

AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY

City Council



STAFF

Lori F. Schwarz, PDT Deputy Director, Community Development and Neighborhood Services
John Hernandez, Senior Code Compliance Supervisor

SUBJECT

Second Reading of Ordinance No. 083, 2025, Amending Sections 20-21 and 20-25 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins for the Purpose of Clarifying Exceptions to the Noise Ordinance for Agricultural Activities.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Ordinance, unanimously adopted on First Reading on May 20, 2025, further clarifies the alignment of the municipal noise ordinance with Colorado statutes relating to exceptions for agricultural operations.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of the Ordinance on Second Reading.

FIRST READING BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION

At the April 22, 2025, City Council Work Session, staff presented a “Sounds of the City” item for feedback and direction relating to a phased approach for addressing updates to City Code. As part of the first phase, staff recommended alignment of the existing municipal Noise Ordinance with Colorado statutes for agricultural operations. Currently, the noise ordinance provides a brief reference for exceptions as “noise from agricultural activities”.

In order to clarify this exception, explanatory language is being added under Section 20-21 and 20-25 that defines “agriculture”. Further, this amendment describes what qualifies as an agricultural exception under the Noise Ordinance consistent with the State’s “Right to Farm Law,” 35-3.5-101 and 102 Colorado Revised Statutes (CRS). The recommended language does not change current exceptions under this provision but simply provides greater clarity and transparency for residents, businesses and staff.

CITY FINANCIAL IMPACTS

None.

BOARD / COMMISSION / COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

None.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

None.

ATTACHMENTS

First Reading attachments available in May 20, 2025, agenda materials at the following link:
<https://fortcollins-co.municodemeetings.com/>.

1. Ordinance No. 083, 2025