

Agenda Item Summary Report

Item Title:	Water System Improvements Update - Engineering Design Services Task Orders
Meeting Date:	October 14, 2025
Recommended Action:	1) Discuss item, and 2) Authorize City Manager to execute a task order in the amount of \$480,300 to design water distribution system improvements to incorporate larger diameter PVC pipes

Summary: The Town of Micanopy constructed a water system and began providing water service to its residents in the mid-1960s. Over time, the Town has upgraded its water system to meet greater demands or regulatory requirements. Today, the water system generally consists of the following:

- 3 – potable water wells (1965, 1985, 2022) rated at 350, 375, and 750 gallons per minute (gpm) respectively,
- Disinfection system,
- Corrosion control system,
- 1 – 100,000-gallon elevated storage tank,
- 1 – 150 kW (diesel) auxiliary generator,
- 37 fire hydrants
- 11.6 miles water main (2", 4", 6", and 8")
- ~350 water meters / water connections

Micanopy's water system treats an average of 65,000 gallons per day (gpd). The water system is permitted by the St. John's River Water Management District to serve an annual average of 103,000 gpd and a peak day of 518,000 gpd.

In 2021, the Town partnered with the Florida Rural Water Association and Saltus Engineering to develop a Water Master Plan. The Water Master Plan was completed in 2022. The Water Master Plan identified deficiencies in the water system that warranted action by the Town. The primary deficiencies identified were the presence of iron and disinfection by-products in the Town's water supply and low fire flow throughout the Town's water system.

The Town contracted with Woodard & Curran (W&C) to develop a plan to address the deficiencies. W&C developed a Water System Facilities Plan that identified alternatives to resolve the water system deficiencies. W&C also assisted the Town in applying for funding from the Florida State Revolving Fund (SRF) program administered by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). SRF offers low interest loans, "debt forgiveness", and grants as funding tools for water and wastewater projects. Micanopy received funding from the SRF

program to proceed with the planning and design phases of the water system improvements. The development of the Water System Facilities Plan enabled the Town to meet the planning phase requirements of the SRF program. FDEP accepted the Micanopy Water System Facility Plan in early 2025, enabling the Town to proceed with design of the recommended alternatives which include installation of greensand filters and activated carbon filters at the Town's water treatment facility along with replacement of small diameter (2" and 4") water pipes in the Town's water distribution system with larger (6" and 8") PVC pipes. The estimated construction costs for the improvements were \$1,565,000 and \$7,939,100 respectively.

The State legislature awarded Micanopy with a \$371,500 appropriation following the 2025 legislative session for its water system improvements. This funding greatly reduces the anticipated debt service associated with the projects.

At the Town's request, W&C prepared a proposal to design Micanopy's water system improvements. The proposal breaks the work into two (2) tasks – one (1) for the water treatment system improvements and one (1) for the water distribution system improvements. The design engineering services include preliminary engineering assessment, and engineering design to develop drawings and specifications sufficient to bid and construct the water system improvements. The work also includes the engineering effort to apply for necessary permits from regulatory and roadway jurisdictions. The work will conclude with the provision of 100% bid documents enabling the Town to proceed to the next phase of the project. Town staff is expected to participate in the design process and will review the design periodically as it progresses.

The proposal provides for 10 months to complete the design engineering services. This will enable the Town to be considered for construction funding at FDEP's August 2026 SRF funding hearing.

The proposed engineering design services fee for each task are as follows:

- Task 1 – Water Treatment Facility Improvements \$262,300
- Task 2 – Water Distribution Facility Improvements \$480,300

The proposed fee for each task aligns with the projected fees in the Micanopy Water System Facilities Plan adopted earlier this year by the Town Council. Funding for the design services are available from the Town's SRF loan (\$430,000), the legislative appropriation (\$371,500), American Rescue Plan Act funding (\$**unsure**), and Alachua County Infrastructure Surtax revenues (**\$unsure**).

Staff, working with W&C, has developed three (3) scenarios for the Town to proceed with their two (2) tasks. The scenarios are identified in the table below:

Scenarios	Elements	Estimated Cost
Scenario 1	▪ Design treatment improvements	\$262,300
	▪ <u>Construct treatment improvements</u>	<u>\$1,442,700</u>
	Total	\$1,705,000
Scenario 2	▪ Design treatment improvements	\$262,300
	▪ Construct treatment improvements	\$1,442,700
	▪ <u>Design distribution system improvements</u>	<u>\$480,300</u>
	Total	\$2,185,300
Scenario 3	▪ Design treatment improvements	\$262,300
	▪ Construct treatment improvements	\$1,442,700
	▪ Design distribution system improvements	\$480,300
	▪ <u>Construct distribution system improvements</u>	<u>\$7,318,800</u>
	Total	\$9,504,100

Staff & W&C will continue to seek funding for the water system improvements as the projects proceed through the design phase.

Woodard & Curran presented its proposal to the Town Council at the September 9, 2025, Town Council meeting. After deliberating the item, the Town Council directed staff to proceed with design of the water treatment plant improvements in the amount of \$262,300. The task order for this effort has been executed and work is underway.

The Town Council requested that the proposal to design water distribution system improvements be postponed to the next Town Council meeting (October 2025) enabling time to research the item further, discuss with staff, and consider how to proceed.

Staff notes the following:

- a) Funding is in place today to proceed with design of the water distribution system improvements. No additional approvals are required by FDEP (the lender).
- b) Micanopy has sufficient funding on-hand to complete the design of the water treatment facility improvements and the distribution system improvements without long-term (10-year) debt.
- c) Town staff and Woodard & Curran continue to seek funding opportunities for treatment plant and distribution system improvements.
- d) Completing the designs enables both projects to be termed "shovel-ready". "Shovel-ready" is often a pre-requisite for some funding opportunities.
- e) There are efficiencies in designing the water distribution system improvements in one effort.
- f) Having the design complete and "ready for construction" enables Micanopy to construct the water distribution system improvements in phases, as funding becomes available.