City Council Agenda Item Request
Submit to Clerk's Office
No later than 30 days before proposed Council meeting

1. **Date submitted to Clerk's Office:**12/16/2025

2. **Primary contact person and Department requesting agenda item:** Brad Branham, Legal Department

3. **Requested Council meeting date:** 1/13/2026

4. **Subject:** Approval to amend a contract with Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, PLLC for legal services.

5. **Action Requested:** Resolution authorizing the City Attorney to make a second amendment to a contract with Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, PLLC by adding $111,000.00 to cover legal services related to ongoing litigation for a total contract cost of $200,000.00.

6. **Note if time sensitive, and why:** Time sensitive. The current contract needs funds added to cover pending invoices.

7. **Potential fiscal impact(s) - if known by staff at time of request:** The value of the contract after funds are added will be $200,000.00, and will not require any budget amendments by City Council in the Fiscal Year 2026 and Fiscal Year 2027 Legal Services Budget.

8. **Identify all vendor outreach for Minority & Women Owned Business Enterprises (MWBE).** Vendor is self performing and exempt per City Council Resolution- not applicable.

9. **Identify all Boards, Commissions and Council Committees with tentative dates - add in the vote and recommendation from each Board:** Not applicable.

10. **Identify key issues:**
    - Since May 30, 2024, Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, PLLC has provided the City Attorney's Office with legal services for pending litigation involving design and construction claims associated with Harrahs.
    - On September 23, 2025, the contract was amended to cover gaps in condemnation matters coverage following the resignation of two senior staff attorneys.
    - The City Attorney's Office is now fully staffed, but additional funds are needed for Hamilton Stephens Steele & Martin, PLLC to complete the case work they've already started.
    - The proposed amendment would add $111,000.00 to the existing contract, for a total of $200,000.00.