

Committee Report

Environment Committee



Committee Meeting Date: December 13, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: December 21, 2022

Business Item: 2022-318 JT

Joint Powers Agreement, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program, Contract 22G002

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council, Committee of the Whole authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 22G002 with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (“MPCA”) to enter new Joint Powers Agreement.

Summary of Environment Committee Discussion/Questions

- Chair Lindstrom asked: Does the MPCA fund the other stations that we have, the other parts of our monitoring program?
- Staff responded: No, the rest of our stream monitoring program which is about 15 additional stations is funded through MCES funds.

Motion by CM Sterner, seconded by CM Wulff. Motion carried.



Business Item

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Joint Powers Agreement, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program, Contract 22G002

District(s), Member(s):	All
Policy/Legal Reference:	MN Statutes 471.59; 473.505, and Council Policies FM 15-1 Income/Grants, FM 14-1 Procurement
Staff Prepared/Presented:	Daniel Henely, Assistant Manager, Water Resources, 651-602-8085, Judy Sventek, Manager, Water Resources, 651-602-1156
Division/Department:	MCES Water Resources Planning/Water Resources

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council, Committee of the Whole authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute Contract 22G002 with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency ("MPCA") to enter new Joint Powers Agreement.

Background

The original joint powers agreement for 2018-2019 included \$300,000 for Metropolitan Council reimbursement on eligible expenses. It was first amended for 2020-2021 to add \$238,500 and again in 2022 for a total 5-year agreement of \$609,722. This new 2-year agreement allows Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services division ("MCES") to continue the monitoring of five tributary stream and river segments in the Council's Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program ("WOMP").

Rationale

Council policy requires that joint powers agreements in any amount be approved by the Council. MCES has been partnering with local governments and watershed management organizations to monitor the water quality of local streams since 1995. This request will continue funding for this program through 2024.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This program and funding from the MPCA support work to keep our water resources sustainable for future generations and improve the livability and attractiveness of our region. Local watershed and community partners use information generated from these stations to target and improve water management practices on the ground and measure the success of their projects.

Funding

The source of the funding is the Clean Water Funds passed through the MPCA to the Council. The eligibility of reimbursements is based on a workplan that outlines tasks negotiated by the MPCA and the Metropolitan Council.

Small Business Inclusion

