



Election Code Changes



City Code Changes Needed to Implement the Shift to November Elections

Anissa Hollingshead, City Clerk

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Municipal Election Code (CRS Title 31)

- Applies to statutory municipalities – can choose by adopting an ordinance or resolution to follow Uniform Election Code and conduct coordinated regular elections
- Applies to Charter municipalities conducting their own municipal elections unless supplanted by municipal code or charter

Uniform Election Code (CRS Title 1)

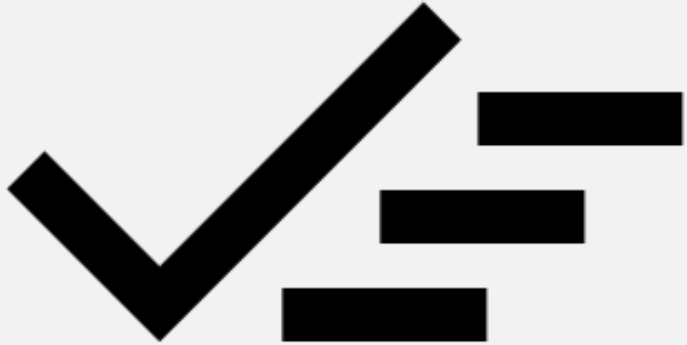
- Applies to coordinated elections conducted by a county or counties, which can include municipal contests

Fort Collins Home Rule Charter

- Article VIII prescribes the timing and conduct of municipal elections – shifting to November coordinated elections required voter approval to change

Fort Collins City Code

- Additional election administration provisions are found in Chapter 7 of the Fort Collins Code of Ordinances – these provisions supersede the Municipal Election Code for City-administered elections
- Some existing provisions conflict with requirements for coordinated regular elections

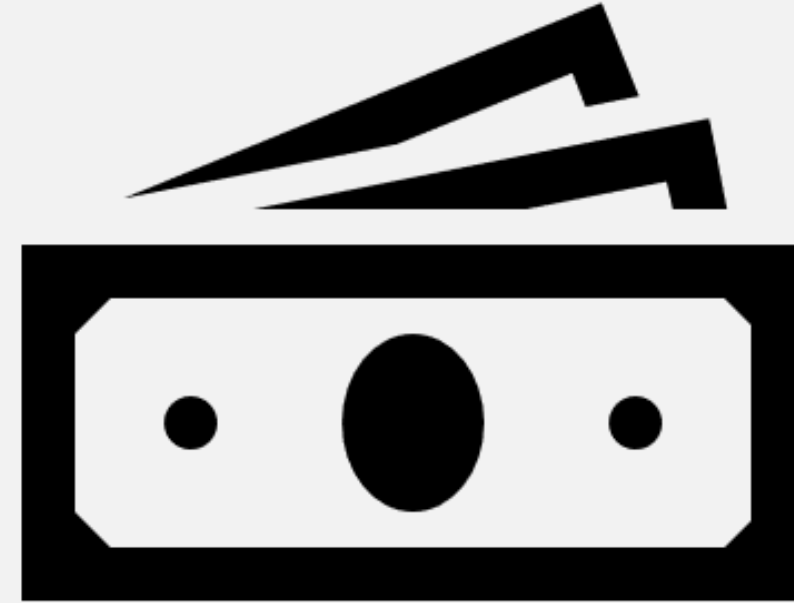


- **Coordinating Regular Municipal Elections**

Ord. No. 044, 2023 provides for coordinating with Larimer County unless Council acts otherwise and clarifies City Code applies to City-administered elections

- **Candidacy Filing Dates**

Ord. No. 045, 2023 aligns filing dates with State law in the Uniform Election Code



- **Financial Disclosure Statement Filing Deadlines**

Ord. No. 046, 2023 shifts timing to align the post election date with the deadline for other candidates in November elections and resets that as the date for subsequent annual filings





Step 1

Submit a candidate affidavit within 10 days of becoming a candidate (City Code Sec. 7-133)

Someone becomes a candidate for campaign finance purposes when: 1) publicly announcing their candidacy or intent to seek public office; and 2) receiving a contribution or making an expenditure in support of their campaign

Step 2

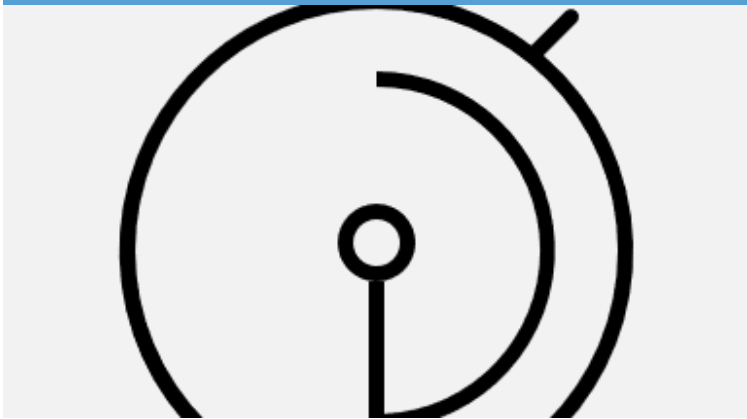
Circulate and submit a nominating petition during the designated time frame

Step 3

Accept nomination by completing a verified acceptance of the nomination certifying they meet candidate qualifications

	Current City Code	State Statute
Earliest date to circulate nomination petitions	70 days before the election (Sec. 7-116)	91 days before the election (C.R.S. 1-4-805 & 31-10-302)
Deadline to submit nomination petitions	49 days before the election (Sec. 7-116)	71 days before the election (C.R.S. 1-4-805 & 31-10-302)
Deadline to submit amended nomination petitions	NA	67 days before the election (C.R.S. 1-4-805)
Deadline to withdraw from nomination for candidacy	42 days before the election (Sec. 7-116)	63 days before the election (C.R.S. 31-10-303)
Deadline for a write in candidate to submit an affidavit of intent to allow any votes to be counted	42 days before the election (Sec. 7-103)	64 days before the election (C.R.S. 1-4-1102)

Nominating Petition Circulation Timing



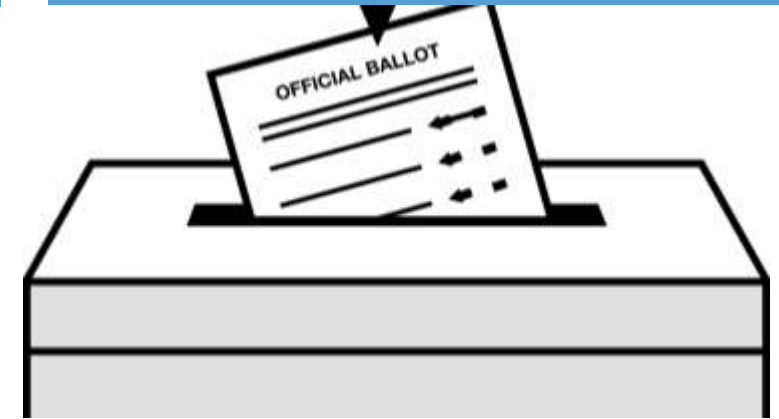
- Can be circulated 91-71 days before the election (August 8-28, 2023)
- Petitions can be amended if necessary until September 1
- Candidates can withdraw after submitting a nomination petition until September 5

Requirements for Nominating Petitions

Choice	Choice	Choice
<input checked="" type="radio"/> SINGLE CREEK PARK	<input type="radio"/> SINGLE CREEK PARK	<input type="radio"/> SINGLE CREEK PARK
<input type="radio"/> ARMATAGE PARK	<input type="radio"/> ARMATAGE PARK	<input type="radio"/> ARMATAGE PARK
<input type="radio"/> MARSHALL TERRACE PARK	<input type="radio"/> MARSHALL TERRACE PARK	<input type="radio"/> MARSHALL TERRACE PARK
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<input type="radio"/> PEARL PARK	<input type="radio"/> PEARL PARK	<input type="radio"/> PEARL PARK
<input type="radio"/> POWDERHORN PARK	<input type="radio"/> POWDERHORN PARK	<input type="radio"/> POWDERHORN PARK
<input type="radio"/> NORTHEAST PARK	<input type="radio"/> NORTHEAST PARK	<input type="radio"/> NORTHEAST PARK
<input checked="" type="radio"/> LONGFELLOW PARK	<input type="radio"/> LONGFELLOW PARK	<input type="radio"/> LONGFELLOW PARK
<input type="radio"/> MATTHEWS PARK	<input type="radio"/> MATTHEWS PARK	<input type="radio"/> MATTHEWS PARK
<input type="radio"/> LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK	<input type="radio"/> LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK	<input type="radio"/> LYNDALE FARMSTEAD PARK
<input type="radio"/> THEODORE WIRTH PARK	<input type="radio"/> THEODORE WIRTH PARK	<input type="radio"/> THEODORE WIRTH PARK
<input type="radio"/> KENWOOD PARK	<input type="radio"/> KENWOOD PARK	<input type="radio"/> KENWOOD PARK
<input type="radio"/> ELLIOT PARK	<input type="radio"/> ELLIOT PARK	<input type="radio"/> ELLIOT PARK
<input type="radio"/> LORING PARK	<input type="radio"/> LORING PARK	<input type="radio"/> LORING PARK

- Must be signed by 25 registered voters residing in the district being represented (citywide for Mayor)
- Voters can sign only one petition for each office they can vote on in November

Accepting a Nomination



- Requires completing a verified acceptance of the nomination
- Certifies they are not a candidate of a political party and that they meet the qualifications for office and will serve if elected

THANK YOU!

For Questions or Comments, Please Contact:

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