

RESOLUTION NO. _____
June 20, 2023

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO EXECUTE A CONTRACT FOR
ARCHITECTURAL / ENGINEERING SERVICES RELATED TO
CHARLES WILLIAMS PARK GRANT FUNDED IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, in Fall 2021, a not-for-profit organization known as The Spark of Hudson was approached by the City of Hudson Mayor's Office, a Councilmember, and the Commissioner of Youth on supporting improvements to Charles Williams Park; and

WHEREAS, The Spark of Hudson began collaborating with landscape designers on preliminary conversations and schematic design; and

WHEREAS, on February 22, 2022, the City of Hudson hosted a successful public forum / community conversation to introduce some working concepts for the upgrade to Charles Williams Park; and

WHEREAS, in Fall 2022, the City of Hudson entered into a formal Grant Agreement with Eutopia Foundation, a not-for-profit corporation, whereby the organization offered \$350K in financial support to ensure that Charles Williams Park is improved, enhanced, and maintained as a public space for the enjoyment of City residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) on March 7, 2023, requesting proposals from qualified Architectural / Engineering Firms to review existing schematic design documents (prepared by landscape designers), prepare a universally accessible, ADA compliant final design, and perform construction administration services for improvements to Charles Williams Park, followed by Addendum No. 1 on April 5, 2023; and

WHEREAS, the City of Hudson received five (5) proposals from qualified consultants on April 19, 2023, in response to the Request for Proposals (RFP); and

WHEREAS, a selection committee consisting of City of Hudson officials and a Eutopia Foundation representative met virtually to discuss the proposals received and determined Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners, PLLC to be the proposer that best meets the qualifications and criteria specified in the Request for Proposal (RFP); and

NOW THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute a contract with Starr Whitehouse Landscape Architects and Planners, PLLC, utilizing Eutopia Foundation Grant Funds, in the amount of \$120,030.00 [*\$77,530 Professional A/E Fees + \$10,000 Topographic Survey Allowance + \$32,500 Design Public Restroom Prefab Structure and Utilities for Spray Shower Allowance*] to review existing schematic design documents, prepare a universally accessible, ADA compliant final design, and perform construction administration services for improvements to Charles Williams Park.

Introduced: _____

Approved: _____
Kamal Johnson, Mayor

Seconded: _____

Dated: _____

STARR WHITEHOUSE

Landscape Architects
and Planners PLLC

80 Broad Street, Suite 1700
New York, New York 10004
212.487.3272, Fax 212.487.3273

Peter Bujanow
Commissioner of Public Works
520 Warren Street
Hudson, New York 12534

April 19, 2023

Re: Architectural / Engineering Design Services for Charles Williams Park

Dear Mr. Bujanow,

Starr Whitehouse is thrilled to present this proposal for renovation of the playground at Charles Williams Park. This project is an opportunity to create a high performing play area for the families north of Warren Street—but more than that, it is an opportunity to position Charles Williams Park as a valuable open space resource for this underserved community and a cornerstone of Hudson’s broader public realm. With our office just a few blocks away at 553 Warren Street, Starr Whitehouse combines a portfolio of experiential playgrounds at every price point with the deep local knowledge to align this project with the City and Spark of Hudson’s long-term vision for the surrounding open space network. Leveraging our playground expertise, our decades of experience working in and for the public sector, and our intimate understanding of the city as residents ourselves, we propose an approach that simultaneously develops the richest possible play experience for the client team’s investment, and casts Charles Williams Park as a steppingstone to broader open space goals.

Our team also brings unique insight into the needs and day-to-day workflow of the Public-Private Partnership structure, gained through Founder Laura Starr’s twelve years as Chief of Design for the Central Park Conservancy and twenty-five-year collaboration with The Battery. With this background and our passion for public space design, we look forward to helping this collaboration between The Spark of Hudson and The City become the start of a long and visionary partnership.

Our primary contact for this proposal will be Principal and Director of Starr Whitehouse’s Hudson Studio Gail Wittwer-Laird. Gail is joined by the staff of Starr Whitehouse Hudson, as well as a team of local experts who will help us make the most of this project’s opportunities:

- **Proper & O’Leary: Structural, Construction Administration**
Daniel Proper, Civil Engineer, dproper@po-eng.com, 518.610.8331
- **S.Y. Kim Land Surveyor: Site Survey**
Eugene Kim, Land Surveyor, ekim@sykimls.com, 518.785.3969
- **Goshow: Comfort Station Design**
Aaron McDonald, Project Manager, amcdonald@goshow.com, 212.242.3735
- **ME Engineering: MEP Engineering, Site Lighting, Construction Administration**
Michael Sullivan, Vice President, mksullivan@meengineering.com, 518.821.7428

Our firm is ready and eager to provide all services identified in this proposal, and will abide by the terms of the Request for Proposals, including all attachments. Thank you for the opportunity to work with you on this exciting project. We look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Gail Wittwer-Laird, RLA, ASLA, FAAR ‘96
Principal, Director Starr Whitehouse Hudson
Primary Contact
gwittwerlaird@starrwhitehouse.com
917.445.5424



Laura Starr, FASLA, LEED AP
Partner