

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Jon Henderson, Assistant City Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC for the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan

MEETING DATE: January 27, 2026

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Agreement - Vendor/Contract

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC for the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan

STRATEGIC PLAN: 6.6 Habitat: Work with partner organizations to identify at-risk, environmentally sensitive parcels contribute to water quality, wildlife corridors, and wildlife habitat.

BACKGROUND: The Bozeman Creek Vision Plan was approved as a Commission priority on August 6th, 2024 via [Resolution 5626](#) in support of the following goals:

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

This project builds on previous work such as the [2012 Bozeman Creek Enhancement Plan](#), the [2020 Bozeman Creek Analysis Technical Assistance Grant Report](#), the [2023 Gallatin Valley Sensitive Lands Protection Plan](#), and the [2025 Bozeman Creek Flood Mitigation and Reclamation Preliminary Engineering Report](#), among other important efforts.

Furthermore, the local grassroots organization [SeeBozemanCreek](#) has led significant efforts over the past several years to solicit public interest surrounding this topic. The City intends to coordinate extensively with this group to further community input as a model for how local government can leverage the strength of partnerships to collaborate towards shared goals with a wide range of constituents.

On December 9th, 2025, the City Commission adopted a [Resolution](#) approving a formal [Community Engagement Plan](#), incorporating feedback received during an introduction to the project through a Special Presentation on [October 7th, 2025](#).

PORT Architecture and Urbanism, LLC was selected following a competitive [Request for Proposals](#). The following outline provides a summary of next steps:

- **February – March:** Begin community engagement by meeting with the public, citizen advisory boards, and external partners to develop an overall vision for Bozeman Creek, in addition to reviewing local code requirements and case studies from other communities
- **June – August:** Summarize engagement activities and develop a draft plan with concept designs, including project and policy recommendations and long-term sustainable funding strategies
- **September – October:** Work with internal and external partners, including SeeBozemanCreek and citizen advisory boards to develop a formal recommendation
- **November:** Conduct public hearing with the City Commission in consideration of a formal Resolution adopting the final plan

The Bozeman Creek Vision Plan may be approved as part of the City's land use plan and will be evaluated according to the Montana Land Use Planning Act as needed.

The associated agreements have been reviewed by the City's Legal Department and found to be acceptable in meeting the City's specifications and standards.

Additional information can be found on the City's [Engage Bozeman](#) website, where citizens can subscribe to regular updates.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: While every effort will be made to build on the City's intent to mitigate flood hazards, it is important to note that specific issues surrounding conveyances such as the tunnels beneath Main Street will require commitments beyond the scope of the Bozeman Creek Vision Plan.

ALTERNATIVES: As directed by the City Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS: Funding for this effort has been allocated in the FY26 approved budget as a three-way split between the Parks Maintenance District, the Stormwater Fund, and the Public Works Administration Fund for a total of \$150,000.

Attachments:
[Professional Services Agreement](#)
[Request for Proposals](#)
[Proposal](#)
[Scope of Work](#)
[Schedule](#)

Report compiled on: January 14, 2026

