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Title: Willamette Falls Legacy Project Riverwalk Update

Sponsors: Christina Robertson-Gardiner

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Willamette Falls Legacy Project Riverwalk Update

RECOMMENDED ACTION (Motion):None

BACKGROUND: Christina Robertson-Gardiner, from the Oregon City Planning Division, will provide a project update on the preferred riverwalk design and the process, criteria and approach to land use approval.

Riverwalk Preferred Design and Phase 1 Development Plan

The Willamette Falls Legacy Project is finishing up the riverwalk preferred design process. This includes determining the character and the public access alignment of the riverwalk, placement of viewing overlooks, selection of materials, areas of habitat enhancement and development of an overall site plan including how the riverwalk can catalyze and integrate with future development. The preferred design aims to be both aspirational and constructible and will serve as a guiding vision to support the various phases of implementation.

The preferred design of the riverwalk will incorporate the following:

PROGRAMMING PLAN Programming ensures a complete visitor experience and will keep the riverwalk active and lively. The programming plan will identify opportunities to “activate” the site’s public spaces in ways that create a unique visitor experience and encourage healthy economic development and investment in the area.

INTERPRETIVE FRAMEWORK Interpretive opportunities planning will identify how and where the site’s history and culture can be highlighted on the riverwalk and surrounding area. This could include artwork, digital storytelling, programming, and interim access during construction.

PHASING PLAN The phasing plan will allow the riverwalk to be built over time as funds become available. The first phase development plan will be reviewed by the Oregon City Planning Commission in the Fall of 2017 with an aim to begin site preparations and construction in 2018.

PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION PLAN This plan will ensure that visitors to the area can access the site and that the impacts of traffic and parking to the surrounding commercial and residential areas will be mitigated where possible.

Programs could include: increased transit access, shuttles, expansion of permit parking areas, and use of nearby private commercial parking during non-business hours.

BUDGET IMPACT:

Amount:

FY(s):

Funding Source: