



Item Number: 7



# CITY OF GRAND RAPIDS AGENDA ACTION REQUEST

**DATE:** April 15, 2025

**TO:** Mark Washington, City Manager

**COMMITTEE:** Community Development Committee

**LIAISON:** Mary Kate Berens, Deputy City Manager

**FROM:** Tim Burkman, City Engineer  
Engineering

**SUBJECT:** **Resolution approving an increase in scope and authorization of \$766,660 for Replacement of Variable Frequency Drives at Market Avenue Pump Station for a total not-to-exceed \$1,118,900**

On November 14, 2023 (Proceeding No. 93068), the City awarded a contract to Bazen Electric Company (Bazen), and authorized expenditures in the amount of \$241,490 for this project which consists of the replacement of Variable frequency drives (VFDs) at the Market Avenue Pump Station (MAPS), located at 741 Market Avenue SW. This was for the replacement of the first VFD that controls the first of four pumps at this station. The existing VFDs at MAPS have exceeded their useful life and cannot be rebuilt. These are critical infrastructure that control the pumping of the majority of the City's sanitary sewer flow to the City's Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF).

On December 3, 2024 (Proceeding No. 94138) the City authorized an increase of \$46,705 to replenish previously authorized contingencies, which funded an essential control panel for the project.

Days before the installation of VFD #1 was to take place, VFD #2 failed and went offline. Since these VFDs are critical infrastructure that are responsible for pumping the majority of the City's sanitary sewer system, the City directed Bazen to replace VFD #2 instead of VFD #1. Due to the age of the remaining three VFDs at this pumping station, the probability of failure, the cost of failure, and the lack of available repair options, the City highly recommended the expedited replacement of the remaining three VFDs. Bazen was the only contractor to submit a bid, their bid was \$40,000 below the engineer's estimate, and they have successfully completed the replacement of VFD #2. Due to the need for an expediated replacement of the remaining VFDs, the City would like to authorize an increase in scope for the replacement of VFD #1, #3, and #4. Since Bazen has installed one VFD and understands the site conditions, they were able to provide a reduced unit cost for the remaining three VFDs.

The attached resolution provides for the approval of an increase in the scope of work and authorization of expenditures in the amount of \$766,660 with total expenditures not to exceed \$1,118,900. This increase amount includes construction contract, construction phase services including inspection by Geotech, engineering administration, contingencies, and previously authorized fees.

This project is being financed by the Sewer System Fund. A budget request is necessary to finance this project and will be presented for consideration and approval at a future date.

cc: Molly Clarin  
James Ouzts  
Brian Bradley

#22067

Your COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE recommends the adoption of the following resolution approving an increase in the scope of work and authorizing expenditures for the project in connection with Replacement of Variable Frequency Drives at Market Avenue Pump Station.

**WHEREAS:**

1. On November 14, 2024 (Proceeding No. 93068), the City awarded a contract to Bazen Electric Company (Bazen) for the following project:


Replacement of Variable Frequency Drives at Market Avenue Pump Station  
(hereinafter referred to as the "Project"); and

2. On December 3, 2024 (Proceeding No. 94138), the City authorized an increase at a cost of \$46,705 with total expenditures not to exceed \$352,240 which includes the construction contract, administration, contingencies and previous authorized fees; and
3. It is necessary to increase the scope of work and authorize expenditures for the aforesaid contract; therefore

**RESOLVED:**

1. That the scope of work for the project, be increased at a cost of \$766,660 with total expenditures not to exceed \$1,118,900 which includes the costs of the construction contract, construction phase services including inspection by Geotech, engineering administration, contingencies, and previously authorized fees. Said amount of \$1,118,900 to be charged to the applicable Sewer System Fund codes.
2. That the City Engineer or his designee is hereby authorized to execute the necessary change order to the aforesaid contract with Bazen.
3. That the City Comptroller is hereby authorized and directed to make payment, in amounts and to said payees, as the City Engineer or his designee requests in connection with the Project.

**CORRECT IN FORM**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DEPARTMENT OF LAW**