



**Water & Wastewater Commission  
Review and Recommendation**

<b>Commission Meeting Date:</b>	November 3, 2021	<b>COA Strategic Direction:</b>	Health and Environment
<b>Council Meeting Date:</b>	November 18, 2021		
<b>Department:</b>	Capital Contracting Office		
<b>Client:</b>	Shay Ralls Roalson		
<b>Agenda Item</b>			
Recommend approval to award and execute a construction contract with Control Panels USA Inc., for the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Controls and Network project in the amount of \$5,987,000 plus a \$598,700 contingency, for a total contract amount not to exceed \$6,585,700. (District 1)			
<b>Amount and Source of Funding</b>			
Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Capital Budget of Austin Water.			
<b>Purchasing Language:</b>	Lowest responsive bid of three bids received through a competitive Invitation for Bid solicitation.		
<b>Prior Council Action:</b>	N/A		
<b>Boards and Commission Action:</b>	November 3, 2021 — To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.		
<b>MBE/WBE:</b>	This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program) by meeting the goals with 51.51% MBE and 1.07% WBE participation.		

Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) is permitted to treat and discharge an average daily flow of 75 million gallons per day (MGD) and a 2-hour peak flow of 165 MGD. Treated plant effluent is discharged into the Colorado River. A portion is used for non-potable water on the plant site and supplies much of the City's growing Reclaimed Water program.

Walnut Creek WWTP uses Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) extensively for process control and monitoring. The system is made up of Programmable Logic Controllers (PLCs) located in proximity to process areas of the plant, and a PLC network. The majority of the existing SCADA system is made up of PLCs and a dual channel copper SY/NET network that have exceeded their useful life. This system was installed around 1990 as part of a plant-wide network renovation. Recent projects have installed fiber optic cabling and Ethernet communications to some portions of the plant, but the plant fiber network has not been addressed as a whole.

The intent of this project is to replace the control system network and hardware with modern equipment which follows Austin Water (AW) SCADA standards. This will be achieved by replacing existing PLCs, upgrading computers that run SCADA software, and utilizing fiber optic cabling and Ethernet networking equipment to extend the SCADA Ethernet network to portions of the plant currently served by SY/MAX PLCs and SY/NET.

This item includes one allowance. The allowance of \$650,000 will be used for SCADA equipment for the plant during construction. An allowance is an amount that is specified and included in the construction contract or specifications for a certain item(s) of work whose details are not yet determined at the time of bidding.

Due to the potential for unknown conditions when working in an operating wastewater treatment facility and the need to minimize construction duration and equipment downtime, a 10% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders. A contingency is an additional amount of money added to the construction budget to cover any unforeseen construction costs associated with the project. By authorizing the additional contingency funding, Council is authorizing any change orders within the contingency amount.

No public impacts are anticipated. All improvements will be within the Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant site.

It is important for this project to move forward because of the age and condition of the equipment. If the project is not approved, the plant's ability to reliably accept and treat wastewater may be impacted.

The contract allows 1,044 calendar days for completion of this project. This project is located within zip code 78724 (District 1).

Control Panels USA Inc. is located in Austin, TX.

**M/WBE Summary**

Public notice was given for this solicitation, CLMC875 Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant Controls And Network project, through the City’s Vendor Connection web portal. Three bids were received and opened on September 2, 2021. Of the three bids received, one of the bids was from a MBE/WBE certified firm. Control Panels USA Inc., submitted the lowest responsive bid including an allowance of \$650,000:

	<u>Base Bid</u>	<u>Base Bid + Allowance</u>
Control Panels USA Inc., Austin, TX	\$5,337,000	\$5,987,000
Commerce Controls, Inc., Novi, MI	\$5,785,037	\$6,435,037
BL Technology Inc., Tomball, TX (WBE/FW)	\$6,405,000	\$7,055,000

The contractor’s choice of work methodology provides for five areas of subcontracting opportunities which are listed below. Participation goals stated in the solicitation were 2.18% African American; 1.42% Hispanic; 1.53% Native/Asian; and 0.75% WBE. Total participation is estimated on the base bid amount:

		<b>Base Bid: \$</b>	<b>5,337,000.00</b>	
PRIME	NON M/WBE TOTAL	\$	2,406,738.00	45.10%
	Control Panels USA Inc., Austin, TX			
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MBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$	2,749,062.00	51.51%
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	<i>African American Subtotal</i>	\$	164,400.00	3.08%
	(MB) Unism Development Co, Inc., Austin, TX (Construction Communication Equipment)	\$	164,400.00	3.08%
	<i>Hispanic Subtotal</i>	\$	2,344,000.00	43.92%
	(FH) T. Morales Company Electric & Controls, Ltd, Florence, TC (Construction Upgrades, Wastewater Treatment Plant )	\$	2,344,000.00	43.92%
	<i>Native/Asian American Subtotal</i>	\$	240,662.00	4.51%
	(MA) Can-Am Wireless, LLC, Irving, TX (Programmable Logic Controllers)	\$	120,662.00	2.26%
	(MA) Shah Systems & Technology Corporation, Austin, TX (Switchgears and Parts)	\$	120,000.00	2.25%
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WBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$	57,200.00	1.07%
	(FW) Stephanie Braun Clayton, LLC, Austin, TX (Construction Photography)	\$	20,900.00	0.39%
	(FW) Macaulay Controls Co, Houston, Tx (Programmable Controls)	\$	36,300.00	0.68%
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NON MBE/WBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$	124,000.00	2.32%
	T. Morales Company Electric & Controls, Ltd, Florence, TC (Electrical)	\$	124,000.00	2.32%

The Contractor submitted a MBE/WBE Compliance Plan that met the goals of the solicitation and was approved by the Small and Minority Business Resources Department. Second and third low bidder information is provided.

**SECOND BIDDER** - Commerce Controls, Inc., Novi, MI

\$5,785,037

50.5% NON M/WBE prime participation; 4.72% African American; 40.52% Hispanic; 2.07% Native/Asian; 0.83% WBE; 2.14% Non M/WBE subcontractor participation.

**THIRD BIDDER** - BL Technology Inc., Tomball, TX

\$6,405,000

55.48%M/WBE prime participation; 4.12% African American; 38.5% Hispanic; 1.87% Native/Asian; 55.48% WBE; 0% Non M/WBE subcontractor participation.

Walnut Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant  
7113 FM 969, Austin, Texas 78724 (District 1)

