



STAFF REPORT – CITY COUNCIL MEETING

TO: Honorable Mayor and City Council Members

FROM: Emily Sinkhorn, Director of Environmental Services

PREPARER: Doug Culbert, Deputy Director of Environmental Services – Streets and Utilities

DATE: June 17, 2026

TITLE: Approve the Project Plans and Award a Contract for the First Street Lift Station Improvement Project to Wahlund Construction, Inc., in the Amount of \$1,696,650; Adopt a Categorical CEQA Exemption; and Approve Necessary and Associated Related Actions.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Council:

- 1) Approve the project plans and award a construction contract for the First Street Lift Station Improvement Project to Wahlund Construction, Inc., in the amount of \$1,696,650.00;
- 2) Authorize the City Engineer to increase the contract amount by up to 15 percent (\$254,497.50 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,951,147.50) to allow for any unforeseen contingencies and additional work as necessary;
- 3) Adopt a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Categorical Exemption for the project pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Section 15301; and
- 4) Authorize the City Manager to execute all applicable documents.

INTRODUCTION:

The First Street Lift Station is a critical component of the City's wastewater collection system, conveying wastewater from portions of the City to the Wastewater Treatment Facility. The existing lift station has reached the end of its useful life and requires significant mechanical, electrical, and control system upgrades to improve reliability, maintain regulatory compliance, and reduce operational risk.

This project will replace the existing natural gas-powered pumping system with modern electric submersible pumps, advancing the City Council's greenhouse gas emissions reduction and climate action objectives while improving operational reliability, resiliency, and maintainability of a critical wastewater facility.

BACKGROUND:

The First Street Lift Station serves as a key wastewater conveyance facility within the City's collection system. Portions of the existing equipment have exceeded their intended service life, resulting in increasing maintenance requirements and operational challenges.

The First Street Lift Station is a critical component of the City's wastewater collection system. Portions of the facility have exceeded their intended service life, resulting in increasing maintenance requirements and operational challenges. The project is intended to improve system reliability, reduce the risk of equipment failure and sanitary sewer overflows, and provide long-term resiliency for a key wastewater conveyance facility serving the community.

To address these concerns, the City retained NorthPoint Consulting Group to prepare plans and specifications for improvements to the facility. The project includes:

- Replacement of existing pumps with new submersible pumps and controls
- Electrical and control system upgrades
- Installation of a new standby generator system
- SCADA and instrumentation improvements
- Wet well and manhole rehabilitation
- Site, structural, and operational improvements necessary to support long-term facility reliability

To reduce schedule risk associated with long-lead equipment, the City previously authorized procurement of several owner-furnished equipment items, including pumps, valves, and the standby generator system. These items will be furnished by the City and installed by the contractor as part of the construction contract.

DISCUSSION:

The First Street Improvement Project plans and specifications were completed and publicly advertised for competitive bidding on May 13, 2026. Sealed bids for construction of the lift station improvements were received until 11:00 AM on June 10, 2026. Two responsive bids were received before the deadline:

No.	Name of Contractor	<i>Total Base Bid as Written</i>	Total Base Bid as Calculated by Unit Prices
1	Wahlund Construction, Inc.	\$1,696,650.00	\$1,696,650.00
2	McCullough Construction, Inc.	\$2,485,648.48	\$2,485,648.48

The bid documents identified several major equipment components as owner-furnished equipment including the pumps, valves, and standby generator system previously procured by the City. As a result, bidders were responsible for installation and associated construction work but did not include the cost of these major equipment purchases in their bids. The bid amount reflects construction and installation costs only. Major equipment components referenced earlier are being procured by the City and are not included in the contractor's bid price.

Please see Attachment A for the complete bid summary.

The apparent low bidder is Wahlund Construction, Inc., with a bid of \$1,696,650.00. Staff reviewed the bid documents and determined that the bid is responsive and that the contractor is responsible and qualified to perform the work.

If awarded, construction is anticipated to begin in summer 2026 and be completed within 105 working days following issuance of the Notice to Proceed.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW (CEQA):

A CEQA Notice of Exemption (NOE) will be filed for the First Street Lift Station Improvement Project. The project involves electrical service repairs and upgrades to an existing sewer facility and replacement of natural gas-powered pumps with electrical pumps. The project qualifies for an exemption under Class 1 Existing Facilities (CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15301 (b)), which allows for the repair and minor alteration of publicly-owned utilities such as a sewer facility.

BUDGET/FISCAL IMPACT:

The First Street Lift Station Improvement Project is included within the City's Capital Improvement Program and will be funded through reserves in the City's Wastewater Fund. Funding for the construction phase of this project is planned within the proposed 2026-27 fiscal year budget which will be considered by the Council on June 17 under the following account:

Account Number	Amount	Account Purpose
662-70-67-57604	\$1,696,650	First Street Pumps & Motors

The engineer's estimate for construction, not including the cost of owner-furnished, equipment was approximately \$1,700,000.

The apparent low bid is \$1,696,650. Staff recommend authorization of a 15 percent contingency to allow for any unforeseen contingencies and additional work as necessary. Contingency funds are available under the same account number.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Motion to:

- 1) Approve the project plans and award a construction contract for the First Street Lift Station Improvement Project to Wahlund Construction, Inc. in the amount of \$1,696,650.00;
- 2) Authorize the City Engineer to increase the contract amount by up to 15 percent (\$254,497.50 for a total amount not to exceed \$1,951,147.50) to allow for any unforeseen contingencies and additional work as necessary;
- 3) Adopt a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Categorical Exemption for the project pursuant to the CEQA Guidelines Sections 15301; and
- 4) Authorize the City Manager to execute all applicable documents.

Consent Calendar vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

- A. Bid Summary-Tabulation
- B. Project Plans