

**CITY OF ALBANY
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA
STAFF REPORT**

Agenda Date: July 6, 2021

Reviewed by: NA

SUBJECT: Purchase Sewer Inspection Software Suite and Services

REPORT BY: Allison Carrillo, CIP Manager
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SUMMARY

This report recommends that the Council adopt Resolution No. 2021-72, authorizing the City Manager to enter into a five-year agreement with Infrastructure Technologies, LLC for the sewer inspection and asset management software ITpipes and associated services. ITpipes will replace the two programs that the City currently uses for sewer inspection and asset management, GranitXP and Oasis, which are no longer supported by their manufacturers.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Council adopt Resolution No. 2021-72, authorizing the City Manager to purchase ITpipes Software Suite and Services detailed in Attachment "A" from Infrastructure Technologies, LLC for a not-to-exceed price of \$91,050 for software implementation and five years subscription, using funds appropriated as part of the Public Works Sewer Program operating budget.

BACKGROUND

The City owns and maintains approximately 35 miles of sewer main and 14 miles of lower laterals. In compliance with State regulations for municipalities operating a sanitary sewer system, the City has adopted a Sewer System Management Plan (SSMP) in 2014 (amended 2019), which establishes the framework for how the City operates, maintains, and improves the sanitary sewer system. In 2014, the City also entered into a Consent Decree agreement which further obligates the City to implement programs for maintenance and rehabilitation of sewer assets. Consequently, the City adopted the 2014 Asset Management Improvement Plan (AMIP) which outlines additional the additional work required by the Consent Decree.

To meet these obligations, Public Works relies on sewer inspection software to assist with data collection, condition assessment, and evaluation of sewer assets. The collected information is essential to the sewer operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation programs, as well as planning and reporting of maintenance and rehabilitation work required under the Consent Decree. ITpipes sewer inspection software will assist with data collection, conditional assessment, and evaluation of sewer assets while also providing new functionality for more efficient data analysis and operational flexibility through a web-based format.

DISCUSSION

Public Works currently uses GraniteXP (Cues Inc; Orlando, Florida) for sewer inspection under two licenses – an inspection module to operate the sewer CCTV equipment and a viewer module for the office. As of 2017, GraniteXP is obsolete and no longer supported by the manufacturer. Features to efficiently analyze and report on the collected data are not available within this software and require significant outlay of staff time to extract necessary data for reports. Furthermore, current software license is restricted to specific computers which limits operational flexibility, particularly for access to sewer data in the field and from home offices – a limitation which has been particularly challenging during the COVID19 pandemic.

Three sewer inspection software suites were considered in development of this recommendation: POSM (POSM Software; Columbus, OH), WinCan (WinCan LLC; Pittsburgh, PA), and ITpipes (Infrastructure Technologies, LLC; Albuquerque, NM).¹ All three software suites are from established companies in the pipeline inspection industry and conform to the North American Standard (NASSCO PACP) for pipeline defect identification and assessments. Specific criteria used in development of the request for quotes, including required software features, are listed in Attachment 3 – Request for Quote.

Following evaluation of the available sewer inspection software products, Staff requested and received three quotes from the manufacturers of these software suites. Results are tabulated in Attachment 4 – Quote Tabulation.

ITpipes was found to best meet department needs based on competitive pricing, favorable reviews from local municipalities, and established integration with existing City financial and GIS systems. Additional features, unique to ITpipes, that support the recommendation include:

- Existing API interfaces available from both ITpipes and the City’s existing asset management system (Tyler EAM) will allow for straightforward implementation and minimal need for staff time during integration with existing City software and systems;
- Web-based software allows field and home office access with a data plan or internet connection;
- Web-based software reduces staff resources needed during implementation of the software and later software or system updates by City and ITpipes.

Staff recommends the ITpipes software as the most appropriate produce for the department’s needs.

¹ The new software suite from Cues Inc. (GraniteNET) was initially considered by Staff. After preliminary review, staff determined that the program is not readily compatible with the Public Works GIS system.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

Data collection and assessment by sewer inspection software is essential to operations, maintenance, and rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer system and supports several City sustainability goals, including continued stewardship of the San Francisco Bay and resource reduction.

Efficient maintenance and rehabilitation work guided by sewer inspection software prevent sanitary sewer overflows that can reach storm drains and the San Francisco Bay, exposing people, fish, and wildlife to unhealthy bacteria and pollutant levels.

Sewer inspection software also assists in reducing resources by allowing the City to work proactively to reduce the rate of sewer deterioration – prolonging the time until significant capital improvement level resource investments are necessary.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Funding for this purchase is from the Sewer Enterprise Fund and is provided for in the Public Works Sewer Program Operating Budget. Year 1 and 2 costs (\$39,750 for Year 1 and \$12,825 for Year 2) have been appropriated as part of the recently passed biennial budget for Fiscal Years 2021-22 and 2022-23. Years 3-5 costs will be appropriated as part of future operating budgets.

<u>Expenditures</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Software Implementation	\$26,250
Subscription Fee (Year 1)	\$13,500
Subscription Fee (Year 2-5)	\$12,825
Total Expenditures	\$91,050

Attachments

1. Resolution No. 2021-72
2. Request for Quote
3. Quote Tabulation
4. ITpipes Proposal
5. ITpipes, LLC Certificate of Insurance