



## **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.

# Fort Collins Area Chamber CIVIC Conversation

Monday February 27<sup>th</sup> 2023

Horse & Dragon



## U+2 What is it?

Since the 1960s, Fort Collins has enforced occupancy restrictions.

### The "U plus 2" law or occupancy ordinance states:

"Occupancy in a residential dwelling unit (single-family, duplex, and multifamily) is restricted to: one family as defined below ... and not more than one additional person; OR one adult and their dependents (if any), a second adult and their dependents (if any), and not more than one additional person."

Family shall mean any number of persons who are all related by blood, marriage, adoption, guardianship or other duly authorized custodial relationship, and who live together as a single housekeeping unit and share common living, sleeping, cooking, and eating facilities. The occupancy limits are further defined in the Land Use Code 3.8.16.

Under this ordinance the following scenarios are allowed:

- a family (of any size and configuration)
- a family (of any size and configuration) and their nanny
- a family (of any size and configuration) and an exchange student
- two single parents, their kids, and a friend
- two siblings and **one** friend
- two married couples as long as a familial relationship exists linking the two couples

These are **not** allowed:

- two couples, married or not, with no familial relationship linking couple A to couple B
- two siblings and their two or more friends
- a family (of any size), a caretaker, and an exchange student

Resource: <https://www.fcgov.com/neighborhoodservices/occupancy>

### Questions to start the conversations:

- Share your insight into your first time living away from home?
- What do you like about our current, local, occupancy ordinance and why?
- What don't you like about our current, local, occupancy ordinance and why?
- If you could change one thing with our current, local, occupancy ordinance, what would it be and why?

***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.***