

Memorandum

REPORT TO: City Commission

FROM: Jessica Ahlstrom, Water Conservation Program Manager
Adam Oliver, Stormwater Program Manager
Shawn Kohtz, Utilities Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with Mountain Goat Instructional Design LLC. to Implement Year Five of a Direct Student Engagement Program in Bozeman Public Schools Utilizing the Bozeman Water Conservation and Stormwater Management Educator Guide

MEETING DATE: September 9, 2025

AGENDA ITEM TYPE: Agreement - Vendor/Contract

RECOMMENDATION: Authorize the City Manager to Sign a Professional Services Agreement with Mountain Goat Instructional Design LLC. to Implement Year Five of a Direct Student Engagement Program in Bozeman Public Schools Utilizing the Bozeman Water Conservation and Stormwater Management Educator Guide.

STRATEGIC PLAN: 6.1 Clean Water Supplies: Ensure adequate supplies of clean water for today and tomorrow.

BACKGROUND: On October 15, 2015 the City entered into an agreement with Project WET Foundation, a local non-profit organization that provides action-oriented water education programs for students and teachers, to develop the [Bozeman Water Conservation and Stormwater Management Educator Guide](#) (Guide). The Guide, which correlates to Common Core and Next Generation Science Standard learning objectives at the 5th grade level, includes a series of five place-based, hands-on lessons that present complex concepts related to watersheds, water conservation and stormwater in a fun, relevant, and accessible manner.

From 2015-2018, nine Bozeman Public School teachers among seven schools volunteered to facilitate lessons included in the Guide to over 1,300 students. In 2017, the Bozeman Public School District adopted the Guide as a supplementary curriculum resource for all 5th grade classrooms. Despite making a concerted effort to provide teachers with continuing education credits and flexible training to facilitate the Guide with students, it has become increasingly challenging to recruit teachers to utilize the Guide in the classroom. This is likely due in part to teacher turnover, heavy teacher workloads, and an increased time commitment to facilitate the lessons.

On January 25, 2022, the City of Bozeman launched the Bozeman Water Conservation and Stormwater Management Educator Guide Direct Student Engagement Program (Program) to provide 5th grade teachers with an opportunity to receive instructor support to teach the lessons directly to students - removing the time commitment associated with Guide implementation from the 5th grade teachers.

The attached Professional Services Agreement (PSA) represents work to continue this Program and will allow for Mountain Goat Instructional Design LLC. to facilitate the lessons to all 19 5th grade classrooms in the Bozeman Public School District. This program will advance the educational objectives of the Water Conservation and Stormwater Divisions by reaching more young learners with locally relevant, objective, and experiential water education. Additionally, the program will facilitate compliance with the City's MS4 Permit Outreach and Education and Public Involvement requirements.

UNRESOLVED ISSUES: None.

ALTERNATIVES: As suggested by the Commission.

FISCAL EFFECTS: Total costs for this project are not to exceed \$25,443.45 and will be paid for out of the approved Water Conservation and Stormwater Division professional services fund.

Attachments:

[PSA_2025-2026_Mountain Goat Instructional Design Student Engagement Program.pdf](#)

[Exhibit A_2025-2026 Scope of Services_Mountain Goat Instructional Design Direct Student Engagement Program.pdf](#)

Report compiled on: August 27, 2025