



Staff Report

April 20, 2026 Council Workshop Meeting

Professional Services Agreement for Programming Logic Controller Upgrades at the WasteWater Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 10 minutes

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BACKGROUND: The City has been systematically replacing outdated Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). PLCs are industrial computers that control and monitor critical plant processes and are designed for continuous operation in industrial environments.

In recent years, the City replaced PLC-B and PLC-D following system failures and outages. The remaining PLC systems, PLC-A (Shop Building) and the Digester Building PLC (DBCP), are of the same generation and are now over 20 years old. This hardware has been discontinued by the manufacturer, and vendor support and replacement parts are no longer readily available, increasing the risk of unplanned outages and operational disruptions

PLC A in the Shop building controls the monitoring system for the sewer lift stations and the plant. PLC DBCP controls the digestion of solids process within the digestion building.

SUMMARY: OCD, Inc, is proposing to replace both PLC's and provide programming for the new ones.

The PLC replacements at the Wastewater Treatment Plant must be integrated into the City's existing SCADA control system. OCD Automation currently maintains and programs the City's SCADA system and is the only vendor capable of performing the programming and integration required for the new PLC hardware. Because the work is limited to a single provider to ensure compatibility with the existing system, this procurement qualifies as a sole source pursuant to RCW 39.04.280.

BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY: Minimize the amount of time trying to find replacement parts and reduce outages due to equipment going down. Continue to meet water quality permit limits for the discharge into the Columbia River.

STRATEGIC PLAN: This item falls under the Strategic Plan Goal of Stewardship of City Assets.

POTENTIAL CHALLENGES: None known.

BUDGET IMPACT: The proposed Professional Services Agreement with OCD, Inc. is in an amount not to exceed \$234,931 and will be funded from the Sewer Fund. Sufficient funds are available within the current budget:

Budget:

WWTP Upgrades/R&R (2026 Capital Budget) \$2,000,000

Expenses:

Previously Approved:

HDR engineering Amendment \$327,784

Jacobs Local Limits Study (Administrative Approval) \$ 74,729

Subtotal \$402,513

Current Request:

PLC-A \$ 59,962

PLC-DBCP \$174,969

Subtotal \$234,931

Total Estimated Expenses to Date \$637,444

RECOMMENDATION: Staff would recommend these items be placed on the May 4, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Consent Agenda for their consideration.