

Memo

To: Essex Junction City Councilors

From: Regina Mahony, City Manager

Meeting Date: December 14, 2022

Agenda Item: Budget Update on 1 Main Street Park design

Issue

The issue is the design of 1 Main Street Park. Following the support expressed at the October 26th Council meeting for the conceptual design, David Burton has prepared a draft cost estimate.

Discussion of the Cost

In July the Council approved a process for developing a design for the 1 Main Street Park, with a working group, and a budget of up to \$200,000 for construction of the park. Guided by the working group, David Burton prepared a design which was presented to the Council in October. The Council expressed support for the design, and indicated that an increase in the budget would be likely and supported.

While the budget is not yet complete, David Burton has begun to gather some estimates. Landshapes provided a cost estimate around \$430,000. This does **not** include the following items (all with rough estimates): pergola structure (\$100,000), shade sails (\$30,000), lighting (\$20,000), soil work (assessment is \$14,000, construction would hopefully be covered by a state brownfields grant) or project design/management fees (\$54,000 additional). That comes to about \$650,000 in total.

For your information, here are the line items from Landshapes:

General Conditions/Mobilizations	\$45,000
Planting and Soils	\$39,000
Plant Maintenance and Establishment (60 days)	\$6,000
1750 SF Pine Hall Pavers (on aggregate)	\$55,000
520 SF WB Granite Pavers (on aggregate)	\$52,000
Granite Curb and Steps	\$8,500
Hexagon Precast Concrete (inc. 6" slab)	\$70,650
Brick Pillars (Need footing detail)(Exc. & concrete inc.)	\$91,600
Fencing Allowance	\$52,500
Bike Rack Allowance	\$3,000
Tree Grate Allowance	\$6,000

Staff intends to apply for a \$200,000 Downtown Transportation Fund grant for this work. It is due on January 31st. The grant requires a 20% match of \$20,000. This would come from the Economic Development Fund as would the rest of the construction costs. There are enough funds for this if we get the grant, however we do need to stay aware of the required Amtrak match (\$600,000).

Considering this cost, Staff would appreciate some feedback from the Council.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Council provide feedback on the budget thus far, and specific direction on whether we need to move in a different direction on the design.

It is also recommended that the Council authorize staff to submit the application for the Downtown Transportation Fund grant and authorize the City Manager to sign the grant agreement for 1 Main St. Park construction if awarded.

Recommended Motion

"I move that the Council authorize staff to submit the application for the Downtown Transportation Fund grant and authorize the City Manager to sign the grant agreement for 1 Main St. Park construction if awarded."