

M Management Committee

For the Metropolitan Council Meeting of October 28, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date Prepared: October 29, 2009

Subject: Technical Amendments to Legal Services Agreements; No Budget Impacts

Proposed Action:

That the Metropolitan Council authorizes the General Counsel to amend legal services agreements to increase the maximum contract prices as follows:

<u>Law Firm</u>	<u>Services</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Current Price</u>	<u>Proposed Increase</u>	<u>New Price</u>
Dorsey Whitney	Legal Services related to Public Finance Matters Contract No. C9868	03/01/98- 12/31/10	\$575,000	\$100,000	\$675,000
Landrum Dobbins	Legal Services related to Housing, Diversity, Administrative Proceedings Contract No. 02P073	06/01/02- 12/31/10	\$100,000	\$50,000	\$150,000
Nikolai Mersereau	Legal Services related to Intellectual Property Rights, General Litigation	05/01/08- 12/31/09	\$125,000	\$75,000	\$200,000

Summary of Committee Discussion / Questions:

General Counsel Don Muetting and Deputy Counsel Dave Theisen presented the proposed amendments to the Committee and gave a brief description for the increase pertaining to contract terms and budget information.

Management Committee

Business Item

Item: 2009-389

Meeting date: October 28, 2009

ADVISORY INFORMATION

Date: September 28, 2009

Subject: Technical Amendments to Legal Services Agreements; No Budget Impacts

District(s), Member(s):

Policy/Legal Reference: Minnesota Statute § 473.129, subd. 3

Staff Prepared/Presented: Don Muetting, General Counsel
651.602.1463

Division/Department: Office of General Counsel

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Background

The Office of General Counsel procures outside legal services for various public law matters. These service contracts are typically awarded through a process of competitive negotiation using a formal or informal RFP process. The Contract Price set in each agreement represents a cap on the amount payable; it is a "ceiling," and not a guarantee or entitlement. Regardless of any Contract Price, the actual amount paid under a legal services agreement is based upon: actual services requested and rendered; and, the budget amount(s) approved by the Metropolitan Council.

Rationale

When Contract Prices exceed \$250,000, each subsequent amendment must be approved by the Metropolitan Council. The proposed amendment would allow the General Counsel to pay for essential legal services.

Funding

No funding implications or impacts.

Known Support / Opposition

None

