

 <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Council</b> <b>Communication</b> Office of the City Manager</p>	<b>Date:</b>	December 18, 2017
	<b>Agenda Item No.</b>	<b>36</b>
	<b>Roll Call No.</b>	<u><b>17-2157</b></u>
	<b>Communication No.</b>	<u><b>17-845</b></u>
	<b>Submitted by:</b>	<b>Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director</b>

**AGENDA HEADING:**

Approving and authorizing the execution of a 28E agreement with various entities for the North and Middle Rivers Watershed Management Authority.

**SYNOPSIS:**

Recommend approval of the 28E Agreement with various counties and cities that make up the entire North and Middle Rivers Watershed 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:**

- The North and Middle Rivers watershed encompasses 950 square miles in Adair, Madison, Polk, and Warren counties including approximately 11.5 square miles within the City of Des Moines. Entities eligible to become a member of the watershed include the cities of Carlisle, Cumming, Des Moines, Norwalk, Van Meter, and West Des Moines; the counties of Adair, Madison, Polk, and Warren; and the Adair, Madison, Polk, and Warren County Soil and Water Conservation Districts.
- The proposed Watershed Management Authority provides a framework to coordinate the various communities' flood and water quality mitigation activities. The Authority also allows for the opportunity to apply for state planning grants. These grants will assist in developing a watershed management plan to identify water quality and flooding concerns and recommend projects and policies throughout the watershed. 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. The City has previously joined the Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Authority and Walnut Creek Watershed Management Authority, and Beaver Creek Watershed Management Authority, making North and Middle Rivers the fourth watershed management authority that the City will have joined.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S): NONE**

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS: NONE**

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