

**MEETING DATE:** April 9, 2015

**TITLE:** Authorization to extend agreement with Blackstad Consulting under terms of the original contract

**RESOLUTION NUMBER:** 15-033

**PREPARED BY:** Michael Hayman

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**REVIEWED BY:**  Administrator  Counsel  Program Mgr. (Name): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Board Committee  Engineer  Other

**WORKSHOP ACTION:**

<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda	<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda with changes
<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. for more discussion	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to a future workshop (date): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to staff for additional work	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to taskforce or committee (date): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> No further action requested.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: <b>Action on April 9 Consent Agenda</b>

**PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:**

Authorization to extend contract with Blackstad Consulting to perform consultant services and represent District interests related to Blake Road Corridor planning, SW LRT and Community Works Planning, 325 Blake Road, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board golf course planning, and various other initiatives throughout the Minnehaha Creek watershed.

**PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:**

Projects related to Urban Corridor planning within the cities of Hopkins and St. Louis Park as well as initiatives in the Six Mile Creek subwatershed and efforts related to the Comprehensive Plan update.

**PROJECT TIMELINE:**

Planning and project development work is ongoing. Agreement extension through December 31, 2016.

**PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:**

Fund name and number: Planning (2401) – Carryover from 2013 budget  
Expenditures to date: \$21,650 spent of the \$40,000 retainer approved in March 2013  
Requested amount of funding: Continuation of the \$40,000 retainer. No new funds are requested.

**SUMMARY:**

The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers has established the area of Minnehaha Creek between Highway 169 and Meadowbrook Lake as a priority geography for the alignment of programs and capital investment.

Within this area transit, economic development and urban land-use directly intersect with the District's strategic interests. As such, MCWD is an involved partner in numerous ongoing infrastructure efforts and redevelopment opportunities. These efforts include, but are not limited to, Blake Road TAC, SW LRT Issue Resolution, SW LRT Station Area Planning, MCES Lift Station planning, Methodist Hospital planning, Louisiana Road, Knollwood Mall, West 37<sup>th</sup> Street, Powell Road, Lake Street, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board golf course planning, and Hennepin County SW LRT Community Works. In order to supplement existing planning capacities, in April 2013, the District entered into agreement with Blackstad Consulting to provide planning and consultant services. The agreement included a not to exceed (NTE) retainage of \$40,000.00 with a contract expiration of April 30, 2014. The Board extended the agreement under terms of the original contract on May 8, 2014. To-date the District has spent \$21,650.00 of the allocated budget.

Staff recommends that the District Administrator be granted authorization to extend the consultant services agreement with Blackstad Consulting through 2016. This extension will allow for Mr. Blackstad to provide services to the District at the direction of the District Administrator or his delegated staff and to represent the MCWD in accordance with staff direction in areas related to Blake Road Corridor planning, SW LRT and Community Works Planning, 325 Blake Road, Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board golf course planning, and various other initiatives throughout the Minnehaha Creek watershed.

**RESOLUTION**

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**RESOLUTION NUMBER:    15-033**

**TITLE: Authorization to extend agreement with Blackstad Consulting under terms of the original contract**

WHEREAS, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers has identified the urban corridor of Minnehaha Creek as a priority area for the alignment of programs and capital improvement, focused on stormwater management, increased recreational access;

WHEREAS, through collaborative planning the District is actively working to ensure water resource improvements are fully integrated with land use and transit planning being undertaken by the Hennepin County SW LRT Community Works Steering Committee, the City of Hopkins, the City of St. Louis Park, the Metropolitan Council, the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board, Three Rivers Park District and citizen groups;

WHEREAS, the District has initiated or is participating in multiple project/program elements within the urban corridor, including but not limited to Methodist Hospital Remeander, Reach 20 Restoration, 325 Blake Road (Cold Storage) Improvements, Powell-Meadowbrook Study Area, Cottageville Park Expansion, Meadowbrook golf course planning, Louisiana Avenue, West 37<sup>th</sup> & 36<sup>th</sup> Street, Blake Road, MCES Lift Station, Lake Street, and Knollwood Mall;

WHEREAS, the District Board of Managers is interested in ensuring these elements function cohesively to advance water resource goals including stormwater management, floodplain management, recreation, access and education, and also are well coordinated with economic development, transit and other goals of the District's public partners within the corridor;

WHEREAS, the District Board of Managers has adopted a policy framework titled *In Pursuit of a Balanced Urban Ecology*, that reinforces the District's desire to continue reinforcing the integration of the natural and built environments;

WHEREAS, Blackstad Consulting has a demonstrated history of planning work consistent with this policy framework;

WHEREAS, to augment District planning capacities, in April 2013 the Board of Managers authorized the District Administrator, on advice of counsel, to enter into a consulting services agreement with Blackstad Consulting in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00 to perform planning and consultant services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Managers extended the agreement on May 8, 2014 under terms of the original contract, and to-date \$21,650.00 of this authorized sum has been expended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers authorizes the District Administrator to extend the agreement with Blackstad Consulting to December 31, 2016, under the terms of the original contract;

Resolution Number 15-033 was moved by Manager \_\_\_\_\_, seconded by Manager \_\_\_\_\_. Motion to adopt the resolution \_ ayes, \_ nays, \_ abstentions. Date: \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

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**DRAFT for discussion purposes only and subject to Board approval and the availability of funds.  
Resolutions are not final until approved by the Board and signed by the Board Secretary.**