

Memorandum

REPORT TO: Bozeman Downtown Business Improvement District Board

FROM: Jon Henderson, City of Bozeman Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Bozeman Creek Vision Plan Presentation

MEETING DATE: July 15, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Administration

RECOMMENDATION: Receive presentation.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 1.3 Public Agencies Collaboration: Foster successful collaboration with other public agencies and build on these successes.

BACKGROUND: The City Commission approved a Professional Services Agreement with PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC on January 27th, 2026 to provide consultant services to assist in the development of the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan. PORT (and their water resource science and engineering partner Rio ASE bring a tremendous amount of experience in waterway, public realm, and ecological planning to this project, to complement the City's partnership with #SeeBozemanCreek in helping move this important work forward.

The City Commission also provided direction on modest revisions to the project goals, in an effort to incorporate public comments resulting in more clearly worded goals that reflect shared values. To that effect, "Ecological Health" was added to honor the original intent of the Commission's priority interest in the overall health of the creek (while recognizing this effort will not result in a holistic study of the entire watershed), as well as revising "Economic Development" to "Economic Vitality" to better reflect the spirit of highlighting the benefits that come with celebrating the creek through an urbanized area. Thus, the goals moving forward are as follows:

- Enhance flood mitigation efforts
- Improve water quality & ecological health
- Increase access and connectivity to parks and trails
- Support economic vitality opportunities
- Strengthen community connection to a vital resource

On June 2, 2026 a public open house was held at Soroptimist Park to give the community an opportunity to provide feedback on a number of "big ideas" that were generated through previous engagement. On July 14, 2026 a work session is to be held at the City Commission meeting.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: None.

FISCAL EFFECTS: None.

Report compiled on: July 7, 2026