

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b> August 27, 2012
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b> 45 <b>Roll Call No.</b> <u>12-1381</u> <b>Communication No.</b> <u>12-455</u> <b>Submitted by:</b> Jeb E. Brewer, P.E., City Engineer, and William G. Stowe, Public Works Director

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving and authorizing the execution of a 28E agreement with various entities for the Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Authority.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of the 28E Agreement with various Counties and Cities that make up the entire Fourmile Creek Watershed in order to establish a Watershed Management Authority. This Authority will allow for improved coordination of policies and projects within the watershed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

Amount: N/A

Funding Source: The Authority itself will not levy any fees. Any future project policy within the watershed requiring funding shall be budgeted and funded through the normal City budgeting process.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

During the last ten-years, the Fourmile Creek, within the City of Des Moines, has experienced significant flooding. In order to mitigate impacts due to flooding, the City has acquired flood-damaged properties within the Fourmile Watershed and other watersheds. In addition to these buy-outs, the City entered into a cooperative agreement with Polk County, Ankeny, and Pleasant Hill to perform a comprehensive watershed study. This study has currently examined the existing hydrology and hydraulics and developed a more detailed and accurate forecast of future flooding. The next phase of the study will be to develop recommended actions to mitigate flooding. The City of Des Moines has already begun mitigation actions through an extensive buy-out program. However, future projects could involve other jurisdictions within the Watershed. The proposed Watershed Management Authority provides a framework to coordinate the various communities' mitigation activities. The Authority also allows for the opportunity to apply for State planning grants. These grants will assist in watershed wide policy development necessary to control future increases in flooding. The Authority does not have any powers to tax or levy fees or purchase property. The Authority is a coordination body. Any projects would require an individual community to be a sponsor. If a project were ever cost shared, individual cost sharing agreements would be developed at the time of the project initiation.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: December 20, 2010

Roll Call Number: [10-2087](#)

Action: [Agreement](#) for Cooperative Public Service between Polk County and the Cities of Ankeny, Des Moines and Pleasant Hill for the Fourmile Creek Watershed Study, not to exceed \$150,000. ([Council Communication No. 10-755](#)). Moved by Moore to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

**BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE**

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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