Department Source: City Utilities - Water and Light

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: April 3, 2017

Re: Resolution Setting a Public Hearing - More’s Lake Restoration

Executive Summary

Staff has prepared for Council consideration a resolution setting a public hearing on April 17, 2017 for Capital Project E0204 for the restoration of More’s Lake.

Discussion

Water & Light (CWL) owns and operates an electrical production plant known as the Municipal Power Plant (MPP) located at 1501 Business Loop 70 E. The MPP was constructed about 1914 on land previously owned by E.C. More. The plant was constructed next to an existing recreational lake known as More’s Lake. The MPP was Columbia’s sole source of electricity until 1962.

During the early years of electric production, More’s Lake was used as a source of cooling water for the MPP’s condensers. After World War II, expansions at the MPP overwhelmed the cooling capacity of the Lake and cooling towers were constructed. Also about this time, the MPP started using More’s Lake for processing the ash produced by the MPP’s solid fuel boilers. CWL continued to use More’s Lake for ash handling until coal combustion ceased in September 2015.

In order to be in compliance with the EPA’s Coal Combustion Residuals (CCR) rules, CWL needs to remediate the ash in More’s Lake. Per the CCR rules, remediation needs to be completed by April 2020. Key project items include:

* Excavation of ash from pond
* Hauling and disposing of ash in the City of Columbia Landfill
* Removal and disposal of ash contaminated earth in the City of Columbia Landfill
* Restoration of the More’s Lake dam and shoreline
* Installation of ground water monitoring wells

CWL has hired Burns & McDonnell (B&M) to assist with the engineering work required for the project. B&M has generated preliminary project plans and cost estimates. Initial estimated are that about 90,000 cubic yards of ash material will need to be excavated and removed from More’s Lake. The preliminary estimated cost of the project is about $7.8 million. CWL and B&M are working on finding ways to reduce the project cost, including the possibility of performing the required work with City forces.

CWL intends to return More’s Lake to its original condition. The MPP needs to retain the Lake in order to be in compliance with the City of Columbia’s storm water retention requirements and for other MPP purposes.

More’s Lake was once used as a recreational area in Columbia, and CWL may be able to return portions of the Lake to recreational use subject to MPP operational requirements and available funding.

The project is part of CWL’s Capital Improvement Plan (E0204). Work on the project is scheduled to begin in spring 2017 and will take up to three years to complete.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None

Long-Term Impact: None

Vision & Strategic Plan Impact

[Vision Impacts:](http://www.gocolumbiamo.com/CMS/vision/reports/visiongoals.php)

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

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

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

Legislative History

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| Date | Action |
| June 20, 2016  January 3, 2017 | B149-16 Authorizing an agreement for professional engineering services with Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. for the Moore’s Lake remediation and site restoration project at the Municipal Power Plant.  B345-16 Authorizing a first addendum to agreement for professional engineering services with Burns & McDonnell Engineering Company, Inc. for the More's Lake remediation and site restoration project at the Municipal Power Plant. |

Suggested Council Action

Staff recommends that Council approve a resolution setting a public hearing on April 17, 2017 for Capital Project E0204 for the restoration of More’s Lake .