



## Other Business

Meeting date: August 26, 2009

### ADVISORY INFORMATION

**Date:** August 13, 2009  
**Subject:** Establish Demand Charge Task Force and Appoint Members and Chair  
**District(s), Member(s):** All  
**Policy/Legal Reference:** Water Resources Management Policy Plan (WRMPP)  
**Staff Prepared/Presented:** Peter Bell, Chair  
**Division/Department:** Chair's Office

### Proposed Action

That the Metropolitan Council approve Chair Bell's recommendation to establish a demand charge task force to develop specific recommendations for a demand charge for excessive inflow and infiltration into the metropolitan sewer system, and further to appoint the following members and Council Member Wendy Wulff as Chair of the Task Force:

	<u>Community</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>
1.	Apple Valley	Hedberg, Ron	Finance Director
2.	Bloomington	Cockriel, Bob	Utilities Superintendent
3.	Brooklyn Park	Watson, Jon	Public Utilities Superintendent
4.	Chanhassen	Oehme, Paul	Public Works Director
5.	Eagan	Colbert, Tom	Public Works Director
6.	Edina	Struve, Jesse	Utility Engineer
7.	Fridley	Kosluchar, Jim	Director of Public Works
8.	Golden Valley	Clancy, Jeannine	Director of Public Works
9.	Lakeville	Petree, Christopher	Operations & Maintenance Director
10.	Little Canada	Rueckert, Shelly	Finance Director
11.	Maple Plain	Ziemer, Jason	City Administrator
12.	MetroCities	Nauman, Patty	Executive Director
13.	Metropolitan Council	Wulff, Wendy	Council Member, District 16
14.	Minneapolis	Cerney, Lisa	Public Works
15.	Richfield	Hintgen, Robert	Public Works Utility Superintendent
16.	Roseville	Schwartz, Duane	Public Works Director
17.	Saint Paul	Elder, Bruce	Sewer Utility Manager
18.	Waconia	Schwinn, Jennifer	Director of Finance
19.	West Saint Paul	Lewis, Darlene	City Council Member

### Background

The inflow/infiltration (I/I) policy adopted by the Metropolitan Council as part of the Water Resources Management Policy Plan (WRMPP) established that the Council will not provide additional capacity to serve any excessive I/I which enters into the regional sanitary sewer system. Further, starting in 2013 the Council is to implement a wastewater demand charge for communities that continue to require service for such excessive I/I.

MCES customer forums were held in June 2009 and introduced communities to the proposed development process for the demand charge and volunteers were solicited. In addition, on 7/24/09 MCES sent letters to all customer communities asking for volunteers. The task force will develop recommendations for details of the charge and its implementation. It also may review the 2013 date for first implementation of the charge.

The recommendation above is the complete list of volunteers made known to staff (through August 13). Members include representatives with finance, public works or utilities backgrounds. Further, some represent communities with I/I problems now, some that have completed their I/I obligations (under the MCES surcharge program) and some that have not had I/I observed by MCES.

### **Rationale**

While the local mitigation of I/I has been successful in eliminating some of this excessive I/I, some remains in the system and it is expected to be a long-term challenge to keep the I/I level low. Without additional mitigation, MCES and our ratepayers will face capital expenses for infrastructure to convey and treat the excessive I/I.

### **Funding**

The task force's administrative costs will be small and will be managed within MCES' adopted 2009 operating budget and proposed operating budget for 2010.

### **Known Support / Opposition**

Generally, community staff and MetroCities have expressed support for the idea of the task force developing a detailed recommendation for this future charge.