Item 19
Water & Wastewater Commission: November 10, 2026
Council: December 3, 2026

Posting Language
Recommend approval to authorize an amendment to the construction contract to mitigate zebra mussel growth at various water treatment plants for Austin Water with Excel Construction Services, LLC, to increase the amount by $210,000 for a total contract amount not to exceed $5,150,724. Funding: $210,000 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:
This contract was awarded in compliance with the City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprises). Current participation to date is 1.41% MBE and 13.37% WBE.

MBE / WBE:
This contract was awarded in compliance with the City Code Chapter 2-9A (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprises). Current participation to date is 1.41% MBE and 13.37% WBE.

Prior Council Action:
June 16, 2022 – Council approved a contract with Excel Construction Services, LLC. for the Zebra Mussels Mitigation.

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:
November 10, 2026 – To be reviewed by the Water and Wastewater Commission.

Additional Backup Information:
In 2017 Texas Parks and Wildlife detected zebra mussels in several locations in Lake Austin. Since then, zebra mussels have been confirmed growing on raw water intake infrastructure at the Davis Water Treatment Plant (WTP), Handcox WTP, and Ullrich WTP. Adult zebra mussels can attach to submerged piping and mechanical equipment, clogging small valves and pipelines, reducing capacity of pipelines, and attaching to pumps which can result in pump failure.

Austin Water currently uses copper sulfate treatment systems to control zebra mussel growth in the raw water systems at its water treatment plants. This project will replace these systems with a copper ion generation (CIG) system. CIG is an electrolysis process that produces copper ions without the need of chemical storage and feed systems. The CIG system allows copper to be introduced at the raw water pumps, providing protection to downstream infrastructure and preventing zebra mussel growth within piping and equipment that cannot be accessed by divers.

Austin operates three water treatment plants that supply drinking water to the Austin area. Handcox WTP was built in 2014 and has a current rated capacity of 50 million gallons per day (MGD). Davis WTP was built in 1954 and has been expanded and upgraded to a current capacity of 118 MGD. Ullrich WTP was built in 1969 and has been expanded and upgraded to a current capacity of 167 MGD. Two CIG vendor systems were selected for installation at the three water treatment plants: ONG was selected for Ullrich and Davis WTPs and Macrotech was selected for the Handcox WTP.

This construction amendment is for costs associated with modifications necessary for the CIG systems to consistently achieve a copper concentration of 10-15 parts per billion. The modifications include upgrading the power supply to 480 volts and adding copper anodes. These modifications will also eliminate the need for brine in system operations, reducing long-term operation and maintenance costs.

This construction contract is used by Austin Water to complete the CIG system modifications. The current contract authorization has been fully allocated, and any delay in approving the additional expenditure authority could affect Austin Water's ability to complete the needed work and respond timely to failures at these critical water treatment facilities. Approval of the requested additional expenditure authority will allow Austin Water to complete the CIG system modifications required to meet the contract performance standard and close out the construction contract.

This project is located within zip code 78746 (District 8).

AUTHORIZATION HISTORY

AMOUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION
$4,435,204.00	06/16/2022	(Council) – Constructions services for Zebra Mussels Mitigation for Davis, Ullrich and Handcox WTPs
$443,520.40	06/16/2022	(Council) – 10% Contingency
$62,000	06/16/2022	(Administrative Authority)
$210,000.00	12/3/2026	Proposed (Council) – Additional Contingency
$5,150,724.40	*Total Contract Authorization*	

CONTRACT HISTORY

AMOUNT	DATE	DESCRIPTION *(CO%/CUMULATIVE CO%)*
$4,435,204.00	07/19/2022	Description of awarded service
$8,195.00	01/26/2023	CO 01 – Price increase for Schedule 80 PVC from Schedule 40 (0.18%/0.18%)
$1,790.00	04/27/2023	CO 02 – Equipment costs and labor for four (4) additional isolation valves to be installed on the ionized water lines for the CIG System (0.04%/0.23%)
$3,818.00	05/02/2023	CO 03 – Stand by Time for Divers due to Austin Water Schedule change. (0.09%/0.31%)
$42,150.00	09/15/2023	CO 04 –Ullrich WTP Relocation of the CIG equipment pad and the adjacent 3" PVC and drain lines, and additional power for Ullrich and Davis (0.95%/1.26%)
$47,907.00	01/08/2024	CO 05 – Davis WTP CIG Control Panel and Ullrich WTP 1" Drain Valve (1.08%/2.34%)

$282,150.00	03/28/2024	CO 06 – Davis WTP Booster Pump System (6.36%/8.70%)
$61,187.00	08/02/2024	CO 07 – Ullrich and Davis WTP Brine Tank Containment Tank and heat trace (1.38%/10.08%)
$0.00	10/17/2024	CO 08 – No cost change order for Handcox WTP FAT Travel allowance (0.00%/10.08%)
$0.00	12/13/2024	CO 09 – No cost change order for Handcox WTP FAT Travel allowance (0.00%/10.08%)
$4,399.00	03/25/2025	CO 10 – Relocation of 2" ionized feed valve and addition of ARV drains (0.10%/10.18%)
$0.00	08/08/2025	CO 11 – Additional days due to supplier delays, no additional costs (0.10%/10.18%)
$0.00	08/29/2025	CO 12 –Ullrich WTP FAT Travel allowance (0.10%/10.18%)
$15,750.00	11/27/2025	CO 13 – Ullrich PRV Relocation and JBoxes (0.36%/10.54%)
$0.00	01/21/2026	CO 14 – Davis WTP FAT Travel allowance (0.36%/10.54%)
$210,000	Proposed	Council – CO #15– *Contingency for equipment modifications Ullrich and Davis WTP* (4.73%/15.27%)
$5,112,471.00	*Total Contract History*	

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