

## Department of Public Works – Engineering Division

### MEMO

TO: Utilities Committee

FROM: Paula Vandehey, Director of Public Works  
Pete Neuberger, Staff Engineer

SUBJECT: Award Single Source Unit K-21 Native Landscape Management Contract to Applied Ecological Services, Inc., in an amount not to exceed \$256,680.

DATE: March 9, 2021

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The Department of Public Works recommends award of the single source K-21 Native Landscape Management Contract to Applied Ecological Services, Inc. (AES), in an amount not to exceed \$256,680 (budget \$256,680).

The following tasks are included in this contract:

#### Native Vegetation Maintenance and New Installations at City Stormwater Ponds and Channels

- Provide vegetation inspections and recommendations.
- Provide invasive species and algae control through herbicide, mowing, brushing, and/or controlled burns.
- Provide preparation, seeding, planting, and erosion control at sparsely established areas and new sites.
- Second phase planting of an “urban reforestation” area along the north side of Leona Pond.
- Maintain pond aerators.

In addition to work at DPW sites, the proposed contract amount includes an estimated \$6,220 of work at Facilities Department sites, to be paid by Facilities Department through interdepartmental agreement.

The Department of Public Works requests that the Utilities Committee approve a contract with AES, who was the 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 contractor, for these services. This request is consistent with the approved 2021 stormwater budget, the March 15, 2017 Unit K-17 approval by the Common Council, and the March 2017 award memo by the Department of Public Works requesting use of AES as its consultant/contractor for native landscaping through 2021, subject to contractor performance in the prior year and annual contract approval.

AES performed well as the 2020 contractor, demonstrating good customer service, expertise, and cost-effectiveness. Proposed K-21 unit prices include a 3% unit price increase compared to the K-20 unit prices, which is in line with the proposed annual unit price adjustment in the original 2017 AES proposal.

Earlier this year, AES was purchased by Resource Environmental Solutions (RES), a Texas-based environmental restoration company. AES K-21 personnel and equipment are unaffected by this acquisition, and DPW staff anticipate no changes to the service provided. Contractually, AES has informed the DPW Staff they are now “RES Great Lakes, LLC dba Applied Ecological Services”.