

**COMMISSION FILE NO:** 25-132-10 **DATE INTRODUCED:** October 13, 2025

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

**REFERRED BY COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON TO:** Operations Committee

**RELATING TO:** Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal Emergency Management Agency Levee Accreditation

**SUMMARY:**

The Commission is requested to authorize the Executive Director to execute on behalf of the District Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Levee Accreditation, with Arcadis U.S., Inc., (Arcadis) in an amount not to exceed \$546,565. Arcadis submitted the only proposal. Staff evaluated Arcadis's proposal in accordance with the District's scoring criteria, and Arcadis's overall evaluation is "very good".

Over the past 20 years, the District has been implementing the Menomonee River Watercourse Management Plan (MRWMP). The plan has identified 372 structures in the floodplain, of which, after District constructed improvements (totaling \$277 Million to date), 168 structures remain. Improvements include the County Grounds floodwater storage facility; concrete channel removal, channel widening, and stream restoration projects on Underwood Creek and the Menomonee River; and a floodwall and levee system adjacent to Hart Park.

The Hart Park and Western Milwaukee levee/floodwall systems work together as a system and were constructed as a series of projects starting in 2007. The final levee/floodwall segment (Phase 2B) is under construction and is estimated to be complete by the end of 2025. In addition, the District also owns the downstream Valley Park levee system. This levee system was designed in the late 1990's, constructed in 2001, and accredited by FEMA in 2006.

**ATTACHMENTS:** **BACKGROUND** ☐ **KEY ISSUES** ☐ **RESOLUTION** ☒  
**FISCAL NOTE** ☒ **S/W/MBE** ☒ **OTHER** ☐ \_\_\_\_\_

*OP\_Award\_W20034D01\_Sewer\_Rehabilitation\_FEMA\_Levee\_Accreditation\_legislative\_file.docx*  
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**COMMITTEE ACTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**COMMISSION ACTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## **SUMMARY (Cont'd)**

### **Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal Emergency Management Agency Levee Accreditation**

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One of the primary goals of the MRWMP is that structures protected by the levee system and currently in the FEMA regulatory floodplain will no longer be in that floodplain. Once a structure is out of this regulatory floodplain, not only is the structure at reduced risk of flooding, but the owner of a structure will no longer have a requirement to obtain flood insurance. The owner can still obtain flood insurance, but, as flood risks are reduced, flood insurance rates will also be reduced.

The Cities of Milwaukee and Wauwatosa (Cities), under FEMA regulations, are the local agencies responsible for administering and managing local floodplains. For structures to be removed from the regulatory floodplain, the Cities, in conjunction with the District, must develop and submit applications and supporting technical documentation to FEMA that demonstrate that the District's flood management efforts meet all regulatory requirements. The documentation package is called a Letter of Map Revision (LOMR) application. Part of this documentation includes demonstration that the levees meet FEMA and Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources requirements. FEMA will not review the LOMR application until all construction is complete and all documentation, including the levee accreditation information, is submitted. FEMA will then review the LOMR, and revisions may be necessary before the LOMR ultimately goes into effect. Due to the complexity of the MRWMP, staff anticipate that after submitting the LOMR application, it will take three years before FEMA approves the LOMR application and the floodplain maps are formally updated.

The District previously contracted with Arcadis to evaluate and identify improvements and steps necessary to have the Hart Park and Western Milwaukee levee systems accredited by FEMA. That evaluation identified storm and sanitary sewers associated with the Hart Park/Western Milwaukee levee system that must be rehabilitated, replaced, constructed, or abandoned to receive FEMA levee accreditation; however, the previous Arcadis contract did not include design of the identified improvements.

To implement the improvements recommended for FEMA accreditation, the District created Project W20034, Sewer Rehabilitation for FEMA Levee Accreditation. The purpose of this project is to address sewer system deficiencies and make system improvements that impact FEMA accreditation, ensuring the levees can be certified as protective flood control structures.

The sewers are owned by either the District, City of Wauwatosa, or Milwaukee County (County). Pipe sizes range from six-inch diameter to 120-inch diameter, and work will address over 7,000 feet of sewers, along with work on new or existing structures. Intergovernmental cooperation agreements between the District and the City of Wauwatosa and the District and the County address roles and responsibilities.

## **SUMMARY (Cont'd)**

Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal Emergency Management Agency Levee Accreditation

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Planned improvements include:

- Abandoning sewers.
- Rehabilitating concrete sewers through surface patching and joint grouting.
- Rehabilitating sewers with cured-in-place pipe lining.
- Constructing sewer extensions.
- Replacing existing sewer segments in poor condition.
- Constructing new outfall headwalls where storm sewers discharge to the river.
- Installing new flap gates at river outfalls.

Arcadis will provide the full range of engineering design services needed to plan, permit, and deliver the above improvements. Their responsibilities include:

- Project management.
- Preliminary design, including hydraulic modeling.
- Environmental site assessments.
- Field investigations.
- Permitting.
- Final design, including plans, specifications, cost estimates, and suggested flow control strategy.
- Assisting with packaging documentation to be submitted to FEMA.
- Bid and award services.
- Engineering services during construction.

After the design work is complete, the District will publicly bid the construction contract.

The total project cost for Project W20034, Sewer Rehabilitation for FEMA Levee Accreditation, will be decreased as part of the 2026 Capital Budget approval.

The duration of the contract is approximately 55 months.

## **RESOLUTION**

Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal  
Emergency Management Agency Levee Accreditation

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**RESOLVED**, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute Contract W20034D01, Engineering Services – Sewer Rehabilitation for Federal Emergency Management Agency Levee Accreditation, with Arcadis U.S., Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$546,565.