

COMMISSION FILE NO: 24-106-7 **DATE INTRODUCED:** July 8, 2024

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: Change Order Two Request, Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to authorize the Executive Director to execute Change Order Two to Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors, with the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, Inc., (MCSC) in an amount not to exceed \$184,000 for a total contract cost of \$360,000 and to extend the contract completion date to January 31, 2026.

Contract P-3130 is funded through a United States Department of Labor grant. Through this contract, MCSC will perform skills building tasks and activities to prepare participants for careers in the water industry, green infrastructure, and construction. The program will focus on conservation science; land stewardship; green infrastructure installation, operations, and maintenance; and forestry. MCSC recruits participants from the unemployed or underemployed population within the District's Service Area. Program participants receive job skills training, paid work experience, and Title I services. The goal of this program is to build a water industry workforce within the Milwaukee region with the necessary skills to work in the industry.

Change Order Two will allow for an additional 16 individuals to participate in the program in 2025, for a program total of 32 participants between 2024 and 2025. Furthermore, it provides additional staff time to improve recruitment and retainage strategies. Change Order Two also extends the contract end date to January 31, 2026.

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

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COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY

Change Order Two Request, Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors

CONTRACT COST CHANGES

	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE INCREASE OVER ORIGINAL CONTRACT	AUTHORIZED BY	SWMBE
Original Contract	\$88,000		Executive Director	0.0%
Change Order 1	\$88,000	100.00%	Executive Director	0.0%
Requested Change Order 2	\$184,000	209.09%	Request of Commission	0.0%
Total Change Orders	\$272,000	309.09%		0.0%
TOTAL	\$360,000			0.0%

BACKGROUND

Change Order Two Request, Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors

In 2023, the District received \$1 million in grant funding from the United States Department of Labor to undertake workforce programs over a period of three years (2023-2025). The grant is being used to fund apprenticeships, on-the-job training, skills building, and paid work experience. In 2023, the District released a request for proposal to create a second Fresh Coast Ambassador workforce crew to be comprised of young adults between the ages of 18-24 years old. MCSC was selected for this contract through this competitive process. The original contract included one crew of eight Fresh Coast Ambassadors in 2023 at a cost of \$88,000, with the option for annual renewal for up to five years.

Delays in grant contracting delayed the original schedule, and the contract was amended in November 2023 to allow for two cohorts of eight Fresh Coast Ambassadors each to be formed in 2024 for a total of \$176,000, an \$88,000 increase. The first cohort of eight Fresh Coast Ambassadors started the program on April 1, 2024, and completed it on June 28, 2024. The second cohort of eight Fresh Coast Ambassadors will begin on August 1, 2024, and complete on October 31, 2024. The two cohorts in 2024 will have a total of 16 participants. Change Order Two allows for a second year (2025) of the program that will include spring and summer cohorts and additional MCSC staff labor for recruitment and retention for a total of \$184,000. This increases the total contract cost to \$360,000.

The program objective is to train participants to acquire the required skills to enter and complete a pre-apprenticeship program that introduces them to careers in the water industry, specifically green infrastructure, flood management, land stewardship, and forestry. The program's curriculum is centered on job readiness, career exploration, experience, and career path development.

The program will:

1. Provide an opportunity for adults to receive training, certifications, and work experience in the water industry and conservation and stewardship careers.
2. Provide participants with an informative service-learning experience.
3. Provide leaders with high quality training and career readiness services.
4. Empower participants to realize their personal leadership potential, cultivate a conservation ethic, commit to lifelong environmental stewardship, and value service work to other people, the land, and water.
5. Introduce participants to new career possibilities with existing paths via apprenticeship or local higher education programs.

Goals

1. A total of 32 or more participants will receive hands-on green infrastructure training and participate in service projects over a period of two years.
2. Participants and leaders will participate in at least two future career planning sessions.

BACKGROUND (Cont'd)

Change Order Two Request, Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors

3. Each participant will receive a professional resume and display proficiency in interviewing skills.
4. Each participant will complete the program with a defined plan to seek and obtain full-time employment, further educational opportunities, or enter an apprenticeship.
5. The program will provide a wide breadth of experiences to explore potential water industry or conservation science careers.
6. Participants will register with the Wisconsin Job Center at the end of the program.

RESOLUTION

Change Order Two Request, Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute Change Order Two to Contract P-3130, Fresh Coast Works Ambassadors, with the Milwaukee Community Service Corps, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$184,000 for a total contract cost of \$360,000 and to extend the contract completion date to January 31, 2026.