

STAFF REPORT

Date: November 24, 2014

To: Mayor and City Council

Thru: Andrew Clinger, City Manager

Subject: **Staff Report (For Possible Action): Approval of consulting services agreement between Brown and Caldwell (B&C) and the City of Reno for consulting engineering services for the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) Nitrification Tower Rehabilitation and Improvement Project in the amount of \$212,000 with Reno's share being \$145,495.60 (Sewer Enterprise Fund).**

From: David Kershaw, Associate Civil Engineer

Summary: The attached scope of work with Brown and Caldwell will provide an evaluation of the existing Nitrification Towers at the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF). The results of this effort will be to identify and prioritize improvements that help the facility to increase the performance, efficiency and consistency of Nitrification Tower operation. Staff recommends Council approve the Agreement for Consultant Services with Brown and Caldwell for design and professional engineering services as described in the attached scope of work in an amount not to exceed \$212,000 (Reno's share being \$145,495.60 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund).

Background: One of the key treatment processes at the Truckee Meadows Water Reclamation Facility (TMWRF) consists of removing nitrogen from sewage such that treated effluent discharged from the TMWRF to the Truckee River will meet permit discharge limitations. The first and critical step in the removal of nitrogen from sewage occurs in the Nitrification Towers. The efficiency of these towers in the removal of nitrogen from sewage is impacted by a variety of operational and environmental conditions. In addition, most of the towers are almost 30 years old, and in the past couple of years their performance has been degraded in the winter months. Therefore, Staff is interested in evaluating the current condition of the towers and their operational efficiency, followed by development of recommended operational improvements, maintenance and capital improvements to help increase performance and reliability. Upon completion of the current evaluation it is anticipated that this scope of work will be amended to allow for design of selected recommended improvements to the Nitrification Towers.

Discussion: Brown and Caldwell scope of work is proposing to evaluate the nitrogen removal facilities at the TMWRF through field investigations, operations staff interviews, operational data review, process modeling, and prepare a report recommending improvements to process, media, chemical usage, structure, electrical, instrumentation, and control aspects of the facilities.

The next phase of work, not included in the current scope, will include design of select improvements. Brown and Caldwell was selected from the City’s approved list of engineering consultants.

Financial Implications: The City of Reno will administer the agreement and will be reimbursed for a portion of the costs by the City of Sparks through the current cost sharing agreement for TMWRF operation and maintenance. The City of Reno and the City of Sparks share the cost of this project as follows: 68.63% for Reno and 31.37% for Sparks, as shown in Table 1. Costs for the City of Reno are budgeted in the Sewer Enterprise Fund. The project is included in the TMWRF FY 2015 Capital Improvement Plan approved by the TMWRF Joint Coordinating Committee.

Table 1 – Cost Sharing Between Reno and Sparks

Total Cost of Contract	Reno Share	Sparks Share
\$212,000.00	\$145,495.60	\$66,504.40
Percentages	68.63%	31.37%

Recommendation: Staff recommends Council approve the Agreement for Consultant Services with Brown and Caldwell for consulting engineering services as described in the attached scope of work in an amount not to exceed \$212,000 (Reno's share being \$145,495.60 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund) and authorize the Mayor to execute the attached Agreement.

Proposed Motion: I move to approve the staff recommendation.

Attachments: