



TITLE

Telstar Instruments Agreement

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a Resolution approving an agreement with Telstar Instruments for a SCADA upgrade solution for the water reclamation facility in an amount not to exceed \$250,000.

CONTACT

Erica Ahmann Smithies, P.E., Public Works Director

Norman Woods, Assistant Public Works Director - Utilities and Environmental Services

Juan Gomez, Assistant City Manager

BACKGROUND & ANALYSIS

Since 2002, City staff has relied on the originally installed legacy Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system at the Water Reclamation Facility (WRF), which runs RSView Works software by Rockwell Automation (Allen-Bradley). Although a software upgrade was implemented in 2014, RSView is now significantly outdated and limits the optimization of operational controls. Additionally, the rise of modern cybersecurity threats poses increased risk to the integrity of critical infrastructure systems like the WRF.

The WRF treats two parallel process streams, domestic and industrial, making it a vital component of both public health and economic stability for the community. Upgrading the SCADA system is necessary to modernize facility operations, improve data collection and management, enhance regulatory compliance, strengthen cybersecurity protections, and support the ongoing health and safety of the community. As the City continues to grow, so do the domestic and industrial demands placed on the WRF, necessitating more robust operational capabilities, staff training, and technology solutions.

The proposed SCADA upgrade will enable WRF staff to efficiently monitor and control facility operations, both on-site and remotely. Key functionalities will include real-time data collection, alarm management, emergency response coordination, lift station monitoring, and automated control adjustments. The system will also improve the accuracy and accessibility of reports, data tracking, and trend analysis—tools that are essential for informed operational planning and long-term strategy development. These enhancements will better position the WRF to meet the

challenges of a growing city and ensure continued compliance with evolving state regulations.

A request for proposals was issued through the City's online portal OpenGov on February 26, 2025 and 5 responses were received on March 24, 2025. Out of the 6 submittals, Telstar Instruments was selected for the SCADA Project at the Water Reclamation Facility based on several critical factors that set the company apart as the most qualified vendor. Their close proximity to the facility ensures limited emergency response times, allowing for rapid on-site support when urgent issues arise. Telstar has provided over a decade of consistent and dependable technical assistance to the facility, developing a strong working knowledge of its systems and infrastructure. In addition, the company holds an excellent reputation in the industry, supported by strong references and a proven track record. Their deep historical knowledge of the facility's current SCADA software makes them uniquely equipped to implement system upgrades efficiently and with minimal operational disruption.

COUNCIL PRIORITY PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Organizational Effectiveness: "Deliver exemplary government services."

FISCAL IMPACT

The Water Reclamation SCADA upgrade implementation cost of \$250,000 has already been budgeted in FY 2024/25 under capital project WW16-0300. Annual Ignition SCADA software service fees of \$2,800 for FY 2025/26 and \$3,000 for FY 2026/27 will be included in each division's Information Technology Support Services account (42150). If the City elects to continue the Ignition SCADA agreement beyond the initial term, annual costs will increase by 4% each fiscal year. Long-term savings are anticipated as a result of improved facility control, enhanced cybersecurity, and more proactive emergency response staffing.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

15378(b) - The action is not a "Project" subject to the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it does not qualify as a "Project" under Public Resources Code Sections 21065 and 21080 and in Section 15378(b) of Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. [Resolution SCADA_6-17-2025](#)
2. [Testar Cost and Proposal of Work](#)