

Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2020

Subject: South St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Plant Reconveyance Lift Stations L65 and L74 Improvements, Contract 20P158

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to award and execute a construction contract for South St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Plant Reconveyance Lift Stations L65 and L74 Improvements, MCES Project No. 809093, with S.M. Hentges & Sons for their low responsive, responsible bid of \$2,547,881.00.

Summary of Committee Discussion/Questions

Committee Member Wulff asked if a message would be sent out to residents of the area regarding non-flushable materials.

Jeannine Clancy, Assistant General Manager, Wastewater Planning and Capital Project Delivery stated wipes and rags have become an increasing issue in the collection system. We need to work with cities to assist with messaging to property owners. We are planning to develop a communication program, similar to what was developed for I/I, that will provide tools and resources to communities. In addition, Ms. Clancy participates in a group that addresses statewide wastewater issues, and this is one of the topics of discussion.

Committee Member Sterner commented if the usage and narrative of the words of flushable wipes could be changed as it gives a false narrative.

Chair Lindstrom asked if the grinders will be installed as a regular course of action going forward. Staff stated it is evaluated through the new designs.

Committee Member Vento stated she recalls in the spring there was a great deal of attention around disinfecting wipes. Might be a good idea for a communication plan to be done statewide to get the word out.

Environment Committee

Meeting date: November 10, 2020

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of November 18, 2020

Subject: South St. Paul Wastewater Treatment Plant Reconveyance Lift Stations L65 and L74 Improvements, Contract 20P158

District(s), Member(s): District 13, Chai Lee

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Expenditure Policy 3-3, Procurement of Goods and Services

Staff Prepared/Presented: Chris Remus, 651-602-4538

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

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Background

The project includes demolition at the L65 site required to re-convey former treatment plant property to the City of South St. Paul (authorized in 2018-258 and 2017-48). The project also makes reliability improvements to lift stations L65 and L74. Improvements to L65 include electrical equipment upgrades, HVAC equipment replacements, biofilter rehabilitation, and construction of an emergency pump connection. Improvements at L74 consist of the installation of grinder equipment, a new beam supported hoist, and safety improvements.

The Invitation for bid (IFB) was advertised on August 18, 2020. There were fifty-one (51) plan holders with nine (9) identified as prime bidders. Procurement facilitated a public bid opening on September 29, 2020, three (3) bids were received. The Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) set a Metropolitan Council Underutilized Business (MCUB) goal of thirteen (13) percent. OEO determined that S.M. Hentges & Sons, Inc., passed the MCUB evaluation by meeting Good Faith Efforts with a commitment of eight-point nine (8.9) percent. S.M. Hentges & Sons, Inc. was the lowest, responsive, and responsible bidder.

Rationale

The award and execution of a construction contract exceeding \$2,500,000 requires 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. 809093 is included in the 2021 MCES Authorized Capital Program and will be financed with pay-go funds.

Known Support / Opposition

The City of South St. Paul supports the project.