



City of Ketchum

News Release
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City to Analyze Needs for New Civic Center

KETCHUM, IDAHO – The city of Ketchum has hired Boise’s ZGA Architects to analyze space needs and prepare cost estimates for a possible new civic center. The analysis will evaluate the needs and location for city administrative offices, fire and police headquarters and council chambers that also could serve as a community meeting space.

The current City Hall is a former auto dealership built almost 50 years ago. In addition to being too small, the building is in deteriorating condition, City Administrator Suzanne Frick said in a report to City Council.

Second-floor offices can be reached only by an exterior stairway, and many other offices are inaccessible to people with disabilities. The city first recognized the need to replace the facilities in 2001, and the problems have become more critical over the years.

Once the study is completed, the next step will be to present costs and possible funding options, including a bond issue in 2016, to the City Council. Once funding is secured, a request for proposals from architectural teams will be issued.

The city is committed to keeping the civic center downtown to serve the community. As one of the largest employers in Ketchum, the city brings employees and customers that support nearby restaurants and shops year round. “The future facility will be a true civic center providing the community and visitors with space for meetings, events and visitor information,” said Mayor Nina Jonas.

Frick said ZGA is one of the few firms in Idaho with experience in designing public buildings and fire stations, and the city preferred a nearby firm to minimize travel costs. Funds for the \$25,000 contract will come from the Ketchum Urban Renewal Agency.

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About the City of Ketchum

The city of Ketchum is located in the Wood River Valley in south central Idaho. Founded in 1880 during the mining boom, Ketchum is now regarded as one of the most popular destinations for winter and summer visitors due to its world-class skiing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking, restaurants, art galleries and shopping. The city of Ketchum hosts the famous annual Wagon Days Parade, held on Labor Day weekend, and numerous other year-round attractions. Ketchum is home to more than 10,000 full- and part-time residents. For more information about the city of Ketchum, visit www.ketchumidaho.org.

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