

**OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS COMMUNICATION
MAY 20, 2025 AGENDA**

Subject:	Action Required:	Approved By:
Environmental Protection Agency Wetland Development Program Grant Subaward Agreement for Fourche Creek water and soil sampling research with University of Arkansas at Little Rock (UALR) School of Physical Sciences – Geology Program Submitted By: Grants and Public Works Department	Ordinance ✓ Resolution	Delphone Hubbard Acting City Manager

SYNOPSIS

A resolution authorizing the City Manager to enter into a subaward agreement for research assistance, in compliance with the grant requirements, to provide Fourche Creek water and soil sampling at four to six locations for up to 24 months by UALR Geology Program students, including one graduate student and two undergraduate students.

FISCAL IMPACT

The cost for research assistance is not to exceed \$38,984.00. Funding for project will be from Account # 270409 G40DF242 63391.

RECOMMENDATION

Approval of the resolution.

BACKGROUND

On September 24th, 2024, the City of Little Rock was awarded an EPA Wetland Program Development Grant for total of \$270,389.00, to develop a management plan for Fourche Creek, Little Rock's most important watershed. The grant award period is thirty-six (36) months. Proposed budget costs include senior personnel, graduate assistants, and undergraduate students. The Principal Investigator is budgeted at \$7,102. Graduate assistants are allocated \$3,750 per year, while undergraduate students receive \$7,200 per year, totaling \$21,900 over 2 years. Additional direct costs include \$4,000 in materials and supplies and \$1,000 shipping. Total direct costs amount to \$27,119, with indirect costs of \$11,865, bringing the total sponsor request to \$38,984.00. Fourche Creek filters more than 70% of Little Rock's stormwater runoff with hundreds of acres of wetlands in its lower reaches. A wetland management plan will provide the City an opportunity to share knowledge of wetlands with key decisionmakers and promote integration of wetland protection and restoration into watershed planning m with an emphasis of flood mitigation, water quality and climate change mitigation.