



September 9, 2024

Hon. Mayor Arndt and City Council Members  
City Hall  
300 Laporte Avenue  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

**RE: 2025-26 Budgeting For Outcomes Offers**

The Fort Collins Downtown Development Authority (“DDA”) Board of Directors met on September 5, 2024, and considered its expression of support for certain budget offers contained in the City Manager’s Recommended 2025-26 Budget relative to the interests of the downtown area and the DDA organization.

The Board would like to convey its appreciation for the difficult and challenging decisions the City Council must make when considering which budget items most appropriately align with the community’s priorities. We thank you for your thoughtful deliberations and for the sincere effort that goes into approving the municipal budget.

The DDA Board of Directors respectfully submits its strong support for Council approval of the following budget items that **are recommended** by the City Manager for funding in 2025-26. These offers include:

***Economic Health***

- 55.1: Downtown Parks and Amenities Maintenance

***High Performing Government***

- 59.2 : *Urban Forest Management- Tree Infrastructure Replacement*

***Transportation***

- 66.6: Old Town Parking Structure
- 66.9: Old Town Parking Structure Preventative Maintenance and Repairs

These offers support the fundamental activities of a highly functioning and well managed downtown where there is an intentional effort around placemaking and where maintenance problems are intended to be fixed right away.

***Safe Community***

- 29.24 *Police: Axon Bundle*

In recent months, Downtown stakeholders have expressed to Police leadership their desire to see more active foot patrols by District 1 police officers. This offer funds technology that will reduce an officer’s administrative time resulting in more proactive police enforcement in the downtown area.

**Transportation**

- 66.8: Parking: Fixed License Plate Recognition

While DDA Board encourages City Council to fund this offer, the DDA would request that the funding allows for some flexibility within the offer to fund alternative technology solutions that could be recommended through the efforts of a parking consultant anticipated to be hired in quarter 4 of 2024. The DDA has committed funding to support this work by a parking management consultant in 2024 as part of its 5-Year Investment Plan.

In addition, the DDA Board understands and recognizes that resources are limited and would like to address one specific offer that was **not recommended** by the City Manager for funding. This offer include:

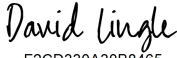
***Neighborhood & Community Vitality***

- 44.15: Homelessness Foundational Programs

The DDA encourages the City Council to consider support for this item as funds become available in the future because of the important outcomes this funding provides for the community as demonstrated over the last few years. This offer helps to fund 24/7 shelter services downtown, a successful model in the eyes of both businesses in the shelter vicinity and local law enforcement. Absent this option, we often see individuals sleeping in public spaces downtown and along the river.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and DDA management, thank you for your continued support of Downtown Fort Collins.

Sincerely,

Signed by:  
  
F2CD330A30B8465...

David Lingle  
Board Chair



Matt Robenalt  
Executive Director

September 8, 2024

Honorable Members of the Fort Collins City Council

As Members and Attenders of Fort Collins Friends Meeting (also known as Quakers) our faith leads us to strongly believe in the value of every member of our community. Thank you for your past support for the vulnerable residents of our community through funding of the Eviction and Immigrant Legal Funds. These funds have helped over 1,000 residents stabilize their living situation.

As active participants in the Family Housing Network organization, Fort Collins Friends have seen the trauma and stress that losing housing puts on vulnerable families, whether they are long-time residents of Fort Collins or recent arrivals. Often families tell us that they ended up in this situation due to one or two financial or legal events that resulted in loss of housing. Timely intervention, such as the assistance provided by the Eviction and Immigrant Legal Funds, can avoid months or even years of unstable housing for vulnerable families.

It has come to our attention that the proposed City budget would eliminate funding for Eviction and Immigrant Legal Funds. We believe that eliminating this funding would put numerous families at risk and will cost our community much more than the small funding these programs require. Please take action to build opportunities for stabilizing and strengthening working families in our community by budgeting for ongoing funding for the Eviction and Immigrant Legal Funds. Thank you for your consideration.

Robert Shively  
Robert Shively

Melina Shalk

Melina Shalk

Carol Reilly  
Carol Reilly

Roll Bowd

Zachary Lust

Bill Jason

Liana Zweggardt

Sam Thompson

Allison E. Shaw

Elaeni Badiere  
Rosalind Doak  
Patricia & Danie  
City Munion

Kate Ford

Bob Doak

Les Relling

Don Elton Smith

Kelly McCarthy

Juni Fair

Lucie Bauder

Carla J. Parker

Carla J. Parker



# PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL UCC

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September 8, 2024

Dear Fort Collins City Council and City Manager:

We, members and friends of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, are writing to urge you to continue to include both the **Eviction Legal Fund** and the **Immigration Legal Fund** in the 2025 City Budget, which is now under consideration.

Our congregational purpose includes the commitment to “help make the reign of God visible in the lives of people, individually and collectively.” This leads us to do our ministry in partnership with community efforts to make Fort Collins a safe, welcoming and supportive home to all who live here.

We have referred a number of persons/households to the several organizations that share responsibility for stewardship of these Funds. An asylum-seeking family we are supporting is currently benefiting from legal counsel and other assistance made available through ISAAC.

We encourage you to see these Funds as an *investment* in the future of this community. These Funds both meet immediate needs *and* help provide a pathway to self-sufficiency. Through the collaboration with participating agencies, it becomes possible to recognize – *and address* – the vulnerabilities that have caused the current crisis: unemployment, unaffordable housing, food insecurity, and lack of legal status or affordable legal assistance. These Funds have both helped our at-risk neighbors directly *and* led the way to filling the systemic gaps in services and procedures that exacerbate their vulnerability.

Plymouth has been involved in these issues for decades. We were involved when the Murphy Center/Homeward Alliance came to be. We were, for many years, a screening site for persons seeking Rent Assistance from Neighbor To Neighbor. We were a founding Faith Community Member of ISAAC. We have been involved in shepherding numerous refugee households. During COVID, support of households facing eviction was one of several foci of an ongoing Plymouth Gives campaign. Whenever possible, our human and financial resources go to programs aimed at addressing causes rather than simply meeting an immediate need.

The Eviction... and Immigration Legal Funds parallel these priorities and have the capacity to address these needs far more we can – even in collaboration with critical partner organizations – by ourselves. *It takes a city.*

As a budget is a significant document in the life of a household or a Faith Community, so it is with a city. It reflects the city's priorities, commitments and aspirations. We urge you to once again show Fort Collins' commitment to being a just and diverse community, one that cares for all its residents, including those who face housing insecurity and/or legal challenges due to immigration status.

With both gratitude for past support of the Eviction... and Immigration Legal Funds - and hope that they will once more be part of our community life,

Sincerely,

**Members and Friends of Plymouth Congregational UCC**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>
ALLEN BILLINGTON <i>San Diego</i>	80526
<i>Leslie Preston</i>	80526
KAYL RICE	80525
Rw. <i>Elizabeth Wells Harglerad</i>	80521
Rev. <i>Ann N. McClary</i>	80520
April C. Mason	80525
Jan McIntosh	80538
Tom McIntosh	80538
ROD + JEFF CLOUGH	80547
John C. McInerney	80525
Eldon Schmidt	80550
Eric Johnson	80521
Viki Johnson	80521
Shirley LaPoint	80521

Members and Friends of Plymouth Congregational UCC

Name	Zip Code
Susan Susan J. Rayner	80524
John Karbula	80521
Linda Mehan	80526
Joyce Butcher	80526
Gudy Fehusch Wolf Fehusch	80536 80526
Katherine Sigel	80526
E. A. Hill	80526
R. Hanning	80525
Wilkey	80524
Josie Rankin	80521
Barbara Fraley	80525
Mignon Paez	80526
Anne C. Thompson	80526
Karen Nesler	80528
Ken Morrison	80524
Bill Thompson	80526
Rev. Dr. Marta Fiedor	85417
Sarah Parmenter	80526
Anne L. Jordan	80524



**From:** [Sarah Kane](#)  
**To:** [Amy Resseguie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Eviction Legal Fund and Immigration Legal Fund  
**Date:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:34:52 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** paige noon <[paige.noon@gmail.com](mailto:paige.noon@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 9, 2024 9:35 AM  
**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>  
**Cc:** Mary Lou Smith <[mllsmith@buenavidafarm.com](mailto:mllsmith@buenavidafarm.com)>; Gretchen Haley <[gretchen@foothillsuu.org](mailto:gretchen@foothillsuu.org)>; Arpi Miller <[arpi@isaacnoco.org](mailto:arpi@isaacnoco.org)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Eviction Legal Fund and Immigration Legal Fund

September 8, 2024

Dear Fort Collins City Council,

A few months ago I was driving through the trailer park at Harmony Village to pick up someone for early morning surgery. It was 5 am, the sun not yet up. The maze of trailers is impressive and it's easy to get lost. On every street and every bend there were pickup trucks and vans jammed into parking spots at all angles with no space to spare. The sides of the trucks read "Painting" services our community needs. It was a striking scene and, moreover, because all these workers were clearly living together in crowded mobile homes.

I know some of these people. For more than 5 years now I have accompanied immigrants from Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Mexico and Venezuela. I have driven them to ICE and court appointments, to consultations with attorneys, to medical appointments, to the emergency room, the dentist, the Food Bank and grocery stores to name a few. I also have offered, and continue to offer, beginning English conversational classes. Many in the community I am familiar with work 6 days a week from sunup to sundown. The only day they have free is Sunday. Sunday is the day they buy groceries, play baseball, clean their own houses and learn English. As you can imagine, they do not understand our legal system or how to navigate our housing situation. They do not have the resources to help themselves.

Thank you for your service to our community. You have our sincere gratitude. Also thank you for establishing two programs, the Eviction Legal Fund and the Immigration Legal Fund, that have provided resources to those in the hardworking community I have been writing about. These families who contribute significantly to the foundation of our local economy. I am a member of Foothills Unitarian Church and actively participate in ISAAC (Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition). ISAAC accompanies immigrants as they settle into their lives here in Fort Collins. ISAAC has used funds from the Eviction Legal Fund to educate and connect all people, whether new immigrants or not, to resources that exist in our community. This has been a low-cost way to prevent homelessness for many families. Providing our neighbors with information about their rights and how our systems work is empowering. Empowered communities are resilient communities.



**The Immigration Legal Fund**, has helped immigrants as well. Often families come here escaping oppression and persecution. They do not understand our immigration system and how they might seek asylum or other forms of relief. The Immigration Legal Fund allows them to obtain sound legal advice as well as support them financially as they make applications for asylum, work permits or protective status to name a few. I have referred many immigrants to ISAAC, Alianza NORCO and Homeward Alliance over the years. These organizations have been financially supported by the City of Fort Collins. I can't imagine where I would send people in need of services if these organizations and Fort Collins funds weren't available.

One person in particular stands out to me. She came here as a juvenile to live with her uncle because her father had been abusive. She was able to obtain SIJS (Special Immigrant Juvenile Status) status because of help from city funds. She now has a green card and has established her own roofing business where she employs many other immigrants. At every turn there was support that the city provided. Thank you, thank you!

**We often say that it is better to offer a person a fishing rod than a fish** to empower them to take charge of their lives. This is exactly what these funds do. They empower people. The City of Fort Collins is a wealthy town. We have beautiful planters and garden strips, murals, music venues, open spaces, bike trails and parks. We care about quality of life. But what is more important is that we care about all people who live in our community. That we invest in them, in their lives. This is the kind of place I want to live...where we support and hold up everyone.

Sincerely,

Paige Noon  
1307 West Mountain Ave  
Fort Collins, CO 80521  
979-556-1537

**From:** [Sarah Kane](#)  
**To:** [Amy Resseguie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] Re: Please continue your support for Immigration Legal Fund and Eviction Legal Fund  
**Date:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:35:21 PM

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**From:** [marylou@hereandnowfarm.com](mailto:marylou@hereandnowfarm.com) <[marylou@hereandnowfarm.com](mailto:marylou@hereandnowfarm.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2024 11:51 AM  
**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>  
**Cc:** [jeniarndt53@gmail.com](mailto:jeniarndt53@gmail.com)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please continue your support for Immigration Legal Fund and Eviction Legal Fund

Hello to all of you. First, a hearty thanks for the backing many of you gave the initial funding of these two funds. As you consider which of the many great “below the line” programs should go into the new budget, I encourage you to choose these two funds. While I know you are receiving letters from many of us in the community, perhaps this one specific to a particular immigrant will be of special interest to you. I will try to keep it short.

M, just 24 years old, came to the US seven months ago from Guatemala. In May, we welcomed her as a new participant in our Hispanic Women’s Farming Proyecto [www.proyectofarming.org](http://www.proyectofarming.org) In addition to working full time clearing tables at the Pancake House (a business I am told is very good to its immigrant workers) she is growing vegetables on 160 square feet at the new Fat Donkey Farm on west Mulberry. She and one of our veteran HWFP members, N, are each growing vegetables at that farm—on land and with water contributed by the Schmid/Goering families. M. and N. are marketing their vegetables via several venues, including an upcoming sale at Odell Brewing in celebration of Hispanic Culture Month. Vegetables they have not been able to sell elsewhere are being purchased at 65 cents on the dollar by the Fort Collins Food Bank through a federal program the Food Bank hopes to continue past this year.

Though I am careful not to get involved in the immigration issues of the seven women we have in the Proyecto—women from Mexico, Guatemala, and Nicaragua—M. recently told me she is getting help on her immigration case from an attorney. She learned about the opportunity and available funding through Fuerza Latina and ISAAC (Interfaith Solidarity and Accompaniment Coalition). While at my house one day learning how to prepare a proposal to participate in a local event, M. received a call that lit up her eyes. She had just learned that the half of the legal fee not covered by ISAAC was being covered by an anonymous community member.

In addition to everything else she is doing, M. is attending weekly get togethers at the trailer house of a Nicaraguan immigrant to learn English. A couple of us from Foothills Unitarian are offering this informal opportunity for the 4-6 immigrants who come each week.

M.is a good example of how Fort Collins is helping immigrants make better lives for themselves here. No matter what any of us thinks about our dysfunctional national immigration policy, these good people are already here, and we can accompany them as they work hard to make their way—and to be contributing members of our community.

Please take this story into consideration as you make tough budget decisions this year.

Your 51 year constituent (having moved to Fort Collins in 1973!)

MaryLou Smith

970-222-9682

**From:** [Sarah Kane](#)  
**To:** [Amy Resseguie](#)  
**Subject:** FW: [EXTERNAL] City budget input: ILF and ELF  
**Date:** Monday, September 9, 2024 1:35:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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**From:** Joy Sullivan <[coloradojoy7@gmail.com](mailto:coloradojoy7@gmail.com)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2024 12:10 PM  
**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] City budget input: ILF and ELF

Hello Mayor Arndt and councilmembers,

Vida Sana (now Mi Voz) can drive. That's right—this coalition advocating for the health, safety and well being of our immigrant and Latine community came to life 16 years ago. The coalition's work has included advocacy, preservation and protection of mobile home parks; expansion of access to healthcare; improvement of culturally attuned City recreation services; and even a comprehensive equity audit of the City's budget back in 2016... just to name a few.

As one of the community members who helped ignite and support the ongoing advocacy with and for this critical community of Fort Collins, today I am writing to urge you to include two budget items this year to continue supporting our immigrant and other under resourced community who are literally the frontline of many of our employment sectors in Fort Collins: The Immigration Legal Fund (ILF) and the Eviction Legal Fund (ELF). We cannot talk about equity, inclusion and belonging while simultaneously cutting these programs from the Choice City budget. And, these funds both align with council priorities of:

Improve human and social health for vulnerable populations  
Pursue an integrated, intentional approach to economic health

Specifically, the ILF has been instrumental in supporting DACA renewals for friends, colleagues, students, neighbors and employers who literally have no workforce to meet the demands of its business. These workers are the literal threads to our quilt of economic development.

Similarly, as we have seen home attainability and affordability at an all time high in FC, the ELF has been instrumental in supporting a diverse community of renters and forging critical partnerships with nonprofit housing, homeless and justice providers in Ft Collins.

I am proud to have called Fort Collins home for 30 years this fall and the work, friendships, and connections with our immigrant and Latine communities has made my life rich beyond measure...and Fort Collins a place in which I want to live.

I urge you to continue providing municipal funding to the ILF and ELF to put our money where we say our priorities lie: supporting families, workers, our economy, and most importantly, a community in which we ALL belong.

Thank you all for your service to our beloved community,

Joy D. Sullivan

District 4 resident

**From:** Susan Ferguson <[susan.ferguson@comcast.net](mailto:susan.ferguson@comcast.net)>

**Sent:** Friday, September 6, 2024 3:34 PM

**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Immigrants funds

I'm writing in support of:

**The Immigration Legal Fund and Eviction Legal Fund**

**If we truly want to be a city that welcomes all and is diverse we need to offer these types of resources.**

**Susan Ferguson**

**1313 Tuckaway Ct**

**80525**

**From:** Gloria Kat <[gloria@thefamilycenterfc.org](mailto:gloria@thefamilycenterfc.org)>  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 7, 2024 10:01 AM  
**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Support the Immigration Legal Fund

Dear City Council Members,

Thank you for your time and dedication to making Fort Collins a welcoming city for individuals and families from all backgrounds. As a community-based organization serving Latinx and immigrant families who have settled in northern Colorado for multiple generations, bringing their skills and talents, I am writing to request funding to continue supporting the Immigration Legal Fund (ILF). For the past two years this funding has filled a much-needed service gap.

The benefits of a well-funded and well-managed immigrant legal fund program extend beyond the six agencies receiving funding; it also bolsters the workforce, local businesses, and the health and well-being of individuals who choose Fort Collins as their home.

As you move forward with budget deliberations, please consider funding the ILF on behalf of the most vulnerable families that continue to face systemic barriers to living a life with dignity.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully

**Gloria Kat**

Executive Director

[gloria@thefamilycenterfc.org](mailto:gloria@thefamilycenterfc.org)

**The Family Center / La Familia**

309 Hickory Street #5 / Fort Collins, CO 80524

970.818.2887







From: Gretchen Haley <[gretchen@foothillsuu.org](mailto:gretchen@foothillsuu.org)>

Sent: Friday, September 6, 2024 11:12 PM

To: City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>

Cc: Tom Rhodes <[tomrhodes2010@gmail.com](mailto:tomrhodes2010@gmail.com)>; Ticie Rhodes <[ticierhodes@gmail.com](mailto:ticierhodes@gmail.com)>; MaryLou Smith <[mlsmith@buenavidafarm.com](mailto:mlsmith@buenavidafarm.com)>; paige noon <[paige.noon@gmail.com](mailto:paige.noon@gmail.com)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Immigration Legal Fund and Eviction Legal Fund

Dear City Council Members,

As you meet to consider the City's budget for the next two years, I am writing to urge you to include two budget items related to the immigrant and other at-risk families living in our community. The first is the Immigration Legal Fund and the second is the Eviction Legal Fund. These funds are crucial for keeping families together, providing stability and benefiting the Fort Collins community as a whole.

The Immigration Legal Fund provides DACA renewals for immigrants brought to the US as children, legal assistance for those with credible asylum cases, and funds Work Authorization applications. This fund benefits not only individuals, but helps keep families together by halting deportations, reducing workplace abuse and wage theft, and promoting economic stability. The ILF also broadens our local tax base and allows for more workers at a time when the Workforce Commission has found more job vacancies locally than people to fill them.

The Eviction Legal Fund has a proven track record of success, serving tenant families of all nationalities, provides conflict mediation training to landlords and community groups and provides legal representation and filing fees in cases where tenant families face eviction due to extraordinary circumstances. The ELF has also funded seven quarterly Community Empowerment Clinics where housing support providers such as Neighbor-to-Neighbor, Homeward Alliance, Community Mediation programs and the Court Resource Center provide resources and information to at-risk community members.

Stable families are crucial to a stable community. The Immigration Legal Fund and the Eviction Legal fund help provide that stability, keeping families in their homes and children in their local schools, allowing those who wish to work with the means to do so legally, and generally benefitting our Fort Collins community in so many ways. I truly hope you will support the renewal of these two funds at their current levels, at a minimum.

Our congregation has been committed in partnership and solidarity with immigrants in our community for the whole of our 126 years in this community. We know our city was built by immigrants, despite the deep roots of systemic racism and inequality. Today, more than 1200 adults and 300 children in our congregation continue to believe in a vision of Fort Collins where we prioritize a welcome and a commitment to equity for our immigrant neighbors, a generous community that puts hospitality at our center. We ask you to live up to these values and renew these funds, even as you continue to find new ways to center these values in our future.

On behalf of the most vulnerable among us,

Rev. Gretchen Haley, Senior Minister

Foothills Unitarian Church

[gretchen@foothillsuu.org](mailto:gretchen@foothillsuu.org)

303.877.0934

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Rev. Gretchen Haley (she/her)

[Foothills Unitarian Church](#)

1815 Yorktown Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80526

Call or text me at [303-877-0934](tel:303-877-0934)

Connect with me on [Facebook](#)

Find my writing at [Another Possibility](#)

Make an appointment with me [here](#).

*"Our challenge is to move creatively in an adventure whose prayer is, 'What improbable task, with which unpredictable results, shall we undertake today?'" - Sharon Welch*

**From:** Linden Street Tattoo Company <contact@lindenstreettattooco.com>

**Sent on:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 6:29:22 PM

**To:** City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

Dear city leaders,

We are a business in Old Town, specifically Linden Street. Our street was renovated and planter structures were built on our street specifically for the flowers. We are in support of having those filled with flowers every year. The flowers add a fun, vibrant environment to our downtown and it would be a shame to lose that.

Thank you,

Toni-Marie LaBrec

Linden Street Tattoo Company

218 Linden Street

970-221-2340

**From:** Lourdes Alvarez <lmalvarez12@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Wednesday, August 21, 2024 8:38:27 PM

**To:** City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

There are doubtless many priorities vying for funding and support. I just wanted to send a message reminding you how important it is that we have flowers and lovely landscaping downtown. It lifts the spirits of residents and visitors and communicates order and care and pride in our city.

Thanks for all you do!

Lourdes Alvarez

2624 Bradbury Ct, Fort Collins, CO 80521

From: Jeff Smead <jjsjanitorialservices@outlook.com>

Sent on: Thursday, August 22, 2024 1:43:10 AM

To: City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Flowers and Plants throughout Old Town

Dear Community Leaders.

I am letting you know that I am concerned about doing away with one of the most spectacular parts of our downtown: the flowers and plants.

Please note that this is an essential piece of Fort Collins's uniqueness. Please consider other options to keep this piece of our community going. I appreciate your time and consideration of this matter. Thank you.

Sent from Samsung Galaxy smartphone.

Get [Outlook for Android](#)

**From:** Michele Pullaro <mmpullaro@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Saturday, August 24, 2024 1:12:15 AM

**To:** City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

I am a small business owner on the corner of E Oak and College Avenue in Downtown Fort Collins. I love the flowers and so do my customers and tourists.

However on the corners of E. Oak & College our flower pots & gardens behind the benches are just a living patio for seasonal criminal transients who live in them for weeks on end smoking, dealing and doing drugs, abusing animals, using it as their own dressing room in broad daylight even though the public bathrooms are less than 1 block away, even bathing in the Oak Street Plaza splash pad if they bathe at all. I call the FCPS almost everyday and they are amazing but there is only so much that they can do. All of this is referenced to in my letter to Emily Francis pleading for help but...alas, I never got a response. Outreach has assisted these individuals also on a daily basis but there has been zero improvement in their behavior.

You might as well just be putting lipstick on a pig to continue creating such an oasis for these individuals. Our tax dollars should maybe spent on barbed wire and drug sniffing dogs.

The city leaders need to take pride in our downtown and its small businesses and help us thrive which may include beautiful landscaping but, most of all should provide us and our community safety and security and environment that we can survive in. Our alleys have more protection for "health, welfare, and safety of the community" than our beautiful city funded downtown street corners.

The garden areas behind the benches are used for drug drops if you didn't know.... I can't believe what I see and am exposed to on a daily basis. I am afraid of what the children and families are exposed to every day and so should you be.

<https://7b010766.flowpaper.com/FORTY081924FinalCompressed/#page=2>

Michele Pullaro

**From:** manbear pat <patmanbear@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Monday, August 19, 2024 2:20:37 PM

**To:** City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

I find the flowers to be an incredible vibe in our downtown community.

Please keep it going!

Patrick Yeager

From: Jenna Goupil-Puckett <jenna@brightrain.com>

Sent on: Saturday, August 17, 2024 10:23:34 PM

To: City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

PLEASE PLEASE PLEASE continue funding the Flower Projects in Fort Collins. This was one of the reasons we moved here in 2014 and every year I enjoy the beautiful flowers in and around Old Town. All of our visiting guests comment on how cared for our town is and the flowers elevate the atmosphere and bring pride to our residents. Thanks again for the stewardship of our finances and for taking care to ask residents our opinions. I would like to thank you for the many, many years of finding the funds to support the flowers and planters' maintenance downtown. I know this is an expense, but I believe the investment comes back tenfold.

Urge your support for the continued funding for the flowers in Old Town Fort Collins.

Jennifer Goupil



**From:** Mari Strombom Johnson <mstrombom@gmail.com>

**Sent on:** Friday, August 16, 2024 8:40:43 PM

**To:** City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Downtown Flower Project Funding

Dear City of Fort Collins Leaders,

I am writing to extend my full support of continuing funding for the Downtown Flower Project. I believe that the flowers downtown have positive impacts on the way the citizens of Fort Collins and guests view our city.

I remember when what is now the Opera Galleria was sitting empty, when the downtown alleys were smelly and dark, and downtown was not an especially welcoming place to visit. While the Downtown Flower Project was not the only thing that turned around perceptions and experiences of downtown Fort Collins, I believe it has been responsible for a major part of that change.

Professionally I am currently responsible for a budget of over \$112M so I understand the challenge of working through competing priorities to determine what is and what is not funded, especially when requests exceed anticipated revenues. I don't envy the tough decisions that you will have to make, and I do hope that you will be able to find a way to continue funding the Downtown Flower Project as an investment in the future and in the perceptions of our city.

Thank you for the work that you do toward making Fort Collins a welcoming, safe, and attractive city for all residents.

Mari

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Mari Strombom Johnson  
[mstrombom@gmail.com](mailto:mstrombom@gmail.com)  
970-493-8543

From: Beth DeHaven <[bethadehaven@gmail.com](mailto:bethadehaven@gmail.com)>

Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 7:07 AM

To: City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>

Cc: Beth DeHaven <[bethadehaven@gmail.com](mailto:bethadehaven@gmail.com)>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Urgent Request: Continue to Support Immigration Legal Fund and Eviction Legal Fund

Dear Fort Collins City Council Members,

I write to you this morning as a supporter of ISAAC, a member of Our Saviours Lutheran Church in Fort Collins, and someone who values immigrants in our community.

I recently attended an informal meeting with Councilman Ohlson where we discussed the many ways that the Immigration Legal Fund and the Eviction Legal Fund have provided essential legal services for over two years to immigrants and other low income community members. You have all been so supportive of these funds in the past, and I thank you so much for that support. This year, when the funds are at risk of being cut from the budget, I know that other "below the line" items will be weighed against these funds. I am a big proponent of "cost effectiveness" evaluation, and I think you will agree that the way these funds have been used is at the top of the scale by this method of evaluation.

Then, this morning, I read another story of how false information about Haitian immigrants has gone viral and how elected officials and candidates for elected office have picked up and spread this lie, adding fuel to the fire. Coming so soon after the false information spread about Venezuelan immigrants in Aurora, it swells the tide of immigrant hatred in our country.

I am hoping and praying that Fort Collins will continue to stand out as a shining example of a city who values and supports our immigrant friends.

Beth DeHaven

839 Sunchase Dr.

Fort Collins, CO 80524

**RECEIVED**

**SEP 09 2024**

**City Manager's Office**

**Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, ELCA**

God's work. Our hands.

2000 S. Lemay Avenue

Fort Collins, Colorado 80525-1204

Dear City Council Member,

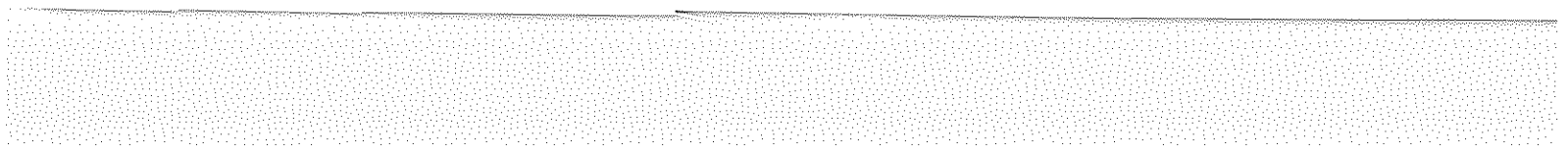
Please find attached two petitions signed by members of Our Saviour's Lutheran Church in Fort Collins. We appreciate your past support of the **Immigration Legal Fund** and the **Eviction Legal Fund** and ask you to include both of these funds in the 2025 City Budget.



John W. Bisbee  
Petition Coordinator  
cjtraveler@msn.com

10/10/10

10/10/10



## Immigration Legal Fund petition

Thank you for your past support of the Fort Collins Immigration Legal Fund (ILF). This program has laid the foundation for better immigrant integration in our community. Everyone, no matter who they are, should have the opportunity to present their case in a fair and just manner, by having someone who can advocate for their interests.

The ILF provides legal assistance for immigration representation and filings, which unlocks work authorization for nearly 100% of applicants. As a result, there are more persons filling job openings at a time when, according to the Workforce Commission, there are more job vacancies than people to fill them. It also means that more tax revenue is coming into the city.

I ask you to continue funding the ILF. It is critical that this important work continue without a gap in services.

NAME	<del>FORT COLLINS</del> STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Vicki Decker	801 Panorama Pl. Windsor	80550
Leta Behrens	8570 Man O War Wellington	80549
Sen Shelley	4641 Eagle Lk S	80524
WESLEY PETERSEN	7325 TAMARISK DR. Fort Collins	80529
Anita Bleem	1219 Springwood Dr. Foco CO	80525
Rebecca A Shelley	4641 Eagle Lake S.	80524
Beth DeHaven	839 Sun chase Dr	80524
Trina Stegall	10565 Ager St	80504
Dena WPCZ	10565 Ager St	80504
Summer Ploegman	1803 Charleston CT	80526

(over)

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NAME	<del>FORT COLLINS</del> STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
<u>Janie Weir</u>	<u>726 Hickory Ct / 30111st</u>	<u>80512</u>
<u>Alena Clark</u>	<u>4105. Grant Ave</u>	<u>80521</u>
<u>Kristin Frey</u>	<u>1223 Red Oak Ct.</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Mark Lukman</u>	<u>226 Saskatoon</u>	<u>80550</u>
<u>Christopher Frey</u>	<u>1223 Red Oak Ct</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Melody Meier</u>	<u>5400 Vardon Way</u>	<u>80528</u>
<u>Marcia Lynn Twietmeyer</u>	<u>226 Saskatoon Dr</u>	<u>80550</u>
<u>Constance Jensen</u>	<u>147 E Harvard</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Jonathan Marston</u>	<u>5914 Huntington Hills Dr</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Kathrin Harrington</u>	<u>2826 Stachaven Dr</u>	<u>80525</u>

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NAME	FORT COLLINS STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Rebecca A. Shelley	4641 Eagle Lake S	80524
<del>Cynthia B. Lopez</del>		
Peg Hoover	3932 Carrick Rd	80525
Karen Wulff	1206 Silk Oak Ct	80525
Vicki R. Utter	3580 Stanford Rd <sup>apt 316</sup>	80525
Mary Hubbard	1810 Empire Ave	80538





## Eviction Legal Fund petition

Thank you for your past support of the Fort Collins Eviction Legal Fund (ELF). This Fund serves low income tenants of all legal statuses and provides training to housing providers on creating more collaborative and safe communities. This program bring stability and safety to vulnerable communities, benefiting our city as a whole as it decreases families who are unhoused. As housing remains unaffordable for many members of our community, to diminish or eliminate this fund would be highly counterproductive.

The Eviction Legal Fund is particularly critical when a mobile home owner is threatened with eviction from their leased property, and expulsion would mean losing the asset of their mobile home entirely.

I ask you to continue funding the ELF. It is critical that this important work continue without a gap in services.

NAME	<del>FORT COLLINS</del> STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Dave Wisbon	11631 Laporte Ave	80521
Alena Clark	410 S. Grant Ave	80521
Kristin Frey	1223 Red Oak Ct.	80525
Mark Twietmeyer	226 Saskatoon	80550
Christopher Frey	1223 Red Oak Ct	80525
Melody Mistr	5400 Jardon Way	80528
Marcia Lynn Twietmeyer	226 Saskatoon Dr	80550
Constance Jensen	147 E Harvard.	80525
John Eiselt	3361 Gunnison Dr	80526
Jonathan Marston	5919 Huntington Hills Dr	80523

(OVER)

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NAME	FORT COLLINS STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
<u>John W Binsbee</u>	<u>213 Justice Dr</u>	<u>80526</u>
<u>Coral Binsbee</u>	<u>713 Justice Dr.</u>	<u>80526</u>
<u>Chryssie Kramer</u>	<u>2319 Sunleaf Ct</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Timberly Hebert</u>	<u>44998 CR 15</u>	<u>80524</u>
<u>Pat Burger</u>	<u>8093 Cherry Blossom</u>	<u>80550</u>
<u>Jordan Dunn</u>	<u>1229 Solstice Ln</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Paul Allen</u>	<u>147 E Harvard</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Priscilla Goff</u>	<u>2715 JADA Dr.</u>	<u>80525</u>
<u>Marilyn J Oetken</u>	<u>3324 Gunnison Dr.</u>	<u>80526</u>
<u>Ann Wilson</u>	<u>726 Hickory Ct. Bellvue</u>	<u>80512</u>

## Eviction Legal Fund petition

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I ask you to continue funding the ELF. It is critical that this important work continue without a gap in services.

NAME	FORT COLLINS STREET ADDRESS	ZIP CODE
Kathrin Harrington	2826 Stonehaven Dr	80525
Vicki Decker	801 Panorama Pl Windsor	80550
Leta Behrens	8570 Man O War Wellington CO	80549
WESLEY PETERSEN	7328 TAMARISK DR Ft CO 80525, CO	80525
Rebecca A. Sholley	4641 Song Lake S	80524
Anita Bleem	1219 Springwood Dr. Ft Co CO	80525
Beth CeHaven	839 Sun chae Dr	80524
Charles [Signature]	801 Panorama Pl Windsor	80550
Adam Ploegman	1803 Charlotte Ct Ft Collins	80526
Peg Hoover	3932 Carnick Rd	80525

(OVER)



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SEP 09 2024

City Manager's Office

September 8, 2024

Dear Council Member Tricia Canonico,

This letter is to support the inclusion at the current level of funding (and, if possible, expanding the level of funding) of the **Eviction Legal Fund and the Immigration Legal Fund** in the 2025-25 city budget. Your support of these two funds have provided a pathway to diminish the vulnerabilities brought about by unemployment, lack of housing, food insecurity, and lack of legal status. **Thank you for your vision in creating and supporting these funds!** It has made a tremendous impact on the lives of low income families with housing insecurity and refugees/immigrants seeking work authorization.

**Heart of the Rockies Christian Church** has a long history of working with the unhoused and refugees. We are committed to serving all of our neighbors in Fort Collins so they may have flourishing lives in our beloved Fort Collins. We work collaboratively with organizations advocating for the unhoused and refugees. As a result, we have witnessed how these funds have strengthened these organizations' abilities to help stabilize the refugees we help to resettle and the unhoused that we serve. It allows our contributions as a faith community to have a greater impact.

**The Eviction Legal Fund** that serves low income tenants (immigrant and non-immigrant) and provides training to housing providers on how to collaborate with tenants, has filled a significant gap by providing legal representation to low-income tenants. It funds these organizations that we use as referrals in our ministry: The Colorado Poverty Law Project (CPLP), Fuerza Latina, and ISAAC, Over the last 18 months of this budget cycle, the ELF has far outstripped the goals and metrics of the initiative

The refugee families we help to resettle have received legal assistance with immigration filings through Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) and ISAAC, two organizations receiving funding from the **Immigration Legal Fund**. This unlocks **work authorization for them so they can support themselves**. This means that more tax revenue is coming into the city.

Thank you for supporting these funds. We urge you to include these funds, and perhaps expand, that benefit so many working and immigrant families and our community as a whole.

Sincerely,

*Katherine Spore*

Individual Members of the Heart of the Rockies Christian Church

1. *[Signature]*
2. *[Signature]*
3. Janet Wright  
Denise Pisher  
Sheila R. Jain  
Kate Hudson

- [Signature]*
- Rob Smith
- Cory Rosenberg
- Sofanya Frankfurt

- Joann E Johnson
- Ron Reece
- Lynn Jones
- Samuel [Signature]
- Susan Paulburg
- Rachel Chappel
- Donal Mitchell

Continued

Paul Ben  
Greg Head  
Karen Smith

Sharon Peters

Richard Austin

Barbara Fran

Jeff Wright

Debbie Bean

Brandon Taylor

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SEP 09 2024

City Manager's Office

301 Faith Partners  
St Paul's Episcopal  
Mary of Magdala, Ecumenical Catholic  
Trinity Lutheran  
Celebrating at 301 Stuart St. Fort Collins, Colorado 80525



Mary of  
Magdala  
Ecumenical Catholic  
Community



September 8, 2024

Dear Kelly Ohlson,

Our faith organization is made up of three distinct faith communities: Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church and Trinity Lutheran Church all sharing one building (at 301 E. Stuart Street) and sharing social and ecojustice ministry work together as one! We call our partnership 301 Faith Partners. We fully believe that helping our neighbors is what we are called to do from a faith perspective, but we know it is also a human perspective. When our neighbors are thriving, so is our community.

A concern of our members is the lack of funding for the **Immigration Legal Fund** AND the **Eviction Legal Fund** that will be discussed by Council Members in the coming work sessions. We have witnessed the work these two funds have provided for not only immigrants, but members of our low-income community and we would like to see these two funds reinstated to the forthcoming budget (they were part of the last 18 month budget cycle).

At the local level – we feel the need to support low-income families with eviction and legal funding no matter the issues at the Federal level. The Eviction Legal Fund filled an enormous gap with very low-income families. Often times there are 3-4 families living in a mobile home. If they are evicted – the families must leave behind their asset (mobile home owned by family) due to current laws.

These two funds currently support several agencies that collaborate together to fill the gaps needed for low-income and immigrant members of our community. The Eviction Legal Fund currently funds four organizations: The Colorado Poverty Law Project (CPLP), Fuerza Latina, ISAAC, and the City Mediation Program (Conflict Transformation Works). The Immigration Legal Fund currently supports Alianza NORCO, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN) and ISAAC.

We would love to have a personal meeting (in person, via zoom or a phone call) with you regarding these two funds and their impact in the last 18 months and how this could improve our city in the future. We ask that you PLEASE take into consideration putting these two funds back into the City budget!

Sincerely,

301 Faith Partners Joint Social and Eco Justice Committee

(Mary of Magdala Ecumenical Catholic Church, St. Paul's Episcopal Church & Trinity Lutheran Church)

See signatures of members of congregations below

Cornie Vogel - St. Paul's	Genevieve Husley, St. Paul's
Elizabeth C. Pearson - St. Paul's	Karin Hild, St. Paul's
Sharon M. Johnson Trinity Lutheran	
Joseph Perma St. Paul	GARY PIPER
Seth Stapleton St. Paul's	Karin Hild, St. Paul's
Elizabeth Kelly St. Paul's	ammy agape, st Paul's
John Momplesure Aspen	Raven Agape, st Paul's
Paul & Martina Trinity	elena cloza St Paul
William N. Hoefel, III St. Paul's	Sue C. Jamison ST. Paul's
Candice Martin St Paul	Lynda Von Dreese St. Paul's
Jo Caedderhloft St Paul	Rev. Rebecca Smith
Stephanie Duggen - Trinity	Patricia Wedower
Joe Baeth St. Paul	Peter Von Dreese St. Paul's
Terry Bledsoe, St Paul's	Shoda Robin (St Paul's)



Thomas J. Moos

Cynthea Lloyd

David Lloyd

Ron Bend

Kathleen Dattilo

Steph Zink

Mary Ruck

Phil Rowd

Patricia L. Heyer

Judy Matthews

Cheryl Backsen

Donna Danner

James Frye

Nancy McDuffie

Claire Pickrel

Lindsay Reiten

Jean Chapman Smith

P. Carol Persons

Clinton Ecken

Don Heysel

Susan Snyder

Mary of Magdala

Mary of Magdala

Trinity Lutheran

TRINITY LUTHERAN

Trinity

Trinity Lutheran

Trinity Lutheran

Saint Paul's

Trinity Lutheran

Trinity Lutheran

Trinity Lutheran  
St Paul's Episcopal

Trinity Lutheran Church

Mary of Magdala

Mary of Magdala

JLC

TLC

Trinity Lutheran

Jean M Christen (Mary of Magdala ECC)

~~Thomas E (Humber) (mom)~~

~~J. [unclear] (mom)~~

Cheryl F. Smith

Tedra Engel -

Carola Yeazel (mom)

~~L. D. [unclear] (St. Paul's)~~

Ginger Rees

Ann Rees

Steve Birken (TLC)

Rev. Paul Peter (TLC)

~~James J. Snyder (TLC)~~

Nadine A. Hunt (TLC)

Sara Jane Mullanby (TLC)

Janet Morton

Ray Johnson (TLC)

Sent: Tuesday, September 10, 2024 12:28 PM

To: Jeni Arndt <jarndt@fcgov.com>; Susan Gutowsky <sgutowsky@fcgov.com>; Julie Pignataro <jpignataro@fcgov.com>; Tricia Canonico <tcanonico@fcgov.com>; Melanie Potyondy <mpotyondy@fcgov.com>; Kelly Ohlson <kohlson@fcgov.com>; Emily Francis <efrancis@fcgov.com>

Cc: Sarah Kane <SKane@fcgov.com>; Kelly DiMartino <KDIMARTINO@fcgov.com>; Tyler Marr <tmarr@fcgov.com>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Letter from 48 Community Organization Leaders

Hello Dear City Leaders,

We know you have a lot of work before you with tonight's Work Session. We will be following along tonight through a group watch party at the Community Impact Center.

Forty-eight executives and key leaders from 27 Fort Collins-based community organizations and agencies have signed on to this letter encouraging City Council to restore equity funding within the 2025-2026 budget, with special attention to the Eviction Legal Fund and the Immigration Legal Fund.

These leaders have also shared testimony about the impact of these funds on their organizations and the local communities they serve.

The letter with signatures and testimony is attached below as a PDF, and we will also drop hard copies for each of you with the City Manager's Office this afternoon for easy reference and access during the work session.

The picture below is from our Community Empowerment Event on Sunday, attended by 200 low-income community members and 41 local organizations -- an event hosted with assistance from city funds.

With deep gratitude for your commitment to creating alignment between the city budget and our city's values,

Your Fort Collins Community Leaders

**September 9, 2024**

**Dear City Leaders,**

**Three years ago our community worked with the City Council to pilot two programs created to fill significant gaps in services within our community.** Although those gaps existed long before the COVID19 Pandemic, the global health crisis served to expose the depth and complexity of inequities in our community - inequities that make it difficult for low income and historically marginalized community members to survive, let alone thrive.

**The Immigration Legal Fund and the Eviction Legal Fund** were launched as pilot programs in 2021 and then approved in the 2023-2024 City Budget in order to improve access to housing and immigration legal services within the City of Fort Collins, and ultimately to create more safety and stability in workplaces, in the housing sector, and in the city in general.

The 2025-2026 City Budget has now been made public and **both these programs are fully defunded**, meaning the legal and community-based programs, referral networks, collaborations, community stability, and trust that have been built in our city over the last three years are at risk of folding at the end of this calendar year. **This is catastrophic** for the work we have done as a community to increase equity in Fort Collins for low-income families and historically marginalized community members.

**Together, the Eviction and Immigration Legal Funds have provided direct funding to six organizations providing key legal services and connective work in our community:** ISAAC, Alianza NORCO, Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network (RMIAN), Fuerza Latina, Colorado Poverty Law Project (CPLP), and the city mediation program (Conflict Transformation Works).

**In the last 18 months alone, these funds have allowed our community to:**

- >> Provide immigration legal support and work authorization to hundreds of community members and their families
- >> Provide legal coaching, information, and representation to 1200 tenant households
- >> Provide legal expertise on housing and immigration to dozens of fellow agencies and their staff
- >> Host several immigration legal clinics for DACA renewals and citizenship
- >> Train housing providers on mediation, Fair Housing Law, and the creation of collaborative housing communities through eight very well-attended workshops
- >> Train leaders in mobile home parks and apartment complexes on housing rights and conflict mediation within households, between neighbors, and with housing management and landlords
- >> Host seven quarterly community empowerment events attended by an average of 30+ organizations/agencies and 250-400 low income community members each clinic

As importantly, the funds have served as a catalyst for the development of a solid **referral system, sector specific expertise, and a truly collaborative culture between dozens of organizations and agencies** working together to make Fort Collins a safe and stable place

where all community members have equal access to the resources they need to thrive. **Just this past Sunday, Sept 8th, FORTY-TWO organizations gathered for the fall community empowerment clinic** in a joyful and culturally attuned space created to make all people feel at home, informed, connected, and able to navigate life in our city.

**We, the undersigned, ask City Council to restore funding to both the Immigration and Eviction Legal Funds, and to prioritize ALL EQUITY programs within the Fort Collins City Budget.** We have made enormous progress as a community and have become a model to others, but there is still much work to do. Now is not the time to take our community backwards.

*\*\*Please see page 6-9 for additional testimony from the undersigned leaders in their own words.*

**Sincerely,**

Ana L. Schultz  
Regional Director North 2  
Project Protect Food Systems / Project Protect Promotora Network

Thomas Snyder  
Board President  
Colorado Poverty Law Project

Patricia Alvarez Harrell  
Executive Director  
Alianza NORCO

Dr. Arpi Miller  
Executive Director  
ISAAC of Northern Colorado

Patricia Griego  
Voter Registration Drive Lead Organizer  
LatinX Community Network Voter Registration Drive

Betty Aragon-Mitotes  
President  
Mujeres de Colores

Karen Wong-Brown  
Executive Director  
Unified Workforce

Nizhoni Valdez  
Operations Manager  
Alianza NORCO

Keiko Friar  
DEI Manager  
Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

Tessa currie  
Communications manager  
Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

David Rout  
Executive Director  
Homeward Alliance

Gloria Kat  
Executive Director  
The Family Center/La Familia

Kelly Evans  
Executive Director  
Neighbor to Neighbor

Franny McLampy  
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant  
Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

Monique Ramos  
Community Outreach Manager  
Poudre Libraries

Anne Million  
Mentoring Coordinator - ELL and Citizenship Programming  
Poudre Libraries

Jessica Long  
Assistant Programs Director  
Homeward Alliance

Jennaweh Hondrogiannis  
Owner  
Somos Immigration Law, LLC

Jesus Castro Gonzalez  
Programs Director  
ISAAC of Northern Colorado

David Hall  
Owner  
Immigration Attorney, Law Office of David Hall

Rebecca de la Torre, MD  
Medical Doctor  
Fort Collins, CO

Marcela Pajares  
Community Health Worker  
Promotores de Salud

Kate Odenwald  
Executive Director  
Christ Clinic

San Valdez  
Executive Director  
Fort Collins Community Action Network

Laurie Pasricha  
Steering Committee Member and Housing Program Coordinator  
Fuerza Latina

Stephanie Torres, LCSW  
Owner  
Lagrimas Libres, Therapy and Consulting

Maria Castro Gonzalez  
Steering Committee Member  
Fuerza Latina

Jesus Castro Sr.  
Steering Committee Member  
Fuerza Latina

Erika Ramos Garcia  
Steering Committee Member  
Fuerza Latina

Kristy Beachy-Quick  
CWS Fort Collins Site Director  
Church World Service

Sarah Hathcock  
Pediatrician and Community Health Advocate  
Fort Collins, CO

Mekela Goehring  
Executive Director  
Rocky Mountain Immigrant Advocacy Network

Lauren Rafter  
Managing Attorney  
Colorado Poverty Law Project

Letha Gillisse  
Early Childhood Mental Health Consultant  
Early Childhood Council of Larimer County

Amy Hoeven  
Community Dreamer Fund / ISAAC of Northern Colorado  
Board Member

Ian Bonner  
Self-Represented Litigant Coordinator  
8th Judicial District

Adriana Quintero  
Mi Voz Program Director  
The Family Center/La Familia

Oralia Pardo  
Steering Committee Member  
Fuerza Latina

Jessica Sanchez  
Family Support Specialist  
The Family center/La Familia

Jamie Rasmussen  
Director  
BIPOC Alliance

John McKay  
Board Member  
Health District of Northern Larimer County



Maria Elbia Hernandez  
 Leadership/Steering Committee  
 Fuerza Latina

Megan Miller  
 Board Chair  
 Community Dreamer Fund

Community Members:

Lisa Auer  
 Christina Valdez  
 Erica Johnson  
 Ingrid Justin  
 Grace A Moreno

*\*\*Testimony from the above representatives about the importance of continuing funding these programs and these programs have served their organization/staff or the communities they work with:*

- ISAAC has been a vital support system for several agricultural migrant families we work with. They've provided emergency funding when these families have faced extreme difficulties, serving as a safety net during times of crisis. Their programs not only alleviate hardships but also empower individuals by educating them about available resources, enabling them to navigate complex systems and become more self-sufficient. I appreciate ISAAC's focus on equipping families with the knowledge and tools they need to thrive during emergencies and beyond.
- We truly appreciate the support you have provided to thousands of Fort Collins households through these funds. Your assistance has not only helped some of our most vulnerable families find peace and safety during challenging times but has also created pathways towards independence and economic stability, reducing housing insecurities.
- Generations of Fort Collins residents have benefited from these funds, enabling them to work, pay taxes, advocate against predatory housing practices, and retain counsel. Our diverse community, with its varied statuses and experiences, thrives because of these instrumental funds. They are crucial to the success and culture we all strive to embrace as part of the Fort Collins community. We hope that you continue to work alongside us by continuing to fund these proven life changing initiatives.
- The LCN nonpartisan voter registration drive has the goal of increasing civic participation. We have had the privilege of offering voter registration and information at the community clinics where I have had such positive results and where I have seen how so many in our community benefit from the many resources offered by the organizations who table at the clinics. Please continue to fund the community clinics and other programs that contribute to the health and well being of so many. Thank you.

- These funds are vital to so many families that are struggling. When we say we are a community, that means we take care of all families that need these funds.
- These funds are vital for these communities because they want to live in a new place or home. They want to thrive in our community. By helping them, these individuals will become vital citizens for our economy. No matter what countries people are from, we must appreciate all backgrounds. We can make our community by learning from one another in sharing our culture and wisdom with one another.
- This fund is vital to creating citizens, extending work authorization and boosting the local economy and behavioral health of our community!
- We cannot let the trend of cutting equity and DEI programs negatively affect our community. People rely on these funds and our community is stronger because of them. Please vote in your community's best interests.
- This funding was instrumental in helping hundreds of families escape homelessness and maintain housing.
- This funding is extremely important for many of my clients in getting their case started and having representation in Court. ISAAC does a wonderful job, and has helped numerous clients of mine.
- This funding has been crucial in sustaining legal assistance, community fairs and clinics, and other programs available to immigrants. Immigrants work at all kinds of low income jobs in the city of Fort Collins and pay taxes. Most are not eligible for health care or other important benefits. Please continue to provide community support to people who give so much to our community.
- The partners funded are a crucial part to our community health. The resources provided have proven to be necessary and vital for folks in our community. I have referred folks over to these organizations multiple times for immigration legal help, housing help, and more. Moreover, the empowerment clinics have helped us as an organization be available for folks and provide health education sessions + give them access and information about our health service coupon program.
- Christ Clinic has participated in many of the community events previously funded, and to talk to the persons in attendance, to provide such basic and relevant helpful information to our community, to encourage newcomers and those often on the fringes of our community has been invaluable.
- CWS Fort Collins opened in April of 2024, serving refugees and newcomers locally who have been displaced by the wars in Afghanistan and Ukraine. We also provide statewide support to other refugee and immigrant populations. The City of Fort Collins Immigration

Legal Fund and the Eviction Legal Fund are critical to stabilization and integration efforts in our community. The City's investment in these programs is important to the success of our joint efforts to be a welcoming place for refugees and immigrants building new lives of hope and prosperity. Please add this critical support back into the City budget.

- As a pediatrician and community health advocate, I strongly urge the City Council to not defund the Immigration Legal Fund and the Eviction Legal Fund. These funds have been instrumental in growing a strong tightly-knit collaboration and referral network of local organizations that provide access to affordable housing, food, legal services, medical care etc for low income marginalized families. With loss of funding, this community safety net that we have worked so hard to build together to serve these families will be in complete jeopardy.
- As a relatively new resident of Fort Collins, my first attendance to the quarterly event was on September 8th. It was encouraging to see so many people from underserved communities who were present, not only at the Immigration Rights & Responsibilities, but who remained and took advantage of the ability to meet with community resource organizations after the presentation. I say encouraging in the sense that they appeared confident and unafraid. I've lived in other states where I'd hear that turnout was expected to be low because of the fear of being singled out or reported, in many cases unjustly, as undocumented. I am thankful for ISAAC, Fuerza Latina, and all the other organizations who were present not just on the 8th, but regularly present for the most vulnerable.
- Acceso a la justicia para poblaciones vulnerables: Muchas personas que enfrentan problemas legales relacionados con la inmigración o desalojos no tienen los recursos económicos para costear abogados. Estos fondos aseguran que reciban representación legal adecuada y justa, independientemente de su situación financiera.
- This funding has been crucial for helping students in our community pay for DACA renewals and legal fees that enable students to complete their degrees and achieve their professional goals. Degree attainment increases earning potential and benefits an entire community. Please keep these funds intact. It benefits us all.
- Our community values this support from city leaders and are so grateful for the commitment to equity
- The support from the City of Fort Collins has provided essential services to our most vulnerable community members, I highly recommend that funding is reinstated into next year's budget.
- As a daughter of immigrants and a dedicated member of our organization, I've witnessed firsthand the transformative power of these budget funds in our community. These resources have been instrumental in creating connections, fostering resilience, and adapting to the ever-changing needs of our diverse population.

- The funding that has been received has allowed us to break down barriers and build bridges within our community. We've been able to create multilingual resources, host culturally relevant events, and establish support networks for newcomers. These initiatives have helped immigrants feel more connected and valued in their new home.
- With the help of these partners, we've expanded our educational programs. From language classes to job skills training, these programs have empowered countless individuals to pursue better opportunities and achieve their dreams. As someone who once struggled with these challenges, I can attest to the life-changing impact of such resources.
- Recognizing the unique stressors faced by immigrants and refugees, it is crucial to continue funding mental health support services. These culturally sensitive programs have been a lifeline for many, helping them navigate the complexities of building a new life while maintaining their emotional well-being.
- The budget funds and partner funding we've received have been more than just financial support – they've been an investment in human potential and community resilience. As a daughter of immigrants, I've seen how these resources have opened doors, created opportunities, and fostered a sense of belonging for so many. They've allowed individuals to not just survive but thrive in this new home, contributing to the rich tapestry of our shared community. The impact of this support ripples through generations, creating a legacy of empowerment and hope.
- I urge City Leaders to recognize the profound impact of these funds and to continue supporting initiatives that welcome, support, and elevate immigrant communities. Your investment in us is an investment in the future of our entire society.
- I have lived in Fort Collins for over 20 years. I was proud to say my city supported efforts like these and have seen the value not only for the community members who attend the event but also the value for the vast organizations that attend the event make valuable community connections. During Covid we recognized the vast inequities that were present in our community and I was happy to see local government take action. These inequities still exist, however since they are not highlighted by a pandemic, the city seems to be turning its head. Taking away these funds that people and organizations depend on will create even deeper disparities. I am saddened to see the City turn its back on this work.
- Eviction prevention and legal representation, especially for Spanish-speaking and immigrant neighbors, are essential services with terrific impact!

From: Linda Mahan <lmahan78@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2024 1:24 PM  
To: City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>; bcc: Bobbi Wells Hargleroad  
<bwhargle@gmail.com>  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] City Budget discussion

The conversation about the City budget continued at Plymouth Congregational Church yesterday.  
Please find a letter related to this discussion attached.

We appreciate hearing the Council members' support of the Eviction Legal Fund and Immigration Legal Fund and trust there will be a way to include these in the new budget.

Sincerely,

Linda

Linda Mahan  
Plymouth Congregational UCC

# PLYMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

916 W. Prospect Road, Fort Collins, CO 80526

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September 15, 2024

Dear Fort Collins City Council and City Manager:

We, members and friends of Plymouth Congregational United Church of Christ, are writing to urge you to continue to include both the **Eviction Legal Fund** and the **Immigration Legal Fund** in the 2025 City Budget, which is now under consideration.

Our congregational purpose includes the commitment to “help make the reign of God visible in the lives of people, individually and collectively.” This leads us to do our ministry in partnership with community efforts to make Fort Collins a safe, welcoming and supportive home to all who live here.

We have referred a number of persons/households to the several organizations that share responsibility for stewardship of these Funds. An asylum-seeking family we are supporting is currently benefiting from legal counsel and other assistance made available through ISAAC.

We encourage you to see these Funds as an *investment* in the future of this community. These Funds both meet immediate needs *and* help provide a pathway to self-sufficiency. Through the collaboration with participating agencies, it becomes possible to recognize – *and address* – the vulnerabilities that have caused the current crisis: unemployment, unaffordable housing, food insecurity, and lack of legal status or affordable legal assistance. These Funds have both helped our at-risk neighbors directly *and* led the way to filling the systemic gaps in services and procedures that exacerbate their vulnerability.

Plymouth has been involved in these issues for decades. We were involved when the Murphy Center/Homeward Alliance came to be. We were, for many years, a screening site for persons seeking Rent Assistance from Neighbor To Neighbor. We were a founding Faith Community Member of ISAAC. We have been involved in shepherding numerous refugee households. During COVID, support of households facing eviction was one of several foci of an ongoing Plymouth Gives campaign. Whenever possible, our human and financial resources go to programs aimed at addressing causes rather than simply meeting an immediate need.

The Eviction... and Immigration Legal Funds parallel these priorities and have the capacity to address these needs far more we can – even in collaboration with critical partner organizations – by ourselves. *It takes a city.*

As a budget is a significant document in the life of a household or a Faith Community, so it is with a city. It reflects the city's priorities, commitments and aspirations. We urge you to once again show Fort Collins' commitment to being a just and diverse community, one that cares for all its residents, including those who face housing insecurity and/or legal challenges due to immigration status.

With both gratitude for past support of the Eviction... and Immigration Legal Funds - and hope that they will once more be part of our community life,

Sincerely,

**Members and Friends of Plymouth Congregational UCC**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Zip Code</u>
Judith Bacht	80550
Carlos Sosa	80526
Clare Mamprze	80524
Brittney Sosa	80526
John Hafnor	80526
Joyce Sjogren	80525
Deely Bacht	80526
Mary M. Jrees	80521
Judith Heath	80525
Bill Tucker	80525
James K. Poole	80526
Judy Felusch	80526
Norman Menzales	80524
Nancy Sturtevant	80525

From: Kate Conley <kateconleyaia@gmail.com>  
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2024 2:48 PM  
To: City Leaders <CityLeaders@fcgov.com>; Tyler Marr <tmarr@fcgov.com>; Lawrence Pollack <LPollack@fcgov.com>  
Cc: info@yimbyfortcollins.org  
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YIMBY Budget Petition

City Council,

Please direct staff to fund the following budget requests:

- \$220,000 for Eviction Prevention
- \$300,000 for Renter Protections and Housing Stability Funds
- \$230,000 for Homelessness Resource and Shelter Support
- \$500,000 for New Affordable Housing
- \$750,000 for Affordable Housing Land Bank Program

Housing affordability needs to be the top focus of the city over the next two years. Too many of us are being priced out of the city that we love. Please prioritize housing.

From,  
YIMBY Fort Collins Petitioners

\*For full list of petitioners and zip code, please refer to the attached PDF.



**To: Fort Collins City Council**  
**From: YIMBY Fort Collins Petitioners**

City Council,

Please direct staff to fund the following budget requests:

- **\$220,000 for Eviction Prevention**
- **\$300,000 for Renter Protections and Housing Stability Funds**
- **\$230,000 for Homelessness Resource and Shelter Support**
- **\$500,000 for New Affordable Housing**
- **\$750,000 for Affordable Housing Land Bank Program**

Housing affordability needs to be the top focus of the city over the next two years. Too many of us are being priced out of the city that we love. Please prioritize housing.

*Abbey Feuka, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Adam Mahood, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Andrew Smenyak, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Beth Goodwin, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Brooke Cunningham, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Candice Clemens, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Chris Conley, Fort Collins, 80528*  
*Christopher Conway, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Cindy Burkhart, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Debbie Mayer, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Elaine Podell, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Elizabeth Boyd, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Elizabeth Kiehne, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Erika Labaff, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Frances Lister, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Grace Gilbert, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Ian Harmon, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Jessica Taft, Loveland, 80537*  
*Joanne Hawley, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Joe Huyett, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Jon Danielson, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Joseph Laxson, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Karyl Rice, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Kate Conley, Fort Collins, 80528*  
*Klara Rossouw, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Kurt Hoeven, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Laura Lukens, Fort Collins, 80521*

*Lief Youngs, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Lillian Waddill, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Linnea Fraser, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Lori Rasmussen, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Lourdes Alvarez, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Mara Sedlins, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Matt DeSaix, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Matthew Behunin, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Megan Turner, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Molly Graves, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Mona Thornton, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Nate Brown, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Nathan Biggs, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Nick Boyd, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Nina Clark, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Paul DiGiulio, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Peter Erickson, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Rachel Olsen, Fort Collins, 80528*  
*Ricardo Contreras, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*River Heide, Fort Collins, 80524*  
*Sage Schilling, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Sarah Burke, Fort Collins, 80525*  
*Sarah Peterson, Fort Collins, 80526*  
*Shelby Marie, Fort Collins, 80521*  
*Sophia Babb, Laporte, 80535*  
*Tobias Bank, Fort Collins, 80521*

**From:** Gayla Martinez <[gmaxwellmartinez@gmail.com](mailto:gmaxwellmartinez@gmail.com)>

**Sent:** Tuesday, September 17, 2024 9:55 AM

**To:** City Leaders <[CityLeaders@fcgov.com](mailto:CityLeaders@fcgov.com)>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Two thoughts

Dear Mayor Arndt and City Council Members,

This is last minute so I'll make it short. There are two matters that are of special importance to me.

1) Please ask for an independent review of the PRPA's Integrated Resource Plan. Poor air quality is negatively impacting us all. Some of it we can't control, but locally produced emissions are under our purview.

2) Regarding tough budget decisions, please proceed with "equity first" as a guiding principle.

Thank you for your hard work, the long hours you put in and your willingness to listen.

Sincerely,

Gayla Maxwell Martinez

"All flourishing is mutual." *Robin Wall Kimmerer*



FC Moves Department  
200 W Mountain Ave, Ste A  
Fort Collins, CO 80521

970-221-6705  
fcmoves@fcgov.com

## MEMORANDUM

Date: September 19, 2024  
To: City Councilmembers  
From: City of Fort Collins- Active Modes Advisory Board (AMAB)  
Subject: Active Modes Advisory Board Recommendations to support active modes related BFO offers

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### BOTTOM LINE

On behalf of the City of Fort Collins Active Modes Advisory Board (AMAB), I would like to offer our recommendations for several BFO offers listed in the City Manager's Recommended Budget.

### BACKGROUND

The overall purpose of the Active Modes Advisory Board is to review active modes plans for capital improvements, provide recommendations regarding active modes policies, and prioritize active modes plan recommendations in support of the established goals for active modes for the City. With that purpose in mind, and given the list of Council priorities includes active modes and Vision Zero, the AMAB has

- Learned about the BFO process,
- Looked over the City Manager's Recommended Budget.
- And talked to City staff about the 2025-2026 budget considerations.

### NEXT STEPS

In recognition of the work that City staff has done to find a balance between many factors, including the effects of inflation, we would like to note our support of all the above the line offers that contribute towards the City's active modes and Vision Zero goals. We would also like to highlight a few specific offers that did not make it above the line that could have significant


impacts on increasing adoption of active modes and ensuring safe travel via active modes for all community members, while contributing to the City's Vision Zero goals.

- 21.9- Enhancement: PDT Active Modes Facility Maintenance – The maintenance of active modes facilities year-round, including but not limited to snow plowing, is essential to elevating the City's standard of travel via active modes and the safety of using the facilities. This maintenance is recommended in the Active Modes Plan that was approved by City Council in 2022, and this offer can provide the resources to maintain the current system and prepare for what is coming.
- 53.7- Asset Management Enhanced: PDT Accessibility Program Implementation- By making it safe for all those who are walking, biking, and rolling, the City can make progress on its Vision Zero goals. Currently, the City of Fort Collins does not meet current ADA standards for people to safely cross the road.
- 19.11- Adaptive Program Specialist for Safe Routes to School and FC Moves- By funding this position we believe that Safe Routes to School and the Adult Education program in FC Moves will be able to fully and effectively manage specialized adaptive equipment.

The AMAB understands that every offer from every department can't be funded, and that is why we recommend exploring the reduction of offers that have scalability, such as offer 53.7.

Thank you for your consideration of the AMAB's recommendations.

Respectfully,

Signed by:  
  
354C47B6BF2B4E4...

Bruce Henderson

Active Modes Advisory Board Chair



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## Transportation Board

Edgar Peyronnin, Chair  
Alexa Nickoloff, Vice Chair

**DATE:** September 18, 2024  
**TO:** City Councilmembers  
**FROM:** City of Fort Collins Transportation Board  
**Subject:** Transportation Board Recommendations to support Transportation BFO Offers

Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

Last night, the Transportation Board reviewed and discussed the BFO offers focusing on public transportation, and vehicle network to help the city achieve its goals of safety and equity. Given the limited time for our review and comment for this first critical pass, we only have a few comments.

The Board is very concerned with safety throughout the city's transportation system. We support efforts to slow traffic down, improve pedestrian crosswalks and bike lanes, as well as improving safety for Transfort riders, particularly those who are vulnerable. As such, we were pleased to see the following items get funded:

- 19.10 Active Modes Plan Infrastructure Implementation (Shields Road Diet)
- 20.13 Power Trail at Harmony Road Grade-Separated Crossing
- 20.5 CCIP Pedestrian Sidewalk ADA
- 65.22 Transfort 7.0 FTE – Additional Transit Security Officers & Mental Health Collaboration

The Board is also concerned with ensuring equity throughout the city transportation network. Not everyone can ride a bicycle, not everyone has a car. Transfort and other regional services can be the critical resource to bridge the gap, make the city more affordable, and reduce emissions. We were pleased to see the following items get funded:

- 65.2 Reopening of Transfort Routes 11/12
- 65.3 Poudre Express Regional Transit Service Partnership
- 65.4 Midday and Weekend Flex top Boulder Bus Service
- 65.6 CCIP – ADA Bus Stop Improvements
- 65.7 Dial-a-Ride

The Board **recommends** that 66.8 (*Parking Fixed License Plate Recognition*) be **replaced** with 65.21 (*Transfort Sunday and Holiday Service*). We view the additional service to be more critical to the community, particularly those who rely on Transfort and work on Sundays and Holidays.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edgar U. Peyronnin".

Edgar U. Peyronnin, Transportation Board Chair



City Clerk's Office  
300 LaPorte Avenue  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
970.221.6515  
970.221.6295 - fax  
Boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 16, 2024  
TO: Mayor and City Councilmembers  
FROM: Dan Welsh, Chair of the Air Quality Advisory Board  
Dawson Metcalf, Chair of the Natural Resources Advisory Board  
RE: 2025-26 City Manager's Recommended Budget

---

Dear Mayor and Councilmembers,

On August 19, 2024, and September 16, 2024, the Air Quality Advisory Board (AQAB) and the Natural Resources Advisory Board (NRAB) came together in two joint meetings to review original budget offers and the City Manager's Recommended Budget. The purpose of this joint statement is to emphasize AQAB and NRAB's support for and advise additional considerations of the City Manager's Recommended Budget for 2025-26.

With AQAB's mission of improving and maintaining the city's air quality, as well as NRAB's mission of promoting sustainable natural resource management, budget offers under the Key Outcome Areas of Environmental Health, Neighborhood and Community Vitality, Culture and Recreation, and Transportation and Mobility were identified. Priority offers that are aligned with the charge of both Boards and unfunded (or underfunded) are identified in this memo.

### *Environmental Health Outcome*

- Offer #7.30 | Utilities: Wastewater - DWRP Sidestream Phosphorus Removal Phase 2
  - We propose altering the funding support of \$1,000,000 to the full request to meet current environmental regulations and protect and improve watershed and environmental health, as well as strengthen the resilience of the City's utilities.
- Offer #42.10 | Environmental Services - Recycling Characterization Study and Measurement Consulting
  - This offer would allow a needed inventory and evaluation of the waste from Fort Collins homes and businesses, including greenhouse gas emissions impacts, to understand how recent policies and programs may have impacted waste composition and diversion since the last study was completed in 2016. **Updated information will help Council design better policy instruments around waste handling and associated environmental impacts.**
- Offer #71.1 | Parks Lawn and Garden Equipment Replacement
  - We support restoring funding to the original request of \$100,000 each year. **Lawn and garden equipment is one of the largest emitters of ozone precursors regionally and contributes to greenhouse gas emissions. Fully funding this offer aligns with Council priority 6 and leverages 2050 Tax revenue.**

- Offer #72.1 | Poudre Flows Design and Permitting
  - This offer would allow for an existing diversion structure to be upgraded. **Fully funding this offer aligns with Council priority 7 and supports regional cooperation in an effort to improve Poudre River health.**
- Offer #74.1 | Carbon Sequestration in Areas Protected by the Land Use Code
  - This offer would allow the City to restore Natural Habitat Buffer Zones which will help mitigate the effects of climate change related disasters, as well as act as a nature-based solution for carbon sequestration storing up to 365 metric tons of carbon and help the city reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

*Transportation and Mobility Outcome*

- Offer #19.11 | Adaptive Program Specialist for Safe Routes to School and FC Moves
  - This offer enhances the Safe Routes to School program for students with special needs. **Supporting Council priorities 2 and 6, these programs would provide similar opportunities to those of their peers, while promoting alternative forms of transportation to historically underserved communities that would otherwise rely on fossil fuel powered vehicles.**
- Offer #21.9 | PDT Active Modes Facility Maintenance
  - This offer would allow for an expansion of active modes facility maintenance to further develop a bike friendly community during all seasons and promote alternative forms of transportation rather than relying on fossil fuel powered vehicles.
- Offer #65.11 | Transfort: Local Fund Match
  - This offer would allow Transfort to be competitive in various federal and state application processes - many of which require a local funding match. By funding this offer, Transfort would have the ability to submit stronger applications and secure additional funds to further Our Climate Future’s goal of implementing a 100% Zero Emission Fleet by 2040.

The rationale for highlighting the selected offers lies both in the purpose of AQAB and NRAB, as well as in the established 2024-2026 City Council Priorities, specifically, “Priority #5: Accelerate zero waste infrastructure and policies” and “Priority #6: Reduce climate pollution and air pollution through best practices, emphasizing electrification.” The Boards view the inclusion of these offers in the 2025-2026 Budget as instrumental in City Council achieving goals outlined in the 2024 Strategic Plan and in alignment with City Council Priorities.

Through this joint statement, AQAB and NRAB are expressing support of the City Manager’s recommended budget and propose that the offers designated as supported will remain as such. As for offers identified above, we strongly recommend the reconsideration of the proposed funding and advocate for including these offers in the City of Fort Collins’ 2025-26 Budget.

Thank you for your consideration and the ability to engage on this matter.

Very respectfully,

Dan Welsh, Air Quality Advisory Board Chair

Dawson Metcalf, Natural Resources Advisory Board Chair



**Mayor**  
City Hall  
300 LaPorte Ave.  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
**970.416.2154**  
970.224.6107 - fax  
[fcgov.com](http://fcgov.com)

September 26, 2024

Parks and Recreation Advisory Board  
c/o Mike Calhoon, Staff Liaison  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522

Dear Chair Armstrong, Vice Chairs Baker and Willis and Board Members:

On behalf of City Council, thank you for providing us with the September 25, 2024 memorandum regarding the 2025-26 City Manager's Recommended Budget.

We appreciate you sharing your support of the City's efforts to continue the commitment to a sustainable built environment that enhances the quality of life for all members of the community to enjoy, noting that the Board particularly calls out their support of offers for Adaptive Recreation and Reduced Fee Scholarship funding, a Universal Preschool and Behavioral Support Specialist in recreation, and a Southeast Community Center.

Thank you for the expertise and perspectives that you bring to the Board and sharing them with City Council.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeni Arndt".

Jeni Arndt  
Mayor

/sek

cc: City Council Members  
Kelly DiMartino, City Manager





**City Clerk's Office**  
300 LaPorte Avenue  
PO Box 580  
Fort Collins, CO 80522  
**970.221.6515**  
970.221.6295 - fax  
[Boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com](mailto:Boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com)

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 25, 2024

**TO:** Mayor and City Councilmembers

**FROM:** Nick Armstrong, Chair for the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

**RE:** 2025-26 Budgeting for Outcomes Process

**CC:** Boards and Commissions via email  
[boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com](mailto:boardsandcommissions@fcgov.com)

Dear City Leaders + City Council,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board would like to express our appreciation for the Council's hard work during the BFO process. We are grateful for the Council's commitment to funding vital programs and initiatives that contribute to the well-being of our community and our City's stated priority areas.

We appreciate the Council's commitment to sustainable operations through the offers that provide resources for the built & living environment, including the Parks, Recreation, Trails, Downtown, Forestry, Golf, and Cemetery operations.

The Council's sustained commitment to asset management through the offers focused on the Infrastructure Replacement Program will ensure the longevity of the Parks and Recreation assets every neighbor can enjoy.

In particular, we would like to recognize the Council's support and funding of the following offers:

- Adaptive Recreation and Reduced Fee Scholarship funding in recreation, improving human and social health for vulnerable populations.
- Universal Preschool and Behavioral Support Specialist in recreation, supporting an integrated, intentional approach to economic health.
- Southeast Community Center, advancing our approach toward a 15-minute city by igniting our neighborhood centers.

While every BFO process has its own unique challenges, we feel that Council has identified and prioritized offers that advance the values Fort Collins holds most dear. Thank you for your dedication to improving the quality of life for all of Fort Collins neighbors.

Sincerely,

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board