



Colorado Water Conservation Board

Water Plan

Water Project Summary

Name of Applicant	Fort Lupton, City of	
Name of Water Project	Comprehensive Water Strategy Plan	
Grant Request Amount		\$430,360.00
Primary Category		\$430,360.00
<i>Conservation & Land Use Planning</i>		
Total Applicant Match		\$187,860.00
<i>Applicant Cash Match</i>		\$187,860.00
<i>Applicant In-Kind Match</i>		\$0.00
Total Other Sources of Funding		\$100,000.00
<i>DOLA / EIAF</i>		\$100,000.00
Total Project Cost		\$718,220.00

Applicant & Grantee Information

Name of Grantee: Fort Lupton, City of	
Mailing Address: 130 S. McKinley Avenue Fort Lupton CO 80621	
Organization Contact: Roy Vestal	
Position/Title: Public Works Director	Email: rvestal@fortluptonco.gov
Phone: (720) 466-6109	
Organization Contact - Alternate: Chris Cross	
Position/Title: City Administrator	Email: ccross@fortluptonco.gov
Phone: 720-466-6103	
Grant Management Contact: Roy Vestal	
Position/Title: Public Works Director	Email: rvestal@fortluptonco.gov
Phone: (720) 466-6109	
Grant Management Contact - Alternate: Leann Perino	
Position/Title: Finance Director	Email: lperino@fortluptonco.gov
Phone: 7204666120	

Description of Grantee/Applicant

No description provided

Type of Eligible Entity

- ☐ Public (Government)
☐ Public (District)
☒ Public (Municipality)
☐ Ditch Company

- ☐ Private Incorporated
- ☐ Private Individual, Partnership, or Sole Proprietor
- ☐ Non-governmental Organization
- ☐ Covered Entity
- ☐ Other

Category of Water Project

- ☐ Agricultural Projects
Developing communications materials that specifically work with and educate the agricultural community on headwater restoration, identifying the state of the science of this type of work to assist agricultural users among others.
- ☒ Conservation & Land Use Planning
Activities and projects that implement long-term strategies for conservation, land use, and drought planning.
- ☐ Engagement & Innovation Activities
Activities and projects that support water education, outreach, and innovation efforts. Please fill out the Supplemental Application on the website.
- ☐ Watershed Restoration & Recreation
Projects that promote watershed health, environmental health, and recreation.
- ☐ Water Storage & Supply
Projects that facilitate the development of additional storage, artificial aquifer recharge, and dredging existing reservoirs to restore the reservoirs' full decreed capacity and Multi-beneficial projects and those projects identified in basin implementation plans to address the water supply and demand gap.

Location of Water Project

Latitude	40.084700
Longitude	104.813000
Lat Long Flag	Precise coordinates: Project coordinates are readily definable and precisely define the location of the project
Water Source	South Platte Free River / Fulton Ditch shares / Windy Gap reuse shares
Basins	South Platte
Counties	Weld
Districts	2-South Platte: Denver Gage to Greeley

Water Project Overview

Major Water Use Type	Municipal
Type of Water Project	Planning
Scheduled Start Date - Design	2/3/2025
Scheduled Start Date - Construction	

Description

The City of Fort Lupton will create a comprehensive water strategy plan (CWSP) to address future water supply and resiliency challenges and opportunities. The project will allow the City to investigate, assess, plan for, and prioritize specific water conservation, supply, and storage options under consideration. Even though Fort Lupton is a small community, this planning must take into account an extremely complex web of overlapping technical details. For example, planning for one water storage solution impacts the City's water rights, its required augmentation plan for returning water to the South Platte River, future conservation and drought resilience efforts, and the capacity to expand the non-potable water system.

With so many moving pieces, the City must abandon its prior practice of developing narrow, stand-alone plans and undertake a comprehensive planning effort that accurately accounts for these highly technical elements. At the same time, we must engage community members and other stakeholders in our planning efforts. Consultants will conduct testing and modeling to accurately assess, analyze and prioritize specific future water strategies and provide actionable strategies to manage efficiency, conservation, and drought resiliency efforts. This plan will be a major first step toward fully integrated planning (e.g. One Water) for the City.

Measurable Results

846	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
200	New Annual Water Supplies Developed or Conserved (acre-feet), Consumptive or Nonconsumptive
	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
846	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
	Length of Pipe, Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
\$200	Efficiency Savings (dollars/year)
200	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year)
	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
	Quantity of Water Shared through Alternative Transfer Mechanisms or water sharing agreement (acre-feet)
9,600	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Incorporating Water-Saving Actions into Land Use Planning
9,600	Number of Coloradans Impacted by Engagement Activity
Other	
The 200 in supply, savings and efficiency are what we intend to find out with the Comprehensive Water Strategy Plan.	

Water Project Justification

The City of Fort Lupton's project to develop a Comprehensive Water Strategy Plan is aligned with the goals of Colorado's 2023 Water Plan (CWP) and the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan and advances a model of best practice for front-range South Platte communities.

On page 36 the plan states, "The current trend toward aridification and the knowledge that severe, long-term drought has occurred in Colorado's past underscores the need to be prepared for a warmer and drier future." This planning project will enable the City to develop plans that align with at least three of the nine recommended drought solutions: municipal water conservation, water reuse, and multi-purpose storage projects (CWP, p. 39).

Furthermore, the CWP lists "invest in OneWater and reuse" as a top four Partner Action and "explore, expand, and demonstrate water reuse" as a top four Agency Action (CWP, Executive Summary, p. 14). This project's intention to plan for expanding the City's non-potable water system (see Task 3) directly supports these reuse goals. The intention that the completed Comprehensive Water Strategy Plan (CWSP) serve as a significant step toward eventual OneWater planning is also directly responsive to these state-level goals.

The proposed plan to create a Comprehensive Strategic Water Plan also aligns with the goals and recommendations from the South Platte Basin Implementation Plan. For example, the Basin Plan's four top priority strategies include "meet the municipal supply gap" and "protect and enhance watersheds," (South Platte-Metro BIP Vol. 2, p. 101) both of which are key drivers of the proposed project. The plan further notes that "New storage, whether above or below ground, will be critical for meeting the future water needs of the South Platte Basin" (p. 102). Planning for increasing the City's water storage capacity is an essential component of this project (see esp. Tasks 4 and 5).

The planning activities called for in this project will enable the City to implement projects, one of the Basin's 12 Goals (South Platte BIP, Vol.1, p.2). Specifically, types of projects for which the City is planning, meet these additional six Basin goals: maximizing development of native supplies, maintaining and improving municipal conservation and efficiency, maintaining and promoting reuse, protecting and enhancing watershed function, using scenario planning to manage uncertainty of future water needs, and broadening communications, outreach, and education programs. The project, which plans for building additional capacity for raw water storage, will contribute toward meeting the municipal supply gap, which is one of the "Basin's Four Primary Strategies" (BIP, Vol. 1, p. 3).

The raw storage sites for which the City is planning are a resourceful and innovative response to the CWP because they are repurposed waste water lagoons. Once the projects are eventually completed, the additional raw water supplies will be made available to support 1) expanding the City's purple pipe system for irrigation and 2) fire prevention during periods of extended drought and emergency response in the event of widespread fire.

Related Studies

2006 City of Fort Lupton Water Conservation Plan

2018 City of Fort Lupton, Municipal Water Efficiency Plan draft

2010 Colorado Water Conservation Board, Statewide Water Supply Initiative

2022 State of Colorado, South Platte Basin Implementation Plan, Volume 1.

Colorado Basin

Reducing reliance on CBT water supplies assists in conserving water in this basin

South Platte Basin

Providing reliable augmentation flows to the South Platte River assists in maintaining flows for irrigation users downstream.

Taxpayer Bill of Rights

Voters approved a ballot issue in 2004 that eliminated TABOR requirements for the City of Fort Lupton.