



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

Date: May 20, 2016

To: Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager
Through: W. Bowman Ferguson, Deputy City Manager
From: Donald F. Greeley, Director, Water Management
Subject: Supplemental Article # 7 for Jordan Lake Partnership; Compendium of Potential Raw Water Sources for Jordan Lake Partners

Executive Summary:

In March 2008, the City Council adopted a Resolution Supporting Regional Partnerships for Water Supply Planning and the Establishment of a Western Water Intake on the B. Everett Jordan Reservoir. Following that action, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) was developed and approved by 12 entities in the greater Triangle area. The MOU establishes Durham as the lead agency for general activities regarding the Jordan Lake Regional Water Supply Partnership (JLP), and allows for Supplemental Articles to the MOU which will define participation by some or all of the partners in further activities. Since then, Durham and its twelve partners in the Jordan Lake Partnership (JLP) have contracted with numerous entities, including Triangle J Council of Governments (Triangle J), to conduct business on behalf of the Partnership.

To date Triangle J staff has supported the Partners in the development of the award-winning Triangle Regional Water Supply Plan (TRWSP) and crafted the allocation spreadsheets used by many partners to develop their individual Round 4 Allocation requests. In this contract, Triangle J staff will develop a compendium of potential regional raw water sources for the Jordan Lake Partners. When the TRWSP was drafted, only the water supplies considered most reasonable to access or develop were included. Individual allocation requests submitted referenced the most likely sources from the TRWSP. The Partners recognized that there were a number of other studies that had either been conducted individually or by other agencies which were not referenced in the TRWSP or applications because they did not meet the “reasonableness” standard.

As the fiscal agent for the Jordan Lake Partnership, Department of Water Management staff was directed by the members to develop and execute a contract with Triangle J to compile the compendium. The cost-sharing mechanism is outlined in Supplemental Article #7.

Recommendations:

The administration recommends that the City Council authorize the City Manager to:

- 1) Execute Jordan Lake Partnership Supplemental Article #7, Compendium of Potential Raw Water Sources.

Background:

In March 2008, Durham City Council adopted a Resolution Supporting Regional Partnerships for Water Supply Planning and the Establishment of a Western Water Intake on the B. Everett Jordan Reservoir. The City committed to taking a leadership role in the partnership for regional water supply planning and to work with potential partners in the establishment of a western Jordan Lake water intake and possibly build an associated water treatment facility. Further, the City committed to proceed with the negotiation of Interlocal Agreements to accomplish the activities of the Partnership. The Memorandum of Understanding was approved by Durham City Council at the February 16, 2009 Council meeting and has been approved by 12 additional partnering jurisdictions: towns of Apex, Cary, Hillsborough, Holly Springs, Morrisville and Pittsboro, Chatham County, Orange County, Wake County, Orange Water and Sewer Authority (OWASA), and the cities of Sanford and Raleigh. The MOU extension through 2019 was executed in July 2015.

As the lead agency, the City of Durham Department of Water Management serves as the Partnership's fiscal agent. Via this mechanism, the Partnership engaged the services of the Water Resources Planning group at Triangle J Council of Governments (TJCOG) to develop a comprehensive regional water supply plan. The planning document – Triangle Regional Water Supply Plan (TRWSP) – serves as a long-range water supply planning document for the Region. The plan also serves as a basis for Round 4 Jordan Lake Allocation Requests for several partners. The TRWSP received Honorable Mention in the Comprehensive Planning – Multijurisdictional or Regional Project category of the 2014 North Carolina Marvin Colling Planning Awards Program sponsored by the North Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (NC-APA).

The Partnership has also conducted a number of other projects to support implementation of the long-range plans such as the Phase 1 Interconnection Study (complete) and the Phase 2 Interconnection Study (underway). Additional work currently underway includes ongoing evaluations for an additional intake on the western side of Jordan Lake which would potentially serve Chatham County, Durham, OWASA and Pittsboro.

The current Triangle J project will provide a complete catalogue or compendium of all studies conducted and reports prepared during the last 20 to 25 years regarding raw water sources for JL Partners. The allocation applications were based on the sources included in the TRWSP which had been determined to be the most reasonable sources to utilize and/or develop. The compendium will include much broader sources that were not considered due to extremely high cost or other challenges, such as a proposal to consider piping groundwater to the Triangle from PCS Phosphate in Aurora, NC.

Issues and Analysis:

Currently, the 13 different entities have a number of studies however there is no one single resource that captures this information. Having the information available will demonstrate to the Department of Environmental Quality/Water Resources Division and other agencies that the Partners have carefully reviewed and studied all raw water options available beyond those listed in the TRWSP and individual allocation request applications. Triangle J COG was selected by the partnership for this project for a number of reasons including their excellent work on the TRWSP, knowledge of and participation in other studies conducted as well as their long-term positive association with the partners and other agencies.

Alternatives:

Alternative: Do not authorize the City Manager to execute Article #7. As the contract has already been executed – with Durham as the lead agency – and the work is started – the City may not be able to receive reimbursement from partners for the work product.

Financial Impacts:

The total cost of the contract is \$29,262; as the amount is within the City Manager’s signatory authority, the contract was executed in November 2015. Cost sharing among JLP members is outlined in Supplemental Article 7 which has been agreed upon by all entities (see attached). Partner’s cannot process payment without receiving an executed Supplemental Article. The cost share is determined by number of connections which is consistent with other JLP contracts; the City’s cost for this project is \$5,321.00. Water Management will submit an agenda item for Council approval of Article VII and once all signatures have been received, Article VII will be submitted through OnBase for execution.

SDBE Summary:

Not applicable

Attachments

Supplemental Article #7 and signature pages
TJCOG contract for the Compendium of Raw Water Sources for Jordan Lake Partners