

### Session 3: Community Resilience Priorities and Solutions

#### *Gerry Horak, Fort Collins, CO, Mayor Pro Tem*

Gerry Horak was re-elected to the Fort Collins City Council April 2015 to represent the citizens of District 6 (northwest Fort Collins). He was the Mayor in 1984-1985. In April 2013, 2015 and 2017 he was elected Mayor Pro Tem. Since moving to Fort Collins forty years ago, Gerry has resided in the northwest district. He was elected four times to represent the citizens of northwest Fort Collins and served on the city council from 1981-1994. Gerry provided leadership in open, responsive, accountable and fiscally responsible government. He was instrumental in changing the City's position from opposition to support of the Wild and Scenic Designation of the Cache La Poudre River as well as the establishment of the Natural Areas Program and the expansion of trails and open spaces.



Gerry currently serves as Vice Chair on the National League of Cities Energy, Environment and Natural Resources Policy Committee and the University Communities Council. During his previous tenure on council he also served on the NLC EENR Steering and Policy Committees. He is a founding steering committee member for WaterNow. He also represents the City Council on the Platte River Power Authority, Poudre Fire Authority, North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Organization, I-25 Coalition, Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority and the Larimer County Open Lands Advisory Board. In 2014, Governor John Hickenlopper appointed Gerry to the Regional Air Quality Commission and reappointed him in 2016.

Gerry has degrees in economics and geography (BS Towson State University), resource economics (MA Johns Hopkins University), and a Ph.D. in wildlife biology from Colorado State University.

#### **Abstract:**

#### ***Resiliency Results from Plans, Implementation, and Collaboration***

Fort Collins has a history of planning, implementing our plans and continually updating the plans and the implementing the measures. We, like many communities, use our watercourses for water supply, storm water management, recreation and open space. Over the last 40 years we have developed an integrated system to minimize loss of life and property damage from floods and fires through distributed infrastructure. We proactively work with surrounding jurisdictions utilizing the Larimer County Resiliency Framework, Larimer County Hazard Mitigation Plan and the Fort Collins Resiliency and Recovery Assessment Program.