

**COMMISSION FILE NO:** 16-129-10 **DATE INTRODUCED:** October 10, 2016

**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 the 2016 Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program Contracts P-2684 and P-2688

**SUMMARY:**

The Commission is requested to authorize the Executive Director to execute two contracts, P-2684 and P-2688, under the Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program (Program) in the amount of \$382,778. The Program funding is requested in the 2017 Operations and Maintenance Budget. The District also received \$380,000 for this Program in the form of a Great Lakes Restoration Initiative (GLRI) grant from the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

The primary goal of these contracts is to improve urban stormwater management on residential properties in the Menomonee and Kinnickinnic River watersheds. The overall Program will enlist two active community groups to assist the District with resident engagement, outreach, and green infrastructure (GI) assessments on residential property over a two-year period. Additionally, this Program will demonstrate and document effective processes to empower community groups and residents to explore and install GI on residential property. The Program supports the District's 2035 Vision and implementation of the Regional GI Plan. Lastly, the Program will make steps toward achieving the District's Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit requirement of providing GI retention capacity of at least 12 million gallons from 2013-2017.

The two contracts for the Program are non-compete; the awards will be considered subawards under the GLRI grant agreement.

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

*PFP\_Building\_Fresh\_Coast\_GI\_Networks\_legislative\_file.docx*  
09-21-16

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

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

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

### **Approval of the 2016 Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program Contracts P-2684 and P-2688**

---

A \$380,000 GLRI grant was awarded to MMSD to scale up residential installations of GI and create a replicable model to be used in other urban areas. The Program will focus on neighborhood-scale GI outreach and installation within the Menomonee and Kinnickinnic River watersheds in southeastern Wisconsin. The Program will educate residents about stormwater, install GI strategies on residential properties and community spaces, and develop a neighborhood toolkit and related public outreach materials.

Through the two-year Program, MMSD will work with community partners to identify residential and community space opportunities and implement GI to capture and filter stormwater on the identified properties. Areas within the watersheds that are the most urbanized, as identified by the watershed plans, will be targeted for GI implementation to increase the effectiveness of the program. MMSD currently offers programs for GI implementation on public and private commercial/industrial lands, but has lacked the funding and staff to expand its small, but successful neighborhood-scale GI implementation programs into additional neighborhoods. The Program seeks to expand the past residential efforts and create a framework for future programs, narrowing a substantial gap in GI implementation and effectiveness on residential property.

The following contracts and partners are recommended for funding and are requested for Commission approval:

<b>Partner</b>	<b>MMSD Share</b>	<b>GLRI Grant Share</b>	<b>Total (all funding)</b>	<b>Project/Contract Number</b>
Sixteenth Street Community Health Center	\$109,967	\$109,967	\$219,934	P-2684
Layton Boulevard West Neighbors	\$81,422	\$81,422	\$162,844	P-2688
		<b>Total Both Projects</b>	<b>\$382,778</b>	

The Sixteenth Street Community Health Center (SSCHC) assisted the District with writing the GLRI grant application and developing the Program structure that is based on the foundations of a model the District has been using for three years and on the SSCHC's residential stormwater programs. Through this grant award, MMSD has the ability to make subawards. SSCHC has been identified as a subawardee because of their previous experience conducting neighborhood-scale GI implementations.

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

### **Approval of the 2016 Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program Contracts P-2684 and P-2688**

---

SSCHC has developed a template to assist residents with a comprehensive stormwater review of their property. As a result, SSCHC will be responsible for creating an action plan in the form of a toolkit that can be used by other neighborhood-level organizations to engage residents on stormwater management. SSCHC would also be responsible for assisting the District with the creation of public outreach pieces and testing the toolkit by training another neighborhood-level organization to conduct the program. SSCHC will work within the Kinnickinnic River watershed as per the grant application and award.

A second watershed focus area of this grant is within the Menomonee River watershed. Layton Boulevard West Neighbors (LBWN) has been identified as a strong partner to be the second subaward under this GLRI grant. LBWN has a history of reaching out to residents on stormwater-related topics and has successfully managed rain barrel distribution programs to the residents it serves.

LBWN will also run a neighborhood implementation program with the guidance of SSCHC to walk them through the process. SSCHC and LBWN will have a mentor/mentee relationship. This will ensure the development of the neighborhood toolkit provides sufficient and tested guidance for project management and the outreach plan.

Lastly, both SSCHC and LBWN would each write an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats (SWOT) of their respective programs. These SWOT analyses will be used as the basis for the final grant report to the GLRI Grant Office.

## BACKGROUND

### Approval of the 2016 Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program Contracts P-2684 and P-2688

---

Under the Program, these contracts provide funding support for residential-level GI projects to demonstrate the importance of GI on residential property for managing the volume, rate, and quality of stormwater runoff. If successful, the projects may also catalyze more widespread GI strategies on residential properties that can benefit the operation of municipal storm and sanitary sewers as well as the MMSD system. They may also provide potential added benefits to the residents including energy savings, reduction of the urban heat island effect, improved aesthetics, improved air quality, and improved water quality.

Neighborhood partners were selected based on:

- Public outreach experience;
- Existing or past GI programs offered for residents within their service area;
- Adequate capacity to efficiently engage large groups of residents and build community consensus around GI; and
- GLRI grant definitions of “community group”.

The costs for subawardee contracts will be 50% funded through the grant, with the remaining amount being covered by the District’s Operations and Maintenance Budget.

The District’s 2020 Facilities Plan recommended stormwater management demonstration projects to determine best practices that the District could recommend. These projects will demonstrate residential GI strategies beyond rain barrels and rain gardens, such as rock swales, permeable pavers, and cisterns.

Both the Menomonee and Kinnickinnic River watersheds are highly urbanized, impervious, and negatively affected by nonpoint source polluted stormwater runoff. Partnerships with SSCHC and LBWN will provide the District with active community groups that have the capacity to effectively engage residents, solicit participation, and build off existing neighborhood stormwater programs. SSCHC and LBWN will conduct the GI outreach with residents, perform residential pre-site assessments for program participation, and assist in oversight of the construction of the GI. The Program builds off an established model to address watershed health by reducing polluted stormwater runoff entering waterways and overloading sewer systems.

## **RESOLUTION**

Approval of the 2016 Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program  
Contracts P-2684 and P-2688

---

**RESOLVED**, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute Contract P-2684 under the Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program with the Sixteenth Street Community Health Center in an amount not to exceed \$219,934, contingent upon Commission adoption of the 2017 Operations and Maintenance Budget.

**FURTHER RESOLVED**, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the Executive Director is authorized to execute Contract P-2688 under the Building Fresh Coast Green Infrastructure Network Program with Layton Boulevard West Neighbors in an amount not to exceed \$162,844, contingent upon Commission adoption of the 2017 Operations and Maintenance Budget.