

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Josh Birks, Community Development, Housing, & Sustainability Deputy Director
Megan DeMaster, Environmental Sustainability Director
Emily Wenger, Environmental Sustainability Lead Specialist

SUBJECT

First Reading of Ordinance No. 117, 2026, Amending Section 12-32 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins to Update the Residential Waste Collection Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to update City Code to modify the Contracted Residential Waste Collection Program to clarify the City Manager's authority to approve necessary and appropriate contract amendments with the intent of streamlining administrative processes.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on First Reading.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

City Code gives the City Manager authority to approve amendments to the City's residential waste collection contract that are determined to be necessary and appropriate to facilitate the program. This recommended Code change removes one restriction to this authority that was initially included to ensure Council's involvement in decisions on the program as the program began implementation. Removal of that restriction would allow the City Manager to approve contract amendments that increase obligations and responsibilities of the City under the contract. If the update to Code is adopted, the restriction on the City Manager's authority that requires Council approval of any amendment that results in a cost increase without a commensurate service improvement (outside of routine annual rate increases) would remain, as would the requirement for Council approval if an amendment would substantially change the purpose of the contract.

This Code change will streamline administrative processes ahead of an anticipated contract amendment to align the program with the new statewide Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") program and will clarify the City Manager's role in approving future necessary and appropriate amendments. Council retains their ability to influence the program at any regular meeting by requesting a change or raising an issue through the rule of three (at least three Councilmembers ask the City Manager to address or bring forward an item).

More information about the EPR program will be shared with Council in a memo between 1st and 2nd reading of the Ordinance.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. Ordinance No. 117, 2026