

RESOLUTION 2026-117
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
DIRECTING CITY STAFF TO PRESENT A TEMPORARY
MORATORIUM ON DATA CENTERS TO COUNCIL ON
OCTOBER 20, 2026, AND TO NOT ACCEPT ANY
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATIONS OR APPLICATIONS FOR
OTHER PERMITS FOR COVERED DATA CENTERS

A. Large data centers have raised concerns nationwide regarding water and electricity consumption and utility rate increases, environmental and compatibility issues such as noise, light, and heat, and the appropriate use of land.

B. Since August 2026, City staff has been researching data centers and preparing a temporary moratorium for Council consideration.

C. Data centers are currently not an allowed primary use within the city, and the Land Use Code does not contain data centers regulations.

D. The moratorium will allow time for City staff to further research data centers and to formulate data center regulations for Council consideration.

E. Staff will be proposing a six month moratorium on the acceptance of any applications for development or for any permit for the following data centers (the "Covered Data Centers"): (1) data centers as a primary use; and (2) data centers that are accessory to a primary use and with a proposed peak electrical demand of more than 10 MW.

F. The proposed moratorium is subject to Council review and revision, including whether the peak electrical demand should be adjusted or other criteria for inclusion in the moratorium should be added.

G. Due to the pending nature of the moratorium ordinance and the concerns raised by data centers, Council directs City staff to present the moratorium for Council consideration at the next regular Council meeting on October 20, 2026.

H. Further, until Council determines the appropriate thresholds for inclusion in the moratorium, Council directs City staff to not accept any development applications or applications for permits of any type related to the Covered Data Centers.

I. Council intends that the moratorium when adopted will take effect retroactively from the date of adoption of this Resolution.

J. Council finds that this Resolution is necessary to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of the City of Fort Collins.

In light of the foregoing recitals, which the Council hereby makes and adopts as determinations and findings, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS as follows:

Section 1. City staff is directed to present the temporary moratorium on data centers for Council consideration on October 20, 2026.

Section 2. Until the moratorium goes into effect, City staff is directed not to accept any development applications or applications for permits of any type related to the Covered Data Centers with the term data center as defined in Section 3 below.

Section 3. Data center as used in this Resolution means:

A facility consisting of one or more buildings (whether constructed simultaneously or in separate phases) used primarily for the storage, management, processing, and transmission of digital data, which houses computer or network equipment, systems, servers, appliances, and other associated components related to digital data storage and operations. A data center may include associated ancillary structures, including, but not limited to, offices, security buildings, cooling water structures, and/or backup power systems. Data center includes commercial cryptocurrency mining operations and processing.

Passed and adopted on October 6, 2026.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Effective Date: October 6, 2026
Approving Attorney: Brad Yatabe

Exhibit: None