

IMPACT STATEMENT

Legislation title: Authorize Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for the Columbia Slough Sediment Program for \$275,000 (Ordinance)

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Purpose of proposed legislation and background information:

Discuss why the legislation is being proposed and any important background information.

- *Describe the impact of this action on the overall program or project.*
The purpose of this agreement is to allow the City, acting through the Bureau of Environmental Services (BES,) and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to continue implementing remedial actions to address contaminated sediment in the Columbia Slough. Remedial actions for the Columbia Slough are defined in the Record of Decision issued by DEQ in 2005. The Record of Decision identifies actions required to address contaminated sediments posing unacceptable risk to human health and various ecological receptors.
- *If needed, provide information to more fully explain the purpose of the legislation.*
In 2006, DEQ and the City entered into the original Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) to jointly implement elements of the Record of Decision using a watershed approach. The purpose of the IGA and associated Scope of Work was to formalize the partnership between DEQ and BES and to identify the actions and timelines that each agency would use to implement to improve sediment quality and watershed conditions in the Columbia Slough. The intent of this approach is to address the source(s) of sediment contamination within the context of the watershed as a whole, and to address remaining, specific, higher level contamination sites that exceed risks posed by the ubiquitous contamination found in the Portland urban environment.
- *If there's been previous Council action directly related to this legislation, describe, e.g. "This is the 4th contract amendment."*
This 2016 IGA and Scope of work continues work initiated under the 2006 IGA and subsequent amendments. Amendment 1 to the 2006 IGA temporarily extended the termination date (from June 30, 2010 to September 30, 2010), to allow for development of a revised Scope of Work. Amendment 2 documented a new five-year Scope of Work and extended the term of the IGA through June 30, 2015 (Ordinance #184139). The Third Amendment to the 2006 IGA extended the agreement through December 31, 2015, to allow for development of the 2016 IGA and contract.
- *Indicate if the proposed legislation supports or changes specific City policies.* N/A

Financial and budgetary impacts:

Discuss the impacts of the legislation relating to all of the following if relevant:

- *Long-term financial impacts for the City, e.g. ongoing debt payments, purchase of property requiring operations and maintenance, ratification of labor contract, etc.*
The cost of the amended IGA is not to exceed \$55,000 per year for five years, or \$275,000 total. Funds are available in the Sewer System Operating Fund, FY 2015-16 Budget, Bureau of Environmental Services, Center Code ESWS000008, Account No. 529000, and will be requested in subsequent budgets as the agreement allows.

- *Budget impacts – does the action amend the budget; describe any changes to appropriations.*
The annual funding level and total contract amount proposed in the 2016 IGA are similar to those in the existing contract. There is no expected increase to program operating budget resulting from authorization of the 2016 IGA and contract.
- *Change in expenses – does the legislation authorize additional spending on a new or existing project or program include if funds have been budgeted for the intended use.*
This legislation authorizes continued spending at existing levels. Funding for this effort is currently included in the FY-16 budget, and is planned line item in subsequent budget years.
- *If the expense is a “project estimate,” identify the level of confidence.*
The project expenses are based on projections of future work. The projections are guided by long term program implementation (over 10 years) and are therefore provided with a high level of confidence.
- *Change in current and future revenues, including dollar amounts and funding sources*
This legislation will not affect current or future revenue.
- *Current and future staffing levels – does the legislation create, eliminate or re-classify positions now or in the future? How much staff time will this legislation require (even if covered by an existing position)? What are the demographic impacts of changes in staffing?*
No current or future staffing positions will be created, eliminated or reclassified as a result of this legislation.
- *Financial agreements – does the legislation result in a new or modified financial obligation or benefit, including IAs, IGAs, MOUs, grants, contracts or contract amendments.*
This legislation creates a contract between DEQ and the City for oversight, administration and approval of City actions to meet the 2005 Record of Decision for the Columbia Slough.

Community impacts and community involvement:

Discuss the impacts of the legislation relating to all of the following if relevant. Describe who is impacted, how they are impacted, how any negative impacts have been addressed, and how the benefits are distributed. Describe how public involvement and input shaped the bureau’s recommended action.

Education is an important component of the Columbia Slough Sediment Program.

Resident fish in the Columbia Slough contain contaminants that present a risk to human health and wildlife. Consequently, the Oregon Health Authority has imposed a Fish Advisory along the Slough. BES provides education and outreach to citizens who may consume fish caught in the Slough, including:

- Fish Advisory information on the BES website
- Fish Advisory signs posted at over a dozen common fishing spots along the waterway
- Interactive Fish Advisory education and information at public events
- Fish Advisory outreach materials, such as
 - Fish Advisory brochures in six languages
 - Fish Advisory video (also available on BES website)
 - What a Catch! Fish Cookbook (linked to on the BES website)
 - Fake fish model
 - Educational games (“Flip the Fish” and “Nature’s Table”)

Over the last twenty years, three angler surveys have been conducted in an effort to gain a greater understanding of the fishing habits on the Columbia Slough, including demographic profiles of anglers, fishing frequency, fish consumption habits, as well as to understand the anglers' awareness of Columbia Slough Fish Advisories. Based on the survey results, it appears as though angling activity in the Slough is declining while the ethnic breakdown of anglers has remained the same.

BES plays an active role on the Columbia Slough Watershed Council. The Council provides Slough related outreach and encourages public involvement. These activities are most often frequented by Slough residents and stakeholders, business owners, and other governmental organizations,

DEQ and BES are working extensively with commercial, industrial and agricultural businesses to reduce pollutant sources in stormwater runoff that is discharged to City stormwater pipes from private land and ultimately to the Slough.

Sediment in the Slough has a long history of being studied. These reports have been open for public comment; many are available online through either the Department of Environmental Quality or BES.

The Columbia Slough is an important natural, recreational, and educational amenity within the City of Portland. The Slough is an important resource for anglers that seek recreational opportunities and a connection to their homeland through fishing. The Slough is also frequently used by boaters (canoeing and kayaking) and for wildlife viewing at the many open spaces. Whitaker Ponds, is an important education facility for Portland youth that may not have access to nature in the City. Canoe and kayak trips are frequently led by BES staff to provide elected officials, managers, other agencies and stakeholders with an on the ground understanding of BES' core mission and why our work is important.

Collectively, the actions identified above are believed to reach a large Portland demographic; both geographically through large community events, and culturally through specific events that generally appeal to immigrant communities. In addition to the community-oriented activities, more intensive education and outreach is provided for the angling community because of the risk presented by eating fish from the Slough. Lastly, the Slough is an important resource for sharing a key piece of BES's core mission with agencies, elected officials and the public.

Budgetary Impact Worksheet**Does this action change appropriations?**☐ **YES:** Please complete the information below.☒ **NO:** Skip this section

Fund	Fund Center	Commitment Item	Functional Area	Funded Program	Grant	Sponsored Program	Amount