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**TO:** Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mary Henley, Engineer, Sr., Science and Engineering  
 Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services  
 John Burk, P.E., Division Manager, Science and Engineering  
 Angela Gallardo, Assistant Division Manager, Science and Engineering  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Grant Acceptance - Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Agreement  
 WQC-2022-TacoES-00108 - Titlow Park Regional Stormwater Treatment Design – March 8, 2022  
**DATE:** February 10, 2022

**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement and any associated term extensions with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE), in the amount of \$408,941.00; accepting and depositing said sum into the Surface Water Fund 4301; and authorizing the expenditure of matching funds in the amount of \$136,313.67, budgeted from the Surface Water Fund 4301, for a projected total of \$ 545,254.67, for the Titlow Park Regional Stormwater Treatment Design project, which is a component of collaborative efforts to restore the Titlow Estuary.

**BACKGROUND:**

**This Department’s Recommendation is Based On:** The need to improve the quality of stormwater discharged to the Puget Sound in the vicinity of Titlow Park. The Titlow Park Regional Stormwater Treatment Design (Project) will treat up to 380 acres of residential runoff by providing basic water quality treatment before discharging through Titlow Estuary to Puget Sound. The Project will leverage valuable and timely partnership opportunities and provide water quality benefits for Puget Sound. This Project will help protect/restore water quality in Titlow Lagoon by reducing stormwater impacts from existing infrastructure/development and supports the overall Titlow Estuary Restoration Project/Titlow Park Master Plan. The overall goal is to restore the lagoon and ecological processes that support a healthy estuary by reducing the effects of stormwater to improve water quality.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

This Project is still in the early planning/design stages. As such, no significant outreach has been performed to date. However, as typical on these types of projects, the public will be notified of the type, impact, and duration of the proposed improvements in the neighborhood, and various forms of outreach will be utilized, including mailings and public meetings.

**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

**Equity and Accessibility:**

Pursuing a DOE financial partnership on water quality projects helps reduce Environmental Services’ direct project costs and allows us the ability to fund additional needed utility improvements throughout the city. Some of which may fall within underserved areas.

**Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:*** Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.



**Livability: Equity Index Score: Moderate Opportunity**

Increase positive public perception of Tacoma’s dedication to the maintenance and enhancement of existing infrastructure, neighborhood safety, and overall quality of life. Additionally, the benefits of funding this Project include improved services, minimizing the potential for localized flooding, and improving the quality of surrounding waters for the benefit of salmonid health.

**Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).**

The primary focus of this proposed resolution is to evaluate and design a new stormwater treatment facility or facilities, helping to improve the quality of the built environment. Because the subbasin is residential and not expected to be fully redeveloped within the next 50 years, this Project will provide immediate water quality benefits not otherwise available for this part of Tacoma. This Project is part of a larger collaboration between the City of Tacoma, Metro Parks Tacoma, and the South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group. The Project will leverage these valuable and timely partnership opportunities with an overall intent to restore the lagoon and ecological processes that support a healthy estuary by reducing the effects of stormwater to improve water quality.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. City fully fund improvements	Improvements to water quality in Puget Sound and neighborhood livability	Increased stormwater maintenance costs
2. No Action	Reallocate City funding to other projects	Lost opportunity to partner with other entities to improve the health of the Titlow Estuary by improving stormwater quality and thereby reducing its impacts the salmonid population and Puget Sound.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

Pursuing grant partnerships provides considerable cost savings to water quality projects. Following DOE’s new procedures, this grant provides for the design of the facility while a subsequent grant will be pursued for finalization of design and construction of the facility. Authorization for this additional grant for design completion and construction as well as the final award of a contract to construct the improvements designed under this proposed resolution will require future resolutions.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends authorizing the execution of a Water Quality Grant Agreement and any associated term extensions with the Washington State Department of Ecology, in the amount of \$408,941.00, accepting and depositing said sum into the Surface Water Fund 4301; and authorizing the expenditure of matching funds in the amount of \$136,313.67 budgeted from the Surface Water Fund 4301, to design a regional stormwater treatment system at Titlow Park.



**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total estimated cost for the design of the Titlow Park Regional Stormwater Treatment Design project is \$545,254.67. The City match is 25 percent of this cost, or approximately \$136,313.67.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
Surface Water Fund 4301	529700	6310010	\$136,313.67
Washington Dept. of Ecology WQ	521900	6371302	\$408,941.00
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$545,254.67</b>

**What Funding is being used to support the expense?**

Funding source will be Department of Ecology Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Grant #WQC-2022-TacoES-00108 for \$408,941.00 and Surface Water Fund 4301 for \$136,313.67.

**Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?**

YES

**Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?**

YES

It would require using operating fund cash resulting in deferring other capital projects.

**Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?**

YES

**Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?**

NO

**ATTACHMENTS:**

- Draft Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Grant Agreement