

**COUNCIL ACTION FORM**

**SUBJECT: WATER TREATMENT PLANT HANDRAIL MODIFICATIONS PROJECT**

**BACKGROUND:**

Offering public tours of the Water Treatment Plant is a valuable public outreach opportunity. In partnership with the Inspections Division, several handrail areas in the plant were identified as needing modifications to better protect the public after a public tour route was identified.

Initially staff thought the handrails could be modified by adding a cable system to meet the public safety requirements. Based on information from vendors, staff estimated the cable system to cost approximately \$53,000. Staff issued a Notice to Bidders to make the improvements. Three contractors made a site visit and bid on the work, and the bids were opened on July 24, 2019. The bids received are summarized below.

<b>Bidder</b>	<b>Total Price</b>
Minturn, Inc.	\$79,800
Woodruff Construction, LLC	\$135,859
HPC, LLC.	\$170,000

After opening bids, staff reached out to the bidders to understand what may have caused the large price differences. Staff learned that the low bidder had planned to install the cables as outlined in the bid documents, and the other two contractors intended on fully replacing the railings. Staff reached out to the original manufacturer of the existing handrails and were informed that the modifications would jeopardize the structural integrity of the railings.

Because there is no feasible way to modify the railings as currently installed, staff worked with the original manufacturer of the railings, Moultrie Manufacturing Company, to get a quote for replacement railings that meet public safety requirements and to match what is currently installed in adjacent parts of the plant. The manufacturer is also working with staff to ensure that the new railings can be installed using the existing mounting hardware that is epoxy anchored into the concrete. **Moultrie has provided a quote of \$63,510.58 plus freight charges to provide the replacement handrails. Water Plant staff will install the new handrails when they arrive.**

**Staff is requesting approval of a single-source purchase for the modified handrails from the original manufacturer. This will ensure the safety requirements are met, while preserving the aesthetics of the space by matching the existing handrails. Funds for the purchase will come from the remaining unspent balance in the New Water Plant project account.**

**ALTERNATIVES:**

1. Waive the purchasing competitive bid requirement and award a single-source purchase to Moultrie Manufacturing Company of Moultrie, GA, in the amount of \$63,510.58 plus freight charges for handrails to be installed by City staff.
2. Direct staff to budget for the project and bid the purchase and installation of new handrails.
3. Do nothing at this time.

**MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The Water Treatment Plant is a valuable resource for the community and educational tours are encouraged. Public safety is also of utmost concern. Installing handrail modifications by City staff will better protect the public during tours in a fiscally responsible method. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council adopt Alternative No. 1, as described above.