

# **HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA**

**REPORT TO THE COMMISSIONERS**

**DATE: OCTOBER 25, 2023**

**REGARDING: RESOLUTION APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE  
EXECUTION OF A LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH  
DORSEY & WHITNEY LLP, CITYWIDE**

## **Requested Board Action**

To approve the provision of legal services for the HRA from Dorsey & Whitney and execution of a master legal services agreement.

## **Background**

The law firms of Kennedy & Graven, Chartered and Ballard Spahr LLP currently provide bond counsel and related public finance legal services for the HRA in its development and redevelopment activities in consultation with the City Attorney's Office (CAO) under a Master Legal Services Agreement. To update the panel of outside law firms, the CAO researched interest and qualifications for Legal Services for both the HRA and the City. The CAO evaluated qualifications and based on their evaluation and interviews of various law firms, the CAO recommends the HRA Board of Commissioners engage the law firm of Dorsey & Whitney LLP to perform Legal Services for the HRA, at the direction of CAO.

The CAO is hereby submitting to the HRA Board of Commissioners for approval a master legal services agreement ("Master Legal Services Agreement") with Dorsey & Whitney LLP for a duration of fifteen (15) months commencing October 1, 2023, and ending December 31, 2024, with an optional one-year renewal period.

A copy of the Master Legal Services Agreement is on file in the office of the HRA Executive Director.

The Saint Paul City Council is also being requested to take action with respect to the approval of Dorsey & Whitney LLP to perform Legal Services for the City.

## **Budget Action**

No budget action is needed.

**Recommendation:**

The Executive Director recommends approval of the resolution authorizing the execution of a legal services agreement with Dorsey & Whitney LLP.

**Sponsored by:** Chair Tolbert

**Staff:** Jenny Wolfe, 266-6680