Environment Committee

Meeting date: Dec 10, 2019

Management Committee

Meeting date: Dec 11, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of Dec 11, 2019

Subject: Authorization to Amend the 2019 Unified Budget

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Admin Policy 3-1 and Procedure 3-1a; MN Statute 473.13-Council

Budget Requirements, and 473.517 – Wastewater fees and reserve authority

Staff Prepared/Presented: Ned Smith, 651-602-1162

Division/Department: MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, General Manager (651-602-8101)

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the amendment of the 2019 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with Attachment A and authorize the amendment of the 2019 Unified Budget as indicated and in accordance with the attached table.

Background

The Environmental Services Division requires an amendment to the 2019 operating budget. This is due to Spring flooding, the Metro Plant steam turbine, the Eagle's Point outfall pipe repair, and high rain throughout the year.

Spring flooding: Additional costs were incurred at the Metro Plant to respond to Mississippi River flooding. These costs were associated with construction of a temporary roadway to access the plant, additional security, and electrician overtime to support the effluent pumps running 24-7 to counter the high river level. MCES has filed for FEMA relief and anticipates receiving a reimbursement in 2019.

Steam Turbine: For much of 2019, the steam turbine generator at the Metro Plant Solids Management Building was not operating due to mechanical failure. This turbine typically provides up to 25% of the Metro Plant's electricity supply. In the absence of the turbine, additional electricity had to be purchased from Xcel.

Eagle's Point outfall pipe: In early 2019, an emergency was declared when staff discovered that the Eagles Point outfall pipe, located in the Mississippi River, was severely damaged by either a barge or by dredging activity. Corrective repairs were immediately undertaken to restore the flow and to mitigate the potential for damage to other public infrastructure. These expenses will be mostly offset by insurance claim revenue.

Higher than normal precipitation: 2019 has been a wet year. As a result, electricity consumption is over budget to operate the effluent pumps at multiple plants to counter the high river levels and in the interceptors to pump clearwater through the lift stations.

Requested changes to the operating component of the 2019 Unified Budget total \$4.3M in expense and \$1.6M in revenue. The following requests are being made by the Environmental Services Division:

Environmental Services

Change in Expenditures: \$4,262,000; Revenues: \$1,639,000; Reserves: (\$2,623,000)

NOTE: Due to forecasted overages in revenue collection (not amended here), the net impact to the reserve is expected to be \$1,258,000

The proposed budget amendment impacts the following areas of the Operations budget:

ES-Wide Other Revenues by \$1,639,000 from \$100,000 to \$1,739,000
Operations Salaries and Benefits by \$627,000 from \$38,972,000 to \$39,599,000
Operations Consulting and Contractual Services by \$145,000 from \$12,149,000 to \$12,294,000
Operations Utilities by \$1,738,000 from \$15,776,000 to \$17,514,000
Technical Services Consulting and Contractual Services by \$1,752,000 from \$93,000 to \$1,845,000

Rationale

The proposed amendments will bring forecasted 2019 revenues and expenses within the amended budget for the Environmental Services Division.

Thrive Lens Analysis

Outcomes:

Stewardship: the budget reflects MCES ongoing effort to be good stewards of ratepayer revenue and the metropolitan disposal system by incurring the necessary expenses to insure regulatory compliance and meeting customer levels of service.

Principles:

Accountability: the amendment insures transparency into council operations.

Funding

The motion proposes that this needed funding come from the Wastewater Operating Contingency Reserve. This amendment will not cause wastewater operating reserves to fall below the 10% Council policy target balance level.

Fiscal Impact

The amendment will not impact wastewater users. The amendment uses available reserves and will not cause the year end 2019 fund balance to fall below the target fund balance for Environmental Services.

Known Support / Opposition

None

Attachments:

A – Table B-1 – Environmental Services Division Operating Budget as amended through Dec 11, 2019



METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

SUMMARY BUDGET OPERATIONS BY FUND FY19

Table 3 (\$ in 000's)

						Transportation									
	General Fund					Metropolitan Transportation Services				Metro Transit					
	Regional Administration	Community Development	General Fund Total	HRA & FAHP	Environmental Services	Metro Mobility	Contracted Services	Transportation Planning	MTS Total	Bus	Light Rail	Commuter Rail	Metro Transit Total	Transportation Total	Memo Total
Revenues: Property Tax Federal Revenues	2,571	12,758	15,329	5,065	-	-	3,430	6,050	9,480	41,921	1,012	- 454	43,387	- 52,867	15,329 57,932
State Revenues Local Revenues	- -	-	-	148	1,766	82,264	22,943	4,041 109	109,248 109	211,295	25,589 26,565	7,189 10,332	244,073 36,897	353,321 37,006	355,235 37,006
Municipal Wastewater Charges Industrial Wastewater Charges Passenger Fares	-	-	-	-	137,586 13,142	- - 8,770	- - 2,477	-	- - 11,247	- 73,655	- - 26,050	- - 2,580	- - 102,285	- - 113,532	137,586 13,142 113,532
Contract & Special Event Revenues Investment Earnings	- - 550	-	550	50	900			-		1,400 750	450 677	2,560	1,850 1,427	1,850 1,427	1,850 2,927
Other Revenues	308	-	308	2,260	2,265	-	-	-	-	5,148	1,563	-	6,711	6,711	11,544
Total Revenues	3,429	12,758	16,187	7,523	155,659	91,034	28,850	10,200	130,084	334,169	81,906	20,555	436,630	566,714	746,083
Expenses: Salaries & Benefits	41,371	5.649	47,020	4.417	67,827	2.114	842	3,391	6,347	289,260	42,226	5,335	336,821	343,168	462.432
Consulting & Contractual Services Material & Supplies	18,619 458	896 6	19,515 464	1,687 40	21,801 8,978	926 412	719 93	4,406 15	6,051 520	9,841 22,123	5,871 5,570	7,700 1,319	23,412 29,012	29,463 29,532	72,466 39,014
Fuel Chemicals	-	-	-	-	258 9,180	9,569	221	-	9,790	14,440	14	1,174	15,628	25,418	25,676 9,180
Rent & Utilities Printing Travel	5,041 63 553	183 30 94	5,224 93 647	147 7 40	18,296 39 526	210 36 30	142 13 9	381 21 45	733 70 84	3,809 402 492	6,829 - 38	740 - 27	11,378 402 557	12,111 472 641	35,778 611 1,854
Insurance Transit Programs	48	-	48	100	1,150	66,634	25,790	-	92,424	2,767	1,436	2,411	6,614	6,614 92,424	7,912 92,424
Operating Capital Governmental Grants Other Expenses	507 - 540	75 1,400 301	582 1,400 841	43 - 691	3,684 3,435 2,840	130 - 82	39 210 66	37 106 72	206 316 220	2,631 4,128	- - 656	- - 82	2,631 4,866	206 2,947 5,086	4,515 7,782 9,458
Total Expenses	67,200	8,634	75,834	7,172	138,014	80,143	28,144	8,474	116,761	349,893	62,640	18,788	431,321	548,082	769,102
Other Sources and (Uses): Interdivisional Cost Allocation	65,712	(2,414)	63,298	(1,420)	(16,695)	(2,176)	(706)	(1,726)	(4,608)	(35,701)	(4,397)	(477)	(40,575)	(45,183)	-
Modal Allocation A-87 Allocation MVST Transfers In	- - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	11,792 4,725 21,228	(10,625) (4,393)	(1,167) (332) -	21,228	21,228	21,228
Transfer To Passthrough Transfer To Capital Net Operating Transfers	- (2,771) (700)		(3,000) (2,771) (1,950)	- - 1,250	(11,000) 700	-	-	-	-			-	-	-	(3,000) (13,771)
Net Other Sources and (Uses)	62,241	(6,664)	55,577	(170)	(26,995)	(2,176)	(706)	(1,726)	(4,608)	2,044	(19,415)	(1,976)	(19,347)	(23,955)	4,457
Change in Fund Balance	(1,530)	(2,540)	(4,070)	181	(9,350)	8,715	-	-	8,715	(13,680)	(149)	(209)	(14,038)	(5,323)	(18,562)

Carry Forward Amendment changes

1st & 2nd Quarter Amendment changes

2nd Quarter Budget Amendment

2nd & 3rd Quarter Budget Amendments

3rd Quarter Budget Amendment

4th Quarter Budget Amendments

4th Quarter Budget Amendment & Carry Forward Amendment

Correction of CF from Passthrough to Operations