

Management Committee

Meeting date: April 28, 2021

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of May 12, 2021

Subject: Ratification of Emergency Declaration #65 for Purchase of COVID-19 Tests

District(s), Member(s):

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Expenditure Policy 14-2, Emergency Expenditures

Staff Prepared/Presented: Philip Walljasper, 651-602-1787; Jody Jacoby, 651-602-1144

Division/Department: Regional Administration

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratify the attached Emergency Declaration for purchase of COVID-19 tests in the amount of \$490,500.00.

Background

The COVID-19 pandemic is an emergency situation in which positive tests is on the rise. This rise of tests calls for immediate action to prevent more positive tests from developing or occurring at Council facilities and to Council employees and customers. Governor Walz has extended the COVID-19 state of emergency due to increased cases. Increased cases of COVID directly affects the health, safety and welfare of the public and Metropolitan Council employees and facilities and as a result emergency resources of test kits were needed immediately.

Rationale

The Metropolitan Council has delegated authority to the Regional Administrator to declare emergencies on behalf of the Council when the health, safety or welfare of the public is compromised, or potentially compromised, and immediate action is required to address the emergency. The emergency declaration is presented to the appropriate implementation committee for approval and placed on a following Council consent list for formal ratification.

Accountability – Following policy 14-2, The Regional Administrator may authorize appropriate contracts and payments necessary to meet the emergency situation provided that, if the cost to correct the emergency situation totals \$175,000 or more, the emergency declaration shall also be presented to the appropriate committee for formal ratification at its next regular meeting.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive outcome of stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively in the region.

Funding

The full cost of COVID-19 test kits is estimated at \$490,500 and local funding will be used.

Known Support / Opposition

There is no known opposition.