



PORTNEUF RIVER

VISION STUDY



July 2017
update

PURPOSE

- Review Council Guidance from December 2016
- Update Council on Actions taken since December 2016
- Propose funding a partnership with Utah State University's Landscape Architecture program as the first part of creating an implementation plan
- Update the Council on Army Corps regulations and possibilities for revising the 6,000 cfs and vegetation management criteria

COUNCIL GUIDANCE DEC 2016

- **City lead the implementation effort – Start by:**
 - **Creating an Implementation Plan**
 - **Creating an Ad-hoc advisory committee**
 - **Allocating staff resources for project management**
- **Get USACE guidance on revising the 6,000 cfs and vegetation management requirements**

ACTIONS TAKEN

- **Centennial/Rainey Park** - Valley Pride has stepped up to be the lead non-profit on fundraising and ultimately partnering with the City to implement the 1st major project at Centennial/Rainey Park.
- **Canoe Trail** – City partnering with Idaho DEQ and Simplot to remove debris jams. *Summer 2016-17/18? (depends on water levels this summer)*
- **Stream Restoration** – City partnering with US Fish & Wildlife Service to restore a section of degraded stream bank at Sacajawea Park. *Summer 2017*

ACTIONS TAKEN

■ **Tributary Streams –**

- **Watershed Fence –** City partnering with Portneuf Soil & Water Conservation District and USFS and many local volunteers to protect the headwaters of Mink Creek and Gibson Jack, the source of our drinking water. *2017-2018, pending 319 funding*
- **Gibson Jack –** Culvert enlarged at mouth of Gibson Jack to improve fish passage for native cutthroat trout. *2016*; Installation of beaver dam analogs *2017*

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- National Science Foundation – Idaho EpSCOR partnerships
- US Army Corps of Engineers – Silverlight teams
- Idaho Association of Cities – Integrated Water Management

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY PARTNERSHIP

- **Budget** ~\$21K (funding available in Fund 17)
- **Timeframe** – completion in Dec 2017, with possible extension into spring 2018 to consider the economic impact of select projects.
- **Examples** - Similar efforts conducted in the last 2 years at:
 - Boise Bench area
 - S. Salt Lake
- **Who** - Landscape Architecture Urban Planning students directed by 2 faculty members
- **KEY DELIVERABLES:**
 - Guidance on key planning and design opportunities that are critical to planning implementation of the Portneuf River Vision.
 - Additional concept drawings (e.g. Centennial/Rainey Park)

ARMY CORPS

- Vegetation management – Other western communities are lobbying hard to modify the vegetation management criteria for levies to reduce the biological risk of the levees. *Stay tuned; likely that willows and other small trees will be permitted*
- 6,000 cfs criteria – This can be changed through a General Investigation review of the entire Pocatello Flood Control Project.
 - Army Corps funds about 6-10 of these per/year (nationwide) *very competitive*
 - Estimated cost: \$1M, with a 50% local match (can be in-kind)

ARMY CORPS

- **Timeframe- aggressive version (if choose to move forward):**
 - **Summer 2017** – send a letter of interest to the Army Corps (in progress)
 - **August 2017** – meet with Army Corps District Commander & Planning Division Chief
 - **Winter 2018** – Congressional Delegation submits letters of support/holds meetings with USACE (HQ and Division offices) and federal Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
 - **March 2018** – City submits a letter of intent, including a statement that we have the funds/will have the funds once the project is underway.
 - **March 2018-** USACE Walla Walla forwards application package to Division offices
 - **Oct 2019** – Project begins (likely to be in a future FY)

SUMMARY

- Implementation has begun
 - Select projects
 - Creating an implementation committee
- Utah State University – contract coming in August for Council approval
 - Cost-effective use of students and faculty
 - Necessary step for implementation
- Army Corps process for 6,000 cfs & vegetation mgmt. changes
 - Provides a 5-year plan
 - No decision needed now