

Environment Committee

Meeting date: September 25, 2018

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 10, 2018

Subject: Intergovernmental Agreements with the Cities of Loretto, Independence, and Medina

District(s), Member(s): District 1, Katie Rodriguez

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota State Statute 437.504 and 473.59

Staff Prepared/Presented: Karen Keenan, 651-602-4561

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute intergovernmental agreements with the Cities of Loretto, Independence, and Medina to provide wastewater service to the City of Loretto.

Background

The Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has issued notice to the City of Loretto with the requirement to cease wastewater treatment plant discharge and to connect to the regional system by December 31, 2020. It is expected this area will experience moderate growth over the next 20 years. For that reason, the Metropolitan Council has determined that service can best be provided by contracting with the Cities of Medina and Independence to perform this service as an independent contractor. Long term projections show the potential for significant growth. At that time, a future regional system will be in place to serve this area.

As part of this project, the Metropolitan Council will enter into three intergovernmental agreements. The first two will be with the Cities of Independence and Medina for reimbursement to operate and maintain portions of their wastewater systems that convey the City of Loretto's flow. The third agreement will be with the City of Loretto to install meter facilities and to set aside land for future Metropolitan Council facilities. By working with the multiple agencies, the Metropolitan Council can defer significant infrastructure costs until such time that higher flows create the need for new facilities.

Rationale

Intergovernmental agreements with an agency exceeding \$500,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Thrive Lens Analysis

The action advances the Thrive Outcome of Stewardship, Prosperity, and Sustainability and the Thrive Principles of Integration and Collaboration.

Funding

Project 808100 is included in the 2018 MCES Authorized Capital Program

Currently Authorized: \$5,000,000

Unencumbered Funds: \$4,680,000

Requested Amount: \$4,500,000

Known Support / Opposition

The Cities of Loretto, Independence, and Medina are supportive of this project.