

# Memorandum

**To:** RPBCWD Board of Managers  
**From:** Jessica Olson  
**Subject:** Upper Riley Creek Project – Request for additional engineering services budget  
**Date:** August 28, 2024  
**Project:** 23/27-0053.14 032B  
**c:** Administrator Jeffery

## Requested Board Action

Barr requests that RPBCWD Board of Managers consider authorizing Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) to spend an additional budget of \$19,500 for engineering design, permitting, and agreement support services related to the Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project.

In May 2021, the RPBCWD completed an ecological enhancement plan for Upper Riley Creek between Highway 5 and Lake Susan. The plan identified stream ecology enhancement options including greater stream depth variability, more channel bed substructure types, and varied channel velocities. The plan also identified improved floodplain connectivity and reduced streambank erosion as ecological enhancement elements. At the January 2022 board meeting, the RPBCWD Board of Managers authorized final design, permitting, and agreement support services for the Upper Riley Creek Ecological Enhancement Project, based on the recommendations included in the enhancement plan, with the assumption that final design would be complete in Spring 2023 and bidding would take place in Spring or Summer 2023, with final site restoration complete in Spring 2024.

The original task order associated with design, permitting, and agreement support for \$339,700 was authorized by the board on January 5, 2022, anticipating that construction would be complete by Spring 2024. Several factors impacted the schedule that have resulted in anticipated bidding occurring more than a year later than the original anticipated timeline. We had hoped to absorb some of these project delay costs without requesting additional budget, but have recognized that this has become challenging as time has gone on. We've completely exhausted the authorized budget and noted the need for a budget adjustment with the Administrator and Board of Managers since the October 2023 monthly engineer's report. Because the entire engineering design, permitting, and agreement support services budget is exhausted, Barr is requesting additional project budget for the following reasons:

- Extensive modeling time to demonstrate no-rise design conditions
- Multiple design iterations associated with no-rise design and modifications for tree avoidance per city guidance
  - The model required several iterations, which in turn required multiple design surface model revisions to achieve no-rise conditions.
  - The design required additional updates following a site walk with the city forester related to preserving specific trees within the project footprint.
- Extra permitting time associated with no-rise coordination, Met Council coordination and site review/updates related to tree avoidance

To: RPBCWD Board of Managers  
From: Jessica Olson  
Subject: Upper Riley Creek Project – Request for additional engineering services budget  
Date: August 28, 2024  
Page: 2

---

- Additional time related to design coordination with Public Works for new decant facility
- The authorized budget anticipated bidding would occur in Summer of 2023 – when it was determined that a decant facility would be added to the project, the project delay of roughly a year resulted in additional incurred costs for Barr staff

Because the modeling, design, permitting, and coordination of the project required significantly more time than originally anticipated to facilitate forward movement with the District's partner, additional budget is needed to complete this phase of the work. The following work items remain between now and the next phase of the project (a late-2024 construction start) following bid awards:

- Continued support for landowner and cooperative agreements
- Continued coordination with decant facility design
- Submission of Upper Riley permit request
- Continued coordination with Met Council and potential permit application(s)
- Revised technical specifications based on RPBCWD legal review
- Revised construction drawings based on agreements and/or permit requirements
- Pre-bid meeting
- Bid document finalization and Qwest CDN support
- Bid review and recommendations