
TO: Kate Thunstrom, City Administrator
FROM: Todd Schwieger, Police Chief
SUBJECT: **Outdoor Warning Siren Preventative Maintenance**
DATE: February 2, 2026

OVERVIEW:

The City of St. Francis has three outdoor warning sirens located at Roanoke St./Ambassador Blvd., 23248 Woodbine St., and Edgewild Park, 1800 242nd Ave. In 2019 City Council approved Ready Watt Electric to convert all sirens to DC power to lessen the risk of the sirens failing to operate during a power outage. A maintenance schedule for the sirens was discussed but did not come to fruition at that time.

During recent emergency management discussions staff has discussed the importance of maintaining the outdoor warning sirens to ensure they're operating properly when needed for the safety of St. Francis residents. Staff concluded that it is important to implement an ongoing maintenance schedule for the outdoor sirens to mitigate the risk of siren malfunctions. The maintenance would be performed by the siren installer Ready Watt Electric and would include maintenance of pulleys, belts, fuses, oil, grease, screens and replacement of batteries every 4 years on each siren. This maintenance is separate from and in addition to the maintenance performed by Embedded Systems, Inc. The City contracts Embedded Systems, Inc. to maintain and replace the encoder batteries as part of the communication and activation of the siren along with daily communication testing to ensure the sirens are operating properly.

ACTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED:

Approval of contract with Ready Watt Electric, Inc. to provide outdoor warning siren maintenance for the City of St. Francis for years 2026-2029 when staff would evaluate the contract services provided for potential re-approval.

BUDGET IMPLICATION:

The cost to maintain the outdoor warning sirens is \$1,905 per year and would be paid for out of the city emergency management budget.

Attachments: Ready Watt Contract