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Town of Erie Board of Trustees Oil and Gas Development Policy

The Town of Erie Board of Trustees is committed to protecting the public health, safety and welfare of its citizens and the environment. To realize this commitment, the Town will use the full extent of its regulatory powers specified in CRS § 29-20-104(1)(h) to require mitigation of the adverse impacts of oil and gas development from start-up through termination of the oil and gas operation. The Town will:

1. Adopt the strictest possible regulatory standards for oil and gas operations consistent with the constitution to ensure public health, safety, welfare and the environment are protected and oil and gas development does not negatively impact public facilities and services.
2. Establish and maintain a process for amending, revising and updating the Town Oil and Gas Regulations to ensure that the Town employs the full array of regulatory tools and enforcement procedures available by law.
3. Only allow oil and gas development at appropriate locations that are segregated from residences, schools, recreational areas, and water bodies at distances that are necessary to protect public health, safety, welfare and the environment.
4. Stay current on technological advancements in the oil and gas industry and require the industry to implement state-of-the-art equipment, best management practices, and technology to protect the public health, safety, welfare and the environment.
5. Require oil and gas operators to accept financial responsibility and liability for damages and adverse impacts as a condition of approval for any oil and gas development.
6. Pursue on-going communication with the oil and gas industry to understand opportunities and constraints facing oil and gas development for the benefit of the community.
7. Work with neighboring counties and municipalities to provide direction, leadership and support for incorporating the most effective performance technologies and practices into local government land use regulations.
8. Coordinate regulatory efforts with the COGCC to avoid unnecessary costs and duplicative or conflicting requirements.
9. Participate in COGCC and other state regulatory rulemaking proceedings to ensure that the oil and gas industry is subject to the highest possible state standards to protect health, safety, welfare and the environment.
10. Engage in timely, effective and transparent communication with the public while policies are being formulated and before decisions on oil and gas development are made.