

# AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

## FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL

ITEM NUMBER: 14

DATE: October 16, 2007

STAFF: Tess Heffernan

### SUBJECT

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Resolution 2007-095 Amending Resolution 2007-062 to Extend the Deadline For a Task Force of Citizens to Make Recommendations Regarding the City's Holiday Display Policy.

### RECOMMENDATION

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Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The Holiday Display Task Force was appointed by the City Manager in early August 2007 for the purpose of reviewing the City's current Holiday Display Policy and recommending possible modifications to the policy. The Task Force held its first meeting on August 22, 2007. Since then members have met regularly and investigated a number of options, with the goal of developing a recommendation to City Council by the designated deadline of October 31, 2007.

The Task Force was originally scheduled to present its recommendations to Council at its regular meeting on November 6, 2007. The agenda schedule for that meeting necessitates that the materials for the meeting be submitted by noon on October 17, 2007, effectively eliminating two full weeks from the Task Force's original schedule.

The presentation of the Task Force's recommendations to City Council has been tentatively rescheduled to November 20, 2007, pending Council's approval of this Resolution, in order to give Task Force members time to complete the group's recommendations. While the Task Force fully intends to submit its recommendations as required for the November 20, 2007, Council meeting, extending the deadline to the end of the year will allow additional flexibility should Council wish the Task Force to develop any follow-up recommendations as a result of the November 20, 2007, discussion. Therefore, the proposed Resolution will extend the Task Force's deadline to December 31, 2007.

### ATTACHMENTS

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1. Resolution 2007-062 Authorizing the City Manager to Appoint a Task Force of Citizens to Make Recommendations Regarding the Display of Religious Symbols on Public Property.

RESOLUTION 2007-062  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPOINT A TASK FORCE  
OF CITIZENS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING  
THE DISPLAY OF RELIGIOUS SYMBOLS ON PUBLIC PROPERTY

WHEREAS, in the recent past, the City has received requests from citizen groups wishing to display symbols associated with the winter holiday season on City-owned property, some of which symbols are religious in nature; and

WHEREAS, to date, the City's response to these requests has been to continue its practice of limiting its own holiday displays to secular symbols and messages; and

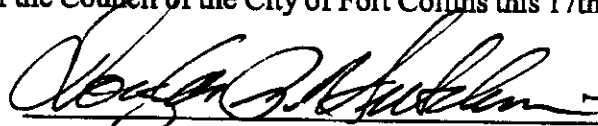
WHEREAS, the City Council is interested in reconsidering the position that the City has taken with regard to this policy and wishes to solicit input on this subject from a task force comprised of a cross section of the community.

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

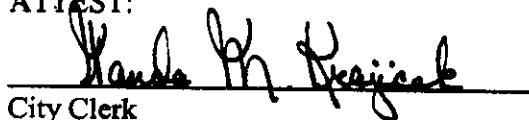
Section 1. That the City Manager is hereby authorized and directed to create and appoint a task force of citizens, not to exceed twenty members, to review this issue and to submit to the City Council, no later than October 31, 2007, any recommendations that the task force may have with regard to the possible modification of the City's holiday display policy.

Section 2. That the City Attorney is hereby authorized and directed to provide the task force with any general information about applicable legal principles that he believes may be helpful to the task force in formulating its recommendations to the Council.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 17th day of July, A.D. 2007.

  
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Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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City Clerk

RESOLUTION 2007-095  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
AMENDING RESOLUTION 2007-062 TO EXTEND THE DEADLINE  
FOR A TASK FORCE OF CITIZENS TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS  
REGARDING THE CITY'S HOLIDAY DISPLAY POLICY

WHEREAS, on July 17, 2007, the City Council adopted Resolution 2007-062 authorizing the City Manager to appoint a task force of citizens (the "Task Force") to review the City holiday display policy and make any recommendations that the Task Force may have with regard to the possible modification of the policy, which recommendations were to be submitted to the City Council no later than October 31, 2007; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force has requested an extension of the deadline to submit its recommendations to the Council in order to give Task Force members time to thoroughly complete the group's recommendations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS that Section 1 of Resolution 2007-062, adopted by the Council on July 17, 2007, is hereby amended to extend the deadline for the Task Force to submit its recommendations to the City Council to no later than December 31, 2007.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 16th day of October, A.D. 2007.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk