



Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago

100 East Erie Street
Chicago, IL 60611

Legislation Text

File #: 15-0618, **Version:** 1

TRANSMITTAL LETTER FOR BOARD MEETING OF JUNE 18, 2015

COMMITTEE ON PROCUREMENT

Mr. David St. Pierre, Executive Director

Issue a purchase order and enter into an agreement with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for Contract 15-833-5F Watershed Specific Release Rate Study, Phase I for the Illinois State Water Survey to conduct Phase I of a Watershed Specific Release Rate Study for the Watershed Management Ordinance, in an amount not to exceed \$423,000.00, Account 501-50000-601410, Requisition 1399595

Dear Sir:

Authorization is requested to issue a purchase order and enter into an agreement with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (U of I) for Contract 15-833-5F Watershed Specific Release Rate Study, Phase I for the Illinois State Water Survey (ISWS) to conduct Phase I of an eventual two part Watershed Specific Release Rate Study for the Watershed Management Ordinance (WMO).

This study will be conducted under the auspices of the Master Agreement between U of I and the District, authorized by the Board of Commissioners at the Board Meeting of September 19, 2002, and amended to extend the expiration date by the Board of Commissioners at the Board Meetings of October 16, 2003, May 3, 2007, December 16, 2010 and March 15, 2012.

The purpose of the Master Agreement is to allow the District to directly take advantage of the expertise offered by U of I. ISWS is one of five Prairie Research Institute state scientific surveys formed as a group under the auspices of U of I. ISWS is familiar with the District's existing Detailed Watershed Plan hydrologic models that will be used as a basis to calculate runoff rates to determine watershed specific release rates. Per §504.3 of the WMO, the allowable release rate for stormwater detention is 0.30 cfs/acre of development for a 100-year storm event throughout the County's six watershed areas. This will change to watershed specific release rates on May 1, 2019. To determine the specific release rates, hydrologic and hydraulic models will be used to simulate future impacts of changing land use while simultaneously accounting for the stormwater mitigation provided by the WMO. ISWS has experience with modeling and access to robust modeling and hardware capabilities through U of I. With their regulatory experience and access to mapping information, the ISWS is uniquely positioned to produce a defensible and objective standard in determining watershed specific release rates.

The entire study will be completed in two phases. Phase I, for which this authorization is sought, will evaluate two pilot study areas, the first being the East and West Branches of Stony Creek in the Calumet-Sag watershed which includes several combined sewer area sub-basins. These areas are representative of more urban and industrial development. The second pilot study area is the Upper Salt Creek, which includes sub-basins representing more suburban separate sewer areas. Phase I will determine recommended specific release rates

for the two pilot study areas and develop a streamlined methodology and set of assumptions that will be used in a follow-on Phase II study, which will determine the specific release rates for the remaining watershed areas. Authorization for the Phase II study will be sought separately, upon completion of the Phase I study.

The time to establish Phase I watershed specific release rates for the two pilot study areas is fifteen months at a total cost of \$398,000.00 with a \$25,000.00 contingency for a not to exceed cost of \$423,000.00.

Since the services to be provided are professional in nature, and the aforementioned university is reputable, it is recommended that the purchase order be issued without advertising, as per Section 11.4 of the Purchasing Act.

In view of the foregoing, it is recommended that the Director of Procurement and Materials Management be authorized to issue a purchase order and enter into an agreement with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, in an amount not to exceed \$423,000.00.

Funds for the 2015 expenditure, in the amount of \$170,000.00, are available in Account 501-50000-601410. The expected expenditure for 2016 is \$253,000.00 and is contingent on the Board of Commissioners' approval of the District's budget for that year.

Requested, Catherine A. O'Connor, Director of Engineering, WSS:JPM

Recommended, Darlene A. LoCascio, Director of Procurement and Materials Management

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara J. McGowan, Chairman Committee on Procurement

Disposition of this agenda item will be documented in the official Regular Board Meeting Minutes of the Board of Commissioners for June 18, 2015