



STAFF REPORT
9/14/2022

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Manager

SUBJECT: Authorize the Executive Director (City Manager) to sign the First Supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding regarding collaboration on the Coachella Valley Salt Nutrient Management Plan with a cost share amount of \$199,062.79

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the Executive Director (City Manager) to sign the First Supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding regarding collaboration on the Coachella Valley Salt Nutrient Management Plan with a cost share amount of \$199,062.79.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

The City of Coachella, through its Coachella Water Authority and Coachella Sanitary District is one of eight agencies participating in the development of the Coachella Valley Salt and Nutrient Management Plan (CV-SNMP). In general, Salt and Nutrient Management Plans are mandated by the State of California's Recycled Water Policy, which encourages the use of recycled water. However, recycled water contains salts and nutrients which must be managed on a basin-wide basis to protect groundwater quality. The First Supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding is to formalize the collaborative effort amongst the agencies for the CV-SNMP development workplan and also outlines the cost share obligation for each agency; Coachella's cost share portion is \$199,062.79 (out of approximately \$2.68M) for this multi-year project which is slated for completion by June 2027.

On February 19, 2020, the Colorado River Basin Regional Board provided their findings and recommendations on the CV-SNMP submitted in June 2015. While the Regional Board communicated their finding that the 2015 CVSNMP did not fully satisfy the requirements of the Recycled Water Policy, rather than adopting a resolution definitively rejecting the CV-SNMP, they encouraged the water and wastewater agencies and other salt contributing stakeholders to restart the process of developing a CV-SNMP and provided recommendations for developing an acceptable CV-SNMP.

In response, the CV-SNMP Agencies met with Regional Board staff and agreed to prepare a CV-SNMP Development Workplan. The purpose of the CV-SNMP Development Workplan was to

define the scope of work to update the 2015 CV-SNMP to comply with the Recycled Water Policy and reasonably address the Regional Board’s recommendations. The CV-SNMP Development Workplan was approved by the Regional Board on October 4, 2021. The current CV-SNMP Agencies collaborating on the implementation of the CV-SNMP Development Workplan are CVWD, City of Coachella, City of Palm Springs, Desert Water Agency (DWA), Indio Water Authority (IWA), Mission Springs Water District (MSWD), Myoma Dunes Mutual Water Company (MDMWC), and Valley Sanitary District (VSD).

CVWD is serving as the lead administrative agency for this project and initiated the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to solicit proposals, coordinated proposal review with the CV-SNMP agencies, scoring, and interviews. Consultant West Yost received the overall top rating by the CV-SNMP agencies. The professional services agreement to implement the CV-SNMP Development Workplan is for a five-year period, starting in June 2022 through June 2027.

CVWD will, in turn, invoice the participating agencies for their respective cost portion as defined in the First Supplement to the Memorandum of Understanding (Attached to this item).

FISCAL IMPACT:

FY	Total Project Cost	City of Coachella Cost-Share
2021-2022	\$49,705.78	\$3,686.34
2022-2023	\$596,469.33	\$44,236.17
2023-2024	\$596,469.33	\$44,236.17
2024-2025	\$596,469.33	\$44,236.17
2025-2026	\$596,469.33	\$44,236.17
2026-2027	\$248,528.89	\$18,431.73

Funds for procurement of the consulting services to implement the CV-SNMP Development Workplan were included in the operating budgets of the Water and Sanitation Fund for FY 22/23. Therefore, there will be no adverse impact to the FY 22/23 budget. Funds for FY 23/24 through FY 26/27 will be requested through the annual budget process.