

ITEM #: 17  
 DATE: 04-25-23  
 DEPT: W&PC

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: WATER TREATMENT PLANT DISTRIBUTED ANTENNA SYSTEM –  
 NOTICE TO BIDDERS**

**BACKGROUND:**

The exterior of the Water Treatment Plant (WTP) is constructed primarily of pre-cast concrete panels and the interior of the structure also contains pre-cast concrete, poured-in-place concrete, as well as steel piping and equipment. These components, along with the large volume of water that is continuously moving through treatment, has created an environment that does not allow cellular phone signals to transmit easily within the facility. The WTP is staffed 24-hours per day and only one staff member is present for much of the time. A key safety component for the WTP staff is the ability to make and receive routine and emergency phone calls from anywhere within the building.

This project will extend the cellular networks of Verizon and US Cellular throughout the building and will allow routine safety calls to be made or received anywhere inside of the WTP. Improvement of the cellular signal within the building will also enhance the abilities of the Incident Command Center (ICC), as the ICC now operates out of the WTP when the need arises to activate it.

On June 18, 2021, a contract was awarded to Commdex, LLC of Smyrna, Georgia, for design of a Distributed Antenna System. Commdex has completed the design and staff is ready to issue a Notice to Bidders for the Distributed Antenna System. The engineer’s estimate of probable construction costs is \$227,677. The estimated project expenses and budget information is outlined in the tables below.

**Estimated Total Project Expense**

Design Services	\$ 20,207
Construction (Engineer’s Estimate + 20% Contingency)	\$ 273,212
Construction Phase Professional Services	\$ 24,512
<b>Total Estimated Project Expense</b>	<b>\$ 317,931</b>

**Total Authorized Budget**

FY 2021/22 CIP	\$ 10,756
FY 2022/23 CIP	\$ 346,244
<b>Total Authorized Budget</b>	<b>\$ 357,000</b>

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Approve plans and specifications and issue a Notice to Bidders, establishing May 31, 2023, as the bid due date and June 13, 2023, as the date of Public Hearing.
2. Do not approve the plans and specification nor a Notice to Bidders.

**CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Water Treatment Plant (WTP) does not allow cellular phone signals to transmit easily through the building. There are staff members that rely on cellular communication for safety calls daily and the Incident Command Center operates at the WTP during emergencies and during non-routine events. The addition of a Distributed Antenna System to the WTP would greatly enhance cellular signal in all areas of the building. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.