

 <p style="text-align: center;">Council Communication Office of the City Manager</p>	Date: August 10, 2015
	Agenda Item No. 9 Roll Call No. <u>15-1337</u> Communication No. <u>15-446</u> Submitted by: Pamela S. Cooksey, P.E., City Engineer

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving Agreement between the Department of the Army and the City of Des Moines for the Des Moines Levee System.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Federal Cost Share Agreement between the Department of the Army and the City of Des Moines for a feasibility study of the Des Moines and Raccoon Rivers to evaluate the impacts of the increased flood risk identified in the 2010 Des Moines River Regulated Flow Frequency Study.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$3,000,000 (\$1,300,000 City share maximum)

Funding Source: 2015-2016 CIP, Page Storm – 6, Flood Mitigation Improvements, SM087, Being: \$1,700,000 in federal funds and \$1,300,000 (maximum) in Storm Revenue Bonds.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Following the 2008 Midwest flood, the Corps of Engineers (COE) performed the Des Moines River Regulated Flow Frequency Study (DMRRFFS) to estimate the frequency and magnitude of future reservoir outflows and downstream river flows. Issued in January 2011, the results of the study showed that flow frequencies have increased over previous COE estimates, and that floods like the 1993 and 2008 events are more likely to occur than previously estimated. In addition to identifying the higher risk of flooding, the study showed that the existing levees in downtown Des Moines do not provide reliable protection against a 100-year flood thus effecting accreditation of the levees and affecting FEMA flood hazard mapping.

Following release of the DMRRFFS, the City initiated professional services with Stantec Consulting Services to develop a program of improvements that reduce flood risk, working through the COE Section 408 Approvals and satisfying FEMA accreditation requirements. This agreement with the COE is part of the City’s strategy of pursuing parallel paths to reduce flood risk and achieve accredited flood protection. The COE has indicated that a portion of the work being done by the City may be used as credit toward the City’s cost share. By entering into this agreement with the COE, the City may be able to utilize future federal funding for a portion of the planned improvements.

The COE Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 Work Plan includes \$300,000 for the Des Moines Levee System. Draft appropriations for FY2016 include \$700,000 for the study.

This agreement will result in a feasibility study that includes identification and evaluation of alternatives and the preparation of a decision document that recommends a coordinated and implementable solution for enhancement of the Des Moines levee system flood protection. The study will include evaluation of DM-I, DM-II, DM-III and South East Des Moines levees.

Professional services with Stantec Consulting Services for levee assessment and analysis will be included on the next Council agenda for consideration.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: June 8, 2015

Roll Call Number: [15-0978](#)

Action: [Submission](#) of an Iowa Flood Mitigation joint application with the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority (WRA) to the Homeland Security and Emergency Management Department, and approving a second amendment to the 28E Agreement by and between the City of Des Moines, Iowa and the Des Moines Metropolitan Wastewater Reclamation Authority for the Joint Application for Administration and Funding of a Project Plan Pursuant to the Iowa Flood Mitigation Program. ([Council Communication No. 15-303](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: June 24, 2013

Roll Call Number: [13-1059](#)

Action: [Approving](#) Professional Services Agreement with Stantec Consulting Services Inc, for professional services in conjunction with the levee assessment and analysis, not to exceed \$1,558,000. ([Council Communication No. 13-321](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 7-0.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Professional services for levee assessment and design, design agreement with the COE and flood.

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