

# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

Department Source: City Utilities - Water and Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: February 3, 2020

Re: Amending the contract with N. Harris Computer Corporation to develop the community

solar utility billing software and Appropriation of Funds

### **Executive Summary**

Staff has prepared for Council consideration an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute an amendment to the N. Harris Computer Corporation software agreement and appropriation of funds. Water & Light staff proposes to initiate a one megawatt Community Solar program. The next step in the development of this program is to implement the program into our current utility billing system. This work requires an amendment to the contract with N. Harris Computer Corporation to integrate the community solar program into the utility billing software.

#### Discussion

Staff has investigated various business models and cost structures associated with community solar programs. As a result of this work staff has developed a business model which considers the feasibility and incentive for both the Utility and its customers. Included with this Council memo is a document detailing the proposed Community Solar Program Business Model.

To facilitate the next step in this project staff has been working with the current utility billing software provider, N. Harris Computer Corporation, on a statement of work to implement the community solar billing software. N. Harris Computer Corporation has quoted the City a statement of work for \$40,000. This statement of work provides the City with a proposed solution on implementing the program into our current utility billing system. The current contract with N. Harris Computer will need to be amended to integrate the community solar program and an appropriation of funds will be needed.

Future steps for the implementation of this community solar program include finalizing program details after software implementation then drafting any ordinance changes needed for Council approval.

Staff also held an Interested Parties meeting, on July 17, 2019 to present the community solar program to and garner feedback from the community. The Water and Light Advisory Board endorsed this proposed Community Solar Program and the contract amendment with N. Harris Computer Corporation at their regular monthly meeting on August 7, 2019. This program was reviewed at a pre-council meeting on October 21, 2019. Staff believes that this model addresses the desires of the community and utility equitably.



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# Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: \$40,000 to implement the community solar program into the utility billing system.

Long-Term Impact: N/A

## Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

### Strategic Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

## Comprehensive Plan Impacts:

Primary Impact: Primary, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History	
Date	Action

## Suggested Council Action

Approve execution of the contract amendment with N. Harris Computer Corporation to develop the community solar billing software and appropriate the funds.