

RESOLUTION 2024-003  
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS  
AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO AN  
AGREEMENT WITH VARIOUS ENTITIES REGARDING  
THE UPPER POUDDRE WATERSHED SOURCE WATER  
PROTECTION PLAN (PHASE 1 – PLAN DEVELOPMENT)

A. The Cache la Poudre Watershed (“Poudre Watershed”) headwaters begin within the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest and drains through Fort Collins and urban areas of the Front Range until its confluence with the South Platte River, east of Greeley.

B. The Poudre Watershed is a valuable asset to local municipalities, agriculture, and recreational stakeholders due to, among other reasons, the large geographic area of the watershed, prominence through urban areas, and high-quality drinking water supply.

C. The upper portions of the Poudre Watershed are those portions above the canyon mouth (“Upper Poudre Watershed”) and Horsetooth Reservoir, which are relied upon for water supply by various entities, and have historically been the principal sources of raw water for, among others, the City’s Fort Collins Utilities and the Soldier Canyon Water Treatment Authority, which includes water districts serving portions of Fort Collins.

D. Water quality in the Upper Poudre Watershed faces various challenges, including risks from wildfires and climate change, and protecting water quality within the Poudre Watershed is a high priority for the City and other entities relying on Poudre Watershed to, among other things, ensure all current and future water demands are met, and to continue providing communities with reliable, safe, and high-quality drinking water.

E. The State of Colorado has a Source Water Assessment and Protection Program, which is a voluntary, non-regulatory program intended to assist water utilities with conducting assessments and developing targeted Source Water Protection Plans for water quality.

F. The City, the City of Greeley, the City of Thornton, the Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District, and the Soldier Canyon Water Treatment Authority (collectively, “Parties”) are pursuing a Source Water Protection Plan for the Upper Poudre Watershed (“Plan”), which comprises two general phases: Phase 1 – Plan Development; and Phase 2 – Plan Implementation.

G. The City and the other Parties have negotiated an agreement regarding Phase 1 of the Plan (the “Agreement”), the form of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A,” and incorporated herein by reference.

H. The City Manager and City staff have recommended approval of the Agreement by the City Council.

I. City Council finds that entering into the Agreement regarding Phase 1 of the Plan is in the best interests of the City.

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 execute an 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 January 16, 2024.

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Mayor

ATTEST:

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City Clerk

Effective Date: January 16, 2024  
Approving Attorney: Eric Potyondy