



ITEM REPORT CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Date: 3/17/2026
Agenda Section: Consent Agenda

Department Origination: Public Works

Agenda Item: Accept the True North Controls Quote in the amount of \$30,479.00 for Radio Telemetry Equipment at the East Tower and associated radios and equipment related to the 2026 Clearwater Road, North Lynndale Area, & Brentwood Circle Street & Utility Improvements Project, Municipal Project No. 4068

Approval Required: Simple Majority Vote

BACKGROUND

The City has experienced several radio issues due to outdated equipment throughout the past year. During 2025, True North Controls completed a study to identify the cause of numerous communication issues related to several lift station sites. This evaluation led to maintenance upgrades at select locations that have provided temporary improvements. The work included field investigation and troubleshooting and led to the understanding that the City's equipment is outdated and needs to be updated. The City's current system has radios that are no longer available for purchase as of December of 2025, and finding equipment on the secondary market has become increasingly difficult.

True North Controls provided the attached quote for a new Migration Master Station (MMS) device at the East Water Tower, and for 3 each 4RF Aprisa Licensed Radios. Please note, the master radio and controller for communication with all lift station radios is located at the East Water Tower. The installation of the MMS unit allows the City to complete one-by-one site upgrades, thus does not require replacement of all radios at the same time. Secondly, the upgrade will require the City to get a NEW FCC license with a 12.5Khz channel width (faster throughput), as the current license is limited to 6.25Khz and will not work with the newer radios. True North Controls will apply for the new license as part of the quote. The license takes roughly 60 days to be issued after application for it. The work noted here will be coordinated with AE2S work for SCADA and Controls Integration for Lift Station 27.

A separate line in the quote is for the purchase of new radio antennas. The elements of the existing radio antennas were cut to length to tune them to the City's current radio frequency of 173.39625Mhz. It is likely a new FCC frequency in the 173Mhz range cannot be obtained, so new radio antennas will need to be purchased and tuned to match the new frequency.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This rehab project was not included in the 2026 budget as the issue with purchasing the radios currently being used was not identified until after the budgets were adopted. The expense will need to come from the Sanitary Sewer Enterprise Fund.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

The Utilities Commission and staff recommends accepting the True North Controls Quote in the amount of \$30,479.00 for Radio Telemetry Equipment at the East Tower and associated radios and equipment related to the 2026 Clearwater Road, North Lynndale Area, & Brentwood Circle Street & Utility Improvements Project, Municipal Project No. 4068.

COUNCIL ACTION REQUESTED

MOTION to accept the True North Controls Quote in the amount of \$30,479.00 for Radio Telemetry Equipment at the East Tower and associated radios and equipment related to the 2026 Clearwater Road, North Lynndale Area, & Brentwood Circle Street & Utility Improvements Project, Municipal Project No. 4068.