

STAFF REPORT UTILITY MEETING

AGENDA DATE: May 30, 2023

DEPARTMENT: Electric Utility

TITLE:

Sole Source Purchase from TransGard for animal deterrent electric fence

SUMMARY:

If approved, this sole source purchase from TransGard will provide an animal deterrent electric fence for the Main Yard at a cost not to exceed \$99,612. This project has been identified as an element of the City's electric utility System Hardening and Reliability Improvement Project (SHRIP) and for which bonds were sold in November 2020.

BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION:

Animal outages are one of the most common outages for the power industry that cause major damage and length to the outages. The City of Lake Worth Beach experienced 303 outages for a total of 1.74 million minutes of interruption in 2022, 25 of which are ground animal related. The 25 outages were our most critical outages of 2022 from iguanas, lizards, snakes, and racoons that affected 45,863 customers throughout 2022. From the 25 outages the customer experienced 1.28 million out of the 1.74 million outage minutes for all of 2022, making up 73.5% of the total outage minutes due to ground animal intrusion to our electrical equipment. For this reason, staff has spent resources investigating other utility methodologies, animal mitigation equipment, design changes and standards improvements, and even hired an iguana trapper to help humanely clear our substations periodically. The result is this utility grade patented solution from TransGard which has spent over a decade implementing a successful electric fence solution. The fence complies with electric industry standards, has safety exits built in to the design, can be removed for maintenance purposes, and has also been tested to 140mph winds with their anchoring system. The first test of this fence will be located at our Main Yard substation which is the hub for about two-thirds of our customers and has frequented animal removals and contact over the years. This fence is at a lower voltage and will only provide a shock to animals or humans without physical damage and is contained within the perimeter fence as a separate containment. The main entry ways also contain a quick off/stop red button to de-energize easily while working in or around for additional safety. We hope with some successful results that we can further implement this around other critical assets as we refresh our aging system.

Due to the patented solution from TransGard, the City is pursuing this purchase as a sole source purchase (in lieu of a competitive process). The City's procurement code authorizes sole source purchases when it is determined that only a single source is practicable or for other reasons in the best interest of the City.

If this purchase is approved, the City will utilize a standard City contract to incorporate the TransGard proposal attached to this item.

MOTION:

Move to approve/disapprove single source purchase from TransGard to provide animal deterrent electric fence for the Main Yard Control House at a cost not to exceed \$99,612.

ATTACHMENT(S):

Fiscal Impact Analysis
Fence Proposal
Sole Source Letter

FISCAL IMPACT ANALYSIS

Five Year Summary of Fiscal Impact:

Fiscal Years	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Inflows					
Current Appropriation	0	0	0	0	0
Program Income	0	0	0	0	0
Grants	0	0	0	0	0
In Kind	0	0	0	0	0
Outflows					
Current Appropriation	\$99,612	0	0	0	0
Operating	0	0	0	0	0
Capital	0	0	0	0	0
Net Fiscal Impact	0	0	0	0	0
No. of Addn'l Full-Time Employee Positions	0	0	0	0	0

Contract Award - Existing Appropriation	
	Expenditure
Department	Electric Utility
Division	T & D
GL Description	Improve Other than Build / Infrastructure
GL Account Number	421-6034-531-63.15
Project Number	SH2103
Requested Funds	\$99,612.00