



August 16, 2022

## Graywater Ordinance

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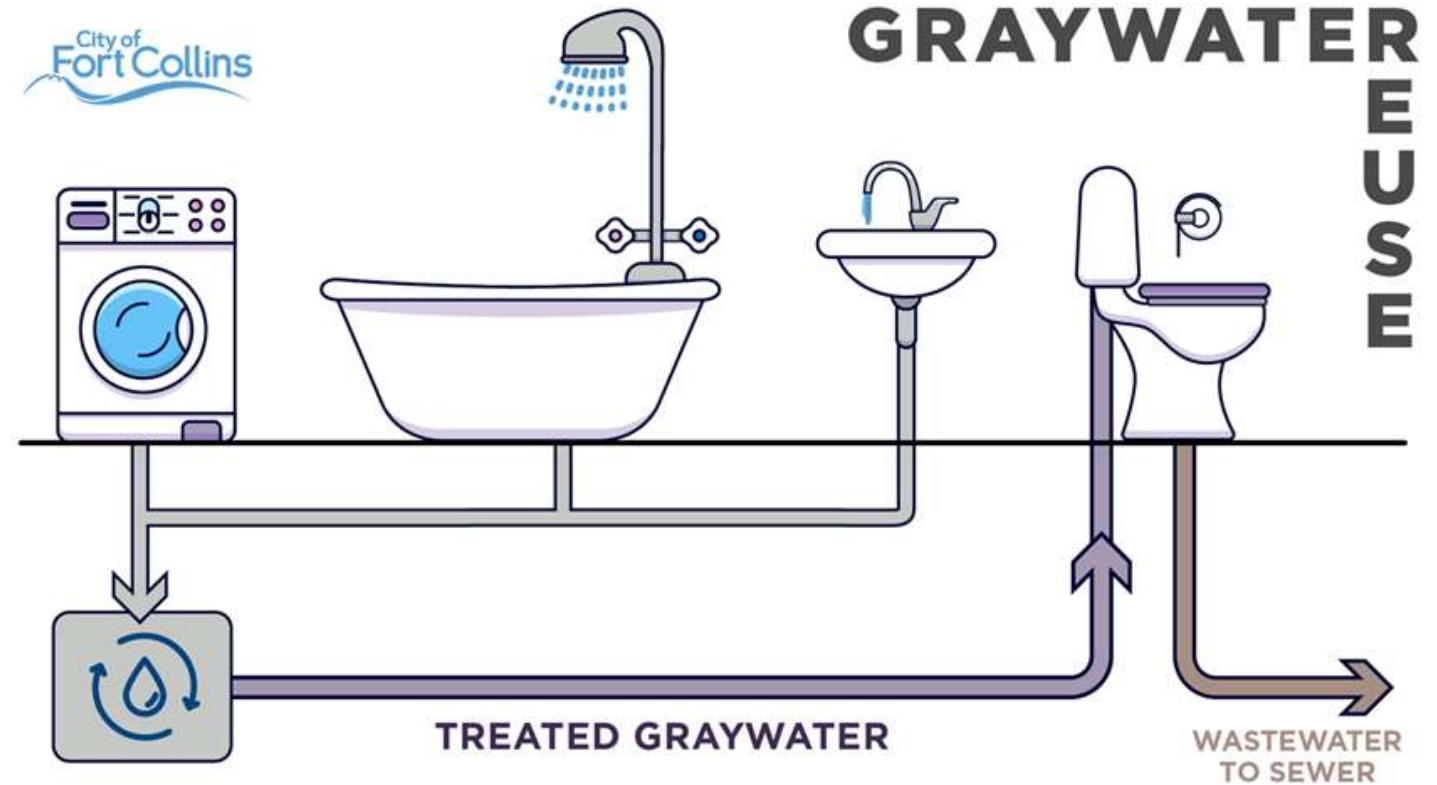
**Marcus Coldiron**

Chief Building Official



## Proposed Graywater Ordinance – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

- Provide an overview of graywater ordinance
- Update on the legal boundary
- Proposed extension of the effective date to Nov. 1, 2022
- Describe public engagement efforts





**Purpose:** Develop a graywater ordinance to:

- 1) Meet the 2021-2023 Council Priority
- 2) Align with the State's Water Quality Regulation 86 and local water right limitations
- 3) Allows graywater, but does not require it
- 4) Provide the right water for the right use
- 5) Develop more sustainable water use options



# Strategic Alignment

Council Priority

City Strategic Plan

Utilities Strategic Plan

“Right water, right use”

Colorado Water Plan



City Plan

Our Climate Future

Housing Strategic Plan

Municipal Sustainability and  
Adaptation Plan

Water Supply & Demand  
Management Policy

Water Efficiency Plan

City Council Work Session held on  
November 23, 2021

Timeline:



2020  
Northern Water OKs toilet  
flushing only with C-BT  
Water



**2013**  
Colorado  
Legislature  
signed HB13-144  
into Law



**2015**  
CDPHE Colorado  
Water Quality  
Control Comm.  
adopts Reg. 86



**2016**  
Graywater  
allowances  
effective in CO  
Plumbing Code



**2021-23**  
NSF/ANSI 350-  
2011 update



**2022-2023**  
CDPHE to  
update Reg. 86

CDPHE = Colorado  
Department of Public Health  
and Environment

NSF = National Sanitation  
Foundation, ANSI = American  
National Standards Institute

**Settings**



**Sources**



Showers



Bathtubs



Bathroom and  
laundry sinks



Clothes washing  
machines

Used water  
is collected  
and reused

Treatment and dye



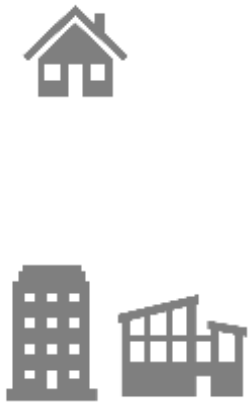
Toilet  
flushing



Subsurface  
irrigation

**Uses**

Settings



Sources



Showers



Bathtubs



Bathroom and laundry sinks



Clothes washing machines

Used water is collected and reused

Treatment and dye



Toilet flushing

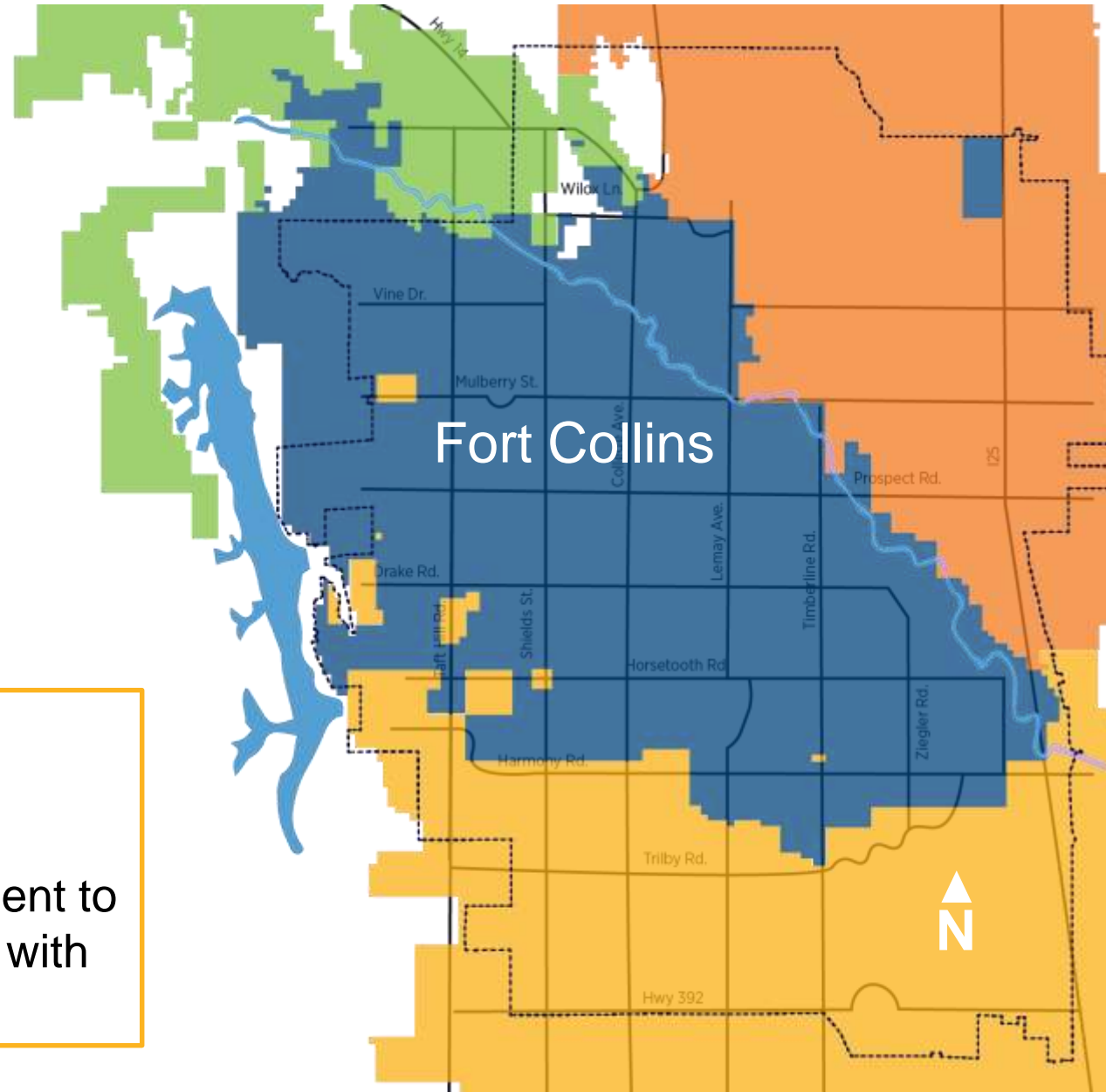
Uses



- Growth Management Area (GMA)
- Fort Collins Utilities
- ELCO Water District
- Fort Collins-Loveland Water District
- West Fort Collins Water District

The ordinance allows the legal boundary to expand over time.

Water and wastewater districts need to consent to graywater installations in their service areas with a signed MOU.



### Ordinance Development:

- Adopt CO Plumbing code
- Consult with local health agencies, water and wastewater district
- Create a local ordinance or resolution
  - Must meet minimum standards of Reg 86
  - Ensure conformance with water rights
- Develop program administration**
  - Design criteria document
  - Review and inspection system
  - Permit and tracking system
  - Operator compliance system
  - Train staff



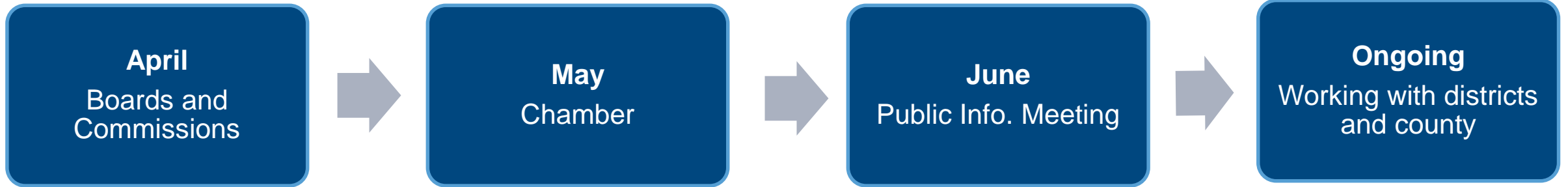
**Proposed effective date is Nov. 1, 2022 to complete these tasks**

### Toilet Flushing System Requirements:

- NSF/ANSI 350 standard certified treatment system w/disinfection system
- Potable back-up system and dual plumbing
- Min. 50-gallon storage tank (~4sq. ft)
- Backflow prevention, cross-connection control

### Property Owners Would Need To:

- Conduct regular maintenance
- Keep maintenance manual
- Minimize exposure to humans and pets
- Certified operator required for non-single family applications



- Water and wastewater districts within the City Growth Management Area
- Larimer County
- City Boards & Commissions
- Education and environmental non-profits
- Business associations
- Graywater system manufacturers
- Developers & builders
- Key accounts
- Homeowners
- Property & HOA managers
- Other communities with, or considering, a graywater ordinance



## Customer Communications

- Online forum: [ourcity.fcgov.com/graywater](http://ourcity.fcgov.com/graywater)
- Utility bill insert – reaching about 49,000 customers city-wide
- E-newsletters to building professionals (designers, trades, contractors and developers) – about 8,000 emails

## Feedback Themes

- Creating an ordinance is a good first step and allows those who want graywater to install it
- Given the state and water right limitation, graywater doesn't make sense, without incentives

## Immediate:

- Complete the remaining administrative items by November 1, 2022 (proposed ordinance effective date)
- Continue to attend the state's Regulation 86 stakeholder meetings, as the state plans to update its regulations in 2023
- Continue to work with the local water and wastewater districts to expand legal boundary
- Develop and promote public education and communications on graywater system requirements

## 2023-2025:

- Update the City's graywater ordinance with any changes resulting from the state's Regulation 86 updates
- Consider pilot program funding and incentive development

**Council Consideration:** Adopt the Proposed Graywater Ordinance on 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

# THANK YOU!

For Questions or Comments, Please Contact:

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