

Karen Weitkunat, Mayor
Kelly Ohlson, District 5, Mayor Pro Tem
Ben Manvel, District 1
Lisa Poppaw, District 2
Aislinn Kottwitz, District 3
Wade Troxell, District 4
Gerry Horak, District 6

Council Information Center
City Hall West
300 LaPorte Avenue
Fort Collins, Colorado

Cablecast on City Cable Channel 14
on the Comcast cable system

Darin Atteberry, City Manager
Steve Roy, City Attorney
Wanda Nelson, City Clerk

The City of Fort Collins will make reasonable accommodations for access to City services, programs, and activities and will make special communication arrangements for persons with disabilities. Please call 221-6515 (TDD 224-6001) for assistance.

WORK SESSION

December 11, 2012

6 p.m.

1. Call Meeting to Order.
2. Student Housing Action Plan. (staff: Beth Sowder, Laurie Kadrich, Seth Lorson; 1 hour discussion)

The purpose of this work session item is to discuss housing needs, data, and draft action items that were derived from several months of working with participating stakeholders regarding the Student Housing Action Plan. Council feedback will be sought regarding draft action items and the timeline to move forward.

The Student Housing Action Plan project has involved working with Colorado State University, Front Range Community College, neighbors, students, developers, and other stakeholders to identify strategies and recommend action items to address the increasing need for multi-family student housing and the potential negative impacts and compatibility concerns to existing neighborhoods. Feedback received through the public engagement process has driven the proposed draft action items.

3. Paved Trail Study. (staff: Marty Heffernan; 45 minute discussion)

City Council requested staff undertake a trail study and develop a long-range plan for our paved trail system. Staff formed a trail team to review best practices and collect information about trail use, trail users and trail improvements. The team deployed automatic trail counters at 11 locations, and utilized volunteers to count trail users at 10 locations on 9 different days and to interview 588 trail users. Staff also developed and promoted an online trail questionnaire, which generated 541 responses.

Staff learned trails are important to resident's quality of life and there is a high level of satisfaction with the trail system. The trails are very well used but are not generally congested, they are well maintained, and the 10-foot wide concrete trail standard is working well. Citizens want more trails, more underpasses, and gaps in the trail system completed. Users want trails to be scenic and close to nature. Trail users are courteous and people generally feel safe on the trails. Bicyclists outnumber pedestrians (70/30) and males outnumber females (61/39).

4. FortZED. (staff: Bruce Hendee, Steve Catanach, Katy Bigner; 30 minute discussion)

FortZED (Zero Energy District) is a community-driven initiative to create one of the world's largest net zero energy districts in Fort Collins. The mission of FortZED is to transform the downtown area of Fort Collins and the main campus of Colorado State University (CSU) into a zero energy district- by reducing the amount of energy used, plus generating as much renewable energy locally as is used on an annual basis. For FortZED, public and private cooperation is a key to success. The FortZED initiative has a long standing history of collaboration and partnership with a diverse group of regional and international organizations, private enterprise, public organizations, and passionate individuals. The supporting project partners include: City of Fort Collins, Colorado Clean Energy Cluster (CCEC), Colorado State University-Main Campus (CSU) and its Engines and Energy Conversion Laboratory, Brendle Group, Woodward, Spirae, New Belgium Brewing, and many others.

This visionary project will help prove out the concepts, pathways and technologies to achieve both the carbon reduction and energy goals established by City Council. FortZED offers many benefits to the community and region, supporting a progressive utility, fostering local innovation, entrepreneurship, economic health, climate change mitigation and support for local innovative energy technology companies.

The substantial public recognition FortZED has received demonstrates that the vision of creating zero energy cities is an important issue, not only for Fort Collins, but for the state, the nation and internationally. The work of FortZED is a leading edge effort that partners the City, University, community and the business world to create a replicable model that can be used around the world.

5. Other Business.

6. Adjournment.