## STAFF REPORT

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| **Agenda Item:** | 10 | **Name:** | Leah Krekel-Zoppi |
| **Proposed No**.: | 2015-0251 | **Date:** | August 18, 2015 |

**SUBJECT**

An ordinance authorizing an interlocal agreement (ILA) with the town of Skykomish to provide landmark designation and protection services.

**SUMMARY**

Proposed Ordinance 2015-0251 would authorize the Executive to enter into an ILA with the town of Skykomish to provide landmark designation and protection services for historic properties within the town. The proposed ordinance notes the consistency of the agreement with established County policies.

**BACKGROUND**

King County's Landmarks Commission, which is staffed by the Historic Preservation Program in the Department of Natural Resources and Parks, provides resource protection for historic and archaeological resources in unincorporated King County, including:

* designating historic landmarks and landmark districts for inclusion within the Historic Register in King County;
* designating community landmarks;
* authorizing tax benefits for qualified historic properties; and
* evaluating proposed changes to qualified historic properties for consistency with their Landmark status.

The Commission also contracts with cities within the County to provide landmarking services. To date, 21 cities have entered such agreements.

The Executive has negotiated an ILA for landmarking services with Skykomish. Key provisions of the agreement are:

City Responsibilities:

Adopt an ordinance establishing regulations and procedures for the designation and protection of historic structures and archaeological sites, which should be substantially the same as provided for in KCC chapter 20.62.

County Responsibilities

* Process landmark nomination applications, and provide planning, training and public information support activities;
* Process Certificate of Appropriateness applications;
* Act as the Local Review Board for special valuation of historic properties within the City;
* Comment on applications for permits that affect historic resources and archaeological sites; and
* Perform no work under this agreement without receiving the express, written permission of the town of Skykomish.

Compensation

Skykomish is to reimburse the County for all costs of services under this contract, including overhead and administrative costs.

Term

The agreement would be effective upon execution and would continue until terminated.

**ANALYSIS**

King County is able to provide landmarking and protection services for Skykomish under the terms of this ILA. The ILA is consistent with historic resource protection agreements with other contract cities. As with other suburban cities, King County has negotiated an ILA that provides for full-cost recovery, including overhead and indirect administrative costs.

This proposed ordinance is consistent with county policies, including Comprehensive Plan Policy P-215, which states:

King County shall work with cities to protect and enhance historic resources and public art located within city boundaries and annexation areas. The county shall advocate for and actively market its historic preservation services to agencies and cities that could benefit from such services.

This ILA has been reviewed by Council Legal Counsel.

Consideration of this proposed ordinance is time sensitive as Skykomish would like to seek technical assistance under the terms of this agreement for a historic preservation project commencing in August 2015 within the town.

**ATTACHMENTS**

1. Proposed Ordinance 2015-0251, and its attachments
2. Transmittal Letter
3. Fiscal Note