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September 09, 2020

### **DECISION MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Massoud Jourabchi  
Manager, Economic Analysis

**SUBJECT:** Contract with Systematic Solutions, Inc. for fiscal year 2021

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Staff recommends authorization to contract with Systematic Solutions, Inc (SSI) for fiscal year 2021 in an amount not-to-exceed \$67,192 to provide general model support and updates to the long-term load forecasting model, Energy 2020.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** The proposed Council action is sought to ensure the Energy2020 model is maintained and updated as necessary to support the continued development of the 2021 Power Plan within the current timeline.

### **BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS:**

Total contract budget not-to-exceed \$67,192.

### **BACKGROUND**

SSI's Energy2020 model produces forecasts of the electricity demands of the region and can provide electricity and load forecasts for a wide range of business sectors. In development of the 2021 Power Plan Council staff utilizes the Energy2020 model to produce a wide range of load forecasts and to measure future impacts of a variety of scenarios.

### **ANALYSIS**

SSI's support for the Energy2020 model is anticipated to be needed throughout fiscal year 2021 to support the continued use of the model in plan development, including, for example, providing support for the pathways to decarbonization scenario analysis,

debugging the model and incorporating energy efficiency and demand response in the frozen efficiency forecast and other scenarios. Energy2020 is an SSI model, and, SSI is capable of providing model maintenance and necessary updates in an efficient and effective manner.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

An alternative is for the staff to undertake the model maintenance and enhancements, without outside support; however, this would likely take significant staff time to develop and implement the enhancements and may delay when a revised model version is available for use in development of the 2021 Power Plan, which could impact the plan timeline.