

COMMISSION FILE NO: 21-112-7 **DATE INTRODUCED:** July 12, 2021

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: Amend the 2021 Capital Budget and Create the Project W61003, Fish Creek Flood Management – I-43 Expansion

SUMMARY:

The Commission is requested to amend the 2021 Capital Budget and create Project W61003, Fish Creek Flood Management – I-43 Expansion, with a total project cost (TPC) of \$475,000 and to make a corresponding decrease to the TPC of Project M99001, Allowance for Cost and Schedule Changes. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the Commission is required for adoption.

The current effective Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) floodplain for Fish Creek is only delineated in Milwaukee County within the Village of Bayside. About a decade ago, the Southeastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (SEWRPC) created new hydrologic and hydraulic models for Fish Creek that expanded the mapping upstream into Ozaukee County within the City of Mequon. SEWRPC has not submitted the revised modeling and floodplain mapping to FEMA, because the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) requested that they delay until the Interstate 43 (I-43) widening project was completed and improvements could be incorporated.

I-43 will be expanded from four lanes to six lanes from Silver Spring Drive to Wisconsin State Trunk Highway 60 within Milwaukee and Ozaukee Counties. WisDOT's environmental documents state, "In the Fish Creek watershed, the freeway's impervious surface would increase from 23.1 acres to 34.9 acres, which is a 51 percent increase in comparison to existing conditions." This equates to a two percent increase in the watershed's imperviousness. The documents acknowledge that more impervious area will increase the volume and rate of stormwater runoff entering nearby streams. In correspondence, WisDOT has stated, "...the I-43 project is not expected to cause changes to the regulatory peak flows or elevation in the Village of Bayside."

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

PFP_Amend_2021_Capital_Budget_legislative_file.docx
06-24-21

COMMITTEE ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

COMMISSION ACTION: _____ **DATE:** _____

SUMMARY (Cont'd)

Amend the 2021 Capital Budget and Create the Project W61003 – Fish Creek Flood Management – I -43 Expansion

Initial SEWRPC modeling of WisDOT's proposed improvements shows an increase in flows and water surface elevations downstream, putting 11 homes in Bayside at greater risk of flooding. Fish Creek and its tributary are jurisdictional streams, and MMSD will explore flood mitigation options on these streams.

SEWRPC has identified the downstream portions of Fish Creek as the Fairy Chasm State Natural Area. Fish Creek flows through a 100-foot-deep chasm in this designated state natural area owned by the Ozaukee Washington Land Trust. Unique conditions have created a microclimate for species typically found further north. Any proposed projects upstream should take into account the protection of this area against erosive higher streamflows.

The scope of the project generally consists of the following:

- Reviewing the hydrologic and hydraulic modeling done by WisDOT and SEWRPC. Fish Creek and its tributaries will be evaluated.
- Examining and documenting field conditions to help in the development of alternatives, paying particular attention to stream erosion potential.
- Analyzing alternatives for mitigating flooding and erosion within the Village of Bayside.
- Recommending an alternative to reduce risk of flooding to structures in the Village of Bayside while protecting downstream reaches from erosion.
- Producing preliminary engineering plans, specifications, and cost estimates for the selected alternative.
- Facilitating stakeholder workshops and public meetings.

RESOLUTION

Amend the 2021 Capital Budget and Create the Project W61003 – Fish Creek Flood Management – I-43 Expansion

RESOLVED, by the Milwaukee Metropolitan Sewerage Commission, that the 2021 Capital Budget is amended, that Project W61003, Fish Creek Flood Management – I-43 Expansion, is created with a total project cost of \$475,000, and that a corresponding decrease is made to the total project cost of Project M99001, Allowance for Cost and Schedule Changes.