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Issue of the Week: Right Sizing Government

August 25, 2023

What is the issue?

On November 7, 2023, voters of Fort Collins will be asked to consider two Council-driven measures that will increase property and sales taxes to address a portion of the funding needed to fulfill strategic planning documents across four City service areas.

Why is it important to business?

Any government will be the size that voters allow it to be. Through election campaigns and policy engagement, the Chamber advocates for lean, efficient and highly accountable governments. Therefore, the Chamber helps voters understand the importance of a strong economic foundation to a community's stability. This outreach educates citizens about the risk of ignoring economic health so they can make balanced decisions at the ballot box. The Chamber supports utilization of a strong auditing process of current and new programs to identify waste and to retire less relevant programs. (*Where We Stand, 2023*)

How does it affect business?

Increased taxes can be beneficial to the local economy when structured and deployed correctly. Though in all cases, taxes divert capital from households and business that might otherwise expand our economic output.

Business's Role:

The business community must demand accountability of all local government revenue sources and uses to assure positive cost-benefit, while minimizing detrimental impacts to our economy.

Learn More: <https://mccmeetingspublic.blob.core.usgovcloudapi.net/fortcollco-meet-c507b07998c849ae881596b92644f84c/ITEM-Attachment-001-c0f731c2cc0b4df2ae0bb71fd40f83df.pdf>