



STAFF REPORT
1/28/2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Cástulo R. Estrada, Utilities Director

SUBJECT: Authorize the City Manager to Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Aspen Rentals Inc., in the Amount not to Exceed \$125,000.00 for the Rental of a Belt-Press Dewatering Unit.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to Approve a Professional Services Agreement with Aspen Rentals Inc., in the Amount not to Exceed \$125,000.00 for the Rental of a Belt-Press Dewatering Unit.

BACKGROUND:

The City of Coachella sewer system also known as the Coachella Sanitary District consists of sewers that collect local flows generated from the City's residential, commercial, and industrial areas and other areas outside the city limits and discharge to the City's wastewater treatment plant on Avenue 54 with a capacity of 4.5 million gallons per day.

DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS:

There are a total of twenty-two (22) sludge drying beds at the wastewater treatment plant. The sludge drying beds are part of a dewatering process that removes water from sludge through a combination of drainage and evaporation. The process involves spreading a layer of sludge over the drying beds, allowing the liquid to percolate through a porous media, while the solids remain on top to dry out over time.

Fourteen (14) drying beds were installed in 2007 and eight (8) additional beds were added in 2011. The drying bed efficiency has declined over time. These conditions worsen during wet and cold months. Staff recommends performing maintenance and rehabilitation of the drainage systems at the drying beds to improve drying efficiencies.

The rental of a portable sludge-handling unit is required to set sludge drying beds offline while staff conducts maintenance and rehabilitation activities including cleaning, inspection, flushing of drain lines, and replacement of sand, gravel, and filter fabric media at drain trenches.

Staff solicited proposals from three vendors. Based on the proposals received, staff recommends an agreement with Aspen Rentals.

VENDOR	MONTHLY RATE
Aspen Rentals	\$16,000
Sebright Product	\$17,800
Ferrum Process Systems	\$20,000

FISCAL IMPACT:

\$100,000.00 has been approved in the FY25/26 Operations Budget. An additional \$25,000.00 is requested from undesignated reserves in the Sanitary Operations Fund (Machinery & Equipment).

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft Aspen Rental PSA