

Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 10, 2019

Subject: Telecommunications Equipment Contract for the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute contract 18P156 in the amount of \$1,280,787.24 to CDW LLC for the purchase of Wi-Fi equipment, which includes access points, switches and controllers.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Chair Lindstrom asked if the equipment being requested is an important aspect of the SCADA system. Staff clarified it facilitates the implementation of more operations technology.

Committee Member Wulff stated Environmental Services staff implemented the use of iPads with success previously. Communication and work flow was improved for employees.

Committee Member Sterner requested clarification on the process used to request quotes. Staff stated the State of Minnesota Cooperative Procurement Venture was used to request bids. Four bids were received and CDW was determined to have the lowest responsive, responsible bid that met requirements of the contracting process. Committee Member Fredson clarified that the equipment is currently being used at the Metro Plant. Staff confirmed.

Committee Member Sterner inquired about the safety and security of staff with the use of the equipment. Staff stated there are national standards in place that determine requirements for the contracts. Staff member Roger Rehbein stated the safety during usage is similar to that of wi-fi currently in use and strength as in any other building.

Environment Committee

Meeting date: March 26, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of April 10, 2019

Subject: Telecommunications Equipment Contract for the Regional Wastewater Treatment Plants

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures

Staff Prepared/Presented: Roger Rehbein, 651-602-1568; Rene Heflin, 651-602-1077

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

Proposed Action

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Background

New equipment is needed to upgrade the plant control system and integrate Wi-Fi technology. Use of Wi-Fi technology at the wastewater treatment plants is expected to improve staff's efficiency in completing daily tasks.

Two quotes for Wi-Fi equipment were received from the State of Minnesota Cooperative Procurement Venture, contract T-653(5) on February 20, 2019; \$1,280,787.24 from CDW and \$1,515,292.07 from Insight Public Sector. CDW was determined to have the lowest responsive, responsible quote.

Rationale

Procurement of Goods and Services over \$500,000 in value require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive Outcome of Stewardship by efficiently and effectively preserving our regional wastewater treatment plant assets.

Funding

Funding is provided in the 2019 Authorized Capital Program.

Known Support / Opposition

None