



**TO:** Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager  
**FROM:** John Burk, P.E., Division Manager, Science and Engineering  
Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Environmental Services Director DS  
CMS  
**COPY:** City Council and City Clerk  
**SUBJECT:** Resolution – Amend Grant Acceptance Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Agreement , WQC-2019-TacoES-00130 for the Upper Buckley Water Quality Project – May 17, 2022  
**DATE:** April 26, 2022

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**SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:**

A resolution authorizing the execution of an amendment to Grant Agreement WQC-2019-TacoES-00130 with the Washington State Department of Ecology to authorize the acceptance of an additional \$1,399,488 and any associated term extensions, for a cumulative total of \$4,810,488; accepting and depositing said sum into the ES Stormwater Fund 4301, to replace stormwater main and construct a stormwater treatment facility in the vicinity of North 16<sup>th</sup> and Junett Streets at the upper end of Buckley Gulch.

**BACKGROUND:**

**This Department's Recommendation is Based On:** On April 2, 2019, the City Council adopted Resolution No. 40278 to execute the original grant agreement with the Washington State Department of Ecology (DOE). That agreement provided \$3,411,000 in DOE funding based on a pre-design estimate of \$4,548,000. After subsequent design, a pre-bid estimate of \$6,641,320.41 was developed and the project was advertised. The awarded bid was \$8,135,684.00, which is \$1,494,363.59, or 22.5 percent higher than the pre-bid estimate. Based on the price escalation of the project, Environmental Services Department petitioned DOE for additional grant funding to help offset the additional cost. The DOE graciously agreed to increase its contribution by \$1,399,488.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:**

Significant public outreach was performed during the design process, including neighborhood mailers, multiple onsite meetings and virtual meetings. During the construction phase of this project, additional mailers will be sent out to the residents, and the project website will include periodic updates to help keep residents informed of construction progress.

**2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:**

**Equity and Accessibility:** *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Pursuing a DOE financial partnership on water quality projects helps reduce Environmental Services' direct project costs, and allows Environmental Services the ability to fund additional 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 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.

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

The primary focus of this project is to construct a new water treatment device, helping to improve the quality of the built environment. However, right-of-way improvements in this neighborhood have been primarily limited to roadway maintenance activities in recent years, with little or no investment in capital improvements. The current roads are in poor condition with multiple cracks and potholes. The existing stormwater collection system is beyond its design life, and is on an alignment and at a depth that makes maintenance very difficult. The intent of the overall project is to construct new stormwater collection system, and replace the existing sub-standard road with a newly paved surface, in addition to provided needed water quality improvements.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1.City fully fund improvements	Improvements to existing collection systems, water quality in Puget Sound and neighborhood livability	Increased stormwater maintenance costs
2.No Action	Reallocate City funding to other projects	Continued degradation of existing pipes, pollution of Puget Sound and delays to necessary improvements in the neighborhood.

**EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:**

Pursuing grant partnership provides considerable cost savings to water quality projects; no follow-up is needed.

**STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends authorizing an amendment to Grant Agreement WQC-2019-TacoES-00130 and any associated term extensions with the DOE, for an additional amount of \$1,399,488; accepting and depositing said sum into the ES Stormwater Fund 4301. These additional funds will help replace stormwater main and construct a stormwater treatment facility in the vicinity of North 16<sup>th</sup> and Junett Streets at the upper end of Buckley Gulch.



**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The requested additional contribution of funds from the Department of Ecology is \$1,399,488, which makes a total contribution of \$4,810,488 towards the overall project cost.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
Washington Dept. of Ecology WQ (Original Agreement)	521900	6371302	\$3,411,000
Washington Dept. of Ecology WQ	521900	6371302	\$1,399,488
<b>TOTAL</b>			<b>\$4,810,488</b>

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

Funding source will be Department of Ecology Water Quality Combined Financial Assistance Grant WQC-2019-TacoES-00130 for \$4,810,488.

**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