



Agenda Action Form Overview

The Board is requested to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment No. 20BCC000032, which appropriates \$200,000 of Unrestricted General Fund Fund Balance to cover expenses for Consultant Contract with WK Dickson for the Stormwater Utility Planning and Implementation Project.

Background/Justification

At the October 7, 2019 Work Session, County Staff and its consultant team presented an update on the Planning and Implementation of a County Stormwater Utility. During the session, Commissioners provided feedback on the methodology to date and identified three areas in which they desired more clarity and perhaps a new approach to the utility's development and implementation. Those three areas were public education, rate structure, and a crediting system.

A follow-up presentation at the November 4, 2019 Work Session provided Commissioners with additional information on these items as well as a project scope to further evaluate these areas, and a schedule by which to complete this work in order to provide Commissioners with the requested information allowing them to provide direction on the path forward.

The total request of the contract amendment is \$200,000. However, the ultimate cost depends upon direction from Commissioners in the upcoming months. By January, the following activities will occur at a cost of approximately \$50,000:

- Digitization of 1,000 total residential parcels
- Data distribution and evaluation of those 1,000 parcels
- Recalculation of the Equivalent Residential Unit (ERU) upon which the rate is based
- Development of Tiered Rate options
- Assessment of credit program options and their costs, challenges, and benefits

At the January Work Session, this information will be presented to the Commissioners, at which time the Board will be able to determine how the utility will be structured, whether to implement a credits program, and how much and what types of public education approaches will be used. Depending on these decisions, a portion of or all the remainder of the contract may be utilized. Items included in the full scope include:

- Digitization of all 13,581 residential parcels
- Final analysis and data distribution of residential parcels
- Computation and finalization of tiers and final quality control
- Final credit program development and benchmarking
- Four additional public education and outreach meetings (total of 10)

Policy Impact

This agenda item supports Strategic Plan Goal 4: Environmental Stewardship and Community Prosperity. More specifically it supports the objective of improving water quality.

Procurement Background



Type of purchase

- ☐ Goods
- ☒ Services
- ☐ Architect, Engineer or Surveyor Services
- ☐ Construction and Repair

Did this request for purchase go through a bid process? Yes ☐ No ☒

Goods: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$90,000$

Services: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $> \$40,000$

Construction/Repair work: Bids required if $\geq \$30,000$, BOCC approval if $\geq \$500,000$

If yes, attach a copy of bid tab and the minority and women business enterprise (MWBE) compliance review form provided by the Purchasing Division.

If no, why?

- ☐ Sole source exemption
- ☐ Cooperative purchasing program exemption
- ☐ State and federal contract exemption
- ☒ Contract is an amendment to an existing contract
- ☐ Other (please explain)

If exempted from bidding, has this request been reviewed and approved by the Purchasing Division in the agenda Legistar system? Yes ☐ No ☐

If no, why?

Fiscal Impact

Funding for this contract amendment will come from General Fund fund balance. However, in years past, the Stormwater and Erosion Control Division has over-collected its projected revenues. It is possible that this will occur again in FY20 and all or a portion of this expense may be covered by those additional revenues.

The full request of \$200,000 is divided by several milestones and it is possible that not all funds will be expended depending upon decision made by the Board of Commissioners. It is expected that at least \$50,000 will be spent by the first milestone of January 2020. At that point, the Board will be at a decision point for a path forward that will determine future spending.



Recommendation

The County Manager recommends approval of Budget Ordinance No. 20BCC000032 and the contract amendment in the amount of \$200,000 with WK Dickson to continue work on planning and implementation of a County Stormwater Utility fee that will fund compliance efforts for the Falls and Jordan Lake Nutrient Management Strategies and improve water quality in Durham County.