



City of Stevenson

Leana Kinley, City Administrator

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To: City Council
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator
RE: Transparency Solutions
Meeting Date: August 20, 2020

Executive Summary:

The city's financial software, BIAS, was recently purchased by Springbrook. Springbrook recently partnered with ClearGov to provide integrated financial transparency tools to customers at a 20% discounted rate. In looking at their solution, I researched other tools available to improve transparency and communication through the city's website.

Overview of Items:

At the July 11th retreat, one of council's goals was to improve communication. When council sets goals, those goals are implemented through the budget in the allocation of funds to complete the tasks. Currently, the council receives reports on a monthly basis on the status of the budget and projects. Staff continues to look for ways to improve reporting and transparency to council and the community.

Vendors researched:

The **ClearGov** Insights platform will cost \$4,120 for the first year, and there will be a 3% escalation cost on the \$3,950 annual subscription each year after the initial period ends in 2022.

- A [link](#) to the Stevenson proof of concept Insights page
- A [link](#) to the Queen Creek Project Page Dashboard
- A [link](#) to the 5 minute 'mini-demo' of Cleargov Insights

Tyler Data and Insights is a tool used by Camas found [here](#), however the cost is out of our range.

OpenGov is another tool used by customers in multiple ways and is also out of our budget range.

Capital Planning & Engagement

- City of Ukiah, CA: [CIP Projects](#)
- Wilmington, DE: [CIP Stories](#)
- Clearlake, CA: [Measure V Capital Project Funding](#)
- Coral Gables, FL: [5 Year CIP & Mapping](#)

Citizen Engagement & Education

- Issaquah, WA - [Strategic Plan Survey](#)
- Elk Grove, CA: [Budget Snapshot & Survey](#)
- Saratoga, CA: [Downtown Projects Survey](#)

OpenBook by Questica is a platform that is used by Washington County, OR found [here](#), which is \$2,500 per year for five years, and \$1,600 for installation and does not include the additional project pages. The City of Largo, FL found [here](#), shows the project pages for their CIP, which would cost an additional \$5-7k.

Balancing Act is a budget engagement tool for the public for a cost of \$1,250 for one year, or \$1,125 each year for three years. Some site examples can be found below:

- [“Anytown” Demo example of features](#)
- [Kenmore WA](#)
- [Kiowa CO](#) (pop 750)
- [City of Tacoma](#) (larger city 200k+ launched post-COVID)
- [Denver Taxpayer Receipt](#)
- [Tacoma’s Zoom Budget Hearing via Meeting Mode](#) (public part starts about 32 min in)

MuniDocs is a tool to store city documents online. The annual fees vary based on the quantity of data stored, from \$350-\$1,200. This is the same company that manages the city’s meeting publication software.

Final summary:

Out of the tools listed, there are four that are in the city’s budget. Not all options have agreement documents prepared.

Overall Financial Transparency

ClearGov for financial data and project page information at \$4,120 the first year and \$3,950 for the next two years.

Open Book for financial data only at \$4,100 the first year and \$2,500 for the next four years.

Budget Engagement

Balancing Act for budget engagement for \$1,250 for one year, or \$1,125 each year for three years.

Online Document Storage

MuniDocs for online document storage from \$350-\$1,200 per year.

Action Needed:

Motion to approve contracting with one or more of the services listed above, or no motion.