

Durham County

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Legislation Text

File #: 19-0526, Version: 1

Item:

Stormwater Utility Planning and Implementation Consultant Contract Amendment and Budget Amendment No. 20BCC000032

Date of BOCC Meeting: November 12, 2019

Request for Board Action:

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.

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)

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<u>Alignment with Strategic Plan:</u> This agenda item supports Strategic Plan Goal 4: Environmental Stewardship and Community Prosperity.

<u>Resource Persons</u>: Ryan D. Eaves, PE, Stormwater and Erosion Control Division Manager; McKenzie Gentry, PE, Stormwater Manager; Jay Gibson, PE, General Manager; Peri Manns, ASLA, Deputy Director, Engineering and Environmental Services

<u>County Manager's Recommendation</u>: The County Manager recommends that the Board approve the Budget Amendment No. 20BCC00032 and contract amendment as requested.