



REPORT TO CITY COUNCIL

**TO: HONORABLE MAYOR
AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

**FROM: GRANT M. YATES
CITY MANAGER**

DATE: October 23, 2018

SUBJECT: Cooperative Funding Agreement for Construction of Regional Agricultural Pipeline Conversion Project – Lake Elsinore Outlet Channel

Recommendation

Approve and authorize the City Manager to execute the Cooperative Funding Agreement between Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District, Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District and the City of Lake Elsinore, in substantially the form as approved by City Attorney.

Background

In association with the 2003 Comprehensive Water Management Agreement (provided for addition of well and reclaimed water to the Lake) between the City and Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District (EVMWD), permission was obtained from Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (RCFCWCD) to use the Outlet Channel as the means of getting the reclaimed water to the Lake. The near constant supply of water has resulted in flourishing vegetation within the channel bottom; the vegetation obstructs and consumes the reclaimed water flow, reducing what actually reaches the Lake. The vegetation has also created maintenance issues for RCFCWCD, the agency responsible for maintenance of the channel.

In 2015, an existing 36" RCP agricultural pipeline (no longer in use) was discovered in the channel. The agricultural pipeline runs parallel in the channel from EVMWD's discharge point for approximately 5,000 feet. A partial inspection revealed the pipeline to be in apparent good condition. It was then proposed that the pipeline be used to transport reclaimed water to the Lake.

Staff from the City, EVMWD and RCFCWCD reviewed the inspection and concurred that the use of the agricultural pipeline would provide for reductions in channel vegetation, maintenance costs, evaporation and evapo-transpiration and result in an increase of discharge flows reaching the Lake and provide for long term savings to all parties. On August 23, 2016, City Council approved the cooperative agreement with EVMWD and RCFCWCD to fund the project design.

Discussion

City, EVMWD and RCFCWCD staff have reviewed and approved the design prepared by Dudek and Associates (Exhibit A - excerpts from plan). The construction cost of \$1,650,000 (Exhibit B) is to be shared equally by all parties with the City's cost not to exceed \$550,000.00 pursuant to a Cooperative Funding Agreement (Exhibit C).

Currently, it is estimated that the construction contract will be awarded in late December with the construction to be completed in 120 days.

Fiscal Impact

The City's cost share of \$550,000.00 is to be appropriated from the budgeted Lake Maintenance fund.

Exhibits: A – Site Design
 B – Cost Estimate
 C – Cooperative Agreement
 D – Vicinity Map