


## COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	<b>20-471</b>	Meeting:	<b>November 9, 2020</b>
	Agenda Item:	<b>40</b>	Roll Call:	<b>20-1783</b>
	Submitted by:	<b>Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director</b>		

### AGENDA HEADING:

Approving new cooperative agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support metro area Watershed Management Authorities (WMA).

### SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the new Cooperative Agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support Walnut Creek, Fourmile Creek, Mud-Camp-Spring Creek, and Beaver Creek Watershed Management Authorities.

### FISCAL IMPACT:

Amount: \$37,000 annually for the duration of the agreement

Funding Source: 2020-21 Operating Budget, Public Works Department, Stormwater Utility Management, PW248423, p. 225

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- The City is a member of the Walnut Creek, Fourmile Creek, and Beaver Creek Watershed Management Authorities (WMAs). Each WMA was created to support cooperation among communities to address water quality and flooding issues with an approach that considers the entire watershed. Each WMA received a grant from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), which funded the development of a watershed management plan. The Fourmile Creek Watershed Management Plan was completed in April 2015. The Walnut Creek Watershed Master Plan was completed in June 2016. The Beaver Creek Watershed Management Plan was completed in January 2020. Each plan identifies recommendations for improvements, education strategies, and policies that member communities can each choose to implement to support the overall betterment of the watersheds. Since the WMAs do not have staff or a permanent funding source, it has been proposed that Polk County provide staff that can support the implementation of plan recommendations among member communities. The support services will include coordination of meetings, water quality monitoring, education and outreach, seeking out funding sources, and supporting efforts to improve ordinances related to stormwater management.

- Polk County will provide watershed coordination services in the amount of \$165,000 annually for the duration of this agreement. Polk County is seeking funding from 20 members of the four (4) metro area WMAs to contribute to the cost of providing watershed coordination services. Each member community's contribution is based on population and drainage area within the watersheds. Polk County will provide \$65,595 annually, the City of Des Moines will provide \$37,000 annually, and the remaining annual cost of \$62,405 will be provided by other members of the four (4) WMAs.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):**

Date: September 25, 2017

Roll Call Number: [17-1662](#)

Action: [Cooperative](#) Agreement with Polk County to provide watershed coordination services to support metro area watershed management authorities, \$37,000. ([Council Communication No. 17-669](#)) Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Cownie.

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

**ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:**

This agreement will continue annually funding of the watershed management coordination services at the defined levels until either the City of Des Moines or Polk County request a change or termination of the agreement.

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