

# AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



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## STAFF

Katie Donahue, Natural Areas Director  
Julie Feder, Environmental Planning Manager  
Tawnya Ernst, Land Conservation Lead Specialist

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## SUBJECT

**Second Reading of Ordinance No. 027, 2024, Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Easement Agreement with Larimer County, the City of Loveland and South Fort Collins Sanitation District Regarding an Existing Sewer Line on Long View Farm Open Space.**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on February 6, 2024, seeks authorization to approve conveyance of a sewer line easement to South Fort Collins Sanitation District (SFCSD) across Long View Farm Open Space. This easement is intended to formally document an existing sewer line that was installed in 1981 prior to the purchase of Long View Farm Open Space.

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## STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

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## BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Long View Farm Open Space was purchased in 1997 in partnership with Larimer County and the City of Loveland. Larimer County (50%) is the majority owner, with the City of Fort Collins (33%) and City of Loveland (17%) owning the remaining interests. At the time of purchase, the property was subject to several utility and right of way easements of record. Unfortunately, the sewer line was not properly documented at the time it was installed in 1981 by SFCSD and its existence was not known to County, Fort Collins or Loveland staff until the summer of 2023 when SFCSD needed access to perform maintenance on the line. The undocumented sewer line runs north to south immediately west of the right of way line for U.S. Highway 287.

Subsequently, County, City, City of Loveland and SFCSD staff have worked to prepare an easement document and to survey the existing line. See attached legal description and depiction. The easement will document the sewer line's existence, its location and define the parameters for access, notification, restoration and erosion control.

## **CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

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No costs will be incurred by the City of Fort Collins for this easement. Survey costs were covered by SFCSD. County, Fort Collins and Loveland staff did not feel compensation would be appropriate since the sewer line pre-dated our ownership and the property was subject to the sewer line, even though it was not recorded.

## **BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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At its December 13, 2023, meeting, the Land Conservation and Stewardship Board voted unanimously to recommend that Council approve the granting of a permanent sewer line easement to South Fort Collins Sanitation District across Long View Farm Open Space in order to document an existing sewer line.

## **PUBLIC OUTREACH**

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None.

## **ATTACHMENTS**

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First Reading attachments not included.

1. Ordinance for Consideration
2. Exhibit A to Ordinance