

RESOLUTION 2014-098  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
ESTABLISHING PRIORITY ACTIONS TO CREATE  
ZERO WASTE IN FORT COLLINS

WHEREAS, on December 17, 2013, the City Council adopted Resolution 2013-011, establishing a waste diversion policy with the ultimate goal of achieving zero waste (“Zero Waste goals”); and

WHEREAS, the City Council recognizes the importance of prolonging the life span of the Larimer County Landfill, now estimated at 10 years, through waste diversion measures to further delay its closure; and

WHEREAS, the City Council further recognizes that increased and sustained waste reduction and recycling have direct economic and environmental benefits to the local and global community; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to proceed with implementing waste reduction strategies that systematically address the flow of waste materials in the community; and

WHEREAS, waste streams, and facilities for managing them, are regional in nature, and thus, regional partnerships and systems are important to create; and

WHEREAS, City Plan policy ENV 15.5 calls for applying a systems-based approach to managing waste materials that flow into the community, as well as their post-consumer destinations, in order to establish alternatives to landfill disposal; and

WHEREAS, City Plan policy ENV 15.6 calls for an analysis of life-cycle costs and benefits by viewing the generation of discards, by-products, and waste materials, and techniques for managing these resources as an integrated system in order to put materials to their highest and best reuse; and

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the City Council that the City focus on measures other than fees or taxes on disposable bags, in order to advance its Zero Waste goals through other means; and

WHEREAS, the City Council wishes to operationalize the vision articulated in the Zero Waste goals and sketched out in the Road to Zero Waste plan by taking a three-pronged approach to: a) identify near-term concrete steps towards Fort Collins’ zero waste objectives for 2030; b) foster regional discussions and partnerships; and c) further investigate waste stream flows and energy-related opportunities.

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

Section 1. That the City Council hereby directs the City Manager to take specific short-term steps toward reducing and preventing waste, by:

- a. Expanding communitywide awareness of measures to prevent waste from being created;
- b. Subject to funding approval, constructing a Community Recycling Center by December 31, 2016, that offers a one-stop shop for recycling and addresses hard-to-recycle materials, including batteries, antifreeze, oil and pant;
- c. Presenting for Council consideration, as soon as practical, a "universal recycling ordinance" that would improve access to recycling and organics (compostable materials) collection for all residents and businesses;
- d. Developing a program for recycling certain types of disposable containers and packaging materials; and
- e. Advancing the organizational readiness of the City to engage in waste-to-clean energy practices.

Section 2. That the City Council hereby directs the City Manager to take steps toward reducing and preventing regional waste generation by:

- a. Convening a regional materials management roundtable group to discuss regional treatment facilities and systems, including exploration of:
  - i. Options for funding construction of an organics (compostable materials) transfer station, and develop an implementation plan;
  - ii. A construction and demolition sorting and recycling facility; and
  - iii. A "reuse warehouse."
- b. Assisting Colorado State University's efforts to research and develop innovative waste conversion systems/facilities; and
- c. Working through the City's Economic Health and Environmental Services Departments with regional businesses to:
  - i. Support by-product reuse within regional business clusters; and
  - ii. Help evaluate and assess the potential for industrial symbiosis in Fort Collins and Northern Colorado.

Section 3. That the City Council hereby directs the City Manager to systematically evaluate waste materials using Sustainable Materials Management ("SMM") principles by:

- a. Applying the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's newly emerging SMM principles as part of a systems approach in order to evaluate and prioritize a variety of new programs for the City to implement; and

b. Identifying specific sub-streams of materials being generated in the community to evaluate optimal waste management systems and specific types of technology to be developed.

Section 4. That the City Council hereby directs the City Manager to develop viable options for additional revenue streams or a budget mechanism to fund ongoing projects and new initiatives to help the community to reach its Zero Waste goals.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 21st day of October, A.D. 2014.

ATTEST:

Wanda Nelson  
City Clerk



Ken Weikert  
Mayor