

## **Special Seminar**

**\*This seminar is an extension of Kristen Rasmussen's spring hydrometeorology class, discussing water management strategies in Fort Collins.\***

## **Carol Webb**

**Fort Collins Utilities Deputy Director**

## **Water Resources Policy from a Practitioner's Perspective**

**Hosted by Kristen Rasmussen**

**1:30 p.m. Tuesday, July 9  
ATS West 121**

Seminar will focus on the development and implementation of the City of Fort Collins water resources policy. The City owns and operates the Water Utility, which is part of Fort Collins Utilities. The Water Utility provides a diverse portfolio of services and programs to its customers while supporting key outcomes for the City.

The Water Utility provides reliable, high-quality water service to about 35,000 customer accounts (32,000 residential and 3,000 commercial) and distributes 8 billion gallons of treated water annually through over 500 miles of water mains.

The Water Utility utilizes two main sources of water supply: the Poudre River and the Colorado-Big Thompson (CBT) Project, which includes Horsetooth Reservoir. On average, the Water Utility treats and supplies to customers about 24,000 acre-feet (af) of water annually, split about equally from these two sources. The Water Utility also provides about 3,000 af per year of untreated (raw) water for irrigation of City parks, golf courses, cemeteries, and other green belt areas. One acre-foot of water will supply on average about 3.5 homes with water for one year.

The Water Supply and Demand Management Policy is the governing policy adopted by City Council to direct acquisition, development, and management of the City's and the Water Utility's water supplies. The current policy was adopted in 2012 and contains guiding principles and criteria related to water efficiency and demand management, water supply reliability, treated and raw water quality, use of surplus raw water supplies, and regional cooperation on water resources issues.

A Budgeting for Outcomes (BFO) offer was funded in the 2019-20 BFO process to update the policy to reflect current conditions and to incorporate findings of the Water Supply Vulnerability Study.

The City and Water Utility strive to balance policy and a triple bottom line approach (economic, environmental, social) with demands, trends, and changing growth patterns.