

COMMISSION FILE NO: 25-164-12 **DATE INTRODUCED:** December 1, 2025

INTRODUCED BY: Executive Director (Signature on File in the Office of the Commission)

REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO: Policy, Finance, and Personnel Committee

RELATING TO: Authorization to Amend the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and City of Milwaukee Regarding the Kinnickinnic River Reach 2 Improvements between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street, Project W40012

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to authorize the Executive Director to amend the intergovernmental cooperation agreement (ICA) between the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District (District) and City of Milwaukee (City) regarding the Kinnickinnic (KK) River Reach 2 Improvements between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street, Project W40012.

The KK River Watercourse Management Plan (KKRWMP) identifies the number of structures in the floodplain and further identifies projects planned for implementation within the watershed. One key stream reach of the KKRWMP is the KK River Mainstem. Staff have divided the KK River Mainstem into individual reaches, including KK River Reach 2. Reach 2 limits are from S. 6th Street to S. 27th Street, and it is approximately 10,800 feet long.

Approximately 4,000 feet of the KK River Reach 2 flows between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street. The river channel was lined with concrete by the District in the 1960's and is reaching the end of its useful life.

ATTACHMENTS: BACKGROUND ☐ KEY ISSUES ☐ RESOLUTION ☒
FISCAL NOTE ☒ S/W/MBE ☐ OTHER ☐ _____

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COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Authorization to Amend the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and City of Milwaukee Regarding the Kinnickinnic River Reach 2 Improvements between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street, Project W40012

The scope of work for the KK River 6th to 16th Street Project (W40012) includes:

- Replacing over 4,000 linear feet of concrete channel with a wider naturalized watercourse. The channel will be widened by about 140 feet.
- Obtaining all real estate within the widened channel corridor:
 - Acquiring and removing 83 homes (82 acquired to date).
 - Street and alley vacations (completed or in process).
- Replacing six City-owned bridges (three vehicular and three pedestrian) with wider span bridges to accommodate the widened channel.
- Relocating City utilities to accommodate the widened channel.
- Installing maintenance and recreational trails along the naturalized watercourse.
- Installing green infrastructure at City-owned storm sewer outfalls.

In 2019, the District entered into an ICA with the City regarding design, construction, and ownership of assets. District policies regarding bridge costs for watercourse projects and utility relocations provided the basis for cost sharing.

Under the ICA, the District will:

- Manage and contract for design and construction, and pay 100% of the costs of:
 - 4,000 linear feet of concrete channel removal and naturalization of the widened watercourse channel.
 - Modifications to City-owned combined sewers and construction of new District sewer infrastructure between S. 6th Street and S. 8th Street.
 - Modifications to the City-owned water mains, storm sewers, streets, and alleys affected by the project.
- Manage and contract for design and construction and pay a portion of costs of (to be reimbursed by the City to the District):
 - Six City-owned replacement bridges (City cost share shown):
 - 8th Street Pedestrian Bridge – 23%.
 - 9th Place Vehicle Bridge – 32%.
 - 11th Street Pedestrian Bridge – 28%.
 - 13th Street Vehicle Bridge – 34%.
 - 15th Street Pedestrian Bridge – 29%.
 - 16th Street Vehicle Bridge – 35%.
 - Maintain trails that may be enhanced to recreational trails (enhancement at City cost, to be determined during design phase).

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

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Under the ICA, the City will:

- Manage, design, and contract for construction of combined sewer modifications between S. 8th and S. 14th Streets, which will be reimbursed at 100% by the District.
- Perform street lighting relocations between S. 6th Street and S. 13th Street, which will be reimbursed at 100% by the District.

In addition, the City will:

- Provide any City required permits to the District at no cost.
- Vacate streets and alleys within the project footprint between S. 6th Street and S. 13th Street.
- Own and maintain the bridges, combined and storm sewers, water mains, street lighting, street and alley improvements, and recreational enhancements to the maintenance trails.

Under the ICA, the District estimated that it would reimburse the City for costs estimated at \$3.1 million, and the City will reimburse the District for costs estimated at \$4.6 million, for a net reimbursement to the District estimated at \$1.5 million.

A significant portion of the District's estimated \$3.1 million reimbursement to the City was for the cost to manage, design, and contract for the relocation of a 66-inch combined sewer on the south bank of the KK River between S. 8th Street and S. 12th Street. Per the ICA, this work was to be completed by September 2021 at a not to exceed amount (cap) of \$2.4 million. At the District's request, the sewer work was delayed four years to ensure that the relocated sewer met the requirements of the District's ongoing channel design. The City substantially completed the construction of this work in summer 2025 and their costs exceeded the \$2.4 million cap. The City is finalizing contract and internal labor costs and estimates the total amount will be \$350,000 over the original cap.

To fully compensate the City for the sewer relocation costs, District staff request to increase the not to exceed amount for the relocation of the 66-inch sewer by \$350,000, for a revised not to exceed amount of \$2,750,000

RESOLUTION

Authorization to Amend the Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and City of Milwaukee Regarding the Kinnickinnic River Reach 2 Improvements between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street, Project W40012

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to amend the intergovernmental cooperation agreement between the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage District and City of Milwaukee regarding the Kinnickinnic River Reach 2 Improvements between S. 6th Street and S. 16th Street, Project W40012.