

Statement from Coalition for Longmont Living Wage
November 13, 2018

We applaud the Longmont City Council and the City staff for its work in paying its benefited employees according to market rates, currently no lower than \$15.78/hour, while ensuring that none of these rates falls below Boulder County's self-sufficiency rate.

We also recognize that the workers paid through the City's contractors may not be receiving the self-sufficiency rate, and that temporary and seasonal (non-benefited) workers may be paid as low as Colorado's minimum wage requirements, well below the County's self-sufficiency rate.

Over a period of months, we have been gathering information and meeting with City Council members and staff to discuss these issues, and we would like to thank everyone involved for their interest.

As a part of the 2018 City Council Vision of The World's Greatest Village, our coalition recommends the following:

- Insert a labor practices clause into ALL contracts with local companies for ongoing work. This clause can stipulate a minimum hourly wage, percentage of contribution towards benefits and even predictable and sufficient hours of work.
- Consider solutions for the lowest-paid category of temporary and seasonal (non-benefited) workers.
- This will involve some investigation first, such as gathering data from contractors and considering the cost impacts of various solutions. We recommend that this review be carried out by the City in the next few months, so solutions can be included in the 2020 budget.

Certainly, a living wage for Longmont's workers and contract workers can help to accomplish the City's vision, where everyone has access to food and shelter, and everyone has the opportunity to thrive and feel they belong.

Supporting organizations/individuals:

League of Women Voters of Boulder County
Rev. David Burt, pastor, Heart of Longmont United Methodist Church
The Inn Between
AAUW Longmont