

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Dean Klingner, Deputy City Manager
Ginny Sawyer, Assistant to the City Manager

SUBJECT

Resolution 2026-117 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.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this item is to provide clear direction and intent regarding a proposed moratorium on data centers in the city of Fort Collins which will be brought forward on October 20, 2026.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Resolution.

BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

Council discussed data centers at the August 25, 2026, Work Session. A follow-up item from that discussion included consideration of a moratorium. This Resolution clarifies that data centers are currently not an allowed use within the city, and that a 6-month moratorium will allow time for staff to further research data centers and to formulate data center regulations for Council consideration.

The Resolution directs staff to bring forward a moratorium for Council consideration on October 20, 2026, and directs staff not to accept any development applications or applications for permits of any type related to the development or operation of a data center as a primary use within the City, until permitted under Council's action on data centers.

Data centers that are accessory to another primary use, and that require more than 10 megawatts of power would also fall under the proposed moratorium.

For these purposes, data center 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.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS / LINKS

1. August 25, 2026, Work Session Summary
2. Resolution 2026-117