



Staff Report

TO: City Council

FROM: Thaxton Van Belle, Director of Water Reclamation
Sunshine Sanchez, Management Analyst

DATE: November 4, 2025

SUBJECT: Award a Professional Services Agreement to SKM Engineering, LLC for the Electrical Design of the Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Project.

Description: Consider a Professional Services Agreement with SKM Engineering, LLC to provide electrical design services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) Solar Panels Project (WW26-04).

Background and Analysis:

SKM Engineering, LLC

On October 22, 2024, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) for SCADA programming, system integration, and related services.

On December 17, 2024, the City Council awarded a Professional Services Agreement (PSA) to SKM Engineering LLC in an amount not to exceed \$75,000.

On October 7, 2025, the City approved the first amendment to the PSA with SKM, extending the term to June 30, 2026, to align with the fiscal year, and increasing the contract amount by \$20,000.

SKM Engineering performs ongoing maintenance and support for the existing SCADA system at the Wastewater Treatment Plant and other facilities. Each lift station requires SCADA programming and integration for control systems, including remote monitoring and pump and equipment controls.

Solar Project

On May 29, 2024, the City received the final version of the WWTP Climate Action Plan, which recommended the following action:

Install solar on the WWTP site to offset the facility's energy use.

This action recommends that the City implement a solar installation project. Solar arrays are a source of renewable energy that can be used to directly power the WWTP, reducing electricity consumption and costs from the electric provider. The system can also be designed to create climate adaptation co-benefits, including

charging the on-site battery storage, which keeps the WWTP running during man-made or climate emergencies.

On May 6, 2025, the City Council approved staff to pursue a solar project as a city-owned asset and to procure it by using bond refinancing dollars, if available, or through traditional financing. On August 4, 2025, the City refinanced the wastewater bonds and used a portion of the proceeds to program funding for the WWTP Solar Project (WW26-04).

Engineering

City staff are performing in-house civil engineering for the solar project. To advance the project, the City needs to contract with a qualified electrical engineer for the electrical design. Staff solicited and received a proposal in the amount of \$44,740.00 from SKM Engineering to provide electrical design services for the WWTP Solar Panels Project (WW26-04). These services will include design and engineering support, as well as assisting with the coordination of the interconnection agreement with SCE.

Based on SKM Engineering's qualifications, experience with public works and renewable energy projects, and their proposed scope of work, staff recommends awarding a Professional Services Agreement to SKM Engineering.

In accordance with Beaumont Municipal Code Section 3.01.010, staff obtained oral price information from one or more qualified firms, in this case, a single quote from SKM Engineering, satisfying the procurement requirements for professional services under this code section.

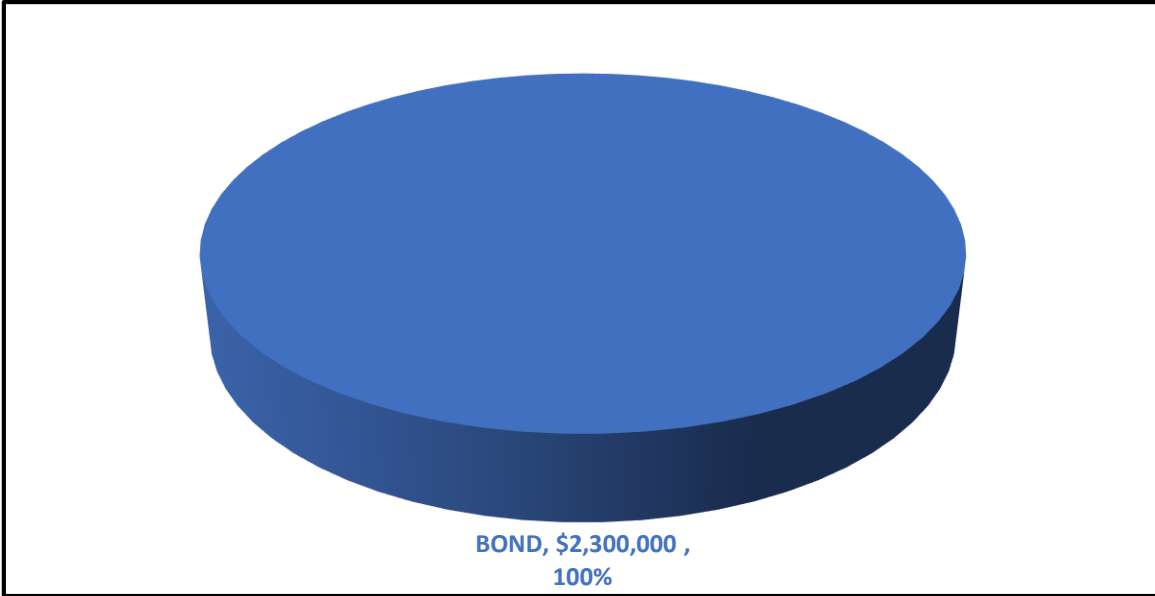
As the cumulative awards for SKM Engineering would exceed the City Manager's signing authority of \$75,000, as established in Chapter 3.01 of the Beaumont Municipal Code, this item requires City Council approval.

Fiscal Impact:

The funding for this agreement will be provided from the Wastewater Capital Improvement Fund (WW26-04).

See below the funding summary:

CIP WW26-04 Solar Generation Project Funding Summary
Estimated Total Project Budget= \$1,500,000
Current Project Budget= \$1,500,000



CIP WW26-04 Solar Generation Project Budget Summary

Project Component	Est. Total Budget	Current Budget	Paid to Date	Remaining Budget
Project Management				
Preliminary Services				
Environmental				
Design	\$44,740	\$44,740		\$44,740
Permits				
Right-of-Way				
Construction	\$1,455,260	\$1,455,260		\$1,455,260
Construction Management				
Equipment				
Total	\$1,500,000	\$1,500,000	\$-	\$1,500,000

The cost of preparing this staff report is estimated to be \$150.

Recommended Action:

Approve a Professional Services Agreement with SKM Engineering, LLC for Electrical Design Services for the Wastewater Treatment Plant Solar Panels Project (WW26-04) in an amount not to exceed \$44,740.

Attachments:

- A. SKM Design Proposal
- B. SKM PSA