



CITY OF ORLAND STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: June 2, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council

FROM: Janet Wackerman, Acting City Manager

SUBJECT: **City Planner Contract** (Discussion/Action)

Purpose

Review and authorize the Acting City Manager to sign a contract with Element Land Solutions for city planning services.

Background

The city has contracted with SHN Consulting since June 26, 2025. Bruce Grove, Principal Planner, has informed Staff that his firm will not be available to contract for services at the end of their contract period, June 26, 2026.

Discussion

Jake Morley, Element Land Solutions, submitted a response to the City's request for planning services in April 2025 and was interviewed by Mayor Romano, Councilmember Barr, Planning Commissioner Lazorko, and Interim City Manager Wackerman. Each of the four firms interviewed were found to demonstrate unique strengths and capabilities that could benefit the City of Orland. Mr. Morley's firm was not selected at that time but upon a recent interview by Acting City Manager Wackerman, it was determined that with his experience as project planner and an applicant on projects of every size, he would meet the needs of Orland. Additionally, Bruce Grove of SHN, Paul Rabo, City Engineer and Nic Paxton, City Building have worked with Mr. Morley and highly recommend him.

Mr. Morley will be available to begin services on June 4, allowing time to meet with the current city planner and become familiar with ongoing and upcoming projects.

Fiscal Impact

Contract services for 26-27 include \$180,000 for a city planner.

Recommendation

Authorize Acting City Manager to sign the contract with Element Land Solutions.