

Division of Water

Request for Legislation

Ordinance No. 896-2020, passed by City Council on December 9th, 2020, authorizes the Division of Water to enter into one of more agreements with the State of Ohio to replace lead service lines to state-registered Daycare facilities. The Division wishes to amend this Ordinance, to accept a grant from the State of Ohio in the approximate amount of \$500,000 from the H2Ohio fund, to perform additional lead service lines replacements.

Background/Purpose:

Lead is a known neurotoxin and carcinogen. The population most at risk to lead exposure is children. While Cleveland Water's orthophosphate corrosion control treatment is highly effective at minimizing lead exposure through drinking water, lead service lines are a remaining risk to lead exposure. Childcare facilities with known lead service lines represent an opportunity to reduce the risk to this population.

Using existing contracts, Cleveland Water will be replacing Cleveland Water-owned lead service lines at approximately 450 state-registered Type A, B, and C childcare facilities in Cuyahoga County. This will be part of a joint-agency effort with Ohio EPA, Ohio Department of Health, Ohio Department of Jobs and Family Services, and their third-party contractor. Cleveland Water will also supply lead filter pitchers, 30-day post replacement sample bottles for lead analysis, and lead education materials, as required by Ohio laws and rules. The additional grant money that this Amendment will authorize will be used to continue replacing lead service lines at additional childcare facilities and school buildings still serviced by lead service lines in our service area. If funds from these sources remain, Cleveland Water may utilize the remaining funds to replace residential lead service lines, after consultation with the appropriate city or county health department and Ohio EPA.

Justification/Urgency:

The original Legislation authorized Cleveland Water to enter into a Water Supply Revolving Loan Account loan agreement with the State of Ohio to reimburse Cleveland Water for its costs. This particular loan is intended to be principal forgiveness, i.e., a grant. This Amendment is required to authorize accepting an additional \$500,000 grant from the H2Ohio fund.

Anticipated Costs and funding source:

The anticipated cost of this work is \$1 million for Fiscal Year 2021. If Ohio EPA funding permits, an additional \$1 million could be available in Fiscal Year 2022 to remove lead service lines from qualifying childcare facilities that remain in Cuyahoga County, in the surrounding counties of Cleveland Water's service area, any school buildings served by a lead service line, and qualifying residences served by lead service lines. The funding source will be from the Ohio EPA through its Water Supply Revolving Loan Account. An additional \$500,000 grant was recently offered to Cleveland Water and will be sourced from the State of Ohio's H2Ohio funding program and will be targeted for childcare facilities only.

Schedule or Term of Contract:

The schedule is anticipated to be complete by 2023 for the targeted childcare facilities.

Current Contract(s): N/A

Previous Contract(s): N/A

