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November 8, 2016

### DECISION MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Council members

**FROM:** Ben Kujala, Power Planning Director

**SUBJECT:** Authorization to enter into Regional Portfolio Model software support contract for FY2017.

**PROPOSED ACTION:** Council staff recommends authorization to contract with Navigant for technical support for the redeveloped model on an as-needed basis. The authorization would provide for a one year agreement upon expiration on September 30, 2017 of the existing support contract.

**SIGNIFICANCE:** The need for continuing RPM software support is anticipated to continue for the next few years.

### BUDGETARY/ECONOMIC IMPACTS

Not to Exceed \$50,000.

### BACKGROUND AND ANALYSIS

This is a contract with Navigant Consulting covers software support on an as-needed basis and enables staff to troubleshoot particular software problems and to make enhancements to the model. Enhancements to RPM are expected in FY17, including to the way it handles optimization.

If authorized by the Council, staff will pursue a contract with Navigant for work to be performed, as needed, on a task-order basis. This is similar to the terms of the existing contract with Navigant.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

The alternative is to have Council staff perform the troubleshooting and fixes and any additional enhancement work on the model themselves. It is possible that the need may still arise to hire outside experts to assist on an occasional basis even with staff doing most of the heavy lifting on the model going-forward. The primary concern however is that relying solely on staff without a technical support contract already in place and ready to be activated when the need arises may cause a delay in the development and adoption of the 8<sup>th</sup> Plan.