



City of Columbus

Office of City Clerk
90 West Broad Street
Columbus OH 43215-9015
columbuscitycouncil.org

Legislation Text

File #: 2590-2013, Version: 1

This legislation authorizes the Director of Public Utilities to enter into an agreement with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) for the purposes of providing funding and continued support for Phase III of the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) Climate Change Adaptation Project for Fiscal Year 2013. MORPC receives funding from various sources including the City of Columbus, State of Ohio, counties and townships to provide legislative representation, training and educational forums, consulting services, and regional networking opportunities.

There is a growing scientific consensus that climate change may have a serious effect on the hydrologic cycle, including both long-term trends of excess precipitation and drought and the frequency and severity of short-term extreme runoff events. The project will be conducted in a manner to produce results that are useful to the City in planning for how it will meet changes in the hydrologic cycle related to climate change. The American Water Works Association, of which the City is a member, adopted a policy statement supporting "the development of more refined global climate models and tools to better understand and address these impacts at a water utility-relevant scale."

Phase II funding was to conclude at the end of July, 2013. Due to the delay in hiring the planning consultant and subsequent push back in USGS's timeline MORPC expects to fully expend Phase II funding by the end of the year. MORPC hired Brown and Caldwell as the adaptive management plan consultant in May of this year. Since that time they have moved quickly to gather the necessary data to complete the model including calibration and validation. It is currently being reviewed externally. Running of the scenarios would begin by October.

City funding, along with a \$142,332.00 grant from the Ohio Water Development Authority will be used for program funding for Phase III. Additional matching funds have been obtained from the United States Geological Service and Del-Co Water Company, Inc. for this project. The funding support for Phase III will cover the period from November 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014.

SUPPLIER: Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (31-1009675) Non-Profit

FISCAL IMPACT: \$71,166.00 is needed and budgeted for this support. This payment is a 50/50 split between the Sewerage System Operating Fund and the Water Operating Fund. Additional phases will require additional funding in the future.

EMERGENCY DESIGNATION: This ordinance is being submitted as emergency to allow for the prompt payment of the City's portion of Phase III to allow the project to continue without delay.

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to enter into an agreement with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) for the purposes of providing funding and support for the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA) Climate Change Adaptation Project - Phase III, to authorize the expenditure of \$35,583.00 from the Sewerage System Operating Fund, and \$35,583.00 from the Water Operating Fund, and to declare an emergency. (\$71,166.00)

WHEREAS, the City is a signatory to the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC / Grantee's) Central Ohio Green Pact, which provides in part that "[t]he science supporting climate change caused by human activities is well

established," and

WHEREAS, there is growing scientific consensus that climate change may have a serious effect on the hydrologic cycle, including both long-term trends of excess precipitation and drought and the frequency and severity of short-term extreme runoff events, and

WHEREAS, in 2010 the American Water Works Association, of which the City is a member, adopted a policy statement supporting "the development of more refined global climate models and tools to better understand and address these impacts at a water utility-relevant scale," and

WHEREAS, Grantee has organized a project to develop a refined climate model and tools to better understand and address said impacts at a scale relevant to the operations of the Columbus Division of Public Utilities," and

WHEREAS, the City has invested \$174,277.00 in matching Phases I and II of this project, and

WHEREAS, the Grantee has obtained a third grant of \$142,332.00 from the Ohio Water Development Authority to conduct the third phase of this project, consisting of portions of Tasks seven, eight, nine, ten, and eleven described on pages 9 and 10 of the document included in Exhibit A attached hereto and entitled "DEVELOPMENT OF A WATERSHED MODEL OF THE UPPER SCIOTO RIVER BASIN FOR ASSESSING POTENTIAL CLIMATE-CHANGE EFFECTS IN THE CENTRAL OHIO REGION," as well as portions of tasks one, two, three and four described on pages 2 and 3 of the document included in Exhibit B attached hereto and entitled "Project Understanding ," which grant requires Grantee to obtain an equal amount in matching funds, and

WHEREAS, Grantee has obtained commitments of additional matching funds from other sources, including the United States Geological Service and Del-Co Water Company, Inc., and

WHEREAS, the City would like to support Grantee's project and participate in the steering committee that will advise the project to assure that the project will be conducted in a manner to produce results that are useful to the City in planning for how it will meet changes in the hydrologic cycle related to climate change, and

WHEREAS, it is now time for the City to pay their portion of the match for Phase III funding of the Central Ohio Green Pact's OWDA Climate Change Adaptation Project. These funds represent 25% of the total of Phase III project costs and are part of the local match to \$142,332 awarded by the Ohio Water Development Authority, and

WHEREAS, Phase III funding will cover the period from November 1, 2013 to April 30, 2014, and

WHEREAS, the funds will be utilized by the US Geological Service for Tasks 8-10 and the beginning of 11, finalization of model scenario results, preparation of draft final report, in house technical reviews and compilation of comments for final manuscript preparation, outlined in the work proposal included in Exhibit A to the Phase I funding contract between MORPC and the City of Columbus. Funds will also be utilized for completion of Tasks 1-4 and portions of 5 outlined in the scope of service marked Exhibit B in preparation of the adaptive management phase development of this project, and

WHEREAS, additional phases will require additional funding in the future, and

WHEREAS, an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Department of Public Utilities, Division of Sewerage and Drainage and Division of Water in that it is immediately necessary to allow for the prompt payment of the City's portion of Phase III to allow the project to continue without delay; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SECTION 1. That the Director of Public Utilities be and hereby is authorized to enter into a support agreement with the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission for the purpose of providing funding for Phase III of the OWDA Climate

Change Adaptation Project for the Fiscal Year 2013.

SECTION 2. That the expenditure of \$71,166.00 or as much thereof as may be needed, be and the same is hereby authorized as follows:

Dept./Div.: 60-05
FUND: 650
OCA: 605006
Object Level One: 03
Object Level Three: 3337
Amount: \$35,583.00

Dept./Div.: 60-09
FUND: 600
OCA: 601849
Object Level One: 03
Object Level Three: 3337
Amount: \$35,583.00

SECTION 3. That the funds necessary to carry out the purpose of this ordinance are hereby deemed appropriated, and the City Auditor shall establish such accounting codes as necessary.

SECTION 4. That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is hereby made a part hereof, this Ordinance is hereby declared to be an emergency measure, and shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage and approval by the Mayor, or ten days after passage if the Mayor neither approves nor vetoes the same.