




Natural Resources  
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Memorandum

Date: September 29, 2011

To: Mayor and City Councilmembers

Thru: Darin Atteberry, City Manager 

From: John Stokes, Director Natural Resources Department

Re: Work Session follow up, September 27, 2011 Poudre River GOCO Grant opportunities

City Council was generally comfortable with the two Poudre River project concepts that were presented by staff.

For the downtown Poudre River project, Council made clear its preference for projects that would enhance or improve the natural environment. In addition, Council recognized the need for recreation facilities that provide a better user experience and that also help protect natural resources. Council expressed concern about making this reach of the river too urban in nature.

Council suggested pursuit of project/ideas to enhance instream flows as well as to build river health in a more systematic, holistic and regionally integrated manner.

Council asked staff to explore and implement best safety practices to ensure the safety of river users.

Council asked staff to consider the idea of co-locating facilities at Arapaho Bend Natural Area and the Harmony Park and Ride. Council discussed the desirability of completing the Laporte to Greeley recreation trail.



## Planning, Development & Transportation

### Executive Offices



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### MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 28, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and City Councilmembers

**THRU:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager   
Diane Jones, Deputy City Manager – Community Services 

**FROM:** Karen Cumbo, Planning, Development & Transportation Director  
Mark Jackson, PDT Budget, Policy & Communications Manager

**RE:** September 27, 2011 Work Session Summary – Transportation Update

PDT Director Karen Cumbo and staff presented information regarding transportation capital projects scheduled for 2011, as well as the significant impact of Keep Fort Collins Great (2B) funds. City Engineer Helen Migchelbrink presented an updated report on the MAX Bus Rapid Transit project, emphasizing that construction is underway and key bids are to be sought later this year and early in 2012. Finally, Transfort General Manager Marlys Sittner presented two issues for Council discussion: a citizen request to extend fixed route and Dial-a-Ride service to the southeast area; and whether to continue advertising on City buses, bus benches, and shelters. Councilmembers Manvel and Kottwitz were not present. The purpose of the capital project, KFCG, and MAX presentations was primarily informational, with no specific questions or feedback requested. Council feedback was requested for the two Transfort items.

#### **Comments, themes, questions, and requests from Council included:**

##### **Capital Projects & KFCG**

- Council asked what lessons were learned from the Linden Streetscape project. (Staff explained lessons learned and how they will be applied to future projects.)
- Council asked that the City publicize and make available to the community the information regarding how KFCG (2B) funds are being spent. (Communications and Public Involvement Office is currently developing a KFCG webpage, complete with project updates.)

##### **MAX**

- Council asked Staff to incorporate urban design and art elements to the Bay Farm Pedestrian Overpass structure.
- Council suggested the City tell the story during construction as to why the structure was necessary and how the design was selected.

- Council asked Staff to give attention to MAX BRT Station Names, including the Downtown and South Transit Centers. If cross street names are critical for emergency response, then please consider “secondary themes”. Examples given included “Aggie Depot” at the CSU University station, and “Spring Creek” at the Bay Farm station.
- Council would like to see BRT Station Artwork and station naming return to a future work session.

### **Transfort Service Expansion Request**

- A Councilmember felt that transit should be added to this area given the recent construction of affordable housing nearby that cannot access transit service.
- Council asked Staff if they had adjusted the current system to maximize efficiency.
- Council wanted to better understand what plans were in place to provide necessary east-west feeder bus service to the MAX BRT line. (Staff to provide Council links to the Transfort Strategic Operating Plan (2009).
- Council asked how MAX riders wishing to cross a busy College Avenue will be safely facilitated.
- Council expressed thanks to the citizens who brought this issue forward for Council’s attention.
- Council expressed support for Transfort’s adopted plans and productivity-oriented service delivery.
- A Councilmember expressed preference for providing service to City residents first before providing service to areas of Larimer County.
- A Councilmember asked the City to meet with CSU Administration to discuss possible funding partnerships to provide transit service to the CSU Foothills Campus area.

### **Council Feedback Given to Staff:**

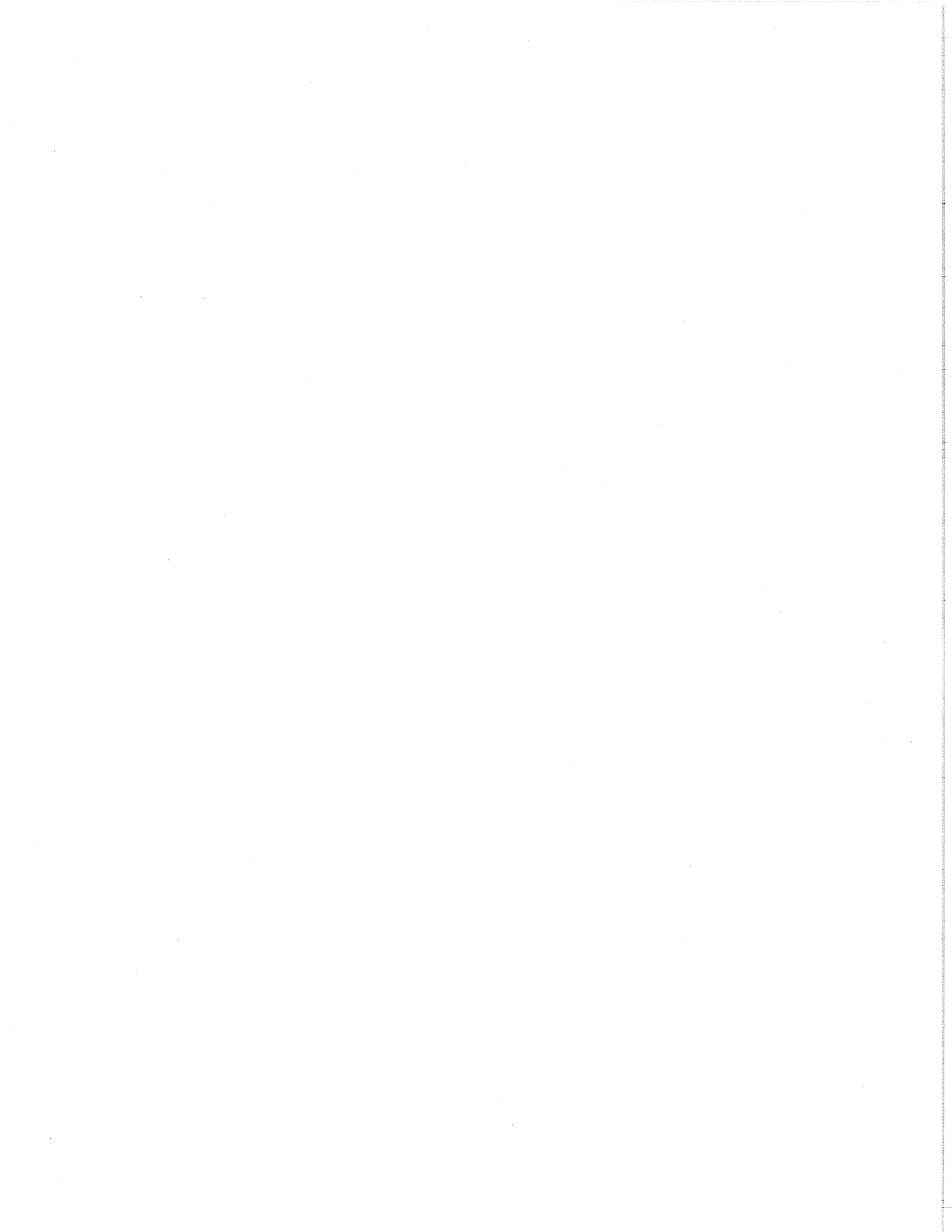
There is some Council interest in this route request, but felt it best to discuss as part of the overall Transfort system needs during the 2013-2014 Budgeting For Outcomes (BFO) process scheduled to begin spring 2012.

### **Transfort Advertising Practices**

- Several Councilmembers advised that Transfort should not change its advertising practices right now, but strongly urged the City to re-examine its overall policy regarding advertising on City equipment and facilities.
- One Councilmember preferred to eliminate advertising now.
- Several Councilmembers expressed concern about apparent inconsistencies in compliance with the Sign Code in terms of advertising on City facilities. (City Manager Atteberry clarified that the City’s Transfort-related advertising is not in violation of the current sign code.)
- Councilmembers discussed the need to weigh public benefit with the aesthetic concerns when addressing this issue.
- A Councilmember asked that Transfort make sure the new advertising contract has early termination provisions should the City decide to change its advertising policy.

**Council Feedback Given to Staff:**

Continue with current Transfort advertising practices. Transfort can proceed with entering into a new advertising contract. The City will re-examine its overall policy on advertising in and on City equipment and facilities.





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MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 30, 2011

TO: Mayor and City Councilmembers

THRU: Darin Atteberry, City Manager *DA*  
Wendy Williams, Assistant City Manager *WJW*

FROM: Bruce Hendee, Assistant City Manager *BH*  
Ken Mannon, Director of Operation Services *KM*  
Helen Matson, Real Estate Services Manager *HM*  
Carol Webb, Regulatory and Governmental Affairs Manager *CW*  
Josh Birks, Economic Advisor

RE: September 27, 2011 Work Session Summary – update on Lease Agreement Negotiations with Colorado State University Research Foundation for the Old Power Plant, 430 North College Avenue

Bruce Hendee presented an overview of this item, showed the site plan and discussed the use of the Engines Lab. Carol Webb gave an overview of the environmental status of the site based on the Phase II Environmental Audit and discussed the environmental requirements CSURF needs to follow for their construction. Ken Mannon presented the key terms of the Lease Agreement.

Discussion Summary:

- Council questioned whether an 80 year lease term was too long. Length of term ties into the value of the building improvement CSURF is constructing on site and the guarantee CSURF needs for their investors. Council expressed concern of automatic renewal terms without the City having a way to terminate without default.
- Should the City consider leasing this site at a non-profit rate of \$25/year, does CSURF lease property to non-profits at a lower rate? Also, would CSURF consider leasing property to the City at a discounted rate.
- Environmental issues were discussed and Council questioned if the City has a role in any mitigation of the site. (Primarily, CSURF will be liable for managing this site during construction. CSURF will be applying for a Voluntary Cleanup Program and CSURF will need to follow this Plan the cleanup of this site.)
- Bryan Willson, EECL Director explained that the utility area north of the existing building will be reduced with the construction of the new building.
- Council expressed concern of the condition of some of the historical elements of the site – the grotto, the fountain and the monument. It was questioned if the lease specifies maintenance responsibilities of these elements.

- Discussions continued on the advantages of this partnership between the City and CSURF and the great work of the Engines Lab.

Follow-up Items:

- Council would like to have an update of whether the fountain has ever been moved on site.
- Council requested that staff have specific language in the lease to specify the responsible party of maintaining the grotto, fountain and monument, and the standards of this maintenance.
- Council would like to have the lease describe the items that will be removed from the buffer zone and when they will be removed.