



**TOWN OF PALMER LAKE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES - AGENDA MEMO**

DATE: October 17, 2025	ITEM NO.	SUBJECT: Authorize purchase of filter media and underdrains for ground water treatment plant
Presented by: Water Department Superintendent		

Background

1. The Water Department respectfully requests approval to move forward on ordering filter media and underdrains for filter vessel #2 at the GWTP. This was originally intended to be a project request in the 2026 budget. I've decided to prioritize this request based on a few factors –
 - a) Having had a couple of weeks to operate the two filters side-by-side, it has become apparent that the underdrains in filter #2 are in much worse shape than we had suspected. The differential pressure (20-25 psi) across the filter during production exceeds our standard termination criteria for a filter backwash (8-10 psi). As a comparison - F1 inlet side: 105 psi; outlet side: 103 psi. F2 inlet side: 130 psi; outlet side: 105-108 psi. This is a clear indicator of underdrain plugging.
 - b) The price quotes I received for the filter media and underdrains came in at roughly \$65,000. This is much less than I had planned on requesting in the 2026 budget (\$105,000).
 - c) There are enough funds in the current year budget to absorb this cost.
 - d) Procurement of required parts and equipment for Filter #1 took nearly 10 months. My goal is to have this project completed prior to the peak water demand of summer. Filtronics has the necessary media on hand now at their facility in California.
2. This project will fall under the sole source exception of the Town's purchase policy. Filtronics, Inc. is the original equipment manufacturer, and the only company that supplies the required underdrains and proprietary blend of media for their filter vessels.