


COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

	Number:	25-348	Meeting:	September 29, 2025
	Agenda Item:	49	Roll Call:	25-1306
	Submitted by:	Jonathan A. Gano, P.E., Public Works Director		

AGENDA HEADING:

Approving agreement with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) for the operation and maintenance of five (5) stream gaging stations, and authorizing negotiation and execution of cost-sharing agreements with City of West Des Moines and Des Moines Water Works.

SYNOPSIS:

Recommend approval of the Joint Funding Agreement for Water Resources Investigations for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2025/2026 between the USGS, being an agency of the United States Department of the Interior, and the City of Des Moines. The Joint Funding Agreement provides for operation and maintenance of five (5) stream gaging stations within the Raccoon River and Des Moines River watersheds. It is also recommended to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and execute cost share agreements with the City of West Des Moines and with Des Moines Water Works after approval as to form by the Legal Department.

FISCAL IMPACT:

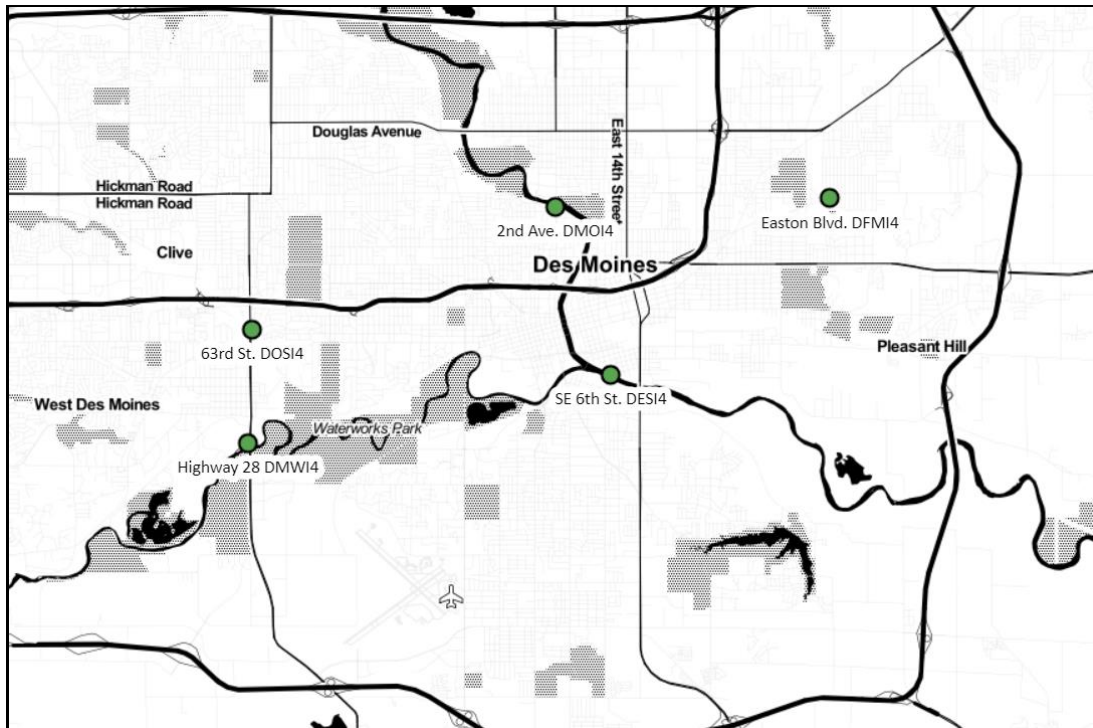
Amount: The total cost for the period of October 1, 2025, to September 30, 2026, is \$67,220

Funding Source: Operating Budget, Flood Early Warning System Maintenance Fund, PW248425

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- Resources Investigations which provides for operation and maintenance of river and stream gaging stations which are located at 63rd Street on Walnut Creek, Easton Boulevard on Four-Mile Creek, Fleur Drive on the Raccoon River, 63rd Street on the Raccoon River, and 2nd Avenue on the Des Moines River. This year, the Van Meter gage on the Raccoon River is again fully federally funded and not included in this agreement. The Joint Funding Agreement for FFY 2025/2026 covers the operations and maintenance for the five (5) gages for which the City of Des Moines is obligated to pay \$67,220, which is a \$3,000 increase from Fiscal Year 2025.
- Under Roll Call No. 15-1787, dated October 26, 2015, the Des Moines City Council approved a separate 28E funding agreement with the City of West Des Moines and the Des Moines Water Works to proportionally share the City of Des Moines cost for certain gages. This 28E agreement expires on January 1, 2026. The City Manager will negotiate cost share agreements with the City

of West Des Moines and with Des Moines Water Works to continue a cost share structure similar to the existing 28E agreement. If the terms of the existing 28E agreement are extended then the cost share amounts for the Joint Funding Agreement will be: \$44,750 Des Moines, \$14,020 West Des Moines, and \$8,450 Des Moines Water Works.



PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION(S):

Date: September 16, 2024

Roll Call Number: [24-1263](#)

Action: [Agreement](#) with the USGS for the operation and maintenance of five (5) stream gaging stations. ([Council Communication No. 24-354](#)) Moved by Gatto to adopt. Second by Voss. Motion Carried 7-0.

Date: October 26, 2015

Roll Call Number: [15-1787](#)

Action: [Agreement](#) with the USGS, U.S. Department of Interior for the operation and maintenance of five (5) stream gaging stations, and authorization for City Manager to negotiate a Joint Funding Agreement with West Des Moines and Water Works to share the cost of the gaging stations. Moved by Hensley to adopt. Motion Carried 6-1. Absent: Mahaffey.

BOARD/COMMISSION ACTION(S): NONE

ANTICIPATED ACTIONS AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS:

Agreements for continued stream gage operation will be presented annually for Council approval.

For more information on this and other agenda items, please call the City Clerk's Office at 515-283-4209 or visit the Clerk's Office on the first floor of City Hall, 400 Robert D Ray Drive. Council agendas are available to the public at the City Clerk's Office on Thursday afternoon preceding Monday's Council meeting. Citizens can also request to receive meeting notices and agendas by email by calling the Clerk's Office or sending their request via email to cityclerk@dmgov.org.