



CITY COMMISSION STAFF REPORT

DEPARTMENT: Utilities

DATE: July 21, 2026

SUBJECT: Motion to Approve the Rankings for RFQ2026-1, Engineering Design Services for Electrical Improvements to the City's Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant, and to Negotiate with the Highest Ranked Respondent, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., and to pursue negotiations with the next in line firms if the City and vendor fail to reach agreement. - **Utilities**

CITY MANAGER RECOMMENDATION:

The City Manager recommends that the City Commission approve the final rankings for Engineering Design Services for Electrical Improvements and authorize the City to negotiate with the highest-ranked respondent, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

BACKGROUND OF ITEM:

The City of Cooper City owns and operates critical water and wastewater utility infrastructure that requires reliable, resilient, and efficient electrical power and distribution systems to maintain continuous plant operations. The City's water and wastewater treatment facilities include electrical equipment, power distribution systems, grounding systems, emergency backup power components, and related infrastructure. The current electrical infrastructure has exceeded its intended service life and must be evaluated and upgraded to support the safe, efficient, and uninterrupted operation of the City's utility system.

The City Commission accepted the Water and Wastewater Master Plan Update, prepared by Hazen (formerly Hazen and Sawyer). The Master Plan outlined a series of water and wastewater capital improvements and included critical electrical system upgrades for the City's treatment facilities.

Due to the technical nature and importance of this work, the City issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ) to select a qualified engineering firm with the necessary experience, technical capability, and understanding of utility electrical systems to provide design and related professional services for this project.

The project includes electrical design services to improve the electrical power and distribution systems at the City's Water Treatment Plant and Wastewater Treatment Plant. The scope of services includes, but is not limited to, the evaluation and design of upgrades to electrical power

and distribution systems, grounding systems, emergency backup power, high service pump station electrical equipment, blower room electrical systems, service entrance switchgear, generators, duct bank raceway systems, low voltage switchgear, switchboards, panelboards, and related electrical infrastructure. The project will also consider energy efficiency, emerging technologies, resiliency improvements, equipment elevation, flood and erosion control strategies, and nature-based solutions where appropriate.

ANALYSIS:

On February 12, 2026, the City advertised Request for Qualifications No. RFQ2026-1 for Engineering Design Services for Electrical Improvements to the City's Water and Wastewater Treatment Plant under full and open competition. The City received proposals from the following six (6) Proposers by the proposal due date of March 24, 2026: Ardurra Group, Inc.; Black & Veatch Corporation; Conemco Engineering, Inc.; CSA Central, Inc.; Dewberry Engineers, Inc.; and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

The proposals were subsequently reviewed and evaluated for responsiveness and responsibility. The city held a public kick-off meeting on April 14, 2026, followed by the first-tier evaluation meeting on May 15, 2026. During this meeting, the Evaluation Committee scored the Proposers and shortlisted the following three (3) Proposers: (1) Jacobs Engineering, (2) Black & Veatch Corporation, (3) Ardurra Group, Inc. Oral presentations and the second-tier evaluation meeting were held on June 18, 2026. The Evaluation Committee conducted final scoring and re-ranked the shortlisted firms. The final rankings were as follows: 1. Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. | 2. Ardurra Group, Inc. | 3. Black & Veatch Corporation.

The Evaluation Committee comprises Jennifer McMahon, Deputy City Manager; Tim Welch, Utilities Director for the City of Pembroke Pines; Raj Verman, Consultant; and Akin Ozaydin, Utilities Director. The Committee recommended that the City enter into negotiations with the highest-ranked Proposer, Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. If the City is unable to successfully negotiate a contract with Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc., staff will terminate those negotiations and proceed to negotiate with the next highest-ranked Proposer, and so forth, in order of ranking, until a contract is successfully negotiated and presented to the City Commission for consideration.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City has been awarded a \$10.3 million grant from Resilient Florida to implement this project. The grant amount includes the project's design costs.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. RFQ2026-1 - EC Scoring Summary – 2nd Tier
2. RFQ2026-1 - EC Score Sheets – 2nd Tier
3. RFQ2026-1 - EC Scoring Summary - 1st Tier
4. RFQ2026-1 - EC Score Sheets - 1st Tier
5. RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – Ardurra Group
6. RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – Black & Veatch
7. RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – Conemco Eng

- 8.** RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – CSA Central Inc.
- 9.** RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – Dewberry Eng
- 10.** RFQ2026-1 – Submittal – Jacobs Eng
- 11.** RFQ2026-1 – Solicitation