

MEMORANDUM



To: Mayor and City Councilors
From: John Walsh, City Administrator
Date: April 15, 2026
Subject: Identify a Disposal Method for Fisheagle Osprey Vessel

BACKGROUND: The City owns a specialized boat, known as the Fisheagle Osprey, with dimensions 10 feet by 40 feet (the “Vessel”). The Vessel was purchased for the purpose of expanding access to Sand Island Marine Park and other community and tourism waterway experiences. On March 13, 2026, the City was notified that there was a deficiency in the vessel’s Certificate of Documentation and as a result, has not been able to put the Vessel to use.

The City is in the process of soliciting proposals from qualified and experienced operators to provide water taxi services utilizing publicly owned waterfront access points and related infrastructure. In the event that Request for Proposals (RFP) for Water Taxi services does not result in a successful operating or lease agreement, then the vessel may be determined to be “surplus” under city code because “it is no longer needed for the purpose which it has been assigned.” SHMC 2.04.100.

Per SHMC 2.04.120, “surplus property” may be disposed of by any of the following methods upon a determination by the solicitation agent that the method of disposal is in the best interest of the city of St. Helens. Factors that may be considered by the solicitation agent include costs of sale, administrative costs, and public benefits to the city of St. Helens.

1. Auction. By publicly advertised auction to the highest bidder.
2. Bids. By publicly advertised invitation to bid.
3. Liquidation Sale. By liquidation sale using a commercially recognized third-party liquidator selected in accordance with rules for the award of personal services contracts.
4. Fixed Price Sale. The solicitation agent may establish a selling price based upon an independent appraisal or published schedule of values generally accepted by the insurance industry, schedule and advertise a sale date, and sell to the first buyer meeting the sales terms.

NEXT STEPS:

The City Administrator will evaluate the above referenced disposal methods, and any others deemed beneficial, and will determine the method of disposal that is in the best interest of the City.

In the event that the RFP for Water Taxi services does not result in a successful operating or lease agreement by the conclusion of the RFP process, the City will be prepared to dispose of Vessel using the disposal method selected.

The City Administrator will present the selected disposal method to City Council and City Council will authorize disposal of the Vessel as surplus property. The City Administrator shall maintain a record of the reason for the disposal method selected and the manner of disposal, including the name of the person to whom the surplus property was transferred.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the City Council authorize the City Administrator to proceed with identifying the method of disposal for the Vessel that is in the best interest of the City.