



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

Date: January 4, 2011

To: Honorable Sandra Colvin Roy, Chair Transportation & Public Works Committee

Subject: **Contract Amendment #1 - University of Minnesota Collaborative Powdered Activated Carbon Research Project**

Recommendation:

Authorize the execution of an amendment to contract number C-28122 with the Regents of the University of Minnesota increasing the contract by \$25,000 for laboratory services to a total contract price of \$195,000. Funds are available within the project budget (Water 07400/6900400/507000).

Previous Directives:

On April 2, 2010 the City Council authorized the proper City officers to enter into an agreement with the Board of Regents of the University of Minnesota to conduct research in determining the most effective type and use of powder activated carbon in drinking water for taste and odor control.

Prepared by: Annika M. Bankston, Senior Professional Engineer 661-4975

Approved by:

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

Presenter: Annika M. Bankston, Sr. Professional Engineer, Department of Public Works, Water Treatment & Distribution Services

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC):	Approval	___	Date	_____
Civil Rights Approval	Approval	___	Date	_____
Policy Review Group (PRG):	Approval	___	Date	_____

Financial Impact:

No financial impact.

Community Impact

City Goal: “Lifelong Learning – Second to None,” strategic direction to “Embrace the U’s Outreach & Land-Grant Expertise”: the city will fully realize the benefits of having renowned educational and research institutions such as the U of M.

Background/Supporting Information

The Division of Water Treatment & Distribution Services typically spends approximately \$1 million each year for Powdered Activated Carbon (PAC). This treatment additive is used to address taste and odor challenges presented by our river source water supply and can be added at various locations in the treatment process. In August 2010, the City and the University of Minnesota executed an agreement for a sponsored research project to evaluate impacts of the softening process on PAC effectiveness and provide insights to utilize this key additive more effectively.

When executing the initial agreement, the University’s principle investigators indicated the desire for the City to enter into a separate agreement with the Department of Civil Engineering for laboratory testing services associated with the research project. Efforts were made by City and University staff to determine the appropriate terms of such an agreement. Since that time, the University has indicated their desire to include the necessary testing services in the existing sponsored project contract. The City will be invoiced for services in two separate lump sums at the end of 2011 and at the end of the project in 2012 after laboratory services associated with the research have been completed.

Funding for this research, including the testing services, has been allocated in the 2011 and 2012 Division budgets. Executing the requested amendment will enable the overall project to be tracked under one contract.