

**FORT COLLINS AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
CANDIDATE ENDORSEMENT QUESTIONNAIRE
2021 CITY OF FORT COLLINS ELECTION**

**Questionnaires are due back to ahutchison@fcchamber.org
by noon on Tuesday, February 16, 2021
Please note that all questionnaire answers
will be shared with the business community.**

Office Sought: City Council	District: 5
Name: Jeff Hansen	
Home Address: 2536 Romeldale Ln	
Daytime Phone: 970.402.1091	Evening Phone: 970.402.1091
Email: jeff4fortcollinscouncil@gmail.com	
Employment: Architect	
Length of Residence: In City: 10 years In District: 1 year	

Please limit responses to approximately 200 words per section.

Education:	Undergraduate study towards a Bachelors of Architecture and Bachelors of Art
Past and Present Community Service or Volunteer Positions Including Offices Held:	In 2020 Jeff received the VFLA Legacy award for Community Service. Jeff has served on the Planning and Zoning Board of Fort Collins for the past 7 years and is currently the Chairman. He is involved in yearly projects for various non-profits including La Familia, Animal House, and Food Bank of Larimer County among others. He has volunteered at the Catholic Charities of Larimer County serving dinner and spent many years as a volunteer with the Boy Scouts of America. He has also contributed his construction skills to Habitat for Humanity. All of this has been done while simultaneously holding leadership positions within his church.
Past and Present Employment/Business Experience:	Jeff started his career working for his dad in the geotechnical field. Often, he would be the bearer of bad news letting the contractor know about a failed test. Around age 21, he was told that he should enter politics due to

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	<p>his conflict resolution skills on the job site. After college, he started working for architectural firms where he learned the importance of running a financially sound business and working within complex budgets. His natural skill to look at the implications of today’s decisions on tomorrow has been an invaluable tool in his professional life.</p>
<p>Current Employment and Responsibilities:</p>	<p>As an Architect for Vaught Frye Larson Aronson Architects (VFLA) Jeff works daily with members of the Fort Collins community. He takes his client’s values and visions, considers all of the potential options, then makes it a reality. Often, clients have a dream list that isn’t possible within their budget. Jeff listens not only for the list, but also for the “why”. He listens until he hears the client’s values before making recommendations on ways to fit within the budget. Additionally, architects are on the forefront of green building. Jeff has worked on multiple LEED Certified buildings and has a deep understanding of what works, what doesn’t, and future potential.</p>
<p>Specific Qualifications for This Office:</p>	<p>During the past seven years on the planning and zoning board Jeff has become familiar the public processes of Fort Collins and has learned what works well and what needs improvement. It has also provided a platform to listen to current and ongoing issues and has prepared him to respond to the challenges facing our community today. Jeff is a humble and patient leader who leads with integrity. He has a natural ability to look long-term and come up with solutions that fix the problem rather than</p>

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	just push it off.
Why are you running for this office?	As a member of the Planning and Zoning Board there were citizens that would come speak on topics that were not within his ability to help in that specific role. On City Council, Jeff will be able to do more for the citizens of our community he has been listening to for 7 years.
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?	Jeff has consulted with various past councilmember and mayors. They have all told him that there is no single better way to prepare for being a successful council member than serving on the Planning & Zoning board for as long as he has. Jeff has a realistic view of the expectations and requirements for this office. Jeff has a proven track record of integrity and patience to see the job done.
What do you think are the top 3 economic priorities city government should undertake during the next four years? What role should the City of Fort Collins have in economic development? How will you make the economy a City budget priority?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Small Business recovery: COVID has hit small businesses particularly hard across the country. According to the January 2021 City Manager's report Fort Collins small businesses (especially restaurants, bars, etc) are suffering even more than the national average. 2) Employment diversity: attract and encourage a range of industries, professionals, and trades to invest in Fort Collins. This should also include business of all sizes to help build our economic resilience in preparation for future market fluctuations. 3) Encourage balanced growth: Fort Collins is attracting both businesses and residents. To protect both the economic health and cultural identity of our community these two sectors

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	<p style="text-align: center;">need to grow at a balanced rate.</p> <p>Fort Collins relies on a healthy economy to fund the services and amenities that we all value. When properly managed, those services and amenities help maintain a healthy economy. I will keep the symbioses of that relationship top of mind in all City budget considerations.</p>
<p>How will you make the City of Fort Collins 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>Through Jeff’s work in the architectural field, he has connections and relationships with various business leaders in our community and looks forward to making new ones. He will maintain an “open door” policy where anyone can reach out and contact him with creative solutions to current issues.</p>
<p>What role should the City of Fort Collins have in the region? What do you believe are the top issues facing Northern Colorado in the next several years?</p>	<p>Fort Collins is the largest city in northern Colorado and will likely remain so for at least several more decades. The success of our city is promoting the growth of the communities around us and we already see a strong interconnection between these populations and economies. Although all of these communities are benefiting at the moment as the regional population grows we need to be ever diligent to ensure that the values and priorities of Fort Collins and our neighbors stay somewhat aligned. Maintaining a good working relationship with both the leaders and the citizens of these communities is vital to this effort.</p>
<p>Colorado will continue to grow, including our area. How should the City of Fort Collins plan for growth, if at all?</p>	<p>Fort Collins has made the top spot in several "best places to live" lists. This is drawing a lot of people and companies to our city. Where to put them all is a great problem to have. Without careful planning we could easily destroy many of the things that puts Fort Collins at the top of those lists. The</p>

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	<p>updated City Plan is a great start showing where density should occur and what that might look like. We will need to stay open to other creative solutions that may be presented.</p>
<p>What are the top two issues facing city government over the next 4 years and why do you believe they are the most important?</p>	<p>Covid has negatively impacted the physical, mental and economic health of Fort Collins. Because they are so interconnected recovery from those impacts is a significant hurdle that we must address immediately.</p> <p>Fort Collins is growing fast and creating a viable strategy to allow that growth to happen while mitigating as many negative impacts as possible is another high priority. While the final vision of that plan may take another decade or two to be fully realized, the framework needs to be set within the next few years.</p>
<p>What economic tools should the City add to their "tool box" of resources to attract key employers?</p>	<p>I think that the world is going to see some significant innovations related to transportation (especially in the aerospace sector) in the next decade or less. These will likely be innovations that we can't even comprehend yet today. The investment that Fort Collins is currently making in the Fort Collins/Loveland airport could be leveraged to attract employers related to these new industries.</p>
<p>What are the top three transportation improvements the City of Fort Collins should accomplish? What is your position on the Fix North I-25 effort? Why?</p>	<p>The improvements to I-25 are long overdue and important as the northern Colorado region grows. Continuing collaboration on this project should be a priority.</p> <p>287 has more-or-less reaches its expansion and build out limitations. It will be important to begin planning for another north-south route of equal capacity before</p>

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	<p>287 reaches its maximum designed traffic volumes. This is a long range concern that can begin by addressing some more acute traffic issues such as constructing an grade separated crossing at Lemay and Vine.</p> <p>Expanding the Max service to include an east-west component. Consideration of this should include expansion into a regional service to help mitigate traffic from our growing neighbors.</p>
<p>Tell us about your understanding of water issues in Northern Colorado.</p>	<p>There are numerous communities in northern Colorado vying for water from a limited number of sources. Some communities were more proactive than others in establishing rights to water from those sources. Access to those water rights is often the deciding factor that makes or breaks growth and development in many areas.</p>
<p>What is your position on water storage in northern Colorado? Do you support the NISP project? Do you support the Halligan project?</p> <p>Why do you hold these positions?</p>	<p>Because of the extremely high differential between seasonal high and low flows in our stream and rivers, water storage is essential to ensure a consistent year-round water supply for any community here.</p> <p>Expansion of the Halligan reservoir is taking advantage of an existing infrastructure investment and increasing its capacity. In my opinion this is a very smart move.</p> <p>While the proposed NISP project would significantly increase the water storage capacity of Fort Collins, the negative impacts to the ecological and recreational value of the Poudre River both in the canyon and right in Fort Collins would be</p>

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	<p>equally significant. At this point in time I believe it would be in or best interest to put the NISP project back on the shelf for possible reconsideration in the future and use our resources to explore other water storage opportunities.</p>
<p>Why should the members of your district support your election to office?</p> <p>Why should someone who is interested in a vibrant city economy vote for you?</p>	<p>It is a very complex web of interconnected attributes that makes Fort Collins a world class city. Covid and the current political climate, have started to stress many of the connections in that web. We need to mend those ties and build new ones. Too much emphasis or focus on any one of those attributes will jeopardize many of the others. I will listen to all voices, understand those issues, and consider all options to reconnect this community.</p>
<p>Do you have existing relationships with anyone on City Council or Staff? And how will those relationships help you serve the citizens of Fort Collins.</p>	<p>Yes, as a member of the Planning and Zoning Board and as a local architect, Jeff has formed strong professional relationships with City Staff within the Community Planning Department and Building Department. Working closely with those departments often leads to interactions with Council members and with the City manager and his office. These relationships are built on mutual respect, demonstrated by the fact that Jeff has been invited to participate in the interview and hiring process for a few new department managers.</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, discrimination, harassment, arrest, conviction, etc.)</p>	<p>I am on my second marriage. I am told that divorce went a lot more smoothly than most. There was a bankruptcy in that first marriage (15 years ago) as a result of some medical debt. I'm not sure if this constitutes "significant information" or not. I actually consider myself a pretty clean candidate.</p>

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Signature

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Justin", is written over a white rectangular background.

Date: 2/16/2021