

RESOLUTION 2026-002
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
DIRECTING EVALUATION AND PROPOSED ARRANGEMENTS
FOR REORGANIZING THE ADMINISTRATION
OF MUNICIPAL COURT

A. The City of Fort Collins Municipal Court provides essential judicial services to the community.

B. Increasing operational, customer service, and technology demands of Municipal Court require a review of how administrative and business functions are organized and supported.

C. The City Council seeks to ensure that Municipal Court operations are efficient, accessible, and responsive to the public while preserving the independence of the judicial function.

D. Administrative models exist that place non-judicial business operations of municipal courts within a city's executive administration while maintaining the judge's exclusive authority over legal rulings, sentencing, and courtroom procedures.

E. Evaluating alternative administrative arrangements may improve service delivery, financial oversight, and operational coordination without compromising judicial independence.

F. Reorganization of Municipal Court administration may require amendments to the Fort Collins Municipal Code and further Council action.

G. This Resolution directs staff to explore and evaluate changes to the organization and administration of Municipal Court but does not affect such change.

In light of the foregoing recitals, which the Council hereby makes and adopts as determinations and findings, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. The Council directs the City Manager to evaluate potential arrangements for reorganizing the administrative and business operations of Municipal Court, including the feasibility of placing those functions under the City Manager's Office.

Section 2. Any evaluated or proposed arrangement must preserve the independence of the Municipal Judge, including exclusive authority over legal rulings, sentencing decisions, and courtroom procedures, and must not permit executive interference with judicial decision-making.

Section 3. The scope of evaluation may include, but is not limited to, impacts on customer service, operational efficiency, staffing, budgeting, technology, compliance, and alignment with best practices for municipal court administration.

Section 4. The Council directs the City Manager to report findings and proposed arrangements to City Council, including any recommended Municipal Code amendments, for Council consideration.

Passed and adopted on January 6, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Effective Date: January 6, 2026

Approving Attorney: April Silva

Exhibit: None