



Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: June 5, 2017

Re: Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the United States Geological Survey for the operation and maintenance of a stream gage on Hinkson Creek.

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the United States Geological Survey for the operation and maintenance of a stream gage on Hinkson Creek. This is currently the only stream gage on Hinkson Creek that provides real time and historical stream flow data and gage height (flood stage information) that is publicly available. The annual fiscal cost to operate and maintain this gage is \$14,600.

Discussion

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) operates and maintains a stream gage on Hinkson Creek. This stream gage is located west on Providence and collects real time data on both the discharge and gage height of Hinkson Creek. This gage was originally installed in 1966 and has been operated for significant time periods since installation.

The USGS anticipates the funding for continued operation and maintenance of this stream gage to no longer be available after July 1, 2017. Staff believes that continuing to collect this data is beneficial and proposes to provide the funding to the USGS to continue the operation and maintenance. Hinkson Creek is currently identified as impaired and the City is a party in the Collaborative Adaptive Management process intended to address the impairment of the stream. The historical, current and future data obtained from the operation of this gage can be used to calibrate flood models, determine overall soil runoff characteristics, stream response, pollutant loadings, etc. This information can assist in determining effective and appropriate projects and anticipated impacts to help in addressing the impairment to the stream and to address anticipated future regulatory compliance requirements.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The FY2017 cost will be \$3,650 and will be paid for the Storm Water Utility operating budget. The FY2018 cost will be \$14,600 and has been included in the operating budget.

Long-Term Impact: Funding for the operation and maintenance of this stream gage will be included in the Storm Water Utility operating budget in future years. This is currently anticipated to be approximately \$14,600 annually.



Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

Vision Impacts:

Primary Impact: Environment, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Not Applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Environmental Management, Secondary Impact: Not applicable, Tertiary Impact: Not Applicable

Legislative History

Date	Action
None	None

Suggested Council Action

Approve the ordinance authorizing the agreement.