



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE  
City Commission Agenda Memo  
REGULAR MEETING**

**#24-0437**

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**TO:** Honorable Mayor & Members of the  
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

**FROM:** Susan Grant, Acting City Manager

**DATE:** July 2, 2024

**TITLE:** Motion Approving an Increase to the Liquid Oxygen Agreement with VirtAir  
Inc - \$1,802,800 - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

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**Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission approve an increase to the agreement with VirtAir Inc (VirtAir) for the purchase of liquid oxygen by \$1,802,800, for a new initial two-year term amount of \$2,500,000, and new potential total contract amount of \$3,197,200.

**Background**

On April 4, 2023, the City Commission awarded an agreement to VirtAir for the purchase of liquid oxygen (CAM #23-0290). This award was for an initial two (2)-year term in the amount of \$697,200, with two (2) additional one (1)-year options for a potential total contract amount of \$1,394,400 over four (4) years. The George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant (GTLWWTP) utilizes high purity oxygen to treat incoming wastewater to a regulatory level dictated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP).

The initial bid and award were based on the City producing oxygen through its newly constructed Vacuum Pressure Swing Absorption (VPSA) plant, and VirtAir supplying liquid oxygen during occasional shutdowns caused by planned maintenance or equipment replacement. Since the VPSA oxygen production facility at GTLWWTP is currently not functioning, it has become necessary to purchase daily deliveries of liquid oxygen from early April 2024 to sustain the biological treatment for GTLWWTP. As indicated in Commission Memorandum 24-082, additional purchases of liquid oxygen, which exceed the initial award, are needed this fiscal year and early next fiscal year while the oxygen production facility at GTLWWTP is rehabilitated.

**Resource Impact**

There will be a current fiscal year impact to the City in the amount of \$600,000. Funds for this contract increase are contingent upon approval of the consolidated budget amendment CAM #24-0323. Future years' expenditures are contingent upon the approval and appropriation of the annual budget.

**Funds available as of June 3, 2024**

ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
10-451-7424-536-30-3799	Lohmeyer Regional Plant Operations	Services/ Materials/ Other Chemicals	\$10,784,314	\$1,692,359	\$600,000
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT ►</b>					<b>\$600,000</b>

**Strategic Connections**

This item is a FY 2024 Commission Priority, advancing the Infrastructure and Resilience initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2029* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area, Goal 3: Be a sustainable and resilient community.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Ready.

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040* Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- The Sanitary Sewer, Water and Stormwater Element
- Goal 2: To develop and maintain an adequate wastewater collection and treatment system, which meets existing and projected needs of the City and adjacent users in the Central Wastewater Region.

**Related CAM**

#24-0323

**Attachments**

Exhibit 1 - VirtAir Inc Commodities Award Summary

Exhibit 2 - Commission Memorandum No. 24-082

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