

# Mayor and Council Communication

**DATE:** 06/09/26

**M&C FILE NUMBER:** M&C 26-0444

**LOG NAME:** 6060PFASTREATMENTSTUDYA5-BROWN AND CALDWELL

## **SUBJECT**

(ALL) Authorize Execution of Amendment No. 5 to an Engineering Agreement with Brown and Caldwell in the Amount of \$677,860.00 for a Revised Contract Amount of \$10,541,377.00 for the Emerging Contaminants Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Treatment Study Project and Adopt Appropriation Ordinance to Effect a Portion of Water's Contribution to the Fiscal Years 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council:

1. Authorize execution of Amendment No. 5 to City Secretary Contract Number 60733, an engineering agreement with Brown and Caldwell, in the amount of \$677,860.00, for a Revised Contract Amount of \$10,541,377.00 for the Emerging Contaminants Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Treatment Study project; and
2. Adopt the attached appropriation ordinance increasing estimated receipts and appropriations in the Water and Sewer Capital Projects Fund in the amount of \$677,860.00, transferred from available PayGo funds within the Water and Sewer Fund, for the purpose of funding the Emerging Contaminants Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances Treatment Study project (City Project No. 104942) to effect a portion of Water's Contribution to the Fiscal Years 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program.

## **DISCUSSION:**

The United States Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) ruling for regulating Maximum Contaminant Levels and Hazard Index for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) in drinking water has prompted the Water Department to formulate plans to monitor potential sources and reduce PFAS levels through source identification and treatment (if necessary). Prior to the adoption of USEPA's final rules, the Water Department initiated testing of multiple sources including raw water, sewer, and drinking water to better understand the full water life-cycle challenge in removing these contaminants. Through early testing, staff determined that additional advanced treatment may be needed at the drinking water treatment plants in order to comply with the proposed PFAS regulations.

On December 12, 2023 Mayor & Council Communication (M&C 23-1075), the City Council authorized execution of an engineering agreement with Brown and Caldwell in the amount of \$1,304,303.00 to conduct systematic sampling and testing of the water through various phases of the treatment process to help determine the optimal treatment strategy for reliable and economical removal of PFAS. Sampling has been conducted from all existing raw water sources and from various stages at all five City water treatment plants. The results will affect all existing and future customers. On June 11, 2024 (M&C 24-0513), the City Council authorized Amendment No. 1 to the engineering agreement in the amount of \$1,797,323.00, for preliminary engineering design services. On December 10, 2024 (M&C 24-1132), the City Council authorized Amendment No. 2 to the engineering agreement in the amount of \$5,591,853.00, for additional engineering design services regarding electrical, civil and process design improvements. On January 28, 2025 (M&C 25-0089), the City Council authorized Amendment No. 3 to the engineering agreement with Brown and Caldwell in the amount of \$654,588.00 for additional engineering design services to identify potential treatment options and develop a final design for a treatment system to remove PFAS from wastewater generated at the City-owned Fort Worth Southeast Landfill. Wastewater from the facility was identified as a point source containing PFAS that discharges into the collection system. Anticipated benefits of this project include reducing PFAS concentrations in wastewater treatment plant influent, effluent, and biosolids, as well as establishing a demonstration facility that Fort Worth can showcase to other local and regional industries evaluating PFAS reduction and removal options. On December 9, 2025 (M&C 25-1091) the City Council authorized Amendment No. 4 to the engineering agreement with Brown and Caldwell in the amount of \$515,450.00 for additional engineering design services to conduct bench-scale testing of selected treatment technologies for PFAS removal. The amendment includes added survey and Surface Utility Engineer (SUE) work, electrical system upgrades, landfill bench-scale testing, and additional National Contingency Plan (NCP) compliance tasks required by the updated regulatory approach.

Amendment No. 5 will provide additional funding for chemical feed system and 48 inch transfer pipe modifications, PFAS Pilot Phase 3 operations, and evaluations related to the treated water pump station, including both hydraulic adjustments and HSC analysis. Additional work also includes adjustments to the GAC gallery elevation as well as the design of electrical service and ancillary support systems for the Southeast Landfill facility.

It is the practice of the Water Department to appropriate its Capital Improvement Program (CIP) plan throughout the Fiscal Year (FY), instead of within the annual budget ordinance, as projects commence, additional funding needs are identified, and to comply with bond covenants. The actions in the M&C will appropriate funds in support of the Water Utility's portion of the City of Fort Worth's Fiscal Years 2026-2030 Capital Improvement Program.

Funding is currently available in the Transfer to Water/Sewer account of the Water & Sewer Fund for the purpose of funding the Emerging Contaminants PFAS Treatment Study project.

Funding for the Emerging Contaminants PFAS Treatment Study project is depicted below:

