



Memorandum

**DT:** December 15, 2011

**TO:** Mayor and City Councilmembers

**TH:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager *DA*

**FR:** Ginny Sawyer, Neighborhood Administrator *GS*  
MMD Staff Team

**RE:** Work Session Summary-December 13, 2011-Update on Medical Marijuana Ban Implementation

On December 13, 2011 City Council held a Work Session to discuss the implementation of the medical marijuana ban. Councilmembers Aislinn Kottwitz, Lisa Poppaw, and Gerry Horack were absent. Staff members included Steve Roy, Ginny Sawyer, and Jerry Schiager.

Staff presented a summary of implementation items including:

- Businesses must close by February 14, 2012
- Police Services will work with owners to conduct final inspections
- The 12 plant residential limit still stands
- Staff will bring back an ordinance to codify the ban

Staff also presented questions received from the community regarding waiving sale limits and refund of renewal fees. Council was interested in considering both of these items. With regard to refunding fees, Council was specifically interested in refunding the \$100 application fee.

**Next Steps**

- Staff will bring an ordinance on December 20 which will allow for local businesses to sell more than 8 ounces per week to other licensed centers outside of the City limits.
- Early in 2012 staff will bring ordinances codifying the ban, repealing sections of existing code no longer applicable, and outlining possible fee refunds.



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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** December 16, 2011

**TO:** Mayor Weitkunat and Councilmembers

**FROM:** Lance Smith, Utilities Strategic Financial Planning Manager *LS*  
Steve Catanach, Acting Utilities Executive Director *SC*

**THRU:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager *DA*

**RE:** **Work Session – December 13, 2011**  
**Commercial and Industrial Electric Rates**

Utilities Executive Director Brian Janonis provided introductions followed by a brief executive summary presentation from Lance Smith. The executive summary highlighted the reasons behind the 2012 electric rate increases for all rate classes before discussing those for the large commercial and industrial rate classes in particular, and presented 4 options for how the increases for these two classes could be potentially lessened.

Following the brief presentation staff answered Council questions. Additional staff present to answer questions included Steve Catanach, Ellen Switzer, and Bill Switzer. Brian Moeck and John Bleem from Platte River Power Authority also answered Council questions.

The outcome of the discussion was that Council directed staff to proceed with the current, approved rate increases for all classes and to increase customer outreach and education efforts, as well as exploring potential economic incentives for future business expansions. Council would have liked to have seen an option evaluated which would have allowed the rate increase either from PRPA on the wholesale level or from Utilities at the retail level to be gradually introduced through a series of smaller increases.

### Next Steps



Further direction from Council included the following requests:

1. PRPA's Board of Directors should consider more gradual increases beginning in 2013.
2. Staff should provide a 5 year rate forecast with a clear disclaimer as to the preliminary nature of the working forecast.
3. Consideration should be given to the creation of a working group consisting of large users, PRPA, and city staff for the purpose of providing better communication between the parties and to consider the economic impacts of future rate increases and how those increases may be implemented over several years.



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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** December 19, 2011  
**TO:** Mayor, and City Councilmembers  
**THROUGH:** Darin Atteberry, City Manager   
**FROM:** Bruce Hendee, Chief Sustainability Officer; and   
Josh Birks, Economic Advisor  
**RE: DECEMBER 13, 2011 - WORK SESSION SUMMARY:  
ECONOMIC HEALTH STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE (AGENDA ITEM 4)**

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This memorandum provides a summary of City Councilmember feedback related to the Economic Health Strategic Plan Update item presented at Work Session on December 13, 2011. City staff and consultants from TIP Strategies presented an initial draft of the Economic Health Strategic Plan.

### Councilmember Feedback:

- The plan is disappointing, misses the mark, emphasizes a growth approach, and does not reflect the values of our community.
- A recent New York Times article regarding the recent Plan Fort Collins update called out our community's ability to reinvent ourselves for the future; this plan picks up that theme well and should be commended.
- Working for coordination and collaboration amongst community partners is a good approach; however, there will not be a single Economic Health vision that emerges.
- Formal partnerships (i.e. providing funding) with potential community partners are appropriate as long as the partner entity agrees to remain a-political.
- The plan should take credit for all the great assets of the community, e.g. Park, Trail, Open Space, and Natural Areas.
- The City can and should be a leader on Economic Health and play the roles of convener, catalyst, educator, reporter, and partner.
- Cities of the future will be more sustainable. The plan needs to recognize this fact and better integrate that into the mission, objectives, and strategies.
- The emphasis on small business should be elevated in the plan.
- Keep it consistent with community values.
- New model conference center is an interesting idea.
- The vision statement needs to reflect the existing vision statement better.
- The plan is not ready for adoption.

Unanswered Questions:

- An emphasis on talent is good; however, what is the appropriate role of the City in this arena?
- How does the Rocky Mountain Innosphere fit into the plan?

Next Steps:

- The Economic Health Office will bring back a second draft of the Strategic Plan in February to a City Council work session, including:
  - An implementation matrix that provides roles, responsibility, and funding requirements by action item; and
  - Performance metrics tied to each of the key objectives.
- Prior to this additional works session, EHO staff will perform the following outreach:
  - A public open house to gain input from citizens and other interested parties not included in the original stakeholder list;
  - Additional input from the Economic Advisory Commission; and
  - Input from all potential community partners (e.g. Small Business Development Center, Workforce Center, etc.)