

AGREEMENT

This agreement made and entered into this 17th day of January, 2025 between the **City of Stevenson**, a municipal corporation of the State of Washington, hereinafter referred to as “City”, and **Vortex Events, LLC**, hereinafter referred to as “Vortex”.

Recitals

1. The City of Stevenson desires to increase the distribution of information about the City to attract visitors to the City and to increase tourism.
2. The City of Stevenson does not have qualified staff to manage a Gorge Downwind Champs event.
3. Vortex is uniquely qualified to manage a Gorge Downwind Champs event, to meet the requirements specified herein, and to provide such services with the degree of reasonable skill and diligence normally required to manage such events.
4. It is in the City’s interest to contract with Vortex to perform certain activities relating to the design and management of this event that will encourage increased tourism, promote interest in the City and the local region and to act on the City’s behalf in disseminating information about the City.

Now, therefore, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties agree as follows:

1. Performance. Vortex will perform the work set forth below and submit requests for payment within forty-five days of each accepted task:
 - a. Vortex will plan and operate the Gorge Downwind Champs event as described on Exhibit A, incorporated herein by reference.
 - b. Vortex will complete the tourism funding expenditure report(s) required by the Washington State Legislature. All required reports are to be submitted before final payment under this contract is made.
2. Completion. Vortex will complete the work and provide the services to be performed under this agreement on or before December 31, 2025.
3. Term. The term of this agreement shall begin January 1, 2025 and end upon the completion of the project, but no later than December 31, 2025.
4. Payment.
 - a. The City will reimburse Vortex up to \$10,000 for services performed under this agreement. Payments will be made on a reimbursement basis only, following submittal of detailed invoices with back-up documentation to the City.
 - b. Final invoice for this agreement must be received by the City on or before January 12 2026. **INVOICES RECEIVED AFTER THIS DATE WILL NOT BE PAID.**
 - c. The Tourism Funding Expenditure Report required by section 1 above shall be submitted before final payment under this contract is made.

5. Default. Upon default by either party of any of the terms of this agreement, the non-defaulting party may terminate the agreement after written notice to the defaulting party identifying the default. Failure by the non-defaulting party to exercise the right to terminate or take any action upon default shall not constitute a waiver of any rights of the non-defaulting party hereunder and shall not excuse any such default. However, upon default and termination, the non-defaulting party is excused from further performance hereunder.
6. Termination. This agreement may be terminated by either party giving the other party written notice of its intent to terminate at least thirty (30) days prior to the effective date of termination. Reimbursement for work completed prior to the effective date of termination shall be made in accordance with the terms of this agreement.
7. Financial Records. Vortex shall maintain financial records of all transactions related to this agreement for six years after contract completion. The financial records shall be made available at all times for auditing by any City, State of Washington or federal auditors.
8. Status of the "Vortex". It is hereby understood, agreed and declared that Vortex is an independent contractor and not the agent or employee of City and that no liability shall attach to City by reason of entering into this agreement, except as may be provided herein.
9. Insurance and Liability. Vortex shall indemnify and save harmless City from any and all liability arising hereunder, including costs, damages, expenses and legal fees incurred by City in connection therewith, for injury (including death) to persons or damage to or loss of property (including equipment) caused by or arising out of the work performed under this agreement.

Vortex further agrees, and has specifically negotiated, to waive its immunity under the State Industrial Insurance Act (RCW Title 51) and to indemnify and hold the City harmless from any claims made against the City by Vortex employees, agents, contractors, subcontractors or other representatives.

10. Assignment. This agreement shall not be transferred, assigned, or sublet by either party without prior written consent of the other party.
11. Completeness of Agreement and Modification. This document contains all of the terms and conditions of this agreement, and any alterations or variation of the terms of this agreement shall be invalid unless made in writing and signed by both of the parties hereto. There are no other understandings, representations, or agreements, written or oral, not incorporated herein.
12. Equal Opportunity and Compliance with Laws. Vortex shall not discriminate against any employee employed under this agreement because of race, color, religion, age, sex or national origin. Further, Vortex shall comply with all local, state and federal laws and regulations in all aspects of fulfilling this agreement.
13. Governing Law and Venue. The laws of the State of Washington shall govern the construction of this agreement and any dispute arising hereunder. The parties agree that

the Superior Court of Skamania County shall be the venue for any litigation brought in relation to this agreement.

14. Costs and Attorney Fees. If either party shall be in default under this contract, the non-defaulting party shall have the right, at the defaulting party's expense, to retain an attorney to make any demand, enforce any remedy, or otherwise protect or enforce its rights under this contract. The defaulting party hereby promises to pay all costs and expenses so incurred by the non-defaulting party, including, without limitation, reasonable attorneys' costs and fees. The failure of the defaulting party to promptly pay the same shall constitute a further and additional default. In the event either party hereto institutes, defends, or is involved with any action to enforce the provisions of this contract, the prevailing party in such action shall be entitled to reimbursement by the losing party for its court costs and reasonable attorney costs and fees at trial and on appeal.

15. Certification of Authority. The undersigned certify that the persons executing this agreement on behalf of City and Vortex have legal authority to enter into this agreement on behalf of City and Vortex respectively and have full authority to bind City and Vortex in a valid Agreement on the terms herein.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this agreement as of the day and year first above written.

CITY OF STEVENSON

Vortex Events, LLC

Scott Anderson, Mayor

Name & Title: _____

ATTEST

Anders Sorestad Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Robert C. Muth, City Attorney



City of Stevenson
TOURISM FUNDING APPLICATION FORM

Organization/Agency Information

VORTEX EVENTS LLC 87-4807534
Organization/Agency Federal Tax ID Number

CARTER JOHNSON
Contact Name

62 PAULA DRIVE, UNDERWOOD WA 98651
Mailing Address

(415) 407-0531 INFO@GORGEDOWNWINDCHAMPS.COM
Phone Email

GORGE DOWNWIND CHAMPS
Name of Proposed Event/Activity/Facility

- Tourism Promotion Activities
- Tourism-Related Facility
- Events/Festivals

Amount Requested: \$10,000

Supplemental Questions

You may type your answers in Word below or attach a separate sheet. If you attach a separate sheet, please answer all of the below questions and number your answers to correspond to the below question numbers.

1. Describe your Tourism-Related Activities, Event or Facility:
The Gorge Downwind Champs (GDC) is now the largest paddlesports events in the World. In 2024, 900 athletes participated (excluding family and friends), 19% were interanational, 98% travelled to the Gorge and the average stay was 9 days.

2. Describe your proposal to attract visitors to the City, including dates and expected costs. Please see the *Call for Tourism Promotion Proposals* for criteria and items to be prioritized by the Tourism Advisory Committee.
Next years event will be July 14-19, 2025 and we believe we will see continued growth in participation. Total footprint is measure in the thousands of people of the 6 days of the event and we have a 65% return rate too!

3. Identify your top 5 sources of Revenue:

1. TICKETS	\$ 198,000
2. SPONSORSHIP	\$ 21,000
3. BEER SALES	\$15,000
4. VALUE IN KIND GEAR	\$10,000
5.	\$

4. Do you plan to become self-funded? If yes, please describe your plan and progress to date.

The GDC is 100% self funded and any porfits reinvested back in the event to ensure it long term continued growth.,

5. Describe your plans for advertising and promoting your proposed activity or facility.

We make extensive use of social media driven by our in house media team and as a result enjoy significant likes, shares and subscribes. As the largest event of its kind, we garner significant attention world wide.

6. Explain how your activity or facility will result in increased tourism and overnight stays.

With an estimated 3000 people (athletes, friends, family and spectators) coming to Skamania County for an average of 9 days, we have a massive impact on the local economy and throughly enjoy engaging and working with the local business owners.

7. *List the number of tourists expected to attend your activity or facility in each of these categories (*required):

1. ~2000 Staying overnight in paid accommodations.
2. ~50 Staying overnight in unpaid accommodations (with friends or family) and traveling 50 miles or more from their place of residence or business.
3. ~50 Staying for the day only and traveling 50 miles or more from their place of residence or business.
4. ~100 Attend but are not included in any one of the categories above.
5. ~2000 Estimated number of participants in any of the above categories that attend from another state or country.

8. Explain how you will coordinate with the Skamania County Chamber of Commerce for promotion of your proposed activity or facility. Describe any other partnerships you plan to develop to help ensure the success of your project.

We work closely with the Chamber as well as Skamania Parks & Rec Dept, on dates, logistics and operations. In addition, all proceeds from the beer garden go to a local not for profit.

9. If your proposal is for construction of a tourism-related facility, explain your plans for operation and maintenance of the facility.

10. Describe how you will encourage support of Stevenson businesses, restaurants, retail and lodging?
We already partner with and engage with local businesses, including food trucks, breweries, restaurants and more. These are symbiotic relationships that drive our participants and guests to their businesses.

11. Submit an itemized revenue and expense budget. What percentage of your revenue budget does this request for funding represent? List any other expected revenue sources and amounts.

12. Sign and date your proposal.

<i>Peter Carter Johnson</i>	Carter Johnson	Sept 27, 2024
Signature	Printed Name	Date

You may attach additional information to help the Tourism Advisory Committee evaluate your proposal.

If multiple activities are planned, please submit a separate application for each activity.

2024 Gorge Downwind Champs - Prelim Budget

DESCRIPTION	INCOME	EXPENSE
Entry Revenue	\$ 198,000	\$ (35,640)
Sponsorship	\$ 21,000	
Staff		\$ (71,930)
Food	\$ 1,500	\$ (15,324)
Race Day		\$ (6,230)
Jersey Sales		\$ (6,300)
Permitting		\$ (15,980)
Insurance		\$ (9,000)
Contractors		\$ (48,317)
Supplies		\$ (7,003)
Advertizing		\$ (4,137)
Charity	\$ 15,000	\$ (15,000)
	<u>\$ 235,500</u>	<u>\$ (234,861)</u>
Net		\$ 639.00