

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: June 26, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of July 11, 2018

**Subject:** Public Hearing on the Draft Metro Plant Solids Management Facility Plan

**District(s), Member(s):** All

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Policy

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077

**Division/Department:** MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8101

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing on the draft Metro Plant Solids Management Improvements Facility Plan, MCES Project Number 806210.

### Background

The Metro Plant needs additional solids processing capacity to preserve existing wastewater treatment plant infrastructure and to serve regional population growth through the end of the planning period (2050) in a sustainable manner. The recommended plan is based on a life cycle cost evaluation of four combinations of incineration and digestion alternatives, including a sustainability evaluation. The fourth incinerator is the most cost-effective and sustainable alternative. It will have the lowest community impact and will improve the reliability of the region's wastewater treatment system.

The proposed program consists of two phases:

- Phase 1 (constructed 2021 – 2024) installs a fourth incinerator next to the existing three incinerators in a small building expansion (22,000 square feet)
- Phase 2 (constructed 2025 – 2027) will renew the existing incinerators

The total estimated program cost is \$180 million dollars.

### Rationale

The Public Facilities Authority (PFA) funding eligibility requires a public hearing before submittal of the Facility Plan to the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency. Council Policy requires Council authorization to hold a public hearing.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

The plan supports the Thrive Outcomes of Stewardship, because it supports efforts to maintain the region's wastewater treatment system, and Sustainability, because it supports efforts to invest in the region's wastewater treatment system so that it can be operated in an effective and efficient way.

### Funding

Funds for project planning are included in the current authorized capital program.

### Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.