



REQUEST FOR ACTION

Opioid Litigation Settlement Agreements and Authorization

MEETING DATE:

September 8, 2025

ORIGINATING DEPT:

City Attorney's Office

AGENDA SECTION:

Consent Agenda

PRESENTER:

Michael Spindler-Krage

Action Requested:

Adopting a Resolution authorizing participation in additional and future national prescription opioid settlement agreements.

Report Narrative:

As reflected in Council actions previously, there was evidence that opioid manufacturers unduly escalated opioid use by encouraging doctors to write prescriptions despite knowing many of the drugs were being abused or sold. In 2019 the Rochester Common Council approved participation in multi-state prescription opioid litigation to seek recompense. The State of Minnesota and many municipalities across the country engaged in litigation, leading to a resolution framework and an initial round of settlement agreements, approved by the City in December of 2021.

Two additional settlement agreements have been reached, with Purdue Pharma & Sackler Family as well as an additional grouping of opioid supply chain defendants, with the group referred to as "Alvogen."

Rochester's share of these additional settlements will not be known until the settlement class is finalized.

To-date, the settlement funds already received by the City have largely been used to support the DECO team, via approval by the Council in 2023, attached.

City efforts continue to evolve on this topic, as we identify additional needs and appropriate uses for these settlement funds. The City Attorney will serve on the Olmsted County Overdose Fatality Review Team. With agreement by the Council, we would schedule an update for the Council in later 2025 or early 2026 to discuss the ongoing use of settlement funds, seeking input and authorization, if appropriate.

Priorities & Foundational Principles:

Public Safety
Social Equity

Policy Considerations & DEI Impact:

Parameters for use of the settlement funds is determined by the Amended Minnesota Opioids State Subdivision Memorandum of Agreement.

It is recognized that Olmsted County has primary responsibility in the areas of Health and Human Services, Housing, and related addiction treatment services. However, the reality is that the social harm related to opioid abuse also creates very challenging day-to-day public safety challenges within the City of Rochester.

Prior Legislative Actions & Community Engagement:

March 2019 Council authorization to join multi-state litigation.

December 2021 Council authorization of first round of settlement agreements.

Fiscal & Resource Impact:

Via prior Council action, the City has committed \$120,000 annually toward a DECO position imbedded with the Rochester Police Department. This commitment runs from 2024 through 2028.

With this additional settlement, the City team will restart discussions on the most effective and evidence-based intervention tactics to disrupt the ongoing opioid epidemic. Updated recommendations will be brought to Council in late 2025 or early 2026.

Alternative Action(s):

None recommended at this time.

Prepared By:

Michael Spindler-Krage

Attachments:

[Presentation - Olmsted County DECO Expansion Proposal to County Board](#)

[Agreement - Minnesota Opioid Settlement Allocation](#)

[Resolution 282-21 - Opioid Settlement](#)

[2023 Agreement - Olmsted County Agreement DECO Team](#)

[Resolution - Opioid Litigation Settlement Agreement - Second Round & Future Authorization](#)