

Dear City Leaders and City Council,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board is pleased to offer our support for the adoption of the 2025 Water Efficiency Plan (WEP).

We believe water efficiency is both a right and a shared responsibility for every neighbor of Fort Collins.

The 2025 WEP outlines a thoughtful, community-driven strategy for managing long-term water use in the face of climate change and population growth. It establishes two central goals: (1) to reduce overall annual treated water demand by 4% by 2040, and (2) to improve water efficiency and landscape resilience across all City-owned properties. These goals had firm foundations established through comprehensive community engagement and represent a proactive approach to reducing the risk of shortages, managing costs, and promoting equitable, climate-resilient outcomes.

City operations account for just 1.8% of treated water use and the WEP reinforces that the City's role is both operational and transformational. The opportunity for Fort Collins to set the example and provide updated programmatic support for residential, commercial, and institutional users is clear.

As much of Fort Collins' future growth will occur outside the City's water utility service area, tighter partnerships and programmatic integrations with service providers such as East Larimer County Water District (ELCO) and Fort Collins-Loveland Water District (FCLWD) are essential to achieving the WEP's goals. Without alignment across providers, new development risks falling short of the water efficiency standards Fort Collins has committed to. These challenges are both well-known and well-documented.

We support the WEP's call for programmatic updates that enable more cohesive, collaborative water strategies—especially in sharing data, tracking progress, and engaging partners like HOAs, schools, and commercial users. True water resilience will be within reach when efficiency programs are seamless and inclusive, regardless of a neighbor's water provider.

As stewards of public parks and recreation spaces, we recognize the opportunity and responsibility to model water-wise practices. The WEP provides a clear framework for continued innovation from parks to medians to alleyways to open space, ensuring each investment supports our broader environmental and public health goals. We commend City staff for their forward-thinking work and leadership in these areas.

We particularly appreciate the WEP's emphasis on making efficiency both visible and accessible, ensuring that City lands and buildings demonstrate best practices for the broader community. We look forward to supporting the plan's implementation through continued planning, education, and collaborative stewardship of Fort Collins' valued outdoor and indoor spaces.

With our thanks to Alice Conovitz, Madeline Duke, staff from Water Conservation, Parks, and other departments, and the consultant teams from INTERA and Lotus Engineering and Sustainability for their thoughtful work, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board offers our support for the adoption of the 2025 Water Efficiency Plan (WEP).

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
c/o Nick Armstrong, Board Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nick Armstrong". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.