

ORDINANCE NO. 032, 2025
OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS
AMENDING SECTION 7-165 OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF
FORT COLLINS TO CLARIFY AND REVISE THE
REQUIREMENTS FOR PETITION CIRCULATORS

A. In 2015, the City Council formed an ad hoc committee to review, discuss and recommend the most beneficial changes to the Code and City Charter regarding elections and other related matters.

B. In January 2017, Council made the ad hoc Committee a standing committee of Council for the purpose of identifying and evaluating ideas for improvements to City election laws and practices and anticipating adjustments that may be needed to adapt to a changing legal and technological environment, for Council consideration.

C. As a result of the Committee's work (as both an ad hoc committee and a standing committee), Ordinance No. 021, 2016, Ordinance No. 005, 2017, Ordinance No. 045, 2018, Ordinance No. 077, 2018, and Ordinance No. 113, 2018, Ordinance No. 109, 2020, Ordinance No. 112, 2020, and Ordinance No. 079, 2022, were considered and adopted by the Council to update various provisions of Chapter 7.

D. The Committee has continued to meet to consider clarifications and updates that may be needed in Chapter 7 and has recommended an update to the requirements for petition circulators to ensure petitions are reasonably accessible.

E. The Council desires to enact the recommendations of the Committee and staff to clarify the obligations of petition circulators in Chapter 7, as set forth below.

In light of the foregoing recitals, which the Council hereby makes and adopts as determinations and findings, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT COLLINS that Section 7-165 of the Code of the City of Fort Collins is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 7-165. - Obligation of petition circulators.

Any person circulating a petition approved for circulation by the City Clerk shall **must**, upon the request of any person to whom the petition is presented, ~~read aloud to such person~~ **make** the entire text of the initiated or referred measure that is the subject of the petition or, in the case of a recall petition, the statement of charges and statement of defenses, **accessible by any reasonable method**.

Introduced, considered favorably on first reading on February 18, 2025, and approved on second reading for final passage on March 4, 2025.

Mayor

ATTEST:

City Clerk

Effective Date: March 14, 2025

Approving Attorney: Sara Arfmann