



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

#17-0255

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

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: February 21, 2017

TITLE: Emergency Purchase – Electrical Failure of High Voltage Switchgear at
Fiveash Water Treatment Plant.

Background

The purpose of this memorandum is to advise the City Commission of an Emergency Declaration made on January 15, 2017 for repairs and testing of the 4,160 volt switchgear equipment at the Fiveash Water Treatment Plant.

Pursuant to Section 2-190(b) (2), Code of Ordinances of the City of Fort Lauderdale, Florida, emergency purchases are permitted in the event of equipment failure, catastrophic damage to city property, or other similar unexpected event. In such event(s), all normal purchasing procedures and requirements directly related to such emergencies are suspended. With the approval of the City Manager, or purchasing manager, if so designated by the City Manager, the head of any department may purchase any needed emergency supplies, materials, equipment or services where, using the most effective procurement methods in each procurement, as determined by the department head, which made the emergency purchase necessary. If the cost of any purchase exceeds the current formal bid threshold, a full report of such purchase shall be made to the City Commission at the earliest available commission meeting.

An electrical failure at the Fiveash Water Treatment plant occurred on Sunday January 15, 2017. A high voltage switchgear (4,160 volts) failed causing a temporary drop in the distribution system water pressure for approximately 15 minutes. An emergency was declared on same day and General Electric Company (GE), the original equipment manufacturer of the equipment was mobilized to perform the necessary troubleshooting, testing, repairs and maintenance of the switchgear. The failed elements in the switchgear cabinet are the original equipment, which is estimated to have been installed in 1983.

Due to the high voltage, age of the equipment and complexity of electrical system, the work was conducted by GE over seven days for a total cost of \$54,494.

Further diagnoses and troubleshooting of all of the remaining original switchgears (total of 11 units) identified additional electrical repair work to ensure the reliability of the electrical system. This additional scope of work is estimated to cost \$750,000 and will be fast-tracked through a separate community investment project.

Resource Impact

There will be a current fiscal year impact to the City the amount of \$54,494 for this emergency purchase. Funding for this purchase is available in the FY 2017 Budget in the account listed below:

<i>Funds available as of February 8, 2017</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	INDEX NAME (Program)	CHARACTER CODE/ SUB-OBJECT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	PURCHASE AMOUNT
450-PBS670302-3437	Fiveash Maintenance	Services & Materials/ Improvements, Repairs and Maintenance	\$721,600	\$215,289	\$54,494
			TOTAL →		\$54,494

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included in the Infrastructure Cylinder or Excellence, specifically advancing:

- **Goal 2:** Be a sustainable and resilient community.
- **Objective 1:** Proactively maintain our water, wastewater, and bridge infrastructure.
- **Initiative 5:** Integrate a plan with infrastructure improvements that include modern and efficient energy standards.

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

Attachment:

Exhibit 1 – General Electric Company invoice

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Department Directors: Paul Berg, Public Works
Kirk Buffington, Finance