



# REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

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**Title:** Request for Council Action - Mahler WRF Improvements Project Ph1 Bid Posting

**Preferred Agenda:** August 9, 2022

**Submitted By:** Trish Rice, Engineering Tech 2

**Reviewed By:** Christy Wurster, City Manager Pro Tem  
Greg Springman, Public Works Director

**Type of Action:** Resolution \_\_\_ Motion X Roll Call \_\_\_ Other \_\_\_

**Relevant Code/Policy:** N/A

**Towards Council Goal:** 1.1 Develop specific steps for implementation of the adopted infrastructure master plans.

**Attachments:** Bid documents volumes 1-3 and supplementary information  
Project design schedule

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## **Purpose of this RCA:**

Staff is requesting Council authorization to solicit bids for the Mahler Water Reclamation Facility Improvements Project, Phase 1.

## **Background/Context:**

The City has been in design for wastewater treatment plant capacity and process improvements to meet DEQ requirements since 2018 and includes improvements to every step of the treatment process. The project has been split into three phases to meet the June 30, 2023 deadline for the \$7M allocation from the State of Oregon and to align permitting of the upsized outfall pipe (Ph3) with DEQ's schedule for our NPDES permit renewal. The Phase 1 construction contract includes demolition of abandoned buildings on the upper site, construction of a new influent pump station and main electrical & blower building, underground piping on the upper site which will be connected to Phase 2 process installations, and construction of the access road & retaining wall through the site. The engineer's estimate for the construction contract is \$6.4M and a recommended 10% contingency reserve for change orders. Phase 1 also includes (separately from the construction contract) purchasing owner-supplied electrical equipment including the backup generator, switchgear, MCCs, and associated components and the control system software, at an estimated cost of \$2.4M. The electrical equipment will be installed during Phase 2 but needs to be pre-ordered now due to lead times currently running at 60+ weeks. A detailed description of the pre-ordering plan is being prepared and will be brought to Council in September.

West Yost has delivered stamped documents ready to bid Phase 1 improvements. If approved, the bid posting will be advertised immediately upon completion of the contractor pre-qualification process, no later than August 18. Bids will close September 14. Contract award

is anticipated to come before Council for approval in October and then groundbreaking in November.

**The Challenge/Problem:**

To make efficient use of limited funds to complete needed wastewater treatment improvements and satisfy DEQ requirements and state funding timelines.

**Stakeholders:**

- City Residents. Residents are the customers who deserve good service with the highest return on their taxes and fees that we can provide, and who trust the City to maintain their infrastructure systems at a high level of service.
- Council Members. Council members are the voice of the citizens we serve. Each member of this group is interested in providing the best service possible at the lowest possible cost. They must balance leadership with representation.
- Public Works Department Staff. This project will greatly improve the operability of the WWTP which is currently undersized and beyond its serviceable lifespan. Staff spends significant time fixing broken down equipment and fighting with system inefficiencies.
- Management Team. Comprised of five department heads, each with a responsibility to the citizens and City Manager to run their day-to-day operations as efficiently as possible.
- Oregon DEQ. The WWTP upgrade project is required to comply with DEQ regulations.

**Issues and Financial Impacts:**

The engineer’s estimate for the bids is \$6.4M. The estimate for pre-ordering the electrical equipment is \$2.4M. This will enable the City to meet the June 30, 2023 deadline for the \$7M allocation from the State of Oregon.

**Elements of a Stable Solution:**

A stable solution will provide efficient completion of needed facility improvements and make full use of the funding from the State of Oregon for this project.

**Options:**

1. Option 1 – Do Nothing. This will result in project delays and regulatory action by DEQ.
2. Option 2 – Move to post the solicitation as presented. Staff will post the solicitation. The results will be brought to Council to approve awarding the construction contract.
3. Option 3 – Move to post the solicitation with minor revisions. Staff will make minor changes to the plans or contract as directed by Council, then post the solicitation.
4. Option 4 – Make major revisions to the solicitation. Staff will make major changes to the plans or contract as directed by Council, then bring the bid package back to Council for approval prior to posting the solicitation. This will delay the project by at least few weeks.

**Recommendation:**

Staff recommends Option 2 – Move to post the solicitation as presented.