



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the City of Fort Collins' history of open space conservation began in the 1970s, which set a strong foundation for future conservation efforts; and

WHEREAS, exactly thirty years ago today, Fort Collins' legacy of natural areas conservation entered a new era with the passage of a sales tax ballot measure funding land conservation and establishing the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program; and

WHEREAS, groups of citizens garnered voters' support of five other sales tax ballot measures since 1992 which has resulted in the conservation of over 55,000 acres at 52 natural areas, with 134 miles of trail; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Natural Areas Department is to conserve and enhance lands with natural resource, agricultural, and scenic values, while providing meaningful education and appropriate recreation opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Areas Department has been recognized for its many successes and innovations including restoration along the Poudre River corridor, reintroduction of endangered black-footed ferrets and bison to Soapstone Prairie Natural Area, its extensive public engagement efforts, its outstanding facilities, and many other accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, the Natural Areas 30th anniversary milestone is possible due to the long-term hard work of the community members who worked to pass the ballot measures, and in recognition of these esteemed citizens, the 30th anniversary celebration will:

- show appreciation to those who champion Natural Areas funding; and
- recognize Advisory Board members past and present who have influenced natural areas conservation; and
- increase public awareness and support for the value of natural areas and the ballot measures that make them possible.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jeni Arndt, Mayor of the City of Fort Collins, do hereby proclaim November 1, 2022 through November 1, 2023 as the

30th ANNIVERSARY OF NATURAL AREAS

in Fort Collins to celebrate the people that make natural areas possible and the environmental, economic, community, and other values of natural areas to Fort Collins residents.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of the City of Fort Collins this 1st day of November, A.D. 2022.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk