

**Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District
Board of Directors Meeting**

August 14, 2017

**Approval of the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Tucson,
Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District, and the Town of Marana
for Water Quality Laboratory Services**

Synopsis

The Board of Directors is requested to consider approving an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) between the City of Tucson, Town of Marana, and the District for water quality laboratory services for the testing of time-sensitive water quality samples by the City of Tucson.

Background

On February 13, 2017, the City of Tucson, the Town of Marana and the District entered into a Memorandum Agreement to establish an interim water quality testing agreement for wells and other sample points in the Northwest area.

The primary constituent to be tested under this IGA is 1,4-dioxane, a presently unregulated contaminant that has been found at the District's Horizon Hills well site above the Environmental Protection Agency's health advisory levels but not above any presently regulated standard. While the Horizon Hills well has been out of service for approximately a year, regular sampling for 1,4-dioxane at the Horizon Hills well site and other nearby wells is prudent to determine if this unregulated contaminant is spreading to other District production wells.

The District has utilized analytical water quality testing service contracts with various laboratories to test regulated and unregulated constituents. The only certified lab for 1,4-dioxane on the District's analytical service contracts requires a turn-around time of over 4 weeks to process and report results to the District. The City of Tucson operates a state certified water quality testing lab that includes the capability to test for 1,4-dioxane and is able to process 1,4-dioxane samples in a fraction of the time; often in less than a week.

Over the past 6-months, the City of Tucson, Town of Marana, and the District have operated under an interim Memorandum Agreement where the City of Tucson's state certified lab analytically tests 1,4-dioxane samples. The 6-month duration was to provide sufficient time to determine the actual cost of service for the City to perform this test.

The determined cost of service for the City of Tucson to perform each 1,4-dioxane analysis is \$150 and is within the acceptable range that the District would pay under other analytical services contracts. Furthermore, the duration to obtain results is drastically reduced than via other testing

mechanisms. Water quality analysis for 1,4-dioxane in situations that are not time critical may utilize existing District analytical services contracts if financially efficient for District ratepayers.

As the District continues to determine both short and long-term solutions to 1,4-dioxane present in the Metro Main service area, expeditious testing results of 1,4-dioxane samples is of critical importance to ensure continued deliveries of safe and reliable water to District residents.

Issues

The interim Memorandum expired on August 14, 2017 and this proposed IGA will enable this critical and responsive water quality testing mechanism to continue.

The City of Tucson Mayor and Council approved this IGA on August 8, 2017 and the Town of Marana Mayor and Council will consider this IGA on August 15, 2017.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Directors approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Tucson, Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District, and the Town of Marana for Water Quality Laboratory Services.

Suggested Motion

I move to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Tucson, Metropolitan Domestic Water Improvement District, and the Town of Marana for Water Quality Laboratory Services.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Olsen, P.E.
General Manager