins Local History Archive H02679

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City Council and City Manager



Karen Weitkunat
Mayor



Gerry Horak
Mayor Pro Tem, District 6



Bob Overbeck
District 1



Lisa Poppaw
District 2



Gino Campana
District 3



Wade Troxell
District 4



Ross Cunniff
District 5



Darin Atteberry
City Manager

