



## AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council

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### STAFF

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Ginny Sawyer, Lead Project Manager  
Tyler Marr, Deputy City Manager  
Jenny Lopez Filkins, Deputy City Attorney

### SUBJECT

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**Resolution 2023-095 Adopting the City's 2024 Legislative Policy Agenda.**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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The purpose of this item is to consider and adopt the City's 2024 Legislative Policy Agenda. Each year the Legislative Review Committee develops a legislative agenda to assist in the formation, analysis, and advocacy of pending legislation and regulation. The Legislative Policy Agenda is used as a guide by Council and staff to determine positions on legislation and regulation under consideration at the state and federal levels and as a general reference for state legislators and the City's congressional delegation.

The Legislative Review Committee reviewed and made changes/updates at the October 3, 2023, meeting and reviewed and recommended adoption at the November 14, 2023, meeting.

### STAFF RECOMMENDATION

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Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

### BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

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The Legislative Policy Agenda (LPA) is a guiding document meant to highlight our home rule status and reflect issues that affect the quality of life and governance of our community. It also reflects strategic goals of the City and areas of specific focus based on recent Council and staff policy efforts. It is used as a guide by Council and staff to determine positions on pending or introduced legislation, and as a general reference for residents, community organizations, state legislators, and members of Congress.

The Legislative Policy Agenda also refers to the City's partners in the legislative space, which include the Colorado Municipal League, the National League of Cities, the Colorado Association of Municipal Utilities, and the Colorado Communities for Climate Action.

The 2024 LPA was developed with direction from Council and input from staff, it was then reviewed by the Legislative Review Committee (LRC), which is currently comprised of Councilmembers Canonico and Peel, and Mayor Arndt.

A redlined version is attached to this Agenda Item Summary. A clean version is attached as Exhibit A to the Resolution. Once adopted, the Communications and Public Involvement Office will format and design into a polished document for limited printing and placement on fcgov.com.

Noted changes in the 2024 version include:

- Added a section on ACCESSIBILITY to address recent legislative requirements.
  - *Supports clear definitions for public meetings requiring online accessibility.*
  - *Supports unified federal standards for web and online accessibility requirements and reasonable timelines to comply after standards and rules are made known, at either the state or federal level.*
  - *Supports ensuring municipalities' ability to engage vendors to ensure compliance with technology accessibility requirements.*
  - *Supports allowing local governments to exempt archived documents and allow "safe harbor" while working towards compliance.*
- Clarified language and reordered statements in the CLIMATE section and added a statement in support of emerging carbon reduction methods.
  - *Supports incentives, regulations, and other mechanisms to reduce emissions and **enhance resilience**, in energy, waste reduction, transportation, and water sectors, **as well as in responding to wildfire and other climate-related extreme weather events.***
  - *Supports policies promoting emerging methods of effective atmospheric carbon reduction through proven means.*
- Added a statement in support of local control of energy generation.
  - *Supports the local determination of electric rates and distributed resources credits that balance the impacts to participants and non-participants to create a robust local renewable generation system.*
- Added a statement in support of an affordable housing right of first refusal.
  - *Supports legislation that would enable an affordable housing right of first refusal to encourage local government and partner acquisition of multifamily properties for the purpose of long-term affordable housing.*
- Renamed the "MARIJUANA AND HEMP" section to "LICENSED SUBSTANCES", changed the introduction, and added statements removed from the PUBLIC HEALTH section.
  - *State and local municipalities address licensing and regulations regarding the cultivation, sale, and use of tobacco, cannabis, and natural medicine and there are additional substances considered every year (Hemp intoxicants, Kratom, etc.) The City has and will have a continued interest in managing these licensed substances in a manner that balances the needs and desires of the community.*
- Added a statement about plugging and reclaiming old oil and gas wells.
  - *Supports the plugging and reclamation of older, low and non-producing oil and gas wells, and continuing assessment of the condition of abandoned wells.*
- Added a statement about body-worn camera (BWC) usage in law enforcement facilities and by personnel on administrative duty.
  - *Supports statute change to allow the deactivation of BWCs when in a law enforcement facility with active audio and video recording devices and clarify that law enforcement personnel assigned to administrative duties are exempt from the requirement to wear a BWC daily.*

- Removal of statements that have been addressed through legislation.
  - *Supports legislation or regulatory efforts that restrict and better ensure the prevention of firearm purchases of those individuals convicted of a violent criminal offense and those who have been involuntarily committed to a mental institution or are otherwise suffering from a severe mental condition.*
  - *Supports legislation that prohibits the sale or transfer of ghost firearms.*
  - *Opposes efforts to increase influence of non-City jurisdictions over the use of Tax Increment Financing (TIF) within City limits.*

**CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

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None.

**BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

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None.

**PUBLIC OUTREACH**

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None.

**ATTACHMENTS**

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1. Resolution for Consideration
2. Exhibit A to Resolution
3. Legislative Review Committee Draft Minutes, November 14, 2023
4. Legislative Policy Agenda with Redlines