

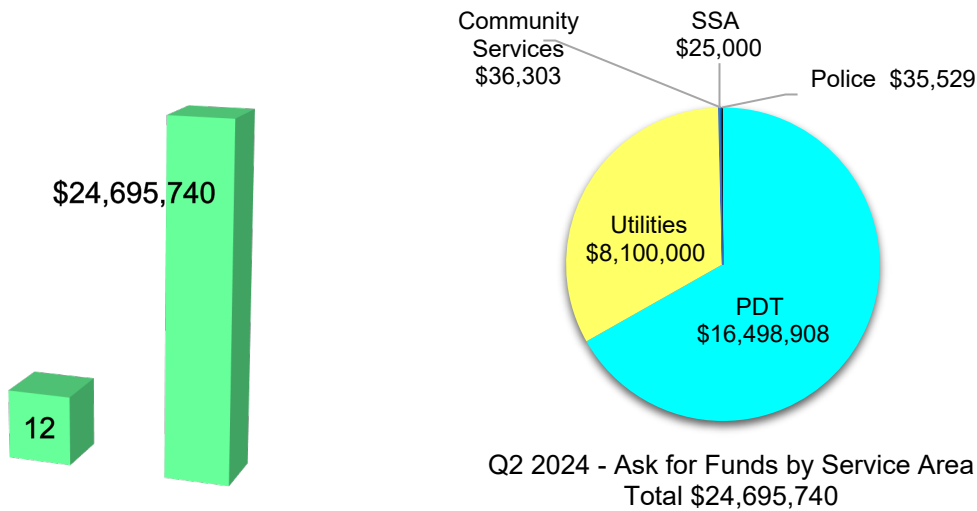
**MEMORANDUM**

Date: August 19, 2024  
 To: Executive Leadership Team  
 From: Kerri Ishmael, Senior Analyst, Grants Administration  
 CC: Finance Liaisons and Department Heads  
 Subject: **Q2 2024 Grants Update**

**Summary**

The purpose of this memorandum is to provide an update on grant opportunities pursued during Q2 2024 and notices of award received during Q2 2024.

**Funding Opportunities Applied for in Q2**



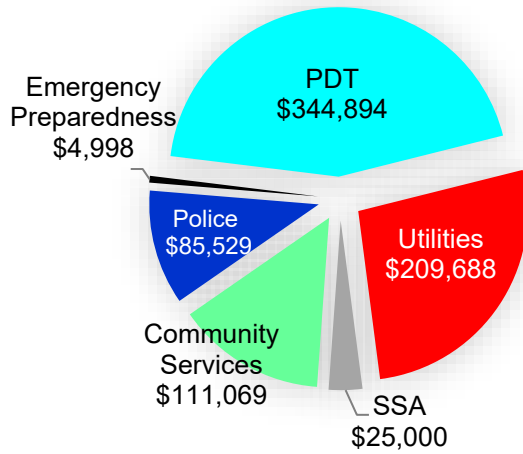
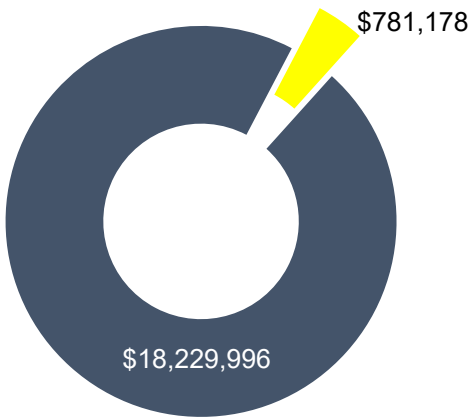
A total of 12 funding opportunities were pursued during Q2 2024, totaling \$24,695,740, with asks varying from infrastructure upgrades and investments to implementation support for building owners in adopting updated building energy codes. Specifically:

- FC Moves, Natural Areas and Parks put forth an ask under the DOT's **new Active Transportation Infrastructure Investment Program** for the *Connecting North College* project. The planning proposal serves to address the barriers and burdens caused by College Ave, Union Pacific Railroad, the Poudre River, and Larimer and Weld Canal. The North College area is home to several of the City's largest mobile-home

communities, with majority of residents being Hispanic or Latino and in the 93<sup>rd</sup> percentile for low income households per [Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool](#) . Engagement with the community is a huge aspect of the project that serves to address the disconnection of the area. Community engagement will build upon recommendations from the City's [Active Modes Plan](#) and [North College MAX plan](#) to identify equitable active transportation access. In addition to exploring separated bike lanes and addressing crossings along College Ave. and parallel streets, connections to existing and future trails will be evaluated. Project costs total \$1.6 million, with an ask of \$1.3 million from DOT.

- [FC Moves](#) in partnership with City of Loveland pursued funds under DOT's Federal Railroad Administration **Consolidated Rail Infrastructure and Safety Improvements Program** for the *Front Range Passenger Rail Fort Collins and Loveland Station Planning Study*. Total projects costs of \$1.3 million provides both cities initiating preliminary station location planning for the [Front Range Passenger Rail](#) that proposes intercity passenger rail service from Pueblo to Fort Collins. Fort Collins and Loveland will evaluate suitable station sites within their respective city limits and develop a financial plan for long-term funding needs.
- [FC Moves and Engineering](#), with support from Larimer County and Colorado State University, requested \$1.7 million under DOT's **Safe Streets and Roads for All Program**. Project costs totaling \$2.2 million include:
  - A [demonstration activity](#) along Lake Street from Shields to College Ave that includes speed control measures, use of separated bike lanes, potential changes to street intersections and modifications to turning movements. Implemented modifications will inform future design and infrastructure measures to provide safe travel at key intersections, safer pedestrian crossing opportunities and predictable travel options by active modes users.
  - An [audit of standards and policies](#) in Larimer County and City plans, codes and manuals that guide development, infrastructure and traffic operations. The audit serves to identify standards and policies not aligning with City's Active Modes Plan and Vision Zero Action Plan, with recommended amendments to be developed through engagement with key stakeholders.
  - A [study of Harmony Road from John F. Kennedy Pkwy to the West I-25 Frontage Rd.](#) to develop concepts to mitigate speed-related risks and reduce severe crashes involving pedestrians, cyclists and other vulnerable road users.
- [Utilities](#) in collaboration with Platte River Power Authority and other owner community utilities – Estes Park, Longmont and Loveland presented an \$84 million project under the Department of Energy's (DOE) **Grid Resilience and Innovation Partnerships Program** for the *Efficiency Works Virtual Power Plant (VPP) project*. A collective request was made for \$33.4 million from DOE, with FC Utilities share being \$3.5 million. To sum up the technical proposal, the VPP integrates monitoring and control systems across the four owner communities that replaces fossil fuel use with decarbonized electricity, thereby reducing greenhouse gas emissions, as well as serves to save energy and money through more efficient energy consumption.
- [Energy Services](#), in partnership with the Colorado Energy Office, Aspen and Boulder, sought funding under the DOE's **Assistance for Adoption of the Latest and Zero Building Energy Code Adoption** program coming out of the Inflation Reduction Act. The City requested \$4.6 million in support of a multi-year program to provide implementation support for commercial building owners in adopting updated building energy codes. Proposed offerings include providing building owners advanced financial education over available funding sources to implement needed building measures/upgraded, as well as technical audits to identify needed implementation measures.

**Funding Opportunities Awarded Q2 2024**



**Q2 2024 - Grant Awards by Service Area  
Total \$781,178**

A total of **8 awards, totaling \$781,178** were received during **Q2 2024**, corresponding to efforts by many departments in support of furthering existing programs, as well as supporting new opportunities that align with several strategic objectives of service areas. Specifically:

Utilities' Water Quality Services Division receiving \$209,688 through the Colorado Department of Natural Resources' **Colorado Watershed Restoration Program** in support of developing a Wildfire Ready Action Plan (WRAP) to address susceptibility of critical water supplies and infrastructure in the upper Cache la Poudre and North Platte watersheds to post-wildfire impacts and hazards. The WRAP will focus on the combined watersheds - Joe Wright Creek, Peterson Lake, and upper Michigan River that provide water to the Cache la Poudre River. Based on the Cache la Poudre River and these watersheds also providing key resources to City of Greeley and the Water Supply and Storage Company, both organizations are partnering with the City, contributing funds to complete the WRAP.

PDT's Community Development & Neighborhood Services received notice under FEMA's **Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program** of the proposed Environmental Master Plan (EMP) being selected for funding (\$344,894). The EMP serves to provide a framework for integrating nature-based solutions and natural habitat design standards into City of Fort Collin's development review process while also identifying nexus between stormwater management design criteria and natural habitat protections on properties. The EMP will update the Larimer County Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan that will inform changes to both the City of Fort Collins' Land Use Code and Utilities stormwater design criteria.

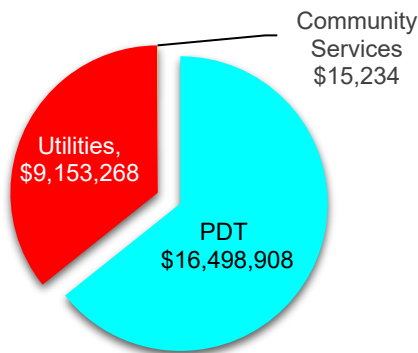
Natural Areas received \$90,000 of its original \$133,100 request under **Colorado Parks and Wildlife Wetlands for Wildlife program** to restore wetland and riparian habitat at Brannigan Springs in Soapstone Prairie Natural Area in support of the translocation and expansion of the Tier 1 Northern Leopard Frog. The project proposes installation of beaver dam analogs (man-made structures that mimic the form and function of natural beaver dams) and relocation of Northern Leopard Frog egg masses.

The City was awarded 4% of total requested funds.

Outcome in relation to the \$18,229,996 in request for funds includes an unsuccessful ask for \$6.2 million under DOT's highly competitive **FY2024 Rebuilding American Infrastructure with Sustainability and Equity (RAISE)** program for the Midtown Business Improvement project. Engineering in partnership with the Midtown Business Improvement District plan to pursue another request under the FY25 funding cycle, incorporating feedback from the debrief with DOT. The project serves to finalize plans for future construction of the 1.33-mile corridor of College Ave from Boardwalk Drive to, and including, the West Drake Road intersection. The design scope covers infrastructure updates for the corridor to improve safety for all modes of travel, business access, ADA access, active modes infrastructure, access to the adjacent bus rapid transit line and regional Mason trail, and stormwater drainage.

In addition, there was ~\$12 million in unsuccessful requests for **FY 2025 Congressionally Directed Spending funds**. Notwithstanding efforts by Light & Power, Police, Recreation, Transfort and Engineering for funding in support of priority projects, these requests did not make the next review stage by the House and Senate. Utilities' Water Quality Services Division proposal for the Michigan Ditch Pre-Fire Mitigation project has been incorporated into the FY25 draft appropriations bill. The proposal for \$1.1 million in funding is now under review by the House and Senate, with hopes that the Michigan Ditch Pre-Fire Mitigation project makes the final FY25 appropriations bill to be signed by the President. Phase I of the Michigan Ditch Pre-Fire Mitigation project commences in September 2024, which is based on funding received through the Colorado State Forest Services' **Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant Program**. Should the project be incorporated into the final FY25 appropriations bill and signed by the President, Phase II will allow an additional treatment of 175 acres to mitigate the risk of large-scale wildfires and to protect the City's Michigan Ditch and Joe Wright Reservoir.

The City is awaiting the outcomes on several grant applications, with total asks of \$26 million.



9 Applications, Totaling \$25,667,410

## A Look Ahead at Q3 2024

Ops Services, Utilities and Transfort collaborate on a \$12 million request under DOT's **Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) grant program** to significantly expand its electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure that will be integrated into a smart grid EV charge management solution, enabling the City to rapidly expand its fleet of EVs in alignment with its 2030 emissions reduction targets while simultaneously providing benefits to the electric grid and the entire community of Fort Collins.

Engineering pursues a preliminary planning and design project under the Federal Railroad Administration's **Railroad Crossing Elimination grant program** for elimination of the at grade crossings of the BNSF tracks at Timberline Road. The proposal is for a future overpass over the BNSF tracks and the parallel Vine Drive to address historic congestion, while increasing multimodal options through improved safety measures.

Ops Services pursues a request under the Colorado Energy Office's **Public Building Electrification grant program** to upgrade the HVAC system at the City's Northside Aztlan Community Center.

FC Moves, Natural Areas and Parks push forward in another request for planning and design funds in support of the *North College Community*, requesting support through DOT's **Reconnecting Communities Pilot grant program**. The ask is to support removing the barriers and harms placed on the community from College Ave., Union Pacific Railroad, the Poudre River, and Larimer and Weld Canal.