



Work Session Memorandum

Date: September 3, 2026
To: Mayor and City Councilmembers
Through: Kelly DiMartino, City Manager ^{DS}
Dean Klingner, Deputy City Manager ^{Initial}
From: Ginny Sawyer, Assistant to the City Manager ^{Initial}
Subject: August 25, 2026 Work Session Summary: Data Centers

The purpose of this memo is to document the summary of the Data Centers discussion during the August 25, 2026 Work Session. All Councilmembers were present.

Discussion Summary

Staff provided a high-level overview of data centers, regional activity, current status in Fort Collins, and potential next steps to define and regulate data centers/large loads.

- Overall, Councilmembers expressed a desire to proactively address potential data center development in a manner that protects resources while recognizing future innovations and technologies are unknown.
- Discussion included existing Land Use Code regulations and how the Addition of Permitted Use process works and questions regarding State and Federal projects (these would not be subject to our local regulations).
- Light and Power staff addressed questions regarding the ability to serve large customers. Current substation location and existing capacity greatly impact where larger loads could be served.
- Staff confirmed that both Utilities and Platte River Power Authority are committed and have policies that protect existing rate payers.
- Questions regarding water use and cost were also discussed.

Staff will look at moratorium/ban options for the highest megawatt uses as well as varying megawatt thresholds, development criteria, and definitions.

Next Steps

Staff will meet and develop a timeline for specific action items and will share through a Council memo.

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