Department Source: City Utilities - Sewer/Stormwater

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: August 21, 2017

Re: Agreement with the United States Geological Survey for Groundwater Monitoring of the McBaine Bottoms, including the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration, an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for ground water monitoring in the McBaine Bottoms, around the City’s wetland treatment units, and on the Eagle Bluffs Conservation property, for a one year period. These wells will be monitored for constituents of interest to the City including, inorganic ions, pesticides, wastewater organics and pharmaceutical compounds. The cost for this monitoring is shared between the Sewer Division and the Water Division of the Utilities Department and funds are included in the operating budgets of both divisions.

Discussion

In 1992 a collaborative agreement among the USGS, the City of Columbia and the Missouri Department of Conservation began groundwater monitoring in the McBaine Bottoms around the City’s wetland treatment units and on the Eagle Bluffs Conservation property. The purpose of the study was to assess the effect of the constructed wetlands on the ground water quality and flow. This initial study was completed in 1999 and a significant conclusion was that the compounds associated with the sewage effluent in the wetlands could potentially migrate from the wetlands toward the City’s municipal drinking water supply well field. Based on the results, all parties involved concurred that the water quality monitoring should continue and that all analysis should be performed by the USGS laboratory for consistency. The objective of performing these studies is to continue to monitor the water quality throughout the McBaine Bottoms to track changes in groundwater quality in the vicinity of the public supply well field and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area. is to provide the City with the information needed to protect the well field and ensure good quality drinking water.

The USGS has provided the City an updated proposal to continue the monitoring through 2023 with annual approval. The proposal is attached and includes detailed information on the purpose and objective of the study, the wells to be monitored, analysis to be performed and the annual cost for each year.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: The cost to the City for FY18 of the proposal is $69,550.00 with the Sewer Division paying 80% and the Water Division paying 20%. The funding for this has been included in the FY18 proposed operating budgets for each division.

Long-Term Impact: The future costs for fiscal years 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022 and 2023 are anticipated to be $73,400, $74,450, $78,150, $78,960 and $87,500 respectively. These annual amounts will be included in the operating budgets for both utilities.

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impacts

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/city-manager/)

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

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/community_development/comprehensive_plan/documents/ColumbiaImagined-FINAL.pdf)

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

Legislative History

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| --- | --- |
| Date | Action |
| 10/03/2016  01/04/2016  10/20/14  08/20/2012  09/19/2011  09/20/2010  11/17/2008  12/03/2007  10/16/2006  11/07, 2005  11/15/2004  01/05/2004  12/16/2002  10/01/2001  10/02/2000  09/28/1999  10/05/1998  09/02/1997  09/16/1996  12/18/1995  03/20/1995  09/07/1993  07/06/1992 | B249-16 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring of well sites in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  B376-15 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and Eagle Bluffs.  Res. 201-14 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for water resources investigations relating to the hydrologic monitoring of well sites in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 135-12 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring of well sites in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 166-11 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 195-10 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 261-08 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 278-07 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 224-06 Authorizing a joint funding agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetland treatment units and the Eagle Bluffs Conservation Area.  Res. 245-05 Authorizing an agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetlands.  Res. 236-04 Authorizing an agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetlands.  Res. 10-04 Authorizing an agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring in the vicinity of the wetlands.  Res. 233-02 Authorizing agreements with the USGS RE: Groundwater Monitoring in the Vicinity of the Wetlands.  Res. 209-01 Agreements with USGS RE: Groundwater Monitoring in the Vicinity of the Wetlands.  Res. 197-00 Agreements with USGS RE: Groundwater Monitoring in the Vicinity of the Wetlands.  Res. 185-99 Agreements with USGS RE: Groundwater Monitoring in the Vicinity of the Wetlands.  Res. 197-98 Agreements with USGS for Groundwater Monitoring in the Vicinity of Wetlands Project.  Res. 137-97 Agreements with USGS for Groundwater Monitoring of Well Sites Around Wetland Treatment Units.  Res. 134-96 Agreement for Groundwater Monitoring of Well Siteas at the Wastewater Treatment Units (USGS).  Res. 231-95 Agreement with USGS for Ground Water Monitoring in Wetlands Vicinity.  Res. 62-95 Agreement for Groundwater Monitoring of Well Sites Around Wetlands Treatment Units.  Res. 143-93 Agreement with USGS for Groundwater Monitoring of Wells around Wetlands.  Res. 105-92 Authorizing agreement with Missouri Department of Conservation in connection with groundwater monitoring at the wetlands. |

Suggested Council Action

Authorize the City Manager to approve the agreement with the USGS for groundwater monitoring.