

City of Independence

MEMORANDUM

City Council Office

DATE: August 25th, 2014

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Zachary C. Walker, Management Analyst

SUBJECT: USGS Joint Funding Agreement



Before you is an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to enter into a five year Joint Funding Agreement with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for a study of the characterization of the water quality in the urban streams of Independence. As this ordinance commits a five year City expenditure of \$1,514,450, I have reviewed this contract in accordance with Section 1.43.007 (D) of the City Code.

Under the terms of this agreement, the USGS provide water quality testing services to the City as required under terms of the City's MS4 discharge permit. The USGS will also help assist the City in performing illicit discharge surveys and biological sampling. Staff from the Water Pollution Control Department noted that this partnership with the USGS dates back to the early 1990's. As such, the USGS has been able to build a superior historical record of data on behalf of the City, allowing for expedited permitting services as well as equipping the City with necessary information that may be required from various state and federal regulatory agencies.

This agreement is scheduled to be in effect for a period of five years. The City is scheduled to contribute \$1,514,450 over that period, with the USGS contributing \$575,000 to cover the cost of the necessary field and analytical work directly related to this program. The field and analytical work pertaining to this program will be under the direction of the USGS.

Having reviewed this agreement and all applicable documents, I can find no terms that would be considered harmful to the City. Please let me know if you have any additional questions.

C: Robert Heacock, City Manager
Dick Champion, Director, Water Pollution Control