

To: Chairman Arnett, & members of the Public Works Commission **Date:** June 17, 2026
Re: Water Utility SCADA Computer Upgrade and Professional Engineering Services Agreement
with Strand Associates, Inc.

From: Peter Hartz Water Systems - Water Utility

Review and take possible action: Authorize execution of Task Order No. 26-01 with Strand Associates, Inc. for Water Utility Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) Computer Upgrades.

Background: Over the past two years, Water Systems has undertaken a significant modernization effort of the Wastewater Utility's information technology and SCADA infrastructure. During that project, several cybersecurity vulnerabilities and system resiliency concerns were identified. To address these concerns, the city engaged Strand Associates, Inc. to review the proposed network architecture and cybersecurity measures associated with the wastewater system upgrades following and under the on-demand service agreement in place.

Through that review process, Strand Associates provided valuable technical guidance regarding industry best practices for cybersecurity, system redundancy, backup procedures, and SCADA infrastructure protection. Their review also identified deficiencies in the original implementation approach and resulted in recommendations that were incorporated to strengthen the City's security posture and improve reliability of wastewater utility systems.

As part of their evaluation, Strand Associates also reviewed the Water Utility's SCADA environment and identified several areas where system improvements should be made. The existing Water Utility SCADA computers are approaching the end of their useful life and are no longer compatible with the needed Windows 11 upgrades needed for SCADA operating system, and present increasing concerns related to hardware reliability, software support, cybersecurity, and disaster recovery capabilities.

The Water Utility SCADA system is considered critical infrastructure and serves as the primary platform for monitoring and controlling water treatment, pumping, storage, and distribution operations throughout the utility. Reliable operation of these systems is essential to maintaining continuous water service, protecting public health, ensuring regulatory compliance, and responding effectively to system alarms and operational events. As technology ages, replacement parts become more difficult to obtain, software compatibility becomes increasingly limited, and cybersecurity risks increase due to outdated operating systems and unsupported hardware.

Task Order No. 26-01 authorizes Strand Associates to assist the Water Utility with procurement, installation, configuration, and commissioning of three replacement computers, backup software, and associated SCADA software upgrades. Services include installation of existing AVEVA software and licenses on replacement SCADA computers, installation and configuration of Veeam backup software, updating InTouch software to Version 2023 R2, and providing onsite implementation support. The project will also improve system backup and recovery capabilities while providing a more secure and supportable platform for future operations. Work is anticipated to begin in July 2026 and be completed by December 31, 2026.

Staff recommends continuing to utilize Strand Associates for this work because of their familiarity with the City's existing SCADA environment, their involvement in the wastewater cybersecurity review, and their demonstrated expertise in utility control systems, cybersecurity, and critical infrastructure protection.

Budget Goal:

Maintain reliable and secure operation of critical Water Utility infrastructure while protecting utility assets and reducing cybersecurity and operational risks.

Fiscal Impact:

The proposed task order provides professional engineering and SCADA integration services for a lump-sum cost of \$14,000. Hardware purchases, including replacement SCADA computers and backup equipment, will be procured separately through approved purchasing procedures and are budgeted within the Water Utility capital and equipment replacement program.

Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of Task Order No. 26-01 with Strand Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$14,000 for professional services associated with the Water Utility SCADA Computer Upgrade project.

Suggested Motion:

Move to approve Task Order No. 26-01 with Strand Associates, Inc. for Water Utility SCADA Computer Upgrade services in the amount of \$14,000 and authorize the Mayor and City staff to execute the agreement.

Attachments:

1. Strand Associates Task Order No. 26-01
2. SCADA Computer Equipment Specifications

Respectfully submitted,

Peter Hartz
Water Systems Manager