



1415 Freeway Drive | Mount Vernon, Washington 98273 | (360) 424-7104 | SkagitPUD.org

January 13, 2026

MEMORANDUM

**TO:** George Sidhu, P.E., General Manager

**FROM:** Mark Handzlik, P.E., Engineering Manager

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to Award: Backwash Pump System Replacement Design Services Contract

**Requested Action:**

Authorize the general manager to execute a professional services contract with RH2 Engineering, Inc., in the amount of \$183,736 for design services related to the Backwash Pump System Replacement.

**Background:**

The existing backwash pumps at the Judy Water Treatment Plant are nearing the end of their useful life, becoming unreliable due to degradation of the pumps, motors, and motor control centers (MCCs). The backwash system is a critical process within the water treatment plant. Failure of the backwash system would result in an inability to deliver treated water to PUD’s customers. The purpose of this project is to upgrade and replace the 36-year-old backwash pumping system, thereby improving operational control and energy efficiency.

A predesign effort for the backwash pump system was completed by RH2 Engineering in 2021. The pumps were observed with higher levels of vibration. Alternatives were reviewed, and the least cost alternative was determined to be pump refurbishment with new variable frequency drives (VFDs), motors, bearings, gaskets, and impellers to improve operational control and energy efficiency.

The design phase of this project will include final plans, specifications, and estimates (PS&E) to facilitate competitive bidding for the replacement of the backwash pump system. The design services include the following tasks:

Task 1: Project Management

Task 2: 60-Percent Design

Task 3: 90-Percent Design

Task 4: Bid Ready Design

Task 5: Services During Bidding

**Fiscal Impact:**

Prior year expenses	\$ 0.00
2026 Budget	\$ 1,100,000.00
Total Project Budget	\$ 1,100,000.00

Expenses and Commitments to date	(\$0.00)
Available Budget	\$ 1,100,000.00
This Contract	\$ (183,736.00)
Remaining Budget	\$ 914,830.00
Estimated Project Costs to Complete	\$ (914,830.00)
Estimated Balance/(Deficit)	0.00
Revised Budget/Est. Total Project Cost	\$1,100,000.00

- Enclosures:    1. [WTP Vicinity](#)  
                   2. [BW Design Scope](#)