

DATE: September 4, 2012
STAFF: Wanda Nelson

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY
FORT COLLINS CITY COUNCIL

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SUBJECT

Resolution 2012-087 Submitting a Council-initiated, Non-Binding Question Relating to the Possible Construction of a Stadium on Colorado State University's Main Campus to a Vote of the Registered Electors of the City at a Special Municipal Election to Be Held on November 6, 2012, in Conjunction with the Larimer County General Election.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

At its August 14, 2012 work session, three members of Council (Manvel, Poppaw, and Ohlson) requested Council consideration of a Resolution putting a non-binding advisory question on the ballot for the purpose of giving Fort Collins citizens an additional avenue for providing input on the desirability of an on-campus stadium.

Pursuant to the City Charter, the Council may submit any question to the vote of the people at a regular or special election in the same manner and with the same force and effect as is provided with citizen-initiated measures. A special election has previously been called by the Council for November 6, 2012 for the purpose of considering a citizen-initiated ordinance dealing with medical marijuana businesses. The deadline to certify ballot language to the County for this election is Friday, September 7.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

None.

RESOLUTION 2012-087
OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
SUBMITTING A COUNCIL-INITIATED, NON-BINDING QUESTION RELATING
TO THE POSSIBLE CONSTRUCTION OF A STADIUM ON COLORADO STATE
UNIVERSITY'S MAIN CAMPUS TO A VOTE OF THE REGISTERED
ELECTORS OF THE CITY AT A SPECIAL MUNICIPAL ELECTION TO BE
HELD ON NOVEMBER 6, 2012 IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
LARIMER COUNTY GENERAL ELECTION

WHEREAS, Colorado State University ("CSU") is considering replacing Hughes Stadium, which currently serves the CSU football program; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Tony Frank, CSU President, has appointed a Stadium Advisory Committee (the "Committee") to evaluate the feasibility of a new stadium; and

WHEREAS, the new stadium would be constructed on CSU's main campus within the City limits; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has developed a written feasibility study regarding several key issues including input from and communication with the public and various stakeholder groups; site selection; fund-raising and naming opportunities; and an analysis of best practices and design; and

WHEREAS, the proposed stadium is intended to serve not only as an athletic facility to house the CSU football program and other sports activities, but also as a multipurpose facility with space available for use by CSU throughout the year; and

WHEREAS, a subcommittee of the Committee, with assistance from the Center for Public Deliberation, has conducted a wide range of public outreach and dialogue activities with stakeholders and the community related to the Committee's written feasibility study; and

WHEREAS, public debate about the feasibility of the proposed on-campus stadium has been rigorous and extensive; and

WHEREAS, numerous Fort Collins citizens have expressed interest in having a question about the possible construction of the stadium presented to the registered electors of the City for Dr. Frank's consideration; and

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 3 of the City Charter provides that the City Council may, without petition therefor, submit any question to a vote of the people at a special election; and

WHEREAS, on August 21, 2012, the City Council adopted on second reading Ordinance No. 066, 2012, calling a special municipal election on November 6, 2012, to be held in conjunction with the Larimer County General Election, for the purpose of submitting a ballot issue to the electorate that would reverse the voter-imposed ban on medical marijuana centers, optional premises cultivation operations, and medical marijuana-infused product manufacturing within the City; and

WHEREAS, because of the potential impacts that the proposed stadium would have on the City's infrastructure and services, and on the residents of the City, the City Council believes that it would be in the best interests of the City for City residents to be given an opportunity to express their opinion about the possible construction of the new stadium by participating in an advisory, non-binding measure to be placed on the November ballot.

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

Section 1. That there is hereby submitted to the registered electors of the City of Fort Collins at a special election to be conducted in conjunction with the Larimer County General Election to be held on Tuesday, November 6, 2012, the following advisory ballot question:

**CITY OF FORT COLLINS
CITY-INITIATED BALLOT ISSUE**

ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY CONSTRUCTING
A NEW FOOTBALL STADIUM ON ITS MAIN CAMPUS?

YES ____
NO ____

Section 2. That the City Clerk is hereby directed to certify the above ballot issue for the Larimer County General Election to the Larimer County Clerk and Recorder no later than September 7, 2012.

Passed and adopted at a regular meeting of the Council of the City of Fort Collins this 4th day of September A.D. 2012.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk