



Text File

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Title

Consider and take action on a resolution authorizing a Professional Services Agreement with CDM Smith, Inc. for services related to the development of the Lead and Copper Rule Revisions (LCRR) Program as mandated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in an amount not to exceed \$97,450 (Director of Public Works)

..Background:

Approval of this resolution will authorize an agreement with CDM Smith, Inc to provide professional services consultation and program development of the EPA's mandated LCRR. CDM Smith, Inc. is on the City's approved list of water and wastewater consultants and was selected based on their vast historical knowledge of the City's water distribution system.

League City's Public Water System (PWS) is currently in compliance with EPA's Lead and Copper Rule (LCR). However, recent revisions of this rule were finalized on December 16, 2021, leading to the current requirements of the LCRR. The revision requires several changes to be in place by a compliance date of October 16, 2024. The revised LCR is EPA's continued effort to improve and eventually eliminate the human health impact from lead drinking water service lines. This is in direct response to the 2016 public water system crisis in Flint, Michigan where a large majority of its' population was exposed to excessive lead concentrations created by a change in the raw water source for the City's treatment facility.

The Lead and Copper Rule (LCR) protects public health by minimizing lead and copper levels in drinking water, primarily by reducing corrosion of plumbing materials. Exposure to lead and copper may cause health problems ranging from stomach distress to brain damage. This rule applies to all community public water systems (PWS) and non-transient non-community water systems (approximately 7,000 in Texas). The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) federally regulates the LCR laws under the Safe Drinking Water Act (40 CFR Part 141 Subpart I), but it is the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) who administers the program locally in the state (Texas Administrative Code §290.117).

What is the LCRR?

EPA's new LCRR further protects children and communities from the risks of lead exposure by getting the lead out of our nation's drinking water, better protecting children at schools and childcare facilities, and empowering communities through information. Advancements under the new rule include:

- Using science-based testing protocols to find more sources of lead in drinking water
- Establishing a trigger level to jumpstart mitigation earlier and in more communities
- Driving more and complete lead service line replacements
- For the first time, requiring testing in schools and childcare facilities
- Requiring water systems to identify and make public the locations of lead service lines

What does the LCRR include?

Lead Service Line Inventory: Specifically, **EVERY** system or their engineers/operators will be required to conduct a Lead Service Line Inventory under the new protocols to find more sources of lead. By October 16, 2024, **EVERY** line or segments of line from the distribution system's point-of-entry to the house or building point-of-entry including private property pipe must be documented, including location, material types, and year of installation, diameter of pipe, and meter/valve models. Material types consist of: (1) lead; (2) non-lead; (3) galvanized downstream of lead; and (4) unknown pipe material. This inventory is required to be reviewed, updated, and submitted annually or triennially. Furthermore, the inventory, or a map of the system, must be publicly available and accessible to the community. In populations excess of 50,000 this information is required to be hosted online via EPA's leadCAST™ inventory software program. Systems with known lead service lines, galvanized lines downstream of lead lines, and/or unknown lead status lines **MUST** develop a Lead Service Line Replacement Plan.

Summary of tasks performed by CDM Smith, Inc.:

- Task 1: Inventory Development and Guidance, which includes research of historic plumbing codes and city ordinances relating to service connections likely to be impacted by the LCRR, development of the initial service line inventory and a subsequent strategy for identifying the number of services connections which do not have material data
- Task 2: Implement Material Validation Strategies, which will provide support on public outreach and communications, provisioning of an application for door-to-door inspections by League City field staff, dashboard and online map for tracking the inventory in leadCAST™, and prioritization to focus verification efforts
- Task 3: Develop LCRR Compliance Readiness plan, which will form the basis for further LCRR activities covering TCEQ requirements and potential funding, corrosion control, tap sampling, public communications and notification, service line procedures and replacements and school sampling

Successful program development of the EPA mandated LCRR keeps our public water system in regulatory compliance with Federal and State regulations and is important in maintaining our State recognized Superior Water Rating.

CONTRACT ORIGINATION: Professional Services Agreement reviewed and approved by City Attorney's Office

Attachments:

1. Data Sheet
2. Proposed Resolution
3. Exhibit A - Professional Services Agreement
4. FY23 New Program Request Form
5. Vendor Report Card

FUNDING

{X} Funding in the amount of \$97,450.00 is available from Water Production's Professional Services Account #10207300-53050.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

{X} Addresses Strategic Planning Success Factor #1 - Develop and Maintain our Infrastructure

APPROVED

FEB 28 2023

CITY COUNCIL

RESOLUTION NO. 2023-40