



FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

*Come Play!*

## Want a Whitewater Park in Fort Collins? Take Action!

Imagine walking around Old Town on a warm, summer night. You've had dinner, listened to some music, and now you want to sit and relax somewhere peaceful. So you head to the Whitewater Park to sit in on the grass and watch kayakers throw loops and kids with boogie boards perfect their flat spins.

*Sounds great, doesn't it? With community involvement, it can happen.*

### Why Now?

The time is ripe to secure the building of a park. John Stokes, Director of Natural Areas with the City of Fort Collins, and his team, have been working on a comprehensive river plan for the downtown river corridor and it is near completion. The team is open to developing some recreational elements like surf waves, holes, sink spots into the plan.

### Why it's a Win-Win for Everyone

#### **Not just for whitewater enthusiasts.**

The scope of the project will include a variety of in-channel and out-of-channel improvements for year-round recreational use including kayaking, biking, walking, running, sitting, tubing, fishing, surfing, river boarding, wading and swimming.

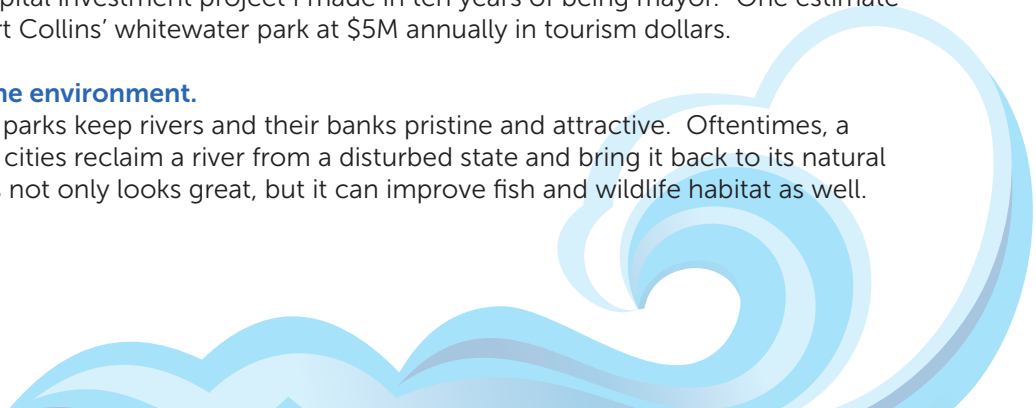
#### **Big potential for tourism dollars.**

Other towns that have created whitewater parks have experienced a great return on their investment. Golden, CO reports the economic impact of their park at \$1.8 million a year. Initial cost: \$170,000. Reno, Nevada's park draws in \$6 million a year in tourism dollars, with an initial cost of \$4.5 million. Reno mayor Robert Cashell called the park "the best capital investment project I made in ten years of being mayor." One estimate puts the Fort Collins' whitewater park at \$5M annually in tourism dollars.

#### **A plus for the environment.**

Whitewater parks keep rivers and their banks pristine and attractive. Oftentimes, a park means cities reclaim a river from a disturbed state and bring it back to its natural beauty. This not only looks great, but it can improve fish and wildlife habitat as well.

What do Durango, Golden, Denver, Glenwood Springs, Salida, Boulder, Lawson, Lyons and Steamboat all have in common? They all have whitewater parks! Isn't it time Fort Collins joined these ranks? We think YES! If you agree, read on to see how you can get involved.



## How to Help...it's as easy as 123.

Like the idea of bringing a whitewater park to town? Take action! By taking even just one of these steps you'll help make it happen:

### 1. Contact city council.

Tell them that you think it's a good idea to create a whitewater park in Fort Collins. Email the city council at: [cityleaders@fcgov.com](mailto:cityleaders@fcgov.com), or call (970) 221-6878. The river plan will be presented in September and may go to vote October 8, so act fast!

### 2. Attend the City Open House.

S20 Designs will present on the park from 5 to 6 pm. Lincoln Center, Thursday September 5.

### 3. Get online.

Follow the conversation on Facebook, search Poudre Play Park.

---

For more info, contact Ben Loeffler at [poudre120@gmail.com](mailto:poudre120@gmail.com), or visit [PoudreWhitewaterPark.com](http://PoudreWhitewaterPark.com).

## Waterpark Features:

Ideally, the park will be located near Old Town. A committee of citizens from University Connections are advocating for the following features:

- Multi-user feature comparable to "Black Bear Hole" in Lyons, CO. Great for both beginner and experienced kayakers and boogie boarders to experience whitewater safely.
- Advanced features for practicing loops, cartwheels, blunts and other sophisticated moves. Creates opportunity for kayak rodeos and other events.
- Squirt spot for kayakers and swimmers to spin underwater, if the spot allows.



FORT COLLINS, COLORADO

*Come Play!*

