

Referring Civic Assembly Recommendations for the Hughes site to Nov 2025 ballot

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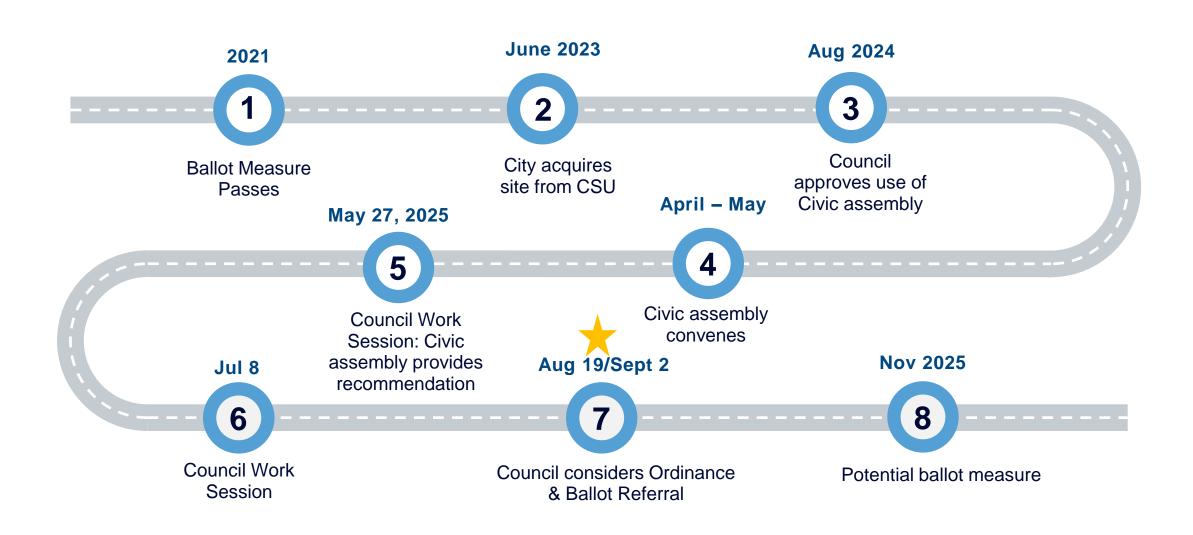
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Overview





Civic Assembly Question





"Informed by the diverse needs of our community, what use of the Hughes site will contribute most effectively to Fort Collins' long-term vitality and meet the requirements outlined in the 2021 ballot measure?"

2021 Ballot Measure

Shall the City enact an ordinance requiring the City Council of the City of Fort Collins to immediately rezone upon passage of the ordinance a 164.56-acre parcel of real property formerly home to the Hughes Stadium from the Transition District to the Public Open Lands District, and requiring the City to acquire the property at fair market value to use said property for parks, recreation, and open lands, natural areas, and wildlife rescue and restoration, and further prohibiting the City from de- annexing, ceasing acquisition efforts or subsequently rezoning the property without voter approval of a separate initiative réferred to the voters by City Council, and granting legal standing to any registered elector in the City to seek injunctive and/or declaratory relief in the courts related to City noncompliance with said ordinance?



Proposed November 2025 Ballot Question



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 (the "Council-Adopted Ordinance"), was adopted by the City Council on September 2, 2025, and differs from the Citizen-Initiated Ordinance on the November 2025 ballot (which would require 100% of the Hughes Site to be designated as a City Natural Area) by:

- requiring multi-use development and management for the approximately 165-acre Hughes Site;
- requiring the City to consult with Native American tribes and the Indigenous community throughout the process;
- requiring site plans to feature native and xeric vegetation and a naturalistic architectural palette, and include the following new amenities for the Hughes Site:
 - a City natural area, up to 60 acres;
 - dedicated space and facilities for environmental education and wildlife conservation, to include wildlife rescue and rehabilitation, up to 30 acres;
 - o a trail system throughout the site connected to nearby City natural areas and parks;
 - o a City park with a community bike park up to 35 acres, a community gathering area and appropriate related facilities;
- · including continuing existing uses, such as disc golf and winter sledding; and
- requiring the City to manage these uses over time as planning, design and funding allow, in accordance with regular City planning and review processes, and consistent with the Public Open Lands zoning.

Shall the Council-Adopted Ordinance for multi-use of the Hughes Site be approved?