# WATER COLORADO WATER CENTER COLORADO WATER CENTER COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY EDUCATION Series

What's Next for Larimer County Water?



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COVERING WATER
ISSUES & INITIATIVES
IN LARIMER COUNTY

WATER SUPPLY & RISKS

6-8 PM

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WATERSHED HEALTH & INSTREAM FLOWS

6-8 PM

ост 18

For additional information, visit https://col.st/KTuu3

WATER
CONSERVATION
& SHARING

6-8 PM

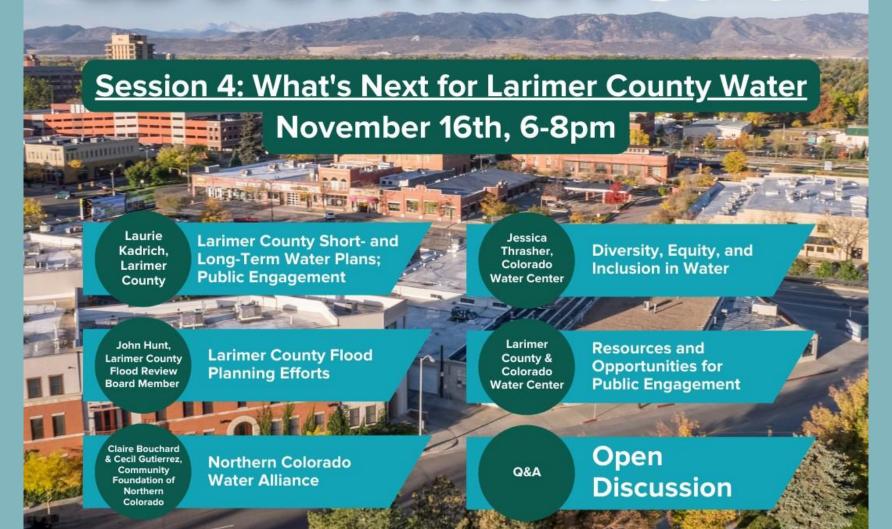
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WHAT'S NEXT FOR LARIMER COUNTY WATER

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## WATER COLORADO WATER CENTER COLORADO STATE LINIVERSITY EDUCATION Series





#### **NEXT STEPS - LARIMER COUNTY**

WATER EDUCATION SERIES #4



**NOVEMBER 16, 2023** 



#### THIS PRESENTATION

#### 1. Water Planning:

- Existing Conditions (2022)
- Water Master Plan (2023-2024)
- 2. NOCO Water Alliance
- 3. Climate-Smart, Future Ready Plan
- 4. Strategic Plan

## LAURIE KADRICH Assistant County Mgr. Larimer County

970-498-7004 Kadriclm@co.larimer.co.us





#### 2022 FOUNDATIONAL WORK

### **Existing Conditions Assessment**

- Scope: Assessed existing conditions related to water supplies and agricultural land and identified risks and vulnerabilities
- Delivered: Regional Existing Conditions Report

### Initial Vision and Goal Setting

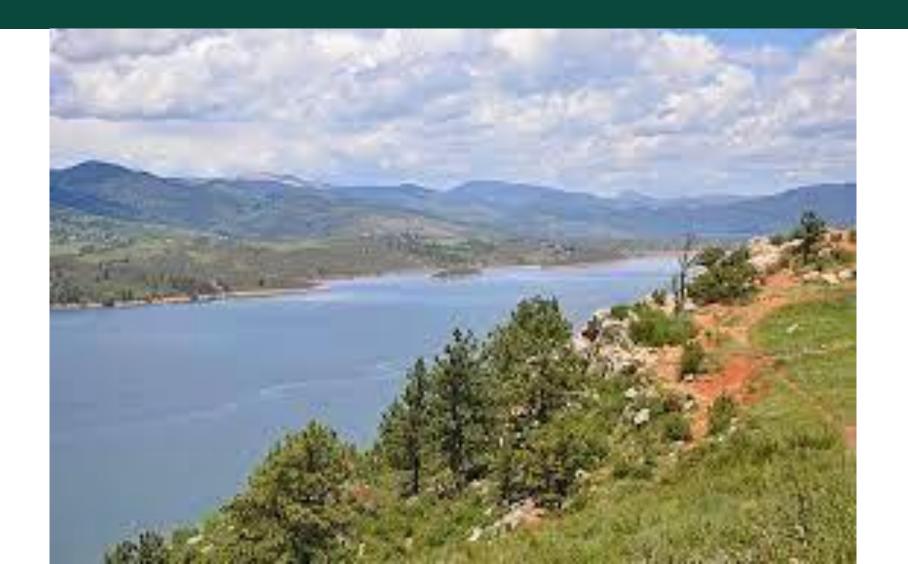
- Scope: County staff work session and stakeholder open house
- Delivered: Final memo with key findings, action items and recommendations for developing a water plan



### Posted at: larimer.gov/planning/water



#### WATER MASTER PLAN





#### THE WATER MASTER PLAN

A detailed roadmap to implement water related actions, focusing on areas of high risk, with detailed milestones to measure progress toward achieving Larimer County's vision and goals.

Firms: SWCA and AE2S

Timeline:
Through end of 2024

Funding: FEMA and County





#### WHO WILL BE INVOLVED?

#### **Larimer County:**

- Engineering
- Natural Resources
- Community Development
- Housing Resources
- Emergency Operations
- Boards and Commissions

#### Partner Agencies:

- Municipalities
- Water Districts
- Agricultural groups
- Watershed protection groups
- Environmental groups
- Others interested in water issues



#### **COUNTY'S ROLE AND OPTIONS**

- Long-range planning for water and related infrastructure
- Land Acquisitions with water-sharing agreements
- Emergency operations and recovery
- Data and information management
- Public education and engagement
- Regional convening
- Fees and revenues to fund incentives and programs
- Regulations (land use, building, floodplain, streams)
- Watershed risk assessment
- Leader in water-wise county facilities
- Legislative advocacy





#### **EVENTS HELD TO DATE**

- 1. Formed Water Advisory Group (convened Oct. 11)
- 2. Formed Technical Advisory Committee (started Oct. 16)
- 3. Public Meeting on Nov. 6 / 8 Vision and Goals
- 4. Public questionnaires





#### NOCO WATER ALLIANCE

- 1. County is a participant
- 2. Regular updates are provided to the Board of Commissioners
- County regulatory authority 1041
- County interest includes agricultural, watershed health and recreational uses – not the same as water providers
- 5. Early discussions include sharing development and fee approaches and the impact to water usage and housing permits



#### CLIMATE-SMART, FUTURE READY

- 1. Phase 3: Plan development
- 2. <u>Purpose:</u> Better adapt to and mitigate the social economic and environmental risk that the county faces from climate change
- 3. Partners: Over 50 partner agencies
- 4. Water: Increase water use efficiency across urban, agricultural and ecological needs with emphasis on regional alignment

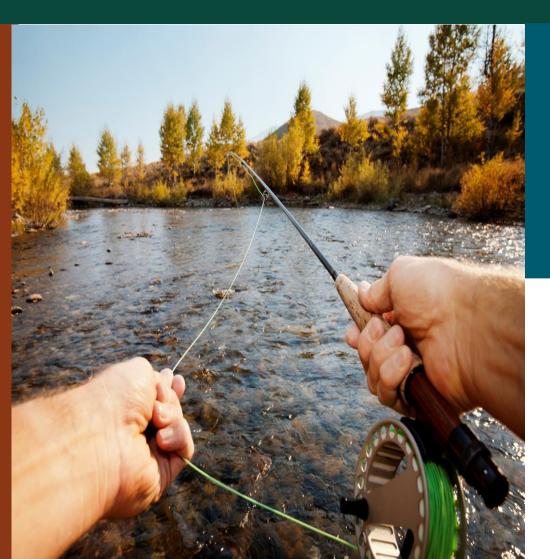


#### **COUNTY STRATEGIC PLAN 2024-2028**

- 1. Final stages of development
- 2. Previous Strategic Plan had water sharing and water planning objectives
- 3. Current Strategic Plan will have a natural and built environment goal to:
  - Create structure to better coordinate and advocate regionally on air and water quality projects
  - Improve forest and watershed health



#### QUESTIONS OR SUGGESTIONS?



#### **LAURIE KADRICH**

**Assistant County Manager Larimer County** 

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