

# AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

September 3, 2019

City Council

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## STAFF

Caroline Mitchell, Environmental Planner  
Ingrid Decker, Legal

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## SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 109, 2019 Appropriating Prior Year Reserves in the General Fund for the Waste Innovation Program.

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to move \$51,275 accumulated during 2018 in the Waste Innovation Fund account into the City's General Fund account for approved projects to develop new organizational processes that enable departments to divert more waste material from landfill disposal.

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

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## BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

The City Manager created a General Fund reserve in 2010 to pay for new projects that improve the City's organizational ability to divert waste generated by municipal activities from being disposed in the Larimer County landfill. Discarded material and trash that City crews self-haul to the landfill is charged only 35 cents per cubic yard by Larimer County Solid Waste Department, which is passed through in payment to the state for landfill regulatory management and monitoring programs.

The balance of the regular "tipping fee" at the landfill is placed in the City's Waste Innovation Program (WIP) reserve. WIP funding is received from 15 City departments that self-haul various types of waste to the landfill.

An interdepartmental group of employees participates in reviewing proposals that are received from departments. Members of this group are also "waste reduction champions" throughout the organization and communicate with crews about how to best apply Best Management Practices in City operations.

In 2019, three applications (totaling \$51,275) have been recommended for funding by the interdepartmental team. The projects are:

1. \$1,575 for safety equipment for the compost turner / tractor equipment. The tractor guard will provide additional safety for employees and increase the longevity of this crucial equipment which makes the municipal compost program possible.
2. \$17,500 for scales for street sweepers. The scales will provide important information that will allow for enhanced efficiencies, supporting more waste diversion in the collection of leaves during Operation Clean Sweep, which are then composted in the municipal compost site at Hoffman Mill Crushing Facility.
3. \$32,200 to hire a consulting firm that will develop a plan for further waste reduction opportunities for industrial waste generated from municipal operations. Materials (both landfilled and diverted) generated

from industrial activities from departments such as Light and Power, Streets, and Water Field Operations constitute on average about 97% of the materials generated from the organization, and 40% of the materials generated from the community as a whole. The waste landfilled from the industrial activities represented 11% of the waste landfilled from the Fort Collins community in 2018.

**CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

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The appropriation will make \$51,275 available for emerging City organization waste reduction projects that have been competitively reviewed and awarded, enabling new cost-savings measures to be put into practice throughout the organization.

ORDINANCE NO. 109, 2019  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
APPROPRIATING PRIOR YEAR RESERVES IN THE GENERAL FUND  
FOR THE WASTE INNOVATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, in 2010, the City created the Waste Innovation Program (“WIP”), and revenues collected for the WIP are held in a reserve account in the General Fund; and

WHEREAS, the funds are used to administer grants that allow City departments to initiate new waste diversion and recycling projects with special attention to departments that have larger quantities of waste that is self-hauled to the Larimer County Landfill; and

WHEREAS, an interdepartmental group of employees reviews proposals for incorporating waste reduction, promoting recycling strategies, and awarding funds when requests are received from participating City departments; and

WHEREAS, in 2019 to date three applications have been received (requesting \$51,275 in funding) for projects that will provide equipment to support the City’s composting program at the Hoffman Mill Crushing Facility, provide scales for street sweepers to enhance efficiencies and allow for more waste diversion, and hire a consulting firm to develop a plan for further waste reduction opportunities for waste generated from municipal operations; and

WHEREAS, staff proposals that are submitted to the WIP during the remainder of 2019 will continue to be competitively reviewed, and additional projects that are approved will be eligible for WIP funding; and

WHEREAS, this appropriation benefits public health, safety and welfare of the citizens of Fort Collins and serves the public purpose of encouraging sustainability and reducing the amount of solid waste the City sends to the Larimer County Landfill; and

WHEREAS, Article V, Section 9 of the City Charter permits the City Council to appropriate by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year such funds for expenditure as may be available from reserves accumulated in prior years, notwithstanding that such reserves were not previously appropriated; and

WHEREAS, the City Manager has recommended the appropriation described herein and determined that this appropriation is available and previously unappropriated from the General Fund and will not cause the total amount appropriated in the General Fund to exceed the current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues to be received in that fund during any fiscal year.

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

Section 1. That the City Council hereby makes and adopts the determinations and findings contained in the recitals set forth above.

Section 2. That there is hereby appropriated for expenditure from prior year reserves in the General Fund the sum of FIFTY-ONE THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SEVENTY-FIVE DOLLARS (\$51,275) for waste reduction and diversion projects to be approved as part of the Waste Innovation Program.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading, and ordered published this 3rd day of September, A.D. 2019, and to be presented for final passage on the 17th day of September, A.D. 2019.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

Passed and adopted on final reading on the 17th day of September, A.D. 2019.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk