



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

#23-0290

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

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: April 4, 2023

TITLE: Motion Approving the Purchase of Liquid Oxygen - VirtAir Inc. - \$697,200 -
(**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve the purchase of liquid oxygen from VirtAir Inc. for an initial two-year term amount of \$697,200 and authorize the City Manager to approve two (2) one-year renewal options, in the estimated annual amount of \$348,600, for a potential total contract amount of \$1,394,400, contingent upon appropriation of funds.

Background

The George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant (GTL) utilizes high purity oxygen produced at an onsite cryogenic oxygen plant to treat incoming wastewater to a level dictated by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection (FDEP). During shutdowns caused by emergency, planned maintenance, or equipment replacement, the plant is not capable of producing oxygen for wastewater treatment. During these times, it will be necessary to purchase reserve quantities of oxygen to sustain the biological treatment for GTL.

Staff estimates that at current consumption rates, 700 tons of liquid oxygen will be required to maintain the treatment processes in compliance with regulatory standards.

On December 14, 2022, the Procurement Services Division issued an Invitation to Bid (Event No. 16), and although the event was previewed by 19 possible suppliers, only one response was received. Market outreach was conducted with the incumbent and another vendor that showed interest in the event and their reasons for non-submittal included not having enough time to produce a valid offer and limited product availability. The bid provided by VirtAir Inc. meets the bid requirements and is deemed the low, responsive, and responsible bidder. VirtAir Inc. did not indicate their status as a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise.

Resource Impact

There will be a current fiscal impact to the city in the amount of \$174,300 for FY 2023.

Future expenditures are contingent upon the approval and appropriation of the annual budgets.

Funds available as of March 7 2023					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	PROJECT NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
10-451-7424-536-30-3799	George T. Lohmeyer Wastewater Treatment Plant - Operations	Services & Materials/Other Chemicals	\$9,698,618	\$1,831,857	\$174,300
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$174,300

Strategic Connections

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Infrastructure Focus Area
- Goal 1: Build a sustainable and resilient community.
- Objective: Proactively maintain our water, wastewater, stormwater, road and bridge infrastructure

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 & Stormwater Element
- Goal 3: Develop and maintain an adequate water supply, treatment and distribution system, which meets the existing and projected needs of the service area in an efficient, economical, and environmentally sensitive manner.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - Solicitation

Exhibit 2 - Bid Tabulation

Prepared by: Mary Ann Johnston, Administrative Supervisor, Public Works
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