



# *City of Stevenson*

*Leana Kinley, City Administrator*

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To: City Council  
From: Leana Kinley, City Administrator  
RE: Park Plaza Design Services Contract  
Meeting Date: August 24, 2023

## **Executive Summary:**

The City of Stevenson approved taking over management of the Skamania Courthouse Park Plaza project in December of 2022. The state funding received by the Stevenson Downtown Association in the 2019 legislative session for the project was transferred to the City in March of 2023. The city went through a selection process for a consultant to design an engineered, shovel-ready Skamania Courthouse Plaza for construction once funding is secured. Understory Landscape Architecture, LLC was the selected consultant and the negotiated scope of work for the initial phase of design is presented to council in the amount of \$215,752.

## **Overview of Items:**

The current design of the Skamania Courthouse Park Plaza contains many amenities which are costly to design and engineer (current conceptual design attached). During the consultant selection process, one of the main questions was if there were more funds to put towards the design of the project outside of the \$150,000 grant from the state. There are \$200,000 in Tourism Funds currently allocated to the design phase of the project, and more may be available if the committee approves.

Initial discussions with Understory were design and engineering costs for a shovel-ready project of \$800,000. This would equate to construction costs of over \$5.3M, which seems in line with the project as initially designed. To bring the design phase cost down, it was decided to move forward in two phases. The initial phase will be to engage the public and develop a schematic design for the plaza and a concept design for upper Russell Street. After the design is confirmed, we will move forward with the second phase consisting of further design development, construction documentation, and land use permitting for the plaza.

Future decisions that will need to be made include determining the overall budget for the project and whether the project is completed in phases as these will drive design decisions.

## **Action Needed:**

Approve the contract with Understory Landscape Architecture, LLC for Phase I design services of the Skamania Courthouse Plaza and Upper Russell Street in the amount of \$215,752.