

## **Gerry Horak**

Gerry has a long history of public service. He is a candidate for Mayor of Fort Collins in the April 2021 election. Gerry recently served the Fort Collins City Council April 2011 to represent the citizens of District 6 (northwest Fort Collins) to April 2019. In April 2013, 2015 and 2017 Gerry was elected Mayor Pro Tem. Previously he was the Mayor 1984-1985, Assistant Mayor 1983-1984, and Mayor Pro Tem 1993-1994. 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 in April 2019 completed his appointment as Vice Chair on the National League of Cities Energy, Environment and Natural Resources (EENR) Advocacy Committee and as a member of 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. Also Gerry is the President on the Boxelder Basin Regional Stormwater Authority. In 2019 Governor Jared Polis appointed Gerry to the Colorado Public Health and Environment's Small Business Advisory Committee where he serves as Chair. He also represented the City Council on the Larimer County Open Lands Board, Platte River Power Authority, Poudre Fire Authority, North Front Range Transportation and Air Quality Planning Organization (Chair for two terms) and I-25 Coalition. In 2014 Governor John Hickenlopper appointed Gerry to the Regional Air Quality Commission and reappointed him a second term 2016-2019.

Gerry brings 40 years of business experience building successful enterprises. Most recently, he provided business development and management services to science and technology companies as well as drove for Uber.

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.

He and his wife, Connie, have five grown children and seven grandchildren. They enjoy seeing their grandchildren and taking trips to western national parks. Gerry enjoys riding his bike on the Fort Collins trail system especially along the Poudre Trail. His passion is bird hunting. Gerry is Golden Patron Member of Pheasants Forever and Quail Forever.