RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

Board Memorandum

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES **DATE: JUNE 8, 2026**

SUBJECT: AWARD BID NO. 8256 TO BIG BEN, INC. OF IRVINE, CALIFORNIA, FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE CALIFORINA AVENUE AND SHERMAN DRIVE WATER PIPELINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT, IN THE AMOUNT OF $4,538,671, AND APPROVE THE CAPITAL EXPENDITURE FOR WORK ORDER NO. 2104924, INCLUDING A 10% CHANGE ORDER AUTHORITY OF $453,867.10, FOR A TOTAL PROJECT COST OF $6,361,000

ISSUES:

Consider awarding Bid No. 8256 to Big Ben, Inc. of Irvine, California, for the construction of the California Avenue and Sherman Drive Water Pipeline Replacement Project, in the amount of $4,538,671, and approving the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 2104924, including a 10% change order authority of $453,867.10, for a total project cost of $6,361,000.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Board of Public Utilities:

1. Award a contract for the construction from Bid No. 8256 for the California Avenue and Sherman Drive Water Pipeline Replacement Project to Big Ben, Inc. of Irvine, California, in the amount of $4,538,671;

2. Authorize a 10% change order authority in the amount of $453,867.10 for Bid No.8256 for the construction of the California Avenue and Sherman Drive Water Pipeline Replacement Project;

3. Approve the capital expenditure for Work Order No. 2104924 in the amount of $6,361,000 which includes all engineering, construction, construction support, contract administration, inspection, and construction change order authority costs for the California Avenue and Sherman Drive Water Pipeline Replacement Project; and

4. Authorize the City Manager, or designee, to execute construction agreements and any other documents necessary to effectuate the project described herein, as well as the ability to make minor non-substantive changes in accordance with all purchasing policies.

BACKGROUND:

Water Division staff budget and schedule the replacement of water distribution pipelines annually based on several factors using a prioritization model that considers pipeline age, material, maintenance records, and the criticality of each pipeline segment of the water distribution system.

The subject project is part of an ongoing water main replacement program to replace old and high-priority water mains. The project area consists of 4-inch, and 6-inch diameter cast iron pipelines installed in the 1920's and 1950's. These pipelines have experienced 35 reported leaks, of which 21 have occurred in the past ten years and 11 within the past five years. These water pipelines rank high for replacement based on their leak history, age, and material. Replacing these pipelines ensures continued water system reliability.

The project location map attached illustrates the locations of replaced pipelines in the area immediately surrounding this project.

DISCUSSION:

The work will generally entail the construction of approximately 50 linear feet of 12-inch diameter Polyvinyl Chloride (PVCO) pipeline, 8,230 linear feet of 8-inch diameter PVCO pipeline, 105 linear feet of 6-inch diameter PVCO pipeline, ninety-two (92) water services, fourteen (14) fire hydrants, and thirty (30) system connections, along with all necessary fittings, appurtenances, and related incidental work. Trench resurfacing is included in accordance with the standards set forth by the City of Riverside Public Works Department (Public Works). Other than routine service tie-overs, there will be no disruption of water service.

Water Division staff have coordinated with Public Works regarding allowable working hours for this project. The work will generally occur during normal daytime work hours, with modified schedules for certain elements of the work at select locations. Staff are coordinating with the Department of Marketing and Communications to establish a project informational website. Additionally, a notification letter will be mailed to customers within the surrounding area upon approval of the project. Staff will continue to reach out directly to customers within the vicinity of the project throughout the project duration.

Purchasing Overview

On March 27, 2026, the City's Purchasing Division (Purchasing), on behalf of the Riverside Public Utilities Department (RPU), issued Request for Bids (RFB) No. 8256 on PlanetBids seeking prospective bidders to provide pipeline construction services for the subject project.

The solicitation notification is summarized in the table below:

Action	Number of Vendors
External Vendors Notified	500
City of Riverside Vendors Notified	303
Vendors who downloaded the RFB	85
Bids received	12

A non-mandatory pre-proposal meeting was held on April 7, 2026, with eight (8) vendors in attendance. A total of five (5) questions were received from prospective bidders, and two (2) addenda were posted. RFB No. 8256 closed on April 24, 2026, with a total of twelve (12) responses. All responses were found to be responsive and responsible.

The bid results are listed in the table below:

Vendor	Location	Bid Total	Rank
Big Ben, Inc.	**Irvine, CA**	**$4,538,671.00**	**1**
Gentry General Engineering, Inc.	Colton, CA	$4,855,387.00	2
Dominguez General Engineering, Inc.	Pomona, CA	$5,113,600.00	3
Creative Home/DBA: CHI Construction	Fullerton, CA	$5,181,125.00	4
Ferreira Construction Co., Inc. DBA Ferreira Coastal Construction	Rancho Cucamonga, CA	$5,201,595.00	5
Becker Pipeline Company	Riverside, CA	$5,425,390.00	6
All Cities Engineering, Inc.	Riverside, CA	$5,491,518.00	7
Kana Pipeline, Inc.	Riverside, CA	$5,755,231.00	8
J.A. Salazar Construction & Supply Corp.	La Habra, CA	$5,942,093.00	9
T.E. Roberts, Inc.	Irvine, CA	$6,006,032.00	10
C.P. Construction Co., Inc.	Ontario, CA	$6,127,420.00	11
Filanc	Escondido, CA	$6,197,011.80	12

Engineer's Construction Cost Estimate: $6,790,000

Big Ben, Inc. of Irvine, CA was deemed the lowest responsive and responsible bidder. The bids received were lower than the Engineer's Construction Cost Estimate primarily due to lower-than-expected costs for furnishing and installing the 8-inch diameter PVCO pipeline.

The project/fiscal breakdown is as follows:

Project and Fiscal Breakdown

Work Type:	Performed By:			Amount:	Percent of Total:
Design and Survey	Internal Staff			$249,486.55	3.9%
Geotechnical Investigation	Geomat Testing Laboratories, Inc.			$7,975.35	0.1%
Construction	Big Ben, Inc.			$4,538,671.00	71.4%
System Connections and Service Tie-overs	RPU Water Field Forces	Labor	$271,000	$386,000.00	6.1%
		Equipment	$67,000		
		Materials	$48,000		
Construction Support	RPU Water Field Forces			$100,000.00	1.6%
Engineering Support and Construction Management	Internal Staff			$225,000.00	3.5%
Inspection	Internal Staff or On-Call Inspection Services			$250,000.00	3.9%
Soil Compaction and Material Testing	NV5, Inc. (On-Call Geotechnical Services)			$150,000.00	2.4%
Construction Contingency (10%)				$453,867.10	7.1%
Work Order Total:				**$6,361,000**	**100.0%**
Reimbursements:					None

Work Type:	Performed By:	Amount:	Percent of Total:
Anticipated Start Date:			**July 2026**
Anticipated Duration:			**12 Months**

The table above identifies the parties that have performed and are expected to perform various portions of the project. Should there be a need to seek additional services using the formal procurement process, such items in excess of $50,000 will be brought before the Board of Public Utilities for consideration and action.

This action is pursuant to Purchasing Resolution 24101, Section 508 which states, “Contracts procured through Formal Procurement shall be awarded by the Awarding Entity to the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder.”

The Purchasing Manager concurs that the recommended action is compliant with Purchasing Resolution 24101.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total project cost is estimated at $6,361,000. Sufficient funds are available in the Public Utilities’ Water Main Replacement Account No. 6230000-470707.

Prepared by: Robin Glenney, Utilities Assistant General Manager/Water
Approved by: David A. Garcia, Utilities General Manager
Certified as to availability of funds: Julie Nemes, Interim Finance Director
Approved by: Gilbert Hernandez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Rebecca McKee-Reimbold, Interim City Attorney

Attachments:
1. Project Site Map
2. Bid Award Recommendation
3. Presentation