

## Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 11, 2020

**Subject:** Joint Powers Agreement with Minnesota Pollution Control Agency for the Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program

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

**Policy/Legal Reference:** Council Procurement Policy – 3-4-3, Minnesota Statutes 473.505 (Total Watershed Management) & 471.59 Joint Exercise of Powers

**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Daniel Henely, 651-602-8085; Judy Sventek 651-602-1156

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

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract 17G000 with the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency to extend termination date to 2022 and accept Clean Water Funds from the Minnesota Legislature in the amount of \$238,500.

### Background

Original joint powers agreement for 2018-2019 included \$300,000 for Metropolitan Council reimbursement on eligible expenses. This amendment will roll over un-used monies from that original agreement and add \$238,500 for 2020-2021 for a total amount in grant funds of \$538,500. The amendment allows Environmental Services to continue the monitoring of 6 tributary stream and river segments in the Council's Watershed Outlet Monitoring Program. The amendment will extend the original agreement from 2018-2019 to include 2020-2021 work.

This amendment will also remove 1 site (Riley Creek) from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency's (MPCA) funded program due to budget cuts at the MPCA. Riley Creek will be covered by the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services funded watershed outlet monitoring program (WOMP1).

### Rationale

The award and execution of a total procurement valued at an amount exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval. 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 2021.

### 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.

**Known Support / Opposition**

The Minnesota Pollution Control supports this project with designated Clean Water Funds from the Minnesota Legislature. There is no known opposition to this action.