



Legislation Text

File #: 0575-2011, Version: 1

1. **NEED:** This legislation is required of the City to execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) Agreement with the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and the Ohio Water Development Authority (OWDA). The WRRSP project, identified in Section 1. as The Lower Olentangy River Ecosystem Restoration (5th Avenue Dam) Project, CIP No. 650706, was designated by the Department of Public Utilities for sponsorship through a WRRSP Sponsorship Letter of Intent, dated April 5th, 2011 for funding approval for Program Year 2011 through the Ohio Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF) Program. One designated Sewerage and Drainage Division Project, identified in Section 2. as the OSIS Augmentation and Relief Sewer (OARS) Phase 2; CIP No. 650704-100002, will serve as the sponsoring project for this WRRSP project. The Lower Olentangy River Ecosystem Restoration (5th Avenue Dam) Project is listed on the Ohio EPA 2011 WRRSP Project Priority List as an Intended Project for funding. The sponsoring OSIS Augmentation and Relief Sewer (OARS) Phase 2 project for the Sewerage and Drainage Division is also listed on the Intended Projects List for Ohio EPA funding through the Water Pollution Control Loan Fund (WPCLF).

2. **EMERGENCY DESIGNATION:** In order for the Director to enter into the WRRSP Agreement for the The Lower Olentangy River Ecosystem Restoration (5th Avenue Dam) Project and to meet the requirements of the Agreement without delay of the sponsoring project, the earliest possible effective date of this ordinance is necessary. This will ensure compliance with the Ohio EPA WPCLF loan program requirements and thereby expedite the construction initiation of both the City's sponsoring project and the WRRSP project.

3. **FISCAL IMPACT:** The City will save money by receiving a 0.1 percent interest rate discount for the two Division of Sewerage and Drainage sponsoring project loans.

To authorize the Director of Public Utilities to execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) Agreement between the City of Columbus, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority; and to designate a Division of Sewerage and Drainage project as the required sponsoring project; and to declare an emergency.

WHEREAS, on April 5, 2011 the Director of Public Utilities submitted a Sponsorship Letter of Intent to the Ohio EPA Division of Environmental and Financial Assistance expressing the City's intent to sponsor a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program (WRRSP) project for Program Year 2011 funding, and thereby designated a Division of Sewerage and Drainage project as the required WRRSP sponsoring project; and

WHEREAS, the City, as a WRRSP sponsor, will save money by receiving a 0.1 percent interest rate discount on the WPCLF loan for the sponsoring project, which will reduce its total loan repayments below that which would be required without the WRRSP sponsorship; and

WHEREAS, this legislation must be approved by City Council and a certified copy must be submitted to the OWDA as part of the loan application and loan agreement approval process for the sponsoring project, so as to expedite the construction initiation of both the WRRSP project and the City's Sewerage and Drainage project, therefore an emergency exists in the usual daily operation of the Division of Sewerage and Drainage, Department of Public Utilities, in that it is immediately necessary to authorize the Director of Public Utilities to execute a Water Pollution Control Loan Fund Agreement including the Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program Agreement with Ohio EPA and OWDA for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, property, and safety;

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 execute a Water Resource Restoration Sponsor Program Agreement between the City of Columbus, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency and the Ohio Water Development Authority, for the following project:

The Lower Olentangy River Ecosystem Restoration (5th Avenue Dam) Project, CIP No. 650706; WRRSP No. WR390274-150; \$4,000,000.00

Section 2. That the Director of Public Utilities be, and hereby is, authorized to designate the following Division of Sewerage and Drainage project as the sponsoring project for the WRRSP project as herein described in Section 1. of this ordinance. The WRRSP sponsoring project is as follows:

OSIS Augmentation and Relief Sewer (OARS) Phase 2; CIP No. 650704-100002; WPCLF No. CS390274-0147

Section 3. That for the reasons stated in the preamble hereto, which is 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.