

A Letter From Karen and Tony

The logo for 'FACE THE STATE' is displayed in white text on a dark blue rectangular background. The word 'FACE' is on the left, 'THE' is in the middle with a vertical line through it, and 'STATE' is on the right. The words 'FACE' and 'STATE' have horizontal lines underneath them.

Dear Neighbor:

We are Tony and Karen. We collectively have spent more than 30 years serving the community, but today we're writing you simply as your neighbors.

Fort Collins is a great Colorado city. Fort Collins residents take sense of pride in the natural beauty of the city, in our prestigious Colorado State University, in schools, our parks and our people. Most of all, we know that when Fort Collins is faced with a challenge, our neighbors have a history of banding together to do what is right in our community.

As long time residents of Fort Collins, we are very concerned about several key issues:

1. **SERIOUS THREATS TO OUR PUBLIC SAFETY PROGRAMS** - police officers and dispatchers have a major staff crisis and have more than 30 positions open. This threatens our public safety because these are police officers that are not on the streets protecting us.
2. **A REAL POSSIBILITY AND PROGRAM CUTS** - As recession grips our nation and state, Fort Collins is not immune from its effects. There are serious discussions with city government about cutting vital city services, freezing wages of dedicated city employees - all things that would deprive residents of critical services that they deserve to receive. City employees have had their wages frozen in the past and many employees have left the city's payroll.
3. **MISPLACED PRIORITIES AND ELECTED OFFICIALS DON'T LISTEN TO US** - Our city leaders are letting us down. Despite threats to public safety and potential cuts to services, they are spending our resources recklessly. City Manager got a \$40,000 pay raise increasing his total compensation package to over \$240,000.00 over the next few years while we can't hire new police officers?

In the coming days you will receive a ballot in the mail. Please vote YES on the "Citizen-Initiated Charter Amendment." The election is a mail-only ballot. There will be no polling places. To vote, just fill out the ballot and mail it no later than June 7.

Fort Collins workers are the people who clean your streets, protect us from crime, make sure the lights go on every night, provide us with clean water and protect us when a fire or medical emergency threatens us. Giving them the tools to stand up for us and protect our city is a great idea.

PLEASE VOTE YES ON THE CITIZEN-INITIATED CHARTER AMENDMENT.