

# Business Item

Environment Committee



**Committee Meeting Date:** January 28, 2025

**For the Metropolitan Council:** February 12, 2025

## Business Item: 2025-25

Metropolitan WWTP Polymer Procurement, Contract 24P127

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	All
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	FM 14-2 - Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Joseph Ward, Assistant Manager
<b>Division/Department:</b>	Environmental Services/Process Engineering, R&D, and Air Quality

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 24P127 with Polydyne, Inc., to provide polymer to the Metropolitan Wastewater Treatment Plant in an amount not to exceed \$24,025,000.

### Background

Polymer is a conditioning chemical, which aids in the removal of water while processing sludge solids on mechanical equipment such as centrifuges and belt presses.

This procurement followed a two-step process. An Invitation for Prequalification was issued on May 15, 2024. The purpose of this solicitation is to identify the most effective polymer through a full-scale evaluation of their performance and prequalify those vendors. Only vendors that are prequalified are allowed to participate in the Invitation for Bids which is the second step in the procurement process. Two vendors performed full-scale performance tests with a total of five polymer products. After the full-scale testing, two vendors and four polymer products prequalified to participate in the Invitation for Bids.

The Invitation for Bids was issued on October 30, 2024. There were eight registered planholders, six suppliers, two plan rooms, and two planholders identified as minority, woman, veteran, small, or disadvantaged business enterprises. On November 20, 2024, a public bid opening was facilitated, and two bids were received. Polymer unit costs ranged from \$24.91 to \$39.04 per dry ton of sludge processed. Estimated annual expenditures are \$4,500,000 up to \$5,400,000 over a five-year period with price adjustments based on the Producer Price Index for Plastic Material and Resins Manufacturing. Polydyne Inc. was determined to be the low, responsive, responsible bidder and is being recommended for award.

### Rationale

The execution of a goods and service contract exceeding \$500,000 requires Council approval.

### **Thrive Lens Analysis**

This action advances the Thrive outcome of Stewardship and Sustainability. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain proper operation of the Metropolitan Disposal System which protects the region's natural resources.

### **Funding**

Funds are available in the treatment plant operating budget.

### **Small Business Inclusion**

The Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEO) thoroughly reviewed this procurement for Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) opportunities in accordance with federal and state laws and regulations as well as contract specifications. Upon conclusion of OEEO's research and analysis, no MCUB goal was set.

