



March 3, 2025

Election Code Committee Meeting

Final meeting of this
session.

Delynn Coldiron, City Clerk
Cecilia Good, Snr Deputy City Clerk
Sara Arfmann, Assist City Attorney II



Debrief from the February
18th Council Meeting

Election Oversight
Role/Duties of Contractor

RCV Communications Plan
and Update

Candidate Information
Session



Debrief from the February 18th Council Meeting

- A. First Reading of Ordinance No. 029, 2025, Amending 7-145 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to Clarify and **Revise the Process for Enforcement of Campaign Violations. Adopted 7-0.**
- B. First Reading of Ordinance No. 030, 2025, Amending Article V of Chapter 7 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to **Clarify and Revise the Restrictions and Requirements Related to Campaign Contributions** in City Elections. **Adopted 7-0.**
- C. First Reading of Ordinance No. 031, 2025, Amending Section 7-103 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to **Remove Write-In Candidates** in City Elections. **Adopted 5-2.**
- D. First Reading of Ordinance No. 032, 2025, Amending Section 7-165 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to **Clarify and Revise the Requirements for Petition Circulators. Adopted 7-0.**
- E. First Reading of Ordinance No. 033, 2025, Amending Chapter 7 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to **Update Various Sections Related to City Elections for Consistency with the City Charter and Within Chapter 7. Adopted 7-0.**

2nd Reading – March 4; Effective Date of Changes – March 14





Election Oversight

Role/Duties of Contractor

2023 – 5 Complaints Received:

- 3 – Campaign Materials, i.e., no paid for by listed.
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process starting with a review by the Clerk and City Attorney.
- 2 – Financial
 - Would be covered by outside contractor proactively, so hopefully won't receive related complaints.

2022 – 4 Complaints Received:

- 1 – Financial
 - Would be covered by outside contractor.
- 1 – Committee Registration (violations found)
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process.
- 2 – Campaign Materials
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process.

2021 – 12 Complaints Received:

- 3 – Financial
 - Would be covered by outside contractor.
- 4 – Committee Registration (violations found)
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process.
- 5 – Campaign Materials
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process.

2019 – 19 Complaints Received:

- 10 – Campaign Materials, i.e., no paid for by listed.
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process starting with a review by the Clerk and City Attorney.
- 7 – Financial
 - Would be covered by outside contractor.
- 2 – City Process
 - Would be covered under new enforcement process.

A. Proactive review of Campaign Finance Reporting and Related Compliance

- Ensure numbers make sense (starting and ending balances).
- Ensure timeliness of filing and follow up on missing reports.
- Ensure contributions are within limits.
- Ensure contributions are given by allowed donors.
- Make periodic checks of donations made to ensure accuracy of information reported.
- Ensure all contributions meet City code requirements.
- Ensure revised reports are filed to address issues found.
- Work with Candidates and Committees to get voluntary compliance.
- If needed, report unresolved issues found to City Clerk staff for enforcement.

A. Items that may be outside of the scope

- Periodically ask for samples of materials to check for “paid for by” requirements.
- Periodically look at election-related Facebook pages to check for “paid for by” requirements.
- Periodically check election signs to check for “paid for by” requirements.
- Pursue checks on potential issues reported such as text messages with no “paid for by” information added.

Proactive review of Campaign Finance Reports.

- 9 reports due per committee
- If we have 12 candidates and 3 committees:
 - 135 reports to be reviewed
 - @ 3 hours each = 405 hours (recognize that some will take longer due to investigation and follow-up, and some will take less time).
 - \$100/hour
- \$40,500
- Additional funding might be required if proactive work outside of campaign finance is desired

Next Steps

- Will come to Council to request an appropriation for the outside contractor on April 1st.
- Will also include an appropriation for any extra needed for the coordinated election based on County estimate.
- Will write a Scope of Work and go out for written proposals – won't have to go through the full RFP process
- Want to have them hired and ready to go by May 1

Who would make an ideal candidate?

- City Clerk Consultant
- Outside Attorney
- Election judge
- Community member who has election experience



Candidate Information Session

Candidate Information Session

- April 2, 6:00 p.m., Council Chambers
- Agenda
 - General City Information
 - Full-Service City, History-Past and Present, Structure
 - Council
 - Direct Reports, Council Duties, Council Schedule, District Boundaries, Boards and Commissions, Council Compensation
 - Election Timelines and Requirements
 - Candidate Affidavit, Committee Registration, Nomination Petition, Campaign Finance and Reporting
 - Review of pertinent Code changes
 - Complaint and enforcement information
 - Outside contractor role
 - Ranked Voting
 - General information
 - Video
 - Does anyone from Council want to participate?



Baw Baw Shire Council



RCV Communications Plan and Update

COMMUNICATION











Ranked Choice Voting Update – Communications Plan

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Next Election: November 4, 2025 - Regular Election Coordinated with Larimer County

			
November 2025 Election Ballot What voters can expect to see on the November 4, 2025 ballot.	Voters Information for Fort Collins voters.	Candidates Information for current and prospective City Council candidates.	Ranked-Choice Voting Information about Fort Collins' transition to ranked voting in 2025.
Ballot	Voters	Candidates	Ranked-Choice Voting
			
Results & Data Election results and voter turnout.	Election Basics General information about Fort Collins elections.	Petitions Information and guidelines for ballot questions and other petitions.	Committees Information on candidate, issue and political committees.

Ranked Choice Voting Update

- State of the City event
 - Had a lot of great discussions
 - Was interesting to see where people are as far as what they know
 - Found some new tools! (rcv123.org)
 - People liked the materials we had
 - FC Vote T-shirts
- Next touchpoint – Candidate Information Session on April 2
 - 6:00 p.m. – Council Chambers
 - Video will be ready!
- PSD and CSU
 - Both are excited to help share the word through newsletters and other avenues.
 - PSD newsletters goes to 77,000 people!
 - CSU will help educate students, parents, faculty, etc.

City Council					
Rank up to 5 candidates. Mark no more than 1 oval in each column.	First choice	Second choice	Third choice	Fourth choice	Fifth choice
	1	2	3	4	5
Candidate Apple	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate Banana	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate Candy	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate Donut	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate Egg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Candidate Fig	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Write in _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

King County

- Events
 - State of the City - **Done**
 - Candidate Information and Orientation Sessions
 - Open Streets
 - Lagoon Series
 - Larimer County Fair and Farmer's markets
 - Library (when they have events planned)
 - Super-Issue meetings
 - Collaboration with League of Women Voters
 - CSU events (ASCSU, Strayer Center)
 - Senior Center Outreach
 - Collaboration with the Equity Office and related events



Better Ballot North Carolina

- Volunteer description is posted and accepting applications. We have received 3 so far
- Will work through the City's Volunteer Coordinator with help of Davina in the Clerk's Office
- Will ensure all volunteers are identified and go through the same process
- Will include volunteer training, as well as RCV training



East Idaho News

Website and forms updated for 2025 Effort

Mayor Candidates – None

District 1 Candidates – 2

District 3 Candidates - None

District 5 Candidates - 1

Recall inquiry – 1 – No details given

Candidate Information Session – April 2, 6:00 p.m.

Staff Report at Council Meeting – June 3rd

Additional Code Amendments

- Redistricting
- Other?

Other Topics “Bike Rack”

- Public Financing of Campaigns



Questions?