



## CITY OF ST. HELENS PLANNING DEPARTMENT

# MEMORANDUM

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**TO:** City Council  
**FROM:** Jacob A. Graichen, AICP, City Planner  
**RE:** Notice of Intent to Award for 2021 Aerial Imaging and GIS Data Update, Project No. M-498  
**DATE:** December 8, 2021

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Staff has been discussing updating our aerial photo and related mapping data for years. Not only is our data dated, but we wanted to capture the area before waterfront and industrial business park development occurred as a “before” image to document transformative change.

The last complete update to the City's aerial imaging and GIS data was in 1995. A partial update was completed in 2001. These included images converted to AutoCAD files for use by the City's Engineering Division. In approximately 2005, the City converted AutoCAD files and additional street and utility information from various project as-built drawings to GIS shape files. In 2009, aerial imagery from the National Agriculture Imagery Program provided updated imagery but no additional conversions were done. The GIS system has been periodically updated and is used extensively by the Public Works Engineering and Operations Divisions, Planning Department, Building Department, and others.

The City recently published a Request for Proposal for this effort, with a deadline of December 2, 2021. This can be viewed here: <https://www.sthelensoregon.gov/rfps>. We received seven proposals. One was grossly incomplete and disqualified, the other six were evaluated by a selection committee consisting of the Public Works Director, Engineering Project Manager, Associate Planner/Community Development Project Manager and myself.

**The selection committee determined that GeoTerra is the most suitable entity for this effort.**

\$100,000 is budgeted for this project, consisting of \$75K from Public Works funds and \$25K from Planning funds in the current budget. As the contract will exceed \$75,000, **the City Council needs to approve the selection committee's recommendation at your Regular Session.**

With the Council's approval, we can commence with the final scope and have a contract ready to execute at a future Council meeting.