

Special Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 30, 2016

Subject: Assessment of Reliability and Sustainability of Water Supply in Metropolitan Region

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute five (5), \$400,000 engineering services Master Contracts, totaling \$2,000,000 with CDM Smith, HDR, SEH, Stantec, and TKDA for Phase 2 assessment of reliability and sustainability of water supply in the Metropolitan Region, Contract #16P135A, B, C, D, & E.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

An inquiry was made asking if funding is obtained solely through the Clean Water Fund and if it includes staffing. Staff stated the water supply planning unit receives funding from the Clean Water Fund as well as the general fund. Some of the Clean Water funding goes toward staffing for managing studies and projects.

Do the consultants work with other regional groups? Staff stated in most cases we make the resources available to the communities and they choose the consultants they want to work with, although MCES manages the project.

Staff clarified that three consultants were utilized from phase 1 and two new consultants were selected for phase 2.

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

Special Environment Committee

Meeting date: November 15, 2016

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 30, 2016

Subject: Assessment of Reliability and Sustainability of Water Supply in Metropolitan Region

District(s), Member(s): All

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

Staff Prepared/Presented: David Brown, 651-602-1072; Ali Elhassan, 651-602-1066

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

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Background

The Minnesota State Legislature in 2015 approved \$2,000,000 for the Metropolitan Council from the legacy Clean Water Fund and General Fund to carry out activities supporting the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Sustainability Support program. These contract(s) are for Phase 2 of water supply engineering, technical 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 five master contracts. The approximate value of each master contract will be \$400,000 over three years.

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 Metropolitan Council was given a legislative responsibility to carry out planning activities to address the water supply needs of the Twin Cities metropolitan area, including development of a base of technical information. This information provides guidance for local water supply systems and future regional investments, emphasizes conservation, interjurisdictional cooperation, and long-term sustainability; and addresses the reliability, security, and cost-effectiveness of the metropolitan area water supply system and its local and subregional components.

Funding

Currently Authorized: \$ 0

Unencumbered Funds: \$ 2,000,000

Requested Amount: \$ 2,000,000

Known Support / Opposition

The Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee (MAWSAC) supports this initiative and there is no known opposition.