

## Water Commission REGULAR MEETING

## DRAFT UNAPPROVED MINUTES EXCERPT

March 20, 2025 – 5:30 PM

222 Laporte Ave., 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Colorado River Room

*The Water Commission advises the City Council regarding water, wastewater and stormwater policy issues such as water rights, planning, acquisition and management, conservation and public education, floodplain regulations, storm drainage and development design criteria. Read more:*

<https://www.fcgov.com/cityclerk/boards/water>

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

- a. 5:30 PM

### 2. ROLL CALL

- a. *Commissioners Present (in person):* Chairperson Jordan Radin, Vice Chair Tyler Eldridge, Commissioners Kahn, Martin, Bishop
- b. *Commissioners Absent:* Commissioners Herman, Ng, Primsky, Steed
- c. *Staff Members Present (in person):* Jill Oropeza, Katherine Martinez, Matt Fater, Honora Thompson, Alice Conovitz, Joe Wimmer. *Online:* Randy Reuscher, Wes Lamarque
- d. *Guests (in person):* Carson Madryga. *Online:* Neil Princic

### 8. New BUSINESS

#### a. REGULAR ITEMS

##### i. Oak Street Stormwater Project: Additional Appropriation

Director of Civil Engineering Matt Fater provided an overview of the project, currently under construction since July 2024 and progressing as planned.

Staff has identified need for an additional \$1.5 million appropriation from Stormwater reserve funds for remaining project support services (such as added soil and backfill needs, added concrete and asphalt replacements, Art in Public Places, and Utility tie-in and inspections) as well as a minor contingency for unanticipated costs to complete the project; completion is scheduled for June 2026. Total appropriated budget to date is \$42.8 million.

To date, about 35% of the work has been completed, including 772 linear feet (LF) of tunneling and 1,555 LF of mainline storm sewer.

Staff requested a recommendation for approval from Water Commission for the April 15 City Council meeting.

[The Oak Street Stormwater Improvements Project](#) is a priority stormwater project for the City because it will significantly contribute to resolving the urban flooding and stormwater quality issues in downtown Fort Collins. The project includes street enhancements such as a rain garden installation in progress at Oak and Howes streets.

Total project appropriations is \$44,382,815. Appropriations request, balance provides 1.6% contingency: \$1.5 million. Mr. Fater complimented the great work of Special Projects Manager Heather McDowell, the project team, and contractors.

Discussion Highlights: Commissioners commented on and inquired about various related topics including the 1.6% contingency; impacts on insurance rates for residents and businesses upon project completion (Mr. Fater responded downtown floodplain is not a federally recognized floodplain but the City maintains a good rating -- one of the highest in the U.S. -- with the national flood insurance program.)

**Vice Chair Eldridge moved** for Water Commission to recommend approval to City Council for a supplemental appropriation of \$1,500,000 from Stormwater reserves to complete the Oak Street Stormwater Project.

**Commissioner Bishop seconded the motion.**

Vote on the motion: **it passed unanimously, 5-0**

*Minutes will be approved by the Chair and a vote of the Water Commission on 04/17/2025.*