

**CITY OF MARSHALL
AGENDA ITEM REPORT**

Meeting Date:	Tuesday, November 23, 2021
Category:	NEW BUSINESS
Type:	ACTION
Subject:	MPCA Chloride Reduction Grant.
Background Information:	<p>The MPCA is offering a chloride reduction grant that has an application deadline of December 10, 2021. The MPCA is looking for an organization to work with a community or multiple communities that are in need of chloride reductions. The goal of the project is to develop a strategy to identify, prioritize, educate, and assist residents, businesses, and institutions to upgrade, replace, or optimize their existing water softening systems.</p> <p>Bolton & Menk has approached the City of Marshall with this opportunity. Bolton & Menk is proposing to work with both Marshall and Worthington to secure the \$250,000 grant. The grant requires a 25% match which would require a \$31,250 investment from each community if we both move forward. Bolton and Menk is proposing a pilot rebate program for replacement of water softeners to high efficiency units that are properly configured, along with some video educational information. The rebate would likely be focused on replacement of old “time-based” softeners to new “demand-based” systems that recharge based on actual water usage. Below is a preliminary proposed cost outline from Bolton & Menk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rebates or other incentives--\$100,000 for each community - Preparation of rebate program and tracking (Engineering)--\$50,000 - Preparation of educational information (Engineering)--\$50,000 - Final reporting to MPCA--\$12,500 <p>Based on the above numbers, if the City is willing to contribute \$31,250, we will end up with \$100,000 of money to invest into a rebate program or other incentive type of program, as well as having the engineering services to set up and administer the program covered by Bolton & Menk.</p> <p>City staff has not had enough time to completely work through how the process could work for us, but in principal, we believe this is a good opportunity to secure some extra funding and program services to help us meet our upcoming chloride limit. Bolton & Menk requires a letter of support from the City to submit along with the grant application.</p>
Fiscal Impact:	City contribution investment in the amount of \$31,250.
Alternative/ Variations:	No alternative actions recommended.
Recommendation:	that the Council authorize City staff to work with Bolton & Menk to submit for this MPCA Chloride Reduction Grant opportunity.