



MEMORANDUM

P.O. Box 4100 ♦ FRISCO, COLORADO 80443

TO: MAYOR AND TOWN COUNCIL
FROM: SUSAN LEE, PLANNER, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
RE: UPDATE ON ICE FEASIBILITY STUDY
DATE: AUGUST 10, 2021

Summary and Background: Over the past several years the Town of Frisco has discussed the possibility of developing a seasonal ice facility. During the budget discussion at the March 23, 2021 Town Council meeting, staff was directed to include a budget amendment of \$50,000 for an ice facility feasibility study. The study should help the Town gain an understanding of existing needs and demands, types of potential facilities, costs of installation, maintenance, and operation, and potential revenue sources.

Based on this direction staff developed a scope of work and reached out to two consultant firms that have completed similar studies in Summit County. The two firms decided to develop a proposal jointly in order to take advantage of each firm's strengths. Gabby Voeller of SE Group, a local planning and landscape architecture firm specializing in ski area and resort development, has taken the lead role in this project. Partnering with SE Group are Jeff King of Ballard King, a recreation consulting firm that led the recent Summit County Fieldhouse Feasibility Study; and Tom Betti of 292 Design Group, an architecture and design firm based in Minneapolis with a breadth of experience in design and construction of ice facilities.

The scope of work for the ice feasibility study is broken up into three tasks. The first task focused on a needs assessment including demographics, comparable regional ice facilities, and unmet demand. The goal of this task was to develop ice typologies that would complement our community. The second task is designed to narrow the typologies down to two options that best align with community needs. The third phase is to study the feasibility of the chosen typologies in more detail as to community desire, site specific constraints, potential programming, revenue analysis, and potential construction costs.

Analysis: The consultant team gave a project update to members of staff and Council member Dan Fallon on July 16, 2021. They shared an overview of their findings from the needs assessment and then presented several potential ice typologies that loosely fit within their preliminary findings. The concepts ranged from traditional indoor rinks to ice ribbons, trails, and outdoor covered pavilions. Based on the feedback from this meeting the consultants have refined the proposed ice typologies. SE Group's Gabby Voeller will be leading a presentation and discussion on the needs analysis and proposed ice typologies for Town Council feedback and direction.

Financial Impact: As a result of the 2021 Budget Amendment \$50,000 was allocated for the Ice Feasibility Study from account 20-2000-5058. No additional financial impacts are associated with this study. The purpose of the study is to review potential costs and revenues associated with the development of an ice facility. Any additional financial impacts will be considered at a later date.

Alignment with Strategic Plan: One of the strategic priorities of the 2020-21 Town Council Strategic Plan is to provide unique and accessible recreation opportunities for residents and visitors *“so that they may find their own unique adventures and meaningful experiences in Frisco”*. The goal of ice feasibility study is to identify new recreational opportunities and ensure any new facility is a good fit for the community.

Environmental Sustainability: Environmental impacts associated with a potential new facility have not been studied at this time. Once a final selection has been made more detail on impacts can be provided.

Staff Recommendation: Staff is seeking feedback from Council regarding the proposed needs assessment, the typologies proposed, what facilities would fit best with the Frisco community, and which typologies would they like studied in more detail.

Reviews and Approvals: This report has been reviewed and approved by:

Bonnie Moinet, Finance Director
Diane McBride, Assistant Town Manager
Don Reimer, Community Development Director
Tony O'Rourke, Town Manager

Attachments:
Exhibit A – Presentation from SE Group