



## Staff Report

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council  
**FROM:** Thaxton Van Belle, Water Reclamation Director  
**BY:** Darron Usher, Principal Management Analyst  
**DATE:** March 3, 2026  
**SUBJECT:** Approval of Third Amendment to Agreement with Dopudja & Wells Consulting

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**Description:** Approve the Third Amendment to the Agreement for Professional Services with Dopudja & Wells Consulting, extending the term of the agreement through December 7, 2028, and increasing the total not-to-exceed compensation amount by \$75,000 to a grand total of \$225,000.

### **Background and Analysis:**

On December 7, 2023, the City entered into an Agreement for Professional Services with Dopudja & Wells Consulting to provide senior advisory services related to the evaluation of outside sales of recycled water. The original agreement established a not-to-exceed amount of \$74,880.

The First Amendment extended the term of the agreement to March 8, 2026, and the Second Amendment increased the total compensation to \$150,000 to allow the continuation of professional advisory and technical services.

The agreement scope includes, but is not limited to:

- Review of existing supporting documentation and recycled water agreements
- Interviews with City staff and Council subcommittee members
- Evaluation of recycled water availability and conceptual infrastructure improvements
- Cost-benefit analysis and financial projections
- Development of draft policy memorandums and final recommendations
- Project management and coordination support

As the City continues to evaluate long-term recycled water strategies, potential partnerships, infrastructure planning, and policy development, staff has identified the need for ongoing specialized advisory services. The recycled water initiative involves coordination with multiple regional agencies, complex financial modeling, infrastructure

feasibility considerations, and policy-level decision-making that requires subject matter expertise.

The proposed Third Amendment will:

1. Extend the term of the agreement through December 7, 2028, ensuring continuity of professional services during implementation and negotiation phases; and
2. Increase the total not-to-exceed compensation amount by \$75,000 to support additional advisory services, updated financial modeling, infrastructure evaluation, policy refinement, stakeholder coordination, and implementation support.

This extension provides stability and continuity as the City transitions from evaluation and conceptual planning into more defined negotiation, policy adoption, and infrastructure implementation phases. Maintaining the consultant ensures institutional knowledge is retained and avoids delays associated with procuring and onboarding a new consultant.

The additional funding will allow the City to obtain updated projections reflecting changing water market conditions, regulatory requirements, and infrastructure costs, as well as continued executive-level advisory services necessary to support Council direction.

### **Strategic Plan Alignment**

This item aligns with the City's Strategic Plan goals related to infrastructure planning, fiscal sustainability, and long-term water resource management (Goal 4.1).

### **Fiscal Impact:**

The estimated cost of preparing this staff report is \$300.

The Third Amendment increases the total not-to-exceed compensation under the agreement by \$75,000. Funds are available within the applicable Water/Wastewater professional services budget, 700-4050-7068.

No additional General Fund impact is anticipated beyond budgeted appropriations.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approve the Third Amendment to the Agreement for Professional Services with Dopudja & Wells Consulting to extend the term of the agreement through December 31, 2028 and increase the total not-to-exceed compensation amount by \$75,000, for a revised total contract amount of \$225,000; and

Authorize the City Manager to execute the Third Amendment and any minor, non-substantive changes consistent with Council direction.

**Attachments:**

- A. Third Amendment
- B. Second Amendment
- C. First Amendment
- D. Professional Services Agreement – Dopudja and Wells