



**Request for City Council Committee Action
From the Department of Public Works**

Date: January 28, 2014

To: Honorable Kevin Reich, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee
Honorable John Quincy, Chair Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Metropolitan Council I/I Clean Water Grant Fund Program Agreement

Recommendation:

Authorize the proper City Officials to enter into and execute an agreement with the Metropolitan Council for the Clean Water Fund Grant Program to provide property owner financial assistance for repairs to private sewer services.

Previous Directives:

- None

Prepared by: Kelly Moriarity, Principal Professional Engineer 673-3617
Lisa Cerney, P.E., Director, Surface Water and Sewers

Approved by:

Steven A. Kotke, P.E., City Engineer, Director of Public Works

Presenters: Kelly Moriarity, Principal Professional Engineer, Public Works,
Surface Water and Sewers

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval NA Date _____

Civil Rights Approval Approval NA Date _____

Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval NA Date _____

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Action is within the Business Plan

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification:

City Goals: A SAFE PLACE TO CALL HOME: the City's infrastructure will be well maintained, people will feel safe in the city.

Comprehensive Plan:

Zoning Code:

Background/Supporting Information

The Metropolitan Council Environmental Services (MCES) has been working with municipalities to reduce excessive flow of clear water (also called inflow and infiltration or I/I) in local wastewater collection systems to reduce peak flows to their treatment plant facilities and thus reduce or eliminate the need for capital improvements to expand the regional system.

Aging private sewer service laterals and foundation drains contribute to clear water flow in the sanitary sewer system. The 2013 Minnesota Legislature appropriated \$1,000,000 in Clean Water Fund monies to help property owners make certain repairs to reduce I/I. The Met Council is passing 100% of the funding on to eligible cities to disseminate to property owners.

Repairs eligible for the grant include rehabilitation or replacement of any sewer service lateral between the building and the City sewer, and foundation drain disconnections. Property owners will be able to apply through the City for a grant to cover one-third of repair costs, with a maximum of \$2,000 per site. Property owners are eligible for reimbursement of expenses incurred for work inspected no earlier than July 1, 2013. The details of the grant process and eligible repairs and costs are shown in Attachment A.

The communications plan for promoting the grant program to property will include, but is not limited to: working with Communications on a press release, social media resources, placing information on the City website, in utility bill inserts and through the utility connections office.

Recommendation

Public Works requests that the proper City officials be authorized to enter into and execute an agreement with the Metropolitan Council for the Clean Water Fund Grant Program to provide property owners financial assistance with repairs to private sewer services.

Public Works also requests that the Director of Public Works or his designee be the authorized representative for the City for participation in the Grant program.

Attachment A – Grant Program Details