

BRIEFING PAPER
Integrated Planning Grant
City of Spokane Planning & Development Department
September 9, 2013

Subject

The City of Spokane Planning & Development Department applied for an \$200,000 Integrated Planning Grant from the Department of Ecology in April of 2013 to look at the area of the UD Ped Bridge south landing. Specific environmental studies will happen for the property at the corner of Sprague and Sheridan, owned by the Hutton Settlement. We were awarded the grant and received the contract from Ecology in late August with a start date retroactive to June 1, 2013. The Contract will be brought forward to Council for acceptance and approval.

Purpose

Integrated Planning Grants are a funding program through Washington State's Department of Ecology. These grants provide funding to conduct studies and plan for acquiring or redeveloping underperforming, potentially contaminated property. The grants provide an opportunity to plan for adaptive re-use of a property that integrates economic development, environmental cleanup and restoration, and community benefit. Since redevelopment of a property is inherently connected to its context, the planning effort can address community-wide revitalization needs.

Background

The City of Spokane has worked with the local community and its partners to lay the foundation for redevelopment in the Sprague Corridor area through the University District Strategic Plan and the Corridor Study. The IPG will build on these efforts and provide two critical elements that have not been addressed: field investigation of environmental contamination issues, and market analysis of redevelopment potential. The following scope of work lists each of the major work program tasks:

- Market Study
- Property owner workshops
- Stakeholder interviews
- Environmental site assessments (Phase I & Phase II)
- Market Test
- Developer Outreach
- Regulatory and Physical Conditions Assessment
- Challenges and Opportunities Assessment
- Implementation Strategy

Recommendation

Approve the Contract form the Department of Ecology to accept the funds for this Integrated Planning Grant.