



Land Conservation & Stewardship Board

Regular Meeting/Hybrid in person/ Zoom 1745 Hoffman Mill Road/Main Office Conference Room

April 12, 2023

Public Participation (Phone): If you do not have access to the internet, call the Board Staff Liaison, Katie Donahue, at 970-416-8067.

Please indicate that you want to participate in the Board public participation by phone and give your name and phone number. If you get a voicemail message, please leave the same information.

Once you have given this information (in person or by message), a staff person will provide you with the phone number and code that will allow you access to the Zoom meeting. As listed above, the meeting will be available beginning at 5:30 pm . For public comments, the Chair will ask participants to click the "Raise Hand" button to indicate you would like to speak at that time – phone participants will need to hit *9 to do this. Staff will be moderating the Zoom session to ensure all participants have an opportunity to address the Committee. Once you join the meeting: **keep yourself on muted status.**

Documents to Share: If residents wish to share a document or presentation, the Staff Liaison needs to receive those materials via email by 24 hours before the meeting.

Individuals uncomfortable or unable to access the Zoom platform or unable to participate by phone are encouraged to participate by emailing general public comments you may have to Katie Donahue, kdonahue@fcgov.com. The Staff Liaison will ensure the Board receives your comments. If you have specific comments on any of the discussion items scheduled, please make that clear in the subject line of the email and send 24 hours prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER: 5:30 PM

- 1. ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS
- 2. AGENDA REVIEW
- 3. COMMUNITY MEMBER PARTICIPATION
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- 5. ACTION ITEMS

Natural Areas 2022 Reappropriations Barb Brock 15 min

Draft 1041 Regulations LCSB 10 min





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Annual Appropriation of Prior Year Reserves

Barb Brock, Financial Analyst II explained to the LCSB that funding for the Natural Areas Department (NAD) for purposes other than capital projects lapses each year if not spent. Unspent prior year funds and unanticipated revenues need to be appropriated into the following year's budget before they can be used. The purpose of this item is to appropriate \$12,102,550 in unspent funds and unanticipated revenues in the Natural Areas Fund to fund land conservation, restoration of wildlife habitat, trails and visitor amenities, special projects and other NAD needs to benefit the residents of Fort Collins.

Barb Brock noted reappropriation is a routine annual process and the bulk of this year's carry-over funds are for Land Conservation. She reported a reasonable likelihood that most of these funds will be spent in 2023 with over \$10,000,000 in land acquisitions under negotiation. Barb Brock then provided a brief description of the remaining funds to be carried over to 2023 budget. She is requesting a recommendation from the LCSB to Council in support of the proposed annual appropriation of prior year reserves.

Discussion

Member Piesman asked if the Natural Areas required contribution towards the purchase of the former Hughes Stadium site had occurred. Katie Donahue clarified the City has not yet acquired the property and Barb Brock emphasized NAD has factored the potential costs into the Land Conservation budget. Member Elson asked if the total amount is similar to last year. Barb Brock replied yes and explained the most of additional carry-over this year is due to unanticipated funds; Help Preserve Open Space tax revenue was higher than expected. Chair Cunniff stated that in the past Council has asked for an explanation as to why funds were not spent in the year for which the funds were appropriated; was this still a request from Council? Barb Brock explained the memo lists unanticipated use of funds for specific work groups/projects. Chair Cunniff reiterated it is the "why" funds were not spent that Council may ask about and staff should be prepared to answer. Staff assured the LCSB they are prepared to answer questions from Council. Member Kley asked if there was balance sheet for 2022 of funding and expenditures. Katie Donahue explained this information is published in the department's annual report. She stated staff would consider making a presentation to the LCSB on department revenue and expenditures. Member Elson agreed it would be helpful to receive a refresher presentation.

Member Elson made a motion that Land Conservation and Stewardship Board recommends that City Council approves the proposed 2023 appropriation of prior year Natural Areas reserves. Member Piesman seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously, 7-0.