

Minutes

Environment Committee



Meeting Date: September 10, 2024

Time: 4:00 PM

Location: 390 Robert Steet

Members Present:

Chair, Peter Lindstrom, D10
 Vice Chair, Wendy Wulff, D16

Tyronne Carter, District 3
 Yassin Osman, District 7
E Anjuli Cameron, District 8

Diego Morales, District 9
 Gail Cederberg, District 11
 = present, E = excused

Call to Order

A quorum being present, Committee Chair Lindstrom called the regular meeting of the Environment Committee to order at 4:00 p.m.

Agenda Approved

Council Members did not have any comments or changes to the agenda. **Motion carried.**

Approval of Minutes

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2024 regular meeting of the Environment Committee. **Motion carried.**

Consent Business

None at this time.

Motion carried.

Non-Consent Business

1. **2024-182 SW: Master Contract Awards for Water Supply Studies and Technical Analyses for White Bear Lake Comprehensive Plan, Contract 24P056** (Greg Johnson, 651-602-1016)

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize the Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute contracts 24P056A-24P056C for technical consultant services for the water supply studies and technical analyses for the White Bear Lake Area Comprehensive Plan in an amount not to exceed \$1,500,000 as stated in business item 2024-182 SW.

Discussion

- CM Cederberg asked: Are these contracts just for the water supply distribution or will there be a separate contract for the financing portion?
- Staff responded: Yes, that is correct. The financial analyses contract was taken off the agenda because the financing portion was less than 200,000 dollars.

Motion carried.

2. **2024-226: Intergovernmental Agreement with the City of Lakeville** (Tim Wedin, 651-602-4571)

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute a Cooperative Construction Agreement with the City of Lakeville for the construction of new flow meter M657, MCES Project No. 805609, for an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

Motion carried

3. **2024-227: Authorization to Hold a Public Hearing on the Draft Facility Plan for the Coon Rapids Interceptor Rehabilitation** (Tim Wedin, 651-602-4571)

It was moved by CM Morales, seconded CM Osman by that the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing in November 2024 to gather input on the draft facility plan for the Coon Rapids Interceptor Rehabilitation project, MCES Project No. 808609.

Motion carried

4. **2024-228: Authorization to Hold a Public Hearing on the Draft Facility Plan for the Forest Lake Interceptor 7029 Rehabilitation, Project No. 808603** (Chris Remus, 651-602-4538)

It was moved by CM Cederberg, seconded by CM Osman, that the Metropolitan Council authorize a public hearing to gather input on the draft Facility Plan for the Forest Lake Interceptor 7029 Rehabilitation, Project Number 808603.

Discussion

CM Cederberg asked: Will there be a need land acquisition?

Staff responded: Yes. To provide additional workspace for the equipment.

Motion carried

5. **2024-239: Orono Interceptor 7113 Improvement Project Real Estate Property Acquisition and Condemnation** (Chris Remus, 651-602-4538)

It was moved by CM Carter, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council adopt Resolution 2024-17 authorizing the acquisition and condemnation of real estate property for the Orono Interceptor 7113 Project, MCES Project No. 802897.

Motioned carried

6. **2024-244 SW: Turfgrass Irrigation Efficiency Project with University of Minnesota Turfgrass Science Program, Contract 151103, Amendment Five** (Greg Johnson, 651-602-1016)

It was moved by CM Wulff, seconded by CM Morales, that the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to execute the contract amendment for contract 151103 with the University of Minnesota for continuation of educating citizens of the Twin Cities metro area about lawn water conservation by reinforcing current outreach efforts and creating new educational materials for homeowners in the form of online videos, signs, pamphlets, and in-person workshops. This amendment will be for a total amount of \$418,997.00 for a contract duration of three years for a total contract not-to-exceed value of \$1,388,947.00. The University of Minnesota's proposed funding request is attached to this memorandum.

Discussion

- CM Cederberg asked: Is the goal to complete the testing of the new seed mix in 3 years with the outcome being a strong recommendation to on what seed mixes to use to have more tolerant grasses?
- Staff responded: Yes, that is correct. The goal is 2 to 3 years to get the seed mixes out there.
- CM Wulff asked: They were already doing research on different seed mixture, is this just building upon what they were already doing or are they starting over?
- Staff responded: It's building upon it. It is going to be an advancement and improvement to what they are already doing.

Motion carried.

Information

1. **2025 Capital Program** (Kyle Colvin 651-602-1151, Rene Heflin 651-602-1077, Adam Gordon 651-602-4503)

Staff from Plant Engineering, Interceptor Engineering and Wastewater Planning and Community Programs presented the 2025 Capital Program. A broad overview of Environmental Services six-year capital program was discussed. This included wastewater system planning, treatment plant projects and interceptor projects. The presentation concluded with an overview of their schedule as follows:

- Council Presentation of Preliminary Budget (Budget in Brief): August 14, 2024
- Adoption of Preliminary Unified Operating Budget and Levies: August 28, 2024
- Informational Item Presentation to Environment Committee: September 10, 2024
Division-level
- Unified Capital Program Division presentations: October
- Adoption of public comment draft budgets: October 23, 2024
- Adoption of final 2025 budgets and levies: December 11, 2024

Reports

General Managers Report: General Manager of Environmental Services, Leisa Thompson, provided a recap of the Met Councils Eco Exhibit at this year's State Fair. Over 60 staff participated with tons of positive feedback.

Adjournment

Business completed; the meeting adjourned at 5:19 p.m.

Certification

I hereby certify that the foregoing narrative and exhibits constitute a true and accurate record of the Environment Committee meeting of September 10, 2024.

Council Contact:

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