



AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of December 09, 2025

DATE: December 09, 2025

TO: Peter Zaroni, City Manager

FROM: Jeff H. Edmonds, P. E., Director of Engineering Services
jeffrey@corpuschristitx.gov
(361) 826-3851

Nicholas J. Winkelmann, P.E., Interim Chief Operating Officer
NickW@corpuschristitx.gov
(361) 826-1796

<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Professional Services Contract Amendment</u> Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements</p>

CAPTION:

Motion authorizing Amendment No. 1 to a professional services contract with LJA Engineering, Inc., of Corpus Christi, Texas, to provide design, bid, and construction phase services for Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements, in an amount of \$1,471,190.25, for a total contract value not to exceed \$1,711,210.25, located in Council District 1, with FY 2026 funding available from Wastewater Capital Fund.

SUMMARY:

This motion authorizes the approval of Amendment No. 1 to a professional services contract for design, bid, and construction phase services for the Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements project. The project is required to address a confirmed capacity constraint which has been identified as part of the investigation and analysis associated with the Consent Decree.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:

On January 11, 2021, the City entered into a 15-year Consent Decree agreement with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Department of Justice (DOJ), and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ). This agreement identifies various benchmarks for the condition and capacity assessment of our wastewater system. All projects identified through capacity constraint assessments need to be addressed by 2036.

The Condition assessment focuses on the collection system infrastructure. It requires cleaning and closed-circuit television (CCTV) inspection of force mains and gravity sewer mains. This infrastructure also includes manholes and air relief valves. Analysis from the condition assessment directly leads to prioritized repair, replacement, mitigation, and increased frequencies

of cleaning and inspection.

The capacity assessment of the system included the development of a hydraulic model. Field inspection and rainfall measurements were also conducted to confirm the model's conditions and the influence of inflow and infiltration (I/I). Following the completion of the modeling and further analysis of historic Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs), specific remedial measures throughout the system have been identified. These measures must be completed as a condition of compliance with the agreement.

Both assessments and hydraulic analysis have confirmed a capacity constraint in the Blucher Park area wastewater system, resulting in constrained and inefficient wastewater flows. The inability of the collection system to function properly in this area has led to consistent SSOs.

On August 27, 2024, Council approved a Preliminary Engineering contract for \$240,020.00, with LJA Engineering to investigate different options, provide preliminary layout drawings, construction sequencing, alignment, right-of-way requirements, identify parameters that may affect design, and other factors required for professional design. Amendment No. 1 to the professional services contract provides for the design and preparation of construction documents for a new lift station, force main, and gravity wastewater improvements. These upgrades are necessary to mitigate capacity constraints, enhance system redundancy, and ultimately reduce the risk of sanitary sewer overflows.

The project will consist of installing a lift station and force main at Blucher Park that will direct flow to the Broadway Wastewater Treatment Plant. This new infrastructure will reduce the flow in the existing gravity system and alleviate the constraint. This project will also include rerouting the existing 24-inch gravity main from Hancock Avenue to South Bluff Park, eliminating the current alignment beneath residential structures.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

2026 - 2027	2027			2027 - 2029
January - April	M	J	J	September - May
Design	Bid/Award			Construction

Projected schedule reflects City Council award in December 2025 with anticipated construction completion in May 2029.

ALTERNATIVES:

Not awarding the contract for professional services to LJA Engineering, Inc. will delay necessary improvements to the Blucher Park area, causing more costly repairs to the infrastructure and property and increasing the risk of SSOs. Additionally, not awarding this contract would jeopardize the City's ability to meet the established goals of the Consent Decree Agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact for Corpus Christi Water in FY26 is an amount not to exceed \$1,471,190.25, with funding available from Wastewater Capital Funds.

The Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) allocated \$1,000,000.00 for the design of the Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements project. The total design contract, however, exceeds this amount, creating a budget shortfall of \$711,210.25. To address this gap, Corpus Christi Water will reallocate savings from the London Wastewater Collection System Improvements construction project. That project produced \$3,326,926.75 in budgeted savings as a result of a lower-than-anticipated construction bid, approved by City Council on September 23, 2025. These savings will be applied to fully fund the Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements design.

FUNDING DETAIL:

Fund:	Wastewater 2024 CIP (Rv Bds) (Fund 4261)
Department:	Wastewater (46)
Organization:	Grants & Capital Projects Funds (89)
Project:	Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements (Project 23018)
Account:	Outside Consultants (550950)
Activity:	23018
Amount:	\$1,471,190.25

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommend approval of the professional services contract amendment contract with LJA Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$1,471,190.25 for the Blucher Park Wastewater Improvements project. The design phase will begin January 2026 with anticipated completion in April 2027. Construction is anticipated to begin in September 2027 with anticipated completion by May 2029.

LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Location & Vicinity Maps
CIP Page
Contract
Presentation