

E Environment Committee

For the Metropolitan Council meeting of January 28, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: January 14, 2009

Subject: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Amendment to Contract No. 06P181 with Barr Engineering for Water Supply Availability Analysis

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract Number 06P181 with Barr Engineering from \$240,325 to \$260,325 in order to provide additional calibration and sensitivity analysis of the Metropolitan Groundwater Model 2.0.

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

The proposed action was moved, seconded, and passed unanimously.

E Environment Committee

Meeting date: January 13, 2008

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of January 28, 2008

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: December 9, 2009

Subject: Authorization to Negotiate and Execute Amendment to Contract No. 06P181 with Barr Engineering for Water Supply Availability Analysis

District(s), Member(s): All

Policy/Legal Reference: Council Policy 3-3 Expenditures, Minnesota Statute 473.1565

Staff Prepared/Presented: Keith Buttleman (651) 602-1015, Chris Elvrum (651) 602-1066

Division/Department: MCES c/o William G. Moore (651) 602-1162

Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council authorize its Regional Administrator to negotiate and execute an amendment to Contract Number 06P181 with Barr Engineering from \$240,325 to \$260,325 in order to provide additional calibration and sensitivity analysis of the Metropolitan Groundwater Model 2.0.

Background

The Minnesota Legislature in the 2005 special session directed the Metropolitan Council to initiate a metropolitan area water supply planning effort. The overall objective of this planning effort is to assess matters related to water supply for the Twin Cities metropolitan area and to develop a master plan to guide regional water supply development. The planning process proposed in the current draft of the Master Water Supply Plan has had widespread support from the Metropolitan Area Water Supply Advisory Committee and other stakeholders. The plan relies heavily on the Metropolitan Model 2.0, which was developed by Barr Engineering to assess water supply availability across the region.

Technical stakeholders were engaged during the development of the Metropolitan Model 2.0 and agreed that the model methods developed were appropriate. They suggested that additional information be incorporated into future updates (recalibrations) of the model.

During public review of the Master Water Supply Plan, stakeholders stated that, based on the current model calibration and the process for applying model results set forth in the Master Plan, an additional model calibration prior to publication of the Master Plan will ensure the most reliable and acceptable results.

Council staff conferred with regional groundwater modeling experts and agreed that an additional calibration is warranted and should be conducted prior to publication of the Master Plan.

Rationale

Additional calibration of Metropolitan Model 2.0 will increase the confidence of technical experts, regulators and the municipalities who are most directly affected by the plan. While Council staff could conduct the recalibration given enough time, Barr Engineering has the staff and expertise to conduct a high quality calibration in a short time-frame.

Although there is no statutory deadline for completing the Master Plan, the original project timeline projected completion in late 2008 or early 2009.

Contracts with an amount exceeding \$250,000 require Metropolitan Council authorization.

Funding

Funding for this project comes from the approximately \$2 million in Council funds authorized for use in the Council's water supply planning initiative by the legislature in the 2005 special session. Approximately \$1,732,000 has been or is anticipated to be spent on the project, leaving \$268,000 for continued efforts such as this. Attached is a general budget outline for the overall master planning initiative.

Known Support / Opposition

Support for the work this amendment would make possible has been expressed by a variety of agency and local water supply officials and modeling experts.

Water Supply Master Planning Budget – (2006-2008)

Contaminant Mapping (Dakota County)	\$25,000
Regional Assessment Contract (AMEC Inc.)	\$167,000
Regional Assessment Contract (RW Beck Inc.)	\$220,000
Outreach (Richardson Richter and Assoc.)	\$9,000
Resource Availability (Barr Engineering)	\$245,000
Options and Funding Analysis (EFG)	\$27,000
Synoptic Groundwater Level Measurement (USGS)	\$34,000
Hydrogeologic Mapping (Minnesota Geological Survey)	\$130,000
Master Plan Prep (Practical Comm.)	\$25,000
Surface Water Assessment (USGS)	\$80,000
Council Staff	\$770,000
- Overall project management	
- Water use evaluation	
- Water conservation toolbox and effectiveness	
- Groundwater recharge/susceptibility	
- Ground/surface water evaluation	
Contingency	\$268,000
Total	\$2,000,000