
Campaign Finance Reform Blast

Blast #19
11 January 2018



*"Not being heard is no reason for silence."
Victor Hugo, Les Misérables, 1862*

Marge Norskog of Fort Collins has set an example for all of us. We should be participating in our democracy and making it work.

Don't stop now -- let our representatives know what you think!

Fort Collins Elections Being Improved through Citizen Action

Last fall, Marge Norskog of the League of Women Voters of Larimer County decided to take a deep dive into Fort Collins' local election. She examined candidates' filings as well as filings by independent expenditure committees. Working with the City Clerk's office she learned how to read the reports and gained an understanding of the election code. She found problems and had questions that could not be answered, so she followed the process, and filed formal election complaints.

Ultimately, she met with the city's Election Code Committee and presented four recommendations:

- establish an independent committee to monitor election reporting;
- require a 'paid for by' statement on all candidate and committee communications;
- penalize committees that do not meet reporting requirements; and
- extend the deadline to file a complaint against a 501c4 beyond 60 days because their IRS 990 tax filing is needed to verify compliance.

In an interview in [The Coloradoan](#), Ms Norskog said that her goals are transparency and accountability.

"Let's get our elections straight and clean," she said.



Photo: Kevin Duggan, The Coloradoan

Making Democracy Work for All
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