



City of Missoula, Montana
Item to be Referred to City Council Committee

Committee: Parks and Conservation

Item: Clark Fork River Restoration and Access Professional Services Contract

Date: March 1, 2021

Sponsor(s): Nathan McLeod

Prepared by: Nathan McLeod

Ward(s) Affected:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 1	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 4
<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 2	<input type="checkbox"/> Ward 5
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 3	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ward 6
<input type="checkbox"/> All Wards	<input type="checkbox"/> N/A

Action Required:

Approve professional services contract and authorize the Mayor to sign

Recommended Motion(s):

I move the City Council: Approve the professional services contract with RESPEC Company, LLC in the amount not-to-exceed Two Hundred Forty Five Thousand Six Hundred Sixteen Dollars (\$245,616) for the Clark Fork River Restoration and Access and authorize the Mayor to sign.

Timeline:

Referral to committee:	March 1, 2021
Committee discussion:	March 3, 2021
Council action (or sets hearing):	March 8, 2021
Public Hearing:	Click or tap here to enter text.
Deadline:	Click or tap here to enter text.

Background and Alternatives Explored:

In 2014, the City of Missoula Parks and Recreation Department partnered with the Clark Fork Coalition and Missoula Valley Water Quality District to begin a purposeful look at the health of the river corridor in the heart of Missoula. A community river-visioning process was launched with participation from multiple agencies and stakeholders, all of which agreed that river access and streambank health were at the forefront of issues to be addressed. Parks and its project partners inventoried sections of streambank destabilization in 2014 and conducted a recreational use survey in 2015. Based on information obtained during these activities, Parks applied for and received funding from the Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to conduct a more detailed study of the project area and develop conceptual-level engineering design plans to restore the south bank of the river to a more natural, ecologically functional, and aesthetically pleasing section of riverfront.

In fall 2015, the City contracted with RESPEC to evaluate and categorize riverbank and riparian conditions at 34 identified river access locations along the south bank of the Clark Fork River through downtown Missoula. The project reach extended approximately 0.7 mile from the Madison Street Bridge downstream past the South Higgins Avenue Bridge and the Boone and Crockett Club, terminating at the Clark Fork Natural Area. Conceptual-level restoration treatments were

completed in 2016 for each of the 34 sites, with implementation planned in phases based on river use priorities and funding availability. An emphasis was placed on reducing streambank erosion by focusing river access to designated locations and enhancing the surrounding riparian vegetation.

In fall 2018, the Missoula County Open Space Bond was approved which included funding for sustainable river access development as well as closure and restoration of numerous unsustainable access sites. Since 2018, additional river corridor planning has been completed within downtown including both sides of the river. The City completed an updated bank erosion assessment and river use survey in 2020. River access master planning efforts have expanded to include the Clark Fork River corridor between Ben Hughes Park in East Missoula and Riverside Park, just downstream of Russell Street – this will be the extent of the current project.

The RESPEC Team will provide mapping/assessment, landscape architecture, design engineering and construction management services to Parks for the Clark Fork River Restoration and Access Project. More specifically, this will include: review and assessment of existing conditions, existing site analysis, conceptual designs, user survey data, and site assessment criteria; completion and submittal of permit applications; and production of construction-ready contract documents, including drawings, specifications and cost opinions. The project may include bid administration and construction management for specific sites or the entire project.

Financial Implications:

Total contract is for an amount not to exceed: \$245,616 which includes the following:

Design and engineering fees not to exceed: \$198,080

Construction Administration and project Bidding in an amount not to exceed: \$47,536

Design and engineering fees will be funded from the 2018 Open Space Bond, as outlined in the adopted Nov 2019 Resolution approving 2018 open space bond proceed expenditures with a total amount of \$225,000 allocated for the Clark Fork River Access and Restoration Project

Pending conceptual design development and favorable construction estimates the additional \$47,536 in construction administration fees TBD in FY22.

Links to external websites:

Attachments –

Nov 2019 Resolution and attachment approving this project as an Undertaking and thus eligible for use of OS Bond funds.

RESPEC Scope and Fee Estimate

CFR R&A Professional Services Contract