

Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

Subject: ERS-04 & 1MN344 Tunnel Rehabilitation

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a construction contract for project ERS-04 & 1MN344 Tunnel Rehabilitation, MCES Project No. 807629, Contract No. 18P431, with Lametti and Sons, Inc. for their low responsive, responsible bid of \$18,506,300.00.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee Member Vento asked what the rationale is for the difference in bids. Staff stated we are looking into the difference at this time.

Committee Member Zeran inquired if Lametti and Sons would be handling the full amount of the work or if it would be subcontracted out. Staff stated they will be subcontracting out some of the work.

Committee Member Zeran asked for clarification on the good faith effort. Staff stated Lametti exhibited a commitment of 2.03% to Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and 6.29% Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

Chair Lindstrom inquired what precipitated the requirement of the project. Staff stated the tunnel was built in the 1930's and shows signs of corrosion.

Committee Member Sterner was pleased with the number of bids received.

Committee Member Wulff commended staff on their hard work with communities on communication and responsiveness to residents on work that will be done.

Committee Member Fredson requested clarification on safeguards to protect the spring and the river. Staff stated that rehabilitation and work methods were selected in design to safeguard Coldwater Spring by minimizing groundwater extraction to and protect Minnehaha Creek.

Environment Committee

Meeting date: May 28, 2019

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of June 12, 2019

Subject: ERS-04 & 1MN344 Tunnel Rehabilitation

District(s), Member(s): District 8, Abdirahman Muse

Policy/Legal Reference: Policy 3-3, Expenditures

Staff Prepared/Presented: Adam Gordon, 651-602-4503; Chad Davison, 651-602-4031

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

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Background

The MCES Facility Plan Amendment describes the need for rehabilitation work within the existing collection system. The Regulator R04 structure, and downstream 1-MN-344 tunnel, were originally constructed with the first interceptor sewers in the 1930's to direct flow to the Metropolitan wastewater treatment plant. Changes to the regulating mechanism were made in the 1960's within the regulator. The planned rehabilitation work includes features to facilitate the transition from permitted combined sewer overflow (CSO) status to sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) status.

In addition to the regulator vault, the downstream outlet to the sanitary sewer will be rehabilitated to the confluence with MCES Interceptor 1-MN-340. This includes a shallow cast-in-place concrete pipe under Minnehaha Creek, a drop shaft between the creek and TH 55, and a tunnel constructed within the sandstone layer, approximately 65 feet below grade. The total length of pipe to be rehabilitated is 750 feet. Access to the tunnel will be through the existing regulator structure, the drop shaft, and a City of Minneapolis owned access shaft along Nawahada Boulevard. Two additional ventilation/work shafts are anticipated to be needed for worker safety and to provide rehabilitation materials and power from the surface to the deeper tunnel. These shafts are anticipated to be 24-inch finished inside diameter.

The procedures used to drill the two ventilation shafts will isolate the varying layers of soil, bedrock, and aquifers so no change to the groundwater flow is expected. Daily monitoring of groundwater flow at Coldwater Springs will be conducted throughout the duration of construction to ensure no impacts to Coldwater Springs.

This project also proposes rehabilitation work at two nearby drop structures, known as Vortex Shaft A1 & Access Shaft A2, and Vortex Shaft D1 & Access Shaft D2. This rehabilitation work is needed to repair corroding structures that have deteriorated from acid attack caused by sewer gasses. All rehabilitation work will be confined to the existing shafts, with minimal excavation.

Four bids were received and opened on May 7, 2019. The bids ranged from \$18,506,300.00 to \$29,139,525.00. Lametti and Sons, Inc. submitted the low, responsive and responsible bid. The engineer's estimate was \$27,500,000.

The project is funded by Public Facilities Authority (PFA) loan.

The Office of Equal Opportunity approved Lametti's commitment of 2.03% to Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) and 6.29% Women Business Enterprise (WBE).

Rationale

Construction contract awards exceeding \$2,500,000 require Council approval.

Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive Outcome of Stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain the existing wastewater infrastructure, which protects the region's natural resources.

Funding

Project No. 807629 is included in the 2019 MCES Authorized Capital Program.

Known Support / Opposition

The City of Minneapolis, Minnesota Department of Transportation, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, National Park Service, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency are in support of this project.

Friends of Coldwater Springs and the Mendota Mtewakanton Dakota Tribe have expressed concern regarding potential groundwater flowing to the sacred Coldwater Springs site.