



**AGENDA MEMORANDUM**  
Action Item for the City Council Meeting of August 11, 2026

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**DATE:** August 11, 2026

**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager

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| <b><u>Design Contract</u></b><br><b>Oso WWTP Backup Generator</b> |
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**CAPTION:**

Motion authorizing a professional services contract with Bath Engineering, Inc. of Corpus Christi, Texas, to provide design, bid, and construction phase services for the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant Backup Generator project in an amount up to \$729,489.00, located in Council District 5, with FY 2026 funding available from the Emergency Management Grant Fund and Wastewater Capital Fund.

**SUMMARY:**

This motion authorizes the approval of a professional services contract for design, bid, and construction phase services for the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Backup Generator project. The project will install generators at the Oso WWTP to provide a reliable backup power supply that can be utilized during power outages to support continuous operations at the plant. The purpose of this project is to reduce the risk of power outages at the Oso WWTP to ensure the treatment process can continue functioning normally during extreme weather conditions such as hurricanes, tropical storms, winter freezes, and other events. This project is included in the FY 2026 Adopted Capital Budget that was approved by City Council in September 2025.

**BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The City of Corpus Christi covers approximately 490 square miles and has a population of more than 325,000. Due to its coastal location, the City frequently experiences extreme weather events such as hurricanes and tropical storms. These events often result in widespread power outages, making it difficult to maintain normal operations at the City's critical wastewater treatment plants.

The Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is the largest of the City's six wastewater treatment facilities and serves approximately 50 percent of the population. Constructed in 1941, the Oso WWTP currently has a rated treatment capacity of 16.2 million gallons per day (MGD) for average daily flows and up to 98.0 MGD for peak two-hour flows. While the plant meets the minimum power requirements set by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) through a dual power supply provided by AEP, it is only equipped with partial emergency generator capacity to sustain operations during grid power outages.

In February 2021, Winter Storm Uri brought record snowfall, prolonged freezing temperatures, and statewide grid failures across all 254 Texas counties, as documented by the Texas Division of Emergency Management. The Oso WWTP was significantly impacted by these blackouts because the plant's limited emergency power system could not fully support the treatment system infrastructure. As a result, the facility suffered operational failures that led to TCEQ permit violations.

This project will design and install a backup generator system to ensure safe, normal operations at the plant during power outages. The design will include an assessment of the electrical load for existing infrastructure and future infrastructure improvements/additions at the plant to determine the appropriate generator size and fuel system requirements. The new backup generator system will have the ability to support plant operations with a maximum average flow of 24 MGD. This project will provide operational resiliency at the Oso WWTP to support continuous treatment processes and maintain TCEQ regulatory compliance by reducing the occurrence of system failures caused by power outages.

#### **PROJECT TIMELINE:**

| 2026-2027        | 2027-2028          | 2028-2029            |
|------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| August - October | November - January | February - September |
| Design           | Bid/Award          | Construction         |

Project schedule reflects City Council award in August 2026, with anticipated construction completion by September 2029.

#### **COMPETITIVE SOLICITATION PROCESS:**

On January 21, 2026, the Contracts and Procurement Department issued a Request for Qualifications (RFQ No. 6892) for the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant Backup Generator project and & the Greenwood WWTP Flood Mitigation project, which was listed under the Wastewater CIP Projects category of the RFQ. A total of 25 firms viewed the project, including 9 local firms.

On April 3, 2026 Bath Engineering, Inc. was selected as the second highest ranked firm based on nine factors: 1) experience on projects of similar scope and complexity, 2) demonstrated capability & capacity on comparable projects, 3) past performance, 4) team members with experience and qualifications, 5) team members experience with work of similar scope and complexity, 6) availability of resources to accomplish the work, 7) demonstrated understanding of scope of services, 8) demonstrated understanding and experience with similar services with a public agency, and 9) General Land Office (GLO) and Community Development Block Grant (CBDG) Grant experience. Following the project matching process under these criteria—and with

Ardurra receiving the Greenwood WWTP flood mitigation award—Bath Engineering, Inc. will be awarded the Oso Wastewater Treatment Plant backup generator project.

Bath Engineering Inc. has previously provided backup generator studies for multiple wastewater treatment plants. Their recent experience with backup generator projects for the City of Corpus Christi is provided below.

- **Police Headquarters Backup Generator (Corpus Christi, TX): \$1,209,169.00**  
Installation of a new generator and replacement of the associated electrical equipment.
- **Water Utilities Building Generator Replacement (Corpus Christi, TX): \$466,982.00**  
Replacement of the existing natural gas generator and associated electrical equipment.
- **Cefe Valenzuela Landfill Backup Generators (Corpus Christi, TX): \$298,469.00**  
Replacement of two 100 kW diesel backup power generators and replacement of the existing electrical wiring and concrete foundations.

#### **ALTERNATIVES:**

The City Council could choose not to award the professional services contract to Bath Engineering, Inc. However, doing so would delay the planned improvements at the Oso WWTP that are necessary to provide backup power and support treatment plant operations during power outages. Such a delay would increase the risk of treatment system failures caused by power outages and potential subsequent TCEQ violations.

#### **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The fiscal impact in FY 2026 is an amount up to \$683,953.00, with funds available from the Emergency Management Grant Fund and the Wastewater Capital Fund. The remaining funds for design will be occurred in FY 2027 in the amount of \$45,536.00.

#### **FUNDING DETAIL:**

Fund: EmerMgmtGrnts (Fund 1063)  
Department: Wastewater (46)  
Organization: Grants & Capital Projects Funds (89)  
Account: Design Contract (550950)  
Activity: 221081063F  
Amount: \$508,314.00

Fund: Wastewater 2026 CIP (Rv Bds) (Fund 4263)  
Department: Wastewater (46)  
Organization: Grants & Capital Projects Funds (89)  
Account: Design Contract (550950)  
Activity: 221084263  
Amount: \$175,639.00

**Total Amount: \$683,953.00**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommend awarding the professional services contract for the Oso WWTP Backup Generator project to Bath Engineering, Inc. in an amount not to exceed \$729,489.00, with anticipated project completion in September 2029.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Evaluation Matrix  
CIP Page  
Location & Vicinity Maps  
PowerPoint Presentation  
COF