



**Contract and Award Letter
Purchase Resolution – Exhibit “A”**

TO: Board of Contracts and Awards
FROM: Ramiro A. Chavez, P.E., PgMP, Director/City Engineer, Environmental Services
Lance Bunch, P.E., Principal Engineer
COPY: City Council, City Manager, City Clerk, EIC Coordinator, LEAP Coordinator, and
Stan Rowden II, Senior Buyer, Finance/Procurement
SUBJECT: Engineering Services for Central Treatment Plant New Influent and Secondary
Effluent Pump Stations Variable Frequency Drive Replacement Project – Contract
No. CW2279132- January 6, 2026, City Council
DATE: December 8, 2025

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GMS
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RAC

RECOMMENDATION SUMMARY: The Environmental Services (ES) Department recommends a contract be awarded to Carollo Engineers, Inc., Seattle, WA, in the amount of \$1,376,824, plus applicable taxes, budgeted from the ES Wastewater Fund 4300, for the Central Treatment Plant (CTP) for the New Influent and Secondary Effluent Pump Stations Variable Frequency Drive (VFD) Replacement Project.

STRATEGIC POLICY PRIORITY:

- Strengthen and support a safe city with healthy residents.
- Assure outstanding stewardship of the natural and built environment.

Upgrading the New Influent and Secondary Effluent Pump Stations with replacement VFDs at the CTP will reduce the risk of untreated wastewater overflows. Failure of the VFDs could cause the pumps to shut down which places the treatment plant offline and significantly increases the chance of discharges into the surrounding community and environment.

BACKGROUND: The New Influent and the Secondary Effluent Pump Stations, both located at the CTP, were constructed in 2007 and 1985, respectively. These pump stations have a pumping capacity of 150 million gallons per day and service most customers in the City of Tacoma as well as customers located in Fife, Fircrest, Milton, Pierce County and King County.

ISSUE: ES has been experiencing failures in the existing Secondary Effluent Pump Station VFDs. The VFD equipment in both pump stations is now obsolete and has been discontinued by the original manufacturer, making spare parts increasingly difficult to obtain.

ES requires professional engineering support to assist staff during the design phase of this project. The selected consultant will perform electrical design work and provide supplemental services in mechanical, civil, structural, and instrumentation engineering. The scope of work includes replacing the existing VFDs and adding new dedicated medium-voltage circuits and transformers for each unit. This design will build upon the medium-voltage and equipment infrastructure installed as part of the Electrical Distribution System Replacement Project completed in 2018.

ALTERNATIVES: The primary alternative to designing and installing new VFDs for the CTP Influent and Secondary Effluent Pump Stations is to take no action and accept the associated risks. If the existing VFDs were to fail, pump shutdowns could occur for an extended period, creating a risk of sewer overflows at the treatment plant and surcharging within the upstream collection system until repairs are completed.



COMPETITIVE ANALYSIS: The City of Tacoma solicited engineering and architectural services to develop the citywide Architectural and Engineering (A&E) Roster. Three consulting firms were selected from the A&E Roster and subsequently evaluated to find the most qualified consultant for this project. This evaluation process resulted in Carollo Engineers, Inc. as the most qualified engineering firm to complete this work.

CONTRACT HISTORY: New Contract

SUSTAINABILITY: Replacing the VFDs will improve energy efficiency by enabling greater control over pump motor speeds which reduces overall energy consumption and operational costs. In addition, the integration of dedicated medium voltage circuits and transformers will reduce electrical losses and improve system reliability and performance.

EQUITY IN CONTRACTING (EIC) COMPLIANCE: Not applicable - Service contract - EIC Regulations are not yet established

LOCAL EMPLOYMENT AND APPRENTICESHIP TRAINING PROGRAM (LEAP) COMPLIANCE: Not Applicable

FISCAL IMPACT:

EXPENDITURES:

FUND NUMBER & FUND NAME	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
4300-ES Wastewater Fund	ENV-04030-07-05	5330100	\$1,376,824
TOTAL			Up to \$1,376,824

REVENUES:

FUNDING SOURCE	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	COST ELEMENT	TOTAL AMOUNT
4300-ES Wastewater Fund	524700	6310010	(\$1,376,824)
TOTAL			Up to (\$1,376,824)

FISCAL IMPACT TO CURRENT BIENNIAL BUDGET: \$1,376,824

ARE THE EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES PLANNED AND BUDGETED? Yes.

IF EXPENSE IS NOT BUDGETED, PLEASE EXPLAIN HOW THEY ARE TO BE COVERED. N/A