



City Council Report

Date: May 4, 2026
To: City Council
Through: Michael Kennington, Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer
From: Edward Quedens, Business Services Director
Kristy Garcia, Procurement Administrator
Subject: Purchase of Variable Frequency Drives (Replacements) for the Water Resources Department (Sole Source) **(Citywide)**

Recommendation

Council is requested to approve the award as recommended.

The Water Resources Department and Procurement Services recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, Border States, at \$157,000 based on estimated requirements.

Background / Discussion

The Brown Road Water Treatment Plant must replace the Variable Frequency Drives (VFDs) serving the washwater recovery basin pumps, as well as the six VFDs operating the flocculator drives for basins 1-6. The existing drives have exceeded their useful life and have become increasingly unreliable due to age and component obsolescence, making ongoing maintenance difficult. These VFDs play a critical role in regulating pump flow and controlling flocculator mixing speeds (functions essential to maintaining stable treatment processes), consistent water quality and compliance with regulatory standards.

Border States is the only authorized supplier for the specific VFD (Rockwell) models currently installed at the Brown Road Water Treatment Plant. To ensure seamless integration and avoid additional engineering, programming, or operations challenges, the replacement units must be fully compatible with the plant's existing equipment, control systems, and standardized configurations.

Purchase Information

Action: Award
Procurement Type: Sole Source
Contract Number: 2026132
Local Consideration: Policy did not apply to this procurement method
Protests Received: None
Funding Source: Water Resources operating budget through Utility Replacement Extension and Renewal Fund – BRWTP Lifecycle Program