

RESOLUTION 2025-054  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE  
COLORADO STATE FOREST SERVICE 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 develop and provide access to environmental information and expertise to provide relevant data analysis and to complete certain forest fuels reduction work to mitigate the risk of future large-scale wildfires in and around the Michigan Ditch and its associated infrastructure.

F. For Phase 2 of the Project, the City and the Colorado State Forest Service have also negotiated a proposed Intergovernmental Agreement Regarding Forest Health and Pre-Fire Mitigation Services through the Colorado State Forest Service, attached as Exhibit "A" ("Services Agreement"), the purpose of which is for the City to retain the Colorado State Forest Service to perform certain forest health and pre-fire mitigation services related to the Michigan Ditch and its associated infrastructure.

G. City Council finds that entering into the Services Agreement 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 enter into a Services Agreement substantially in the form of Exhibit "A", 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

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

Effective Date: May 6, 2025

Approving Attorney: Eric Potyondy