

**COMMISSION FILE NO:** 23-157-12 **DATE INTRODUCED:** December 4, 2023

**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:** Approval of Contract W97004P08, Greenseams® Program Implementation for the Year 2024

**SUMMARY:**

The Commission is requested to authorize and to direct the Executive Director to execute Contract W97004P08, Greenseams® Program Implementation for the Year 2024, with the Conservation Fund (TCF) in an amount not to exceed \$449,854. TCF's proposed budget to carry out the program in 2024 is \$383,854 with an additional \$66,000 budgeted for subcontractors.

TCF has administered MMSD's Greenseams® Program since 2001 when it was selected through a competitive request for proposal process. Under this contract, TCF will act as the District's program manager for the Greenseams® Program. The duration of the contract is for one year, beginning January 1, 2024, and ending December 31, 2024. The District has ultimate oversight and decision making authority over this service, except with respect to the consultant's right to enter into contracts for sale of real estate in its own name and acquire property interests in its own name. This proposed agreement represents an increase of \$793, or less than one percent increase from the 2023 contract budget.

TCF will continue to provide the following consulting services through the contract:

- Project management,
- Data collection and analysis,
- Grant writing,
- Implementation planning, including real estate services, and
- Land management services for acquired properties.

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

*PFP\_Greenseams\_TCF\_Implementation\_2024\_Contract\_W97004P08\_legislative\_file.docx*  
10-30-23

**COMMITTEE ACTION:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

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

## **BACKGROUND**

### **Approval of Contract W97004P08, Greenseams® Program Implementation for the Year 2024**

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The District, in partnership with TCF, has successfully implemented the Greenseams® Program since 2001. This innovative program was designed to accomplish environmentally responsible flood management by permanently preserving critical floodplain areas and hydric soils. Undeveloped, vegetated lands reduce future flooding risks by storing and draining water into the ground naturally. Greenseams® complements the District's structural flood management projects and helps protect infrastructure investments worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Additionally, the Greenseams® Program helps the District satisfy the annual requirement in its current Wisconsin Pollution Discharge Elimination Systems permit for stormwater management using green infrastructure through the purchase and protection of hydric soils in wetlands and natural areas.

The Greenseams® Program makes voluntary purchases of undeveloped, privately owned properties in areas expected to experience major growth in the next 20 years. These sites contain water absorbing hydric soils typically found in floodplains and wetlands and along streams and shorelines.

To date, Greenseams® has purchased 150 parcels totaling 5,380 acres and restored 977 acres of land within the project boundary. Many of these purchases have been made in partnership with the Wisconsin Knowles Nelson Stewardship Fund, Wisconsin Coastal Management Program, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Fund for Lake Michigan, local land trusts, and area municipalities. Since 2001, the Greenseams® Program has leveraged over \$12 million in grant funding.

## RESOLUTION

Approval of Contract W97004P08, Greenseams® Program Implementation for the Year 2024

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**RESOLVED**, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized and directed to execute Contract W97004P08, Greenseams® Program Implementation for the Year 2024, with the Conservation Fund in an amount not to exceed \$449,854.