

ITEM #:	<u>29</u>
DATE:	<u>04-28-26</u>
DEPT:	<u>PW</u>

COUNCIL ACTION FORM

SUBJECT: EMERGENCY 30-INCH RAW WATER LINE REPAIR CONTRACT AMENDMENT

BACKGROUND:

On March 15, 2026, City staff became aware of an exposed raw water main on the east side of the Skunk River between SE 16th Street and Lincoln Way. This main conveys water from supply wells to the Water Treatment Plant. On April 16, 2026, continued bank erosion caused the main to deflect over four feet and begin to fall into the Skunk River. The attached memo provides further documentation of the condition and supports the determination that this situation constitutes an emergency repair.

To address the immediate risk and prevent further damage, the City issued a Purchase Order to On Track Construction, LLC (Nevada, IA) on April 17, 2026, in the amount of \$21,570. This initial work was within staff authorization limits and allowed for rapid mobilization to stabilize the bank and mitigate further deterioration of the 30-inch raw water line.

Following stabilization efforts, additional work has been identified as necessary to fully protect the pipe and restore long-term stability. **On Track Construction has submitted a request for an additional \$93,018 to import and place suitable backfill and riprap.** Due to the emergency nature of this repair and the need to proceed without delay to prevent failure of critical infrastructure, staff is recommending approval of the contract amendment. **This Council action is to approve this additional scope of work to temporarily protect the raw water line while a permanent solution is designed and permitted.**

Funding for this emergency work will be taken from the balance in the Water Utility Fund.

Additional work still remains that will require permitting with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and Army Core of Engineers (ACOE) to permanently provide protection for this critical piece of infrastructure. Public Works staff will continue to work alongside Water and Pollution Control staff to accelerate the permanent repair.

ALTERNATIVES:

1. Approve a contract amendment of \$93,018 for a total contract of \$114,588 with On Track Construction, LLC of Nevada, IA.
2. Direct staff to investigate other options.

CITY MANAGER'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:

The 30-inch raw water main provides approximately 20% of the raw water supply to the Water Treatment Plant for treatment and distribution of potable water to the City of Ames. Due to the emergency nature of this repair and the rapid deterioration of site conditions, it is critical that stabilization and protection measures be completed without delay to prevent failure of this critical infrastructure. Approval of the contract amendment will allow the contractor to complete the necessary repairs in a timely manner and restore reliable operation of the raw water system. Therefore, it is the recommendation of the City Manager that the City Council approve Alternate 1, as described above.

ATTACHMENT(S):

[2026.04.16 Emergency Repair Work - Raw Water Line.pdf](#)