

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda date: 10/6/08

Reviewed by: BP

SUBJECT: Waterfront Planning Process

FROM: Beth Pollard, City Administrator

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Council receive a status report from Fern Tiger & Associates on the waterfront planning process that started in May, 2008.

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION

The City Council approved a contract with Fern Tiger & Associates (FTA) in April 2008 to conduct a waterfront planning process.

At the Council meeting of October 6, FTA will report on the status of the “Waterfront Visioning Process,” which FTA is currently calling “Voices to Vision” with a sub text – *Listen/Learn; Consider/Contemplate; Dream/Discuss; Prioritize/Propose; Analyze/Articulate – Envision the Albany Waterfront.*

They will review progress on the first four months of the 18-month contract – having already completed more than 70 one-on-one interviews with residents, opinion leaders, community and business leaders, elected officials, city staff, and others. They have also reviewed more than 5,000 pages of waterfront reports and planning documents from the past 40 years related to previous efforts to develop and enhance the waterfront, and have observed numerous city and community meetings and events.

Based on this research, FTA has developed a set of findings about the community and the potential and appropriate framework for a public education effort and a highly participatory, results-oriented engagement process that will reach the broadest possible number of residents.

Attached is a copy of FTA’s “A Vision for the Future of Albany’s Waterfront” status report.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None from receipt of the status report.

Attachments

Status report, May 5 to September 15, 2008, Voices to Vision