



UTILITIES DEPARTMENT

Wes Byne, P.E.
Director

Chad Hendrix, P.E.
Assistant Director

TO: Andy Penick, Director
Procurement Department

THROUGH: Wes Byne, P.E., Director *Wes*
Utilities Department

FROM: Mitchell O'Neal, P.E., Engineering Manager *Mitch*
Utilities Department

Cc: Chad Hendrix, P.E., Assistant Director - Engineering & Construction
Utilities Department

DATE: June 25, 2026

SUBJECT: Change Order Request – Augusta Canal - Embankment Repair Project

It is the Augusta Utilities Departments request that the attached amendment provided by Schnabel Engineering be approved via Change Order to include design services associated with the emergency repairs to the Aqueduct seepage, additional permitting coordination support as required by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), additional design services in response to FERC review, and updates to the Opinion of Probable Cost for project phasing and budgeting in the amount of \$36,476.50.

The attached Proposal and Contract Change Order Form outline these services, and AUD has determined the associated costs are fair and reasonable. Schnabel Engineering is prequalified under RFQ 24-132, approved by the commission on June 27, 2024, and is currently contracted to perform the professional services required for engineering design, bid phase, and construction administration services for the repair of the Augusta Canal Embankment Repair Project.

PROFESSIONAL CONTRACT CHANGE ORDER

CO NUMBER	1
BID ITEM	N/A
DATE	

PROJECT TITLE AUGUSTA CANAL EMBANKMENT REPAIR PROJECT
ORIGINAL CONTRACT DATE SEPTEMBER 17, 2025 **PROJECT NUMBER** AUD 2025-010
OWNER AUGUSTA, GEORGIA **PO NUMBER** 25AUA347

The following change is hereby made to the contract for the above project:

Description of Change (for a more detailed description see attached proposal):

- Addition of design services in the form of updates to the opinion of probable cost to reflect desired phasing.
- Addition of permitting coordination services, additional response to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) review comments.
- Addition of emergency embankment repair design services at the aqueduct seepage.

PAYEE SCHNABEL ENGINEERING, LLC
TOTAL AMOUNT OF THIS CHANGE ORDER \$ 36,476.50

The contract time will be INCREASED by 0 calendar days as a result of this change.

ORIGINAL CONTRACT AMOUNT \$ 394,000.00
PREVIOUS CHANGE ORDER (INCREASE) \$ N/A
THIS CHANGE ORDER (INCREASE) \$ 36,476.50
TOTAL REVISED CONTRACT AMOUNT WITH CHANGE ORDER \$ 430,476.50

FUNDING NUMBER/ACCOUNT NUMBER

PROPOSED BY:  **DATE:** 6/29/2026
CONSULTANT

REQUESTED BY:  **DATE:** 06/29/2026
AUD PROJECT MANAGER

SUBMITTED BY:  **DATE:** 29 Jun 26
DEPARTMENT HEAD

FINANCE ENDORSEMENT: _____ **DATE:** _____
COMPTROLLER

RECOMMENDED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____
ADMINISTRATOR

APPROVED BY: _____ **DATE:** _____
MAYOR

June 10, 2026

Chad Hendrix
Assistant Director
Augusta Utilities Department
452 Walker Street, Suite 200
Augusta, Georgia 30901

(Via email: CHendrix@augusta.gov)

Subject: Amendment for Additional Engineering Services, Canal Embankment Repairs, Augusta Canal Embankment, Richmond and Columbia Counties, Georgia (Schnabel Reference 24170044.02P)

Dear Mr. Hendrix:

SCHNABEL ENGINEERING, LLC (Schnabel) is pleased to present this amendment to our current agreement, for which a Purchase Order was issued on October 22, 2025, with the Augusta Utilities Department (AUD) for engineering services associated with repairs to portions of the Augusta Canal Embankment and ancillary features.

In addition to services associated with repairs to portions of the Augusta Canal Embankment and ancillary features, Schnabel provided emergency response engineering services from July 29, 2025 to August 7, 2025, associated with observed seepage emanating from the location of masonry aqueducts within a portion of the Augusta Canal Embankment.

Schnabel developed design documents, including construction drawings and specifications, for the project that were submitted to AUD, and subsequently to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), in November 2025. Schnabel supported AUD on the permit coordination effort by responding to comments received from FERC in December 2025. In early 2026, during AUD's continuing coordination with FERC for the project, Schnabel understands that FERC required that the proposed canal embankment repairs be coordinated with other regulatory agencies/groups. Also, on April 21, 2026, FERC sent a letter to AUD indicating that the previously-provided December 2025 comments were adequately addressed. However, FERC included additional comments requiring attention. Finally, Schnabel developed and submitted a memo to AUD on December 4, 2025 regarding Schnabel's Opinion of Probable Construction Cost (OPCC) associated with the repairs detailed and described in the design documents. Schnabel understands that AUD has reviewed the opinion of cost, and would like Schnabel to modify the repair prioritization areas, as well as distribute the base embankment improvements over the various prioritization areas.

As requested by AUD, Schnabel has included the scope and fees associated with the emergency response engineering services provided in 2025, in this Scope and Fee Amendment. Also, based on the additional needs described above, Schnabel has developed this Scope and Fee Amendment that outlines the scope of additional services and specifies Schnabel's additional fees.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

Schnabel's amended scope of services to our current agreement with AUD will include the following:

- Aqueduct seepage emergency response
- Permitting coordination support
- Response to additional FERC review comments
- Updates to OPCC

The following sections describe the scope for each of the major tasks listed above.

Aqueduct Seepage Emergency Response

On Tuesday, July 29, 2025, AUD personnel contacted Schnabel with a request to provide emergency engineering services in response to an increase in observed seepage at the downstream end of masonry aqueducts (originally constructed in the mid-1800's and partially decommissioned in the late 1800's) located within a portion of the Augusta Canal Embankment downstream of Lake Olmstead. The seepage had been previously observed by AUD and Schnabel personnel, most recently on July 2, 2025 during a site reconnaissance of the embankment. The seepage rate at the time was estimated to be on the order of one gallon per minute (1 gpm).

On the date of the request for services, AUD personnel estimated that the seepage had increased to a rate on the order of 10 to 20 gpm. Since the initial phone call from AUD that included a request for services associated with the seepage observations, Schnabel has performed/provided the following services:

- Engaged and dispatched Schnabel local contract teaming subconsultant (Ardurra) personnel to support initial on-site observations and evaluation of the condition of the seepage and embankment. Ardurra personnel has performed on-site observations and documentation of the recommended response effort between July 29, 2025 and August 4, 2025. Schnabel issued a memorandum of agreement (MOA) to AUD on August 4, 2025.
- Participated in conference calls with Ardurra and AUD personnel to discuss observations and provide recommendations to support the response.
- Developed a list of recommendations to preliminarily respond to the increased seepage rate. These recommendations were submitted in an email from Schnabel at 5:10 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29, 2025.
- Drafted seepage repair schematic plan and details. The plan and details were submitted in an email from Schnabel at 7:13 p.m. on Tuesday, July 29, 2025.
- Review canal embankment Supporting Technical Information Document (STID) with a focus on the portion of the embankment in the vicinity of the aqueducts

- STID review noted the finding of beaver activity by another consulting engineer during a drained inspection of the canal embankment in the vicinity of the upstream slope of the embankment along the alignment of the aqueduct.
- Schnabel and Ardurra personnel reviewed AUD updates and provided engineering recommendations to support the response to the increased rate in seepage. Schnabel understands that measures included in the schematic repair plan and details were implemented by a contractor under the observation of AUD personnel.

Permitting Coordination Support

During FERC's review of the embankment repair project, AUD was informed by FERC that permitting coordination would be required with the following regulatory agencies/groups:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)
- Georgia Department of Community Affairs Historic Preservation Division (HPD)

Based on coordination with AUD, Schnabel will provide the following services associated with permitting coordination:

- **USFWS**
 - Schnabel understands that the only threatened and endangered species with critical habitat in the vicinity of the project extents is the Ocmulgee Skullcap.
 - Schnabel will coordinate with Eric Bauer (USFWS) to overlay the known critical habitat on the overall project site plan.
 - In addition to the site plan with indicated habitat, Schnabel will consolidate the following documents associated with USFWS coordination to submit with the next response to FERC comments:
 - Correspondence regarding Georgia EPD Buffer Variance (two letters)
 - FERC letter, dated January 9, 2026, regarding a Request for Concurrence with Supplemental Endangered Species Assessment
 - USFWS letter, dated January 15, 2026, in response to FERC's Request for Concurrence
 - Federal Threatened and Endangered Species Review Report, prepared by Bluewater Engineering Services and dated December 30, 2025.
- **NMFS**
 - Schnabel understands that NMFS has provided AUD with a preliminary response indicating that NMFS is unable to determine a route of effect that may affect any Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed species or critical habitat under NMFS's purview.
 - Schnabel will summarize this determination in the next response letter to FERC and include either the email from Andrew Herndon (NOAA) to yourself, dated February 3, 2026, or an official letter from NOAA-NMFS if one is planned to be received.

- HPD
 - Schnabel understands that HPD issued a letter to AUD, dated April 16, 2026, indicating a conditional opinion that the “project will likely have no adverse effect to historic property”.
 - Schnabel will update the construction drawings and specifications to include notes to address the conditions described in the letter.
 - Schnabel will prepare a response letter to HPD on behalf of AUD, and include the correspondence with the next submittal to FERC.

Response to Additional FERC Review Comments

Schnabel will prepare a response to the FERC Division of Dam Safety and Inspections (D2SI) letter, dated April 21, 2026. The letter includes an Enclosure with additional comments requiring action and/or responses. In addition to addressing the comments and updating the construction plans and specifications for the project, as noted, Schnabel will coordinate with AUD to prepare and submit the following items to FERC:

- Temporary Construction Emergency Action Plan (TCEAP)
- Quality Control and Inspection Plan (QCIP)

Schnabel will reference similar documents in the Supporting Technical Information Document (STID), as well as recent deliverables that have been prepared to coordinate with FERC on other Schnabel projects to develop both the TCEAP and the QCIP.

The response to the FERC letter will include several attachments, including the updated plans and specifications for the project and the previously-described documentation associated with the expanded permitting coordination.

OPCC Updates

Based on conversations with AUD and an email sent to Schnabel by AUD staff on April 24, 2026, Schnabel understands that AUD would like to reconfigure the prioritization areas associated with the embankment repair plans and, in doing so, recalculate the OPCC to reflect the reprioritization. Additionally, Schnabel originally combined general embankment repair activities (such as clearing, grubbing, minor earthwork, and permanent turf establishment) into a single line item for the entirety of the canal embankment work area. We understand that AUD would like to account for the general embankment repair activities across each prioritization area. Schnabel will update the OPCC based on this understanding and re-issue a memo summarizing the updated OPCC.

EXCLUSIONS

Schnabel’s amended Scope of Services excludes activities that are not specifically described in the amendment. We assume that if AUD requires additional services on Schnabel’s part, AUD will request a subsequent proposal for such services.

COMPENSATION

Schnabel will perform the amended Scope of Services tasks for a lump sum fee of \$36,476.50. For convenience, a breakdown of this fee by task is provided, as follows:

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| • Aqueduct Seepage Emergency Response | \$ 6,976.50 |
| • Permitting Coordination Support | \$ 9,500 |
| • Response to Additional FERC Review Comments | \$11,500 |
| • OPCC Updates | \$ 8,500 |

Schnabel reserves the right to re-allocate funds amongst the tasks, as necessary, to complete the amended Scope of Services. Our fees include periodic, virtual meetings or conference calls of a reasonable number and duration to meet with AUD staff to discuss repair plan development and progress.

AUTHORIZATION

Schnabel understands that this work will be performed as part of a Purchase Order under a Consultant Services Agreement (CSA) between Augusta, Georgia and Schnabel. Schnabel anticipates that an official Notice to Proceed (NTP) authorizing the services described herein may be issued prior to the issuance of the Purchase Order. We request that the issued purchase order include copies of the CSA and this proposal as attachments.

We appreciate the opportunity to work with you on this project.

Sincerely,

SCHNABEL ENGINEERING, LLC



J. Tyler Coats, PE
Senior Associate



James R. Crowder, PE
Principal

JTC:JRC

Attachments: Schedule of Personnel Fees 17-26.01 Dams



SCHEDULE OF PERSONNEL FEES – SCHNABEL ALPHARETTA
Effective until December 31, 2026

Senior Consultant	\$375.00/hr
Principal	\$343.00/hr
Senior Associate	\$311.00/hr
Associate	\$277.00/hr
Senior Engineer/Scientist	\$234.00/hr
Project Engineer/Scientist	\$203.00/hr
Construction Resident Engineer/Resident Project Representative	\$203.00/hr
Senior Staff Engineer/Scientist/Technologist	\$179.00/hr
Staff Engineer/Scientist/Technologist	\$155.00/hr
Senior Technician II/Construction Resident Technician (see note 4)	\$147.00/hr
Senior Technician I (see note 4)	\$124.00/hr
Technician III (see note 4)	\$110.00/hr
Technician II (see note 4)	\$ 90.00/hr
Technician I (see note 4)	\$ 80.00/hr
Senior CAD Designer	\$179.00/hr
CAD Designer III	\$165.00/hr
CAD Designer II	\$150.00/hr
CAD Designer I	\$126.00/hr
Clerical/Admin	\$ 96.00/hr

NOTES:

1. Personnel fees will be based upon the actual hours charged times the appropriate hourly rate.
2. Travel by auto to and from jobs will be charged at the current IRS prevailing rate, plus a markup of 15% to cover handling, insurance and overhead. Travel by air or rail, lodging and meal expenses for personnel in the field will be billed at cost plus a 15% markup.
3. Per Diem rates for out-of-town or overnight travel will be in accordance with U.S. General Services Administration rates published on website www.GSA.gov for the area in which the project is located.
4. Overtime for Technicians is time for work on Saturday, Sunday and federal holidays, time in excess of 8 hours per day, and time between the hours of 7:00 P.M. and 7:00 A.M. A surcharge of \$15/hr is added to the above rate for overtime.
5. Subcontractors and other non-labor project expenses are marked up 15% to cover the cost of handling, insurance and overhead.
6. Schedule of Personnel Fees will increase on January 1, 2027 and not frequently than annually thereafter based on the Consumer Price Index as provided by the U.S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics but not less than 3 percent per year.