

# Committee Report

Environment Committee



Committee Meeting Date: June 14, 2022

For the Metropolitan Council: June 22, 2022

## Business Item: 2022-168

Ratification of Emergency Declaration for Seneca Headworks Belt Replacement

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratify the attached Emergency Declaration for repairs to the Seneca headworks belt.

### Summary of Environment Committee Discussion/Questions

Communication best practices with and from cities and partner organizations, especially as it pertains to early alerting, was discussed. Had the Metro Plant been alerted prior to the event from the partnering city, the appropriate staffing could have been available to assist. Improvements to the communications workflow and expectations with partners is underway.

Tours of the facilities by Council Members is helpful as it provides them with a more accurate understanding of the nature of the work the Operations team members carryout on a daily basis, as well as emergency response scenarios such as what took place at the Seneca Plant.

Motion by Wendy Wulff, seconded by Phillip Sterner. Motion carried.



# Business Item

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Ratification of Emergency Declaration for Seneca Headworks Belt Replacement

<b>District(s), Member(s):</b>	District 15, Philip Sterner
<b>Policy/Legal Reference:</b>	Policy 14-2, Expenditures for the Procurement of Goods, Services, and Real Estate Policy
<b>Staff Prepared/Presented:</b>	Craig Edlund, AGM Operations, 651-602-8383 Dan White, Director Maintenance, 651-602-8299
<b>Division/Department:</b>	MCES c/o Leisa Thompson, 651-602-8010

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council ratify the attached Emergency Declaration for repairs to the Seneca headworks belt.

### Background

On May 4, 2022 the Seneca headworks belt conveyor came off the track. It was determined the existing belt was not repairable, a new belt system was required to return this equipment to service. Staff contacted the manufacture and obtained estimates and lead times for a new belt system. Staff began removing the old belt while the manufacture assembled a new belt for install. Staff had to manually rake material coming off the bar screens around the clock until a replacement could be installed. The new belt was installed an operational on May 19, 2022.

### Rationale

While we did have a blanket contract with the supplier, it did not have sufficient capacity to cover repair. Due to the manual processing of raking all material we needed to start repairs immediately.

### Thrive Lens Analysis

This action advances the Thrive Outcome of Stewardship. Public financial resources will be invested efficiently and effectively to maintain and restore existing capacity to existing wastewater infrastructure.

### Funding

The cost for the new belt is \$181,006.35. This will be funded out of MCES operating expenses.

### Small Business Inclusion

This is an emergency declaration project procured through a sole source agreement. Therefore, the Office of Equity and Equal Opportunity (OEEEO) did not establish a small business inclusion goal.



Metropolitan Council  
 Contracts & Procurement  
 390 Robert Street North  
 St. Paul, Minnesota 55101-1805

## EMERGENCY DECLARATION FORM

“A declared public emergency is an emergency situation in which the health, safety or welfare of the public or the safety of Metropolitan Council employees or facilities is compromised or potentially compromised and requires immediate action to correct.”

I REQUEST THAT A PUBLIC EMERGENCY BE DECLARED, BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING:

Describe the nature of the emergency situation.

The grit and solids Conveyance system from the bar screens in the headworks building at the Seneca Plant has failed and no longer meets the level of service required.

Explain why this situation is a present, immediate, and existing emergency.

With the automated conveyance system inoperable, it requires two employees, working two 12-hour shifts, 7 days a week, to remove the grit and solids deposited by 3 bar screens on the conveyor by hand.

Explain how this emergency does or will affect the healthy, safety, or welfare of the public or the safety of Metropolitan Council employees or facilities.

Requiring employees to remove grit and solids material from the conveyance system, presents an issue with meeting the level of service and completing other responsibilities necessary in the plant. Handling some materials presents a safety risk to employees as well as slips, trips, falls, and body strains dumping containers into a dumpster.

Describe the supplies or services which must be acquired to remedy this emergency situation, including the estimated cost.

This system was installed in 1991 and has had routine maintenance performed on a regular basis. It must now be rebuilt and upgraded to the current model. It will require all new parts to be installed with the exception of the main supporting structure. This will require the OEM to supply the parts and complete the installation of the system.

Estimated Cost: \$181,006.35

Identify how you chose the contractor(s).

The OEM of this system, Serpentix Conveyor Corp. is a sole source for many of the conveyance systems at MCES locations.

SERPENTIX CONVEYOR CORP

Vendor code 024303-00

Blanket Contract B00920

I hereby certify that the information presented on this form is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief. Copy/paste names/dates out of approved Emergency Declaration Form

Requestor Signature: Tierney, John 5/17/2022 9:14 AM

Supervisor Signature: White, Daniel 5/17/2022 11:23 AM

Division Director/General Manager Signature: Paske, Sam 5/17/2022 12:13 PM

Signature Date

Based on the above information, an emergency situation exists within the meaning of the Council Procurement Policy. Carrying out the competitive bidding process and the technical requirements of the Council's Procurement Policy and awaiting Council declaration of an emergency and approval for the purchase of materials or supplies or the making of emergency repairs would significantly and unacceptably delay the commencement of repair work on the above-referenced project. The Metropolitan Council, by its Procurement Policy, has delegated authority to the Regional Administrator to declare an emergency on behalf of the Council in such cases. Therefore, I declare on behalf of the Metropolitan Council, that an emergency exists as described above and that the emergency situation requires the immediate purchase of materials or supplies or the making of emergency repairs. I authorize the General Manager/Division Director named above to let appropriate contracts and make payments for the purchase of materials or supplies or the making of repairs necessary to meet the emergency situation without advertising for bids,

Metropolitan Council

without meeting other technical requirements of Council Procurement Policy, and without prior approval of the Council. If the costs to correct the emergency situation total \$100,000 or more, I direct that this emergency declaration and any such contracts and/or payments be presented to the Metropolitan Council for formal ratification at its next meeting.

Regional Administrator Signature: Bogie, Mary

5/18/2022 1:49 PM

Signature

Date

