



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

Date: March 23, 2009

To: Honorable Paul Ostrow, Chair Ways & Means Committee

Subject: Minneapolis Economic Recovery Strategy: consulting pool agreement for the design and construction of dewatering system improvements at Minneapolis Water Works.

Recommendation:

Authorize the proper City officers to negotiate and execute an agreement with a consultant(s) from the Public Works Consulting Pool for engineering design and construction supervision of the Dewatering Plant Improvements Project at the City of Minneapolis Water Works Facility in an amount of approximately \$2,000,000, notwithstanding the terms set forth in the Master Service Agreement setting the maximum fee per Consulting Pool project at \$300,000. Funds are available within the existing project budget.

Previous Directives:

None

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Approved by:

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

Presenters: Robert Verke P.E. Principal Professional Engineer, Water Treatment and Distribution

Reviews

Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval ___ Date 3-12-03

Civil Rights Approval Approval ___ Date NA

Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval ___ Date NA

Financial Impact

No financial impact

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification:

City Goals:

Comprehensive Plan:

Zoning Code:

Background/Supporting Information

The Water Works existing Dewatering Plant was constructed in 1972 and has been in service for more than 35 years. The current dewatering process utilizes two gravity thickeners, four centrifuges, and seven treatment residuals settling lagoons. By today's standards, using centrifuges is inefficient, costly and not environmentally friendly. The centrifuges have been rebuilt numerous times and have reached the end of their useful life.

The treatment residual solids (cake) separated by the centrifuges are hauled from the Dewatering Plant by tanker trucks and applied to farm lands. The centrifuge wastewater (centrate) is pumped to the lagoons for further solid separation and drying. When sufficiently dried, the solids material is then loaded on trucks and hauled to farm lands. The decant water from the lagoons is treated to EPA standards and discharged to the Mississippi River.

In 2002, the Water Works hired CH2M Hill to conduct a study to analyze and evaluate our solids management processes. The study considered various technologies and equipment, such as belt presses, filter presses, and vacuum filters and centrifuges. The study also considered regulatory requirements from various government agencies such as Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) and Minnesota Department of Health (MDH). The study recommended filter press as a replacement to the existing system. The new system will improve performance and operation that will increase capture of solids, resulting in less hauling and liquid waste which has to be treated and discharged to the River. The estimated project cost for the Filter Press is \$18 million.

Water Works is pursuing American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009 (ARRA) dollars for this project. These dollars will be distributed on a first come first serve basis for projects "Ready to Proceed". To be as timely as practical, we chose to parallel path internal processes and go to T&PW on March 10th as well as the PRC on March 12th concurrently. Just following our presentation to the PRC, we received a copy of the Minnesota Public Facilities Authority (PFA) Public Notice on how to capture the ARRA 2009 funds. It is now apparent that the only means of meeting the required timeline is to issue a contract for the design of this project to begin on March 27th and to be completed as soon as possible. The following is the requested timeline to accomplish the work.

1. March 27th 2009
 - a. The City must request the construction phase of the Dewatering Plant Upgrade project be added to the 2009 PFA Amended use plan.
 - b. The City enters into contract/s for design engineering services with PW pool consultant/s best able to meet the design requirements and the timelines herein.
2. July 4th 2009
 - a. The City submits its completed design plans and specifications to the MDH for approval.
 - b. The City releases the plans and specifications for bid.
3. August 3rd
 - a. The City opens bids and recommends award of the construction contract
4. August 10th
 - a. The City must submit Ready to Proceed project to the PFA for approval. The package must include MDH certified plans and as-bid costs.
5. August 28th
 - a. Council award of Construction Contract

Funds are available within the 2009 capital appropriation for the design portion of the project. Due to the accelerated nature of the ARRA, we anticipate returning to the City Council to adjust the timing of the remaining appropriation.