

## GRANT ANALYSIS FORM OPERATING & CAPITAL GRANT PROJECTS/PROGRAMS

Department/Division: Health Department-LaboratoryContact Person & Phone No: Dr. Sanjib Bhattacharyya, Laboratory Director – Ext. 5702

## Category of Request

 New Grant Grant Continuation

Previous Council File No. \_\_\_\_\_

 Change in Previously Approved Grant

Previous Council File No. \_\_\_\_\_

Project/Program Title: Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) Project E: Emerging Issues for the Enhanced Detection, Response, Surveillance, and Prevention of COVID-19 Expansion FundingGrantor Agency: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (via Wisconsin Division of Public Health (WI DPH))Grant Application Date: February/March 2021Anticipated Award Date: June/July 2021

## 1. Description of Grant Project/Program (Include Target Locations and Populations):

The ELC Enhancing Detection Emerging Issues COVID-19 Expansion funding builds upon similar ELC Enhancing Detection COVID grant funding previously awarded to the Laboratory in 2020. As proposed in its scope of work for this project, MHDL plans to utilize this particular funding to provide real-time detection of COVID-19 variants of concern, enhance and diversify genome sequencing and data analysis, and expand lab capacity to accommodate increasing demand and workload.

MHDL aims to sequence an estimated 2,000 positive SARS-CoV-2 specimens from Milwaukee County to help trace transmission activity and detect emergence of variants to prevent spread. Specimens from local outbreaks, high-risk facilities, student populations and other local health departments in SE Wisconsin will be supported during enhanced genomic surveillance.

MHDL's efforts will fall under the following overarching strategies:

1. Purchase high throughput, diverse detection and sequencing technologies and platforms along with other necessary equipment, data storage and data analysis software to improve sequencing capacity, advance detection capability, and enhance surveillance activities.
2. Ensure the necessary workforce (microbiologist/molecular, admin support staff and bioinformatics contact services) to support project activities.
3. Expand wastewater monitoring program to enhance and sustain SARS-CoV-2 virus surveillance to mitigate potential source of health risk via sewage transmission, including partnering with agencies such as UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee and submitting data to the National Wastewater Surveillance System database.
4. Enhance laboratory capability to develop advanced bioinformatics pipelines, electronic data exchange, improve PHL surveillance data interoperability, modernization and efficient reporting.
5. Present COVID-19 genomic surveillance data at state and national conferences and publish in peer-reviewed journals to share surveillance efforts and lessons learned.

## 2. Relationship to City-Wide Strategic Goals and Departmental Objectives:

This grant directly relates to the MHD departmental strategic goal of increasing public health preparedness to respond to emergencies, and also supports the departmental mission and core values of collaboration and innovation.

## 3. Need for Grant Funds and Impact on Other Departmental Operations (Applies only to Programs):

These grant funds and related activities will positively impact laboratory and epidemiology related operations at the MHD, and support ongoing lab services in response to COVID-19.

## 4. Results Measurement/Progress Report (Applies only to Programs):

Performance measures specific to COVID-19-related activities will be finalized and provided to recipients within 21 days of award.

Summary of Reporting Requirements:

1. Quarterly progress reports on milestones in approved workplans
2. Monthly fiscal reports
3. Performance measure data
4. CDC may also require annual progress reports

## 5. Grant Period, Timetable and Program Phase-Out Plan:

The funding period for the initial award is March 1, 2021 through July 31, 2023.

6/15/04

6. Provide a list of Subgrantees:

This grant is anticipated to be directly awarded to the Wisconsin Division of Public Health (WI DPH), with funds administered to the MHD Laboratory (subgrantee) via a contract with WI DPH. MHDL has also proposed to include UW-Madison and UW-Milwaukee as subgrantees for specific project work.

- 7 If Possible, complete Grant Budget Form and attach to back.

Grant budget form is attached.