## Committee Report

Business Item No. 2016-53

## Environment Committee

Meeting date: March 8, 2016
For the Metropolitan Council meeting of March 23, 2016
Subject: Ratification of Emergency Declaration for Pump Flow L-35 Lift Station and Forcemain 4-NS-524

## Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratifies the attached Emergency Declaration for repair of a broken valve at L-35 and plugged forcemain at 4-NS-524 located in Moundsview, MN.

## Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

A contractor was performing scheduled inspection and renewal work on the forcemains when a gate valve failed. The valves are exercised on a monthly basis with the station built in approximately 1965. Life expectancy varies on assets throughout the system. Contractors were brought onsite to remove the failed valve and transport the flow until valve removal was complete. Four tanker trucks were on site 24 hours per day transporting the sewage from the lift station wet well to a downstream gravity sewer until the failed valve was removed and one of the forcemains could take the flow.

Trucks are no longer needed and the approximate location of the blockage in the north barrel has been identified and will be cleared by a contractor later this month.

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

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District(s), Member(s): District 10, Marie McCarthy
Policy/Legal Reference: Policy 3-3, Expenditures; Policy 3-4, Procurement
Staff Prepared/Presented: Mike Mereness, Tim Keegan
Division/Department: Environmental Services, Treatment Services

## Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratifies the attached Emergency Declaration for repair of a broken valve at L-35 and plugged forcemain at 4-NS-524 located in Moundsview, MN.

## Background

A project is underway to inspect and renew the L35 Forcemains (2 parallel barrels), 4-NS-524 and downstream Interceptor, 4-NS-423 located in Moundsview, MN. On Friday February 19, 2016, to facilitate the inspection of the forcemains from L-35, staff was switching flow between the two barrels known as the North and South barrels. When switching from the South barrel to the North barrel, the isolation valve on the South barrel failed in the closed position leaving only the North barrel available. After a few hours of operation the North barrel stopped taking additional flow and appeared to be blocked.
Staff immediately responded and began pumping from the wet well at L35 into tanker trucks, hauling the wastewater to a nearby gravity system. Simultaneously, there was an ongoing effort to determine the blockage in the North barrel, repair it and return it to operation. At the writing of this document the location and cause of the plug is not known.
In order to discontinue the truck hauling operation the insides of the failed valve have been removed and a flange placed over the opening of the valve. This has allowed us to return flow to the South barrel while parts are ordered and shipped for the repair of the valve and the blockage in the North barrel is located and addressed.

## Rationale

The Regional Administrator is authorized to declare an emergency on behalf of the Council, if it is determined an emergency situation exists. An emergency situation exists when:

1. The health, safety or welfare of the public, including Council employees or facilities, is compromised or potentially compromised and remedial action is necessary or desirable; or
2. A significant cost savings is immediately available through circumstances previously unknown and requires prompt action to take advantage of the situation.

The inability to convey wastewater from the Moundsview area presents a threat to the health, safety and welfare of the public and environment in the area.

To repair the system, outside help is needed from contractors to supplement internal MCES staff. Outside contractors utilized at this time are: Lametti and Sons, Ende Septic Service, Total Mechanical and Northern Dewatering.

## Funding

The emergency declaration is in the amount of $\$ 500,000$. Final costs will be determined at the conclusion of the repair work.
Known Support / Opposition
There is no known opposition.

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welfare of the puble or the safely of welfare of the public or the safely of
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Describe the supplies or services which must be acquired to remedy this emergency situation, including the estimated cost.

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Approval

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| Administrator | Koeistra. Wes | $2 / 18 / 2016$ | 11.293 .36 AM |

