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## City Council Work Session July 8, 2014

**After Special Meeting, which begins at 6:00 PM**

● **CALL TO ORDER.**

● **ROLL CALL**

1. Potential Larimer County Referendum to Extend the Help Preserve Open Space ¼ Cent Sales Tax.  
(staff: John Stokes; 10 minute staff presentation; 45 minute discussion)

The purpose of this item is to seek Council input on a proposed extension of the County's ¼ cent open space sales tax, Help Preserve Open Space (HPOS). HPOS provides significant support to the City's Natural Areas Department (NAD) but is set to expire in 2018. A ballot measure extending the tax may be referred by the Board of County Commissioners to the voters in November. A Council agenda item has been scheduled for August 19<sup>th</sup> to consider an endorsement of the final HPOS ballot language.

Larimer County staff has prepared three potential ballot scenarios for the Commissioners to consider. The alternative preferred by County officials would reduce HPOS revenues received by the NAD by approximately 14%, or \$530,000, beginning in 2019. The reduction would represent an overall diminution of NAD revenues by approximately 5% beginning in 2019. Natural Areas staff supports this option as long as the NAD is able to discontinue a \$350,000 a year contribution for the development of the paved trail system; and, as long as West Nile Virus treatments continue to be financed by the general fund, a \$134,000 annual savings to the NAD.

2. Poudre River Downtown Project Master Plan. (staff: John Stokes; 10 minute staff presentation; 1 hour discussion)

The purpose of this work session is to review and discuss the Poudre River Downtown Master Plan. The City of Fort Collins is developing a master plan for the Cache la Poudre River in the downtown corridor (Shields Street to Mulberry Street) to improve in-river and bankside recreation, habitat connectivity, restoration and rehabilitation, flood mitigation, channel bank protection, water quality, public safety and access, and transportation. The Master Plan provides a long-term vision and identifies improvements that will take many years to complete.

- **OTHER BUSINESS.**
  
- **ADJOURNMENT.**