

ORDINANCE NO. 062, 2026  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
APPROPRIATING PRIOR YEAR RESERVES FROM THE CONSERVATION TRUST  
FUND AND AUTHORIZING TRANSFERS FOR PLANNING EFFORTS TO CREATE A  
CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK PLAN FOR THE FOOTHILL MULTI-USE SITE,  
FORMERLY KNOWN AS THE "HUGHES STADIUM SITE"

A. An identified 2024-2026 Council priority is to develop a Hughes Site Master Plan for the approximately 164-acre site (the "Hughes Site") by engaging in an inclusive process to determine desired future uses on the site.

B. In 2024, the City commenced a Civic Assembly process to engage the public about the development and management of the Hughes Site. After extensive preparations, in April and May of 2025, a group of twenty lottery-selected Fort Collins residents, representing a balanced cross-section of the community, met to create recommendations for the development and management of the Hughes Site. At a series of open meetings, the Civic Assembly heard from an array of presenters about potential uses of the Hughes Site consistent with its zoning as Public Open Lands.

C. On July 15, 2025, City Council adopted Resolution No. 2025-073, Submitting a Citizen-Initiated Ordinance Requiring that the Former Hughes Stadium Property Be Designated and Used 100% as a City Natural Area to a Vote of the Registered Electors of the City at the Regular Municipal Election on November 4, 2025.

D. On September 2, 2025, City Council adopted Ordinance No. 141, 2025, Expressing Support for the Recommendations of the Civic Assembly and Adopting a Conceptual Framework for the Use and Management of the Hughes Stadium Site. This ordinance set out Council's intent to establish use and management plans for the Hughes Stadium site based on the recommendations of the City's Civic Assembly.

E. On September 2, 2025, City Council adopted Resolution 2025-082, Expressing Support for the Recommendations of the Civic Assembly and Adopting a Conceptual Framework for the Use and Management of the Huges Stadium Site to a Vote of the Registered Electors of the City at the Next Regulations General Election on November 4, 2025.

F. On November 4, 2025, City electors approved the ballot measure that supports a conceptual framework for the use and management of the Hughes Stadim Site as described in Resolution 2025-082, which was Ballot Measure 2H on the ballot.

G. With the passage of Ballot Measure 2H, City staff began internal work to outline a public engagement plan going forward and develop a phased approach to developing what was called the Hughes Stadim Site but staff now refers to as the Foothills Multi-Use Site (the "Site").

H. The City received funds from the Colorado State Lottery, which per Colorado Revised Statutes Section 29-21-101(4) “shall be expended only for the acquisition, development, and maintenance of new conservation sites or for capital improvements or maintenance for recreational purposes on any public site.” The definition of “new conservation sites” in this statute includes “all types of open space, including but not limited to floodplains, greenbelts, agricultural lands, or scenic areas, or for any scientific, historic, scenic, recreational, aesthetic or similar purpose.” Such funds are maintained in the Conservation Trust Fund (“CTF”).

I. The appropriation from the Conservation Trust Fund (“CTF”), as well as \$30,000 from the Bike Park Capital Tax and \$100,000 from Natural Areas, will provide resources needed to initiate and complete a Conceptual Framework Plan (the “Plan”) for the Site. The Plan will include:

- (1) an existing conditions report; and
- (2) a comprehensive programming list; and
- (3) a near term management plan; and
- (4) a plan to identify general areas for each site use, access and circulation considerations and other key attributes that will inform further planning and design.

J. This appropriation benefits the public health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Fort Collins and serves the public purpose of creating a Plan toward the future development of the Site.

K. Article V, Section 9 of the City Charter permits City Council, upon the recommendation of the City Manager, to make supplemental appropriations by ordinance at any time during the fiscal year from such revenues and funds for expenditure as may be available from reserves accumulated in prior years, notwithstanding that such reserves were not previously appropriated.

L. The City Manager has recommended the appropriation described herein and determined that this appropriation is available and previously unappropriated from the Conservation Trust Fund (“CTF”) and will not cause the total amount appropriated in the CTF to exceed the current estimate of actual and anticipated revenues and all other funds to be received in this Fund during this fiscal year.

M. Article V, Section 10 of the City Charter authorizes City Council, upon recommendation by the City Manager, to transfer by ordinance any unexpended and unencumbered appropriated amount or portion thereof from one fund or capital project to another fund or capital project, provided that the purpose for which the transferred funds are to be expended remains unchanged, the purpose for which the funds were initially appropriated no longer exists, or the proposed transfer is from a fund or capital project in which the amount appropriated exceeds the amount needed to accomplish the purpose specified in the appropriation ordinance.

N. The City Manager has recommended the transfer of \$250,000 from the CTF to the Capital Project Fund (“CPF”) and determined that the purpose for which the transferred funds are to be expended remains unchanged.

O. Article V, Section 11 of the City Charter authorizes City Council to designate in the ordinance when appropriating funds for a capital project, that such appropriation shall not lapse at the end of the fiscal year in which the appropriation is made, but continue until the completion of the capital project.

P. City Council wishes to designate the appropriation herein for the Plan for the Site as an appropriation that shall not lapse until the completion of the project.

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

Section 1. There is hereby appropriated from prior year reserves in the Conservation Trust Fund the sum of TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$250,000) to be expended in the Conservation Trust Fund for transfer to the Capital Project Fund and expended therein for the Plan for the Site.

Section 2. The appropriation herein for the Plan for the Site is hereby designated, as authorized in Article V, Section 11 of the City Charter, as an appropriation that shall not lapse at the end of this fiscal year but continue until the completion of the project.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading on June 2, 2026, and approved on second reading for final passage on June 16, 2026.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

Effective Date: June 26, 2026  
Approving Attorney: Jenny Lopez Filkins

Exhibit: None