

**Posting Language**

Recommend approval to authorize a contract for construction for Upper Harris Branch Wastewater Interceptor - Phase 1 project for Austin Water with S. J. Louis Construction of Texas LTD, in the amount of \$18,814,464 plus a \$1,881,447 contingency for a total contract amount not to exceed \$20,695,910. Funding: \$20,695,910 is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Water.

Lead Department

Austin Financial Services.

Managing Department

Austin Capital Delivery Services.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Capital Budget of Austin Water.

Procurement Language:

Austin Financial Services issued an Invitation for Bids solicitation IFB 6100 CLMC1132 for these services. The solicitation was issued on August 4, 2025, and closed on October 9, 2025. Of the eleven offers received, the bid submitted by the recommended contractor was the lowest responsive bid received. A complete solicitation package, including a tabulation of the bids received, is available for viewing on the City's website. This information can currently be found at https://financeonline.austintexas.gov/afo/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=142959.

MBE / WBE:

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 5.74% MBE and 1.14% WBE participation.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

January 14, 2026 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:

Austin Water's collection system is a large and complex system, consisting of approximately 3,000 miles of wastewater mains and serving approximately 1 million customers, and is fundamental for the transfer of wastewater to Austin Water's treatment plants. The Upper Harris Branch Wastewater Interceptor - Phase 1 project will construct the first section of a new wastewater line that provides gravity relief to the Dessau Wastewater Treatment Plant and multiple lift stations in the Harris Branch basin, enhancing wastewater service to properties in the area.

Work includes approximately 10,100 linear feet of new wastewater lines with approximately 3,300 linear feet being installed by trenchless methods. Work includes connections to existing manholes, stormwater improvements, pedestrian and vehicular traffic control, trench safety standards, erosion control, tree protection, and vegetative restoration. These improvements combined with a future Phase 2 wastewater interceptor project will allow the abandonment of the Dessau Wastewater Treatment Plant and multiple lift stations.



Item 2

Water & Wastewater Commission: January 14, 2026

Council: January 22, 2026

Due to the potential for unforeseen conditions during construction phase, a 10% contingency in funding has been included to allow for the expeditious processing of any change orders to cover any unforeseen construction costs associated with the project.

The project proposes lane closures and detours. The contractor will install appropriate traffic detour signs and barricades to safely guide motorists. Throughout construction, the contractor will make every effort to maintain driveway access for residents and businesses. If access must be temporarily restricted, written notice will be provided to affected property owner(s) at least 24 hours in advance.

If this contract is not approved, the wastewater system will be at risk for sanitary sewer overflows during wet weather events due to inflow and infiltration in the Harris Branch basin. In addition, costly upgrades may be required at the Dessau Wastewater Treatment Plant due to increased demand from surrounding customers.

The contract allows 800 calendar days for completion of this project.

This project is located within zip code 78653 (District 1) as well as the City's Extraterritorial Jurisdiction.

M/WBE Summary

Public notice was given for this solicitation, CLMC1132 for the Upper Harris Branch Wastewater Interceptor – Phase I project, through the City’s Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Eleven bids were received and opened on October 9, 2025. Of the eleven bids received one bid was from an MBE/WBE certified firm. S. J. Louis Construction of Texas Ltd. submitted the lowest responsive bid:

S. J. Louis Construction of Texas Ltd., San Antonio, TX	\$18,814,463.36
M.A. Smith Contracting Co Inc., Austin, TX	\$22,950,906.50
Pate Garver, LP, Houston, TX	\$25,486,572.00
Belt Construction of Texas, LLC, Texarkana, TX	\$25,593,222.00
Cash Construction Co. Inc., Pflugerville, TX	\$26,254,698.50
Santa Clara Construction, Ltd., Austin, TX (MH/MBE)	\$26,431,743.00
Joe Bland Construction, LLC, Austin, TX	\$26,719,487.00
Posillico Civil, Inc, Farmingdale, NY	\$28,875,421.20
Copasa Guerra Contractors, LLC, Bee Cave, TX	\$32,767,657.99
DeNucci Constructors LLC, Austin, TX	\$32,779,356.00
Southland Contracting Inc, Grapevine, TX	\$34,762,286.00

The contractor’s choice of work methodology provides for eleven areas of contracting opportunities which are listed below. Participation goals stated in the solicitation were 1.37% African American; 3.86% Hispanic; 0.36% Native/Asian American; 1.10% WBE. Total participation estimated on base bid amount:



Item 2
Water & Wastewater Commission: January 14, 2026
Council: January 22, 2026

	Base Bid:	\$18,814,463.36	
PRIME	NON M/WBE TOTAL	\$ 11,019,463.36	58.57%
	S.J. Louis Construction of Texas LTD, San Antonio, TX		
MBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$ 1,080,000.00	5.74%
	<i>African American Subtotal</i>		
	(MB) Avery's Lawn Care & Landscaping LLC, Austin, TX (Hydromulching Services, Landscaping, Erosion Control Services)	\$ 265,000.00	1.41%
	<i>Hispanic Subtotal</i>		
	(MH) Tenoch Distribution LLC, San Antonio, TX (Pipe, PVC, Manholes, and Manhole Covers)	\$ 740,000.00	3.93%
	<i>Native/Asian American Subtotal</i>		
	(MA) BenQwest, LLC, Austin, TX (Fuel Oil, Diesel)	\$ 75,000.00	0.40%
WBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$ 215,000.00	1.14%
	(FH) Melendrez Trucking LLC, Austin, TX (Hauling Services)	\$ 145,000.00	0.77%
	(FH) Element Traffic Services, LLC, Manchaca, TX (Traffic Sign Installation, Road and Highway Equipment)	\$ 20,000.00	0.11%
	(FW) Woolery Custom Fence CO, Elgin, TX (Fence Installation and Repair)	\$ 50,000.00	0.27%
NON MBE/WBE TOTALS - SUBCONTRACTORS		\$ 6,500,000.00	34.55%
	LP Sundance, Ferris, TX (Construction Tunnel)	\$ 3,000,000.00	15.95%
	Ward & Burke Tunneling Inc., Columbus, OH (Construction Tunnel)	\$ 3,500,000.00	18.60%

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

SECOND BIDDER - M.A. Smith Contracting Co. Inc., Austin, TX \$22,950,906.50
59.63% NON M/WBE prime participation; 1.42% African American; 3.92% Hispanic; 0.37% Native/Asian American; 1.11% WBE; 33.55% Non M/WBE subcontractor participation.

THIRD BIDDER - Pate Garver, LP, Houston, TX \$25,486,572.00
86.81% NON M/WBE prime participation; 1.63% African American; 8.67% Hispanic; 0.41% Native/Asian American; 2.48% WBE; 0.00% Non M/WBE subcontractor participation.



4769.011 Upper Harris Branch Wastewater Interceptor - Phase 1 Project

