



## Staff Report

May 4, 2026 Council Workshop Meeting

Professional Services Agreement for Ignition Upgrade for Supervisory and Control Data Acquisition at the Waste Water Treatment Plant (WWTP)

Presenter: Rob Charles, Utilities Manager

Time Estimate: 10 minutes

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**BACKGROUND:** The Wastewater Treatment Plant currently utilizes Wonderware InTouch for its Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) interface, a system that has experienced unplanned outages and lacks modern, standardized features for real-time monitoring, alarming, and process control. To address these reliability concerns and the compatibility issues of the existing Win911 alarm paging software, the city intends to transition to the Ignition SCADA platform. Ignition is a modern, full-featured SCADA software package that is widely considered an industry-leading solution. This upgrade, proposed by OCD Automation, will provide a more stable and transparently licensed system featuring integrated alarm notifications, non-proprietary historical data collection, and high-performance graphics developed to industry standards. By leveraging the expertise of OCD Automation—a Gold-certified integrator that has supported the plant for over a decade—this project will deliver a modernized control environment with improved system uptime and simplified long-term maintenance.

**SUMMARY:** This project is a full rebuild of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's SCADA interface, not a simple software upgrade or migration.

The proposed work will replace the City's existing Wonderware system with a modern Ignition platform and includes complete redevelopment of the control interface, alarm systems, and data management tools used by operators to run the plant. This effort is comparable in complexity to the City's transition from Springbrook to Tyler, requiring specialized programming, system integration, and onsite implementation while maintaining plant operations.

The total project cost is \$227,918, which includes software, hardware, and specialized engineering and programming labor. In SCADA environments, labor is the primary cost component due to the need for highly specialized controls engineers and the requirement to carefully design, test, and deploy the system without operational disruption.

This work includes:

- Full rebuild of the SCADA interface and control screens

- Integration with existing and recently upgraded PLC systems
- Alarm system redesign to replace outdated technology
- Implementation of modern historical data tracking and reporting
- Onsite deployment, testing, and commissioning

OCD Automation currently maintains and programs the City's SCADA system and has extensive knowledge of the Wastewater Treatment Plant's control environment. Due to the need for compatibility with existing systems and continuity with prior programming, this work qualifies as a sole source procurement pursuant to RCW 39.04.280.

**BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY:** More efficiency with plant operations and connectivity to operators when a plan component has failed or is out of tolerance with permit requirements.

**STRATEGIC PLAN:** This project aligns with the Stewardship of City Assets Goal of the Strategic Plan.

**POTENTIAL CHALLENGES:** None known.

**BUDGET IMPACT:** The cost of this proposal is \$227,918 and there is sufficient budget in the Sewer Fund for the project.

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

PLC-A and DBCP	\$234,931
HDR Engineering Amendment	\$327,784
Jacobs Local Limits Study (Administrative Approval)	\$ 74,729
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>\$637,444</i>

Current Request:

Ignition Upgrade	\$227,918
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Total Estimated Expenses to Date	\$865,362
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**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff would recommend this item be placed on the May 18, 2026 Regular Council Meeting Consent Agenda for Council's consideration.