

**FORT COLLINS BUSINESS COMMUNITY  
CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE  
2020 COUNTY COMMISSIONER ELECTION**

**Questionnaires are due back to ahutchison@fcchamber.org  
by noon on Thursday, September 17, 2020  
Please note that all questionnaire answers  
will be shared with the business community.**

Office Sought: Larimer County Commissioner	District: 2
Name: Bob McCluskey	
Home Address: 719 Westshore Court, Ft. Collins, CO 80525	
Daytime Phone: 970-222-0318	Evening Phone: Same
Email: rrmccluskey@aol.com	
Employment: Retired	
Length of Residence: In County: 67 years	In District: 67 years

*Please limit responses to approximately 200 words per section.*

Education:	
Past and Present Community Service Including Offices Held:	<p>Fort Collins City Council- 1993-1997          Colorado House of Representatives-2003-2006          President of Fort Collins Parks and Recreation Board 1991-1993          Board of Directors Rotary Club of Fort Collins 1992-1993          Chairman Juvenile Services Planning Committee 1993-1994          Chairman Poudre Valley Fire Authority 1995-1996          Board member Fort Collins Community Foundation 2000-2008          Member Northeast Council of El Pomar Foundation 2006-2009</p>
Past and Present Employment/Business Experience:	<p><b><u>Poudre Valley Creamery- 1975-2000</u></b>          General Manager-President          Managed all manufacturing activities          Supervised Retail and Commercial distribution programs from Denver to Fort Collins          Supervised Motor Vehicle Maintenance          Managed major customer relationships          Implemented retail billing system improvements  <b><u>Dairy Gold Foods Comp.1984-2000</u></b>          President          Directed all business functions including sales, marketing, operations, and financial management          Initiated integration of manufacturing facilities          Reviewed manufacturing and marketing plans</p>

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	<p>Reviewed financial information and P and I trends</p> <p><b><u>Smart Document Management-2011-2017</u></b>  Partner  Started business  Supervised retail and manufacturing operations  Managed recycling activities which included recycling over 1 million lbs. of paper a year  Supervised route operations from Fort Collins to Castle Rock, Colorado</p>
<p>Current Employment and Responsibilities:</p>	<p>Retired.</p>
<p>Specific Qualifications For This Office:</p>	<p>Qualifications-  <b><u>Business management</u></b>- experience in employment issues, financial analysis and budgeting, long term planning  <b><u>Public Policy</u></b>- 8 years in local and state government  Community involvement- participated and led various local nonprofit organizations</p>
<p>Why are you running for this office?</p>	<p>It is an important time for Larimer County as the area experiences sustained growth, which will challenge the resources of the County, as more issues become regional in nature. My local and state government experience will be beneficial to understanding potential solutions</p>
<p>What have you done to prepare for election to this office and how you will you conduct yourself if elected to this office? What experiences have you had that makes you qualified to serve in office?</p>	<p>I have familiarized myself with the various departments of the County through the Larimer County 101 Class. I have attended recent hearings on the oil and gas task force, the NISP hearings, and the MPO-transportation and air quality meetings for the past year to acquaint myself with the current issues facing the County.</p> <p>In the Colorado House of Representatives and the Fort Collins City Council I have demonstrated the ability to work with all sides to pass significant legislation. In working on business issues I was twice named the ECONOMIC LEGISLATOR of the YEAR for the Legislature by the Economic Developers Council of Colorado.</p>

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<p>If you are elected, what are the top three accomplishments you want to have completed by the end of your term and how will you get them done?</p>	<p>Finish the I-25 northern segments. With the current economic problems of the Federal, State, and Local governments there will clearly be less funds available to finish the Northern Colorado segments of I-25. Working collaboratively with our Northern Colorado partners and being persistent will eventually be successful.</p> <p>Increase the growth of Primary jobs in Larimer County- Working regionally we need to increase the number of good paying jobs in Larimer County. The job mix has been trending toward lower paying jobs in Larimer County. Combining the different tools available to Larimer County and the municipalities will be needed to attract primary employers.</p> <p>Developing more opportunities for affordable child care. Currently there is a lot of interest in Larimer County to have more affordable child care. We need to move forward beyond analysis and formulate at least a pilot project to test strategies for the future.</p>
<p>What do you think are the top 3 economic priorities the county government should undertake during the next four years? What role should Larimer County have in economic development? How will you make the economy a County budget priority?</p>	<p>Outreach- Typically we need to find out first how businesses are doing in Larimer County, particularly given the impacts of the coronavirus. Then we can evaluate how to help existing businesses before we look outside to attract new businesses that provide higher paying jobs.</p> <p>Create more funding to bolster the job retraining opportunities.</p> <p>Lastly, look at how we can tap into the pool of underemployed veterans.</p>
<p>How will you make Larimer County a more Jobs Friendly community? Are you willing to engage with business leaders to discuss these solutions? Please explain how you will stay in touch with business leaders.</p>	<p>Larimer County has the Workforce Development Board and the Work Force Center as a good starting place to engage the business community. By inviting more sectors into the discussion we can hear about those barriers that are stopping local businesses from being more successful.</p>

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	<p>After hearing from current business leaders we can convene a process with our local municipalities and neighboring counties to tackle issues important to the entire region. I have always engaged with local business leaders on how they are doing and trying to understand their issues. This practice began when I was on the Fort Collins City Council, continued through my time in the Colorado House of Representatives until today when I make it a practice to solicit how things are going for businesses in Larimer County.</p>
<p>What role should Larimer County have in the region? What do you believe are the top issues facing Northern Colorado in the next several years?</p>	<p>Larimer County can play an important role in convening discussions on issues facing Northern Colorado. The top issues facing Northern Colorado are growth, transportation, and water.</p>
<p>Colorado will continue to grow, including our area. How should Larimer County plan for growth, if at all?</p>	<p>Larimer County needs to be involved in the growth discussion. Having just gone through the outreach and adoption of a new comprehensive plan Larimer County needs to spend time discussing with local municipalities how to work together in areas of interest.</p>

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<p>What are the top two issues facing county government over the next 4 years and why do you believe they are the most important?</p>	<p>Budget- Facing the uncertain passage of the ballot issue pertaining to the Gallagher Amendment, the County must plan for a potential estimated \$14 million shortfall. Along with the current budget, the County must plan for the potential consequences of the Amendment that could occur in the future.</p> <p>Water- Larimer County has been involved in major water controversies recently in both sitings of storage locations and transporting water across the county. Given the forecasted growth in Larimer County we should expect more issues coming to the County dealing with water conflicts. Larimer County should take the lead in bringing municipalities together to discuss future water needs and ways to work together. Through all the recent land use conflicts there appears to be a need to improve our approach to how we include the public in the process.</p>
<p>What economic tools should the County add to their "tool box" of resources to attract key employers?</p>	<p>First, more access to affordable child care. Next, we need to develop a program to help spouses find suitable employment when moving to Larimer County.</p>
<p>What are the top three transportation improvements Larimer County should accomplish? What is your position on the Fix North I-25 effort? Why?</p>	<p>I-25 Segments 7 and 8</p> <p>I-25 and US34 Interchange reconstruction</p> <p>I-25 and US14 Interchange Reconstruction</p> <p>I support the I-25 Fix North effort. I-25 is the lifeblood of Northern Colorado. Larimer County residents should be able to go to school, shop, dine, and go to work with a safe commute. We are promoting more unsafe travel conditions by not improving I-25 and creating more traffic issues onto local streets.</p>
<p>What is your position on water storage in northern Colorado? Do you support the NISP project?</p>	<p>The Colorado Water Plan was formulated after an extensive outreach to local water users and local grassroots groups. The two foundations in the plan consist of a need for more water storage and conservation. I support NISP and the long process of mitigating issues with affected property owners.</p>

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<p>A key role for a County Commissioner is serving as a convener of resources. Share with us relationships that you have with various county resources that you will be able to access in the role of County Commissioner.</p>	<p>Having grown up in Larimer County, I have established strong relationships with a number of people who share differing opinions. I continue to gain insight as to how the County's actions are impacting residents of Larimer County. By being active in the business community for over 30 years, I have developed extensive contacts throughout Larimer County. Participation in the nonprofit sector has given me perspective into how the current public County policy affects different organizations.</p> <p>One of the results of having been on the Fort Collins City Council and served at the Colorado House of Representatives is now to be able to access those resources when needed.</p>
<p>Why would a business person support your election to office?</p>	<p>Working in Larimer County for over 30 years has given me a local perspective on how public policy impacts local business. For each piece of legislation I have spoke or voted on I recall my past experience of working in Larimer County.</p>
<p>If business groups endorse you, is there any significant information that could come out about you during a campaign that could potentially embarrass you (and them) publicly? (ex: bankruptcy, arrest, conviction, etc.)</p>	<p>I have been in public office three times in the past and have been fully vetted in that process. The only issue that has ever come up was a Driving While Impaired over 30 years ago.</p>
<p>Signature</p>	
<p>Date</p>	