



## **CIVIC Conversations To-Go**

Earlier this year, your Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce launched a monthly engagement series known as CIVIC Conversations.

CIVIC Conversations is best described as an opportunity for individuals to share perspective and learn from others. Importantly, the conversation takes place in a comfortable atmosphere where participants introduce themselves to other community members with whom they might not otherwise interact.

Prior to each conversation, registered participants are introduced to the topic of discussion along with objective source material that may spark further investigation and thought on the issue. Subject matter expertise and preparation are not required.

At the event, participants self-select a table at which to sit, introduce themselves to each other, and review the rules of engagement: Everyone gets the opportunity to speak; there are no “right” or “wrong” statements; all participants are worthy of respect; and, enjoy the experience!

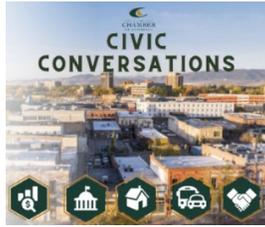
Just before the conversations get started, Chamber staff once again reviews the topic and offers a few “starter questions” to get the ball rolling. From there, each table dives right into the topic.

At the end of the allotted time, tables are asked to briefly summarize perspectives and share any key ideas or information that might benefit the full assembly.

CIVIC Conversation To Go is designed to support your own conversation among friends, neighbors, and colleagues utilizing all the same background and resource information made available for scheduled events.

We invite you to organize your own CIVIC Conversation utilizing this material. Share it with those you have invited and encourage all to bring their own perspective to the dialogue.

After your event, please let us know how it went, what worked well, what didn't, and how we might expand this initiative.



**Sponsored By:**



## **Fort Collins Area Chamber CIVIC Conversation**

Monday, January 16, 2023

### **City of Fort Collins Long-Term Funding Gap**

After a more thorough review of objectives defined within its overall Strategic Plan, supporting plans, and Council priorities, Fort Collins city staff have identified ongoing costs that exceed anticipated revenue by **\$40M to \$46M per year**. This funding shortfall encompasses transit services, parks and recreational facilities, affordable housing, and addressing climate change. This shortfall range has been recently revised from previous estimates of \$30M to \$38M per year.

In response, City Council has begun exploring introduction of new revenue sources and reallocation of existing taxes. As reminder, imposition of any new tax or modification of an existing tax must be approved by the voters of Fort Collins. New and revised fees can be imposed without a vote, though must demonstrate a direct nexus between an activity and its impact upon the community.

- **Questions to start the conversations:**

- Other than work or family, what draws you to Fort Collins?
- Other than work or family, what, if anything, might lead you away from Fort Collins?
- Are there facilities or services offered by the City that you would like to see improved?
- What, if any, services or amenities should the City consider reducing or eliminating?

***We ask that you come to this event with thoughtful intention. We want you stretch your conversation muscles while being open to hearing other thoughts and opinions. You don't have to agree, but we hope you can learn from other perspectives.***

#### **Resources:**

- [Council Work Session 12/13/2022 Summary](#)
- [Council Work Session 12/13/2022 Presentation](#)
- [Fort Collins Strategic Plan](#)
- [2021-2023 Council Priorities](#)
- [Transit Master Plan](#)
- [Parks & Recreation Master Plan](#)
- [Housing Strategic Plan](#)
- [Our Climate Future](#)