

RESOLUTION 2025-053  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS FOR PHASE 2  
OF THE MICHIGAN DITCH PRE-FIRE MITIGATION PROJECT

A. The City owns and operates a water utility that provides water service to customers within its water service area. As part of the water utility, the City owns and operates the Michigan Ditch and associated infrastructure for the purpose of providing raw water for water supply, including for drinking water treatment.

B. Between August and December 2020, the Cameron Peak Fire significantly impacted federal and state lands abutting the Michigan Ditch.

C. The City has identified a need to develop and execute forest health treatment activities in priority areas at risk of future large scale catastrophic wildfires with regards to pre-fire mitigation thinning, fuel breaks and forest restoration, including in and around the Michigan Ditch and its associated infrastructure.

D. The City has thus begun work on the Michigan Ditch Pre-Fire Mitigation Project ("Project") and has worked with the Colorado State Forest Service. Phase 1 of the Project and previous agreements with the Colorado State Forest Service are addressed in Resolution 2024-113.

E. For Phase 2 of the Project, the Colorado State Forest Service is willing to work with the City to fund the Project. In coordination with the Colorado State Forest Service, the City applied for and the Colorado Department of Natural Resource, through the Colorado Strategic Wildfire Action Program, has awarded the City a grant for forest health and pre-fire mitigation work in and around the Michigan Ditch and its associated infrastructure. By accepting such grant funds, the City would be agreeing to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant Award Letter Summary of Grant Award Terms and Conditions, attached as Exhibit "A" ("Grant Award Letter").

F. As set forth in the Grant Award Letter, the City's required matching funds are \$316,682. The City intends to appropriate such funds in 2026, before accepting any of the grant funds.

G. City Council finds that accepting the grant funds and complying with the terms and conditions of the Grant Award Letter is necessary to safeguard the City's critical water supply infrastructure and is in the best interests of the City water utility ratepayers and the city as a whole.

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 that the City Manager is hereby authorized to accept the grant funds awarded in the Grant Funds Letter and to comply with the terms and conditions of the Grant Funds Letter, substantially in the form of Exhibit "A", provided that any required

funds have been appropriated beforehand, with such additional terms and conditions as the City Manager, in consultation with the City Attorney, determines to be necessary and appropriate to protect the interests of the City or effectuate the purposes of this Resolution.

Passed and adopted on May 6, 2025.

---

Mayor

ATTEST:

---

City Clerk

Effective Date: May 6, 2025

Approving Attorney: Eric Potyondy