

Environment Committee

Meeting date: October 27, 2015

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of October 28, 2015

<p>Subject: Authorization to Amend a Contract for Assessment of Reliability and Sustainability of Water Supply in Metropolitan Region</p>
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Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes, its Regional Administrator to amend contracts, totaling \$2,800,000 with SEH, Barr Engineering, HDR and CDM Smith for assessment of reliability and sustainability of water supply in Metropolitan Region.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee member Melander asked what ongoing projects are occurring. Staff stated there are 5 or 6 projects going on at this time. We have 6-7 projects that will be worked on during the contract period. These projects include feasibility analysis of water supply alternatives, ground water modeling in support of subregional work groups and technical information supporting local water supply planning. This amendment provides funding needed for the work of the consultants through the end of the contract. At the end of 2016 another contract will be sought.

Motion to approve the proposed action above was made, seconded, and passed unanimously.

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District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditure, Minnesota Statue 473.1565, Minnesota Statue 114D.50

Staff Prepared/Presented: Sam Paske (651) 602-1015, Ali Elhassan (651) 602-1066

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

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes, its Regional Administrator to amend contracts, totaling \$2,800,000 with SEH, Barr Engineering, HDR and CDM Smith for assessment of reliability and sustainability of water supply in Metropolitan Region.

Background

The Minnesota Legislature in 2015 approved \$1,950,000 for the Metropolitan Council from the legacy – Clean water fund to continue evaluating the reliability and sustainability of water supply in Metropolitan Region. This contract(s) amendment is for continuing technical assessments including water supply engineering, hydrologic and hydrogeologic analysis & outreach to support efforts to explore regional opportunities in water supply reliability and sustainability. The work will be performed on a task by task, work order basis as requested by the Council and is expected to be awarded using the existing four master contracts. The approximate value of this master contract amendment will be \$750,000 through December 2016.

Rationale

Reliable sources of clean water have been critical to development of the Twin Cities region and that need continues today. With a growing population, more business and industry, and a rapidly changing environment, the long-range outlook for clean water is not what it used to be. Today, due to increased groundwater pumping to accommodate development, aquifers are being declined. Lakes, streams, and wetlands are being affected. Given projected growth, we anticipate the problem to be exacerbated if we increase groundwater pumping to meet growth. A change of management strategies would require exploring the engineering and financial feasibility of alternatives, design analyses, and inter-jurisdictional collaboration.

Funding

Currently Authorized: \$ 2,050,000

Unencumbered Funds: \$ 750,000

Requested Amount: \$ 2,800,000

Contractors	Old Contract Limit	New Contract Limit
SEH	\$ 500,000	\$ 700,000
Barr Engineering	\$ 500,000	\$ 700,000
HDR	\$ 550,000	\$ 700,000
CDM Smith	\$ 500,000	\$ 700,000
Total	\$ 2,050,000	\$ 2,800,000

Known Support / Opposition

No known opposition.