

Update on the City Strategic Planning & Facilitation Services

June 26, 2025



Background

- March 6, 2025 Study Session - Council unanimous support for a Strategic Plan process
- Council feedback at Study Session:
 - Define and document shared goals and priorities
 - Measurable milestones
 - Outline specific policy objectives
 - Prioritize resource allocation
 - Ensure meaningful public engagement
 - Strengthen community trust
- Council feedback on ideal Strat Planning consultant team:
 - Experience developing plans that have been implemented
 - WA experience positive, but not absolute requirement*
 - Strong track record with community engagement
 - Guide the Council through the strategic *thinking* process

Background

- Issued RFQ on 3/21/25 for Strategic Planning and Facilitation services
 - Received six responses
 - Committee of senior staff reviewed and evaluated proposals
 - Interviewed 3 firms
- Following interview and reference checks, recommending Raftelis



About Raftelis

- Multi-disciplinary firm focused on municipalities (have worked with more than 1,200 municipalities)
- Have conducted Strategic Planning for 19 WA cities (with several more scheduled for 2026)
- Consultant team lead has more than 30 years experience in local government consulting & practice, focus on West Coast



Next Steps

- Staff will negotiate scope of work and fee for Council consideration
- Long -Range Financial work (via FCS) will be completed in time to inform this process
- Will take into account Council transitions to engage existing and new Councilmembers



Des Moines

WATERLAND CITY