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## CITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION ITEM

### CITY OF FAIR OAKS RANCH, TEXAS

June 15, 2023

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AGENDA TOPIC: Consideration and possible action approving a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with Safeware, Inc. for a High-Water Detection System

DATE: June 15, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Finance

PRESENTED BY: Clayton Hoelscher, Procurement Manager  
Julio Colunga, Assistant Director of Public Works

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#### **INTRODUCTION/BACKGROUND:**

At the March 16, 2023 Council meeting, City staff and consultants conducted a Drainage CIP Update workshop. Several options and associated cost estimates for the Rolling Acres Trail Low Water Crossing (CIP#5) were presented. The preferred option was installation of a High-Water Detection System (a.k.a. High-Water Alert Lifesaving Technology, or HALT system). To improve effectiveness, the Council asked that the system close both lanes on both sides of the low water crossing to prevent motorists from driving around the gate arms when lowered.

To support this effort, staff researched different options. The proposed solution is a High Sierra Electronics brand system for a purchase amount of \$172,859.98. The cost includes 26-foot gate arms capable of closing both traffic lanes. The cost is turn-key, inclusive of system installation, one year of preventative maintenance, and one year of software subscription service. Benefits of this system include:

- Detects and monitors real-time rainfall and rising water conditions around the clock.
- Activates flashing beacons and warning message signs.
- Stops vehicles driving through floodwaters with automatic road barrier gates.
- Sends automatic alerts and detailed notifications to key personnel and emergency responders.
- Publicly displays real-time road hazard and closure data on the web.

The City intends to purchase this through Safeware, Inc. by utilizing the Omnia Purchasing Cooperative. As a member of the purchasing co-op, the City can utilize pricing that has been competitively bid on a larger scale. This also fulfills our competitive requirements.

#### **POLICY ANALYSIS/BENEFIT(S) TO CITIZENS:**

- Supports Strategic Action Plan items for Responsible Growth Management and Reliable and Sustainable Infrastructure.
- Improves public safety by providing real-time low water crossing status, alerts emergency personnel when floodwaters rise, and automatically closes the low water crossing when unsafe to pass.
- Utilizes the purchasing cooperative which allows the City to take advantage of pricing competitively bid on a larger scale. Complies with Competitive Procurement Requirements.

**LONGTERM FINANCIAL & BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The City budgeted \$566,773 this fiscal year for drainage improvements at the Rolling Acres Trail low water crossing. The cost of the High-Water Detection System is below budget.

**LEGAL ANALYSIS:**

The Contractor will be required to sign and adhere to the City's Standard Construction Agreement prior to the commencement of work. A copy is attached.

**RECOMMENDATION/PROPOSED MOTION:**

I move to approve a resolution authorizing the execution of an agreement with Safeware, Inc. for \$172,859.98 with a 5% contingency in the amount of \$8,642.99, for a total value not to exceed \$181,502.97.