



City Council Agenda Memo

Crest Hill, IL

Meeting Date:	1/30/2023
Submitter:	Mark Siefert, Director of Public Works
Department:	Public Works Department
Agenda Item:	Recommendation to amend a contract with Strand and Associates for the Lake Michigan Water Allocation Application with Amendment 1.

Summary:

When City Staff along with Strand and Associates, and Spesia and Taylor had originally put together the budget for the Lake Michigan Allocation we had used the previous applications of Joliet and Shorewood to put together a plan. The City of Joliet had one pre-hearing with minimal comments with then a final hearing. The entire process took less than one year.

Between the time the City of Joliet and Village of Shorewood had completed their applications a new reviewer had taken over in the Illinois Department of Natural Resources Chicago office in charge of Lake Water Allocations. The new reviewer has a largely different style of review than previous reviewers.

Where Joliet and Shorewood had one pre-hearing with few comments and no need for further engineering exploration, the nine communities who had submitted their applications in March/April of 2022 will have at least two pre-hearings and are being asked for new engineering exploration.

Some of the engineering explorations that we all are being asked for are:

- Looking at the viability of the Des Plaines River as a water source
- Looking at the other riverine options with other communities.
- Public awareness of the cost's of Lake Michigan Water
- Deeper dive into the water loss and where exactly it is coming from

All of these additional engineering explorations plus a second pre-hearing with comments/revisions were not included in the original budget.

Recommended Council Action:

To approve an amendment with Strand and Associates for the Lake Michigan Water Allocation Application Contract

Financial Impact:

Funding Source: Water

Budgeted Amount: \$280,000 This fiscal Year, This project will be into next year

Cost: \$65,000

Attachments: